# Formalising Confluence

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# Confluence

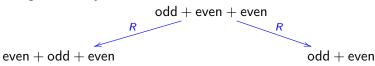
- Related with non-ambiguity or determinism of processes.
  - As termination, confluence is undecidable.
- Criteria:
  - Under termination: Newman's Lemma, Knuth-Bendix(-Huet) Critical Pairs Lemma
  - Without termination: orthogonality.
- Analytical proofs
  - CP criterion: Knuth-Bendix (1969), Huet (1980).
  - Confluence of orthogonal systems: Rosen (1973).
  - Further, several styles of proof were given as surveyed in TeRese textbook.





$$R:$$
 odd  $+$  even  $\rightarrow$  even  $+$  odd even  $+$  odd  $\rightarrow$  odd odd  $\rightarrow$  odd  $\rightarrow$  even  $+$  even  $\rightarrow$  even

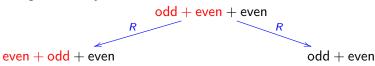
Since it's terminating (why?), it's only necessary to prove all its *critical* divergences are joinable:





$$R:$$
  $\operatorname{odd} + \operatorname{even} \to \operatorname{even} + \operatorname{odd}$   $\operatorname{even} + \operatorname{odd} \to \operatorname{odd}$   $\operatorname{odd} + \operatorname{odd} \to \operatorname{even} + \operatorname{even} + \operatorname{even} \to \operatorname{even}$ 

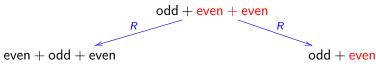
Since it's terminating (why?), it's only necessary to prove all its *critical* divergences are joinable:





$$R:$$
 odd + even  $\rightarrow$  even + odd even + odd  $\rightarrow$  odd odd + odd  $\rightarrow$  even + even even + even even + even

Since it's terminating (why?), it's only necessary to prove all its *critical* divergences are joinable:

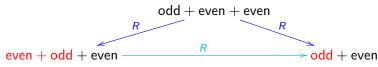




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$$R:$$
 odd  $+$  even  $\rightarrow$  even  $+$  odd even  $+$  odd  $\rightarrow$  odd odd  $\rightarrow$  odd  $\rightarrow$  even  $+$  even  $\rightarrow$  even

Since it's terminating (why?), it's only necessary to prove all its *critical* divergences are joinable:





# Confluence through Orthogonality

- Functional programs can be viewed as orthogonal TRSs:
  - Left linear
  - Without critical pairs





# Confluence through Orthogonality

$$Ack(0, n) \rightarrow s(n)$$
  
 $Ack(s(m), 0) \rightarrow Ack(m, s(0))$   
 $Ack(s(m), s(n)) \rightarrow Ack(m, Ack(s(m), n))$ 

Knuth-Bendix Critical Pairs criterion implies confluence, since it is terminating (Why?).

Well, also orthogonality implies confluence.

$$Ack'(0,n) \rightarrow s(n)$$
  
 $Ack'(s(m),0) \rightarrow Ack'(m,s(0))$   
 $Ack'(s(m),s(n)) \rightarrow Ack(Ack(m,s(n)),n)$ 

Knuth-Bendix CP criterion does not applies. It is not terminating. But, by orthogonality, it is also confluent.



# Confluence - undecidability

(Tseiten 1956) The semigroup over the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  with congruence given by equations below has a **undecidable** word problem:

$$E = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} ac = ca, & ad = da, \\ bc = cb, & bd = db, \\ ce = eca, & de = edb, \\ cdca = cdcae \end{array} \right\}$$

- For two words  $u, v \in \Sigma^*$ , the question  $u =_E v$ ? is undecidable.
- " $\rightarrow_E$ ", defined as the symmetric closure of E, is confluent.
- For  $u, v \in \Sigma^*$ , to decide if  $\to_{uv} = \to_E \cup \{i \to u, i \to v\}$  is confluent corresponds to decide if  $u =_E v$ :

$$u \downarrow_{uv} v \text{ iff } u =_{E} v$$





# Rewriting notation

Given T and a binary relation  $\rightarrow \subseteq T \times T$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{a} \to \mathbf{b} \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftrightarrow \\ \to^{=} \\ \to^{*} \\ \leftrightarrow^{*} \\ \downarrow \end{array} \qquad \text{denote}$$

 $(a,b) \in \rightarrow$ . the inverse of  $\rightarrow$ :  $b \leftarrow a$  iff  $a \rightarrow b$ . denotes  $\leftarrow \cup \rightarrow$ . reflexive closure of  $\rightarrow$ :  $\rightarrow \cup =$ . reflexive transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$ . equivalence closure of  $\rightarrow$ . joinability:  $\rightarrow^* \circ ^* \leftarrow$ .

Local Confluence Confluence Church-Rosser Termination

are defined as

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
\leftarrow \circ \to \subseteq & \downarrow & (= \to^* \circ * \leftarrow) \\
* \leftarrow \circ \to^* \subseteq & \downarrow & (= \to^* \circ * \leftarrow) \\
\leftrightarrow^* \subseteq & \downarrow & (= \to^* \circ * \leftarrow) \\
\neg \exists : a_0 \to a_1 \to \cdots
\end{array}$$

# Rewriting notation

Abstract reduction relations are extended to terms in a signature  $\Sigma(T, V)$ . Given a relation on terms R, the induced (term) rewriting relation  $\to_R$  is given by

$$s \to_R t$$
 iff 
$$\begin{cases} \exists (I,r) \in R, \\ s|_{\pi} = I\sigma \\ t = s[\pi \leftarrow r\sigma] \end{cases}$$

where,

- $s|_{\pi}$  denotes the subterm of s at position  $\pi$  and
- $s[\pi \leftarrow r\sigma]$  the term resulting from replacing the subterm at position  $\pi$  of s by  $r\sigma$ .

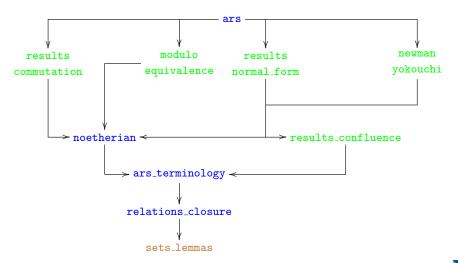


# The Prototype Verification System - PVS

PVS is a verification system, developed by the SRI International Computer Science Laboratory, which consists of

- a specification language:
  - based on higher-order logic;
  - a type system based on Church's simple theory of types augmented with subtypes and dependent types.
- an interactive theorem prover:
  - based on sequent calculus; that is, goals in PVS are sequents of the form  $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$ , where  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  are finite sequences of formulae, with the usual Gentzen semantics.

# Hierarchy of the ars theory



Available: NASA LaRC PVS library or trs.cic.unb.br.



# ARS specification - Relations

- An ARS  $(A, \rightarrow)$  is specified as
  - a uninterpreted type T and
  - a binary relation R that is a predicate:

PRED: TYPE = 
$$[[T,T] \rightarrow bool]$$

 Closure relations are specified using the iterate function. For example the reflexive-transitive closure

$$\rightarrow^* = \cup_{n \geq 0} \rightarrow^n$$

is specified in the ars theory as

RTC(R): reflexive\_transitive =

IUnion(LAMBDA n: iterate(R, n))



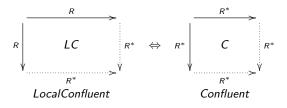
# ARS specification - Rewriting Properties

## Specifying other properties

```
joinable?(R)(x,y): bool = EXISTS z: RTC(R)(x,z) & RTC(R)(y, z)
church_rosser?(R): bool = FORALL x,y:
                            EC(R)(x,y) \Rightarrow joinable?(R)(x,y)
confluent?(R): bool = FORALL x,y,z:
                        RTC(R)(x,y) \& RTC(R)(x,z)
                           joinable?(R)(y,z)
commute?(R1,R2): bool = FORALL x,y,z:
                          RTC(R1)(x,y) \& RTC(R2)(x,z)
                           =>
                             EXISTS r: RTC(R2)(y,r) & RTC(R1)(z,r)
```

# Newman's Lemma

#### R noetherian



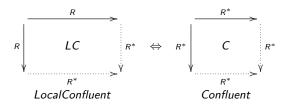
# Newman's Lemma Specification

Proof: By noetherian induction with the predicate

$$P(x) = \forall y, z. \ y * \leftarrow x \rightarrow * z \Rightarrow y \downarrow z$$

## Newman's Lemma

#### R noetherian



### Newman's Lemma Specification

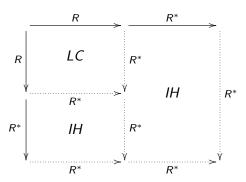
Proof: By noetherian induction with the predicate

$$P(x) = \forall y, z. \ y * \leftarrow x \rightarrow * z \Rightarrow y \downarrow z$$

# Newman's Lemma

In the ars theory properties are formalised in an "almost diagramatic style" as it is desirable in rewriting theory.

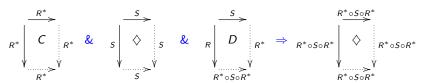
### Geometric sketch of Newman's Lemma formalisation



## Specification

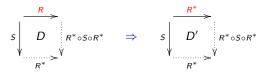
```
Yokouchi_lemma: THEOREM
  (noetherian?(R) & confluent?(R) & diamond_property?(S) &
    (FORALL x,y,z: S(x,y) & R(x,z) =>
        EXISTS (u:T): RTC(R)(y,u) & (RTC(R) o S o RTC(R))(z,u)))
    => diamond_property?(RTC(R) o S o RTC(R))
```

### R noetherian



## Generalisation of D as D'

```
Yokouchi_lemma_ax1: LEMMA
  (noetherian?(R) & confluent?(R) &
    (FORALL x,y,z: S(x,y) & R(x,z) =>
        EXISTS (u:T): RTC(R)(y,u) & (RTC(R) o S o RTC(R))(z,u)))
    => (FORALL x,y,z: S(x,y) & RTC(R)(x,z) =>
        EXISTS (w:T): RTC(R)(y,w) & (RTC(R) o S o RTC(R))(z,w))
```

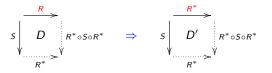


Proof: By noetherian induction with the predicate

$$P(x) := \forall y, z. \ xR^*z \land xSy \Rightarrow \exists u.(yR^*u \land zR^* \circ S \circ R^*u)$$

### Generalisation of D as D'

```
Yokouchi_lemma_ax1: LEMMA
  (noetherian?(R) & confluent?(R) &
    (FORALL x,y,z: S(x,y) & R(x,z) =>
        EXISTS (u:T): RTC(R)(y,u) & (RTC(R) o S o RTC(R))(z,u)))
    => (FORALL x,y,z: S(x,y) & RTC(R)(x,z) =>
        EXISTS (w:T): RTC(R)(y,w) & (RTC(R) o S o RTC(R))(z,w))
```



Proof: By noetherian induction with the predicate

$$P(x) := \forall y, z. \ xR^*z \ \land \ xSy \ \Rightarrow \ \exists u.(yR^*u \ \land \ zR^* \circ S \circ R^*u)$$

### Proof

Then, to prove that  $R^* \circ S \circ R^*$  has the diamond property, one also proceeds by noetherian induction but this time using the predicate

$$P'(x) := \forall y, z. \ xR^* \circ S \circ R^*y \ \land \ xR^* \circ S \circ R^*z$$
  
$$\Rightarrow \exists u. (yR^* \circ S \circ R^*u \ \land \ zR^* \circ S \circ R^*u)$$

One distinguishes between the cases

$$R^0 \circ S \circ R^*$$

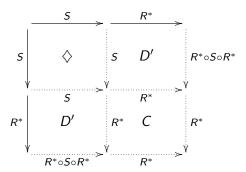
and

$$R^+ \circ S \circ R^*$$



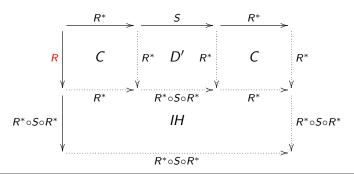
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## Geometric Sketch: Case $R^0 \circ S \circ R^*$

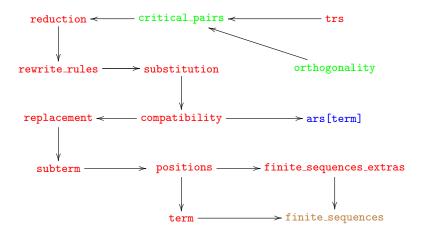




### Geometric Sketch: Case $R^+ \circ S \circ R^*$



# Hierarchy of the trs theory



Available: NASA LaRC PVS library or trs.cic.unb.br.



# TRS specification - Terms

### The set of terms

```
term[variable: TYPE+, symbol: TYPE+] : DATATYPE
BEGIN

IMPORTING arity[symbol]

vars(v: variable): vars?

app(f:symbol,
    args:{args:finite_sequence[term] | length(args)=arity(f)}): app?

END term
```

# TRS specification - Other key basic concepts

### Positions and Subterms

- The set of positions of the term t, denoted by Pos(t), is inductively defined as follows:
  - (a) If  $t = x \in V$ , then  $Pos(t) := \epsilon$ , where  $\epsilon$  denotes the empty string.
  - (b) If  $t = f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ , then

$$Pos(t) := \{\epsilon\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} \{ip \mid p \in Pos(t_i)\}$$

• The *subterm* of a term s at position  $p \in Pos(s)$ , denoted by  $s|_p$ , is inductively defined on the length of p as follows:

$$egin{array}{lll} s|_{\epsilon} &:=& s \ f(s_1,...,s_n)|_{iq} &:=& s_i|_q \end{array}$$



# TRS specification - Replacement

# Replacing the subterm of s at position $p \in Pos(s)$ by t: $s[p \leftarrow t]$

### Usefull properties

Let s, t, r be terms. If p and q are parallel positions in s, then

(a) 
$$s[p \leftarrow t]|_q = s|_q$$

(b) 
$$s[p \leftarrow t][q \leftarrow r] = s[q \leftarrow r][p \leftarrow t]$$

persistence

commutativity



# TRS specification - Substitution and Renaming

#### Substitution

(a) The substitutions are built as functions from variables to terms

```
sig: [V -> term]
```

whose domain is finite:

```
Sub?(sig): bool = is_finite(Dom(sig))
```

(b) The homomorphic extension ext(sig) of a substitution sig is specified inductively over the structure of terms.

### Renaming



# TRS specification - Rewrite Rules and Reduction Relation

### Rewrite Rules

```
rewrite_rule?(1,r): bool = (NOT vars?(1)) & subset?(Vars(r), Vars(1))
rewrite_rule: TYPE = (rewrite_rule?)
```

### Reduction Relation

### Lemma

Let E be a set of rewrite rules. The reduction relation reduction? (E) is closed under substitutions and compatible with operations (structure of terms).

# TRS specification - Critical Pairs

### Critical Pairs - Analytic Definition

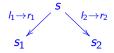
Let  $l_i \to r_i$ , i=1,2, be two rules whose "variables have been renamed" such that  $Var(l_1) \cap Var(l_2) = \emptyset$ . Let  $p \in Pos(l_1)$  be such that  $l_1|_p$  is not a variable and let  $\sigma = mgu(l_1|_p, l_2)$ . This determines a *critical pair*  $\langle t_1, t_2 \rangle$ :

```
\begin{array}{rcl} t_1 & = & \sigma(r_1) \\ t_2 & = & \sigma(l_1)[p \leftarrow \sigma(r_2)] \end{array}
```

### Critical Pairs - Specification

## Specification

A sketch of the formalisation Let s be a term of divergence such that



that is, there are positions  $p_1, p_2 \in \text{positions}?(s)$ , rules  $l_1 \rightarrow r_1, l_2 \rightarrow r_2 \in E$ , and substitutions  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$ , such that

$$s|_{p_1}=\sigma_1(I_1)$$

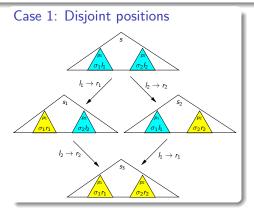
$$|s|_{p_1} = \sigma_1(l_1)$$
 &  $s_1 = s[p_1 \leftarrow \sigma_1(r_1)]$ 

$$|s|_{p_2} = \sigma_2(I_2)$$

$$|s|_{p_2} = \sigma_2(l_2)$$
 &  $s_2 = s[p_2 \leftarrow \sigma_2(r_2)]$ 

A sketch of the formalisation: Disjoint positions

 $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are in separate subtrees, i.e.,  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are parallel positions in s.

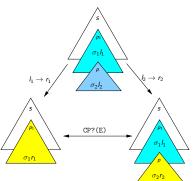


### Case 1: Disjoint positions

- Persistence
- Commutativity

A sketch of the formalisation: Critical overlap  $p \in \text{positions}?(I_1), |I_1|_p \text{ is not a variable and } \sigma_1(I_1|_p) = \sigma_2(I_2).$ 

Case 2: Either  $p_1 \leq p_2$  or  $p_2 \leq p_1$  -  $p_2 = p_1 p$ 



#### Case 2: The divergence corresponds to an instance of a critical pair $\langle t_1, t_2 \rangle$

```
CP_lemma_aux1: LEMMA
FORALL E, (e1 | member(e1, E)), (e2 | member(e2, E)), (p: position):
 positionsOF(lhs(e1))(p)
 NOT vars?(subtermOF(lhs(e1), p))
  ext(sg1)(subtermOF(lhs(e1), p)) = ext(sg2)(lhs(e2))
=>
 EXISTS t1, t2, delta:
 CP?(E)(t1, t2)
  ext(delta)(t1) = ext(sg1)(rhs(e1))
  ext(delta)(t2) = replaceTerm(ext(sg2)(rhs(e2)), ext(sg1)(lhs(e1)), p)
```

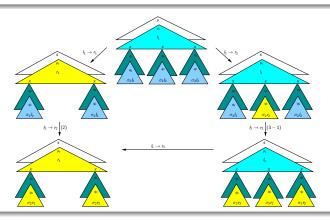
In general the critical overlap case is proved in textbooks by assuming that the rewriting rules  $l_1 \rightarrow r_1$  and  $l_2 \rightarrow r_2$  are renamed such that  $Vars(l_1) \cap Vars(l_2) = \emptyset$ .

#### Case 2: Auxiliary properties



A sketch of the formalisation: Non-critical overlap

 $p=q_1q_2$ , for  $q_2$  possibly empty, such that  $q_1$  is a position of variable in  $l_1$  and  $\sigma_2(l_2)=\sigma_1(l_1|q_1)|q_2$ .



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#### Case 3: Auxiliary lemma

Let  $\rightarrow$  be a relation compatible with the structure of terms, x be a variable, and  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  be substitutions such that:

$$\sigma_1(x) \rightarrow \sigma_2(x)$$
 and  $\sigma_1(y) = \sigma_2(y)$ , for all  $y \neq x$ .

Let t be an arbitrary term, and  $p_1, \ldots, p_n \in \text{positions}(t)$  be all the occurrences of x in t. Define  $t_0 = \sigma_1(t)$  and  $t_i = t_{i-1}[p_i \leftarrow \sigma_2(x)]$ , for  $1 \le i \le n$ . Then  $t_i \to^{n-i} \sigma_2(t)$ , for 0 < i < n. In particular,  $\sigma_1(t) \to^n \sigma_2(t)$ .

#### Case 3: Auxiliary constructors

```
replace_pos(t, s, (fssp:SPP(s)) ): RECURSIVE term =
    IF length(fssp) = 0 THEN s
   ELSE replace_pos(t,replaceTerm(t, s, fssp(0)), rest(fssp)) ENDIF
  MEASURE length(fssp)
RSigma(R, sg1, sg2, x): bool = FORALL (y: (V)):
   IF y /= x THEN sg1(y) = sg2(y) ELSE R(sg1(x), sg2(x)) ENDIF
```

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# Case 3: The variable $f_1|_{q_1}$ can occur repeatedly in both sides of the rule $f_1 \rightarrow r_1$ CP\_lemma\_aux2: LEMMA FORALL R, t, x, sg1, sg2: LET Posv = Pos\_var(t, x), seqv = set2seq(Posv) IN comp\_cont?(R) & RSigma(R, sg1, sg2, x) => FORALL (i: below[length(seqv)]): RTC(R)(replace\_pos(ext(sg2)(x),ext(sg1)(t), #(seqv(i))),ext(sg2)(t))

RTC(R)(ext(sg1)(t), ext(sg2)(t))

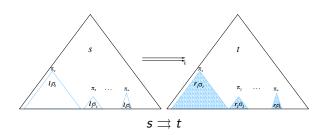
## The PVS theory orthogonality

- The PVS theory orthogonality substantially enlarges the theory trs including several notions and formalisations related with the specification of orthogonal TRSs.
- ⇒ orthogonality includes a formalisation of the theorem of confluence of orthogonal TRSs according to:
  - use of the parallel reduction relation and
  - an inductive construction of terms of joinability for parallel divergences through the Parallel Moves Lemma.

Available: NASA LaRC PVS library or trs.cic.unb.br.



# Parallel Rewriting



```
\begin{array}{rcl} \rightrightarrows(E)(s,t) : & bool = \exists \ (\Pi : \ SPP(t1), \ \Gamma : \ Seq[E], \ \Sigma : \\ & Seq[Subs]) : & \cdots \\ & & t = replace\_par\_pos(s, \ \Pi, \ sigma\_rhs(\Sigma,\Gamma)) \end{array}
```



# Theorem [Confluence of Orthogonal TRSs] Orthogonality $\Rightarrow$ confluence

#### One has to prove:

- the diamond property (◊P) for ⇒;
- $\bullet \to \subset \Rightarrow \subset \to^* \text{ implies } \Rightarrow^* \equiv \to^*$ :
- ullet  $\Rightarrow$  confluent, implies  $\rightarrow$  confluent.

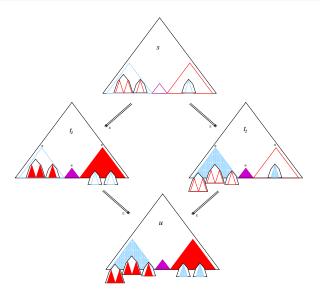






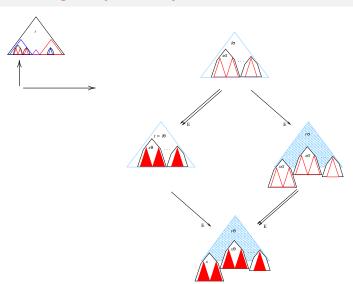


#### Orthogonal?(E) => diamond\_property?(parallel\_reduction?(E))



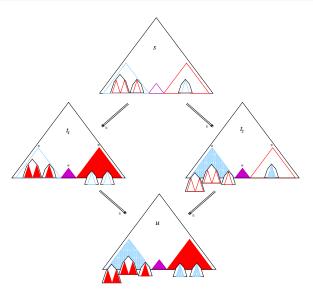


## Building the joinability term: the Parallel Moves Lemma





# Joinability requires synchronised applications of PML





## Formalisation: Orthogonal\_implies\_confluent

```
Lemma (Specification of Orthogonality implies Confluence)
```

```
Orthogonal_implies_confluent: LEMMA
```

```
FORALL (E : Orthogonal) :
```

confluent?(reduction?(E))



## Formalisation: parallel\_reduction\_has\_DP

```
Lemma (Specification of Orthogonality of \rightarrow implies \Diamond P of \rightrightarrows)
parallel_reduction_has_DP: LEMMA

Orthogonal?(E) =>

diamond_property?(\rightrightarrows(E))
```



## Formalisation: divergence\_in\_Pos\_Over

```
divergence_in_Pos_Over: LEMMA
\exists (E) (s,t1,\Pi_1) \land \exists (E) (s,t2,\Pi_2) \land \pi \in Pos\_Over(\Pi_1,\Pi_2)
=>
             LET \Pi = \text{complement}_{\text{pos}}(\pi, \Pi_2) IN
               \exists ((I,r) \in E, \sigma):
                subtermOF(s, \pi) = I\sigma \wedge
                subtermOF(t1, \pi) = r\sigma \wedge
                \Rightarrow (E) (subtermOF(s, \pi), subtermOF(t2,\pi), \square)
```



## Formalisation: subterm\_joinability



```
subterm_joinability:
                    LEMMA
```

```
Orthogonal?(E) \land \Rightarrow(E)(s,t1,\Pi_1) \land \Rightarrow(E)(s,t2,\Pi_2) \land
\Pi = \text{Pos\_Over}(\Pi_1, \Pi_2) \text{ o Pos\_Over}(\Pi_2, \Pi_1) \text{ o Pos\_Equal}(\Pi_1, \Pi_2)
```

 $\forall i < \mid \Pi \mid :$ 

=>

$$\exists u_i : \Rightarrow (E) (subtermOF(t1, \Pi(i)), u_i) \land \Rightarrow (E) (subtermOF(t2, \Pi(i)), u_i)$$



## Formalisation: subterms\_joinability



```
subterms_joinability:
                     LEMMA
```

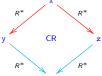
```
Orthogonal?(E) \land \Rightarrow(E)(s,t1,\Pi_1) \land \Rightarrow(E)(s,t2,\Pi_2) \land
\Pi = \text{Pos\_Over}(\Pi_1, \Pi_2) \text{ o Pos\_Over}(\Pi_2, \Pi_1) \text{ o Pos\_Equal}(\Pi_1, \Pi_2)
=>
```

```
\exists \mathtt{U} : |\mathtt{U}| = |\mathsf{\Pi}| \wedge
\forall i : \Rightarrow(E)(subtermOF(t1, \Pi(i)), U(i)) \land
                  \rightrightarrows(E)(subtermOF(t2, \Pi(i)), U(i))
```



## Conclusion and Future Work

 trs and orthogonality provide elegant formalisations close to textbook's and paper's proofs.



```
confluent?(R): bool = \forall( x, y, z):

\rightarrow*(R)(x,y) \wedge \rightarrow*(R)(x,z)

=> \downarrow(R)(y,z)
```

- ⇒ First straightforward complete formalisation of Knuth-Bendix CP Th.
- ⇒ A complete formalisation of Rosen's confluence of orthogonal TRS's.
- Precise discrimination of notions and properties:
  - $\Diamond$  property implies non termination.
  - proof's analogies fail: a whole new development of parallel rewriting concepts was necessary to formalise confluence of orthogonal TRS's.
- Clarity about adaptation of results in other contexts: confluence in nominal rewriting.

## Conclusion and Future Work

- Applications to certify confluence of orthogonal specifications, variants of lambda calculus, nominal rewriting.
- Adaptation of the proof in Takahashi's style.
- Formalisations using other styles of proof. Van Oostrom's developments, for instance.



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