

# Course “An Introduction to SAT and SMT”

## Chapter 1: Propositional Satisfiability (SAT)

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URL: [http://disi.unitn.it/rseba/DIDATTICA/SAT\\_SMT2022/](http://disi.unitn.it/rseba/DIDATTICA/SAT_SMT2022/)

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# Outline

- 1 Boolean Logic and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving techniques
  - Resolution
  - Tableaux
  - DPLL
  - Stochastic Local Search for SAT
- 3 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams – OBDDs
- 4 Modern CDCL SAT Solvers
  - Limitations of Chronological Backtracking
  - Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT solvers
  - Further Improvements
  - SAT Under Assumptions & Incremental SAT
- 5 SAT Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization
- 6 Other SAT Topics
  - Tractable subclasses of SAT
  - Random k-SAT and Phase Transition
- 7 Some Applications
  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
  - Appl. #2: Bounded Model Checking

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# Propositional Logic (aka Boolean Logic)



# Basic Definitions

- **Propositional formula** (aka **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  
 $\neg\varphi_1, \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \leftarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_1 \oplus \varphi_2$   
are formulas.
- Ex:  $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\neg(A_1 \rightarrow A_2)) \wedge (A_3 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_1 \oplus (A_2 \vee \neg A_4)))$
- **Atoms**( $\varphi$ ): the set  $\{A_1, \dots, A_N\}$  of atoms occurring in  $\varphi$ .
  - Ex:  $\text{Atoms}(\varphi) = \{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4\}$
- **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

$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\neg\alpha$	$\alpha\wedge\beta$	$\alpha\vee\beta$	$\alpha\rightarrow\beta$	$\alpha\leftarrow\beta$	$\alpha\leftrightarrow\beta$	$\alpha\oplus\beta$
$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$
$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$
$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\top$
$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$

# Semantics of Boolean operators (cont.)

## Note

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

$$(\alpha \wedge \beta) \iff (\beta \wedge \alpha)$$

$$(\alpha \vee \beta) \iff (\beta \vee \alpha)$$

$$(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) \iff (\beta \leftrightarrow \alpha)$$

$$(\alpha \oplus \beta) \iff (\beta \oplus \alpha)$$

- $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\leftrightarrow$  and  $\oplus$  are associative:

$$((\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma) \iff (\alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma)) \iff (\alpha \wedge \beta \wedge \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha \vee \beta) \vee \gamma) \iff (\alpha \vee (\beta \vee \gamma)) \iff (\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) \leftrightarrow \gamma) \iff (\alpha \leftrightarrow (\beta \leftrightarrow \gamma)) \iff (\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta \leftrightarrow \gamma)$$

$$((\alpha \oplus \beta) \oplus \gamma) \iff (\alpha \oplus (\beta \oplus \gamma)) \iff (\alpha \oplus \beta \oplus \gamma)$$

- $\rightarrow$ ,  $\leftarrow$  are neither commutative nor associative:

$$(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \not\iff (\beta \rightarrow \alpha)$$

$$((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \gamma) \not\iff (\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \gamma))$$

# Syntactic Properties of Boolean Operators

$$\begin{array}{lll} \neg\neg\alpha & \iff & \alpha \\ (\alpha \vee \beta) & \iff & \neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta) \\ \neg(\alpha \vee \beta) & \iff & (\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta) \\ (\alpha \wedge \beta) & \iff & \neg(\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta) \\ \neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) & \iff & (\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta) \\ (\alpha \rightarrow \beta) & \iff & (\neg\alpha \vee \beta) \\ \neg(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) & \iff & (\alpha \wedge \neg\beta) \\ (\alpha \leftarrow \beta) & \iff & (\alpha \vee \neg\beta) \\ \neg(\alpha \leftarrow \beta) & \iff & (\neg\alpha \wedge \beta) \\ (\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) & \iff & ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge (\alpha \leftarrow \beta)) \\ & \iff & ((\neg\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \neg\beta)) \\ \neg(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) & \iff & (\neg\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) \\ & \iff & (\alpha \leftrightarrow \neg\beta) \\ & \iff & ((\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)) \\ (\alpha \oplus \beta) & \iff & \neg(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta) \end{array}$$

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



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

1 For every pair of formulas  $\alpha \iff \beta$  below, show that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  can be rewritten into each other by applying the syntactic properties of the previous slide

- $(A_1 \wedge A_2) \vee A_3 \iff (A_1 \vee A_3) \wedge (A_2 \vee A_3)$
- $(A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge A_3 \iff (A_1 \wedge A_3) \vee (A_2 \wedge A_3)$
- $A_1 \rightarrow (A_2 \rightarrow (A_3 \rightarrow A_4)) \iff (A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3) \rightarrow A_4$
- $A_1 \rightarrow (A_2 \wedge A_3) \iff (A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_1 \rightarrow A_3)$
- $(A_1 \vee A_2) \rightarrow A_3 \iff (A_1 \rightarrow A_3) \wedge (A_2 \rightarrow A_3)$
- $A_1 \oplus A_2 \iff (A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$
- $\neg A_1 \leftrightarrow \neg A_2 \iff A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2$
- $A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2 \leftrightarrow A_3 \iff A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$

# Tree & DAG Representations of Formulas

- Formulas can be represented either as **trees** or as **DAGS** (Directed Acyclic Graphs)
- **DAG representation can be up to exponentially smaller**
  - in particular, when  $\leftrightarrow$ 's are involved

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

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

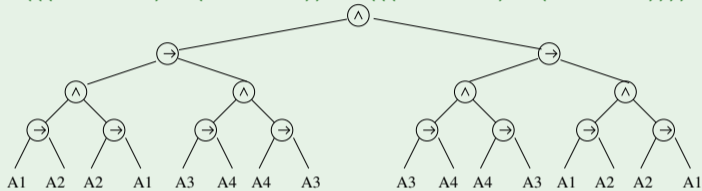
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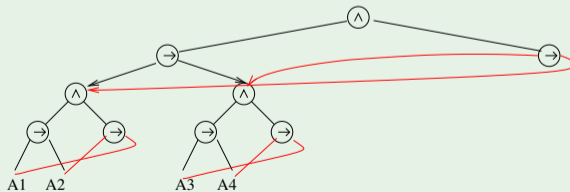
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# Tree & DAG Representations of Formulas: Example

$$(((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_2 \rightarrow A_1)) \rightarrow ((A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge (A_4 \rightarrow A_3))) \wedge$$
$$(((A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge (A_4 \rightarrow A_3)) \rightarrow (((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge (A_2 \rightarrow A_1))))$$



*Tree Representation*



*DAG Representation*

# Semantics: Basic Definitions

- **Total truth assignment**  $\mu$  for  $\varphi$ :  
 $\mu : \mathit{Atoms}(\varphi) \mapsto \{\top, \perp\}$ .
  - represents a **possible world** or a **possible state of the world**
- **Partial Truth assignment**  $\mu$  for  $\varphi$ :  
 $\mu : \mathcal{A} \mapsto \{\top, \perp\}, \mathcal{A} \subset \mathit{Atoms}(\varphi)$ .
  - represents  $2^k$  total assignments,  $k$  is # unassigned variables
- **Notation: set and formula representations 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:  $\{\mu(A_1) := \top, \mu(A_2) := \perp\} \implies (A_1 \wedge \neg A_2)$

# Semantics: Basic Definitions [cont.]

- A **total** truth assignment  $\mu$  **satisfies**  $\varphi$  ( $\mu$  is a model of  $\varphi$ ,  $\mu \models \varphi$ ):

$$\mu \models A_i \iff \mu(A_i) = \top$$

$$\mu \models \neg\varphi \iff \text{not } \mu \models \varphi$$

$$\mu \models \alpha \wedge \beta \iff \mu \models \alpha \text{ and } \mu \models \beta$$

$$\mu \models \alpha \vee \beta \iff \mu \models \alpha \text{ or } \mu \models \beta$$

$$\mu \models \alpha \rightarrow \beta \iff \text{if } \mu \models \alpha, \text{ then } \mu \models \beta$$

$$\mu \models \alpha \leftrightarrow \beta \iff \mu \models \alpha \text{ iff } \mu \models \beta$$

$$\mu \models \alpha \oplus \beta \iff \mu \models \alpha \text{ iff not } \mu \models \beta$$

- $M(\varphi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\mu \mid \mu \models \varphi\}$  (the set of models of  $\varphi$ )

- A **partial** truth assignment  $\mu$  **satisfies**  $\varphi$  iff all total assignments extending  $\mu$  satisfy  $\varphi$ 
  - Ex:  $\{A_1\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$  because both  $\{A_1, A_2\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$  and  $\{A_1, \neg A_2\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$
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- $\varphi$  is **valid** ( $\models \varphi$ ):  $\models \varphi$  iff  $\mu \models \varphi$  for all  $\mu$ s (i.e.,  $\mu \in M(\varphi)$  for all  $\mu$ s)



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# Properties & Results

## Property

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

## Deduction Theorem

$\alpha \models \beta$  iff  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  is valid ( $\models \alpha \rightarrow \beta$ )

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# Equivalence and Equi-Satisfiability

- $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are **equivalent** iff, for every  $\mu$ ,  $\mu \models \alpha$  iff  $\mu \models \beta$   
(i.e., if  $M(\alpha) = M(\beta)$ )
- $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are **equi-satisfiable** iff exists  $\mu_1$  s.t.  $\mu_1 \models \alpha$  iff exists  $\mu_2$  s.t.  $\mu_2 \models \beta$   
(i.e., if  $M(\alpha) \neq \emptyset$  iff  $M(\beta) \neq \emptyset$ )
- $\alpha, \beta$  equivalent  
     $\Downarrow \Uparrow$   
     $\alpha, \beta$  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  $\beta$  is the result of applying some transformation  $T$  to  $\alpha$ :  $\beta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T(\alpha)$ :
  - $T$  is **validity-preserving** [resp. **satisfiability-preserving**] iff  
     $T(\alpha)$  and  $\alpha$  are equivalent [resp. equi-satisfiable]

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# Boolean Quantification

## Shannon's expansion:

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

$$\exists v. \varphi := \varphi|_{v=\perp} \vee \varphi|_{v=\top}$$

$$\forall v. \varphi := \varphi|_{v=\perp} \wedge \varphi|_{v=\top}$$

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

- Intuition:

$\exists v. \varphi$  is true if  $\exists$  value  $v \in \{\top, \perp\}$  s.t.  $\varphi|_{v=\text{value}} \models \varphi$

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

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

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## NP-Completeness of SAT

- 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 **(un)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  $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$  or  $\varphi_1 \oplus \varphi_2$  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:

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha \rightarrow \beta &\implies \neg\alpha \vee \beta \\ \alpha \leftrightarrow \beta &\implies (\neg\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \neg\beta)\end{aligned}$$

(ii) pushing down negations recursively:

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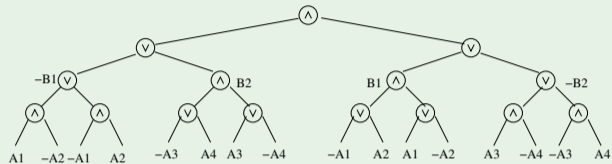
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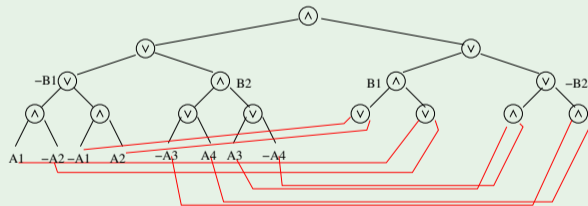
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# NNF: Example [cont.]

## Note



Tree Representation



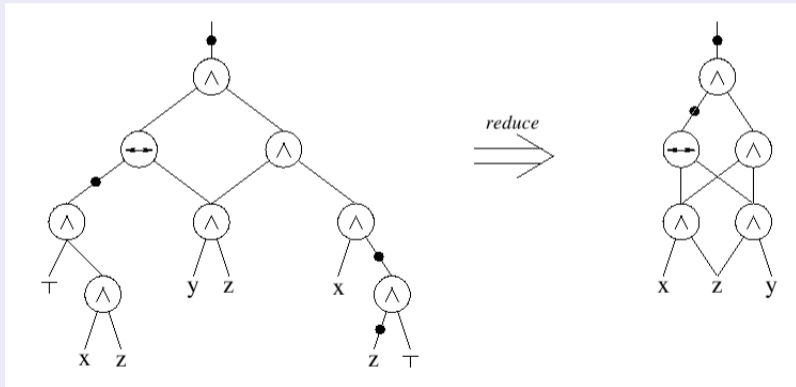
DAG Representation

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:

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

- the disjunctions of literals  $\bigvee_{j_i=1}^{K_i} l_{j_i}$  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) expanding implications and equivalences:

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta \implies \neg\alpha \vee \beta$$

$$\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta \implies (\neg\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$$

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- Resulting formula worst-case exponential:

- ex:  $\|CNF(\bigvee_{i=1}^N (l_{i1} \wedge l_{i2}))\| = \|(l_{11} \vee l_{21} \vee \dots \vee l_{N1}) \wedge (l_{12} \vee l_{22} \vee \dots \vee l_{N2}) \wedge \dots \wedge (l_{1N} \vee l_{2N} \vee \dots \vee l_{NN})\| = 2^N$

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$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta \implies \neg\alpha \vee \beta$$

$$\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta \implies (\neg\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$$

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$$\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) \implies \neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta$$

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- $CNF(\varphi)$  is equivalent to  $\varphi$ .

- Rarely used in practice.

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

## Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ (aka Tseitin's CNF-ization)

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

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

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

- Worst-case linear!
- $Atoms(CNF_{label}(\varphi)) \supseteq Atoms(\varphi)$
- $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$  is equi-satisfiable (but not equivalent) to  $\varphi$ .
  - moreover:  $\exists B_1, \dots, B_k. CNF_{label}(\varphi)$  equivalent to  $\varphi$ , s.t.  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  all fresh variables introduced
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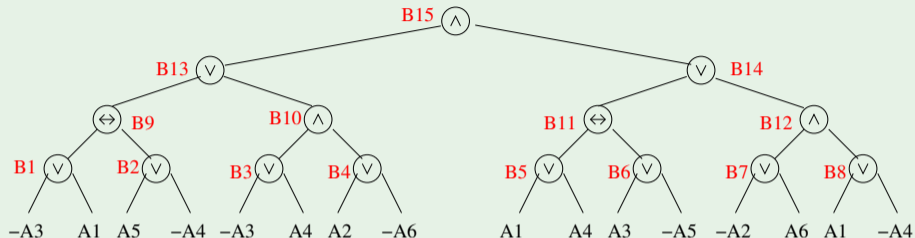
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## Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ (cont.)

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

# Labeling CNF Conversion $CNF_{label}$ – Example



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

... $\wedge$

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

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

... $\wedge$

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

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

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

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

$B_{15}$

$(\neg B_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_1) \wedge (B_1 \vee A_3) \wedge (B_1 \vee \neg A_1) \wedge$

... $\wedge$

$(\neg B_8 \vee A_1 \vee \neg A_4) \wedge (B_8 \vee \neg A_1) \wedge (B_8 \vee A_4) \wedge$

$(\neg B_9 \vee \neg B_1 \vee B_2) \wedge (\neg B_9 \vee B_1 \vee \neg B_2) \wedge$

$(B_9 \vee B_1 \vee B_2) \wedge (B_9 \vee \neg B_1 \vee \neg B_2) \wedge$

= ... $\wedge$

$(B_{12} \vee \neg B_7 \vee \neg B_8) \wedge (\neg B_{12} \vee B_7) \wedge (\neg B_{12} \vee B_8) \wedge$

$(\neg B_{13} \vee B_9 \vee B_{10}) \wedge (B_{13} \vee \neg B_9) \wedge (B_{13} \vee \neg B_{10}) \wedge$

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$(B_{15} \vee \neg B_{13} \vee \neg B_{14}) \wedge (\neg B_{15} \vee B_{13}) \wedge (\neg B_{15} \vee B_{14}) \wedge$

$B_{15}$

# 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:

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

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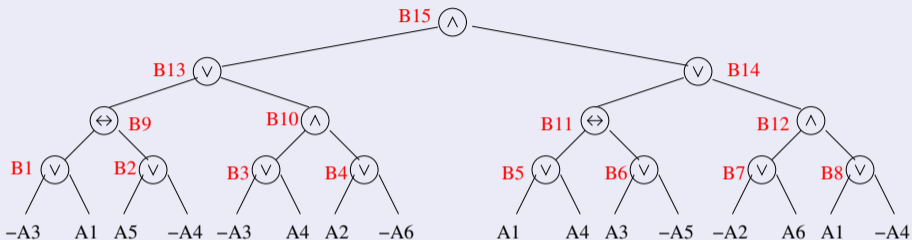
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## Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ (cont.)

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

# Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}$ – example



Basic

$CNF(B_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_3 \vee A_1)) \quad \wedge$   
 $\dots \quad \wedge$   
 $CNF(B_8 \leftrightarrow (A_1 \vee \neg A_4)) \quad \wedge$   
 $CNF(B_9 \leftrightarrow (B_1 \leftrightarrow B_2)) \quad \wedge$   
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$B_{15}$

Improved

$CNF(B_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_3 \vee A_1)) \quad \wedge$   
 $\dots \quad \wedge$   
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$B_{15}$



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

- 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)
- ...

- 1 Consider the following Boolean formula  $\varphi$ :

$$\neg(((\neg A_1 \rightarrow \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_3 \rightarrow A_4)) \vee ((A_5 \rightarrow A_6) \wedge (A_7 \rightarrow \neg A_8)))$$

Compute the Negative Normal Form of  $\varphi$

- 2 Consider the following Boolean formula  $\varphi$ :

$$((\neg A_1 \wedge \neg A_2) \vee (A_7 \wedge A_4) \vee (\neg A_3 \wedge A_2) \vee (A_5 \wedge \neg A_4))$$

- 1 Produce the CNF formula  $CNF(\varphi)$ .
- 2 Produce the CNF formula  $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ .
- 3 Produce the CNF formula  $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$  (improved version)

# Outline

- 1 Boolean Logic and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving techniques**
  - Resolution
  - Tableaux
  - DPLL
  - Stochastic Local Search for SAT
- 3 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams – OBDDs
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  - Limitations of Chronological Backtracking
  - Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT solvers
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  - SAT Under Assumptions & Incremental SAT
- 5 SAT Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization
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  - Tractable subclasses of SAT
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# Propositional Reasoning: Generalities

- Automated Reasoning in Propositional Logic fundamental task
  - AI, formal verification, circuit synthesis, operational research,....
- Important in AI:  $KB \models \alpha$ : entail fact  $\alpha$  from knowledge base  $KB$  (aka **Model Checking**:  $M(KB) \subseteq M(\alpha)$ )
  - typically  $KB \gg \alpha$
- All propositional reasoning tasks reduced to **satisfiability (SAT)**
  - $KB \models \alpha \implies \text{SAT}(KB \wedge \neg\alpha) = \text{false}$
  - input formula CNF-ized and fed to a **SAT solver**
- **Current SAT solvers dramatically efficient**:
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# 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.



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# The Resolution Rule

- **Resolution**: deduction of a new clause from a pair of clauses with exactly one incompatible variable (**resolvent**):

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

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

- Note: many standard inference rules subcases of resolution:  
(recall that  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \iff \neg\alpha \vee \beta$ )

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad B \rightarrow C}{A \rightarrow C} \text{ (trans.)} \quad \frac{A \quad A \rightarrow B}{B} \text{ (m. ponens)} \quad \frac{\neg B \quad A \rightarrow B}{\neg A} \text{ (m. tollens)}$$

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 \underbrace{(l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k)}_{\text{common}} \vee \underbrace{\neg l}_{\text{resolvent}} \vee \underbrace{(l''_{k+1} \vee \dots \vee l''_n)}_{C''}
 }{
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 }$$

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

- Note: many standard inference rules subcases of resolution:  
(recall that  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \iff \neg\alpha \vee \beta$ )

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad B \rightarrow C}{A \rightarrow C} \text{ (trans.)} \quad \frac{A \quad A \rightarrow B}{B} \text{ (m. ponens)} \quad \frac{\neg B \quad A \rightarrow B}{\neg A} \text{ (m. tollens)}$$

# Improvements: Subsumption & Unit Propagation

Alternative “set” notation ( $\Gamma$  clause set):

$$\frac{\Gamma, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_n}{\Gamma, \phi'_1, \dots, \phi'_n} \quad \left( \text{e.g., } \frac{\Gamma, C_1 \vee p, C_2 \vee \neg p}{\Gamma, C_1 \vee p, C_2 \vee \neg p, C_1 \vee C_2} \right)$$

- Clause Subsumption ( $C$  clause):

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

- Unit Resolution:

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

- Unit Subsumption:

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

- Unit Propagation = Unit Resolution + Unit Subsumption

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

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# Basic Propositional Inference: Resolution [47, 14]

- Assume input formula in CNF
  - if not, apply Tseitin CNF-ization first

⇒  $\varphi$  is represented as a set of clauses

- **Search** for a refutation of  $\varphi$  (is  $\varphi$  unsatisfiable?)
  - recall:  $\alpha \models \beta$  iff  $\alpha \wedge \neg\beta$  unsatisfiable
- Basic idea: **apply iteratively the resolution rule** to pairs of clauses with a conflicting literal, producing novel clauses, until either
  - a false clause is generated, or
  - the resolution rule is no more applicable
- **Correct**: if returns an empty clause, then  $\varphi$  unsat ( $\alpha \models \beta$ )
- **Complete**: if  $\varphi$  unsat ( $\alpha \models \beta$ ), then it returns an empty clause
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## Resolution: basic strategy [14]

```
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

$$(A_1 \vee A_2) \quad (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \quad (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \quad (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$$

↓

$$(A_2) \quad (A_2 \vee \neg A_2) \quad (\neg A_2 \vee A_2) \quad (\neg A_2)$$

↓

⊥

⇒ UNSAT

# Resolution: Examples

$$\begin{array}{cccc} (A_1 \vee A_2) & (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) & (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) & (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \\ \Downarrow & & & \\ (A_2) & (A_2 \vee \neg A_2) & (\neg A_2 \vee A_2) & (\neg A_2) \\ \Downarrow & & & \\ \perp & & & \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT

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## Resolution: Examples (cont.)

$$(A \vee B \vee C) \quad (B \vee \neg C \vee \neg F) \quad (\neg B \vee E)$$

↓

$$(A \vee C \vee E) \quad (\neg C \vee \neg F \vee E)$$

↓

$$(A \vee E \vee \neg F)$$

⇒ SAT



## Resolution: Examples (cont.)

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

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$\Rightarrow$  SAT

# Resolution: Examples

$(A \vee B) (A \vee \neg B) (\neg A \vee C) (\neg A \vee \neg C)$

$\Downarrow$   
 $(A) (\neg A \vee C) (\neg A \vee \neg C)$

$\Downarrow$   
 $(C) (\neg C)$

$\Downarrow$   
 $\perp$

$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT

# Resolution: Examples

$(A \vee B) (A \vee \neg B) (\neg A \vee C) (\neg A \vee \neg C)$

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$(A) (\neg A \vee C) (\neg A \vee \neg C)$

$\Downarrow$

$(C) (\neg C)$

$\Downarrow$

$\perp$

$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT

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$\Downarrow$

$(C) \quad (\neg C)$

$\Downarrow$

$\perp$

$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT

# Resolution: Examples

$$(A \vee B) \quad (A \vee \neg B) \quad (\neg A \vee C) \quad (\neg A \vee \neg C)$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$(A) \quad (\neg A \vee C) \quad (\neg A \vee \neg C)$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$(C) \quad (\neg C)$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$\perp$$

$\Rightarrow$  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)



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## Semantic tableaux [53]

- **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

$$\frac{\Gamma, (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \varphi_1, \varphi_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \neg(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \neg\varphi_1, \neg\varphi_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \neg(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \varphi_1, \neg\varphi_2}$$

( $\wedge$ -elimination)

$$\frac{\Gamma, \neg\neg\varphi}{\Gamma, \varphi}$$

( $\neg\neg$ -elimination)

$$\frac{\Gamma, (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \varphi_1 \quad \Gamma, \varphi_2}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma, (\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \neg\varphi_1 \quad \Gamma, \varphi_2}$$

( $\vee$ -elimination)

$$\frac{\Gamma, (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \quad \Gamma, \neg\varphi_1, \neg\varphi_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \neg(\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2)}{\Gamma, \varphi_1, \neg\varphi_2 \quad \Gamma, \neg\varphi_1, \varphi_2}$$

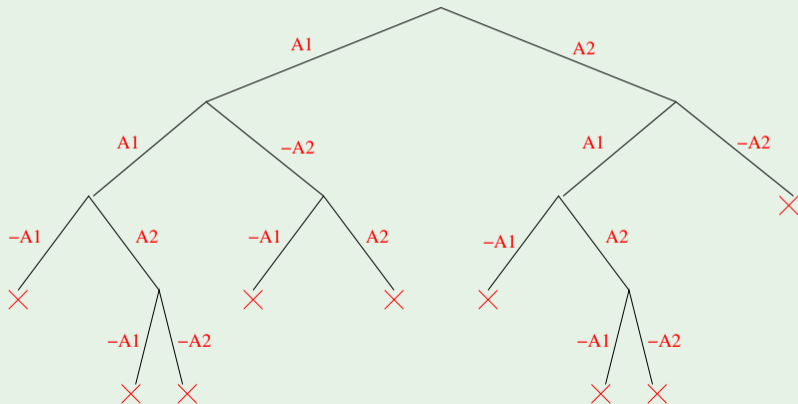
( $\leftrightarrow$ -elimination).

## Semantic Tableaux – Example

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

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



# 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 */
```

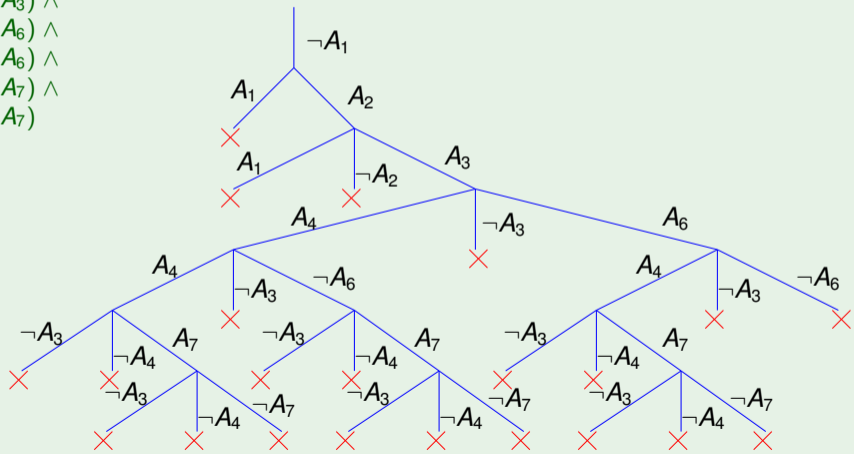
# Semantic Tableaux: Example

$$\begin{array}{l} (\neg A_1) \wedge \\ (A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \vee A_3) \wedge \\ (A_4 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_6) \wedge \\ (\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \vee A_7) \wedge \\ (\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_7) \end{array}$$

$\implies$  unsat

# Semantic Tableaux: Example

$(\neg A_1) \wedge$   
 $(A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \vee A_3) \wedge$   
 $(A_4 \vee \neg A_3 \vee \neg A_6) \wedge$   
 $(\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \vee A_7) \wedge$   
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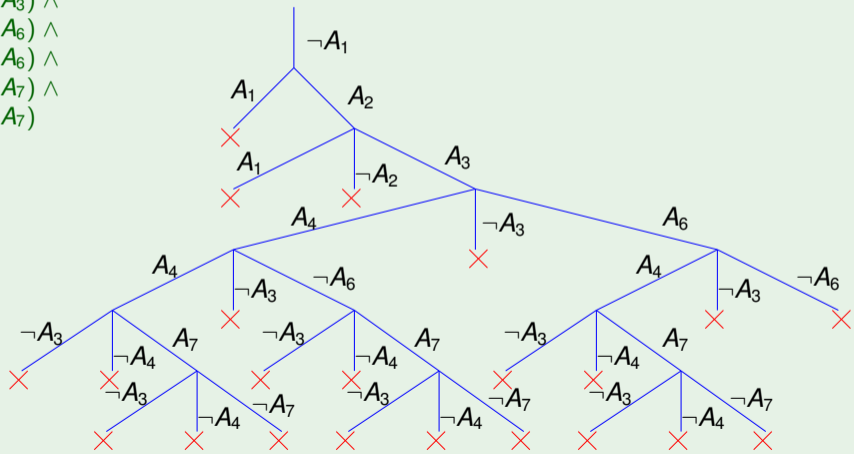


$\Rightarrow$  unsat



# Semantic Tableaux: Example

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 $(\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \vee A_7) \wedge$   
 $(\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_7)$



⇒ unsat

# 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**

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- 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.

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

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

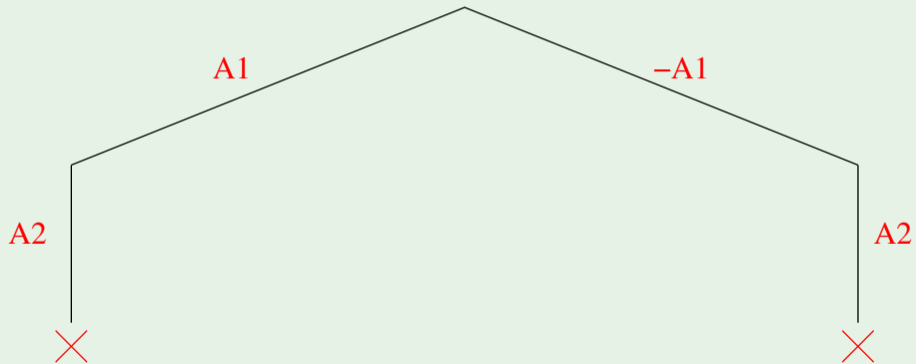
$$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[I|\top] \quad \varphi[I|\perp]} \text{ (split)}$$

( $I$  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 [55, 42, 43]

# 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( $\neg l$ ,  $\varphi$ ),  $\mu \wedge \neg l$ );
```

- The pure-literal rule is nowadays obsolete.
- *choose-literal*( $\varphi$ ) picks only variables still occurring in the formula

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# DPLL – example

## DPLL (without pure-literal rule)

Here “choose-literal” selects variable in alphabetic, selecting true first.

$$\begin{aligned} & (\neg C \quad \quad \quad ) \wedge \\ & ( B \vee A \quad \vee C ) \wedge \\ & (\neg A \vee D \quad \quad ) \wedge \\ & (\neg E \vee \neg A \quad \vee F ) \wedge \\ & (\neg E \vee \neg F \quad \vee \neg A ) \wedge \\ & ( G \vee \neg A \quad \vee E ) \wedge \\ & ( E \vee \neg G \quad \vee \neg A ) \wedge \\ & ( A \vee H \quad \vee C ) \wedge \\ & (\neg H \vee \neg I \quad \vee A ) \wedge \\ & ( I \vee L \quad \vee M ) \wedge \\ & (\neg L \vee C \quad \vee \neg M ) \wedge \\ & ( A \vee \neg L \quad \vee M ) \wedge \\ & ( L \vee N \quad \vee \neg H ) \wedge \\ & ( I \vee L \quad \vee \neg N ) \end{aligned}$$

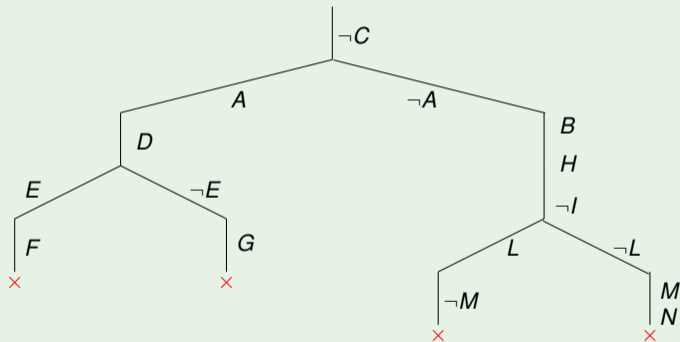
⇒ UNSAT

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$(\neg C \vee A \vee C) \wedge$   
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 $(\neg E \vee \neg F \vee \neg A) \wedge$   
 $(G \vee \neg A \vee E) \wedge$   
 $(E \vee \neg G \vee \neg A) \wedge$   
 $(A \vee H \vee C) \wedge$   
 $(\neg H \vee \neg I \vee A) \wedge$   
 $(I \vee L \vee M) \wedge$   
 $(\neg L \vee C \vee \neg M) \wedge$   
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 $(I \vee L \vee \neg N)$



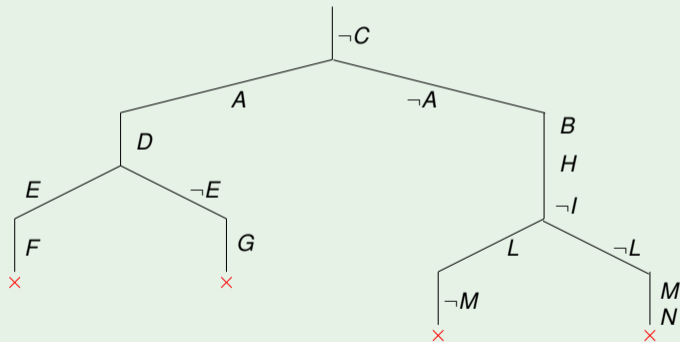
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 $(\neg H \vee \neg I \vee A) \wedge$   
 $(I \vee L \vee M) \wedge$   
 $(\neg L \vee C \vee \neg M) \wedge$   
 $(A \vee \neg L \vee M) \wedge$   
 $(L \vee N \vee \neg H) \wedge$   
 $(I \vee L \vee \neg N)$



$\Rightarrow$  UNSAT

# DPLL – summary

- Handles **CNF formulas** (non-CNF variant known [2, 24]).
- **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 [59, 52, 3, 41].

# Outline

- 1 Boolean Logic and SAT
- 2 **Basic SAT-Solving techniques**
  - Resolution
  - Tableaux
  - DPLL
  - **Stochastic Local Search for SAT**
- 3 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams – OBDDs
- 4 Modern CDCL SAT Solvers
  - Limitations of Chronological Backtracking
  - Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT solvers
  - Further Improvements
  - SAT Under Assumptions & Incremental SAT
- 5 SAT Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization
- 6 Other SAT Topics
  - Tractable subclasses of SAT
  - Random k-SAT and Phase Transition
- 7 Some Applications
  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
  - Appl. #2: Bounded Model Checking

## Stochastic Local Search SAT techniques: GSAT, WSAT [51, 50]

- 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 [51]

```
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) [50]

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

- many variants available [26, 56, 4]

# 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. [30])
- Non-CNF Variants: [48, 49, 5]

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# Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams (OBDDs) [11]

**Canonical** representation of Boolean formulas

- “If-then-else” binary direct acyclic graphs (DAGs) with one root and two leaves: **1**, **0** (or **T**, **⊥**; or **T**, **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**)

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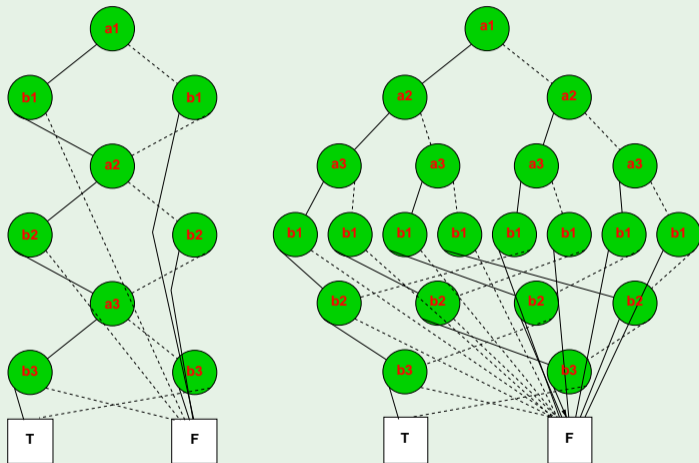
**Canonical** representation of Boolean formulas

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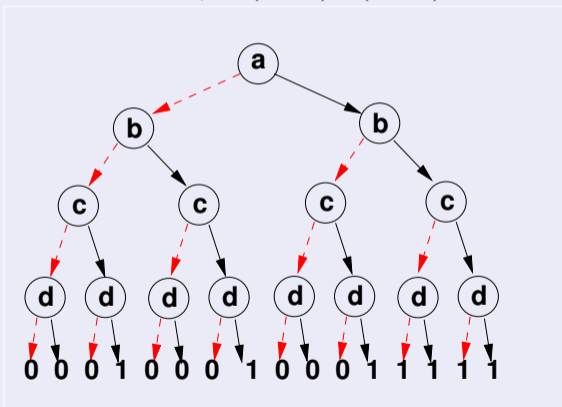
# OBDD - Examples



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  $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)$



# 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  $B$ "  $\implies$  " $B$ "



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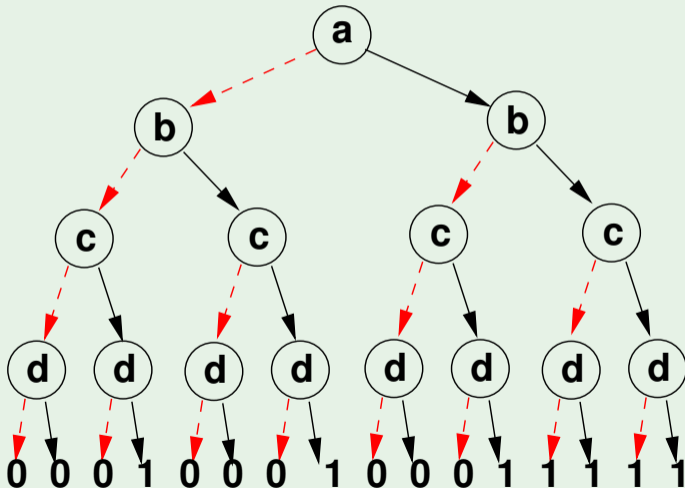
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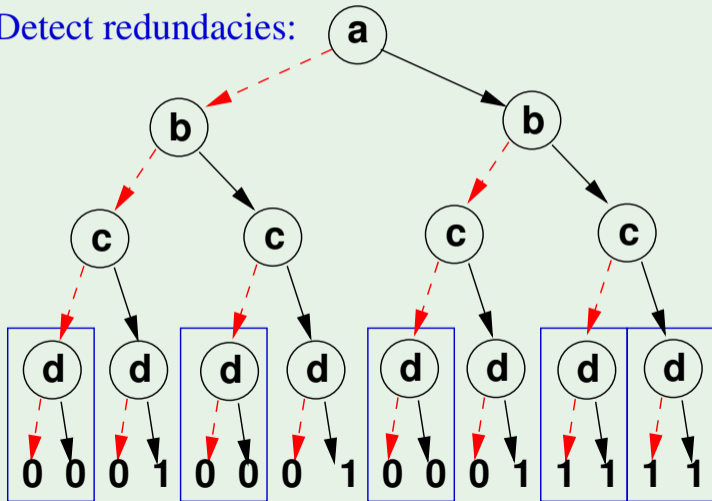
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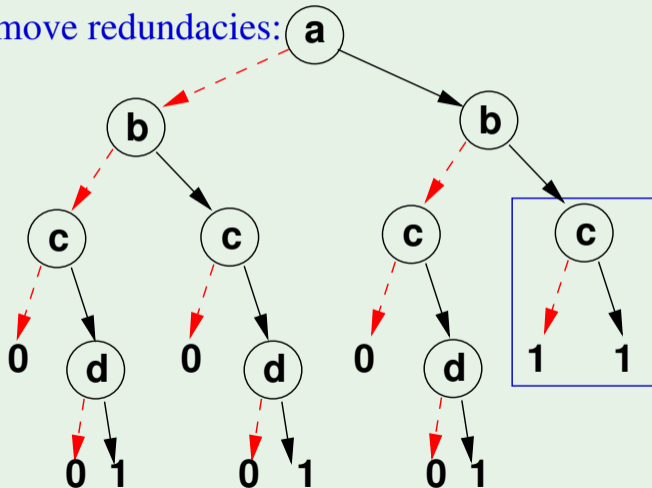
Detect redundancies:



# Reduction: example

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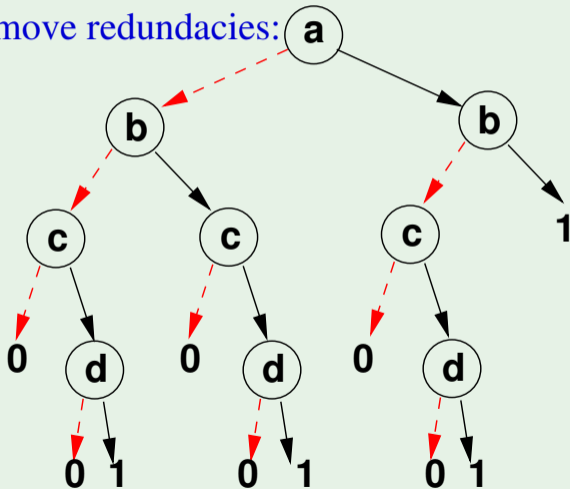
Remove redundancies:



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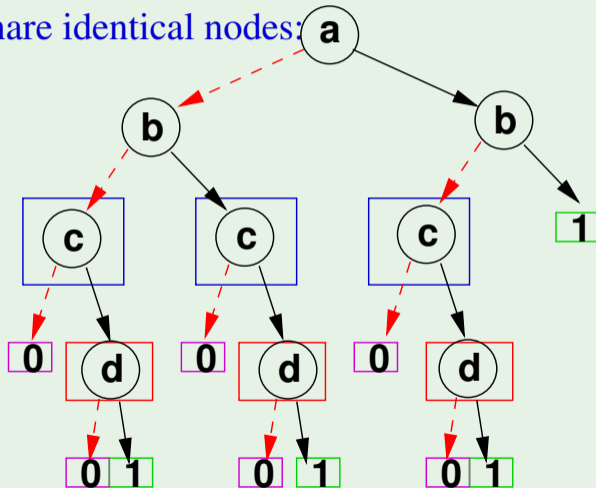
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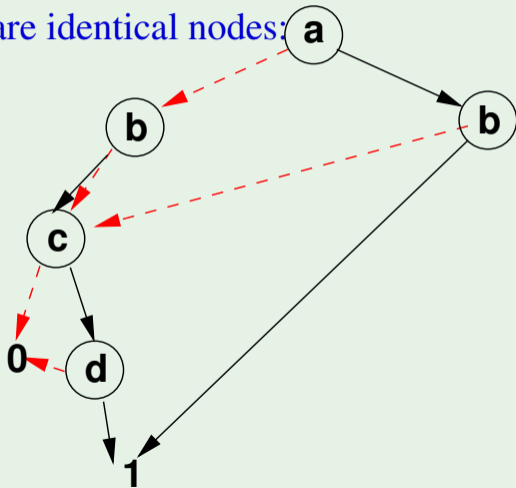
Share identical nodes:



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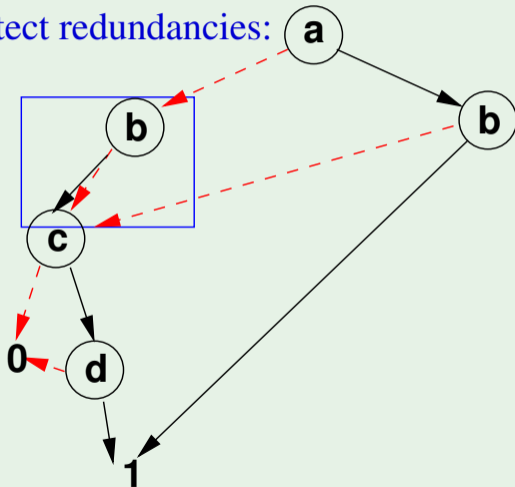




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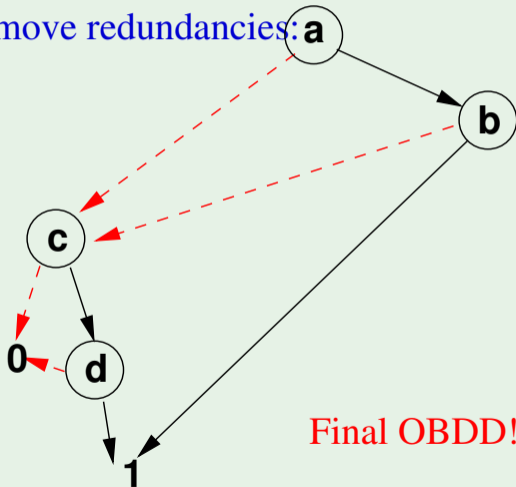
Detect redundancies:



# Reduction: example

$$\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)$$

Remove redundancies: **a**



# If-Then-Else Operators: “*ite*(...)”

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● ***ite*( $\phi, \varphi^T, \varphi^\perp$ ): “If  $\phi$  Then  $\varphi^T$  Else  $\varphi^\perp$ ”**

●  **$ite(\phi, \varphi^T, \varphi^\perp) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ((\neg\phi \vee \varphi^T) \wedge (\phi \vee \varphi^\perp) \iff ((\phi \wedge \varphi^T) \vee (\neg\phi \wedge \varphi^\perp))$**

● properties:

$\neg ite(\phi, \varphi^T, \varphi^\perp)$

$= ite(\phi, \neg\varphi^T, \neg\varphi^\perp)$

$ite(\phi, \varphi_1^T, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } ite(\phi, \varphi_2^T, \varphi_2^\perp) = ite(\phi, (\varphi_1^T \text{ op } \varphi_2^T), (\varphi_1^\perp \text{ op } \varphi_2^\perp))$

$ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^T, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } ite(\phi_2, \varphi_2^T, \varphi_2^\perp) = ite(\phi_1, (\varphi_1^T \text{ op } ite(\phi_2, \varphi_2^T, \varphi_2^\perp)), (\varphi_1^\perp \text{ op } ite(\phi_2, \varphi_2^T, \varphi_2^\perp)))$

$= ite(\phi_2, (ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^T, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } \varphi_2^T), (ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^T, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } \varphi_2^\perp))$

$(ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^T, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } \varphi_2^\perp)$

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

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$$\text{op} \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftarrow, \leftrightarrow, \oplus\}$$



# If-Then-Else Operators: “*ite*(...)”

## If-Then-Else Operators: “*ite*(...)”

- $ite(\phi, \varphi^\top, \varphi^\perp)$ : “If  $\phi$  Then  $\varphi^\top$  Else  $\varphi^\perp$ ”
- $ite(\phi, \varphi^\top, \varphi^\perp) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ((\neg\phi \vee \varphi^\top) \wedge (\phi \vee \varphi^\perp)) \iff ((\phi \wedge \varphi^\top) \vee (\neg\phi \wedge \varphi^\perp))$

- properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \neg ite(\phi, \varphi^\top, \varphi^\perp) &= ite(\phi, \neg\varphi^\top, \neg\varphi^\perp) \\ ite(\phi, \varphi_1^\top, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } ite(\phi, \varphi_2^\top, \varphi_2^\perp) &= ite(\phi, (\varphi_1^\top \text{ op } \varphi_2^\top), (\varphi_1^\perp \text{ op } \varphi_2^\perp)) \\ ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^\top, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } ite(\phi_2, \varphi_2^\top, \varphi_2^\perp) &= ite(\phi_1, (\varphi_1^\top \text{ op } ite(\phi_2, \varphi_2^\top, \varphi_2^\perp)), \\ &\quad (\varphi_1^\perp \text{ op } ite(\phi_2, \varphi_2^\top, \varphi_2^\perp))) \\ &= ite(\phi_2, (ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^\top, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } \varphi_2^\top), \\ &\quad (ite(\phi_1, \varphi_1^\top, \varphi_1^\perp) \text{ op } \varphi_2^\perp)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{op} \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftarrow, \leftrightarrow, \oplus\}$$

# Recursive structure of an OBDD

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

$$\begin{aligned} \text{OBDD}(\top, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) &= 1 \\ \text{OBDD}(\perp, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) &= 0 \\ \text{OBDD}(\varphi, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) &= \begin{aligned} &\text{if } A_1 \\ &\text{then } \text{OBDD}(\varphi[A_1|\top], \{A_2, \dots, A_n\}) \\ &\text{else } \text{OBDD}(\varphi[A_1|\perp], \{A_2, \dots, A_n\}) \end{aligned} \end{aligned}$$

# Incrementally building an OBDD

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

# Incrementally building an OBDD

- $obdd\_build(\top, \{\dots\}) := \top,$
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- $obdd\_build(A_i, \{\dots\}) := ite(A_i, \top, \perp),$
- $obdd\_build((\neg\varphi), \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}) := apply(\neg, obdd\_build(\varphi, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}))$
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   $)$

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

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       $obdd\_build(\varphi_2, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\})$   
     $)$   
   $)$

## Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

- ***apply*** (*op*,  $O_i$ ,  $O_j$ ) := ( $O_i$  *op*  $O_j$ ) **if** ( $O_i \in \{\top, \perp\}$  or  $O_j \in \{\top, \perp\}$ )
- *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*  $\in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftarrow, \leftrightarrow, \oplus\}$



## Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

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

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

## Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

- $apply(op, O_i, O_j) := (O_i op O_j)$  **if**  $(O_i \in \{\top, \perp\}$  or  $O_j \in \{\top, \perp\})$
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# Incrementally building an OBDD: Examples

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

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

- 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:  $A_1, A_2$ ):

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

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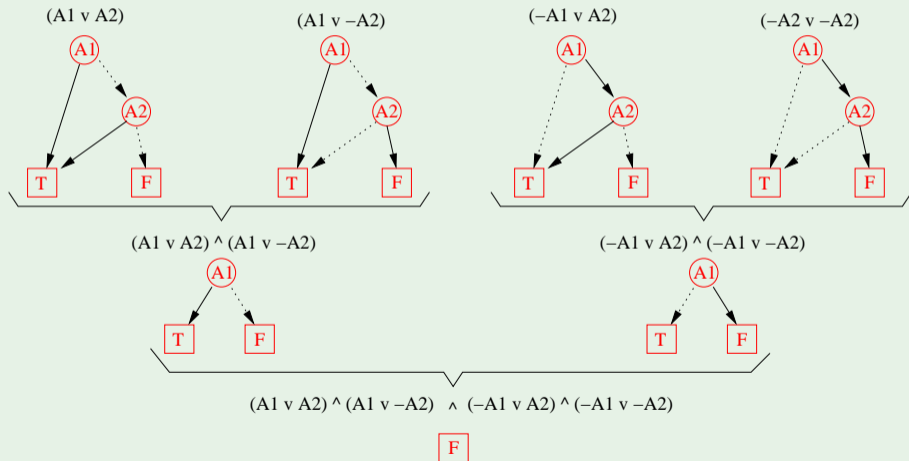
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{apply}(\wedge, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))}^{(A_1 \vee A_2)}, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \top))}^{(A_1 \vee \neg A_2)}), \\ &= \text{ite}(A_1, \text{apply}(\wedge, \top, \top), \text{apply}(\wedge, \text{ite}(A_2,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

## OBBD incremental building – example

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

# 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

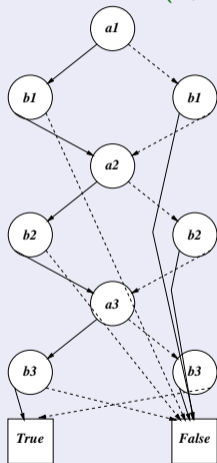
$$(a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_3)$$

Linear size

Exponential size

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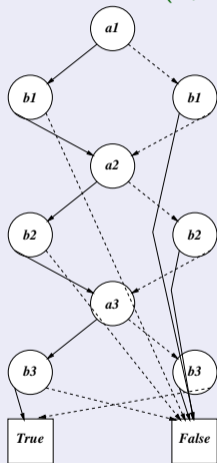
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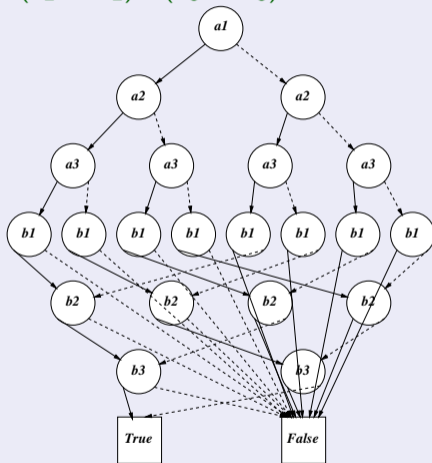


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# OBDD's as canonical representation of Boolean formulas

- 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!**
  - ⇒ validity check requires constant time! ( $\varphi \leftrightarrow \top$ )
  - ⇒ (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
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# 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)

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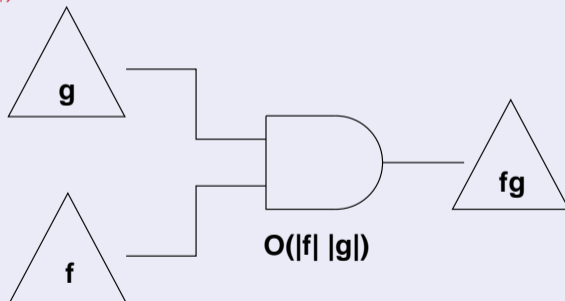
# Useful Operations over OBDDs

- 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:  
 $|f \text{ op } g| = O(|f| \cdot |g|)$

(but typically much smaller on average).

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# [Recall] Boolean Quantification

## Shannon's expansion:

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

$$\exists v.\varphi := \varphi|_{v=\perp} \vee \varphi|_{v=\top}$$

$$\forall v.\varphi := \varphi|_{v=\perp} \wedge \varphi|_{v=\top}$$

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

- Intuition:

- $\mu \models \exists v.\varphi$  iff exists *truthvalue*  $\in \{\top, \perp\}$  s.t.  $\mu \cup \{v := \text{truthvalue}\} \models \varphi$
- $\mu \models \forall v.\varphi$  iff forall *truthvalue*  $\in \{\top, \perp\}$ ,  $\mu \cup \{v := \text{truthvalue}\} \models \varphi$

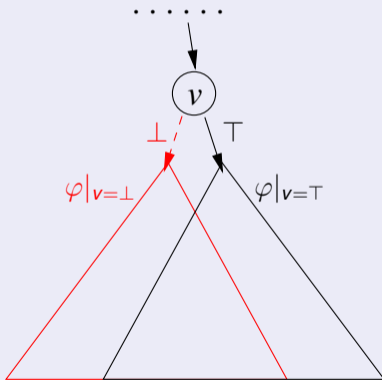
- Example:  $\exists(b, c).((a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)) = a \vee d$

## 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  $\varphi|_{v=T}$  and  $\varphi|_{v=\perp}$  are the “then” and “else” branches of  $f$



⇒ lots of sharing of subformulae!

## Example

Let  $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A \wedge (B \vee C))$  and  $\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. \varphi$ . Using the variable ordering “A, B, C”, draw the OBDD corresponding to the formulas  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$ .

## Example

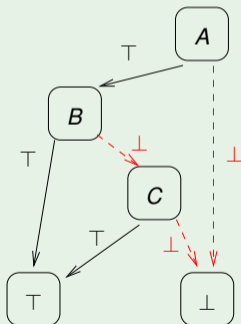
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$$\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A \wedge (B \vee C))$$



## Example (cont.)

$$\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))$$

which corresponds to the following OBDD:



## Example (cont.)

$$\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi' &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. \varphi \\ &= \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C)) [A := \top] \quad \vee \quad (\forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))) [A := \perp] \\ &= \forall B. (B \vee C) \quad \vee \quad \forall B. \perp \\ &= ((B \vee C) [B := \top] \quad \wedge \quad (B \vee C) [B := \perp]) \quad \vee \quad \perp \\ &= (\top \quad \wedge \quad C) \\ &= C \end{aligned}$$

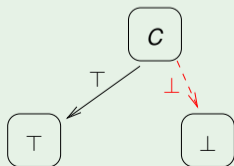
which corresponds to the following OBDD:

## Example (cont.)

$$\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi' &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. \varphi \\ &= \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C)) [A := \top] && \vee (\forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))) [A := \perp] \\ &= \forall B. (B \vee C) && \vee \forall B. \perp \\ &= ((B \vee C) [B := \top]) \wedge (B \vee C) [B := \perp] && \vee \perp \\ &= (\top \wedge C) \\ &= C \end{aligned}$$

which corresponds to the following OBDD:



- **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).

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## DPLL: “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.

## DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Drawbacks

Chronological backtracking always backtracks to the most recent branching point, even though a higher backtrack could be possible

⇒ lots of useless search!

# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

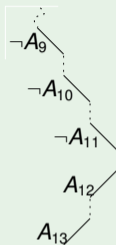
$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...



# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

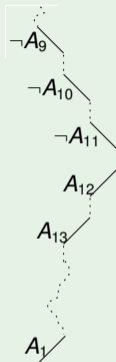
$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$   
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 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$   
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$   
...



$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots\}$   
(initial assignment)

# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

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- $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
- $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$
- $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$
- $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$
- ...



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

# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

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

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

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

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

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

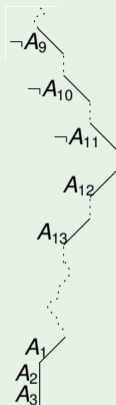
$$C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

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

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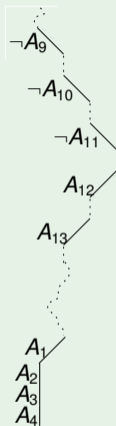
...



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

# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

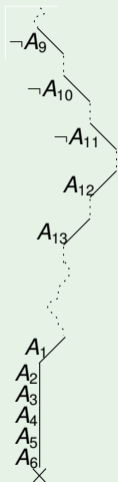
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$
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- ...



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

# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$  ✓
- $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$  ✓
- $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$  ✓
- $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$  ✓
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- $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$  ✗
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- ...

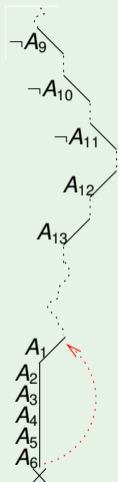


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, \neg A_{12}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6\}$   
(unit  $A_5, A_6$ )  $\implies$  conflict

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...

$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots\}$   
 $\implies$  backtrack up to  $A_1$



# DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

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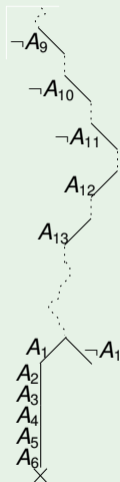
$$C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

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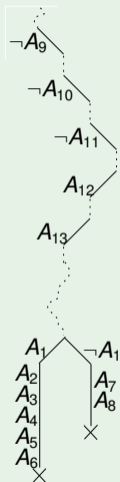
...

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(unit  $\neg A_1$ )



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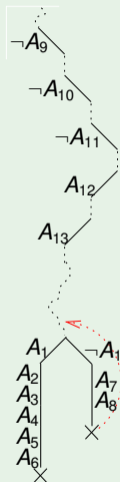


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1, A_7, A_8\}$   
(unit  $A_7, A_8$ )  $\implies$  conflict



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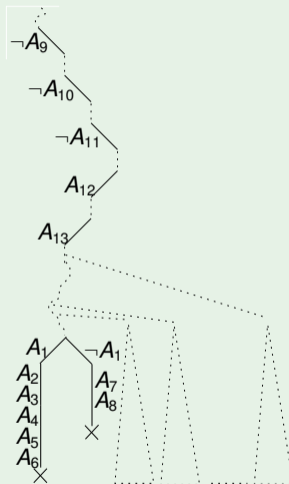
$\implies$  backtrack to the most recent open branching point

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

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



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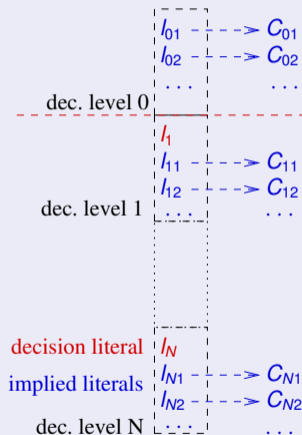
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# Stack-based representation of a truth assignment $\mu$

- 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**

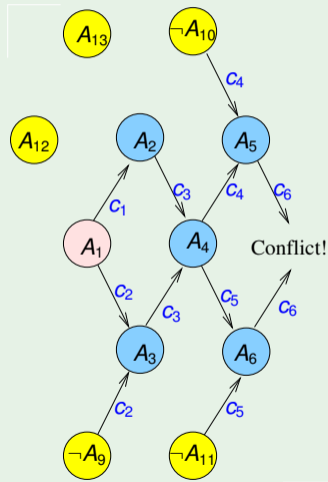
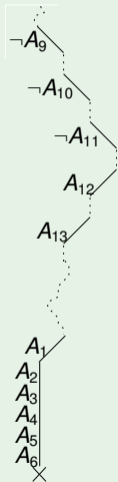


# Implication graph

- An **implication graph** is a DAG s.t.:
  - each node represents a variable assignment (literal)
  - each edge  $l_i \xrightarrow{c} l$  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

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





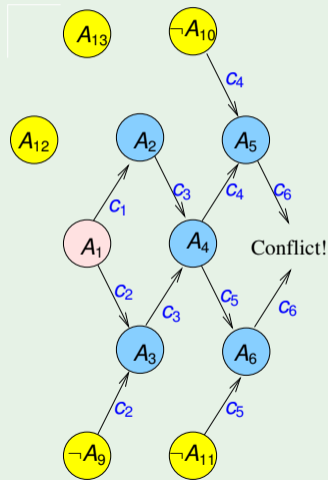
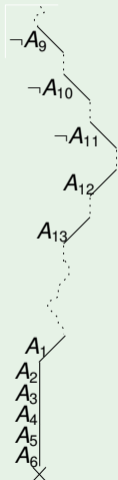
## Unique implication point - UIP [61]

- 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 [52, 62]

```
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 [52, 62] (cont.)

- `preprocess` ( $\varphi, \mu$ ) simplifies  $\varphi$  into an easier equisatisfiable formula, updating  $\mu$ .
- `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-propagations plus others), 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

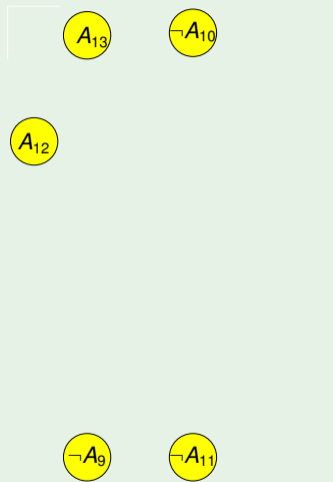
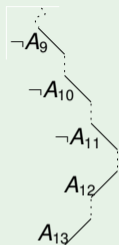
$$C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

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

...

# Example

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

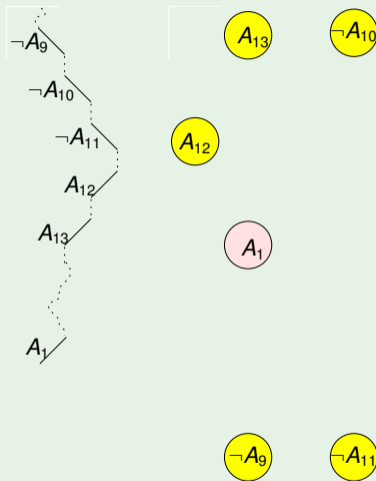


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots\}$

(Initial assignment. Note:  $c_1, \dots, c_9$  inconsistent.)

# Example

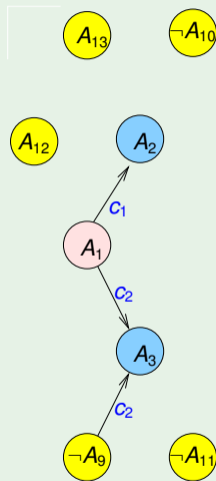
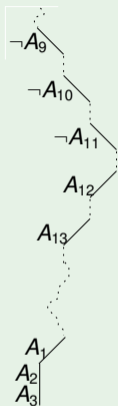
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
- $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$
- $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
- $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$
- $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$
- $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
- $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$
- $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad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



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

# Example

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

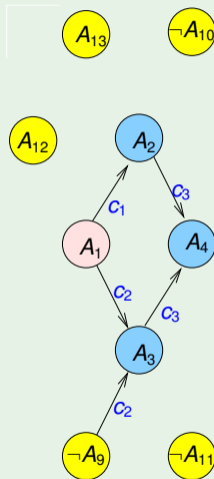
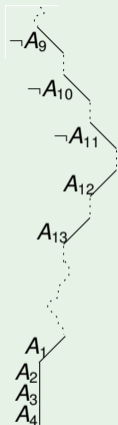


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots, A_1, A_2, A_3\}$   
(unit  $A_2, A_3$ )



# Example

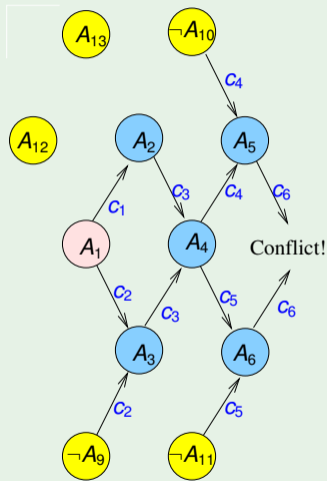
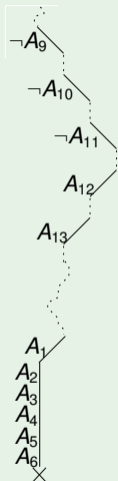
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \checkmark$
- $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \checkmark$
- $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4 \quad \checkmark$
- $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$
- $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$
- $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
- $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg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



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

# Example

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



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

## Backjumping and learning: general ideas [3, 52]

- 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 [52]
  - the state-of-the-art 1<sup>st</sup>UIP strategy of [61]

# 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

1.  $C :=$  falsified clause (**conflicting clause**)
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 until  $C$  verifies some given termination criteria

critierium: **1st UIP**

... until  $C$  contains only one literal assigned at current decision level (**1st UIP**)

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \\
 \hline
 \underbrace{\neg A_4}_{\text{1st UIP}} \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{r}
 \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11} \\
 \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_5 \vee A_{11} \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11} \quad \overbrace{\neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6}^{\text{Conflicting cl.}} \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_5 \vee A_{11} \quad (A_5) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \quad \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_5 \vee A_{11} \quad (A_6)
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

# 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

## Note:

$\varphi \models C$ , so that  $C$  can be safely added to  $\varphi$ .

## Note:

Equivalent to finding a partition in the implication graph of  $\mu$  with all decision literals on one side and the conflict on the other.



# Conflict analysis

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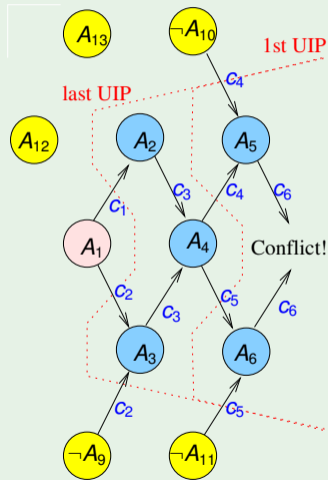
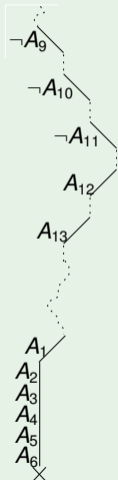
Equivalent to finding a partition in the implication graph of  $\mu$  with all decision literals on one side and the conflict on the other.

# 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

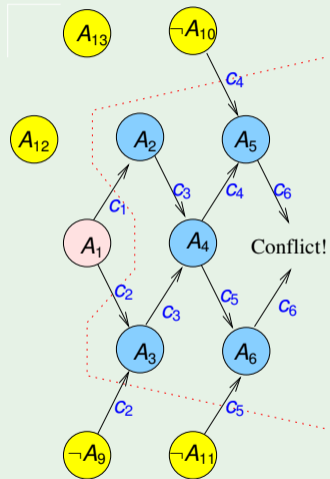
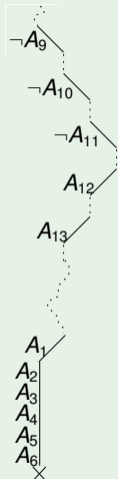


# The original backjumping and learning strategy of [52]

- 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

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

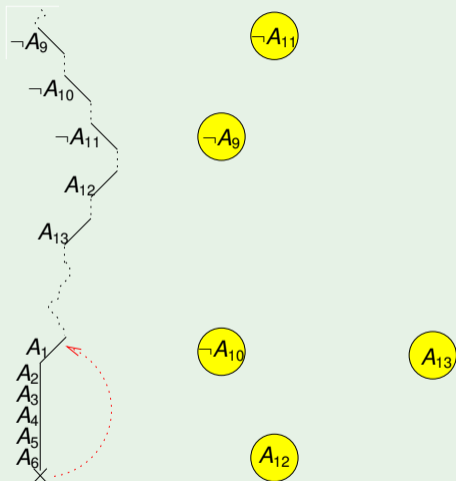


- ⇒ Conflict set:  $\{\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_1\}$  ("decision" schema)
- ⇒ learn the conflict clause  $c_{10} := A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$

# The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

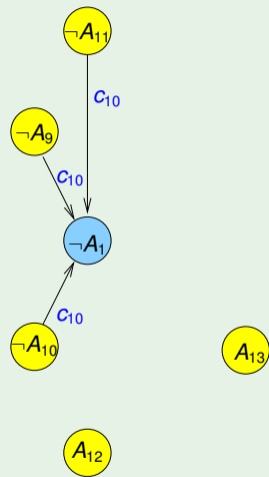
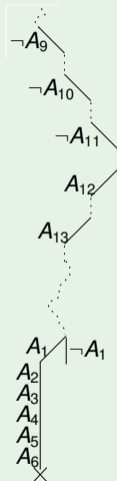
$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}, \dots\}$   
 $\implies$  backtrack up to  $A_1$



# The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

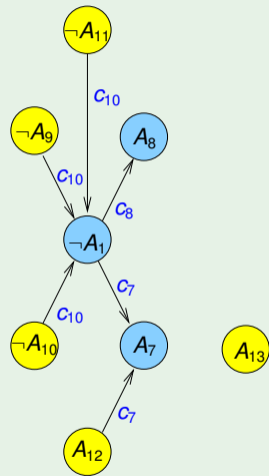
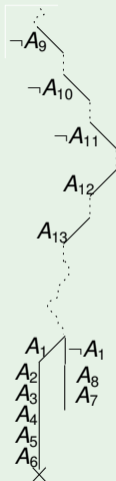
{ ...,  $\neg A_9$ ,  $\neg A_{10}$ ,  $\neg A_{11}$ ,  $A_{12}$ ,  $A_{13}$ , ...,  $\neg A_1$  }  
 (unit  $\neg A_1$ )



# The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

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



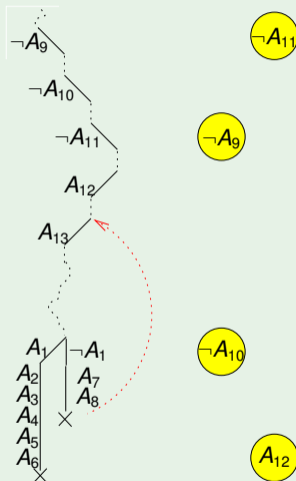






# The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

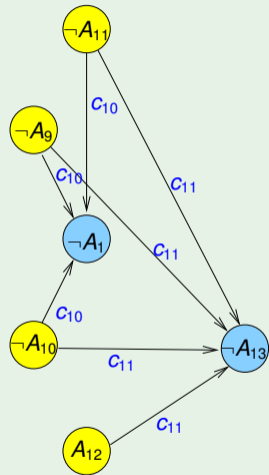
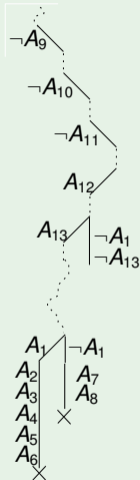
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
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- $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
- $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$
- $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$
- $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$
- $C_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$
- $C_{11} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_{12} \vee \neg A_{13}$
- ...



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

# The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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



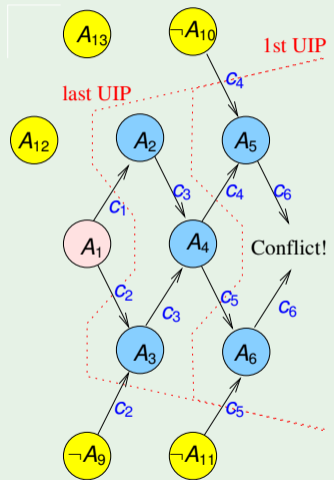
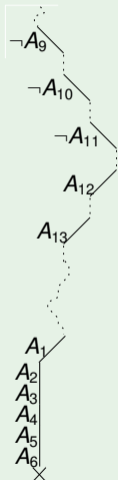
⇒ backtrack to  $A_{13}$ , then set  $A_{13}$  and  $A_1$  to  $\perp$ ,...

# State-of-the-art backjumping and learning [61]

- 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)

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



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

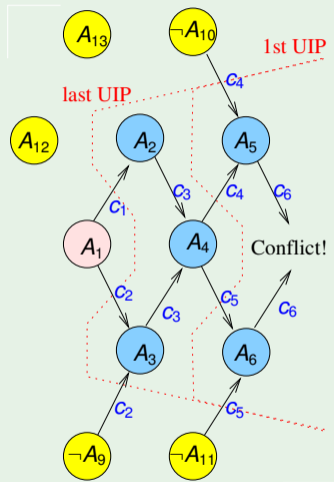
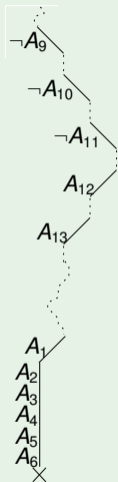
# 1st UIP strategy and backjumping [61]

- 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)

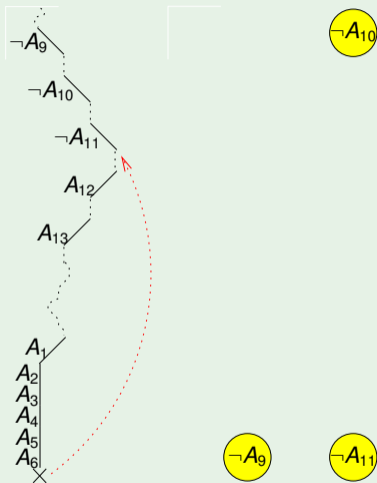
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- ...



⇒ 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)

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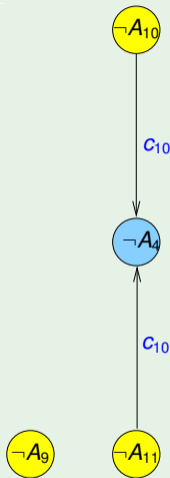
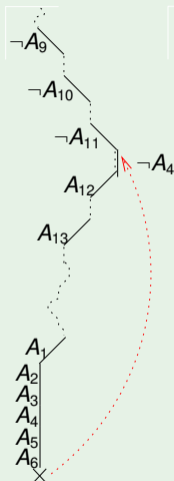


$\Rightarrow$  backtrack up to  $A_{11} \Rightarrow \{\dots, \neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}\}$



# 1st UIP strategy – example (9)

- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
- $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$
- $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
- $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \quad \checkmark$
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- ...



$\Rightarrow$  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 [3, 52]

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

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

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

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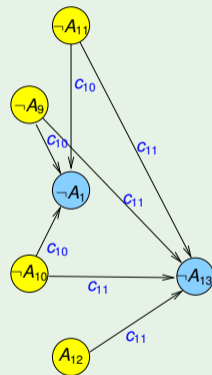
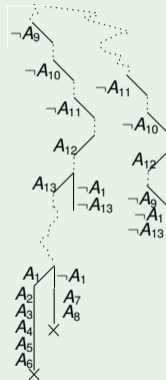
$$C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13} \quad \checkmark$$

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

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

...

⇒ 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).

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# Drawbacks of Learning & Clause discharging

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

## Property (see, e.g., [43])

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

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# 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:
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## 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., [3, 52, 61])



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# Preprocessing/Inprocessing

- Part of `preprocess()` and `deduce()` steps respectively
- Simplify current formula into an equivalently-satisfiable one
- Must be fast (in particular inprocessing)
- Some techniques:
  - detect and remove subsumed clauses
  - detect & collapse equivalent literals
  - apply basic resolution steps
  - ...

## Preprocessing/Inprocessing (cont.)

Detect and remove subsumed clauses:

$$\varphi_1 \wedge (b_2 \vee h_1) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge (b_2 \vee b_3 \vee h_1) \wedge \varphi_3$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$\varphi_1 \wedge (h_1 \vee b_2) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3$$

# Preprocessing/Inprocessing (cont.)

Detect & collapse equivalent literals [10]

## 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:

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi_1 \wedge (\neg l_2 \vee l_1) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge (\neg l_3 \vee l_2) \wedge \varphi_3 \wedge (\neg l_1 \vee l_3) \wedge \varphi_4 \\ & \quad \downarrow_{l_1 \leftrightarrow l_2 \leftrightarrow l_3} \\ & (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3 \wedge \varphi_4)[l_2 \leftarrow l_1; l_3 \leftarrow l_1;] \end{aligned}$$

- Very effective in many application domains.

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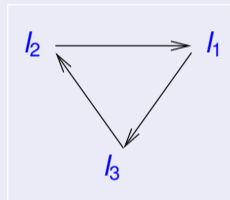
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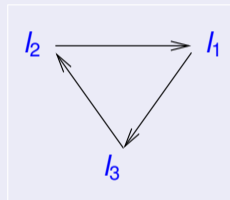
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## Preprocessing/Inprocessing (cont.)

Apply some basic steps of resolution (and simplify)

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

$\Downarrow$  *resolve*

$$\varphi_1 \wedge (l_2) \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3$$

$\Downarrow$  *unit-propagate*

$$(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3)[l_2 \leftarrow \top]$$

# Literal-Decision Heuristics (aka Branching Heuristics)

- Implemented in `decide_next_branch()`
- **Branch** is the source of non-determinism for DPLL  
⇒ critical for efficiency
- Many literal-decision heuristics in literature (for DPLL & CDCL)

# Some Heuristics

- **MOMS** heuristics (DPLL): pick the literal occurring **most** often in the **minimal** size clauses  
⇒ fast and simple, many variants
- **Jeroslow-Wang** (DPLL): 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** [32] (DPLL): selects a candidate set of literals, perform unit propagation, chooses the one leading to smaller clause set  
⇒ maximizes the effects of unit propagation
- **VSIDS** [41] (CDCL+): **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 [25]

Idea: (according to some strategy) restart the search

- 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
  - avoid getting stuck in certain areas of the search space
- ⇒ may significantly reduce the overall search space

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# SAT under assumptions: $SAT(\varphi, \{l_1, \dots, l_n\})$ [17]

- 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:  $SAT(\varphi, \mathcal{A}_1)$ ,  $SAT(\varphi, \mathcal{A}_2)$ , ...
- Idea:
  - $l_1, \dots, l_n$  “decided” at decision level 0 before starting the search
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# Selection of sub-formulas

Idea: select clauses [17, 34]

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- let  $S_1 \dots S_n$  be fresh Boolean atoms (selection variables).

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$\implies \text{SAT}(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n (\neg S_i \vee C_i), \mathcal{A})$ : same as  $\text{SAT}(\bigwedge_{i=i_1}^{i_k} (C_i))$

- if  $S_i$  is not assumed, then  $\neg S_i \vee C_i$  does not contribute to search

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# Example

- Initial formula  $\varphi$ :

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$(\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_5) \wedge$  // group 1

$(A_2 \vee A_5 \vee A_7) \wedge$  // group 2

$(A_3 \vee A_5 \vee \neg A_8) \wedge$  // group 2

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- Very useful in many applications (in particular in FV)

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# Example

- Initial formula  $\varphi$ :

$$\begin{array}{l} \dots \\ (A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \neg A_3) \wedge // \phi_1 \\ (\neg A_3 \vee \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_5) \wedge // \phi_1 \end{array}$$

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# Outline

- 1 Boolean Logic and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving techniques
  - Resolution
  - Tableaux
  - DPLL
  - Stochastic Local Search for SAT
- 3 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams – OBDDs
- 4 Modern CDCL SAT Solvers
  - Limitations of Chronological Backtracking
  - Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT solvers
  - Further Improvements
  - SAT Under Assumptions & Incremental SAT
- 5 SAT Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization**
- 6 Other SAT Topics
  - Tractable subclasses of SAT
  - Random k-SAT and Phase Transition
- 7 Some Applications
  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
  - Appl. #2: Bounded Model Checking

# Advanced functionalities

Advanced SAT functionalities (very important in formal verification):

- Building **proofs of unsatisfiability**
- Extracting **unsatisfiable Cores**
- Computing **Craig Interpolants**
- Enumeration in SAT: **AIISAT** (hints)
- Optimization in SAT: **MaxSAT** (hints)

# Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

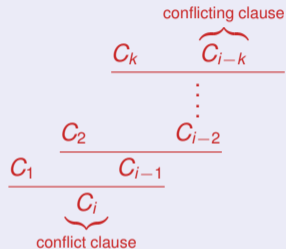
- When  $\varphi$  is unsat, it is very important to build a (resolution) proof of unsatisfiability:
  - to verify the result of the solver
  - to understand a “reason” for unsatisfiability
  - to build unsatisfiable cores and interpolants
- Can be built by keeping track of the resolution steps performed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

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# 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 either original or learned clauses
- each resolution (sub)proof can be easily tracked:

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

$\dots$

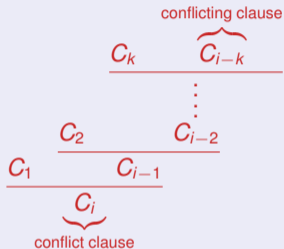
$2 \quad i-2 \quad \rightarrow \quad i-1$

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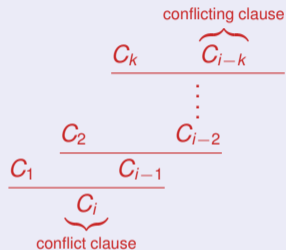
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# Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

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

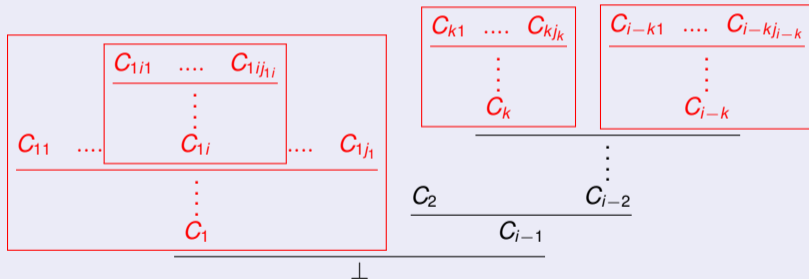
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{conflicting clause} \\ C_k \quad \overbrace{C_{i-k}} \\ \hline \vdots \\ C_2 \quad C_{i-2} \\ \hline C_1 \quad C_{i-1} \\ \hline \perp \end{array}$$

- 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:

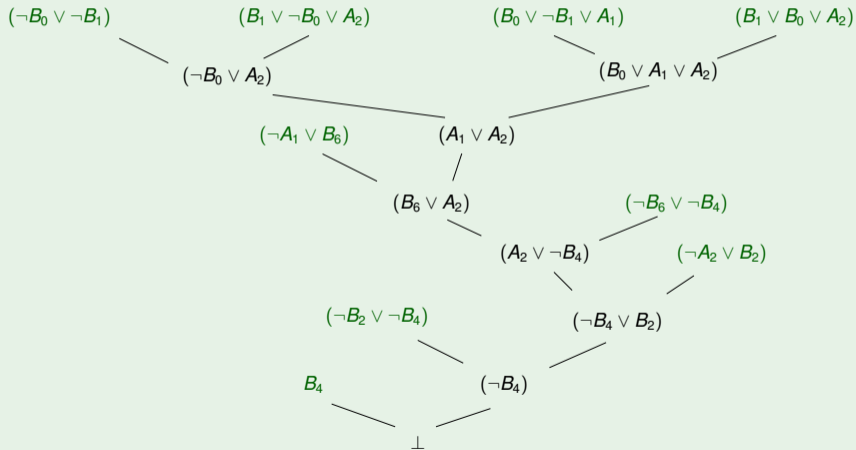
- for every **learned** leaf clause  $C_i$ , substitute  $C_i$  with the resolution proof generating it until all leaf clauses are original clauses



$\Rightarrow$  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 [63, 35, 37, 44, 60, 27, 21, 9]
- We recognize two main approaches:
  - **Proof-based** approach [63]: byproduct of finding a resolution proof
  - **Assumption-based** approach [35]: 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 assumption-based approach to core extraction [35]

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!



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# The assumption-based approach to core extraction

## Example

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

(i) add selector variables:

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

(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:

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# The assumption-based approach to core extraction

## Example

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# Computing Craig Interpolants in SAT

Notation: 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.:

- $A \models I$ ,
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- Very important in many Formal Verification applications
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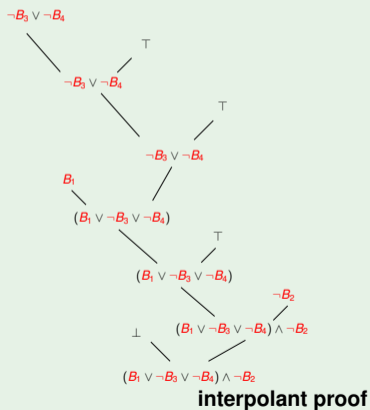
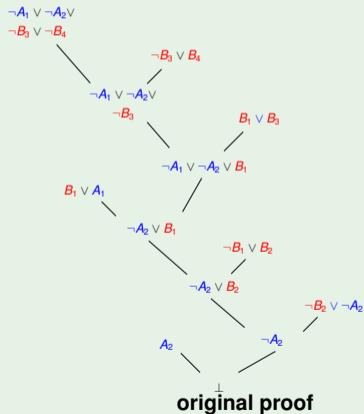
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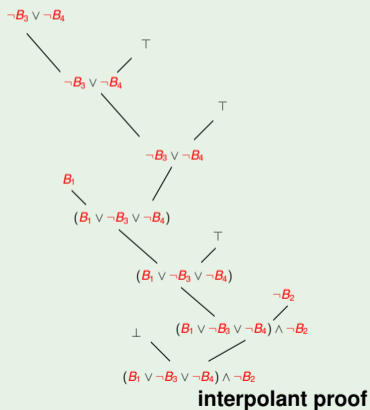
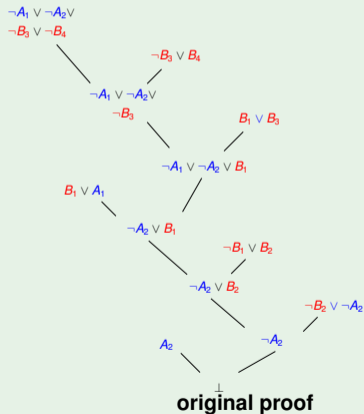


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# All-SAT (hints)

- **All-SAT**: enumerate all truth assignments satisfying  $\varphi$
- **All-SAT over an “important” subset of atoms  $\mathbf{P} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{P_i\}_i$** : enumerate all assignments over  $\mathbf{P}$  which can be extended to satisfiable truth assignments propositionally satisfying  $\varphi$
- **Algorithms**
  - **BCLT [Lahiri et al, CAV'06]**:  
each time a satisfiable assignment  $\{l_1, \dots, l_n\}$  is found, perform conflict-driven backjumping as if the restricted clause  $(\bigvee_i \neg l_i) \downarrow \mathbf{P}$  belonged to the clause set
  - **MathSAT/NuSMV [Cavada et al, FMCAD'07]**:  
As above, plus the Boolean search of the SAT solver is driven by an OBDD.



# 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  $\varphi_s$ .
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- Generalization of SAT to **optimization**  
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  - Resolution
  - Tableaux
  - DPLL
  - Stochastic Local Search for SAT
- 3 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams – OBDDs
- 4 Modern CDCL SAT Solvers
  - Limitations of Chronological Backtracking
  - Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT solvers
  - Further Improvements
  - SAT Under Assumptions & Incremental SAT
- 5 SAT Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization
- 6 Other SAT Topics**
  - Tractable subclasses of SAT
  - Random k-SAT and Phase Transition
- 7 Some Applications
  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
  - Appl. #2: Bounded Model Checking

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- 6 Other SAT Topics**
  - Tractable subclasses of SAT**
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  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
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# 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

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

# Tractability of Horn Formulas

## Property

Checking the satisfiability of Horn formulas requires polynomial time:

- Hint:
  - Eliminate unit clauses by propagating their value;
  - If an empty clause is generated, return unsat
  - Otherwise, every clause contains at least one negative literal

⇒ Assign all variables to  $\perp$ ; return the assignment
- Alternatively: run DPLL/CDCL, selecting negative literals first

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  - 3 Otherwise, every clause contains at least one negative literal

⇒ Assign all variables to  $\perp$ ; return the assignment
- Alternatively: run DPLL/CDCL, selecting negative literals first



# 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

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

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



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$$\begin{array}{l} A_1 \quad \vee \neg A_2 \\ A_2 \quad \vee \neg A_5 \quad \vee \neg A_4 \\ A_4 \quad \vee \neg A_3 \\ A_3 \end{array}$$
$$\mu := \{A_3 := \top, A_4 := \top\}$$

## 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.

$$A_1 \vee \neg A_2$$

$$A_2 \vee \neg A_3$$

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

$$A_3 \vee \neg A_1$$

$$A_5$$

- SAT with 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**

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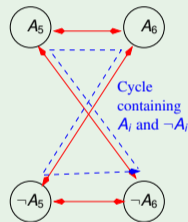
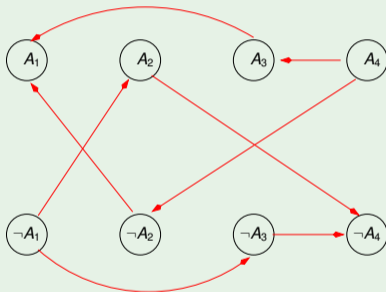
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# Example:

$A_1 \vee A_2$   
 $A_1 \vee \neg A_3$   
 $\neg A_2 \vee \neg A_4$   
 $A_3 \vee \neg A_4$   
 $A_4$   
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 $A_5 \vee A_6$   
 $A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
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# 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.  $(\neg I \vee C) \in \varphi$   
 $\Rightarrow \varphi \neq \varphi' \wedge \varphi''$  and  $\varphi' \models \perp \not\Rightarrow \varphi \models \perp$   
 $\Rightarrow$  we must check also  $\varphi \wedge \neg I$
- **Case  $\varphi$  is 2-CNF: Yes!**
  - there cannot be clause  $C \in \varphi'$  s.t.  $(\neg I \vee C) \in \varphi$   
 $\Rightarrow \varphi = \varphi' \wedge \varphi''$  and  $\varphi' \models \perp \Rightarrow \varphi \models \perp$   
 $\Rightarrow \varphi$  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).

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 $\Rightarrow \varphi$  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

$$A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$A_1 \vee \neg A_3$$

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

$$A_3 \vee \neg A_4$$

$$A_4$$

$$\neg A_5 \vee A_6$$

$$A_5 \vee A_6$$

$$A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

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

# Example

$$\begin{aligned} & A_1 \vee A_2 \\ & A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \\ \neg A_2 & \vee \neg A_4 \\ & A_3 \vee \neg A_4 \\ & A_4 \\ \neg A_5 & \vee A_6 \\ & A_5 \vee A_6 \\ & A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \\ \neg A_5 & \vee \neg A_6 \end{aligned}$$

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



# Example

$$A_1 \vee A_2$$

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$$A_4$$

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

# Example

$A_1 \vee A_2$   
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 $A_5 \vee A_6 \quad \times$   
 $A_5 \vee \neg A_6$   
 $\neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$

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

# Example

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

# Example

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

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

## Example 2

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

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

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



## Example 2

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

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

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## Example 2

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

# Outline

- 1 Boolean Logic and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving techniques
  - Resolution
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  - Stochastic Local Search for SAT
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# The satisfiability of k-CNF (k-SAT) [19]

- **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:

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

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- 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;

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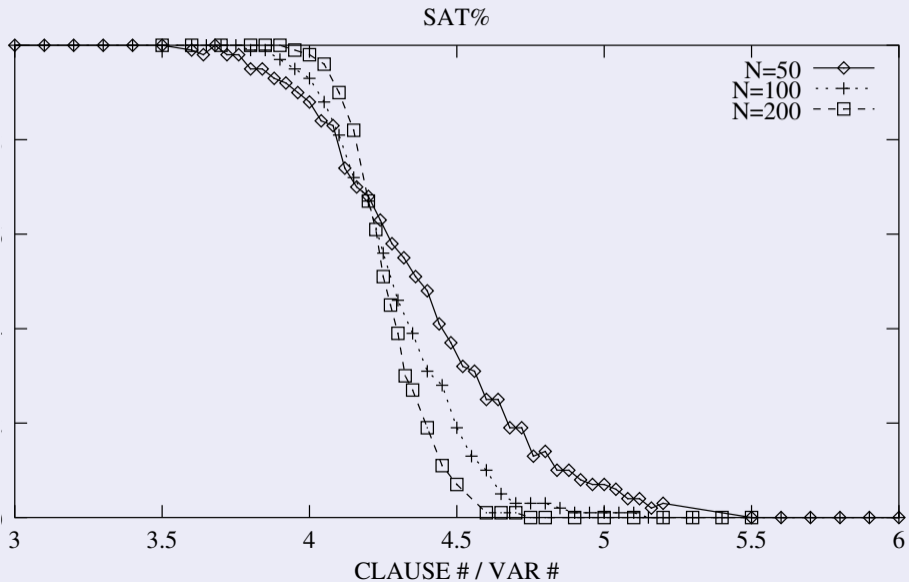
# Random k-SAT plots

- 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 [39, 31]

- 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 [57, 20, 31, 15, 40]
- Strong relation with Thermodynamics

# The phase transition phenomenon: SAT % Plots /cont.) [39, 31]



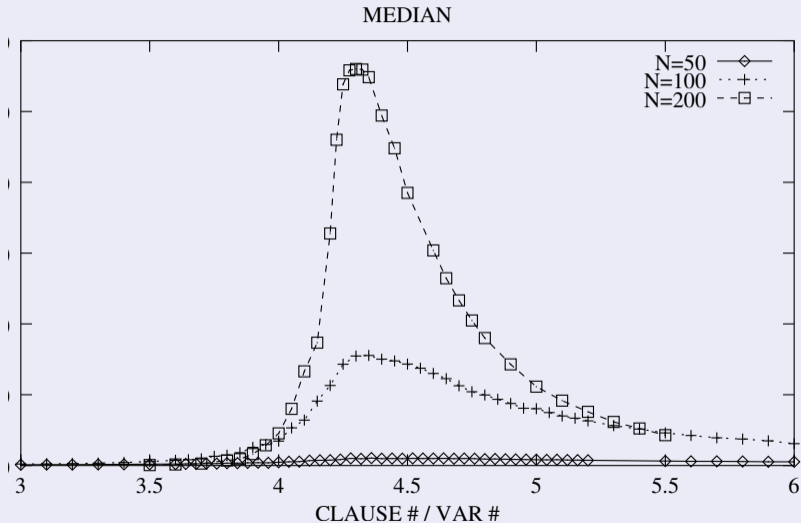
# The phase transition phenomenon: CPU times/step #

Using search algorithms (DPLL):

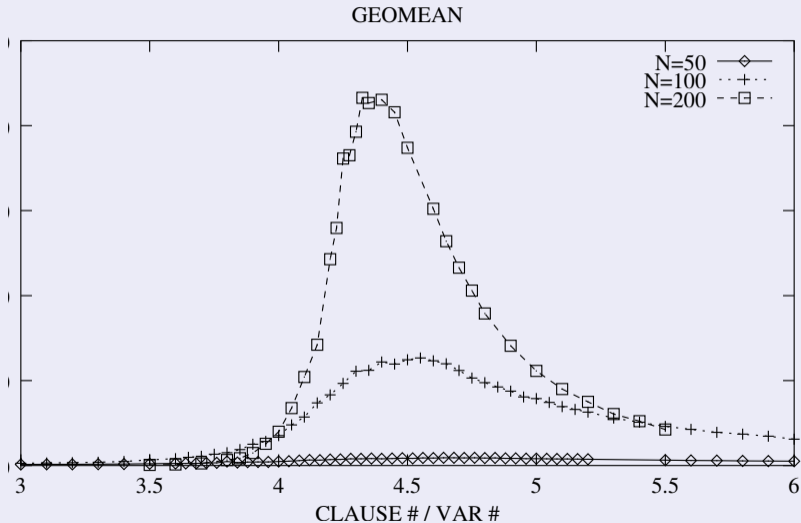
- Increasing  $L/N$  we pass from **easy** problems, to **very hard** problems down to **hard** problems
- the peak is centered in the **50% satisfiable** point
- the decay becomes **steeper** with  $N$
- for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , the plot converges to an impulse in the **cross-over point** ( $L/N \approx 4.28$  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**.



# The phase transition phenomenon: CPU times/step # (cont.)



# The phase transition phenomenon: CPU times/step # (cont.)



# Outline

- 1 Boolean Logic and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving techniques
  - Resolution
  - Tableaux
  - DPLL
  - Stochastic Local Search for SAT
- 3 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams – OBDDs
- 4 Modern CDCL SAT Solvers
  - Limitations of Chronological Backtracking
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  - Further Improvements
  - SAT Under Assumptions & Incremental SAT
- 5 SAT Functionalities: proofs, unsat cores, interpolants, optimization
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  - Appl. #1: (Bounded) Planning
  - Appl. #2: Bounded Model Checking

# 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.

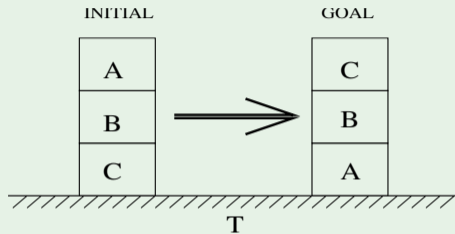
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## The problem [29, 28, 46]

- 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

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

# 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 [28, 18]
- customizations of SAT solvers [22].

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# The problem [7, 6]

## 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  $h\mathbf{R}g$ ,  
**X, G, F, U, R** “next”, “globally”, “eventually”, “until” and “releases”
- an integer  $k$  (bound)

## Problem:

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

$$M \models_k f$$

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## Problem:

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

$$M \models_k \mathbf{f}$$

# 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 [7, 1, 54, 58, 12]

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The list of references above is by no means intended to be all-inclusive. The author of these slides apologizes both with the authors and with the readers for all the relevant works which are not cited here.

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

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Related web sites:

- **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>
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