
Formal Verification for Natural Language Inference: Exploring the First Order Logic Perspective

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[Need for formal verification for Natural Language Inference: Exploring First order logic perspective](#)

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Colab notebook

<https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1xAM1BjYvsBSTxfMhMywUiUgnO07vYLbg#scrollTo=QbQ-oXDncJxC>

What is Formal Verification?

Formal Verification is the process of proving or disproving the correctness of an algorithm from a formal specification of the algorithm.

We need to formally verify a claim or an inference for the line of reasoning.

conclusion": "A Czech person wrote a book in 1946."

premises:

"**Miroslav** Venhoda was a **Czech choral conductor** who specialized in the performance of Renaissance and Baroque music.",

"Any choral conductor is a musician.",

"Some musicians love music.",

"**Miroslav** Venhoda **published** a book in **1946** called Method of Studying Gregorian Chant."

Formal Verification of Language Inference

1. Current line of research actively explores providing formal proofs by expressing language as first or higher order logic.
2. Translating Natural language to First Order Logics or Higher Order logics, is a well known challenge.
3. The recent results from Encoder - Decoder model for NL to FOL has proven this challenge to be true and real.
4. The most widely used approaches are to use Lambda calculus to extract FOL representations from an existing parse tree representation.
5. such as Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR) to Higher Order Logic

Turing Test to verify: ESSLI (European Summer School 2019)

<https://naturallogic.pro/Teaching/esslli19/pdf/1-fslINPS4NL.pdf>

A - Machine

B - Human

C - Human Interrogator

Exchanging natural language

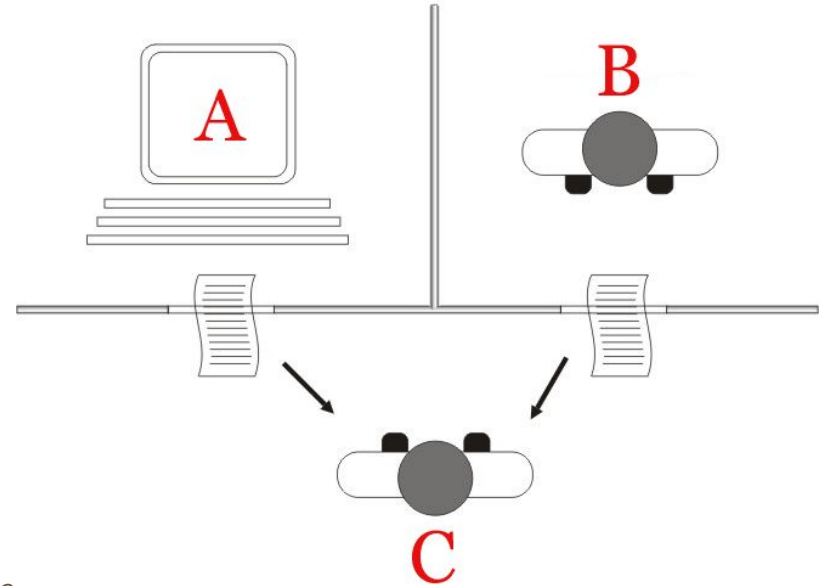
Conversations between A & B

C - to determine who is Machine &

Who is the human

For normalized environment, the conversations happen over text.

No NLU/Language Model was proven to have passed Turing Test until now (2022).



Why Formal Logic?

First Order Logic or Higher Order logic

- Are more expressible
- Provide concrete deterministic line of reasoning

Explainable Reasoning:

- Requires white box systems
- Neural Networks are considered black box systems ([ESSLI 2019](#))

Computational Tree Logic

- Represents path quantifiers
- Uses natural temporal logic

Alternative notations are used for temporal operators.

\Diamond	\rightsquigarrow	E	there E xists a path
\Box	\rightsquigarrow	A	in A ll paths
\Diamond	\rightsquigarrow	F	sometime in the F uture
\Box	\rightsquigarrow	G	G lobally in the future
\bigcirc	\rightsquigarrow	X	ne X time

Ref: <http://www.inf.unibz.it/~artale/FM/slide4.pdf>

CTL is given by the standard boolean logic enhanced with temporal operators.

"Necessarily Next". $\Box \bigcirc \varphi$ is true in s_t iff φ is true in every successor state s_{t+1}

"Possibly Next". $\Diamond \bigcirc \varphi$ is true in s_t iff φ is true in one successor state s_{t+1}

"Necessarily in the future" (or "Inevitably"). $\Box \Diamond \varphi$ is true in s_t iff φ is inevitably true in **some** $s_{t'}$ with $t' \geq t$

"Possibly in the future" (or "Possibly"). $\Diamond \Diamond \varphi$ is true in s_t iff φ may be true in **some** $s_{t'}$ with $t' \geq t$

Probabilistic Computational Tree Logic

A probability measure on the set of paths with a common prefix of length n

is given by the product of transition probabilities along the prefix of the path
(similar to HMM)

Markov Logic Networks (MLNs) vs Probabilistic MLN

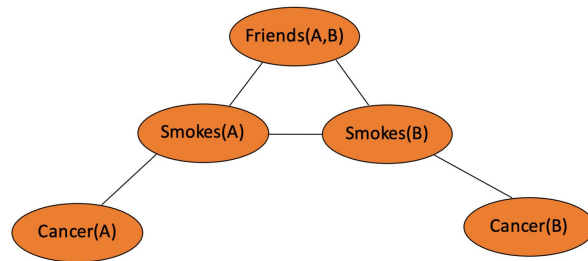
Logic handles complexity

Probability handles uncertainty

Comparison

FOL : $\forall x \text{ Smokes}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Cancer}(x)$
 $\forall x, y \text{ Friends}(x, y) \Rightarrow (\text{Smokes}(x) \Leftrightarrow \text{Smokes}(y))$

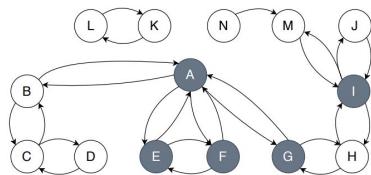
MRF:



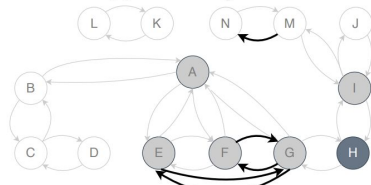
Reference:

<https://github.com/sushmaakoju/markov-logic-networks/blob/main/mln-stats-fall-2021-final.pdf>

Neural Markov Logic Neural Networks



(a) The training KB.

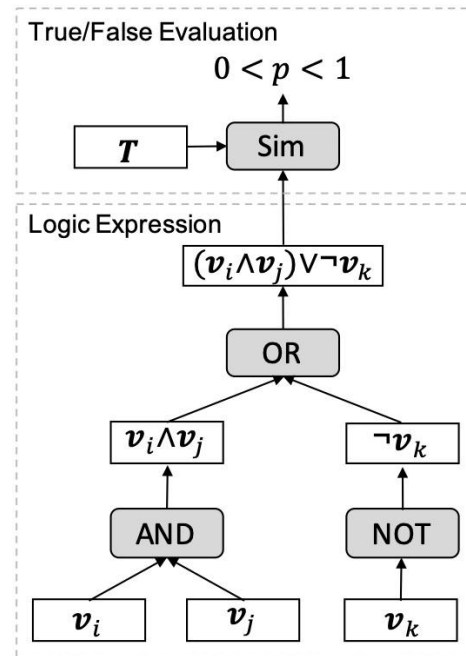


(b) The completed KB.

Logic-Integrated Neural Network

	Logical Rule	Equation	Logic Regularizer r_i
NOT	Negation	$\neg T = F$	$r_1 = \sum_{w \in W \cup \{T\}} \text{Sim}(\text{NOT}(w), w)$
	Double Negation	$\neg(\neg w) = w$	$r_2 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{NOT}(\text{NOT}(w)), w)$
AND	Identity	$w \wedge T = w$	$r_3 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{AND}(w, T), w)$
	Annihilator	$w \wedge F = F$	$r_4 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{AND}(w, F), F)$
	Idempotence	$w \wedge w = w$	$r_5 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{AND}(w, w), w)$
	Complementation	$w \wedge \neg w = F$	$r_6 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{AND}(w, \text{NOT}(w)), F)$
OR	Identity	$w \vee F = w$	$r_7 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{OR}(w, F), w)$
	Annihilator	$w \vee T = T$	$r_8 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{OR}(w, T), T)$
	Idempotence	$w \vee w = w$	$r_9 = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{OR}(w, w), w)$
	Complementation	$w \vee \neg w = T$	$r_{10} = \sum_{w \in W} 1 - \text{Sim}(\text{OR}(w, \text{NOT}(w)), T)$

$$L_1 = L_t + \lambda_l R_l = L_t + \lambda_l \sum_i r_i$$



Reference: <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3340531.3411949>

Natural Language Theorem Prover

“Natural” Logic Direction:

- Natural Theorem Prover
- Natural Proof
- Natural Lambda Calculus

Multiple Premises for NLI

Few NLI systems are able to reason over multiple premises. ([ESSLI 2019](#))

LangPro

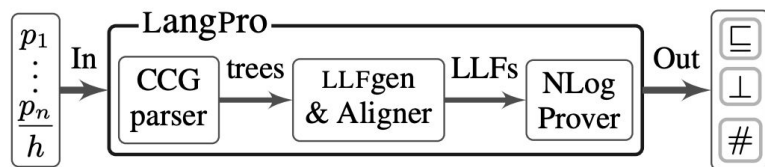
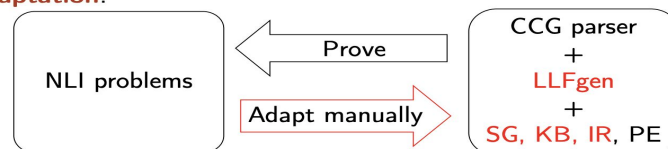


Figure 1: LangPro checks whether a set of premises p_1, \dots, p_n entails (\subseteq), contradicts (\perp) or is neutral ($\#$) to a hypothesis h .

The prover LangPro is (semi-automatically) trained on the NLI datasets [Abzianidze, 2016a].

- **Adaptation:**



Used datasets: SICK-trial and FraCaS

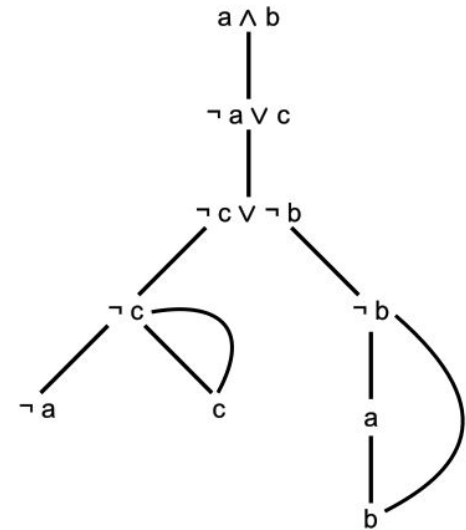
- **Development:**

Finding optimal values for certain parameters of the prover based on its performance on SICK-train.

NB: Only C&C parser is used in the learning phase in order to test LangPro for an unseen parser, EasyCCG, later.

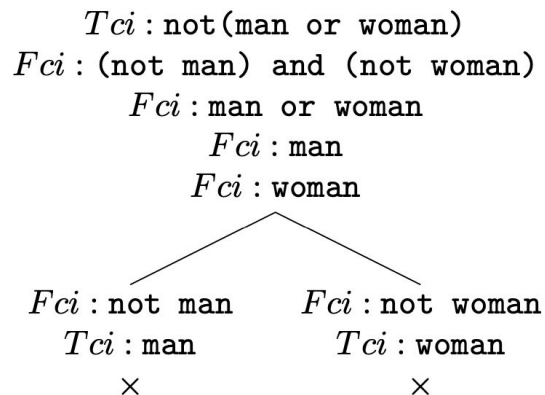
Reference: [https://naturallogic.pro/Teaching/esslli19/pdf/5-\[sl\]NPS4NL.pdf](https://naturallogic.pro/Teaching/esslli19/pdf/5-[sl]NPS4NL.pdf)

LangPro Proofs: Analytic Tableau Method



Reference: https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-642-14287-1_11.pdf

Lambda Logical Forms (LLFs)(



- (1) a. ((a woman)walk)
 b. ((if((a woman)walk))((no man)talk))
 c. (mary(think((if((a woman)walk))((no man)talk))))
 d. ((a woman)(λx (mary(think((if(walk x))((no man)talk))))))
 e. (few man) λx . (most woman) λy . like xy

The terms in (1) were built up in the usual way, but no *logical* constants, such as $=$, \forall , \exists , \rightarrow , \wedge , \vee , \neg and the like, were used in their composition. The next section will make a connection between some of the non-logical constants used in (1) and logical ones, but this connection will take us from natural representations of linguistic expressions to rather artificial ones. Lambda terms containing no logical constants will therefore continue to have a special status.

Lambda Logical Forms come close to the Logical Forms that are studied in generative grammar. For example, in [13] trees such as the one in (2a) are found, strikingly similar to the λ -term in (2c).

- (2) a. [_S [_{DP} every linguist] [_S John [_{VP} offended t_1]]]]
 b. ((every linguist)(λx_1 (john(offend x_1))))

Summary of tasks for next week

1. Select 10 examples from NLI_XY dataset
2. Chapter 6 (NLI)
 - a. Quantifiers
 - b. Implications
 - c. Negation
3. Test on the Interfaces:
 - Langpro
 - Nli transformer allennlp
4. Look at numbers, breaking & error patterns
5. Langpro paper discussion

Cognitive Science Perspective of LMs

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/168161v1.full>

Deep Probabilistic Logic

Yet to add...

Logic Neural Networks (LNNs)

Yet to add...

Rules vs First Order Logic/Higher Order Logic

Yet to add ..

Discovering rules from text and new Alignment algorithm

Yet to add ..

All of the list of literature explored for this direction

1. <https://baicsworkshop.github.io/>
2. Natural Language Theorem Prover:
<https://naturallogic.pro/Teaching/esslli19/>
3. <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/168161v1.full>
4. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/308317082_Formal_Models_from_Controlled_Natural_Language_via_Cognitive_Grammar_and_Configuration
5. https://ptolemy.berkeley.edu/projects/embedded/research/vis/doc/VisUser/vis_user/node4.html
6. <https://engineering.purdue.edu/~givan/papers/aij1.pdf>
7. <https://people.compute.dtu.dk/ahfrom/Formalized%20First-Order%20Logic.pdf>
8. <http://demo.clab.cs.cmu.edu/11711fa18/slides/FA18%2011-711%20lecture%2021%20-%20FOPC.pdf>
9. <https://aclanthology.org/D15-1244.pdf>
10. https://naturallogic.pro/Teaching/esslli19/pdf/1-%5Bho%5DNP_S4NL.pdf
11. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2203.15099v3.pdf>
12. http://phonetics.linguistics.ucla.edu/wpl/issues/wpl17/papers/31_moss.pdf
13. <https://www.cse.iitk.ac.in/users/karkare/MTP/2014-15/naman2015logica.pdf>
14. <https://www.amazon.science/blog/a-gentle-introduction-to-automated-reasoning>
14. <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v80/xu18h/xu18h.pdf>
15. <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3340531.3411949>
16. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2008.09514.pdf>
17. <https://github.com/rutgerswiselab/NLR>
18. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Probabilistic_CTL
19. <https://proceedings.mlr.press/v97/fischer19a.html>
20. <https://iep.utm.edu/duality-in-logic-and-language/>
21. https://encyclopediaofmath.org/index.php?title=Duality_principle