DPLL: satisfiability algorithm for formulas in clausal normal form

DPLL: satisfiability of clausal normal forms

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Martin Davis



Donald Loveland



Hilary Putnam



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DPLL (Davis, Putnam, Loveland and Logemann)
A method for checking satisfiability of sets of cluases

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A method for checking satisfiability of sets of cluases.

DPLL: satisfiability of clausal normal forms

DPLL ingredients:

- ▶ Unit Propagation
- Splitting

Satisfiability-checking for sets of clauses

The CNF transformation of

$$\neg((p \rightarrow q) \land (p \land q \rightarrow r) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r))$$

gives the set of four clauses:

$$\neg p \lor q
\neg p \lor \neg q \lor r
p
\neg r$$

Every interpretation that satisfies this set of clauses must assign 1 to p and 0 to r, so we do not have to guess values of these variables.

In fact, we can do even better and establish unsatisfiability in this case without any guessing.

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$$\{ p \mapsto 1, r \mapsto 0, q \mapsto 1 \}$$

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$$\neg p \lor q$$

$$\neg p \lor \neg q \lor r \square$$

$$p$$

Unit propagation

Let S be a set of clauses.

Unit propagation. Repeatedly perform the following transformation:

If S contains a unit clause, i.e. a clause consisting of one literal L, then

- 1. remove from S every clause of the form $L \vee C$;
- 2. replace in S every clause of the form $\overline{L} \vee C$ by the clause C.

Lemma. Unit propagation is satisfiability preserving transformation.

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Lemma. Unit propagation is satisfiability preserving transformation.

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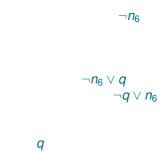
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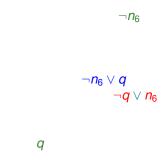
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Propagating one unit

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We established unsatisfiability of this set of clauses in a completely deterministic way, by unit propagation.

DPLL = splitting + unit propagation

```
procedure DPLL(S)
input: set of clauses S
output: satisfiable or unsatisfiable
parameters: function select_literal
begin
 S := propagate(S)
 if S is empty then return satisfiable
 if S contains □ then return unsatisfiable
 L := select_literal(S)
 if DPLL(S \cup \{L\}) = satisfiable
  then return satisfiable
  else return DPLL(S \cup \{\overline{L}\})
end
```

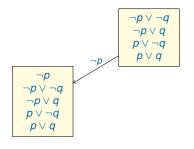
DPLL. Example 1

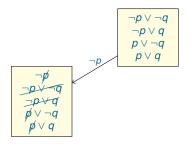
Can be illustrated using **DPLL** trees (similar to splitting trees).

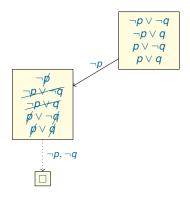


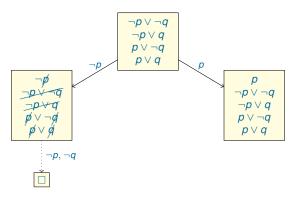
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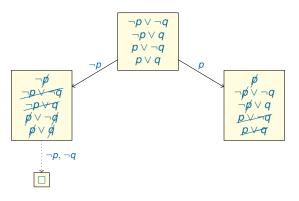
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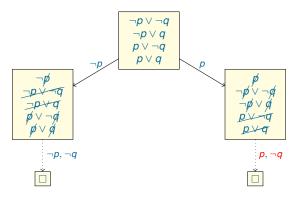




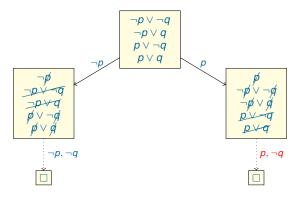




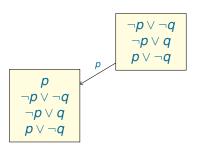


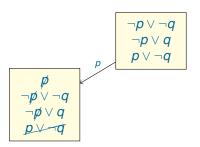


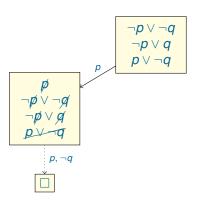
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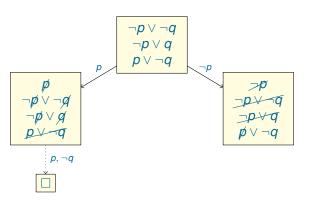


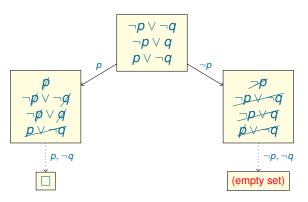
Since all branches end up in a set containing the empty clause, the initial set of clauses is unsatisfiable.

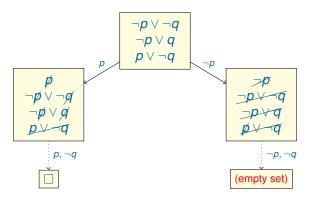




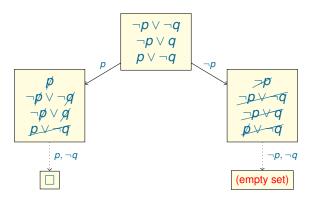








The set of clauses is satisfiable.



The set of clauses is satisfiable.

The model can be obtained by collecting all selected literals and literals used in unit propagation on the branch resulting in the empty set.

This DPLL tree gives us the model $\{p \mapsto 0, q \mapsto 0\}$.

Optimisation: tautology elimination

Tautologies are valid formulas.

Tautological clauses have the form $p \lor \neg p \lor C$:

- ▶ Every clause of the form $p \lor \neg p \lor C$ is tautology (why ?)
- ► There are not other tautological clauses (why ?)

Tautology elimination. We can remove tautological clauses without affecting satisfiability. (why ?)

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Pure literal elimination

A literal L in S is called pure if S contains no clauses of the form $\overline{L} \vee C$.

Optimization (pure literal elimination). We can remove clauses with pure literals without affecting satisfiability. (why ?)

Remember pure atom rule positive (negative): if an atom p occurs only positively (negatively) in a formula then we can replace it by \top (respectively \bot).

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$$\begin{array}{c}
 \neg p_{2} \lor \neg p_{3} \\
 p_{1} \lor \neg p_{2} \\
 \neg p_{1} \lor p_{2} \lor \neg p_{3} \\
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\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$$

The literal $\neg p_3$ is pure in this set. We can remove all clauses containing this literal.

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Now the literal p_1 is pure in this set. We can remove all clauses containing this literal.

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Now the literal p_1 is pure in this set. We can remove all clauses containing this literal.

We obtained the empty set of clauses. Therefore this set is satisfiable.

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This gives us two models:

$$\begin{aligned} &\{ p_1 \mapsto 1, p_2 \mapsto 0, p_3 \mapsto 0 \} \\ &\{ p_1 \mapsto 1, p_2 \mapsto 1, p_3 \mapsto 0 \} \end{aligned}$$

Horn clauses

A clause is called Horn if it contains at most one positive literal.

Examples: The following clauses are Horn:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\rho_1 \\
\neg p_1 \lor p_2 \\
\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_2 \lor p_3 \\
\neg p_3 \lor \neg p_4
\end{array}$$

The following clauses are non-Horn:

$$p_1 \lor p_2 p_1 \lor \neg p_2 \lor p_3$$

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Two cases:

- 1. S' contains \square . Then, S' (and hence S) is unsatisfiable.
- 2. S' does not contain \square .

Each clause in S' has at least two literals. Hence each clause in S' contains at least one negative literal; Hence setting all variables in S' to 0 satisfies S'.

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DIMACS input format:

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

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Advanced techniques: CDCL: Backjumping and lemma learning Extra material/links will be added to BB (but not part of this course) Implement DPLL/CDCL (optional)

Probabilistic analysis of satisfiability

Next:

- ► What is quantitative relationship between satisfiable and unsatisfiable problems? In other words if we pick a set of clauses at random with what probability it will be satisfiable?
- ► How can we randomly generate hard problems?
- Randomized algorithms for showing satisfiability.

SAT is the problem of satisfiability checking for sets of clauses.

A *k*-clause is a cluase with *k* literals. *k*-SAT is the problem of satisfiability checking for sets of *k*-clauses.

- SAT is NP-complete;
- ▶ 3-SAT is NP-complete.
- 2-SAT is decidable in linear time;

There is a simple reduction of SAT to 3-SAT based on the same ideas as used for generating short clausal forms (naming). Take a clause having more than 3 literals:

$$L_1 \vee L_2 \vee L_3 \vee L_4 \dots$$

And replace it by two clauses (optimised definitional transformation):

$$\neg n \lor L_1 \lor L_2$$

 $n \lor L_3 \lor L_4 \ldots$

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There is a simple reduction of SAT to 3-SAT based on the same ideas as used for generating short clausal forms (naming). Take a clause having more than 3 literals:

$$L_1 \vee L_2 \vee L_3 \vee L_4 \dots$$

And replace it by two clauses (optimised definitional transformation):

$$\neg n \lor L_1 \lor L_2$$

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SAT is the problem of satisfiability checking for sets of clauses.

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How can one generate a random *k*-clause?

A random clause is a collection of random literals.

Let's first generate a random literal.

- ► Fix a number *n* of boolean variables;
- Select a literal among $p_1, \ldots, p_n, \neg p_1, \ldots, \neg p_n$ with an equal probability.
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- Fix a number n of boolean variables;
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Example (obtained by a program) for n = 5 and k = 2

p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p 5
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5
$-n_0 \setminus /-n_0$	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5
$-n_0 \setminus -n_0$	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	K
$\neg n_0 \setminus \neg n_0$	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	(
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	(
	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	
	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	(
	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	
	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	(
	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	
	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	(
	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	
	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	(
	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	
$n_0 \setminus -n_0$	0	0	0	0	0	
$p_2 \vee \neg p_3$	0	0	0	0	1	
$p_2 \vee p_1$	0	0	0	1	0	
	0	0	0	1	1	
	0	0	1	0	0	
	0	0	1	0	1	
	0	0	1	1	0	
	0	0	1	1	1	

p_1	p_2	<i>p</i> ₃	p_4	p 5
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1	1

	P^1	ρ_2	ρ_3	Ρ4	ρ_5	
$-n_0 \setminus -n_0$	0	0	0	0	0	
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$	0	0	0	0	1	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$	0	0	0	1	0	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$	0	0	0	1	1	
	0	0	1	0	0	
	0	0	1	0	1	
	0	0	1	1	0	
	0	0	1	1	1	

p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p 5
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1	1

	P_1	P^2	ρ_3	Ρ4	ρ_5
$-n_0 \setminus / -n_0$	0	0	0	0	0
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$	0	0	0	0	1
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$	0	0	0	1	0
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$	0	0	0	1	1
$p_1 \vee p_1$	0	0	1	0	0
	0	0	1	0	1
	0	0	1	1	0
	0	0	1	1	1

p_1	p ₂	<i>p</i> ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p 5
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1	1

Example	(obtained	d by	a pro	gram) for	n=5	and	k = 2

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5		p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5
-n-\/-n-						-	1	0	0	0	0
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$							1	0	0	0	1
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$							1	0	0	1	0
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$							1	0	0	1	1
$p_1 \vee p_1$							1	0	1	0	0
							1	0	1	0	1
							1	0	1	1	0
							1	0	1	1	1
							1	1	0	0	0
							1	1	0	0	1
							1	1	0	1	0
							1	1	0	1	1

Example	(obtaine	d by	a pr	ogram)	for	<i>n</i> =	5	and	k	= 2

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5
-n-\/-n-						1	0	0	0	0
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$						1	0	0	0	1
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$						1	0	0	1	0
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$						1	0	0	1	1
$p_1 \vee p_1$						1	0	1	0	0
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$						1	0	1	0	1
						1	0	1	1	0
						1	0	1	1	1
						1	1	0	0	0
						1	1	0	0	1
						1	1	0	1	0
						1	1	0	1	1

Example	(obtained	by by	a progi	ram) for	n = 5	and	k = 2
		-				-	-

	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5
$-n_0 \setminus /-n_0$						1	0	0	0	0
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$						- 1	0	0	0	1
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$						1	0	0	1	0
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$						1	0	0	1	1
$p_1 \vee p_1$						1	0	1	0	0
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$						1	0	1	0	1
$p_4 \vee p_5$						1	0	1	1	0
						1	0	1	1	1
						1	1	0	0	0
						1	1	0	0	1
						1	1	0	1	0
						1	1	0	1	1

Example (obtained by a program) for n = 5 and k = 2 $\frac{p_1 \quad p_2 \quad p_3 \quad p_4 \quad p_5}{p_2 \lor p_1} \qquad \frac{p_1 \quad p_2 \quad p_3 \quad p_4 \quad p_5}{p_2 \lor p_1}$

$ eg p_2 \lor \neg p_3 \neg p_2 \lor p_1 \neg p_2 \lor p_2 p_1 \lor p_1 $	1	0	0	0	1
	1	0	0	1	0
	1	0	0	1	1
$ eg p_5 \lor p_5 $ $ eg_4 \lor p_5 $	1	0	1	0	1
	1	0	1	1	0
	1	0	1	1	1
	1	1	0	0	1
	1	1	0	1	0
	1	1	0	1	1

> 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 1

Example	(ob	tair	ned	by	a p	orogi	am)	for	n =	5	and	k =	= 2
•		<i>p</i> ₁	p_2	<i>p</i> ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅	•	_ <i>p</i> ₁	p_2	p ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p 5	
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$								4	0	٥	0	4	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$									U	U	U		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$													
$p_1 \vee p_1$													
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$													
$p_4 \vee p_5$													
$\neg p_5 \vee \neg p_3$													
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$													
								1	1	0	0	1	

Example	(ob	tair	ned	by	a p	rogi	ram)	for	n =	5 a	and	k =	= 2
•	`	p_1	p_2		<i>p</i> ₄	_	,	<i>p</i> ₁	p_2	p ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅	
$\neg p_2 \vee \neg p_3$								4	0	0	0	4	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$									U	U	U		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$													
$p_1 \vee p_1$													
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$													
$p_4 \vee p_5$													
$\neg p_5 \vee \neg p_3$													
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$													
$p_5 \vee \neg p_2$								1	1	0	0	1	

Example	(ob	tair	ned	by	a p	orogi	am)	for	n =	5	and	k =	= 2
•	•	p_1	p_2		<i>p</i> ₄		,	<i>p</i> ₁	p_2	p ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅	
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$								4	0	٥	0	4	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$									U	U	U		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$													
$p_1 \vee p_1$													
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$													
$p_4 \vee p_5$													
$\neg p_5 \lor \neg p_3$													
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$													
$p_5 \vee \neg p_2$								1	1	0	0	1	

Example	(ob	tair	ed	by	a p	rogi	am)	for	n =	5	and	k =	= 2
•	•	p_1	p_2	<i>p</i> ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅	,	<i>p</i> ₁	p_2	p ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅	
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$								4	0	٥	0	1	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$									U	U	U		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$													
$p_1 \vee p_1$													
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$													
$p_4 \vee p_5$													
$\neg p_5 \vee \neg p_3$													
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$													
$p_{\rm E} \vee \neg p_{\rm O}$								- 1	1	0	0	1	

 $p_5 \vee p_2$

Example (ob	tair				rogra	m)		$n = p_2$	5 a	and	$k = p_5$	=
	1-1	1	1-0	1-4	1-0			1	1-0	1-4	1-0	
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$							- 1	Ο	Ο	0	1	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$								O	U	U		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$												
$p_1 \vee p_1$												
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$												
$p_4 \vee p_5$												
$\neg p_5 \lor \neg p_3$												
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$												

 $p_5 \vee \neg p_2 \\ p_5 \vee p_2$

Example (ob	tair	ed p ₂	by p ₃		rogram) for p_1		5 a	and	k = p ₅	=
- 1/ -	1-1	1-2	1-0	1-4	1-0	<u></u>	1	1-0	1	1-0	
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$						1	0	0	0	1	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$						•	0		•		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$											
$p_1 \vee p_1$											
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$											
$p_4 \vee p_5$											
$\neg p_5 \lor \neg p_3$											
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$											
$p_5 \vee \neg p_2$											

 $\begin{array}{l} p_5 \lor p_2 \\ \neg p_1 \lor \neg p_4 \end{array}$

Example (ob	otair	-	 rogr	,	for	$n = p_2$	5 a	and p ₄	k = p ₅	=
$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$					1	0	0	Λ	1	
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$						U	U	U		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$										
$p_1 \vee p_1$										
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$										
$p_4 \vee p_5$										
$\neg p_5 \lor \neg p_3$										
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$										

 $p_5 \lor \neg p_2$ $p_5 \lor p_2$ $\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_4$ $p_5 \lor p_2$

Example	(ob	tair	ned	by	a p	rogi	ram)	for	n =	5	and	k =	= 2
		<i>p</i> ₁	<i>p</i> ₂	<i>p</i> ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅		<u>p</u> ₁	<i>p</i> ₂	<i>p</i> ₃	<i>p</i> ₄	p ₅	-

$\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_1$		
$\neg p_2 \lor p_2$		
$p_1 \vee p_1$		
$\neg p_5 \lor p_5$		
$p_4 \vee p_5$		
$\neg p_5 \lor \neg p_3$		
$p_2 \vee \neg p_4$		
$p_5 \vee \neg p_2$		
$p_5 \vee p_2$		
$\neg p_1 \vee \neg p_4$		
$p_5 \vee p_2$		
$\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_5$		

Example (obtained by a program) for n = 5 and k = 2

 $\neg p_2 \lor \neg p_3$ $\neg p_2 \lor p_1$ $\neg p_2 \lor p_2$ $p_1 \vee p_1$ $\neg p_5 \lor p_5$ $p_4 \vee p_5$ $\neg p_5 \lor \neg p_3$ $p_2 \vee \neg p_4$ $p_5 \vee \neg p_2$ $p_5 \vee p_2$ $\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_4$ $p_5 \vee p_2$ $\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_5$

Number of models: 0

This set of 13 clauses is unsatisfiable.

Example (obtained by a program) for n = 5 and k = 2

Number of models: 0

This set of 13 clauses is unsatisfiable.

Increasing number of generated cluases we can observe transition from satisfiable to unsatisfiable.

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- Randomly generate m clauses with an equal probability

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Note that the robability $\pi(r, n)$ is a monotone function: the more clauses we generate, the higher chance we have that the set is unsatisfiable.

Roulette



We generate random instances of 3-SAT with 10-variables.

b clauses?
▶ 30 clauses?

▶ 60 clauses?

▶ 100 clauses?

▶ 1000 clauses?

Roulette



We generate random instances of 3-SAT with 10-variables.

You will bet on whether the resuting set of clauses is satisfiable or not.

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- ► 30 clauses?
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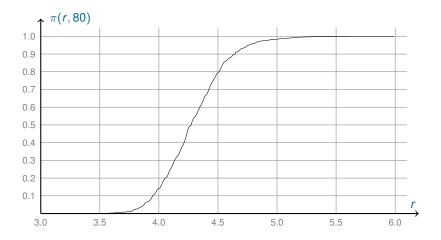
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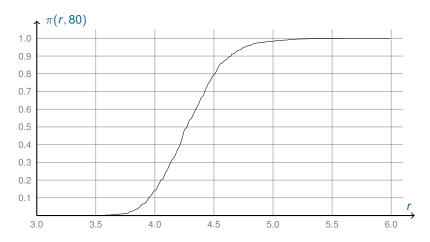
What would be your betting ratio?

Probability of obtaining an unsatisfiable set



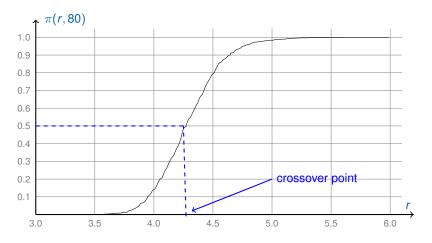
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Crossover point: the value of *r* at which the probability crosses 0.5.



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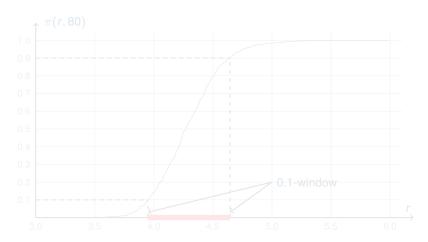


Experimentally: for large *n* crossover point is close to 4.25.

ϵ-window

Take a (small) number $\epsilon > 0$. ϵ -window is the interval of values of r where the probability is between ϵ and $1 - \epsilon$.

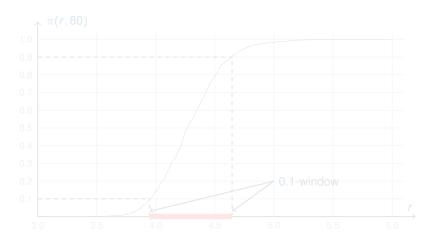
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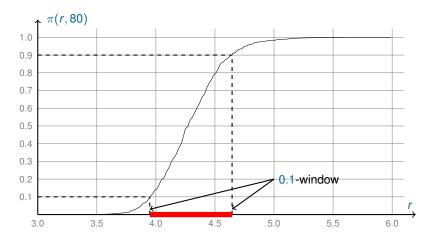
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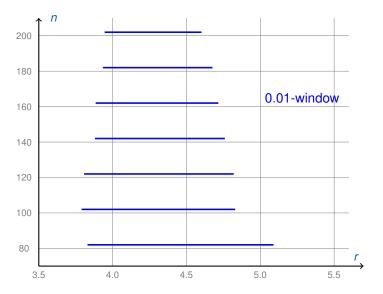


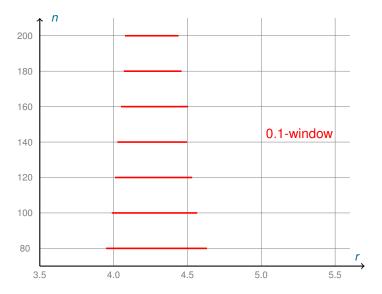
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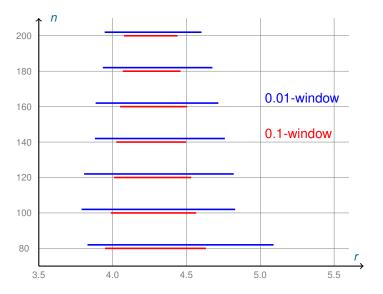
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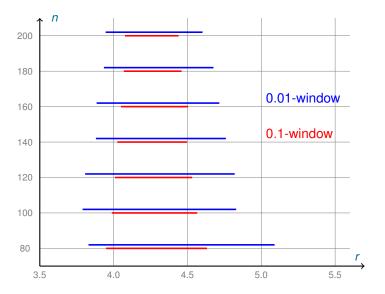
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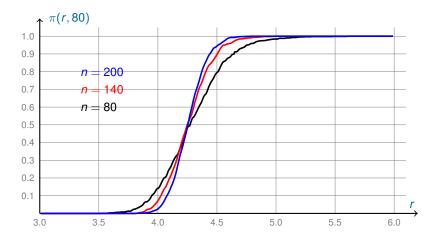






Conjecture: for $n \to \infty$ every ϵ -window "degenerates into a point".

Sharp Phase Transition



Easy-Hard-Easy Pattern (for SAT solvers)

