Comparison with Halting Problem

Does x have a band presentation of k bands?

 If a presentation exists, the search will terminate.

 If the search runs for a long time, it may not exist, or we haven't waited long enough to find one.

 Given an upper bound on the conjugate length, we could conclude it doesn't exist after considering those bands.

Such a bound exists.

Possibly computable?

Does a Turing machine terminate on a given input?

 If the machine halts on the input, then it will terminate.

 If the machine runs for a long time, it may never terminate or we haven't waited long enough.

 Given an upper bound on the time (for machine) that terminate) we could conclude it won't halt after exceeding that duration.

Such a bound exists. [Minsky, 1967]

It is not computable. (grows too large)

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Templated Search

- Make band presentation search practical.
- Uses braid quotients to enumerate fewer band presentations.