

# Computational Complexity

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[Slideset 1: Motivation]

# 1 Big-Oh-Notation

[4, Chapter 14.2]

$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

$\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

$\mathbb{R}$ : the real numbers

## 1.1 Definition

$f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$f$  is of order  $g$ , if there is a constant  $c > 0$  and  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

$O(g) := \{f \mid f \text{ is of order } g\}$  (“big oh of  $g$ ”).

If  $f \in O(g)$  we can say that  $g$  provides an asymptotic upper bound on  $f$ .

If  $f \in O(g)$  and  $g \in O(f)$ , then they have the same rate of growth, and  $g$  is an asymptotically tight bound on  $f$  (and vice versa).

## 1.2 Remark

Common abuse of notation:

$f = O(g)$  instead of  $f \in O(g)$ .

$f(n) = n^2 + O(n)$  instead of “ $f(n) = n^2 + g(n)$  for some  $g \in O(n)$ ”.

## 1.3 Example

$f(n) = n^2$ ;  $g(n) = n^3$

$f \in O(g)$ . [For  $c = 1$  and  $n > 1$ ,  $n^2 \leq c \cdot n^3$ .]

$g \notin O(f)$ .

[Assume  $n^3 \in O(n^2)$ . Then ex.  $c, n_0$  s.t.  $n^3 \leq c \cdot n^2$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Choose  $n_1 = 1 + \max\{c, n_0\}$ .

Then  $n_1^3 = n_1 \cdot n_1^2 > c \cdot n_1^2$  and  $n_1 > n_0$ .  $\downarrow$ ]

**Exercise 1** Show that  $2^n \in O(n!)$ .

**Exercise 2** Show that  $n! \notin O(2^n)$ .

**Exercise 3** Show: If  $f \in O(g)$  and  $g \in O(h)$ , then  $f \in O(h)$ .

## 1.4 Example

$f(n) = n^2 + 2n + 5$ ;  $g(n) = n^2$

$f \in O(g)$  [For  $c = 1$  and  $n > 0$ ,  $n^2 \leq c \cdot (n^2 + 2n + 5)$ .]

$f \in O(g)$

[For  $n > 1$  we have  $f(n) = n^2 + 2n + 5 \leq n^2 + 2n^2 + 5n^2 = 8n^2 = 8 \cdot g(n)$ . Hence, for  $c = 8$  and  $n > 1$ ,  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ .]

## 1.5 Definition

$\Theta(g) := \{f \mid f \in O(g) \text{ and } g \in O(f)\}$

### 1.6 Example

For  $f, g$  from Example 1.4,  $f \in \Theta(g)$ .

### 1.7 Remark

A *polynomial* (with integer coefficients) of degree  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  is a function of the form

$$f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} : n \mapsto c_r \cdot n^r + c_{r-1} \cdot n^{r-1} + \cdots + c_1 \cdot n + c_0,$$

with  $0 < r \in \mathbb{N}$ , coefficients  $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, r$ ),  $c_r \neq 0$ .

For  $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , we say  $f \in O(g)$  if  $|f| \in O(|g|)$ , where  $|f| : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} : n \mapsto |f(n)|$ .

### 1.8 Example

$$f(n) = n^2 + 2n + 5; g(n) = -n^2$$

$$g \in O(f)$$

[We have  $|g| : n \mapsto n^2$  and  $|f| \equiv f$ . Thus, from Example 1.4 we know that  $|g| \in O(|f|)$ .]

$f \in O(g)$  [As before, from Example 1.4.]

### 1.9 Remark

For  $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , we say  $f \in O(g)$  if  $\lfloor f \rfloor \in O(\lfloor g \rfloor)$ .

### 1.10 Remark

$\log_a(n) \in O(\log_b(n))$  for all  $1 < a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . [ $\log_a(n) = \log_a(b) \cdot \log_b(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .]

### 1.11 Theorem

The following hold.

1. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$ , then  $f \in O(g)$  and  $g \notin O(f)$ .
2. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c$  with  $0 < c < \infty$ , then  $f \in \Theta(g)$  and  $g \in \Theta(f)$ .
3. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \infty$ , then  $f \notin O(g)$  and  $g \in O(f)$ .

**Proof:** We show part 1.

Assume  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$ , i.e., for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq n_\varepsilon$  we have  $\frac{f(n)}{g(n)} < \varepsilon$ , and hence  $f(n) < \varepsilon g(n)$ . Now select  $c = \varepsilon = 1$  and  $n_0 = n_\varepsilon$ . Then  $f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ , which shows  $f \in O(g)$ .

Now if we also assume  $g \in O(f)$ , then there must exist  $d > 0$  and  $m_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $g(n) \leq d \cdot f(n)$  for all  $n \geq m_0$ , i.e.,  $\frac{1}{d} \leq \frac{f(n)}{g(n)}$  for all  $n \geq m_0$ . But then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} \geq \frac{1}{d} > 0$   $\nmid$ . ■

**Exercise 4** Show Theorem 1.11 part 2.

**Exercise 5** Show Theorem 1.11 part 3. [Hint: Use part 1.]

### 1.12 Remark

The l'Hospital's Rule often comes in handy:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(n)}{g'(n)}$$

### 1.13 Example

$n \log_a(n) \in O(n^2)$  and  $n^2 \notin O(n \log_a(n))$

$$\left[ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \log_a(n)}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_a(n) + n(\log_a(e)/n)}{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_a(n)}{2n} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_a(e)}{2n} = 0 + 0 = 0 \right]$$

### 1.14 Theorem

Let  $f$  be a polynomial of degree  $r$ . Then

- (1)  $f \in \Theta(n^r)$
- (2)  $f \in O(n^k)$  for all  $k > r$
- (3)  $f \notin O(n^k)$  for all  $k < r$

**Exercise 6** Prove Theorem 1.14 (1).

### 1.15 Theorem

The following hold.

- (1)  $\log_a(n) \in O(n)$  and  $n \notin O(\log_a(n))$
- (2)  $n^r \in O(b^n)$  and  $b^n \notin O(n^r)$
- (3)  $b^n \in O(n!)$  and  $n! \notin O(b^n)$

**Exercise 7** Prove Theorem 1.15 (1).

### 1.16 Remark

The Big Oh Hierarchy.

$O(1)$	constant	“sublinear”	“subpolynomial”
$O(\log_a(n))$	logarithmic	“sublinear”	“subpolynomial”
$O(n)$	linear		“subpolynomial”
$O(n \log_a(n))$	$n \log n$		“subpolynomial”
$O(n^2)$	quadratic		“polynomial”
$O(n^3)$	cubic		“polynomial”
$O(n^r)$	polynomial ( $r \geq 0$ )		
$O(b^n)$	exponential ( $b > 1$ )		“exponential”
$O(n!)$	factorial		“exponential”

## 2 Turing Machines and Time Complexity

[4, Chapter 14.3 and recap Chapters 8.1, 8.2]

### 2.1 Definition

A standard (*single tape, deterministic*) Turing machine (TM) is a quintuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0)$  with

$Q$  a finite set of *states*

$\Gamma$  a finite set called *tape alphabet* containing a *blank*  $B$

$\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma \setminus \{B\}$  the *input alphabet*

$\delta : Q \times \Gamma \xrightarrow{\text{partial}} Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$ , the *transition function*

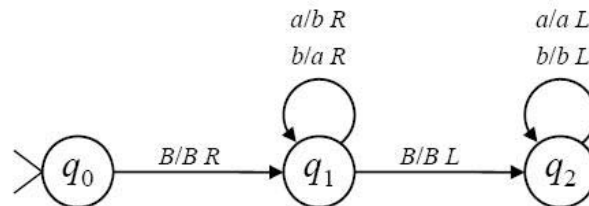
$q_0 \in Q$  the *start state*

Recall:

- Tape has a left boundary and is infinite to the right.
- Tape positions numbered starting with 0.
- Each tape position contains an element from  $\Gamma$ .
- Machine starts in state  $q_0$  and at position 0.
- Input is written on tape beginning at 1.
- Rest of tape is blank.
- A transition
  1. changes state,
  2. writes new symbol at tape position,
  3. moves head left or right.
- Computation halts if no transition is defined.
- Computation terminates abnormally if it moves left of position 0.
- TMs can be represented by state diagrams.

### 2.2 Example

Swap all  $a$ 's to  $b$ 's and all  $b$ 's to  $a$ 's in a string of  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's.



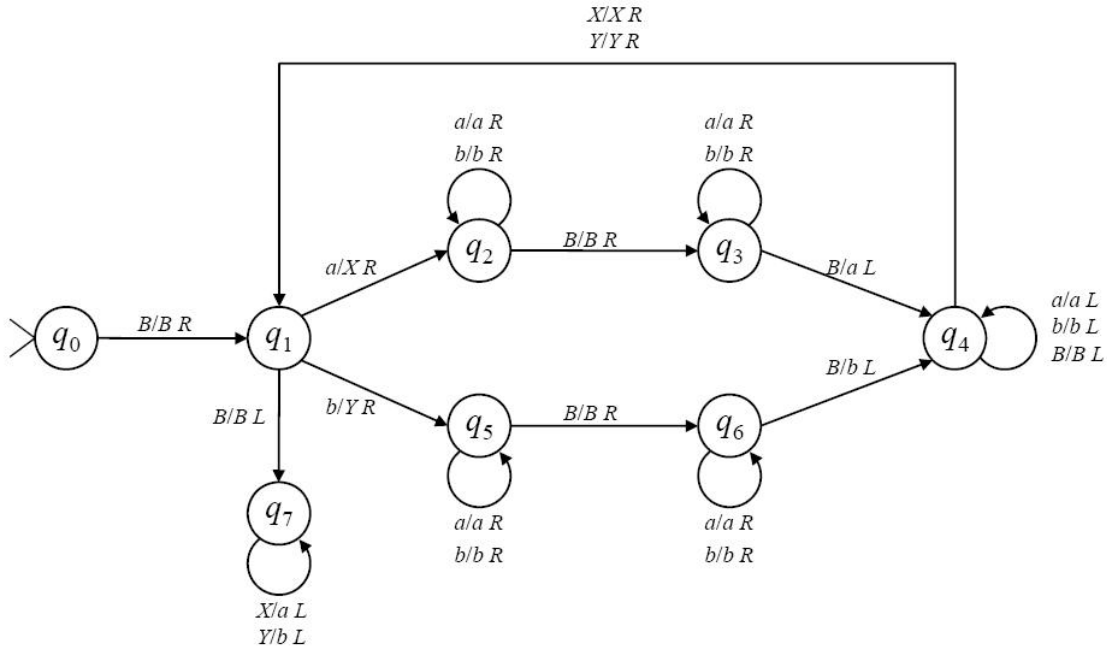
Computation example:

$\vdash q_0 B a b a b B$	$\vdash B b a q_1 a b B$	$\vdash B b a b q_2 a B$	$\vdash B q_2 b a b a B$
$\vdash B q_1 a b a b B$	$\vdash B b a b q_1 b B$	$\vdash B b a q_2 b a B$	$\vdash q_2 B b a b a B$
$\vdash B b q_1 b a b B$	$\vdash B b a b a q_1 B$	$\vdash B b q_2 a b a B$	

Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :  $1 + n + 1 + n = 2n + 2$

### 2.3 Example

Copying a string:  $BuB$  becomes  $BuBuB$  ( $u$  is a string of  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's)



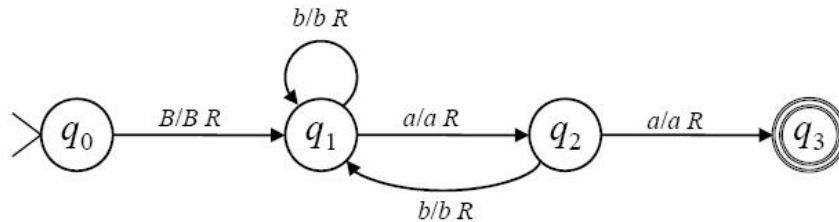
Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :  $O(n^2)$ .

**Exercise 8** Make a standard TM which moves an input string consisting of  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's one position to the right. What is the complexity of your TM?

Language accepting TMs additionally have a set  $F \subseteq Q$  of *final* states. (They are sextuples.) A string is accepted if the computation halts in a final state (and does not terminate abnormally).

### 2.4 Example

A TM for  $(a \cup b)^*aa(a \cup b)^*$ .



Note that the TM assumes  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .

Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :  $n$  (worst case)

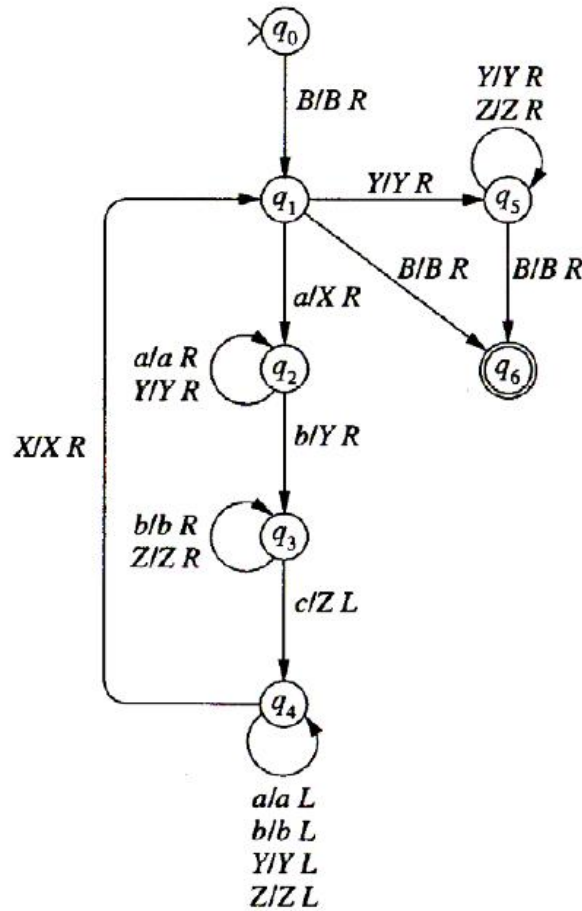


Figure 1: A TM for  $\{a^i b^i c^i \mid i \geq 0\}$

### 2.5 Example

A TM for  $\{a^i b^i c^i \mid i \geq 0\}$  (Figure 1).

Number of steps required with input string size  $n = 3i$ :  $O(i \cdot 4i) = O(i^2) = O(n^2)$  (worst case)

**Exercise 9** Make a standard TM which accepts the language  $\{a^{2^i} b^i \mid i \geq 0\}$ . What is the complexity of your TM?

### 2.6 Example

A TM for palindromes over  $a$  and  $b$  (Figure 2).

Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :

$$1 + \sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (n+1) \cdot n \in O(n^2) \quad (\text{worst case})$$

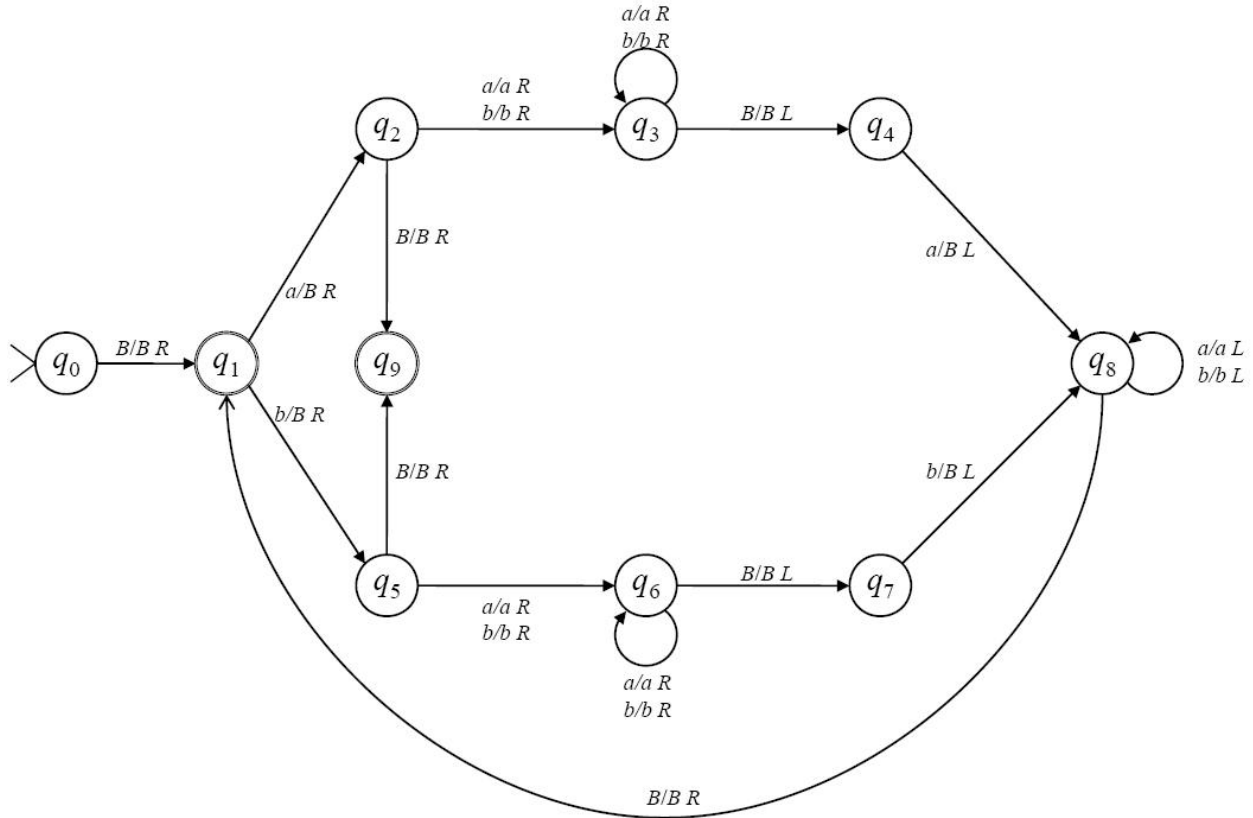


Figure 2: A TM for palindromes over  $a$  and  $b$ .

### 2.7 Definition

For any TM  $M$ , the *time complexity* of  $M$  is the function  $tc_M : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $tc_M(n)$  is the maximum number of transitions processed by a computation of  $M$  on input of length  $n$ .

### 2.8 Definition

A language  $L$  is *accepted in deterministic time*  $f(n)$  if there is a single tape deterministic TM  $M$  for it with  $tc_M(n) \in O(f(n))$ .

**Exercise 10** Design a single tape TM  $M$  for  $\{a^i b^i \mid i \geq 0\}$  with  $tc_M \in O(n \log_2(n))$ . [Hint: On each pass, mark half of the  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's that have not been previously marked.]

### 2.9 Remark

Note, that worst-case behavior can happen when a string is *not* accepted. [E.g., straightforward TM to accept strings containing an  $a$ .]

## 3 Complexity under Turing Machine Variations

[4, Chapter 14.3 cont., 14.4 and recap Chapters 8.5, 8.6]



A  $k$ -track TM has one tape with  $k$  tracks. A single read-write head simultaneously reads the  $k$  symbols at the head position from all  $k$  tracks. We write the transitions as  $\delta : Q \times \Gamma^k \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma^k \times \{L, R\}$ . The input string is on track 1.

### 3.1 Theorem

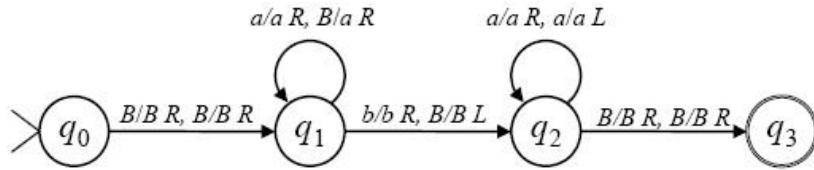
If  $L$  is accepted by a  $k$ -track TM  $M$  then there is a standard TM  $M'$  which accepts  $L$  s.t.  $tc_{M'}(n) = tc_M(n)$ .

**Proof:** For  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , let  $M' = (Q, \Sigma \times \{B\}^{k-1}, \Gamma^k, \delta', q_0, F)$  with transition function  $\delta'(q_i, (x_1, \dots, x_k)) = \delta(q_i, [x_1, \dots, x_k])$ . The number of transitions needed for a computation is unchanged. ■

A  $k$ -tape TM has  $k$  tapes and  $k$  independent tape heads, which read simultaneously. A transition (i) changes the state, (ii) writes a symbol on each tape, and (iii) independently moves all tape heads. Transitions are written  $\delta : (q_i, x_1, \dots, x_k) \mapsto [q_j; y_1, d_1; \dots; y_k, d_k]$  where  $x_i, y_i \in \Gamma$  and  $d_i \in \{L, R, S\}$  ( $S$  means head stays). Any head moving off the tape causes an abnormal termination. The input string is on tape 1.

### 3.2 Example

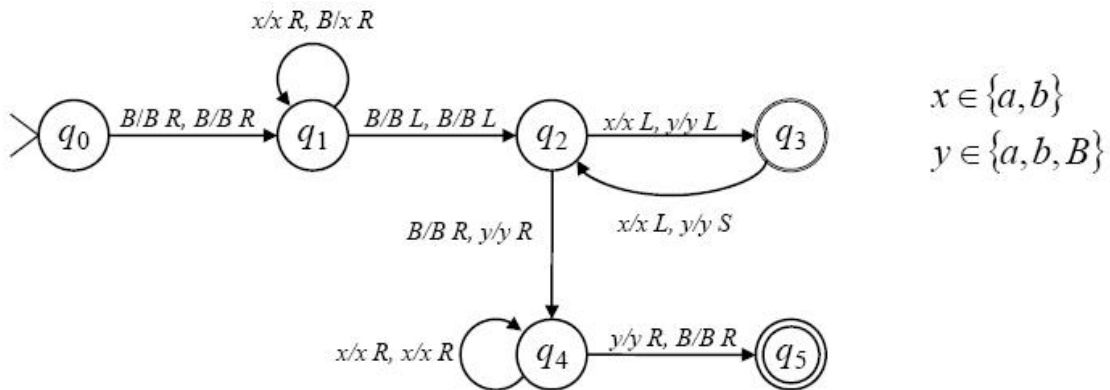
2-tape TM for  $\{a^i b a^i \mid i \geq 0\}$ .



Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :  $n + 2$

### 3.3 Example

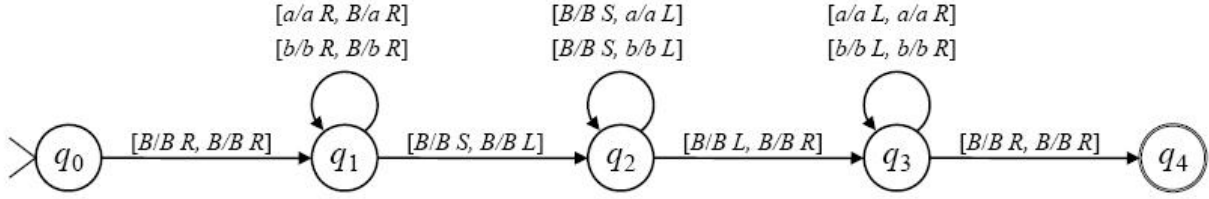
2-tape TM for  $\{uu \mid u \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ .



Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :  $\frac{5}{2}n + 4$

### 3.4 Example

2-tape TM accepting palindromes.



Number of steps required with input string size  $n$ :  $3(n + 1) + 1$

### 3.5 Theorem

If  $L$  is accepted by a  $k$ -tape TM  $M$  then there is a standard TM  $N$  which accepts  $L$  s.t.  $tc_N(n) = O(tc_M(n)^2)$ .

**Proof:** (sketch) By Theorem 3.1 it suffices to construct an equivalent  $2k + 1$ -track TM  $M'$  s.t.  $tc_{M'}(n) \in O(tc_M(n)^2)$ .

#### Simulation of the TM:

We show how to do this for  $k = 2$  (but the argument generalizes).

Idea: tracks 1 and 3 maintain info on tapes 1 and 2 of  $M$ ; tracks 2 and 4 have a single nonblank position indicating the position of the tape heads of  $M$ .

Initially: write  $\#$  in track 5, position 1 and  $X$  in tracks 2 and 4, position 1.

States: 8-tuples of the form  $[s, q_i, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, d_1, d_2]$ , where  $q_i \in Q$ ,  $x_i, y_i \in \Sigma \cup \{U\}$ ,  $d_i \in \{L, R, S, U\}$ .  $s \in \{f1, f2, p1\}$  represents the status of the simulation.  $U$  indicates an unknown item.

Let  $\delta : (q_i, x_1, x_2) \mapsto [q_j; y_1, d_1; y_2, d_2]$  be the applicable transition of  $M$ .

$M'$  start state:  $[f1, q_i, U, U, U, U, U, U]$ . The following actions simulate the transition of  $M$ :

1.  $f1$  (find first symbol):  $M'$  moves to the right until  $X$  on track 2.  
Enter state  $[f1, q_i, x_1, U, U, U, U, U]$ , where  $x_1$  is symbol on track 1 under  $x$ .  
 $M'$  returns to the position with  $\#$  in track 5.
2.  $f2$  (find second symbol): Same as above for recording symbol  $x_2$  in track 3 under  $X$  in track 4.  
Enter state  $[f2, q_i, x_1, x_2, U, U, U, U]$ .  
Tape head returns to  $\#$ .
3. Enter state  $[p1, q_j, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, d_1, d_2]$ , with  $q_j, y_1, y_2, d_1, d_2$  obtained from  $\delta(q_i, x_1, x_2)$ .
4.  $p1$  (print first symbol): move to  $X$  in track 2.  
Write symbol  $y_1$  on track 1. Move  $X$  on track 2 in direction indicated by  $d_1$ .  
Tape head returns to  $\#$ .
5.  $p2$  (print second symbol): move to  $X$  in track 4.  
Write symbol  $y_2$  on track 3. Move  $X$  on track 4 in direction indicated by  $d_2$ .  
Tape head returns to  $\#$ .

6. Enter state  $[f1, q_j, U, U, U, U, U, U]$ .

If  $\delta(q_i, x_1, x_2)$  is undefined, then simulation halts after step 2.  $[f2, q_i, x_1, y_1, U, U, U, U]$  is accepting whenever  $q_i$  is accepting.

For each additional tape, add two tracks, and states obtain 3 more parameters. The simulation has 2 more actions (a find and a print for the new tape).

### Complexity analysis:

Assume we simulate the  $t$ -th transition of  $M$ .

Heads of  $M$  are maximally at positions  $t$ .

Finds require maximum of  $k \cdot 2t$  steps.

Prints require maximum of  $k \cdot 2(t + 1)$  steps.

Simulation of  $t$ -th transition requires maximum of  $4kt + 2k + 2$  steps.

Thus

$$tc_{M'}(n) \leq 1 + \sum_{t=1}^{tc_M(n)} (4kt + 2k + 2) \in O(tc_M(n)^2).$$

■

**Exercise 11** Let  $M$  be the TM from Example 3.2 and let  $M'$  (standard 1-track!) be constructed as in the proof of Theorem 3.5. Determine the number of states of  $M'$  which are 8-tuples.

**Exercise 12** Let a *Random Access TM* (RATM) be a one-tape TM where transitions are of the form  $\delta(q_i, x) = (q_j, y, d)$ , where  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ . Such a transition is performed as usual, but the tape head is then moved to position  $d$  on the tape.

Give a sketch, how a RATM can be simulated by a standard TM.

**Exercise 13** Do you think that the following is true?

*For any RATM  $M$  there is a standard TM  $N$  such that  $tc_N(n) = O(tc_M(n))$ .*

Justify your answer (no full formal proof needed).

## 4 Linear Speedup

[4, Chapter 14.5]

### 4.1 Theorem

Let  $M$  be a  $k$ -tape TM,  $k > 1$ , that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_M(n) = f(n)$ . Then, for any  $c > 0$ , there is a  $k$ -tape TM  $N$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_N(n) \leq \lceil c \cdot f(n) \rceil + 2n + 3$ .

### 4.2 Corollary

Let  $M$  be a 1-tape TM that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_M(n) = f(n)$ . Then, for any  $c > 0$ , there is a 2-tape TM  $N$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_N(n) \leq \lceil c \cdot f(n) \rceil + 2n + 3$ .

**Proof:** The 1-tape TM can be understood as a 2-tape TM where tape 2 is not used. Then apply Theorem 4.1. ■

**Exercise 14** Assume a language  $L$  is accepted by a 2-tape TM  $M$  with  $tc_M(n) = \sqrt{n}$ . Do you think it is possible to design a standard TM  $N$  for  $L$  with  $tc_N(n) \in O(n)$ ? Justify your answer.

**Proof sketch/idea for Theorem 4.1:**

Exemplified using Example 3.4.

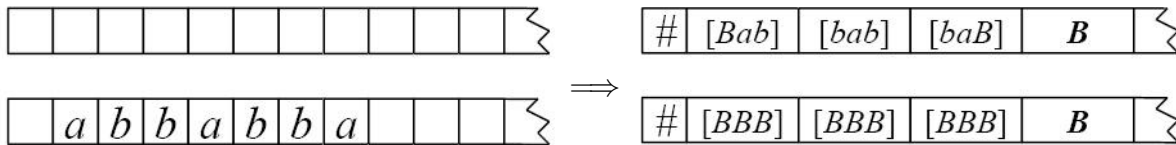
$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$ .

**Simulation of the TM:**

$N$  input alphabet:  $\Sigma$ .

$N$  tape alphabet:  $\Gamma \cup \Gamma^m \cup \{\#, ?\}$

Initialization of  $N$  by example.



A state of  $N$  consists of:

- the state of  $M$
- for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , the  $m$ -tuple currently scanned on tape  $i$  of  $N$  and the  $m$ -tuples to the immediate right and left
- a  $k$ -tuple  $[i_1, \dots, i_k]$ , where  $i_j$  is the position of the symbol on tape  $j$  being scanned by  $M$  in the  $m$ -tuple being scanned by  $N$ .

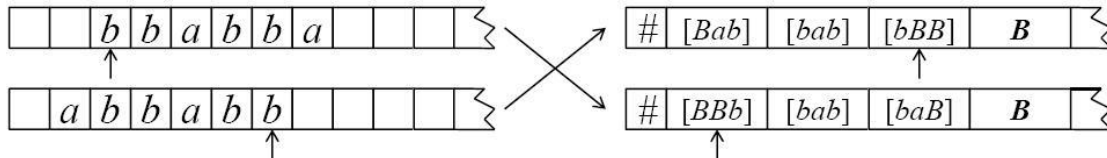
After initialization, enter state

$$(q_0; ?, [BBB], ?; ?, [Bab], ?; [1, 1])$$

(? is a placeholder, filled in by subsequent movements).

Idea: Six transitions of  $N$  simulate  $m$  transitions of  $M$  ( $m$  depends on  $c$ ).

Simulated, compressed configurations:



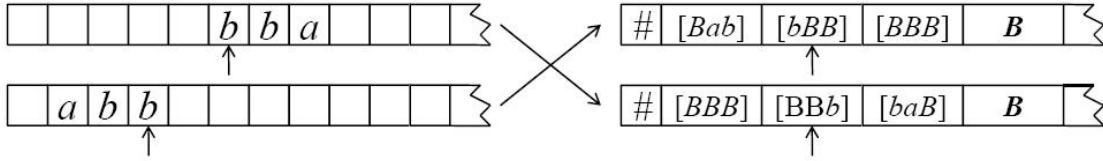
State:

$$(q_3; ?, [BBb], ?; ?, [bBB], ?; [3, 1])$$

Six transitions are performed:

1. move left, record tuples in the state
  2. move two to the right, record tuples in the state
  3. move one to the left
- State:  $(q_3, \#, [BBb], [bab]; [bab], [bBB], [BBB]; [3, 1])$

4. and  
 5. rewrite tapes to match configuration of  $M$  after three transitions.



State:  $(q_3, ?, [BBb], ?; ?, [bBB], ?; [3, 1])$

### Complexity analysis:

Initialization requires  $2n + 3$  transitions.

For simulation, 6 moves of  $N$  simulate  $m$  moves of  $M$ .

With  $m \geq \frac{6}{c}$  we obtain

$$tc_N(n) = \left\lceil \frac{6}{m} f(n) \right\rceil + 2n + 3 \leq \lceil c \cdot f(n) \rceil + 2n + 3$$

as desired.

### 4.3 Remark

In Theorem 4.1, the speedup is obtained by using a larger tape alphabet and by vastly increasing the number of states.

## 5 Properties of Time Complexity

[4, Chapter 14.6]

### 5.1 Theorem

Let  $f$  be a total computable function. Then there is a language  $L$  such that  $tc_M$  is not bounded by  $f$  for any TM  $M$  that accepts  $L$ .

**Proof sketch:** Let  $u$  be an injective function which assigns to every TM  $M$  with  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  a string  $u(M)$  over  $\{0, 1\}$ . [Each TM can be described by a finite string of characters; then consider a bit encoding of the characters.]

Let  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots$  be an enumeration of all strings over  $\{0, 1\}$ . If  $u(M) = u_i$  for some  $M$ , then set  $M_i = M$ , otherwise set  $M_i$  to be the one-state TM with no transitions.

This needs to be done, such that there is a TM  $N$  which, on input any  $u_i$ , can simulate  $M_i$ .

$$L = \{u_i \mid M_i \text{ does not accept } u_i \text{ in } f(\text{length}(u_i)) \text{ or fewer moves}\}.$$

$L$  is recursive. [Input some  $u_i$ . Determine  $\text{length}(u_i)$ . Compute  $f(\text{length}(u_i))$ . Simulate  $M_i$  on  $u_i$  until  $M_i$  either halts or completes  $f(\text{length}(u_i))$  transitions, whichever comes first.  $u_i$  is accepted if either  $M_i$  halted without accepting  $u_i$  or  $M_i$  did not halt in the first  $f(\text{length}(u_i))$  transitions. Otherwise,  $u_i$  is rejected.]

Let  $M$  be a TM accepting  $L$ . Then  $M = M_j$  for some  $j$ .  $M = M_j$  accepts  $u_j$  iff  $M_j$  halts on input  $u_j$  without accepting  $u_j$  in  $f(\text{length}(u_j))$  or fewer steps or  $M_j$  does not halt in the first  $f(\text{length}(u_j))$  steps.

Hence, if  $M$  accepts  $u_j$  then it needs more than  $f(\text{length}(u_j))$  steps.

If  $M$  does not accept  $u_j$ , then it also cannot stop in  $f(\text{length}(u_j))$  or fewer steps, since then it would in fact accept  $u_j$ . ■

## 5.2 Theorem

There is a language  $L$  such that, for any TM  $M$  that accepts  $L$ , there is a TM  $N$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_N(n) \in O(\log_2(tc_M(n)))$ .

**Proof:** skipped ■

**Exercise 15** Is the following true or false? Prove your claim.

*For the language  $L$  from Theorem 5.2, the following holds: If there is a TM  $M$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_M(n) \in O(2^n)$ , then there is a TM  $N$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_N(n) \in O(n)$ .*

**Exercise 16** Is the following true or false? Prove your claim.

*Let  $M$  be a 5-track TM which accepts a language  $L$ . Then there is a 5-tape TM  $N$  that accepts  $L$  with*

$$tc_N(n) \leq \frac{7 + 7n + tc_M(n)}{2}.$$

## 6 Simulation of Computer Computations

[4, Chapter 14.7]

Is the TM complexity model adequate?

Assume a computer with the following parameters.

- finite memory divided into word-size chunks
- fixed word length,  $m_w$  bits each
- each word has a fixed numeric address
- finite set of instructions
- each instruction
  - fits in a single word
  - has maximum  $t$  operands (addresses used in operation)
  - can do one of
    - \* move data
    - \* perform arithmetic or Boolean calculations
    - \* adjust the program flow
    - \* allocate additional memory (maximum of  $m_a$  words each time)
  - can change at most  $t$  words in the memory

Now simulate in  $5 + t$ -tape TM. Tapes are:

- Input tape (divided into word chunks)
- Memory counter (address of next free word on tape 1)
- Program counter (location of next instruction to be executed)
- Input counter (location of beginning of input and location of next word to be read)
- Work tape
- $t$  Register tapes

Simulation of  $k$ -th instruction:

1. load operand data onto the register tapes (max  $t$  words)
2. perform indicated operation (one)
3. store results as required (stores max  $t$  words or allocates  $m_a$  words of memory)

Operation: finite number of instructions with at most  $t$  operands. Maximum number of transitions needed shall be  $t_0$  (max exists and is  $< \infty$ )

Load and Store:

$m_p$  number of bits used to store input

$m_i$  number of bits used to store instructions

$m_k$  total memory allocated by  $TM$  before instruction  $k$

$$m_k \leq m_p + m_i + k \cdot m_a$$

Any address can be located in  $m_k$  transitions.

Upper bounds:

find instruction	$m_k$
load operands	$t \cdot m_k$
return register tape heads	$t \cdot m_k$
perform operation	$t_0$
store information	$t \cdot m_{k+1}$
return register tape heads	$t \cdot m_{k+1}$

upper bound for  $k$ -th instruction:

$$(2t + 1)m_k + 2tm_{k+1} + t_0 \leq (4t + 1)m_p + (4t + 1)m_i + 2tm_a + t_0 + (4t + 1)km_a$$

If computer requires  $f(n)$  steps on input length  $m_p = n$ , then simulation requires:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{f(n)} ((4t + 1)n + (4t + 1)m_i + 2tm_a + t_0 + (4t + 1)km_a) \\ &= f(n)((4t + 1)n + (4t + 1)m_i + 2tm_a + t_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{f(n)} (4t + 1)km_a \\ &= f(n)((4t + 1)n + (4t + 1)m_i + 2tm_a + t_0) + (4t + 1)m_a \sum_{k=1}^{f(n)} k \\ &\in O(\max\{nf(n), f(n)^2\}) \end{aligned}$$

In particular:

If an algorithm runs in polynomial time on a computer, then it can be simulated on a TM in polynomial time. [For  $f(n) \in O(n^r)$ , we have  $nf(n) \in O(n^{r+1})$  and  $f(n)^2 \in O(n^{2r})$ ]

**Exercise 17** Can we conclude the following from the observations in this section?

- If an algorithm runs in exponential time on a computer, then it can be simulated on a TM in exponential time.
- If an algorithm runs in linear time on a computer, then it can be simulated on a TM in quadratic time.

Justify your answer.

## 7 Computability

See slides.

## 8 PTime

[[4, Chapter 15.6] and some bits and pieces]

### 8.1 Definition

A language  $L$  is *decidable in polynomial time* if there is a standard TM  $M$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_M(n) \in O(n^r)$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  is independent of  $n$ .  $\mathcal{P}$  (*PTime*) is the *complexity class* of all such languages. [ $\mathcal{P}$  is the *set* of all such languages.]

**Exercise 18** Show that  $\mathcal{P}$  is closed under language complement.

### 8.2 The Polynomial Time Church-Turing Thesis

A decision problem can be solved in polynomial time by using a reasonable sequential model of computation if and only if it can be solved in polynomial time by a Turing Machine.

We have seen that  $\mathcal{P}$  is independent of the computation paradigm used:

- standard TMs
- $k$ -track TM
- $k$ -tape TM
- “realistic” computer

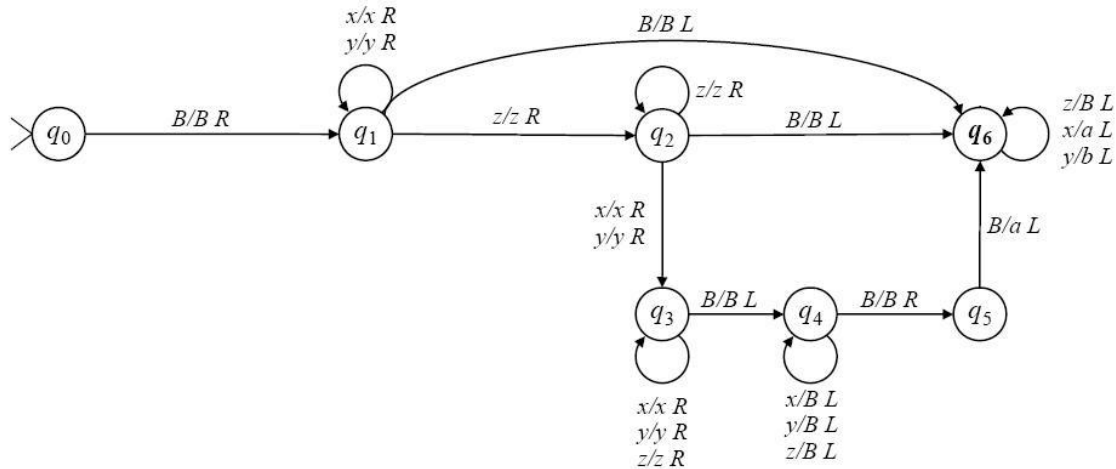
### 8.3 Definition

Let  $L, Q$ , be languages over alphabets  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$ , respectively.  $L$  is *reducible (in polynomial time)* to  $Q$  if there is a polynomial-time computable function  $r : \Sigma_1^* \rightarrow \Sigma_2^*$  such that  $w \in L$  if and only if  $r(w) \in Q$ .

### 8.4 Example

The TM





reduces  $L = \{x^i y^i z^k \mid i, k \geq 0\}$  to  $Q = \{a^i b^i \mid i \geq 0\}$ .  
 Time complexity:  $O(n)$ .

**Exercise 19** Construct a TM which reduces

$$\{a^i b^i a^i \mid i \geq 0\} \text{ to } \{c^i d^i \mid i \geq 0\}.$$

### 8.5 Theorem

Let  $L$  be reducible to  $Q$  in polynomial time and let  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then  $L \in \mathcal{P}$ .

**Proof:** TM for reduction:  $R$ .

TM deciding  $Q$ :  $M$ .

$R$  on input  $w$  generates  $r(w)$  as input to  $M$ .

$$\text{length}(r(w)) \leq \max\{\text{length}(w), tc_R(\text{length}(w))\}.$$

If  $tc_R \in O(n^s)$  and  $tc_M \in O(n^t)$ , then

$$tc_R(n) + tc_M(\max\{n, tc_R(n)\}) \in O(n^s) + O(\max\{O(n^t), O((n^s)^t)\}) = O(n^{st}).$$



### 8.6 Definition

A language (problem)  $L$  is

- $\mathcal{P}$ -hard, if every language in  $\mathcal{P}$  is reducible to  $L$  in polynomial time.
- $\mathcal{P}$ -complete, if  $L$  is  $\mathcal{P}$ -hard and  $L \in \mathcal{P}$ .

### 8.7 Remark

Definition 8.6 (hardness and completeness) are used likewise for other complexity classes. Thereby, reducibility is always considered to be polynomial time.

### 8.8 Remark

In principle, you could use any decision problem for defining a complexity class. E.g., if the *POPI-problem* is to find out, if  $n$  potatoes fit into a pistochl of size  $n$ , then a problem/language  $L$  is

- *in POPI* if  $L$  is reducible to the POPI-problem (in polynomial time),
- *POPI-hard* if the POPI-problem is reducible to  $L$  (in polynomial time),
- *POPI-complete* if it is both in POPI and POPI-hard.

Obvious questions:

- Which complexity classes are interesting or useful?
- How do they relate to each other?

In this class, we mainly talk about two complexity classes:  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $\mathcal{NP}$  (soon).

**Exercise 20** By Theorem 5.1, there are problems which are not in  $\mathcal{P}$ . Go to

[http://qwiki.stanford.edu/wiki/Complexity\\_Zoo](http://qwiki.stanford.edu/wiki/Complexity_Zoo)

and do the following.

1. Find the names of 4 complexity classes which contain  $\mathcal{P}$ .
2. Find a  $\mathcal{P}$ -hard problem and describe it briefly in general, but understandable, terms. (You may have to use other sources for background understanding.)

## 9 Nondeterministic Turing Machines and Time Complexity

[4, Chapters 15.1, 15.2 cont., some of Chapter 7.1, and recap Chapter 8.7]

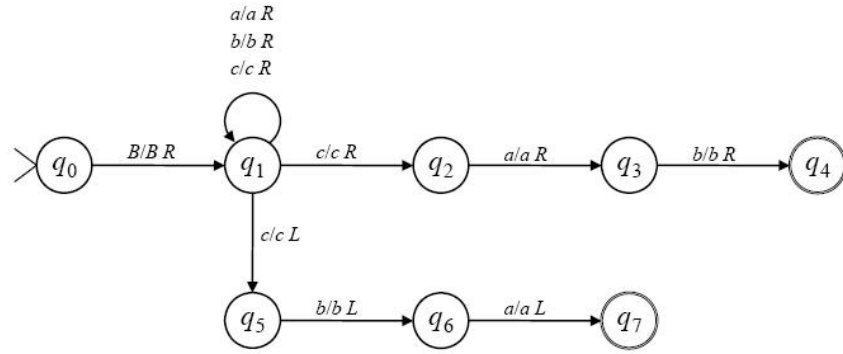
- A nondeterministic (ND) TM may specify any finite number of transitions for a given configuration.
- Transitions are defined by a function from  $Q \times \Gamma$  to the set of finite subsets of  $Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$ .
- A computation arbitrarily chooses one of the possible transitions. Input is accepted if there is at least one computation terminating in an accepting state.

### 9.1 Definition

Time complexity  $tc_M : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  of an ND TM  $M$  is defined s.t.  $tc_M(n)$  is the maximum number of transitions processed by input of length  $n$ .

### 9.2 Example

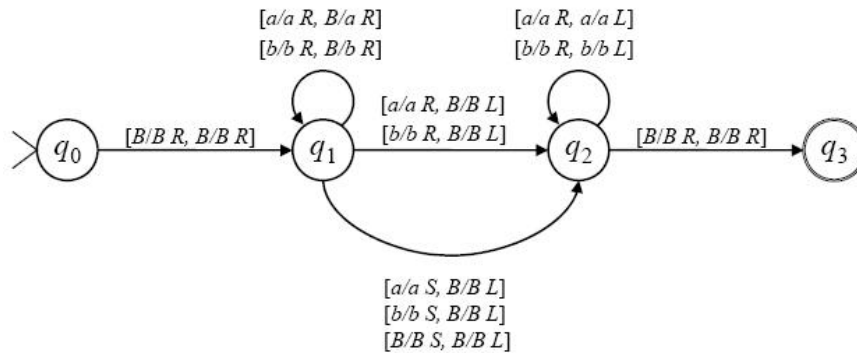
Accept strings with a  $c$  preceded or followed by  $ab$ .



Complexity:  $O(n)$

### 9.3 Example

2-tape ND palindrome finder.



Complexity:  $n + 2$  if  $n$  is odd,  $n + 3$  if  $n$  is even.

**Exercise 21** Give a nondeterministic two-tape TM for  $\{uu \mid u \in \{a, b\}^*\}$  which is quicker than the TM from Example 3.3.

### 9.4 Definition

A language  $L$  is accepted *in nondeterministic polynomial time* if there is an ND TM  $M$  that accepts  $L$  with  $tc_M \in O(n^r)$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  is independent of  $n$ .  $\mathcal{NP}$  is the *complexity class* of all such languages.

### 9.5 Remark

$\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{NP}$ . It is currently not known if  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{NP}$ .

### 9.6 Theorem

Let  $L$  be accepted by a one-tape ND TM  $M$ . Then  $L$  is accepted by a deterministic TM  $M'$  with  $tc_{M'}(n) \in O(tc_M(n)c^{tc_M(n)})$ , where  $c$  is the maximum number of transitions for any state, symbol pair of  $M$ .

**Proof sketch:** Simulation idea: Use 3-tape TM  $M'$ . Tape 1 holds input. Tape 2 is used for simulating the tape of  $M$ . Tape 3 holds sequences  $(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  ( $1 \leq m_i \leq c$ ), which encode computations of  $M$ :  $m_i$  indicates that, from the (maximally)  $c$  choices  $M$  has in performing the  $i$ -th transition, the  $m_i$ -th choice is selected.

$M$  is simulated as follows:

1. generate a  $(m_1, \dots, m_k)$
2. simulate  $M$  according to  $(m_1, \dots, m_k)$
3. if input is not accepted, continue with step 1.

Worst case:  $c^{tc_M(n)}$  sequences need to be examined. Simulation of a single computation needs maximally  $O(tc_M(n))$  transitions. Thus,  $tc_{M'}(n) \in O(tc_M(n)c^{tc_M(n)})$ . ■

**Exercise 22** Make a (deterministic) pseudo-code algorithm for an exhaustive search on a tree (i.e., if the sought element is not found, the whole tree should be traversed).

**Exercise 23** Make a non-deterministic pseudo-code algorithm for an exhaustive search on a tree.

### 9.7 Definition

$\text{co-}\mathcal{NP} = \{\bar{L} \mid L \in \mathcal{NP}\}$  and  $\text{co-}\mathcal{P} = \{\bar{L} \mid L \in \mathcal{P}\}$ , where  $\bar{L}$  denotes the complement of  $L$ . It is currently not known if  $\mathcal{NP} = \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ .

### 9.8 Theorem

If  $\mathcal{NP} \neq \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ , then  $\mathcal{P} \neq \mathcal{NP}$ .

**Proof:** Proof by contraposition:

If  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{NP}$ , then by Exercise 18 we have

$$\mathcal{NP} = \mathcal{P} = \text{co-}\mathcal{P} = \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}.$$

■

### 9.9 Theorem

If there is an  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete language  $L$  with  $\bar{L} \in \mathcal{NP}$ , then  $\mathcal{NP} = \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ .

**Proof:** Assume  $L$  is a language as stated.

Let  $Q \in \mathcal{NP}$ . Then  $Q$  is reducible to  $L$  in polynomial time. This reduction is also a reduction of  $\bar{Q}$  to  $\bar{L}$ .

Combining the TM which performs the reduction with the TM which accepts  $\bar{L}$  results in an ND TM that accepts  $\bar{Q}$  in polynomial time. Thus  $Q \in \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ .

This shows  $\mathcal{NP} \subseteq \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ . The inclusion  $\text{co-}\mathcal{NP} \subseteq \mathcal{NP}$  follows by symmetry. ■

### 9.10 Theorem

Let  $Q$  be an  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete language. If  $Q$  is reducible to  $L$  in polynomial time, then  $L$  is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -hard.

**Proof:** If  $R \in \mathcal{NP}$ , then  $R$  is reducible in polynomial time to  $Q$ , which in turn is reducible in polynomial time to  $L$ . By composition,  $R$  is reducible in polynomial time to  $L$ . ■

### 9.11 Remark

When moving from languages to decision problems, the representation of numbers may make a difference: Conversion from binary to unary representation is in  $O(2^n)$ .

Thus, if a problem can be solved in polynomial time with unary input representation, it may not be solvable in polynomial time with binary input representation.

Most reasonable representations of a problem differ only polynomially in length, but not so unary number encoding.

Thus, in complexity analysis, numbers are always assumed to be represented in binary.

### 9.12 Definition

A decision problem with a polynomial solution using unary number representation, but no polynomial solution using binary representation, is called *pseudo-polynomial*.

**Exercise 24** Let  $L$  be the language of all strings over  $\{a, b\}$  that can be divided into two strings (not necessarily the same length) such that (1) both strings have the same number of  $b$ 's and (2) both strings start and end with  $a$ . E.g., *abbaababaa* is in  $L$  because it can be divided into *abba* and *ababaa*, both of which have 2  $b$ 's and both of which start and end in  $a$ . The string *bbabba* is not in  $L$ .

Give a 2-tape, single track ND TM that accepts  $L$ . Explain your TM in words.

## 10 SAT is $\mathcal{NP}$ -Complete

[4, Chapter 15.8]

Let  $V$  be a set of *Boolean variables*.

### 10.1 Definition

An *atomic formula* is a Boolean Variable.

(*Well-formed*) *formulas* are defined as follows.

1. All atomic formulas are formulas.
2. For every formula  $F$ ,  $\neg F$  is a formula, called the *negation* of  $F$ .
3. For all formulas  $F$  and  $G$ , also  $(F \vee G)$  and  $(F \wedge G)$  are formulas, called the *disjunction* and the *conjunction* of  $F$  and  $G$ , respectively.
4. Nothing else is a formula.

### 10.2 Definition

$\mathbb{T} = \{0, 1\}$  – the set of *truth values*: *false*, and *true*, respectively.

An *assignment* is a function  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$ , where  $\mathbf{D}$  is a set of atomic formulas.

Assignments extend to formulas, via the following *truth tables*.

$\mathcal{A}(F)$	$\mathcal{A}(G)$	$\mathcal{A}(F \wedge G)$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

$\mathcal{A}(F)$	$\mathcal{A}(G)$	$\mathcal{A}(F \vee G)$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

$\mathcal{A}(F)$	$\mathcal{A}(\neg F)$
0	1
1	0

A formula  $F$  is called *satisfiable* if there exists an assignment  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\mathcal{A}(F) = 1$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  is called a *model* of  $F$  in this case, and we write  $\mathcal{A} \models F$ .

### 10.3 Example

Determining the truth values of formulas using truth tables:

$\mathcal{A}(B)$	$\mathcal{A}(F)$	$\mathcal{A}(I)$	$\mathcal{A}(B \wedge F)$	$\mathcal{A}(\neg(B \wedge F))$	$\mathcal{A}(\neg I)$	$\mathcal{A}(\neg(B \wedge F) \vee \neg I)$
0	0	0	0	1	1	1
0	0	1	0	1	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	0	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0	0

**Exercise 25** Make the truth table for the formula  $\neg(I \vee \neg B) \vee \neg F$ .

**Exercise 26** Give a formula  $F$ , containing only the Boolean variables  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , such that  $F$  has the following truth table.

$\mathcal{A}(A)$	$\mathcal{A}(B)$	$\mathcal{A}(C)$	$\mathcal{A}(F)$
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0

### 10.4 Definition

Formulas  $F$  and  $G$  are (*semantically*) *equivalent* (written  $F \equiv G$ ) if for every assignment  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}(F) = \mathcal{A}(G)$ .

### 10.5 Theorem

The following hold for all formulas  $F$ ,  $G$ , and  $H$ .

$F \wedge G \equiv G \wedge F$	$F \vee G \equiv G \vee F$	Commutativity
$(F \wedge G) \wedge H \equiv F \wedge (G \wedge H)$	$(F \vee G) \vee H \equiv F \vee (G \vee H)$	Associativity
$F \wedge (G \vee H) \equiv (F \wedge G) \vee (F \wedge H)$	$F \vee (G \wedge H) \equiv (F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$	Distributivity
$\neg\neg F \equiv F$		Double Negation
$\neg(F \wedge G) \equiv \neg F \vee \neg G$	$\neg(F \vee G) \equiv \neg F \wedge \neg G$	de Morgan's Laws

**Proof:** Straightforward using truth tables. ■

### 10.6 Definition

A *literal* is an atomic formula (a *positive literal*) or the negation of an atomic formula (a *negative literal*). A *clause* is a disjunction of literals.

A formula  $F$  is in *conjunctive normal form* (CNF) if it is a conjunction of clauses, i.e., if

$$F = \left( \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{j=1}^{m_i} L_{i,j} \right) \right),$$

where the  $L_{i,j}$  are literals.

### 10.7 Theorem

For every formula  $F$  there is a formula  $F_1 \equiv F$  in CNF.

**Proof:** skipped ■

**Exercise 27** Transform  $\neg((A \vee B) \wedge (C \vee D) \wedge (E \vee F))$  into CNF.

**Exercise 28** Give an informal, but plausible, argument, why a naive algorithm for converting formulas into CNFs is not in  $\mathcal{P}$ . [Don't use TMs.]

### 10.8 Definition

The *Satisfiability Problem* (*SAT*) is the problem of deciding if a formula in CNF is satisfiable.

### 10.9 Theorem (Cook's Theorem)

SAT is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete.

**Proof:** [Slideset 2: Proof of Cook's Theorem] ■

### 10.10 Remark

SAT is sometimes stated without the requirement that the formula is in CNF – this is equivalent.

### 10.11 Proposition

For any formula  $F$ , there is an equivalent formula which contains only  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ , and literals. (Called a *negation normal form* (NNF) of  $F$ .)

**Proof:** Apply de Morgan's laws exhaustively. ■

**Exercise 29** Give an informal, but plausible, argument that conversion of a formula into NNF is in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

### 10.12 Definition

Two formulas  $F$  and  $G$  are *equisatisfiable* if the following holds:  $F$  has a model if and only if  $G$  has a model.

### 10.13 Proposition

For all formulas  $F_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ),  $F_1 \vee (F_2 \wedge F_3)$  and  $(F_1 \vee E) \wedge (\neg E \vee (F_2 \wedge F_3))$  are equisatisfiable (where  $E$  is a propositional variable not occurring in  $F_1, F_2, F_3$ ).

**Proof:** skipped ■

**Exercise 30** Use the idea from Proposition 10.13 to sketch a polynomial-time algorithm which converts any formula  $F$  into an equisatisfiable formula in CNF. [Hint: First convert into NNF.]

**Exercise 31** Give an informal, but plausible, argument, that the problem “*Decide if a formula is satisfiable*” is  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete. [Use Cook's Theorem and Exercise 30.]

## 11 If $\mathcal{P} \neq \mathcal{NP} \dots$

[A mix, mainly from [1, Chapter 7], with some from [4, Chapter 17] and other sources.]

### 11.1 Problems “between” $\mathcal{P}$ and $\mathcal{NP}$

$\mathcal{NPC}$  consists of all  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete languages.

If  $\mathcal{P} \subsetneq \mathcal{NP}$ , is  $\mathcal{NPI} = \mathcal{NP} \setminus (\mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{NPC}) \neq \emptyset$ ?

#### 11.1 Theorem

Let  $B$  be a recursive language such that  $B \notin \mathcal{P}$ . Then there exists  $D \in \mathcal{P}$  s.t.  $A = D \cap B \notin \mathcal{P}$ ,  $A$  is (polytime) reducible to  $B$  but  $B$  is not (polytime) reducible to  $A$ .

**Exercise 32** Assumed  $\mathcal{P} \neq \mathcal{NP}$ , why does Theorem 11.1 show that  $\mathcal{NPI} \neq \emptyset$ ?

Iteratively reapplying the argument from Exercise 32 yields an infinite collection of distinct complexity classes “between”  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{NP}$ .

Are there any “natural” candidates for problems in  $\mathcal{NPI}$ ? Perhaps the following.



- **Graph isomorphism:** Given two graphs  $G = (V, E)$  and  $G' = (V, E')$ , is there a bijection  $f : V \rightarrow V$  such that  $(u, v) \in E$  iff  $(f(u), f(v)) \in E'$ ?

The following was for a long time believed to be a candidate for a problem in  $\mathcal{NP}^{\mathcal{I}}$ , but in 2004 it was shown that it is in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

- **Composite numbers (the primality problem):** Given  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , are there  $1 < n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $k = m \cdot n$ ?

## 11.2 The Polynomial Hierarchy

### 11.2 Definition

An *oracle TM (OTM)* is a standard TM with an additional *oracle tape* with read-write *oracle head*. It has two additional distinguished states: the *oracle consultation state* and the *resume-computation state*. Also, an *oracle function*  $g : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  is given.

Computation is as for a 2-tape TM, except in the oracle state: If  $y$  is on the oracle tape (right of the first blank), then it is rewritten to  $g(y)$  (with rest blank) in one step, and the state is changed to the resume state.

Let  $C$  and  $D$  be two complexity classes (sets of languages). Denote by  $C^D$  the class of all languages which are accepted by an OTM of complexity  $C$ , where computation of the oracle function has complexity  $D$ .

### 11.3 Remark

$\mathcal{P}^{\mathcal{P}} = \mathcal{P}$  [The one-step oracle consultation can be performed using a TM which runs in polynomial time. Note that there can be at most polynomially many such consultations.]

**Exercise 33** Show:  $\mathcal{P}^{\mathcal{NP}}$  contains all languages which are (polynomial-time) reducible to a language in  $\mathcal{NP}$ .

### 11.4 Definition

The *polynomial hierarchy*:

$$\Sigma_0^p = \Pi_0^p = \Delta_0^p = \mathcal{P}$$

and for all  $k \geq 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{k+1}^p &= \mathcal{P}^{\Sigma_k^p} \\ \Sigma_{k+1}^p &= \mathcal{NP}^{\Sigma_k^p} \\ \Pi_{k+1}^p &= \text{co-}\Sigma_{k+1}^p\end{aligned}$$

PH is the union of all classes in the polynomial hierarchy.

**Exercise 34** Show  $\Sigma_1^p = \mathcal{NP}$ .

### 11.5 Remark

$$\begin{aligned}\Pi_1^p &= \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}^{\mathcal{P}} = \text{co-}\mathcal{NP} \\ \Delta_2^p &= \mathcal{P}^{\Sigma_1^p} = \mathcal{P}^{\mathcal{NP}}\end{aligned}$$

### 11.6 Remark

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_i^p &\subseteq \Delta_{i+1}^p \subseteq \Sigma_{i+1}^p \\ \Pi_i^p &\subseteq \Delta_{i+1}^p \subseteq \Pi_{i+1}^p \\ \Sigma_i^p &= \text{co-}\Pi_i^p \end{aligned}$$

It is not known if the inclusions are proper. If any  $\Sigma_k^p$  equals  $\Sigma_{k+1}^p$  or  $\Pi_k^p$ , then the hierarchy collapses above  $k$ . In particular, if  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{NP}$ , then  $\mathcal{P} = \text{PH}$ .

The following problem may be in  $\Sigma_2^p = \mathcal{NP}^{\mathcal{NP}}$ :

**Maximum equivalent expression:** Given a formula  $F$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , is there  $F_1 \equiv F$  with  $k$  or fewer occurrences of literals?

[ $\mathcal{NP}$ -hardness: because SAT reduces to it.]

In  $\Sigma_2^p$ : Use SAT (non-CNF version) as oracle. The OTM first guesses  $F_1$ , then consults the oracle.]

**Exercise 35** Spell out in more detail, how SAT reduces to *maximum equivalent expression*.

## 12 Beyond $\mathcal{NP}$

[Mainly from [4, Chapter 17], plus some from [1, Chapter 7] and other sources.]

*Space complexity:* use modified  $k$ -tape TM (*off-line TM*) with additional read-only *input tape*, and additional write-only *output tape*. The latter is not needed for language recognition tasks.

### 12.1 Definition

The *space complexity* of a TM  $M$  is the function  $sc_M : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $sc_M(n)$  is the maximum number of tape squares read on any work tape by a computation of  $M$  when initiated with an input string of length  $n$ . (For an ND TM, take the maximum over every possible computation as usual.)

### 12.2 Example

3-tape palindrome recognizer  $M$  with  $sc_M(n) = O(\log_2(n))$ .

Idea: Use work tapes to hold numbers (binary encoding). They are used as counters for identifying and comparing the  $i$ -th element from the left with the  $i$ -th element from the right, until a mismatch is found (or the palindrome is accepted).

### 12.3 Remark

Palindrome recognition is in the complexity class LOGSPACE.

### 12.4 Theorem

For any TM  $M$ ,  $sc_M(n) \leq tc_M(n) + 1$ .

### 12.5 Definition

An off-line TM is said to be  $s(n)$  *space-bounded* if the maximum number of tape squares used on a work tape with input of length  $n$  is at most  $\max\{1, s(n)\}$ . (This can also be used with non-terminating TMs.)

### 12.6 Theorem (Savitch's Theorem)

$M$  a 2-tape ND TM with space bound  $s(n) \geq \log_2(n)$  which accepts  $L$ . Then  $L$  is accepted by a deterministic TM with space bound  $O(s(n)^2)$ .

### 12.7 Corollary

$\mathcal{P}$ -Space =  $\mathcal{NP}$ -Space

**Proof:** Obviously,  $\mathcal{P}$ -Space  $\subseteq$   $\mathcal{NP}$ -Space.

If  $L \in \mathcal{NP}$ -Space, then it is accepted by an ND TM with polynomial space bound  $p(n)$ . Then by Savitch's Theorem,  $L$  is accepted by a deterministic TM with space bound  $O(p(n)^2)$ . ■

### 12.8 Definition

EXPTIME is the complexity class of problems solvable by a (deterministic) TM in  $O(2^{g(n)})$  time, where  $g$  is a polynomial. NEXPTIME is the corresponding ND class. 2-EXPTIME/N2-EXPTIME are defined similarly with time bound  $O(2^{2^{g(n)}})$ . (Similarly  $n$ -EXPTIME – the *exponential hierarchy*.) (EXPSPACE is the corresponding space complexity class.)

**Exercise 36** Show, that EXPSPACE=NEXPSPACE.

### 12.9 Remark

It is known that LOGSPACE  $\subseteq$  NLOGSPACE  $\subseteq$   $\mathcal{P}$   $\subseteq$   $\mathcal{NP}$   $\subseteq$  PH  $\subseteq$   $\mathcal{P}$ -Space =  $\mathcal{NP}$ -Space  $\subseteq$  EXPTIME  $\subseteq$  NEXPTIME  $\subseteq$  EXPSPACE  $\subseteq$  2-EXPTIME.

Also known:

- LOGSPACE  $\subsetneq$   $\mathcal{P}$ -Space
- $\mathcal{P}$   $\subsetneq$  EXPTIME
- $\mathcal{NP}$   $\subsetneq$  NEXPTIME
- $\mathcal{P}$ -Space  $\subsetneq$  EXPSPACE
- If  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{NP}$ , then EXPTIME = NEXPTIME
- If  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{NP}$ , then  $\mathcal{P} = \text{PH}$

### 12.10 Remark

The Web Ontology Language OWL-DL (see [2]) is N2-EXPTIME-complete. The description logic  $\mathcal{ALC}$  (see [3]) is EXPTIME-complete.

**Exercise 37** Show: If  $\mathcal{NP} = \text{EXPTIME}$ , then  $\mathcal{NP} \neq \text{EXPTIME}$ .

### 12.11 Example

$\mathcal{P}$ -Space-complete problems:

- **Regular expression non-universality:** Given a regular expression  $\alpha$  over a finite alphabet  $\Sigma$ , is the set represented by  $\alpha$  different from  $\Sigma^*$ ?
- **Linear space acceptance:** Given a linear space-bounded TM  $M$  and a finite string  $x$  over its input alphabet, does  $M$  accept  $x$ ?

## 13 Excursus: Is $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{N}\mathcal{P}$ ?

[mainly from memory]

[blackboard]

**Exercise 38** Show  $|\mathbb{R}| = |\{(1, x) : x \in \mathbb{R}\} \cup \{(2, x) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}|$ .

**Exercise 39** Show, using a diagonalization argument, that the power set of  $\mathbb{N}$  is of higher cardinality than  $\mathbb{N}$ . [Hint: Consider only infinite subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ .]

## References

- [1] M. R. Garey and D. S. Johnson. *Computers and Intractability*. Freeman, 1979.
- [2] P. Hitzler, M. Krötzsch, B. Parsia, P. F. Patel-Schneider, and S. Rudolph, editors. *OWL 2 Web Ontology Language: Primer*. W3C Recommendation 27 October 2009, 2009. Available from <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-primer/>.
- [3] P. Hitzler, M. Krötzsch, and S. Rudolph. *Foundations of Semantic Web Technologies*. Chapman & Hall/CRC, 2009.
- [4] T. A. Sudkamp. *Languages and Machines*. Addison Wesley, 3rd edition, 2006.