



Redeeming Newman; orthogonality in rewriting Past, present and future in a 1-algebraic setting

Vincent van Oostrom



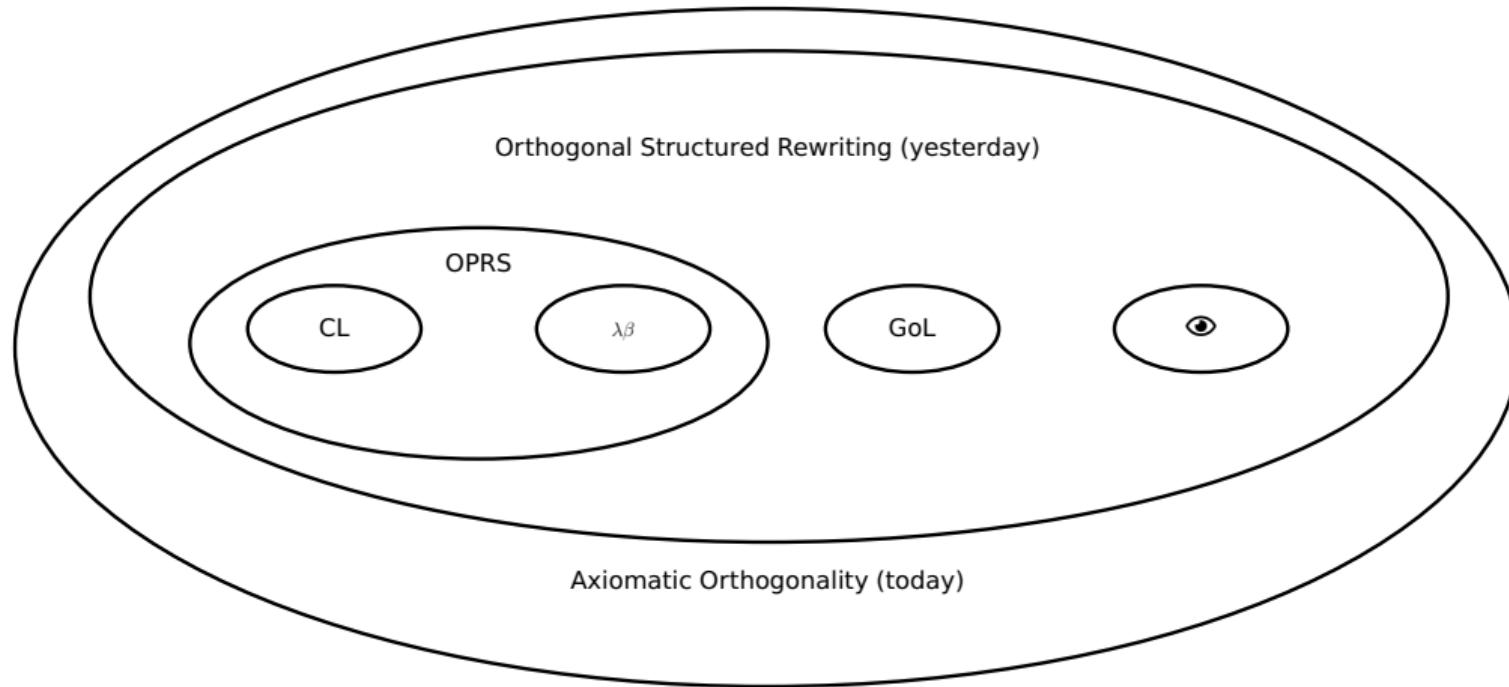
UNIVERSITY
OF SUSSEX

IWC, Leipzig, Deutschland, Wednesday, September 3rd 2025

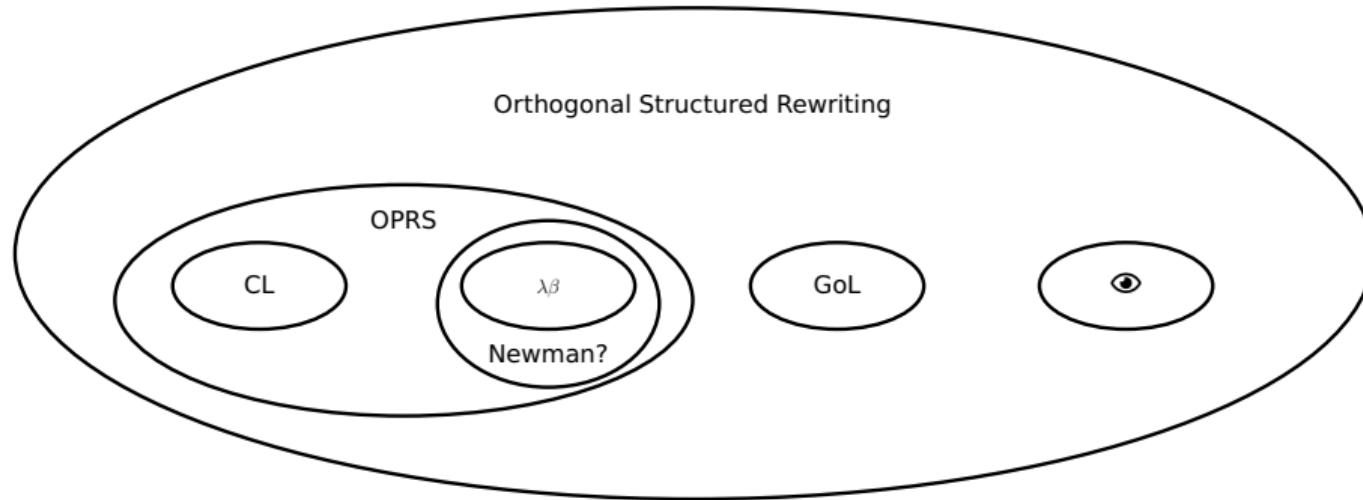
Part I: Axiomatic Orthogonality

Part II: Newman's axiomatics

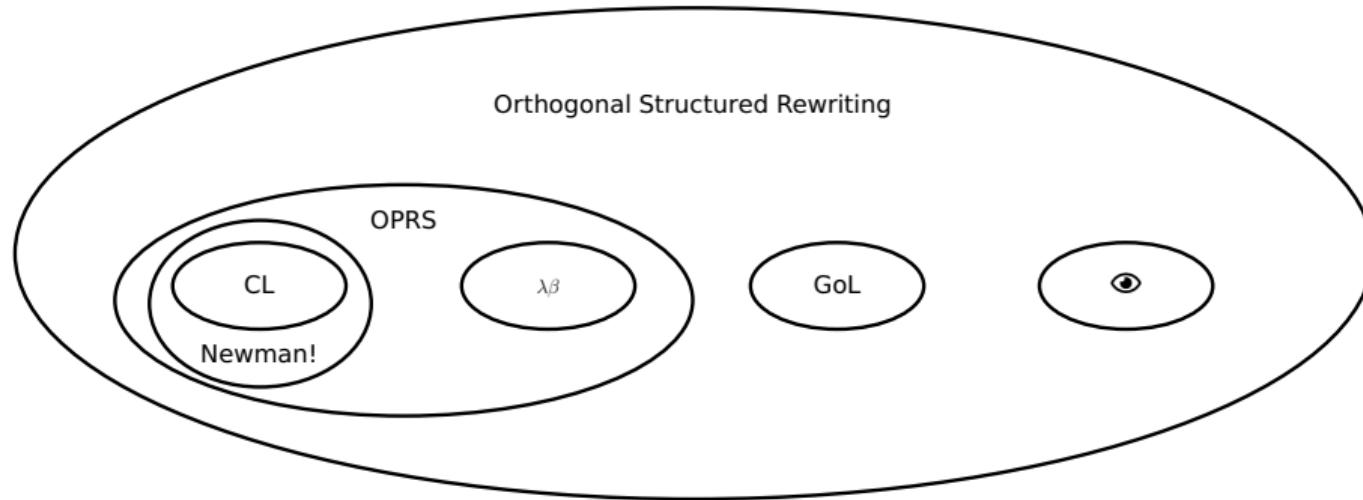
Orthogonality



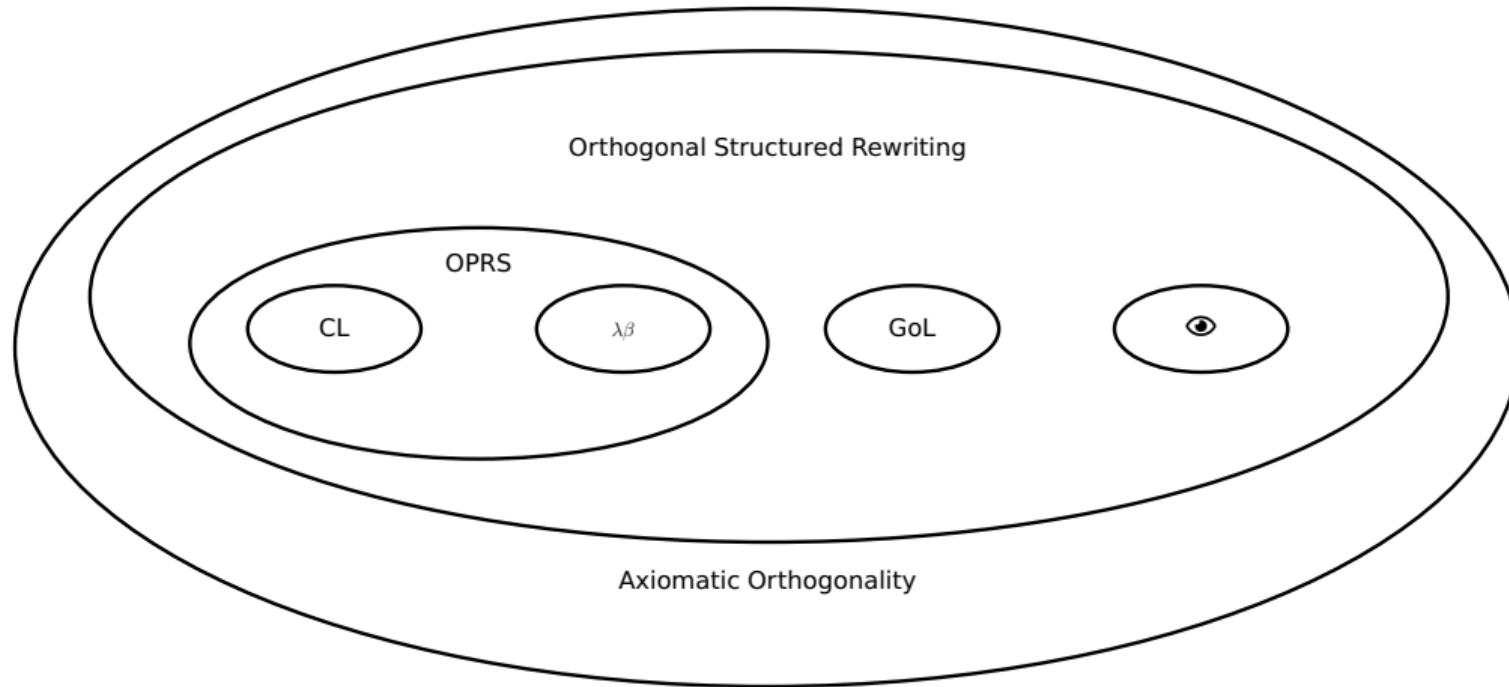
Orthogonality



Orthogonality



Orthogonality



Theory of Orthogonality

Theory of Orthogonality (Terese 03)

- sequentialisation: $\rightarrow \subseteq \multimap \subseteq \twoheadrightarrow$
(for some notion of parallel or multistep \multimap)

Theory of Orthogonality

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- sequentialisation: $\rightarrow \subseteq \multimap \rightarrow \subseteq \twoheadrightarrow$
- **confluence**: \multimap has the **diamond** property
(for some notion of **residuation** /)

Theory of Orthogonality

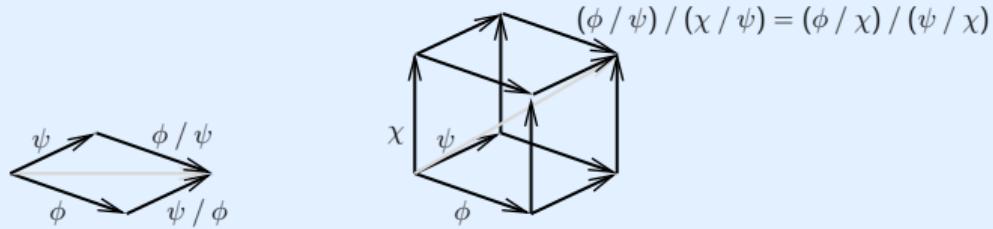
Theory of Orthogonality

- sequentialisation: $\rightarrow \subseteq \multimap \rightarrow \subseteq \twoheadrightarrow$
- confluence: \multimap has the diamond property
- **orthogonal**: tiling **3-peak** of \multimap -steps with diamonds yields a **cube**
(entails co-initial reductions form semi-lattice; **least upperbounds**)

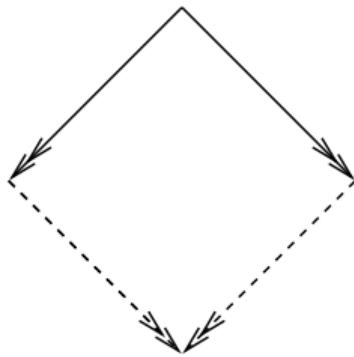
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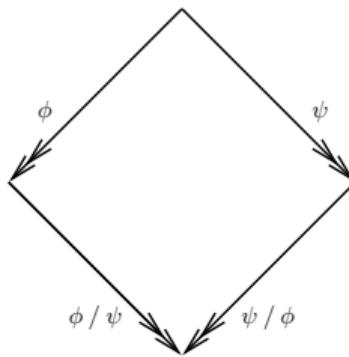


Confluence vs. orthogonality



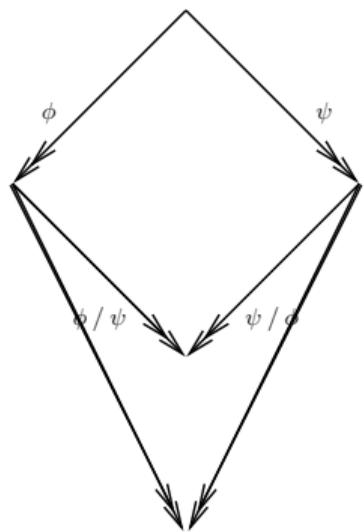
confluence, upperbound

Confluence vs. orthogonality



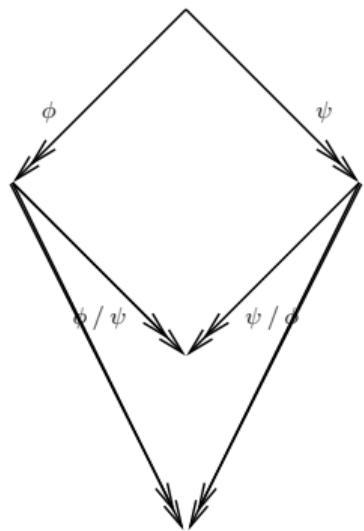
confluence, upperbound via witnessing **residual** function /

Confluence vs. orthogonality



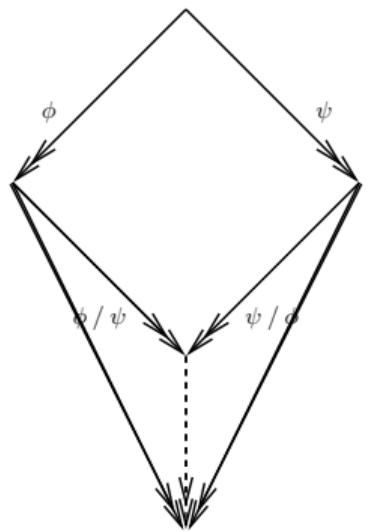
orthogonality, other upperbounds ...

Upperbounds vs. least upperbounds



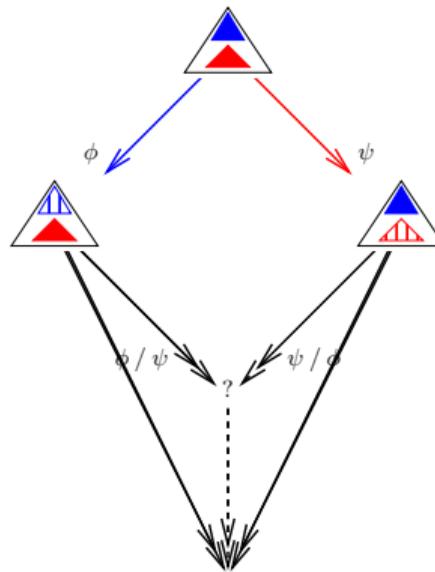
orthogonality, **least** among upperbounds?

Upperbounds vs. least upperbounds



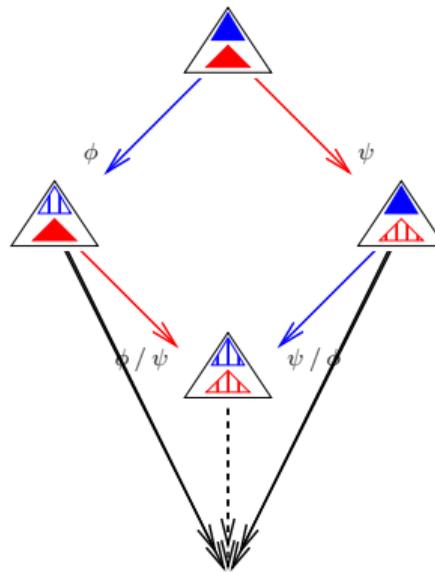
orthogonality, least upperbound

Upperbounds vs. least upperbounds



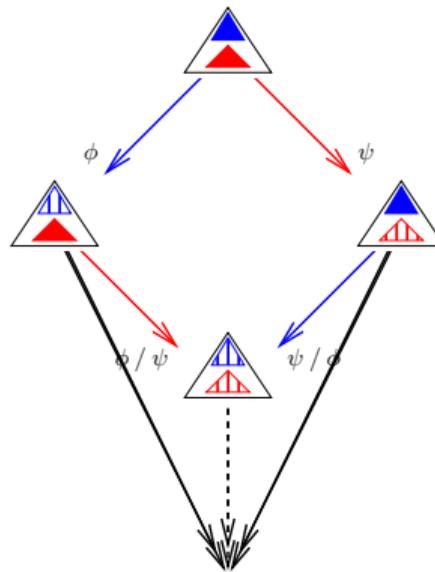
orthogonality, least upperbound doing **work of both** (Lévy; $I(IK)$)

Upperbounds vs. least upperbounds



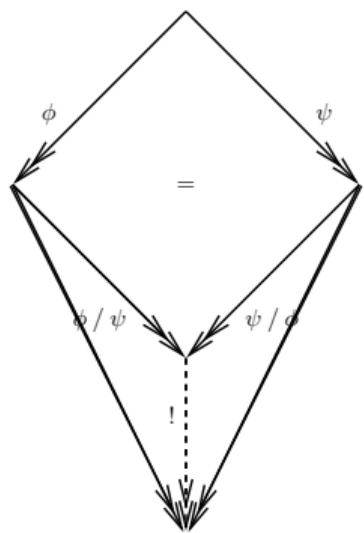
orthogonality, least upperbound doing **work of both** in $I(IK)$

Upperbounds vs. least upperbounds



orthogonality, least upperbound doing **work of both** in $I(IK)$

Diamond vs. cube



orthogonality, least upperbound w.r.t. notion of **same** work

Syntactic vs. axiomatic orthogonality?

OTRS (1990)

term rewrite system (TRS) is **orthogonal** if **left-linear** and **no critical pairs**

Syntactic vs. axiomatic orthogonality?

OTRS

term rewrite system (TRS) is orthogonal if left-linear and no critical pairs

Programme (since 1990s; Melliès, Khasidashvili, \bowtie , ...)

appropriate definitions of **step** and **orthogonality** axioms such that

- OTRS entails all steps are orthogonal to each other
- orthogonality axioms entail theory of orthogonality

Syntactic vs. axiomatic orthogonality?

Programme

appropriate definitions of step and orthogonality axioms such that

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Example

- for CL / OTRSSs $\dashv\vdash$ and \multimap are orthogonal (Huet & Lévy)

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- braids and **self-distributivity** are orthogonal (Melliès, Schikora)

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- braids and self-distributivity are orthogonal (Melliès, Schikora)
- for $\lambda\beta$ / OPRSs $\rightarrow\!\!\rightarrow$ is orthogonal (Lévy / Klop, Bruggink)

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- braids and self-distributivity are orthogonal (Melliès, Schikora)
- for $\lambda\beta$ / OPRSs \multimap is orthogonal (Lévy / Klop, Bruggink)
- ...

Combinatory Logic (CL) \multimap

named combinatory logic (CL) rules:

$$\begin{aligned}\iota(x) &: Ix \rightarrow x \\ \kappa(x, y) &: Kxy \rightarrow x \\ \varsigma(x, y, z) &: Sxyz \rightarrow xz(yz)\end{aligned}$$

Definition

multi-step ARS \multimap :

- ▶ objects: terms over alphabet
- ▶ steps: terms over function symbols + rule names
- ▶ $\text{src}(f(\vec{s})) = f(\text{src}(\vec{s}))$ with f function symbol
- ▶ $\text{src}(\varrho(\vec{s})) = I(\text{src}(\vec{s}))$ with $\varrho(\vec{x})$ name of rule $I(\vec{x}) \rightarrow r(\vec{x})$

step ARS \rightarrow : restriction of \multimap steps to exactly one rule name

$$\begin{array}{ll}\iota(IK) : I(IK) \multimap IK & I(\iota(K)) : I(IK) \multimap IK \\ I(IK) : I(IK) \multimap I(IK) & \iota(\iota(K)) : I(IK) \multimap K\end{array}$$

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Combinatory Logic (CL) $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow$

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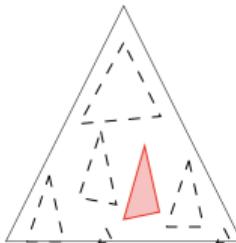
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$$\iota(IK) : I(IK) \rightarrow IK \quad I(\iota(K)) : I(IK) \rightarrow IK$$

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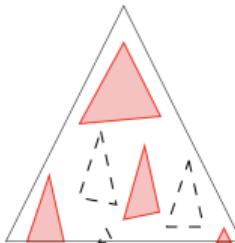
Combinatory Logic (CL) \rightarrow



step →: contract **one** redex-pattern

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Combinatory Logic (CL) \multimap

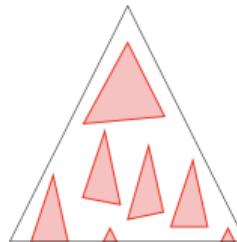


multistep \multimap : contract **some** redex-patterns

$\rightarrow \subseteq \multimap \subseteq \Rightarrow$

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Combinatory Logic (CL) \multimap



full multistep \multimap : contract **all** redex-patterns

$$\multimap \subseteq \multimap \subseteq \multimap$$

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CL / OTRS residuation

Intuition

residual ϕ/ψ of step ϕ after step ψ :
what remains (to be done) of step ϕ after doing ψ .

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CL / OTRS residuation

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Example

residual of $I(\iota(K)) : I(\textcolor{red}{I}K) \multimap IK$ after
 $\iota(IK) : \textcolor{blue}{I}(IK) \multimap IK?$

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Example

residual of $I(\iota(K)) : I(\textcolor{red}{IK}) \multimap IK$ after

$\iota(IK) : \textcolor{blue}{I}(IK) \multimap IK$?

$\iota(K) : \textcolor{red}{IK} \multimap K$!

and conversely?

same (but now residual is blue!)

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CL / OTRS residuation

Intuition

residual ϕ/ψ of step ϕ after step ψ :
what remains (to be done) of step ϕ after doing ψ .

Example

residual of $SIK(\textcolor{red}{IK}) \rightarrow SIKK$ after
 $\textcolor{blue}{SIK(IK)} \rightarrow I(IK)(K(IK))?$

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CL / OTRS residuation

Intuition

residual ϕ/ψ of step ϕ after step ψ :
what remains (to be done) of step ϕ after doing ψ .

Example

residual of $SIK(\textcolor{red}{IK}) \multimap SIKK$ after

$\textcolor{blue}{SIK}(IK) \multimap I(IK)(K(IK))?$

$I(\textcolor{red}{IK})(K(\textcolor{red}{IK})) \multimap IK(KK)!$

and conversely?

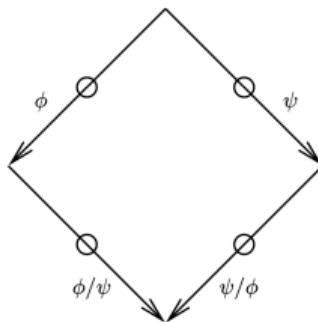
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CL / OTRS residuation

Intuition

residual ϕ/ψ of step ϕ after step ψ :
what remains (to be done) of step ϕ after doing ψ .



ϕ/ψ and ψ/ϕ : multisteps ending in **same** object

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CL / OTRS residuation

Definition

1-ra is rewrite system with 1-operations

- ▶ 1 the **empty** step for each object (doing nothing)
- ▶ / the **residual** map from pairs of (co-initial) steps to steps
- ▶ satisfying axioms

$$\phi/\phi = 1$$

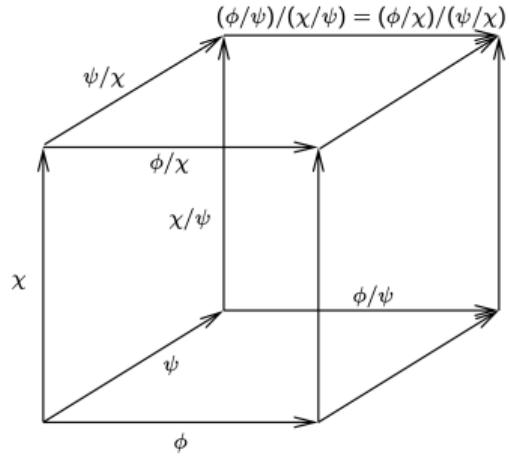
$$\phi/1 = \phi$$

$$1/\phi = 1$$

$$(\phi/\psi)/(\chi/\psi) = (\phi/\chi)/(\psi/\chi) \text{ (cube)}$$

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CL / OTRS residuation



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CL / OTRS residuation

Theorem

left-linear and non-overlapping TRS induces 1-ra on multisteps $\rightarrow \rightarrow$

- ▶ empty multisteps as units
- ▶ residual operation defined by induction on multisteps

$$f(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n)/f(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n) = f(\phi_1/\psi_1, \dots, \phi_n/\psi_n)$$

$$\varrho(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n)/l(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n) = \varrho(\phi_1/\psi_1, \dots, \phi_n/\psi_n)$$

$$l(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n)/\varrho(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n) = r(\phi_1/\psi_1, \dots, \phi_n/\psi_n)$$

$$\varrho(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n)/\varrho(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n) = r(\phi_1/\psi_1, \dots, \phi_n/\psi_n)$$

for every rule $\varrho(x_1, \dots, x_n) : l(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow r(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

Example

- ▶ $l(\iota(K))/\iota(IK) = \iota(K)$
- ▶ $SIK(\iota(K))/\varsigma(I, K, IK) = I(\iota(K))(K(\iota(K)))$

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CL / OTRS residuation

Definition

1-rac is rewrite system with 1-operations

- ▶ 1 the **empty** step for each object (doing nothing)
- ▶ / the **residual** map from pairs of (co-initial) steps to steps
- ▶ · the **composition** map on composable steps
- ▶ satisfying axioms

$$\begin{aligned}\phi/\phi &= 1 \\ \phi/1 &= \phi \\ 1/\phi &= 1 \\ (\phi/\psi)/(\chi/\psi) &= (\phi/\chi)/(\psi/\chi) \\ 1 \cdot 1 &= 1 \\ \chi/(\phi \cdot \psi) &= (\chi/\phi)/\psi \\ (\phi \cdot \psi)/\chi &= (\phi/\chi) \cdot (\psi/(\chi/\phi))\end{aligned}$$

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Orthogonality: from steps to reductions

Lemma

1-ra on \rightarrow induces a 1-rac on \twoheadrightarrow (by tiling)

Orthogonality: from steps to reductions

Lemma

1-ra on \rightarrow induces a 1-rac on \twoheadrightarrow (by tiling)

Example

- $\langle \{0, 1\}, 0, \div \rangle$ is a 1-ra, for \div **monus** (cut-off subtraction)
- $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, \div, + \rangle$ is a 1-rac (induced by 1-ra)

Orthogonality: from steps to reductions

Definition

$\phi \preceq \psi := (\phi / \psi = 1)$ is **natural** order on co-initial steps ϕ, ψ

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Theorem

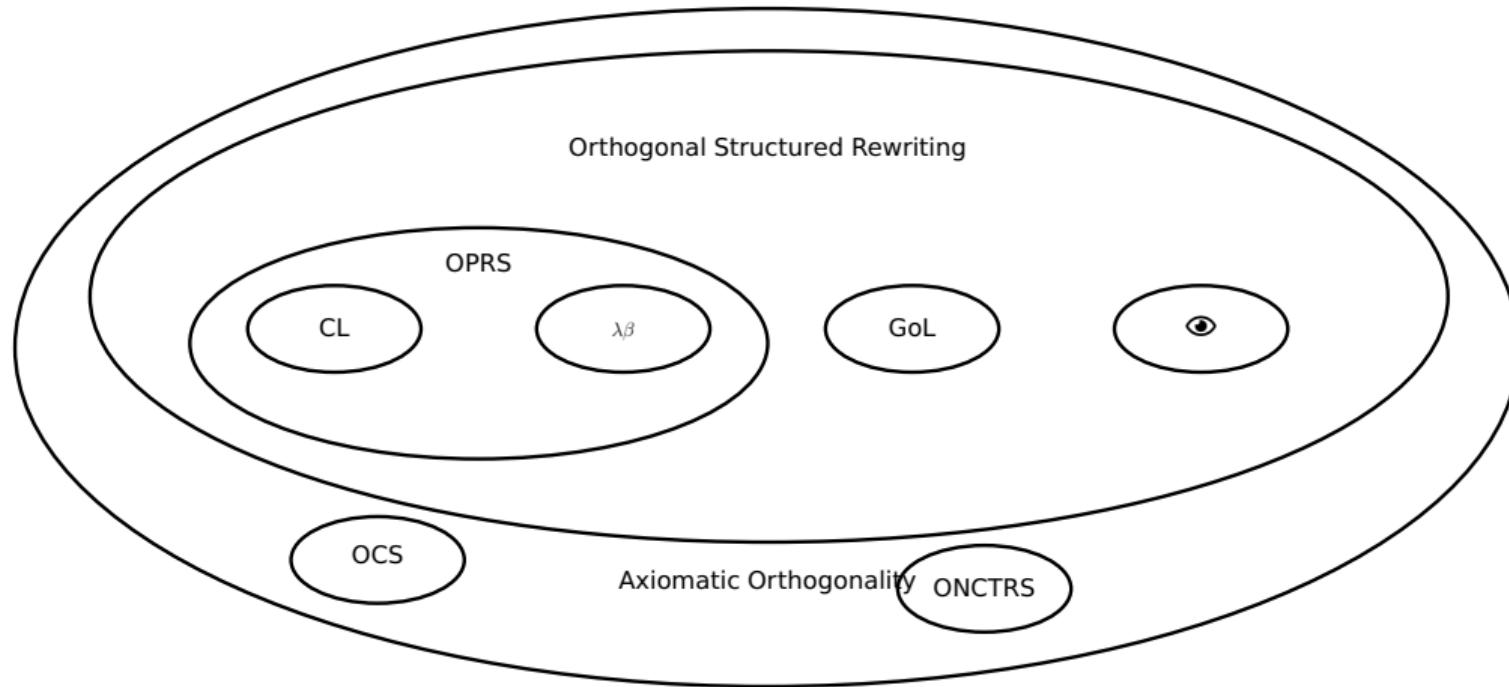
$\langle \rightarrow, 1, /, \cdot \rangle$ is a 1-rac whose natural order is a partial order
where $\phi / \psi := \phi'$ for every peak ϕ, ψ and its **pushout valley** ψ', ϕ'

iff

$\langle \rightarrow, 1, \cdot \rangle$ is a 1-monoid that is

- **left-cancellative** (each χ is epi: for all ϕ, ψ , if $\chi \cdot \phi = \chi \cdot \psi$ then $\phi = \psi$)
- **gaunt** (isomorphisms are 1)
- has **pushouts** (lubs of peaks exist)

Axiomatic Orthogonality; 1-ra(c)



Axiomatic Orthogonality; 1-ra(c)

Theorem

- *orthogonal context-sensitive TRS (OCS; Lucas) are orthogonal*
- *orthogonal normal CTRS (ONCTRS; Bergstra & Klop) are orthogonal*

Axiomatic Orthogonality; 1-ra(c)

Theorem

- *orthogonal context-sensitive TRS (OCS; Lucas) are orthogonal*
- *orthogonal normal CTRS (ONCTRS; Bergstra & Klop) are orthogonal*

Proof.

by simple adaptation of OTRS case, of **multisteps** and **residuation** /:

- OCS: all **frozen** arguments are **terms**
(not steps; no redexes inside)
- ONCTRS: conditions must hold for **sources** of steps in arguments of rules
(uses stability) □

Axiomatic Orthogonality; 1-ra(c)

Theorem

- *orthogonal context-sensitive TRS (OCS; Lucas) are orthogonal*
- *orthogonal normal CTRS (ONCTRS; Bergstra & Klop) are orthogonal*

Programme

investigate for structured rewrite systems \mathcal{T} declared to be **orthogonal** in the literature, whether they have a natural underlying 1-ra (e.g., $\rightarrow\!\rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}}$)

Newman's axiomatic confluence result (1942)

Newman's Goal

axiomatise Church–Rosser's 1936 confluence proof for λ -calculus

Newman's axiomatic confluence result

Newman's Goal

axiomatise Church–Rosser's 1936 confluence proof for λ -calculus

Notations

- $\phi \mid \psi$ denotes set of **ψ -derivates** of ϕ
(for co-initial ϕ, ψ ; each ψ -derivate is step from target of ψ)

Newman's axiomatic confluence result

Newman's Goal

axiomatise Church–Rosser's 1936 confluence proof for λ -calculus

Notations

- $\phi \mid \psi$ denotes set of ψ -derivates of ϕ
- $\frac{\varrho}{\varsigma' \diamond \varsigma \quad \varrho'}$ denotes $\varrho, \varsigma, \varsigma', \varrho'$ form a **diamond**

Newman's axiomatic confluence result

Theorem

there are reductions ς' , ϱ' such that $\frac{\varrho}{\varsigma' \diamond \varsigma}$ and $\Phi \mid (\varrho \cdot \varsigma') = \Phi \mid (\varsigma \cdot \varrho')$ given co-initial reductions ϱ, ς and set of steps Φ , if for a predicate J :

- (Δ_1) $\phi \mid \psi = \emptyset$ iff $\phi = \psi$
- (Δ_2) if $\phi \neq \psi$, then $(\phi \mid \chi) \cap (\psi \mid \chi) = \emptyset$
- (Δ_3) if $\phi \neq \psi$, then there exist co-final **developments** ϱ of $\psi \mid \phi$, and ς of $\phi \mid \psi$
- (Δ_4) for ϱ and ς in (Δ_3), $\chi \mid (\phi \cdot \varrho) = \chi \mid (\psi \cdot \varsigma)$
- (J_1) if $\phi J \psi$, then $\phi \mid \psi$ has precisely one member
- (J_2) if $\phi_1 J \phi_2$ or $\phi_1 = \phi_2$ and $\psi_1 \in \phi_1 \mid \chi$ and $\psi_2 \in \phi_2 \mid \chi$, then $\psi_1 J \psi_2$ or $\psi_1 = \psi_2$

Newman's Failure

(J₁) If $\xi J \eta$, $\xi \mid \eta$ has precisely one member.

(J₂) If $\eta_1 \in \xi_1 \mid \zeta$ and $\eta_2 \in \xi_2 \mid \zeta$, and if $\xi_1 J \xi_2$ or $\xi_1 = \xi_2$, then $\eta_1 J \eta_2$ or $\eta_1 = \eta_2$.

J represents non-nesting of redexes

Example (Schroer)

λ -calculus does not satisfy Newman's axioms

$\omega(\lambda y.\omega y) \rightarrow (\lambda y.\omega y)\lambda y.\omega y \rightarrow \underline{\omega(\lambda y.\omega y)} \rightarrow (\lambda y.\omega y)\lambda y.\omega y$
with $\omega = \lambda x.xx$

- ▶ by (J₂) derivates of ωy are (mutually) J -related.
- ▶ by (J₂) whole term and ωy -redex are (mutually) J -related.
- ▶ the ωy -redex is duplicated violating (J₁).

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Newman's Success / Redemption

Theorem

theorem does apply to Combinatory Logic (CL)

Newman's Success / Redemption

Theorem

theorem does apply to Combinatory Logic (CL)

Proof.

- $\phi \mid \psi :=$ residuals of ϕ after ψ
- $\phi J \psi$ if ϕ, ψ parallel to each other
(formally: redexes at parallel positions)

□

Newman's Success / Redemption

Theorem

theorem does apply to Combinatory Logic (CL)

Proof.

- $\phi \mid \psi :=$ residuals of ϕ after ψ
- $\phi J \psi$ if ϕ, ψ parallel to each other

□

More Success

Theorem

$\langle \dashv\rightarrow, \emptyset, | \rangle$ is a 1-ra, under assumptions of Newman's theorem

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$\langle \rightarrow\!\rightarrow, \emptyset, | \rangle$ is a 1-ra, under assumptions of Newman's theorem

Proof.

- sets Φ of J -related (co-initial) steps as steps of $\rightarrow\!\rightarrow$
- **target** of Φ is target of a(ny) development of Φ



More Success

Theorem

$\langle \rightarrowtail, \emptyset, |\rangle$ is a 1-ra, under assumptions of Newman's theorem

Proof.

- sets Φ of J -related (co-initial) steps as steps of \rightarrowtail
- **target** of Φ is target of a(ny) development of Φ

□

Corollary

CL / OTRSS reductions have pushouts / least upperbounds
(theory of orthogonality applies)

More Success

Theorem

$\langle \rightarrow\!\rightarrow, \emptyset, | \rangle$ is a 1-ra, under assumptions of Newman's theorem

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Corollary

CL / OTRSs reductions have pushouts / least upperbounds

seen via 1-ra(c)s above; now factored through Newman's axioms / result

1-algebra

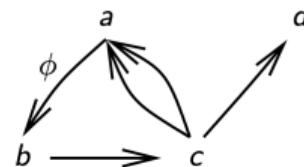
Definition

ARS → is $\langle A, \Phi, \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle$

- ▶ A set of **objects** a, b, c, \dots
- ▶ Φ set of **steps** ϕ, ψ, χ, \dots
- ▶ $\text{src}, \text{tgt} : \Phi \rightarrow A$
source and **target** functions

$\phi : a \rightarrow b$ denotes step ϕ with source a and target b

ARS is directed graph, e.g.



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1-algebra

Idea of 1-algebras

- algebra having **rewrite system as carrier**

1-algebra

Idea of 1-algebras

- algebra having rewrite system as carrier
- 1-operations yielding steps

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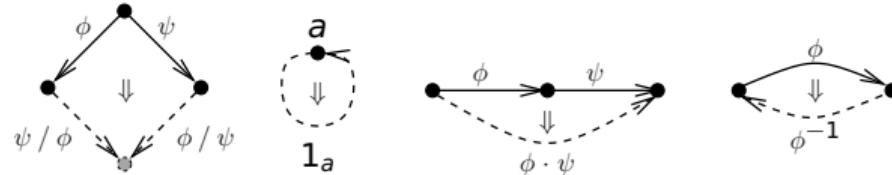
1-algebra like algebra but then operating on steps instead of objects

1-algebra

Idea of 1-algebras

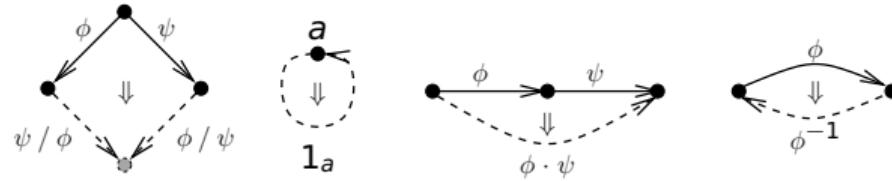
- algebra having rewrite system as carrier
- 1-operations yielding steps

1-algebra operations of interest here: residuation, unit, composition, reverse



1-algebra

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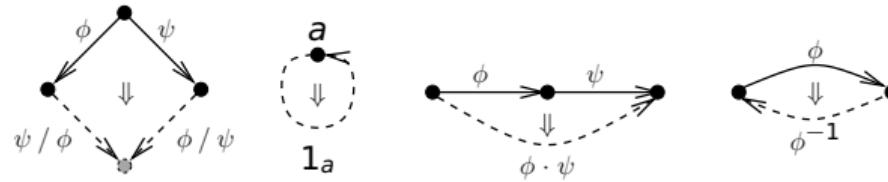


1-algebra laws of interest on 1-operations: those of 1-ra(c)s and also:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 1 \cdot \varrho = \varrho & 1^{-1} = 1 \\ \varrho \cdot 1 = \varrho & (\varrho \cdot \varsigma)^{-1} = \varsigma^{-1} \cdot \varrho^{-1} \\ (\varrho \cdot \varsigma) \cdot \zeta = \varrho \cdot (\varsigma \cdot \zeta) & (\varrho^{-1})^{-1} = \varrho \end{array}$$

1-algebra

1-algebra operations of interest here: residuation, unit, composition, reverse



1-algebra laws of interest on 1-operations: those of 1-ra(c)s and also:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 1 \cdot \varrho = \varrho & 1^{-1} = 1 \\ \varrho \cdot 1 = \varrho & (\varrho \cdot \varsigma)^{-1} = \varsigma^{-1} \cdot \varrho^{-1} \\ (\varrho \cdot \varsigma) \cdot \zeta = \varrho \cdot (\varsigma \cdot \zeta) & (\varrho^{-1})^{-1} = \varrho \end{array}$$

algebra terminology reuse: speak of **1-monoid**, **1-involution** etc.
(category **is** a 1-monoid)

Freely constructing rewrite relations

freely constructing rewrite *relations* from rewrite *relation* →

Freely constructing rewrite relations

freely constructing rewrite relations from rewrite relation \rightarrow

- \leftrightarrow is the **symmetric** closure of \rightarrow

Freely constructing rewrite relations

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- \leftrightarrow is the symmetric closure of \rightarrow
- $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow$ is the **reflexive-transitive** closure of \rightarrow (**reachability**)

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- \leftrightarrow^* is the **equivalence** closure of \rightarrow (**convertibility**)

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- ...

Freely constructing rewrite relations

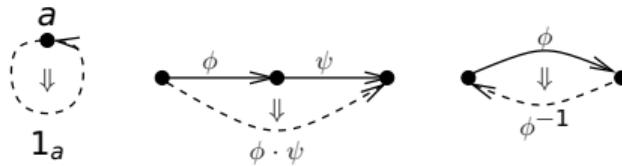
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- \leftrightarrow is the symmetric **closure** of \rightarrow
- $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow$ is the reflexive-transitive **closure** of \rightarrow
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- ...

new relations constructed by **closures**
(**least** relation extending \rightarrow having properties; universality)

Freely constructing rewrite systems

freely constructing rewrite systems from rewrite system →



$$1 \cdot \varrho = \varrho$$

$$\varrho \cdot 1 = \varrho$$

$$(\varrho \cdot \varsigma) \cdot \zeta = \varrho \cdot (\varsigma \cdot \zeta)$$

$$1^{-1} = 1$$

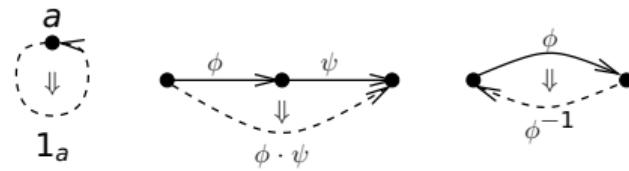
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Freely constructing rewrite systems

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$\langle \leftrightarrow, {}^{-1} \rangle$ is free **1-involutoid** generated by \rightarrow



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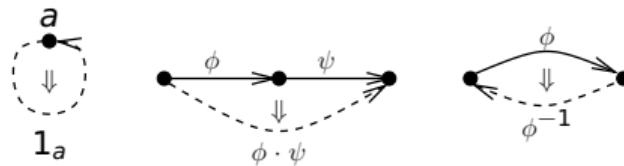
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Freely constructing rewrite systems

freely constructing rewrite systems from rewrite system →

$\langle \rightarrow\!, 1, \cdot \rangle$ is free **1-monoid** generated by \rightarrow
(reduction; path category over multidigraph)



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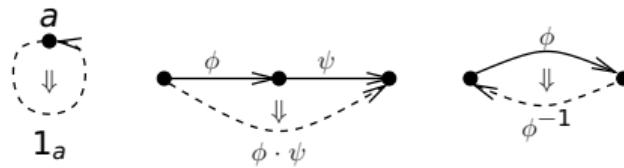
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$\langle \leftrightarrow^*, 1, \cdot^{-1}, \cdot \rangle$ is free 1-involutive 1-monoid generated by \rightarrow
(conversion; dagger category)



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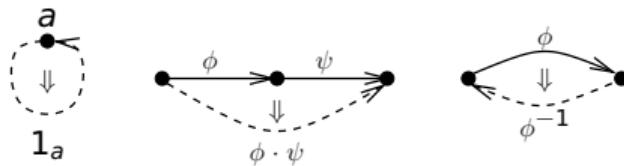
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Freely constructing rewrite systems

freely constructing rewrite systems from rewrite system →

new systems constructed by **free** generation of 1-algebras

(universality: map to such a 1-algebra factors uniquely through the free one)



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- **(1-)algebraic** approach to reductions, conversions, residuation, ortho...
(new perspective: **proof order** is homomorphism on conversions)

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- (1-)algebraic approach to reductions, conversions, residuation, ortho...
- WiP: lift $\mathbb{B} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{N} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ for 1-ras
(works for bits and braids)