

CS 511, Fall 2024, Lecture Slides 27

Gilmore's Algorithm

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review and reminders *(run simultaneously with an example on the board)*

From lecture notes and Lecture Slides 26: $\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \boxed{\text{skolem}}(\boxed{\text{prenex}}(\varphi))$.

In 4, 5, ..., 12 below, assume φ does not mention equality symbol ' \approx ' for simplicity :

1. If φ is a first-order sentence, then $\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)$ is its Skolem form.
2. In particular, $\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)$ is a universal first-order sentence, *i.e.*, it is in prenex normal form and all the quantifiers in its prenex are universal.
3. φ and $\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)$ are equisatisfiable

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4. $\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{"delete the prefix of } \boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi) \text{ and substitute ground terms for variables in the matrix of } \boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi) \text{ in all possible ways."}$
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5. φ and $\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi))$ are equisatisfiable
6. $\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}}(\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi))) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{"replace every ground atom } \alpha \text{ in } \text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)) \text{ by a propositional variable } X_\alpha\text{"}$
7. φ is satisfiable (in FOL) iff $\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}}(\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)))$ is satisfiable (in PL).

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8. φ is satisfiable (in FOL) iff
 $\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}} (\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)))$ is **finitely** satisfiable (in PL).

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8. φ is satisfiable (in FOL) iff $\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}}(\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)))$ is **finitely** satisfiable (in PL).
9. Contrapositively:
 φ is **not** satisfiable (in FOL) iff
there is a **finite** subset of $\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}}(\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\varphi)))$
which is **not** satisfiable (in PL).

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10. Recall that a first-order sentence ψ is **valid** iff $\neg\psi$ is **not** satisfiable .
11. Suppose we want to test whether a first-order sentence ψ is valid. Let

$$\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}}(\text{H_Expansion}(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}}(\neg\psi))) = \{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots\}$$

Note the inserted logical negation “ \neg ”. All the θ_i ’s are propositional WFF’s.

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12. ψ is **valid** (in FOL) iff there is a **finite** subset of $\{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots\}$ which is **not** satisfiable (in PL).

Gilmore's algorithm

Assume equality symbol ' \approx ' does not occur in ψ for simplicity .
Details for how to proceed when ' \approx ' occurs are in lecture notes.

1. **input:** first-order sentence ψ to be tested for validity ;
2. $k := 0$;
3. **repeat** $k := k + 1$
generate first k wff's $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}$ in:

$$\boxed{\text{FOL} \mapsto \text{PL}} \left(\text{H_Expansion} \left(\boxed{\text{sko,pre}} (\neg \psi) \right) \right)$$

until $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq k} \theta_i$ is unsatisfiable; // (as a wff of PL)

4. **output:** ψ is valid; // (as a wff of FOL)

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- **Fact:** Gilmore's algorithm terminates iff the input sentence ψ is valid.
- **Major Drawback:** Gilmore's algorithm is highly inefficient; in particular, its performance depends on the order in which the θ_i 's are generated.

Gilmore's algorithm

- ▶ **Exercise:** Let $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n$ and ψ be first-order sentences. Define an algorithm based on Gilmore's algorithm which terminates iff the semantic entailment $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n \models \psi$ holds.
- ▶ **Problem:** Can you define an algorithm \mathcal{A} which, given a first-order sentence ψ , always terminates and decides whether ψ is valid or not valid? *Hint:* No.

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- ▶ **Problem:** Can you define an algorithm \mathcal{A} which, given a first-order sentence ψ , always terminates and decides whether ψ is valid or not valid? *Hint:* No.
- ▶ Gilmore's algorithm is said to be a **semi-decision procedure**, because it terminates only if the input ψ is valid.
- ▶ Gilmore's algorithm was invented in the late 1950's and it was the best semi-decision procedure for first-order validity until the mid-1960's, when more efficient early versions of the **tableaux** and **resolution** methods were first introduced.

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