

# Unsolvable Problems

## Part Two

# Outline for Today

- ***Recap from Last Time***
  - Where are we, again?
- ***A Different Perspective on RE***
  - What exactly does “recognizability” mean?
- ***Verifiers***
  - A new approach to problem-solving.
- ***Beyond RE***
  - Monstrously hard problems!

Recap from Last Time

# Self-Referential Programs

- ***Claim:*** Any program can be augmented to include a method called `mySource()` that returns a string representation of its source code.
- ***Theorem:*** It is possible to build Turing machines that get their own encodings and perform arbitrary computations on them.

# What does this program do?

```
bool willAccept(string program, string input) {  
    /* ... some implementation ... */  
}  
  
int main() {  
    string me = mySource();  
    string input = getInput();  
  
    if (willAccept(me, input)) {  
        reject();  
    } else {  
        accept();  
    }  
}
```

What happens if...

... this program accepts its input?  
**It rejects the input!**

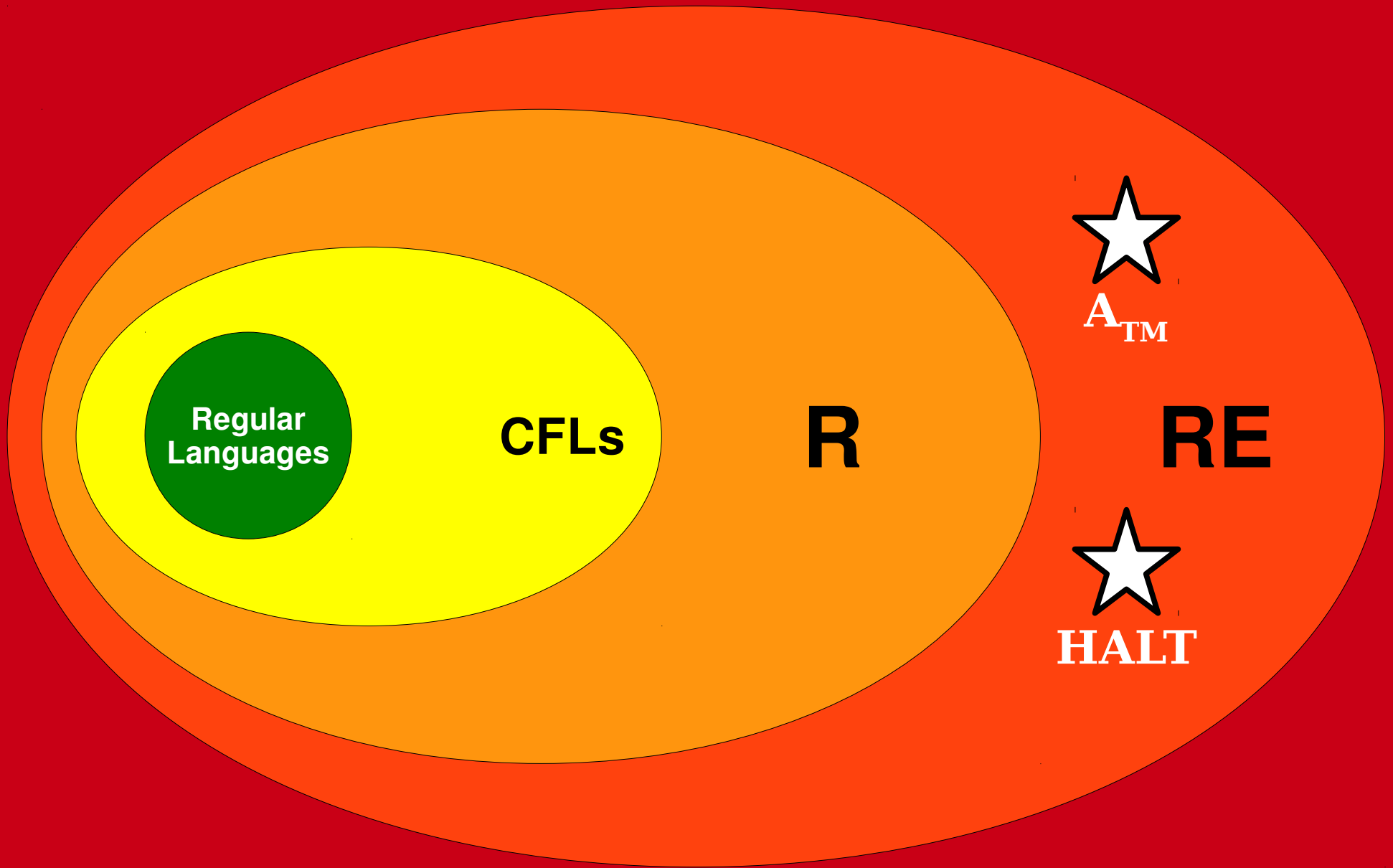
... this program doesn't accept its input?  
**It accepts the input!**

# What does this program do?

```
bool willHalt(string program, string input) {  
    /* ... some implementation ... */  
}  
  
int main() {  
    string me = mySource();  
    string input = getInput();  
  
    if (willHalt(me, input)) {  
        while (true) {  
            // loop infinitely  
        }  
    } else {  
        accept();  
    }  
}
```

What happens if...

- ... this program halts on this input?  
It loops on the input!
- ... this program loops on this input?  
It halts on the input!



**All Languages**

New Stuff!



Beyond **R** and **RE**

# Beyond **R** and **RE**

- We've now seen how to use self-reference as a tool for showing undecidability (finding languages not in **R**).
- We still have not broken out of **RE** yet, though.
- To do so, we will need to build up a better intuition for the class **RE**.

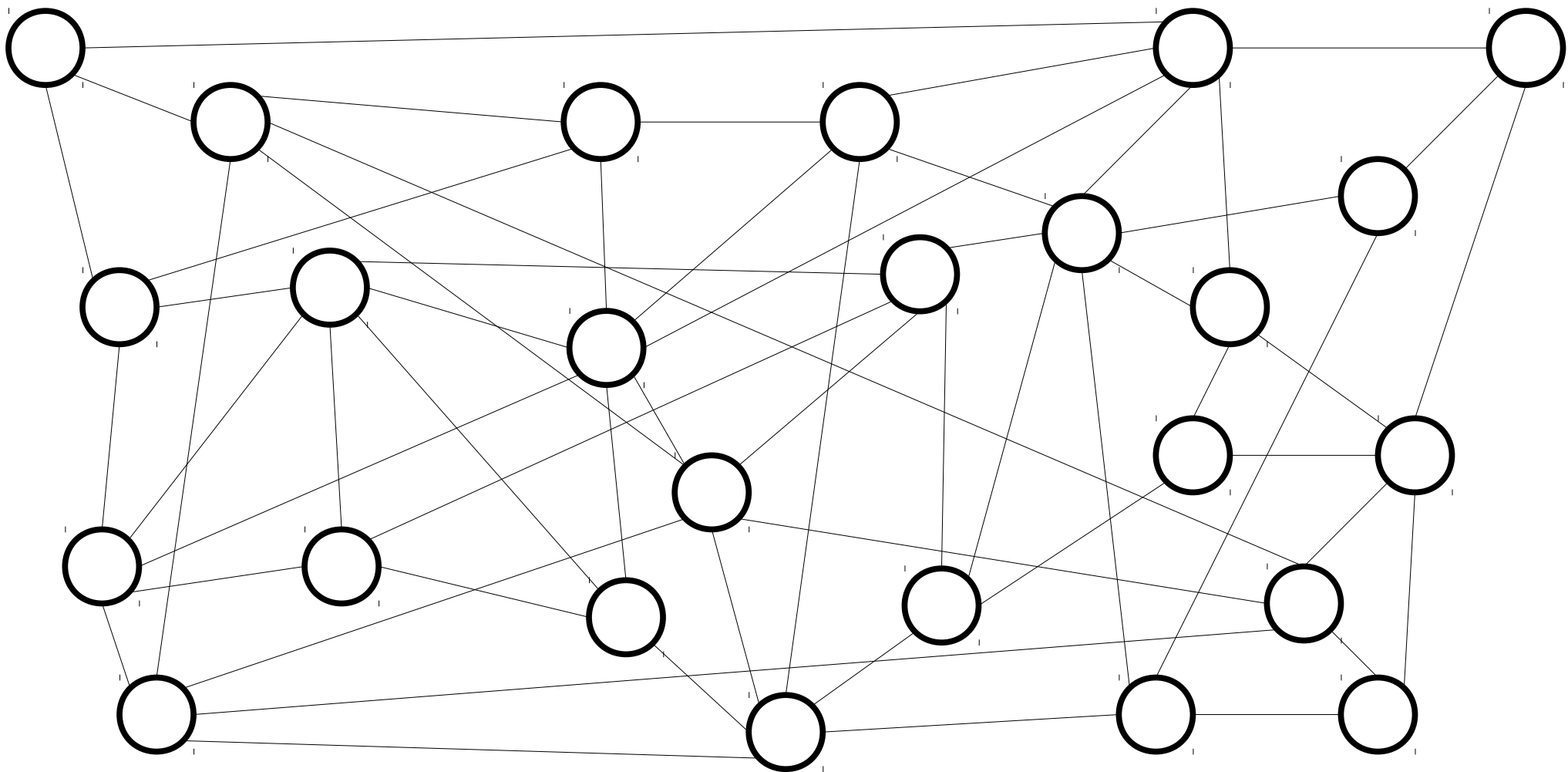
What exactly is the class **RE**?

# RE, Formally

- Recall that the class **RE** is the class of all recognizable languages:

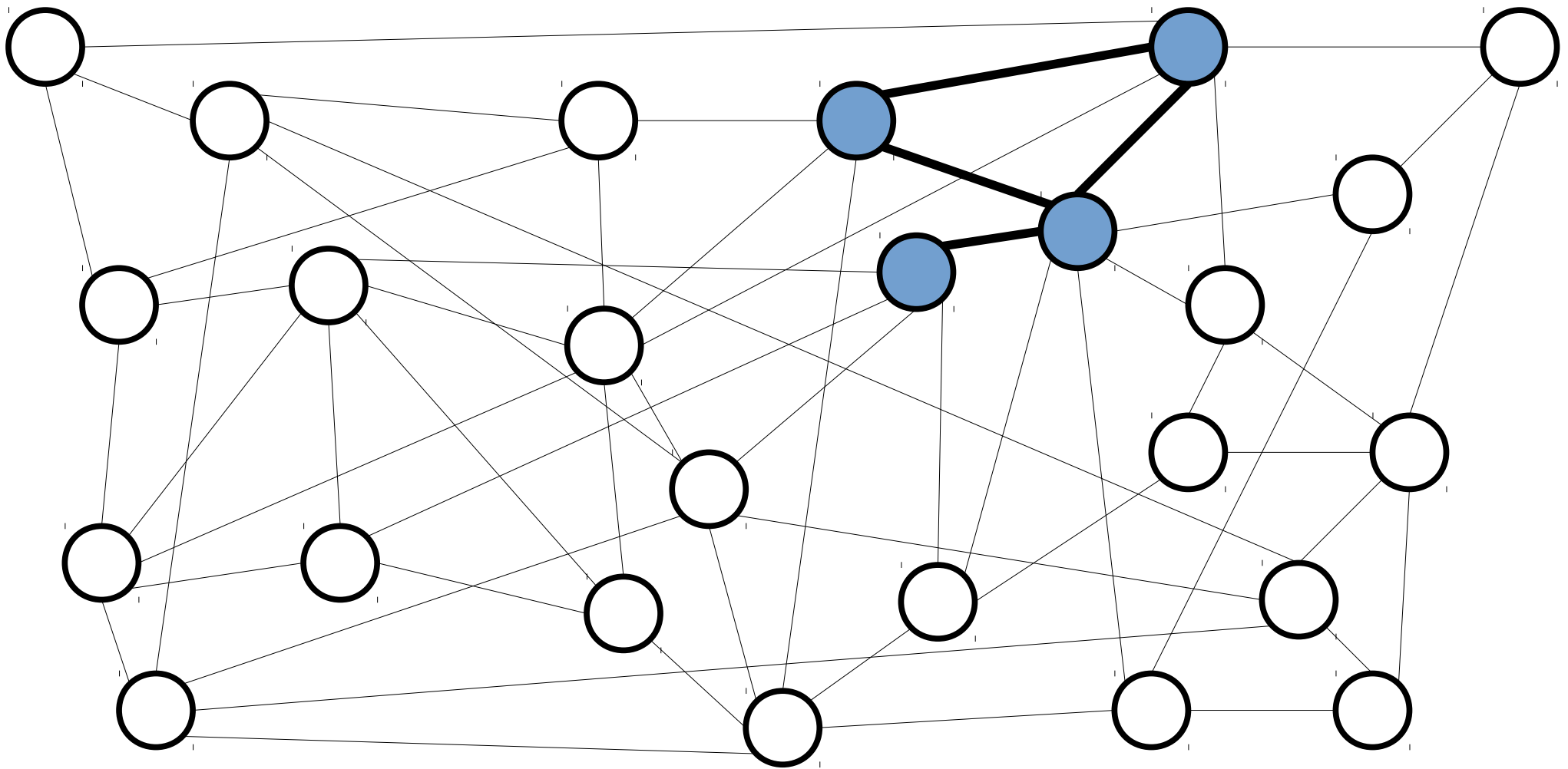
$$\mathbf{RE} = \{ L \mid \text{there is a TM } M \text{ where } \mathcal{L}(M) = L \}$$

- Since  $\mathbf{R} \neq \mathbf{RE}$ , there is no general way to “solve” problems in the class **RE**, if by “solve” you mean “make a computer program that can always tell you the correct answer.”
- So what exactly *are* the sorts of languages in **RE**?



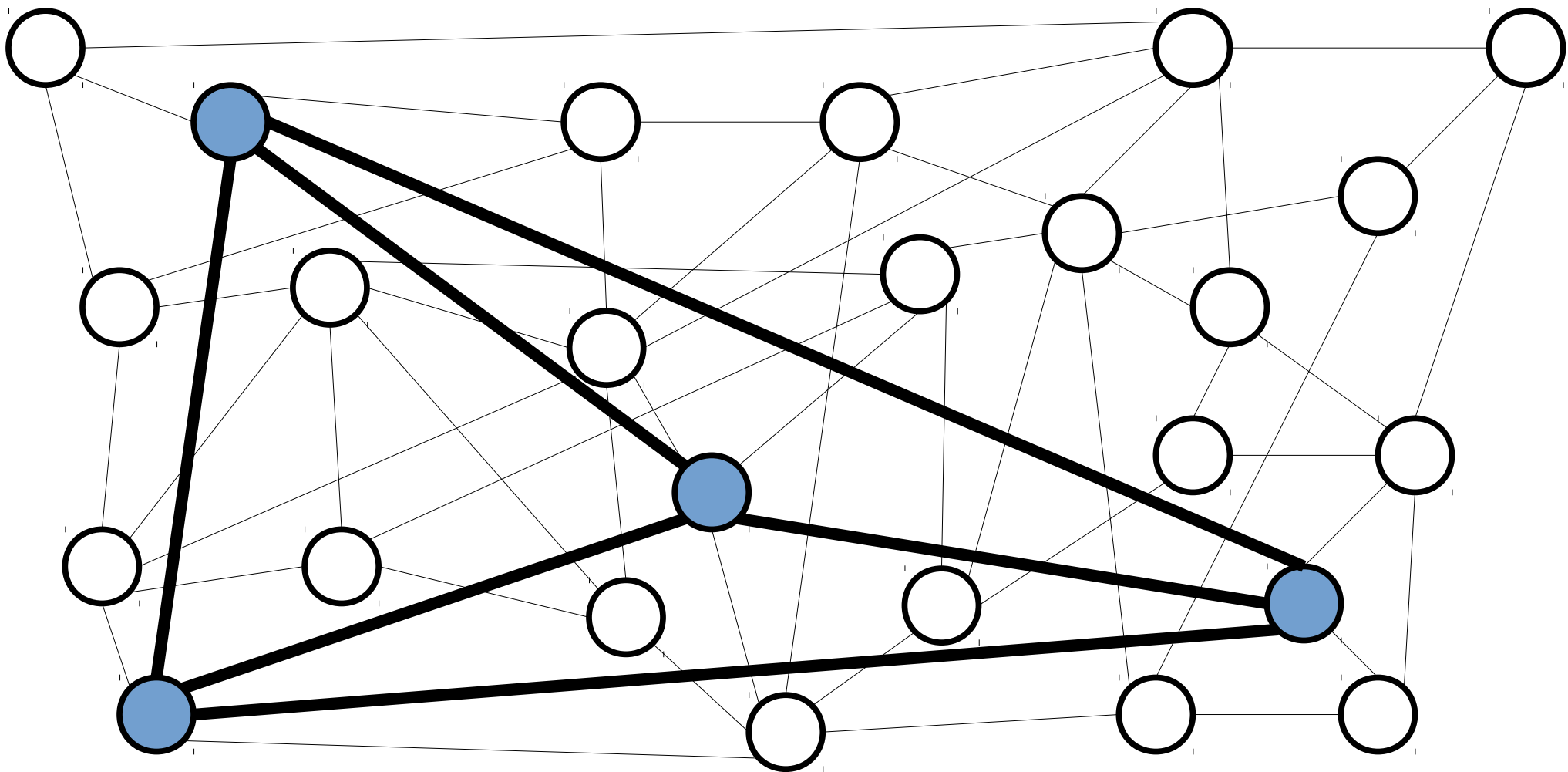
Does this graph contain a 4-clique?

Answer at [Pollevo.com/cs103](https://www.pollevo.com/cs103) or  
text **CS103** to **22333** once to join, then **Y** or **N**.



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## ***Key Intuition:***

A language  $L$  is in **RE** if, for any string  $w$ , if you are *convinced* that  $w \in L$ , there is some way you could prove that to someone else.



# Verification

		7		6		1		
					3		5	2
3			1		5	9		7
6		5		3		8		9
	1						2	
8		2		1		5		4
1		3	2		7			8
5	7		4					
		4		8		7		

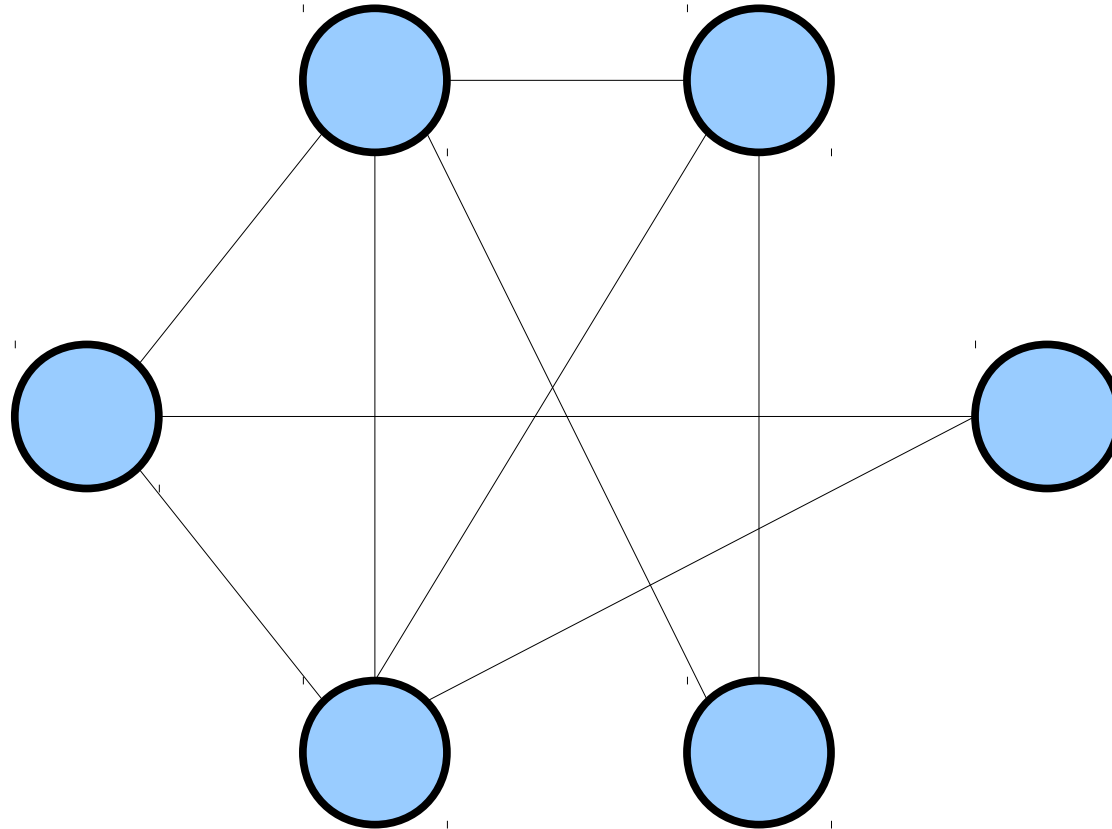
Does this Sudoku puzzle  
have a solution?

# Verification

2	5	7	9	6	4	1	8	3
4	9	1	8	7	3	6	5	2
3	8	6	1	2	5	9	4	7
6	4	5	7	3	2	8	1	9
7	1	9	5	4	8	3	2	6
8	3	2	6	1	9	5	7	4
1	6	3	2	5	7	4	9	8
5	7	8	4	9	6	2	3	1
9	2	4	3	8	1	7	6	5

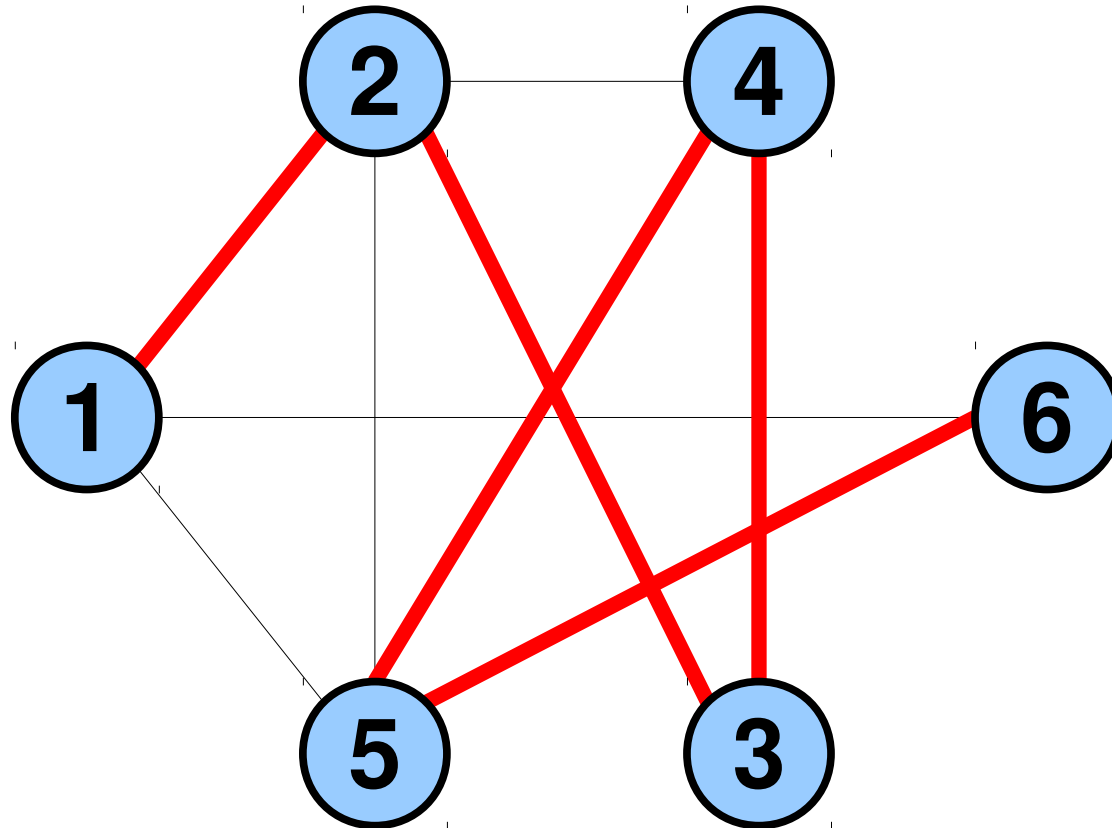
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# Verification



Does this graph have a ***Hamiltonian path*** (a simple path that passes through every node exactly once?)

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# Verification

**11**

Does the hailstone sequence  
terminate for this number?

# Verification

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Try running fourteen steps of the Hailstone sequence.

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# Verification

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		4		8		7		

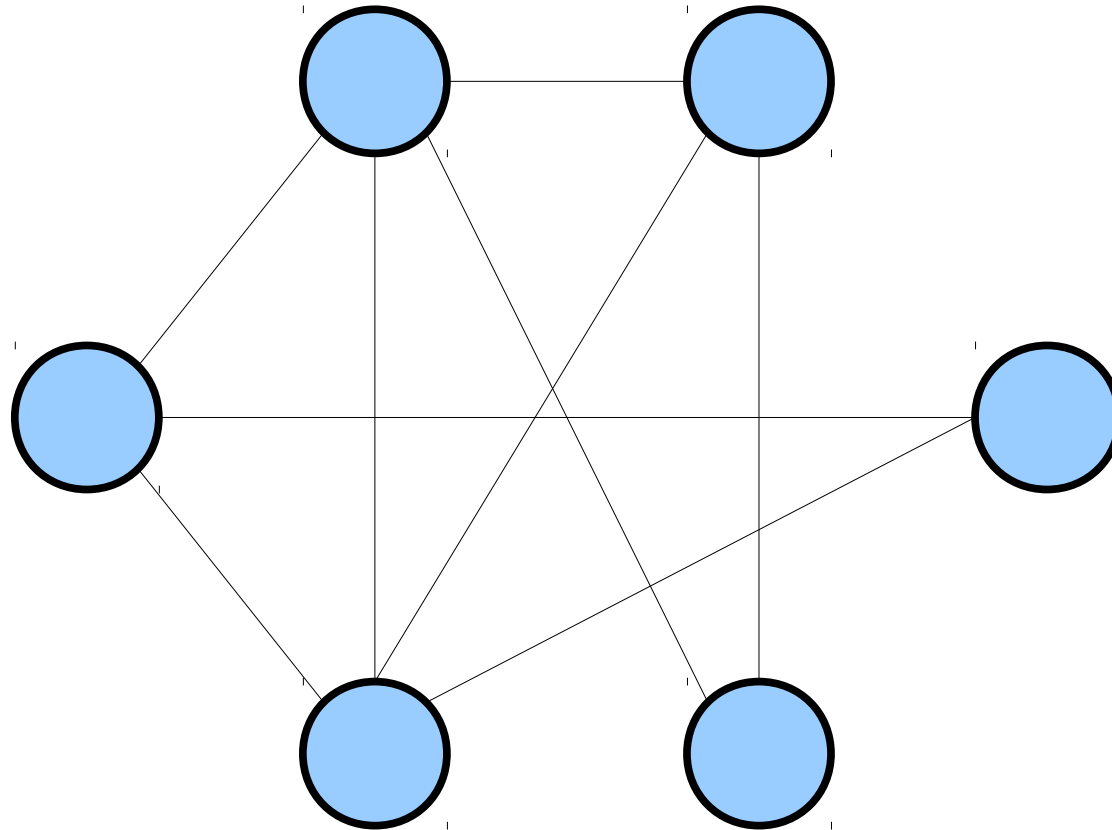
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1	1	7	1	6	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	3	1	5	2
3	1	1	1	1	5	9	1	7
6	1	5	1	3	1	8	1	9
1	1	1	1	4	1	1	2	1
8	1	2	1	1	1	5	1	4
1	1	3	2	1	7	1	1	8
5	7	1	4	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	4	1	8	1	7	1	1

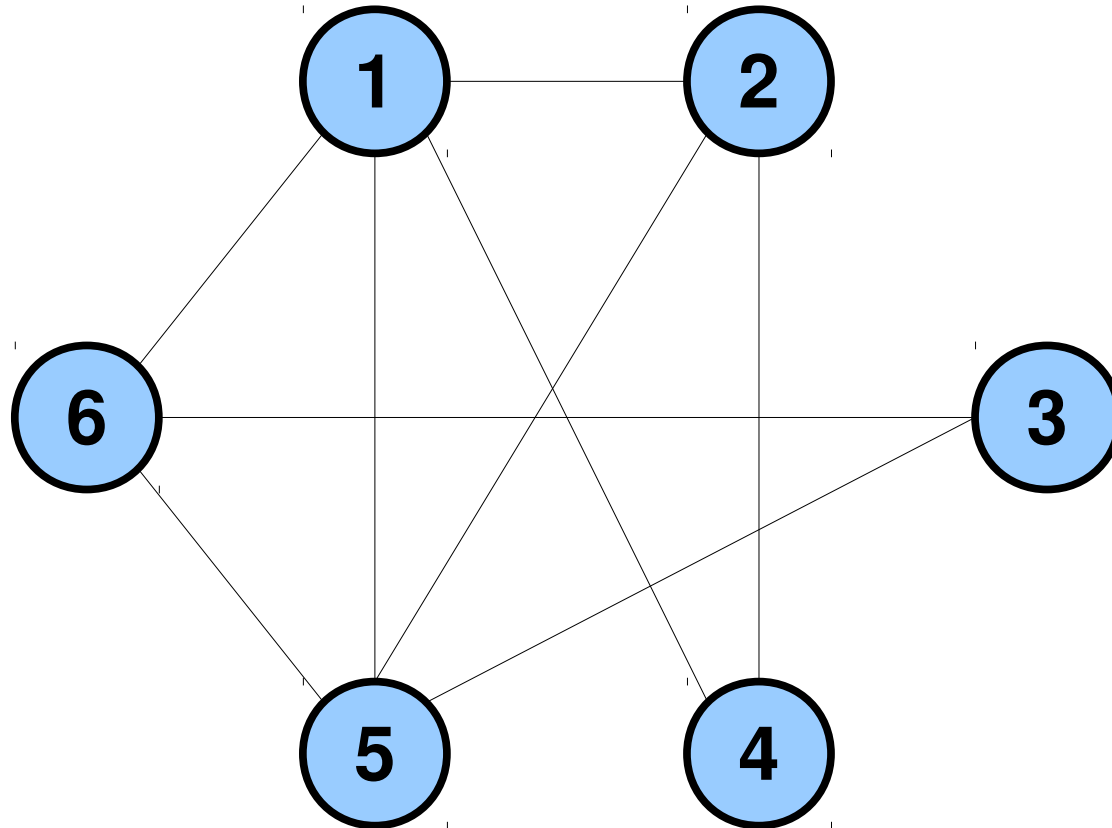
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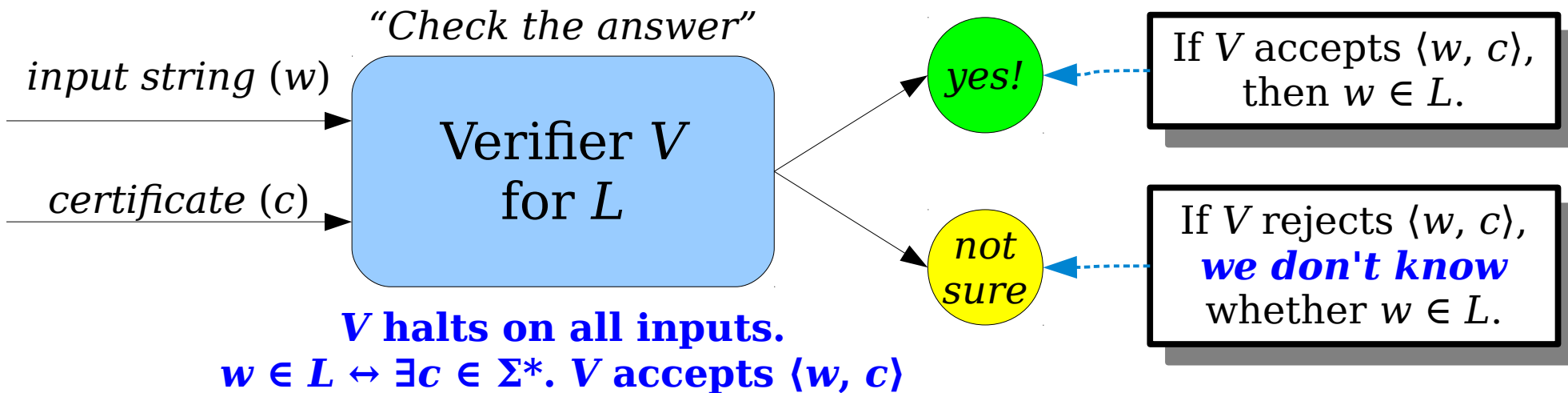
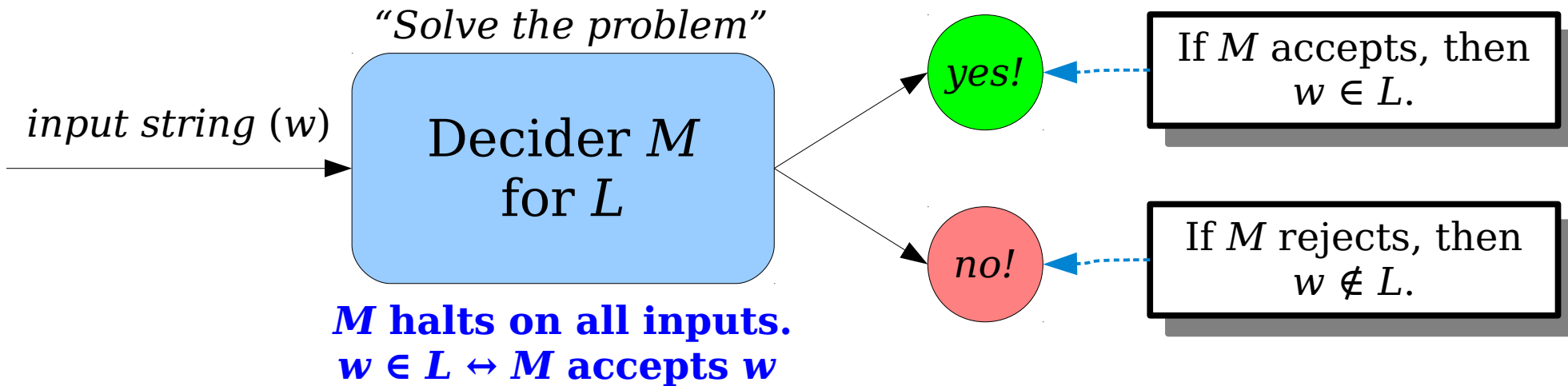
- In each of the preceding cases, we were given some problem and some evidence supporting the claim that the answer is “yes.”
- Given the correct evidence, we can be certain that the answer is indeed “yes.”
- Given incorrect evidence, we aren't sure whether the answer is “yes.”
  - Maybe there's *no* evidence saying that the answer is “yes,” or maybe there is some evidence, but just not the evidence we were given.
- Let's formalize this idea.



# Verifiers

- A **verifier** for a language  $L$  is a TM  $V$  with the following properties:
  - $V$  halts on all inputs.
  - For any string  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , the following is true:  
$$w \in L \leftrightarrow \exists c \in \Sigma^*. V \text{ accepts } \langle w, c \rangle$$
- A string  $c$  where  $V$  accepts  $\langle w, c \rangle$  is called a **certificate** for  $w$ .
- Intuitively, what does this mean?

# Deciders and Verifiers



# Verifiers

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  - For any string  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , the following is true:  
$$w \in L \iff \exists c \in \Sigma^*. V \text{ accepts } \langle w, c \rangle$$
- Some notes about  $V$ :
  - If  $V$  accepts  $\langle w, c \rangle$ , then we're guaranteed  $w \in L$ .
  - If  $V$  does not accept  $\langle w, c \rangle$ , then either
    - $w \in L$ , but you gave the wrong  $c$ , or
    - $w \notin L$ , so no possible  $c$  will work.

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  - For any string  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , the following is true:

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- Some notes about  $V$ :
  - Notice that  $c$  is existentially quantified. Any string  $w \in L$  must have at least one  $c$  that causes  $V$  to accept, and possibly more.
  - $V$  is required to halt, so given any potential certificate  $c$  for  $w$ , you can check whether the certificate is correct.

# Verifiers

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  - For any string  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , the following is true:  
$$w \in L \leftrightarrow \exists c \in \Sigma^*. V \text{ accepts } \langle w, c \rangle$$
- Some notes about  $V$ :
  - Notice that  $\mathcal{L}(V) \neq L$ . (*Good question: what is  $\mathcal{L}(V)$ ?*)
  - The job of  $V$  is just to check certificates, not to decide membership in  $L$ .

# Verifiers

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  - $V$  halts on all inputs.
  - For any string  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , the following is true:  
$$w \in L \iff \exists c \in \Sigma^*. V \text{ accepts } \langle w, c \rangle$$
- Some notes about  $V$ :
  - Although this formal definition works with a string  $c$ , remember that  $c$  can be an encoding of some other object.
  - In practice,  $c$  will likely just be “some other auxiliary data that helps you out.”

# Some Verifiers

- Let  $L$  be the following language:

$$L = \{ \langle n \rangle \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and the hailstone sequence terminates for } n \}$$

- Let's see how to build a verifier for  $L$ .

# Verification

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# Some Verifiers

- Let  $L$  be the following language:

$L = \{ \langle n \rangle \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and the hailstone sequence terminates for } n \}$

```
bool checkHailstone(int n, int c) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < c; i++) {  
        if (n % 2 == 0) n /= 2;  
        else n = 3*n + 1;  
    }  
    return n == 1;  
}
```

- Do you see why  $\langle n \rangle \in L$  iff there is some  $c$  such that `checkHailstone(n, c)` returns true?
- Do you see why `checkHailstone` always halts?



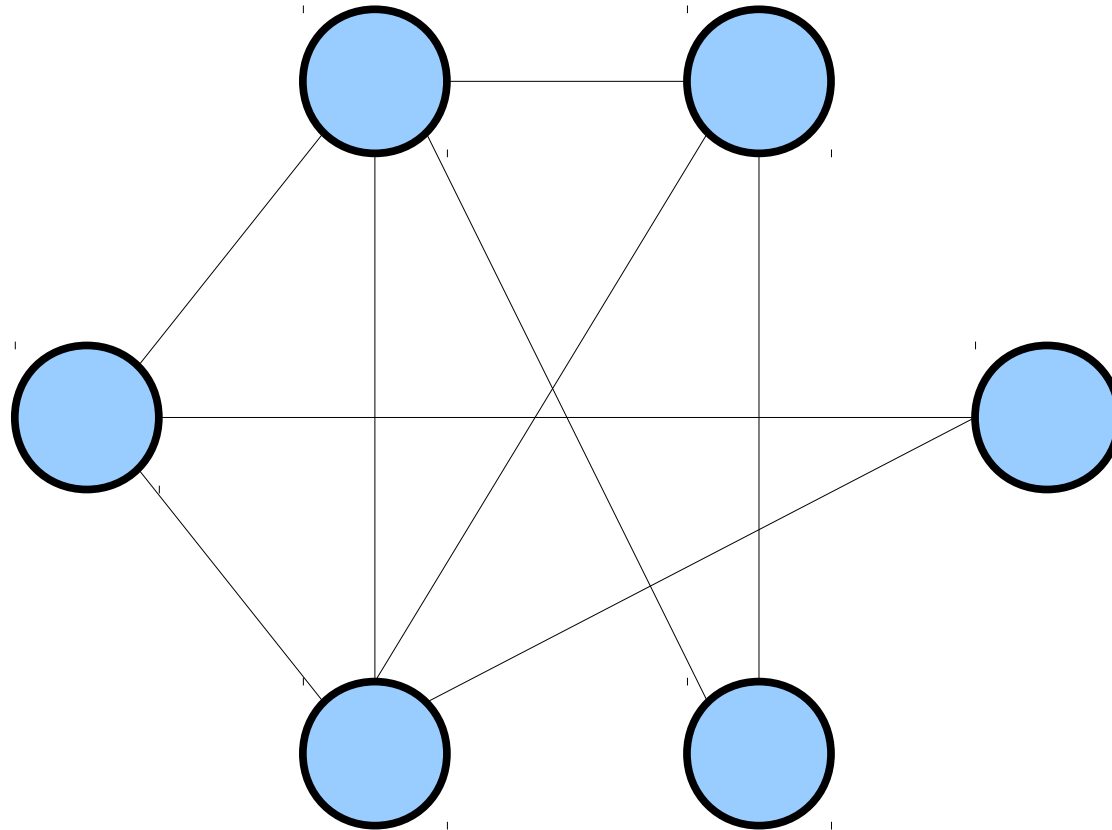
# Some Verifiers

- Let  $L$  be the following language:

$$L = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a graph and } G \text{ has a Hamiltonian path} \}$$

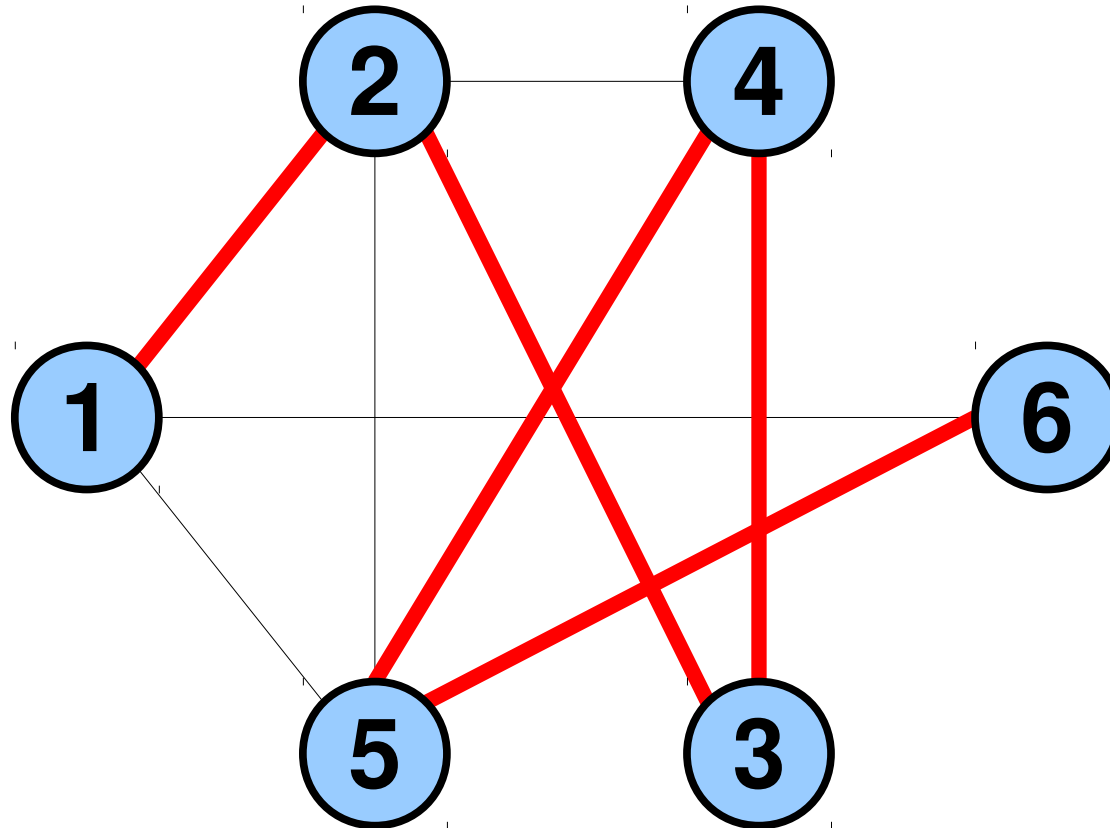
- (A Hamiltonian path is a simple path that visits every node in the graph.)
- Let's see how to build a verifier for  $L$ .

# Verification



Is there a simple path that goes through every node exactly once?

# Verification



Is there a simple path that goes through every node exactly once?

# Some Verifiers

- Let  $L$  be the following language:

$L = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a graph with a Hamiltonian path} \}$

```
bool checkHamiltonian(Graph G, vector<Node> c) {  
    if (c.size() != G.numNodes()) return false;  
    if (containsDuplicate(c)) return false;  
  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < c.size() - 1; i++) {  
        if (!G.hasEdge(c[i], c[i+1])) return false;  
    }  
    return true;  
}
```

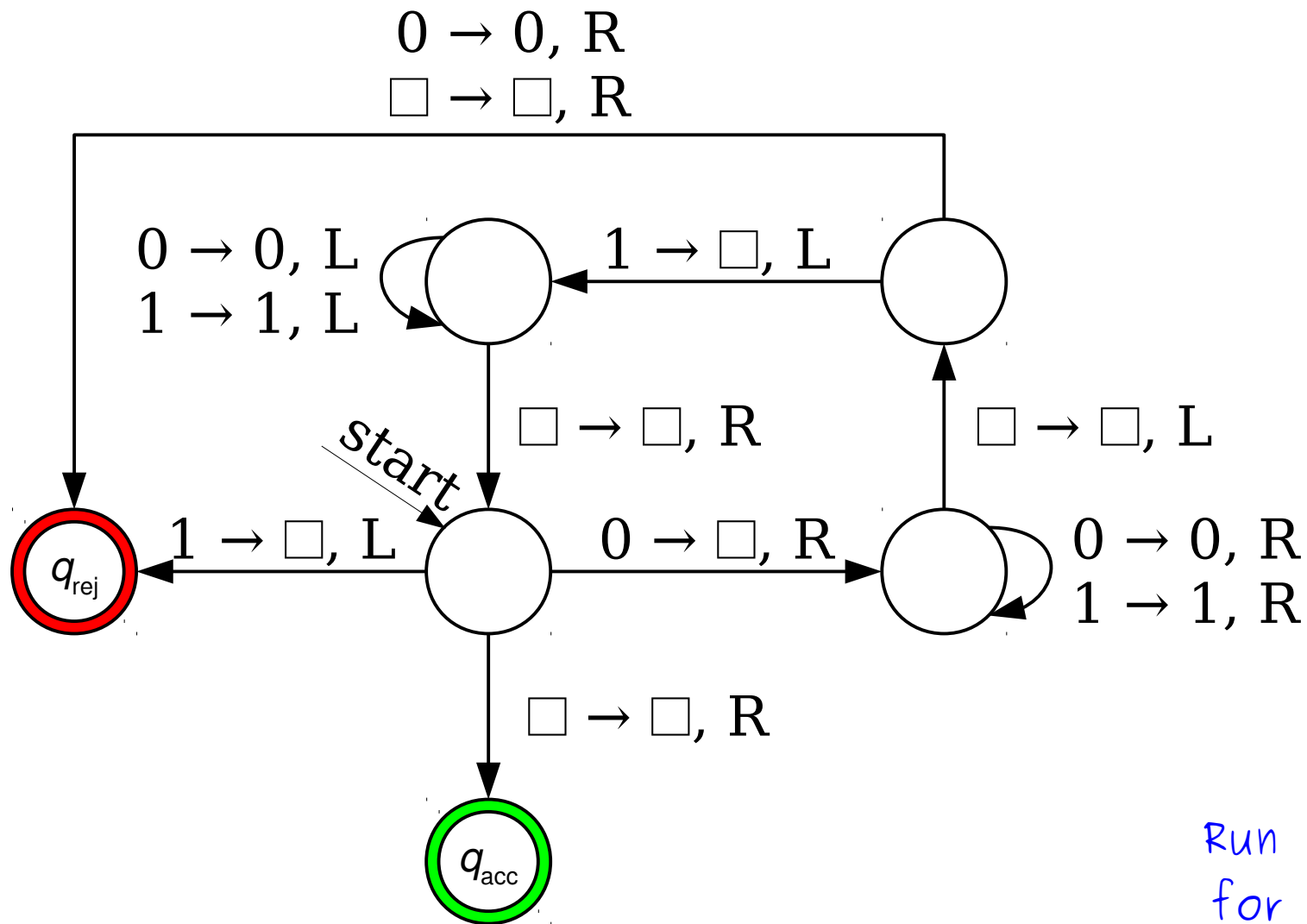
- Do you see why  $\langle G \rangle \in L$  iff there is a  $c$  where `checkHamiltonian(G, c)` returns true?
- Do you see why `checkHamiltonian` always halts?

# Some Verifiers

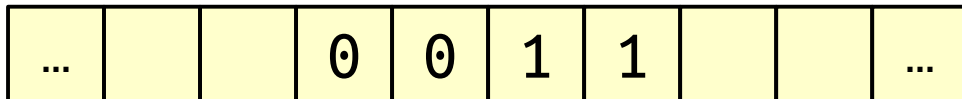
- Consider  $A_{\text{TM}}$ :

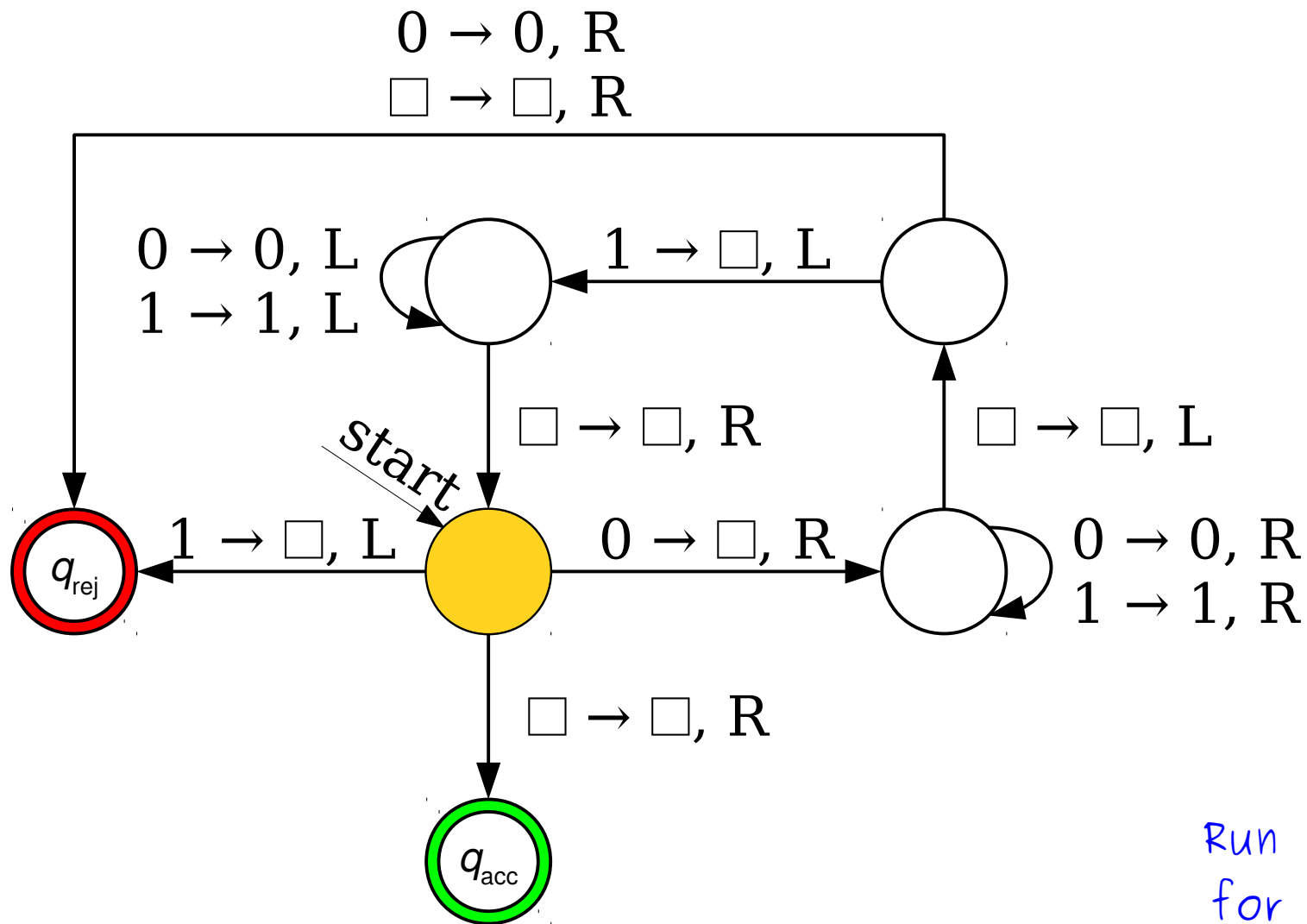
$$A_{\text{TM}} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w \}.$$

- This is a *canonical* example of an undecidable language. There's no way, in general, to tell whether a TM  $M$  will accept a string  $w$ .
- Although this language is undecidable, it's an **RE** language, and it's possible to build a verifier for it!

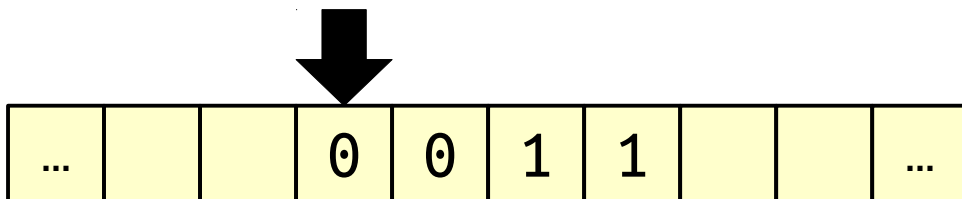


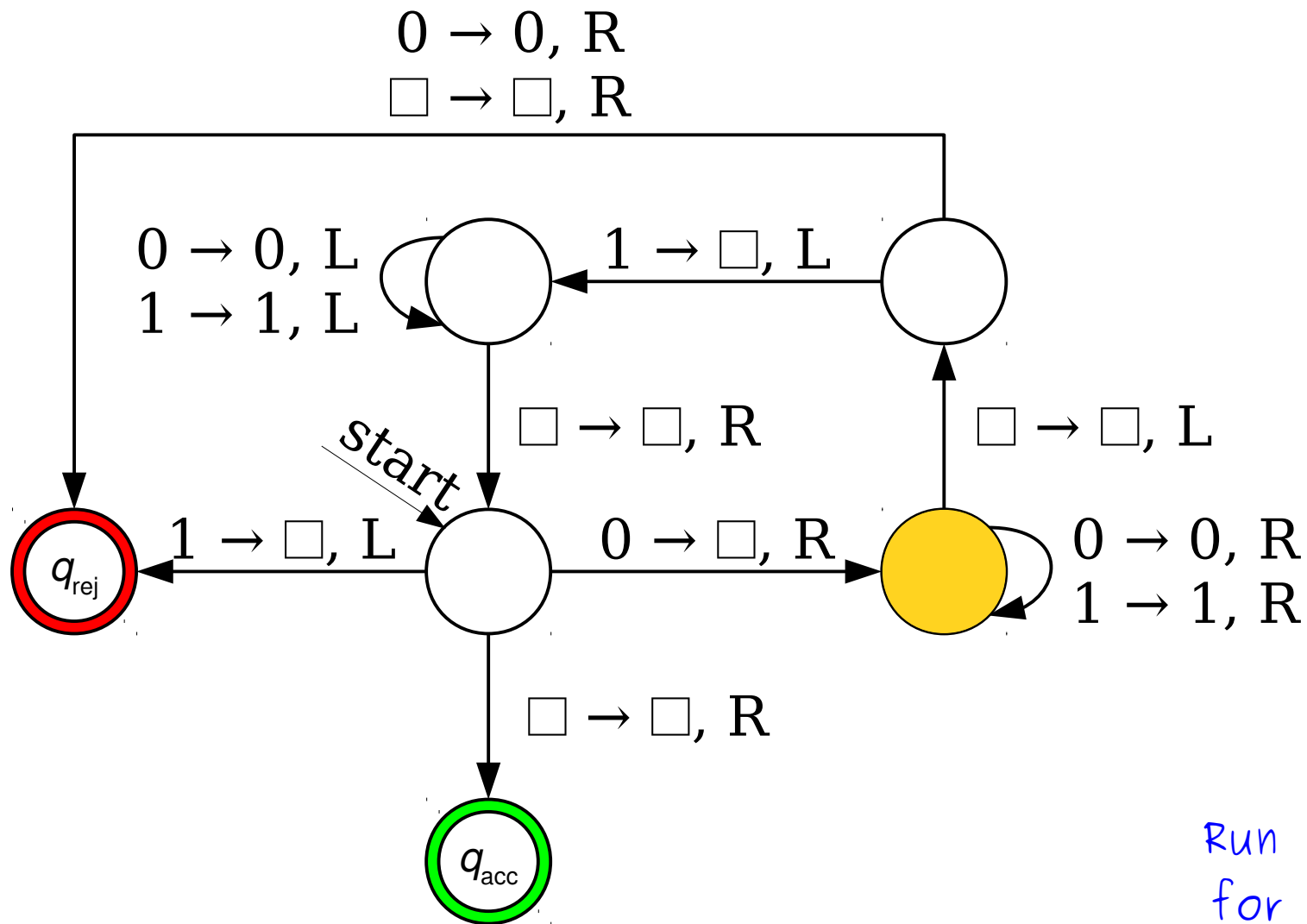
Run this TM  
for fifteen  
steps.



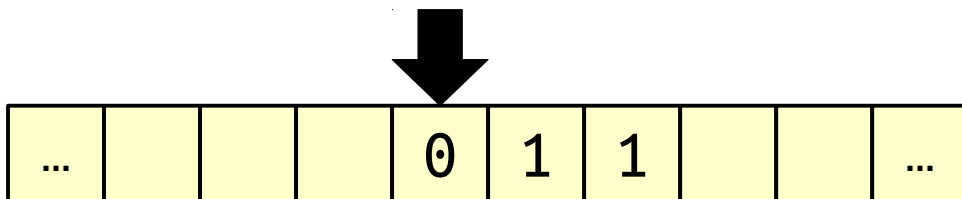


Run this TM for fifteen steps.

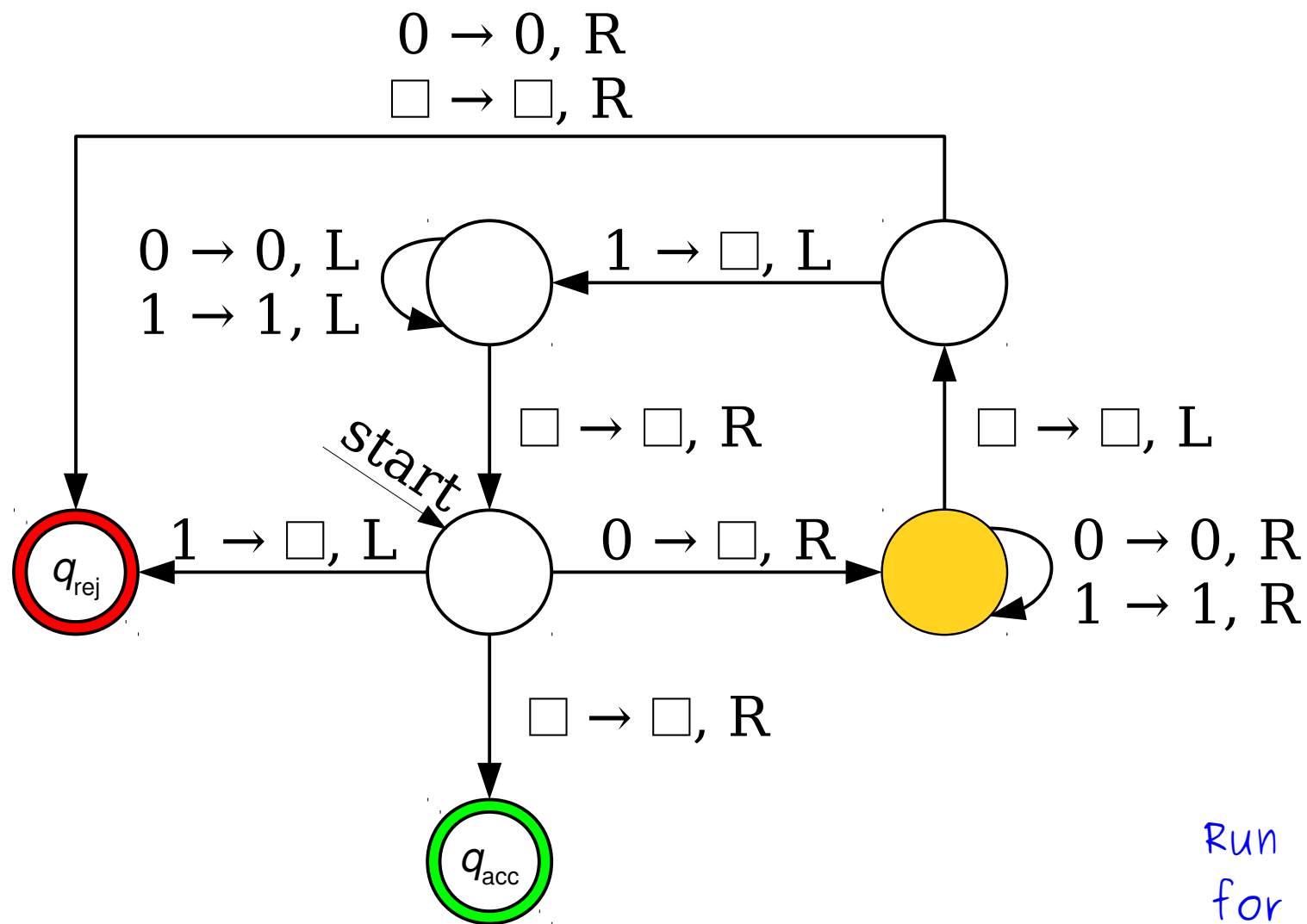




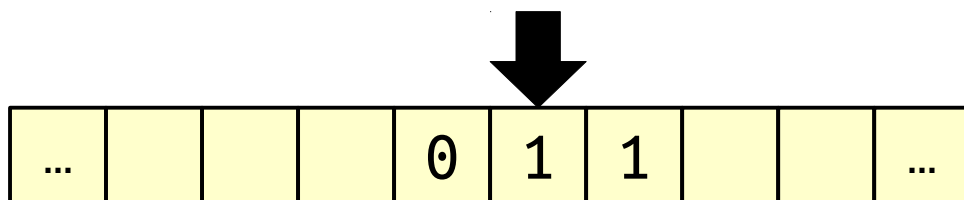
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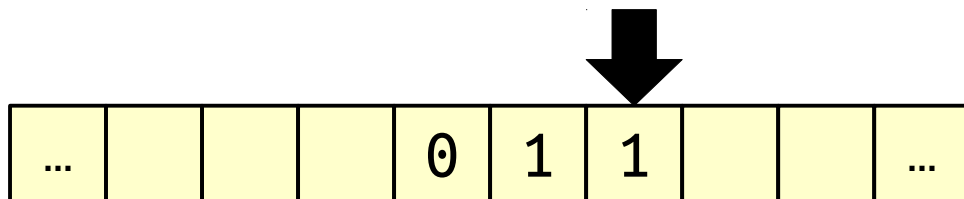
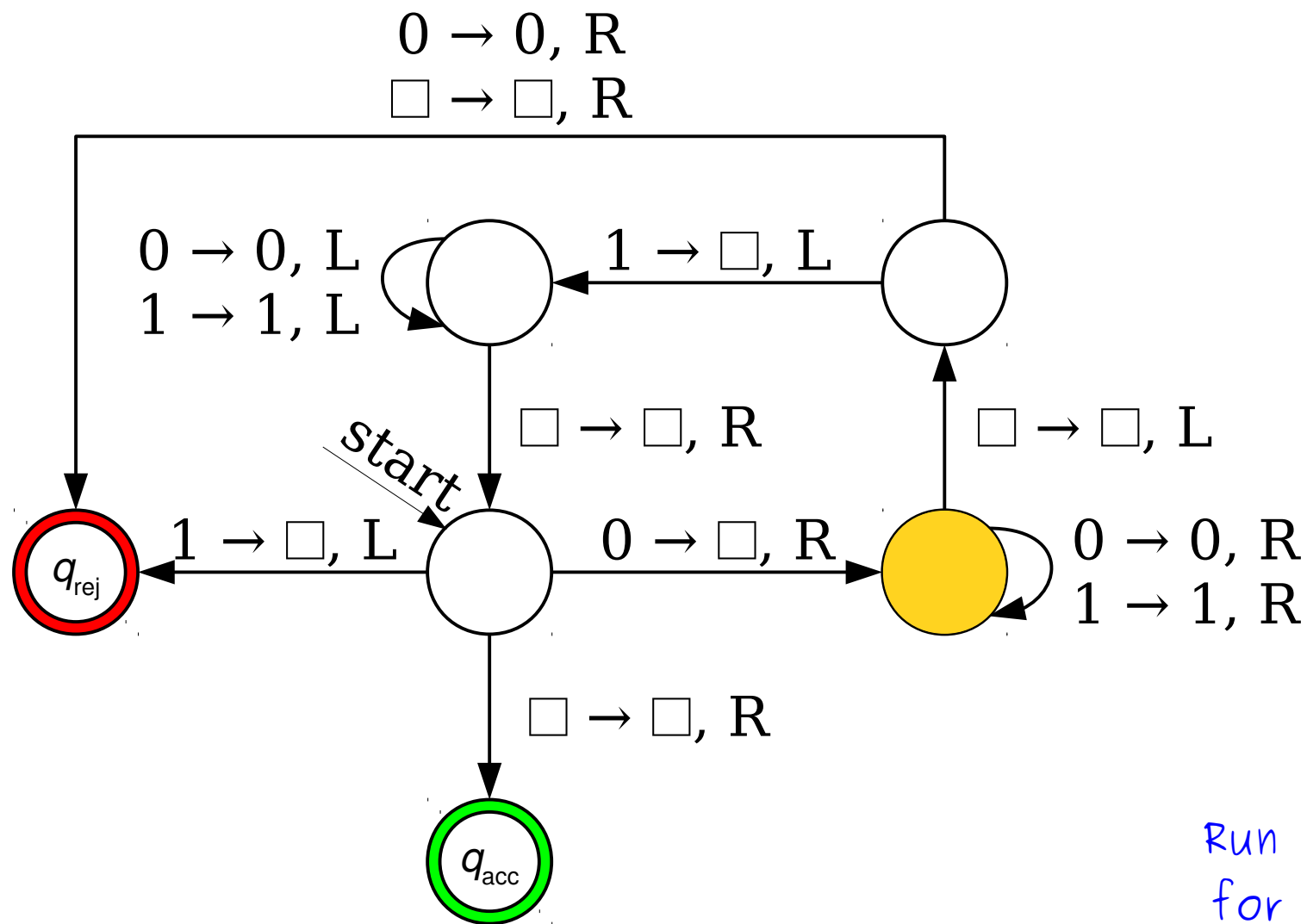


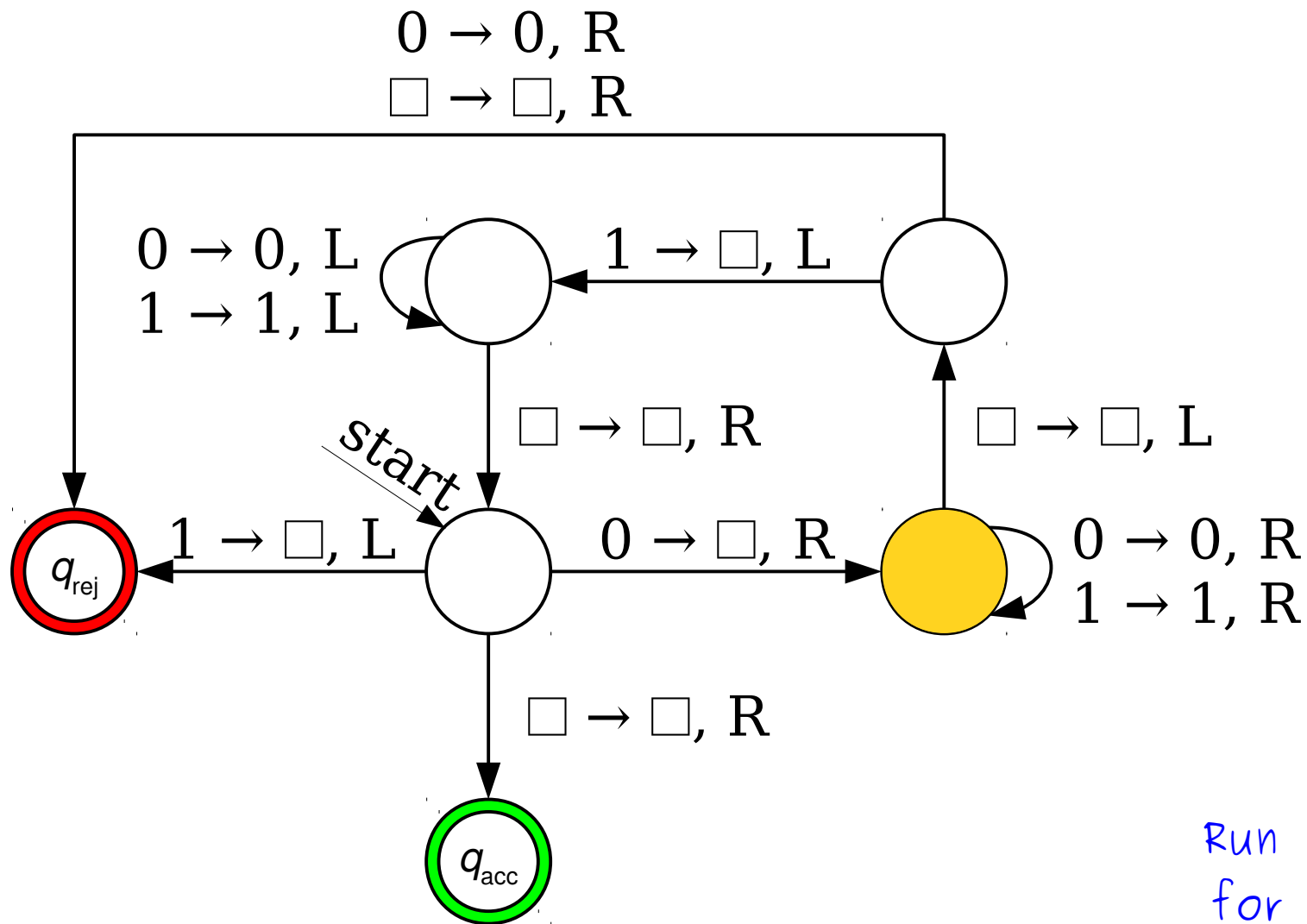




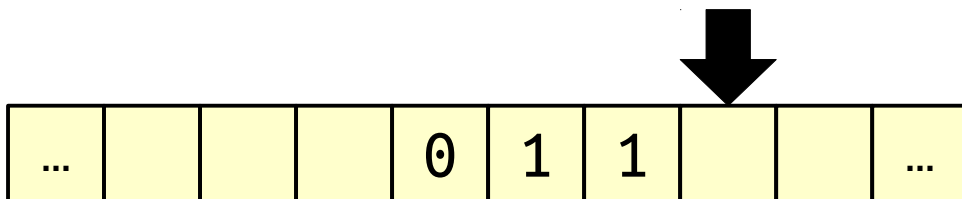
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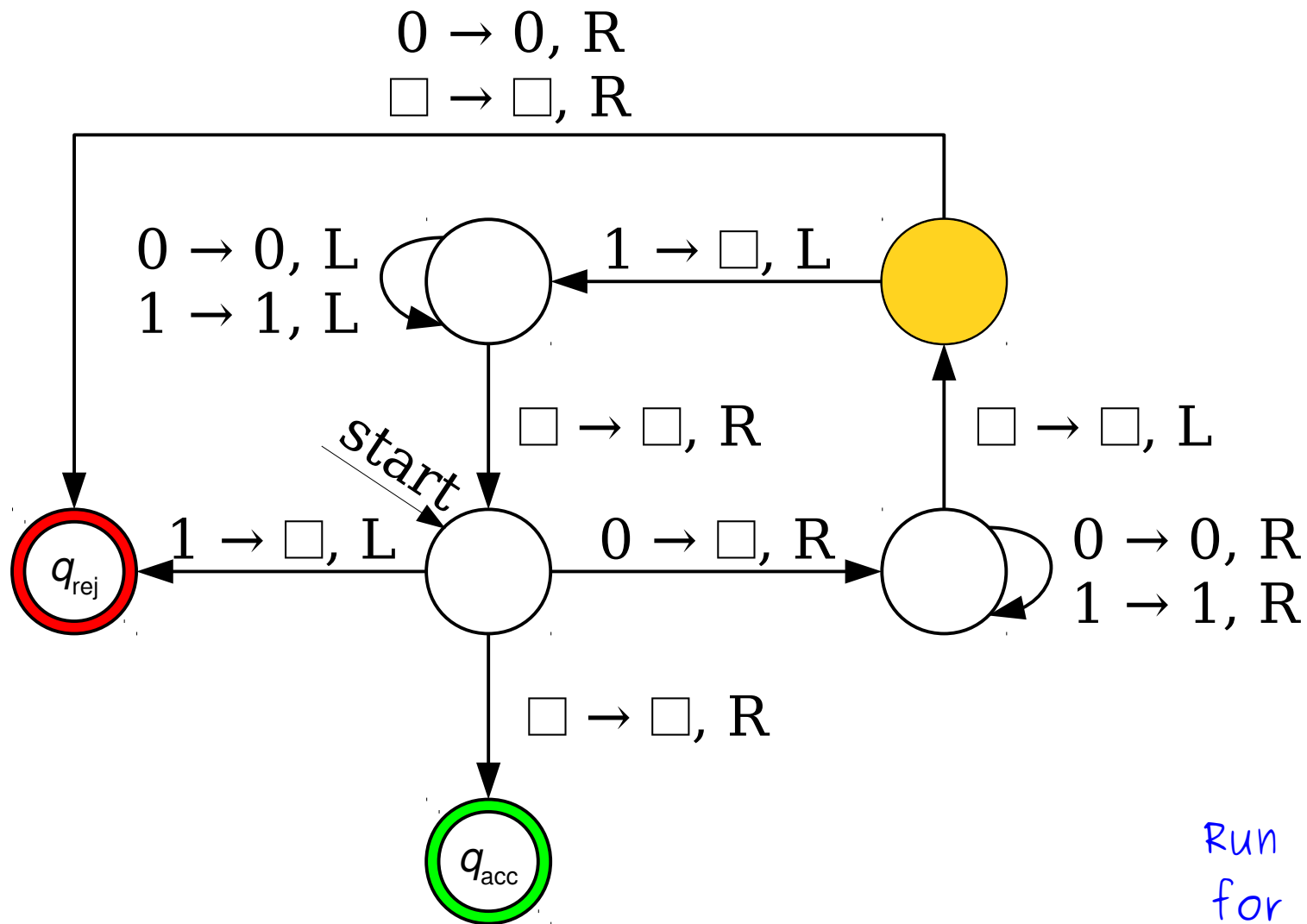




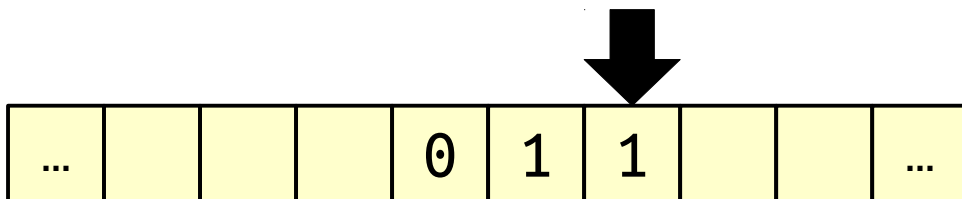


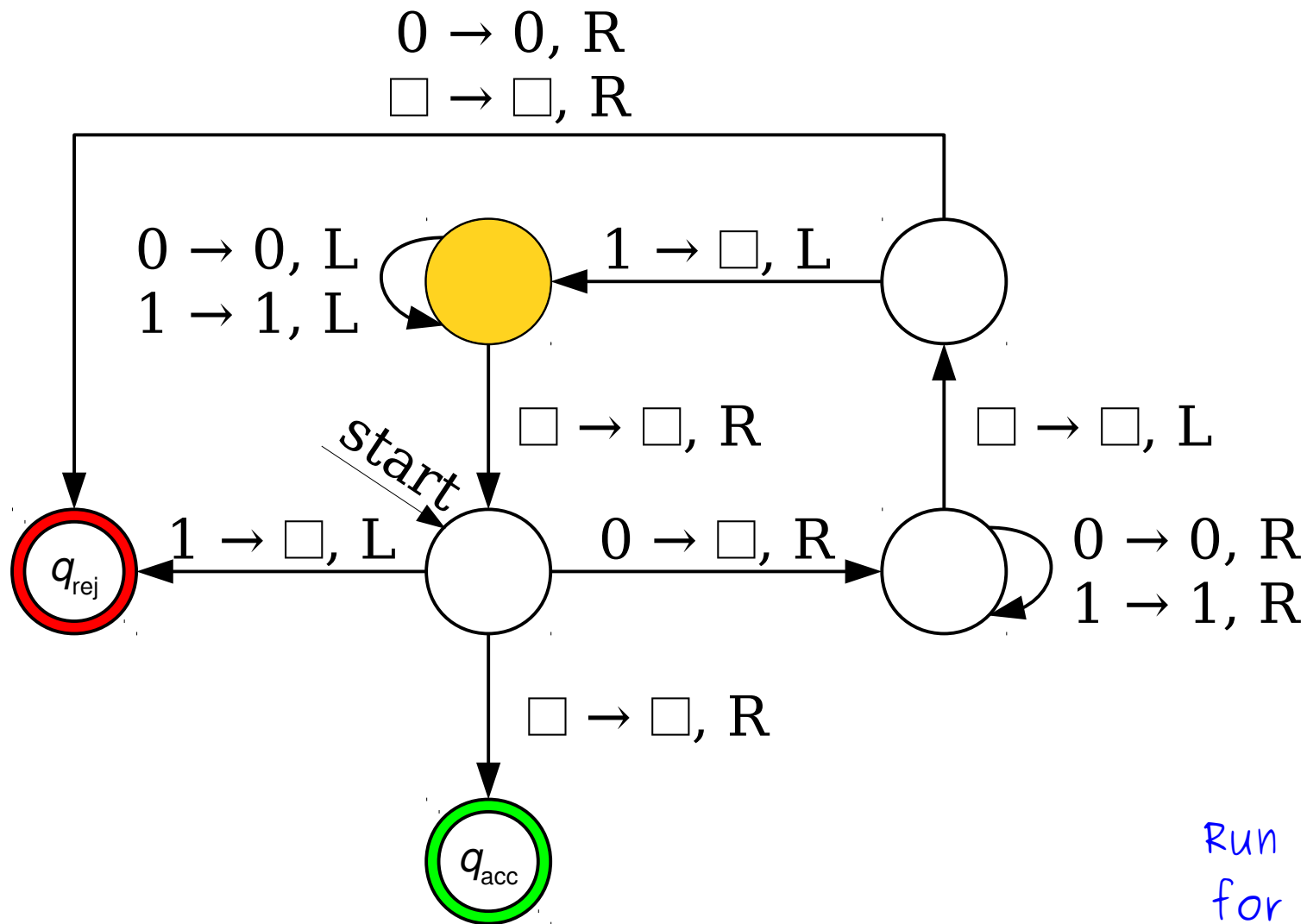
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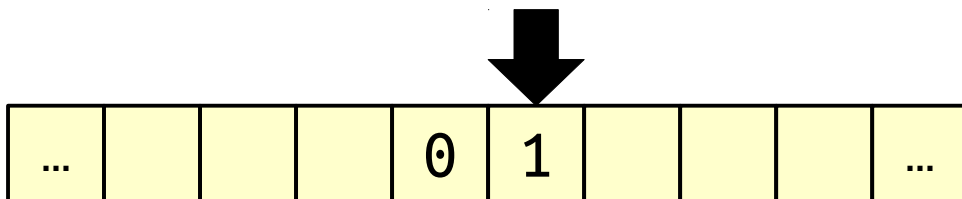


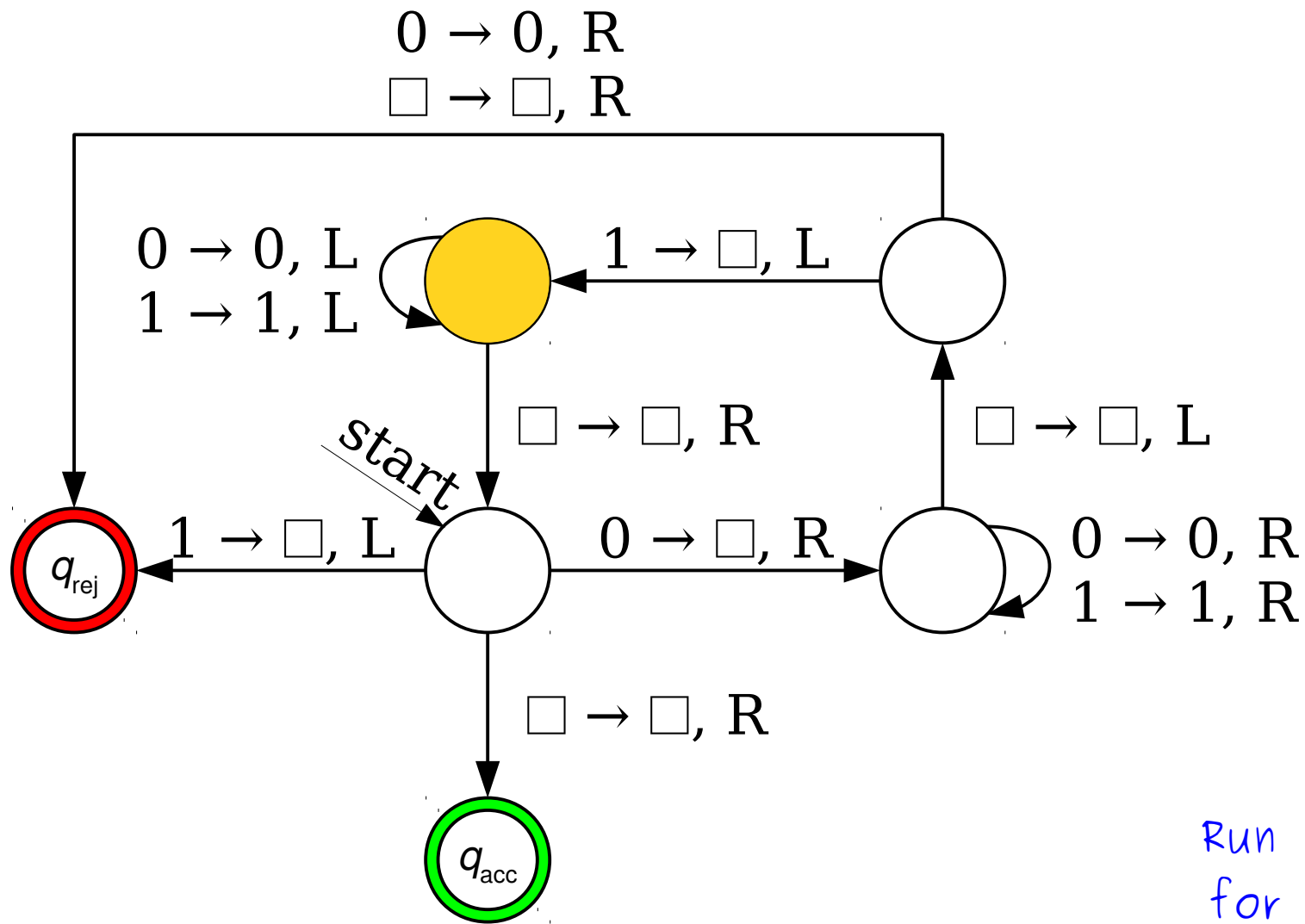
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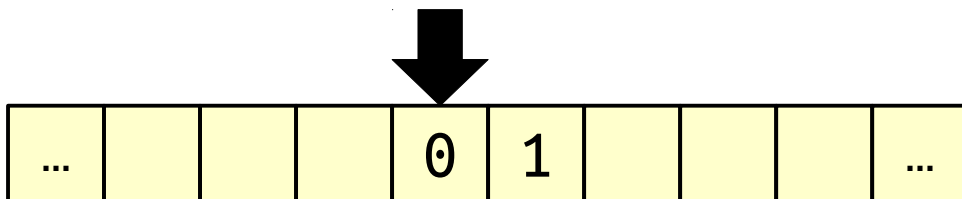


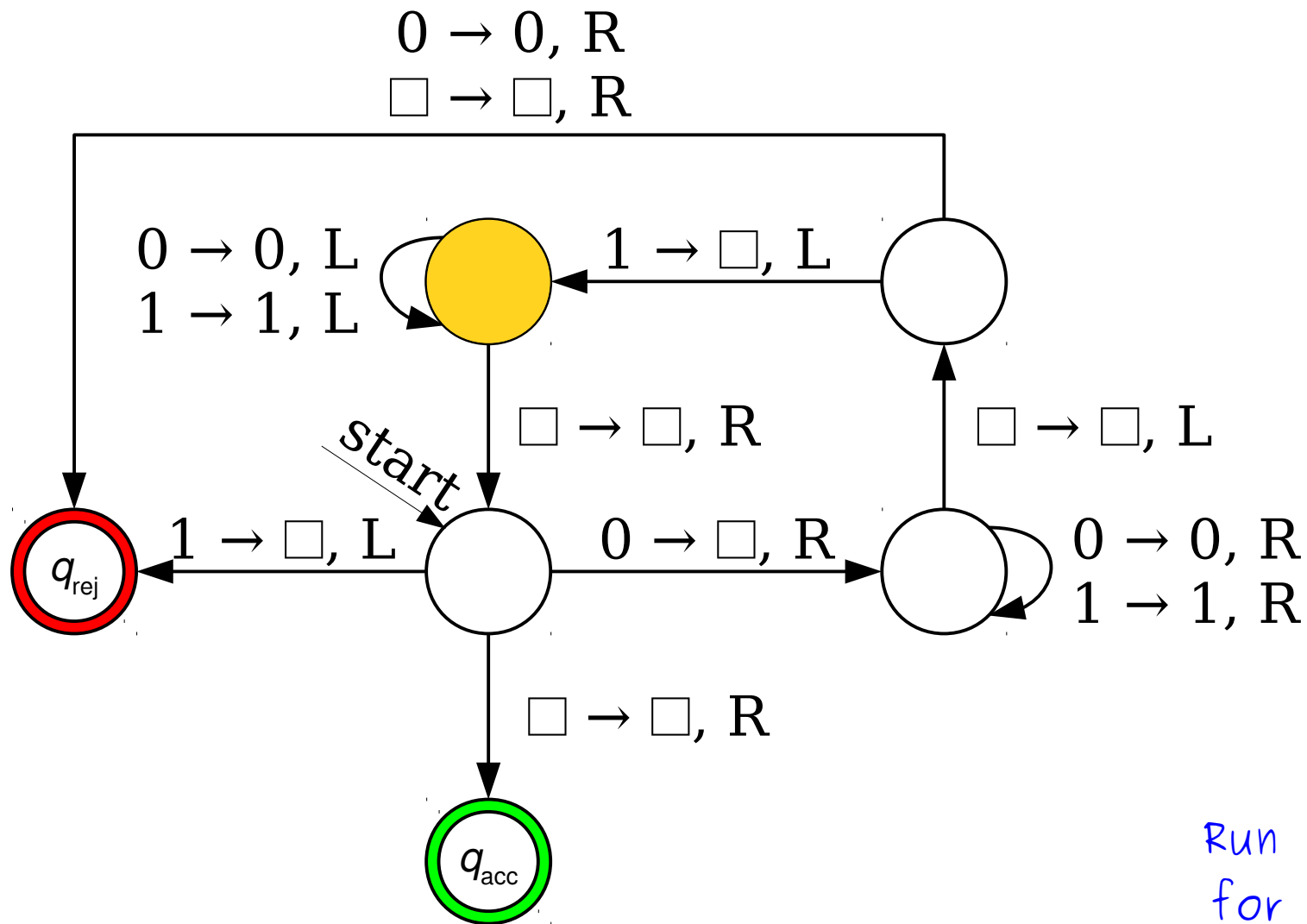
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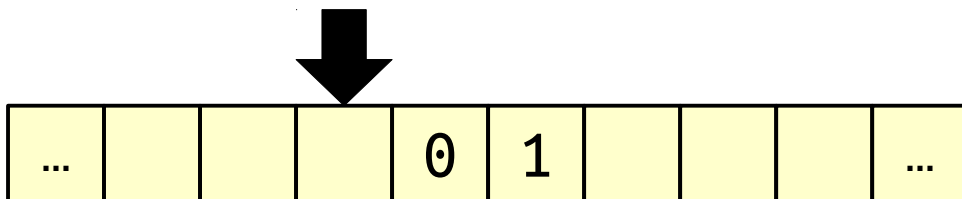


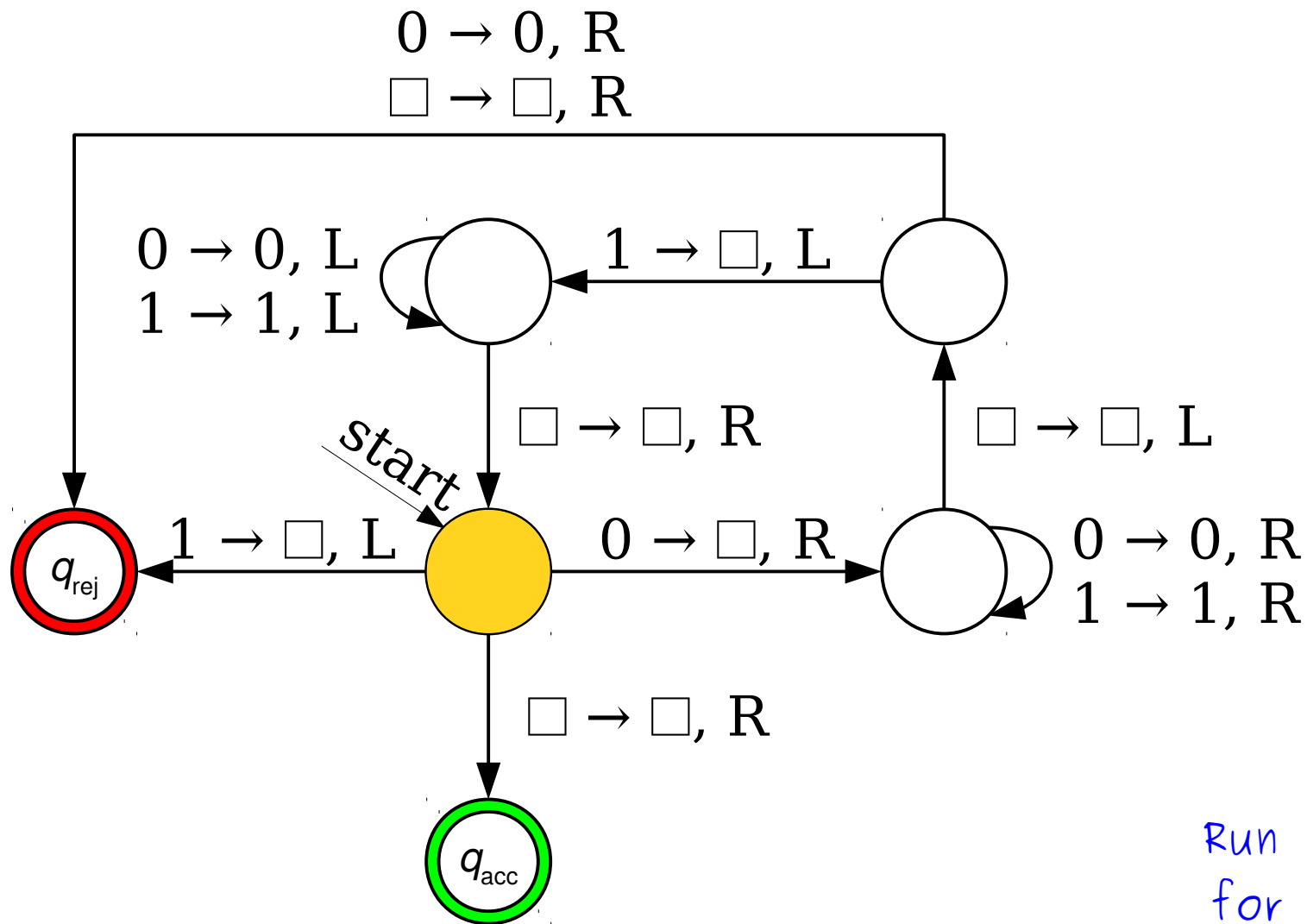
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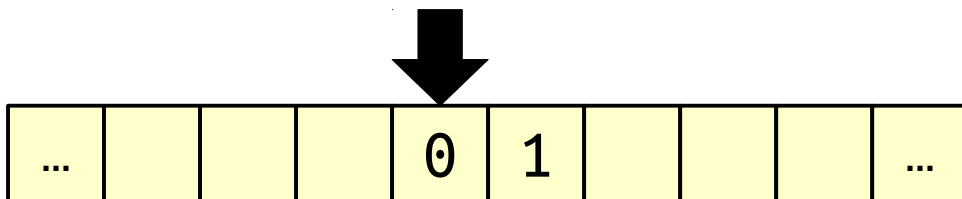


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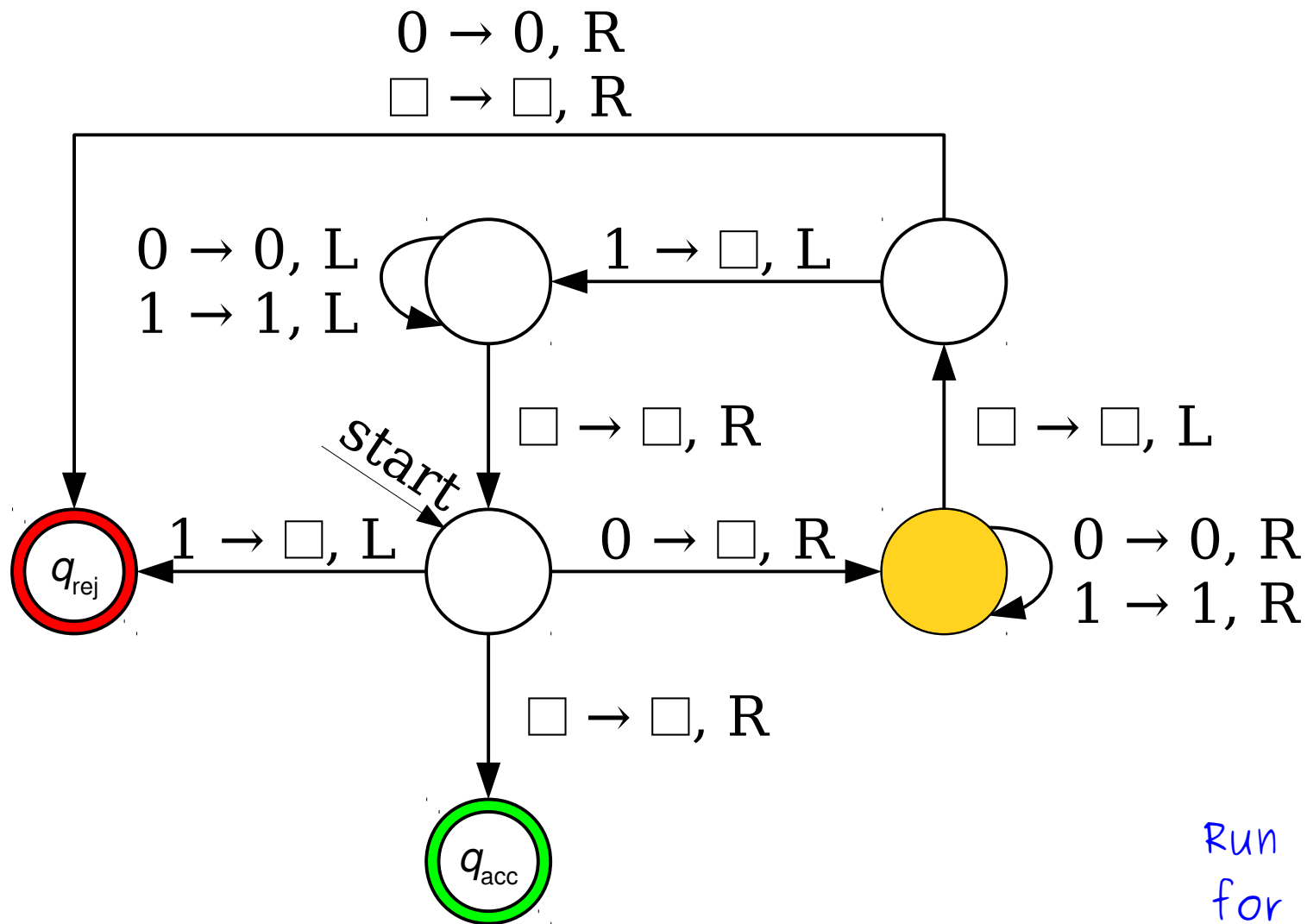




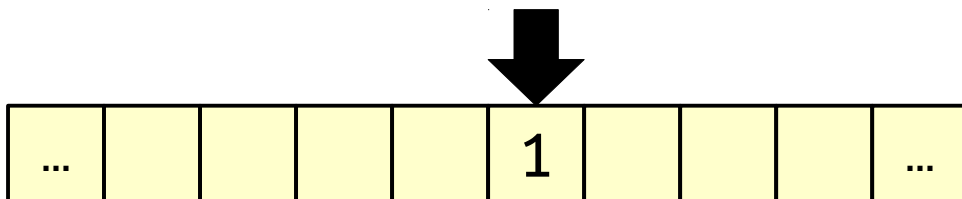
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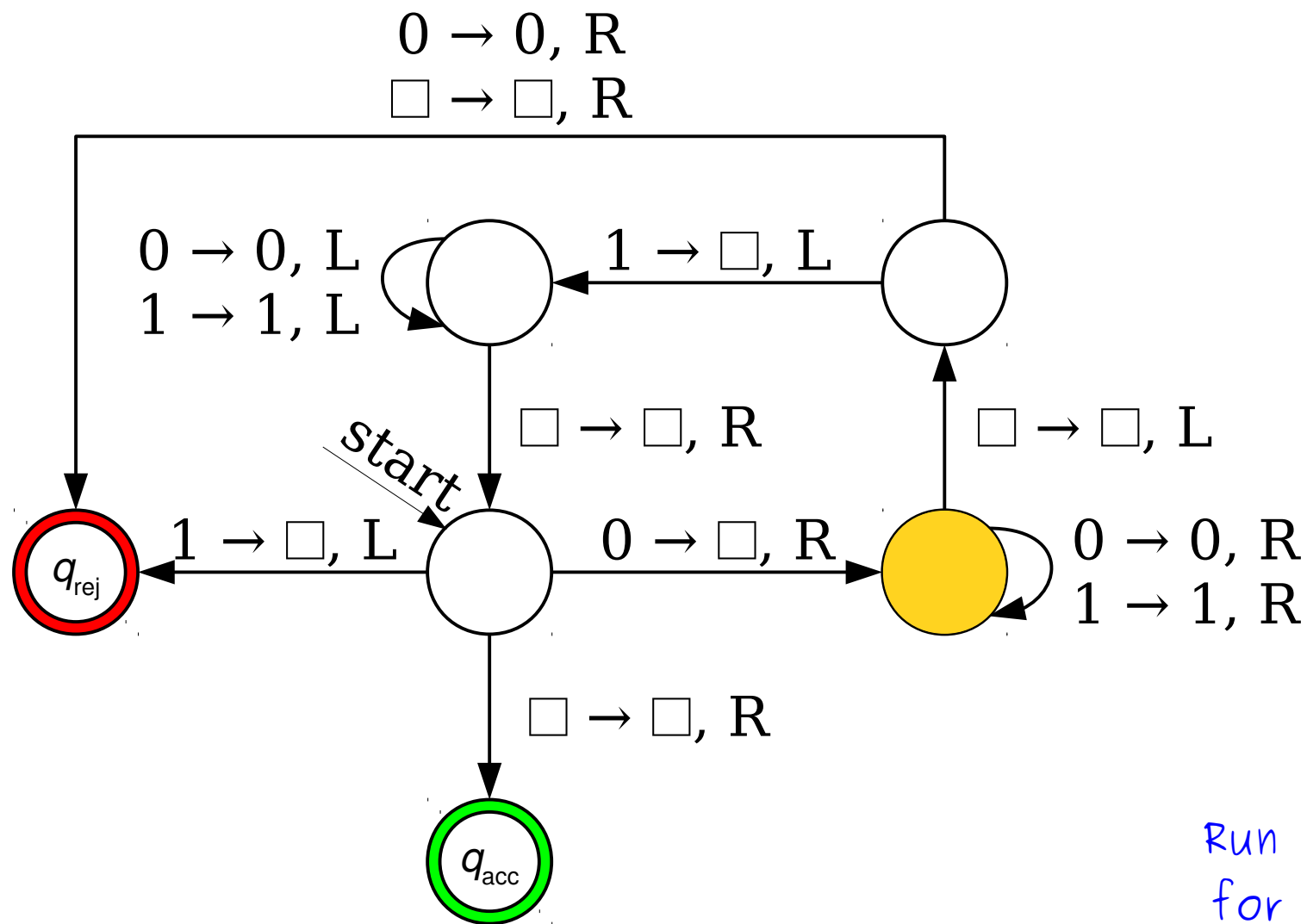




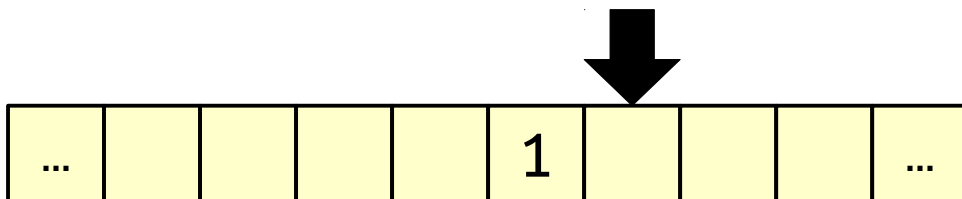


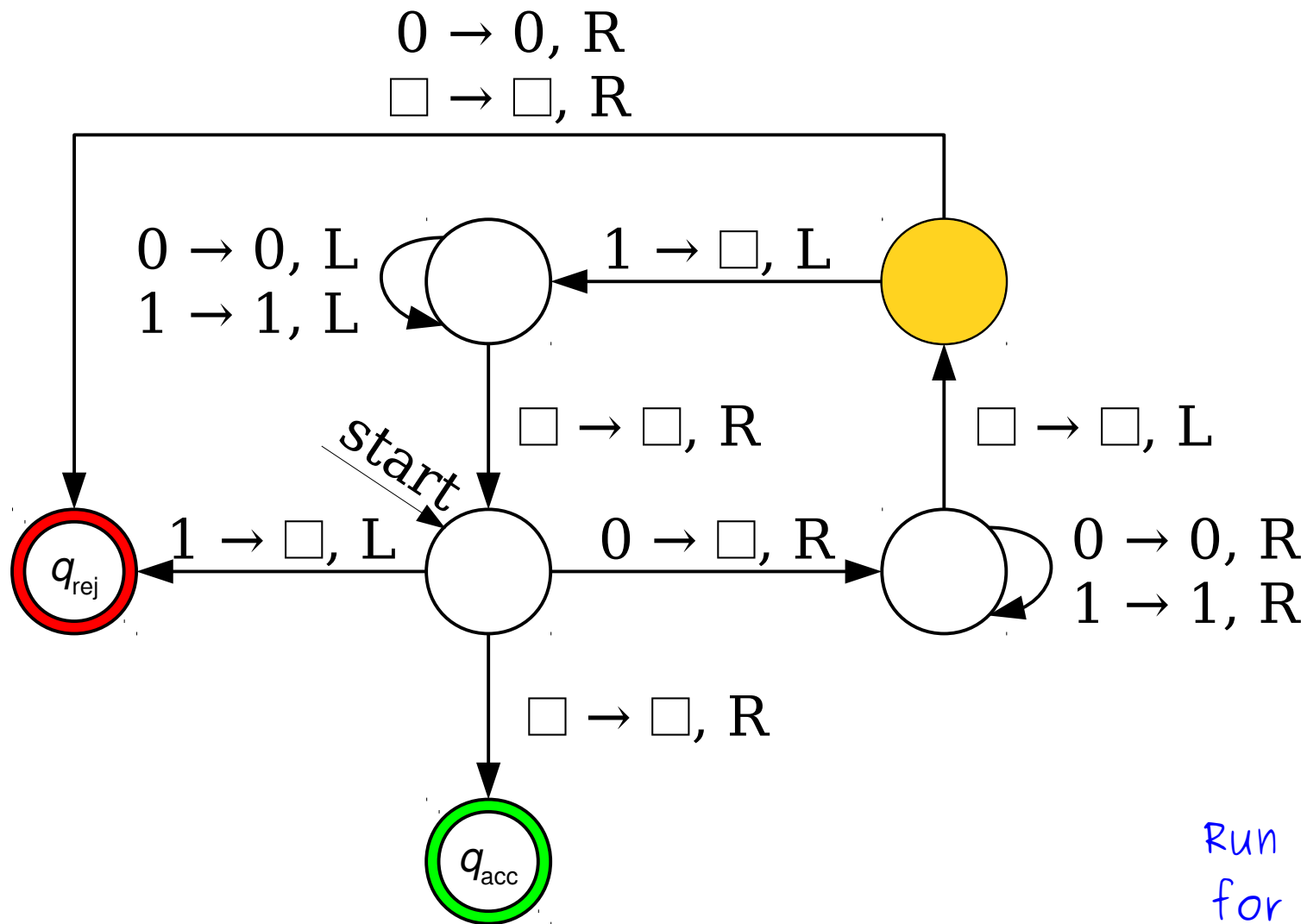
Run this TM  
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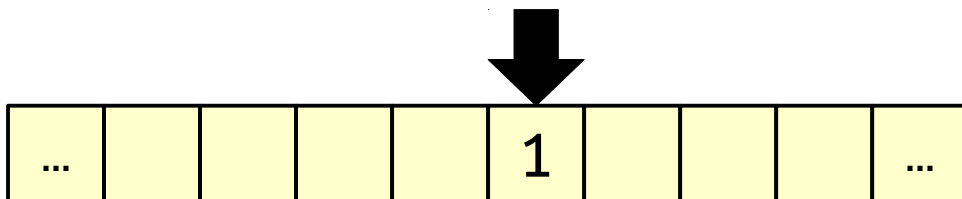


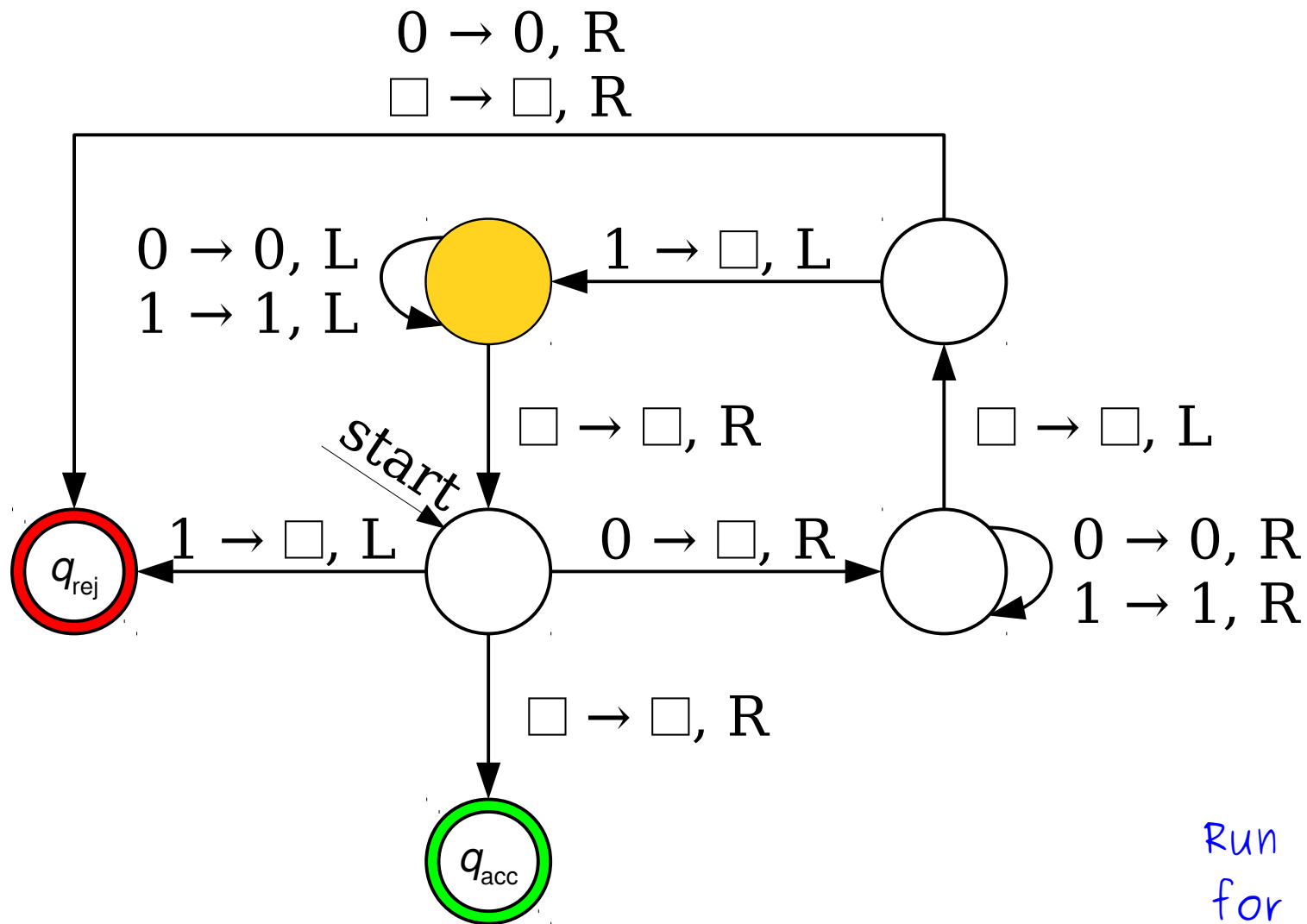
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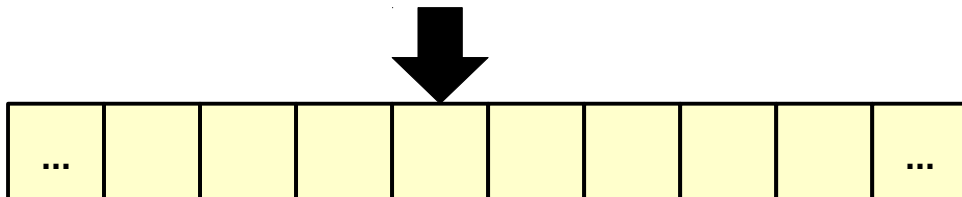


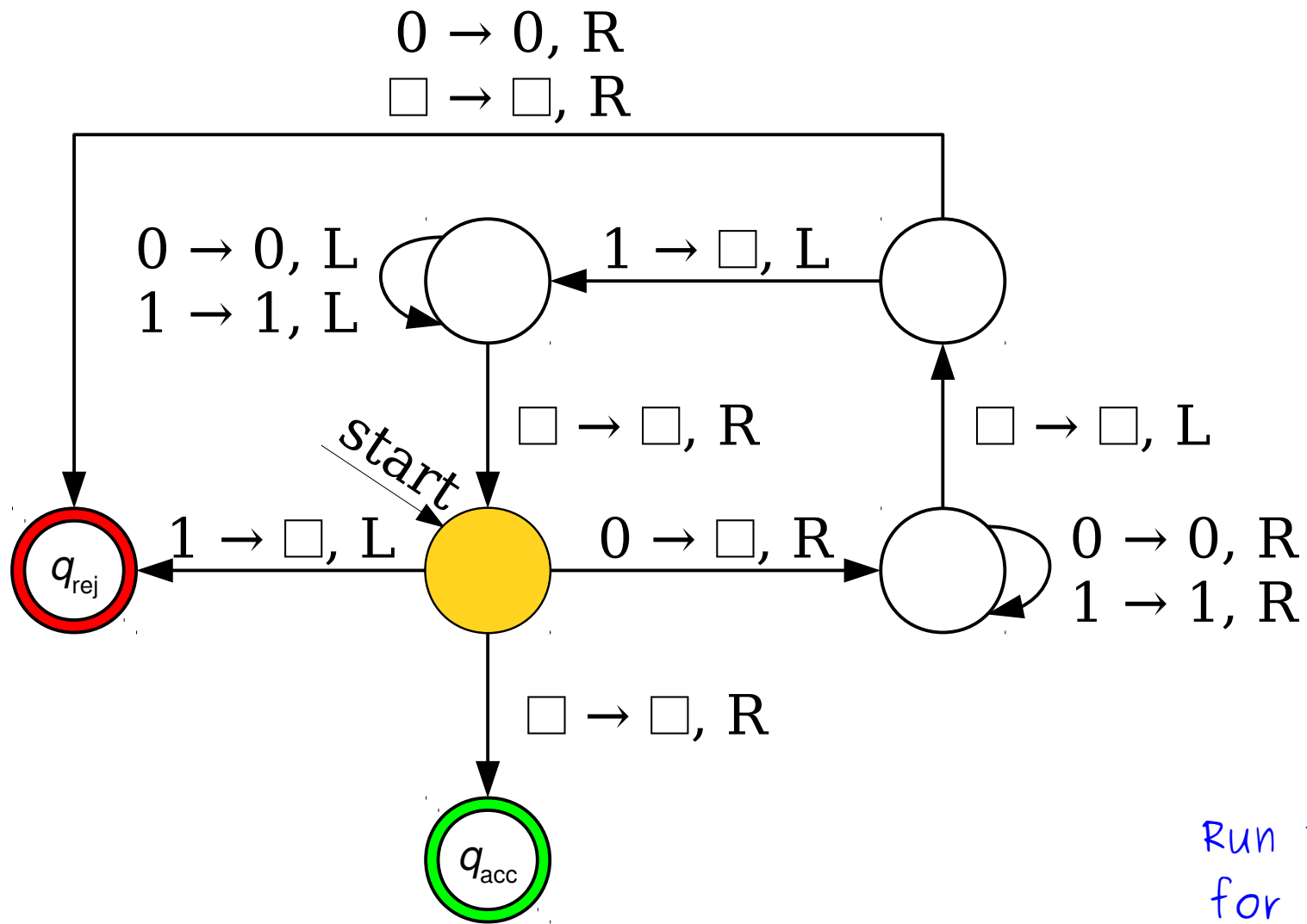
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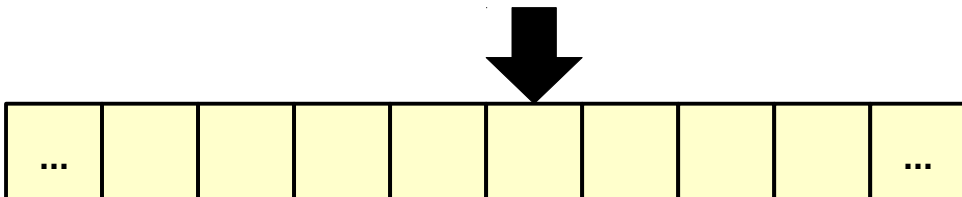


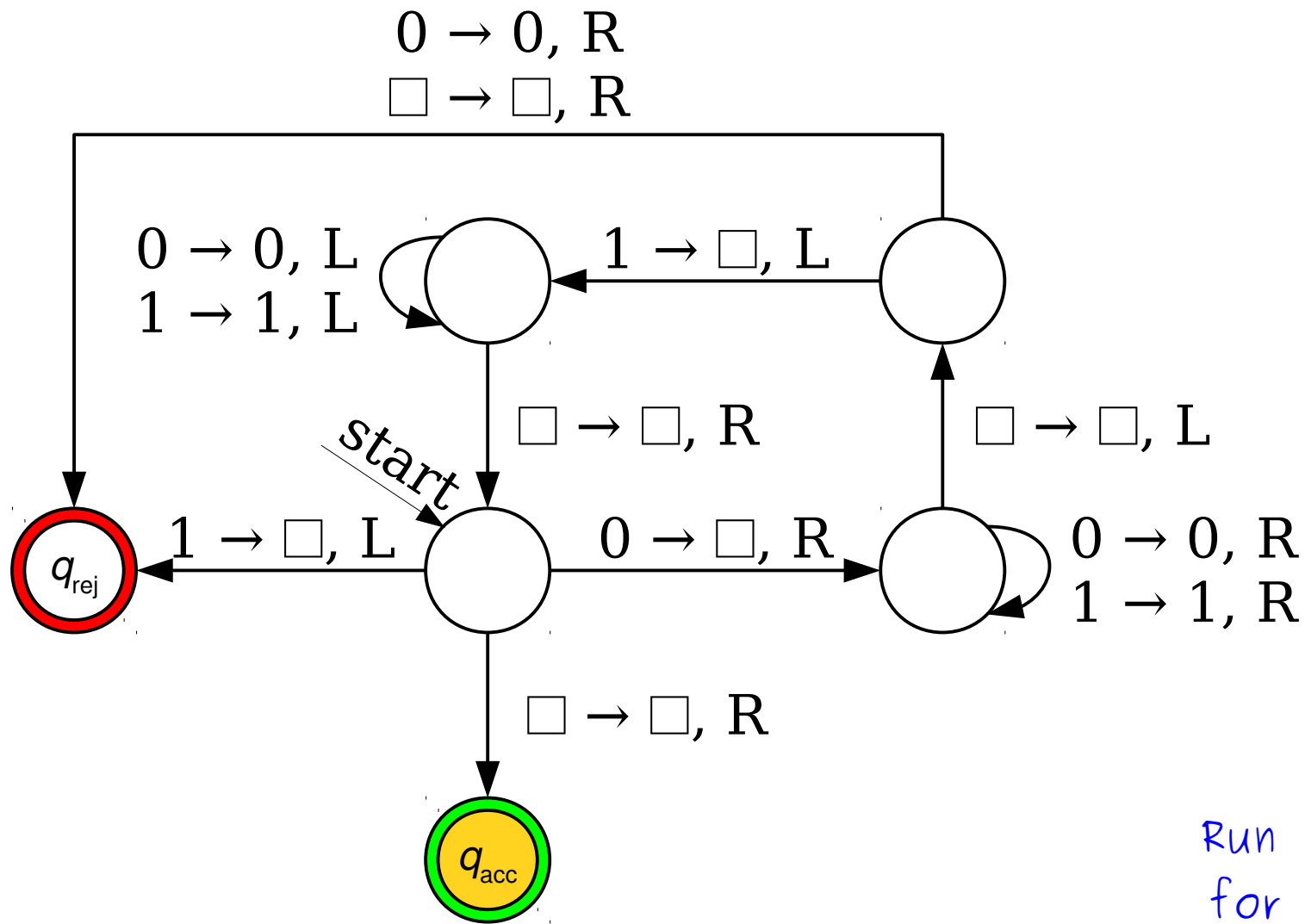
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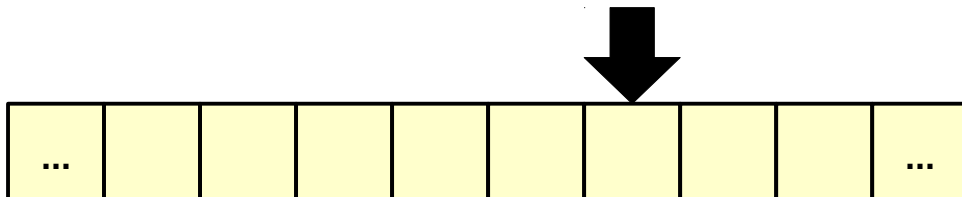


Run this TM  
for fifteen  
steps.





Run this TM  
for fifteen  
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# Some Verifiers

- Consider  $A_{\text{TM}}$ :

$$A_{\text{TM}} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w \}$$

```
bool checkWillAccept(TM M, string w, int c) {  
    set up a simulation of M running on w;  
    for (int i = 0; i < c; i++) {  
        simulate the next step of M running on w;  
    }  
    return whether M is in an accepting state;  
}
```

- Do you see why  $M$  accepts  $w$  iff there is some  $c$  such that `checkWillAccept(M, w, c)` returns true?
- Do you see why `checkWillAccept` always halts?

What languages are verifiable?



Let  $V$  be a verifier for a language  $L$ . Consider the following function given in pseudocode:

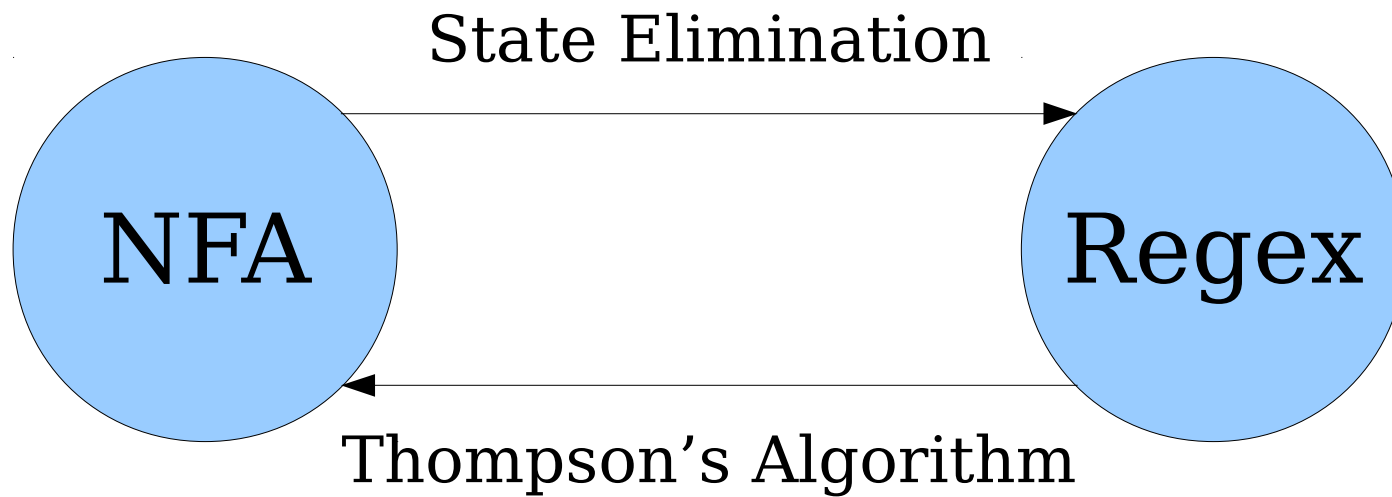
```
bool mysteryFunction(string w) {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (true) {  
        for (each string c of length i) {  
            if (V accepts  $\langle w, c \rangle$ ) return true;  
        }  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

What set of strings does `mysteryFunction` return **true** on?

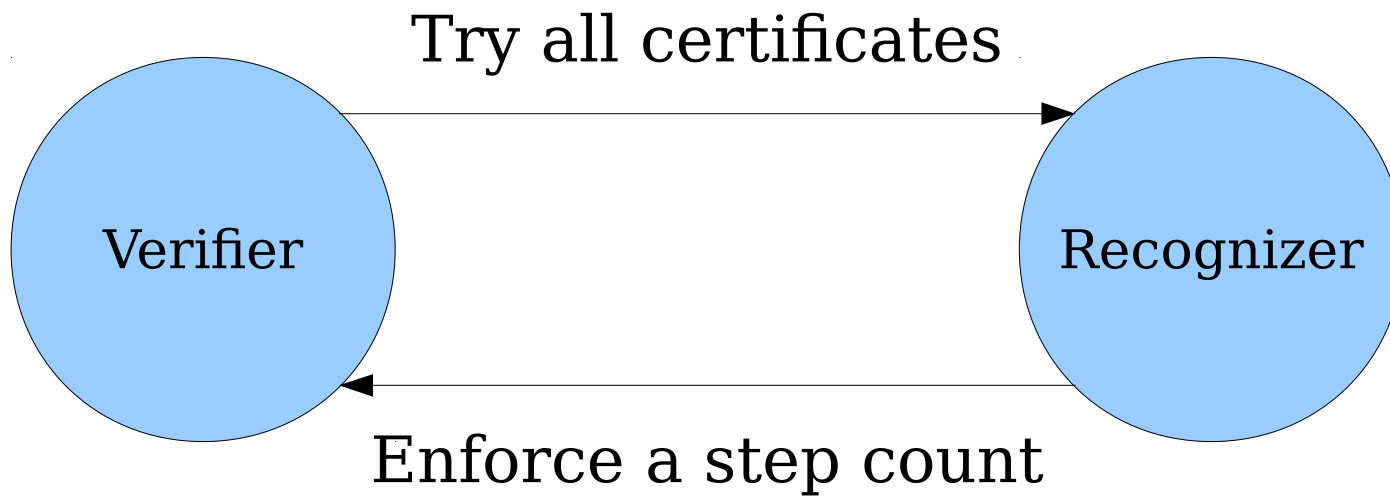
Answer at [PollEv.com/cs103](https://www.pollEv.com/cs103) or  
text **CS103** to **22333** once to join, then **your answer**.

***Theorem:*** If  $L$  is a language, then there is a verifier for  $L$  if and only if  $L \in \mathbf{RE}$ .

# Where We've Been



# Where We're Going

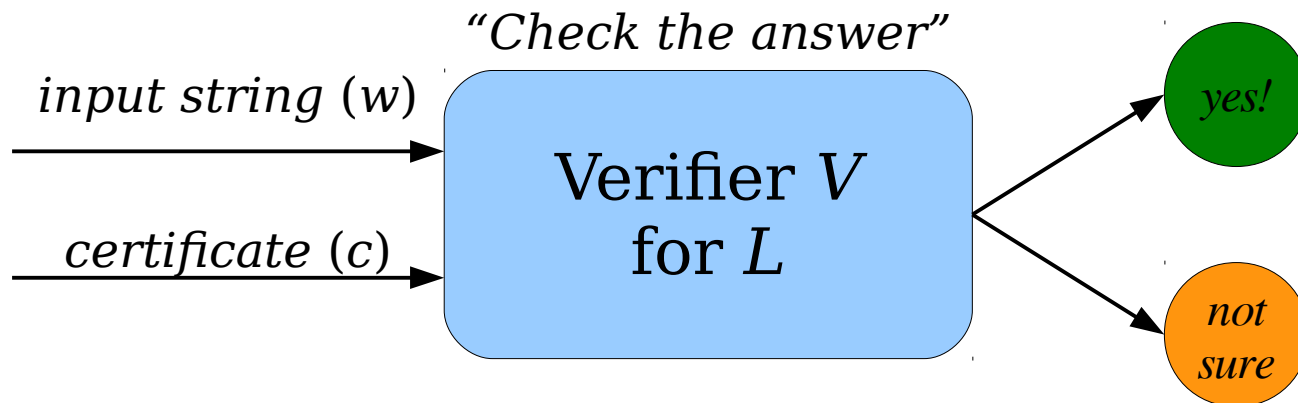


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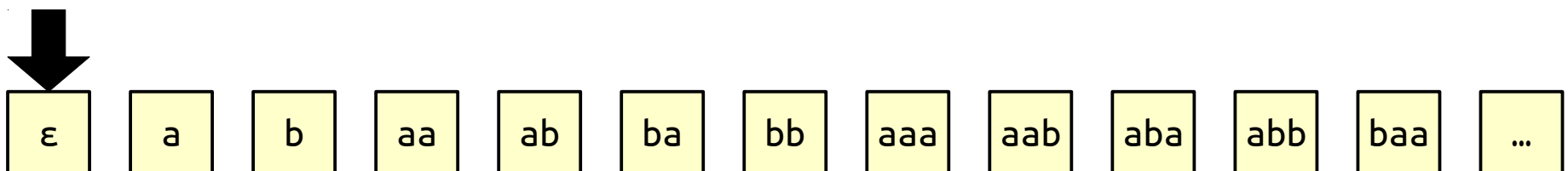
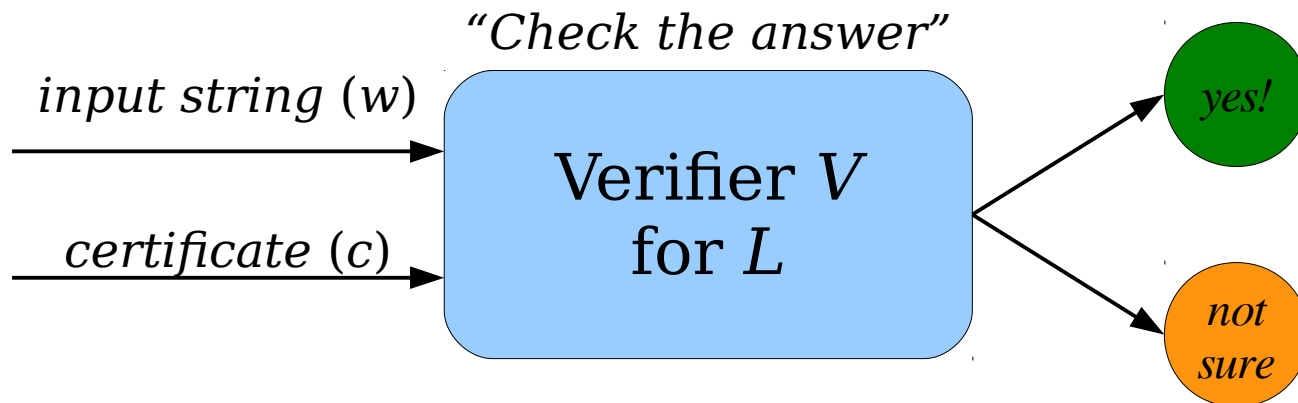
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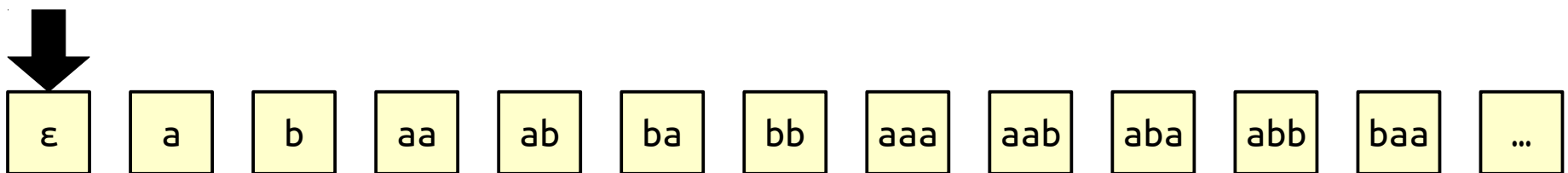
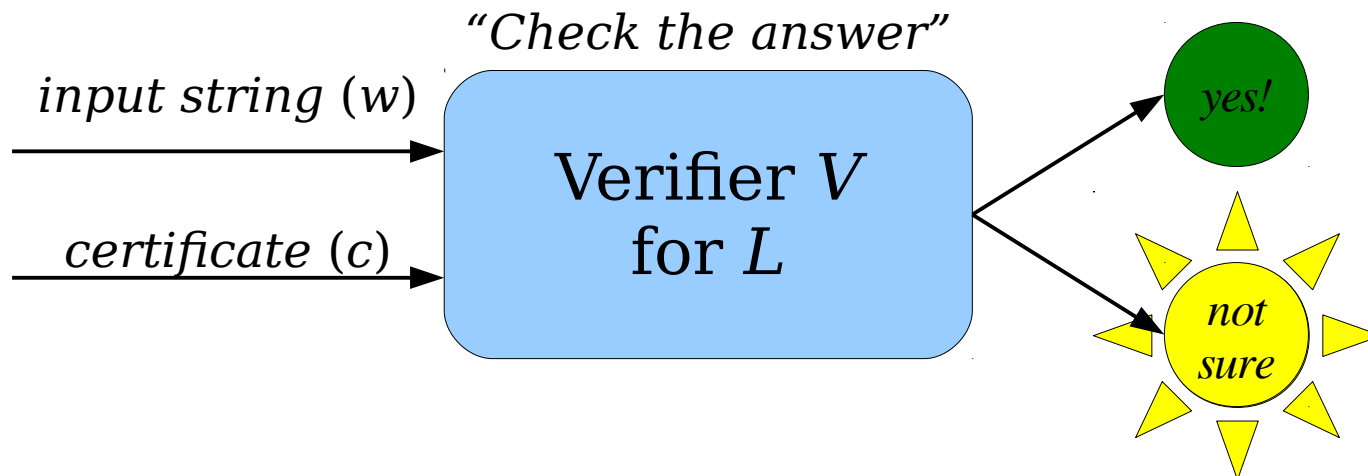
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# Verifiers and RE

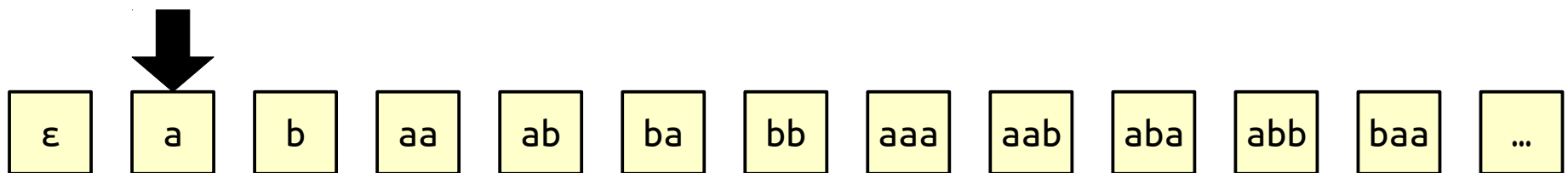
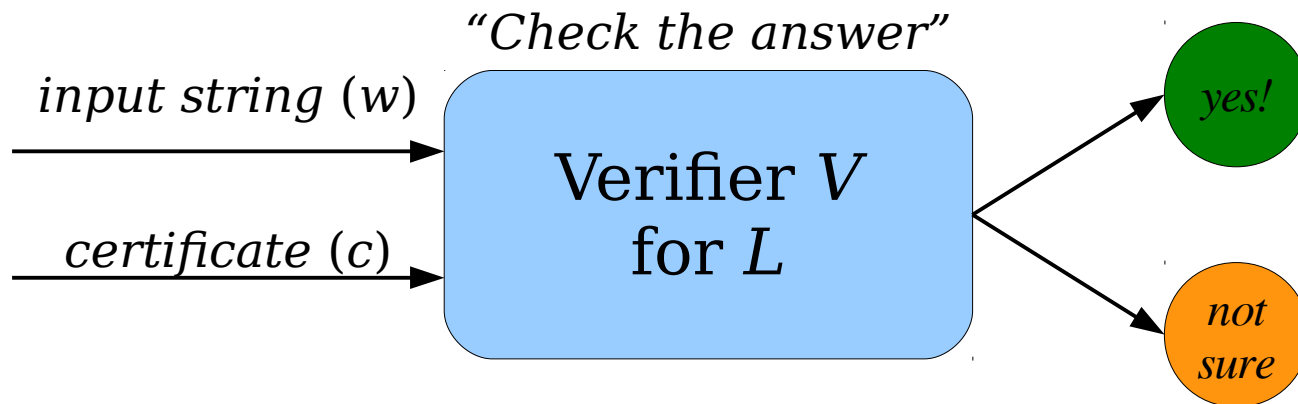
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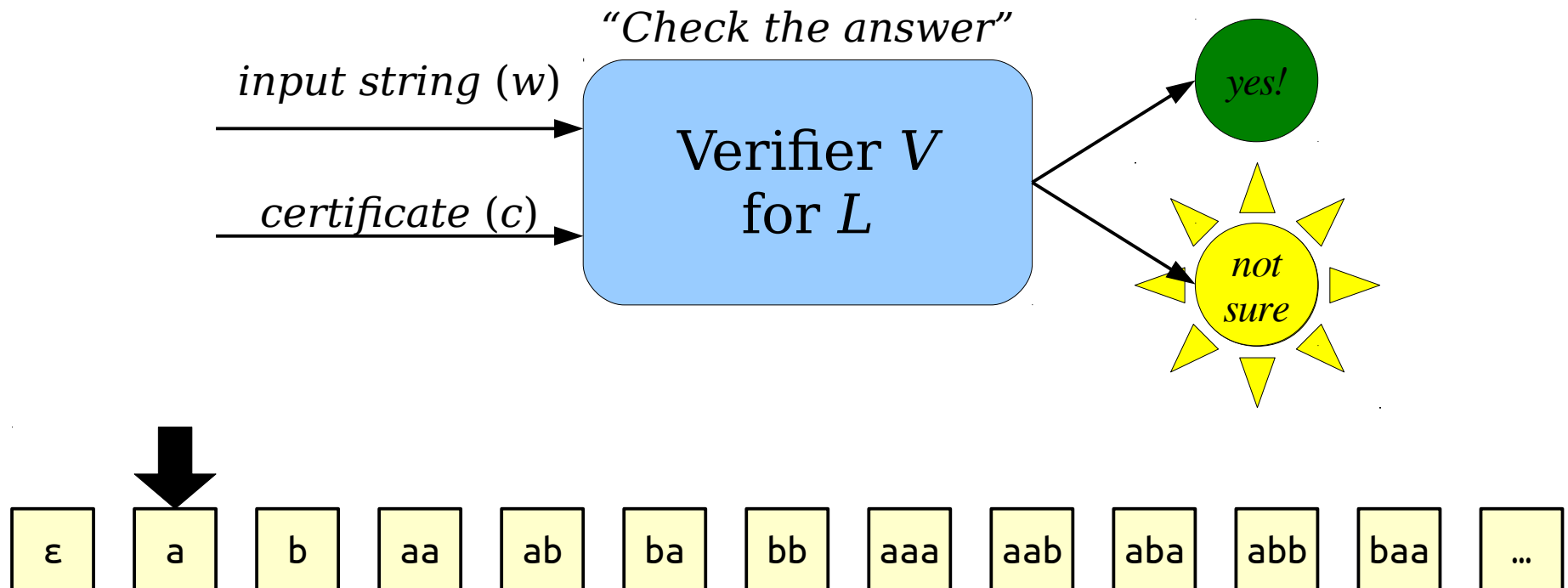
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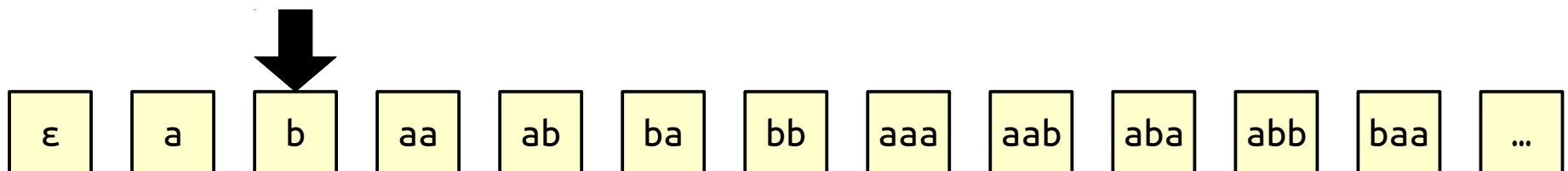
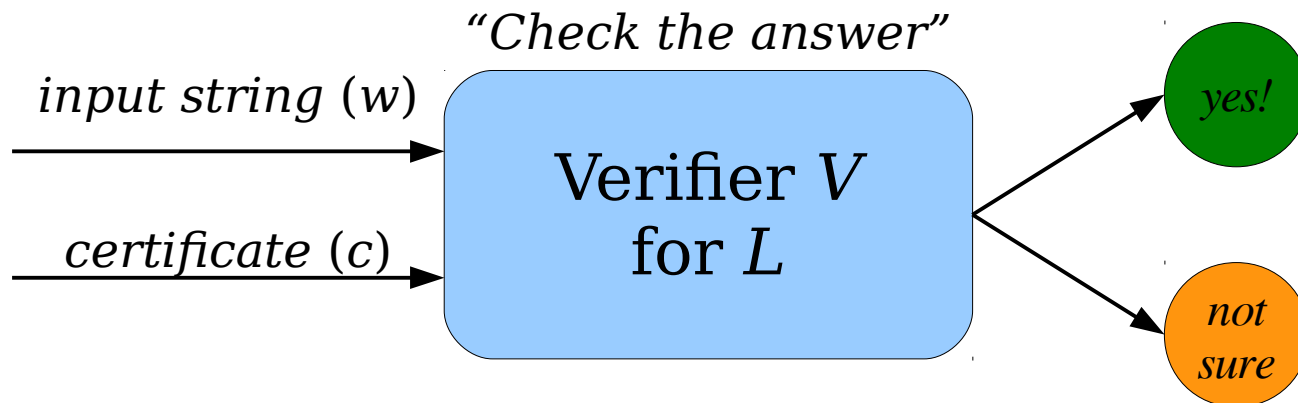
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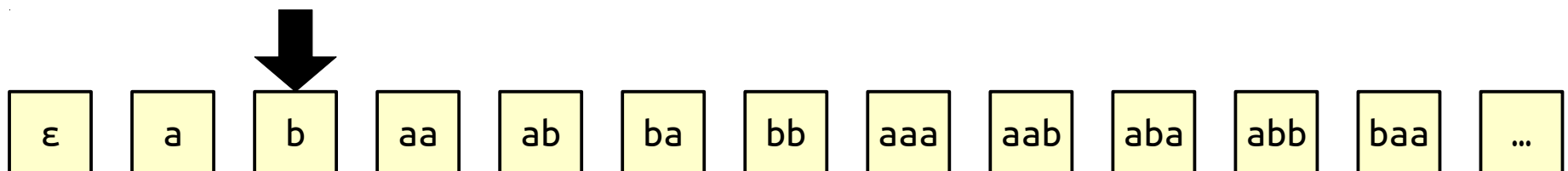
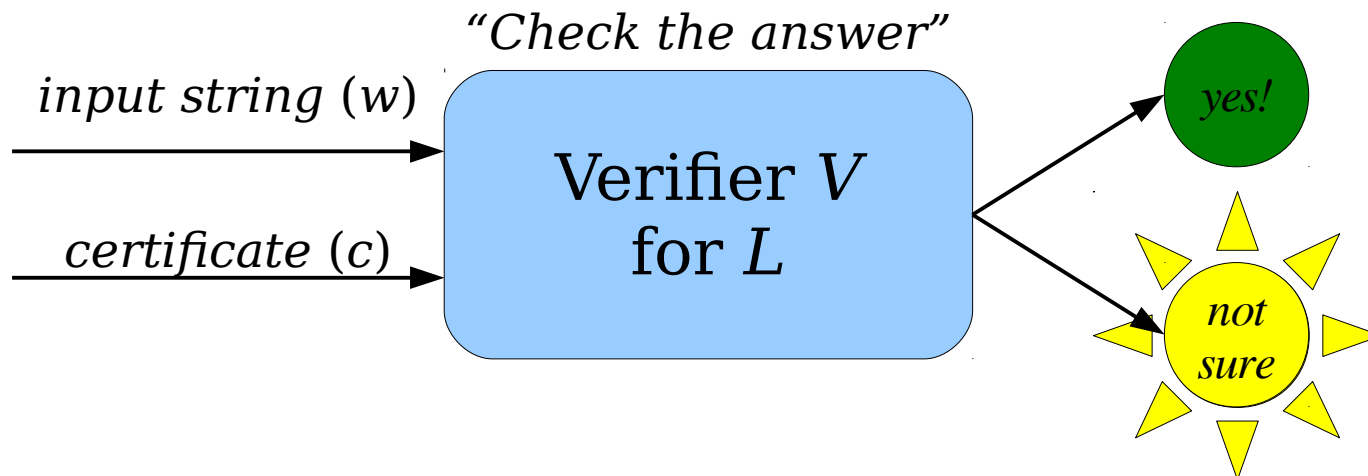
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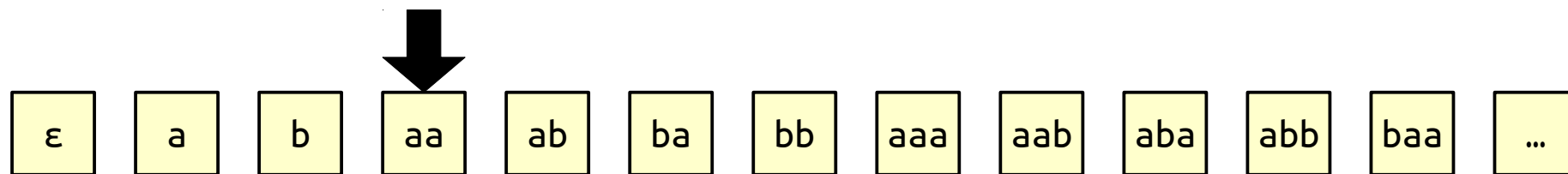
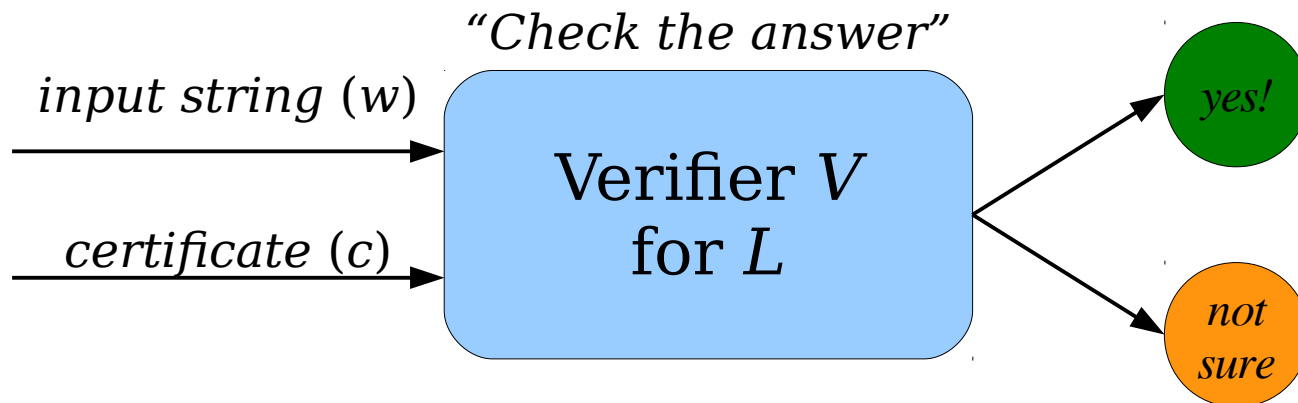
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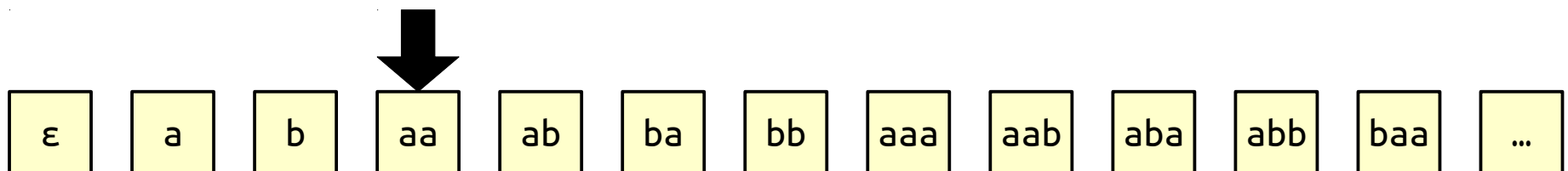
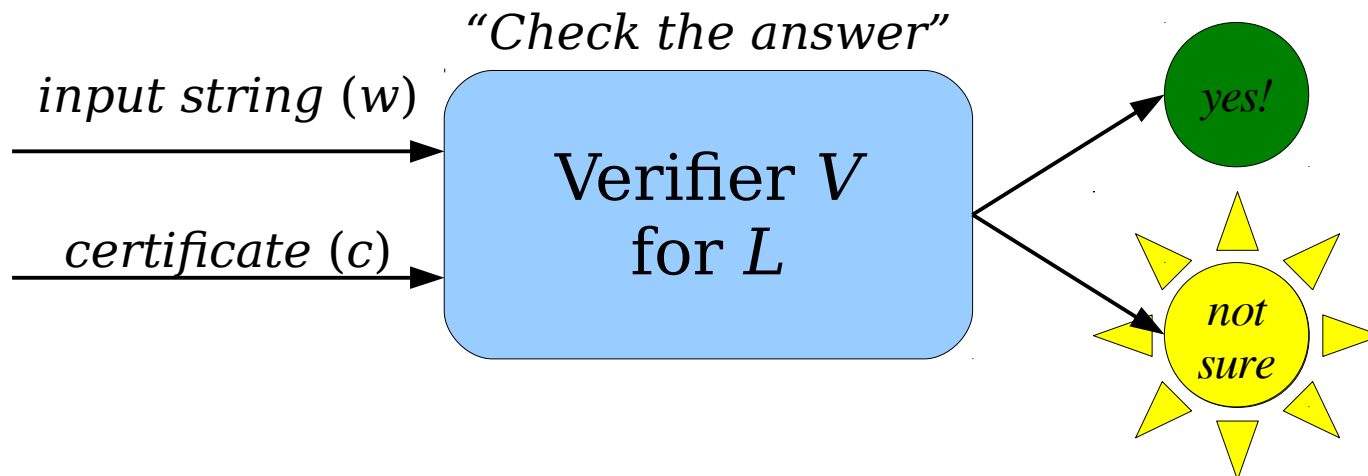
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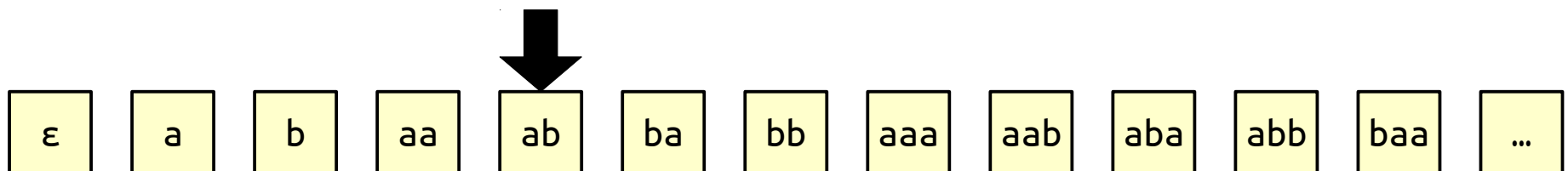
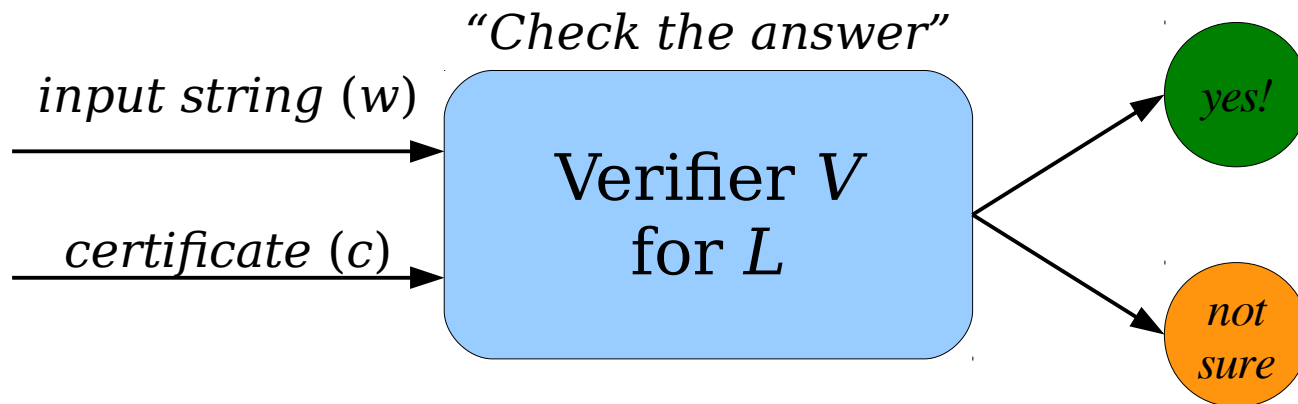
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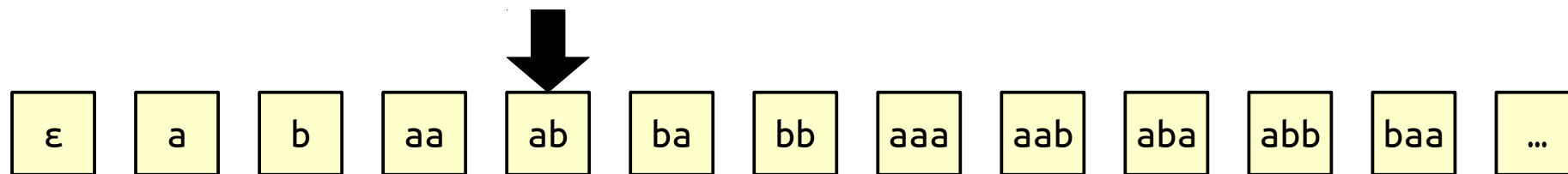
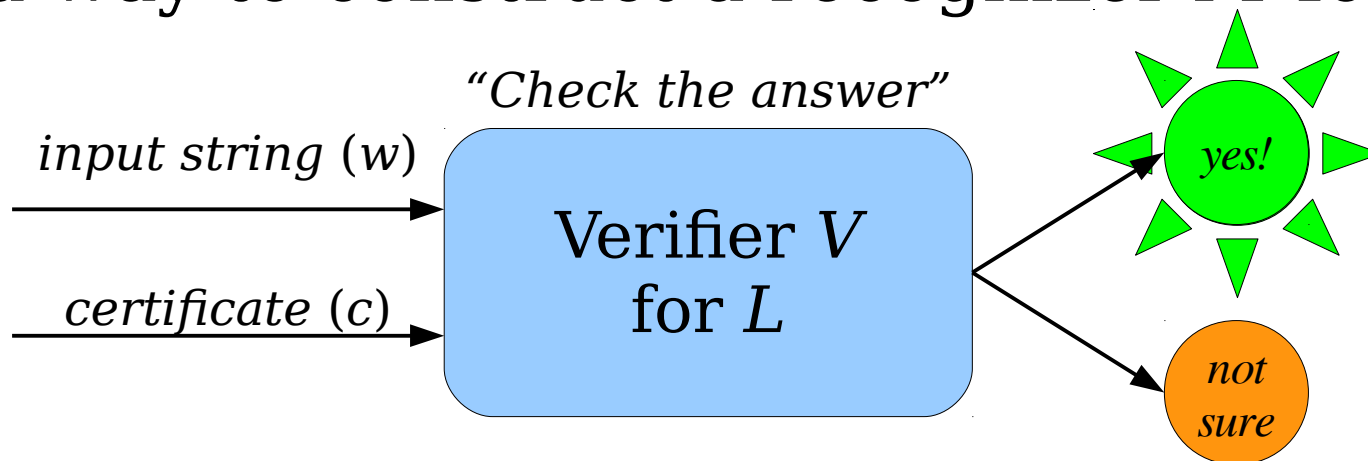
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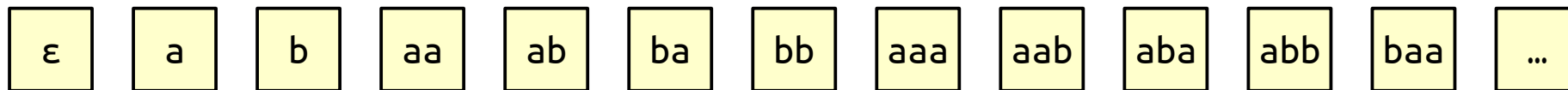
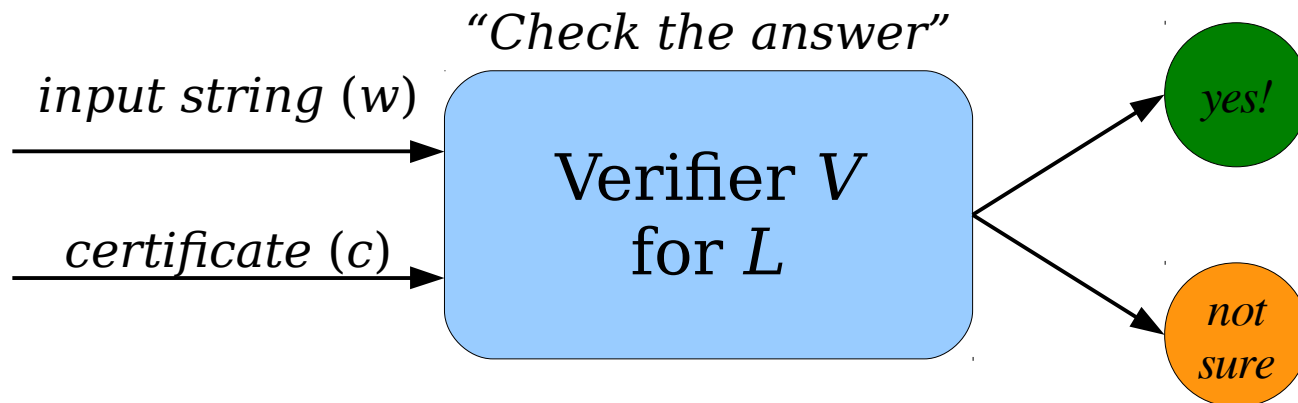
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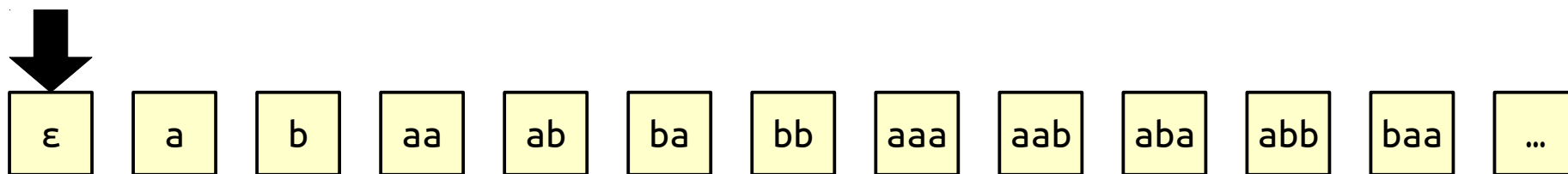
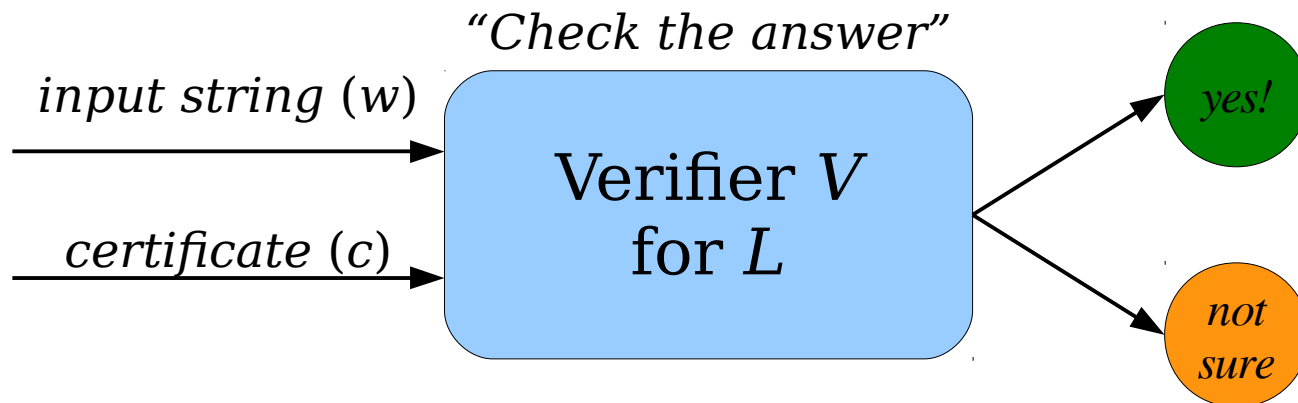
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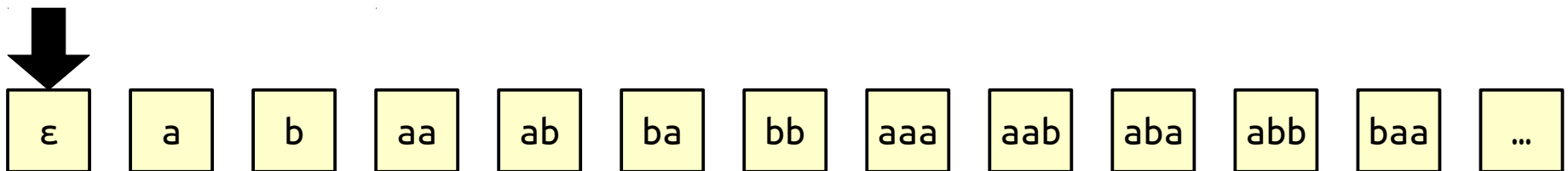
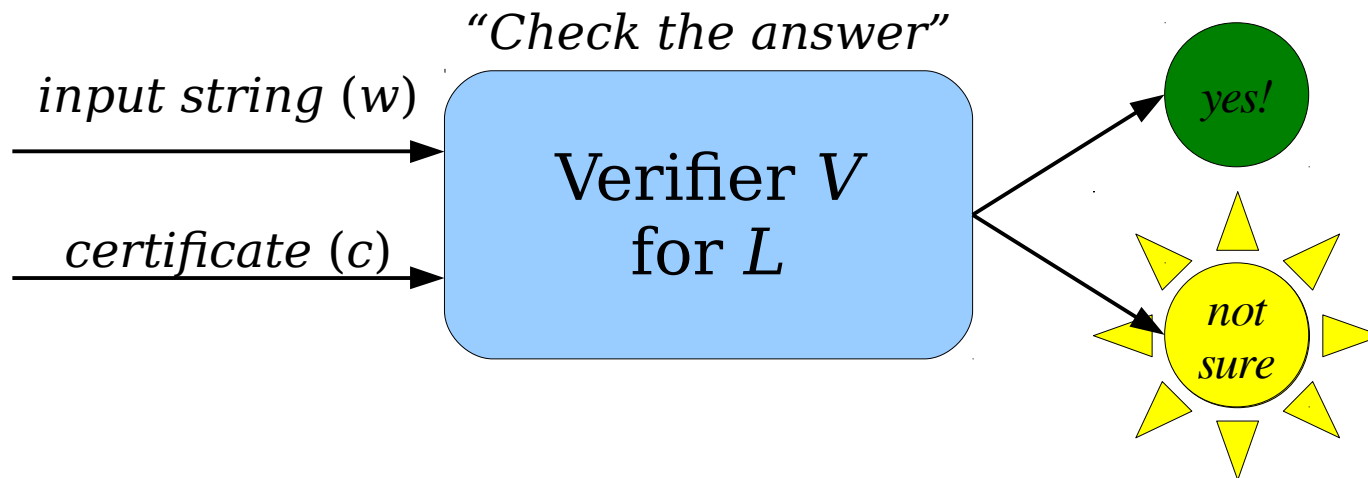
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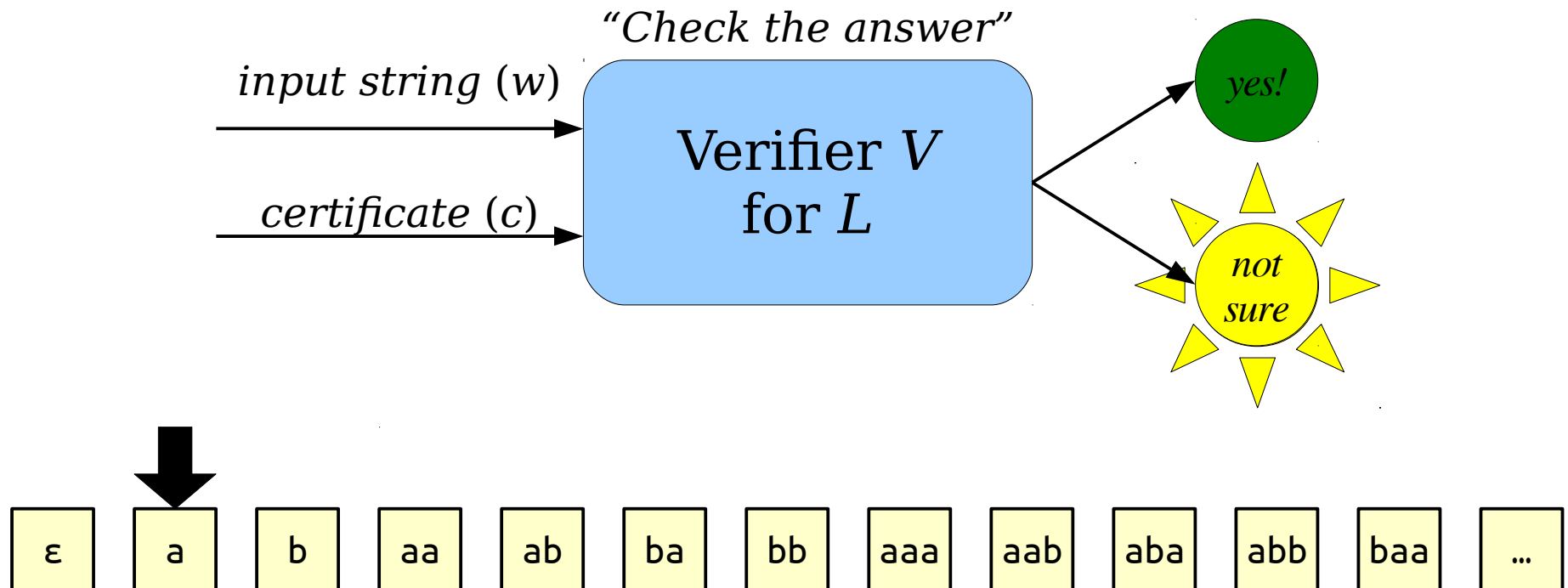
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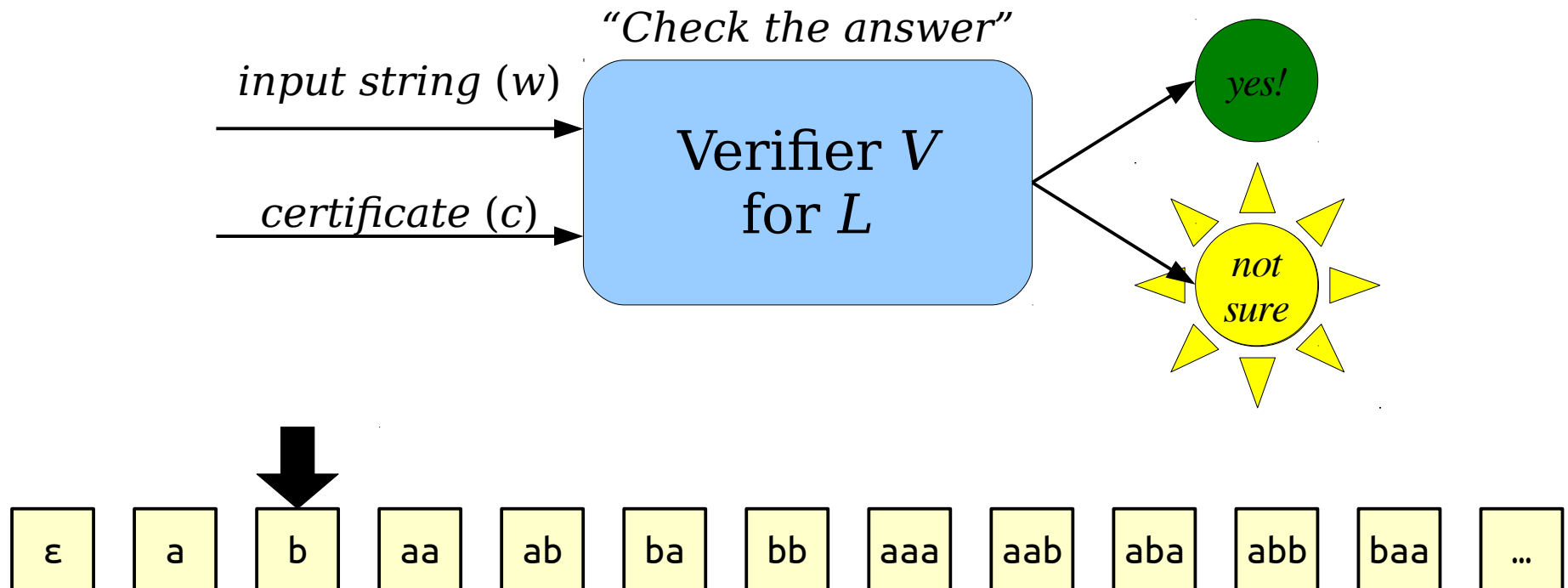
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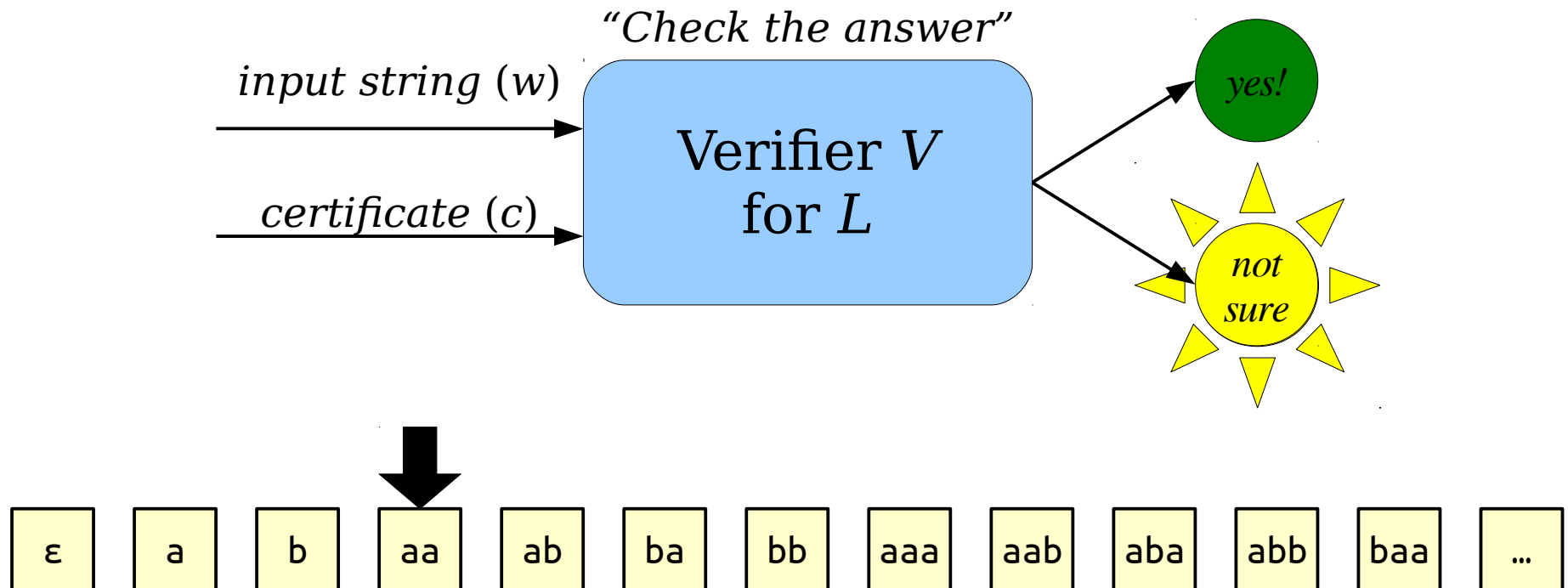
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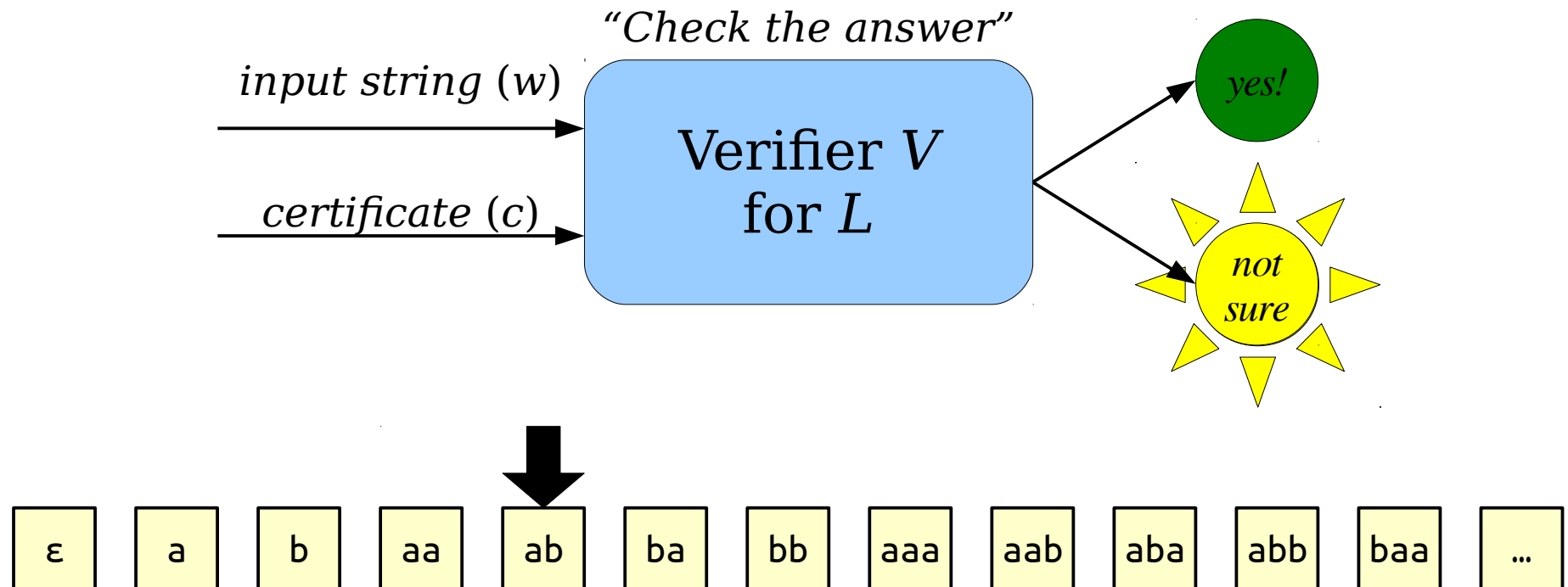
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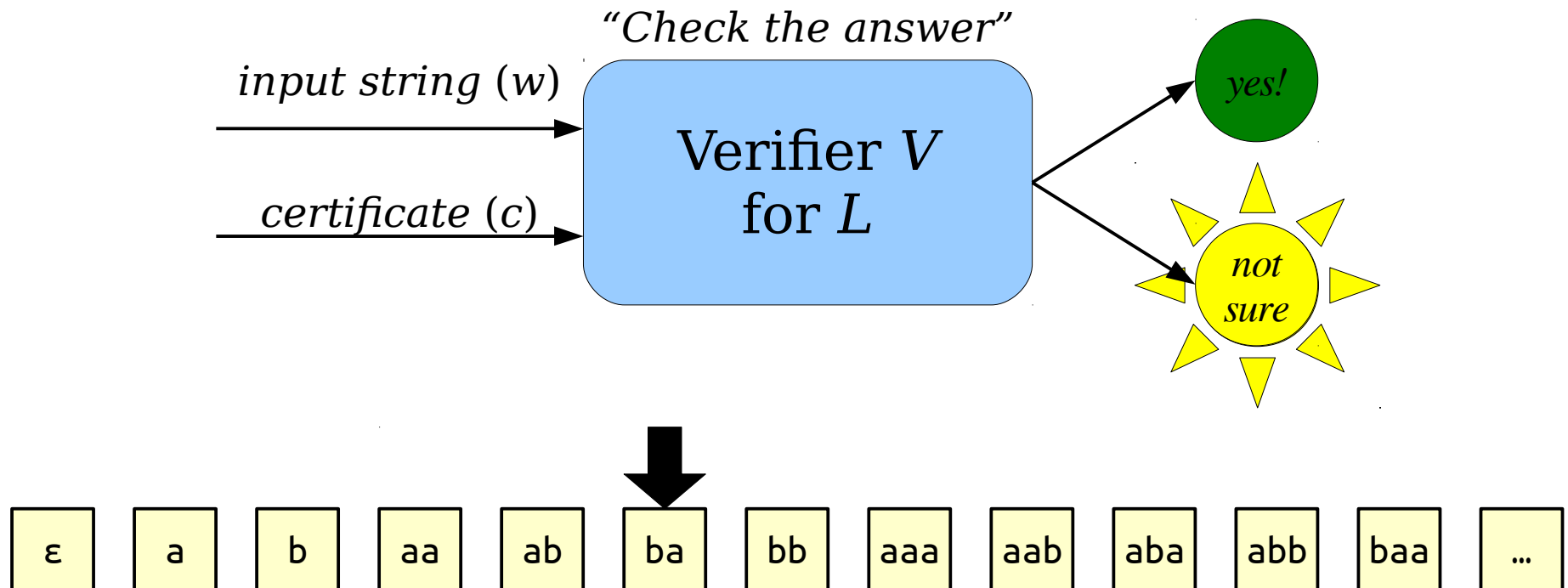
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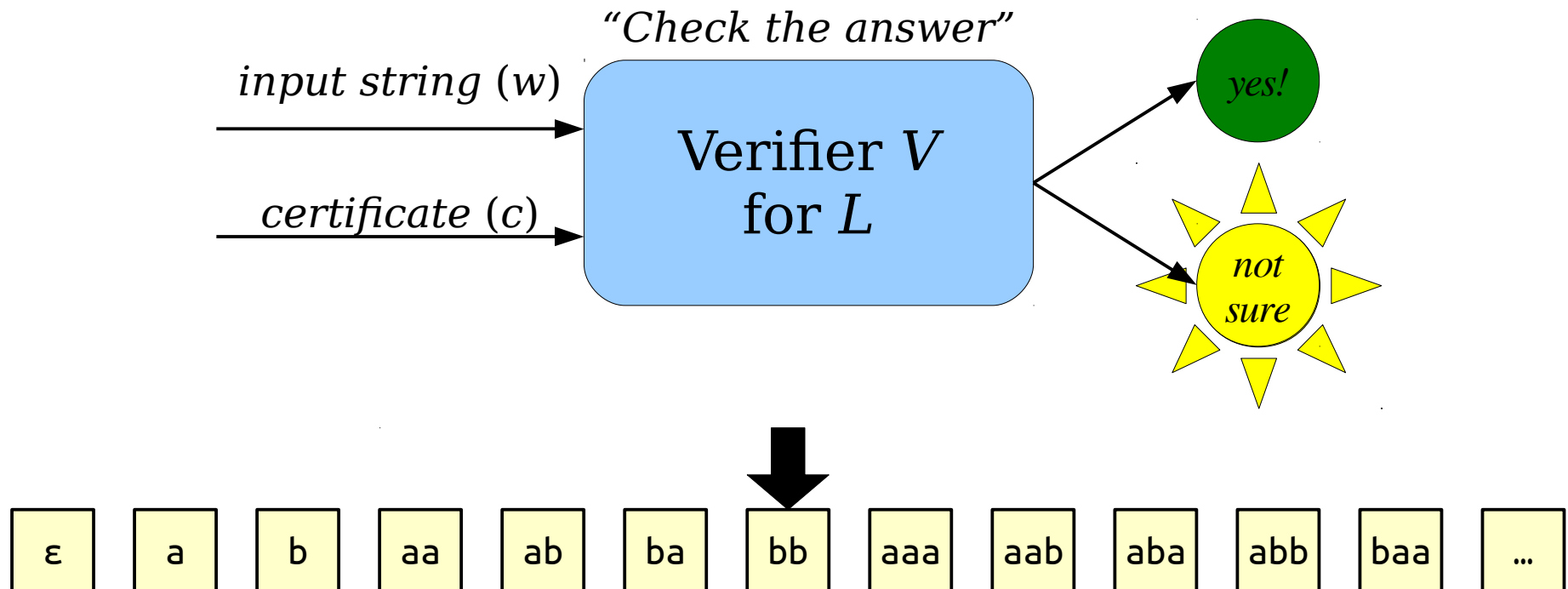
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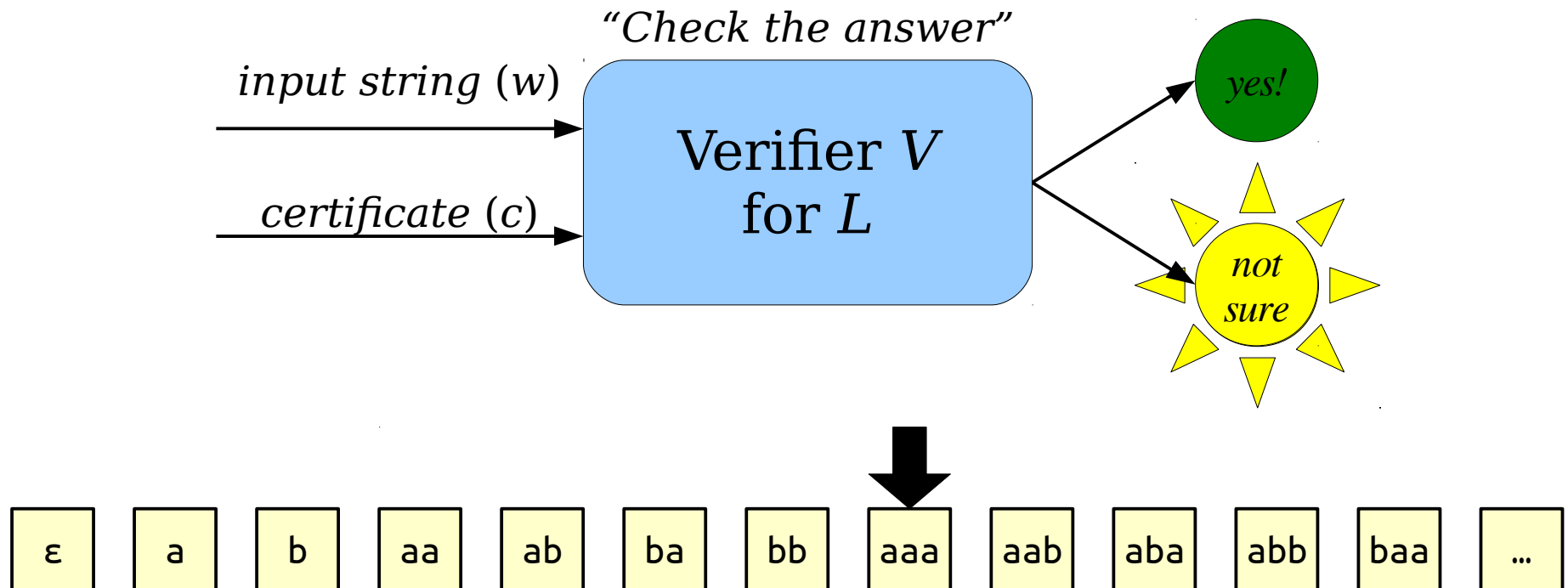
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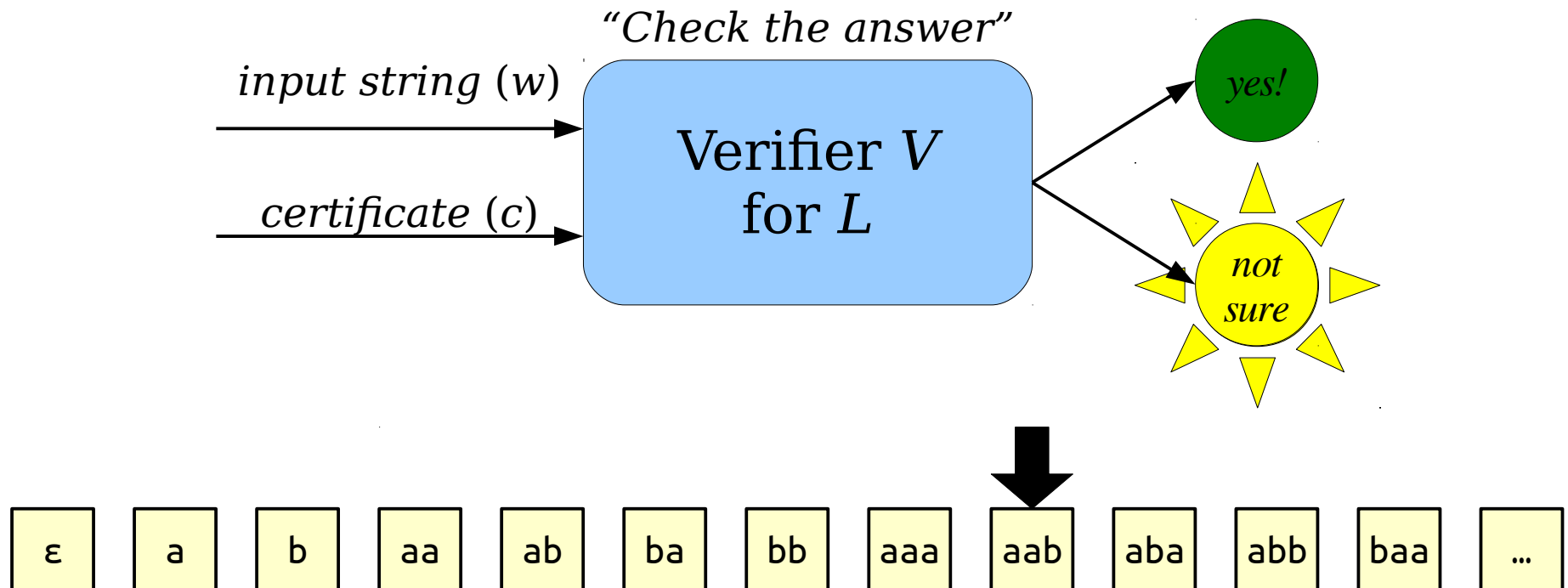
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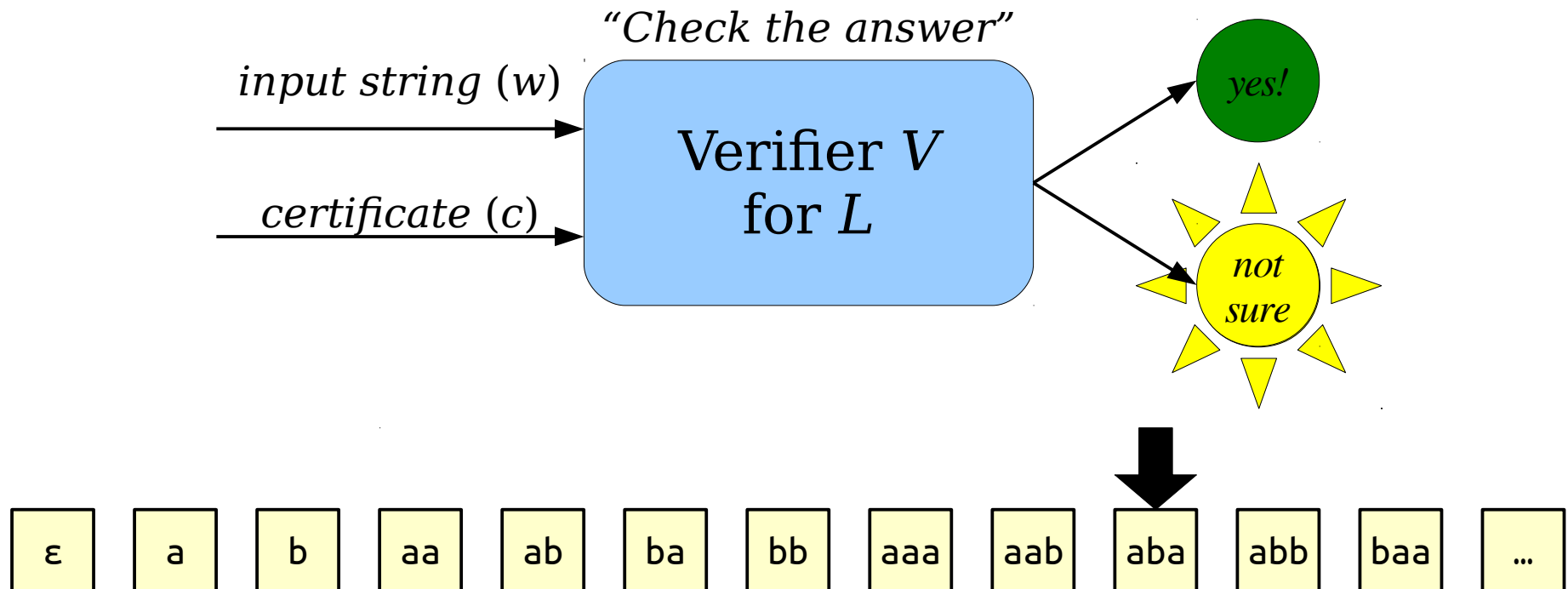
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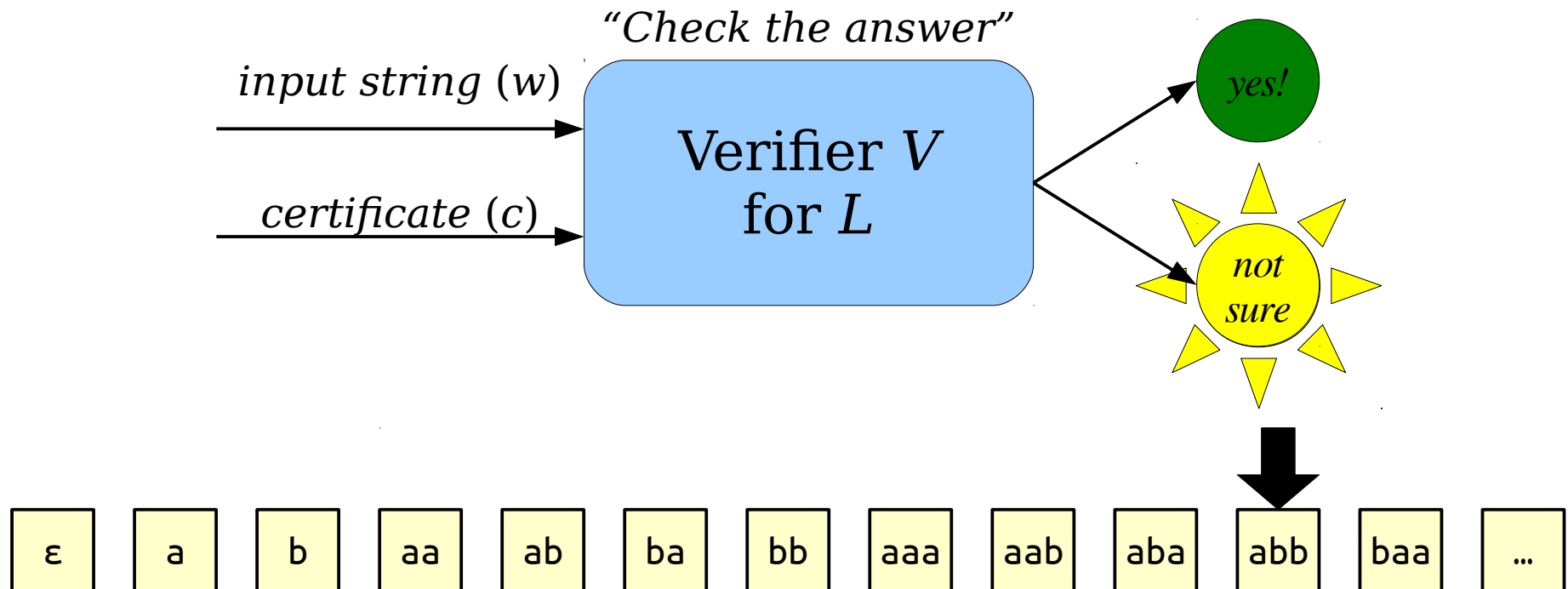
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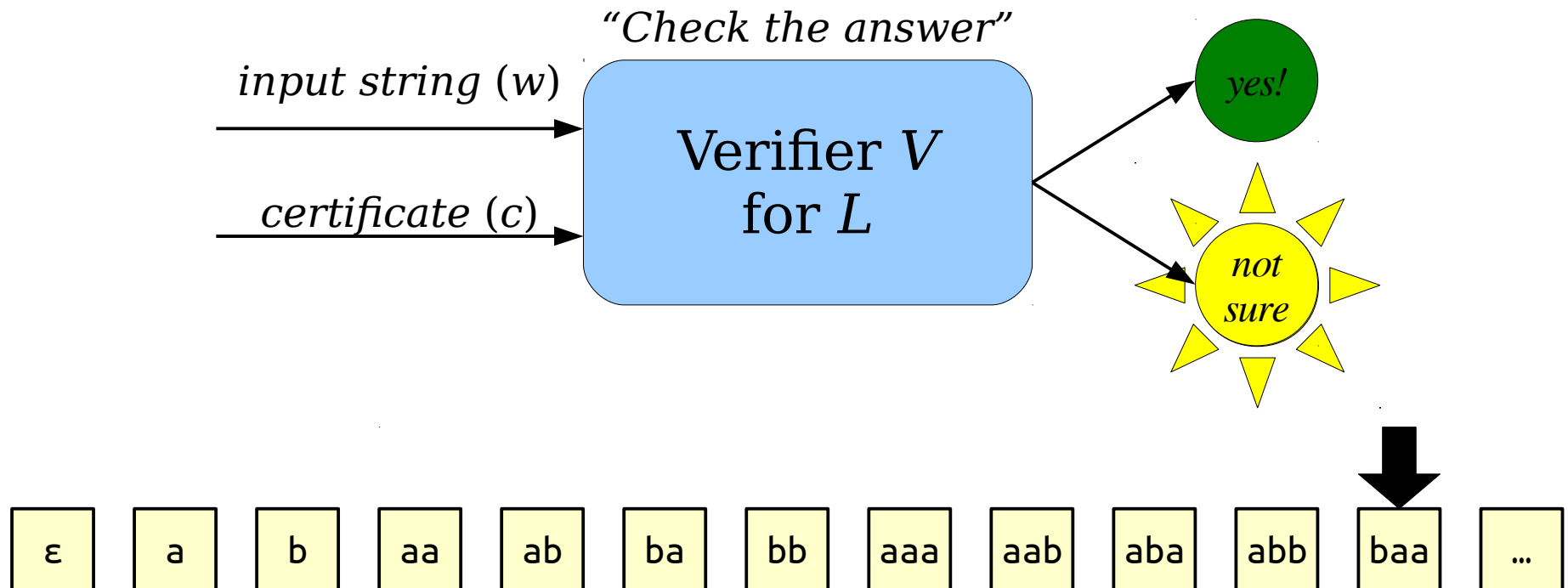
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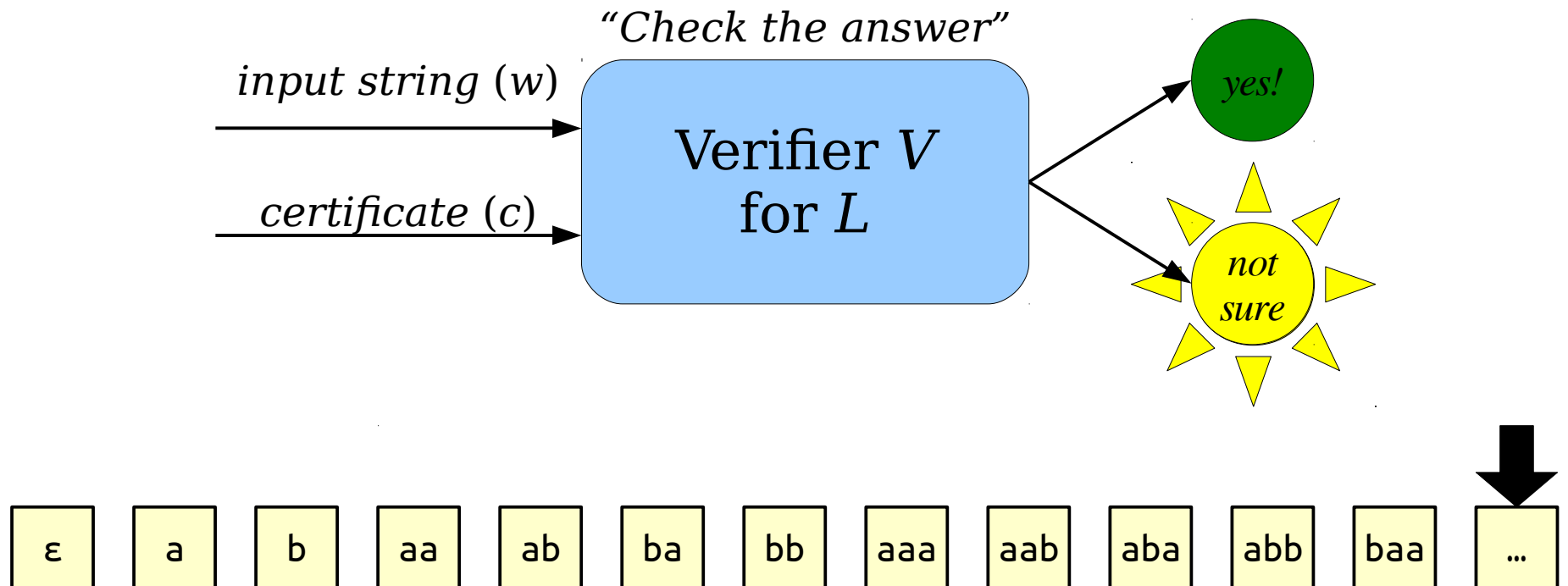
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# Verifiers and **RE**

- **Theorem:** If  $V$  is a verifier for  $L$ , then  $L \in \mathbf{RE}$ .
- **Proof sketch:** Consider the following program:

```
bool isInL(string w) {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (true) {  
        for (each string c of length i) {  
            if (V accepts ⟨w, c⟩) return true;  
        }  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

If  $w \in L$ , there is some  $c \in \Sigma^*$  where  $V$  accepts  $\langle w, c \rangle$ . The function `isInL` tries all possible strings as certificate, so it will eventually find  $c$  (or some other certificate), see  $V$  accept  $\langle w, c \rangle$ , then return true. Conversely, if `isInL(w)` returns true, then there was some string  $c$  such that  $V$  accepted  $\langle w, c \rangle$ , so  $w \in L$ . ■



# Verifiers and **RE**

- **Theorem:** If  $L \in \mathbf{RE}$ , then there is a verifier for  $L$ .
- **Proof goal:** Beginning with a recognizer  $M$  for the language  $L$ , show how to construct a verifier  $V$  for  $L$ .
- The challenges:
  - A recognizer  $M$  is not required to halt on all inputs. A verifier  $V$  must always halt.
  - A recognizer  $M$  takes in one single input. A verifier  $V$  takes in two inputs.
- We'll need to find a way of reconciling these requirements.

**Recall:** If  $M$  is a recognizer for a language  $L$ , then  $M$  accepts  $w$  iff  $w \in L$ .

**Key insight:** If  $M$  accepts a string  $w$ , it always does so in a finite number of steps.

**Idea:** Adapt the verifier for  $A_{\text{TM}}$  into a more general construction that turns any recognizer into a verifier by running it for a fixed number of steps.

# Verifiers and RE

- **Theorem:** If  $L \in \mathbf{RE}$ , then there is a verifier for  $L$ .
- **Proof sketch:** Consider the following program:

```
bool checkIsInL(string w, int c) {  
    set up a simulation of M running on w;  
    for (int i = 0; i < c; i++) {  
        simulate the next step of M running on w;  
    }  
    return whether M is in an accepting state;  
}
```

Notice that `checkIsInL` always halts, since each step takes only finite time to complete. Next, notice that if there is a  $c$  where `checkIsInL(w, c)` returns true, then  $M$  accepted  $w$  after running for  $c$  steps, so  $w \in L$ . Conversely, if  $w \in L$ , then  $M$  accepts  $w$  after some number of steps (call that number  $c$ ). Then `checkIsInL(w, c)` will run  $M$  on  $w$  for  $c$  steps, watch  $M$  accept  $w$ , then return true. ■

# RE and Proofs

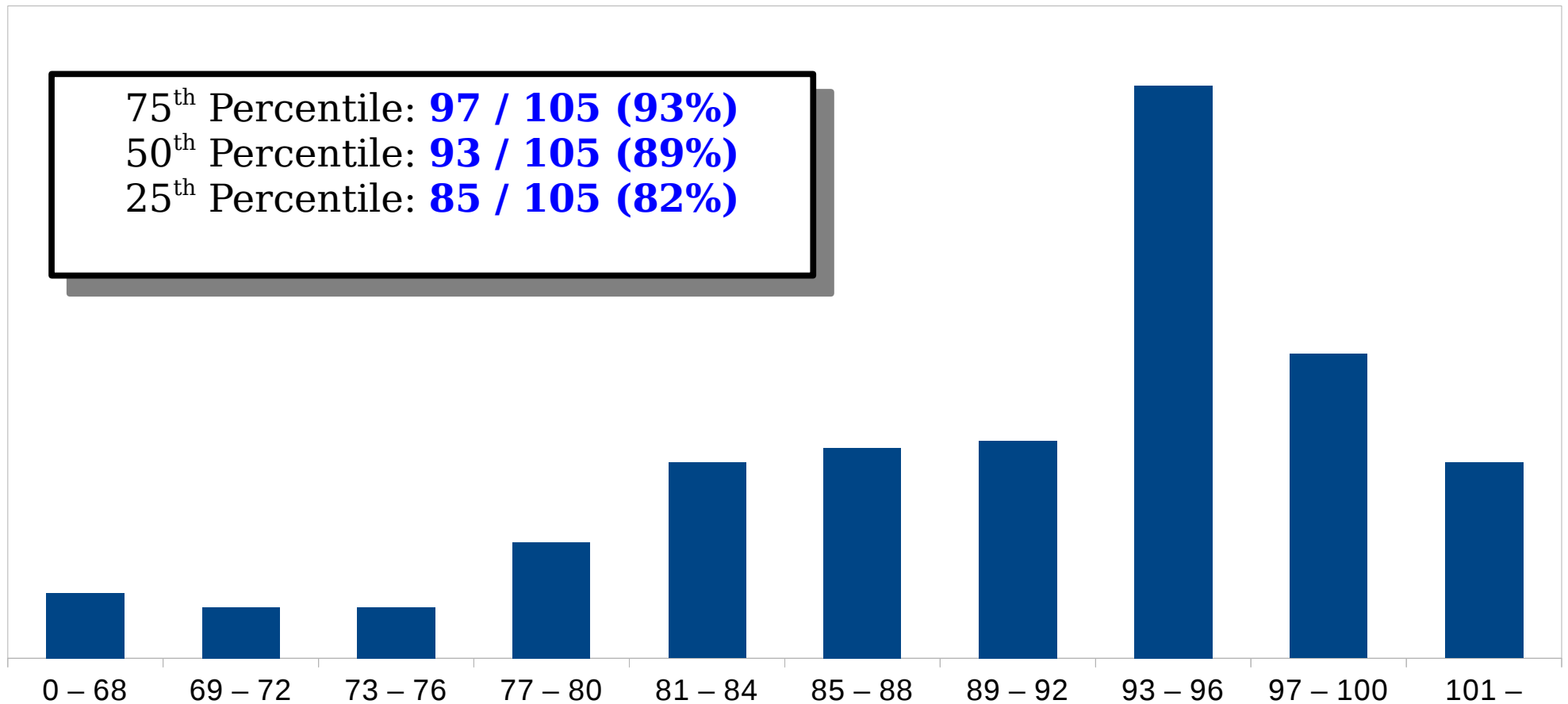
- Verifiers and recognizers give two different perspectives on the “proof” intuition for **RE**.
- Verifiers are explicitly built to check proofs that strings are in the language.
  - If you know that some string  $w$  belongs to the language and you have the proof of it, you can convince someone else that  $w \in L$ .
- You can think of a recognizer as a device that “searches” for a proof that  $w \in L$ .
  - If it finds it, great!
  - If not, it might loop forever.

# RE and Proofs

- If the **RE** languages represent languages where membership can be proven, what does a non-**RE** language look like?
- Intuitively, a language is *not* in **RE** if there is no general way to prove that a given string  $w \in L$  actually belongs to  $L$ .
- In other words, even if you knew that a string was in the language, you may never be able to convince anyone of it!

**Time-Out for Announcements!**

# Problem Set Seven Graded



# Problem Set Nine

- Problem Set Eight was due today at 2:30PM.
  - You *can* use late days here to extend the deadline as far as Sunday at 2:30PM, but we don't recommend this.
- Problem Set Nine goes out today. It's due next Friday at 2:30PM.
  - Play around with the limits of **R** and **RE** languages – the upper extent of computation!
  - See how everything fits together!
- Due to university policies, ***no late submissions will be accepted for PS9***. Please budget at least two hours before the deadline to submit the assignment.



# The Last Two Guides

- We've posted two final guides to the course website:
  - The ***Guide to Self-Reference***, which talks about proofs of undecidability via self-reference.
  - The ***Guide to the Lava Diagram***, which provides an intuition for how different classes of languages relate to one another.
- Give these a read – there's a ton of useful information in there!

# Final Exam Logistics

- Our final exam is Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:30PM – 6:30PM, location Hewlett 200 & 201 (no special last name assignments).
  - Sorry about how soon that is – the registrar picked this time, not us. If we had a choice, it would be on the last day of finals week.
- The exam is cumulative. You're responsible for topics from PS1 – PS9 and all of the lectures.
- As with the midterms, the exam is closed-book, closed-computer, and limited-note. You can bring one double-sided sheet of 8.5" × 11" notes with you to the exam, decorated any way you'd like.
- Students with OAE accommodations: if we don't yet have your OAE letter, please send it to us ASAP.

# Preparing for the Exam

- We've posted **six** practice final exams, with solutions, to the course website.
- These exams are essentially the final exams we've given out in the last six quarters, with a few tweaks and modifications.
- Practice Final 1 and Practice Final 6 are the two most recent exams and should give you the best indicator of the expected topic coverage.
- And don't forget that Extra Practice Problems 3 is available online. After today's lecture, you know enough to take on any of those questions, including the starred ones.

Back to CS103!

# Finding Non-**RE** Languages

# Finding Non-**RE** Languages

- Right now, we know that non-**RE** languages exist, but we have no idea what they look like.
- How might we find one?

# Languages, TMs, and TM Encodings

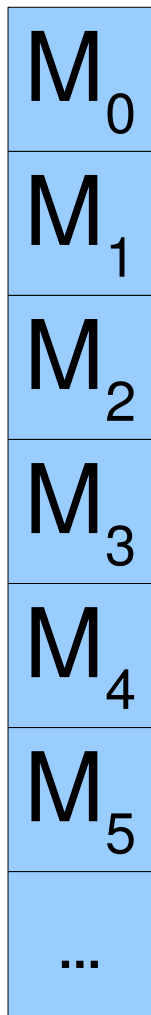
- Recall: The language of a TM  $M$  is the set

$$\mathcal{L}(M) = \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid M \text{ accepts } w \}$$

- Some of the strings in this set might be descriptions of TMs.
- What happens if we list off all Turing machines, looking at how those TMs behave given other TMs as input?

$M_0$
$M_1$
$M_2$
$M_3$
$M_4$
$M_5$
...

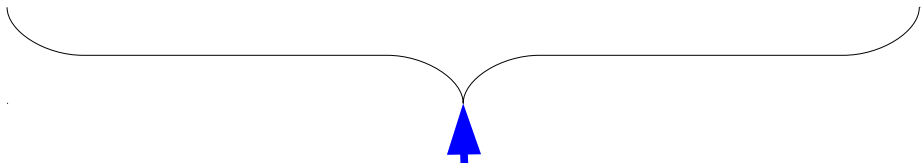
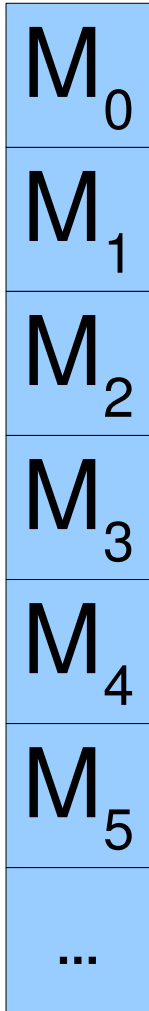
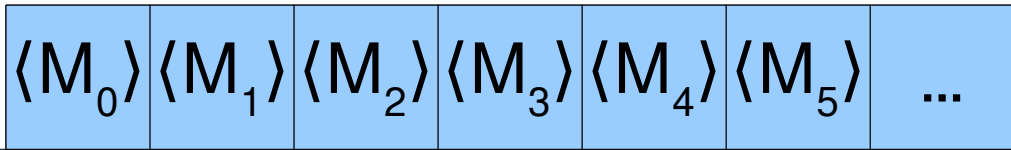




All Turing machines,  
listed in some order.

$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
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$M_0$
$M_1$
$M_2$
$M_3$
$M_4$
$M_5$
...



All descriptions of TMs, listed in the same order.

	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$							
$M_2$							
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$							
$M_3$							
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...							

	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$							
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

What are we going to do next?

Answer at [Pollev.com/cs103](https://pollev.com/cs103) or  
text **CS103** to **22333** once to join, then **your answer**.



	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
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$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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Acc Acc Acc No Acc No ...

	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Flip all "accept"  
to "no" and  
vice-versa

No	No	No	Acc	No	Acc	...
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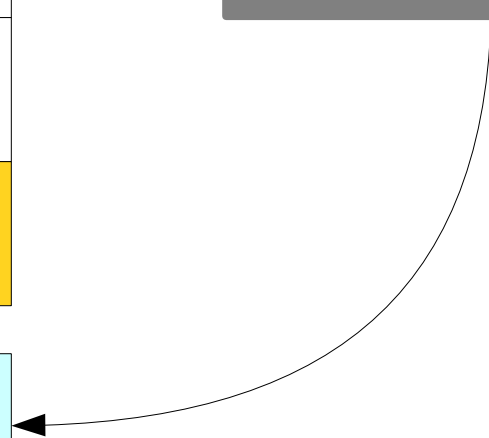
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$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
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What TM has this behavior?





	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
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$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
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$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
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$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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No	No	No	Acc	No	Acc	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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No	No	No	Acc	No	Acc	...
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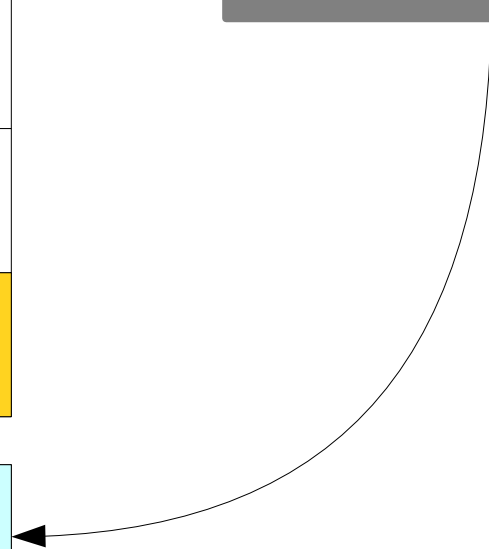
	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
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$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

No No No Acc No Acc ...

No TM has this behavior!



	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

No	No	No	Acc	No	Acc	...
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**“The language of all TMs that do not accept their own description.”**

	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

**$\{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM that does not accept } \langle M \rangle \}$**

No	No	No	Acc	No	Acc	...
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	$\langle M_0 \rangle$	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	$\langle M_5 \rangle$	...
$M_0$	Acc	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	...
$M_1$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_2$	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	Acc	...
$M_3$	No	Acc	Acc	No	Acc	Acc	...
$M_4$	Acc	No	Acc	No	Acc	No	...
$M_5$	No	No	Acc	Acc	No	No	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

**$\{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } \langle M \rangle \notin \mathcal{L}(M) \}$**

No	No	No	Acc	No	Acc	...
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# Diagonalization Revisited

- The ***diagonalization language***, which we denote  $L_D$ , is defined as

$$L_D = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } \langle M \rangle \notin \mathcal{L}(M) \}$$

- That is,  $L_D$  is the set of descriptions of Turing machines that do not accept themselves.

$$L_D = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } \langle M \rangle \notin \mathcal{L}(M) \}$$

**Theorem:**  $L_D \notin \mathbf{RE}$ .

$$L_D = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } \langle M \rangle \notin \mathcal{L}(M) \}$$

**Theorem:**  $L_D \notin \mathbf{RE}$ .

**Proof:** By contradiction; assume that  $L_D \in \mathbf{RE}$ .

$$L_D = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } \langle M \rangle \notin \mathcal{L}(M) \}$$

**Theorem:**  $L_D \notin \mathbf{RE}$ .

**Proof:** By contradiction; assume that  $L_D \in \mathbf{RE}$ . Then there must be some recognizer  $R$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(R) = L_D$ .

$$L_D = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } \langle M \rangle \notin \mathcal{L}(M) \}$$

**Theorem:**  $L_D \notin \mathbf{RE}$ .

**Proof:** By contradiction; assume that  $L_D \in \mathbf{RE}$ . Then there must be some recognizer  $R$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(R) = L_D$ .

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Because  $\mathcal{L}(R) = L_D$ , we know that a string belongs to one set if and only if it belongs to the other.

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We've replaced the left-hand side of this biconditional with an equivalent statement.

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A nice consequence of a universally-quantified statement is that it should work in all cases.

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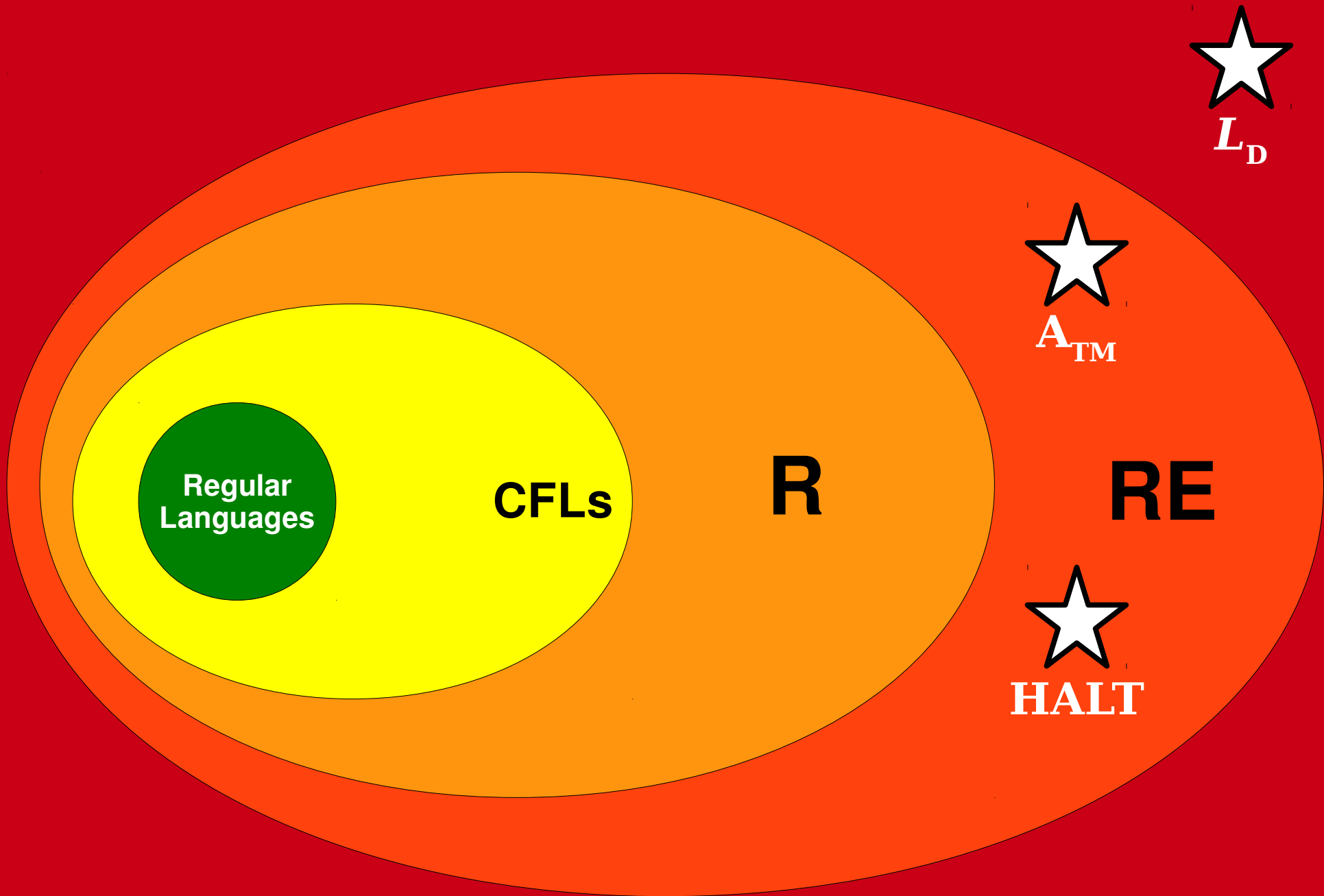
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**All Languages**

# What This Means

- On a deeper philosophical level, the fact that non-**RE** languages exist supports the following claim:

***There are statements that are true but not provable.***

- Intuitively, given any non-**RE** language, there will be some string in the language that *cannot* be proven to be in the language.
- This result can be formalized as a result called ***Gödel's incompleteness theorem***, one of the most important mathematical results of all time.
- Want to learn more? Take Phil 152 or CS154!

# What This Means

- On a more philosophical note, you could interpret the previous result in the following way:

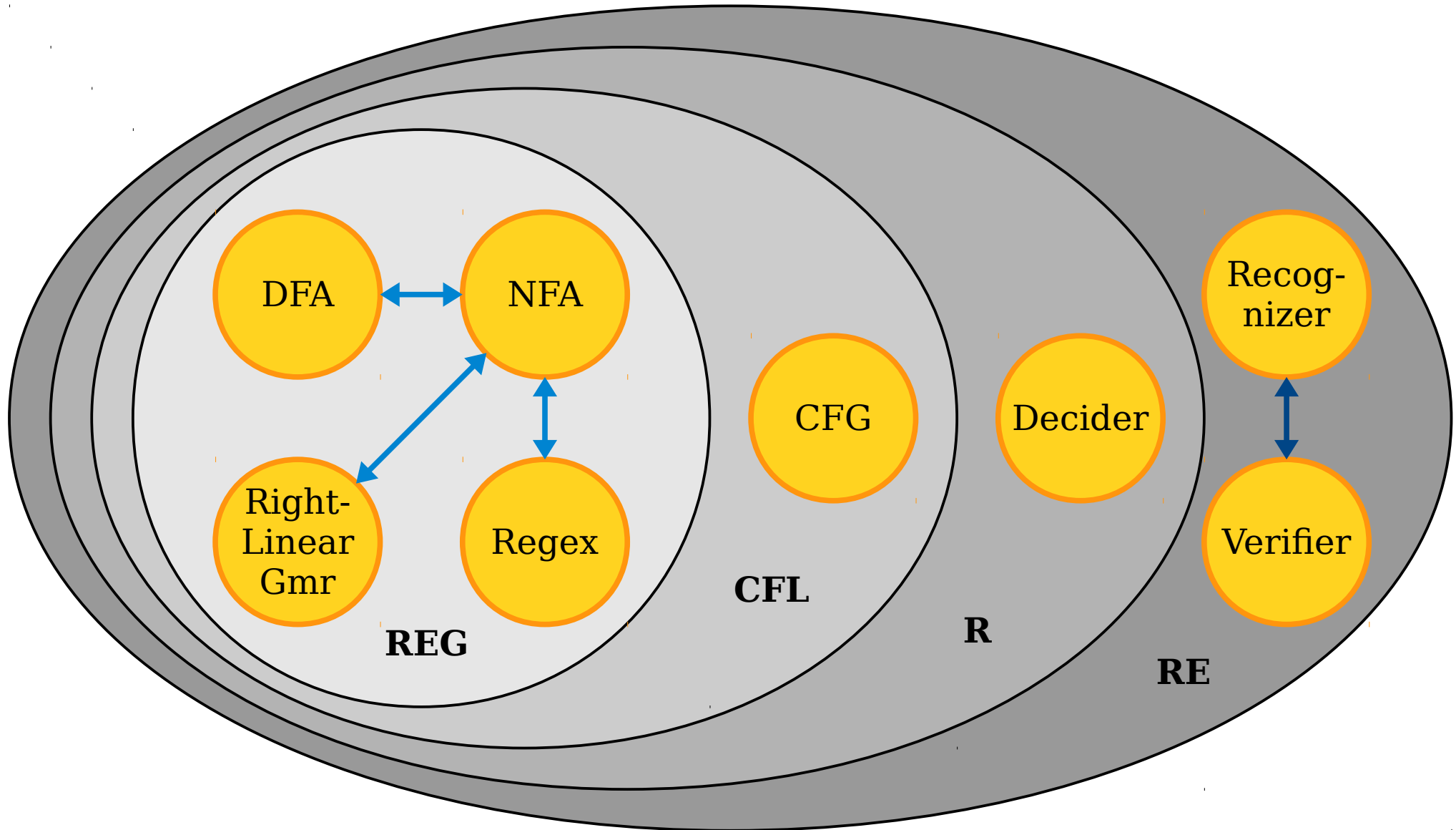
***There are inherent limits about what mathematics can teach us.***

- There's no automatic way to do math. There are true statements that we can't prove.
- That doesn't mean that mathematics is worthless. It just means that we need to temper our expectations about it.

# Where We Stand

- We've just done a crazy, whirlwind tour of computability theory:
  - ***The Church-Turing thesis*** tells us that TMs give us a mechanism for studying computation in the abstract.
  - ***Universal computers*** – computers as we know them – are not just a stroke of luck. The existence of the universal TM ensures that such computers must exist.
  - ***Self-reference*** is an inherent consequence of computational power.
  - ***Undecidable problems*** exist partially as a consequence of the above and indicate that there are statements whose truth can't be determined by computational processes.
  - ***Unrecognizable problems*** are out there and can be discovered via diagonalization. They imply there are limits to mathematical proof.

# The Big Picture



# Where We've Been

- The class **R** represents problems that can be solved by a computer.
- The class **RE** represents problems where “yes” answers can be verified by a computer.

# Where We're Going

- The class **P** represents problems that can be solved *efficiently* by a computer.
- The class **NP** represents problems where “yes” answers can be verified *efficiently* by a computer.

# Next Time

- ***Introduction to Complexity Theory***
  - Not all decidable problems are created equal!
- ***The Classes P and NP***
  - Two fundamental and important complexity classes.
- ***The  $P \stackrel{?}{=} NP$  Question***
  - A literal million-dollar question!