

COMP 455
 Models of Languages and Computation
 Spring 2011
 A Copying Turing Machine

The following Turing machine will copy a binary string:

$M = (K, \Sigma, \delta, s, \{h\})$ where $K = \{s, q, r_0, r_1, s_0, s_1, t, u, v, h\}$, $\Sigma = \{\triangleright, \sqcup, 0, 1, 0', 1'\}$, and δ is defined as follows:

q	a	$\delta(q, a)$	
s	\sqcup	(q, \rightarrow)	Move right one square
q	0	$(r_0, 0')$	Mark the symbol being copied
q	1	$(r_1, 1')$	Mark the symbol being copied
r_i	$0, 1$	(r_i, \rightarrow)	Move to right looking for blank
r_i	$0', 1'$	(r_i, \rightarrow)	Move to right looking for blank
r_i	\sqcup	(s_i, \rightarrow)	Found the blank, switch to s_i
s_i	$0, 1$	(s_i, \rightarrow)	Move right looking for another blank
s_0	\sqcup	$(t, 0)$	Write character being copied
s_1	\sqcup	$(t, 1)$	Write character being copied
t	$0, 1$	(t, \leftarrow)	Move back left looking for a blank
t	\sqcup	(u, \leftarrow)	Found blank, switch to u
u	$0, 1$	(u, \leftarrow)	Move back looking for mark
u	$0'$	$(s, 0)$	Found mark, unmark character
u	$1'$	$(s, 1)$	Found mark, unmark character
s	0	(q, \rightarrow)	Move right, copy again
s	1	(q, \rightarrow)	Move right, copy again
q	\sqcup	(v, \leftarrow)	Found a blank, done copying
v	$0, 1$	(v, \leftarrow)	Done copying, scan left for blank
v	\sqcup	(h, \sqcup)	Done copying, halt

(Some of the transitions are omitted. There may also be mistakes!) Here is the beginning of a sample computation:

$(s, \triangleright \sqcup 0 1 \sqcup) \vdash (q, \triangleright \sqcup 0 1 \sqcup) \vdash (r_0, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup) \vdash (r_0, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup) \vdash (r_0, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup) \vdash$
 $(s_0, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup \sqcup) \vdash (t, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup 0) \vdash (t, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup 0) \vdash (u, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup 0) \vdash (u, \triangleright \sqcup 0' 1 \sqcup 0) \vdash$
 $(s, \triangleright \sqcup 0 1 \sqcup 0) \vdash (q, \triangleright \sqcup 0 1 \sqcup 0)$