

# Automated reasoning for first-order logic

## Theory, Practice and Challenges

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Part II

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Modular instantiation-based reasoning

## *SAT/SMT vs First-Order*

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The problem: Show that a given formula is a theorem.

### Ground (SAT/SMT)

$$P(a) \vee Q(c, d)$$
$$\neg P(a) \vee Q(d, c)$$

Very efficient

Not very expressive

DPLL

Industry

### First-Order

$$\forall x \exists y \quad Q(x, y) \vee \neg Q(y, f(x))$$
$$P(a) \vee Q(d, c)$$

Very expressive

Ground: not as efficient

Resolution/Superposition

Academia  $\rightarrow$  Industry

From Ground to First-Order: Efficient at ground + Expressive?

## Traditional Methods: Resolution

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### Reasoning Problem

Given a set of first order clauses  $S$ , prove  $S$  is unsatisfiable.

*Resolution :*

$$\frac{C \vee L \quad \bar{L} \vee D}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

*Example :*

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

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} L_1 \vee C_1 \\ \vdots \\ L_n \vee C_n \end{array}}$$

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**Weaknesses:**

- ▶ Inefficient in propositional case
- ▶ Length of clauses can grow fast
- ▶ Recombination of clauses
- ▶ No effective model representation

## *Basic idea behind instantiation proving*

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Can we approximate first-order by ground reasoning?

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**Theorem (Herbrand).** For a quantifier free formula  $\varphi(\bar{x})$ ;

$\forall \bar{x} \varphi(\bar{x})$  is **unsatisfiable** iff  $\bigwedge_i \varphi(\bar{t}_i)$  is **unsatisfiable**,

for some **ground** terms  $\bar{t}_1, \dots, \bar{t}_n$ .

**Basic idea:** Interleave **instantiation** with **propositional reasoning**.

**Main issues:**

- ▶ How to **restrict** instantiations.
- ▶ How to **interleave** instantiation with propositional reasoning.

## *Different approaches*

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Gilmore (1960): generation of ground instances

Robinson (1965): resolution

Plaisted et al (1992): hyper-linking

Plaisted & Zhu (2000): semantics-based instance generation

Letz & Stenz (2000): disconnection tableaux-type calculus

Hooker et al (2002): generation of instances with sem. selection

Baumgartner & Tinelli (2003): ME: Lifting of DPLL

Ganzinger & Korovin (2003): Inst-Gen calculus, modular ground reasoning

Claessen (2005): Equinox

... many instantiation based methods for different fragments/logics

## Overview of the Inst-Gen procedure

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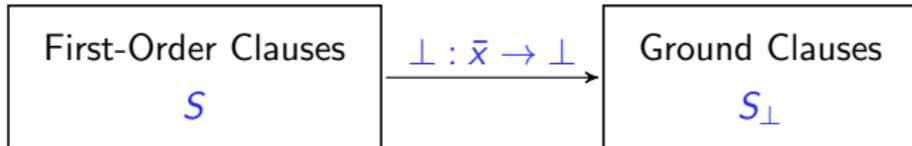
First-Order Clauses

$S$

Theorem.[Ganzinger, Korovin LICS'03] Inst-Gen is sound and complete.

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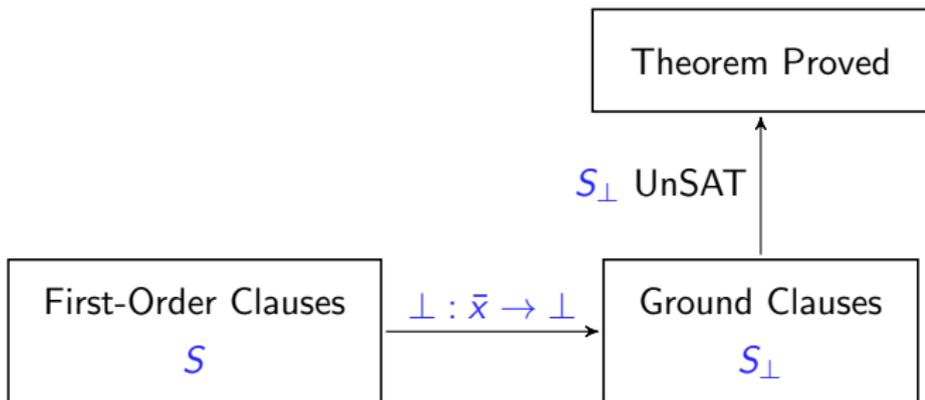
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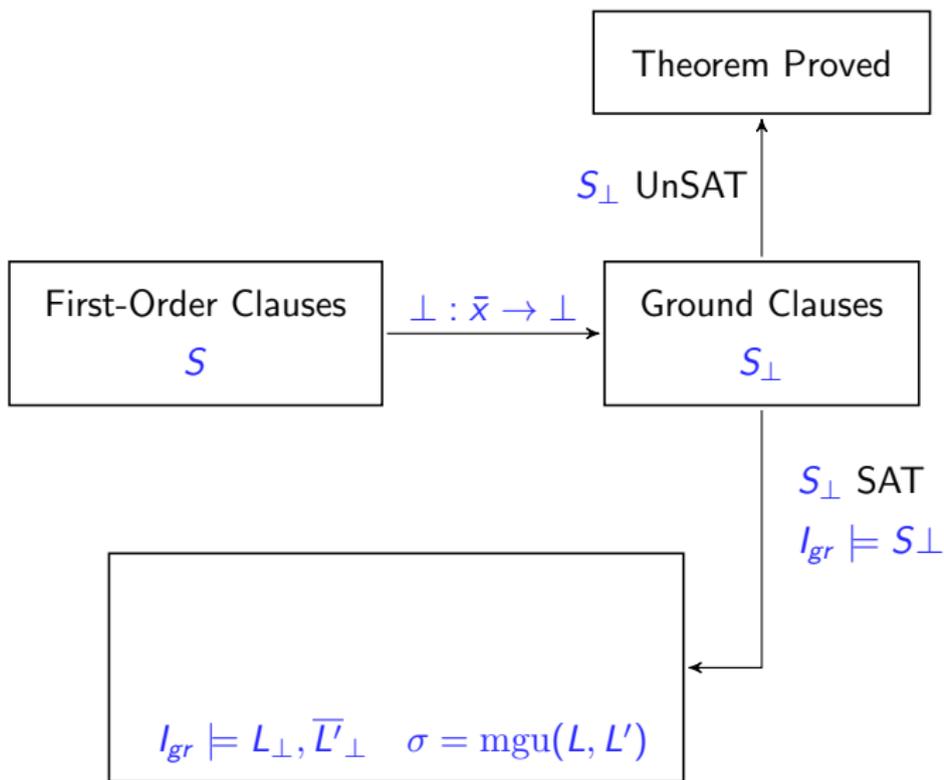
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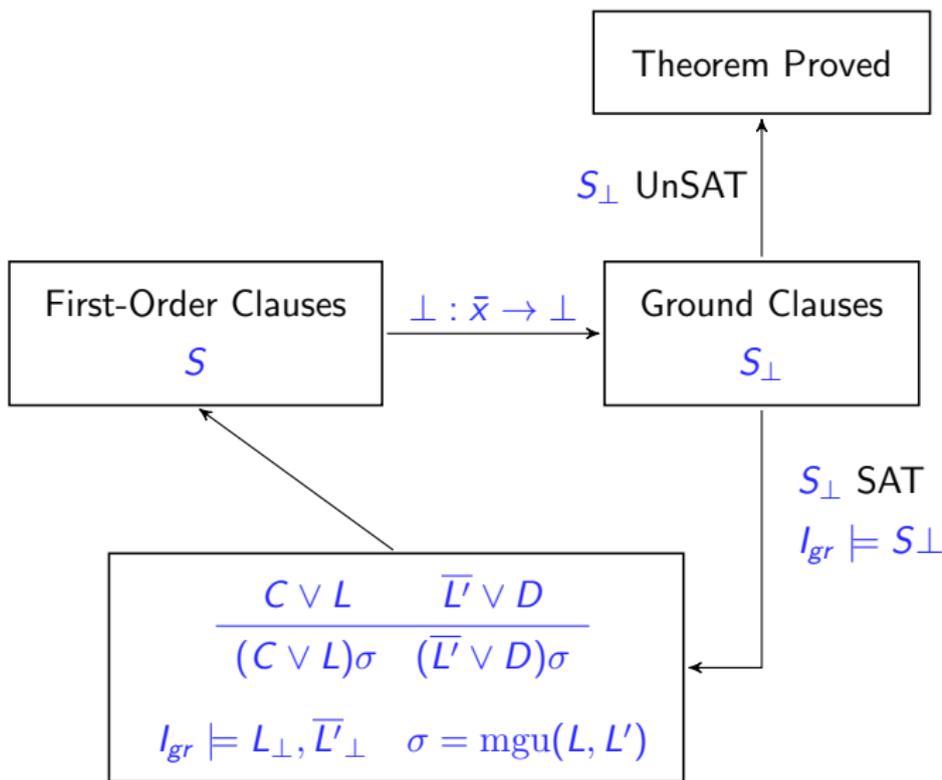
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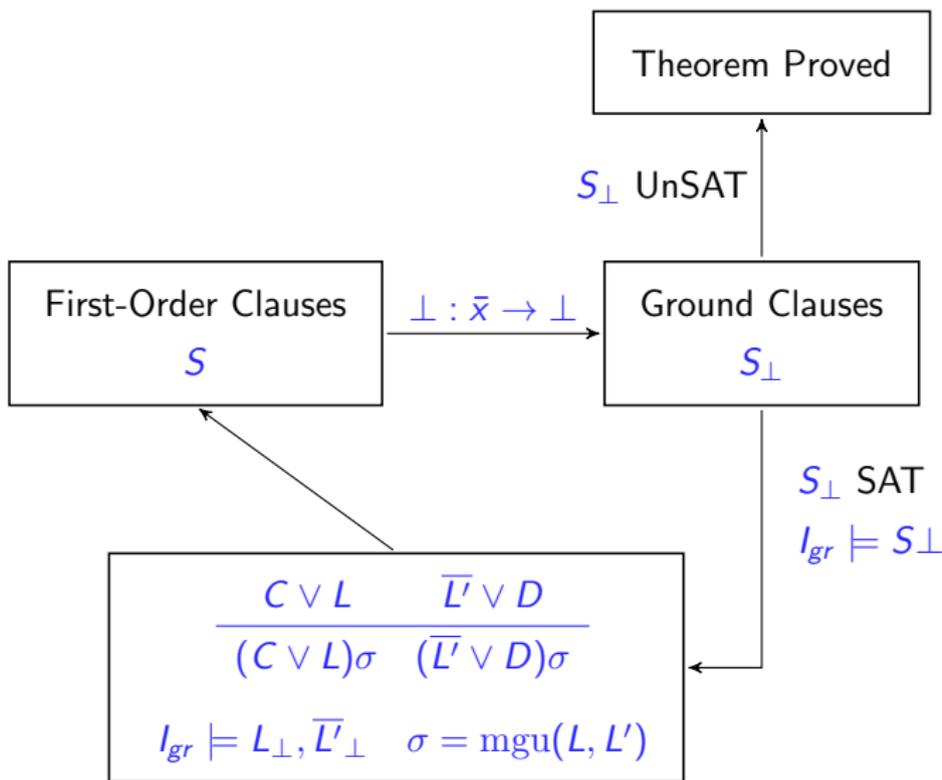
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## Example:

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The final set is propositionally **unsatisfiable**.

# Resolution vs Inst-Gen

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*Resolution :*

$$\frac{(C \vee L) \quad (\bar{L}' \vee D)}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$
$$\sigma = \text{mgu}(L, L')$$

**Weaknesses of resolution:**

- Inefficient in the ground/EPR case
- Length of clauses can grow fast
- Recombination of clauses
- No explicit model representation

*Instantiation :*

$$\frac{(C \vee L) \quad (\bar{L}' \vee D)}{(C \vee L)\sigma \quad (\bar{L}' \vee D)\sigma}$$
$$\sigma = \text{mgu}(L, L')$$

**Strengths of instantiation:**

- Modular ground reasoning
- Length of clauses is fixed
- Decision procedure for EPR
- No recombination
- Semantic selection
- Redundancy elimination
- Effective model presentation

## *Redundancy Elimination*

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$$\triangleright C_1, \dots, C_n \prec C$$

$$\triangleright P(a) \models Q(b) \vee P(a)$$

$$\triangleright P(a) \prec \underline{Q(b)} \vee \overline{P(a)}$$

Where  $\prec$  is a well-founded ordering.

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Where  $\prec$  is a well-founded ordering.

**Theorem** [Ganzinger, Korovin]. Redundant clauses/closures can be **eliminated**.

**Consequences:**

- ▶ many usual redundancy elimination techniques
- ▶ redundancy for inferences
- ▶ **new** instantiation-specific redundancies

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Basic idea:

- ▶ **split**  $D \subset C$
- ▶ **check**  $S_{gr} \models D$
- ▶ **add**  $D$  to  $S$  and **remove**  $C$

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Global ground subsumption:

$$\frac{D \vee C'}{D}$$

where  $S_{gr} \models D$  and  $C' \neq \emptyset$

$S_{gr}$ 

$$\frac{}{\neg Q(a, b) \vee P(a) \vee P(b)}$$
$$P(a) \vee Q(a, b)$$
$$\neg P(b)$$

 $C$ 

$$\frac{}{P(a) \vee Q(c, d) \vee Q(a, c)}$$

$S_{gr}$ 

---

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$$P(a) \vee Q(c, d) \vee \cancel{Q(a, c)}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} S_{gr} \\ \hline \neg Q(a, b) \vee P(a) \vee P(b) \\ P(a) \vee Q(a, b) \\ \neg P(b) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} C \\ \hline P(a) \vee \cancel{Q(c, d)} \vee \cancel{Q(a, c)} \end{array}$$

A **minimal**  $D \subset C$  such that  $S_{gr} \models D$  can be found in a **linear number** of implication checks.

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Global Ground Subsumption generalises:

- ▶ strict subsumption
- ▶ subsumption resolution
- ▶ ...

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$$S_{gr} \models \forall \bar{x} C(\bar{x})$$

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$$\begin{array}{ll} S_{gr} \models \forall \bar{x} C(\bar{x}) & S_{gr} \models C(\bar{d}) \text{ for fresh } \bar{d} \\ C_1(\bar{x}), \dots, C_n(\bar{x}) \in S & C_1(\bar{d}), \dots, C_n(\bar{d}) \models C(\bar{d}) \end{array}$$

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$$C_1(\bar{d}), \dots, C_n(\bar{d}) \models C(\bar{d}) \text{ as}$$

in Global Subsumption

Non-Ground Global Subsumption

## Non-Ground Global Subsumption

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$$\begin{array}{c} S \\ \hline \neg P(x) \vee Q(x) \\ \neg Q(x) \vee S(x, y) \\ P(x) \vee S(x, y) \end{array}$$

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Simplify first-order by purely ground reasoning!

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## Finer-grained control: closure orderings

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Finer-grained control: replace ground clauses with ground closures.

Closure, a closure is a pair  $C \cdot \sigma$ ,

where  $C$  is a clause and  $\sigma$  a grounding substitution

$$(A(a) \vee B(x)) \cdot [b/x]$$

Represents: ground clause  $C\sigma$

$$A(a) \vee B(b)$$

Closure ordering: any total, well-founded ordering such that

$C\theta \cdot \tau \prec C \cdot \sigma$  if

- ▶  $C\sigma = C\theta\tau$ , and
- ▶  $\theta$  properly instantiates  $C$

Slogan: more specific representations take priority over less specific ones

Ex:  $(p(a) \vee q(z)) \cdot [b/z] \prec (p(y) \vee q(z)) \cdot [a/y, b/z]$

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# Closure-based redundancy elimination

---

Definition call  $C \cdot \sigma$  **redundant** in  $S$  if

- ▶  $C_1 \cdot \sigma_1, \dots, C_n \cdot \sigma_n \models C \cdot \sigma$  and
- ▶  $C_1 \cdot \sigma_1, \dots, C_n \cdot \sigma_n \prec C \cdot \sigma$

Theorem. [Ganzinger, Korovin]

Redundant closures (and clauses) can be **eliminated**.

Consequences:

- ▶ **generalises** usual redundancy
- ▶ **new** instantiation specific redundancies
  - ▶ **blocking non-proper instances** (merging variables) can be eliminated
  - ▶ **dismatching constraints**
- ▶ redundancy for inferences

## Dismatching Constraints [Korovin (IJCAR'08, vol. HG'13)]

Example:

$$p(x) \vee \underline{\neg q(f(x))} \quad (1)$$

$$\underline{p(f(x))} \vee \neg q(f(f(x))) \quad (2)$$

$$\underline{q(f(f(a)))} \quad (3)$$

Then the inference between (1) and (2) is **redundant!**

**Why?** the conclusion is represented twice  $p(f(a)) \vee \neg q(f(f(a)))$

$$p(f(x)) \vee \neg q(f(f(x))) \cdot [a/x] \prec p(x) \vee \neg q(f(x)) \cdot [f(a)/x]$$

This can be represented as a **dismatching constraint**.

$$p(x) \vee \underline{\neg q(f(x))} \mid x \triangleleft_{ds} f(x)$$

**How to make closures redundant?** Instantiate!

Every proper instantiation inference makes **closures redundant** in the premise.

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$$\underline{q(f(f(a)))} \quad (3)$$

Then the inference between (1) and (2) is **redundant!**

**Why?** the conclusion is represented twice  $p(f(a)) \vee \neg q(f(f(a)))$

$$p(f(x)) \vee \neg q(f(f(x))) \cdot [a/x] \prec p(x) \vee \neg q(f(x)) \cdot [f(a)/x]$$

This can be represented as a **dismatching constraint**.

$$p(x) \vee \underline{\neg q(f(x))} \mid x \triangleleft_{ds} f(x)$$

**How to make closures redundant?** Instantiate!

Every proper instantiation inference makes closures redundant in the premise.

## Dismatching Constraints [Korovin (IJCAR'08, vol. HG'13)]

Example:

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## Example

$$A(f(y)) \vee D_1 \quad \neg A(x) \vee C$$

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...

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- ▶ Inst-Gen is **sound and complete** for first-order logic
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- ▶ decision procedure for **effectively propositional logic (EPR)**
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Equational instantiation-based reasoning

# Equality and Paramodulation

---

Superposition calculus:

$$\frac{C \vee s \simeq t \quad L[s'] \vee D}{(C \vee D \vee L[t])\theta}$$

where (i)  $\theta = \text{mgu}(s, s')$ , (ii)  $s'$  is not a variable, (iii)  $s\theta\sigma \succ t\theta\sigma$ , (iv) ...

The same **weaknesses** as resolution has:

- ▶ Inefficient in the ground/EPR case
- ▶ Length of clauses can grow fast
- ▶ Recombination of clauses
- ▶ No explicit model representation

## Equality Superposition vs Inst-Gen

---

*Superposition*

$$\frac{C \vee l \simeq r \quad L[l'] \vee D}{(C \vee D \vee L[r])\theta}$$

$$\theta = \text{mgu}(l, l')$$

*Instantiation?*

$$\frac{C \vee l \simeq r \quad L[l'] \vee D}{(C \vee l \simeq r)\theta \quad (L[l'] \vee D)\theta}$$

$$\theta = \text{mgu}(l, l')$$

## Equality Superposition vs Inst-Gen

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$$\frac{C \vee l \simeq r \quad L[l'] \vee D}{(C \vee l \simeq r)\theta \quad (L[l'] \vee D)\theta}$$

$$\theta = \text{mgu}(l, l')$$

Incomplete !

## Superposition+Instantiation

---

$$f(h(x)) \simeq c$$

$$h(x) \simeq x$$

$$f(a) \not\simeq c$$

This set is **inconsistent** but the **contradiction is not deducible** by the inference system above.

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The **idea** is to consider **proofs generated by unit superposition**:

$$\frac{\frac{h(x) \simeq x \quad f(h(y)) \simeq c}{f(x) \simeq c} \quad f(a) \not\simeq c}{c \not\simeq c} \quad \square$$

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Propagating substitutions:  $\{h(a) \simeq a; f(h(a)) \simeq c; f(a) \not\simeq c\}$   
ground unsatisfiable.

## Superposition+Instantiation

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$$f(h(x)) \simeq c \vee C_1(x, y)$$

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## Superposition+Instantiation

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$$\begin{array}{ll} f(h(x)) \simeq c \vee C_1(x, y) & f(h(a)) \simeq c \vee C_1(a, y) \\ h(x) \simeq x \vee C_2(x, y) & h(a) \simeq a \vee C_2(a, y) \\ f(a) \not\simeq c \vee C_3(x, y) & f(a) \not\simeq c \vee C_3(a, y) \end{array}$$

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## *Inst-Gen-Eq instantiation-based equational reasoning*

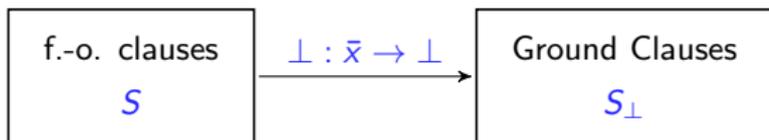
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f.-o. clauses

$S$

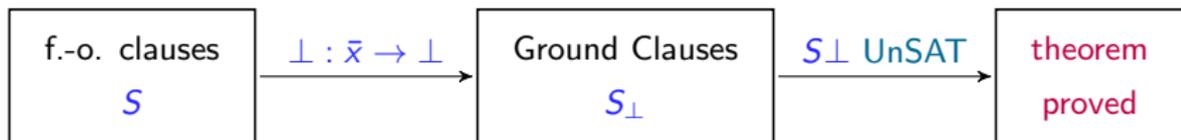
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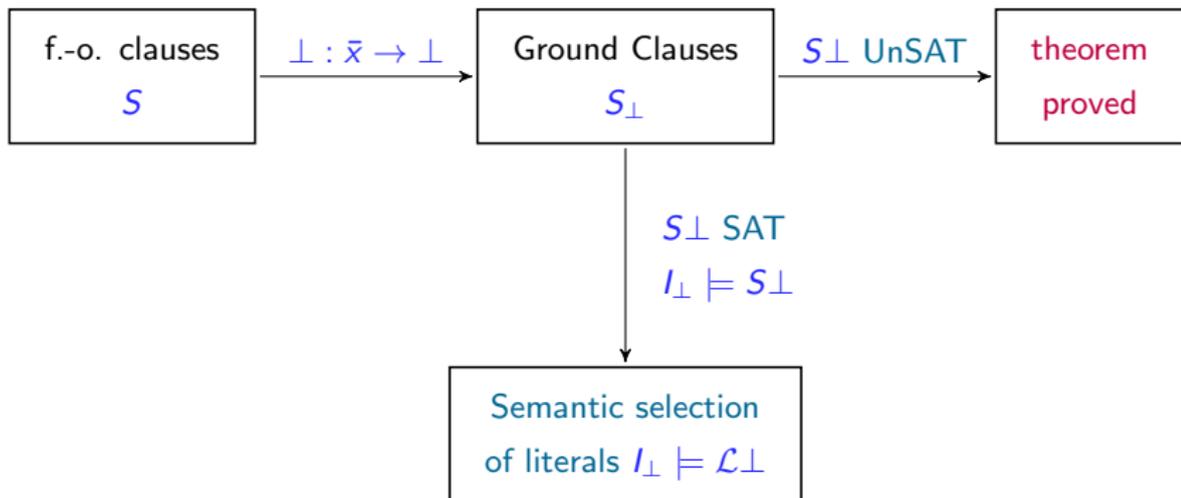
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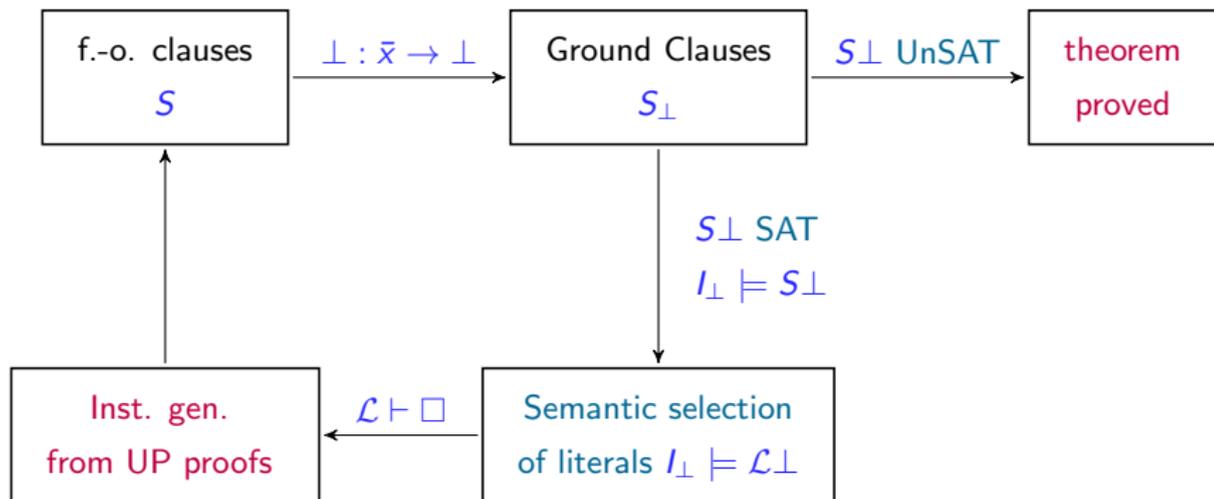
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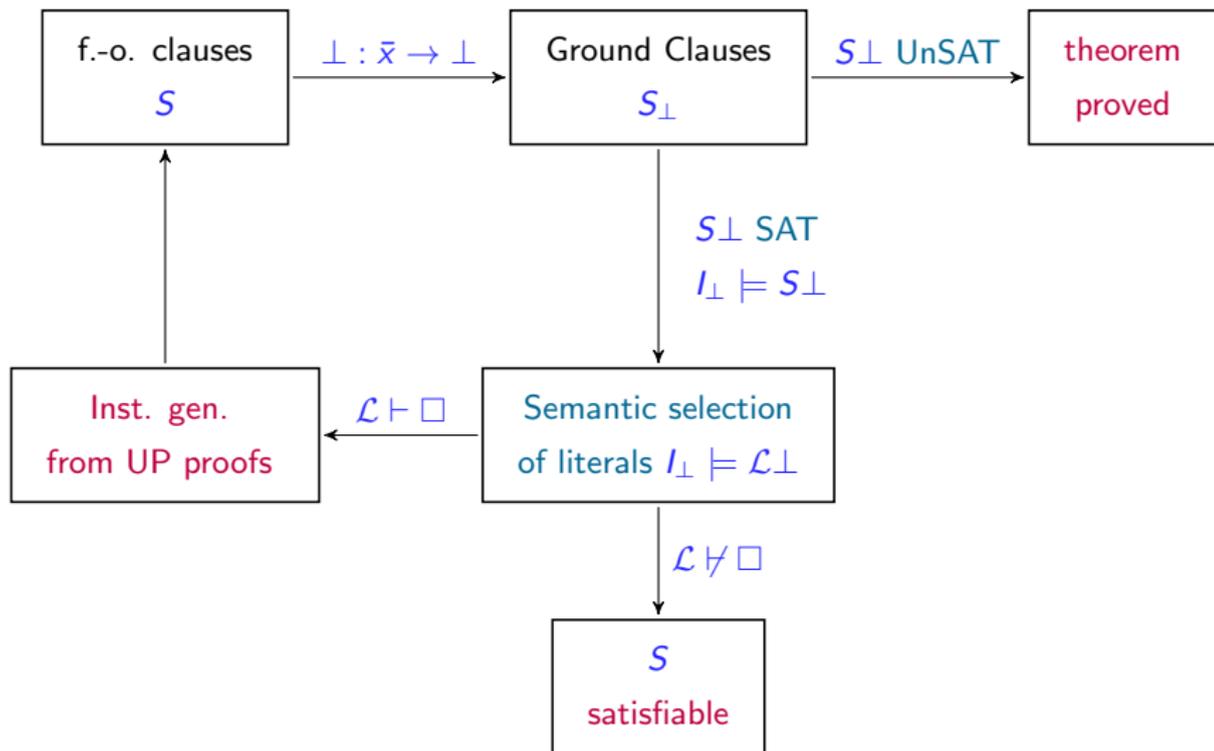


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## Inst-Gen-Eq instantiation-based equational reasoning



**Theorem.**[Ganzinger, Korovin CSL'04] Inst-Gen-Eq is **sound** and **complete**.

## *Inst-Gen-Eq: Key properties*

---

Inst-Gen-Eq is

- ▶ **sound** and **complete** for first-order logic with **equality**
- ▶ combines **SMT** for ground reasoning and **superposition-based** unit reasoning
- ▶ **unit superposition** does not have weaknesses of the general superposition
- ▶ all **redundancy elimination** techniques from Inst-Gen are applicable to Inst-Gen-Eq
- ▶ **redundancy elimination** become more powerful: now we can use **SMT** to simplify first-order rather than SAT

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## Labelled Unit Superposition [Korovin, Stickse LPAR'10]

---

General idea: Dismatching constraints can be used to **block** already derived proofs!

Unit superposition with dismatching constraints:

$$\frac{(l \simeq r) \mid [D_1] \quad L[l'] \mid [D_2]}{L[r]\theta \mid [(D_1 \wedge D_2)\theta]} (\theta) \qquad \frac{s \neq t \mid [D]}{\square} (\mu)$$

where (i)  $\theta = \text{mgu}(l, l')$ ; (ii)  $l'$  is not a variable; (iii) for some grounding substitution  $\sigma$ , satisfying  $(D_1 \wedge D_2)\theta, l\sigma \succ r\sigma$ ; (iv)  $\mu = \text{mgu}(s, t)$ ; (v)  $D\mu$  is satisfiable.

Next technical issue: The same unit literal can

- ▶ correspond to different clauses,
- ▶ have different dismatching constraints
- ▶ be represented many times in the same proof search

Solution: labelled approach

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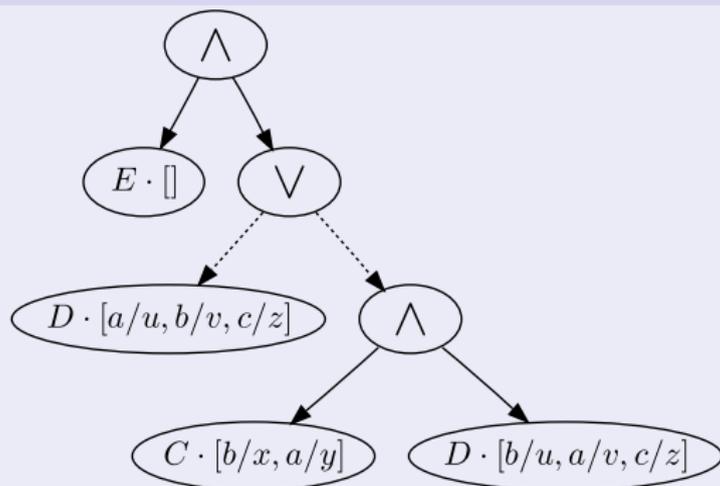
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## Tree Labelled Unit Superposition

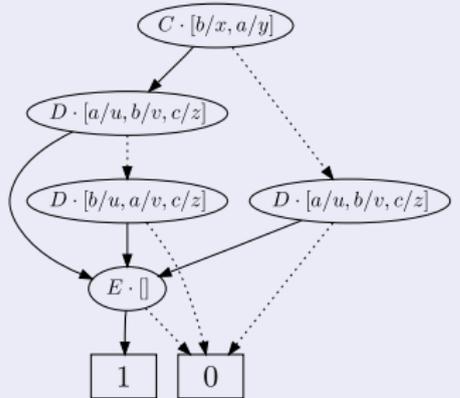
- ▶ Preserve Boolean structure of proofs
- ▶ Closure is a propositional variable in an AND/OR tree
- ▶ Conjunction  $\wedge$  in superposition, disjunction  $\vee$  in merging

### Label of the Contradiction $\square$



# OBDD Labelled Unit Superposition

Label of the contradiction  $\square$



Disadvantages of trees

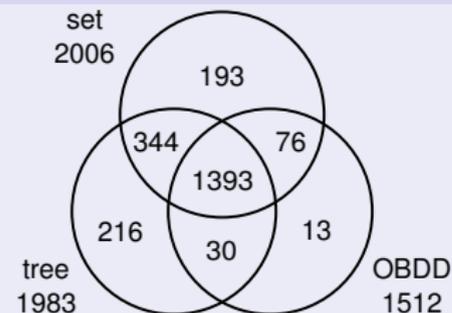
- ▶ Not produced in normal form
- ▶ Sequence of inferences determines shape
- ▶ Potential growth *ad infinitum*
  
- ▶ OBDD as normal form
- ▶ Maintenance effort
- ▶ Reordering required

## Labels: Sets vs. Trees vs. OBDDs

---

iProver-Eq – CVC3 as a background solver on pure equational problems.  
(developed with Christoph Stickse)

### Solved equational problems



### Features

	Normal	Precise
Sets	form yes	elim. no
Trees	no	yes
OBDDs	yes	yes

[Korovin, Stickse LPAR'10]

Theory instantiation

# *Theory instantiation* [Ganzinger, Korovin LPAR'06]

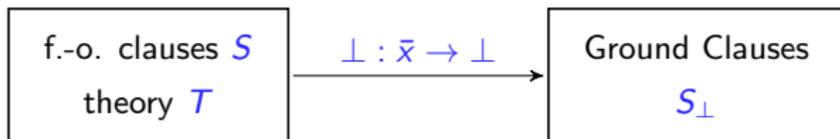
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f.-o. clauses  $S$

theory  $T$

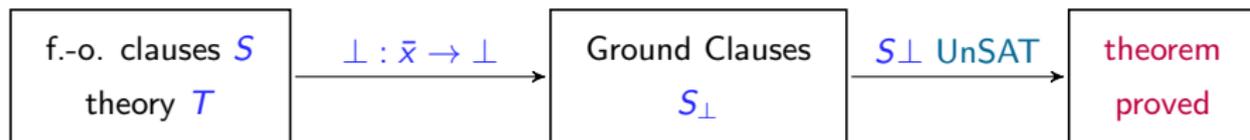
# Theory instantiation [Ganzinger, Korovin LPAR'06]

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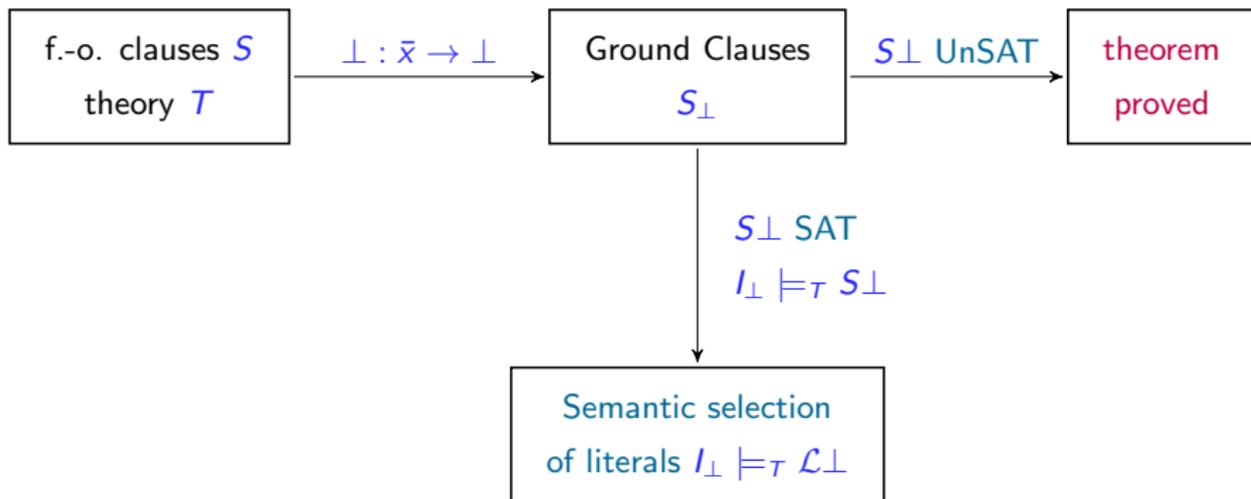
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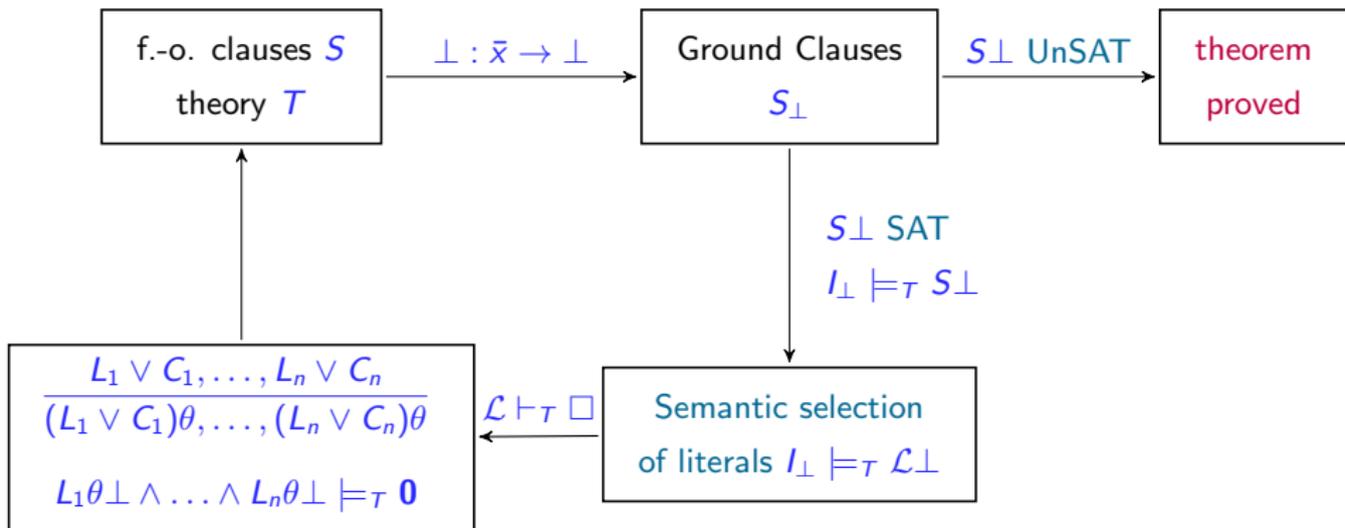


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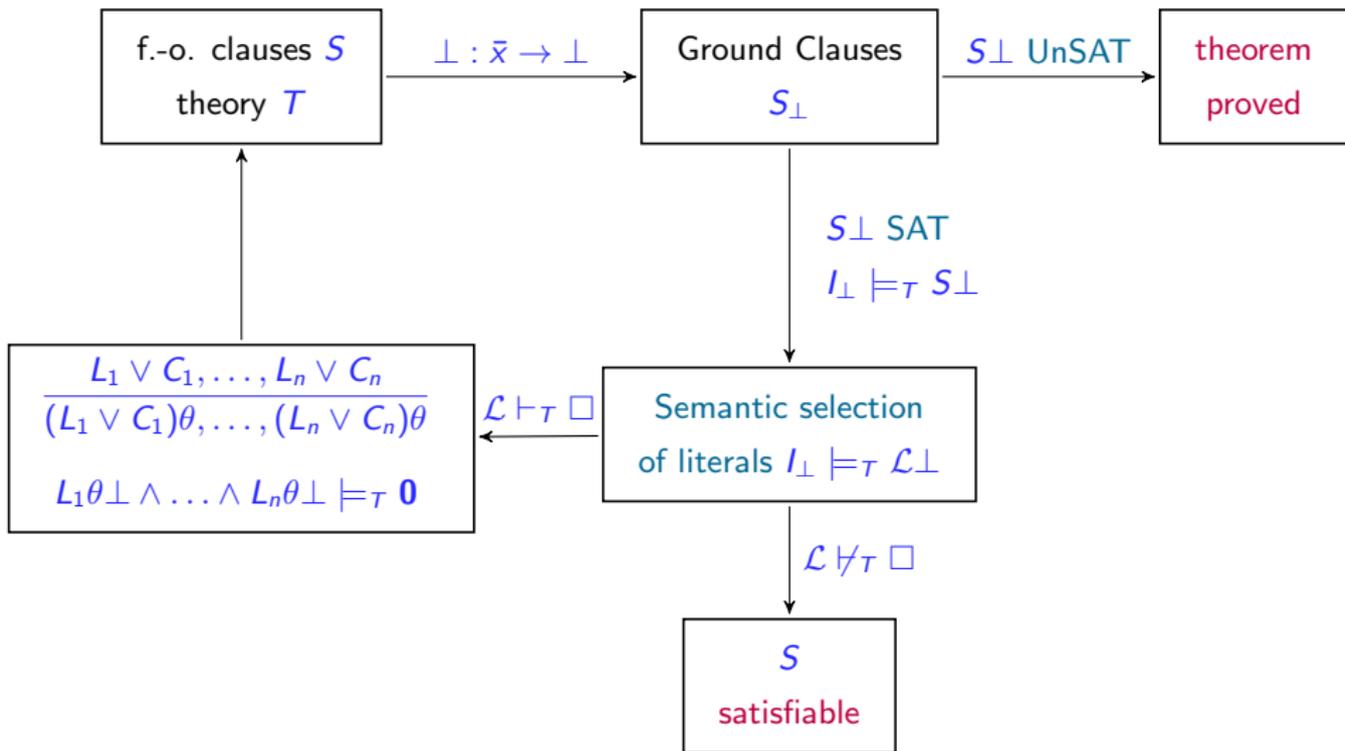
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# Theory instantiation [Ganzinger, Korovin LPAR'06]



# Theory instantiation [Ganzinger, Korovin LPAR'06]



# Theory instantiation

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Conditions on completeness:

- ▶ complete **ground** reasoning modulo  $T$
- ▶ **answer completeness** of **unit** reasoning modulo  $T$
- ▶  $T$  is universal

Answer completeness: If  $L_1\tau \wedge \dots \wedge L_n\tau \vDash_T \square$  for ground  $\tau$ . Then

$$\frac{L_1, \dots, L_n}{L_1\theta, \dots, L_n\theta} UC$$

such that  $\theta$  is a generalization of  $\tau$  and  $L_1\theta \perp, \dots, L_n\theta \perp \vdash_T \square$

**Theorem.** Theory instantiation is **sound** and **complete** under these conditions.

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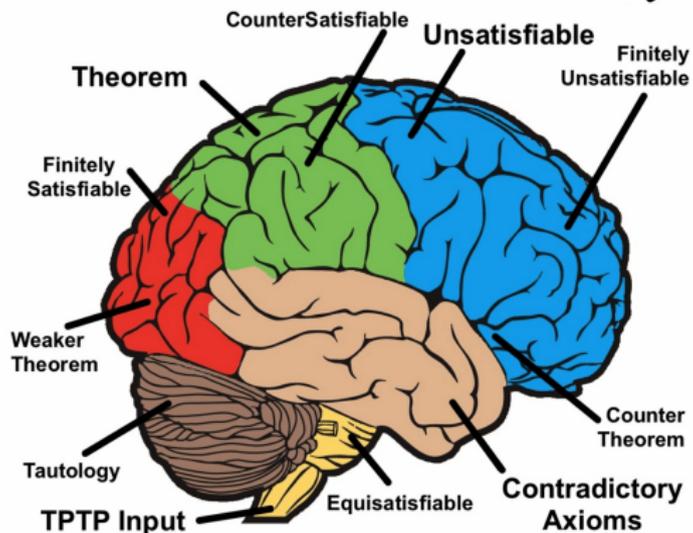
$$\frac{L_1, \dots, L_n}{L_1\theta, \dots, L_n\theta} UC$$

such that  $\theta$  is a generalization of  $\tau$  and  $L_1\theta \perp, \dots, L_n\theta \perp \vdash_T \square$

**Theorem.** Theory instantiation is **sound** and **complete** under these conditions.

## Evaluation

# CASC-24



## CASC 2013 results

---

### General first-order (FOF) 300 problems

	Vampire	E	iProver	E-KRHyper	Prover9
prob	281	249	167	122	119
time	12	29	12	8	12

### Effectively propositional 100 problems

	iProver	Vampire	PEPR	E	EKRHyper
prob	81	47	43	23	8
time	27	15	26	50	27

### First-order satisfiability (FNT) 150 problems

	iProver	Paradox	CVC4	E	Nitrox	Vampire
prob	122	99	96	79	79	78
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Non-cyclic sorts for first-order satisfiability [Korovin FroCoS'13]

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EPR: No functions except constants:  $P(x, y) \vee \neg Q(c, y)$

Transitivity:  $\neg P(x, y) \vee \neg P(y, z) \vee P(x, z)$

Symmetry:  $P(x, y) \vee \neg P(y, x)$

Verification:

$$\forall A(\text{wren}_{h1} \wedge A = \text{wraddrFunc} \rightarrow \\ \forall B(\text{range}_{[35,0]}(B) \rightarrow (\text{imem}'(A, B) \leftrightarrow \text{iwrite}(B))))).$$

## Applications:

- ▶ Hardware Verification (Intel)
- ▶ Planning/Scheduling
- ▶ Finite model reasoning

EPR is **hard** for resolution, but **decidable** by instantiation methods.

## *Properties of EPR*

---

Direct reduction to SAT — exponential blow-up.

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More succinct but harder to solve.... Any gain?

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Yes: Reasoning can be done at a more general level.

Restricting instances:

$$\neg \text{mem}(a_1, x_1) \vee \neg \text{mem}(a_2, x_2) \vee \dots \vee \neg \text{mem}(a_n, x_n) \\ \text{mem}(b_1, x_1) \vee \text{mem}(b_2, x_2) \vee \dots \vee \text{mem}(b_n, x_n)$$

General lemmas:

$$\neg a(x) \vee b(x) \quad \neg b(x) \vee \text{mem}(x, y) \\ a(x) \vee \text{mem}(x, y)$$

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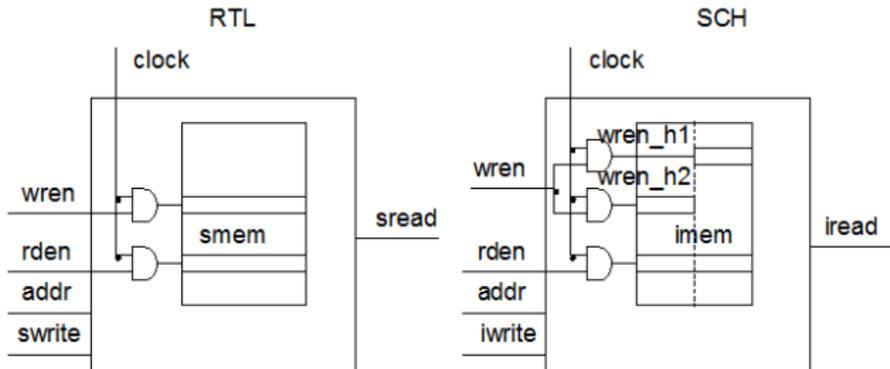
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General lemmas:

$$\frac{\neg a(x) \vee b(x) \quad \cancel{\neg b(x) \vee \text{mem}(x, y)}}{\cancel{a(x) \vee \text{mem}(x, y)} \quad \text{mem}(x, y)}$$

More expressive logics can speed up calculations!

# Hardware verification



## Functional Equivalence Checking

- ▶ The same functional behaviour can be implemented in different ways
- ▶ Optimised for:
  - ▶ **Timing** – better performance
  - ▶ **Power** – longer battery life
  - ▶ **Area** – smaller chips
- ▶ **Verification:** optimisations do not change functional behaviour

**Method of choice:** Bounded Model Checking (BMC) used at Intel, IBM

### EPR encoding:

- ▶  $s_0, \dots, s_k$  constants denote unrolling bounds
- ▶ first-order formulas  $I(S), P(S), T(S, S')$
- ▶ next state predicate  $Next(S, S')$

### BMC can be encoded

$I(s_0); \neg P(s_k);$  initial and final states

$\forall S, S' (Next(S, S') \rightarrow T(S, S'));$  transition relation

$Next(s_0, s_1); Next(s_1, s_2); \dots Next(s_{k-1}, s_k);$  next state relation

- ▶ EPR encoding provides succinct representation
- ▶ avoids copying transition relation
- ▶ reasoning can be done at higher level

### BMC with bit-vectors, memories:

[M. Emmer, Z. Khasidashvili, K. Korovin, C. Stickel, A. Voronkov IJCAR'12]

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BMC with bit-vectors, memories:

## Experiments: *iProver* vs Intel BMC

---

Problem	# Memories	# Transient BVs	Intel BMC	<i>iProver</i> BMC
ROB2	2 (4704 bits)	255 (3479 bits)	50	8
DCC2	4 (8960 bits)	426 (1844 bits)	8	11
DCC1	4 (8960 bits)	1827 (5294 bits)	7	8
DCI1	32 (9216 bits)	3625 (6496 bits)	6	4
BPB2	4 (10240 bits)	550 (4955 bits)	50	11
SCD2	2 (16384 bits)	80 (756 bits)	4	14
SCD1	2 (16384 bits)	556 (1923 bits)	4	12
PMS1	8 (46080 bits)	1486 (6109 bits)	2	10

Large memories:

*iProver* outperforms highly optimised Intel SAT-based model checker.

## Implementation

## *iProver general features*

---

- ▶ **Inst-Gen** also uses SAT solver and **resolution** for simplifications
- ▶ **Query answering**: using answer substitutions
- ▶ **Finite model finding**: based on EPR/sort inference/non-cyclic sorts
- ▶ **Bounded model checking mode**: (Intel format)
- ▶ **Proof representation**: non-trivial due to SAT solver simplifications
- ▶ **Model representation**: using formulas in term algebra;  
special model representation for hardware BMC

## *iProver implementation features*

---

*iProver* is implemented in OCaml, around 50,000 LOC

Core:

- ▶ Inst-Gen Given clause algorithm
- ▶ SAT solvers for ground reasoning: MiniSAT, PicoSAT, Lingeling
- ▶ strategy scheduling
- ▶ preprocessing
- ▶ splitting with naming

Simplifications:

- ▶ Literal selection
- ▶ Subsumption (forward/backward)
- ▶ Subsumption resolution (forward/backward)
- ▶ Dismatching constraints
- ▶ Blocking non-proper instantiators
- ▶ Global subsumption: SAT solver is used for non-ground simplifications

## *Inst-Gen given clause algorithm*

---

**Passive:** clauses that are waiting to participate in inferences

- ▶ priority queues based on lexicographic combinations of parameters
  - – *inst\_pass\_queue1* [*-conj\_dist*; *+conj\_symb*; *-num\_var*]
  - – *inst\_pass\_queue2* [*+age*; *-num\_symb*]

**Active:** clauses between which all inferences are done

- ▶ **unification index** on selected literals  
Non-perfect discrimination trees

**Given clause:**  $C$

1.  $C$  – next clause from the top of **Passive**
2. **simplify**  $C$ : compressed feature indexes
3. perform all inferences between  $C$  and **Active**
4. add all conclusions to passive
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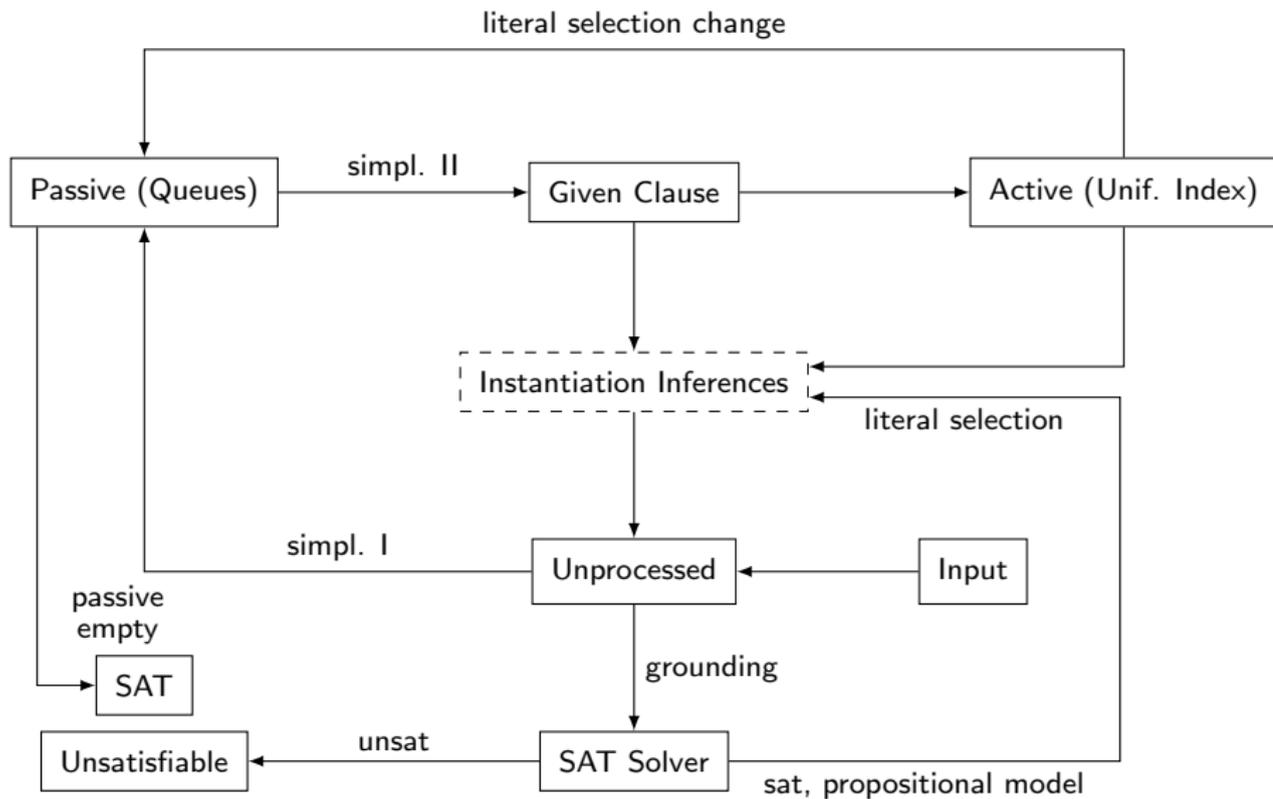
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# Inst-Gen Loop



[Korovin (Essays in Memory of Harald Ganzinger 2013)]

# Indexing

---

## Why indexing:

- ▶ Single subsumption is **NP-hard**.
- ▶ We can have **100,000** clauses in our search space
- ▶ Applying naively between all pairs of clauses we need **10,000,000,000 subsumption checks !**

## Indexes in iProver:

- ▶ non-perfect discrimination trees for unification, matching
- ▶ compressed feature vector indexes for subsumption, subsumption resolution, dismatching constraints.

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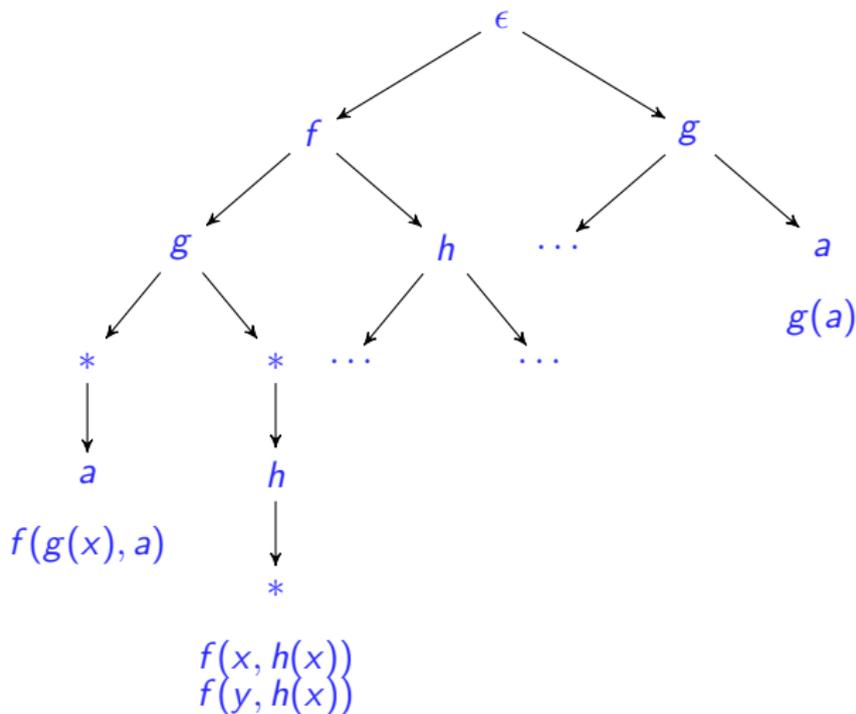
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## Discrimination trees

---



Efficient filtering **unification**, **matching** and **generalisation** candidates

## Feature vector index

---

Subsumption is very expensive and usual indexing are complicated.

Feature vector index [Schulz'04] works well for subsumption, and many other operations

Design efficient filters based on “features of clauses”:

- ▶ clause  $C$  can not subsume any clause with number of literals strictly less than  $C$
- ▶ clause  $C$  can not subsume any clause with number of positive literals strictly less than  $C$
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Fix: a list of features:

1. number of literals
2. number of occurrences of  $f$
3. number of occurrences of  $g$

With each clause associate a **feature vector**:

numeric vector of feature values

**Example:** feature vector of  $C = p(f(f(x))) \vee \neg p(g(y))$  is

$$fv(C) = [2, 2, 1]$$

**Arrange** feature vectors in a trie data structure.

For retrieving all **candidates which can be subsumed** by  $C$  we need to traverse only vectors which are **component-wise greater or equal** to  $fv(C)$ .

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## *Compressed feature vector index* [Korovin (iProver'08)]

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The **signature based features** are most useful but also expensive.

**Example:** if signature contains 1000 symbols and we use all symbols as features then feature vector for **every clause** will be 1000 in length.

Basic idea: for each clause most features will be 0.

Compress feature vector: use list of pairs  $[(p_1, v_1), \dots, (p_n, v_1)]$  where  $p_i$  are non-zero positions and  $v_i$  are values that start from this position.

Sequential positions with the same value are combined.

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## Summary

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**iProver** is a theorem prover for **full clausal first-order logic** which features

- ▶ **Query answering:** using answer substitutions
- ▶ **Finite model finding:** based on EPR/sort inference/non-cyclic sorts
- ▶ **Bounded model checking mode:** (Intel format)
- ▶ **Proof representation:** non-trivial due to SAT solver simplifications
- ▶ **Model representation:** using formulas in term algebra;  
special model representation for hardware BMC

**iProver** has solid performance over the whole range of TPTP.

**iProver** excels on EPR problems and in turn on satisfiability, bounded model checking and other encodings into EPR.

# *PhD opportunities at the University of Manchester*

---

PhD opportunities in reasoning, logic and verification, please contact:  
[korovin@cs.man.ac.uk](mailto:korovin@cs.man.ac.uk)