

Automated Reasoning for Static Program Analysis

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<https://www.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/~carsten/satsmtar2024/>

Quality Assurance for Software by Program Analysis

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- Dynamic analysis:
 - Run the program on example inputs (testing).
 - + goal: find errors
 - requires good choice of test cases
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- Static analysis:

Analyse the program text without actually running the program.

+ can prove (verify) correctness of the program

→ important for safety-critical applications

→ motivating example: first flight of Ariane 5 rocket in 1996

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PK_yguLapgA

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ariane_5_Flight_501

— manual static analysis requires high effort and expertise

⇒ for broad applicability:

Use automatic reasoning for static analysis!

Static Analysis: the User's Perspective (1/2)

For the user (programmer): Use static analysis tools as “black boxes”.

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- **Confluence**. For languages with non-deterministic rules/commands:

- Does **one** program always produce the same result?

- Confluence is a property that establishes the global determinism of a computation despite possible local non-determinism.*

- [Hristakiev, PhD thesis '17]*

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Ask me in the coffee break!

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Note: All these properties are **undecidable!**

⇒ use automatable sufficient criteria in practice

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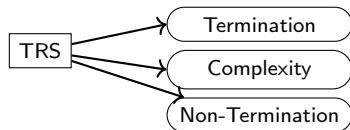
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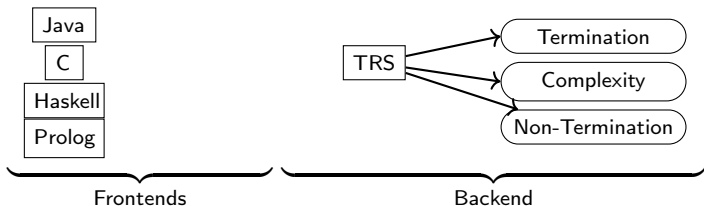
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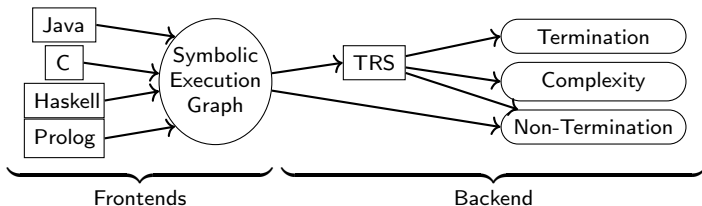
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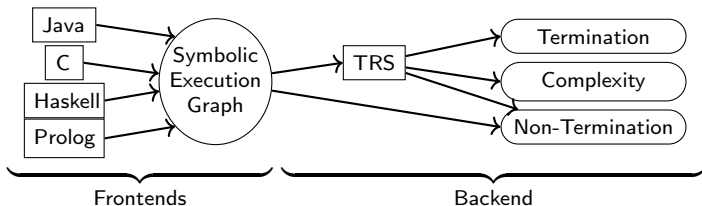


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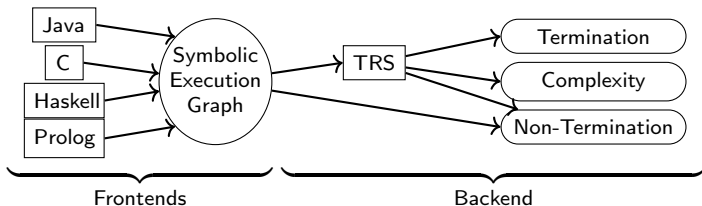
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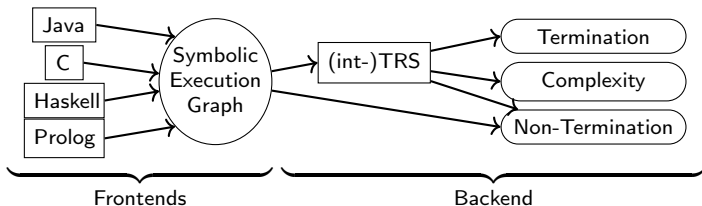
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Back-End

- Performs the analysis of the desired property
- ⇒ Result carries over to original program

I. Termination Analysis

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- ② special case of ①
- ③ can be interpreted as ①
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2011: PHP and Java issues with floating-point number parser

- <http://www.exploringbinary.com/php-hangs-on-numeric-value-2-2250738585072011e-308/>
- <http://www.exploringbinary.com/java-hangs-when-converting-2-2250738585072012e-308/>

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- But, fear not . . .

Turing 1949

Finally the checker has to verify that the process comes to an end. Here again he should be assisted by the programmer giving a further definite assertion to be verified. This may take the form of a quantity which is asserted to decrease continually and vanish when the machine stops.

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Example (Does this program terminate for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$?)

```
while  $x > 0$ :  
     $x = x - 1$ 
```

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In practice:

- Encode only one proof **step** at a time
→ try to prove only **part** of the program terminating
- **Repeat** until the whole program is proved terminating

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Front-End: processing practical programming languages

Example: Java

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Syntactic approach for reasoning in equational first-order logic

Core functional programming language without many restrictions (and features) of “real” FP:

- first-order (usually)
- no fixed evaluation strategy → non-determinism!
- no fixed order of rules to apply (Haskell: top to bottom) → non-determinism!
- untyped (unless you really want types)
- no pre-defined data structures (integers, arrays, ...)

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Example (A Term Rewrite System (TRS) for Division)

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Calculation:

$$\text{minus}(s(s(0)), s(0)) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} \text{minus}(s(0), 0) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} s(0)$$

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 - Object-oriented programming: **Java** [Otto et al, *RTA '10*]

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Termination: No infinite evaluation sequences $t_1 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} t_2 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} t_3 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} \dots$

Example (Division)

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{minus}(x, 0) & \rightarrow x \\ \text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) & \rightarrow \text{minus}(x, y) \\ \text{quot}(0, s(y)) & \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{quot}(s(x), s(y)) & \rightarrow s(\text{quot}(\text{minus}(x, y), s(y))) \end{array} \right.$$

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Show termination using Dependency Pairs

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Dependency Pairs [Arts, Giesl, TCS '00]

Example (Division)

$$\mathcal{R} = \begin{cases} \text{minus}(x, 0) & \rightarrow x \\ \text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) & \rightarrow \text{minus}(x, y) \\ \text{quot}(0, s(y)) & \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{quot}(s(x), s(y)) & \rightarrow s(\text{quot}(\text{minus}(x, y), s(y))) \end{cases}$$

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Dependency Pairs [Arts, Giesl, TCS '00]

- For TRS \mathcal{R} build dependency pairs \mathcal{DP} (\sim function calls)
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Example (Division)

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ \begin{array}{lll} \text{minus}(x, 0) & \lambda_2 & x \\ \text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) & \lambda_2 \lambda_2 \lambda_2 & \text{minus}(x, y) \\ \text{quot}(0, s(y)) & \lambda_2 \lambda_2 \lambda_2 & 0 \\ \text{quot}(s(x), s(y)) & \lambda_2 & s(\text{quot}(\text{minus}(x, y), s(y))) \end{array} \right.$$

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 - delete $s \rightarrow t$ with $s \succ t$ from \mathcal{DP}
- Find \succ **automatically** and **efficiently**

Get \succsim via **polynomial interpretations** $[\cdot]$ over \mathbb{N} [Lankford '75]

Example

$$\text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) \succsim \text{minus}(x, y)$$

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Use $[\cdot]$ with

- $[\text{minus}](x_1, x_2) = x_1$
- $[s](x_1) = x_1 + 1$

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Example

$$\forall x, y. \quad x + 1 = [\text{minus}(s(x), s(y))] \geq [\text{minus}(x, y)] = x$$

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Extend to terms:

- $[x] = x$
- $[f(t_1, \dots, t_n)] = [f]([t_1], \dots, [t_n])$

\succ boils down to $>$ over \mathbb{N}

Example (Constraints for Division)

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ \begin{array}{lll} \text{minus}(x, 0) & \gamma\gamma & x \\ \text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) & \gamma\gamma\gamma & \text{minus}(x, y) \\ \text{quot}(0, s(y)) & \gamma\gamma\gamma & 0 \\ \text{quot}(s(x), s(y)) & \gamma\gamma & s(\text{quot}(\text{minus}(x, y), s(y))) \end{array} \right.$$

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Polynomial interpretations play several roles for program analysis:

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- Abstraction (aka norm) for data structures: $[0]$ and $[s]$

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Task: Solve

$$\text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) \rightsquigarrow \text{minus}(x, y)$$

Task: Solve $\text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) \approx \text{minus}(x, y)$

- 1 Fix template polynomials with **parametric coefficients**, get interpretation template:

$$[\text{minus}](x, y) = a_m + b_m x + c_m y, \quad [s](x) = a_s + b_s x$$

Task: Solve $\text{minus}(s(x), s(y)) \succsim \text{minus}(x, y)$

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Non-linear constraints, even for **linear** interpretations

Task: Show satisfiability of non-linear constraints over \mathbb{N} (\rightarrow SMT solver!)

\curvearrowright **Prove termination** of given term rewrite system

Satisfiability of non-linear SMT formulas over \mathbb{N} **undecidable** (Hilbert's 10th problem)

- Restrict **unknowns** to **finite domain** $\{0, \dots, n\}$
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Approach [Fuhs et al, *SAT '07*]

- Encode non-linear SMT formula to **pure SAT**
→ bit-blasting for QF_NIA
- Use SAT solver to get solution
- **Eager Approach to SMT**, but any SMT solver will do!
- Observation: if a model over \mathbb{N} exists, usually small n suffices (e.g., $n = 3$)

Extensions of Polynomial Interpretations

- Polynomials with **negative coefficients** and **max-operator**
[Hirokawa, Middeldorp, *IC '07*; Fuhs et al, *SAT '07*, *RTA '08*]
 - can model behaviour of functions more closely: $[\text{pred}](x_1) = \max(x_1 - 1, 0)$
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 - linear interpretation to vectors over \mathbb{N}^k , coefficients are matrices
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 - several flavours: plus-times-semiring, max-plus-semiring [Koprowski, Waldmann, *Acta Cyb. '09*], ...
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Path orders: based on precedences on function symbols

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- Lexicographic Path Order [Kamin, Lévy, *Unpublished Manuscript* '80] and Recursive Path Order [Dershowitz, Manna, *CACM* '79; Dershowitz, *TCS* '82]
 - SAT encoding [Codish et al, *JAR* '11]

Path orders: based on precedences on function symbols

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- Weighted Path Order [Yamada, Kusakari, Sakabe, *SCP '15*]
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while $DP \neq \emptyset$:

- find well-founded order \succ with $DP \cup \mathcal{R} \subseteq \succ$
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- If internal timeout elapses (or everyone says **UNSATISFIABLE**):
 - kill all search instances; retry with larger search space.
- In addition: try non-SAT/SMT-based techniques
 - decompose problem into Strongly Connected Components, prove non-termination, ...

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- return model **quickly** (at most 5–10 seconds)
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Current SAT solver of choice in AProVE: **MiniSat 2.2** [Eén, Sörensson, *SAT '03*]
(version from around 2008; finds models quickly)

Survey among tool authors (Aug/Sep 2022):

<https://lists.rwth-aachen.de/hyperkitty/list/termtools@lists.rwth-aachen.de/thread/FNDNU5Y7TGXYXX34YWKFO2ICSRT6M3ME/>

- Proving **non-termination** (an infinite run is possible)
[Giesl, Thiemann, Schneider-Kamp, *FroCoS '05*; Payet, *TCS '08*; Zankl et al, *SOFSEM '10*; Emmes, Enger, Giesl, *IJCAR '12*; ...]

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- **Complexity analysis** [Hirokawa, Moser, *IJCAR '08*; Noschinski, Emmes, Giesl, *JAR '13*; ...]
Can re-use termination machinery to infer and prove statements like “runtime complexity of this TRS is in $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ ”

Annual SMT-COMP, division QF_NIA (Quantifier-Free Non-linear Integer Arithmetic)

Year	Winner
2009	Barcelogic-QF_NIA
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...	...

SMT Solvers *from* Termination Analysis

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⇒ Termination provers can also be successful SMT solvers!

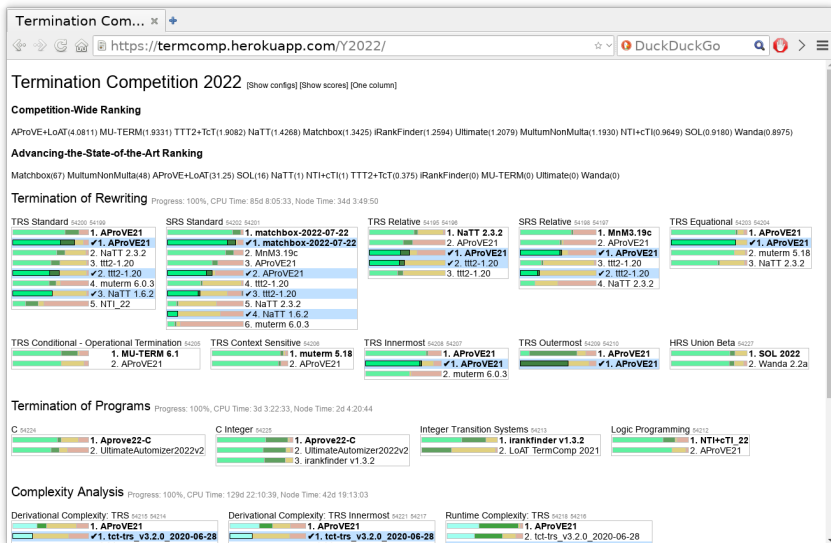
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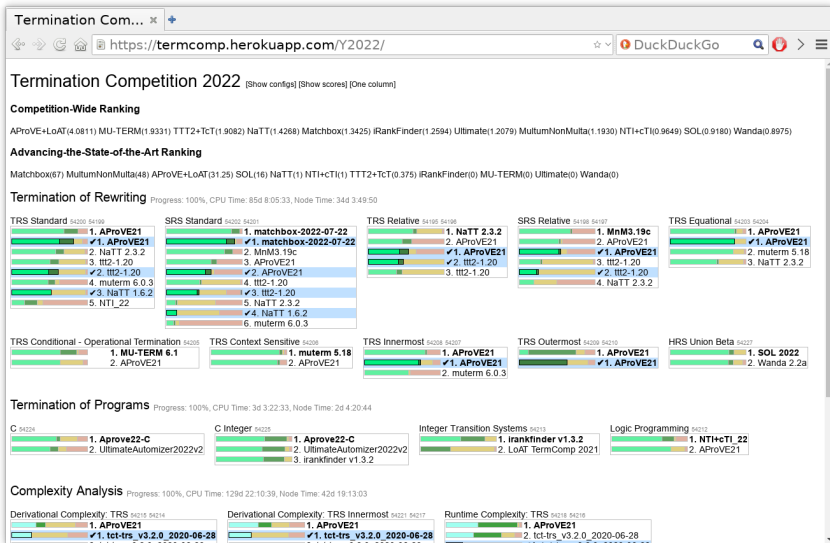
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(disclaimer: Z3 participated only *hors concours*)

The Termination Competition (termCOMP) (1/3)



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https://termination-portal.org/wiki/Termination_Competition

The Termination Competition (termCOMP) (2/3)

termCOMP 2022 participants (2024 similar):

- AProVE (RWTH Aachen, Birkbeck U London, U Innsbruck, . . .)
- iRankFinder (UC Madrid)
- LoAT (RWTH Aachen)
- Matchbox (HTWK Leipzig)
- Mu-Term (UP Valencia)
- MultumNonMulta (BA Saarland)
- NaTT (AIST Tokyo)
- NTI+cTI (U Réunion)
- SOL (Gunma U)
- TcT (U Innsbruck, INRIA Sophia Antipolis)
- $T_T T_2$ (U Innsbruck)
- Ultimate Automizer (U Freiburg)
- Wanda (RU Nijmegen)

- Benchmark set: Termination Problem DataBase (TPDB)
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→ 1000s of termination and complexity problems

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- Part of the Olympic Games at the Federated Logic Conference

Web interfaces available:

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Input format for termination of TRSs:

```
(VAR x y)
(RULES
  plus(0, y) -> y
  plus(s(x), y) -> s(plus(x, y))
)
```

I.2 Termination Analysis of Programs on Integers

Papers on termination of imperative programs often about **integers** as data

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Example (Imperative Program)

```
if ( $x \geq 0$ )  
  while ( $x \neq 0$ )  
     $x = x - 1$ ;
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Does this program terminate?
(x ranges over \mathbb{Z})

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Prove termination by ranking function $[\cdot]$ with $[\ell_0](x) = [\ell_1](x) = \dots = x$

Proving Termination with Invariants

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Searching for Invariants Using SMT

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- Statically before the translation [Otto et al, *RTA '10*; Ströder et al, *JAR '17*, ...]
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 - more about this in a few minutes!

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- By counterexample-based reasoning + safety prover: **Terminator** [Cook, Podelski, Rybalchenko, *CAV '06*, *PLDI '06*]
 - prove termination of single program **runs**
 - termination argument often generalises

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Searching for Invariants Using SMT

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Nowadays all SMT-based!

- Proving **non-termination** (infinite run is possible **from initial states**)

[Gupta et al, *POPL '08*, Brockschmidt et al, *FoVeOOS '11*, Chen et al, *TACAS '14*, Larraz et al, *CAV '14*, Cook et al, *FMCAD '14*, ...]

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- CTL* model checking for **infinite** state systems based on termination and non-termination provers [Cook, Khlaaf, Piterman, *JACM '17*]
- Beyond sequential programs on integers:
 - structs/classes [Berdine et al, *CAV '06*; Otto et al, *RTA '10*; ...]
 - arrays (pointer arithmetic) [Ströder et al, *JAR '17*, ...]
 - multi-threaded programs [Cook et al, *PLDI '07*, ...]
 - ...

Why Care about Termination of Term Rewriting?

- Termination needed by theorem provers
- Translate program P with inductive data structures (trees) to TRS, represent data structures as terms
 - ⇒ Termination of TRS implies termination of P
 - Logic programming: **Prolog**
[van Raamsdonk, *ICLP '97*; Schneider-Kamp et al, *TOCL '09*; Giesl et al, *PPDP '12*]
 - (Lazy) functional programming: **Haskell** [Giesl et al, *TOPLAS '11*]
 - Object-oriented programming: **Java** [Otto et al, *RTA '10*]

So far, so good ...

but do we *really* want to represent 1000000 as $s(s(s(\dots)))$?!

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Solution: use **constrained term rewriting**

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Term rewriting “with batteries included”

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- For program termination: use term rewriting with **integers** [Falke, Kapur, *CADE '09*; Fuhs et al, *RTA '09*; Giesl et al, *JAR '17*]

Analysis techniques for Logically Constrained TRSs:

- Termination [Kop, *WST* '13; Nishida, Winkler, *VSTTE* '18]
- Complexity [Winkler, Moser, *LOPSTR* '20]
- Equivalence [Fuhs, Kop, Nishida, *TOCL* '17; Ciobâcă, Lucanu, Buruiana, *JLAMP* '23]
- Confluence [Schöpf, Middeldorp, *CADE* '23; Schöpf, Mitterwallner, Middeldorp, *IJCAR* '24]
- Reachability / Safety [Ciobâcă, Lucanu, *IJCAR* '18; Kojima, Nishida, *JLAMP* '23]

Example (Constrained Rewrite System)

$$\begin{aligned}l_0(n, r) &\rightarrow l_1(n, r, \text{Nil}) \\l_1(n, r, xs) &\rightarrow l_1(n - 1, r + 1, \text{Cons}(r, xs)) \quad [n > 0] \\l_1(n, r, xs) &\rightarrow l_2(xs) \quad [n = 0]\end{aligned}$$

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Termination proof: reuse techniques for TRSs and integer programs

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- Automated termination analysis for term rewriting and for imperative programs developed in parallel over the last ~ 25 years

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Behind (almost) every successful termination prover ...
... there is a powerful SAT / SMT solver!

I.3 Termination Analysis of Java programs

Front-End: from Program to Constrained Term Rewriting, high-level

- execute program **symbolically** from initial states of the program, handle language peculiarities here (→ Java: sharing, cyclicity analysis)

```
f: if ...  
    ...  
else  
    ...  
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        ...
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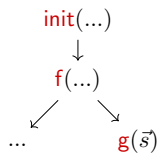
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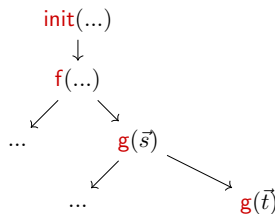
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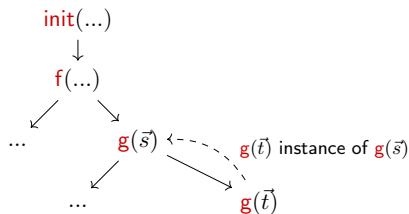
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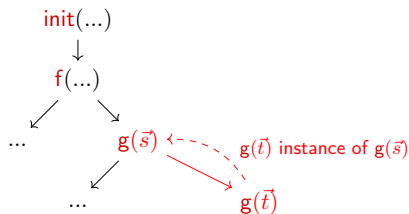
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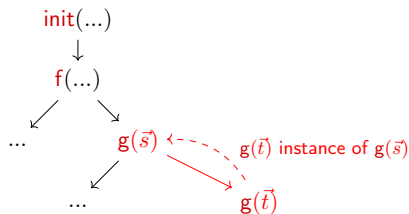
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- closely related: Abstract Interpretation
- **extract TRS** from **cycles** in the representation
- if TRS terminates
 - \Rightarrow any **concrete program execution** can use **cycles** only finitely often
 - \Rightarrow the program **must terminate**

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Application: Termination Analysis of Programs

Recipe for proving program termination by reusing TRS termination provers

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- Prove **termination** of these rewrite rules
⇒ implies termination of program from initial states

Java: object-oriented imperative language

- sharing and aliasing (several references to the same object)
- side effects
- cyclic data objects (e.g., `list.next == list`)
- object-orientation with inheritance
- ...

```
public class MyInt {  
  
    // only wrap a primitive int  
    private int val;  
  
    // count "num" up to the value in "limit"  
    public static void count(MyInt num, MyInt limit) {  
        if (num == null || limit == null) {  
            return;  
        }  
        // introduce sharing  
        MyInt copy = num;  
        while (num.val < limit.val) {  
            copy.val++;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Does **count** terminate for all inputs? Why (not)?

(Assume that **num** and **limit** are not references to the same object.)

Approach to Termination Analysis of Java

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Implemented in the tool **AProVE** (\rightarrow web interface)

<http://aprove.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/>

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```
00: aload_0
01: ifnull 8
04: aload_1
05: ifnonnull 9
08: return
09: aload_0
10: astore_2
11: aload_0
12: getfield val
15: aload_1
16: getfield val
19: if_icmpge 35
22: aload_2
23: aload_2
24: getfield val
27: iconst_1
28: iadd
29: putfield val
32: goto 11
35: return
```

;; **Java Bytecode**

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Here: **Java source code**

Ingredients for the Abstract Domain

- 1 program counter value (line number)
- 2 values of variables (treating int as \mathbb{Z})
- 3 over-approximating info on possible variable values
 - integers: use intervals, e.g. $x \in [4, 7]$ or $y \in [0, \infty)$
 - heap memory with objects, **no sharing** unless stated otherwise
 - `MyInt(?)`: maybe null, maybe a `MyInt` object

Heap predicates:

- Two references may be equal: $o_1 =? o_2$

$\emptyset 3$		$\text{num} : o_1, \text{limit} : o_2$
$o_1 : \text{MyInt}(?)$		
$o_2 : \text{MyInt}(\text{val} = i_1)$		
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Building the Symbolic Execution Graph

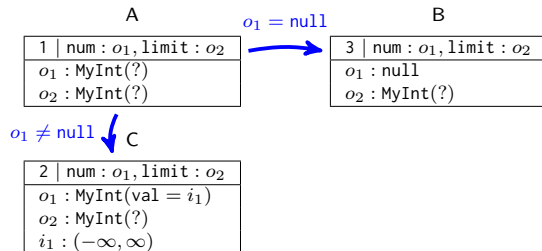
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    private int val;  
    static void count(MyInt num, MyInt limit) {  
1:     if (num == null  
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A

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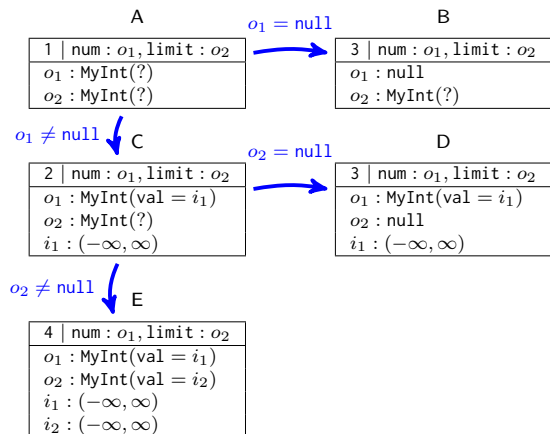


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means: refine X with *cond*, then evaluate to Y; here combined for brevity (narrowing)

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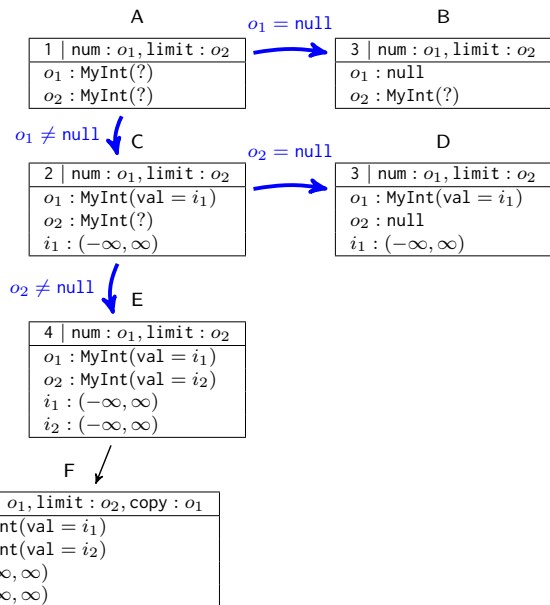
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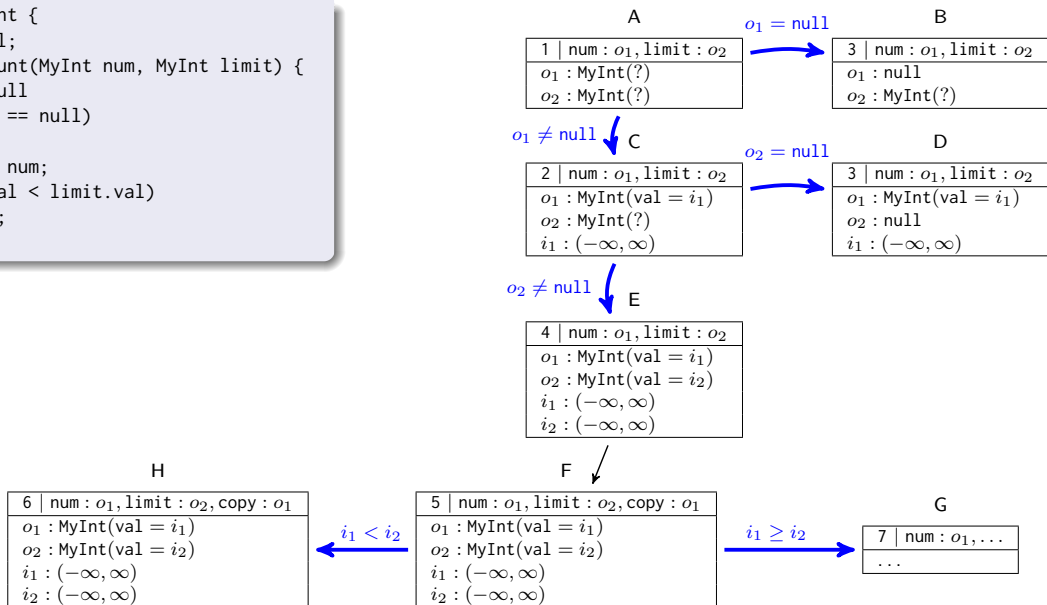
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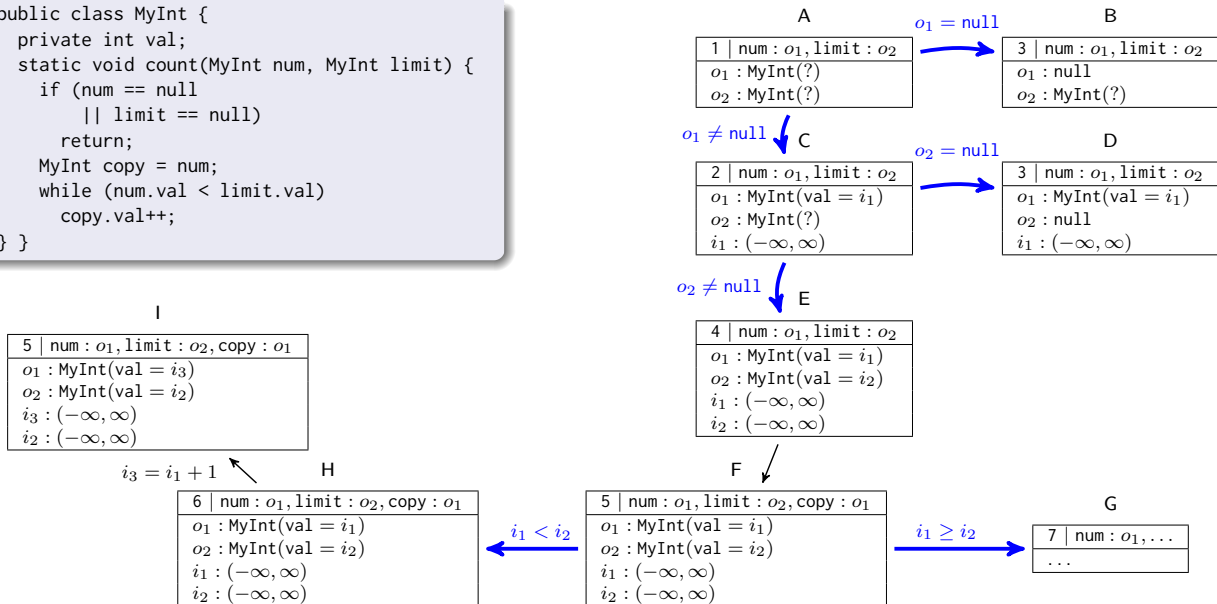
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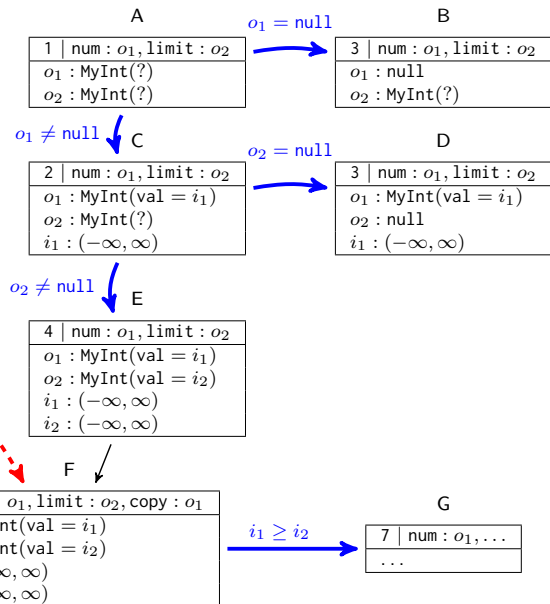
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X \dashrightarrow Y :
 X is **instance** of Y

Symbolic Execution Graphs

- symbolic over-approximation of all computations (abstract interpretation)
- expand nodes until all leaves correspond to program ends
- by suitable generalisation steps (widening), one can always get a **finite** symbolic execution graph
- state s_1 is **instance** of state s_2
if all concrete states described by s_1 are also described by s_2

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Using Symbolic Execution Graphs for Termination Proofs

- every concrete Java computation corresponds to a **computation path** in the symbolic execution graph
- symbolic execution graph is called **terminating**
iff it has no infinite computation path

Transformation of Objects to Terms (1/2)

16		num : o_1 , limit : o_2 , x : o_3 , y : o_4 , z : i_1
o_1 : MyInt(?)		
o_2 : MyInt(val = i_2)		
o_3 : null		
o_4 : MyList(?)		
o_4 !		
i_1 : [7, ∞)		
i_2 : ($-\infty$, ∞)		

Q

For every class C with n fields, introduce an n -ary function symbol C

- **term** for o_1 : o_1
- **term** for o_2 : MyInt(i_2)
- **term** for o_3 : null
- **term** for o_4 : x (new variable)
- **term** for i_1 : i_1 with **side constraint** $i_1 \geq 7$

(add invariant $i_1 \geq 7$ to constrained rewrite rules from state Q)

Dealing with **subclasses**:

```
public class A {  
    int a;  
}  
  
public class B extends A {  
    int b;  
}  
  
...  
A x = new A();  
x.a = 1;  
  
B y = new B();  
y.a = 2;  
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→ **eoc** for **end of class**
- **term** for y : $A(B(\text{eoc}, 3), 2)$

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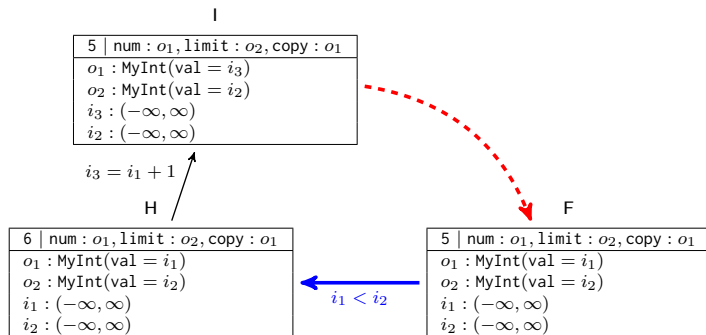
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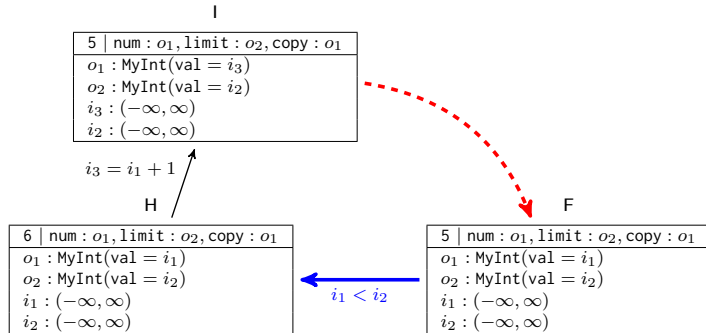
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→ **eoc** for **end of class**
- **term** for y : $\text{jIO}(A(B(\text{eoc}, 3), 2))$
- every class extends `Object`!
(→ $\text{jIO} \equiv \text{java.lang.Object}$)

From the Symbolic Execution Graph to Terms and Rules



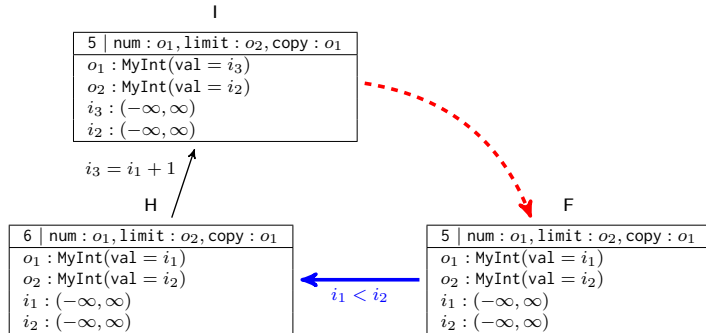
From the Symbolic Execution Graph to Terms and Rules



• State F: $\ell_F(\text{jIO}(\text{MyInt}(\text{eoc}, i_1)), \text{jIO}(\text{MyInt}(\text{eoc}, i_2)))$

State H: $\ell_H(\text{jIO}(\text{MyInt}(\text{eoc}, i_1)), \text{jIO}(\text{MyInt}(\text{eoc}, i_2)))$

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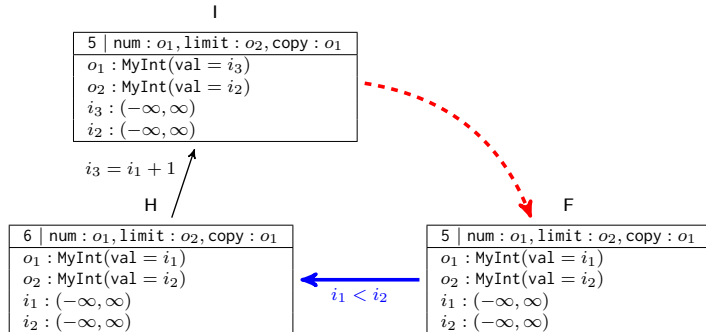


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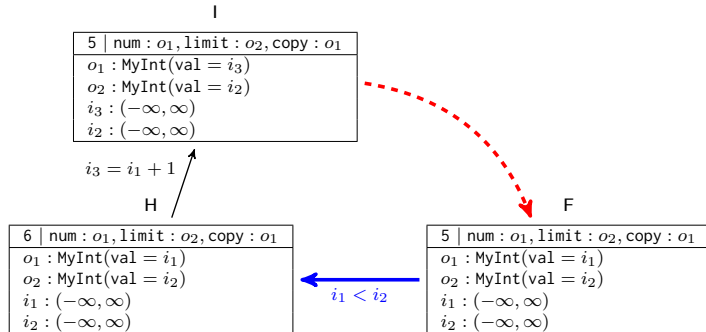
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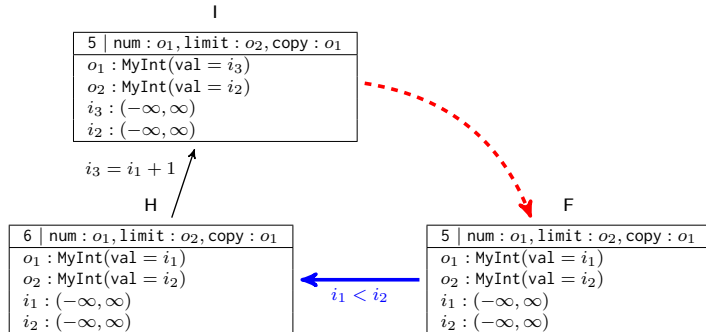
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- Termination easy to show (intuitively: $i_2 - i_1$ decreases against bound 0)

- **modular** termination proofs and **recursion** [Brockschmidt et al, *RTA '11*]
- proving **reachability** and **non-termination** (uses only symbolic execution graph) [Brockschmidt et al, *FoVeOOS '11*]
- proving termination with **cyclic data objects** (preprocessing in symbolic execution graph) [Brockschmidt et al, *CAV '12*]
- proving upper bounds for **time complexity** (abstracts terms to numbers) [Frohn and Giesl, *iFM '17*]

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⇒ abstract domain based on equivalent **linear** Prolog semantics [Ströder et al, *LOPSTR '11*], tracks which variables are for ground terms vs arbitrary terms

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Extensions:

- bitvector int semantics [Hensel et al, *JLAMP* '18]
- linked lists [Hensel, Giesl, *CADE* '23]

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 - handle language specifics in **front-end**
 - transitions between program states become (constrained) rewrite rules for **termination back-end**
- Works across paradigms: Java, C, Haskell, Prolog

II. Complexity Analysis

II.1 Complexity Analysis for Programs on Integers

What Do You Mean by Complexity?

Literature uses many alternative names:

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- (Computational) cost analysis
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Given: Program P .

Task: Provide **upper/lower bounds** on the resource use of running P as a function of the input (size) **in the worst case**

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→ computational cost as a non-functional requirement!

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- More: see Section 1.1.2 of PhD thesis by Alicia Merayo Corcoba¹

¹A. Merayo Corcoba: *Resource analysis of integer and abstract programs*, PhD thesis, U Complutense Madrid, 2022

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runtime in $\mathcal{O}(f(n))$ means:

- for an input of “size” n , the program needs at most about $f(n)$ steps
- the runtime is “of order $f(n)$ ”

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Best runtime bound: $\mathcal{O}(x^2 + z)$

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Data size influences runtime.

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Wanted: automatic oracle to tell how big z can be at $(*)$.

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- 3 we run through Loop 1 at most $f_1(x_0, z_0) = x_0$ times

How Can We Build such an Oracle for Size Bounds?

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def twoLoops2(x, z):  
    while x > 0:  
        x = x - 1  
        z = z + x  
    # (*)  
    while z > 0:  
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```

Loop 1: ranking function $f_1(x, z) = x$

Loop 2: ranking function $f_2(x, z) = z$

Wanted: automatic oracle to tell how big z can be at $(*)$.

We know:

- 1 each time round Loop 1, x goes down by 1, from x_0 until 0
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Runtime influences **data size**.

Are There Other Techniques and Tools?

- Using techniques from termination proving: ABC², AProVE, CoFloCo³, COSTA/PUBS⁴, Loopus⁵, Rank⁶, TcT⁷, ...

²R. Blanc, T. Henzinger, L. Kovács: *ABC: Algebraic Bound Computation for Loops*, LPAR (Dakar) '10

³A. Flores-Montoya and R. Hähnle: *Resource Analysis of Complex Programs with Cost Equations*, APLAS '14

⁴E. Albert, P. Arenas, S. Genaim, G. Puebla, D. Zanardini: *Cost analysis of object-oriented bytecode programs*, TCS '12

⁵M. Sinn, F. Zuleger, H. Veith: *A Simple and Scalable Static Analysis for Bound Analysis and Amortized Complexity Analysis*, CAV '14

⁶C. Alias, A. Darte, P. Feautrier, L. Gonnord: *Multi-dimensional Rankings, Program Termination, and Complexity Bounds of Flowchart Programs*, SAS '10

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- Using type-based amortised analysis:¹⁰ RAML¹¹, ...

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¹⁰J. Hoffmann, S. Jost: *Two decades of automatic amortized resource analysis*, MSCS '22

¹¹J. Hoffmann, K. Aehlig, M. Hofmann: *Resource Aware ML*, CAV '12

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¹²N. Lommen, F. Meyer, J. Giesl: *Automatic Complexity Analysis of Integer Programs via Triangular Weakly Non-Linear Loops*, IJCAR '22

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¹⁶P. Wang, H. Fu, A. Goharshady, K. Chatterjee, X. Qin, W. Shi: *Cost analysis of nondeterministic probabilistic programs*, PLDI '19

¹⁷F. Meyer, M. Hark, J. Giesl: *Inferring Expected Runtimes of Probabilistic Integer Programs Using Expected Sizes*, TACAS '21

¹⁸L. Leutgeb, G. Moser, F. Zuleger: *Automated Expected Amortised Cost Analysis of Probabilistic Data Structures*, CAV '22

Key insights:

- Data size influences runtime
- Runtime influences data size
- *Other influences minor*

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Solution:

- Alternating size/runtime analysis
- Modularity by using *only* these results

II.2 Complexity Analysis for Term Rewriting

What is *Term Rewriting*?

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- ① Introduction
- ② Automatically Finding Upper Bounds
- ③ Transformational Techniques
- ④ Analysing Program Complexity via TRS Complexity
- ⑤ Current Developments

1989: Derivational complexity introduced, linked to termination proofs¹⁹

¹⁹D. Hofbauer, C. Lautemann: *Termination proofs and the length of derivations*, RTA '89

A Short Timeline (1/2)

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²³M. Korp, C. Sternagel, H. Zankl, A. Middeldorp: *Tyrolean Termination Tool 2*, RTA '09,
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Definition (Derivation Height dh)

For a term $t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V})$ and a relation \rightarrow , the **derivation height** is:

$$\text{dh}(t, \rightarrow) = \sup \{ n \mid \exists t'. t \rightarrow^n t' \}$$

If t starts an infinite \rightarrow -sequence, we set $\text{dh}(t, \rightarrow) = \omega$.

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Definition (Derivational Complexity dc)

For a TRS \mathcal{R} , the **derivational complexity** is:

$$\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) = \sup \{ \text{dh}(t, \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}) \mid t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{V}), |t| \leq n \}$$

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$\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$: length of the longest $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}$ -sequence from a term of size at most n

Example: For \mathcal{R} for **double**, we have $\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \Theta(2^n)$.

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- $dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ polynomially bounded?²⁴

Goal: find **approximations** for derivational complexity

Initial focus: find upper bounds

$$dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(\dots)$$

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Example (double)

`double(0)` \rightarrow `0`

`double(s(x))` \rightarrow `s(s(double(x)))`

Example (double)

$\text{double}(0) \succ 0$
 $\text{double}(s(x)) \succ s(s(\text{double}(x)))$

Show $\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) < \omega$ by **termination proof** with reduction order \succ on terms.

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Get \succ via **polynomial interpretation**²⁵ $[\cdot]$ over \mathbb{N} :

$$l \succ r \iff [l] \succ [r]$$

²⁵D. Lankford: *Canonical algebraic simplification in computational logic*, U Texas '75

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Example: $[\text{double}](x) = 3 \cdot x$, $[s](x) = x + 1$, $[0] = 1$

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Extend to terms:

- $[x] = x$
- $[f(t_1, \dots, t_n)] = [f]([t_1], \dots, [t_n])$

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Example (double)

$\text{double}(0)$	\succ	0		3	$>$	1
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$$\begin{array}{lcl}
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 \end{array}
 \quad \Bigg| \quad
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 3 & > & 1 \\
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Extend to terms:

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Automated search for $[\cdot]$ via SAT²⁶ or SMT²⁷ solving

²⁵D. Lankford: *Canonical algebraic simplification in computational logic*, U Texas '75

²⁶C. Fuhs, J. Giesl, A. Middeldorp, P. Schneider-Kamp, R. Thiemann, H. Zankl: *SAT solving for termination analysis with polynomial interpretations*, SAT '07

²⁷C. Borralleras, S. Lucas, A. Oliveras, E. Rodríguez-Carbonell, A. Rubio: *SAT modulo linear arithmetic for solving polynomial constraints*, JAR '12

Example (double)

$\text{double}(0)$	\succ	0		3	$>$	1
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Theorem (Upper bounds for $dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ from polynomial interpretations²⁸)

- Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with **polynomial** interpretation

$$\Rightarrow dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in 2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(n)}}$$

²⁸D. Hofbauer, C. Lautemann: *Termination proofs and the length of derivations*, RTA '89

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Theorem (Upper bounds for $dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ from polynomial interpretations²⁸)

- Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with **polynomial** interpretation

$$\Rightarrow dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in 2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(n)}}$$

- Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with **linear polynomial** interpretation

$$\Rightarrow dc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(n)}$$

²⁸D. Hofbauer, C. Lautemann: *Termination proofs and the length of derivations*, RTA '89

Derivational Complexity from Termination Proofs (1/2)

Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with ...

- matchbounds²⁹

$\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$

- arctic matrix interpretations³⁰

$\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$

²⁹A. Geser, D. Hofbauer, J. Waldmann: *Match-bounded string rewriting systems*, AAECC '04

³⁰A. Koprowski, J. Waldmann: *Max/plus tree automata for termination of term rewriting*, Acta Cyb. '09

Derivational Complexity from Termination Proofs (1/2)

Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with ...

- matchbounds²⁹ $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$
- arctic matrix interpretations³⁰ $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$
- triangular matrix interpretation³¹ $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is at most polynomial
- matrix interpretation of spectral radius³² ≤ 1 $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is at most polynomial

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³¹G. Moser, A. Schnabl, J. Waldmann: *Complexity analysis of term rewriting based on matrix and context dependent interpretations*, FSTTCS '08

³²F. Neurauter, H. Zankl, A. Middeldorp: *Revisiting matrix interpretations for polynomial derivational complexity of term rewriting*, LPAR (Yogyakarta) '10

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³²F. Neurauter, H. Zankl, A. Middeldorp: *Revisiting matrix interpretations for polynomial derivational complexity of term rewriting*, LPAR (Yogyakarta) '10

³³J. Endrullis, J. Waldmann, and H. Zantema: *Matrix interpretations for proving termination of term rewriting*, JAR '08

Derivational Complexity from Termination Proofs (2/2)

Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with ...

- Lexicographic Path Order³⁴

$\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is at most multiple recursive³⁵

³⁴S. Kamin, J.-J. Lévy: *Two generalizations of the recursive path ordering*, U Illinois '80

³⁵A. Weiermann: *Termination proofs for term rewriting systems by lexicographic path orderings imply multiply recursive derivation lengths*, TCS '95

Derivational Complexity from Termination Proofs (2/2)

Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with ...

- Lexicographic Path Order³⁴ $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is at most multiple recursive³⁵
- Dependency Pairs method³⁶ with dependency graphs and usable rules $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is at most primitive recursive³⁷

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³⁷G. Moser, A. Schnabl: *The derivational complexity induced by the dependency pair method*, LMCS '11

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- Dependency Pairs framework^{38,39} with dependency graphs, reduction pairs, subterm criterion $\Rightarrow \text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is at most multiple recursive⁴⁰

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³⁸J. Giesl, R. Thiemann, P. Schneider-Kamp, S. Falke: *Mechanizing and improving dependency pairs*, JAR '06

³⁹N. Hirokawa and A. Middeldorp: *Tyrolean Termination Tool: Techniques and features*, IC '07

⁴⁰G. Moser, A. Schnabl: *Termination proofs in the dependency pair framework may induce multiple recursive derivational complexity*, RTA '11

- So far: upper bounds for derivational complexity

Runtime Complexity

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double($s^n(0)$)

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Definition (Basic Term⁴¹)

For **defined symbols** \mathcal{D} and **constructor symbols** \mathcal{C} , the term

$$f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

is in the set $\mathcal{T}_{\text{basic}}$ of **basic terms** iff $f \in \mathcal{D}$ and $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{V})$.

⁴¹N. Hirokawa, G. Moser: *Automated complexity analysis based on the dependency pair method*, IJCAR '08

Runtime Complexity

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For a TRS \mathcal{R} , the **runtime complexity** is:

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$\text{rc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$: like derivational complexity... but for basic terms only!

⁴¹N. Hirokawa, G. Moser: *Automated complexity analysis based on the dependency pair method*, IJCAR '08

Runtime Complexity from Polynomial Interpretations

Polynomial interpretations can induce upper bounds to runtime complexity:⁴²

Definition (Strongly linear polynomial, restricted interpretation)

- Polynomial p is **strongly linear** iff
 $p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_1 + \dots + x_n + a$ for some $a \in \mathbb{N}$.
- Polynomial interpretation $[\cdot]$ is **restricted** iff
for all constructor symbols f , $[f](x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is strongly linear.

Idea: $[t] \leq c \cdot |t|$ for fixed $c \in \mathbb{N}$.

⁴²G. Bonfante, A. Cichon, J. Marion, H. Touzet: *Algorithms with polynomial interpretation termination proof*, JFP '01

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Theorem (Upper bounds for $rc_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ from restricted interpretations)

Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with **restricted** interpretation $[\cdot]$ of degree at most d for $[f]$
 $\Rightarrow rc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^d)$

⁴²G. Bonfante, A. Cichon, J. Marion, H. Touzet: *Algorithms with polynomial interpretation termination proof*, JFP '01

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Termination proof for TRS \mathcal{R} with **restricted** interpretation $[\cdot]$ of degree at most d for $[f]$
 $\Rightarrow rc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^d)$

Example: $[\text{double}](x) = 3 \cdot x$, $[\text{s}](x) = x + 1$, $[0] = 1$ is restricted, degree 1

$\Rightarrow rc_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ for TRS \mathcal{R} for **double**

⁴²G. Bonfante, A. Cichon, J. Marion, H. Touzet: *Algorithms with polynomial interpretation termination proof*, JFP '01

Dependency Tuples for *Innermost* Runtime Complexity irc

Here: innermost rewriting (\approx call-by-value)

Example (reverse)

`app(nil, y) → y`

`reverse(nil) → nil`

`app(add(n, x), y) → add(n, app(x, y))`

`reverse(add(n, x)) → app(reverse(x), add(n, nil))`

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$\text{app}(\text{nil}, y) \rightarrow y$	$\text{app}(\text{add}(n, x), y) \rightarrow \text{add}(n, \text{app}(x, y))$
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For rule $\ell \rightarrow r$, eval of ℓ costs 1 + eval of all function calls in r **together**:

⁴³L. Noschinski, F. Emmes, J. Giesl: *Analyzing innermost runtime complexity of term rewriting by dependency pairs*, JAR '13

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Example (Dependency Tuples⁴³ for reverse)

$\text{app}^\sharp(\text{nil}, y) \rightarrow \text{Com}_0$
$\text{app}^\sharp(\text{add}(n, x), y) \rightarrow \text{Com}_1(\text{app}^\sharp(x, y))$
$\text{reverse}^\sharp(\text{nil}) \rightarrow \text{Com}_0$
$\text{reverse}^\sharp(\text{add}(n, x)) \rightarrow \text{Com}_2(\text{app}^\sharp(\text{reverse}(x), \text{add}(n, \text{nil})), \text{reverse}^\sharp(x))$

- Function calls to count marked with \sharp
- Compound symbols Com_k group function calls together

⁴³L. Noschinski, F. Emmes, J. Giesl: *Analyzing innermost runtime complexity of term rewriting by dependency pairs*, JAR '13

Polynomial Interpretations for Dependency Tuples

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Use interpretation $[\cdot]$ with $[\text{Com}_k](x_1, \dots, x_k) = x_1 + \dots + x_k$ and

$$\begin{array}{lll} [\text{nil}] = 0 & [\text{add}](x_1, x_2) = x_2 + 1 & (\leq \text{restricted interpretation}) \\ [\text{app}](x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 & [\text{reverse}](x_1) = x_1 & (\text{bounds helper function's result size}) \\ [\text{app}^\#](x_1, x_2) = x_1 + 1 & [\text{reverse}^\#](x_1) = x_1^2 + x_1 + 1 & (\text{complexity of function}) \end{array}$$

to show $[\ell] \geq [r]$ for all rules and $[\ell] \geq 1 + [r]$ for all Dependency Tuples

Maximum degree of $[f^\#]$ is 2 $\Rightarrow \text{irc}_{\mathcal{R}}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n^2)$

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⁴⁴N. Hirokawa, G. Moser: *Automated complexity analysis based on the dependency pair method*, IJCAR '08

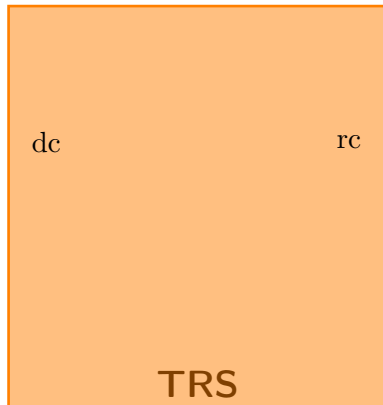
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- Extensions by polynomial path orders⁴⁵, usable replacement maps⁴⁶, a combination framework for complexity analysis⁴⁷, ...

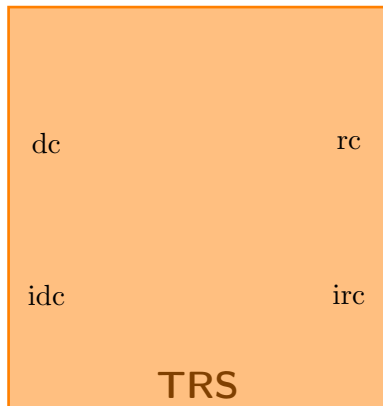
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⁴⁵M. Avanzini, G. Moser: *Dependency pairs and polynomial path orders*, RTA '09

⁴⁶N. Hirokawa, G. Moser: *Automated complexity analysis based on context-sensitive rewriting*, RTA-TLCA '14

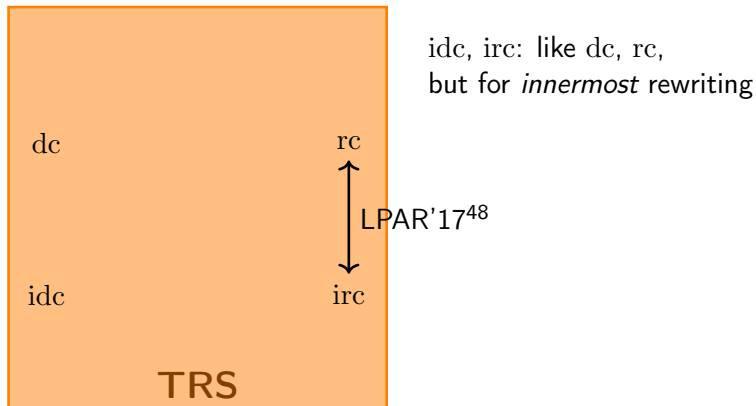
⁴⁷M. Avanzini, G. Moser: *A combination framework for complexity*, IC '16





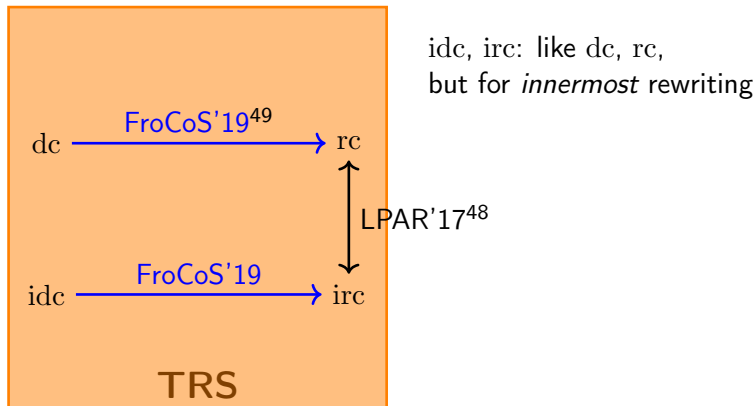
idc, irc: like dc, rc,
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A Landscape of Complexity Properties and Transformations



⁴⁸F. Frohn, J. Giesl: *Analyzing runtime complexity via innermost runtime complexity*, LPAR '17

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⁴⁹C. Fuhs: *Transforming Derivational Complexity of Term Rewriting to Runtime Complexity*, FroCoS '19

The big picture:

- **Have:** Tool for automated analysis of runtime complexity $rc_{\mathcal{R}}$

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“ $rc_{\mathcal{R}}$ analysis tool + transformation on TRS $\mathcal{R} = dc_{\mathcal{R}}$ analysis tool”

- **Benefits:**
 - Get analysis of derivational complexity “for free”
 - Progress in runtime complexity analysis automatically improves derivational complexity analysis

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- **implemented** in program analysis tool AProVE
- **evaluated** successfully on TPDB⁵⁰ relative to state of the art TcT

⁵⁰Termination Problem DataBase, standard benchmark source for annual Termination Competition (termCOMP) with 1000s of problems, <http://termination-portal.org/wiki/TPDB>

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Issue:

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- We want to analyse complexity for **arbitrary** terms

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Solution:

- add \mathcal{G} as **relative** rewrite rules:
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- transform \mathcal{R} to \mathcal{R}/\mathcal{G} ($\rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}$ steps are counted, $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{G}}$ steps are not)

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- more generally: transform \mathcal{R}/\mathcal{S} to $\mathcal{R}/(\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{G})$
 (input may contain relative rules \mathcal{S} , too)

Theorem (Derivational Complexity via Runtime Complexity)

Let \mathcal{R}/\mathcal{S} be a relative TRS, let \mathcal{G} be the generator rules for \mathcal{R}/\mathcal{S} . Then

- 1 $dc_{\mathcal{R}/\mathcal{S}}(n) = rc_{\mathcal{R}/(\mathcal{S}\cup\mathcal{G})}(n)$ (arbitrary rewrite strategies)
- 2 $idc_{\mathcal{R}/\mathcal{S}}(n) = irc_{\mathcal{R}/(\mathcal{S}\cup\mathcal{G})}(n)$ (innermost rewriting)

Note: equalities hold also non-asymptotically!

Experiments on TPDB, compare with **state of the art** in **TcT**:

- upper bounds idc: both **AProVE** and **TcT with transformation** are stronger than **standard TcT**
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 - lower bounds idc and dc: heuristics do not seem to benefit much
- ⇒ Transformation-based approach should be part of the portfolio of analysis tools for derivational complexity

- **Possible applications**

- compiler simplifications
- SMT solver preprocessing

Start terms may have nested defined symbols, so $dc_{\mathcal{R}}$ is appropriate

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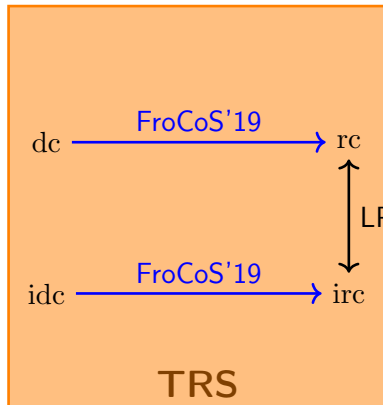
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- Go **between** derivational and runtime complexity

- So far: encode *full* term universe \mathcal{T} via basic terms $\mathcal{T}_{\text{basic}}$
- Generalise: write relative rules to generate **arbitrary** set \mathcal{U} of terms “between” basic and all terms ($\mathcal{T}_{\text{basic}} \subseteq \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$).

A Landscape of Complexity Properties and Transformations

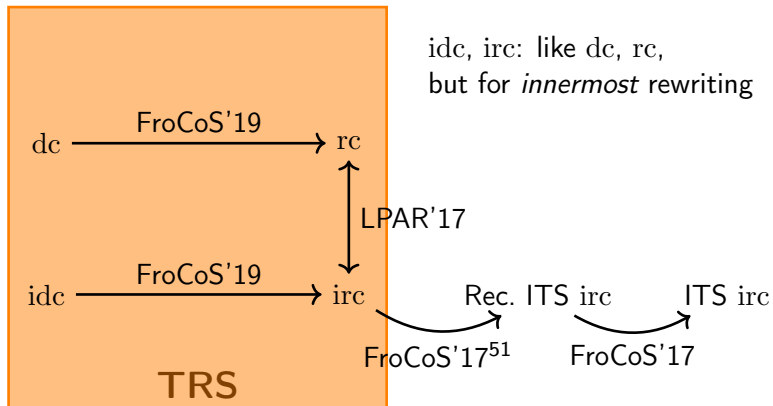


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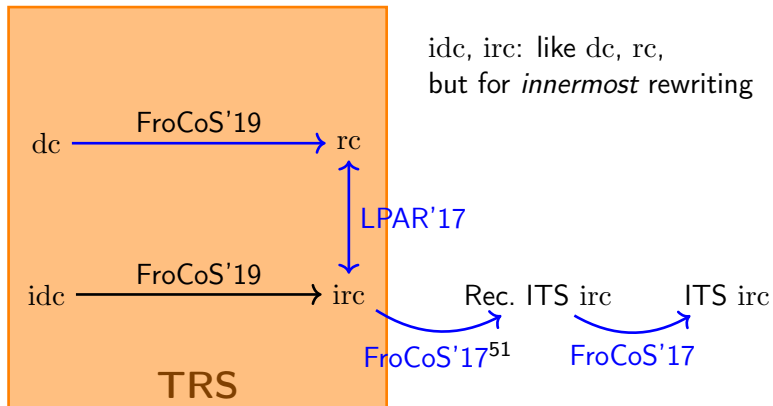
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- 5 Upper bound $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ for RITS complexity carries over to $\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}$ of input!

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- 2 Detect: innermost is worst case here, analyse $\text{irc}_{\mathcal{R}/\mathcal{G}}$ instead (LPAR'17)
- 3 Transform TRS to Recursive Integer Transition System (RITS), analyse complexity of RITS instead (FroCoS'17)
- 4 ITS tools CoFloCo and KoAT find upper bounds for runtime and size of individual RITS functions, combine to complexity of RITS
- 5 Upper bound $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ for RITS complexity carries over to $\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}$ of input!

AProVE finds lower bound $\Omega(n^3)$ for $\text{dc}_{\mathcal{R}}$.⁵²

⁵²F. Frohn, J. Giesl, J. Hensel, C. Aschermann, and T. Ströder: *Lower bounds for runtime complexity of term rewriting*, JAR '17

Automated tools for TRS Complexity at recent Termination Competitions:

- AProVE: <https://aprove.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/>
- TcT: <https://tcs-informatik.uibk.ac.at/tools/tct/>

⁵³For TcT Web, use only VAR and RULES entries in the text format and configure other aspects (e.g., start terms) in the web interface.

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Web interfaces available:

- AProVE: <https://aprove.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/interface>
- TcT: <http://colo6-c703.uibk.ac.at/tct/tct-trs/>

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Input for Automated Tools (1/4)

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Input format for runtime complexity:⁵³

```
(VAR x y)
(GOAL COMPLEXITY)
(STARTTERM CONSTRUCTOR-BASED)
(RULES
  plus(0, y) -> y
  plus(s(x), y) -> s(plus(x, y))
)
```

⁵³For TcT Web, use only VAR and RULES entries in the text format and configure other aspects (e.g., start terms) in the web interface.

Innermost runtime complexity:

```
(VAR x y)
(GOAL COMPLEXITY)
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(STRATEGY INNERMOST)
(RULES
  plus(0, y) -> y
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)
```

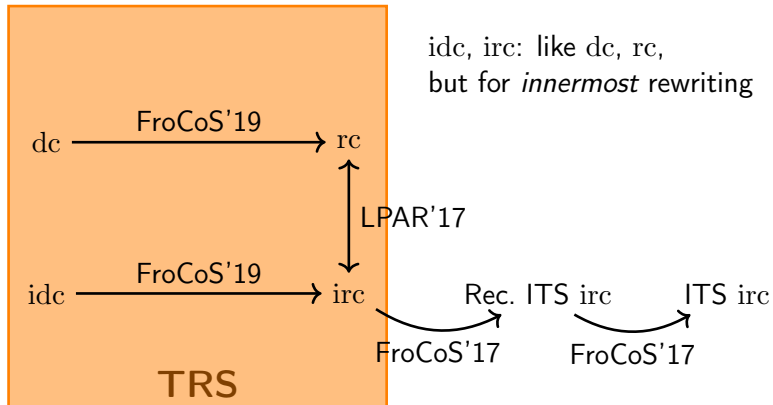

Derivational complexity:

```
(VAR x y)
(GOAL COMPLEXITY)
(STARTTERM UNRESTRICTED)
(RULES
  plus(0, y) -> y
  plus(s(x), y) -> s(plus(x, y))
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```

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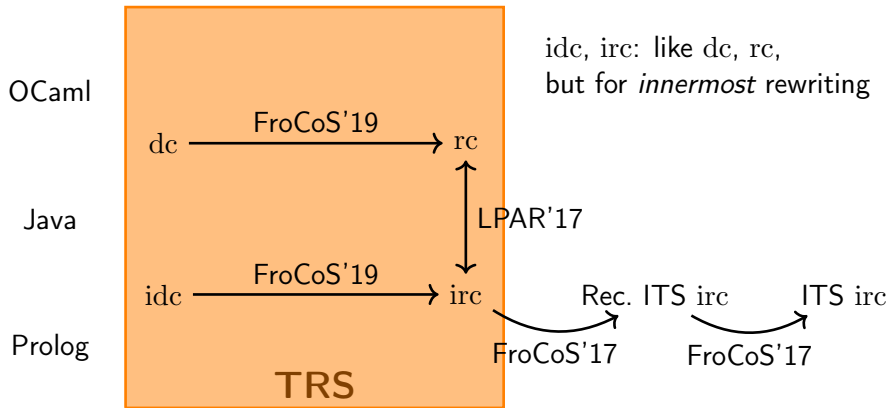
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A Landscape of Complexity Properties and Transformations

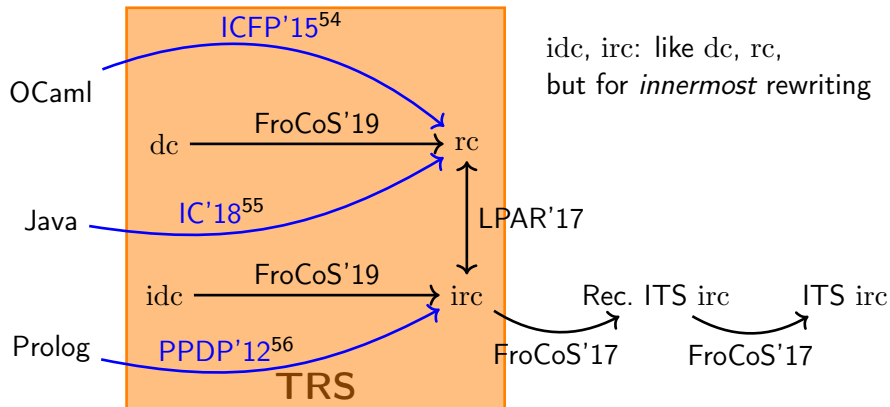


idc , irc : like dc , rc ,
but for *innermost* rewriting

A Landscape of Complexity Properties and Transformations



A Landscape of Complexity Properties and Transformations



⁵⁴M. Avanzini, U. Dal Lago, G. Moser: *Analysing the Complexity of Functional Programs: Higher-Order Meets First-Order*, ICFP '15

⁵⁵G. Moser, M. Schaper: *From Jinja bytecode to term rewriting: A complexity reflecting transformation*, IC '18

⁵⁶J. Giesl, T. Ströder, P. Schneider-Kamp, F. Emmes, C. Fuhs: *Symbolic evaluation graphs and term rewriting: A general methodology for analyzing logic programs*, PPDP '12

Complexity analysis for functional programs (OCaml) by translation to term rewriting

Program Complexity Analysis via Term Rewriting: OCaml

Complexity analysis for functional programs (OCaml) by translation to term rewriting

Challenge for translation to TRS: OCaml is **higher-order** – functions can take functions as arguments: `map(F , xs)`

Complexity analysis for functional programs (OCaml) by translation to term rewriting

Challenge for translation to TRS: OCaml is **higher-order** – functions can take functions as arguments: `map(F , xs)`

Solution:

- Defunctionalisation to: `a(a(map, F), xs)`
 - Analyse start term with non-functional parameter types, then partially evaluate functions to instantiate higher-order variables
 - Further program transformations
- ⇒ First-order TRS \mathcal{R} with $rc_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ an upper bound for the complexity of the OCaml program

Complexity analysis for Prolog programs and for Java programs by translation to term rewriting

Complexity analysis for Prolog programs and for Java programs by translation to term rewriting

Common ideas:

- Analyse program via symbolic execution and generalisation (a form of abstract interpretation⁵⁷)
- Deal with language specifics in program analysis
- Extract TRS \mathcal{R} such that $rc_{\mathcal{R}}(n)$ is provably at least as high as runtime of program on input of size n
- Can represent tree structures of program as terms in TRS!

⁵⁷P. Cousot, R. Cousot: *Abstract interpretation: a unified lattice model for static analysis of programs by construction or approximation of fixpoints*, POPL '77

- **amortised** complexity analysis for term rewriting⁵⁸

⁵⁸G. Moser, M. Schneckenreither: *Automated amortised resource analysis for term rewrite systems*, SCP '20

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⁵⁹M. Avanzini, U. Dal Lago, A. Yamada: *On probabilistic term rewriting*, SCP '20

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⁶²T. Baudon, C. Fuhs, L. Gonnord: *Analysing parallel complexity of term rewriting*, LOPSTR '22

III. Termination and Complexity Proof Certification

Certification: Who Watches the Watchers?

- Termination and complexity analysis tools are large, e.g., AProVE has several 100,000s LOC – most likely with bugs!

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⁶³E. Contejean, P. Courtieu, J. Forest, O. Pons, X. Urbain: *Automated Certified Proofs with CiME3*, RTA '11

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- solution: extract source code (Haskell, OCaml, ...) for proof checker
→ CeTA tool from IsaFoR

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<http://cl-informatik.uibk.ac.at/isafor/>

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- termination of TRSs (several flavours), ITSs, and LLVM programs⁶⁶

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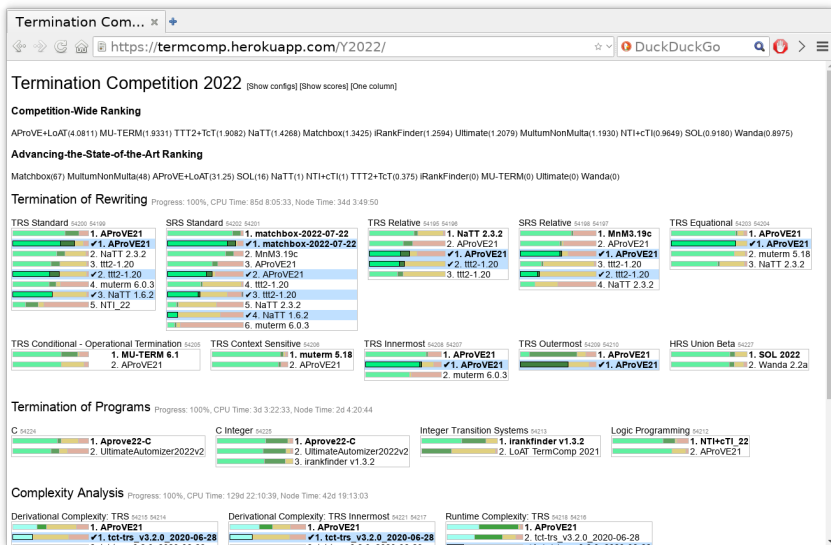
If certification unsuccessful:

CeTA indicates **which part** of the proof it could not follow

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termCOMP with Certification (✓) (1/2)

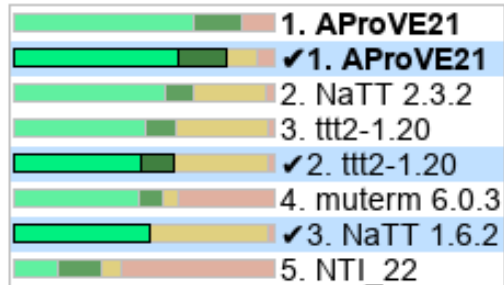


Let's zoom in ...

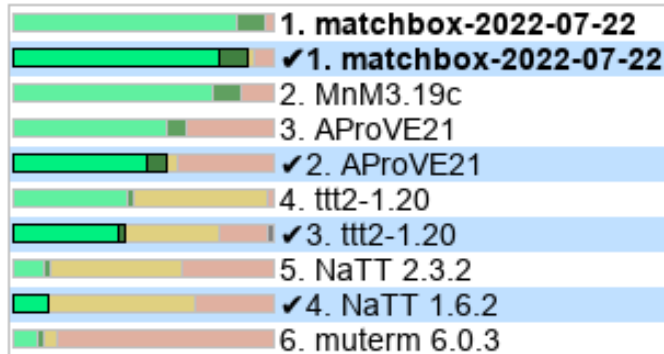
Termination of Rewriting

Progress: 100%, CPU Time: 85d 8:05:33, Node Time: 34d 3:4

TRS Standard 54200 54199



SRS Standard 54202 54201

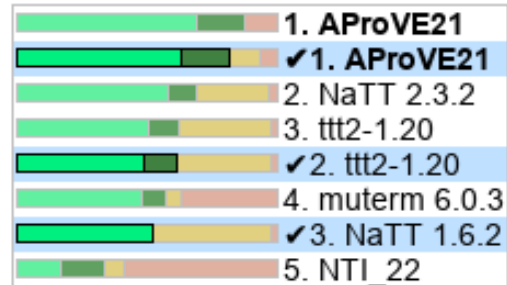


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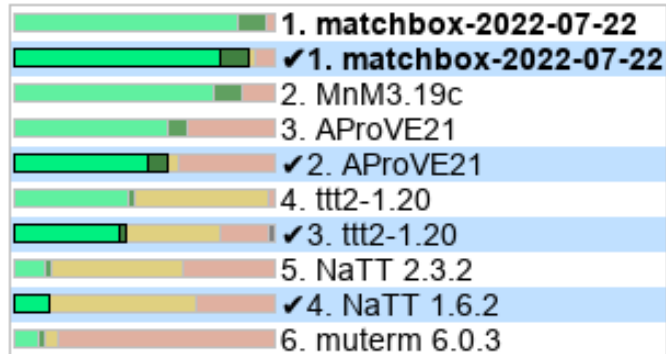
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⇒ proof certification is competitive!

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Thanks a lot for your attention!







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