Reasoning with Variables

- An **instance** of an atom or a clause is obtained by uniformly substituting terms for variables.
- A **substitution** is a finite set of the form $\{V_1/t_1, \ldots, V_n/t_n\}$, where each V_i is a distinct variable and each t_i is a term.
- The **application** of a substitution $\sigma = \{V_1/t_1, \ldots, V_n/t_n\}$ to an atom or clause e, written $e\sigma$, is the instance of e with every occurrence of V_i replaced by t_i.

Application Examples

The following are substitutions:

- $\sigma_1 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/C, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_2 = \{A/X, Y/b, C/Z, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_3 = \{A/V, X/V, Y/b, C/W, Z/W, D/e\}$

The following shows some applications:

- $p(A, b, C, D)\sigma_1 =$
- $p(X, Y, Z, e)\sigma_1 =$
- $p(A, b, C, D)\sigma_2 =$
- $p(X, Y, Z, e)\sigma_2 =$
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- $p(X, Y, Z, e)\sigma_2 = p(X, b, Z, e)$
- $p(A, b, C, D)\sigma_3 = p(V, b, W, e)$
- $p(X, Y, Z, e)\sigma_3 = p(V, b, W, e)$

Unifiers

- Substitution σ is a **unifier** of e_1 and e_2 if $e_1\sigma = e_2\sigma$.
- Substitution σ is a **most general unifier** (mgu) of e_1 and e_2 if
  - σ is a unifier of e_1 and e_2; and
  - if substitution σ' also unifies e_1 and e_2, then $e\sigma'$ is an instance of $e\sigma$ for all atoms e.
- If two atoms have a unifier, they have a most general unifier.

Unification Example

Which of the following are unifiers of $p(A, b, C, D)$ and $p(X, Y, Z, e)$:

- $\sigma_1 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/C, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_2 = \{Y/b, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_3 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/C, D/e, W/a\}$
- $\sigma_4 = \{A/X, Y/b, C/Z, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_5 = \{X/a, Y/b, Z/c, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_6 = \{A/a, X/a, Y/b, C/c, Z/c, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_7 = \{A/V, X/V, Y/b, C/W, Z/W, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_8 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/A, C/A, D/e\}$

Which are most general unifiers?

Unification Example

$p(A, b, C, D)$ and $p(X, Y, Z, e)$ have as unifiers:

- $\sigma_1 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/C, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_4 = \{A/X, Y/b, C/Z, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_7 = \{A/V, X/V, Y/b, C/W, Z/W, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_6 = \{A/a, X/a, Y/b, C/c, Z/c, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_8 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/A, C/A, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_3 = \{X/A, Y/b, Z/C, D/e, W/a\}$

The first three are most general unifiers.
The following substitutions are not unifiers:

- $\sigma_2 = \{Y/b, D/e\}$
- $\sigma_5 = \{X/a, Y/b, Z/c, D/e\}$

Proofs

- A **proof** is a mechanically derivable demonstration that a formula logically follows from a knowledge base.
- Given a proof procedure, $KB \vdash g$ means g can be derived from knowledge base KB.
- Recall $KB \models g$ means g is true in all models of KB.
- A proof procedure is **sound** if $KB \vdash g$ implies $KB \models g$.
- A proof procedure is **complete** if $KB \models g$ implies $KB \vdash g$.

Bottom-up proof procedure

$KB \vdash g$ if there is g' added to C in this procedure where $g = g'\theta$:

$C := \{\}$;
repeat
    select clause "$h \leftarrow b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_m$" in KB such that
        there is a substitution θ such that
        for all i, there exists $b'_i \in C$ where $b_i\theta = b'_i\theta$ and
        there is no $h' \in C$ such that h' is more general than $h\theta$
    $C := C \cup \{h\theta\}$
until no more clauses can be selected.

Example

$$live(Y) \leftarrow connected\_to(Y, Z) \land live(Z). \quad live(outside).$$

$$connected\_to(w_6, w_5). \quad connected\_to(w_5, outside).$$

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$$\begin{aligned} C = \{ & live(outside), \\ & connected\_to(w_6, w_5), \\ & connected\_to(w_5, outside), \\ & live(w_5), \\ & live(w_6)\} \end{aligned}$$

Soundness of bottom-up proof procedure

If $KB \vdash g$ then $KB \models g$.

- Suppose there is a g such that $KB \vdash g$ and $KB \not\models g$.
- Then there must be a first atom added to C that has an instance that isn't true in every model of KB. Call it h. Suppose h isn't true in model I of KB.
- There must be a clause in KB of form

  $$h' \leftarrow b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_m$$

  where $h = h'\theta$. Each b_i is true in I. h is false in I. So this clause is false in I. Therefore I isn't a model of KB.
- Contradiction.

Fixed Point

- The C generated by the bottom-up algorithm is called a **fixed point.**
- C can be infinite; we require the selection to be fair.
- **Herbrand interpretation:** The domain is the set of constants. We invent one if the KB or query doesn't contain one. Each constant denotes itself.
- Let I be the Herbrand interpretation in which every ground instance of every element of the fixed point is true and every other atom is false.
- I is a model of KB.
  Proof: suppose $h \leftarrow b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_m$ in KB is false in I. Then h is false and each b_i is true in I. Thus h can be added to C. Contradiction to C being the fixed point.
- I is called a **Minimal Model.**

Completeness

If $KB \models g$ then $KB \vdash g$.

- Suppose $KB \models g$. Then g is true in all models of KB.
- Thus g is true in the minimal model.
- Thus g is in the fixed point.
- Thus g is generated by the bottom up algorithm.
- Thus $KB \vdash g$.

Top-down Proof procedure

- A generalized answer clause is of the form

  $$yes(t_1, \ldots, t_k) \leftarrow a_1 \wedge a_2 \wedge \ldots \wedge a_m,$$

  where $t_1, \ldots, t_k$ are terms and $a_1, \ldots, a_m$ are atoms.
- The SLD resolution of this generalized answer clause on a_i with the clause

  $$a \leftarrow b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_p,$$

  where a_i and a have most general unifier θ, is

  $$(yes(t_1, \ldots, t_k) \leftarrow a_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge a_{i-1} \wedge b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_p \wedge a_{i+1} \wedge \ldots \wedge a_m)\theta.$$

To solve query $?B$ with variables $V_1, \ldots, V_k$:

Set *ac* to generalized answer clause $yes(V_1, \ldots, V_k) \leftarrow B$;
While *ac* is not an answer **do**

Suppose *ac* is $yes(t_1, \ldots, t_k) \leftarrow a_1 \wedge a_2 \wedge \ldots \wedge a_m$
Select atom a_i in the body of *ac*;
Choose clause $a \leftarrow b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_p$ in KB;
Rename all variables in $a \leftarrow b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_p$;
Let θ be the most general unifier of a_i and a.
Fail if they don't unify;
Set *ac* to $(yes(t_1, \ldots, t_k) \leftarrow a_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge a_{i-1} \wedge$
$b_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge b_p \wedge a_{i+1} \wedge \ldots \wedge a_m)\theta$

end while.

Example

$live(Y) \leftarrow connected\_to(Y, Z) \land live(Z).$ $live(outside).$
$connected\_to(w_6, w_5).$ $connected\_to(w_5, outside).$
$?live(A).$

Example

$$live(Y) \leftarrow connected\_to(Y, Z) \wedge live(Z). \quad live(outside).$$

$$connected\_to(w_6, w_5). \quad connected\_to(w_5, outside).$$

$$?live(A).$$

$$yes(A) \leftarrow live(A).$$

$$yes(A) \leftarrow connected\_to(A, Z_1) \wedge live(Z_1).$$

$$yes(w_6) \leftarrow live(w_5).$$

$$yes(w_6) \leftarrow connected\_to(w_5, Z_2) \wedge live(Z_2).$$

$$yes(w_6) \leftarrow live(outside).$$

$$yes(w_6) \leftarrow .$$

Function Symbols

- Often we want to refer to individuals in terms of components.
- Examples: 4:55 p.m. English sentences. A classlist.
- We extend the notion of **term**. So that a term can be $f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ where f is a **function symbol** and the t_i are terms.
- In an interpretation and with a variable assignment, term $f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ denotes an individual in the domain.
- One function symbol and one constant can refer to infinitely many individuals.

Lists

- A list is an ordered sequence of elements.
- Let's use the constant nil to denote the empty list, and the function $cons(H, T)$ to denote the list with first element H and rest-of-list T. These are not built-in.
- The list containing *sue*, *kim* and *randy* is

$$cons(sue, cons(kim, cons(randy, nil)))$$

- $append(X, Y, Z)$ is true if list Z contains the elements of X followed by the elements of Y

$$append(nil, Z, Z).$$

$$append(cons(A, X), Y, cons(A, Z)) \leftarrow append(X, Y, Z).$$