

Two-dimensional cylindric and toroidal codes

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Decision problem

What is a decision problem?

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- a **yes-or-no** question

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- “how many prime numbers are less than 100?”
not a decision problem

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- “is 7 prime?” **not** a decision problem

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- a **yes-or-no** question
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Examples:

- “how many prime numbers are less than 100?”
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- “is 7 prime?” **not** a decision problem
- “is x prime?” a decision problem

Decidability

Does exists a **decision procedure** (an algorithm) that solves the problem?

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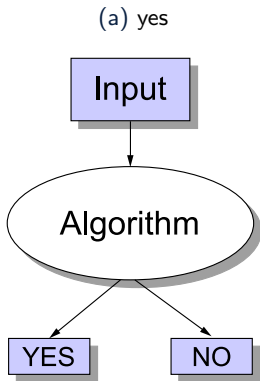


Figure from Wikipedia

Decidability

Does exists a **decision procedure** (an algorithm) that solves the problem?

(a) yes

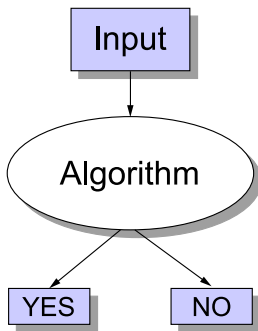


Figure from Wikipedia

(b) no



Halting problem

Given

- a Turing machine M (or equivalently, an algorithm)
- and input x

does the computation of M on x halt or not?

Halting problem

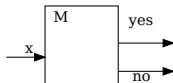
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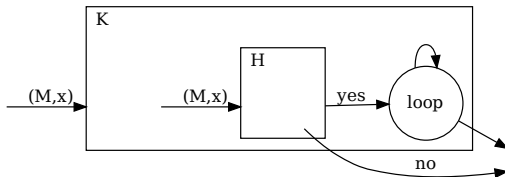
does the computation of M on x halt or not?

Spoiler: it is undecidable (Alan Turing, 1936).

Undecidability of the halting problem



Let $H(M, x)$ be a T.M. that solves the halting problem.



Strings and string codes

- string: aab
- factorization of aab $\{a, ab\}$: a, ab
- code of strings: a set of strings such that each string has at most one factorization

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Example

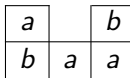
$\{a, b, ab\}$ is not a set:

$$aaba \implies (a, ab, a), (a, a, b, a)$$

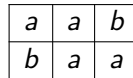
In two dimensions



(a) Polyominoes



(b) Bricks

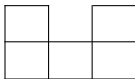


(c) Pictures

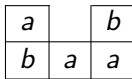
¹Figures by M. Madonia

²Figures from J. Sullivan, *Conformal Tiling on a Torus*

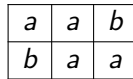
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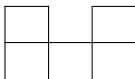
(c) Pictures

- codes of pictures

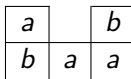
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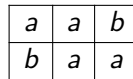
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(a) Polyominoes

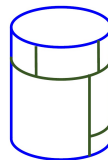
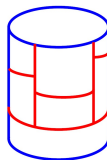


(b) Bricks



(c) Pictures

- codes of pictures
- cylindric codes of pictures ¹



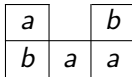
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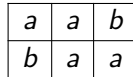
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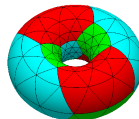
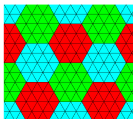
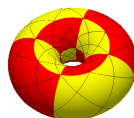
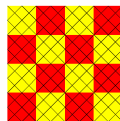


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(c) Pictures

- codes of pictures
- cylindric codes of pictures ¹
- toroidal codes of pictures ²



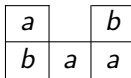
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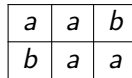
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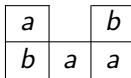
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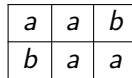
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All undecidable problems!

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²Figures from J. Sullivan, *Conformal Tiling on a Torus*

Reductions

A reduction from a problem A to a problem B is a function

- from the set of inputs of A
- to the set of inputs of B

such that

$$A(a) = \text{yes} \iff B(f(a)) = \text{yes}$$

$$A(a) = \text{no} \iff B(f(a)) = \text{no}$$

Reductions and undecidability

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function $F(a)$

...

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...

procedure $SOLVEB(b)$

...

Reductions and undecidability

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procedure SOLVEA(a)

$b \leftarrow F(a)$

return SOLVEB(b)

Reductions and undecidability

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B decidable $\implies A$ decidable

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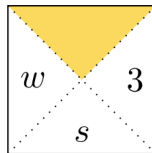
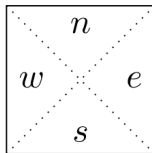
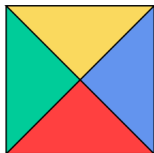
A undecidable $\implies B$ undecidable

procedure SOLVEA(a)

$b \leftarrow F(a)$

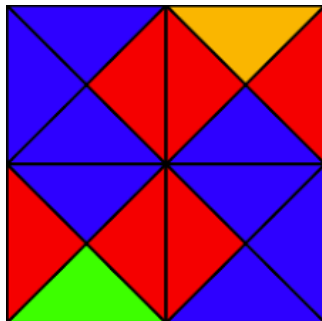
return SOLVEB(b)

Wang tiles

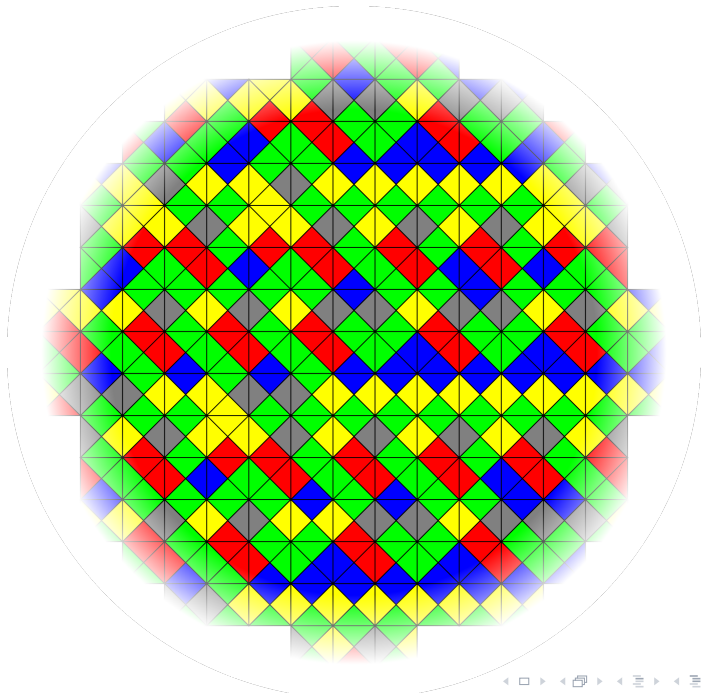


⁰figure from Thijs van Loenhout, *Wang Tiles and Cubes*

Wang tiles adjacency condition



⁰figure from Toshiaki Matsushima, Yoshihiro Mizoguchi, and Alexandre Derouet-Jourdan, *Verification of a brick Wang tiling algorithm*



Undecidable problems on Wang tiles

Given a set of Wang tiles

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- does exists a tiling of the plane?

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- does exists a tiling of the plane?
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Reduction used in the proof I

We construct a reduction

- from the **Wang periodic tiling problem** (A)
- to the **toroidal codicity problem** (B)

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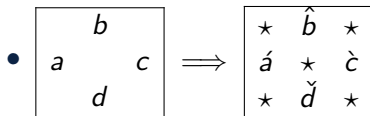
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Reduction used in the proof II

$$f : X \mapsto X_W$$

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- $\begin{array}{|c|} \hline b \\ \hline a \quad c \\ \hline d \\ \hline \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \star \quad \hat{b} \quad \star \\ \hline \acute{a} \quad \star \quad \grave{c} \\ \hline \star \quad \check{d} \quad \star \\ \hline \end{array}$
- $a \in \Sigma \Rightarrow \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \grave{a} \quad \acute{a} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \check{a} \\ \hline \hat{a} \\ \hline \end{array}$

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Is this function a reduction, i.e. $A(a) = B(f(a))$?

Reduction used in the proof II

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Yes!

W has a periodic tiling $\iff X_W$ is not a toroidal code

W has a periodic tiling $\implies X_W$ is not a toroidal code

Given a periodic tiling, we can build a picture with two toroidal decomposition:

b	e	d
a c	c a	a a
d	e	b
d	e	b
c c	c a	a c
b	e	d

(a) Periodic tiling

★	\hat{b}	★	★	\hat{e}	★	★	\hat{d}	★
\acute{a}	★	\grave{c}	\acute{c}	★	\grave{a}	\acute{a}	★	\grave{a}
★	\check{d}	★	★	\check{e}	★	★	\check{b}	★
★	\hat{d}	★	★	\hat{e}	★	★	\hat{b}	★
\acute{c}	★	\grave{c}	\acute{c}	★	\grave{a}	\acute{a}	★	\grave{c}
★	\check{b}	★	★	\check{e}	★	★	\check{d}	★

(b) Associated picture

W has a periodic tiling $\implies X_W$ is not a toroidal code

★	\hat{b}	★	★	\hat{e}	★	★	\hat{d}	★
\acute{a}	★	\grave{c}	\acute{c}	★	\grave{a}	\acute{a}	★	\grave{a}
★	\check{d}	★	★	\check{e}	★	★	\check{b}	★
★	\hat{d}	★	★	\hat{e}	★	★	\hat{b}	★
\acute{c}	★	\grave{c}	\acute{c}	★	\grave{a}	\acute{a}	★	\grave{c}
★	\check{b}	★	★	\check{e}	★	★	\check{d}	★

(a) Fist decomposition

★	\tilde{b}	★	★	\tilde{e}	★	★	\tilde{d}	★
\acute{a}	★	\grave{c}	\acute{c}	★	\grave{a}	\acute{a}	★	\grave{a}
★	\check{d}	★	★	\check{e}	★	★	\check{b}	★
★	\hat{d}	★	★	\hat{e}	★	★	\hat{b}	★
\acute{c}	★	\grave{c}	\acute{c}	★	\grave{a}	\acute{a}	★	\grave{c}
★	\check{b}	★	★	\check{e}	★	★	\check{d}	★

(b) Second decomposition

X_W is not a toroidal code $\implies W$ has a periodic tiling

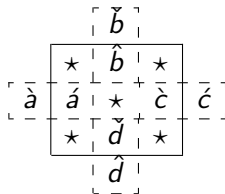
There exists a picture with toroidal tilings:

- such picture cannot contain only \star
- there must be a letter which is covered differently in the two tilings

X_W is not a toroidal code $\implies W$ has a periodic tiling

There exists a picture with toroidal tilings:

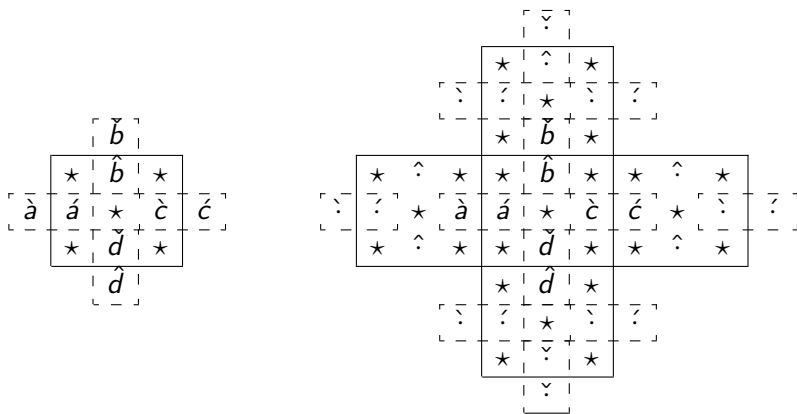
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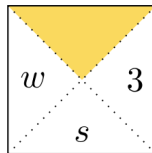
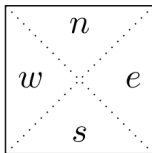
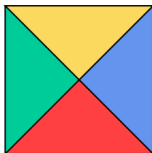
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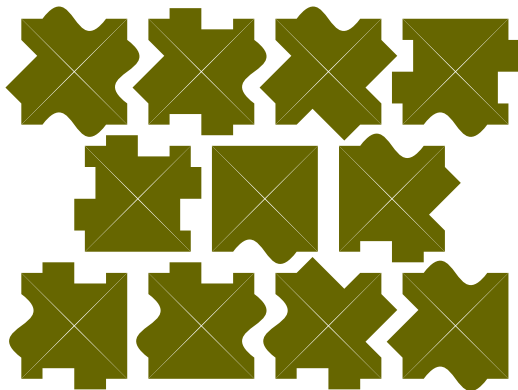
Thanks for your attention!

Wang tiles



1

¹figure from Thijs van Loenhout, *Wang Tiles and Cubes*



2

²figure from Wikipedia

Decision problem

$$\mathcal{P}: A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

Examples:

- “is x prime?”
- “is a propositional/first order/... formula ϕ satisfiable?”

\mathcal{P} is decidable if exists a Turing machine/algorithm \mathcal{M} such that

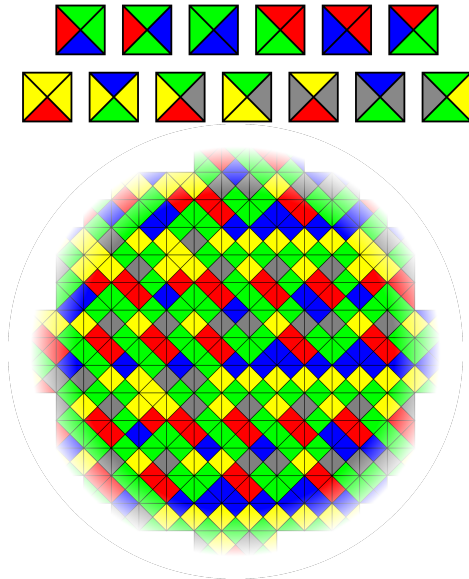
$$\mathcal{M}(a) = \mathcal{P}(a) \quad \text{for all } a \in A$$

Decision problems on Wang tiles

Given a set of Wang tiles, does exists...

- a tiling of the plane?
- a periodic tiling of the plane?
- an aperiodic tiling of the plane?

A minimal aperiodic tiling set



3

³figures from Wikipedia

Matteo Cavallaro (SSU)

Two-dimensional cylindric and toroidal codes

Rete di Idee 2022

26 / 33

How to prove decidability?

By constructing an algorithm that solves the problem! e.g.:

```
procedure SIEVE OF ERATOSTHENES( $n$ )  
  for  $i \leftarrow 2, 3, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor$  do  
    if  $n \bmod i = 0$  then  
      return 1  
  return 0
```

How to prove undecidability?

Usually one of two ways:

- by contradiction (*reductio ad absurdum*)
- by a reduction from another undecidable problem

Reductions

Given

$$\mathcal{A}: A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

$$\mathcal{B}: B \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

a reduction from \mathcal{A} to \mathcal{B} is a function

$$f: A \rightarrow B$$

such that

$$\mathcal{B}(f(a)) = \mathcal{A}(a) \quad \text{for all } a \in A$$

f must be

- total: $\text{dom } f = A$
- computable: exists a Turing machine/algorithm that computes f

Why reductions?

$$f: A \rightarrow B \qquad \mathcal{B}(f(a)) = \mathcal{A}(a) \qquad f \text{ computable}$$

$$\mathcal{B} \text{ decidable} \implies \mathcal{A} \text{ decidable}$$

$$\mathcal{A} \text{ undecidable} \implies \mathcal{B} \text{ undecidable}$$

Reductions from and to problems on Wang tiles

$$\mathcal{A} \leq \mathcal{W} \leq \mathcal{B}$$

Which \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} ?

- proof of their undecidability: reduction the from halting problem
- useful to prove the undecidability of many problems; the first of these results is the undecidability of $\forall\exists\forall$ fragment of first order logic (Wang)

formulae of $\forall\exists\forall$ fragment:

$$(\forall \dots \forall)(\exists \dots \exists)(\forall \dots \forall)\phi, \quad \phi \text{ propositional formula}$$

Reductions from and to problems on Wang tiles

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formulae of $\forall\exists\forall$ fragment:

$$(\forall \dots \forall)(\exists \dots \exists)(\forall \dots \forall)\phi, \quad \phi \text{ propositional formula}$$

Undecidability of brick codes I

- bricks:

$$k_1 = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline a \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$k_2 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline a & & b \\ \hline b & b & a \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$k_3 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & \\ \hline b & b \\ \hline a & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- a brick tilable with k_1 and k_2 :

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline a & & b & a \\ \hline b & b & a & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- a set of bricks X is a code if every brick has **at most one** tiling with the elements of X

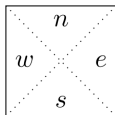
Undecidability of brick codes II

Undecidability provable by reduction from finite Wang tiling problem:

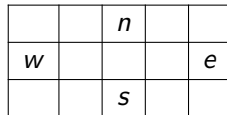
- a tile can have some edges (but not all) labelled with a blank colour
- does exists a finite tiling with blank border?

Undecidability of brick codes III

- for each tile



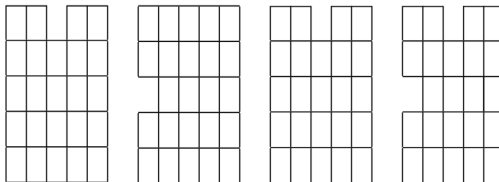
:



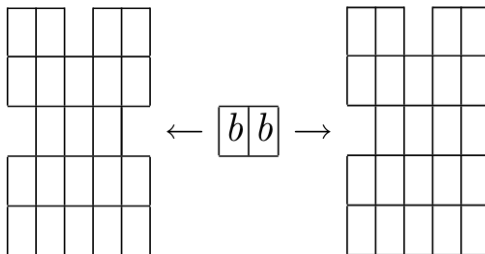
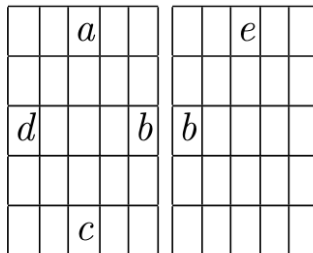
- for each colour a :



- all the blank shapes with one or more edge mid-points removed, e.g.:



Undecidability of brick codes IV



Thanks for your attention!