

Automated Reasoning and Formal Verification

Module I: Automated Reasoning

Ch. 01: **Propositional Satisfiability (SAT)**

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- 1 Boolean Logics and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving Techniques
 - Generalities
 - Resolution
 - Tableaux
 - DPLL
- 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, optimization

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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 φ_1 and φ_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**(φ): the set $\{A_1, \dots, A_N\}$ of atoms occurring in φ .
 - 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

α	β	$\neg\alpha$	$\alpha\wedge\beta$	$\alpha\vee\beta$	$\alpha\rightarrow\beta$	$\alpha\leftarrow\beta$	$\alpha\leftrightarrow\beta$	$\alpha\oplus\beta$
$\perp$	$\perp$	T	$\perp$	$\perp$	T	T	T	$\perp$
$\perp$	T	T	$\perp$	T	T	$\perp$	$\perp$	T
T	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	T	$\perp$	T	$\perp$	T
T	T	$\perp$	T	T	T	T	T	$\perp$

English meaning of connectives

English	Logic
A and B	$A \wedge B$
A if B A when B A whenever B	$A \leftarrow B$
if A, then B A implies B A forces B A requires B	$A \rightarrow B$
A precisely when B A if and only if B	$A \leftrightarrow B$
A or B (or both) A unless B	$A \vee B$ (logical or)
either A or B (but not both)	$A \oplus B$ (exclusive or)

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:

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

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

Equivalences with Boolean Operators

$\neg\neg\alpha$	$\iff$	α
$(\alpha \vee \beta)$	$\iff$	$\neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$
$\neg(\alpha \vee \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$
$(\alpha \wedge \beta)$	$\iff$	$\neg(\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$
$\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$
$(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \vee \beta)$
$\neg(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$
$(\alpha \leftarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$
$\neg(\alpha \leftarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \wedge \beta)$
$(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge (\alpha \leftarrow \beta))$
	$\iff$	$((\neg\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \neg\beta))$
$\neg(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta)$
	$\iff$	$(\alpha \leftrightarrow \neg\beta)$
	$\iff$	$((\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta))$
$(\alpha \oplus \beta)$	$\iff$	$\neg(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta)$

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

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$(\alpha \wedge \beta)$	$\iff$	$\neg(\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$
$\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$
$(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \vee \beta)$
$\neg(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$
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$\neg(\alpha \leftarrow \beta)$	$\iff$	$(\neg\alpha \wedge \beta)$
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$(\alpha \oplus \beta)$	$\iff$	$\neg(\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta)$

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

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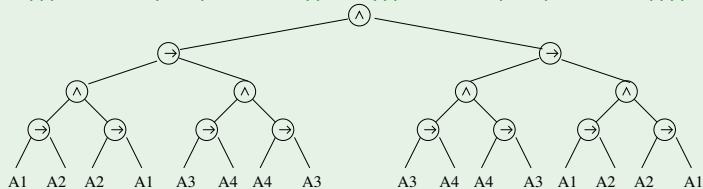
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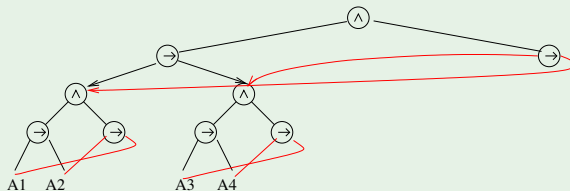
$$\begin{aligned} & (A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2) \leftrightarrow (A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4) \\ & \Downarrow \\ & (((A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2) \rightarrow (A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4)) \wedge \\ & ((A_3 \leftrightarrow A_4) \rightarrow (A_1 \leftrightarrow A_2))) \\ & \Downarrow \\ & (((A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge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

Tree & 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** μ for φ :
 $\mu : \text{Atoms}(\varphi) \mapsto \{\top, \perp\}$.
 - represents a **possible world** or a **possible state of the world**
- **Partial Truth assignment** μ for φ :
 $\mu : \mathcal{A} \mapsto \{\top, \perp\}, \mathcal{A} \subset \text{Atoms}(\varphi)$.
 - represents 2^k total assignments, k is # unassigned variables
- **Notation: set and formula representations of an assignment**
 - μ can be represented **as a set of literals**:
EX: $\{\mu(A_1) := \top, \mu(A_2) := \perp\} \implies \{A_1, \neg A_2\}$
 - μ 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 μ **satisfies** φ (μ is a model of φ , $\mu \models \varphi$):

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- A **partial** truth assignment μ **satisfies** φ iff all total assignments extending μ satisfy φ
 - Ex: $\{A_1\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$ because both $\{A_1, A_2\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$ and $\{A_1, \neg A_2\} \models (A_1 \vee A_2)$
- φ is **satisfiable** iff $\mu \models \varphi$ for some μ (i.e. $M(\varphi) \neq \emptyset$)
- α **entails** β ($\alpha \models \beta$): $\alpha \models \beta$ iff $\mu \models \alpha \implies \mu \models \beta$ for all μ s (i.e., $M(\alpha) \subseteq M(\beta)$)
- φ is **valid** ($\models \varphi$): $\models \varphi$ iff $\mu \models \varphi$ for all μ s (i.e., $\mu \in M(\varphi)$ for all μ s)

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Properties & Results

Property

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

Deduction Theorem

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

Corollary

$\alpha \models \beta$ iff $\alpha \wedge \neg\beta$ is not satisfiable

Validity and entailment checking can be straightforwardly reduced to (un)satisfiability checking!

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Equivalence and Equi-Satisfiability

- α and β are **equivalent** iff, for every μ , $\mu \models \alpha$ iff $\mu \models \beta$
(i.e., if $M(\alpha) = M(\beta)$)
- α and β are **equi-satisfiable** iff exists μ_1 s.t. $\mu_1 \models \alpha$ iff exists μ_2 s.t. $\mu_2 \models \beta$
(i.e., if $M(\alpha) \neq \emptyset$ iff $M(\beta) \neq \emptyset$)
- α, β equivalent
 $\Downarrow \nleftrightarrow$
 α, β 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 β is the result of applying some transformation T to α : $\beta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T(\alpha)$:
 - T is **validity-preserving** [resp. **satisfiability-preserving**] iff
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Equivalence and Equi-Satisfiability

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(i.e., if $M(\alpha) = M(\beta)$)
- α and β are **equi-satisfiable** iff exists μ_1 s.t. $\mu_1 \models \alpha$ iff exists μ_2 s.t. $\mu_2 \models \beta$
(i.e., if $M(\alpha) \neq \emptyset$ iff $M(\beta) \neq \emptyset$)
- α, β equivalent
 $\Downarrow \nleftrightarrow$
 α, β 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 β is the result of applying some transformation T to α : $\beta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T(\alpha)$:
 - T is **validity-preserving** [resp. **satisfiability-preserving**] iff
 $T(\alpha)$ and α are equivalent [resp. equi-satisfiable]

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:

$\exists v. \varphi \models \exists v. \varphi$ if some valuation $v \in \{T, F\}$ s.t. $\mu \cup \{v = \text{valuation}\} \models \varphi$

$\forall v. \varphi \models \forall v. \varphi$ if all valuations $v \in \{T, F\}$, $\mu \cup \{v = \text{valuation}\} \models \varphi$

- 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

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$\exists v. \varphi$ means $\exists$ some instance $v \in \{\top, \perp\}$ s.t. $\varphi|_{v=\text{instance}} \models \varphi$

$\forall v. \varphi$ means $\forall$ all instance $v \in \{\top, \perp\}$, $\varphi|_{v=\text{instance}} \models \varphi$

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• Intuition:

$\exists v.\varphi = \text{true}$ if some instance $v \in \{\top, \perp\}$ of $\varphi|_{v=\text{instance}}$ is true
 $\forall v.\varphi = \text{true}$ if all instances $v \in \{\top, \perp\}$ of $\varphi|_{v=\text{instance}}$ are true

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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**

- φ occurs positively in φ ;
- if $\neg\varphi_1$ occurs positively [negatively] in φ ,
then φ_1 occurs negatively [positively] in φ
- if $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ or $\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$ occur positively [negatively] in φ ,
then φ_1 and φ_2 occur positively [negatively] in φ ;
- if $\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$ occurs positively [negatively] in φ ,
then φ_1 occurs negatively [positively] in φ and φ_2 occurs positively [negatively] in φ ;
- if $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$ or $\varphi_1 \oplus \varphi_2$ occurs in φ ,
then φ_1 and φ_2 occur positively and negatively in φ ;

Negative Normal Form (NNF)

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

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

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- Every non-atomic subformula in $NNF(\varphi)$ **occurs with positive polarity only**
 $\implies$ a subformula ψ occurring with both polarities in φ is encoded as both $NNF(\psi)$ and $NNF(\neg\psi)$
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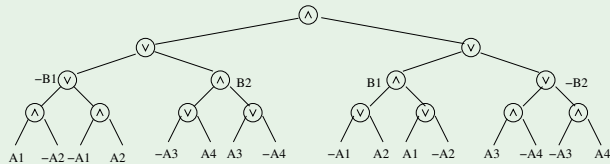
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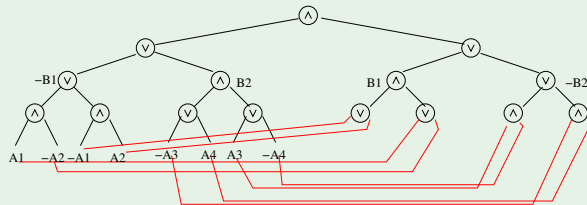
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NNF: Example [cont.]

Note



Tree Representation



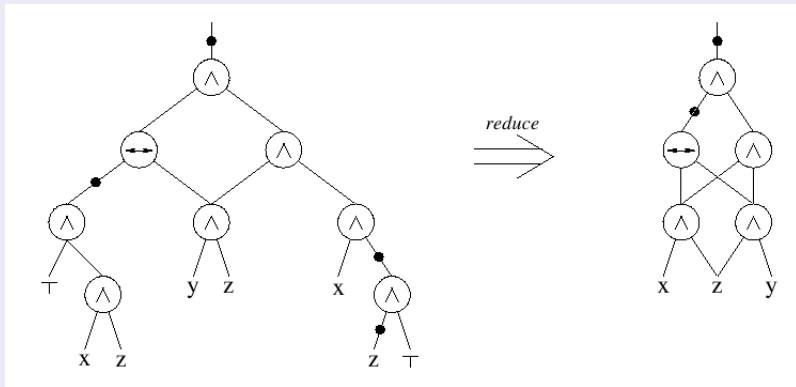
DAG Representation

For each non-literal subformula φ , φ 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)

- φ 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 φ can be reduced into CNF by, e.g.,

(i) expanding implications and equivalences:

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

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

(ii) pushing down negations recursively:

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

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$\implies$ Negation Normal Form, NNF (see previous slides)

(iii) applying recursively the DeMorgan's Rule: $(\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee \gamma \implies (\alpha \vee \gamma) \wedge (\beta \vee \gamma)$

- Resulting formula worst-case **exponential**:

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

- $Atoms(CNF(\varphi)) = Atoms(\varphi)$

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

- Rarely used in practice.

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- Rarely used in practice.

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

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

- Every φ 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 φ .
 - moreover: $\exists B_1, \dots, B_k. CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ equivalent to φ , s.t. $B_1, \dots, B_k$ all fresh variables introduced
- Much more used than classic conversion in practice

Remark

With $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$, it is not a good idea to convert φ into $NNF(\varphi)$ upfront. Why?

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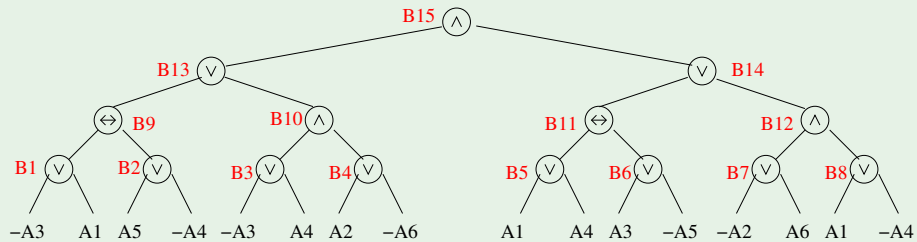
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Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ (cont.)

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

Labeling CNF Conversion CNF_{label} – Example



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

$\dots \wedge$

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

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

$\dots \wedge$

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

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

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

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

B_{15}

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

$\dots \wedge$

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

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

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

$= \dots \wedge$

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

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

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

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

B_{15}

Improved Labeling CNF conversion CNF_{label}

Polarity-based Labeling CNF conversion $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$ (aka Plaisted&Greenbaum CNF-ization)

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

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

- Smaller in size:

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

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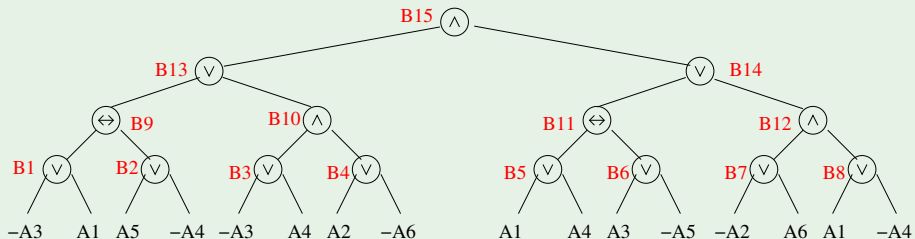
- Smaller in size:

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

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

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

Improved Labeling CNF conversion CNF_{label} – example



Basic

$CNF(B_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_3 \vee A_1))$ $\wedge$
 $\dots$ $\wedge$
 $CNF(B_8 \leftrightarrow (A_1 \vee \neg A_4))$ $\wedge$
 $CNF(B_9 \leftrightarrow (B_1 \leftrightarrow B_2))$ $\wedge$
 $\dots$ $\wedge$
 $CNF(B_{12} \leftrightarrow (B_7 \wedge B_8))$ $\wedge$
 $CNF(B_{13} \leftrightarrow (B_9 \vee B_{10}))$ $\wedge$
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Improved

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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 φ_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)
- ...

Exercises

- 1 Consider the following Boolean formula φ :

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

Compute the Negative Normal Form of φ

- 2 Consider the following Boolean formula φ :

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

- 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)

Do the same for the formula in Exercise (1)

- 3 Do the same as with Exercises (1) and (2), with the following formulas:

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

- 4 For the same formulas as in Exercises (1), (2) and (3), compute $CNF_{label}(NNF(\varphi))$, and compare the result with $CNF_{label}(\varphi)$. What do you notice?

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- 2 Basic SAT-Solving Techniques**
 - Generalities
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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 α 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**
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 - handle industrial problems with $10^6 - 10^7$ variables & clauses!
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Truth Tables

- Exhaustive evaluation of all subformulas:

φ_1	φ_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 $2^{|Atoms(\varphi)|}$ 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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 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
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 \begin{array}{c}
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Improvements: Subsumption & Unit Propagation

Alternative “set” notation (Γ clause set):

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

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

- Unit Subsumption:

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

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

- Removal of valid clauses:

$$\frac{\Gamma \wedge (p \vee \neg p \vee C)}{\Gamma}$$

- Clause Subsumption (C clause):

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

- Unit Resolution:

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

- Unit Subsumption:

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

- Unit Propagation = Unit Resolution + Unit Subsumption

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

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Remark

What happens with more than 1 resolvent?

- Common mistake: the following is not a correct application of the resolution rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma, (C_1 \vee I_1 \vee I_2), (C_2 \vee \neg I_1 \vee \neg I_2)}{\Gamma, (C_1 \vee I_1 \vee I_2), (C_2 \vee \neg I_1 \vee \neg I_2), (C_1 \vee C_2)}$$

- Rather, a correct application would be:

$$\frac{\Gamma, (C_1 \vee I_1 \vee I_2), (C_2 \vee \neg I_1 \vee \neg I_2)}{\Gamma, (C_1 \vee I_1 \vee I_2), (C_2 \vee \neg I_1 \vee \neg I_2), (C_1 \vee I_2 \vee C_2 \vee \neg I_2)}$$

... but $(C_1 \vee I_2 \vee C_2 \vee \neg I_2)$ is valid and should be removed

⇒ no clause is produced

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$\Rightarrow$ no clause is produced

Basic Propositional Inference: Resolution [33, 10]

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

⇒ φ is represented as a set of clauses

- **Search** for a refutation of φ (is φ 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 φ unsat ($\alpha \models \beta$)
- **Complete:** if φ unsat ($\alpha \models \beta$), then it returns an empty clause
- **Time-inefficient**
- **Very Memory-inefficient (exponential in memory)**
- Many different strategies

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Resolution: basic strategy [10]

```
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

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

$\Downarrow$

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

$\Downarrow$

$\perp$

$\Rightarrow$ UNSAT

Resolution: Examples

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

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Resolution: Examples (cont.)

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

$\Downarrow$

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

$\Downarrow$

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

$\Rightarrow$ SAT

Resolution: Examples (cont.)

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

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

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Resolution – summary

- Requires CNF
- Γ may blow up
 $\implies$ 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 [39]

- **Search** for an assignment satisfying φ
- applies recursively **elimination rules** to the connectives
- If a branch contains A_i and $\neg A_i$, (ψ_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 μ , 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)

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

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

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

($\vee$ -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

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

Semantic Tableaux – Example

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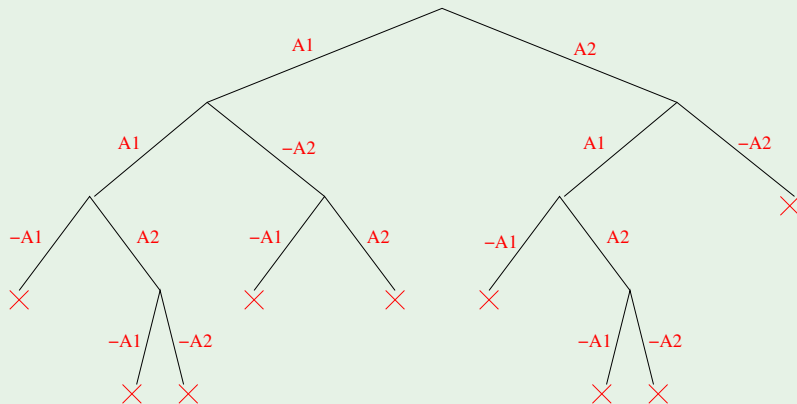


Tableau algorithm

```
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 */
```

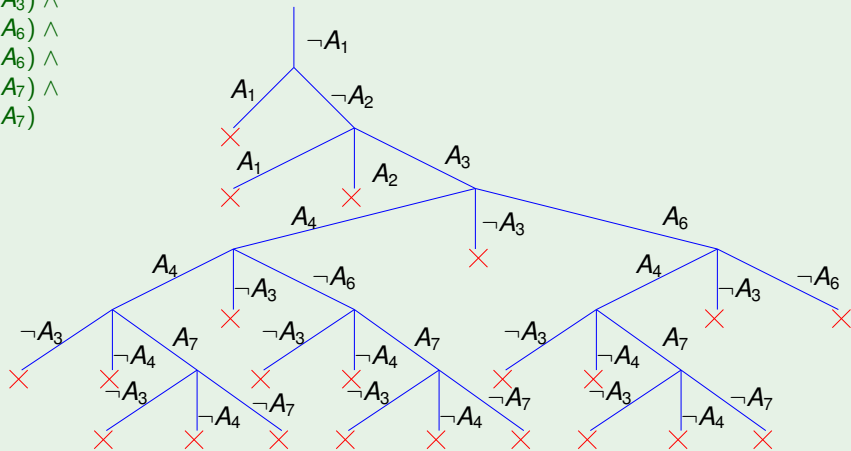
Semantic Tableaux: Example

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

$\Rightarrow$ unsat

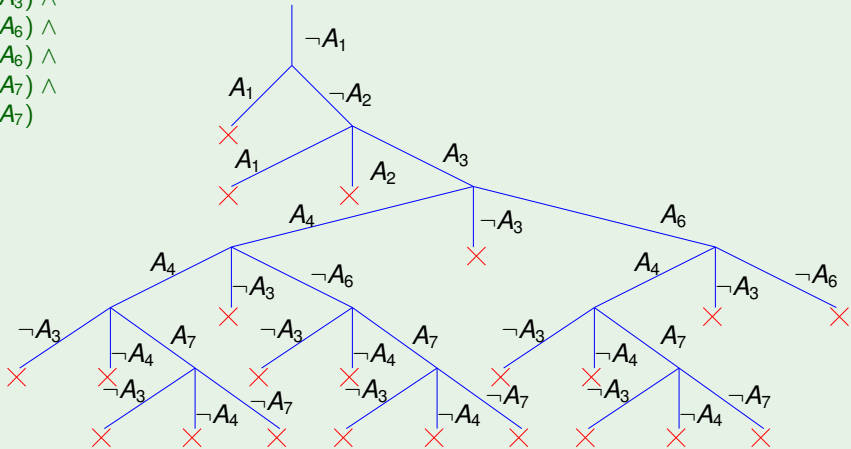
Semantic Tableaux: Example

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



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Semantic Tableaux: Example

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


⇒ 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 μ satisfying φ ;
- At each step assigns a truth value to (all instances of) **one atom**.
- Performs **deterministic choices** first.

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

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

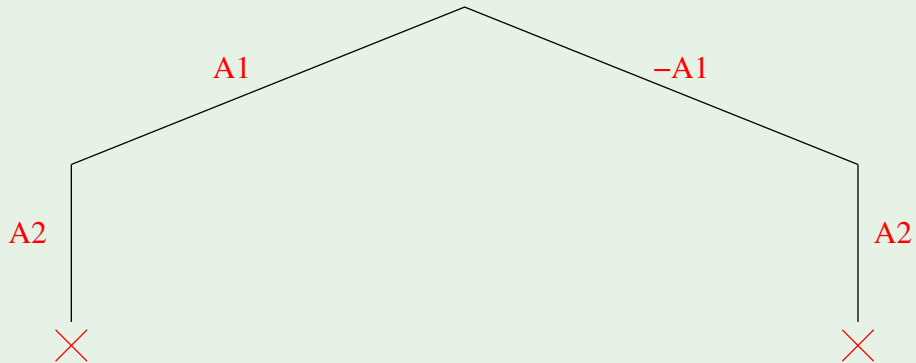
$$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[I|\top] \quad \varphi[I|\perp]} \text{ (split)}$$

(I is a **pure literal** in φ iff it occurs **only positively**).

- Split applied **if and only if the others cannot be applied**.
- Richer formalisms described in [40, 29, 30]

DPLL – example

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



The DPLL Algorithm

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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  
         $DPLL(assign(\neg l, \varphi), \mu \wedge \neg l)$ ;
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DPLL (without pure-literal rule)

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

$(\neg C) \wedge$
 $(B \vee A \vee C) \wedge$
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Remark: “choose-literal” selects only variables which still occur in the formula, after simplification. E.g., in the leftmost branch, after assigning $\neg C$, A , D , it does not select B because the clause $(B \vee A \vee C)$ has been simplified into true, and as such is no more part of the formula, so that B does not occur in the formula anymore.

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$\neg C$

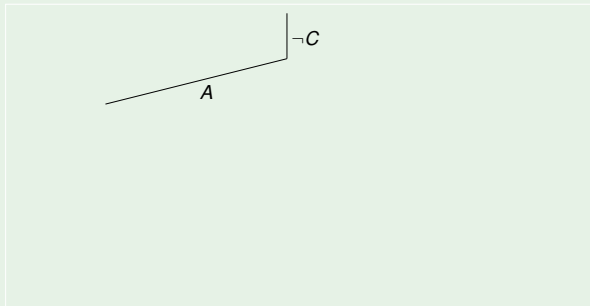
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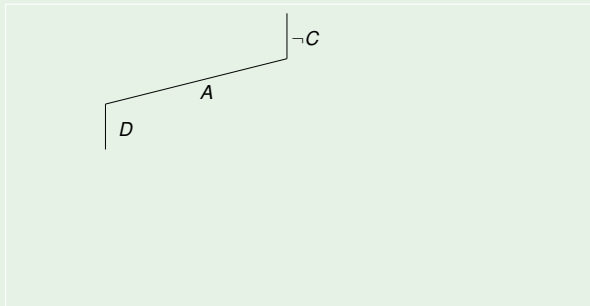
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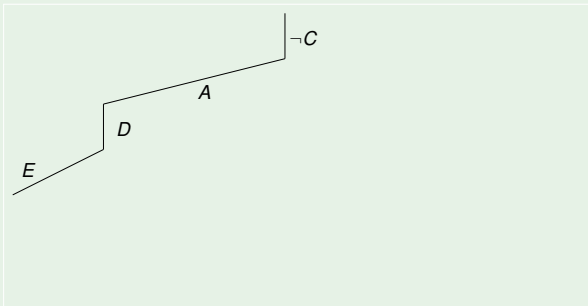
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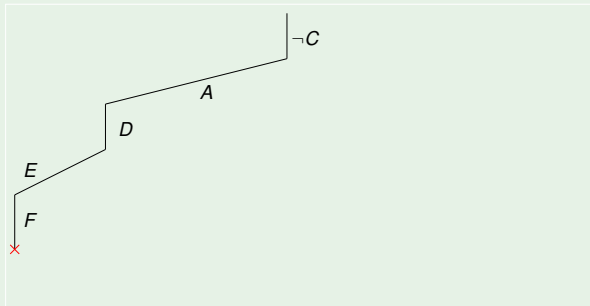
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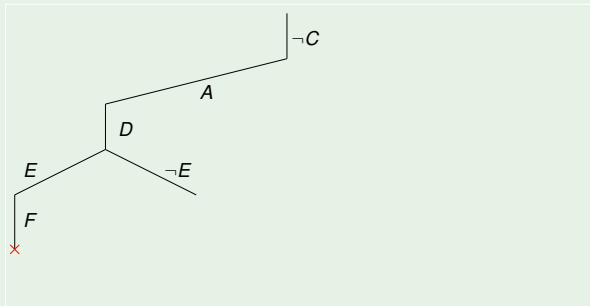
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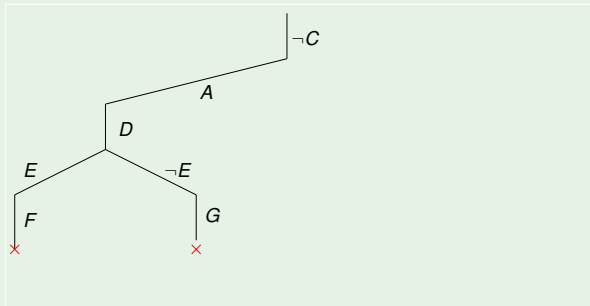
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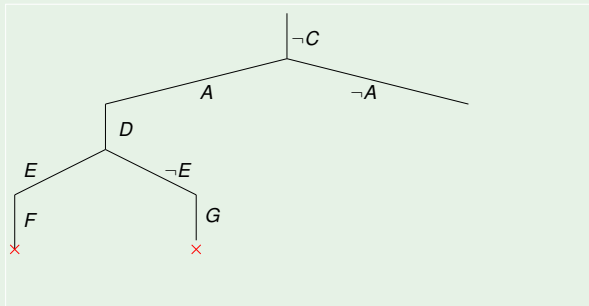
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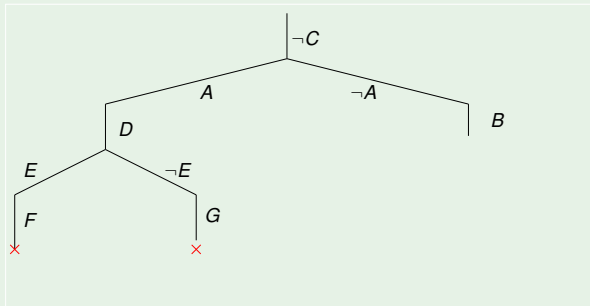
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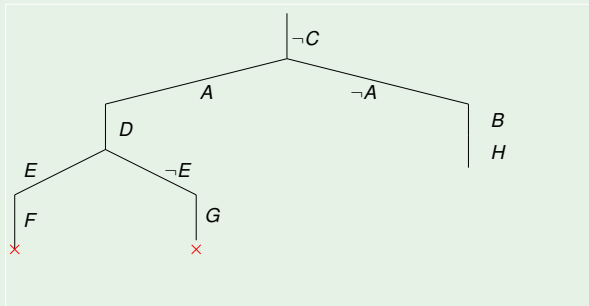
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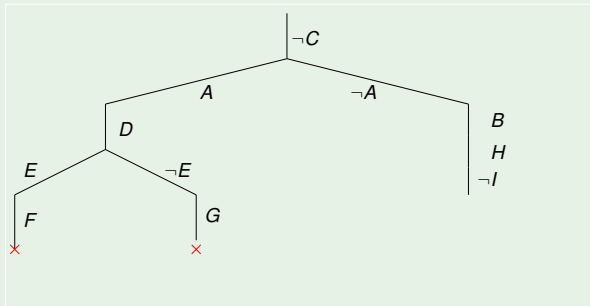
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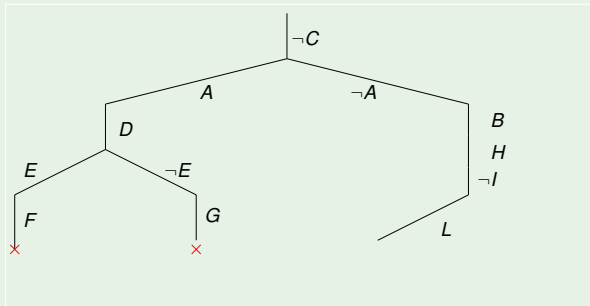
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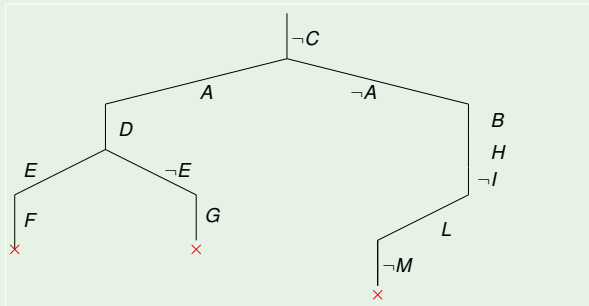
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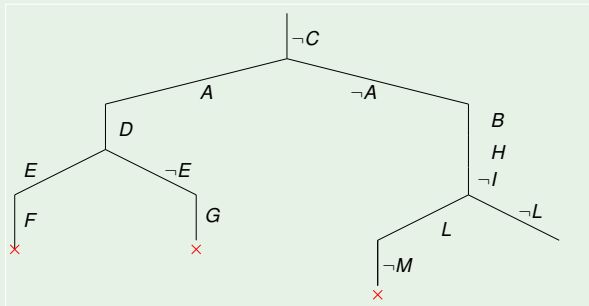
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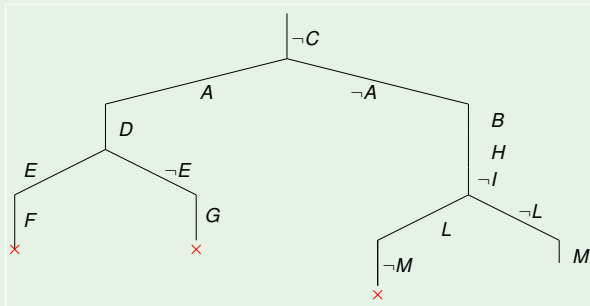
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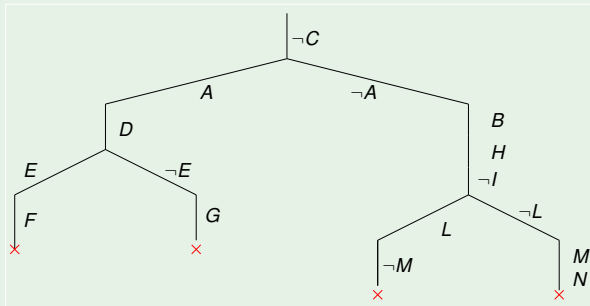
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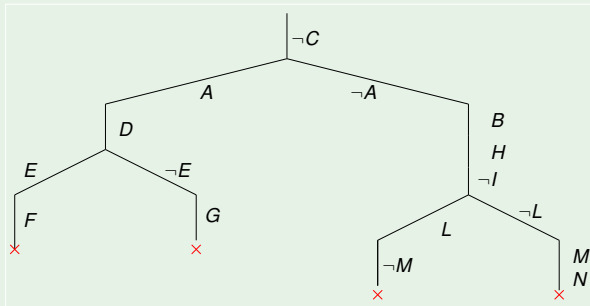
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$\Rightarrow$ UNSAT

Remark: “choose-literal” selects only variables which still occur in the formula, after simplification. E.g., in the leftmost branch, after assigning $\neg C$, A , D , it does not select B because the clause $(B \vee A \vee C)$ has been simplified into true, and as such is no more part of the formula, so that B does not occur in the formula anymore.

DPLL – summary

- Handles **CNF formulas** (non-CNF variant known [1, 15]).
- **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 [42, 38, 2, 28].

Outline

- 1 Boolean Logics and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving Techniques
 - Generalities
 - Resolution
 - Tableaux
 - DPLL
- 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, optimization

Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams (OBDDs) [8]

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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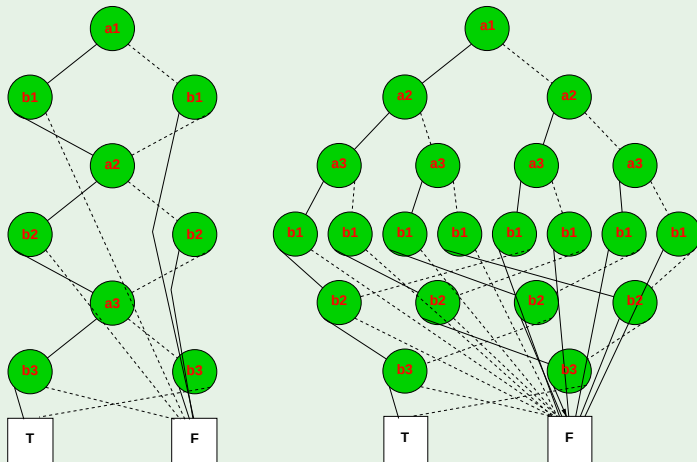
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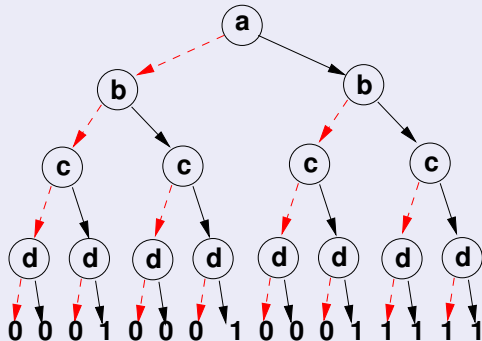
OBDD - Examples



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 "

From Ordered Decision Trees to OBDD's: reductions

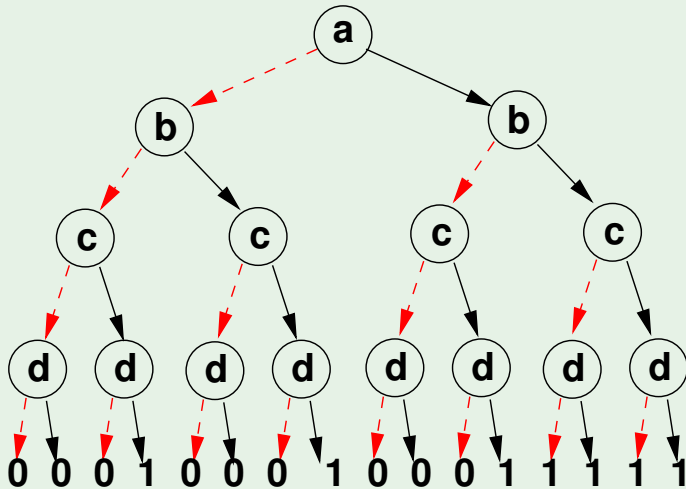
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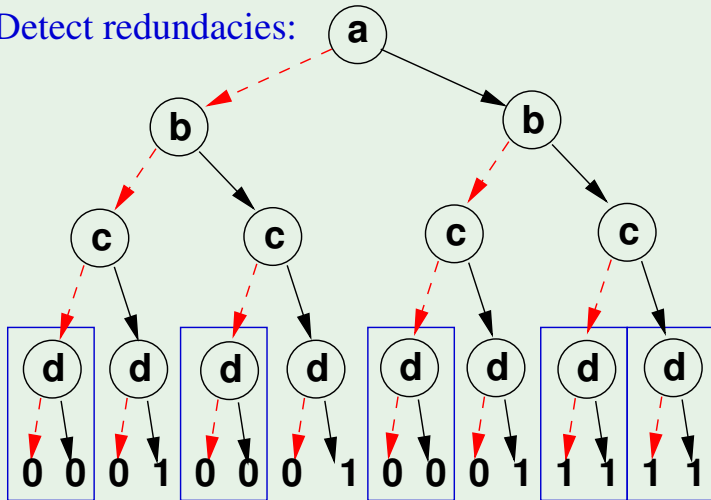
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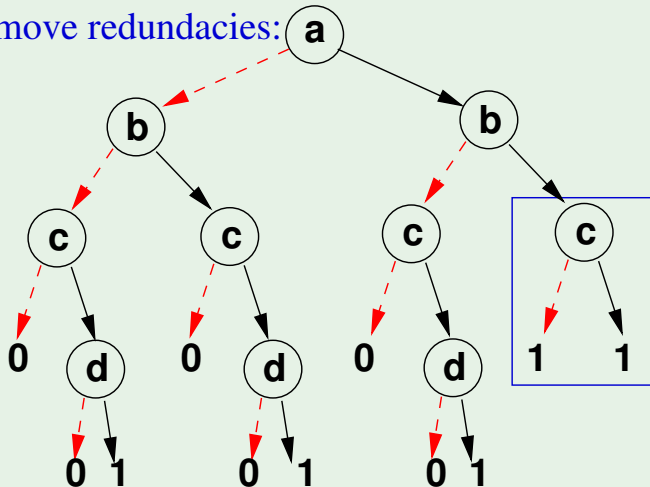
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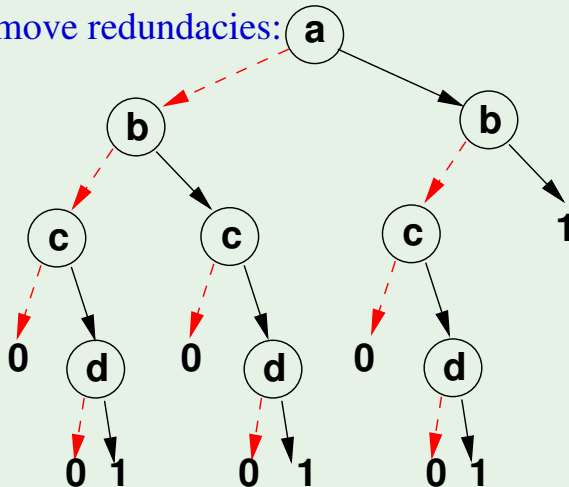
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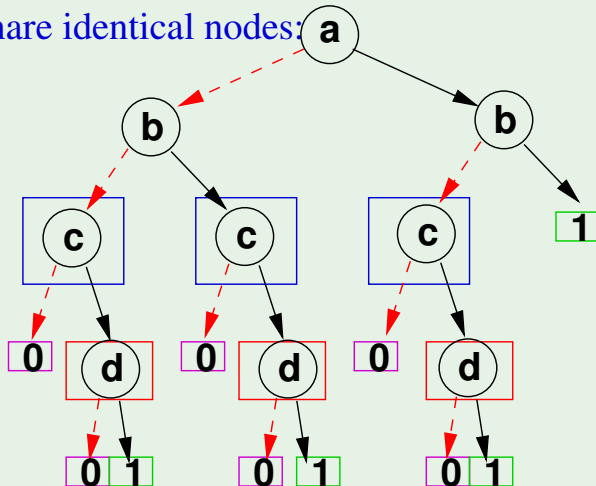
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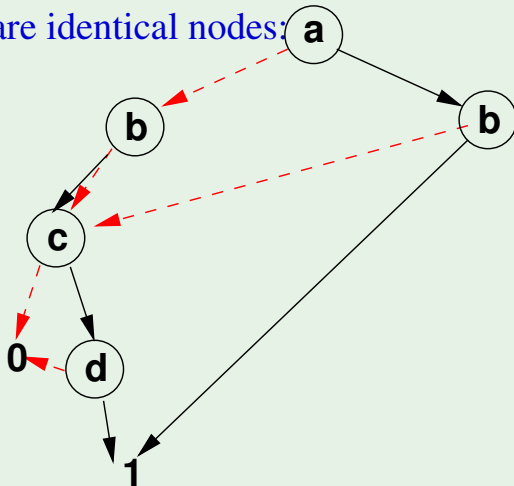
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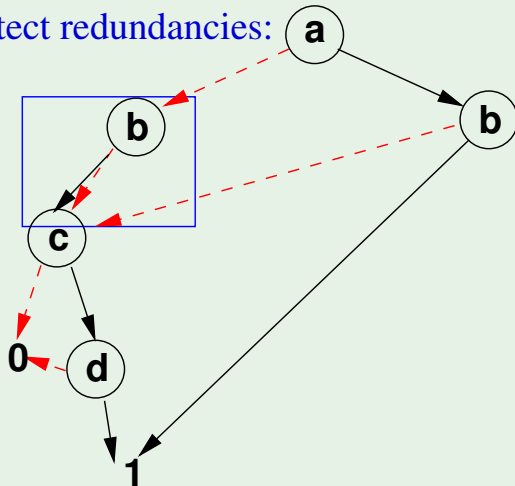
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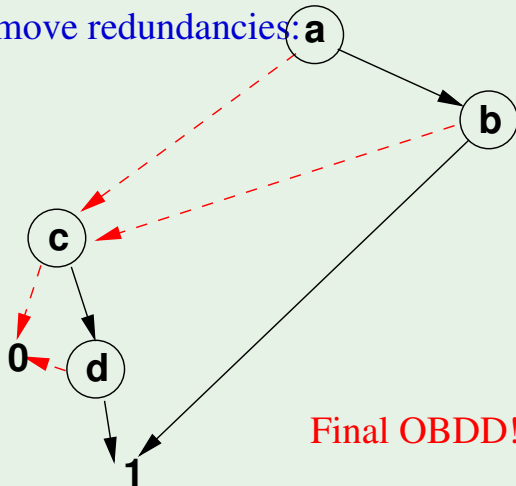
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Recursive structure of an OBDD

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

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

Incrementally building an OBDD

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

Incrementally building an OBDD (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.)

- $\text{apply}(op, O_i, O_j) := (O_i \text{ op } O_j)$ if $(O_i \in \{\top, \perp\} \text{ or } O_j \in \{\top, \perp\})$
- $\text{apply}(\neg, \text{ite}(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp)) := \text{ite}(A_i, \text{apply}(\neg, \varphi_i^\top), \text{apply}(\neg, \varphi_i^\perp))$
- $\text{apply}(op, \text{ite}(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), \text{ite}(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)) :=$
if $(A_i = A_j)$ then $\text{ite}(A_i, \text{apply}(op, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_j^\top), \text{apply}(op, \varphi_i^\perp, \varphi_j^\perp))$
if $(A_i < A_j)$ then $\text{ite}(A_i, \text{apply}(op, \varphi_i^\top, \text{ite}(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)), \text{apply}(op, \varphi_i^\perp, \text{ite}(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)))$
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$op \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftarrow, \leftrightarrow, \oplus\}$

Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

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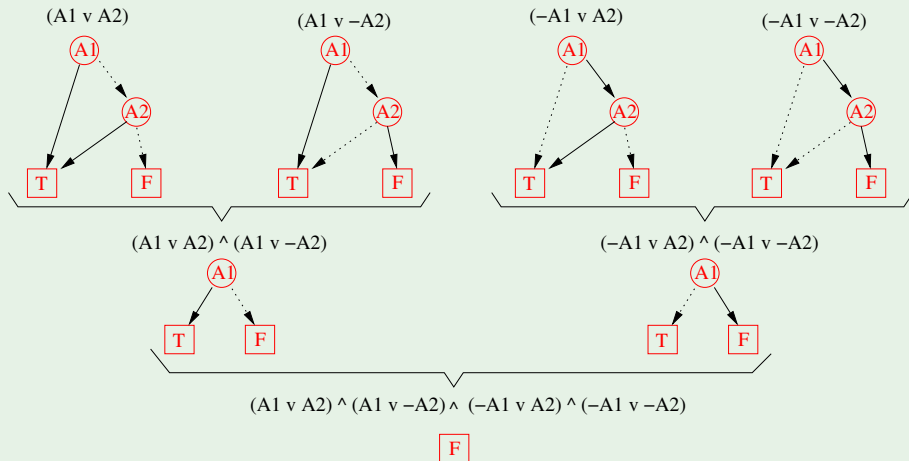
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{apply}(\wedge, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))}^{(A_1 \vee A_2)}, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \top))}^{(A_1 \vee \neg A_2)}), \\ &= \text{ite}(A_1, \text{apply}(\wedge, \top, \top), \text{apply}(\wedge, \text{ite}(A_2,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

OBDD incremental building – example

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

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Critical choice of variable Orderings in OBDD's

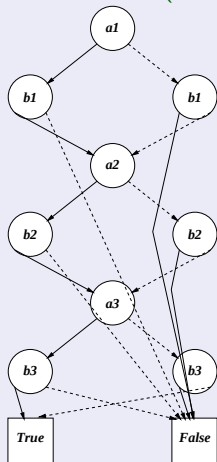
$$(a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_3)$$

Linear size

Exponential size

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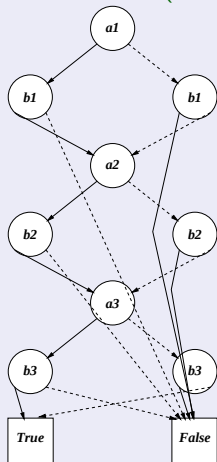


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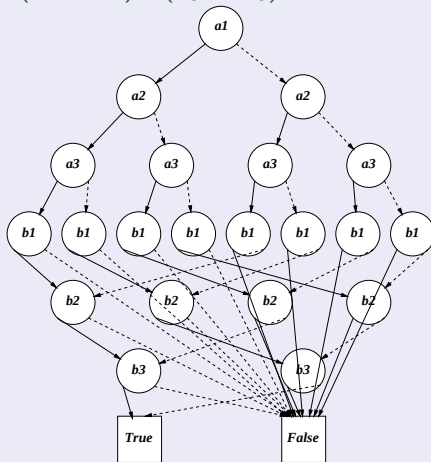
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OBDD's as canonical representation of Boolean formulas

- 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!**
 - $\implies$ validity check requires constant time! ($\varphi \leftrightarrow \top$)
 - $\implies$ (un)satisfiability check requires constant time! ($\varphi \leftrightarrow \perp$)
- the set of the paths from the root to 1 represent all the **models** of the formula
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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 $P = co-NP$)
 - Example: there exist no polynomial-size OBDD representing the electronic circuit of a bitwise multiplier

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

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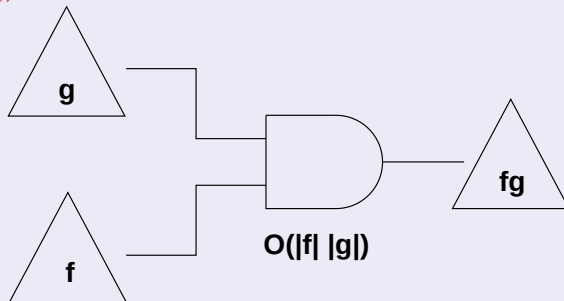
Useful Operations over OBDDs

- 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* $\in \{\top, \perp\}$, $\mu \cup \{v := \text{truthvalue}\} \models \varphi$

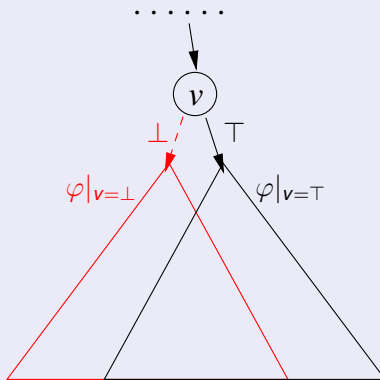
- Example: $\exists(b, c). ((a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)) = a \vee d$

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 $\varphi|_{v=\top}$ 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 φ and φ' .

Example

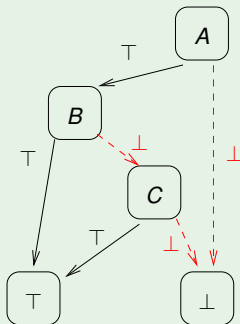
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which corresponds to the following OBDD:

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

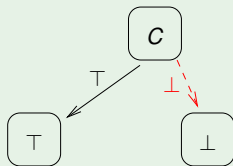
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which corresponds to the following OBDD:



OBDD – summary

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

Exercises

1 Let

$$\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg \left(\begin{array}{l} (A_1) \wedge \\ (A_1 \rightarrow A_2) \wedge \\ (A_2 \rightarrow A_3) \wedge \\ (A_3 \rightarrow A_4) \wedge \\ (A_4 \rightarrow A_5) \wedge \end{array} \right)$$

Using the variable ordering: " A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5 ", draw the OBDD corresponding to φ

2 Let

$$\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A_1 \rightarrow \left(A_2 \leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} (A_3 \vee A_6 \vee A_8) \wedge \\ (A_5 \vee A_7 \vee A_8) \wedge \\ (\neg A_4 \vee \neg A_6 \vee \neg A_8) \wedge \\ (\neg A_6 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_8) \wedge \\ (\neg A_3 \vee A_6 \vee A_9) \wedge \\ (\neg A_6 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_9) \wedge \\ (A_3 \vee A_4 \vee \neg A_5) \wedge \\ (\neg A_4 \vee \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_9) \end{array} \right).$$

Using the variable ordering: " $A_1, A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6, A_7, A_8, A_9$ ", draw the OBDD corresponding to the formula φ' defined as: $\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall A_2. \varphi$.

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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

$$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$c_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$c_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$c_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$c_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$c_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$c_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

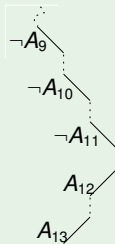
$$c_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$c_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

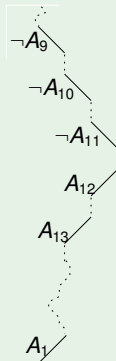
$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
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 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$
...



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

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 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8 \quad \checkmark$
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$
...

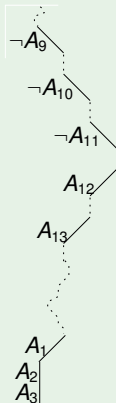


$\{\dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots, A_1\}$
... (branch on A_1)

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

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

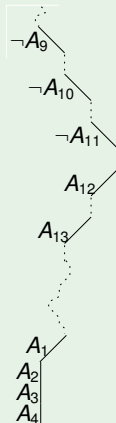
...


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

(unit A_2, A_3)

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

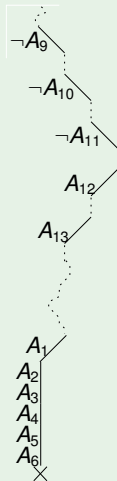
$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$ ✓
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$ ✓
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$ ✓
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$ ✓
 $C_9 : \neg A_7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



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

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

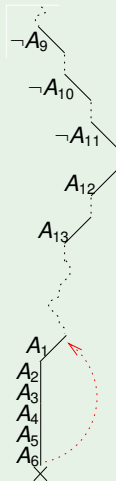
$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
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 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$ ✓
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$ ✓
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$ ✓
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$ ✗
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$ ✓
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$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



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

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
 $c_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$
 $c_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
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...

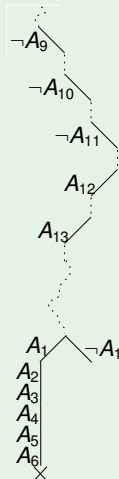


$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots \}$

$\Rightarrow$ backtrack up to A_1

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

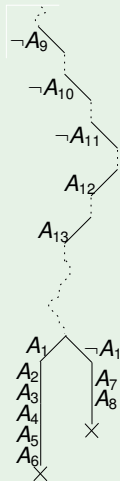
$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
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 $c_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
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 ...



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

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

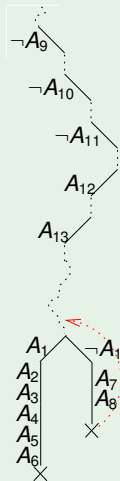
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$ ✓
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
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 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$ ✓
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$ ✓
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$ ✗
...



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

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
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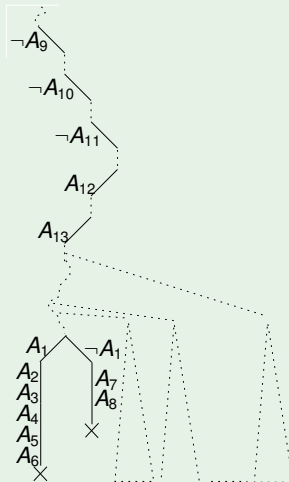


$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots \}$

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

DPLL Chronological Backtracking: Example

$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$
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...



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

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

Outline

- 1 Boolean Logics and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving Techniques
 - Generalities
 - Resolution
 - Tableaux
 - DPLL
- 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, optimization

Modern Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning SAT Solvers

- Non-recursive, stack-based implementations
- Based on Conflict-Driven Clause-Learning (CDCL) schema
 - inspired to conflict-driven backjumping and learning in CSPs
 - learns implied clauses as nogoods
- Random restarts
 - abandon the current search tree and restart on top level
 - previously-learned clauses maintained
- Smart literal selection heuristics (ex: VSIDS)
 - “static”: scores updated only at the end of a branch
 - “local”: privileges variable in recently learned clauses
- Smart preprocessing/inprocessing technique to simplify formulas
- Smart indexing techniques (e.g. 2-watched literals)
 - efficiently do/undo assignments and reveal unit clauses
- Allow Incremental Calls (stack-based interface)
 - allow for reusing previous search on “similar” problems

Can handle industrial problems with $10^6 - 10^7$ variables and clauses!

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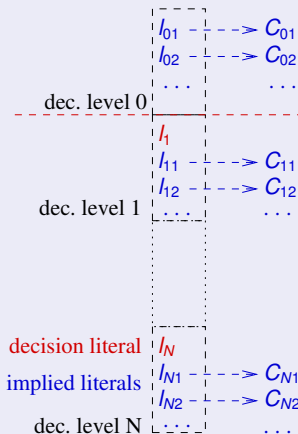
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Stack-based representation of a truth assignment μ

- assign one truth-value at a time (add one literal to a stack representing μ)
- 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 μ
 - 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**

Example

$$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$c_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$c_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$c_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$c_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$c_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$c_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

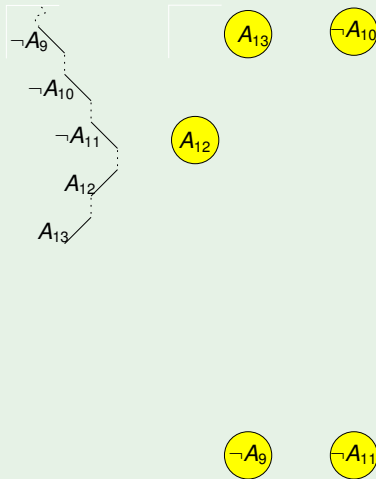
$$c_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

$$c_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$$

...

Example

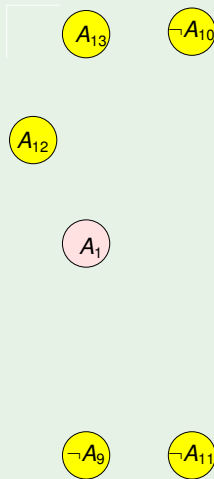
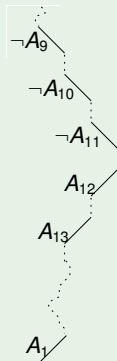
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 ...



$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots \}$
 (Initial assignment. Note: $c_1, \dots, c_9$ inconsistent.)

Example

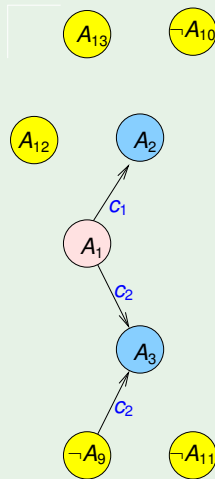
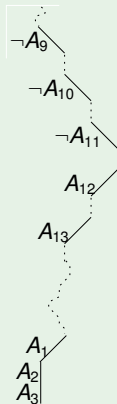
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 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12} \quad \checkmark$
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 ...



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

Example

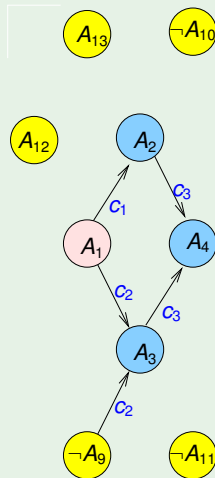
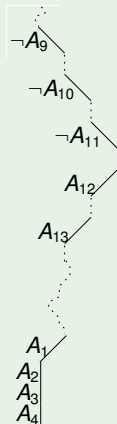
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 (unit A_2, A_3)

Example

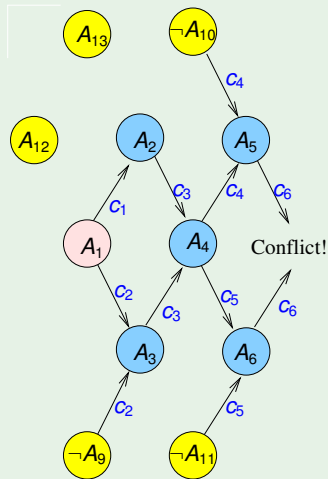
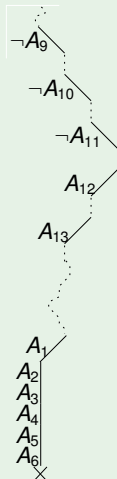
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 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$
 ...



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

Example

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



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

Unique implication point - UIP [44]

- 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
- Intuition: if the last decision had been one of the UIPs instead of the last decision (last UIP), then we would have had the same failure on the same falsified clause.
⇒ We can pretend the UIP was the last decision.

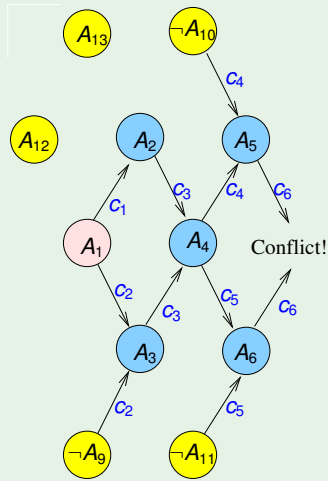
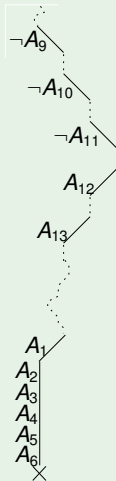
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- A node l in an implication graph is an **unique implication point** (UIP) for the last decision level iff every path from the last decision node to both the conflict nodes passes through l .
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- Intuition: if the last decision had been one of the UIPs instead of the last decision (last UIP), then we would have had the same failure on the same falsified clause.
⇒ **We can pretend the UIP was the last 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 1st UIP



Schema of a CDCL DPLL solver [38, 45]

```
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) {  
         $\langle \text{blevel}, \eta \rangle$  := 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 [38, 45] (cont.)

- `preprocess( $\varphi, \mu$ )` simplifies φ into an easier equisatisfiable formula, updating μ .
- `decide_next_branch( $\varphi, \mu$ )` chooses a new decision literal from φ according to some heuristic, and adds it to μ
- `deduce( $\varphi, \mu$ )` performs all deterministic assignments (unit-propagations plus others), and updates φ, μ accordingly.
- `analyze_conflict( $\varphi, \mu$ )` Computes the subset η of μ causing the conflict (conflict set), and returns the “wrong-decision” level suggested by η
 - η is s.t. if we had decided all literals in η , we would have obtained the same failure on the same falsified clause by unit-propagation
 - “`blevel==0`” means that η 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 φ, μ accordingly

Backjumping and learning: general ideas [2, 38]

- When a branch μ fails:
 - (i) **conflict analysis**: reveal the sub-assignment $\eta \subseteq \mu$ causing the failure (**conflict set** η)
 - (ii) **learning**: add the **conflict clause** $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$ to the clause set
 - (iii) **backjumping**: use η to decide the point where to backtrack
- 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 [38]
 - the state-of-the-art 1stUIP strategy of [44]

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 Cuntil C verifies some given termination criteria

Conflict analysis

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 until C verifies some given termination criteria

criterion: **decision**

...until C contains only decision literals

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Conflicting cl.} \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11} \quad \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \quad (A_6) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \quad \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_5 \vee A_{11} \quad (A_5) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4 \quad \neg A_4 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \quad (A_4) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \quad (A_3) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_1 \vee A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \quad (A_2) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_1 \vee A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11}
 \end{array}$$

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

criterion: **last UIP**

... until C contains only one literal assigned at current decision level, and it is the decision literal (**last UIP**)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Conflicting cl.} \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11} \quad \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6 \quad (A_6) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10} \quad \neg A_4 \vee \neg A_5 \vee A_{11} \quad (A_5) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4 \quad \neg A_4 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \quad (A_4) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9 \quad \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \quad (A_3) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_1 \vee A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \quad (A_2) \\
 \hline
 \neg A_1 \vee A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11}
 \end{array}$$

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

criterion: **1st UIP**

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

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

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 Cuntil C verifies some given termination criteria

Note:

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

Note:

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

Conflict analysis

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Note:

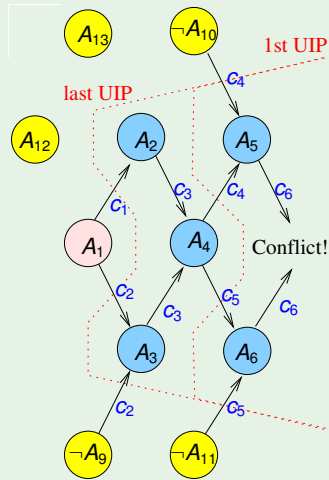
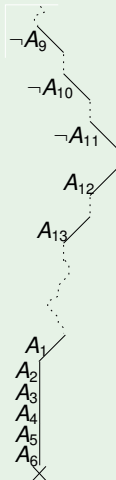
Equivalent to finding a partition in the implication graph of μ with all decision literals on one side and the conflict on the other.

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

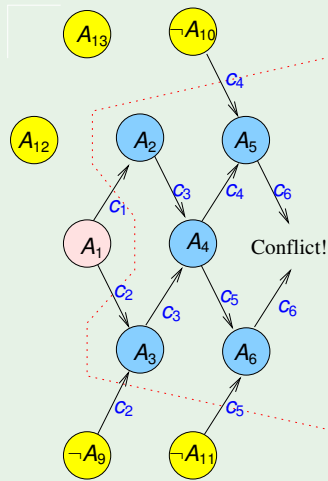
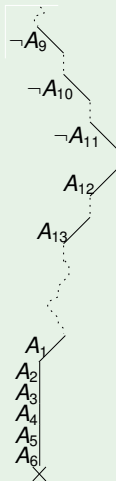


The original backjumping and learning strategy of [38]

- Idea: when a branch μ 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 η , and then unit-propagate the unassigned literal on C

The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

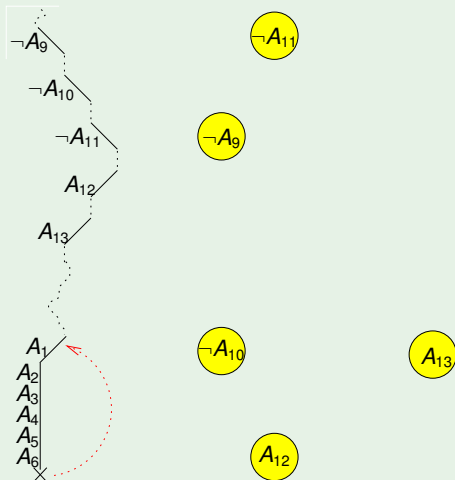


⇒ **Conflict set:** $\{\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_1\}$ ("decision" schema)

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

The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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



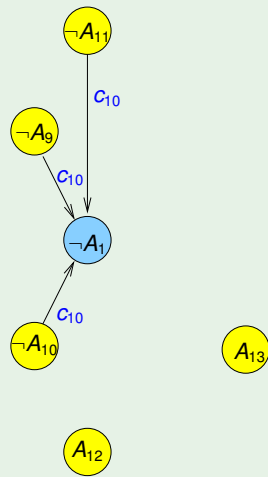
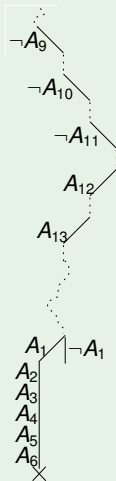
$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots \}$

$\Rightarrow$ backtrack up to A_1

The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

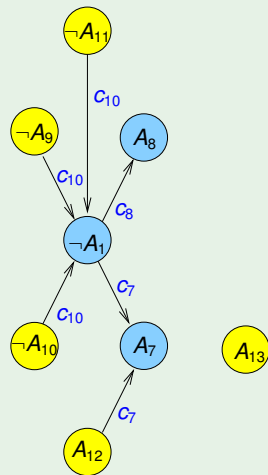
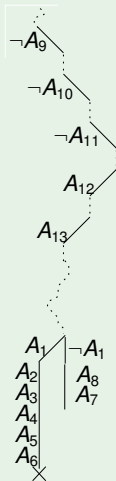
$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1 \}$
 (unit $\neg A_1$)



The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

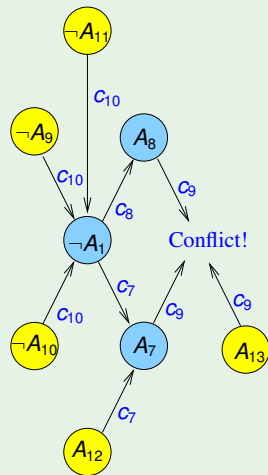
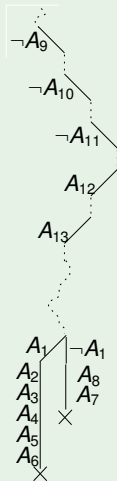
$\{ \dots, \neg A_9, \dots, \neg A_{10}, \dots, \neg A_{11}, \dots, A_{12}, \dots, A_{13}, \dots, \neg A_1, A_7, A_8 \}$
 (unit A_7, A_8)



The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

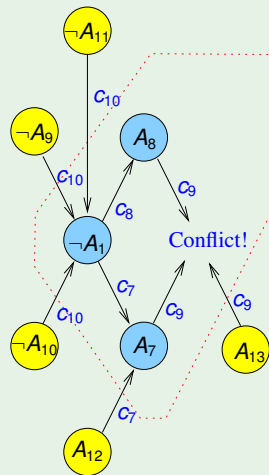
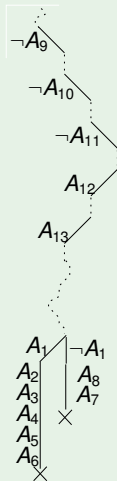
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$ ✓
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$ ✓
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$ ✓
 $C_9 : \neg A_7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

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



The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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



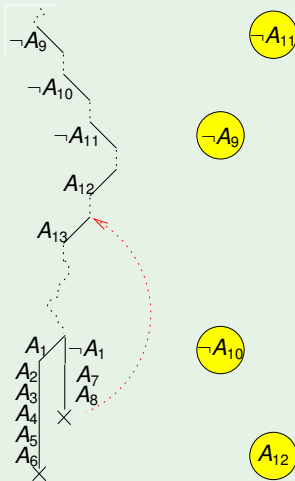
⇒ conflict set: $\{\neg A_9, \neg A_{10}, \neg A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{13}\}$.

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

The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

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

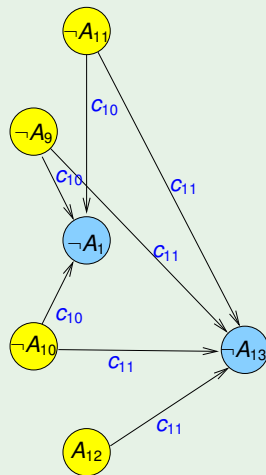
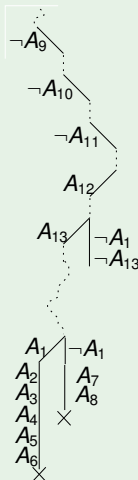
...



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

The Original Backjumping Strategy: Example

$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
 $c_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$ ✓
 $c_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$
 $c_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$
 $c_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$
 $c_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$
 $c_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$
 $c_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$
 $c_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$ ✓
 $c_{10} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_1$ ✓
 $c_{11} : A_9 \vee A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_{12} \vee \neg A_{13}$ ✓
 ...



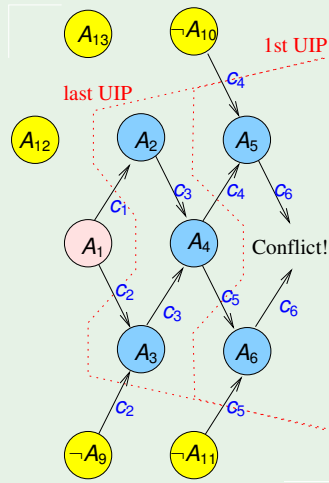
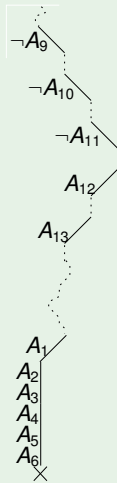
⇒ backtrack to A_{13} , then set A_{13} and A_1 to $\perp$,...

State-of-the-art backjumping and learning [44]

- Idea: when a branch μ 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 **1stUIP 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 η , and then unit-propagate the unassigned literal on C**

1st UIP strategy – example (7)

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



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

1st UIP strategy and backjumping [44]

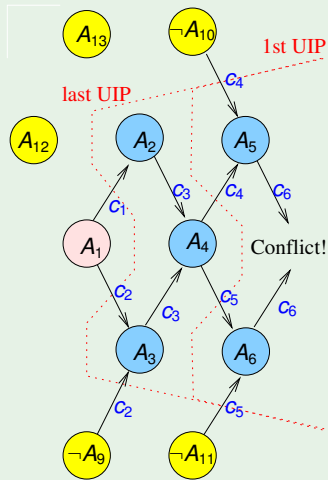
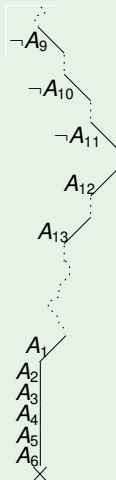
- The added conflict clause states the reason for the conflict
- The procedure backtracks to the most recent decision level of the variables in the conflict clause which are not the UIP.
- then the conflict clause forces the negation of the UIP by unit propagation.

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

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

1st UIP strategy – example (7)

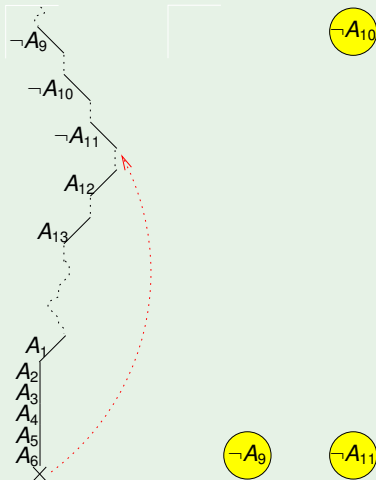
- $C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$ ✓
 $C_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$ ✓
 $C_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$ ✓
 $C_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$ ✓
 $C_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$ ✓
 $C_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$ ✗
 $C_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$ ✓
 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$ ✓
 $C_9 : \neg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



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

1st UIP strategy – example (8)

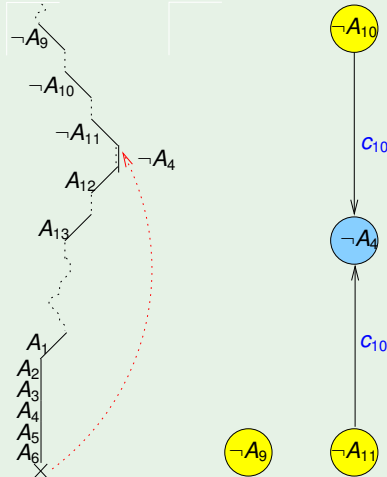
$C_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$
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 $C_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$
 $C_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13}$
 $C_{10} : A_{10} \vee A_{11} \vee \neg A_4$
 ...



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

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



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

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.

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

Learning – example

$$c_1 : \neg A_1 \vee A_2$$

$$c_2 : \neg A_1 \vee A_3 \vee A_9$$

$$c_3 : \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_4$$

$$c_4 : \neg A_4 \vee A_5 \vee A_{10}$$

$$c_5 : \neg A_4 \vee A_6 \vee A_{11}$$

$$c_6 : \neg A_5 \vee \neg A_6$$

$$c_7 : A_1 \vee A_7 \vee \neg A_{12}$$

$$c_8 : A_1 \vee A_8$$

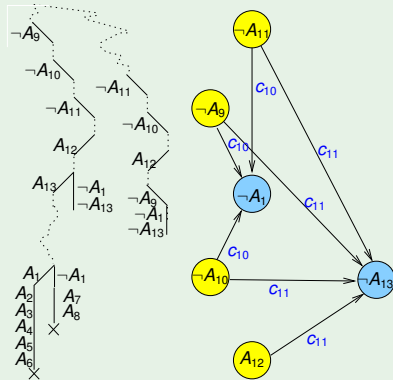
$$c_9 : \neg A_7 \vee \neg A_8 \vee \neg A_{13} \quad \checkmark$$

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

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

...

$\Rightarrow$ 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., [30])

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 η 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., [2, 38, 44])

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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:

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

Preprocessing/Inprocessing (cont.)

Detect & collapse equivalent literals [7]

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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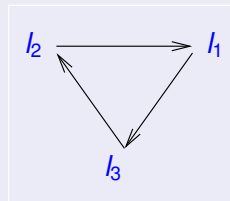
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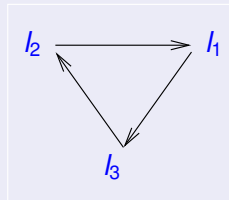
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Preprocessing/Inprocessing (cont.)

Apply some basic steps of resolution (and simplify)

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

$\Downarrow_{\text{resolve}}$

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

$\Downarrow_{\text{unit-propagate}}$

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

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

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

⇒ estimates l 's contribution to the satisfiability of φ

- **Satz** [21] (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** [28] (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 [16]

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: $SAT(\varphi, \{l_1, \dots, l_n\})$ [12]

- Many SAT solvers allow for solving a CNF formula φ **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
 - if backjump to level 0 on $C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\eta$ s.t. $\eta \subseteq \mathcal{A}$, then return UNSAT

Property

If the “decision” strategy for conflict analysis is used,
then η is the subset of assumptions causing the inconsistency

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Selection of sub-formulas

Idea: select clauses [12, 23]

Let φ be $\bigwedge_{i=1}^n C_i$.

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

- let $\mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_k}\} \subseteq \{S_1, \dots, S_n\}$

$\Rightarrow$ **SAT**($\bigwedge_{i=1}^n (\neg S_i \vee C_i)$, $\mathcal{A}$): same as **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

$\Rightarrow$ **“Select” (activate)** only a subset of the clauses in φ at each call.

Generalised Idea: select blocks of clauses

Let φ be $\bigwedge_{i=1}^n (\bigwedge_{j=1}^{n_i} C_{ij})$.

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Generalised Idea: select blocks of clauses

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Example

- Initial formula φ :

$(A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3) \wedge$ // group 1

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

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

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

$(\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_3 \vee A_8) \wedge$ // group 3

- Augmented formula φ' :

$(\neg S_1 \vee A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3) \wedge$ // group 1, inactive

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Incremental SAT solving [12, 11]

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

- Idea: incremental calls $SAT(\psi', A_1), SAT(\psi', A_2), \dots$
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 - push/pop assumption literals S_i
 - in particular, all formulae ϕ_i are pre-processed
- Key efficiency issue: learned clauses safely reused from call to call (even if assumptions have been popped)
 - e.g. $\psi = \psi' \vee \bigwedge_{i \in A} S_i$, $\psi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigwedge_i (\neg S_i \vee \phi_i)$, $\psi \models Q$ implies $\psi' \models Q$ (even if A is popped)
 - $\psi' \models Q$ implies $\psi \models Q$ (even if A is pushed)

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Example

- Initial formula φ :

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[push(S_1)]: $SAT(\varphi', \{..., S_1\})$: ϕ_1 active $\implies$ learn C_1 from ϕ_1

- C_1 derived from $\phi_1 \implies C_1$ active only when ϕ_1 is active
- C_2 derived from $\phi_1, \phi_2 \implies C_2$ active only when both ϕ_1, ϕ_2 are active

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[push(S_2)]: $SAT(\varphi', \{\dots, S_1, S_2\})$: ϕ_1, ϕ_2 active $\implies$ learn C_2 from ϕ_1, ϕ_2

- C_1 derived from $\phi_1 \implies C_1$ active only when ϕ_1 is active
- C_2 derived from $\phi_1, \phi_2 \implies C_2$ active only when both ϕ_1, ϕ_2 are active

Example

- Initial formula φ :

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 \dots & & & \wedge \\
 (A_1 & \vee \neg A_2 & \vee \neg A_3 &) \wedge // \phi_1 \\
 (\neg A_3 & \vee A_2 & \vee \neg A_5 &) \wedge // \phi_1 \\
 (\neg A_2 & \vee A_5 & \vee A_7 &) \wedge // \phi_2 \\
 (\neg A_1 & \vee \neg A_3 & \vee \neg A_5 &) \wedge // \phi_2
 \end{array}$$

- Augmented formula φ' :

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 \dots & & & \wedge \\
 (\neg S_1 & \vee A_1 & \vee \neg A_2 & \vee \neg A_3) \wedge // \phi_1 \\
 (\neg S_1 & \vee \neg A_3 & \vee A_2 & \vee \neg A_5) \wedge // \phi_1 \\
 (\neg S_2 & \vee \neg A_2 & \vee A_5 & \vee A_7) \wedge // \phi_2, \text{inactive} \\
 (\neg S_2 & \vee \neg A_1 & \vee \neg A_3 & \vee \neg A_5) \wedge // \phi_2, \text{inactive} \\
 \\
 (\neg S_1 & \vee A_1 & \vee \neg A_3 & \vee \neg A_5) \wedge // \text{learned } C_1 \\
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Example

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[pop(S_2);push(S_3): SAT(φ' , {..., S_1 , S_3 })]: ϕ_1, ϕ_3 active $\implies \dots$

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Example

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Outline

- 1 Boolean Logics and SAT
- 2 Basic SAT-Solving Techniques
 - Generalities
 - Resolution
 - Tableaux
 - DPLL
- 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, optimization

Advanced functionalities

Advanced SAT functionalities (very important in formal verification):

- Building **proofs of unsatisfiability**
- Extracting **unsatisfiable Cores**
- Enumeration in SAT: **AlISAT** (hints)
- Optimization in SAT: **MaxSAT** (hints)

Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

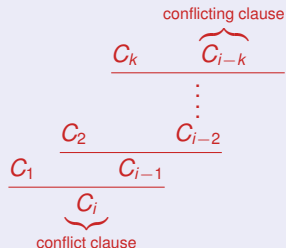
- When φ is unsat, it is very important to build a (resolution) proof of unsatisfiability:
 - to verify the result of the solver
 - to understand a “reason” for unsatisfiability
 - to build unsatisfiable cores and interpolants
- Can be built by keeping track of the resolution steps performed when constructing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

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

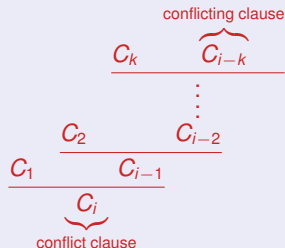
$\dots$

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

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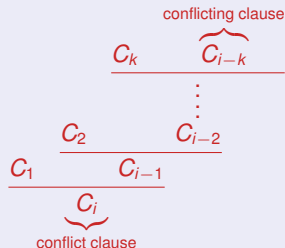
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Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability

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

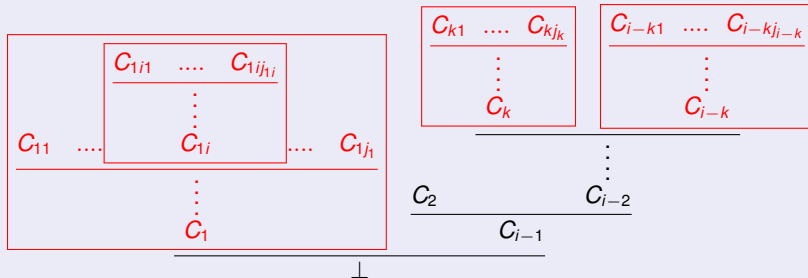
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{conflicting clause} \\ C_k \quad \overbrace{C_{i-k}} \\ \hline \vdots \\ C_2 \quad C_{i-2} \\ \hline C_1 \quad C_{i-1} \\ \hline \perp \end{array}$$

- 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:

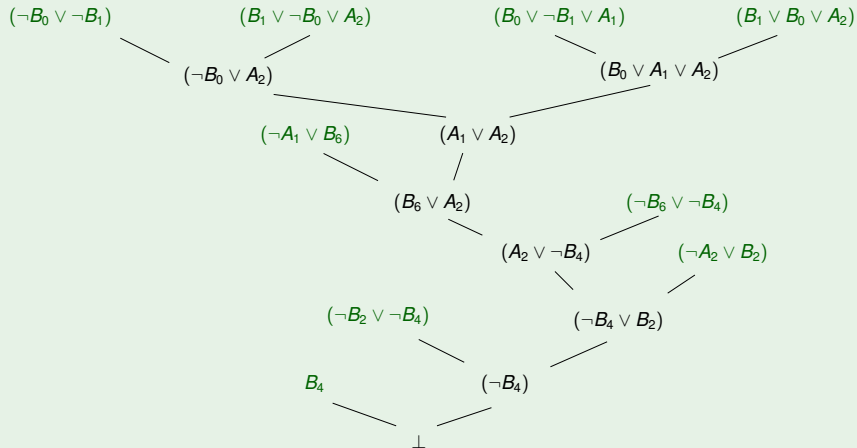
- for every **learned** leaf clause C_i , substitute C_i with the resolution proof generating it until all leaf clauses are original clauses



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

Building Proofs of Unsatisfiability: example

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



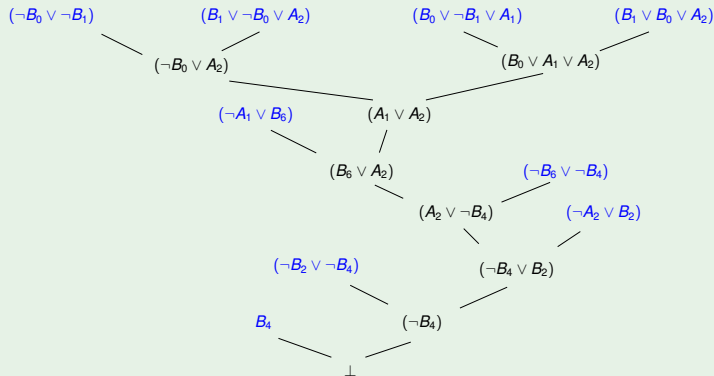
Extraction of unsatisfiable cores

- 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 [46, 24, 26, 31, 43, 19, 13, 6]
- We recognize two main approaches:
 - **Proof-based** approach [46]: byproduct of finding a resolution proof
 - **Assumption-based** approach [24]: use extra variables labeling clauses
- Many optimizations for further reducing the size of the core:
 - repeat the process up to fixpoint
 - remove clauses one-by one, until satisfiability is obtained
 - combinations of the two processed above
 - ...

The proof-based approach to core extraction [46]

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

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



The assumption-based approach to core extraction [24]

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:

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

(ii) The conflict analysis returns: $\neg S_1 \vee \neg S_2 \vee \neg S_3 \vee \neg S_4 \vee \neg S_5 \vee \neg S_6 \vee \neg S_8 \vee \neg S_{10} \vee \neg S_{11}$,

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The assumption-based approach to core extraction

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All-SAT (hints)

All-SAT & Projected All-SAT

- **All-SAT:** enumerate all truth assignments satisfying φ
 - Ex: $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee A_2)$
 $\implies \text{AllSAT}(\varphi) = \{\{A_1, A_2\}, \{\neg A_1, \neg A_2\}\}$
- **Projected All-SAT:** given an “important” subset $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{A_i\}_i$ of $\text{Atoms}(\varphi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{A} \cup \mathbf{B}$, enumerate all assignments over $\mathbf{A}$ which can be extended to truth assignments on $\mathbf{B}$ satisfying φ
 - Equivalent to compute $\text{AllSAT}(\exists \mathbf{B}.\varphi)$
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Model Counting, aka #SAT (hints)

Model Counting & Projected Model Counting

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Model Counting & Projected Model Counting

- **#SAT**: count all truth assignments on $\mathbf{A} \supseteq \text{Atoms}(\varphi)$ satisfying φ
 - Ex: $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee A_2)$
 $\implies \#SAT(\varphi) = 2$
- **Projected #SAT**: given an “important” subset $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{A_i\}_i$ of $\mathbf{A} \cup \mathbf{B} \supseteq \text{Atoms}(\varphi)$, count all assignments over $\mathbf{A}$ which can be extended to truth assignments on $\mathbf{B}$ satisfying φ
 - Equivalent to compute $\#SAT(\exists \mathbf{B}.\varphi)$
 - Ex: $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} B_1 \wedge B_2 \wedge (B_1 \leftrightarrow (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)) \wedge (B_2 \leftrightarrow (\neg A_1 \vee A_2))$
 $\implies \#SAT(\exists \mathbf{B}.\varphi) = 2$

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 μ satisfying φ_h and maximizing the amount of the satisfied clauses in φ_s .
- **Weighted MaxSAT**: given also the positive integer **penalties** $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$, μ must satisfy φ_h and maximize the sum of penalties of the satisfied clauses in φ_s
- Generalization of SAT to **optimization**
 $\implies$ much harder than SAT
- Many different approaches (see e.g. [22])
- EX:

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

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

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<https://satassociation.org/>

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

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

- SATLIB - The Satisfiability Library

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