

Solution to Problem 20

Problem. Suppose that A, B are r.e. sets. If a number n appears in the A -generating algorithm at moment 2, and the complement $-A$ is also r.e., when will the deciding algorithm tell us that n is an element of the set A ?

Solution. According to the lecture, we do the following:

1. First, we run the A -generating algorithm for 1 moment of time. This takes the 1st moment of time of the A -deciding algorithm.
2. Then, we run the $(-A)$ -generating algorithm for 1 moment of time. This takes the 2nd moment of time of the A -deciding algorithm.
3. After that, we run the A -generating algorithm for 1 more moment of time – 2nd moment of time of the original A -generating algorithm. During this moment of time, the A -generating algorithm produces the desired number n (and maybe some other numbers). This computation takes the 3rd moment of time of the A -deciding algorithm.

So, the A -deciding algorithm will conclude that n is in the set A at moment 3.