

Propositional Resolution

Part 3

Short Review

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Resolution Strategies

- We present here some **Deletion Strategies** and discuss their **Completeness**.

Deletion Strategies are restriction techniques in which clauses with specified properties are eliminated from set of clauses **CL** before they are used.

Pure Literals

Pure literal definition

A literal is **pure** in **CL** iff it has no complementary literal in any other clause in **CL**

Example: $\mathbf{CL} = \{ \{a,b\}, \{\neg c, d\}, \{c,b\}, \{\neg d\} \}$
 a, b are **pure**, $c, d, \neg c, \neg d$ are **not pure**.

c has complement literal $\neg c$ in $\{\neg c, d\}$ and

vice versa, $\neg c$ has complement literal c in $\{c,b\}$.

d has a complement literal $\neg d$ in the clause $\{\neg d\}$ and

vice versa $\neg d$ has a complement literal d in $\{\neg c, d\}$.

1. Pure Literals Deletion Strategy

Strategy: Remove all clauses that contain Pure Literals.

Clauses that contain pure literals are useless for retention process. One pure literal in a clause is enough for the clause removal.

This Strategy is complete, i.e.

$CL \vdash \{ \}$ iff $CL' \vdash \{ \}$

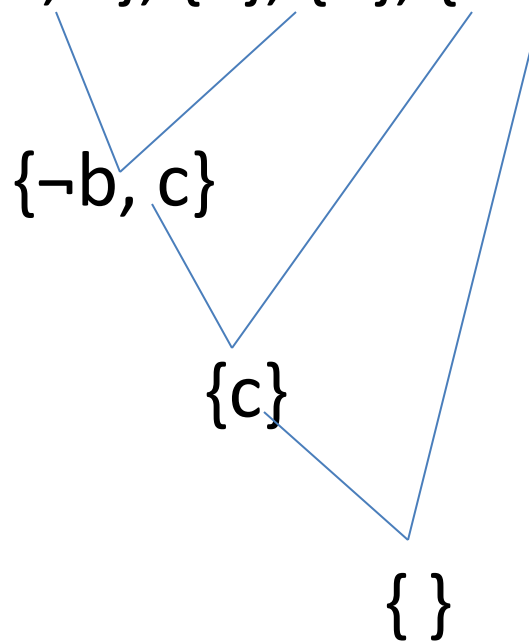
where **CL'** is obtained from **CL** by pure literal deletion

Example

- $\mathbf{CL} = \{\{-a, -b, c\}, \{-p, d\}, \{-b, d\}, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{-c\}\}$

$d, -p$ are pure,

$$\mathbf{CL}' = \{\{-a, -b, c\}, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{-c\}\}$$



2. Tautology Deletion Strategy

- **Tautology** – A clause containing a pair of **Complementary Literals** (a and $\neg a$)
 - **Tautology Deletion:**
 - **CL' = Remove all Tautologies from CL**
 - **Example:**
 - **CL = { { a, b, $\neg a$ }, { b, $\neg b$, c }, { a } }**
 - **CL' = { { a } }**
 - **Tautology Strategy is COMPLETE.**
- CL is satisfiable \equiv CL' is satisfiable**
- CL unsatisfiable \equiv CL' unsatisfiable**

Exercise

- **Example:**
- $\mathbf{CL} = \{\{a, \neg a, b\}, \{b, \neg b, c\}\}$ - remove tautologies;
- \mathbf{CL}' has no elements, i.e. $\mathbf{CL}' = \phi$,

\mathbf{CL} is always satisfiable and so is \mathbf{CL}' as Φ is always satisfiable!

Exercise: Prove Correctness of Tautology delete strategy.

Case 1: \mathbf{CL} contains only tautologies

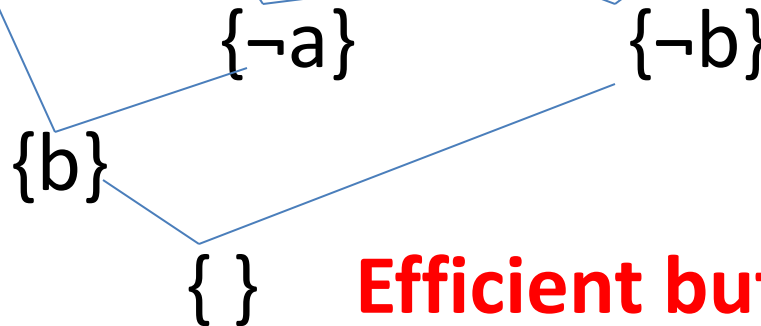
In this case $\mathbf{CL}' = \phi$ because Φ is always satisfiable!

Case 2:

3. Unit Resolution Strategy

- **A unit resolvent** – resolvent in which at least one of the parent clauses is **a unit clause** i.e. is a clause containing a single literal.
- **A unit deduction** – all derived clauses are **unit resolvents**.
- **A unit Refutation** – unit deduction of the empty clause $\{ \}$.

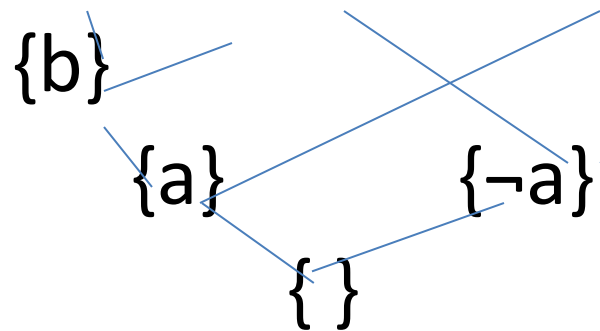
• **Example:** $\{ \{a, b\}, \{ \neg a, c\}, \{ \neg b, c\}, \{ \neg c\} \}$



Efficient but not Complete!

Unit Resolution not complete Example

- $CL = \{\{a, b\}, \{\neg a, b\}, \{a, \neg b\}, \{\neg a, \neg b\}\}$

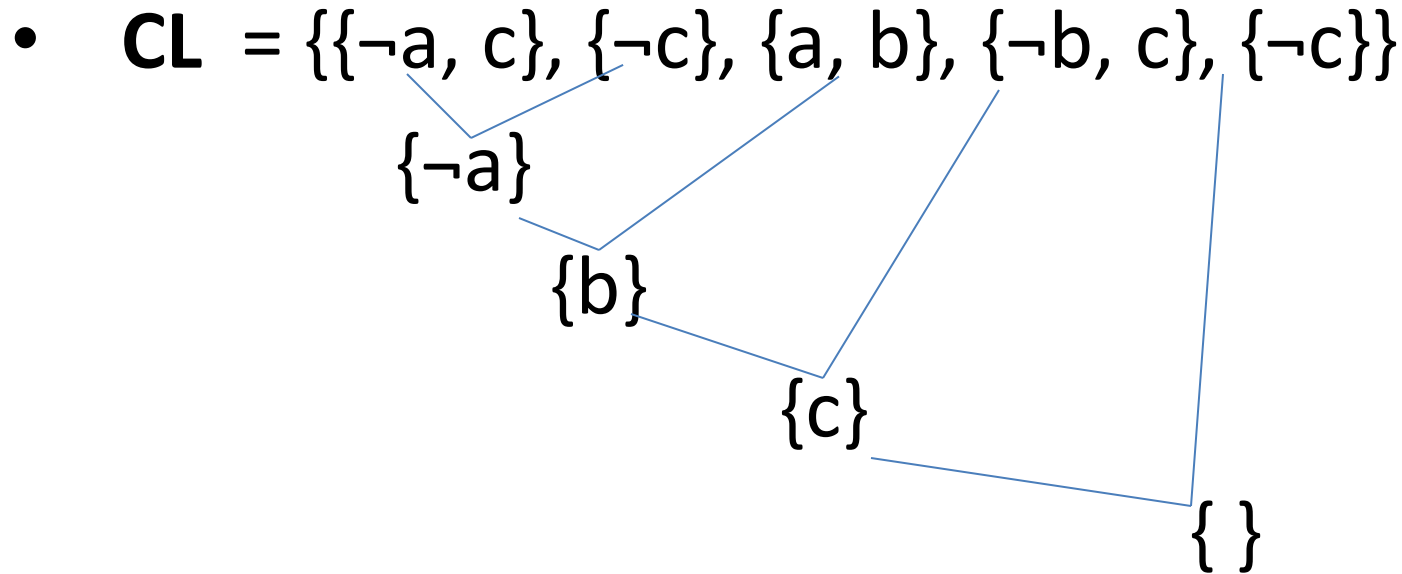


CL is unsatisfiable, but does not have unit deduction.

Horn Clause: a clause with at most one positive literal.

Theorem: Unit Resolution is **complete** on Horn Clauses.

Example of Unit Resolution Deduction



\mathbf{CL} is **not Horn** but $\mathbf{CL} \vdash \{\}$ by unit deduction.

Remark: if we get $\{\}$ by unit deduction we are OK but if we don't get $\{\}$ by unit deduction it does not mean that \mathbf{CL} is satisfiable, because unit strategy is **not a Complete Strategy on non-Horn clauses.**

4. Input Resolution

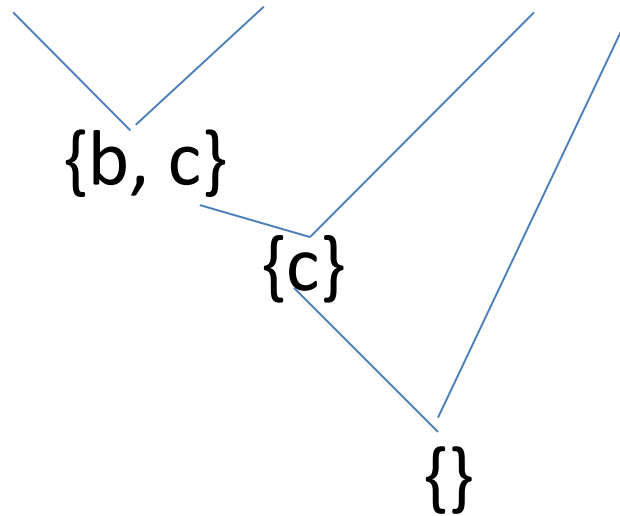
- **Input Resolution-** At least one of the two parent clauses is in the initial database.
- **Input Deduction-** all derived clauses are **input** resolvents.
- **Input Refutation-** Input deduction of $\{ \}$.

THM 1: Unit and Input Resolution are equivalent.

THM 2: Input Resolution is **complete** only on Horn Clauses.

Input Resolution Deduction

Example: $CL = \{\{a, b\}, \{\neg a, c\}, \{\neg b, c\}, \{\neg c\}\}$



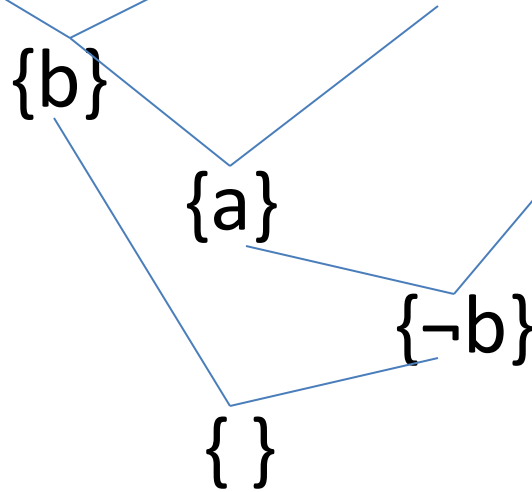
NOT Complete!

5. Linear Resolution

- **Linear Resolution** also called **Ancestry-Filtered** resolution is a slight generalization of **Input Resolution**.
- **A Linear Resolution:** At least one of the parents is either in the initial DB or is in an Ancestor of the other parent.
- **A Linear Deduction:** Uses only linear resolvents : each derived clauses is a linear resolvent
- **A Linear Refutation:** Linear deduction of { }.
- **Linear Resolution is complete**

Example

- $\blacktriangle = \{\{a, b\}, \{-a, b\}, \{a, \neg b\}, \{-a, \neg b\}\}$



Here :

$\{a\}$ is a parent of $\{-b\}$

$\{b\}$ is the ancestor of $\{-b\}$ (other parent of $\{-b\}$)

Linear Resolution

Linear Resolution is complete

There are also more modifications of the **LR** that are **complete**

Our Strategies work also for Predicate Logic Resolution.

Kowalski 1974, 1976 “Logic for problem solving”
“Predicate Logic as a programming language”.

Robinson 1965 “A Machinery Oriented logic based on the resolution principle” J Assoc. for Computing Machinery 12(1)