

**Lem 3.9** Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ . If  $L$  is decidable by a  $k$ -tape TM in time  $T(n)$ , then it is decidable by a single-tape TM in time  $O(k \cdot T(n)^2)$ .

*Proof:* Use location  $i - 1, k + i - 1, 2k + i - 1, \dots$  to store the content of the  $i^{th}$  tape, where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . For every  $a \in \Gamma$ , introduce  $a, \hat{a} \in \Gamma'$ , where  $\hat{a}$  denotes the location of the head.

To simulate one step of  $M$ , the single-tape TM  $M'$  will

1. Sweep the tape from left to right to read  $k$  symbols marked by  $\hat{\cdot}$ .
2. Apply  $M$ 's transition function  $\delta$  to determine the next state.
3. Sweep back from right to left to update  $k$  symbols, if needed, and move  $\hat{\cdot}$ , if needed.

In total, 1.2.3. take  $O(k \cdot T(n))$  time.

- **A Bidirectional-tape TM is a TM where tape is infinite in both directions.**

**Lem 3.10** Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ . If  $L$  is decidable by a Bidirectional-tape TM in time  $T(n)$ , then it is decidable by a single-tape TM in time  $O(T(n))$ .

*Proof:* Index the Bidirectional tape by  $\mathbb{Z}$ :

(Assuming that the Bidirectional tape was indexed by:  $\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ )

$$\text{Mapping} : \begin{cases} i \rightarrow 2i \\ -i \rightarrow 2i-1 \end{cases}$$

In this way, we create a new (single) tape indexed by:  $0, -1, 1, -2, 2, \dots$

For every step of  $M$ ,  $M'$  will:

1. Read the symbol
2. Transit to the next state
3. Update the symbol
4. Move left or right for 2 steps if needed

It takes  $O(1)$  to simulate 1 step. In total, the running time is  $O(T(n))$ . Q.E.D.

## RAM TM

**Def 3.11** A RAM TM is a TM with random access memory.

1.  $M$  has an infinite memory tape  $A$  indexed by  $\mathbb{N}$ .
2. One of  $M$ 's tape is the address tape.
3.  $\Gamma$  contains 2 special symbols  $R$  (Read) and  $W$  (Write).
4.  $Q$  has some special states  $Q_{access} \subseteq Q$ .

Whenever  $M$  gets into a state  $q \in Q_{access}$ :

1. If the address tape contains  $iR$ , the value  $A[i]$  is written to the cell next to  $R$ .
2. If the address tape contains  $iW\sigma$ , then set  $A[i]$  to symbol  $\sigma$ .

Assume the RAM TM  $M$  has  $k$  work tapes, and an address tape. Then

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{accept}, q_{reject}, Q_{access})$$

$$\delta : Q \times \Gamma^{k+1} \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma^{k+1} \times \{L, R, S\}^{k+1}$$


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**Lem 3.12** Let  $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$ . If  $L$  is decidable by a RAM TM in time  $T(n)$ , it is decidable by a Multitape TM in time  $O(T(n)^3)$ .

- Moreover, if the address length is  $O(1)$ , then  $L$  is decidable by a Multitape TM in time  $O(T(n)^2)$ .

*Proof:* Use an extra work tape as memory.

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- Ignoring polynomial factors, all TM variants are equivalent.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} C++ & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Assembly} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{RAM TM} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Multitape} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Single-tape} \\ T(n) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & O(T(n)) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & O(T(n)) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & O(T(n)^3)/O(T(n)^2)^* & \xrightarrow{\quad} & O(T(n)^6)/O(T(n)^4)^* \end{array}$$