An Introduction to Boolean Satisfiability

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INSA-Toulouse & LAAS-CNRS

January 27, 2024

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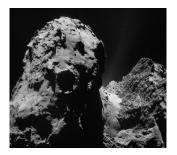
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Context : Decision Making

2/92





https://homepages.laas.fr/ehebrard/rosetta.html

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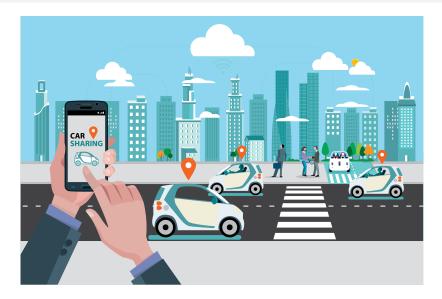
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- Diagnostic decision making: usually as post-processing.

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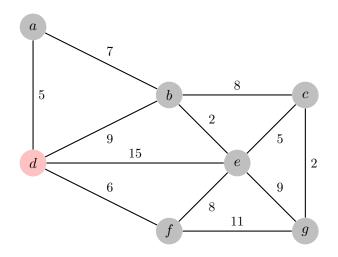
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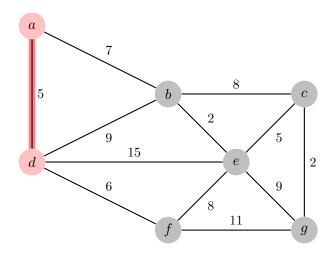
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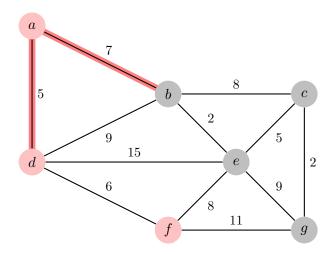
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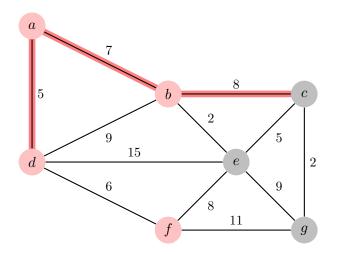
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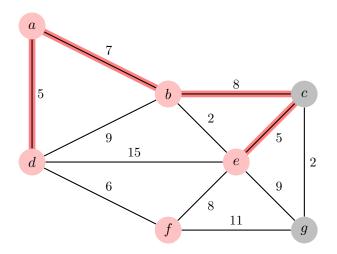
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- Resources for combinatorial optimisation: Many! a good start would be the online course on discrete optimisation https://www.coursera.org/learn/discrete-optimization
- Handbook of Satisfiability Second Edition IOS Press, 2021

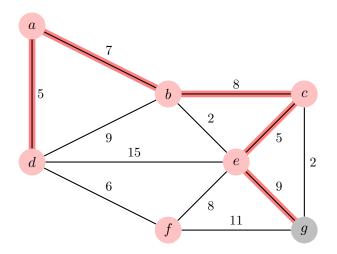


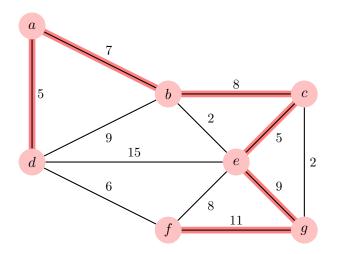


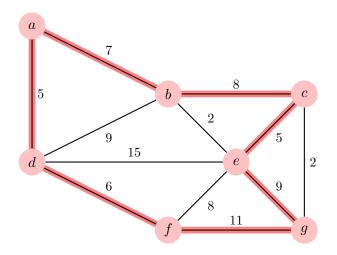


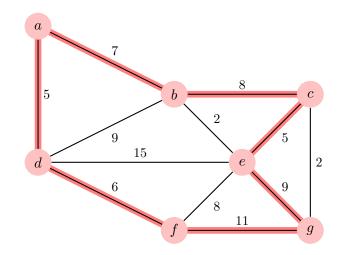






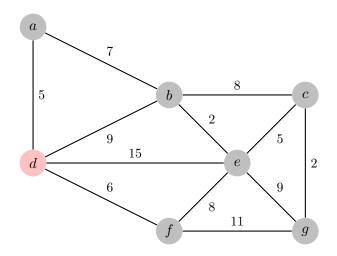


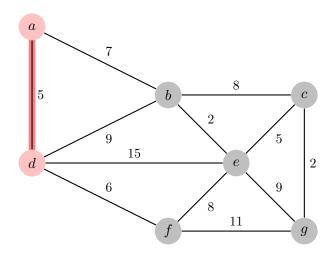


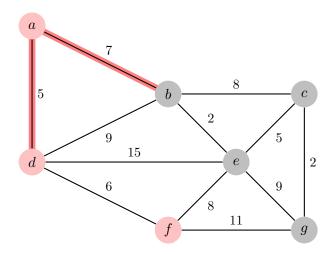


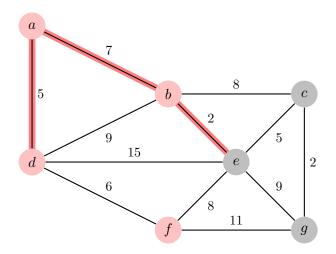
-->Cost:5+7+8+5+9+11+6=53Km

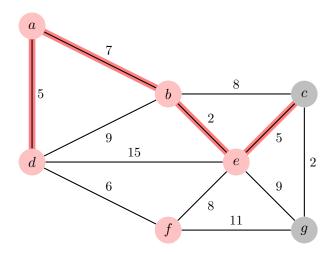
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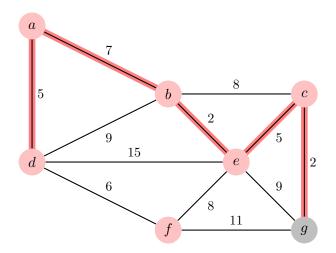


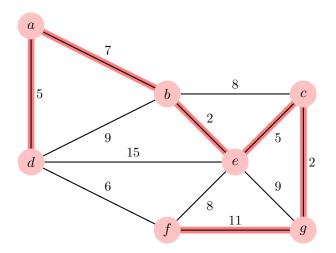


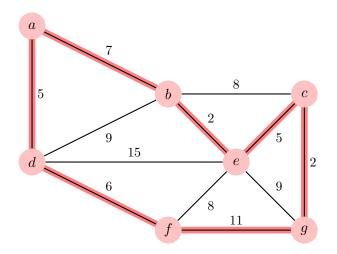


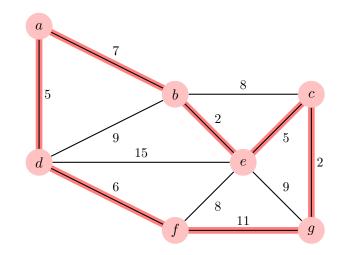












-->Cost:5+7+2+5+2+11+6=38Km

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The problem is inherently hard. However, the Concorde algorithm can solve instances up to 86 000 cities!

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 - Specific exact algorithm
 - Heuristic method
 - 3 Meta-heuristic (genetic algorithms, ant colony, ..)

2 Declarative Approaches

- (Mixed) Integer Programming,
- ② Constraint Programming
- Boolean Satisfiability (SAT)
- **4** . . .

Why Declarative Approaches?

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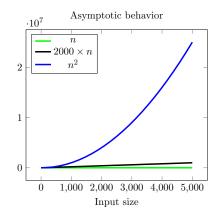
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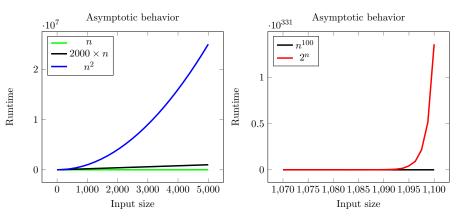
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- For many Problems in NP, we don't know if a polynomial time algorithm exists. Is P=NP?

Introduction & Context

The Boolean Satisfiability Problem (SAT)

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Given a set of Boolean variables $x_1, \ldots x_n$ and a CNF formula Φ over $x_1, \ldots x_n$, the Boolean Satisfiability problem (SAT) is to find an assignment of the variables that satisfies all the clauses.

Example

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 $x \lor \neg y \lor z$ $\neg x \lor \neg z$ $y \lor w$ $\neg w \lor \neg x$

Example

 $\begin{array}{l} x \lor \neg y \lor z \\ \neg x \lor \neg z \\ y \lor w \\ \neg w \lor \neg x \end{array}$

A possible solution:

$$x \leftarrow 1; y \leftarrow 1; z \leftarrow 0; w \leftarrow 0$$

- SAT is the first problem that is shown to be in the class NP-Complete (the class of the 'hardest' problems in NP):
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- It is considered today as a powerful technology to solve computational problems
- Huge practical improvements in the past 2 decades or so

Examples of Applications

- AI Planning
- Scheduling
- Software verification
- Machine learning
 - Robustness
 - Synthesis
 - Verification
- Mathematical Proofs!

https://news.cnrs.fr/articles/

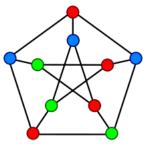
the-longest-proof-in-the-history-of-mathematics

- Timetabling
- . . .

Modelling in SAT

The example of Graph Colouring

- Graph Coloring is a well known combinatorial problem that has many applications (in particular in scheduling problems)
- Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph where V is a set of n vertices and E is a set of m edges. Is it possible to colour the graph with k colours such that no two adjacent nodes share the same colour?



Modelling

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• If a node is coloured with a colour *a*, the other colours are forbidden:

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• Forbid two nodes that share an edge to be coloured with the same colour

$$\forall \{i, j\} \in E, \forall a \in [1, k] : \neg x_i^a \lor \neg x_j^a$$

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The Example of Graph Coloring: The Model Size

What is the (space) size of the model?

- $n \times k$ Boolean variables
- Constraints form 1: n clauses with k literals each
- Constraints form 2: $n \times k^2$ binary clauses
- Constraints form 3: $m \times k$ binary clauses

The Example of Graph Coloring: The Minimization Version

• Propose a method that uses SAT for the minimisation version of the problem. That is, given G = (V, E), we seek to find the minimum value of k to satisfy the colouring requirements.

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 - Binary search: Run iteratively SAT(V, E, z) as long as UB > LBwhere $z = \lceil (UB - LB)/2 \rceil$. If the result is satisfiable, then and $UB \leftarrow z$ otherwise $LB \leftarrow z$

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- Lower bound: one can simply consider 2 as long as there is an edge. A more advanced one is to look for a clique in the graph.

- Upper bound: For instance, we can run the following iterative greedy algorithm:
 - Each vertex v is considered non-coloured and has a portfolio S_v of available colours. The set is initially $\{1, 2, \ldots n\}$ for each vertex
 - At each iteration, look for a non-coloured vertex v that has the greatest number of non coloured neighbours. Colour it with the smallest colour in S_v and remove its colour from all its neighbours.
 - The resulting colouring is valid and the upper bound is the number of different colours used.
 - The run time complexity is $O(n^2 \times m)$
- Lower bound: one can simply consider 2 as long as there is an edge. A more advanced one is to look for a clique in the graph.
- An alternative approach is to look for valid theoretical bounds in the literature.

Exercices: Circular dinner

- *n* people are invited to dinner.
- M is a (Boolean) compatibility matrix. That is, M[i][j] = 1 iff., i enjoys dinnig with j
- The purpose is to organize a circular dinner such that each person enjoys having dinner with the four closest persons on the table (i.e., neighborhood of distance 2)

Modelling Cardinality Constraints

• A cardinality constraint takes as input a sequence of Boolean variables $[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ and an integer k and enforces

$$\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \le k$$

- Cardinality constraints are everywhere!
- There exist many ways in the literature to encode such constraints. See for instance https://www.carstensinz.de/papers/CP-2005.pdf

Quadratic encoding for $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i = 1$

• At least one constraint:

 $x_1 \vee x_2 \ldots \vee x_n$

• at most one constraint:

$$\forall i, j : \neg x_i \lor \neg x_j$$

This generates one clause of size n and (n^2) binary clauses without introducing additional variables.

Linear encoding for $\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i = 1$

A sequence of Boolean variables $[y_1, \ldots, y_n]$ is introduced such that $\forall i \in [1, n], y_i$ is true iff $\sum_{l=1}^{l=i} x_l = 1$. The set of clauses for the encoding is the following:

$$x_1 \lor x_2 \ldots \lor x_n$$
$$y_n^1$$
$$\forall i \in [1, n-1] : y_i \to y_{i+1}$$
$$\forall i \in [1, n-1] : y_i \to \neg x_{i+1}$$
$$\forall i \in [1, n] : x_i \to y_i$$

Size: n new variables, 1 n-ary clause and $3 \times n$ binary clauses,

Encoding for $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \ge k$

Encoding for $\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \ge k$

• New variables: $\forall z \in [0,k], \forall i \in [1,n], y_i^z \iff \sum_{l=1}^{l=i} x_l \ge z$

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- Increment the count: $y_{i-1}^z \wedge x_i \to y_i^{z+1}$
- Do not Increment: $\neg y_{i-1}^z \land \neg x_i \to \neg y_i^z$

Size of the encoding:

- $\Theta(n \times k)$ variables
- $\Theta(n+k)$ unary clauses
- $\Theta(n \times k)$ binary clauses
- $\Theta(n \times k)$ ternary clauses

• Encode $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \ge k+1$

- Encode $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \ge k+1$
- Add y_n^k
- Replace y_n^{k+1} by $\neg y_n^{k+1}$
- The size of the encoding is the same as $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \ge k$ (asymptotically)

Modelling

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Linear encoding for $a \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \leq b$?

- Encode $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \leq b$
- $\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \ge a$ with the same additional variables
- The size of the encoding is the same as $\sum_{1}^{n} x_i \ge k$ (asymptotically)

Modelling

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- Check the MaxSAT competition

The Example of Graph Coloring: A Possible MaxSAT Model

Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph where V is the set of vertices and E is the set of edges. In the (decision version of the) graph colouring problem, we are given k colours to colour the graph such that no two adjacent nodes share the same colour.

• Propose a MaxSAT model for the minimisation version of the problem. That is, given G = (V, E), we seek to find the minimum value of k to satisfy the colouring requirements.

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The Example of Graph Coloring: A Possible MaxSAT Model

- We shall extend the previous model:
- Let u_a be a Boolean variable that is True iff. the colour $a \in [1, k]$ is used
- Consider the previous model SAT(V, E, k) with k an upper bound.
- All the previous clauses are hard.
- Add the following hard clauses:

$$\forall i \in [1,n], \forall a \in [1,k]: \neg u_a \to \neg x_i^a$$

- Eventually we can add implied constraints: $u_a \rightarrow u_{a-1}$
- Then add the soft clauses:

$$\forall a \in [1,k] : \neg u_a$$

• A MaxSAT Optimal solution satisfies all the hard coloring clauses (valid colouring) and maximizes the number of non used colours.

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Extensions: Quantified Boolean Formula (QBF)

- A QBF has the form Q.F , where F is a CNF-SAT formulae, and Q is a sequence of quantified variables $(\forall x \text{ or } \exists x)$.
- Example $\forall x, \exists y, \exists z, (x \lor \neg y) \land (\neg y \lor z)$
- QBF Solver Competition: https://www.qbflib.org/solvers_list.php

Extensions: Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT)

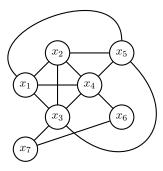
- SMT extends SAT by allowing higher level constraints
- Such constraints belong to certain theories
- Examples of theories include linear integer arithmetic, linear real arithmetic, difference logic, etc
- Check the SAT/SMT summer schools http://satassociation.org/sat-smt-school.html

Exercise: SAT for Machine Learning

- Let $F = [f_1, \ldots f_k]$ be a set of k features and $E = [e_1, \ldots e_n]$ a set of n examples.
- We want to build adecision tree
- Task1: Propose a model for the topology of the tree
- Task 2: Extend the model to make sure that each example is well classified
- Task 3: Adapt the model to maximize the accuracy of the model

Exercise: Clique

A clique in a graph G(V, E) (where V is the set of vertices and E is the set of edges). A clique in G is a set of vertices $C \subseteq V$ such that $\forall a, b \in C, \{a, b\} \in E$. For examples, in the example below: $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5\}$ is a clique and $\{x_3, x_6, x_7\}$ is not a clique.



• Propose a SAT model to find a clique of size $\geq k$ for a graph G(V, E).

Modelling

- Propose a SAT model to find a clique of size $\geq k$ for a graph G(V, E).
- A possible solution:
 - x_i true iff v_i is in the clique
 - For each $\{i, j\} \notin E$:

$$\neg x_i \lor \neg x_j$$

• Clique size:

$$\sum x_i \ge k$$

• Implied constraints: If a vertex v_i has less than k edges it shouldn't be part of the clique:

$$\neg x_i$$

Modelling

MaxSAT

MaxSAT

• Adapt your model into a MaxSAT formulae to find a clique with a maximum size

MaxSAT

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Same model without carnality constraints, without implies constraints, and each x_i is added as a soft clause

Exercise: Shortest Path

Let G(V, E) be a directed graph (where V is the set of vertices and E is the set of directed edges). Suppose that G has a one source $s \in V$ and one sink $o \in V$. Propose a SAT model to find a path from s to o. Adapt your model to find a shortest path

Conflict Driven Clause Learning

Modern SAT Solvers: Conflict Driven Clause Learning (CDCL)[Silva and Sakallah, 1999, Moskewicz et al., 2001]

- [Silva and Sakallah, 1999, Moskewicz et al., 2001]
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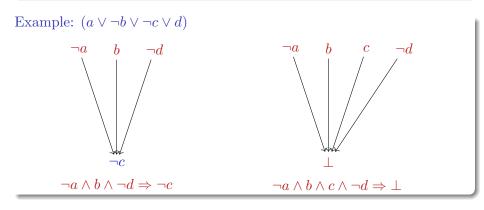
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- Can be seen as a CP Solver (Search, propagation) augmented by clause learning
- But also :
 - Activity-based branching
 - Lazy data structures (2-Watched Literals)
 - Clause Database Reduction
 - Simplifications
 - Restarts
 - . . .

Exercise: Propose a filtering algorithm to prune the variables domain in a given clause

Given a clause C of arity n. If n - 1 literals are false then set the last one to be true.



Conflict Driven Clause Learning

Algorithm 1: Unit Propagation **Data:** A clause C if All literals in C are false then return Failure ; else if Only one literal $l \in C$ is unassigned and the rest are false then Make l true ; end end

- The clause becomes unit (i.e., all variables except one is instantiated): Propagate the only uninstantiated literal to satisfy the clause
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- The idea of the Two-watched literals is to keep 2 literals for every clause that are not instantiated. Those literals will "watch the clause" and guarantee that no propagation is needed.
- If a literal watching a clause C becomes *false*, look for replacement. If no replacement found, then perform propagation

Exercices

• What is the domain of each Boolean variable after propagating the following clauses assuming that *a* is true and the rest of the variables are unassigned:

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg a \lor g \neg c \\ b \lor \neg c \lor g \\ a \lor \neg d \lor c \\ \neg g \lor a \lor h \\ \neg b \lor g \lor d \\ b \lor \neg a \lor \neg h \end{array}$$

• Is the problem satisfiable if $\neg b$ is added? If yes, give a correspondent solution.

Conflict Driven Clause Learning

Algorithm 2: Two watched Literals (decision d)

> Assuming initially that all variables are unassigned and that each clause contains at least 2 literals \triangleright For each clause C, W[C] is initialized with a set that contains two variables in C \triangleright For each variable x, B[x] is the set of clauses watched by x \triangleright d is the latest decision : $S \leftarrow \{d\}$; while $S \neq \emptyset$ do Let $x \in S$: $S \leftarrow S \setminus \{x\}$; while $B[x] \neq \emptyset$ do Let $C \in B[x]$; if x does not not satisfy C then $W[C] \leftarrow W[C] \setminus \{x\};$ if $\exists x' \in C \setminus W[C]$ such that x' is unassigned then $W[C] \leftarrow W[C] \cup \{x'\};$ $B[x'] \leftarrow B[x'] \cup \{C\}$: else Let $u \in W[C]$: if y is not assigned then assign y to a value that satisfies C; $S \leftarrow S \cup \{y\}$; $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ else if y does not satisfy C then return FAILURE ; end end end end end end

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- When there is only one literal uip propagated in the last level in the current explanation, learn the associated new clause C, backjump (to the last level of propagated literals in C), propagate $\neg uip$ via the new clause,

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- At each conflict learn a new clause as following:
- Start with the explanation from the clause triggering failure in the form of $l_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge l_n \rightarrow \bot$ and let it be the initial explanation
- While there is more than one literal propagated in the last level in the current explanation, take the lastest one w.r.t. the propagation event, replace it with its explanation from the triggering clause
- When there is only one literal uip propagated in the last level in the current explanation, learn the associated new clause C, backjump (to the last level of propagated literals in C), propagate $\neg uip$ via the new clause, and continue the exploration

Exercices

• Consider the following formulae

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg a \lor g \neg c \\ b \lor \neg c \lor g \\ a \lor \neg d \lor c \\ \neg g \lor a \lor h \\ \neg b \lor g \lor d \\ b \lor \neg a \lor \neg h \\ \neg b \lor a \end{array}$$

• Apply the two-watched literals algorithm on the branch $d,\,c,\,\neg g$

Conflict Analysis

Algorithm 1: 1-UIP-with-Propagators

Conflict Analysis

Algorithm 1: 1-UIP-with-Propagators

• Why stop with one literal *l* propagated at the last level ?

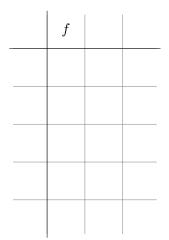
Conflict Analysis

Algorithm 1: 1-UIP-with-Propagators

```
 \begin{array}{l} 1 \hspace{0.1cm} \Psi \leftarrow explain(\bot) \hspace{0.1cm}; \\ \textbf{2 while} \hspace{0.1cm} |\{q \in \Psi \mid level(q) = current \hspace{0.1cm} level\}| > 1 \hspace{0.1cm} \textbf{do} \\ & p \leftarrow \arg \max_q(\{rank(q) \mid level(q) = current \hspace{0.1cm} level \wedge \hspace{0.1cm} q \in \Psi\}) \hspace{0.1cm}; \\ \textbf{3} \hspace{0.1cm} \left[ \begin{array}{c} p \leftarrow w \cup \{q \mid q \in explain(p) \land level(q) > 0\} \setminus \{p\} \hspace{0.1cm}; \\ return \hspace{0.1cm} \Psi \hspace{0.1cm}; \end{array} \right]
```

- Why stop with one literal *l* propagated at the last level ?
- To make sure that when the algorithm backjumps, propagation takes place by making *l* true
- When backjumping using a clause that contains more than one literal propagated at the last level, then no propagation can be performed.

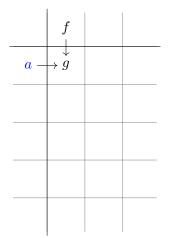
Implication Graph



$$\neg a \lor \neg f \lor g \\ \neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h \\ a \lor c \\ a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l \\ a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j \\ b \lor d \\ b \lor g \lor \neg n \\ b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \lor \neg i \lor l$$

 $\begin{array}{c} c \lor h \lor n \lor \neg m \\ c \lor l \\ d \lor \neg k \lor l \\ d \lor \neg g \lor l \\ \neg g \lor n \lor o \\ h \lor \neg o \lor \neg j \lor n \\ \neg i \lor j \\ \neg d \lor \neg l \lor \neg m \\ \neg e \lor m \lor \neg n \\ \neg f \lor h \lor i \end{array}$

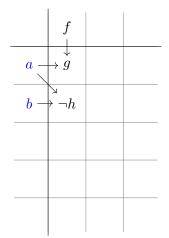
Implication Graph



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 $c \lor h \lor n \lor \neg m$ $c \lor l$ $d \lor \neg k \lor l$ $d \lor \neg g \lor l$ $\neg g \lor n \lor o$ $h \lor \neg o \lor \neg j \lor n$ $\neg i \lor j$ $\neg d \lor \neg l \lor \neg m$ $\neg e \lor m \lor \neg n$ $\neg f \lor h \lor i$

Implication Graph



$$\neg a \lor \neg f \lor g$$

$$\neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h$$

$$a \lor c$$

$$a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l$$

$$a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j$$

$$b \lor d$$

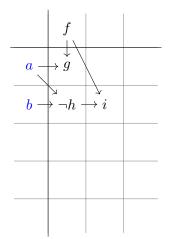
$$b \lor g \lor \neg n$$

$$b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k$$

$$\neg c \lor k$$

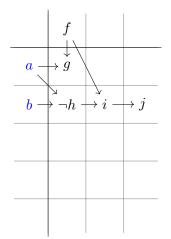
$$\neg c \lor n \lor v = i \lor l$$

 $c \lor h \lor n \lor \neg m$ $c \lor l$ $d \lor \neg k \lor l$ $d \lor \neg g \lor l$ $\neg g \lor n \lor o$ $h \lor \neg o \lor \neg j \lor n$ $\neg i \lor j$ $\neg d \lor \neg l \lor \neg m$ $\neg e \lor m \lor \neg n$ $\neg f \lor h \lor i$



$$\begin{array}{c} \neg a \lor \neg f \lor g \\ \neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h \\ a \lor c \\ a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l \\ a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j \\ b \lor d \\ b \lor g \lor \neg n \\ b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \lor \neg i \lor \end{array}$$

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$$\neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h$$

$$a \lor c$$

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$$b \lor d$$

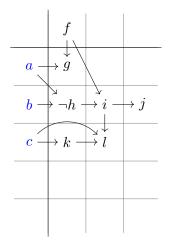
$$b \lor g \lor \neg n$$

$$b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k$$

$$\neg c \lor k$$

$$\neg c \lor n \lor v$$

1



$$\neg a \lor \neg f \lor g$$

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$$a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l$$

$$a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j$$

$$b \lor d$$

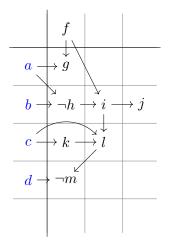
$$b \lor g \lor \neg n$$

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$$\neg c \lor k$$

$$\neg c \lor \neg k \lor \neg i \lor$$

1



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$$\neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h$$

$$a \lor c$$

$$a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l$$

$$a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j$$

$$b \lor d$$

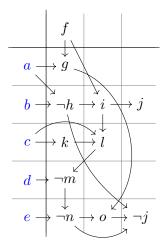
$$b \lor g \lor \neg n$$

$$b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k$$

$$\neg c \lor k$$

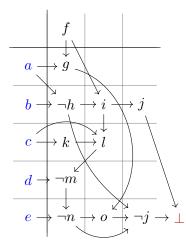
$$\neg c \lor n \lor v$$

l



$$\neg a \lor \neg f \lor g \\ \neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h \\ a \lor c \\ a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l \\ a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j \\ b \lor d \\ b \lor g \lor \neg n \\ b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \lor \neg i \lor$$

1



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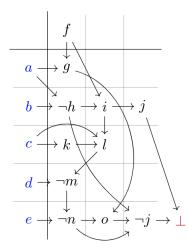
$$b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k$$

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$$\neg a \lor \neg f \lor g$$

$$\neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h$$

$$a \lor c$$

$$a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l$$

$$a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j$$

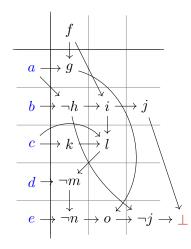
$$b \lor d$$

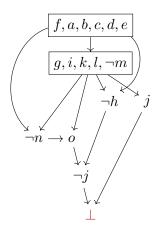
$$b \lor g \lor \neg n$$

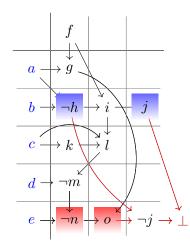
$$b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k$$

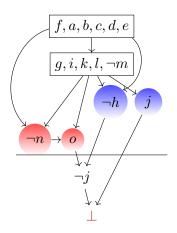
$$\neg c \lor k$$

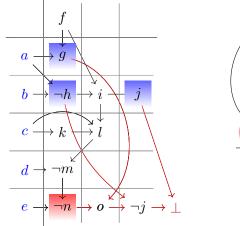
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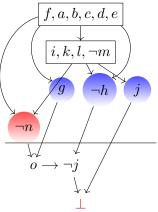


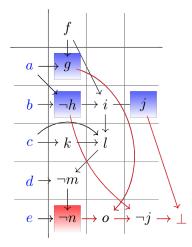


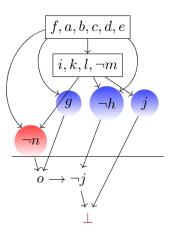


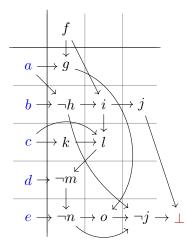






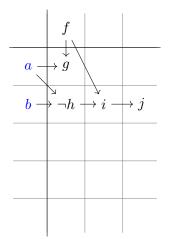






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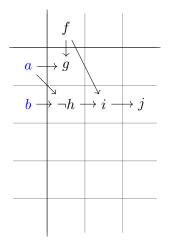
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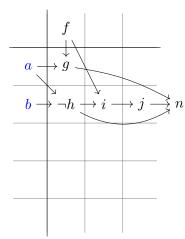


$$\begin{array}{c} \neg a \lor \neg f \lor g \\ \neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg h \\ a \lor c \\ a \lor \neg i \lor \neg l \\ a \lor \neg k \lor \neg j \\ b \lor d \\ b \lor g \lor \neg n \\ b \lor \neg f \lor n \lor k \\ \neg c \lor k \\ \neg c \lor n \lor \lor \neg i \lor \end{array}$$

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$$\neg i \lor j$$

$$\neg d \lor \neg l \lor \neg m$$

$$\neg e \lor m \lor \neg n$$

$$\neg f \lor h \lor i$$

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Heavy-tail phenomena (SAT and CP)

At any time during the experiment there is a non-negligible probability of hitting a problem that requires exponentially more time to solve than any that has been encountered before.

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- Randomization: breaking ties, random decision between k best choices, . . .
- Restarts: Geometric/Luby

Restarts

We find in the literature two common restart policies.

- Geometric restart: $b \times f^{k-1}$ for the k^{th} restart where b is called a base and f is called a factor.
- Luby restarts follow the sequence 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 4, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 4, 8, ... multiplied by a base b. The ith element of the luby sequence ψ_i is defined recursively by the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{k-1} \ if \ \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, i = 2^k - 1 \\ \psi_{i-2^{k-1}+1} \ if \ \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, 2^{k-1} \leq i < 2^k - 1 \end{aligned}$$

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SAT Solvers

- MiniSat: http://minisat.se/
- Glucose: http://www.labri.fr/perso/lsimon/glucose/
- LingeLing http://fmv.jku.at/lingeling
- Any Solver by Armin Biere http://fmv.jku.at/software/index.html
- Any winner from past and future SAT competitions: https://www.satcompetition.org/

The DIMACS Format (.cnf files)

- A comment line starts with 'c'
- The first non comment line should be in the form $p \operatorname{cnf} X Y$ where X is the number of variables and Y is the number of clauses
- For instance, with 4 variables and 3 clauses:
- p cnf 4 3
- Let The list of variables be $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$. The literal x_i is represented by i and the literal $\neg x_i$ is represented by -i.
- The clauses are listed line by line where the literals are separated by a space "" and a "0" is placed at the end to indicate the end of the clause

Modelling Exercices

- We want to rebuild the wifi coverage in the GEI department
- A set of geographical locations $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ has to be covered
- Potential installations are defined as subsets of G. Each installation covers its elements
- We want to find a full coverage using the minimum number of installations
- Propose a MaxSAT Model

Example

p cnf 4 3 2 -4 3 0 1 -2 3 0 -1 -4 -3 0

SAT vs CSP $% \left({{\rm{A}}} \right)$

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Back to Constraint Programming

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- Mostly solvable by backtracking algorithms (Search and Filtering)

Search

Mohamed Siala (Toulouse)

Search

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Value Ordering

'Succeed-first' [Geelen, 1992]: "Follow the best chances leading to a solution"

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Arc Consistency

Let C be a constraint and D be a list of domains for the variables in the scope of C.

C is Arc Consistent (AC) iff for every variable x in the scope of C, for every value $v \in D(x)$, there exists an assignment w in D satisfying C in which v is assigned to x

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- If each domain is a singleton, the propagator must be able to check if the assignment corresponds to a solution or not.

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- When should we encode to SAT, when shouldn't we?
- CP vs. SAT: a fundamental difference is the presence of global reasoning in CP and clause learning in SAT

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- On the other hand, clause learning in SAT is quite powerful to learn new clauses and to backjump in the search tree

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- On the other hand, clause learning in SAT is quite powerful to learn new clauses and to backjump in the search tree
- Can we find something that takes advantage from both worlds?

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- Decomposition is the task of reformulating a (global) constraint into smaller and simpler constraints.
- Take the example of AllDifferent: it can be decomposed into simple binary inequalities. **Remember the tutorial!**.
- In general, decomposition makes the filtering weaker. We lose the powerful filtering from the global constraints by decomposing.
- On the one hand, by decomposing into clauses, we loose the powerful filtering from CP
- Also the size of the encoding matters. An exponential encoding is better avoided!
- On the other hand, clause learning in SAT is quite powerful to learn new clauses and to backjump in the search tree
- Can we find something that takes advantage from both worlds? \rightarrow Clause learning in CP

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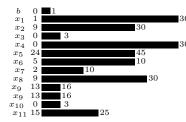
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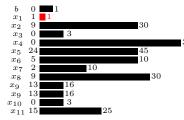
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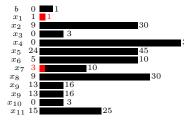
 $[\![x_1\,=1]\!]$

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$$\llbracket x_1 = 1 \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket x_7 \geq 3 \rrbracket$$

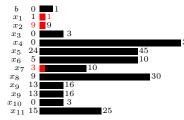
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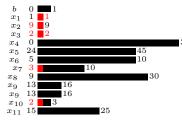


$$\llbracket x_1 = 1 \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket x_7 \geq 3 \rrbracket$$

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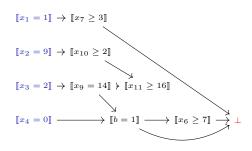
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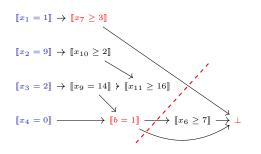
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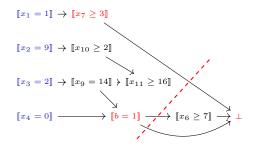




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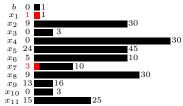
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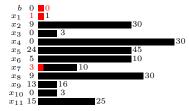
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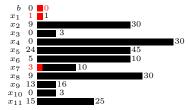
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- Propagate the learnt clause
- Continue exploration

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Conflict analysis

Algorithm 1: 1-UIP-with-Propagators

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- Example: Explain the constraint $X \leq Y$ with two scenarios (failure and propagation).

- Let (x_1, \ldots, x_n) be a sequence of Boolean variables, and let d be a positive integer.
- The CARDINALITY (x_1, \ldots, x_n, d) constraint holds iff exactly d variables from the sequence (x_1, \ldots, x_n) are true.
- Write a filtering algorithm for CARDINALITY.
- What is the time complexity?
- Does it enforce arc consistency?
- Explain the CARDINALITY filtering.

Correction

Algorithm 4: CARDINALITY($[x_1, \ldots, x_n], d$) if $|\{x_j \mid \mathcal{D}(x_j) = \{1\}\}| > d$ then $1 \mid \mathcal{D} \leftarrow \perp;$ if $|\{x_j \mid \mathcal{D}(x_j) = \{0\}\}| > n - d$ then $2 \mid \mathcal{D} \leftarrow \perp;$ if $|\{x_i \mid \mathcal{D}(x_i) = \{1\}\}| = d$ then foreach $i \in \{1..n\}$ do if $D(x_i) = \{0, 1\}$ then $\mathcal{D}(x_i) \leftarrow \{0\};$ 3 else if $|\{x_i \mid \mathcal{D}(x_i) = \{0\}\}| = n - d$ then foreach $i \in \{1..n\}$ do if $D(x_i) = \{0, 1\}$ then $\mathcal{D}(x_i) \leftarrow \{1\};$ 4 return \mathcal{D} ;

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Where $D(x^i) = \{0\}$

- Explaining the propagating of the value 1: the conjunction of all the assigned variables
- Explaining the propagating of the value 0: the conjunction of all the assigned variables

Encoding CSP into SAT

- How to encode the variables' domain ?
- How to encode each constraint into a set of clauses ?

• Suppose that $D(x) = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$

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Domain Encoding: Quadratic Encoding

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- The number of variables is linear
- The number of clauses is quadratic

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- $x_i \rightarrow y_i \land \neg y_{i-1}$
- The number of variables is linear in the size of the domain
- The number of clauses is linear. However, some clauses are of arity three

Exercise: Constraint encoding ?

- How to encode the AllDifferent constraint ?
- How to encode $\sum_{i} X_i \leq k$ (X_i is an integer variable)?
- How to encode $\sum_{i} a_i \times X_i \leq k$?

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