AUTOMATED REASONING

Agostino Dovier

Università di Udine CLPLAB

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AGOSTINO DOVIER (CLPLAB)

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Semantics of Logic Programs

AGOSTINO DOVIER (CLPLAB)

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A program (or in general, a first-order theory) *P* is a built from a list of symbols.

In this case constants a and b, and one unary predicate symbol p

We would like to assign a meaning (interpretation) to these symbols on a universe of objects.

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Different interpretations for constant symbols induce different interpretations for first-order formulas (with equality)



$$p(a).$$

$$p(s(X)) \leftarrow p(X).$$

$$q(q(X,Y)) \leftarrow p(X), p(Y).$$

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Different interpretations for predicate symbols induce different interpretations for first-order formulas (with equality)







 $\exists X (\neg p(X)) \land$ $\exists X \exists Y (X \neq Y \land p(X) \land p(Y))$



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MODELS

Some of the various interpretations of constant, function, and predicate symbols can be models of the program (or of the theory) *P*.



Let us denote \overline{a} =triangle and \overline{b} =square. Let use denote with P, Q, R the interpretations of the predicate symbols p, q, r.

An interpretation that satisfies the logical meaning of all the formulas of *P* is a model.

- $P = \{\overline{a}\}, Q = \{\overline{b}\}, R = \{\overline{a}, \overline{b}\}$ is a model.
- $P = \{\overline{a}, \overline{b}\}, Q = \{\overline{b}\}, R = \{\overline{a}\}$ is NOT a model.

An atom $q(t_1, ..., t_n)$ is a logical consequence of a program/theory P if $(\overline{t_1}, ..., \overline{t_n}) \in Q$ in all (interpretations that are) models of P. We say that $P \models q(t_1, ..., t_n)$.

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- The set of logical consequences seems to be what we expect from the program.
- The questions are: Does it exist always? If yes, how to compute it?

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