SAT: Z3 Exercises

Constraint Embeddings

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Cardinality Constraints

In most of the exercises we solved we found a cardinality constraint.

Cardinality constraints are the ones in the form:

$$x_1 + \ldots + x_n \le k$$

Cardinality Constraints

In sat these constraints are represented by:

- at_least_one, at_most_one and exactly_one;
- at_least_k, at_most_k and exactly_k.

The encodings we presented can be very inefficient with big instances, so we need to find better ones.

Cardinality Constraints

Keeping in mind that:

- $\bullet \ \, \mathsf{at_least_k}([x_1,\ldots,x_n],k) \equiv \mathsf{at_most_k}(\{\neg x_i|x_i \in [x_1,\ldots,x_n]\},n-k)$
- $\bullet \ \ \mathsf{exactly_k}([x_1,\ldots,x_n]) \equiv \mathsf{at_most_k}([x_1,\ldots,x_n]) \land \mathsf{at_least_k}([x_1,\ldots,x_n])$

We are going to focus just on the at_most_k constraint.



At Most One

Pairwise Encoding

The pairwise(or naive) encoding of the at_most_one constraint is:

$$\bigwedge_{1 \le i < n} \bigwedge_{i+1 \le j \le n} \neg (x_i \land x_j)$$

This encoding doesn't require the addition of any new variables, but it encodes ${\cal O}(n^2)$ clauses.

Sequential Encoding

The sequential encoding of the at_most_one constraint consists of using n-1 variables s_i to keep track of which x_i is true, it is encoded as follows:

$$(\neg x_1 \lor s_1) \land (\neg x_n \lor \neg s_{n-1}) \land \bigwedge_{1 < i < n} ((\neg x_i \lor s_i) \land (\neg s_{i1} \lor s_i) \land (\neg x_i \lor \neg s_{i-1}))$$

This encoding produces O(n) clauses.

Bitwise Encoding

The bitwise encoding of the at_most_one constraint consists of using $m = \log_2(n)$ new variables r_1, \ldots, r_m to represent the binary encoding of i-1, so it is encoded like:

$$\bigwedge_{1 \le i \le n} \bigwedge_{1 \le j \le m} \neg x_i \lor r_{i,j} [\neg r_{i,j}]$$

Where $r_{i,j}[\neg r_{i,j}]$ if bit j of the binary encoding of i-1 is 1[0].

This encoding produces $n \log_2(n)$ clauses.

Heule Encoding

The Heule encoding is another linear version of the at_most_one consisting of splitting the encoding into two parts:

When n>4 we add an auxiliary variable y such that:

at_most_one
$$(x_1,\ldots,x_3,y)\wedge$$

at_most_one(
$$\neg y, x_4, \dots, x_n$$
)

When $n \leq 4$:

$$\bigwedge_{1 \le i < j \le n} \neg (x_i \land x_j)$$

This encoding require the addition of $\frac{(n-3)}{2}$ new variable, but it encodes 3n-6 clauses.



At Most K

Pairwise Encoding

The pairwise(or naive) encoding of the at_most_k constraint is:

at_most_k([
$$x_1, \dots, x_n$$
], k) $\equiv \bigwedge_{M \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} \bigvee_{i \in M} \neg x_i$

This encoding doesn't require the addition of any new variables, but it encodes $\binom{k}{n-1}$ clauses of length k+1, with |M|=k+1.

Sequential Encoding

The sequential encoding of the at_most_k constraint consists of using $(n-1) \times k$ variables $s_{i,j}$ to keep track of which x_i is true, and what sum j is reached at index i. It is encoded as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll} (\neg x_1 \vee s_{1,1}) & \\ (\neg s_{1,j}) & \text{for } 1 < j \leq k \\ (\neg x_i \vee s_{i,1}) & \\ (\neg s_{i-1,1} \vee s_{i,1}) & \\ (\neg x_i \vee \neg s_{i-1,j-1} \vee s_{i,j}) & \\ (\neg s_{i-1,j} \vee s_{i,j}) & \\ (\neg s_{i-1,j} \vee s_{i,j}) & \\ (\neg x_i \vee \neg s_{i-1,k}) & \\ (\neg x_n \vee \neg s_{n-1,k}) & \\ \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{for } 1 < j \leq k \quad \left. \right\}$$

This encoding needs 2nk + n - 3k - 1 clauses.