

# CPSC-354 Report

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October 27, 2025

**Abstract**

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# 1 Introduction

## 2 Week by Week

### 2.1 Week 1

#### 2.1.1 HW 1 - MU Puzzle

The MU puzzle comes from the book *Gödel, Escher, Bach*. You start with the string **MI** and the goal is to turn it into **MU** by following four rules:

1. If a string ends with **I**, you can add a **U** at the end.
2. If a string starts with **M**, you can copy everything after the **M**.
3. If you see **III**, you can change it to **U**.
4. If you see **UU**, you can delete it.

The puzzle is about seeing if you can reach **MU** by only using these rules. It is not really about the letters themselves, but about how rules control what strings you can or cannot make.

#### 2.1.2 HW1

The MU puzzle comes from the book *Gödel, Escher, Bach*. You start with the string **MI** and the goal is to turn it into **MU** by following four rules:

1. If a string ends with **I**, you can add a **U** at the end.
2. If a string starts with **M**, you can copy everything after the **M**.
3. If you see **III**, you can change it to **U**.
4. If you see **UU**, you can delete it.

At first, I tried small derivations. For example:

$$\text{MI} \Rightarrow \text{MIU} \Rightarrow \text{MIUIU}$$

or duplicating I's:

$$\text{MI} \Rightarrow \text{MII} \Rightarrow \text{MIIII}$$

From **MIIII**, I can replace **III** with **U**, giving **MUI**, but not **MU**. Every time, an extra **I** is left over, and there is no rule that deletes a single **I**.

**Invariant Argument.** Let  $\#I(w)$  denote the number of **I**'s in string  $w$ . If we track  $\#I(w) \pmod{3}$ , we find:

- Rule 1:  $\#I$  unchanged.
- Rule 2:  $\#I$  doubles. Over  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $1 \mapsto 2$ ,  $2 \mapsto 1$ , never 0.
- Rule 3: Removes 3 **I**'s, leaving the remainder mod 3 unchanged.
- Rule 4: Deletes **U**'s only, so  $\#I$  unchanged.

We start with **MI**, which has  $\#I = 1$ . This is congruent to 1 (mod 3). Because no rule ever makes  $\#I \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , it is impossible to reach a string with  $\#I = 0$ .

**Conclusion.** The target MU has  $\#I = 0$ , which is divisible by 3. Since that is unreachable from MI, the puzzle is unsolvable. As a student, the cool part here is that the solution isn't about brute-force trying rules—it's about spotting a hidden invariant (the number of I's mod 3) that blocks the path completely.

## 2.2 Week 2

### 2.2.1 HW2 - Abstract Rewriting Systems (ARS) Properties

**Problem.** Consider the following list of Abstract Rewriting Systems (ARSs).

1.  $A = \emptyset$ .
2.  $A = \{a\}$  and  $R = \emptyset$ .
3.  $A = \{a\}$  and  $R = \{(a, a)\}$ .
4.  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $R = \{(a, b), (a, c)\}$ .
5.  $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $R = \{(a, a), (a, b)\}$ .
6.  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $R = \{(a, b), (b, b), (a, c)\}$ .
7.  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $R = \{(a, b), (b, b), (a, c), (c, c)\}$ .

**Task.** Draw a picture for each ARS above (nodes = elements of  $A$ , arrows = pairs in  $R$ ). Then determine whether each ARS is *terminating*, *confluent*, and whether it has *unique normal forms*.

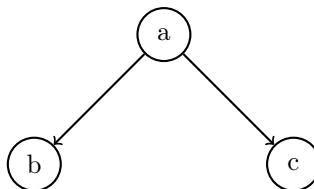
**ARS 1:**  $A = \emptyset$  (no elements to draw)



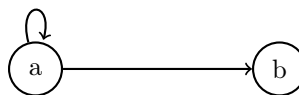
**ARS 2:**  $A = \{a\}$ ,  $R = \emptyset$



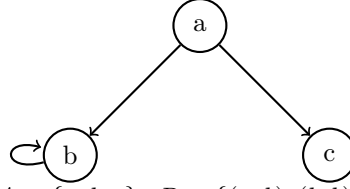
**ARS 3:**  $A = \{a\}$ ,  $R = \{(a, a)\}$



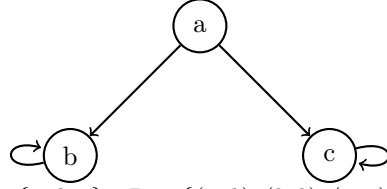
**ARS 4:**  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $R = \{(a, b), (a, c)\}$



**ARS 5:**  $A = \{a, b\}$ ,  $R = \{(a, a), (a, b)\}$



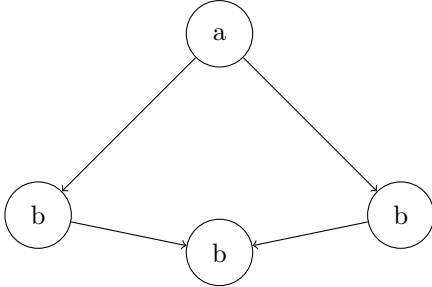
**ARS 6:**  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $R = \{(a, b), (b, b), (a, c)\}$



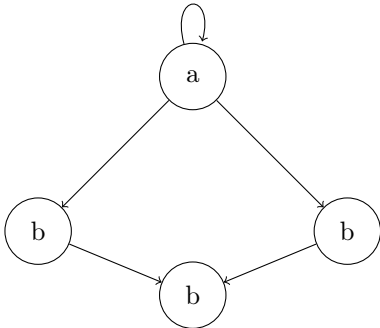
**ARS 7:**  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $R = \{(a, b), (b, b), (a, c), (c, c)\}$

ARS	Terminating	Confluent	Has Unique Normal Forms
1	X	X	X
2	X	X	X
3		X	
4	X		X
5		X	X
6			
7			

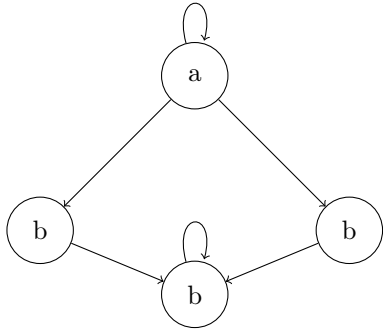
1. **Confluent: True, Terminating: True, Unique Normal Forms: False**



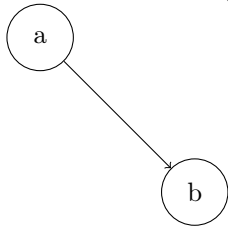
2. **Confluent: True, Terminating: False, Unique Normal Forms: True**



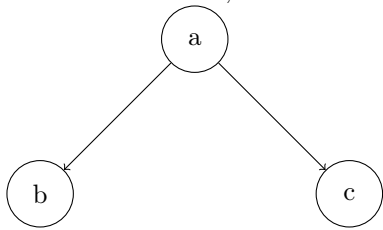
3. **Confluent: True, Terminating: False, Unique Normal Forms: False**



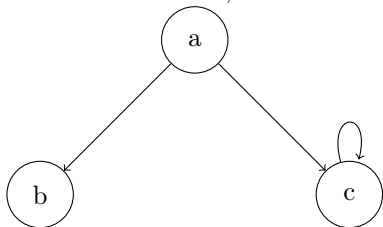
4. **Confluent:** False, **Terminating:** True, **Unique Normal Forms:** True



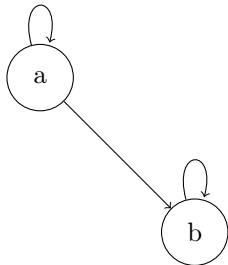
5. **Confluent:** False, **Terminating:** True, **Unique Normal Forms:** False



6. **Confluent:** False, **Terminating:** False, **Unique Normal Forms:** True



7. **Confluent:** False, **Terminating:** False, **Unique Normal Forms:** False



## 2.3 Week 3

### 2.3.1 HW 3 - Exercise 5: Reduction

#### Exercise 5.

*Rules:*

$$ab \rightarrow ba, \quad ba \rightarrow ab, \quad aa \rightarrow \epsilon, \quad b \rightarrow \epsilon$$

*Sample reductions:*

$$\begin{aligned} abba &\rightarrow bbaa \rightarrow baa \rightarrow aa \rightarrow \epsilon \\ bababa &\rightarrow aaabbb \rightarrow aabbb \rightarrow abbb \rightarrow a \end{aligned}$$

*Non-termination:* The rules  $ab \rightarrow ba$  and  $ba \rightarrow ab$  form an infinite loop:

$$ab \rightarrow ba \rightarrow ab \rightarrow ba \rightarrow \dots$$

*Non-equivalent strings:*  $a$  and  $\epsilon$  are not equivalent, since a single  $a$  cannot be eliminated.

*Equivalence classes:* Order does not matter (due to swapping).  $b$ 's vanish.  $aa \rightarrow \epsilon$  ensures only the *parity* of the number of  $a$ 's matters.

$$I(w) = \#a(w) \bmod 2 \in \{0, 1\}$$

Thus there are exactly two equivalence classes:

$$\begin{aligned} \{w \mid \#a(w) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\} &\mapsto \epsilon \\ \{w \mid \#a(w) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}\} &\mapsto a \end{aligned}$$

*Modified terminating system:*

$$ab \rightarrow ba, \quad aa \rightarrow \epsilon, \quad b \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Termination follows from length and inversion-count measures.

*Specification:* The algorithm computes the *parity of the number of  $a$ 's*, ignoring  $b$ 's.

#### Exercise 5b.

*Rules:*

$$ab \rightarrow ba, \quad ba \rightarrow ab, \quad aa \rightarrow a, \quad b \rightarrow \epsilon$$

*Sample reductions:*

$$\begin{aligned} abba &\rightarrow bbaa \rightarrow baa \rightarrow aa \rightarrow a \\ bababa &\rightarrow aaabbb \rightarrow aabbb \rightarrow abbb \rightarrow a \end{aligned}$$

*Non-termination:* As before, infinite swapping is possible.

*Non-equivalent strings:*  $\epsilon$  and  $a$  are not equivalent: all  $b$ 's vanish, and any positive number of  $a$ 's reduces to  $a$ .

*Equivalence classes:* Order does not matter.  $b$ 's vanish.  $aa \rightarrow a$  collapses any positive number of  $a$ 's to a single  $a$ .

$$J(w) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \#a(w) = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \#a(w) \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Thus there are exactly two equivalence classes:

$$\{w \mid \#a(w) = 0\} \mapsto \epsilon$$

$$\{w \mid \#a(w) \geq 1\} \mapsto a$$

*Modified terminating system:*

$$ab \rightarrow ba, \quad aa \rightarrow a, \quad b \rightarrow \epsilon$$

This terminates and yields unique normal forms.

*Specification:* The algorithm computes whether the input contains at least one  $a$ , ignoring all  $b$ 's.

## 2.4 Week 4

### 2.4.1 HW4 - Termination

For the definition of a *measure function*, see our notes on rewriting and, in particular, on termination.

**HW 4.1.** Consider the following algorithm (Euclid's algorithm for the greatest common divisor):

```
while b != 0:
    temp = b
    b = a mod b
    a = temp
return a
```

**Conditions.** Assume inputs  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $b \geq 0$  and the usual remainder operation, i.e. for  $b > 0$  we have  $0 \leq a \bmod b < b$ . (If  $b = 0$ , the loop is skipped and the algorithm terminates immediately.)

**Measure function.** Define

$$\mu(a, b) := b \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**Proof of termination.** If the loop guard holds ( $b \neq 0$ ), one iteration maps the state  $(a, b)$  to

$$(a', b') = (b, a \bmod b).$$

By the property of the remainder,

$$0 \leq b' = a \bmod b < b = \mu(a, b).$$

Thus  $\mu$  strictly decreases on every loop iteration and is bounded below by 0. Since  $(\mathbb{N}, <)$  is well-founded, no infinite descending chain

$$\mu(a_0, b_0) > \mu(a_1, b_1) > \mu(a_2, b_2) > \dots$$

exists. Hence only finitely many iterations are possible; the loop terminates and the algorithm halts.  $\square$

**HW 4.2.** Consider the following fragment of merge sort:

```
function merge_sort(arr, left, right):
  if left >= right:
    return
  mid = (left + right) / 2
  merge_sort(arr, left, mid)
  merge_sort(arr, mid+1, right)
  merge(arr, left, mid, right)
```

Define

$$\phi(\text{left}, \text{right}) := \text{right} - \text{left} + 1.$$

**Claim.**  $\phi$  is a measure function for `merge_sort`.

**Proof.**

- *Well-defined, nonnegative.* For valid indices with  $\text{left} \leq \text{right}$ , we have  $\phi(\text{left}, \text{right}) \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\phi \geq 1$ . If  $\text{left} > \text{right}$  the function is not called (or  $\phi \leq 0$ , and the base case applies immediately).
- *Base case.* When  $\text{left} \geq \text{right}$ , the function returns immediately; in this case  $\phi(\text{left}, \text{right}) \leq 1$ , i.e. there is no further recursion.
- *Strict decrease on recursive calls.* Suppose  $\text{left} < \text{right}$  and let  $n := \phi(\text{left}, \text{right}) = \text{right} - \text{left} + 1 \geq 2$ . With  $\text{mid} = \lfloor (\text{left} + \text{right})/2 \rfloor$ :

$$\phi(\text{left}, \text{mid}) = \text{mid} - \text{left} + 1 \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor < n,$$

$$\phi(\text{mid} + 1, \text{right}) = \text{right} - (\text{mid} + 1) + 1 = \text{right} - \text{mid} \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil < n.$$

Thus both recursive calls strictly reduce the measure.

Since  $\phi$  maps each call to a natural number that strictly decreases along every recursive edge and is bounded below, there are no infinite descending chains. By well-founded induction on  $\phi$ , all recursive calls terminate.  $\square$

## 2.5 HW 5

### 2.5.1 Workout: Step-by-step $\alpha/\beta$ -reductions

**Problem.** Evaluate

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f x)) (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(f x))).$$

**Notation.** We use  $\rightsquigarrow_\beta$  for a single  $\beta$ -reduction step and “ $\alpha$ ” to indicate a capture-avoiding renaming of bound variables.

**Intuition.** The term  $\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f x)$  applies a function twice (*iterate-2*). The term  $\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(f x))$  applies a function three times (*iterate-3*). Applying *iterate-2* to *iterate-3* yields *iterate-9*.



**Derivation.**

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f x)) (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(f x))) \\
& \rightsquigarrow_{\beta} \lambda x. [(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(f x)))((\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(f x))) x)] \quad (\text{substitute } f := \lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(f x)) \text{ into } \lambda x. f(f x)) \\
& \stackrel{\alpha}{=} \lambda x. (\lambda f. \lambda y. f(f(f y))) \left( (\lambda f. \lambda u. f(f(f u))) x \right) \quad (\text{rename bound } x\text{'s to } y, u \text{ to avoid shadowing}) \\
& \rightsquigarrow_{\beta} \lambda x. (\lambda f. \lambda y. f(f(f y))) (\lambda u. x(x(x u))) \quad (\text{apply } \beta \text{ to } (\lambda f. \lambda u. f(f(f u))) x) \\
& \rightsquigarrow_{\beta} \lambda x. \lambda y. F(F(F y)) \quad \text{with } F := \lambda u. x(x(x u)) \quad (\text{apply } (\lambda f. \lambda y. f(f(f y))) F) \\
& = \lambda x. \lambda y. F(F(F y)) \\
& = \lambda x. \lambda y. F(F(x(x(x y)))) \quad (\text{since } F y = x(x(x y))) \\
& = \lambda x. \lambda y. F(x(x(x(x(x(x y))))))) \quad (\text{apply } F \text{ again; adds 3 more } x\text{'s: total 6}) \\
& = \lambda x. \lambda y. x(x(x(x(x(x(x(x(x(x(x(x y))))))))))) \quad (\text{apply } F \text{ a third time; +3 more: total 9}).
\end{aligned}$$

**Normal form.**

$$\lambda x. \lambda y. \underbrace{x(x(x(x(x(x(xy))))))}_{\text{9 applications of } x}$$

So the result is the *iterate-9* operator: given  $x$  and  $y$ , it applies  $x$  to  $y$  nine times.

## 2.6 HW 6

### 2.6.1 Computing fact 3 via a Fixed Point Combinator

We use the computation rules

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{fix } F \rightarrow (F \text{ (fix } F)) & (\text{fix}) \\ \text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \rightarrow ((\lambda x. e_2) e_1) & (\text{let}) \\ \text{let rec } f = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \rightarrow \text{let } f = (\text{fix } (\lambda f. e_1)) \text{ in } e_2 & (\text{let rec}) \end{array}$$

and the usual  $\beta$ -reduction  $((\lambda x. e) v) \rightarrow e[x := v]$ , plus base computation rules

$$0 = 0 \rightarrow \text{True}, \quad n > 0 \Rightarrow (n = 0) \rightarrow \text{False}, \quad \text{if True then } A \text{ else } B \rightarrow A, \quad \text{if False then } A \text{ else } B \rightarrow B.$$

**Abbreviation.** Let

$$F \equiv \lambda f. \lambda n. \text{if } (n = 0) \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } n * f(n - 1).$$

Then  $\mathbf{fact} \equiv \mathbf{fix} \, F$ .

**Goal.** Evaluate

```
let rec fact = λn. if (n = 0) then 1 else n * fact(n - 1) in fact 3.
```

<code>let rec fact = λn. ... in fact 3</code>	
<code>→ let fact = (fix (λf. λn. ...)) in fact 3</code>	(let rec)
<code>→ ((λfact. fact 3) (fix F))</code>	(let)
<code>→ (fix F) 3</code>	(β)
<code>→ (F (fix F)) 3</code>	(fix)
<code>→ ((λf. λn. if (n = 0) then 1 else n * f(n - 1)) (fix F)) 3</code>	(def. of F)
<code>→ (λn. if (n = 0) then 1 else n * (fix F)(n - 1)) 3</code>	(β)
<code>→ if (3 = 0) then 1 else 3 * (fix F)(2)</code>	(β)
<code>→ 3 * (fix F)(2)</code>	(arith. and if-False)

Now expand `(fix F) 2`:

<code>(fix F) 2 → (F(fix F)) 2</code>	(fix)
<code>→ if (2 = 0) then 1 else 2 * (fix F)(1)</code>	(def. F, β)
<code>→ 2 * (fix F)(1)</code>	(if-False)

Expand `(fix F) 1`:

<code>(fix F) 1 → (F(fix F)) 1</code>	(fix)
<code>→ if (1 = 0) then 1 else 1 * (fix F)(0)</code>	(def. F, β)
<code>→ 1 * (fix F)(0)</code>	(if-False)

Expand `(fix F) 0`:

<code>(fix F) 0 → (F(fix F)) 0</code>	(fix)
<code>→ if (0 = 0) then 1 else 0 * (fix F)(-1)</code>	(def. F, β)
<code>→ 1</code>	(if-True)

Unwinding:

$1 * (\text{fix } F) 0 \rightarrow 1 * 1 \rightarrow 1, \quad 2 * (\text{fix } F) 1 \rightarrow 2 * 1 \rightarrow 2, \quad 3 * (\text{fix } F) 2 \rightarrow 3 * 2 \rightarrow 6.$

`fact 3 →* 6`

## 2.7 Week 7

### 2.7.1 HW7 - Parse Trees for Arithmetic Expressions

Using the context-free grammar:

```

Exp  -> Exp '+' Exp1
Exp1 -> Exp1 '*' Exp2
Exp2 -> Integer
Exp2 -> '(' Exp ')'
Exp  -> Exp1
Exp1 -> Exp2

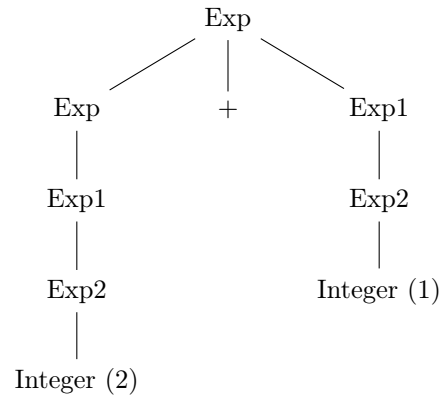
```

Write out the derivation trees (parse trees) for the following strings:

$2+1$ ,  $1+2*3$ ,  $1+(2*3)$ ,  $(1+2)*3$ ,  $1+2*3+4*5+6$

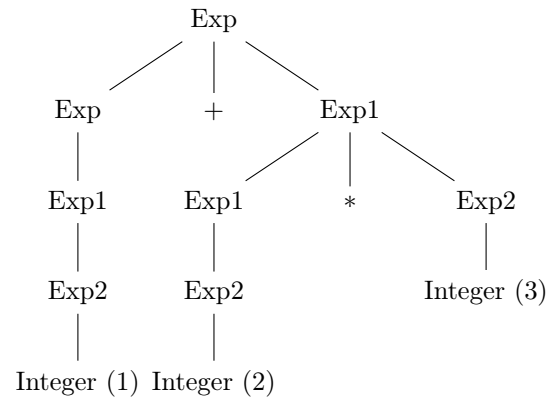
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**1. Parse tree for  $2 + 1$**



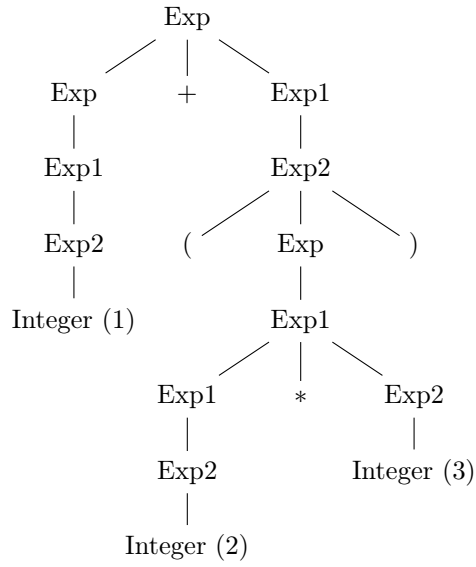
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**2. Parse tree for  $1 + 2 * 3$**

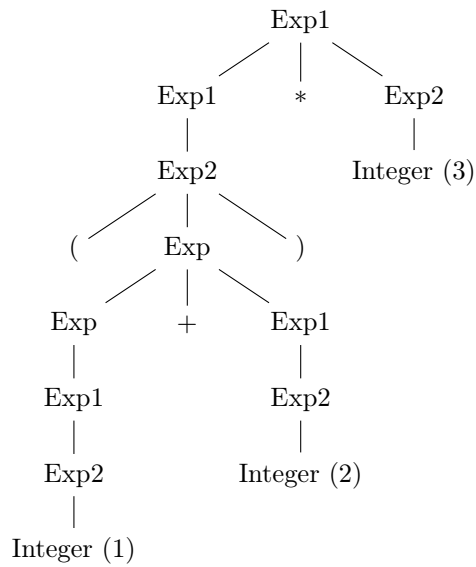


—

**3. Parse tree for  $1 + (2 * 3)$**



**4. Parse tree for  $(1 + 2) * 3$**



**5. Parse tree for  $1 + 2 * 3 + 4 * 5 + 6$**



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- ## 2.8 Week 7

### Problem: 5

$$a + (b + 0) + (c + 0) = a + b + c$$

### Solution in Lean:

**Explanation:**

- 13

- The second `rw [add_zero]` simplifies  $c + 0$  to  $c$ .
- Finally, `rfl` (reflexivity) completes the proof since both sides are identical.

**Proof.** On the natural numbers, addition is defined so that  $x + 0 = x$  for every  $x$  (the identity law for 0), and the rest of addition is built recursively. Applying the identity law with  $x = b$  gives  $b + 0 = b$ , and with  $x = c$  gives  $c + 0 = c$ . Substituting these equalities into the left-hand side yields

$$a + (b + 0) + (c + 0) = a + b + c.$$

Both sides are now the same expression, so the equality holds. □

### Problem: 6

Prove that

$$a + (b + 0) + (c + 0) = a + b + c$$

for all natural numbers  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}$ , but this time tell Lean to simplify the  $c + 0$  term first.

### Solution

```
example (a b c : ℕ) : a + (b + 0) + (c + 0) = a + b + c := by
  rw [add_zero c]
  rw [add_zero b]
  rfl
```

### Explanation:

- The lemma `add_zero x` proves that  $x + 0 = x$ .
- Writing `rw [add_zero c]` explicitly tells Lean to apply this lemma to the term  $c + 0$  first.
- Then `rw [add_zero b]` simplifies  $b + 0$  to  $b$ .
- Finally, `rfl` completes the proof since both sides are identical.

**Result:** The equality holds, and the proof demonstrates how to use precision rewriting in Lean.

**Problem. 7** Prove that for all natural numbers  $n$ ,

$$\text{succ}(n) = n + 1.$$

### Lean solution:

```
theorem succ_eq_add_one (n : ℕ) : succ n = n + 1 := by
  rw [one_eq_succ_zero]
  rw [add_succ]
  rw [add_zero]
  rfl
```

### Explanation:

- We begin by rewriting 1 as `succ(0)` using `one_eq_succ_zero`.
- Next, we apply `add_succ` to expand  $n + \text{succ}(0)$  into  $\text{succ}(n + 0)$ .
- Then, the lemma `add_zero` simplifies  $n + 0$  to  $n$ .
- Finally, `rfl` (reflexivity) confirms that both sides are equal, proving that  $\text{succ}(n) = n + 1$ .

**Problem 8:** Prove that

$$2 + 2 = 4.$$

**Lean solution:**

```
example : 2 + 2 = 4 := by
  rw [two_eq_succ_one]
  rw [add_succ]
  rw [add_one_eq_succ]
  rfl
```

**Explanation:**

- We first rewrite 2 as  $\text{succ}(1)$  using `two_eq_succ_one`.
- Then `add_succ` expands the addition:  $2 + 2 = \text{succ}(1 + 1)$ .
- Next, `add_one_eq_succ` converts  $1 + 1$  into  $\text{succ}(1)$ .
- Finally, `rfl` (reflexivity) confirms both sides are equal, completing the proof that  $2 + 2 = 4$ .

## 2.9 Week9

### 2.9.1 hw9

**Level 5:** `add_right_comm`

**Theorem.** For all natural numbers  $a, b, c$ , we have

$$(a + b) + c = (a + c) + b.$$

This property is known as the *right commutativity of addition*.

**Solution 1 (Using Induction).** We can prove this by performing induction on one of the variables, for example  $c$ .

**Base Case:** Let  $c = 0$ . Then

$$(a + b) + 0 = a + b = (a + 0) + b,$$

where we use the identity property of addition ( $x + 0 = x$  and  $0 + x = x$ ).

**Inductive Step:** Assume the statement holds for some  $c = k$ , i.e.

$$(a + b) + k = (a + k) + b.$$

We must show it holds for  $c = k + 1$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} (a + b) + (k + 1) &= ((a + b) + k) + 1 && \text{(by definition of addition)} \\ &= ((a + k) + b) + 1 && \text{(by inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= (a + k) + (b + 1) && \text{(by associativity)} \\ &= (a + (k + 1)) + b && \text{(by definition of addition)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by induction,  $(a + b) + c = (a + c) + b$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Lean-style Inductive Proof:**

```

theorem add_right_comm (a b c : ℕ) : (a + b) + c = (a + c) + b := by
  induction c with d hd
  case zero =>
    rw [add_zero]
    rw [add_zero]
    rfl
  case succ =>
    rw [add_succ]
    rw [hd]
    rw [add_succ]
    rfl

```

---

**Solution 2 (Without Induction).** We can also prove  $(a + b) + c = (a + c) + b$  *without induction*, by using the results we have already established: the **associativity** and **commutativity** of addition.

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a + b) + c &= a + (b + c) && \text{(by associativity)} \\
 &= a + (c + b) && \text{(by commutativity)} \\
 &= (a + c) + b && \text{(by associativity).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $(a + b) + c = (a + c) + b$ .

**Lean-style Non-Inductive Proof:**

```

theorem add_right_comm (a b c : ℕ) : (a + b) + c = (a + c) + b := by
  rw [add_assoc]
  rw [add_comm b c]
  rw [←add_assoc]
  rfl

```

### 3 Essay

### 4 Evidence of Participation

### 5 Conclusion

## References

[BLA] Author, [Title](#), Publisher, Year.