

Re: Poll: Are PCs Turing Machines?

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2004-12/4969.html>

From: Luis A. Rodriguez (*luiroto_at_yahoo.com*)

Date: 12/04/04

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"Mark Nudelman" <markn@greenwoodsoftware.com> wrote in message news:<aWnsd.612508\$mD.332631@attbi_s02>...

> *Luis A. Rodriguez wrote:*

> > *examachine@gmail.com (Eray Ozkural exa) wrote in message*

> > *news:<320e992a.0412030247.375f672a@posting.google.com>...*

> > > *"Mark Nudelman" <markn@greenwoodsoftware.com> wrote in message*

> > > *news:<BCKrd.600129\$mD.87873@attbi_s02>...*

> > > > *Eray Ozkural exa wrote:*

>

> > > > *A TM can perform a calculation that requires 10^{1000} storage cells,*

> > > > *but no PC or any other physical computer could do that.*

> >

> > *Absurd!! This is the same wrong concept that many people has of what*

> > *a TM is.*

> > *The TM dont'n "perform calculations", is the mathematician who*

> > *decides what a TM will do if it receives the input $X = 10^{10000}$, and*

> > *this can be easily simulated by a PC that can handle powers and*

> > *logarithms.*

>

> *I didn't say that a PC couldn't handle an input of $X=10^{1000}$. I said that*

> *it couldn't perform a calculation that requires 10^{1000} _storage cells_.*

> *(For example, multiplying two numbers, each of which has 10^{1000} digits.)*

> *There isn't enough matter in the universe to even begin to build a computer*

> *that could hold a 10^{1000} digit number.*

>

> --Mark

When a conceptual machine has calculated two numbers of 10^{1000} digits or handled a matrix of $10^{500} \times 10^{500}$?

Ludovicus