

CORRIGENDUM

**CORRECTION TO “UNDECIDABILITY OF  $L(F_\omega)$  AND  
OTHER LATTICES OF R.E. SUBSTRUCTURES”**

Rod DOWNEY

*Department of Mathematics, Victoria University of Wellington, P.O. Box 600, Wellington,  
New Zealand*

Communicated by A. Nerode

Received 16 January 1990

In [1], the author gave a proof that a wide class of lattices of r.e. substructures had undecidable first-order theories. The proof consisted of two parts. First an r.e. set  $A$  was constructed so that  $A$  had the following two properties:

(i)  $A$  had the *lifting property* (see below).

(ii)  $A$  had an r.e. superset  $B$  such that the lattice  $L^*(A, B)$  of r.e. sets containing  $A$  and contained in  $B$  (modulo finite sets) was effectively isomorphic to  $\mathcal{E}^*$ , the lattice of r.e. sets modulo finite sets.

The second part of the proof was a purely algebraic argument that showed such sets  $A$  and  $B$  could be used to code enough of  $\mathcal{E}^*$  into the relevant lattices to establish the undecidability of these lattices.

Unfortunately the proof (in [1]) of the first part contained an error. Specifically the set  $A$  constructed in [1] fails to have property (ii) for *all* r.e. supersets  $B$  of  $A$ . The error occurs in Lemma 3.5 where the proof only shows that there is an embedding of  $\mathcal{E}^*$  into  $L^*(A, B)$ .

We repair this flaw here.

That is, we construct an r.e. set  $A$  with properties (i) and (ii) above (with  $B = \omega$ ). We recall the following definition from [1].

**Definition.** An r.e. set  $A$  has the *lifting property* if  $A$  is coinfinite and for all r.e. strong arrays  $\{D_{g(x)}: x \in \omega\}$ , for almost all  $x$ ,  $|D_{g(x)} - A| \leq 1$ .

To repair the proof from [1], we prove the next theorem.

**Theorem.** *There exists an r.e. set  $A$  with the lifting property such that  $\bar{A}$  is semilow (i.e.,  $\{x: W_x \cap \bar{A} \neq \emptyset\} \leq_T \emptyset'$ ).*

By the results of Soare [3] (cf. [2]), if  $A$  is r.e. and  $\bar{A}$  is semilow, then  $L^*(A, \omega)$  is effectively isomorphic to  $\mathcal{E}^*$ . From this we get both properties (i) and (ii) for  $A$ .

To prove the theorem, we build  $A = \bigcup_s A_s$  in stages. At each stage  $s$ , we let  $\{a_{i,s} : i \in \omega\}$  list in order  $\bar{A}_s$ . We shall meet the requirements below.

$R_e$ : If  $\{D_{\varphi_e(x)} : x \in \omega\}$  is a strong array, then  $(aax)(|D_{g(x)} - A| \leq 1)$ ,

$N_e$ :  $\lim_s a_{e,s} = a_e$  exists,

$Q_e$ :  $(\exists^\infty s)(W_{e,s} \cap \bar{A}_s \neq \emptyset) \Rightarrow (W_e \cap \bar{A} \neq \emptyset)$ .

Here  $\varphi_e$  denotes the  $e$ th partial recursive unary function and  $W_e$  denotes the  $e$ th r.e. set. Since we need only meet  $R_e$  just in the case that  $\{D_{\varphi_e(x)} : x \in \omega\}$  is a strong array we adopt the convention that for all  $e, x, y$  and  $s$  if  $\varphi_{e,s}(s) \downarrow$  and  $\varphi_{e,s}(y) \downarrow$ , then  $D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap D_{\varphi_e(y)} = \emptyset$ . To do this we need only control the enumeration of  $\varphi_{e,s}$ . Note that meeting  $Q_e$  makes  $\bar{A}$  semilow by the limit lemma.

For the sake of  $Q_e$  we define *associates*  $\Lambda(e, s)$  which will be members of  $\bar{A}_s$ . At any stage  $s$  either  $\Lambda(e, s) = a_{j,s}$  for some  $j$  or  $\Lambda(e, s)$  is undefined. We say that  $Q_e$  requires attention at stage  $s + 1$  if  $\Lambda(e, s)$  is undefined and  $(\exists y)(y \in W_{e,s} \cap \bar{A}_s$  and  $y = a_{j,s+1}$  for some  $j > e$ ). For the least such  $y$  we say that  $Q_e$  requires attention *via*  $y$ . We say that  $Q_e$  is *injured* at stage  $s + 1$  if  $\Lambda(e, s)$  is defined and  $\Lambda(e, s) \in A_{s+1}$  (this automatically makes  $\Lambda(e, s)$  undefined).

### Construction

*Stage 0.* Set  $A_0 = \emptyset$  and declare  $\Lambda(i, 0) \uparrow$  for all  $i$ .

*Stage  $s + 1$ .*

*Step 1 (Meeting  $R_e$ ).* Perform the following substages  $e \leq s$  in order of  $e$ . Append a superscript  $e$  to a parameter to denote its stage at the end of substage  $e$ .

*Substage 0.* Set  $a_{i,s+1}^0 = a_{i,s}$  and  $\Lambda^0(j, s + 1) = \Lambda(j, s)$  for all  $i, j$ .

*Substage  $e + 1$  ( $e \leq s$ ).* For each  $x \leq s$  if  $\varphi_{e,s}(x) \downarrow$  and

$$D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap (\{a_{0,s+1}^e, \dots, a_{e,s+1}^e\} \cup \{a_{j,s+1}^e : a_{j,s+1}^e \leq \max\{\Lambda^e(j, s + 1) : j \leq e\}\}) = \emptyset, \quad (1)$$

if  $|D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap \bar{A}_{s+1}^e| \geq 2$ , we enumerate all except one of the members of  $D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap \bar{A}_{s+1}^e$  into  $A_{s+1}^{e+1}$  according to the following rule. If  $D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap \bar{A}_{s+1}^e$  contains some  $\Lambda^e(j, s + 1) = a_{k,s+1}^e$  for  $k > j$  choose the least such  $j$  to keep  $\Lambda^e(j, s + 1)$  out of  $A_{s+1}^{e+1}$ , and enumerate the remainder into  $A_{s+1}^{e+1}$ . If  $D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap \bar{A}_{s+1}^e$  does not contain any such  $\Lambda^e(j, s + 1)$  keep the least member of  $D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap \bar{A}_{s+1}^e$  in  $\bar{A}_{s+1}^{e+1}$ .

*Step 2 (Meeting  $Q_e$ ).* Let  $a_{i,s+1}^{s+1} = a_{i,s+1}$  (for all  $i \in \omega$ ). Find the least  $e$  if any such that  $Q_e$  requires attention. If  $e$  exists, let  $y$  be least for  $e$  and define  $\Lambda(e, s + 1) = y$ .  $\square$  End of construction

To verify the construction above, we argue by simultaneous induction that  $\lim_s a_{e,s} = a_e$  exists and  $\lim_s \Lambda(i, s) = \Lambda(i)$  exists. From this (1) will give finite restraint in the limit, and hence Step 1 will ensure that  $(aax)(D_{\varphi_e(x)} \cap \bar{A} \leq 1)$ . For an induction, suppose that  $a_{e,s_0} = a_e$  and for all  $j \leq e$ ,  $\Lambda(e, s_0) = \Lambda(e)$ . Now  $a_{e+1,s}$  can only change at stages  $s > s_0$  due to the action of  $R_j$  for  $j \leq e$ . Since  $|D_{\varphi_j(x)}| < \infty$ , we can also suppose at  $s_0$  that for all  $j \leq e$  and all  $x$  if  $D_{\varphi_j(x)} \cap \{a_j : j \leq e\} \neq \emptyset$ , then

$D, D_{\varphi_{j,s_0-1}}(x) \downarrow$ . Since, in Step 2 the default is to leave the least  $a_{j,s}$  threatened, it follows that after  $s_0$ ,  $a_{e+1,s}$  can only change to become a  $\Lambda(k, s)$ . Thereafter  $a_{e+1,s}$  can only change to become  $\Lambda(k', s)$  for  $k' < k$ . It follows that  $\lim_s a_{e+1,s} = a_{e+1}$  exists, and similarly  $\lim_s \Lambda(j, s) = \Lambda(j)$  exists.  $\square$

### References

- [1] R.G. Downey, Undecidability of  $L(F_\infty)$  and other lattices of r.e. substructures, *Ann. Pure Appl. Logic* 32 (1) (1986) 17–26.
- [2] W. Maass, Characterization of recursively enumerable sets with supersets effectively isomorphic to all recursively enumerable sets, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 279 (1983) 311–336.
- [3] R.I. Soare, Automorphisms of the lattice of recursively enumerable sets, Part II: low sets, *Ann. Math. Logic* 22 (1982) 69–107.