

# LogicS

## Lecture #8: Putting Tiles in an Infinite Bathroom

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Nancy, France

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# The Story so Far

- ▶ We put together various bits-and pieces we have played with (names,  $:$ , diamonds) added the  $\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle$  and  $\llbracket x \rrbracket$  operators, and reached the most expressive language we have seen so far.
- ▶ We reached “first-order logic”, the logic often considered to be “classical logic”, and one of the most distinctive and important spots on the logical landscape. For our  $\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle$  and  $\llbracket x \rrbracket$  are really just the familiar  $\exists$  and  $\forall$  quantifiers.
- ▶ We’ve come a long way. Think that on Monday we were in propositional logic!

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- ▶ We will argue that the problem is **undecidable**
  - ▶ That is, there is no algorithm that can answer for an arbitrary formula of first order logic, whether the formula has a model or not.
- ▶ Actually, we are going to show how to **tile an infinite bathroom**.

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The **halting problem** of Turing machines is the standard example of an undecidable problem. The behaviour of a Turing machine, and the predicate that says that a given turing machine stops on all inputs can be expressed in FO.

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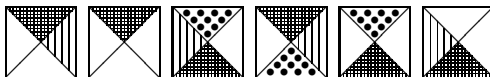
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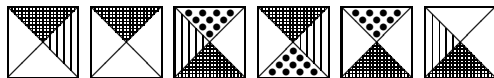
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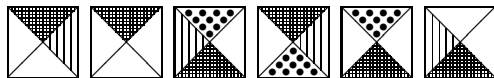


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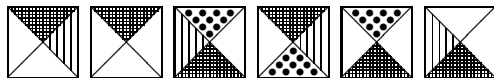
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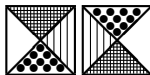
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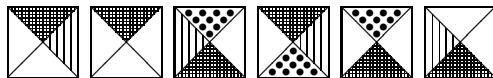
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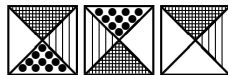
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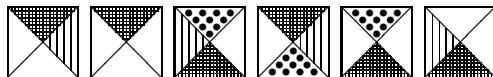
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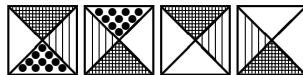
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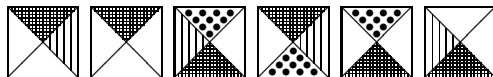
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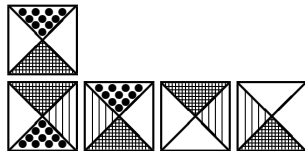
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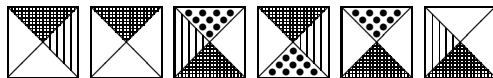
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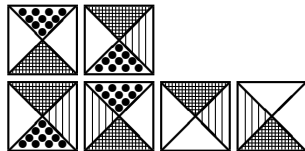
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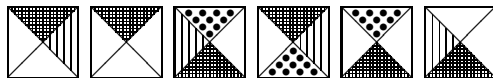
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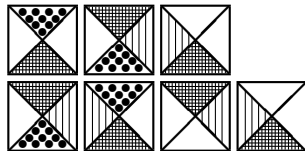
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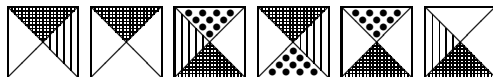
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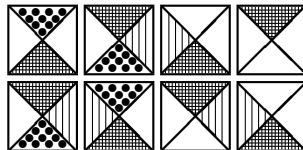
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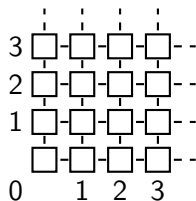
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- ▶ Covering  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$

- ▶ **tiling  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ :** Given a finite set of tiles  $\mathcal{T}$ , can  $\mathcal{T}$  cover  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ ?
- ▶ this problem is undecidable (It is equivalent to the halting problem of Turing machines)



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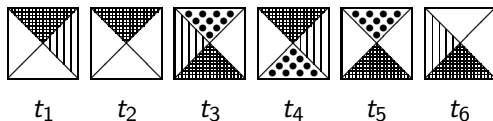


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- ▶ For example, for



we will have

$$H = \{(t_1, t_3), (t_1, t_6), (t_2, t_4), (t_2, t_5), (t_2, t_1), \dots\}$$

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Then  $\varphi$  is satisfiable iff  $\mathcal{T}$  covers  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ .

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- ▶ He showed that the halting problem could not be decided by a Turing Machine.
- ▶ And that the behavior of a Turing Machine can easily be described in first-order logic, providing an alternative proof that the satisfiability problem of first-order logic is undecidable.



Turing, Alan (1936), *On Computable Numbers, with an Application to the Entscheidungsproblem*. Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, Series 2, Vol.42, pp 230–265, [http://www.thocp.net/biographies/papers/turing\\_oncomputablenumbers\\_1936.pdf](http://www.thocp.net/biographies/papers/turing_oncomputablenumbers_1936.pdf)