

HPCA 2025 Tutorial

Topic 5. HyQSAT: A Hybrid Quantum-Classical Solver for 3-SAT Problems







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https://janusq.github.io/HPCA_2025_Tutorial/

Outline of Presentation





Background and challenges

- HyQSAT overview
- Frontend
- Backend
- Experiment
- API of HyQSAT

Applications of SAT Problem

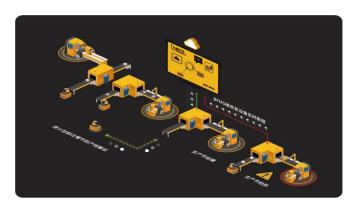




Propositional satisfiability problem (SAT)



Cryptography

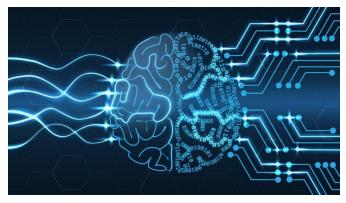


Planning

Protein structure analysis Knowledge inference



Software Testing



Artificial Intelligence



Example: A Motor Vehicle Parts Production Line





A product line can produce **1,000** products per day.

20,000 products need to be produced, including A, B, C, D....

Constraints:

A and B must be produced together;

B must be produced together with one of E, F or G;

C cannot be produced with E together;

.



The optimal classical algorithm takes 3 days to find the optimal schedule.

Formulation the SAT Problem: An Example





A SAT problem C in a conjunctive normal form with variables x_1 , x_2 , x_2 , x_4 :

$$C = c_1 \land c_2$$

$$c_1 = x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3$$

$$c_1 = \neg x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3$$
The clause means : x_1 or x_2 or x_2

A **solution** of the given problem:

$$x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

 $x_3 = x_4 = 1$

All clauses need to be satisfied.

3-SAT problem: each clause has no more then 3 variables. The first NP-complete problem.







Tree search



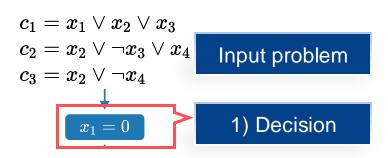
$$c_1 = x_1 ee x_2 ee x_3 \ c_2 = x_2 ee
eg x_3 ee x_4 \ c_3 = x_2 ee
eg x_4$$
 Input problem







- 1) Decision
- 2) Propagation
- 3) Conflict resolving
- 3) Conflict resolving

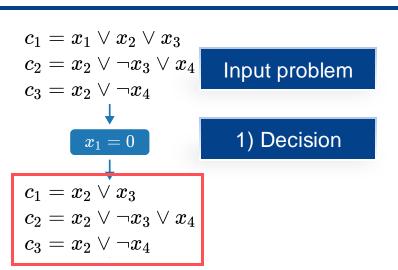








- 1) Decision
- 2) Propagation
- 3) Conflict resolving
- 3) Conflict resolving

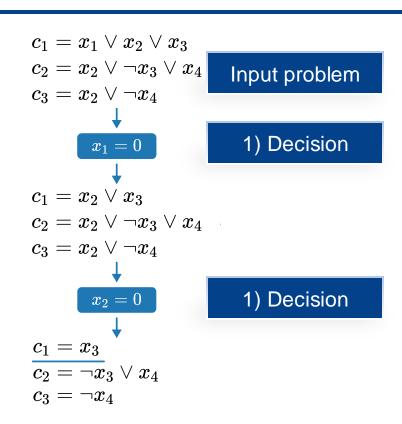








- 1) Decision
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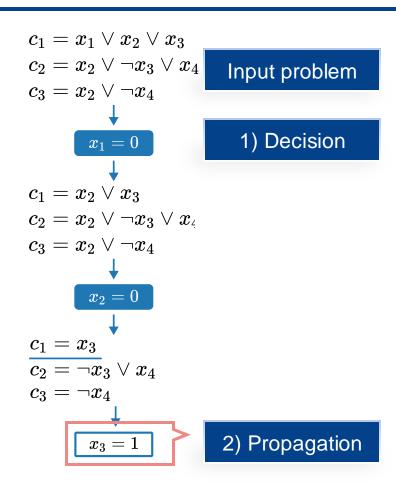








- 1) Decision
- 2) Propagation
- 3) Conflict resolving
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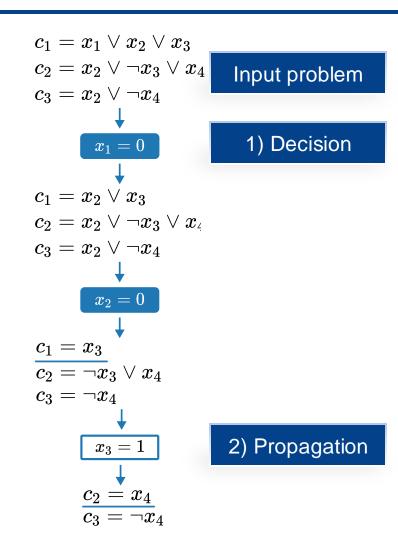








- 1) Decision
- 2) Propagation
- 3) Conflict resolving
- 3) Conflict resolving

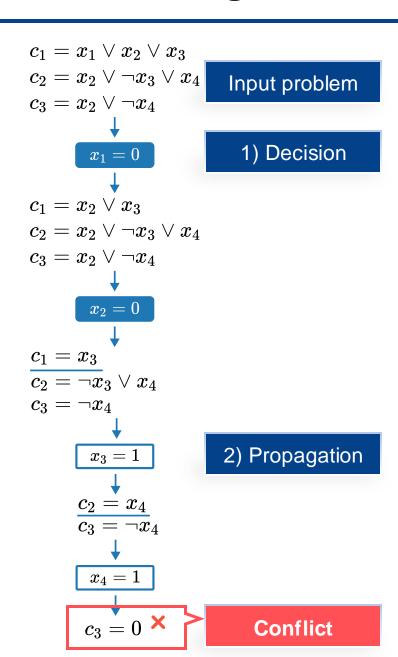








- 1) Decision
- 2) Propagation
- 3) Conflict resolving
- 3) Conflict resolving





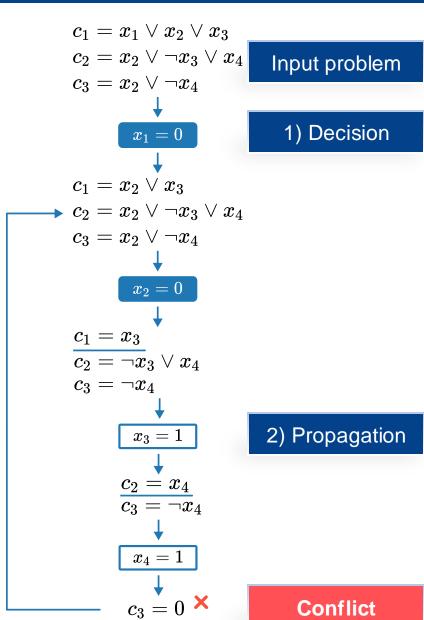




Apply a tree search strategy with tree steps:

- Decision
- Propagation
- Conflict resolving

3) Conflict resolving





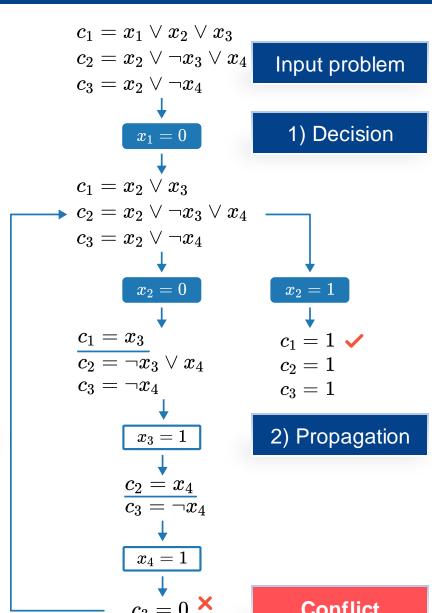




Apply a tree search strategy with tree steps:

- Decision
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3) Conflict resolving



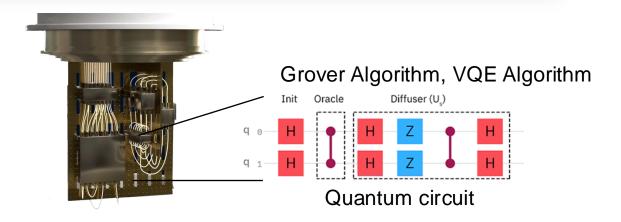


Solving 3-SAT Problems by Quantum Computing

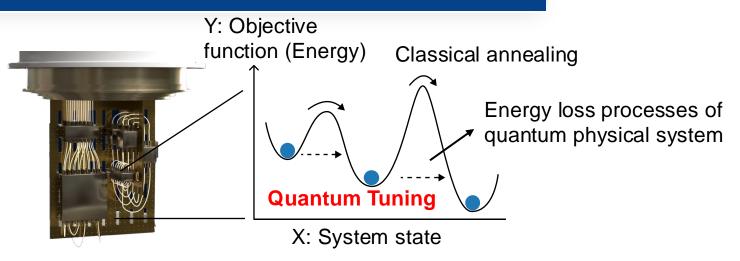




Gate-based quantum computer



Quantum annealer



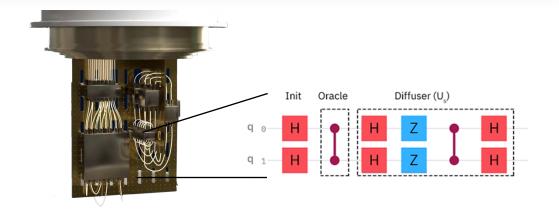


Solving 3-SAT Problems by Quantum Computing

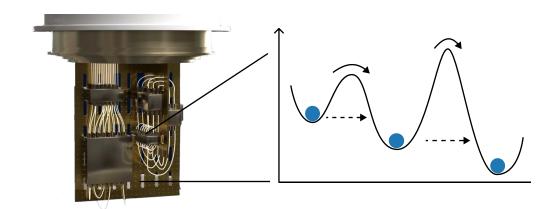




Gate-based quantum computer



Quantum annealer



Quantum		Classical
Gate-based	Quantum annealing (QA)	CDCL
Digital	Simulated	Digital
Quantum superposition	Quantum tunneling	Classical physics
$O(\sqrt{L})$	$O(e^{\sqrt{L}})$	O(e ^L)
~100 qubits	~2000 qubits	>2 ³⁰ bits
~10 variables	~50 variables	~1000 variables







The 3-SAT problem first should be transferred into the minimization problem of a quadratic polynomial objective function, formulated as:

Configured

$$\underset{X}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \ H_C(X) = I + \sum_{i=1}^{L} B_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^{L} \sum_{j=i+1}^{L} J_{i,j} x_i x_j,$$

Example:

$$C = c_1 \wedge c_2 \ c_1 = x_1 ee x_2 ee x_3, \ c_2 =
eg x_2 ee
eg x_3 ee x_4$$



$$egin{aligned} H_C(X,A) &= 3 + x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 \ &- x_4 - 2a_2 + x_1x_2 \ &- x_2x_3 - 2a_1x_1 - 2a_1x_2 \ &+ a_1x_3 - 2a_2x_2 + 2a_2x_3 \ &+ a_2x_4 \end{aligned}$$







Step 1

$$C = c_1 \wedge c_2 \ c_1 = x_1 ee x_2 ee x_3, \ c_2 =
eg x_2 ee
eg x_3 ee x_4$$

3-SAT problem





Step 1

$$C = c_1 \wedge c_2 \ c_1 = x_1 ee x_2 ee x_3, \ c_2 =
eg x_2 ee
eg x_3 ee x_4$$

3-SAT problem

Step 2

$$egin{aligned} H_C(X,A) &= 3 + x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 \ &- x_4 - 2a_2 + x_1x_2 \ &- x_2x_3 - 2a_1x_1 - 2a_1x_2 \ &+ a_1x_3 - 2a_2x_2 + 2a_2x_3 \ &+ a_2x_4 \end{aligned}$$

Objective function



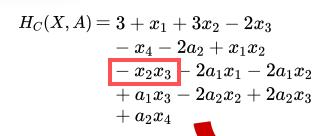


Step 1

$$C=c_1\wedge c_2 \ c_1=x_1ee x_2ee x_3, \ c_2=
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eg x_3ee x_4$$

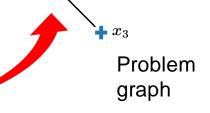
3-SAT problem

Step 2



Objective function

Step 3







Step 1

$$C=c_1\wedge c_2 \ c_1=x_1ee x_2ee x_3, \ c_2=
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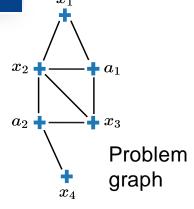
3-SAT problem

Step 2

$$egin{aligned} H_C(X,A) &= 3 + x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 \ &- x_4 - 2a_2 + x_1x_2 \ &- x_2x_3 - 2a_1x_1 - 2a_1x_2 \ &+ a_1x_3 - 2a_2x_2 + 2a_2x_3 \ &+ a_2x_4 \end{aligned}$$

Objective function

Step 3







Step 1

$$C=c_1\wedge c_2 \ c_1=x_1ee x_2ee x_3, \ c_2=
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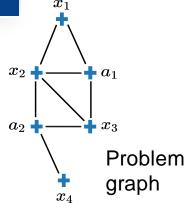
3-SAT problem

Step 2

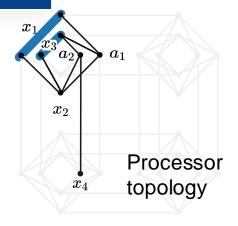
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Objective function

Step 3



Step 4



Embedding





Step 1

$$C=c_1\wedge c_2 \ c_1=x_1ee x_2ee x_3, \ c_2=
eg x_2ee
eg x_3ee x_4$$

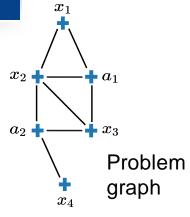
3-SAT problem

Step 2

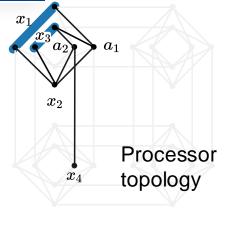
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Objective function

Step 3

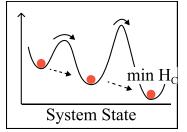


Step 4



Embedding

Step 5



Quantum Annealing





Step 1

$$C=c_1\wedge c_2 \ c_1=x_1ee x_2ee x_3, \ c_2=
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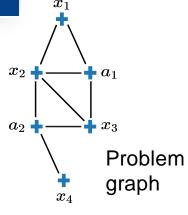
3-SAT problem

Step 2

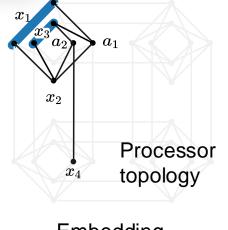
$$egin{aligned} H_C(X,A) &= 3 + x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 \ &- x_4 - 2a_2 + x_1x_2 \ &- x_2x_3 - 2a_1x_1 - 2a_1x_2 \ &+ a_1x_3 - 2a_2x_2 + 2a_2x_3 \ &+ a_2x_4 \end{aligned}$$

Objective function

Step 3

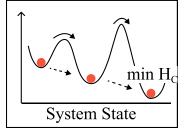


Step 4



Embedding

Step 5



Quantum Annealing

Step 6

$$min H_c(X, A) = 0$$

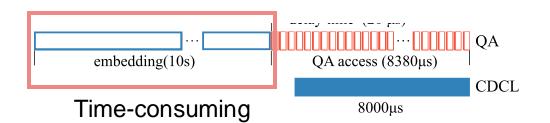
$$x_1=x_2=0$$

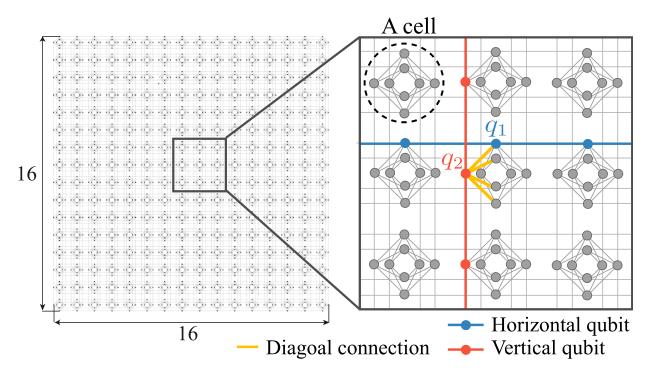
$$x_3=x_4=1$$

Solution



High embedding latency





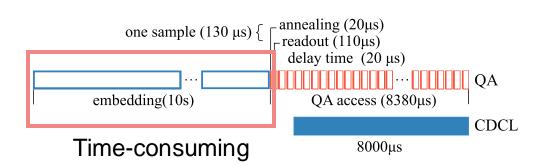
Processor topology of the D-Wave 2000Q

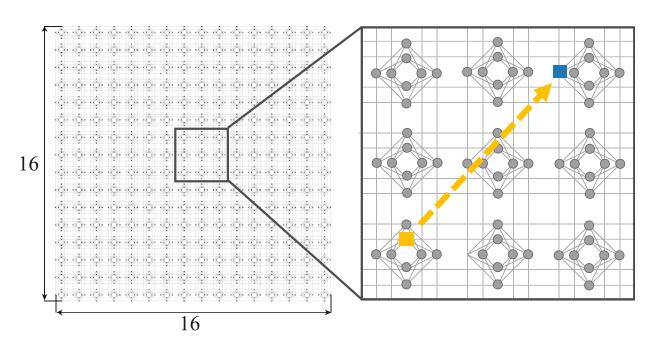






High embedding latency





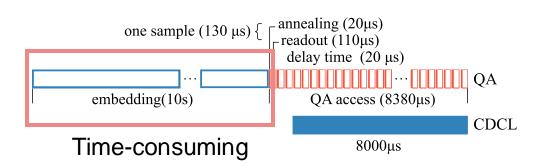
The two most time-consuming parts of the previous embedding schemes: **routing**, **adjustment**.

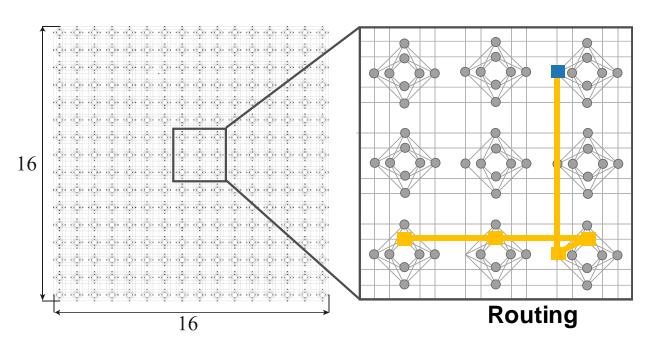






High embedding latency





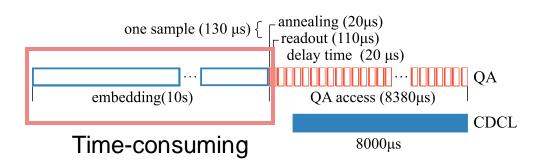
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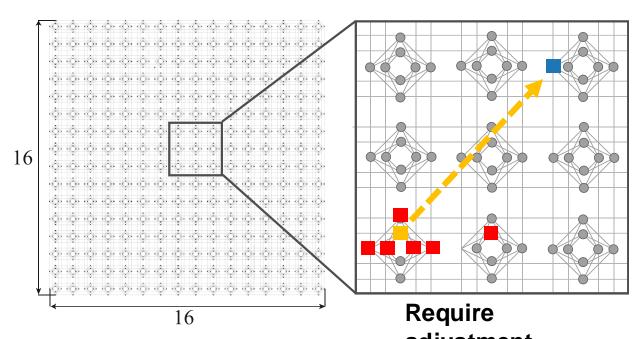






High embedding latency



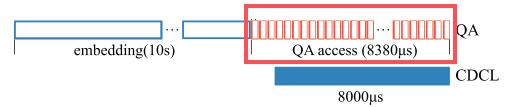


The two most time-consuming parts of the previous embedding schemes: **routing, adjustment**.



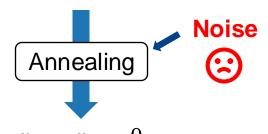
Noise

Require multiple executions



50 executions to find a solution for a 50-variable problem.

$$C = c_1 \wedge c_2 \ c_1 = x_1 ee x_2 ee x_3, \ c_2 =
eg x_2 ee
eg x_3 ee x_4$$



$$x_1 = x_2 = 0$$

 $x_3 = x_4 = 1$

Some variables get wrong assignment.

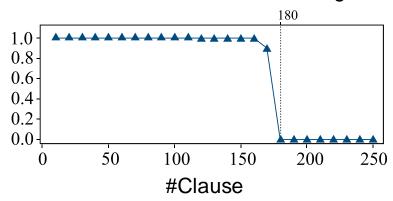
Challenge 3 of QA: Limited Problem Scale





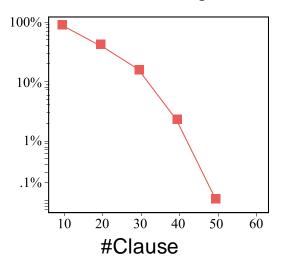
Limited Problem Scale

Successful rate of embedding



Limited by both the **number of qubits** and **noise.**

Success rate of finding solution



The success rate decreases **exponentially** as the problem size increases.

Outline of Presentation

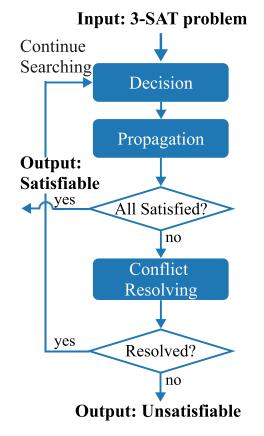




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- HyQSAT overview
- Frontend
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- Experiment
- API of HyQSAT

HyQSAT Workflow





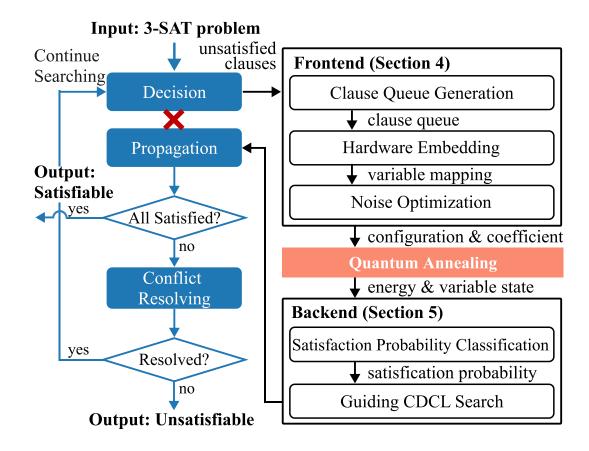
CDCL workflow

CDCL	Quantum Annealing
Large scale	Small scale
Difficulty in solving 'hard' clauses	Quantum speedup;
8000µs	10s +120μs

Caused by embedding

HyQSAT Workflow





CDCL	Quantum Annealing
Large scale	Small scale
Difficulty in solving 'hard' clauses	Quantum speedup;
8000µs	10s +120µs

Move critical clauses from CDCL to annealing:

- 1. difficult for CDCL
- 2. efficiently embedded for quantum annealer

HyQSAT workflow

Outline of Presentation





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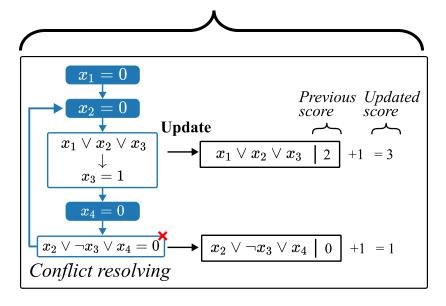
HyQSAT Frontend: Identify Difficult Clauses



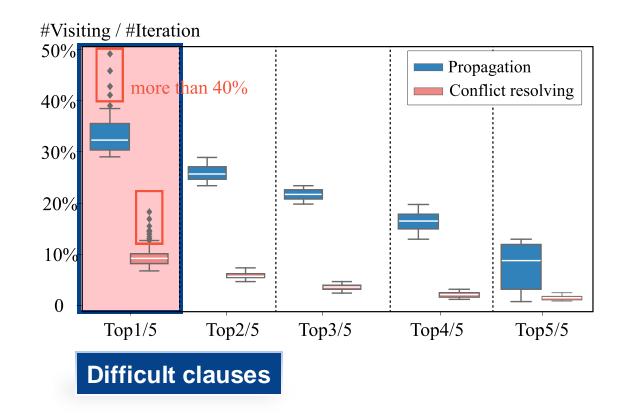


☆ Clause visiting frequency = Difficulty

Predicting visiting frequencies



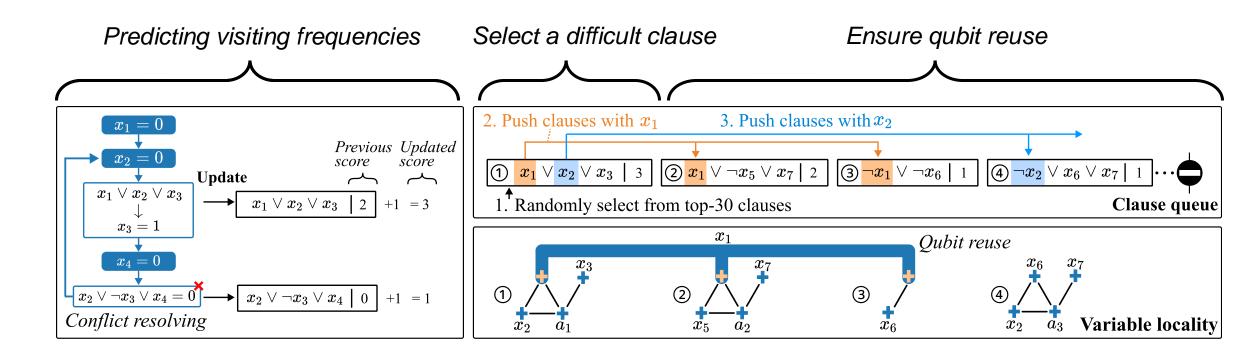
Define activity scores



HyQSAT Frontend: Identify Difficult Clauses







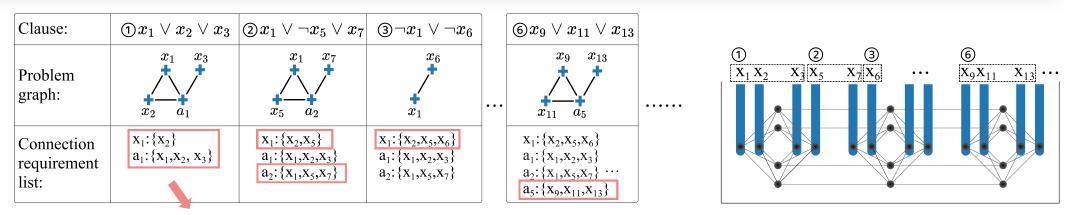
Define activity scores

Apply breadth-first search among clauses with same variables



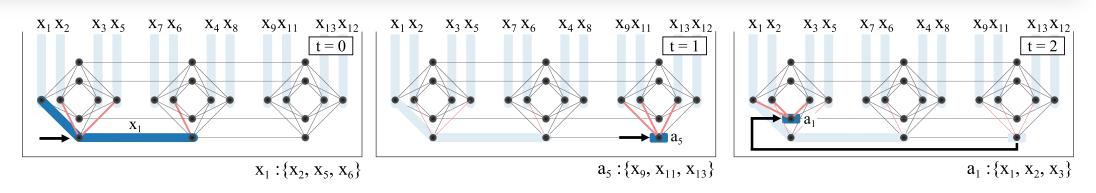


Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue



gathered for allocation together

Step 2: Allocate variables to qubits of horizontal lines



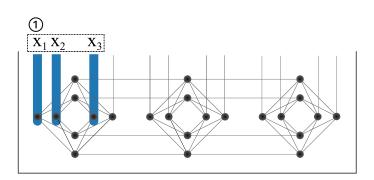




Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

Clause:	$\textcircled{1}x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$
Problem graph:	x_1 x_3 x_2 x_3
Connection requirement list:	$x_1:\{x_2\}$ $a_1:\{x_1,x_2,x_3\}$

gathered for allocation together



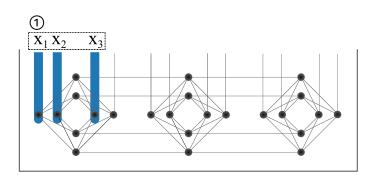




Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

Clause:	$\textcircled{1}x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$
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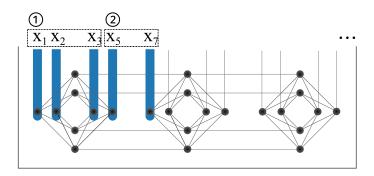






Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

Clause:	$\textcircled{1}x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$	$\boxed{ @x_1 ee eg x_5 ee x_7 }$
Problem graph:	x_1 x_3 x_2 x_3	x_1 x_7 x_5 x_2
Connection requirement list:	$x_1:\{x_2\}$ $a_1:\{x_1,x_2,x_3\}$	$\begin{array}{c} x_1: \{x_2, x_5\} \\ a_1: \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \\ a_2: \{x_1, x_5, x_7\} \end{array}$

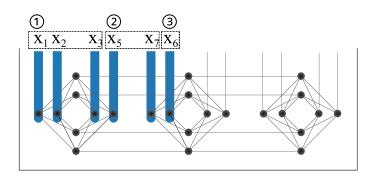






Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

Clause:	$\textcircled{1}x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$	$2x_1 \lor \neg x_5 \lor x_7$	
Problem graph:	x_1 x_3 x_2 x_3	x_1 x_7 x_5 x_2	x_6
Connection requirement list:	$x_1:\{x_2\}$ $a_1:\{x_1,x_2,x_3\}$	$ \begin{array}{c} x_1: \{x_2, x_5\} \\ a_1: \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \\ a_2: \{x_1, x_5, x_7\} \end{array} $	$x_1: \{x_2, x_5, x_6\}$ $a_1: \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ $a_2: \{x_1, x_5, x_7\}$

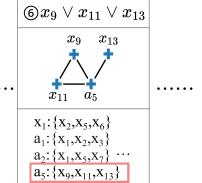


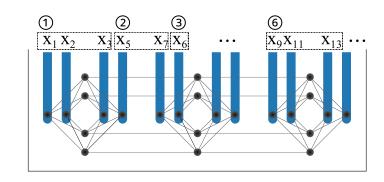




Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

Clause:	$\bigcirc x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$	$oxed{@x_1ee eg x_5ee x_7}$	$\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \$	
Problem graph:	x_1 x_3 x_2 x_3	x_1 x_7 x_5 x_2	x_6	
Connection requirement list:	$x_1:\{x_2\}$ $a_1:\{x_1,x_2,x_3\}$	$x_1: \{x_2, x_5\}$ $a_1: \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ $a_2: \{x_1, x_5, x_7\}$	$x_1:\{x_2,x_5,x_6\}$ $a_1:\{x_1,x_2,x_3\}$ $a_2:\{x_1,x_5,x_7\}$	

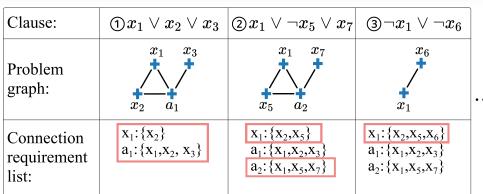


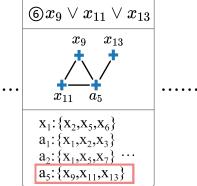


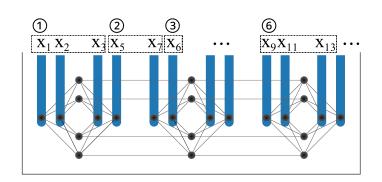




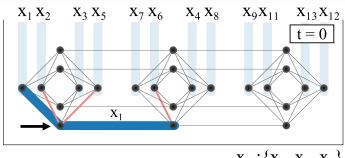
Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue







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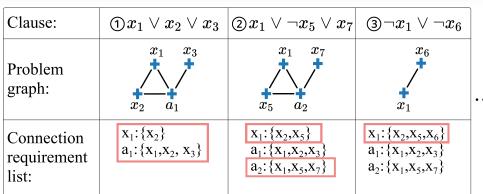


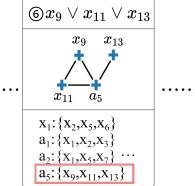
 $X_1: \{X_2, X_5, X_6\}$

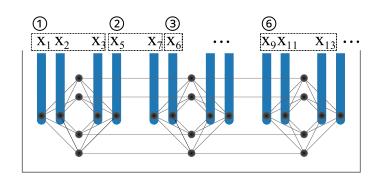




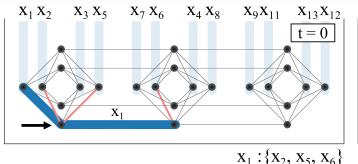
Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

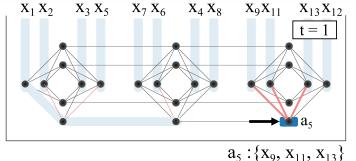






Step 2: Allocate variables to qubits of horizontal lines

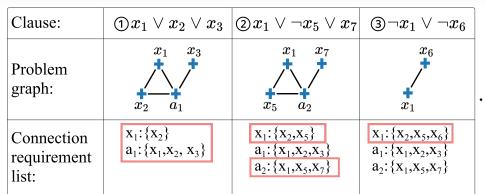


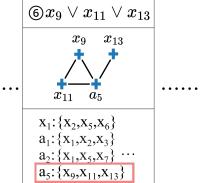


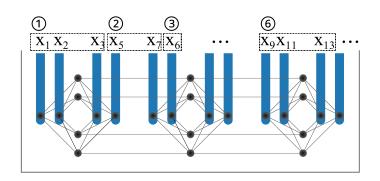




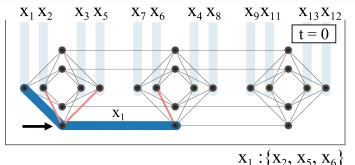
Step 1: Allocate variables to qubits of vertical lines according to their order in the clause queue

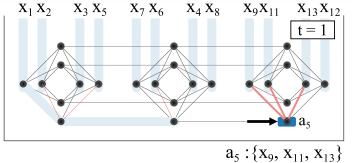






Step 2: Allocate variables to qubits of horizontal lines





Outline of Presentation





- Background and challenges
- HyQSAT overview
- Frontend
- Backend
- Experiment
- API of HyQSAT

HyQSAT Backend: Satisfaction Probability Classification

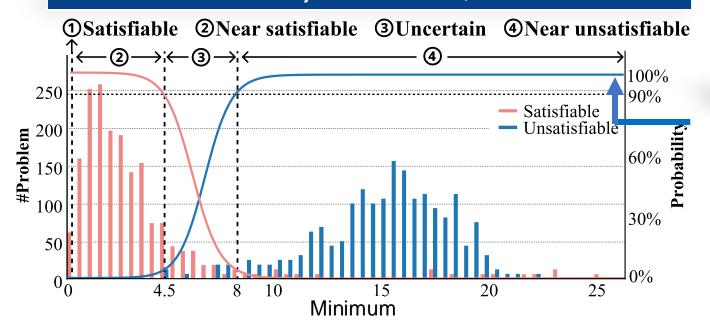




Quantum annealing



Minimum value of objective function, Possible solution



Based on the noise model of D-Wave 2000Q

Gaussian Naive Bayes model to estimate the probability of satisfaction

- Satisfiable problem: [0, 0].
- ② Near satisfiable problem: (0, 4.5].
- ③ Uncertain problem: (4.5, 8].
- ④ Near unsatisfiable problem: (8, +∞].





Depending on the number of embedded clauses and their satisfaction probability, we divide them into four cases and propose several feedback strategies to prune the CDCL search space.

	Satisfiable	Near satisfiable	Uncertain	Near unsatisfiable
All embedded	Strategy 1	Stratagy 2	Stratagy 2	Stratagy A
Not all embedded		Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4



Contribute to no acceleration for the classic CDCL.

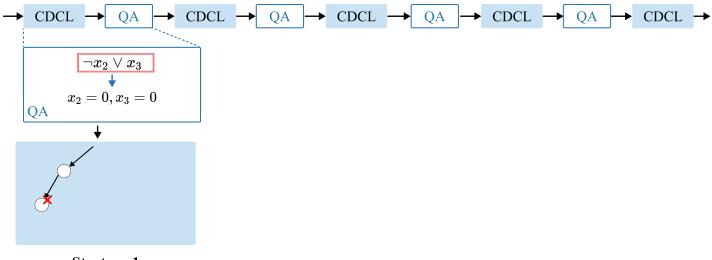




Depending on the number of embedded clauses and their satisfaction probability, we divide them into four cases and propose several feedback strategies to prune the CDCL search space.

	Satisfiable	Near satisfiable	Uncertain	Near unsatisfiable
All embedded	Strategy 1	Stratagy 2	Stratagy 2	Strata ov. 1
Not all embedded		Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4

Contribute to no acceleration for the classic CDCL.



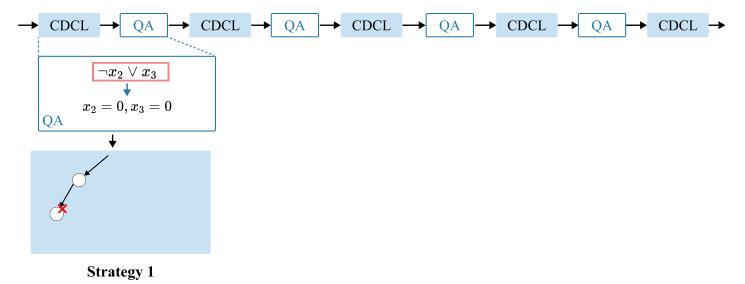
Strategy 1





Depending on the number of embedded clauses and their satisfaction probability, we divide them into four cases and propose several feedback strategies to prune the CDCL search space.

	Satisfiable	Near satisfiable	Uncertain	Near unsatisfiable
All embedded	Strategy 1	Stratagy 2	Stratagy 2	Stratagy A
Not all embedded		Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4

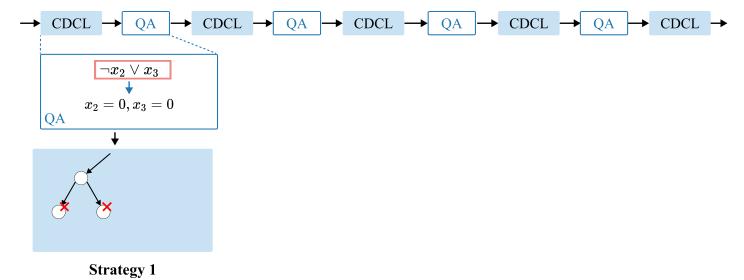






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	Satisfiable	Near satisfiable	Uncertain	Near unsatisfiable
All embedded	Strategy 1	Stratagy 2	Stratagy 2	Stratagy A
Not all embedded		Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4

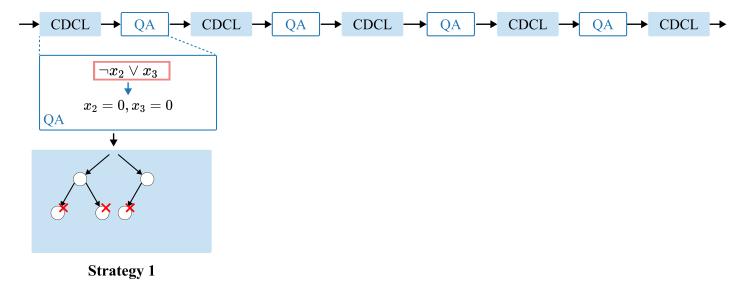






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All embedded	Strategy 1	Stratagy 2	Stratagy 2	Stratagy A
Not all embedded		Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4

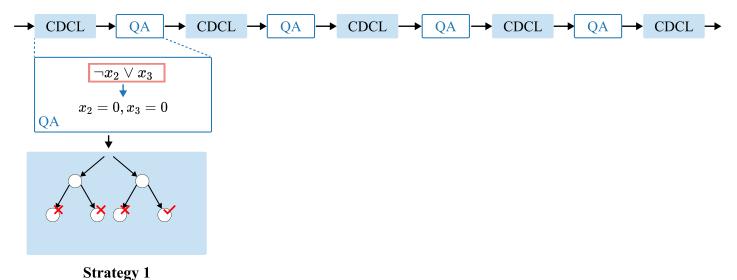






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Not all embedded		Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4

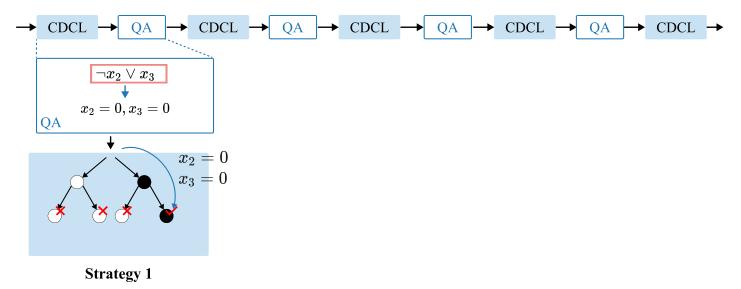






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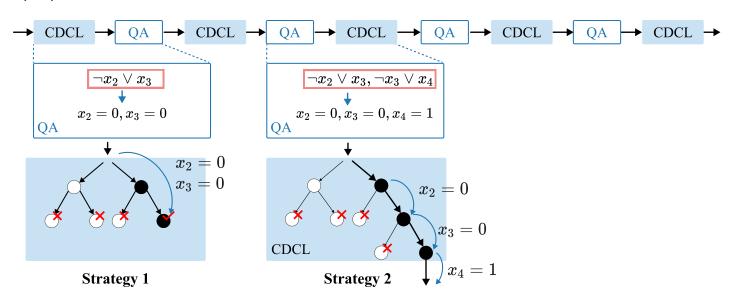






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	Satisfiable	Near satisfiable	Uncertain	Near unsatisfiable
All embedded	Strategy 1	Strategy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4
Not all embedded				

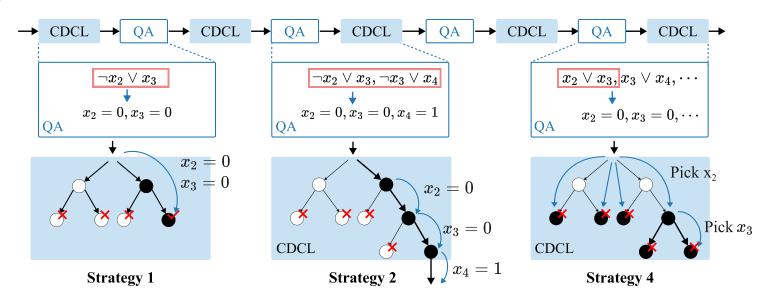






Depending on the number of embedded clauses and their satisfaction probability, we divide them into four cases and propose several feedback strategies to prune the CDCL search space.

	Satisfiable	Near satisfiable	Uncertain	Near unsatisfiable
All embedded	Strategy 1	Stratagy 2	Strategy 3	Strategy 4
Not all embedded		Strategy 2		



Outline of Presentation



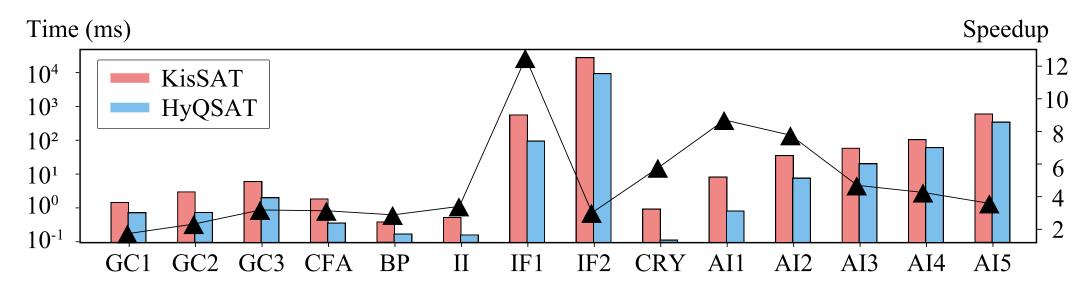


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Evaluation on the Real-World Quantum Annealer







graph coloring (CG), circuit fault analysis (CFA), block planning (BP), inductive inference (II), integer factorization (IF), cryptography (CRY), and artificial intelligence (AI)

- 7 domains, 11 benchmarks
- D-Wave 2000Q real-world quantum annealer
- 4.92X speedup compared to KisSAT (win SAT competition 2022)

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API of HyQSAT





File:

- JanusQ/examples/ipynb/5_1_solve_sat_domain_problem.ipynb
- https://janusq.github.io/tutorials/demo/5_1_solve_sat_domain_problem

```
from janusq.hygsat import solve_by_hygsat
                # input cnf flie
                file_path = "./data/cnf_examples/test/uf100-01.cnf"
                # if verbose
                verbose = True
                # limit the cpu time (s). 0 means infinite
configure
   solver
                cpu \lim = 0
                # limit the memory. 0 means infinite
                mem lim = 0
                result_janus = solve_by_hyqsat(file_path, verb=verbose,
   solve
                cpu_lim=cpu_lim, mem_lim=mem_lim, use_realQC=True)
 problem
```

Use real quantum hardware (Require API key of Dwave)

```
Output:
     'restarts': 1,
     'conflicts': 9.
     'conflict cost': 0.054.
     'decisions': 0,
     'propagations': 0,
     'conflict literals': 37.
     'solving time': 0.355,
     'annealing time': 0.0,
     'quantum count': 0,
     'simulation time': 1.07241,
     'quantum success number': 9,
     'quantum conflict number': 13,
     'quantum one time solve number': 0,
     'is satisfiable': True,
```



Thanks for listening

HyQSAT: A Hybrid Approach for 3-SAT Problems by Integrating Quantum Annealer with CDCL

Siwei Tan, Mingqian Yu, Andre Python, Yongheng Shang, Tingting Li, Liqiang Lu*, and Jianwei Yin*