

Computational Capabilities of Recurrent Neural Networks

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5 September 2012

Introduction

- ▶ We follow the so-called *mind-computer analogy* approach to cognitive science.
- ▶ We study the computational capabilities of basic models of recurrent neural networks.
- ▶ We show that recurrent neural networks provide a natural model of computation beyond the Turing limits.

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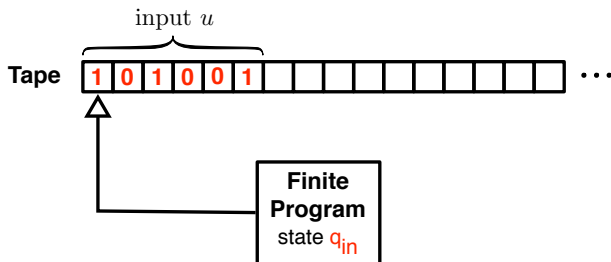
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Turing machine

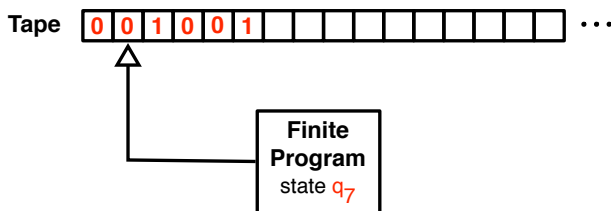
A Turing machine (TM) consists of an infinite tape, a read-write head, and a finite program.



- ▶ input u is *accepted* by \mathcal{M} if $\mathcal{M}(u)$ reaches the state q_{acc}
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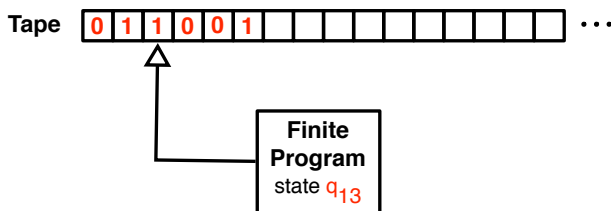
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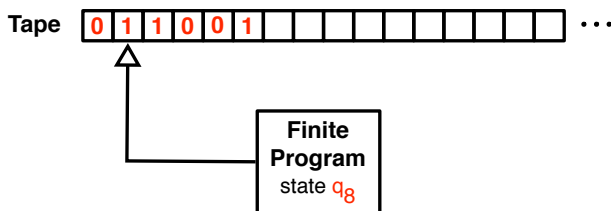
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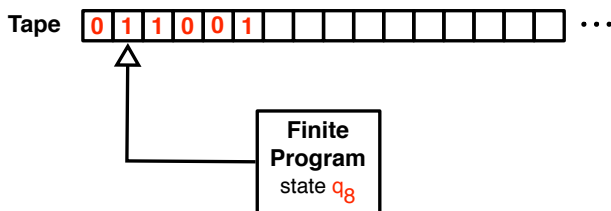
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The Church-Turing Thesis states that the Turing machine model is capable of capturing all possible aspects of algorithmic computation.

A function is algorithmically computable if and only if it is computable by a Turing machine.

Recurrent neural networks actually provide a natural model beyond the Turing limits.

The Church-Turing thesis

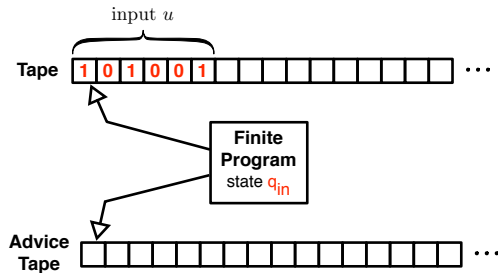
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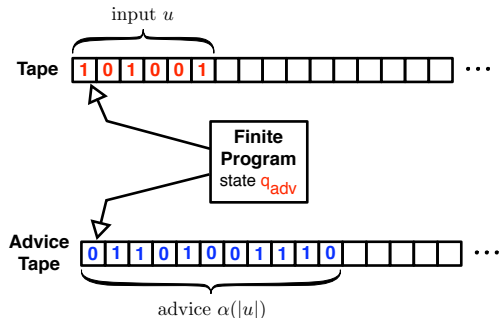
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TM vs TM/A

The complexity class **P (PTIME)** is the collections of all languages decidable in polynomial time by some TM.

The complexity class **P/poly** is the collections of all languages decidable in polynomial time by some TM/poly(A).

Lemma

TM/poly(A)s are strictly more powerful than TMs (super-Turing) already in polynomial time of computation, i.e. $\mathbf{P/poly} \supsetneq \mathbf{P}$.

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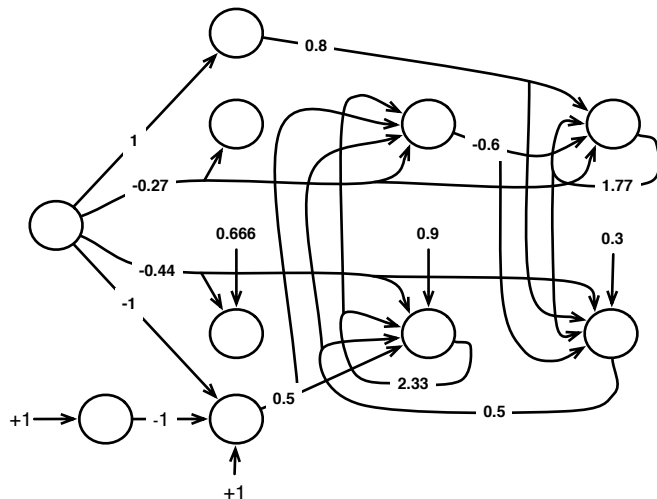
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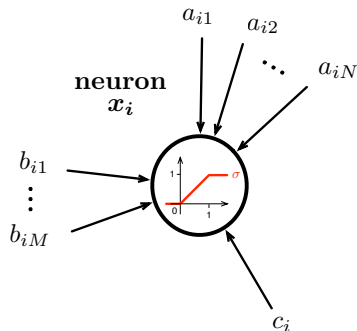
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Recurrent neural networks



Dynamics: static synaptic weights



$$x_i(t+1) = \sigma \left(\sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \cdot x_j(t) + \sum_{j=1}^M b_{ij} \cdot u_j(t) + c_i \right)$$

Computational power

RNN[\mathbb{Q}]s: networks with static *rational* weights

RNN[\mathbb{R}]s: networks with static *real* (analog) weights

Theorem (Siegelmann & Sontag 94, 95)

- ▶ *RNN[\mathbb{Q}]s are Turing equivalent.*
- ▶ *RNN[\mathbb{R}]s are super-Turing, i.e.
RNN[\mathbb{R}]s are equivalent to TM/poly(A) in poly time.*

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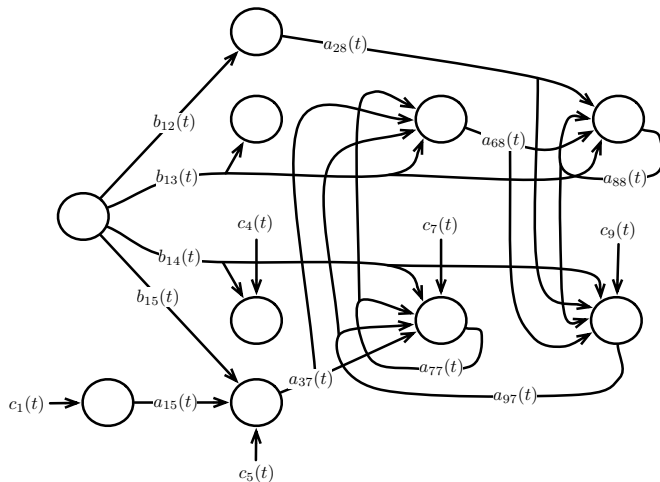
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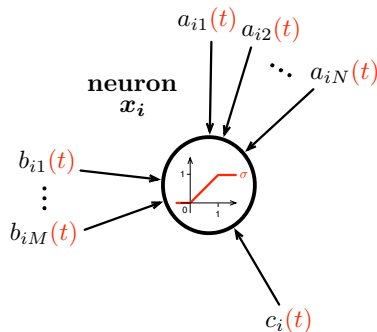
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Evolving recurrent neural networks



Dynamics: evolving synaptic weights



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Ev-RNN[\mathbb{Q}]s: networks with evolving *rational* weights

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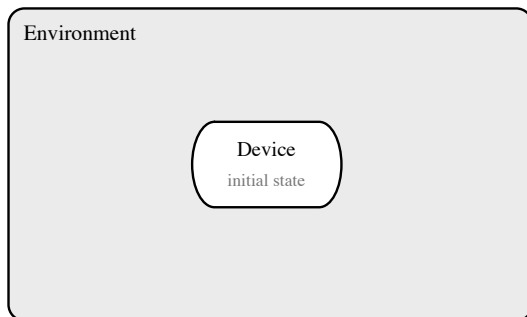
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Summary of the results

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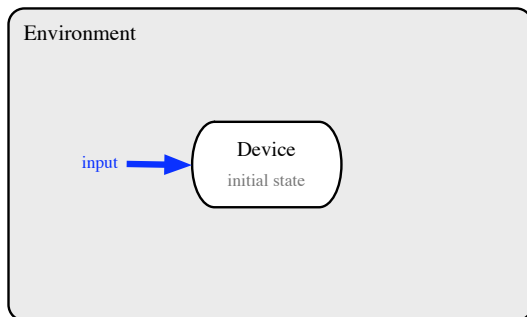
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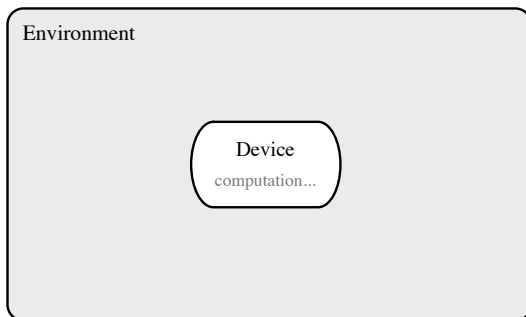
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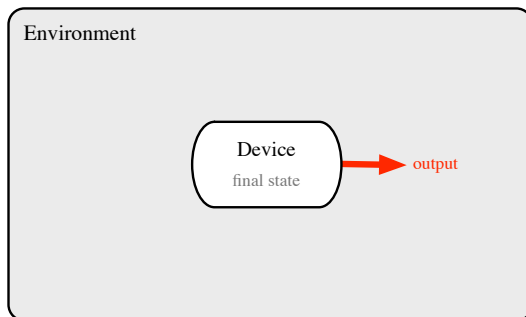
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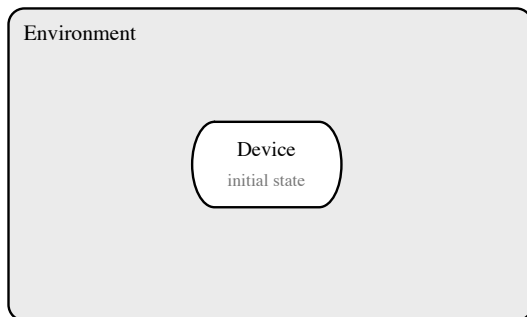
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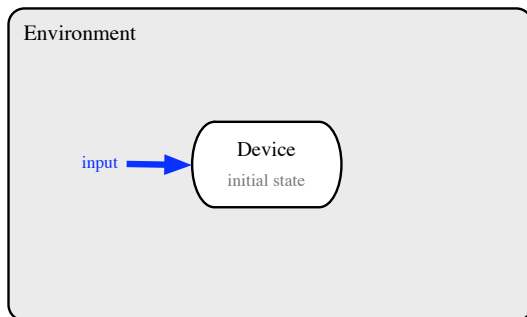
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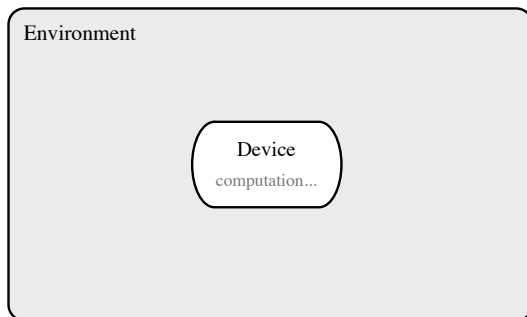
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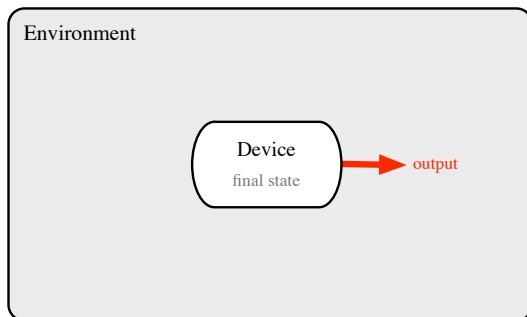
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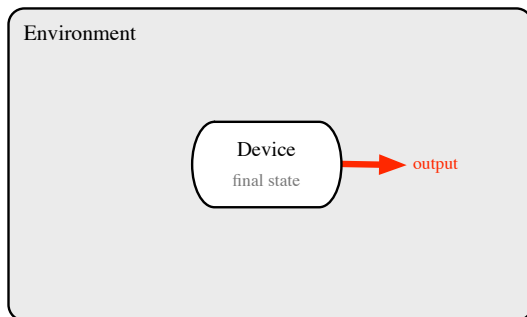
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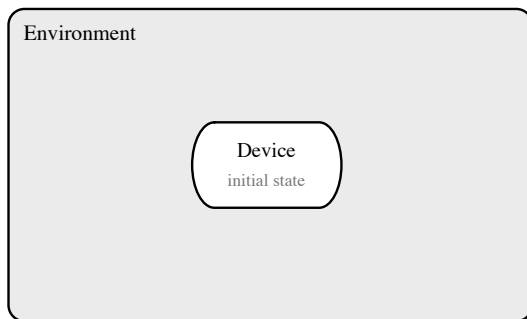
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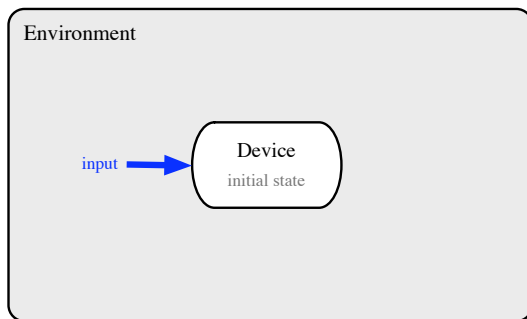
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Interactive computation



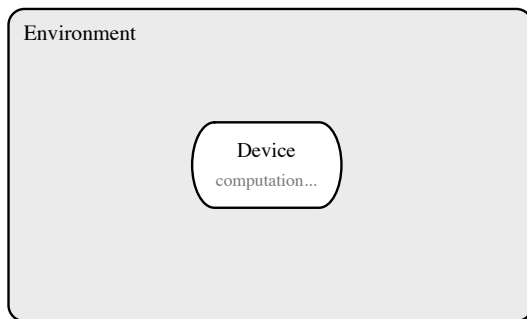
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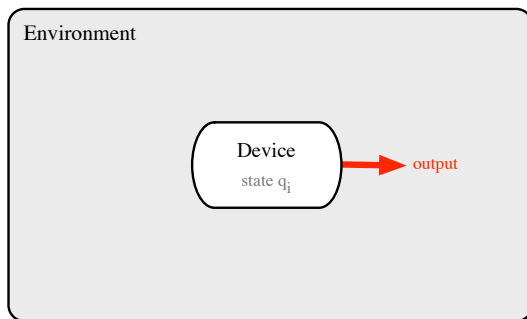
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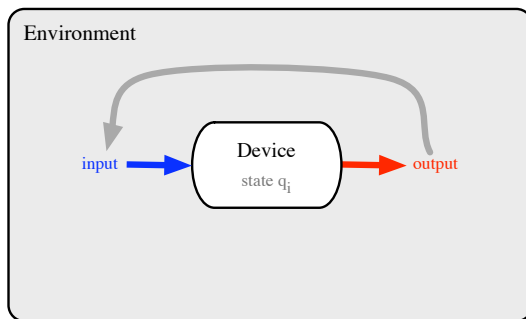
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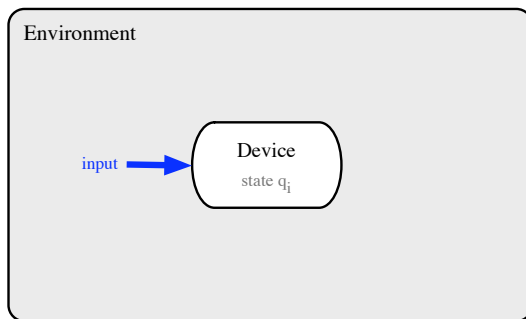
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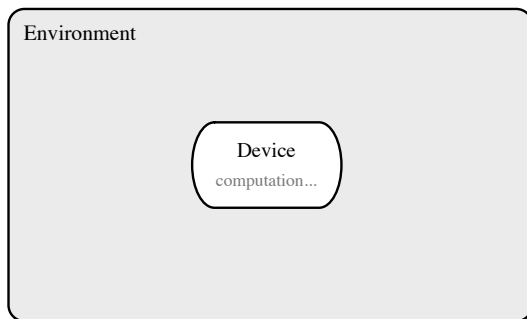
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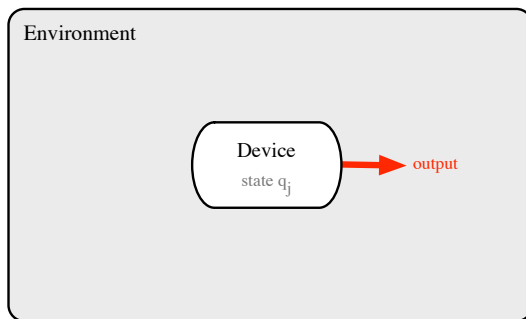
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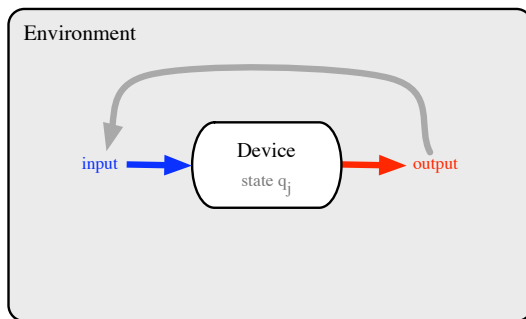
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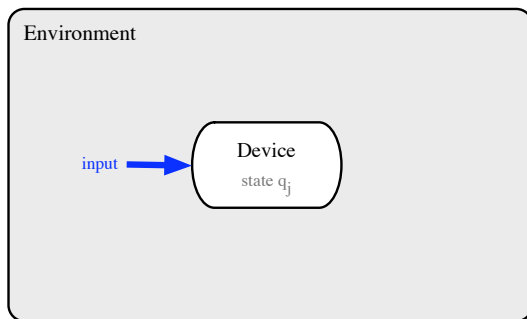
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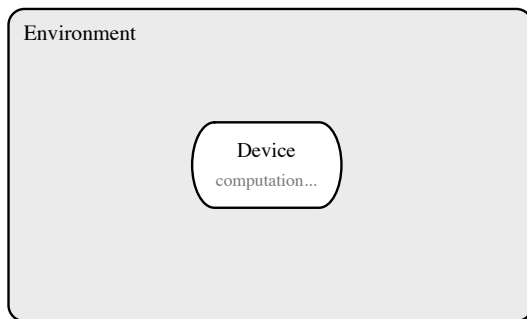
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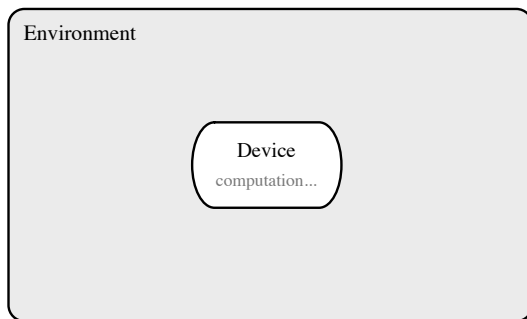
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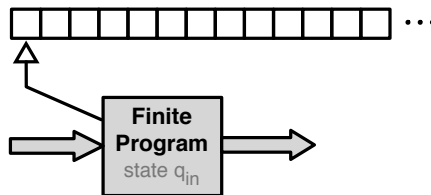
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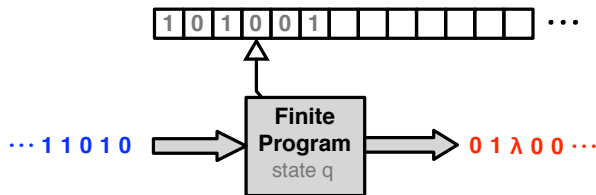
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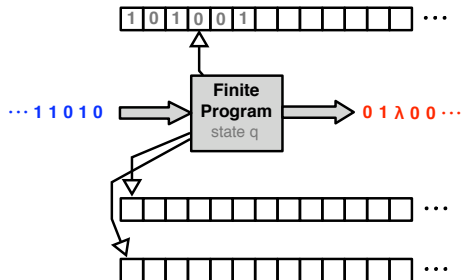
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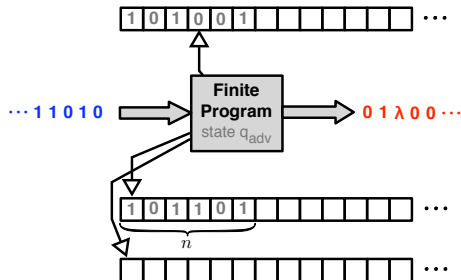
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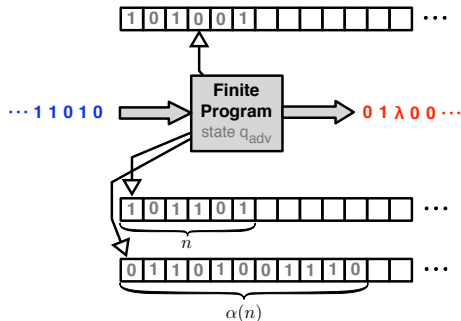
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Lemma

Int-TM/As are strictly more powerful than int-TMs, i.e., they can compute strictly more ω -translations.

Computational power

The results concerning the computational power of RNNs in classical computation generalize to the interactive computational framework.

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Conclusions

- ▶ Recurrent neural networks provide a natural abstract model of computation beyond the Turing limits (Cabessa & Villa 12).
- ▶ *Architectural Evolution* represents an equivalent alternative to the *power of the continuum* towards the achievement of super-Turing capabilities.
- ▶ The results support the idea that *architectural evolution* might play a crucial role in the computational capabilities of biological neural networks.
- ▶ Future work: study the computational power of other kinds of architecturally evolving networks: other sigmoid functions, other learning rules, spiking networks, etc.

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