The SMT-LIB Standard Version 2.6

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Preface

The SMT-LIB initiative is an international effort, supported by several research groups worldwide, with the two-fold goal of producing an extensive on-line library of benchmarks and promoting the adoption of common languages and interfaces for SMT solvers. This document specifies Version 2.6 of the *SMT-LIB Standard* which is a backward-compatible extension of Version 2.5.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the people below for their feedback, suggestions and corrections on this document. It is understood that we, the authors, are to blame for any remaining errors and omissions.

Version 2.0

Version 2.0 of the SMT-LIB standard was developed with the input of the whole SMT community and three international work groups consisting of developers and users of SMT tools: the SMT-API work group, led by A. Stump, the SMT-LOGIC work group, led by C. Tinelli, and the SMT-MODELS work group, led by C. Barrett. The Version 2.0 document was written by C. Barrett, A. Stump and C. Tinelli.

Particular thanks are due to the following work group members, who contributed numerous suggestions and helpful constructive criticism in person or in email discussions: Nikolaj Bjørner, Sascha Boehme, David Cok, David Deharbe, Bruno Dutertre, Pascal Fontaine, Vijay Ganesh, Alberto Griggio, Jim Grundy, Paul Jackson, Albert Oliveras, Sava Krstić, Michal Moskal, Leonardo de Moura, Philipp Rümmer, Roberto Sebastiani, and Johannes Waldmann.

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Version 2.5

Version 2.5 was developed again with the input of the SMT community, based on their experience with Version 2.0.

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Version 2.6

The main difference between Version 2.6, the current one, and Version 2.5 is the addition of algebraic datatypes to the language. Special thanks go to the following people for their feedback and useful suggestions on this extension: Guillaume Bury, David Cok, Tim King, Viktor Kuncak, Jochen Hoenicke, Pierre van de Laar, Calvin Loncaric, Andres Nötzli, Andrew Reynolds, and Cristina Serban.

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Part I Introduction

General Information

1.1 About This Document

This document is mostly self-contained, though it assumes some familiarity with first-order logic, *aka* predicate calculus. The reader is referred to any of several textbooks on the topic [Gal86, Fit96, End01, Men09]. Previous knowledge of Version 1.2 of the SMT-LIB standard [RT06] is not necessary. In fact, Version 1.2 users are warned that this version, while largely based on Version 1.2, is *not* backward compatible with it. See the Version 2.0 document [BST10b] for a summary of the major differences.

This document provides BNF-style abstract and concrete syntax for a number of SMT-LIB languages. *Only the concrete syntax is part of the official SMT-LIB standard*. The abstract syntax is used here mainly for descriptive convenience; adherence to it is not prescribed. Implementors are free to use whatever internal structure they please for their abstract syntax trees.

New releases of the document are identified by their release date. Each new release of the same version of the SMT-LIB standard contains, by and large, only *conservative* additions and changes with respect to the standard described in the previous release, as well as improvements to the presentation. The only non-conservative changes may be error fixes.

Historical notes and explanations of the rationale of design decisions in the definition of the SMT-LIB standard are provided in Appendix A, with reference in the main text given as a superscript number enclosed in parentheses.

1.1.1 Change log for Version 2.6

Release: 2021-05-12

Fixed misleading example of usage of as to disambiguate symbol sorts.

Release: 2021-04-02

- Now allowing reserved words in s-expression (as arguments of attributes).
- Disambiguated description of in-line definition (:named annotation).

Release: 2017-07-18

• First release of Version 2.6.

1.1.2 Differences between Version 2.6 and Version 2.5

The SMT-LIB 2 language and logic now supports user-defined algebraic datatypes. Such types can be introduced with two new commands: declare-datatype, to declare a single algebraic datatype, and declare-datatypes, to declare two or more mutually recursive datatypes (see Section 4.2.3). The language of terms now includes a new binder, match, for pattern-matching-based case analysis over datatype values (see Section 3.6.1). The variables bound by match are those that occur in *patterns*, also a new addition to the language. The underlying logic has also been modified to provide built-in semantics for the constructor, selector and tester symbols defined with each new algebraic datatype (see Chapter 5).

This version also makes official a number of set-info attributes used in benchmarks from the official SMT-LIB repository and specifies some requirements on their occurrence and order (see Section 3.9.3 and Section 4.2.9). Any other differences in this document are only edits to improve the presentation. Except for the addition of algebraic datatypes, which is fully backward compatible, the rest of the SMT-LIB language is unchanged.

1.1.3 Change log for Version 2.5

Release: 2015-06-28

• Clarified in Section 4.1.1 that the exit command can be issued in any mode.

Release: 2015-05-28

• First release of Version 2.5.

1.1.4 Differences between Version 2.5 and Version 2.0

Version 2.5 is an extension of Version 2.0 and, with two minor exceptions, is fully backward compatible with it. There is then no need to have separate support for 2.0 if one supports Version 2.6. The following list summarizes notable differences and extensions. The first two items are the only non-backward compatible changes.

- There is now a different set of escape sequences for string literals. It consists of a single sequence, "", used to represent the double quote character within the literal.
- The predefined option :expand-definitions has been removed because there are now no cases in which it applies.

- SMT-LIB source files are not limited to the US-ASCII format anymore and can now consist of Unicode characters. The concrete encoding is currently left unspecified, but should be a compatible 8-bit extension of the 7-bit US-ASCII set, such as UTF-8.
- We have clarified several points about the character set used by the SMT-LIB language and specified more precisely which characters are allowed in string literals, identifiers and symbols.
- We have made explicit several details on the scoping and shadowing rules for identifiers, in particulars those occurring in binders.
- Identifiers can now be indexed not just with numerals but also with symbols.
- The use of the term attribute :pattern and its related syntax for quantifier patterns has been made official.
- The solver option :interactive-mode has been renamed :produce-assertions. The old name is still accepted but its use is now deprecated.
- There is now a predefined argument, ALL, for the set-logic command which refers to the most general logic supported by the solver executing the command.
- We have introduced a notion of *execution mode* for a solver to better describe the restriction on when commands can be executed or options set.
- There is a new solver option :global-declarations that makes all definitions and declarations global and not removable by pop operations. Global declarations can be removed only by the new command reset.
- The new command reset brings the state of a solver to the state it had immediately after start up (resetting everything).
- The new command reset-assertions empties the assertion stack and removes all assertions. If :global-declarations is set to false, it also removes all declarations and definitions.
- The new command check-sat-assuming checks the satisfiability of the current context under an additional number of assumptions provided as input to the command. When it returns unsat, a new companion command, get-unsat-assumptions, returns the subset of input assumptions used by the solver to prove the context unsatisfiable. The latter command is enabled or disabled with the new option :produce-unsat-assumptions. The old check-sat command can now be defined, conservatively, as a special case of check-sat-assuming with an empty set of assumptions.
- The new command declare-const can now be used to declare nullary function symbols.
- The new command echo prints back on the regular output channel a string provided as input.

- The new commands define-fun-rec and define-funs-rec respectively allow the definition of recursive functions and of sets of mutually recursive functions.
- The new command get-model returns a representation of a model computed by the solver in response to an invocation of the check-sat or check-sat-assuming command.
- The new get-info flag :assertion-stack-levels returns the current number of levels in the assertion stack.
- The new option :reproducible-resource-limit can be used to set a solver-defined resource limit that applies to each invocation of check-sat or check-sat-assumptions.

1.1.5 Typographical and notational conventions

The concrete syntax of the SMT-LIB language is defined by means of BNF-style production rules. In the concrete syntax notation, terminals are written in typewriter font, as in false, while syntactic categories (non-terminals) are written in slanted font and enclosed in angular brackets, as in $\langle term \rangle$. In the production rules, the meta-operators ::= and | are used as usual in BNF. Also, as usual, the meta-operators $_^*$ and $_^+$ denote zero, respectively, one, or more repetitions of their argument. We use $_^n$ and $_^{n+1}$ instead of $_^*$ and $_^+$ when we want to indicate that multiple occurrences to the latter operators have the same number of repetitions. We use the notation d_{dec} (resp., e_{hex}) to represent the Unicode character with decimal code d (resp., hexadecimal code e). Remember that the US-ASCII character with code d < 128 is also the Unicode character d_{dec} . Examples of concrete syntax expressions are provided in shaded boxes like the following.

In the abstract syntax notation, which uses the same meta-operators as the concrete syntax, words in **boldface** as well as the symbols \approx , \exists , \forall , and Π denote terminal symbols, while words in *italics* and Greek letters denote syntactic categories. For instance, x, σ are non-terminals and **Bool** is a terminal. Parentheses are meta-symbols, used just for grouping—they are not part of the abstract language. Function applications are denoted simply by juxtaposition, which is enough at the abstract level.

To simplify the notation, when there is no risk of confusion, the name of an abstract syntactic category is also used, possibly with subscripts, to denote individual elements of that category. For instance, t is the category of terms and t (as well as t_1 , t_2 and so on) is also used to denote individual terms.

The meta-syntax \bar{x} denotes a sequence of the form $x_1x_2\cdots x_n$ for some x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n and $n \ge 0$.

1.2 Overview of SMT-LIB

Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT) is an area of automated deduction that studies methods for checking the satisfiability of first-order formulas with respect to some logical theory \mathcal{T}

of interest [BSST09]. What distinguishes SMT from general automated deduction is that the background theory \mathcal{T} need not be finitely or even first-order axiomatizable, and that specialized inference methods are used for each theory. By being theory-specific and restricting their language to certain classes of formulas (such as, typically but not exclusively, quantifier-free formulas), these specialized methods can be implemented in solvers that are more efficient in practice than general-purpose theorem provers.

While SMT techniques have been traditionally used to support deductive software verification, they have found applications in other areas of computer science such as, for instance, planning, model checking and automated test generation. Typical theories of interest in these applications include formalizations of various forms of arithmetic, arrays, finite sets, bit vectors, algebraic datatypes, strings, floating point numbers, equality with uninterpreted functions, and various combinations of these.

1.2.1 What is SMT-LIB?

SMT-LIB is an international initiative, coordinated by the authors of this document and endorsed by a large number of research groups world-wide, aimed at facilitating research and development in SMT [BST10a]. Since its inception in 2003, the initiative has pursued these aims by focusing on the following concrete goals: provide standard rigorous descriptions of background theories used in SMT systems; develop and promote common input and output languages for SMT solvers; establish and make available to the research community a large library of benchmarks for SMT solvers.

The main motivation of the SMT-LIB initiative was the expectation that the availability of common standards and of a library of benchmarks would greatly facilitate the evaluation and the comparison of SMT systems, and advance the state of the art in the field, in the same way as, for instance, the TPTP library [Sut09] has done for theorem proving, or the SATLIB library [HS00] did for propositional satisfiability. These expectations have been largely met, thanks in no small part to extensive benchmark contributions from the research community and to an annual SMT solver competition, SMT-COMP [BdMS05], based on benchmarks from the library.

At the time of this writing, the library contains more than 100,000 benchmarks and continues to grow. Formulas in SMT-LIB format are accepted by the great majority of current SMT solvers. Moreover, much published experimental work in SMT relies significantly on SMT-LIB benchmarks.

1.2.2 Main features of the SMT-LIB standard

The previous main version of the SMT-LIB standard, Version 1.2, provided a language for specifying theories, logics (see later), and benchmarks, where a benchmark was, in essence, a logical formula to be checked for satisfiability with respect to some theory.

Version 2.0 sought to improve the usefulness of the SMT-LIB standard by simplifying its logical language while increasing its expressiveness and flexibility. In addition, it introduced a command language for SMT solvers that expanded their SMT-LIB interface considerably, allowing users to tap the numerous functionalities that most modern SMT solvers provide.

Like Version 2.0 and later versions, Version 2.6 defines:

- a language for writing *terms and formulas* in a sorted (i.e., typed) version of first-order logic;
- a language for specifying *background theories* and fixing a standard vocabulary of sort, function, and predicate symbols for them;
- a language for specifying *logics*, suitably restricted classes of formulas to be checked for satisfiability with respect to a specific background theory;
- a *command* language for interacting with SMT solvers via a textual interface that allows asserting and retracting formulas, querying about their satisfiability, examining their models or their unsatisfiability proofs, and so on.

Basic Assumptions and Structure

This chapter introduces the defining basic assumptions of the SMT-LIB standard and describes its overall structure.

2.1 Satisfiability Modulo Theories

The defining problem of Satisfiability Modulo Theories is checking whether a given (closed) logical formula φ is *satisfiable*, not in general but in the context of some background theory \mathcal{T} which constrains the interpretation of the symbols used in φ . Technically, the SMT problem for φ and \mathcal{T} is the question of whether there is a model of \mathcal{T} that makes φ true.

A dual version of the SMT problem, which we could call *Validity Modulo Theories*, asks whether a formula φ is *valid* in some theory \mathcal{T} , that is, satisfied by every model of \mathcal{T} . As the name suggests, SMT-LIB focuses only on the SMT problem. However, at least for classes of formulas that are closed under logical negation, this is no restriction because the two problems are inter-reducible: a formula φ is valid in a theory \mathcal{T} exactly when its negation is not satisfiable in the theory.

Informally speaking, SMT-LIB calls an *SMT solver* any software system that implements a procedure for satisfiability modulo some given theory. In general, one can distinguish among a solver's

- 1. underlying logic, e.g., first-order, modal, temporal, second-order, and so on,
- 2. background theory, the theory against which satisfiability is checked,
- 3. input formulas, the class of formulas the solver accepts as input, and
- 4. *interface*, the set of functionalities provided by the solver.

For instance, in a solver for linear arithmetic the underlying logic is first-order logic with equality, the background theory is the theory of real numbers, and the input language may be limited to conjunctions of inequations between linear polynomials. The interface may be as simple as accepting a system of inequations and returning a binary response indicating whether the system is satisfiable or not. More sophisticated interfaces include the ability to return concrete solutions for satisfiable inputs, return proofs for unsatisfiable ones, allow incremental and backtrackable input, and so on.

For better clarity and modularity, the aspects above are kept separate in SMT-LIB. SMT-LIB's commitment to each of them is described in the following.

2.2 Underlying Logic

Version 2.6 of the SMT-LIB format adopts as its underlying logic a version of many-sorted first-order logic with equality [Man93, Gal86, End01]. Like traditional many-sorted logic, it has sorts (i.e., basic types) and sorted terms. Unlike that logic, however, it does not have a syntactic category of formulas distinct from terms. Formulas are just sorted terms of a distinguished Boolean sort, which is interpreted as a two-element set in every SMT-LIB theory. Furthermore, the SMT-LIB logic uses a language of sort terms, as opposed to just sort constants, to denote sorts: sorts can be denoted by sort constants like Int as well as sort terms like (List (Array Int Real)). Finally, in addition to the usual existential and universal quantifiers, the logic includes a *let* binder and a *match* binder analogous to constructs with the same name found in functional programming languages.

SMT-LIB's underlying logic, henceforth *SMT-LIB logic*, provides the formal foundations of the SMT-LIB standard. The concrete syntax of the logic is part of the SMT-LIB language of formulas and theories, which is defined in Part II of this document. An abstract syntax for SMT-LIB logic and the logic's formal semantics are provided in Part III.

2.3 Background Theories

One of the goals of the SMT-LIB initiative is to clearly define a catalog of background theories, starting with a small number of popular ones, and adding new ones as solvers for them are developed.² Theories are specified in SMT-LIB independently of any benchmarks or solvers. On the other hand, each SMT-LIB script refers, indirectly, to one or more theories in the SMT-LIB catalog.

This version of the SMT-LIB standard distinguishes between *basic* theories and *combined* theories. Basic theories, such as the theory of real numbers, the theory of arrays, the theory of fixed-size bit vectors and so on, are those explicitly defined in the SMT-LIB catalog. Combined theories are defined implicitly in terms of basic theories by means of a general modular combination operator. The difference between a basic theory and a combined one in SMT-LIB is essentially operational. Some SMT-LIB theories, such as the theory of finite sets with a

¹This is similar to some formulations of classical higher-order logic, such as that of [And86].

²This catalog is available, separately from this document, from the SMT-LIB website (www.smt-lib.org).

cardinality operator, are defined as basic theories, even if they are in fact a combination of smaller theories, because they cannot be obtained by modular combination.

Theory specifications have mostly documentation purposes. They are meant to be standard references for human readers. For practicality then, the format insists that only the *signature* of a theory (essentially, its set of sort symbols and sorted function symbols) be specified formally—provided it is finite.³ By "formally" here we mean written in a machine-readable and processable format, as opposed to written in free text, no matter how rigorously. By this definition, theories themselves are defined informally, in natural language. Some theories, such as the theory of bit vectors, have an infinite signature. For them, the signature too is specified informally in English.⁽¹⁾

2.4 Input Formulas

SMT-LIB adopts a single and general first-order (sorted) language in which to write logical formulas. It is often the case, however, that SMT applications work with formulas expressed in some particular fragment of the language. The fragment in question matters because one can often write a solver specialized on that sublanguage that is much more efficient than a solver meant for a larger sublanguage.⁴

An extreme case of this situation occurs when satisfiability modulo a given theory \mathcal{T} is decidable for a certain fragment (quantifier-free, say) but undecidable for a larger one (full first-order, say), as for instance happens with the theory of arrays [BMS06]. But a similar situation occurs even when the decidability of the satisfiability problem is preserved across various fragments. For instance, if \mathcal{T} is the theory of real numbers, the satisfiability in \mathcal{T} of full-first order formulas built with the symbols $\{0,1,+,*,<,=\}$ is decidable. However, one can implement increasingly faster solvers by restricting the language respectively to quantifier-free formulas, linear equations and inequations, difference inequations (inequations of the form x < y + n), and inequations between variables [BBC+05].

Certain pairs of theories and input languages are very common in the field and are often conveniently considered as a single entity. In recognition of this practice, the SMT-LIB format allows one to pair together a background theory and an input language into a *sublogic*, or, more briefly, *logic*. We call these pairs (sub)logics because, intuitively, each of them defines a sublogic of SMT-LIB logic for restricting both the set of allowed models—to the models of the background theory—and the set of allowed formulas—to the formulas in the input language.

2.5 Interface

Starting with Version 2.0, the SMT-LIB standard includes a scripting language that defines a textual interface for SMT solvers. SMT solvers implementing this interface act as interpreters of the scripting language. The language is command-based, and defines a number of input/output functionalities that go well beyond simply checking the satisfiability of an input

³The finiteness condition can be relaxed a bit for signatures that include certain commonly used sets of constants such as the set of all numerals.

⁴By efficiency here we do not necessarily refer to worst-case time complexity, but efficiency in practice.

2.5. INTERFACE

formula. It includes commands for setting various solver parameters, declaring new symbols, asserting and retracting formulas, checking the satisfiability of the current set of asserted formulas, inquiring about models of satisfiable sets, printing various diagnostics, and so on.

Part II

Syntax

The SMT-LIB Language

This chapter defines and explains the concrete syntax of the SMT-LIB standard, what we comprehensively refer to as *the SMT-LIB language*. The SMT-LIB language has three main components: *theory declarations, logic declarations,* and *scripts*. Its syntax is similar to that of the LISP programming language. In fact, every expression in this version is a legal *S-expression* of Common Lisp [Ste90]. The choice of the S-expression syntax and the design of the concrete syntax was mostly driven by the goal of simplifying parsing, as opposed to facilitating human readability.⁽²⁾

The three main components of the language are defined in this chapter by means of BNF-style production rules. The rules, with additional details, are also provided in Appendix B. The language generated by these rules is actually a superset of the SMT-LIB language. The legal expressions of the language must satisfy additional constraints, such as well-sortedness, also specified in this document.

3.1 Lexicon

The syntax rules in this chapter are given directly with respect to streams of lexical tokens from the set defined in this section. The whole set of concrete syntax rules is also available for easy reference in Appendix B.

SMT-LIB source files consist of Unicode characters in any 8-bit encoding, such as UTF-8, that extends the original 7-bit US-ASCII set. While not technically Unicode, the ISO 8859-1 character set is also allowed since it coincides with the first 256 characters of UTF-8.⁽³⁾

Most lexical tokens defined below are limited to US-ASCII printable characters, namely, characters $32_{\rm dec}$ to $126_{\rm dec}$. The remaining printable characters, mostly used for non-English alphabet letters (characters $128_{\rm dec}$ and beyond), are allowed in string literals, quoted symbols, and comments.

3.1. LEXICON 22

A *comment* is any character sequence not contained within a string literal or a quoted symbol (see later) that begins with the semi-colon character; and ends with the first subsequent line-breaking character, i.e., $10_{\rm dec}$ or $13_{\rm dec}$. Both comments and consecutive white space characters occurring outside a string literal or a symbol (see later) are considered *whitespace*. The only lexical function of whitespace is to break the source text into tokens.¹

The lexical tokens of the language are the parenthesis characters (and), the elements of the syntactic categories $\langle numeral \rangle$, $\langle decimal \rangle$, $\langle hexadecimal \rangle$, $\langle binary \rangle$, $\langle string \rangle$, $\langle symbol \rangle$, $\langle keyword \rangle$, as well as a number of *reserved words*, all defined below together with a few auxiliary syntactic categories.

White Space Characters. A $\langle white_space_char \rangle$ is one of the following characters: 9_{dec} (tab), 10_{dec} (line feed), 13_{dec} (carriage return), and 32_{dec} (space).

Printable Characters. A $\langle printable_char \rangle$ is any character from 32_{dec} to 126_{dec} (US-ASCII) and from 128_{dec} on.²

Digits. A $\langle digit \rangle$ is any character from 48_{dec} to 57_{dec} (0 through 9)

Letters. A $\langle letter \rangle$ is any character from 65_{dec} to 90_{dec} (English alphabet letters A through Z) and from 97_{dec} to 122_{dec} (English alphabet letters a through z). (4)

Numerals. A $\langle numeral \rangle$ is the digit 0 or a non-empty sequence of digits not starting with 0.

Decimals. A $\langle decimal \rangle$ is a token of the form $\langle numeral \rangle . 0^* \langle numeral \rangle$.

Hexadecimals. A $\langle hexadecimal \rangle$ is a non-empty *case-insensitive* sequence of digits and letters from A to F preceded by the (case sensitive) characters #x.

```
#x0 #xA04
#x01Ab #x61ff
```

Binaries. A $\langle binary \rangle$ is a non-empty sequence of the characters 0 and 1 preceded by the characters #b.

```
#b0 #b1
#b001 #b101011
```

String literals. A $\langle string \rangle$ (literal) is any sequence of characters from $\langle printable_char \rangle$ or $\langle white_space_char \rangle$ delimited by the double quote character " (34_{dec}). The character " can itself occur *within* a string literal only if duplicated. In other words, after an initial " that starts a literal, a lexer should treat the sequence "" as an escape sequence denoting a single occurrence of " within the literal.

 $^{^{1}}$ Which implies that the language's semantics does not depend on indentation and spacing.

²Note that the space character is both a printable and a whitespace character.

3.1. LEXICON 23

```
"this is a string literal"

""

"She said: ""Bye bye"" and left."

"this is a string literal

with a line break in it"
```

SMT-LIB string literals are akin to *raw strings* in certain programming languages. However, they have only one escape sequence: "" . This means, for example and in contrast to most programming languages, that within a $\langle string \rangle$ the character sequences \n, \012, \x0A, and \u00008 are *not* escape sequences (all denoting the new line character), but regular sequences denoting their individual characters. (5)

Reserved words. The language uses a number of reserved words, sequences of printable characters that are to be treated as individual tokens. The basic set of reserved words consists of the following:

```
BINARY DECIMAL HEXADECIMAL NUMERAL STRING
_ ! as let exists forall match par
```

Additionally, each command name in the scripting language defined in Section 3.9 (set-logic, set-option, ...) is also a reserved word. (6)

The syntactic category *(reserved)* denotes any reserved word.

Symbols. A $\langle symbol \rangle$ is either a simple symbol or a quoted symbol. A *simple symbol* is any non-empty sequence of elements of $\langle letter \rangle$ and $\langle digit \rangle$ and the characters

```
~!@$%^&*_-+=<>.?/
```

that does not start with a digit and is not a reserved word.³

```
+ <= x plus ** $ <sas <adf>
abc77 *$s&6 .kkk .8 +34 -32
```

A *quoted symbol* is any sequence of whitespace characters and printable characters that starts and ends with | and does not contain | or \setminus .⁽⁷⁾

³Note that simple symbols cannot contain non-English letters.

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```
|this is a quoted symbol|
|so is
  this one|
||
| " can occur too|
|af klj^*0asfe2(&*)&(#^$>>>?"']]984|
```

Symbols are case sensitive. They are used mainly as operators or identifiers. Conventionally, arithmetic characters and the like are used, individually or in combination, as operator names; in contrast, alpha-numeric symbols, possibly with punctuation characters and underscores, are used as identifiers. But, as in LISP, this usage is only recommended (for human readability), not prescribed. For additional flexibility, arbitrary sequences of whitespace and printable characters (except for | and \) enclosed in vertical bars are also allowed as symbols. Following Common Lisp's conventions, *enclosing a simple symbol in vertical bars does not produce a new symbol*. This means for instance that abc and |abc| are the *same* symbol.

Simple symbols starting with the character @ or . are reserved for solver use. 4 Solvers can use them respectively as identifiers for abstract values and solver-generated function symbols other than abstract values.

Keywords. A \(\langle keyword \rangle \) is a token of the form :\(\langle simple symbol \rangle \). Elements of this category have a special use in the language. They are used as *attribute* names or *option* names (see later).

```
:date :a2 :foo-bar
:<= :56 :->
```

3.2 S-expressions

An S-expression is either a non-parenthesis token or a (possibly empty) sequence of S-expressions enclosed in parentheses. Every syntactic category of the SMT-LIB language is a specialization of the category $\langle s_expr \rangle$ defined by the production rules below.

⁴This includes symbols such as |@abc| and |.abc| which are considered the same as @abc and .abc, respectively.

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Remark 1 (Meaning of special constants). Elements of the $\langle spec_constant \rangle$ category do not always have the expected associated semantics in the SMT-LIB language (i.e., elements of $\langle numeral \rangle$ denoting integers, elements of $\langle string \rangle$ denoting character strings, and so on). In particular, in the $\langle term \rangle$ category (defined later) they simply denote constant symbols, with no fixed, predefined semantics. Their semantics is determined locally by each SMT-LIB theory that uses them. For instance, it is possible for an SMT-LIB theory of sets to use the numerals 0 and 1 to denote respectively the empty set and universal set. Similarly, the elements of $\langle binary \rangle$ may denote integers modulo n in one theory and binary strings in another; the elements of $\langle decimal \rangle$ may denote rational numbers in one theory and floating point values in another.

3.3 Identifiers

Identifiers are used mostly as function and sort symbols. When defining certain SMT-LIB theories it is convenient to have indexed identifiers as well. Instead of having a special token syntax for that, indexed identifiers are defined more systematically as the application of the reserved word _ to a symbol and one or more *indices*. Indices can be numerals or symbols. (8)

We refer to identifiers from *(symbol)* as *simple* identifiers and to the others as *indexed* identifiers. Since identifiers are used as the names of function symbols, sort symbols, sort parameters, variables and commands, we often refer to them informally as *names* in this document.

Remark 2 (Namespaces and shadowing of identifiers). There are several namespaces for identifiers: sorts, terms, command names, and attributes. The same identifier can occur in different namespaces with no risk of conflicts because each namespace can always be identified syntactically. Within the term namespace, bound variables can shadow one another as well as function symbols in accordance with a lexical scoping discipline described in Section 3.6. Similarly, sort parameters can shadow sort symbols, as described in Section 3.5.

3.4 Attributes

Several syntactic categories in the language contain *attributes*. These are generally pairs consisting of an attribute name and an associated value, although attributes with no value are also allowed.

Attribute names belong to the $\langle keyword \rangle$ category. Attribute values are in general S-expressions other than keywords, although most predefined attributes use a more restricted category for their values.

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3.5 Sorts

A major subset of the SMT-LIB language is the language of *well-sorted* terms, used to represent logical expressions. Such terms are typed, or *sorted* in logical terminology; that is, each is associated with a (unique) *sort*. The set of sorts consists itself of *sort terms*. In essence, a sort term is a *sort symbol*, a *sort parameter*, or a sort symbol applied to a sequence of sort terms.

Syntactically, a sort symbol can be either the distinguished symbol Bool or any $\langle identifier \rangle$. A sort parameter can be any $\langle symbol \rangle$ (which in turn, is an $\langle identifier \rangle$).

A (non-)parametric sort is a sort containing (no) parameters. We will use σ to denote non-parametric sorts and τ to denote possibly parametric sorts.

3.5.1 Ranks

Each function symbol in an SMT-LIB script is associated with one or more *ranks*, non-empty sequences of sorts. Intuitively, a function symbol f with rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$, with none of the sorts parametric, denotes a function that takes as input n values of respective sorts $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$, and returns a value of sort σ .

In contrast, a function symbol f with rank $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau$, where each sort may contain sort parameters, actually stands for a whole *class* of function symbols, all named f and each with a rank obtained from $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau$ by instantiating in all possible ways every occurrence in $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau$ of a sort parameter with a non-parametric sort.

3.6 Terms and Formulas

Abstractly, term are constructed out of constant symbols in the $\langle spec_constant \rangle$ category (numerals, decimals, strings, etc.), *variables*, *function symbols*, four kinds of *binders* (introduced by

the reserved words let, forall, exists, and match), and an annotation operator (the reserved word !). In its simplest form, a term is a special constant symbol, a variable, a function symbol, or the application of a function symbol to one or more terms. More complex terms include one or more binders.

Concretely, a variable can be any $\langle symbol \rangle$, while a function symbol can be any $\langle identifier \rangle$ (i.e., a symbol or an indexed symbol). As a consequence, contextual information is needed during parsing to know whether an identifier is to be treated as a variable or a function symbol. For variables, this information is provided by the three binders which are the only mechanism to introduce variables. Function symbols, in contrast, are predefined, as explained later. Recall that every function symbol f is separately associated with one or more ranks, each specifying the sorts of f's arguments and result. To simplify sort checking, a function symbol in a term can be annotated with one of its result sorts σ . Such an annotated function symbol is a *qualified identifier* of the form (as f σ).

```
\(\)\(qual \)\(identifier\)
                                        ⟨identifier⟩ | (as ⟨identifier⟩ ⟨sort⟩)
                               ::=
(var binding)
                                         (\langle symbol \rangle \langle term \rangle)
                               ::=
⟨sorted var⟩
                                        (\langle symbol \rangle \langle sort \rangle)
                               ::=
                                        \langle symbol \rangle | (\langle symbol \rangle \langle symbol \rangle^+)
⟨ pattern ⟩
                               ::=
⟨match case⟩
                               ::=
                                        (\langle pattern \rangle \langle term \rangle)
⟨term⟩
                                        (spec constant)
                               ::=
                                         ⟨qual identifier⟩
                                         (\langle qual | identifier \rangle \langle term \rangle^+)
                                         (let (\langle var \ binding \rangle^+) \langle term \rangle)
                                         (forall (\langle sorted\_var \rangle^+) \langle term \rangle)
                                         (exists (\langle sorted \ var \rangle^+) \langle term \rangle)
                                         (match \langle term \rangle (\langle match \ case \rangle^+))
                                         (! \langle term \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^+)
```

SMT-LIB scripts can contain only *well-sorted* terms (see Section 3.6.4). Formulas in SMT-LIB are just well-sorted terms of sort Bool. As a consequence, there is no syntactic distinction between function and predicate symbols; the latter are simply function symbols whose result sort is Bool. Another consequence is that function symbols can take formulas (even quantified ones) as arguments.

```
(forall ((x (List Int)) (y (List Int)))
  (= (append x y)
    (ite (= x (as nil (List Int)))
     y
     (let ((h (head x)) (t (tail x)))
        (insert h (append t y))))))
```

3.6.1 Variable Binders

Variables are introduced by means of one of the four binders. Each binder allows the introduction of one or more variables or parameters with local scope.

Exists and forall quantifiers. These binders correspond to the usual universal and existential quantifiers of first-order logic, except that each variable they quantify is also associated with a sort. Both binders have a non-empty list of variables, which abbreviates a sequential nesting of quantifiers. Specifically, a formula of the form

(forall
$$((x_1 \ \sigma_1) \ (x_2 \ \sigma_2) \ \cdots \ (x_n \ \sigma_n)) \ \varphi)$$
 (3.1)

has the same semantics as the formula

(forall
$$((x_1 \ \sigma_1))$$
 (forall $((x_2 \ \sigma_2))$ (··· (forall $((x_n \ \sigma_n)) \ \varphi)$ ···) (3.2)

Note that the variables in the list $((x_1 \ \sigma_1) \ (x_2 \ \sigma_2) \ \cdots \ (x_n \ \sigma_n))$ of (3.1) are not required to be pairwise disjoint. However, because of the nested quantifier semantics, earlier occurrences of same variable in the list are shadowed by the last occurrence—making those earlier occurrences useless. The same argument applies to the exists binder.

Let. The let binder introduces and defines one or more local variables *in parallel*. Semantically, a term of the form

$$(let ((x_1 t_1) \cdots (x_n t_n)) t)$$
 (3.3)

is equivalent to the term $t[t_1/x_1,...,t_n/x_n]$ obtained from t by simultaneously replacing each free occurrence of x_i in t by t_i , for each i=1,...,n, possibly after a suitable renaming of t's bound variables to avoid capturing any variables in $t_1,...,t_n$. Because of the parallel semantics, the variables $x_1,...,x_n$ in (3.3) must be pairwise distinct.

Remark 3 (No sequential version of let). The language does not have a sequential version of let. Its effect is achieved by nesting lets, as in (let $((x_1 \ t_1))$ (let $((x_2 \ t_2))$ t)).

Match. Similarly to pattern matching statements in functional programming languages or in certain interactive theorem provers, the match binder is used to perform pattern matching on values of an algebraic data type (see Section 4.2.3). It has the form

$$(\text{match } t \ ((p_1 \ t_1) \ \cdots \ (p_{m+1} \ t_{m+1}))) \tag{3.4}$$

where t is a term of some datatype sort δ and, for each $i=1,\ldots,m+1$, p_i is a pattern for δ , and t_i a term of some sort σ . A pattern p in turn is either a variable x of sort δ , a nullary constructor c of δ , or a term of the form $(c \ x_1 \ \cdots \ x_k)$ where c is a constructor of δ of rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \delta$ with k>0, and x_1,\ldots,x_k are distinct variables of respective sort σ_1,\ldots,σ_k . The list $p_1,\ldots p_{m+1}$ may contain more than one pattern with the same constructor or more than one pattern consisting of a variable. However, it must contain a pattern consisting of a variable, unless every constructor of δ occurs in one of the patterns.

The term t_i in (3.4) can contain free occurrences of the variables occurring in pattern p_i , if any. The scope of those variables is the term t_i .

Remark 4 (No nested patterns). *Nested* patterns, where the arguments of a constructor can be themselves non-variable patterns, are not allowed. This implies in particular that in a pattern of the form $(c \ s_1 \ \cdots \ s_k)$, where s_1, \ldots, s_k are symbols, those symbols are *always* to be parsed as variables.

Strictly speaking, the match binder is not essential since it can be defined in terms of the other binders. Specifically, expression (3.4) can be written equivalently as follows.

1. Suppose that for all i = 1, ..., m + 1, the pattern p_i has the form $(c_i \ x_{i,1} \ ... \ x_{i,k_i})$ with $k_i > 0$; q_i is the associate tester for that constructor; and $s_{i,1}, ..., s_{i,k_i}$ are the selectors associated, in order, with the constructor's arguments. Then, match expression (3.4) has the same meaning as

```
(ite (q_1 \ t) (let ((x_{1,1} \ (s_{1,1} \ t)) \cdots (x_{1,k_1} \ (s_{1,k_1} \ t))) \ t_1)

(ite (q_2 \ t) (let ((x_{2,1} \ (s_{2,1} \ t)) \cdots (x_{2,k_2} \ (s_{2,k_2} \ t))) \ t_2)

...

(ite (q_m \ t) (let ((x_{m,1} \ (s_{m,1} \ t)) \cdots (x_{m,k_m} \ (s_{m,k_m} \ t))) \ t_m)

(let ((x_{m+1,1} \ (s_{m+1,1} \ t)) \cdots (x_{m+1,k_{m+1}} \ (s_{m+1,k_{m+1}} \ t))) \ t_{m+1}) \cdots )
```

- 2. When for some $i \in \{1, ..., m+1\}$, the pattern p_i is a nullary constructor, the corresponding let subexpression in (3.5) is replaced by t_i .
- 3. If instead for some minimal $i \in \{1, ..., m+1\}$, the pattern p_i is a variable x, then the whole ith ite subexpression of (3.5), if $i \le m$, or the let subexpression, if i = m, is replaced by (let $((x \ t)) \ t_i$).

3.6.2 Parameter Binders

SMT-LIB allows the declaration of parametric function symbols in theory declarations (see Section 3.7) and of parametric datatypes in user scripts (see Section 4.2.3). Sort parameters are introduced with expressions of the form

$$(par (u_1 \cdots u_k) e)$$

where u_1, \ldots, u_k are k > 0 pairwise distinct sort parameters and e is an expression containing occurrences of u_1, \ldots, u_k .

3.6.3 Scoping of variables and parameters

The notions of *free* variable/parameter occurrence in an s-expression, *bound* variable/parameter, and (*binder*) *scope* are defined as follows.

A variable *x*:

- occurs free in the expression *x*;
- occurs free in an expression $(e_1 \cdots e_n)$ if e_1 is par or not a binder, and x occurs free in some e_i $(1 \le i \le n)$;
- occurs free in an expression (forall $(s_1 \cdots s_n)$ t) or (exists $(s_1 \cdots s_n)$ t) if it does not occur in s_1, \ldots, s_n and occurs free in t;
- occurs free in an expression (let $((x_1 \ t_1) \ \cdots \ (x_n \ t_n))$ t) if (i) it occurs free in some t_i $(1 \le i \le n)$ and the corresponding x_i occurs free in t, or (ii) it does not occur in x_1, \ldots, x_n and occurs free in t;
- occurs free in an expression (match t ((p_1 t_1) · · · (p_n t_n))) if it occurs free in t or it occurs free in some t_i ($1 \le i \le n$) and does not occur in the corresponding p_i .

A parameter *u*:

- occurs free in the expression *u*;
- occurs free in an expression $(e_1 \cdots e_n)$ if e_1 is not par and u occurs free in some e_i (1 < i < n);
- occurs free in an expression (par $(u_1 \cdots u_n)$ e) if it occurs free in e and does not occur in $(u_1 \cdots u_n)$.

Each non-free, or *bound*, occurrence of a variable in an expression has a *scope* defined as follows.

- In an expression $(q((x_1 \sigma_1) (x_2 \sigma_2) \cdots (x_n \sigma_n)) t)$ where q is either forall or exists, or in an expression (let $((x_1 t_1) \cdots (x_n t_n)) t$), the scope of each variable in $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ is the term t.
- In an expression (match t ($(p_1 \ t_1) \ \cdots \ (p_n \ t_n)$)), the scope of each variable occurring in pattern p_i is the corresponding term t_i ($1 \le i \le n$).
- In an expression (par $(u_1 \cdots u_n) e$), the scope of each parameter in $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ is the expression e.

Shadowing All binders follow a lexical scoping discipline, consistently with the semantics of the SMT-LIB logic, as described in Section 5.3. In particular, a bound variable or parameter will shadow any variable or user-defined function symbol with the same name from an enclosing scope. For instance, in a function symbol declaration like (par (Int) (f (Array Int Int) Int)), all occurrences of Int are sort parameters regardless of the existence of a previously defined sort symbol Int. (13) Similarly, in a match pattern like (cons x nil), the symbol nil is a variable regardless of the existence of a previously defined constructor symbol nil. 5

Remark 5 (No shadowing of theory symbols). One exception is that binders cannot shadow *theory function symbols*, that is, function symbols from the declaration (see Section 3.7) of a theory included in the current logic (see Section 3.8 and Subsection 4.2.1). In other words, variables and parameters cannot have the same name as a theory function symbol in the same scope. (14)

3.6.4 Well-sortedness requirements

All terms of the SMT-LIB language are additionally required to be well sorted. Well-sortedness rules are presented and discussed in Section 5.2, in terms of the logic's abstract syntax.

Except for patterns in match expressions, every occurrence of an *ambiguous* function symbol⁶ f in a term must occur as a qualified identifier of the form (as f σ) where σ is the intended output sort of that occurrence. The same requirement applies to occurrences of solver-generated constants within terms output by the solver—as the type of these constants is unknown to the user.

```
(cons "abc" (as nil (List String)))
; const-array takes a value v and
; returns an array storing v at all positions
(= a ((as const-array (Array Int Real)) 0.0))
(select (as @a1 (Array Int Int)) 3)
```

3.6.5 Annotations

Every term t can be optionally annotated with one or more attributes $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$ using the wrapper expression (! t α_1 \cdots α_n). Term attributes have no logical meaning—semantically, (! t α_1 \cdots α_n) is equivalent to t—but they are a convenient mechanism for adding metalogical information for SMT solvers.

3.6.6 Term attributes

Currently there are only two predefined term attributes: :named and :pattern. The values of the :named attribute range over the \(\symbol \) category. The attribute can be used in scripts

⁵Note that a pattern (cons x nil) where nil was a constructor would be nested, which is not allowed.

⁶That is, function symbols with more than one possible output sort for the same sequence of input sorts (see Subsection 5.2.1).

to give a closed term a symbolic name, which can then be used as a proxy for the term (see Section 4.2).

```
(=> (! (> x y) :named p1)
(! (= x z) :named p2))
```

The values of the :pattern attribute range over sequences of $\langle term \rangle$ elements. The attribute is used to define instantiation patterns for quantifiers, which provide heuristic information to SMT solvers that reason about quantified formulas by quantifier instantiation. Instantiation patterns can only be used to annotate the body φ of a quantified formula of the form

```
(Q ((x_1 \sigma_1) \cdots (x_k \sigma_k)) \varphi)
```

where *Q* is forall or exists, so that the resulting annotated formula has the form

```
(Q\ ((x_1\ \sigma_1)\ \cdots\ (x_k\ \sigma_k))\ (!\ \varphi: \mathtt{pattern}\ (p_{1,1}\ \cdots\ p_{1,n_1}) \vdots :\mathtt{pattern}\ (p_{m,1}\ \cdots\ p_{m,n_m})))
```

where each $p_{i,j}$ is a binder-free term with no annotations and the same well-sortedness requirements as the formula's body. (16)

```
(forall ((x0 A) (x1 A) (x2 A))
  (! (=> (and (r x0 x1) (r x1 x2)) (r x0 x2))
    :pattern ((r x0 x1) (r x1 x2))
    :pattern ((p x0 a))
  ))
```

The intended use of these patterns is to suggest to the solver that it should try to find independently for each $i=1,\ldots,m$, a sequence $t_{i,1}\cdots t_{i,n_i}$ of n_i ground terms that simultaneously match the pattern terms $p_{i,1}\cdots p_{i,n_i}$.

3.7 Theory Declarations

The set of SMT-LIB theories is defined by a catalog of *theory declarations* written in the format specified in this section. This catalog is available on the SMT-LIB web site at www.smt-lib.org. In earlier versions of the SMT-LIB standard, a theory declaration defined both a many-sorted *signature*, i.e., a collection of sorts and sorted function symbols, and a theory with that signature. The signature was determined by the collection of individual declarations of sort symbols and function symbols with an associated *rank*—specifying the sorts of the symbol's arguments and of its result.

From Version 2.0 on, theory declarations may also declare entire families of overloaded function symbols by using ranks that contain *sort parameters*, locally scoped sort symbols of

⁷The terms assigned to the variables x_1, \ldots, x_k by the simultaneous matching substitution are typically used to instantiate the body of a universally quantified formula in order to generate ground consequences of that formula.

```
⟨sort symbol decl⟩
                                                ( \langle identifier \rangle \langle numeral \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^* )
                                        ::=
⟨meta spec constant⟩
                                                NUMERAL | DECIMAL |
                                        ::=
                                                                                       STRING
\(\(\frac{fun symbol decl}{\}\)
                                                (\langle spec \ constant \rangle \langle sort \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^*)
                                        ::=
                                                (\langle meta \ spec \ constant \rangle \langle sort \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^*)
                                                ( \langle identifier \rangle \langle sort \rangle^+ \langle attribute \rangle^* )
⟨par fun symbol decl⟩
                                        ::=
                                                (fun symbol decl)
                                                (par (\langle symbol \rangle^+) (\langle identifier \rangle \langle sort \rangle^+ \langle attribute \rangle^*))
                                                :sorts ( \langle sort\_symbol\_decl \rangle^+ )
(theory attribute)
                                        ::=
                                                :funs (\langle par fun symbol decl \rangle^+)
                                                :sorts-description \( \string \)
                                                :funs-description \( \string \)
                                                :definition \( string \)
                                                :values (string)
                                                :notes \( \string \)
                                                ⟨attribute⟩
                                                (theory \langle symbol \rangle \langle theory \ attribute \rangle^+)
⟨theory decl⟩
```

Figure 3.1: Theory declarations.

arity 0. This kind of parametricity entails that a theory declaration generally defines a whole *class* of similar theories.

The syntax of theory declarations, specified in Figure 3.1, follows an attribute-value-based format. A theory declaration consists of a theory name and a list of $\langle attribute \rangle$ elements. Theory attributes with the following keywords are *predefined attributes*, with prescribed usage and semantics:

```
:definition :funs :funs-description
:notes :sorts :sorts-description :values.
```

Additionally, a theory declaration can contain any number of user-defined attributes. (17)

Theory attributes can be *formal* or *informal* depending on whether or not their values have a formal semantics and can be processed in principle automatically. The value of an informal attribute is free text, in the form of a $\langle string \rangle$ literal or a quoted symbol. For instance, the attributes :funs and :sorts are formal in the sense above, whereas :definition, :funs-description and :sorts-description are not.

A theory declaration (theory T α_1 \cdots α_n) defines a theory schema with name T and attributes $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$. Each instance of the schema is a theory \mathcal{T}_{Σ} with an expanded signature Σ , containing (zero or more) additional sort and function symbols with respect to those declared in T. Theories are defined as classes of first-order structures (or models) of signature Σ . See Section 5.4 for a formal definition of theories and a more detailed explanation of how a theory declaration can be instantiated to a theory. Concrete examples of instances of theory declarations are discussed later.

The value of a :sorts attribute is a non-empty sequence of sort symbol declarations $\langle sort_symbol_decl \rangle$. A sort symbol declaration ($s \ n \ \alpha_1 \ \cdots \ \alpha_m$) declares a sort symbol s

of arity n, and may additionally contain zero or more annotations, each in the form of an $\langle attribute \rangle$. In this version, there are no predefined annotations for sort declarations.

The value of a :funs attribute is a non-empty sequence of possibly parametric function symbol declarations $\langle par_fun_symbol_decl \rangle$. A (non-parametric) function symbol declaration $\langle fun_symbol_decl \rangle$ of the form $(c \ \sigma)$, where c is an element of $\langle spec_constant \rangle$, declares c to have sort σ . For convenience, it is possible to declare all the special constants in $\langle numeral \rangle$ to have sort σ by means of the function symbol declaration (NUMERAL σ). This is done for instance in the theory declaration in Figure 3.3. The same can be done for the set of $\langle decimal \rangle$ and $\langle string \rangle$ constants by using DECIMAL and STRING, respectively.

A (non-parametric) function symbol declaration of the form

$$(f \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma)$$

with $n \ge 0$ declares a function symbol f with rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$.

A parametric function symbol declaration, which has the form,

(par
$$(u_1 \cdots u_k)$$
 $(f \tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau)$)

with k > 0, $n \ge 0$ and u_1, \ldots, u_k all distinct, declares a function symbol f with parametric rank $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau$. This effectively declares a whole class of function symbols, all named f and each with a rank obtained from $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau$ by instantiating in all possible ways each occurrence in $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau$ of the sort parameters u_1, \ldots, u_k with non-parametric sorts.

As with sorts, each (parametric) function symbol declaration may additionally contain zero or more annotations $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$, each in the form of an $\langle attribute \rangle$. In this version, there are only 4 predefined function symbol annotations, all attributes with no value: :chainable, :left-assoc, :right-assoc, and :pairwise. The :left-assoc annotation can be added only to function symbol declarations of the form

$$(f \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1)$$
 or $(par (u_1 \cdots u_k) (f \tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_1))$.

Then, an expression of the form $(f \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_n)$ with n > 2 is allowed as syntactic sugar (recursively) for $(f \ (f \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_{n-1}) \ t_n)$. Similarly, the :right-assoc annotation can be added only to function symbol declarations of the form

$$(f \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_2)$$
 or $(par (u_1 \cdots u_k) (f \tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_2))$.

Then, $(f \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_n)$ with n > 2 is syntactic sugar for $(f \ t_1 \ (f \ t_2 \ \cdots \ t_n))$.

The :chainable and :pairwise annotations can be added only to function symbol declarations of the form

(
$$f \sigma \sigma$$
 Bool) or (par ($u_1 \cdots u_k$) ($f \tau \tau$ Bool))

and are mutually exclusive. With the first annotation, $(f \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_n)$ with n > 2 is syntactic sugar for (and $(f \ t_1 \ t_2)$ $(f \ t_2 \ t_3)$ \cdots $(f \ t_{n-1} \ t_n)$) where and is itself a symbol declared as :left-assoc in every theory (see Subsection 3.7.1); with the second, $(f \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_n)$ is syntactic sugar (recursively) for (and $(f \ t_1 \ t_2)$ \cdots $(f \ t_1 \ t_n)$ $(f \ t_2 \ \cdots \ t_n)$).

```
(+ Real Real Real :left-assoc)
(and Bool Bool :left-assoc)
(par (X) (insert X (List X) (List X) :right-assoc))
(< Real Real Bool :chainable)
(equiv Elem Elem Bool :chainable)
(par (X) (Disjoint (Set X) (Set X) Bool :pairwise))
(par (X) (distinct X X Bool :pairwise))</pre>
```

For many theories in SMT-LIB, in particular those with a finite signature, it is possible to declare all of their symbols using a finite number of sort and function symbol declarations in :sorts and :funs attributes. For others, such as, for instance, the theory of bit vectors, one would need infinitely many such declarations. In those cases, sort symbols and function symbols are defined informally, in plain text, in :sorts-description, and :funs-description attributes, respectively. (18)

```
:sorts_description
"All sort symbols of the form (_ BitVec m) with m > 0."
```

```
:funs_description
"All function symbols with rank of the form

  (concat (_ BitVec i) (_ BitVec j) (_ BitVec m))

where i,j > 0 and i + j = m."
```

The :definition attribute is meant to contain a natural language definition of the theory. While this definition is expected to be as rigorous as possible, it does not have to be a formal one. For some theories, a mix of formal notation and natural language might be more appropriate. In the presence of parametric function symbol declarations, the definition must also specify the meaning of each instance of the declared symbol. (20)

The attribute :values is used to specify, for each sort σ , a distinguished, decidable set of ground terms of sort σ that are to be considered as *values* for σ . We will call these terms *value terms*. Intuitively, given an instance theory containing a sort σ , σ 's set of value terms is a set of terms that denotes, in each countable model of the theory, all the elements of that sort. These terms might be over a signature with additional function symbols with respect to those specified in the theory declaration. Ideally, the set of value terms is minimal, which means that no two distinct terms in the set denote the same element in some model of the theory. However, this is only a recommendation, not a requirement because it is impractical, or even

impossible, to satisfy it for some theories. See the next subsection for examples of value sets, and Section 5.5 for a more in-depth explanation.

The attribute :notes is meant to contain documentation information on the theory declaration such as authors, date, version, references, etc., although this information can also be provided with more specific, user-defined attributes.

Constraint 1 (Theory Declarations). The only legal theory declarations of the SMT-LIB language are those that satisfy the following restrictions.

- 1. They contain exactly one occurrence of the :definition and the :values attribute⁸ and any number of occurrences of other attributes.
- 2. Each sort symbol used in a :funs attribute is previously declared in some :sorts attribute. In each parametric function symbol declaration (par $(u_1 \cdots u_k)$ $(f \tau_1 \cdots \tau_n \tau)$), any symbol other than f that is not a previously declared sort symbol must be one of the sort parameters u_1, \ldots, u_k .
- 3. The definition of the theory, provided in the :definition attribute, refers only to sort and function symbols previously declared formally in :sorts and :funs attributes or informally in :sorts-description and :funs-description attributes.

Note that the :funs attribute is optional in a theory declaration because a theory might lack function symbols (although such a theory would not be not very interesting).

3.7.1 Examples

Core theory

To provide the usual set of Boolean connectives for building formulas, in addition to the predefined logical symbol distinct, a basic core theory is implicitly included in every other SMT-LIB theory. Concretely, every theory declaration is assumed to contain implicitly the :sorts and :funs attributes of the Core theory declaration shown in Figure 3.2, and to define the symbols in those attributes in the same way as in Core.

Note the absence of a symbol for double implication. Such a connective is superfluous because the equality symbol = can be used in its place. Note how the attributes specified in the declarations of the various symbols of this theory allow one, for instance, to write expressions like

```
(=> x y z)
(and x y z)
(= x y z)
(distinct x y z)
```

respectively as abbreviations for the terms

⁸Which makes those attributes non-optional.

```
(theory Core
:sorts ( (Bool 0) )
 :funs ( (true Bool) (false Bool) (not Bool Bool)
        (=> Bool Bool Bool :right-assoc) (and Bool Bool Bool :left-assoc)
        (or Bool Bool Bool :left-assoc) (xor Bool Bool :left-assoc)
        (par (A) (= A A Bool :chainable))
        (par (A) (distinct A A Bool :pairwise))
        (par (A) (ite Bool A A A)) )
 :definition
 "For every expanded signature Sigma, the instance of Core with that signature
 is the theory consisting of all Sigma-models in which:
 - the sort Bool denotes the set {true, false} of Boolean values;
 - for all sorts s in Sigma,
   - (= s s Bool) denotes the function that
     returns true iff its two arguments are identical;
   - (distinct s s Bool) denotes the function that
     returns true iff its two arguments are not identical;
   - (ite Bool s s) denotes the function that
     returns its second argument or its third depending on whether
     its first argument is true or not;
  - the other function symbols of Core denote the standard Boolean operators
   as expected."
  :values "The set of values for the sort Bool is {true, false}."
                        Figure 3.2: The Core theory declaration.
     (=> x (=> y z))
     (and (and x y) z)
     (and (= x y) (= y z))
```

The simplest instance of Core is the theory with no additional sort and function symbols. In that theory, there is only one sort, Bool, and ite has only one rank, (ite Bool Bool Bool Bool). In other words, this is just the theory of the Booleans with the standard Boolean operators plus ite and distinct. The set of values for the Bool sort is, predictably, {true, false}.

(and (distinct x y) (distinct x z) (distinct y z)).

Another instance has a single additional sort symbol U, say, of arity 0, and a (possibly infinite) set number of function symbols with rank in U⁺. This theory corresponds to *EUF*, the (one-sorted) theory of equality and *uninterpreted functions* (over those function symbols). In this theory, ite has two ranks: (ite Bool Bool Bool Bool) and (ite Bool U U U). A many-sorted version of EUF is obtained by instantiating Core with more than one nullary sort symbol—and possibly additional function symbols over the resulting sort set.

```
(theory Ints
 :sorts ( (Int 0) )
 :funs ( (NUMERAL Int)
         (- Int Int)
                                     ; negation
         (- Int Int Int :left-assoc); subtraction
         (+ Int Int Int :left-assoc)
         (* Int Int :left-assoc)
         (<= Int Int Bool :chainable)</pre>
         (< Int Int Bool :chainable)</pre>
         (>= Int Int Bool :chainable)
         (> Int Int Bool :chainable) )
 :definition
 "For every expanded signature Sigma, the instance of Ints with that
 signature is the theory consisting of all Sigma-models that interpret
 - the sort Int as the set of all integers,
 - the function symbols of Ints as expected. "
 :values
 "The Int values are all the numerals and all the terms of the form (- n)
 where n is a non-zero numeral."
)
```

Figure 3.3: A possible theory declaration for the integer numbers.

Yet another instance is the theory with an additional unary sort symbol List and an additional number of function symbols. This theory has infinitely many sorts: Bool, (List Bool), (List (List Bool)), etc. However, by the definition of Core, all those sorts and function symbols are still "uninterpreted" in the theory. In essence, this theory is the same as a many-sorted version of EUF with infinitely many sorts. While not very interesting in isolation, the theory is useful in combination with a theory of lists that, for each sort σ , interprets (List σ) as the set of all lists over σ . The combined theory in that case is a theory of lists with uninterpreted functions.

Integers

The theory declaration of Figure 3.3 defines all theories that extend the standard theory of the (mathematical) integers with additional *uninterpreted* sort and function symbols. The integers theory proper is the instance with no additional symbols. More precisely, since the Core theory declaration is implicitly included in every theory declaration, that instance is the two-sorted theory of the integers and the Booleans. The set of values for the Int sort consists of all numerals and all terms of the form (-n) where n is a numeral other than 0.

```
(theory ArraysEx
 :sorts ( (Array 2) )
 :funs ( (par (X Y) (select (Array X Y) X Y))
         (par (X Y) (store (Array X Y) X Y (Array X Y))) )
 :notes
  "A schematic version of the theory of functional arrays with extensionality."
 :definition
  "For every expanded signature Sigma, the instance of ArraysEx with that
  signature is the theory consisting of all Sigma-models that satisfy all
  axioms of the form below, for all sorts s1, s2 in Sigma:
  - (forall ((a (Array s1 s2)) (i s1) (e s2))
       (= (select (store a i e) i) e))
  - (forall ((a (Array s1 s2)) (i s1) (j s1) (e s2))
       (=> (distinct i j) (= (select (store a i e) j) (select a j))))
  - (forall ((a (Array s1 s2)) (b (Array s1 s2)))
       (=>
         (forall ((i s1)) (= (select a i) (select b i))) (= a b))) "
  :values
  "For all sorts s1, s2, the values of sort (Array s1 s2) are either abstract
   or have the form (store a i v) where
   - a is value of sort (Array s1 s2),
   - i is a value of sort s1, and
   - v is a value of sort s2."
```

Figure 3.4: The ArraysEx theory declaration.

Arrays with extensionality

A schematic version of the theory of functional arrays with extensionality is defined in the theory declaration ArraysEx in Figure 3.4. Each instance gives a theory of (arbitrarily nested) arrays. For instance, with the addition of the nullary sort symbols Int and Real, we get an instance theory whose sort set S contains, inductively, Bool, Int, Real and all sorts of the form (Array σ_1 σ_2) with $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in S$. This includes *flat array* sorts such as

```
(Array Int Int), (Array Int Real), (Array Real Int), (Array Bool Int), conventional nested array sorts such as

(Array Int (Array Int Real)),
as well as nested sorts such as

(Array (Array Int Real) Int), (Array (Array Int Real) (Array Real Int))
with an array sort in the index position of the outer array sort. (21)
```

The function symbols of the theory include all symbols with name select and rank of the form ((Array σ_1 σ_2) σ_1 σ_2) for all $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in S$. Similarly for store.

⁹For simplicity, the theory declaration in the figure is an abridged version of the declaration actually used in the SMT-LIB catalog.

Sets and Relations

A schematic many-sorted version of the theory of hereditary well-founded sets with urelements is defined in the theory declaration SetsRelations in Figure 3.5. Each instance gives a theory of sets of elements of the same sort. These elements can be either atomic (i.e., of a primitive sort like Bool), or tuples of elements, or sets themselves. For instance, with the addition of the nullary sort symbol Int we get an instance theory whose sort set S contains, inductively, Bool, Int and all sorts of the form (Set σ) or (Prod $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n$) with $\sigma, \sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n \in S$. In each model of the theory that interprets Int as the integers, we get Booleans, integers, sets of Booleans, sets of integers, sets of tuples over these sets, and so on.

Note that every sort σ in the signature is internalized in the theory, since the set denoted by σ is also denoted by the constant univSet of (the powerset) sort (Set σ).

Remark 6 (Instances of parametric sorts). For some applications, the instantiation mechanism defined here for theory declarations will definitely over-generate. For instance, it is not possible to define by instantiation of the ArraysEx declaration a theory of just the arrays of sort (Array Int Real), without all the other nested array sorts over {Int, Real}. This, however, is a problem neither in theory nor in practice. It is not a problem in practice because, since a script can only use formulas with non-parametric sorts, ¹⁰ any sorts that are not used in a script are, for practical purposes, irrelevant. It is not a problem in theory either because scripts refer to logics, not directly to theories. And the language of a logic can be always restricted to contain only a selected subset of the sorts in the logic's theory.

3.8 Logic Declarations

The SMT-LIB format allows the explicit definition of sublogics of its main logic— a version of many-sorted first-order logic with equality—that restrict both the main logic's syntax and semantics. A new sublogic, or simply logic, is defined in the SMT-LIB language by a *logic declaration*; see www.smt-lib.org for the current catalog. Logic declarations have a similar format to theory declarations, although most of their attributes are informal. (22)

Attributes with the following predefined keywords are *predefined attributes*, with prescribed usage and semantics in logic declarations:

```
:theories :language :extensions :notes :values.
```

Additionally, as with theories, a logic declaration can contain any number of user-defined attributes.

```
 \langle logic\_attribute \rangle := : theories (\langle symbol \rangle^+) \\ : : language \langle string \rangle \\ : : extensions \langle string \rangle \\ : : values \langle string \rangle \\ : : notes \langle string \rangle \\ | \langle attribute \rangle   \langle logic \rangle ::= (logic \langle symbol \rangle \langle logic\_attribute \rangle^+)
```

¹⁰Note that sort parameters cannot occur in a formula.

```
(theory SetsRelations
 :sorts ( (Set 1) )
 :funs ( (par (X) (emptySet (Set X)))
         (par (X) (univSet (Set X)))
         (par (X) (singleton X (Set X)))
         (par (X) (union (Set X) (Set X) (Set X) :left-assoc))
         (par (X) (inters (Set X) (Set X) (Set X) :left-assoc))
         (par (X) (in X (Set X) Bool))
         (par (X) (subset (Set X) (Set X) Bool :chainable)) )
 :sorts_description
  "All sort symbol declarations of the form (Prod n) with n > 1"
 :funs_description
  "All function symbols with declarations of the form
     (par (X1 ... Xn) (tuple X1 ... Xn (Prod X1 ... Xn)))
     (par (X1 ... Xn) ((_ project i) (Prod X1 ... Xn) Xi))
     (par (X1 ... Xn) (prod (Set X1) ... (Set Xn) (Set (Prod X1 ... Xn))))
  with n > 1 and i = 1, ..., n"
 :notes
  "A schematic theory of sets and relations."
 :definition
  "For every expanded signature Sigma, the instance of SetsRelations
  with that signature is the theory consisting of all Sigma-models that
  for all sorts s, s1, \ldots, sn, with n > 1, interpret
   - (Set s) as the powerset of the set denoted by s
   - (as emptySet (Set s)) as the empty set of sort (Set s)
   - (as univSet (Set s)) as the set denoted by s
   - (Prod s1 ... sn) as the Cartesian product of the sets denoted by s1,...,sn
   - (tuple s1 ... sn (Prod s1 ... sn)) as the function that maps
     its inputs x1, \ldots, xn to the tuple (x1, \ldots, xn)
   - ((_{\rm project} i) (Prod s1 ... sn) si) for i = 1, ..., n as the i-th
     projection function
   - (prod (Set s1) ... (Set sn) (Set (Prod s1 ... sn))) as the function
     that maps its input sets to their Cartesian product
   and interpret the other function symbols as the corresponding set operators
   as expected."
)
```

Figure 3.5: A possible declaration for a theory of sets and relations.

A logic declaration (logic L α_1 ··· α_n) defines a logic with name L and attributes $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$.

Constraint 2 (Logic Declarations). The only legal logic declarations in the SMT-LIB language are those that satisfy the following restrictions:

- 1. They include exactly one occurrence of the :theories and the :language attribute (and any number of occurrences of other attributes).
- 2. The value $(T_1 \cdots T_n)$ of the :theories attribute lists names of theory schemas that have a declaration in SMT-LIB.
- 3. If two theory declarations among T_1, \ldots, T_n declare the same sort symbol, they give it the same arity.

When the value of the :theories attribute is $(T_1 \cdots T_n)$, with n > 0, the logic refers to a combination \mathcal{T} of specific instances of the theory declaration schemas T_1, \ldots, T_n . The exact combination mechanism that yields \mathcal{T} is defined formally in Section 5.5. The effect of this attribute is to declare that the logic's sort and function symbols consist of those of the combined theory \mathcal{T} , and that the logic's semantics is restricted to the models of \mathcal{T} , as specified in more detail in Section 5.5.

The :language attribute describes in free text the logic's language, a specific class of SMT-LIB formulas. This information is useful for tailoring SMT solvers to the specific sublanguage of formulas used in an input script. The formulas in the logic's language are built over (a subset of) the signature of the associated theory \mathcal{T} , as specified in this attribute. In the context of a command script the language of a logic is implicitly expanded by let constructs in formulas as well as user-defined (but not user-declared) sort and function symbols. In other words, a formula φ used in a script is considered to belong to a certain logic's language iff the formula obtained from φ by replacing all let variables and all defined sort and function symbols by their respective definitions is in the language.

The optional :extensions attribute is meant to document any notational conventions or syntactic sugar allowed in the concrete syntax of formulas in this logic. (24)

The :values attribute has the same use as in theory declarations but it refers to the specific theories and sorts of the logic. It is meant to complement the :values attributes specified in the theory declarations referred to in the :theories attribute.

The textual :notes attribute serves the same purpose as in theory declarations.

3.8.1 Examples

Defining theories model-theoretically, as opposed to axiomatically as in more traditional approaches, confers great expressive power to the SMT-LIB underlying logic in spite of its restriction to a first-order syntax. Several established logics, from propositional all the way to higher-order logic, can be defined as SMT-LIB sublogics given a suitable theory. We provide a small sample below, for illustrative purposes. Again, see www.smt-lib.org for the list of the actual logics defined in the SMT-LIB standard.

Propositional logic

Propositional logic can be readily defined by an SMT-LIB logic declaration. The logic's theory is the instance of the Core theory declaration whose signature adds infinitely-many function symbols of rank Bool (playing the role of propositional variables). The language consists of all binder-free formulas over the expanded signature. Extending the language with let binders allows a faithful encoding of binary decision diagrams (BDDs) as formulas, thanks to the ite operator of Core.

Quantified Boolean logic

The logic of quantified Boolean formulas (QBFs) can be defined as well. The theory is again an instance of Core but this time with no additional symbols at all. The language consists of (closed) quantified formulas all of whose variables are of sort Bool.

Linear integer arithmetic

Linear integer arithmetic can be defined as an SMT-LIB logic. This logic is indeed part of the official SMT-LIB catalog of logics and is called QF_LIA there. Its theory is an extension of the theory of integers and the Booleans with uninterpreted constant symbols. That is, it is the instance of the theory declaration Ints from Figure 3.3 whose signature adds to the symbols of Ints infinitely many *free constants*, new function symbols of rank Int or of rank Bool.

The language of the logic is made of closed quantifier-free formulas (over the theory's signature) containing only *linear atoms*, that is, atomic formulas with no occurrences of the function symbol *. Extensions of the basic language include expressions of the form (* n t) and (* t n), for some numeral n, both of which abbreviate the term $(+ t \cdots t)$ with n occurrences of t (or 0 if n is 0). Also included are terms with negative integer coefficients, that is, expressions of the form (* (- n) t) or (* t (- n)) for some numeral n, both of which abbreviate the expression (- (* n t)).

Higher-order logic

The full language of the theory SetsRelations from Figure 3.5 has the same expressive power as higher-order logic or, more precisely, higher-order simple predicate logic with primitive types. Higher-order quantification is realized by first-order quantification over sorts of the form (Set σ). Similarly, higher-order predicate symbols can be encoded as unary first-order predicate symbols over sets. In fact, because of the presence of the predicate symbol in, no additional predicate symbols at all are needed: every atomic formula of the form (p t) can be replaced by the formula (in t p') where p' is a constant symbol of sort (Set (Prod $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n$)) if p has rank ((Prod $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n$) Bool), and of sort (Set σ) if σ has rank (σ Bool).

¹¹This is a relational version of higher-order logic, as opposed to the functional versions that are more popular in computer science.

Monadic second-order logic

This logic can be obtained by imposing restrictions on the language of the SetsRelations theory mentioned above, specifically, by disallowing the use of terms of Prod sorts (monadic restriction) or nested Set sorts (second-order restriction) while, however, allowing additional function and predicate symbols.

3.9 Scripts

Scripts are sequences of *commands*. In line with the LISP-like syntax, all commands look like LISP-function applications, with a command name applied to zero or more arguments. To facilitate processing, each command takes a constant number of arguments, although some of these arguments can be (parenthesis-delimited) lists of variable length. The full list of commands is provided in Figure 3.6.

The intended use of scripts is to communicate with an SMT-solver in a *read-eval-print loop*: until a termination condition occurs, the solver reads the next command, acts on it, outputs a response, and repeats. Possible responses vary from a single symbol to a list of attributes, to complex expressions like proofs.

The command set-option takes as an argument expressions of the syntactic category $\langle option \rangle$, which have the same form as attributes with values. Options with the predefined keywords listed in Figure 3.7 have a prescribed usage and semantics. Additional, solver-specific options are also allowed.

The command <code>get-info</code> takes as argument expressions of the syntactic category <code>/info_flag/which</code> are flags with the same form as keywords. The predefined flags listed in Figure 3.8 have a prescribed usage and semantics. Additional, solver-specific flags are also allowed. Examples of the latter might be, for instance, flags such as <code>:time</code> and <code>:memory</code>, referring to used resources, or <code>:decisions</code>, <code>:conflicts</code>, and <code>:restarts</code>, referring to typical statistics for current SMT solvers.

For more on error behavior, the meanings of the various options and info names, and the semantics of the various commands, see Chapter 4. We highlight a few salient points here and provide a couple of examples.

Assertion stack. Compliant solvers respond to various commands mostly by performing operations on a data structure we call the *assertion stack*. This is a single stack whose elements, called *levels*, are *sets* of *assertions*. Assertions include logical formulas (that is, terms of sort Bool), *as well as* declarations and definitions of sort and function symbols. Assertions are added by specific commands. By default, an assertion belongs to the most recent level at the time the corresponding command was executed. The stack starts with a *first assertion level* that cannot be removed. Further levels can be introduced by a push command and removed by a corresponding pop command. Popping a level from the assertion stack has the effect of undoing all assertions in it, including symbol declarations and definitions. An input option, :global-declarations, allows the user to make all symbol declarations and definitions *global* to the assertion stack. In other words, when that option is enabled, declarations and definitions become permanent, as opposed to being added to the assertion stack. Popping a

```
⟨sort dec⟩
                            ::= (\langle symbol \rangle \langle numeral \rangle)
⟨selector dec⟩
                            ::= (\langle symbol \rangle \langle sort \rangle)
                            ::= (\langle symbol \rangle \langle selector | dec \rangle^*)
⟨constructor dec⟩
                                   (\langle constructor | dec \rangle^+) | (par (\langle symbol \rangle^+) (\langle constructor | dec \rangle^+))
⟨datatype dec⟩
                            ::=
⟨function dec⟩
                                    (\langle symbol \rangle (\langle sorted var \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle)
                            ::=
                                    \langle symbol \rangle (\langle sorted var \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle \langle term \rangle
(function def)
                            ::=
⟨prop literal⟩
                                    \langle symbol \rangle \mid (not \langle symbol \rangle)
                            ::=
                                    (assert \langle term \rangle)
⟨command⟩
                            ::=
                                    (check-sat)
                                    (check-sat-assuming (\langle prop | literal \rangle^*))
                                    (declare-const \(\langle symbol \rangle \( sort \rangle \))
                                    ( declare-datatype ⟨symbol⟩ ⟨datatype dec⟩)
                                    (declare-datatypes (\langle sort \ dec \rangle^{n+1}) (\langle datatype \ dec \rangle^{n+1}))
                                    (declare-fun \langle symbol \rangle (\langle sort \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle)
                                    (declare-sort \( symbol \) \( numeral \) )
                                    (define-fun \(\langle function \) def\(\rangle \))
                                    (define-fun-rec ⟨function def⟩)
                                    (define-funs-rec (\langle function \ dec \rangle^{n+1}) (\langle term \rangle^{n+1}))
                                    (define-sort \langle symbol \rangle (\langle symbol \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle)
                                    (echo \(\langle string \rangle \)
                                    (exit)
                                    (get-assertions)
                                    (get-assignment)
                                    (get-info (info flag))
                                    (get-model)
                                    (get-option \( keyword \) )
                                    (get-proof)
                                    (get-unsat-assumptions)
                                    (get-unsat-core)
                                    (get-value (\langle term \rangle^+))
                                    ( pop \langle numeral \rangle )
                                    ( push \( numeral \) )
                                    (reset)
                                    ( reset-assertions )
                                    (set-info (attribute))
                                    (set-logic \(\langle symbol \rangle \))
                                    (set-option \(\langle option \rangle \))
                                    \langle command \rangle^*
⟨script⟩
                            ::=
```

Figure 3.6: SMT-LIB Commands.

```
⟨b value⟩
                 true | false
⟨option⟩
                  :diagnostic-output-channel (string)
                   :global-declarations \( b \ value \)
                   :interactive-mode \( b \) value \( \)
                   :print-success \langle b \ value \rangle
                   :produce-assertions \( b \ value \)
                   :produce-assignments \( b \ value \)
                   :produce-models \( b \ value \)
                   :produce-proofs \( b \ value \)
                   :produce-unsat-assumptions \( b \ value \)
                   :produce-unsat-cores \( b \ value \)
                   :random-seed (numeral)
                   :regular-output-channel (string)
                   :reproducible-resource-limit \( \( numeral \) \)
                   :verbosity \( numeral \)
                   (attribute)
                                 Figure 3.7: Command options.
⟨info flag⟩ ::= :all-statistics | :assertion-stack-levels | :authors
                 :error-behavior :name :reason-unknown
                   :version | \langle keyword \rangle
```

Figure 3.8: Info flags.

stack level then has only the effect of removing asserted formulas (those in that level). Global declarations and definitions can be removed only by a reset command.

Declared/defined symbols. Sort and function symbols introduced with a declaration or a definition cannot have a name that begins with a dot (.), as such names are reserved for solvers' use, or with @, as such symbols are reserved for solver-defined *abstract values*.

3.9.1 Command responses

The possible responses that a solver can produce in response to commands are shown in Figure 3.9. Every response must be an instance of $\langle general_response \rangle$ which specifies generic response possibilities as well as command-specific responses for certain commands (specified by $\langle specific_success_response \rangle$). In addition, with the :print-success option set to false, a solver produces no response in cases when it would have otherwise returned success.

Regular output, including error messages, is printed on the *regular output channel*. Diagnostic output, including warnings and progress information, is printed on the *diagnostic output channel*. These may be set using set-option and the corresponding attributes: respectively, :regular-output-channel and :diagnostic-output-channel. The values of these attributes should be (double-quote delimited) file names in the format specified by the POSIX standard.¹² The string literals "stdout" and "stderr" are reserved to refer specially to the

 $^{^{12}}$ This is the usual format adopted by all Unix-based operating systems, with / used as a separator for

```
⟨error-behavior⟩
                                immediate-exit | continued-execution
                         ::=
⟨reason-unknown⟩
                         ::=
                                memout | incomplete | \langle s | expr \rangle
⟨model response⟩
                                (define-fun \langle function \ def \rangle) | (define-fun-rec \langle function \ def \rangle)
                         ::=
                                (define-funs-rec (\langle function \ dec \rangle^{n+1}) (\langle term \rangle^{n+1}))
(info response)
                                :assertion-stack-levels \( \ numeral \)
                         ::=
                                :authors \( \string \)
                                :error-behavior \( \text{error-behavior} \)
                                :name \( \string \)
                                :reason-unknown \( \textit{reason-unknown} \)
                                :version \( \string \)
                                ⟨attribute⟩
                                ( \langle term \rangle \term \rangle)
⟨valuation pair⟩
                         ::=
⟨t valuation pair⟩
                                (\langle symbol \rangle \langle b \ value \rangle)
                         ::=
                                             sat | unsat | unknown
⟨check sat response⟩
                                       ::=
⟨echo response⟩
                                       ::=
                                             ⟨string⟩
⟨get assertions response⟩
                                       ::=
                                              (\langle term \rangle^*)
                                              (\langle t \ valuation \ pair \rangle^*)
⟨get assignment response⟩
                                       ::=
⟨get_info_response⟩
                                             (\langle info response \rangle^+)
                                       ::=
                                              (\langle model \ response \rangle^*)
⟨get model response⟩
                                       ::=
                                             ⟨attribute value⟩
⟨get option response⟩
                                       ::=
⟨get proof response⟩
                                       ::=
                                             \langle s | expr \rangle
                                             (\langle symbol \rangle^*)
⟨get unsat assump response⟩
                                       ::=
⟨get unsat core response⟩
                                       ::=
                                             (\langle symbol \rangle^*)
                                              (\langle valuation pair \rangle^+)
⟨get value response⟩
                                       ::=
⟨specific success response⟩
                                       ::=
                                              ⟨get assertions response⟩ | ⟨get assignment response⟩
                                              \( \text{get_info_response} \) \( \text{get_model_response} \)
                                              \langle get_option_response \rangle \langle get_proof_response \rangle
                                              ⟨get unsat assumptions response⟩
                                              ⟨get unsat core response⟩ | ⟨get value response⟩
⟨general response⟩
                                             success | \( \specific \) success response \( \)
                                       ::=
                                             unsupported | (error \( \string \) )
```

Figure 3.9: Command responses.

```
(set-info :smt-lib-version 2.6)
                                                   (set-option :print-success false)
; success
                                                   (push 1)
(set-logic QF_LIA)
                                                   (assert (> z x))
; success
(declare-const w Int)
                                                   (check-sat)
; success
                                                   ; unsat
(declare-const x Int)
                                                   (get-info :all-statistics)
; success
                                                   ; (:time 0.01 :memory 0.2)
(declare-const y Int)
                                                   (pop 1)
; success
                                                   (push 1)
(declare-const z Int)
; success
                                                   (check-sat)
                                                   ; sat
(assert (> x y))
                                                   (exit)
; success
(assert (> y z))
; success
```

Figure 3.10: Example script (over two columns), with expected solver responses in comments.

corresponding standard process channels (as opposed to disk files with that name).

Specific Responses. Specific responses are defined, in Figure 3.9, for the following commands:

```
⟨check sat response⟩
                               for check-sat and check-sat-assuming
(echo response)
                               for echo,
(get assertions response)
                               for get-assertions,
\(\langle get_assignment_response \rangle \)
                               for get-assignment,
⟨get_info_response⟩
                               for get-info,
(get model response)
                               for get-model,
                               for get-option,
⟨get option response⟩
\langle get\_proof\_response \rangle
                               for get-proof,
⟨get unsat assump response⟩
                               for get-unsat-assumptions,
                               for get-unsat-core,
⟨get unsat core response⟩
⟨get value response⟩
                               for get-value.
```

See Chapter 4 for more details.

3.9.2 Example scripts

We demonstrate some allowed behavior of a hypothetical solver in response to an example script. Each command is followed by example legal output from the solver in a comment, if

⁽sub)directories, etc.

```
(set-info :smt-lib-version 2.6)
(set-option :print-success false)
                                             (check-sat)
(set-option :produce-models true)
                                             ; sat
                                            (get-value (a))
(declare-const x Int)
(declare-const y Int)
                                            ; ( (a (as @array1 (Array Int (List Int))))
(declare-fun f (Int) Int)
(assert (= (f x) (f y)))
                                             (get-value ((select @array1 2)))
(assert (not (= x y)))
                                             ; (((select (as @array1 (Array Int (List Int))) 2)
                                               (as @list0 (List Int))
                                             ; )
(check-sat)
                                             ; )
; sat
(get-value (x y))
                                             (get-value ((first @list0) (rest @list0)))
; ((x 0)
                                             ; (((first (as @list0 (List Int))) 1)
                                             ; ((rest (as @listO (List Int))) (as nil (List Int)))
; (y 1)
; )
                                             ; )
(declare-const a (Array Int (List Int)))
```

Figure 3.11: Another example script (excerpt), with expected solver responses in comments.

there is any. The script in Figure 3.10 makes two background assertions and then conducts two independent queries. The get-info command requests information on the search using the :all-statistics flag. The script in Figure 3.11 uses the get-value command to get information about a particular model of the formula that the solver has reported satisfiable.

3.9.3 SMT-LIB Benchmarks

Starting with Version 2.0 of the SMT-LIB language, there is no explicit syntactic category of benchmarks. Instead, meta-level information about a script used as a benchmark is included in the script via the set-info command.

Benchmarks in the official SMT-LIB repository at www.smt-lib.org must satisfy additional requirements on the meta-level information they contain and the order in which it appears. Specifically, every benchmark must use set-info to set the attributes below as follows:

- :smt-lib-version, :source, :license, and :category must be set exactly once,
- :status must be set as many times as needed so that each occurrence of the command check-sat-assuming or check-sat in the benchmark is preceded (not necessarily immediately) by a corresponding :status info. 14

Moreover, the set set-info call for attribute :smt-lib-version must be the very first command in the benchmark.

¹³Since the output of (get-info :all-statistics) is solver-specific, the response reported in the script is for illustration purposes only.

¹⁴The same call to set-info can be used to provide the status for more than one call to check-sat-assuming or check-sat, if that status is the same.

Part III Semantics

Operational Semantics of SMT-LIB

This chapter specifies how a human user or a software client can interact with an SMT-LIB-compliant solver. We do that by providing, as precisely as possible, an operational semantics of SMT-LIB scripts, together with additional requirements on the input/output behavior of the solver.

The expected interaction mode with a compliant solver is that of a read-eval-print loop: the user or client application issues a command in the format of the Command Language to the SMT solver via the solver's standard textual input channel; the solver then responds over two textual output channels, one for regular output and one for diagnostic output, and waits for another command. A non-interactive mode is also allowed where the solver reads commands from a script stored in a file. However, the solver's output behavior should be exactly the same as if the commands in the script had been sent to it one at a time.

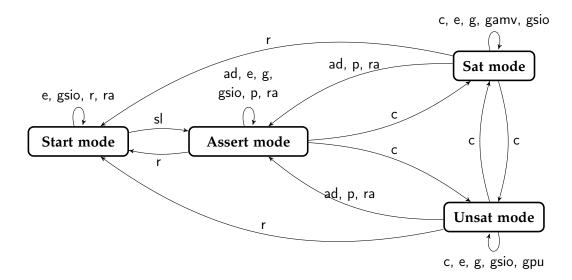
Note that the primary goal of the SMT-LIB standard is, first and foremost, to support convenient interaction with other programs, not human interaction. This has some influence on the design of the command language.

There are other commands one might wish for an SMT solver to support beyond those adopted here. In general, it is expected that time and more experience with the needs of applications will drive the addition of further commands in later versions.

4.1 General Requirements

The command language contains commands for managing a stack of *assertion levels* and for making queries about them. It includes commands to:

- declare and define new sort and function symbols (declare and define commands),
- add formulas to the current assertion level,



Command name abbreviations:

```
ad = assert, declare-*, define-*
    c = check-sat*
    e = echo
    g = get-assertions
gamv = get-assignment, get-model, get-value
gsio = get-info, get-option, set-info, set-option
gpu = get-proof, get-unsat-*
p = pop, push
r = reset
ra = reset-assertions
sl = set-logic
```

Figure 4.1: Abstract view of transitions between solver execution modes. The symbol * here stands for the matching wildcard.

- reset the assertion stack or the whole solver,
- push and pop assertion levels,
- check the joint satisfiability of all formulas in the assertion stack, possibly under additional assumptions (*check commands*),
- obtain further information following a check command (e.g., model information),
- set values for standard and solver-specific options,
- get standard and solver-specific information from the solver.

This section provides some background and general requirements on how these functionalities are to be supported. The next section, Section 4.2 provides more details on how each compliant solver is to execute each command.

4.1.1 Execution Modes

At a high-level, a compliant solver can be understood as being at all times in one of four *execution modes*: a start mode, an assert mode and two *query* modes, sat and unsat. The solver

starts in start mode, moves to assert mode once a logic is set, and then moves to one of the two query modes after executing a check command. Any command other than reset that modifies the assertion stack brings the solver back from a query mode to the assert mode. The reset command takes the solver back to start mode.

The transition system in Figure 4.1 illustrates in some detail which commands can trigger which mode transitions. The set of labels for each transition describes the commands that may cause it. With the exception of exit, if a command does not appear on any transitions originating from a mode, it is not permitted in that mode. The exit command, which causes the solver to quit, can be issued in any mode.

The solver must respond with an error when given a command not permitted in the current mode. Because of its level of abstraction, the transition system diagram in Figure 4.1 does not specify the conditions under which a specific command causes a transition to one mode as opposed to another; see Section 4.2 for details on that. Similarly, the diagram does not account for the fact that some specific options can be set only in certain modes. Such restrictions are described in Section 4.1.7.

4.1.2 Solver responses

Regular output, including responses and errors, produced by compliant solvers should be written to the *regular* output channel. Diagnostic output, including warnings, debugging, tracing, or progress information, should be written to the *diagnostic* output channel. These channels may be set with the $\langle set\text{-}option \rangle$ command (see Section 4.1.7 below). By default they are the standard output and standard error channels, respectively.

Generally, once a solver completes its processing in response to a command, it should print to its regular output channel a $\langle general_response \rangle$:

```
\( \langle general_response \rangle \) ::= success | \( \langle specific_success_response \rangle \) unsupported | (error \( \langle string \rangle \))
```

The value success is the default response for a successful execution of a supported command. A number of commands have a more detailed response in place of success, discussed in Section 4.2 for each of them. The value unsupported should be returned if the command or some specific input to it is not supported by the solver. An expression of the form (error e) should be returned for any kind of error situation (wrong command syntax, incorrect parameters, erroneous execution, and so on). The value of e is a solver-specific string containing a message that describes the problem encountered.¹

Any response which is not double-quoted and not parenthesized must be followed by at least one whitespace character (for example, a new line character). (25)

Several options described in Section 4.1.7 below affect the printing of responses, in particular by suppressing the printing of success, or by redirecting the regular or diagnostic output channels.

¹Returning the empty string is allowed but discouraged because of its uninformative content.

Errors and solver state. Solvers have two options when encountering errors. For both options, they first print an error message in the $\langle general_response \rangle$ format. Then, they may either immediately exit with a non-zero exit status, or continue accepting commands. In the second case, the solver's state remains unmodified by the error-generating command, except possibly for timing and diagnostic information. In particular, the assertion stack, discussed in Section 4.1.4, is unchanged. (26)

The predefined :error-behavior attribute can be used with the get-info command to check which error behavior the tool supports (see Section 4.1.8 below).

4.1.3 Printing of terms and defined symbols

Several commands request the solver to print sets of terms. While some commands, naturally, place additional semantic requirements on these sets, the general syntactic requirement is that output terms must be well-sorted with respect to the current signature (as defined below in Section 4.1.4).

All output from a compliant solver should print any symbols defined with define-sort and define-fun just as they are, without replacing them by the expression they are defined to be equal to. This approach generally keeps the output from solvers much more compact than it would be if definitions were expanded.

4.1.4 The assertion stack

A compliant solver maintains a stack of sets, each of which consists of *assertions*. Assertions are formulas, declarations, and definitions. We will use the following terminology with regards to this data structure:

- assertion stack: the single stack of sets of assertions;
- assertion level: an element of the assertion stack (i.e., a set of assertions);
- *context*: the union of all the assertion levels on the assertion stack together with any global declarations (see Section 4.1.5);
- *current assertion level*: the assertion level at the top of the stack (i.e., the most recent);
- *first assertion level*: the first assertion level in the stack (i.e., the least recent);
- *current signature*: the signature determined by the logic specified with the most recent set-logic command and by the set of sort symbols and rank associations (for function symbols) in the current context.

Initially, when the solver starts, the assertion stack consists of a single element, the first assertion level, which is empty. While new assertions can be added to this set, the set itself cannot be removed from the stack with a pop operation. The following commands modify the current context:

```
assert, declare-sort, declare-fun, declare-const, define-sort, define-fun, define-fun-rec, define-funs-rec, pop, push, reset, and reset-assertions.
```

4.1.5 Symbol declarations and definitions

A number of commands allow the declaration or definition of a function or sort symbol. By default, these declarations and definitions are added to the current assertion level when the corresponding command is executed. Popping that assertion level removes them. (27) As an alternative, declarations and definitions can all be made *global* by running the solver with the option :global-declarations set to true. When running with this option set, all declarations and definitions become permanent. That is, they survive any pop operations on the assertion stack as well as invocations of reset-assertions and can only be removed by a global reset, achieved with the reset command. (28)

Well-sortedness checks, required for commands that use sorts or terms, are always done with respect to the current signature. It is an error to declare or define a symbol that is already in the current signature. This implies in particular that, contrary to theory function symbols, user-defined function symbols cannot be overloaded. (29)

4.1.6 In-line definitions

Any closed subterm t occurring in the argument(s) of a command c can be optionally annotated with a :named attribute; that is, it can appear as (! t : named f) where f is a fresh function symbol from $\langle symbol \rangle$. For such a command c, let

```
(! t_1 : named f_1), \ldots, (! t_n : named f_n)
```

be the enumeration of all the named subterms of c obtained by the (depth-first) left-to-right post-order traversal of c. The semantics of the command c is the same as the sequence of commands

```
(define-fun f_1 () \sigma_1 t'_1):
(define-fun f_n () \sigma_n t'_n)
```

where, for each i = 1, ..., n, (i) σ_i is the sort of t_i with respect to the current signature up to the declaration of f_i , (ii) t'_i is the term obtained from t_i by removing all its :named annotations, and (iii) c' is similarly obtained from c by removing all its :named annotations.

By these semantics, each *label* f_i can occur, as a constant symbol, in any subexpression of c that comes after (! t_i :named f_i) in the left-to-right post-order traversal of c, as well as after the command c itself. The labels f_1, \ldots, f_n can be used like any other user-defined nullary function symbols, with the same visibility and scoping restrictions they would have if they had been defined with the sequence of commands above. However, contrary to function symbols introduced by :define-fun, labels have an additional, dedicated use in the commands :get-assignment and :get-unsat-core (see Section 4.2).

4.1.7 Solver options

Solver options may be set using the set-option command, and their current values can be obtained using the get-option command. If a solver does not support the setting of a particular option, for either command it should output unsupported.

Solver-specific option names are allowed and indeed expected. A set of standard options is presented in this subsection; refer to Figure 3.7 for their format. We discuss each option below, specifying also their default values and whether or not compliant solvers are required to support them. It is understood that if a solver does not support one of the optional standard options below, it behaves as if that option was permanently set to its default value.

Some options can be set only when the solver is in start mode. We list the mode when that is the case. Attempting to set an option when the solver is not in a permitted mode should trigger an error response. Each option starting with the produce- prefix is a Boolean option that enables a specific command. When such an option is set to false, calling the corresponding command should trigger an error response.

The set of standard options is likely to be expanded or otherwise revised as further desirable common options and kinds of information across tools are identified.

:diagnostic-output-channel default: "stderr" support: required

The argument is a string consisting of the name of a file to be used subsequently as the diagnostic output channel. The input value "stderr" is interpreted specially to mean the solver's standard error channel. With other filenames, subsequent solver output is to be appended to the named file (and the file should be first created if it does not already exist).

:global-declarations default: false support: optional mode: start

If the solver supports this option, setting it to true causes all declarations and definitions to be global (permanent) as opposed to being added to the current assertion level.

:interactive-mode default: false support: optional mode: start The old name for produce-assertions. Deprecated.

:print-success default: true support: required

Setting this option to false causes the solver to suppress the printing of success in all responses to commands. Other output remains unchanged.

:produce-assertions default: false support: optional mode: start

If the solver supports this option, setting it to true enables the get-assertions command. This option was called interactive-mode in previous versions.

:produce-assignments default: false support: optional mode: start If supported, this enables the command get-assignment.

:produce-models default: false support: optional mode: start

If supported, this enables the commands get-value and get-model.

:produce-proofs default: false support: optional mode: start If supported, this enables the command get-proof.

:produce-unsat-assumptions default: false support: optional mode: start If supported, this enables the command get-unsat-assumptions.

:produce-unsat-cores default: false support: optional mode: start If supported, this enables the command get-unsat-core.

:random-seed default: 0 support: optional mode: start

The argument is a numeral for the solver to use as a random seed, in case the solver uses (pseudo-)randomization. The default value of 0 means that the solver can use any random seed—possibly even a different one for each run of the same script. The intended use of the option is to force the solver to produce identical results whenever given identical input (including identical non-zero seeds) on repeated runs of the solver.

:regular-output-channel default: "stdout" support: required

The argument should be a filename to use subsequently for the regular output channel. The input value "stdout" is interpreted specially to mean the solver's standard output channel. With other filenames, subsequent solver output is to be appended to the named file (and the file should be first created if it does not already exist).

:reproducible-resource-limit default: 0 support: optional

If the solver supports this option, setting it to 0 disables it. Setting it a non-zero numeral n will cause each subsequent check command to terminate within a bounded amount of time dependent on n. The internal implementation of this option and its relation to run time or other concrete resources can be solver-specific. However, it is required that the invocation of a check command return n whenever the solver is unable to determine the satisfiability of the formulas in the current context within the current resource limit. Setting a higher value of n should allow more resources to be used, which may cause the command to return n sat or n should allow more resources to be used, which may cause the command to return n sat or n specifically, it should be the same every time the solver is run with the same sequence of previous commands on the same machine (and with an arbitrarily long external time out). If the solver makes use of randomization, it may require the n random-seed option to be set to a value other than 0 before n reproducible-resource-limit can be set to a positive value.

:verbosity default: 0 support: optional

The argument is a numeral controlling the level of diagnostic output produced by the solver. All such output should be written to the diagnostic output channel⁽³¹⁾ which can be set and later changed via the diagnostic-output-channel option. An argument of 0 requests that no such output be produced. Higher values correspond to more verbose output.

4.1.8 Solver information

The format for responses to get-info commands, both for standard and solver-specific information flags, is defined by the $\langle get_info_response \rangle$ category in Figure 3.9. The standard get-info flags and specific formats for their corresponding responses are given next.

:all-statistics support: optional mode: sat, unsat
Solvers reply with a parenthesis-delimited sequence of *(info_response)* values (see Figure 3.9) providing various statistics on the execution of the most recent check command.

No standard statistics are defined for the time being,⁽³²⁾ so they are all solver-specific. Executions of get-info with :all-statistics are allowed only when the solver is in sat or unsat mode.

:assertion-stack-levels support: optional

The response is a pair of the form (:assertion-stack-levels n) where n is a numeral indicating the current number of levels in the assertion stack besides the first assertion level. (33)

:authors support: required

The response is a pair of the form (:authors s) where s is a string literal listing the names of the solver's authors.

:error-behavior support: required

The response is a pair of the form (:error-behavior r) where r is either immediate-exit or continued-execution. A response of immediate-exit indicates that the solver will exit immediately when an error is encountered. A response of continued-execution indicates that when an error is encountered, the solver will return to the state it was in immediately before the command triggering the error, and continue accepting and executing new commands. See Section 4.1.2 for more information.

:name support: required

The response is a pair of the form $(:name \ s)$ where s is a string literal with the name of the solver.

:reason-unknown support: optional mode: sat

Executions of get-info with :reason-unknown are allowed only when the solver is in sat mode following a check command whose response was unknown. The response is a pair of the form (:reason-unknown r) where r is an element of $\langle reason_unknown \rangle$ giving a short reason why the solver could not successfully check satisfiability. In general, this reason can be provided by a solver-defined s-expression. Two predefined s-expressions are memout, for out of memory, and incomplete, which indicates that the solver knows it is incomplete for the class of formulas containing the most recent check query.

:version support: required

The response is a string literal with the version number of the solver (e.g., "1.2").

4.2 Commands

The full set of commands and their expected behavior are described in this section. Commands may impose restrictions on their arguments as well as restrictions on when they can be issued. Unless otherwise specified, the solver is required to produce an error when any of these restrictions is violated. Figure 4.1 describes the commands permitted in each execution mode and the mode transitions each command may trigger. We specify below the conditions under which a command triggers one mode transition versus another only for commands that may trigger more than one transition.

4.2.1 (Re)starting and terminating

(reset) resets the solver completely to the state it had after it was started and before it started reading commands. (34)

(set-logic *l*) tells the solver what logic, in the sense of Section 5.5, is being used. The argument *l* can be the name of a logic in the SMT-LIB catalog or of some other solver-specific logic. The effect of the command is to add globally (and permanently) a declaration of each sort and function symbol in the logic.

The argument l can also be the predefined symbol ALL. With this argument, the solver sets the logic to the most general logic it supports. (35) Note that while the reaction to (set-logic ALL) is the same for every compliant solver, the chosen logic is solver-specific.

We refer to the logic set by the most recent set-logic command as the *current logic*.

(set-option o v) sets a solver's option o to a specific value v. More details on predefined options and required behavior are provided in Section 4.1.7. In general, if a solver does not support the setting of a particular option, its response to this command should be unsupported. If the option is one of the predefined ones it should also leave it unchanged from its default value. The effect of setting a supported option is immediate. In particular, for options that affect the solver's output, such as :diagnostic-output-channel, :regular-output-channel and :print-success, the effect applies already to the output of the very command that is setting the option.

Note that some of the options defined in Section 4.1.7 may only be set in start mode. (36)

(exit) instructs the solver to exit.

4.2.2 Modifying the assertion stack

- (push n) pushes n empty assertion levels onto the assertion stack.² If n is 0, no assertion levels are pushed.
- (pop *n*) where *n* is smaller than the number of assertion levels in the stack, pops the *n* most-recent assertion levels from the stack.³ Note that the first assertion level, which is not created by a push command, cannot be popped.
- (reset-assertions) removes from the assertion stack all assertion levels beyond the first one. In addition, it removes all assertions from the first assertion level. Declarations and definitions resulting from the set-logic command are unaffected (because they are global). Similarly, if the option :global-declarations has value true at the time the command is executed, then *all* declarations and definitions remain unaffected. Note that any information set with set-option commands is preserved in any case.

²Typically, n = 1.

 $^{^{3}}$ When n is 0, no assertion levels are popped.

4.2.3 Introducing new symbols

The next seven commands allow one to introduce new sort or function symbols by providing them with a rank declaration (declare-sort, declare-fun and declare-const) or also with a definition (define-sort, define-fun, define-fun-rec and define-funs-rec). We refer to the former as *user-declared* symbols and the latter as *user-defined* symbols. Declarations and definitions are made global (permanent) or are added to the current assertion level depending on whether the :global-declarations option is set to true or not.

(declare-sort s n) adds sort symbol s with associated arity n. It is an error if s is a sort symbol present in the current signature.

(define-sort s ($u_1 \cdots u_n$) τ) with $n \ge 0$ adds sort symbol s with associated arity n. Subsequent well-sortedness checks must treat a sort term like (s $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n$) as an abbreviation for the term obtained by simultaneously substituting σ_i for u_i , for $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$, in τ .

The command reports an error if s is a sort symbol already present in the current signature or if τ is not a well-defined parametric sort with respect to the current signature. This restriction prohibits (meaningless) circular definitions where τ contains s.

(declare-fun f ($\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n$) σ) with $n \geq 0$ adds a new symbol f with associated rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$. The command reports an error if a function symbol with name f is already present in the current signature.

(declare-const $f(\sigma)$) abbreviates the command (declare-fun $f(\sigma)$).

(declare-datatypes $((\delta_1 \ k_1) \cdots (\delta_n \ k_n))$ $(d_1 \cdots d_n)$) with n > 0 introduces n algebraic datatypes $\delta_1, \ldots, \delta_n$ with respective arities k_1, \ldots, k_n and declarations d_1, \ldots, d_n . Let $\delta = \delta_i, k = k_i$ and $d = d_i$ for $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$. If k > 0 then d is an expression of the form (par $(u_1 \cdots u_k) \ l$) where u_1, \ldots, u_k are sort parameters; otherwise, it is just l. In either case, l is a (parenthesis-delimited) list of *one or more* expressions of the form

$$(c (s_1 \tau_1) \cdots (s_m \tau_m))$$

where (i) $m \ge 0$, (ii) c is a symbol, a *constructor for* δ , and (iii) for each j = 1, ..., m, s_j is a symbol, a *selector for* c, and (iv) τ_j is a sort term that contains no occurrences of $\delta_1, ..., \delta_n$ below its top symbol. In the parametric case, the terms τ_i can contain the sort parameters $u_1, ..., u_k$. The datatype δ must be *well founded* in the following inductive sense: it must have a constructor of rank $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_m \delta$ such that $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_m$ does not contain any of the datatypes from $\{\delta_1, ..., \delta_n\}$ or, if it does contain some, they are well founded.

A compliant solver must return an error in response to invocations of this command that do not satisfy all of the restrictions above.

In the parametric case, the command has the effect of declaring each δ as a sort symbol of arity k; each constructor c as a function symbol of parametric rank $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_m \delta$; and each s_i as a function symbol of parametric rank $\delta \tau_i$. The non-parametric case is analogous.

Note that the sort terms τ_1, \ldots, τ_m can contain any previously defined sort symbol as well as any of the datatypes $\delta_1, \ldots, \delta_n$, as long as those datatypes are well founded. (38) This allows the declaration of recursive and mutually recursive datatypes.

On successfully executing this command, for each constructor c in a declared datatype δ , the solver will also automatically declare a *tester* with rank δ Bool. The tester's name is an indexed identifier (see Section 3.3) of the form (_ is c).

```
; an enumeration datatype
(declare-datatypes ( (Color 0) ) (
 ( (red) (green) (blue) ))
; testers: (_ is red), (_ is green)
; integer lists with "empty" and "insert" constructors
(declare-datatypes ( (IntList 0) ) (
 ( (empty) (insert (head Int) (tail IntList) )))
; testers: (_  is empty), (_  is insert)
; parametric lists with "nil" and "cons" constructors
(declare-datatypes ( (List 1) ) (
  (par (T) ( (nil) (cons (car T) (cdr (List T)) )))))
; option datatype
(declare-datatypes ( (Option 1) ) (
  (par (X) ( (none) (some (val X)) ))))
; parametric pairs
(declare-datatypes ( (Pair 2) ) (
  (par (X Y) ( (pair (first X) (second Y)) ))))
; two mutually recursive datatypes
(declare-datatypes ( (Tree 1) (TreeList 1) ) (
  ; Tree
  (par (X) ( (node (value X) (children (TreeList X)) )))
  ; TreeList
  (par (Y) ( (empty)
    (insert (head (Tree Y)) (tail (TreeList Y))) ))))
```

Since $\delta_1, \ldots, \delta_n$ are sort symbols, none of them can be a previously declared sort symbol. Similarly, constructors and selectors are function symbols, so none of them can be a previous declared/defined function symbol. This has the effect of also prohibiting, for instance, the use of the same constructor in different datatypes or the use of repeated instances of the same selector in the same datatype. (40)

```
(declare-datatype \delta d) is an abbreviation of  (\text{declare-datatypes } ((\delta \ 0)) \ (d))
```

if δ is not parametric, and an abbreviation of

```
(declare-datatypes ((\delta k)) (d))
```

if d has the form (par $(u_1 \cdots u_k)$ l). This command provides a simpler syntax for defining a single datatype.

```
; an enumeration datatype
(declare-datatype Color ( (red) (green) (blue) ))

(declare-datatype IntList
  ( (empty)
      (insert (head Int) (tail IntList) )))

(declare-datatype List (par (E)
      ( (nil)
            (cons (car E) (cdr (List E)) ))))

(declare-datatype Option (par (X)
      ( (none)
            (some (val X) ))))

(declare-datatype Pair (par (X Y)
      ( (pair (first X) (second Y)) )))))
```

(define-fun f (($x_1 \sigma_1$) \cdots ($x_n \sigma_n$)) σ t) with $n \ge 0$ and t not containing f is semantically equivalent to the command sequence

```
(declare-fun f (\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n) \sigma)
(assert (forall ((x_1 \sigma_1) \cdots (x_n \sigma_n)) (= (f x_1 \cdots x_n) t)).
```

Note that the restriction on t prohibits recursive or mutually recursive definitions, which are instead provided by define-fun-rec and define-funs-rec. The command reports an error if a function symbol with name f is already present in the current signature or if the argument t is not a well-sorted term of sort σ with respect to the current signature extended with the sort associations $(x_1 : \sigma_1), \ldots, (x_n : \sigma_n)$.

(define-funs-rec $(d_1 \cdots d_m)$ $(t_1 \cdots t_m)$), where m > 0 and for $i = 1, ..., m, d_i$ has the form

$$(f_i ((x_{i,1} \sigma_{i,1}) \cdots (x_{i,n_i} \sigma_{i,n_i})) \sigma_i)$$

with $n_i \ge 0$ and f_1, \ldots, f_m pairwise distinct, is semantically equivalent to the command sequence

This command can be used to define multiple functions recursively, in particular, mutually recursively. Mutual recursion is possible since each term t_i can contain any applications of f_1, \ldots, f_m .

Note that, according to the semantics above, define-funs-rec imposes no requirements that each f_i be terminating (a meaningless notion in our context) or even well-defined.⁴ The only requirement is on the well-sortedness of the definitions.

The command reports an error if for any $i \in \{1, ..., m\}$ a function symbol with name f_i is already present in the current signature or if t_i is not a well-sorted term of sort σ_i with respect to the current signature extended with the sort associations $(f_1 : \sigma_{1,1} \cdots \sigma_{1,n_1}\sigma_1)$, ..., $(f_m : \sigma_{m,1} \cdots \sigma_{m,n_m}\sigma_m)$ and $(x_{i,1} : \sigma_{i,1})$, ..., $(x_{i,n_i} : \sigma_{i,n_i})$.

```
(define-fun-rec f ((x_1 \ \sigma_1) \cdots (x_n \ \sigma_n)) \sigma t) is an abbreviation of (define-funs-rec ((f ((x_1 \ \sigma_1) \cdots (x_n \ \sigma_n)) \sigma)) (t))
```

It provides a simpler syntax to define individual recursive functions.

4.2.4 Asserting and inspecting formulas

(assert *t*) where *t* is a well-sorted formula (i.e., a well-sorted term of sort Bool), adds *t* to the current assertion level. The well-sortedness requirement is with respect to the current signature.

Instances of this command of the form (assert (! t :named f)), where the asserted formula t is given a label f, have the additional effect of adding t to the formulas tracked by the commands get-assignment and get-unsat-core, as explained later.

(get-assertions) causes the solver to print the current set of all asserted formulas as a sequence of the form $(f_1 \cdots f_n)$. Each f_i is a formula syntactically identical, modulo whitespace, to one of the formulas entered with an assert command and currently in the context. Solvers are not allowed to print formulas equivalent to or derived from the asserted formulas. (42)

The command can be issued only if the :produce-assertions option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

⁴In fact, it is even possible, although certainly not desirable, to have a definition like (define-funs-rec ((f (x Bool) Bool)) ((not (f x)))), which makes the set of formulas in the context unsatisfiable.

4.2.5 Checking for satisfiability

(check-sat) is an abbreviation of (check-sat-assuming ()).

(check-sat-assuming $(a_1 \cdots a_n)$) where $n \geq 0$ and a_1, \cdots, a_n are terms of sort Bool, instructs the solver to check whether the conjunction of all the formulas in the current context *and* the *assumptions* a_1, \cdots, a_n is satisfiable in the extension of the current logic with all the current user-declared and user-defined symbols. The assumptions a_1, \ldots, a_n can only have the form p or (not p) where p is a user-declared/defined Boolean constant, i.e., a nullary function symbol of sort Bool. (43)

Conceptually, this command asks the solver to search for a model of the logic that satisfies all the currently asserted formulas as well as the current assumptions. When it has finished attempting to do this, the solver should reply on its regular output channel (see Section 4.1.2) using the response format defined by $\langle check_sat_response \rangle$ in Figure 3.9. A sat response indicates that the solver has found a model, an unsat response that the solver has established there is no model, and an unknown response that the search was inconclusive—because of resource limits, solver incompleteness, or other reasons. On reporting sat or unknown the solver should move to sat mode—and then respond to get-assignment, get-model, and get-value commands provided that the corresponding enabling option is set to true. On reporting unsat, it should move to unsat mode—and then respond to get-proof, get-unsat-assumptions, and get-unsat-core commands provided that the corresponding enabling option is set to true.

Regardless of how it is implemented internally, a check-sat-assuming command should preserve the current context in the sense that at the end of the command's execution the context should be the same as it was right before the execution.

Note that a check-sat-assuming command can be issued also when the solver is already in sat or unsat mode (in this case, the context is necessarily the same as for the previous check command). However, it is possible for the solver to switch from sat to unsat mode or vice versa if the latest command has a different set of assumptions from the previous one.

4.2.6 Inspecting models

The next three commands can be issued only when the solver is in sat mode, and provide information related to the most recent check command. In that case, the solver will have identified a model $\bf A$ (as defined in Section 5.3) of the current logic, and produces responses with respect to that same model until it receives the next check command or it exits the sat mode, whichever comes first. The model $\bf A$ is required to satisfy all currently asserted formulas and current assumptions only if the most recent check command reported sat. (44)

The internal representation of the model **A** is not exposed by the solver. Similarly to an abstract data type, the model can be inspected only through the three commands below. As a consequence, it can even be partial internally and extended as needed in response to successive invocations of some of these commands.⁵

⁵In that case, of course, the solver has to be sure that its partial model can be indeed extended as needed.

(get-value $(t_1 \cdots t_n)$) where n > 0 and each t_i is a well-sorted closed quantifier-free term, returns for each t_i a value term v_i^6 that is equivalent to t_i in the current model **A** (see above). Specifically, v_i has the same sort as t_i , and t_i is interpreted the same way as v_i in **A**. The values are returned as a sequence of pairs of the form $((t_1 \ v_1) \ \cdots \ (t_n \ v_n))$. The terms v_1, \ldots, v_n are allowed to contain symbols not in the current signature only if they are abstract values, i.e., constant symbols starting with the special character \mathfrak{C} . Since these are solver-defined, their sort is not known to the user. Therefore, additionally, each occurrence of an abstract value a of sort σ in v_1, \ldots, v_n has to be contained in a term of the form (as a σ) which makes the sort explicit.

Note that the returned abstract values are used only to express information about the current model **A**. They cannot be used in later assert commands since they are neither theory symbols nor user-defined ones. However, they can be used in later get-value commands on the same model.

There is no requirement that different permutations of the same set of get-value calls produce the same value for the input terms. The only requirement is that syntactically different values of the same sort returned by the solver have different meaning in the model.⁷

The command can be issued only if the :produce-models option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

(get-assignment) can be seen as a light-weight and restricted version of get-value that asks for a truth assignment for a selected set of previously entered formulas. (46)

The command returns a sequence of the form $((f_1 \ b_1) \ \cdots \ (f_n \ b_n))$ with $n \ge 0$. A pair $(f_i \ b_i)$ is in the returned sequence if and only if f_i is the label of a (sub)term of the form $(! \ t_i : \texttt{named} \ f_i)$ in the context, with t_i a closed term of sort Bool, and b_i is the value (true or false) that t_i has in the current model A.

The command can be issued only if the :produce-assignments option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

- (get-model) returns a list $(d_1 \cdots d_k)$ of definitions specifying *all* and only the current user-declared function symbols $\{g_1, \ldots, g_m\}$ in the current model **A**. The interpretation of each symbol is provided in exactly one of the definition $d_1, \ldots d_k$. The define commands $d_1, \ldots d_k$ have one of the following forms: (47)
 - (define-fun f (($x_1 \ \sigma_1$) \cdots ($x_n \ \sigma_n$)) σ t)
 where $n \ge 0$, f has rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$, t is a term not containing f, and the formula
 (forall (($x_1 \ \sigma_1$) \cdots ($x_n \ \sigma_n$)) (= ($f \ x_1 \ \cdots \ x_n$) t))

is well-sorted and satisfied by **A**. The term t is expected, although not required, to be a value when f is a constant (i.e., when n = 0).

⁶Recall that value terms are particular ground terms defined in a logic for each sort (see Subsection 5.5.1).

 $^{^{7}}$ So, for instance, in a logic of rational numbers and values of the form $(/m \ n)$ and $(/(-m) \ n)$ with m, n numerals, the solver cannot use both the terms (/13) and (/26) as output values for get-value.

```
• (define-funs-rec ((f_1 ((x_{1,1} \sigma_{1,1}) \cdots (x_{1,n_1} \sigma_{1,n_1})) \sigma_1) \cdots (f_p ((x_{p,1} \sigma_{p,1}) \cdots (x_{p,n_p} \sigma_{p,n_p})) \sigma_p)) (t_1 \cdots t_p)) where n_i > 0 for i = 1, \ldots, p, and the formula (and (forall ((x_{1,1} \sigma_{1,1}) \cdots (x_{1,n} \sigma_{1,n_1})) (= (f_1 x_{1,1} \cdots x_{1,n_1}) t_1)) \vdots (forall ((x_{p,1} \sigma_{p,1}) \cdots (x_{p,n_p} \sigma_{p,n_p})) (= (f_p x_{p,1} \cdots x_{p,n_p}) t_p))) is well-sorted and satisfied by \Delta
```

is well-sorted and satisfied by **A**.

• (define-fun-rec f (($x_1 \ \sigma_1$) \cdots ($x_n \ \sigma_n$)) σ t) where n>0 and the formula (forall (($x_1 \ \sigma_1$) \cdots ($x_n \ \sigma_n$)) (= ($f \ x_1 \ \cdots \ x_n$) t))

is well-sorted and satisfied by **A**.

Similarly to the response of get-value, the terms t, t_1, \ldots, t_m above are allowed to contain symbols not in the current signature only if they are abstract values. Morevever, each occurrence of an abstract value a of sort σ in t, t_1, \ldots, t_m has to be contained in a term of the form (as a σ).

Later versions of the standard may impose stronger requirements on the returned definitions. For now there is only an expectation that, when possible, the solver will provide definitions that have a unique interpretation over the current signature. (48)

The command can be issued only if the :produce-models option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

4.2.7 Inspecting proofs

The next three commands can be issued only when the solver is in unsat mode, and provide information related to the most recent check command (which produced an unsat response).

(get-unsat-assumptions) returns a subset a_1, \ldots, a_n of the assumptions in the most recent check-sat-assuming command. These assumptions are such that issuing the command (check-sat-assuming $(a_1 \cdots a_n)$) instead would have still produced an unsat response. The returned sequence is not required to be minimal. (49)

The command can be issued only if the :produce-unsat-assumptions option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

(get-proof) asks the solver for a proof of unsatisfiability for the set of all formulas in the current context. The command can be issued only if the most recent check command had an empty set of assumptions. The solver responds by printing a refutation proof on its regular output channel. The format of the proof is solver-specific. (50) The only requirement is that, like all responses, it be a member of $\langle s | expr \rangle$.

The command can be issued only if the :produce-proofs option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

(get-unsat-core) asks the solver to identify an *unsatisfiable core*, a subset of all the formulas in the current context that is unsatisfiable by itself. The command can be issued only if the most recent check command had an empty set of assumptions. The solver selects from the unsatisfiable core only those formulas that have been asserted with a command of the form (assert (! t:named f)), and returns a sequence ($f_1 \cdots f_n$) of those labels. Unlabeled formulas in the unsatisfiable core are simply not reported. (51)

The semantics of this command's output is that the reported assertions *together with all* the unlabeled ones in the set of all assertions are jointly unsatisfiable. In practice then, not labeling assertions is useful for unsat core detection purposes only when the user is sure that the set of all unlabeled assertions is satisfiable.

The command can be issued only if the :produce-unsat-cores option, which is set to false by default, is set to true (see Section 4.1.7).

4.2.8 Inspecting settings

- (get-info f) where f is an element of $\langle info_flag \rangle$ outputs solver information as specified in Section 4.1.8. If a solver does not support a (standard or non-standard) flag f, it just outputs unsupported.
- (get-option *o*) outputs the current value of a solver's option *o* as an element of $\langle attribute_value \rangle$. The form of that value depends on the specific option. More details on standard options and required behavior are provided in Section 4.1.7. If a solver does not support the setting of a standard option *o*, the command outputs the option's default value. For an unsupported non-predefined option the command outputs unsupported.

4.2.9 Script information

- (echo s) where s is a string literal, simply prints back s as is—including the surrounding double-quotes. (52)
- (set-info a) where a is an element of $\langle attribute \rangle$ has no effect on the assertion stack. Its only purpose is to allow the insertion of structured meta information in a script. (53) Typically then, a solver will just parse the command and do nothing with it, except for printing a response (success or an error, for instance, if the argument is not an element of $\langle attribute \rangle$).

There is only a small number of predefined set-info attributes, which are described below together with their possible values. These attributes are used in particular in the official SMT-LIB benchmarks at www.smt-lib.org.

:smt-lib-version possible values: a decimal.

The value of this attribute is the version of SMT-LIB used by the benchmark (e.g., 2.6). For benchmarks in the official repository a call to set-info with this attribute can occur only as the first command of a script.

:source possible values: a string or a quoted symbol.

The value of this attribute is a textual description of the benchmark's source, containing, as appropriate, such information as the name of person(s) who generated the benchmark; the generation date; the tool that generated it; the intended application; the solvers that were initially used or targeted to check the benchmarks; references to related publications; any other information the benchmark author deems useful.

:category possible values: "crafted", "random", and "industrial".

The value "crafted" indicates that the benchmark was hand-crafted while "random" indicates that it was generated by a random process; "industrial" is reserved for everything else. (54)

:license possible values: a string.

This is a description of the license under which the benchmark is distributed. It can be the actual text of the license, or the URL of a web site containing the description.

status possible values: sat, unsat, and unknown.

Each occurrence of the command (set-info:status sat) (respectively, (set-info:status unsat)) indicates that the next check command in the script is expected to return sat (respectively, unsat). More precisely, the expected value of a check command in a script is the one indicated by the most recent command of the form (set-info:status v) in the script. The value unknown is used when the expected value is not known. (55)

Remark 7 (set-info and get-info are unrelated). Contrary to what their names might suggest, set-info and get-info are not related. The first command is used to store information about a script, the second to obtain solver-specific information. (56)

Logical Semantics of SMT-LIB Formulas

The underlying logic of the SMT-LIB language is a variant of many-sorted first-order logic (FOL) with equality [Man93, Gal86, End01], although it incorporates some syntactic features of higher-order logics: in particular, the identification of formulas with terms of a distinguished Boolean sort, and the use of sort symbols of arity greater than 0.

These features make for a more flexible and syntactically more uniform logical language. However, while not exactly syntactic sugar, they do not change the essence of SMT-LIB logic with respect to traditional many-sorted FOL. Quantifiers are still first-order, the sort structure is flat (no subsorts), the logic's type system has no function (*arrow*) types, no type quantifiers, no dependent types, no provisions for parametric or subsort polymorphism. The only polymorphism is of the *ad-hoc* variety (a function symbol can be given more than one rank), although there is a syntactical mechanism for approximating parametric polymorphism. As a consequence, all the classical meta-theoretic results from many-sorted FOL apply to SMT-LIB logic when considered in its full generality, that is, with no restrictions on the possible models other than those imposed by the **Core** background theory introduced in Subection 3.7.1. Those results still hold with *recursively axiomatizable* background theories, i.e., theories defined as the set of all models of a recursive set of closed formulas (or *axioms*). As pointed out in Section 3.7.1 the ability to use non-recursively axiomatizable theories as background theories actually gives SMT-LIB logic the expressive power of higher-order logics. However, a formal treatment of this aspect is beyond the scope of this document.

To define SMT-LIB logic and its semantics it is convenient to work with a more abstract syntax than the concrete S-expression-based syntax of the SMT-LIB language. The formal semantics of concrete SMT-LIB expressions is then given by means of a translation into this abstract syntax. A formal definition of this translation might be provided in later releases of this document. Until then, we will appeal to the reader's intuition and on the fact that the translation is defined as one would expect.

```
(Sorts) \sigma ::= s \sigma^*
(Parametric Sorts) \tau ::= u \mid s \tau^*
```

Figure 5.1: Abstract syntax for sort terms

The translation also maps concrete predefined symbols and keywords to their abstract counterpart. To facilitate reading, usually the abstract version of a predefined concrete symbol is denoted by the symbol's name in Roman bold font (e.g., **Bool** for Bool). The same is done for keywords (e.g., **definition** for :definition).

To define our target abstract syntax we start by fixing the following pairwise disjoint sets of (abstract) symbols and values:

- an infinite set S of *sort symbols s* containing the symbol **Bool**,
- an infinite set \mathcal{U} of sort parameters u,
- an infinite set \mathcal{X} of *variables* x,
- an infinite set \mathcal{F} of *function symbols* f containing the symbols \approx , \wedge , and \neg ,
- an infinite set A of attribute names a,
- an infinite set V of attribute values v,
- the set W of *Unicode character strings* w,
- a two-element set $\mathcal{B} = \{ \text{true}, \text{false} \}$ of *Boolean values b*,
- the set \mathcal{N} of *natural numbers* n,
- an infinite set TN of theory names T,
- an infinite set \mathcal{L} of *logic names* L.

5.1 The language of sorts

In many-sorted logics, terms are typed, or *sorted*. Each sort, which stands for a non-empty set of elements, is denoted by a sort symbol. In SMT-LIB logic, the language of sorts is extended from sort symbols to *sort terms* built with symbols from the set S above. Formally, we have the following.

Definition 1 (Sorts). For all non-empty subsets S of S and all mappings ar : $S \to \mathbb{N}$, the set Sort(S) of all *sorts* over S (with respect to ar) is defined inductively as follows:

- 1. every $s \in S$ with ar(s) = 0 is a sort;
- 2. If $s \in S$ and ar(s) = n > 0 and $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$ are sorts, then the term $s \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n$ is a sort.

We say that $s \in S$ has (or is of) arity n if ar(s) = n.

```
(Attributes) \alpha ::= a \mid a = v

(Patterns) p ::= x \mid f x^*

(Terms) t ::= x \mid f t^* \mid f^{\sigma} t^*

\mid \exists (x:\sigma)^+ t \mid \forall (x:\sigma)^+ t \mid \mathbf{let} (x = t)^+ \mathbf{in} t \mid \mathbf{match} t \mathbf{with} (p \to t)^+

\mid t \alpha^+
```

Figure 5.2: Abstract syntax for unsorted terms

As an example of a sort, if **Int** and **Real** are sort symbols of arity 0, and **List** and **Array** are sort symbols of respective arity 1 and 2, then the expression **List** (**Array Int** (**List Real**)) and all of its subexpressions are sorts.

Function symbol declarations in theory declarations (defined later) use also *parametric sorts*. These are defined similarly to sorts above except that they can be built also over a further set \mathcal{U} of *sort parameters*, used like sort symbols of arity 0. Similarly to the example above, if u_1, u_2 are elements of \mathcal{U} , the expression **List** (**Array** u_1 (**List** u_2)) and all of its subexpressions are parametric sorts.

An abstract syntax for sorts σ and parametric sorts τ , which ignores arity constraints for simplicity, is provided in Figure 5.1. Note that every sort is a parametric sort, but not vice versa. Also note that parametric sorts are used only in theory declarations; they are not part of the SMT-LIB logic proper. In the following, we say "sort" to refer exclusively to non-parametric sorts.

5.2 The language of terms

In the abstract syntax, terms are built out of variables from \mathcal{X} , function symbols from \mathcal{F} , and a set of *binders*. The logic considers, in fact, only *well-sorted terms*, a subset of all possible terms determined by a *sorted signature*, as described below.

The set of all terms is defined by the abstract syntax rules of Figure 5.2. The rules do not distinguish between constant and function symbols (they are all members of the set \mathcal{F}). These distinctions are really a matter of arity, which is taken care of later by the well-sortedness rules.

Binders

For all $n \ge 0$, distinct variables $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$, and sorts $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$,

- the prefix construct $\exists x_1:\sigma_1 \cdots x_n:\sigma_n$ is a sorted existential binder (or existential quantifier) for x_1, \ldots, x_n ;
- the prefix construct $\forall x_1:\sigma_1 \cdots x_n:\sigma_n$ is a sorted universal binder (or universal quantifier) for x_1, \ldots, x_n ;
- the mixfix construct $\det x_1 = \underline{\quad \cdots \quad x_n} = \underline{\quad in \quad }$ is a (parallel-)let binder for x_1, \ldots, x_n .

• the mixfix construct **match_with** $p_1 \to _\cdots p_n \to _$ is a *match binder* for the variables that occur in the pattern p_i for each i = 1, ..., n.

Occurrences of variables in terms are defined to be *free* or *bound* as in the case of the concrete syntax; the scope of each bound variable is defined similarly as well (see Subsection 3.6.3). Terms are *closed* if they contain no free variables, and *open* otherwise. Terms are *ground* if they are variable-free.

For simplicity, the defined language does not contain any logical symbols other than the binders. Logical connectives for negation, conjunction and so on and the equality symbol, which we denote here by \approx , are just function symbols of the basic theory **Core**, implicitly included in all SMT-LIB theories (see Subsection 3.7.1).

Annotations

Terms can be optionally annotated with zero or more *attributes*. Attributes have no logical meaning, but they are a convenient mechanism for adding meta-logical information, as illustrated in Section 3.6. Syntactically, an attribute is either an attribute name $a \in \mathcal{A}$ or a pair the form a = v where $a \in \mathcal{A}$ and v is an attribute value in \mathcal{V} .

Function symbols themselves may be annotated with a sort, as in f^{σ} . Sort annotations simplify the sorting rules of the logic, which determine the set of well-sorted terms.

5.2.1 Signatures

Well-sorted terms in SMT-LIB logic are terms that can be associated with a unique sort by means of a set of *sorting rules* similar to typing rules in programming languages. The rules are based on the following definition of a (many-sorted) signature.

Definition 2 (SMT-LIB Signature). An *SMT-LIB signature*, or simply a *signature*, is a tuple Σ consisting of:

- a set $\Sigma^{S} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ of *sort* symbols containing **Bool**;
- a set $\Sigma^F \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ of function symbols;
- a distinguished finite set $\Sigma^C \subseteq \Sigma^F$ of *constructor* symbols;
- a distinguished finite set $\Sigma^G \subseteq \Sigma^F$ of *selector* symbols, disjoint with Σ^C ;
- a distinguished finite set $\Sigma^T \subseteq \Sigma^F$ of *tester* symbols, disjoint with Σ^C and Σ^G , and with the same cardinality as Σ^C ;
- a total mapping $con_{\Sigma}: \Sigma^S \to 2^{\Sigma^C}$, assigning a (possibly empty) set of constructors to each sort symbol;
- a total mapping ar : $\Sigma^S \to \mathbb{N}$, assigning an arity to each sort symbol, with ar(**Bool**) = 0;

¹At this abstract level, the syntax of attribute values is intentionally left unspecified.

- a total mapping $sel_{\Sigma}: \Sigma^{C} \to (\Sigma^{G})^{*}$, assigning a sequence of n distinct selectors to each constructor of arity n so that no selector is assigned to more than one constructor;
- a bijective mapping $\operatorname{tes}_{\Sigma}: \Sigma^{\mathsf{C}} \to \Sigma^{\mathsf{T}}$, assigning a tester to each constructor;
- a partial mapping from \mathcal{X} to $Sort(\Sigma^S)$, assigning a sort to some of the variables in \mathcal{X}^2
- a left-total *ranking* relation³ R from Σ^F to $Sort(\Sigma^S)^+$, assigning at least one *rank* to each function symbol and such that
 - 1. for all constructors $c \in \Sigma^{\mathbb{C}}$, selectors $g_1 \cdots g_n = \operatorname{sel}_{\Sigma}(c)$, and sorts $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n, \sigma \in Sort(\Sigma^{\mathbb{S}})$, if $(c, \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma) \in R$ then $(g_i, \sigma \sigma_i) \in R$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, n$;
 - 2. for all constructors $c \in \Sigma^{\mathbb{C}}$ and testers $p = \operatorname{tes}_{\Sigma}(c)$, if $(c, \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma) \in R$ then $(p, \sigma \mathbf{Bool}) \in R$;
 - 3. there is no constructor $c \in \Sigma^{\mathbb{C}}$ such that $(c, \bar{\sigma}_1 \sigma), (c, \bar{\sigma}_2 \sigma) \in R$ for distinct $\bar{\sigma}_1$ and $\bar{\sigma}_2$. (57)

A sort in Σ is an *algebraic data type* if it is assigned a non-empty set of constructors.

Remark 8. The restrictions imposed on theory declarations and on the various commands for declaring new symbols in SMT-LIB scripts make sure that the signature defined by an SMT-LIB script is in fact a signature in the sense of Definition 2.

In the following, we will write $Sort(\Sigma)$ as an abbreviation of $Sort(\Sigma^S)$. We will work with ranked function symbols and sorted variables in a signature. Formally, given a signature Σ , a ranked function symbol is a pair $(f, \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma)$ in $\mathcal{F} \times Sort(\Sigma)^+$, which we write as $f:\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$. A sorted variable is a pair (x, σ) in $\mathcal{X} \times Sort(\Sigma)$, which we write as $x:\sigma$. We write $f:\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma \in \Sigma$ and $x:\sigma \in \Sigma$ to denote that f has rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$ in Σ and x has sort σ in Σ .

We also consider signatures that differ from a given signature Σ only the sort they assign to variables. We will also consider signatures that conservatively expand a given signature Σ with additional sort and function symbols or additional ranks for Σ 's function symbols.

Definition 3 (Signature variants and expansions). A signature Σ' is a *variant* of a signature Σ if it is identical to Σ possibly except for its mapping from variables to sorts.

A signature Ω is a *expansion* of a signature Σ if all of the following hold: $\Sigma^S \subseteq \Omega^S$; $\Sigma^F \subseteq \Omega^F$; the sort symbols of Σ have the same arity in Σ and in Ω ; every sort of Σ has the same constructors in Ω that it has in Σ ; every constructor of Σ has the same selectors and testers in Ω that it has in Σ ; for all $x \in \mathcal{X}$ and $\sigma \in Sort(\Sigma)$, $x:\sigma \in \Sigma$ iff $x:\sigma \in \Omega$; for all $f \in \mathcal{F}$ and $\bar{\sigma} \in Sort(\Sigma)^+$, if $f:\bar{\sigma} \in \Sigma$ then $f:\bar{\sigma} \in \Omega$. In that case, Σ is a *subsignature* of Ω .

Overloading

The rank of a function symbol in a signature specifies, in order, the expected sort of the symbol's arguments and result. Note that it is possible for a function symbol to be *overloaded* in

²Note that $Sort(\Sigma^S)$, the set of all sorts over Σ^S , is non-empty because at least one sort in Σ^S , **Bool**, has arity 0.

³A binary relation $R \subseteq X \times Y$ is *left-total* if for each $x \in X$ there is (at least) a $y \in Y$ such that xRy.

a signature Σ by being associated to more than one rank in Σ . This form of *ad-hoc polymorphism* is entirely unrestricted: a function symbol can have completely different ranks—even varying in arity. For example, in a signature with sorts **Int** and **Real** (with the expected meaning), it is possible for the minus symbol — to have all of the following ranks: **Real Real** (for unary negation over the reals), **Int Int** (for unary negation over the integers), **Real Real Real** (for binary subtraction over the integers).

Together with the mechanisms used to declare theories (described in Section 5.4) and algebraic datatypes (described in Section 4.2.3), overloading also provides an approximate form of *parametric polymorphism* by allowing one to declare function symbols with ranks all having the *same shape*. For instance, it is possible to declare an array access symbol with rank (**Array** σ_1 σ_2) σ_1 σ_2 for all sorts σ_1 , σ_2 in a theory signature. Strictly speaking, this is still ad-hoc polymorphism because SMT-LIB logic itself does not allow parametric sorts.⁴ However, it provides most of the convenience of parametric polymorphism while remaining within the confines of the standard semantics of many-sorted FOL.

A function symbol can be *ambiguous* in an SMT-LIB signature for having distinct ranks of the form $\bar{\sigma}\sigma_1$ and $\bar{\sigma}\sigma_2$ where $\bar{\sigma}$ is a sequence of sorts and σ_1 and σ_2 are different sorts. Thanks to the requirement in Definition 2 that variables have exactly one sort in a signature, in signatures with no ambiguous function symbols every term can have at most one sort. In contrast, with an ambiguous symbol f whose different ranks are $\bar{\sigma}\sigma_1, \ldots, \bar{\sigma}\sigma_n$, a term of the form $f\bar{t}$, where the terms \bar{t} have sorts $\bar{\sigma}$, can be given a unique sort only if f is annotated with one of the result sorts $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$, that is, only if it is written as $f^{\sigma_i}\bar{t}$ for some $i \in \{i, \ldots, n\}$.

5.2.2 Well-sorted terms

Figure 5.3 provides a set of rules defining well-sorted terms with respect to an SMT-LIB signature Σ . Strictly speaking then, and similarly to more conventional logics, the SMT-LIB logic language is a family of languages parametrized by the signature Σ . As explained later, for each script working in the context of a background theory \mathcal{T} , the specific signature is jointly defined by the declaration of \mathcal{T} plus any additional sort and function symbol declarations contained in the script.

The format and meaning of the sorting rules in Figure 5.3 is fairly standard and should be largely self-explanatory to readers familiar with type systems. In more detail, the letter σ (possibly primed or with subscripts) denotes sorts in $Sort(\Sigma)$, the letter k denotes a natural number. Expressions of the form $\Sigma[x_1:\sigma_1,\ldots,x_n:\sigma_n]$ denotes the signature that maps x_i to sort σ_i for $i=1,\ldots,n$, and coincides otherwise with Σ . Finally, α^* denotes a possibly empty sequence of attributes. The rules operate over *sorting judgments* which are triples of the form $\Sigma \vdash t:\sigma$.

Definition 4 (Well-sorted Terms). For every SMT-LIB signature Σ , a term t generated by the grammar in Figure 5.2 is *well-sorted* (*with respect to* Σ) if $\Sigma \vdash t : \sigma$ is derivable by the sorting rules in Figure 5.3 for some sort $\sigma \in Sort(\Sigma)$. In that case, we say that t has, or is of, sort σ . \square

With this definition, it is possible to show that every term has at most one sort. (58)

⁴Parametric sort terms that occur in theory declarations and algebraic datatype declarations are meta-level syntax as far as SMT-LIB logic is concerned. They are *schemas* standing for concrete sorts.

Figure 5.3: Well-sortedness rules for terms.

Remark 9 (Match rules). The two rules for the **match** binder in Figure 5.3 require that the match cases be *exhaustive*: every constructor term of sort δ must match one of the patterns; but allow it to be *redundant*: the same term may match more than one pattern. Exhaustiveness is necessary to make sure each **match** expression is semantically well defined. The first rule deals with **match** expressions where no patterns consist of a variable. In that case, exhaustiveness is enforced by requiring that each constructor of the datatype appear in one of the patterns. The second rule deals with **match** expressions where one or more patterns consist of a variable. In that case, exhaustiveness is guaranteed simply by the presence of those variables. In both cases, the preconditions ensure that δ is a datatype, not just any sort, by requiring it to have a non-empty set of constructors.

Definition 5 (SMT-LIB formulas). For each signature Σ , the language of SMT-LIB logic is the set of all well-sorted terms wrt Σ . *Formulas* are well-sorted terms of sort **Bool**.

In the following, we will use φ and ψ to denote formulas.

Constraint 3. SMT-LIB scripts consider only closed formulas, or *sentences*, closed terms of sort **Bool**. (59) □

There is no loss of generality in the restriction above because, as far as satisfiability is concerned, every formula φ with free variables x_1, \ldots, x_n of respective sort $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$, can be rewritten as

$$\exists x_1:\sigma_1\ldots x_n:\sigma_n \varphi$$
.

An alternative way to avoid free variables in scripts is to replace them by fresh constant symbols of the same sort. This is again with no loss of generality because, for satisfiability modulo theories purposes, a formula's free variables can be treated equivalently as *free symbols* (see later for a definition).

5.3 Structures and Satisfiability

The semantics of SMT-LIB is essentially the same as that of conventional many-sorted logic, relying on a similar notion of Σ -structure.

Definition 6 (Σ-structure). Let Σ be a signature. A Σ-structure **A** is a pair consisting of a set A, the *universe* of **A**, and a mapping that interprets

- each $\sigma \in Sort(\Sigma)$ as a *non-empty* subset $\sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$ of A, which we call the *domain* of σ in \mathbf{A} , with $A = \bigcup_{\sigma \in \Sigma^{\mathbf{S}}} \sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$; (60)
- each (ranked function symbol) $f:\sigma\in\Sigma$ as an element $(f:\sigma)^{\mathbf{A}}$ of $\sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$;
- each $f:\sigma_1\cdots\sigma_n\sigma\in\Sigma$ with n>0 as a total function $(f:\sigma_1\cdots\sigma_n\sigma)^{\mathbf{A}}$ from $\sigma_1^{\mathbf{A}}\times\cdots\times\sigma_n^{\mathbf{A}}$ to $\sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$.

If **B** is an Ω -signature with universe *B* and Σ is a subsignature of Ω , the *reduct* of **B** to Σ is the (unique) Σ -structure with universe *B* that interprets its sort and function symbols exactly as **B**. A structure **B** is an *expansion* of a Σ -structure **A** if **A** is the Σ -reduct of **B**.

Note that, as a consequence of overloading, a Σ -structure does not interpret plain function symbols but ranked function symbols. Also note that any Σ -structure is also a Σ' -structure for every variant Σ' of Σ .

Definition 7 (Absolutely free structure). Let **A** be a Σ-structure with universe *A* and let $G \subseteq A$. Let Σ_G be the expansion of Σ obtained by adding to Σ a constant symbol *a* of rank σ for every $a \in G$ and sort $\sigma \in \Sigma^S$ such that $a \in \sigma^A$. Then, **A** is an *absolutely free structure* (with generators G) if

- for all $\sigma \in \Sigma^S$, σ^A is the set of well-sorted ground terms of signature Σ_G ;
- **A** interprets every function symbol $f:\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma \in \Sigma_G$ as the function that maps each tuple $(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \in \sigma_1^{\mathbf{A}} \times \ldots \times \sigma_n^{\mathbf{A}}$ to the term $f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$.

Intuitively, an absolutely free Σ -structure with a set G of generators interprets every well-sorted ground Σ_G -term as itself. Note that the choice of generators affects the property of being absolutely free. For instance, no structure without constant symbols can be absolutely free with an empty set of generators.

The SMT-LIB logic considers only structures that interpret in a special way the sort **Bool** and any constructor, selector, and tester symbols in their signature.

Definition 8 (SMT-LIB Σ -structure). An SMT-LIB structure is a Σ -structure **A** such that

- 1. **Bool**^A = $\mathcal{B} = \{\text{false, true}\}\$ with false and true distinct;
- 2. if Ω is the signature obtained from Σ by removing all of its non-constructor function symbols, the Ω -reduct of \mathbf{A} is an absolutely free algebra with generators $\bigcup_{\sigma \in S} \sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$ where S collects the sorts of Σ that are not datatypes;
- 3. for all constructors $c:\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma \in \Sigma$ with n > 0, selectors $g_1:\sigma\sigma_1, \ldots, g_n:\sigma\sigma_n$ with $\operatorname{sel}_{\Sigma}(c) = g_1 \cdots g_n$, values $(v_1, \ldots, v_n) \in \sigma_1^{\mathbf{A}} \times \cdots \times \sigma_n^{\mathbf{A}}$, and $i = 1, \ldots, n$,

$$g_i^{\mathbf{A}}(c^{\mathbf{A}}(v_1,\ldots,v_n))=v_i;$$

4. for all constructors $c: \bar{\sigma}\sigma \in \Sigma$, testers q with $\operatorname{tes}_{\Sigma}(c) = q$, and values $v \in \sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$,

$$q^{\mathbf{A}}(v) = \mathbf{true} \text{ iff } v \text{ is in the range of } c^{\mathbf{A}}.$$

From now on, when we say "structure" we will mean "SMT-LIB structure."

Remark 10. The restrictions in SMT-LIB structures on the interpretation of constructors, selectors and testers, together with the well-foundedness restrictions on those constructs in signatures, guarantee that sorts with constructors indeed denote algebraic datatypes as traditionally understood in the literature.

Remark 11 (Partiality of selectors). As in classical first-order logic, all function symbols in a signature Σ are interpreted as total functions in a Σ -structure \mathbf{A} . This means in particular that if $g:\sigma\sigma_i\in\Sigma$ is a selector, the function $g^{\mathbf{A}}$ returns a value even for inputs outside the range of g's constructor. Definition 8 imposes no constraints on that value, other than it belongs to $\sigma_i^{\mathbf{A}}$. For instance, in a structure \mathbf{A} with a sort for integer lists with constructors nil and insert and selectors head and tail for insert, the function head maps nil to *some* integer value. Similarly, tail maps nil to *some* integer list. This is consistent with the general modeling of partial functions in SMT-LIB as underspecified total functions—which requires a solver to consider all possible (well-sorted) ways to make a partial function total.

The notion of isomorphism between structures introduced below is needed for Definition 12, Theory Combination, in Section 5.4.

Definition 9 (Isomorphism). Let **A** and **B** be two Σ -structures with respective universes A and B. A mapping $h: A \to B$ is a *homomorphism* from **A** to **B** if

1. for all $\sigma \in Sort(\Sigma)$ and $a \in \sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$,

$$h(a) \in \sigma^{\mathbf{B}}$$
;

2. for all $f:\sigma_1...\sigma_n\sigma\in\Sigma$ with n>0 and $(a_1,...,a_n)\in\sigma_1^{\mathbf{A}}\times\cdots\times\sigma_n^{\mathbf{A}}$,

$$h((f:\sigma_1...\sigma_n\sigma)^{\mathbf{A}}(a_1,...,a_n)) = (f:\sigma_1...\sigma_n\sigma)^{\mathbf{B}}(h(a_1),...,h(a_n)).$$

A homomorphism between **A** and **B** is an *isomorphism* of **A** onto **B** if it is invertible and its inverse is a homomorphism from **B** to **A**. \Box

Two Σ -structures **A** and **B** are *isomorphic* if there is an isomorphism from one onto the other. Isomorphic structures are interchangeable for satisfiability purposes because one satisfies a set of Σ -sentences if and only if the other one does.

5.3.1 The meaning of terms

A *valuation* into a Σ -structure **A** is a partial mapping v from $\mathcal{X} \times Sort(\Sigma)$ to the set of all domain elements of **A** such that, for all $x \in \mathcal{X}$ and $\sigma \in Sort(\Sigma)$, $v(x:\sigma) \in \sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$. We denote by $v[x_1:\sigma_1 \mapsto a_1, \ldots, x_n:\sigma_n \mapsto a_n]$ the valuation that maps $x_i:\sigma_i$ to $a_i \in \sigma_i^{\mathbf{A}}$ for $i = 1, \ldots, n$ and is otherwise identical to v.

If v is a valuation into Σ -structure \mathbf{A} , the pair $\mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A}, v)$ is a Σ -interpretation. We write $\mathcal{I}[x_1:\sigma_1\mapsto a_1,\ldots,x_n:\sigma_n\mapsto a_n]$ as an abbreviation for the Σ' -interpretation

$$(\mathbf{A}', v[x_1:\sigma_1 \mapsto a_1, \ldots, x_n:\sigma_n \mapsto a_n])$$

where $\Sigma' = \Sigma[x_1:\sigma_1, \ldots, x_n:\sigma_n]$ and \mathbf{A}' is just \mathbf{A} but seen as a Σ' -structure.

A Σ -interpretation \mathcal{I} assigns a meaning to well-sorted Σ -terms by means of a uniquely determined (total) mapping $[\![\]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ of such terms into the universe of its structure.

Definition 10. Let Σ be an SMT-LIB signature and let \mathcal{I} be a Σ-interpretation. For every well-sorted term t of sort σ with respect to Σ, $[\![t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ is defined recursively as follows.

1.
$$[u \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_n]^{\mathcal{I}} = [u]^{\mathcal{I}}$$

2.
$$[x]^{\mathcal{I}} = v(x:\sigma)$$
 if $\mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A}, v)$

3.
$$[\![\hat{f}\ t_1\ \dots\ t_n]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} = (f:\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_n \sigma)^{\mathbf{A}}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$$
 if
$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A}, v) \text{ with signature } \Sigma, \\ \hat{f} = f \text{ or } \hat{f} = f^{\sigma}, \\ \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n \\ \Sigma \vdash t_i : \sigma_i \text{ and } a_i = [\![t_i]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} \end{cases}$$

4.
$$[\![\mathbf{let}\ x_1 = t_1\ \cdots\ x_n = t_n\ \mathbf{in}\ t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} = [\![t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}'} \text{ if } \begin{cases} \mathcal{I} \text{ has signature } \Sigma, \\ \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n \\ \Sigma \vdash t_i : \sigma_i \text{ and } a_i = [\![t_i]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}, \\ \mathcal{I}' = \mathcal{I}[x_1 : \sigma_1 \mapsto a_1, \ldots, x_n : \sigma_n \mapsto a_n] \end{cases}$$

- 5. $[\exists x_1:\sigma_1 \cdots x_n:\sigma_n \ t]^{\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{true} \text{ iff } [t]^{\mathcal{I}'} = \mathbf{true} \text{ for some } \mathcal{I}'$ such that $\begin{cases} \mathcal{I}' = \mathcal{I}[x_1:\sigma_1 \mapsto a_1, \dots, x_n:\sigma_n \mapsto a_n], \\ (a_1,\dots,a_n) \in \sigma_1^{\mathbf{A}} \times \dots \times \sigma_n^{\mathbf{A}}, \\ \mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A}, v) \end{cases}$
- 6. $[\![\forall x_1:\sigma_1 \cdots x_n:\sigma_n t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{true} \text{ iff } [\![t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}'} = \mathbf{true} \text{ for all } \mathcal{I}'$ such that $\begin{cases} \mathcal{I}' = \mathcal{I}[x_1:\sigma_1 \mapsto a_1, \ldots, x_n:\sigma_n \mapsto a_n], \\ (a_1,\ldots,a_n) \in \sigma_1^{\mathbf{A}} \times \cdots \times \sigma_n^{\mathbf{A}}, \\ \mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A},v), \end{cases}$
- 7. $[\![$ **match** t **with** $c \to t_0$ $p_1 \to t_1 \cdots p_n \to t_n]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} = [\![t_0]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ if $\{\mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A}, v), \{\![t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} \text{ is in the range of } c^{\mathbf{A}} \}$
- 8. [match t with $(c x_1 \cdots x_{k+1}) \to t_0 \ p_1 \to t_1 \cdots p_n \to t_n$] $^{\mathcal{I}} =$ [let $x_1 = g_1(t) \cdots x_{k+1} = g_{k+1}(t)$ in t_0] $^{\mathcal{I}}$ if $\begin{cases} \mathcal{I} = (\mathbf{A}, v) \text{ with signature } \Sigma, \\ [t]^{\mathcal{I}} \text{ is in the range of } c^{\mathbf{A}}, \\ \text{sel}_{\Sigma}(c) = g_1 \cdots g_{k+1} \end{cases}$
- 9. $[\![$ **match** t **with** $(c\,\bar{x}) \to t_0 \ p_1 \to t_1 \ \cdots \ p_n \to t_n]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} = [\![$ $[\![$ **match** t **with** $p_1 \to t_1 \ \cdots \ p_n \to t_n \ (c\,\bar{x}) \to t_0]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ $[\![$ $[\![} t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ is not in the range of $c^{\mathbf{A}}$

10.
$$[\![$$
match t with $x_0 \to t_0 \ p_1 \to t_1 \ \cdots \ p_n \to t_n]\!]^{\mathcal{I}} = [\![$ let $x_0 = t$ in $t_0]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$

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One can show that $[\![]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ is well-defined, and hence total, over *closed* terms that are *well-sorted* with respect to \mathcal{I} 's signature.

A Σ -interpretation \mathcal{I} satisfies a Σ -formula φ if $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket^{\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{true}$, and falsifies it if $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket^{\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{false}$. The formula φ is satisfiable if there is a Σ -interpretation \mathcal{I} that satisfies it, and is unsatisfiable otherwise.

For a closed term t, its meaning $[\![t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$ in an interpretation $\mathcal{I}=(\mathbf{A},v)$ is independent of the choice of the valuation v—because the term has no free variables. For such terms then, we can write $[\![t]\!]^{\mathbf{A}}$ instead of $[\![t]\!]^{\mathcal{I}}$. Similarly, for sentences, we can speak directly of a *structure* satisfying or falsifying the sentence. A Σ -structure that satisfies a sentence is also called a *model* of the sentence.

5.4 Theories

Theories are traditionally defined as sets of sentences. Alternatively, and more generally, in SMT-LIB a theory is defined as a class of structures with the same signature.

Definition 11 (Theory). For any signature Σ , a Σ -theory is a class of Σ -structures. Each of these structures is a *model* of the theory.

Typical SMT-LIB theories consist of a single model (e.g., the integers) or of the class of all structures that satisfy some set of sentences—the *axioms* of the theory. Note that in SMT-LIB there is no requirement that the axiom set be finite or even recursive.

5.4.1 Combined Theories

SMT-LIB uses both *basic* theories, obtained as instances of a theory declaration schema, and *combined* theories, obtained by combining together suitable instances of different theory schemas. The combination mechanism is defined below.

Two signatures Σ_1 and Σ_2 are *compatible* if they have the same sort symbols, have the same datatype constructors, selectors and testers, and they agree on both the arity they assign to sort symbols and the sorts they assign to variables.⁵ Two theories are *compatible* if they have compatible signatures. The *combination* $\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2$ of two compatible signatures Σ_1 and Σ_2 is the smallest compatible signature that is an expansion of both Σ_1 and Σ_2 , i.e., the unique signature Σ compatible with Σ_1 and Σ_2 such that, for all $f \in \mathcal{F}$ and $\bar{\sigma} \in Sort(\Sigma)^+$, $f:\bar{\sigma} \in \Sigma$ iff $f:\bar{\sigma} \in \Sigma_1$ or $f:\bar{\sigma} \in \Sigma_2$.

Definition 12 (Theory Combination). Let \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 be two theories with compatible signatures Σ_1 and Σ_2 , respectively. The *combination* $\mathcal{T}_1 + \mathcal{T}_2$ of \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 consists of all $(\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2)$ -structures whose reduct to Σ_i is isomorphic to a model of \mathcal{T}_i , for i = 1, 2.

Over pairwise compatible signatures the signature combination operation + is associative and commutative. The same is also true for the theory combination operation + over compatible theories. This induces, for every n > 1, a unique n-ary combination $\mathcal{T}_1 + \cdots + \mathcal{T}_n$ of mutually compatible theories $\mathcal{T}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_n$ in terms of nested binary combinations. *Combined*

⁵Observe that compatibility is an equivalence relation on signatures.

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```
(Sort symbol declarations) sdec ::= s n \alpha^*

(Fun. symbol declarations) fdec ::= f \sigma^+ \alpha^*

(Param. fun. symbol declarations) pdec ::= fdec \mid \Pi u^+ (f \tau^+ \alpha^*)

(Theory attributes) tattr ::= sorts = sdec^+ \mid funs = pdec^+ \mid sorts-description = w \mid funs-description = w \mid definition = w \mid values = t^+ \mid notes = w \mid \alpha

(Theory declarations) tdec ::= theory T tattr^+
```

Figure 5.4: Abstract syntax for theory declarations

theories in SMT-LIB are exclusively theories of the form $\mathcal{T}_1 + \cdots + \mathcal{T}_n$ for some basic SMT-LIB theories $\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_n$.

SMT is about checking the satisfiability or the entailment of formulas *modulo* some (possibly combined) theory \mathcal{T} . This standard adopts the following precise formulation of such notions.

Definition 13 (Satisfiability and Entailment Modulo a Theory). For any Σ-theory \mathcal{T} , a Σ-sentence is *satisfiable in* \mathcal{T} iff it is satisfied by one of \mathcal{T} 's models. A set Γ of Σ-sentences \mathcal{T} -entails a Σ-sentence φ , written $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{T}} \varphi$, iff every model of \mathcal{T} that satisfies all sentences in Γ satisfies φ as well.

5.4.2 Theory declarations

In SMT-LIB, basic theories are obtained as instances of theory declarations. (In contrast, combined theories are defined in logic declarations.) An abstract syntax of theory declarations is defined in Figure 5.4. The symbol Π in parametric function symbol declarations is a (universal) binder for the sort parameters—and corresponds to the symbol par in the concrete syntax.

To simplify the meta-notation let T denote a theory declaration with theory name T. Given such a theory declaration, assume first that T has no **sorts-description** and **funs-description** attributes, and let S and F be respectively the set of all sort symbols and all function symbols occurring in T. Let Ω be a signature whose set of sort symbols that are not datatypes includes all the symbols in S, with the same arity. The definition provided in the **definition** attribute of T must be such that every signature like Ω above uniquely determines a theory $\widehat{T} = T[\Omega]$ as an instance of T with signature $\widehat{\Omega}$ defined as follows:

- 1. $\widehat{\Omega}^{S} = \Omega^{S}$ and $\widehat{\Omega}^{F} = F \cup \Omega^{F}$,
- 2. no variables are sorted in $\widehat{\Omega}$, (61)
- 3. for all $f \in \widehat{\Omega}^F$ and $\bar{\sigma} \in (\widehat{\Omega}^S)^+$,

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```
(Logic attributes) lattr ::= theories = T^+ \mid language = w \mid extensions = w \mid values = w \mid notes = w \mid \alpha (Logic declarations) ldec ::= logic \ L \ lattr^+
```

Figure 5.5: Abstract syntax for logic declarations

```
f:\bar{\sigma}\in\widehat{\Omega} iff
```

- (a) $f:\bar{\sigma}\in\Omega$, or
- (b) T contains a declaration of the form $f \bar{\sigma} \bar{\alpha}$, or
- (c) T contains a declaration of the form $\Pi \bar{u}$ ($f \bar{\tau} \bar{\alpha}$) and $\bar{\sigma}$ is an instance of $\bar{\tau}$.
- 4. A function symbol of $\widehat{\Omega}$ is a datatype constructor/selector/tester in $\widehat{\Omega}$ iff it is so in Ω .

We say that a ranked function symbol $f:\bar{\sigma}$ of $\widehat{\Omega}$ is *declared in* T if $f:\bar{\sigma} \in \widehat{\Omega}$ because of Point 3b or 3c above. The *free sort symbols* of \widehat{T} are the sort symbols of $\widehat{\Omega}$ that are not in S and are not datatypes. Similarly, the *free function symbols* of \widehat{T} are the ranked function symbols of $\widehat{\Omega}$ that are not declared in T and are not datatype constructors, selectors or testers. This terminology is justified by the following additional requirement on T.

The definition of T must be *parametric*, in this sense: it must not constrain the free symbols of any instance $T[\Omega]$ of T in any way. Technically, T must be defined so that the set of models of $T[\Omega]$ is closed under any changes in the interpretation of the free symbols. That is, every structure obtained from a model of $T[\Omega]$ by changing only the interpretation of $T[\Omega]$'s free symbols should be a model of $T[\Omega]$ as well. (62)

The case of theory declarations with **sorts-description** and **funs-description** attributes is similar.

5.5 Logics

A logic in SMT-LIB is any sublogic of the main SMT-LIB logic obtained by

- fixing a signature Σ and a Σ -theory \mathcal{T} ,
- restricting the set of structures to the models of \mathcal{T} , and
- restricting the set of sentences to some subset of the set of all Σ -sentences.

A *model* of a logic with theory \mathcal{T} is any model of \mathcal{T} ; a sentence is *satisfiable* in the logic iff it is satisfiable in \mathcal{T} .

⁶Note that because of overloading we talk about *ranked* function symbols being free or not, not just function symbols.

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5.5.1 Logic declarations

Logics are specified by means of logic declarations. Contrary to the theory declarations, a logic declaration specifies a *single* logic, not a class of them, so we call the logic L too. An abstract syntax of logic declarations is defined in Figure 5.5.

Let *L* be a logic declaration whose **theories** attribute has value T_1, \ldots, T_n .

Theory. The logic's theory is the theory \mathcal{T} uniquely determined as follows. For each $i=1,\ldots,n$, let S_i be the set of all sort symbols occurring in T_i . The text in the **language** attribute of L may specify an additional set S_0 of sort symbols and an additional set of ranked function symbols with ranks over $Sort(S)^+$ where $S=\bigcup_{i=0,\ldots,n}S_i$. Let Ω be the smallest signature with $\Omega^S=S$ containing all those ranked function symbols. Then for each $i=1,\ldots,n$, let $T_i[\Omega]$ be the instance of T_i determined by Ω as described in Subsection 5.4.2. The theory of L is

$$\mathcal{T} = T_1[\Omega] + \cdots + T_n[\Omega] .$$

Note that \mathcal{T} is well defined. To start, Ω is well defined because any sort symbols shared by two declarations among T_1, \ldots, T_n have the same arity in them. The theories $T_1[\Omega], \ldots, T_n[\Omega]$ are well defined because Ω satisfies the requirements in Subsection 5.4.2. Finally, the signatures of $T_1[\Omega], \ldots, T_n[\Omega]$ are pairwise compatible because they all have the same sort symbols, each with the same arity in all of them.

Values. The **values** attribute is expected to designate for each sort σ of the logic's theory \mathcal{T} a distinguished set V_{σ} of ground terms called *values*. The definition of V_{σ} should be such that every sentence satisfiable in the logic L is satisfiable in a model \mathbf{A} of \mathcal{T} where each element of $\sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$ is denoted by some element of V_{σ} . In other words, if Σ is \mathcal{T} 's signature, \mathbf{A} is such that, for all $\sigma \in \Sigma^{\mathbf{S}}$ and all $a \in \sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$, $a = [t]^{\mathcal{A}}$ for some $t \in V_{\sigma}$. For example, in a logic of the integers, the set of values for the integer sort might consist of all the terms of the form 0 or [-]n where n is a non-zero numeral.

For flexibility, we do not require that V_{σ} be minimal. That is, it is possible for two terms of V_{σ} to denote the same element of $\sigma^{\mathbf{A}}$. For example, in a logic of rational numbers, the set of values for the rational sort might consist of all the terms of the form [-]m/n where m is a numeral and n is a non-zero numeral. This set covers all the rationals but, in contrast with the previous example, is not minimal because, for instance, 3/2 and 9/6 denote the same rational.

Note that the requirements on V_{σ} can be always trivially satisfied by L by making sure that the signature Ω above contains a distinguished set of infinitely many additional free constant symbols of sort σ , and defining V_{σ} to be that set. We call these constant symbols *abstract values*. Abstract values are useful to denote the elements of uninterpreted sorts or sorts standing for structured data types such as lists, arrays, sets and so on.⁷

Recall that algebraic datatypes are not defined in theories but directly at the level of the underlying SMT-LIB logic. For each such sort, the set of values is fixed to the set of constructor terms built over values from other sorts. For example, in a parametric list datatype δ with the

⁷The concrete syntax reserves a special format for constant symbols used as abstract values: they are members of the $\langle symbol \rangle$ category that start with the character @.

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usual nil and cons constructors, the set of values for δ consists of nil and all terms of the form cons v_1 (cons v_2 ··· (cons v_n nil) ···) where n>0 and v_1,\ldots,v_n are (recursively) values of the same sort.

Part IV References

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Part V Appendices

Notes

- 1 To define such theory signatures formally, SMT-LIB would need to rely on a more powerful underlying logic, for instance one with dependent types.
- 2 Preferring ease of parsing over human readability is reasonable in this context not only because SMT-LIB benchmarks are meant to be read by solvers but also because they are produced in the first place by automated tools like verification condition generators or translators from other formats.
- 3 The move to the Unicode character standard was motivated by the fact that US-ASCII is is inadequate in international settings and Unicode has become the dominant standard.
- 4 This syntactical category excludes the non-English letters of Unicode because it is used to define identifiers, which traditionally use only English letters. Future versions might extend it to non-English letters as well.
- This is to achieve maximum generality and independence from programming language conventions. This way, SMT-LIB theories of strings that use string literals as constant symbols have the choice to define certain string constants, such as "\n" and "\012", as equivalent or not. If we used, say, C-style backslash-prefixed escape sequences at the SMT-LIB level, it would be impractical and possibly confusing to represent literally certain sequences of characters. For instance, with C-style conventions the literals "\\e" and "\e" would be parsed as the same two-character literal consisting of the characters $5C_{\text{hex}}65_{\text{hex}}$, one would have to write, for instance, something like "\\e" or "\x5C\e".
- 6 Strictly speaking, command names do not need to be reserved words because of the language's namespace conventions. Having them as reserved words, however, simplifies the creation of compliant parsers with the aid of parser generators such as Lex/YACC and ANTLR.
- 7 Backslash is disallowed in quoted symbols just for simplicity. Otherwise, for Common Lisp compatibility they would have to be treated as an escaping symbol (see Section 2.3 of [Ste90]).
- 8 Symbols have been added as indices in Version 2.6 for increased flexibility.
- 9 The sorts of pattern variables are not specified explicitly since they can be readily inferred from the datatype.
- 10 Such lists are semantically redundant in the sense that some of the cases can be dropped without affecting its meaning. This is allowed to simplify parsing.
- 11 This guarantees that the match expressions are always well defined (see Section 5.3).
- 12 The restriction to flat patterns is for simplicity and may be lifted in later versions.

- 13 This shadowing rule follows common lexical scoping conventions. It is easy to avoid declarations like (par (Int) (f (Array Int Int)), which are potentially confusing to human readers, simply by a more judicious choice of parameter names. In patterns like (cons x nil) are problematic
- 14 The reason for this exception is mostly historical. Many SMT solvers apply this restriction, possibly under the assumption that shadowing a theory symbol is, more often than not, unintended and so best treated as an error.
- 15 This restriction eliminates the need for a solver to do sort inference in order to determine the sorts of terms containing applications of ambiguous function symbols. The use of as is not required in patterns because there sort inference is needed anyway since pattern variables are not explicitly assigned a sort.
- 16 The reason patterns annotate the *body* of a formula they refer to as opposed to the formula itself, is that, this way, they can use the body's free variables as pattern variables.
- 17 The rationale for allowing user-defined attributes is the same as in other attribute-value-based languages (such as, e.g., BibTeX). It makes the SMT-LIB format more flexible and customizable. The understanding is that user-defined attributes are allowed but need not be supported by an SMT solver for the solver to be considered *SMT-LIB compliant*. We expect, however, that with continued use of the SMT-LIB format, certain user-defined attributes will become widely used. Those attributes might then be officially adopted into the format (as non-user-defined attributes) in later versions.
- 18 See the point made in Note 19.
- 19 Ideally, it would be better if :definition were a formal attribute, to avoid ambiguities and misinterpretation and possibly allow automatic processing. The choice to use free text for this attribute is for practical reasons. The enormous amount of effort that would be needed to first devise a formal language for this attribute and then specify its value for each theory in the library is not justified by the current goals of SMT-LIB. Furthermore, this attribute is meant mainly for human readers, not programs, hence a mathematically rigorous definition in natural language seems enough.
- 20 Version 1.2 allowed one to specify a finitely-axiomatizable theory formally by listing a set of axioms in an :axioms attribute. This attribute is gone from Version 2.0 onwards, because only one or two theories in the SMT-LIB catalog can be defined that way. The remaining ones require infinitely many axioms or axioms with quantified sort symbols which are not expressible in the language.
- 21 One advantage of defining instances of theory declaration schemas this way is that with one instantiation of the schema one gets a *single* theory with arbitrarily nested sorts—another example being the theory of all nested lists of integers, say, with sorts (List Int), (List (List Int)), etc. This is convenient in applications coming from software verification, where verification conditions can contain arbitrarily nested data types. But it is also crucial in providing a simple and powerful mechanism for theory combination, as explained later.
- 22 The reason for informal attributes is similar to that for theory declarations.
- 23 The attribute is text-valued because it is mostly for documentation purposes for the benefit of benchmark users. A natural language description of the logic's language seems therefore adequate for this purpose. Of course, it is also possible to specify the language at least partially in some formal fashion in this attribute, for instance by using BNF rules.
- 24 This is useful because in common practice, the syntax of a logic is often extended for convenience with syntactic sugar.
- 25 This enables applications reading a compliant solver's response to know when an identifier (like success) has been completely printed and, in general, when the solver has completed processing a command. For example, this is needed if one wants to use an off-the-shelf S-expression parser (e.g., read in Common Lisp) to read responses.
- 26 The motivation for allowing these two behaviors is that the first one (exiting immediately when an error occurs) may be simpler to implement, while the latter may be more useful for applications, though it might be more burdensome to support the semantics of leaving the state unmodified by the erroneous command.
- 27 It is desirable to have the ability to remove declarations and definitions, for example if they are no longer needed at some point during an interaction with a solver (so that the memory required for them can be reclaimed), or if a defined symbol needs to be redefined. The current approach of allowing declarations and definitions to be locally scoped supports removal by popping the containing assertion level. Other approaches,

- such as the ability to add shadowing declarations or definitions of symbols, or to "undefine" or "undeclare" them, present some issues: for example, how to print symbols that have been shadowed, undefined or undeclared. As a consequence, they are not supported in the language.
- 28 Setting :global-declarations to true can be understood as stating that declarations and definitions are not part of the assertion stack, and so resetting the stack has no impact on them. This option is convenient in applications that benefit from using push and pop for assertions but need to continue using symbols declared after a push even after the corresponding pop.
- 29 The motivation for not overloading user-defined symbols is to simplify their processing by a solver. This restriction is significant only for users who want to extend the signature of the theory used by a script with a new polymorphic function symbol—i.e., one whose rank would contain parametric sorts if it was a theory symbol. For instance, users who want to declare a "reverse" function on arbitrary lists, must define a different reverse function symbol for each (concrete) list sort used in the script. This restriction might be removed in future versions.
- 30 Note that this option is not intended to be used for comparisons between different solvers since they can implement it differently. Its purpose is simply to guarantee the reproducibility of an individual solver's results under the same external conditions.
- 31 This is to avoid confusion with the responses to commands, which are written to the regular output channel.
- 32 Some commonly used statistics (e.g., number of restarts of a solver's propositional reasoning engine) are difficult to define precisely and generally, while the exact semantics of others, such as time and memory usage, have not being agreed upon yet by the SMT community.
- 33 This command is useful for interactive use, to keep track of the current number of nested push commands.
- 34 This allows the user to reset the state of the solver without paying the cost of restarting it.
- 35 Having ALL is convenient for client applications that generate problems on the fly in a variety of logics supported by some specific solver without knowing in advance the specific logic for each problem. SMT-LIB scripts meant for the SMT-LIB library should not use ALL in set-logic but should instead use a specific logic name.
- 36 The rationale is that a solver may need to make substantial changes to its internal configuration to provide the functionality requested by these options, and so it needs to be notified before it starts processing assertions.
- 37 Strictly speaking, only sort symbols introduced with declare-sort expand the initial signature of theory sort symbols. Sort symbols introduced with define-sort do not. They do not construct *real* sorts, but *aliases* of sorts built with theory sort symbols and previously declared sort symbols.
- 38 The input of this command is split in two arguments precisely to facilitate the type-checking of the sort terms τ_1, \ldots, τ_m . The first argument makes sure that when it is time to parse these terms each symbol δ_i is known to be a sort symbol of arity k_i .
- 39 The various restrictions on the definition of a datatype δ are crucial since they allow the existence of standard interpretations for δ . See Chapter 5 for more details.
- 40 The rationale for this restriction is the same as for function symbols introduced with declare-fun and define-fun, i.e., keep parsing and type checking simple.
- 41 Similar to define-fun, while strictly not needed, define-funs-rec provides a more structured way to define functions axiomatically, as opposed to introducing a new function with declare-fun and then providing its definition with assert and a quantified formula. This gives an SMT solver the opportunity to easily recognize function definitions and possibly process them specially.
- 42 The motivation is to enable interactive users to see easily (exactly) which assertions they have asserted, without having to keep track of that information themselves.
- 43 The motivation for having this command is that it corresponds to a common usage pattern with SMT solvers which can be implemented considerably more efficiently than the general stack-based mechanism needed to support push and pop commands. The restriction of assumptions to Boolean constants or negated constants only is also motivated by efficiency concerns since user-defined constants are associated with formulas that have already been internally simplified at definition time.

- 44 SMT solvers are incomplete for certain logics, typically those that include quantified formulas. However, even when they are unable to determine whether the set Γ of all assertions and assumptions is satisfiable or not, SMT solvers can typically compute a model for a set Γ' of formulas that is entailed by Γ in the logic. Interpretations in this model are often useful to client applications even if they are not guaranteed to come from a model of Γ .
- 45 Abstract values are useful for reporting model values in logics containing for example the theory of arrays (see Figure 3.4). For instance, a solver may specify the content of an array a of sort (Array Int Int) at positions 0–2 by returning the expression

```
(define-fun a () (store (store (store (as @array1 (Array Int Int)) 0 0) 1 2) 2 4)).
```

The elements of a with index outside the 0–2 range are left unspecified because the array @array1 itself is left unspecified.

- 46 Since it focuses only on preselected, Boolean terms, get-assignment can be implemented much more efficiently than the more general get-value.
- 47 The rationale for providing the interpretation of a function symbol as a define command is that (*i*) the syntax of such commands is general enough to be able to express a large class of functions symbolically in the language of the current logic (possibly augmented with abstract values), and (*ii*) in principle the user could use the provided definition as is in later interactions with the solver—as long as the original symbol's declaration is no longer in the current context as a consequence of a system restart, or a reset or a pop operation.
- 48 The current requirements on the returned definitions are rather weak. For instance, they allow a solver to return something like

```
(define-fun-rec f ((x_1 \ \sigma_1) \cdots (x_n \ \sigma_n)) \sigma (f x_1 \ \cdots \ x_n))
```

for a given f of rank $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n \sigma$. Similarly, for constant symbols c of a sort σ that admits abstract values, they allow a solver to return (define-fun c () @a) with @a abstract.

The reason for such weak requirements is that stronger ones are currently difficult to achieve in general because of limitations in the expressive power of some SMT-LIB theories/logics or in the computational abilities of present SMT solvers. For instance, the current theory of arrays (see Figure 3.4) does not have enough *constructor* symbols to allow one to represent an array uniquely as a value term. As shown in a previous note, one can use terms like

```
(store (store (store (as @array1 (Array Int Int)) 0 0) 1 2) 2 4))
```

which fixes only a portion of the array. This term has infinitely many interpretations that differ on the elements at indices outside the 0–2 range. Similarly, because of the progress in automated synthesis, it is conceivable that future solvers will be able to construct a model where a user-declared function symbol f denotes the factorial function over the non-negative integers. In that case, a definition like

```
(define-fun-rec f ((x Int)) Int (ite (= x 0) 1 (* x (f (- x 1)))))
```

would not have a unique interpretation because it does not uniquely determine the behavior of f over the negative integers. In contrast, the definition

```
(define-fun-rec f ((x Int)) Int (ite (\leq x 1) 1 (* x (f (- x 1)))))
```

say, would determine a unique function over the whole set of integers.

- 49 The lax requirement is justified by the fact that the minimization problem alone is NP-hard in general. On the other hand, it allows a solver to be compliant by just returning the same sequence given to (the most recent) check-sat-assuming.
- 50 There is, as yet, no standard SMT-LIB proof format.
- 51 Unsatisfiable cores are useful for applications because they circumscribe the source of unsatisfiability in the asserted set. The labeling mechanism allows users to track only selected asserted formulas when they already know that the rest of the asserted formulas are jointly satisfiable.

- 52 Interjecting echo commands in a script can help a software client know where the solver is in the execution of the script's commands.
- 53 This is particularly useful for scripts that are used as benchmarks, as set-info can be used to store such information as authors, date, expected response for a check command, difficulty level, and so on.
- 54 Note that the three possible values are strings and so need to be in quotes. The reasons for the values to be strings as opposed to symbols is historical.
- 55 Having an explicit unknown value is useful for comparative evaluation of solvers, for example in the SMT-COMP competition.
- 56 The reason for this unfortunate choice of names is historical. It is being kept only for backward compatibility with previous versions.
- 57 Because of this constraint, the return sort of a constructor uniquely determines the sort of its arguments. That removes the need to specify the sort of the pattern variables in a **match** expression.
- 58 It would have been reasonable to adopt an alternative version of the rule for well-sortedness of terms $(f^{\sigma}\ t_1\ \cdots\ t_k)\ \alpha^*$ with annotated function symbols f^{σ} , without the second conjunct of the rule's side condition. This would allow formation of terms with annotated function symbols f^{σ} , even when f lacked two ranks of the forms $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma$ and $\sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma'$, for distinct σ and σ' . The rationale for keeping this second conjunct is that with it, function symbols are annotated when used iff they are overloaded in this way. This means that it is clear from the use of the function symbol, whether or not the annotation is required. This in turn should help to improve human comprehension of scripts written using overloaded function symbols.
- 59 This is mostly a technical restriction, motivated by considerations of convenience. In fact, with a closed formula φ of signature Σ the signature's mapping of variables to sorts is irrelevant. The reason is that the formula itself contains its own sort declaration for its term variables, either explicitly, for the variables bound by a quantifier, or implicitly, for the variables bound by a **let** binder. Using only closed formulas then simplifies the task of specifying their signature, as it becomes unnecessary to specify how the signature maps the elements of $\mathcal X$ to the signature's sorts.
- 60 Distinct sorts can have non-disjoint domain in a structure. However, whether they do that or not is irrelevant in SMT-LIB logic. The reason is that the logic has no sort predicates, such as a subsort predicate, and does not allow one to equate terms of different sorts (the term $t_1 \approx t_2$ is ill-sorted unless t_1 and t_2 have the same sort). As a consequence, a formula is satisfiable in a structure where two given sorts have non-disjoint domain iff it is satisfiable in a structure where the two sorts do have disjoint domains.
- 61 This requirement is for concreteness. Again, since we work with closed formulas, which internally assign sorts to their variables, the sorting of variables in a signature is irrelevant.
- 62 Admittedly, this requirement on theory declarations is somewhat hand-wavy. Unfortunately, it is not possible to make it a lot more rigorous because a theory declaration can use natural language to define its class of instance theories. The point is again that the definition of the class should impose no constraints on the interpretation of free sort symbols and free function symbols.

Concrete Syntax

Predefined symbols

These symbols have a predefined meaning in Version 2.6. Note that they are not reserved words. For instance, they could also be used in principle as user-defined sort or function symbols in scripts.

Bool continued-execution error false immediate-exit incomplete logic memout sat success theory true unknown unsupported unsat

Predefined keywords

These keywords have a predefined meaning in Version 2.6.

```
:all-statistics :assertion-stack-levels :authors :category :chainable :definition :diagnostic-output-channel :error-behavior :extensions :funs :funs-description :global-declarations :interactive-mode :language :left-assoc :license :name :named :notes :pattern :print-success :produce-assignments :produce-models :produce-proofs :produce-unsat-assumptions :produce-unsat-cores :random-seed :reason-unknown :regular-output-channel :reproducible-resource-limit :right-assoc :smt-lib-version :sorts :sorts-description :source :status :theories :values :verbosity :version
```

Auxiliary Lexical Categories

Tokens

Reserved Words

```
General: ! _ as BINARY DECIMAL exists HEXADECIMAL forall let match NUMERAL par STRING
```

Command names: assert check-sat check-sat-assuming declare-const declare-datatype declare-datatypes declare-fun declare-sort define-fun define-fun-rec define-sort echo exit get-assertions get-assignment get-info get-model get-option get-proof get-unsat-assumptions get-unsat-core get-value pop push reset reset-assertions set-info set-logic set-option

Other tokens

```
(
)
                             0 | a non-empty sequence of digits not starting with 0
⟨numeral⟩
                       ::=
⟨decimal⟩
                       ::=
                              \langle numeral \rangle . 0^* \langle numeral \rangle
                             #x followed by a non-empty sequence of digits and letters
(hexadecimal)
                       ::=
                             from A to F, capitalized or not
⟨binary⟩
                             #b followed by a non-empty sequence of 0 and 1 characters
                       ::=
\langle string \rangle
                       ::=
                             sequence of whitespace and printable characters in double quotes
                             with escape sequence ""
⟨simple symbol⟩
                             a non-empty sequence of letters, digits and the characters
                       ::=
                              + - / * = \%? ! . $ _ ~ & ^ < > @ that does not start
                             with a digit
\langle symbol \rangle
                       ::=
                             ⟨simple symbol⟩
                             a sequence of whitespace and printable characters that
                             starts and ends with | and does not otherwise include | or \
⟨ keyword ⟩
                              : \( simple \ symbol \)
                       ::=
```

Members of the $\langle symbol \rangle$ category starting with the character @ or . are reserved for solver use. Solvers can use them respectively as identifiers for abstract values and solver generated function symbols other than abstract values.

S-expressions

Identifiers

```
\langle index \rangle ::= \langle numeral \rangle | \langle symbol \rangle
\langle identifier \rangle ::= \langle symbol \rangle | (_\langle symbol \rangle \langle index \rangle<sup>+</sup> )
```

Sorts

```
\langle sort \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle | (\langle identifier \rangle \langle sort \rangle^+)
```

Attributes

```
\langle attribute\_value \rangle \quad ::= \quad \langle spec\_constant \rangle \quad | \quad \langle symbol \rangle \quad | \quad (\langle s\_expr \rangle^*)\langle attribute \rangle \quad ::= \quad \langle keyword \rangle \quad | \quad \langle keyword \rangle \quad \langle attribute \quad value \rangle
```

Terms

```
⟨identifier⟩ | (as ⟨identifier⟩ ⟨sort⟩)
\(\)\(qual \)\(identifier\)
⟨var_binding⟩
                                          ( \langle symbol \rangle \term \rangle )
                                ::=
⟨sorted var⟩
                                ::=
                                          ( \langle symbol \rangle \langle sort \rangle )
                                          \langle symbol \rangle | (\langle symbol \rangle \langle symbol \rangle^+)
\langle pattern \rangle
                                ::=
                                          ( \langle pattern \rangle \langle term \rangle )
⟨match case⟩
                                ::=
                                          ⟨spec constant⟩
⟨term⟩
                                          \(\)\(qual \)\(identifier\)
                                          ( \langle qual\_identifier \rangle \langle term \rangle^+ )
                                          (let (\langle var\_binding \rangle^+) \langle term \rangle)
                                          (forall (\langle sorted \ var \rangle^+) \langle term \rangle)
                                          (exists (\langle sorted \ var \rangle^+) \langle term \rangle)
                                          ( match \langle term \rangle ( \langle match\_case \rangle^+ ) )
                                           (! \langle term \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^+)
```

Theories

```
( \langle identifier \rangle \langle numeral \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^* )
\(\sort_symbol_decl\)
⟨meta_spec_constant⟩
                                         ::=
                                                  NUMERAL | DECIMAL | STRING
                                                  ( \langle spec\ constant \rangle\ \langle sort \rangle\ \langle attribute \rangle^* )
⟨fun symbol decl⟩
                                         ::=
                                                  ( \langle meta\_spec\_constant \rangle \langle sort \rangle \langle attribute \rangle^* )
                                                  ( \langle identifier \rangle \langle sort \rangle^+ \langle attribute \rangle^* )
                                                  \( fun symbol decl \)
⟨par fun symbol decl⟩
                                         ::=
                                                  ( par ( \langle symbol \rangle^+ ) ( \langle identifier \rangle \langle sort \rangle^+ \langle attribute \rangle^* ) )
⟨theory attribute⟩
                                         ::=
                                                  :sorts ( \langle sort\_symbol\_decl \rangle^+ )
                                                  :funs (\langle par fun symbol decl \rangle^+)
                                                  :sorts-description \( \string \)
                                                  :funs-description \( \string \)
                                                  :definition \langle string \rangle
                                                  :values \( \string \)
                                                  :notes \( \string \)
                                                  ⟨attribute⟩
\langle theory\_decl \rangle
                                                  (theory \langle symbol \rangle \langle theory \ attribute \rangle^+)
                                         ::=
```

Logics

```
 \langle logic\_attribute \rangle &:= : theories ( \langle symbol \rangle^+ ) \\ | : language \langle string \rangle \\ | : extensions \langle string \rangle \\ | : values \langle string \rangle \\ | : notes \langle string \rangle \\ | \langle attribute \rangle   \langle logic \rangle &::= ( logic \langle symbol \rangle \langle logic\_attribute \rangle^+ )
```

Info flags

Command options

```
\langle b\_value \rangle
             ::=
                    true | false
⟨option⟩
                    :diagnostic-output-channel \( \string \)
                      :global-declarations \( b \ value \)
                      :interactive-mode \( b \ value \)
                      :print-success \( b \ value \)
                      :produce-assertions \langle b\_value \rangle
                      :produce-assignments \( b \ value \)
                      :produce-models \langle b \ value \rangle
                      :produce-proofs \langle b\_value \rangle
                      :produce-unsat-assumptions \langle b\_value \rangle
                      :produce-unsat-cores \( b \ value \)
                      :random-seed \( numeral \)
                      :regular-output-channel \( \string \)
                      :reproducible-resource-limit \( \lambda numeral \rangle \)
                      :verbosity \langle numeral \rangle
                      ⟨attribute⟩
```

Commands

```
⟨sort dec⟩
                           ::=
                                   (\langle symbol \rangle \langle numeral \rangle)
⟨selector dec⟩
                            ::=
                                   ( \langle symbol \rangle \langle sort \rangle )
                                   ( \langle symbol \rangle \langle selector \ dec \rangle^* )
⟨constructor dec⟩
                           ::=
⟨datatype dec⟩
                                   (\langle constructor \ dec \rangle^+) | (par (\langle symbol \rangle^+) (\langle constructor \ dec \rangle^+))
                           ::=
⟨function dec⟩
                                   (\langle symbol \rangle (\langle sorted var \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle)
                            ::=
                                   \langle symbol \rangle (\langle sorted var \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle \langle term \rangle
⟨function def⟩
                           ::=
⟨prop literal⟩
                                   ⟨symbol⟩ | (not ⟨symbol⟩)
                            ::=
⟨command⟩
                                   (assert \langle term \rangle)
                            ::=
                                   (check-sat)
                                   (check-sat-assuming (\langle prop | literal \rangle^*))
                                   (declare-const \(\langle symbol \rangle \( sort \rangle \))
                                   (declare-datatype \langle symbol \rangle \langle datatype | dec \rangle)
                                   (declare-datatypes (\langle sort \ dec \rangle^{n+1}) (\langle datatype \ dec \rangle^{n+1}))
                                   (declare-fun \langle symbol \rangle (\langle sort \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle)
                                   (declare-sort \( symbol \)\( \numeral \) )
                                   (define-fun \(\frac{function \ def}{\}\))
                                   (define-fun-rec ⟨function def⟩)
                                   ( define-funs-rec ( \langle function\_dec \rangle^{n+1} ) ( \langle term \rangle^{n+1} ) )
                                   (define-sort \langle symbol \rangle (\langle symbol \rangle^*) \langle sort \rangle)
                                   ( echo \( string \) )
                                   (exit)
                                   (get-assertions)
                                   (get-assignment)
                                   ( get-info (info_flag ) )
                                   (get-model)
                                   (get-option \( keyword \) )
                                   (get-proof)
                                   ( get-unsat-assumptions )
                                   (get-unsat-core)
                                   (get-value (\langle term \rangle^+))
                                    ( pop \( numeral \) )
                                   ( push \( numeral \) )
                                   (reset)
                                   ( reset-assertions )
                                   (set-info (attribute))
                                   (set-logic ⟨symbol⟩)
                                   (set-option \( option \) )
⟨script⟩
                                   ⟨command⟩*
                           ::=
```

Command responses

```
immediate-exit | continued-execution
⟨error-behavior⟩
                          ::=
⟨reason-unknown⟩
                          ::=
                                 memout | incomplete | \langle s | expr \rangle
                                 (define-fun \langle function \ def \rangle) | (define-fun-rec \langle function \ def \rangle)
⟨model response⟩
                          ::=
                                 (define-funs-rec (\langle function \ dec \rangle^{n+1}) (\langle term \rangle^{n+1}))
⟨info response⟩
                                 :assertion-stack-levels \( \lambda \ numeral \rangle \)
                          ::=
                                 :authors \( \string \)
                                 :error-behavior \( \text{error-behavior} \)
                                 :name \( \string \)
                                 :reason-unknown \( \textit{reason-unknown} \)
                                 :version \( \string \)
                                 ⟨attribute⟩
⟨valuation pair⟩
                          ::=
                                 ( \langle term \rangle \langle term \rangle )
⟨t valuation pair⟩
                                 (\langle symbol \rangle \langle b \ value \rangle)
                          ::=
⟨check sat response⟩
                                               sat unsat unknown
⟨echo response⟩
                                               ⟨string⟩
                                        ::=
⟨get assertions response⟩
                                                (\langle term \rangle^*)
                                        ::=
⟨get assignment response⟩
                                                (\langle t \ valuation \ pair \rangle^*)
                                         ::=
                                                ( \langle info response \rangle^+ )
⟨get info response⟩
                                        ::=
                                                (\langle model \ response \rangle^*)
⟨get model response⟩
                                        ::=
⟨get option response⟩
                                               (attribute value)
                                        ::=
⟨get proof response⟩
                                               \langle s | expr \rangle
                                        ::=
                                                (\langle symbol \rangle^*)
⟨get unsat assump response⟩
                                        ::=
                                                (\langle symbol \rangle^*)
⟨get unsat core response⟩
                                        ::=
⟨get value response⟩
                                                (\langle valuation pair \rangle^+)
                                         ::=
                                                ⟨check sat response⟩ | ⟨echo response⟩
\specific_success_response\
                                         ::=
                                                ⟨get assertions response⟩ | ⟨get assignment response⟩
                                                \(\langle get_info_response \rangle \) \(\langle get_model response \rangle \)
                                                ⟨get option response⟩ | ⟨get proof response⟩
                                                \langle get_unsat_assumptions_response \rangle
                                                ⟨get unsat core response⟩ | ⟨get value response⟩
                                               success | \langle specific success response \rangle
⟨general response⟩
                                        ::=
                                               unsupported | (error \( \string \) )
```

Abstract Syntax

Common Notation

$b \in \mathcal{B}$,	the set of boolean values	$r \in \mathcal{R}$,	the set of non-negative rational numbers
$n \in \mathcal{N}$,	the set of natural numbers	$w \in \mathcal{W}$,	the set of character strings
$s \in \mathcal{S}$,	the set of sort symbols	$u \in \mathcal{U}$,	the set of sort parameters
$f \in \mathcal{F}$,	the set of function symbols	$x \in \mathcal{X}$,	the set of variables
$a \in \mathcal{A}$,	the set of attribute names	$v \in \mathcal{V}$,	the set of attribute values
$T \in \mathcal{TN}$,	the set of theory names	$L \in \mathcal{L}$,	the set of logic names

Sorts

(Sorts)
$$\sigma \quad ::= \quad s \, \sigma^*$$
 (Parametric Sorts)
$$\tau \quad ::= \quad u \mid s \, \tau^*$$

Terms

(Attributes)
$$\alpha$$
 ::= $a \mid a = v$
(Patterns) p ::= $x \mid f x^*$
(Terms) t ::= $x \mid f t^* \mid f^{\sigma} t^*$
 $\mid \exists (x:\sigma)^+ t \mid \forall (x:\sigma)^+ t \mid \mathbf{let} (x = t)^+ \mathbf{in} t \mid \mathbf{match} t \mathbf{ with} (p \to t)^+$
 $\mid t \alpha^+$

Well-sorting rules for terms

$$\begin{array}{c} \displaystyle \frac{\displaystyle \sum \vdash x \ \alpha^* : \sigma }{\displaystyle \sum \vdash t_1 : \sigma_1 \quad \cdots \quad \sum \vdash t_k : \sigma_k } \\ \displaystyle \frac{\displaystyle \sum \vdash t_1 : \sigma_1 \quad \cdots \quad \sum \vdash t_k : \sigma_k }{\displaystyle \sum \vdash (f \ t_1 \cdots t_k) \ \alpha^* : \sigma } & \text{if } \begin{cases} \displaystyle f : \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma \in \Sigma, \\ \displaystyle f : \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma' \notin \Sigma \text{ for all } \sigma' \neq \sigma \end{cases} \\ \\ \displaystyle \frac{\displaystyle \sum \vdash t_1 : \sigma_1 \quad \cdots \quad \sum \vdash t_k : \sigma_k }{\displaystyle \sum \vdash (f^\sigma \ t_1 \cdots t_k) \ \alpha^* : \sigma} & \text{if } \begin{cases} \displaystyle f : \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma \in \Sigma, \\ \displaystyle f : \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma' \in \Sigma \end{cases} \\ \\ \displaystyle \frac{\displaystyle \sum [x_1 : \sigma_1, \dots, x_{k+1} : \sigma_{k+1}] \vdash t : \mathbf{Bool}}{\displaystyle \sum \vdash (Qx_1 : \sigma_1 \cdots x_{k+1} : \sigma_{k+1}) \ \alpha^* : \mathbf{Bool}} & \text{if } Q \in \{\exists, \forall\} \end{cases} \\ \\ \displaystyle \frac{\displaystyle \sum \vdash t_1 : \sigma_1 \quad \cdots \quad \sum \vdash t_{k+1} : \sigma_{k+1}}{\displaystyle \sum \vdash (\mathbf{let} \ x_1 = t_1 \cdots x_{k+1} : \sigma_{k+1}] \vdash t : \sigma} & \text{if } x_1, \dots, x_{k+1} \text{ are all distinct}} \\ \\ \displaystyle \frac{\displaystyle \sum \vdash t : \delta}{\displaystyle \sum \vdash (\mathbf{let} \ x_1 = t_1 \cdots x_{k+1} = t_{k+1} \ \mathbf{in} \ t) \ \alpha^* : \sigma} & \text{if } \begin{cases} \{c_1, \dots, c_{k+1}\} = \mathbf{con}_{\Sigma}(\delta), \\ \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, k + 1 \end{cases} \\ \\ \displaystyle \sum \vdash (\mathbf{match} \ t \ \mathbf{with} \ c_1 \ \vec{x}_1 \to t_1 \cdots c_{k+1} \ \vec{x}_{k+1} \to t_{k+1}) \ \alpha^* : \sigma \end{cases} & \text{if } \begin{cases} \{c_1, \dots, c_{k+1}\} = \mathbf{con}_{\Sigma}(\delta), \\ \{c_1, \dots, c_k\} \in \Sigma \text{ and } \\ \bar{x}_i \text{ contains no repetitions} \end{cases} \\ \\ \sum \vdash t : \delta \quad \sum [\bar{x}_i : \bar{\sigma}_i] \vdash t_i : \sigma \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k \\ \\ \sum [\bar{x}_i : \bar{\sigma}_i] \vdash t_i : \sigma \text{ for } i = k+1, \dots, n \end{cases} \\ \\ \sum \vdash (\mathbf{match} \ t \ \mathbf{with} \ p_1 \to t_1 \cdots p_n \to t_n) \ \alpha^* : \sigma \end{cases} & \text{if } \end{cases}$$

Theories

(Sort symbol declarations)
$$sdec ::= s n \alpha^*$$

(Fun. symbol declarations) $fdec ::= f \sigma^+ \alpha^*$

(Param. fun. symbol declarations) $pdec ::= fdec \mid \Pi u^+ (f \tau^+ \alpha^*)$

(Theory attributes) $tattr ::= sorts = sdec^+ \mid funs = pdec^+ \mid sorts-description = w \mid funs-description = w \mid definition = w \mid values = t^+ \mid notes = w \mid \alpha$

(Theory declarations) $tdec ::= theory T tattr^+$

Logics