

# COMP30026 Models of Computation

Recognisable and Decidable Languages

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Lecture Week 11. Par

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Semester 2, 2021

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# Multitape Machines

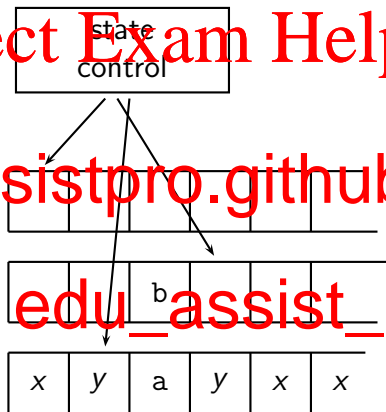
A multitape Turing machine has  $k$  tapes. It takes its input on tape 1, other tapes are blank.

The transition function

$$\delta : Q \times \Gamma^k \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma^k \times \{L, R\}^k$$

It specifies how the  $k$  tape heads behave when the machine is in state  $q_i$ , reading  $a_1, \dots, a_k$ :

$$\delta(q_i, a_1, \dots, a_k) = (q_j, (b_1, \dots, b_k), (d_1, \dots, d_k))$$



# Simulating a Multitape Machine

**Theorem:** A language is Turing recognisable iff some multitape Turing machine recognises it.

**Proof sk**  
a standard

$M$  by

Suppose the multitape machine's tape alphabet is

The standard machine has tape alphabet  $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$  is a separator, not in  $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$ , and there is some one-between elements in  $\Gamma$  and elements in  $\Gamma'$ .

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$S$  reorganises input  $x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n$  into  $\underbrace{\# \dots \#}_{k-1 \text{ times}}$

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Simulating an  $M$  move,  $S$  scans its tape to determine the marked symbols

transiti

$M$ 's

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If a “virtual head” of  $M$  moves to a  $\#$ ,  $S$  shifts that symbol, and every symbol after it, one cell to the right. In the vacant c writes  $\sqcup$ .

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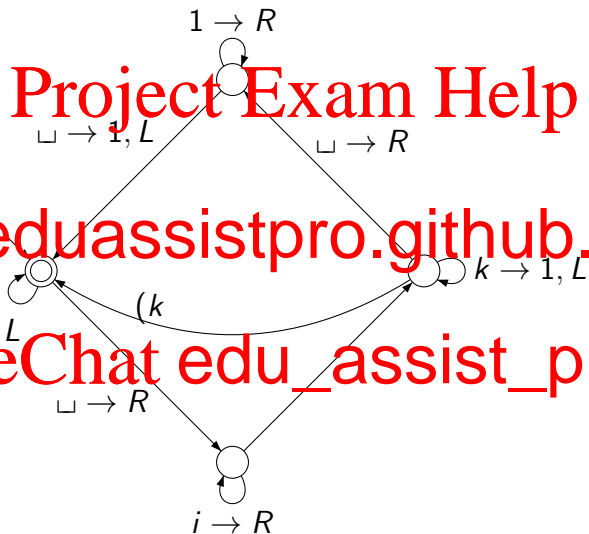
A nondeterministic Turing machine has a transition function of type

If **some** <https://eduassistpro.github.io>  
accepts its input.

This is the same type of nondeterminism that an **Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pr**

# Simulating a Nondeterministic Turing Machine

First, a deterministic machine to generate  $\{1, \dots, k\}$ , in order of increasing length.



Try running it for  $k = 3$ .



# Simulating a Nondeterministic Turing Machine

**Theorem:** A language is Turing recognisable iff some nondeterministic Turing machine recognises it.

**Proof sketch:** We need to show that every nondeterministic Turing machine  $N$  can be simulated by a deterministic Turing machine  $D$ .

We show that

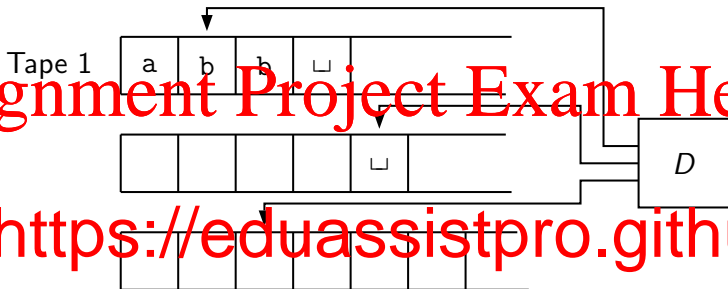
Let  $k$  be the largest number of choices, according to  $N$ 's transition function, for any state/symbol combination.

Tape 1 contains the input.

Tape 3 holds longer and longer sequences from  $\{1, \dots, k\}^*$ .

Tape 2 is used to simulate  $N$ 's behaviour for each fixed sequence of choices given by tape 3.

# Simulating a Nondeterministic Turing Machine



- 1 Initially tape 1 contains input  $w$ . Then
- 2 Overwrite tape 2 by  $w$ .
- 3 Use tape 2 to simulate  $N$ . Tape 3 dictates how  $N$  should make its choices. If  $N$  says **accept**, accept. If the “choice list” on tape 3 gets exhausted, go to step 4.
- 4 Generate the next choice list on tape 3. Go to step 2.

# Enumerators

The Turing machine we built to generate all strings in  $\{1, \dots, k\}^*$  is an example of an **enumerator**.

We could i rint  
all the strings .

For an enumerator to enumerate a language , it  
must eventually print w

The reason why we also call Turing recognisable **Ta** **ursively**  
**enumerable** is the following theorem.

# Enumerators

**Thm:**  $L$  is Turing recognisable iff some enumerator enumerates  $L$ .

**Proof:** Let  $E$  enumerate  $L$ . Then we can build a Turing machine recognising  $L$  as follows:

1 Let

2 Si

script.

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Conversely, let  $M$  recognise  $L$ . Then we can build an enumerator  $E$  by elaborating the enumerator from a few slides back.  $E$  enumerates  $\Sigma^*$  producing  $s_1, s_2, \dots$

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- 1 Let  $i = 1$ .
- 2 Simulate  $M$  for  $i$  steps on each of  $s_1, \dots, s_i$ .
- 3 For each accepting computation, print that  $s$ .
- 4 Increment  $i$  and go to step 2.

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We have silently assumed that the domain of a function is known, so that  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  means that  $f(x)$  is defined for each  $x \in X$ .

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We write  $f : X \hookrightarrow Y$  to say that  $f$  has a d  
 $X$ , but  $f(x)$  may be undefined for some

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Note that a total function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  i  
 $f : X \hookrightarrow Y$ .



# Partial Functions: Example 1

The function  $f$  defined by

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 42 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ f(n-2) & \text{if } n \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

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Its range is  $\{42\}$ .

In this case, it is not too hard to determine the set of values for which  $f$  is defined. So we could also choose to say that  $f$  is a total function  $X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $X = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \geq 0 \wedge n \text{ is even}\}$ .

However, it is not always easy, or even possible, to determine a function's domain.

## Partial Functions: Example 2

The function  $c$  defined by

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1

if  $n = 0$  or  $n = 1$

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is a partial f

Will the evaluation of  $c(n)$  terminate for all

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## Partial Functions: Example 2

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Will the evaluation of  $c(n)$  terminate for all

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It is not known whether  $c$  is total.

This is the so-called  $3n + 1$  problem, or Collatz's problem.

# Program Termination

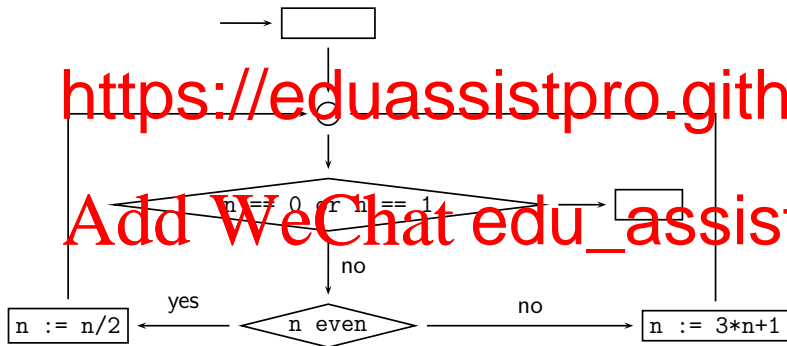
Here is a Haskell program that produces the list of  $n$ -values generated in successive recursive calls.

```
c :: Integ
c 0 = [1]
c 1 = [1]
c n = n : c (if even n then n `div` 2 else 3*n+1)
```

Colatz's sequence for 27: 27, 82, 41, 124, 62, 31, 94, 47, 142, 71, 214, 107, 412, 206, 103, 310, 155, 466, 233, 700, 350, 175, 526, 263, 790, 395, 1186, 593, 1780, 890, 445, 1336, 668, 334, 167, 502, 251, 754, 377, 1132, 566, 283, 850, 425, 1276, 638, 319, 958, 479, 1438, 719, 2158, 1079, 3238, 1619, 4858, 2429, 7288, 3644, 1822, 911, 2734, 1367, 4102, 2051, 6154, 3077, 9232, 4616, 2308, 1154, 577, 1732, 866, 433, 1300, 650, 325, 976, 488, 244, 122, 61, 184, 92, 46, 23, 70, 35, 106, 53, 160, 80, 40, 20, 10, 5, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1, 4, 2, 1.

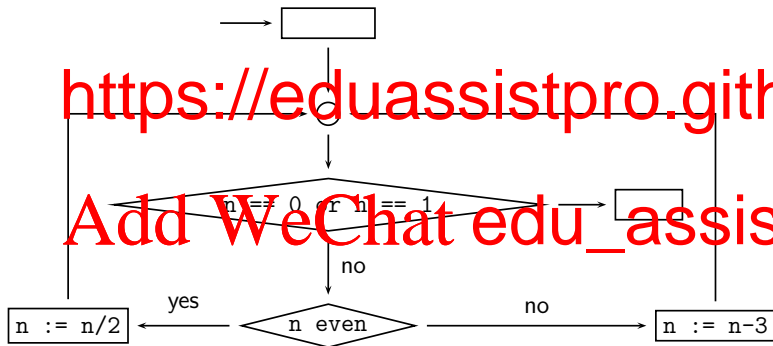
# Program Termination

Here it is as a flowchart program:



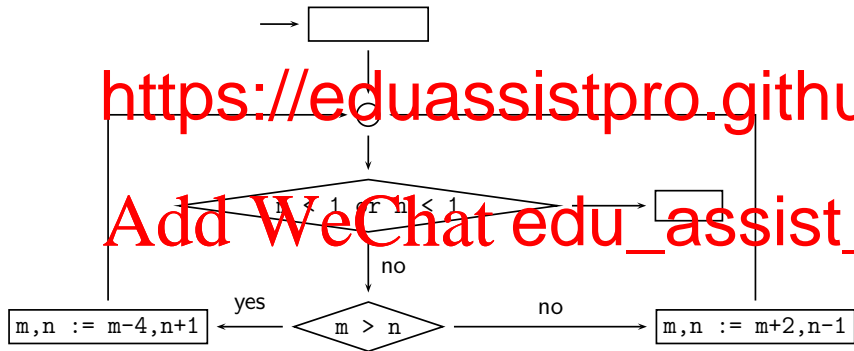
# Quiz 1: Does It Terminate?

Here is a variant. Does this halt for all positive input?



## Quiz 2: Does It Terminate?

And how about this? Does it halt for all input?



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Suppose that, for each loop in a program, we can find some “measu

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Then the program must terminate for all input, because the number cannot be made smaller indefinitely.

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# The Termination Question

Termination of algorithms is a tricky problem (and the general problem is **undecidable**).

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For example, we suggested earlier algorithms for translating propositional formulas to, say, DNF, including rules like

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$$\neg\neg\alpha \rightsquigarrow \alpha$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \wedge (\beta \vee \gamma) &\rightsquigarrow (\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee (\alpha \wedge \gamma) \\ (\beta \vee \gamma) \wedge \alpha &\rightsquigarrow (\beta \wedge \alpha) \vee (\gamma \wedge \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

Note that some of the rules decrease the size of a term, while others increase it (and some duplicate certain subterms).

So why should this process terminate?

## Quiz 3: A Marble Game

You have a bag of red and white marbles, plus a box of red marbles.

Repeat this process:

- If they are of the same colour, discard both.
- If they are of different colours, put them back.
- If they are of the same colour, discard both, but put one red marble (from the box) in the bag.

Does this terminate?

# Well-Founded Orderings

The binary relation  $\prec$  over some set  $X$  is **well-founded** iff there is no infinite sequence of  $X$ -elements  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  such that

We say th

For example,  $(\mathbb{N}, <)$  is a well-founded structure

Given a finite number of well-founded structures

$(X_1, \prec_1), \dots, (X_n, \prec_n)$ , we can obtain well-founded orderings of  $X = X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$  in a number of different ways.

# Ordering Pairs: Component-Wise Ordering

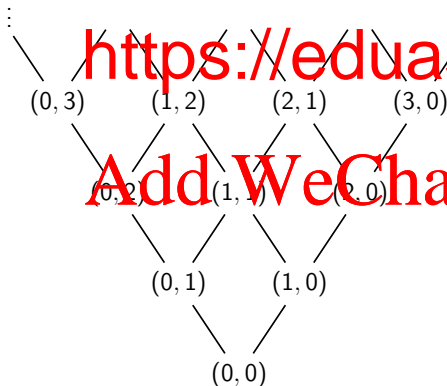
$$(x_1, x_2) \preceq (y_1, y_2) \text{ iff } x_1 \leq y_1 \wedge x_2 \leq y_2$$

$$p \prec q \text{ iff } p \preceq q \wedge p \neq q$$

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Values increase as you travel **up** along edges.

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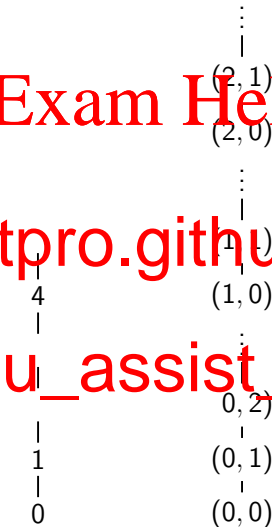
On the left:

On the right:

lexicogr

iff  $m \leq m' \wedge (m = m' \Rightarrow n \leq n')$ .

Define again  $p \preceq q$  iff  $p \leq q \wedge p \neq q$ .



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to tuples.

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# Component-Wise Ordering of Tuples

Ordering  $X = X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$  component-wise

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If each  $(x_i, y_i)$

Example using component-wise ordering:

$(2, 2, 2) \succ (2, 2, 1) \succ (2, 1, 1) \succ (2, \dots, 0)$

# Lexicographic Ordering of Tuples

Ordering  $X = X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$  lexicographically:

$(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$

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If each  $(X_i, \leq_i)$  is a total order

Example using lexicographic ordering:

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$(2, 2, 2) \succ (2, 1, 42) \succ (1, 3, 1000) \succ (1, 3, 999) \succ (1, 3, 0) \succ (0, 0, 15)$



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There is an induction principle to go with well-founded relations.

Given a well-founded relation  $R$  on a set  $S$ , we

“for all”

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We proceed in **one** step:

- Assume that  $S(x)$  holds for all  $x'$  such that  $x' R x$  and use that to establish  $S(x)$ .

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# Example 1: The Dutch Flag

We have 12 pebbles laid out in a row. Consider three rewrite rules

   $\rightsquigarrow$    (for a white left of a red, swap)

To see that rewriting terminates, use   $<$    $<$   together with lexicographic ordering on 12-tuples.

## Example 2: Ackermann's Function

The following is a definition of Ackermann's function:

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$$\text{ack}(0, y) = y + 1$$

It grows in

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For example,  $\text{ack}(3, 3) = 61$  and  $\text{ack}(4$

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However, **lexicographic** well-founded induction shows that the function is total—as a Haskell program it will terminate for all input (possibly after a very long time).

## Example 2: Ackermann's Function

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In each recursive call, the argument  $(x, y)$  decreases strictly

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$$\text{ack}(x + 1, y + 1) = \text{ack}(x, \text{ack}(x + 1, y))$$

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