



# SAT/SMT solvers

## 8. Quantified Formulas

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# Definitions

$$\forall x. \varphi \iff \neg \exists x. \neg \varphi$$

$$\forall x. \underbrace{\left( (x < 0) \wedge \exists y. \overbrace{(y > x \wedge (y \geq 0 \vee \exists x. \underbrace{(y = x + 1)))}_{\text{scope of } \exists x})}^{\text{scope of } \exists y} \right)}_{\text{scope of } \forall x} .$$

- A variable is called free in a given formula if at least one of its occurrences is not bound by any quantifier
- A formula  $Q$  is called a sentence (or closed) if none of its variables are free

QBF:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{formula} : & \text{formula} \wedge \text{formula} \mid \neg \text{formula} \mid (\text{formula}) \mid \\ & \text{identifier} \mid \exists \text{identifier}. \text{formula} \end{aligned}$$

Complexity - PSPACE

QDLA:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{formula} : & \text{formula} \wedge \text{formula} \mid \neg \text{formula} \mid (\text{formula}) \mid \\ & \text{predicate} \mid \forall \text{identifier}. \text{formula} \\ \text{predicate} : & \Sigma_i a_i x_i \leq c \end{aligned}$$

## Prenex normal form

- A formula is said to be in prenex normal form (PNF) if it is in the form  $Q[n]V[n] \dots Q[1]V[1]$ . *< quantifier – freeformula >*, where  $Q[i]$  - quantor,  $V[i]$  - variable
- For every quantified formula  $Q$  there exists a formula  $Q'$  in prenex normal form such that  $Q$  is valid if and only if  $Q'$  is valid

### Algorithm 9.2.1: PRENEX

**Input:** A quantified formula

**Output:** A formula in prenex normal form

1. Eliminate Boolean connectives other than  $\vee$ ,  $\wedge$ , and  $\neg$ .
2. Push negations to the right across all quantifiers, using De Morgan's rules (see Sect. 1.3) and (9.1).
3. If there are name conflicts across scopes, solve by renaming: give each variable in each scope a unique name.
4. Move quantifiers out by using equivalences such as

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1 \wedge Qx. \phi_2(x) &\iff Qx. (\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2(x)) , \\ \phi_1 \vee Qx. \phi_2(x) &\iff Qx. (\phi_1 \vee \phi_2(x)) , \\ Q_1y. \phi_1(y) \wedge Q_2x. \phi_2(x) &\iff Q_1y. Q_2x. (\phi_1(y) \wedge \phi_2(x)) , \\ Q_1y. \phi_1(y) \vee Q_2x. \phi_2(x) &\iff Q_1y. Q_2x. (\phi_1(y) \vee \phi_2(x)) ,\end{aligned}$$

where  $Q, Q_1, Q_2 \in \{\forall, \exists\}$  are quantifiers,  $x \notin \text{var}(\phi_1)$ , and  $y \notin \text{var}(\phi_2)$ .

# Example

$$Q := \neg \exists x. \neg (\exists y. ((y \implies x) \wedge (\neg x \vee y)) \wedge \neg \forall y. ((y \wedge x) \vee (\neg x \wedge \neg y)))$$

Projection of  $Q[n]V[n] \dots Q[2]V[2].\exists x.\phi$   
is  $Q[n]V[n] \dots Q[2]V[2].\phi$



# Example

$$Q := \neg \exists x. \neg (\exists y. ((y \implies x) \wedge (\neg x \vee y)) \wedge \neg \forall y. ((y \wedge x) \vee (\neg x \wedge \neg y)))$$

### Algorithm 9.2.2: QUANTIFIER-ELIMINATION

**Input:** A sentence  $Q[n]V[n] \dots Q[1]V[1]$ .  $\phi$ , where  $\phi$  is quantifier-free

**Output:** A (quantifier-free) formula over constants  $\phi'$ , which is valid if and only if  $\phi$  is valid

1.  $\phi' := \phi$ ;
2. **for**  $i := 1, \dots, n$  **do**
3.     **if**  $Q[i] = \exists$  **then**
4.          $\phi' := \text{PROJECT}(\phi', V[i])$ ;
5.     **else**
6.          $\phi' := \neg \text{PROJECT}(\neg \phi', V[i])$ ;
7. **Return**  $\phi'$ ;

# Quantifier elimination for Quantified Boolean Formulas

$$\exists y. \exists x. x \wedge \neg x \wedge y = \text{FALSE} ,$$

$$\exists y. \exists x. x \wedge y = \exists y. y = \text{TRUE} .$$

$$\exists x. \bigvee_i \bigwedge_j l_{ij} \iff \bigvee_i \exists x. \bigwedge_j l_{ij}$$

