

15-453

FORMAL LANGUAGES,  
AUTOMATA AND  
COMPUTABILITY

# UNDECIDABILITY II: REDUCTIONS

**TUESDAY Feb 18**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$A_{TM}$  is undecidable: (constructive proof & subtle)

Assume machine H semi-decides  $A_{TM}$  (such exist, why?)

$$H( (M,w) ) = \begin{cases} \text{Accept if } M \text{ accepts } w \\ \text{Rejects or loops otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Construct a new TM  $D_H$  as follows: on input M, run H on (M,M) and output the “opposite” of H whenever possible.

$$D_H(M) = \begin{cases} \text{Reject if } M \text{ accepts } M \\ \text{(i.e. if } H(M, M) = \text{Accept)} \\ \\ \text{Accept if } M \text{ rejects } M \\ \text{(i.e. if } H(M, M) = \text{Reject)} \\ \\ \text{loops if } M \text{ loops on } M \\ \text{(i.e. if } H(M, M) \text{ loops)} \end{cases}$$

$$D_H(D_H) = \begin{cases} \text{Reject if } D_H \text{ accepts } D_H \\ \text{(i.e. if } H(D_H, D_H) = \text{Accept)} \\ \\ \text{Accept if } D_H \text{ rejects } D_H \\ \text{(i.e. if } H(D_H, D_H) = \text{Reject)} \\ \\ \text{loops if } D_H \text{ loops on } D_H \\ \text{(i.e. if } H(D_H, D_H) \text{ loops)} \end{cases}$$

**Note:** It must be the case that  $D_H$  loops on  $D_H$

There is **no** contradiction here!

Thus we **effectively** constructed an instance which does not belong to  $A_{TM}$  (namely,  $(D_H, D_H)$ ) but **H** fails to tell us that.

**That is:**

Given any **semi-decision machine H** for  $A_{TM}$   
(and thus a potential decision machine for  $A_{TM}$  ),  
we can **effectively** construct an instance which  
does not belong to  $A_{TM}$  (namely, (  $D_H, D_H$  ))  
but **H** fails to tell us that.  
So **H** cannot be a decision machine for  $A_{TM}$

In most cases, we will show that a language **L** is undecidable by showing that if it is decidable, then so is  $A_{TM}$

We **reduce** deciding  $A_{TM}$  to deciding the language in question

$A_{TM}$  “ $<$ ” **L**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$HALT_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that halts on string } w \}$  (\*)

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

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$  (\*)

$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$  (\*)

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$  (\*)

**ALL UNDECIDABLE**

(\*) Use Reductions to Prove

**Which are SEMI-DECIDABLE?**



# THE HALTING PROBLEM

$\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that halts on string } w \}$

**Theorem:**  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$  is undecidable

**Proof:** Assume, for a contradiction, that TM **H** decides  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$

We use **H** to construct a TM **D** that decides  $A_{\text{TM}}$

# THE HALTING PROBLEM

$\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that halts on string } w \}$

**Theorem:**  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$  is undecidable

**Proof:** Assume, for a contradiction, that TM **H** decides  $\text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$

We use **H** to construct a TM **D** that decides  $A_{\text{TM}}$

On input  $(M,w)$ , **D** runs **H** on  $(M,w)$

If **H** rejects then reject

If **H** accepts, run  $M$  on  $w$  until it halts:

Accept if  $M$  accepts and

Reject if  $M$  rejects

$(M, w)$



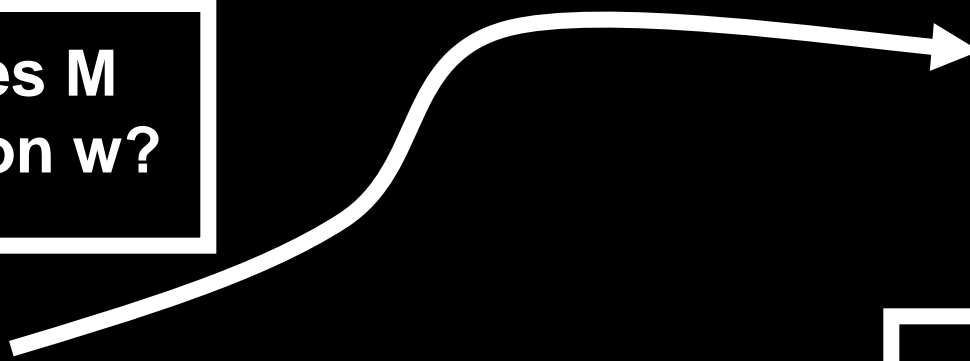
D

$(M, w)$

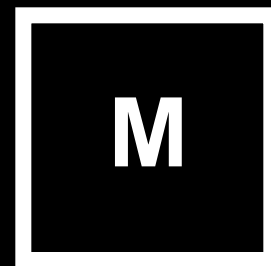


H

If M halts



w



If M doesn't  
halt: **REJECT**



**ACCEPT** if halts in accept state  
**REJECT** otherwise

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

**Theorem:**  $E_{TM}$  is undecidable

**Proof:** Assume, for a contradiction, that TM **Z** decides  $E_{TM}$ . Use **Z** as a subroutine to decide  $A_{TM}$

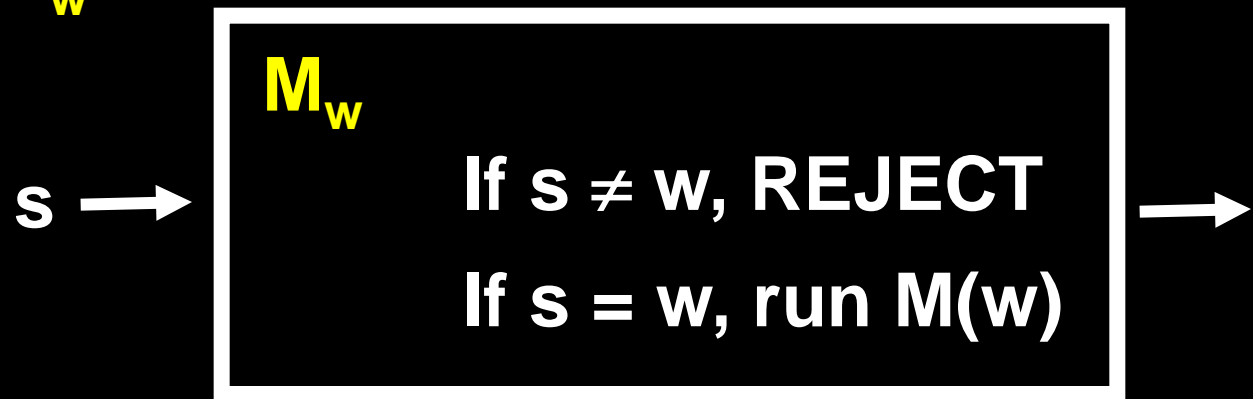
$E_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) = \emptyset \}$

**Theorem:**  $E_{TM}$  is undecidable

**Proof:** Assume, for a contradiction, that TM **Z** decides  $E_{TM}$ . Use **Z** as a subroutine to decide  $A_{TM}$

Algorithm for deciding  $A_{TM}$ : On input  $(M, w)$ :

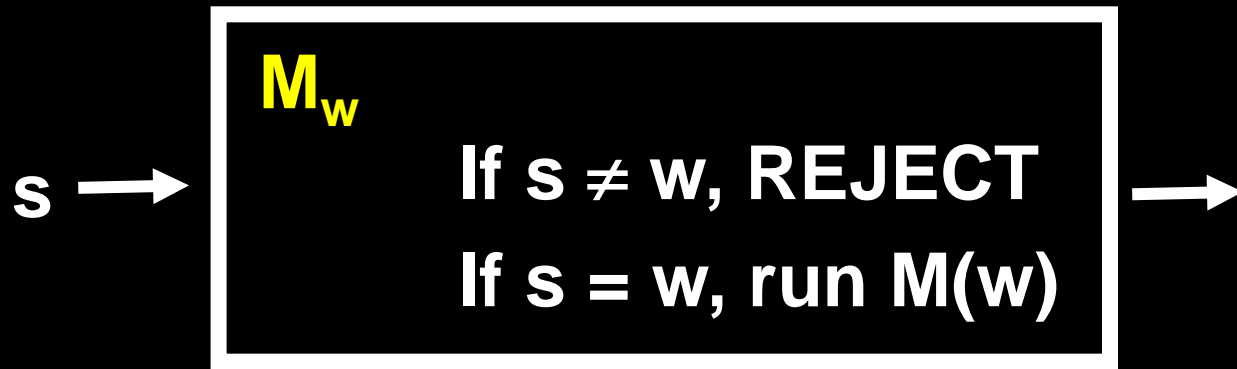
1. Create  $M_w$



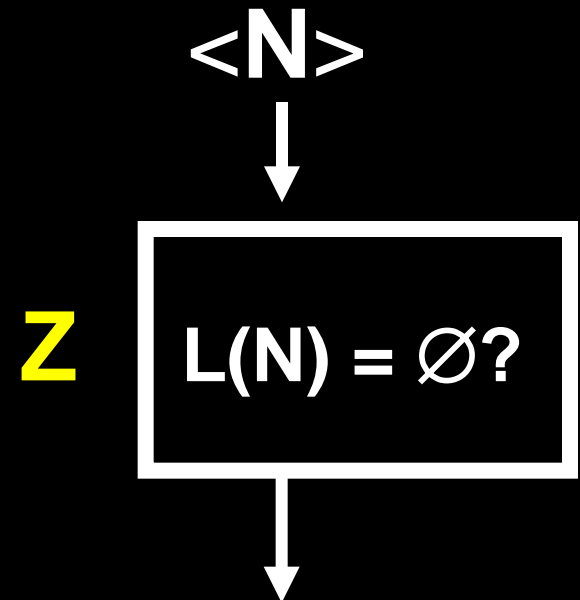
So,  $L(M_w) = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow M(w)$  does not accept

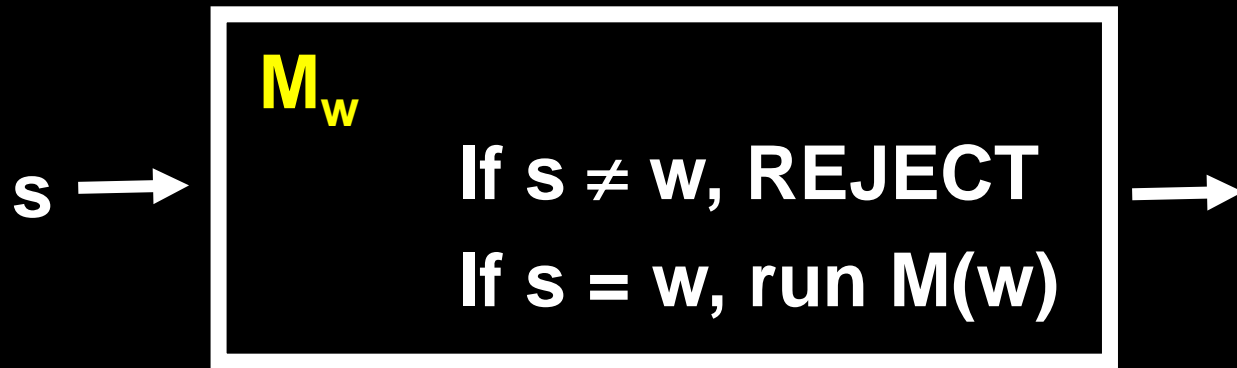
$L(M_w) \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow M(w)$  accepts

2. Run **Z** on  $M_w$

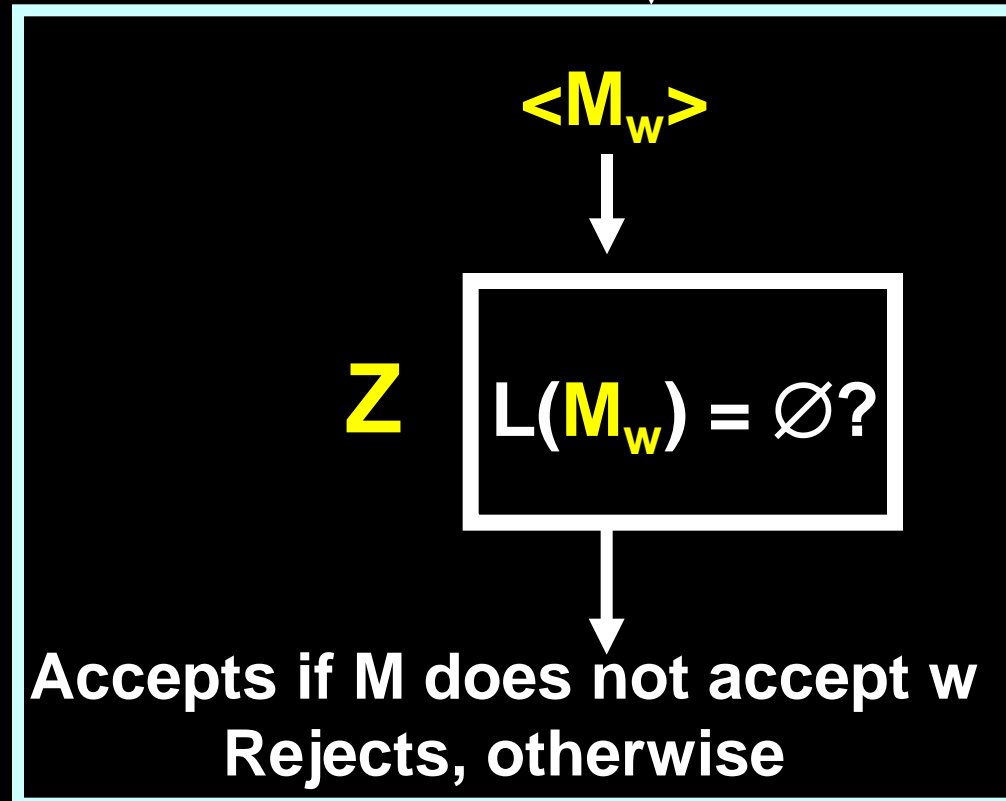


So,  $L(M_w) = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow M(w)$   
does not accept





$\langle M, w \rangle$



**REVERSE** accept/reject

So,  $L(M_w) = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow M(w)$   
does not accept

Decision Machine  
for  $A_{TM}$

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

**Theorem:**  $\text{REGULAR}_{\text{TM}}$  is undecidable

**Proof:** Assume, for a contradiction, that TM **R** decides  $\text{REGULAR}_{\text{TM}}$

Use **R** as a subroutine to decide  $A_{\text{TM}}$



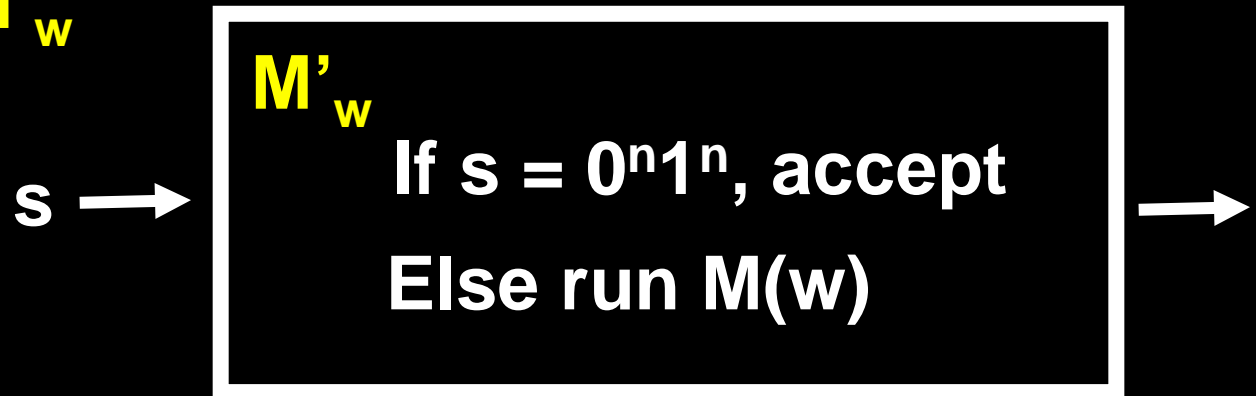
$\text{REGULAR}_{\text{TM}} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

**Theorem:**  $\text{REGULAR}_{\text{TM}}$  is undecidable

**Proof:** Assume, for a contradiction, that TM **R** decides  $\text{REGULAR}_{\text{TM}}$

Use **R** as a subroutine to decide  $A_{\text{TM}}$

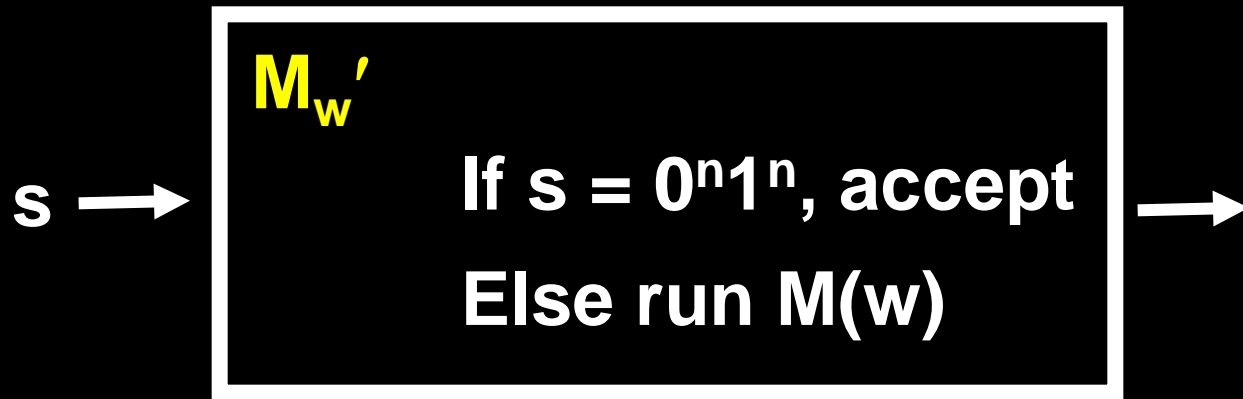
1. Create  $M'_w$



So,  $L(M'_w) = \Sigma^* \Leftrightarrow M(w) \text{ accepts}$

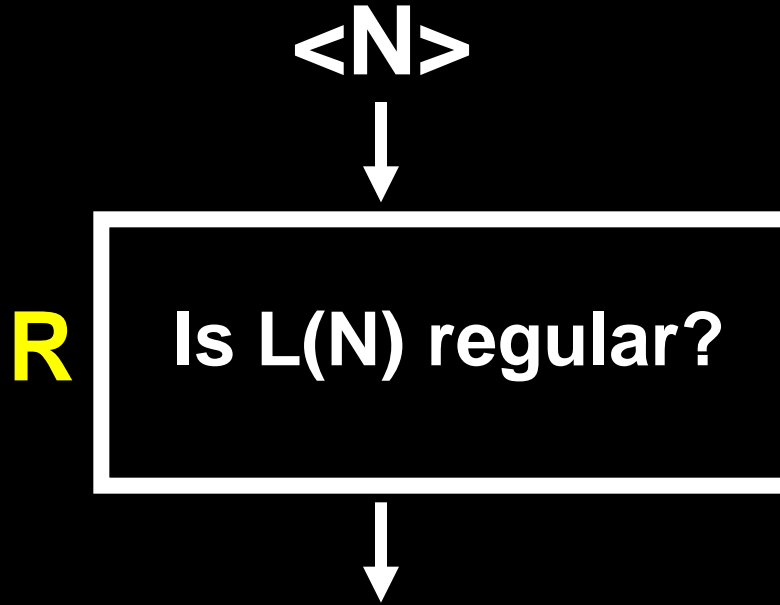
$L(M'_w) = \{0^n 1^n\} \Leftrightarrow M(w) \text{ does not accept}$

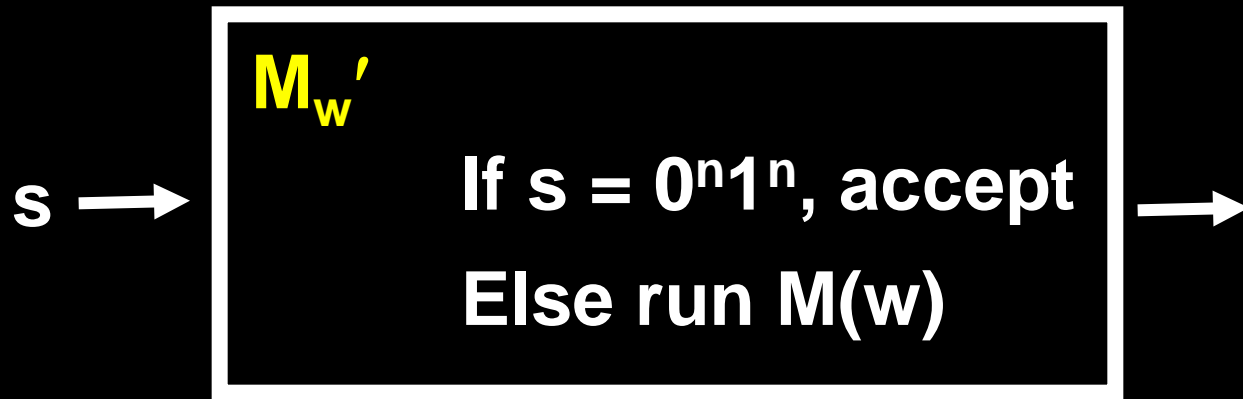
2. Run **R** on  $M'_w$



$L(M_w') = \Sigma^*$  if  $M(w)$  accepts  
 $\{0^n 1^n\}$  otherwise

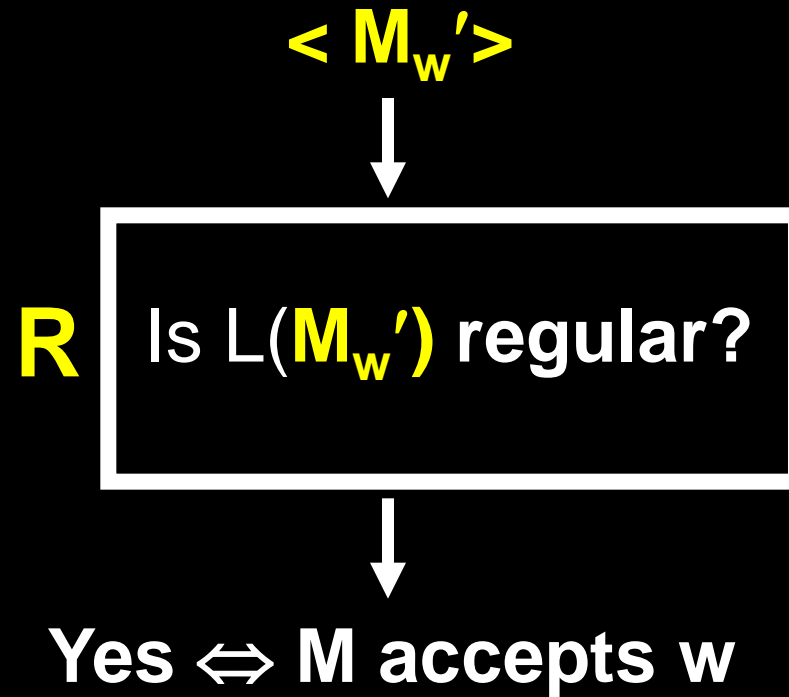
$L(M_w')$  is regular  $\Leftrightarrow M(w)$  accepts





$$L(M_w') = \Sigma^* \text{ if } M(w) \text{ accepts} \\ \{0^n 1^n\} \text{ otherwise}$$

$L(M_w')$  is regular  $\Leftrightarrow M(w)$  accepts



# MAPPING REDUCIBILITY

$f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  is a **computable function** if some Turing machine **M**, on every input **w**, halts with just **f(w)** on its tape

A language **A** is **mapping reducible** to language **B**, written  $A \leq_m B$ , if there is a computable function

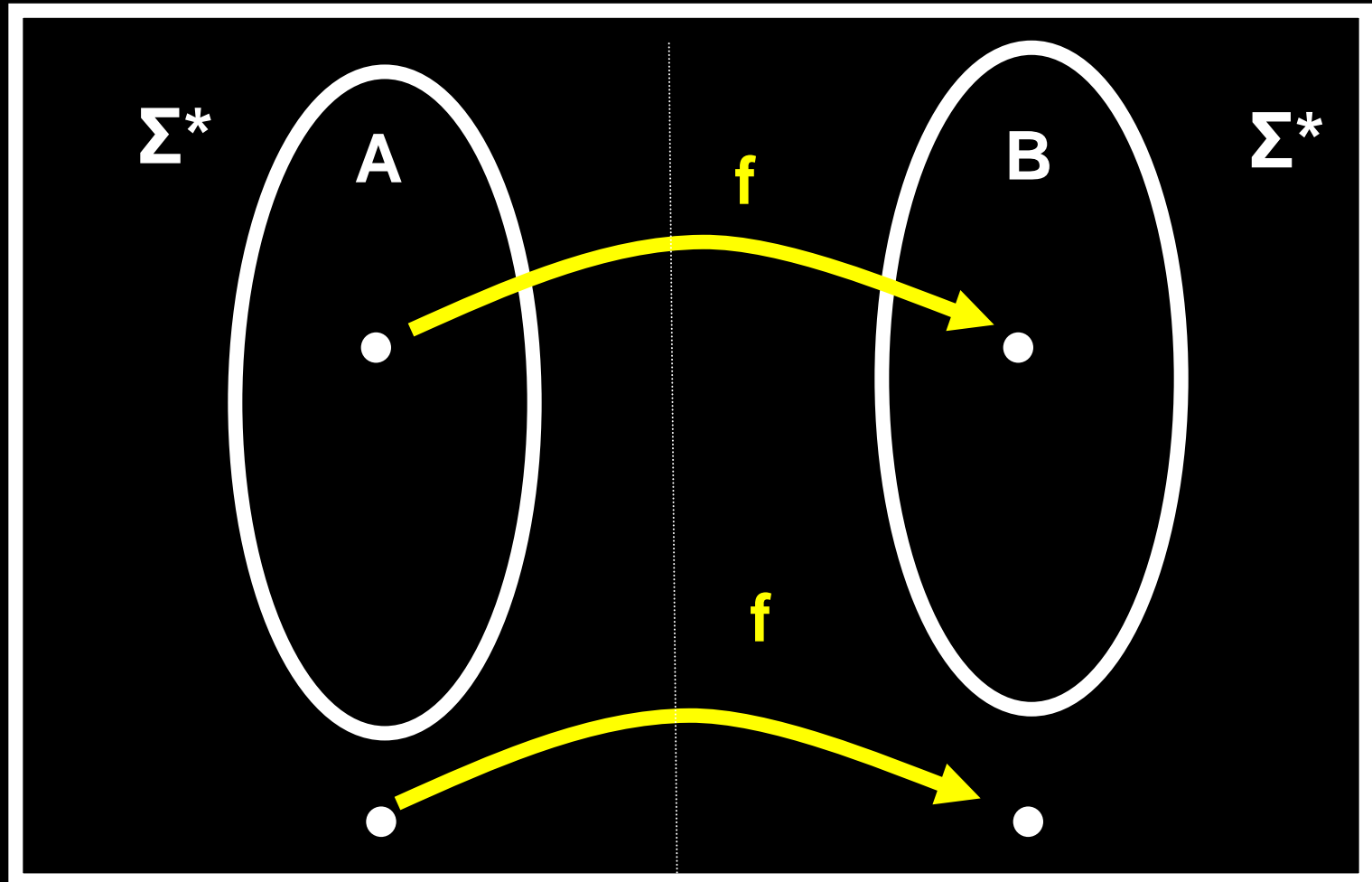
$f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ , where for every **w**,

$$w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B$$

**f** is called a **reduction** from **A** to **B**

Think of **f** as a “**computable coding**” from **A** to **B**

**A is mapping reducible to B,  $A \leq_m B$ ,**  
if there is a computable  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$   
such that  **$w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B$**



Also,  $\neg A \leq_m \neg B$ , why?

**Theorem:** If  $A \leq_m B$  and  $B$  is decidable, then  $A$  is decidable

**Proof:** Let  $M$  decide  $B$  and let  $f$  be a reduction from  $A$  to  $B$

We build a machine  $N$  that decides  $A$  as follows:

On input  $w$ :

1. Compute  $f(w)$
2. Run  $M$  on  $f(w)$

**Theorem:** If  $A \leq_m B$  and  $B$  is (**semi**) decidable, then  $A$  is (**semi**) decidable

**Proof:** Let  $M$  (**semi**) decide  $B$  and let  $f$  be a reduction from  $A$  to  $B$

We build a machine  $N$  that (**semi**) decides  $A$  as follows:

On input  $w$ :

1. Compute  $f(w)$
2. Run  $M$  on  $f(w)$

**All undecidability proofs from today  
can be seen as constructing an  $f$  that  
reduces  $A_{TM}$  to the proper language**

**(Sometimes you have to consider  
the complement of the language. )**



All undecidability proofs from today can be seen as constructing an **f** that reduces  **$A_{TM}$**  to the proper language

**$A_{TM} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{TM}$**  (So also,  $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m \neg \text{HALT}_{TM}$ ):

Map  **$(M, w) \rightarrow (M', w)$**

where  **$M'(w) = M(w)$**  if  **$M(w)$**  accepts  
loops otherwise

So  **$(M, w) \in A_{TM} \iff (M', w) \in \text{HALT}_{TM}$**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

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

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg E_{TM}$   $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m E_{TM}$

CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M,w) \rightarrow M_w$  where  $M_w(s) = M(w)$

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

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

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg E_{TM}$   $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m E_{TM}$

CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M_w$  where  $M_w(s) = M(w)$

So,  $M(w)$  accepts  $\Leftrightarrow L(M_w) \neq \emptyset$

So,  $(M, w) \in A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow M_w \in \neg E_{TM}$

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

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

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg E_{TM}$   $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m E_{TM}$

CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M_w$  where  $M_w(s) = M(w)$

So,  $M(w)$  accepts  $\Leftrightarrow L(M_w) \neq \emptyset$

So,  $(M, w) \in A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow M_w \in \neg E_{TM}$

So  $\neg E_{TM}$  is NOT DECIDABLE, but it is SEMI-DECIDABLE (why?) Is  $E_{TM}$  SEMI-DECIDABLE?

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

**CLAIM:**  $A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$  **So**  $REG_{TM}$  **is UNDECIDABLE**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M'_w$  where  $M'_w(s) = \text{accept}$  if  $s = 0^n 1^n$   
 $M(w)$  otherwise

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

**CLAIM:**  $A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$  **So**  $REG_{TM}$  **is UNDECIDABLE**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M'_w$  where  $M'_w(s) = \text{accept}$  if  $s = 0^n 1^n$   
 $M(w)$  otherwise

So,  $L(M'_w) = \Sigma^*$  if  $M(w)$  accepts  
 $\{0^n 1^n\}$  if not

So,  $(M, w) \in A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow M'_w \in REG_{TM}$

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

**CLAIM:**  $A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$  **So**  $REG_{TM}$  **is UNDECIDABLE**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M'_w$  where  $M'_w(s) = \text{accept}$  if  $s = 0^n 1^n$   
 $M(w)$  otherwise

So,  $L(M'_w) = \Sigma^*$  if  $M(w)$  accepts  
 $\{0^n 1^n\}$  if not

So,  $(M, w) \in A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow M'_w \in REG_{TM}$

**Is REG SEMI-DECIDABLE?** ( $\neg$  REG is not. Why?)

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

CLAIM:  $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$  So  $REG_{TM}$  is **NOT SEMI-DECIDABLE**

CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M,w) \rightarrow M''_w$  where  $M''_w(s) = \text{accept if } s = 0^n 1^n \text{ and } M(w) \text{ accepts}$   
Loop otherwise



$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

CLAIM:  $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$  So  $REG_{TM}$  is **NOT SEMI-DECIDABLE**

CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M''_w$  where  $M''_w(s) = \text{accept if } s = 0^n 1^n \text{ and } M(w) \text{ accepts}$   
 $\text{Loop otherwise}$

So,  $L(M''_w) = \{0^n 1^n\}$  if  $M(w)$  accepts  
 $\emptyset$  if not

So,  $(M, w) \notin A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow M''_w \in REG_{TM}$

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

**CLAIM:**  $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$  **So**  $REG_{TM}$  **is NOT SEMI-DECIDABLE**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow M''_w$  where  $M''_w(s) = \text{accept if } s = 0^n 1^n \text{ and } M(w) \text{ accepts}$   
 $\text{Loop otherwise}$

**So,**  $L(M''_w) = \{0^n 1^n\}$  if  $M(w)$  accepts  
 $\emptyset$  if not

**So,**  $(M, w) \notin A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow M''_w \in REG_{TM}$

**So, REG NOT SEMI-DECIDABLE**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$HALT_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that halts on string } w \}$

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

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

**ALL UNDECIDABLE**

**Which are SEMI-DECIDABLE?**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$HALT_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that halts on string } w \}$

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

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

**ALL UNDECIDABLE**

**Which are SEMI-DECIDABLE?**

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

$$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$$

**CLAIM:**  $E_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$     **So**  $EQ_{TM}$  **is UNDECIDABLE**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f : M \rightarrow (M, M_{\emptyset})$  where  $M_{\emptyset}(s) = \text{Loops}$

**So,**  $M \in E_{TM} \Leftrightarrow (M, M_{\emptyset}) \in EQ_{TM}$

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

$$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$$

**CLAIM:**  $E_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$     So  $EQ_{TM}$  is **UNDECIDABLE**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$$f : M \rightarrow (M, M_{\emptyset}) \text{ where } M_{\emptyset}(s) = \text{Loops}$$

$$\text{So, } M \in E_{TM} \Leftrightarrow (M, M_{\emptyset}) \in EQ_{TM}$$

**Is**  $EQ_{TM}$  **SEMI-DECIDABLE?**    **NO**, since,

$$\neg A_{TM} \leq_m E_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

What about  $\neg EQ_{TM}$ ?

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$

**CLAIM:**  $A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$

**So  $\neg EQ_{TM}$  is not semi-decidable**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$

**CLAIM:**  $A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$

**So  $\neg EQ_{TM}$  is not semi-decidable**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f : (M, w) \rightarrow (M_w, M_A)$

Where for each  $s$  in  $\Sigma^*$ ,

$M_w(s) = M(w)$  and  $M_A(s)$  always accepts



$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$

**CLAIM:**  $A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$

**So  $\neg EQ_{TM}$  is not semi-decidable**

**CONSTRUCT**  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f : (M, w) \rightarrow (M_w, M_A)$

Where for each  $s$  in  $\Sigma^*$ ,

$M_w(s) = M(w)$  and  $M_A(s)$  always accepts

**So,  $(M, w) \in A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow (M_w, M_A) \in EQ_{TM}$**

$$A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \neg E_{\text{TM}}$$

$$A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{REG}_{\text{TM}}$$

$$A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \neg \text{REG}_{\text{TM}}$$

$$E_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{EQ}_{\text{TM}}$$

$$\text{So, } \neg A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{EQ}_{\text{TM}}$$

$$\text{Also, } A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{EQ}_{\text{TM}}$$

$$A_{TM} \leq_m \neg E_{TM}$$

Undecidable given a TM to tell if the language it recognizes is empty. It's **not even semi-decidable**, **altho** it is semi-decidable to tell if the language is non-empty.

$$A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$$

$$A_{TM} \leq_m \neg REG_{TM}$$

$$E_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$\text{So, } \neg A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$\text{Also, } A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$A_{TM} \leq_m \neg E_{TM}$$

**Undecidable** given a TM to tell if the language it recognizes is empty. It's **not even semi-decidable**, **altho** it is semi-decidable to tell if the language is non-empty.

$$A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$$

**Undecidable** given a TM to tell if it is equivalent to a FSM. It's **not even semi-decidable**, **nor** is it semi-decidable to tell if it is not equivalent to a FSM.

$$A_{TM} \leq_m \neg REG_{TM}$$

$$E_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$\text{So, } \neg A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$\text{Also, } A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$A_{TM} \leq_m \neg E_{TM}$$

**Undecidable** given a TM to tell if the language it recognizes is empty. It's **not even semi-decidable**, **altho** it is semi-decidable to tell if the language is non-empty.

$$A_{TM} \leq_m REG_{TM}$$

**Undecidable** given a TM to tell if it is equivalent to a FSM. It's **not even semi-decidable**, **nor** is it semi-decidable to tell if it is not equivalent to a FSM.

$$A_{TM} \leq_m \neg REG_{TM}$$

$$E_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$$\text{So, } \neg A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

**Undecidable** given 2 TMs to tell if they are equivalent. It's **not even semi-decidable**, **nor** is it semi-decidable to tell if they are not

$$\text{Also, } A_{TM} \leq_m EQ_{TM}$$

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg ALL_{PDA}$

$\neg A_{TM} \leq_m ALL_{PDA}$

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg ALL_{PDA}$

$\neg A_{TM} \leq_m ALL_{PDA}$



CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

**Idea!** More subtle construction

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg ALL_{PDA}$

$\neg A_{TM} \leq_m ALL_{PDA}$



CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

**Idea!** More subtle construction

Map  $(M,w)$  to a PDA  $P_{M,w}$  that recognizes  $\Sigma^*$   
if and only if  $M$  does not accept  $w$

So,  $(M, w) \notin A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow P_{M,w} \in ALL_{PDA}$



$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg ALL_{PDA}$

$\neg A_{TM} \leq_m ALL_{PDA}$



CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

**Idea!** More subtle construction

Map  $(M,w)$  to a PDA  $P_{M,w}$  that recognizes  $\Sigma^*$   
if and only if  $M$  does not accept  $w$

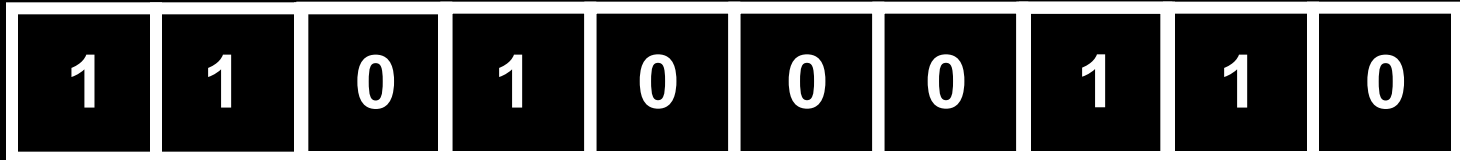
So,  $(M, w) \notin A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow P_{M,w} \in ALL_{PDA}$

$P_{M,w}$  will recognize all (and only those) strings that  
are **NOT** accepting computation histories for  $M$  on  $w$

# CONFIGURATIONS

11010 $q_7$ 00110

$q_7$



# COMPUTATION HISTORIES

An **accepting computation history** is a sequence of configurations  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$ , where

1.  $C_1$  is the start configuration,
2.  $C_k$  is an accepting configuration,
3. Each  $C_i$  follows from  $C_{i-1}$

# COMPUTATION HISTORIES

An **accepting computation history** is a sequence of configurations  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$ , where

1.  $C_1$  is the start configuration,
2.  $C_k$  is an accepting configuration,
3. Each  $C_i$  follows from  $C_{i-1}$

An **rejecting computation history** is a sequence of configurations  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$ , where

1.  $C_1$  is the start configuration,
2.  $C_k$  is a rejecting configuration,
3. Each  $C_i$  follows from  $C_{i-1}$

# COMPUTATION HISTORIES

An **accepting computation history** is a sequence of configurations  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$ , where

1.  $C_1$  is the start configuration,
2.  $C_k$  is an accepting configuration,
3. Each  $C_i$  follows from  $C_{i-1}$

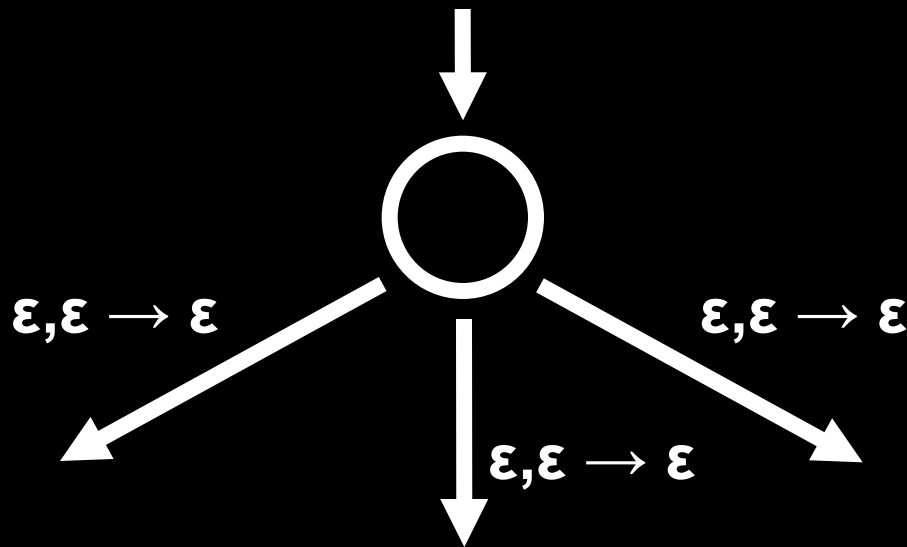
An rejecting **computation history** is a sequence of configurations  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$ , where

1.  $C_1$  is the start configuration,
2.  $C_k$  is a rejecting configuration,
3. Each  $C_i$  follows from  $C_{i-1}$

**M accepts w if and only if** there exists an accepting computation history that starts with  $C_1 = q_0 w$

$P_{M,w}$  will recognize all strings (read as sequences of configurations) that:

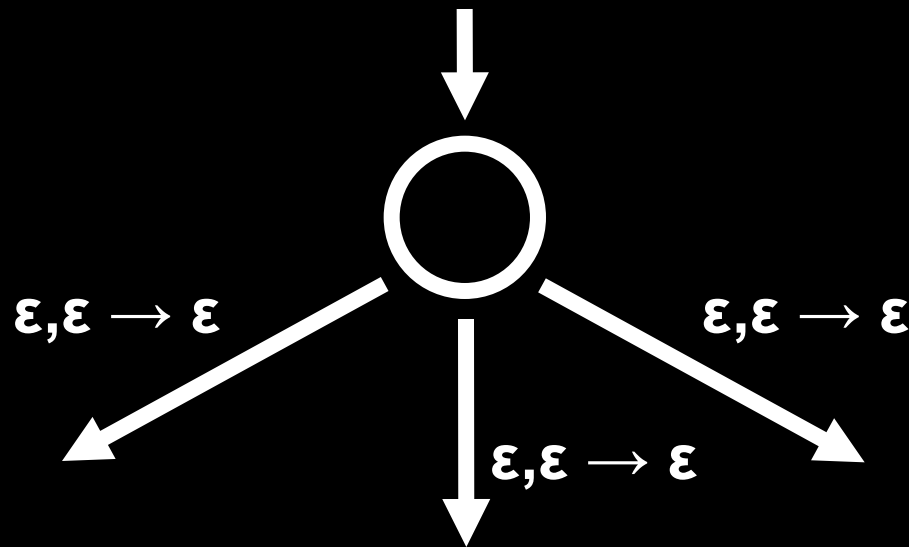
1. Do not start with  $C_1$  ( $= q_0w$ ) or
2. Do not end with an accepting configuration or
3. Where some  $C_i$  does not properly yield  $C_{i+1}$



Non-deterministic checks for 1, 2, and 3.

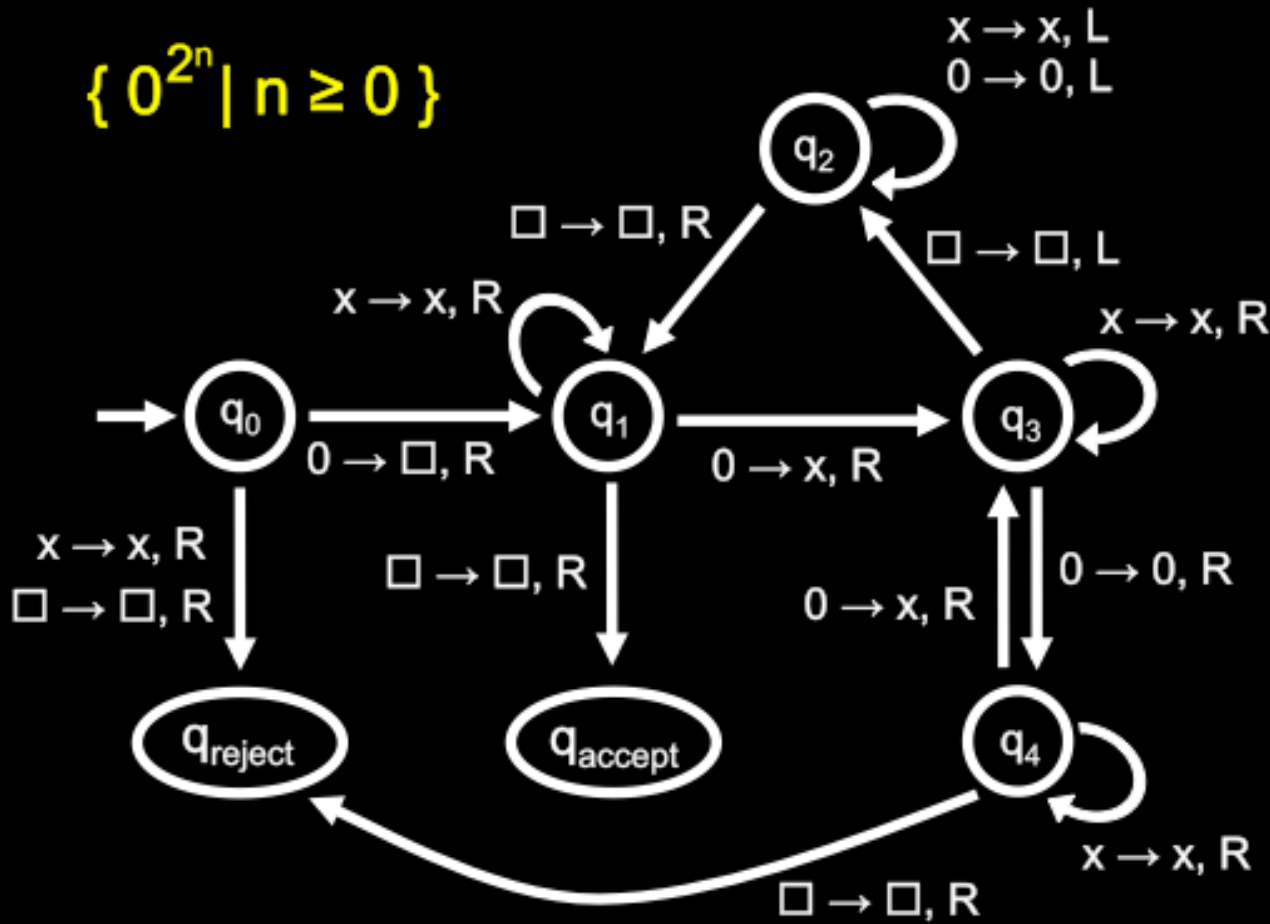
$P_{M,w}$  will **reject** all strings (read as sequences of configurations) that:

1. Start with  $C_1$  ( $= q_0w$ ) **and**
2. End with an accepting configuration **and**
3. Where each  $C_i$  properly yields  $C_{i+1}$



**Non-deterministic checks for 1, 2, and 3.**

$\{0^{2^n} \mid n \geq 0\}$



$q_0 0000$

$\square q_1 000$

$\square x q_3 00$

$\square x 0 q_4 0$

$\square x 0 x q_3$

$\square x 0 q_2 x$

$\square x q_2 0 x$

$\square q_2 x 0 x$

$q_2 \square x 0 x$



$P_{M.w}$  recognizes all strings except  
“accepting computation histories” :

$\#C_1\# C_2^R \#C_3 \#C_4^R \#C_5 \#C_6^R \#\dots\# C_k$

$P_{M,w}$  recognizes all strings except  
“accepting computation histories” :

$\#C_1\# C_2^R \#C_3 \#C_4^R \#C_5 \#C_6^R \#\dots\# C_k$

If  $i$  is odd, put  $C_i$  on stack and see if  $C_{i+1}^R$   
follows properly:

For example,

If  $=u\mathbf{a}q_i\mathbf{b}v$  and  $\delta(q_i, \mathbf{b}) = (q_j, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{R})$ ,

then  $C_i$  properly yields  $C_{i+1} \Leftrightarrow C_{i+1} = u\mathbf{a}c\mathbf{q}_jv$

$P_{M.w}$  recognizes all strings except  
“accepting computation histories” :

$\#C_1\# C_2^R \#C_3 \#C_4^R \#C_5 \#C_6^R \#\dots\# C_k$

If  $i$  is odd, put  $C_i$  on stack and see if  $C_{i+1}^R$   
follows properly.

For example,

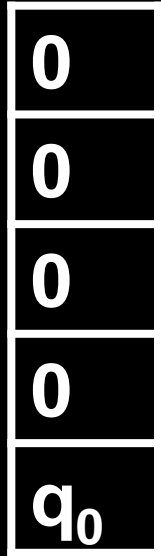
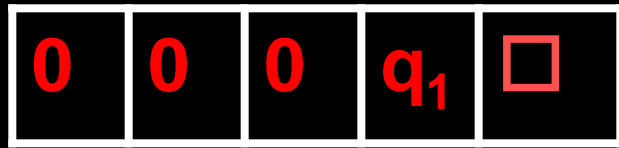
If  $=u\mathbf{aq_i b}v$  and  $\delta(q_i, \mathbf{b}) = (q_j, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{L})$ ,

then  $C_k$  properly yields  $C_{k+1} \Leftrightarrow C_{k+1} = u\mathbf{q_j a}c v$

$P_{M.w}$  recognizes all strings except  
“accepting computation histories” :

$\#C_1\# C_2^R \#C_3 \#C_4^R \#C_5 \#C_6^R \#\dots\# C_k$

If  $i$  is even, put  $C_i^R$  on stack and see if  $C_{i+1}$   
follows properly.



ODD



□ $xq_300$

□ $x0q_40$

□ $x0xq_3$

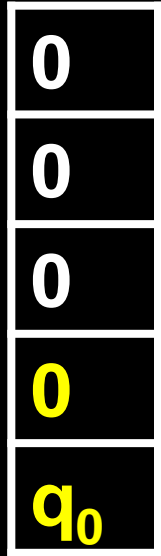
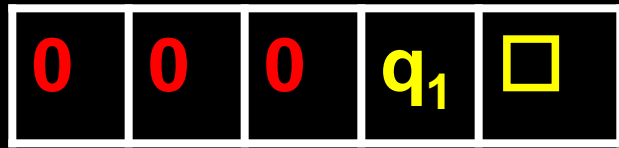
□ $x0q_2x$

□ $xq_20x$

□ $q_2x0x$

⋮

# $q_00000$ # $000q_1$ □#□ $xq_300$ # $0q_40x$  □#□ $x0xq_3$ # ... #



ODD



□x $q_3$ 00

□x0 $q_4$ 0

□x0x $q_3$

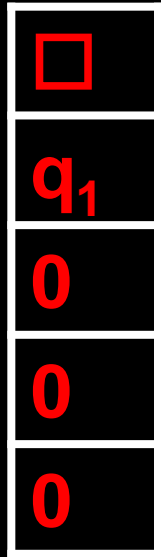
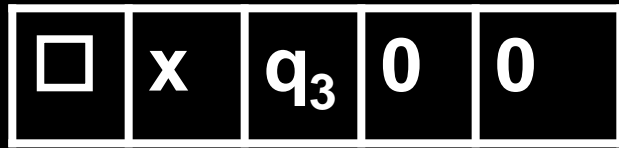
□x0 $q_2$ x

□x $q_2$ 0x

□ $q_2$ x0x

⋮





**EVEN**

q<sub>0</sub>0000

□q<sub>1</sub>000

□xq<sub>3</sub>00

□x0q<sub>4</sub>0

□x0xq<sub>3</sub>

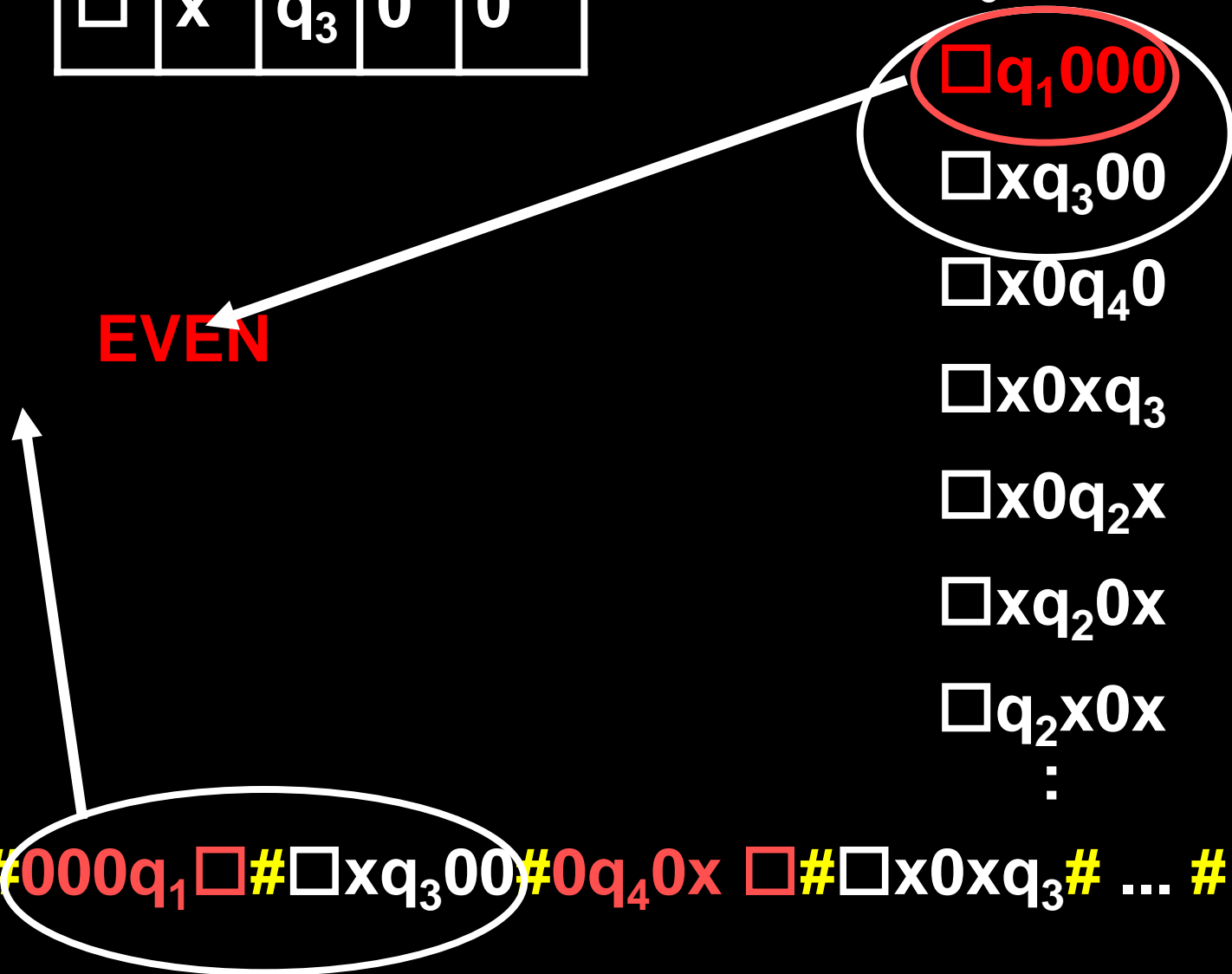
□x0q<sub>2</sub>x

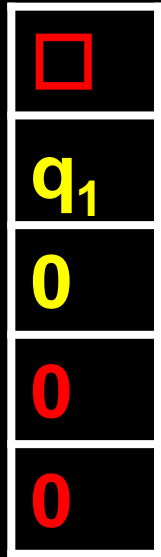
□xq<sub>2</sub>0x

□q<sub>2</sub>x0x

⋮

#q<sub>0</sub>0000#000q<sub>1</sub>□#□xq<sub>3</sub>00#0q<sub>4</sub>0x □#□x0xq<sub>3</sub># ... #





**EVEN**

q<sub>0</sub>0000

□q<sub>1</sub>000

□xq<sub>3</sub>00

□x0q<sub>4</sub>0

□x0xq<sub>3</sub>

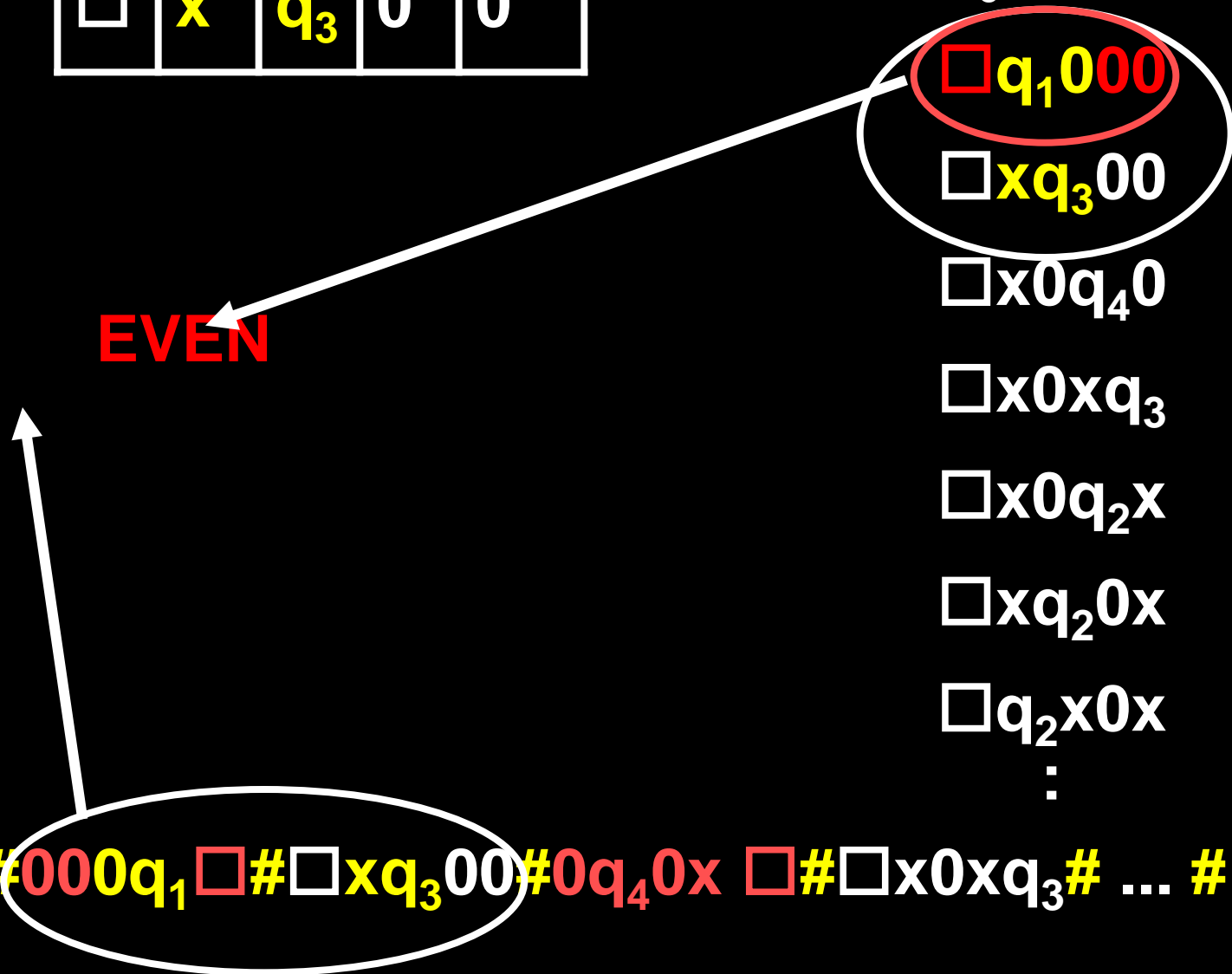
□x0q<sub>2</sub>x

□xq<sub>2</sub>0x

□q<sub>2</sub>x0x

⋮

#q<sub>0</sub>0000#000q<sub>1</sub>□#□xq<sub>3</sub>00#0q<sub>4</sub>0x □#□x0xq<sub>3</sub># ... #





$A_{TM} = \{ (M, w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

CLAIM:  $A_{TM} \leq_m \neg ALL_{PDA}$   $\neg A_{TM} \leq_m ALL_{PDA}$

CONSTRUCT  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$

$f: (M, w) \rightarrow P_{M, w}$  where

$P_{M, w}(s) = \text{accept}$  iff  $s$  is NOT an accepting computation of  $M(w)$

So,  $(M, w) \notin A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow P_{M, w} \in ALL_{PDA}$

So,  $(M, w) \in A_{TM} \Leftrightarrow P_{M, w} \in \neg ALL_{PDA}$

**EXPLAIN THE PROOF TO YOUR NEIGHBOR**

$A_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that accepts string } w \}$

$HALT_{TM} = \{ (M,w) \mid M \text{ is a TM that halts on string } w \}$

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

$REG_{TM} = \{ M \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is regular} \}$

$EQ_{TM} = \{ (M, N) \mid M, N \text{ are TMs and } L(M) = L(N) \}$

$ALL_{PDA} = \{ P \mid P \text{ is a PDA and } L(P) = \Sigma^* \}$

**ALL UNDECIDABLE**

**Which are SEMI-DECIDABLE?**

**What about complements?**

[WWW.FLAC.WS](http://WWW.FLAC.WS)

**Read chapter 5.1-5.3 of the book for next time**