

# Introduction to Theory of Computation

## Introduction to Theory of Computation CSC-4890

Division of Computer Science and Engineering, LSU  
Fall 2015

- **Instructor:** Konstantin (Costas) Busch
  - Page:  
<http://www.csc.lsu.edu/~busch/courses/theorycomp/fall2015/>
  - Extra Slides
    - Other models of computation

# Other Models of Computation

# Models of computation:

- Turing Machines
- Recursive Functions
- Post Systems
- Rewriting Systems

## Church's Thesis:

All models of computation are equivalent

## Turing's Thesis:

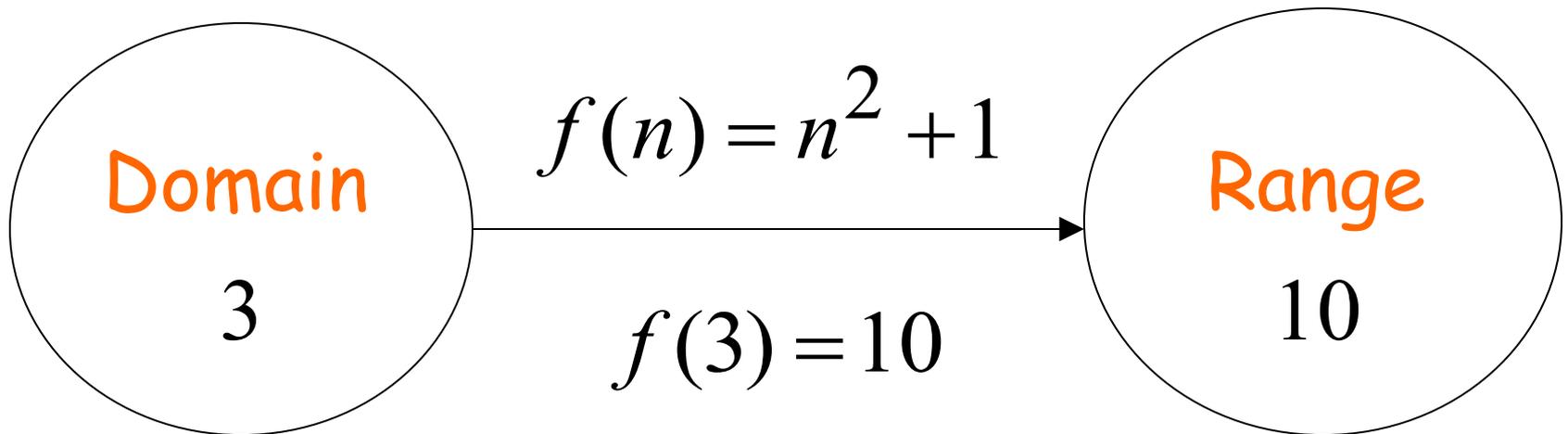
A computation is mechanical if and only if it can be performed by a Turing Machine

Church's and Turing's Thesis are similar:

Church-Turing Thesis

# Recursive Functions

An example function:



We need a way to define functions

We need a set of basic functions

# Basic Primitive Recursive Functions

Zero function:  $z(x) = 0$

Successor function:  $s(x) = x + 1$

Projection functions:  $p_1(x_1, x_2) = x_1$

$$p_2(x_1, x_2) = x_2$$

# Building complicated functions:

Composition:  $f(x, y) = h(g_1(x, y), g_2(x, y))$

Primitive Recursion:

$$f(x, 0) = g_1(x)$$

$$f(x, y + 1) = h(g_2(x, y), f(x, y))$$

Any function built from  
the basic primitive recursive functions  
is called:

Primitive Recursive Function

# A Primitive Recursive Function: $add(x, y)$

$$add(x, 0) = x \quad (\text{projection})$$

$$add(x, y + 1) = s(add(x, y))$$

(successor function)

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{add}(3,2) &= s(\textit{add}(3,1)) \\ &= s(s(\textit{add}(3,0))) \\ &= s(s(3)) \\ &= s(4) \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

# Another Primitive Recursive Function:

$$\mathit{mult}(x, y)$$

$$\mathit{mult}(x, 0) = 0$$

$$\mathit{mult}(x, y + 1) = \mathit{add}(x, \mathit{mult}(x, y))$$

## Theorem:

The set of primitive recursive functions is countable

## Proof:

Each primitive recursive function can be encoded as a string

Enumerate all strings in proper order

Check if a string is a function

# Theorem

there is a function that  
is not primitive recursive

## Proof:

Enumerate the primitive recursive functions

$$f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots$$

Define function  $g(i) = f_i(i) + 1$

$g$  differs from every  $f_i$

$g$  is not primitive recursive

END OF PROOF

A specific function that is not  
Primitive Recursive:

Ackermann's function:

$$A(0, y) = y + 1$$

$$A(x, 0) = A(x - 1, 1)$$

$$A(x, y + 1) = A(x - 1, A(x, y))$$

Grows very fast,  
faster than any primitive recursive function

# $\mu$ -Recursive Functions

$\mu y(g(x, y)) = \text{smallest } y \text{ such that } g(x, y) = 0$

Accerman's function is a  
 $\mu$ -Recursive Function

$\mu$ -Recursive Functions

Primitive recursive functions

# Post Systems

- Have Axioms
- Have Productions

Very similar with unrestricted grammars

# Example: Unary Addition

Axiom:  $1 + 1 = 11$

Productions:

$$V_1 + V_2 = V_3 \rightarrow V_1 1 + V_2 = V_3 1$$

$$V_1 + V_2 = V_3 \rightarrow V_1 + V_2 1 = V_3 1$$

# A production:

$$V_1 + V_2 = V_3 \quad \rightarrow \quad V_1 1 + V_2 = V_3 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 11 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 11 + 1 = 111 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 11 + 11 = 1111$$

$$V_1 + V_2 = V_3 \quad \rightarrow \quad V_1 + V_2 1 = V_3 1$$

Post systems are good for  
proving mathematical statements  
from a set of Axioms

## Theorem:

A language is recursively enumerable  
if and only if  
a Post system generates it

# Rewriting Systems

They convert one string to another

- Matrix Grammars
- Markov Algorithms
- Lindenmayer-Systems

Very similar to unrestricted grammars

# Matrix Grammars

Example:

$$P_1 : S \rightarrow S_1 S_2$$

$$P_2 : S_1 \rightarrow aS_1, S_2 \rightarrow bS_2c$$

$$P_3 : S_1 \rightarrow \lambda, S_2 \rightarrow \lambda$$

Derivation:

$$S \Rightarrow S_1 S_2 \Rightarrow aS_1 bS_2 c \Rightarrow aaS_1 bbS_2 cc \Rightarrow aabbcc$$

A set of productions is applied simultaneously

$$P_1 : S \rightarrow S_1 S_2$$

$$P_2 : S_1 \rightarrow aS_1, S_2 \rightarrow bS_2c$$

$$P_3 : S_1 \rightarrow \lambda, S_2 \rightarrow \lambda$$

$$L = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$$

## Theorem:

A language is recursively enumerable  
if and only if  
a Matrix grammar generates it

# Markov Algorithms

Grammars that produce  $\lambda$

Example:  $ab \rightarrow S$   
 $aSb \rightarrow S$   
 $S \rightarrow \lambda$

Derivation:

$$aaabbb \Rightarrow aaSbb \Rightarrow aSb \Rightarrow S \Rightarrow \lambda$$

$$ab \rightarrow S$$

$$aSb \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow \lambda$$

$$L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

In general:  $L = \{w : w \overset{*}{\Rightarrow} \lambda\}$

Theorem:

A language is recursively enumerable  
if and only if  
a Markov algorithm generates it

# Lindenmayer-Systems

They are parallel rewriting systems

Example:  $a \rightarrow aa$

Derivation:  $a \Rightarrow aa \Rightarrow aaaa \Rightarrow aaaaaaaaaa$

$$L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$$

Lindenmayer-Systems are not general  
As recursively enumerable languages

Extended Lindenmayer-Systems:  $(x, a, y) \rightarrow u$   


**Theorem:**

A language is recursively enumerable  
if and only if an

Extended Lindenmayer-System generates it