

# Improving Static Dependency Pairs for Higher-Order Rewriting



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# Why is termination of *higher-order* rewriting interesting?

Recently:

- Broader interest in termination analysis tools for **higher-order rewriting**
- Categories at the **Termination Competition**
  - “Higher-order rewriting union  $\beta$ ”: since 2010
  - “Rewriting with higher-order pattern matching on  $\beta$ -normal  $\eta$ -long forms (HRS)”: under discussion
- New tools at TermComp 2017 (SOL) and 2018 (SizeChangeTool)
- Growing number of benchmarks in the **TPDB**
- Tools also used as back-end oracles in **Confluence Competition**

# Higher-order rewriting in practice

- **Specification language** (with syntactic sugar) for **compiler synthesis**: CRSX [Rose, RTA'11] (successor tool TransScript used at IBM)

<http://crsx.sourceforge.net/>

Termination of **higher-order** specification

⇒ **termination of the executable compiler**

- Termination analysis for functional programs
- Nuances in definitions of higher-order rewriting matter
  - discussion on `termtools` mailing list about *plain* matching vs matching *modulo beta* at TermComp 2018

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- allows transformations from many formalisms of interest for termination
- none of those inconvenient non-patterns
- no automatic beta-reduction (matching is syntactic)
- AFSMs directly contain the format in TermComp
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## HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:

(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)

SITUATION:  
THERE ARE  
14 COMPETING  
STANDARDS.

14?! RIDICULOUS!  
WE NEED TO DEVELOP  
ONE UNIVERSAL STANDARD  
THAT COVERS EVERYONE'S  
USE CASES.



SOON:

SITUATION:  
THERE ARE  
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<https://xkcd.com/927/>

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- variables for binding, meta-variables for matching
- matching using meta-variables (with arity)
- application
- beta-rule always present
- simply-typed terms
- functional output types allowed
- rules may have functional type
- higher-order meta-variables do not *have* to take arguments

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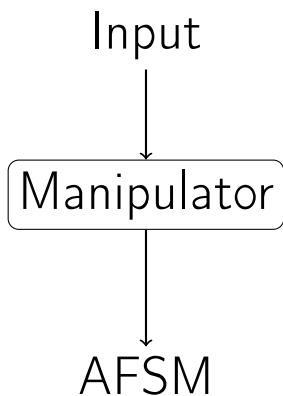
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- Extend to terms:  $\nu(f^\sharp t_1 \dots t_n) = t_{\nu(f^\sharp)}$

$$\nu(\text{append}^\sharp (\text{cons } x \ xs) \ ys) = \text{cons } x \ xs$$

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Subterm criterion [Hirokawa, Middeldorp, IC'07]:

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# Dependency Pairs and the Subterm Criterion

## Example (Dependency Pair for append)

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# Termination of Higher-Order Term Rewriting: map

## Example (map)

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{map } F \text{ nil} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{nil} \\ \text{map } F \text{ (cons } x \text{ xs)} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{cons } (F \ x) \text{ (map } F \text{ xs)} \end{array}$$

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So can't we just prohibit **Static DPs** for such malicious inputs?

# Plain Function Passing (PFP)

Original soundness criterion for **Static DPs** [Kusakari, Isogai, Sakai, Blanqui, *TIS'09*] (adapted to our AFSMs):

## Definition (Plain Function Passing (PFP))

A rewrite system  $\mathcal{R}$  is Plain Function Passing (PFP) if for all rules  $f \ell_1 \dots \ell_n \rightarrow r \in \mathcal{R}$  and for all meta-variables  $F$  of **functional type** in  $r$ , we have  $F = \ell_i$  for some  $i$ .

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A rewrite system  $\mathcal{R}$  is Plain Function Passing (PFP) if for all rules  $f \ell_1 \dots \ell_n \rightarrow r \in \mathcal{R}$  and for all meta-variables  $F$  of **functional type** in  $r$ , we have  $F = \ell_i$  for some  $i$ .

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PFP improved in [Suzuki, Kusakari, Blanqui, *IPJSJ TOP'11*].

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→ Accessibility, see **General Schema** [Blanqui, Jouannaud, Okada, *TCS'02*], **Computability Path Ordering** [Blanqui, Jouannaud, Rubio, *LMCS'15*], and **Computability Closure** [Blanqui, *TCS'16*]

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Related criterion (incomparable): [Blanqui, WST'06]

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$\Rightarrow$  ord-rec is terminating by **Computable Subterm Criterion**

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Further extensions available:

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.09390>

- Unified framework integrating static and dynamic DPs (dynamic DPs include DPs for calls to meta-variables of functional type)
- Many additional termination proving techniques as DP processors
- Completeness results wrt non-termination for static and dynamic DPs

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