

Propositional and Predicate Logic - V

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Hilbert's calculus

- basic connectives: \neg , \rightarrow (others can be defined from them)
- **logical axioms** (schemes of axioms):

$$(i) \quad \varphi \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$$

$$(ii) \quad (\varphi \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \chi)) \rightarrow ((\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\varphi \rightarrow \chi))$$

$$(iii) \quad (\neg\varphi \rightarrow \neg\psi) \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$$

where φ, ψ, χ are any propositions (of a given language).

- **a rule of inference:**

$$\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi} \quad (\text{modus ponens})$$

A **proof** (in *Hilbert-style*) of a formula φ from a theory T is a **finite** sequence

$\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n = \varphi$ of formulas such that for every $i \leq n$

- φ_i is a logical axiom or $\varphi_i \in T$ (an axiom of the theory), or
- φ_i can be inferred from the previous formulas applying a rule of inference.

Remark *Choice of axioms and inference rules differs in various Hilbert-style proof systems.*

Example and soundness

A formula φ is *provable* from T if it has a proof from T , denoted by $T \vdash_H \varphi$.

If $T = \emptyset$, we write $\vdash_H \varphi$. E.g. for $T = \{\neg\varphi\}$ we have $T \vdash_H \varphi \rightarrow \psi$ for every ψ .

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------------|
| 1) | $\neg\varphi$ | an axiom of T |
| 2) | $\neg\varphi \rightarrow (\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\varphi)$ | a logical axiom (i) |
| 3) | $\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\varphi$ | by modus ponens from 1), 2) |
| 4) | $(\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\varphi) \rightarrow (\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$ | a logical axiom (iii) |
| 5) | $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ | by modus ponens from 3), 4) |

Theorem For every theory T and formula φ , $T \vdash_H \varphi \Rightarrow T \models \varphi$.

Proof

- If φ is an axiom (logical or from T), then $T \models \varphi$ (l. axioms are tautologies),
- if $T \models \varphi$ and $T \models \varphi \rightarrow \psi$, then $T \models \psi$, i.e. modus ponens is **sound**,
- thus every formula in a proof from T is valid in T . □

Remark The *completeness* holds as well, i.e. $T \models \varphi \Rightarrow T \vdash_H \varphi$.

Resolution method - introduction

Main features of the **resolution method** (*informally*)

- is the underlying method of many systems, e.g. Prolog interpreters, SAT solvers, automated deduction / verification systems, . . .
- assumes input formulas in **CNF** (in general, “*expensive*” transformation),
- works under **set representation (clausal form)** of formulas,
- has a single rule, so called a **resolution rule**,
- has no explicit axioms (or atomic tableaux), but certain axioms are incorporated “*inside*” via various formatting rules,
- is a **refutation** procedure, similarly as the tableau method; that is, it tries to show that a given formula (or theory) is **unsatisfiable**,
- has several refinements e.g. with specific conditions on when the resolution rule may be applied.

Set representation (clausal form) of CNF formulas

- A *literal* l is a prop. letter or its negation. \bar{l} is its *complementary* literal.
- A *clause* C is a finite set of literals (“forming disjunction”). The *empty clause*, denoted by \square , is never satisfied (has no satisfied literal).
- A *formula* S is a (possibly infinite) set of clauses (“forming conjunction”). An *empty formula* \emptyset is always satisfied (is has no unsatisfied clause). Infinite formulas represent infinite theories (as conjunction of axioms).
- A (*partial*) *assignment* \mathcal{V} is a *consistent* set of literals, i.e. not containing any pair of complementary literals. An assignment \mathcal{V} is *total* if it contains a positive or negative literal for each propositional letter.
- \mathcal{V} *satisfies* S , denoted by $\mathcal{V} \models S$, if $C \cap \mathcal{V} \neq \emptyset$ for every $C \in S$.

$((\neg p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee r) \wedge (\neg r \vee \neg s) \wedge (\neg t \vee s) \wedge s)$ is represented by

$$S = \{\{\neg p, q\}, \{\neg p, \neg q, r\}, \{\neg r, \neg s\}, \{\neg t, s\}, \{s\}\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\mathcal{V} \models S \quad \text{for} \quad \mathcal{V} = \{s, \neg r, \neg p\}$$

Resolution rule

Let C_1, C_2 be clauses with $l \in C_1, \bar{l} \in C_2$ for some literal l . Then from C_1 and C_2 infer **through the literal** l the clause C , called a **resolvent**, where

$$C = (C_1 \setminus \{l\}) \cup (C_2 \setminus \{\bar{l}\}).$$

Equivalently, if \sqcup means union of disjoint sets,

$$\frac{C_1' \sqcup \{l\}, C_2' \sqcup \{\bar{l}\}}{C_1' \cup C_2'}$$

For example, from $\{p, q, r\}$ and $\{\neg p, \neg q\}$ we can infer $\{q, \neg q, r\}$ or $\{p, \neg p, r\}$.

Observation The resolution rule is **sound**; that is, for every assignment \mathcal{V}

$$\mathcal{V} \models C_1 \text{ and } \mathcal{V} \models C_2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{V} \models C.$$

Remark The resolution rule is a special case of the (so called) **cut rule**

$$\frac{\varphi \vee \psi, \neg\varphi \vee \chi}{\psi \vee \chi}$$

where φ, ψ, χ are arbitrary formulas.

Resolution proof

- A *resolution proof* (*deduction*) of a clause C from a formula S is a **finite** sequence $C_0, \dots, C_n = C$ such that for every $i \leq n$, we have $C_i \in S$ or C_i is a resolvent of some previous clauses,
- a clause C is (resolution) *provable* from S , denoted by $S \vdash_R C$, if it has a resolution proof from S ,
- a (resolution) *refutation* of formula S is a resolution proof of \square from S ,
- S is (resolution) *refutable* if $S \vdash_R \square$.

Theorem (soundness) *If S is resolution refutable, then S is unsatisfiable.*

Proof Let $S \vdash_R \square$. If it was $\mathcal{V} \models S$ for some assignment \mathcal{V} , from the soundness of the resolution proof we would have $\mathcal{V} \models \square$, which is impossible. ■

Resolution trees and closures

A **resolution tree** of a clause C from formula S is **finite** binary tree with nodes labeled by clauses so that

- (i) the root is labeled C ,
- (ii) the leaves are labeled with clauses from S ,
- (iii) every **inner** node is labeled with a resolvent of the clauses in his sons.

Observation C has a resolution tree from S if and only if $S \vdash_R C$.

A **resolution closure** $\mathcal{R}(S)$ of a formula S is the smallest set satisfying

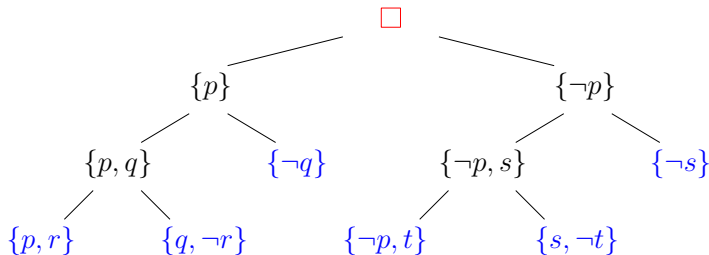
- (i) $C \in \mathcal{R}(S)$ for every $C \in S$,
- (ii) if $C_1, C_2 \in \mathcal{R}(S)$ and C is a resolvent of C_1, C_2 , then $C \in \mathcal{R}(S)$.

Observation $C \in \mathcal{R}(S)$ if and only if $S \vdash_R C$.

Remark All notions on resolution proofs can therefore be equivalently introduced in terms of resolution trees or resolution closures.

Example

Formula $((p \vee r) \wedge (q \vee \neg r) \wedge (\neg q) \wedge (\neg p \vee t) \wedge (\neg s) \wedge (s \vee \neg t))$ is unsatisfiable since for $S = \{\{p, r\}, \{q, \neg r\}, \{\neg q\}, \{\neg p, t\}, \{\neg s\}, \{s, \neg t\}\}$ we have $S \vdash_R \square$.



The resolution closure of S (*the closure of S under resolution*) is

$$\mathcal{R}(S) = \{\{p, r\}, \{q, \neg r\}, \{\neg q\}, \{\neg p, t\}, \{\neg s\}, \{s, \neg t\}, \{p, q\}, \{\neg r\}, \{r, t\}, \{q, t\}, \{\neg t\}, \{\neg p, s\}, \{r, s\}, \{t\}, \{q\}, \{q, s\}, \square, \{\neg p\}, \{p\}, \{r\}, \{s\}\}.$$

Reduction by substitution

Let S be a formula and l be a literal. Let us define

$$S^l = \{C \setminus \{\bar{l}\} \mid l \notin C \in S\}.$$

Observation

- S^l is equivalent to a formula obtained from S by **substituting** the constant \top (true, 1) for all literals l and the constant \perp (false, 0) for all literals \bar{l} in S ,
- Neither l nor \bar{l} occurs in (the clauses of) S^l .
- if $\{\bar{l}\} \in S$, then $\square \in S^l$.

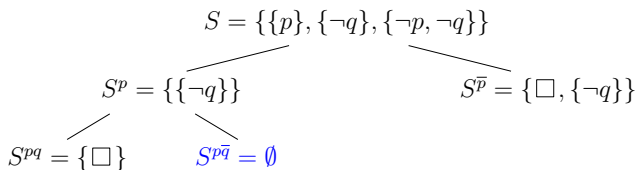
Lemma S is satisfiable if and only if S^l or $S^{\bar{l}}$ is satisfiable.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Let $\mathcal{V} \models S$ for some \mathcal{V} and assume (w.l.o.g.) that $\bar{l} \notin \mathcal{V}$.

- Then $\mathcal{V} \models S^l$ as for $l \notin C \in S$ we have $\mathcal{V} \setminus \{l, \bar{l}\} \models C$ and thus $\mathcal{V} \models C \setminus \{\bar{l}\}$.
- On the other hand (\Leftarrow), assume (w.l.o.g.) that $\mathcal{V} \models S^l$ for some \mathcal{V} .
- Since neither l nor \bar{l} occurs in S^l , we have $\mathcal{V}' \models S^l$ for $\mathcal{V}' = (\mathcal{V} \setminus \{\bar{l}\}) \cup \{l\}$.
- Then $\mathcal{V}' \models S$ since for $C \in S$ containing l we have $l \in \mathcal{V}'$ and for $C \in S$ not containing l we have $\mathcal{V}' \models (C \setminus \{\bar{l}\}) \in S^l$. ■

Tree of reductions

Step by step reductions of literals can be represented in a binary tree.



Corollary *S is unsatisfiable if and only if every branch contains \square .*

Remarks *Since S can be infinite over a countable language, this tree can be infinite. However, if S is unsatisfiable, by the [compactness theorem](#) there is a finite $S' \subseteq S$ that is unsatisfiable. Thus after reduction of all literals occurring in S' , there will be \square in every branch after finitely many steps.*

Completeness of resolution

Theorem If a *finite* S is unsatisfiable, it is resolution refutable, i.e. $S \vdash_R \square$.

Proof By induction on the number of variables in S we show that $S \vdash_R \square$.

- If unsatisfiable S has no variable, it is $S = \{\square\}$ and thus $S \vdash_R \square$,
- Let l be a literal occurring in S . By Lemma, S^l and $S^{\bar{l}}$ are unsatisfiable.
- Since S^l and $S^{\bar{l}}$ have less variables than S , by induction there exist resolution trees T^l and $T^{\bar{l}}$ for derivation of \square from S^l resp. $S^{\bar{l}}$.
- If every leaf of T^l is in S , then T^l is a resolution tree of \square from S , $S \vdash_R \square$.
- Otherwise, by **appending** the literal \bar{l} to every leaf of T^l that is not in S , (and to all predecessors) we obtain a resolution tree of $\{\bar{l}\}$ from S .
- Similarly, we get a resolution tree $\{l\}$ from S by **appending** l in the tree $T^{\bar{l}}$.
- By resolution of roots $\{\bar{l}\}$ and $\{l\}$ we get a resolution tree of \square from S . ■

Corollary If S is unsatisfiable, it is resolution refutable, i.e. $S \vdash_R \square$.

Proof Follows from the previous theorem by applying compactness.

Linear resolution - introduction

The resolution method can be significantly refined.

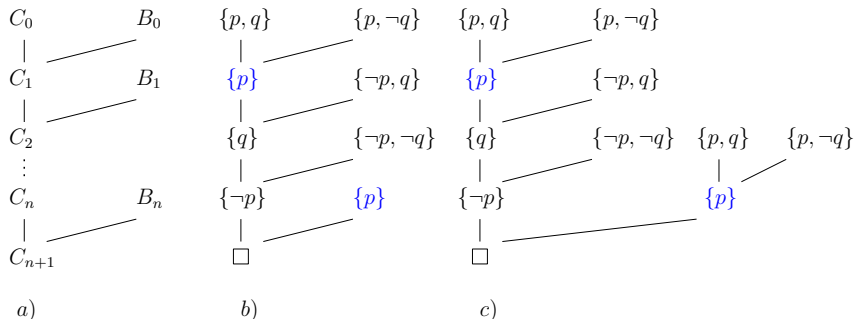
- A **linear proof** of a clause C from a formula S is a finite sequence of pairs $(C_0, B_0), \dots, (C_n, B_n)$ such that $C_0 \in S$ and for every $i \leq n$
 - $B_i \in S$ or $B_i = C_j$ for some $j < i$, and
 - C_{i+1} is a resolvent of C_i and B_i where $C_{n+1} = C$.
- C_0 is called a **starting** clause, C_i a **central** clause, B_i a **side** clause.
- C is **linearly provable** from S , $S \vdash_L C$, if it has a linear proof from S .
- A **linear refutation** of S is a linear proof of \square from S .
- S is **linearly refutable** if $S \vdash_L \square$.

Observation (soundness) *If S is linearly refutable, it is unsatisfiable.*

Proof Every linear proof can be transformed to a (general) resolution proof.

Remark The **completeness** is preserved as well (proof omitted here).

Example of linear resolution



a) a general form of linear resolution,

b) for $S = \{\{p, q\}, \{p, \neg q\}, \{\neg p, q\}, \{\neg p, \neg q\}\}$ we have $S \vdash_L \square$,

c) a transformation of a linear proof to a (general) resolution proof.

LI-resolution

Linear resolution can be further refined for Horn formulas as follows.

- a *Horn clause* is a clause containing at most one positive literal,
- a *Horn formula* is a (possibly infinite) set of Horn clauses,
- a *fact* is a (Horn) clause $\{p\}$ where p is a positive literal,
- a *rule* is a (Horn) clause with exactly one positive literal and at least one negative literal. Rules and facts are *program clauses*,
- a *goal* is a nonempty (Horn) clause with only negative literals.

Observation If a Horn formula S is unsatisfiable and $\square \notin S$, it contains some fact and some goal.

Proof If S does not contain any fact (goal), it is satisfied by the assignment of all propositional variables to 0 (resp. to 1). ■

A *linear input resolution* (*LI-resolution*) from a formula S is a linear resolution from S in which every side clause B_i is from the (input) formula S . We write $S \vdash_{LI} C$ to denote that C is provable by LI-resolution from S .

Completeness of LI-resolution for Horn formulas

Theorem *If T is satisfiable Horn formula but $T \cup \{G\}$ is unsatisfiable for some goal G , then \square has a LI-resolution from $T \cup \{G\}$ with starting clause G .*

Proof By the compactness theorem we may assume that T is finite.

- We proceed by induction on the number of variables in T .
- By Observation, T contains a fact $\{p\}$ for some variable p .
- By Lemma, $T' = (T \cup \{G\})^p = T^p \cup \{G^p\}$ is unsatisfiable where $G^p = G \setminus \{\bar{p}\}$.
- If $G^p = \square$, we have $G = \{\bar{p}\}$ and thus \square is a resolvent of G and $\{p\} \in T$.
- Otherwise, since T^p is satisfiable (by the assignment satisfying T) and has less variables than T , by induction assumption, there is an LI-resolution of \square from T' starting with G^p .
- By **appending** the literal \bar{p} to all leaves that are not in $T \cup \{G\}$ (and nodes below) we obtain an LI-resolution of $\{\bar{p}\}$ from $T \cup \{G\}$ that starts with G .
- By an additional resolution step with the fact $\{p\} \in T$ we resolve \square . ■

Example of LI-resolution

$$T = \{\{p, \neg r, \neg s\}, \{r, \neg q\}, \{q, \neg s\}, \{s\}\}, \quad G = \{\neg p, \neg q\}$$

$$T^s = \{\{p, \neg r\}, \{r, \neg q\}, \{q\}\}$$

$$T^{sq} = \{\{p, \neg r\}, \{r\}\}$$

$$T^{sqr} = \{\{p\}\} \quad G^{sq} = \{\neg p\} \quad \{p, \neg r\}$$

$$G^{sqr} = \{\neg p\} \quad \{p\}$$

$$G^{sqrp} = \square$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{p, \neg r\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{\neg r\} \quad \{r\} \\ | \quad / \\ \square \end{array}$$

$$G^s = \{\neg p, \neg q\} \quad \{p, \neg r\}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{p, \neg r\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{\neg q, \neg r\} \quad \{r, \neg q\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{\neg q\} \quad \{q\} \\ | \quad / \\ \square \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{r, \neg q\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{q\} \\ | \quad / \\ \square \end{array}$$

$$\square$$

$$G = \{\neg p, \neg q\} \quad \{p, \neg r, \neg s\}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{p, \neg r, \neg s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{\neg q, \neg r, \neg s\} \quad \{r, \neg q\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{\neg q, \neg s\} \quad \{q, \neg s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{\neg s\} \quad \{s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \square \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{r, \neg q\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{q, \neg s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \square \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{q, \neg s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \{s\} \\ | \quad / \\ \square \end{array}$$

$$\square$$

$$T^{sqr}, G^{sqr} \vdash_{LI} \square$$

$$T^{sq}, G^{sq} \vdash_{LI} \square$$

$$T^s, G^s \vdash_{LI} \square$$

$$T, G \vdash_{LI} \square$$

Program in Prolog

A (propositional) *program* (in Prolog) is a Horn formula containing only program clauses, i.e. facts or rules.

<i>a rule</i>	$p :- q, r.$	$q \wedge r \rightarrow p$	$\{p, \neg q, \neg r\}$	
	$p :- s.$	$s \rightarrow p$	$\{p, \neg s\}$	
	$q :- s.$	$s \rightarrow q$	$\{q, \neg s\}$	
<i>a fact</i>	$r.$	r	$\{r\}$	
	$s.$	s	$\{s\}$	<i>a program</i>
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed blue;"/>				
<i>a query</i>	$?- p, q.$		$\{\neg p, \neg q\}$	<i>a goal</i>

We would like to know whether a given *query* follows from a given *program*.

Corollary For every program P and query $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n)$ it is equivalent that

- (1) $P \models p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n$,
- (2) $P \cup \{\neg p_1, \dots, \neg p_n\}$ is unsatisfiable,
- (3) \square has LI-resolution from $P \cup \{G\}$ starting by goal $G = \{\neg p_1, \dots, \neg p_n\}$.

Resolution in Prolog

1) Interpreter stores clauses as *sequences* of literals (*definite clauses*).

An *LD-resolution* (*linear definite*) is an *LI-resolution* in which in each step the resolvent of the present goal $(\neg p_1, \dots, \neg p_{i-1}, \neg p_i, \neg p_{i+1}, \dots, \neg p_n)$ and the side clause $(p_i, \neg q_1, \dots, \neg q_m)$ is $(\neg p_1, \dots, \neg p_{i-1}, \neg q_1, \dots, \neg q_m, \neg p_{i+1}, \dots, \neg p_n)$.

Observation Every *LI-proof* can be transformed into an *LD-proof* of the same clause from the same formula with the same starting clause (goal).

2) The choice of literal from the present goal for resolution is determined by a given *selection rule* \mathcal{R} . Typically, “choose the first literal”.

An *SLD-resolution* (*selection*) via \mathcal{R} is an *LD-resolution* in which each step (C_i, B_i) we resolve through the literal $\mathcal{R}(C_i)$.

Observation Every *LD-proof* can be transformed into an *SLD-proof* of the same clause from the same formula with the same starting clause (goal).

Corollary *SLD-resolution* is *complete* for queries over programs in Prolog.

SLD-tree

Which program clause will be used for resolution with the present goal?

An **SLD-tree** of a program P and a goal G via a selection rule \mathcal{R} is a tree with nodes labeled by goals so that the root has label G and if a node has label G' , his sons correspond to all **possibilities** of resolving G' with program clauses of P through literal $\mathcal{R}(G')$ and are labeled by the corresponding resolvents.

$p :- q, r.$ (1)

$p :- s.$ (2)

$q.$ (3)

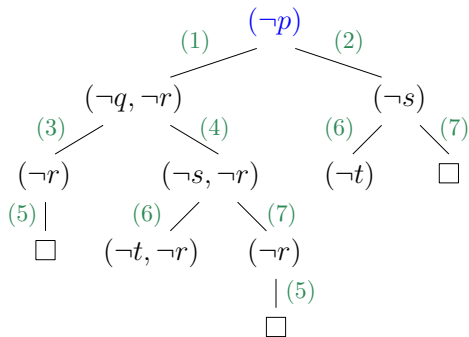
$q :- s.$ (4)

$r.$ (5)

$s :- t.$ (6)

$s.$ (7)

$?- p.$



Concluding remarks

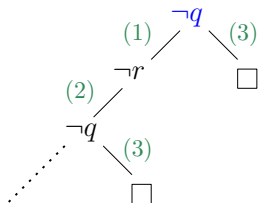
- Prolog interpreters **search** the SLD-tree, the order is not specified.
- Implementations that are based on **DFS** may not preserve completeness.

$q :- r.$ (1)

$r :- q.$ (2)

$q.$ (3)

$?- q.$



- A certain control over the search is provided by **!**, the **cut** operation.
- If we allow **negation**, we may have troubles with semantics of programs.