

1. Consider the proof that every multitape Turing machine has an equivalent single-tape Turing machine.

(a) (/2 pts) How does the simulation machine first format its tape given the input string $w = \varepsilon$?

$\# \sqcup \# \sqcup \# \dots \# \sqcup \#$

(b) (/2 pts) What happens if a simulation tape head is instructed to move left and encounters $\#$?

It instead does not move, just like on a "normal" tape.
The $\#$ to the left indicates the boundary of the tape.

2. Consider the proof that every nondeterministic Turing machine has an equivalent deterministic Turing machine.

(a) (/2 pts) Consider N 's nondeterministic computation tree. At most how many children can a node in that tree have? Why?

Remember that δ has co-domain $\mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\})$, so each tree node — which follows ^{can} any possibility — has at most $|\mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\})|$ children.

(b) (/2 pts) Describe what it *means* in step 3. of the proof where it is stated, "If no more symbols remain on tape 3 or if this nondeterministic choice is invalid, abort this branch..."

no more symbols: The simulation has explored N 's tree to the exact address on the address tape.

choice invalid: The simulation is being asked to explore an impossible computational step in N . No need to go that direction.

3. (/2 pts) Describe a reasonable encoding $\langle p \rangle$ for a polynomial $p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$. E.g. if $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$, then we could have

$\langle a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 \rangle = a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$.