

# SAT/SMT solvers

## 8. Quantified Formulas

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# Definitions

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

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

- 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

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

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# Example

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$$\forall x. (\exists y. ((\neg y \vee x) \wedge (\neg x \wedge y)) \wedge \exists y. ((\neg y \vee \neg x) \wedge (x \vee y)))$$
$$\forall x. (\exists y_1. ((\neg y_1 \vee x) \wedge (\neg x \wedge y_1)) \wedge \exists y_2. ((\neg y_2 \vee \neg x) \wedge (x \vee y_2)))$$

# Example

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg \exists x. \neg (\exists y. ((y \implies x) \wedge (\neg x \vee y)) \wedge \neg \forall y. ((y \wedge x) \vee (\neg x \wedge \neg y))) \\ & \forall x. (\exists y. ((\neg y \vee x) \wedge (\neg x \wedge y)) \wedge \exists y. ((\neg y \vee \neg x) \wedge (x \vee y))) \\ & \forall x. (\exists y_1. ((\neg y_1 \vee x) \wedge (\neg x \wedge y_1)) \wedge \exists y_2. ((\neg y_2 \vee \neg x) \wedge (x \vee y_2))) \\ & \forall x. \exists y_1. \exists y_2. (\neg y_1 \vee x) \wedge (\neg x \vee y_1) \wedge (\neg y_2 \vee \neg x) \wedge (x \vee y_2). \end{aligned}$$

# Projection

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

### 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

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists y. \exists z. \forall x. (y \vee x) \wedge (z \vee \neg x) \wedge (y \vee \neg z \vee \neg x) \wedge (\neg y \vee z) \\ & \exists y. \exists z. (y) \wedge (z) \wedge (y \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg y \vee z) \end{aligned}$$

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

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

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

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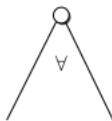
$$\exists y. \exists z. (y \vee z) \wedge (y \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg y \vee z)$$

$$\exists x. \varphi = \varphi|_{x=0} \vee \varphi|_{x=1}$$

$$\forall x. \varphi = \varphi|_{x=0} \wedge \varphi|_{x=1}$$



# Search-Based Algorithms for Quantified Boolean Formulas



# Search-Based Algorithms for Quantified Boolean Formulas

## Algorithm 9.3.1: SEARCH-BASED-DECISION-OF-QBF

**Input:** A QBF  $\mathcal{Q}$  in PNF  $Q[n]V[n] \dots Q[1]V[1]$ .  $\phi$ , where  $\phi$  is in CNF

**Output:** “Valid” if  $\mathcal{Q}$  is valid, and “Not valid” otherwise

1. **function** MAIN(QBF formula  $\mathcal{Q}$ )
2.     **if** QBF( $\mathcal{Q}, \emptyset, n$ ) **then return** “Valid”;
3.     **else return** “Not valid”;
- 4.
5. **function** QBF( $\mathcal{Q}$ , assignment set  $\hat{v}$ ,  $level \in \mathbb{N}_0$ )
6.     **if** ( $\phi|_{\hat{v}}$  simplifies to FALSE) **then return** FALSE;
7.     **if** ( $level = 0$ ) **then return** TRUE;
8.     **if** ( $Q[level] = \forall$ ) **then**
9.         **return**  $\left( \text{QBF}(\mathcal{Q}, \hat{v} \cup \neg V[level], level - 1) \wedge \text{QBF}(\mathcal{Q}, \hat{v} \cup V[level], level - 1) \right)$ ;
10.    **else**
11.       **return**  $\left( \text{QBF}(\mathcal{Q}, \hat{v} \cup \neg V[level], level - 1) \vee \text{QBF}(\mathcal{Q}, \hat{v} \cup V[level], level - 1) \right)$ ;

## Skolem normal form

A formula is in Skolem normal form if it is in prenex normal form and has only universal quantifiers.

## Skolemization

Let  $\psi = \exists x. P$  be a subformula in  $\varphi$ . Let  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  be universally quantified variables such that  $\psi$  is in their scope.

- 1 Remove the quantifier  $\exists x$  from  $\psi$
- 2 Replace occurrences of  $x$  in  $P$  with  $f_x(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ , where  $f_x$  is a new function symbol. It is sufficient to include those  $y$  variables that are actually used in  $P$ . If  $n = 0$ , then replace  $x$  with a new constant  $c_x$

$$\forall y_1. \forall y_2. f(y_1, y_2) \wedge \exists x. (f(x, y_2) \wedge x < 0)$$

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$$\forall y_1. \forall y_2. f(y_1, y_2) \wedge \exists x. (f(x, y_2) \wedge x < 0)$$

$$\forall y_1. \forall y_2. f(y_1, y_2) \wedge (f(f_x(y_1, y_2), y_2) \wedge f_x(y_1, y_2) < 0)$$

A typical scenario: to prove the validity of a ground formula  $G$  based on sentences that represent axioms.

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$$\forall x. \forall y. f(x, y) = f(y, x)$$

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# Simple strategy

Let  $(\forall \bar{x}.\psi) \wedge G$  - formula that we attempt to prove to be unsatisfiable

*Triggers* - subterms in  $\psi$  that contain references to all the variables in  $\bar{x}$

- For each quantified formula of the form  $(\forall \bar{x}.\psi)$ , identify all triggers
- Try to match each trigger  $tr$  to an existing ground term  $gr$  in  $G$ .
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$$f(g(c), h(a)) \wedge f(g(b), h(a)) = f(h(a), g(b))$$

**Input:** Trigger  $tr$ , term  $gr$ , current substitution set  $sub$

**Output:** Substitution set  $sub$  such that for each  $\alpha \in sub$ ,  $E \models \alpha(tr) = gr$ .

1. **function** MATCH( $tr, gr, sub$ )
2.   **if**  $tr$  is a variable  $x$  **then**
3.     **return**  
           $\{\alpha \cup \{x \mapsto gr\} \mid \alpha \in sub, x \notin dom(\alpha)\} \cup$   
           $\{\alpha \mid \alpha \in sub, find(\alpha(x)) = find(gr)\}$
4.   **if**  $tr$  is a constant  $c$  **then**
5.     **if**  $c \in class(gr)$  **then return**  $sub$
6.     **else return**  $\emptyset$
7.   **if**  $tr$  is of the form  $f(p_1, \dots, p_n)$  **then return**

$$\bigcup_{f(gr_1, \dots, gr_n) \in class(gr)} \begin{matrix} MATCH(p_n, gr_n, \\ MATCH(p_{n-1}, gr_{n-1}, \\ \vdots \\ MATCH(p_1, gr_1, sub) \dots) \end{matrix}$$

$$(\forall x. f(x) = x) \wedge (\forall y_1. \forall y_2. g(g(y_1, y_2), y_2) = y_2) \wedge g(f(g(a, b)), b) \neq b$$

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 $f(g(a, b)) = g(a, b)$

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$$(\forall x. f(2x - x) < x) \wedge (f(a) \geq a)$$

