

Today: Reducibility. §§ 5.0–5.1.

Next class: Post Correspondence Problem. § 5.2.

Reminders: Homework. Reading. Newsgroup.

1. List the members of your group below. Underline your name.

2. Suppose there is a blackbox program `haltcheck` that, when given the Python source of any program H as standard input, writes, to standard output, **yes** if H *always* halts (regardless of input given to H) and **no** otherwise. Provide the Python source for a program D that behaves as follows:
 - It reads two items from standard input (separated by the special token `-----`): Python source of a program P and string input w for P .
 - It writes **yes** to standard output if P halts on input w with output **yes**; otherwise it writes **no**.

3. The *hailstone sequence* from s , written $h_s(1), h_s(2), \dots$, is defined as follows for positive integers s and i .

$$h_s(i) = \begin{cases} s & \text{if } i = 1, \text{ else} \\ 1 & \text{if } h_s(i-1) = 1, \text{ else} \\ h_s(i-1)/2 & \text{if } h_s(i-1) \text{ is even, else} \\ 3h_s(i-1) + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Can the program `haltcheck` of Question 2 be used to determine whether the sequences $h_i(s)$ converge to 1 for all s ? Explain your answer.