

Superposition and Model Evolution Combined

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Motivation

- Both Superposition and Model Evolution are calculi for FOL₌
- **Superposition**
 - Equality, redundancy elimination
 - Decides Guarded Fragment, Monadic class, ...
 - Wins FOF CASC division
- **Model Evolution, more generally "Instance Based Methods"**
 - Conceptually different to resolution/superposition
 - Method of choice for Bernays-Schönfinkel class (EPR)
 - Wins EPR CASC division

Combine Superposition and Instance Based Methods?

ME+Sup = Model Evolution + Superposition

Motivating Example

Ordered arrays

$$(1) \quad x \leq z \vee \neg(x \leq y) \vee \neg(y \leq z)$$

$$(2) \quad x \leq y \vee y \leq x$$

$$(3) \quad x \approx y \vee \neg(x \leq y) \vee \neg(y \leq x)$$

$$(4) \quad \text{select}(\text{store}(a, i, e), i) \approx e$$

$$(5) \quad \text{select}(\text{store}(a, i, e), j) \approx \text{select}(a, j) \vee i \approx j$$

$$(6) \quad i \leq j \vee \neg(\text{select}(a0, i) \leq \text{select}(a0, j))$$

- Termination on (1)-(3): ME: **yes** Superposition: **no**
- Termination on (4)-(6): ME: **no** Superposition: **yes**
- Termination on (1)-(6): ME+Sup: **yes**
 - use ME for \leq -literals
 - use Superposition for \approx -literals

Propositional Resolution → Superposition

Ordered resolution

$$\frac{A \vee C \quad \neg A \vee D}{C \vee D}$$

if

- (i) A is strictly maximal in $A \vee C$
- (ii) $\neg A$ is maximal in $\neg A \vee D$

Superposition - ground level

$$\frac{l \approx r \vee C \quad s[l]_p \not\approx t \vee D}{s[r]_p \not\approx t \vee C \vee D}$$

if

- (iii) $l \succ r$,
- (iv) $l \approx r$ is strictly maximal in $l \approx r \vee C$,
- (v) $s \succ t$, and
- (vi) $s \not\approx t$ is maximal in $s \not\approx t \vee C$.

Propositional Resolution → Superposition

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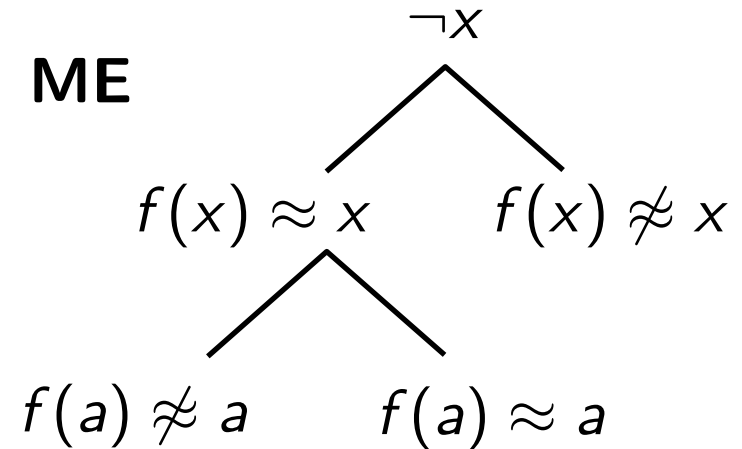
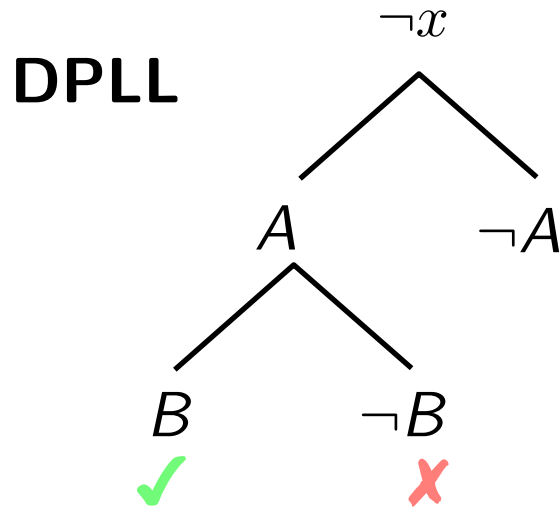
Superposition

$$\frac{l \approx r \vee C \quad s[u]_p \not\approx t \vee D}{(s[r]_p \not\approx t \vee C \vee D)\sigma}$$

if

- (i) σ is a mgu of l and u ,
- (ii) u is not a variable,
- (iii) $r\sigma \not\approx l\sigma$,
- (iv) $(l \approx r)\sigma$ is strictly maximal in $(l \approx r \vee C)\sigma$,
- (v) $t\sigma \not\approx s\sigma$, and
- (vi) $(s \not\approx t)\sigma$ is maximal in $(s \not\approx t \vee C)\sigma$.

DPLL → Model Evolution (ME)



$$\{A\} \stackrel{?}{\models} \neg A \vee B$$

no - Split

$$\{A, B\} \stackrel{?}{\models} \neg A \vee B$$

✓

$$\{A, \neg B\} \stackrel{?}{\models} \neg A \vee B$$

X Close

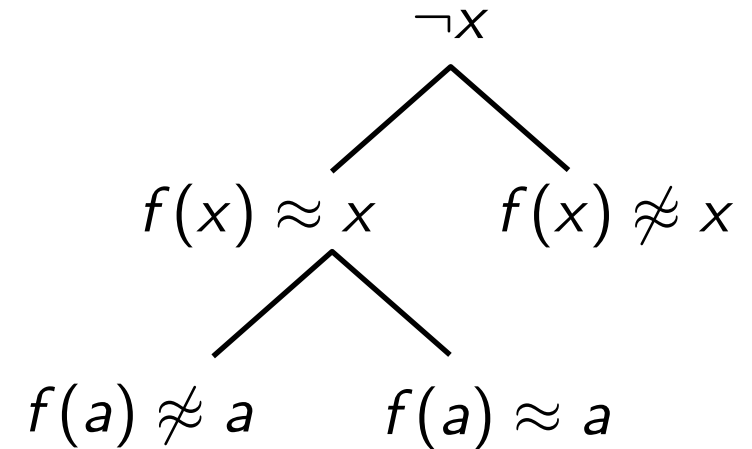
- Branches are called "contexts"
- Context induces interpretation
- **Split** to repair interpretation
- **Close** to abandon interpretation

Induced Interpretation via *Productivity*

Productivity

A context literal $K \in \Lambda$ **produces** L iff

- (i) L is an instance of K and
- (ii) there is no more specific literal in Λ that produces \overline{L}



produces

$$\{f(b) \approx b, f(f(a)) \approx f(a), \\ f(a) \not\approx a, f(f(b)) \not\approx b, \dots\}$$

A "syntactic" notion!
Not an E-Interpretation

**Productivity is a central concept in the combination
of ME and superposition via *constrained clauses***

ME+Sup - Constrained Clauses

Constraint clause $C \cdot \Gamma$

- C is an ordinary clause
- Constraint Γ is a multiset of literals

$$x \leq y \vee y \leq x \cdot \emptyset$$
$$y \leq x \cdot \neg(x \leq y)$$

Semantics

- Given context Λ and E-interpretation I
- $\Lambda, I \models C \cdot \Gamma$ iff (if Λ produces Γ then $I \models C$)

$$\begin{array}{c} A \\ | \\ \neg B \end{array}, \{C\} \models C \vee D \cdot A, \neg B$$

C is evaluated "semantically", Γ is evaluated "syntactically"

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Semantics

- Given context Λ and E-interpretation I
- $\Lambda, I \models C \cdot \Gamma$ iff (if Λ produces Γ then $I \models C$)

$$\begin{array}{l} f(x) \approx x \\ | \\ f(a) \not\approx a \end{array}, ? \models f(b) \not\approx b \cdot f(a) \approx a$$

C is evaluated "semantically", Γ is evaluated "syntactically"

ME+Sup Calculus - Initialisation

- **Given:** clause set M
- **Initialisation**
 - Context $\neg x$
 - Constrained clause set $\Phi = \{ C \cdot \emptyset \mid C \in M \}$
It holds $\Lambda, I \models \Phi$ iff $I \models M$
- User-supplied **control parameters**
 - Term ordering, as usual
 - Labelling on ground atoms:
split atoms \cup **superposition atoms** = Herbrand base
 - Can also configure pure ME or pure Superposition calculus:
superposition atoms = \emptyset or split atoms = \emptyset

Labelling Example

$$(1) \quad x \leq z \vee \neg(x \leq y) \vee \neg(y \leq z)$$

$$(2) \quad x \leq y \vee y \leq x$$

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$$(4) \quad \text{select}(\text{store}(a, i, e), i) \approx e$$

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split / superposition atom

Labelling is used to control inference rule applications

ME+Sup Calculus - Inference Rules

Clause (x Clause) \mapsto Clause

$$\text{Ref} \frac{\neg \bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}{\blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}$$

$$\text{Fact} \frac{\bullet \vee \bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}{\bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}$$

$$\text{Sup} \frac{\bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare \quad (\neg) \bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}{(\neg) \bullet \vee \blacksquare \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare, \blacksquare}$$

Context x Clause \mapsto Clause

$$\text{Neg-U-Res} \frac{\begin{array}{c} | \\ \neg \bullet \\ | \end{array} \quad \bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}{\blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare, \bullet}$$

$$\text{U-Sup} \frac{\begin{array}{c} | \\ \bullet \\ | \end{array} \quad (\neg) \bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare}{(\neg) \bullet \vee \blacksquare \cdot \blacksquare, \bullet}$$

Context x Clause \mapsto Context x Context

$$\text{Split} \frac{\begin{array}{c} | \\ \square \cdot \blacksquare, \bullet \\ \hline \end{array}}{\begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \neg \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array}}$$

$$\text{Close} \frac{\begin{array}{c} | \\ \blacksquare \\ | \end{array} \quad \square \cdot \blacksquare}{\square \cdot \emptyset}$$

split / **superposition** atom

U-Sup: Context x Clause \mapsto Clause



Must add $f(b) \approx b$ to the constraint because $f(b) \approx b$ could be false in the induced interpretation

U-Sup: Context x Clause \mapsto Clause

$$\text{U-Sup} \frac{\Lambda, l \approx r \quad s[u]_p \not\approx t \vee C \cdot \Gamma}{(s[r]_p \not\approx t \vee C \cdot \Gamma, l \approx r)\sigma}$$

where

- (i) σ is a mgu of l and u ,
- (ii) u is not a variable,
- (iii) $(l \approx r)\sigma$ is a **split** atom,
- (iv) $r\sigma \not\approx l\sigma$,
- (v) $t\sigma \not\approx s\sigma$,
- (vi) $(s \not\approx t)\sigma$ is maximal in $(s \not\approx t \vee C)\sigma$, and
- (vii) $\Lambda \cup \{l \approx r\}$ **produces** $(l \approx r)\sigma$

At least one ground instance is a split atom

Sup: Clause x Clause \mapsto Clause

$$\text{Sup} \frac{l \approx r \vee C' \cdot \Gamma' \quad s[u]_p \not\approx t \vee C \cdot \Gamma}{(s[r]_p \not\approx t \vee C \vee C' \cdot \Gamma, \Gamma')\sigma\pi}$$

- (i) σ is a mgu of l and u ,
- (ii) u is not a variable,
- (iii) π merges $x_1 \approx t_1 \vee \dots \vee x_n \approx t_n \subseteq C'\sigma$ with $(l \approx r)\sigma$,
- (iv) $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \text{Var}(\Gamma'\sigma)$,
- (v) $(l \approx r)\sigma$ is a **superposition** atom,
- (vi) $r\sigma\pi \not\approx l\sigma\pi$,
- (vii) $(l \approx r)\sigma\pi$ is strictly maximal in $(l \approx r \vee C')\sigma\pi$,
- (viii) $t\sigma \not\approx s\sigma$, and
- (ix) $(s \not\approx t)\sigma$ is maximal in $(s \not\approx t \vee C)\sigma$.

**Standard Superposition
is a special case**

Split: Context x Clause \mapsto Context x Context

$$\begin{array}{c}
 | \\
 f(x) \approx x \quad \square \cdot f(a) \approx a \\
 \hline
 | \\
 f(x) \approx x \\
 \wedge \\
 f(a) \not\approx a \quad f(a) \approx a
 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Split} \frac{\Lambda \quad \square \cdot \Gamma, s \approx t}{\Lambda, s \not\approx t \quad \Lambda, s \approx t}$$

(Similarly for $\square \cdot \Gamma, s \not\approx t$)

- (i) Λ produces every literal in $\Gamma \cup \{s \approx t\}$
- (ii) neither $s \approx t \in \Lambda$ nor $s \not\approx t \in \Lambda$
- (iii) $s \approx t$ is a **split** atom

Derivation Example

(No equality in this example, empty constraints not shown)

$$(1a) \quad x \leq z \vee \neg(x \leq y) \vee \neg \text{leq}(y, z)$$

$$(1b) \quad \text{leq}(y, z) \vee \neg(y \leq z)$$

$$(2) \quad x \leq y \vee y \leq x$$

Initial context is $\neg x$

Resolution on (1a) and (1b) is blocked

leq-atoms: split

\leq -atoms: superposition

leq-atoms $>$ \leq -atoms

$$(3) \quad x \leq x$$

(Factoring (2))

$$(4) \quad \neg(y \leq z) \cdot \neg \text{leq}(y, z)$$

(Neg-U-Res of (1b))

$$(5) \quad z \leq y \cdot \neg \text{leq}(y, z)$$

(Resolution (2)+(4))

$$(6) \quad \square \cdot \neg \text{leq}(x, x)$$

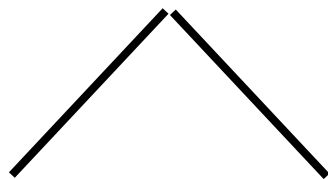
(Resolution (3)+(4))

Derivation Example

$$(1a) \quad x \leq z \vee \neg(x \leq y) \vee \neg \text{leq}(y, z)$$

⋮

$$(6) \quad \square \cdot \neg \text{leq}(x, x)$$



$$(ctxt-1) \quad \text{leq}(x, x) \quad \neg \text{leq}(x, x) \quad \text{(Split)}$$

$$(7) \quad x \leq y \vee \neg(x \leq y) \cdot \text{leq}(y, y) \quad \text{((ctxt-1)+(1a))}$$

(Derivation continues, but will terminate eventually)

**Inference rule applications controlled by
labelling, orderings, productivity, *redundancy/simplification***

Redundancy and Simplification

- A ground clause $C \cdot \Gamma$ is redundant if it follows from smaller ground clauses and "certain additional conditions" are satisfied
- DPLL-style simplification rules by elements from current context Λ

$$\cancel{f(x) \approx x \cdot g(a) \approx a}$$

if $g(a) \neq a \in \Lambda$

$$\cancel{f(x) \approx x \cdot g(a) \approx a}$$

if $g(a) \approx a \in \Lambda$

- Simplification by clauses from current clause set Φ

$$f(x) \approx h(x) \cdot g(x) \approx x$$

↓ $f(x) \approx x \cdot g(x) \approx x \in \Phi$

$$x \approx h(x) \cdot g(x) \approx x, g(x) \approx x$$

Generalizes redundancy/simplification of ME and Superposition

Soundness and Completeness

- ME+Sup is sound
- ME+Sup (with simplification) is refutationally complete
 - Every fair derivation from an unsatisfiable clause set ends in a derivation tree where every leaf is closed
 - Fairness: every inference from persistent non-redundant premises becomes redundant eventually
 - But input clauses must not contain constraints
 $P(x) \cdot \emptyset$ is OK $\square \cdot \neg P(x)$ is not OK
 - Proof by adaptation of Bachmair/Ganzinger model construction technique

Model Construction

Given: Λ , Φ is saturated and $\square \cdot \emptyset \notin \Phi$. Construct rewrite system R

Need a total ordering:

- $C_1 \cdot \Gamma_1$ and $C_2 \cdot \Gamma_2$ compared lexicographically
- Context equation $s \approx t$ is taken as $s \approx t \cdot \perp$ where $\perp \prec \emptyset$

Inspect $\Pi_\Lambda \cup \text{ground}(\Phi)$ in increasing order

(i) If $s \approx t \in \Pi_\Lambda$, $s \succ t$, $s \approx t$ and s and t are irreducible wrt. $R_{s \rightarrow t}$ then add $s \rightarrow t$ to R

$\{P(x), \neg P(b), a \approx b\}$ assigns false to $P(a)$

(ii) If $s \approx t \vee C \cdot \Gamma$ in $\text{ground}(\Phi)$, Λ produces Γ and "other conditions" apply then add $s \rightarrow t$ to R

Can show that inference rules reduce smallest relevant counterexample

Conclusions

- ME+Sup
 - Properly generalizes Superposition with redundancy criteria
 - Generalize essentials of Model Evolution with Equality (universal variables and some optional inference rules missing)
 - Symmetric integration, configuration of mixed calculi
- Technical complications required some new concepts
- Future work
 - New decision procedures?
 - Generalization of full Model Evolution with Equality
 - "Basic" variants of inference rules