

Rewriting Techniques: TD 1

15-11-2018

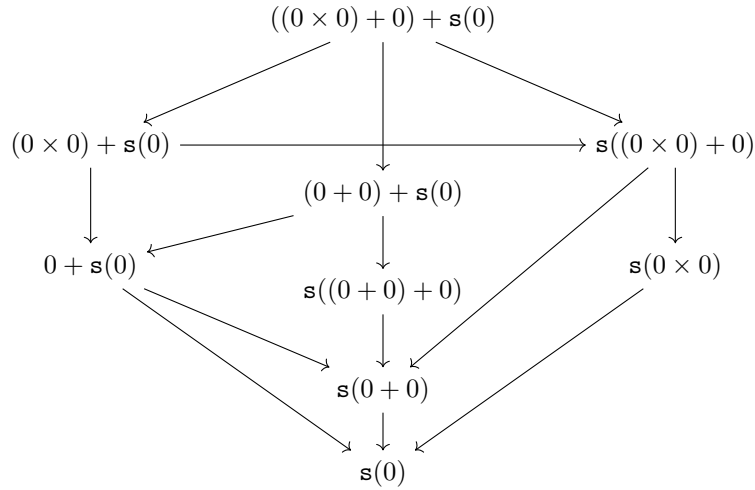
Exercise 1 :

Given the following term rewriting system (TRS):

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 x \times 0 \rightarrow 0 & x + 0 \rightarrow x \\
 0 \times x \rightarrow 0 & 0 + x \rightarrow x \\
 \mathbf{s}(x) \times y \rightarrow (x \times y) + y & x + \mathbf{s}(y) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}(x + y) \\
 x \times \mathbf{s}(y) \rightarrow (x \times y) + x & \mathbf{s}(x) + y \rightarrow \mathbf{s}(x + y)
 \end{array}$$

Show the *reduction graph* of $((0 \times 0) + 0) + \mathbf{s}(0)$.

Solution:



Exercise 2 :

Given the signature $(\{\mathbb{N}, \text{List}\}, \{0, \mathbf{s}, \epsilon, :, \text{merge}, \text{sort}\})$ where the set of functions is typed as follows:

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 0 : \mathbb{N}, & \mathbf{s} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, & \epsilon : \text{List}, & (:): \mathbb{N} \times \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List}, \\
 \text{merge} : \text{List} \times \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List}, & \text{sort} : \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List} & &
 \end{array}$$

Define a finite TRS that simulates the *mergesort algorithm*. If needed, you can define auxiliary sorts and function symbols.

Solution:

We will use the additional sort $\mathbb{B} = \{\top, \perp\}$ and the following function symbols:

$\text{even} : \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List}$, $\text{odd} : \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List}$, $\geq : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, $\text{aux} : \mathbb{N} \times \text{List} \times \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List}$

We define the following TRS:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{even}(\epsilon) \rightarrow \epsilon & \text{odd}(\epsilon) \rightarrow \epsilon \\
 \text{even}(x:\epsilon) \rightarrow \epsilon & \text{odd}(x:\epsilon) \rightarrow x:\epsilon \\
 \text{even}(x:y:z) \rightarrow y:\text{even}(z) & \text{odd}(x:y:z) \rightarrow x:\text{odd}(z) \\
 \\
 0 \geq 0 \rightarrow \top & \text{aux}(\top, x:y, z:w) \rightarrow z:\text{merge}(x:y, w) \\
 \mathbf{s}(x) \geq 0 \rightarrow \top & \text{aux}(\perp, x:y, z:w) \rightarrow x:\text{merge}(y, z:w) \\
 0 \geq \mathbf{s}(x) \rightarrow \perp & \\
 \mathbf{s}(x) \geq \mathbf{s}(y) \rightarrow x \geq y &
 \end{array}$$

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merge( $x, \epsilon$ )  $\rightarrow x$ 
merge( $\epsilon, x$ )  $\rightarrow x$ 
merge( $x:y, z:w$ )  $\rightarrow \text{aux}(x \geq z, x:y, z:w)$ 

sort( $\epsilon$ )  $\rightarrow \epsilon$ 
sort( $x:\epsilon$ )  $\rightarrow x:\epsilon$ 
sort( $x:y:z$ )  $\rightarrow \text{merge}(\text{sort}(\text{even}(x:y:z)), \text{sort}(\text{odd}(x:y:z)))$ 

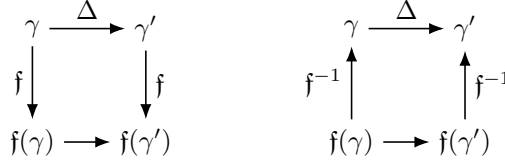
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Exercise 3 :

Let $\mathcal{M} = (\Sigma, Q, \Delta)$ be a non-deterministic Turing machine where

- $\Sigma = \{s_0, \dots, s_n\}$ is a finite alphabet and s_0 is considered the blank symbol;
- $Q = \{q_0, \dots, q_p\}$ is a finite set of states;
- $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q \times \Sigma \times \{l, r\}$ transition relation.

A configuration is an ordered triple $(x, q, k) \in \Sigma^* \times Q \times \mathbb{N}$ where x denotes the string on the tape, q denotes the machine's current state, and k denotes the position of the machine on the tape. Translate \mathcal{M} into a finite TRS such that there exists an injection f from configurations of \mathcal{M} to terms satisfying for each configuration γ, γ' .



Solution:

For each $s \in \Sigma$ we introduce the unary function symbol \mathbf{s} . For each $q \in Q$ we introduce the unary function symbol \mathbf{q} . Lastly, we introduce the constant \mathbf{r} and the unary function symbol \mathbf{l} .

We now define the TRS:

- For each transition $(q, s_i, q', s_j, r) \in \Delta$ we add the rewriting rule $\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{s}_i(x)) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}_j(\mathbf{q}'(x))$ and if $i = 0$ we also add the rule $\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}_j(\mathbf{q}'(\mathbf{r}))$.
- For each transition $(q, s_i, q', s_j, l) \in \Delta$ we add the rule $\mathbf{l}(\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{s}_i(x))) \rightarrow \mathbf{l}(\mathbf{q}'(\mathbf{s}_0(\mathbf{s}_j(x))))$ and for every $k \in [1, n]$ we add the rewriting rule $\mathbf{s}_k(\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{s}_i(x))) \rightarrow \mathbf{q}'(\mathbf{s}_k(\mathbf{s}_j(x)))$. Moreover, if $i = 0$, we also add $\mathbf{l}(\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{r})) \rightarrow \mathbf{l}(\mathbf{q}'(\mathbf{s}_0(\mathbf{s}_j(\mathbf{r}))))$ and the rule $\mathbf{s}_k(\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{r})) \rightarrow \mathbf{q}'(\mathbf{s}_k(\mathbf{s}_j(\mathbf{r})))$, where $k \in [1, n]$.

Finally, for a configuration (x, q, k) where $x = s_{i_0} s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_{k-1}} s_{i_k} s_{i_{k+1}} \dots s_{i_\ell}$, the injection f is defined as $\mathbf{l}(\mathbf{s}_{i_0}(\mathbf{s}_{i_1}(\dots \mathbf{s}_{i_{k-1}}(\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{s}_k(\mathbf{s}_{i_{k+1}}(\dots \mathbf{s}_{i_\ell}(\mathbf{r}))))))))$.

Exercise 4 :

Are the following TRS terminating?

1. $\{ \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(x)) \rightarrow x, \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}(x)) \rightarrow x \}$;
2. $\{ \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(x)) \rightarrow x, \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}(x)) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(x)) \}$;
3. $\{ \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(x)) \rightarrow x, \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}(x)) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{p}(x)))) \}$;

For each transition system, let t and t' be two terms with the same normal form. What is the relationship between t and t' ?

Solution:

(1) Terminates since the number of symbols is always decreasing. Use the polynomial interpretation on natural numbers $P_s(X) = P_p(X) = X + 1$.

(2) Also terminates. Use the polynomial interpretation on natural numbers $P_s(X) = X + 2$ and $P_p(X) = X^2$.

(3) Does not terminate. Show the reduction graph of $p(s(s(0)))$.

Let $t|_s$ and $t|_p$ be respectively the number of occurrences of the s and p in the term t . Two terms t and t' have the same normal form if and only if $t|_s - t|_p = t'|_s - t'|_p$. Moreover, if $t|_s \geq t|_p$, their normal form is $s^{t|_s - t|_p}(0)$, otherwise it's $p^{t|_p - t|_s}(0)$.

A **polynomial interpretation on integers** is the following:

- a subset A of \mathbb{N} ;
- for every symbol f of arity n , a polynomial $P_f \in \mathbb{N}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$;
- for every $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$, $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in A$;
- for every $a_1, \dots, a_i > a'_i, \dots, a_n \in A$, $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_n) > P_f(a_1, \dots, a'_i, \dots, a_n)$;

Then $(A, (P_f)_f, >)$ is a well-founded monotone algebra.

Exercise 5 :

Prove the termination of the following TRS

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 \times x \rightarrow 0 & x + 0 \rightarrow x \\ s(x) \times y \rightarrow (x \times y) + y & x + s(y) \rightarrow s(x + y) \end{array}$$

using the polynomial interpretation on integers:

$$P_0 = 2 \quad P_s(X) = X + 1 \quad P_+(X, Y) = X + 2Y \quad P_\times(X, Y) = (X + Y)^2$$

Is this polynomial interpretation suitable to prove termination of the TRS of Exercise 1?

Solution:

(1) From the polynomial interpretation we get the following polynomial for the various rules of the TRS: $P_{0 \times x}(X) = (X + 2)^2$, $P_{s(x) \times y}(X, Y) = (X + Y + 1)^2$, $P_{(x \times y) + y}(X, Y) = (X + Y)^2 + 2Y$, $P_{x + 0}(X) = X + 4$, $P_{x + s(y)}(X, Y) = X + 2(Y + 1)$ and $P_{s(x + y)} = X + 2Y + 1$.

- $P_{0 \times x}(X) > P_0$ true since $(X + 2)^2 = X^2 + 4X + 4 > 2$;
- $P_{s(x) \times y}(X, Y) > P_{(x \times y) + y}(X, Y)$ true since $(X + Y + 1)^2 = X^2 + 2XY + Y^2 + 2X + 2Y + 1$ is greater than $(X + Y)^2 + 2Y = X^2 + 2XY + Y^2 + 2Y$;
- $P_{x + 0}(X) > X$ true since $X + 4 > X$;
- $P_{x + s(y)}(X, Y) > P_{s(x + y)}$ since $X + 2(Y + 1) > X + 2Y + 1$.

(2) No. For the rule $s(x) + y \rightarrow s(x + y)$. Indeed, $P_{s(x) + y}(X, Y) = P_{s(x + y)}(X, Y) = X + 2Y + 1$.

Exercise 6 :

Prove the termination of the following TRS by finding a polynomial interpretation on integers:

$$\begin{array}{l} x \times (y + z) \rightarrow (x \times y) + (x \times z) \\ (x + y) + z \rightarrow x + (y + z) \end{array}$$

Solution:

Let $P_{\times}(X, Y)$ and $P_{+}(X, Y)$ be the two polynomial interpretation that we want to find. We can start by showing that the polynomial interpretation for the second rule must have degree 1. Let $\deg_{\times(X)}$ be the degree of the polynomial $P_{\times}(X, Y)$ w.r.t. the variable X . Similarly we denote with $\deg_{\times(Y)}$ the degree of the polynomial $P_{\times}(X, Y)$ w.r.t. Y , whereas $\deg_{+(X)}$ and $\deg_{+(Y)}$ are the degrees of the polynomial $P_{+}(X, Y)$ w.r.t. X and Y respectively. From the first rule it must hold that $\deg_{\times(X)} \geq \deg_{\times(X)} \times \deg_{+(X)}$, which implies $\deg_{+(X)} = 1$. Moreover it holds $\deg_{\times(X)} \geq \deg_{\times(X)} \times \deg_{+(Y)}$, which implies $\deg_{+(Y)} = 1$. Therefore, $P_{+}(X, Y)$ must be of the form $s_2X + s_1Y + s_0$. From the second rule we obtain

$$s_2(s_2X + s_1Y + s_0) + s_1Z + s_0 > s_2X + s_1(s_2Y + s_1Z + s_0) + s_0$$

Which can be rewritten as $s_2^2X + s_1Z + s_0s_2 > s_2X + s_1^2Z + s_0s_1$. It follows that s_2 must be greater than s_1 . With a similar reasoning it follows that $P_{\times}(X, Y)$ must have degree 2.

Lets define the polynomial interpretation on $\mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$, $P_{\times}(X, Y) = XY$ and $P_{+}(X, Y) = 2X + Y + 1$. For the first rule, the left side of the rule is interpreted with $X(2Y + Z + 1)$ whereas the right side is $2XY + XZ + 1$. It holds $2XY + XZ + X > 2XY + XZ + 1$ whenever $X > 1$ (and for this reason we use an interpretation on $\mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$). Similarly, for the second one it holds that $4X + 2Y + Z + 3 > 2X + 2Y + Z + 2$.

A **polynomial interpretation on real numbers** is the following:

- a subset A of \mathbb{R}^+ ;
- a positive real number δ ;
- for every symbol f of arity n , a polynomial $P_f \in \mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$;
- for every $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$, $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in A$;
- for every $a_1, \dots, a_i >_{\delta} a'_i, \dots, a_n \in A$, $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_n) >_{\delta} P_f(a_1, \dots, a'_i, \dots, a_n)$ where $x >_{\delta} y$ iff $x > y + \delta$.

Then $(A, (P_f)_f, >_{\delta})$ is a well-founded monotone algebra.

Exercise 7 :

Consider the following two TRS:

$$R_1 = \{ \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{p}(x)) \rightarrow \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{1}(x))), \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{s}(x)) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(x))), \mathbf{p}(x) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}(x, x), \\ \mathbf{s}(x) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}(x, 0), \mathbf{s}(x) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}(0, x) \}$$

$$R_2 = \{ \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r}(x))) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}(x), \mathbf{r}(x)), \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}(x), \mathbf{r}(x))) \rightarrow \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r}(x))) \}$$

1. Prove that $R_1 \cup R_2$ terminates using the following polynomial interpretation on real numbers: $\delta = 1$, $P_0(X) = 0$, $P_1(X) = X^2$, $P_s(X) = X + 4$, $P_p(X) = 3X + 5$, $P_a(X, Y) = X + Y$ and $P_r(X) = \sqrt{2}X + 1$.
2. Prove that in any polynomial interpretation on integers proving the termination of R_1 it must hold that $P_s(X)$ is of the form $X + s_0$ and $P_a(X, Y)$ is of the form $X + Y + a_0$, with $s_0 > a_0$. *hint: look at the dominant terms of the polynomials computed from the rewrite rules.*
3. Deduce that the termination of $R_1 \cup R_2$ cannot be proved using a polynomial interpretation of integers.

Solution:

(1)

$$P_{1(p(x))}(X) = 9X^2 + 30X + 25 >_1 P_{p(p(1(x)))}(X) = 9X^2 + 20$$

$$P_{p(s(x))}(X) = 3X + 17 >_1 P_{s(s(p(x)))}(X) = 3X + 13$$

$$P_{p(x)}(X) = 3X + 5 >_1 P_{a(x,x)}(X) = 2X$$

$$P_{s(x)}(X) = X + 4 >_1 P_{a(x,0)}(X) = X$$

$$P_{s(x)}(X) = X + 4 >_1 P_{a(0,x)} = X$$

$$P_{r(r(x))}(X) = 2\sqrt{2}X + 3 + \sqrt{2} >_1 P_{a(r(x),r(x))} = 2\sqrt{2}X + 2$$

$$P_{s(a(r(x),r(x)))}(X) = 2\sqrt{2}X + 6 >_1 P_{r(r(x))}(X) = 2\sqrt{2}X + 3 + \sqrt{2}$$

(2) Let $P_0 = z \geq 0$. From the second rule of R_1 , let α be the degree of $P_s(X)$ and let β be the degree of $P_p(X)$. From $P_{ps(x)}(X) > P_{s(s(p(x)))}(X)$ it must hold that $\beta\alpha \geq \alpha\alpha\beta$. Therefore $\alpha = 1$. Similarly, from the first rule, also $P_p(X)$ is of degree one. From the third rule it must hold that $P_a(X, Y)$ is also of degree one. So $P_p(X)$ is of the form $p_1X + p_0$, $P_s(X)$ is of the form $s_1X + s_0$ whereas $P_a(X, Y)$ is of the form $a_2X + a_1Y + a_0$. From the fourth rule it must hold $s_1X + s_0 > a_2X + a_0 + a_1z$, which implies $s_1 \geq a_2 \geq 1$. Similarly, from the fifth rule, $s_1 \geq a_1 \geq 1$. From the second rule $s_1p_1X + s_0p_1 + p_0 > s_1^2p_1X + s_1^2p_0 + s_1s_0 + s_0$ and therefore it must hold that $s_1p_1 \geq s_1^2p_1$. Therefore $s_1 = 1$, which also implies $a_2 = a_1 = 1$. Moreover from $s_1X + s_0 > a_2X + a_0 + a_1z$, it must hold $s_0 > a_0$.

(3) Let α be the degree of the polynomial $P_r(X)$. From the second rule of R_2 it must hold that $\alpha^3 \leq \alpha$ and therefore $\alpha = 1$ and $P_r(X)$ is of the form $r_1X + r_0$. Looking now at the first rule, it must hold that $r_1(r_1(r_1X + r_0) + r_0) + r_0 > 2r_1X + 2r_0 + a_0$ which implies $r_1^3 \geq 2r_1$ and therefore $r_1^2 \geq 2$. Similarly, from the second rule of R_2 it must hold that $2r_1 \geq r_1^3$ or alternatively $r_1^2 \leq 2$. Therefore r_1^2 must be equal to 2, which requires $r_1 (= \sqrt{2})$ not to be a natural number.

A **matrix interpretation on integers** is the following:

- a positive integer d ;
- for every symbol f of arity n , n matrices $M_{f,1}, \dots, M_{f,n} \in \mathbb{N}^{d \times d}$;
- for every symbol of arity n , a vector $V_f \in \mathbb{N}^d$;
- a non-empty set $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, d\}$ satisfying that for every symbol f of arity n the map

$$L_f : (\mathbb{N}^d)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^d \text{ defined as } L_f(X_1, \dots, X_n) = V_f + \sum_{i=1}^n M_{f,i}X_i$$

is monotonic with respect to $>_I$ were $X >_I Y$ holds if and only if for every $i \in \{1, \dots, d\}$, $X[i] \geq Y[i]$ and there is $j \in I$ such that $X[j] > Y[j]$.

Then $(\mathbb{N}^d, (L_f)_f, >_I)$ is a well-founded monotone algebra.

Exercise 8 :

Consider the TRS $\{ s(a) \rightarrow s(p(a)), p(b) \rightarrow p(s(b)) \}$.

1. Prove that its termination cannot be proved by a polynomial interpretation on integers;
2. Use the following matrix interpretation to prove termination w.r.t. $>_{\{1,2\}}$.

$$L_s(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} X \quad L_p(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} X \quad L_a = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad L_b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Why does it fail if we take $>_{\{1\}}$ instead? Is there another matrix interpretation that works with this ordering?

Solution:

(1) From the first rule, the degree of P_p must be one. The same holds for P_s , thanks to the second rule. This implies that $P_{s(a)}$ of the form $s_1a + s_0$ whereas $P_{s(p(a))}$ of the form $s_1p_1a + s_1p_0 + s_0$ which, since $p_1 \geq 1$, is sufficient to conclude that the termination of this TRS cannot be proved by a polynomial interpretation on integers.

(2) It holds that:

$$L_s(L_a) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} >_{\{1,2\}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = L_s(L_p(L_a))$$

$$L_p(L_b) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} >_{\{1,2\}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = L_p(L_s(L_b))$$

(3) From the second rule, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} >_{\{1\}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ does not hold. No, let $L_s(X) = M_sX + V_s$ and $L_p(X) = M_pX + V_p$. For the first rule it will hold

$$\begin{aligned} L_s(L_a) &= M_sL_a + V_s \\ L_s(L_p(L_a)) &= M_sM_pL_a + M_sV_p + V_s \end{aligned}$$

To make $>_{\{1\}}$ it must therefore hold

$$(M_s)_{1,1}(L_a)_{1,1} + \dots + (M_s)_{1,d}(L_a)_{1,d} > (M_p)_{1,1}((M_s)_{1,1}(L_a)_{1,1} + \dots + (M_s)_{1,d}(L_a)_{1,d}) + \dots$$

which implies $(M_p)_{1,1} = 0$. Similarly, from the second rule, $(M_s)_{1,1} = 0$. This implies that no polynomial interpretation with the ordering $>_{\{1\}}$ can be defined for this TRS, since for any $m > n$, $(m, 0, \dots, 0) >_{\{1\}} (n, 0, \dots, 0)$ but $L_s(m, 0, \dots, 0) =_{\{1\}} L_s(n, 0, \dots, 0)$.

Exercise 9:

Let $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ and P_f be respectively the domain and the interpretation, for each function symbol f , of a polynomial interpretation of integers for a TRS (note: the TRS is therefore terminating). Take $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$.

1. Define $\pi_a : T(F, X) \rightarrow A$ as the function which maps every variable x to a and every term of the form $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ to $P_f(\pi_a(t_1), \dots, \pi_a(t_n))$. Prove that $\pi_a(t)$ is greater or equal to the length of every reduction starting from t .
2. Show that there exists d and k positive integers such that for every $f \in F$ of arity n and every $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A \setminus \{0\}$ it holds $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \leq d \prod_{i=1}^n a_i^k$.
3. From the previous point, pick d to be also greater or equal than a and fix $c \geq k + \log_2(d)$. Prove that $\pi_a(t) \leq 2^{2^{c|t|}}$.

Consider now any finite TRS and a function symbol f . Prove that there exists an integer k such that if $s \rightarrow t$ then $|t|_f \leq k(|s|_f + 1)$, where $|\cdot|_f$ is the number of f .

Deduce that the TRS

$$\{ \mathbf{a}(0, y) \rightarrow \mathbf{s}(y), \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{s}(x), 0) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}(x, \mathbf{s}(0)), \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{s}(x), \mathbf{s}(y)) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}(x, \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{s}(x), y)) \},$$

simulating the Ackermann's function, cannot be proved terminating using a polynomial interpretation over integers.

Solution:

(1) The proof is by induction on the \rightarrow relation. Let t be irreducible. Then the length of all its reductions is 0 and $\pi_a(t) \geq 0$ by definition. For the inductive step, suppose $t \rightarrow t'$ s.t. $t \rightarrow t' \rightarrow \dots$ is the maximal reduction from t . There exists a context C , a valuation σ and a rewriting rule $l \rightarrow r$ such that $t = C[l\sigma] \rightarrow C[r\sigma] = t'$. W.l.o.g. we can consider just terms of the form $l\sigma \rightarrow r\sigma$. Let P_l and P_r be the polynomials resulting from the polynomial interpretation, for l and r respectively. We have that, for all X_1, \dots, X_n , $P_l(X_1, \dots, X_n) > P_r(X_1, \dots, X_n)$. By

inductive hypothesis, $\pi_a(r\sigma) = P_r(\pi_a(\sigma(X_1)), \dots, \pi_a(\sigma(X_n)))$ is greater or equal to the length of every reduction starting from $r\sigma$. It follow that $\pi_a(l\sigma) = P_l(\pi_a(\sigma(X_1)), \dots, \pi_a(\sigma(X_n))) \geq \pi_a(r\sigma) + 1$ and therefore $\pi_a(l\sigma)$ is greater or equal to the length of every reduction starting from $l\sigma$.

(2) Let $\{s_0, \dots, s_m\}$ be the coefficient of the polynomial P_f , let $d \geq \sum_{i=0}^n s_i$ (so $d \geq 1$) and let $k \geq 1$ be also greater or equal to the degree of P_f . The thesis can be rewritten as $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \leq (\sum_{i=1}^m s_i) \prod_{j=1}^n a_j^k = \sum_{i=1}^m (s_i \prod_{j=1}^n a_j^k)$. Moreover there exists

$$k_{1,1}, \dots, k_{1,n}, k_{2,1}, \dots, k_{2,n}, \dots, k_{m,1}, \dots, k_{m,n}$$

such that $P_f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = \sum_{i=1}^m (s_i \prod_{j=1}^n a_j^{k_{i,j}})$ and for all $i \in [1, m]$ $k_{i,1} + \dots + k_{i,n} \leq k$. Moreover $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A \setminus \{0\}$, and therefore the thesis trivially holds since for all $i \in [1, m]$ $s_i \prod_{j=1}^n a_j^{k_{i,j}} \leq s_i \prod_{j=1}^n a_j^k$.

(3) By induction of t . If t is a variable, then $|t| = 1$ and $\pi_a(t) = a \leq 2^a \leq 2^{2^{\log_2(d)}} \leq 2^{2^{c|t|}}$. If t is of the form $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ then $\pi_a(t) = P_f(\pi_a(t_1), \dots, \pi_a(t_n))$. By inductive hypothesis, since P_f is monotone, $\pi_a(t) \leq P_f(2^{2^{c|t_1|}}, \dots, 2^{2^{c|t_n|}})$. From (2) it follows that $P_f(2^{2^{c|t_1|}}, \dots, 2^{2^{c|t_n|}}) \leq d \prod_{i=1}^n (2^{2^{c|t_i|}})^k = d 2^{\sum_i (k 2^{c|t_i|})} = 2^{\log_2(d) + k \sum_i (2^{c|t_i|})} \leq 2^{(\log_2(d) + k) \sum_i (2^{c|t_i|})}$. Since $d \geq a \geq 1$ and $k \geq 1$ it holds that $c \geq 1$ and therefore $2^{(\log_2(d) + k) \sum_i (2^{c|t_i|})} \leq 2^{c \sum_i (2^{c|t_i|})} \leq 2^{2^{c|t|}}$.

(4) W.l.o.g. consider $s = l\sigma$ and $t = r\sigma$ for a rewriting rule $l \rightarrow r$ and a valuation σ . The number of occurrences of f in $l\sigma$ is $|l|_f + \sum_{p \in \{p|l_p \in X\}} |\sigma(l_p)|_f$ where $|l|_f$ only depends on the left side of the rewriting rule. Similarly, $|r\sigma|_f = |r|_f + \sum_{p \in \{p|r_p \in X\}} |\sigma(r_p)|_f$ where $|r|_f$ depends only on the right side of the rewriting rule. Let V the number of variables in r (i.e. $|\{p|r_p \in X\}|$). It holds that $|r\sigma|_f \leq |r|_f + V \max_{p \in \{p|r_p \in X\}} (|\sigma(r_p)|_f)$. Since every variable of r also occurs in l it must hold that $|r\sigma|_f \leq |r|_f + V \max_{p \in \{p|l_p \in X\}} (|\sigma(l_p)|_f)$. Moreover $\max_{p \in \{p|l_p \in X\}} (|\sigma(l_p)|_f)$ is trivially less or equal that all the occurrences of f in $l\sigma$, therefore $|r\sigma|_f \leq |r|_f + V |l\sigma|_f \leq (|r|_f + V)(|l\sigma|_f + 1)$. $|r|_f$ and V only depends on the rule itself. Let k be greater or equal than the maximum number of occurrences of f in the right side of each rule of the TRS plus the number of variables in the right side of each rule of the TRS. it holds that $|r\sigma|_f \leq k(|l\sigma|_f + 1)$.

(5) From the above point, it holds that for all terms s and t such that $s \rightarrow t$, $|t|_s \leq k(|s|_s + 1)$. So at each step of the rewriting system, the number of s can at most increase k times (from the previous proof, for Ackermann this should hold for $k \geq 5$). If Ackermann could be proved terminating using a polynomial interpretation over integers then given any term t , the maximum number of steps will be $\pi_a(t) \leq 2^{2^{c|t|}}$, where c is fixed (and depends on the polynomial interpretation, see proof (2)). The size of a term of the form $\mathbf{a}(m, n)$ is $m + n + 3$. We conclude that there must exists k and c such that for any X, Y it should hold $Ack(X, Y) \leq k * 2^{2^{c(X+Y+3)}}$. This cannot hold since $Ack(X, Y)$ is not primitive recursive whereas $k * 2^{2^{c(X+Y+3)}}$ is, and therefore there exists X and Y such that $Ack(X, Y) > k * 2^{2^{c(X+Y+3)}}$.