

**M A S A R Y K  
U N I V E R S I T Y**

FACULTY OF INFORMATICS

**Verification of binarised neural  
networks using ASP**

Bachelor's Thesis

JINDŘICH MATUŠKA

Brno, Spring 2024

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Advisor: RNDr. Samuel Pastva, PhD.

Department of Computer Systems and Communications

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FI

## **Declaration**

Hereby I declare that this paper is my original authorial work, which I have worked out on my own. All sources, references, and literature used or excerpted during elaboration of this work are properly cited and listed in complete reference to the due source.

Jindřich Matuška

**Advisor:** RNDr. Samuel Pastva, PhD.

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## Abstract

Deep neural networks are state-of-the-art technology. Using them in critical real-life applications carries a risk of failure. For this, verification of their properties is needed. This thesis explores the possibility for the use of answer set programming paradigm in this task. It implements a quantitative verifier for binarized neural networks, a special case of deep neural networks, using this paradigm. It also demonstrates the use of this verifier on a network trained on the MNIST dataset. The verifier proves to be especially good when evaluating highly robust networks.

## Keywords

verification, binarized neural networks, answer set programming, Clingo, robustness

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## Thesis assignment

ASP (Answer Set Programming) is a form of constraint programming designed for solving various NP-complete search problems. It is often used as an alternative to SAT/SMT solvers or symbolic algorithms based on BDDs (Binary Decision Diagrams). Meanwhile, SAT/SMT and BDDs are one of the key tools in current verification and validation workflows for binarised neural networks (BNNs) [1]. Conceptually, the goal of this thesis is therefore to explore the possibilities of applying ASP to reason about the behaviour of binarised neural networks. This should supplement the existing SAT/SMT/BDD-based approaches.

More concretely, the student should familiarise themselves with the problem of BNN robustness and the ASP method in general. They should then formulate an ASP encoding of the BNN robustness problem such that the robustness of a network can be validated using a suitable ASP solver (e.g. clingo [2]). The student should then create a prototype implementation of this encoding that will be tested on a collection of reasonable examples (such as the ones from [1]).

## 1 Introduction

Deep neural networks (DNN) are state-of-the-art technology. They are used in many real-world applications e.g. medicine, self-driving cars, autonomous systems, many of which are critical. Deep neural networks used in natural language processing have up to hundreds of billions of parameters [3]. That is too many for people to comprehend. Tools for the automation of DNN verification are needed.

Verification of neural networks is split into two categories. First, qualitative verification, searches through input space looking for any adversarial input, e.g. an input which results in wrong output. Second, quantitative verification, searches through input space determining the size of the part of the input space giving adversarial outputs.

For the qualitative disproving of the verity of general DNNs, many algorithms for finding adversarial inputs have already been developed [4, 5, 6]. The DNN can be qualitatively disproven by finding any adversarial input. Proving the nonexistence of adversarial input is usually made by generating constraints on adversarial inputs and then showing there can be no such input [7]. This is computationally much more difficult and prone to errors emerging from inaccuracies of floating point numbers operations. It is often made with the use of a simplex algorithm combined with the satisfiability modulo theories (SMT) paradigm [7, 8, 9]. As far as I am aware, there is no reasonably quick quantitative validator of general DNNs yet.

As DNNs generally base their computations on floating point numbers, the computation of output is hard. For this, quantization, a new branch of DNN development, where instead of 32 or 64-bit long floating point numbers, low-bit-width (eg. 4-bit) fixed point numbers are used. This mitigates the high cost of computation and the need for high-end devices while also lowering the power consumption. Extreme examples of quantization are Binary neural networks (BNN). These use binary parameters for their computations, resulting in much cheaper computational price, both when learning and in production, while maintaining near state-of-the-art results [10].

While both qualitative and quantitative BNN verifiers exist, they scale only up to millions of parameters for qualitative verification [11] and tens of thousands of parameters for quantitative verification [12].

These verifiers can even compute on natural numbers only, without errors.

In this thesis, I have implemented a quantitative BNN verifier using the answer set programming paradigm in the framework Clingo from Potassco. In this implementation I have derived an efficient encoding of BNN computation and of input regions under the hamming distance and under fixed indices. Further I have encapsulated this verifier together with a program for parsing BNNs into a Clingo-readable format in an easy to use framework. As far as I am concerned, this is the first such implementation using the ASP paradigm.

I have also evaluated the speed of this verifier on BNN models of various architectures based of PyTorch deep learning platform provided by NPAQ [13] trained in [12] on MNIST [14] dataset. The verifier works especially well on robust networks when the input region is specified by fixed indices.

## 2 Used tools

### 2.1 Answer set programming

Answer set programming (ASP) is a form of declarative programming oriented towards difficult, primarily NP-hard, search problems [15]. ASP is particularly suited for solving difficult combinatorial search problems [16]. ASP is somewhat closely related to propositional satisfiability checking (SAT) in sense that the problem is represented as logic program. Difference is in computational mechanism of finding solution.

#### 2.1.1 Syntax and semantics of ASP

Logic program  $\Pi$  in ASP is a set of rules consisting of atoms. An atom is the elementary construct for representing knowledge [17]. Each atom constitutes a single variable which either is or is not in the answer set (solution). An atom can be seen as a possible feature of the answer set. Each rule  $r_i \in \Pi$  has form of

$$\text{head}(r_i) \leftarrow \text{body}(r_i) \quad (2.1)$$

$\text{head}(r_i)$  is then a single atom  $p_0$ , while  $\text{body}(r_i)$  is a set of zero or more literals (atoms or negated atoms)  $\{p_1, \dots, p_m, \text{not } p_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not } p_n\}$ .

$$p_0 \leftarrow p_1, \dots, p_m, \text{not } p_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not } p_n \quad (2.2)$$

Further the  $\text{body}(r_i)$  can be split between  $\text{body}^+(r_i) = \{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$  and  $\text{body}^-(r_i) = \{p_{m+1} \dots p_n\}$ . If  $\forall r_i \in \Pi. \text{body}^-(r_i) = \emptyset$ , meaning there are no negative literals in the program, then  $\Pi$  is called *basic*.

Semantically rule (2.2) means *If all atoms from  $\text{body}^+(r_i)$  are included in answer set and no atom from  $\text{body}^-(r_i)$  is in answer set, then  $\text{head}(r_i)$  has to be in the set.*

Set of atoms  $X$  is closed under a basic program  $\Pi$  if for any rule  $r_i \in \Pi. \text{body}(r_i) \subseteq X \implies \text{head}(r_i) \in X$ . For general case the concept of *reduct of a program  $\Pi$  relative to a set  $X$  of atoms* is needed.

$$\Pi^X = \{\text{head}(r_i) \leftarrow \text{body}^+(r_i) \mid r_i \in \Pi, \text{body}^-(r_i) \cap X = \emptyset\} \quad (2.3)$$

This program is always basic as it only contains positive atoms.

Let's denote  $\text{Cn}(\Pi)$  the minimal set of atoms closed under a basic program  $\Pi$ , that is

$$\text{Cn}(\Pi) \supseteq \{\text{head}(r_i) \mid r_i \in \Pi, \text{body}(r_i) \subseteq \text{Cn}(\Pi)\} \quad (2.4)$$

Such set is said to constitute program  $\Pi$ . Set  $X$  of atoms is said to be answer set of  $\Pi$  iff

$$\text{Cn}(\Pi^X) = X \quad (2.5)$$

In other words, the answer set is a model of  $\Pi$  such that its every atom is grounded in  $\Pi$ .

Let's illustrate this property on an example.

$$\Pi = \{p \leftarrow p, q \leftarrow \text{not } p\} \quad (2.6)$$

There are 4 subsets of set of all atoms. First the reduct relative to the subset is made, on it the calculation of constituting set is made. If  $X = \text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$ , then  $X$  is one of answer sets.

$X$	$\Pi^X$	$\text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$
$\{\}$	$p \leftarrow p$ $q \leftarrow$	$\{q\}$
$\{p\}$	$p \leftarrow p$	$\{\}$
$\{q\}$	$p \leftarrow p$ $q \leftarrow$	$\{q\}$
$\{p, q\}$	$p \leftarrow p$	$\{\}$

There is only a single answer set of  $\Pi$ , that is  $\{q\}$ . Note that  $\{p\}$  is not an answer set as it is not minimal. Also, there is an interesting type of rule in the table,  $p \leftarrow$ . This type of rule is commonly referred as *fact* and ensures that atom  $p$  is always included in the answer set.

Another toy example is  $\Pi = \{p \leftarrow \text{not } q, q \leftarrow \text{not } p\}$ . Again, there are 4 subsets of set of all atoms.

$X$	$\Pi^X$	$\text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$
$\{\}$	$p \leftarrow$ $q \leftarrow$	$\{p, q\}$
$\{p\}$	$p \leftarrow$	$\{p\}$
$\{q\}$	$q \leftarrow$	$\{q\}$
$\{p, q\}$		$\{\}$

This time there are two answer sets of  $\Pi$ ,  $\{p\}$  and  $\{q\}$ . As we can see, the double not forms a XOR — exactly one of atoms  $p, q$  has to be in the answer set.

### 2.1.2 Language extensions

Writing logic programs only using rules of form (2.2) would be very hard. For this, many language extensions have been developed to shorten programs, simplifying both readability and computation of stable models.

In this section I will only show the constraint, as it can be very easily transformed into base ASP rule. I will describe more language extensions provided with Clingo framework in section (2.2).

#### Constraint

$$\leftarrow p_1, \dots, p_m, \text{not } p_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not } p_n$$

Constraint is a type of language extension with semantics that its body can not be in the answer set. It is defined as the following rule [16]:

$$f \leftarrow \text{not } f, p_1, \dots, p_m, \text{not } p_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not } p_n \quad (2.7)$$

where  $f$  is a new atom (atom not used anywhere else).

Let's consider a logic program  $\Pi$ , with a constraint rule (2.7) call it  $r$ . Let  $X$  be any set of atoms s.t.  $\{p_1, \dots, p_m\} \subseteq X, \{p_{m+1}, \dots, p_n\} \cap X = \emptyset$ . If  $f \in X$ , then the rule  $f \leftarrow \text{body}^+(r)$  is not in  $\Pi^X$ , thus  $f \notin \text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$  and  $X \neq \text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$ . If  $f \notin X$ , then the rule  $f \leftarrow \text{body}^+(r)$  is in  $\Pi^X$ , thus  $f \in \text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$  and  $X \neq \text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$ . This shows that no set consistent with constraint rule can be answer set.

If  $X$  is not consistent with rule  $r$  and  $f \notin X$ , then  $X$  contains some negative literal of  $r$  ( $\exists x \in X. x \in \text{body}^-(r)$ ) and the rule  $r$  is not in the reduct  $\Pi^X$ , or  $X$  does not contain some positive literal of  $r$ , thus the rule  $r$  is not applied. Either way,  $f \notin X, f \notin \text{Cn}(\Pi^X)$ .

Such rule is usefull for constraining the answer set. Lets assume expansion of example from the previous section.

$$\Pi = \{p_1 \leftarrow \text{not } q_1, q_1 \leftarrow \text{not } p_1, p_2 \leftarrow \text{not } q_2, q_2 \leftarrow \text{not } p_2\}$$

By adding the constraint  $\leftarrow p_1, p_2$ , any set that contains both  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  is not an answer set. Program  $\Pi$  thus has 4 answer sets, while  $\Pi \cup \{\leftarrow p_1, p_2\}$  has only 3.

## 2.2 Clingo framework

Clingo is an integrated ASP system, consisting of a grounder Gringo and solver Clasp [18]. In the following section I will show basics of the Clingo language, gringo as translation from Clingo to Aspif language and solving with clasp.

### 2.2.1 Clingo language

Clingo language [19] is used for transcribing ASP programs and their extended versions. There are 3 possible forms of rules as shown in the table bellow.

Type	Form	ASP rule
Fact	$\text{head}(r).$	$\text{head}(r) \leftarrow$
Rule	$\text{head}(r) \text{ :- } \text{body}(r).$	$\text{head}(r) \leftarrow \text{body}(r)$
Constraint	$\text{ :- } \text{body}(r).$	$\leftarrow \text{body}(r)$

Semantically these rules mean to use head of rule if whole body of rule is consistent with the answer set. Fact does have an empty body, thus its head is used always. No answer set is consistent with body of constraint.

**Example**

Program (2.6) can be rewritten into Clingo language as following program.

```
1 p :- p.
2 q :- not p.
```

Each rule consists of head and body, separated by :- operator. Every atom starts with small letter of english alphabet. Every statements ends with a dot.

Clingo language also allows for the use of parametric atoms called functions<sup>1</sup>. Such atoms take form of name(parameters), the name starts with a small letter of english alphabet, parameters can be of multiple types including integers, variables and arithmetic expressions (for comprehensive list see the Potassco guide [19]). Multiple parameters may be present, in that case they are separated by comma (,). Variable always starts with a big letter of english alphabet. Take the following program as an example.

```
1 a(1). a(2). a(3). b(2).
2 b(X+3) :- a(X), b(X).
```

This program contains four facts on line 1 and single substituable rule with arithmetic expression on line 2. As can be seen on line 1, multiple statements can share single line as long as they are all formed correctly. In the same manner, a statement can span over multiple lines.

If the exact parameter is not needed, one can use a wildcard (\_) in place of the parameter in the body of rule. The wildcard behaves as anonymous variable meaning it is assigned a fresh parameter in the process of grounding.

```
1 a(1, 0). a(2, 4). a(3, -3).
2 b(X) :- a(X, _).
```

In the process of grounding parametric atoms, Gringo iteratively searches through the space of possible atoms of the same name and parameter count. If it finds suitable combination of atoms, it adds a new atom with the corresponding parameters. For instance, in the previous example atoms b(1), b(2), resp. b(3) would be added for atoms a(1, 0), a(2, 4), a(3, -3).

---

1. In the case of Clingo language functions are the ones in the mathematic sense. Here, the function is a mere finitary relation.



### Arithmetic functions and comparison predicates

As was already shown in one of the previous examples, Clingo language allows for the usage of some arithmetic functions for working with parameters. The following symbols are used for these functions: + (addition), - (subtraction, unary minus), \* (multiplication), / (integer division), \ (modulo), \*\* (exponentiation), || (absolute value), & (bitwise AND), ? (bitwise OR), ^ (bitwise exclusive OR), and ~ (bitwise complement). The built-in predicates to compare terms are = (equal), != (not equal), < (less than), <= (less than or equal), > (greater than), and >= (greater than or equal). [19].

### Intervals, pooling, wild cards

Another useful constructs in Clingo language are intervals and pooling. Consider the following example of intervals (programs are equivalent):

```
1 a(1..3, 0..1).
                                     a(1, 0). a(2, 0). a(3, 0) 1
                                     .
                                     a(1, 1). a(2, 1). a(3, 1) 2
                                     .
```

Each combination of intervals is evaluated as a single rule. The first parameter, 1..3, gives 3 choices, the second, 0..1, 2 choices, thus  $6 = 3 * 2$  rules can be derived.

For a more complex example consider the following program.

```
1 comp(X*Y) :- X = 2..20, Y = 2..20, X*Y <= 20.
2 prime(X) :- not comp(X), X = 2..20.
```

This program calculates prime numbers. A number is composite if it can be written as a product of two numbers greater than 1. Else it is prime.

Pooling is very similar to intervals. It also allows for compact writing of rules. Similar to intervals allowing for writing sets of consecutive numbers, pooling allows for writing any set. Using pooling, the example from the start of this section could be rewritten as following program.

```
1 a((1;2;3), (0;1)).
```

The pooling (;) has lower precedence than the splitting of parameters (,). For this, each pool must be enclosed in parentheses, else this program would be equivalent to:

```
1 a(1). a(2). a(3, 0). a(1).
```

Pooling can be also done on nonnumeric parameters.

```
1 a(foo; bar).
```

### 2.2.2 Gringo

Gringo is a software that grounds program in Clingo language into the format Aspif that is readable in Clasp. Gringo first resolves every rule with variables into (possibly multiple) variable-free rules and then changes format of the program into Clasp-readable Aspif. Gringo thus can introduce new atoms that were not obvious from the Clingo program. Full specification of Aspif language is written in [18].

Aspif (ASP intermediate format) language consists of statements, each on its own line. First line of file is header of form

$$\text{asp } v_m \ v_n \ v_r \ t_1 \ \dots \ t_k$$

where  $v_m, v_n$  and  $v_r$  are versions of major, minor and revision numbers respectively and each  $t_i$  is a tag. Then follow lines with statements translated from program. For this thesis only rule and show statements are relevant. Last line of Aspif format file is a single 0.

#### Rule statement

Rule statement in Aspif has form of

$$1 \ H \ B$$

in which head  $H$  has form of

$$h \ m \ a_1 \ \dots \ a_m$$

where  $h \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $m \geq 0$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}. a_i \in \mathbb{N}^+$ . Parameter  $h$  determines whether head of this rule is disjunction (0) or choice (1),  $m$  determines number of literals and  $a_i$  are positive literals.

Body  $B$  is called normal if it has form of

$$0 \ n \ l_1 \ \dots \ l_n$$

The normal body literals are in conjunction. For the head of statement with this body to be used, all its literals have to be consistent with the answer set. Parameter  $n \geq 0$  determines the length of rule body and each  $l_i$  is literal. If the literal is negative, inversed value of its index is used.

The other type of body  $B$  is called weight body. Its form is

$$1 \ b \ n \ l_1 \ w_1 \ \dots \ l_n \ w_n$$

Parameter  $b \geq 0$  determines lower bound,  $n$  the length of rule body, each  $l_i$  is literal and  $w_i \geq 1$  its weight. If the literal is negative, inversed value of its index is used. In this case, the head of the rule is used if the sum of weights from literals consistent with the answer set is greater or equal to the lower bound.

### Show statement

Show statement is for specification of output, they result from #show directive. Each show statement is of form

$$4 \ m \ s \ n \ l_1 \ \dots \ l_n$$

where  $m$  is length of string  $s$ ,  $s$  is string with name,  $n$  is number length of condition and  $l_i$  are literals. The show statement prints the string  $s$  if all literals  $l_i$  are cosistent with the answer set.

### Example

Let's illustrate the gringo parsing on some programs<sup>2</sup>. First the program  $\Pi = \{p \leftarrow \text{not } q, q \leftarrow \text{not } p\}$ <sup>3</sup>.

2. To prevent gringo from making optimalizations,I have run all examples in this section with option `--preserve-facts=all`

3. In fact the Aspif file generated by Gringo would have lines 2 and 3 swapped. In this thesis I have made this swap to better illustrate the translation.

		asp	1	0	0		1			
1	p :- not	q.	1	0	1	2	0	1	-1	2
2	q :- not	p.	1	0	1	1	0	1	-2	3
			4	1	q	1	1			4
			4	1	p	1	2			5
			0							6

First line of Aspif file is header. Lines 1 and 2 of Clingo file are equivalent to lines 2 and 3 of Aspif file. There you can see transcription of negative literals not q and not p as -1 and -2 respectively. Let's now decompose the line 2 of Aspif program.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\
 S & h & m & a_1 & f & n & l_1
 \end{array}$$

Beginning with  $S = 1$ , this statement is a rule. Head of this rule is composed of  $h = 0$ , head of this rule is disjunction. As  $m = 1$ , if body is consistent with answer set, then the literal in the head has to be in the answer set. Finally, the literal on  $a_1 = 2$  is alias for p. The body is then composed from  $f = 0$ , the literals are in conjunction. Then  $n = 1$  means only one literal is in the body, that is  $l_1 = -1$ , meaning negative literal with alias 1 (not q). Line 3 is dual to this line.

Next, on lines 4 and 5, there are two statements for showing atoms.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 4 & 1 & q & 1 & 1 \\
 S & m & s & n & l_1
 \end{array}$$

First is a show statement ( $S = 4$ ) for a single-lettered ( $m = 1$ ) atom q. It is printed out if single ( $n = 1$ ) literal numbered  $l_1 = 1$  is in the answer set. Similarly, the single-lettered atom p is printed out if single literal numbered 2 is in the answer set.

To illustrate the variable resolving, let me show you another Clingo program beeing parsed by gringo.

	asp	1	0	0			1		
1 a(1).	1	0	1	1	0	0	2		
2 a(2).	1	0	1	2	0	0	3		
3 a(3).	1	0	1	3	0	0	4		
4 b(2).	1	0	1	4	0	0	5		
5 b(X+3) :- a(X), b(X).	1	0	1	5	0	2	4	2	6
	4	4	b(2)	1	4				7
	4	4	b(5)	1	5				8
	4	4	a(1)	1	1				9
	4	4	a(2)	1	2				10
	4	4	a(3)	1	3				11
	0								12

On lines 1–4 there are 4 facts  $a(1)$ ,  $a(2)$ ,  $a(3)$  and  $b(2)$ . Each of this fact instantiates a new atom with a single parameter. Then on line 5 is rule with variable  $X$ . To resolve this rule, gringo first looks through all known atoms of  $a$  and  $b$  and finds tuples that satisfy the positive literals of the body of the rule, that is functions  $a$  and  $b$  each with the same parameter. There is only a single such instantiation, that is  $a(2)$  and  $b(2)$ . Thus new atom  $b(5)$  is added to known atoms. This resolution of parametric rules continues until there is no rule that could add any new atoms.

Now, when we know all possibly needed atoms, Clingo adds rules to the program. The 4 facts from lines 1–4 of Clingo ended up as rules on lines 2–5 of Aspif. As can be seen, each fact got rewritten as rule with no parameter, thus applying every time. Rule from line 5 of Clingo got transcribed as a single rule on line 6 in Aspif - there is only a single possible assignment of atoms that fit the rule. Literal 5, corresponding to atom  $b(5)$ , is in the answer set if both literals 4 and 2 corresponding to  $b(2)$  and  $a(2)$  resp. are in the answer set. This rule can not be applied on any other tuple of literals, thus the grounding of rules is over. Further in Aspif file there are only show statements.

It should be noted that the parameters of atoms are only used in the grounding process. After grounding, the atoms lose their names and parameters and are for the solver represented by only assigned numbers.

One problem gringo has is that it is prone to generating endless number of atoms. Take the following program as an example.

	asp	1	0	0	1
1 a(1) .	1	0	1	1	0
2 a(X+1) :- a(X) .	1	0	1	2	0
	1	0	1	3	0
	1	0	1	4	0
	1	0	1	5	0
	...				

As can be seen, in this case searching for atoms ends up with new atoms endlessly emerging. When writing Clingo programs, one has to be aware of this behaviour.

Another possibly unexpected behaviour is that gringo works only on 32 or 64-bit integers. This is better shown on the following example.

	asp	1	0	0	1
1 a(1) .	1	0	1	1	0
2 a(2*X) :- a(X) .	1	0	1	2	0
	...				
	1	0	1	33	0
	4	4	a(1)	1	1
	4	4	a(2)	1	2
	...				
	4	12	a(536870912)	1	30
	4	13	a(1073741824)	1	31
	4	14	a(-2147483648)	1	32
	4	4	a(0)	1	33
	0				

As seen on lines 65–67, the parameter of a has overflowed to negative values and then to zero.

### 2.2.3 Extensions in Clingo language

Further I will show some of extensions of Clingo language usefull either in general or directly for the implementation part of this thesis.

#### Disjunctive logic programs

Disjunctive logic programs allow of use of disjunction in the rule head.

Type	Form
Fact	$A_0; \dots; A_m.$
Rule	$A_0; \dots; A_m \text{ :- } L_0, \dots, L_n.$

Semantically the rule means that if body holds, than at least one of  $A_0, \dots, A_m$  holds. Additionally, set of atoms devised by this rule has to be minimal. This minimality criterion distinguish the disjunctive logic programs from the cardinality constraints. The disjunctive logic programs are not commonly used as they may increase the computational complexity [20].

1 {q}.	asp 1 0 0	1
2 a; b; c :- q.	1 1 1 1 0 0	2
	1 0 3 2 3 4 0 1 1	3
	4 1 q 1 1	4
	4 1 a 1 2	5
	4 1 b 1 3	6
	4 1 c 1 4	7
	0	8

Transcription from Clingo to Aspif is straightforward. Each disjunctive head is transcribed as a single disjunctive rule.

### Cardinality constraints

$$l \{p_1; \dots; p_m; \text{not } p_{m+1}; \dots; \text{not } p_n\} u$$

$$l \leq \{p_1; \dots; p_m; \text{not } p_{m+1}; \dots; \text{not } p_n\} \leq u$$

Cardinality constraint's semantics is that at least  $l$  and at most  $u$  of literals  $p_1; \dots; p_m; \text{not } p_{m+1}; \dots; \text{not } p_n$  has to be in the answer set for this literal to hold. The literals are perceived as set, thus multiple occurrences of the same literal count only as one. Cardinality constraints could be encoded into ASP using oriented binary decision diagram. However, probably due to the complexity of this transformation size, Gringo encodes this conditional literal as (possibly) multiple rules with weight bodies [18].

The cardinality constraint can also be used without either one or both of  $l$  or  $u$ . That way it is unbounded from bottom or top respec-





The main difference is in Aspif file, line 8. Instead of positive building literals as in previous example on line 6, a constraint is used. Thus either the rule is not used resulting in nonexistence of literal 2 or the literal 8 is set, corresponding to the cardinality constraint holding. Another difference is on the line 4. In the example with cardinality constraint in the body, the choice rule was added by another statement, while here it is part of transcription of this rule.

Similarly to usage of operator  $\leq$  in the statement, operators  $<$ ,  $>=$ ,  $>$ ,  $=$ ,  $\neq$  can be used in its place. In case of  $=$  or  $\neq$ , the formula is rewritten using two  $\leq$  operators.

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File	Best of 3	Average of 3
With redundancy	0.933 s	0.970 s
Without redundancy	3.278 s	3.287 s

**Table 2.1:** Comparison between redundant and nonredundant grounding

1 {a; b}.	asp 1 0 0	1
2 q(X) :- X = {a; b}.	1 1 2 1 2 0 0	2
	1 0 1 3 1 1 2 1 1 2 1	3
1 {a; b}.	1 0 1 4 0 1 -3	4
2 q(2) :- 2 = {a; b}.	1 0 1 5 1 1 2 1 1 2 1	5
3 q(1) :- 1 = {a; b}.	1 0 1 6 1 2 2 1 1 2 1	6
4 q(0) :- 0 = {a; b}.	1 0 1 7 0 2 5 -6	7
	1 0 1 8 0 1 7	8
	1 0 1 9 1 2 2 1 1 2 1	9
	1 0 1 10 0 1 9	10
	4 1 a 1 1	11
	4 1 b 1 2	12
	4 4 q(0) 1 4	13
	4 4 q(1) 1 8	14
	4 4 q(2) 1 10	15
	0	16

It can be seen that the generated program is highly redundant. For instance pairs of literals 3 and 5, 6 and 9, 7 and 8, 9 and 10 are the same. This might be on purpose as it somehow lowers the computational time of Clasp. I have measured the time to go through all solutions of both file generated by the gringo and equivalent file without redundancy. The files used modified program equivalent to the one above with 20 literals. The results are written in Table 2.1.

### Conditional literals

$$L : L_1, \dots, L_n$$

Conditional literals allow for a more compact writing of conditions. Semantically, the notation represents either literal  $L$  if the condition

$L_1, \dots, L_n$  is consistent with the answer set, In the case of inconsistency with the condition the conditional literal appear to not be present. In rule bodies, it is equivalent to a condition  $L$  is consistent with the answer set or conjunction of  $L_1, \dots, L_n$  is not consistent with the answer set.

Conditional literals are especially usefull when used inside of aggregates as their use help significantly to compact the programs.

### Aggregates

$$l \diamond_1 \#agg\{l_1 : L_1; \dots; l_n : L_n\} \diamond_2 u$$

Similiar to cardinality constraints are the aggregates. These work as functions applied on sets of tuples. Usable aggregate functions are `#count`, `#sum`, `#sum+`, `#min` and `#max`. As in cardinality constraints, both  $\diamond_1, \diamond_2$  default to  $\leq$  if ommitted.

Usual use of aggregates is by substituting some number parameter for  $l_i$  based on the parametric literal  $L_i$ . This way the aggregate works as function over all instances of such literal. For example the following program

```
1 {a(1); a(2); a(5); a(10)}.
2 s(S) :- S = #sum{ X : a(X) }.
```

allows for assigning to parameter of atom `s` only values which can be aquired as a sum of some numbers from list 1, 2, 5 and 10.

The `#count`, `#sum` and `#sum+` aggregates are rewritten simmiliarly to the cardinality constraint as up to two weighted body rules with the values  $l_i$  as weights. The `#min` and `#max` aggregates are rewritten by sorting the possible values. The aggregate then returns the value iff some instance of this value is present and no instance of bigger value is present at the same time resulting in many statements in the Aspif file.

#### 2.2.4 Clasp

Clasp is the solver of the Clingo framework. It takes Aspif file on input to search for answer sets of specified problem. This solver approaches the inference using the unit propagation of nogoods [21]. It is also able to search for all answer sets in one pass making it good option for the task of verification.

### 3 Binary neural network

#### Notation

Let me first introduce you to the notation for this chapter.

Symbol	Definition
$\mathbb{N}_0$	Set of nonnegative integers, that is $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$
$\mathbb{B}$	$\{0, 1\}$
$\mathbb{B}_\pm$	$\{-1, 1\}$
$\mathbb{R}$	Real numbes
$S^k$	Set of vectors $\{(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k) \mid s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k \in S\}$
$\mathcal{N}$	Binary network as a function
$\mathbf{M}$	Matrix
$\vec{v}$	Vector
$\vec{1}$	Vector of 1's
$[k]$	Set of numbers up to $k$ , that is $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$
$\mathbf{M}_{:,j}$	j-th row of matrix $\mathbf{M}$
$\vec{v}_j$	j-th entry of vector $\vec{v}$
$\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle$	Scalar product $\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle = \sum_i \vec{x}_i + \vec{y}_i$
$\text{sign}_{\pm 1}(x)$	Sign function using values +1, -1 $\text{sign}_{\pm 1}(x) = \begin{cases} +1 & x \geq 0 \\ -1 & x < 0 \end{cases}$
$\lfloor x \rfloor$	Bottom whole part $\lfloor x \rfloor = y \iff x = y + q \wedge 0 \leq q < 1$

**Table 3.1:** Used notation

#### 3.1 Definition of BNN

I have been working with deterministic binarized neural networks (BNN) as defined in [22] and [12]. For convinience I have rewritten the output as a natural number instead of one-hot vector. This article defines deterministic BNN as a convolution of layers. The input is

encoded as vector  $\mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_1}$ . The BNN is then encoded as tuple of blocks  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_d, t_{d+1})$ .

$$\mathcal{N} : \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$$

$$\mathcal{N} = t_{d+1} \circ t_d \circ \dots \circ t_1, \quad (3.1)$$

where for each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ ,  $t_i$  is inner block consisting of LIN layer  $t_i^{lin}$ , BN layer  $t_i^{bn}$  and BIN layer  $t_i^{bin}$ .

$$t_i : \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_{i+1}}$$

$$t_i = t_i^{bin} \circ t_i^{bn} \circ t_i^{lin} \quad (3.2)$$

Output block  $t_{d+1}$  then consists of LIN layer  $t_{d+1}^{lin}$  and ARGMAX layer  $t_{d+1}^{am}$ .

$$t_{d+1} : \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_{d+1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$$

$$t_{d+1} = t_{d+1}^{am} \circ t_{d+1}^{lin} \quad (3.3)$$

Each layer is a function with parameters as defined in Table 3.2.

Layer	Function	Parameters	Definition
LIN	$t_i^{lin} : \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$	Weight matrix: $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_i \times n_{i+1}}$ Bias (row) vector: $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$	$t_i^{bn}(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$ , where $\forall j \in [n_{i+1}]$ $\vec{y}_j = \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}_j$
BN	$t_i^{bn} : \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$	Weight vector: $\vec{\alpha} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$ Bias vector: $\vec{\gamma} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$ Mean vector: $\vec{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$ Std. dev. vector: $\vec{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}}$	$t_i^{bn}(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$ , where $\forall j \in [n_{i+1}]$ $\vec{y}_j = \vec{\alpha}_j \cdot \frac{\vec{x}_j - \vec{\mu}_j}{\vec{\sigma}_j} + \vec{\gamma}_j$
BIN	$t_i^{bin} : \mathbb{R}^{n_{i+1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_{\pm 1}^{n_{i+1}}$	-	$t_i^{bin}(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$ , where $\forall j \in [n_{i+1}]$ , $\vec{y}_j = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{if } \vec{x}_j \geq 0; \\ -1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
ARGMAX	$t_{d+1}^{am} : \mathbb{R}^{n_{d+1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$	-	$t_{d+1}^{am}(\vec{x}) = \arg \max(\vec{x})$

**Table 3.2:** Definition of BNN layers [12]

### 3.2 Transformation of BNN

In this section, I will show a possible transformation of parameters to lower their count and make them integer only. This transformation is similar to the one introduced in [12]. The transformation to integer-only parameters is crucial as Clingo can not compute on real numbers.

$$t_i(\vec{x}) = (t_i^{bin} \circ t_i^{bn} \circ t_i^{lin})(\vec{x}) = y$$

$$y_j = \text{sign}_{\pm 1} \left( \alpha_j \cdot \frac{\langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}_{:,j} \rangle + b_j - \vec{\mu}_j}{\vec{\sigma}_j} + \vec{\gamma}_j \right)$$

The argument of  $\text{sign}_{\pm 1}$  can be further analysed.

$$\vec{\alpha}_j \cdot \frac{\langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}_j - \vec{\mu}_j}{\vec{\sigma}_j} + \vec{\gamma}_j \geq 0$$

There are three possible cases of value  $\frac{\vec{\alpha}_j}{\vec{\sigma}_j}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\vec{\alpha}_j}{\vec{\sigma}_j} &> 0 : \\ \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}_j - \vec{\mu}_j + \frac{\vec{\sigma}_j}{\vec{\alpha}_j} \cdot \vec{\gamma}_j &\geq 0 \\ \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} = \mathbf{W}_{:,j}, \vec{b}'_j = \vec{b}_j - \vec{\mu}_j + \frac{\vec{\sigma}_j}{\vec{\alpha}_j} \cdot \vec{\gamma}_j \\ \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$


---

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\vec{\alpha}_j}{\vec{\sigma}_j} &< 0 : \\ \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}_j - \vec{\mu}_j + \frac{\vec{\sigma}_j}{\vec{\alpha}_j} \cdot \vec{\gamma}_j &\leq 0 \\ \langle \vec{x}, -\mathbf{W}_{:,j} \rangle - \vec{b}_j + \vec{\mu}_j - \frac{\vec{\sigma}_j}{\vec{\alpha}_j} \cdot \vec{\gamma}_j &\geq 0 \\ \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} = -\mathbf{W}_{:,j}, \vec{b}'_j = -\vec{b}_j + \vec{\mu}_j - \frac{\vec{\sigma}_j}{\vec{\alpha}_j} \cdot \vec{\gamma}_j \\ \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$


---

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\alpha}_j &= 0 : \\ \vec{\gamma}_j &\geq 0 \\ \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} = \vec{0}, \vec{b}'_j = \vec{\gamma}_j \\ \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

This shows that each inner layer can be computed using weight matrix and one bias parameter. However if there were some parameter  $\alpha_j = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{W}'$  would not have values only from  $\pm 1$  but from  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$ . This is not an issue as Clingo works by default on integers. If 0-values were issue, they could be removed either by offsetting bias parameter or by modifying the BNN structure to remove the constant node. (This has not been implemented in my work.)

$$\tilde{\alpha}_j = 0 : W'_{:,j} = W_{:,j}, \vec{b}'_j = \begin{cases} \langle \vec{1}, \vec{1} \rangle + 1 & \text{if } \tilde{\gamma}_j \geq 0; \\ -\langle \vec{1}, \vec{1} \rangle - 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

In my implementation I am encoding inputs as binary values  $\{0, 1\}$ . This helps to speed up the computation in Clingo as it removes the need for multiplication inside of `#sum` aggregates.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{x} &= 2\vec{x}^{(b)} - \vec{1} \\ \langle \vec{x}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j &\geq 0 \\ \langle 2\vec{x}^{(b)} - \vec{1}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j &\geq 0 \\ 2\langle \vec{x}^{(b)}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle - \langle \vec{1}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j &\geq 0 \\ \langle \vec{x}^{(b)}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \frac{-\langle \vec{1}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j}{2} &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Still each block could be computed using one weight matrix and one bias vector. Additionally, as  $\langle \vec{x}^{(b)}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle$  is an integer value, equation is equivalent to

$$\langle \vec{x}^{(b)}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \left\lfloor \frac{-\langle \vec{1}, \mathbf{W}'_{:,j} \rangle + \vec{b}'_j}{2} \right\rfloor \geq 0 \quad (3.4)$$

As for the output block, it has already just one weight matrix and one bias vector. The implementation of ARGMAX layer is mainly Clingo-based. The only needed transformation is to split bias to whole and decimal part.

$$\vec{b} = \vec{b}' + \vec{p}, \vec{b}'_j = \lfloor \vec{b}_j \rfloor$$

$\vec{p}$  is then used as main order of outputs.

Implementation of these transformations in Python is added as [appendix]

### 3.3 Encoding of BNN in Clingo

#### 3.3.1 Base encoding

Input for the Clingo was parsed from the model using Python program. This program also computed the transformation from Section 3.1. This program then outputs the model of BNN as multiple rules. Semantics are as defined in Table 3.3.

Fact	Param.	Semantics
<code>layer(L, N).</code>	$L$	layer number $L = 0$ corresponds to input layer highest layer corresponds to output layer
<code>weight(L, P, N, W).</code>	$N$	number of nodes in layer $L$
	$L$	layer
	$P$	node in layer $L - 1$
	$N$	node in layer $L$
<code>bias(L, N, B).</code>	$W$	weight of node $P$ to node $N$
	$L$	layer
	$N$	node in layer $L$
<code>outpre(N, P).</code>	$B$	bias for node $N$ in layer $L$
	$N$	output node
	$P$	$N$ has precedence $P$ if two outputs are tied, highest $P$ is used

**Table 3.3:** Semantics of encoding BNN into Clingo-readable file

With this notation of literals, I have transcribed the computation of BNN as the following Clingo program.

```

1 % output layer
2 output_layer(L) :- L = #max{ X : layer(X, _) }.

3 % any combination of input bits is possible
4 {on(0, 0..K-1)} :- layer(0, K).

5 % hidden layers
6 on(L, N) :-
7     #sum{ W, I : on(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N, W) } >= B,
8     bias(L, N, B), not output_layer(L).

```



```

9 % output layer before arg max layer
10 outnode(N, S + B) :-
11     S = #sum{ W,I : on(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N, W) },
12     output_layer(L), bias(L, N, B).

13 % output the node with highest sum
14 % if tied on sum, then with highest precedence
15 % if tied on both sum and precedence, then with lowest
    number
16 output(Node) :-
17     (Sum, Order, -Node) = #max{ (S, 0, -N) : outnode(N, S
    ), outpre(N, 0) }.

```

On line 2, it computes the output layer. Line 4 allows for arbitrary assignment of input vector. Then next layers are computed on lines 6–8. This computation follows the Equation 3.4.

Computation of the output is performed in two steps. First, on lines 10–12, sum of weighted inputs and bias is computed into the outnode, then on lines 16–17, the maximal of these values is chosen to be the output.

Grounding of most of this program is straightforward. Line 2 expands to a single fact. Line 4 expands to number of choice rules equal to size of input vector. Lines 6–8 expand to a number of rules equal to hidden nodes of the network.

### 3.3.2 Improved encoding of the output layer

Encoding of the output layer as shown above is problematic. Rule on lines 10–12 generate for each of the output bits one more atom than is the size of last hidden layer, each with equality constraint. Then the rule on lines 16–17 generate exponentially many rules for output.

To mitigate this issue I have created an alternative way for computation of the output. I have used the choice rule while constraining the output to be the maximal. This way I have removed the need to use an intermediate step of outnode. The following lines replace lines 9–17.

```

9 % there is single output
10 1 {output(0..N-1)} 1 :- layer(L, N), output_layer(L).

11 % the sum of another is not higher
12 :- output(N), 0 = 1..M-1, output_layer(L), layer(L, M), 0
    != N,

```

---

```

13      #sum{ W, I, this : on(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N, W);
14      -W, I, other : on(L-1, I), weight(L, I, 0, W) }
      < B0 - BN,
15      bias(L, N, BN), bias(L, 0, B0).

16 % the sum of another is not same or order is not higher
17 :- output(N), 0 = 1..M-1, output_layer(L), layer(L, M), 0
      != N,
18      #sum{ W, I, this : on(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N, W);
19      -W, I, other : on(L-1, I), weight(L, I, 0, W) }
      = B0 - BN,
20      bias(L, N, BN), bias(L, 0, B0),
21      outpre(N, PN), outpre(0, P0), P0 > PN.

```

The grounding generates only a single atom for each output and then for each of them a finitely many constraints. Line 10 asserts there is exactly single output. Then the two constraints assure that there is no other output that would have higher biased sum of previous layer and if equal, the one with higher precedence is used. There is no need for the evaluation of output number as the precedence already is nonredundant.

The use of choice rule and constraints has greatly reduced both size of the Aspif file generated by gringo and the total time needed for computation of answer sets as shown in the table below.

### 3.4 Encoding of input regions

An input region of BNN is some subset of inputs on which the analysis is performed. I have implemented two input region types from [12], that is input region based on Hamming distance ( $R_H$ ) and input region with fixed indices ( $R_I$ ).

The quantitative analysis of said BNN is a problem to say how many inputs in the input region differ from ground truth (or in this case the base input) in the outputs. Given BNN  $\mathcal{N}$ , an input region  $R$  and base input vector  $\hat{v}$ , the number of missclassified inputs is  $\|\{v \mid v \in R, \mathcal{N}(v) \neq \mathcal{N}(\hat{v})\}\|$ .

To perform the quantitative analysis on some input region, the encoding of such region and of a missclassified (adversarial) input is needed.

### 3.4.1 Hamming distance

$$R_H(\vec{u}, r) = \{\vec{v} \mid \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{B}^n, \|\{i \mid \vec{u}_i \neq \vec{v}_i\}\| \leq r\}$$

Space of inputs under hamming distance  $r \in \mathbb{N}_0$  from base vector  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{B}^n$ ,  $R_H(\vec{u}, r)$  is a set of input vectors, that differs on at most  $r$  entries from the base vector  $\vec{u}$ .

In my implementation, full base vector is parsed by the Python parser. If the entry of vector represents active state, fact `input(a)`., where *a* corresponds to the index of that entry, is included in the model. Else nothing is added to the model. The maximal allowed hamming distance is represented as fact `hamdist(r)`., where *r* corresponds to the allowed radius of this distance.

```
1 % base vector is at most hamdist from on
2 :- #count{ N : not input(N), on(0, N);
3      N : input(N), not on(0, N) } > H,
4      hamdist(H).
```

The input region is then encoded in the Clingo language as a single constraint.

### 3.4.2 Fixed indices

$$R_I(\vec{u}, I) = \{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{B}^n \mid \forall i \in I. \vec{u}_i = \vec{v}_i\}$$

Input region  $R_I(\vec{u}, I)$  given by fixed indices is a set of input vectors that do not differ from the base vector  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{B}^{n_1}$  on entries on indices from  $I \subseteq [n_1]$ .

Like in the input region based of hamming distance, the full base vector  $\vec{u}$  is added to the model using facts `input(a)`.. Then the fixed indices in the form of fact `inpfix(i)`. for every index  $i \in I$  are added. Note that this definition is dual to the one in [12] where *I* corresponds to the free indices.

```
1 % input does not differ from base on fixed indices
2 :- inpfix(N), on(0, N), not input(N).
3 :- inpfix(N), not on(0, N), input(N).
```

The encoding into Clingo is again simple. If the index is fixed, then the input `on(0, N)` and base input `input(N)` can not differ.

### 3.4.3 Encoding of adversarial output

For the output to differ from the one of base input, the program has to be further constrained. To implement the rule for the output to be adversarial, I have used the same encoding as for the computing of the output of the network.

I have also tried encoding the rule by constraining the output to not be pre-computed value given by evaluating the base input outside the Clingo framework but this did not yield better results.

```

1 % Show only inputs with output nonequal to that of input
  vector
2 inputOn(0, N) :- input(N).
3 inputOn(L, N) :-
4     #sum{ W,I : inputOn(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N, W) } >=
      B,
5     bias(L, N, B), not output_layer(L).

6 1 {inputOutput(0..N-1)} 1 :- layer(L, N), output_layer(L)
  .

7 % the sum of another is not higher
8 :- inputOutput(N), 0 = 1..M-1, output_layer(L), layer(L,
  M), 0 != N,
9     #sum{ W, I, this : inputOn(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N,
  W);
10     -W, I, other : inputOn(L-1, I), weight(L, I, 0,
  W) } < BO - BN,
11     bias(L, N, BN), bias(L, 0, BO).
12 % the sum of another is not same or order is not higher
13 :- inputOutput(N), 0 = 1..M-1, output_layer(L), layer(L,
  M), 0 != N,
14     #sum{ W, I, this : inputOn(L-1, I), weight(L, I, N,
  W);
15     -W, I, other : inputOn(L-1, I), weight(L, I, 0,
  W) } = BO - BN,
16     bias(L, N, BN), bias(L, 0, BO),
17     outpre(N, PN), outpre(0, PO), PO > PN.

18 :- output(Node), inputOutput(Node).
```

## 4 Evaluation

### 4.1 Methodology of evaluation

For the evaluation of my model, I have used inputs from MNIST dataset [14], the same as were used for the evaluation of BNNQuanalyst [12]. In the next chapter I will be referring to instances of inputs 0 to 9 as I0 to I9. The architectures of different models is written in Table 4.1. These trained models have been taken from [12].

The framework was evaluated using the computational sources of MetaVO, virtual organization providing computing resources for academic community. The framework was evaluated on physical machine kirke36.meta.zcu.cz. The framework was evaluated on 8 CPU cores with 16 GB of RAM.

### 4.2 Evaluation over different inputs

I have evaluated BNN models M1, M2, M6, M7 against all inputs I0-I9 with hamming distance 3. The results are shown in the Table 4.2. As can be seen, the time to find all adversary inputs is independent on the number of all adversary inputs. Time to find 1st model (adversary input) is dependent on the number of models (adversary inputs). The more models exist for the problem, the higher chance is to find one by assigning values for literals at random. The table also shows that the

Model	Architecture	Model	Architecture
M1	100:100:10	M7	100:50:20:10
M2	100:50:10	M8	16:25:20:10
M3	400:100:10	M9	36:15:10:10
M4	64:10:10	M10	16:64:32:20:10
M5	784:100:10	M11	25:25:25:20:10
M6	100:100:50:10	M12	784:50:50:50:50:10

**Table 4.1:** Architectures of models

Values correspond to the sizes of layers

size of Aspif intermediate file does not change much between different inputs. The quantitative verification using ASP seems to scale better with depth of the evaluated BNN than with width.

### 4.3 Evaluation over different hamming distance

I have evaluated models M2, M3, M7, M11 on input I0 for hamming distance from 0 to 4. The results are shown in the Table 4.3. As can be seen, the hamming distance does not affect the size of the Aspif intermediate file at all. This is because the hamming distance does only change weight in a single constraint corresponding to the encoding of input region by hamming distance. The time to find all models (adversarial inputs) scales badly with hamming distance for big input layers. This is expected as the input space of inputs under hamming distance grows for small distances close to exponentially with size of the input layer in the base. The effect of size of the base is apparent in the evaluation of model M11, here the time grows relatively slowly.

### 4.4 Evaluation over fixed input bits

Fixed bits vectors were created from the base input instances corresponding to the number 0 using the following bash script. The script creates for each input instance 4 fixed bits vectors by removing the first 0, 8, 16, resp. 24 positions from the list of fixed bits.

```
1 for l in 25 100 400; do
2   for pos in $(eval echo {0..$(( $l-1 ))}); do
3     echo -n "$pos "
4   done | head --bytes=-1 "inpbits_0_${l}_0.txt"
5   for free in 8 16 24; do
6     cat "inpbits_0_${l}_${(( $free-8 ))}.txt" \
7       | cut -d' ' -f'9-' > "inpbits_0_${l}_${free}.txt"
8   done
9 done
```

For created fixed bits vectors models M2, M3, M7, M11 were evaluated on instance I0. Results are included in the Table 4.4. This task seems to be better suited for my framework as the solver, Clasp, can prune large subspaces of the input space at once. In the model M3, where only a small subspace of the input space is adversarial for this

Input	#M	$T_M$	$T_1$	$N_r$	$N_w$	#M	$T_M$	$T_1$	$N_r$	$N_l$
	M1					M2				
I0	40821	30.419	0.15	11151	44386	16403	19.114	0.09	5601	22236
I1	10945	33.523	0.18	11138	44373	34288	29.625	0.04	5588	22223
I2	22518	31.482	0.13	11154	44389	26628	14.982	0.06	5604	22239
I3	20666	32.190	0.16	11152	44387	10955	15.271	0.08	5602	22237
I4	114392	25.190	0.09	11149	44384	70244	13.806	0.06	5599	22234
I5	36405	31.883	0.14	11147	44382	140021	13.695	0.04	5597	22232
I6	0	27.498	—	11153	44388	487	16.880	0.35	5603	22238
I7	53242	28.737	0.13	11144	44379	15055	16.309	0.08	5594	22229
I8	139399	24.955	0.12	11151	44386	47558	14.072	0.08	5601	22236
I9	42591	27.802	0.14	11150	44385	74443	14.335	0.05	5600	22235
	M6					M7				
I0	51423	68.897	0.96	15702	62538	3330	25.382	0.16	6322	25098
I1	196	82.353	2.17	15689	62525	35548	21.913	0.07	6309	25085
I2	45315	48.831	0.66	15705	62541	20752	37.921	0.11	6325	25101
I3	6725	71.345	0.61	15703	62539	8238	26.670	0.10	6323	25099
I4	24909	87.996	1.17	15700	62536	74224	21.288	0.16	6320	25096
I5	22733	59.329	0.86	15698	62634	11053	21.608	0.07	6318	25094
I6	6283	77.874	0.70	15704	62540	15919	26.313	0.15	6324	25100
I7	7091	76.299	0.80	15695	62531	8361	23.145	0.29	6315	25091
I8	49700	129.550	0.85	15702	62538	146724	15.858	0.05	6322	25098
I9	80704	50.981	0.82	15701	62537	24300	20.125	0.15	6321	25097

**Table 4.2:** Evaluation of M1, M2, M6, M7 over inputs I0 — I9

#M number of adv. inputs,  $T_M$  time to all adv. inputs [sec],  $T_1$  time to 1st adv. input [sec]  
 $N_r$  number of lines (approx. rules) of Aspif,  $N_l$  number of words (approx. literals) of Aspif

Distance	#M	$T_M$	$T_1$	$N_r$	$N_w$	#M	$T_M$	$T_1$	$N_r$	$N_l$
	M2					M3				
0	0	0.078	—	5601	22236	0	0.494	—	41205	164440
1	0	0.177	—	5601	22236	0	2.316	—	41205	164440
2	91	0.775	0.13	5601	22236	0	156.865	—	41205	164440
3	16404	19.316	0.16	5601	22236	[TO] 0	[TO] 300.006	—	41205	164440
4	[TO] 447801	[TO] 300.055	0.05	5601	22236	[TO] 0	[TO] 300.025	—	41205	164440
	M7					M11				
0	0	0.103	—	6322	25098	0	0.056	—	2052	8079
1	0	0.295	—	6322	25098	12	0.141	0.06	2052	8079
2	73	1.471	0.14	6322	25098	207	0.188	0.07	2052	8079
3	3330	31.686	0.16	6322	25098	1813	0.398	0.06	2052	8079
4	[TO] 167451	[TO] 300.008	0.13	6322	25098	11830	0.818	0.07	2052	8079

**Table 4.3:** Evaluation of M2, M3, M7, M11 over hamming distance 0 — 4

#M number of adv. inputs,  $T_M$  time to all adv. inputs [sec],  $T_1$  time to 1st adv. input [sec],  
 $N_l$  number of lines (approx. rules) of Aspif,  $N_w$  number of words (approx. literals) of Aspif  
[TO] solving has timed out



input, the framework is significantly faster than on the other models. On the others — M2, M7 and M11 — Clasp probably spends most of the computation time on the enumeration of models (adversarial inputs). As far as I am aware, Clasp is unable to count models any other way. If it could count them in batches like it can prune sets, where it knows no models are present, the evaluation of models M2, M7 and M11 might be speeded up significantly.

Free	#M	$T_M$	$T_1$	$N_r$	$N_w$	#M	$T_M$	$T_1$	$N_r$	$N_l$
	M2					M3				
0	0	0.076	—	5700	22335	0	0.443	—	41604	164839
8	215	0.099	0.01	5692	22327	0	0.455	—	41596	164831
16	50517	0.779	0.01	5684	22319	0	0.493	—	41588	164823
24	12467600	130.907	0.02	5676	22311	2704	1.688	0.04	41580	164815
	M7					M11				
0	0	0.099	—	6421	25197	0	0.058	—	2076	8103
8	58	0.167	0.04	6413	25189	226	0.113	0.05	2068	8095
16	38187	1.327	0.05	6405	25181	60144	2.229	0.06	2060	8087
24	11819735	282.620	0.08	6397	25183	[TO] 9343147	[TO] 300.001	0.09	2052	8079

**Table 4.4:** Evaluation of M2, M3, M7, M11 over 0 — 24 free bit positions

#M number of adv. inputs,  $T_M$  time to all adv. inputs [sec],  $T_1$  time to 1st adv. input [sec],  
 $N_l$  number of lines (approx. rules) of Aspif,  $N_w$  number of words (approx. literals) of Aspif  
[TO] solving has timed out

## 5 Conclusion

In this thesis I have created and implemented framework for the quantitative analysis of binary neural networks using the answer set paradigm. My framework uses Python to parse the neural network into Clingo-readable format and then ASP-paradigm-based framework Clingo, combination of parser Gringo and solver Clasp, to find adversarial inputs. In this framework I have implemented functionality for representing input regions based on Hamming distance and input regions based on fixed indices.

I have evaluated the framework on binary neural networks trained on the MNIST database of handwritten digits. The framework scales very well when evaluating robust neural networks with input region constrained by the fixed indices. When many adversarial inputs are present, the limiting factor proved to be the Clasp as it relies on enumeration of the models (adversarial inputs). To eliminate this shortcoming, another solver will have to be used. When evaluating input regions based on hamming distance, the framework has shown better performance on networks with smaller input layer.

Answer set programming has the potential to make verification of neural networks both easier and faster. ASP paradigm has high expressive power while its solvers have strong heuristics to find a fast way for the computation.

## Appendices

### Code of BNN verifier

The full code of the verifier implemented in this thesis together with the examples can be found either in the Thesis archive in the IS MU or in the Github repository [https://github.com/Ardnij123/BNN\\_verification](https://github.com/Ardnij123/BNN_verification)

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