

ISR 2010



Introduction to Term Rewriting

lecture 1

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VU Amsterdam



Outline

- Overview
- Examples
- Terms



Sunday

introduction, examples, abstract rewriting, equational reasoning, term rewriting

Monday

termination, completion

Tuesday

completion, termination

Wednesday

confluence, modularity, strategies

Thursday

exam, advanced topics

Sunday

introduction, examples, abstract rewriting, equational reasoning, term rewriting

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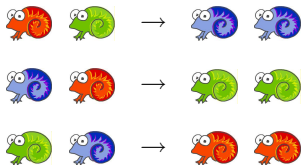


A colony of chameleons includes 20 red, 18 blue, and 16 green individuals. Whenever two chameleons of different colors meet, each changes to the third color. Some time passes during which no chameleons are born or die nor do any enter or leave the colony. Is it possible that at the end of this period, all 54 chameleons are the same color?



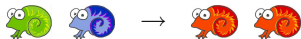
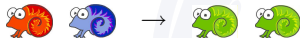
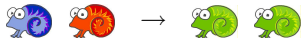
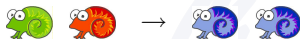
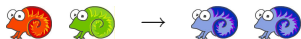


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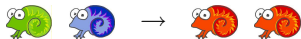
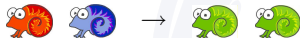
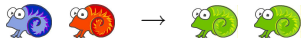
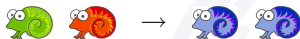
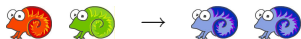


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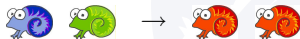
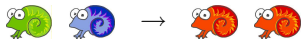
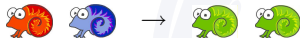
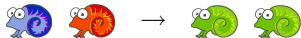
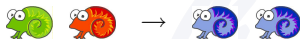
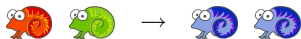


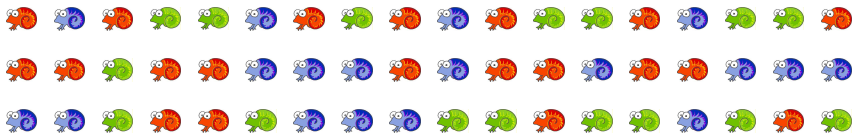
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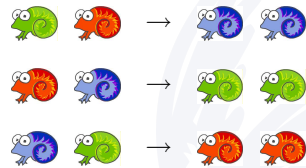
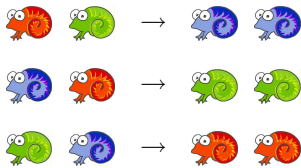


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A team of genetic engineers decides to create cows that produce cola instead of milk. To that end they have to transform the DNA of the milk gene

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in every fertilized egg into the cola gene

CTGACTGACT



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Techniques exist to perform the following DNA substitutions

TCAT ↔ T GAG ↔ AG CTC ↔ TC AGTA ↔ A TAT ↔ CT

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Techniques exist to perform the following DNA substitutions

TCAT ↔ T GAG ↔ AG CTC ↔ TC AGTA ↔ A TAT ↔ CT

Recently it has been discovered that the mad cow disease is caused by a retrovirus with the following DNA sequence

CTGCTACTGACT

What now, if accidentally cows with this virus are created? According to the engineers there is little risk because this never happened in their experiments, but various action groups demand absolute assurances.

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Unary Notation)

signature 0 (constants) s (unary) + (binary, infix)

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Unary Notation)

signature 0 (constants) s (unary) $+$ (binary, infix)

terms $s(s(0))$ $s(0) + s(s(0))$ $s(x) + y$

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rewrite rules	$0 + y \rightarrow y$	$s(x) + y \rightarrow s(x + y)$	
rewriting	$s(0) + s(s(0))$	$x \mapsto 0$	$y \mapsto s(s(0))$

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signature 0 1 ... 9 (constants) + : (binary, infix)

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Decimal Notation)

signature	0 1 ... 9 (constants)	+	:	(binary, infix)
terms	$1 + 3$	$2 + (7 : 3)$	$(2 : (3 : x))$	$+ ((1 + 7) : 2)$

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Decimal Notation)

signature 0 1 \dots 9 (constants) + : (binary, infix)

terms 1 + 3 2 + (7 : 3) (2 : (3 : x)) + ((1 + 7) : 2)

rewrite rules

$0 + 0 \rightarrow 0$ $1 + 0 \rightarrow 1$ \dots $9 + 0 \rightarrow 9$

$0 + 1 \rightarrow 1$ $1 + 1 \rightarrow 2$ \dots $9 + 1 \rightarrow 1 : 0$

$0 + 2 \rightarrow 2$ $1 + 2 \rightarrow 3$ \dots $9 + 2 \rightarrow 1 : 1$

$0 + 3 \rightarrow 3$ $1 + 3 \rightarrow 4$ \dots $9 + 3 \rightarrow 1 : 2$

$0 + 4 \rightarrow 4$ $1 + 4 \rightarrow 5$ \dots $9 + 4 \rightarrow 1 : 3$

$0 + 5 \rightarrow 5$ $1 + 5 \rightarrow 6$ \dots $9 + 5 \rightarrow 1 : 4$

$0 + 6 \rightarrow 6$ $1 + 6 \rightarrow 7$ \dots $9 + 6 \rightarrow 1 : 5$

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$x + (y : z) \rightarrow y : (x + z)$ $0 : x \rightarrow x$

$(x : y) + z \rightarrow x : (y + z)$ $x : (y : z) \rightarrow (x + y) : z$

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Decimal Notation)

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terms	1 + 3 2 + (7 : 3)			(2 : (3 : x)) + ((1 + 7) : 2)		
rewrite rules	0 + 0 → 0 1 + 0 → 1 ... 9 + 0 → 9					
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	$x + (y : z) \rightarrow y : (x + z)$			$0 : x \rightarrow x$		
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rewriting	$(2 : 3) + (7 : 7)$			$x \mapsto 2 \quad y \mapsto 3 \quad z \mapsto 7 : 7$		

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terms	$1 + 3 \quad 2 + (7 : 3) \quad (2 : (3 : x)) + ((1 + 7) : 2)$
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rewriting	$(2 : 3) + (7 : 7) \quad \quad \quad x \mapsto 2 : 3 \quad y \mapsto 7 \quad z \mapsto 7$

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terms	$1 + 3$	$2 + (7 : 3)$	$(2 : (3 : x)) + ((1 + 7) : 2)$	
rewrite rules	$0 + 0 \rightarrow 0$	$1 + 0 \rightarrow 1$	\dots	$9 + 0 \rightarrow 9$
	$0 + 1 \rightarrow 1$	$1 + 1 \rightarrow 2$	\dots	$9 + 1 \rightarrow 1 : 0$
	$0 + 2 \rightarrow 2$	$1 + 2 \rightarrow 3$	\dots	$9 + 2 \rightarrow 1 : 1$
	$0 + 3 \rightarrow 3$	$1 + 3 \rightarrow 4$	\dots	$9 + 3 \rightarrow 1 : 2$
	$0 + 4 \rightarrow 4$	$1 + 4 \rightarrow 5$	\dots	$9 + 4 \rightarrow 1 : 3$
	$0 + 5 \rightarrow 5$	$1 + 5 \rightarrow 6$	\dots	$9 + 5 \rightarrow 1 : 4$
	$0 + 6 \rightarrow 6$	$1 + 6 \rightarrow 7$	\dots	$9 + 6 \rightarrow 1 : 5$
	$0 + 7 \rightarrow 7$	$1 + 7 \rightarrow 8$	\dots	$9 + 7 \rightarrow 1 : 6$
	$0 + 8 \rightarrow 8$	$1 + 8 \rightarrow 9$	\dots	$9 + 8 \rightarrow 1 : 7$
	$0 + 9 \rightarrow 9$	$1 + 9 \rightarrow 1 : 0$	\dots	$9 + 9 \rightarrow 1 : 8$
	$x + (y : z) \rightarrow y : (x + z)$			$0 : x \rightarrow x$
	$(x : y) + z \rightarrow x : (y + z)$			$x : (y : z) \rightarrow (x + y) : z$
rewriting	$(2 : 3) + (7 : 7) \rightarrow^* 7 : (2 : (1 : 0))$			

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Decimal Notation)

signature	0 1 ... 9 (constants)			+	:	(binary, infix)
terms	1 + 3 2 + (7 : 3)			(2 : (3 : x)) + ((1 + 7) : 2)		
rewrite rules	0 + 0 → 0 1 + 0 → 1 ... 9 + 0 → 9					
	0 + 1 → 1 1 + 1 → 2 ... 9 + 1 → 1 : 0					
	0 + 2 → 2 1 + 2 → 3 ... 9 + 2 → 1 : 1					
	0 + 3 → 3 1 + 3 → 4 ... 9 + 3 → 1 : 2					
	0 + 4 → 4 1 + 4 → 5 ... 9 + 4 → 1 : 3					
	0 + 5 → 5 1 + 5 → 6 ... 9 + 5 → 1 : 4					
	0 + 6 → 6 1 + 6 → 7 ... 9 + 6 → 1 : 5					
	0 + 7 → 7 1 + 7 → 8 ... 9 + 7 → 1 : 6					
	0 + 8 → 8 1 + 8 → 9 ... 9 + 8 → 1 : 7					
	0 + 9 → 9 1 + 9 → 1 : 0 ... 9 + 9 → 1 : 8					
	x + (y : z) → y : (x + z)			0 : x → x		
	(x : y) + z → x : (y + z)			x : (y : z) → (x + y) : z		
rewriting	(2 : 3) + (7 : 7) →* 7 : ((2 + 1) : 0)					

Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Decimal Notation)

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	0 + 4 → 4 1 + 4 → 5		...	9 + 4 → 1 : 3	
	0 + 5 → 5 1 + 5 → 6		...	9 + 5 → 1 : 4	
	0 + 6 → 6 1 + 6 → 7		...	9 + 6 → 1 : 5	
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	$0 + 3 \rightarrow 3$	$1 + 3 \rightarrow 4$	\dots	$9 + 3 \rightarrow 1 : 2$		
	$0 + 4 \rightarrow 4$	$1 + 4 \rightarrow 5$	\dots	$9 + 4 \rightarrow 1 : 3$		
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Example (Addition on Natural Numbers in Decimal Notation)

signature	$0 \ 1 \ \dots \ 9$ (constants) $+$ $:$ (binary, infix)
terms	$1 + 3 \quad 2 + (7 : 3) \quad (2 : (3 : x)) + ((1 + 7) : 2)$
rewrite rules	$0 + 0 \rightarrow 0 \quad 1 + 0 \rightarrow 1 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 0 \rightarrow 9$ $0 + 1 \rightarrow 1 \quad 1 + 1 \rightarrow 2 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 1 \rightarrow 1 : 0$ $0 + 2 \rightarrow 2 \quad 1 + 2 \rightarrow 3 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 2 \rightarrow 1 : 1$ $0 + 3 \rightarrow 3 \quad 1 + 3 \rightarrow 4 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 3 \rightarrow 1 : 2$ $0 + 4 \rightarrow 4 \quad 1 + 4 \rightarrow 5 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 4 \rightarrow 1 : 3$ $0 + 5 \rightarrow 5 \quad 1 + 5 \rightarrow 6 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 5 \rightarrow 1 : 4$ $0 + 6 \rightarrow 6 \quad 1 + 6 \rightarrow 7 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 6 \rightarrow 1 : 5$ $0 + 7 \rightarrow 7 \quad 1 + 7 \rightarrow 8 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 7 \rightarrow 1 : 6$ $0 + 8 \rightarrow 8 \quad 1 + 8 \rightarrow 9 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 8 \rightarrow 1 : 7$ $0 + 9 \rightarrow 9 \quad 1 + 9 \rightarrow 1 : 0 \quad \dots \quad 9 + 9 \rightarrow 1 : 8$ $x + (y : z) \rightarrow y : (x + z) \quad \quad \quad 0 : x \rightarrow x$ $(x : y) + z \rightarrow x : (y + z) \quad \quad \quad x : (y : z) \rightarrow (x + y) : z$
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rewriting	$(2 : 3) + (7 : 7) \rightarrow^* (1 : 0) : 0$			normal form		

Example (Binary Trees)

signature 0 1 ... 9 (constants) + : (binary, infix)

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Example (Binary Trees)

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 leaf sum (unary) node (binary)

terms leaf((1 : 0) : 0) node(leaf(1), leaf(2)) leaf(node(1, leaf(2)))

rewrite rules

...
 $\text{sum}(\text{leaf}(x)) \rightarrow x$
 $\text{sum}(\text{node}(x, y)) \rightarrow \text{sum}(x) + \text{sum}(y)$

rewriting

$\text{sum}(\text{node}(\text{leaf}(2 : 3), \text{leaf}(7 : 7)))$
 $\rightarrow \text{sum}(\text{leaf}(2 : 3)) + \text{sum}(\text{leaf}(7 : 7))$
 $\rightarrow^* (2 : 3) + (7 : 7)$
 $\rightarrow^* (1 : 0) : 0$

Example (Group Theory)

signature e (constant) $-$ (unary, postfix) \cdot (binary, infix)

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$e \cdot x \rightarrow x$
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\mathcal{R}

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rewrite rules

$e \cdot x \rightarrow x$	$x \cdot e \rightarrow x$	\mathcal{R}
$x^- \cdot x \rightarrow e$	$x \cdot x^- \rightarrow e$	
$(x \cdot y) \cdot z \rightarrow x \cdot (y \cdot z)$	$x^- \rightarrow x$	
$e^- \rightarrow e$	$(x \cdot y)^- \rightarrow y^- \cdot x^-$	
$x^- \cdot (x \cdot y) \rightarrow y$	$x \cdot (x^- \cdot y) \rightarrow y$	

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rewrite rules $e \cdot x \rightarrow x$ $x \cdot e \rightarrow x$ \mathcal{R}

$$x^- \cdot x \rightarrow e \qquad x \cdot x^- \rightarrow e$$

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot z \rightarrow x \cdot (y \cdot z) \qquad x^{--} \rightarrow x$$

$$e^- \rightarrow e \qquad (x \cdot y)^- \rightarrow y^- \cdot x^-$$

$$x^- \cdot (x \cdot y) \rightarrow y \qquad x \cdot (x^- \cdot y) \rightarrow y$$

① $s \approx t$ is valid in \mathcal{E} ($s \approx_{\mathcal{E}} t$) if and only if s and t have same \mathcal{R} -normal form

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theorems $e^- \approx_{\mathcal{E}} e$ $(x \cdot y)^- \approx_{\mathcal{E}} y^- \cdot z^-$

rewrite rules $e \cdot x \rightarrow x$ $x \cdot e \rightarrow x$ \mathcal{R}

$$x^- \cdot x \rightarrow e \qquad x \cdot x^- \rightarrow e$$

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- ② \mathcal{R} admits no infinite computations

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equations	$e \cdot x \approx x$	$x^- \cdot x \approx e$	$(x \cdot y) \cdot z \approx x \cdot (y \cdot z)$	\mathcal{E}
theorems	$e^- \approx_{\mathcal{E}} e$	$(x \cdot y)^- \approx_{\mathcal{E}} y^- \cdot z^-$		
rewrite rules	$e \cdot x \rightarrow x$	$x^- \cdot x \rightarrow e$	$x \cdot e \rightarrow x$	\mathcal{R}
	$(x \cdot y) \cdot z \rightarrow x \cdot (y \cdot z)$	$e^- \rightarrow e$	$x \cdot x^- \rightarrow e$	
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- ① & ② \implies \mathcal{E} has decidable validity problem

Example (Combinatory Logic)

signature S K I (constants)

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signature S K I (constants) · (application, binary, infix)

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terms S $((K \cdot I) \cdot I) \cdot S$ $(x \cdot z) \cdot (y \cdot z)$

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rewrite rules

$$I \cdot x \rightarrow x$$

$$(K \cdot x) \cdot y \rightarrow x$$

$$((S \cdot x) \cdot y) \cdot z \rightarrow (x \cdot z) \cdot (y \cdot z)$$

Example (Combinatory Logic)

signature S K I (constants) · (application, binary, infix)

terms S ((K · I) · I) · S (x · z) · (y · z)

rewrite rules

$$I \cdot x \rightarrow x$$

$$(K \cdot x) \cdot y \rightarrow x$$

$$((S \cdot x) \cdot y) \cdot z \rightarrow (x \cdot z) \cdot (y \cdot z)$$

rewriting

$$((S \cdot K) \cdot K) \cdot x$$

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signature S K I (constants) · (application, binary, infix)

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rewriting

$$((S \cdot K) \cdot K) \cdot x \rightarrow (K \cdot x) \cdot (K \cdot x)$$

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signature S K I (constants) · (application, binary, infix)

terms S $((K \cdot I) \cdot I) \cdot S$ $(x \cdot z) \cdot (y \cdot z)$

rewrite rules

$$\begin{aligned} I \cdot x &\rightarrow x \\ (K \cdot x) \cdot y &\rightarrow x \\ ((S \cdot x) \cdot y) \cdot z &\rightarrow (x \cdot z) \cdot (y \cdot z) \end{aligned}$$

rewriting

$$\begin{aligned} ((S \cdot K) \cdot K) \cdot x &\rightarrow (K \cdot x) \cdot (K \cdot x) \\ &\rightarrow x \end{aligned}$$

Example (Combinatory Logic)

signature S K I (constants) · (application, binary, infix)

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rewriting

$$\begin{aligned} ((S \cdot K) \cdot K) \cdot x &\rightarrow (K \cdot x) \cdot (K \cdot x) \\ &\rightarrow x \end{aligned}$$

inventor

Moses Schönfinkel (1924)



Example (Lambda Calculus)

signature λ (binds variables)

Example (Lambda Calculus)

signature λ (binds variables) \cdot (**application**, binary, infix)

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terms $M ::= x \mid (\lambda x. M) \mid (M \cdot M)$

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inventor **Alonzo Church** (1936)



Outline

- Overview
- Examples
- **Terms**
 - Contexts
 - Substitutions



Definition

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Definitions (Operations on Terms)

- $\mathcal{V}\text{ar}(\cdot)$

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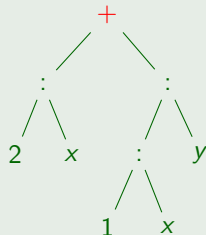
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Outline

- Overview
- Examples
- **Terms**
 - Contexts
 - Substitutions



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$$\begin{aligned} \{x + s(y + z) \mapsto s(y) + s((x + s(0)) + z)\} \\ \implies \{x \mapsto s(y), s(y + z) \mapsto s((x + s(0)) + z)\} \\ \implies \{x \mapsto s(y), y + z \mapsto (x + s(0)) + z\} \\ \implies \{x \mapsto s(y), y \mapsto x + s(0), z \mapsto z\} \end{aligned}$$

- $x^- \cdot (x \cdot y)$ does not match $(e \cdot x)^- \cdot ((e \cdot e) \cdot x)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \{x^- \cdot (x \cdot y) \mapsto (e \cdot x)^- \cdot ((e \cdot e) \cdot x)\} \\ \implies \{x^- \mapsto (e \cdot x)^-, x \cdot y \mapsto (e \cdot e) \cdot x\} \\ \implies \{x \mapsto e \cdot x, x \cdot y \mapsto (e \cdot e) \cdot x\} \\ \implies \{x \mapsto e \cdot x, x \mapsto e \cdot e, y \mapsto x\} \end{aligned}$$

Examples

- $x + s(y + z)$ matches $s(y) + s((x + s(0)) + z)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{x + s(y + z) \mapsto s(y) + s((x + s(0)) + z)\} \\ & \implies \{x \mapsto s(y), s(y + z) \mapsto s((x + s(0)) + z)\} \\ & \implies \{x \mapsto s(y), y + z \mapsto (x + s(0)) + z\} \\ & \implies \{x \mapsto s(y), y \mapsto x + s(0), z \mapsto z\} \end{aligned}$$

- $x^- \cdot (x \cdot y)$ does not match $(e \cdot x)^- \cdot ((e \cdot e) \cdot x)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{x^- \cdot (x \cdot y) \mapsto (e \cdot x)^- \cdot ((e \cdot e) \cdot x)\} \\ & \implies \{x^- \mapsto (e \cdot x)^-, x \cdot y \mapsto (e \cdot e) \cdot x\} \\ & \implies \{x \mapsto e \cdot x, x \cdot y \mapsto (e \cdot e) \cdot x\} \\ & \implies \{x \mapsto e \cdot x, x \mapsto e \cdot e, y \mapsto x\} \\ & \implies \perp \end{aligned}$$