Natural Proof Search and Proof Writing

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TPTP and CASC

Thousands of Problems for Theorem Provers

(from 1993, Geoff Sutcliffe and Christian Suttner)
~ 7000 FOF problems (first order) 6800 CNF problems (clauses)
in logic, mathematics, computer science, science and engeneering, social sciences, ...

History

	version	FOF	CNF
1993	1.0.0		2295
1997	2.0.0	217 (dont 5 SET)	3060
1999	2.2.0	670 (308)	3334
2010	4.0.1	6983 1374	6800

The CADE ATP System Competition are held at each CADE conference (organized by Geoff Sutcliffe)

About 20 "sound, fully automatic, classical logic order ATP systems" each year attend CASC competitions

About 50 systems are regularly tested on TPTP problems

Vampire, the best system is based on the resolution principle

Results of TPTP and CASC show

- the superiority of resolution based provers (Vampire, E, iProver), accordingly to the number of problems solved,

- but also the complementarity of resolution based provers and some other provers (Zenon, Muscadet, Infinox), which may prove theorems which no other prover is able to prove)

- Muscadet had in 2007 and 2008 the highest SOTA (a new ranking measure created in 2007 in CASC competitions, which measure the systems' ability to solve problems that few other systems can prove)

A knowledge-based system

Facts

- hypotheses
- conclusion to be proved
- objects
- subtheorems
- definitions, axiomes, lemma

- ...

- all sort of facts which give relevant information during the proof searching progress

Rules

- logic and mathematics
- built from definitions and axioms
- dynamically built from hypotheses

Metarules

Inference rules

Rule " \forall " : to prove $\forall x P(x)$

(i.e. if the conclusion of the theorem being proved is $\forall x P(x)$) take any x1

(i.e. **create** an objet x1)

et **prove** P(x1)

(i.e. **replace** the conclusion to be proved by P(x1))

Rule " \Rightarrow " : to prove A \Rightarrow B, assume A and prove B

- ("assume A" consists to add A as a new hypothesis, by splitting it if it is a conjunction, and by doing some specific treatments in some other cases)
- **Rule "\wedge" : to** prove A1 \wedge A2 \wedge ... \wedge An prove all the Ai one after the other
- Rule "stop" : if a new hypothesis has been added,which is the conclusion to be provedthen the theorem is proved
- **Rule "stop_v"** : if the conclusion is a disjunction $A_1 \lor A_2 \lor ... \lor A_n$ and if one of the A_i has been added as a new hypothesis then the theorem is proved

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Rule "hyp_v": if A \lor B is a hypothesis among others
and if C is to be proved
then prove (A \Rightarrow C) \land (B \Rightarrow C)
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Rule "hyp_∃": if \exists x P(x) is a hypothesis
and if there is still no hypothesis of the form P(y)
then create x1 and assume P(x1)
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Rule "concl_^": to prove \exists x P(x),
search for x such that P(x)
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More precisely :

To prove $\exists x (C_1(x) \land C_2(x) \land ... \land C_n(x))$

search for an object y such that, with present hypotheses, for all i between 1 and n, Ci(y) was verified (easy case) or proved (by a recursive call to the prover)

Rule "def_concl_1":if P(X) is the conclusion to be proved
if a definition of predicate P is known
then replace P(X) by this definitionRule "def_concl_2":if A:F(B) is a hypothesis
where F is a functionnal symbol
which is defined as $F(B) = \{Y \mid P(Y)\}$
or y R F(B) \Leftrightarrow P(Y)
andandif X R A has to be proved
then replace the conclusion X R A by P(X)

the quantifier !

"for the only ... such that ..."

Rule "elim_func": if the expression P(F(A)) occurs where F is a functional symbol then replace it by !B:f(A), P(B)

where !B:f(A), P(B) means for the only B equal to f(A), p(B) is true

!B:f(A), P(B) is equivalent to ∀B[f(A):B ⇒ p(B)]and to ∃B [f(A):B ∧ P(B)]

The first expression is better for conclusions (positive position), **Rule "concl_!": to prove** !B:f(A), P(B),

create B1, add the hypothesis B1:f(A) and prove P(B1)

The second one is better for hypotheses (negative position), no such hypothesis is added, at the place we have the *super-action*

To add !B:f(A), P(B) create an objet B1and add the hypothesis P(B1)

Super-actions are defined as packs of rules, they may be recursive.

Example "add a hypothesis"

To add-hyp H

. . .

if H is already a hypothesis or if H is of the form X=X then do nothing

if H is of the form AAB alors add-hyp A ad add-hyp B

if H is of the form $\forall X P \text{ or } A \Rightarrow B$ then create rules locale to this (sub)theorem

if H is of the form *for the only* Y *such that* Y:F(X), P(X))and if there is not already a hypothesis of the form Y:F(X)then crete a new object Y1 add add-hyp Y1:F(X)else add H as a new hypothesis

Rules relating to concepts defined by the user

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The predicate P gives rules of the form :
Rule "Pi" : if P(...) is a hypothesis
alors ...
This is automatically done by metarules
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<u>example</u> :

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formal definition :

A \subset B \Leftrightarrow \forall x \ (x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B)
```

rule :

```
Rule "\subset": if A\subsetB and x\inA are hypotheses
alors add the hypothesis x\inB
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Le functional symbol F gives rules of the form :

Rule "Fi" : if Y:F(...) and X∈ Y are hypotheses

then ...
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<u>example</u> :
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formal definition :

\mathcal{P}(A) = \{ X \mid X \subset A \}
```

rule :

Rule "\mathcal{P}": if B: $\mathcal{P}(A)$ and $x \in B$ are hypotheses **then** add the hypothesis $x \subset A$

other example

formal definition : $A \cap B = \{x \mid x \in A \land x \in B\}$ *rules* :

- **Rule "\cap11": if** C:A \cap B and x \in C are hypotheses **then** add the hypothesis x \in A
- **Rule "\cap12": if** C:A \cap B and x \in C are hypotheses **then** add the hypothesis x \in B
- **Rule** " \cap 2": if C:A \cap B, x \in A and x \in B are hypotheses then add the hypothesis x \in C

Remark : la rule " \cap 2" is not of the form

if $x \in A$ and $x \in B$ are hypotheses *alors* add the hypothesis $x \in A \cap B$ which would be expansive Power set of the intersection of two sets Theorem to be proved $\forall A \forall B(\mathcal{P}(A \cap B) =_{set} \mathcal{P}(A) \cap \mathcal{P}(B))$

Definition of intersection $A \cap B = \{X \mid X \in A \land X \in B\}$ Definition of power set $\mathcal{P}(A) = \{ X \mid X \subset A \}$ Definition of set equality $A =_{set} B \Leftrightarrow A \subset B \land B \subset A$ Definition of inclusion $A \subset B \Leftrightarrow \forall X (X \in A \Rightarrow X \in B)$





Theorem 2				
rule	objects	hypotheses	conclusion	
•••	•••		$pd \subset pc$	
defconcl1			$\forall X (X \in pd \Rightarrow X \in pc)$	
\forall and \Rightarrow	X	x∈pd	x∈pc	
$\cap 1$ and 2		x∈pa, x∈pb		
P(twice)		$x \subset a, x \subset b$		
defconcl1			$\mathbf{x} \subset \mathbf{c}$	
(twice)			$\forall X (X \in x \Rightarrow X \in c)$	
\forall and \Rightarrow	t	t∈x	, t∈c	
⊂(twice)		t∈a, t∈b		
$\cap 2$		t∈c▲		
stop			<u>Theorem 2</u> proved	
up			<u>Theorem 0</u> proved	

Details for elim_funct and concl_!



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* * * theorem to be proved
![A, B]:equal set(power set(intersection(A, B)), intersection(power set(A), power set(B)))
* * * * * * theoreme 0 * * * * * *
*** newconcl(0, ..., 1)
explanation : initial theorem ------ action ini
create object(s) z2 z1
*** newconcl(0, equal_set(power_set(intersection(z1, z2)), intersection(power_set(z1), power_set(z2))), 2)
*** because concl((0, ..., 1)
*** explanation : the universal variable(s) of the conclusion is(are) instantiated
*** newconcl(0, seul(intersection(z1, z2)::A, seul(power_set(A)::D, seul(power_set(z1)::B,
seul(power set(z2)::C, seul(intersection(B, C)::E, equal_set(D, E))))), 3)
*** because concl(0, ..., 2)
*** explanation : elimination of the functional symbols of the conclusion
for example, p(f(X)) is replaced by only(f(X)::Y, p(Y))
     ------ elifun
*** addhyp(0, intersection(z1, z2)::z3, 4), newconcl(0, ...), 4)
*** because concl(0, ..., 3)
*** explanation : creation of object z3 and of its definition
----- rule concl only
..... newconcl(0, equal set(z4, z7), 8)
*** explanation : creation of object z7 and of its definition
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----- rule concl_only

*** newconcl(0, subset(z4, z7)&subset(z7, z4), 9) *** because concl(0, equal_set(z4, z7), 8) ******* explanation : the conclusion equal_set(z4, z7) is replaced by its definition(fof equal_set) ----- rule def concl pred * * * * * * creation * * * * * * sub-theoreme 0-1 * * * * * all the hypotheses of (sub)theorem 0 are hypotheses of subtheorem 0-1 *** newconcl(0-1, subset(z4, z7), 10) *** because concl(0, subset(z4, z7)&subset(z7, z4), 9) ******* explanation : to prove a conjunction, prove all the elements of the conjunction ----- action proconj *** newconcl(0-1, ![A]: (member(A, z4)=>member(A, z7)), 11) *** because concl(0-1, subset(z4, z7), 10) ******* explanation : the conclusion subset(z4, z7) is replaced by its definition(fof subset) ----- rule def concl pred create object(s) z8 *** newconcl(0-1, member(z8, z4)=>member(z8, z7), 12) *** because concl((0, ![A]: (member(A, z4)=>member(A, z7))), 11) *** explanation : the universal variable(s) of the conclusion is(are) instantiated ----- mle ! *** addhyp(0-1, member(z8, z4), 13) *** newconcl(0-1, member(z8, z7), 13) *** because concl(0-1, member(z8, z4)=>member(z8, z7), 12) *** explanation : to prove H=>C, assume H and prove C ------ rule =>

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*** addhyp(0-1, subset(z8, z3), 14)
*** because hyp(0-1, power_set(z3)::z4, 5), hyp(0-1, member(z8, z4), 13), obj_ct(0-1, z8)
*** explanation : rule if (hyp(A, power_set(D)::B, _), hyp(A, member(C, B), _), obj_ct(A, C))then addhyp(A,
subset(C, D), )
built from the definition of power_set (fof power_set)
----- rule power set
*** newconcl(0-1, member(z8, z5)&member(z8, z6), 15)
*** because concl(0-1, member(z8, z7), 13), hyp(0-1, intersection(z5, z6)::z7, 8)
*** explanation : definition intersection
------ rule defconcl2
* * * * * * creation * * * * * * sub-theoreme 0-1-1 * * * * *
       *** newconcl(0-1-1, true, 23)
*** because hyp(0-1-1, member(z9, z1), 22), concl(0-1-1, member(z9, z1), 20)
*** explanation : the conclusion member(z9, z1) to be proved is a hypothesis
----- rule stop hyp concl
```

Processing of the existential hypotheses

Systematically creating objects could be expansive. So, the processing of existential hypotheses has a low priority and these hypotheses are handled one after the other, in the order when they appeared, and all the other rules are tried again before processing the next one.

Example : If f maps A into B, then each element of A has an image in B.



Special case, if f maps A into A :

 $a \rightarrow a_1 = f(a) \rightarrow a_2 = f(a_1) \rightarrow a_3 = f(a_2) \rightarrow \dots$

All that can be deduced from the l'hypothèse $a_i = f(a_{i-1})$ is deduced before the creation of a_{i+1} .

If moreover f is surjective, each element of B has an antecedent in A.



Special case, if f maps A onto A : ... $\rightarrow a_4 = f^1(a_2) \rightarrow a_2 = f^1(a) \rightarrow a \rightarrow a_1 = f(a) \rightarrow a_3 = f(a_1) \rightarrow ...$ an image and an antecedent are created alternately.

Moreover, if there are several mappings, images and antecedents are created alternately for all mappings.

The rules which may create more specific objects must have higher priority than others Metarule : if the rule R may create an element a such that P the rule R' may create an element b such that Q P is more general than Q then R' must be applied before R More precisely, the metarule is the following (of which it is a restriction): if the rule R contains the action add-hyp $\exists x \in A C$ the rule R' contains the action add-hyp $\exists x \in A C'$ C' is a conjunction of terms and one of them is equal to C modulo x and x'

then apply R' before R

Example

If f maps A into B, then each element in A has an image in B. If f maps A onto A dans B, then each element in B has an pre-image in A.

If h is the composition (from A into C) of f, mapping A into B, and of g, mapping B into C, and if z=h(x), then there is an element y in B such that y=f(x) and z=g(y)



Then y1=y3 and, if g is injective, y2=y3. Rather than creating y1, then y2 and y3, it is better to only create y3 which verifies the three properties.

Example in set theory

<u>**Theorem</u></u> : Consider three mappings f, g, h from A into B, B into C, C into A; if among the three mappings h_0g_0f, g_0f_0h, f_0h_0g, two are injective (resp. surjective) and the third is surjective (resp. injective), then f, g and h are one-to-one.</u>**



Case h_0g_0f injective, g_0f_0h and f_0h_0g surjective (one case among six)



Proof of theorem $\neg \exists X \forall Y (Y \in X \Leftrightarrow Y \notin Y)$ ($X = \{ Y \mid Y \notin Y \}$ is not a set)

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by the resolution principle : clauses Y \notin a \lor Y \notin Y
Y \in Y \lor Y \in a
                                                                                 by Muscadet :
                                                concl : \neg \exists X \forall Y (Y \in X \Leftrightarrow Y \notin Y)
       hyp: \exists X \forall Y (Y \in X \Leftrightarrow Y \notin Y) concl: false
       object : a
       local rules : r0 : if Y \in a and Y \in Y then false
                            r1 : if Y \notin Y then Y \in a
                            r2 : for all object Y, Y \in Y \lor Y \in a
       hyp: a \in a \lor a \in a (rule r2)
                            (rule "\vee")
               a∈a
                            (rule r0) theorem proved (by contradiction)
              false
```

```
* * * theorem to be proved
\sim ?[B]:![A]: (element(A, B) \leq \sim element(A, A))
* * * proof :
* * * * * * theoreme 0 * * * * *
*** newconcl(0, \sim ?[B]:![A]: (element(A, B) \leq \sim element(A, A)), 1)
*** explanation : initial theorem
    ----- action ini
*** addhyp(0, ?[B]:![A]: (element(A, B)<=> ~element(A, A)), 2), newconcl(0, false, 2)
*** because concl(0, \sim ?[B]:![A]: (element(A, B) <=> \sim element(A, A)), 1)
*** explanation : assume ?[B]:![A]: (element(A, B)<=> ~element(A, A)) and search
for a contradiction
 ----- rule concl not
create object(s) z1
*** addhyp(0, ![A]: (element(A, z1)<=> ~element(A, A)), 3)
*** because hyp(0, ?[B]:![A]: (element(A, B) \le \sim element(A, A)), 2)
*** explanation : treatment of the existential hypothesis
 ----- rule hyp exi
*** addhyp(0, element(z1, z1)|element(z1, z1), 4)
*** because obj ct(0, z1)
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*** explanation : the rule r_hyp__3__2or : if obj_ct(A, B) then addhyp(A, element(B, B)|element(B, z1),) is a local rule built from the universal hypothesis $![A]: (element(A, z1) \le \sim element(A, A))$ ----- rule r hyp_3_2or *** addhyp(0, element(z1, z1), 5) *** because hyp(0, element(z1, z1)|element(z1, z1), 4) *** explanation : E|E = E------rule hyp or 1 *** addhyp(0, false, 6) *** because hyp(0, element(z1, z1), 5), hyp(0, element(z1, z1), 5), obj_ct(0,z1) *** explanation : the rule r hyp 3 : if (hyp(A, element(B, z1),), hyp(A, element(B, B),), obj ct(A, B))then addhyp(A, false,) is a local rule built from the universal hypothesis $![A]: (element(A, z1) \le \sim element(A, A))$ ----- rule r hyp 3 *** newconcl(0, true, 7) *** because hyp(0, false, 6), concl(0, false, 2) *** explanation : the conclusion false to be proved is a hypothesis ------rule stop hyp concl then the initial theorem is proved

pseudo second order

mathematical definition :

 $\forall R (transitive(R) \Leftrightarrow \forall X \forall Y \forall Z (R(X,Y) \land R(Y,Z)) \Longrightarrow R(X,Z)$ Muscadet definitions :

 $\forall R (transitive(R) \Leftrightarrow \forall X \forall Y \forall Z (..[R,X,Y] \land ..[R,Y,Z] \Rightarrow ..[R,X,Z]))$ $\forall X \forall Y (..[subset,X,Y] \Leftrightarrow subset(X,Y))$

theorem to be proved : transitive(subset)

```
mathematical definition :

\forall R \text{ (transitive(R,E)} \Leftrightarrow

\forall X \forall Y \forall Z (X \in E \land Y \in E \land Z \in E \land R(X,Y) \land R(Y,Z) \text{ )} \Rightarrow R(X,Z) \text{ )}

Muscadet definitions :

\forall R \text{ (transitive(R,E)}

\Leftrightarrow \forall X \forall Y \forall Z (X \in E \land Y \in E \land Z \in E \land ...[R,X,Y] \land ...[R,Y,Z] \Rightarrow ...[R,X,Z]) \text{ )}

\forall X \forall Y \text{ (...[subset,X,Y]} \Leftrightarrow subset(X,Y) \text{ )}
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theorem to be proved : transitive(subset, $\mathcal{P}(E)$)