

5.31

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x+1 & \text{for odd } x \\ x/2 & \text{for even } x \end{cases} \quad \text{for } \forall x \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\uparrow$  top when 4 is reached.

the question of whether all positive starting points end up at 1; it is called  $3x+1$  prob.

Suppose  $A_{TM}$  were decidable by a TM  $H$ . use  $H$  to describe a TM that is guaranteed to state an answer

Turing machine for terminate on 1

TM Q: Input  $\langle x \rangle$

1. If  $x=1$ , ACCEPT

2. if  $x$  is even,  $x$  is now  $x/2$ . if  $x$  is odd,  $x$  is now  $3x+1$

3. Loop to step 1

If Q finds what it's looking for, it will never terminate.

We now build another Turing machine that tests inputs through Q. TM L will loop through all natural numbers.

TM L: Input  $\langle \text{Doesn't matter} \rangle$

1. For each  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  [1, 2, 3, ...]

2. Run H on  $\langle Q, x \rangle$

3. If H rejects, ACCEPT. Other, Loop.

If we simulate L, if there is no counterexample it will never terminate. Another TM is needed

TM F: Input  $\langle \text{Doesn't matter} \rangle$

1. Run H on  $\langle L, \epsilon \rangle$

2. If H accepts, then ACCEPT, else REJECT

If TM F accepts a counterexample has been found.