

# The MU-Puzzle

MI  $\rightarrow$  MU

**Rule 1:** If you possess a string whose last letter is I, add U.

**Rule 2:** Suppose you have  $Mx$ , you may add  $Mxx$ .

**Rule 3:** If III occurs in one of the strings, you may make a new string with U in place of III.

**Rule 4:** If UU, you can drop it.

MI

MII  $Mxx$

MIII  $Mxx$

MIIIIIIII  $Mxx$

MUIIU  $MIU$

$\emptyset$

MI  $\rightarrow$  use  $Mxx$  rule  $\infty$  times

MIIII...

I's are always a multiple of 2, thus not divisible by 3.

MUUU

MIII

**Rule 1** does not affect # of I's.

**Rule 2** does not give divisible by 3.

**Rule 3** does not change the # of I's.

**Rule 4** does not change the # of I's.

Bottom line, you will never get rid of all of the I's. Thus you cannot get MU from MI.