

Theorem 4.22

L is decidable \iff L is recognizable
and \bar{L} is recognizable

Proof: (\Rightarrow) Suppose L is decidable, and X is a decider for L .

Then X is also a recognizer for L .

Furthermore, we can construct a recognizer

\bar{X} for \bar{L} as follows:

$\bar{X} =$ " on input $\langle w \rangle$,

1. Run X on w .

- if X accepts, REJECT.

- if X rejects, ACCEPT. "

\bar{X} always halts, since X is a decider.

\bar{X} accepts iff X rejects, i.e. if $w \notin L$

i.e. when $w \in \bar{L}$. $\therefore \bar{X}$ decides \bar{L} . 

(\Leftarrow) \S L has a recognizer Y
and \bar{L} has a recognizer \bar{Y}

Then we can construct a decider Z for L as follows:

$Z =$ " on input $\langle w \rangle$

1. Run Y on $\langle w \rangle$ and run \bar{Y} on $\langle w \rangle$, in parallel.
 - whichever one halts first, do the following as appropriate:
 - if Y accepts, ACCEPT.
 - if Y rejects, REJECT.
 - if \bar{Y} accepts, REJECT.
 - if \bar{Y} rejects, ACCEPT.

Note that Z will always halt, because one of Y or \bar{Y} will have to halt and accept.

Furthermore, we have programmed Z to accept iff $w \in L$, reject otherwise. \square