

# Reduction Relations

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**Summary.** The goal of the article is to start the formalization of Knuth-Bendix completion method (see [2], [10] or [1]; see also [11],[9]), i.e. to formalize the concept of the completion of a reduction relation. The completion of a reduction relation  $R$  is a complete reduction relation equivalent to  $R$  such that convertible elements have the same normal forms. The theory formalized in the article includes concepts and facts concerning normal forms, terminating reductions, Church-Rosser property, and equivalence of reduction relations.

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The articles [12], [15], [14], [3], [6], [16], [4], [5], [13], [7], and [8] provide the notation and terminology for this paper.

## 1. FORGETTING CONCATENATION AND REDUCTION SEQUENCE

Let  $p, q$  be finite sequences. The functor  $p^{\text{\$}} \wedge q$  yielding a finite sequence is defined by:

- (Def. 1)(i)  $p^{\text{\$}} \wedge q = p \wedge q$  if  $p = \emptyset$  or  $q = \emptyset$ ,
- (ii) there exists a natural number  $i$  and there exists a finite sequence  $r$  such that  $\text{len } p = i + 1$  and  $r = p \upharpoonright \text{Seg } i$  and  $p^{\text{\$}} \wedge q = r \wedge q$ , otherwise.

In the sequel  $p, q$  denote finite sequences and  $x, y$  denote sets.

We now state several propositions:

- (1)  $\emptyset^{\text{\$}} \wedge p = p$  and  $p^{\text{\$}} \wedge \emptyset = p$ .
- (2) If  $q \neq \emptyset$ , then  $(p \wedge \langle x \rangle)^{\text{\$}} \wedge q = p \wedge q$ .
- (3)  $(p \wedge \langle x \rangle)^{\text{\$}} \wedge (\langle y \rangle \wedge q) = p \wedge \langle y \rangle \wedge q$ .
- (4) If  $q \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\langle x \rangle^{\text{\$}} \wedge q = q$ .
- (5) If  $p \neq \emptyset$ , then there exist  $x, q$  such that  $p = \langle x \rangle \wedge q$  and  $\text{len } p = \text{len } q + 1$ .

The scheme *PathCatenation* deals with finite sequences  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  and a binary predicate  $\mathcal{P}$ , and states that:

Let  $i$  be a natural number. Suppose  $i \in \text{dom}(\mathcal{A}^{\text{\$}} \wedge \mathcal{B})$  and  $i + 1 \in \text{dom}(\mathcal{A}^{\text{\$}} \wedge \mathcal{B})$ . Let  $x, y$  be sets. If  $x = (\mathcal{A}^{\text{\$}} \wedge \mathcal{B})(i)$  and  $y = (\mathcal{A}^{\text{\$}} \wedge \mathcal{B})(i + 1)$ , then  $\mathcal{P}[x, y]$

provided the parameters meet the following requirements:

- For every natural number  $i$  such that  $i \in \text{dom } \mathcal{A}$  and  $i + 1 \in \text{dom } \mathcal{A}$  holds  $\mathcal{P}[\mathcal{A}(i), \mathcal{A}(i + 1)]$ ,

- For every natural number  $i$  such that  $i \in \text{dom } \mathcal{B}$  and  $i+1 \in \text{dom } \mathcal{B}$  holds  $\mathcal{P}[\mathcal{B}(i), \mathcal{B}(i+1)]$ , and
- $\text{len } \mathcal{A} > 0$  and  $\text{len } \mathcal{B} > 0$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\text{len } \mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{B}(1)$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. A finite sequence is called a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$  if:

(Def. 2)  $\text{len } it > 0$  and for every natural number  $i$  such that  $i \in \text{dom } it$  and  $i+1 \in \text{dom } it$  holds  $\langle it(i), it(i+1) \rangle \in R$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. One can verify that every reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$  is non empty. Next we state several propositions:

- (7)<sup>1</sup> For every binary relation  $R$  and for every set  $a$  holds  $\langle a \rangle$  is a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (8) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  holds  $\langle a, b \rangle$  is a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (9) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $p, q$  be reduction sequences w.r.t.  $R$ . If  $p(\text{len } p) = q(1)$ , then  $p \text{ }^{\$} \sim q$  is a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (10) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $p$  be a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $\text{Rev}(p)$  is a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R^\sim$ .
- (11) For all binary relations  $R, Q$  such that  $R \subseteq Q$  holds every reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$  is a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $Q$ .

## 2. REDUCIBILITY, CONVERTIBILITY AND NORMAL FORMS

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a, b$  be sets. We say that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  if and only if:

(Def. 3) There exists a reduction sequence  $p$  w.r.t.  $R$  such that  $p(1) = a$  and  $p(\text{len } p) = b$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a, b$  be sets. We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

(Def. 4)  $R \cup R^\sim$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ .

One can prove the following propositions:

- (12) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Then  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  if and only if there exists a finite sequence  $p$  such that  $\text{len } p > 0$  and  $p(1) = a$  and  $p(\text{len } p) = b$  and for every natural number  $i$  such that  $i \in \text{dom } p$  and  $i+1 \in \text{dom } p$  holds  $\langle p(i), p(i+1) \rangle \in R$ .
- (13) For every binary relation  $R$  and for every set  $a$  holds  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $a$ .
- (14) For all sets  $a, b$  such that  $\emptyset$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  holds  $a = b$ .
- (15) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $a \notin \text{field } R$  holds  $a = b$ .
- (16) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  holds  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ .
- (17) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $R$  reduces  $b$  to  $c$ . Then  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $c$ .
- (18) Let  $R$  be a binary relation,  $p$  be a reduction sequence w.r.t.  $R$ , and  $i, j$  be natural numbers. If  $i \in \text{dom } p$  and  $j \in \text{dom } p$  and  $i \leq j$ , then  $R$  reduces  $p(i)$  to  $p(j)$ .
- (19) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $a \neq b$  holds  $a \in \text{field } R$  and  $b \in \text{field } R$ .

<sup>1</sup> The proposition (6) has been removed.

- (20) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  holds  $a \in \text{field } R$  iff  $b \in \text{field } R$ .
- (21) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  holds  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  iff  $a = b$  or  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R^*$ .
- (22) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  holds  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  iff  $R^*$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ .
- (23) Let  $R, Q$  be binary relations. Suppose  $R \subseteq Q$ . Let  $a, b$  be sets. If  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ , then  $Q$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ .
- (24) Let  $R$  be a binary relation,  $X$  be a set, and  $a, b$  be sets. Then  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  if and only if  $R \cup \text{id}_X$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ .
- (25) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  holds  $R^\sim$  reduces  $b$  to  $a$ .
- (26) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ . Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  and  $b$  and  $a$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (27) For every binary relation  $R$  and for every set  $a$  holds  $a$  and  $a$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (28) For all sets  $a, b$  such that  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $\emptyset$  holds  $a = b$ .
- (29) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. If  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  and  $a \notin \text{field } R$ , then  $a = b$ .
- (30) For every binary relation  $R$  and for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  holds  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (31) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  and  $b$  and  $c$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $a$  and  $c$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (32) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $b$  and  $a$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (33) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. If  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  and  $a \neq b$ , then  $a \in \text{field } R$  and  $b \in \text{field } R$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a$  be a set. We say that  $a$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

- (Def. 5) It is not true that there exists a set  $b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ .

We now state two propositions:

- (34) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. If  $a$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  and  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ , then  $a = b$ .
- (35) For every binary relation  $R$  and for every set  $a$  such that  $a \notin \text{field } R$  holds  $a$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a, b$  be sets. We say that  $b$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

- (Def. 6)  $b$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  and  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ .

We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

- (Def. 7) There exists a set  $c$  such that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $c$  and  $R$  reduces  $b$  to  $c$ .

We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

- (Def. 8) There exists a set  $c$  such that  $R$  reduces  $c$  to  $a$  and  $R$  reduces  $c$  to  $b$ .

We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent at most in 1 step w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

(Def. 9) There exists a set  $c$  such that  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$  or  $a = c$  but  $\langle b, c \rangle \in R$  or  $b = c$ .

We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent at most in 1 step w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

(Def. 10) There exists a set  $c$  such that  $\langle c, a \rangle \in R$  or  $a = c$  but  $\langle c, b \rangle \in R$  or  $b = c$ .

The following propositions are true:

(36) For every binary relation  $R$  and for every set  $a$  such that  $a \notin \text{field } R$  holds  $a$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$ .

(37) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$ . Then

- (i)  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ ,
- (ii)  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ ,
- (iii)  $b$  and  $a$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ , and
- (iv)  $b$  and  $a$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(38) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$  or  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .

(39) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a$  be a set. Then  $a$  and  $a$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$  and  $a$  and  $a$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(40) For all sets  $a, b$  such that  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $\emptyset$  or  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $\emptyset$  holds  $a = b$ .

(41) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $b$  and  $a$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(42) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $b$  and  $a$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(43) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose that

- (i)  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $b$  and  $c$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ , or
- (ii)  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$  and  $R$  reduces  $c$  to  $b$ .

Then  $a$  and  $c$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(44) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose that

- (i)  $R$  reduces  $b$  to  $a$  and  $b$  and  $c$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ , or
- (ii)  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$  and  $R$  reduces  $b$  to  $c$ .

Then  $a$  and  $c$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(45) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent at most in 1 step w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(46) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent at most in 1 step w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a$  be a set. We say that  $a$  has a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

(Def. 11) There exists a set which is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$ .

The following proposition is true

(47) For every binary relation  $R$  and for every set  $a$  such that  $a \notin \text{field } R$  holds  $a$  has a normal form w.r.t.  $R$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a$  be a set. Let us assume that  $a$  has a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  and for all sets  $b, c$  such that  $b$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$  and  $c$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$  holds  $b = c$ . The functor  $\text{nf}_R(a)$  is defined by:

(Def. 12)  $\text{nf}_R(a)$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$ .

## 3. TERMINATING REDUCTIONS

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. We say that  $R$  is reversely well founded if and only if:

(Def. 13)  $R^\sim$  is well founded.

We say that  $R$  is weakly-normalizing if and only if:

(Def. 14) For every set  $a$  such that  $a \in \text{field } R$  holds  $a$  has a normal form w.r.t.  $R$ .

We say that  $R$  is strongly-normalizing if and only if:

(Def. 15) For every many sorted set  $f$  indexed by  $\mathbb{N}$  there exists a natural number  $i$  such that  $\langle f(i), f(i+1) \rangle \notin R$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. Let us observe that  $R$  is reversely well founded if and only if the condition (Def. 16) is satisfied.

(Def. 16) Let  $Y$  be a set. Suppose  $Y \subseteq \text{field } R$  and  $Y \neq \emptyset$ . Then there exists a set  $a$  such that  $a \in Y$  and for every set  $b$  such that  $b \in Y$  and  $a \neq b$  holds  $\langle a, b \rangle \notin R$ .

The scheme *coNoetherianInduction* deals with a binary relation  $\mathcal{A}$  and a unary predicate  $\mathcal{P}$ , and states that:

For every set  $a$  such that  $a \in \text{field } \mathcal{A}$  holds  $\mathcal{P}[a]$

provided the following conditions are met:

- $\mathcal{A}$  is reversely well founded, and
- For every set  $a$  such that for every set  $b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $a \neq b$  holds  $\mathcal{P}[b]$  holds  $\mathcal{P}[a]$ .

Let us note that every binary relation which is strongly-normalizing is also irreflexive and reversely well founded and every binary relation which is reversely well founded and irreflexive is also strongly-normalizing.

Let us observe that every binary relation which is empty is also weakly-normalizing and strongly-normalizing.

Let us note that there exists a binary relation which is empty.

Next we state the proposition

(48) Let  $Q$  be a reversely well founded binary relation and  $R$  be a binary relation. If  $R \subseteq Q$ , then  $R$  is reversely well founded.

Let us note that every binary relation which is strongly-normalizing is also weakly-normalizing.

## 4. CHURCH-ROSSER PROPERTY

Let  $R, Q$  be binary relations. We say that  $R$  commutes-weakly with  $Q$  if and only if the condition (Def. 17) is satisfied.

(Def. 17) Let  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle a, c \rangle \in Q$ . Then there exists a set  $d$  such that  $Q$  reduces  $b$  to  $d$  and  $R$  reduces  $c$  to  $d$ .

Let us note that the predicate  $R$  commutes-weakly with  $Q$  is symmetric. We say that  $R$  commutes with  $Q$  if and only if the condition (Def. 18) is satisfied.

(Def. 18) Let  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $Q$  reduces  $a$  to  $c$ . Then there exists a set  $d$  such that  $Q$  reduces  $b$  to  $d$  and  $R$  reduces  $c$  to  $d$ .

Let us note that the predicate  $R$  commutes with  $Q$  is symmetric.

Next we state the proposition

(49) For all binary relations  $R, Q$  such that  $R$  commutes with  $Q$  holds  $R$  commutes-weakly with  $Q$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. We say that  $R$  has unique normal form property if and only if the condition (Def. 19) is satisfied.

(Def. 19) Let  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  and  $b$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $a = b$ .

We say that  $R$  has normal form property if and only if the condition (Def. 20) is satisfied.

(Def. 20) Let  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  is a normal form w.r.t.  $R$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $R$  reduces  $b$  to  $a$ .

We say that  $R$  is subcommutative if and only if:

(Def. 21) For all sets  $a, b, c$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$  holds  $b$  and  $c$  are convergent at most in 1 step w.r.t.  $R$ .

We introduce  $R$  has diamond property as a synonym of  $R$  is subcommutative. We say that  $R$  is confluent if and only if:

(Def. 22) For all sets  $a, b$  such that  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent w.r.t.  $R$  holds  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

We say that  $R$  has Church-Rosser property if and only if:

(Def. 23) For all sets  $a, b$  such that  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  holds  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

We say that  $R$  is locally-confluent if and only if:

(Def. 24) For all sets  $a, b, c$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$  holds  $b$  and  $c$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

We introduce  $R$  has weak Church-Rosser property as a synonym of  $R$  is locally-confluent.

The following four propositions are true:

(50) Let  $R$  be a binary relation. Suppose  $R$  is subcommutative. Let  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$ . Then  $b$  and  $c$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(51) For every binary relation  $R$  holds  $R$  is confluent iff  $R$  commutes with  $R$ .

(52) Let  $R$  be a binary relation. Then  $R$  is confluent if and only if for all sets  $a, b, c$  such that  $R$  reduces  $a$  to  $b$  and  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$  holds  $b$  and  $c$  are convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

(53) For every binary relation  $R$  holds  $R$  is locally-confluent iff  $R$  commutes-weakly with  $R$ .

One can verify the following observations:

- \* every binary relation which has Church-Rosser property is also confluent,
- \* every binary relation which is confluent is also locally-confluent and has Church-Rosser property,
- \* every binary relation which is subcommutative is also confluent,
- \* every binary relation which has Church-Rosser property has also normal form property,
- \* every binary relation which has normal form property has also unique normal form property, and
- \* every binary relation which is weakly-normalizing and has unique normal form property has also Church-Rosser property.

One can verify that every binary relation which is empty is also subcommutative.

Let us mention that there exists a binary relation which is empty.

Next we state three propositions:

- (54) Let  $R$  be a binary relation with unique normal form property and  $a, b, c$  be sets. Suppose  $b$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$  and  $c$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $b = c$ .
- (55) Let  $R$  be a weakly-normalizing binary relation with unique normal form property and  $a$  be a set. Then  $\text{nf}_R(a)$  is a normal form of  $a$  w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (56) Let  $R$  be a weakly-normalizing binary relation with unique normal form property and  $a, b$  be sets. If  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ , then  $\text{nf}_R(a) = \text{nf}_R(b)$ .

Let us mention that every binary relation which is strongly-normalizing and locally-confluent is also confluent.

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. We say that  $R$  is complete if and only if:

(Def. 25)  $R$  is confluent and strongly-normalizing.

Let us mention that every binary relation which is complete is also confluent and strongly-normalizing and every binary relation which is confluent and strongly-normalizing is also complete.

Let us observe that there exists a binary relation which is empty.

Let us note that there exists a non empty binary relation which is complete.

The following three propositions are true:

- (57) Let  $R, Q$  be binary relations with Church-Rosser property. If  $R$  commutes with  $Q$ , then  $R \cup Q$  has Church-Rosser property.
- (58) For every binary relation  $R$  holds  $R$  is confluent iff  $R^*$  has weak Church-Rosser property.
- (59) For every binary relation  $R$  holds  $R$  is confluent iff  $R^*$  is subcommutative.

## 5. COMPLETION METHOD

Let  $R, Q$  be binary relations. We say that  $R$  and  $Q$  are equivalent if and only if the condition (Def. 26) is satisfied.

(Def. 26) Let  $a, b$  be sets. Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $Q$ .

Let us note that the predicate  $R$  and  $Q$  are equivalent is symmetric.

Let  $R$  be a binary relation and let  $a, b$  be sets. We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are critical w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if:

(Def. 27)  $a$  and  $b$  are divergent at most in 1 step w.r.t.  $R$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are not convergent w.r.t.  $R$ .

The following propositions are true:

- (60) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $a, b$  be sets. Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are critical w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$ .
- (61) Let  $R$  be a binary relation. Suppose that it is not true that there exist sets  $a, b$  such that  $a$  and  $b$  are critical w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $R$  is locally-confluent.
- (62) Let  $R, Q$  be binary relations. Suppose that for all sets  $a, b$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in Q$  holds  $a$  and  $b$  are critical w.r.t.  $R$ . Then  $R$  and  $R \cup Q$  are equivalent.
- (63) Let  $R$  be a binary relation. Then there exists a complete binary relation  $Q$  such that
- (i)  $\text{field } Q \subseteq \text{field } R$ , and
  - (ii) for all sets  $a, b$  holds  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  iff  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t.  $Q$ .

Let  $R$  be a binary relation. A complete binary relation is said to be a completion of  $R$  if it satisfies the condition (Def. 28).

(Def. 28) Let  $a, b$  be sets. Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  are convergent w.r.t. it.

We now state three propositions:

- (64) For every binary relation  $R$  and for every completion  $C$  of  $R$  holds  $R$  and  $C$  are equivalent.
- (65) Let  $R$  be a binary relation and  $Q$  be a complete binary relation. If  $R$  and  $Q$  are equivalent, then  $Q$  is a completion of  $R$ .
- (66) Let  $R$  be a binary relation,  $C$  be a completion of  $R$ , and  $a, b$  be sets. Then  $a$  and  $b$  are convertible w.r.t.  $R$  if and only if  $\text{nf}_C(a) = \text{nf}_C(b)$ .

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