

Rewriting - Computation and Deduction

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Companion Document : www.loria.fr/~hkirchne

Information science and technology address

- data representation
- data transformation

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- data transformation

What about Rewriting in this context ?

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- data are terms or more generally structured objects

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- this is a way to describe transformations of these objects

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What about Rewriting in this context ?

- data are terms or more generally structured objects
- this is a way to describe transformations of these objects
- it allows formalizing and analysing the relations between these objects

What can you do with Rewriting ?

Can rewriting be used

- for formal specifications ?

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functional or algebraic framework, express and check properties of specifications.

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high-level, type discipline, prototyping, efficient compilation

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functional or algebraic framework, express and check properties of specifications.
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high-level, type discipline, prototyping, efficient compilation
- in a proof environment ?

What can you do with Rewriting ?

Can rewriting be used

- for formal specifications ?
functional or algebraic framework, express and check properties of specifications.
- as a programming language ?
high-level, type discipline, prototyping, efficient compilation
- in a proof environment ?
equality in first-order theories, computational part of proofs, as a logic and a higher-order calculus.

- 1 A smooth introduction
- 2 Defining term rewriting
 - Terms and Substitutions
 - Matching
 - Rewriting
 - More on rewriting
- 3 Properties of rewrite systems
 - Abstract rewrite systems
 - Termination
 - Confluence
 - Completion of TRS
- 4 Equational rewrite systems
 - Matching modulo
 - Rewriting modulo
- 5 Strategies
 - Why strategies ?
 - Abstract strategies
 - Properties of rewriting under strategies
 - Strategy language

(Some) Additional Recommended Readings

- Term Rewriting Systems
Terese (M. Bezem, J. W. Klop and R. de Vrijer, eds.)
Cambridge University press, 2002
- Term *Rewriting and all That*
Franz Baader and Tobias Nipkow
Cambridge University press, 1998
- Repository of Lectures on Rewriting and Related Topics
qsl.loria.fr
- The rewriting and IFIP WG1.6 page
rewriting.loria.fr
- The Rewriting Calculus Home page
rho.loria.fr

A simple game

The rules of the game :

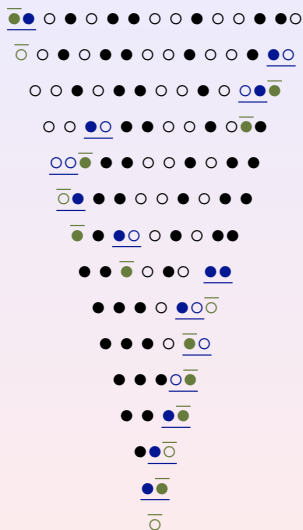
●● → ○
 ○○ → ○
 ●○ → ●
 ○● → ●

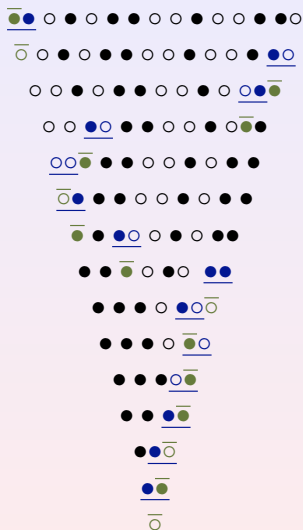
A starting point :

● ○ ● ○ ● ○ ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ● ○ ○ ● ● ○

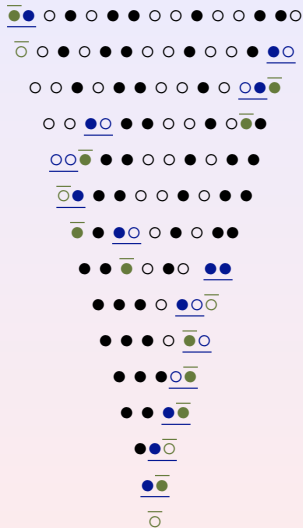
Who wins ?

➡ Who puts the last white ?

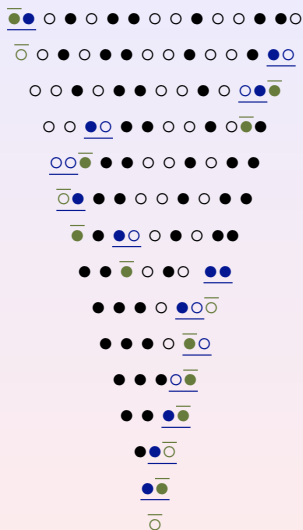




Can I always win ?



Can I always win? Does the game terminate?



Can I always win? Does the game terminate? Do we always get the same result?

What are the basic operations that have been used ?

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1– Matching

The data :



The rewrite rule :



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The rewrite rule :



2– Compute what should be substituted

The lefthand side :



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3– Replacement

The new generated data :



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Note that the last list is a NEW object.

Addition in Peano arithmetic

Peano gives a meaning to addition by using the following axioms :

$$\begin{aligned}0 + x &= x \\ s(x) + y &= s(x + y)\end{aligned}$$

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Compute a result by turning the equalities into rewrite rules :

$$\begin{aligned}0 + x &\rightarrow x \\s(x) + y &\rightarrow s(x + y)\end{aligned}$$

Addition in Peano arithmetic

Compute a result by turning the equalities into rewrite rules :

$$0 + x \rightarrow x$$

$$s(x) + y \rightarrow s(x + y)$$

$$s(s(0)) + s(s(0)) \rightarrow s(s(0) + s(s(0))) \rightarrow$$

$$s(s(0 + s(s(0)))) \rightarrow$$

$$s(s(s(s(0))))$$

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 is such a result **unique** ???

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The rewrite rule :

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2- Compute what should be substituted

The instantiated lhs :

$$s(s(0) + s(s(0)))$$

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The new generated data :

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Fibonacci

$$\begin{aligned} [\alpha] \quad & \mathit{fib}(0) \rightarrow 1 \\ [\beta] \quad & \mathit{fib}(1) \rightarrow 1 \\ [\gamma] \quad & \mathit{fib}(n) \rightarrow \mathit{fib}(n-1) + \mathit{fib}(n-2) \end{aligned}$$

fib(3)

Fibonacci

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 [\alpha] & \mathit{fib}(0) & \rightarrow 1 \\
 [\beta] & \mathit{fib}(1) & \rightarrow 1 \\
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 \end{array}$$

$$\mathit{fib}(3) \rightarrow \mathit{fib}(2) + \mathit{fib}(1)$$

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$$\begin{array}{l}
 \mathit{fib}(3) \rightarrow \mathit{fib}(2) + \mathit{fib}(1) \\
 \mathit{fib}(2) + \mathit{fib}(1) \rightarrow \mathit{fib}(2) + 1 \\
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$$\text{fib}(2) + 1 \rightarrow$$

$$\text{fib}(1) + \text{fib}(0) + 1$$

$$\text{fib}(1) + \text{fib}(0) + 1 \rightarrow 1 + \text{fib}(0) + 1$$

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 \mathit{fib}(1) + \mathit{fib}(0) + 1 \rightarrow 1 + \mathit{fib}(0) + 1 \\
 \dots
 \end{array}$$

Finally $\mathit{fib}(3) = 3$, $\mathit{fib}(4) = 5$, ...

Graphical Rewriting

$$F \rightarrow F + F - F - FF + F + F - F$$

Graphical Rewriting

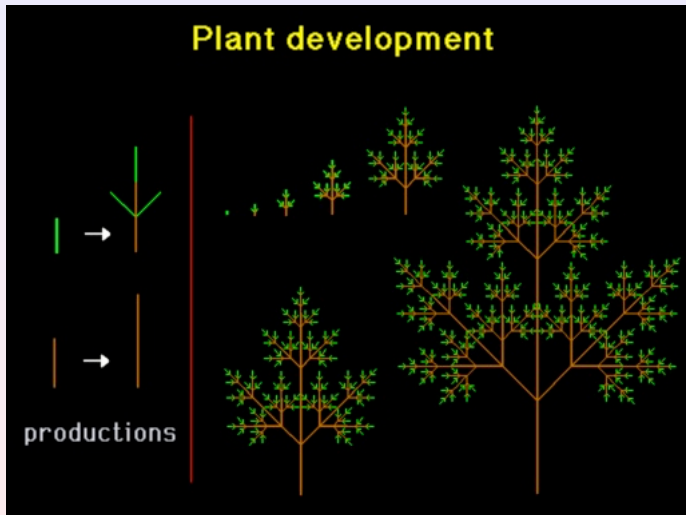
$$F \rightarrow F + F - F - FF + F + F - F$$

Graphical Rewriting

$$F \rightarrow F + F - F - FF + F + F - F$$

→

Ecological Rewriting



<http://algorithmicbotany.org/>

Sorting by rewriting

rules for List

```
X, Y : Nat ; L L' L'' : List;
```

```
hd (X L) => X ;
```

```
tl (X L) => L ;
```

```
sort nil => nil .
```

```
sort (L X L' Y L'') => sort (L Y L' X L'') if Y < X .
```

end

```
sort (6 5 4 3 2 1) => ...
```

On what objects can rewriting act ?

It can be defined on

- terms like $2 + i(3)$ or XML documents
- strings like “What is rewriting ?” (*sed* performs string rewriting)
- graphs
- sets
- multisets
- ...

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We will “restrict” in this lecture to **first-order** **terms**

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- 2 **Defining term rewriting**
 - Terms and Substitutions
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The relation, the logic, the calculus

This part deals with the
rewriting relation
on
first-order term

This is just the oriented version of replacement of equal by equal

First-order terms

Signature and first-order terms

\mathcal{F}_0 a set of symbols of arity 0 (the constants)

\mathcal{F}_i a set of symbols of arity i

$$\mathcal{F} = \cup_n \mathcal{F}_n$$

\mathcal{X} a set of arity 0 symbols called **variables**.

$\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$ is the smallest set such that :

- $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$,
- $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}, \forall t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X}) : f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$.

$\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \emptyset) = \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F})$ is the set of **ground terms**.

Terms as mappings : $(\mathbf{N}, \cdot) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$

$t = f(a + x, h(f(a, b)))$ is represented by :

<i>position</i>	\mapsto	<i>symbol</i>
Λ	\mapsto	f
1	\mapsto	$+$
1.1	\mapsto	a
1.2	\mapsto	x
2	\mapsto	h
2.1	\mapsto	f
2.1.1	\mapsto	a
2.1.2	\mapsto	b

$$\text{Dom}(t) = \{\Lambda, 1, 1.1, 1.2, 2, 2.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2\}$$

Examples and (some) terminology

With the following signature :

$$\mathcal{F} = \{f, a\} \text{ with } \text{arity}(f) = 2, \text{arity}(a) = 0, x, y, z \in \mathcal{X} :$$

what are the following terms ?

$$f(a, a)$$

$$f(x, f(a, x))$$

$$f(x, f(y, z))$$

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Subterms

$t[s]_\omega$ denotes the term t with s as **subterm** at **position** (or **occurrence**) ω .

$t|_\omega$ denotes the subterm at occurrence ω .

$$f(a + x, h(f(a, b)))|_2 = h(f(a, b))$$

Simple questions—

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.1}$?

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— $f(f(a, b), g(a))$

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What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{\Lambda}$? — $f(f(a, b), g(a))$

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.2}$? — b

What is the arity of f just above ?

Simple questions—

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.1}$? — a

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{\Lambda}$? — $f(f(a, b), g(a))$

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What is the arity of f just above? — 2

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What are the variables of $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.2}$? — \emptyset

What are the variables of $f(f(x, x), g(a))|_{1.2}$? — $\{x\}$

What are the variables of $f(f(x, x), g(a))$?

Simple questions—

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.1}$? — a

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{\Lambda}$? — $f(f(a, b), g(a))$

What is $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.2}$? — b

What is the arity of f just above? — 2

What is the arity of a just above? — 0

What are the variables of $f(f(a, b), g(a))|_{1.2}$? — \emptyset

What are the variables of $f(f(x, x), g(a))|_{1.2}$? — $\{x\}$

What are the variables of $f(f(x, x), g(a))$? — $\{x\}$

Substitutions

Substitution

A substitution σ is a mapping from the set of variables to the set of terms :

$$\sigma : \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$$

It is extended as a morphism from terms to terms :

$$\sigma : \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X}) \mapsto \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$$

$$\sigma(f(t_1, t_2)) = f(\sigma(t_1), \sigma(t_2))$$

If $\sigma = \{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto f(a, g(z)), z \mapsto g(z)\}$, then
 $\sigma(f(x, f(a, z))) = f(a, f(a, g(z)))$.

Matching

Matching

Finding a substitution σ such that

$$\sigma(l) = t$$

is called the matching problem from l to t .

This is denoted $l \ll^? t$

It is decidable in linear time in the size of t .

It induces a relation on terms called subsumption

Matching : A rule based description

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Delete} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad t \ll^? t \wedge P$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Decomposition} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? f(t'_1, \dots, t'_n) \wedge P \\ \bigwedge_{i=1, \dots, n} t_i \ll^? t'_i \wedge P \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{SymbolClash} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? g(t'_1, \dots, t'_m) \wedge P \\ \text{Fail} \end{array} \quad \text{if } f \neq g$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{SymbolVariableClash} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? x \wedge P \\ \text{Fail} \end{array} \quad \text{if } x \in \mathcal{X}$$

Matching : A rule based description

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Delete} \\ \rightarrow t \ll^? t \wedge P \\ \rightarrow P \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Decomposition} \\ \rightarrow f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? f(t'_1, \dots, t'_n) \wedge P \\ \rightarrow \bigwedge_{i=1, \dots, n} t_i \ll^? t'_i \wedge P \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{SymbolClash} \\ \rightarrow f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? g(t'_1, \dots, t'_m) \wedge P \\ \rightarrow \text{Fail} \end{array} \quad \text{if } f \neq g$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{SymbolVariableClash} \\ \rightarrow f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? x \wedge P \\ \rightarrow \text{Fail} \end{array} \quad \text{if } x \in \mathcal{X}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{MergingClash} \\ \rightarrow x \ll^? t \wedge x \ll^? t' \wedge P \\ \rightarrow \text{Fail} \end{array} \quad \text{if } t \neq t'$$

Find a match

$$x + (y * 3) \ll^? 1 + (4 * 3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Decomposition } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y * 3 \ll^? 4 * 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Decomposition } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y \ll^? 4 \wedge 3 \ll^? 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Delete } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y \ll^? 4$$

Find a match

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$$\Rightarrow \text{Decomposition } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y \ll^? 4 \wedge 3 \ll^? 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Delete } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y \ll^? 4$$

$$x+(y*y) \ll^? 1+(4*3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Decomposition } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y * y \ll^? 4 * 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Decomposition } x \ll^? 1 \wedge y \ll^? 4 \wedge y \ll^? 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{MergingClash } \textit{Fail}$$

Matching rules

Does it terminate ?

Do we always get the same result ?

Matching rules

Does it terminate ?

Do we always get the same result ?

Theorem The normal form by the rules in *Match*, of any matching problem $t \ll^? t'$ such that $\mathcal{V}ar(t) \cap \mathcal{V}ar(t') = \emptyset$, exists and is unique.

- ① If it is **Fail**, then there is no match from t to t' .
- ② If it is of the form $\bigwedge_{i \in I} x_i \ll^? t_i$ with $I \neq \emptyset$, the substitution $\sigma = \{x_i \mapsto t_i\}_{i \in I}$ is the unique match from t to t' .
- ③ If it is **empty** then t and t' are identical : $t = t'$.

Matching is used everywhere

ML

TOM

XQUERY

“pattern matching” in general

...

Matching is used everywhere

ML

TOM

XQUERY

“pattern matching” in general

...

CyberSitter censors "menu */ #define" because of the string "nu...de".

From Internet Risks Forum NewsGroup (RISKS), vol. 19, issue 56.

Term subsumption

$$s \ll t \iff \sigma(s) = t$$

Vocabulary :

t is called an **instance** of s

s is said **more general** than t or

s **subsumes** t

σ is a **match** from s to t .

\ll is a quasi-ordering on terms called **subsumption**.

$$f(x, y) \ll f(f(a, b), h(y))$$

Theorem : [Huet78]

Up to renaming, the subsumption ordering on terms is well-founded.

Notice that

$$s \leq t \not\Rightarrow f(u, s) \leq f(u, t)$$

since

$$x \leq a \text{ but } f(x, x) \not\leq f(x, a)$$

$$s \leq t \not\Rightarrow \sigma(s) \leq \sigma(t)$$

since

$$x \leq a \text{ but } (x \mapsto b)x \not\leq (x \mapsto b)a$$

Rewriting

Definition of rewriting

It relies on 5 notions :

- The objects : **terms** and **rewrite rules**
- The actions
 - **matching**
 - **substitutions**
 - **replacement**

and, given a rule and a term, it consists in :

- finding a subterm of the term
- that matches the left hand side of the rule
- and replacing that subterm by the right hand side of the rule instantiated by the match

Formally

t rewrites to t' using the rule $l \rightarrow r$ if

$$t|_p = \sigma(l) \quad \text{and} \quad t' = t[\sigma(r)]_p$$

This is denoted

$$t \longrightarrow_p^{l \rightarrow r} t'$$

Rewrite relation

A term rewrite system R (a set of rewrite rules) determines a relation on terms denoted \longrightarrow_R :

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$$u \longrightarrow_R v$$

iff

there exist $t, l \rightarrow r \in R$, an occurrence ω in t , such that

$$u = t[\sigma(l)]_\omega$$

and

$$v = t[\sigma(r)]_\omega$$

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and

$$v = t[\sigma(r)]_\omega$$

$$t[\sigma(l)]_\omega \rightarrow_R t[\sigma(r)]_\omega$$

Simple examples —

Consider the rewrite system R :

$$\begin{aligned}x + x &\rightarrow x \\(a + x) + y &\rightarrow y + x\end{aligned}$$

How many redexes are in $(a + a) + (a + a)$?

Simple examples —

Consider the rewrite system R :

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— 4

Draw the rewrite derivation tree issued from $(a + a) + (a + a)$.

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Why ?

Expressiveness of rewriting

[Max Dauchet 1989]

A Turing machine can be simulated by a single rewrite rule

This unique rewrite rule can further be left linear and regular !

... Termination of a rewrite relation

On the use of term rewriting

- for programming (ASF, ELAN, MAUDE, ML, OBJ, Stratego, ...)
- for proving (Completion procedures, proof systems, ...)
- for solving (Constraint manipulations, ...)
- for verifying (Exhaustive (and may be intelligent) search)

What are the typical problems of the field ?

Confluence

Termination

Control of rewriting : strategies

Conditional rewriting

Theorem proving and rewriting

Rewriting and higher-order features : ρ -calculus

Types and rewriting

Extended notions of rewriting

Conditional rules

$$l \rightarrow r \text{ if } c$$

- $l, r \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$,
- c a boolean term
- $\mathcal{V}ar(r) \cup \mathcal{V}ar(c) \subseteq \mathcal{V}ar(l)$

The rule applies on a term t provided the matching substitution σ allows $c\sigma$ to reduce to $true$.

Applying a conditional rewrite rule

$$\begin{aligned} \text{even}(0) &\rightarrow \text{true} \\ \text{even}(s(x)) &\rightarrow \text{odd}(x) \\ \text{odd}(x) &\rightarrow \text{true} \quad \text{if } \text{not}(\text{even}(x)) \\ \text{odd}(x) &\rightarrow \text{false} \quad \text{if } \text{even}(x) \end{aligned}$$
$$\text{even}(s(0)) \longrightarrow \text{odd}(0) \longrightarrow \text{false}$$

Generalized rules

$l \rightarrow r$ **where** $p_1 := c_1 \dots$ **where** $p_n := c_n$

- $l, r, p_1, \dots, p_n, c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$,
- $\mathcal{V}ar(p_i) \cap (\mathcal{V}ar(l) \cup \mathcal{V}ar(p_1) \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{V}ar(p_{i-1})) = \emptyset$,
- $\mathcal{V}ar(r) \subseteq \mathcal{V}ar(l) \cup \mathcal{V}ar(p_1) \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{V}ar(p_n)$
- $\mathcal{V}ar(c_i) \subseteq \mathcal{V}ar(l) \cup \mathcal{V}ar(p_1) \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{V}ar(p_{i-1})$.

where $true := c$ is equivalently written **if** c .

p_i is often reduced to a variable x .

Generalized rule application

$$l \rightarrow r \text{ where } p_1 := c_1 \dots \text{ where } p_n := c_n$$

To apply this rewrite rule on t , the matching substitution σ from l to t (i.e. such that $l\sigma = t$) is successively composed with each match μ_i from p_i to $c_i\sigma\mu_1 \dots \mu_{i-1}$, for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

$$\text{move}(S) \rightarrow C(x, y) \text{ where } \langle x, y \rangle := \text{position}(S) \text{ if } x = y$$

- 1 A smooth introduction
- 2 Defining term rewriting
 - Terms and Substitutions
 - Matching
 - Rewriting
 - More on rewriting
- 3 Properties of rewrite systems**
 - Abstract rewrite systems
 - Termination
 - Confluence
 - Completion of TRS
- 4 Equational rewrite systems
 - Matching modulo
 - Rewriting modulo
- 5 Strategies
 - Why strategies ?
 - Abstract strategies
 - Properties of rewriting under strategies
 - Strategy language

Think abstractly

The properties of this relation could be studied in an abstract way :
⇒ **Abstract rewrite systems**

Abstract rewrite systems

⇒ Consider a set \mathcal{T}

⇒ Consider a binary relation \longrightarrow on \mathcal{T} (one-step reduction)

↳ $a \longrightarrow b$: b is the reduct of a

⇒ Induced relations

↳ transitive closure : \longrightarrow^+

↳ transitive reflexive closure : \longrightarrow^*

↳ symmetric closure : \longleftrightarrow

Normalization

Consider an ARS $(\mathcal{T}, \rightarrow)$

- ⇒ An element $t \in \mathcal{T}$ is a **\rightarrow -normal form** if there exists no $t' \in \mathcal{T}$ such that $t \rightarrow t'$.

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$a \rightarrow a$ is not terminating
- \Rightarrow The relation \rightarrow is **weakly normalizing** (or weakly terminating) if every element $t \in \mathcal{T}$ has a normal form.

$a \rightarrow a$ $a \rightarrow b$ is weakly terminating
- \Rightarrow The relation \rightarrow has the **unique normal form property** if for any $t, t' \in \mathcal{T}$, $t \xrightarrow{*} t'$ and t, t' are normal forms imply $t = t'$.

Showing normalization

A (partial) order on \mathcal{T} is a reflexive, antisymmetric and transitive relation.

An ordering is **total** on \mathcal{T} when two terms are always comparable

$>$ is **well-founded** or **Noetherian** on \mathcal{T} if there is no infinite decreasing sequence on \mathcal{T} :

$$t_1 > t_2 > t_3 > \dots$$

Theorem

Consider an ARS $(\mathcal{A}, \rightarrow)$.

\rightarrow is terminating

iff

there exists a well-founded (partial) order $>$ on \mathcal{T} and a mapping ϕ s.t.

for all rewrite rule $a \rightarrow a'$ implies $\phi(a) > \phi(a')$.

Example

Use the order $(>, \mathbb{N})$ which is well-founded.

Several choices for strings $\mathcal{A} = (\bullet \mid \circ)^*$

- $\phi(w) = \text{number of } \bullet$
works for all \bullet -decreasing reductions
- $\phi(w) = \text{number of } \circ$
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●● \rightarrow ○

○○ \rightarrow ○

●○ \rightarrow ●

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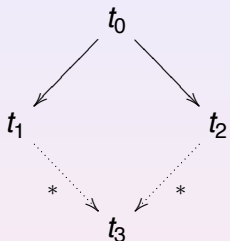
●○ \rightarrow ●

○● \rightarrow ●

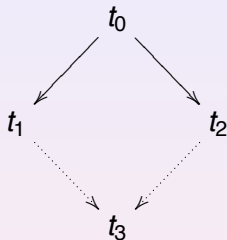
- $\phi(w) = \text{number of } \bullet \text{ and } \circ$
works for all length-decreasing reductions

Definitions (Relationships)

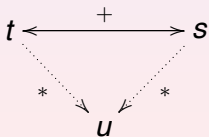
Locally confluent (LC)



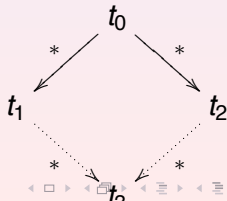
Diamond property (DP)



Church Rosser (CR)



Confluent (C)



Local versus global confluence

① $C \Rightarrow LC$

② $LC \Rightarrow C?$

Local versus global confluence

① $C \Rightarrow LC$

② $LC \Rightarrow C?$

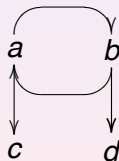
➔ Consider four distinct elements a, b, c, d of \mathcal{T} and the relation :

$$a \rightarrow b$$

$$b \rightarrow a$$

$$a \rightarrow c$$

$$b \rightarrow d$$



Newman's lemma

[Newman 1942]

Provided the relation \rightarrow is terminating

then

\rightarrow is confluent iff it is locally confluent

Proof :

Newman's lemma

[Newman 1942]

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Proof :

- locally confluent if confluent
 ↳ obvious

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Proof :

- locally confluent if confluent
 ↳ obvious
- confluent if locally confluent
 ↳ ?

Noetherian induction : a fundamental tool

Let $(\mathcal{T}, >)$ be an ordered set s.t. $>$ is well-founded.

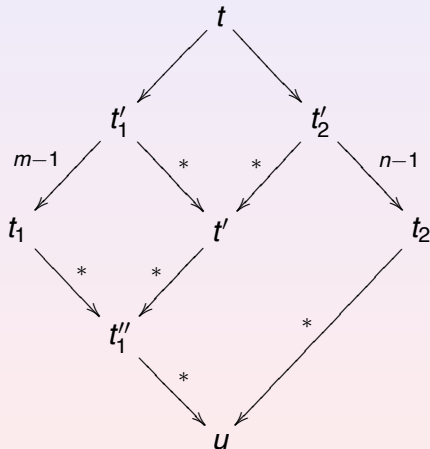
Let \mathcal{P} be a proposition :

- ① $\forall t \in \mathcal{T}, [\forall t' \in \{t' \mid t > t'\}, \mathcal{P}(t')] \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}(t)$
- ② $\mathcal{P}(t)$ is provable for all minimal element t ,

then $\forall t \in \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{P}(t)$.

Noetherian induction : a fundamental tool

Consider $(\mathcal{T}, \rightarrow)$



How to build well founded orderings ?

Termination

R (or \rightarrow_R) terminates

iff all derivation issued from any term terminates.

Termination implies the existence of normal form(s) for any term.

Termination is in general undecidable

but interesting sufficient condition can be found.

Proving termination could be tricky ...

Proving termination could be tricky ...

$$f(a, b, x) \rightarrow f(x, x, x)$$

is terminating

Proving termination could be tricky ...

$$f(a, b, x) \rightarrow f(x, x, x)$$

is terminating

$$g(x, y) \rightarrow x$$

$$g(x, y) \rightarrow y,$$

is terminating

Proving termination could be tricky ...

$$f(a, b, x) \rightarrow f(x, x, x)$$

is terminating

$$g(x, y) \rightarrow x$$

$$g(x, y) \rightarrow y,$$

is terminating

Is the union terminating ?

$$f(a, b, x) \rightarrow f(x, x, x)$$

$$g(x, y) \rightarrow x$$

$$g(x, y) \rightarrow y,$$

$$\begin{aligned}f(a, b, x) &\rightarrow f(x, x, x) \\g(x, y) &\rightarrow x \\g(x, y) &\rightarrow y,\end{aligned}$$

We have the derivation :

$$f(g(a, b), g(a, b), g(a, b)) \longrightarrow f(a, g(a, b), g(a, b)) \longrightarrow f(a, b, g(a, b))$$

[Toyama 1986]

Termination

- ensures **finiteness** of computations

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- is a **necessary condition** for deciding of other properties (non ambiguity, reachability tests, . . .)

Termination

- ensures **finiteness** of computations
- is a **necessary condition** for deciding of other properties (non ambiguity, reachability tests, . . .)
- is **undecidable**.

Proving Termination

Termination of rewriting can be checked by sufficient conditions :

- **Syntactic and semantic methods** (applying directly to the TRS)
KBO [Knuth & Bendix 1970], LPO [Kamin & Levy 1980], RPO [Dershowitz 1982], RPOS [Steinbach 1989], GPO [Dershowitz & Hoot 1995], Polynomial interpretations [Lankford 1975, Ben Cherifa & Lescanne 1986], . . .
- **Transformational approaches** (transforming one TRS into another)
Semantic labelling [Zantema 1995], Dependency pairs [Arts & Giesl 1996], . . .
- **Induction on the derivation trees** (schematization by abstraction and narrowing of the derivations)
[Fissore & Gnaedig & Kirchner 2003]

Termination

Orderings on terms

A **Reduction ordering** is an ordering on \mathcal{T} , stable by context and substitution :

↳ for every context $C[_]$ and for all substitutions σ , if $t > s$ then $C[t] > C[s]$ and $\sigma(t) > \sigma(s)$.

Theorem R terminates iff there exists a well-founded reduction ordering $>$ s.t. for all rewrite rule $(l \rightarrow r) \in R, l > r$.

Example

The rules of the game :

$$\bullet\bullet \rightarrow \circ$$

$$\circ\circ \rightarrow \circ$$

$$\bullet\circ \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$\circ\bullet \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$l > r \text{ if } |l| > |r|$$

Example

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$$\bullet\bullet \rightarrow \circ$$

$$\circ\circ \rightarrow \circ$$

$$\bullet\circ \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$\circ\bullet \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$l > r \text{ if } |l| > |r|$$

$$|f(f(x, x), y)| > |f(y, y)|$$

but

$$|f(f(x, x), f(x, x))| \not> |g(g(x, x), g(x, x))|$$

Example modified

The rules of the game slightly change :

●● → ○○

○○ → ○

●○ → ●

○● → ●

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$$\bullet\bullet \rightarrow \circ\circ$$

$$\circ\circ \rightarrow \circ$$

$$\bullet\circ \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$\circ\bullet \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$l > r \text{ if } |l|_{\bullet\circ} > |r|_{\bullet\circ}$$

($|t|_{\bullet\circ}$ = number of \bullet and \circ of the term t)

$$|\bullet\bullet|_{\bullet\circ} = 2 \not> 2 = |\circ\circ|_{\bullet\circ}$$

Example

The rules of the game :

$$\bullet\bullet \rightarrow \circ\circ$$

$$\circ\circ \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$\bullet\circ \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$\circ\bullet \rightarrow \bullet$$

$$l > r \text{ if } |l|_{\bullet\circ+\bullet} > |r|_{\bullet\circ+\bullet}$$

$$|\circ\circ|_{\bullet\circ+\bullet} = 2 \not> 2 = |\bullet|_{\bullet\circ+\bullet}$$

Extensions of reduction ordering

Lexicographical extensions

Let $>$ be an ordering on \mathcal{T} .

Its **lexicographical extension** $>^{lex}$ on \mathcal{T}^n is defined as :

$$(s_1, \dots, s_n) >^{lex} (t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

if there exists i , $1 \leq i \leq n$ s.t. $s_i >_i t_i$, and $\forall j, 1 \leq j < i, s_j = t_j$.

If $>$ is well-founded on \mathcal{T} , then $>^{lex}$ is well-founded on \mathcal{T}^n .

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If $>$ is well-founded on \mathcal{T} , then $>^{lex}$ is well-founded on \mathcal{T}^n .

FALSE for an infinite product of ordered sets :

$\mathcal{T} = \{a, b\}$ with $a < b$

$$b >^{lex} ab >^{lex} aab >^{lex} aaab >^{lex} \dots$$

Multiset extensions - Examples

if $>$ is well-founded on \mathcal{T} , then $>^{mult}$ is well-founded on $\mathcal{M}\uparrow\downarrow\sqcup(\mathcal{T})$.

Multiset extensions - Examples

if $>$ is well-founded on \mathcal{T} , then $>^{mult}$ is well-founded on $\mathcal{M} \uparrow \downarrow \sqcup (\mathcal{T})$.

$$\begin{aligned} \{3, 3, 1, 2\} &>^{mult} \{3, 1\} \\ \{3, 3, 1, 2\} &>^{mult} \{3, 2, 2, 2, 2\} \\ \{3, 3, 1, 2\} &>^{mult} \{3, 0\} >^{mult} \{3\} >^{mult} \{\}. \end{aligned}$$

Syntactic reduction ordering

Lexicographic Path Ordering (LPO)

For a given precedence on \mathcal{F} ,

$$s = f(s_1, \dots, s_n) >_{lpo} t = g(t_1, \dots, t_m)$$

if at least one of the following condition is satisfied :

Lexicographic Path Ordering (LPO)

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if at least one of the following condition is satisfied :

$$\textcircled{1} \quad f = g \text{ and } (s_1, \dots, s_n) >_{lpo}^{lex} (t_1, \dots, t_m) \text{ and}$$

$$\forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}, s >_{lpo} t_j$$

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$$s = f(s_1, \dots, s_n) >_{lpo} t = g(t_1, \dots, t_m)$$

if at least one of the following condition is satisfied :

- ① $f = g$ and $(s_1, \dots, s_n) >_{lpo}^{lex} (t_1, \dots, t_m)$ and
 $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}, s >_{lpo} t_j$
- ② $f >_{\mathcal{F}} g$ and $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}, s >_{lpo} t_j$

Extension of LPO

The definition of the ordering can be extended to terms with variables by adding the following conditions :

- 1 two different variables are incomparable,
- 2 a function symbol and a variable are incomparable.

A typical LPO example

Termination of the Ackermann function :

$$ack(0, y) \rightarrow succ(y)$$

$$ack(succ(x), 0) \rightarrow ack(x, succ(0))$$

$$ack(succ(x), succ(y)) \rightarrow ack(x, ack(succ(x), y)).$$

A typical LPO example

Termination of the Ackermann function :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{ack}(0, y) &\rightarrow \text{succ}(y) \\
 \text{ack}(\text{succ}(x), 0) &\rightarrow \text{ack}(x, \text{succ}(0)) \\
 \text{ack}(\text{succ}(x), \text{succ}(y)) &\rightarrow \text{ack}(x, \text{ack}(\text{succ}(x), y)).
 \end{aligned}$$

With $\text{ack} >_{\mathcal{F}} \text{succ}$, we can show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{ack}(0, y) &>_{lpo} \text{succ}(y) \\
 \text{ack}(\text{succ}(x), 0) &>_{lpo} \text{ack}(x, \text{succ}(0)) \\
 \text{ack}(\text{succ}(x), \text{succ}(y)) &>_{lpo} \text{ack}(x, \text{ack}(\text{succ}(x), y)).
 \end{aligned}$$

Multiset Path Ordering (MPO)

For a given precedence on \mathcal{F} ,

$s = f(s_1, \dots, s_n) >_{mpo} t = g(t_1, \dots, t_m)$ if one at least of the following conditions holds :

- ① $f = g$ and $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\} >_{mpo}^{mult} \{t_1, \dots, t_m\}$
- ② $f >_{\mathcal{F}} g$ and $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}, s >_{mpo} t_j$
- ③ $\exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that either $s_i >_{mpo} t$ or $s_i \sim t$
 where \sim means equivalent up to permutation of subterms.

An MPO example

Termination of the *max* function :

$$\mathit{max}(n, 0) \rightarrow n$$

$$\mathit{max}(0, n) \rightarrow n$$

$$\mathit{max}(\mathit{succ}(n), \mathit{succ}(m)) \rightarrow \mathit{succ}(\mathit{max}(n, m))$$

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Precedence $? >_{\mathcal{F}} ?$

An MPO example

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Precedence $\mathit{max} >_{\mathcal{F}} \mathit{succ}$

Semantic reduction ordering

Building reduction orderings using interpretations

Consider a homomorphism τ from ground terms to $(\mathcal{A}, >)$ with $>$ a well-founded ordering and let f_τ denote the image of $f \in \mathcal{F}$ using τ ; τ and $>$ are constrained to satisfy the monotonicity condition :

$$\forall a, b \in \mathcal{A}, \forall f \in \mathcal{F}, a > b \text{ implies } f_\tau(\dots, a, \dots) > f_\tau(\dots, b, \dots).$$

Then the ordering $>_\tau$ defined by :

$$\forall s, t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}), s >_\tau t \text{ if } \tau(s) > \tau(t),$$

is well-founded.

Building reduction orderings using interpretations

Then the ordering $>_{\tau}$ is extended by defining

$$\forall s, t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X}), s >_{\tau} t \text{ if } \nu(\tau(s)) > \nu(\tau(t))$$

for all assignment ν of values in \mathcal{A} to variables of $\tau(s)$ and $\tau(t)$.
 Because $>$ is assumed to be well-founded, a rewrite system is terminating if one can find \mathcal{A}, τ and $>$ as defined above.

Example

Is the reduction induced by $i(f(x, y)) \rightarrow f(f(i(x), y), y)$ terminating?

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$$\begin{array}{lcl} \tau(i(x)) & = & \tau(x) \mathbf{2} \\ \tau(f(x, y)) & = & \tau(x) \mathbf{+} \tau(y) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{lcl} \tau(x) & = & \mathbf{x} \\ \tau(y) & = & \mathbf{y} \end{array}$$

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Monotonicity : $a > b$ implies $f_{\tau}(a) > f_{\tau}(b)$
(each function is increasing on natural numbers)

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$$\begin{array}{lcl} \tau(i(f(x, y))) & = & (x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy \\ \tau(f(f(i(x), y), y)) & = & x^2 + 2y \end{array}$$

Example

Is the reduction induced by $i(f(x, y)) \rightarrow f(f(i(x), y), y)$ terminating ?

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(i(x)) &= \tau(x) + 2 & \tau(x) &= x \\ \tau(f(x, y)) &= \tau(x) + \tau(y) & \tau(y) &= y \end{aligned}$$

Monotonicity : $a > b$ implies $f_{\tau}(a) > f_{\tau}(b)$
(each function is increasing on natural numbers)

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(i(f(x, y))) &= (x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 2xy \\ \tau(f(f(i(x), y), y)) &= x^2 + 2y \end{aligned}$$

For any assignment of positive natural numbers n and m to the variables x and y : $n^2 + m^2 + 2nm > n^2 + 2m$

Another example

Is the following system terminating ?

$$\ominus \ominus x \rightarrow x$$

$$\ominus(x \oplus y) \rightarrow (\ominus x) \oplus (\ominus y)$$

$$\ominus(x \otimes y) \rightarrow (\ominus x) \otimes (\ominus y)$$

$$x \otimes (y \oplus z) \rightarrow (x \otimes y) \oplus (x \otimes z)$$

$$(x \oplus y) \otimes z \rightarrow (x \otimes z) \oplus (y \otimes z)$$

Another example

Is the following system terminating ?

$$\begin{aligned} \ominus \ominus x &\rightarrow x \\ \ominus(x \oplus y) &\rightarrow (\ominus x) \oplus (\ominus y) \\ \ominus(x \otimes y) &\rightarrow (\ominus x) \otimes (\ominus y) \\ x \otimes (y \oplus z) &\rightarrow (x \otimes y) \oplus (x \otimes z) \\ (x \oplus y) \otimes z &\rightarrow (x \otimes z) \oplus (y \otimes z) \end{aligned}$$

Interpretation :

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(\ominus x) &= 2^{\tau(x)} \\ \tau(x \oplus y) &= \tau(x) + \tau(y) + 1 \\ \tau(x \otimes y) &= \tau(x)\tau(y) \\ \tau(c) &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Recursion analysis

Dependency pairs method

Standard approaches compare left- and right-hand sides of rules
Automated techniques often use simplification orders, but fail on

$$\mathit{minus}(x, 0) \rightarrow x$$

$$\mathit{minus}(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow \mathit{minus}(x, y)$$

$$\mathit{div}(0, s(y)) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\mathit{div}(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow s(\mathit{div}(\mathit{minus}(x, y), s(y)))$$

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$$\mathit{div}(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow s(\mathit{div}(\mathit{minus}(x, y), s(y)))$$

$$\mathit{div}(s(x), s(s(x))) \not\rightarrow s(\mathit{div}(\mathit{minus}(x, s(x)), s(s(x))))$$

The dependency pair approach focusses only on those subterms which are responsible for starting new reductions

Dependency pairs for termination

$$\mathit{minus}(x, 0) \rightarrow x$$

$$\mathit{minus}(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow \mathit{minus}(x, y)$$

$$\mathit{div}(0, s(y)) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\mathit{div}(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow s(\mathit{div}(\mathit{minus}(x, y), s(y)))$$

minus and div (top of lhs) are called **defined** functions.

If $f(s_1, \dots, s_n) \rightarrow C[g(t_1, \dots, t_m)]$ is a rule and g is defined, then

$F(s_1, \dots, s_n) \rightarrow G(t_1, \dots, t_m)$ is a **dependency pair**.

Dependency pairs for termination

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$F(s_1, \dots, s_n) \rightarrow G(t_1, \dots, t_m)$ is a **dependency pair**.

$$M(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow M(x, y)$$

$$D(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow M(x, y)$$

$$D(s(x), s(y)) \rightarrow D(\mathit{minus}(x, y), s(y))$$

Dependency pairs method

A sequence of dependency pairs $DP(R) = s_1 \rightarrow t_1, s_2 \rightarrow t_2, s_3 \rightarrow t_3, \dots$ is a **dependency chain** iff there exists a substitution σ s.t. :

$$t_1\sigma \rightarrow^* s_2\sigma, t_2\sigma \rightarrow^* s_3\sigma, \dots$$

Theorem : A rewrite system R terminates iff there is no infinite dependency chain.

Dependency Graph :

- Nodes are dependency pairs
- There is an arrow from $s_1 \rightarrow t_1$ to $s_2 \rightarrow t_2$ if there exists a substitution σ s.t. : $t_1\sigma \rightarrow^* s_2\sigma$.

Dependency pairs method

$(\geq, >)$ is a **reduction pair** iff

- $>$ is stable by substitution and well-founded
- \geq is stable by context and by substitution
- $>$ and \geq are compatible : $> \circ \geq \subseteq >$ or $\geq \circ > \subseteq \geq$.

Theorem : A rewrite system R terminates if for any cycle P in the dependency graph, there exists a reduction pair $(\geq, >)$ such that

- $l \geq r$ for all rules $l \rightarrow r$ in R
- $s > t$ for at least one dependency pair $s \rightarrow t$ in P
- $s' \geq t'$ for all other dependency pairs $s' \rightarrow t'$ in P

Well-founded reduction orderings

- **Syntactic**

Based on the precedence concept (i.e. a partial order $>_{\mathcal{F}}$ on \mathcal{F})

Example : `Recursive or Lexicographic path ordering` [Dershowitz, 82]

- **Semantic**

Terms are interpreted in another structure where a well-founded ordering is known (e.g. the natural numbers)

Example : `Polynomial interpretations`

- **Combinations**

Ordering combining semantical and syntactical behavior

- **Recursion analysis**

Induction, dependency pairs

How to determine the unicity of the result ?

Back to ARS properties

Consider an ARS $(\mathcal{T}, \rightarrow)$

- An element $t \in \mathcal{T}$ is a **\rightarrow -normal form** if there exists no $t' \in \mathcal{T}$ such that $t \rightarrow t'$.

Back to ARS properties

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- An element $t \in \mathcal{T}$ is a **\rightarrow -normal form** if there exists no $t' \in \mathcal{T}$ such that $t \rightarrow t'$.
- The relation \rightarrow is **terminating** (or **strongly normalizing**, or **noetherian**) if every reduction sequence is finite.

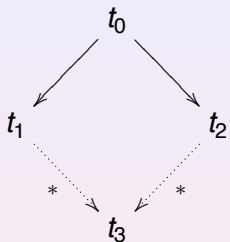
Back to ARS properties

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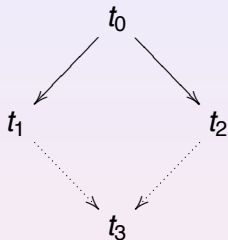
- An element $t \in \mathcal{T}$ is a **\rightarrow -normal form** if there exists no $t' \in \mathcal{T}$ such that $t \rightarrow t'$.
- The relation \rightarrow is **terminating** (or **strongly normalizing**, or **noetherian**) if every reduction sequence is finite.
- The relation \rightarrow is **weakly normalizing** (or weakly terminating) if every element $t \in \mathcal{T}$ has a normal form.
- The relation \rightarrow has the **unique normal form property** if for any $t, t' \in \mathcal{T}$, $t \xrightarrow{*} t'$ and t, t' are normal forms imply $t = t'$.

Definitions

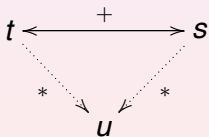
Locally confluent (LC)



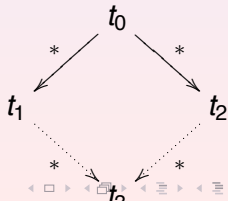
Diamond property (DP)



Church Rosser (CR)



Confluent (C)



Newman's lemma

[Newman 1942]

Provided the relation \rightarrow is terminating

then

\rightarrow is confluent iff it is locally confluent

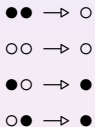
Confluence

Allows us to forget about non-determinism :

Whatever rewriting is done we will converge later.

Back with the simple game

The rules of the game :



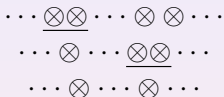
A starting point :



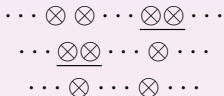
From a given start, is the result determinist ?

Analysing the different cases

Disjoint redexes :



is the same as :



No disjoint redexes (central black) :



but

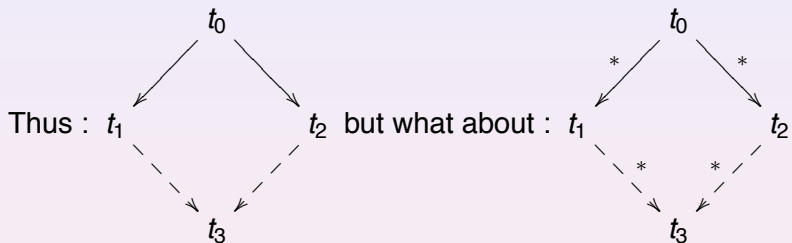


or



but





Confluence

- Undecidable in general, confluence is decidable for finite and terminating rewrite systems.
- Assuming **termination** of the rewrite relation, its confluence is equivalent to the confluence of `critical pairs`.
- If a rewrite system is `orthogonal` (linear and non-overlapping), then it is confluent.

Critical pair

A non-variable term t' and a term t **overlap** if there exists a position ω in t such that $t|_{\omega}$ and t' are unifiable (with $t|_{\omega}$ not a variable).

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A non-variable term t' and a term t **overlap** if there exists a position ω in t such that $t|_{\omega}$ and t' are unifiable (with $t|_{\omega}$ not a variable).

Two terms t and t' are unifiable if there exists a substitution σ such that $\sigma(t) = \sigma(t')$. σ is called a **unifier** of t and t' .

Parenthesis

Unification problems

Solve an equation

Does it exist x, y, z such that

$$x+(z*y) = y+(x*z)$$

An infinity of solutions,
but a most general one

$$x = y = z$$

Unification problem : a **most general unifier** of t and t' is a minimal unifier for the subsumption ordering extended to substitutions. It is unique up to renaming.

General Unification Problems

\mathcal{F} a set of function symbols,

\mathcal{X} a set of variables,

\mathcal{A} an \mathcal{F} -algebra.

A $\langle \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{A} \rangle$ -unification problem

is a disjunction of existentially quantified formulas

$$P_j = \exists \vec{z} \bigwedge_{i \in I_j} s_i =_{\mathcal{A}}^? t_i$$

sometimes abbreviated

$$P_j = \exists \vec{z} \{s_i =_{\mathcal{A}}^? t_i\}_{i \in I_j}.$$

A **unifier** to such a problem is a *substitution* σ such that

$$\exists j, \forall i \in I_j, \quad \mathcal{A} \models \exists \vec{z} \sigma_{|\mathcal{X}-\vec{z}}(s_i) = \sigma_{|\mathcal{X}-\vec{z}}(t_i).$$

SYNTACTIC UNIFICATION

Formulas : quantifier free unification problems

Domain : $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X})$ (no equational axioms)

Interpretation : trivial one

Solved forms : Tree or dag solved forms

From : J.A. Robinson. A machine-oriented logic based on the resolution principle. *Journal of the Association for Computing Machinery*, 12 :23–41, 1965.

...

5.8 Unification Algorithm. The following process, applicable to any finite nonempty set A of well formed expressions, is called the Unification Algorithm :

Step 1. Set $\sigma_0 = \varepsilon$ and $k = 0$, and go to step 2.

Step 2. If $A\sigma_k$ is not a singleton, go to step 3. Otherwise, set $\sigma_A = \sigma_k$ and terminate.

Step 3. Let V_k be the earliest, and U_k the next earliest, in the lexical ordering of the disagreement set B_k of $A\sigma_k$. If V_k is a variable, and does not occur in U_k , set $\sigma_{k+1} = \sigma\{U_k/V_k\}$, add 1 to k , and return to step 2. Otherwise, terminate.

...

Rules for syntactic unification

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Delete} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad P \wedge s =? s$$
$$\rightarrow P$$

Rules for syntactic unification

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Delete} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad P \wedge s =^? s$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Decompose} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad P \wedge f(s_1, \dots, s_n) =^? f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$
$$\rightarrow P \wedge s_1 =^? t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n =^? t_n$$

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$$P \wedge s_1 =^? t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n =^? t_n$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Conflict} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad P \wedge f(s_1, \dots, s_n) =^? g(t_1, \dots, t_p)$$

$$\textit{Fail}$$

$$\text{if } f \neq g$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Coalesce} \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \quad P \wedge x =^? y$$

$$\{x \mapsto y\} P \wedge x =^? y$$

$$\text{if } x, y \in \mathcal{V}ar(P) \wedge x \neq y$$

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$$P \wedge s_1 =^? t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge s_n =^? t_n$$

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Rules for syntactic unification

Eliminate $P \wedge x =? s$

$\rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto s\}P \wedge x =? s$

if $x \notin \mathcal{V}ar(s)$, $s \notin x$, $x \in \mathcal{V}ar(P)$

Rules for syntactic unification

Eliminate $P \wedge x =? s$

$\mapsto \{x \mapsto s\}P \wedge x =? s$

if $x \notin \mathcal{V}ar(s)$, $s \notin x$, $x \in \mathcal{V}ar(P)$

Merge $P \wedge x =? s \wedge x =? t$

$\mapsto P \wedge x =? s \wedge s =? t$

if $0 < |s| \leq |t|$

Rules for syntactic unification

<i>Eliminate</i>	$P \wedge x =^? s$	
\mapsto	$\{x \mapsto s\}P \wedge x =^? s$	if $x \notin \mathcal{V}ar(s)$, $s \notin x$, $x \in \mathcal{V}ar(P)$
<i>Merge</i>	$P \wedge x =^? s \wedge x =^? t$	
\mapsto	$P \wedge x =^? s \wedge s =^? t$	if $0 < s \leq t $
<i>Check</i>	$P \wedge x =^? s$	
\mapsto	<i>Fail</i>	if $x \in \mathcal{V}ar(s)$ and $s \notin x$

Rules for syntactic unification

Eliminate $P \wedge x =? s$
 $\mapsto \{x \mapsto s\}P \wedge x =? s$ if $x \notin \mathcal{V}ar(s), s \notin x, x \in \mathcal{V}ar(P)$

Merge $P \wedge x =? s \wedge x =? t$
 $\mapsto P \wedge x =? s \wedge s =? t$ if $0 < |s| \leq |t|$

Check $P \wedge x =? s$
 $\mapsto \text{Fail}$ if $x \in \mathcal{V}ar(s)$ and $s \notin x$

Check* $P \wedge x_1 =? s_1[x_2] \wedge \dots$
 $\dots \wedge x_n =? s_n[x_1]$
 $\mapsto \text{Fail}$ if $s_i \notin x$ for some $i \in [1..n]$

Solving an equation

$$x + (z * y) = y + (x * z)$$

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$$\Rightarrow \text{coalesce } z = x \wedge y = x \wedge x = x$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{delete } z = x \wedge y = x$$

Examples

Examples

$$x =? a$$

Examples

$$x \stackrel{?}{=} a$$

$$x \stackrel{?}{=} a \wedge y \stackrel{?}{=} f(x, a)$$

Examples

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$$x \stackrel{?}{=} a \wedge y \stackrel{?}{=} f(x, a)$$

$$f(x, f(x, a)) \stackrel{?}{=} f(f(a, b), f(u, v))$$

Examples

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$$x \stackrel{?}{=} a \wedge x \stackrel{?}{=} b$$

Strategy : No

A *tree solved form* for P is any conjunction of equations

$$x_1 =^? t_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_n =^? t_n$$

equivalent to P such that $\forall i, x_i \in \mathbf{x}$ and :

- (i) $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n, x_i \in \mathcal{Var}(P)$,
- (ii) $\forall 1 \leq i, j \leq n, i \neq j \Rightarrow x_i \neq x_j$,
- (iii) $\forall 1 \leq i, j \leq n, x_i \notin \mathcal{Var}(t_j)$.

Example : $x =^? f(f(y)) \wedge z =^? g(a)$.

Theorem : Starting with a unification problem P and using the above rules repeatedly until none is applicable

- results in *Fail* iff P has no solution, or else it
- results in a tree solved form $x_1 =? t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_n =? t_n$ with the same set of solutions than P .

Moreover

$$\sigma = \{x_1 \mapsto t_1, \dots, x_n \mapsto t_n\}$$

is a most general unifier of P .

Strategy : Never apply eliminate

A **dag solved form** for a unification problem P is any system of equations :

$$x_1 =? t_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_n =? t_n$$

equivalent to P such that $\forall i, x_i \in \mathbf{x}$ and :

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Example : $x =? f(u) \wedge u =? f(y) \wedge z =? g(a)$

Critical pair

A non-variable term t' and a term t **overlap** if there exists a position ω in t such that $t|_{\omega}$ and t' are unifiable (with $t|_{\omega}$ not a variable).

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Critical pair

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Do $0 + x \rightarrow x$ and $s(x) + y \rightarrow s(x + y)$ overlap ?

Where do $(x + y) + z$ and $(x' + y') + z'$ overlap ?

Critical Pairs

Superposition

$$l_1 \rightarrow r_1 \qquad l_2[u] \rightarrow r_2$$
$$l_2[r_1]\sigma = r_2\sigma$$

u is a non-variable sub-term of l_2

σ is the $mgv(u, l_1)$

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σ is the *mgu*(u, l_1)

Do $0 + x \rightarrow x$ and $(x + y) + z \rightarrow x + (y + z)$ overlap ?

Compute the critical pairs between these two rules.

Critical Pair Lemma

R is locally confluent iff all critical pair satisfies :

$$l_2[r_1]\sigma \xrightarrow{*}_R \otimes R \xleftarrow{*} r_2\sigma$$

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Prove that the following rewrite system is locally confluent :

$$\begin{aligned} (x * y) * z &\rightarrow x * (y * z) \\ f(x * y) &\rightarrow f(x) * f(y) \end{aligned}$$

Prove that it is confluent.

Orthogonal systems

A rewrite system that is both **linear** (the left-hand side of each rule is a linear term) and **non-overlapping** is called **orthogonal**.

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Theorem If a rewrite system is orthogonal, then it is confluent.

Linearity is needed for non-terminating rewriting system :

$$\begin{array}{lcl} d(x, x) & \rightarrow & t \\ d(x, c(x)) & \rightarrow & f \\ a & \rightarrow & c(a) \end{array}$$

Other systems

What if the system is non-terminating and non-orthogonal ?

Other systems

What if the system is non-terminating and non-orthogonal ?

Theorem Consider a reduction relation \rightarrow_R and let \rightarrow_D s.t.

$$\rightarrow_R \subseteq \rightarrow_D \subseteq \rightarrow_R^*$$

\rightarrow_D has the diamond property

Then, \rightarrow_R is confluent.

Completion of TRS

The group example

Let us concentrate on the use of rewriting for proving equational theorems.

$$G = \begin{cases} [Assoc] & (x + y) + z = x + (y + z) \\ [NElmt] & x + 0 = x \\ [Inver] & x + i(x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

where these three equational axioms are implicitly assumed to be universally quantified.

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where these three equational axioms are implicitly assumed to be universally quantified.

Simple (?) exercise, **prove that $0 + x = x$.**

What is completion ?

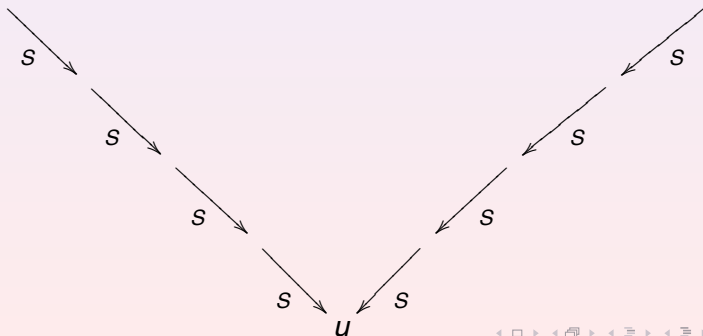
Transform any equational proof in E into a valley proof in R :

What is completion ?

Transform any equational proof in E into a valley proof in R :

$$u_0 \quad =_E \quad u_1 \quad =_E \quad \dots \quad =_E \quad \dots \quad =_E \quad u_{n-1} \quad =_E \quad u_n$$

$$\leftarrow_R \quad \leftarrow_R \quad \dots \quad \rightarrow_R \quad \dots \quad \leftarrow_R \quad \rightarrow_R$$



Completion as a compilation process

Given an equational theory E

Completion as a compilation process

Given an equational theory E
Find a term rewrite system R

Completion as a compilation process

Given an equational theory E
Find a term rewrite system R
Such that,

$$E \vdash t = t' \iff t \xrightarrow{*}_R \cdot R \xleftarrow{*} t'$$

First completion principle : ORIENT

Orient equalities to build (at least) a well founded ordering

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Simple example

$x + 0 = x$ is oriented into $x + 0 \rightarrow x$

First completion principle : ORIENT

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Simple example

$$x + 0 = x \text{ is oriented into } x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

Less obvious, how to orient

$$(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$$

First completion principle : ORIENT

Orient equalities to build (at least) a well founded ordering

Simple example

$$x + 0 = x \text{ is oriented into } x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

Less obvious, how to orient

$$(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$$

Furthermore, well-founded orderings are used to decrease proof complexity

Completion of groups : starts with

$$P = \begin{cases} x + e & = x \\ x + (y + z) & = (x + y) + z \\ x + i(x) & = e \end{cases} \quad R = \emptyset$$

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$$P = \begin{cases} x + e & = x \\ x + (y + z) & = (x + y) + z \\ x + i(x) & = e \end{cases} \quad R = \emptyset$$

Apply saturation rules

Completion of groups : ends with

$$Q = \emptyset$$

$$R = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} x + e & \rightarrow x \\ e + x & \rightarrow x \\ x + (y + z) & \rightarrow (x + y) + z \\ x + i(x) & \rightarrow e \\ i(x) + x & \rightarrow e \\ i(e) & \rightarrow e \\ (y + i(x)) + x & \rightarrow y \\ (y + x) + i(x) & \rightarrow y \\ i(i(x)) & \rightarrow x \\ i(x + y) & \rightarrow i(y) + i(x) \end{array} \right.$$

[Knuth & Bendix 1970]

The associated proof transformations

- ① Orient : $t \xleftarrow{*}_P^{p=q} t' \implies t \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow q}_R t'$
- ② Deduce : $t' \xleftarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R t'' \implies t' \xleftarrow{p=q}_P t''$
- ③ Simplify : $t \xleftarrow{p=q}_P t' \implies t \xrightarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t'' \xleftarrow{p'=q}_P t'$ if $p \xrightarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R p'$.
- ④ Delete : $t \xleftarrow{p=p}_P t \implies \Lambda$
- ⑤ Compose : $t \xrightarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t' \implies t \xrightarrow{l \rightarrow r'}_R t'' \xleftarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R t'$ if $r \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R r'$.
- ⑥ Collapse : $t \xrightarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t' \implies t \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R t'' \xleftarrow{l'=r}_P t'$ if $l \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow g}_R l'$.
- ⑦ Peak without overlap : $t' \xleftarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R t'' \implies t' \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R t_1 \xleftarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t''$
- ⑧ Peak with variable overlap :

$$t' \xleftarrow{l \rightarrow r}_R t \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow d}_R t'' \implies t' \xrightarrow{*}_R t_1 \xleftarrow{*}_R t''$$

The main result

The sets of persisting rules and pairs are defined as :

$$P_\infty = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} \bigcap_{j > i} P_j \quad \text{and} \quad R_\infty = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} \bigcap_{j > i} R_j.$$

If the derivation $(P_0, R_0) \mapsto (P_1, R_1) \mapsto \dots$ satisfies

- $CP(R_\infty)$ is a subset of $\bigcup_{i \geq 0} P_i$ (i.e. the set of all generated equalities),
- R_∞ is reduced and
- P_∞ is empty,

then R_∞ is Church-Rosser and terminating.

$\xrightarrow{*} P_0 \cup R_0$ and $\xrightarrow{*} R_\infty$ coincides.

Three possible issues

A completion process may

- terminate
- diverge by generating infinitely many rules
- fail on an unorientable equation

Exercise

Let $\mathcal{F} = \{c, f\}$ where c is a constant and f a unary operator. Complete the set of equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f(f(f(f(f(x)))))) &= x \\ f(f(f(x))) &= x \end{aligned}$$

Example

The theory of idempotent semi-groups (sometimes called bands) is defined by a set E of two axioms :

$$(x * y) * z = x * (y * z)$$

$$x * x = x$$

From $P_0 = E$ the completion generates

$$(x * y) * z \rightarrow x * (y * z)$$

$$x * x \rightarrow x$$

$$x * (x * z) \rightarrow x * z$$

$$x * (y * (x * y)) \rightarrow x * y$$

$$x * (y * (x * (y * z))) \rightarrow x * (y * z)$$

...

$$x * (y * (z * (y * (x * (y * (z * x)))))) \rightarrow x * (y * (z * x))$$

...

- 1 A smooth introduction
- 2 Defining term rewriting
 - Terms and Substitutions
 - Matching
 - Rewriting
 - More on rewriting
- 3 Properties of rewrite systems
 - Abstract rewrite systems
 - Termination
 - Confluence
 - Completion of TRS
- 4 **Equational rewrite systems**
 - **Matching modulo**
 - **Rewriting modulo**
- 5 Strategies
 - Why strategies ?
 - Abstract strategies
 - Properties of rewriting under strategies
 - Strategy language

Matching and Rewriting Modulo

Equality modulo C

$$C(+): \forall x, y \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X}) \quad x + y = y + x$$

For example, on Peano integer, + is commutative :

$$(s(0) + (x + s(y))) + x =_{C(+)} ((s(y) + x) + s(0)) + x$$

Theorem :

$$t_1 + t_2 =_{C(+)} t'_1 + t'_2 \iff \begin{array}{l} (t_1 =_{C(+)} t'_1 \wedge t_2 =_{C(+)} t'_2) \\ \vee \\ (t_1 =_{C(+)} t'_2 \wedge t_2 =_{C(+)} t'_1) \end{array}$$

Matching modulo

Finding a substitution σ such that

$$\sigma(l) = t$$

is called the matching problem from l to t (denoted $l \ll^? t$).

Finding a substitution σ such that

$$\sigma(l) =_E t$$

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Examples (commutative symbol(s))

$\mathcal{F} = \{a(0), b(0), c(0), f(2), g(2), h(1)\}$

f is assumed to be **commutative** (the other symbols have no property).

$$C(f) : \forall x, y \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{X}) \quad f(x, y) = f(y, x)$$

- $f(a, b) = f(b, a)$

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- $f(a, b) = f(b, a)$
- $g(f(a, b), a) = g(f(b, a), a)$

— yes

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- $f(a, b) = f(b, a)$ — yes
- $g(f(a, b), a) = g(f(b, a), a)$ — yes
- $g(f(a, b), a) = g(a, f(b, a))$

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- $g(f(a, b), a) = g(f(b, a), a)$ — yes
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- $f(a, f(a, b)) = f(f(b, a), a)$

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- $g(f(a, b), a) = g(a, f(b, a))$ — no
- $f(a, f(a, b)) = f(f(b, a), a)$ — yes
- $f(a, f(b, c)) = f(f(c, b), a)$ — yes
- $f(f(a, b), c) = f(a, f(b, c))$ — no

Matching modulo C : examples

Solve the following problems :

- $f(x, y) \ll_C^? f(a, b)$

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- $f(y, f(x, x)) \ll_C^? f(f(f(a, b), f(b, a)), f(b, a))$

Matching modulo C : examples

Solve the following problems :

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- $f(y, f(x, x)) \ll_C^? f(f(f(a, b), f(b, a)), f(b, a))$
 $\sigma = \{x \mapsto f(a, b), y \mapsto f(a, b)\}$

Matching modulo C : A rule based description

<i>Delete</i>	$t \ll^? t \wedge P$ $\mapsto P$	
<i>Decomposition</i>	$f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? f(t'_1, \dots, t'_n) \wedge P$ $\mapsto \bigwedge_{i=1, \dots, n} t_i \ll^? t'_i \wedge P$	
<i>SymbolClash</i>	$f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? g(t'_1, \dots, t'_m) \wedge P$ $\mapsto \text{Fail}$	if $f \neq g$
<i>SymbolVariableClash</i>	$f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \ll^? x \wedge P$ $\mapsto \text{Fail}$	if $x \in \mathcal{X}$
<i>MergingClash</i>	$x \ll^? t \wedge x \ll^? t' \wedge P$ $\mapsto \text{Fail}$	if $t \neq t'$

Assume + commutative

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \mathbf{C-Dec} \quad t_1 + t'_2 \ll_C^? t'_1 + t'_2 \wedge P \\
 \quad \quad \quad \mapsto (t_1 \ll_C^? t'_1 \wedge t_2 \ll_C^? t'_2 \wedge P) \vee (t_1 \ll_C^? t'_2 \wedge t_2 \ll_C^? t'_1 \wedge P)
 \end{array}$$

Find a match

$$x*(3+y) \ll_C^? 1*(4+3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Decomposition } x \ll_C^? 1 \wedge 3+y \ll_C^? 4+3$$

$$\Rightarrow C(+)\text{-Decomposition } x \ll_C^? 1 \wedge ((3 \ll_C^? 4 \wedge y \ll_C^? 3) \vee (3 \ll_C^? 3 \wedge y \ll_C^? 4))$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Merging Clash } x \ll_C^? 1 \wedge (\text{Fail} \vee (3 \ll_C^? 3 \wedge y \ll_C^? 4))$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Delete } x \ll_C^? 1 \wedge (\text{Fail} \vee (y \ll_C^? 4))$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Bool } x \ll_C^? 1 \wedge y \ll_C^? 4$$

Matching rules

Does it terminate ?

Do we always get the same result ?

Matching rules

Does it terminate ?

Do we always get the same result ?

Theorem The normal form by the rules in *Commutative – Match*, of any matching problem $t \ll^? t'$ such that $\mathcal{V}ar(t) \cap \mathcal{V}ar(t') = \emptyset$, exists and is unique.

- ① If it is **Fail**, then there is no match from t to t' .
- ② If it is of the form $\bigvee_{k \in K} \bigwedge_{i \in I} x_i^k \ll_C^? t_i^k$ with $I, K \neq \emptyset$, the substitutions $\sigma^k = \{x_i^k \mapsto t_i^k\}_{i \in I}$ are all the matches from t to t' .
- ③ If it is **empty** then t and t' are identical : $t = t'$.

Matching modulo associativity-commutativity (1)

\cup is assumed to be an associative commutative (AC) symbol :

$$\forall x, y, z, \cup(x, \cup(y, z)) = \cup(\cup(x, y), z) \quad \text{and} \quad \forall x, y, \cup(x, y) = \cup(y, x).$$

$$\{i\} \cup s \ll_{AC}^? \{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\} \cup \{5\}$$

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$$\{i\} \cup s \ll_{AC}^? \{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\} \cup \{5\}$$

$$\{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\} \cup \{5\} =_{AC}$$

$$\{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\} \cup \{5\} \cup \{1\} =_{AC}$$

...

$$\{5\} \cup \{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\}$$

5 different and non AC-equivalent matches.

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$\rightarrow_{R/A}$

t (R/A) -rewrites to t' if $t =_A t_1 \rightarrow_R t_2 =_A t'$

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To be more effective, consider any relation \rightarrow_{RA} such that :

$$\rightarrow_R \subseteq \rightarrow_{RA} \subseteq \rightarrow_{R/A}$$

$\rightarrow_{R,A}$

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there exist $l \rightarrow r \in R$, an occurrence ω in t , such that

$$u|_{\omega} =_A \sigma(l)$$

and

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USUALLY, when defining the rewriting relation, one requires the all rewrite rules satisfy $\text{Var}(r) \subseteq \text{Var}(l)$.

For example

Let \cup be an AC symbol, such that

$$\{i\} \cup x \rightarrow i$$

$$\{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\} \cup \{5\} =_{AC}$$

$$\{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\} \cup \{5\} \cup \{1\} =_{AC}$$

...

$$\{5\} \cup \{1\} \cup \{2\} \cup \{3\} \cup \{4\}$$

Since this term matches the lefthand side of the rewriting rule in 5 different and non *AC*-equivalent ways, the rewrite rule applies in 5 different ways.

Examples

Assume $+$ to be AC (associative and commutative)

$$R = \{a + a \rightarrow a\}$$

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- Huet's approach [JACM80] uses standard rewriting \rightarrow_R but is restricted to left-linear rules.
- Peterson and Stickel's approach [JACM81] uses *rewriting modulo* A , denoted $\rightarrow_{R,A}$, and requires matching modulo A .
- Pedersen's approach [Phd84] uses a restricted version of matching modulo A , confined to variables.
- Jouannaud and Kirchner's method [SIAM86] uses standard rewriting with left-linear rules and rewriting modulo A with non-left-linear rules, mixing advantages of the two first methods.

Definitions

The rewriting relation RA is

- Church-Rosser modulo A if

$$=_{RUA} \subseteq \xrightarrow{*} RA \circ =_A \circ RA \xleftarrow{*} .$$

- confluent modulo A if

$$RA \xleftarrow{*} \circ \xrightarrow{*} RA \subseteq \xrightarrow{*} RA \circ =_A \circ RA \xleftarrow{*}$$

- locally coherent with R modulo A if

$$RA \xleftarrow{\circ} \circ \xrightarrow{\circ} R \subseteq \xrightarrow{*} RA \circ =_A \circ RA \xleftarrow{*}$$

- locally coherent with A modulo A if

$$RA \xleftarrow{\circ} \circ =_A \subseteq \xrightarrow{*} RA \circ =_A \circ RA \xleftarrow{*}$$

Good news

If R/A is terminating, the following properties are equivalent :

- 1 \rightarrow_{RA} is Church-Rosser modulo A .
- 2 \rightarrow_{RA} is confluent modulo A and \rightarrow_{RA} is coherent modulo A .
- 3 \rightarrow_{RA} is locally confluent with R modulo A and locally coherent with A modulo A .
- 4 $\forall t, t', t =_{R \cup A} t'$ iff $t \downarrow_{RA} =_A t' \downarrow_{RA}$.

Rewriting and theorem proving, a few examples

- **Boolean algebras and rings** Applications to proof search in first order logic (Hsiang, 1985).
- **Proof of commutativity in specific rings**

$$(\forall x, x^n = x) \Rightarrow \forall x, y, (x * y = y * x)$$

$n = 3$ (Stickel, 1984), n pair (Kapur,Zhang, 1991).

- **The Robbins conjecture** (McCune, 1996)
In a Boolean algebra

$$\overline{\overline{x + y + x + y}} = y$$

implies

$$\overline{\overline{x + \overline{y}} + \overline{x + \overline{y}}} = y$$

References on rewriting modulo

- G. Huet. Confluent reductions : Abstract properties and applications to term rewriting systems. *Journal of the ACM*, 27(4) :797–821, October 1980.
- G. Peterson and M. E. Stickel. Complete sets of reductions for some equational theories. *Journal of the ACM*, 28 :233–264, 1981.
- J.-P. Jouannaud and H el ene Kirchner. Completion of a set of rules modulo a set of equations. *SIAM Journal of Computing*, 15(4) :1155–1194, 1986.
- Enno Ohlebusch. Church-Rosser Theorems for Abstract Reduction Modulo an Equivalence Relation RTA, pages 17-31, LNCS 1379, 1998.
- Claude and H el ene Kirchner. Rewriting Solving Proving www.loria.fr/~ckirchne/rsp.ps.gz

- 1 A smooth introduction
- 2 Defining term rewriting
 - Terms and Substitutions
 - Matching
 - Rewriting
 - More on rewriting
- 3 Properties of rewrite systems
 - Abstract rewrite systems
 - Termination
 - Confluence
 - Completion of TRS
- 4 Equational rewrite systems
 - Matching modulo
 - Rewriting modulo
- 5 **Strategies**
 - **Why strategies ?**
 - **Abstract strategies**
 - **Properties of rewriting under strategies**
 - **Strategy language**

Rewrite rules ...

Rewrite rules describe local transformations

Rewrite derivations are computations

Normal forms are the results

t is in normal form if it cannot be reduced anymore : result of terminating computations

t has a unique normal form if the rewrite system is terminating and confluent.

Paradigm of computation in algebraic languages : ASF+SDF, OBJ, Maude,...

and in functional languages : ML, Haskell,...

... and Strategy

Strategies describe the control of rewrite rule application

- traversals : innermost, outermost, lazy... (Stratego)
- higher-order functions with choice and iteration (ELAN, TOM)

Strategies are ALWAYS needed

- 1- Even for “good” TRSs
leftmost innermost strategy
i.e. to make clear how the computation is performed
- 2- To describe the way deduction should be done
 - Lazy evaluation
 - Search plans
 - Action plans
 - Tactics
 - User interaction
- 3- This requires to **search** for a particular derivation corresponding to the desired strategy.

rewrite rewrite rewrite rewrite rewrite rewrite rewrite rewrite

Logic Programming, Theorem Proving, Constraint Solving are instances of the same deduction schema :

Apply rewrite rules (may be modulo) on formulas with some strategy, until getting specific forms

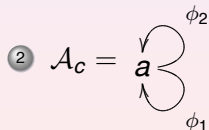
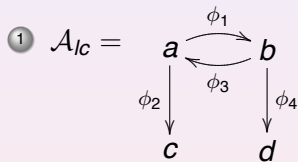
- Rewrite blindly : implements computations
- Rewrite wisely : implements deduction

Back to Abstract rewrite systems

An **Abstract Rewrite System (ARS)** is a labelled oriented graph $(\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S})$.

The nodes in \mathcal{O} are called **objects**

The oriented labelled edges in \mathcal{S} are called **steps**.



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For a given ARS \mathcal{A} :

- 1 A **reduction step** is an oriented labelled edge ϕ together with its source a and target b , written $a \rightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}^{\phi} b$.

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 The empty derivation issued from a is denoted by id_a . The set of all derivations is denoted $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A})$.
- ④ The **concatenation** of two derivations $\pi_1; \pi_2$ is defined as $a \rightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}^{\pi_1} b \rightarrow_{\mathcal{A}}^{\pi_2} c$ if $\{a\} = dom(\pi_1)$ and $\pi_1 a = dom(\pi_2) = \{b\}$.
 Then $\pi_1; \pi_2 a = \pi_2 \pi_1 a = \{c\}$

Properties : Termination

For a given ARS $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S})$:

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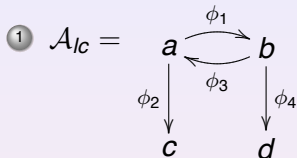
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- A derivation is **normalizing** when its target is normalized ;
- An ARS is **weakly terminating** if every object a is the source of a normalizing derivation.

Properties : Confluence

An ARS $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S})$ is **confluent** if

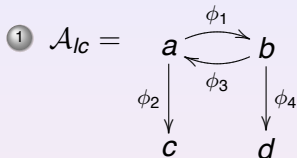
for all objects a, b, c in \mathcal{O} , and all \mathcal{A} -derivations π_1 and π_2 ,
when $a \rightarrow^{\pi_1} b$ and $a \rightarrow^{\pi_2} c$,
there exist d in \mathcal{O} and two \mathcal{A} -derivations π_3, π_4 such that
 $c \rightarrow^{\pi_3} d$ and $b \rightarrow^{\pi_4} d$.

Examples

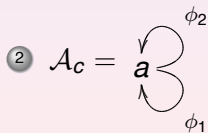


$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}_{lc}) \supset \{id_a, \phi_1, \phi_1\phi_3, \phi_1\phi_4, \phi_1\phi_3\phi_1, (\phi_1\phi_3)^n, (\phi_1\phi_3)^\omega, \dots\}$, where ϕ^n denotes the n -steps iteration of ϕ and ϕ^ω denotes the infinite iteration of ϕ ;

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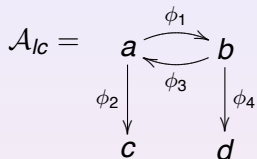


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$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}_c) \supset \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_1\phi_2, \dots, (\phi_1)^\omega, (\phi_2)^\omega, \dots\}$.

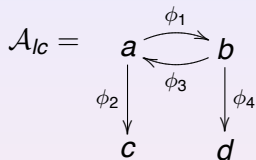
Examples



A few strategies :

$$\textcircled{1} \zeta_1 = \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}_{lc}), \zeta_1 a = \{a, b, c, d\}.$$

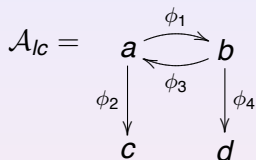
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A few strategies :

- ① $\zeta_1 = \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}_{lc})$, $\zeta_1 a = \{a, b, c, d\}$.
- ② $\zeta_2 = \emptyset$, for all x in \mathcal{O}_{lc} , $\zeta_2 x = \emptyset$.

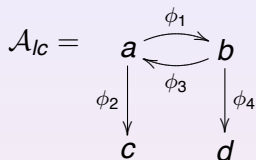
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- ④ The result of $((\phi_1 \phi_3)^\omega a)$ is the empty set.

Termination under strategy

For a given ARS $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S})$ and strategy ζ :

- \mathcal{A} is **ζ -terminating** if all derivations in ζ are of finite length ;
- An object a in \mathcal{O} is ζ -normalized when the empty derivation is the only one in ζ with source a ;
- A derivation is **ζ -normalizing** when its target is ζ -normalized ;
- An ARS is **weakly ζ -terminating** if every object a is the source of a ζ -normalizing derivation.

Example

Given the strategy ζ defined as

$$a \rightarrow^{\phi_1} b \rightarrow^{\phi_4} d$$

b is ζ -normalized since there is no derivation in ζ with source b .

Confluence under strategy (1)

Weak Confluence under strategy

An ARS $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S})$ is **weakly confluent** under strategy ζ if

for all objects a, b, c in \mathcal{O} , and all \mathcal{A} -derivations π_1 and π_2 in ζ , when $a \rightarrow^{\pi_1} b$ and $a \rightarrow^{\pi_2} c$

there exists d in \mathcal{O} and two \mathcal{A} -derivations π'_3, π'_4 in ζ such that $\pi'_3 : a \rightarrow b \rightarrow d$ and $\pi'_4 : a \rightarrow c \rightarrow d$.

Confluence under strategy (2)

Strong Confluence under strategy

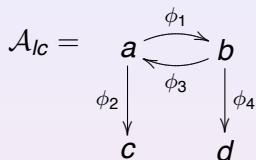
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there exists d in \mathcal{O} and two \mathcal{A} -derivations π_3, π_4 in ζ such that :

- 1 $b \rightarrow^{\pi_3} d$ and $c \rightarrow^{\pi_4} d$;
- 2 $\pi_1; \pi_3$ and $\pi_2; \pi_4$ belong to ζ .

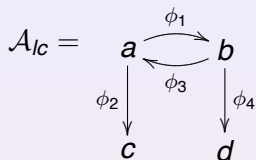
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Consider the following various strategies :

- 1 $\zeta_1 = \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}_{lc})$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is neither weakly nor strongly confluent under ζ_1 :
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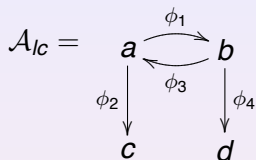
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- ② $\zeta_2 = \emptyset$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is trivially both weakly and strongly confluent under ζ_2 .

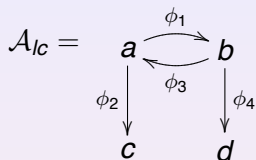
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- ② $\zeta_2 = \emptyset$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is trivially both weakly and strongly confluent under ζ_2 .
- ③ $\zeta_3 = \{(\phi_1 \phi_3)^* \phi_2\}$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is also weakly and strongly confluent under ζ_3 .

Example



Consider the following various strategies :

- ① $\zeta_1 = \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}_{lc})$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is neither weakly nor strongly confluent under ζ_1 :
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- ② $\zeta_2 = \emptyset$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is trivially both weakly and strongly confluent under ζ_2 .
- ③ $\zeta_3 = \{(\phi_1\phi_3)^* \phi_2\}$: \mathcal{A}_{lc} is also weakly and strongly confluent under ζ_3 .
- ④ For a different reason, this is also the case for $\zeta_4 = (\phi_1\phi_3)^\omega$ whose result is the empty set.

Example

Let $\mathcal{O} = \{a, b, c, d\}$ and reduction steps $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4, \phi'_1, \phi'_2, \phi'_3, \phi'_4$.

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This ARS \mathcal{A} is weakly and strongly confluent under the strategy $\zeta =$

$$\{a \rightarrow^{\phi_1} b, a \rightarrow^{\phi_2} c, b \rightarrow^{\phi_3} d, c \rightarrow^{\phi_4} d, a \rightarrow^{\phi_1} b \rightarrow^{\phi_3} d, a \rightarrow^{\phi_2} c \rightarrow^{\phi_4} d\}$$

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Strategic rewriting

Given $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{O}_R, \mathcal{S}_R)$ generated by a rewrite system R , and a strategy ζ of \mathcal{A} ,

- A **strategic rewriting derivation** (or rewriting derivation under strategy ζ) is an element of ζ .
- A **strategic rewriting step** under ζ is a rewriting step $t \rightarrow_R t'$ that occurs in a derivation of ζ .
This is also denoted $t \rightarrow_\zeta t'$.

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Elementary strategies : *Identity*, *Fail*, *R*, *Sequence*(s_1, s_2) or $s_2; s_1$

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$Choice(s_1, s_2)t = s_1t$ if s_1t does not fail, else s_2t .

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- On a term t , *All*(s) applies the strategy s on all immediate subterms :

$$All(s)f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = f(t'_1, \dots, t'_n)$$

if $st_1 = t'_1, \dots, st_n = t'_n$; it fails if there exists i such that st_i fails.

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- On a term t , *One*(s) applies the strategy s on the first immediate subterm where s does not fail :

$$One(s)f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = f(t_1, \dots, t'_j, \dots, t_n)$$

if for all $j < i$, st_j fails, and $st_i = t'_j$; it fails if for all i , st_i fails.

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- *Fixpoint* : $\mu X. s = s[x \leftarrow \mu X. s]$

Strategy language

Try(s) = *Choice(s, Identity)*
Repeat(s) = $\mu x. \text{Choice}(\text{Sequence}(s, x), \text{Identity})$
OnceBottomUp(s) = $\mu x. \text{Choice}(\text{One}(x), s)$
BottomUp(s) = $\mu x. \text{Sequence}(\text{All}(x), s)$
TopDown(s) = $\mu x. \text{Sequence}(s, \text{All}(x))$
Innermost(s) = $\mu x. \text{Sequence}(\text{All}(x), \text{Try}(\text{Sequence}(s, x)))$

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