



A Reasoning System for a
First-Order Logic of Limited Belief

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What is limited belief? And why?

Task: Robot has a KB and a query:

Does the KB *logically entail* the query?

What is limited belief? And why?

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Which logic?

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Does the KB *logically entail* the query?

Which logic?

Classical logic:

- Unrealistic: omniscient agent
- Undecidable (*first-order*) / intractable (*propositional*)

What is limited belief? And why?

Task: Robot has a KB and a query:

Does the KB *logically entail* the query?

Which logic?

Limited belief:

- Belief level 0: explicitly written down in the KB
- Belief level $k > 0$: derivable from KB with effort k

Hope: good results at *small* belief level

Builds on Lakemeyer & Levesque, KR-2016

Language

FOL with equality + functions + sorts +

- Knowledge: $\mathbf{K}_0\alpha \quad \mathbf{K}_1\alpha \quad \mathbf{K}_2\alpha \quad \dots$
- Possibility: $\mathbf{M}_0\alpha \quad \mathbf{M}_1\alpha \quad \mathbf{M}_2\alpha \quad \dots$

Example:

- ▶ $\mathbf{K}_1(\text{Rich}(\text{Frank}) \vee \text{Rich}(\text{Fred}))$ know that Frank or Fred is rich
- ▶ $\forall x \mathbf{M}_1 \text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) \neq x$ don't know who Sally's father is
- ▶ $\mathbf{K}_1 \exists x (\text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) = x \wedge \text{Rich}(x) \wedge \mathbf{M}_1 \text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) \neq x)$ know that Sally's father is rich, but don't know who he is

Semantics

Model: set of **clauses** closed under unit propagation

- Belief level 0: subsumption
- Belief level $k > 0$: k case splits

Example:

If all we know is (a) $\text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) = \text{Frank} \vee \text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) = \text{Fred}$
and (b) $\forall x (\text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) \neq x \vee \text{Rich}(x))$

then $\mathbf{K}_1(\text{Rich}(\text{Frank}) \vee \text{Rich}(\text{Fred}))$?

Yes! Branch on $\text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally})$:

- ▶ $\{(a), (b), \text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) = \text{Frank}\} \ni \text{Rich}(\text{Frank})$ by UP with (b)
 - ▶ $\{(a), (b), \text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) = \text{Fred}\} \ni \text{Rich}(\text{Fred})$ by UP with (b)
 - ▶ $\{(a), (b), \text{fatherOf}(\text{Sally}) = n\} \ni \perp$ by UP with (a)
for $n \neq \text{Frank}, \text{Fred}$
- } $\text{Rich}(\text{Frank}) \vee \text{Rich}(\text{Fred})$

KB entails query at some belief level \implies KB classically entails query
if no $\neg K, \neg M$

KB entails query at some belief level \iff KB classically entails query
if no $\neg\mathbf{K}$, $\neg\mathbf{M}$ and no \exists, \forall

KB entails query at some belief level is decidable

KB entails query at some belief level is tractable
if no \exists, \forall and belief level fixed

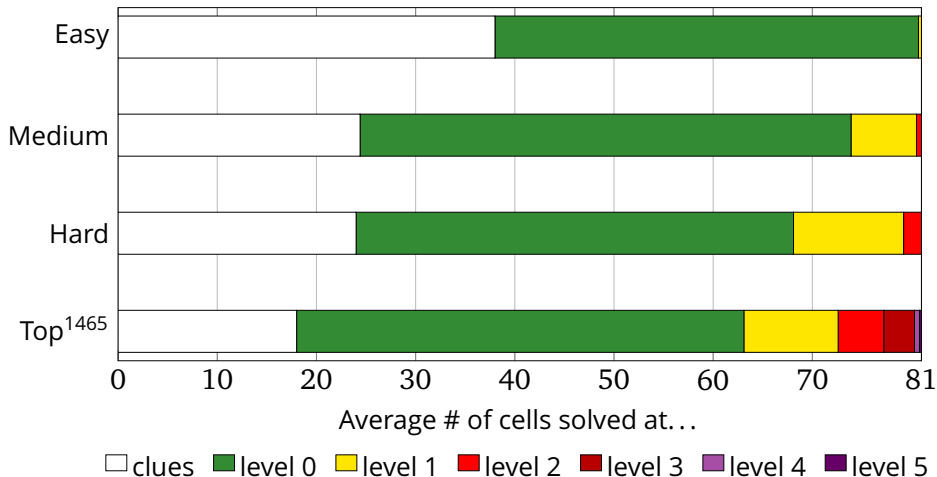
Experiments:

Sudoku

Minesweeper

Hypothesis: good results at *small* belief level

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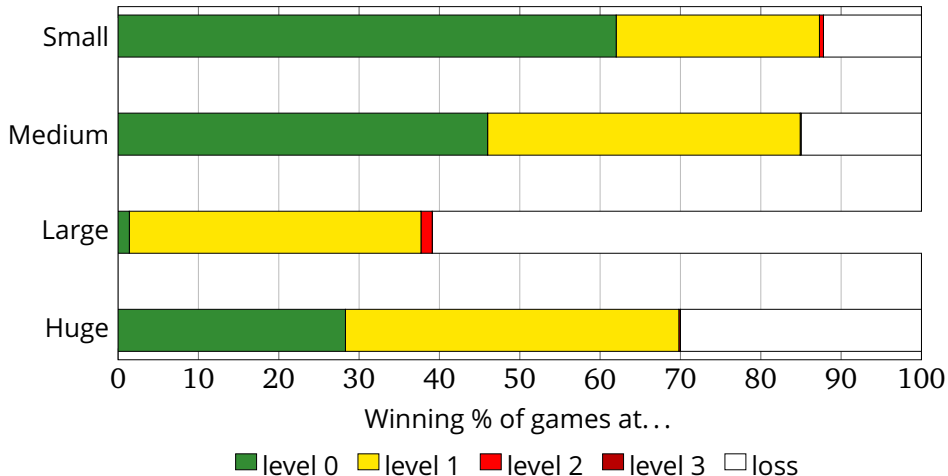


Experiments:

Sudoku

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Hypothesis: good results at *small* belief level ✓ ✓



Limbo = *Limited Belief*

Demos: www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cschwering/limbo
Fri 10:00–12:00

Code: www.github.com/schwering/limbo

Next: 1. actions 2. belief change 3. multiple agents

Appendix

Language in detail

Terms:

- First-order variables
- Functions $f(t_1, \dots, t_m)$ where each t_i is a name or variable
- Standard names infinitely many and sorted

Formulas:

- FOL: $t_1 = t_2$ $\neg\alpha$ $\alpha \vee \beta$ $\exists x \alpha$
- Knowledge: $\mathbf{K}_0\alpha$ $\mathbf{K}_1\alpha$ $\mathbf{K}_2\alpha$...
- Possibility: $\mathbf{M}_0\alpha$ $\mathbf{M}_1\alpha$ $\mathbf{M}_2\alpha$...
- Knowledge base: $\mathbf{O}\alpha$ where α is in universal CNF

- ▶ $\alpha \wedge \beta$ $\alpha \supset \beta$ $\alpha \equiv \beta$ $\forall x \alpha$ are abbreviations
- ▶ Predicates are simulated with functions
- ▶ Existentials in KBs are simulated with Skolem functions
- ▶ Functions on the right-hand side and within functions are flattened:

$$f(\cdot) = g(\cdot) \mapsto \forall x (g(\cdot) = x \supset f(\cdot) = x)$$

$$f(g(\cdot)) = t \mapsto \forall x (g(\cdot) = x \supset f(x) = t)$$

Literal encoding

- Functions cannot appear on rhs $f(\cdot) = g(\cdot) \mapsto \forall x (g(\cdot) = x \supset f(\cdot) = x)$
- Functions cannot be nested $f(g(\cdot)) = t \mapsto \forall x (g(\cdot) = x \supset f(x) = t)$
- Term is 30-bit number
 - ▶ points to full representation
 - ▶ this pointer is unique (interning)
- Literal is 64-bit number
 - ▶ 30 + 30 bits for lhs + rhs
 - ▶ 1 + 1 bits to indicate if lhs + rhs is name
 - ▶ 1 bit to indicate whether = or \neq
- Conditions for literal subsumption and complementarity:
 - ▶ l subsumes l
 - ▶ $t = n_1$ subsumes $t \neq n_2$
 - ▶ $t = t'$ and $t \neq t'$ are complementary
 - ▶ $t = n_1$ and $t = n_2$ are complementary

} t, t' ground terms
 n_1, n_2 distinct names
- Sound and complete
- Bitwise op's on 64-bit numbers suffice no term dereferencing
- Fast clause subsumption and unit propagation

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

- $c_1 = f(S) = \text{Frank} \vee f(S) = \text{Fred}$
 $c_2 = \forall x (f(S) \neq x \vee r(x) = \top)$
- $\mathbf{O}(c_1 \wedge c_2) \models \mathbf{K}\exists x (f(S) = x \wedge r(x) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}f(S) \neq x)$

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

- $e = \{w \mid w \models f(S) = \text{Frank} \vee f(S) = \text{Fred} \wedge \forall x (f(S) \neq x \vee r(x) = \top)\}$
- $e \models \mathbf{K}\exists x (f(S) = x \wedge r(x) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}f(S) \neq x)$

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- $e = \{w \mid w \models f(S) = \text{Frank} \vee f(S) = \text{Fred} \wedge \forall x (f(S) \neq x \vee r(x) = \top)\}$
- $e \models \mathbf{K}\exists x (f(S) = x \wedge r(x) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}f(S) \neq x)$
- For every $w \in e$, for some n , $w \models f(S) = n \wedge R(n)$
- For some $w' \in e$, $w' \models f(S) \neq n$

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

- $c_1 = f(S) = \text{Frank} \vee f(S) = \text{Fred}$
 $c_2 = \forall x (f(S) \neq x \vee r(x) = \top)$
- $\mathbf{O}(c_1 \wedge c_2) \approx \mathbf{K}_1 \exists x (f(S) = x \wedge r(x) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}_1 f(S) \neq x)$

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

- $s = \{f(S) = \text{Frank} \vee f(S) = \text{Fred},$
 $f(S) \neq n \vee r(n) = \top \mid n \text{ is a name}\}$
- $s \models \mathbf{K}_1 \exists x (f(S) = x \wedge r(x) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}_1 f(S) \neq x)$

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

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\iff

for some t_1 , for all n_1 , for some n ,
 $s \cup \{t_1 = n_1\} \models f(S) = n \wedge r(n) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}_1 f(S) \neq n$

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

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\iff

for some t_1 , for all n_1 , for some n , $s \cup \{t_1 = n_1\} \models f(S) = n \wedge r(n) = \top$
for some t_2 and n_2 , $s \cup \{t_2 = n_2\} \models f(S) \neq n$

"I don't know Sally's father, but I know he's rich"

- $s = \{f(S) = \text{Frank} \vee f(S) = \text{Fred},$
 $f(S) \neq n \vee r(n) = \top \mid n \text{ is a name}\}$
- $s \approx \mathbf{K}_1 \exists x (f(S) = x \wedge r(x) = \top \wedge \mathbf{M}_1 f(S) \neq x)$

\iff

- (a) for some t_1 , for all n_1 , for some n , $s \cup \{t_1 = n_1\} \approx f(S) = n \wedge r(n) = \top$
- (b) for some t_2 and n_2 , $s \cup \{t_2 = n_2\} \approx f(S) \neq n$

\Leftarrow

- (a) choose $t_1 = f(S)$:
 - if $n_1 = \text{Frank}$, choose $n = \text{Frank}$:
 $s \cup \{f(S) = \text{Frank}\}$ contains $f(S) = \text{Frank}$, $r(\text{Frank}) = \top$
- (b) choose $t_2 = f(S)$ and $n_2 = \text{Fred}$:
 - $s \cup \{f(S) = \text{Fred}\}$ contains $f(S) \neq \text{Frank}$
 - if $n_1 = \text{Fred}$: analogous
 - if $n_1 \neq \text{Frank, Fred}$: $s \cup \{f(S) = n_1\}$ is obv. inconsistent

Theorems in detail

- \models is classical entailment
- \approx is limited entailment
- σ contains no \mathbf{O} , $\neg\mathbf{K}_k$, $\neg\mathbf{M}_k$
- σ^* removes belief levels
- σ_k sets belief levels to k

Soundness & Eventual Completeness

$\mathbf{O}\alpha \approx \sigma$	\implies	$\mathbf{O}\alpha \models \sigma^*$	if σ without $\neg\mathbf{K}_k$, $\neg\mathbf{M}_k$
$\mathbf{O}\alpha \approx \sigma_k$ for some k	\iff	$\mathbf{O}\alpha \models \sigma^*$	if α, σ quantifier-free

Complexity

$\mathbf{O}\alpha \approx \sigma$ is decidable	
$\mathbf{O}\alpha \approx \sigma_k$ is tractable in $\mathcal{O}(2^k(\alpha + \sigma)^{k+3})$	if α, σ quantifier-free

Semantics in detail

- $(\neg)t = n$
- $(\alpha \vee \beta)$
- $\neg(\alpha \vee \beta)$
- $\exists x \alpha$
- $\neg \exists x \alpha$
- $\neg \neg \alpha$

- $\mathbf{K}_0 \alpha$
- $\mathbf{K}_{k+1} \alpha$
- $\mathbf{M}_0 \alpha$
- $\mathbf{M}_{k+1} \alpha$
- $\mathbf{O} \alpha$

Semantics in detail

- $s \models (\neg)t = n$ iff $(\neg)t = n \in s$
- $s \models (\alpha \vee \beta)$ iff $(\alpha \vee \beta) \in s$ or $s \models \alpha$ or $s \models \beta$
- $s \models \neg(\alpha \vee \beta)$ iff $s \models \neg\alpha$ and $s \models \neg\beta$
- $s \models \exists x \alpha$ iff $s \models \alpha_n^x$ for some name n
- $s \models \neg\exists x \alpha$ iff $s \models \neg\alpha_n^x$ for every name n
- $s \models \neg\neg\alpha$ iff $s \models \alpha$

- $\mathbf{K}_0 \alpha$
- $\mathbf{K}_{k+1} \alpha$
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- $\mathbf{M}_{k+1} \alpha$
- $\mathbf{O} \alpha$

Semantics in detail

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- $s \models \exists x \alpha$ iff $s \models \alpha_n^x$ for some name n
- $s \models \neg\exists x \alpha$ iff $s \models \neg\alpha_n^x$ for every name n
- $s \models \neg\neg\alpha$ iff $s \models \alpha$

- $s \models \mathbf{K}_0 \alpha$ iff s is obviously inconsistent or $s \models \alpha$
- $s \models \mathbf{K}_{k+1} \alpha$ iff for some t and all n , $s \cup \{t = n\} \models \mathbf{K}_k \alpha$
- $s \models \mathbf{M}_0 \alpha$ iff s is obviously consistent and $s \models \alpha$
- $s \models \mathbf{M}_{k+1} \alpha$ iff for some t and n , $s \cup \{t = n\} \models \mathbf{M}_k \alpha$
- $s \models \mathbf{O} \alpha$ iff s is minimal s.t. $s \models \alpha$

Semantics in detail

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- $s \models \exists x \alpha$ iff $s \models \alpha_n^x$ for some name n
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- $s \models \mathbf{O} \alpha$ iff s is minimal s.t. $s \models \alpha$

obviously inconsistent $\hat{=}$ contains the empty clause

obviously consistent $\hat{=}$ not potentially inconsistent

potentially inconsistent $\hat{=}$

(a) obviously consistent

(b) two unsubsumed clauses mention two complementary literals

(c) for every name n , $t \neq n$ occurs in an unsubsumed clause

Semantics in detail

- $s_0, s, \nu \models (\neg)t = n$ iff $(\neg)t = n \in s$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models (\alpha \vee \beta)$ iff $(\alpha \vee \beta) \in s$ or $s_0, s, \nu \models \alpha$ or $s_0, s, \nu \models \beta$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \neg(\alpha \vee \beta)$ iff $s_0, s, \nu \models \neg\alpha$ and $s_0, s, \nu \models \neg\beta$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \exists x \alpha$ iff $s_0, s, \nu \models \alpha_n^x$ for some name n
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \neg\exists x \alpha$ iff $s_0, s, \nu \models \neg\alpha_n^x$ for every name n
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \neg\neg\alpha$ iff $s_0, s, \nu \models \alpha$

- $s_0, s, \nu \models \mathbf{K}_0 \alpha$ iff $s_0 \cup \nu$ is obv. inconsistent or $s_0, s_0 \cup \nu, \emptyset \models \alpha$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \mathbf{K}_{k+1} \alpha$ iff for some t and all n , $s_0, s, \nu \cup \{t = n\} \models \mathbf{K}_k \alpha$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \mathbf{M}_0 \alpha$ iff $s_0 \cup \nu$ is obv. consistent and $s_0, s_0 \cup \nu, \emptyset \models \alpha$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \mathbf{M}_{k+1} \alpha$ iff for some t and n , $s_0, s, \nu \cup \{t = n\} \models \mathbf{M}_k \alpha$
- $s_0, s, \nu \models \mathbf{O} \alpha$ iff s_0 is minimal s.t. $s_0, s_0, \emptyset \models \alpha$

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