

# Interpolation in First-Order Logic with Equality

Masterstudium:  
Computational Intelligence

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## Craig Interpolation

**Theorem** (Craig). Let  $A$  and  $B$  be first-order formulas where

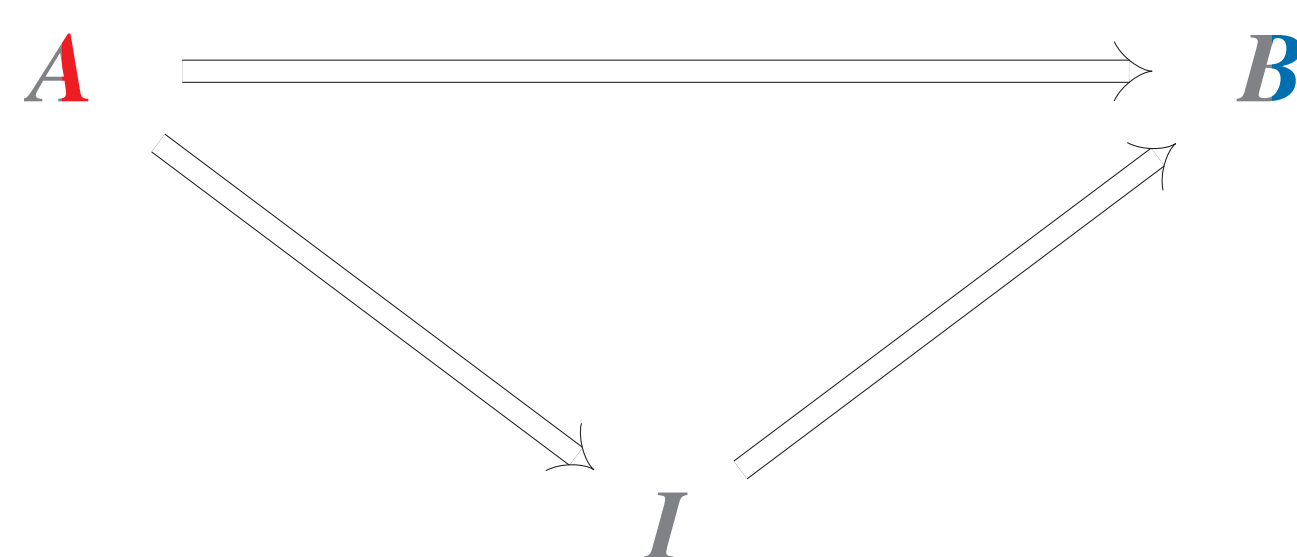
- ▶  $A$  contains *red* and *gray* symbols and
- ▶  $B$  contains *blue* and *gray* symbols

such that:

- ▶  $\models A \supset B$

Then there is a interpolant  $I$  containing only *gray* symbols such that:

- ▶  $\models A \supset I$
- ▶  $\models I \supset B$



⇒ Interpolants give a concise logical summary of the implication

## Applications of Craig Interpolation

Theoretical:

- ▶ Proof of Beth's Definability Theorem

Practical:

- ▶ Program analysis: Detect loop invariants
- ▶ Model checking: Overapproximate set of reachable states

## Aim and Scope of the Thesis

Provide overview of existing techniques and extend them:

- ▶ Model-theoretic proof
- ▶ Reduction to first-order logic without equality
- ▶ Interpolant extraction from resolution proofs

## Model-theoretic proof

- ▶ Non-constructive proof by contradiction:
  - ▶ Let  $T_A$  and  $T_{\neg B}$  be theories extending  $A$  and  $\neg B$  respectively
  - ▶ Build a model from maximal consistent intersection of  $T_A$  and  $T_{\neg B}$  (assuming the non-existence of interpolants)  
 $\Rightarrow A \wedge \neg B$  satisfiable
- ▶ Related to Robinson's Joint Consistency Theorem

## Reduction to first-order logic without equality [1]

Translate equality and function symbols:

$$\begin{aligned} (P(c))^* &\equiv \exists x (C(x) \wedge P(x)) \\ (P(f(c)))^* &\equiv \exists x (\exists y (C(y) \wedge F(y, x)) \wedge P(x)) \\ (s = t)^* &\equiv E(s, t) \end{aligned}$$

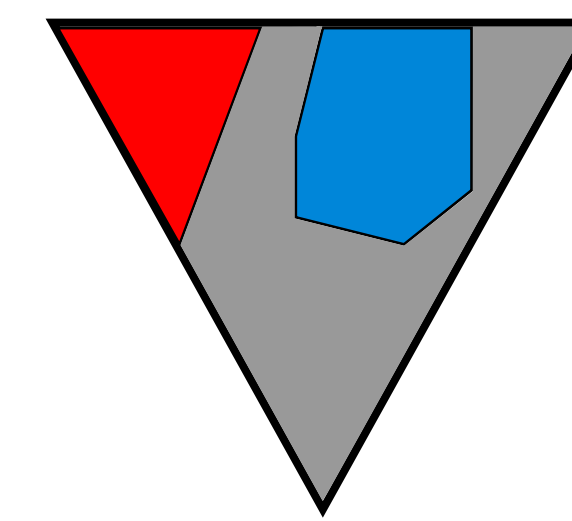
Add theory of equality:

$$\varphi \rightarrow T_E \supset \varphi^*$$

⇒ Then calculate interpolant in reduced logic

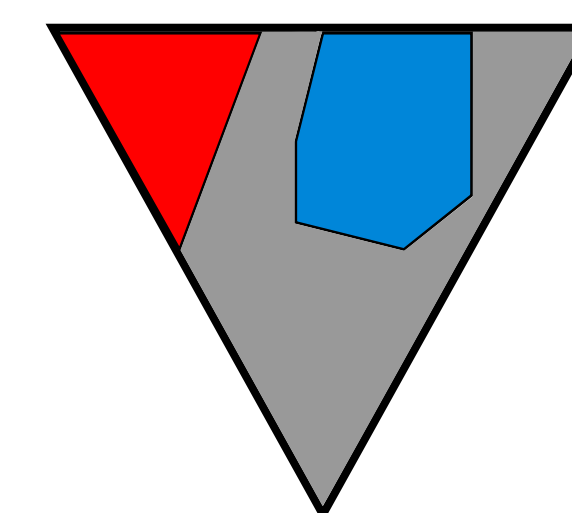
## Interpolant extraction from proofs in two phases [2]

Proof:



↓ Extract propositional  
interpolant structure from proof

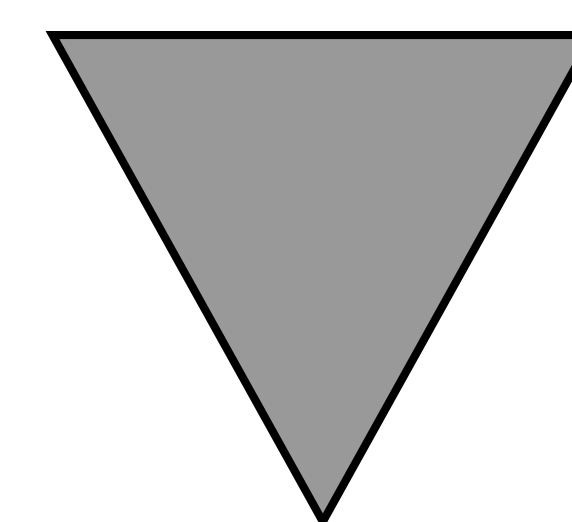
Propositional  
Interpolant:



$$\dots Q(f(c), c) \dots$$

↓ Replace colored function  
and constant symbols

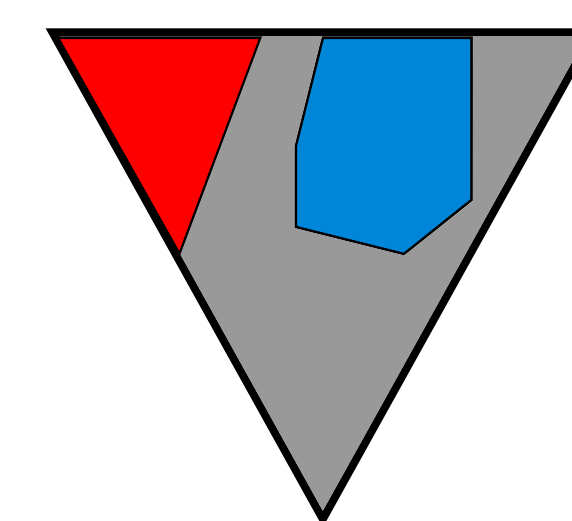
Prenex  
First-Order  
Interpolant:



$$\exists x_3 \forall x_5 \dots Q(x_5, x_3) \dots$$

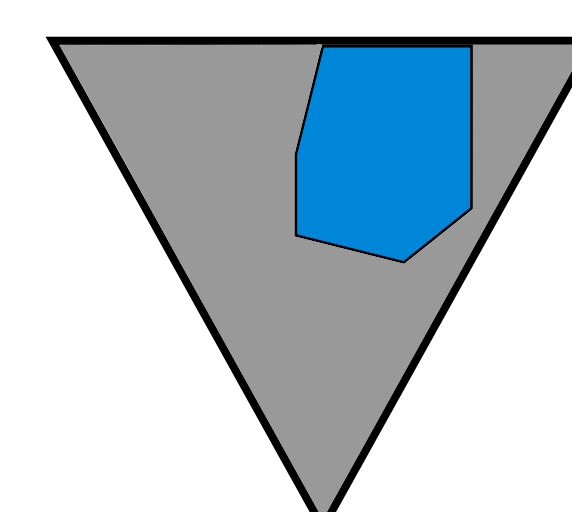
## Interpolant extraction from proofs in one phase

Proof:



↓ Combined structure extraction  
and replacing of colored symbols

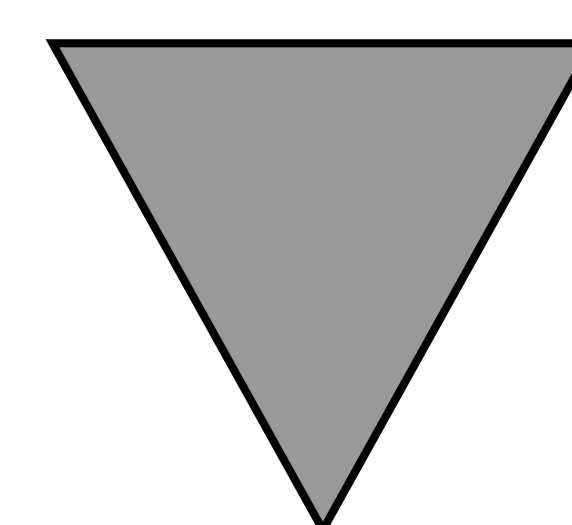
Interpolant  
modulo  
current clause:



$$\forall x_5 \dots Q(x_5, c) \dots$$

Recursively applied to all infer-  
ences of the proof results in:

Non-Prenex  
First-Order  
Interpolant:



$$\exists x_3 \dots \forall x_5 \dots Q(x_5, x_3) \dots$$

## Contributions

- ▶ We introduced the one phase extraction approach.
- ▶ We showed that the number of *quantifier alternations* in the extracted interpolant essentially corresponds to the number of *color alternations* in the terms of the proof.

## References

- [1] William Craig. Linear Reasoning. A New Form of the Herbrand-Gentzen Theorem. *Journal of Symbolic Logic*, 22(3):250–268, 1957.
- [2] Guoxiang Huang. Constructing Craig Interpolation Formulas. In *Proc COCOON '95*, p. 181–190, 1995.