

# On the Essence and Initiality of Conflicts

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IFIP WG1.3 Foundations of System Specification  
Prague, April 6-7, 2019

*based on a paper presented at the 11th International Conference  
on Graph Transformation, June 2018*

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  - The state is logically and/or physically distributed: it can be abstracted to a graph.
  - The dynamics is determined by local changes: they can be described declaratively as rules.

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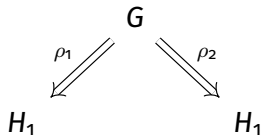
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- Intrinsic non-determinism of the modeled system could be mixed with the one arising from the rule-based specification of functional transformations.
- Analysis of conditions for independence and for potential conflicts among transformations becomes fundamental for the analysis of such systems.

# Parallel independence vs. conflicts

Since (linear) graph transformation is resource-conscious, “confluence” is “strict confluence”.

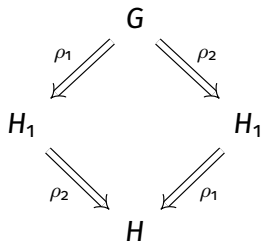
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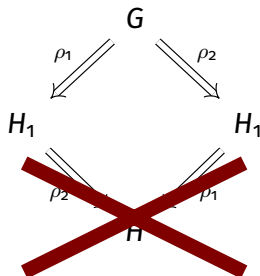
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**Conflict**

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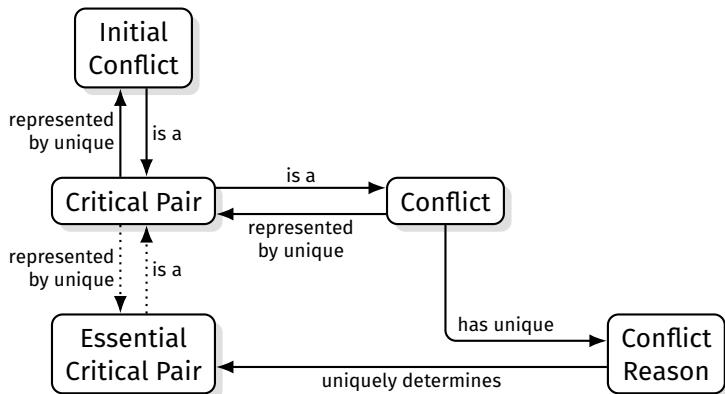
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  - To identify the “root causes” of conflicts in a precise way
- “Root causes” are the resources for which the transformation compete

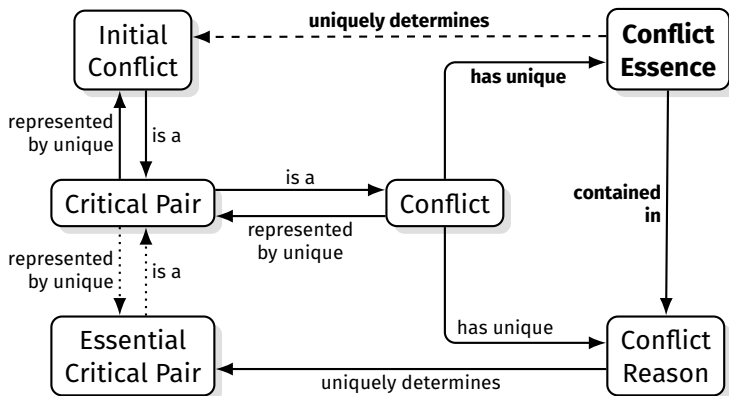
# Overview of previous results

Available for: — Adhesive Categories    - - - -  $\text{Set}^{\mathcal{S}}$     .....  $\text{Graph}_{\mathcal{T}}$



# Overview of our results in context

Available for: — Adhesive Categories    - - - -  $\text{Set}^{\mathcal{S}}$     .....  $\text{Graph}_T$



# Background: The DPO Approach

Rule:  $\rho = L \xleftarrow{l} K \xrightarrow{r} R$

Match:  $m : L \rightarrow G$

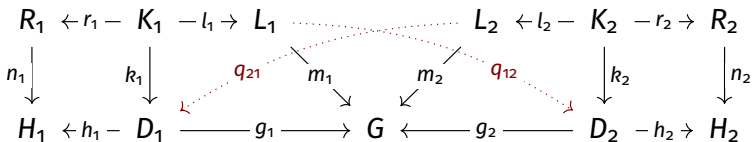
Transformation:  $G \xrightarrow{\rho, m} H$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 L & \xleftarrow{l} & K & \xrightarrow{r} & R \\
 \downarrow m & & \downarrow k & & \downarrow n \\
 & \text{PO} & & \text{PO} & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 G & \xleftarrow{g} & D & \xrightarrow{h} & H
 \end{array}$$



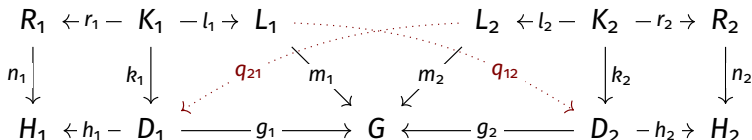
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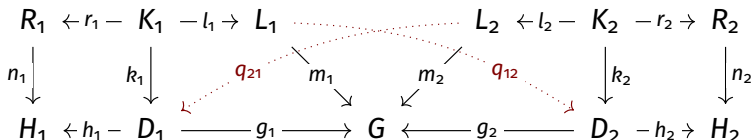
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- Equivalent to standard condition

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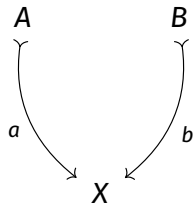
- Previous work based on the **standard condition** for parallel independence



- Recently: **essential condition** for parallel independence (Corradini et al. 2018)
- Equivalent to standard condition
- **Goal:** review characterization of conflicts under new light

# Background: Adhesive Categories

Subobjects behave like subsets

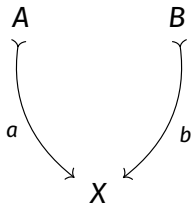


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Subobjects behave like subsets

Lemma (Lack and Sobocinski 2005)

In adhesive categories,  $\mathbf{Sub}(X)$  is distributive lattice



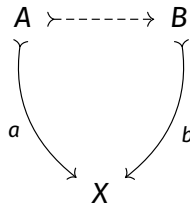
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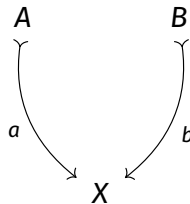
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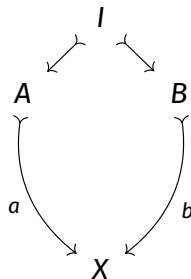
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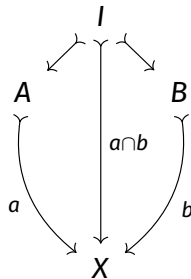
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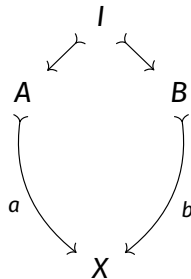
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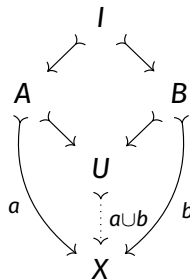
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**Top** is  $X$

**Bottom** usually “empty”, if exists

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- We use categories  $\mathbf{Set}^{\mathbb{S}}$  of functors  $\mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  with natural transformations as arrows (essentially presheaves)
- Generalizes graphs and graph structures

$$\mathbf{Graph} = \mathbf{Set}^{\mathbf{G}}$$

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- Limits, colimits, monos and epis are pointwise
- Always adhesive

# Outline

1. Characterize conflict between transformations
2. Useful properties of the characterization
3. Compare with conflict reasons of Lambers, Ehrig, and Orejas (2008)
4. Relate to initial conflicts

# Essential Condition of Parallel Independence

Corradini et al. (2018)

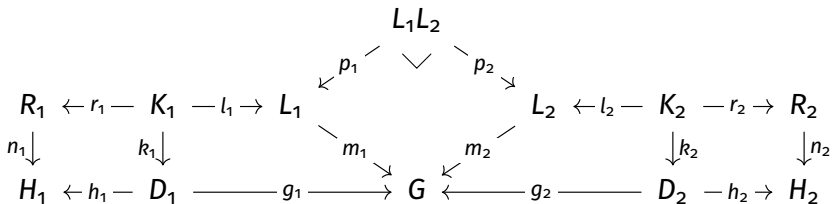
$$H_1 \xleftarrow{t_1} G \xrightarrow{t_2} H_2$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 R_1 & \leftarrow r_1 & - & K_1 & \xrightarrow{l_1} & L_1 & & L_2 & \leftarrow l_2 & - & K_2 & \xrightarrow{r_2} & R_2 \\
 n_1 \downarrow & & & k_1 \downarrow & & m_1 \searrow & & m_2 \swarrow & & & \downarrow k_2 & & \downarrow n_2 \\
 H_1 & \leftarrow h_1 & - & D_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & G & \xleftarrow{g_2} & D_2 & \xrightarrow{h_2} & H_2
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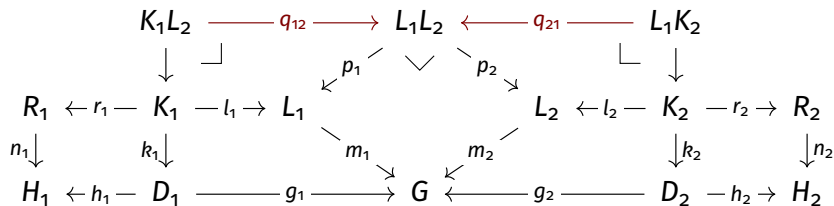
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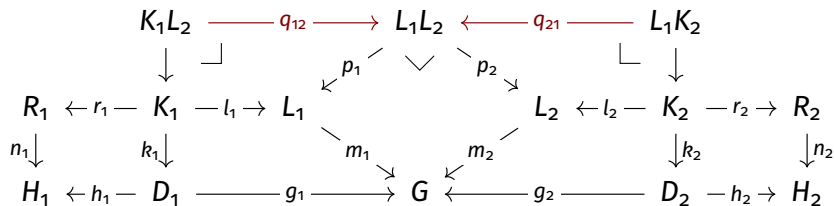
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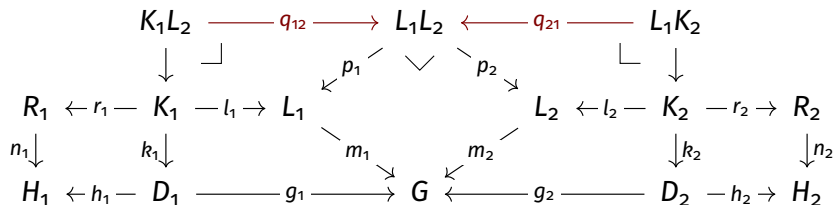




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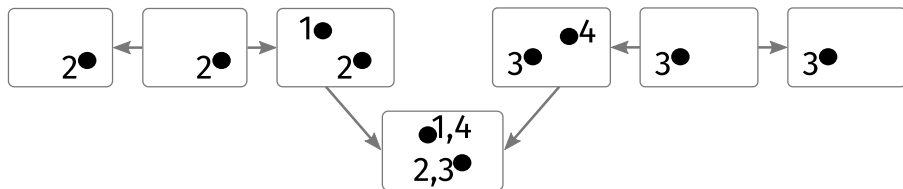
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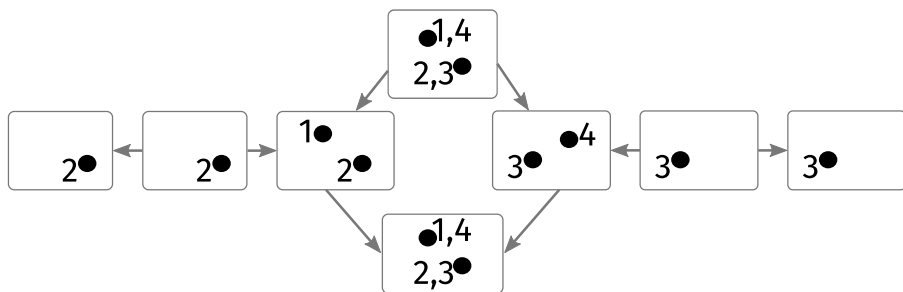


- Both morphisms iso  $\Rightarrow$  parallel independence
- Either morphism not iso  $\Rightarrow$  conflict
- $K_1L_2 \rightarrow L_1L_2$  not iso  $\Rightarrow t_1$  disables  $t_2$

# Example: Conflict

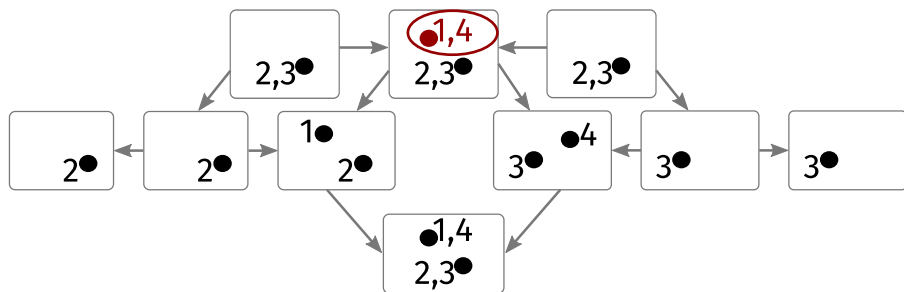


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# Determining the Root Cause

- Useful concept: initial pushout over  $f : X \rightarrow Y$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
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 \end{array}$$

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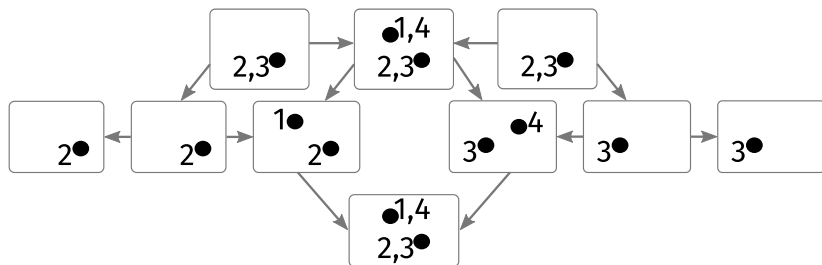
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- “Categorical diff” for a morphism
- Context  $c : C \rightarrow Y$  contains “modified stuff”
- Boundary  $b : B \rightarrow C$  contains “points of contact”



# Example: Initial Pushout







# Conflict and Disabling Essences

## Definition

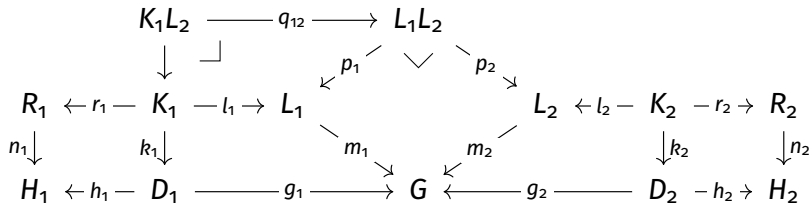
Given transformations  $(t_1, t_2) : H_1 \xleftarrow{\rho_1, m_1} G \xrightarrow{\rho_2, m_2} H_2$ :

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 R_1 & \leftarrow r_1 & - & K_1 & \xrightarrow{-l_1} & L_1 & \\
 n_1 \downarrow & & & k_1 \downarrow & & \searrow m_1 & \\
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 & & & & & \swarrow m_2 & \\
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 & & & & & & & & \downarrow k_2 & & \downarrow n_2 \\
 & & & & & & & & D_2 & \xrightarrow{-h_2} & H_2 \\
 & & & & & & & & g_2 & \xleftarrow{-} & 
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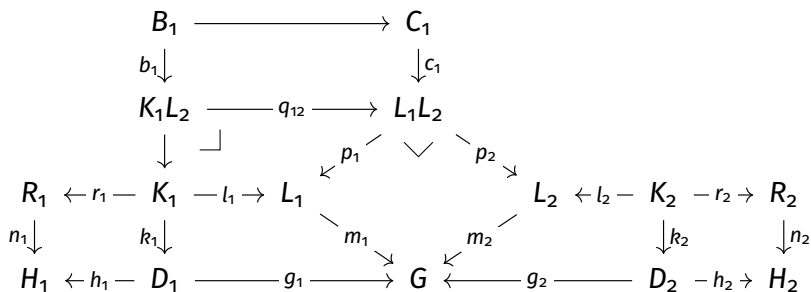
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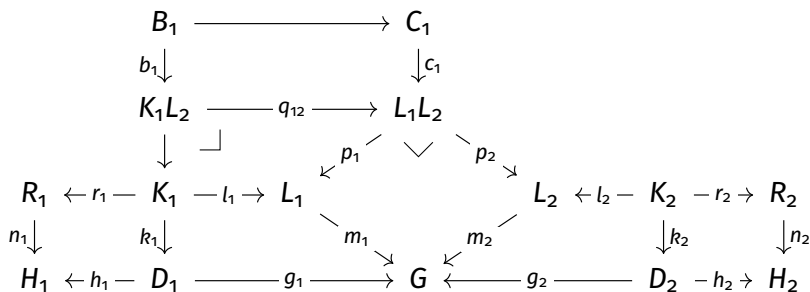


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Given transformations  $(t_1, t_2) : H_1 \xleftarrow{\rho_1, m_1} G \xrightarrow{\rho_2, m_2} H_2$ :

- Disabling essence for  $(t_1, t_2)$  is  $c_1 \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1 L_2)$

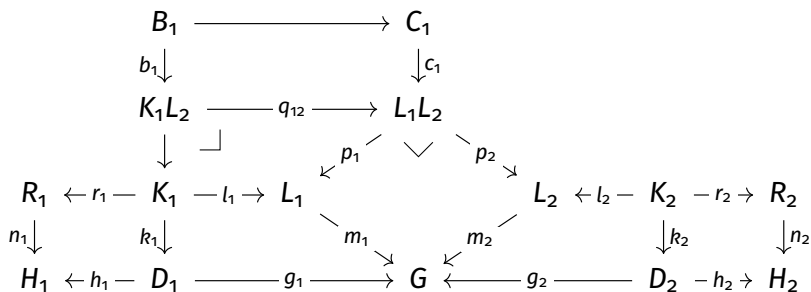


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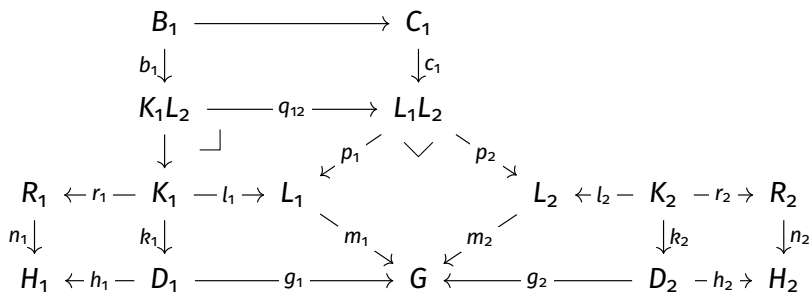


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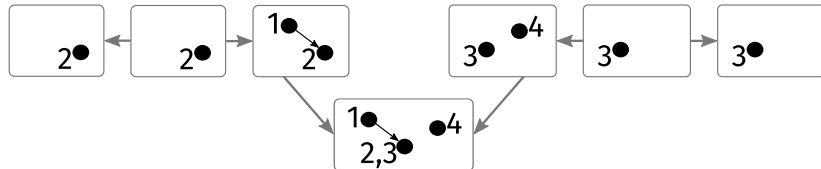
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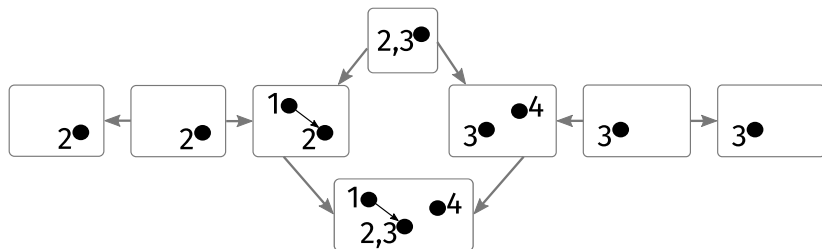
- Disabling essence for  $(t_1, t_2)$  is  $c_1 \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1 L_2)$
- Disabling essence for  $(t_2, t_1)$  is  $c_2 \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1 L_2)$
- Conflict essence for  $(t_1, t_2)$  is  $c = c_1 \cup c_2$



# Example: Parallel Independence

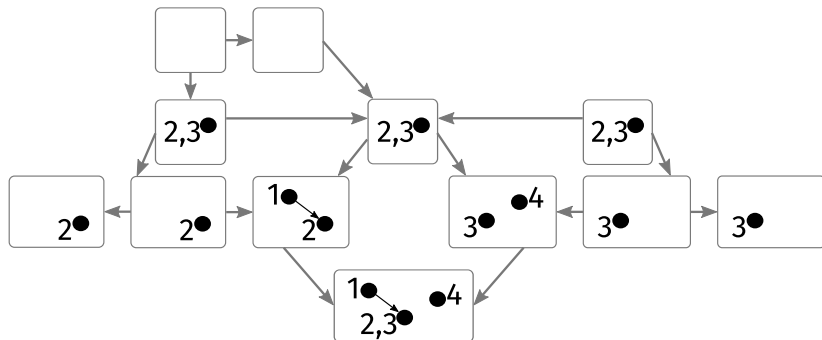


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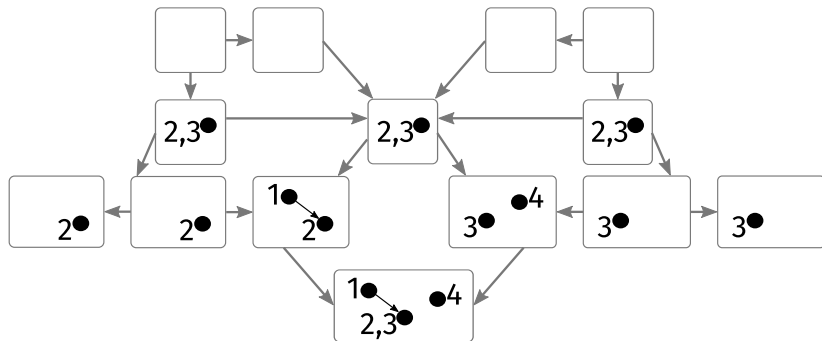




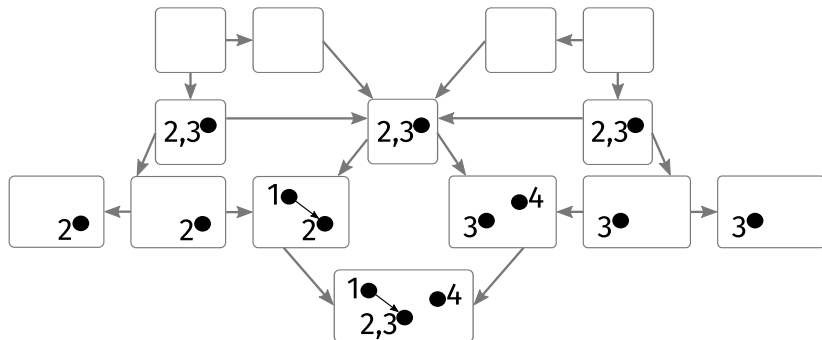
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No conflict  $\implies$  no element caused a conflict

# Empty Essences

Recall: bottom subobject generalizes “emptiness”



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$$\text{Consider } (t_1, t_2) : H_1 \xleftarrow{\rho_1, m_1} G \xrightarrow{\rho_2, m_2} H_2$$

## Theorem

*The conflict essence for  $(t_1, t_2)$  is  $\perp \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1 L_2)$   
if and only if  
 $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are parallel independent.*

# Extension

- Same transformation in “larger context”

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \bar{G} & \xrightarrow{\bar{t}} & \bar{H} \\
 | & & | \\
 f & & f' \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 G & \xrightarrow{t} & H
 \end{array}
 \quad \equiv \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 L & \leftarrow l & - & K & \xrightarrow{r} & R \\
 \Upsilon & & & \Upsilon & & \Upsilon \\
 \bar{m} & & & \bar{k} & & \bar{n} \\
 \downarrow \sqcap & & & \downarrow & & \sqsupset \downarrow \\
 \bar{G} & \leftarrow \bar{g} & - & \bar{D} & \xrightarrow{\bar{h}} & \bar{H} \\
 | & & & | & & | \\
 f & & & d & & f' \\
 \downarrow \sqcap & & & \downarrow & & \sqsupset \downarrow \\
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 \quad \equiv \quad
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 L & \leftarrow l & - & K & \xrightarrow{r} & R \\
 \Upsilon & & & \Upsilon & & \Upsilon \\
 \bar{m} & & & \bar{k} & & \bar{n} \\
 \downarrow \sqcap & & & \downarrow & & \sqsupset \downarrow \\
 \bar{G} & \leftarrow \bar{g} & - & \bar{D} & \xrightarrow{\bar{h}} & \bar{H} \\
 | & & & | & & | \\
 f & & & d & & f' \\
 \downarrow \sqcap & & & \downarrow & & \sqsupset \downarrow \\
 G & \leftarrow g & - & D & \xrightarrow{h} & H
 \end{array}$$

- Lower pushouts ensure  $t$  behaves like  $\bar{t}$

# Essence Inheritance

## Theorem

*If extension diagrams below exist,  $(t_1, t_2)$  and  $(\bar{t}_1, \bar{t}_2)$  have the same disabling and conflict essences.*

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 \bar{H}_1 & \xleftarrow{\bar{t}_1} & \bar{G} & \xrightarrow{\bar{t}_2} & \bar{H}_2 \\
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In categories of set-valued functors  
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Conflicts are preserved and reflected by extension.



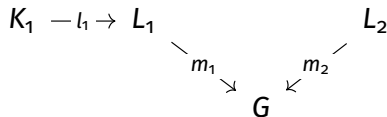
# Disabling Reasons

Essences are not the first proposed characterization

Given transformations  $(t_1, t_2) : H_1 \xleftarrow{\rho_1, m_1} G \xrightarrow{\rho_2, m_2} H_2$

Definition (Lambers, Ehrig, and Orejas 2008)

The **disabling reason**  $L_1 \leftarrow S_1 \rightarrow L_2$  for  $(t_1, t_2)$



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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B_{l_1} & \xrightarrow{\bar{l}_1} & C_{l_1} \\
 b_{l_1} \downarrow & & \downarrow c_{l_1} \\
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 & & \searrow m_1 \\
 & & G \\
 & & \swarrow m_2 \\
 & & L_2
 \end{array}$$

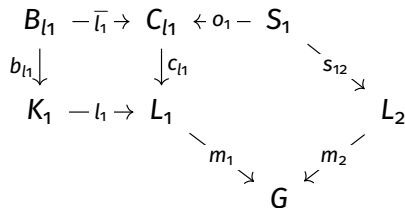
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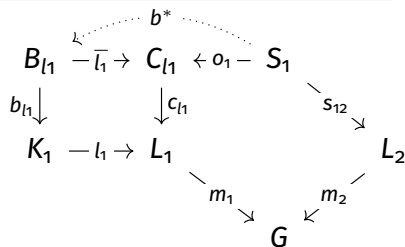
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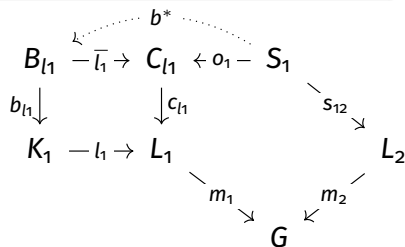
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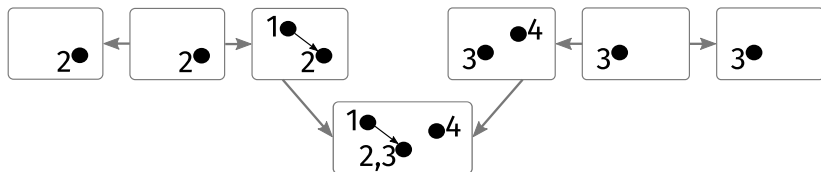
There is no  $b^*$  making diagram commute.

**Conflict reason** is union of *relevant* disabling reasons.



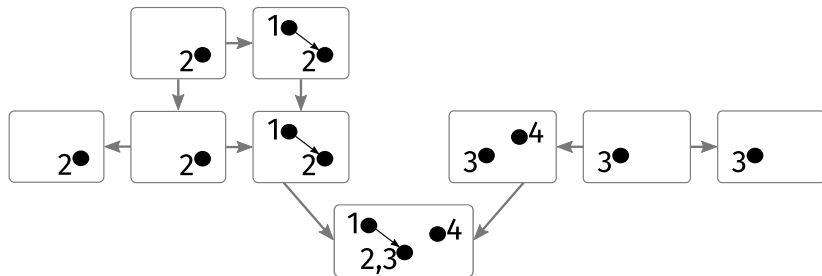
# Comparing Reasons and Essences

- Non-empty reasons exist even with parallel independence



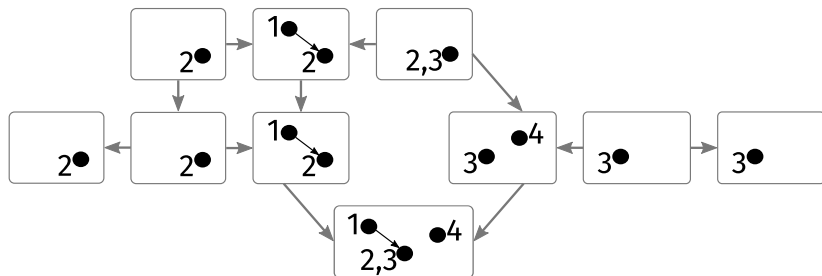
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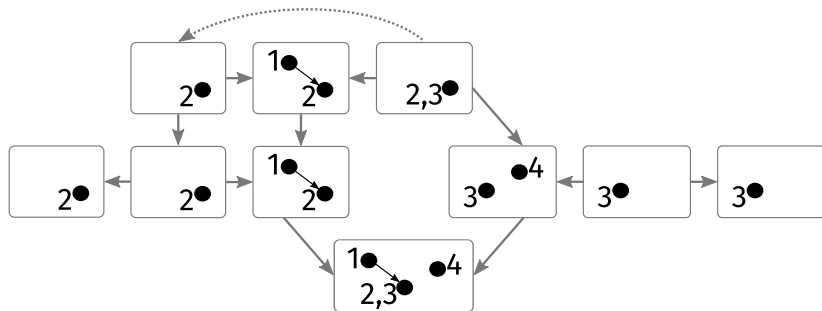
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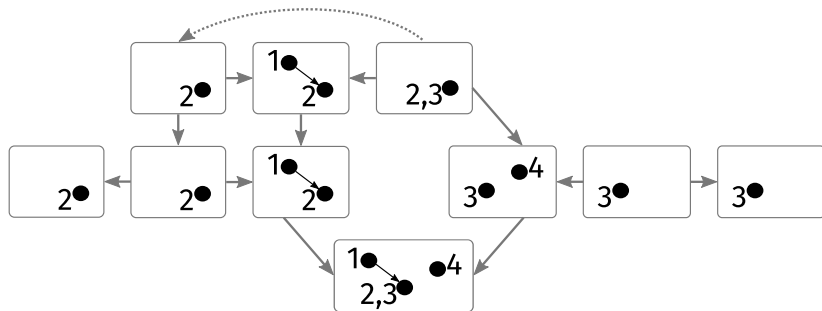
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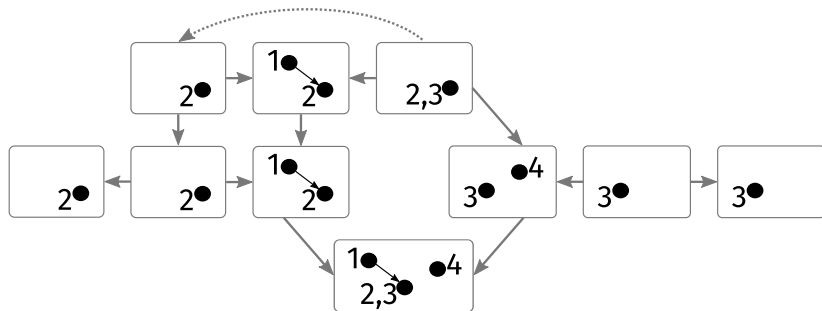
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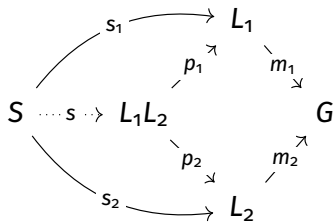
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- Inheritance also doesn't hold

# Essence $\subseteq$ Reason

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## Remark

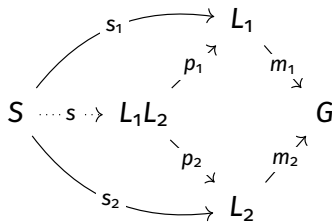
Conflict reason determines  $s \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1L_2)$ .



# Essence $\subseteq$ Reason

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## Theorem

If  $c \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1L_2)$  is disabling essence and  $s \in \mathbf{Sub}(L_1L_2)$  disabling reason, then  $c \subseteq s$ .

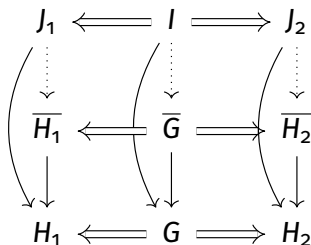
The same holds if  $c$  is conflict essence and  $s$  conflict reason.

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- We now understand **individual** conflicting transformations
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- **But:** no categorical construction yet

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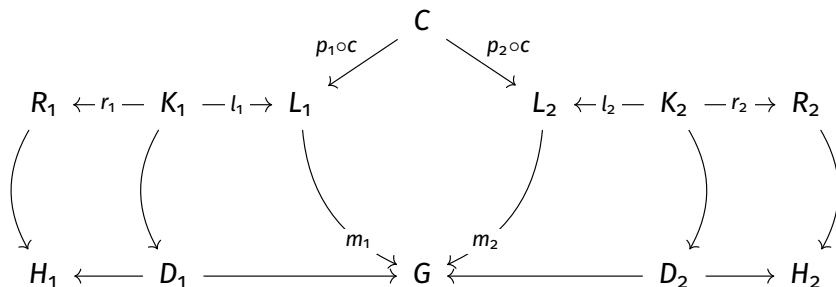
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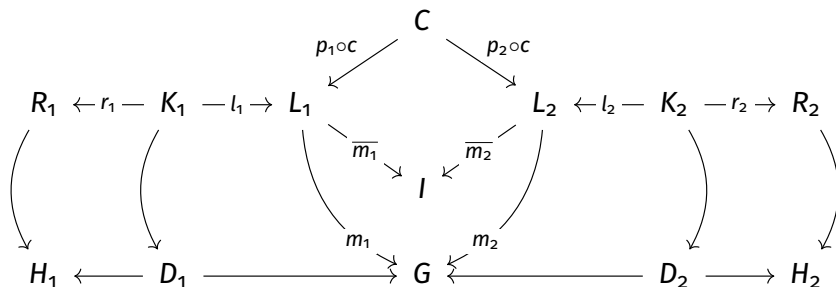


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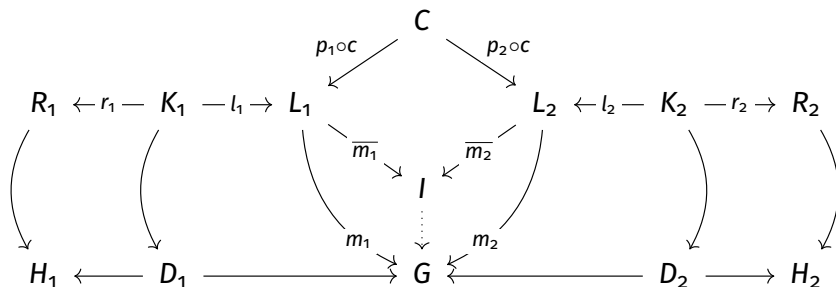


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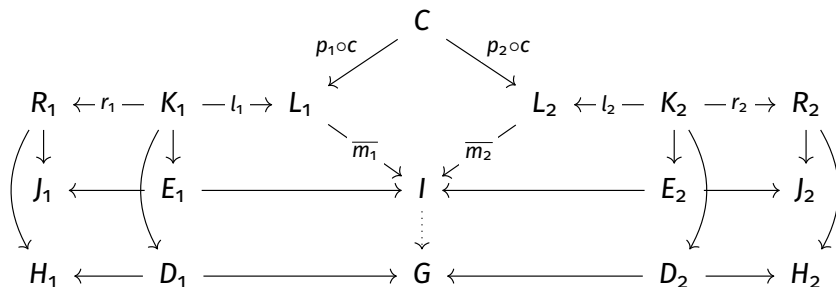


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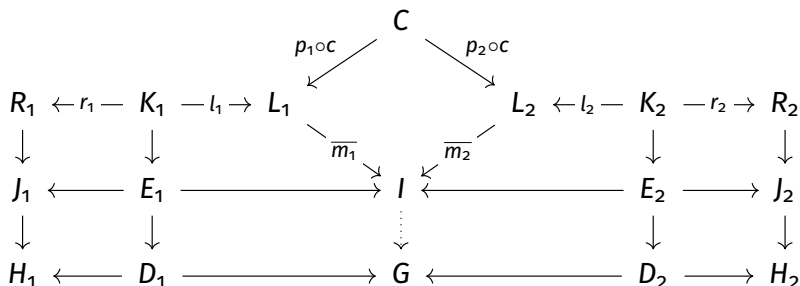


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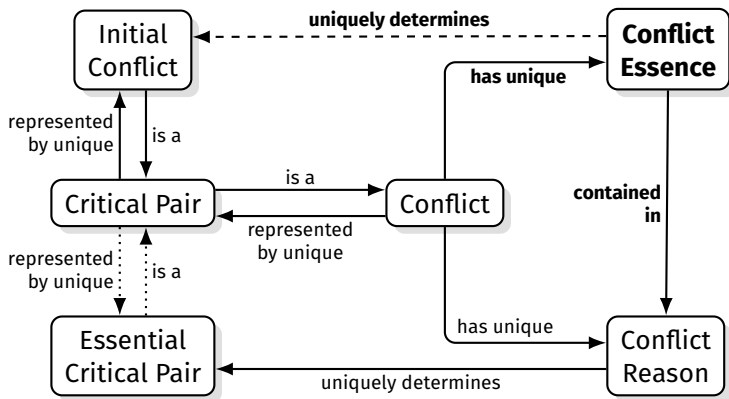
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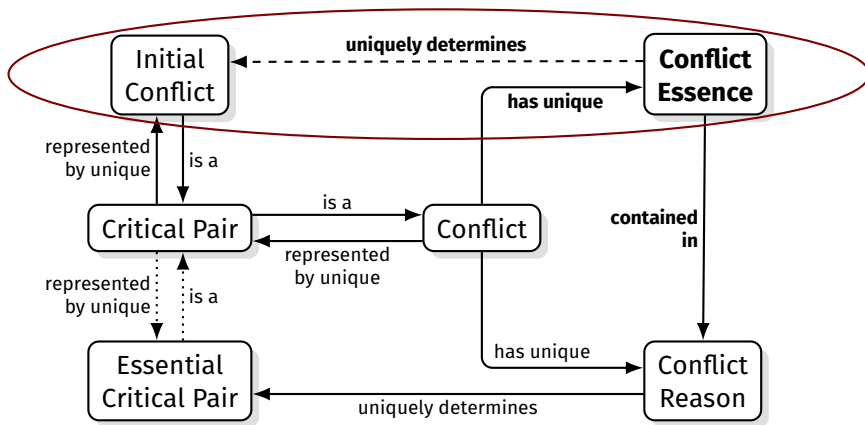
# Overview

Available for: — Adhesive Categories    - - - -  $\text{Set}^S$     .....  $\text{Graph}_T$



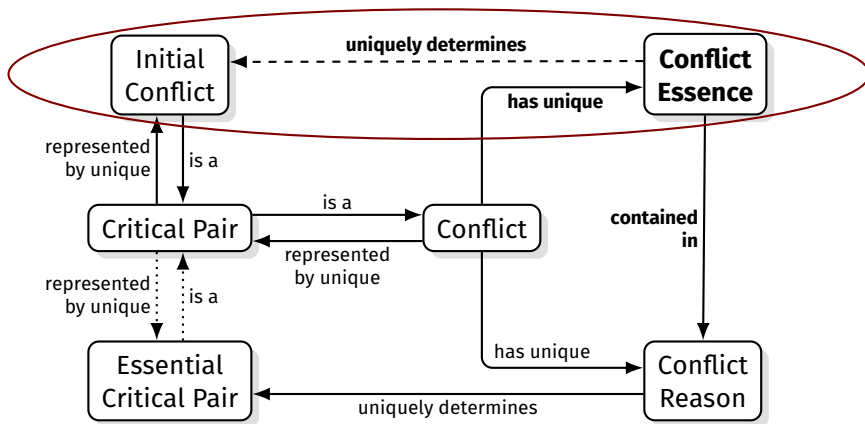
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**Open Problem:** in all adhesive categories?

# Conclusions

- Essential condition allowed powerful characterization for root causes of conflicts
- Lots of future work!
  - Constraints and application conditions
  - Compare with notions of granularity (Born et al. 2017)
  - Attributed graphs and other adhesive categories
  - Sesqui-Pushout and AGREE

Thank you!  
Questions?

# References I



**Born, Kristopher et al. (2017).** “Granularity of Conflicts and Dependencies in Graph Transformation Systems”. In: *ICGT*. Vol. 10373. LNCS. Springer, pp. 125–141. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-61470-0\_8. URL: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-61470-0\\_8](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-61470-0_8).





**Corradini, Andrea et al. (2018).** “On the Essence of Parallel Independence for the Double-Pushout and Sesqui-Pushout Approaches”. In: *Graph Transformation, Specifications, and Nets*. Vol. 10800. LNCS. Springer, pp. 1–18. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-75396-6\_1. URL: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-75396-6\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-75396-6_1).



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-  Lambers, Leen, Kristopher Born, et al. (2018). “Initial Conflicts and Dependencies: Critical Pairs Revisited”. In: *Graph Transformation, Specifications, and Nets*. Vol. 10800. LNCS. Springer, pp. 105–123. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-75396-6\_6. URL: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-75396-6\\_6](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-75396-6_6).
-  Lambers, Leen, Hartmut Ehrig, and Fernando Orejas (2008). “Efficient Conflict Detection in Graph Transformation Systems by Essential Critical Pairs”. In: *ENTCS 211*, pp. 17–26. DOI: 10.1016/j.entcs.2008.04.026. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.entcs.2008.04.026>.