

# Interpolation in First-Order Logic with Equality

## Master Thesis Presentation

Bernhard Mallinger

Advisor: Stefan Hetzl

Institute of Discrete Mathematics and Geometry  
TU Wien

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# Agenda

- ➊ Introduction
- ➋ Craig Interpolation (10 min)
- ➌ Proof by reduction (6 min)
- ➍ Interpolant extraction from resolution proofs (12 min)
- ➎ Semantic Proof (6 min)
- ➏ Conclusion
  - References

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# Introduction

- Want concrete algorithms for FOL/EQ  
⇒ Little attention so far
- Present different constructive proofs

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# Craig Interpolation (1/2)

**Theorem** ([Craig, 1957]). Let  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  be sets of first-order formulas where

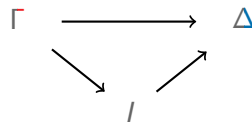
- $\Gamma$  contains *red* and gray symbols and
- $\Delta$  contains *blue* and gray symbols

such that:

- $\Gamma \models \Delta$

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

- $\Gamma \models I$
- $I \models \Delta$



# Craig Interpolation (2/2)

## Example

- Let  $\Gamma = \{P(a)\}$  and  $\Delta = \{\forall x(P(x) \supset Q(x)), \exists y Q(y)\}$ .
- Interpolant:  $\exists z P(z)$

## Example

- Let  $\Gamma = \{P(a), \neg P(b)\}$  and  $\Delta = \{a \neq b\}$ .
- Only possible interpolant:  $a \neq b$

## Example

- Let  $\Gamma = \{P(a), \neg P(a)\}$ ,  $\Delta = \emptyset$ .
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# Applications

- Proof of Beth's Definability Theorem
- Model checking
- Detecting loop invariants
- Reasoning with large knowledge bases

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# Proof by reduction

Reduction to FOL without equality and function symbols:

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 axioms for equality and new predicate symbols:

$$\varphi \rightarrow \left( T_E \wedge \bigwedge_{f \in FS} T_f \right) \supset \varphi^*$$

Clearly  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi^*$  are equisatisfiable.

# Proof in FOL without equality and FS

## Lemma (Maehara)

Let  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  be sets of first-order formulas without equality and function symbols such that  $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$  is provable in *sequent calculus*. Then for any partition  $\langle (\Gamma_1; \Delta_1), (\Gamma_2; \Delta_2) \rangle$  there is an interpolant  $I$  such that

- 1  $\Gamma_1 \vdash \Delta_1, I$  is provable
- 2  $\Gamma_2, I \vdash \Delta_2$  is provable
- 3  $L(I) \subseteq L(\Gamma_1, \Delta_1) \cap L(\Gamma_2, \Delta_2)$

[Baaz and Leitsch, 2011] presents a strengthening which includes function symbols.

Open question: Can it be extended to include equality?



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# Interpolant extraction

## Motivation

- Proof by reduction is impractical
- Goal: Compute interpolants from proof
- The following is based on [Huang, 1995]

## Interpolant extraction from resolution proofs

- Skolemisation and clausal form transformation do not alter the set of interpolants
- Have to use “reverse” (but equivalent) formulation of interpolation

# Interpolant extraction

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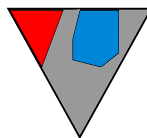
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## Interpolant extraction from resolution proofs

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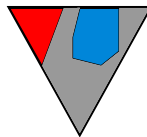
# Huang's algorithm (1/2) (6 min)

Proof:



$\Downarrow$  *Extract propositional interpolant structure from proof*

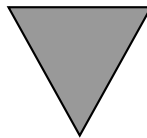
Propositional Interpolant:



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

$\Downarrow$  *Replace colored function and constant symbols*

Prenex First-Order Interpolant:



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

## Huang's algorithm (2/2)

- Propositional interpolant is interpolant modulo function and constant symbols
- For the lifting phase, the ordering of the lifting variables is crucial
- The type of the quantifier is determined by the coloring of the symbol

### Theorem

*The number of quantifier alternations in the resulting interpolant directly corresponds to the number of color alternations of terms in the resolution proof.*

## Huang's algorithm (2/2)

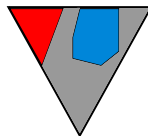
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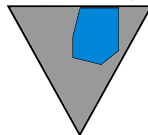
# Interpolation extraction in one phase

Proof:



*Combined structure extraction and replacing of colored symbols*

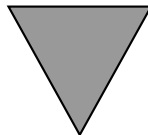
Interpolant  
modulo  
current clause:



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

*Recursively applied to all inferences of the proof results in:*

Non-Prenex  
First-Order  
Interpolant:



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



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# Semantic Proof

TODO

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# Conclusion

- Craig's and Huang's proof based interpolant extraction from proofs  
⇒ differ in applicability
- Craig shows that the interpolation theorem holds also in FOL/EQ
- Huang shows that interpolants can efficiently be extracted in FOL/EQ
  - Does not require different methods
  - Little attention so far in research
- Interpolation also allows for a model theoretic approach



Baaz, M. and Leitsch, A. (2011).

*Methods of Cut-Elimination.*

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Linear Reasoning. A New Form of the Herbrand-Gentzen Theorem.

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Constructing Craig Interpolation Formulas.

In *Proceedings of the First Annual International Conference on Computing and Combinatorics*, COCOON '95, pages 181–190, London, UK, UK. Springer-Verlag.