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# 1 Equational Unification

**Definition 1.1.** An *E-unification Problem* over  $\Sigma$  is a finite set  $S$  of the form  $S = \left\{ s_1 \stackrel{?}{\approx}_E t_1, \dots, s_n \stackrel{?}{\approx}_E t_n \right\}$  with  $s_1, \dots, s_n, t_1, \dots, t_n \in T(\Sigma, V)$ ,  $V$  being a countable set of Variables.

A substitution  $\sigma$  is an *E-unifier* of  $S$  iff  $\sigma(s_i) \approx_E \sigma(t_i)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The set of all *E-unifiers* of  $S$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{U}_E(S)$ .  $S$  is *E-unifiable* iff  $\mathcal{U}_E(S) \neq \emptyset$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $S$  be an *E-unification problem* over  $\Sigma$ .

- $S$  is an **elementary** *E-unification problem* iff  $\text{Sig}(E) = \Sigma$ .
- $S$  is an *E-unification problem with constants* iff  $\Sigma - \text{Sig}(E) \subseteq \Sigma^{(0)}$
- $S$  is an **general** *E-unification problem* iff  $\Sigma - \text{Sig}(E)$  contains an at least unary function symbol.