



Automated Theorem Proving

Scott Sanner, Guest Lecture
Topics in Automated Reasoning
Thursday, Jan. 19, 2006



Introduction

- **Def. Automated Theorem Proving:**
Proof of mathematical theorems by a computer program.
- **Depending on underlying logic, task varies from trivial to impossible:**
 - **Simple description logic: Poly-time**
 - **Propositional logic: NP-Complete (3-SAT)**
 - **First-order logic w/ arithmetic: Impossible**

Applications

- **Proofs of Mathematical Conjectures**
 - **Graph theory: Four color theorem**
 - **Boolean algebra: Robbins conjecture**
- **Hardware and Software Verification**
 - **Verification: Arithmetic circuits**
 - **Program correctness: Invariants, safety**
- **Query Answering**
 - **Build domain-specific knowledge bases, use theorem proving to answer queries**

Basic Task Structure

- **Given:**
 - **Set of axioms (KB encoded as axioms)**
 - **Conjecture (assumptions + consequence)**
- **Inference:**
 - **Search through space of valid inferences**
- **Output:**
 - **Proof (if found, a sequence of steps deriving conjecture consequence from axioms and assumptions)**

Many Logics / Many Theorem Proving Techniques

Focus on theorem proving for logics with a model-theoretic semantics (TBD)

- **Logics:**
 - Propositional, and first-order logic
 - Modal, temporal, and description logic
- **Theorem Proving Techniques:**
 - Resolution, tableaux, sequent, inverse
 - Best technique depends on logic and app.

Example of Propositional Logic Sequent Proof

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|-----|------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Axioms:
None - Conjecture:
$A \vee \neg A$? • Inference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gentzen Sequent Calculus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Proof: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>(I)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">A</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;">$\vdash A$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(\negR)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">$\vdash \neg A, A$</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;">$\vdash \neg A, A$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(\veeR2)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">$\vdash A \vee \neg A, A$</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;">$\vdash A \vee \neg A, A$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(PR)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">$\vdash A, A \vee \neg A$</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;">$\vdash A, A \vee \neg A$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(\veeR1)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">$\vdash A \vee \neg A, A \vee \neg A$</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;">$\vdash A \vee \neg A, A \vee \neg A$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(CR)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding-top: 5px;">$\vdash A \vee \neg A$</td> <td style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;">$\vdash A \vee \neg A$</td> </tr> </table> | (I) | A | $\vdash A$ | (\neg R) | $\vdash \neg A, A$ | $\vdash \neg A, A$ | (\vee R2) | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A$ | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A$ | (PR) | $\vdash A, A \vee \neg A$ | $\vdash A, A \vee \neg A$ | (\vee R1) | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A \vee \neg A$ | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A \vee \neg A$ | (CR) | $\vdash A \vee \neg A$ | $\vdash A \vee \neg A$ |
| (I) | A | $\vdash A$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (\neg R) | $\vdash \neg A, A$ | $\vdash \neg A, A$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (\vee R2) | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A$ | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (PR) | $\vdash A, A \vee \neg A$ | $\vdash A, A \vee \neg A$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (\vee R1) | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A \vee \neg A$ | $\vdash A \vee \neg A, A \vee \neg A$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (CR) | $\vdash A \vee \neg A$ | $\vdash A \vee \neg A$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Example of First-order Logic Resolution Proof

- **Given:**

- **Axioms:**

$\forall x \text{ Man}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Mortal}(x)$
 $\text{Man}(\text{Socrates})$

- **Conjecture:**

$\exists y \text{ Mortal}(y) ?$

- **Inference:**

- **Refutation Resolution**

- **CNF:**

$\neg \text{Man}(x) \vee \text{Mortal}(x)$
 $\text{Man}(\text{Socrates})$
 $\neg \text{Mortal}(y)$ [Neg. conj.]

- **Proof:**

1. $\neg \text{Mortal}(y)$ [Neg. conj.]
 2. $\neg \text{Man}(x) \vee \text{Mortal}(x)$ [Given]
 3. $\text{Man}(\text{Socrates})$ [Given]
 4. $\text{Mortal}(\text{Socrates})$ [Res. 2,3]
 5. \perp [Res. 1,4]
- Contradiction \Rightarrow Conj. is true

Example of Description Logic Tableaux Proof

- **Given:**

- **Axioms:**

None

- **Conjecture:**

$\neg \exists \text{ Child. } \neg \text{Male} \Rightarrow$
 $\forall \text{ Child. Male} ?$

- **Inference:**

- **Tableaux**

- **Proof:**

Check unsatisfiability of
 $\exists \text{ Child. } \neg \text{Male} \sqcap \forall \text{ Child. Male}$

$x: \exists \text{ Child. } \neg \text{Male} \sqcap \forall \text{ Child. Male}$

$x: \forall \text{ Child. Male}$ [\sqcap -rule]

$x: \exists \text{ Child. } \neg \text{Male}$ [\sqcap -rule]

$x: \text{Child } y$ [\exists -rule]

$y: \neg \text{Male}$ [\exists -rule]

$y: \text{Male}$ [\forall -rule]

<CLASH>

Contradiction \Rightarrow Conj. is true

Lecture Outline

- **Common Definitions**
 - **Soundness, completeness, decidability**
- **Propositional and first-order logic**
 - **Syntax and semantics**
 - **Tableaux theorem proving**
 - **Resolution theorem proving**
 - **Strategies, orderings, redundancy, saturation optimizations, & extensions**
- **Modal, temporal, & description logics**
 - **Quick overview of logics / TP techniques**

Entailment vs. Truth

- **For each logic and theorem proving approach, we'll specify:**
 - **Syntax and semantics**
 - **Foundational axioms (if any)**
 - **Rules of inference**
- **Entailment vs. Truth**
 - **Let KB be the conjunction of axioms**
 - **Let F be a formula (possibly a conjecture)**
 - **We say $KB \vdash F$ (read: KB entails F) if F can be derived from KB through rules of inference**
 - **We say $KB \models F$ (read: KB models F) if semantics hold that F is true whenever KB is true**

Model-theoretic semantics

- **Model-theoretic semantics for logics**
 - An interpretation is a truth assignment to atomic elements of a KB: $I\langle C, D \rangle = \{\langle F, F \rangle, \langle F, T \rangle, \langle T, F \rangle, \langle T, T \rangle\}$
 - A model of a formula is an interpretation where it is true: $I\langle C, D \rangle = \langle F, T \rangle$ models $C \vee D, C \Rightarrow D$, but not $C \wedge D$
 - Two properties of a formula F w.r.t. axioms of KB:
 - Validity: F is true in all models of KB
 - Satisfiability: F is true in ≥ 1 model of KB
- Think of truth in a set-theoretic manner

$KB \models C$



Models of KB
 \subseteq Models of C

Soundness, Completeness, and Decidability

- Two properties of ATP inference systems:
 - Soundness: If $KB \vdash C$ then $KB \models C$
 - Completeness: If $KB \models C$ then $KB \vdash C$
- For a given logic, an ATP *decision procedure* returns **true or false** for $KB \vdash C$
- For a logic, a *sound and complete decision procedure* has one of following properties:
 - Decidable: Decision procedure guaranteed to terminate in finite time
 - Semidecidable: Decision procedure guaranteed to terminate for either true or false, but not both
 - Undecidable: No termination guarantee

Prop. Logic Syntax

- **Propositional variables:** p , rain, sunny
- **Connectives:** $\Rightarrow \Leftrightarrow \neg \wedge \vee$
- **Inductive definition of well-formed formula (wff):**
 - **Base:** All propositional vars are wffs
 - **Inductive 1:** If A is a wff then $\neg A$ is a wff
 - **Inductive 2:** If A and B are wffs then $A \wedge B$, $A \vee B$, $A \Rightarrow B$, $A \Leftrightarrow B$ are wffs
- **Examples:**
 - rain, rain $\Rightarrow \neg$ sunny
 - (rain $\Rightarrow \neg$ sunny) \Leftrightarrow (sunny $\Rightarrow \neg$ rain)

Prop. Logic Semantics

- For a formula F , the truth $I(F)$ under interpretation I is recursively defined:
 - **Base:**
 - F is prop var A then $I(F)=\text{true}$ iff $I(A)=\text{true}$
 - **Recursive:**
 - F is $\neg C$ then $I(F)=\text{true}$ iff $I(C)=\text{false}$
 - F is $C \wedge D$ then $I(F)=\text{true}$ iff $I(C)=\text{true}$ & $I(D)=\text{true}$
 - F is $C \vee D$ then $I(F)=\text{true}$ iff $I(C)=\text{true}$ or $I(D)=\text{true}$
 - F is $C \Rightarrow D$ then $I(F)=\text{true}$ iff $I(\neg C \vee D)=\text{true}$
 - F is $C \Leftrightarrow D$ then $I(F)=\text{true}$ iff $I(C \Rightarrow D)=\text{true}$ & $I(D \Rightarrow C)=\text{true}$
- Truth defined recursively from ground up!

CNF Normalization

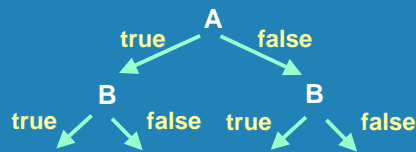
- Many prop. theorem proving techniques req. **KB to be in clausal normal form (CNF):**
 - Rewrite all $C \Leftrightarrow D$ as $C \Rightarrow D \wedge D \Rightarrow C$
 - Rewrite all $C \Rightarrow D$ as $\neg C \vee D$
 - Push negation through connectives:
 - Rewrite $\neg(C \wedge D)$ as $\neg C \vee \neg D$
 - Rewrite $\neg(C \vee D)$ as $\neg C \wedge \neg D$
 - Rewrite double negation $\neg \neg C$ as C
 - Now NNF, to get CNF, distribute \vee over \wedge :
 - Rewrite $(C \wedge D) \vee E$ as $(C \vee E) \wedge (D \vee E)$
- A **clause** is a disj. of literals (pos/neg vars)
- Can express **KB as conj. of a set of clauses**

CNF Normalization Example

- Given KB with single formula:
 - $\neg(\text{rain} \Rightarrow \text{wet}) \Rightarrow (\text{inside} \wedge \text{warm})$
- Rewrite all $C \Rightarrow D$ as $\neg C \vee D$
 - $\neg \neg (\neg \text{rain} \vee \text{wet}) \vee (\text{inside} \wedge \text{warm})$
- Push negation through connectives:
 - $(\neg \neg \neg \text{rain} \vee \neg \neg \text{wet}) \vee (\text{inside} \wedge \text{warm})$
- Rewrite double negation $\neg \neg C$ as C
 - $(\neg \text{rain} \vee \text{wet}) \vee (\text{inside} \wedge \text{warm})$
- Distribute \vee over \wedge :
 - $(\neg \text{rain} \vee \text{wet} \vee \text{inside}) \wedge (\neg \text{rain} \vee \text{wet} \vee \text{warm})$
- **CNF KB: $\{\neg \text{rain} \vee \text{wet} \vee \text{inside}, \neg \text{rain} \vee \text{wet} \vee \text{warm}\}$**

Prop. Theorem Proving

- $A \Rightarrow B$ iff $A \wedge \neg B$ is unsatisfiable
- Decision procedure for propositional logic is decidable, but NP-complete (reduction to 3-SAT)
- State-of-the-art prop. unsatisfiability methods are DPLL-based



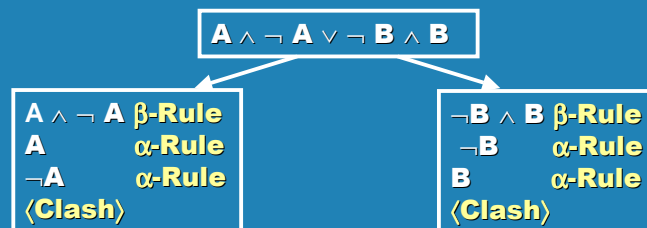
Instantiate prop vars until all clauses falsified, backtrack and do for all instantiations \Rightarrow unsat!

- Many optimizations, more next week

Prop. Tableaux Methods

Given negated query F (in NNF), use rules to recursively break down:

- α -Rule: Given $A \wedge B$ add A and B
- β -Rule: Given $A \vee B$ branch on A and B
- \langle Clash \rangle : If A and $\neg A$ occur on same branch
- Clash on all branches indicates unsat!



Note: Inverse method is inverse of tableaux - bottom up

Propositional Resolution

- **One rule:**

Rule:

$$\frac{A \vee B \quad \neg B \vee C}{A \vee C}$$

Example application:

$$\frac{\neg \text{precip} \vee \neg \text{freezing} \vee \text{snow} \quad \neg \text{snow} \vee \text{slippery}}{\neg \text{precip} \vee \neg \text{freezing} \vee \text{slippery}}$$

- **Simple strategy is to make all possible resolution inferences**
- **Refutation resolution is sound and complete**

Resolution Strategies

Need strategies to restrict search:

- **Unit resolution:**
 - Only resolve with unit clauses
 - Complete for Horn KB
 - Intuition: Decrease clause size
- **Set of support:**
 - SOS starts with query clauses
 - Only resolve SOS clauses with non-SOS clauses and put resolvents in SOS
 - Intuition: KB should be satisfiable so refutation should derive from query
- **Input resolution:**
 - At each step resolve only with input (KB or query)
 - I.e., don't resolve non-input clauses
 - Linear input: also allow ancestor \Rightarrow complete

Ordering Strategies

- **Refutation of a clause requires refutation of all literals**
- **Enforce an ordering on proposition elimination to restrict search**
 - **Example order: p then r then q**
 - **General idea behind Davis-Putnam (DP) & directional resolution (Dechter & Rish)**
- **Effective, but does not work with all resolution strategies, e.g. SOS + ordered resolution is incomplete**

Prop. Inference Software

- **Mainly DPLL SAT algorithms**
 - **zChaff – highly optimized & documented DPLL solver, source available**
 - **siege – best performing DPLL solver, source not available**
 - **2c1seq – DPLL solver with constraint propagation (balance search / reasoning)**
- **For some applications: BDDs**
 - **BDDs maintain all possible models in a canonical data structure**
 - **CUDD ADD/BDD Package – very efficient**

First-order logic

- Refer to **objects** and **relations** b/w them
- **Propositional logic** requires all **relations to be propositionalized**
 - Scott-at-home, Scott-at-work, Jim-at-subway, etc...
- Really want a **compact relational form**:
 - at(Scott, home), at(Scott, work), at(Jim, subway), etc...
- Then can use **variables** and **quantify over all objects**:
 - $\forall x \text{ person}(x) \Rightarrow \exists y \text{ at}(x,y) \wedge \text{place}(y)$

First-order Logic Syntax

- **Terms** (technical definition is inductive b/c of fns)
 - Variables: w, x, y, z
 - Constants: a, b, c, d
 - Functions over terms: $f(a), f(x,y), f(x,c,f(f(z)))$
- **Predicates**: $P(x), Q(f(x,y)), R(x, f(x,f(c,z),c))$
- **Connectives**: $\Rightarrow \Leftrightarrow \neg \wedge \vee$
- **Quantifiers**: $\forall \exists$
- **Inductive wff definition**:
 - Same as prop. but with following modifications...
 - Base: All predicates over terms are wffs
 - Inductive: If A is a wff and x is a variable term then $\forall x A$ & $\exists x A$ are wffs

First-order Logic Semantics

- **Interpretation** $I = (\Delta^I, \bullet^I)$
 - Δ^I is a non-empty domain
 - \bullet^I maps from predicate symbols P of arity n into a subset of $\times_{1..n} \Delta^I$ (where P is true)
- **Example**
 - Δ^I is {Scott, Jim}
 - \bullet^I maps $\text{at}(\bullet, \bullet)$ into { $\langle \text{Scott}, \text{loc}(\text{Scott}) \rangle$, $\langle \text{Jim}, \text{loc}(\text{Jim}) \rangle$ }
 - All other ground predicates are false in I , e.g. $\text{at}(\text{Scott}, \text{loc}(\text{Jim}))$, $\text{at}(\text{Scott}, \text{Scott})$
- **NB: FOL has ∞ interpretations/models!**

Substitution and Unification

- **Substitution**
 - A substitution list θ is a list of variable-term pairs
 - e.g., $\theta = \{x/3, y/f(z)\}$
 - When θ is applied to an FOL formula, every free occurrence of a variable in the list is replaced with the given term
 - e.g. $(P(x,y) \wedge \exists x P(x,y))\theta = P(3,f(z)) \wedge \exists x P(x,f(z))$
- **Unification / Most General Unifier**
 - The unifier $\text{UNIF}(x,y)$ of two predicates/terms is a substitution that makes both arguments identical
 - e.g. $\text{Unif}(P(x,f(x)), P(y, f(f(z)))) = \{x/f(1), y/f(1), z/1\}$
 - The most general unifier $\text{MGU}(x,y)$ is just that... all other unifiers can be obtained from the MGU by additional subst. (MGU exists for unifiable args)
 - e.g. $\text{MGU}(P(x,f(x)), P(y, f(f(z)))) = \{x/f(z), y/f(z)\}$

Skolemization

- Skolemization is the process of getting rid of all \exists quantifiers from a formula while preserving (un)satisfiability:
 - If $\exists x$ quantifier is the outermost quantifier, remove the \exists quantifier and substitute a new constant for x
 - If $\exists x$ quantifier occurs inside of \forall quantifiers, remove the \exists quantifier and substitute a new function of all \forall quantified variables for x
- Examples:
 - Skolemize($\exists w \exists x \forall y \forall z P(w,x,y,z)$) = $\forall y \forall z P(c,d,y,z)$
 - Skolemize($\forall w \exists x \forall y \exists z P(w,x,y,z)$) = $\forall w \forall y P(w,f(w),y,f(x,y))$

CNF Conversion

CNF conversion is the same as the propositional case up to NNF, then do:

- Standardize apart variables (all quantified variables should have different names)
 - e.g. $\forall x A(x) \wedge \exists x \neg A(x)$ becomes $\forall x A(x) \wedge \exists y \neg A(y)$
- Skolemize formula
 - e.g. $\forall x A(x) \wedge \exists y \neg A(y)$ becomes $\forall x A(x) \wedge \neg A(c)$
- Drop universals
 - e.g. $\forall x A(x) \wedge \neg A(c)$ becomes $A(x) \wedge \neg A(c)$
- Distribute \vee over \wedge

First-order Theorem Proving

- **Tableaux methods**
 - Preferred for some types of reasoning and for subsets of FOL (guarded fragment, set theory)
 - Highly successful for description and modal logics which conform to guarded fragment of FOL
- **Resolution Methods**
 - Most successful technique for a variety of KBs
 - But... search space grows very quickly
 - Need a variety of optimizations in practice
 - strategies, ordering, redundancy elimination
- **FOL TP complete ☺, but semidecidable ☹**
 - Will return in finite time if formula entailed
 - May run forever if not entailed

First-order Tableaux

Given negated query **F** (in NNF), use rules to recursively break down:

- α -Rule, β -Rule: Same as for prop tableaux
- γ -Rule: Given $\forall x A(x)$ add $A(?v)$ for variable $?v$
- δ -Rule: Given $\exists x A(x)$ add $A(f)$ for Skolem function f
- **<Clash>**: If unifiable A and $\neg A$ occur on same branch

$\forall x A(x) \wedge \exists x \neg A(x) \vee \exists x,y \neg B(x,y) \wedge \forall x,y B(x,y)$

$\forall x A(x) \wedge \exists x \neg A(x)$ β -Rule
 $A(?y)$ α/γ -Rule
 $\neg A(c)$ α/δ -Rule
<Clash>

$\exists x,y \neg B(x,y) \wedge \forall x,y B(x,y)$ β -Rule
 $\neg B(c,d)$ $\alpha/\delta/\delta$ -Rule
 $B(?y,?z)$ $\alpha/\gamma/\gamma$ -Rule
<Clash>

First-order Resolution

• Binary Resolution Rule

Rule:

$$\frac{C \vee D \quad \neg E \vee F}{(C \vee F)\theta} \quad \theta = \text{MGU}(D, E)$$

Example application:

$$\frac{P(3) \vee Q(f(x)) \vee R(y) \quad \neg Q(y)}{P(3) \vee R(f(x))}$$

• Factoring Rule

Rule:

$$\frac{C \vee D \vee E}{C\theta \vee E} \quad \theta = \text{MGU}(C, D)$$

Example application:

$$\frac{P(z) \vee Q(3) \vee Q(z)}{P(3) \vee Q(3)}$$

Example of First-order Logic Resolution Proof

• Given:

– Axioms:

$\forall x \text{ Man}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Mortal}(x)$
 $\text{Man}(\text{Socrates})$

– Conjecture:

$\exists y \text{ Mortal}(y) ?$

• Inference:

– Refutation Resolution

• CNF:

$\neg \text{Man}(x) \vee \text{Mortal}(x)$
 $\text{Man}(\text{Socrates})$
 $\neg \text{Mortal}(y)$ [Neg. conj.]

• Proof:

1. $\neg \text{Mortal}(y)$ [Neg. conj.]
2. $\neg \text{Man}(x) \vee \text{Mortal}(x)$ [Given]
3. $\text{Man}(\text{Socrates})$ [Given]
4. $\text{Mortal}(\text{Socrates})$ [Res. 2,3]
5. \perp [Res. 1,4]
 Contradiction \Rightarrow Conj. is true

Importance of Factoring

- **Without the factoring rule, binary resolution is incomplete**
- **For example, take the following refutable clause set:**
 - $\{ A(w) \vee A(z), \sim A(y) \vee \sim A(z) \}$
- **All binary resolutions yield clauses of the same form**
- **Clause set is *only refutable* if one of the clauses is *first factored***

Search Control

Additional refinements of prop strategies yield goal-directed / bottom-up search:

– SLD Resolution

- KB of definite clauses (i.e. Horn rules), e.g. $\text{Uncle}(?x,?y) := \text{Father}(?x,?z) \wedge \text{Brother}(?x,?y)$
- Resolution backward chains from goal of rules
- With negation-as-failure semantics, SLD-resolution is logic programming, i.e. Prolog

– Negative and Positive Hyperresolution

- All negative (positive) literals in nucleus clause are *simultaneously* resolved with completely positive (negative) satellite clauses
- Positive hyperres yields backward chaining
- Negative hyperres yields forward chaining

Database-style Inference

- Naïve approaches to resolution perform one inference per step
- For **SLD or neg. hyperres** and **KBs w/ large numbers of constants / functions**, can store clause terms and perform **DB-like res**, e.g.
 - **CNF KB** = { $R(a,b), R(b,a), R(b,c), R(c,b), \neg R(x,y) \vee \neg R(y,z) \vee R(x,z)$ }
 - **Use DB join/project during SLD or neg. hyperres:**

$$\begin{array}{c} \underline{R(x,y)} \\ \{ \langle a,b \rangle, \langle b,a \rangle, \\ \langle b,c \rangle, \langle c,b \rangle \} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{c} \underline{R(y,z)} \\ \{ \langle a,b \rangle, \langle b,a \rangle, \\ \langle b,c \rangle, \langle c,b \rangle \} \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \underline{R(x,z)} \\ \{ \langle a,a \rangle, \langle a,c \rangle, \langle b,b \rangle, \\ \langle c,c \rangle, \langle c,a \rangle, \langle c,c \rangle \} \end{array}$$
- **Can cache inferences for reuse (tabling)**
- **Huge improvement for instance-heavy KBs**

Term Indexing

- **Term indexing** is another general technique for **fast retrieval of sets of terms / clauses matching criteria**
- **Common uses in modern theorem provers:**
 - **Term q is unifiable with term t , i.e., $\exists \theta$ s.t. $q\theta = t\theta$**
 - **Term t is an instance of q , i.e., $\exists \theta$ s.t. $q\theta = t$**
 - **Term t is a generalization of q , i.e., $\exists \theta$ s.t. $q = t\theta$**
 - **Clause q subsumes clause t , i.e., $\exists \theta$ s.t. $q\theta \subseteq t$**
 - **Clause q is subsumed by clause t , i.e., $\exists \theta$ s.t. $t\theta \subseteq q$**
- **Techniques: (Google for “term indexing”)**
 - **Path indexing**
 - **Code, context, & discrimination trees**

Age-weight Ratio

- **During a resolution strategy, have two sets:**
 - **Active:** Set of active clauses for resolving with
 - **Frontier:** Candidate clauses to resolve with Active
- **Idea: Store the frontier in two queues**
 - **Age queue:** Standard FIFO queue
 - **Weight queue:** Priority queue where clause priority determined by heuristic measure:
 - Number of literals, number of terms, etc...
- **A:W ratio: Choose A clauses from age queue for every W chosen from weight queue**
 - **Retains completeness of strategy if A is non-zero**
 - I.e., fair b/c all clauses eventually selected
 - **Can speed up inference by orders of magnitude!**

Redundancy Control

- **Redundancy of clauses is a huge problem in FOL resolution**
 - **For clauses C & D, C is redundant if $\exists \theta$ s.t. $C\theta \subseteq D$ as a multiset, a.k.a. θ -subsumption**
 - **If true, D is redundant and can be removed**
 - Intuition: If D used in a refutation, $C\theta$ could be substituted leading to even shorter refutation
- **Two types of subsumption where N is a new resolvent and $A \in \text{Active}$:**
 - **Forward subsumption:** A θ -subsumes N, delete N
 - **Backward subsumption:** N θ -subsumes A, delete A
- **Forward / backward subsumption expensive but saves many redundant inferences**

Saturation Theorem Proving

- **Given a set of clauses S :**
 - **S is saturated if all possible inferences from clauses in S generate forward subsumed clauses**
 - **Thus, all new inferences can be deleted without sacrificing completeness**
 - **If S does not contain the empty clause then S is satisfiable**
- **Saturation implies no proof possible!**
- **Usually need ordering restrictions to reach saturation (if possible)...**

Simplification Orderings

For complete ordered resolution in FOL, must use term simplification orderings:

- **Well-founded (Noetherian):** If there is no infinitely decreasing chain of terms s.t.
 $t_0 \succ t_1 \succ t_2 \succ \dots \succ t_\infty$
- **Monotonic:** If $s \succ t$ then $f[s] \succ f[t]$ ($f[s]$ and $f[t]$ are identical except for [term])
- **Stable under Subst.:** If $s \succ t$ then $s\theta \succ t\theta$

Examples: (Google for following keywords)

- **Knuth-Bendix ordering**
- **Lexicographic path ordering**

Literal Ordering & Selection

- **Can extend term ordering to literals \succ_{lit} :**
 - If literals equal but opposite sign, then **negative literal \succ_{lit} positive literal**
 - **Otherwise, treat literals as terms (modulo sign) and literal ordering \succ_{lit} is just term ordering \succ**
- **A selection function selects literals, and must adhere to following rules:**
 - **At least one literal must be selected**
 - **Either a negative literal is among the selection, or all maximal positive literals w.r.t. \succ_{lit} are selected**
- **Show selected literals by underscore**
 - e.g., $\{ A \vee \underline{\neg B} \vee \neg C, \underline{D} \vee E \vee \neg F, \neg G \vee \underline{H} \vee I \}$

Ordered Resolution w/ Selection

• Binary Ordered Res w/ Selection

Rule:

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{D} \quad \underline{\neg E} \vee F}{(C \vee F)\theta} \quad \theta = \text{MGU}(D, E)$$

Example application:

$$\frac{P(3) \vee \underline{Q(f(x))} \vee R(y) \quad \underline{\neg Q(y)}}{P(3) \vee R(f(x))}$$

• Ordered Factoring w/ Selection

Rule:

$$\frac{\underline{C} \vee \underline{D} \vee E}{C\theta \vee E} \quad \theta = \text{MGU}(C, D)$$

Example application:

$$\frac{P(z) \vee \underline{Q(3)} \vee \underline{Q(z)}}{P(3) \vee Q(3)}$$

Clause Orderings & Redundancy

- Must define **specialized redundancy criterion** for forward and backward subsumption / deletion when using **ordered resolution**:
 - Define **bag (clause) extension of literal ordering**:
 - $\{x, y_1, \dots, y_m\} \succ_{\text{bag}} \{x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m\}$ if $\forall i \ x \succ_{\text{lit}} x_i$
 - Can define **redundancy w.r.t. \succ bag ordering**:
 - Clause **C** is redundant w.r.t. set of clauses **S**, if $\exists C_1, \dots, C_n \in S, n \geq 0$, s.t. $\forall i \ C_i \prec_{\text{bag}} C$ and $C_1, \dots, C_n \models C$
 - Under ordered res, even if **C** θ -subsumes **D**, **D** is not redundant (and can't be deleted) unless $C \prec_{\text{bag}} D$
- **NB: Search restrictions of ordered res far outweigh weakened notion of redundancy**
- **Ordered res is effective saturation strategy!**

Equality

- A predicate w/ special interpretation
- Could axiomatize:
 - $x=x$ (reflexive)
 - $x=y \Rightarrow y=x$ (symmetric)
 - $x=y \wedge y=z \Rightarrow x=z$ (transitive)
 - For each function **f**:
 - $x_1=y_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_n=y_n \Rightarrow f(x_1, \dots, x_n)=f(y_1, \dots, y_n)$
 - For each predicate **P**:
 - $x_1=y_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_n=y_n \wedge P(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow P(y_1, \dots, y_n)$
- Too many axioms... better to reason about equality in inference rules

Inference Rules for Equality

- **Demodulation (incomplete)**

Rule: $\frac{x=y \quad L[z] \vee D}{L[y\theta] \vee D} \theta = \text{MGU}(x,z)$ Example application: $\frac{x=f(x) \quad P(3) \vee Q}{P(f(3)) \vee Q} \theta = \{x/3\}$

↙ Literal containing z

- **Paramodulation (complete)**

Rule: $\frac{x=y \vee C \quad L[z] \vee D}{(L[y] \vee C \vee D)\theta} \theta = \text{MGU}(x,z)$ Example application: $\frac{x=f(x) \vee C \quad P(3) \vee Q}{P(f(3)) \vee C \vee Q} \theta = \{x/3\}$

↙ Literal containing z

Equational Programming

- Used extensively for **algebraic group theory** proofs
- All **axioms and conjectures** are **unit equality predicates with arithmetic functions** on the LHS and RHS, e.g.
 - $a*(x+y) = a*x+a*y$?
- In this case, **associative-commutative (AC) unification** (Stickel) important for efficiency, e.g.
 - $\text{MGU}(x+3*y*y, z*3*z+1) = \{x/1, y/z\}$

First-order theorem proving software

Many highly optimized first-order theorem proving implementations:

- **Vampire** (1st place for many years in CADE TP competition)
- **Otter** (Foundation for modern TP, still very good, usually 2nd place in CADE)
- **SPASS** (Specialized for sort reasoning)
- **SETHEO** (Connection tableaux calculus)
- **EQP** (Equational theorem proving system, proved Robbins conjecture)

First-order TP Progress

- Ever since the **1970s** I at various times investigated using automated theorem-proving systems. But it always seemed that **extensive human input**--typically from the creators of the system--was needed to make such systems actually find non-trivial proofs.
 - In the late **1990s**, however, I decided to try the latest systems and was surprised to find that some of them could **routinely produce proofs hundreds of steps long with little or no guidance**. ... the overall ability to do proofs--at least in pure operator systems--seemed vastly to exceed that of any human.
- Steven Wolfram, "A New Kind of Science"

On the other hand...

- **Success** of modern theorem provers relies largely on **heuristic tuning**
- Input **KBs** are **analyzed** for **properties** which **determine strategies** and various **parameters** of inference
- Still an **art as much as a science**, much room for more **principled tuning of parameters**, e.g.
 - **Automatic partitioning of KBs to induce good literal orderings (McIlraith and Amir)**

Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem

- **FOL inference is complete (Gödel)**
- So what is **Gödel's incompleteness theorem (GIT)** about?
- **GIT: Inference in FOL with arithmetic (+, *, exp) is incomplete b/c set of axioms for arithmetic is not recursively enumerable.**
- **Read: Inference rules are sound and complete, but no way to generate all axioms required for arithmetic!**

Modal Logic





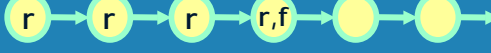
- **Logic of knowledge and/or belief, e.g.**
 - **English:** Scott knows that you know that Scott knows this lecture is boring
 - **Modal Logic K_n (n agents):** $K_{\text{Scott}}K_{\text{you}}K_{\text{Scott}} \text{ LIB}$
- **Possible worlds (Kripke) semantics**
 - Each modal operator K_i corresponds to a set of possible interpretations (i.e., possible worlds)
 - Different axioms (T,D,4,5,...) correspond to relations b/w worlds, Axiom 4: $K_i\phi \Rightarrow K_iK_i\phi$
 - **Semantics:** $K_i\phi$ iff ϕ is true in all worlds agent i considers possible according to axioms & KB
- Postpone reasoning until DL...

Temporal Logic

- **A modal logic where the possible worlds are linked by time:**
 - **LTL: Linear temporal logic**
 - World states evolve deterministically
 - State can involve action
 - **CTL: Computation tree logic**
 - World states can evolve non-deterministically
- Temporal operators specify conditions on world evolution
- Used for verification, safety checks



LTL Temporal Operators

- **G f: always f** 
- **F f: eventually f** 
- **X f: next state** 
- **f U r: until** 
- **f R r: releases** 

Temporal Logic Inference

- **Because time evolves infinitely, propositional SAT methods won't work for LTL/CTL verification (will branch infinitely)**
- **However, LTL/CTL inference is monotonic!**
 - To check condition, start with set of all worlds
 - Evolve world one step, remove states not satisfying condition
 - Continue evolution until set does not change... this is set of all states for which condition holds
- **For propositional temporal logic, number of worlds is finite \Rightarrow termination \Rightarrow decidable!**
- **BDD data structure used to compactly encode sets of worlds and evolve worlds.**

Description Logic

- A concept oriented logic:

English	FOL	DL
Dog with a Spot (DWS)	$DWS(x) \Leftrightarrow Dog(x) \wedge (\exists y.has(x,y) \wedge Spot(y))$	$DWS \Leftrightarrow Dog \sqcap \exists has.Spot$
Large Dog with a Dark Spot (LDWDS)	$LDWDS(x) \Leftrightarrow (Dog(x) \wedge Large(x)) \wedge (\exists y.has(x,y) \wedge (Spot(y) \wedge Dark(y)))$	$LDWDS \Leftrightarrow Dog \sqcap Large \sqcap \exists has.(Spot \sqcap Dark)$

- Guarded fragment subset of FOL

Description Logic (DL) Inference

- Natural correspondence between ALC DL and modal logic (Schild):
 - Modal propositions are concepts that hold in possible worlds w , e.g. lecture is boring: $LIB(w)$
 - Modal operators K_i are DL roles that link possible worlds: $K_{scott}(w_1, w_2)$
 - If Scott knows that the lecture-is-boring then $\forall w_2 K_{scott}(w_1, w_2) \Rightarrow LIB(w_2)$ (w_1 is a free variable)
 - Or in DL notation $\forall K_{scott}.LIB$
- Since decidable tableaux methods known for modal logics, these were imported into DL and later extended to expressive DLs
- **Benefit of DL:** Decidable subset of FOL that is ideal for conceptual ontology reasoning!

Example of Description Logic Tableaux Proof

- **Given:**

- **Axioms:**

None

- **Conjecture:**

$\neg \exists \text{Child.} \neg \text{Male} \Rightarrow$
 $\forall \text{Child. Male} ?$

- **Inference:**

- **Tableaux**

- **Proof:**

Check unsatisfiability of
 $\exists \text{Child.} \neg \text{Male} \sqcap \forall \text{Child. Male}$

$x: \exists \text{Child.} \neg \text{Male} \sqcap \forall \text{Child. Male}$

$x: \forall \text{Child. Male}$ [\sqcap -rule]

$x: \exists \text{Child.} \neg \text{Male}$ [\sqcap -rule]

$x: \text{Child } y$ [\exists -rule]

$y: \neg \text{Male}$ [\exists -rule]

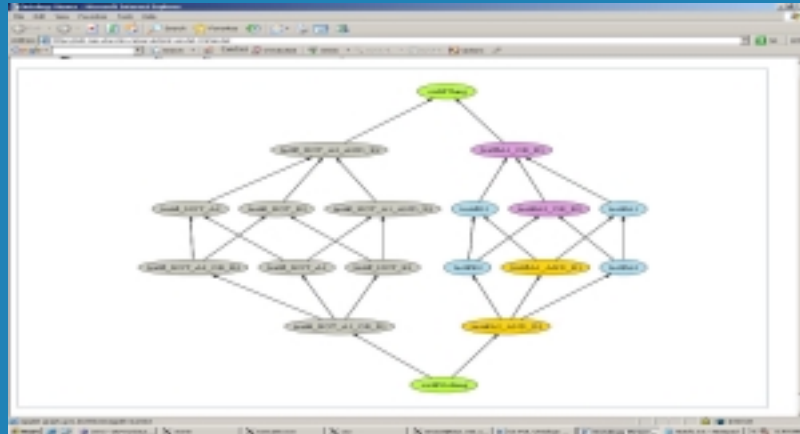
$y: \text{Male}$ [\forall -rule]

<CLASH>

Contradiction \Rightarrow Conj. is true

DL Reasoner Output (FaCT++)

Taxonomy encodes all \Rightarrow relations



Modal, Verification, and DL Inference Software

- **Modal logic**
 - **MSPASS** (converts modal formula to FOL)
 - **By correspondence**, also DL reasoners
- **Verification (temporal and non-temporal)**
 - **PVS** (interactive TP for HW/SW verification)
 - **ALLOY** (first-order HW/SW model checker)
 - **NuSMV** (BDD-based LTL/CTL HW/SW verif.)
- **DL Reasoning**
 - **Classic** (limited DL, poly-time inference)
 - **Racer** (expressive DL, highly optimized)
 - **FaCT++** (very expr. DL, highly optimized)

Repositories of TP Problems

Many repositories of theorem proving knowledge bases:

- **TPTP: Thousands of Problems for TPs**
 - Algebraic group theory, geometry, set theory, topology, software verification, NLP KBs
- **SATLIB: Library of Prop. SAT problems**
 - Hardware verification, industrial planning problems, hard randomized problems
- **Open/ResearchCyc: Public version of Cyc**
 - Large common-sense repository expressed in higher-order logic
- **Semantic Web: DL ontologies in OWL**
 - The web is the limit!

Concluding Thoughts

- Many logics, inference techniques, and computational guarantees
- Have to **balance expressivity and computational tradeoffs with task-specific needs** (Brachman & Levesque, 1985)
- **Woods (1987): Don't blame the tool!**
 - A poor craftsman blames the tool when their efforts fail
 - An experienced craftsman uses the right tool for the job