

How to traverse?

```
traverse([Token|R], Current, Final):-  
    move(Current, Token, Next),  
    traverse(R, Next, Final).  
  
traverse([], Final, Final).
```

- Take item from head of list
- Make move to new state
- Call recursively until end of list

Turing Machine?

- How might you implement one?
- How might you represent the tape?
- Need to have some notion of actions associated with particular states:
 - Move tape
 - Mark tape

A way to represent the tape

- Lots of possible ways to do this
- Use a list
- Some notion of pointing into the list to a particular location
 - Not obviously easy to move back and forth using mechanisms available in Prolog (recursion?)
- I'm going to use two lists
 - “the bit of the tape on the left”
 - “the bit of tape on the right”

A way to represent the tape

- In my program I have defined operations to move left and right along the tape
 - Move items from one list to the other
- This means that my traverse predicate now has some extra arguments
 - The left and right parts of the tape
- My tape is preloaded with month names
 - But I can only search one way through it.

Details

- Underscore: “_” is a bit special
 - It matches anything
- My implementation presented here is dumb:
 - It only goes one way along the tape
 - It assumes all months have less than 30 days
 - It deals with years dumbly
- How else could it be dumb?

For the assignment...

- Take this code as a starting point if you wish...
- Take time to pull it apart and play with it
- Test it in various scenarios
- Then take some time to annotate it carefully and start to make a plan about how you want to make it do as you require
- Write down a bit of a plan before you start to hack away at Prolog