

CS 273 3/15/07

## Turing Machines

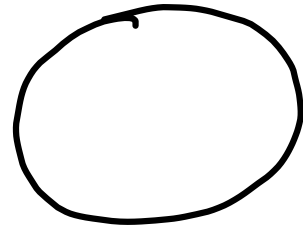
- Alan Turing 1936

- Alonzo Church 1936  
 $\lambda$ -calculus

Formal definition of computation.

# Finite State Machines

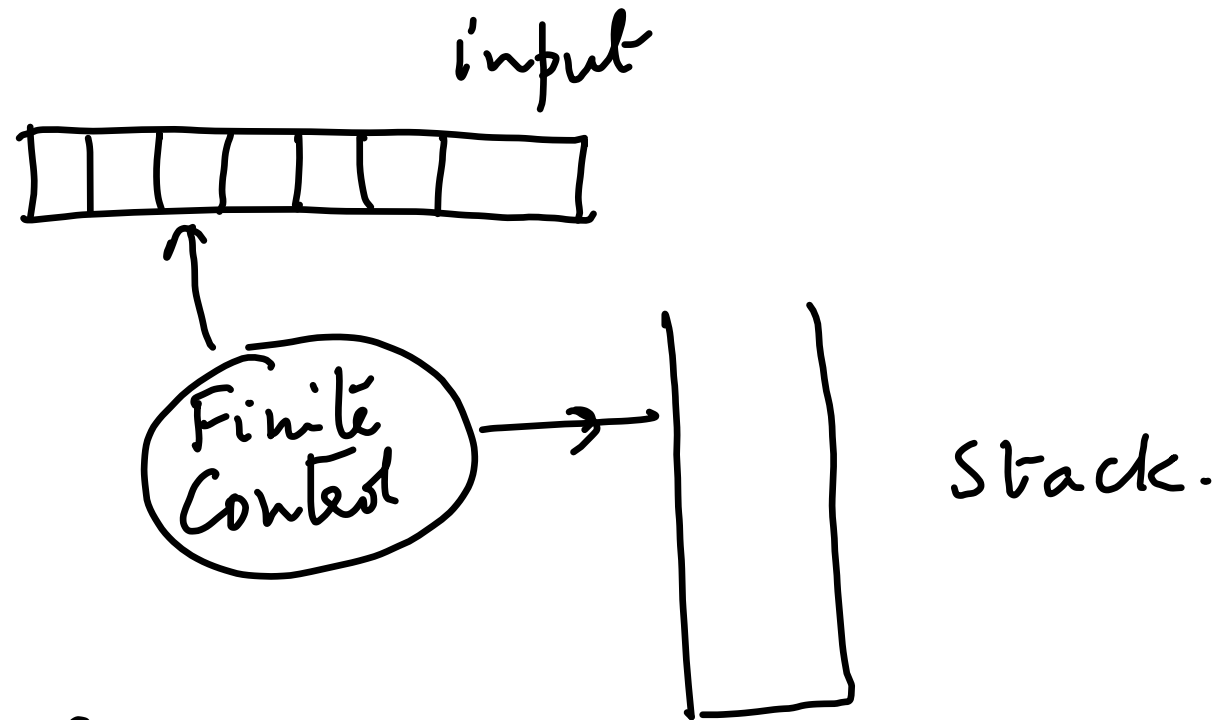
DFA's NFA's



Finite Control  
(States)

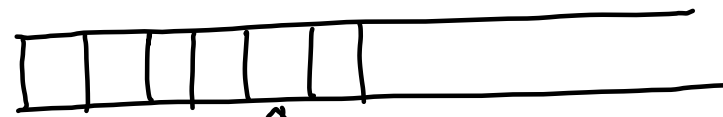
- ① No extra memory
- ② input is read left to right only once
- ③ all of input has to be read

# PDA's



- ① memory is stack
- ② input has to be read completely from left to right

# Turing Machines

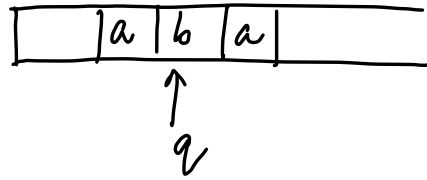


Finite Content

→ infinite  
tape to  
the right

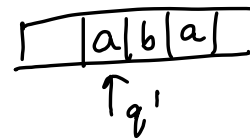
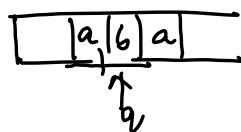
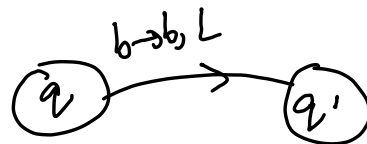
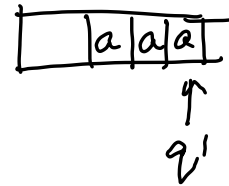
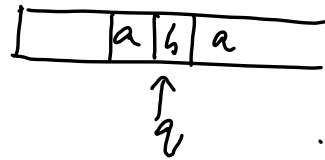
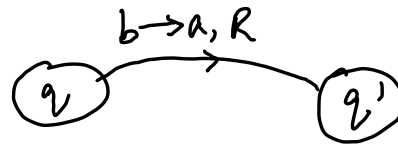
- ① infinite memory to the right
- ② machine is allowed to move left and right on tape.
- ③ machine can read/write on tape
- ④ two special states  $q_{accept}$ ,  $q_{reject}$   
- if machine enters these states it halts

# One move/step of a TM



One step

- move to a new state
- move left (L) or right (R) on tape
- write a new symbol on current head location



Formally a TM is a  
7-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{\text{accept}}, q_{\text{reject}})$

-  $Q$  : ~~set~~ finite set of states

$\Sigma$  : finite input alphabet

$\Gamma$  : tape alphabet (finite)

$$\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma$$

special blank symbol  $\sqcup \in \Gamma$   
 $\sqcup \notin \Sigma$

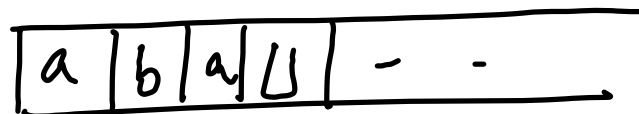
$q_0$  : start state.

$q_{\text{accept}}$  : single accept state } halting states  
 $q_{\text{reject}}$  : single reject state }

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

## Two Notes

① What happens at the left end of tape?



↑  
 $q$

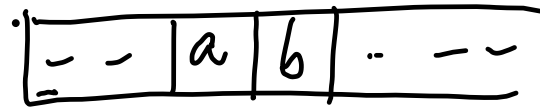
Suppose  $\delta(q, a) = (q', b, L)$

What happens?



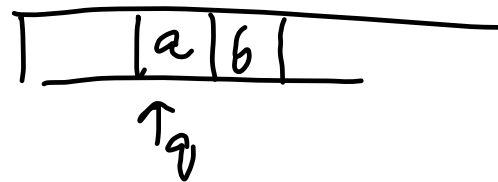
↑  
 $q'$

② Machine can loop for ever



$$\delta(q, a) = (q', a, R)$$

$$\delta(q', b) = (q, b, L)$$



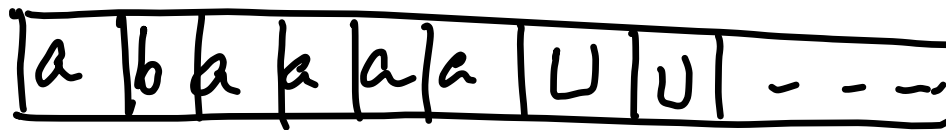
- M has 3 types of behaviour
- ① enters  $q_{accept}$  and halts
  - ② "  $q_{reject}$  and halts
  - ③ loops for ever

Example

$$L = \{ w \# w \mid w \in \{0,1\}^* \}$$

How does machine start?

How is input specified?



$q_0$

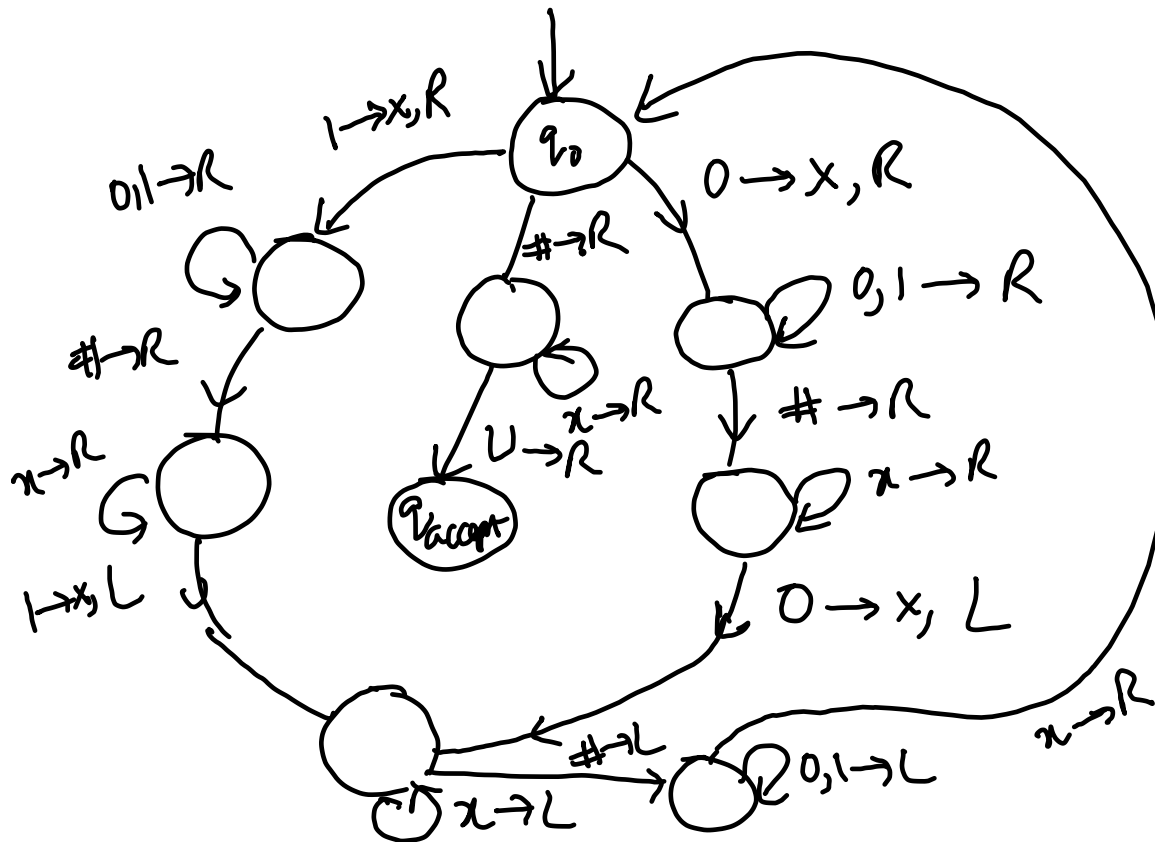
first blank  
ends input-



# State diagram

$$\Sigma = \{0, 1, \#\}$$

$$\Gamma = \{0, 1, \#, x, \sqcup\}$$

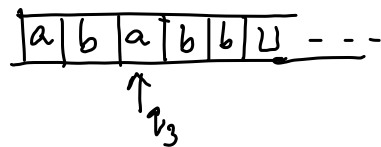


Formal defn of acceptance,  
language etc.

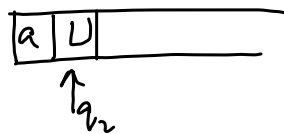
Configuration of a machine

- state
- contents of tape
- position of head.

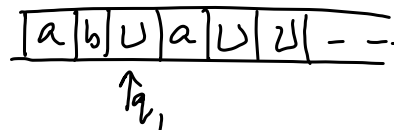
use  $uqV$        $u, V \in \Gamma^*$



$abq_3abb$



$aq_2$



$abq_1aa$

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  are configurations

$C_1$  yields  $C_2$  if  $M$  can  
move from  $C_1$  to  $C_2$  in one  
step.

$$C_1 \xrightarrow{M} C_2$$

---

$u a q, b v$  yields  $u q' a c v$

iff  $\delta(q, b) = (q', c, L)$

$u a q, b v \vdash u a c q' v$

iff  $\delta(q, b) = (q', c, R)$

# Accepting configuration

$u \rho_{\text{accept}} v$  for any  $u, v \in \Gamma^*$

Rejecting conf:

$u \rho_{\text{reject}} v$  for any  $u, v \in \Gamma^*$

When does  $M$  accept  $w$ ?

$M$  accepts  $w$  if there exist

configurations  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$

s.t

(start)

①  $C_1$  is initial configuration

$q_0 w$

②  $C_i$  yields  $C_{i+1}$   $i=1, 2, \dots, k-1$

③  $C_k$  is an accepting configuration

Language of a machine  $M$

$$L(M) = \{ w \mid M \text{ accepts } w \}$$

$L$  is called Turing-recognizable

if  $\exists$  a TM  $M$  s.t.

$$L = L(M)$$

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A TM  $M$  is called a decider if it halts on all inputs.

$L$  is called decidable  
if  $L = L(M)$  for  
a decider TM  $M$ .