## Theory of Computation

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## 1 Alphabet

An alphabet is a set of values which represents the solutions to a certain problem. The set  $\{0,1\}$  is the binary set. The set  $\{0,1\}^*$  is the set of all binary strings (union of all *n*-permutations of  $\{0,1\}$  and an empty string). In general, if  $\Sigma$  is an alphabet  $\Sigma^*$  is the set of all strings over  $\Sigma$ 

$$\Sigma^* = \lambda \cup \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Sigma^n$$

where  $\lambda$  is the empty string. Note that  $\lambda \neq \varnothing \neq \{\lambda\}$ .

## 2 Turing Machines