

Contents

1 Turing machines



Section outline

1 Turing machines

- The language $a^n b^n c^n$

- Turing machine
- The language $w\$w$
- TM practice problems
- TM recognised languages



The language $a^n b^n c^n$

- Only recognising $a^n b^n$ is easy with a PDA
- $a^n b^n c^n$ is not a CFL
- For $a^n b^n c^n$, each matched pair of a and b , a special symbol \tilde{c} is needed to match a c
- However, the remaining b 's need to be skipped over to permit matching of the a 's and b 's



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 - Ability to move back and forth over inputs
 - Having inputs available in advance
 - Ability to access stored data in any order
- Another kind of m/c needed with above capabilities



Turing machine

A Turing machine is a 7-tuple $\langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_i, q_a, q_r \rangle$, where

Q is a finite set of states

q_i is the initial state, $q_i \in Q$

q_a is the *accepting* or *final* state, also written q_{acc}

q_r is the *rejecting* state, also written q_{rej}

Σ is a finite input alphabet

Γ is a finite tape alphabet; $\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma$

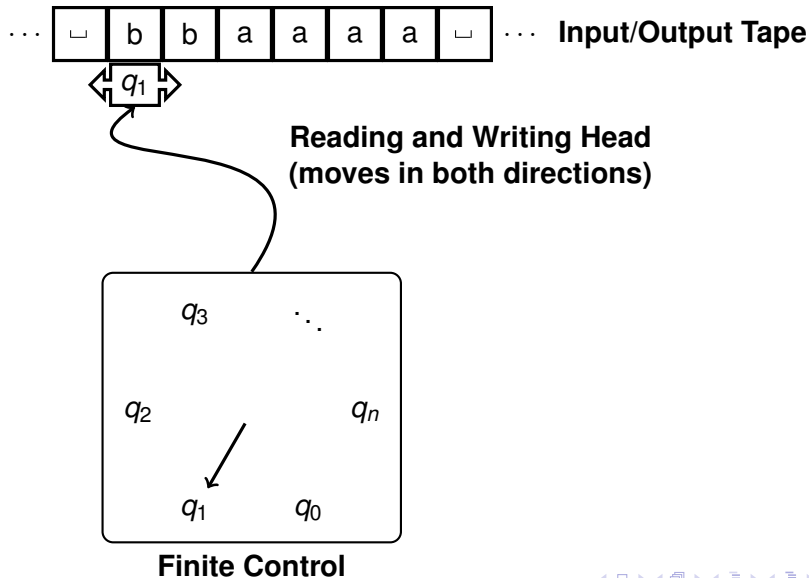
Γ has some extra symbols for convenience, such as \sqcup a special blank character, useful for marking the end of the input

$\delta: (Q \setminus \{q_a, q_r\}) \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$ is the transition function

For example, if $\delta \langle q, c \rangle = \langle q', c', L \rangle$ means that, if the TM is at state q and the head on the tape reads the character c , then it should move to state q' , replace c on the tape by c' and move the head on the tape to the left



Schematic diagram of TM

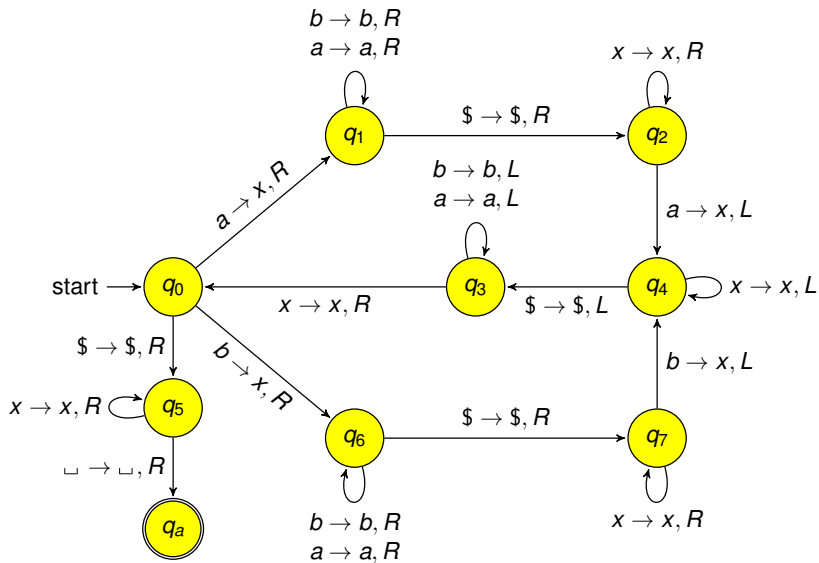


The language $w\$w$

- For $\Sigma = \{a, b, \$\}$, consider the non-CFL $L = \{w\$w \mid w \in \Sigma^*\}$
- A TM algorithm (but possibly not strictly conforming) for recognizing L works as follows, starting at the first character:
 - 1 Read the character (a or b), call it be u , and replace it with with x (some special character) and remember what character was crossed off by transitioning to a different state
 - 2 Move right until a $\$$ is seen
 - 3 Read across the sequence of 0 or more x 's following the $\$$
 - 4 Read the character (not x) on the tape
 - 5 Depending on the current state, if it does not match with u , immediately reject
 - 6 Otherwise, replace it with x
 - 7 Move left and keep going until x is seen on the tape
 - 8 Move one position right, if the character is $\$$ skip over next step
 - 9 Otherwise, continue from the first step
 - 10 Skip over the run of x 's
 - 11 If \sqcup found, accept



TM for $w\$w$



TM for $w\$w$ (contd.)

- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7, q_a, q_r\}$
- $\Sigma = \{a, b, \$\}$
- $\Gamma = \Sigma \cup \{\sqcup, x\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$

	a	b	$\$$	\sqcup	x
q_0	$\langle q_1, x, R \rangle$	$\langle q_6, x, R \rangle$	$\langle q_5, x, R \rangle$	reject	reject
q_1	$\langle q_1, a, R \rangle$	$\langle q_1, b, R \rangle$	$\langle q_2, \$, R \rangle$	reject	reject
q_2	$\langle q_4, x, L \rangle$	reject	reject	reject	$\langle q_2, x, R \rangle$
q_3	$\langle q_3, a, L \rangle$	$\langle q_3, b, L \rangle$	reject	reject	$\langle q_0, x, R \rangle$
q_4	reject	reject	$\langle q_3, \$, L \rangle$	reject	$\langle q_4, x, L \rangle$
q_5	reject	reject	reject	$\langle q_a, \sqcup, R \rangle$	$\langle q_5, x, R \rangle$
q_6	$\langle q_6, a, R \rangle$	$\langle q_6, b, R \rangle$	$\langle q_7, \$, R \rangle$	reject	reject
q_7	reject	$\langle q_4, x, L \rangle$	reject	reject	$\langle q_7, x, R \rangle$
q_a	No need to define				
q_r	No need to define				



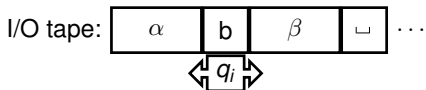
TM practice problems

- Construct a TM to recognise 01^*0
- Construct a TM to recognise $a^n b^n$
- Construct a TM to recognise $a^n b^n c^n$
- Construct a TM to duplicate the string w to $w\#w$
- Construct a TM to recognise $w\#w$
- Construct a TM to recognise ww
- Construct a TM that takes its input on the tape, shifts it to the right by one position, and put a \$ on the leftmost position on the tape when $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
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TM configurations

- A configuration of a TM is $\langle x, q, k \rangle \in \Sigma^* \times K \times N$, where x denotes the string on the tape, q denotes the current state of the TM, and k denotes the position of the machine on the tape
- The string x should be well demarcated so that it may start with a \triangleright and end with \sqcup .
- The position k is required to satisfy $0 \leq k < |x|$
- Simpler variations of this definition may be used

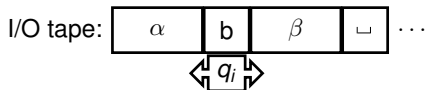


- Configuration (simpler): $\langle \alpha, q_i, b\beta \rangle$
- Initial configuration: $\langle \epsilon, q_I, w \rangle$
- Accepting configuration: $\langle \alpha, q_a, \beta \rangle$
- Rejecting configuration: $\langle \alpha, q_r, \beta \rangle$



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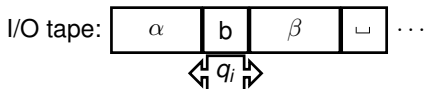


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- Let TM config be: $c_1 = \langle \alpha, q_i, a\beta \rangle$
- Let $\delta(\langle q_i, a \rangle) = \langle q_j, c, R \rangle$
- Resulting transition: $\langle \alpha, q_i, a\beta \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \alpha c, q_j, \beta \rangle = c_2$
- We say c_1 yields c_2 ; $c_1 \mapsto c_2$



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- For what transition?
 $\langle \gamma d, q_k, e\tau \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \gamma, q_m, df\tau \rangle$



TM recognised languages

Definition (TM acceptance)

For a TM M and a string w , the Turing machine M accepts w if there is a sequence of configurations, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k such that:

- $c_1 = \langle \epsilon, q_I, w \rangle$, q_I being the start state of M
- for all i , $1 \leq i < k$, $c_i \mapsto c_{i+1}$
- c_k is the accepting configuration

Definition (TM language)

The language of a TM M is $L(M) = \{w \mid M \text{ accepts } w\}$; such a language L is called Turing recognisable



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Outcomes of running a TM on w

- accepts w (halts)
- rejects w (halts)
- loops indefinitely
- A TM halting on all inputs is a decider
- A language is TM decidable if there is a decider TM M such that $L(M) = L$



Some aliases

Aliases of Turing recognisable languages:

- recursively enumerable
- partially decidable
- semidecidable
- Turing-acceptable

Aliases of Turing decidable languages:

- recursive

