

# **Solution to TPPMark 2019**

**Keisuke Nakao**  
**RIEC, Tohoku University**  
**Nov 19, 2019**



# Main problem (#4)

Please define a machine that, given an input cyclic tape of unknown size and content, clears the tape (by zero) and halts.

You may assume a minimum length on input tapes.

## ❖ My assumption (most general setting)

- ❖ Length of input tapes  $\geq 1$
- ❖ Number of input symbols  $\geq 2$ 
  - ❖ At least, there must be zero (0).
    - ❖ Otherwise, it is impossible to clear.
  - ❖ At least, there must be a non-zero symbol (1).
    - ❖ Otherwise, it is trivial.



# Solution by Yamada-san

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Put 0 and repeatedly move to the left until finding 1.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

## ❖ Assumption


- ❖ Length of tape  $\geq 2$
- ❖ If the length is 1, the algorithm does not terminate.



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	3	1	5	0	2	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(a) 


2	4	1	1	5	0	2	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	1	1	5	0	2	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(b) 


2	4	1	0	5	0	2	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	1	0	5	0	2	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(c) 


2	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(d) 


2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(e) 

2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(f)&(a) 


2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(b) 


2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**  
**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(c) 


2	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**  
**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

2	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(d) 

[illegible]




# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**

**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

[illegible]

(e) 

[illegible]



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**

**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

[illegible]

**(f)&(a)** 

[illegible]




# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**

**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

[illegible]

**(b)** 


[illegible]



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**  
**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

[illegible]

(c) 


[illegible]



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**  
**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

[illegible]

(d) 

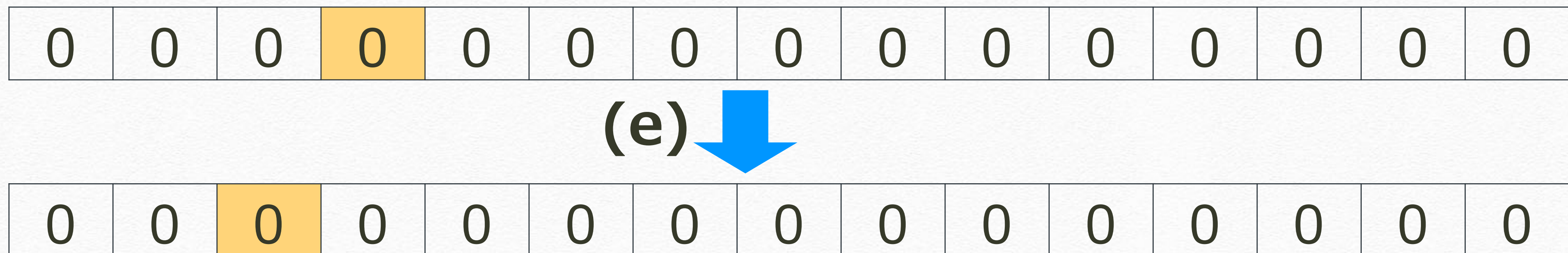
[illegible]



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**

**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**





# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.**
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.**
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.**
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.**
- (e) Move to the left.**
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).**

**If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.**

[illegible]

**(f)& done!** 

[illegible]



# My zero-clear algorithm

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1 and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0 and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1, then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0, then the tape is zero-cleared.

❖ **It works even when the tape length is 1.**





# Transition for Cyclic TM

- (a) Put 1 and move to the right.
- (b) Put 0 and move to the right.
- (c) Repeatedly put 1  
and move to the right until finding 1.
- (d) Repeatedly put 0  
and move to the left until finding 0.
- (e) Move to the left.
- (f) If the symbol is 1,  
then go to (a).  
If the symbol is 0,  
then the tape is zero-cleared.

$$\begin{aligned}\delta(q_{in}, s) &= (q_{pr}, 1, \rightarrow) & q_{in} &: \text{Initial} \\ \delta(q_{pr}, s) &= (q_{cl}, 0, \rightarrow) & q_{fn} &: \text{Final}\end{aligned}$$

$$\delta(q_{cl}, s) = \begin{cases} (q_{bk}, 0, \leftarrow) & s = 1 \\ (q_{cl}, 1, \rightarrow) & s \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(q_{bk}, s) = \begin{cases} (q_{ck}, 0, \leftarrow) & s = 0 \\ (q_{bk}, 0, \leftarrow) & s = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(q_{ck}, s) = \begin{cases} (q_{fn}, 0, \downarrow) & s = 0 \\ (q_{pr}, 1, \rightarrow) & s = 1 \end{cases}$$



# Proving termination

## ❖ Key lemma

Any tape  $t$  with  $\#_1(t) \geq 2$  of the form

?	?	1	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

at state  $q_{cl}$

goes to a tape  $t'$  with  $\#_1(t') < \#_1(t)$  of the form

?	?	1	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

at state  $q_{cl}$

where  $\#_1(t)$  stands for the number of "1" in a tape  $t$ .