

Problem

Let $MULT = \{a\#b\#c \mid a, b, c \text{ are binary natural numbers and } a \times b = c\}$. Show that $MULT \in L$.

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 2

The class L : L is the class of languages that are decidable in logarithmic space on a deterministic Turing machine.

That is, $L = SPACE(\log n)$

Given that,

$$MULT = \{a\#b\#c \mid \text{where } a, b, c \text{ are binary natural numbers and } a \times b = c\}.$$

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Step 2 of 2

We have to show that $MULT \in L$.

That means, we have to construct a deterministic Turing machine (DTM) that decides $MULT$ in logarithmic space.

Let M be the DTM that decides $MULT$ in logarithmic space.

The construction of M is as follows:

$M =$ "On input $a\#b\#c$:

1. If either of the three strings is not a binary number as defined above then reject
2. Initialize a binary counter i pointing to the 0.
3. Initialize a binary counter j to $\max(0, i+1 - \text{length of } 1)$
4. Initialize a binary counter k to $i-j$
5. Now take a binary counter $x \leftarrow x + a[j] * b[k]$
6. Repeat steps 3 to 5 $\min(i, n-1)$ times.
7. Repeat steps 2 to 6 $2n-1$ times and calculate $x = \text{floor}(x/2)$
8. If any discrepancy arises between the calculate next bit of c and then reject.
9. If the multiplication ended with no errors then accept.

Thus, clearly M runs in log space and decides $MULT$.

So, $MULT \in L$.

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