

# The intensional content of Rice's Theorem

Andrea Asperti

Department of Computer Science, University of Bologna  
Mura Anteo Zamboni 7, 40127, Bologna, ITALY  
asperti@cs.unibo.it

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Content

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications



# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

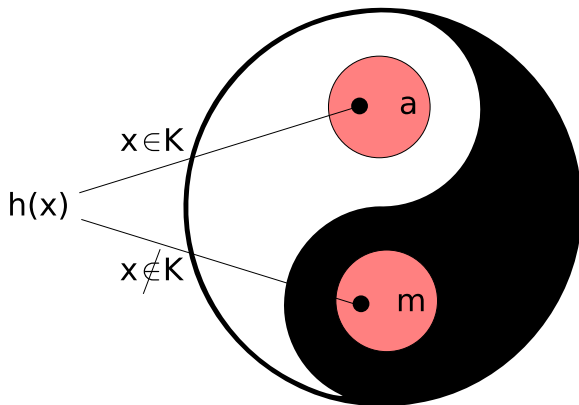
# Rice's Theorem

Rice 1953

An estensional property of programs is decidable if and only if it is trivial.

estensional = closed w.r.t. estensional equivalence

## Rice's Yin Yang

 $\forall x, \phi_m(x) \uparrow$ 

# the function $h$

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ , and define

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_k(x); \phi_a(y)$$

Clearly, if  $\phi_m$  is the everywhere divergent function,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_a & \text{if } x \in K \\ \phi_m & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Does  $h$  preserve any other property, in addition to extensional equivalence? **Yes, complexity!**

Next: investigates the complexity assumptions needed to formalize such result.

the function  $h$ 

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ , and define

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_k(x); \phi_a(y)$$

Clearly, if  $\phi_m$  is the everywhere divergent function,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_a & \text{if } x \in K \\ \phi_m & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Does  $h$  preserve any other property, in addition to extensional equivalence? **Yes, complexity!**

Next: investigates the complexity assumptions needed to formalize such result.

the function  $h$ 

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ , and define

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_k(x); \phi_a(y)$$

Clearly, if  $\phi_m$  is the everywhere divergent function,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_a & \text{if } x \in K \\ \phi_m & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Does  $h$  preserve any other property, in addition to extensional equivalence? **Yes, complexity!**

Next: investigates the complexity assumptions needed to formalize such result.

the function  $h$ 

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ , and define

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_k(x); \phi_a(y)$$

Clearly, if  $\phi_m$  is the everywhere divergent function,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_a & \text{if } x \in K \\ \phi_m & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Does  $h$  preserve any other property, in addition to extensional equivalence? **Yes, complexity!**

Next: investigates the complexity assumptions needed to formalize such result.

the function  $h$ 

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ , and define

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_k(x); \phi_a(y)$$

Clearly, if  $\phi_m$  is the everywhere divergent function,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_a & \text{if } x \in K \\ \phi_m & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Does  $h$  preserve any other property, in addition to extensional equivalence? **Yes, complexity!**

Next: investigates the complexity assumptions needed to formalize such result.



# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity**
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Blum's Abstract Complexity

A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  is a *computational complexity measure* if  $\phi$  is a principal effective enumeration of partial recursive functions and  $\Phi$  satisfies Blum's axioms (Blum 1967):

- (a)  $\phi_i(\vec{n}) \downarrow \leftrightarrow \Phi_i(\vec{n}) \downarrow$
- (b) the predicate  $\Phi_i(\vec{n}) = m$  is decidable

# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques**
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Big O notation

Big O remind:

- 1  $f \in O(g)$  if and only if there exist  $n$  and  $c$  such that for any  $m \geq n$ , if  $g(m) \downarrow$  then  $f(m) \leq cg(m)$ ;
- 2  $f \in \Theta(g)$  if and only if  $f \in O(g)$  and  $g \in O(f)$ .

# Similarity and Complexity Clique

**Definition** Two programs  $i$  and  $j$  are *similar* (write  $i \approx j$ ) if and only if

$$\phi_j \cong \phi_i \wedge \Phi_j \in \Theta(\Phi_i)$$

Similarity is an equivalence relation.

**Definition** Let  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  be an abstract complexity measure. A set  $P$  of natural numbers is a *Complexity Clique*, if and only if for all  $i$  and  $j$

$$i \in P \wedge j \approx i \rightarrow j \in P$$

# Examples of Complexity Cliques

- 1  $\emptyset$  and  $\omega$ ;
- 2 for any index  $i$ ,  $[i]_{\approx}$ ;
- 3 for any index  $i$ ,  $\{j \mid \Phi_j \in O(\Phi_i)\}$ .
- 4 all programs with polynomial (exponential, ...) complexity.

**Warning:** not every Complexity Class is a Complexity Cliques.

Complexity Cliques are closed w.r.t to union, intersection, and complementation.

# Complexity Assumptions: s-m-n

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the *s-m-n property* if for all  $m$  and  $n$  there exists a recursive function  $s_m^n$  such that, for any  $i$  and all  $x_1, \dots, x_m$

$$(a) \phi_{s_m^n(i, x_1, \dots, x_m)} \cong \lambda y_1, \dots, y_n. \phi_i(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$(b) \Phi_{s_m^n(i, x_1, \dots, x_m)} \in \Theta(\lambda y_1, \dots, y_n. \Phi_i(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n))$$

## Complexity Assumptions: s-m-n

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the *s-m-n property* if for all  $m$  and  $n$  there exists a recursive function  $s_m^n$  such that, for any  $i$  and all  $x_1, \dots, x_m$

$$(a) \phi_{s_m^n(i, x_1, \dots, x_m)} \cong \lambda y_1, \dots, y_n. \phi_i(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$(b) \Phi_{s_m^n(i, x_1, \dots, x_m)} \in \Theta(\lambda y_1, \dots, y_n. \Phi_i(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n))$$



# Complexity Assumptions: composition

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the composition property if there exists a total computable function  $h$  such that

$$(a) \phi_{h(i,j)} \cong \phi_i \circ \phi_j$$

$$(b) \Phi_{h(i,j)} \in \Theta(\max\{\Phi_i \circ \phi_j, \Phi_j\})$$

we only ask that **there exists** a way of composing functions with the above complexity.

# Complexity Assumptions: composition

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the composition property if there exists a total computable function  $h$  such that

$$(a) \phi_{h(i,j)} \cong \phi_i \circ \phi_j$$

$$(b) \Phi_{h(i,j)} \in \Theta(\max\{\Phi_i \circ \phi_j, \Phi_j\})$$

we only ask that **there exists** a way of composing functions with the above complexity.

# Complexity Assumptions: composition

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the composition property if there exists a total computable function  $h$  such that

$$(a) \phi_{h(i,j)} \cong \phi_i \circ \phi_j$$

$$(b) \Phi_{h(i,j)} \in \Theta(\max\{\Phi_i \circ \phi_j, \Phi_j\})$$

we only ask that **there exists** a way of composing functions with the above complexity.

# Generalized Rice's Theorem

Asperti 2008

Under the s-m-n and the composition assumptions, a Complexity Clique  $P$  is recursive if and only if it is trivial, i.e.  $P = \emptyset \vee P = \omega$ .

# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem**
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Rice-Shapiro's Theorem

Shapiro 1956

If  $P$  is a r.e extensional property of programs then

$$i \in P \Leftrightarrow \exists u \in P \phi_u \text{ is finite} \wedge \phi_u \leq \phi_i$$

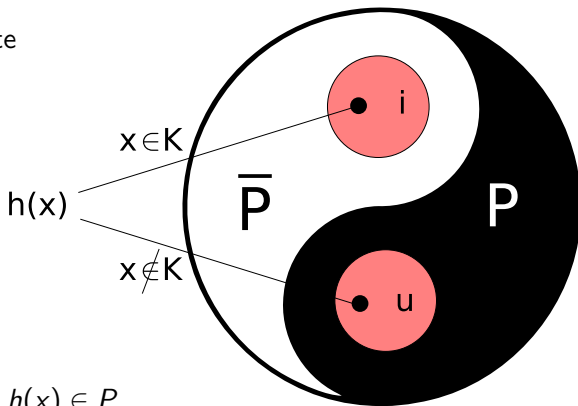
$\Leftarrow$  monotonicity

$\Rightarrow$  compactness

## Rice-Shapiro's Yin Yang (monotonicity)

$$\phi_u \leq \phi_i$$

$\phi_u$  is finite



$$x \notin K \Leftrightarrow h(x) \in P$$

the function  $h$ 

$$\phi_i(x) \upharpoonright \phi_j(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_i(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_j(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ . Then

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_u(y) \upharpoonright \phi_k(x); \phi_i(y)$$

Clearly,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_u & \text{if } x \notin K \\ \phi_i & \text{if } x \in K \end{cases}$$



the function  $h$ 

$$\phi_i(x) \upharpoonright \phi_j(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_i(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_j(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ . Then

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_u(y) \upharpoonright \phi_k(x); \phi_i(y)$$

Clearly,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_u & \text{if } x \notin K \\ \phi_i & \text{if } x \in K \end{cases}$$

the function  $h$ 

$$\phi_i(x) \upharpoonright \phi_j(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_i(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_j(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ . Then

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \phi_u(y) \upharpoonright \phi_k(x); \phi_i(y)$$

Clearly,

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_u & \text{if } x \notin K \\ \phi_i & \text{if } x \in K \end{cases}$$

# parallel computation property

**Definition** (Landweber and Robertson, 1972)

A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the *parallel computation* property if there exists a total computable function  $h$  such that

$$(a) \quad \phi_{h(i,j)}(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_i(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_j(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(b) \quad \Phi_{h(i,j)} \in \Theta(\lambda x. \min\{\Phi_i(x), \Phi_j(x)\})$$

Assuming the parallel computation property we may generalize monotonicity to r.e. Complexity Cliques.

# parallel computation property

**Definition** (Landweber and Robertson, 1972)

A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the *parallel computation* property if there exists a total computable function  $h$  such that

$$(a) \quad \phi_{h(i,j)}(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_i(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_j(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(b) \quad \Phi_{h(i,j)} \in \Theta(\lambda x. \min\{\Phi_i(x), \Phi_j(x)\})$$

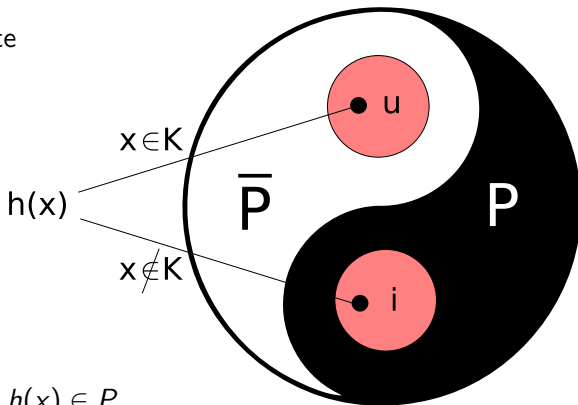
**Assuming the parallel computation property we may generalize monotonicity to r.e. Complexity Cliques.**

## Rice-Shapiro's Yin Yang (compactness)

For some  $u$

$$\phi_u \leq \phi_i$$

$\phi_u$  is finite



$$x \notin K \Leftrightarrow h(x) \in P$$

Let  $K = \text{dom}(\phi_k)$ .

$$\phi_{h(x)}(y) = \begin{array}{l} \text{match } FST(\phi_k(x)) | SND(\phi_i(y)) \text{ with} \\ | FST\_ \Rightarrow \uparrow \\ | SND(a) \Rightarrow a \end{array}$$

If  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$ , and  $\phi_k(x) \downarrow$ ,  $\Phi_i(y) > \Phi_k(x)$  almost everywhere.

Hence

$$\phi_{h(x)} \approx \begin{cases} \phi_i & \text{if } x \notin K \\ \text{some finite subfunction of } \phi_i & \text{if } x \in K \end{cases}$$

## generalized parallel computation

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the *generalized parallel computation* property if there exists a total computable function  $p$  such that for all  $i, i', j, j'$

$$(a) \quad \phi_{p(i,i',j,j')}(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_{i'}(\phi_i(x)) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_{j'}(\phi_j(x)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(b) \quad \Phi_{p(i,i',j,j')} \in \Theta \left( \lambda x. \begin{cases} \Phi_{h(i',i)}(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \Phi_{h(j',j)}(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \right)$$

Assuming the parallel computation property we may prove that for any r.e. Complexity Cliques  $P$ , if  $i \in P$  and  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$  then there exists  $u \in P$  such that  $\phi_u$  is finite and  $\phi_u < \phi_i$ .

# generalized parallel computation

**Definition** A pair  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  has the *generalized parallel computation* property if there exists a total computable function  $p$  such that for all  $i, i', j, j'$

$$(a) \quad \phi_{p(i,i',j,j')}(x) = \begin{cases} \phi_{i'}(\phi_i(x)) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \phi_{j'}(\phi_j(x)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(b) \quad \Phi_{p(i,i',j,j')} \in \Theta \left( \lambda x. \begin{cases} \Phi_{h(i',i)}(x) & \text{if } \Phi_i(x) \leq \Phi_j(x) \\ \Phi_{h(j',j)}(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \right)$$

**Assuming the parallel computation property we may prove that for any r.e. Complexity Cliques  $P$ , if  $i \in P$  and  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$  then there exists  $u \in P$  such that  $\phi_u$  is finite and  $\phi_u < \phi_i$ .**



# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries**
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Corollaries

**Corollary** Let  $P$  be a r.e. Complexity Clique. If  $i \in P$  and  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$  then for every  $j$  such that  $\phi_j \cong \phi_i$  we have  $j \in P$ .

*Proof* By compactness, there exists a finite sub-function  $\phi_r \leq \phi_i$  such that  $r \in P$ , and by monotonicity, any  $j$  such that  $\phi_r \leq \phi_j$ , independently from its complexity  $\Phi_j$ , must belong to  $P$ .

**Corollary** No Complexity Clique of total functions and containing (indices of) programs with non constant complexity can be r.e.

*Proof* By compactness.

# Corollaries

**Corollary** Let  $P$  be a r.e. Complexity Clique. If  $i \in P$  and  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$  then for every  $j$  such that  $\phi_j \cong \phi_i$  we have  $j \in P$ .

*Proof* By compactness, there exists a finite sub-function  $\phi_r \leq \phi_i$  such that  $r \in P$ , and by monotonicity, any  $j$  such that  $\phi_r \leq \phi_j$ , *independently from its complexity*  $\Phi_j$ , must belong to  $P$ .

**Corollary** No Complexity Clique of total functions and containing (indices of) programs with non constant complexity can be r.e.

*Proof* By compactness.

# Corollaries

**Corollary** Let  $P$  be a r.e. Complexity Clique. If  $i \in P$  and  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$  then for every  $j$  such that  $\phi_j \cong \phi_i$  we have  $j \in P$ .

*Proof* By compactness, there exists a finite sub-function  $\phi_r \leq \phi_i$  such that  $r \in P$ , and by monotonicity, any  $j$  such that  $\phi_r \leq \phi_j$ , independently from its complexity  $\Phi_j$ , must belong to  $P$ .

**Corollary** No Complexity Clique of total functions and containing (indices of) programs with non constant complexity can be r.e.

*Proof* By compactness.

# Corollaries

**Corollary** Let  $P$  be a r.e. Complexity Clique. If  $i \in P$  and  $\Phi_i \notin O(1)$  then for every  $j$  such that  $\phi_j \cong \phi_i$  we have  $j \in P$ .

*Proof* By compactness, there exists a finite sub-function  $\phi_r \leq \phi_i$  such that  $r \in P$ , and by monotonicity, any  $j$  such that  $\phi_r \leq \phi_j$ , independently from its complexity  $\Phi_j$ , must belong to  $P$ .

**Corollary** No Complexity Clique of total functions and containing (indices of) programs with non constant complexity can be r.e.

*Proof* By compactness.

# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem**
- 7 Conclusions
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

# Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem

Kleene 1952

For any total recursive function  $f$ , there exists  $a$  such that

$$\phi_a \cong \phi_{f(a)}$$

Can we always choose  $a$  such that  $\phi_a \in \Theta(\phi_{f(a)})$ ?

# Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem

Kleene 1952

For any total recursive function  $f$ , there exists  $a$  such that

$$\phi_a \cong \phi_{f(a)}$$

Can we always choose  $a$  such that  $\Phi_a \in \Theta(\Phi_{f(a)})$ ?



# Complexity Theoretic version of Kleene's Theorem

**Theorem** Let  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  be an abstract complexity measure with the s-m-n property, and let  $u$  be an index for the universal function. Then for any total recursive function  $\phi_i$  there exists an index  $m$  such that, for any  $x$ ,

- (1)  $\phi_m \cong \phi_{\phi_i(m)}$
- (2)  $\Phi_m \in \Theta(\lambda y. \Phi_u(\phi_i(m), y))$

But what about the complexity of the interpreter  $u$ ?

# Complexity Theoretic version of Kleene's Theorem

**Theorem** Let  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  be an abstract complexity measure with the s-m-n property, and let  $u$  be an index for the universal function. Then for any total recursive function  $\phi_i$  there exists an index  $m$  such that, for any  $x$ ,

- (1)  $\phi_m \cong \phi_{\phi_i(m)}$
- (2)  $\Phi_m \in \Theta(\lambda y. \Phi_u(\phi_i(m), y))$

But what about the complexity of the interpreter  $u$ ?

# Fair Interpreters

**Definition** We say that a universal function  $\phi_u$  is *fair* if for any  $x$

$$\lambda y. \Phi_u(x, y) \in \Theta(\Phi_x)$$

**Corollary** Let  $\langle \phi, \Phi \rangle$  be an abstract complexity measure with the s-m-n property. If it admits a fair universal function  $u$  then for any total recursive function  $\phi_i$  there exists an index  $m$  such that, for any  $x$ ,

- (1)  $\phi_m \cong \phi_{\phi_i(m)}$
- (2)  $\Phi_m \in \Theta(\Phi_{\phi_i(m)})$

# Outline

- 1 Rice's Theorem
- 2 Blum's Abstract Complexity
- 3 Similarity and Complexity Cliques
- 4 Rice-Shapiro's Theorem
  - Monotonicity
  - compactness
- 5 Corollaries
- 6 Kleene's Fixed Point Theorem
- 7 Conclusions**
  - Main results
  - Future works and applications

- Complexity Cliques generalize estensional sets
- Complexity Cliques in  $\Delta_1^0$  are trivial
- Complexity Cliques in  $\Sigma_1^0$  and  $\Pi_1^0$  have trivial complexities.

- Complexity Cliques vs. Complexity Classes
- Complexity-theoretic revisitation of Recursion Theory
- Complexity-theoretic aspects of the metatheory of programming languages
- Old Quest for a Machine Independent Theory of Complexity