

# Ordinal Computability

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CiE 2009, Heidelberg, Germany, July 23, 2009

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$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0$$

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$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0$$

$$\longleftarrow \infty \longrightarrow ?$$

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# Ordinal Computability

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0 & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \searrow \\ 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots = \text{limit...} & & \end{array}$$

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# Ordinal Computability

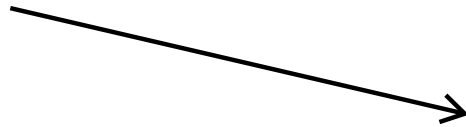
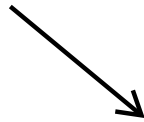
$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0 & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \searrow \\ 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots = 0 & & \end{array}$$

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# Ordinal Computability

$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0$$



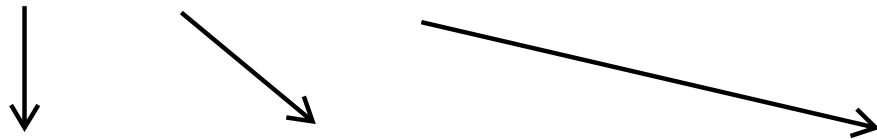
$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots + 1 + 2 + \dots = ?$$

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# Ordinal Computability

$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0$$



$$1 - 1 + \infty - 1 + \dots + \infty + 2 + \dots = \infty^2$$

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# Contents

- Effective computability and the natural numbers
- Ordinal numbers
- Ordinal register machines
- The constructible model  $L$
- $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Register machines
- $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Turing machines
- Infinite Time Register Machines



# Effective computability

- $f$  is recursive
- $f$  is finitely definable
- $f$  is Herbrand-Gödel computable
- $f$  is representable in a consistent formal system  $\supseteq \mathcal{R}$
- $f$  is Turing computable
- $f$  is flowchart (or “while”) computable
- $f$  is  $\lambda$ -definable

## Rôles of natural numbers

- finite number of steps in calculations and deductions
- finite contents of memory in computations
- finite size of programs, recursion schemas,  $\lambda$ -terms, etc.
- algebraic properties:  $0, n + 1$
- order properties:  $m < n$
- induction and recursion

## Other algebraic domains or orders

- continuous time  $\mathbb{R}$
- numbers and data from other rings and fields
- ordinal numbers
- .....

## Other algebraic domains or orders

- continuous time  $\mathbb{R}$
- numbers and data from other rings and fields
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- .....

# Ordinals

- "counting unboundedly"
- finite ordinals = natural numbers:  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$
- endextend by limits:  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots, \infty$
- endextend by successors:  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots, \infty, \infty + 1$

# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega$

# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1$



# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2$

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$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

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# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \dots$

$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2$

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$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 1$

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$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \dots$

$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 1, \dots$

$\vdots$

# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \dots$

$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 1, \dots$

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$\omega \cdot \omega, \dots$

# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \dots$

$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 1, \dots$

$\vdots$

$\omega \cdot \omega, \dots$

$\vdots$



# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \dots$

$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 1, \dots$

$\vdots$

$\omega \cdot \omega, \dots$

$\vdots$

$\aleph_1 = \omega_1, \dots$

# Ordinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots$

$\omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \dots$

$\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 1, \dots$

$\vdots$

$\omega \cdot \omega, \dots$

$\vdots$

$\aleph_1 = \omega_1, \dots$

$\vdots$

# Ordinals

- The ordinals form a *proper class*  $\text{Ord}$  of objects
- the ordinals are linearly ordered
- the ordinals are closed under the  $+1$ -operation
- there are *limit* ordinals like  $\omega, \omega + \omega, \dots, \aleph_1, \dots$
- the ordinals are wellordered, i.e. there is *no* infinite descending chain  $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1 > \alpha_2 > \dots$  of ordinals
- the ordinals are the ordertypes of wellordered sets

# Ordinals

- one can do induction and recursion along the ordinals
- ordinal addition is defined by recursion
  - initial case:  $\alpha + 0 = \alpha$
  - successor case:  $\alpha + (\beta + 1) = (\alpha + \beta) + 1$
  - *limit* case: if  $\beta$  is a limit ordinal then

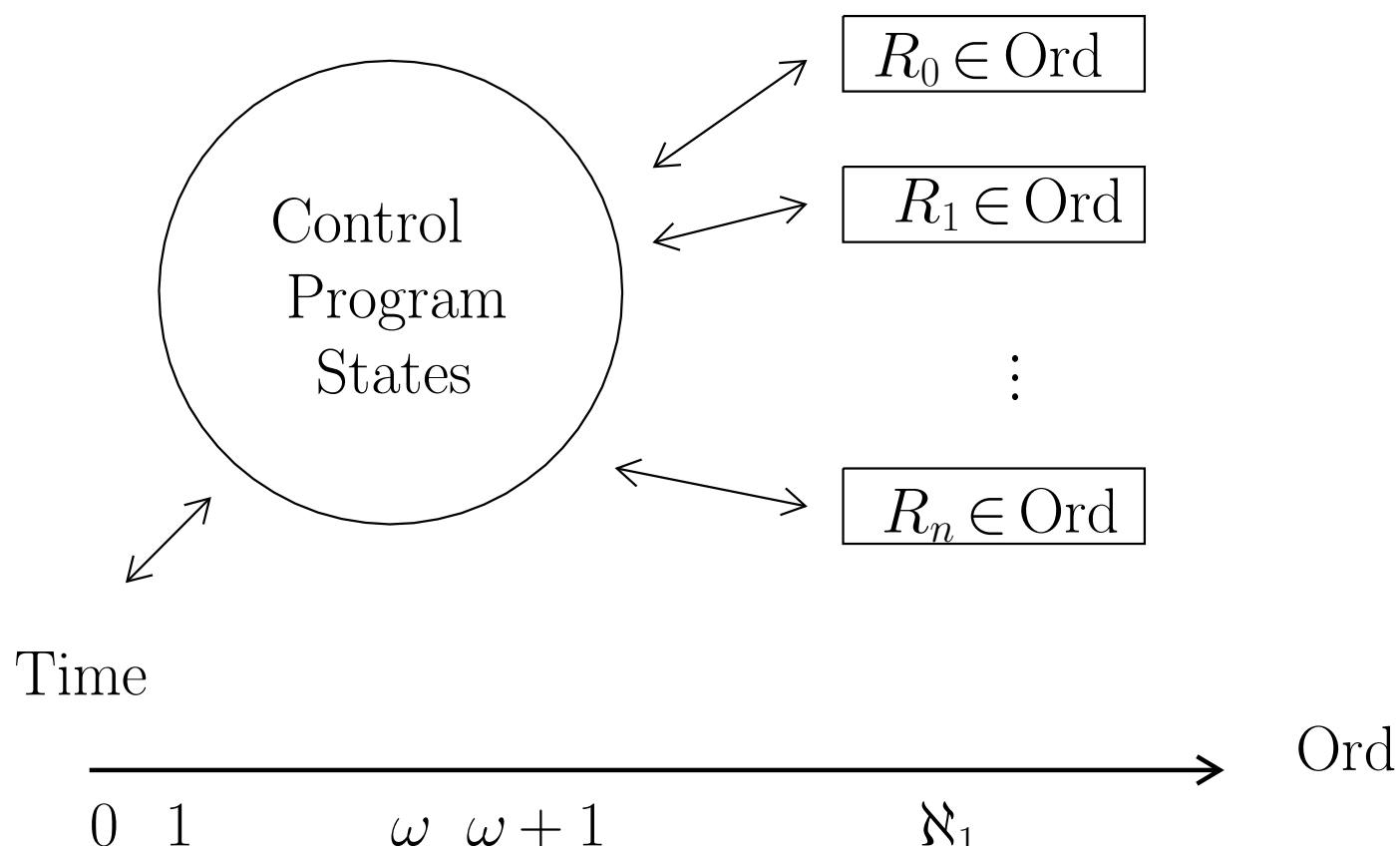
$$\alpha + \beta = \lim_{i < \beta} (\alpha + i)$$

## Ordinal register machines

$\alpha + \beta$  can be “computed” as follows:

- put  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in registers  $R_0$  and  $R_1$
- set a register  $R_2$  to 0
- count up registers  $R_0$  and  $R_2$  in parallel
- stop when  $R_2$  reaches  $R_1$ , and output  $R_0$
- at limit “times” let the contents of  $R_0$  and  $R_2$  be the limits of the previous contents

# Ordinal register machines



## Ordinal register machines, successor times

A *register program* is a finite list  $P = I_0, I_1, \dots, I_{s-1}$  of *instructions*:

- the *zero instruction*  $Z(m)$  set register  $R_m$  to 0
- the *successor instruction*  $S(m)$  increases register  $R_m$  by 1
- the *transfer instruction*  $T(m, m')$  sets  $R_{m'}$  to the contents of  $R_m$
- the *jump instruction*  $J(m, m', q)$ : if  $R_m = R_{m'}$ , the register machine proceeds to the  $q$ th instruction of  $P$ ; otherwise it proceeds to the next instruction in  $P$
- the machine halts if the “next instruction” is not in  $P$

## Ordinal register machines, limit times

- Let  $t \in \text{Ord}$  be a limit “time”
- $\liminf_{s \rightarrow t} R_m(s)$  is the smallest ordinal  $\rho$  such that  $\{s < t \mid R_m(s) \leq \rho\}$  is unbounded in  $t$
- at limit times, the machine registers follow the liminf rule

$$R_m(t) = \liminf_{s \rightarrow t} R_m(s)$$

- at limit times the program jumps to a specific limit state



## ORM computable functions

- $\alpha + \beta$
- $\alpha \cdot \beta$ , where  $\alpha \cdot 0 = 0$ ,  $\alpha \cdot (\beta + 1) = (\alpha \cdot \beta) + \alpha$ ,  
 $\alpha \cdot \gamma = \lim_{\beta < \gamma} (\alpha \cdot \beta)$ , for limit ordinals  $\gamma$
- $\alpha^\beta$ , where  $\alpha^0 = 1$ ,  $\alpha^{\beta+1} = \alpha^\beta \cdot \alpha$ ,  
 $\alpha^\gamma = \lim_{\beta < \gamma} \alpha^\beta$ , for limit ordinals  $\gamma$

## ORM computability

- what is the class of ORM computable functions?
- what is the class of ORM computable sets, i.e. the class of sets of the form

$$\{\alpha < \beta \mid F(\alpha, \vec{\gamma}) = 1\}$$

where  $F$  is ORM computable and  $\beta, \vec{\gamma} \in \text{Ord}$ ?

## A recursion theorem

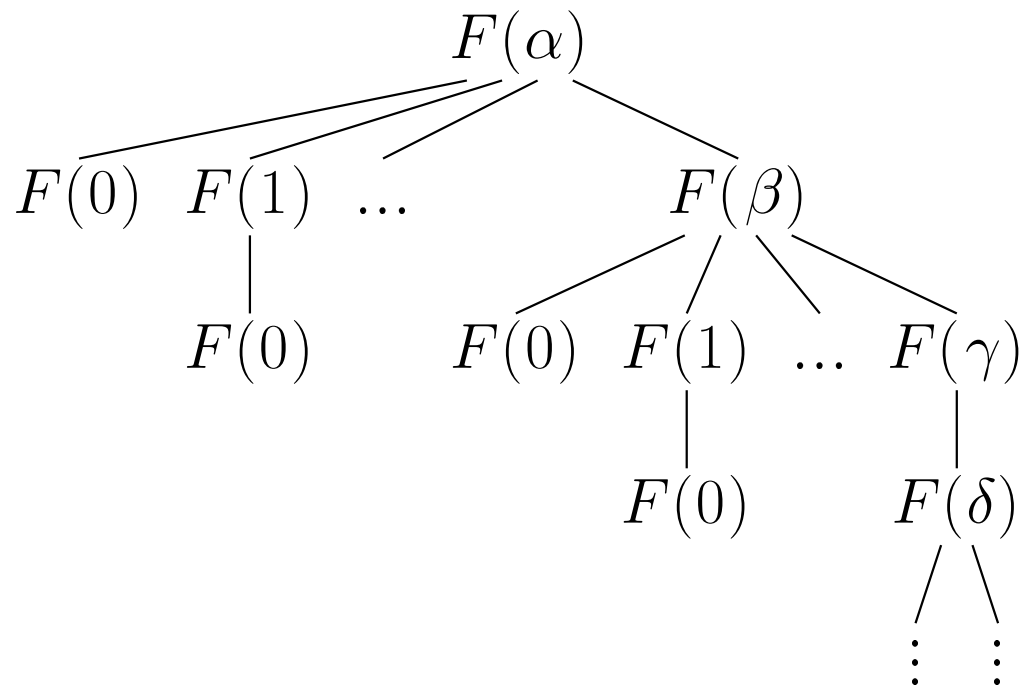
Let  $H: \text{Ord}^3 \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  be ORM computable. Define

$$F(\alpha) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{iff } \exists \nu < \alpha \ H(\alpha, \nu, F(\nu)) = 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

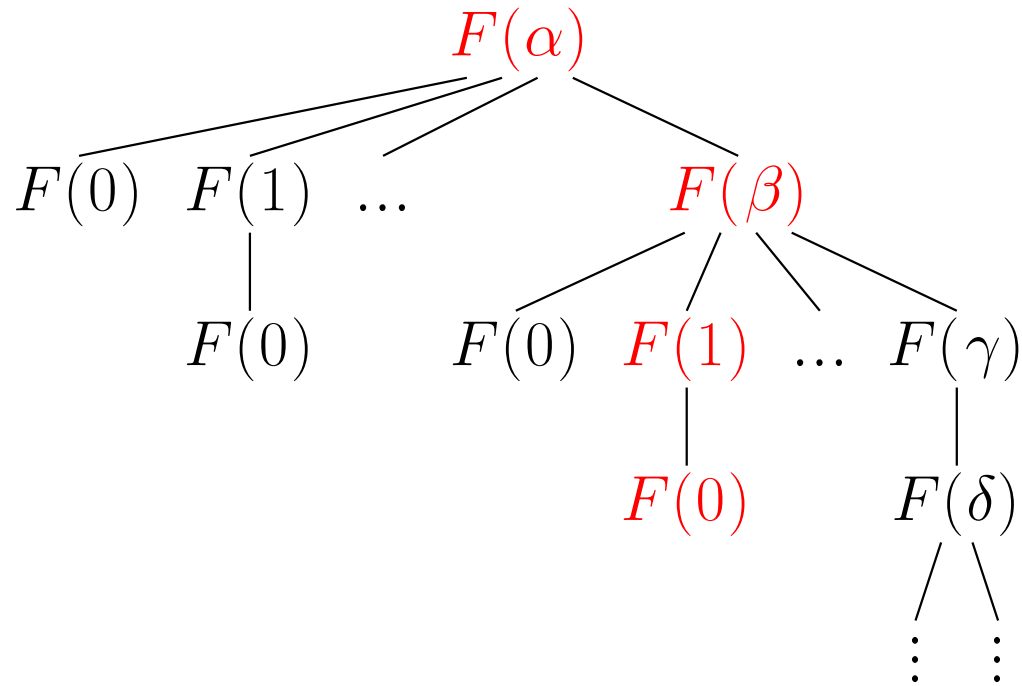
Then  $F: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  is ORM computable.

# A recursion theorem

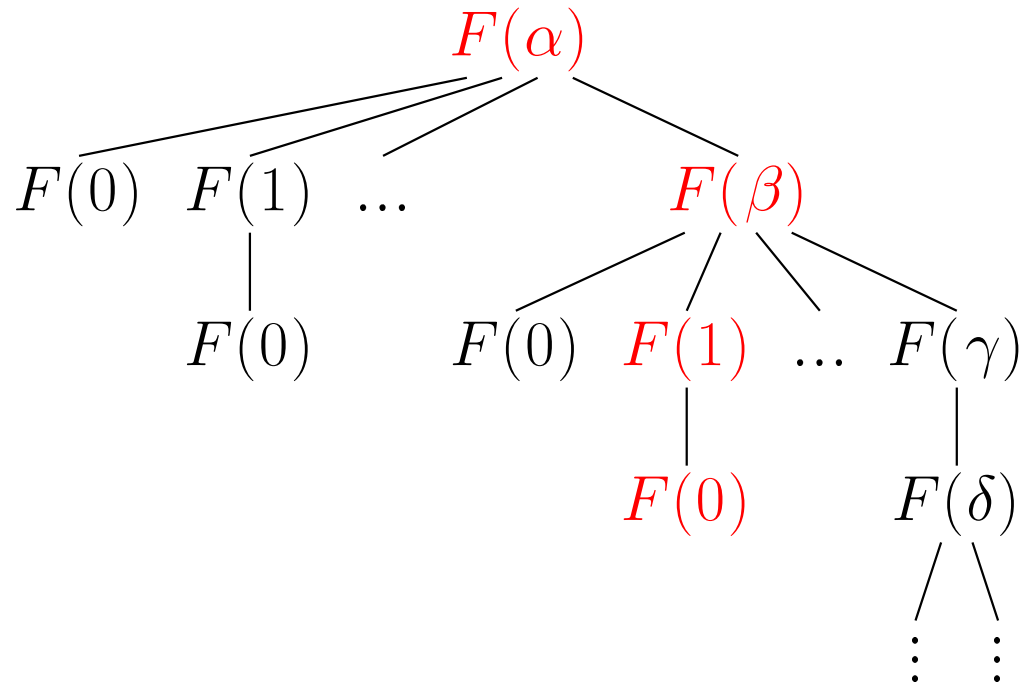
$$F(\alpha) = 1 \text{ iff } \exists \beta < \alpha H(\alpha, \beta, F(\beta)) = 1$$



# A recursion theorem



# A recursion theorem



Search for a **good path** using a stack  $F(\alpha)?, F(\beta)?, F(\gamma)?, \dots$

# A recursion theorem

Code the stack  $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1 > \dots > \alpha_{n-1}$  into one register

$$R_m = 3^{\alpha_0} + 3^{\alpha_1} + \dots + 3^{\alpha_{n-2}} + 3^{\alpha_{n-1}}.$$

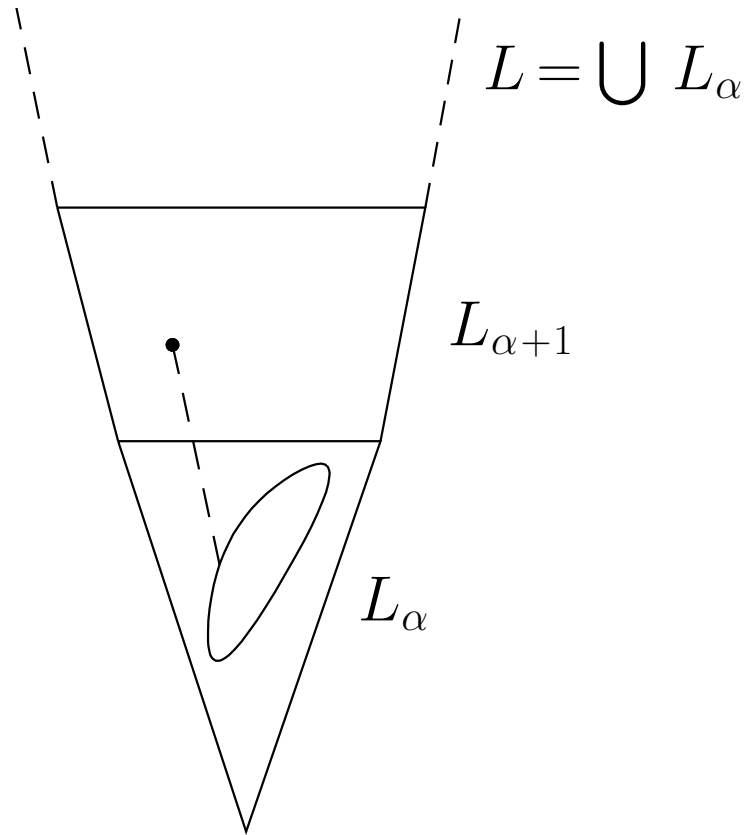
## The constructible model $L$

Kurt Gödel defined the following model of the axioms of set theory

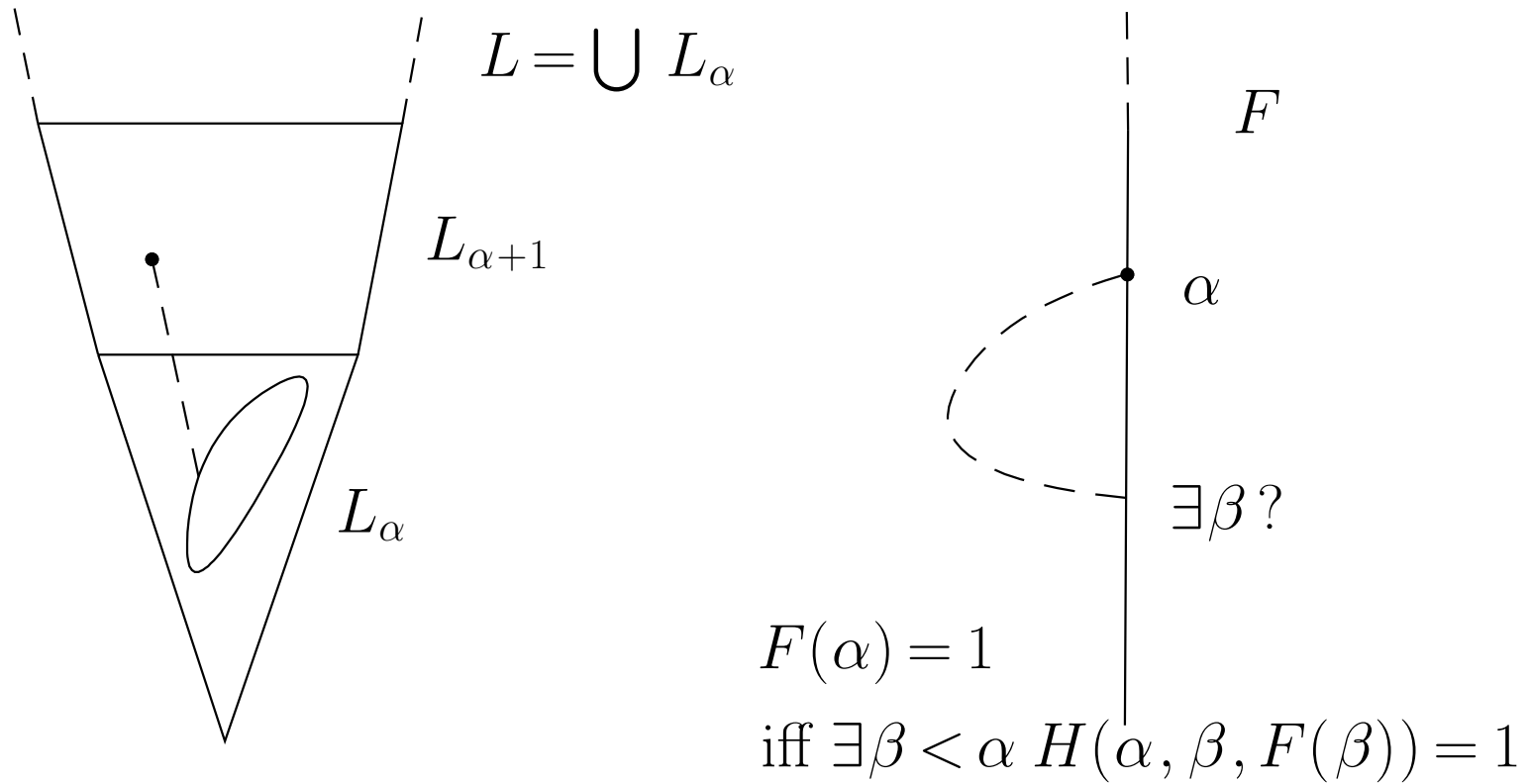
- $L_0 = \emptyset$
- $L_{\alpha+1}$  = the collection of subsets of  $L_\alpha$  which are first order definable in the structure  $(L_\alpha, \in)$  with parameters
- $L_\gamma = \bigcup_{\alpha < \gamma} L_\alpha$  for limit ordinals  $\gamma$
- $L = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \text{Ord}} L_\alpha$



# The constructible model $L$



# The constructible model $L$



## The constructible model $L$

**Theorem** ( $\_$ , Siders) A set  $X$  of ordinals is ORM computable iff  $X \in L$ , i.e. if  $X$  is *constructible*.

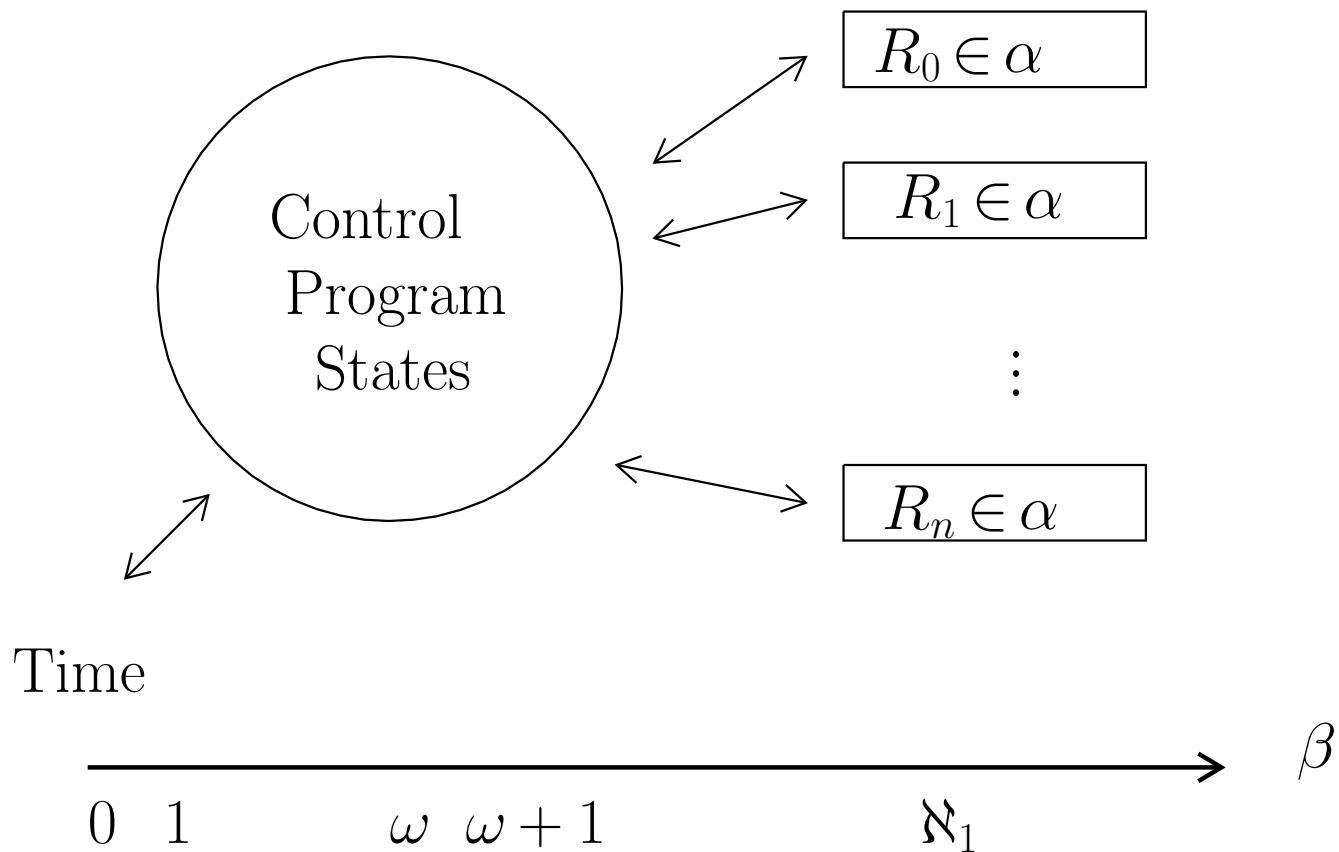
**Proof.** ( $\rightarrow$ ) Any ORM computation can be carried out inside the model  $L$ , hence  $X \in L$ .

( $\leftarrow$ ) One can code iterated definability and the  $L_\alpha$ -hierarchy into the ordinals so that the associated operations become ORM computable. So constructible sets of ordinals are ORM computable.

## The constructible model $L$

- Gödel's Axiom of Constructibility can be reformulated as: every set of ordinals is ORM computable
- One can use the computability perspective to prove the Generalised Continuum Hypothesis and other principles in  $L$
- From a universal ORM one can define a “Silver machine” which allows to prove Jensen's finestructural principles in  $L$

# $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Register machines, space $\alpha$ , time $\beta$





## $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Register machines

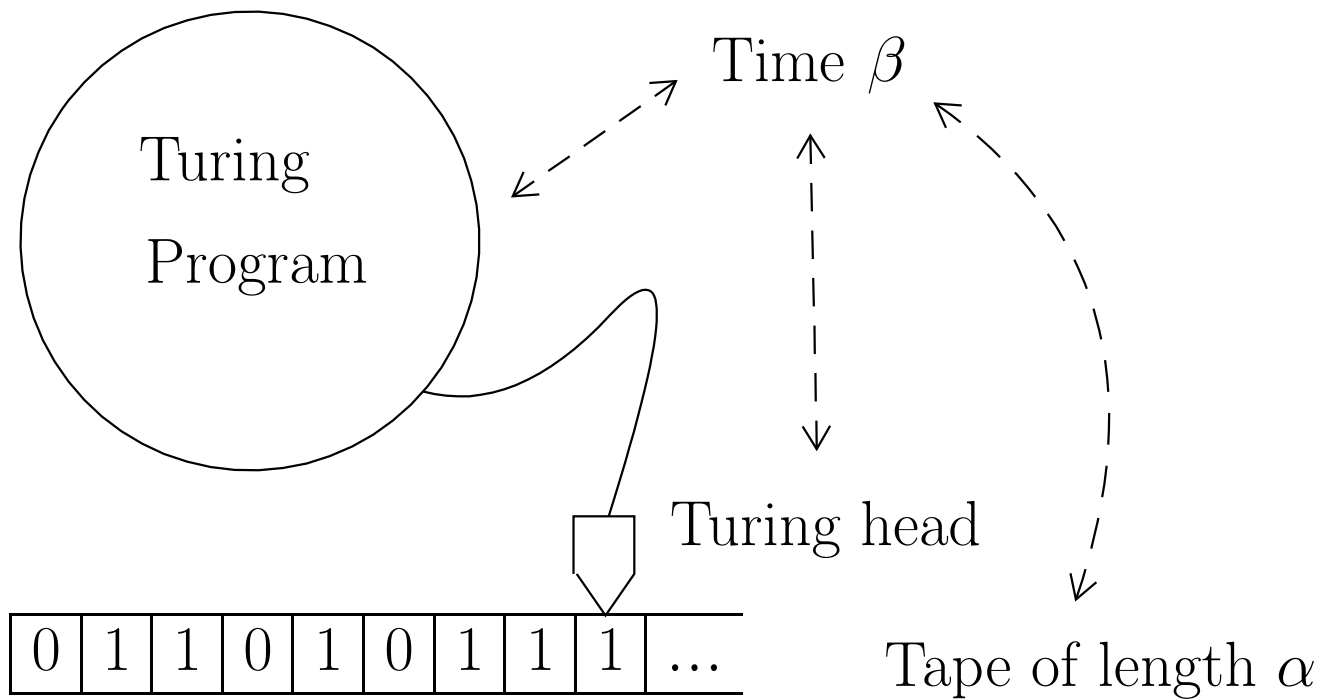
- $\omega$ - $\omega$ -machines are classical register machines
- $\omega$ -Ord-machines are register versions of the Infinite Time Turing Machines (using adequate limit operations)
- for  $\alpha$  admissible,  $\alpha$ - $\alpha$ -computability corresponds to  $\alpha$ -recursion theory (Sacks et al)

# $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Register machines

Register machines	space $\omega$	space admissible $\alpha$	space Ord
time $\omega$	standard register machine computable = $\Delta_1^0$	-	-
time admissible $\alpha$	?	$\alpha$ register machine ( $\alpha$ recursion theory) computable = $\Delta_1(L_\alpha)$ [_, Seyffert]	-
time Ord	ITRM Infinite time register machine computable = $L_{\omega_1^{CK}} \cap \mathcal{P}(\omega)$ [_, CiE 2009]	?	Ordinal register machine computable = $L \cap \mathcal{P}(\text{Ord})$ [_, Siders]



# $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Turing machines



# $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -Turing machines

TURING	space $\omega$	space admissible $\alpha$	space Ord
time $\omega$	standard TURING machine computable = $\Delta_1^0$	-	-
time admissible $\alpha$	?	$\alpha$ TURING machine ( $\alpha$ -recursion theory) computable = $\Delta_1(L_\alpha)$ [_, Seyffertth]	-
time Ord	ITTM $\Delta_1^1 \subsetneq$ computable in real parameter $\subsetneq \Delta_2^1$ [Hamkins et al]	?	Ordinal TURING machine computable = $L \cap \mathcal{P}(\text{Ord})$ [_]

## $\alpha$ - $\beta$ - $X$ machines

For a

- (classical) machine model  $X$
- ordinal space  $\alpha$
- ordinal time  $\beta$

determine the class of computable sets.

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For a

- (classical) machine model  $X$
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determine the class of computable sets.

This gives a parametrised spectrum from classical computability theory to constructibility theory, i.e. set theory.

# Infinite Time Register Machines, ITRM = $\omega$ -Ord-register machines

- use “hardware” of classical register machines
- use arbitrary ordinal time
- use liminf rule with the proviso that at time  $t$  register  $R_m$  is “reset” to 0 if  $\liminf_{s < t} R_m(s) = \omega$

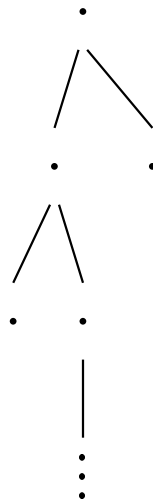
# Infinite Time Register Machines

**Theorem** (  ) A real number  $a \in {}^\omega 2$  is computable by an ITRM iff  $a \in L_{\omega_\omega^{\text{CK}}}$ .

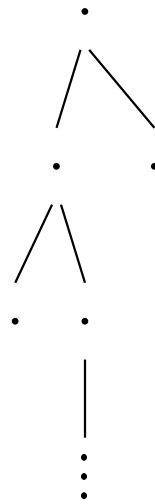
Here  $\omega_0^{\text{CK}}, \omega_1^{\text{CK}}, \dots, \omega_\omega^{\text{CK}}$  is the monotone enumeration of the first admissible ordinals and their limit.

# Infinite Time Register Machines

**Theorem** ( $\_$ , Miller) The set  $WO = \{Z \in {}^\omega 2 \mid Z \text{ codes a wellorder}\}$  is computable by an ITRM.



# Infinite Time Register Machines



Look for an infinite branch in  $Z$ , keeping the finite attempts in a register  $R_m$ ; if there is an infinite branch, the register will overrun and be reset to 0; otherwise it will not overrun and have a finite  $\text{liminf}$ .



# Infinite Time Register Machines

The *hyperjump*  $Z^+ \in {}^\omega 2$  of  $Z \in {}^\omega 2$  is defined by:

$Z^+(n) = 1$  iff  $\{(i, j) \in \omega \times \omega \mid P_n^Z(2^i \cdot 3^j) = 1\}$  is a wellfounded relation.

where  $P_0, P_1, \dots$  is a fixed recursive enumeration of all register programs and let  $P_n^Z: \omega \rightarrow \omega$  be the partial function given by  $P_n$  with oracle  $Z$ . Then

**Theorem.**  $0, 0^+, 0^{++}, \dots, 0^{(l)}, \dots$  are all ITRM computable.

# Infinite Time Register Machines

The

**Theorem.**  $0, 0^+, 0^{++}, \dots, 0^{(l)}, \dots$  are all ITRM computable.

implies:

**Theorem.** Every real in  $L_{\omega_{\omega}^{\text{CK}}}$  is ITRM computable.

**Proof.** Because every real in  $L_{\omega_{\omega}^{\text{CK}}}$  is Turing computable from some finite iterate  $0^{(l)}$  of the hyperjump.

## Infinite Time Register Machines

**Theorem** ( $\_$ ) If an ITRM with  $n$  registers stops, it will do so before time  $\omega_{n+1}^{\text{CK}}$ .

**Idea.** If an ITRM computation runs for  $\aleph_1$  many steps then by a downward Löwenheim-Skolem argument there is a closed unbounded sets of ordinals  $< \aleph_1$  where the machine configuration is the same as at  $\aleph_1$ . But then the machine will “cycle” after  $\aleph_1$ .

This argument can be refined to work at  $\omega_{n+1}^{\text{CK}}$  instead of  $\aleph_1$ .

So every ITRM computable real  $a$  can be computed within  $L_{\omega_\omega^{\text{CK}}}$  ;  
 $a \in L_{\omega_\omega^{\text{CK}}}$ .

# Ordinal Computability

- analyses various classes of sets by atomic Turing or register operations together with limit operations
- connects classical computability theory, higher recursion theory, descriptive set theory, and constructibility theory
- still has many accessible open problems: certain combinations of space  $\alpha$  and time  $\beta$ , other machine models
- has participated at CiE since the first conference at Amsterdam

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 = 0 & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \searrow \\ 1 - 1 + \omega - 1 + \dots + \omega + 2 + \dots = \aleph_1^2 & & \end{array}$$

Thank you!