

Resolution Theorem Proving

Plan

First Lecture - Resolution Preliminaries

- Unification
- Relational Clausal Form

Second Lecture - Resolution Principle

- Resolution Principle and Factoring
- Resolution Theorem Proving

Third Lecture - Resolution Applications

- Theorem Proving
- Answer Extraction
- Reduction

Fourth Lecture - Resolution Strategies

- Elimination Strategies (tautology elimination, subsumption, ...)
- Restriction Strategies (ancestry filtering, set of support, ...)

Propositional Resolution

$$\frac{\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_i, \dots, \varphi_m\} \quad \{\psi_1, \dots, \neg \varphi_i, \dots, \psi_n\}}{\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_n\}}$$

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Relational Resolution I

$$\frac{\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_i, \dots, \varphi_m\} \quad \{\psi_1, \dots, \neg \psi_j, \dots, \psi_n\}}{\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_n\}\sigma}$$

where $\sigma = mgu(\varphi_i, \psi_j)$

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Example

$$\begin{array}{l} \{ p(a,y), r(y) \} \\ \{ \neg p(x,b) \} \\ \hline \{ r(y) \} \{ x \leftarrow a, y \leftarrow b \} \\ \{ r(b) \} \end{array}$$

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Example

$$\begin{array}{l} \{ p(a,y), r(y) \} \\ \{ \neg p(x, f(x)), q(g(x)) \} \\ \hline \{ r(y), q(g(x)) \} \{ x \leftarrow a, y \leftarrow f(a) \} \\ \{ r(f(a)), q(g(a)) \} \end{array}$$

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Example

Everybody loves somebody. Everybody loves a lover. Show that everybody loves everybody.

$$\forall x. \exists y. \text{loves}(x, y)$$

$$\forall u. \forall v. \forall w. (\text{loves}(v, w) \Rightarrow \text{loves}(u, v))$$

$$\neg \forall x. \forall y. \text{loves}(x, y)$$

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Example (continued)

$$\forall x. \exists y. \text{loves}(x, y)$$

$$\forall u. \forall v. \forall w. (\text{loves}(v, w) \Rightarrow \text{loves}(u, v))$$

$$\neg \forall x. \forall y. \text{loves}(x, y)$$

$$\{\text{loves}(x, f(x))\}$$

$$\{\neg \text{loves}(v, w), \text{loves}(u, v)\}$$

$$\{\neg \text{loves}(\text{jack}, \text{jill})\}$$

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Example (concluded)

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | $\{loves(x, f(x))\}$ | Premise |
| 2. | $\{\neg loves(v, w), loves(u, v)\}$ | Premise |
| 3. | $\{\neg loves(jack, jill)\}$ | Goal |
| 4. | $\{loves(u, x)\}$ | 1,2 |
| 5. | $\{\}$ | 4,3 |

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Harry and Ralph

Every horse can outrun every dog. Some greyhound can outrun every rabbit. Show that every horse can outrun every rabbit.

$$\forall x. \forall y. (h(x) \wedge d(y) \Rightarrow f(x, y))$$

$$\exists y. (g(y) \wedge \forall z. (r(z) \Rightarrow f(y, z)))$$

$$\forall y. (g(y) \Rightarrow d(y))$$

$$\forall x. \forall y. \forall z. (f(x, y) \wedge f(y, z) \Rightarrow f(x, z))$$

$$\neg \forall x. \forall y. (h(x) \wedge r(y) \Rightarrow f(x, y))$$

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Harry and Ralph (continued)

$$\forall x. \forall y. (h(x) \wedge d(y) \Rightarrow f(x, y))$$

$$\exists y. (g(y) \wedge \forall z. (r(z) \Rightarrow f(y, z)))$$

$$\forall y. (g(y) \Rightarrow d(y))$$

$$\forall x. \forall y. \forall z. (f(x, y) \wedge f(y, z) \Rightarrow f(x, z))$$

$$\{\neg h(x), \neg d(y), f(x, y)\}$$

$$\{g(\text{greg})\}$$

$$\{\neg r(z), f(\text{greg}, z)\}$$

$$\{\neg g(y), d(y)\}$$

$$\{\neg f(x, y), \neg f(y, z), f(x, z)\}$$

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Harry and Ralph (continued)

$$\neg \forall x. \forall y. (h(x) \wedge r(y) \Rightarrow f(x, y))$$

$$\{h(\text{harry})\}$$

$$\{r(\text{ralph})\}$$

$$\{\neg f(\text{harry}, \text{ralph})\}$$

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Harry and Ralph (concluded)

1. $\{\neg h(x), \neg d(y), f(x, y)\}$
2. $\{g(\text{greg})\}$
3. $\{\neg r(z), f(\text{greg}, z)\}$
4. $\{\neg g(y), d(y)\}$
5. $\{\neg f(x, y), \neg f(y, z), f(x, z)\}$
6. $\{h(\text{harry})\}$
7. $\{r(\text{ralph})\}$
8. $\{\neg f(\text{harry}, \text{ralph})\}$
9. $\{d(\text{greg})\}$
10. $\{\neg d(y), f(\text{harry}, y)\}$
11. $\{f(\text{harry}, \text{greg})\}$
12. $\{f(\text{greg}, \text{ralph})\}$
13. $\{\neg f(\text{greg}, z), f(\text{harry}, z)\}$
14. $\{f(\text{harry}, \text{ralph})\}$
15. $\{\}$

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Example

Given:

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x. \forall y. (p(x, y) \Leftrightarrow q(x, y)) \\ &\forall x. \exists y. (p(x, y) \vee q(x, y)) \end{aligned}$$

Prove:

$$\exists x. \exists y. (p(x, y) \wedge q(x, y))$$

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Example (continued)

$$\exists x. \forall y. (p(x,y) \Leftrightarrow q(x,y))$$

$$\exists x. \forall y. ((\neg p(x,y) \vee q(x,y)) \wedge (p(x,y) \vee \neg q(x,y)))$$

$$(\neg p(a,y) \vee q(a,y)) \wedge (p(a,y) \vee \neg q(a,y))$$

$$\{\neg p(a,y), q(a,y)\}$$

$$\{p(a,y), \neg q(a,y)\}$$

$$\forall x. \exists y. (p(x,y) \vee q(x,y))$$

$$p(x, f(x)) \vee q(x, f(x))$$

$$\{p(a, f(x)), q(a, f(x))\}$$

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Example (continued)

Negate the goal:

$$\exists x. \exists y. (p(x,y) \wedge q(x,y)) \rightarrow \neg \exists x. \exists y. (p(x,y) \wedge q(x,y))$$

Convert to Clausal Form:

$$\neg \exists x. \exists y. (p(x,y) \wedge q(x,y))$$

$$\forall x. \forall y. \neg (p(x,y) \wedge q(x,y))$$

$$\forall x. \forall y. (\neg p(x,y) \vee \neg q(x,y))$$

$$\neg p(x,y) \vee \neg q(x,y)$$

$$\{\neg p(x,y), \neg q(x,y)\}$$

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Example (concluded)

1. $\{\neg p(a,y), q(a,y)\}$	Premise
2. $\{p(a,y), \neg q(a,y)\}$	Premise
3. $\{p(x, f(x)), q(x, f(x))\}$	Premise
4. $\{\neg p(x,y), \neg q(x,y)\}$	Negated Goal
5. $\{q(a, f(a))\}$	1, 3
6. $\{p(a, f(a))\}$	2, 3
7. $\{\neg p(a, f(a))\}$	4, 5
8. $\{\}$	6, 7

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Example

$$\forall x.p(x) \Rightarrow \forall y.p(y)$$

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Example (continued)

$$\neg(\forall x.p(x) \Rightarrow \forall y.p(y))$$

$$\text{I: } \neg(\neg\forall x.p(x) \vee \forall y.p(y))$$

$$\text{N: } \neg\neg\forall x.p(x) \wedge \neg\forall y.p(y)$$

$$\forall x.p(x) \wedge \exists y.\neg p(y)$$

$$\text{S: } \forall x.p(x) \wedge \exists y.\neg p(y)$$

$$\text{E: } \forall x.p(x) \wedge \neg p(a)$$

$$\text{A: } p(x) \wedge \neg p(a)$$

$$\text{D: } p(x) \wedge \neg p(a)$$

$$\text{O: } \{p(x)\} \text{ and } \{\neg p(a)\}$$

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Example (concluded)

Resolution:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. $\{p(x)\}$ | Premise |
| 2. $\{\neg p(a)\}$ | Premise |
| 3. $\{\}$ | 1,2 $\{x \leftarrow a\}$ |

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Problem

$$\frac{\{ p(a,x) \} \quad \{ \neg p(x,b) \}}{\text{Failure}}$$

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Relational Resolution II

$$\frac{\{ \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m \} \quad \{ \psi_1, \dots, \neg \psi, \dots, \psi_n \}}{\{ \varphi_1 \tau, \dots, \varphi_m \tau, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_n \} \sigma}$$

where $\sigma = mgu(\varphi\tau, \psi)$
where τ is a variable renaming on φ

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Example

$$\begin{array}{cc}
 \{ p(a,x) \} & \{ p(a,y) \} \\
 \{ \neg p(x,b) \} & \{ \neg p(x,b) \} \\
 \hline
 \text{Failure} & \{ \} \{ x \leftarrow a, y \leftarrow b \}
 \end{array}$$

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Solution With Repeated Renaming

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. $\{ r(a,b,u1) \}$ | Premise |
| 2. $\{ r(b,c,u2) \}$ | Premise |
| 3. $\{ r(c,d,u3) \}$ | Premise |
| 4. $\{ r(x,z,f(v)), \neg r(x,y,f(f(v))), \neg r(y,z,f(f(v))) \}$ | Premise |
| 5. $\{ \neg r(a,d,w) \}$ | Goal |
| 6. $\{ \neg r(a,y6,f(f(v6))), \neg r(y6,d,f(f(v6))) \}$ | 4,5 |
| 7. $\{ \neg r(b,d,f(f(v7))) \}$ | 1,6 |
| 8. $\{ \neg r(b,y8,f(f(f(v8)))) , \neg r(y8,d,f(f(f(v8)))) \}$ | 4,7 |
| 9. $\{ \neg r(c,d,f(f(f(v9)))) \}$ | 2,8 |
| 10. $\{ \}$ | 3,9 |

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Problem Without Repeated Renaming

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. $\{r(a,b,u1)\}$ | Premise |
| 2. $\{r(b,c,u2)\}$ | Premise |
| 3. $\{r(c,d,u3)\}$ | Premise |
| 4. $\{r(x,z,f(v)), \neg r(x,y,f(f(v))), \neg r(y,z,f(f(v)))\}$ | Premise |
| 5. $\{\neg r(a,d,w)\}$ | Goal |
| 6. $\{\neg r(a,y,f(f(v))), \neg r(y,d,f(f(v)))\}$ | 4,5 |
| 7. $\{\neg r(b,d,f(f(v)))\}$ | 1,6 |
| 8. Failure | 4,7 |

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Problem

$$\{p(x), p(y)\}$$

$$\{\neg p(u), \neg p(v)\}$$

$$\{p(y), \neg p(v)\}$$

$$\{p(x), \neg p(v)\}$$

$$\{p(y), \neg p(u)\}$$

$$\{p(x), \neg p(u)\}$$

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Factors

If a subset of the literals in a clause Φ has a most general unifier γ , then the clause Φ' obtained by applying γ to Φ is called a *factor* of Φ .

Clause

$$\{p(x), p(f(y)), r(x, y)\}$$

Factors

$$\{p(f(y)), r(f(y), y)\}$$

$$\{p(x), p(f(y)), r(x, y)\}$$

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Relational Resolution III (Final Version)

Φ

Ψ

$$((\Phi' - \{\phi\})\tau \cup (\Psi' - \{\neg\psi\}))\sigma$$

where $\phi \in \Phi'$, a factor of Φ

where $\neg\psi \in \Psi'$, a factor of Ψ

where $\sigma = mgu(\varphi\tau, \psi)$

where τ is a variable renaming on φ

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Example

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \{p(x), p(y)\} \\
 \{\neg p(u), \neg p(v)\} \\
 \hline
 \{p(y), \neg p(v)\} \\
 \{p(x), \neg p(v)\} \\
 \{p(y), \neg p(u)\} \\
 \{p(x), \neg p(u)\}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{r}
 \{p(x)\} \\
 \{\neg p(u)\} \\
 \hline
 \{\}
 \end{array}$$

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Need for Original Clauses

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1. $\{p(a,y), p(x,b)\}$ | Premise |
| 2. $\{\neg p(a,d)\}$ | Premise |
| 3. $\{\neg p(c,b)\}$ | Premise |
| 4. $\{p(x,b)\}$ | 1,2 |
| 5. $\{\}$ | 3,4 |
| | |
| 1. $\{p(a,y), p(x,b)\}$ | Premise |
| 2. $\{\neg p(a,d)\}$ | Premise |
| 3. $\{\neg p(c,b)\}$ | Premise |
| 4. $\{p(a,b)\}$ | Factor of 1 |

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Provability

A *resolution derivation* of a clause φ from a set Δ of clauses is a sequence of clauses terminating in φ in which each item is

- (1) a member of Δ or
- (2) the result of applying the resolution to earlier items.

A sentence φ is *provable* from a set of sentences Δ by resolution if and only if there is a derivation of the empty clause from the clausal form of $\Delta \cup \{\neg\varphi\}$.

A resolution *proof* is a derivation of the empty clause from the clausal form of the premises and the negation of the desired conclusion.

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Soundness and Completeness

Metatheorem: Provability using the Relational Resolution Principle is sound and complete for Relational Logic (without equality).

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