

الله أكبر  
محمد وآله

# Reducibility

Ali Shakiba

[ali.shakiba@vru.ac.ir](mailto:ali.shakiba@vru.ac.ir)

Vali-e-Asr University of Rafsanjan

# What we are going to discuss?

- Undecidable problems from language theory
  - Reductions via computation histories
- Mapping reducibility
  - Computable functions
  - Formal definition of mapping reducibility
- Post correspondence problem, or PCP

# Reduction

A way of converting one problem to another problem in such a way that a solution to the second problem can be used to solve the first problem.



$HALT_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and halts on input } w\}$



**Undecidable**

Theorem 5.1

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



**Undecidable**

Theorem 5.2

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



**Undecidable**

Theorem 5.3

$S =$  “On input  $\langle M, w \rangle$ , where  $M$  is a TM and  $w$  is a string:

1. Construct the following TM  $M_2$ .

$M_2 =$  “On input  $x$ :

1. If  $x$  has the form  $0^n 1^n$ , *accept*.
2. If  $x$  does not have this form, run  $M$  on input  $w$  and *accept* if  $M$  accepts  $w$ .”

2. Run  $R$  on input  $\langle M_2 \rangle$ .
3. If  $R$  accepts, *accept*; if  $R$  rejects, *reject*.”

Exercise 5.28  
(Rice's theorem)

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



Undecidable

Theorem 5.4

$S =$  “On input  $\langle M \rangle$ , where  $M$  is a TM:

1. Run  $R$  on input  $\langle M, M_1 \rangle$ , where  $M_1$  is a TM that rejects all inputs.
2. If  $R$  accepts, *accept*; if  $R$  rejects, *reject*.”



# Computation Histories for Turing Machines

The sequence of configurations that the machine goes through as it processes the input.

Sequence of configurations  $C_1, \dots, C_\ell$  is an **accepting computation history** for  $M$  on  $w$  where  $C_1$  is the **start configuration** and  $C_\ell$  is an **accepting configuration** and every configuration  $C_{i+1}$  legally follows from configuration  $C_i$ .

# Computation Histories for Turing Machines

The sequence of configurations that the machine goes through as it processes the input.

Sequence of configurations  $C_1, \dots, C_\ell$  is a **rejecting computation history** for  $M$  on  $w$  where  $C_1$  is the **start configuration** and  $C_\ell$  is an **rejecting configuration** and every configuration  $C_{i+1}$  legally follows from configuration  $C_i$ .


# Computation Histories for Turing Machines

$$l < \infty$$

Sequence of  
where  $C_1$  is  
configurat

$M$  on  $w$   
every

If TM  $M$  does not reject on input  $w$ , then ...



No accepting or  
rejecting computation  
history exists

# Computation histories for ...

- Deterministic machines
  - at most one computation history on any given input
- Non-deterministic machines
  - many computation histories are possible

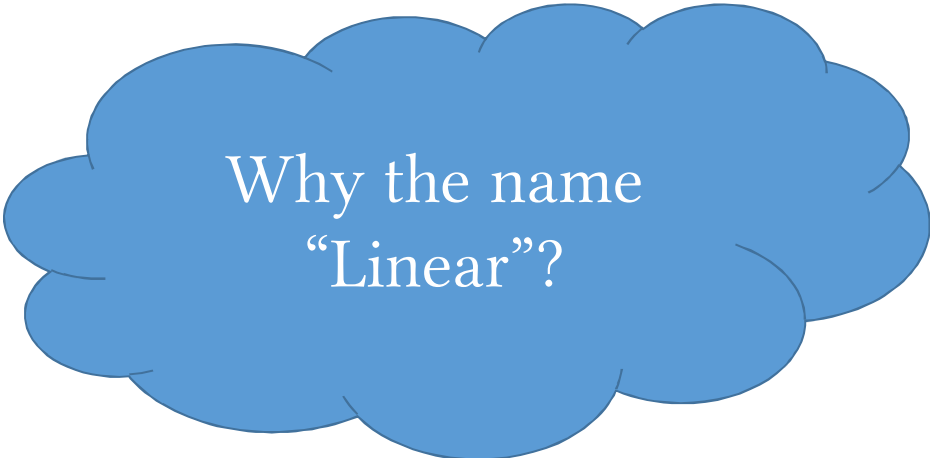
$A_{LBA} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is an LBA that accepts string } w\}$



What's LBA?

# Linear Bounded Automaton, or LBA, is ...

- a restriction of a TM in terms of memory,
- the tape head is not permitted to move off the portion of the tape containing the input.
- the tape head stays on the rightmost or leftmost tape cell if the machine tries to move off the end of the input.



Why the name  
“Linear”?

$A_{LBA} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is an LBA that accepts string } w\}$



**Decidable**

Theorem 5.9



**Lemma 5.8:** There are  $qng^n$  distinct configurations for an LBA with  $q$  states and  $g$  symbols on input of length  $n$ .

Proof on board

$A_{LBA} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is an LBA that accepts string } w\}$



$L =$  “On input  $\langle M, w \rangle$ , where  $M$  is an LBA and  $w$  is a string:

1. Simulate  $M$  on  $w$  for  $qng^n$  steps or until it halts.
2. If  $M$  has halted, *accept* if it has accepted and *reject* if it has rejected. If it has not halted, *reject*.”

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



**Undecidable**

Theorem 5.10

$S =$  “On input  $\langle M, w \rangle$ , where  $M$  is a TM and  $w$  is a string:

1. Construct LBA  $B$  from  $M$  and  $w$  as described in the proof idea.
2. Run  $R$  on input  $\langle B \rangle$ .
3. If  $R$  rejects, *accept*; if  $R$  accepts, *reject*.”

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



**Undecidable**

Theorem 5.13

Do not forget  
 $EQ_{CFG}$  is  
undecidable  
(Exercise 5.1).