

Redeeming Newman; orthogonality in rewriting

Past, present and future in a 1-algebraic setting

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Abstract

Despite sixty percent of Newman’s seminal 1942 paper being devoted to residual theory, that remains obscure due to that his instantiation of the theory there to the (non-erasing) $\lambda\beta$ -calculus was fatally flawed. We redeem the approach showing: 1) any rewrite system instantiating his theory induces a so-called 1-ra, an axiomatically orthogonal rewrite system, entailing co-initial reductions have *least* upperbounds; 2) the rewrite system underlying any (non-erasing) syntactically orthogonal TRS instantiates his theory. CC by 4.0 © ⓘ.

Rewriting The primary notion in rewriting is from [17]¹: a *rewrite system* $\rightarrow := \langle \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S}, \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle$ comprises objects \mathcal{O} and steps \mathcal{S} with source, target maps src, tgt from the latter to the former [26, Def. 8.2.2]. Steps ϕ, ψ are *co-initial* if $\text{src}(\phi) = \text{src}(\psi)$, *co-final* if $\text{tgt}(\phi) = \text{tgt}(\psi)$ and *parallel* to each other if both. A *morphism* from \rightarrow to $\rightarrow' := \langle \mathcal{O}', \mathcal{S}', \text{src}', \text{tgt}' \rangle$ preserves structure; it maps $\phi \in \mathcal{S}$ with source a and target b , denoted by $\phi : a \rightarrow b$, to $\phi' : a' \rightarrow b'$ in \mathcal{S}' . Rewrite properties [2, 26] pertain to various rewrite systems *constructed from* \rightarrow . *E.g.*, the *Church–Rosser* property [5, 17] expresses that for any *conversion* there exists a valley of co-final *reductions* parallel to it, with (finite) reductions and conversions rewrite systems *constructed from* \rightarrow . As constructions here we will use the 1-operations of *loop 1*, *composition* \cdot , *reverse* $^{-1}$ and *residuation* $/$, where by a 1-operation we mean an operation respecting sources and

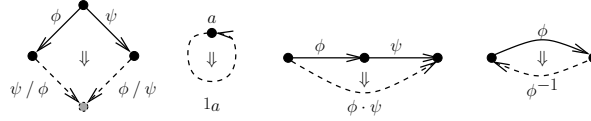


Figure 1: Step-forming operations: *residuation* $/$, *loop 1*, *composition* \cdot , *reverse* $^{-1}$

targets as depicted by their *generalised arities* [22, Ex. 5.3] in Fig. 1. *E.g.*, composition has two consecutive steps as input (the *full* arrows) and a single step as output (the *dashed* arrow), parallel to each other as depicted. That is, for each 1-operation its *input* arity is the universally quantified (full) subsystem, and its *output* arity is the existentially quantified (dashed) subsystem. The steps in the input arity of composition being *consecutive* captures that composition is only defined on consecutive steps, i.e. if $\text{tgt}(\phi) = \text{src}(\psi)$ for steps ϕ, ψ . Similarly, residuation $/$ requires *co-initial* steps in its input.

1-algebras To algebraically deal with 1-operations requires to enrich universal algebra. Whereas $1, \cdot$ and $^{-1}$ and laws for them (see Def. 1) are known to be covered by *essentially algebraic theories* [20, Ex. 4], the generalisations needed to smoothly deal with $/$ are *in statu nascendi* [22]. Acknowledging this, we refer to algebras having a rewrite system \rightarrow as carrier and 1-operations among those in Fig. 1 as *1-algebras*. This allows to reuse, as we do, terminology from algebra.

¹In Newman’s combinatorial topology-inspired words: *We are concerned with two kinds of entities, “objects” and the “moves” performed on them, and each move is associated with two objects, “initial” and “final.”*

$l\text{-unit}(\varrho)$:	$1 \cdot \varrho \Rightarrow \varrho$	$inv\text{-id}$:	$1^{-1} \Rightarrow 1$
$r\text{-unit}(\varrho)$:	$\varrho \cdot 1 \Rightarrow \varrho$	$anti\text{-auto}(\varrho, \varsigma)$:	$(\varrho \cdot \varsigma)^{-1} \Rightarrow \varsigma^{-1} \cdot \varrho^{-1}$
$assoc(\varrho, \varsigma, \zeta)$:	$(\varrho \cdot \varsigma) \cdot \zeta \Rightarrow \varrho \cdot (\varsigma \cdot \zeta)$	$inv\text{-ol}(\varrho)$:	$(\varrho^{-1})^{-1} \Rightarrow \varrho$

Table 1: 1-algebra laws / proofterm rewrite rules

Definition 1. A 1-monoid is a 1-algebra with 1-operations 1 and \cdot satisfying the (pertaining) laws in Tab. 1.² We use \rightarrow to denote (the carrier of) the *free* 1-monoid induced by \rightarrow and refer to its elements as *reductions* [26, Def. 8.2.10]. A 1-involutive 1-monoid is a 1-algebra with 1-operations 1, \cdot and $^{-1}$ satisfying the laws in Tab. 1.². We use \leftrightarrow to denote (the carrier of) the *free* 1-involutive 1-monoid, cf. [7], induced by \rightarrow and refer to its elements as *conversions*.

Example 1. Any algebra can be viewed as a 1-algebra by viewing its carrier as a single-object rewrite system having a step on it for each element of the algebra. Accordingly, algebra examples of 1-monoids are $\langle \mathbb{Z}, 0, + \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, + \rangle$, and algebra examples of 1-involutive 1-monoids are $\langle \mathbb{Z}, 0, +, (-) \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, +, \text{id} \rangle$. A 1-algebra example is (finite) walks in a graph with operations *empty*, *composition*, and *reverse*, or more generally paths in space.

Freeness of \Rightarrow means that any morphism from \rightarrow to a 1-monoid factors into a morphism from \rightarrow to \Rightarrow and (a 1-monoid preserving) one from \Rightarrow to the 1-monoid, and similarly for \leftrightarrow .

Example 2. The *length*-morphism maps each step ϕ to 1 in the involutive monoid $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, +, \text{id} \rangle$. It factors through mapping the *step* ϕ to the *conversion* ϕ , and so does the *relation*-morphism mapping ϕ to $(\text{src}(\phi), \text{tgt}(\phi))$ in the *equivalence* closure, *convertibility*, of the rewrite relation of \rightarrow , equipped with the expected operations. Similarly, that same morphism into the *reflexive-transitive* closure, *reducibility*, factors through mapping the *step* ϕ to the *reduction* ϕ .

(1-involutive) 1-monoids are (dagger) categories, and them being essentially algebraic means that free such can be defined syntactically [20]: letting the operations 1, \cdot and $^{-1}$ double as *function symbols* of arities 0, 2 and 1, one can inductively build terms from the steps of \rightarrow respecting sources and targets. Such terms we refer(red) to as *proofterms* [26, Ch. 8] as they are *terms* that can be conceived of as *proofs* (of *reducibility* of their source and target in case of \Rightarrow and of their *convertibility* in case of \leftrightarrow) in (sub-)equational logic(s) [18] induced by \rightarrow . To quotient out the (pertaining) laws from proofterms, one may use (proof)term rewriting itself: orienting the laws into rules on proofterms as in Tab. 1 yields a complete (confluent and terminating) (proof)term rewrite system \Rightarrow , with a \Rightarrow -normal form being either a single 1 or a right-branching \cdot -tree of (reversed) \rightarrow -steps, *i.e.* \Rightarrow -normal forms are in 1-1 correspondence with the usual notion of a reduction (conversion) as sequence of forward (and backward) \rightarrow -steps [5, 26]. This then allows to *define* the 1-operations 1, \cdot (and $^{-1}$) on reductions (and conversions) as the proofterm-forming operation of applying the corresponding function symbol followed by \Rightarrow -normalisation [7, App. A].

Example 3. As running example we employ Kleene's rewrite system \rightarrow [26, Fig. 1.2] comprising the four steps $\phi: a \rightarrow a'$, $\phi': a' \rightarrow a$, $\psi: a \rightarrow b$, and $\chi: a' \rightarrow c$. Then $\phi \cdot \psi$ is not a proofterm since the target a' of its 1st step ϕ is distinct from the source a of its 2nd step ψ . Among proofterms $\varrho := (\phi'^{-1} \cdot \phi^{-1})^{-1}$, $\varrho' := \phi \cdot \phi'$, $\varsigma := (\phi' \cdot \phi) \cdot \phi^{-1}$ and $\varsigma' := \phi' \cdot (\phi \cdot \phi^{-1})$, both ϱ' and ς' are conversions, but only the former is a reduction. Because both ϱ and ς are \Rightarrow -reducible neither is a conversion; their \Rightarrow -normal forms are, ϱ' and ς' .

² For the moment reading the proofterm rewrite rules as laws (symmetrically) for the 1-operations. We have left the assumptions [20, Ex. 4] on sources and targets of $\varrho, \varsigma, \zeta$ and 1 implicit, to stress similarity with algebra.

Orthogonality We recast the diamond and cube properties, cf. [26, Sec. 8.7], 1-algebraically.

Definition 2. \rightarrow has the *diamond* property (DP), if for all co-initial ϕ, ψ , there exist co-final ψ', ϕ' such that $\phi \diamond \psi$, where $\phi \diamond \psi$ denotes that ϕ, ψ, ψ', ϕ' constitute a *diamond*: $\text{src}(\phi) = \text{src}(\psi) \ \& \ \text{tgt}(\phi) = \text{src}(\psi') \ \& \ \text{tgt}(\psi) = \text{src}(\phi') \ \& \ \text{tgt}(\psi') = \text{tgt}(\phi')$. \rightarrow is *confluent* if \rightarrow has the DP.

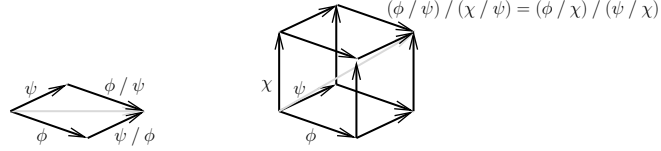


Figure 2: The diamond property (\diamond ; left) vs. the cube property (\boxtimes ; right)

Using that a *peak* (*valley*) [5] is a conversion of shape $\leftarrow \cdot \rightarrow$ ($\rightarrow \cdot \leftarrow$), DP expresses that for every peak there exists a valley parallel to it. Using a skolem-function $/$ (*residuation* in Fig. 1) to witness ψ' by ψ / ϕ and ϕ' by ϕ / ψ ,³ DP can be expressed 1-algebraically as: for all co-initial ϕ, ψ , $\psi / \phi \diamond \phi / \psi$. Thus, \rightarrow has the DP iff $\langle \rightarrow, / \rangle$ is a 1-algebra for *some* residuation $/$.

Example 4. In Ex. 3, for the \rightarrow -peak $\psi^{-1} \cdot \phi$ the \rightarrow -valley $\psi^{-1} \cdot \phi'^{-1}$ is parallel to it, but \rightarrow is not confluent since for the peak $\psi^{-1} \cdot (\phi \cdot \chi)$ there is no valley (b and c are \rightarrow -normal forms).

In [17, Sec. 1], Newman explained confluence of a rewrite system \rightarrow in terms of its reducibility quasi-order \twoheadrightarrow having *upperbounds*. He left the determination of conditions required for having *least* upperbounds for later. We put forward such conditions in [26, Sec. 8.7] in the form of the laws on residuation in Tab. 2, proposing to call any rewrite system satisfying (1)–(4) *orthogonal*, cf. [15, 9] (Fig. 2 depicts law (4) going back to [17, Thm. 5(Δ_4)] dubbed *cube* in [13, Lem. 2.2.1]). Here we recast that account 1-algebraically to then instantiate it in the next sections.

$\phi / 1 = \phi$	(1)		
$\phi / \phi = 1$	(2)	$\chi / (\phi \cdot \psi) = (\chi / \phi) / \psi$	(5)
$1 / \phi = 1$	(3)	$(\phi \cdot \psi) / \chi = (\phi / \chi) \cdot (\psi / (\chi / \phi))$	(6)
$(\phi / \psi) / (\chi / \psi) = (\phi / \chi) / (\psi / \chi)$	(4)	$1 \cdot 1 = 1$	(7)

Table 2: Laws of a 1-ra (left) and of a 1-rac (also right)

Definition 3. A 1-*residual algebra* (1-ra) is a 1-algebra $\langle \rightarrow, 1, / \rangle$ such that (1)–(4) in Tab. 2 hold. A 1-*rac* (1-ra with *composition*) is a 1-algebra $\langle \rightarrow, 1, /, \cdot \rangle$ such that (1)–(7) hold.

Example 5. $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, \div, + \rangle$ is a 1-rac, so $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, \div \rangle$ is a 1-ra, for \div *monus* (cut-off subtraction).

In a 1-ra(c) there is a *natural* order on co-initial steps given by $\phi \preceq \psi := (\phi / \psi = 1)$. Quotienting out $\preceq \cap \succeq$ yields a 1-ra(c) again whose natural order is a partial order [26, Lem. 8.7.25(iii) and 8.7.41(ii)]. Key to referring to a rewrite system \rightarrow constituting a 1-ra as being *orthogonal*, is that any such induces a 1-rac on \twoheadrightarrow [26, Lem. 8.7.47], which then has *least* upperbounds [26, Exc. 8.7.40(ii)]. This is characterised, using categorical language to be (ex/comp)act, by:

Theorem 1 (cf. [25, 15, 21]). $\langle \rightarrow, 1, /, \cdot \rangle$ is a 1-rac whose natural order is a partial order, where $\phi / \psi := \phi'$ for every peak ϕ, ψ and its pushout valley ψ', ϕ' (in the categorical sense) iff $\langle \rightarrow, 1, \cdot \rangle$ is a 1-monoid that is left-cancellative (each χ is epi: for all ϕ, ψ , if $\chi \cdot \phi = \chi \cdot \psi$ then $\phi = \psi$), gaunt (isomorphisms are 1) and has pushouts; i.e. lubs of peaks exist.

³We a priori get 2 skolem-functions, $f(\phi, \psi)$ for ψ' and $g(\phi, \psi)$ for ϕ' , but may assume $f(\phi, \psi) = g(\psi, \phi)$.

Redeeming Newman In 1942 in [17], Newman refactored the proof of the Church–Rosser property for the λI -calculus in [5], by abstracting from the λ -term-structure of objects, factoring the proof through an *axiomatisation* of a function $|$ entailing confluence [17, Sec. 8–12], and showing the axioms to be satisfied for the λI -calculus [17, Sec. 13,14]. The latter was later found to be erroneous [23] due to confusing variables when working with λ -terms modulo α -equivalence.⁴ We redeem his approach, showing in this section his main result [17, Thm. 5] factors through orthogonality, and in the next that it applies to (non-erasing) OTRS. To present his result,⁵ let $|$ yield for co-initial ϕ, ψ a (finite) set $\phi|\psi$ of \rightarrow -steps from $\text{tgt}(\psi)$, the ψ -derivates of ϕ ; it lifts to (finite) sets Φ of steps by $\Phi|\psi := \bigcup_{\phi \in \Phi} \phi|\psi$ and to reductions by $\Phi|(\varrho \cdot \psi) := (\Phi|\varrho)|\psi$ and $\Phi|1 := \Phi$. A *development* of Φ is a \rightarrow -reduction in which only derivates of steps in Φ occur and no remain [5, 3, 26]. Using Newman’s notions and our notations, his result reads:

Theorem 2 ([17]). *For co-initial reductions ϱ, ς and set of steps Φ , there are reductions ς', ϱ' such that $\varsigma' \diamond_{\varrho'} \varsigma$, and $\Phi | (\varrho \cdot \varsigma') = \Phi | (\varsigma \cdot \varrho')$ if axioms Δ_1 – Δ_4 hold and J_1, J_2 for a predicate J :*

- (Δ_1) $\phi | \psi = \emptyset$ iff $\phi = \psi$;
- (Δ_2) if $\phi \neq \psi$, then $(\phi | \chi) \cap (\psi | \chi) = \emptyset$;
- (Δ_3) if $\phi \neq \psi$, then there exist co-final developments ϱ of $\psi | \phi$, and ς of $\phi | \psi$;
- (Δ_4) for ϱ and ς in (Δ_3), $\chi | (\phi \cdot \varrho) = \chi | (\psi \cdot \varsigma)$;
- (J_1) If $\phi J \psi$, then $\phi | \psi$ has precisely one member;
- (J_2) If $\psi_1 \in \phi_1 | \chi$ and $\psi_2 \in \phi_2 | \chi$, and if $\phi_1 J \phi_2$ or $\phi_1 = \phi_2$, then $\psi_1 J \psi_2$ or $\psi_1 = \psi_2$.

Let the *parallel* rewrite system \multimap have as objects the objects of \rightarrow , and a step Φ_a if Φ is a set of steps *at a* that is a J -set [17, p. 232]: (distinct) steps in Φ are from a and pairwise J -related. Then the source of Φ_a is a and its target is the target of a development of Φ .

Lemma 1. *Under the assumptions of Thm. 2, $\langle \multimap, \emptyset, | \rangle$ is a 1-ra, so \multimap is orthogonal.*

Proof. That \multimap is well-defined, i.e. that Φ_a has a unique target holds by [17, Lem. 2]. [17, Lem. 5.1] shows both that $|$ is a residuation (Fig. 1) for \multimap , so \multimap has the DP, and that it has the cube property, i.e. law (4) holds. Laws (1)–(3) are seen to hold by easy inductions. \square

Proof of Thm. 2. As \rightarrow -reductions are (singleton) \multimap -reductions and the 1-ra on \multimap induces a 1-rac on \multimap by the previous section,⁶ one concludes by setting $\varsigma' := \varsigma | \varrho$ and $\varrho' := \varrho | \varsigma$. \square

Steps-as-terms To apply Thm. 2 to a *term* rewrite system [2, 26] $\mathcal{T} := \langle \Sigma, P \rangle$ given by a *signature* Σ and a set P of rules $p: \ell \rightarrow r$ for ℓ, r terms over function symbols in Σ (and variables), we let its *multistep* rewrite system $\multimap_{\mathcal{T}}$ have as objects terms over Σ and *steps-as-terms*, i.e. as steps terms over $\Sigma \sqcup P$, with src (tgt) the homomorphic extension of the function mapping rule symbols to their left-(right-)hand side. The *parallel* rewrite system $\multimap_{\mathcal{T}}$ and (single step) rewrite system $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}}$ arise from $\multimap_{\mathcal{T}}$ by restricting rule-symbols to occur *at parallel positions* respectively *once* in steps [26, Prop. 8.2.22]. We employ that $\multimap_{\mathcal{T}}$ is orthogonal (in the above sense) if \mathcal{T} is an OTRS, a TRS that has left-linear and non-overlapping rules [2, 26], i.e. that the residuation $|$ given in [26, Def. 8.7.4] induces a 1-ra on $\multimap_{\mathcal{T}}$ [26, Prop. 8.7.7(ii)] for OTRS.

Lemma 2. *For an OTRS \mathcal{T} , the assumptions of Thm. 2 hold for $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}}$ when:*

- defining $\phi J \psi$ if ϕ, ψ are steps (whose rule symbols are) at parallel positions; and

⁴It being the first of its kind, the error could be called the α - α -error (lucerne-error?).

⁵See [17] for more. We present Newman’s axioms and result as is, as our only goal is to *instantiate* them.

⁶Alternatively, this can be concluded from that the assumptions of Thm. 2 entail properties 1–4 of [15].

- letting $\phi \mid \psi$ be the set of steps occurring in (the parallel step) ϕ / ψ .

Proof. That the axioms hold follows from well-known facts for parallel steps in OTRS [2, 26], e.g., J_2 corresponds to the *Disjointness Property* in [26, Ex. 8.6.30] and Δ_4 to *cube* [13, Lem. 2.2.1], **permutation** [15]. (Using steps-as-terms, the axioms can also be verified by *inductions* on steps.) Note that non-erasingness is (only) needed for Δ_1 , cf. [26, Ex. 8.7.24]. \square

Conclusions We ruminate about the past, present and future of orthogonality.

Past (the curious case of orthogonality in rewriting) It is curious that Newman starts out [17] with stating to leave the study of *least* upperbounds (lubs) for later, to then devote most of the paper to introducing conditions that guarantee the very existence of lubs, as shown above (Lem. 1). That reductions constitute a lattice (have lubs) was shown only much later (in the 70s) for concrete rewrite systems such as recursive programs and the $\lambda\beta$ -calculus, see [13], subsequently axiomatised and couched in categorical language (existence of pushouts) in [25, 15, 21]. Here we cast our account of that [26, Sec. 8.7] 1-algebraically (Def. 3 and Thm. 1).

$$\beta(x, y, z) : Bxyz \rightarrow x(yz) \quad \gamma(x, y, z) : Cxyz \rightarrow xzy \quad \iota(x) : Ix \rightarrow x$$

Table 3: Combinatory Logic: term rewrite rules P of \mathcal{BCI} in applicative notation

Example 6 (illustrating that lubs are subtle to define). \mathcal{BCI} is the TRS with signature $\Sigma := \{B, C, I, @\}$ and rules $P := \{\beta, \gamma, \iota\}$ (Tab. 3). Since the rules of the Combinatory Logic \mathcal{BCI} in Tab. 3 are left-linear and non-overlapping, $\multimap_{\mathcal{BCI}}$ is orthogonal by the above. Consider the peak $Ix \xleftarrow{\phi} I(Ix) \xrightarrow{\psi} Ix$ for the steps $\phi := \iota(Ix)$ and $\psi := I\iota(x)$. (Note that ϕ, ψ are extensionally the same but not intensionally so.) The lub (pushout) of the peak is formed *not* by the empty valley from Ix , but by the valley comprising twice the step $\iota(x) : Ix \rightarrow_{\mathcal{BCI}} x$ since $\psi / \phi = \iota(x) = \phi / \psi$. That is, that ϕ, ψ are intensionally different, perform different work, constitute a *syntactic accident* [13, p. 34], is reflected in their pushout (lub) not being empty.

Despite the prominence of Combinatory Logic and the $\lambda\beta$ -calculus since the 30s, it took until the 80s to clepe them *orthogonal* term rewrite systems, making them in retrospect the 1st and 2nd (1st and 2nd-order) such. But that definition of orthogonality is *syntactic*, asks rule(s) to be left-linear and non-overlapping [2, 26], pertains to *terms* only. That led to the second curiosity that on the one hand many structured rewrite systems having lubs, e.g., *interaction nets* [12], *braids* [16], *self-distributivity* [24], ... were *not* covered by that syntactic definition, and that on the other hand that syntactic definition was found to be *lacking*, to not guarantee confluence let alone existence of lubs, already for minor generalisations of term rewriting:

Example 7. The rules $a \rightarrow b$ and $f(x) \rightarrow c \Leftarrow x = a$ are left-linear and non-overlapping but not even confluent as witnessed by both $f(b)$ and c being normal forms in the peak $f(b) \leftarrow f(a) \rightarrow c$.

Whence we propose(d [26, Sec. 8.9]) to factor the syntactic definition of orthogonality through its associated rewrite system being orthogonal, to constitute a 1-ra (Def. 3), making it interesting to see whether for systems in the literature the former entails the latter. For orthogonal TRS and PRS this is known to be the case [26, Sec. 8.7][4] by associating $\multimap_{\mathcal{T}}$ to \mathcal{T} with the proof unifying [5] with *axiomatic* [17] and *inductive* [3, Sec. 3.2] (TML) proofs. By *steps-as-terms* being conceptually parsimonious the residuation-based proof is superior to TML, which is based on *ad hoc prooftrees*, as we illustrate for \mathcal{BCI} in Ex. 8. Ex. 9 exemplifies that for certain *context-sensitive* and *conditional* TRS, orthogonality indeed induces orthogonality. We leave it to future research to check other syntactically orthogonal systems in the literature.

Example 8 (orthogonality of $\multimap_{\mathcal{BCI}}$ for OTRS \mathcal{BCI}). The (proof)terms $\phi := B I \gamma(C, x, y) \iota(z)$ and $\psi := \beta(I, C C x y, I z)$ yield a peak $B I (C y x) z \leftarrow_{\phi} B I (C C x y) (I z) \rightarrow_{\psi} I (C C x y) (I z)$ for which residuation (per [26, Def. 8.7.4]) yields the valley $B I (C y x) z \rightarrow_{\psi'} I (C y x z) \leftarrow_{\phi'} I (C C x y (I z))$, the lub (pushout) of ϕ, ψ , formed by (proof)terms $\psi' := \psi / \phi := \beta(I, C y x, z)$ and $\phi' := \phi / \psi := I(\gamma(C, x, y) \iota(z))$, as one may check in Haskell or ProTeM.

Example 9. $\langle \multimap, 1, / \rangle$ is a 1-ra for $/$ as in Ex. 8 [26, Def. 8.7.4], if steps ϕ are restricted by:⁷

- (i) for CSR as in [14, Thm. 8.12]: all frozen arguments are Σ -terms, or
- (ii) for orthogonal normal CTRS [26, Sec. 4.11.2]: if $\phi = \rho(\vec{\phi})$ for rule $\rho(\vec{x}) : \ell \rightarrow r \leftarrow \vec{\ell} \rightarrow \vec{r}$, then for all j , $\ell_j^{\sigma} \rightarrow r_j^{\sigma}$ (observe $r_j^{\sigma} = r_j$ by normality), where $\sigma(x_i) := \text{src}(\phi_i)$ for all i .

Present (inappropriate appropriation) Rewrite systems being basic small wonder they occur elsewhere nowadays, *e.g.*, as *multidigraphs*, *quivers* in representation theory [8], *pre-categories* in Garside theory [6] or 1-*polygraphs* in higher-dimensional group presentations [1]. As much as we would like to base ourselves on [6, 1], we cannot as both accounts are inadequate for our key notions *conversion* and *residuation*. More generally, *subsystems* [18] (\leftrightarrow and \rightarrow^+ , the free 1-algebras with $^{-1}$ respectively \cdot satisfying the laws in Tab. 1) and *supersystems* [26] (infinite/ary reductions) are absent from them, and so is (must be) classical rewrite theory.

$$\begin{array}{llll} l\text{-inv}(\varrho) & : & \varrho^{-1} \cdot \varrho & \Rightarrow 1 \\ r\text{-inv}(\varrho) & : & \varrho \cdot \varrho^{-1} & \Rightarrow 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{llll} l\text{-inv-}x(\varrho, \varsigma) & : & \varrho^{-1} \cdot (\varrho \cdot \varsigma) & \Rightarrow \varsigma \\ r\text{-inv-}x(\varrho, \varsigma) & : & \varrho \cdot (\varrho^{-1} \cdot \varsigma) & \Rightarrow \varsigma \end{array}$$

Table 4: 1-algebra laws / proofterm rewrite rules for 1-groups, extending Tab. 1

Remark. Modelling conversions as \leftrightarrow -reductions is *too weak*, so 1-polygraphs are [11, Sec. 2.4], as *categories* (1-monoids) miss out on involution [7],⁸ and assuming cancellation is *too strong* [17, Sec. 1], as *groupoids* (1-groups; see Tab. 4⁹) lose embedding [19]. Indeed, [6, 1] have algebraic accounts of neither conversion nor residuation, so cannot account for orthogonality, 1-ra's (having composition without residuation is analogous to having addition without monus; we do not know of other accounts where both are treated on a par, algebraically, as we think they should).

Future (explorations) (I) We restricted attention to the axioms in [17] for the *non-erasing* $\lambda\beta$ -calculus; (Δ_1) . These entail additional properties, *e.g.*, the natural order on \multimap -steps is the *subset* order, all developments have the same length [19], and \rightarrow is *normalising* (WN) iff it is *terminating* (SN) [17, Thm. 8][26, Thm. 4.8.5]. Which are retained for the axioms in [17] for the (*erasing*) $\lambda\beta$ -calculus? orthogonality? (II) Does meta-theory such as that the *full* \multimap -strategy is (hyper-)normalising, generalise? (III) Does viewing a *proof order* (see [26, Thm. 7.5.12]) as a morphism from conversions into a (well-founded) 1-involutive 1-monoid have advantages beyond those in [7]? (IV) Does the approach generalise to *infinite/ary* reductions? (V) Can the *Grothendieck group construction* be based on orthogonality? (VI) How to *formalise* this algebraic approach, in particular *residuation*, *cf.* [10]? (VII) How to generalise proofs via steps-as-terms to other structures, *e.g.*, to *steps-as-port-graphs* for interaction nets [12].

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⁷As before⁵, we refer the reader to the cited literature for more, for reasons of room.

⁸Involution is *essential* and *useful*; it saved half the work in formalising [7] (B. Felgenhauer; pers. comm.).

⁹The proofterm rewrite rules are obtained by 1-completion, see Ch. 7 of either [2, 26]: though *l-inv-x* and *r-inv-x* are *derivable* they need to be adjoined to turn \Rightarrow into a *complete* proofterm rewrite system.

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