

# Effectively Computable Ordinal Functions

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# PRIMITIVE RECURSIVE SET (**ORDINAL**) FUNCTIONS (R. JENSEN and C. Karp, R. Gandy)

A function  $F: V \rightarrow V$  ( $F: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$ ) is a *primitive recursive set* (*ordinal*) *function* iff it is generated by the following scheme

- $P_{n,i}(\vec{x}) = x_i$ ,  $1 \leq n \in \omega$ ,  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$
- $F(x) = 0$
- $F(x, y) = x \cup \{y\}$  ( $F(\alpha) = \alpha \cup \{\alpha\} = \alpha + 1$ )
- $C(x, y, u, v) = x$  if  $u \in v$ ,  $= y$  otherwise

# PRIMITIVE RECURSIVE SET (ORDINAL) FUNCTIONS

- $F(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = G(\vec{x}, H(\vec{x}), \vec{y})$
- $F(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = G(H(\vec{x}), \vec{y})$
- Recursion:

$$F(z, \vec{x}) = G\left(\bigcup \{F(u, \vec{x}) \mid u \in z\}, z, \vec{x}\right)$$

## SET RECURSION

$$F(z, \vec{x}) = G\left(\bigcup \{F(u, \vec{x}) \mid u \in z\}, z, \vec{x}\right)$$

allows course-of-value recursion:

$$\begin{aligned} F^* \upharpoonright \text{TC}(\{z\}) &= \bigcup \{F^* \upharpoonright \text{TC}(\{u\}) \mid u \in z\} \cup \\ &\cup \{(z, G^*(\bigcup \{F^* \upharpoonright \text{TC}(\{u\}) \mid u \in z\}))\} \end{aligned}$$

## ORDINAL RECURSION

$$\begin{aligned} F(\alpha, \vec{x}) &= G\left(\bigcup \{F(\beta, \vec{x}) \mid \beta \in \alpha\}, \alpha, \vec{x}\right) \\ &= G\left(\lim_{\beta < \alpha} F(\beta, \vec{x}), \alpha, \vec{x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

appears weaker: how can courses-of-values be coded into single ordinals?

## R. JENSEN AND M. SCHRÖDER:

**Theorem.** Let  $F: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$ . Then  $F$  is primitive ordinal recursive iff  $F$  is primitive set recursive.

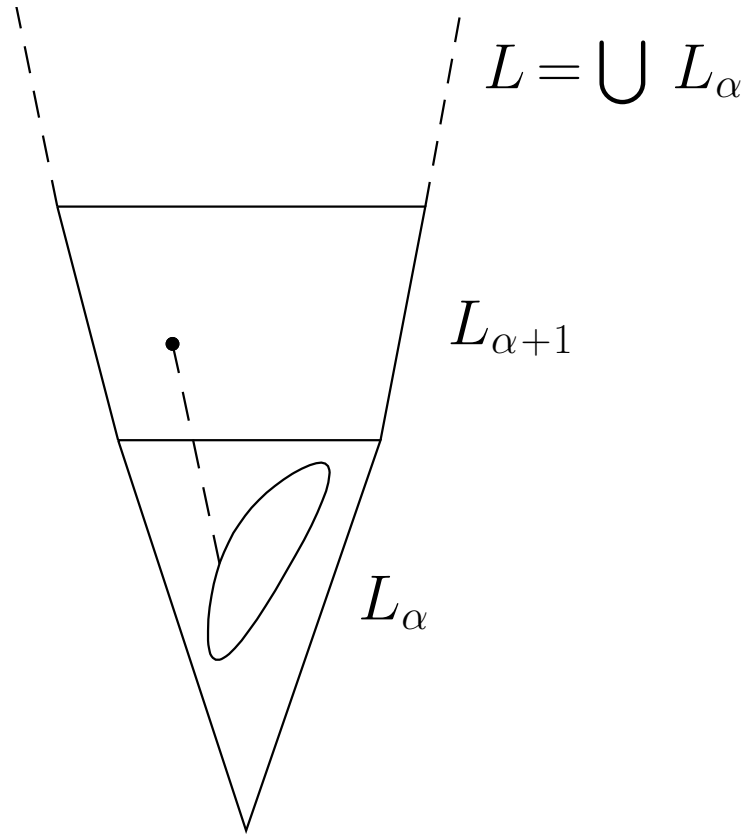
The **Proof** uses the constructible hierarchy.

## THE CONSTRUCTIBLE HIERARCHY (GÖDEL)

- $L_0 = \emptyset$
- $L_{\alpha+1} = \text{Def}(L_\alpha) =$  the set of all subsets of  $L_\alpha$  which are first-order definable in the structure  $(L_\alpha, \in)$  from parameters
- $L_\lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} L_\alpha$ , if  $\lambda$  is a limit ordinal
- $L = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \text{Ord}} L_\alpha$  is the *constructible universe*



# THE CONSTRUCTIBLE HIERARCHY



## THE CONSTRUCTIBLE HIERARCHY

Every element of  $L$  is of the form

$$\begin{aligned}x_0 &= \{u_0 \in L_{\alpha_0} \mid L_{\alpha_0} \models \varphi_0(u_0, x_1, \dots)\} \\ &= \{u_0 \in L_{\alpha_0} \mid L_{\alpha_0} \models \varphi_0(u_0, \{u_1 \in L_{\alpha_1} \mid L_{\alpha_1} \models \varphi_1(u_1, x_2, \dots)\}, \dots)\} \\ &= \{u_0 \in L_{\alpha_0} \mid L_{\alpha_0} \models \varphi_0(u_0, \{u_1 \in L_{\alpha_1} \mid L_{\alpha_1} \models \varphi_1(u_1, \{u_2 \in L_{\alpha_2} \mid L_{\alpha_2} \models \varphi_2(u_2, x_3, \dots)\}, \dots)\}, \dots)\} \\ &= \dots\end{aligned}$$

and can be “named” by a finite sequence of ordinals like

$$\alpha_0, \varphi_0, \alpha_1, \varphi_1, \alpha_2, \varphi_2, \dots$$

## THE CONSTRUCTIBLE HIERARCHY

Finite sequences of ordinals can be coded by single ordinals due to GÖDEL pairing functions: there are primitive recursive ordinal functions  $G, G_1, G_2$  such that

- $G: \text{Ord} \times \text{Ord} \leftrightarrow \text{Ord}$
- $\forall \alpha G(G_1(\alpha), G_2(\alpha)) = \alpha$

The basic operations for the (coded) constructible universe are primitive recursive ordinal functions (Takeuti; Jensen, Schröder)

## RECURSIVE ORDINAL FUNCTIONS (Jensen, Karp)

A function  $F: V \rightarrow V$  ( $F: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$ ) is a *set* (*ordinal*) *recursive function* iff it is generated by the above scheme together with the minimisation rule

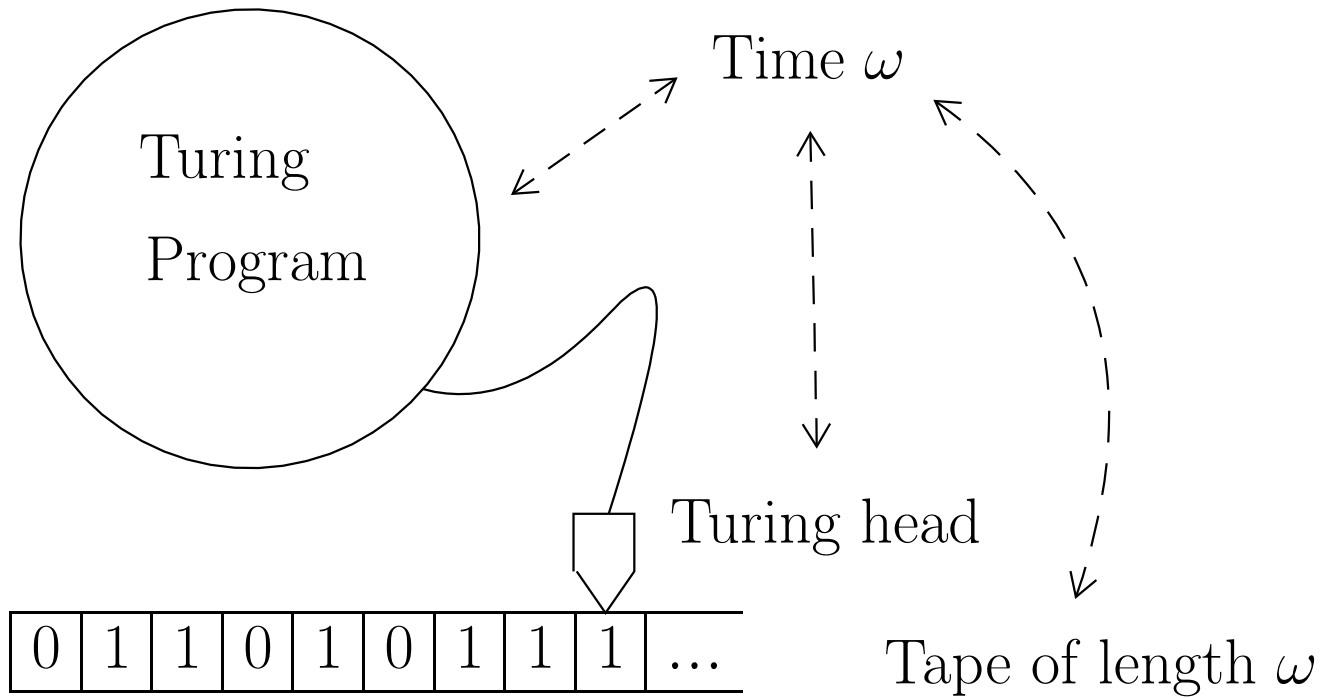
$$\begin{aligned} - \quad & F(\vec{x}) = \min \{ \xi \mid G(\xi, \vec{x}) = 0 \}, \text{ provided that} \\ & \forall \vec{x} \exists \xi G(\xi, \vec{x}) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

# RECURSIVE ORDINAL FUNCTIONS

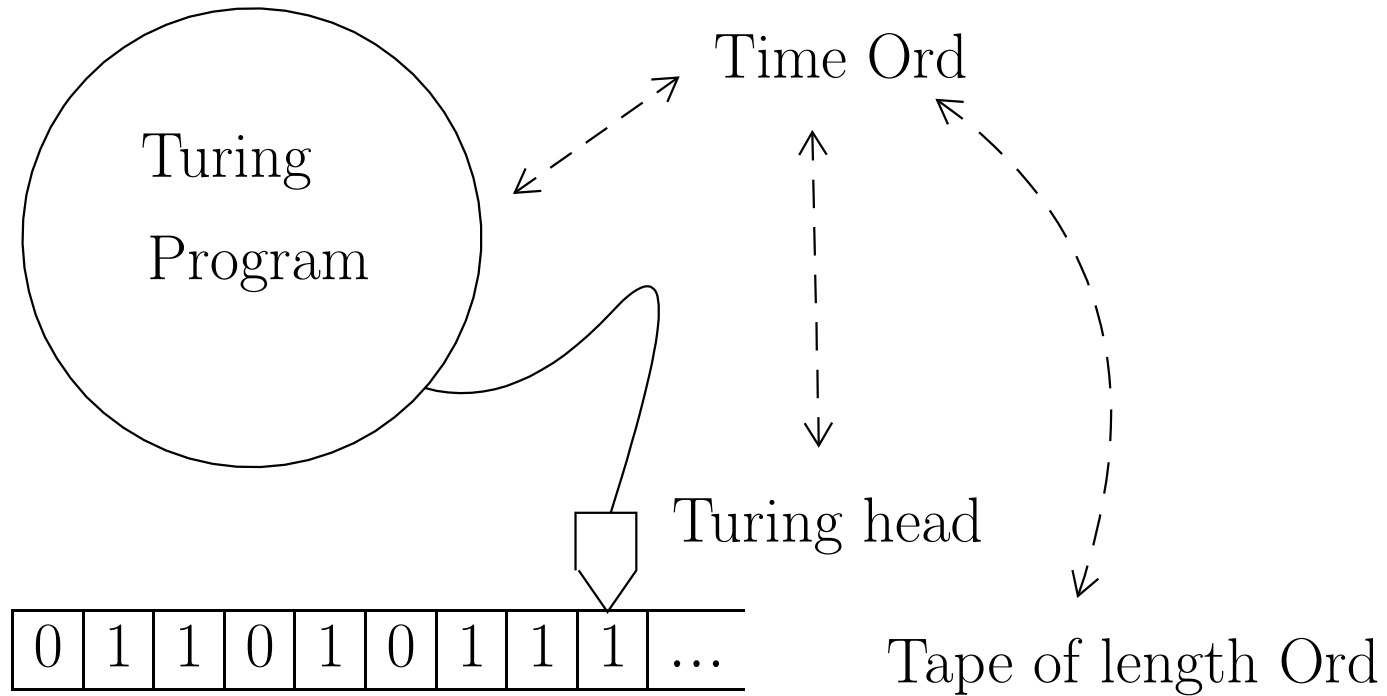
**Theorem.** For  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  the following are equivalent:

- $f$  is ordinal recursive
- $f$  is set recursive
- $f$  is  $\Delta_1(L)$

# TURING machines



# Ordinal TURING machines (OTMs)



## Ordinal TURING machines (OTMs)

- successor steps of computations are determined by standard commands:

m: if read=0 (or 1) then write 0 (or 1), go right (or left), and jump to instruction n

- limit steps  $\lambda$  are determined by liminf's:
  - $\text{command}(\lambda) = \liminf_{\alpha < \lambda} \text{command}(\alpha)$
  - $\text{head}(\lambda) = \liminf_{\alpha < \lambda} \text{head}(\alpha)$
  - $\text{cell}_\gamma(\lambda) = \liminf_{\alpha < \lambda} \text{cell}_\gamma(\alpha)$



## OTM Computability $\leftrightarrow$ constructibility

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

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

(  $\leftarrow$  ) The following OTM algorithm computes all constructible sets: assume that a structure  $(X, R)$  is written on the tape which is (pre-)isomorphic to  $(L_\alpha, \in)$ . Extend  $(X, R)$  to a structure  $(X', R')$  (pre-)isomorphic to  $(L_{\alpha+1}, \in)$ : for each  $\in$ -formula  $\varphi(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_m)$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in X$  pick a new point  $z \in X' \setminus X$  and for  $x_0 \in X$  let

$$x_0 R' z \text{ iff } (X, R) \models \varphi[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_m]$$

Every constructible set of ordinals occurs in the construction and is hence OTM computable.

## Total functions $\text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$

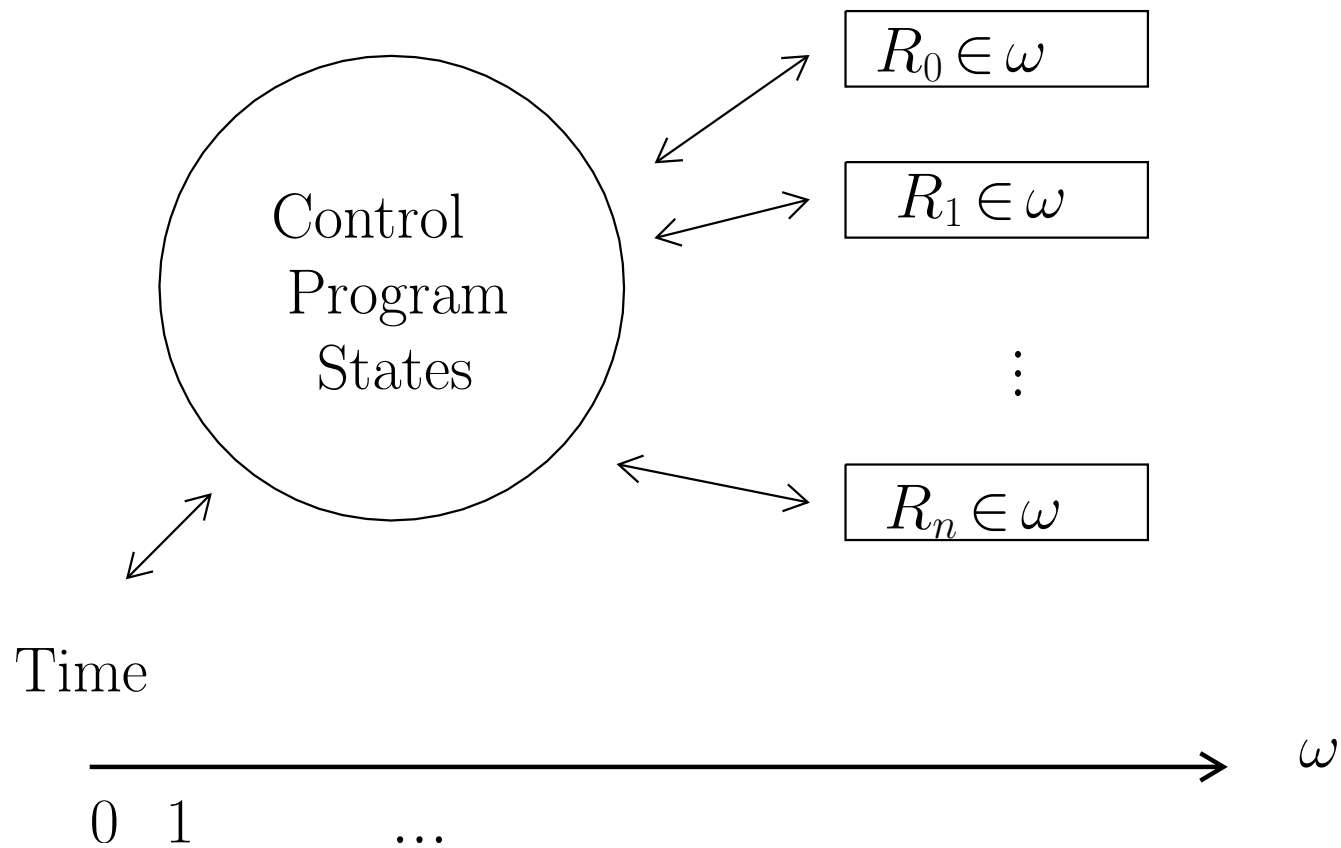
**Theorem** (K, B. Seyfferth)  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  is OTM computable iff  $f$  is  $\Delta_1(L)$ .

**Proof.** ( $\rightarrow$ ) Let  $f$  be computable by the program  $P$ .

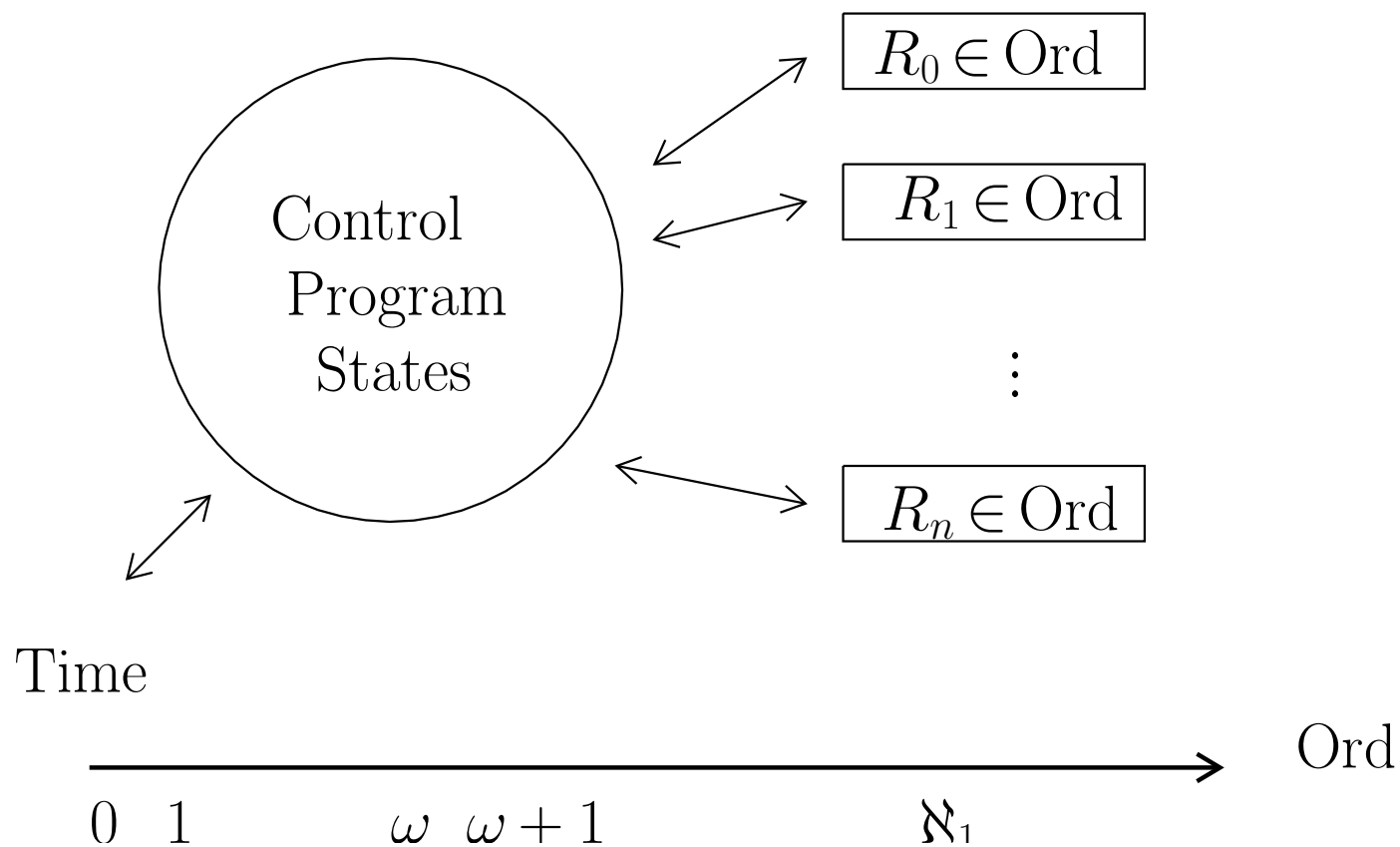
$f(\alpha) = \beta$  iff  $\exists$ computation  $C$  according to  $P$  with input  $\alpha$  and output  $\beta$   
iff  $\exists$ computation  $C \in L$  according to  $P$  with input  $\alpha$  and output  $\beta$   
iff  $\forall$ computation  $C \in L$ (if  $C$  is according to  $P$  with input  $\alpha$  then  $C$  outputs  $\beta$ )

(  $\leftarrow$  ) Let  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  be defined in  $(L, \in)$  by the  $\Sigma_1$ -formula  $\varphi(x, y)$ . Then compute  $f(\alpha)$  as follows: enumerate  $L$  as described above. In the enumeration search for some structure  $(X, R)$  and  $x, y \in X$  such that  $(X, R) \models \varphi(x, y)$  and  $\text{otp}_R(x) = \alpha$ ,  $\text{otp}_R(y) = \beta$ .

# Register machines



# Ordinal register machines, (ORMs)



## ORM Computability $\leftrightarrow$ constructibility

**Theorem** (K, R. 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  $X \in L$ .

## ORM Computability $\leftrightarrow$ constructibility

( $\leftarrow$ ) Since  $L$  has a canonical wellordering every point  $x \in L$  can be “named” by a single ordinal  $\alpha$ ;  $x$  is the “interpretation”  $I(\alpha)$  of the name  $\alpha$ . To compute  $\Sigma_0$ -properties of  $I(\alpha)$  one suffices to compute  $\Sigma_0$ -properties of sets  $I(\alpha')$  with  $\alpha' < \alpha$ . This amounts to a recursion which can be organised by a *stack*. Such stacks can be emulated by ORMs.



## A recursion theorem

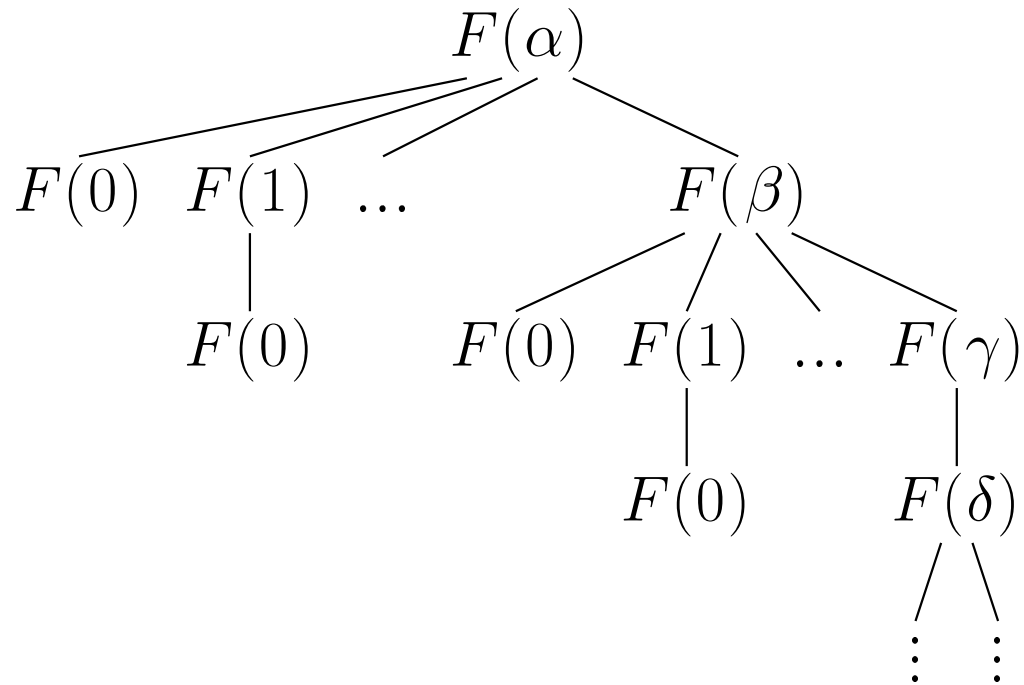
Let  $H: \text{Ord}^3 \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  be ORM computable. Define

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

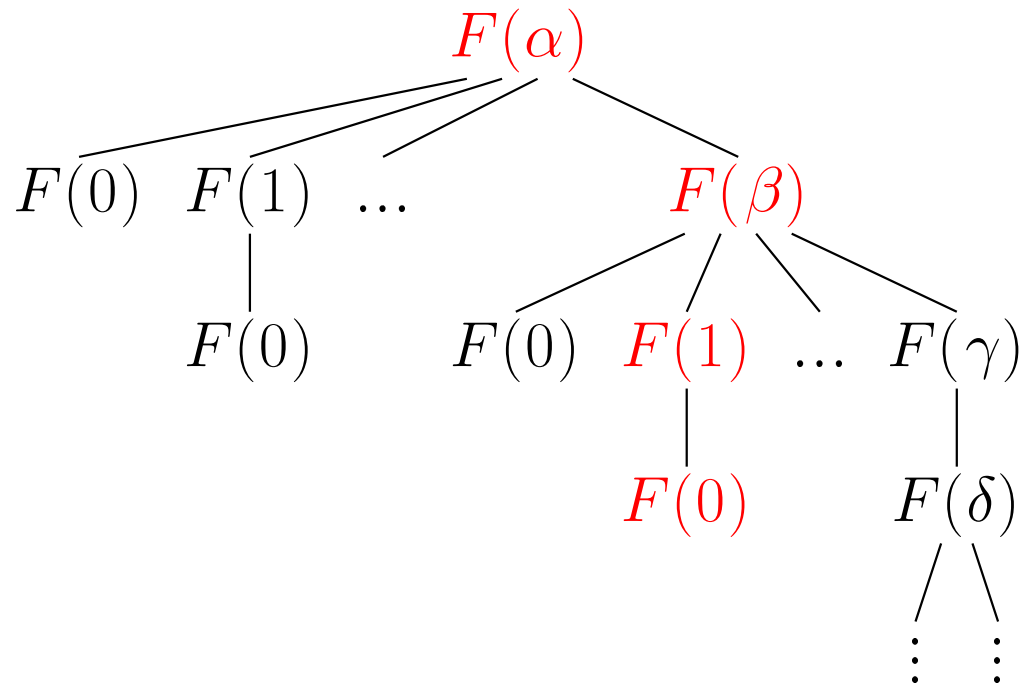
Then  $F: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  is ORM computable.

# A recursion theorem

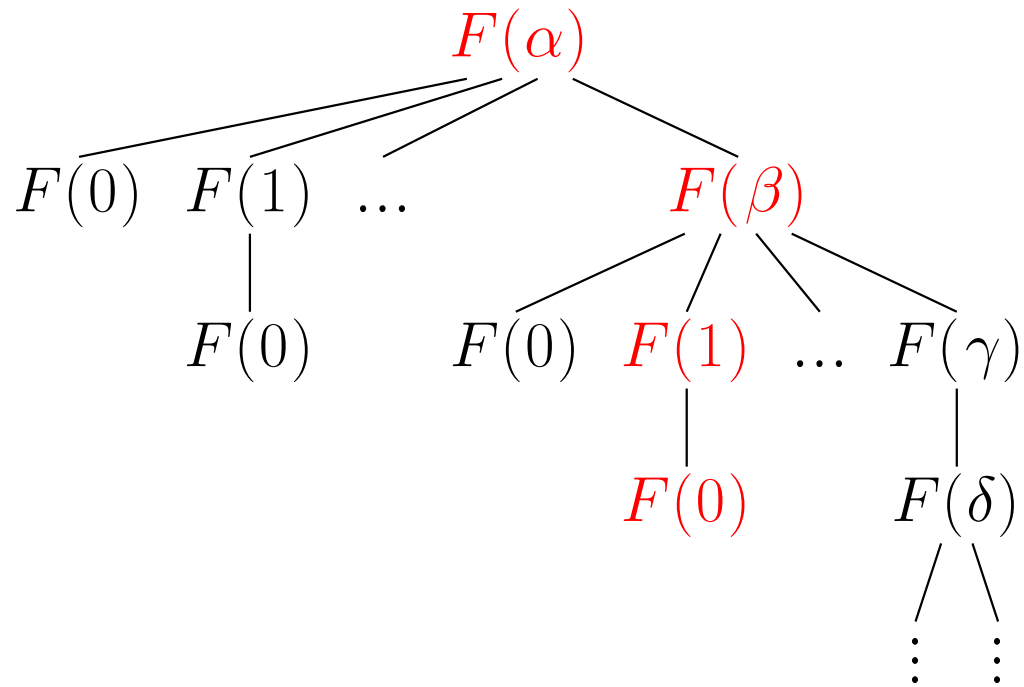
$$F(\alpha) = 1 \text{ iff } \exists \beta < \alpha H(\alpha, \beta, F(\beta)) = 1$$



# A recursion theorem



## A recursion theorem



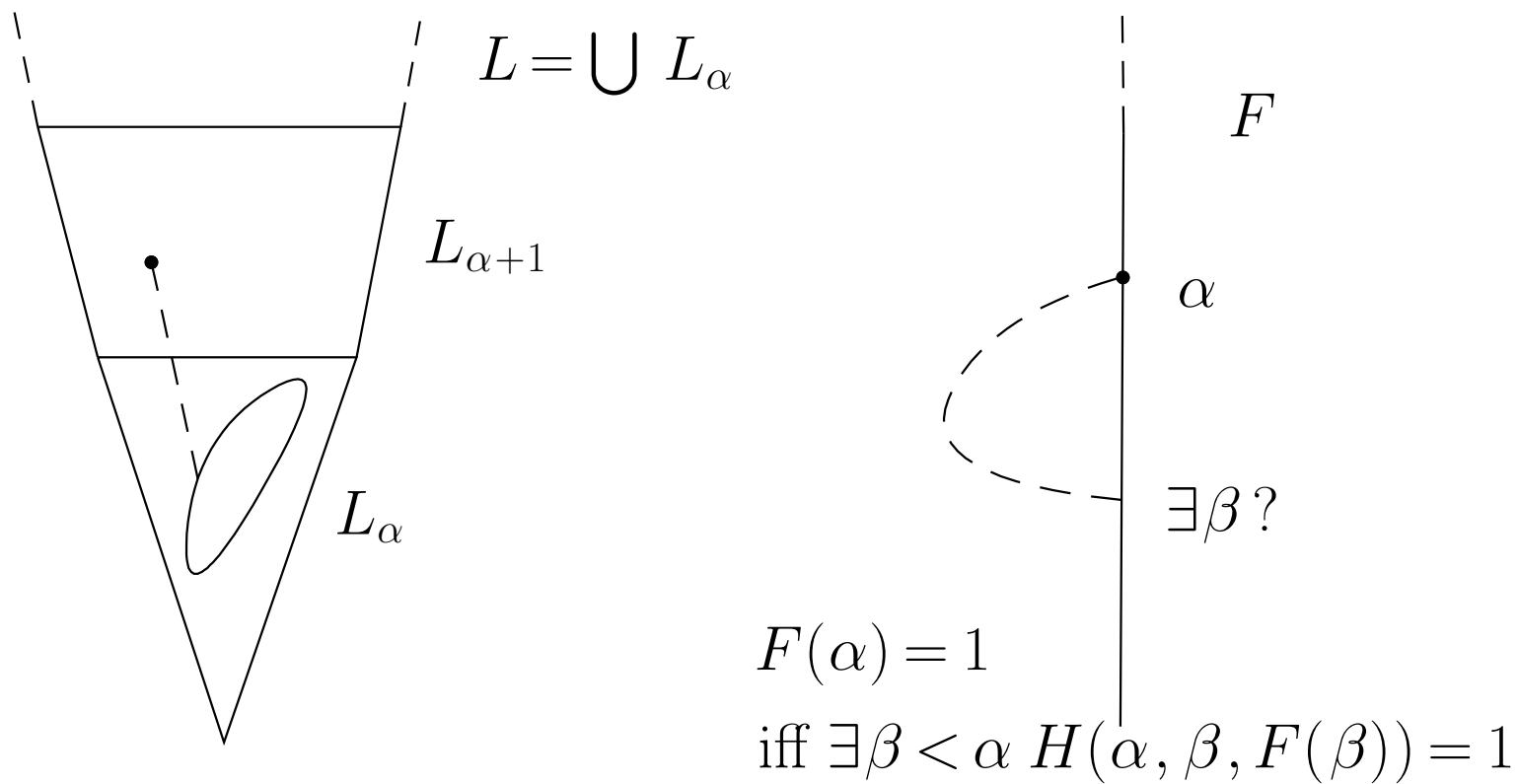
Search for a **good path** using a stack  $F(\alpha)?, F(\beta)?, F(\gamma)?, \dots$

## 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 $L$



## Total functions $\text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$

**Theorem (K)**  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  is ORM computable iff  $f$  is  $\Delta_1(L)$ .

**Proof.** ( $\rightarrow$ ) Let  $f$  be computable by the program  $P$ .

$f(\alpha) = \beta$  iff  $\exists$  computation  $C$  according to  $P$  with input  $\alpha$  and output  $\beta$   
iff  $\exists$  computation  $C \in L$  according to  $P$  with input  $\alpha$  and output  $\beta$   
iff  $\forall$  computation  $C \in L$  (if  $C$  is according to  $P$  with input  $\alpha$  then  $C$  outputs  $\beta$ )

(  $\leftarrow$  ) Let  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  be defined in  $(L, \in)$  by the formula  $\exists z \psi(x, y, z)$  where  $\psi$  is  $\Sigma_0$ . Then compute  $f(\alpha)$  as follows: compute a “name”  $\dot{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha$ ; search for ordinals  $\dot{\beta}$  and  $\dot{\gamma}$  such that  $\psi(\alpha, I(\dot{\beta}), I(\dot{\gamma}))$ ; if such  $\dot{\beta}, \dot{\gamma}$  are found, compute and output  $\beta = I(\dot{\beta})$ .



**Theorem.** For  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  the following are equivalent:

- $f$  is recursive à la Jensen and Karp
- $f$  is  $\Delta_1(L)$
- $f$  is OTM computable
- $f$  is ORM computable

# The CHURCH-TURING thesis according to ODIFREDDI

For  $f: \omega \rightarrow \omega$  the following are equivalent:

- $f$  is recursive
- $f$  is finitely definable
- $f$  is HERBRAND-GÖDEL computable
- $f$  is representable in a consistent formal system extending  $\mathcal{R}$

# The CHURCH-TURING thesis according to ODIFREDDI

For  $f: \omega \rightarrow \omega$  the following are equivalent:

- $f$  is recursive
- $f$  is flowchart (or “while”) computable
- $f$  is  $\lambda$ -computable

**Theorem.** For  $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$  the following are equivalent:

- $f$  is recursive à la Jensen and Karp
- $f$  is  $\Delta_1(L)$
- $f$  is OTM computable
- $f$  is ORM computable
- $f$  is “while” computable on the ordinals
- $f$  is computable by the methods of KRIPKE, PLATEK, MACHOVER, TAKEUTI

## Conclusion

There is a stable and well-characterised notion of effectively computable ordinal function.