

# Turing machines 2

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**Example (Revisited)**,  $L = \{0^m, 1^m | m \in N, m \geq 1\}$

**WANT** to write down a transition mapping for the Turing machine that recognizes L. Algorithm translated into a transition diagram

## Transition mapping

We have accounted for all pieces of ? in our algorithm. Therefore we have specified a turing machine, where  $A = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\tilde{A} = \{0, 1, \_ \}$ ,  $x, y$ ,  $S_t = \{i, S_{accept}, S_{reject}, S_1, S_2, S_3 \dots S_5\}$ .

- i is the initial state,
- Saccept is the accept state,
- Sreject is the reject state

We just have to write down the transition mapping.

$t.Sx\tilde{A} \rightarrow Sx\tilde{A}x\{L, R\}$

$t(i, 0) = (S_1, x, R)$

$t(i, 1) = (S_{reject}, 1, L)$

$t(i, \_) = (S_{reject}, \_, L)$

These above are the only three transitions possible out of state i, but  $t.Sx\tilde{A} \rightarrow Sx\tilde{A}xL, R$ . So technically to write down the full transition mapping we must assign triplets in  $S_t x \tilde{A} x \{L, R\}$  even to inputs from  $\tilde{A}$  that cannot occur when in i. Technically, the turing machine halts when it enters either an accepting state (Saccept) or a rejecting state (Sreject), so in practice we can define  $\tilde{S} = \{i, S_1, S_2 \dots S_5\} = S$   
 $\{S_{accept}, S_{reject}\}$ , so we avoid writing down the transitions from Saccept and Sreject.

We have states  $S_1, S_2 \dots S_5$  for which we still need to write down the transitions.

**LEGEND** R/L = direction of tape head movement. t = Transition.

- S1
  - $t(s1, 0) = (S1, 0, R)$
  - $t(s1, 1) = (S2, y, L)$
  - $t(s1, y) = (S2, y, R)$
  - $t(s1, x)$  cannot occur
  - $t(s1, \_) cannot occur$
- S2
  - $t(S2, y) = (S2, y, R)$
  - $t(S2, 1) = (S3, y, L)$
  - $t(S2, 0) = (S_{reject}, 0, R)$
  - $t(S2, \_) = (S_{reject}, \_ R)$
  - $t(S2, x)$  cannot occur
- S3
  - $t(S3, y) = (S3, y, L)$
  - $t(S3, 0) = (S3, 0, L)$
  - $t(S3, x) = (S4, x, R)$
  - $t(S3, \_) cannot occur$
  - $t(S3, 1) cannot occur$
- S4
  - $t(S4, x) = (S4, X, R)$
  - $t(S4, y) = (S5, y, R)$
  - $t(S4, 0) = (S1, x, R)$
  - $t(S4, 1) cannot happen$
  - $t(S4, \_) cannot happen$
- S5
  - $t(S5, y) = (S5, y, R)$
  - $t(S5, \_) = (S_{accept}, \_, L)$
  - $t(S5, 0) = (S_{reject}, 0, L)$
  - $t(S5, 1) = (S_{reject}, 1, L)$
  - $t(S5, x) cannot happen$

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## Moral of the story

The transition mapping is a very inefficient way of specifying a Turing machine, as a lot of transitions cannot occur, unlike what we saw for a finite state acceptor, where the input alphabet was exactly the alphabet of the language. Here, the input alphabet is just a subset of the tape alphabet ( $A \subseteq \tilde{A}$ ).

Therefore we will specify a Turing machine via either an algorithm or the transition diagram only, avoiding transition mapping.

## Defining recognized languages

To figure out which languages are recognized by a Turing machine, we need to introduce the notion of a *configuration*.

As a Turing machine goes through computations, changes take place in

1. The state of the machine
2. The tape contents
3. The tape head location

A setting of these three items is called a *configuration*.

## Representing configurations

We represent a configuration as  $u, s_i, v$  where  $u$  and  $v$  are strings in the tape alphabet  $\tilde{A}$  and  $s_i$  is the current state of the machine. The tape contents are the string  $uv$  and the current location of the tape head is on the first character/Symbol of  $V$ . The assumption is that the tape only contains blanks after the last symbol in  $v$ .