

# Recursion Theorem & Hierarchy Thm.

\* → It's a mathematical result that plays an important role in advanced work in the theory of computability

\* → related with self-producing systems, and even computer viruses.

\* Consider the paradox

- 1. living things are machine
- 2. living things can self-produce
- 3. machines can not self produce

through biology

In a car factory

↓  
More complex

Cars are being produced

↓  
less complex

If Machine A constructs Machine B

↓  
More complex

↓  
less complex.

but a machine can not be more complex to itself so making machines that can reproduce themselves is possible.

## Self Reference $\rightarrow$

Begin by making a machine that ignores its input and prints out a copy of its own description. We call this M/C SELF

Lemma:- There is a computable function

$q: \Sigma^k \rightarrow \Sigma^m$  - where  $w$  is any string.  
 $q(w)$  is the description of a Turing M/C  $P_w$  that prints out  $w$  and then halts.

$$\langle \text{SELF} \rangle = \langle A B \rangle$$

Job of A is to print out a description of B and conversely Job of B is to print out a description of A.

For A we use the M/C  $P_{\langle B \rangle}$  described by  $q(\langle B \rangle)$ . Thus part A is a Turing M/C that prints out  $\langle B \rangle$ .

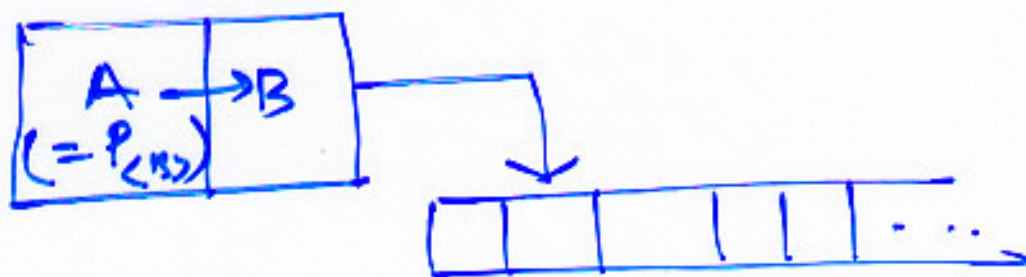
If B can obtain  $\langle B \rangle$ , it can apply  $q$  to that and obtain  $\langle A \rangle$ . But how does B obtain  $\langle B \rangle$ ? It was left on the tape when A finished

Then after B computes  $a(\langle B \rangle) = \langle A \rangle$ ,  
 It combines A and B into a single  
 Machine and writes its description  
 $\langle AB \rangle = \langle \text{SELF} \rangle$  on the tape

$A = P_{\langle B \rangle}$  and

B = "on input  $\langle M \rangle$ , where  $M$  is a  
 portion of a TM:

1. Compute  $a(\langle M \rangle)$
2. combine the result with  $\langle M \rangle$  to  
 make a complete TM
3. print the description of this TM and  
 halt



1. First A runs, it prints  $\langle B \rangle$  on the  
 Tape
2. B starts it looks at the tape and  
 finds its input  $\langle B \rangle$
3. B calculate  $a(\langle B \rangle) = \langle A \rangle$  and  
 combines that with  $\langle B \rangle$  into a TM

## Recursion theorem:-

Let  $T$  be a TMs that  
computes  $f: \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$   
There is a Turing M/C  $R$  that  
computes  $g: \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$   
where for every  $w$

$$g(w) = f(\langle R \rangle, w)$$

Recursion theorem produces a new  
M/C  $R$ , which operates exactly as  
 $T$  does but with  $R$ 's description  
filled automatically.

# Hierarchy Theorem.

- " More (of the same) resources  $\Rightarrow$  More power
- " Does more space allow for powerful Turing M/C "
- " Does more time allow for more powerful Turing M/C "

Ex: Turing M/C should be able to decide more languages in time  $n^3$  than they can in time  $n^2$ . The hierarchy theorems prove that this intuition is correct, subject to certain conditions.

if  $f(n)$  and  $g(n)$  are two space bounds, where  $f(n)$  is asymptotically larger than  $g(n)$   
 suppose  $f(n)$  exceeds  $g(n)$  by only a small and hard to compute amount then the M/C may not be able to use space profitably because even computing the extra space may require more space than available.

These theorems prove that the time and space complexity classes are not same. they form a hierarchy, whereby the class with larger bounds contains more languages than do the classes with smaller bound

A function  $f$  is space Constructible if there exist a TM  $M$  that on unary input  $n$  ( $1^n$ ) output  $f(n)$  [i.e. say binary] and uses  $O(f(n))$  space where  $f(n) > \log n$ .

Space hierarchy theorem:

For any space constructible function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , a language  $A$  exists that is decidable in  $O(f(n))$  space but not in  $O(f(n))$  space. Proof: on board.

A function  $t: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , where  $t(n)$  is at least  $O(n \log n)$ , is called time Constructible if the function maps the string  $1^n$  to the binary representation of  $t(n)$  is computable in time  $O(t(n))$ .

Time hierarchy theorem:

For any time Constructible function  $t: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , a language  $A$  exists that is decidable in  $O(t(n))$  time but not decidable in time  $O(t(n)/\log(t(n)))$ .

Proof: on board.  $\rightarrow$

## Church Turing Hypothesis

\* → Intuitive notion of algorithms.  
= Turing m/c algorithms

\* → Any process which could be naturally called an effective procedure can be realized by a Turing m/c