



# Introduction to Term Rewriting

## lecture 5

Aart Middeldorp and Femke van Raamsdonk

Institute of Computer Science  
University of Innsbruck

Department of Computer Science  
VU Amsterdam



## Sunday

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

## Monday

termination, completion

## Tuesday

completion, termination

## Wednesday

confluence, modularity, strategies

## Thursday

exam, advanced topics

# Outline

- Critical Pairs
- Unification
- Completion



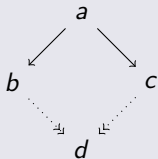
## Newman's Lemma

 $SN \ \& \ WCR \ \Rightarrow \ CR$ 

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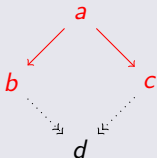
## Definition (WCR)

 $\forall a, b, c$  $\exists d$

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 $\forall a, b, c$ 

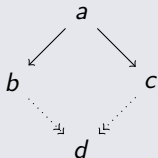
peak

 $\exists d$

## Newman's Lemma

SN & WCR  $\Rightarrow$  CR

## Definition (WCR)

 $\forall a, b, c$ 

peak

 $\exists d$ 

## Question

how to prove WCR ?

## Example

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

$$g(b) \rightarrow c$$

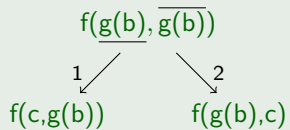


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three peaks

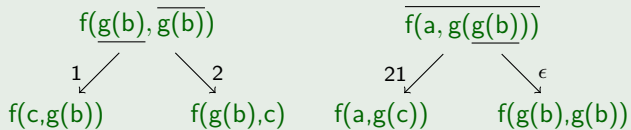


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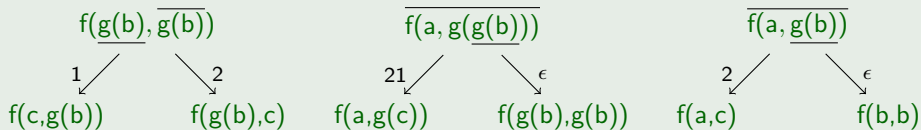


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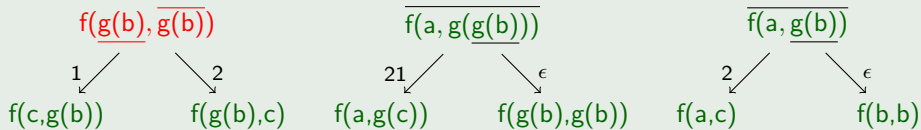


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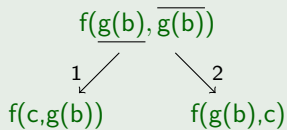
parallel redexes

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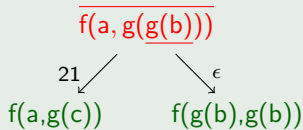
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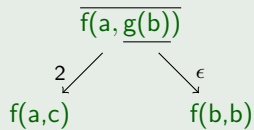
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parallel redexes



variable overlap

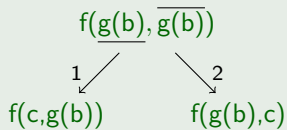


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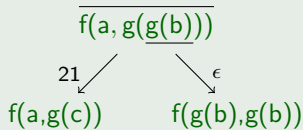
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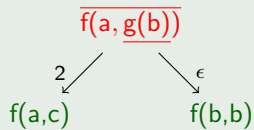
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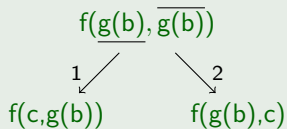
overlapping redexes

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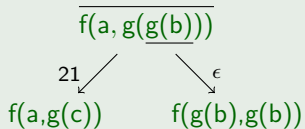
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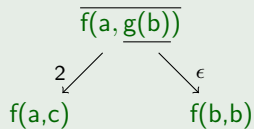
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parallel redexes  
non-critical



variable overlap  
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overlapping redexes  
**critical**

## Definitions

- **overlap** is triple  $\langle l_1 \rightarrow r_1, p, l_2 \rightarrow r_2 \rangle$  such that
  - 1  $l_1 \rightarrow r_1$  and  $l_2 \rightarrow r_2$  are rewrite rules without common variables
  - 2  $p \in \text{Pos}_{\mathcal{F}}(l_2)$
  - 3  $l_1$  and  $l_2|_p$  are unifiable
  - 4 if  $p = \epsilon$  then  $l_1 \rightarrow r_1$  and  $l_2 \rightarrow r_2$  are not variants



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- $l_2\sigma[r_1\sigma]_p \quad \leftarrow \times \rightarrow \quad r_2\sigma$  critical pair
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## Critical Pair Lemma (Huet 1980)

TRS is locally confluent  $\iff$  all critical pairs are convergent

## Example

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

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critical pairs

- $u \cdot z \leftarrow \times \rightarrow e \cdot (u \cdot z)$
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- $u \cdot z \leftarrow \times \rightarrow e \cdot (u \cdot z)$  convergent
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## Theorem (Knuth & Bendix 1970)

terminating TRS is confluent  $\iff$  all critical pairs are convergent

# Outline

- Critical Pairs
- **Unification**
- Completion



## Definition

**composition** of substitutions  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ :

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## Lemma

$(\rho\sigma)\tau = \rho(\sigma\tau)$  for all substitutions  $\rho, \sigma, \tau$

## Definitions

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## Definition

**most general unifier (mgu)** is at least as general as any other unifier

## Definition (Unification Rules)

## d decomposition

$$\frac{E_1, f(s_1, \dots, s_n) \approx f(t_1, \dots, t_n), E_2}{E_1, s_1 \approx t_1, \dots, s_n \approx t_n, E_2}$$

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v **variable elimination**  $(x \in \mathcal{V})$

$$\frac{E_1, x \approx t, E_2}{(E_1, E_2)\sigma} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{E_1, t \approx x, E_2}{(E_1, E_2)\sigma}$$

if  $\underbrace{x \notin \text{Var}(t)}_{\text{occurs check}}$  and  $\sigma = \{x \mapsto t\}$

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$$0 \approx 0, s(y) \approx s(z)$$

$$d \Downarrow$$

$$s(y) \approx s(z)$$

## Example

$$x + (0 + s(y)) \approx s(z) + (0 + x)$$

$$d \Downarrow$$

$$x \approx s(z), 0 + s(y) \approx 0 + x$$

$$v \Downarrow x \mapsto s(z)$$

$$0 + s(y) \approx 0 + s(z)$$

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$$d \Downarrow$$

$$s(y) \approx s(z)$$

$$d \Downarrow$$

$$y \approx z$$

$$v \Downarrow y \mapsto z$$
$$\square$$



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$$x \approx s(z), 0 + s(y) \approx 0 + x$$

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$$0 + s(y) \approx 0 + s(z)$$

$$d \Downarrow$$

$$0 \approx 0, s(y) \approx s(z)$$

$$\text{mgu} \quad \{x \mapsto s(z), y \mapsto z\}$$

$$d \Downarrow$$

$$s(y) \approx s(z)$$

$$d \Downarrow$$

$$y \approx z$$

$$v \Downarrow y \mapsto z$$

$$\square$$

## Theorem

- *there are no infinite derivations*

$$s \approx t \Rightarrow_{\sigma_1} E_1 \Rightarrow_{\sigma_2} E_2 \Rightarrow_{\sigma_3} \dots$$

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- $\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 \dots \sigma_n$  is mgu of  $s$  and  $t$



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- $E_n = \square$
- $\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3 \dots \sigma_n$  is mgu of  $s$  and  $t$

## Optional Failure Rules

$$\frac{E_1, f(s_1, \dots, s_n) \approx g(t_1, \dots, t_m), E_2}{\perp}$$

$$\frac{E_1, x \approx t, E_2}{\perp} \quad \frac{E_1, t \approx x, E_2}{\perp}$$

if  $x \in \mathcal{V}\text{ar}(t)$

# Outline

- Critical Pairs
- Unification
- **Completion**
  - Example
  - Procedure



## Example

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$ 

①  $x + 0 \rightarrow x$

③  $x + s(y) \rightarrow s(x + y)$

⑤  $p(s(x)) \rightarrow x$

②  $x - 0 \rightarrow x$

④  $x - s(y) \rightarrow p(x - y)$

⑥  $s(p(x)) \rightarrow x$



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## Example

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

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- SN (e.g.) LPO with precedence  $+ > s$  and  $- > p$
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$$\textcircled{1} \quad x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

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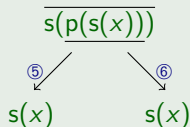
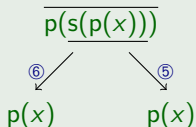
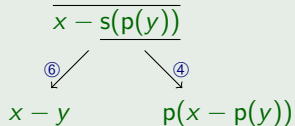
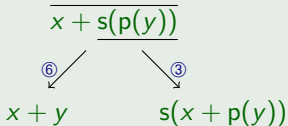
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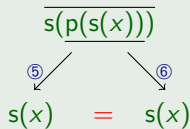
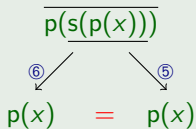
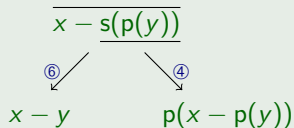
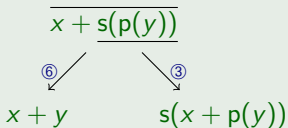
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$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \overline{x + s(p(y))} & \\ \textcircled{6} \swarrow & & \searrow \textcircled{3} \\ x + y & \xleftarrow{\textcircled{7}} & s(x + p(y)) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \overline{x - s(p(y))} & \\ \textcircled{6} \swarrow & & \searrow \textcircled{4} \\ x - y & & p(x - p(y)) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \overline{p(s(p(x)))} & \\ \textcircled{6} \swarrow & & \searrow \textcircled{5} \\ p(x) & = & p(x) \end{array}$$

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## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y \qquad \textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

preserve termination



## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y \qquad \textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

preserve termination and do not change  $\overset{*}{\longleftrightarrow}$

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$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y \qquad \textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

preserve termination and do not change  $\leftrightarrow^*$

- new critical pairs

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{p(s(x + p(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{7} & & \searrow \textcircled{5} \\ p(x + y) & & x + p(y) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{s(x + p(s(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{5} & & \searrow \textcircled{7} \\ s(x + y) & & x + s(y) \end{array}$$

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## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{p(x - p(s(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{5} & & \searrow \textcircled{8} \\ p(x - y) & \xleftarrow{\textcircled{4}} & x - s(y) \end{array}$$

## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y \qquad \textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

preserve termination and do not change  $\leftrightarrow^*$

- new critical pairs

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{p(s(x + p(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{7} & & \searrow \textcircled{5} \\ p(x + y) & \xleftarrow{\textcircled{9}} & x + p(y) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{s(x + p(s(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{5} & & \searrow \textcircled{7} \\ s(x + y) & \xleftarrow{\textcircled{2}} & x + s(y) \end{array}$$

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## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y \qquad \textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

preserve termination and do not change  $\leftrightarrow^*$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{s(p(x - p(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{8} & & \searrow \textcircled{6} \\ s(x - y) & \xleftarrow{\textcircled{10}} & x - p(y) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{p(x - p(s(y)))} & & \\ \swarrow \textcircled{5} & & \searrow \textcircled{8} \\ p(x - y) & \xleftarrow{\textcircled{4}} & x - s(y) \end{array}$$

## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{9} \quad x + p(y) \rightarrow p(x + y) \quad \textcircled{10} \quad x - p(y) \rightarrow s(x - y)$$

preserve termination (extend LPO precedence with  $+ > p$  and  $- > s$ )

## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{9} \quad x + p(y) \rightarrow p(x + y) \quad \textcircled{10} \quad x - p(y) \rightarrow s(x - y)$$

preserve termination (extend LPO precedence with  $+ > p$  and  $- > s$ )

- new critical pairs

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{x + s(y + p(z))} & & \overline{x - s(y + p(z))} \\ \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{7} \swarrow \\ \textcircled{2} \searrow \end{array} & & \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{7} \swarrow \\ \textcircled{4} \searrow \end{array} \\ x + (y + z) \quad s(x + (y + p(z))) & & x - (y + z) \quad p(x - (y + p(z))) \end{array}$$

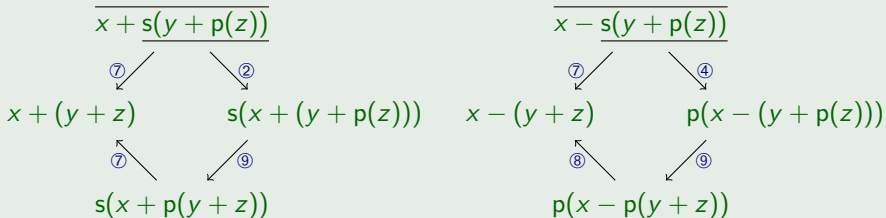
## Example (cont'd)

- added rewrite rules

$$\textcircled{9} \quad x + p(y) \rightarrow p(x + y) \quad \textcircled{10} \quad x - p(y) \rightarrow s(x - y)$$

preserve termination (extend LPO precedence with  $+ > p$  and  $- > s$ )

- new critical pairs





## Example (cont'd)

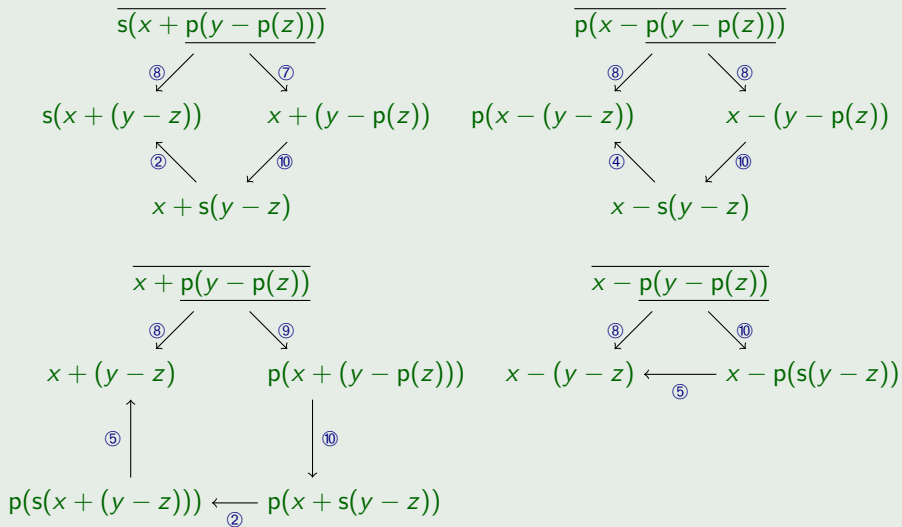
- new critical pairs

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \overline{s(x + p(y - p(z)))} & & \overline{p(x - p(y - p(z)))} \\
 \swarrow \textcircled{8} \quad \searrow \textcircled{7} & & \swarrow \textcircled{8} \quad \searrow \textcircled{8} \\
 s(x + (y - z)) & x + (y - p(z)) & p(x - (y - z)) & x - (y - p(z))
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \overline{x + p(y - p(z))} & & \overline{x - p(y - p(z))} \\
 \swarrow \textcircled{8} \quad \searrow \textcircled{9} & & \swarrow \textcircled{8} \quad \searrow \textcircled{10} \\
 x + (y - z) & p(x + (y - p(z))) & x - (y - z) & x - p(s(y - z))
 \end{array}$$

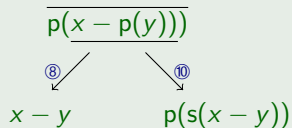
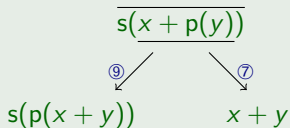
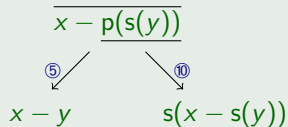
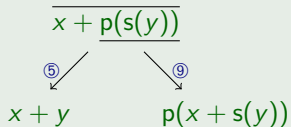
## Example (cont'd)

- new critical pairs



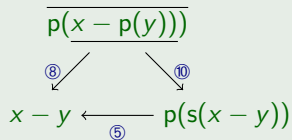
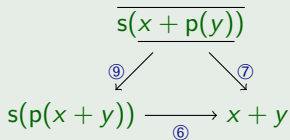
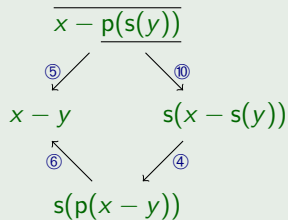
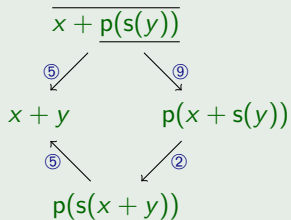
## Example (cont'd)

- new critical pairs



## Example (cont'd)

- new critical pairs



## Example (cont'd)

TRS  $\mathcal{R} = \{\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3}, \textcircled{4}, \textcircled{5}, \textcircled{6}\}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad x - 0 \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad p(s(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x + s(y) \rightarrow s(x + y)$$

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## Example (cont'd)

TRS  $\mathcal{R} = \{\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3}, \textcircled{4}, \textcircled{5}, \textcircled{6}\}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad x - 0 \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad p(s(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y$$

$$\textcircled{9} \quad x + p(y) \rightarrow p(x + y)$$

TRS  $\mathcal{S} = \{\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3}, \textcircled{4}, \textcircled{5}, \textcircled{6}, \textcircled{7}, \textcircled{8}, \textcircled{9}, \textcircled{10}\}$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x + s(y) \rightarrow s(x + y)$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad x - s(y) \rightarrow p(x - y)$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad s(p(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

$$\textcircled{10} \quad x - p(y) \rightarrow s(x - y)$$

## Example (cont'd)

TRS  $\mathcal{R} = \{\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3}, \textcircled{4}, \textcircled{5}, \textcircled{6}\}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x + 0 \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad x - 0 \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad p(s(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad s(x + p(y)) \rightarrow x + y$$

$$\textcircled{9} \quad x + p(y) \rightarrow p(x + y)$$

TRS  $\mathcal{S} = \{\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3}, \textcircled{4}, \textcircled{5}, \textcircled{6}, \textcircled{7}, \textcircled{8}, \textcircled{9}, \textcircled{10}\}$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x + s(y) \rightarrow s(x + y)$$

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$$\textcircled{6} \quad s(p(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad p(x - p(y)) \rightarrow x - y$$

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## Example (cont'd)

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- $\mathcal{S}$  is SN

LPO with precedence  $+ > s, p$  and  $- > s, p$



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  - $\mathcal{S}$  is WCR
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 all critical pairs of  $\mathcal{S}$  are convergent

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- $\overset{*}{\leftarrow} \underset{\mathcal{S}}{\rightarrow} = \overset{*}{\leftarrow} \underset{\mathcal{R}}{\rightarrow}$

# Outline

- Critical Pairs
- Unification
- **Completion**
  - Example
  - Procedure



## Knuth–Bendix Completion Procedure (Simple Version)

*input*      ES  $\mathcal{E}$  and reduction order  $>$   
*output*     complete TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  such that  $\overset{*}{\leftarrow}_{\mathcal{E}} = \overset{*}{\leftarrow}_{\mathcal{R}}$



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*failure*

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$C := C \cup \{e \in \text{CP}(\mathcal{R}) \mid \alpha \rightarrow \beta \text{ was used to generate } e\}$



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## Invariants

1  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \>$

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- 1  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$
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## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

- 1 terminate without failure



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- 3 equations in  $CP(\mathcal{R}) \setminus C$  are convergent with respect to  $\mathcal{R}$

## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

- 1 terminate without failure  $\implies \mathcal{R}$  is complete and  $\overset{*}{\leftarrow} \overset{*}{\rightarrow} = \overset{*}{\leftarrow} \overset{*}{\rightarrow} \underset{\mathcal{R}}{\phantom{}}$

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 $\mathcal{E} \quad \mathcal{R} \quad \mathcal{C}$
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 $\mathcal{E} \quad \mathcal{R}$
- 2 terminate with failure

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- 1 terminate without failure  $\implies \mathcal{R}$  is complete and  $\overset{*}{\leftarrow} \overset{*}{\rightarrow}_{\mathcal{E}} = \overset{*}{\leftarrow} \overset{*}{\rightarrow}_{\mathcal{R}}$
- 2 terminate with failure
- 3 not terminate (**divergence**)

## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

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## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

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## Example

- rewrite rules

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

$$f(x, y) \rightarrow h(y)$$

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## Example

- rewrite rules

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

$$f(x, y) \rightarrow h(y)$$

- two critical pairs

$$g(x) \leftarrow \times \rightarrow h(y)$$

$$h(y) \leftarrow \times \rightarrow g(x)$$

## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

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## Example

- rewrite rules

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

$$f(x, y) \rightarrow h(y)$$

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$$g(x) \leftarrow \times \rightarrow h(y)$$

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- no orientation possible  $\implies$  failure

## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

- 3 not terminate (divergence)





## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

- 3 not terminate (divergence)

## Example

- rewrite rules

$$f(g(x)) \rightarrow g(h(x))$$

$$g(a) \rightarrow b$$

## Three Possibilities

Knuth-Bendix completion procedure may

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## Example

- rewrite rules

$$f(g(x)) \rightarrow g(h(x))$$

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- LPO with precedence  $a > f > g > h > b$

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$$f(g(x)) \rightarrow g(h(x))$$

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...

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## Simple Word Problems in Universal Algebras

Donald E. Knuth and Peter Bendix

in: Computational Problems in Abstract Algebra, Pergamon Press, pp. 263 – 297, 1970