

Limits of Turing Machines (Part 2)

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Decidable vs. Recognizable

Definition

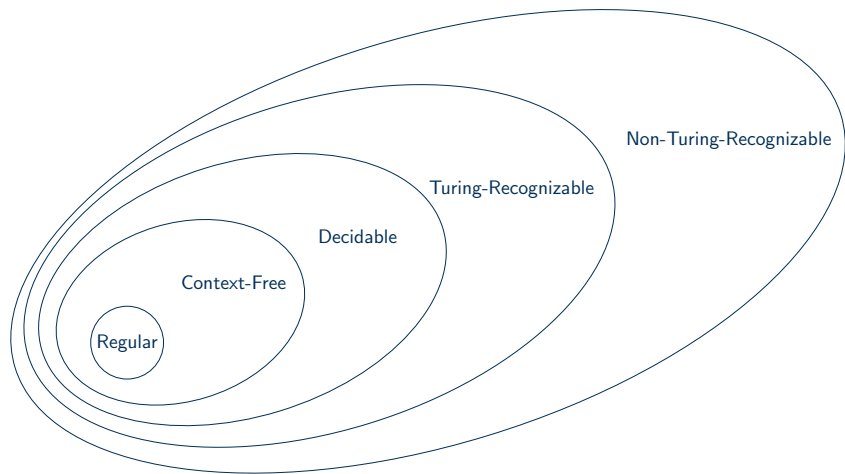
A Language is *Turning-decidable* or simply *decidable* if some Turing machine decides it; the machine always reaches an accept or reject state. Given any word there is a TM that can tell if the word is or is not in the language.

Definition

A Language is *Turning-recognizable* if some Turing machine recognizes it; in this case the machine reaches an accept state, reject state, or it may loop (fail to accept). There is a TM that accepts words in the language, but may fail to reach a verdict if a word is not in the language.



Hierarchy of Languages



Deterministic Finite Automaton

Theorem

The set

$$A_{DFA} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ is a DFA that accepts string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

M= “On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a DFA and w is a string:

- 0 Check the format of the input.
- 1 Simulate B on input w .
- 2 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*.”



Empty Languages

Theorem

The set

$$E_{DFA} = \{ \langle A \rangle \mid A \text{ is a DFA and } L(A) = \emptyset \}$$

is a decidable language.

T= “On input $\langle A \rangle$, the string encoding of DFA A :

- ① Select the start state in A and mark it.
- ② Repeat the following until no new states are marked:
 - ③ For each state in A , mark it if there is a transition from a marked state.
- ④ Scan the accept states of A , if any are marked, *reject*; otherwise *accept*.”



Equal Languages

Theorem

The set

$$EQ_{DFA} = \{ \langle A, B \rangle \mid A \text{ and } B \text{ are DFAs and } L(A) = L(B) \}$$

is a decidable language.

- Note, DFAs are closed under *unions*, *intersections*, and *compliments*.
- Construct the *symmetric difference* of A and B , $C \equiv A \text{ XOR } B$ or

$$L(C) = \left(L(A) \cap \overline{L(B)} \right) \cup \left(\overline{L(A)} \cap L(B) \right).$$

- Check if C is empty using T from the previous theorem.



Equal Languages

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The set

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$$L(C) = \left(L(A) \cap \overline{L(B)} \right) \cup \left(\overline{L(A)} \cap L(B) \right).$$

- Check if C is empty using T from the previous theorem.
(Reduction)



Nondeterministic Finite Automaton

Theorem

The set

$$A_{NFA} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ is an NFA that accepts string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

$N =$ "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a NFA and w is a string:

- 1 Convert B to a DFA C . (Reduction)
- 2 Run M from the previous theorem on input $\langle C, w \rangle$.
- 3 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*."



Regular Expressions

Theorem

The set

$$A_{REG} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ is a regex that accepts string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

P= "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a RegEx and w is a string:

- 1 Convert B to a NFA C . (Reduction)
- 2 Run N from the previous theorem on input $\langle C, w \rangle$.
- 3 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*."



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$A_{CFG} = \{ \langle G, w \rangle \mid G \text{ is a CFG that generates the string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

$S =$ "On input $\langle G, w \rangle$, where G is a CFG and w is a string:

- 1 Convert G to Chomsky Normal Form. (Reduction)
- 2 List all derivations with $2n - 1$ steps, $n = |w|$; except for $n=0$, then list derivations with one step.
- 3 If w is generated, *accept*; otherwise *reject*."



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$E_{CFG} = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a CFG and } L(G) = \emptyset \}$$

is a decidable language.

R= "On input $\langle G \rangle$, the string encoding of CFG G :

- 1 Mark the terminals in G .
- 2 Repeat the following until no new variables get marked:
 - 3 Mark any variable A where $A \rightarrow U_1 U_2 \cdots U_k$ is in G and the U_i are all marked.
- 4 If the start variable of G is not marked, *accept*; otherwise *reject*."



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$EQ_{CFG} = \{\langle G, H \rangle \mid G \text{ and } H \text{ are CFGs and } L(G) = L(H)\}$$

is not a decidable language. (Proof held until after Chapter 5.)



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A_{TM} is Undecidable

Theorem

Given the set

$$A_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w \},$$

A_{TM} is undecidable.

$U =$ “ On input $\langle M, w \rangle$, where M is a TM and w is a string:

- ① Simulate M on w .
- ② If M ever enters its accept state, *accept*; If M ever enters its reject state, *reject*.”

This is a *universal Turing machine* and shows that A_{TM} is **recognizable**.



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- Suppose there's a *decider* H for A_{TM}

$$H(\langle M, w \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } M \text{ accepts } w \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } M \text{ does not accept } w \end{cases}$$



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- Suppose there's a *decider* H for A_{TM}
- Define $D(\langle M \rangle) = \neg H(\langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle)$

$$D(\langle M \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } M \text{ does not accept } \langle M \rangle \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } M \text{ accepts } \langle M \rangle \end{cases}$$



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- Suppose there's a *decider* H for A_{TM}
- Define $D(\langle M \rangle) = \neg H(\langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle)$
- D can't decide $\langle D \rangle$

$$D(\langle D \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } D \text{ does not accept } \langle D \rangle \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } D \text{ accepts } \langle D \rangle \end{cases}$$



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- Suppose there's a *decider* H for A_{TM}
- Define $D(\langle M \rangle) = \neg H(\langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle)$
- D can't decide $\langle D \rangle$

$$D(\langle D \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } D \text{ does not accept } \langle D \rangle \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } D \text{ accepts } \langle D \rangle \end{cases}$$

- \therefore Neither D nor H can exist and so A_{TM} is undecidable



Machine D

	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	\dots	$\langle D \rangle$
M_1	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	\dots	<i>accept</i>
M_2	<i>reject</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	\dots	<i>reject</i>
M_3	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	<i>reject</i>	\dots	<i>reject</i>
M_4	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	\dots	<i>accept</i>
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\dots
D	<i>reject</i>	<i>reject</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	\dots	?



A_{TM} is Undecidable

Theorem

Given the set

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A_{TM} is undecidable.



Non-Turing Recognizable Languages

Theorem

There exist languages that are not Turing-Recognizable.

- $\Sigma^* = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, \dots\}$
- $\mathcal{B} = \{\text{infinite binary sequences}\}$
- $\mathcal{L} = \{\text{all languages}\} = \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^*)$
- $f : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$
- $\forall A \in \mathcal{L} : f(A) = b_1 b_2 b_3 b_4 \dots \in \mathcal{B}$

$$b_i = \begin{cases} 0 & s_i \notin A \\ 1 & s_i \in A \end{cases}$$

- $\chi_A = f(A)$ is called the *characteristic sequence* of A



Decidability vs. Recognizably

Definition

A language, \bar{A} , is *co-Turing-recognizable* if it is the complement of a Turing-recognizable language A .



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Theorem

A language is decidable if and only if it is Turing-recognizable and co-Turing-recognizable. (i.e. A and \bar{A} are both recognizable)



Decidability vs. Recognizably

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A language, \bar{A} , is *co-Turing-recognizable* if it is the complement of a Turing-recognizable language A .

Theorem

A language is decidable if and only if it is Turing-recognizable and co-Turing-recognizable. (i.e. A and \bar{A} are both recognizable)

Theorem

A language is undecidable if and only if it is not Turing-recognizable or not co-Turing-recognizable.



Decidability vs. Recognizably

Definition

A language, \bar{A} , is *co-Turing-recognizable* if it is the complement of a Turing-recognizable language A .

Theorem

A language is undecidable if and only if it is not Turing-recognizable or not co-Turing-recognizable.

Corollary

The language $\overline{A_{TM}}$ is not Turing-recognizable.



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Reducible Languages

Definition (Reducible)

A *reduction* of a problem is a process of converting one problem to another in such a way that a solution to the second problem provides a solution to the first.



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- Primality testing can be reduced to factoring. (But not necessarily the other way.)
- Decidability of A_{REX} reduces to the decidability of A_{NFA} .
- Decidability of A_{NFA} reduces to the decidability of A_{DFA} .



Reducible Languages

Definition (Reducible)

A *reduction* of a problem is a process of converting one problem to another in such a way that a solution to the second problem provides a solution to the first.

- Primality testing can be reduced to factoring. (But not necessarily the other way.)
- Decidability of A_{REX} reduces to the decidability of A_{NFA} .
- Decidability of A_{NFA} reduces to the decidability of A_{DFA} .
- Decidability of EQ_{DFA} reduces to the decidability of E_{DFA} .



Mapping Reducible

Definition

A function $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ is a *computable function* if some Turing machine M , on every input w , halts with just $f(w)$ on its tape.



Mapping Reducible

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Example

- Arithmetic operations on $\langle x, y \rangle$ such as $x + y$.
- Converting a $TM \langle M \rangle$ into a $TM \langle M' \rangle$ which marks the start of a string w and never tries to move left from the left-hand end of the tape.



Mapping Reducible

Definition

A function $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ is a *computable function* if some Turing machine M , on every input w , halts with just $f(w)$ on its tape.

Definition

Language A is *mapping reducible* to a language B , written $A \leq_m B$, if there is a computable function $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$, where for every w ,

$$w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B.$$

The function f is called the *reduction* of A to B .



Recasting a Previous Examples

Example

Let M_1 be a DFA that rejects everything. Then

$$\langle M \rangle \mapsto \langle M, M_1 \rangle$$

is a mapping reduction from E_{DFA} to EQ_{DFA} . That is $L(M)$ is the empty language if and only if $L(M) = L(M_1)$, and thus $E_{DFA} \leq_m EQ_{DFA}$.



Decidable or Not

Theorem

Given $A \leq_m B$ (A is a reducible to B), if B is decidable, then A is decidable.



Decidable or Not

Theorem

Given $A \leq_m B$ (A is a reducible to B), if B is decidable, then A is decidable.

Theorem (Contrapositive)

Given $A \leq_m B$ (A is a reducible to B), if A is undecidable, then B is undecidable.



Recognizable or Not

Theorem

Given $A \leq_m B$ (A is a reducible to B), if B is Turing-recognizable, then A is Turing-recognizable.



Recognizable or Not

Theorem

Given $A \leq_m B$ (A is a reducible to B), if B is Turing-recognizable, then A is Turing-recognizable.

Theorem (Contrapositive)

Given $A \leq_m B$ (A is a reducible to B), if A is not Turing-recognizable, then B is not Turing-recognizable.



Rice's Theorem

Theorem (Rice's Theorem)

Let P be any non-trivial property of the language of some Turing machine, i.e.

$$P = \{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ has property } P\},$$

such that

- 1 some but not all TMs are elements of P , and
 - 2 if $L(M_1) = L(M_2)$, then $\langle M_1 \rangle \in P$ iff $\langle M_2 \rangle \in P$,
- then P is undecidable.



Rice's Theorem Proof (by contradiction)

Proof.

- Assume $\langle T \rangle \in P$ and R_P is a decider for P



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 - 1 Use $\langle M, w \rangle$ to create M_w :
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 - 1 Simulate M on w . If it halts or rejects, then *reject*.



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 - 1 Simulate M on w . If it halts or rejects, then *reject*.
 - 2 Simulate T on x . If it accepts, then *accept*."



Rice's Theorem Proof (by contradiction)

Proof.

- Assume $\langle T \rangle \in P$ and R_P is a decider for P
- $S =$ "On input $\langle M, w \rangle$:
 - ① Use $\langle M, w \rangle$ to create M_w :
 $M_w =$ "On input x :
 - ① Simulate M on w . If it halts or rejects, then *reject*.
 - ② Simulate T on x . If it accepts, then *accept*."
 - ② Use *TM* R_P to determine if $\langle M_w \rangle \in P$. If yes, *accept*. If no, *reject*."



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 - ② Use TM R_P to determine if $\langle M_w \rangle \in P$. If yes, *accept*. If no, *reject*."
- $L(M_w) = \emptyset$ implies $\langle M, w \rangle \notin A_{TM}$



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 $M_w =$ "On input x :
 - ① Simulate M on w . If it halts or rejects, then *reject*.
 - ② Simulate T on x . If it accepts, then *accept*."
 - ② Use TM R_P to determine if $\langle M_w \rangle \in P$. If yes, *accept*. If no, *reject*."
- $L(M_w) = \emptyset$ implies $\langle M, w \rangle \notin A_{TM}$
- $L(M_w) = L(T) \in P$ implies $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$



Rice's Theorem Proof (by contradiction)

Proof.

- Assume $\langle T \rangle \in P$ and R_P is a decider for P
- $S =$ "On input $\langle M, w \rangle$:
 - ① Use $\langle M, w \rangle$ to create M_w :
 $M_w =$ "On input x :
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 - ② Simulate T on x . If it accepts, then *accept*."
 - ② Use TM R_P to determine if $\langle M_w \rangle \in P$. If yes, *accept*. If no, *reject*."
- $L(M_w) = \emptyset$ implies $\langle M, w \rangle \notin A_{TM}$
- $L(M_w) = L(T) \in P$ implies $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$
- S is a decider for A_{TM} , this is a contradiction □



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The Halting Problem, $HALT_{TM}$ is Undecidable

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 - 1 Run $TM R$ on input $\langle M, w \rangle$.



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 - 2 if R rejects, *reject*.



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 - 1 Run $TM R$ on input $\langle M, w \rangle$.
 - 2 if R rejects, *reject*.
 - 3 If R accepts, simulate M on w until it halts.



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 - 1 Run $TM R$ on input $\langle M, w \rangle$.
 - 2 if R rejects, *reject*.
 - 3 If R accepts, simulate M on w until it halts.
 - 4 If M accepts, *accept*; if M rejects, *reject*."



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- $HALT_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid TM M \text{ halts on input } w \}$
- Assume $TM R$ decides $HALT_{TM}$.
- $S =$ "On input $\langle M, w \rangle$:
 - ① Run $TM R$ on input $\langle M, w \rangle$.
 - ② if R rejects, *reject*.
 - ③ If R accepts, simulate M on w until it halts.
 - ④ If M accepts, *accept*; if M rejects, *reject*."
- S is a decider for A_{TM} , this is a contradiction.



The Halting Problem, $HALT_{TM}$ is Undecidable

- $HALT_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid TM M \text{ halts on input } w \}$
- Assume $TM R$ decides $HALT_{TM}$.
- $S =$ "On input $\langle M, w \rangle$:
 - ① Run $TM R$ on input $\langle M, w \rangle$.
 - ② if R rejects, *reject*.
 - ③ If R accepts, simulate M on w until it halts.
 - ④ If M accepts, *accept*; if M rejects, *reject*."
- S is a decider for A_{TM} , this is a contradiction.
- $\therefore HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable.



$REGULAR_{TM}$ is Undecidable

- $REGULAR_{TM} = \{\langle M \rangle \mid L(M) \text{ is a regular language}\}$



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- $S =$ "On input $\langle M, w \rangle$:
 - 1 Use $\langle M, w \rangle$ to create M_1 :
 $M_1 =$ "On input x :



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 - ① Use $\langle M, w \rangle$ to create M_1 :
 $M_1 =$ "On input x :
 - ① If $x = 0^n 1^n$, accept. (Recall $0^n 1^n$ is non-regular.)



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 $M_1 =$ "On input x :
 - 1 If $x = 0^n 1^n$, accept. (Recall $0^n 1^n$ is non-regular.)
 - 2 If $x \neq 0^n 1^n$, run M on w and accept if M accepts w ."



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 $M_1 =$ "On input x :
 - ① If $x = 0^n 1^n$, accept. (Recall $0^n 1^n$ is non-regular.)
 - ② If $x \neq 0^n 1^n$, run M on w and accept if M accepts w ."
 - ② Use $TM R$ to determine if $\langle M_1 \rangle \in REGULAR_{TM}$. If yes, accept. If no, reject."



$REGULAR_{TM}$ is Undecidable

- $REGULAR_{TM} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid L(M) \text{ is a regular language} \}$
- Assume $TM R$ decides $REGULAR_{TM}$.
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 - ① Use $\langle M, w \rangle$ to create M_1 :
 $M_1 =$ "On input x :
 - ① If $x = 0^n 1^n$, accept. (Recall $0^n 1^n$ is non-regular.)
 - ② If $x \neq 0^n 1^n$, run M on w and accept if M accepts w ."
 - ② Use $TM R$ to determine if $\langle M_1 \rangle \in REGULAR_{TM}$. If yes, accept. If no, reject."
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EQ_{TM} and Recognizability

Theorem

The language $EQ_{TM} = \{\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid L(M_1) = L(M_2)\}$ is neither Turing-recognizable nor co-Turing-recognizable.



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- 1 Decidable Languages
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- 5 Linear Bounded Automaton**
- 6 Next Class



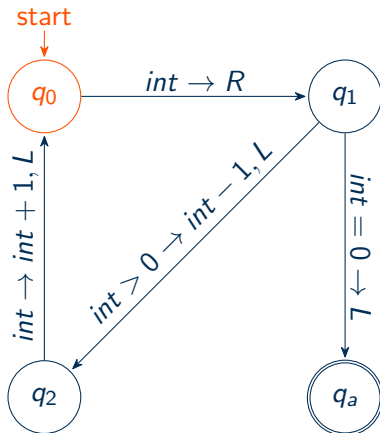
Computational History

Definition (Computational History)

Let M be a Turing Machine and w an input string. An *accepting computational history* for M on w is a sequence of configurations, $C_1, C_2, C_3, \dots, C_l$, where C_1 is the starting configuration, C_l is an accepting configuration, and each C_i follows from C_{i-1} according to the transition rules of M . A *rejecting computational history* is defined similarly, except C_l is a rejecting configuration.

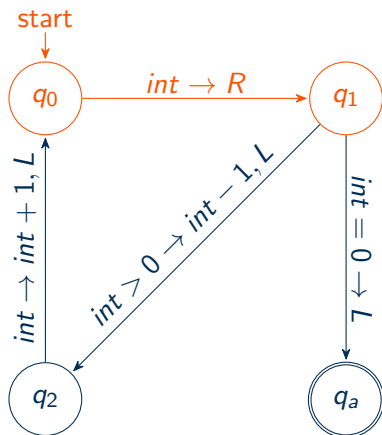


Computational History



$$C_1: (q_0) \quad 7 \quad 2$$

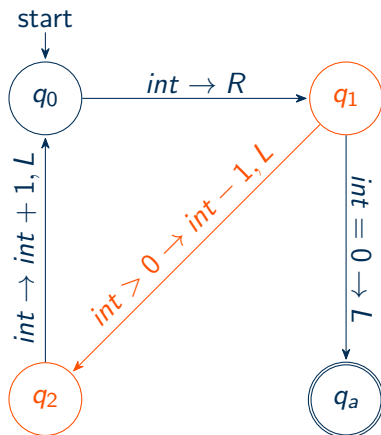

Computational History



$$C_1: \quad (q_0) \quad 7 \quad 2$$

$$C_2: \quad 7 \quad (q_1) \quad 2$$

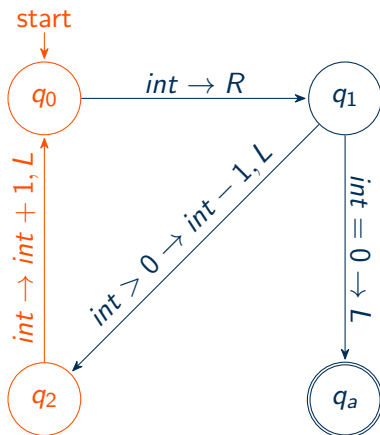

Computational History



C_1 :	(q_0)	7	2
C_2 :	7	(q_1)	2
C_3 :	(q_2)	7	1



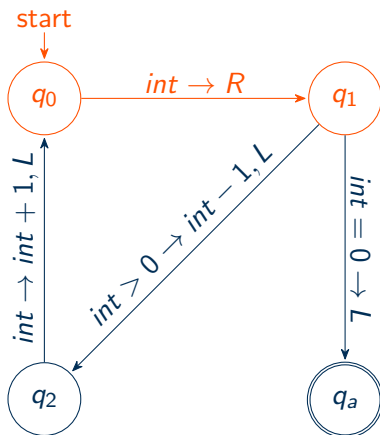
Computational History



C_1 :	(q_0)	7	2
C_2 :	7	(q_1)	2
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C_4 :	(q_0)	8	1



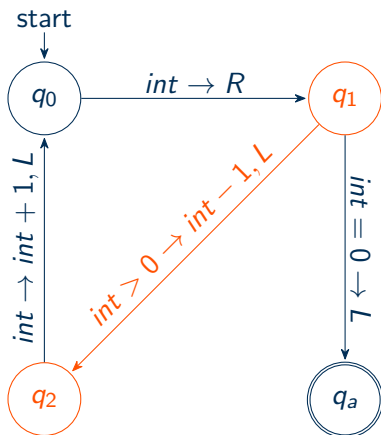
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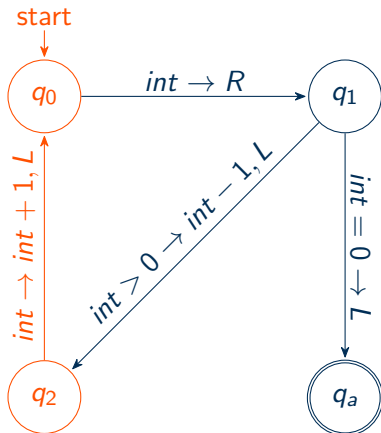
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C_6 :	(q_2)	8	0



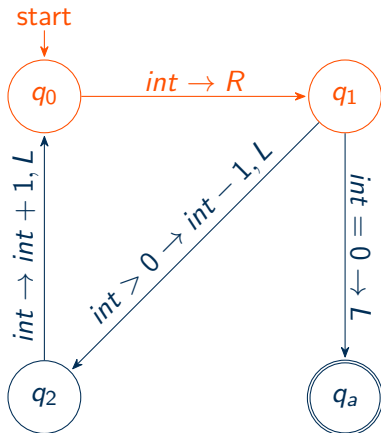
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C_6 :	(q_2)	8	0
C_7 :	(q_0)	9	0



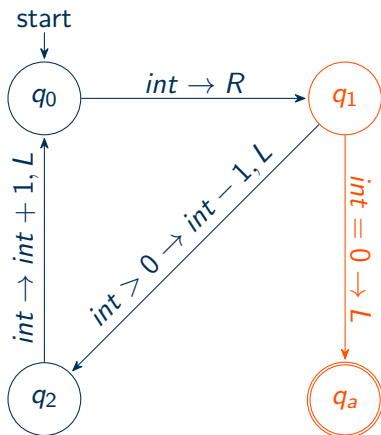
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C_7 :	(q_0)	9	0
C_8 :	9	(q_1)	0
C_9 :	(q_a)	9	0



Linear Bounded Automaton

Definition

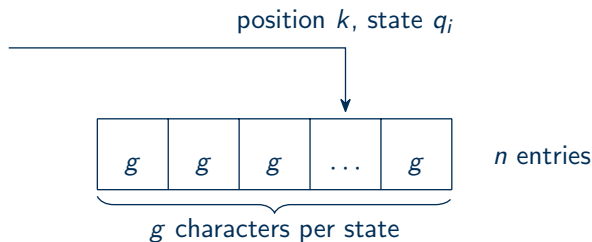
A *linear bounded automaton* is a Turing machine in which the head is restricted to the input tape and may not move off the left or right-hand ends of the tape.



Linear Bounded Automaton

Lemma

Let M be an LBA with q states and g symbols in the state alphabet. There are exactly qng^n distinct configurations of M for a tape of length n .



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 - 2 If it rejects, *reject*.
 - 3 If it hasn't yet halted, *reject*.



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a finite sequence of configurations; B accepts x if



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- 3 Construct an LBA B to read

$$x = \#C_1\#C_2\#C_3\#\cdots\#C_l\#$$

a finite sequence of configurations; B accepts x if

- 1 $C_1 = (q_0)w$, the starting configuration for M simulating w
 - 2 C_l is an accepting configuration in M
 - 3 C_{i+1} follows from C_i using the rules of M
- 4 Suppose R decides emptiness for LBA
 - 5 If R rejects $\langle B \rangle$, *accept*
 - 6 If R accepts $\langle B \rangle$, *reject*
 - 7 $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$ is decidable, a contradiction



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- 8 $\therefore E_{LBA}$ is undecidable



ALL_{CFG} is Undecidable

$$1 \quad All_{CFG} = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^*\}$$



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and accepts if x isn't a history of M accepting w .



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CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$EQ_{CFG} = \{ \langle G, H \rangle \mid G \text{ and } H \text{ are CFGs and } L(G) = L(H) \}$$

is not a decidable language. (Proof held until after Chapter 5.)



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- 3 Reducibility
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- 5 Linear Bounded Automaton
- 6 Next Class**



Next Class

- Recursion Theorem



Next Class

- Recursion Theorem
- Another proof that A_{TM} is undecidable (sort of)



Next Class

- Recursion Theorem
- Another proof that A_{TM} is undecidable (sort of)
- Decidability and Logical Theories



Limits of Turing Machines (Part 2)

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