

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Mathematical Background</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Prerequisites . . . . .	1
1.2	Computability Theory . . . . .	4
1.3	Topology . . . . .	6
1.4	Probability Theory . . . . .	8
1.5	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	19
<b>2</b>	<b>Noiseless Coding</b>	<b>21</b>
2.1	Prefix-free Sets . . . . .	21
2.2	Instantaneous Coding . . . . .	24
2.3	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	30
2.4	History of Results . . . . .	32
<b>3</b>	<b>Program-size</b>	<b>33</b>
3.1	An Example . . . . .	33
3.2	Computers and Complexities . . . . .	34
3.3	Algorithmic Properties of Complexities . . . . .	43
3.4	Quantitative Estimates . . . . .	45
3.5	Halting Probabilities . . . . .	47
3.6	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	49
3.7	History of Results . . . . .	52

<b>4</b>	<b>Computably Enumerable Instantaneous Codes</b>	<b>53</b>
4.1	The Kraft–Chaitin Theorem . . . . .	53
4.2	Relativized Complexities and Probabilities . . . . .	60
4.3	Speed-up Theorem . . . . .	70
4.4	Algorithmic Coding Theorem . . . . .	74
4.5	Binary vs Non-binary Coding (1) . . . . .	85
4.6	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	89
4.7	History of Results . . . . .	91
<b>5</b>	<b>Random Strings</b>	<b>95</b>
5.1	An Empirical Analysis . . . . .	95
5.2	Chaitin’s Definition of Random Strings . . . . .	102
5.3	Relating Complexities $K$ and $H$ . . . . .	107
5.4	A Statistical Analysis . . . . .	109
5.5	A Computational Analysis . . . . .	119
5.6	Borel Normality . . . . .	123
5.7	Extensions of Random Strings . . . . .	131
5.8	Binary vs Non-binary Coding (2) . . . . .	136
5.9	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	140
5.10	History of Results . . . . .	145
<b>6</b>	<b>Random Sequences</b>	<b>147</b>
6.1	From Random Strings to Random Sequences . . . . .	147
6.2	The Definition of Random Sequences . . . . .	158
6.3	Characterizations of Random Sequences . . . . .	169
6.4	Properties of Random Sequences . . . . .	184
6.5	The Reducibility Theorem . . . . .	204
6.6	The Randomness Hypothesis . . . . .	229
6.7	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	231

6.8	History of Results . . . . .	233
<b>7</b>	<b>Computably Enumerable Random Reals</b>	<b>237</b>
7.1	Chaitin’s Omega Number . . . . .	237
7.2	Is Randomness Base Invariant? . . . . .	240
7.3	Most Reals Obey No Probability Laws . . . . .	253
7.4	Computable and Uncomputable Reals . . . . .	260
7.5	Computably Enumerable Reals, Domination and Degrees	271
7.6	A Characterization of Computably Enumerable Random Reals . . . . .	294
7.7	Degree-theoretic Properties of Computably Enumerable Random Reals . . . . .	302
7.8	Exercises and Problems . . . . .	310
7.9	History of Results . . . . .	313
<b>8</b>	<b>Randomness and Incompleteness</b>	<b>315</b>
8.1	The Incompleteness Phenomenon . . . . .	315
8.2	Information-theoretic Incompleteness (1) . . . . .	320
8.3	Information-theoretic Incompleteness (2) . . . . .	324
8.4	Information-theoretic Incompleteness (3) . . . . .	328
8.5	Coding Mathematical Knowledge . . . . .	332
8.6	Finitely Refutable Mathematical Problems . . . . .	335
8.7	Computing 64 Bits of a Computably Enumerable Random Real . . . . .	343
8.8	Turing’s Barrier Revisited . . . . .	355
8.9	History of Results . . . . .	358
<b>9</b>	<b>Applications</b>	<b>361</b>
9.1	The Infinity of Primes . . . . .	361
9.2	The Undecidability of the Halting Problem . . . . .	362

9.3	Counting as a Source of Randomness . . . . .	363
9.4	Randomness and Chaos . . . . .	366
9.5	Randomness and Cellular Automata . . . . .	367
9.6	Random Sequences of Reals and Riemann's Zeta-function	383
9.7	Probabilistic Algorithms . . . . .	389
9.8	Structural Complexity . . . . .	393
9.9	What Is Life? . . . . .	398
9.10	Randomness in Physics . . . . .	405
9.11	Metaphysical Themes . . . . .	409
<b>10</b>	<b>Open Problems</b>	<b>415</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>419</b>
	<b>Notation Index</b>	<b>455</b>
	<b>Subject Index</b>	<b>457</b>
	<b>Name Index</b>	<b>461</b>