

# COMP4418, 2017–Assignment 1

Due: 14:59:59pm Wednesday 30 August (Week 6)

Late penalty: 10 marks per day

Worth: 15%.

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This assignment consists of three questions. The first two questions require written answers only. The third question requires some programming.

1. [20 Marks] (Propositional Inferences)

Prove whether or not the following inferences hold in propositional logic using the truth table method.

(a)  $p \vee (q \wedge r) \models (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$

(b)  $\models p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow p)$

(c)  $p \rightarrow q \models \neg p \rightarrow \neg q$

(d)  $p \rightarrow q, \neg p \rightarrow \neg q \models \neg p \leftrightarrow \neg q$

(e)  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p, \neg r \rightarrow \neg q \models p \rightarrow r$

Prove whether or not the following inferences hold in propositional logic using resolution.

(f)  $p \wedge (q \vee r) \vdash (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$

(g)  $p \vdash p \rightarrow q$

(h)  $p \leftrightarrow q \vdash (q \leftrightarrow r) \rightarrow (p \leftrightarrow r)$

(i)  $\neg p \wedge \neg q \vdash p \leftrightarrow q$

(j)  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p, \neg r \rightarrow \neg q \vdash p \rightarrow r$

2. [30 Marks] (Logic Puzzle)

Daisy and Donald Duck took their nephews aged 4, 5 and 6 on an outing. Each boy wore a tee-shirt with a different design on it and of a different colour. You are also given the following information:

- Huey is younger than the boy in the green tee-shirt
- The five year-old wore the tee-shirt with the camel design
- Dewey's tee-shirt was yellow
- Louie's tee-shirt bore the giraffe design
- The panda design was not featured on the white tee-shirt

(a) Represent these facts as sentences in first-order logic using the following constant symbols:

- *dewey*, *huey* and *louie*; the names of the nephews
- *camel*, *giraffe* and *panda*; the designs on the t-shirts
- *green*, *white* and *yellow*; the colours of the t-shirts

and the following predicates:

- $age(Boy, Age)$
- $design(Boy, Design)$
- $colour(Boy, Colour)$

- (b) Using your formalisation in part (2a), is it possible to conclude the age of each boy together with the colour and design of the tee-shirt they're wearing? Show **semantically** how you determined your answer.
- (c) If your answer to part (2b) was 'no', indicate what further sentences you would need to add to your formalisation so that you could conclude the age of each boy together with the colour and design of the tee-shirt they're wearing.
3. [50 Marks] (Automated Theorem Proving)

In 1958 the logician Hao Wang implemented one of the first automated theorem provers. He succeeded in writing several programs capable of automatically proving a majority of theorems from the first five chapters of Whitehead and Russell's *Principia Mathematica* (in fact, his program managed to prove over 200 of these theorems "within about 37 minutes, and 12/13 of the time is used for read-in and print-out"). This was an impressive achievement at the time; previous attempts had only succeeded in proving a handful of the theorems in *Principia Mathematica*.

## Background

Wang's idea is based around the notion of a *sequent* (this idea had been introduced years earlier by Gentzen) and the manipulation of sequents. A sequent is essentially a list of formulae on either side of a sequent (or provability) symbol  $\vdash$ . The sequent  $\pi \vdash \rho$ , where  $\pi$  and  $\rho$  are strings (i.e., lists) of formulae, can be read as "the formulae in the string  $\rho$  follow from the formulae in the string  $\pi$ " (or, equivalently, "the formulae in string  $\pi$  prove the formulae in string  $\rho$ ").

To prove whether a given sequent is true all you need to do is start from some basic sequents and successively apply a series of rules that transform sequents until you end up with the sequent you desire. This process is detailed below.

Additionally, determining whether a formula  $\phi$  is a theorem, is equivalent to determining whether the sequent  $\emptyset \vdash \phi$  is true (e.g.,  $\vdash \neg\phi \vee \phi$ ).

## Formulae

### Connectives

We allow the following connectives in decreasing order of precedence:

$\neg$  — negation

$\wedge$  — conjunction;  $\vee$  — disjunction (both same precedence)

$\rightarrow$  — implication;  $\leftrightarrow$  — biconditional (both same precedence).

### Formula

- A propositional symbol (e.g.,  $p$ ,  $q$ , ...) is an *atomic* formula (and thus a formula).
- If  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$  are formulae, then  $\neg\phi$ ,  $\phi \wedge \psi$ ,  $\phi \vee \psi$ ,  $\phi \rightarrow \psi$ ,  $\phi \leftrightarrow \psi$  are formulae.

### Sequent

If  $\pi$  and  $\rho$  are strings of formulae (possibly empty strings) and  $\phi$  is a formula, then  $\pi$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\rho$  is a string and  $\pi \vdash \rho$  is a sequent.

## Rules

The logic consists of the following sequent rules. The first rule (P1) gives a characterisation of simple theorems. The remaining rules are simply ways of transforming sequents into new sequents. The manner in which you can construct a proof for a sequent to determine whether it holds or not is given below.

**P1** Initial Rule: If  $\lambda, \zeta$  are strings of atomic formulae, then  $\lambda \vdash \zeta$  is a theorem if some atomic formula occurs on both side of the sequent  $\vdash$ .

In the following ten rules  $\lambda$  and  $\zeta$  are always strings (possibly empty) of formulae.

**P2a** Rule  $\vdash \neg$ : If  $\phi, \zeta \vdash \lambda, \rho$ , then  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \neg\phi, \rho$

**P2b** Rule  $\neg \vdash$ : If  $\lambda, \rho \vdash \pi, \phi$ , then  $\lambda, \neg\phi, \rho \vdash \pi$

**P3a** Rule  $\vdash \wedge$ : If  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi, \rho$  and  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \psi, \rho$ , then  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi \wedge \psi, \rho$

**P3b** Rule  $\wedge \vdash$ : If  $\lambda, \phi, \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$ , then  $\lambda, \phi \wedge \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$

**P4a** Rule  $\vdash \vee$ : If  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi, \psi, \rho$ , then  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi \vee \psi, \rho$

**P4b** Rule  $\vee \vdash$ : If  $\lambda, \phi, \rho \vdash \pi$  and  $\lambda, \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$ , then  $\lambda, \phi \vee \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$

**P5a** Rule  $\vdash \rightarrow$ : If  $\zeta, \phi \vdash \lambda, \psi, \rho$ , then  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi \rightarrow \psi, \rho$

**P5b** Rule  $\rightarrow \vdash$ : If  $\lambda, \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$  and  $\lambda, \rho \vdash \pi, \phi$ , then  $\lambda, \phi \rightarrow \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$

**P6a** Rule  $\vdash \leftrightarrow$ : If  $\phi, \zeta \vdash \lambda, \psi, \rho$  and  $\psi, \zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi, \rho$ , then  $\zeta \vdash \lambda, \phi \leftrightarrow \psi, \rho$

**P6b** Rule  $\leftrightarrow \vdash$ : If  $\phi, \psi, \lambda, \rho \vdash \pi$  and  $\lambda, \rho \vdash \pi, \phi, \psi$ , then  $\lambda, \phi \leftrightarrow \psi, \rho \vdash \pi$

## Proofs

The basic idea in proving a sequent  $\pi \vdash \rho$  is to begin with instance(s) of Rule P1 and successively apply the remaining rules until you end up with the sequent you are hoping to prove.

For example, suppose you wanted to prove the sequent  $\neg(p \vee q) \vdash \neg p$ . One possible proof would proceed as follows.

- |    |                                |          |
|----|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | $p \vdash p, q$                | Rule 1   |
| 2. | $p \vdash p \vee q$            | Rule P4a |
| 3. | $\vdash \neg p, p \vee q$      | Rule P2a |
| 4. | $\neg(p \vee q) \vdash \neg p$ | Rule P2b |

QED.

However, a simpler idea (as it will involve much less search) is to begin with the sequent(s) to be proved and apply the rules above in the “backward” direction until you end up with the sequent you desire. In the example then, you would begin at step 4 and apply each of the rules in the backward direction until you end up at step 1 at which point you can conclude the original sequent is a theorem.

## Question Specification

In this assignment you are to emulate Hao Wang’s feats and implement a propositional theorem prover. You may use any programming language to complete this question. You must provide a script named `assn1q3` or a `Makefile` that, when the command `make` is executed, produces an executable file `assn1q3`.

## Input

The input will consist of a single sequent on the command line. Sequents will be written as:  $[List\ of\ Formulae] \text{ seq } [List\ of\ Formulae]$  To construct formulae, atoms can be any string of characters (without space) and connectives as follows:

- $\neg$ : `neg`
- $\wedge$ : `and`
- $\vee$ : `or`
- $\rightarrow$ : `imp`
- $\leftrightarrow$ : `iff`

So, for example, the sequent  $p \rightarrow q, \neg r \rightarrow \neg q \vdash p \rightarrow r$  would be written as:

```
[p imp q, (neg r) imp (neg q)] seq [p imp r]
```

Your program should be called `assn1q3` and run as follows:

```
./assn1q3 'Sequent'
```

For example

```
./assn1q3 '[p imp q, (neg r) imp (neg q)] seq [p imp r]'
```

## Output

The first line of the output will be either `true` or `false` indicating whether or not the sequent on the command line holds. This output is worth 40% of the total mark for this question on given and hidden test data. The subsequent lines of output should produce a proof like the one in the *Proofs* section above.

## Marking for this Question

- Code: 40%
- Given test data: 20%
- Hidden test data: 20%
- Printing proofs: 20%

## References

- [1] Hao Wang, *Toward Mechanical Mathematics*, IBM Journal for Research and Development, volume 4, 1960. (Reprinted in: Hao Wang, "Logic, Computers, and Sets", Science Press, Peking, 1962. Hao Wang, "A Survey of Mathematical Logic", North Holland Publishing Company, 1964. Hao Wang, "Logic, Computers, and Sets", Chelsea Publishing Company, New York, 1970.)
- [2] Alfred North Whitehead and Bertrand Russell, *Principia Mathematica*, 2nd Edition, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England, 1927.

## A List of 10 Propositional Theorems

You may find it instructional to prove these by hand first.

- (a)  $\vdash \neg p \vee p$
- (b)  $\neg(p \vee q) \vdash \neg p$
- (c)  $p \vdash q \rightarrow p$
- (d)  $p \vdash p \vee q$
- (e)  $(p \wedge q) \wedge r \vdash p \wedge (q \wedge r)$
- (f)  $p \leftrightarrow q \vdash \neg(p \leftrightarrow \neg q)$
- (g)  $p \leftrightarrow q \vdash (q \leftrightarrow r) \rightarrow (p \leftrightarrow r)$
- (h)  $\vdash (\neg p \wedge \neg q) \rightarrow (p \leftrightarrow q)$
- (i)  $p \leftrightarrow q \vdash (p \wedge q) \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$
- (j)  $p \rightarrow q, \neg r \rightarrow \neg q \vdash p \rightarrow r$

## Assignment Submission

You will need to submit answers to Questions 1 and 2 in a PDF file named `assn1.pdf` along with any source code files for Questions 3. For Question 3 you can either submit a script named `assn1q3` or a `Makefile` that, when `make` is executed, the executable file `assn1q3` is generated. Your report for Question 3 in `assn1.pdf` should describe the additional files you submit for this question and how they can be used to replicate/generate your results.

```
give cs4418 assn1 assn1.pdf assn1-q3-files
```

The deadline for this submission is 14:59:59am Wednesday 30 August.

## Late Submissions

In case of late submissions, 10% will be deducted from the maximum mark for each day late.

No extensions will be given for any of the assignments (except in case of illness or misadventure). Read the study guide carefully for the rules regarding plagiarism.