

# Computational Logic

## Logic Programming

Martin Baláz

Department of Applied Informatics  
Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics  
Comenius University in Bratislava



2011

# Example

Logic Program:

```
father(abraham, isaac) ←  
mother(sarah, isaac) ←  
father(isaac, jacob) ←  
  parent(X, Y) ← father(X, Y)  
  parent(X, Y) ← mother(X, Y)  
grandparent(X, Z) ← parent(X, Y), parent(Y, Z)  
ancestor(X, Y) ← parent(X, Y)  
ancestor(X, Z) ← parent(X, Y), ancestor(Y, Z)
```

A *literal* is an atom or the negation of an atom. A *positive literal* is an atom. A *negative literal* is the negation of an atom.

A *rule* is a formula of the form

$$L_1 \vee \cdots \vee L_m \leftarrow L_{m+1} \wedge \cdots \wedge L_n$$

where  $0 \leq m \leq n$  and each  $L_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is a literal.

The rule represents a (disjunctive) clause

$$(\forall x_1) \dots (\forall x_k)(L_1 \vee \cdots \vee L_m \vee \sim L_{m+1} \vee \cdots \vee \sim L_n)$$

where  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  are all variables occurring in  $L_1, \dots, L_n$ .

A *logic program* is a finite set of rules.

$$\begin{aligned} p(c, Y, Y) &\leftarrow \\ p(f(X), Y, Z) &\leftarrow p(X, f(Y), Z) \end{aligned}$$

- domain  $\mathbb{N}$
- signature  $(\{c, f\}, \{p\}, \{c \mapsto 0, f \mapsto 1, p \mapsto 3\})$
- interpretation  $I_1$ 
  - $c^I = 0$
  - $f^I(x) = x + 1$
  - $p^I(x, y, z) \Leftrightarrow z = x + y$
- interpretation  $I_2$ 
  - $c^I = 1$
  - $f^I(x) = 2 * x$
  - $p^I(x, y, z) \Leftrightarrow z = 2^{x+y}$

# Herbrand Interpretation

A term is *ground* if it does not contain variables. Similarly, a formula is *ground* if it does not contain variables.

The *Herbrand universe*  $\mathcal{U}$  is the set of all ground terms. Similarly, the *Herbrand base*  $\mathcal{B}$  is the set of all ground atoms.

*Grounded logic program*  $\text{Ground}(P)$  is obtained from a logic program  $P$  by replacing all variables with ground terms in all possible ways.

The *Herbrand interpretation* is an interpretation given by the following:

- 1 The domain is the Herbrand universe
- 2 If  $f$  is a function symbol with arity  $n$ , then
$$f^I = (t_1, \dots, t_n) \mapsto f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

# Example

$$\begin{aligned} p(c, Y, Y) &\leftarrow \\ p(f(X), Y, Z) &\leftarrow p(X, f(Y), Z) \end{aligned}$$

- domain  $\mathcal{U} = \{c, f(c), f(f(c)), f(f(f(c))), \dots\}$
- signature  $(\{c, f\}, \{p\}, \{c \mapsto 0, f \mapsto 1, p \mapsto 3\})$
- interpretation  $I$ 
  - $c^I = c$
  - $f^I(x) = f(x)$
  - $p^I(x, y, z) \Leftrightarrow x = f^a(c) \wedge y = f^b(c) \wedge z = f^{a+b}(c)$

We will denote Herbrand interpretation as the set of all satisfied grounded atoms.

An interpretation  $I$  is a *model* of a logic program  $P$  iff each rule in  $P$  is satisfied by  $I$ .

A logic program is satisfiable iff it has a Herbrand model.

Proof:

If  $I$  is a model of  $P$ , then

$$I' = \{p(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathcal{B} \mid I \models p(t_1, \dots, t_n)\}$$

is a Herbrand model of  $P$ .

Example:

$$S = \{p(a), (\exists x) \sim p(x)\}, \mathcal{U} = \{a\}, \mathcal{B} = \{p(a)\}$$

# Definite Logic Program

A *definite rule* is a rule of the form

$$A_0 \leftarrow A_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge A_n$$

where  $0 \leq n$  and each  $A_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , is an atom.

A *definite logic program* is a finite set of definite rules.

$P \models (\exists x_1) \dots (\exists x_k)(A_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge A_n)$ ?

Is  $P \cup \{(\forall x_1) \dots (\forall x_k)(\sim A_1 \vee \cdots \vee \sim A_n)\}$  unsatisfiable?

Is  $P \cup \{\leftarrow A_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge A_n\}$  unsatisfiable?

A *definite goal* is a goal of the form

$$\leftarrow A_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge A_n$$

where  $0 \leq n$  and each  $A_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is an atom.



# The Least Herbrand Model

Let  $P$  be a definite logic program and  $\mathcal{M}$  be a non-empty set of Herbrand models of  $P$ . Then  $\bigcap_{M \in \mathcal{M}} M$  is a Herbrand model of  $P$ .

Every definite logic program  $P$  has the least Herbrand model (denoted  $M_P$ ).

Proof: The set of all Herbrand models is non-empty, because Herbrand base is a model of  $P$ . Therefore the intersection of all Herbrand models is the least Herbrand model of  $P$ .

Let  $P$  be a definite logic program. Then  $M_P = \{A \in \mathcal{B}_P \mid P \models A\}$ .

Proof:  $P \models A$  iff  $P \cup \{\sim A\}$  is unsatisfiable iff  $P \cup \{\sim A\}$  has no Herbrand models iff  $\sim A$  is false w.r.t. all Herbrand models of  $P$  iff  $A$  is true w.r.t. all Herbrand models of  $P$  iff  $A \in M_P$ .

# Immediate Consequence Operator

Let  $P$  be a definite logic program. An *immediate consequence operator*  $T_P$  is defined as follows:

$$T_P(I) = \{A \in \mathcal{B}_P \mid A \leftarrow A_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge A_n \in \text{Ground}(P), \\ \{A_1, \dots, A_m\} \subseteq I\}$$

The iteration  $T_P \uparrow n$  is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T_P \uparrow 0 &= \emptyset \\ T_P \uparrow (n+1) &= T_P(T_P \uparrow n) \\ T_P \uparrow \omega &= \bigcup_{n < \omega} T_P \uparrow n \end{aligned}$$

Let  $M_P$  be the least model of  $P$ . Then  $M_P = T_P \uparrow \omega$ .

A *normal rule* is a rule of the form

$$A \leftarrow L_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge L_n$$

where  $0 \leq n$ ,  $A$  is an atom, and each  $L_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is a literal.

A *normal logic program* is a finite set of normal rules.

$P \models (\exists x_1) \dots (\exists x_k)(L_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge L_n)$ ?

Is  $P \cup \{(\forall x_1) \dots (\forall x_k)(\sim L_1 \vee \cdots \vee \sim L_n)\}$  unsatisfiable?

Is  $P \cup \{\leftarrow L_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge L_n\}$  unsatisfiable?

A *normal goal* is a goal of the form

$$\leftarrow L_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge L_n$$

where  $0 \leq n$  and each  $L_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is a literal.

Example:

$student(joe) \leftarrow$

$student(bill) \leftarrow$

$P \models student(jim)?$

Closed World Assumption:

What is not currently known to be true, is false.

Example:

$student(x) \leftrightarrow x = joe \vee x = bill$

First step:

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_m) \leftarrow x_1 = t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_m = t_m \wedge L_1 \wedge \dots \wedge L_n$$

where  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  are variables not occurring in  $L_1 \wedge \dots \wedge L_n$  and  $p(t_1, \dots, t_m) \leftarrow L_1 \wedge \dots \wedge L_n$  is a normal rule.

Second step:

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_m) \leftrightarrow E_1 \vee \dots \vee E_k$$

where each  $E_i$  has the form  $x_1 = t_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_m = t_m \wedge L_1 \wedge \dots \wedge L_n$ ,  $E_1, \dots, E_k$  are all transformed rules from the first step with the predicate symbol  $p$  in the head, and  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  are new variables.