

On interpolation in theorem proving

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Introduction to interpolation

Interpolation for propositional resolution

Interpolation and equality

What is interpolation?

- ▶ Consider a function f (univariate for simplicity)
- ▶ We know the values of f at points x_1, \dots, x_n on the x -axis (e.g., from sampling or experiments)
- ▶ We want to know the values of f at additional intermediate points and build its curve
- ▶ This is the problem of **interpolation** in numerical analysis
- ▶ It has many applications in computer graphics (e.g., spline interpolation)

Interpolation in logic

What is interpolation in logic?

Signature

- ▶ A finite set of constant symbols: e.g., $a, b, c \dots$
- ▶ A finite set of function symbols: e.g., $f, g, h \dots$
- ▶ A finite set of predicate symbols: $P, Q, R, \simeq \dots$
- ▶ Arities
- ▶ Sorts (important but key concepts can be understood without)

An infinite supply of variables: $x, y, z, w \dots$

Logical language

- ▶ Terms: $a, x, f(a), f(x), g(a, x) \dots$
- ▶ Atoms: $R, P(a), Q(x, g(b)), \dots$
- ▶ Literals: $R, P(a), Q(x, g(b)), \neg R, \neg P(a), \neg Q(x, g(b)), \dots$
- ▶ Formulae: $P(a) \wedge Q(a, g(b)), \neg P(a) \vee Q(a, g(b)),$
 $\neg P(a) \supset Q(g(b), c), \forall x P(x), \forall x \exists y P(x) \supset Q(y, x), \dots$
- ▶ Special formulae: \perp, \top

Logical language

- ▶ **Ground** term, atom, literal, formula: no occurrences of variables
- ▶ **Closed** formula: all variables are quantified (aka: **sentence**)

Defined symbols and free symbols

- ▶ A symbol is **defined** if it comes with axioms, e.g., \simeq
- ▶ Equality (\simeq) comes with the **congruence axioms**
- ▶ It is **free** otherwise, e.g., P
- ▶ Aka: **interpreted/uninterpreted**

Equality and the congruence axioms

- ▶ $\forall x. x \simeq x$
- ▶ $\forall x \forall y. x \simeq y \supset y \simeq x$
- ▶ $\forall x \forall y \forall z. x \simeq y \wedge y \simeq z \supset x \simeq z$
- ▶ $\forall x \forall y. x \simeq y \supset f(\dots, x, \dots) \simeq f(\dots, y, \dots)$
- ▶ $\forall x \forall y. [x \simeq y \wedge P(\dots, x, \dots)] \supset P(\dots, y, \dots)$

Craig interpolation or interpolation tout court

- ▶ Formulæ A and B such that $A \vdash B$
- ▶ An **interpolant** I is a formula that lies **between** A and B :
 - ▶ **Derivability**: $A \vdash I$ and $I \vdash B$
 - ▶ **Signature**: I made of symbols **common** to A and B
where symbol means predicate, function, constant symbol

Trivial cases

- ▶ All symbols of A appear in B : then A itself is the interpolant
- ▶ All symbols of B appear in A : then B itself is the interpolant

Assume that at least one has at least one symbol that does not appear in the other

Craig's Interpolation Theorem (1957)

- ▶ If A and B are closed formulæ with at least one predicate symbol in common
- ▶ Then an interpolant I **exists** and it is also a closed formula
- ▶ No predicate symbol in common: either A is unsatisfiable and I is \perp or B is valid and I is \top

Theorem proving

- ▶ $A \vdash? B$ is a theorem-proving problem
- ▶ Refutational theorem proving
- ▶ Equivalently: is $A \wedge \neg B$ inconsistent?
- ▶ $A \wedge \neg B \vdash? \perp$
- ▶ $A, \neg B \vdash? \perp$

Proofs by refutation: reverse interpolant

- ▶ A and B inconsistent: $A, B \vdash \perp$
- ▶ Then $A \vdash I$ and $B, I \vdash \perp$
- ▶ All symbols in I common to A and B

Reverse interpolant of (A, B) : interpolant of $(A, \neg B)$
because $A, B \vdash \perp$ means $A \vdash \neg B$ and $B, I \vdash \perp$ means $I \vdash \neg B$

Interpolant of (A, B) : reverse interpolant of $(A, \neg B)$

In refutational settings we say interpolant for reverse interpolant

Example

- ▶ A is $\forall x. P(c, x)$
- ▶ B is $\forall x. \neg P(x, d)$
- ▶ A and B are inconsistent
- ▶ Interpolant I is $\exists y \forall x. P(y, x)$

Reasoning modulo theory \mathcal{T}

- ▶ $\vdash_{\mathcal{T}}$ in place of \vdash
- ▶ All uninterpreted symbols in I common to A and B
- ▶ No restrictions on interpreted symbols

Example

- ▶ A is $a_1 \neq a_2$
- ▶ B is $\forall x \forall y. x \simeq y$
- ▶ A and B are inconsistent
- ▶ Interpolant I is $\exists x \exists y. x \neq y$

Clausal theorem proving

- ▶ **Clause**: disjunction of literals where all variables are implicitly universally quantified
- ▶ $\neg P(f(z)) \vee \neg Q(g(z)) \vee R(f(z), g(z))$
- ▶ No loss of generality: every formula can be transformed into a conjunction, or set, of clauses
- ▶ Inconsistency is preserved

Transformation into clausal form

- ▶ Eliminate \equiv and \supset : ($F \equiv G$ becomes $(F \supset G) \wedge (G \supset F)$ and $F \supset G$ becomes $\neg F \vee G$)
- ▶ Reduce the scope of all occurrences of \neg to an atom:
 $(\neg(F \vee G))$ becomes $\neg F \wedge \neg G$, $\neg(F \wedge G)$ becomes $\neg F \vee \neg G$, $\neg\neg F$ becomes F , $\neg\exists F$ becomes $\forall\neg F$, and $\neg\forall F$ becomes $\exists\neg F$)
- ▶ Standardize variables apart
 (each quantifier occurrence binds a distinct variable symbol)
- ▶ Skolemize \exists and then drop \forall
- ▶ Distributivity and associativity: $F \vee (G \wedge H)$ becomes $(F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$ and $F \vee (G \vee H)$ becomes $F \vee G \vee H$
- ▶ Replace \wedge by comma and get a **set of clauses**

Skolemization

- ▶ Outermost \exists :
 - ▶ $\exists x F[x]$ becomes $F[a]$ (all occurrences of x replaced by a)
 a is a **new Skolem constant**
 - ▶ There exists an element such that F : let this element be named a
- ▶ \exists in the scope of \forall :
 - ▶ $\forall y \exists x F[x, y]$ becomes $\forall y F[g(y), y]$
(all occurrences of x replaced by $g(y)$)
 g is a **new Skolem function**
 - ▶ For all y there is an x such that F : x depends on y ;
let g be the map of this dependence

A simple example

- ▶ $\neg\{[\forall x P(x)] \supset [\exists y \forall z Q(y, z)]\}$
- ▶ $\neg\{\neg[\forall x P(x)] \vee [\exists y \forall z Q(y, z)]\}$
- ▶ $[\forall x P(x)] \wedge \neg[\exists y \forall z Q(y, z)]$
- ▶ $[\forall x P(x)] \wedge [\forall y \exists z \neg Q(y, z)]$
- ▶ $[\forall x P(x)] \wedge [\forall y \neg Q(y, f(y))]$ where f is a Skolem function
- ▶ $\{P(x), \neg Q(y, f(y))\}$: a set of two unit clauses

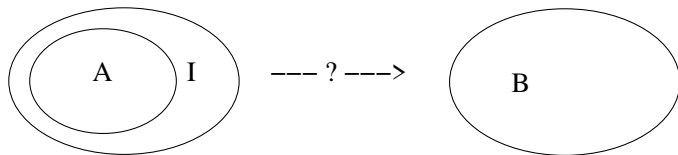
From now on we work with clauses

Why interpolation?

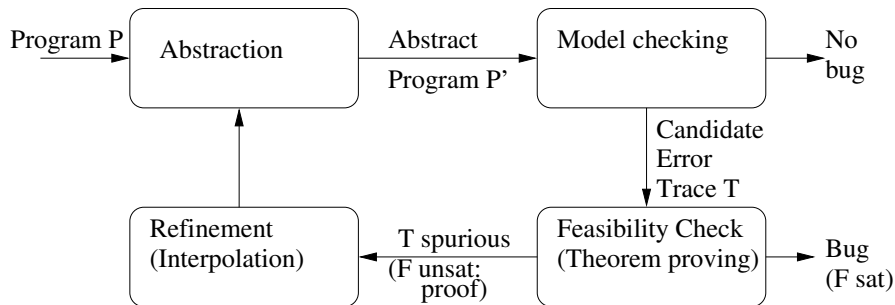
- ▶ Interpolant is a formula **in between** formulæ
- ▶ Formulæ represent **states** that satisfy them
- ▶ States of an automaton, of a transition system, of a program
- ▶ Interpolant may give information on **intermediate** states

Image computation in model checking

- ▶ Transition system with transition relation
- ▶ Forward reachability: computing **images**
- ▶ Backward reachability: computing **pre-images**
- ▶ Interpolant: **over-approximation** of an image/pre-image
- ▶ Interpolation to accelerate convergence towards fixed point



Abstraction refinement in software model checking



$F = A \cup B$; add predicates from interpolant I of (A, B) : exclude T

Automated invariant generation

- ▶ Loop: *pre* while C do T *post*
 - ▶ $\forall s. \text{pre}[s] \supset I(s)$
 - ▶ $\forall s, s'. I(s) \wedge C[s] \wedge T[s, s'] \supset I(s')$
 - ▶ $\forall s. I(s) \wedge \neg C[s] \supset \text{post}(s)$
- ▶ Invariant I made of symbols common to *pre* and *post*; no symbols local to the loop body T
- ▶ A : k -unfolding of loop; B : post-condition violated
- ▶ $A, B \vdash \perp$
- ▶ Interpolant of (A, B) : candidate invariant

Why interpolation?

- ▶ Interpolant is an **explanation** of $A, B \vdash \perp$
- ▶ Conflict-driven reasoning: explaining conflicts, where a conflict is an inconsistency between a formula to be satisfied and a candidate model

Example of explanation by interpolation I

$$F = \{x \geq 2, \neg(x \geq 1) \vee y \geq 1, x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \vee xy > 1\}$$

- ▶ Caveat: x and y here are constant symbols logically
- ▶ $M = \emptyset$
- ▶ $M = x \geq 2$
- ▶ $M = x \geq 2, x \geq 1$
- ▶ $M = x \geq 2, x \geq 1, y \geq 1$
- ▶ $M = x \geq 2, x \geq 1, y \geq 1, x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$
- ▶ $M = x \geq 2, x \geq 1, y \geq 1, x^2 + y^2 \leq 1, x \leftarrow 2$
- ▶ **Conflict:** no value for y such that $4 + y^2 \leq 1$

Example of explanation by interpolation II

$$F = \{x \geq 2, \neg(x \geq 1) \vee y \geq 1, x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \vee xy > 1\}$$

- ▶ $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$ implies $-1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 1$ which is inconsistent with $x = 2$
- ▶ $-1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 1$ is an **interpolant** because x is **shared**
- ▶ Learn $\neg(x^2 + y^2 \leq 1) \vee x \leq 1$
- ▶ Undo $x \leftarrow 2$ and add $x \leq 1$
- ▶ $M = x \geq 2, x \geq 1, y \geq 1, x^2 + y^2 \leq 1, x \leq 1$

Interpolation in propositional logic

Interpolation in propositional logic

Terminology for interpolation: Colors

Uninterpreted symbol:

- ▶ *A-colored*: occurs in A and not in B
- ▶ *B-colored*: occurs in B and not in A
- ▶ *Transparent*: occurs in both

Alternative terminology: *A-local*, *B-local*, *global*

Terminology for interpolation: Colors

Ground term/literal/clause:

- ▶ All transparent symbols: **transparent**
- ▶ A -colored (at least one) and transparent symbols: **A -colored**
- ▶ B -colored (at least one) and transparent symbols: **B -colored**
- ▶ Otherwise: **AB -mixed**

Interpolation system

- ▶ A and B sets of clauses
- ▶ Given: a refutation of $A \cup B$
- ▶ **Interpolation system**: extracts interpolant of (A, B)
- ▶ How? Computing a **partial interpolant** $PI(C)$ for each clause C in refutation
- ▶ Defined in such a way that $PI(\square)$ is interpolant of (A, B)

Partial interpolant

- ▶ Clause C in refutation of $A \cup B$
- ▶ $A \wedge B \vdash C$
- ▶ $A \wedge B \vdash C \vee \bar{C}$
- ▶ $A \wedge \bar{C} \vdash \bar{B} \vee C$
- ▶ Interpolant of $A \wedge \bar{C}$ and $\bar{B} \vee C$
- ▶ Reverse interpolant of $A \wedge \bar{C}$ and $B \wedge \bar{C}$
- ▶ The signatures of $A \wedge \bar{C}$ and $B \wedge \bar{C}$ are not necessarily those of A and B unless C is transparent
- ▶ Use **projections**

Symmetric projections

C : disjunction (conjunction) of literals

- ▶ $C|_A$: A -colored and transparent literals
- ▶ $C|_B$: B -colored and transparent literals
- ▶ $C|_{A,B}$: transparent literals
- ▶ \perp (\top) if empty

If C has no AB -mixed literals: $C = C|_A \vee C|_B$

Asymmetric projections

C : disjunction (conjunction) of literals

- ▶ $C \setminus_B = C|_A \setminus C|_{A,B}$ (A -colored only)
- ▶ $C \downarrow_B = C|_B$ (transparent go with B -colored)

If C has no AB -mixed literals: $C = C \setminus_B \vee C \downarrow_B$

Partial interpolant

- ▶ Clause C in refutation of $A \cup B$
- ▶ **Partial interpolant** $PI(C)$: interpolant of $A \wedge \neg(C|_A)$ and $B \wedge \neg(C|_B)$
- ▶ If C is \square : $PI(C)$ interpolant of (A, B)
- ▶ Requirements:
 - ▶ $A \wedge \neg(C|_A) \vdash PI(C)$
 - ▶ $B \wedge \neg(C|_B) \wedge PI(C) \vdash \perp$
 - ▶ $PI(C)$ transparent
- ▶ Or as above with asymmetric projections

Complete interpolation system

An interpolation system is **complete** for an inference system if

- ▶ For all sets of clauses A and B such that $A \cup B$ is unsatisfiable
- ▶ For all refutations of $A \cup B$ by the inference system

It generates **an** interpolant of (A, B)

There may be more than one

Inductive approach to interpolation

- ▶ The interpolation system is defined **inductively**
- ▶ By defining the partial interpolant of the consequence given the partial interpolants of the premises for each inference rule
- ▶ Prove **complete**:
show that its partial interpolants are indeed such

Propositional resolution: example

$$\frac{P \vee \neg Q \vee \neg R, \neg P \vee O}{O \vee \neg Q \vee \neg R}$$

where O , P , Q , and R are propositional atoms
(aka propositional variables, aka 0-ary predicates)

Propositional resolution

$$\frac{S \cup \{L \vee C, \neg L \vee D\}}{S \cup \{L \vee C, \neg L \vee D, C \vee D\}}$$

- ▶ L is an atom
- ▶ C and D are disjunctions of literals
- ▶ L and $\neg L$ are the **literals resolved upon**
- ▶ $C \vee D$ is called **resolvent**

First-order ground resolution

$$\frac{P(c, g(a)) \vee \neg R(c, b), \neg P(c, g(a)) \vee Q(a, g(a))}{\neg R(c, b) \vee Q(a, g(a))}$$

Same as propositional resolution: map ground atoms into propositional atoms

Example in propositional logic

$$A = \{a \vee e, \neg a \vee b, \neg a \vee c\} \quad B = \{\neg b \vee \neg c \vee d, \neg d, \neg e\}$$

1. $a \vee e$ resolves with $\neg e$ to yield a
2. a resolves with $\neg a \vee c$ to yield c
3. a resolves with $\neg a \vee b$ to yield b
4. b resolves with $\neg b \vee \neg c \vee d$ to yield $\neg c \vee d$
5. c resolves with $\neg c \vee d$ to yield d
6. d resolves with $\neg d$ to yield \square

Goal: interpolate this refutation to get an interpolant of (A, B)

Propositional interpolation systems

- ▶ Literals in proof are input literals
- ▶ Input literals are either A -colored or B -colored or transparent
- ▶ No AB -mixed literals

The HKPYM interpolation system

C clause in refutation of $A \cup B$ by propositional resolution:

- ▶ $C \in A$: $PI(C) = \perp$
- ▶ $C \in B$: $PI(C) = \top$
- ▶ $C \vee D$ propositional resolvent of $p_1: C \vee L$ and $p_2: D \vee \neg L$:
 - ▶ L **A-colored**: $PI(C \vee D) = PI(p_1) \vee PI(p_2)$
 - ▶ L **B-colored**: $PI(C \vee D) = PI(p_1) \wedge PI(p_2)$
 - ▶ L **transparent**: $PI(C \vee D) = (L \vee PI(p_1)) \wedge (\neg L \vee PI(p_2))$

Symmetric projections

[Huang 1995] [Krajíček 1997] [Pudlák 1997] [Yorsh, Musuvathi 2005]

Example with HKPYM

$$A = \{a \vee e, \neg a \vee b, \neg a \vee c\} \quad B = \{\neg b \vee \neg c \vee d, \neg d, \neg e\}$$

1. $a \vee e$ [\perp] resolves with $\neg e$ [\top] to yield a [e]:
 $PI(a) = (e \vee \perp) \wedge (\neg e \vee \top) = e$
2. a [e] resolves with $\neg a \vee c$ [\perp] to yield c [e]: $PI(c) = e \vee \perp = e$
3. a [e] resolves with $\neg a \vee b$ [\perp] to yield b [e]: $PI(b) = e \vee \perp = e$
4. b [e] resolves with $\neg b \vee \neg c \vee d$ [\top] to yield $\neg c \vee d$ [$b \vee e$]:
 $PI(\neg c \vee d) = (b \vee e) \wedge (\neg b \vee \top) = b \vee e$
5. c [e] resolves with $\neg c \vee d$ [$b \vee e$] to yield d [$e \vee (c \wedge b)$]:
 $PI(d) = (c \vee e) \wedge (\neg c \vee b \vee e) = e \vee (c \wedge b)$
6. d [$e \vee (c \wedge b)$] resolves with $\neg d$ [\top] to yield \square [$e \vee (c \wedge b)$]:
 $PI(\square) = (e \vee (c \wedge b)) \wedge \top = e \vee (c \wedge b)$

The MM interpolation system

C clause in refutation of $A \cup B$ by propositional resolution:

- ▶ $C \in A$: $PI(C) = C|_{A,B}$
- ▶ $C \in B$: $PI(C) = \top$
- ▶ $C \vee D$ propositional resolvent of $p_1: C \vee L$ and $p_2: D \vee \neg L$:
 - ▶ L **A-colored**: $PI(C \vee D) = PI(p_1) \vee PI(p_2)$
 - ▶ L **B-colored** or **transparent**: $PI(C \vee D) = PI(p_1) \wedge PI(p_2)$

Asymmetric projections

[McMillan 2003]

Example with MM

$$A = \{a \vee e, \neg a \vee b, \neg a \vee c\} \quad B = \{\neg b \vee \neg c \vee d, \neg d, \neg e\}$$

1. $a \vee e$ [e] resolves with $\neg e$ [T] to yield a [e]: $PI(a) = e \wedge \top = e$
2. a [e] resolves with $\neg a \vee c$ [c] to yield c [$e \vee c$]: $PI(c) = e \vee c$
3. a [e] resolves with $\neg a \vee b$ [b] to yield b [$e \vee b$]: $PI(b) = e \vee b$
4. b [$e \vee b$] resolves with $\neg b \vee \neg c \vee d$ [T] to yield $\neg c \vee d$ [$e \vee b$]:
 $PI(\neg c \vee d) = (e \vee b) \wedge \top = e \vee b$
5. c [$e \vee c$] resolves with $\neg c \vee d$ [$e \vee b$] to yield d [$e \vee (c \wedge b)$]:
 $PI(d) = (e \vee c) \wedge (e \vee b) = e \vee (c \wedge b)$
6. d [$e \vee (c \wedge b)$] resolves with $\neg d$ [T] to yield \square [$e \vee (c \wedge b)$]:
 $PI(\square) = (e \vee (c \wedge b)) \wedge \top = e \vee (c \wedge b)$

Comparison of HKPYM and MM

- ▶ In this example the final interpolant is the same, although at each step the HKPYM partial interpolant implies the MM partial interpolant
- ▶ In general: MM interpolants imply HKPYM interpolants [D'Silva, Kroening, Purandare, Weissenbacher 2010]
- ▶ But there is no general result as to whether weaker or stronger is preferable

Interpolation and equality

Interpolation and equality

Equational reasoning

Replacing equals by equals as in **ground rewriting**:

$$\frac{S \cup \{f(a, a) \simeq a, P(f(a, a)) \vee Q(a)\}}{S \cup \{f(a, a) \simeq a, P(a) \vee Q(a)\}}$$

It can be done as $f(a, a) \succ a$: replacing equals by equals needs an ordering in order to know in which direction apply the equality

Monotonicity

- ▶ \succ ordering
- ▶ $s \succ t$
- ▶ Example: $f(a, i(a)) \succ e$
- ▶ **Monotonicity**: $r[s] \succ r[t]$ for all contexts r
(A context is an expression, here a term or atom, with a hole)
- ▶ $f(f(a, i(a)), b) \succ f(e, b)$

Subterm property

- ▶ \succ ordering
- ▶ $s[t] \succ t$
- ▶ Example: $f(a, i(a)) \succ i(a)$

Well-foundedness

- ▶ No infinite descending chain $s_0 \succ s_1 \succ \dots s_i \succ s_{i+1} \succ \dots$
- ▶ Monotonicity and the subterm property suffice to ensure **well-foundedness** on ground terms

Equality changes the picture for interpolation

- ▶ Propositional logic: no AB -mixed literals and colors are **stable**
- ▶ Equality: what if **AB -mixed equality** $t_a \simeq t_b$ is derived?
 t_a : **A -colored** ground term; t_b : **B -colored** ground term
- ▶ Rewriting: t_a and t_b in normal form, $t_a \succ t_b$:
rewrite t_a as t_b ; t_b should become transparent
- ▶ **A -colored**/ **B -colored**/**transparent** cannot change dynamically!

Equality-interpolating theory

- ▶ (A, B) : there exist **transparent** ground terms
- ▶ If $A \wedge B \models_{\mathcal{T}} t_a \simeq t_b$
 t_a : **A-colored** ground term and t_b : **B-colored** ground term
- ▶ Then $A \wedge B \models_{\mathcal{T}} t_a \simeq t \wedge t_b \simeq t$ for some **transparent** ground term t called **equality-interpolating term**

[Yorsh, Musuvathi 2005]

Separating ordering

Ordering \succ on terms and literals:

separating if $s \succ r$ whenever r is **transparent** and s is not
([McMillan 2008], [Kovács, Voronkov 2009])

Rewriting: t_a and t_b rewritten to t

Separating implies no AB -mixed literals

- ▶ Γ : inference system with resolution, superposition, simplification, subsumption ...
- ▶ Lemma: If the ordering \succ is separating, ground Γ -refutations contain **no AB -mixed literals**
 - ▶ $s \simeq r$ and $I[s]$ not AB -mixed, and $s \succ r$
 - ▶ either s and r same color or r transparent
 - ▶ $I[r]$ not AB -mixed

EUF is equality-interpolating

- ▶ Theorem: The quantifier-free fragment of the theory of equality is equality-interpolating
 - ▶ Γ with \succ separating ordering
 - ▶ (A, B) : there exist **transparent** ground terms
 - ▶ If $A \wedge B \models t_a \simeq t_b$
 - ▶ $A \cup B \cup \{t_a \neq t_b\} \vdash_{\Gamma} \perp$ by refutational completeness of Γ
 - ▶ **No AB -mixed equalities** as \succ is separating
 - ▶ Valley proof $t_a \xrightarrow{*} t \xleftarrow{*} t_b$ contains at least a **transparent** term
 - ▶ t must be **transparent**

Interpolation system $G\Gamma$

C clause in ground Γ -refutation of $A \cup B$:

- ▶ Base cases and resolution: same as in HKPYM
- ▶ $c: C \vee I[r] \vee D$ generated from $p_1: C \vee s \simeq r$ and $p_2: I[s] \vee D$
 - ▶ $s \simeq r$ **A-colored**: $PI(c) = PI(p_1) \vee PI(p_2)$
 - ▶ $s \simeq r$ **B-colored**: $PI(c) = PI(p_1) \wedge PI(p_2)$
 - ▶ $s \simeq r$ **transparent**: $PI(c) = (s \simeq r \vee PI(p_1)) \wedge (s \not\simeq r \vee PI(p_2))$

Example

$$A = \{P(c), \neg P(e)\} \quad B = \{c \simeq e\} \quad c \succ e$$

P is A -colored, c and e are transparent

- $c \simeq e [\top]$ simplifies $P(c) [\perp]$ into $P(e) [c \not\simeq e]$
 $PI(P(e)) = (c \simeq e \vee \top) \wedge (c \not\simeq e \vee \perp) = c \not\simeq e$
- $\neg P(e) [\perp]$ resolves with $P(e) [c \not\simeq e]$ to yield $\square [c \not\simeq e]$
 $PI(\square) = \perp \vee c \not\simeq e = c \not\simeq e$

Example

$$A = \{Q(f(a)), f(a) \simeq c\} \quad B = \{\neg Q(f(b)), f(b) \simeq c\}$$

a is A -colored, b is B -colored, all other symbols are transparent

- $f(a) \simeq c$ [\perp] simplifies $Q(f(a))$ [\perp] into $Q(c)$ [\perp]
where $f(a) \succ c$ in any separating ordering
 $PI(Q(c)) = \perp \vee \perp = \perp$
- $f(b) \simeq c$ [\top] simplifies $\neg Q(f(b))$ [\top] into $\neg Q(c)$ [\top]
where $f(b) \succ c$ in any separating ordering
 $PI(\neg Q(c)) = \top \wedge \top = \top$
- $Q(c)$ [\perp] resolves with $\neg Q(c)$ [\top] to yield \square [$Q(c)$]
 $PI(\square) = (Q(c) \vee \perp) \wedge (\neg Q(c) \vee \top) = Q(c)$

Completeness

- ▶ Theorem: If the ordering is separating, GFI is a **complete** interpolation system for ground Γ -refutations
- ▶ The proof shows that the partial interpolants built by GFI satisfy the requirements for partial interpolants.

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- ▶ Maria Paola Bonacina and Moa Johansson. Interpolation systems for ground proofs in automated deduction: a survey. *Journal of Automated Reasoning*, 54(4):353-390, 2015 [providing 89 references]
- ▶ Maria Paola Bonacina and Moa Johansson. Towards interpolation in an SMT solver with integrated superposition. 9th SMT Workshop, Snowbird, Utah, USA, July 2011; TR UCB/EECS-2011-80, 9-18, 2011
- ▶ Maria Paola Bonacina and Moa Johansson. On interpolation in decision procedures. In *Proc. of the 20th TABLEAUX Conference*, Bern, Switzerland, July 2011; Springer, LNAI 6793, 1-16, 2011

Discussion

- ▶ Generality: interpolants for more logics, theories, inference systems
- ▶ Quality: better interpolants; stronger? weaker? shorter?
- ▶ Non-ground proofs theories?
Two-stage approach:
Maria Paola Bonacina and Moa Johansson. On interpolation in automated theorem proving. *Journal of Automated Reasoning*, 54(1):69-97, 2015