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# 1. Vicious circles in rewriting

Jeroen Ketema

VU

Jan-Willem Klop

VU, CWI, RU

Vincent van Oostrom

UU

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## 2. Kind of results

...  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic

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### 3. Why acyclicity?

Complete 'results': no infinite reductions  
normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  termination

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### 3. Why acyclicity?

Complete 'results': no infinite reductions  
normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  termination

- self-delimiting (this morning)
- typed  $\lambda\beta$  (BGK-conjecture)

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### 3. Why acyclicity?

Complete 'results': no infinite reductions  
normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  termination

- self-delimiting (this morning)
- typed  $\lambda\beta$  (BGK-conjecture)

normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic  $\Rightarrow$  unbounded growth

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### 3. Why acyclicity?

Complete 'results': no infinite reductions  
normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  termination

- self-delimiting (this morning)
- typed  $\lambda\beta$  (BGK-conjecture)

normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic  $\Rightarrow$  unbounded growth

Partial 'results': no cyclic reductions  
head normalisation + ?  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic

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## 4. WRS'04

**Theorem.**

normalising orthogonal first-order TRS  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic

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## 4. WRS'04

### Theorem.

normalising orthogonal first-order TRS  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic

- normalising: object reducible to normal form (WN)
- orthogonal: left-linear, no critical pairs (ORTH)
- first-order: no bound variables (F-O)
- acyclic: no reduction cycles (AC)



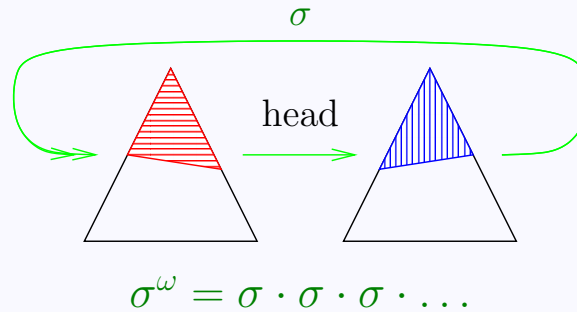
## 4.1. Typical example

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

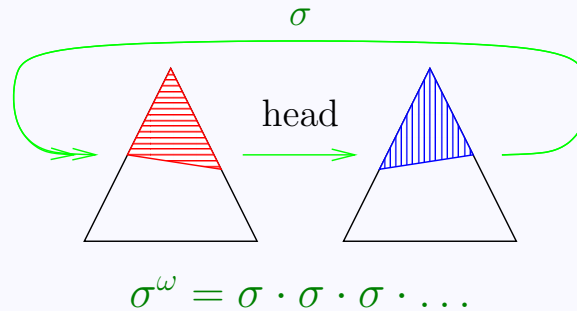
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a & \longrightarrow & f(a) & \longrightarrow & f(f(a)) & \longrightarrow & f(f(f(a))) & \longrightarrow \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ & & b & \longleftarrow & f(b) & \longleftarrow & f(f(b)) & \longleftarrow \end{array}$$

- WN: all terms reducible to  $a$
- ORTH:  $\leq 1$  variable in lhs, distinct defined symbols
- F-O: no bound variables
- AC: yes
- SN: no

## 4.2. Proof by minimal counterexample



## 4.2. Proof by minimal counterexample

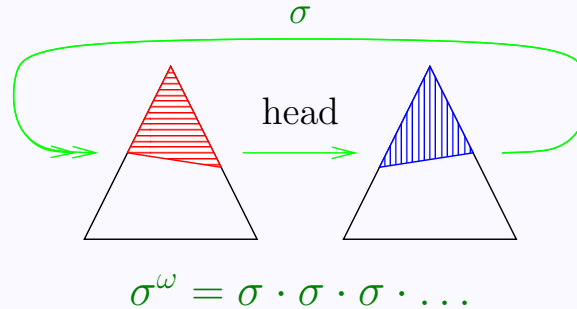


### Theorem (Head Normalisation).

Eventually a head step  $\Rightarrow$  strategy is normalising

*Proof.* By O'Donnell (77): outermost-fair strategies are normalising for first-order orthogonal TRSs.  $\square$

## 4.2. Proof by minimal counterexample



### Theorem (Head Normalisation).

Eventually a head step  $\Rightarrow$  strategy is normalising

*Proof.* By O'Donnell (77): outermost-fair strategies are normalising for first-order orthogonal TRSs.  $\square$

So  $\sigma^\omega$  would be normalising. **Contradiction**

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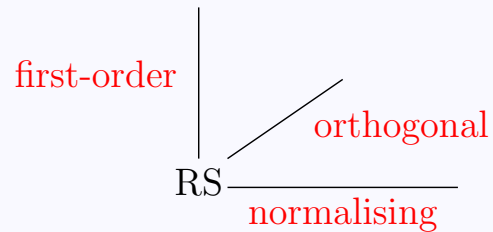
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## 5. WRS'05

Generalisation into 3 directions



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## 6. Generalising Normalisation

WN————— ?

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## 6.1. Just omit?

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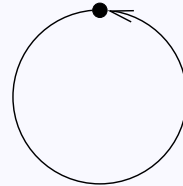
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## 6.1. Just omit?

Blackhole





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## 6.2. Other restriction?

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## 6.2. Other restriction?

head normalisation

WN—————WHN

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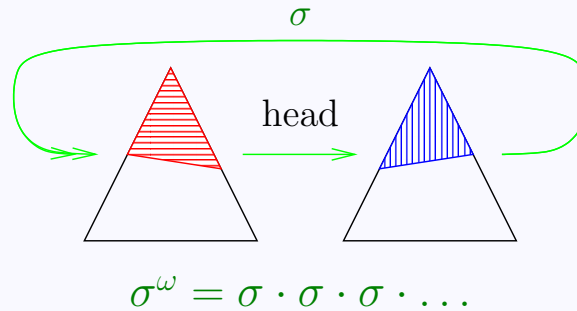
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## 6.3. Does WHN work?

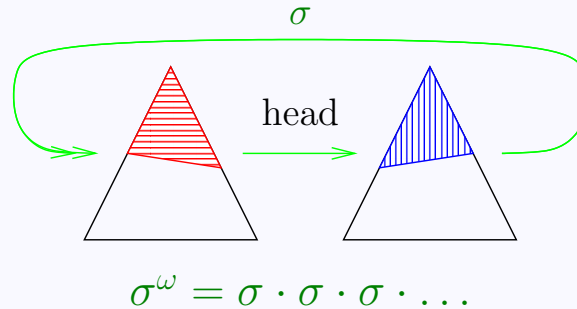
### 6.3. Does WHN work?

Yes.



### 6.3. Does WHN work?

Yes.



#### Theorem (Head Head Normalisation).

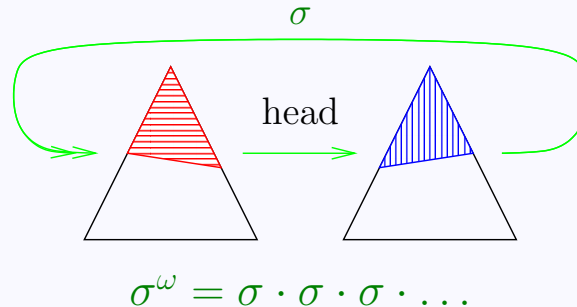
Eventually a head step  $\Rightarrow$  strategy is **head** normalising

*Proof.* By Middeldorp (97): hyper head needed strategies are head normalising for first-order orthogonal TRSs.

□

### 6.3. Does WHN work?

Yes.



#### Theorem (Head Head Normalisation).

Eventually a head step  $\Rightarrow$  strategy is **head** normalising

*Proof.* By Middeldorp (97): hyper head needed strategies are head normalising for first-order orthogonal TRSs.

□

So  $\sigma^\omega$  would be head normalising. **Contradiction**

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## 7. Generalising Orthogonality

ORTHO



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## 7.1. Just omit?



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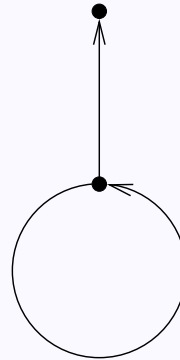
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## 7.1. Just omit?

Weak blackhole



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## 7.2. Other restriction?

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## 7.2. Other restriction?

weak orthogonality

WORTH0  
|  
ORTHO

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### 7.3. WORTHO

WORTHO: only trivial critical pairs  $\langle t, t \rangle$

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### 7.3. WORTHO

WORTHO: only trivial critical pairs  $\langle t, t \rangle$

$$P(S(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$S(P(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$P(x) \leftarrow \underline{P}(\overline{S(P(x))}) \rightarrow P(x)$$

$$S(x) \leftarrow \underline{S}(\overline{P(S(x))}) \rightarrow S(x)$$

### 7.3. WORTHO

WORTHO: only trivial critical pairs  $\langle t, t \rangle$

$$P(S(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$S(P(x)) \rightarrow x$$

$$P(x) \leftarrow \underline{P(\overline{S(P(x))})} \rightarrow P(x)$$

$$S(x) \leftarrow \underline{S(\overline{P(S(x))})} \rightarrow S(x)$$

Other examples:

- Parallel or
- $\lambda\beta\eta$ -calculus

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## 7.4. Does WORTHO work?

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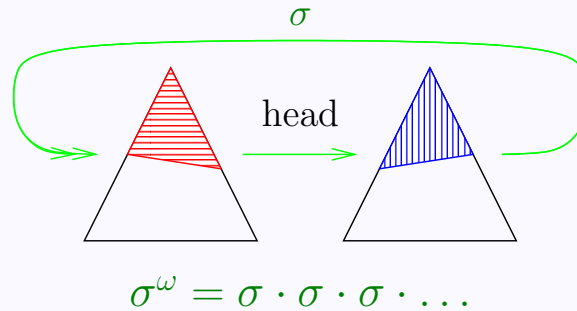
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## 7.4. Does WORTHO work?

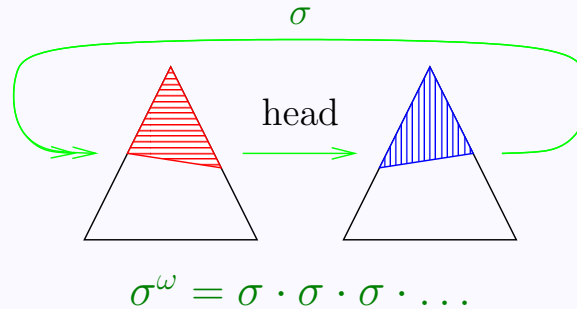
Yes.





## 7.4. Does WORTHO work?

Yes.



### Theorem (Head Normalisation).

Eventually a head step  $\Rightarrow$  strategy is normalising

*Proof.* By vO (99): outermost fair strategies are normalising for first-order **weakly** orthogonal TRSs.  $\square$

So  $\sigma^\omega$  would be normalising. **Contradiction**

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## 8. Generalising First-Orderness

?



F-O

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## 8.1. Just omit?

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## 8.1. Just omit?

What does **orthogonality** mean?

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## 8.1. Just omit?

What does **orthogonality** mean?

Proof needs closure under **sub-structures**

What are they?

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## 8.1. Just omit?

What does **orthogonality** mean?

Proof needs closure under **sub-structures**

What are they?

Thm does not hold (without more) for **residual** systems

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## 8.2. Other restriction?

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## 8.2. Other restriction?

higher-order





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### 8.3. H-O

H-O: rewriting of  $\lambda$ -terms mod  $\alpha\beta\eta$

$$(\lambda x.M(x))N \rightarrow_{\text{beta}} M(N)$$

$$\lambda x.Mx \rightarrow_{\text{eta}} M$$

### 8.3. H-O

H-O: rewriting of  $\lambda$ -terms mod  $\alpha\beta\eta$

$$(\lambda x.M(x))N \rightarrow_{\text{beta}} M(N)$$

$$\lambda x.Mx \rightarrow_{\text{eta}} M$$

Other examples:

- $\mu x.Z(x) \rightarrow Z(\mu x.Z(x))$
- **Any** transformation on terms with bound variables

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## 8.4. Does H-O work?

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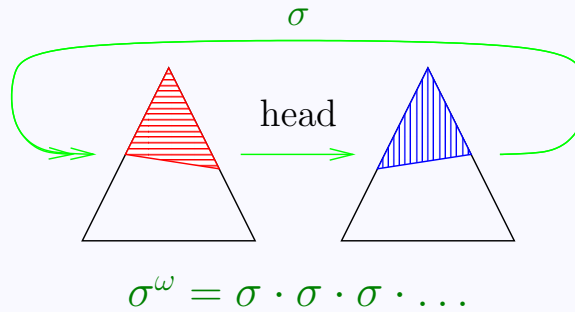
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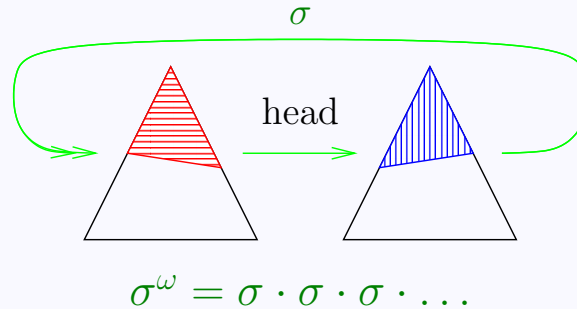
## 8.4. Does H-O work?

Yes.



## 8.4. Does H-O work?

Yes.



### Theorem (Head Normalisation).

Eventually a head step  $\Rightarrow$  strategy is normalising

*Proof.* By Van Raamsdonk (96): outermost fair strategies are normalising for orthogonal **higher-order** TRSs.

□

So  $\sigma^\omega$  would be normalising. **Contradiction**

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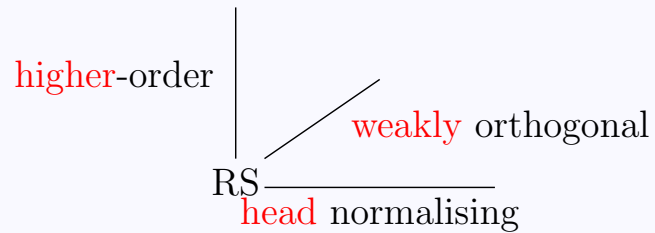
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## 9. Three directions



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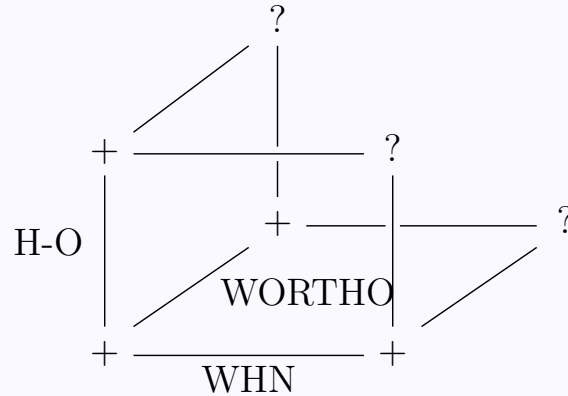
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## 10. Pair-wise combinations



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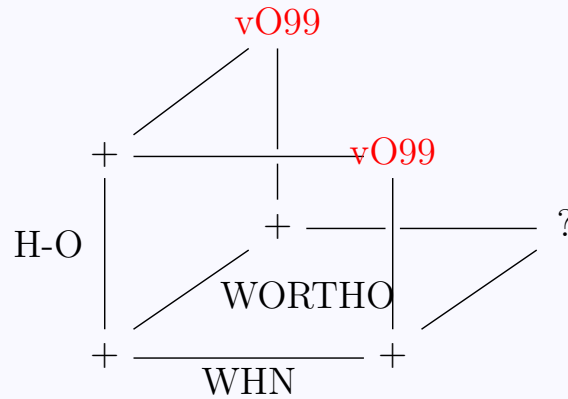
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## 10.1. Two pairs





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## 11. Weakly ortho and head normalising

Head Head Normalisation Theorem fails for WORTH!

$$a \rightarrow b$$

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

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

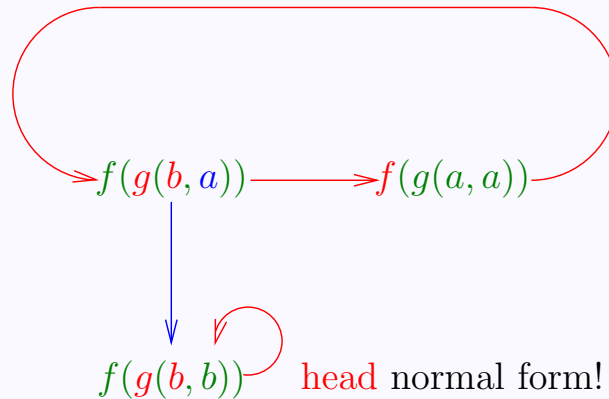
## 11. Weakly ortho and head normalising

Head Head Normalisation Theorem fails for WORTH0!

$$a \rightarrow b$$

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

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



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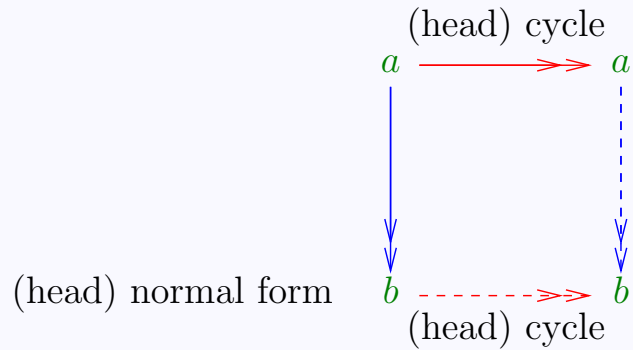
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## 11.1. Alternative proof method

### Commutation of (head) cycles

## 11.1. Alternative proof method

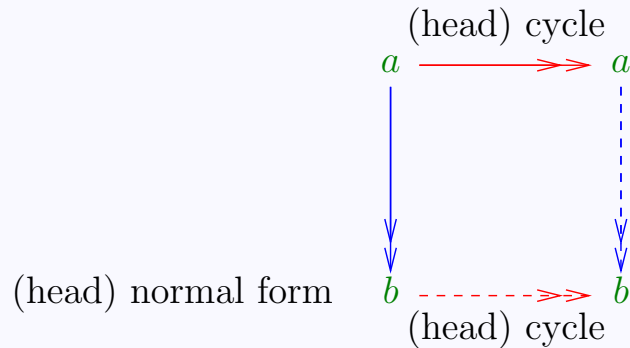
### Commutation of (head) cycles





## 11.1. Alternative proof method

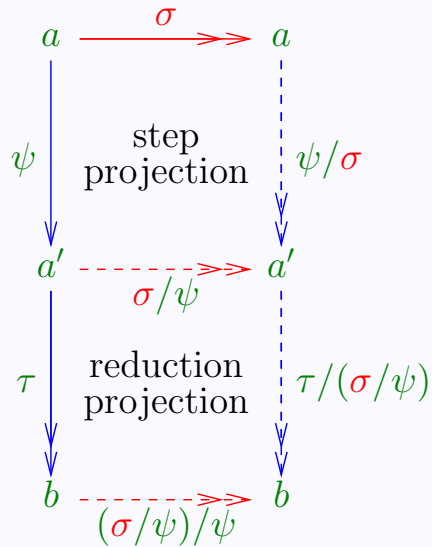
### Commutation of (head) cycles



**Contradiction**

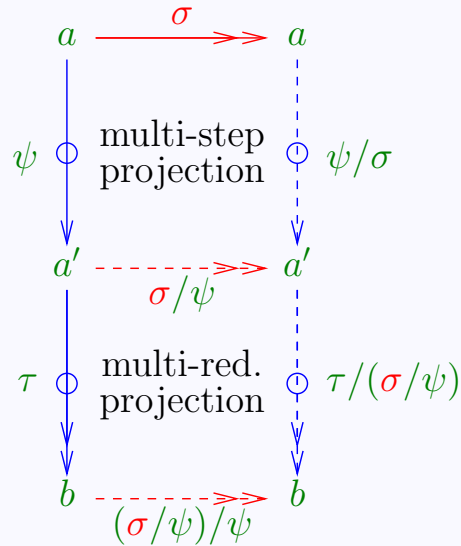
## 11.2. Commutation via projection

### Klop projection



## 11.3. Commutation via multi-projection

### Canonical projection

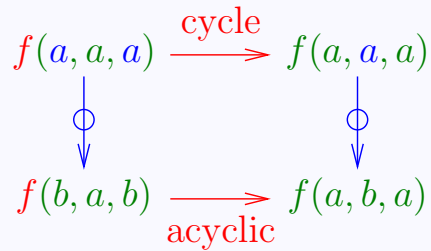




## 11.4. Cycles do **not** project

$$a \rightarrow b$$

$$f(x, y, z) \rightarrow f(y, x, a)$$

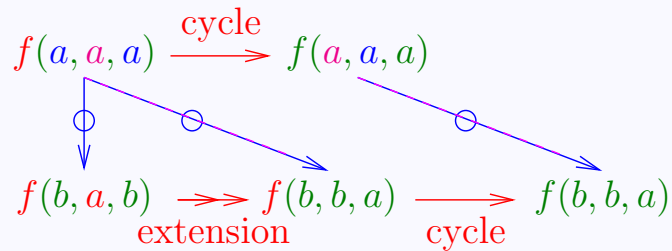




## 11.5. Cycles **do** project over extensions

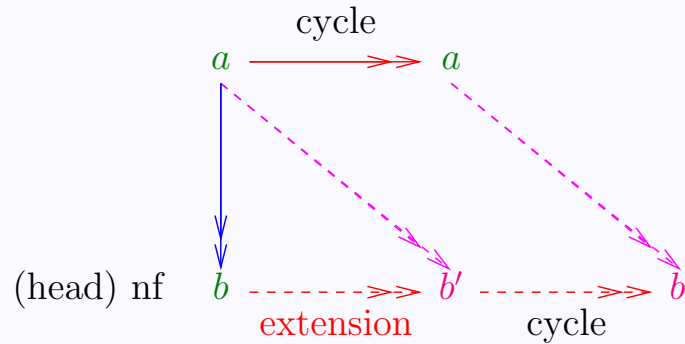
$$a \rightarrow b$$

$$f(x, y, z) \rightarrow f(y, x, a)$$



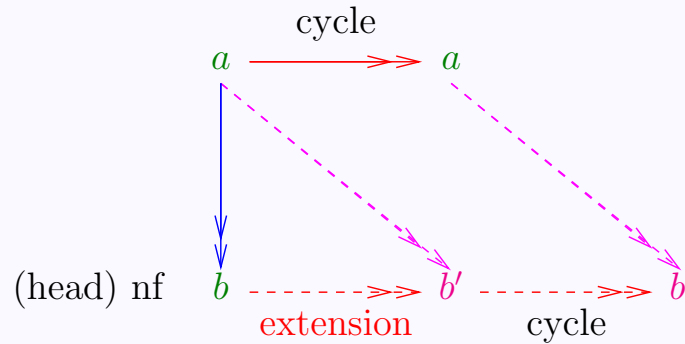
## 11.6. Commutation via extended projection

### Extended projection



## 11.6. Commutation via extended projection

Extended projection



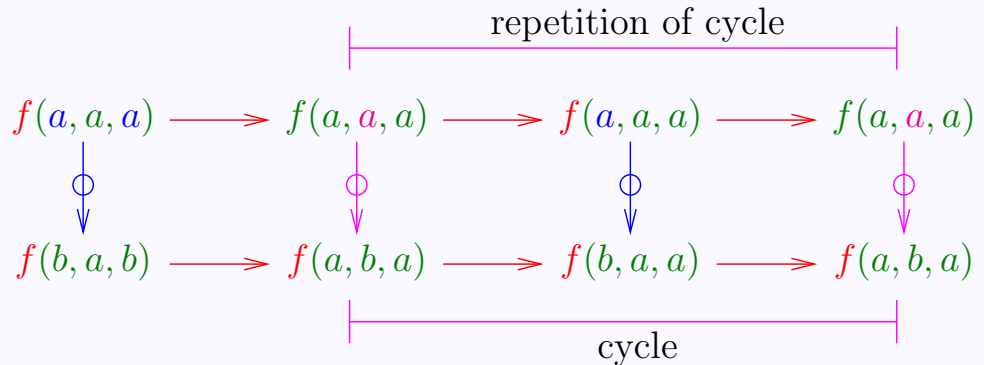
Contradiction

## 11.7. Construction of extension 1

Repetition of cycle **does** project

$$a \rightarrow b$$

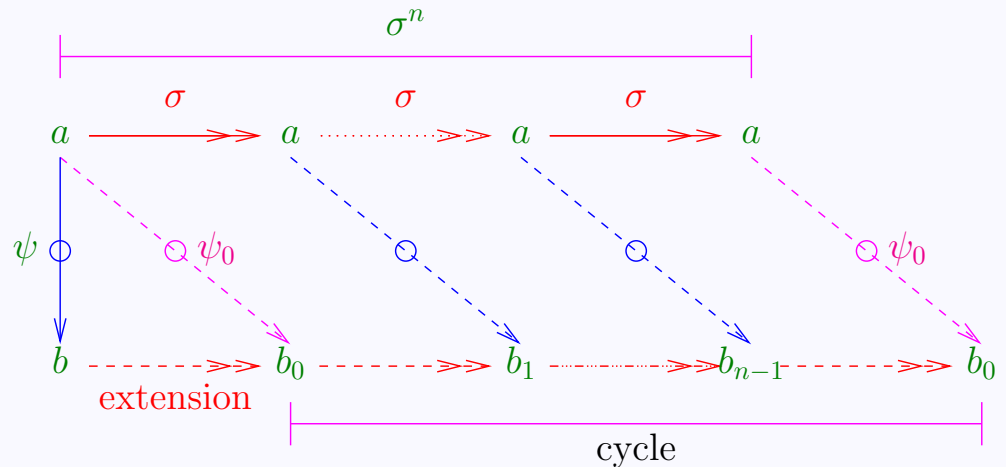
$$f(x, y, z) \rightarrow f(y, x, a)$$



## 11.8. Repetition Lemma

### Lemma (Repetition).

- $\exists$  extension  $\psi_0$  of  $\psi$ ,
- $\exists$  positive natural number  $n$  such that  $\psi_0/\sigma^n = \psi_0$

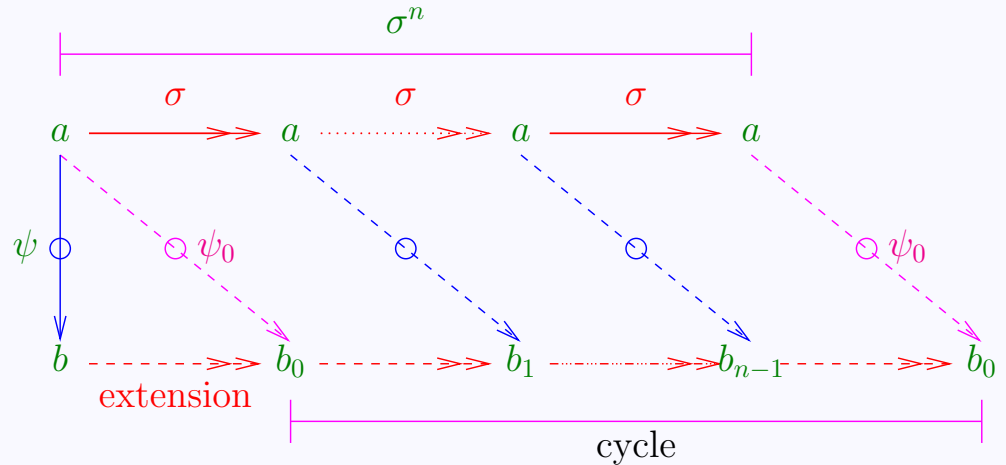


## 11.8. Repetition Lemma

### Lemma (Repetition).

$\exists$  extension  $\psi_0$  of  $\psi$ ,

$\exists$  positive natural number  $n$  such that  $\psi_0/\sigma^n = \psi_0$



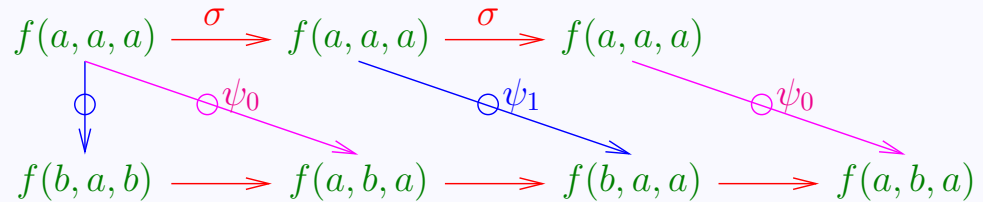
*Proof.* By Pigeon Hole Principle (cf. division).  $\square$

## 11.9. Construction of extension 2

Repetition of cycles can be **compressed**

$$a \rightarrow b$$

$$f(x, y, z) \rightarrow f(y, x, a)$$

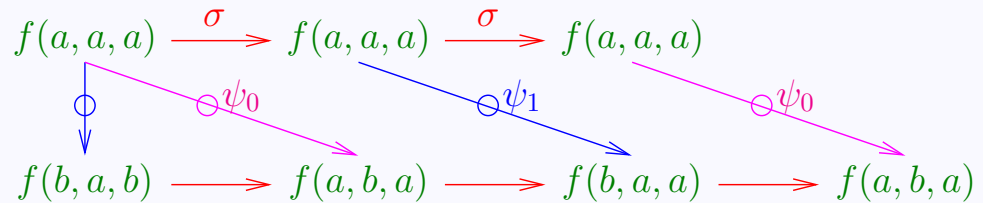


## 11.9. Construction of extension 2

Repetition of cycles can be **compressed**

$$a \rightarrow b$$

$$f(x, y, z) \rightarrow f(y, x, a)$$



$$(\psi_0 \cup \psi_1) / \sigma = (\psi_0 / \sigma) \cup (\psi_1 / \sigma) = \psi_1 \cup \psi_0 = \psi_0 \cup \psi_1$$

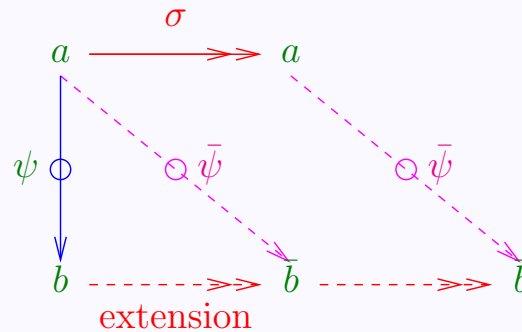




## 11.10. Compression Lemma

### Lemma (Compression).

If  $\bar{\psi} = \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} \psi_0 / \sigma^i$ , then  $\bar{\psi} / \sigma = \bar{\psi}$  and  $\bar{\psi}$  extends  $\psi$ .

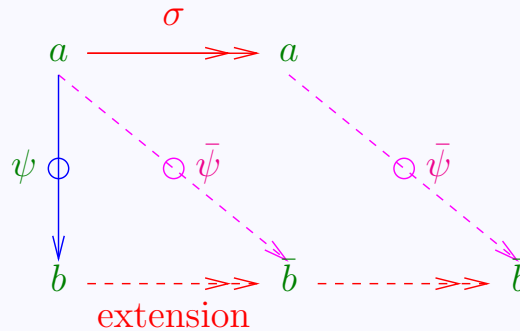




## 11.10. Compression Lemma

### Lemma (Compression).

If  $\bar{\psi} = \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} \psi_0 / \sigma^i$ , then  $\bar{\psi} / \sigma = \bar{\psi}$  and  $\bar{\psi}$  extends  $\psi$ .



*Proof.*

$$\left( \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} \psi_i \right) / \sigma = \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} (\psi_i / \sigma) = \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} \psi_{i+1 \bmod n} = \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} \psi_i$$

(distributivity)

□

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## 11.11. Extension preserves non-emptiness

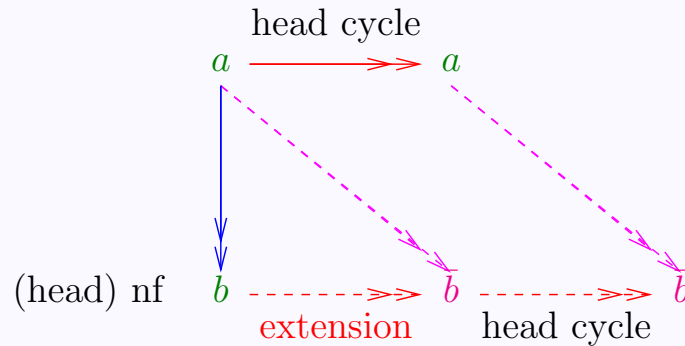
**Lemma (Non-head).** If  $\sigma$  is a non-empty parallel head cycle of minimal length, then  $\sigma/\bar{\psi}$  is so as well.

*Proof.* Could only fail if  $\sigma/\bar{\psi} = \emptyset$ . Then  $|\bar{\psi}| > |\psi|$ .  $\square$

## 11.11. Extension preserves non-emptiness

**Lemma (Non-head).** If  $\sigma$  is a non-empty parallel head cycle of minimal length, then  $\sigma/\bar{\psi}$  is so as well.

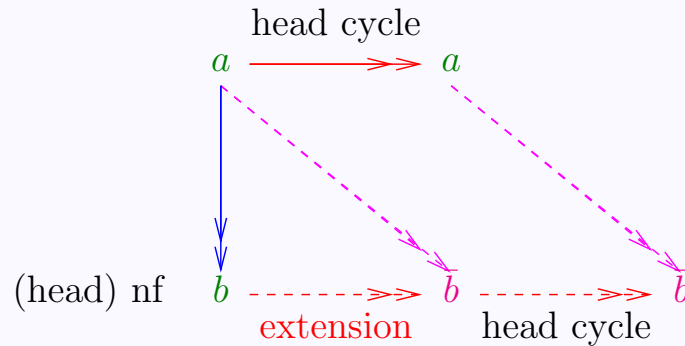
*Proof.* Could only fail if  $\sigma/\bar{\psi} = \emptyset$ . Then  $|\bar{\psi}| > |\bar{\psi}|$ .  $\square$



## 11.11. Extension preserves non-emptiness

**Lemma (Non-head).** If  $\sigma$  is a non-empty parallel head cycle of minimal length, then  $\sigma/\bar{\psi}$  is so as well.

*Proof.* Could only fail if  $\sigma/\bar{\psi} = \emptyset$ . Then  $|\bar{\psi}| > |\bar{\psi}|$ .  $\square$



**Contradiction**

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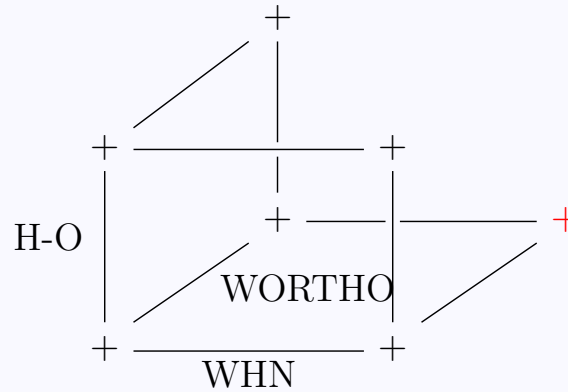
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## 11.12. Three pairs



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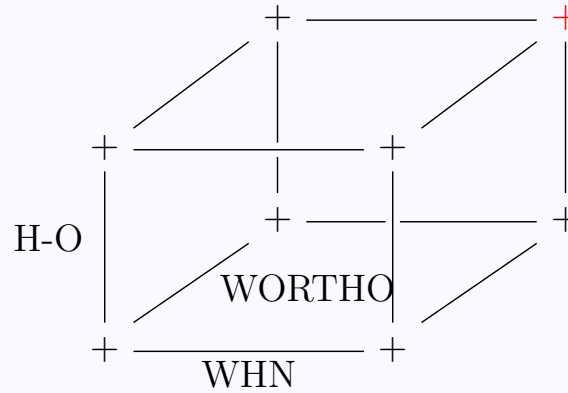
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## 12. Conjecture



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## 13. $\lambda$ -calculi

- $\lambda\beta$ -calculus is  $W(H)N \Rightarrow$  acyclic.
- $\lambda\beta\eta$ -calculus is  $WN \Rightarrow$  acyclic.
- $\lambda\mathbf{x}^-$  is  $W(H)N \Rightarrow$  acyclic.
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Extends to sub-calculi (e.g. typed)

Corollary: Typed  $\lambda\sigma$  is acyclic

Melliès' counterexample couldn't have been bounded!

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## 14. Full version

- See [www](http://www).
- Fully-applied/extendedness (variable conditions)
- WORTHO projection.
- WORTHO  $\Rightarrow$  redex-clusters coverable by redex-chains.
- Etc. (50+ pages)

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## 15. Conclusion

1. Extended WN & ORTHO & F-O TRS  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic to WHN, WORTHO, H-O, pair-wise combinations.
2. Conjecture: WHN & WORTHO & H-O  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic.
3. WN  $\lambda$ -calculus (with explicit substitutions)  $\Rightarrow$  acyclic.

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