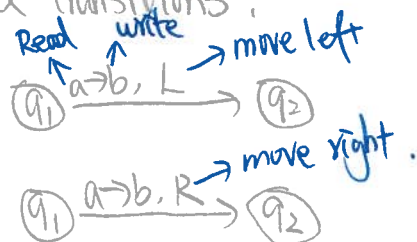


# Turing Machines.

States & Transitions:



The head at each transition (time step):

- ① Reads a symbol
- ② Writes a symbol
- ③ Moves left or right.

Head starts at the leftmost position of the input string.

Turing Machines are deterministic (no  $\epsilon$ -transitions allowed).

The machine halts in a state if there is no transition to follow.

Accepting states have no outgoing transitions.  $q_1 \rightarrow q_2$  X not allowed.

If machine halts in an accept state: accept input string.

If machine halts in a non-accept state or if machine enters an infinite loop:

Reject input string.

In order to accept an input string, it is not necessary to scan all the symbols of the input string.

The accepted language: for any Turing Machine  $M$ :

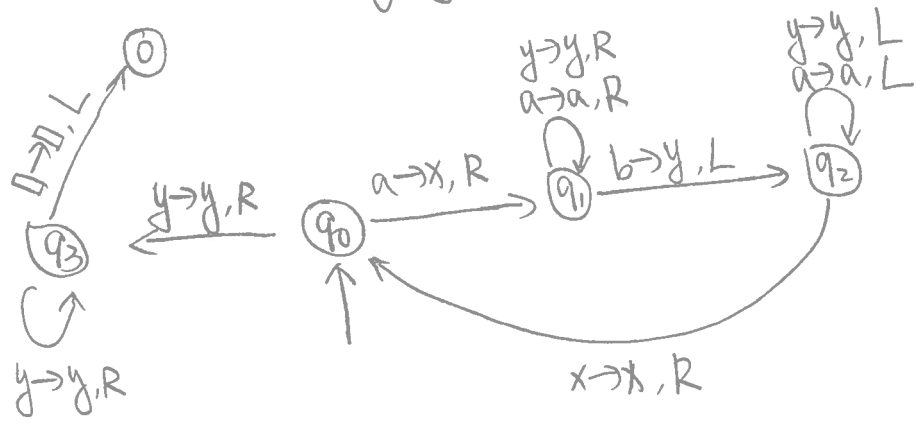
$$L(M) = \{w : \underbrace{q_0 w}_{\downarrow \text{initial state}} \xrightarrow{*} \underbrace{x_1 q_f x_2}_{\downarrow \text{Accept state}}\}$$

initial state      Accept state.

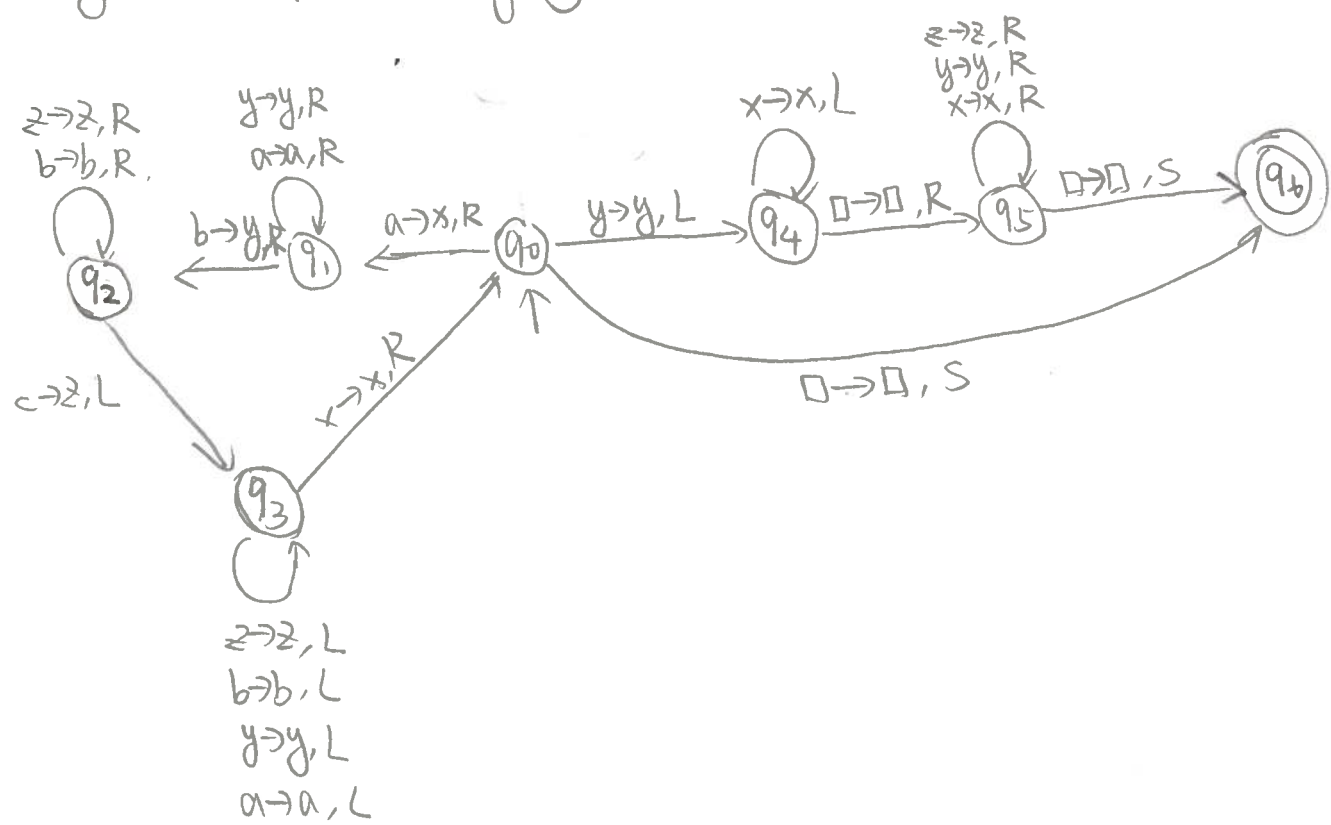
If a language  $L$  is accepted by a Turing machine  $M$ , then we say that  $L$  is: Turing recognizable or Turing Acceptable or Recursively Enumerable.

# Turing Machine

Turing machine for the language  $\{a^n b^n\}, n \geq 1$ .



Turing machine for the language  $\{a^n b^n c^n\}, n \geq 0$ .



## Formal Definitions for Turing Machines.

$\square \square c a b a \square \square$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $q_1$  → instantaneous description:  $ca \underline{q_1} ba$

For any turing machine  $M$ .  $L(M) = \{w : q_0 w \xrightarrow{*} x_1 q_f x_2\}$   
 $\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$   
 initial state    Accept state

# Variations of the Turing Machine

An algorithm for a problem is a Turing Machine which solves the problem.

The standard model:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{infinite tape.} \\ \text{Read-Write Head (Left or Right)} \\ \text{Control units are deterministic} \end{array} \right.$

Variations of the standard Model:  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{① Stay-option} \\ \text{② Semi-Infinite Tape} \\ \text{③ Multitape} \\ \text{④ Multidimensional} \\ \text{⑤ Nondeterministic.} \end{array} \right\} \text{ can simulate standard Turing machine and vice versa.}$

Each new class has the same power with standard Turing Machine.

$M_1$

$M_2$

$$L(M_1) = L(M_2).$$

Same power of two machine classes: both classes accept the same set of language.  
To proof the variations of the Turing machine have the same power with Standard Turing machines:

- Step 1: variation machines simulate standard Turing machines.  
Step 2: Standard Turing machines simulate variation machines.

Theorem: stay-option machines have the same power with standard Turing machines.

Proof: step 1: stay-option machines simulate standard Turing machines.  
This is trivial since any standard Turing machine is also a stay-option machine.

Step 2: standard Turing machines simulate stay-option machines.

The standard Turing machines only have left and right head options. We need to use them to simulate the "stay" head option.

$$(q_1) \xrightarrow{a \rightarrow b, S} (q_2) \iff (q_1) \xrightarrow{a \rightarrow b, L} \underset{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{any possible } x}}{x} \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow x, R} (q_2)$$

For other transitions nothing changes.

End of proof.

**Theorem:** Semi-infinite machines have the same power with standard Turing machines.

Proof:

Step 1: Semi-infinite machines simulate standard Turing machines.

Given a standard machine, find a reference point, i.e.:  $\square a, b, c, d, e, \square, \square$   
↑  
Ref point.

Then using semi-infinite tape machine with two tracks:

Right part:  $\# d, e, \square, \square, \dots$

Left part:  $\# c, b, a, \square, \dots$

Therefore, given standard machine with reference point:  $(q_1) \xrightarrow{a \rightarrow g, R} (q_2)$



Semi-infinite tape machines:

Right part:  $(q_1) \xrightarrow{(a, x) \rightarrow (g, x), R} (q_2)$

Left part:  $(q_1) \xrightarrow{(x, a) \rightarrow (x, g), L} (q_2)$

For all tape symbols  $x$ .

Step 2: Standard Turing machines simulate semi-infinite machines.

For standard machines, insert special symbol  $\#$  at left of input string.  
 $\# \rightarrow \# \cdot R$

then add a self-loop.

End of Proof.

Theorem: Multi-tape machines have the same power with standard Turing machines.

Proof: step 1: multi-tape machines simulate standard Turing machines.

This step is trivial, just use one tape.

step 2: Standard Turing machines simulate multi-tape machines.

Standard machines with multi-track tape.

Repeat for each multi-tape state transition:

① Return to reference point.

② Find current symbol in track 1 and update.

End of Proof.

same power doesn't imply same speed.

Theorem: Multidimensional machines have the same power with standard Turing machines.

Proof: step 1: Multidimensional machines simulate standard Turing machines

This step is trivial, just use one dimension.

step 2: Standard Turing machines simulate multidimensional machines.

For a standard machine.

① Use a two track tape.

② Store symbols in track 1

③ Store coordinates in track 2.

Repeat for each transition followed in the 2-dimensional machine:

① Update current symbol.

② Compute coordinates of next position,

③ Find next position on tape.

end of proof.

Theorem: Nondeterministic machines have the same power with standard Turing machines.

Proof: Step 1. Nondeterministic machines simulate standard Turing machines.

Trivial, every deterministic machine is also nondeterministic.

Step 2. Standard Turing machines simulate nondeterministic machines.

For standard (Deterministic) machine:

① Uses a 2-dimensional tape, which has been proved to be equivalent to standard Turing machine with one tape.

② Stores all possible computations of the non-deterministic machine on the 2-dimensional tape.

Then the deterministic Turing machine simulates all possible computation paths: simultaneously, step-by-step, with breadth-first search. until the input string is accepted or rejected in all configurations.

If the non-deterministic machine accepts the input string, then the deterministic machine accepts and halts, too.

If the non-deterministic machine does not accept the input string:

Case 1: The simulation halts if all paths reach a halting state.

or  
Case 2: The simulation never terminates (infinite loop).

In either case, the deterministic machine rejects too, by halting, or by simulating the infinite loop.

End of proof.



# A Universal Turing Machine.

Universal Turing Machine:

- ① Reprogrammable machine.
- ② Simulates any other Turing Machine.

We describe Turing machine  $M$  as a string of symbols: we encode  $M$  as a string of symbols.

A Turing machine is described with a binary string of 0's and 1's. Therefore, the set of Turing machines form a language: each string of this language is the binary encoding of a Turing machine.

**Infinite sets are either countable or uncountable.**

Countable set: there is one-to-one correspondence of elements of the set to positive integers  $(1, 2, 3, \dots)$ .

Let  $S$  be a set of strings, an **enumerator** for  $S$  is a Turing machine that generates (prints on tape) all the strings of  $S$  one-by-one, and each string is generated in finite time.

For a set of  $S$ , if there is an enumerator, then set  $S$  is countable.

**Theorem: if  $S$  is an infinite countable set, then the powerset  $2^S$  of  $S$  is uncountable.**

Proof: since  $S$  is countable, we can list its elements in some order.

$$S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots\}.$$

Then elements of the powerset  $2^S$  have the form:

$$\emptyset$$
$$\{s_1, s_2\}$$

} they are subsets of  $S$ .

We encode each subset of  $S$  with a binary string of 0s and 1s.  
Then every infinite binary string corresponds to a subset of  $S$ .

Assume the powerset  $2^S$  is countable. Then we can list the elements of the powerset in some order.

$$2^S = \{t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots\}$$

$t_1$	1	0	0	0	0	...
$t_2$	1	1	0	0	0	...
$t_3$	1	1	0	1	0	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Let  $t$  = the binary string whose bits are the complement of the diagonal.

$$t = 001\dots$$

Then  $t$  should correspond to a subset of  $S$  :  $t \in 2^S \Leftrightarrow t = t_i$  for some

But  $t \neq t_i$  for every  $i$  since they differ in the  $i$ th bit.

We got contradiction here.

Therefore the powerset  $2^S$  is uncountable.

End of proof.



# Decidable Languages.

A language  $L$  is decidable if there is a Turing machine  $M$  which accepts  $L$  and halts on every input string.

Every decidable language is Turing-Acceptable.

We can convert any Turing machine to have single accept and reject states.



A computational problem is decidable if the corresponding language is decidable.

Examples:

① Problem: is number  $x$  prime?

Decidable: divide  $x$  with all possible numbers between  $2$  and  $\sqrt{x}$ , if any of them divides  $x$ , then reject, else accept.

② Problem: Does DFA  $M$  accept the empty language  $L(M) = \emptyset$ ?

Decidable: determine whether there is a path from the initial state to any accept state.

③ Problem: Does DFA  $M$  accept a finite language?

Decidable: check if there is a walk with a cycle from the initial state to an accepting state.

④ Problem: Does DFA  $M$  accept string  $w$ ?

Decidable: Run DFA  $M$  on input string  $w$ .

⑤ Problem: Does DFAs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  accept the same language?

Decidable: construct  $L(M) = (L_1 \cap \bar{L}_2) \cup (\bar{L}_1 \cap L_2)$ , determine if  $L(M) = \emptyset$

**Theorem:** if a language  $L$  is decidable, then its complement  $\bar{L}$  is decidable, too.

**Proof:** Build a Turing machine  $M$  that accepts  $\bar{L}$  and halts on every input string.

Transform accept state to reject, and vice versa.

On each input string  $w$  do:

1. Let  $M$  be the decider for  $L$ .
2. Run  $M$  with input string  $w$ .
  - if  $M$  accepts then reject.
  - if  $M$  rejects then accept.

Therefore, it accepts  $\bar{L}$  and halts on every input string.

End of Proof.

# Undecidable Languages.

An undecidable language has no decider: any turing machine that accepts  $L$  does not halt on some input string.

There is a language which is Turing-Acceptable and undecidable.

We will prove that there is a language  $L$ , such that:

①  $L$  is Turing-Acceptable.

②  $\bar{L}$  is not Turing-Acceptable.

From ②, since we know the complement of a decidable language is decidable therefore,  $L$  is undecidable.

Proof: consider alphabet  $\{a\}$ .

$L = \text{Strings of } \{a\}^+$ , then  $L$  is countable since there is an enumerator that generates them.

Give binary representation to  $L(M_i)$  as following:

	$a^1$	$a^2$	$a^3$	...
$L(M_1)$	0	1	0	...
$L(M_2)$	1	0	1	...
$L(M_3)$	1	1	0	...
$\vdots$				

Let  $L = \{a^i : a^i \in L(M_i)\}$ .  $L$  consists of the 1s in the diagonal.

Consider  $\bar{L} = \{a^i : a^i \notin L(M_i)\}$ , then  $\bar{L}$  consists of 0s in the diagonal.

Now we want to prove  $\bar{L}$  is not turing acceptable.

Assume  $\bar{L}$  is turing acceptable. Let  $M_k$  be the turing Machine that accepts  $\bar{L} : L(M_k) = \bar{L}$ .

But  $M_k \neq M_i$  for any  $i$ , since  $\begin{cases} a^i \in L(M_k) \\ a^i \notin L(M_i) \end{cases} \text{ or } \begin{cases} a^i \notin L(M_k) \\ a^i \in L(M_i) \end{cases}$

Therefore,  $M_K$  cannot exist,  $\bar{L}$  is not Turing Acceptable.  
End of proof.

### Undecidable Problems.

A language  $L$  is decidable if there is a Turing machine  $M$  that accepts  $L$  and halts on every input string.

Undecidable Language  $L$ : there is no decider for  $L$ , no Turing machine which accepts  $L$  and halts on every input string.

Or there is no Turing machine that gives an answer for every input instance.

### Two unsolvable problems: ?

1. Membership problem: Does Turing machine  $M$  accept string  $w$ ?  $w \in L(M)$ ?

Corresponding language  $ATM = \{ \langle M, w \rangle : M \text{ accepts } w \}$ .

**Theorem:**  $ATM$  is undecidable. (The membership problem is unsolvable).

Proof: Suppose  $ATM$  is decidable, then for input  $\langle M, w \rangle$ , there is a decider for

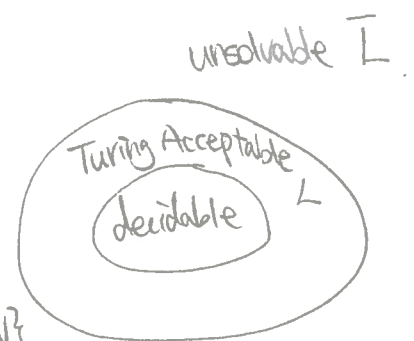
$ATM$ .

Then given an arbitrary Turing recognizable language, let  $M_L$  be the Turing machine that accepts  $L$ , there is a decider for  $L$ .

Therefore, for any Turing-acceptable language, it is decidable.

But we know there is a Turing-Acceptable language which is undecidable.  
We got contradiction here.

End of proof.



ATM is Turing-Acceptable.

$\langle M, w \rangle \rightarrow$  1. Run  $M$  on input  $w$   
2. if  $M$  accepts  $w$  then accept  $\langle M, w \rangle$ .

2. Halting Problem: Does Turing Machine  $M$  halt while processing input string  $w$ ?

Let  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle : M \text{ is a Turing Machine that halts on input string } w \}$ .

Theorem:  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$  is undecidable.

Proof: Suppose that  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$  is decidable, then there is a decider for  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$  with input  $\langle M, w \rangle$ .

Let  $L$  be an arbitrary Turing-Acceptable language and  $M_L$  be the Turing machine that accepts  $L$ .

Then we can build a decider for  $L$ . Therefore,  $L$  is decidable.

Therefore, every Turing-Acceptable language is decidable.

But we got contradiction here since there is a Turing-Acceptable language which is undecidable.

End of Proof.

$\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$  is Turing-Acceptable.

$\langle M, w \rangle \rightarrow$  1. Run  $M$  on input  $w$ .  
2. if  $M$  halts on  $w$  then accept  $\langle M, w \rangle$ .