Turing Machines CSCI 338

Turing Machine

- Finite automaton with unrestricted memory (tape).
- Can read from and write to memory.
- Can access any spot in memory.
- Infinite memory.
- Start configuration: start state, input on tape, r/w head far left.
- \exists states other than accept and reject.
- Accept and reject take effect immediately.



Turing Machine Formal Definition

TMs consist of:

- 1. Finite set of states, Q.
- 2. Finite input alphabet, Σ (does not blank symbol _).
- 3. Finite tape alphabet, Γ (includes $_$, $\Sigma \subset \Gamma$).
- 4. Transition function, $\delta: Q \times \Gamma \to Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$.
- 5. Start state, $q_0 \in Q$.
- 6. Accept state, $q_{accept} \in Q$.
- 7. Reject state, $q_{reject} \in Q$, where $q_{accept} \neq q_{reject}$.

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Memory initial state: input on tape, read/write head at start.



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Multi-tape TM



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Non-deterministic TM Multi-tape TM



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Turing Machines

Multi-tape TM Non-deterministic TM Quantum TM



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Turing Machines

Multi-tape TM λ -Calculus

Non-deterministic TM General Recursive Functions

Equivalent To*

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Quantum TM

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Actually, ALL computational models that allow unrestricted access to unlimited memory are equivalent to TMs (with basic assumptions)!

Church-Turing Thesis

Intuitive notion of algorithms.

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Intuitive notion = Turing Machine algorithms.

