

# Confluence for topological rewriting systems

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FELIM - Functional Equations in Limoges

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# I. INTRODUCTION

## Rewriting theory

Describes sequences of **computations** through **oriented identities**  
*a.k.a.* **rewrite rules**

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- Involution divisions

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### Abstraction

## Abstract rewriting theory

Abstract properties common to all concrete rewriting systems:  
**termination**, **confluence**, **normal forms**

**Abstract Rewriting System**

→  $A$  an underlying set

→  $\rightarrow$  a binary relation on  $A$

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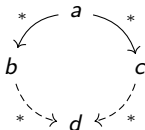
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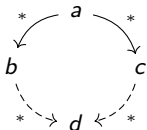
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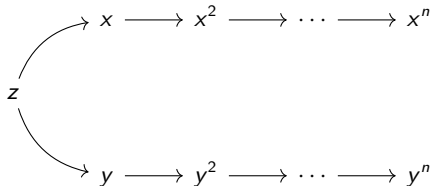
**Confluence****Example**

Multivariate division with respect to  $R$  is **confluent** iff  $R$  is a **Gröbner basis**

## Confluence “at the limit”

In  $\mathbb{K}[[x, y, z]]$  with the inverse deglex order such that  $z > y > x$  take

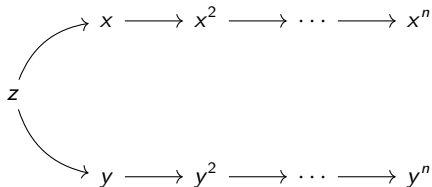
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The two branches will never have a common element

Hence the system is **not confluent**

However with the  $(x, y, z)$ -adic topology both branches converge to 0

**Topological Abstract Rewriting System**

→  $(X, \tau)$  a **topological space**

→  $\rightarrow$  a binary relation on  $X$

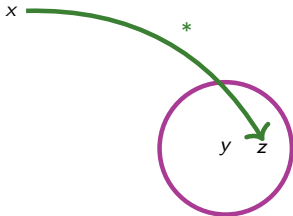
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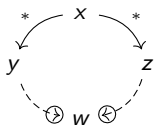
### Topological rewriting relation

Write  $x \dashrightarrow y$  if for **every neighbourhood**  $U$  of  $y$  **there exists**  $z \in U$  s.t.  $x \xrightarrow{*} z$



Note how  $x \xrightarrow{*} y$  implies  $x \dashrightarrow y$

## Topological confluence



## Topological confluence



### Theorem. [Chenavier 2020]

**Standard basis**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **topological confluence**

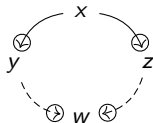
where **standard bases** are to formal power series as **Gröbner bases** are to polynomials



### Topological confluence



### Infinitary confluence



#### Theorem. [Chenavier 2020]

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Of interest in computer science:  
**infinitary  $\lambda/\Sigma$ -terms**

### Strength of confluences

For every TARS we have:

**confluence**  $\implies$  **topological confluence**

**infinitary confluence**  $\implies$  **topological confluence**

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In such a case, **confluence**, **topological confluence** and **infinitary confluence** are **trivially equivalent**.

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In such a case, **confluence**, **topological confluence** and **infinitary confluence** are **trivially equivalent**.

For instance, if  $\tau$  is the **discrete topology**, then  $(X, \tau, \rightarrow)$  has **discrete rewriting**.

**Counter-example of topological confluence  $\Rightarrow$  confluence**

Consider again, in  $\mathbb{K}[[x, y, z]]$

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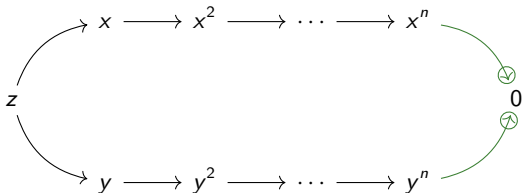
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Thus the system is **topologically confluent**



However we saw previously that it is **not confluent**



**Line with two origins**

$$X := (\mathbb{R} \times \{\pm 1\}) / \sim$$

where  $(x, 1) \sim (x, -1)$  if  $x \neq 0$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \left(\frac{1}{2^n}, 1\right) \rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, 1\right)$$

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$$X := [0, 2] \subset \mathbb{R}$$

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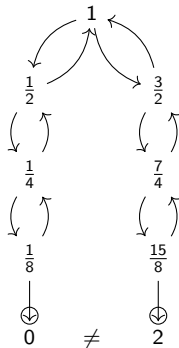
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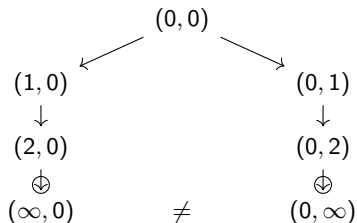
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**Theorem. [Chenavier, Cluzeau, ML, 2024]**

Let  $R$  be a set of formal power series and  $<$  be a local monomial order that is compatible with the degree.

The rewriting system induced by  $R$  and  $<$  is **topologically confluent** if and only if it is **infinitary confluent**.



## II. EQUIVALENCE OF CONFLUENCES

**Valuation**

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**Example of a convergent sequence**

In  $\mathbb{K}[[x, y, z]]$  the sequence  $(f_n)$  of powers of a variable (say  $x$ ) converges:  
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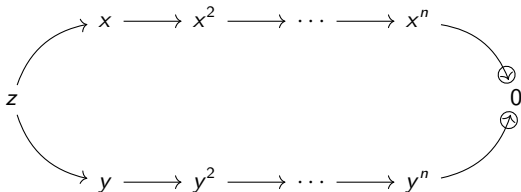
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Hence in the example of the introduction:



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  - **Local** if 1 is maximal → **Standard bases**
  - **Compatible with the degree** if the degree function on monomials is non-increasing (resp. non-decreasing) for a **local** (resp. **global**) order
- Consequence: if  $<$  is a **local** order **compatible with the degree** then

$$\text{val}(f) = \deg(\text{LM}(f))$$

**Ideals of formal power series are topologically closed**

→  $\mathbb{K}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ : local noetherian topological ring with respect to the  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ -adic topology. Therefore a **Zariski ring**  
**[Samuel, Zariski, 1975]**

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**[Samuel, Zariski, 1975]**
- Constructive proof providing a **cofactor representation** of a formal power series in the topological closure of the ideal  
**[Chenavier, Cluzeau, ML, 2024]**

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But  $I$  is topologically closed, hence  $f - g \in I$

**Theorem.** [Chenavier, Cluzeau, ML, 2024]

Let  $R$  be a set of formal power series and  $<$  be a **local** monomial order that is **compatible with the degree**.

The rewriting system induced by  $R$  and  $<$  is **topologically confluent** if and only if it is **infinitary confluent**.

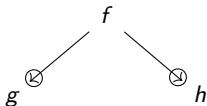


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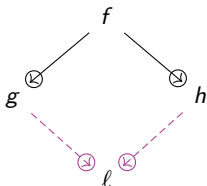


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**Close the diagram**

- Fix  $R$  a non-empty set of non-zero formal power series
- Fix  $<$  a **local** monomial order **compatible with the degree**
- Write  $\rightarrow$  the one-step rewriting relation induced by  $R$  and  $<$

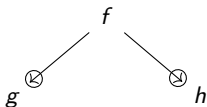
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Assume that  $\rightarrow$  is **topologically confluent** *i.e.*  $R$  is a **standard basis** with respect to  $<$  of the ideal  $I := I(R)$  generated by  $R$

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Let  $f, g, h \in \mathbb{K}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$  such that:



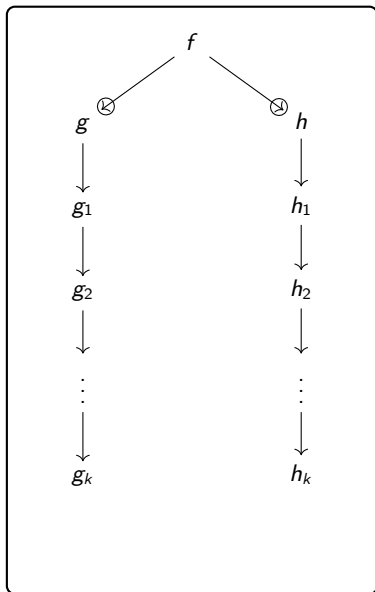
**Goal**

Construct inductively **two rewriting sequences** starting from  $g$  and  $h$  respectively that will be proven to be **Cauchy**

It will turn out that the limits are then equal and hence give a **common topological successor** to  $g$  and  $h$

→ By induction:

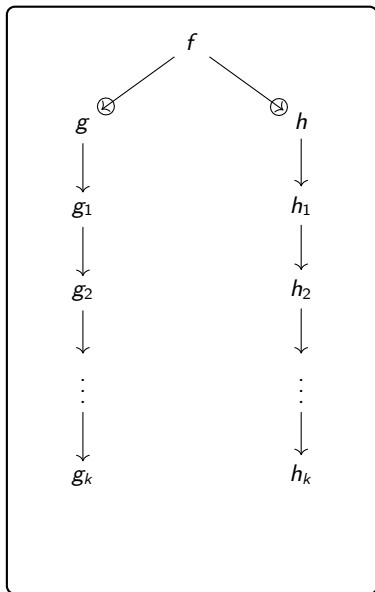
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→ If  $g_k = h_k$ , then it's over!





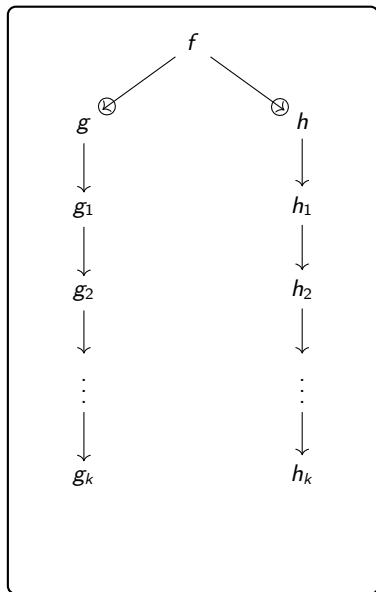
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→ From the previous proposition:

$$g_k - h_k \in I$$



→ By induction:

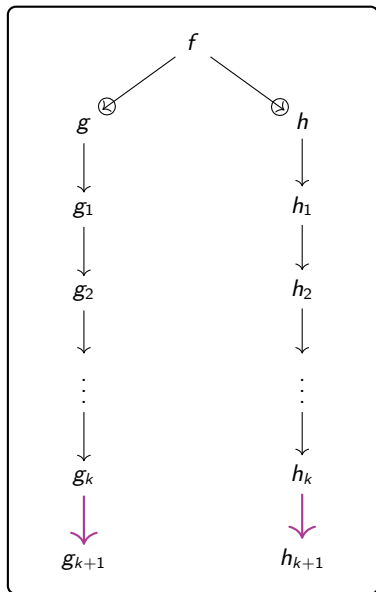
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→ Rewrite LM ( $g_k - h_k$ )



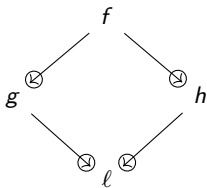
**Facts**

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So  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} g_k = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} h_k =: \ell$



Which shows that  $\rightarrow$  is **infinitary confluent**

### **III. CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES**

## Conclusion and perspectives

### Summary of presented notions and results:

- ▷ we introduced different confluence properties for topological rewriting systems
- ▷ we provided counter-examples for converse strength implications
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### Further works:

- ▷ study abstract properties of topological rewriting systems (e.g. C-R property, Newman's Lemma, etc ...)
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## Conclusion and perspectives

### Summary of presented notions and results:

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- ▷ we provided counter-examples for converse strength implications
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