

# A<sub>∞</sub>ProVE

A<sub>∞</sub>ProVE (KoAT + LoAT)

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Nils Lommen, Florian Frohn, and Jürgen Giesl

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while (x1 < x2) do  
   $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$   
end
```

- Does this program terminate?

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while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0) do  
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    while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0) do
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```
        [x1] ← [3 · x1]  
        [x2] ← [2 · x2]
```

```
    end
```

```
    [x3] ← [x3 - 1]
```

```
end
```

- Does this program terminate?

**Goal:** Prove or disprove termination of C programs

```
while (x3 > 0) do
```

```
  [x1]  
  [x2] ← [x4]  
          [x5]
```

```
  while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0) do
```

```
    [x1]  
    [x2] ← [3 · x1]  
           [2 · x2]
```

```
  end
```

```
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```

```
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```

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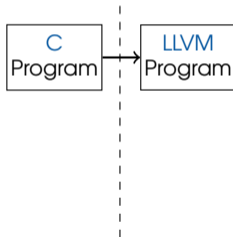
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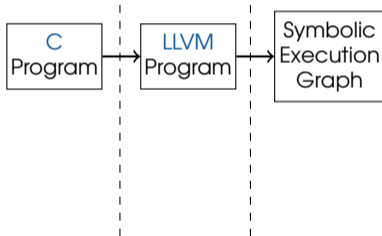
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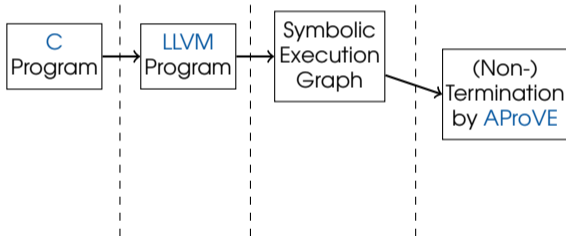
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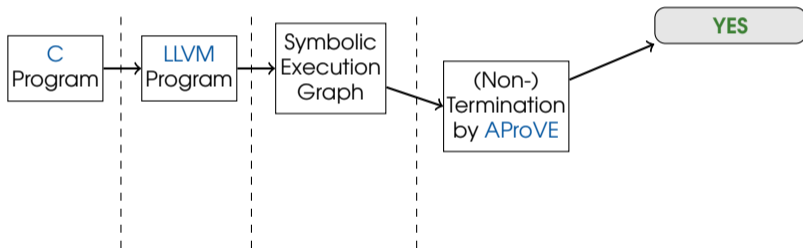


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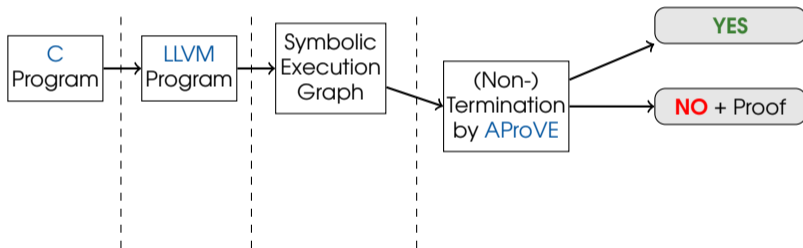
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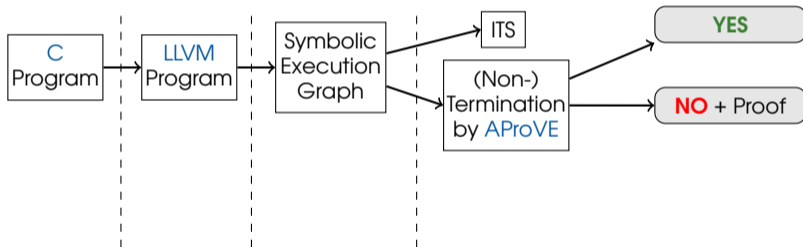
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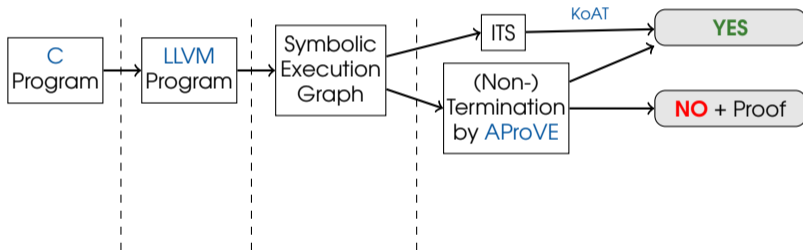
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- AProVE (KoAT + LoAT) is a framework to analyze termination of C Programs
- Programs are transformed into *Integer Transition Systems (ITSs)*



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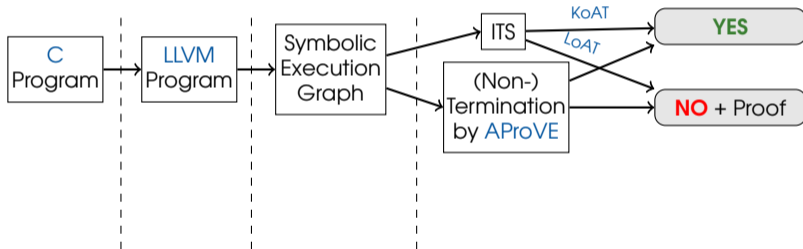
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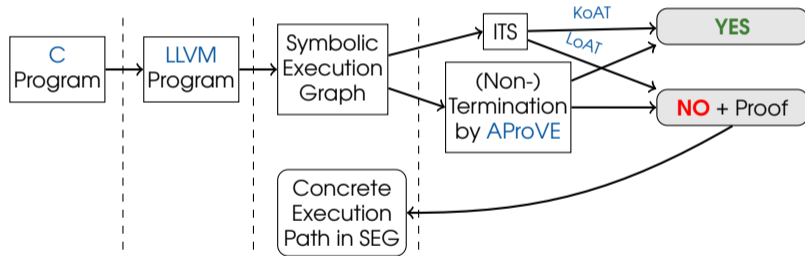
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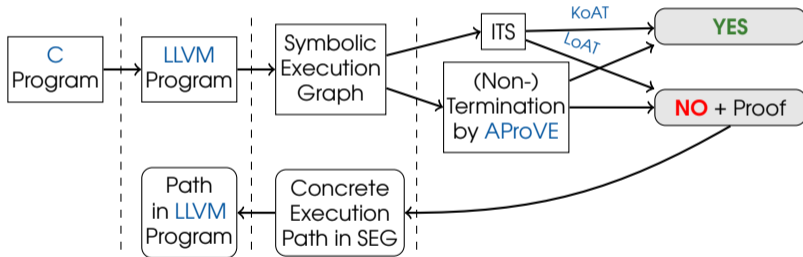
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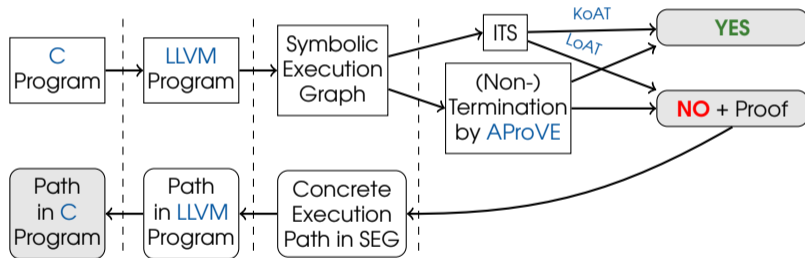
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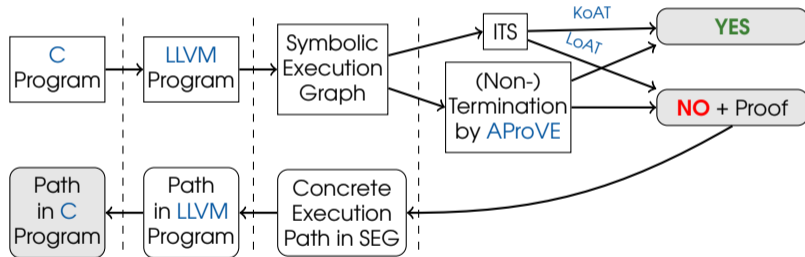
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- KoAT – Ranking Functions

- KoAT – TWN-Loops

- Loops: `while ( $\varphi$ ) do  $\eta$  end`

```
while ( $x_1 > 0$ )  
  [ $x_1$ ]  $\leftarrow$  [ $x_1 - 1$ ]  
end
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- Loops: `while ( $\varphi$ ) do  $\eta$  end`
- Linear Ranking Functions

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- Loops: `while ( $\varphi$ ) do  $\eta$  end`
- Linear Ranking Functions
  - Search  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^{d+1}$  such that  $f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) = a_0 + a_1x_1 + \dots + a_dx_d$  yields well-founded order on  $\mathbb{N}$

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  - Boundedness:  
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while ( $x_1 > 0$ )  
   $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ x_2 - 1 \end{bmatrix}$   
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  - Search  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_k \in \mathbb{Z}^{d+1}$  such that  $f_1(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{x}), \dots, f_k(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x})$  yields well-founded order on  $\mathbb{N}$

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$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \forall i \in \{2, \dots, k\}. \varphi \rightarrow f_i(\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{x}) + f_{i-1}(\mathbf{a}_{i-1}, \mathbf{x}) \geq f_i(\mathbf{a}_i, \eta(\mathbf{x})) + 1$$

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## Termination of Linear Programs

Ashish Tiwari\*

SRI International  
333 Ravenswood Ave, Menlo Park, CA, USA  
tiwari@csl.sri.com

**Abstract.** We show that termination of a class of linear loop programs is decidable. Linear loop programs are discrete-time linear systems with a loop condition governing termination, that is, a while loop with linear assignments. We relate the termination of such a simple loop, on all initial values, to the eigenvectors corresponding to only the positive real eigenvalues of the matrix defining the loop assignments. This characterization of termination is reminiscent of the famous stability theorems in control theory that characterize stability in terms of eigenvalues.

### 1 Introduction

Dynamical systems have been studied by both computer scientists and control theorists, but both the models and the properties studied have been different. However there is one class of models, called “discrete-time linear systems” in the control world, where there is a considerable overlap. In computer science, these are unconditional **while** loops with linear assignments to a set of integer or rational variables; for example,

```
while (true) { x := x - y; y := y }.
```

The two communities are interested in different questions: stability and controllability issues in control theory against reachability, invariants, and termination issues in computer science. In recent years, computer scientists have begun to ap-

## Termination of Integer Linear Programs

Mark Braverman\*

Department of Computer Science  
University of Toronto

**Abstract.** We show that termination of a simple class of linear loops over the integers is decidable. Namely we show that termination of deterministic linear loops is decidable over the integers in the homogeneous case, and over the rationals in the general case. This is done by analyzing the powers of a matrix symbolically using its eigenvalues. Our results generalize the work of Tiwari [Tiw04], where similar results were derived for termination over the reals. We also gain some insights into termination of non-homogeneous integer programs, that are very common in

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## Termination of Linear Programs

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## Termination of Linear

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†





## On Termination of Integer Linear Loops

Joël Ouaknine\*

Department of Computer Science  
Oxford University, UK

João Sousa Pinto†

Department of Computer Science  
Oxford University, UK

James Worrell

Department of Computer Science  
Oxford University, UK

conjunction of linear inequalities and a linear equality, and  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  are vectors, and  $A$  and  $B$  are integer matrices. We give a procedure for the problem of whether, for all integer vectors  $\mathbf{u}$ , such a loop terminates. The essence of our algorithm relies on sophisticated tools from algebraic number theory, Diophantine approximation, and real algebraic geometry.

Suppose that the vector  $\mathbf{u}$  is a vector of variables,  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$ , and  $\mathbf{c}$  are vectors, and  $A$  and  $B$  are integer matrices. We give a procedure to decide whether the loop terminates on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Later, we show that the decidability of termination on  $\mathbb{Q}^d$  is a natural problem from the point of view of verification: termination on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  reduces to termination on  $\mathbb{Q}^d$  in the homogeneous case (by a scaling argument), termination on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  in the inhomogeneous case is stated as an open problem in [5, § 38].

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## Termination of Linear Loops over the Integers

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James Worrell  
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### Abstract

We consider the problem of deciding termination of single-path while loops with integer variables, affine updates, and affine guard conditions. The question is whether such a loop terminates on all integer initial values. This problem is known to be decidable for the subclass of loops whose update matrices are diagonalisable, but the general case has remained open since being conjectured decidable by Tiwari in 2004. In this paper we show decidability of determining termination for arbitrary update matrices, confirming Tiwari's conjecture. For the class of loops considered in this paper, the question of deciding termination on a specific initial value is a longstanding open problem in the theory of linear loops. The key to our decision procedure is in showing how to circumvent the difficulties of deciding termination on a fixed initial value.

Classification: Computing methodologies → Algebraic algorithms; Theory of verification. Loop Termination, Linear Integer Programs, Affine Verification, ILP 2019.118

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## Termination of Polynomial Loops

Florian Frohn<sup>1</sup>, Marcel Hark<sup>2</sup>, and Jürgen Gies<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Max Planck Institute for Informatics and Saarland Informatics Campus, Saarbrücken, Germany

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marcel.hark@cs.rwth-aachen.de

On T

Joël Ouak  
Department of Con  
Oxford Univer

**Abstract.** We consider the termination problem for triangular weakly non-linear loops (*twm*-loops) over some ring  $S$  like  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$ , or  $\mathbb{R}$ . Essentially, the guard of such a loop is an arbitrary Boolean formula over (possibly non-linear) polynomial inequations, and the body is a single assignment  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \cdot x_1 + p_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_d \cdot x_d + p_d \end{bmatrix}$  where each  $x_i$  is a variable,  $c_i \in S$ , and each  $p_i$  is a (possibly non-linear) polynomial over  $S$  and the variables  $x_{i+1}, \dots, x_d$ .

We present a reduction from the question of termination to the existential fragment of the first-order theory of  $S$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ . For loops over  $\mathbb{R}$ , our reduction entails decidability of termination. For loops over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$ , it proves semi-decidability of non-termination.

Furthermore, we present a transformation to convert certain non-*twm*-loops into *twm*-form. Then the original loop terminates iff the transformed loop terminates over a specific subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , which can also be checked via our reduction. This transformation also allows us to prove *tight* complexity bounds for the termination problem for two important classes of loops which can *always* be transformed into *twm*-loops.

### 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{R}_A$  denote the real algebraic numbers. We consider loops of the form

$$\text{while } \varphi \text{ do } \vec{x} \leftarrow \vec{a}. \quad (1)$$

sc



## Termination of Triangular Integer Loops is Decidable

Florian Frohn<sup>1</sup> and Jürgen Gies<sup>2</sup>  
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<sup>2</sup> LuFG Informatik 2, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany  
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**Abstract.** We consider the problem whether termination of affine integer loops is decidable. Since Tiwari conjectured decidability in 2004 [15], only special cases have been solved [3,4,14]. We complement this work by proving decidability for the case that the update matrix is triangular.

### 1 Introduction

We consider affine integer loops of the form

Here,  $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{d \times d}$  for some dimension  $d \geq 1$ ,  $\vec{x}$  is a column vector of different variables  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ ,  $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , and  $\varphi$  is a conjunction over  $\vec{x}$  (i.e.,  $A\vec{x} = [c^T \vec{x} + c]$  is an affine expression where  $\vec{0}$  is the vector containing  $k$  zeros,  $c \in \mathbb{Q}^d$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ ).

**Definition 1 (Termination)**  $\varphi$  formalizes the intuitive notion of non-termination.

Does the loop terminate?

```
while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0)
```

```
  [x1]  
  [x2] ← [3 · x1]  
          [2 · x2]
```

```
end
```



Does the loop terminate?

```
while ( $x_1 < x_2 \wedge x_1 > 0$ )
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
end
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- Yes!
- Value of  $x_1$  eventually *outgrows* value of  $x_2$

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  - linear arithmetic: co-NP-complete
  - non-linear arithmetic: non-termination is semi-decidable

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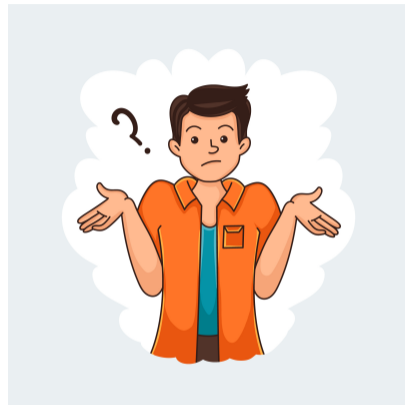
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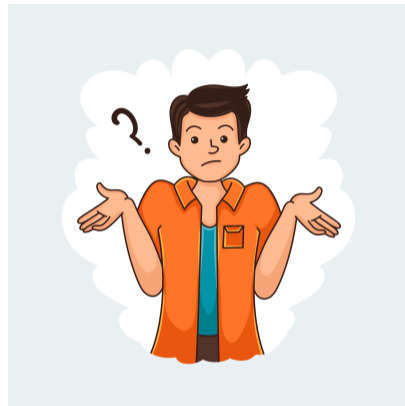
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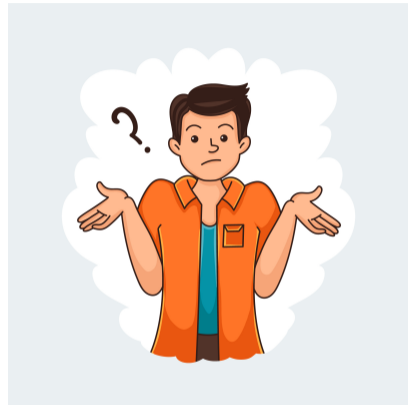
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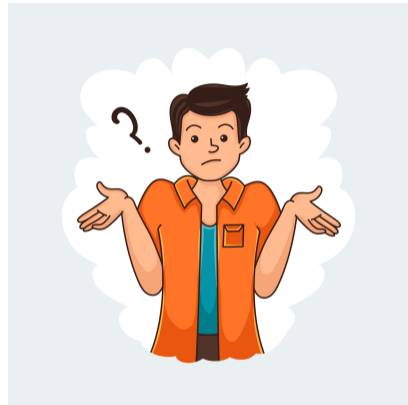
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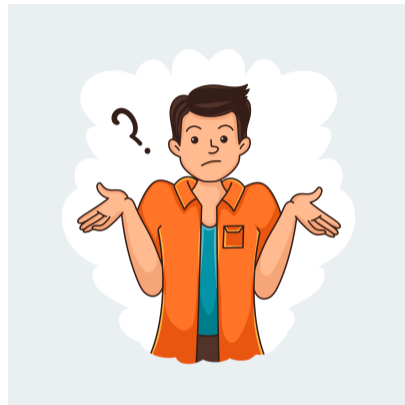
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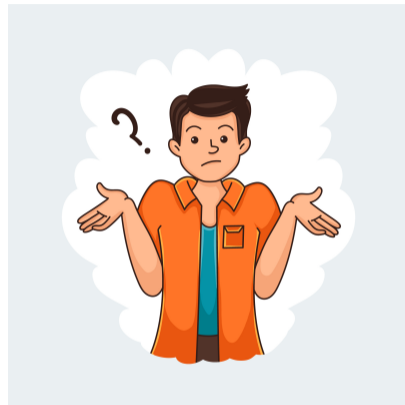
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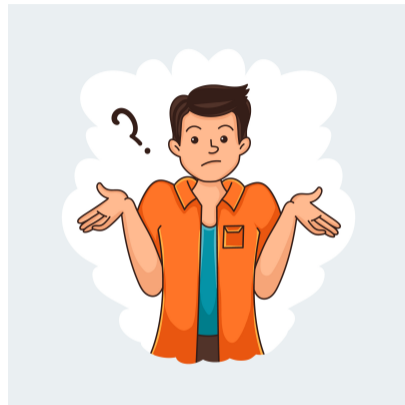
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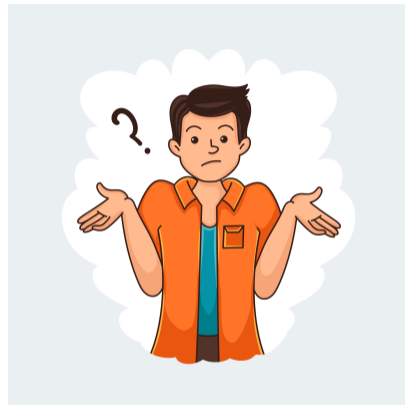
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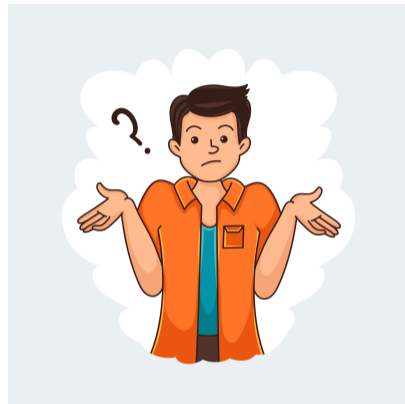
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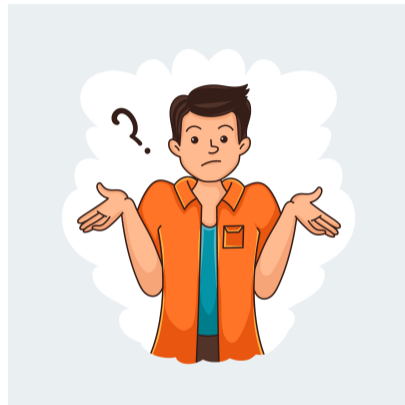
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Thank You!

