

Propagator Rewriting

For a correct rewrite of a propagator p to another propagator p' on a store s , the following must hold:

$$p(s') = p'(s') \quad \forall s' \text{ where } s' \leq s$$

I.e a propagator can be rewritten to another (simpler) propagator if the propagators behave the same on all stronger stores than the current store. Typical usage of propagator rewriting is to simplify a propagator when a store s is reached, where complex propagation is no longer necessary due to the reduced variable domains.

To rewrite a single propagator p to a set of Q simpler propagators it is necessary for correctness that the following holds:

$$p(s') = \bigcap q(s') \quad \forall q \in Q \quad \forall s' \text{ where } s' \leq s$$

A modification to the propagation algorithm to support propagator rewriting might be to allow propagators to send an extra status message: $\{rewrite, Q\}$ and the algorithm can then replace p with the propagators in Q . The correctness of the relation between Q and p would be up to the propagator itself. I.e you add the following line to the algorithm:

$$\text{if ms} = \{\text{rewrite}, Q\} \text{ then } EP := (EP - \{ep\}) \cup Q$$

An Addition Propagator

Propagator Definition

Propagator $p_+ \in c \equiv x + y = z$.

$$p_+(s) = \begin{cases} x \mapsto \{n \in s(x) \mid \min s(z) - \max s(y) \leq n \leq \max s(z) - \min s(y)\} \\ y \mapsto \{n \in s(y) \mid \min s(z) - \max s(x) \leq n \leq \max s(z) - \min s(x)\} \\ z \mapsto \{n \in s(z) \mid \min s(x) + \min s(y) \leq n \leq \max s(x) + \max s(y)\} \end{cases}$$

Idempotence

Theorem 0.1. *The propagator p_+ is not idempotent.*

Proof. If p_+ is idempotent then $p_+(p_+(s)) = p_+(s) \quad \forall s$, Counterexample:

$$s = \{x \mapsto \{0, 4\}, y \mapsto \{0, 4\}, z \mapsto \{0, 1, 2\}\}$$

$$p_+(s) = s' = \{x \mapsto \{0\}, y \mapsto \{0\}, z \mapsto \{0, 1, 2\}\}$$

$$p_+(s') = s'' = \{x \mapsto \{0\}, y \mapsto \{0\}, z \mapsto \{0\}\}$$

$$\therefore s' \neq s'' \quad Q.E.D$$

□

Subsumption

Detect subumption:

$$\begin{aligned} p_+(s) &= \mathbf{let} \ s' = p_+(s), \quad s'' = p_+(s') \\ \mathbf{if} \ |s'(x)| = 1 \wedge |s'(y)| = 1 \wedge |s'(z)| = 1 \wedge s'(x) + s'(y) &= s'(z) \\ \mathbf{then} \ \langle subsumed, s' \rangle \\ \mathbf{else if} \ s'' = s' \quad \langle fix, s' \rangle \\ \mathbf{else if} \ s'' \neq s' \quad \langle nofix, s' \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Rewriting

Rewrite into a simpler propagator:

Assume for instance that propagation have computed $s(x) = 1$ then p_+ can be rewritten to the following simpler (more efficient) propagator:

$$p_+(s) = \begin{cases} y \mapsto \{n \in s(y) \mid \min s(z) - 1 \leq n \leq \max s(z) - 1\} \\ z \mapsto \{n \in s(z) \mid \min s(y) + 1 \leq n \leq \max s(y) + 1\} \end{cases}$$

Generalizing to Arbitrary Equations

Propagator $p_{=} \in constraint \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i = c$. where a_i and c are integers while x_i are variables.

$$p_=(s) = \begin{cases} \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : \\ x_i \mapsto \{n \in s(x) \mid \forall j \in X = \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{i\}, \exists m_j \in s(x_j), (\sum_{j \in X} m_j \cdot a_j) + n \cdot a_i = c\} \end{cases}$$

Theorem 0.2. $p_{=}$ is idempotent

Proof. The propagator is domain consistent and idempotent. This follows from contracting property of propagator and that a_i, c are constants. After running the propagator once either we have a failed store or $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i = c$, then there are no more values to remove and propagator is not allowed to add any values. □

Propagating on paper

Propagator $p \in$ constraint $c \equiv x < y \wedge y < x$.

$$p(s) = \begin{cases} x \mapsto \{n \in s(x) \mid n < \max s(y)\} \\ y \mapsto \{n \in s(y) \mid n < \max s(x)\} \end{cases}$$

$$U = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\text{Initial store } s_1 = \{x \mapsto 0, 1, 2, 3, y \mapsto 0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

$$p(s_1) = \{\text{nofix}, s_2\} = \{\text{nofix}, \{x \mapsto 0, 1, 2, y \mapsto 0, 1, 2\}\}$$

$$p(s_2) = \{\text{nofix}, s_3\} = \{\text{nofix}, \{x \mapsto 0, 1, y \mapsto 0, 1\}\}$$

$$p(s_3) = \{\text{nofix}, s_4\} = \{\text{nofix}, \{x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 0\}\}$$

$$p(s_4) = \{\text{fix}, s_5\} = \{\text{fix}, \{x \mapsto \emptyset, y \mapsto \emptyset\}\}$$