

COMPUTABILITY (07/10/2025)

Models of computation

- Turing machines
- Lambda calculus (Church)
- Partial recursive functions (Gödel - Kleene)
- Canonical deduction systems (Post)
- URM (Unlimited Register machine)
- ...
- ...

Church Turing thesis

A function is computable
by an effective procedure

iff

it is computable by
a Turing machine

UNLIMITED REGISTER MACHINE

- memory (unbounded)

R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	$\dots$	R_K	$\dots$
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↑
 $R_K \in \mathbb{N}$

- executes a program : finite list of instructions
- instruction set

Arithmetic

- zero $Z(m)$ $r_m \leftarrow 0$
- successor $S(m)$ $r_m \leftarrow r_m + 1$
- transfer $T(m, n)$ $r_n \leftarrow r_m$

Jump

- $J(m, m_1, t)$ compare $r_m = r_{m_1}$?
 - yes jump to inst. t
 - no continue with next

Program

I_1
 I_2
 $\vdots$
 I_s

its execution starts from

- initial configuration of registers
- instruction I_1

and it terminates (possibly) if the next instruction to be executed does not exist

- last instruction and go to next
- jump out of the program

Example

		R_1	R_2	R_3	
I_1	$J(2, 3, 5)$	1	2	0	0 ...
→ I_2	$S(1)$	2	2	0	...
I_3	$S(3)$	2	2	1	
I_4	$J(1, 1, 1)$	3	2	2	

* a computation can diverge (not terminating)

I_1 $J(1, 1, 1)$

* Notation Given $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots \in \mathbb{N}$ and a program P

$P(a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots)$ indicates the computation of P from $a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots$

$P(a_1 a_2 \dots) \downarrow$ eventually terminates

$P(a_1 a_2 \dots) \uparrow$ diverges

Given $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{N}$

$P(a_1 a_2 \dots a_k)$ to indicate $P(a_1 \dots a_k 0 0 \dots)$

$P(a_1 \dots a_k) \downarrow a$ to indicate $P(a_1 \dots a_k)$

and in the final configuration $r_1 = a$

URM-computable function

Given $f: \mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ (partial) is URM-computable if there is

a URM-program P such that $\forall (a_1 \dots a_k) \in \mathbb{N}^k \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{N}$

$P(a_1 \dots a_k) \downarrow a$ iff $(a_1 \dots a_k) \in \text{dom}(f)$ and

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_k) = a$$

Example

$J(1, 1, 1)$ computes $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad f(a) \uparrow \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{N}$

Class of URM-computable functions

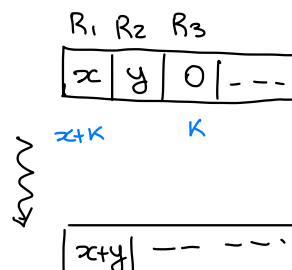
$$\mathcal{C}^{(k)} = \{ f \mid f: \mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \text{ URM-computable} \}$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} \mathcal{C}^{(k)}$$

Example :

$$* \quad f: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$f(x, y) = x + y$$



LOOP: $J(2, 3, \text{STOP})$ // $k=y?$

$S(1)$

$S(3)$

$J(1, 1, \text{LOOP})$

STOP :

* $g: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$g(x) = x \div 1 = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x=0 \\ x-1 & \text{if } x>0 \end{cases}$$

J(1, 2, END)

// $x=0$?

1	2	3	
x	0	0	
	k+1	k	

S(2)

LOOP: J(1, 2, RES)

// $x=k+1$?

S(2)

S(3)

J(1, 1, LOOP)

RES: T(3, 1)

END:

* $h: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} x/2 & \text{if } x \text{ is even} \\ \uparrow & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

1	2	3	
x	0	0	
	k	2k	

LOOP: J(1, 3, RES)

$x=2k$?

S(2)

S(3)

S(3)

J(1, 1, LOOP)

RES: T(2, 1)

* Function computed by a program?

Let P be a URM-program and $k \geq 1$

$$f_P^{(k)}: \mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$f_P^{(k)}(a_1, \dots, a_k) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } P(a_1, \dots, a_k) \downarrow a \\ \uparrow & \text{if } P(a_1, \dots, a_k) \uparrow \end{cases}$$

Question: given function $f: \mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ how many programs for f?
0 or infinitely many

EXERCISE: Consider URM-machine without $T(m, m)$

$\mathcal{C}^-$ = class of URM-computable functions

$$\mathcal{C} \stackrel{?}{=} \mathcal{C}^-$$

$\supseteq$
 $\subseteq$

$\swarrow$
 $T(m, m)$ can be encoded

$z(m)$
LOOP: $J(m, m, \text{END})$
 $S(m)$
 $J(1, 1, \text{LOOP})$

proof

$(\mathcal{C}^- \subseteq \mathcal{C})$ Let $f: \mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ URM-computable $f \in \mathcal{C}^-$

i.e. there is P URM-program such that

$$f_P^{(k)} = f$$

but P is also a URM-program, hence $f \in \mathcal{C}$.

$(\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{C}^-)$ Let $f: \mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ $f \in \mathcal{C}$ i.e. there is P URM-program such that

$$f = f_P^{(k)}$$

I assume, without loss of generality, that P is well-formed, i.e. if it terminates it does by landing at instruction $s+1$

We show that there is P' URM-program such that

$$f_{P'}^{(k)} = f_P^{(k)} = f$$

by induction on h = number of T instructions in P

$(h=0)$ P has no T instructions, then P' can be P

$(h \rightarrow h+1)$ Let P be URM program with

$h+1$ transfer instructions

$$P \left\{ \begin{array}{l} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ \vdots \\ I_t \\ I_s \end{array} \right. \quad T(m, m) \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad P'' \left\{ \begin{array}{l} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ \\ I_t \quad J(1, 1, SUB) \\ \\ I_s \\ I_{s+1} : J(1, 1, END) \\ SUB : Z(m) \\ LOOP : J(m, m, t+1) \\ \quad S(m) \\ \quad J(1, 1, LOOP) \\ \\ END : \end{array} \right.$$

now P'' is a URM program such that

→ $f_{P''}^{(k)} = f_P^{(k)}$ and it has n transfer instructions

by inductive hyp. there is P' URM-program such

$$f_{P'}^{(k)} = f_{P''}^{(k)}$$

Summing up, we have P' URM-program such that

$$f_{P'}^{(k)} = f_{P''}^{(k)} = f_P^{(k)}$$

□

OBSERVATION: Given a URM-program P there is a program P' well-formed and such that $f_P^{(k)} = f_{P'}^{(k)} \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$P \left\{ \begin{array}{l} I_1 \\ \vdots \\ J(m, m, t) \\ I_s \end{array} \right. \quad t > s+1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{replace it by} \\ \text{~} \end{array} \quad J(m, m, s+1)$$

Exercise : Variant of URM-machine

URM^s

~~T(m, m)~~

swap $T^s(m, m)$

$\pi_m \leftrightarrow \rho_m$

$$\mathcal{C}^s = \mathcal{C}$$

EXERCISE : URM⁼ without jump

$$\mathcal{C}^= = \mathcal{C}$$

$\mathcal{C}^=$



characterise functions in $\mathcal{C}^=$