

Let $L = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid \text{When } M \text{ runs on } w, M \text{ moves the head beyond the right-most cell of } w\}$

WTS: L is decidable

Here is a TM that decides L

\mathcal{M} = “On input $\langle M, w \rangle$

1. run M on w for $(|Q| \times |w| \times |\Gamma|^{|w|} + 1)$ steps
2. if M moves the head beyond w then accept else reject”

For the number of possible configurations of M where the head is within w , there are $|Q|$ states, the head can be in $|w|$ positions, and every character in Γ can be in each of w cells.

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \text{Number of states} \times \text{Number of head positions} \times \text{Number of possible tapes} \\ &= |Q| \times |w| \times |\Gamma|^{|w|} \end{aligned}$$

To prove \mathcal{M} recognizes L , we will look at 2 cases

Case 1: M 's head stays within w for $n + 1$ steps

We run M for $n + 1$ steps, but there are only n possible configurations where M 's head is within w . By the pigeon hole principle, a configuration must be visited at least twice. This implies that M loops on w with the head never reading beyond w . This leads to $\langle M, w \rangle \notin L$ which we reject as wanted.

Case 2: M 's head moves beyond w within $n + 1$ steps

This implies $\langle M, w \rangle \in L$ which we accept as wanted.