

Proving Call-by-Value Termination of Constrained Higher-Order Rewriting by Dependency Pairs

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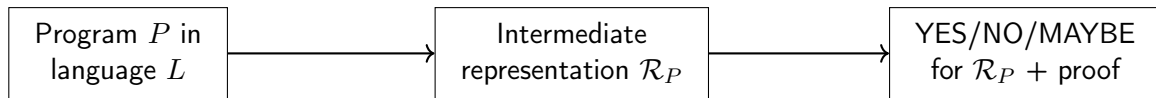
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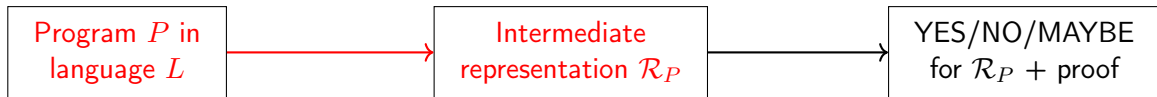
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Proving program termination:



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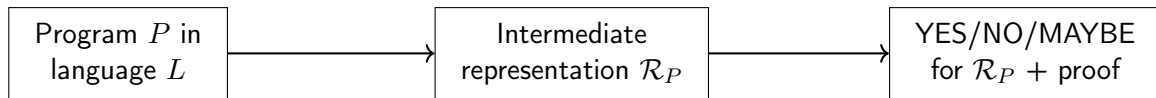


Many translations in the literature

- Prolog [van Raamsdonk, *ICLP* '97], [Giesl et al, *PPDP* '12]
- Java [Otto et al, *RTA* '10]
- Haskell [Giesl et al, *TOPLAS* '11]
- LLVM [Ströder et al, *JAR* '17]
- C [Fuhs, Kop, Nishida, *TOCL* '17]
- Jinja [Moser, Schaper, *IC* '18]
- Scala [Milovančević, Fuhs, Kunčak, *WPTE* '25]
- ...

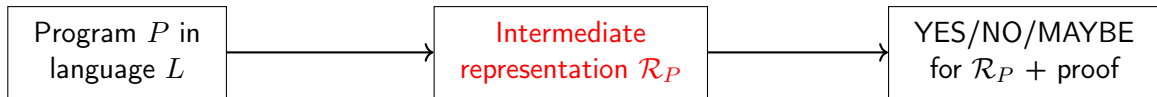
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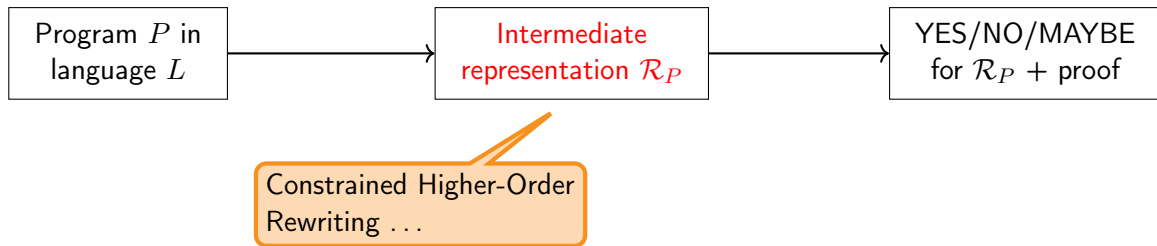


Intermediate representations based on

- Term Rewriting Systems: TRSs
- Integer Transition Systems: ITSs
- combinations and extensions: constrained rewriting

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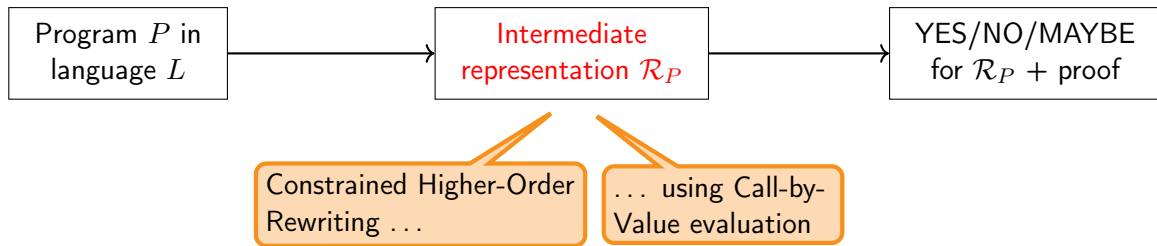


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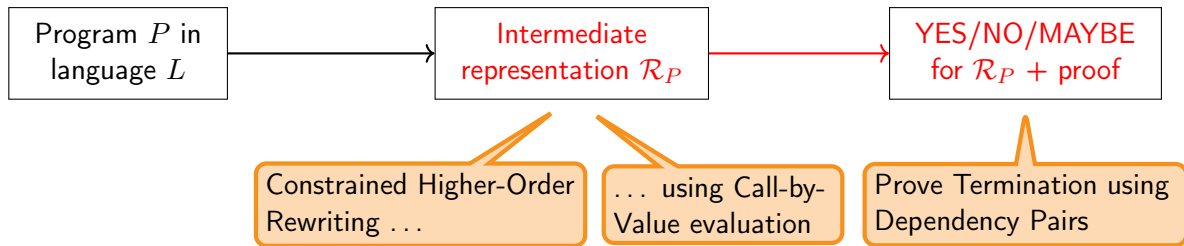


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Our intermediate representation: LCSTRSs

Ideal intermediate representation should

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- Term Rewriting Systems aka TRSs: functions on algebraic data structures

$\text{length } \text{nil} \rightarrow \text{zero}$	$\text{length } (\text{cons } x \ xs) \rightarrow \text{s } (\text{length } xs)$
$\text{plus } x \ \text{zero} \rightarrow x$	$\text{plus } x \ (\text{s } y) \rightarrow \text{s } (\text{plus } x \ y)$

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$\text{gcd } m \text{ } n \rightarrow \text{gcd } (-m) \text{ } n \text{ } [m < 0]$	$\text{gcd } m \text{ } n \rightarrow \text{gcd } m \text{ } (-n) \text{ } [n < 0]$
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TRSs + ITSs + arbitrary logical theories (arrays, bitvectors, ...)

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- Logically Constrained TRSs aka LCTRSs [Kop, Nishida, *FroCoS* '13]:
TRSs + ITSs + arbitrary logical theories (arrays, bitvectors, ...)
- Logically Constrained Simply-typed TRSs aka LCSTRSs [Guo, Kop, *ESOP* '24]:
LCTRSs + higher-order functions (but no λ)

$\text{gcdlist} : \text{intlist} \rightarrow \text{int},$	$\text{fold} : (\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}) \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{intlist} \rightarrow \text{int}$
$\text{gcdlist} \rightarrow \text{fold } \text{gcd } 0$	$\text{fold } f \text{ } y \text{ nil} \rightarrow y \quad \quad \text{fold } f \text{ } y \text{ (cons } x \text{ } l) \rightarrow f \text{ } x \text{ (fold } f \text{ } y \text{ } l)$

Call-by-value (cbv) and innermost rewriting for LCSTRSs

Evaluating with an LCSTRS

fact $0 \rightarrow 1$

fact $x \rightarrow x * \text{fact } (x - 1) [x > 0]$

g $x \rightarrow \text{g } (\text{fact } -1)$

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Cbv rewriting

Proper subterms of redex:

ground values

$\text{g } (\text{fact } 1) \xrightarrow{v} \text{g } (1 * \text{fact } 0)$

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Innermost rewriting

Proper subterms of redex:

normal forms

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$\xrightarrow{\text{i}} \dots$

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\Rightarrow Terminates also for innermost rewriting!

Static Dependency Pairs

\mathcal{R}_{gcd}

$\text{gcdlist} \rightarrow \text{fold gcd } 0$

$\text{fold } f \ y \ \text{nil} \rightarrow y \ [y \equiv y] \quad | \quad \text{fold } f \ y \ (\text{cons } x \ l) \rightarrow f \ x \ (\text{fold } f \ y \ l) \ [x \equiv x \wedge y \equiv y]$

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<code>gcd</code> m $n \rightarrow$ <code>gcd</code> $(-m)$ n $[m < 0 \wedge n \equiv n]$		<code>gcd</code> m $n \rightarrow$ <code>gcd</code> m $(-n)$ $[n < 0 \wedge m \equiv m]$
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Prove termination by Static Dependency Pairs for LCSTRSs [Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]

- For LCSTRS \mathcal{R} build dependency pairs $\mathcal{P} = \text{SDP}(\mathcal{R}_{\text{gcd}})$ (\sim function calls)

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$\text{SDP}(\mathcal{R}_{\text{gcd}})$

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Dependency Pair Framework

- Works on DP problems $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R})$
- DP framework:

$S := \{(\text{SDP}(\mathcal{R}), \mathcal{R})\}$

while $S = S' \uplus \{(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R})\}$

$S := S' \cup \rho(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{R})$ for a DP processor ρ

print “YES”

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New **innermost** DP processors for LCSTRSs [Fuhs, Guo, Kop, *FSCD* '25]

- Usable rules processor
- Reduction pair processor with usable rules wrt argument filtering
- Chaining processor

Also for **compositional termination analysis** via universal computability!

Existing DP processors for LCSTRs

$$(1) \text{gcdlist}^\# l' \Rightarrow \text{fold}^\# \text{gcd } 0 \ l'$$

$$(2) \text{gcdlist}^\# l' \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# m' \ n'$$

$$(3) \text{fold}^\# f \ y \ (\text{cons } x \ l) \Rightarrow \text{fold}^\# f \ y \ l \ [x \equiv x \wedge y \equiv y]$$

$$(4) \text{gcd}^\# m \ n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# (-m) \ n \ [m < 0 \wedge n \equiv n]$$

$$(5) \text{gcd}^\# m \ n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# m \ (-n) \ [n < 0 \wedge m \equiv m]$$

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\mathcal{P}

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 \mathcal{R}

...

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 \mathcal{R}

...

- **Dependency Graph:**
which calls may follow one another?

\mathcal{P}

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(2) $\text{gcdlist}^\# l' \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# m' n'$

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(4) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# (-m) n [m < 0 \wedge n \equiv n]$

(5) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# m (-n) [n < 0 \wedge m \equiv m]$

(6) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# n (m \bmod n) [m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0]$

 \mathcal{R}

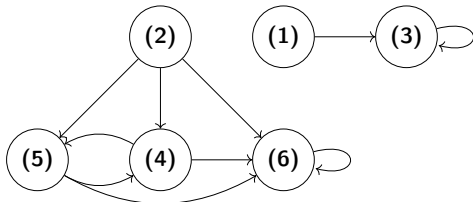
...

- **Dependency Graph:**

which calls may follow one another?

- **Approximation**

[Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]:



\mathcal{P}

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) $\text{gcdlist}^\# l' \Rightarrow \text{fold}^\# \text{gcd } 0 l'$ (2) $\text{gcdlist}^\# l' \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# m' n'$ (3) $\text{fold}^\# f y (\text{cons } x l) \Rightarrow \text{fold}^\# f y l [x \equiv x \wedge y \equiv y]$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (4) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# (-m) n [m < 0 \wedge n \equiv n]$ (5) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# m (-n) [n < 0 \wedge m \equiv m]$ (6) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# n (m \bmod n) [m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0]$ |
|--|---|

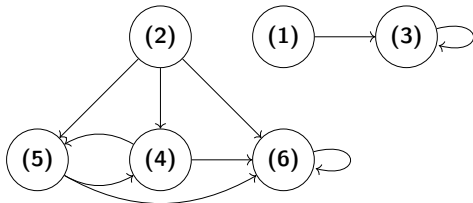
 \mathcal{R}

...

- **Dependency Graph:**
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[Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]:



- **Graph processor:** decompose \mathcal{P} into non-trivial Strongly Connected Components

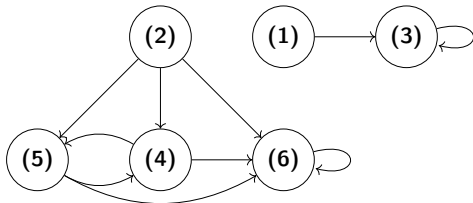
\mathcal{P}

- | | |
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|--|---|

 \mathcal{R}

...

- **Dependency Graph:**
which calls may follow one another?
- Approximation
[Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, MFCS '24]:



- **Graph processor:** decompose \mathcal{P} into non-trivial Strongly Connected Components
- Here:

 $(\{(3)\}, \mathcal{R})$ $(\{(6)\}, \mathcal{R})$ $(\{(4), (5)\}, \mathcal{R})$

\mathcal{P}

(3) $\text{fold}^\# f y (\text{cons } x l) \Rightarrow \text{fold}^\# f y l [x \equiv x \wedge y \equiv y]$

 \mathcal{R}

...

\mathcal{P}

(3) $\text{fold}^\# f y (\text{cons } x l) \Rightarrow \text{fold}^\# f y l [x \equiv x \wedge y \equiv y]$

 \mathcal{R}

...

Subterm criterion processor [Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]

- Detect structural decrease in argument
- Use projection $\nu(\text{fold}^\#) = 3$
- Get $\text{cons } x l \triangleright l$

\Rightarrow Remove (3)

$\Rightarrow (\emptyset, \mathcal{R})$ deleted by graph processor

\mathcal{P}

(6) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# n (m \bmod n) [m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0]$

\mathcal{R}

...

\mathcal{P}

(6) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# n (m \bmod n) [m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0]$

 \mathcal{R}

...

Integer mapping processor [Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]

- Detect integer value decrease in argument
- Use projection $\nu(\text{gcd}^\#) = 2$
- Get $m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0 \models n > m \bmod n$
and $m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0 \models n \geq 0$

\Rightarrow Remove (6)

$\Rightarrow (\emptyset, \mathcal{R})$ deleted by graph processor

\mathcal{P}

(6) $\text{gcd}^\# m n \Rightarrow \text{gcd}^\# n (m \bmod n) [m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0]$

 \mathcal{R}

...

Integer mapping processor [Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, MFCS '24]

- Detect integer value decrease in argument
- Use projection $\nu(\text{gcd}^\#) = 2$
- Get $m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0 \models n > m \bmod n$
and $m \geq 0 \wedge n > 0 \models n \geq 0$

\Rightarrow Remove (6)

$\Rightarrow (\emptyset, \mathcal{R})$ deleted by graph processor

$(\{(4), (5)\}, \mathcal{R})$ handled by integer mapping processor + graph processor

\Rightarrow termination of \mathcal{R}_{gcd} proved!

New DP processors for LCSTRSs

$\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfolder}}$

drop : $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow \text{alist}$

dfolder : $(a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow b$

drop n l $\rightarrow l$ $[n \leq 0]$

drop n **nil** \rightarrow **nil** $[n \equiv n]$

drop n (**cons** x l) \rightarrow **drop** $(n - 1)$ l $[n > 0]$

dfolder f y n **nil** $\rightarrow y$ $[n \equiv n]$

dfolder f y n (**cons** x l) $\rightarrow f$ x (**dfolder** f y n (**drop** n l)) $[n \equiv n]$

$\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfolder}}$

drop : $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow \text{alist}$

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dfolder f y n (**cons** x l) $\rightarrow f$ x (**dfolder** f y n (**drop** n l)) $[n \equiv n]$

- Troublesome DP problem:

$(\{ \text{dfolder}^\# f y n (\text{cons } x l) \Rightarrow \text{dfolder}^\# f y n (\text{drop } n l) [n \equiv n] \}, \mathcal{R}_{\text{dfolder}})$

$\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldr}}$

drop : int \rightarrow alist \rightarrow alist

dfoldr : (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \rightarrow int \rightarrow alist \rightarrow b

drop n l \rightarrow l $[n \leq 0]$

drop n **nil** \rightarrow **nil** $[n \equiv n]$

drop n (**cons** x l) \rightarrow **drop** $(n - 1)$ l $[n > 0]$

dfoldr f y n **nil** \rightarrow y $[n \equiv n]$

dfoldr f y n (**cons** x l) \rightarrow f x (**dfoldr** f y n (**drop** n l)) $[n \equiv n]$

- Troublesome DP problem:

({ **dfoldr**[#] f y n (**cons** x l) \Rightarrow **dfoldr**[#] f y n (**drop** n l) $[n \equiv n]$ }, $\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldr}}$)

- Reduction pair processor can show **cons** x l \succ **drop** n l
- But cannot show **dfoldr** f y n (**cons** x l) \lesssim f x (**dfoldr** f y n (**drop** n l)) $[n \equiv n]$

$\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldr}}$

drop : $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow \text{alist}$

dfoldr : $(a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow b$

drop n l $\rightarrow l$ $[n \leq 0]$

drop n **nil** \rightarrow **nil** $[n \equiv n]$

drop n (**cons** x l) \rightarrow **drop** $(n - 1)$ l $[n > 0]$

dfoldr f y n **nil** $\rightarrow y$ $[n \equiv n]$

dfoldr f y n (**cons** x l) $\rightarrow f$ x (**dfoldr** f y n (**drop** n l)) $[n \equiv n]$

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$(\{ \text{dfoldr}^\# f y n (\text{cons } x l) \Rightarrow \text{dfoldr}^\# f y n (\text{drop } n l) [n \equiv n] \}, \mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldr}})$

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- But cannot show $\text{dfoldr } f y n (\text{cons } x l) \succsim f x (\text{dfoldr } f y n (\text{drop } n l)) [n \equiv n]$
- **Usable rules processor**: keep only **usable** rules, called from DPs
- Here: rules for **drop**

\mathcal{R}

drop : $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow \text{alist}$

dfoldr : $(a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{alist} \rightarrow b$

drop n l $\rightarrow l$ $[n \leq 0]$

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- **Usable rules processor**: keep only **usable** rules, called from DPs
- Here: rules for **drop**

Reduction pair processor with usable rules wrt an argument filtering

$\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldl}}$

$\text{drop } n \ l \rightarrow l \quad [n \leq 0]$

$\text{drop } n \ \text{nil} \rightarrow \text{nil} \quad [n \equiv n]$

$\text{drop } n \ (\text{cons } x \ l) \rightarrow \text{drop } (n - 1) \ l \quad [n > 0]$

$\text{dfoldl } f \ y \ n \ \text{nil} \rightarrow y \quad [n \equiv n]$

$\text{dfoldl } f \ y \ n \ (\text{cons } x \ l) \rightarrow \text{dfoldl } f \ (f \ y \ x) \ n \ (\text{drop } n \ l) \quad [n \equiv n]$

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- All rules are usable!

Reduction pair processor with usable rules wrt an argument filtering

$\mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldl}}$

$\text{drop } n \ l$	$\rightarrow \ l$	$[n \leq 0]$
$\text{drop } n \ \text{nil}$	$\rightarrow \ \text{nil}$	$[n \equiv n]$
$\text{drop } n \ (\text{cons } x \ l)$	$\rightarrow \ \text{drop } (n - 1) \ l$	$[n > 0]$
$\text{dfoldl } f \ y \ n \ \text{nil}$	$\rightarrow \ y$	$[n \equiv n]$
$\text{dfoldl } f \ y \ n \ (\text{cons } x \ l)$	$\rightarrow \ \text{dfoldl } f \ (f \ y \ x) \ n \ (\text{drop } n \ l)$	$[n \equiv n]$

- Troublesome DP problem:

$$\left(\left\{ \text{dfoldl}^\# f \ y \ n \ (\text{cons } x \ l) \Rightarrow \text{dfoldl}^\# f \ (f \ y \ x) \ n \ (\text{drop } n \ l) \ [n \equiv n] \right\}, \mathcal{R}_{\text{dfoldl}} \right)$$

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temporarily disregard arguments, calculate usable rules, use reduction pair (HORPO, ...)

Reduction pair processor with usable rules wrt an argument filtering

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- $\text{regard}(\text{dfoldl}^\#) = \{4\} \Rightarrow$ use first-order RPO!

Reduction pair processor with usable rules wrt an argument filtering

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$\text{drop } n \ l$	$\rightarrow l$	$[n \leq 0]$
$\text{drop } n \ \text{nil}$	$\rightarrow \text{nil}$	$[n \equiv n]$
$\text{drop } n \ (\text{cons } x \ l)$	$\rightarrow \text{drop } (n - 1) \ l$	$[n > 0]$
$\text{dfoldl } f \ y \ n \ \text{nil}$	$\rightarrow y$	$[n \equiv n]$
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(S)DPs from imperative program [Fuhs, Kop, Nishida, *TOCL* '17]

```
def fact(x):  
    z = 1          # fact  
    i = 1          # u1  
    while i <= x:  # u2  
        z = z * i  # u3  
        i = i + 1  # u4  
                  # u5
```

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```
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```
        i = i + 1  # u4
```

```
    # u5
```

$\text{fact}^\# x$	\Rightarrow	$u_1^\# x \ 1$	$[x \equiv x]$
$u_1^\# x \ z$	\Rightarrow	$u_2^\# x \ z \ 1$	$[x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z]$
$u_2^\# x \ z \ i$	\Rightarrow	$u_3^\# x \ z \ i$	$[i \leq x \wedge z \equiv z]$
$u_3^\# x \ z \ i$	\Rightarrow	$u_4^\# x \ (z * i) \ i$	$[x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$
$u_4^\# x \ z \ i$	\Rightarrow	$u_2^\# x \ z \ (i + 1)$	$[x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$
$u_2^\# x \ z \ i$	\Rightarrow	$u_5^\# x \ z$	$[\neg(i \leq x) \wedge z \equiv z]$

- Automated translations \Rightarrow DPs with many small steps
- Can be hard to analyse!

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$\text{fact}^\# x$	\Rightarrow	$u_1^\# x \ 1$	$[x \equiv x]$
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$\text{fact}^\# x \Rightarrow$

$u_2^\# x \ 1 \ 1 \quad [x \equiv x]$

$u_2^\# x \ z \ i \Rightarrow u_3^\# x \ z \ i \quad [i \leq x \wedge z \equiv z]$

$u_3^\# x \ z \ i \Rightarrow u_4^\# x \ (z * i) \ i \quad [x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$

$u_4^\# x \ z \ i \Rightarrow u_2^\# x \ z \ (i + 1) \quad [x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$

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Chaining processor

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    # u5
```

$\text{fact}^\# x \Rightarrow$

$u_2^\# x \ 1 \ 1 \quad [x \equiv x]$

$u_2^\# x \ z \ i \Rightarrow$

$u_4^\# x \ (z * i) \ i \quad [i \leq x \wedge x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$

$u_4^\# x \ z \ i \Rightarrow u_2^\# x \ z \ (i + 1) \quad [x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$

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```

$$\text{fact}^\# x \Rightarrow$$
$$u_2^\# x \ 1 \ 1 \quad [x \equiv x]$$
$$u_2^\# x \ z \ i \Rightarrow$$
$$u_2^\# x \ z \ (i + 1) \quad [i \leq x \wedge x \equiv x \wedge z \equiv z \wedge i \equiv i]$$
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$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{fact}^\# x & \Rightarrow & \text{u}_2^\# x \ 1 \ 1 \quad [x \equiv x] \\ \text{u}_2^\# x \ z \ i & \Rightarrow & \text{u}_2^\# x \ z \ (i + 1) \quad [i \leq x \wedge z \equiv z] \\ \text{u}_2^\# x \ z \ i & \Rightarrow & \text{u}_5^\# x \ z \quad [\neg(i \leq x) \wedge z \equiv z] \end{array}$$

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```

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{fact}^\# x & \Rightarrow & u_2^\# x \ 1 \ 1 \quad [x \equiv x] \\ u_2^\# x \ z \ i & \Rightarrow & u_2^\# x \ z \ (i + 1) \quad [i \leq x \wedge z \equiv z] \\ u_2^\# x \ z \ i & \Rightarrow & u_5^\# x \ z \quad [\neg(i \leq x) \wedge z \equiv z] \end{array}$$

- Automated translations \Rightarrow DPs with many small steps
- Can be hard to analyse!
- **Chaining processor**: remove intermediate symbols $u_1^\#, u_3^\#, u_4^\#$
- Integer mapping processor + graph processor prove termination

- Goal: compositional **open-world** program analysis

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- For termination analysis: Universal Computability [Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]
- Analyse LCSTRS for use in context of larger program
- Usable rules + reduction pair processor available for innermost (and cbv) rewriting!

- Implementation in open-source tool Cora: <https://github.com/hezzel/cora/>
- HORPO as reduction pair
- Z3 as SMT solver

Experiments (1/3)

Experiments using 60 seconds timeout

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275 inputs: integer TRSs + λ -free HO-TRSs from TPDB + own benchmarks

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Cora (innermost/cbv) v Cora (full) [Guo, Hagens, Kop, Vale, *MFCS '24*]

	Termination			Universal Computability		
	Full	Innermost	Call-by-value	Full	Innermost	Call-by-value
Total yes	171	179	182	155	179	182

Experiments (2/3)

117 integer TRSs: Cora v AProVE [Giesl et al, *JAR* '17] [Fuhs et al, *RTA* '09]

	Cora innermost	Cora call-by-value	AProVE innermost
Total yes	72	73	102

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	Cora innermost	Cora call-by-value	AProVE innermost
Total yes	72	73	102

- AProVE has strong reduction pair processor with polynomial interpretations and usable rules
- AProVE can handle rules $f(x) \rightarrow g(x > 0, x)$, $g(t, x) \rightarrow r_1$, $g(f, x) \rightarrow r_2$ well

140 λ -free HO-TRSs: Cora v WANDA [Kop, *FSCD* '20]

	Cora innermost / call-by-value	WANDA full termination
Total yes	79	105

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- WANDA: Polynomial interpretations, dynamic DPs, delegation to first-order termination tool, ...

Conclusion

- Transformation for analysis of LCSTRSs with call-by-value via innermost strategy
- Three new processors: usable rules, reduction pair with temporary argument filtering, chaining
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Thanks a lot for your attention!