# The Completeness of SL Tree Proofs

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## The Proof

*Completeness:* Every unsatisfiable root has a closed tree:  $\Gamma \vDash \bot \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash \bot$ .

*Contrapositive*: If there is no closed tree with root  $\Gamma$ , then  $\Gamma$  is satisfiable.

*Lemma 6:* For any tree X with root  $\Gamma$ , there is a complete tree X' with root  $\Gamma$ .

- Assume there is no closed tree with root  $\Gamma$ .
- Roots are trees, and so  $\Gamma$  has a complete tree X.
- So X is a complete open tree with a complete open branch  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Note:** This result is purely syntactic.

Lemma 7: Every complete open branch in an SL tree is satisfiable.

- So  $\mathcal{B}$  is satisfiable, and so  $\Gamma$  is satisfiable.
- By contraposition, if  $\Gamma \vDash \bot$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash \bot$ .

## Resolution

Let the *resolution*  $Res(\varphi)$  provide an upper bound on the number of times that  $\varphi$  and its descendants could be resolved in an SL tree.

- 1.  $Res(\varphi) = 0$  if  $\varphi$  is a literal.
- 2. For any SL sentences  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ :
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\neg\neg\varphi) = \operatorname{Res}(\varphi) + 1$ .
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\varphi \wedge \psi) = \operatorname{Res}(\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\psi) + 1$ .
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\neg(\varphi \wedge \psi)) = \operatorname{Res}(\neg\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\neg\psi) + 1.$
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\varphi \vee \psi) = \operatorname{Res}(\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\psi) + 1$ .
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\neg(\varphi \lor \psi)) = \operatorname{Res}(\neg\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\neg\psi) + 1.$
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\varphi \supset \psi) = \operatorname{Res}(\neg \varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\psi) + 1$ .
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\neg(\varphi\supset\psi))=\operatorname{Res}(\varphi)+\operatorname{Res}(\neg\psi)+1.$
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\varphi \equiv \psi) = \operatorname{Res}(\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\psi) + \operatorname{Res}(\neg \varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\neg \psi) + 1.$
  - $\operatorname{Res}(\neg(\varphi \equiv \psi)) = \operatorname{Res}(\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\neg\psi) + \operatorname{Res}(\neg\varphi) + \operatorname{Res}(\psi) + 1.$

Resolution Set: Let [X] be the set of SL sentences that are resolvable in a branch of X.

Tree Resolution: Let  $\operatorname{Res}(X) = \sum_{\varphi \in [X]} \operatorname{Res}(\varphi)$  be an upper bound on resolutions in X.

# **Supporting Lemmas**

*Lemma 4:* Every SL tree *X* has a finite number of branches.

*Lemma 5:* For any SL tree *X* with root Γ and  $\varphi \in [X]$ , there is an SL tree *Y* with root Γ where Res(*Y*) < Res(*X*).

- Let *X* be an SL tree with root  $\Gamma$  where  $\varphi \in [X]$ .
- By *Lemma 4*,  $\varphi$  is resolvable in finitely many branches of *X*.
- So there is a tree Y with root  $\Gamma$  that resolves  $\varphi$  throughout X.
- So  $\varphi \notin [Y]$  but the children of  $\varphi$  could be in [Y].

*Case 1:* Assume  $\varphi = \neg \neg \psi$  where  $\psi \in [Y]$  and  $\psi \notin [X]$ .

• So  $Res(\psi) < Res(\varphi)$ , and so Res(Y) < Res(X).

Case n: The other cases are similar.

# Lemma 6

*Proof:* For any  $\Gamma$ -tree X, there is a complete  $\Gamma$ -tree X'.

*Base:* Assume *X* is a Γ-tree where Res(X) = 0.

• So every [X] is empty, so X is complete.

*Hypothesis:* Every Γ-tree X where  $Res(X) \le n$  has a complete Γ-tree X'.

*Induction:* Let X be a  $\Gamma$ -tree where Res(X) = n + 1.

- Since Res(X) > 0, there is some  $\varphi \in [X]$ .
- By Lemma 5, there is some  $\Gamma$ -tree Y where Res(Y) < Res(X).
- By hypothesis, there is a complete  $\Gamma$ -tree Y'.

Conclusion: By strong induction, QED.

#### **Finite Lemma**

*Proof:* Every branch  $\mathcal{B}$  in an SL tree contains finitely many sentences.

*Base:* Assume  $\mathcal{B}$  belongs to an SL tree X where Length(X) = 0, so finite.

*Hypothesis:* Assume that every branch  $\mathcal{B}$  of an SL tree X of Length(X) = n has a finite number of sentences.

*Induction:* Assume that  $\mathcal{B}'$  belongs to an SL tree X' of Length(X) = n + 1.

- Let X be a tree where X' is the result of resolving a sentence in X.
- So Length(X) = n.

- By hypothesis, every branch  $\mathcal{B}$  of X has a finite number of branches.
- $\mathcal{B}'$  includes at most two more sentences than any branch  $\mathcal{B}$  in X.
- Thus  $\mathcal{B}'$  has a finite number of sentences.

### Lemma 7

*Proof:* Every complete open branch in an SL tree is satisfiable.

*Assume:* Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a complete open branch in an SL tree.

- Let  $\mathcal{I}(\varphi) = 1$  *iff*  $\varphi$  is a sentence letter in  $\mathcal{B}$ .
- By the *Finite Lemma*, we may assign sentences in  $\mathcal{B}$  a position number where the leaf is 0.

*Base:* Assume  $\varphi$  has position 0.

• Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is complete and open,  $\varphi$  is a literal.

*Case 1:* If  $\varphi$  is a sentence letter,  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = \mathcal{I}(\varphi) = 1$ .

*Case 2:* Assume  $\varphi = \neg \psi$  where  $\psi$  is a sentence letter.

- Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is open,  $\psi$  does not occur in  $\mathcal{B}$ .
- So  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi) = \mathcal{I}(\psi) = 0$ , and so  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = V_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg \psi) = 1$ .

*Hypothesis:*  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = 1$  for every  $\varphi$  with position  $k \leq n$  in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

*Induction:* Assume  $\varphi$  has position n + 1 in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

*Case 1:*  $\varphi$  is a literal, so  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = 1$  as above.

Case 2:  $\varphi = \neg \neg \psi$ .

- Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is complete,  $\psi$  occurs in  $\mathcal{B}$  in position  $k \leq n$ .
- By hypothesis,  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi) = 1$ , and so  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = V_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg \neg \psi) = 1$ .

Case 3:  $\varphi = \psi \wedge \chi$ .

Case 4:  $\varphi = \neg(\psi \land \chi)$ .

- Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is complete,  $\neg \psi$ ,  $\neg \chi$  occur in  $\mathcal{B}$  in positions  $j, k \leq n$ .
- By hypothesis,  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg \psi) = 1$  or  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg \chi) = 1$ .
- So  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi) = 0$  or  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\chi) = 0$ , and so  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi \wedge \chi) = 0$ .
- Thus  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg(\psi \land \chi)) = 1$ .

Case  $n: \varphi = \neg(\psi \equiv \chi).$ 

- Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is complete,  $\psi$  and  $\neg \chi$  occur in  $\mathcal{B}$  in positions  $j, k \leq n$ , or else  $\neg \psi$  and  $\chi$  occur in  $\mathcal{B}$  in positions  $j, k \leq n$ .
- By hypothesis,  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi) = V_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg \chi) = 1$  or  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg \psi) = V_{\mathcal{I}}(\chi) = 1$ .
- In either case,  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi) \neq V_{\mathcal{I}}(\chi)$ , and so  $V_{\mathcal{I}}(\psi \equiv \chi) = 0$ .
- Thus  $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\varphi) = \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{I}}(\neg(\psi \equiv \chi)) = 1$ .