

SIGMA camp 20/08/2020

what is randomness?

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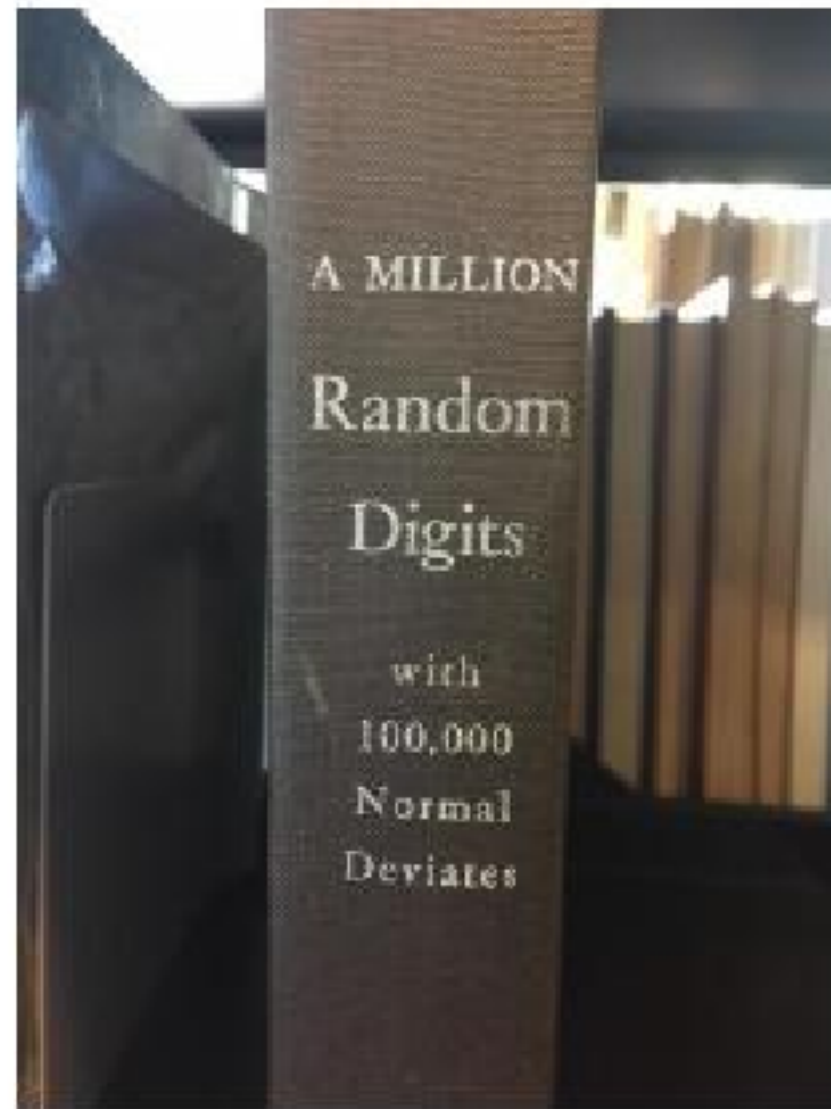
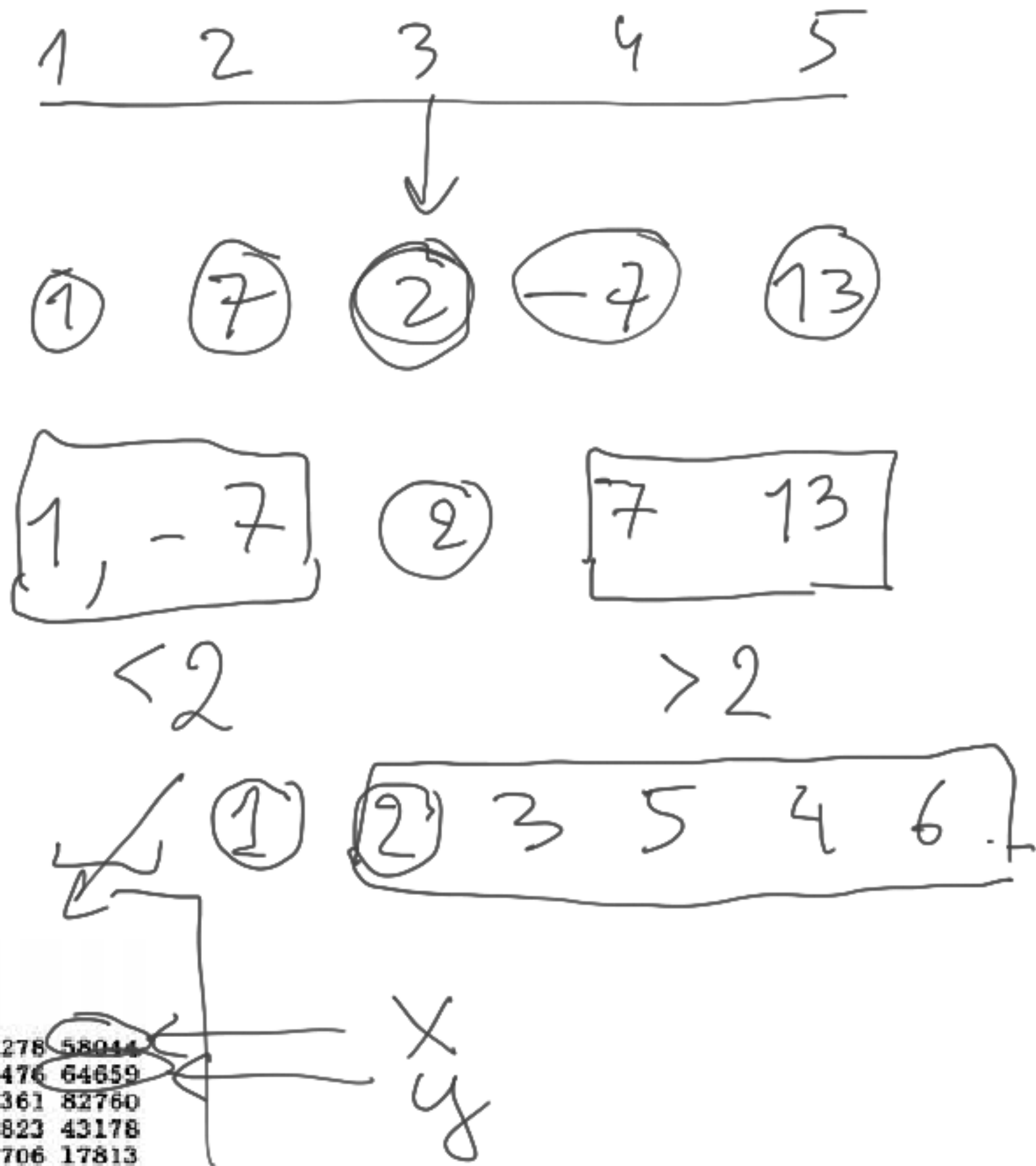


TABLE OF RANDOM DIGITS

00050	09188	20097	32825	39527	04220	86304	83389	87374	64278	58044
00051	90045	85497	51981	50654	94938	81997	91870	76150	68476	64659
00052	73189	50207	47677	26269	62290	64464	27124	67018	41361	82760
00053	75768	76490	20971	87749	90429	12272	95375	05871	93823	43178
00054	54016	44056	66281	31003	00682	27398	20714	53295	07706	17813

2
 00050
 00051
 00052
 00053
 00054



Why would you need this book?

1. Cryptography

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1732 \dots \\
 + \underline{8630} \\
 \hline
 9362 \dots
 \end{array}$$

message
 one-time pad
 encoded -

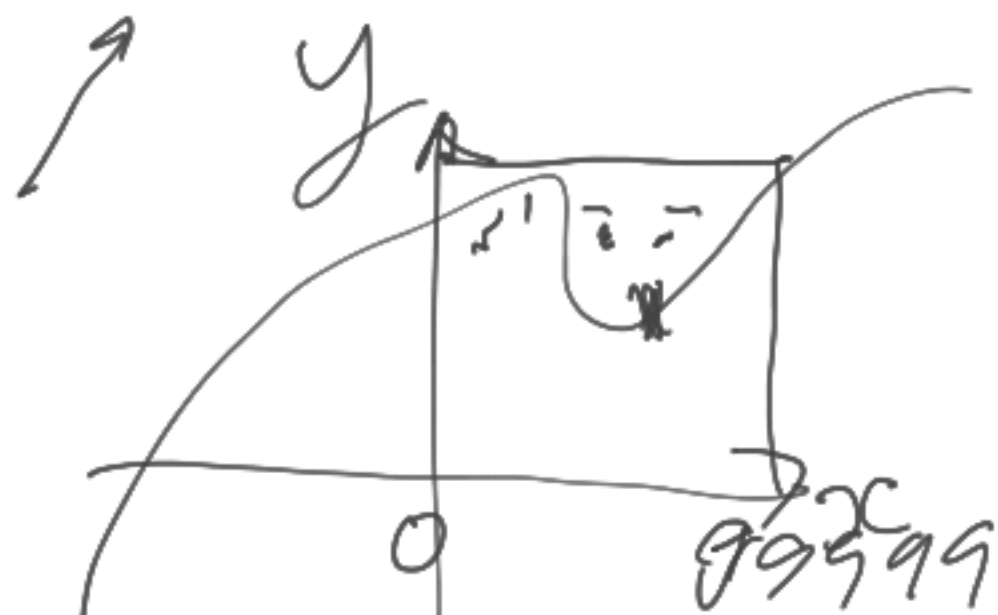
2. Find a random number for testing some damn

3. Randomized algorithm

$$(x^2 + y^2)^2 - (2xy)^2 = (x^2 - y^2)^2$$

$$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad +$$

$$x=0 \quad y=0$$



4. Polling / Tests

01 02
 • • • • •
 + medicine
 ↓

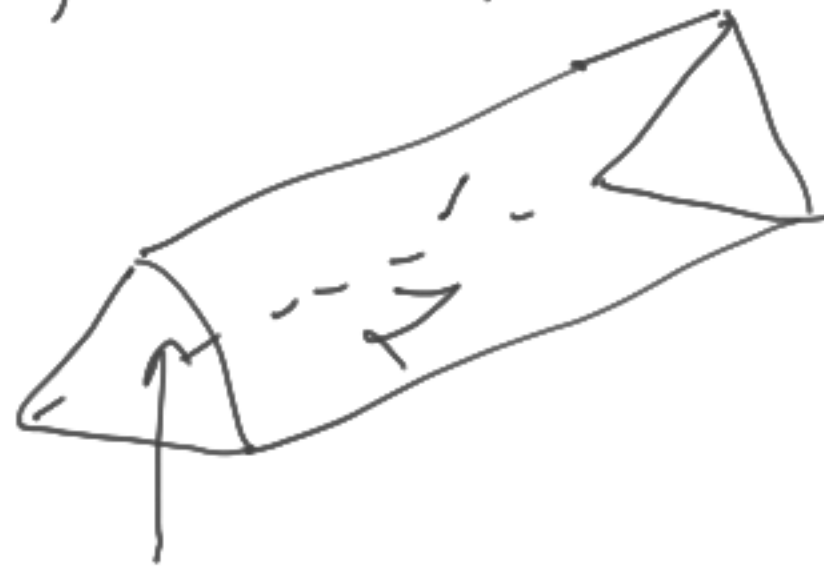
• • • • • 09
 - placebo
 ↓

How can you produce such a book?

1. Use some natural phenomena
radiation, noise, radiowaves

2. Roll a die

⋮



Quality control?

When a sequence of bits can be called random?

A historical fact or a property of a sequence?

If a property, which one? How can we (dis)prove it?

self-similarity

0 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 ...

011010011001011010010110011010011010010110 ← 5

01 ← 1

Sec [101100011100011001000001101010100101110 ← 10

000 ← ? 7

Win 11. [001001000011111011010101000100010000101 ← 18

↑
binary repr of π

~ 1965

A binary string is "random" if there is no shorter program that produces this string

```
print("0110111...")
```

Shorter than what?

```
for i in range(1000000): print('01', end='')
```

Complexity of x : minimal length of a program that produces x . (Notation: $C(x)$)

Programming language?

Not important

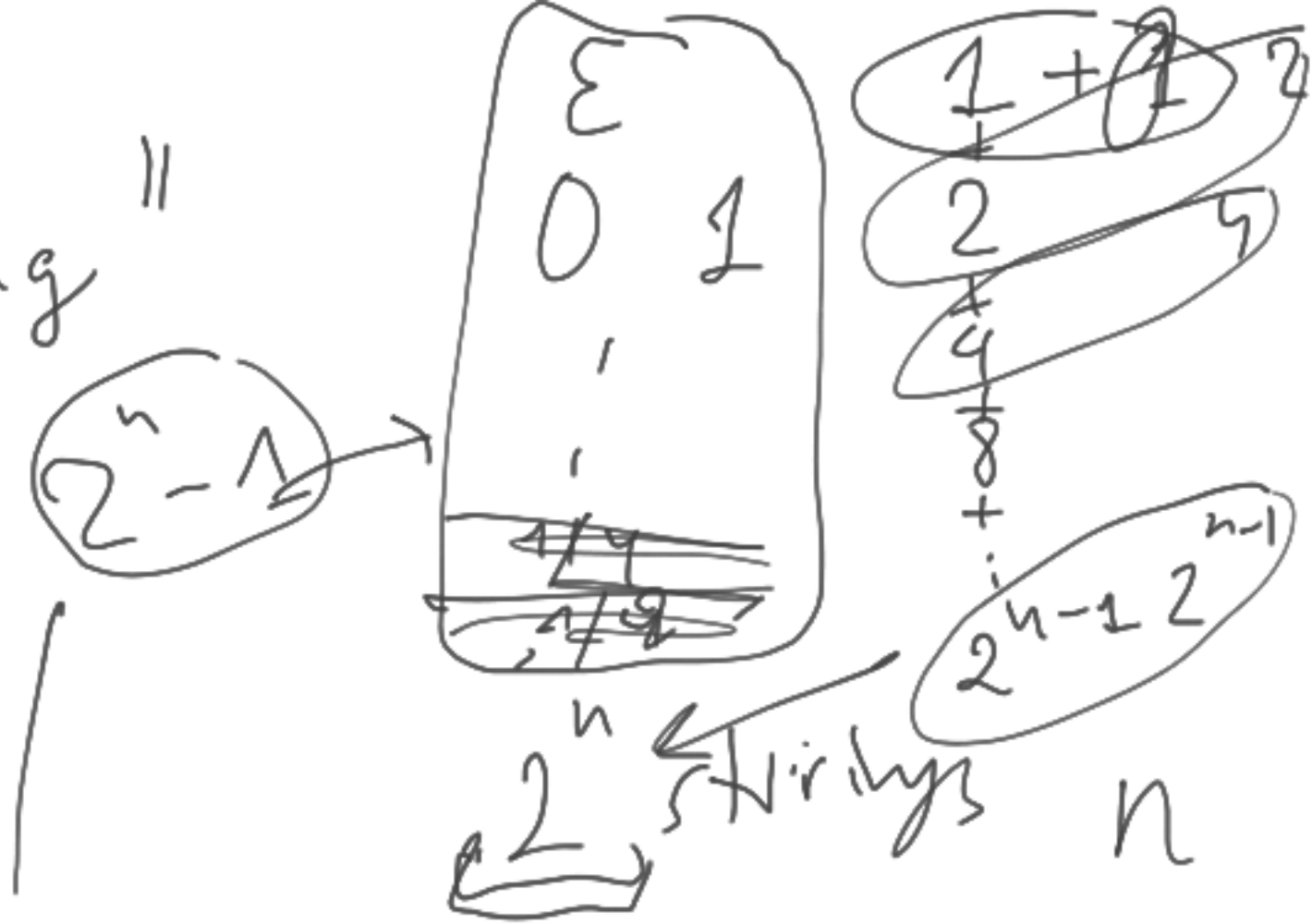
Fix

Randomness = incompressibility. Do incompressible strings exist?

(`python int` `python pr`) C program

"Random = incompressing"

What is a probability of getting a random string by tossing a coin?



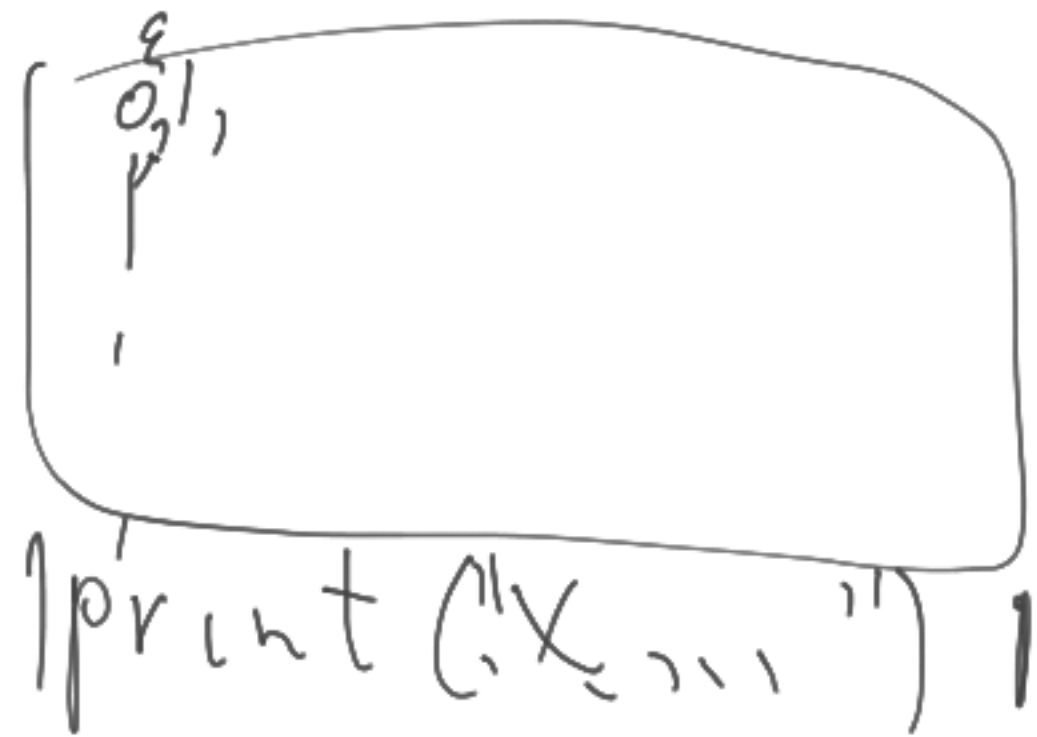
"Every string is compressible"

$n \rightarrow n-1 \rightarrow n-2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow '0'$
 n -bit string 2^n | shorter program $< n$

A string is given. Can we find whether it is random? is
there a program that computes its complexity?

(Theoretically. No time restrictions.)

Why not to try all short programs?



```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    printf("X\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Shorter
programs

Given: ~~X~~
Find: length
of the shortest
program prod. X

The minimal positive integer that cannot be uniquely defined by less than a billion English words

Berry paradox

The minimal n -bit string that has complexity at least n

halt. problem
undecidable

complexity at least n or $\log n$ plus constant?

n
large \uparrow

If complexity function is comp.

n \rightarrow list of all complexities
of n -bit string
 \rightarrow first one that has compl $\geq n$

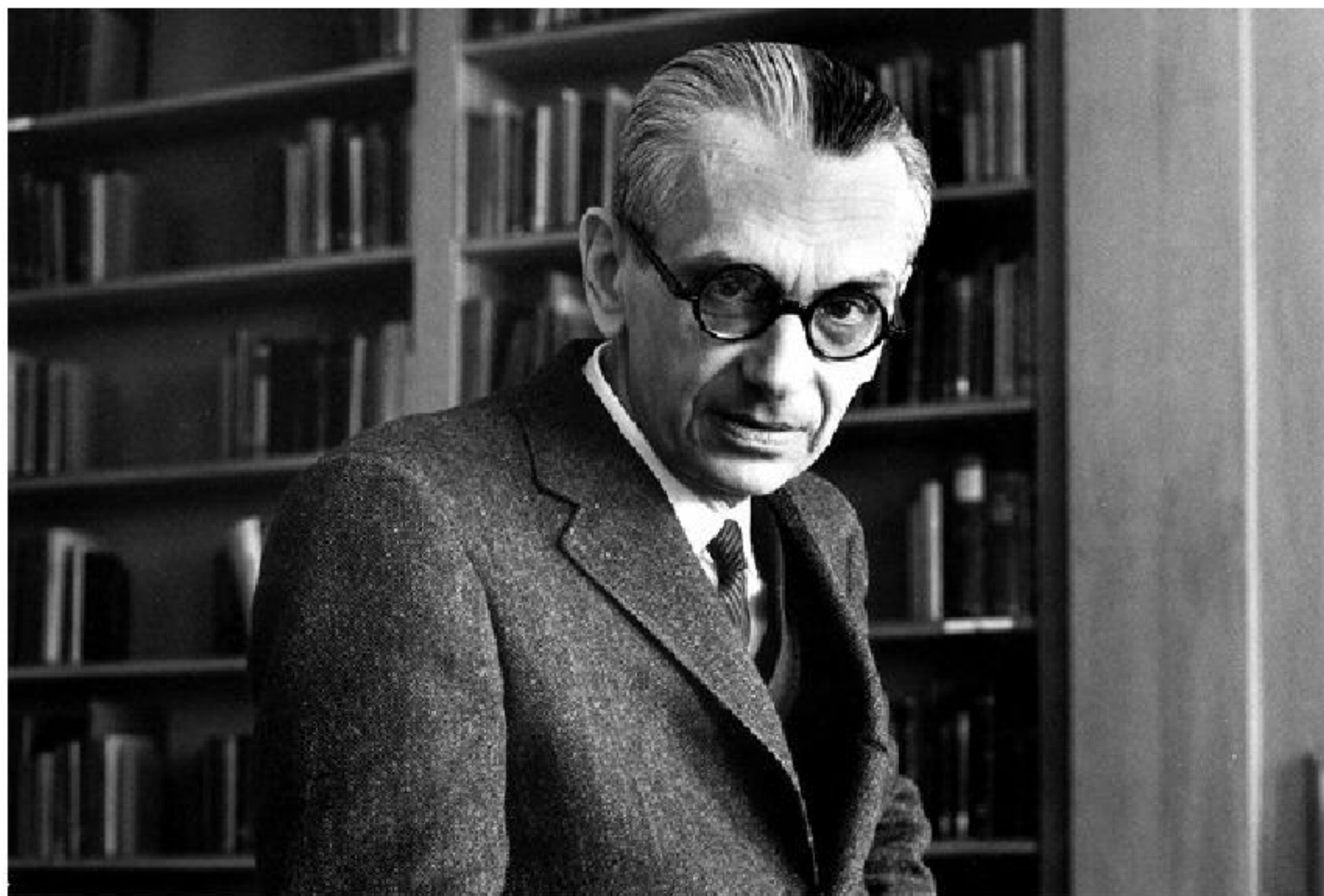
in binary shorter than n

\sqrt{n}
 n

Theorem: Complexity function is not computable.

Not all mathematical truths can be proven (assuming machine-checkable proof).

First n bit string that
is provably of compl $\geq n$



1 2 3 4 5 . . 20 11 12 13..



[1978 Helsinki]

