

Lecture #14: Oracle Reductions

Questions for Review

1. What is a **reducibility**? (Please define this as precisely as you can.)
2. What is an **oracle for a language** $L \subseteq \Sigma_L^*$?
3. What is an **oracle Turing machine with an oracle for a language** $L \subseteq \Sigma_L^*$?
What “real world” thing does this model?
4. What is an **oracle reduction** from a language $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ to a language $L_2 \subseteq \Sigma_2^*$?
What **notation** can be used to state that there is an oracle reduction from L_1 to L_2 ?
5. What is another **name** for an oracle reduction that you might find in the computing literature?
6. Describe a **process** that you can follow to show that there is an oracle reduction from L_1 to L_2 , for a given pair of languages $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma_1^*$ and $L_2 \subseteq \Sigma_2^*$.
7. Describe a **process**, that includes giving an oracle language, that can be used to prove that a given language, $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is **undecidable**.
8. Can this process also be used (in a very slightly changed way) to prove that a given language, $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$, is **unrecognizable**? Why, or why not?