Core language

Steering comitee (meeting at LPNMR)

January 2004

1 Syntax

- Predicate symbols are composed of lower-case letters and digits; they must start with a letter.
- Constant symbols are either just digits or composed of lower-case letters and digits, starting with a lower-case letter.
- Variable symbols are composed of letters and digits; they must start with an upper-case letter.

Formally, it can be expressed and/or verified by means of the following regular expression:

[A-Z][A-Za-z0-9]*

• A fact is followed by a dot '.'.

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[a-z][a-z0-9]*(((([a-z][a-z0-9]*)|([0-9]*))(,(([a-z][a-z0-9]*)|([0-9]*)))*())).

- Rules use the following symbols:
 - Negation as failure: 'not'
 - If (\leftarrow) : ':-'
 - Conjunction (\wedge): ','
 - Disjunction (\lor): ';'
 - Classical negation (\neg) : '-'

Rules are followed by a dot '.'.

- Arithmetic comparisons use the following symbols:
 - Equality: '=='
 - Inequality: '!='

- Less-or-equal: '<='
- Greater-or-equal: '>='
- Less: '<'
- Greater: '>'

2 Known Problems

• Same predicate symbols with different arities are rejected by DLV's parser and accepted by lparse (submitted by Martin Gebser).