

# Automated Theorem Proving

Georg Moser

Institute of Computer Science @ UIBK

Winter 2015



# Organisation



## Time and Place

Automated Theorem Proving exercise class	Wednesday, 13:15–14:45	3W03
	Wednesday, 15:00–15:45	3W03



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<b>exercise class</b>	Wednesday, 15:00–15:45	3W03

## Schedule

week 1	October 9	week 8	November 27
week 2	October 16	week 9	December 4
week 3	October 23	week 10	December 11
week 4	October 30	week 11	December 18
week 5	November 6	week 12	January 15
week 6	November 13	week 13	January 22
week 7	November 20	week 14	January 29
<b>first exam</b>	February 5		

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## Office Hours

Thursday, 9:00–11:00, 3M09, Ifl Building

# Outline of the Module

## Advanced Topics in Logic

for example

- compactness
- model existence theorem
- Herbrand's Theorem
- Curry-Howard Isomorphism



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## Automated Reasoning

for example

- implementation of tableau provers
- redundancy and deletion
- superposition
- Robbins problem



# Outline of the Lecture

## Early Approaches in Automated Reasoning

Herbrand's theorem for dummies, Gilmore's prover, method of Davis and Putnam

## Starting Points

resolution, tableau provers, Skolemisation, ordered resolution, redundancy and deletion

## Automated Reasoning with Equality

paramodulation, ordered completion and proof orders, superposition

## Applications of Automated Reasoning

Neuman-Stubblebinde Key Exchange Protocol, Robbins problem

# Literature

- lecture notes  
(3rd edition)



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## Additional Reading

- G.S. Boolos, J.P. Burgess, and R.C. Jeffrey  
**Computability and Logic**  
Cambridge University Press, 2007
- H.-D. Ebbinghaus, J. Flum, and W. Thomas  
**Einführung in die mathematische Logik**  
Spektrum Akademischer Verlag, 2007
- A. Leitsch  
**The Resolution Calculus**  
Springer-Verlag, 2007

## Time and Place (cont'd)

Automated Theorem Proving exercise class	Friday, 13:15–14:45	3W03
	Friday, 14:45–15:40	3W03



## Time and Place (cont'd)

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<b>exercise class</b>	Friday, 14:45–15:40	3W03

## Comments

- officially there are two lectures and one exercise group
- this is not too bright, as the course on theorem proving is based on the course on logic
- however, (budget) constraints require that the courses are held in one term
- implementation: logic on Wednesday, automated theorem proving on Friday
- exercises will cover both topics

# Motivation



## Applications of Automated Reasoning

### 1 Program Analysis

**logical products** of interpretations allows the automated combination of simple interpreters



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### 2 Databases, in particular datalog

**datalog** is a declarative language and syntactically it is a subset of Prolog; used in knowledge representation systems



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### 3 Types as Formulas

the **type checking** in simple  $\lambda$ -calculus is equivalent to derivability in intuitionistic logic

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### 4 Complexity Theory

NP can be characterised as the class of **existential second-order sentence**

# Additional Applications

## Application ⑤: Issues of Security

- security protocols are small programs that aim at securing communications over a public network
- design of such protocols is difficult and error-prone
- we will study the use of a first-order theorem prover to show that the **Neuman-Stubblebine** key exchange protocol can be broken



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## Application ⑥: Software Verification

- termination of programs is undecidable (Alan Turing)
- **so what**: termination of imperative programs can be shown by  
*AProVE, Terminator, Julia, COSTA, ...*  
fully automatically ...
- Terminator uses **model-checking**

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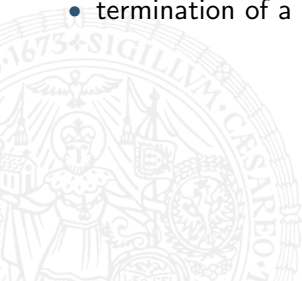
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## Terminator research project

- developed by Microsoft Research Cambridge
- employs **transition invariants**, given a program step relation  $\rightarrow_P$  find finitely many well-founded relations  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  whose union contains the transitive closure of  $\rightarrow_P$

# A Bit More on Java

## Example

```
public static int div(int x, int y) {  
    int res = 0;  
    while (x >= y && y > 0) {  
        x = x-y;  
        res = res + 1;  
    }  
    return res;  
}
```

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```

*Termination of the example could be proven.*

## A Bit More on Java (cont'd)

### Example

```
public static void test(int n, int m){
    if (0 < n && n < m) {
        int j = n+1;
        while(j<n || j > n){
            if (j>m) j=0 else j=j+1;
        }
    }
}
```

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*We were unable to show termination of the example.*

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- transform first-order into propositional logic
- basis of Gilmore's prover



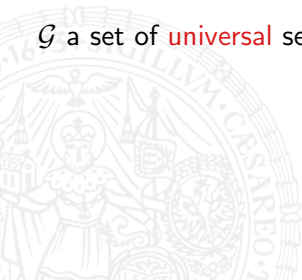
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## Definition

$$\text{Gr}(\mathcal{G}) = \{G(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid \forall x_1 \cdots \forall x_n G(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{G}, t_i \text{ closed terms}\}$$

## Definition

let

$$\mathcal{A} = \{A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots\}$$

be (ground) atomic formulas over Herbrand universe of  $\mathcal{L}$



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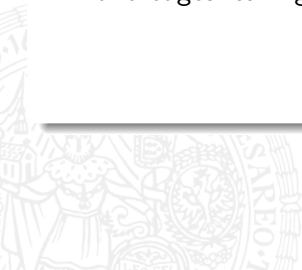
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- let  $l$  be a node in  $T$  of height  $n$ ; then  $l$  is either a
  - 1 leaf node or
  - 2 the edges  $e_1, e_2$  leaving node  $l$  are labelled by  $A_n$  and  $\neg A_n$

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## Fact

*path in  $T$  gives rise to a (partial) Herbrand interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  over  $\mathcal{L}$*



## Definition

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- let  $I \in \mathcal{T}$ , Herbrand interpretation induced by  $I$  is denoted as  $\mathcal{I}$
- $I$  is **closed**, if  $\exists G \in \text{Gr}(\neg F)$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \not\models G$  and thus  $\mathcal{I} \not\models \neg F$



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- note that if  $I$  is closed, then  $\mathcal{I}$  models the original formula  $F$

## Lemma

*if all nodes in  $T$  are closed then  $F$  is valid*



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## Lemma

*if all nodes in  $T$  are closed then  $F$  is valid*

## Proof.

- suppose all nodes in  $T$  are closed
- $\exists$  finite unsatisfiable  $S \subseteq \text{Gr}(\neg F)$
- a simple corollary to Herbrand's theorem says that  $\neg F$  is unsatisfiable if  $\exists$  finite unsatisfiable  $S \subseteq \text{Gr}(\neg F)$
- hence  $\neg F$  is unsatisfiable, thus  $F$  is valid

## Definition

the **Herbrand universe** for a language  $\mathcal{L}$  can be constructed iteratively as follows:

$$H_0 := \begin{cases} \{c \mid c \text{ is a constant in } \mathcal{L}\} & \exists \text{ constants} \\ \{c\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$H_{n+1} := \{f(t_1, \dots, t_k) \mid f^k \in \mathcal{L}, t_1, \dots, t_k \in H_n\}$$

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## Definitions

- let  $\mathcal{C} = \{C_1, \dots, C_n\}$  be the set of clauses over  $\mathcal{L}$ , representing  $\neg F^a$
- define  $\mathcal{C}'_n$  as the ground instances of  $\mathcal{C}$  using only terms from  $H_n$

---

<sup>a</sup>a **clause** is a disjunction of literals

## Gilmore's Prover in Pseudo-Code

```
begin {  
  contr := false;  
  n := 0;  
  while (not contr) do {  
     $D'$  := DNF( $C'_n$ );  
    contr := all constituents of  $D'$   
             contain complementary literals;  
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### Disadvantages

- generation of all  $C'_n$
- transformation to DNF
- did not yield actual proofs of simple (predicate logic) formulas