



# Term Rewriting

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## Definitions

▶ binary relation  $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{E}}$  on  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V})$  for every ES  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{E})$ :

$$s \rightarrow_{\mathcal{E}} t \iff \begin{array}{l} \exists p \in \text{Pos}(s) \\ \exists l \approx r \in \mathcal{E} \quad \text{with } s|_p = l\sigma \quad \text{redex} \\ \exists \text{ substitution } \sigma \quad t = s[r\sigma]_p \end{array}$$

▶ **rewrite rule**  $l \rightarrow r$  is equation  $l \approx r$  such that  $l \notin \mathcal{V}$  and  $\text{Var}(r) \subseteq \text{Var}(l)$

▶ **term rewrite system (TRS)** is pair  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R})$  consisting of

- ▶  $\mathcal{F}$  signature
- ▶  $\mathcal{R}$  set of rewrite rules between terms in  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V})$

## Theorem

$$\forall \text{ ES } \mathcal{E} \quad \leftrightarrow_{\mathcal{E}}^* = \approx_{\mathcal{E}} = =_{\mathcal{E}}$$

## Outline

1. Summary of Lecture 4
2. Decidability
3. Termination
4. Well-Founded Monotone Algebras
5. Polynomial Interpretations over  $\mathbb{N}$
6. Exercises
7. Further Reading

## Theorem

validity problem is **decidable** for ES  $\mathcal{E}$  if there exists finite TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  such that

- 1  $\mathcal{R}$  is **complete** (confluent and terminating)
- 2  $\leftrightarrow_{\mathcal{E}}^* = \leftrightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}^*$

## Theorem

term rewriting is **Turing-complete** hence all non-trivial questions are undecidable

## Undecidable Problems

instance: (finite) TRS $\mathcal{R}$	instance: TRS $\mathcal{R}$
question: is $\mathcal{R}$ terminating?	question: is $\mathcal{R}$ confluent?
instance: TRS $\mathcal{R}$ , term $t$	...
question: is $t$ terminating?	

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## Congruence Closure

instance: ground ES  $\mathcal{E}$ , equation  $s \approx t$

question: **valid** ( $s =_{\mathcal{E}} t$ ) or **invalid** ( $s \neq_{\mathcal{E}} t$ )?

- ① build congruence classes
  - a put all subterms of terms in  $\mathcal{E} \cup \{s \approx t\}$  in separate sets
  - b merge sets  $\{\dots, t_1, \dots\}$  and  $\{\dots, t_2, \dots\}$  for all  $t_1 \approx t_2$  in  $\mathcal{E}$
  - c merge sets  $\{\dots, f(t_1, \dots, t_n), \dots\}$  and  $\{\dots, f(u_1, \dots, u_n), \dots\}$  if  $t_i$  and  $u_i$  belong to same set for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , repeatedly
- ② if  $s$  and  $t$  belong to same set then return **valid** else return **invalid**

## Remark

(efficient) implementations use graphs for sharing subterms

## Theorem

most problems for finite **left-linear right-ground** TRSs are decidable (FORT, lecture 7)

## Definitions

- ▶ rewrite rule  $\ell \rightarrow r$  is **left-linear** if  $\ell$  is linear
- ▶ TRS is left-linear if all rewrite rules are left-linear
- ▶ rewrite rule  $\ell \rightarrow r$  is **right-ground** if  $r$  is ground
- ▶ rewrite rule  $\ell \rightarrow r$  is **ground** if  $\ell$  and  $r$  are ground
- ▶ TRS is (right-)ground if all rewrite rules are (right-)ground

## Theorem

validity problem is decidable for finite **ground** ESs **congruence closure**

## Example

▶ ES  $\mathcal{E}$

$$f(f(f(a))) \approx g(f(g(f(b)))) \quad f(g(f(b))) \approx f(a) \quad g(g(b)) \approx g(f(a)) \quad g(a) \approx b$$

terms  $s = f(a)$  and  $t = g(a)$

▶ sets

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. $\{a\}$                | 5. $\{f(f(a))\}$                                       |
| 2. $\{f(a), f(g(f(b)))\}$ | 6. $\{f(f(f(a))), g(f(g(f(b))))\}, g(g(b)), g(f(a))\}$ |
| 3. $\{b, g(a)\}$          | 7. $\{f(b)\}$  |
| 4. $\{g(b)\}$             | 8. $\{g(f(b))\}$                                       |

▶ conclusion:  $s \neq_{\mathcal{E}} t$

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## Definition

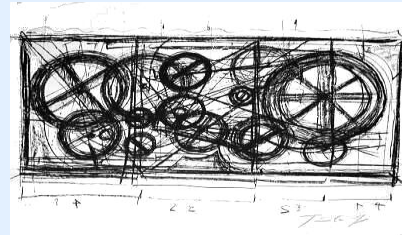
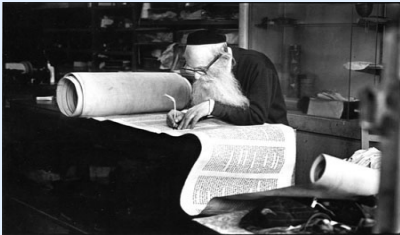
rewrite system is **terminating** if there are no infinite rewrite sequences

## Termination Methods

- arctic interpretations
- bounded increase
- context-dependent interpretations
- dependency pairs
- dummy elimination
- elementary interpretations
- freezing
- general path order
- increasing interpretations
- Knuth-Bendix order
- lexicographic path order
- match-bounds
- matrix interpretations
- monotonic semantic path order
- multiset order
- multiset path order
- ordinal interpretations
- polynomial interpretations
- predictive labeling
- quasi-periodic interpretations
- recursive decomposition order
- recursive path order
- root-labeling
- semantic labeling
- semantic path order
- simple path order
- size-change principle
- top-down labeling
- transformation order
- type introduction
- uncurrying
- weighted path order
- well-founded monotone algebras
- ...



## Termination Research



## Termination Tools

- AProVE
- Matchbox
- MultumNonMultum
- MuTerm
- NaTT
- NTI
- Torpa
- Tf2
- ...

## Termination Competition

[https://termination-portal.org/wiki/Termination\\_Competition](https://termination-portal.org/wiki/Termination_Competition)



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### Lemma

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating  $\iff \exists$  well-founded order  $>$  on terms such that

$$s \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} t \implies s > t$$

### Example

► TRS

$$0 + y \rightarrow y$$

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

► well-founded order  $>$

$$s > t \iff \varphi(s) >_{\mathbb{N}} \varphi(t) \text{ with } \varphi(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u = 0 \\ \varphi(v) + 1 & \text{if } u = s(v) \\ 2\varphi(v) + \varphi(w) & \text{if } u = v + w \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

### Remark

(very) inconvenient to check all rewrite **steps**

### Definitions (Reduction Order)

► **rewrite order** is proper order  $>$  on terms which is

- closed under contexts:  $s > t \implies C[s] > C[t]$  for all contexts  $C$
- closed under substitutions:  $s > t \implies s\sigma > t\sigma$  for all substitutions  $\sigma$

► TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  and rewrite order  $>$  are **compatible** if  $\ell > r$  for all rules  $\ell \rightarrow r$  in  $\mathcal{R}$

► **reduction order** is well-founded rewrite order

### Notation

$\mathcal{R} \subseteq >$  if  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $>$  are compatible

### Theorem

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating  $\iff \mathcal{R} \subseteq >$  for reduction order  $>$

### Theorem

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating  $\iff \mathcal{R} \subseteq >$  for some **reduction order**  $>$

### Proof ( $\Leftarrow$ )

►  $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} \subseteq >$ :

- if  $s \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} t$  then  $s = C[\ell\sigma]$  and  $t = C[r\sigma]$  for some  $\ell \rightarrow r \in \mathcal{R}$ , context  $C$ , substitution  $\sigma$
- $\ell > r$  by assumption
- $>$  is **closed under substitutions**  $\implies \ell\sigma > r\sigma$
- $>$  is **closed under contexts**  $\implies s = C[\ell\sigma] > C[r\sigma] = t$
- $>$  is well-founded  $\implies \mathcal{R}$  is terminating

### Definitions (Well-Founded Monotone Algebra)

► **well-founded monotone  $\mathcal{F}$ -algebra**  $(\mathcal{A}, >)$  consists of non-empty algebra  $\mathcal{A} = (A, \{f_{\mathcal{A}}\}_{f \in \mathcal{F}})$  with well-founded order  $>$  on  $A$  such that every  $f_{\mathcal{A}}$  is strictly monotone in all coordinates:

$$f_{\mathcal{A}}(a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_n) > f_{\mathcal{A}}(a_1, \dots, b, \dots, a_n)$$

for all  $a_1, \dots, a_n, b \in A$  and  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $a_i > b$

► relation  $>_{\mathcal{A}}$  on terms:  $s >_{\mathcal{A}} t$  if  $[\alpha]_{\mathcal{A}}(s) > [\alpha]_{\mathcal{A}}(t)$  for all assignments  $\alpha$

### Lemma

$>_{\mathcal{A}}$  is reduction order for every well-founded monotone algebra  $(\mathcal{A}, >)$

### Theorem

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating  $\iff \mathcal{R} \subseteq >_{\mathcal{A}}$  for some well-founded monotone algebra  $(\mathcal{A}, >)$

## Theorem

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating  $\iff \mathcal{R} \subseteq >_{\mathcal{A}}$  for some well-founded monotone algebra  $(\mathcal{A}, >)$

## Proof ( $\implies$ )

- ▶  $\mathcal{F}$  is signature of  $\mathcal{R}$
- ▶ **term algebra**  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}} = (\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V}), \{f_{\tilde{\mathcal{T}}}\}_{f \in \mathcal{F}})$  with  $f_{\tilde{\mathcal{T}}}(t_1, \dots, t_n) = f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  for all  $n$ -ary  $f \in \mathcal{F}$
- ▶ relation  $>$  on  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V})$ :  $> = \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}^+$
- ▶  $(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}, >)$  is **well-founded monotone algebra**:
  - ▶  $>$  is closed under contexts  $\implies$  every  $f_{\tilde{\mathcal{T}}}$  is strictly monotone in all coordinates
  - ▶  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating  $\implies >$  is well-founded order on  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V})$
  - ▶  $l \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}^+ r$  for every  $l \rightarrow r \in \mathcal{R}$   $\implies \mathcal{R} \subseteq >$

## Well-Founded Monotone Algebras

used in termination proofs and tools:

- ▶ **polynomial interpretations over  $\mathbb{N}$**
- ▶ polynomial interpretations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$
- ▶ matrix interpretations over  $\mathbb{N}$
- ▶ matrix interpretations over  $\mathbb{N} \cup \{-\infty\}$
- ▶ ordinal interpretations
- ▶ ...

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## Example

- ▶ TRS

$$0 + y \rightarrow y \quad s(x) + y \rightarrow s(x + y) \quad 0 \times y \rightarrow 0 \quad s(x) \times y \rightarrow y + (x \times y)$$

- ▶ interpretations in  $\mathbb{N}$

$$0_{\mathcal{A}} = 1 \quad s_{\mathcal{A}}(x) = x + 1 \quad +_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = 2x + y \quad \times_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = 2xy + x + y + 1$$

- ▶ constraints  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N}$

$$2 > 0 \quad 1 > 0 \quad 3y + 1 > 0 \quad 1 > 0$$

- ▶  $s(0) \times s(s(0)) \rightarrow s(s(0)) + (0 \times s(s(0))) \rightarrow s(s(0)) + 0 \rightarrow s(s(0) + 0) \rightarrow s(s(0 + 0)) \rightarrow s(s(0))$

$$18 > 17 > 7 > 6 > 5 > 3$$

### Example

► TRS

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(\alpha) &\rightarrow 1 & \partial(x+y) &\rightarrow \partial(x) + \partial(y) & \partial(x \times y) &\rightarrow \partial(x) \times y + x \times \partial(y) \\ \partial(\beta) &\rightarrow 0 & \partial(x-y) &\rightarrow \partial(x) - \partial(y) & \partial(x \div y) &\rightarrow (\partial(x) \times y - x \times \partial(y)) \div (y \times y) \end{aligned}$$

► interpretations in  $\mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{\mathcal{A}} = \beta_{\mathcal{A}} = \mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{A}} = \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{A}} = 1 & & \partial_{\mathcal{A}}(x) &= x^2 + 6x + 6 \\ +_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = -_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = \times_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = \div_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) &= x + y + 3 \end{aligned}$$

► constraints  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned} 2xy + 6x + 6y + 18 &> 0 & 12 &> 0 \\ 2xy + 6x + 6y + 18 &> 0 & 12 &> 0 \\ 2xy + 5x + 5y + 12 &> 0 \\ 2xy + 5x + 3y + 6 &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

### Definition (Polynomial Termination)

TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is **polynomially terminating (over  $\mathbb{N}$ )** if  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq >_{\mathcal{A}}$  for some well-founded **monotone** algebra  $(\mathcal{A}, >)$  such that

- carrier of  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\mathbb{N}$
- $>$  is standard order on  $\mathbb{N}$
- $f_{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  for every  $n$ -ary function symbol  $f$

polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and indeterminates  $x_1, \dots, x_n$

### Lemma

$\mathcal{R}$  is polynomially terminating over  $\mathbb{N} \iff \mathcal{R}$  is polynomially terminating over  $\{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \geq N\}$  for some  $N \geq 0$

### Notation

$$\mathbb{N}_+ = \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$$

### Example

► TRS

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

► interpretations in  $\mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{A}} &= 2 & +_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) &= 2x + y \\ s_{\mathcal{A}}(x) &= x + 3 & \times_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) &= xy \end{aligned}$$

### Questions

- ① how to find suitable polynomials ?
- ② how to show  $P > 0$  for polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  ?

### Theorem

following problem is undecidable:

- instance: polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$   
 question:  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{N} \ P(x_1, \dots, x_n) > 0$  ?

### Sufficient Condition

all coefficients are non-negative and constant is positive (**absolute positiveness**)

## Proof

reduction from **Hilbert's 10th Problem**

instance: polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

question:  $\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{Z} \ P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$ ?

$\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{Z} \ P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$

$\iff \neg \forall x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{Z} \ P(x_1, \dots, x_n) \neq 0$

$\iff \neg \forall x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{Z} \ P(x_1, \dots, x_n)^2 > 0$

$\iff \neg \forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in \{-1, 1\} \ \forall y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{N} \ P(a_1 y_1, \dots, a_n y_n) > 0$

$\iff \exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in \{-1, 1\} \ \neg \forall y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{N} \ P(a_1 y_1, \dots, a_n y_n)^2 > 0$

$\in \mathbb{Z}[y_1, \dots, y_n]$

## Questions

- ① how to find suitable polynomials?
- ② how to show  $P > 0$  for polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ?

## Theorem

polynomial termination over  $\mathbb{N}$  is undecidable

## Modern Approach

- ① choose **abstract** polynomial interpretations (linear, quadratic, ...)
- ② transform rewrite rules into polynomial ordering constraints
- ③ add monotonicity and well-definedness constraints
- ④ eliminate universally quantified variables using absolute positiveness
- ⑤ translate resulting diophantine constraints to SAT or SMT problem

## Example

► TRS

$$0 + y \rightarrow y$$

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

► interpretations

$$0_{\mathcal{A}} = 0$$

$$s_{\mathcal{A}}(x) = x + 1$$

$$+_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = 2x + y + 1$$

► diophantine constraints  $\exists a, b, c, d, e, f \in \mathbb{N}$

$$e - 1 \geq 0 \quad da + f > 0$$

$$e - be \geq 0 \quad dc + f - bf - c > 0$$

$$a \geq 0 \quad b \geq 1 \quad c \geq 0 \quad d \geq 1 \quad e \geq 1 \quad f \geq 0$$

absolute positiveness

► possible solution

$$a = 0 \quad b = 1 \quad c = 1 \quad d = 2 \quad e = 1 \quad f = 1$$

## Remark

numerous terminating TRSs are not polynomially terminating

$$\{f(a) \rightarrow f(b), g(b) \rightarrow g(a)\}$$

polynomial interpretations

terminating TRSs

## Example

### ▶ TRS

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

$$g(b) \rightarrow g(a)$$

### ▶ well-founded monotone algebra $(\mathcal{A}, \sqsupset)$ with

▶ carrier  $A = \{0, 1\} \times \mathbb{N}$

▶ well-founded order  $\sqsupset$  on  $A$ :  $(a, x) \sqsupset (b, y) \iff a = b \text{ and } x > y$

▶ strictly monotone interpretations  $\forall x \in \mathbb{N}$

$$a_{\mathcal{A}} = (0, 0)$$

$$f_{\mathcal{A}}((0, x)) = (1, x + 1)$$

$$g_{\mathcal{A}}((0, x)) = (1, x)$$

$$b_{\mathcal{A}} = (1, 0)$$

$$f_{\mathcal{A}}((1, x)) = (1, x)$$

$$g_{\mathcal{A}}((1, x)) = (1, x + 1)$$

### ▶ constraints

$$f_{\mathcal{A}}(a_{\mathcal{A}}) = (1, 1) \sqsupset (1, 0) = f_{\mathcal{A}}(b_{\mathcal{A}})$$

$$g_{\mathcal{A}}(b_{\mathcal{A}}) = (1, 1) \sqsupset (1, 0) = g_{\mathcal{A}}(a_{\mathcal{A}})$$

## Example

### ▶ TRS

$$0 + y \rightarrow y$$

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

$$0 \times y \rightarrow 0$$

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

▶ **not** polynomially terminating but **incremental** polynomially terminating

▶ interpretations in  $\mathbb{N}_+$

$$0_{\mathcal{A}} = 1$$

$$s_{\mathcal{A}}(x) = x + 1$$

$$+_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = 2x + y$$

$$\times_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y) = 3^x y$$

▶ constraints  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N}_+$

$$y + 2 > y$$

$$2x + y + 2 > 2x + y + 1$$

$$3y > 1$$

$$3^{x+1}y > 2(3^x y) + y$$

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## Homework Exercises for April 20

① Exercise 3.13.

1

② Exercise 4.1.

3

③ Exercise 4.9.

1

④ Exercise 4.15.

2

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## Lecture Notes

- ▶ Section 3.2 (Theorem 3.2.5 and Example 3.2.6)
- ▶ Section 4.1

## Important Concepts

- ▶ absolute positiveness
- ▶ congruence closure
- ▶ polynomial termination
- ▶ reduction order
- ▶ rewrite order
- ▶ well-founded monotone algebra