

Sentinel - Proof Checker - user's manual

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1 About Sentinel

Sentinel is a program that checks first order logic proofs written in natural deduction reasoning system.

2 Language

2.1 Proofs

Proof starts with keyword **goal**, identifier, ":" and formula which represents a goal. Body of a proof is a sequence of formulas and frames separated by ";" and surrounded by keywords **proof** and **end**. Last element of the sequence must be a formula which is equal to a goal. Every proof is ended by a "." character.

```
goal Simplification: a ^ b ^ c ^ d => b
proof
  [a ^ b ^ c ^ d : b];
  a ^ b ^ c ^ d => b
end.
```

Formulas

Formulas are written using variables, keywords **true** and **false**, operators and quantifiers. Variable names may only contain alpha-numerical characters. All of the operators are listed in a table below (ordered from biggest to lowest priority).

Operator	Associativity	Notation
~	None	Prefix
^	Left	Infix
v	Left	Infix
=>	Right	Infix
<=>	Left	Infix

Quantifiers consist of one of the keywords **All** and **Exists**, variable and formula in curly braces:

```
All x {x v ~x}
Exists y {y v a}
```

Frames

Frames are written in square brackets. They are three kinds of frames:

1. Standard frame - used in negation, implication, IFF introduction and alternative elimination. `[assumption : body]`
2. All introduction frame - `[fresh_variable | body]`
3. Exists elimination frame - `[fresh_variable | assumption : body]`

Frame body is a sequence of formulas and frames. Similarly like in proof body last element of a sequence must be a formula. Frames must be used directly before conclusions.

2.2 Axioms

Axioms consist of keyword `axiom`, `:"`, formula and `."` character.

`axiom: ~(p v q) <=> ~p ^ ~q.`

2.3 Comments

`//Single line comment`

```
/*  
  Multi  
  line  
  comment  
*/
```

3 Program usage

`Sentinel input_file [output_file]`