

CPCS 421/501 Oct 18, 2023

Today start Turing machines:

Chapter 3 of [Sip].

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DFA is  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

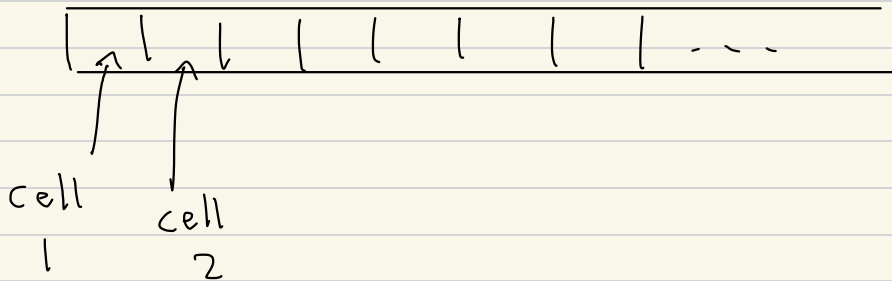
TM is  $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{acc}, q_{rej}, L)$

or simply:

$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{acc}, q_{rej})$

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Idea! a Turing machine has  
a tape



Cell contains a "tape symbol":

Tape alphabet:

$\Gamma$  — contains  $\Sigma$ ,

$\Sigma$  = input alphabet

— contains blank symbol,  $\sqcup$

$\sqcup \notin \Sigma$

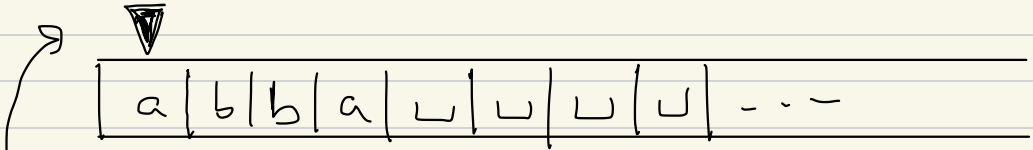
— contains any other symbols

you want

$M =$  Turing machine, over  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

on input  $i = abba \in \Sigma^*$

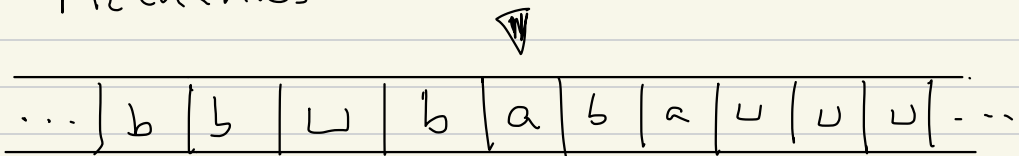
then initially, the tape looks like



tape head — can move right but  
also to the left

tape is a read/write tape

Mechanics:

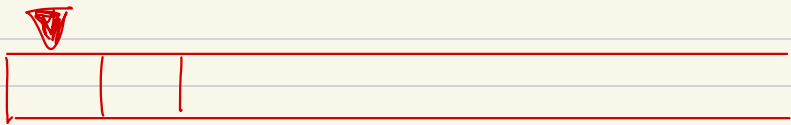


$\delta$  function tells us: (1) what is

written over "a" — any  
symbol in  $\Gamma$

(2) do we move L or R

Q: What happens when you get an  
instruction to move L = left when



Lets say (most standard): in this  
case you don't move, tape head  
remains over cell 1.

Q: What about S = stay still  
versus L, R

For now (but not for 2-tape  
or multi-tape TM) we don't

allow  $S$ , on  $L, R$

$$\delta: Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$$

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Formally, a Turing machine is

a 7-tuple

$$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{\text{accept}}, q_{\text{reject}})$$

↑  
Set of  
states

↑  
input  
alphabet

↑  
tape  
alphabet

$$\delta: Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$$

intuitively

$$\delta(q, \gamma) = (q', \gamma', \leftarrow \text{ or } \rightarrow)$$

$q'$  = new state,  $\gamma'$  = symbol written over  $\gamma$   
where  $\blacktriangledown$  is situated

$q_{\text{accept}}$ ,  $q_{\text{reject}}$  states s.t. when you reach them, the T.M. "halts"

Any T.M., on input  $i \in \Sigma^*$  either

accepts  $i$  — you transition to  $q_{\text{acc}}$

rejects  $i$  — " " " "  $q_{\text{rej}}$

"loops" — doesn't halt, i.e.

never reaches  $q_{\text{acc}}, q_{\text{rej}}$

A T.M.,  $M$ , recognizes the language

$\{ i \in \Sigma^* \mid M \text{ accepts } i \}$

A T.M.,  $M$ , is a decider if it

always halts, i.e. for any  $i \in \Sigma^*$ ,

$M$  either accepts or rejects  $i$

A language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ , is

(Turing-) recognizable if some

T.M.,  $M$ , recognizes  $L$ ,

and is

(Turing-) decidable if some

T.M.,  $M$ , that is a decider

recognizes  $L$ .

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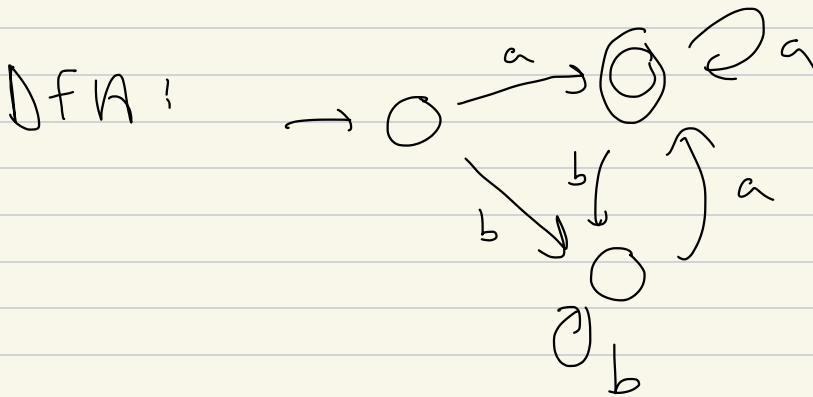
Remark: Unlike Python (C, APL, --)

programs, T.M.'s have only a

single accept state,  $q_{acc}$ , and a single

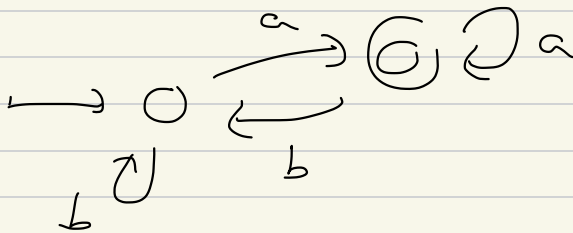
reject state

$$L = \left\{ w \in \{a, b\}^+ \mid \begin{array}{l} w \text{ is non-empty, and} \\ w \text{ ends in} \\ \text{an "a"} \end{array} \right\}$$



$\text{AccFut}(\epsilon) = \text{AccFut}(b)$  and therefore

also

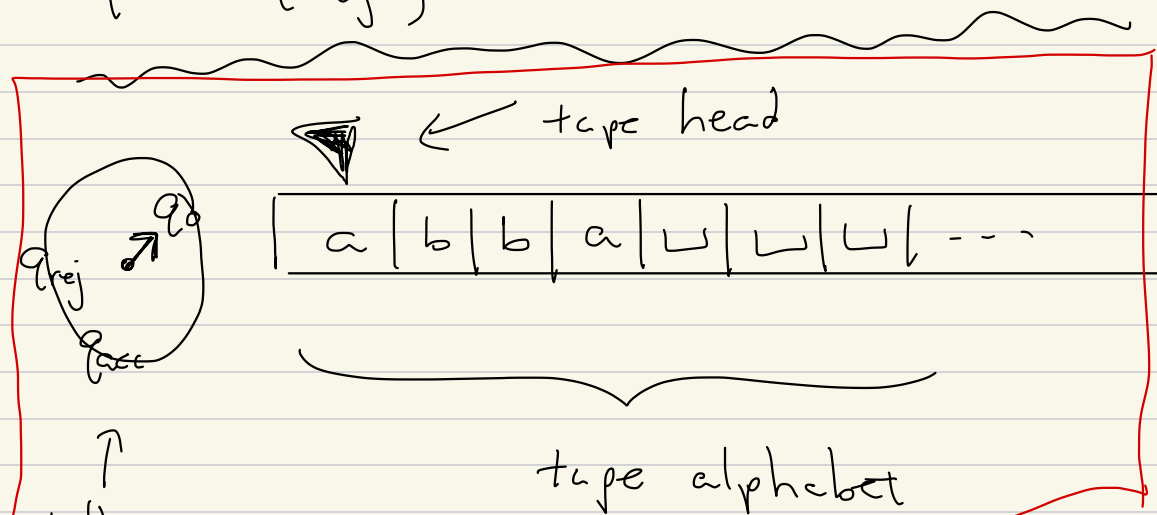




T.M. (technically, although

$q_{acc} \neq q_{rej}$ ,  $q_0$  can be one of

$(q_{acc}, q_{rej})$ )



↑  
tells you  
what state  
you're in

← this indicates tape head is  
over cell 1

OR

$q_0$   $\overbrace{a \quad b \quad b \quad a}$   
 $q_0 a b b a$  OR  $q_0 a b b a \_ \_$