

CS 273      4/17/07

More Undecidability!

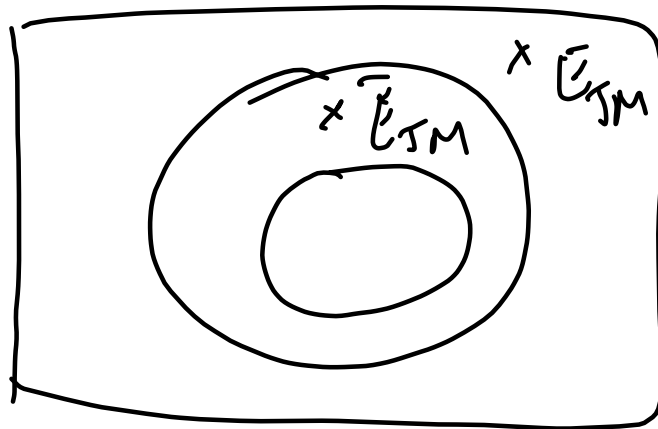
- Reductions
- LBAs
- Computation Histories
- Language Problems.

$$E_{TM} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM} \\ \text{and } L(M) = \emptyset \}$$

is undecidable.

$E_{TM}$  is not Turing Recog

$\overline{E_{TM}}$  is Turing recognizable



Regular<sub>TM</sub> = {  $\langle M \rangle$  |  $M$  is a TM  
and  $L(M)$  is  
regular }

Reduction is from

$A_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid \text{TM } M \text{ accepts } w \}$

Auxiliary TM:  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$

$R_{\langle M, w \rangle}$ : on input  $x$

1. If  $x = 0^n 1^n$  accept  
(for  $n > 0$ )

2. Otherwise simulate  $M$  on  $w$

3. If  $M$  accepts  $w$  then accept  $x$

4. If  $M$  halts and rejects  $w$ , reject  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} L(R_{\langle M, w \rangle}) &= \sum^* \text{if} \\ &\quad M \text{ accepts } w \\ &= \{0^n 1^n \mid n > 0\} \\ &\quad \text{if } M \text{ does not} \\ &\quad \text{accept } w. \end{aligned}$$

Reduce  $A_{TM}$  to  $Regular_{TM}$

let  $H$  be a decider for  $Regular_{TM}$ . create a decider  $N$  for  $A_{TM}$

•  $N$ : on input  $\langle M, w \rangle$

1. create  $\langle R_{\langle M, w \rangle} \rangle$

2. Run  $H$  on  $\langle R_{\langle M, w \rangle} \rangle$

3. If  $H$  accepts then  
accept

4. If  $H$  rejects then  
reject

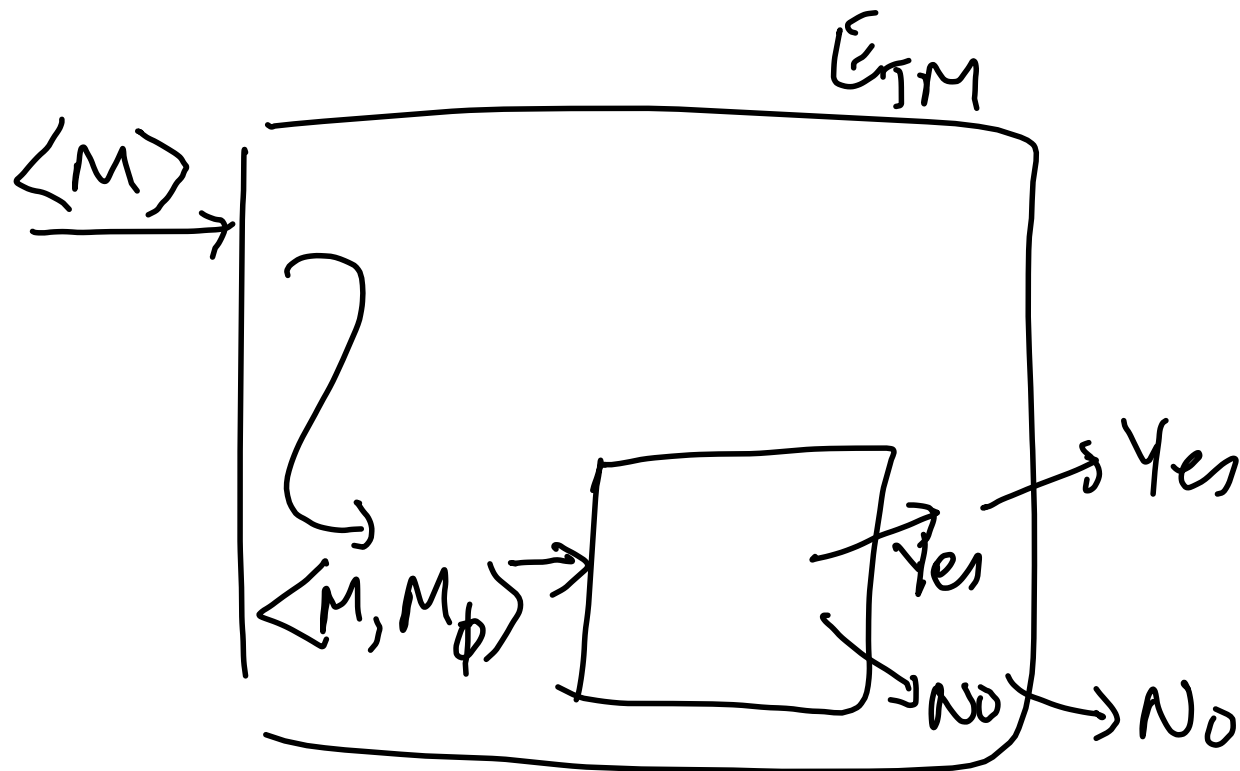
$$EQ_{TM} = \{ \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1, M_2 \text{ are TMs and } L(M_1) = L(M_2) \}$$

Reduction from

$EQ_{TM}$  ?

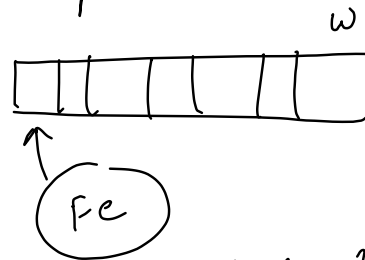
$$L = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) = \emptyset \}$$

$M_\phi$  : on input  $x$   
1. Reject!

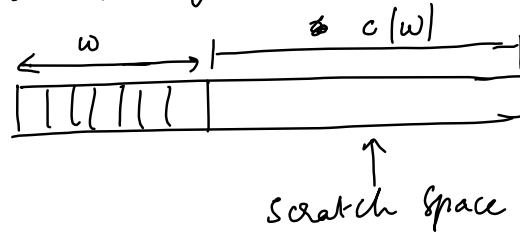


## Linear Bounded Automaton

A TM which can only use the space used by the input



This is equivalent to



"linear" amount of ↑

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Non-deterministic LBA  
is equivalent to context  
sensitive languages

Open problem: are deterministic  
LBAs equivalent to  
non-deterministic LBAs.

①  $A_{LBA} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a LBA and } M \text{ accepts } w \}$   
is decidable.

②  $E_{LBA} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a LBA and } L(M) = \emptyset \}$   
is undecidable.

①  $A_{LBA}$  is decidable

Basic idea:

Simulate  $M$  on  $w$ .

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What is a configuration of an LBA?

$Q, \beta$

Given an LBA with  $|Q|$  states and tape alphabet  $\Gamma$  and input  $w$  how many distinct configurations are there?

$$|Q| \cdot |w| \cdot |\Gamma|^{|w|}$$

Decider for ALBA

$N$ : on input  $\langle M, w \rangle$

1. Simulate  $M$  on  $w$  for  $|Q| \cdot |w| \cdot |\Gamma|^{|w|}$  steps or until  $M$  halts.
2. If  $M$  halts return  $M$ 's answer.
3. Otherwise reject.

To prove  $E_{LBA}$  is undecidable  
again via  $A_{TM}$

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Detour via Computation Histories

A CH for a TM  $M$  on a  
string  $w$  is a string

$\# C_1 \# C_2 \# \dots \# C_k \#$  where

- ①  $C_1$  is the starting configuration  
of  $M$  on  $w$ .
- ②  $C_k$  is an accepting configuration  
for  $M$
- ③ for  $1 \leq i < k$   $C_i$  yields  $C_{i+1}$

b Given  $M, w$  define

$$CH_{\langle M, w \rangle} = \{ x \mid x \text{ is a CH for } M \text{ on } w \}$$

$$CH_{\langle M, w \rangle} = \emptyset \quad \text{if } M \text{ does not accept } w$$

$$\neq \emptyset \quad \text{if } M \text{ accepts } w.$$

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An LBA can recognize

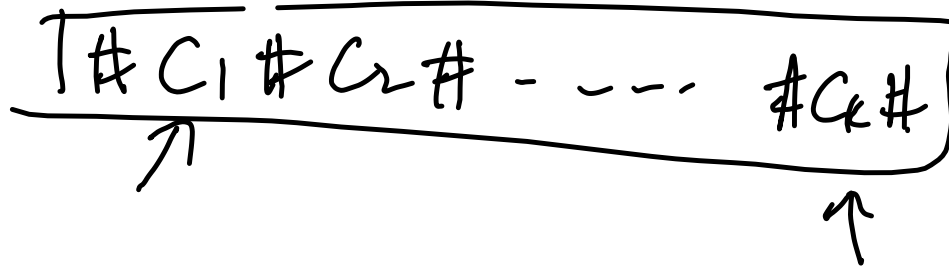
$$CH_{\langle M, w \rangle}.$$

Given  $M, w$  there is  
an LBA  $B_{\langle M, w \rangle}$  that  
can decide  $CH_{\langle M, w \rangle}$

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Given  $x$   
check if  $x = \#C_1\#C_2\# \dots \#C_k\#$   
is a valid CH for  $M$   
on  $w$ .

$\#C_1\#C_2\# \dots \#C_k\#$



The diagram shows a configuration string  $\#C_1\#C_2\# \dots \#C_k\#$  enclosed in a rounded rectangular box. Two arrows point upwards from below the box to the first and last configurations,  $\#C_1\#$  and  $\#C_k\#$  respectively.

Reduce  $A_{TM}$  to  $E_{LBA}$

$$E_{LBA} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a LBA} \\ L(M) = \emptyset \}$$

• Say  $E_{LBA}$  has a decider  $H$

Create decider  $N$  for  $A_{TM}$

$N$ : on input  $\langle M, w \rangle$

1. generate  $\langle B_{\langle M, w \rangle} \rangle$

2. Run  $H$  on  $\langle B_{\langle M, w \rangle} \rangle$

3. If  $H$  accepts, reject

4. If  $H$  rejects, accept

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$H$  accepts  $\langle B_{\langle M, w \rangle} \rangle$  iff

$L(M) = \emptyset$  iff

$M$  does not accept  $w$



$\overline{CH}_{\langle M, w \rangle}$  is a CFL (not true exactly)

$\{ x \mid x \text{ is } \underline{\text{not}}$   
a ~~complete~~ CH  
for  $M$  on  $w \}$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  a CFG,  $G_{\langle M, w \rangle}$   
that generates  $\overline{CH}_{\langle M, w \rangle}$

$ALL_{CFG} = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a CFG} \\ L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$

is undecidable.

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~~Given~~ Assume  $H$  decides  
 $ALL_{CFG}$

give  $N$  for ATM

$N$ : on input  $\langle M, w \rangle$

1. generate  $\langle G_{\langle M, w \rangle} \rangle$

2. Run  $H$  on  $\langle \downarrow \rangle$

3. Accept if  $H$  rejects

4. Reject if  $H$  accepts

$\overline{CH}_{(M,w)}$  is a CFL (see 17)

$\Rightarrow \{ x \mid x \text{ is not a CH for } M, w \}$

$x \in \overline{CH}_{(M,w)}$  if

①  $x$  is badly formed or

②  $C_1$  is not a starting conf for  $M$  or

③  $C_k$  is not an acceptin

④  $\exists i$  s.t.  $C_i$  does not yield  $C_{i+1}$

$\exists$  a PDA for  $\overline{CH}_{(M,w)}$

① ② ③ easy!

④ is the hard part

$\#C_1 \#C_2 \#C_3 \dots \#C_k \#$

non-deterministically guess  
 $i$  and check that  $C_i$   
does not yield  $C_{i+1}$ .

$C_i = \alpha_i q_i \beta_i$

$C_{i+1} = \alpha_{i+1} q_{i+1} \beta_{i+1}$

$\dots \#C_i \#C_{i+1} \# \dots$

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Revised defn of CH

$\#C_1 \#C_2 \dots \#C_k \#$

but  $\#C_1 \#C_2^R \#C_3 \#C_4^R \# \dots \#C_k \#$

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push  $C_i$  onto stack

check that  $C_{i+1}^R$  is not  
yielded by  $C_i$