



## (propositional) SAT(isifiability)

# Overview

- Boolean formulas
- modeling
- solving
- the Sudoku problem

## More details

- <http://www.cril.univ-artois.fr/~sais/mastersia.html>

## Boolean formulas

- $\perp$ ,  $\top$  are formulas
- a propositional variable (atom)  $A_i$  is a formula
- if  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are formulas,  
then  $\neg\phi_1$ ,  $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$ ,  $\phi_1 \vee \phi_2$ ,  $\phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2$ ,  $\phi_1 \leftrightarrow \phi_2$
- literal: a propositional variable  $A_i$  (positive literal) or its negation  $\neg A_i$  (negative literal)
- $Atom(\phi)$ : set of variables  $A_i$  of  $\phi$
- formulas can be represented by trees or DAGs

# Complexity

- the problem of deciding the satisfiability of a Boolean formula (SAT) is NP-complete (Cook'71)
- most important problems in logic (validity, deduction, equivalence, . . . ) can be reduce to SAT, and they are (co) NP-complete

## Disjunctive normal form (CNF)

- $\phi$  is in CNF (clausal) iff  $\phi$  is a conjunction of disjunctions of literals:

$$\bigwedge_{i \in I} \left( \bigvee_{j_i \in J_i} A_{j_i} \right)$$

- $\bigvee_{j_i \in J_i} A_{j_i}$  is a clause
- CNF is better handled by algorithm
- example:  $\phi = (\neg a \vee b) \wedge c \wedge (a \vee b \vee c) \wedge (\neg a \vee b \vee c \vee \dots)$
- every  $\phi$  can be converted into an equivalent  $CNF(\phi)$   
(can lead to an exponential explosion of the formula)

# Modeling a problem: detecting breakdowns of a vehicle

## breakdowns:

$p_1$ : no more water

$p_2$ : no more oil

$p_3$ : belt is broken

$p_4$ : current rectifier is cut

$p_5$ : battery is empty

$p_6$ : battery has a short-circuit

$p_7$ : fuse melt

## clues

$i_1$ : temperature light is red

$i_2$ : charge is positive

$i_3$ : oil light is red

$i_4$ : revolution counter is positive

$i_5$ : engine is running

$i_6$ : lights work

## utilities

$u_1$ : coil is powered

$u_2$ : secondary circuits are powered

$u_3$ : there is a short circuit

## Modeling a problem: detecting breakdowns of a vehicle

- if the temperature light is red, then,  
there is no more water or no more oil or the belt is broken,  
and secondary circuits are powered

$$i_1 \rightarrow ((p_1 \vee p_2 \vee p_3) \wedge u_2)$$

$$\text{clauses: } (\neg i_1 \vee p_1 \vee p_2 \vee p_3) \wedge (\neg i_1 \vee u_2)$$

- oil light is red iff  
secondary circuits are powered  
and there is no more oil or the engine does not run

$$i_3 \leftrightarrow u_2 \wedge (p_2 \vee \neg i_5)$$

clauses:

$$(\neg i_3 \vee u_2) \wedge (\neg i_3 \vee p_2 \vee \neg i_5) \wedge (\neg u_2 \vee \neg p_2 \vee i_3) \wedge (\neg u_2 \vee i_5 \vee i_3)$$

- a battery with short-cut is empty

$$p_6 \rightarrow p_5$$

$$\text{clause: } \neg p_6 \vee p_5$$



# Modeling a problem: detecting breakdowns of a vehicle

- if charge is positive and battery is in short-circuit, then the fuse melt

$$i_2 \wedge p_6 \rightarrow p_7$$

$$\text{clause: } \neg i_2 \vee \neg p_6 \vee p_7$$

- ...

# Applications of SAT

- Constraint satisfaction
  - scheduling, time-tabling
  - temporal reasoning (Allen 1983)
  - circuit design and verification (VLSI) (Larrabee 1992)
  - ...
- Reasoning (deduction)

$\Sigma \models \alpha$  iff  $\Sigma \wedge \neg\alpha$  is unsatisfiable

- Other reasoning models in AI
  - diagnostic / abduction
  - belief revision
  - ...
- Learning
- Other applications
  - cryptography
  - model checking
  - ...

## Format: DIMACS

- every line starting with a c is a comment
- a line gives the parameters of the model:  
p cnf #variables #clauses
- a variable is given by its number  $n$ , its negation by  $-n$
- one clause per line, with a 0 at the end
- example:  $(x_1 \vee \neg x_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge \neg x_3$

c dummy program

p cnf 3 4

1 -2 0

2 3 0

1 2 3 0

-3 0

## Resolution of SAT problems

- numerous solvers
- Davis-Putnam (DP 1960): based on resolution  
 $(x_1 \vee A) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee B) \leftrightarrow (A \vee B)$
- Davis-Putnam-Logeman-Loveland (DPLL 1962): based on backtracking
- modern solvers are based on DPLL with learning
- Some solvers: minisat (sudo apt-get install minisat) , glucose, ...

# Classification of solvers

## complete

### can prove unsat

resolution

method of tableaux (truth trees)

DPLL procedure

BDDs

...

## incomplete

### cannot prove unsat

local search

simulated annealing

taboo search

genetic algorithms

...



## Modeling Sudoku

## The problem

5	3			7			
6			1	9	5		
	9	8					6
8				6			3
4			8		3		1
7				2			6
	6					2	8
			4	1	9		5
				8			7
						7	9

- 81 cell board
- cells with values between 1 and 9
- all values of a row, of a column, or of a bloc ( $3 \times 3$ ) are different

## The model 1/3

- Encoding cells:
  - Direct encoding / Suport encoding: one variable per value
  - Log encoding :  $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$  variables to represent  $n$  values
- Direct Encoding: each cell corresponds to 9 Boolean variables associated to 9 possible values (true if the cell has this value, false otherwise)
  - $x_{i,j,k}$  corresponds to the cell  $[i,j]$  taking value  $k$  : 729 variables



## The model 2/3

- each cell has one and only one value: at least one value per cell, and at most one
  - at least one:  $\bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j \bigvee_k x_{i,j,k} \rightarrow 81$  clauses
  - at most one:
 
$$\bigwedge_i \bigwedge_j \bigwedge_{\substack{k,l \\ k \neq l}} (\neg x_{i,j,k} \vee \neg x_{i,j,l}) \rightarrow 9 \times 9 \times (9 \times 8)/2 = 2916$$
 clauses  
 (if  $k$  and  $l$  are integer, can be limited to  $k > l$ )



## The model 3/3

- All the values of a raw are different (alldiff) :
  - $\bigwedge_i \bigwedge_k \bigwedge_{\substack{j,l \\ j \neq l}} (\neg x_{i,j,k} \vee \neg x_{i,l,k}) \rightarrow 9 \times 9 \times (9 \times 8/2) = 2916$   
clauses  
(if  $j$  and  $l$  are integer, can be limited to  $j > l$ )
- idem for columns and blocs
- cells with given value: unitary clause  $x_{i,j,val}$