

# Mid-term examination on Prolog

Christian Rinderknecht

20 October 2008

A *queue* is a like stack where items are pushed on one end and popped on the other end. Adding an item in a queue is called *enqueueing*, whereas removing one is called *dequeueing*. Compare the following figures:

Queue : ENQUEUE  $\rightarrow$ 

a	b	c	d	e
---	---	---	---	---

 $\rightarrow$  DEQUEUE

Stack : PUSH, POP  $\leftrightarrow$ 

a	b	c	d	e
---	---	---	---	---

If `enqueue(I, In, Out)` is proved, then `Out` is the queue `In` in which item `I` has been enqueued; if `dequeue(In, Out, I)` is proved, then `Out` is the queue `In` from which item `I` has been dequeued.

**Questions.** Define predicates `enqueue1/3`, `dequeue1/3`, `enqueue2/3` and `dequeue2/3` for the two following cases.

1. **A one-stack implementation.** A simple idea to implement one queue is to use one stack. In this case, `enqueue1/3` is simply pushing and `dequeue1/3` removes the item at the bottom of the stack.
2. **A two-stack implementation.** We can implement a queue with two stacks instead of one: one for enqueueing, one for dequeueing.

`enqueue2/3`  $\rightarrow$ 

a	b	c
---	---	---

d	e
---	---

 $\rightarrow$  `dequeue2/3`

So `enqueue2/3` is pushing on the first stack and `dequeue2/3` is popping on the second. If the second stack is empty, we swap the stacks and reverse the (new) second:

If `enqueue2/3`  $\rightarrow$ 

a	b	c
---	---	---

--

 $\rightarrow$  `dequeue2/3 ???`

then `enqueue2/3`  $\rightarrow$ 

--

a	b	c
---	---	---

 $\rightarrow$  `dequeue2/3`

Let the pair `{S, T}` denote the queue where `S` is the stack for enqueueing and `T` the stack for dequeueing.

**Question.** Which of the one-stack or two-stack implementation is the most efficient for dequeueing? What are the best and worst cases for each?