Example: Turing Machine Building Blocks_{JP}

Define the following three simple Turing machines over input alphabet $\{\Box, 0, 1\}$ to be used as components for another Turing machine.

- TMScanR: Move right. If the character under the read/write head is not blank (□), repeat. If blank, halt. This finds the first blank square to the right of the current square and leaves the read/write head at that location.
- TMScanL: Move left. If the character under the read/write head is not blank (□), repeat. If blank, halt. This finds the first blank square to the left of the current square and leaves the read/write head at that location.
- TMShiftL: Transform input "...□u□w□..." into output "□uw□". This shifts the string that is to the right of the read/write head over one square to the left by copying each symbol onto the square immediately to its left. Note that the read/write head begins on a blank between two strings and ends on the blank to the right of the concatenated strings.

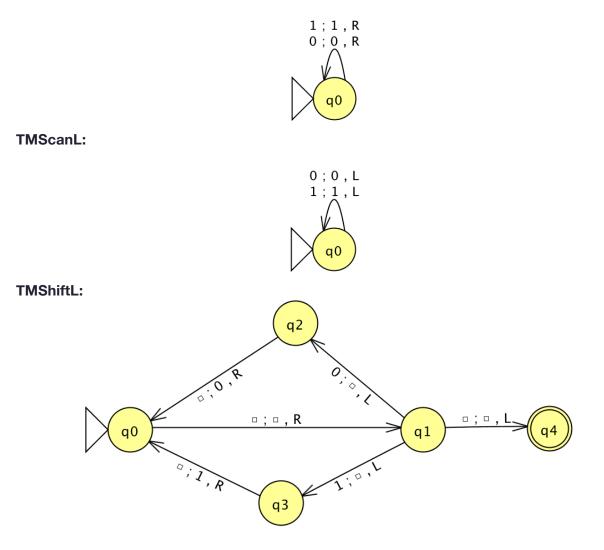
Use these three Turing machines as building blocks for a machine TMConcat that concatenates multiple strings on the input tape. For example, if the input configuration to TMConcat was "... 001 1110 101" then the output configuration will be

"...□<u>0</u>011110101□□..." after halting.

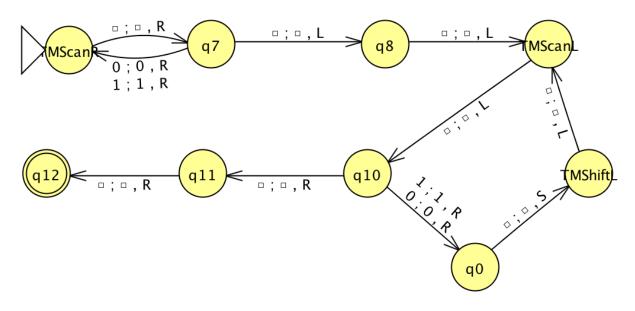
Use "Input > Step..." and "Input > Step by BuildingBlock" to follow along as JFLAP executes TMConcat on input "001 1110 101".

Sample Solution (see: TMScanR.jff, TMScanL.jff, TMShiftL.jff, TMConcat.jff)

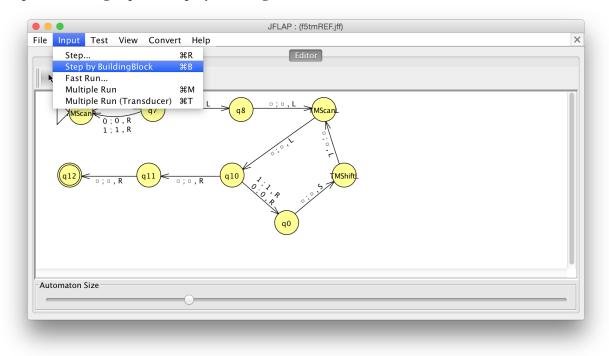
TMScanR:



TMConcat:



Sample Run Using Input > Step by BuildingBlock:



E	Input 1
	001=1110=101
	Click to Open Input File
	Cancel OK

JFLAP : (f5tmREF.jff)	
File Input Test View Convert Help	×
Editor Simulate: [001=1110=101] MScan 0;0,R 0;0,L q8 0;0,L MScan (q12) 0;0,R (q11) 0;0,R (q10) (q10) (q10) (q12) 0;0,R (q11) 0;0,R (q10) (q10) (q10)	
ScanR Image: Scance of the second o	

