

ON COMPUTABLE NUMBERS, WITH AN APPLICATION TO  
THE ENTSCHIEDUNGSPROBLEM*By* A. M. TURING.

[Received 28 May, 1936.—Read 12 November, 1936.]

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addition, copy, ...

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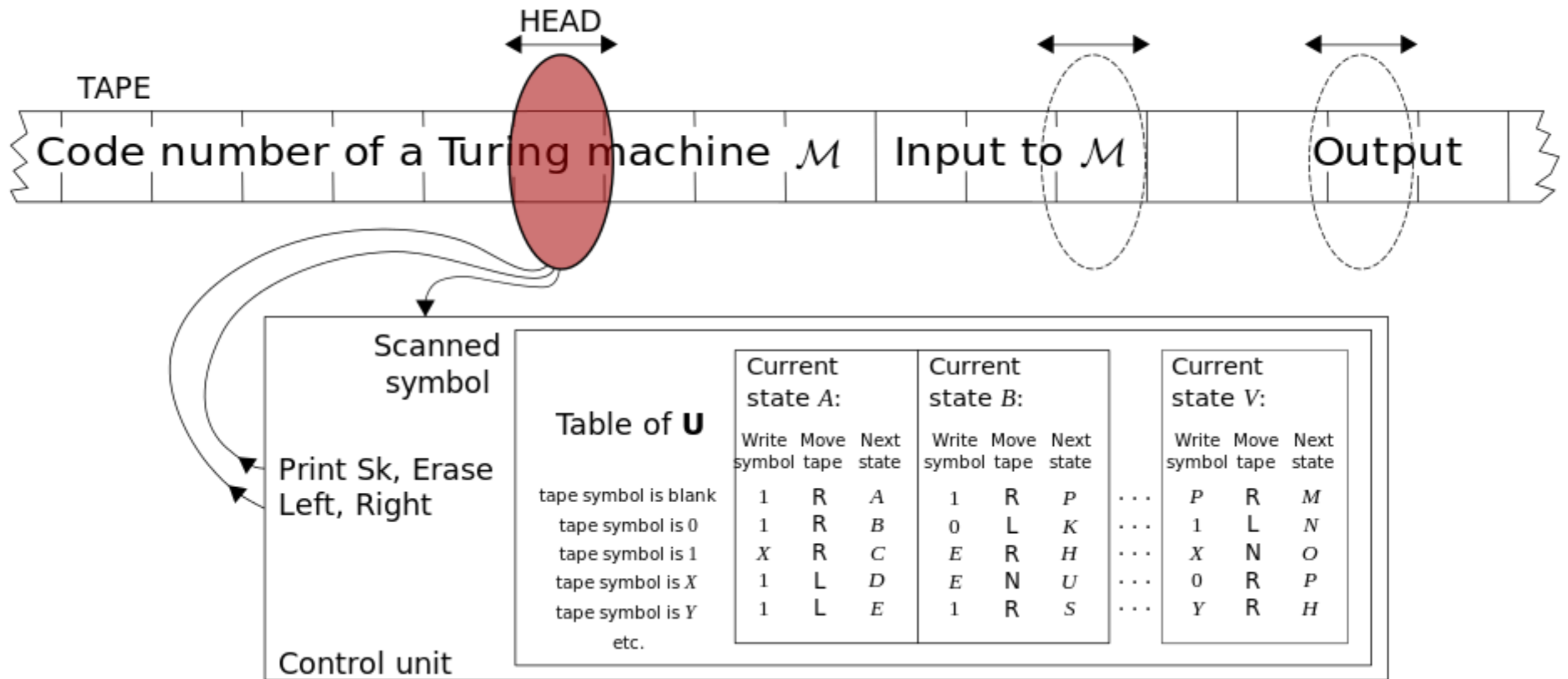
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addition, copy, ...

“universal machine”



# Universal Turing Machine



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal\\_Turing\\_machine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_Turing_machine)

# Can we go beyond TMs?

Trials to extend the Turing machines:

- Stay-option
- Multiple tapes
- Nondeterminism
- ...

# TM with a Stay-Option

$$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, B, F)$$

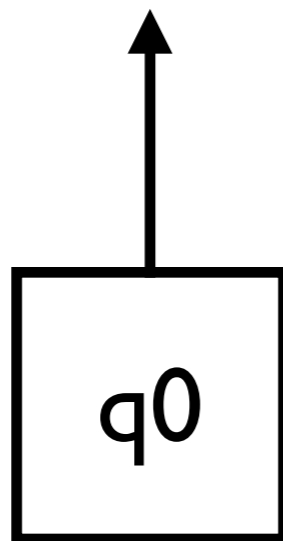
$$\delta : Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R, S\}$$

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e.g.,  $\delta(q_0, 0) = (q_1, 1, S)$

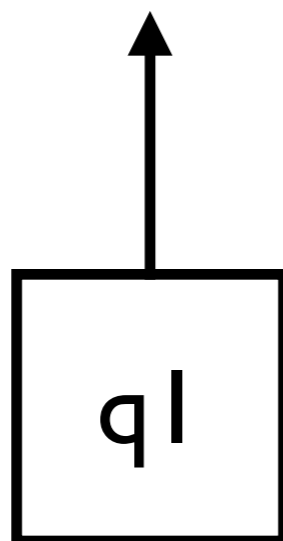


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# Equivalence

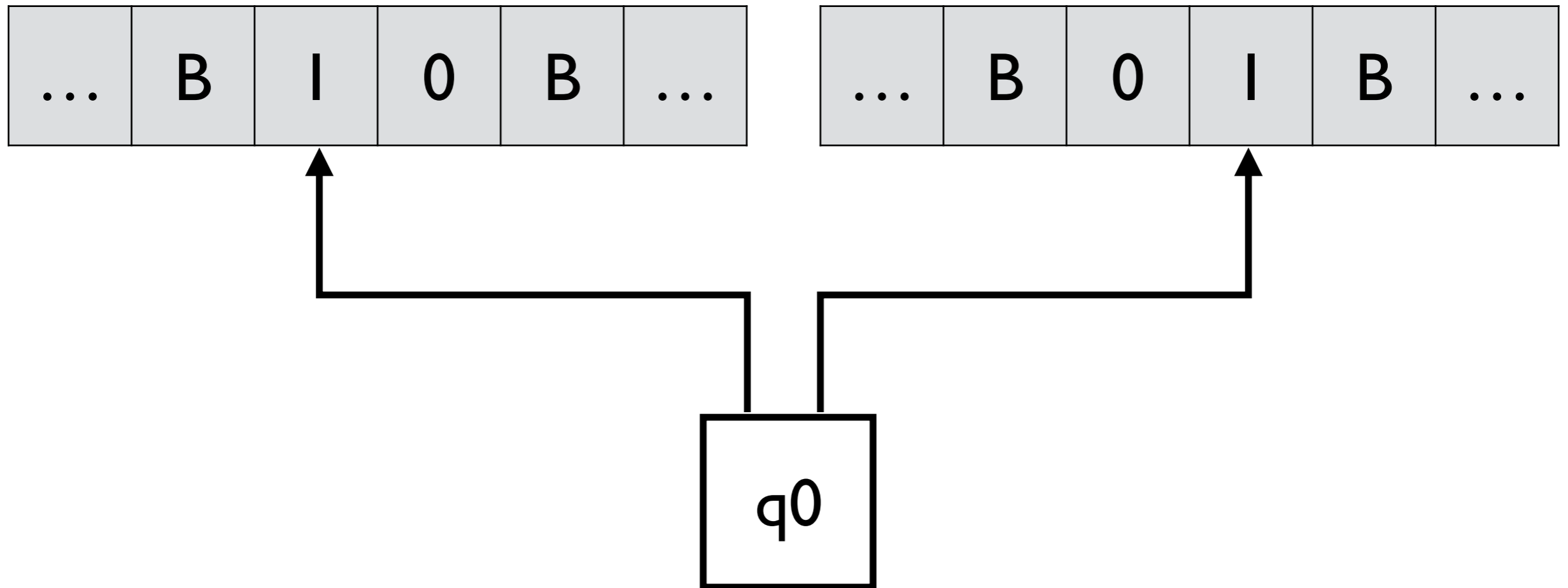
- A Language is accepted by a TM iff it is accepted by a TM/S

Replace  $\delta(q_i, a) = (q_j, b, S)$

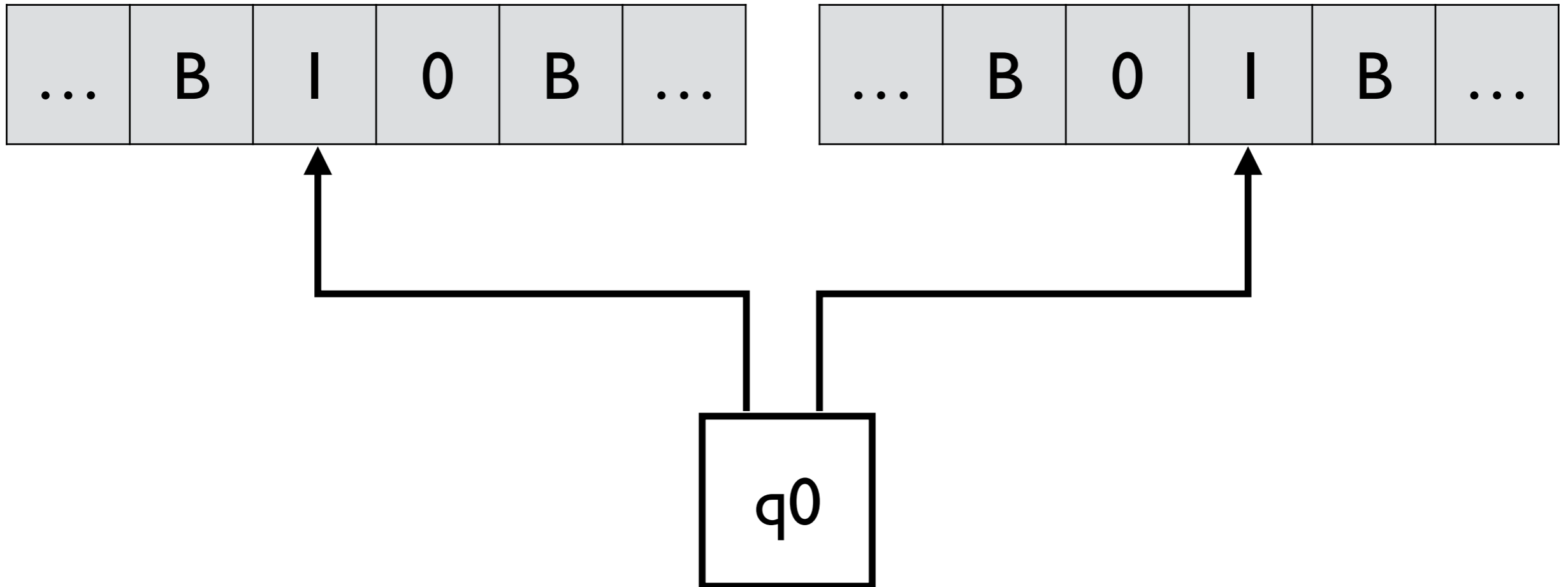
by  $\delta(q_i, a) = (q_k, b, R)$

$\delta(q_k, c) = (q_j, c, L)$

# Multitape Turing Machines



# Multitape Turing Machines

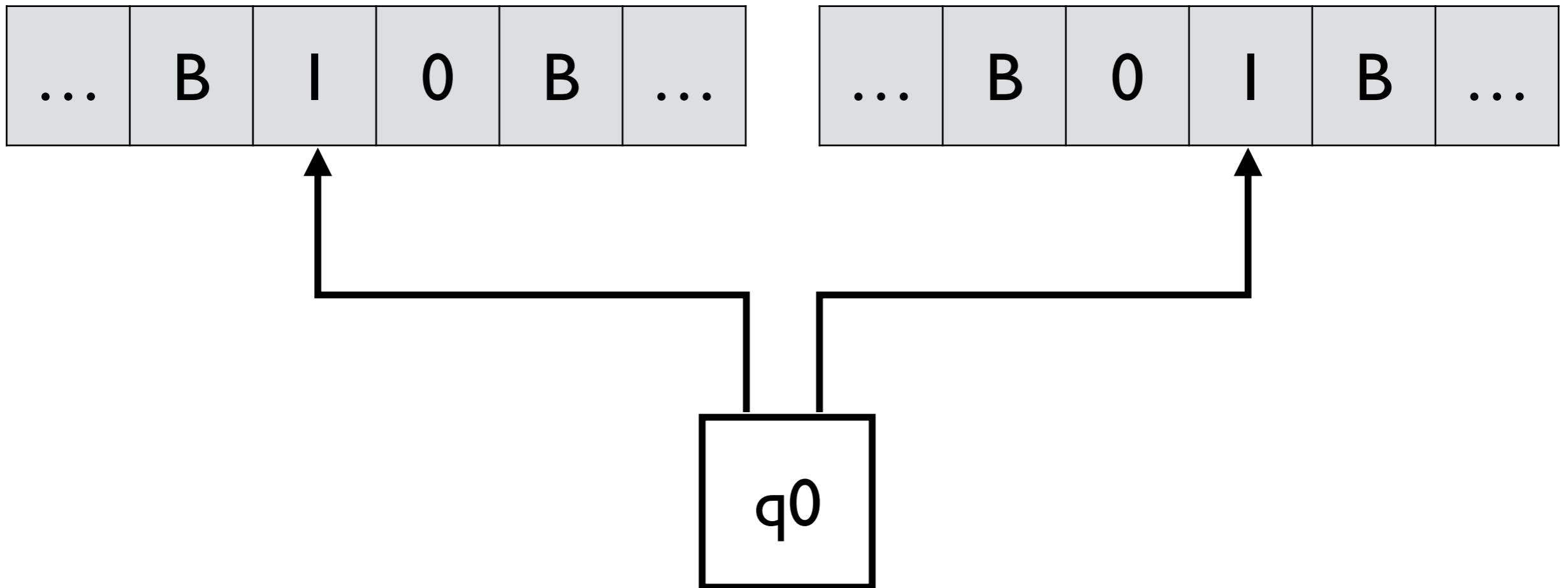


$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, B, F)$

$\delta : Q \times \Gamma^n \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma^n \times \{L, R\}^n$



# Multitape Turing Machines

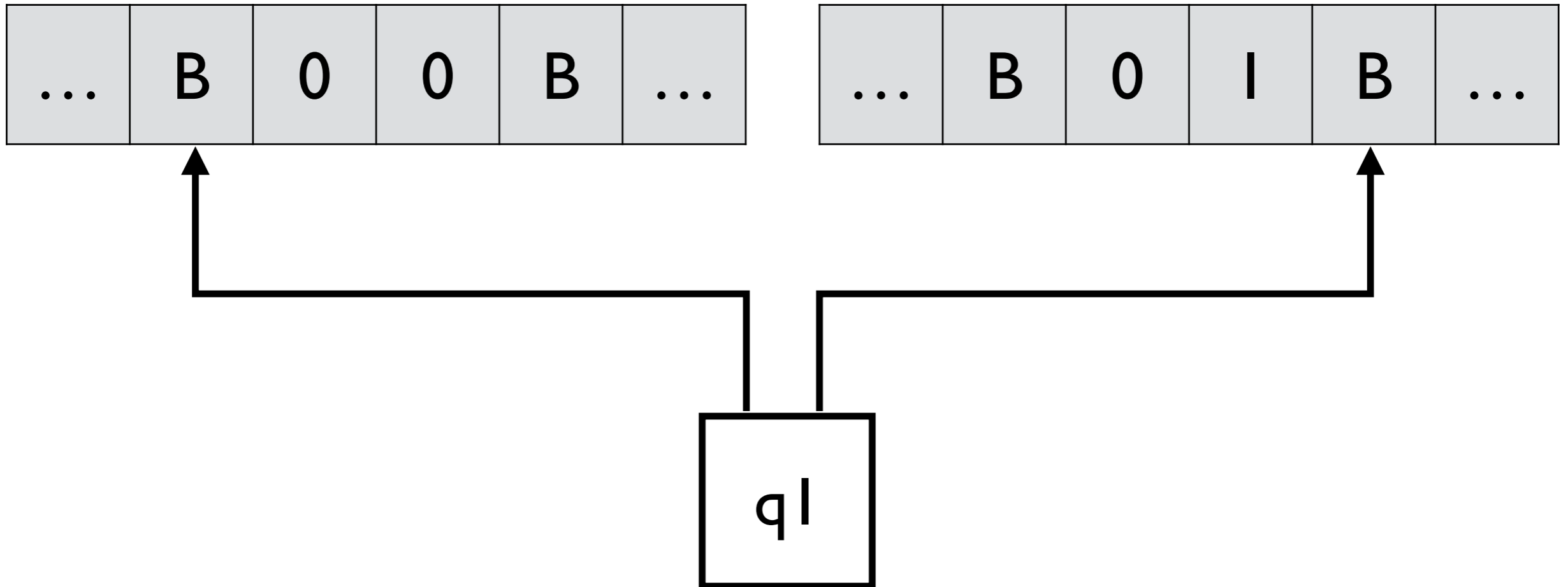


$$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, B, F)$$

$$\delta : Q \times \Gamma^n \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma^n \times \{L, R\}^n$$

$$\text{e.g., } \delta(q_0, 1, 1) = (q_1, 0, 1, L, R)$$

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# Equivalence

- Any MTM can be simulated by a standard TM with multiple tracks

...	B	0	0	B	...
...	B	*	B	B	...
...	B	0	I	B	...
...	B	B	*	B	...

# cf) Efficiency of MTMs

- MTMs can be more efficient than standard TMs

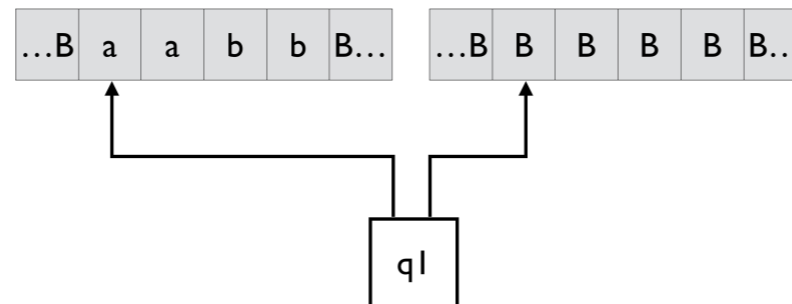
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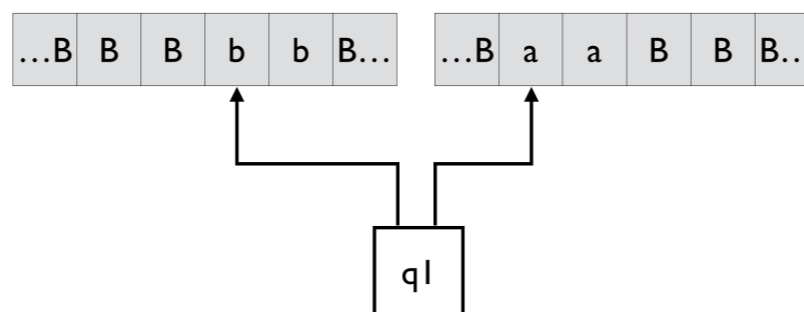
## Example

Design a multitape Turing machine that accepts  $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1\}$ .

- In standard TM, repeated back-and-forth movements are required.
- In MTM, copy all  $a$ 's to tape 2



and then match  $b$ 's on tape 1 against  $a$ 's on tape 2



# Nondeterministic TMs

$$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, B, F)$$

$$\delta : Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow 2^{Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}}$$

- E.g.,  $\delta(q_0, a) = \{(q_1, b, R), (q_2, c, L)\}$
- A NTM accepts  $w$  if there is a sequence s.t.

$$q_0 w \vdash^* x_1 q_f x_2$$

with  $q_f \in F$ .

- Still, equivalent.

# cf) Efficiency of NTM

- The equivalent, deterministic TM is exponentially slower than NTM.
- Is this exponential slowdown inevitable? Unknown ( $P = NP?$ )

Turing machines are very powerful.



Computable problems are what can  
be solved by Turing machines  
— Turing



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“Turing-Church Thesis”

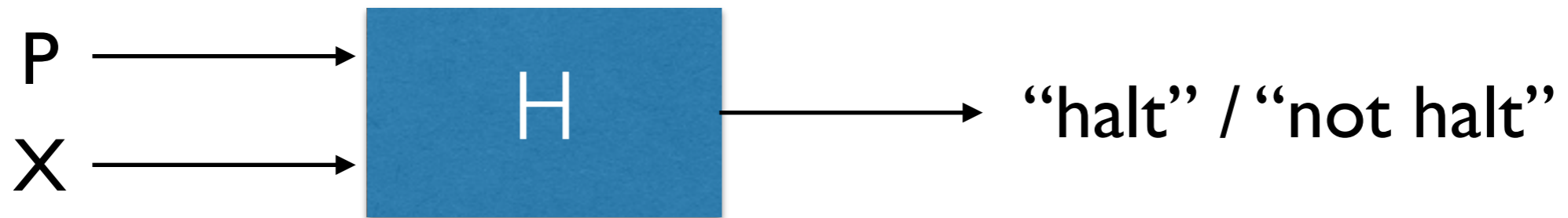


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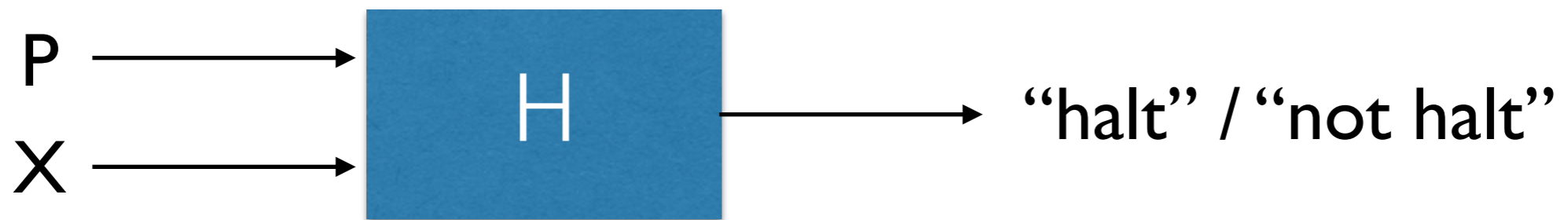


\* proof of the existence of incomputable problems:

# Halting Problem

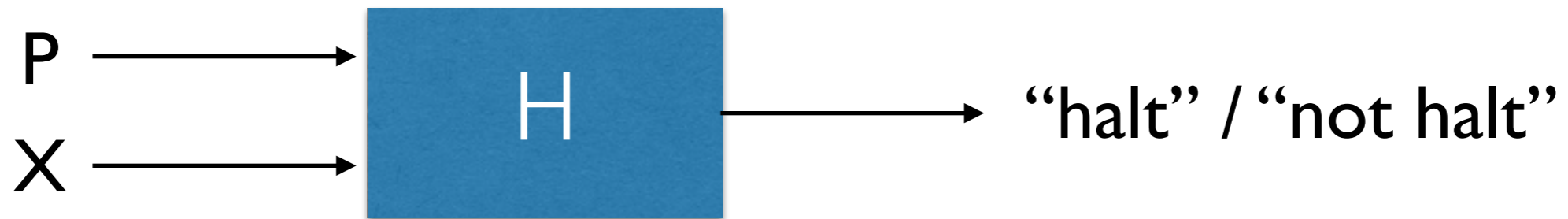


# Halting Problem



Does such H exist?

# Halting Problem



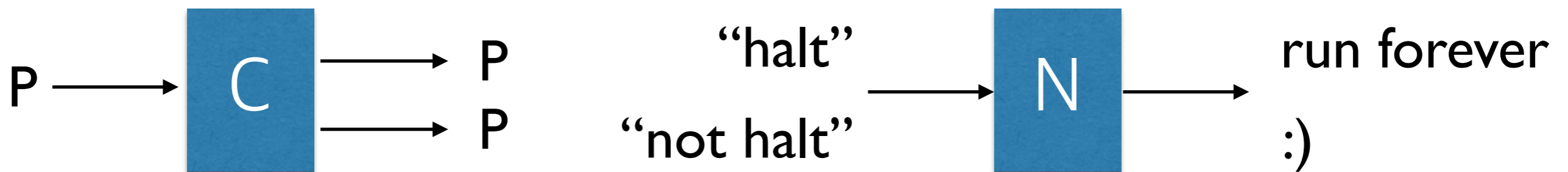
Does such H exist?

No, logically impossible.

Suppose such H exists:



Two simple programs:

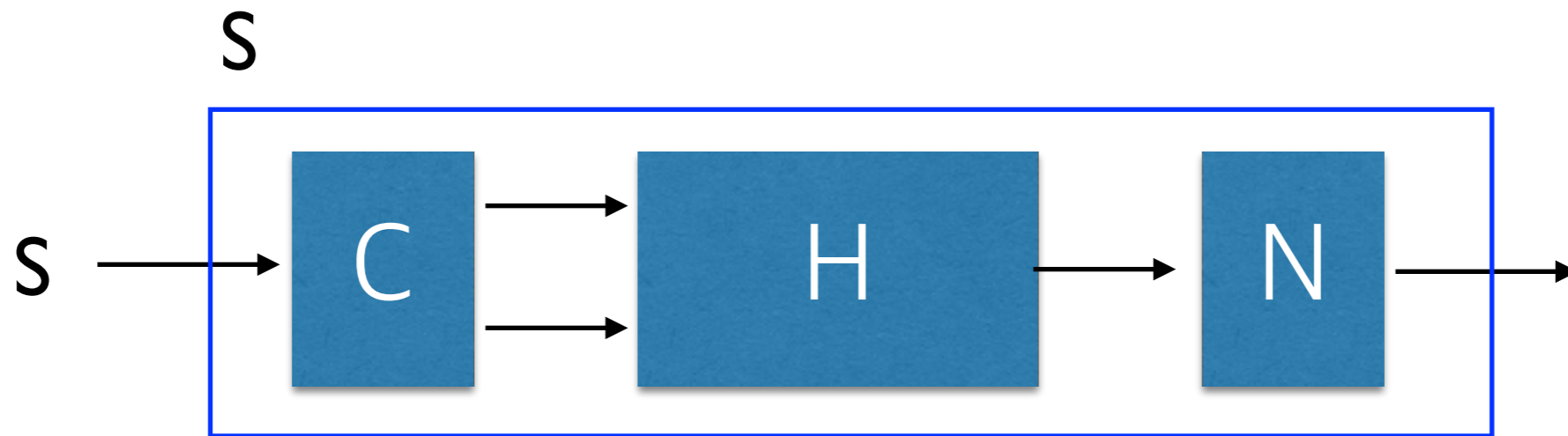




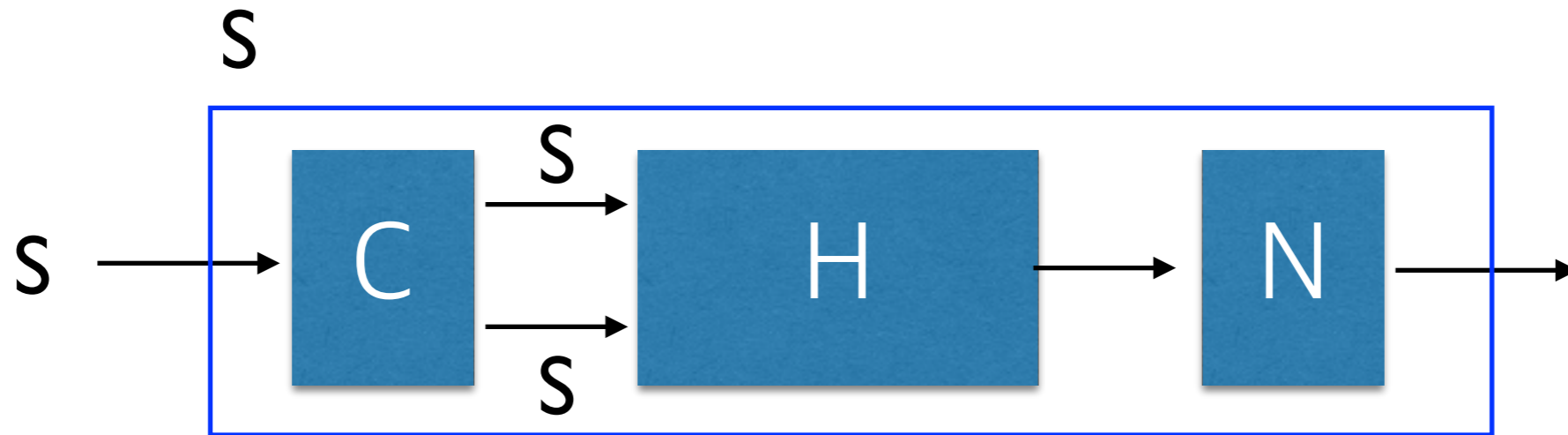
Construct the program:



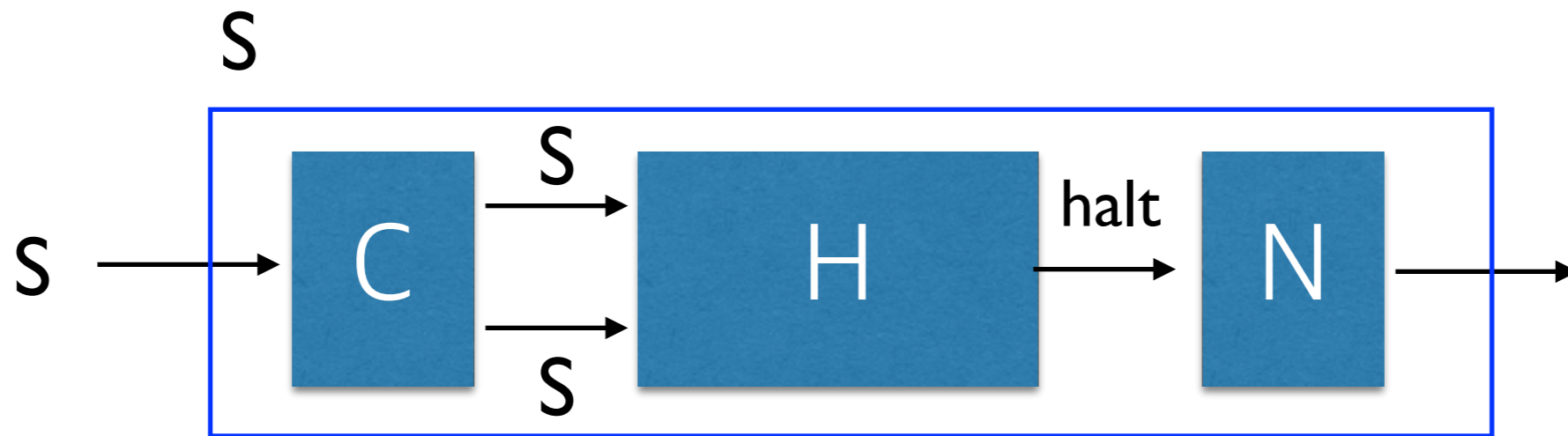
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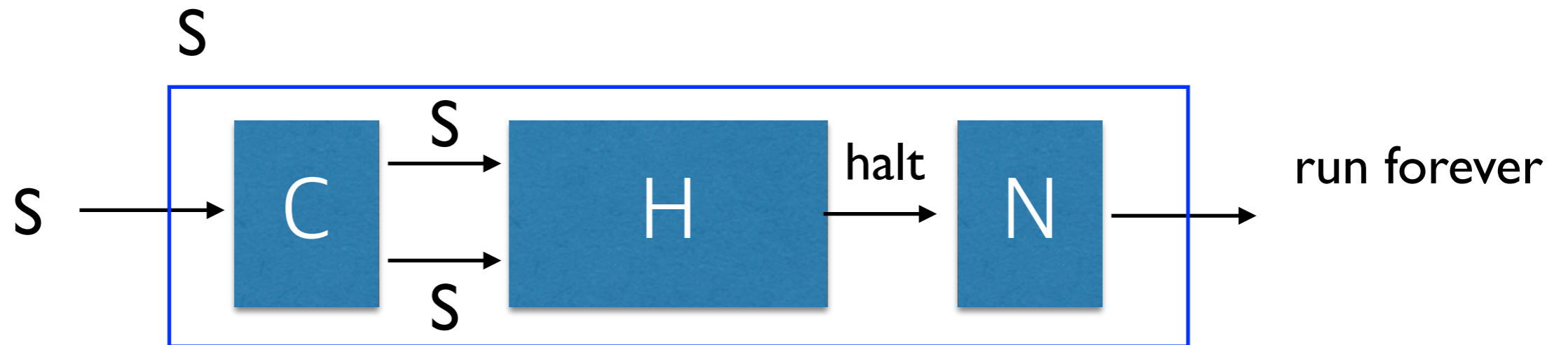
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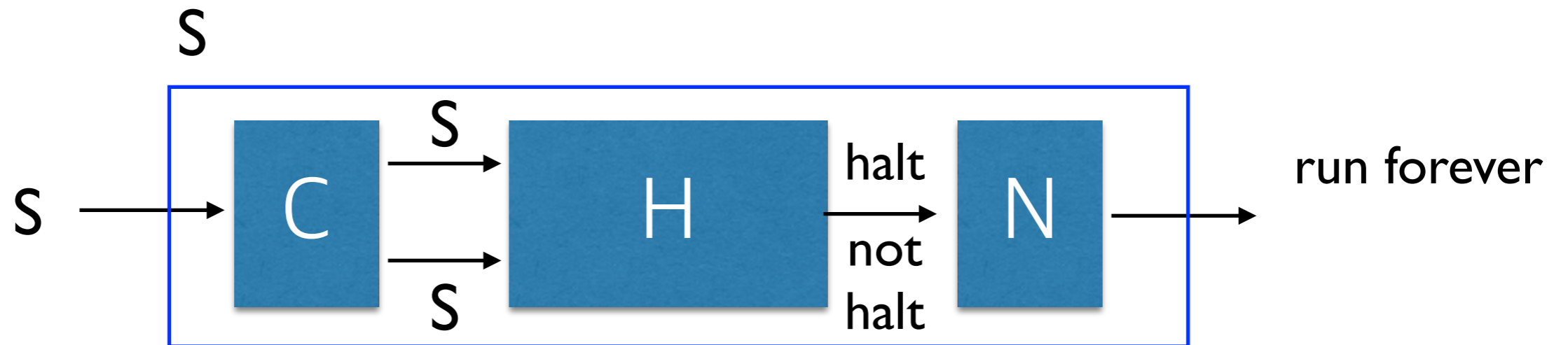
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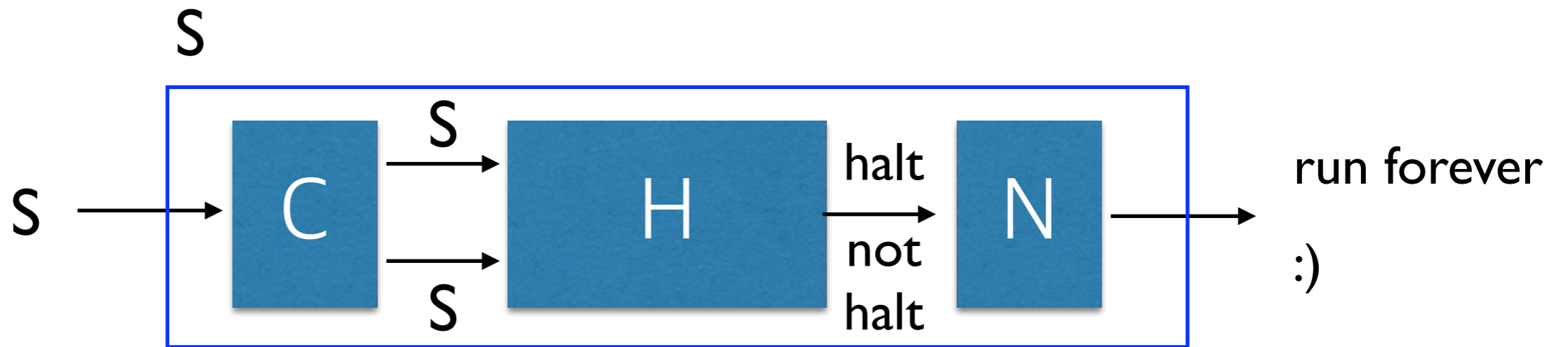
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# Summary

- Computable problems are what can be solved by Turing machines
- There exist incomputable problems