



# Term Rewriting

## Basic Concepts, Tools, and Applications

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# Course Content

## Day 1

abstract rewriting, properties of abstract rewrite systems, Newman's Lemma, term rewriting

## Day 2

termination, polynomial interpretations, lexicographic path order, Knuth-Bendix order, derivational complexity

## Day 3

critical pairs, confluence, orthogonality, Knuth-Bendix completion

## Termination

- Interpretations

- Lexicographic Path Order

- Knuth-Bendix Order

## Complexity

## Definition

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

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## Remark

infeasible to check all rewrite *steps*



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## Proof.

$\implies$   $\mathcal{R}$  is compatible with reduction order  $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}^+$

$\impliedby$  by reduction order have strict  $>$ -decrease in every rewrite step  $\square$

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- ▶  $\mathcal{B} = (\{\spadesuit, \heartsuit, \clubsuit, \diamondsuit\}, \{0_{\mathcal{B}}, s_{\mathcal{B}}, +_{\mathcal{B}}\})$  with
$$0_{\mathcal{B}} = \spadesuit \qquad s_{\mathcal{B}}(x) = \heartsuit \text{ if } x = \heartsuit \text{ else } \clubsuit \qquad +_{\mathcal{B}}(x, y) = \diamondsuit$$



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$\Rightarrow$  term algebra  $(\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V}), \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}^+)$  is WFMA

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$\mathcal{R}$  is polynomially terminating over  $\mathbb{N}$



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

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- interpretations in  $\mathbb{N}$

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

$$y + 2 > y$$

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

$$3y + 2 > 1$$

$$2xy + x + 3y + 2 > 2xy + x + 3y + 1$$

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$$\rightarrow s(s(0 + 0)) \rightarrow s(s(0))$$



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## Termination

Interpretations

Lexicographic Path Order

Knuth-Bendix Order

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- 2  $t = g(t_1, \dots, t_m)$  and  $f > g$  and  $\forall j \quad s >_{\text{lpo}} t_j$

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$$s(x) \times y \text{ } \overset{?}{>}_{\text{lpo}} (x \times y) + y$$

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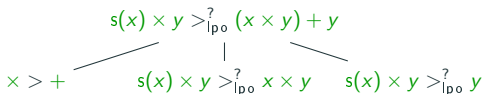
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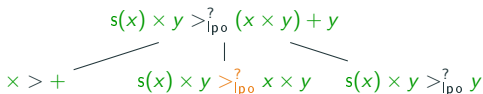
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$$\begin{array}{c} s(x) \times y >_{\text{lpo}}^? (x \times y) + y \\ \swarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \searrow \\ x > + \quad s(x) \times y >_{\text{lpo}}^? x \times y \quad s(x) \times y >_{\text{lpo}}^? y \end{array}$$

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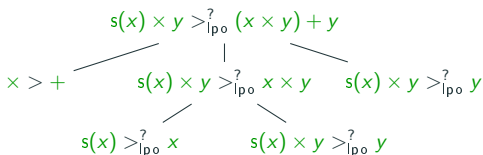
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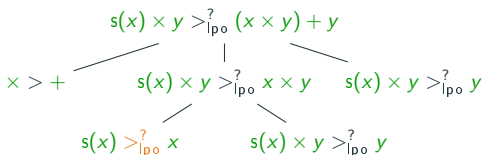
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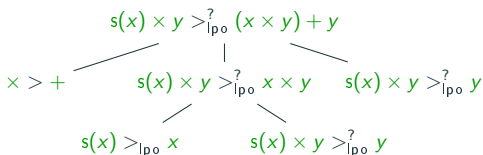
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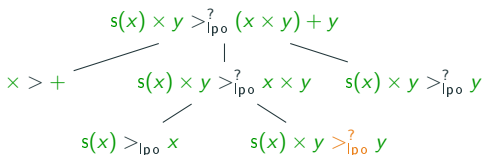
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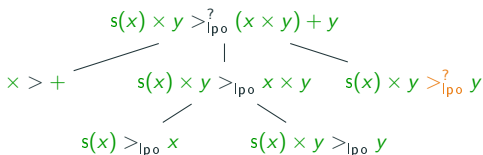
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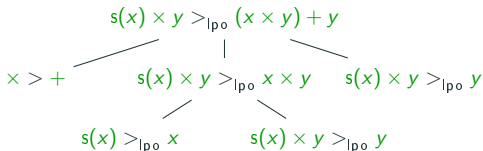
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## Theorem

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## Corollary

if  $>$  is well-founded and  $\ell >_{\text{lpo}} r$  for all  $\ell \rightarrow r \in \mathcal{R}$  then  $\mathcal{R}$  is terminating

## Lemma

► if  $\gamma \subseteq \gamma'$  then  $\gamma|_{po} \subseteq \gamma'|_{po}$

*incrementality*

## Lemma

- ▶ if  $> \subseteq \succ$  then  $>|_{\text{po}} \subseteq \succ|_{\text{po}}$  *incrementality*
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$P_1$ : instance: TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  and precedence  $>$   
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## Examples

TRS

$$0 + y \rightarrow y$$

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

$$0 \times y \rightarrow 0$$

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

precedence

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$- > \cdot > e$

## Termination

Interpretations

Lexicographic Path Order

Knuth-Bendix Order

Complexity

## Definitions (Weight Function)

- ▶ **weight function**  $(w, w_0)$  consists of mapping  $w: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and constant  $w_0 > 0$  such that  $w(c) \geq w_0$  for all constants  $c \in \mathcal{F}$



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- ▶ **weight** of term  $t$ :

$$w(t) = \begin{cases} w_0 & \text{if } t \in \mathcal{V} \\ w(f) + \sum_{i=1}^n w(t_i) & \text{if } t = f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \end{cases}$$

## Example

- rewrite rules

$$e \cdot x \rightarrow x$$

$$x \cdot e \rightarrow x$$

$$x^{-} \cdot x \rightarrow e$$

$$x \cdot x^{-} \rightarrow e$$

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot z \rightarrow x \cdot (y \cdot z)$$

$$x^{- -} \rightarrow x$$

$$e^{-} \rightarrow e$$

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$$x^{-} \cdot (x \cdot y) \rightarrow y$$

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$$w((x \cdot y)^{-}) = ?$$

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- ▶ weight function  $(w, w_0)$  is **admissible** for precedence  $>$  if

$$f > g \quad \forall g \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \{f\}$$

whenever  $f$  is unary function symbol in  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $w(f) = 0$



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## Example

- rewrite rules

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$$w(x) = 1$$

$$w((x \cdot y)^-) = 3$$

- precedence:  $- > \cdot > e$

- admissible because  $-$  is maximal in precedence

## Definitions (Knuth–Bendix Order)

relation  $>_{\text{kbo}}$  on terms:  $s >_{\text{kbo}} t$  if  $|s|_x \geq |t|_x \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{V}$  and

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    - ▶  $\forall j < i \quad s_j = t_j$
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## Theorem

$>_{\text{kbo}}$  is *reduction order* if precedence  $>$  is well-founded and weight function  $(w, w_0)$  is admissible for  $>$



## Example

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## Lemma

► if  $\succ \subseteq \succsim$  then  $\succ_{\text{kbo}} \subseteq \succsim_{\text{kbo}}$

*incrementality*

## Lemma

- ▶ if  $> \subseteq \succ$  then  $>_{\text{kbo}} \subseteq \succ_{\text{kbo}}$  *incrementality*
- ▶ if  $>$  is total on  $\mathcal{F}$  then  $>_{\text{kbo}}$  is *total on  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F})$*  *ground-totality*

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## Definition (KBO Decision Problems)

$P_1$ :    instance:    TRS  $\mathcal{R}$ , weight function  $(w, w_0)$ , precedence  $>$   
         question:    does  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq >_{\text{kbo}}$  hold?

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## Definition (KBO Decision Problems)

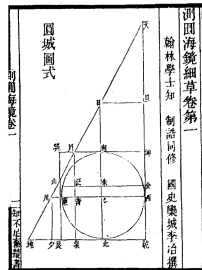
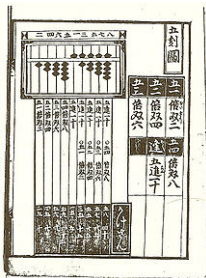
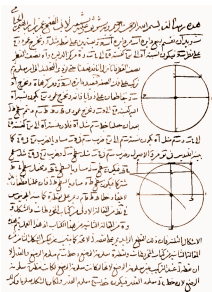
$P_1$ : instance: TRS  $\mathcal{R}$ , weight function  $(w, w_0)$ , precedence  $>$   
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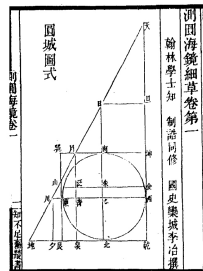
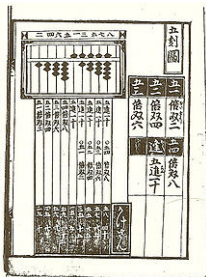
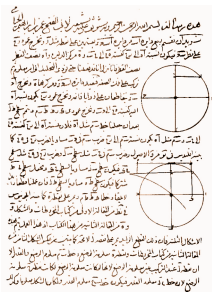
## Lemma

$P_1$  and  $P_2$  are decidable (in time *polynomial* in  $|s| + |t|$ )

# Formal Analysis Technologies

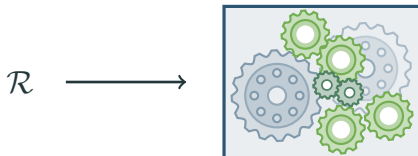


# Formal Analysis Technologies



# $\mathsf{T\overline{T}T_2}$ : Tyrolean Termination Tool 2

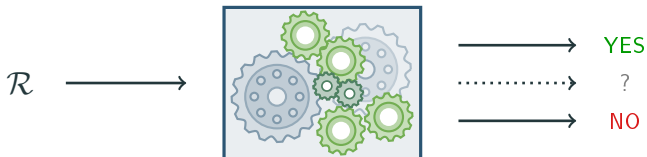
input: TRS  $\mathcal{R}$



## T<sub>T</sub>T<sub>2</sub>: Tyrolean Termination Tool 2

input: TRS  $\mathcal{R}$

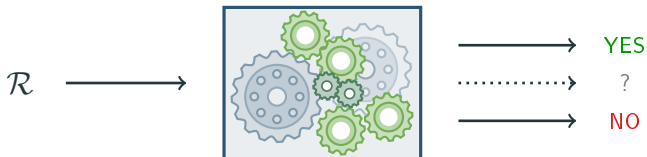
output: **YES** + termination proof, or **NO** + counterexample



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input: TRS  $\mathcal{R}$

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### Example (Addition)

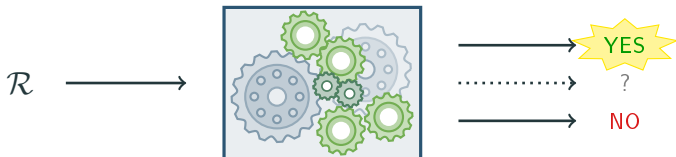
$$0 + x \rightarrow x$$

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### Example (Addition)

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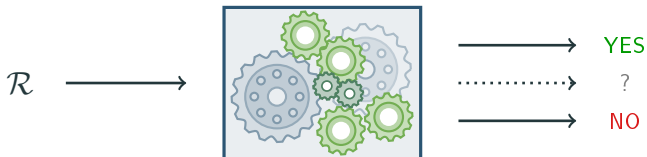
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## $T_T T_2$ : Tyrolean Termination Tool 2

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### Example (Bean Game)

● ●  $\rightarrow$  ○

○ ○  $\rightarrow$  ○

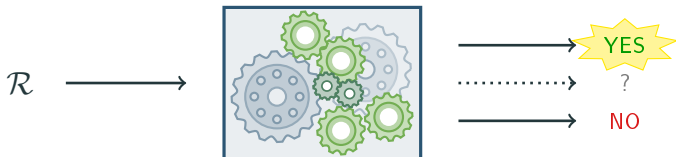
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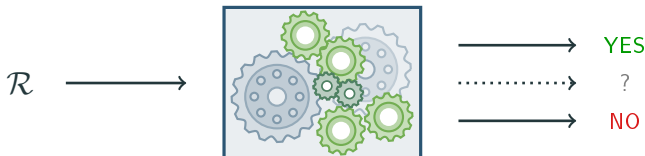
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### Example (Sieve of Eratosthenes)

$\text{primes} \rightarrow \text{sieve}(\text{from}(\text{s}(\text{s}(0))))$

$\text{sieve}(0 : y) \rightarrow \text{sieve}(y)$

$\text{from}(x) \rightarrow x : \text{from}(\text{s}(x))$

$\text{sieve}(\text{s}(x) : y) \rightarrow \text{s}(x) : \text{sieve}(\text{filter}(x, y, x))$

$\text{hd}(x : y) \rightarrow x$

$\text{filter}(0, y : z, w) \rightarrow 0 : \text{filter}(w, z, w)$

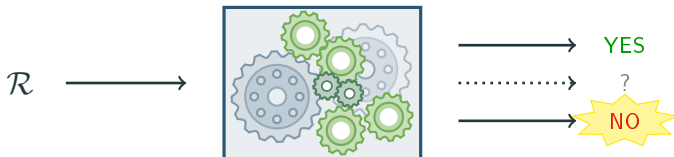
$\text{tl}(x : y) \rightarrow y$

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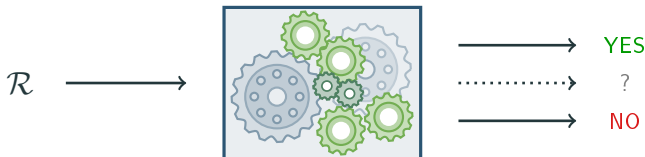
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input: TRS  $\mathcal{R}$

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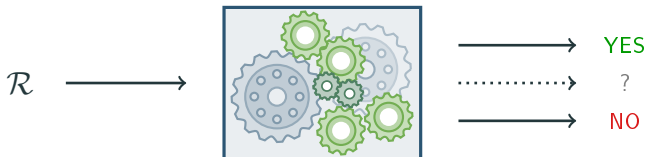
## Implemented techniques

- ▶ dependency pair (DP) framework, dependency graphs
- ▶ interpretation methods: polynomials, matrices, arctic, ordinals
- ▶ reduction orders: LPO, KBO, weighted path order
- ▶ labeling techniques: semantic labelling, matchbounds
- ▶ non-termination: loops and unfoldings, ...

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## Implemented techniques

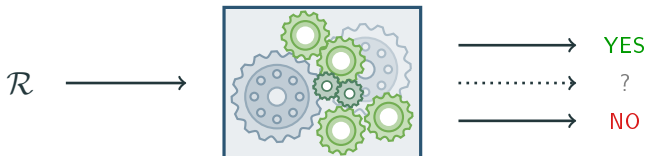
►  $T_T T_2$

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## Implemented techniques

► T<sub>T</sub>T<sub>2</sub>

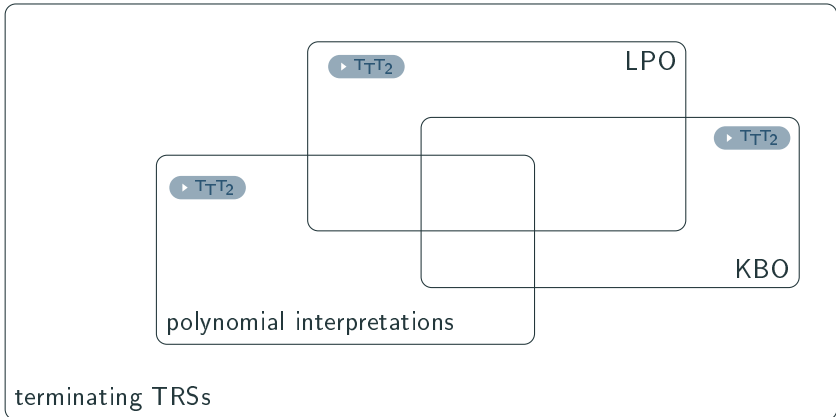
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- reduction orders: LPO, KBO, weighted path order
- labeling techniques: semantic labelling, matchbounds
- non-termination: loops and unfoldings, ...

## Annual termination competition

<http://termination-portal.org>

## Remark

*KBO, LPO and polynomial interpretations are incomparable*





## Fun/Research Example: Battle of Hercules and Hydra (1)



Hydra is a tree-shaped monster which grows whenever Hercules chops off a head:

If the cut-off head has a grandparent in the tree then the branch from this grandparent multiplies.

Hydra gets more and more angry: the number of copies corresponds to the number of heads already cut off.



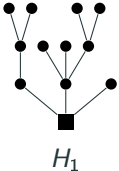
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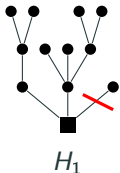
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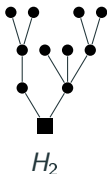
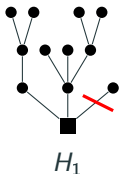
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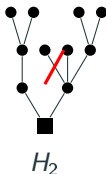
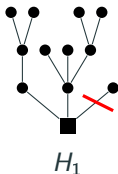
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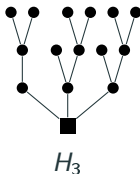
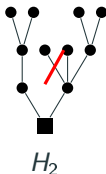
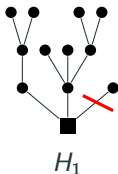
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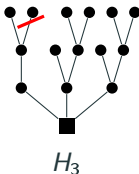
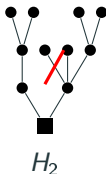
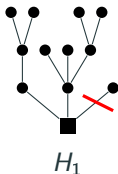
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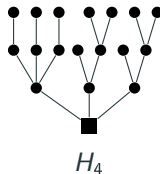
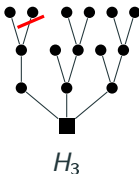
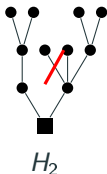
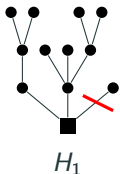
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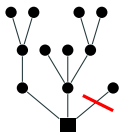
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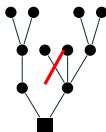
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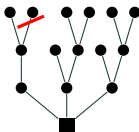
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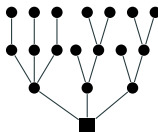
$H_1$



$H_2$



$H_3$



$H_4$



Will Hydra ever die, such that Hercules wins?

## Fun/Research Example: Battle of Hercules and Hydra (2)

process is modelled by TRS  $\mathcal{R}$ :

$$\begin{array}{lll} \circ(x) \rightarrow \bullet(\Box(x)) & \bullet(\Box(x)) \rightarrow \Box(\bullet(\bullet(x))) & \bullet(x) \rightarrow x \\ \Box(\circ(x)) \rightarrow \circ(\Box(x)) & \bullet(c_1(x, y)) \rightarrow c_1(x, H(x, y)) & \\ H(0, x) \rightarrow \circ(x) & \bullet(H(H(0, y), z)) \rightarrow c_1(y, z) & \\ c_2(x, y, z) \rightarrow \circ(H(y, z)) & \bullet(H(H(H(0, x), y), z)) \rightarrow c_2(x, y, z) & \\ c_1(y, z) \rightarrow \circ(z) & \bullet(c_2(x, y, z)) \rightarrow c_2(x, H(x, y), z) & \end{array}$$

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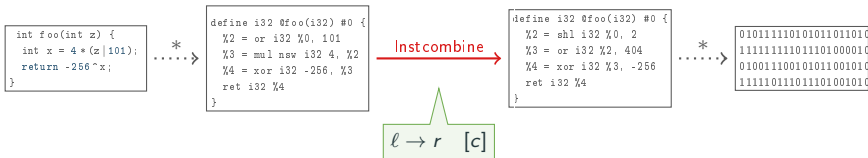


### Solution: Ordinal Interpretations

$$H(x, y) = \omega^x \oplus y \quad c_2(x, y, z) = \omega^{y+\omega^{x+1}} \oplus z \quad \dots$$

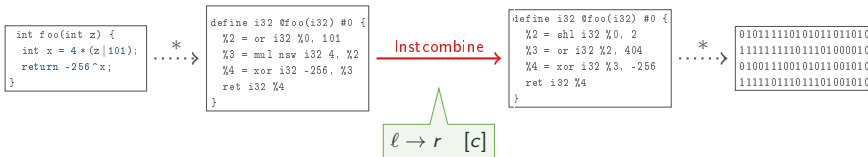
▶ TT<sub>2</sub>

## Practice Example: LLVM Expression Simplification



- ▶ LLVM Instcombine: >1000 algebraic simplifications of expressions
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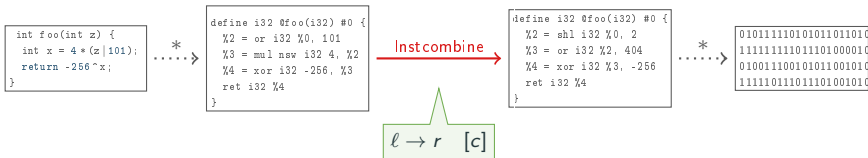


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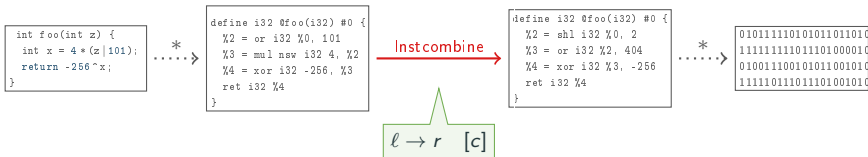
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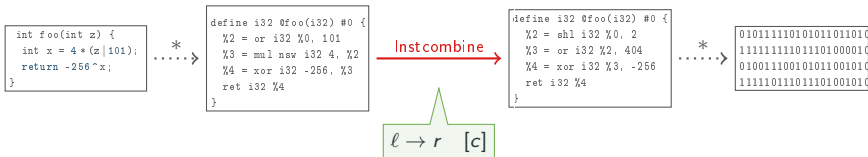
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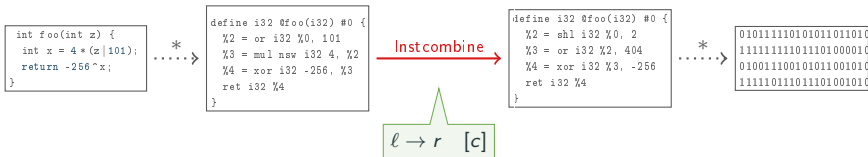
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## Termination

- Interpretations

- Lexicographic Path Order

- Knuth-Bendix Order

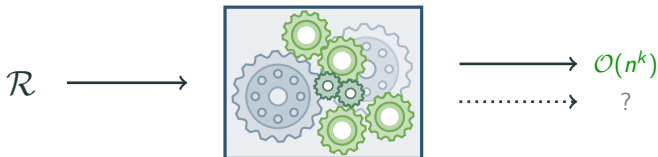
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# Complexity

TcT

input: term rewrite system  $\mathcal{R}$

output: worst-case derivational complexity  $dc_{\mathcal{R}}$

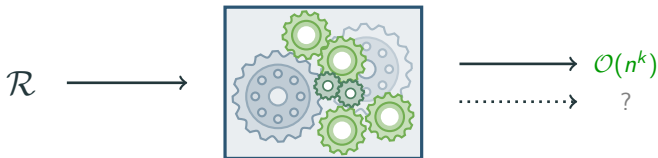


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## Definitions

► derivation height

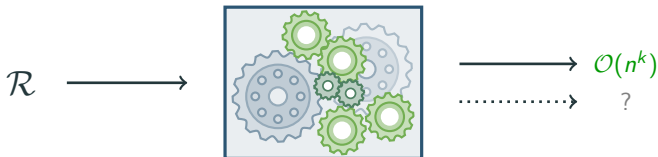
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## Definitions

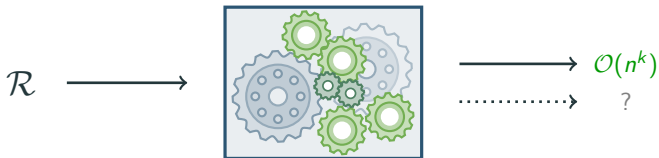
- ▶ derivation height  $dh_{\mathcal{R}}(t) = \max \{ n \mid \exists u: t \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}^n u \}$
- ▶ derivational complexity  $dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) = \max \{ dh_{\mathcal{R}}(t) \mid |t| = n \}$

# Complexity

$T_{CT}$

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Example (Bean Game)

$\bullet\bullet \rightarrow \circ$

$\circ\circ \rightarrow \circ$

$\bullet\circ \rightarrow \bullet$

$\circ\bullet \rightarrow \bullet$



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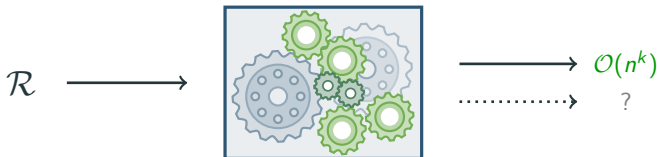
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## Example

$$[] @ xs \rightarrow xs$$

$$\text{flatten}([]) \rightarrow []$$

$$(x : xs) @ ys \rightarrow x : (xs @ ys)$$

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## Theorem

*if TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is polynomially terminating then its derivational complexity is at most doubly exponential*

## Theorem

*if TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is LPO terminating then its derivational complexity is a multiply recursive function*

## Theorem

*if TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is KBO terminating then its derivational complexity is bounded by an Ackermann function*

## Research Example: Program Analysis

$\text{init}(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{sort}(x, y, z)$

$\text{sort}(x, y, z) \rightarrow \langle \text{ms}_0(x, u, v), \text{ms}_1(x, u, v), \text{ms}_2(x, u, v), \text{ms}_3(x, u, v) \rangle$

$[x \geq 2 \wedge u \geq 0 \wedge v \geq 0 \wedge x + 1 \geq 2u \wedge 2u \geq x \wedge x \geq 2v \wedge 2v + 1 \geq x]$

$\text{ms}_0(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{split}(x, y, z) \quad \text{split}(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{split}(x - 2, y, z) [x \geq 2]$

$\text{ms}_1(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{ms}(y, y, z) \quad \text{merge}(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{merge}(x - 1, y, z) [x \geq 1 \wedge y \geq 1]$

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- TRSs with SMT arithmetic constraints can represent imperative program over integers

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- ▶ TRSs with SMT arithmetic constraints can represent imperative program over integers
- ▶ mergesort: new  $\text{TCT}$  derives optimal  $\mathcal{O}(n \log(n))$  bound (CoFloCo, KoAT, and previous version of  $\text{TCT}$  at best quadratic)

## Exercises

- 1 Which of the following TRSs are polynomially terminating?

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_1: \quad & f(x, g(y, z)) \rightarrow g(f(x, y), f(x, z)) \\ & f(g(x, y), z) \rightarrow g(f(x, z), f(y, z)) \\ & g(g(x, y), z) \rightarrow g(x, g(y, z))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_2: \quad & f(g(x), y) \rightarrow g(f(x, f(x, y))) \\ & f(x, x) \rightarrow g(g(x))\end{aligned}$$

- 2 Which of the TRSs of Exercise 1 is LPO terminating?
- 3 Which of the TRSs on slide 13 can be shown terminating by KBO?
- 4 Show that if a TRS  $\mathcal{R}$  is compatible with a KBO with weight function  $(w, w_0)$  and precedence  $>$  but  $(w, w_0)$  is not admissible for  $>$  then  $\mathcal{R}$  may not be terminating.