



Resolution Theorem Proving

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What is this?

- Resolution is a special kind of theorem proving used in:
 - Automated theorem proving and reasoning, where the goal is complete automation
 - Databases and Answer Extraction (AI)
 - Prolog language (a subset of general resolution)
- Resolution forms a complete proof system for refutation.

History

- Resolution was introduced by Prof. J. Alan Robinson in 1965 at Syracuse U.



Alan Robinson

- There were previous hints at it by Dag Prawitz (1960, for the function-free case) and Herbrand (1930's).



Dag Prawitz



Recent

- Resolution is used for fully automated theorem-proving and reasoning systems.
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automated_theorem_proving
- <http://www.cs.miami.edu/~tptp/cgi-bin/SystemOnTPTP>



How resolution works

- A logic formula is first negated, then converted into “clausal form”.
(Significant logic is wired into this step.)
- In clausal form, quantifiers have been eliminated.
- The clausal form is proved by **refutation**, i.e. showing that its negation is unsatisfiable.



Two Types of Resolution

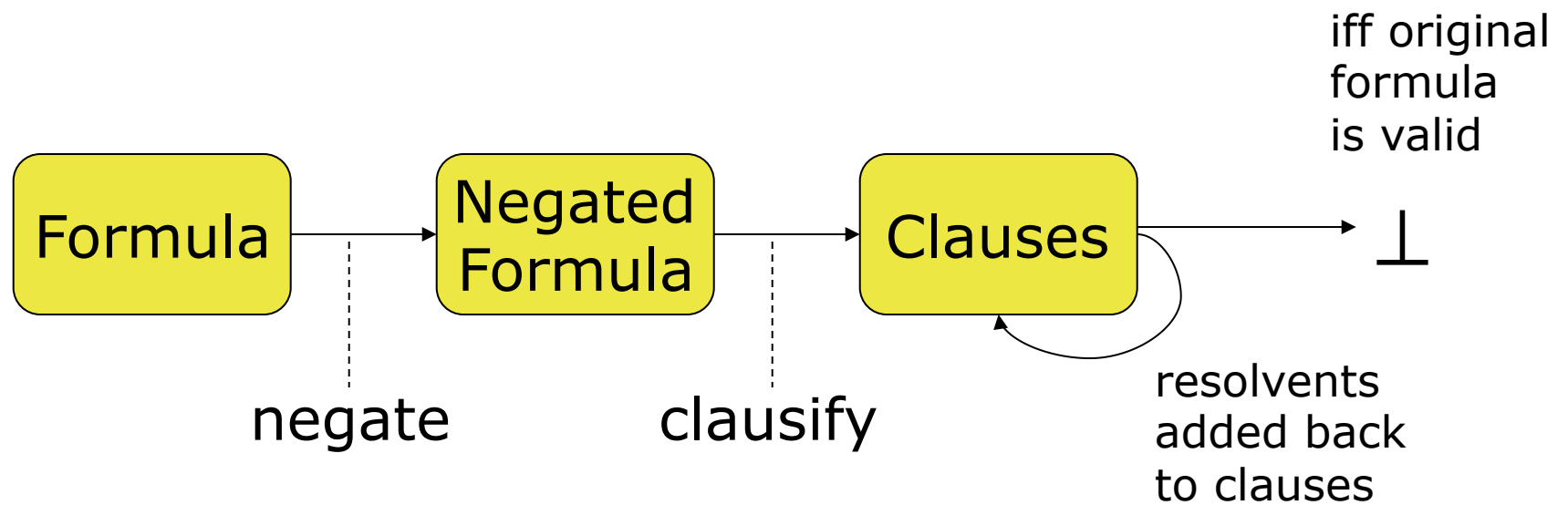
- Predicate calculus resolution:
 - Our main objective
- Propositional resolution:
 - Needed to understand predicate resolution
 - Big role in algorithms and complexity theory (NP completeness, for example)



Propositional Form of Resolution

- A **literal** is a proposition symbol or its negation.
- A **clause** is a disjunction of literals.
- The **negation** of the formula to be proved is first converted to a **clause set**, effectively a **conjunction** of those clauses.
- The original formula is a theorem iff the set of clauses is **not satisfiable**.

Resolution Schematic





Example Clause Set

- Clause set:
 - $p \vee \neg q$
 - $\neg q \vee \neg r$
 - q
- This clause set is **satisfiable**:
 - Valuation $p = T, q = T, r = F$ will satisfy it.



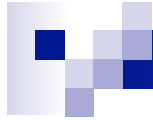
Example Clause Set

- Clause set:
 - $p \vee \neg q$
 - $q \vee r$
 - $\neg p$
 - $\neg r$
- This clause set is **unsatisfiable**:
 - There is **no valuation** that makes all formulas T at the same time.
 - Why not?
We'd need $p = r = F$ in order to satisfy all clauses, but then there is no way to set q so that all clauses are satisfied.



Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)

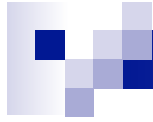
- A clause set is another way of representing a propositional formula.
- A formula is in conjunctive normal form iff it is a conjunction of disjunctions of literals
(an “and” of “ors” of propositions and their negations”)



CNF Example

$$(p \vee \neg q \vee r) \wedge (q \vee r \vee s) \wedge (\neg s)$$

Three clauses, containing 3, 3, 1 literals, respectively.



Sets

- Throughout this discussion, we want each clause to be a mathematical **set**, meaning that duplicates literals are eliminated.
- Likewise, a set of clauses (i.e. CNF) has no clause duplicated.



Example

- Clause set:
 - $p \vee \neg q$
 - $q \vee r$
 - $\neg p$
 - $\neg r$
- is representable as

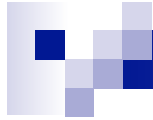
$$\{\{p, \neg q\}, \{q, r\}, \{\neg p\}, \{\neg r\}\}$$

where the \vee connective is implicit within clauses, and the \wedge connective is implicit among them.



Equivalence of Propositional Formulas

- Two propositional formulas are **equivalent** (\equiv) iff they are satisfied by the same valuations.
- Examples:
 - $p \wedge \neg q \quad \equiv \quad \neg(q \vee \neg p)$
 - $p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r) \quad \equiv \quad (p \wedge q) \rightarrow r$



Equivalence of Clause Sets

- Two clause sets are called **equivalent** if they are satisfied by the same set of valuations.
- In particular, if two clause sets are equivalent, they are either:
 - both satisfiable, *or*
 - both unsatisfiable



How General is the Clausal Form?

- Claim: Every propositional formula can be represented in clausal form.
- Examples:
 - $p \vee q$ in clausal form is $\{p \vee q\}$ (one clause)
 - $p \wedge q$ in clausal form is $\{p, q\}$ (two clauses)
 - $p \rightarrow q$ in clausal form is $\{\neg p \vee q\}$ (one clause)
 - $p \leftrightarrow q$ in clausal form is $\{\neg p \vee q, p \vee \neg q\}$ (two clauses)



Extreme Cases

- \emptyset or $\{\}$, the empty **set** of clauses, is equivalent to **True**

(as True is the identity for the \wedge operation, and a set of clauses is a conjunction)

- Note: Every valuation satisfies every clause in $\{\}$, because there are no clauses to satisfy.



The Empty Clause

- The **empty clause** is \perp , sometimes denoted by an empty box \square , and is equivalent to False.
- Do not confuse the empty clause with an empty *set* of clauses $\{\}$.
- Observation: Any clause set containing the empty clause is unsatisfiable, because no valuation can make \perp true.

Example: $\{\neg p \vee q, p, \perp\}$



Conversion to Clausal Form

- We rely on rules that can be proved in propositional logic:
 - Commutative
 - $A \wedge B \equiv B \wedge A$
 - $A \vee B \equiv B \vee A$
 - Distributive
 - $A \wedge (B \vee C) \equiv (A \wedge B) \vee (A \wedge C)$
 - $A \vee (B \wedge C) \equiv (A \vee B) \wedge (A \vee C)$ <<< important
 - DeMorgan
 - $\neg(A \wedge B) \equiv \neg A \vee \neg B$
 - $\neg(A \vee B) \equiv \neg A \wedge \neg B$



Conversion to Clausal Form

(see also Huth & Ryan, section 1.5.1-1.5.2)

1. Replace each $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ with $(\neg\varphi \vee \psi)$.
2. Replace each $\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$ with $(\neg\varphi \vee \psi) \wedge (\varphi \vee \neg\psi)$.
3. Push \neg inward, toward proposition symbols:
 - Replace $\neg(\varphi \wedge \psi)$ with $(\neg\varphi \vee \neg\psi)$.
 - Replace $\neg(\varphi \vee \psi)$ with $(\neg\varphi \wedge \neg\psi)$.
 - Replace $\neg\neg\varphi$ with φ .
4. Push \vee inward toward literals:
 - Replace $\chi \vee (\varphi \wedge \psi)$ with $(\chi \vee \varphi) \wedge (\chi \vee \psi)$.
 - Replace $(\varphi \wedge \psi) \vee \chi$ with $(\varphi \vee \chi) \wedge (\psi \vee \chi)$.

Example of Conversion to Clauses

- $\neg(p \rightarrow (\neg q \wedge (r \wedge \neg s)))$ replace \rightarrow
- $\neg(\neg p \vee (\neg q \wedge (r \wedge \neg s)))$ push \neg inward
- $\neg\neg p \wedge \neg(\neg q \wedge (r \wedge \neg s))$ delete $\neg\neg$
- $p \wedge \neg(\neg q \wedge (r \wedge \neg s))$ push \neg inward
- $p \wedge (\neg\neg q \vee \neg(r \wedge \neg s))$ delete $\neg\neg$
- $p \wedge (q \vee \neg(r \wedge \neg s))$ push \neg inward
- $p \wedge (q \vee \neg r \vee \neg\neg s)$ delete $\neg\neg$
- $p \wedge (q \vee \neg r \vee s)$ conjuncts are clauses
- $\{p, q \vee \neg r \vee s\}$

Example of Conversion to Clauses

- $\neg(p \wedge (\neg q \vee (r \wedge \neg s)))$ push \neg inward
- $\neg p \vee \neg(\neg q \vee (r \wedge \neg s))$ push \neg inward
- $\neg p \vee (\neg\neg q \wedge \neg(r \wedge \neg s))$ delete $\neg\neg$
- $\neg p \vee (q \wedge \neg(r \wedge \neg s))$ push \neg inward
- $\neg p \vee (q \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg\neg s))$ delete $\neg\neg$
- $\neg p \vee (q \wedge (\neg r \vee s))$ distribute \vee over \wedge
- $(\neg p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee (\neg r \vee s))$ flatten \vee
- $(\neg p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee \neg r \vee s)$
- $\{(\neg p \vee q), (\neg p \vee \neg r \vee s)\}$ conjuncts are clauses



Try this one

- $(\neg p \wedge (\neg q \rightarrow (r \leftrightarrow s)))$



Code for CNF conversion

- Python

<http://aima-python.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/logic.py>

- Prolog

http://www.csupomona.edu/~jrffisher/www/prolog_tutorial/logic_topics/normal_forms/normal_form.html



Clausal Form from a Truth Table

- A truth table is typically thought of as displaying one of possibly many **disjunctive normal forms** (DNF).

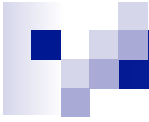
- Each row is a **min-term**:

$$p_1^* \wedge p_2^* \wedge \dots \wedge p_n^* \text{ where } p_i^* \text{ indicates a } \mathbf{literal}.$$

- The overall truth-function is a **disjunction** of min-terms:

$$\mathbf{V} (p_1^* \wedge p_2^* \wedge \dots \wedge p_n^*) \text{ over the rows for which the result is } \mathbf{T}.$$

- If there are no rows with result T, the DNF represents False.
- Minterms are additive.



Example: Truth Table

	p	q	r	value
	F	F	F	F
	F	F	T	F
$(\neg p \wedge q \wedge \neg r)$	F	T	F	T
$(\neg p \wedge q \wedge r)$	F	T	T	T
$(p \wedge \neg q \wedge \neg r)$	T	F	F	T
	T	F	T	F
$(p \wedge q \wedge \neg r)$	T	T	F	T
$(p \wedge q \wedge r)$	T	T	T	T

A DNF: $(\neg p \wedge q \wedge \neg r) \vee (\neg p \wedge q \wedge r) \vee (p \wedge \neg q \wedge \neg r) \vee (p \wedge q \wedge \neg r) \vee (p \wedge q \wedge r)$



Clausal Form from Truth Table

- A DNF has the value **True** exactly when at least one of the disjuncts does, e.g.

$$(\neg p \wedge q \wedge \neg r) \vee (\neg p \wedge q \wedge r) \vee \dots$$

- Similarly a CNF has the value **False** exactly when at least one of the **maxterms** does, e.g.

$$(p \vee q \vee r) \wedge (p \vee q \vee \neg r) \wedge (\neg p \vee q \vee \neg r)$$

- Hence we can “read off” a CNF from the *False* rows of the table by ***inverting*** the sense of the variables.
- The case where no rows are False is True.
- Maxterms are subtractive.

Example: Clausal Form from Truth Table

p	q	r	value	
F	F	F	F	$(p \vee q \vee r)$
F	F	T	F	$(p \vee q \vee \neg r)$
F	T	F	T	
F	T	T	T	
T	F	F	T	
T	F	T	F	$(\neg p \vee q \vee \neg r)$
T	T	F	T	
T	T	T	T	

A CNF: $(p \vee q \vee r) \wedge (p \vee q \vee \neg r) \wedge (\neg p \vee q \vee \neg r)$



Summary

- In a DNF (such as minterm form) a term (product) is trying to make the function more True. (The empty case is False).
- In CNF (such as maxterm form) a term (sum) is trying to make the function more False. (The empty case is True).



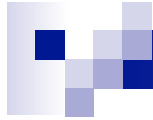
Housekeeping: Reduced Clause Sets

- A clause set is **reduced** provided:
 - No literal occurs multiple times in any clause.
 - $p \vee \neg q \vee p$ is disallowed in a reduced set.
 - No clause contains a literal and its negation.
 - $p \vee q \vee \neg p$ is disallowed in a reduced set.
- Any clause set S is equivalent to a reduced set $\text{reduce}(S)$:
 - Replace multiple occurrences of a literal with a **single occurrence** of the literal.
 - **Drop** any clauses containing **a literal and its negation**. (Such clauses are equivalent to T , and do thus do not affect satisfiability of the set of clauses.)
 - Replace multiple occurrences of a clause (as a **set**) with a single occurrence.



reduce example

$$\text{reduce}(\{p \vee \neg q \vee p, \\ p \vee q \vee \neg p \vee q\}) = \\ \{p \vee \neg q\}$$



Resolution Method

- Input: A reduced set of clauses.
- Output: A set of clauses equivalent to the input set, such that the original set is unsatisfiable iff the final set contains the **empty clause** \perp .
- There is no valuation that satisfies \perp , much less \perp together with other clauses.



How Resolution Works

- Do Repeatedly, until no further steps can be taken:
 - From the set of clauses, pick a pair from which a **new** clause, called the “resolvent”, can be created. (Must resolve the pair to find this out.)
 - Add the resolvent to the set.
 - If \perp is ever added to the set, stop. The original set of clauses is unsatisfiable.
- Conversely, if the original set of clauses is unsatisfiable, it is possible to eventually derive \perp .



What is the Resolvent?

- Suppose p is a proposition symbol.
- If the set contains clauses of both forms
 - $p \vee \varphi$
 - $\neg p \vee \psi$
- where φ and ψ are formulas (either could be empty), then the resolvent is the reduced version of

$$\varphi \vee \psi.$$

- p and $\neg p$ are said to be “clashing” literals.



Resolution as a Deduction Rule

$$\frac{p \vee \varphi \quad \neg p \vee \psi}{\varphi \vee \psi} \quad (\text{in reduced form})$$

where p is any proposition symbol and φ and ψ are clauses (possibly empty).



Relation to Sequent Calculus

The **optional** “Cut” Rule in sequent calculus is similar to resolution. (Gentzen proved that it was unnecessary.)

$$(1) \Gamma \vdash A, \Delta$$

and

$$(2) \Pi, A \vdash \Lambda$$

allows one to infer

$$(3) \Gamma, \Pi \vdash \Delta, \Lambda.$$

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cut-elimination_theorem

<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/CutEliminationTheorem.html>



Example of Resolvents

- Consider the clauses
 - $p \vee \neg \mathbf{q} \vee \neg s$
 - $\mathbf{q} \vee r \vee \neg s$
- A resolvent (based on literals $q, \neg q$) is:
 - $p \vee r \vee \neg s$



Example of Resolvents

- Consider the clauses
 - $p \vee r$
 - $\neg r$
- The resolvent is:
 - p



Example of Resolvents

- Consider the clauses
 - p
 - $\neg p$
- Since p and $\neg p$ occur in different clauses, the resolvent is:
 - \perp



Example of Resolvents

- Consider the clauses
 - $p \vee \neg q \vee r$
 - $q \vee \neg r \vee \neg s$
- One resolvent (based on literals $q, \neg q$) is:
 - $p \vee r \vee \neg r \vee \neg s$
- Another (based on literals $r, \neg r$) is:
 - $p \vee q \vee \neg q \vee \neg s$
- Both of these would be **dropped** in reducing, however, since each contains a literal and its negation.



Resolution Algorithm

- Start with a set S of reduced clauses.
- while S does not contain \perp and the following step adds something new to S :
 - Add to S the resolvent R of any two clauses such that R is not already in S .
- The original S is unsatisfiable iff \perp is in S .



Unit Clauses

- A clause with exactly one literal is called a unit clause.
- The penultimate step prior to resolving to \perp will be to resolve two unit clauses.
- Resolving a unit clause with a clause having $n > 0$ literals results in a clause with fewer than n literals.



Note on choice of clauses

- Preferring unit clauses is a good heuristic.



Example 1 (Highlighting unit clauses)

- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}, \neg \mathbf{r}\}$
resolve $p \vee \neg q$ with $\neg \mathbf{p}$, adding $\neg \mathbf{q}$ to S .
- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}, \neg \mathbf{r}, \neg \mathbf{q}\}$
resolve $q \vee r$ with $\neg \mathbf{q}$, adding \mathbf{r} to S .
- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}, \neg \mathbf{r}, \neg \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}\}$
resolve $\neg r$ with r adding \perp to S .
- Stop $\perp \in S$.
- The original S is unsatisfiable, as $\perp \in S$.



Example 2

- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}\}$
Resolve $p \vee \neg q$ with $\neg \mathbf{p}$, adding $\neg \mathbf{q}$ to S .
- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}, \neg \mathbf{q}\}$
Resolve $q \vee r$ with $\neg \mathbf{q}$, adding \mathbf{r} to S .
- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}, \neg \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}\}$
Resolve $p \vee \neg q$ with $q \vee r$, adding $p \vee r$ to S .
- $S = \{p \vee \neg q, q \vee r, \neg \mathbf{p}, \neg \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}, p \vee r\}$
Stop. No new resolvents are possible. The original set is satisfiable, as $\perp \notin S$.



Soundness: Any valuation satisfying both $p \vee \varphi$ and $\neg p \vee \psi$ satisfies $\varphi \vee \psi$.

- Suppose v satisfies **both** $p \vee \varphi$ and $\neg p \vee \psi$.
- Either $v(p) = T$ or $v(p) = F$.
- If $v(p) = T$, then $v(\neg p) = F$. In order to satisfy $\neg p \vee \psi$ then, $v(\psi) = T$. Thus $v(\varphi \vee \psi) = T$.
- If $v(p) = F$, in order to satisfy $p \vee \varphi$, $v(\varphi) = T$. Thus $v(\varphi \vee \psi) = T$.
- Thus adding the resolvent preserves the valuations that satisfy the set of clauses.



Completeness

- Completeness is more complicated and we will not prove it here.
- We'd have to show that if a set is unsatisfiable, there is a set of resolution steps that result in the empty clause.
- For a constructive proof, see: J. Gallier, 2006:
<http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~cis510/tcl/resol.pdf>



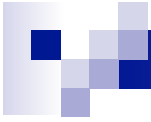
Resolution Algorithm Termination

- Closure is always achievable.
- The set of distinct reduced clause sets for a given set of proposition symbols is **finite**.
- At worst, every possible clause (regarding reordering of symbols as equivalent) will be generated.
- How many distinct clauses can there be for n proposition symbols?

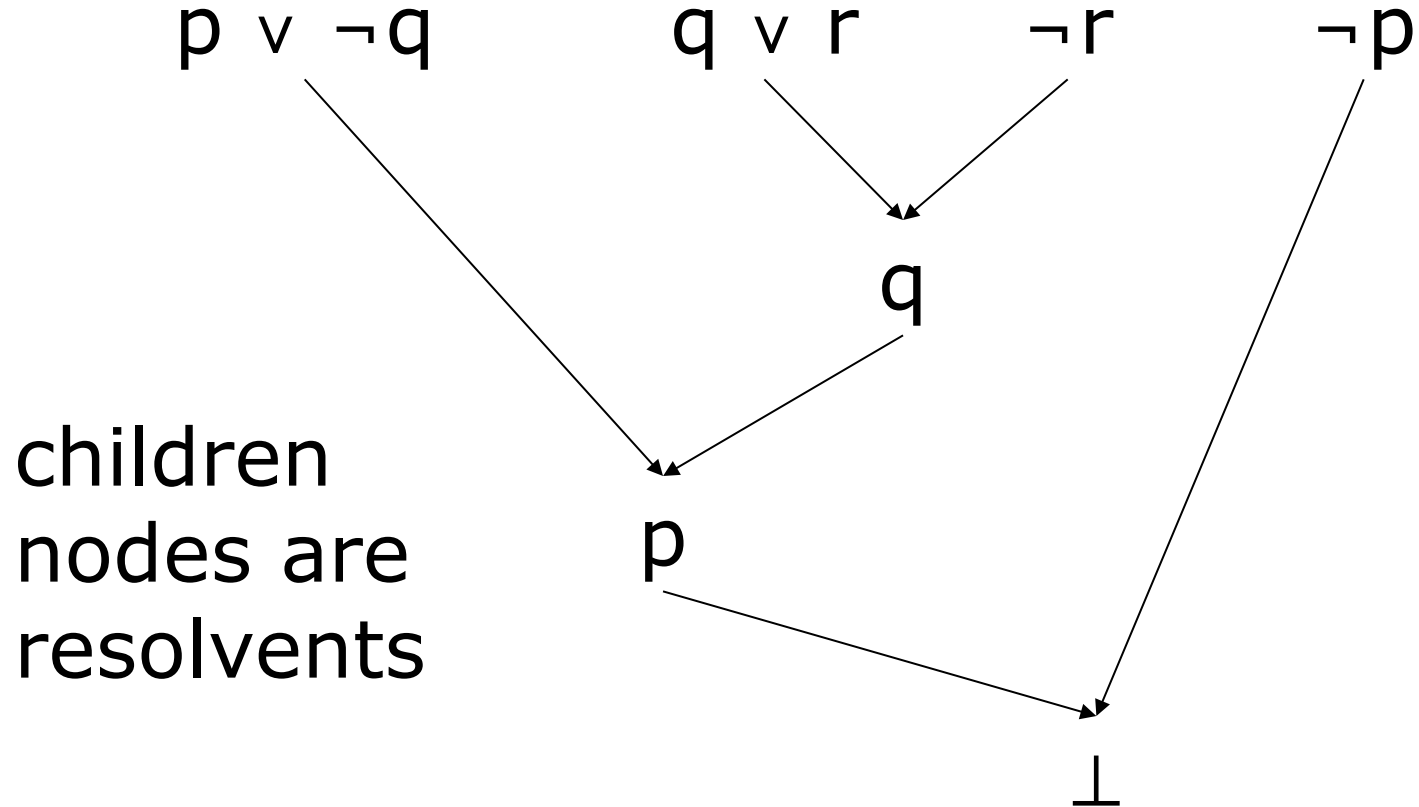


Resolution in tabular form

1.	$p \vee \neg q$	Premise
2.	$q \vee r$	Premise
3.	$\neg r$	Premise
4.	$\neg p$	Premise
5.	q	Resolution 2, 3
6.	p	Resolution 1, 5
7.	\perp	Resolution 6, 4



Resolution as a Tree

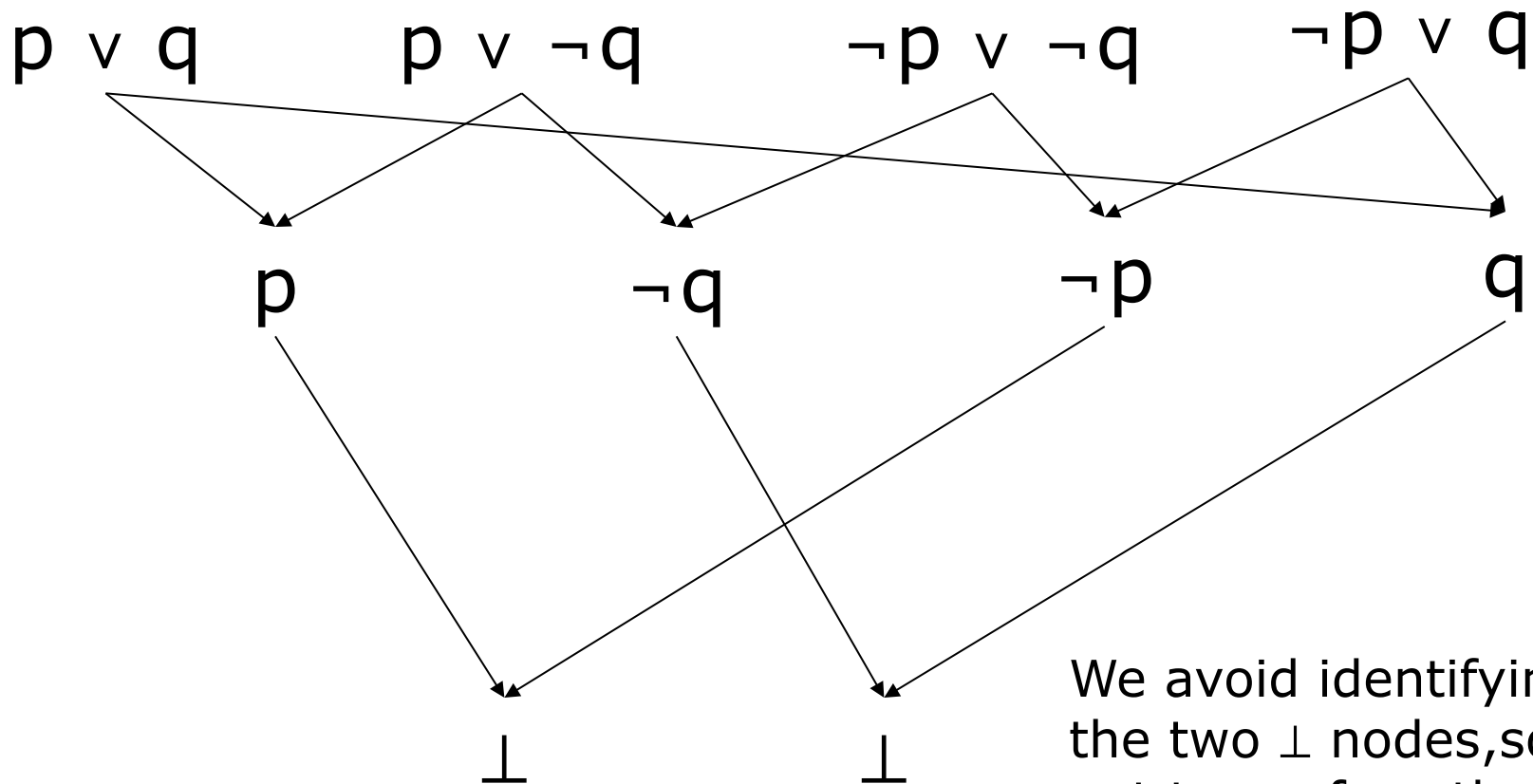




Try resolving these clause sets:

- $\neg p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r,$
 $\neg q \vee r,$
 $q \vee s,$
 $\neg s,$
 p
- $p \vee \neg q \vee r,$
 $q \vee r,$
 $\neg p$

Sometimes a DAG is more appropriate than a tree for showing all options



We avoid identifying the two \perp nodes, so as not to confuse the two sets of antecedents.



Useful Editing Short-cuts

- Uncomplemented Literal Lemma (also called the “Purity Rule”)

If a **literal** appears in one or more clauses, but its complement appears in no clause, then every clause containing that literal can be deleted from the set without changing satisfiability.

- **Rationale:** The literal in question can be assigned T without loss of generality, thus clauses containing it cannot affect satisfiability.



Example of Uncomplemented Literal Lemma

- $\neg p \vee q \vee r,$
 $\neg q \vee r,$
 $q \vee s,$
 $\neg s,$
 p
- r occurs only uncomplemented.
- The clause set is unsatisfiable iff the following set is:
 - $q \vee s,$
 $\neg s,$
 p
- and this set is unsatisfiable iff $\neg s$ is unsatisfiable (which it isn't).



Further Editing Short-Cuts

- **Unit Clause Lemma:**

If a **unit** clause (clause with only one literal L) exists within the set, the following operation may be performed without affecting satisfiability:

- Remove **all** clauses containing L.
- Remove the complement of L from all remaining clauses.
- **Rationale:** The literal in question **must** be assigned T in a satisfying interpretation. Hence all clauses containing it will be T and contribute nothing to the set. Likewise, its complement must be assigned F, and thus contribute nothing to the individual clauses.



Example of Unit Clause Lemma

- $\neg p \vee q \vee r$
 $q \vee s$
 $\neg s$
 $p \vee \neg s$
- $\neg s$ is a unit clause. The complement of $\neg s$ is s .
- The clause set is unsatisfiable iff the following set is:
 $\neg p \vee q \vee r,$
 $q,$ (formerly $q \vee s$)

($\neg s$ and $p \vee \neg s$ were removed.)



DPLL

- The previous two edit rules are the basis of another algorithm for satisfiability: DPLL for Davis-Putnam-Logemann-Loveland
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DPLL_algorithm



Further Useful Optimizations

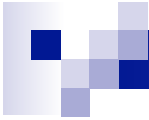
Subsumption Lemma:

- One clause **subsumes** another if the former's literals are a **subset** of the latter's.
- If one clause of a set subsumes another, the subsumed clause (the larger one) can be dropped from the set.
- **Rationale:** If C subsumes D, then any interpretation satisfying C must also satisfy D (because the literals are disjoint). Thus the satisfiability of the set of clauses is unaffected if D is removed.



Example of Subsumption Lemma

- $\neg p \vee q \vee \neg r,$
 $\neg p \vee \neg r,$
 $p \vee r \vee q$
- The second clause subsumes the first.
- The clause set is unsatisfiable iff the following set is:
 $\neg p \vee \neg r,$
 $p \vee r \vee q$



Common Special Case of Clause Set

- Often we want to prove a **sequent** such as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi_{11} \wedge \varphi_{12} \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_{1m_1} \rightarrow \psi_1, \\ & \varphi_{21} \wedge \varphi_{22} \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_{2m_2} \rightarrow \psi_2, \\ & \dots \\ & \varphi_{n1} \wedge \varphi_{n2} \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_{nm_n} \rightarrow \psi_n \end{aligned}$$

“axioms”

$$\vdash \chi_1 \wedge \chi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \chi_p$$

where each symbol represents a literal.

“theorem”

- This can be done by showing that the following clause set is **unsatisfiable**:

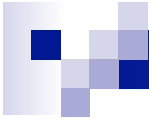
$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \neg \varphi_{11} \vee \neg \varphi_{12} \vee \dots \vee \neg \varphi_{1m_1} \vee \psi_1, \\ & \neg \varphi_{21} \vee \neg \varphi_{22} \vee \dots \vee \neg \varphi_{2m_2} \vee \psi_2, \\ & \dots \\ & \neg \varphi_{n1} \vee \neg \varphi_{n2} \vee \dots \vee \neg \varphi_{nm_n} \vee \psi_n, \end{aligned}$$

$$\neg \chi_1 \vee \neg \chi_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg \chi_p \}$$



Strategic Optimizations

- **Unit-Preference:** Prefer resolving with unit clauses. These reduce the size of resulting clauses.
- **Set-of-Support:** Divide the clauses into two sets:
 - A known-satisfiable subset.
 - Other
- Always resolve with an “other” or a clause derived from one.
- The latter are called the “set of support” (SOS).



Set-of-Support

- Showing that the following clause set is **unsatisfiable**:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \neg\varphi_{11} \vee \neg\varphi_{12} \vee \dots \vee \neg\varphi_{1m_1} \vee \psi_1, \\ & \neg\varphi_{21} \vee \neg\varphi_{22} \vee \dots \vee \neg\varphi_{2m_2} \vee \psi_2, \\ & \dots \\ & \neg\varphi_{n1} \vee \neg\varphi_{n2} \vee \dots \vee \neg\varphi_{nm_n} \vee \psi_n, \end{aligned}$$

Satisfiable “axioms”

$$\neg\chi_1 \vee \neg\chi_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg\chi_p \}$$

Initial set of support

Horn Clauses

- A Horn clause is one in which there is **at most one non-negated** literal:
 - $\neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg\varphi_m \vee \boxed{\psi}$ (**one** non-negated)
- or
 - $\neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg\varphi_m$ (**no** non-negated)
- Horn clause are the basis of the **Prolog** language, where:

$$\neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg\varphi_m \vee \boxed{\psi}$$

is written

$$\psi \text{ :- } \varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_m.$$

interpreted as

$$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_m \rightarrow \psi$$

If $m = 0$, then we just write

$$\psi.$$

Prolog uses a special form of resolution to do its work (“SLD” = Selective Linear Definite resolution)

- $\{p \vee \neg r \vee \neg s,$
 $r \vee \neg q,$
 $s \vee \neg q,$
 $q,$
 $\neg p,$
 $\}$ **Non-negated**
 literals in red.

becomes in Prolog syntax:

- $p :- r, s.$
 $r :- q.$
 $s :- q.$
 $q.$
 $?- p.$

Dialog with Prolog:

```
consult(user).
```

```
p :- r, s.
```

```
r :- q.
```

```
s :- q.
```

```
q.
```

```
^D
```

```
l ?- p.
```

```
yes
```



Resolution Theorem Provers

- Prolog cannot handle general negation
- Resolution theorem provers can
- Examples: Prover9, Vampire, ...



Prover9



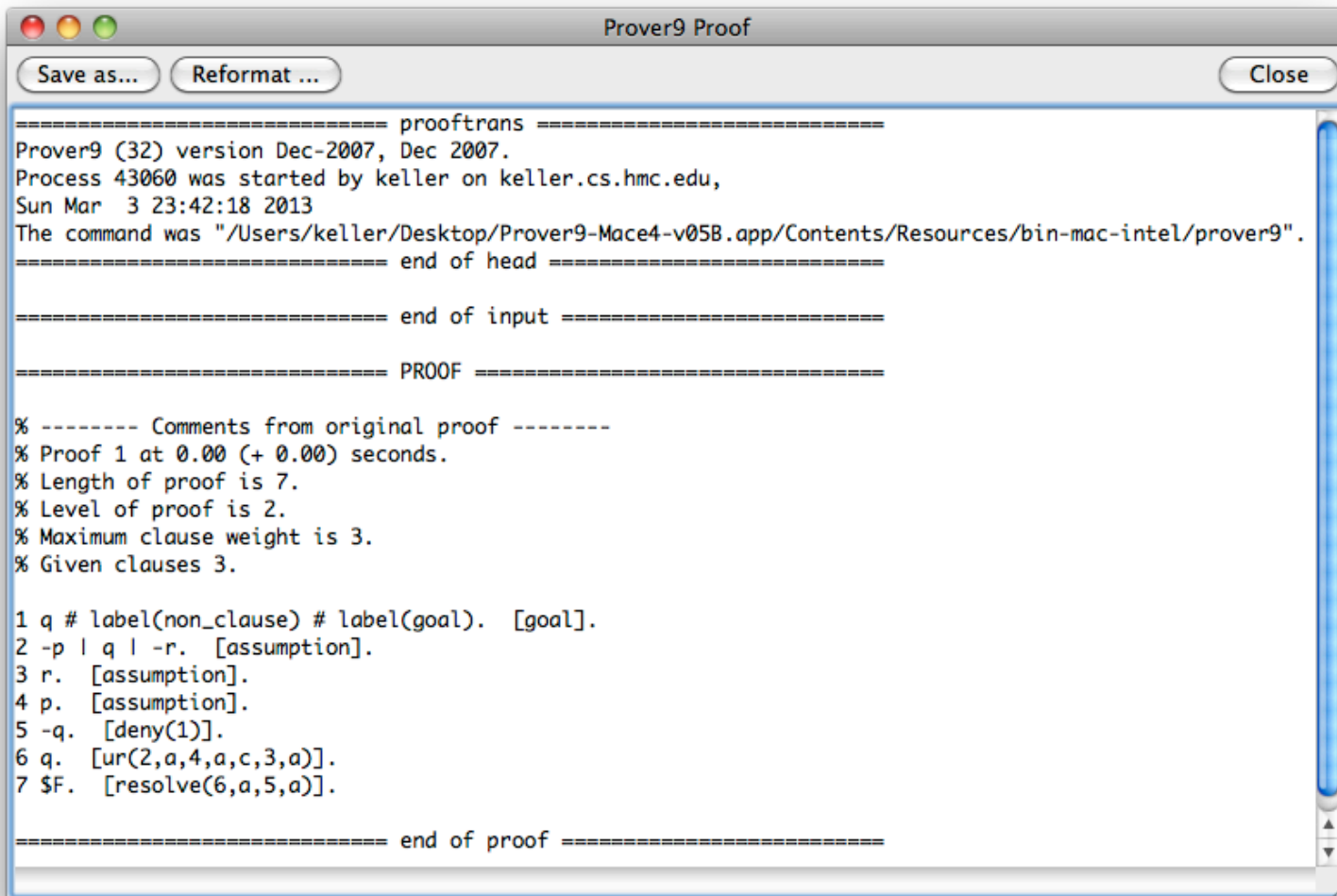
- Extends the former program “Otter”
- Developed at Argonne National Laboratory
- Free download for all platforms
- <http://www.cs.unm.edu/~mccune/prover9/>
- Also includes Mace for constructing counterexamples

Prover9 GUI (- is “not”, | is “or”)

The screenshot shows the Prover9 GUI interface. The window title is "nat-nums-comm.in - Prover9/Mace4". The interface is divided into several sections:

- Language Options**: A tabbed menu with "Formulas" selected.
- Assumptions:** A text area containing the logical expressions: $-p \mid q \mid -r.$, $r.$, and $p.$. To the right are buttons for "Well Formed?" and "Clear".
- Goals:** A text area containing the goal expression: $q.$. To the right are buttons for "Well Formed?" and "Clear".
- Proof Search:** A section for the Prover9 engine. It features a "Show Current Input" button, the engine name "Prover9" in a stylized font, a "Time Limit" of 60 seconds, and buttons for "Start", "Pause", and "Kill". Below these is a progress bar and the text "State: Proof", followed by "Info" and "Show/Save" buttons.
- Model/Counterexample Search:** A section for the Mace4 engine. It features a "Show Current Input" button, the engine name "Mace4" in a stylized font, a "Time Limit" of 60 seconds, and buttons for "Start", "Pause", and "Kill". Below these is a progress bar and the text "State: Model(s)", followed by "Info" and "Show/Save" buttons.

Prover9 Proof (\$F is empty clause)



```
===== prooftrans =====
Prover9 (32) version Dec-2007, Dec 2007.
Process 43060 was started by keller on keller.cs.hmc.edu,
Sun Mar  3 23:42:18 2013
The command was "/Users/keller/Desktop/Prover9-Mace4-v05B.app/Contents/Resources/bin-mac-intel/prover9".
===== end of head =====

===== end of input =====

===== PROOF =====

% ----- Comments from original proof -----
% Proof 1 at 0.00 (+ 0.00) seconds.
% Length of proof is 7.
% Level of proof is 2.
% Maximum clause weight is 3.
% Given clauses 3.

1 q # label(non_clause) # label(goal). [goal].
2 -p | q | -r. [assumption].
3 r. [assumption].
4 p. [assumption].
5 -q. [deny(1)].
6 q. [ur(2,a,4,a,c,3,a)].
7 $F. [resolve(6,a,5,a)].

===== end of proof =====
```



Resolution for Predicate Logic

- *Predicate Clausal Form*:
 - A **literal** is an atomic formula or its negation (instead of a proposition symbol or its negation).
 - **The variables of each clause are each implicitly \forall -quantified.**
 - The **variables** of each clause are thus **independent** from the other clauses; even if they are the same, they should be thought of as being **different** (e.g. implicitly rename by indexing with a clause number).



Example: Predicate Clausal Form

- Clause set $\{p(X), q(X, Y), \neg q(X, X) \vee p(X)\}$ stands for the conjunction
- $$\begin{aligned} &\forall X p(X) \\ &\wedge \forall X \forall Y q(X, Y) \\ &\wedge \forall X \forall Y (\neg q(X, X) \vee p(X)) \end{aligned}$$

which is the same as

- $$\begin{aligned} &\forall X_1 p(X_1) \\ &\wedge \forall X_2 \forall Y_2 q(X_2, Y_2) \\ &\wedge \forall X_3 \forall Y_3 (\neg q(X_3, X_3) \vee p(X_3)) \end{aligned}$$

i.e. the clause set

- $\{p(X_1), q(X_2, Y_2), \neg q(X_3, X_3) \vee p(X_3)\}$



How General is This?

- We will see later that it is completely general, as far as showing unsatisfiability is concerned.



Examples of Predicate Clausal Form

- $\neg \text{human}(X) \vee \text{mortal}(X)$
- $\text{human}(\text{socrates})$
- $\neg \text{mortal}(\text{socrates})$

- These clauses can be used to prove the syllogism:
 - All humans are mortal.
 - Socrates is a human.
 - Therefore Socrates is mortal.



Resolution for Predicate Clauses

- To resolve *predicate* clauses, it is no longer sufficient to look for just a literal and its negation in two distinct clauses, e.g. X in

$$\neg q(X, X) \vee p(X)$$
$$\neg p(Z) \vee r(Z, Y)$$

- For one thing, the identity of the **variables** is **independent** in each.
- For another, the arguments are generally **terms**, not just simple variables:
$$\neg q(X, X) \vee p(f(X))$$
$$\neg p(X) \vee r(g(X), c)$$



Example of What Resolution Must Do

- Suppose we have derived three formulas (where c is a constant symbol):
 - $p(c)$
 - $\forall X (p(X) \rightarrow q(f(X)))$
 - $\forall X (q(X) \rightarrow r(X, g(X)))$
- We would expect to be able to infer
 - $q(f(c))$
 - $r(f(c), g(f(c)))$
- Resolution must be able to handle such things.



Equivalent Clausal Form

- The clausal form of

- $p(c)$
- $\forall X (p(X) \rightarrow q(f(X)))$
- $\forall X (q(X) \rightarrow r(X, g(X)))$

is

- $\{p(c), \neg p(X) \vee q(f(X)), \neg q(X) \vee r(X, g(X))\}$
- Resolution has to “make a connection” between $p(c)$ and $p(X)$, and between $q(f(X))$ and $q(X)$.



Unification

- The “connection” alluded to on the previous slide is known as **unification**.
- Two **atoms** are **unifiable** if there is a uniform **set of substitutions** of terms for their variables that makes them **identical**.
- If such a substitution set exists, it is **applied to all** literals in the formulas prior to resolution.



Unification Examples

- Consider atoms $p(c)$, $p(X)$
(c is a constant, X a variable).
- These terms are **unifiable**, since the substitution $[c/X]$ (substitute c for X) makes them identical.



Unification Examples

- Consider $q(c, d)$, $q(X, X)$
(c and d are constants, X a variable).
- These terms are **not unifiable**.
- Distinct **constant symbols do not unify**. There is no substitution that will make them identical.
- (Note: This is not the same as saying constant symbols cannot be equated. They can, with a separate equation such as $c = d$. Equality is handled separately.)



Renaming Apart

- Consider $p(X, f(a))$ vs. $p(g(Y), f(X))$
- These might appear not to unify, since we would have a conflict $[g(Y)/X]$ vs. $[a/X]$.
- However, if we **rename** the variables in the second clause we get:
 $p(X, f(a))$ vs. $p(g(Z), f(W))$.
- These unify, using $[g(Z)/X, a/W]$.
- **Note:** Renaming apart is done only at the **start** of considering unification of two clauses, and all variables in the clause are renamed **uniformly**.



Notation for Variable Substitutions

- In general, a **substitution** consists of a set of **bindings of variables** to terms, e.g.

$$\beta = [Z/X, f(Z, c)/Y, c/W]$$

- If τ is a **term**, then $\tau\beta$ denotes the result of making the substitutions β in for variables in τ , e.g.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{if } \tau = p(X, g(Y, W)) \\ \text{then } \tau\beta = p(Z, g(f(Z, c), c)) \end{array}$$

Composing Variable Substitutions

- If β and γ are substitutions and τ is a term, then $(\tau\beta)\gamma$ denotes the result of first applying β to τ , then γ to the result, e.g.

$$\tau = p(X, g(Y, W))$$

literal

$$\beta = \{Z/X, f(Z, c)/Y, c/W\}$$

sub

$$\gamma = \{V/Z\}$$

sub

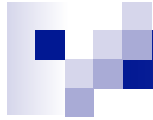
$$(\tau\beta)\gamma = p(V, g(f(V, c), c))$$

- The **composition** $\beta\gamma$ **of substitutions** β and γ is the substitution such that for **all** terms τ

$$\tau(\beta\gamma) = (\tau\beta)\gamma$$

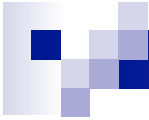
e.g. $\{V/X, f(V, c)/Y, c/W\}$

above



Unifiers

- A set of substitutions that unifies two literals is called a **unifier**.



More Unification Examples

Term 1	Term 2	Unifier, if any?
$p(X, X)$	$p(f(Y), f(Z))$	
$p(X, X)$	$p(f(Y), g(Y))$	
$p(X, Y)$	$p(Z, f(Z))$	
$p(X, f(X))$	$p(g(Y), W)$	
$p(X, f(X))$	$p(f(Y), Y)$	



Even More Unification Examples

Term 1	Term 2	Unifier, if any?
$p(X, Y)$	$p(f(Z), g(Z))$	
$p(X, f(X))$	$p(f(Z), U)$	
$p(f(X), g(X))$	$p(f(U), U)$	
$p(f(X), f(X))$	$p(c, c)$	
$p(f(X), g(X))$	$p(Y, g(Y))$	



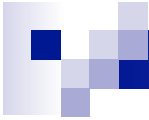
Most General Unifiers (mgu)

- If two literals unify at all, they have a “most general unifier”, one which adds no unneeded constraints.
- Example: $p(X)$ vs. $p(f(Y))$ could be unified with the substitution
 $[f(c)/X, c/Y]$.
- However, this would **not** be the most general, since we could leave Y as a variable:
 $[f(Z)/X]$
and each of the original literals would unify with this.



Generality of Substitutions

- Substitution β is **as general as** substitution ν if there is a γ such that $\nu = \beta \gamma$.
- To say that β is a “most general unifier” means that is as general as *any* unifier.



Find the MGU or indicate non-unifiable

Term 1	Term 2	MGU?
$p(X, Y)$	$p(Z, Z)$	
$p(X, c)$	$p(Y, Y)$	
$p(f(X), Y)$	$p(W, f(Z))$	
$p(f(X), Y)$	$p(Z, Y)$	
$p(f(Z), g(X))$	$p(Y, g(Y))$	

MGU Algorithm (Martelli & Montanari)

- **Input:** Two terms, or two atoms, τ_1, τ_2 , **already renamed apart.**
- **Output:** Either the most general unifier for τ_1, τ_2 , or “not unifiable”.
- ```
S := {[\tau_1, \tau_2]}; // functions as a sort-of stack
 μ := the empty substitution;
while(S $\neq \emptyset$)
 remove a pair [L, R] from S; // pop case (1)
 if(L = R)
 do nothing;
 else if(L = $f(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$ and R = $f(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n)$) // same f, n (2)
 S := S \cup {[s_1, t_1], [s_2, t_2], ... [s_n, t_n]}; // pushes
 else if(L = x where x is a variable not occurring in R) (3)
 μ := $\mu[R/x]$; // composing
 S := applytoallpairs([R/x], S);
 else if(R = x where x is a variable not occurring in L) (4)
 μ := $\mu[L/x]$;
 S := applytoallpairs([L/x], S);
 else return “not unifiable”; (5)
return μ as the MGU;
```

see also [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unification\\_\(computer\\_science\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unification_(computer_science))



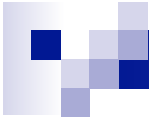
# Intuitive Unification

- Remember when two things **don't** unify:
  - Distinct constant symbols don't unify.
  - Terms with outermost function symbols that are distinct don't unify.
  - A term with an outermost function symbol doesn't unify with a constant.
  - Two terms with the same outermost function symbol don't unify if some of their arguments don't pairwise unify.
- Remember that substitutions are **cumulative** during unification.



# Example

- $p(X, f(X))$  vs.  $p(Y, f(Y))$  initial
- $S := \{[p(X, f(X)), p(Y, f(Y))]\}$
- $\mu := []$
  
- Remove  $[p(X, f(X)), p(Y, f(Y))]$  case 2
- $S := \{[X, Y], [f(X), f(Y)]\}$
  
- Remove  $[X, Y]$  case 3
- $\mu := [Y/X]; S := \{[f(Y), f(Y)]\}$
  
- Remove  $[f(Y), f(Y)]$  case 1
- $S := \{\}$
  
- Result: unifiable with mgu  $[Y/X]$



# Diagrammatically

- $p(X, f(X))$

| ↑

$p(Y, f(Y))$

substitution  $[Y/X]$

- $p(Y, f(Y))$

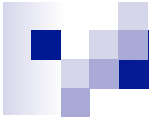
| | | |

$p(Y, f(Y))$



# Example

- $p(X, f(X))$  vs.  $p(f(Y), Y)$  initial
- $S := \{[p(X, f(X)), p(f(Y), Y)]\}$
- $\mu := \{\}$
  
- Remove  $[p(X, f(X)), p(f(Y), Y)]$  case 2
- $S := \{[X, f(Y)], [f(X), Y]\}$
  
- Remove  $[X, f(Y)]$  case 3
- $\mu := [f(Y)/X]; S := \{[f(f(Y)), Y]\}$
  
- Remove  $[f(f(Y)), Y]$  case 5
- Result: not unifiable



# Diagrammatically

- $p(X, f(X))$

|  $\uparrow\downarrow$

$p(f(Y), Y)$

substitution  $[f(Y)/X]$

- $p(f(Y), f(f(Y)))$

| |  $\downarrow$

$p(f(Y), Y)$

occur check fails, not unifiable

# Example

- $p(X, g(Z), X)$  vs.  $p(f(Y), Y, W)$  initial
- $S := \{[p(X, g(Z), X), p(f(Y), Y, W)]\}$
- $\mu := \{\}$
  
- Remove  $[p(X, g(Z), X), p(f(Y), Y, W)]$  case 2
- $S := \{[X, f(Y)], [g(Z), Y], [X, W]\}$
  
- Remove  $[X, f(Y)]$  case 3
- $\mu := [f(Y)/X]; S := \{[g(Z), Y], [f(Y), W]\}$
  
- Remove  $[g(Z), Y]$  case 4
- $\mu := [f(g(Z))/X, g(Z)/Y]; S := \{[f(g(Z)), W]\}$
  
- Remove  $[f(g(Z)), W]$  case 4
- $\mu := [f(g(Z))/X, g(Z)/Y, f(g(Z))/W]; S := \{\}$
  
- Result: unifiable with  
mgu  $[f(g(Z))/X, g(Z)/Y, f(g(Z))/W]$

# Diagrammatically

- $p(X, g(Z), X)$  vs.  $p(f(Y), Y, W)$

$\begin{array}{c} | \\ \uparrow \\ p(f(Y), Y, W) \end{array}$

substitution  $[f(Y)/X]$
- $p(f(Y), g(Z), f(Y))$  vs.  $p(f(Y), Y, W)$

$\begin{array}{c} | \quad | \quad | \\ \downarrow \\ p(f(Y), Y, W) \end{array}$

substitution  $[g(Z)/Y, f(g(Z))/X]$
- $p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), f(g(Z)))$  vs.  $p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), W)$

$\begin{array}{c} | \quad | \quad | \quad | \\ \downarrow \\ p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), W) \end{array}$

substitution  $[f(g(Z))/W, g(Z)/Y, f(g(Z))/X]$
- $p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), f(g(Z)))$  vs.  $p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), f(g(Z)))$

$\begin{array}{c} | \quad | \quad | \quad | \\ \downarrow \\ p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), f(g(Z))) \end{array}$

substitution  $[f(g(Z))/W, g(Z)/Y, f(g(Z))/X]$



## Note on Unification in Prolog

- In Prolog, unification is used in goal matching and in the = (unify) operator.

- However, Prolog's unification is slightly **abridged**: it bypasses the “**occur check**”:

$$X = f(X)$$

*will* unify in Prolog, but not in ordinary unification. In effect, X gets bound to the infinite term:

$$f(f(f(\dots)))$$

# Checking Unifiability with Prolog

- As long as there are no occur-check violations, can use = to test.

```
$ swipl
Welcome to SWI-Prolog
```

```
?- p(X, g(Z), X) = p(f(Y), Y, W).
```

```
X = f(g(Z)),
Y = g(Z),
W = f(g(Z))
```



# Try These

| $\tau_1$           | $\tau_2$              | mgu<br>(or not unifiable) |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| $p(X, f(X), d)$    | $p(c, f(c), Y)$       |                           |
| $p(f(g(X)), g(Z))$ | $p(f(Y), Y)$          |                           |
| $p(f(g(X)), Z)$    | $p(g(Y), Y)$          |                           |
| $p(f(g(X)), X)$    | $p(f(g(h(Z))), h(Z))$ |                           |



# Resolving Predicate Calculus Clauses

- Resolvable clauses must contain literals with the **same predicate** symbol but of **opposite sign** (one negated, the other not).
- Pick two such literals, one from each clause.
- Rename the clauses apart.
- Determine whether the literals are unifiable, with mgu  $\mu$ . If they are, apply  $\mu$  to **all** literals in both clauses. If not, the clauses don't resolve on these particular literals.
- In the modified clauses, remove **all** instances of the modified literals used in unification, and form the disjunction of the remaining literals.



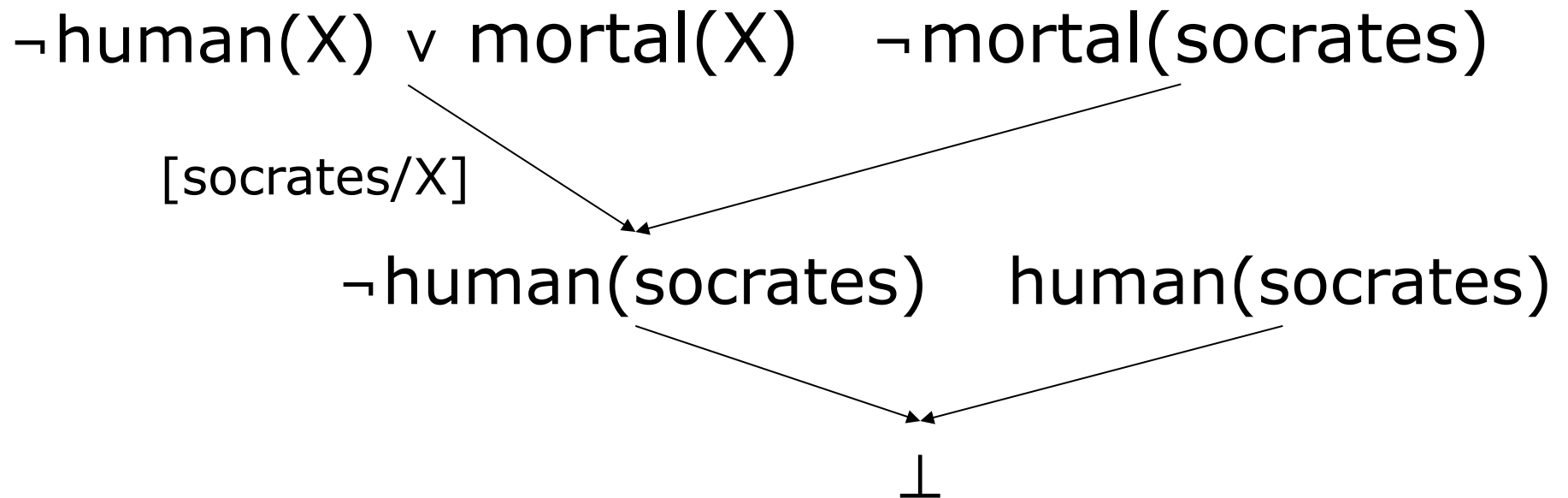
## Complete Predicate Resolution Process

- The process is similar the propositional case, except that we have to
  - rename variables, then
  - unify literals prior to resolution, and
  - apply the mgu to all literals in the two clauses, before obtaining the resolvent.
- There are also a special issue: “factoring”, that needs to be considered.

# Example of Predicate Resolution

- Clauses:

- $\neg \text{human}(X) \vee \text{mortal}(X)$
- $\text{human}(\text{socrates})$
- $\neg \text{mortal}(\text{socrates})$





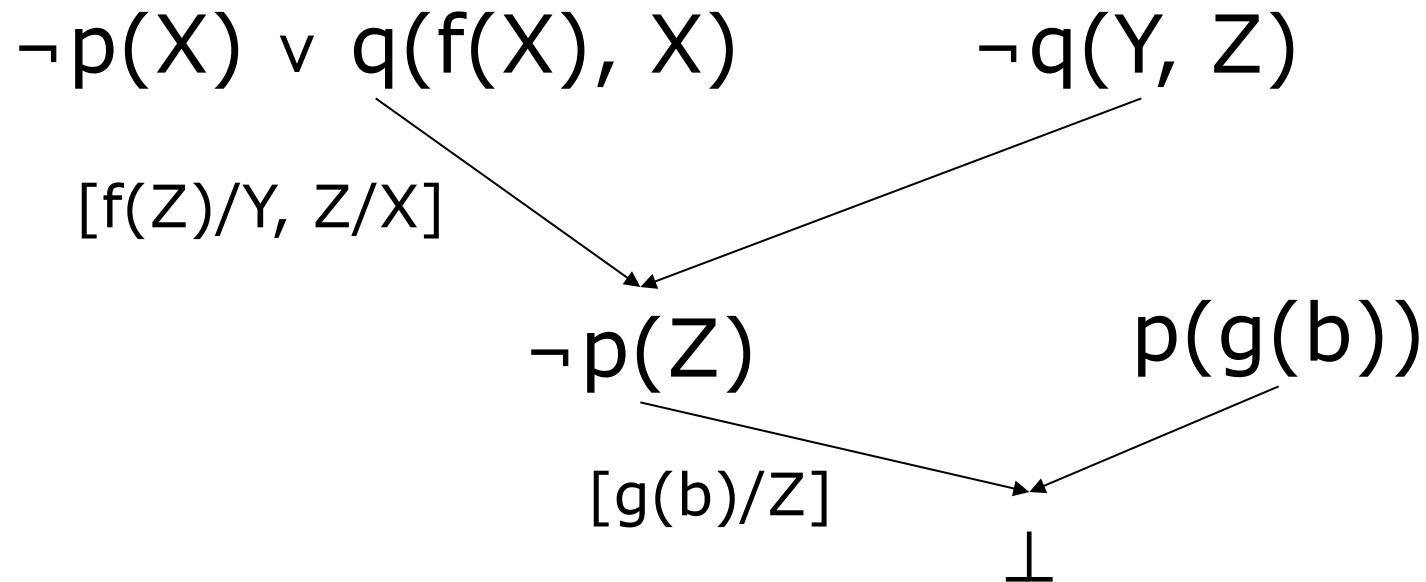
# Example Resolving Predicate Clauses

- clause 1:  $p(X, g(Z), X) \vee q(X, h(Z))$
- clause 2:  $\neg p(f(Y), Y, W) \vee r(f(Y), g(W))$
- These are already renamed apart.
- The first literals of each unify with mgu  
 $[f(g(Z))/X, g(Z)/Y, f(g(Z))/W]$
- Apply the mgu to both clauses:
  - clause 1' :  $p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), f(g(Z))) \vee q(f(g(Z)), h(Z))$
  - clause 2' :  $\neg p(f(g(Z)), g(Z), f(g(Z))) \vee r(f(g(Z)), g(f(g(Z))))$
- Remove the instances of the unified atoms and form the disjunction.
- Resolvent:  $q(f(g(Z)), h(Z)) \vee r(f(g(Z)), g(f(g(Z))))$

# Example of Predicate Resolution

- Clauses:

- $\neg p(X) \vee q(f(X), X)$
- $p(g(b))$
- $\neg q(Y, Z)$





# Unit Preference

- As with propositional resolution, resolving with unit clauses first is a good heuristic.



## Try This Set

1.  $\neg e(X) \vee q(X) \vee s(X, f(X))$
2.  $\neg e(X) \vee q(X) \vee r(f(X))$
3.  $p(a)$
4.  $e(a)$
5.  $\neg s(a, Y) \vee p(Y)$
6.  $\neg p(X) \vee \neg q(X)$
7.  $\neg p(X) \vee \neg r(X)$

# Herbrand's Theorem: Why Resolution Works

- Jacques Herbrand showed the following:

- A set of clauses is unsatisfiable iff there is a refutation using a certain kind of symbolic interpretation (known as a **Herbrand Interpretation**):
  - For each constant symbol, the interpretation is literally that symbol. (If no constant symbols, add one.)
  - Functions are defined as follows:

$$I(f(t_1, \dots, t_n)) = \text{the string } f(I(t_1), \dots, I(t_n))$$

<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/HerbrandUniverse.html>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbrand\\_interpretation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbrand_interpretation)



Jacques HENRISSON (au centre)  
au cours de l'excursion où il trouva la mort



# Ground Terms and Clauses

- A ground term is a term in which there are no variables.
- A ground clause is a clause in which there are no variables.
- If there is a refutation at all, there is one using only ground clauses from a Herbrand interpretation.



## Remember to treat clauses as sets.

- $q(b, X) \vee p(X) \vee q(b, a)$
- $\neg q(Y, a) \vee p(Y)$
- These are already renamed apart.
  
- unify  $q(b, X)$  with  $\neg q(Y, a)$
- mgu is  $[a/X, b/Y]$
  
- Modified clauses:
- $q(b, a) \vee p(a) \vee q(b, a)$
- $\neg q(b, a) \vee p(b)$
  
- There are **two** instances of  $q(b, a)$  in the first clause; both are removed in resolving.
- Resolvent:  $p(a) \vee p(b)$



# Binary Resolution and Factoring

- What we have seen so far is “binary” resolution — unifying two literals to achieve a resolvent.
- In general, binary resolution is not enough.
- We might need to “factor” two or more literals in the same clause to make progress.



# Factoring

- Two or more literals of the same sign in one clause can be unified (without renaming apart) so that the resulting literals can be collapsed into one.
- The resulting clause is called a **factor** of the original.
- The factor (with all variables quantified) is logically implied by the more-general original (with all variables quantified).



# Factoring Example

- Consider the clause:

$$P(x) \vee P(f(y)) \vee \neg Q(x)$$

- The first two literals can be unified using the substitution  $[f(y)/x]$ .
- The resulting factor is:

$$P(f(y)) \vee \neg Q(f(y))$$

- $(\forall x \forall y (P(x) \vee P(f(y)) \vee \neg Q(x))) \rightarrow \forall y (P(f(y)) \vee \neg Q(f(y)))$   
is valid



# Use of Factoring

- Suppose our clause set includes:

$$P(x) \vee P(f(y)) \vee \neg Q(x) \\ \neg P(f(a))$$

- With binary resolution, we'd get the resolvent:  
 $P(x) \vee \neg Q(x)$ .
- If we **first factor**, to get  $P(f(y)) \vee \neg Q(f(y))$  as on the previous slide, we can get a resolvent  $\neg Q(f(a))$ , which is better.



# Full Resolution of Two Clauses

- Binary resolution of the clauses.
- Binary resolution of one clause with a factor of the other.
- Binary resolution of factors of both clauses.



## Case Where Factoring is Necessary

- $P(x) \vee P(y)$
- $\neg P(a) \vee \neg P(b)$
- Without factoring, generate:
- $P(y) \vee \neg P(b)$
- $P(x) \vee \neg P(a)$
- and more similar clauses,  
but never the empty clause.



## Case Where Factoring is Necessary

- $P(x) \vee P(y)$
- $\neg P(a) \vee \neg P(b)$
- With factoring, get factor  $p(x)$  from first clause, then generate:
  - $\neg P(b)$
  - $\perp$



# Subsumption

- A clause C **subsumes** a clause D if there is a substitution  $\theta$  such that  $C\theta \subseteq D$ , where we interpret the clauses as **sets** of their literals.
- If a clause D in a set of clauses is subsumed by another clause C ***within the set***, then we can delete D from the set without affecting the case of whether the empty clause  $\perp$  is derivable.



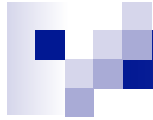
# Subsumption Examples

- $P(X)$  subsumes  $P(X) \vee Q(Y)$   
(by the empty substitution  $\{\}$ ).
- $\neg P(X) \vee Q(f(X))$  subsumes  
 $\neg P(Z) \vee \neg P(h(Y)) \vee Q(f(h(Y)))$   
(by the substitution  $\{X \leftarrow h(Y), Z \leftarrow h(Y)\}$ ).



# Clausal Form for Predicate Logic

- Often, we'll want to prove a sequent of the form
  - $\forall x \forall y (...)$
  - $\forall x \forall y (...)$
  - $\vdash \text{_____}$
- For **premises** of the form  $\forall x \forall y (...)$  where ... has no quantifiers, we can just drop the quantifiers.
- We need to **negate** the conclusion \_\_\_\_\_.



# Mushroom Example

1. Every fungus is a mushroom or a toadstool.
2. Every boletus is a fungus.
3. All toadstools are poisonous.
4. No boletus is a mushroom.
5. Specimen b is a boletus.
6. Therefore: Specimen b is poisonous.



# Mushroom Example

1.  $\forall X \text{ fungus}(x) \rightarrow (\text{mushroom}(X) \vee \text{toadstool}(X))$
2.  $\forall X \text{ boletus}(X) \rightarrow \text{fungus}(X)$
3.  $\forall X \text{ toadstool}(X) \rightarrow \text{poisonous}(X)$
4.  $\forall X \text{ boletus}(X) \rightarrow \neg \text{mushroom}(X)$
5.  $\text{boletus}(b)$
6. Therefore:  $\text{poisonous}(b)$



# Mushroom Clauses

1.  $\neg \text{fungus}(X) \vee \text{mushroom}(X) \vee \text{toadstool}(X)$
2.  $\neg \text{boletus}(X) \vee \text{fungus}(X)$
3.  $\neg \text{toadstool}(X) \vee \text{poisonous}(X)$
4.  $\neg \text{boletus}(X) \vee \neg \text{mushroom}(X)$
5.  $\text{boletus}(b)$
6.  $\neg \text{poisonous}(b)$  (negated conclusion)



# Mushroom Clauses in Prover9

`-fungus(x) | mushroom(x) | toadstool(x).`

`-boletus(x) | fungus(x).`

`-toadstool(x) | poisonous(x).`

`-boletus(x) | -mushroom(x).`

`boletus(b).`

Goal:

`poisonous(b).`



# Prover9 Output for Mushrooms

```
===== PROOF =====

% ----- Comments from original proof -----
% Proof 1 at 0.00 (+ 0.00) seconds.
% Length of proof is 13.
% Level of proof is 5.
% Maximum clause weight is 0.
% Given clauses 0.

1 poisonous(b) # label(non_clause) # label(goal). [goal].
2 -boletus(x) | fungus(x). [assumption].
3 -fungus(x) | mushroom(x) | toadstool(x). [assumption].
4 -boletus(x) | mushroom(x) | toadstool(x). [resolve(2,b,3,a)].
5 -toadstool(x) | poisonous(x). [assumption].
6 boletus(b). [assumption].
7 -boletus(x) | -mushroom(x). [assumption].
8 -boletus(x) | mushroom(x) | poisonous(x). [resolve(4,c,5,a)].
9 mushroom(b) | poisonous(b). [resolve(8,a,6,a)].
10 -poisonous(b). [deny(1)].
11 mushroom(b). [resolve(9,b,10,a)].
12 -mushroom(b). [resolve(6,a,7,a)].
13 $F. [resolve(11,a,12,a)].

===== end of proof =====
```

# Checking Unifiability with Prover9

- In contrast to Prolog, Prover9 *does* use an occur-check.

unification succeeds

`-p(f(y), y).`

`p(x, g(z)).`

Proof:

```
1 p(x,g(y)). [assumption].
2 -p(f(x),x). [assumption].
3 $F. [resolve(1,a,2,a)].
```

unification fails due to occur-check

`-p(f(y), y).`

`p(z, g(z)).`



Prover9 Exit: Exhausted



# Clausal Form for Predicate Logic

- Often, we'll want to prove a sequent of the form
  - $\forall x \forall y (...)$ ,
  - $\forall x \forall y (...)$   
|–  $\forall x \forall y (...)$
  - For premises of the form  $\forall x \forall y (...)$  where ... has no quantifiers, we can just drop the quantifiers.
  - We need to **negate** the conclusion, so that will become  $\neg \forall x \forall y (...)$  which is equivalent to

$$\exists x \exists y \neg (...).$$

**We cannot simply drop the quantifiers in this case!!**



# Clausal Form for Predicate Logic

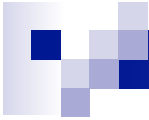
- Consider the sequent

$$\forall y p(y) \mid - \forall y p(x)$$

- The premise translates to a clause

$$p(y)$$

- The **conclusion** is negated to become  $\exists x \neg p(x)$ .
- How do we handle this?



# Skolem Constants/Functions to the Rescue!

- To get rid of the quantifier in

$$\exists x \neg p(x)$$

we use a trick:

Create a **new constant**, say  $b$  (called a **Skolem constant**) and replace  $x$  with that:

$$\neg p(b)$$

- Some thought will show that:

There is an interpretation that satisfies  $\neg p(b)$  **iff** there is one that satisfies the original formula  $\exists x \neg p(x)$ .

- Colloquially, we get to pick the value for  $b$  in finding a satisfying interpretation, just as we get to pick the value for  $x$  in  $\exists x$ .



# Clausal Form for Predicate Logic

- Consider the sequent

$$\forall y p(y) \mid - \forall x p(x)$$

- The premise translates to a clause

$$p(y)$$

- The negated conclusion translates to a clause, where  $b$  is a Skolem function.

$$\neg p(b)$$

- We are good to go!
- Resolution produces  $\perp$  in 1 step.



# Another Example

- Consider the sequent

$$\exists x \forall y p(x, y) \mid - \forall y \exists x p(x, y)$$

- Premise clause:

$$p(b, y)$$

- Conclusion clause:

$$\neg p(x, c)$$

Resolution produces  $\perp$  in 1 step.



# Yet Another Example

- Consider the sequent

$$\forall x a(x) \rightarrow \exists x b(x) \mid - \exists x (a(x) \rightarrow b(x))$$

- Premise clause:

$$\neg a(c) \vee b(d)$$

- Conclusion clauses:

$$\begin{array}{l} a(x) \\ \neg b(x) \end{array}$$

Resolution produces  $\perp$  in 2 steps.



# Skolem Functions for the General Case

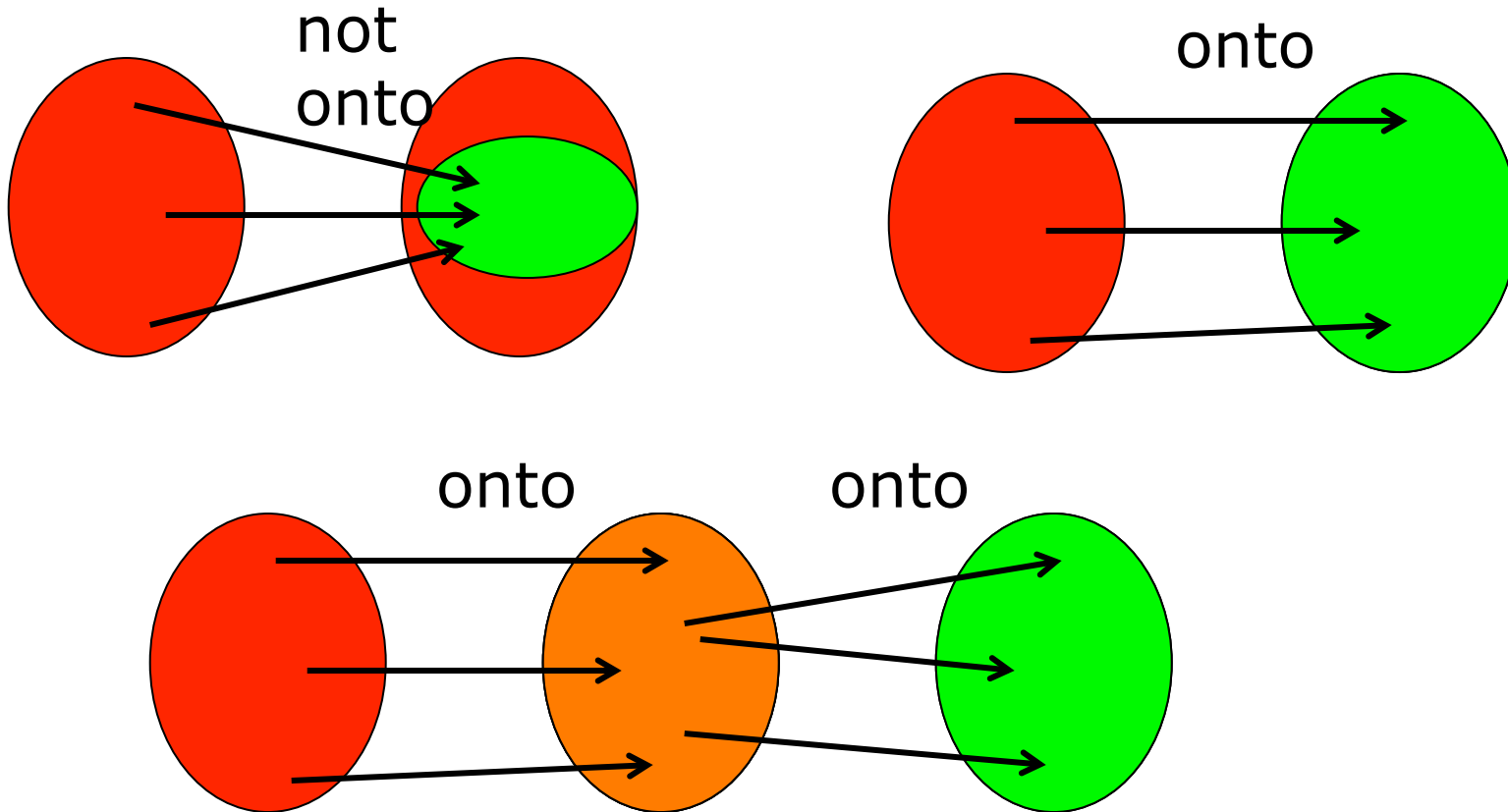


- $\forall x \forall y \dots \exists v \dots$
- $v$  is replaced with  $f(x, y, \dots)$
- $f$  is a **new function symbol**, the arguments of which are the  $\forall$  quantified variables on the left.
- The rationale here is that “the  $v$ ” that exists **depends on**  $x, y, \dots$ .
- Again, there is an interpretation satisfying the original formula iff there is an interpretation satisfying the revised formula.



# Example: Skolem with Arguments

Prove: “The composition of two onto [surjective] functions is onto.”





# Example: Skolem with Arguments

- Prove: “The composition of two onto [surjective] functions is onto.”
- **Represent the two functions as binary predicates.**  
 $F(x, y)$  means  $y$  is the image of  $x$ .
- “ $F$  is onto”:  $\forall y \exists x F(x, y)$
- “ $G$  is onto”:  $\forall z \exists y G(y, z)$
- “ $H$  is the composition of  $F$  and  $G$ ”:  
$$\forall x \forall y \forall z ((F(x, y) \wedge G(y, z)) \rightarrow H(x, z))$$
$$\wedge \forall x \forall z (H(x, z) \rightarrow \exists y (F(x, y) \wedge G(y, z)))$$
- “ $H$  is onto”:  $\forall z \exists x H(x, z)$



# Translation to Clausal Form

- $\forall y \exists x F(x, y)$  becomes  $F(f(y), y)$  [f is a Skolem function]
- $\forall z \exists y G(y, z)$  becomes  $G(g(z), z)$  [g is a Skolem function]
- $\forall x \forall y \forall z ((F(x,y) \wedge G(y,z)) \rightarrow H(x, z))$  becomes  
 $\neg F(x, y) \vee \neg G(y, z) \vee H(x, z)$
- $\forall x \forall z (H(x, z) \rightarrow \exists y (F(x,y) \wedge G(y,z)))$  becomes
  - $\neg H(x, z) \vee F(x, h(x, z))$  [h is a Skolem function]
  - $\neg H(x, z) \vee G(h(x, z), z)$
- $\neg \forall z \exists x H(x, z)$  becomes  $\exists z \forall x \neg H(x, z)$ ,  
which, as a clause, is:
  - $\neg H(x, a)$  [a is a Skolem constant]



# Resolution Proof

|       |                                               |           |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1.    | $F(f(x), y)$                                  | Premises  |
| 2.    | $G(g(z), z)$                                  |           |
| 3.    | $\neg F(x, y) \vee \neg G(y, z) \vee H(x, z)$ |           |
| 4.    | $\neg H(x, z) \vee F(x, h(x, z))$             |           |
| 5.    | $\neg H(x, z) \vee G(h(x, z), z)$             |           |
| 6.    | $\neg H(x, a)$                                |           |
| <hr/> |                                               |           |
| 7.    | $\neg F(x, y) \vee \neg G(y, a)$              | from 3, 6 |
| 8.    | $\neg G(y, a)$                                | from 1, 7 |
| 9.    | $\perp$                                       | from 2, 8 |

(3 and 4 were not needed in the proof.)



## How to get a clause form in general?

- First convert the formula into “**prenex form**” (all quantifiers are **outside** on the left).

[The parts of this form are called the “prefix” and the “matrix”.]

- Skolemize  $\exists$  quantified variables.
- Drop  $\forall$  quantifiers.
- Convert the resulting matrix to CNF.



## Conversion to Prenex Form

- Replace all connectives other than  $\wedge \vee \neg$  with their  $\wedge \vee \neg$  counterparts.
- Push negations inward
- Pull quantifiers to the outside using the rules on the next page.

# Basic Prenex Quantifier Rules

(for pulling quantifiers to the outside)

- We can show that the following replacements are equivalent.
- Here  $\Rightarrow$  means “replace with”
  1.  $(\forall x F) \wedge G \Rightarrow \forall x (F \wedge G)$ , provided  $x$  is not free in  $G$
  2.  $(\forall x F) \vee G \Rightarrow \forall x (F \vee G)$ , provided  $x$  is not free in  $G$
  3.  $(\exists x F) \wedge G \Rightarrow \exists x (F \wedge G)$ , provided  $x$  is not free in  $G$
  4.  $(\exists x F) \vee G \Rightarrow \exists x (F \vee G)$ , provided  $x$  is not free in  $G$
  - plus the **symmetric** counterparts of these rules with  $G$  part quantified instead of the  $F$  part.
  - **Renaming some variables** may be need to enable the rule to be applied
- Example:

|                                                          |                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| $(\exists x F[x]) \wedge (\forall x G[x]) \Rightarrow$   | (by renaming second $x$ )         |
| $(\exists x F[x]) \wedge (\forall y G[y]) \Rightarrow$   | (by rule 3, as $x$ is not free)   |
| $(\exists x (F[x] \wedge (\forall y G[y]))) \Rightarrow$ | (by rule 1 symmetric counterpart) |
| $\exists x \forall y (F[x] \wedge G[y])$                 |                                   |

# Justifying Quantifier Motion Rules Using Natural Deduction: $\forall \wedge$ Rule a.

| $\forall x.F(x) \wedge G \vdash \forall x.(F(x) \wedge G)$ |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1: $\forall x.F(x) \wedge G$                               | premise             |
| 2: $G$                                                     | $\wedge$ elim 1     |
| 3: $\forall x.F(x)$                                        | $\wedge$ elim 1     |
| 4: <b>actual i</b>                                         | assumption          |
| 5: $F(i)$                                                  | $\forall$ elim 3,4  |
| 6: $F(i) \wedge G$                                         | $\wedge$ intro 5,2  |
| 7: $\forall x.(F(x) \wedge G)$                             | $\forall$ intro 4-6 |

Provided:  
x NOT IN G

Proviso is introduced  
by prefixing  
'WHERE x NOT IN G IS'  
in Jape.

For equivalence, we need the converse of each rule:  $\forall \wedge$  Rule b.

| $\exists x.T, \forall x.(F(x) \wedge G) \vdash \forall x.F(x) \wedge G$ |                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1: $\exists x.T, \forall x.(F(x) \wedge G)$                             | premises               |
| 2: actual $i1$                                                          | assumption             |
| 3: $F(i1) \wedge G$                                                     | $\forall$ elim 1.2,2   |
| 4: $F(i1)$                                                              | $\wedge$ elim 3        |
| 5: $\forall x.F(x)$                                                     | $\forall$ intro 2-4    |
| 6: actual $i, T$                                                        | assumptions            |
| 7: $F(i) \wedge G$                                                      | $\forall$ elim 1.2,6.1 |
| 8: $G$                                                                  | $\wedge$ elim 7        |
| 9: $G$                                                                  | $\exists$ elim 1.1,6-8 |
| 10: $\forall x.F(x) \wedge G$                                           | $\wedge$ intro 5,9     |
| Provided:<br>x NOTIN G                                                  |                        |

Need the non-empty universe assumption in this direction.

Otherwise, there is no way to get  $G$  by itself.

# Justification of Rules

## Using Natural Deduction: $\forall\vee$ Rule a.

The screenshot shows a window titled  $\forall x.F(x)\vee G \vdash \forall x.(F(x)\vee G)$ . The proof steps are as follows:

|    |                          |                       |
|----|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1: | $\forall x.F(x)\vee G$   | premise               |
| 2: | actual i                 | assumption            |
| 3: | $\forall x.F(x)$         | assumption            |
| 4: | $F(i)$                   | $\forall$ elim 3,2    |
| 5: | $F(i)\vee G$             | $\vee$ intro 4        |
| 6: | $G$                      | assumption            |
| 7: | $F(i)\vee G$             | $\vee$ intro 6        |
| 8: | $F(i)\vee G$             | $\vee$ elim 1,3-5,6-7 |
| 9: | $\forall x.(F(x)\vee G)$ | $\forall$ intro 2-8   |

Provided:  
x NOT IN G

# Justification of Rules

## Using Natural Deduction: $\forall v$ Rule b.

| $\forall x.(F(x) \vee G) \vdash \forall x.F(x) \vee G$ |                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1:                                                     | $\forall x.(F(x) \vee G)$ premise              |
| 2:                                                     | $G \vee \neg G$ Theorem $E \vee \neg E$        |
| 3:                                                     | $G$ assumption                                 |
| 4:                                                     | $\forall x.F(x) \vee G$ $\vee$ intro 3         |
| 5:                                                     | $\neg G$ assumption                            |
| 6:                                                     | actual i assumption                            |
| 7:                                                     | $F(i) \vee G$ $\forall$ elim 1,6               |
| 8:                                                     | $F(i)$ assumption                              |
| 9:                                                     | $G$ assumption                                 |
| 10:                                                    | $\perp$ $\neg$ elim 9,5                        |
| 11:                                                    | $F(i)$ contra (constructive) 10                |
| 12:                                                    | $F(i)$ $\vee$ elim 7,8-8,9-11                  |
| 13:                                                    | $\forall x.F(x)$ $\forall$ intro 6-12          |
| 14:                                                    | $\forall x.F(x) \vee G$ $\vee$ intro 13        |
| 15:                                                    | $\forall x.F(x) \vee G$ $\vee$ elim 2,3-4,5-14 |

Provided:  
x NOTIN G

# Justification of Rules Using Natural Deduction: $\exists \vee$ a.

Non-empty universe assumption, needed in 7-11

| Line | Formula                                   | Justification            |
|------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1    | $\exists x. \top, \exists x. F(x) \vee G$ | premises                 |
| 2    | $\exists x. F(x)$                         | assumption               |
| 3    | actual $i$ , $F(i)$                       | assumptions              |
| 4    | $F(i) \vee G$                             | $\vee$ intro 3.2         |
| 5    | $\exists x. (F(x) \vee G)$                | $\exists$ intro 4,3.1    |
| 6    | $\exists x. (F(x) \vee G)$                | $\exists$ elim 2,3-5     |
| 7    | $G$                                       | assumption               |
| 8    | actual $i1$ , $\top$                      | assumptions              |
| 9    | $F(i1) \vee G$                            | $\vee$ intro 7           |
| 10   | $\exists x. (F(x) \vee G)$                | $\exists$ intro 9,8.1    |
| 11   | $\exists x. (F(x) \vee G)$                | $\exists$ elim 1.1,8-10  |
| 12   | $\exists x. (F(x) \vee G)$                | $\vee$ elim 1.2,2-6,7-11 |

Provided:  
x NOTIN G

# Justification of Rules Using Natural Deduction: $\exists \vee$ b.

| $\exists x.(F(x) \vee G) \vdash \exists x.F(x) \vee G$ |                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1: $\exists x.(F(x) \vee G)$                           | premise                 |
| 2: <b>actual i, <math>F(i) \vee G</math></b>           | assumptions             |
| 3: <b><math>F(i)</math></b>                            | assumption              |
| 4: <b><math>\exists x.F(x)</math></b>                  | $\exists$ intro 3,2.1   |
| 5: <b><math>\exists x.F(x) \vee G</math></b>           | $\vee$ intro 4          |
| 6: <b><math>G</math></b>                               | assumption              |
| 7: <b><math>\exists x.F(x) \vee G</math></b>           | $\vee$ intro 6          |
| 8: <b><math>\exists x.F(x) \vee G</math></b>           | $\vee$ elim 2.2,3-5,6-7 |
| 9: $\exists x.F(x) \vee G$                             | $\exists$ elim 1,2-8    |

Provided:  
x NOT IN G

# Justification of Rules Using Natural Deduction: $\exists \wedge$ a.

The screenshot shows a window titled  $\exists x.F(x) \wedge G \vdash \exists x.(F(x) \wedge G)$ . The proof consists of seven lines:

|    |                             |                       |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1: | $\exists x.F(x) \wedge G$   | premise               |
| 2: | $G$                         | $\wedge$ elim 1       |
| 3: | $\exists x.F(x)$            | $\wedge$ elim 1       |
| 4: | actual $i$ , $F(i)$         | assumptions           |
| 5: | $F(i) \wedge G$             | $\wedge$ intro 4,2    |
| 6: | $\exists x.(F(x) \wedge G)$ | $\exists$ intro 5,4.1 |
| 7: | $\exists x.(F(x) \wedge G)$ | $\exists$ elim 3,4-6  |

Below the proof, it says "Provided:" followed by "x NOTIN G".

# Justification of Rules

## Using Natural Deduction: $\exists \wedge$ b.

| $\exists x.(F(x) \wedge G) \vdash \exists x.F(x) \wedge G$ |                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1: $\exists x.(F(x) \wedge G)$                             | premise               |
| 2: <b>actual i1, <math>F(i1) \wedge G</math></b>           | assumptions           |
| 3: $F(i1)$                                                 | $\wedge$ elim 2.2     |
| 4: <b><math>\exists x.F(x)</math></b>                      | $\exists$ intro 3,2.1 |
| 5: $\exists x.F(x)$                                        | $\exists$ elim 1,2-4  |
| 6: <b>actual i, <math>F(i) \wedge G</math></b>             | assumptions           |
| 7: $G$                                                     | $\wedge$ elim 6.2     |
| 8: $G$                                                     | $\exists$ elim 1,6-7  |
| 9: $\exists x.F(x) \wedge G$                               | $\wedge$ intro 5,8    |

Provided:  
x NOTIN G

# Example of Prenex Conversion

- $\forall x \forall y ((\exists z (p(x, z) \wedge p(y, z))) \rightarrow \exists u q(x, y, u))$       replace  $\rightarrow$
- $\forall x \forall y (\neg (\exists z (p(x, z) \wedge p(y, z))) \vee \exists u q(x, y, u))$       push  $\neg$  in
- $\forall x \forall y ((\forall z (\neg (p(x, z) \wedge p(y, z))) \vee \exists u q(x, y, u))$       push  $\neg$  in
- $\forall x \forall y (\forall z (\neg p(x, z) \vee \neg p(y, z))) \vee \exists u q(x, y, u)$       pull  $\exists u$  out
- $\forall x \forall y \exists u (\forall z (\neg p(x, z) \vee \neg p(y, z))) \vee q(x, y, u)$       pull  $\forall z$  out
- $\forall x \forall y \exists u \forall z (\neg p(x, z) \vee \neg p(y, z) \vee q(x, y, u))$ 

prefix
matrix



# Completion of Conversion to CNF

- Prenex Form:

$$\forall x \forall y \exists u \forall z (\neg p(x, z) \vee \neg p(y, z) \vee q(x, y, u))$$

- Skolemize  $u$  as  $f(x, y)$  and drop  $\forall x \forall y \forall z$

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



# Example: Group Theory Clauses

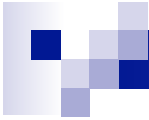
- $f$  is the group operation,  $i$  is the inverse operation,  $e$  is the equality predicate
- $\forall x \forall y \forall z e(f(x, f(y, z)), f(f(x, y), z))$   
becomes  
 $e(f(x, f(y, z)), f(f(x, y), z))$
- $\forall x e(f(x, u), x)$   
becomes  
 $e(f(x, u), x)$
- $\forall x e(f(x, i(x)), u)$   
becomes  
 $e(f(x, i(x)), u)$



# Example: Equality Theory Clauses

- We need to axiomatize equality predicate  $e$ , e.g.
- $\forall x e(x, x)$   
becomes  
$$e(x, x)$$
- $\forall x \forall y \forall u \forall v ((e(x, y) \wedge e(v, w)) \rightarrow e(f(x, v), f(y, w)))$   
becomes  
$$\neg e(x, y) \vee \neg e(v, w) \vee e(f(x, v), f(y, w))$$
- $\forall x \forall u (e(x, u) \rightarrow e(i(x), i(u)))$   
becomes  
$$\neg e(x, u) \vee e(i(x), i(u))$$
- $\forall x \forall y (e(x, y) \rightarrow e(y, x))$   
becomes  
$$\neg e(x, y) \vee e(y, x)$$

Exercise: Convert the transitive property of  $e$ .

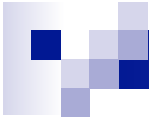


## Example of Group Theory Clauses with Negated Conclusion

1.  $e(f(x, f(y, z)), f(f(x, y), z))$
2.  $e(f(x, u), x)$
3.  $e(f(x, i(x)), u)$
4.  $e(x, x)$
5.  $\neg e(x, y) \vee \neg e(v, w) \vee e(f(x, v), f(y, w))$
6.  $\neg e(x, y) \vee e(y, x)$
7.  $\neg e(x, y) \vee \neg e(y, z) \vee e(x, z)$
8.  $\neg e(i(i(b)), b)$

This is to show that  $\forall x e(i(i(x)), x)$ :

“In a group, the inverse of the inverse of an element is the element itself.”



## Prover9 input using builtin equality

$f(x, f(y, z)) = f(f(x, y), z).$

$f(x, c) = x.$

$f(x, i(x)) = c.$

$i(i(b)) \neq b.$

(Show unsatisfiable)

## Prover9 proof using builtin equality

```
1 f(x,f(y,z)) = f(f(x,y),z). [assumption].
2 f(f(x,y),z) = f(x,f(y,z)). [copy(1),flip(a)].
3 f(x,c) = x. [assumption].
4 f(x,i(x)) = c. [assumption].
5 i(i(b)) != b. [assumption].
6 f(x,f(c,y)) = f(x,y). [para(3(a,1),2(a,1,1)),flip(a)].
7 f(x,f(i(x),y)) = f(c,y). [para(4(a,1),2(a,1,1)),flip(a)].
12 f(c,i(i(x))) = x. [para(4(a,1),7(a,1,2)),rewrite([3(2)]),flip(a)].
14 f(x,i(i(y))) = f(x,y). [para(12(a,1),2(a,2,2)),rewrite([3(2)])].
15 f(c,x) = x. [para(12(a,1),6(a,2)),rewrite([14(5),6(4)])].
18 f(x,f(i(x),y)) = y. [back_rewrite(7),rewrite([15(5)])].
21 i(i(x)) = x. [para(4(a,1),18(a,1,2)),rewrite([3(2)]),flip(a)].
22 $F. [resolve(21,a,5,a)].
```

# Equality: Paramodulation

- Prover9 has a built-in equality, so axiomatizing equality as a predicate is not generally necessary.
- The “paramodulation” rule, which essentially captures the = rules of Natural Deduction.

$$\frac{\alpha \vee (s = t) \quad \beta \vee \gamma[r]}{(\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma[t])\theta}$$

$\gamma[r]$  is a literal containing term  $r$   
 $\theta = \text{unify}(s, r)$



## Example: Non-Clausal Input in Prover9: Automatic Translation to Clausal Form

all x exists y r(x, y).

all x all y all z ((r(x,y)&r(y,z))->r(x,z)).

all x all y (r(x,y) -> r(y,x)).

-(all x r(x,x)).



## Example: Non-Clausal Input in Prover9: Automatic Translation to Clausal Form

becomes ( $c1$ ,  $f1$  are Skolem constant and function):

|                                                                        |                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 (all x exists y r(x,y)) # label(non_clause).                         | [assumption].         |
| 2 (all x all y all z (r(x,y) & r(y,z) -> r(x,z))) # label(non_clause). | [assumption].         |
| 3 (all x all y (r(x,y) -> r(y,x))) # label(non_clause).                | [assumption].         |
| 4 -(all x r(x,x)) # label(non_clause).                                 | [assumption].         |
| 5 r(x,f1(x)).                                                          | [clausify(1)].        |
| 6 -r(x,y)   -r(y,z)   r(x,z).                                          | [clausify(2)].        |
| 7 -r(x,y)   r(y,x).                                                    | [clausify(3)].        |
| 8 -r(c1,c1).                                                           | [clausify(4)].        |
| 10 r(f1(x),x).                                                         | [ur(7,a,5,a)].        |
| 12 -r(f1(c1),c1).                                                      | [ur(6,a,5,a,c,8,a)].  |
| 13 \$F.                                                                | [resolve(12,a,10,a)]. |



## Answer Extraction

- Resolution is not just for proving theorems anymore.
- Resolution can be used for extracting answers from a database, knowledge base, or reasoning system.



# From Yes-No Answer to Terms

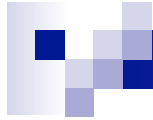
- Consider the clause set:
  - $\neg \text{human}(x) \vee \text{mortal}(x)$
  - $\text{human}(\text{socrates})$
  - $\neg \text{mortal}(\text{socrates})$
- Obviously this set is unsatisfiable, and a proof can be obtained by resolution.
- What if we drop the third clause. The first two clauses are satisfiable, and can be considered a “knowledge base”.
- We can ask a question of this knowledge base, such as:

Name someone who is mortal.



# Answer Literals

- An answer literal is a special literal that captures the answer to a question.
- We convert the negation of a specific conclusion into a clause involving an answer literal:  
$$\neg \text{mortal}(x) \vee \text{answer}(x).$$
- Resolution stops when a clause with only the answer is present.



# Resolution with Answer Literals

- **Clauses:**
  1.  $\neg\text{human}(x) \vee \text{mortal}(x)$
  2.  $\text{human}(\text{socrates})$
  3.  $\neg\text{mortal}(x) \vee \text{answer}(x)$
- **Resolution steps:**
  4.  $\text{mortal}(\text{socrates})$  from 1, 2
  5.  $\text{answer}(\text{socrates})$  from 3, 4



## Answering Questions in Prover9

- To find terms such that  $p(x)$ , incant:  
- $p(x) \# \text{answer}(x)$ .



# Who is Mortal, in Prover9

## **Clausal Form**

- $\neg \text{human}(x) \mid \text{mortal}(x)$ .
- $\text{human}(\text{socrates})$ .
- $\neg \text{mortal}(x) \# \text{answer}(x)$ .

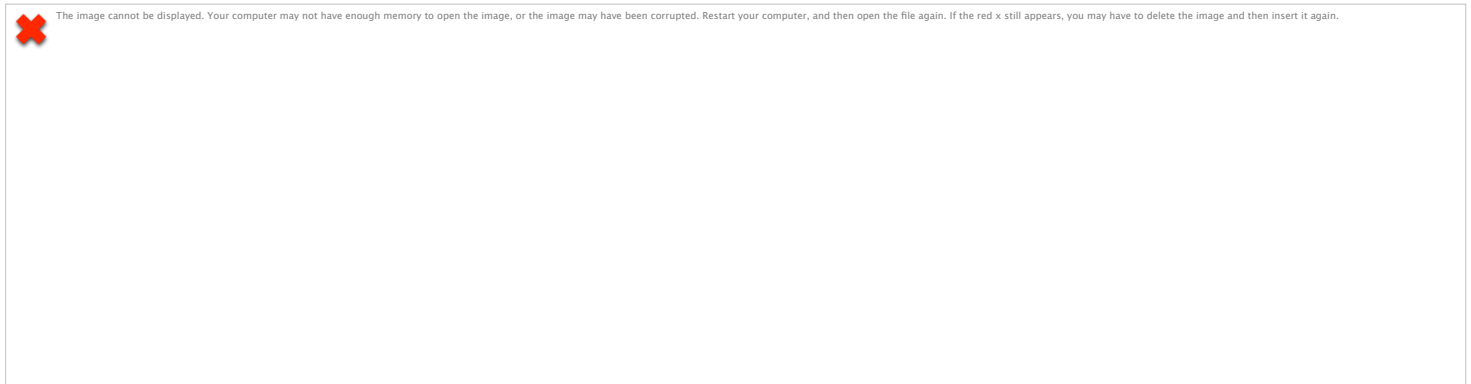


# Prover9 Solution with Answer

## Clauses

- $\text{-human}(x) \mid \text{mortal}(x).$
- $\text{human}(\text{socrates}).$
- $\text{-mortal}(x) \# \text{answer}(x).$

## Proof



# Who is Caroline's Grandfather?

## Clauses

-father(x, y) | parent(x, y).  
-father(x, y) | -parent(y, z) | grandfather(x, z).  
father(joe, john).  
father(john, caroline).  
  
-grandfather(x, caroline) # answer(x).

## Proof

```
1 father(joe,john). [assumption].
2 -father(x,y) | parent(x,y). [assumption].
3 -father(x,y) | -parent(y,z) | grandfather(x,z). [assumption].
4 father(john,caroline). [assumption].
5 -parent(john,x) | grandfather(joe,x). [resolve(1,a,3,a)].
6 -grandfather(x,caroline) # answer(x). [assumption].
8 -parent(john,caroline) # answer(joe). [resolve(5,b,6,a)].
10 parent(john,caroline). [resolve(4,a,2,a)].
12 $F # answer(joe). [resolve(8,a,10,a)].
```



# Logic Puzzles solvable by Resolution

% Professors Dodds, Lewis, and Stone each frequent different establishments (one of Alice's, Harry's, or Joe's) for liquid refreshment.

% Each prof prefers a different beer (one of Anchor, Bud, and Miller)

% Each establishment serves a unique beer.

% Professor Stone prefers Bud.

% Professor Lewis doesn't prefer Miller.

% The prof who prefers Miller frequents Alice's bar.

% The prof who prefers Anchor does not frequent Joe's.

% Which bar does each prof frequent and what beer does each prefer?

# Encoding Information & Query

% Clauses corresponding to the clues:

```
prefer(Stone, Bud). % Clue 1
-prefer(Lewis, Miller). % Clue 2
-prefer(x, Miller) | frequent(x, Alice). % Clue 3
-prefer(x, Anchor) | -frequent(x, Joe). % Clue 4
```

% Individuals

```
prof(Dodds). prof(Stone). prof(Lewis).
beer(Anchor). beer(Bud). beer(Miller).
bar(Alice). bar(Harry). bar(Joe).
```

% Although constants do not unify, they could conceivably be equal.

Dodds != Stone. Dodds != Lewis. Stone != Lewis.

Anchor != Bud. Anchor != Miller. Bud != Miller.

Alice != Harry. Alice != Joe. Harry != Joe.

% Any bar that a professor frequents serves the beers that he or she prefers.

```
-frequent(x, y) | serves(y, z) | prefer(x, z).
```

% Every bar is frequented by some prof.

```
-bar(y) | frequent(Dodds, y) | frequent(Stone, y) | frequent(Lewis, y).
```

% Every beer is preferred by some prof.

```
-beer(y) | prefer(Dodds, y) | prefer(Stone, y) | prefer(Lewis, y).
```

% Each bar serves a unique beer.

```
-serves(x, y) | -serves(x, z) | y = z.
```

% Each prof prefers a unique beer.

```
-prefer(x, y) | -prefer(x, z) | y = z.
```

% Each prof frequents a unique bar.

```
-frequent(x, y) | -frequent(x, z) | y = z.
```

% Which bars are frequented, and which beers preferred, by which professors?

```
-frequent(Dodds, x) | -frequent(Stone, y) | -frequent(Lewis, z)
| -prefer(Dodds, u) | -prefer(Stone, v) | -prefer(Lewis, w)
#answer([Dodds, x, u, Stone, y, v, Lewis, z, w]).
```



```
% Proof 1 at 0.01 (+ 0.01) seconds: [Dodds,Alice,Miller,Stone,Joe,Bud,Lewis,Harry,Anchor].
% Length of proof is 46.
% Level of proof is 11.
% Maximum clause weight is 18.
% Given clauses 85.
```

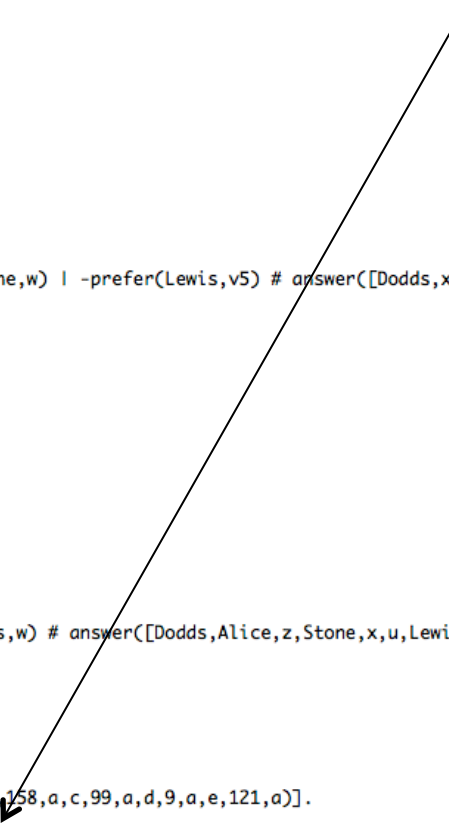
```
1 -beer(x) | prefer(Dodds,x) | prefer(Stone,x) | prefer(Lewis,x). [assumption].
2 beer(Anchor). [assumption].
4 beer(Miller). [assumption].
5 -bar(x) | frequent(Dodds,x) | frequent(Stone,x) | frequent(Lewis,x). [assumption].
7 bar(Harry). [assumption].
8 bar(Joe). [assumption].
9 prefer(Stone,Bud). [assumption].
10 -prefer(Lewis,Miller). [assumption].
11 -prefer(x,Miller) | frequent(x,Alice). [assumption].
12 -prefer(x,Anchor) | -frequent(x,Joe). [assumption].
54 Anchor != Bud. [assumption].
55 Anchor != Miller. [assumption].
61 Bud != Miller. [assumption].
62 Miller != Bud. [copy(61),flip(a)].
73 Alice != Harry. [assumption].
74 Harry != Alice. [copy(73),flip(a)].
75 Alice != Joe. [assumption].
76 Joe != Alice. [copy(75),flip(a)].
77 Harry != Joe. [assumption].
78 Joe != Harry. [copy(77),flip(a)].
81 -prefer(x,y) | -prefer(x,z) | y = z. [assumption].
82 -frequent(x,y) | -frequent(x,z) | y = z. [assumption].
83 -frequent(Dodds,x) | -frequent(Stone,y) | -frequent(Lewis,z) | -prefer(Dodds,u) | -prefer(Stone,w) | -prefer(Lewis,v5) # answer([Dodds,x,u,Stone,y,w,Lewis,z,v5]). [assumption].
84 prefer(Dodds,Anchor) | prefer(Stone,Anchor) | prefer(Lewis,Anchor). [resolve(1,a,2,a)].
85 prefer(Dodds,Miller) | prefer(Stone,Miller) | prefer(Lewis,Miller). [resolve(1,a,4,a)].
86 prefer(Dodds,Miller) | prefer(Stone,Miller). [copy(85),unit_del(c,10)].
88 frequent(Dodds,Harry) | frequent(Stone,Harry) | frequent(Lewis,Harry). [resolve(5,a,7,a)].
89 frequent(Dodds,Joe) | frequent(Stone,Joe) | frequent(Lewis,Joe). [resolve(5,a,8,a)].
93 -prefer(Stone,Miller). [ur(81,b,9,a,c,62,a)].
94 -prefer(Stone,Anchor). [ur(81,b,9,a,c,54,a)].
99 prefer(Dodds,Miller). [back_unit_del(86),unit_del(b,93)].
100 prefer(Dodds,Anchor) | prefer(Lewis,Anchor). [back_unit_del(84),unit_del(b,94)].
110 frequent(Dodds,Joe) | frequent(Stone,Joe) | frequent(Lewis,Anchor). [resolve(89,c,12,b)].
112 frequent(Dodds,Alice). [resolve(99,a,11,a)].
115 -prefer(Dodds,Anchor). [ur(81,b,99,a,c,55,a)].
121 prefer(Lewis,Anchor). [back_unit_del(100),unit_del(a,115)].
122 frequent(Dodds,Joe) | frequent(Stone,Joe). [back_unit_del(110),unit_del(c,121)].
123 -frequent(Stone,x) | -frequent(Lewis,y) | -prefer(Dodds,z) | -prefer(Stone,u) | -prefer(Lewis,w) # answer([Dodds,Alice,z,Stone,x,u,Lewis,y,w]). [resolve(112,a,83,a)].
126 -frequent(Dodds,Joe). [ur(82,b,112,a,c,76,a)].
127 -frequent(Dodds,Harry). [ur(82,b,112,a,c,74,a)].
134 frequent(Stone,Joe). [back_unit_del(122),unit_del(a,126)].
138 frequent(Stone,Harry) | frequent(Lewis,Harry). [back_unit_del(88),unit_del(a,127)].
150 -frequent(Stone,Harry). [ur(82,b,134,a,c,78,a(flip))].
158 frequent(Lewis,Harry). [back_unit_del(138),unit_del(a,150)].
197 -frequent(Stone,x) # answer([Dodds,Alice,Miller,Stone,x,Bud,Lewis,Harry,Anchor]). [ur(123,b,158,a,c,99,a,d,9,a,e,121,a)].
198 $F # answer([Dodds,Alice,Miller,Stone,Joe,Bud,Lewis,Harry,Anchor]). [resolve(197,a,134,a)].
```

# Prover9 Solution

## Dodds-Alice-Miller

## Stone-Joe-Bud

## Lewis-Harry-Anchor





## What if Solution not Unique?

- I'm not quite sure how Prover9 handles this, if it indeed can.
- It's predecessor, Otter, could handle it by showing the alternatives as a disjunction of answer literals.

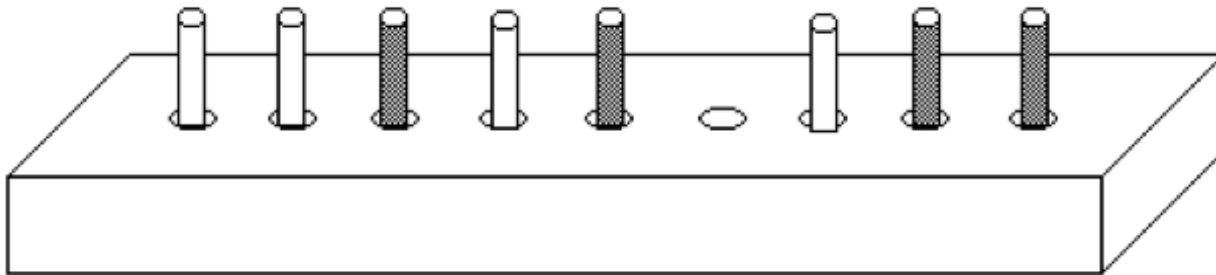
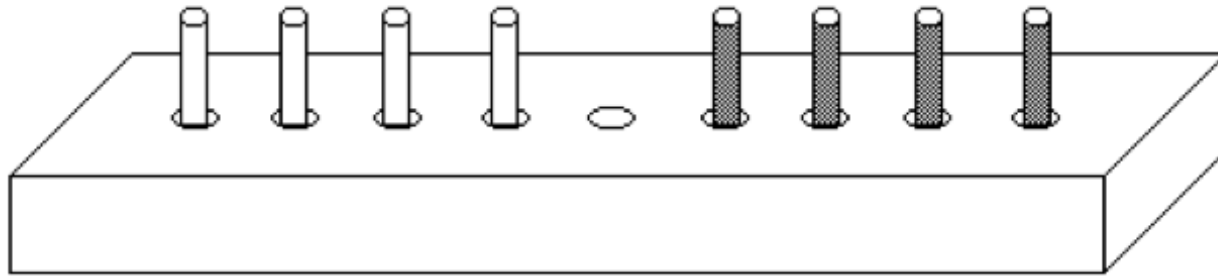


## State and Motion Puzzles and Games

- Moves in a motion puzzle or game can often be encoded as logic.
- Resolution can be used to find a solving or winning sequence of moves.



# Example: Linear Peg Solitaire



# Linear Peg Solitaire Objective

- Pegs of two colors are shown in their home positions at the top.
- The objective is to completely reverse the pegs, so that each peg's original home is occupied by a peg of the opposite color.
- Allowable actions:
  - Move: A peg can be moved toward the opposite side by moving into an adjacent empty hole.
  - Jump: A peg can jump toward the opposite side over a peg of the opposite color, provided that there is a hole to receive the jumping peg.
- Versions of the puzzle exists for  $2n$  pegs ( $n$  of each color) and  $2n+1$  holes.
- Ideally, each version can be solved.

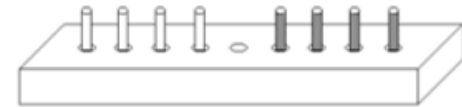




## Formulation (This will be important when we talk about **computability** later on.)

- Represent the **state** of the game with two terms.
- Say the pegs are **w** for white, **r** for red.
- Represents the pegs **away from the hole** in either direction as a composition of function symbols.

- The initial state shown is:  
 $s(w(w(w(w(c))))), r(r(r(r(c))))$



- The second state shown is:  
 $s(r(w(r(w(w(c))))), w(r(r(c))))$



- **c** is a dummy constant symbol



# Formulating Moves

- **Simple moves (non-jump):**

- $\text{move}(s(w(X), Y), s(X, w(Y)))$  (wm)
- $\text{move}(s(X, r(Y)), s(r(X), Y))$  (rm)

- **Jump moves:**

- $\text{move}(s(r(w(X))), Y), s(X, r(w(Y)))$  (wj)
- $\text{move}(s(X, w(r(Y))), s(w(r(X)), Y))$  (rj)



# Formulating Reachability

- Initial state:  
 $\text{reachable}(s(w(w(w(w(c))))), r(r(r(r(c))))))$
- State change:  
 $\neg \text{reachable}(X) \vee \neg \text{move}(X, Y) \vee \text{reachable}(Y)$
- Final state:  
 $\neg \text{reachable}(s(r(r(r(r(c))))), w(w(w(w(c))))))$ .



## Prover9 Version

move(s(w(x), y), s(x, w(y))).  
move(s(x, r(y)), s(r(x), y)).

move(s(r(w(x)), y), s(x, r(w(y)))).  
move(s(x, w(r(y))), s(w(r(x)), y)).

reachable(s(w(w(w(w(c))))), r(r(r(r(c)))))).

-reachable(x) | -move(x, y) | reachable(y).

-reachable(s(r(r(r(r(c))))), w(w(w(w(c)))))).

# Proof for 2 pegs of each color

|    |                                                    |                       |
|----|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1  | -reachable(x)   -move(x,y)   reachable(y).         | [assumption].         |
| 2  | move(s(r(x),y),s(x,r(y))).                         | [assumption].         |
| 3  | move(s(x,b(y)),s(b(x),y)).                         | [assumption].         |
| 5  | move(s(b(r(x)),y),s(x,b(r(y)))).                   | [assumption].         |
| 6  | move(s(x,r(b(y))),s(r(b(x)),y)).                   | [assumption].         |
| 8  | reachable(s(r(r(c)),b(b(c)))).                     | [assumption].         |
| 9  | -reachable(s(b(b(c)),r(r(c)))).                    | [assumption].         |
| 10 | -reachable(s(r(x),y)   reachable(s(x,r(y))).       | [resolve(1,b,2,a)].   |
| 11 | -reachable(s(x,b(y))   reachable(s(b(x),y)).       | [resolve(1,b,3,a)].   |
| 13 | -reachable(s(b(r(x)),y)   reachable(s(x,b(r(y)))). | [resolve(1,b,5,a)].   |
| 14 | -reachable(s(x,r(b(y)))   reachable(s(r(b(x)),y)). | [resolve(1,b,6,a)].   |
| 16 | -reachable(s(r(b(b(c))),r(c))).                    | [resolve(10,b,9,a)].  |
| 17 | reachable(s(r(c),r(b(b(c)))).                      | [ur(10,a,8,a)].       |
| 22 | -reachable(s(b(c),r(b(r(c)))).                     | [resolve(16,a,14,b)]. |
| 25 | -reachable(s(c,b(r(b(r(c)))).                      | [resolve(22,a,11,b)]. |
| 28 | reachable(s(r(b(r(c))),b(c))).                     | [ur(14,a,17,a)].      |
| 31 | reachable(s(b(r(b(r(c))),c)).                      | [ur(11,a,28,a)].      |
| 33 | -reachable(s(b(r(c)),b(r(c)))).                    | [resolve(25,a,13,b)]. |
| 37 | -reachable(s(b(r(b(r(c))),c)).                     | [resolve(33,a,13,b)]. |
| 38 | \$F. [resolve(37,a,31,a)].                         |                       |

# Proof for 3 Pegs of Each Color

(output of Otter rather than Prover9, more traceable)

```
7 [] reachable(s(w(w(w(c))),r(r(r(c))))).
8 [hyper,7,1,4] reachable(s(r(w(w(w(c))),r(r(c))))).
12 [hyper,5,1,8] reachable(s(w(w(c)),r(w(r(r(c))))).
16 [hyper,12,1,3] reachable(s(w(c),w(r(w(r(r(c)))))).
20 [hyper,16,1,6] reachable(s(w(r(w(c))),w(r(r(c))))).
27 [hyper,20,1,6] reachable(s(w(r(w(r(w(c))))),r(c)).
34 [hyper,27,1,4] reachable(s(r(w(r(w(r(w(c))))),c)).
39 [hyper,34,1,5] reachable(s(r(w(r(w(c))),r(w(c))))).
44 [hyper,39,1,5] reachable(s(r(w(c)),r(w(r(w(c))))).
51 [hyper,44,1,5] reachable(s(c,r(w(r(w(r(w(c)))))).
57 [hyper,51,1,4] reachable(s(r(c),w(r(w(r(w(c)))))).
63 [hyper,57,1,6] reachable(s(w(r(r(c))),w(r(w(c))))).
69 [hyper,63,1,6] reachable(s(w(r(w(r(r(c))))),w(c)).
72 [hyper,69,1,3] reachable(s(r(w(r(r(c))),w(w(c))))).
75 [hyper,72,1,5] reachable(s(r(r(c)),r(w(w(w(c))))).
77 [hyper,75,1,4] reachable(s(r(r(r(c))),w(w(w(c))))).
78 [binary,77.1,2.1] $F.
```



## Pegs vs. # of Moves in Solution

| Pegs of Each Color | # of Moves |
|--------------------|------------|
| 1                  | 3          |
| 2                  | 8          |
| 3                  | 15         |
| 4                  | 24         |
| 5                  | 35         |
| $n$                | $n^2 + 2n$ |



## Determining the Move Sequence

- The previous proofs only showed that the puzzle could be solved for those variations.
- The actual move sequence would have to be dug out from the proof steps.
- We can modify the rules so that the move sequence is obtained as a **byproduct**.

# Determining the Move Sequence

- Use function composition to represent accumulated move sequence.
- Revised rules (4-pegs, where specific):
  - $\text{move}(s(w(x), y), s(x, w(y)), z, \text{wm}(z)).$  ←
  - $\text{move}(s(x, r(y)), s(r(x), y), z, \text{rm}(z)).$  ←
  - $\text{move}(s(r(w(x)), y), s(x, r(w(y))), z, \text{wj}(z)).$  ←
  - $\text{move}(s(x, w(r(y))), s(w(r(x)), y), z, \text{rj}(z)).$  ←
  - $\text{reachable}(s(w(w(w(w(c))))), r(r(r(r(c))))), d).$  ←
  - $-\text{reachable}(x, z) \mid -\text{move}(x, y, z, zz) \mid \text{reachable}(y, zz).$  ←
  - $-\text{reachable}(s(r(r(r(r(c))))), w(w(w(w(c))))), z) \# \text{answer}(z).$



# Move Sequence Read Inside-Out

- For 4 pegs of each color:  
\$answer(rm(wj(wm(rj(rj(rm(wj(wj(wj(wm(rj(rj(rj(rj(wm(wj  
(wj(wj(rm(rj(rj(wm(wj(rm(d)))))))))))))))))))))).
- The sequence is:  
rm wj wm rj rj rm wj wj wj wm rj rj  
rj rj wm wj wj wj rm rj rj wm wj rm
- (For this puzzle, the move sequence is coincidentally a  
palindrome.)