

# Rewrite Systems

## 12. Strategies

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# Left Properties

- **Non-overlapping** = no critical pairs
- **Overlaying** = critical pairs at root only
- **Left-linear** = no repeat variables on left
- **Orthogonal** = non-overlapping & left-linear

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# Right Properties

- **Right-linear** = no repeats on right
- **Non-duplicating** = occurrences on right no more than on left
- **Non-erasing** = all left variables also on right
- **Non-collapsing** = no pure-variable right side

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## Thm. 9.3.10

An  
**orthogonal** system  
is normalizing  
iff  
it's outermost normalizing.

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## Proof Idea

- Inner step followed by outer can be mimicked by outer followed by zero or more inner [for orthogonal]
- Inner step cannot yield a normal form [for left-linear]

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## Orthogonal

- An inner step cannot create an outer redex

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## Cf. Thm. 4.8.7

A  
locally-confluent  
overlying system  
is terminating  
iff  
it's innermost normalizing.

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## Mortals & Immortals

- Immortal terms can be rewritten forever
- Mortals cannot be

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## Mortals & Immortals

1. Mortals remain mortal
2. Mortals beget mortals
3. Immortals  
can remain immortal

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## Constrictions

- All (proper) subterms of (applied) redex are mortal
- Non-terminating iff some constriction is non-terminating

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## Proof Idea

- Build non-terminating constriction
  - Consider non-terminating derivation
  - Normalize all mortal subterms
  - Normal forms are unique so don't interfere with higher redexes

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## Cf. Thm. 4.8.5

A  
non-erasing  
non-overlapping system  
is terminating  
iff  
it's normalizing.

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## Subterming

- Rewriting terminates iff mixing rewriting with taking subterms is terminating
- Constricting terminates iff mixing constricting with taking subterms is terminating

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## Forward Derivation

- Start at the top and then rewrite only at *created* redexes
- **Forward terminating** if all forward derivations are finite

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## Top Rewrites

- A system is non-terminating iff it has a non-terminating derivation that starts with a top-rewrite (at the root)

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A **locally-confluent**  
**overlying** system  
is terminating  
iff it's  
innermost forward terminating.

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A  
**right-linear** system  
is terminating  
iff  
it's forward terminating.

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## Disjoint Unions

- Share no function symbols or constants
- Disjoint unions of confluent systems are confluent
- Disjoint unions of terminating systems are **not** necessarily terminating
- Disjoint unions of normalizing systems are normalizing

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## Toyama's Example

$$f(x,a,b) \rightarrow f(x,x,x)$$

$$g(x,y) \rightarrow x$$

$$g(x,y) \rightarrow y$$

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## Disjoint Termination

1. Both non-duplicating
2. Both non-collapsing
3. Both overlaying and locally-confluent
4. Both left-linear and locally-confluent

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## Proof Idea

- Divide terms into layers

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