

Design Turing machines $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, \text{start}, \text{accept}, \text{reject})$ for each of the following tasks, either by listing the states Q , the tape alphabet Γ , and the transition function δ (in a table), or by drawing the corresponding labeled graph.

Each of these machines uses the input alphabet $\Sigma = \{1, \#\}$; the tape alphabet Γ can be any superset of $\{1, \#, \square, \triangleright\}$ where \square is the blank symbol and \triangleright is a special symbol marking the left end of the tape. Each machine should **reject** any input not in the form specified below.

The solutions below describe single-tape, single-head Turing machines. There are arguably simpler Turing machines that multiple tapes and/or multiple heads.

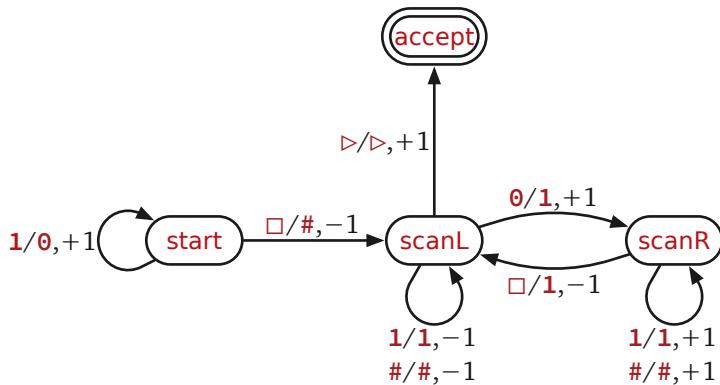
- 1** On input 1^n , for any non-negative integer n , write $1^n \# 1^n$ on the tape and **accept**.

Solution:

Our Turing machine M_1 uses the tape alphabet $\Gamma = \{0, 1, \#, \square, \triangleright\}$ and the following states, in addition to **accept** and **reject**:

- **start** – Initialize the tape by replacing every 1 with 0 . When we find a blank, write $\#$ and start scanning left.
- **scanL** – Scan left for the rightmost 0 . If we find it, replace it with 1 and start scanning right. If we find \triangleright instead, we are done; halt and accept.
- **scanR** – Scan right for the leftmost blank. When we find it, write 1 and start scanning left again.

Here is the transition graph of the machine. To simplify the drawing, we omit all transitions into the hidden **reject** state.



Here is the transition function; again, all unspecified transitions lead to the **reject** state.

| $\delta(p, a) = (q, b, \Delta)$ | explanation |
|--|---|
| $\delta(\text{start}, 1) = (\text{start}, 0, +1)$ | init phase: replace 1 s with 0 s |
| $\delta(\text{start}, \square) = (\text{scanL}, \#, -1)$ | finished init phase; write $\#$ and start scanning left |
| $\delta(\text{scanL}, 1) = (\text{scanL}, 1, -1)$ | scan left to rightmost 0 |
| $\delta(\text{scanL}, \#) = (\text{scanL}, \#, -1)$ | |
| $\delta(\text{scanL}, 0) = (\text{scanR}, 1, +1)$ | found it; write 1 and start scanning right |
| $\delta(\text{scanL}, \triangleright) = (\text{accept}, \triangleright, +1)$ | found start of tape instead; we are done! |
| $\delta(\text{scanR}, 1) = (\text{scanR}, 1, +1)$ | main loop: scan right to leftmost \square |
| $\delta(\text{scanR}, \#) = (\text{scanR}, \#, +1)$ | |
| $\delta(\text{scanR}, \square) = (\text{scanL}, 1, -1)$ | found it; write 1 and start scanning left |

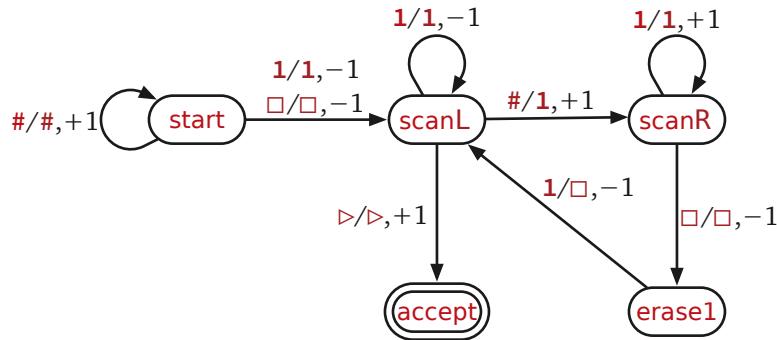
- 2** On input $\#^n 1^m$, for any non-negative integers m and n , write 1^m on the tape and **accept**. In other words, delete all the $\#$ s, thereby shifting the 1 s to the start of the tape.

Solution:

Our machine M_2 repeatedly scans for the last $\#$ and replaces it with 1 , then scans for the rightmost 1 and replaces it with a blank, until the search for the last $\#$ fails. We use the minimal tape alphabet $\Gamma = \{1, \#, \square, \triangleright\}$ and the following states, in addition to **accept** and **reject**:

- **start** – Scan right past all $\#$ s
- **scanL** – Scan left to the rightmost $\#$ or \triangleright . If we find $\#$, replace it with 1 ; if we find \triangleright , we are done!
- **scanR** – Scan right to the leftmost \square (just after the rightmost 1 , if any).
- **erase1** – Replace the rightmost 1 with \square

Here is the transition graph of the machine. To simplify the drawing, we omit all transitions into the hidden **reject** state.



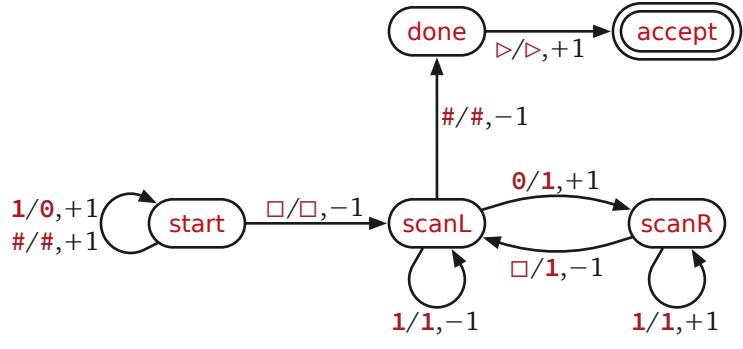
- 3** On input $\#1^n$, for any non-negative integer n , write $\#1^{2n}$ on the tape and **accept**. (**Hint:** Modify the Turing machine from problem 1.)

Solution:

Our machine M_3 mirrors M_1 with a few minor changes. First, we won't both writing a second $\#$ between the first and second copies of the input string; second, we treat the initial $\#$ as the de-facto beginning of the tape. Here are the states:

- **start** – Scan right for first blank, replacing 1 s with 0 s
- **scanL** – Scan left for rightmost 0 , replace with 1
- **scanR** – Scan right for leftmost blank, replace with 1
- **done** – Found the initial $\#$; reset the head to the start position and accept

And here is the transition graph, as usual omitting transitions to **reject**.



- 4 On input 1^n , for any non-negative integer n , write 1^{2n} on the tape and **accept**. (**Hint:** Use the three previous Turing machines as subroutines.)

Solution:

Our machine M_4 works in several phases:

- Write $\#1$ at the end of the input string
- Repeatedly transform $1^a \# 1^c$ into $1^{a-1} \#^{b+1} 1^{2c}$ using a small modification of M_3 (which uses M_1 as a subroutine).
- When the initial string of 1 s is empty, remove all $\#$ s using M_2 .

So here are the states:

- **start**: Scan right for a blank, and write $\#$
- **writel1**: Write 1 after $\#$ and start main loop
- three states from M_3 to double the number 1 s to the right of $\#$ s
- **scanL1**: scan left for rightmost 1 left of $\#$ s, replace with $\#$ and repeat main loop
- four states from M_2 to delete the $\#$ s

