

# Course “An Introduction to SAT and SMT”

## Chapter 1: Propositional Satisfiability (SAT)

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# Outline

- 1 Basics on SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving techniques
  - Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT solvers
- 3 Modern CDCL SAT Solvers
  - Further Improvements
- 4 Tractable subclasses of SAT
- 5 Random k-SAT and Phase Transition
- 6 Advanced Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization
  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
  - Appl. #2: Bounded Model Checking
- 7 Some Applications

# Boolean logic



# Basic notation & definitions

- **Boolean formula**

- $\top, \perp$  are formulas
- A **propositional atom**  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$  is a formula;
- if  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are formulas, then  
 $\neg\varphi_1, \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \leftarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$   
 are formulas.

- **Atoms**( $\varphi$ ): the set  $\{A_1, \dots, A_N\}$  of atoms occurring in  $\varphi$ .
- **Literal**: a propositional atom  $A_i$  (**positive literal**) or its negation  $\neg A_i$  (**negative literal**)
  - Notation: if  $l := \neg A_i$ , then  $\neg l := A_i$
- **Clause**: a disjunction of literals  $\bigvee_j l_j$  (e.g.,  $(A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \vee A_3 \vee \dots)$ )
- **Cube**: a conjunction of literals  $\bigwedge_j l_j$  (e.g.,  $(A_1 \wedge \neg A_2 \wedge A_3 \wedge \dots)$ )

# Semantics of Boolean operators

- Truth table:

$\varphi_1$	$\varphi_2$	$\neg\varphi_1$	$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \leftarrow \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$
$\perp$	$\perp$	T	$\perp$	$\perp$	T	T	T
$\perp$	T	T	$\perp$	T	T	$\perp$	$\perp$
T	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	T	$\perp$	T	$\perp$
T	T	$\perp$	T	T	T	T	T

## Note

- $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$  and  $\leftrightarrow$  are commutative:

$$(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \iff (\varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_1)$$

$$(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \iff (\varphi_2 \vee \varphi_1)$$

$$(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) \iff (\varphi_2 \leftrightarrow \varphi_1)$$

- $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  are associative:

$$((\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \wedge \varphi_3) \iff (\varphi_1 \wedge (\varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3)) \iff (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3)$$

$$((\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \vee \varphi_3) \iff (\varphi_1 \vee (\varphi_2 \vee \varphi_3)) \iff (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \vee \varphi_3)$$

# Syntactic Properties of Boolean Operators

$$\begin{aligned}
 \neg\neg\varphi_1 &\iff \varphi_1 \\
 (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) &\iff \neg(\neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2) \\
 \neg(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) &\iff (\neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2) \\
 (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) &\iff \neg(\neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2) \\
 \neg(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) &\iff (\neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2) \\
 (\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) &\iff (\neg\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \\
 \neg(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) &\iff (\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2) \\
 (\varphi_1 \leftarrow \varphi_2) &\iff (\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2) \\
 \neg(\varphi_1 \leftarrow \varphi_2) &\iff (\neg\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \\
 (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) &\iff ((\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) \wedge (\varphi_1 \leftarrow \varphi_2)) \\
 &\iff ((\neg\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \wedge (\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2)) \\
 \neg(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) &\iff (\neg\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) \\
 &\iff (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \neg\varphi_2) \\
 &\iff ((\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \wedge (\neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2))
 \end{aligned}$$

Boolean logic can be expressed in terms of  $\{\neg, \wedge\}$  (or  $\{\neg, \vee\}$ ) only

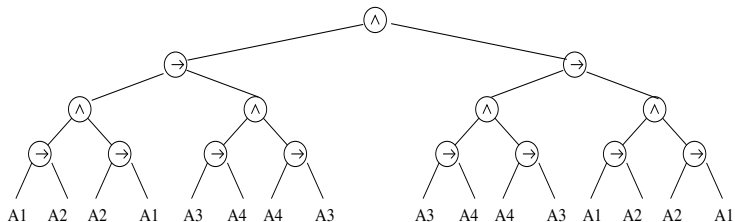
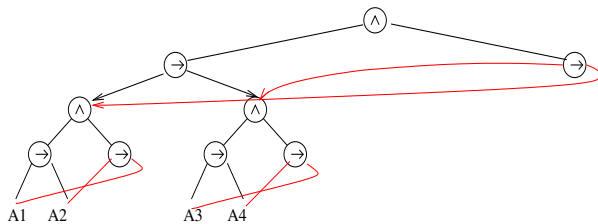
# Tree and DAG representation of formulas: example

Formulas can be represented either as trees or as DAGS:

- DAG representation can be up to exponentially smaller

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2) \leftrightarrow (A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4) \\
 & \quad \Downarrow \\
 & (((A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2) \rightarrow (A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4)) \wedge \\
 & \quad ((A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4) \rightarrow (A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2))) \\
 & \quad \Downarrow \\
 & (((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_2 \rightarrow A_1)) \rightarrow ((A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge (A_4 \rightarrow A_3))) \wedge \\
 & (((A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge (A_4 \rightarrow A_3)) \rightarrow (((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_2 \rightarrow A_1))))
 \end{aligned}$$

## Tree and DAG repres. of formulas: example (cont)

*Tree Representation**DAG Representation*



## Basic notation & definitions (cont)

- **Total truth assignment**  $\mu$  for  $\varphi$ :  
 $\mu : \text{Atoms}(\varphi) \mapsto \{\top, \perp\}$ .
- **Partial Truth assignment**  $\mu$  for  $\varphi$ :  
 $\mu : \mathcal{A} \mapsto \{\top, \perp\}, \mathcal{A} \subset \text{Atoms}(\varphi)$ .
- Set and formula representation of an assignment:
  - $\mu$  can be represented as a set of literals:  
 EX:  $\{\mu(A_1) := \top, \mu(A_2) := \perp\} \implies \{A_1, \neg A_2\}$
  - $\mu$  can be represented as a formula (cube):  
 EX:  $\{\mu(A_1) := \top, \mu(A_2) := \perp\} \implies (A_1 \wedge \neg A_2)$

## Basic notation & definitions (cont)

- a **total** truth assignment  $\mu$  **satisfies**  $\varphi$  ( $\mu \models \varphi$ ):
  - $\mu \models A_i \iff \mu(A_i) = \top$
  - $\mu \models \neg\varphi \iff$  *not*  $\mu \models \varphi$
  - $\mu \models \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \iff \mu \models \varphi_1$  *and*  $\mu \models \varphi_2$
  - $\mu \models \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \iff \mu \models \varphi_1$  *or*  $\mu \models \varphi_2$
  - $\mu \models \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2 \iff$  *if*  $\mu \models \varphi_1$ , *then*  $\mu \models \varphi_2$
  - $\mu \models \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \iff \mu \models \varphi_1$  *iff*  $\mu \models \varphi_2$
- a **partial** truth assignment  $\mu$  **satisfies**  $\varphi$  iff it makes  $\varphi$  evaluate to true (Ex:  $\{A_1\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$ )
  - $\implies$  if  $\mu$  satisfies  $\varphi$ , then all its total extensions satisfy  $\varphi$   
(Ex:  $\{A_1, A_2\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$  and  $\{A_1, \neg A_2\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$ )
- $\varphi$  is **satisfiable** iff  $\mu \models \varphi$  for some  $\mu$
- $\varphi_1$  **entails**  $\varphi_2$  ( $\varphi_1 \models \varphi_2$ ):  $\varphi_1 \models \varphi_2$  iff  $\mu \models \varphi_1 \implies \mu \models \varphi_2$  for every  $\mu$
- $\varphi$  is **valid** ( $\models \varphi$ ):  $\models \varphi$  iff  $\mu \models \varphi$  for every  $\mu$

### Property

$\varphi$  is valid  $\iff \neg\varphi$  is not satisfiable

# Equivalence and equi-satisfiability

- $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are **equivalent** iff, for every  $\mu$ ,  
 $\mu \models \varphi_1$  iff  $\mu \models \varphi_2$
- $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are **equi-satisfiable** iff  
 exists  $\mu_1$  s.t.  $\mu_1 \models \varphi_1$  iff exists  $\mu_2$  s.t.  $\mu_2 \models \varphi_2$
- $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  equivalent  
 $\Downarrow \Uparrow$   
 $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  equi-satisfiable
- EX:  $A_1 \vee A_2$  and  $(A_1 \vee \neg A_3) \wedge (A_3 \vee A_2)$  are equi-satisfiable, not equivalent.  
 $\{\neg A_1, A_2, A_3\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$ , but  
 $\{\neg A_1, A_2, A_3\} \not\models (A_1 \vee \neg A_3) \wedge (A_3 \vee A_2)$
- Typically used when  $\varphi_2$  is the result of applying some transformation  $T$  to  $\varphi_1$ :  $\varphi_2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T(\varphi_1)$ :  
 we say that  $T$  is **validity-preserving** [**satisfiability-preserving**] iff  
 $T(\varphi_1)$  and  $\varphi_1$  are equivalent [equi-satisfiable]

# Complexity

- For  $N$  variables, there are up to  $2^N$  truth assignments to be checked.
- The problem of deciding the satisfiability of a propositional formula is **NP-complete**
- The most important logical problems (**validity**, **inference**, **entailment**, **equivalence**, ...) can be straightforwardly reduced to **satisfiability**, and are thus **(co)NP-complete**.



No existing worst-case-polynomial algorithm.

# POLARITY of subformulas

**Polarity:** the number of nested negations modulo 2.

- **Positive/negative occurrences**

- $\varphi$  occurs positively in  $\varphi$ ;
- if  $\neg\varphi_1$  occurs positively [negatively] in  $\varphi$ , then  $\varphi_1$  occurs negatively [positively] in  $\varphi$
- if  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$  or  $\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$  occur positively [negatively] in  $\varphi$ , then  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  occur positively [negatively] in  $\varphi$ ;
- if  $\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$  occurs positively [negatively] in  $\varphi$ , then  $\varphi_1$  occurs negatively [positively] in  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi_2$  occurs positively [negatively] in  $\varphi$ ;
- if  $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$  occurs in  $\varphi$ , then  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  occur positively and negatively in  $\varphi$ ;

## Negative normal form (NNF)

- $\varphi$  is in **Negative normal form** iff it is given only by the recursive applications of  $\wedge, \vee$  to literals.
- **every  $\varphi$  can be reduced into NNF:**
  - (i) substituting all  $\rightarrow$ 's and  $\leftrightarrow$ 's:

$$\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2 \implies \neg\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$$

$$\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \implies (\neg\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \wedge (\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2)$$

- (ii) pushing down negations recursively:

$$\neg(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \implies \neg\varphi_1 \vee \neg\varphi_2$$

$$\neg(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \implies \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2$$

$$\neg\neg\varphi_1 \implies \varphi_1$$

- The reduction is **linear** if a DAG representation is used.
- Preserves the **equivalence** of formulas.

# NNF: example

$$(A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2) \leftrightarrow (A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4)$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_1 \leftarrow A_2)) \rightarrow ((A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge (A_3 \leftarrow A_4))) \wedge \\ & (((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_1 \leftarrow A_2)) \leftarrow ((A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge (A_3 \leftarrow A_4))) \end{aligned}$$

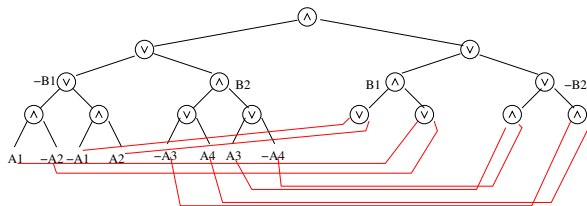
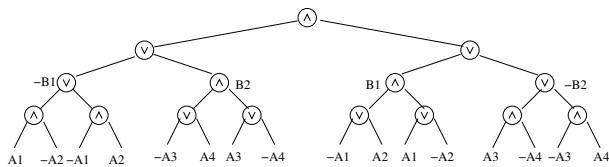
$$\Downarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} & ((\neg((\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2))) \vee ((\neg A_3 \vee A_4) \wedge (A_3 \vee \neg A_4))) \wedge \\ & (((\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)) \vee \neg((\neg A_3 \vee A_4) \wedge (A_3 \vee \neg A_4))) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (((A_1 \wedge \neg A_2) \vee (\neg A_1 \wedge A_2)) \vee ((\neg A_3 \vee A_4) \wedge (A_3 \vee \neg A_4))) \wedge \\ & (((\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)) \vee ((A_3 \wedge \neg A_4) \vee (\neg A_3 \wedge A_4))) \end{aligned}$$

# NNF: example (cont)



## Note

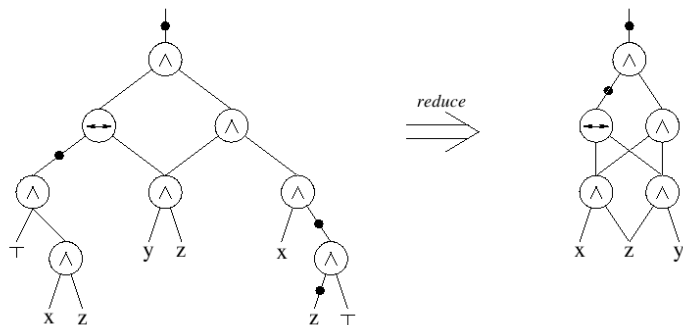
For each non-literal subformula  $\varphi$ ,  $\varphi$  and  $\neg\varphi$  have different representations  $\implies$  they are not shared.



# Optimized polynomial representations

## And-Inverter Graphs, Reduced Boolean Circuits, Boolean Expression Diagrams

- Maximize the sharing in DAG representations:
  - $\{\wedge, \leftrightarrow, \neg\}$ -only, negations on arcs, sorting of subformulae, lifting of  $\neg$ 's over  $\leftrightarrow$ 's,...



# Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)

- $\varphi$  is in **Conjunctive normal form** iff it is a conjunction of disjunctions of literals:

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^L \bigvee_{j=1}^{K_i} l_{ji}$$

- the disjunctions of literals  $\bigvee_{j=1}^{K_i} l_{ji}$  are called **clauses**
- Easier to handle: list of lists of literals.  
 $\implies$  no reasoning on the recursive structure of the formula

# Classic CNF Conversion $CNF(\varphi)$

- Every  $\varphi$  can be reduced into CNF by, e.g.,
  - (i) converting it into NNF (not indispensable);
  - (ii) applying recursively the DeMorgan's Rule:
 
$$(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \vee \varphi_3 \implies (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_3) \wedge (\varphi_2 \vee \varphi_3)$$
- Worst-case **exponential**.
- $Atoms(CNF(\varphi)) = Atoms(\varphi)$ .
- $CNF(\varphi)$  is **equivalent** to  $\varphi$ .
- Rarely used in practice.

# Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$

- Every  $\varphi$  can be reduced into CNF by, e.g., applying recursively bottom-up the rules:

$$\varphi \implies \varphi[(l_i \vee l_j) | B] \wedge CNF(B \leftrightarrow (l_i \vee l_j))$$

$$\varphi \implies \varphi[(l_i \wedge l_j) | B] \wedge CNF(B \leftrightarrow (l_i \wedge l_j))$$

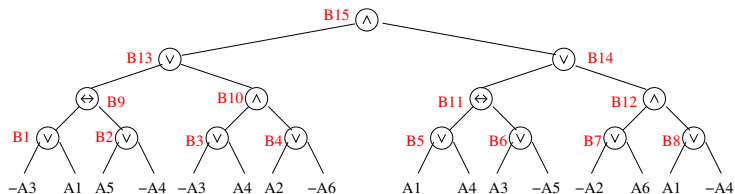
$$\varphi \implies \varphi[(l_i \leftrightarrow l_j) | B] \wedge CNF(B \leftrightarrow (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j))$$

$l_i, l_j$  being literals and  $B$  being a “new” variable.

- Worst-case **linear**.
- $Atoms(CNF_{label}(\varphi)) \supseteq Atoms(\varphi)$ .
- $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$  is **equi-satisfiable** w.r.t.  $\varphi$ .
- More used in practice.

Labeling CNF conversion  $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$  (cont.)

$CNF(B \leftrightarrow (l_i \vee l_j))$	$\iff$	$(\neg B \vee l_i \vee l_j) \wedge$ $(B \vee \neg l_i) \wedge$ $(B \vee \neg l_j)$
$CNF(B \leftrightarrow (l_i \wedge l_j))$	$\iff$	$(\neg B \vee l_i) \wedge$ $(\neg B \vee l_j) \wedge$ $(B \vee \neg l_i \neg l_j)$
$CNF(B \leftrightarrow (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j))$	$\iff$	$(\neg B \vee \neg l_i \vee l_j) \wedge$ $(\neg B \vee l_i \vee \neg l_j) \wedge$ $(B \vee l_i \vee l_j) \wedge$ $(B \vee \neg l_i \vee \neg l_j)$

Labeling CNF conversion  $CNF_{label}$  – example

$$\begin{aligned}
 & CNF(B_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_3 \vee A_1)) && \wedge \\
 & \dots && \wedge \\
 & CNF(B_8 \leftrightarrow (A_1 \vee \neg A_4)) && \wedge \\
 & CNF(B_9 \leftrightarrow (B_1 \leftrightarrow B_2)) && \wedge \\
 & \dots && \wedge \\
 & CNF(B_{12} \leftrightarrow (B_7 \wedge B_8)) && \wedge \\
 & CNF(B_{13} \leftrightarrow (B_9 \vee B_{10})) && \wedge \\
 & CNF(B_{14} \leftrightarrow (B_{11} \vee B_{12})) && \wedge \\
 & CNF(B_{15} \leftrightarrow (B_{13} \wedge B_{14})) && \wedge \\
 & B_{15}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}$ (improved)

- As in the previous case, applying instead the rules:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi &\implies \varphi[(l_i \vee l_j)|B] \wedge CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \vee l_j)) && \text{if } (l_i \vee l_j) \text{ pos.} \\ \varphi &\implies \varphi[(l_i \vee l_j)|B] \wedge CNF((l_i \vee l_j) \rightarrow B) && \text{if } (l_i \vee l_j) \text{ neg.} \\ \varphi &\implies \varphi[(l_i \wedge l_j)|B] \wedge CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \wedge l_j)) && \text{if } (l_i \wedge l_j) \text{ pos.} \\ \varphi &\implies \varphi[(l_i \wedge l_j)|B] \wedge CNF((l_i \wedge l_j) \rightarrow B) && \text{if } (l_i \wedge l_j) \text{ neg.} \\ \varphi &\implies \varphi[(l_i \leftrightarrow l_j)|B] \wedge CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j)) && \text{if } (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j) \text{ pos.} \\ \varphi &\implies \varphi[(l_i \leftrightarrow l_j)|B] \wedge CNF((l_i \leftrightarrow l_j) \rightarrow B) && \text{if } (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j) \text{ neg.} \end{aligned}$$

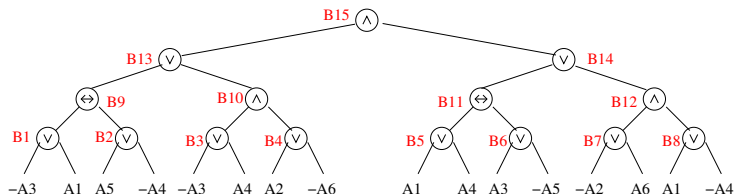
- Smaller in size:

$$\begin{aligned} CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \vee l_j)) &= (\neg B \vee l_i \vee l_j) \\ CNF(((l_i \vee l_j) \rightarrow B)) &= (\neg l_i \vee B) \wedge (\neg l_j \vee B) \end{aligned}$$

Labeling CNF conversion  $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$  (cont.)

$CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \vee l_j))$	$\iff$	$(\neg B \vee l_i \vee l_j)$
$CNF(B \leftarrow (l_i \vee l_j))$	$\iff$	$(B \vee \neg l_i) \wedge$ $(B \vee \neg l_j)$
$CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \wedge l_j))$	$\iff$	$(\neg B \vee l_i) \wedge$ $(\neg B \vee l_j)$
$CNF(B \leftarrow (l_i \wedge l_j))$	$\iff$	$(B \vee \neg l_i \neg l_j)$
$CNF(B \rightarrow (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j))$	$\iff$	$(\neg B \vee \neg l_i \vee l_j) \wedge$ $(\neg B \vee l_i \vee \neg l_j)$
$CNF(B \leftarrow (l_i \leftrightarrow l_j))$	$\iff$	$(B \vee l_i \vee l_j) \wedge$ $(B \vee \neg l_i \vee \neg l_j)$



Labeling CNF conversion  $CNF_{label}$  – example

Basic

$$CNF(B_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_3 \vee A_1)) \quad \wedge$$

...

$$CNF(B_8 \leftrightarrow (A_1 \vee \neg A_4)) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_9 \leftrightarrow (B_1 \leftrightarrow B_2)) \quad \wedge$$

...

$$CNF(B_{12} \leftrightarrow (B_7 \wedge B_8)) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_{13} \leftrightarrow (B_9 \vee B_{10})) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_{14} \leftrightarrow (B_{11} \vee B_{12})) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_{15} \leftrightarrow (B_{13} \wedge B_{14})) \quad \wedge$$

 $B_{15}$ 

Improved

$$CNF(B_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_3 \vee A_1)) \quad \wedge$$

...

$$CNF(B_8 \rightarrow (A_1 \vee \neg A_4)) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_9 \rightarrow (B_1 \leftrightarrow B_2)) \quad \wedge$$

...

$$CNF(B_{12} \rightarrow (B_7 \wedge B_8)) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_{13} \rightarrow (B_9 \vee B_{10})) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_{14} \rightarrow (B_{11} \vee B_{12})) \quad \wedge$$

$$CNF(B_{15} \rightarrow (B_{13} \wedge B_{14})) \quad \wedge$$

 $B_{15}$

# Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}$ – further optimizations

- Do not apply  $CNF_{label}$  when not necessary:  
(e.g.,  $CNF_{label}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \implies CNF_{label}(\varphi_1) \wedge \varphi_2$ ,  
if  $\varphi_2$  already in CNF)
- Apply Demorgan's rules where it is more effective: (e.g.,  
 $CNF_{label}(\varphi_1 \wedge (A \rightarrow (B \wedge C))) \implies CNF_{label}(\varphi_1) \wedge (\neg A \vee B) \wedge (\neg A \vee C)$ )
- exploit the associativity of  $\wedge$ 's and  $\vee$ 's:  

$$\dots \underbrace{(A_1 \vee (A_2 \vee A_3))}_{B} \dots \implies \dots CNF(B \leftrightarrow (A_1 \vee A_2 \vee A_3)) \dots$$
- before applying  $CNF_{label}$ , rewrite the initial formula so that to maximize the sharing of subformulas (RBC, BED)
- ...

# Truth Tables

- **Exhaustive evaluation** of all subformulas:

$\varphi_1$	$\varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$	$\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$
$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$
$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$
$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$
$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$

- Requires **polynomial space** (draw one line at a time).
- Requires analyzing  $2^{|\text{Atoms}(\varphi)|}$  **lines**.
- Never used in practice.

# Resolution [49, 15]

- **Search** for a refutation of  $\varphi$
- $\varphi$  is represented as a set of clauses
- Applies iteratively the **resolution rule** to pairs of clauses containing a conflicting literal, until a false clause is generated or the resolution rule is no more applicable
- Many different strategies

# Resolution Rule

- Resolution of a pair of clauses with exactly one incompatible variable:

$$\frac{
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{common} \quad \text{resolvent} \quad C' \\
 (l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k \vee l \vee l'_{k+1} \vee \dots \vee l'_m)
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{common} \quad \text{resolvent} \quad C'' \\
 (l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k \vee \neg l \vee l''_{k+1} \vee \dots \vee l''_n)
 \end{array}
 }{
 \begin{array}{c}
 (l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k \vee l'_{k+1} \vee \dots \vee l'_m \vee l''_{k+1} \vee \dots \vee l''_n) \\
 \text{common} \quad C' \quad C''
 \end{array}
 }$$

- EXAMPLE:

$$\frac{
 (A \vee B \vee C \vee D \vee E) \quad (A \vee B \vee \neg C \vee F)
 }{
 (A \vee B \vee D \vee E \vee F)
 }$$

- NOTE: many standard inference rules subcases of resolution:

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad B \rightarrow C}{A \rightarrow C} \text{ (Transit.)} \quad \frac{A \quad A \rightarrow B}{B} \text{ (M. Ponens)} \quad \frac{\neg B \quad A \rightarrow B}{\neg A}$$

# Resolution Rules [15, 14]: unit propagation

- Unit resolution:

$$\frac{\Gamma' \wedge (l) \wedge (\neg l \vee \bigvee_i l_i)}{\Gamma' \wedge (l) \wedge (\bigvee_i l_i)}$$

- Unit subsumption:

$$\frac{\Gamma' \wedge (l) \wedge (l \vee \bigvee_i l_i)}{\Gamma' \wedge (l)}$$

- Unit propagation = unit resolution + unit subsumption

“Deterministic” rule: applied **before** other “non-deterministic” rules!

## Resolution: basic strategy [15]

```

function  $DP(\Gamma)$ 
  if  $\perp \in \Gamma$                                 /* unsat */
    then return False;
  if (Resolve() is no more applicable to  $\Gamma$ ) /* sat   */
    then return True;
  if {a unit clause ( $l$ ) occurs in  $\Gamma$ }      /* unit   */
    then  $\Gamma := Unit\_Propagate(l, \Gamma)$ ;
    return  $DP(\Gamma)$ 
   $A := select\_variable(\Gamma)$ ;                /* resolve */
   $\Gamma = \Gamma \cup \bigcup_{A \in C', \neg A \in C''} \{Resolve(C', C'')\} \setminus \bigcup_{A \in C', \neg A \in C''} \{C', C''\}$ ;
  return  $DP(\Gamma)$ 

```

Hint: drops one variable  $A \in Atoms(\Gamma)$  at a time

# Resolution: Examples

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (A_1 \vee A_2) \quad (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \quad (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \quad (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 (A_2) \quad (A_2 \vee \neg A_2) \quad (\neg A_2 \vee A_2) \quad (\neg A_2) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 \perp
 \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT



## Resolution: Examples (cont.)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (A \vee B \vee C) \quad (B \vee \neg C \vee \neg F) \quad (\neg B \vee E) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 (A \vee C \vee E) \quad (\neg C \vee \neg F \vee E) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 (A \vee E \vee \neg F)
 \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow$  SAT

# Resolution: Examples

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (A \vee B) \quad (A \vee \neg B) \quad (\neg A \vee C) \quad (\neg A \vee \neg C) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 (A) \quad (\neg A \vee C) \quad (\neg A \vee \neg C) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 (C) \quad (\neg C) \\
 \Downarrow \\
 \perp
 \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT

# Resolution – summary

- Requires CNF
- $\Gamma$  may blow up  
⇒ May require exponential space
- Not very much used in Boolean reasoning (unless integrated with DPLL procedure in recent implementations)

# Semantic tableaux [55]

- **Search** for an assignment satisfying  $\varphi$
- applies recursively **elimination rules** to the connectives
- If a branch contains  $A_i$  and  $\neg A_i$ , ( $\psi_i$  and  $\neg\psi_i$ ) for some  $i$ , the branch is **closed**, otherwise it is **open**.
- if no rule can be applied to an open branch  $\mu$ , then  $\mu \models \varphi$ ;
- if all branches are **closed**, the formula is **not satisfiable**;

## Tableau elimination rules

$$\frac{\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2}{\begin{array}{l} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad \frac{\neg(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2)}{\begin{array}{l} \neg\varphi_1 \\ \neg\varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad \frac{\neg(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2)}{\begin{array}{l} \varphi_1 \\ \neg\varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad (\wedge\text{-elimination})$$

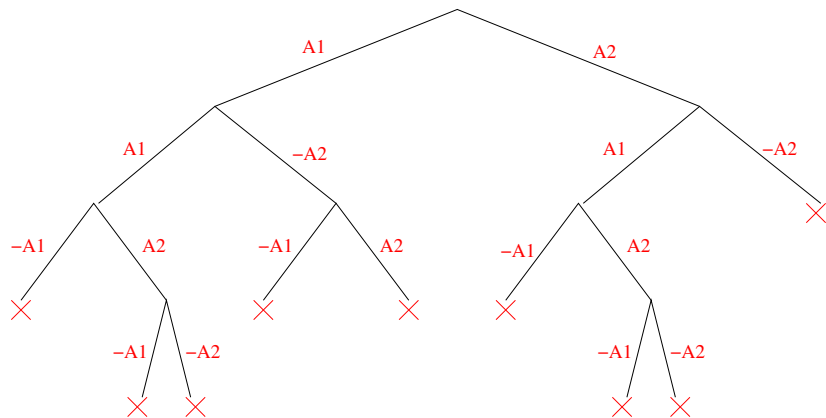
$$\frac{\neg\neg\varphi}{\varphi} \quad (\neg\neg\text{-elimination})$$

$$\frac{\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2}{\begin{array}{l} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad \frac{\neg(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2)}{\begin{array}{l} \neg\varphi_1 \\ \neg\varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad \frac{\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2}{\begin{array}{l} \neg\varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad (\vee\text{-elimination})$$

$$\frac{\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2}{\begin{array}{l} \varphi_1 \quad \neg\varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \quad \neg\varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad \frac{\neg(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2)}{\begin{array}{l} \varphi_1 \quad \neg\varphi_1 \\ \neg\varphi_2 \quad \varphi_2 \end{array}} \quad (\leftrightarrow\text{-elimination}).$$

# Semantic Tableaux – example

$$\varphi = (A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$$



# Tableau algorithm

```

function Tableau( $\Gamma$ )
  if  $A_i \in \Gamma$  and  $\neg A_i \in \Gamma$                                 /* branch closed */
    then return False;
  if  $(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \in \Gamma$                                 /*  $\wedge$ -elimination */
    then return Tableau( $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2\} \setminus \{(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2)\}$ );
  if  $(\neg\neg\varphi_1) \in \Gamma$                                        /*  $\neg\neg$ -elimination */
    then return Tableau( $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi_1\} \setminus \{(\neg\neg\varphi_1)\}$ );
  if  $(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \in \Gamma$                                 /*  $\vee$ -elimination */
    then return Tableau( $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi_1\} \setminus \{(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2)\}$ ) or
      Tableau( $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi_2\} \setminus \{(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2)\}$ );
  ...
  return True;                                                /* branch expanded */

```

# Semantic Tableaux – summary

- Handles all propositional formulas (CNF not required).
- Branches on disjunctions
- Intuitive, modular, easy to extend  
⇒ loved by logicians.
- Rather inefficient  
⇒ avoided by computer scientists.
- Requires polynomial space



# DPLL [15, 14]

- Davis-Putnam-Longeman-Loveland procedure (DPLL)
- Tries to build an assignment  $\mu$  satisfying  $\varphi$ ;
- At each step assigns a truth value to (all instances of) **one atom**.
- Performs **deterministic choices** first.

## DPLL rules

$$\frac{\varphi_1 \wedge (l)}{\varphi_1[l|\top]} \text{ (Unit)}$$

$$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[l|\top]} \text{ (l Pure)}$$

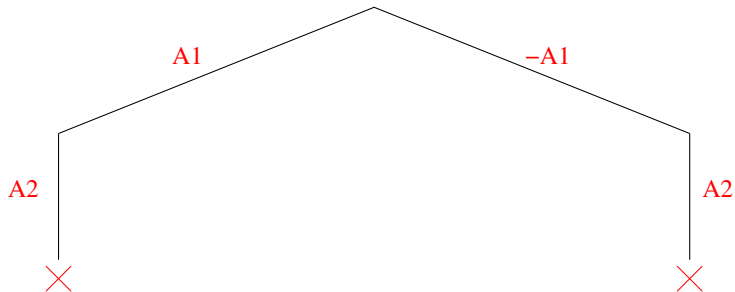
$$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[l|\top] \quad \varphi[l|\perp]} \text{ (split)}$$

( $l$  is a **pure literal** in  $\varphi$  iff it occurs **only positively**).

- Split applied **if and only if** the others cannot be applied.
- Richer formalisms described in [57, 44, 45]

## DPLL – example

$$\varphi = (A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$$



# DPLL Algorithm

```

function DPLL( $\varphi, \mu$ )
  if  $\varphi = \top$                                 /* base */
  then return True;
  if  $\varphi = \perp$                                 /* backtrack */
  then return False;
  if {a unit clause (l) occurs in  $\varphi$ }        /* unit */
  then return DPLL(assign(l,  $\varphi$ ),  $\mu \wedge l$ );
  if {a literal l occurs pure in  $\varphi$ }         /* pure */
  then return DPLL(assign(l,  $\varphi$ ),  $\mu \wedge l$ );
  l := choose-literal( $\varphi$ );                    /* split */
  return DPLL(assign(l,  $\varphi$ ),  $\mu \wedge l$ ) or
         DPLL(assign( $\neg l$ ,  $\varphi$ ),  $\mu \wedge \neg l$ );

```

# DPLL – summary

- Handles **CNF formulas** (non-CNF variant known [2, 25]).
- **Branches on truth values**  
⇒ all instances of an atom assigned simultaneously
- **Postpones branching as much as possible.**
- Mostly ignored by logicians.
- (The grandfather of) **the most efficient SAT algorithms**  
⇒ loved by computer scientists.
- Requires **polynomial space**
- **Choose\_literal()** critical!
- Many very efficient implementations [61, 54, 4, 43].

# Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams (OBDDs) [12]

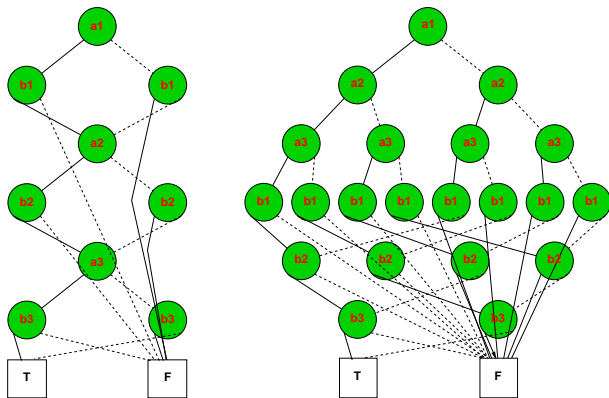
**Canonical** representation of Boolean formulas

- “If-then-else” binary direct acyclic graphs (DAGs) with one root and two leaves: **1**, **0** (or  $\top, \perp$ ; or  $\top, \text{F}$ )
- **Variable ordering**  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  imposed a priori.
- Paths leading to **1** represent **models**  
Paths leading to **0** represent **counter-models**

## Note

Some authors call them **Reduced** Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams (**ROBDDs**)

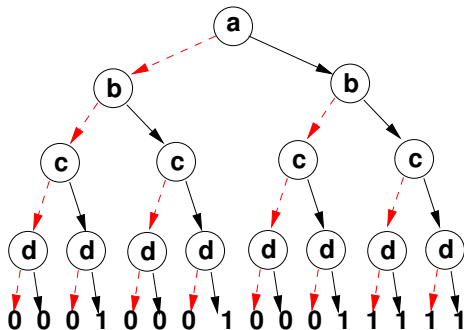
# OBDD - Examples



OBDDs of  $(a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_3)$  with different variable orderings

# Ordered Decision Trees

- **Ordered Decision Tree**: from root to leaves, variables are encountered always in the same order
- Example: Ordered Decision tree for  $\varphi = (a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)$

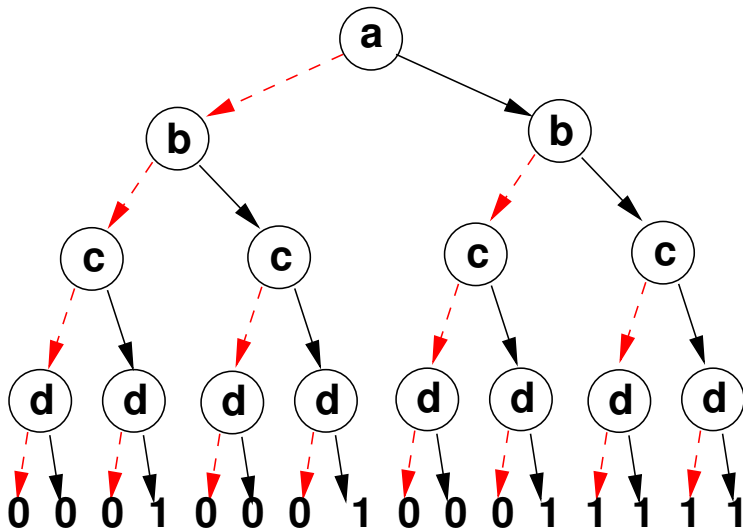




# From Ordered Decision Trees to OBDD's: reductions

- Recursive applications of the following **reductions**:
  - **share subnodes**: point to the same occurrence of a subtree (via **hash consing**)
  - **remove redundancies**: nodes with same left and right children can be eliminated (“if  $A$  then  $B$  else  $B$ ”  $\implies$  “ $B$ ”)

## Reduction: example



# Recursive structure of an OBDD

Assume the variable ordering  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ :

$$OBDD(\top, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) = 1$$

$$OBDD(\perp, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) = 0$$

$$OBDD(\varphi, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) = \begin{array}{l} \text{if } A_1 \\ \text{then } OBDD(\varphi[A_1|\top], \{A_2, \dots, A_n\}) \\ \text{else } OBDD(\varphi[A_1|\perp], \{A_2, \dots, A_n\}) \end{array}$$

# Incrementally building an OBDD

- $obdd\_build(\top, \{\dots\}) := 1$ ,
- $obdd\_build(\perp, \{\dots\}) := 0$ ,
- $obdd\_build(A_i, \{\dots\}) := ite(A_i, 1, 0)$ ,
- $obdd\_build((\neg\varphi), \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}) :=$   
 $apply(\neg, obdd\_build(\varphi, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}))$
- $obdd\_build((\varphi_1 \text{ op } \varphi_2), \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}) :=$   
 $reduce($   
 $apply( \text{ op, }$   
 $obdd\_build(\varphi_1, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}), \text{ op } \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow\}$   
 $obdd\_build(\varphi_2, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\})$   
 $))$

“ $ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp)$ ” is “If  $A_i$  Then  $\varphi_i^\top$  Else  $\varphi_i^\perp$ ”

# Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

- $apply(op, O_i, O_j) := (O_i \text{ op } O_j)$  **if**  $(O_i, O_j \in \{1, 0\})$
- $apply(\neg, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp)) :=$   
 $ite(A_i, apply(\neg, \varphi_i^\top), apply(\neg, \varphi_i^\perp))$
- $apply(op, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), ite(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)) :=$   
**if**  $(A_i = A_j)$  **then**  $ite(A_i, apply(op, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_j^\top),$   
 $apply(op, \varphi_i^\perp, \varphi_j^\perp))$   
**if**  $(A_i < A_j)$  **then**  $ite(A_i, apply(op, \varphi_i^\top, ite(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)),$   
 $apply(op, \varphi_i^\perp, ite(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)))$   
**if**  $(A_i > A_j)$  **then**  $ite(A_j, apply(op, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), \varphi_j^\top),$   
 $apply(op, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), \varphi_j^\perp))$

$op \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow\}$

## Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

- Ex: build the obdd for  $A_1 \vee A_2$  from those of  $A_1, A_2$  (order:  $A_1, A_2$ ):

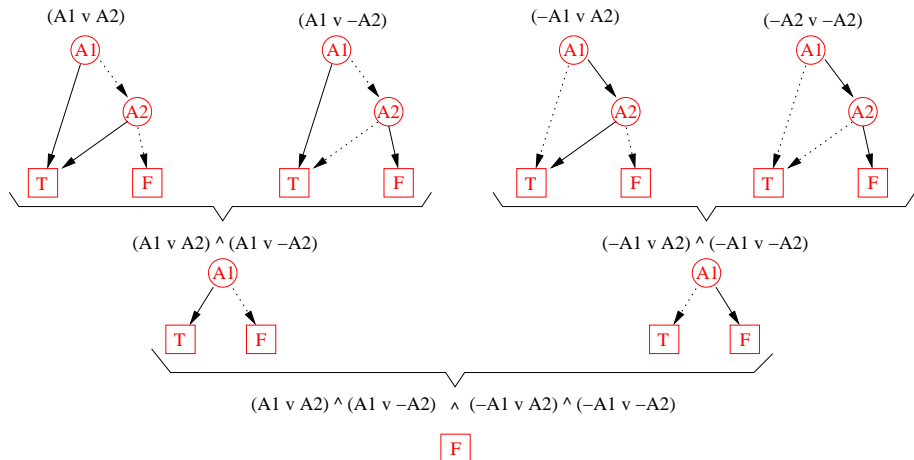
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{apply}(\vee, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \perp)}^{A_1}, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp)}^{A_2}) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \text{apply}(\vee, \top, \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \perp)), \text{apply}(\vee, \perp, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))
 \end{aligned}$$

- Ex: build the obdd for  $(A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$  from those of  $(A_1 \vee A_2), (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$  (order:  $A_1, A_2$ ):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{apply}(\wedge, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))}^{(A_1 \vee A_2)}, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \top))}^{(A_1 \vee \neg A_2)}), \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \text{apply}(\wedge, \top, \top), \text{apply}(\wedge, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp), \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \top))) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \text{apply}(\wedge, \top, \perp), \text{apply}(\wedge, \perp, \top))) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \perp)) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \perp)
 \end{aligned}$$

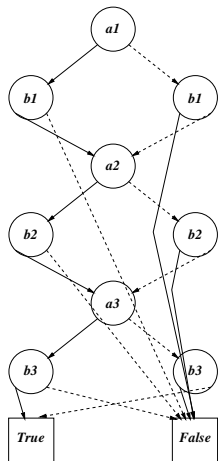
# OBDD incremental building – example

$$\varphi = (A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$$



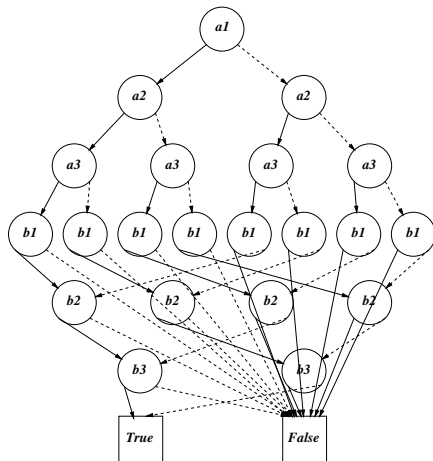
# Critical choice of variable Orderings in OBDD's

$$(a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_3)$$



Linear size

Sebastiani



Exponential size



# OBDD's as canonical representation of Boolean formulas

- An OBDD is a **canonical representation** of a Boolean formula: once the variable ordering is established, equivalent formulas are represented by the same OBDD:

$$\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \iff \text{OBDD}(\varphi_1) = \text{OBDD}(\varphi_2)$$

- equivalence check requires **constant time!**  
 $\implies$  validity check requires constant time! ( $\varphi \leftrightarrow \top$ )  
 $\implies$  (un)satisfiability check requires constant time! ( $\varphi \leftrightarrow \perp$ )
- the set of the paths from the root to 1 represent all the **models** of the formula
- the set of the paths from the root to 0 represent all the **counter-models** of the formula

# Exponentiality of OBDD's

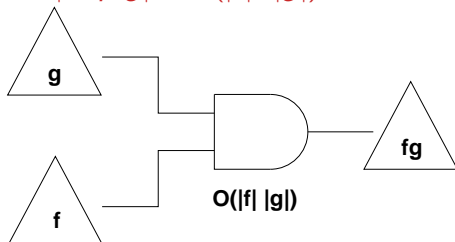
- The size of OBDD's may grow exponentially wrt. the number of variables in worst-case
- Consequence of the canonicity of OBDD's (unless  $P = \text{co-NP}$ )
- Example: there exist no polynomial-size OBDD representing the electronic circuit of a bitwise multiplier

## Note

The size of intermediate OBDD's may be bigger than that of the final one (e.g., inconsistent formula)

# Useful Operations over OBDDs

- the **equivalence check** between two OBDDs is simple
  - are they the same OBDD? ( $\implies$  constant time)
- the size of a **Boolean composition** is up to the product of the size of the operands:  $|f \text{ op } g| = O(|f| \cdot |g|)$



# Boolean quantification

## Shannon's expansion:

- If  $v$  is a Boolean variable and  $f$  is a Boolean formula, then

$$\exists v.f := f|_{v=0} \vee f|_{v=1}$$

$$\forall v.f := f|_{v=0} \wedge f|_{v=1}$$

- $v$  does no more occur in  $\exists v.f$  and  $\forall v.f$  !!
- Multi-variable quantification:  $\exists(w_1, \dots, w_n).f := \exists w_1 \dots \exists w_n.f$

- Intuition:

- $\mu \models \exists v.f$  iff exists  $tvalue \in \{\top, \perp\}$  s.t.  $\mu \cup \{v := tvalue\} \models f$

- $\mu \models \forall v.f$  iff forall  $tvalue \in \{\top, \perp\}$ ,  $\mu \cup \{v := tvalue\} \models f$

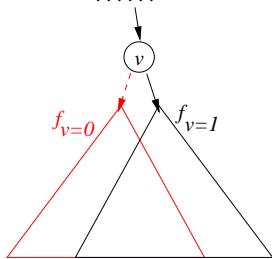
- Example:  $\exists(b, c).((a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)) = a \vee d$

## Note

Naive expansion of quantifiers to propositional logic may cause a blow-up in size of the formulae

# OBDD's and Boolean quantification

- OBDD's handle quantification operations quite efficiently
  - if  $f$  is a sub-OBDD labeled by variable  $v$ , then  $f|_{v=1}$  and  $f|_{v=0}$  are the "then" and "else" branches of  $f$



⇒ lots of sharing of subformulae!

# OBDD – summary

- **Factorize** common parts of the search tree (DAG)
- Require setting a **variable ordering** a priori (**critical!**)
- **Canonical representation** of a Boolean formula.
- Once built, logical operations (satisfiability, validity, equivalence) immediate.
- Represents **all** models and counter-models of the formula.
- Require **exponential space** in worst-case
- **Very efficient** for some practical problems (circuits, symbolic model checking).

# Incomplete SAT techniques: GSAT, WSAT [53, 52]

- Hill-Climbing techniques: GSAT, WSAT
- looks for a complete assignment;
- starts from a random assignment;
- Greedy search: looks for a better “neighbor” assignment
- Avoid local minima: restart & random walk

# The GSAT algorithm [53]

```

function GSAT( $\varphi$ )
  for  $i := 1$  to Max-tries do
     $\mu :=$  rand-assign( $\varphi$ );
    for  $j := 1$  to Max-flips do
      if ( $score(\varphi, \mu) = 0$ )
        then return True;
      else Best-flips := hill-climb( $\varphi, \mu$ );
         $A_j :=$  rand-pick(Best-flips);
         $\mu :=$  flip( $A_j, \mu$ );
      end
    end
  return “no satisfying assignment found”.

```



# The WalkSAT algorithm(s) [52]

```

function WalkSAT( $\varphi$ )
  for  $i := 1$  to Max-tries do
     $\mu := \text{rand-assign}(\varphi)$ ;
    for  $j := 1$  to Max-flips do
      if ( $\text{score}(\varphi, \mu) = 0$ )
        then return True;
      else  $C := \text{randomly-pick-clause}(\text{unsat-clauses}(\varphi, \mu))$ ;
         $A_i := \text{heuristically-select-variable}(C)$ ;
         $\mu := \text{flip}(A_i, \mu)$ ;
      end
    end
  return “no satisfying assignment found”.
  
```

- many variants available [27, 58, 5]

# SLS SAT solvers – summary

- Handle only CNF formulas.
- **Incomplete**
- **Extremely efficient** for some (satisfiable) problems.
- Require **polynomial space**
- Used in Artificial Intelligence (e.g., planning)
- Lots of variants (see e.g. [31])
- Non-CNF Variants: [50, 51, 6]

# Variants of DPLL

DPLL is a **family** of algorithms.

- **backjumping & learning**
- **preprocessing**: (subsumption, 2-simplification, resolution)
- different **branching heuristics**
- **restarts**
- **(horn relaxation)**
- ...

# “Classic” chronological backtracking

DPLL implements “classic” chronological backtracking:

- variable assignments (literals) stored in a stack
- each variable assignments labeled as “unit”, “open”, “closed”
- when a conflict is encountered, the stack is popped up to the most recent open assignment /
- / is toggled, is labeled as “closed”, and the search proceeds.

# Classic chronological backtracking – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

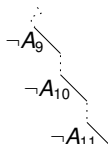
$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

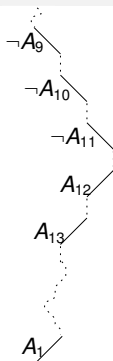
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$



# Classic chronological backtracking – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$   
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$   
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 ...



$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1\}$   
 ... (branch on  $A_1$ )

# Classic chronological backtracking – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

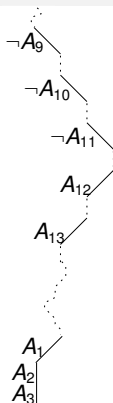
$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

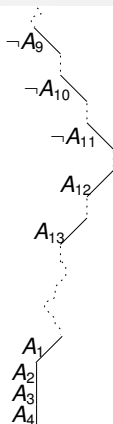


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3\}$

(unit  $A_2, A_3$ )

# Classic chronological backtracking – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 ...

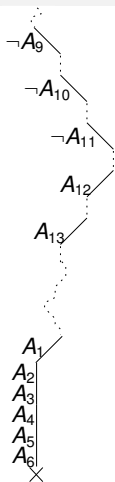


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4\}$   
 (unit  $A_4$ )



# Classic chronological backtracking – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓  
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓  
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓  
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗  
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 ...



$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, \neg A_{12}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$   
 (unit  $A_5, A_6$ )  $\implies$  conflict

# Classic chronological backtracking – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

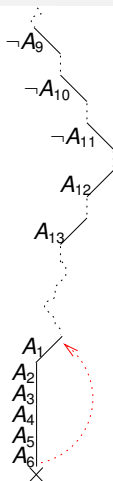
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots\}$

$\implies$  backtrack up to  $A_1$



# Classic chronological backtracking – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

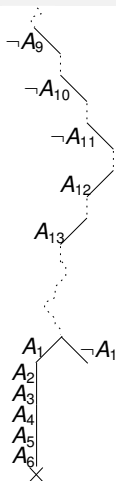
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

{...,  $\neg A_9$ ,  $\neg A_{10}$ ,  $\neg A_{11}$ ,  $A_{12}$ ,  $A_{13}$ , ...,  $\neg A_1$ }

(unit  $\neg A_1$ )



# Classic chronological backtracking – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$$

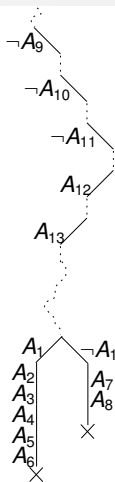
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13} \quad \times$$

...

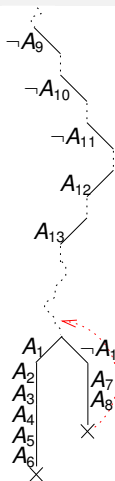
$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1, A_7, A_8\}$

(unit  $A_7, A_8$ )  $\implies$  conflict



# Classic chronological backtracking – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$   
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$   
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 ...



$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots \}$

$\Rightarrow$  backtrack to the most recent open branching point

# Classic chronological backtracking – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

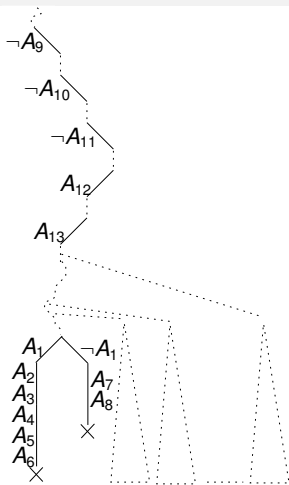
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

{...,  $\neg A_9$ ,  $\neg A_{10}$ ,  $\neg A_{11}$ ,  $A_{12}$ ,  $A_{13}$ , ...}

⇒ lots of useless search before backtracking up to  $A_{13}$ !



# Classic chronological backtracking: drawbacks

- often the branch heuristic delays the “right” choice
- chronological backtracking always backtracks to the most recent branching point, even though a higher backtrack could be possible  
⇒ lots of useless search!

# Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning (CDCL) SAT solvers

Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning (CDCL) SAT solvers [54, 43, 18, 37]

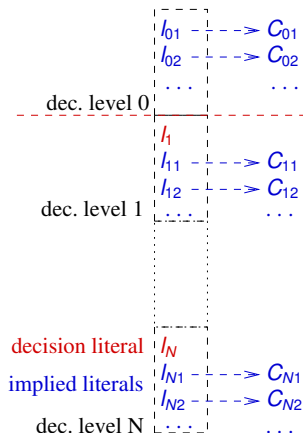
- Evolution of Davis-Putnam-Longeman-Loveland (DPLL) [15, 14]
- non-recursive: stack-based representation of data structures
- Perform conflict-directed backtracking (backjumping) and learning
- efficient data structures for doing and undoing assignments (e.g., two-watched-literal scheme)
- perform search restarts
- ...

Dramatically efficient: solve industrial-derived problems with  $\approx 10^7$  Boolean variables and  $\approx 10^7 - 10^8$  clauses!



# Stack-based representation of a truth assignment $\mu$

- assign one truth-value at a time (add one literal to a stack representing  $\mu$ )
- stack partitioned into **decision levels**:
  - one **decision literal**
  - its **implied literals**
  - each implied literal tagged with the clause causing its unit-propagation (**antecedent clause**)
- equivalent to an **implication graph**

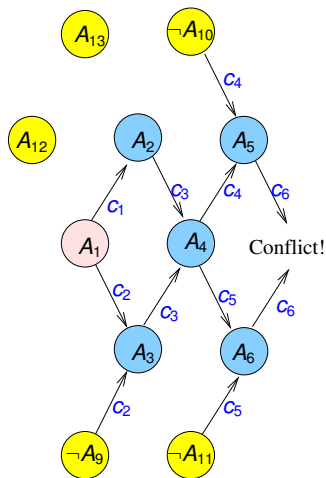
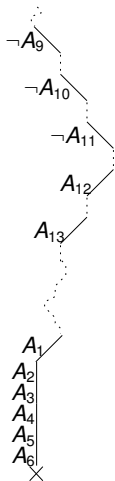


# Implication graph

- An **implication graph** is a DAG s.t.:
  - each node represents a variable assignment (literal)
  - each edge  $l_j \xrightarrow{c} l$  is labeled with a clause
  - the node of a decision literal has no incoming edges
  - all edges incoming into a node  $l$  are labeled with the same clause  $c$ , s.t.  $l_1 \xrightarrow{c} l, \dots, l_n \xrightarrow{c} l$  iff  $c = \neg l_1 \vee \dots \vee \neg l_n \vee l$  ( $c$  is said to be the **antecedent clause** of  $l$ )
  - when both  $l$  and  $\neg l$  occur in the graph, we have a **conflict**.
- Intuition:
  - representation of the dependencies between literals in  $\mu$
  - the graph contains  $l_1 \xrightarrow{c} l, \dots, l_n \xrightarrow{c} l$  iff  $l$  has been obtained from  $l_1, \dots, l_n$  by unit propagation on  $c$
  - a partition of the graph with all decision literals on one side and the conflict on the other represents a **conflict set**

# Implication graph - example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓  
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓  
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓  
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗  
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✓  
 ...



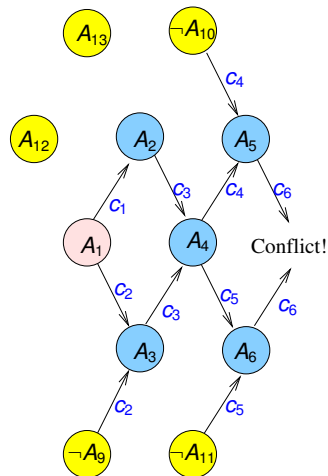
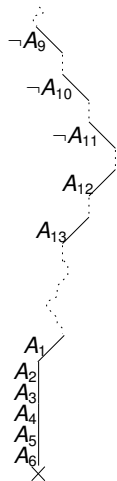
## Unique implication point - UIP [63]

- A node  $l$  in an implication graph is an **unique implication point** (UIP) for the last decision level iff every path from the last decision node to both the conflict nodes passes through  $l$ .
  - the most recent decision node is an UIP (**last UIP**)
  - all other UIP's have been assigned after the most recent decision

# Unique implication point - UIP - example

$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$	✓
$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$	✓
$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$	✓
$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$	✓
$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$	✓
$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$	✗
$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$	✓
$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$	✓
$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$	
...	

- $A_1$  is the last UIP
- $A_4$  is the 1<sup>st</sup> UIP



## Schema of a CDCL DPLL solver [54, 64]

```

Function CDCL-SAT (formula:  $\varphi$ , assignment &  $\mu$ ) {
  status := preprocess( $\varphi, \mu$ );
  while (1) {
    while (1) {
      status := deduce( $\varphi, \mu$ );
      if (status == Sat)
        return Sat;
      if (status == Conflict) {
         $\langle \text{blevel}, \eta \rangle := \text{analyze\_conflict}(\varphi, \mu)$ ;
        //  $\eta$  is a conflict set
        if (blevel == 0)
          return Unsat;
        else backtrack(blevel,  $\varphi, \mu$ );
      }
      else break;
    }
    decide_next_branch( $\varphi, \mu$ );
  }
}

```

## Schema of a CDCL DPLL solver [54, 64]

- `preprocess` ( $\varphi, \mu$ ) simplifies  $\varphi$  into an easier equisatisfiable formula ( and updates  $\mu$  if it is the case)
- `decide_next_branch` ( $\varphi, \mu$ ) chooses a new decision literal from  $\varphi$  according to some heuristic, and adds it to  $\mu$
- `deduce` ( $\varphi, \mu$ ) performs all deterministic assignments (unit), and updates  $\varphi, \mu$  accordingly.
- `analyze_conflict` ( $\varphi, \mu$ ) Computes the subset  $\eta$  of  $\mu$  causing the conflict (conflict set), and returns the “wrong-decision” level suggested by  $\eta$  (“0” means that  $\eta$  is entirely assigned at level 0, i.e., a conflict exists even without branching);
- `backtrack` (`blevel`,  $\varphi, \mu$ ) undoes the branches up to `blevel`, and updates  $\varphi, \mu$  accordingly

# Example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

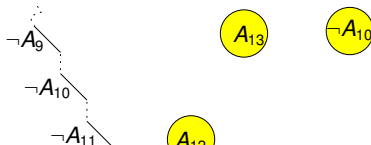
$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$





# Example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$$

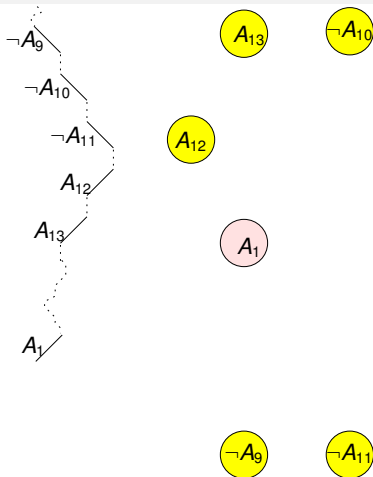
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

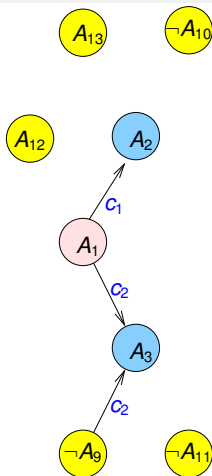
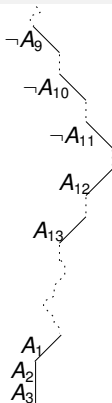
{...,  $\neg A_9$ ,  $\neg A_{10}$ ,  $\neg A_{11}$ ,  $A_{12}$ ,  $A_{13}$ , ...,  $A_1$ }

... (decide  $A_1$ )



# Example

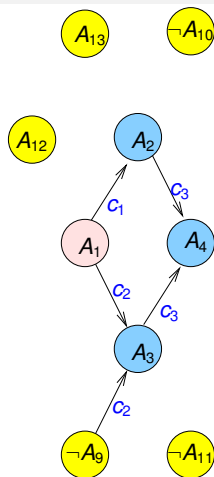
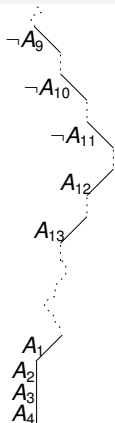
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 ...



$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3\}$   
 (unit  $A_2, A_3$ )

# Example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 ...

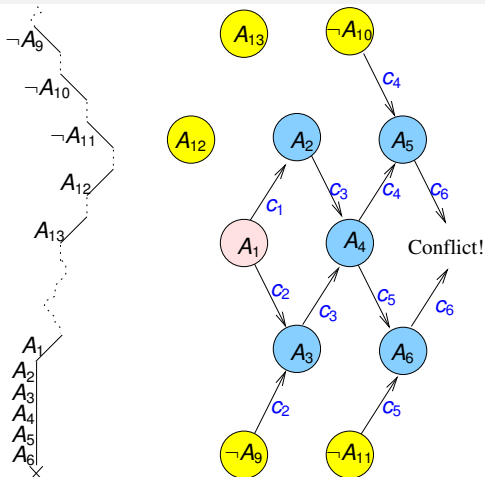


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4\}$   
 (unit  $A_4$ )

# Example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓  
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓  
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓  
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗  
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✓  
 ...

$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, \neg A_{12}, \neg A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6 \}$   
 (unit  $A_5, A_6$ )  $\implies$  conflict



# Backjumping and learning: general ideas [4, 54]

- When a branch  $\mu$  fails:
  - (i) **conflict analysis**: reveal the sub-assignment  $\eta \subseteq \mu$  causing the failure (**conflict set**  $\eta$ )
  - (ii) **learning**: add the **conflict clause**  $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$  to the clause set
  - (iii) **backjumping**: use  $\eta$  to decide the point where to backtrack
- may jump back up much more than one decision level in the stack  
 $\implies$  **may avoid lots of redundant search!!**.
- we illustrate two main backjumping & learning strategies:
  - the original strategy presented in [54]
  - the state-of-the-art 1<sup>st</sup>UIP strategy of [63]

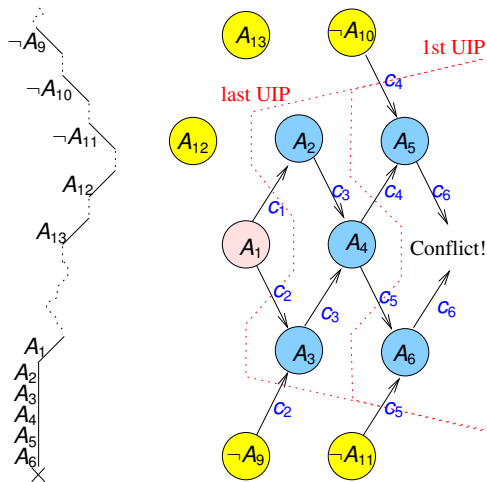
# Conflict analysis

1.  $C :=$  falsified clause (conflicting clause)
2. repeat
  - (i) resolve the current clause  $C$  with the antecedent clause of the last unit-propagated literal  $l$  in  $C$until  $C$  verifies some given termination criteria

# Conflict analysis and implication graph - example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓  
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓  
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓  
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗  
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✓  
 ...

Note: in this case decision and last-UIP criteria produce the same partition



# The original backjumping and learning strategy of [54]

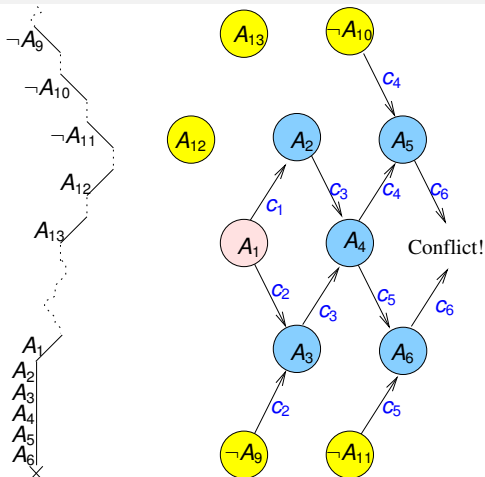
- Idea: when a branch  $\mu$  fails,
  - (i) **conflict analysis**: find the conflict set  $\eta \subseteq \mu$  by generating the conflict clause  $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$  via resolution from the falsified clause (conflicting clause) using the “Decision” criterion;
  - (ii) **learning**: add the conflict clause  $C$  to the clause set
  - (iii) **backjumping**: backtrack to the most recent branching point s.t. the stack does not fully contain  $\eta$ , and then unit-propagate the unassigned literal on  $C$



# The original backjumping strategy – example

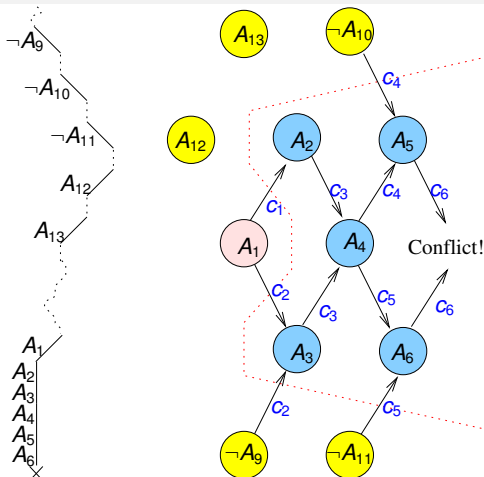
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓  
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓  
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓  
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗  
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✓  
 ...

$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, \neg A_{12}, \neg A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6 \}$   
 (unit  $A_5, A_6$ )  $\implies$  conflict



# The original backjumping strategy – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓✓  
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓✓  
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓✓  
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗  
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✓✓  
 ...



⇒ Conflict set:  $\{\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_1\}$  (last-UIP schema)

⇒ learn the conflict clause  $c_{10} := A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$

# The original backjumping strategy – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

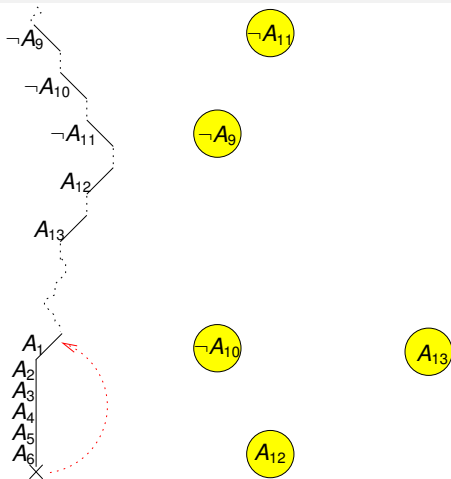
$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

$$C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$$

...

{...,  $\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots$ }

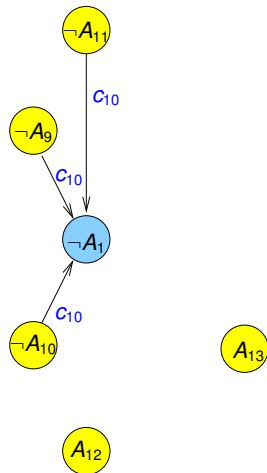
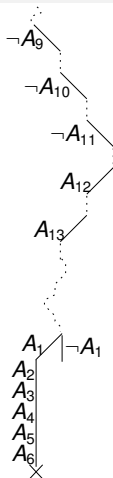
$\implies$  backtrack up to  $A_1$



# The original backjumping strategy – example

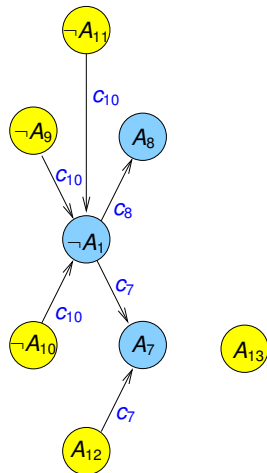
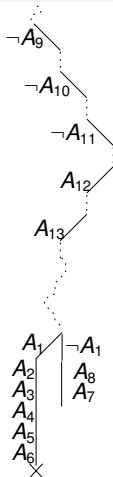
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 $C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$  ✓  
 ...

$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1\}$   
 (unit  $\neg A_1$ )



# The original backjumping strategy – example

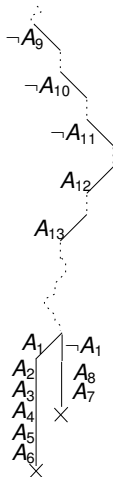
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 $C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$  ✓  
 ...



$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1, A_7, A_8 \}$   
 (unit  $A_7, A_8$ )

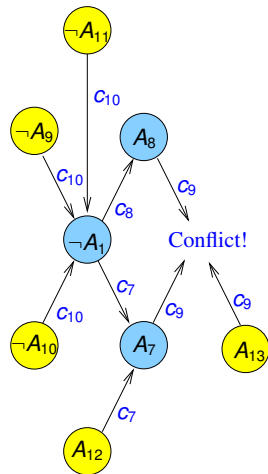
# The original backjumping strategy – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✗  
 $C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$  ✓  
 ...



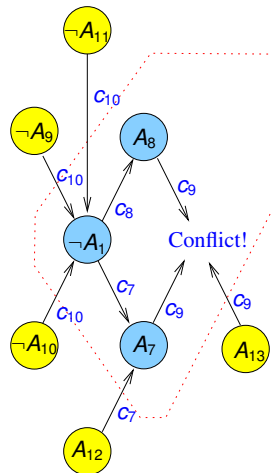
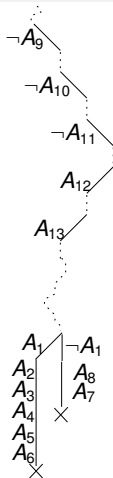
{...,  $\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1, A_7, A_8$ }

Conflict!



# The original backjumping strategy – example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓  
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓  
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓  
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓  
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✗  
 $C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$  ✓  
 ...



⇒ conflict set:  $\{\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}\}$ .

⇒ learn  $C_{11} := A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_{12} \vee \neg A_{13}$

# The original backjumping strategy – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

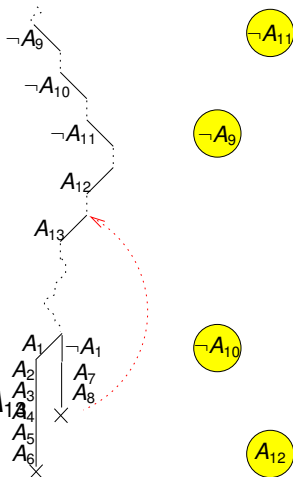
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

$$C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$$

$$C_{11} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_{12} \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...



⇒ backtrack to  $A_{13}$  ⇒ Lots of search saved!



# The original backjumping strategy – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

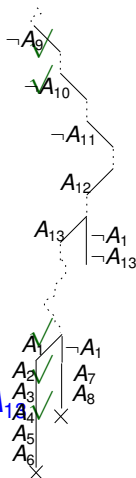
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

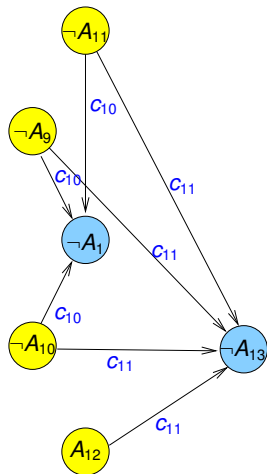
$$C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$$

$$C_{11} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_{12} \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...



⇒ backtrack to  $A_{13}$ , set  $A_{13}$  and  $A_1$  to  $\perp$ ,...

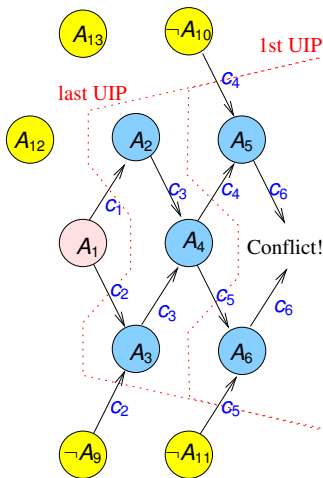
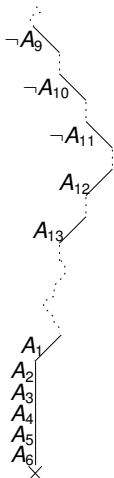


# State-of-the-art backjumping and learning [63]

- Idea: when a branch  $\mu$  fails,
  - (i) **conflict analysis**: find the conflict set  $\eta \subseteq \mu$  by generating the conflict clause  $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$  via resolution from the falsified clause, according to the **1<sup>st</sup>UIP strategy**
  - (ii) **learning**: add the conflict clause  $C$  to the clause set
  - (iii) **backjumping**: **backtrack to the highest branching point s.t. the stack contains all-but-one literals in  $\eta$ , and then unit-propagate the unassigned literal on  $C$**

# 1st UIP strategy – example (7)

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓
- $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓
- $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓
- $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓
- $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$  ✓
- $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗
- $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$  ✓
- $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$  ✓
- $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$  ✓
- ...



$\Rightarrow$  Conflict set:  $\{\neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_4\}$ , learn  $c_{10} := A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_4$

# 1st UIP strategy and backjumping [63]

- The added conflict clause states the reason for the conflict
- The procedure backtracks to the most recent decision level of the variables in the conflict clause which are not the UIP.
- then the conflict clause forces the negation of the UIP by unit propagation.

E.g.:  $c_{10} := A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_4$

$\implies$  backtrack to  $A_{11}$ , then assign  $\neg A_4$

## 1st UIP strategy – example (7)

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11} \quad \checkmark$$

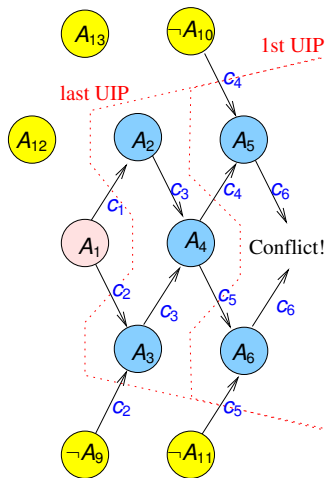
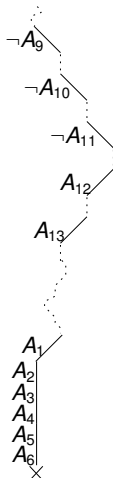
$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \quad \times$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...



$\Rightarrow$  Conflict set:  $\{\neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_4\}$ , learn  $c_{10} := A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_4$

## 1st UIP strategy – example (8)

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

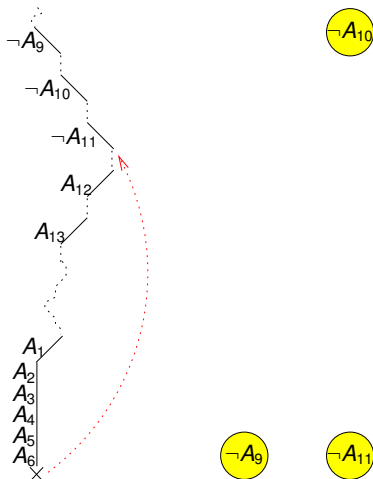
$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

$$C_{10} : A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_4$$

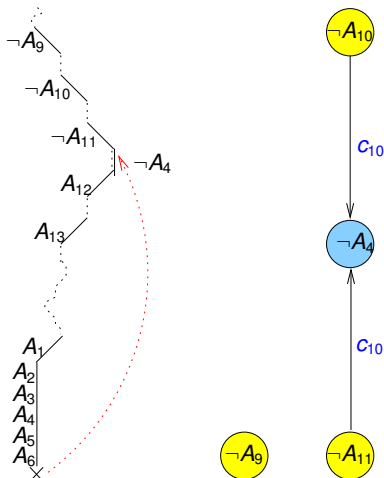
...



$\Rightarrow$  backtrack up to  $A_{11} \Rightarrow \{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}\}$

## 1st UIP strategy – example (9)

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$   
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$   
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$   
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11} \quad \checkmark$   
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$   
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
 $C_{10} : A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_4 \quad \checkmark$   
 ...



$\Rightarrow$  unit propagate  $\neg A_4 \Rightarrow \{ \dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_4 \} \dots$

# 1st UIP strategy and backjumping – intuition

- An UIP is a **single** reason implying the conflict at the current level
- substituting the 1st UIP for the last UIP
  - does not enlarge the conflict
  - requires less resolution steps to compute  $C$
  - may require involving less decision literals from other levels
- by backtracking to the most recent decision level of the variables in the conflict clause which are not the UIP:
  - jump higher
  - allows for assigning (the negation of) the UIP as high as possible in the search tree.



# Learning [4, 54]

Idea: When a conflict set  $\eta$  is revealed, then  $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$  added to  $\varphi$   
 $\implies$  the solver will no more generate an assignment containing  $\eta$ :  
when  $|\eta| - 1$  literals in  $\eta$  are assigned, the other is set  $\perp$  by  
unit-propagation on  $C$   
 $\implies$  **Drastic pruning of the search!**

# Learning – example

$$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

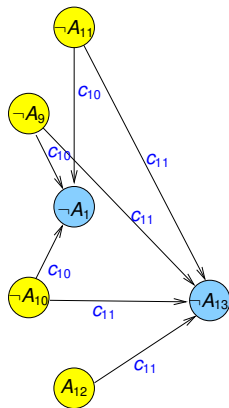
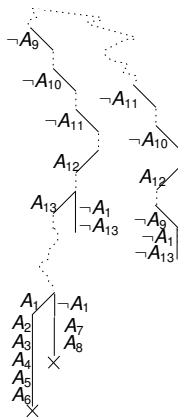
$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

$$C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$$

$$C_{11} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_{12} \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

⇒ Unit:  $\{\neg A_1, \neg A_{13}\}$



# Drawbacks of Learning & Clause discharging

## Problem with Learning

Learning can generate exponentially-many clauses

- may cause a blowup in space
- may drastically slow down BCP

## A solution: clause discharging

Techniques to drop learned clauses when necessary

- according to their size
- according to their **activity**.

A clause is currently **active** if it occurs in the current implication graph (i.e., it is the antecedent clause of a literal in the current assignment).

# Drawbacks of Learning & Clause discharging

- Is clause-discharging safe?
- Yes, if done properly.

## Property (see, e.g., [45])

In order to guarantee correctness, completeness & termination of a CDCL solver, it suffices to keep each clause until it is active.

⇒ **CDCL solvers require polynomial space**

## “Lazy” Strategy

- when a clause is involved in conflict analysis, increase its activity
- when needed, drop the least-active clauses

# State-of-the-art backjumping and learning: intuitions

- **Backjumping:** allows for climbing up to many decision levels in the stack
  - intuition: “go back to the oldest decision where you’d have done something different if only you had known  $C$ ”  
⇒ may avoid lots of redundant search
- **Learning:** in future branches, when all-but-one literals in  $\eta$  are assigned, the remaining literal is assigned to false by unit-propagation:
  - intuition: “when you’re about to repeat the mistake, do the opposite of the last step”  
⇒ avoid finding the same conflict again

## Remark: the “quality” of conflict sets

- Different ideas of “good” conflict set
  - Backjumping: if causes the highest backjump (“local” role)
  - Learning: if causes the maximum pruning (“global” role)
- Many different strategies implemented (see, e.g., [4, 54, 63])

# Preprocessing: (sorting plus) subsumption

- Detect and remove subsumed clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_1 \wedge (l_2 \vee l_1) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge (l_2 \vee l_3 \vee l_1) \wedge \varphi_3 \\ \Downarrow \\ \varphi_1 \wedge (l_1 \vee l_2) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3 \end{aligned}$$

# Preprocessing: detect & collapse equivalent literals

## [11]

### Repeat:

- (i) build the implication graph induced by binary clauses
- (ii) detect **strongly connected cycles**  $\implies$  **equivalence classes of literals**
- (iii) perform substitutions
- (iv) perform unit and pure literal.

**Until** (no more simplification is possible).

- Ex:

$$\varphi_1 \wedge (\neg l_2 \vee l_1) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge (\neg l_3 \vee l_2) \wedge \varphi_3 \wedge (\neg l_1 \vee l_3) \wedge \varphi_4$$

$$\Downarrow_{l_1 \leftrightarrow l_2 \leftrightarrow l_3}$$

$$(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3 \wedge \varphi_4)[l_2 \leftarrow l_1; l_3 \leftarrow l_1;]$$

- Very effective in many application domains.



# Preprocessing: resolution (and subsumption) [3]

- Apply some basic steps of resolution (and simplify):

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi_1 \wedge (l_2 \vee l_1) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge (l_2 \vee \neg l_1) \wedge \varphi_3 \\ & \quad \Downarrow \text{resolve} \\ & \varphi_1 \wedge (l_2) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3 \\ & \quad \Downarrow \text{unit-propagate} \\ & (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3)[l_2 \leftarrow \top] \end{aligned}$$

# Branching heuristics

- **Branch** is the source of non-determinism for DPLL  
⇒ critical for efficiency
- many branch heuristics conceived in literature.

## Some example heuristics

- **MOMS** heuristics: pick the literal occurring **most often** in the **minimal size** clauses  
 ⇒ fast and simple, many variants
- **Jeroslow-Wang**: choose the literal with maximum

$$\text{score}(l) := \sum_{I \in C \ \& \ c \in \varphi} 2^{-|c|}$$

⇒ estimates  $l$ 's contribution to the satisfiability of  $\varphi$

- **Satz** [33]: selects a candidate set of literals, perform unit propagation, chooses the one leading to smaller clause set  
 ⇒ maximizes the effects of unit propagation
- **VSIDS** [43]: **v**ariable **s**tate **i**ndependent **d**ecaying **s**um
  - “static”: scores updated only at the end of a branch
  - “local”: privileges variable in recently learned clauses

# Restarts [26]

(according to some strategy) restart DPLL

- abandon the current search tree and reconstruct a new one
- The clauses learned prior to the restart are still there after the restart and can help pruning the search space
- may significantly reduce the overall search space

# Tractable subclasses of SAT

- SAT in general is an NP-complete problem
- Some subclasses of SAT are tractable
- Two noteworthy tractable subclasses of SAT:
  - Horn Formulas (Horn-SAT)
  - 2-CNF formulas (2-SAT)

# Horn Formulas

- A Horn formula is a CNF Boolean formula s.t. **each clause contains at most one positive literal.**

$$A_1 \vee \neg A_2$$

$$A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4$$

$$\neg A_5 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4$$

$$A_3$$

- Intuition: implications between positive Boolean variables:

$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1$$

$$(A_3 \wedge A_4) \rightarrow A_2$$

$$(A_5 \wedge A_3 \wedge A_4) \rightarrow \perp$$

$$A_3$$

# Formulas reducible to Horn

- **Remark:** Some non-Horn formulas can be reduced to Horn by simply renaming literals

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3
 \end{array}
 \implies B := \neg A_2
 \begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee \neg B \\
 B \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3
 \end{array}$$

# Tractability of Horn Formulas

## Property

Checking the satisfiability of Horn formulas requires polynomial time

Hint:

- (i) Eliminate unit clauses by propagating their value;  
     $\implies$  Every clause contains at least one negative literal.
- (ii) Assign all variables to  $\perp$ ;



# A simple polynomial procedure for Horn-SAT

```

function Horn_SAT(formula  $\varphi$ , assignment &  $\mu$ ) {
  Unit_Propagate( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ );
  if ( $\varphi == \perp$ )
    then return UNSAT;
  else {
     $\mu := \mu \cup \bigcup_{A_i \notin \mu} \{\neg A_i\}$ ;
    return SAT;
  }
}

```

```

function Unit_Propagate(formula &  $\varphi$ , assignment &  $\mu$ )
  while ( $\varphi \neq \top$  and  $\varphi \neq \perp$  and {a unit clause ( $l$ ) occurs in  $\varphi$ ) do {
     $\varphi = \text{assign}(\varphi, l)$ ;
     $\mu := \mu \cup \{l\}$ ;
  }
}

```

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4
 \end{array}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \text{T}\}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \text{T}, A_3 := \text{T}\}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp\}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \quad \times \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_1 := \top\} \implies \text{UNSAT}$$

## Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l} A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \\ A_2 \vee \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_4 \\ A_4 \vee \neg A_3 \\ A_3 \end{array}$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \quad \vee \neg A_2 \\
 A_2 \quad \vee \neg A_5 \quad \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \quad \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_3
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_3 := \text{T}\}$$



# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \\
 A_2 \vee \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_3
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_3 := \text{T}, A_4 := \text{T}\}$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \\
 A_2 \vee \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 A_3
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_3 := \text{T}, A_4 := \text{T}\} \implies \text{SAT}$$

## 2-CNF Formulas

- A 2-CNF formula is a CNF formula in which each clause has (at most) two literals.

$$A_1 \vee \neg A_2$$

$$A_2 \vee \neg A_3$$

$$\neg A_5 \vee \neg A_3$$

$$A_3 \vee \neg A_1$$

$$A_5$$

- Checking the satisfiability of 2-CNF formulas requires polynomial time

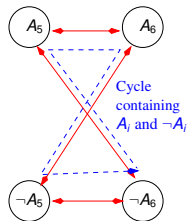
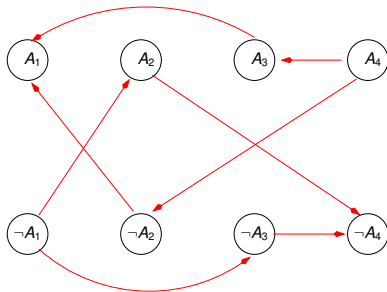
# Tractability of 2-CNF Formulas

Graph-based approach:

- (i) Build the implication graph of the formula
  - (ii) check if it has a cycle containing both  $A_i$  and  $\neg A_i$  for some  $i$  (e.g., by Tarjan's algorithm)
    - $\implies$  the formula is unsatisfiable iff such cycle exists
- requires **linear time**

## Example:

$A_1 \vee A_2$   
 $A_1 \vee \neg A_3$   
 $\neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4$   
 $A_3 \vee \neg A_4$   
 $A_4$   
 $\neg A_5 \vee A_6$   
 $A_5 \vee A_6$   
 $A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $\neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$



# Tractability of 2-CNF Formulas

## Idea

Let  $\varphi, I$  s.t.  $\text{var}(I) \in \varphi$  and  $(\varphi \wedge I) \not\models_{BCP} \perp$ .

- $\varphi'$ : clauses remained after BCP
- $\varphi''$ : clauses removed by BCP

Suppose  $\varphi'$  is UNSAT. Can we conclude anything about  $\varphi$ ?

- **Case  $\varphi$  is >2-CNF:** No!
  - there may be (non-unit) clauses  $C \in \varphi'$  s.t.  $(\neg I \vee C) \in \varphi$
  - $\implies \varphi \neq \varphi' \wedge \varphi''$  and  $\varphi' \models \perp \not\Rightarrow \varphi \models \perp$
  - $\implies$  we must check also  $\varphi \wedge \neg I$
- **Case  $\varphi$  is 2-CNF:** Yes!
  - there cannot be clause  $C \in \varphi'$  s.t.  $(\neg I \vee C) \in \varphi$
  - $\implies \varphi = \varphi' \wedge \varphi''$  and  $\varphi' \models \perp \implies \varphi \models \perp$
  - $\implies \varphi$  is UNSAT

Note: we need to check first that  $(\varphi \wedge I) \not\models_{BCP} \perp$ :

If  $(\varphi \wedge I) \models_{BCP} \perp$ , then  $\varphi' \models \perp \not\Rightarrow \varphi \models \perp$  (see later Example 2).

## A simple polynomial procedure for 2-SAT

```

function 2_SAT(formula  $\varphi$ , assignment &  $\mu$ ) {
  Unit_Propagate( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ );
  if ( $\varphi == \perp$ ) then return UNSAT;
  if ( $\varphi == \top$ ) then return SAT;
  while True do {
    {choose some literal  $l$  occurring in  $\varphi$ };
    save( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ );
     $\varphi := \varphi \wedge l$ ;
    Unit_Propagate( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ );
    if ( $\varphi == \perp$ ) then {
      retrieve( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ );
       $\varphi = \varphi \wedge \neg l$ ;
      Unit_Propagate( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ ); }
    if ( $\varphi == \perp$ ) then return UNSAT;
    if ( $\varphi == \top$ ) then return SAT;
  } };
```

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$



# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top\}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top\}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp\}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \perp\} \text{ (Select } \neg A_6)$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \quad \times \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \perp, A_5 := \perp\} \implies \text{backtrack}$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \top\} \text{ (Select } A_6\text{)}$$

# Example

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \quad \times \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \top, A_5 := \top\} \implies \text{UNSAT}$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$



# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top\}$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top\}$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp\}$$

## Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \perp\} \text{ (Select } \neg A_6)$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \quad \times \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \perp, A_5 := \perp\} \implies \text{backtrack}$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \top\} \text{ (Select } A_6\text{)}$$

# Example 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A_1 \vee A_2 \\
 A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\
 A_4 \\
 \neg A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee A_6 \\
 A_5 \vee \neg A_6
 \end{array}$$

$$\mu := \{A_4 := \top, A_3 := \top, A_2 := \perp, A_6 := \top, A_5 := \top\} \implies \text{SAT}$$

# The satisfiability of k-CNF (k-SAT) [20]

- **k-CNF**: CNF s.t. all clauses have  $k$  literals
- the satisfiability of 2-CNF is **polynomial**
- the satisfiability of k-CNF is **NP-complete** for  $k \geq 3$
- every k-CNF formula can be converted into 3-CNF:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \dots \vee l_{k-1} \vee l_k \\
 & \quad \Downarrow \\
 & (l_1 \vee l_2 \vee B_1) \wedge \\
 & (\neg B_1 \vee l_3 \vee B_2) \wedge \\
 & \quad \dots \\
 & (\neg B_{k-4} \vee l_{k-2} \vee B_{k-3}) \wedge \\
 & (\neg B_{k-3} \vee l_{k-1} \vee l_k)
 \end{aligned}$$



# Random K-CNF formulas generation

Random k-CNF formulas with  $N$  variables and  $L$  clauses:  
DO

- (i) pick with uniform probability a set of  $k$  atoms over  $N$
  - (ii) randomly negate each atom with probability 0.5
  - (iii) create a disjunction of the resulting literals
- UNTIL  $L$  different clauses have been generated;

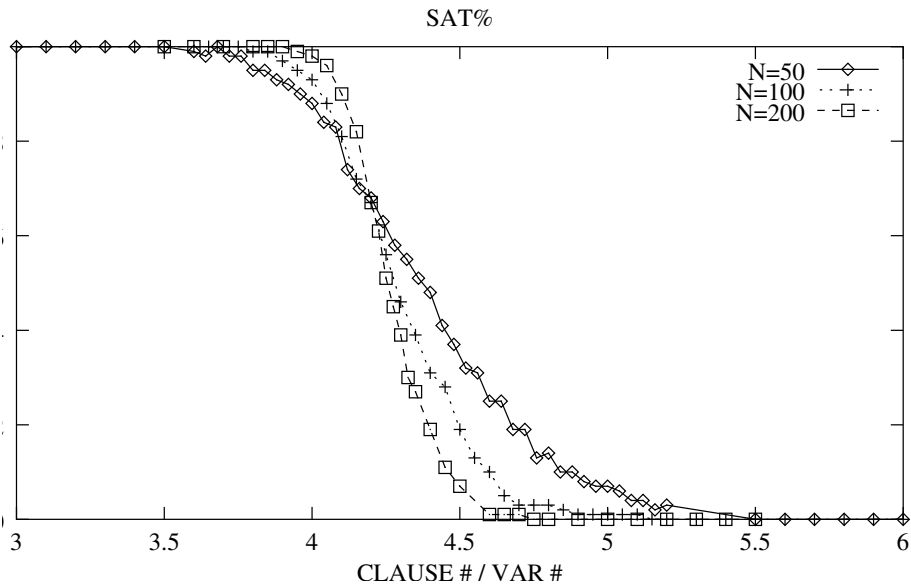
# Random k-SAT plots

- fix  $k$  and  $N$
- for increasing  $L$ , randomly generate and solve (500, 1000, 10000, ...) problems with  $k, L, N$
- plot
  - satisfiability percentages
  - median/geometrical mean CPU time/# of stepsagainst  $L/N$

# The phase transition phenomenon: SAT % Plots

## [41, 32]

- Increasing  $L/N$  we pass from 100% satisfiable to 100% unsatisfiable formulas
- the decay becomes steeper with  $N$
- for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , the plot converges to a step in the cross-over point ( $L/N \approx 4.28$  for  $k=3$ )
- Revealed for many other NP-complete problems
- Many theoretical models [59, 21, 32, 16, 42]
- Strong relation with Thermodynamics

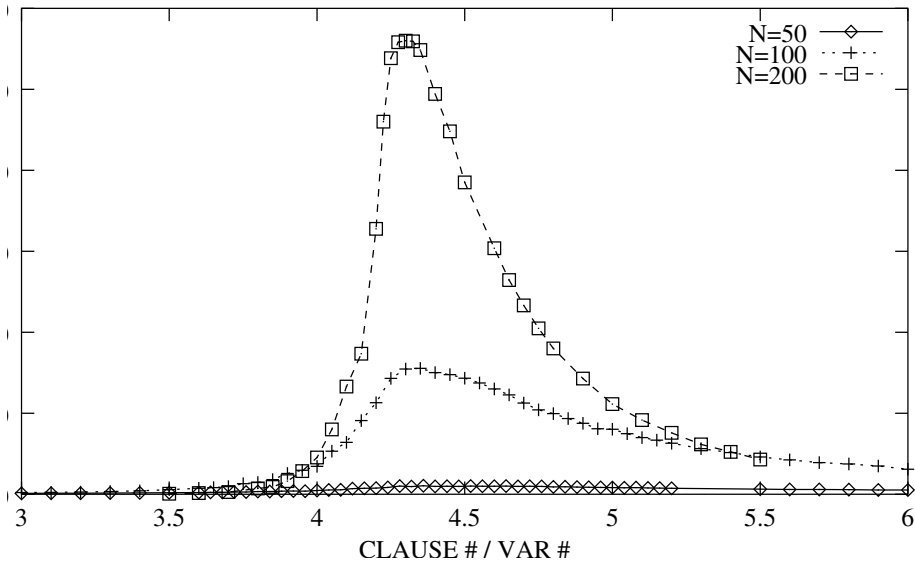


# The phase transition phenomenon: CPU times/step #

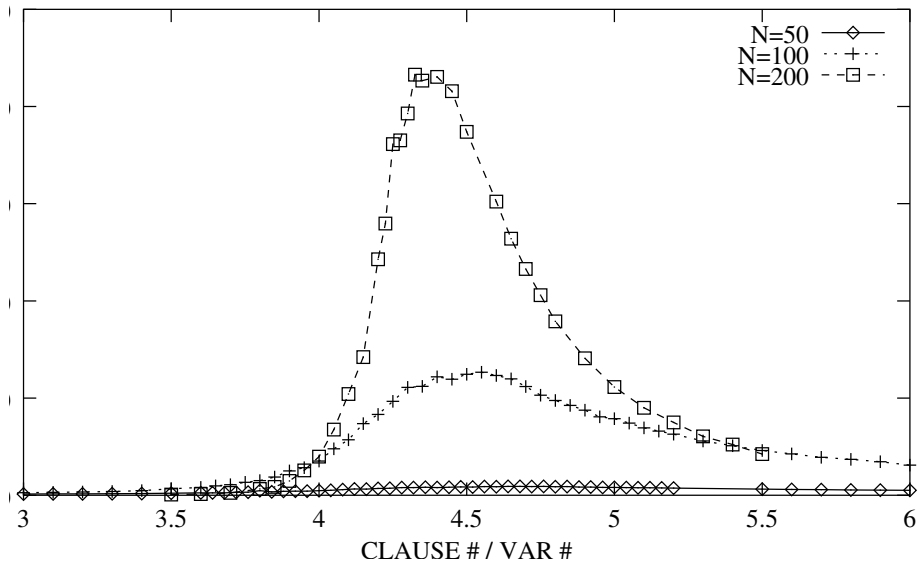
Using search algorithms (DPLL):

- Increasing  $L/N$  we pass from **easy** problems, to **very hard** problems down to **hard** problems
- the peak is centered in the **50% satisfiable** point
- the decay becomes **steeper** with  $N$
- for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , the plot converges to an impulse in the **cross-over point** ( $L/N \approx 4.28$  for  $k=3$ )
- **easy** problems ( $L/N \leq \approx 3.8$ ) increase **polynomially** with  $N$ , **hard** problems increase **exponentially** with  $N$
- Increasing  $L/N$ , **satisfiable** problems get **harder**, **unsatisfiable** problems get **easier**.

## MEDIAN



## GEOMEAN



## Advanced functionalities

Advanced SAT functionalities (very important in formal verification):

- Computing **SAT under assumptions** & **Incremental SAT solving**
- Building **proofs of unsatisfiability**
- Extracting **unsatisfiable Cores**
- Computing **Craig Interpolants**



# SAT under assumptions: $SAT(\varphi, \{l_1, \dots, l_n\})$ [18]

- Many SAT solvers allow for solving a CNF formula  $\varphi$  under a set of assumption literals  $\mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{l_1, \dots, l_n\}$ :  $SAT(\varphi, \{l_1, \dots, l_n\})$ 
  - $SAT(\varphi, \{l_1, \dots, l_n\})$ : same result as  $SAT(\varphi \wedge \bigwedge_{i=1}^n l_i)$
  - often useful to call the same formula with different assumption lists:  $SAT(\varphi, \mathcal{A}_1), SAT(\varphi, \mathcal{A}_2), \dots$
- Idea:
  - $l_1, \dots, l_n$  “decided” at decision level 0 before starting the search
  - if backjump to level 0 on  $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$  s.t.  $\eta \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ , then return UNSAT
  - if the “decision” strategy for conflict analysis is used, then  $\eta$  is the subset of assumptions causing the inconsistency

## Selection of sub-formulas

Let  $\varphi$  be  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^n C_i$ .

Idea [18, 35]

- let  $S_1 \dots S_n$  be fresh Boolean atoms (**selection variables**).
- let  $\mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_k}\} \subseteq \{S_1, \dots, S_n\}$
- $\text{SAT}(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n (\neg S_i \vee C_i), \mathcal{A})$ : same as  $\text{SAT}(\bigwedge_{i=i_1}^{i_k} (C_i))$

$\implies$  allows for “selecting” (**activating**) only a subset of the clauses in  $\varphi$  at each call.

## Incremental SAT solving [18, 17]

- Many CDCL solvers provide a **stack-based incremental interface**
  - it is possible to push/pop  $\phi_i$  into a stack of formulas  $\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k\}$
  - check incrementally the satisfiability of  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^k \phi_i$ .
- Maintains the **status** of the search from one call to the other
  - in particular it records the **learned clauses** (plus other information)

⇒ **reuses search from one call to another**
- Very useful in many applications (in particular in FV)
- Simple idea [18, 17]: **incremental** calls **SAT**( $\varphi, \mathcal{A}_1$ ), **SAT**( $\varphi, \mathcal{A}_2$ ), ...
  - $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigwedge_i (\neg A_i \vee \phi_i)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_i \subseteq \{A_1, \dots, A_k\} \forall i$ ,
  - stack-based interface for  $\mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{A_1, A_2, \dots\}$

learned clauses **safely reused** from call to call even if assumptions have been removed

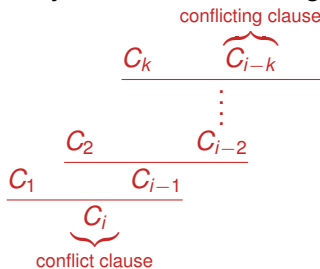
- learned clauses  $C_j$  s.t.  $\varphi \models C_j$
- $C_j$  may be in the form  $\neg A_i \vee C'_j$  s.t.  $A_i \notin \mathcal{A}_i \implies C_j$  not reused

# Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

- When  $\varphi$  is unsat, it is very important to build a (resolution) proof of unsatisfiability:
  - to verify the result of the solver
  - to understand a “reason” for unsatisfiability
  - to build unsatisfiable cores and interpolants
- can be built by **keeping track of the resolution steps performed when constructing the conflict clauses.**

## Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

- recall: each conflict clause  $C_i$  learned is computed from the conflicting clause  $C_{i-k}$  by backward resolving with the antecedent clause of one literal



- $C_1, \dots, C_k$ , and  $C_{i-k}$  can be original or learned clauses
- each resolution (sub)proof can be easily tracked:

$$k \quad i-k \quad \rightarrow \quad i-k-1$$

$$\dots$$

$$2 \quad i-2 \quad \rightarrow \quad i-1$$

$$1 \quad i-1 \quad \rightarrow \quad i$$

# Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

- ... in particular, if  $\varphi$  is unsatisfiable, the last step produces “false” as conflict clause:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{conflicting clause} \\
 \overbrace{C_k \quad C_{i-k}} \\
 \hline
 \vdots \\
 \overbrace{C_2 \quad C_{i-2}} \\
 \hline
 \overbrace{C_1 \quad C_{i-1}} \\
 \hline
 \perp
 \end{array}$$

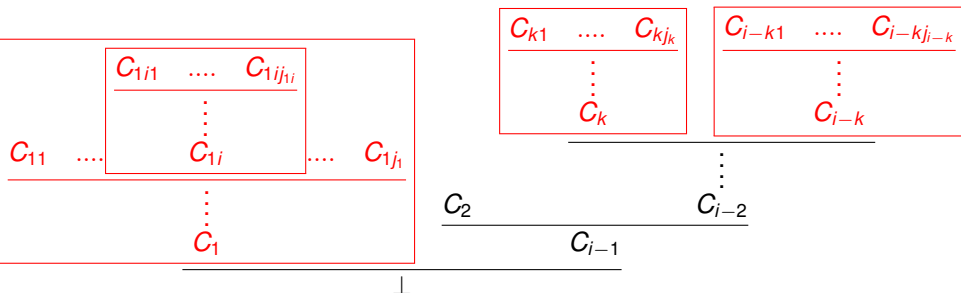
- note:  $C_1 = l$ ,  $C_{i-1} = \neg l$  for some literal  $l$
- $C_1, \dots, C_k$ , and  $C_{i-k}$  can be original or learned clauses...

## Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

Starting from the previous proof of unsatisfiability, repeat recursively:

- for every **learned** leaf clause  $C_i$ , substitute  $C_i$  with the resolution proof generating it

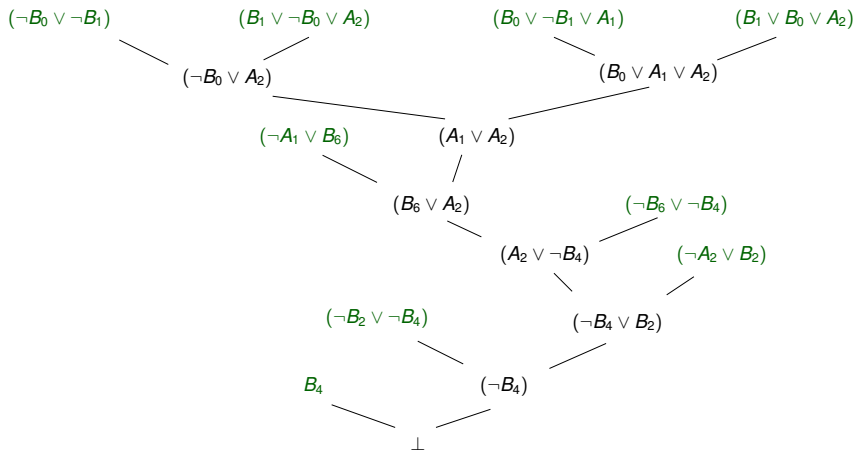
until all leaf clauses are original clauses



$\Rightarrow$  we obtain a resolution proof of unsatisfiability for (a subset of) the clauses in  $\varphi$

# Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability: example

$$(B_0 \vee \neg B_1 \vee A_1) \wedge (B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg B_0 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge (\neg B_2 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee B_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee B_3) \wedge B_4 \wedge (A_2 \vee B_5) \wedge (\neg B_6 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (B_6 \vee \neg A_1) \wedge B_7$$





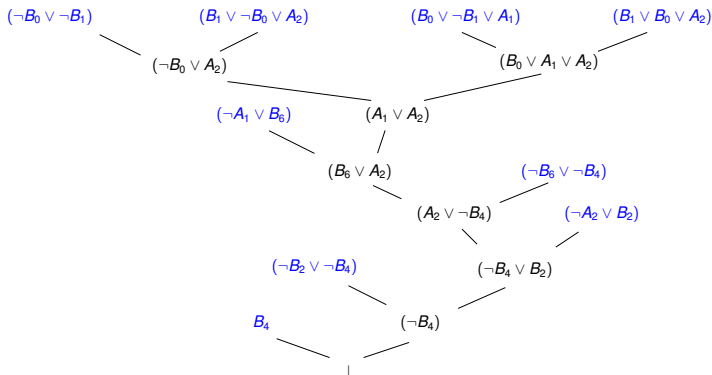
# Extraction of unsatisfiable cores

- Problem: given an unsatisfiable set of clauses, extract from it a (possibly small/minimal/minimum) unsatisfiable subset  
⇒ **unsatisfiable cores** (aka **(Minimal) Unsatisfiable Subsets, (M)US**)
- Lots of literature on the topic [65, 36, 39, 46, 62, 28, 22, 10]
- We recognize two main approaches:
  - **Proof-based** approach [65]: byproduct of finding a resolution proof
  - **Assumption-based** approach [36]: use extra variables labeling clauses
- many optimizations for further reducing the size of the core:
  - repeat the process up to fixpoint
  - remove clauses one-by one, until satisfiability is obtained
  - combinations of the two processed above
  - ...

# The proof-based approach to unsat-core extraction [65]

Unsat core: the set of leaf clauses of a resolution proof

$$(B_0 \vee \neg B_1 \vee A_1) \wedge (B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg B_0 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge (\neg B_2 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee B_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee B_3) \wedge B_4 \wedge (A_2 \vee B_5) \wedge (\neg B_6 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (B_6 \vee \neg A_1) \wedge B_7$$



# The assumption-based approach to unsat-core extraction [36]

Based on the following process:

- (i) each clause  $C_i$  is substituted by  $\neg S_i \vee C_i$ , s.t.  $S_i$  fresh “selector” variable
- (ii) before starting the search each  $S_i$  is forced to true.
- (iii) final conflict clause at dec. level 0:  $\bigvee_j \neg S_j$   
 $\implies \{C_j\}_j$  is the unsat core!

# The assumption-based approach to unsat-core extraction

$$(B_0 \vee \neg B_1 \vee A_1) \wedge (B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge \\ (\neg B_0 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge (\neg B_2 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee B_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee B_3) \wedge \\ B_4 \wedge (A_2 \vee B_5) \wedge (\neg B_6 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (B_6 \vee \neg A_1) \wedge B_7$$

(i) add selector variables:

$$(\neg S_1 \vee B_0 \vee \neg B_1 \vee A_1) \wedge (\neg S_2 \vee B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg S_3 \vee \neg B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge \\ (\neg S_4 \vee \neg B_0 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge (\neg S_5 \vee \neg B_2 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (\neg S_6 \vee \neg A_2 \vee B_2) \wedge \\ (\neg S_7 \vee \neg A_1 \vee B_3) \wedge (\neg S_8 \vee B_4) \wedge (\neg S_9 \vee A_2 \vee B_5) \wedge (\neg S_{10} \vee \neg B_6 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge \\ (\neg S_{11} \vee B_6 \vee \neg A_1) \wedge (\neg S_{12} \vee B_7)$$

(ii) The conflict analysis returns:

$$\neg S_1 \vee \neg S_2 \vee \neg S_3 \vee \neg S_4 \vee \neg S_5 \vee \neg S_6 \vee \neg S_8 \vee \neg S_{10} \vee \neg S_{11},$$

(iii) corresponding to the unsat core:

$$(B_0 \vee \neg B_1 \vee A_1) \wedge (B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg B_0 \vee B_1 \vee A_2) \wedge \\ (\neg B_0 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge (\neg B_2 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee B_2) \wedge \\ B_4 \wedge (\neg B_6 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge (B_6 \vee \neg A_1)$$

# Computing Craig Interpolants in SAT

Let “ $X \preceq Y$ ”,  $X, Y$  being Boolean formulas, denote the fact that all Boolean atoms in  $X$  occur also in  $Y$ .

## Definition: Craig Interpolant

Given an ordered pair  $(A, B)$  of formulas such that  $A \wedge B \models \perp$ , a *Craig interpolant* is a formula  $I$  s.t.:

- $A \models I$ ,
- $I \wedge B \models \perp$ ,
- $I \preceq A$  and  $I \preceq B$ .

- Very important in many Formal Verification applications
- A few works presented [47, 38, 40]

# Computing Craig Interpolants in SAT: a General Algorithm [47]

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## Algorithm: Interpolant generation (for SAT)

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- (i) Generate a resolution proof of unsatisfiability  $\mathcal{P}$  for  $A \wedge B$ .
- (ii) ...
- (iii) For every leaf clause  $C$  in  $\mathcal{P}$ , set  $I_C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C \downarrow B$  if  $C \in A$ , and  $I_C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \top$  if  $C \in B$ .
- (iv) For every inner node  $C$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  obtained by resolution from  $C_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p \vee \phi_1$  and  $C_2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg p \vee \phi_2$ , set  $I_C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} I_{C_1} \vee I_{C_2}$  if  $p$  does not occur in  $B$ , and  $I_C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} I_{C_1} \wedge I_{C_2}$  otherwise.
- (v) Output  $I_{\perp}$  as an interpolant for  $(A, B)$ .

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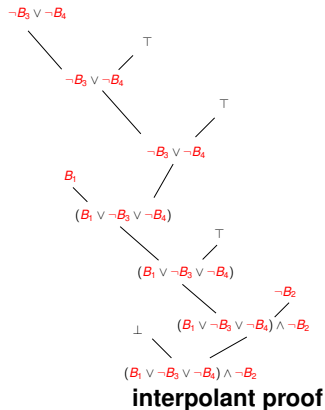
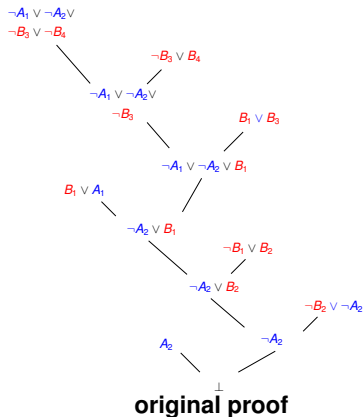
“ $\eta \setminus B$ ” [resp. “ $\eta \downarrow B$ ”] is the set of literals in  $\eta$  whose atoms do not [resp. do] occur in  $B$ .

- optimized versions for the purely-propositional case [38, 40]

# Computing Craig Interpolants in SAT: example

$$A \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (B_1 \vee A_1) \wedge A_2 \wedge (\neg B_2 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \vee \neg B_3 \vee \neg B_4)$$

$$B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\neg B_3 \vee B_4) \wedge (\neg B_1 \vee B_2) \wedge (B_1 \vee B_3)$$



$\implies (B_1 \vee \neg B_3 \vee \neg B_4) \wedge \neg B_2$  is an interpolant

## MaxSAT (hints)

- **MaxSAT**: given a pair of CNF formulas  $\langle \varphi_h, \varphi_s \rangle$  s.t.  $\varphi_h \wedge \varphi_s \models \perp$ ,  $\varphi_s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{C_1, \dots, C_k\}$ , find a truth assignment  $\mu$  satisfying  $\varphi_h$  and maximizing the amount of the satisfied clauses in  $\varphi_s$ .
- **Weighted MaxSAT**: given also the positive integer **penalties**  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$ ,  $\mu$  must satisfy  $\varphi_h$  and maximize the sum of penalties of the satisfied clauses in  $\varphi_s$
- Generalization of SAT to **optimization**  
 $\implies$  much harder than SAT
- Many different approaches (see e.g. [34])
- EX:

$$\varphi_h \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A_1 \vee A_2) \quad \varphi_s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left( \begin{array}{l} (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge [4] \\ (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge [3] \\ (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge [2] \end{array} \right)$$

$$\implies \mu = \{A_1, A_2\} \text{ (penalty} = 2)$$



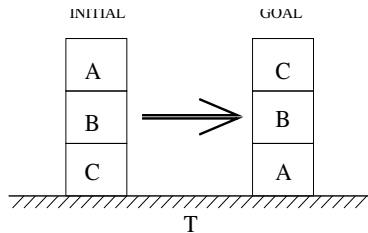
# Many applications of SAT

- Many successful applications of SAT:
  - Boolean circuits
  - (Bounded) Planning
  - (Bounded) Model Checking
  - Cryptography
  - Scheduling
  - ...
- All NP-complete problem can be (polynomially) converted to SAT.
- Key issue: find an efficient encoding.

## The problem [30, 29, 48]

- Problem Given a set of action operators  $OP$ , (a representation of) an initial state  $I$  and goal state  $G$ , and a bound  $n$ , find a sequence of operator applications  $o_1, \dots, o_n$ , leading from the initial state to the goal state.
- Idea: Encode it into satisfiability problem of a Boolean formula  $\varphi$

# Example



*Move*( $b, s, d$ )

*Precond* :  $Block(b) \wedge Clear(b) \wedge On(b, s) \wedge$   
 $(Clear(d) \vee Table(d)) \wedge$   
 $b \neq s \wedge b \neq d \wedge s \neq d$

*Effect* :  $Clear(s) \wedge \neg On(b, s) \wedge$   
 $On(b, d) \wedge \neg Clear(d)$

# Encoding

- Initial states:

$$On_0(A, B), On_0(B, C), On_0(C, T), Clear_0(A).$$

- Goal states:

$$On_{2n}(C, B) \wedge On_{2n}(B, A) \wedge On_{2n}(A, T).$$

- Action preconditions and effects:

$$\begin{aligned} Move_t(A, B, C) \rightarrow \\ & Clear_{t-1}(A) \wedge On_{t-1}(A, B) \wedge Clear_{t-1}(C) \wedge \\ & Clear_{t+1}(B) \wedge \neg On_{t+1}(A, B) \wedge \\ & On_{t+1}(A, C) \wedge \neg Clear_{t+1}(C). \end{aligned}$$

# Encoding: Frame axioms

- Classic

$$\begin{aligned} & Move_t(A, B, T) \wedge Clear_{t-1}(C) \rightarrow Clear_{t+1}(C), \\ & Move_t(A, B, T) \wedge \neg Clear_{t-1}(C) \rightarrow \neg Clear_{t+1}(C). \end{aligned}$$

“At least one action” axiom:

$$\bigvee_{\substack{b, s, d \in \{A, B, C, T\} \\ b \neq s, b \neq d, s \neq d, b \neq T}} Move_t(b, s, d).$$

- Explanatory

$$\neg Clear_{t+1}(C) \wedge Clear_{t-1}(C) \rightarrow \\ Move_t(A, B, C) \vee Move_t(A, T, C) \vee Move_t(B, A, C) \vee Move_t(B, T, C)$$

# Planning strategy

- **Sequential** for each pair of actions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , add axioms of the form  $\neg\alpha_t \vee \neg\beta_t$  for each odd time step. For example, we will have:

$$\neg\text{Move}_t(A, B, C) \vee \neg\text{Move}_t(A, B, T).$$

- **parallel** for each pair of actions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , add axioms of the form  $\neg\alpha_t \vee \neg\beta_t$  for each odd time step if  $\alpha$  effects contradict  $\beta$  preconditions. For example, we will have

$$\neg\text{Move}_t(B, T, A) \vee \neg\text{Move}_t(A, B, C).$$

# Encoding into SAT

- Assumption: the possible values of all the variables are bounded.
- Naive idea: Encode all possible ground predicates as Boolean variables.  
E.g.:  $Move_1(B, T, A) \implies Move1\_B\_T\_A$
- much more efficient encodings have been presented [29, 19]
- customizations of SAT solvers [23].

# The problem [8, 7]

Ingredients:

- A **system** written as a Kripke structure  $M := \langle S, I, T, \mathcal{L} \rangle$ 
  - $S$ : set of states
  - $I$ : set of initial states
  - $T$ : transition relation
  - $\mathcal{L}$ : labeling function
- A property  $f$  written as a **LTL formula**:
  - a propositional literal  $p$
  - $h \wedge g, h \vee g, \mathbf{X}g, \mathbf{G}g, \mathbf{F}g, h\mathbf{U}g$  and  $h\mathbf{R}g$ ,  
 $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{F}, \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{R}$  “next”, “globally”, “eventually”, “until” and “releases”
- an integer  $k$  (bound)



## The problem (cont.)

Problem:

Is there an execution path of  $M$  of length  $k$  satisfying the temporal property  $f$ ?:

$$M \models_k f$$

# The encoding

Equivalent to the satisfiability problem of a Boolean formula  $[[M, f]]_k$  defined as follows:

$$[[M, f]]_k := [[M]]_k \wedge [[f]]_k \quad (1)$$

$$[[M]]_k := I(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}), \quad (2)$$

$$[[f]]_k := \left( \neg \bigvee_{l=0}^k T(s_k, s_l) \wedge [[f]]_k^0 \right) \vee \bigvee_{l=0}^k (T(s_k, s_l) \wedge {}_l[[f]]_k^0), \quad (3)$$

# The encoding of $[[f]]_k^i$ and ${}_i[[f]]_k^i$

$f$	$[[f]]_k^i$	${}_i[[f]]_k^i$
$p$	$p_i$	$p_i$
$\neg p$	$\neg p_i$	$\neg p_i$
$h \wedge g$	$[[h]]_k^i \wedge [[g]]_k^i$	${}_i[[h]]_k^i \wedge {}_i[[g]]_k^i$
$h \vee g$	$[[h]]_k^i \vee [[g]]_k^i$	${}_i[[h]]_k^i \vee {}_i[[g]]_k^i$
$Xg$	$[[g]]_k^{i+1}$ if $i < k$ $\perp$ otherwise.	${}_i[[g]]_k^{i+1}$ if $i < k$ ${}_i[[g]]_k^i$ otherwise.
$Gg$	$\perp$	$\bigwedge_{j=\min(i,l)}^k {}_i[[g]]_k^j$
$Fg$	$\bigvee_{j=i}^k [[g]]_k^j$	$\bigvee_{j=\min(i,l)}^k {}_i[[g]]_k^j$
$hUg$	$\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left( [[g]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^{j-1} [[h]]_k^n \right)$	$\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left( {}_i[[g]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^{j-1} {}_i[[h]]_k^n \right) \vee$ $\bigvee_{j=l}^{i-1} \left( {}_i[[g]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^k {}_i[[h]]_k^n \wedge \bigwedge_{n=l}^{j-1} {}_i[[h]]_k^n \right)$
$hRg$	$\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left( [[h]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^j [[g]]_k^n \right)$	$\bigwedge_{j=\min(i,l)}^k {}_i[[g]]_k^j \vee$ $\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left( {}_i[[h]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^j {}_i[[g]]_k^n \right) \vee$ $\bigvee_{j=l}^{i-1} \left( {}_i[[h]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^k {}_i[[g]]_k^n \wedge \bigwedge_{n=l}^j {}_i[[g]]_k^n \right)$

## Example: $\mathbf{F}p$ (reachability)

- $f := \mathbf{F}p$ : is there a reachable state in which  $p$  holds?
- $[[M, f]]_k$  is:

$$I(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \bigvee_{j=0}^k p_j$$

# Example: $\mathbf{G}p$

- $f := \mathbf{G}p$ : is there a path where  $p$  holds forever?
- $[[M, f]]_k$  is:

$$I(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \bigvee_{l=0}^k T(s_k, s_l) \wedge \bigwedge_{j=0}^k p_j$$

## Example: $\mathbf{GF}q \wedge \mathbf{F}p$ (fair reachability)

- $f := \mathbf{GF}q \wedge \mathbf{F}p$ : is there a reachable state in which  $p$  holds provided that  $q$  holds infinitely often?
- $[[M, f]]_k$  is:

$$I(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \bigvee_{j=0}^k p_j \wedge \bigvee_{l=0}^k \left( T(s_k, s_l) \wedge \bigvee_{j=l}^k q \right)$$

# Bounded Model Checking

- **very efficient** for some problems
- lots of enhancements [8, 1, 56, 60, 13]

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The papers (co)authored by the author of these slides are available at:

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- Combination Methods in Automated Reasoning

<http://combination.cs.uiowa.edu/>

- The SAT Association

<http://satassociation.org/>

- SATLive! - Up-to-date links for SAT

<http://www.satlive.org/index.jsp>

- SATLIB - The Satisfiability Library

<http://www.intellektik.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/SATLIB/>