The Alethe Proof Format

A Speculative Specification and Reference (Work in Progress)

Haniel Barbosa 1 Mathias Fleury 2 Pascal Fontaine 3 Hans-Jörg Schurr 4

¹ Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
 ² Johannes Kepler University Linz
 ³ Université de Liège
 ⁴ University of Lorraine, CNRS, Inria, and LORIA, Nancy

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1 Introduction

This document is a reference of the Alethe format. The format is designed to be a flexible format to represent unsatisfiability proofs generated by SMT solvers. It is designed around a few core concepts, such as a natural-deduction style structure and resolution. Section 2 informally introduces those concepts and also shows the notations used for them along the way. In the subsequent Section 3 we will see the formal semantic of the concepts introduced before.

The concrete syntax and semantic is based on the SMT-LIB [3] format, which is widely used as input and output format of SMT solvers. Hence, the base logic is the many-sorted first order logic of SMT-LIB. This document assumes the reader is familiar with the SMT-LIB standard. As discussed in Section 4 the concrete syntax of Alethe is based on the SMT-LIB syntax.

The format is currently used by the $\mathrm{CDCL}(T)$ -based SMT solver veriT [6]. If requested by the user, veriT outputs a proof if it can deduce that the input problem is unsatisfiable. In proof production mode, veriT supports the theory of uninterpreted functions, the theory of linear integer and real arithmetic, and quantifiers. The Alethe proofs can be reconstructed by the \mathtt{smt} tactic of the proof assistant Isabelle/HOL [9,11]. Furthermore, in the future the SMT solver CVC4 [2] will support Alethe as one of multiple proof output formats.

In addition to this reference, the proof format has been discussed in past publications which provide valuable background information. The core of the format goes back to 2011 when two publications at the PxTP workshop outlined the fundamental ideas behind the format [4] and proposed rules for quantifier instantiation [8] More recently the format has gained support for reasoning typically used for processing, such as Skolemization, renaming of variables, and other manipulations of bound variables [1].

At the end of a document Section 5 contains a full list of all proof rules used by SMT solvers supporting Alethe.

2 Core Concepts of Alethe

This section provides an overview of the core concepts of the proof format and also introduces some notation used throughout this paper. While the next section provides a formal semantic for the format, this overview of the core concept should be very helpful for practitioners.

Multi-Sorted First-Order Logic. Many SMT solvers use the SMT-LIB language [3] as both its input and output language and Alethe builds on this language. This includes its multi-sorted first-order logic. The available sorts depend on the selected SMT-LIB theory and can also be extended by the user, but a distinguished Bool sort is always available.

In addition to the multi-sorted first-order logic used by SMT-LIB, Alethe also uses Hilbert's choice operator ϵ . Choice acts like a binder. The term $\epsilon x.\varphi$ stands for a value

v, such that $\varphi[v/x]$ is true if such a value exists. Any value is possible otherwise.

As a matter of notation, we use the symbols x, y, z for variables, f, g, h for functions, and P, Q for predicates, i.e., functions with result sort **Bool**. The symbols r, s, t, u stand for terms. The symbols φ, ψ denote formulas, i.e., terms of sort **Bool**. We use σ to denote substitutions and $t\sigma$ to denote the application of the substitution on the term t. To denote the substitution which maps x to t we write [t/x]. We use = to denote syntactic equality and \simeq to denote the sorted equality predicate. We also use the notion of complementary literals very liberally: $\varphi = \overline{\psi}$ holds if the terms obtained after removing all leading negations from φ and $\overline{\psi}$ are syntactically equal and the number of leading negations is even for φ and odd for $\overline{\psi}$, or vice versa. To simplify the notation we will omit the sort of terms when possible.

Steps. A proof in the Alethe format is an indexed list of steps. To mimic the concrete syntax we will write a step

$$c_1, \ldots, c_k \triangleright i$$
. $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_l$ (rule; $p_1, \ldots, p_m; a_1, \ldots, a_n$)

Each step has an index $i \in \mathbb{I}$ where \mathbb{I} is a countable infinite set of valid indices. In the concrete syntax all SMT-LIB symbols are valid indices, but for examples we will use natural numbers. No two steps have the same index. Furthermore, a step has a clause $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_l$ as its conclusion. If a step has the empty clause as its conclusion (i.e., l=0) we will write \bot . While this muddles the water a bit with regards to steps which have the unit clause with the unit literal \bot as their conclusion, it simplifies the notation. We will remark on the difference if it is relevant. The rule name rule is taken from a set of possible proof rules. Furthermore, each step has a possibly empty set of premises $\{p_1, \ldots, p_n\}$ with $p_i \in \mathbb{N}$, and a rule-dependent and possibly empty list of arguments $[a_1, \ldots, a_m]$. The list of premises only references earlier steps, such that the proof forms a directed acyclic graph. The arguments a_i are either terms or tuples (x_i, t_i) where x_i is a variable and t_i is a term. The interpretation of the arguments is rule specific. The list c_1, \ldots, c_k is the *context* of the step. Contexts have their own section below.

Every proof ends with a step that has the empty clause as the conclusion and an empty context. Section 5 provides an overview of all proof rules used by veriT.

Assumptions. The assume rule introduces a term as an assumption. The proof starts with a number of assume steps. Each step corresponds to an assertion. Additional assumptions can be introduced too. In this case each assumption must be discharged with an appropriate step. The only rule to do so is the subproof rule. From an assumption φ and a formula ψ proved by intermediate steps from φ , the subproof step deduces $\neg \varphi \lor \psi$ and discharges φ .

Tautologous Rules and Simple Deduction. Most rules introduce tautologies. One example is the and_pos rule: $\neg(\varphi_1 \land \varphi_2 \land \cdots \land \varphi_n) \lor \varphi_i$. Other rules operate on only one premise. Those rules are primarily used to simplify Boolean connectives during preprocessing. For example, the implies rule removes an implication: From $\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2$ it deduces $\neg \varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2$.

Resolution. CDCL(T)-based SMT solvers, and especially their SAT solvers, are fundamentally based on clauses. Hence, Alethe also uses clauses. Nevertheless, since SMT solvers do not enforce a strict clausal normal-form, usual disjunction is also used clauses simplifies checking the rules. For example, in the case of resolution there is a clear distinction between unit clauses where the sole literal starts with a disjunction, and non-unit clauses. The syntax for clauses uses the cl operator, while disjunctions use the standard SMT-LIB or operator. The or rule is responsible for converting disjunctions to clauses.

The Alethe proofs use a generalized propositional resolution rule with the rule name resolution or th_resolution. Both names denote the same rule. The difference only serves to distinguish if the rule was introduced by the SAT solver or by a theory solver. The resolution step is purely propositional; there is no notion of a unifier.

The premises of a resolution step are clauses and the conclusion is a clause that has been derived from the premises by some binary resolution steps.

Quantifier Instantiation. To express quantifier instantiation, the rule forall_inst is used. It produces a formula of the form $(\neg \forall x_1 \dots x_n \cdot \varphi) \lor \varphi[t_1/x_1] \dots [t_n/x_n]$, where φ is a term containing the free variables $(x_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$, and t_i are new variable free terms with the same sort as x_i .

The arguments of a forall_inst step is the list $(x_1, t_1), \ldots, (x_n, t_n)$. While this information can be recovered from the term, providing this information explicitly aids reconstruction because the implicit reordering of equalities (see below) obscure which terms have been used as instances. Existential quantifiers are handled by Skolemization.

Linear Arithmetic. Proofs for linear arithmetic use a number of straightforward rules, such as $la_totality$: $t_1 \le t_2 \lor t_2 \le t_1$ and the main rule $la_generic$. The conclusion of an $la_generic$ step is a tautology $\neg \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2, \ldots, \neg \varphi_n$ where the φ_i are linear (in)equalities. Checking the validity of these formulas amounts to checking the unsatisfiability of the system of linear equations $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \ldots, \varphi_n$. The annotation of an $la_generic$ step contains a coefficient for each (in)equality. The result of forming the linear combination of the literals with the coefficients is a trivial inequality between constants.

Example 1. The following example is the proof for the unsatisfiability of $(x+y<1)\vee(3< x)$, $x \simeq 2$, and $0 \simeq y$.

Subproofs and Lemmas. The proof format uses subproof to prove lemmas and to manipulate the context. To prove lemmas, a subproof can introduce local assumptions. The subproof *rule* discharges the local assumptions by concluding with an implication (written as a clause) which has the local assumptions as its antecedents. A step can only use steps from the same subproof as its premise. It is not possible to have premises from either a subproof at a deeper level or from an outer level.

As the example below shows, our notation for subproofs is a frame around the rules within the subproof. Subproofs are also used to manipulate the context.

Example 2. This example show a contradiction proof for the formula $(2+2) \simeq 5$. The proof uses a subproof to prove the lemma $((2+2) \simeq 5) \Rightarrow 4 \simeq 5$.

$\triangleright 1$.	$(2+2) \simeq 5$	(\mathtt{assume})
$\triangleright 2$.	$(2+2) \simeq 5$	(\mathtt{assume})
⊳3.	$(2+2) \simeq 4$	<pre>(plus_simplify)</pre>
$\triangleright 4$.	$4 \simeq 5$	$(\mathtt{trans};1,2)$
\triangleright 5.	$\neg((2+2)\simeq 5), 4\simeq 5$	(subproof)
▷ 5. ▷ 6.	$\neg((2+2) \simeq 5), 4 \simeq 5$ $(4 \simeq 5) \leftrightarrow \bot$	(subproof) (eq_simplify)
		` • /

Contexts. A specialty of the veriT proof format is the step context. The context is a possible empty list $[c_1, \ldots, c_l]$, where c_i is either a variable or a variable-term tuple denoted $x_i \mapsto t_i$. Throughout this document Γ denotes an arbitrary context. The context denotes a substitution.

Skolemization and Other Preprocessing Steps. One typical example for a rule with context is the sko_ex rule, which is used to express Skolemization of an existentially quantified variable. It is a applied to a premise n with a context that maps a variable x to the appropriate Skolem term and produces a step m (m > n) where the variable is quantified.

$$\Gamma, x \mapsto (\epsilon x. \varphi) \rhd n. \qquad \varphi \simeq \psi \qquad (\ldots)$$

$$\Gamma \rhd m. \quad (\exists x. \varphi) \simeq \psi \quad (\mathsf{sko_ex}; n)$$

Example 3. To illustrate how such a rule is applied, consider the following example taken from [1]. Here the term $\neg p(\epsilon x. \neg p(x))$ is Skolemized. The refl rule expresses a simple tautology on the equality (reflexivity in this case), cong is functional congruence, and sko_forall works like sko_ex, except that the choice term is $\epsilon x. \neg \varphi$.

Implicit Reordering of Equalities. In addition to the explicit steps, solvers might reorder equalities, i.e., apply symmetry of the equality predicate, without generating steps. The SMT solver veriT currently applies this liberty in a restricted form: equalities are only reordered when the term below the equality change during proof search. One such case is the instantiation of universally quantified variables. If an instantiated variable appears below an equality, then the equality might have an arbitrary order after instantiation. Nevertheless, consumers of Alethe must consider the possible implicit reordering of equalities.

3 The Concrete Semantics

Most of the content is taken from the presentation and the correctness proof of the format [1].

3.1 Abstract Inference System

The inference rules used by our framework depend on a notion of *context* defined by the grammar

$$\Gamma ::= \varnothing \mid \Gamma, x \mid \Gamma, \bar{x}_n \mapsto \bar{s}_n$$

The empty context \varnothing is also denoted by a blank. Each context entry either fixes a variable x or defines a substitution $\{\bar{x}_n \mapsto \bar{s}_n\}$. Any variables arising in the terms \bar{s}_n will typically have been introduced in the context Γ on the left, but this is not required. If a context introduces the same variable several times, the rightmost entry shadows the others.

Abstractly, a context Γ fixes a set of variables and specifies a substitution $subst(\Gamma)$. The substitution is the identity for \emptyset and is defined as follows in the other cases:

$$subst(\Gamma, x) = subst(\Gamma)[x \mapsto x]$$
 $subst(\Gamma, \bar{x}_n \mapsto \bar{t}_n) = subst(\Gamma) \circ \{\bar{x}_n \mapsto \bar{t}_n\}$

In the first equation, the $[x \mapsto x]$ update shadows any replacement of x induced by Γ . The examples below illustrate this subtlety:

$$subst(x \mapsto 7, x \mapsto \mathsf{g}(x)) = \{x \mapsto \mathsf{g}(7)\}$$

$$subst(x \mapsto 7, x, x \mapsto \mathsf{g}(x)) = \{x \mapsto \mathsf{g}(x)\}$$

We write $\Gamma(t)$ to abbreviate the capture-avoiding substitution $subst(\Gamma)(t)$.

Transformations of terms (and formulas) are justified by judgments of the form $\Gamma
ightharpoonup t \simeq u$, where Γ is a context, t is an unprocessed term, and u is the corresponding processed term. The free variables in t and u must appear in the context Γ . Semantically, the judgment expresses the equality of the terms $\Gamma(t)$ and u, universally quantified on variables fixed by Γ . Crucially, the substitution applies only on the left-hand side of the equality.

The inference rules for the transformations rely on equations that are presented here, then the rules are presented below, followed by explanations.

$$\models (\exists x. \, \varphi[x]) \implies \varphi[\varepsilon x. \, \varphi] \tag{\varepsilon_1}$$

$$\models (\forall x. \ \varphi \simeq \psi) \implies (\varepsilon x. \ \varphi) \simeq (\varepsilon x. \ \psi) \tag{ε_2}$$

$$\models (\text{let } \bar{x}_n \simeq \bar{s}_n \text{ in } t[\bar{x}_n]) \simeq t[\bar{s}_n]$$
 (let)

The rules are:

$$\frac{\Gamma \ \ \, \vdash \tau \simeq u}{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd t \simeq u} \ \, \text{Taut}_{\mathbb{T}} \quad \text{if} \, \models_{\overline{\tau}} \Gamma(t) \simeq u$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd s \simeq t \ \ \, \Gamma \ \ \, \rhd t \simeq u}{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd s \simeq u} \ \, \text{Trans} \quad \text{if} \, \Gamma(t) = t$$

$$\frac{\left(\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd t_i \simeq u_i\right)_{i=1}^n}{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd f(\bar{t}_n) \simeq f(\bar{u}_n)} \ \, \text{Cong}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \, y, \, x \mapsto y \ \ \, \rhd \varphi \simeq \psi}{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd (Qx. \, \varphi) \simeq (Qy. \, \psi)} \ \, \text{Bind} \quad \text{if} \, y \notin FV(Qx. \, \varphi) \cup V(\Gamma)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \, x \mapsto (\varepsilon x. \, \varphi) \ \ \, \rhd \varphi \simeq \psi}{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd (\exists x. \, \varphi) \simeq \psi} \ \, \text{Sko}_{\exists}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \, x \mapsto (\varepsilon x. \, \neg \varphi) \ \ \, \rhd \varphi \simeq \psi}{\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd (\forall x. \, \varphi) \simeq \psi} \ \, \text{Sko}_{\exists}$$

$$\frac{\left(\Gamma \ \ \, \rhd \, r_i \simeq s_i\right)_{i=1}^n \ \, \Gamma, \, \bar{x}_n \mapsto \bar{s}_n \ \, \rhd \, t \simeq u}{\Gamma \ \, \rhd (\text{let} \, \bar{x}_n \simeq \bar{r}_n \, \text{in} \, t) \simeq u} \ \, \text{Let} \quad \text{if} \, \Gamma(s_i) = s_i \, \text{for all} \, i \in [n]$$

- TAUT_T relies on an oracle $\models_{\mathfrak{T}}$ to derive arbitrary lemmas in a theory \mathfrak{T} . In practice, the oracle will produce some kind of certificate to justify the inference. An important special case, for which we use the name Refl, is syntactic equality up to renaming of bound variables; the side condition is then $\Gamma(t) =_{\alpha} u$. (We use $=_{\alpha}$ instead of = because applying a substitution can rename bound variables.)
- TRANS needs the side condition because the term t appears both on the left-hand side of \simeq (where it is subject to Γ 's substitution) and on the right-hand side (where it is not). Without it, the two occurrences of t in the antecedent could denote different terms.
- CONG can be used for any function symbol f, including the logical connectives.
- BIND is a congruence rule for quantifiers. The rule also justifies the renaming of the bound variable (from x to y). In the antecedent, the renaming is expressed by a substitution in the context. If x = y, the context is Γ , x, $x \mapsto x$, which has the same meaning as Γ , x. The side condition prevents an unwarranted variable capture: The new variable should not be a free variable in the formula where the renaming occurs $(y \notin FV(Qx, \varphi))$, and should be fresh in the context $(y \notin V(\Gamma))$,

where $V(\Gamma)$ denotes the set of all variables occurring in Γ). In particular, y should not appear fixed or on either side of a substitution in the context.

- Sko_∃ and Sko_∀ exploit (ε₁) to replace a quantified variable with a suitable witness, simulating skolemization. We can think of the ε expression in each rule abstractly as a fresh function symbol that takes any fixed variables it depends on as arguments. In the antecedents, the replacement is performed by the context.
- Let exploits (let) to expand a 'let' expression. Again, a substitution is used. The terms \bar{r}_n assigned to the variables \bar{x}_n can be transformed into terms \bar{s}_n .

The antecedents of all the rules inspect subterms structurally, without modifying them. Modifications to the term on the left-hand side are delayed; the substitution is applied only in TAUT. This is crucial to obtain compact proofs that can be checked efficiently. Some of the side conditions may look computationally expensive, but there are techniques to compute them fairly efficiently. Furthermore, by systematically renaming variables in BIND, we can satisfy most of the side conditions trivially.

The set of rules can be extended to cater for arbitrary transformations that can be expressed as equalities, using Hilbert choice to represent fresh symbols if necessary. The usefulness of Hilbert choice for proof reconstruction is well known [5,7,10], but we push the idea further and use it to simplify the inference system and make it more uniform.

Example 4. The following derivation tree justifies the expansion of a 'let' expression:

3.2 Correctness

Theorem 4.1 (Soundness of Inferences [1, Theorem 11]). If the judgment $\Gamma \rhd t \simeq u$ is derivable using the original inference system with the theories $\mathfrak{I}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{I}_n$, then $\models_{\mathfrak{T}} \Gamma(t) \simeq u$ with $\mathfrak{T} = \mathfrak{I}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathfrak{I}_n \cup \cdots \cup \varepsilon \cup \text{let}$.

Proof. See
$$[1, Theorem 11]$$

3.3 More Concrete Rules

The high-level rules presented in the previous paragraph are useful for presentation purpose, but they are hard to check. We specialize them by reducing applicability. In particular the TAUT rule is very hard to check und is specialized.

```
1 (assume h1 (not (p a)))
2 (assume h2 (forall ((z1 U)) (forall ((z2 U)) (p z2))))
4 (anchor :step t9 :args ((:= z2 vr4)))
5 (step t9.t1 (cl (= z2 vr4)) :rule refl)
6 (step t9.t2 (cl (= (p z2) (p vr4))) :rule cong :premises (t9.t1))
  (step t9 (cl (= (forall ((z2 U)) (p z2)) (forall ((vr4 U)) (p vr4))))
8
            :rule bind)
9
  (step t14 (cl (forall ((vr5 U)) (p vr5)))
10
             :rule th_resolution :premises (t11 t12 t13))
  (step t15 (cl (or (not (forall ((vr5 U)) (p vr5))) (p a)))
12
             :rule forall_inst :args ((:= vr5 a)))
13
  (step t16 (cl (not (forall ((vr5 U)) (p vr5))) (p a))
14
             :rule or :premises (t15))
15
  (step t17 (cl) :rule resolution :premises (t16 h1 t14))
```

Figure 1: Example proof output. Assumptions are introduced (line 1–2); a subproof renames bound variables (line 4–8); the proof finishes with instantiaton and resolution steps (line 10–15)

4 The Concrete Syntax

The concrete text representation of the Alethe proofs is based on the SMT-LIB standard. Figure 1 shows an exemplary proof as printed by veriT with light edits for readability. The format follows the SMT-LIB standard when possible.

Figure 2 shows the grammar of the proof text. It is based on the SMT-LIB grammar, as defined in the SMT-LIB standard version 2.6 Appendix B^1 . The nonterminals $\langle \text{symbol} \rangle$, $\langle \text{function_def} \rangle$, $\langle \text{sorted_var} \rangle$, and $\langle \text{term} \rangle$ are as defined in the standard. The $\langle \text{proof_term} \rangle$ is the recursive $\langle \text{term} \rangle$ nonterminal redefined with the additional production for the choice binder.

Input problems in the SMT-LIB standard contain a list of *commands* that modify the internal state of the solver. In agreement with this approach veriT's proofs are also formed by a list of commands. The assume command introduces a new assumption. While this command could also be expressed using the step command with a special rule, the special semantic of an assumption justifies the presence of a dedicated command: assumptions are neither tautological nor derived from premises. The step command, on the other hand, introduces a derived or tautological formula. Both commands assume and step require an index as the first argument to later refer back to it. This index is an arbitrary SMT-LIB symbol. The only restriction is that it must be unique for each assume and step command. The second argument is the term introduced by the

 $^{^1} A vailable \ online \ at: \ \texttt{http://smtlib.cs.uiowa.edu/language.shtml}$

```
⟨proof_command⟩*
             ⟨proof⟩
  ⟨proof_command⟩
                                (assume \( \symbol \) \( \proof_term \) )
                                (step (symbol) (clause) :rule (symbol)
                                   (step_annotation))
                                (anchor :step \( \symbol \) )
                                (anchor :step ⟨symbol⟩ :args ⟨proof_args⟩ )
                                (define-fun \( function_def \) )
                                (cl ⟨proof_term⟩*)
            ⟨clause⟩
(step_annotation)
                                :premises (\langle \text{symbol} \rangle^+)
                           ::=
                                :args \( \text{proof_args} \)
                                :premises (\langle \text{symbol} \rangle^+) :args \langle \text{proof\_args} \rangle
      ⟨proof_args⟩
                           ::=
                                (\langle proof_arg \rangle^+)
        ⟨proof_arg⟩
                                ⟨symbol⟩ | (⟨symbol⟩ ⟨proof_term⟩)
                           ::=
      ⟨proof_term⟩
                                ⟨term⟩ extended with
                           ::=
                                (choice (⟨sorted_var⟩<sup>+</sup>) ⟨proof_term⟩)
```

Figure 2: The proof grammar

command. For a step, this term is always a clause. To express disjunctions in SMT-LIB the or operator is used. This operator, however, needs at least two arguments and cannot represent unary or empty clauses. To circumvent this we introduce a new cl operator. It corresponds the standard or function extended to one argument, where it is equal to the identity, and zero arguments, where it is equal to false. The :premises annotation denotes the premises and is skipped if they are none. If the rule carries arguments, the :args annotation is used to denote them.

The anchor and define-fun commands are used for subproofs and sharing, respectively. The define-fun command corresponds exactly to the define-fun command of the SMT-LIB language.

Subproofs

As the name suggests, the subproof rule expresses subproofs. This is possible because its application is restricted: the assumption used as premise for the subproof step must be the assumption introduced last. Hence, the assume, subproof pairs are nested. The context is manipulated in the same way: if a step pops c_1, \ldots, c_n from a context Γ , there is an earlier step which pushes precisely c_1, \ldots, c_n onto the context. Since contexts can only be manipulated by push and pop, context manipulations are also nested.

Because of this nesting, veriT uses the concept of subproofs. A subproof is started right before an assume command or a command which pushes onto the context. We call this point the *anchor*. The subproof ends with the matching subproof command or command which pops from the context, respectively. The :step annotation of the anchor command is used to indicate the step command which will end the subproof. The term of this step command is the conclusion of the subproof. If the subproof uses a

context, the :args annotation of the anchor command indicates the arguments added to the context for this subproof. In the example proof (Figure 1) a subproof starts on line four. It ends on line seven with the bind steps which finished the proof for the renaming of the bound variable z2 to vr4.

A further restriction applies: only the conclusion of a subproof can be used as a premise outside of the subproof. Hence, a proof checking tool can remove the steps of the subproof from memory after checking it.

Sharing and Skolem Terms

The proof output generated by veriT is generally large. One reason for this is that veriT can store terms internally much more efficiently. By utilizing a perfect sharing data structure, every term is stored in memory precisely once. When printing the proof this compact storage is unfolded.

The user of veriT can optionally activate sharing² to print common subterms only once. This is realized using the standard naming mechanism of SMT-LIB. In the language of SMT-LIB it is possible to annotate any term t with a name n by writing (! t:named n) where n is a symbol. After a term is annotated with a name, the name can be used in place of the term. This is a purely syntactical replacement.

To simplify reconstruction veriT can optionally³ define Skolem constants as functions. If activated, this option adds a list of define-fun command to define shorthand 0-ary functions for the (choice ...) terms needed. Without this option, no define-fun commands are issued and the constants are expanded.

5 List of Proof Rules

The following lists all rules of Alethe. They are categorized by type:

Main Rules (Sect. 5.1) contains the rules that justify the existence of the proof format, namely the bind and subproof rules.

Skolemization Rules (Sect. 5.2) that uses Hilbert choice.

Basic Proof Rules (Sect. 5.3).

Arithmetic Rules (Sect. 5.4).

Quantifier Rules (Sect. 5.5) that shows how to instantiate a formula.

SAT handling (Sect. 5.6) where resolution and removal of duplicated literals are presented.

Clausification of Boolean operators (Sect. 5.9) and if-then-else (Sect. 5.10) where structure is moved from terms to the clause structure.

²By using the command-line option --proof-with-sharing.

³By using the command-line option --proof-define-skolems.

Simplifications (Sect. 5.11) are a very important part of any SMT solver. veriT provides very detailed rules. To simplify checking, we encourage users to write one step per theory instead of combining all simplifications in a single step.

Term Reshaping (Sect. 5.12) that transform a term by adding or removing variables.

5.1 Main Rules

The following rules are the raison-d'être of the proof format: providing detailed reasoning under quantifiers.

Rule 1: bind

The bind rule is used to rename bound variables.

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}\hline & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \hline \Gamma, y_1, \dots, y_n, x_1 \mapsto y_1, \dots, x_n \mapsto y_n, & \triangleright j. & \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi' & & (\dots) \\ \hline \Gamma \rhd k. & \forall x_1, \dots, x_n. \varphi \leftrightarrow \forall y_1, \dots, y_n. \varphi' & & (\text{bind}) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

where the variables y_1, \ldots, y_n is not free in $\forall x_1, \ldots, x_n.\varphi$.

Rule 2: subproof

The subproof rule completes a subproof and discharges local assumptions. Every subproof starts with some input steps. The last step of the subproof is the conclusion.

5.2 Skolemization Rules

Rule 3: sko_ex

The sko_ex rule skolemizes existential quantifiers.

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \\ \Gamma, x_1 \mapsto (\epsilon x_1.\varphi), \dots, x_n \mapsto (\epsilon x_n.\varphi), \, \triangleright j. & \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi \\ \hline \\ \Gamma \triangleright k. & \exists x_1, \dots, x_n.\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Rule 4: sko_forall

The sko_forall rule skolemizes universal quantifiers.

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline \Gamma, x_1 \mapsto (\epsilon x_1. \neg \varphi), \dots, x_n \mapsto (\epsilon x_n. \neg \varphi), \triangleright j. & \vdots \\ \hline \Gamma \triangleright k. & \forall x_1, \dots, x_n. \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi & \text{ (sko_forall)} \\ \end{array}$$

5.3 Basic Proof Rules

Rule 5: assume

$$\triangleright i.$$
 ϕ (assume)

where φ is equivalent to a formula asserted in the input problem.

Rule 6: true

$$\triangleright i$$
. $ag{true}$

Rule 7: false

$$hinspace i.$$
 $\lnot \bot$ (false)

Rule 8: not_not

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\neg(\neg\neg\varphi), \varphi$ (not_not)

Remark. This rule is useful to remove double negations from a clause. Take the clause with the double negation and resolve on φ .

5.4 Arithmetic Rules

Rule 9: la_generic

A step of the la_generic rule represents a tautological clause of linear disequalities. It can be checked by showing that the conjunction of the negated disequalities is unsatisfiable. After the application of some strengthening rules, the resulting conjunction is unsatisfiable, even if integer variables are assumed to be real variables.

A linear inequality is of term of the form $\sum_{i=0}^{n} c_i \times t_i + d_1 \bowtie \sum_{i=n+1}^{m} c_i \times t_i + d_2$ where $\bowtie \in \{=, <, >, \leq, \geq\}$, where $m \geq n$, c_i , d_1 , d_2 are either integer or real constants, and for each i c_i and t_i have the same sort. We will write $s_1 \bowtie s_2$.

Let l_1, \ldots, l_n be linear inequalities and a_1, \ldots, a_n rational numbers, then a la_generic step has the form

$$\triangleright i. \quad \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_o \quad (\texttt{la_generic}; a_1, \dots, a_o)$$

where φ_i is either $\neg l_i$ or l_i , but never $s_1 \simeq s_2$.

If the current theory does not have rational numbers, then the a_i are printed using integer division. They should, nevertheless, be interpreted as rational numbers. If d_1 or d_2 are 0, they might not be printed.

To check the unsatisfiability of the negation of $\varphi_1 \vee \cdots \vee \varphi_o$ one performs the following steps for each literal. For each i, let $\varphi := \varphi_i$ and $a := a_i$.

1. If $\varphi = s_1 > s_2$, then let $\varphi := s_1 \le s_2$. If $\varphi = s_1 \ge s_2$, then let $\varphi := s_1 < s_2$. If $\varphi = s_1 < s_2$, then let $\varphi := s_1 \ge s_2$. If $\varphi = s_1 \le s_2$, then let $\varphi := s_1 > s_2$.

- 2. If $\varphi = \neg (s_1 \bowtie s_2)$, then let $\varphi := s_1 \bowtie s_2$.
- 3. Replace φ by $\sum_{i=0}^{n} c_i \times t_i \sum_{i=n+1}^{m} c_i \times t_i \bowtie d$ where $d := d_2 d_1$.
- 4. Now φ has the form $s_1 \bowtie d$. If all variables in s_1 are integer sorted: replace $\bowtie d$ according to table 1.
- 5. If \bowtie is \simeq replace l by $\sum_{i=0}^{m} a \times c_i \times t_i \simeq a \times d$, otherwise replace it by $\sum_{i=0}^{m} |a| \times c_i \times t_i \simeq |a| \times d$.

Table 1: Strengthening rules for la_generic.

Finally, the sum of the resulting literals is trivially contradictory. The sum

$$\sum_{k=1}^{o} \sum_{i=1}^{m^o} c_i^o * t_i^o \bowtie \sum_{k=1}^{o} d^k$$

where c_i^k is the constant c_i of literal l_k , t_i^k is the term t_i of l_k , and d^k is the constant d of l_k . The operator \bowtie is \simeq if all operators are \simeq , > if all are either \simeq or >, and \geq otherwise. The a_i must be such that the sum on the left-hand side is 0 and the right-hand side is > 0 (or \geq 0 if \bowtie is >).

Example 9.1. A simple la_generic step in the logic LRA might look like this:

```
(step t10 (cl (not (> (f a) (f b))) (not (= (f a) (f b))))
:rule la_generic :args (1.0 (- 1.0)))
```

To verify this we have to check the insatisfiability of $f(a) > f(b) \land f(a) = f(b)$ (Step 2). After step 3 we get $f(a) - f(b) > 0 \land f(a) - f(b) = 0$. Since we don't have an integer sort in this logic step 4 does not apply. Finally, after step 5 the conjunction is $f(a) - f(b) > 0 \land -f(a) + f(b) = 0$. This sums to 0 > 0, which is a contradiction.

Example 9.2. The following la_generic step is from a QF_UFLIA problem:

```
(step t11 (cl (not (<= f3 0)) (<= (+ 1 (* 4 f3)) 1))
:rule la_generic :args (1 (div 1 4)))
```

After normalization we get $-f_3 \ge 0 \land 4 \times f_3 > 0$. This time step 4 applies and we can strengthen this to $-f_3 \ge 0 \land 4 \times f_3 \ge 1$ and after multiplication we get $-f_3 \ge 0 \land f_3 \ge \frac{1}{4}$. Which sums to the contradiction $\frac{1}{4} \ge 0$.

Rule 10: lia_generic

This rule is a placeholder rule for integer arithmetic solving. It takes the same form as la_generic, without the additional arguments.

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n$ (lia_generic)

with φ_i being linear inequalities. The disjunction $\varphi_1 \vee \cdots \vee \varphi_n$ is a tautology in the theory of linear integer arithmetic.

Rule 11: la_disequality

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $t_1 \simeq t_2 \lor \neg(t_1 \le t_2) \lor \neg(t_2 \le t_1)$ (la_disequality)

Rule 12: la_totality

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $t_1 \le t_2 \lor t_2 \le t_1$ (la_totality)

Rule 13: la_tautology

This rule is a linear arithmetic tautology which can be checked without sophisticated reasoning. It has either the form

$$\triangleright i.$$
 (la_tautology)

where φ is either a linear inequality $s_1 \bowtie s_2$ or $\neg(s_1 \bowtie s_2)$. After performing step 1 to 3 of the process for checking the la_generic the result is trivially unsatisfiable.

The second form handles bounds on linear combinations. It is binary clause:

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2$ (la_tautology)

It can be checked by using the procedure for la_generic with while setting the arguments to 1. Informally, the rule follows one of several cases:

- $\neg (s_1 \le d_1) \lor s_1 \le d_2$ where $d_1 \le d_2$
- $s_1 \le d_1 \lor \neg (s_1 \le d_2)$ where $d_1 = d_2$
- $\neg (s_1 \ge d_1) \lor s_1 \ge d_2$ where $d_1 \ge d_2$
- $s_1 \ge d_1 \lor \neg (s_1 \ge d_2)$ where $d_1 = d_2$
- $\neg (s_1 \le d_1) \lor \neg (s_1 \ge d_2)$ where $d_1 < d_2$

The inequalities $s_1 \bowtie d$ are are the result of applying normalization as for the rule la_generic.

5.5 Quantifier Rules

Rule 14: forall_inst

where k_1, \ldots, k_n is a permutation of $1, \ldots, n$ and x_i and k_i have the same sort. The arguments $x_{k_i} := t_{k_i}$ are printed as (:= xki tki).

Remark. A rule simmilar to the let rule would be more appropriate. The resulting proof would be more fine grained and this would also be an opportunity to provide a proof for the clausification as currently done by qnt_cnf.

5.6 Resolution Rules and Clause Simplifications

Rule 15: th_resolution

This rule is the resolution of two or more clauses.

where $\varphi_{s_1}^{r_1}, \ldots, \varphi_{s_m}^{r_m}$ are from φ_j^i and are the result of a chain of predicate resolution steps on the clauses of i_1 to i_n . It is possible that m=0, i.e. that the result is the empty clause.

This rule is only used when the resolution step is not emitted by the SAT solver. See the equivalent resolution rule for the rule emitted by the SAT solver.

Remark. While checking this rule is NP-complete, the th_resolution-steps produced by veriT are simple. Experience with reconstructing the step in Isabelle/HOL shows that checking can done by naive decision procedures. The vast majority of th_resolution-steps are binary resolution steps.

Rule 16: resolution

This rule is equivalent to the the_resolution rule, but it is emitted by the SAT solver instead of theory reasoners. The differentiation serves only informational purpose.

Rule 17: tautology

and $\varphi_i = \bar{\varphi}_j$.

Rule 18: contraction

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & & \varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n & & (\ldots) \\ & & \vdots & & \\ \rhd j. & & \varphi_{k_1}, \ldots, \varphi_{k_m} & & (\text{contraction}; i) \end{array}$$

where $m \leq n$ and $k_1 \dots k_m$ is a monotonic map to $1 \dots n$ such that $\varphi_{k_1} \dots \varphi_{k_m}$ are pairwise distinct and $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\} = \{\varphi_{k_1} \dots \varphi_{k_m}\}$. Hence, this rule remove duplicated literals.

5.7 Equality and Congruence Reasonning

Rule 19: refl

Either

$$\Gamma \triangleright j.$$
 $t_1 \simeq t_2$ (refl)

or

$$\Gamma \triangleright j.$$
 $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$ (refl)

where φ_1 and φ_2 (P_1 and P_2) are equal after applying the substitution induced by Γ .

Rule 20: trans

Either

$$\Gamma \rhd i.$$
 $t_1 \simeq t_2$ (\dots) $\Gamma \rhd j.$ $t_2 \simeq t_3$ (\dots)

 $\Gamma > k$. $t_1 \simeq t_3$ (trans; i, j)

Rule 21: cong

Either

$$\begin{array}{lll} \Gamma > i_1. & & t_1 \simeq u_1 & & (\dots) \\ \Gamma > i_n. & & t_n \simeq u_n & & (\dots) \\ \Gamma > j. & & \mathrm{f}(t_1, \dots, t_n) \simeq \mathrm{f}(u_1, \dots, u_n) & & (\mathrm{cong}; i_1, \dots, i_n) \end{array}$$

where f is an n-ary function symbol, or

$$\begin{array}{lll} \Gamma \rhd i_1. & \varphi_1 \simeq \psi_1 & (\ldots) \\ \Gamma \rhd i_n. & \varphi_n \simeq \psi_n & (\ldots) \\ \Gamma \rhd j. & \mathrm{P}(\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n) \leftrightarrow \mathrm{P}(\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_n) & (\mathrm{cong}; i_1, \ldots, i_n) \end{array}$$

where P is an n-ary predicate symbol.

Rule 22: eq_reflexive

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $t \simeq t$ (eq_reflexive)

Rule 23: eq_transitive

$$rightarrow i.$$
 $rightarrow (t_1 \simeq t_2), \dots, rightarrow (t_{n-1} \simeq t_n), t_1 \simeq t_n$ (eq_transitive)

Rule 24: eq_congruent

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\neg (t_1 \simeq u_1), \dots, \neg (t_n \simeq u_n), f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \simeq f(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ (eq_congruent)

Rule 25: eq_congruent_pred

5.8 Clausification of Quantifiers

Rule 26: qnt_cnf

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\neg(\forall x_1, \dots, x_n.\varphi) \lor \forall x_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_m}.\varphi'$ (qnt_cnf)

This is a placeholder rule for clausification of a term under a universal quantifier. This is used by conflicting instantiation. φ' is one of the clause of the clause normal form of φ . The variables x_{k_1}, \ldots, x_{k_m} are a permutation of x_1, \ldots, x_n plus additional variables added by prenexing φ . Normalization is performed in two phases. First, the negative normal form is formed, then the result is prenexed. The result of the first step is $\Phi(\varphi, 1)$ where:

$$\Phi(\neg \varphi, 1) := \Phi(\varphi, 0)$$

$$\Phi(\neg \varphi, 0) := \Phi(\varphi, 1)$$

$$\Phi(\varphi_1 \lor \dots \lor \varphi_n, 1) := \Phi(\varphi_1, 1) \lor \dots \lor \Phi(\varphi_n, 1)$$

$$\Phi(\varphi_1 \land \dots \land \varphi_n, 1) := \Phi(\varphi_1, 1) \land \dots \land \Phi(\varphi_n, 1)$$

$$\Phi(\varphi_1 \lor \dots \lor \varphi_n, 0) := \Phi(\varphi_1, 0) \land \dots \land \Phi(\varphi_n, 0)$$

$$\Phi(\varphi_1 \land \dots \land \varphi_n, 0) := \Phi(\varphi_1, 0) \lor \dots \lor \Phi(\varphi_n, 0)$$

$$\Phi(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, 1) := (\Phi(\varphi_1, 0) \lor \Phi(\varphi_2, 1)) \land (\Phi(\varphi_2, 0) \lor \Phi(\varphi_1, 1))$$

$$\Phi(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, 0) := (\Phi(\varphi_1, 1) \land \Phi(\varphi_2, 0)) \lor (\Phi(\varphi_2, 1) \land \Phi(\varphi_1, 0))$$

$$\Phi(\text{ite } \varphi_1 \varphi_2 \varphi_3, 1) := (\Phi(\varphi_1, 0) \lor \Phi(\varphi_2, 1)) \land (\Phi(\varphi_1, 1) \lor \Phi(\varphi_3, 1))$$

$$\Phi(\text{ite } \varphi_1 \varphi_2 \varphi_3, 0) := (\Phi(\varphi_1, 1) \land \Phi(\varphi_2, 0)) \lor (\Phi(\varphi_1, 0) \land \Phi(\varphi_3, 0))$$

$$\Phi(\forall x_1, \dots, x_n, \varphi, 1) := \forall x_1, \dots, x_n, \Phi(\varphi, 1)$$

$$\Phi(\exists x_1, \dots, x_n, \varphi, 1) := \exists x_1, \dots, x_n, \Phi(\varphi, 1)$$

$$\Phi(\forall x_1, \dots, x_n, \varphi, 0) := \exists x_1, \dots, x_n, \Phi(\varphi, 0)$$

$$\Phi(\exists x_1, \dots, x_n, \varphi, 0) := \forall x_1, \dots, x_n, \Phi(\varphi, 0)$$

$$\Phi(\exists x_1, \dots, x_n, \varphi, 0) := \forall x_1, \dots, x_n, \Phi(\varphi, 0)$$

$$\Phi(\varphi, 1) := \varphi$$

$$\Phi(\varphi, 0) := \neg \varphi$$

5.9 Clausification of Boolean Operators

Rule 27: and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \triangleright i. & \varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_n & (\dots) \\ \triangleright j. & \varphi_i & (\text{and}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 28: not_or

Rule 29: or

Remark. This rule deconstructs the or operator into a clause denoted by cl.

Example 29.1. An application of the or rule.

Rule 30: not_and

Rule 31: xor1

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & & \operatorname{xor} \varphi_1 \; \varphi_2 & & (\ldots) \\ \rhd j. & & \varphi_1, \varphi_2 & & (\operatorname{xor1}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 32: xor2

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & & \operatorname{xor} \varphi_1 \; \varphi_2 & & (\ldots) \\ \rhd j. & & \neg \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2 & & (\operatorname{xor2}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 33: not_xor1

Rule 34: not_xor2

Rule 35: implies

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2 & (\ldots) \\ \rhd j. & \neg \varphi_1, \varphi_2 & (\text{implies}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 36: not_implies1

Rule 37: not_implies2

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & & \neg(\varphi_1 \to \varphi_2) & & & (\dots) \\ \rhd j. & & \neg\varphi_2 & & (\texttt{not_implies2}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 38: equiv1

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 & (\ldots) \\ \rhd j. & \neg \varphi_1, \varphi_2 & (\text{equiv1}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 39: equiv2

$$\begin{array}{lll} \rhd i. & \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 & (\ldots) \\ \rhd j. & \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2 & (\text{equiv2}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 40: not_equiv1

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & \neg(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) & & & \\ \rhd j. & & \varphi_1, \varphi_2 & & & \\ \end{array}$$

Rule 41: not_equiv2

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rhd i. & \neg(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) & & (\ldots) \\ \rhd j. & \neg\varphi_1, \neg\varphi_2 & & (\texttt{not_equiv2}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 42: and_pos

$$ightharpoonup i.$$
 $eg(\varphi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_n), \varphi_k$ (and_pos)

with $1 \le k \le n$.

Rule 43: and_neg

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $(\varphi_1 \land \dots \land \varphi_n), \neg \varphi_1, \dots, \neg \varphi_n$ (and_neg)

Rule 44: or_pos

$$ightharpoonup i.$$
 $\neg(\varphi_1 \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_n), \varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n$ (or_pos)

Rule 45: or_neg

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $(\varphi_1 \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_n), \neg \varphi_k$ (or_neg)

with $1 \le k \le n$.

Rule 46: xor_pos1

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\neg(\varphi_1 \operatorname{xor} \varphi_2), \varphi_1, \varphi_2$ $(\operatorname{xor_pos1})$

Rule 47: xor_pos2

$$\neg (\varphi_1 \operatorname{xor} \varphi_2), \neg \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2 \tag{xor_pos2}$$

Rule 48: xor_neg1

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \operatorname{xor} \varphi_2, \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2$ (xor_neg1)

Rule 49: xor_neg2

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \operatorname{xor} \varphi_2, \neg \varphi_1, \varphi_2$ (xor_neg2)

Rule 50: implies_pos

$$ightharpoonup i.$$
 $\neg(\varphi_1 \to \varphi_2), \neg\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ (implies_pos)

Rule 51: implies_neg1

$$ho i.$$
 $\varphi_1 o \varphi_2, \varphi_1$ (implies_neg1)

Rule 52: implies_neg2

$$ho_i$$
. $\varphi_1 o \varphi_2, \neg \varphi_2$ (implies_neg2)

Rule 53: equiv_pos1

$$\neg (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2), \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2 \qquad \qquad (\texttt{equiv_pos1})$$

Rule 54: equiv_pos2

$$ightharpoonup i.$$
 $\neg(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2), \neg\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ (equiv_pos2)

Rule 55: equiv_neg1

$$\triangleright i. \hspace{1cm} \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2, \neg \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2 \hspace{1cm} (\texttt{equiv_neg1})$$

Rule 56: equiv_neg2

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_1, \varphi_2$ (equiv_neg2)

5.10 Clausification of If-Then-Else

Rule 57: ite1

$\triangleright i$.	$\mathrm{ite}\varphi_1\;\varphi_2\;\varphi_3$	(\dots)
$\triangleright j$.	$arphi_1,arphi_3$	$(\mathtt{ite1};i)$

Rule 58: ite2

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \triangleright i. & \text{ite}\,\varphi_1\,\varphi_2\,\varphi_3 & & (\ldots) \\ \triangleright j. & \neg \varphi_1, \varphi_2 & & (\text{ite2}; i) \end{array}$$

Rule 59: ite_pos1

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\neg(\text{ite }\varphi_1 \ \varphi_2 \ \varphi_3), \varphi_1, \varphi_3$ (ite_pos1)

Rule 60: ite_pos2

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\neg(\text{ite }\varphi_1 \ \varphi_2 \ \varphi_3), \neg\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ (ite_pos2)

Rule 61: ite_neg1

$$\triangleright i.$$
 ite $\varphi_1 \ \varphi_2 \ \varphi_3, \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_3$ (ite_neg1)

Rule 62: ite_neg2

$$\triangleright i. \qquad \qquad \text{ite } \varphi_1 \ \varphi_2 \ \varphi_3, \neg \varphi_1, \neg \varphi_2 \qquad \qquad \text{(ite_neg2)}$$

Rule 63: not_ite1

Rule 64: not_ite2

5.11 Simplifications

The following rules are pure simplification rules. We give a very detailed list. Combining several simplifications at once is possible, but we encourage proofs to do so for only one single theory at a time.

5.11.1 Boolean Operators

Rule 65: connective_def

This rule is used to replace connectives by their definition. It can be one of the following:

$$\Gamma \triangleright i. \qquad \varphi_1 \operatorname{xor} \varphi_2 \leftrightarrow (\neg \varphi_1 \land \varphi_2) \lor (\varphi_1 \land \neg \varphi_2) \qquad (connective_def)$$

$$\Gamma \rhd i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) \land (\varphi_2 \rightarrow \varphi_1)$ (connective_def)

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 ite $\varphi_1 \varphi_2 \varphi_3 \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) \land (\neg \varphi_1 \rightarrow \neg \varphi_3)$ (connective_def)

Rule 66: and_simplify

This rule simplifies an \wedge term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \psi$ (and_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

The possible transformations are:

- $\bullet \ \top \wedge \cdots \wedge \top \leftrightarrow \top$
- $\varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{n'}$ where the right hand side has all \top literals removed.
- $\varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{n'}$ where the right hand side has all repeated literals removed.
- $\varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bot \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \bot$
- $\varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_i \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_j \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \bot \text{ if } \varphi_i = \bar{\varphi}_i$

Rule 67: or_simplify

This rule simplifies an \vee term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $(\varphi_1 \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_n) \leftrightarrow \psi$ (or_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

The possible transformations are:

- \bullet $\bot \lor \cdots \lor \bot \leftrightarrow \bot$
- $\varphi_1 \vee \cdots \vee \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \varphi_1 \vee \cdots \vee \varphi_{n'}$ where the right hand side has all \perp literals removed.
- $\varphi_1 \vee \cdots \vee \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \varphi_1 \vee \cdots \vee \varphi_{n'}$ where the right hand side has all repeated literals removed.
- $\varphi_1 \lor \cdots \lor \top \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \top$
- $\varphi_1 \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_i \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_i \lor \cdots \lor \varphi_n \leftrightarrow \top \text{ if } \varphi_i = \bar{\varphi_i}$

Rule 68: not_simplify

This rule simplifies an \neg term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\neg \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$ (not_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

- $\neg(\neg\varphi) \leftrightarrow \varphi$
- $\bullet \ \neg\bot \leftrightarrow \top$
- $\bullet \ \neg \top \leftrightarrow \bot$

Rule 69: implies_simplify

This rule simplifies an \rightarrow term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2 \leftrightarrow \psi$ (implies_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

The possible transformations are:

- $\bullet \neg \varphi_1 \to \neg \varphi_2 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \to \varphi_1$
- $\bot \to \varphi \leftrightarrow \top$
- $\varphi \to \top \leftrightarrow \top$
- $\top \to \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi$
- $\varphi \to \bot \leftrightarrow \neg \varphi$
- $\varphi \to \varphi \leftrightarrow \top$
- $\bullet \ \neg \varphi \to \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi$
- $\bullet \ \varphi \to \neg \varphi \leftrightarrow \neg \varphi$
- $(\varphi_1 \to \varphi_2) \to \varphi_2 \leftrightarrow \varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2$

Rule 70: equiv_simplify

This rule simplifies an \leftrightarrow term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \leftrightarrow \psi$ (equiv_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

- $(\neg \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \neg \varphi_2) \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2)$
- $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi) \leftrightarrow \top$
- $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \neg \varphi) \leftrightarrow \bot$
- $(\neg \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi) \leftrightarrow \bot$
- $(\top \leftrightarrow \varphi) \leftrightarrow \varphi$
- $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \top) \leftrightarrow \varphi$
- $(\bot \leftrightarrow \varphi) \leftrightarrow \neg \varphi$
- $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \bot) \leftrightarrow \neg \varphi$

Rule 71: bool_simplify

This rule simplifies a boolean term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$ (bool_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

The possible transformations are:

- $\neg(\varphi_1 \to \varphi_2) \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \land \neg \varphi_2)$
- $\neg(\varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2) \leftrightarrow (\neg \varphi_1 \land \neg \varphi_2)$
- $\neg(\varphi_1 \land \varphi_2) \leftrightarrow (\neg \varphi_1 \lor \neg \varphi_2)$
- $(\varphi_1 \to (\varphi_2 \to \varphi_3)) \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \land \varphi_2) \to \varphi_3$
- $((\varphi_1 \to \varphi_2) \to \varphi_2) \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2)$
- $(\varphi_1 \wedge (\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2)) \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2)$
- $((\varphi_1 \to \varphi_2) \land \varphi_1) \leftrightarrow (\varphi_1 \land \varphi_2)$

Rule 72: ac_simp

This rule simplifies nested occurences of \vee or \wedge :

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\psi \leftrightarrow \varphi_1 \circ \cdots \circ \varphi_n$ (ac_simp)

where $\circ \in \{ \lor, \land \}$ and ψ is a nested application of \circ . The literals φ_i are literals of the flattening of ψ with duplicates removed.

5.11.2 If-Then-Else Operators

Rule 73: ite_simplify

This rule simplifies an if-then-else term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Depending on the sort of the ite-term the rule can have one of two forms. If the sort is **Bool** it has the form

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 ite $\varphi t_1; t_2 \leftrightarrow \psi$ (ite_simplify)

where ψ is the transformed term.

Otherwise, it has the form

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 ite $\varphi t_1 t_2 \simeq u$ (ite_simplify)

where u is the transformed term.

- ite $\top t_1 t_2 \leftrightarrow t_1$
- ite $\perp t_1 t_2 \leftrightarrow t_2$
- ite ψ t $t \leftrightarrow t$

- ite $\neg \varphi \ t_1 \ t_2 \leftrightarrow \text{ite} \ \varphi \ t_2 \ t_1$
- ite $\top t_1 t_2 \leftrightarrow t_1$
- ite $\perp t_1 t_2 \leftrightarrow t_2$
- ite ψ (ite ψ t_1 t_2) $t_3 \leftrightarrow$ ite ψ t_1 t_3
- ite ψt_1 (ite $\psi t_2 t_3$) \leftrightarrow ite $\psi t_1 t_3$
- ite $\psi \top \bot \leftrightarrow \psi$
- ite $\psi \perp \top \leftrightarrow \neg \psi$
- ite $\psi \top \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi \vee \varphi$
- ite $\psi \varphi \perp \leftrightarrow \psi \land \varphi$
- ite $\psi \perp \varphi \leftrightarrow \neg \psi \land \varphi$
- ite $\psi \varphi \top \leftrightarrow \neg \psi \lor \varphi$

5.11.3 Quantifiers

Rule 74: qnt_simplify

This rule simplifies a \forall term with a constant predicate.

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\forall x_1, \dots, x_n. \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi$ (qnt_simplify)

where φ is either \top or \bot .

Rule 75: onepoint

The onepoint rule is the "one-point-rule". That is: it eliminates quantified variables that can only have one value.

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\hline & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \hline \Gamma, x_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_m}, x_{j_1} \mapsto t_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_o} \mapsto t_{j_o}, \triangleright j. & \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi' & (\dots) \\ \hline \hline \Gamma \triangleright k. & Qx_1, \dots, x_n.\varphi \leftrightarrow Qx_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_m}.\varphi' & (\text{onepoint}) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

where $Q \in \{\forall, \exists\}$, $n = m + o, k_1, \dots, k_m$ and j_1, \dots, j_o are monotone mappings to $1, \dots, n$, and no x_{k_i} appears in x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_o} .

The terms t_{j_1}, \ldots, t_{j_o} are the points of the variables x_{j_1}, \ldots, x_{j_o} . Points are defined by equalities $x_i \simeq t_i$ with positive polarity in the term φ .

Remark. Since an eliminated variable x_i might appear free in a term t_j , it is necessary to replace x_i with t_i inside t_j . While this substitution is performed correctly, the proof for it is currently missing.

Example 75.1. An application of the onepoint rule on the term $\forall x, y. \, x \simeq y \to f(x) \land f(y)$ look like this:

```
(anchor :step t3 :args ((:= y x)))
(step t3.t1 (cl (= x y)) :rule refl)
(step t3.t2 (cl (= (= x y) (= x x)))
    :rule cong :premises (t3.t1))
(step t3.t3 (cl (= x y)) :rule refl)
(step t3.t4 (cl (= (f y) (f x)))
    :rule cong :premises (t3.t3))
(step t3.t5 (cl (= (and (f x) (f y)) (and (f x) (f x))))
   :rule cong :premises (t3.t4))
(step t3.t6 (cl (=
        (=> (= x y) (and (f x) (f y)))
        (=> (= x x) (and (f x) (f x))))
    :rule cong :premises (t3.t2 t3.t5))
(step t3 (cl (=
        (forall ((x S) (y S)) (=> (= x y) (and (f x) (f y))))
        (forall ((x S)) (=> (= x x) (and (f x) (f x)))))
    :rule qnt_simplify)
```

Rule 76: qnt_join

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $Qx_1, \dots, x_n.Qx_{n+1}, \dots, x_m.\varphi \leftrightarrow Qx_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_o}.\varphi$ (qnt_join)

where m > n and $Q \in \{ \forall, \exists \}$. Furthermore, k_1, \ldots, k_o is a monotonic map to $1, \ldots, m$ such that x_{k_1}, \ldots, x_{k_o} are pairwise distinct, and $\{x_1, \ldots, x_m\} = \{x_{k_1}, \ldots, x_{k_o}\}$.

Rule 77: gnt_rm_unused

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $Qx_1, \dots, x_n.\varphi \leftrightarrow Qx_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_m}.\varphi$ (qnt_rm_unused)

where $m \leq n$ and $Q \in \{ \forall, \exists \}$. Furthermore, k_1, \ldots, k_m is a monotonic map to $1, \ldots, n$ and if $x \in \{x_j \mid j \in \{1, \ldots, n\} \land j \notin \{k_1, \ldots, k_m\}\}$ then x is not free in P.

5.11.4 Equalities

Rule 78: eq_simplify

This rule simplifies an \simeq term by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. Hence, the general form is

$$\Gamma \hspace{0.1cm}
ho \hspace{0.1cm} i. \hspace{1.5cm} t_{1} \simeq t_{2} \leftrightarrow \varphi \hspace{1.5cm} (ext{eq_simplify})$$

where ψ is the transformed term.

- $t \simeq t \leftrightarrow \top$
- $t_1 \simeq t_2 \leftrightarrow \bot$ if t_1 and t_2 are different numeric constants.
- $\neg(t \simeq t) \leftrightarrow \bot$ if t is a numeric constant.

5.11.5 Arithmetic Operators

Rule 79: div_simplify

This rule simplifies a division by applying equivalent transformations. The general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $(t_1/t_2) \simeq t_3$ (div_simplify)

The possible transformations are:

- t/t = 1
- t/1 = t
- $t_1/t_2 = t_3$ if t_1 and t_2 are constants and t_3 is t_1 divided by t_2 according to the semantic of the current theory.

Rule 80: prod_simplify

This rule simplifies a product by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. The general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $t_1 \times \cdots \times t_n \simeq u$ (prod_simplify)

where u is either a constant or a product.

The possible transformations are:

- $t_1 \times \cdots \times t_n = u$ where all t_i are constants and u is their product.
- $t_1 \times \cdots \times t_n = 0$ if any t_i is 0.
- $t_1 \times \cdots \times t_n = c \times t_{k_1} \times \cdots \times t_{k_n}$ where c ist the product of the constants of t_1, \ldots, t_n and t_{k_1}, \ldots, t_{k_n} is t_1, \ldots, t_n with the constants removed.
- $t_1 \times \cdots \times t_n = t_{k_1} \times \cdots \times t_{k_n}$: same as above if c is 1.

Rule 81: unary_minus_simplify

This rule is either

$$\Gamma \vartriangleright i.$$
 (unary_minus_simplify)

or

$$\Gamma \hspace{0.1cm} \vartriangleright i. \hspace{1.5cm} -t \simeq u \hspace{1.5cm} (\texttt{unary_minus_simplify})$$

where u is the negated numerical constant t.

Rule 82: minus_simplify

This rule simplifies a subtraction by applying equivalent transformations. The general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $t_1 - t_2 \simeq u$ (minus_simplify)

The possible transformations are:

 $\bullet \ t - t = 0$

- $t_1 t_2 = t_3$ where t_1 and t_2 are numerical constants and t_3 is t_2 subtracted from t_1 .
- t 0 = t
- 0 t = -t

Rule 83: sum_simplify

This rule simplifies a sum by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. The general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $t_1 + \dots + t_n \simeq u$ (sum_simplify)

where u is either a constant or a product.

The possible transformations are:

- $t_1 + \cdots + t_n = c$ where all t_i are constants and c is their sum.
- $t_1 + \cdots + t_n = c + t_{k_1} + \cdots + t_{k_n}$ where c ist the sum of the constants of t_1, \ldots, t_n and t_{k_1}, \ldots, t_{k_n} is t_1, \ldots, t_n with the constants removed.
- $t_1 + \cdots + t_n = t_{k_1} + \cdots + t_{k_n}$: same as above if c is 0.

Rule 84: comp_simplify

This rule simplifies a comparison by applying equivalent transformations as long as possible. The general form is

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $t_1 \bowtie t_n \leftrightarrow \psi$ (comp_simplify)

where \bowtie is as for the proof rule la_generic, but never \simeq .

- $t_1 < t_2 \leftrightarrow \varphi$ where t_1 and t_2 are numerical constants and φ is \top if t_1 is strictly greater than t_2 and \bot otherwise.
- $\bullet \ t < t \leftrightarrow \bot$
- $t_1 \leq t_2 \leftrightarrow \varphi$ where t_1 and t_2 are numerical constants and φ is \top if t_1 is greater than t_2 or equal and \bot otherwise.
- $t \le t \leftrightarrow \top$
- $t_1 \ge t_2 \leftrightarrow t_2 \le t_1$
- $t_1 < t_2 \leftrightarrow \neg (t_2 < t_1)$
- $t_1 > t_2 \leftrightarrow \neg (t_1 < t_2)$

5.11.6 Other Simplifications

Rule 85: let

This rule eliminats let. It has the form

where \simeq is replaced by \leftrightarrow where necessary.

If for $t_i \simeq s_i$ the t_i and s_i are syntactically equal, the premise is skipped.

Rule 86: distinct_elim

This rule eliminates the distinct predicate. If called with one argument this predicate always holds:

$$\triangleright i.$$
 (distinct t) $\leftrightarrow \top$ (distinct_elim)

If applied to terms of type **Bool** more than two terms can never be distinct, hence only two cases are possible:

$$\triangleright i.$$
 (distinct $\varphi \psi$) $\leftrightarrow \neg(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$ (distinct_elim)

and

$$\triangleright i.$$
 (distinct $\varphi_1 \varphi_2 \varphi_3 \dots$) $\leftrightarrow \bot$ (distinct_elim)

The general case is

$$\triangleright i.$$
 (distinct $t_1 \dots t_n$) $\leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \bigwedge_{j=i+1}^n t_i \not\simeq t_j$ (distinct_elim)

Rule 87: la_rw_eq

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $(t \simeq u) \simeq (t \le u \land u \le t)$ (la_rw_eq)

Remark. While the connective could be \leftrightarrow , currently an equality is used.

Rule 88: nary_elim

This rule replaces n-ary operators with their equivalent application of the binary operator. It is never applied to \wedge or \vee .

Thre cases are possible. If the operator \circ is left associative, then the rule has the form

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\bigcirc_{i=1}^n t_i \leftrightarrow (\dots (t_1 \circ t_2) \circ t_3) \circ \dots t_n)$ (nary_elim)

If the operator \circ is right associative, then the rule has the form

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\bigcirc_{i=1}^n t_i \leftrightarrow (t_1 \circ \cdots \circ (t_{n-2} \circ (t_{n-1} \circ t_n) \dots)$ (nary_elim)

If the operator is *chainable*, then it has the form

$$\Gamma \triangleright i.$$
 $\bigcap_{i=1}^n t_i \leftrightarrow (t_1 \circ t_2) \land (t_2 \circ t_3) \land \cdots \land (t_{n-1} \circ t_n)$ (nary_elim)

5.12 Term Reshaping

Rule 89: bfun_elim

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \triangleright i. & \psi & (\ldots) \\ \triangleright j. & \varphi & (\text{bfun_elim}; i) \end{array}$$

The formula φ is ψ after boolean functions have been simplified. This happens in a two step process. Both steps recursively iterate over ψ . The first step expands quantified variable of type **Bool**. Hence, $\exists x.t$ becomes $t[\bot/x] \lor t[\top/x]$ and $\forall x.t$ becomes $t[\bot/x] \land t[\top/x]$. If n variables of sort **Bool** appear in a quantifier, the disjunction (conjunction) has 2^n terms. Each term replaces the variables in t according to the bits of a number which is increased by one for each subsequent term starting from zero. The left-most variable corresponds to the least significant bit.

The second step expands function argument of boolean types by introducing appropriate if-then-else terms. For example, consider f(x, P, y) where P is some formula. Then we replace this term by ite P f(x, T, y) f(x, L, y). If the argument is already the constant T or L it is ignored.

Rule 90: ite_intro

Either

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $t \simeq (t' \wedge u_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge u_n)$ (ite_intro)

or

$$\triangleright i.$$
 $\varphi \leftrightarrow (\varphi' \land u_1 \land \cdots \land u_n)$ (ite_intro)

The term t (the formula φ) contains the ite operator. Let s_1, \ldots, s_n be the terms starting with ite, i.e. $s_i := \text{ite } \psi_i \ r_i \ r'_i$, then u_i has the form

ite
$$\psi_i$$
 $(s_i \simeq r_i)$ $(s_i \simeq r_i')$

or

ite
$$\psi_i (s_i \leftrightarrow r_i) (s_i \leftrightarrow r_i')$$

if s_i is of sort **Bool**. The term t' (the formular φ') is equal to the term t (the formular φ') up to the reordering of equalities where one argument is an ite term.

Remark. This rule stems from the introduction of fresh constants for if-then-else terms inside veriT. Internally s_i is a new constant symbol and the φ on the right side of the equality is φ with the if-then-else terms replaced by the constants. Those constants are

unfolded during proof printing. Hence, the slightly strange form and the reordering of equalities.

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