

MANY-ONE DEGREES ASSOCIATED WITH PARTIAL  
 PROPOSITIONAL CALCULI

W. E. SINGLETARY

**Introduction** Throughout this paper we shall use **PPC** as an abbreviation for partial propositional calculus and **PIPC** as an abbreviation for partial implicational propositional calculus. At the Princeton Bicentennial in 1946, Tarski raised the question as to whether certain problems associated with **PPC**'s were recursively unsolvable. This ultimately triggered a series of papers concerned with these problems, central among which are Linial and Post [4], Yntema [11], Gladstone [2], Ihrig [3], and Singletary [7], [8], [9], and [10].

Here we shall be concerned with the nature of the sets represented by decision problems for **PPC**'s and **PIPC**'s. In [3] Ihrig showed that every recursively enumerable (r.e.) degree of unsolvability could be represented by a **PPC**. In Gladstone [2] and Singletary [8] it is shown that every r.e. degree of unsolvability can be represented by a **PIPC** (and hence also by a **PPC**). In particular we now show that every many-one r.e. degree of unsolvability may be represented by the decision problem for a **PIPC** (**PPC**), and, furthermore, that this result is "best possible" in the sense that not every one-one degree may be so represented.

This result seems somewhat surprising to us in view of the well-known result that not every many-one degree may be represented by the decision problem for a first order theory; see, e.g., Rogers [6]. The obvious conclusion, of course, is that the class of sets represented by decision problems for **PIPC**'s (**PPC**'s) is richer than the class of sets represented by decision problems for first order theories.

**Preliminary Definitions** In order to expedite the exposition to follow, we shall use the following somewhat non-standard formulation of a semi-Thue system which is easily shown to be equivalent to the standard formulation.

A *semi-Thue system* shall consist of a finite alphabet  $A$  and a finite set of defining relations  $U$  where the members of  $U$  are pairs of words over  $A$ .

$$A : a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$$

$$U : A_1 \rightarrow B_1, A_2 \rightarrow B_2, \dots, A_m \rightarrow B_m.$$

*Received April 20, 1972*

A *word* is a finite (possibly empty) string of symbols over  $A$ , with possible repetitions. We shall define  $C \vdash D$ , where  $C$  and  $D$  are words over  $A$  to be the assertion that there exists a finite sequence of statements,  $C_1 \vdash D_1$ ,  $C_2 \vdash D_2, \dots, C_e \vdash D_e$  such that  $C_1$  is  $C$  and  $D_e$  is  $D$ ,  $D_i$  is  $C_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq e - 1$ , such that each statement  $C_i \vdash D_i$  is justified by one of the following rules:

1.  $C_i$  is  $WC_j$ ,  $D_i$  is  $WD_j$ , for some  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j < i$ , and for some word  $W$ .
2.  $C_i$  is  $C_jW$ ,  $D_i$  is  $D_jW$ , for some  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j < i$ , and for some word  $W$ .
3.  $C_i$  is  $D_i$ .
4.  $C_i$  is  $A_j$  and  $D_i$  is  $B_j$  for some  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq m$ .
5.  $C_i$  is  $C_j$ ,  $D_i$  is  $D_k$ , and  $D_j$  is  $C_k$  for some  $j, k$ ,  $1 \leq j < i$ ;  $1 \leq k < i$ .

A possibly clearer, if less explicit, summary of these rules may be given as follows:

1. If  $C \vdash D$ , then  $WC \vdash WD$ .
2. If  $C \vdash D$ , then  $CW \vdash DW$ .
3.  $C \vdash C$ .
4. If  $C \rightarrow D$ , then  $C \vdash D$ .
5. If  $C \vdash E$  and  $E \vdash D$ , then  $C \vdash D$ .

A **PIPC** is a system having  $\supset, [ , ]$  and an infinite list of propositional variables  $p_1, q_1, r_1, s_1, p_2, q_2, r_2, s_2, \dots$  as primitive symbols. Its well-formed formulas (wffs) are (1) a propositional variable standing alone, and (2)  $[A \supset B]$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are wffs. Its axioms are a finite set of tautologies and its rules of inference are *modus ponens* and substitution.

A **PPC** is a system having as primitive symbols all of the primitive symbols of a **PIPC** and, in addition, the primitive symbol  $\sim$ . Its wffs are (1) a propositional variable standing alone, (2)  $\sim A$ , where  $A$  is a wff, and (3)  $[A \supset B]$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are wffs. Its axioms are a finite set of tautologies and its two rules of inference are *modus ponens* and substitution.

Clearly, the set of theorems of any **PIPC** is also the set of theorems of some **PPC** and hence our results for **PIPCs** hold equally as well for **PPCs**.

**Results and Proofs** We shall establish the following result.

**Theorem 1** *For each r.e. many-one degree of unsolvability  $d$  there exists a **PIPC** with decision problem of degree  $d$ .*

This result is to be proved by exhibiting a uniformly effective procedure  $P$  which, when applied to any semi-Thue system  $T$ , no word in a defining relation of which is the empty word, will produce a **PIPC**,  $P_T$ , such that the word problem for  $T$  and the decision problem for  $P_T$  are of the same many-one degree. We then appeal to a result of Overbeek [5] that there exists such a semi-Thue (actually Thue) system of each r.e. many-one degree.

Let  $T$  be a semi-Thue system defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} A_T &: 1, b \\ U_T &: G_i \rightarrow \bar{G}_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{aligned}$$

If  $W$  is a non-empty word over  $A_T$ , define  $W^*$  to be the wff of a **PIPC** given by the following recursive definition.

$$\begin{aligned} 1^* \text{ is } p_2 \supset [p_2 \supset p_2] \\ b^* \text{ is } p_2 \supset 1^* \\ (W1)^* \text{ is } [W^* \vee 1^*] \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(Wb)^* \text{ is } [W^* \vee b^*]$$

where  $W$  is any non-empty word over  $A_T$  and  $[A \vee B]$  is an abbreviation for  $[A \supset B] \supset B$ . If  $W$  is a non-empty word over  $A_T$ , define  $W'$  to be  $W^* \vee h$ , where  $h$  is an abbreviation for the fixed wff  $p_2 \supset b^*$ . Note that here as well as in the remainder of this paper abbreviations of wffs are made in accordance with the conventions of Church [1].

If we let  $\phi$  be a variable which may be replaced by  $1^*$  or  $b^*$  we may now define  $P_T$  to be the **PIPC** specified by the following set of axiom schemes.

1.  $[\phi \vee h] \supset [\phi \vee h]$
2.  $[p_1 \vee h] \supset [q_1 \vee h] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[p_1 \vee \phi] \vee h] \supset [[q_1 \vee \phi] \vee h]$
3.  $[p_1 \vee h] \supset [q_1 \vee h] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[\phi \vee p_1] \vee h] \supset [[\phi \vee q_1] \vee h]$
4.  $G_i' \supset \bar{G}_i'$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$
5.  $[p_1 \vee h] \supset [q_1 \vee h] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[r_1 \vee h] \supset [s_1 \vee h]] \supset [[p_1 \vee r_1] \vee h] \supset [[q_1 \vee s_1] \vee h]$
6.  $[[[p_1 \vee q_1] \vee r_1] \vee h] \supset [[p_1 \vee q_1] \vee r_1] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[p_1 \vee q_1] \vee r_1] \vee h] \supset [[p_1 \vee [q_1 \vee r_1]] \vee h]$
7.  $[[[p_1 \vee q_1] \vee r_1] \vee h] \supset [[p_1 \vee q_1] \vee r_1] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[p \vee [q_1 \vee r_1]] \vee h] \supset [[p_1 \vee q_1] \vee r_1] \vee h]$
8.  $[p_1 \vee h] \supset [q_1 \vee h] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[q_1 \vee h] \supset [r_1 \vee h]] \supset [[p_1 \vee h] \supset [r_1 \vee h]]$

We now prove a sequence of eight lemmas. Of these Lemmas 7 and 8 are sufficient to establish Theorem 1. Of the preliminary Lemmas 1 through 6 perhaps Lemma 2 and Lemma 6 are the most crucial as together they completely characterize the theorems of  $P_T$ . As we shall see, it is almost an immediate consequence of these two lemmas that the decision problem for  $P_T$  many-one reduces to the word problem for  $T$ . In the proofs that follow the symbol  $\square$  shall be used to designate the end of an argument.

**Lemma 1** *The following two propositions hold for wffs of  $P_T$ .*

- (a) *A wff of the form  $[A_1 \vee B] \supset [A_2 \vee B]$  cannot take the form  $[X \vee Y]$ , where  $A_1, A_2, B, X$ , and  $Y$  are wffs.*
- (b) *A wff of the form  $[A_1 \vee B] \supset [A_2 \vee B] \supset_{\blacksquare} [X_1 \vee B] \supset [X_2 \vee B]$ , where  $A_1, A_2, B, X_1$  and  $X_2$  are wffs, cannot take the form  $[Y_1 \vee Y_2]$ , where  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are wffs.*

*Proof:* Suppose (a) is false. Then  $Y$  must be identified with both  $B$  and  $[A_2 \vee B]$ . This is impossible so (a) holds. Suppose (b) is false. Then  $Y_2$  must be identified with both  $[A_2 \vee B]$  and  $[X_1 \vee B] \supset [X_2 \vee B]$ . By (a) this is impossible, and hence (b) holds.  $\square$

If  $A$  is a wff of  $P_T$ , then  $A$  is *regular* if and only if (1)  $A$  is  $1^*$ , or  $A$  is  $B^*$ , or (2)  $A$  is of the form  $[A_1 \vee A_2]$  where  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular. It should be noted that the only variable occurring in a regular wff is  $p_2$ .

If  $A$  is a regular wff of  $P_T$ , then  $\langle A \rangle$  is the word over  $P_T$  obtained by replacing each occurrence of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $A$  by  $1$  or  $b$ , respectively, and then removing all occurrences of  $[ , ]$  and  $\vee$ . For any regular wff  $A$ ,  $\langle A \rangle$  is unique.

*Lemma 2* Every theorem of  $P_T$  may be abbreviated into one of the following forms.

Form 1. Substitution instances of Axioms 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

Form 2. Substitution instances of  $[[r_1 \vee h] \supset [s_1 \vee h]] \supset_{\blacksquare} [[p_1 \vee r_1] \vee h] \supset [[q_1 \vee s_1] \vee h]$ , where  $[p_1 \vee h] \supset [q_1 \vee h]$  is a theorem of  $P_T$ .

Form 3. Substitution instances of  $[q_1 \vee h] \supset [r_1 \vee h] \supset_{\blacksquare} [p_1 \vee h] \supset [r_1 \vee h]$ , where  $[p_1 \vee h] \supset [q_1 \vee h]$  is a theorem of  $P_T$ .

Form 4. Substitution instances of  $[W_1 \vee h] \supset [W_2 \vee h]$ , where  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are regular and  $\langle W_1 \rangle \vdash_T \langle W_2 \rangle$ .

*Proof:* Lemma 2 is to be established by mathematical induction on  $n$ , the number of lines in a given proof in  $P_T$ . Let  $B$  be a theorem of  $P_T$  and let  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$ , where  $B_n$  is  $B$ , be a proof of  $B$  in  $P_T$ ; i.e., each  $B_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  is either a substitution instance of an axiom or is deduced by a use of *modus ponens* with minor premiss  $B_q$  and major premiss  $B_r$ , where  $q, r < n$ . We first consider the following special case.

Case 0.  $B_n$  is a substitution instance of an axiom. Then if  $B_n$  is a substitution instance of Axiom 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 or 8  $B$  is of Form 1 and the lemma holds. If  $B_n$  is a substitution instance of Axiom 1,  $B$  is of Form 4 as is apparent from rule 3 for semi-Thue systems. Finally, if  $B_n$  is a substitution instance of Axiom 4 then  $B$  is of Form 4 as is apparent from rule 4 for semi-Thue systems.

Case 1. Suppose  $n = 1$ . Then the conclusion follows from Case 0.

Case 2. Assume that  $n > 1$  and that the conclusion holds for all positive integers less than  $n$ .

Case 2a.  $B_n$  is a substitution instance of an axiom. Again the conclusion follows from Case 0.

Case 2b. Assume  $B_q$  is of Form 4 and  $B_r$  is of Form 1. If  $B_r$  is a substitution instance of Axiom 2, 3, 6 or 7, then  $B$  is of Form 4 as is apparent. If  $B_r$  is a substitution instance of Axiom 5 or Axiom 7 then  $B$  is clearly of Form 2 or Form 3, respectively.

Case 2c. Assume  $B_q$  is of Form 4 and  $B_r$  is of Form 2. Then from the conditions on Forms 4 and 2 and from the fact that if  $W_1 \vdash_T W_2$  and  $W_3 \vdash_T W_4$  then  $W_1 W_3 \vdash_T W_2 W_4$  we see that  $B$  is of Form 4.

Case 2d. Assume  $B_q$  is of Form 4 and  $B_r$  is of Form 3. Then from the conditions on Forms 4 and 3 and rule 5 for semi-Thue systems we see that  $B$  is of Form 4.

This takes care of the operative cases. We argue that the other

thirteen cases are vacuus as follows. If  $B_q$  is of Form 1, 2 or 3 and  $B_r$  is of Form 4 the conclusion follows by Lemma 1(b). If  $B_q$  and  $B_r$  are both of Form 4, the conclusion follows by Lemma 1(a). If  $B_q$  is of Form 1, 2 or 3 and  $B_r$  is also of Form 1, 2 or 3 we consider the antecedent of the minor premiss and the antecedent of the antecedent of the major premiss and the conclusion again follows by Lemma 1(a).  $\square$

**Lemma 3** *If  $A$  is a regular wff, then  $\vdash_{\text{PT}} [A \vee h] \supset [A \vee h]$ .*

*Proof:* The proof of Lemma 3 is by mathematical induction on  $n$ , the number of occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $A$ .

**Case 1.** If  $n = 1$ , the conclusion follows by Axiom 1. If  $n = 2$ , the conclusion follows by Axioms 1 and 2. If  $n = 3$  the result may be obtained by using Axioms 1, 2, and 5.

**Case 2.** Assume that  $n > 3$  and that the lemma holds for all positive integers less than  $n$ . Then  $A$  is of the form  $A_1 \vee A_2$  and the proof may be outlined as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll} [A_1 \vee h] \supset [A_1 \vee h] & \text{by hyp. ind.} \\ [A_2 \vee h] \supset [A_2 \vee h] & \text{by hyp. ind.} \\ [[A_1 \vee A_2] \vee h] \supset [[A_1 \vee A_2] \vee h] & \text{by Axiom 5} \\ \text{i.e., } [A \vee h] \supset [A \vee h] & \square \end{array}$$

If  $A$  is a regular wff there are only finitely many ways in which the occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $A$  may be grouped by brackets and  $\vee$  symbols to form a regular wff. We shall write  $\{A\}_i$  to represent the  $i$ 'th such grouping in some assumed canonical ordering.

**Lemma 4** *If  $A$  is a regular wff, then  $\vdash_{\text{PT}} [\{A\}_i \vee h] \supset [\{A\}_j \vee h]$  for any positive integers  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $\{A\}_i$  and  $\{A\}_j$  are defined.*

*Proof:* The proof of Lemma 4 is by mathematical induction on  $n$ , the number of occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $A$ . If  $n = 1$  or  $n = 2$ , then  $\{A\}_i$  is  $\{A\}_j$  and the result follows from Lemma 3 and Axiom 5 or Axiom 7. If  $X$  is a regular wff, the length of  $X$  is the number of occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $X$ . We shall write  $\|X\|$  for the length of  $X$ . Assume that  $n > 3$  and the lemma holds for all positive integers less than  $n$ . Let  $\{A\}_i$  be  $[A_1 \vee A_2]$  and let  $\{A\}_j$  be  $[B_1 \vee B_2]$ . We consider the following cases.

**Case 1.**  $\|A_1\| = \|B_1\|$ . Then  $\|A_2\| = \|B_2\|$  and the argument may be outlined as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll} [A_1 \vee h] \supset [B_1 \vee h] & \text{by hyp. ind.} \\ [A_2 \vee h] \supset [B_2 \vee h] & \text{by hyp. ind.} \\ [[A_1 \vee A_2] \vee h] \supset [[B_1 \vee B_2] \vee h] & \text{by Axiom 5} \\ \text{i.e., } [\{A\}_i \vee h] \supset [\{A\}_j \vee h] & \end{array}$$

**Case 2a.**  $\|A_1\| = \|B_1\| + k$ . Let  $A_{11}$  be a disjunction of the first  $\|A_1\| - k$  occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $A_1$  and let  $A_{12}$  be a disjunction of the last  $k$  occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $A_1$  and let  $B_{22}$  be a disjunction of the last  $\|B_2\| - k$  occurrences of  $1^*$  and  $b^*$  in  $B_2$ . Then

$$\|A_{11}\| = \|B_1\|, \|A_{12}\| = \|B_{21}\| \text{ and } \|A_2\| = \|B_{22}\|.$$

The argument can then be outlined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & [[A_1 \vee A_2] \vee h] \supset [[[A_{11} \vee A_{12}] \vee A_2] \vee h] && \text{by Case 1} \\ & [A_{12} \vee h] \supset [B_{21} \vee h] && \text{by Case 1} \\ & [A_{11} \vee h] \supset [A_{11} \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 3} \\ & [[[A_{11} \vee A_{12}] \vee h] \supset [[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 5} \\ & [A_2 \vee h] \supset [A_2 \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 3} \\ & [[[A_{11} \vee A_{12}] \vee A_2] \vee h] \supset [[[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee A_2] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 5} \\ & [A_2 \vee h] \supset [B_{22} \vee h] && \text{by Case 1} \\ & [[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee h] \supset [[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 3} \\ & [[[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee A_2] \vee h] \supset [[[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee B_{22}] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 5} \\ & [[[A_{11} \vee B_{21}] \vee B_{22}] \vee h] \supset [[A_{11} \vee [B_{21} \vee B_{22}]] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 6} \\ & [A_{11} \vee h] \supset [B_1 \vee h] && \text{by Case 1} \\ & [[B_{21} \vee B_{22}] \vee h] \supset [[B_{21} \vee B_{22}] \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 3} \\ & [[A_{11} \vee [B_{21} \vee B_{22}]] \vee h] \supset [[B_1 \vee [B_{21} \vee B_{22}]] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 5} \\ & [[B_1 \vee [B_{21} \vee B_{22}]] \vee h] \supset [[B_1 \vee B_2] \vee h] && \text{by Case 1} \\ & [[A_1 \vee A_2] \vee h] \supset [[B_1 \vee B_2] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 8} \\ & \text{i.e., } \{A\}_i \vee h \supset \{A\}_j \vee h \end{aligned}$$

Case 2b.  $\|A_1\| + k = \|B_1\|$ . By the symmetry of the axioms for  $P_T$  it should be clear that this case follows from an argument similar to that for Case 2a. We omit the proof.  $\square$

The following lemma is the converse of Lemma 2 in the sense that it, together with one of the clauses of 2, shows that the word problem for  $T$  is one-one reducible to the decision problem for  $P_T$ .

**Lemma 5** *If  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are words over  $A_T$  and  $W_1 \vdash_T W_2$ , then  $\vdash_{P_T} W_1' \supset W_2'$ .*

*Proof:* The proof is by mathematical induction on  $n$ , the number of lines in a given proof of  $W_1 \vdash_T W_2$ . Let  $X_1 \vdash_T Y_1, X_2 \vdash_T Y_2, \dots, X_n \vdash_T Y_n$ , where  $X_1$  is  $W_1$  and  $Y_n$  is  $W_2$  be a proof in  $T$ .

Case 1.  $n = 1$ . Then  $X_n \vdash_T Y_n$  is justified by rule 3 or rule 4 for semi-Thue systems; i.e.,  $W_1$  is  $W_2$  or  $W_1 \rightarrow W_2$  is a defining relation of  $U_T$ . If  $W_1$  is  $W_2$  the lemma holds by Lemma 3, if  $W_1 \rightarrow W_2$  it follows from Axiom 4.

Case 2. Assume  $n > 1$  and the result holds for all positive integers less than  $n$ .

Case 2a.  $X_n \vdash_T Y_n$  is justified by rule 1. Then  $X_n$  is  $AX_j$  and  $Y_n$  is  $AY_j$  for some  $j < n$ , and some word  $A$ . The proof is easily outlined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & [X_j^* \vee h] \supset [Y_j^* \vee h] && \text{by hyp. ind.} \\ & [A^* \vee h] \supset [A^* \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 3} \\ & [[A^* \vee X_j^*] \vee h] \supset [[A^* \vee Y_j^*] \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 5} \\ & [(AX_j)^* \vee h] \supset [(AY_j)^* \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 4} \\ & [[A^* \vee Y_j^*] \vee h] \supset [(AY_j)^* \vee h] && \text{by Lemma 4} \\ & [(AX_j)^* \vee h] \supset [(AY_j)^* \vee h] && \text{by Axiom 8} \\ & \text{i.e., } W_1' \supset W_2' \end{aligned}$$

Case 2b.  $X_n \vdash_{\top} Y_n$  is justified by rule 2. Then  $X_n$  is  $X_j A$  and  $Y_n$  is  $Y_j A$  for some  $j < n$ , and some word  $A$ . The proof is analogous to that for Case 2a and is therefore omitted.

Case 2c.  $X_n \vdash_{\top} Y_n$  is justified by rule 3 or rule 4. Then the result follows from Case 1.

Case 2d.  $X_n \vdash_{\top} Y_n$  is justified by rule 5. Then  $X_n$  is  $X_j$ ,  $Y_n$  is  $Y_k$ , and  $Y_j$  is  $X_k$  for some  $j$  and  $k$ ,  $1 \leq j < n$ ,  $1 \leq k < n$ . The result follows from the induction hypothesis, Axiom 8 and *modus ponens*.  $\square$

Lemma 6 *Every wff  $A$  of  $P_{\top}$  which can be abbreviated into a formula of Form 1, 2, 3 or 4 of Lemma 2 is a theorem of  $P_{\top}$ .*

*Proof:* We shall consider the forms separately.

Form 1. Clearly the result holds in this case as all substitution instances of the axioms are theorems.

Form 2 and Form 3. The result holds here by the conditions on these forms and the presence of Axiom 5 and Axiom 8, respectively.

Form 4. The restriction on Form 4 requires that  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be regular and that  $\langle W_1 \rangle \vdash_{\top} \langle W_2 \rangle$ . Now by Lemma 5 if  $W_1 \vdash_{\top} W_2$  then  $\vdash_{P_{\top}} W_1' \supset W_2'$  and the result follows from Lemma 4.  $\square$

Lemma 7 *For any two words  $X$  and  $W$  on  $A_{\top}$ ,  $X \vdash_{\top} W$  if and only if  $\vdash_{P_{\top}} X' \supset W'$ ; hence the word problem for  $\top$  is one-one reducible to the decision problem for  $P_{\top}$ .*

*Proof:* This is an easy consequence of Lemma 2 and Lemma 5.  $\square$

Lemma 8 *The decision problem for  $P_{\top}$  is many-one reducible to the word problem for  $\top$ .*

*Proof:* Assume that we have a decision procedure  $\mathcal{R}$  for solving the word problem for  $\top$ . Let  $A$  be a wff of  $P_{\top}$ . Test whether  $A$  can be abbreviated into a formula of Form 1. If so  $A$  is a theorem of  $P_{\top}$ . If not test whether  $A$  can be abbreviated into a wff of Form 2 or Form 3. This will require testing whether or not the well defined formula specified in the condition of Form 2 or 3 as the case may be is of Form 4. Assume, for the moment, this can be done by a well specified appeal to  $\mathcal{R}$ . Then if  $A$  is of Form 2 or Form 3 it is a theorem of  $P_{\top}$ . If not test whether or not  $A$  is of Form 4. By the condition on Form 4 this requires one precisely defined appeal to  $\mathcal{R}$ . If  $A$  is of Form 4 then it is a theorem of  $P_{\top}$ . If not  $A$  is not a theorem of  $P_{\top}$ .  $\square$

Lemmas 7 and 8, along with the result of Overbeek cited above, are sufficient to complete the proof of Theorem 1. For completeness we state the following corollary.

Corollary *There exists a uniformly effective procedure  $P$  such that the result of applying  $P$  to any semi-Thue system  $\top$  is a PIPC (PPC)  $P_{\top}$  such that the decision problem for  $P_{\top}$  is of the same many-one r.e. degree of unsolvability as the word problem for  $\top$ .*

In order to show that Theorem 1 is "best possible" we need only prove that there exists a one-one r.e. degree of unsolvability which is not representable by the decision problem for a PIPC (PPC). This is accomplished by the following theorem.

**Theorem 2** *There is no PIPC (PPC) which is of the same one-one r.e. degree of unsolvability as a simple set.*

*Proof:* In order to establish the result we need only show that given any PIPC (PPC),  $P$ , with an unsolvable decision problem there exists an infinite recursively enumerable set of wffs of  $P$  which are non-theorems. This is easy, for, since the decision problem for  $P$  is unsolvable, there exists a tautology  $A$  which is not a theorem of  $P$ . Let  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n$  be the set of distinct variables occurring in  $A$ . Then for any set of  $n$  distinct variables of  $P$  say  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n$  the substitution instance of  $A$  gotten by substituting  $\psi_1$  for  $\phi_1, \psi_2$  for  $\phi_2, \dots, \psi_n$  for  $\phi_n$  is not a theorem of  $P$ .  $\square$

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Church, A., *Introduction to Formal Logic*, vol. 1, Princeton University Press (1956).
- [2] Gladstone, M. D., "Some ways of constructing a propositional calculus of any required degree of unsolvability," *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*, vol. 118 (1965), pp. 195-210.
- [3] Ihrig, A. H., "The Post-Lineal theorems for arbitrary recursively enumerable degrees of unsolvability," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. IV (1965), pp. 54-71.
- [4] Lineal, S., and E. L. Post, "Recursive unsolvability of the deducibility, Tarski's completeness and independence of axioms problems of the propositional calculus," *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*, vol. 55 (1949), p. 50 (Abstract).
- [5] Overbeek, Ross, "The representation of many-one degrees by the word problem for Thue systems," *Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society*, vol. XXVI (1973), pp. 184-192.
- [6] Rogers, H., *Theory of Recursive Functions and Effective Computability*, McGraw-Hill, New Jersey (1967).
- [7] Singletary, W. E., "A complex of problems proposed by Post," *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*, vol. 70 (1964), pp. 105-109.
- [8] Singletary, W. E., "Recursive unsolvability of a complex of problems proposed by Post," *Journal of the Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo*, vol. 14 (1967), pp. 25-58.
- [9] Singletary, W. E., "Results regarding the axiomatization of partial propositional calculi," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. IX (1968), pp. 193-211.
- [10] Singletary, W. E., "The equivalence of some general combinatorial decision problems," *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society*, vol. 73 (1967), pp. 446-451.

- [11] Yntema, M. K., "A detailed argument for the Post-Lineal theorems," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. V (1964), pp. 37-50.

*Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, Illinois*