

# Generalized Universality

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Act 1  
Classical Universality

Act 2  
Modern Universality

Act 3  
Generalized Modern Universality



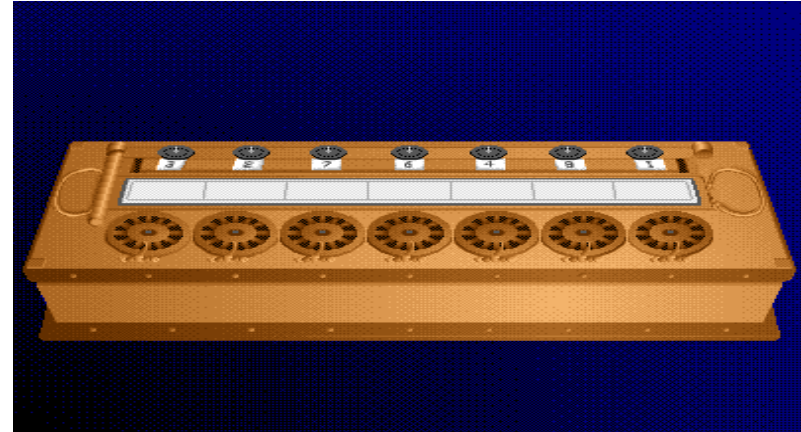
# Algorithm

A finite set of precise instructions

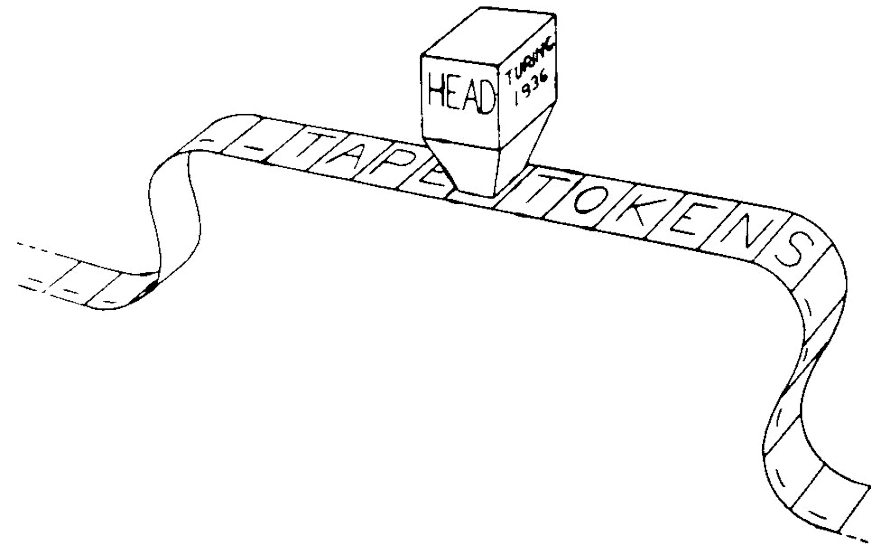
The only intelligence required is to  
compute the instructions

Must always produce a result

Which machine enables to compute everything?



Universality

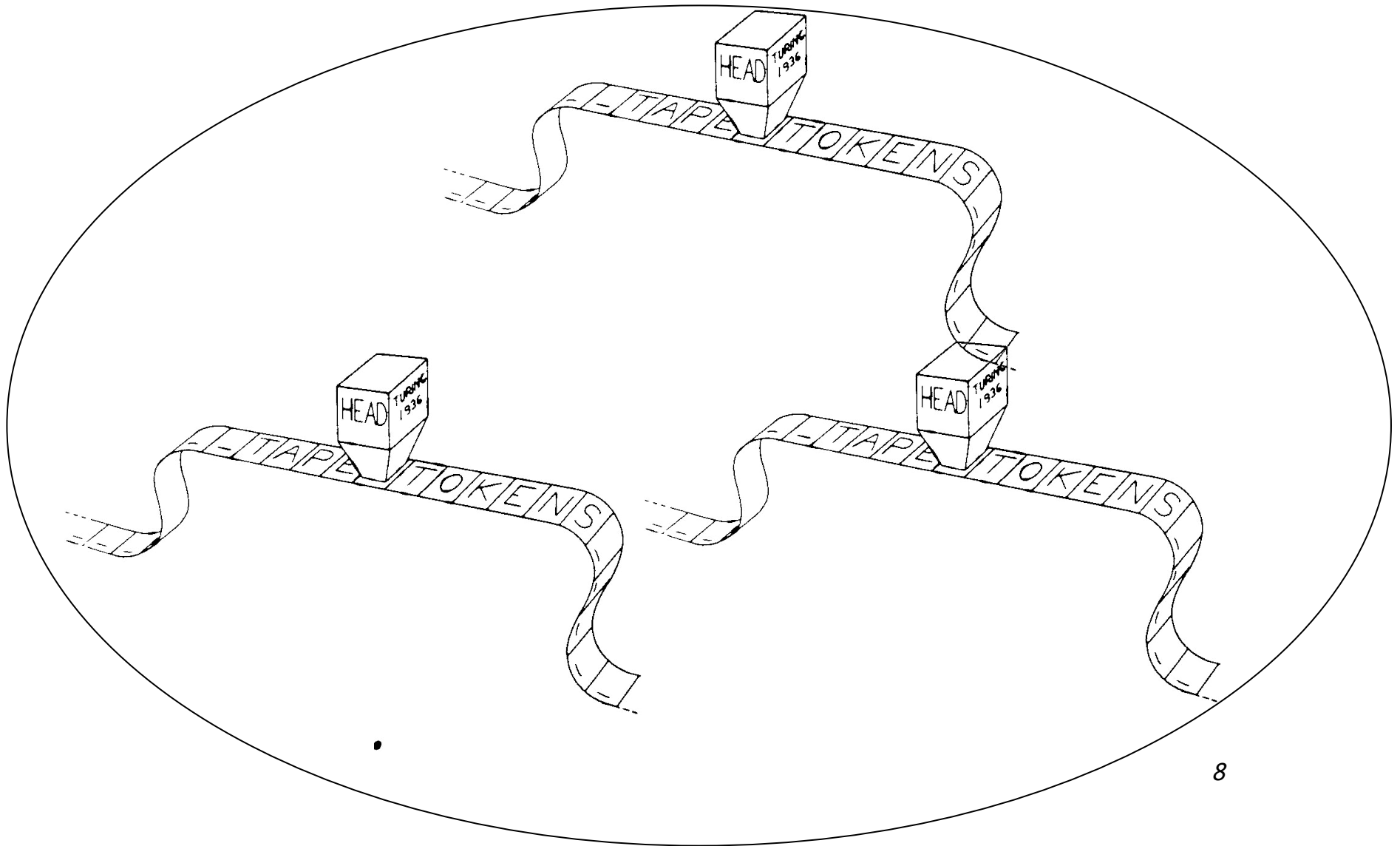


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# The Network is the Computer





# Algorithm

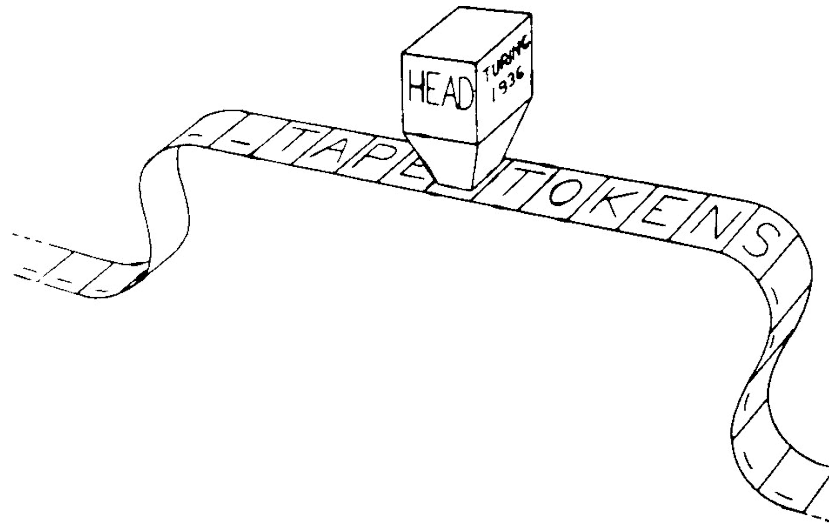
A finite set of precise instructions

The only intelligence required is to compute the instructions

Must **always** produce a result

NB. Despite concurrency and failures

Which network enables to compute everything?



Linearizable



Highly-available

# Universality of consensus [L-L-S-H-CT]

Message Passing?

Register?

Test&Set?

Consensus

C&S

Abcast

# Consensus

Processes propose each a value and ***agree*** on one of those values

same-output = ***propose***(input)

# Universal construction

A state machine of which each process holds a copy

A list of commands local to each process

A list of consensus objects shared by the processes

# Universal construction

- `while(true)`
- `c = commands.next()`
- `cons = Consensus.next()`
- `c' = cons.propose(c)`
- `sM.perform(c')`

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# Generalized Universality

Consensus is the particular case  
of  $k$ -consensus



# K-consensus [C, AGK]

- Every process proposes a vector of  $k$  values and returns a value at some position
- $(\text{value}, \text{position}) = \text{propose}(k\text{Vect})$

# K-consensus

- ***Validity***: the value returned at some position has been proposed at that position
- ***Agreement***: no two values returned at the same position are different
- ***Termination***: every correct process that proposes eventually returns

# What form of universality with K-consensus?

With consensus

Processes implement a highly-available state machine



With k-consensus

Processes implement k state machines of which ***at least one*** is highly-available

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# Generalized universality

k state machines: each process holding a copy of each (sM(i))

k lists of commands local to each process

A list of k-vector consensus objects (kVectCons)

Reads and writes in shared memory

# Universal construction

- `while(true)`
- `c = commands.next()`
- `cons = consensus.next()`
  
- `c' = cons.propose(c)`
- `sM.perform(c')`

# Generalized universality?

- while(true)
- for j = 1 to k: com(j) = commands(j).next()
- kVectC = kVectCons.next()
  
- (c,i) = kVectC.propose(com)
- sM(i).perform(c)

# Generalized universality?

- while(true)
- for j = 1 to k: com(j) = commands(j).next()
- kVectC = kVectCons.next()
  
- (c,i) = kVectC.propose(com)
- read shared memory and update any missing c'
- sM(i).perform(c)
- write (c,i) in shared memory



# Key idea

- ***Safety (commitment)***: a process does not perform a command unless all others know the command

# Commitment

write (c) at level 1

let V1 be the set of values at level 1

if V1 has only c, write (commit, c) at level 2

let V2 be the set of values at level 2

if V2 has only (commit, c) then return(commit, c)

if V2 has some (commit, c') then return(adopt, c')

else return (adopt, c)

# Commitment

- ***Invariant (1)***: if a value  $v$  is committed then no other value is returned
- ***Invariant (2)***: if all processes propose the same command then the command is committed

# Generalized universality (step 0)

- `newCom = commands.next()`
- `while(true)`
- `kVectC = kVectCons.next()`

# Generalized universality (step 1)

- ...
- $(c,i) = \text{kVectC.propose}(\text{newCom})$
- ...

# Generalized universality (step1-2)

- ...
- $(c,i) = \text{kVectC.propose}(\text{newCom})$
- $\text{vect}(i) = \text{commitment}(i,c)$
- ...

# Generalized universality (step 1-2-2')

- ...
- $(c,i) = kVectC.propose(newCom)$
- $vect(i) = commitment(i,c)$
- for  $j = 1$  to  $k$  except  $i$ :
  - $vect(j) = commitment(newCom(j))$
  - ...

# Generalized universality (step 3)

...

for i = 1 to k

- if ok(vect(i)) then
  - sM(i).perform(vect(i))
  - newCom(i) = commands(i).next()
- else
  - newCom(i) = vect(i)



# Key ideas

- ***Safety (commitment)***: a process does not perform a command unless all others know the command
- ***Liveness (success first)***: at least one process executes a command in every round

# Generalized universality (step 3')

...

for  $i = 1$  to  $k$

- If  $\text{older}(\text{newCom}(i), \text{vect}(i))$  then
  - $\text{sM}(i).\text{perform}(\text{newCom}(i))$
- If  $\text{no}(\text{vect}(i))$  then  $\text{newCom}(i) = \text{vect}(i)$
- else
- $\text{sM}(i).\text{perform}(\text{vect}(i))$
- If  $\text{vect}(i) = \text{newCom}(i)$  then
  - $\text{newCom}(i) = \text{commands}(i).\text{next}()$
- $\text{add}(\text{newCom}(i), \text{vect}(i))$

# 3 Key ideas

- ***Safety (commitment)***: a process does not perform a command unless all others know the command
- ***Liveness (success first)***: at least one process executes a command in every round
- ***Safety (old promises)***: a process might execute two commands at the same round

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# Generalized Universality

Consensus is the particular case  
of  $k$ -consensus

What if consensus is not  
available? Mistakes? Partitions?

# Generalized Universality

With consensus

Processes implement a highly-available state machine



With k-consensus

Processes implement k state machines of which ***at least one*** is highly-available