

Z3 - Tutorial

July 2024

Timo Lobitz

Introduction



- Smartphone company OnePluZ3 is about to launch their new flagship phone
- 2 You are facing several issues that need to be solved ASAP

Problem 1 - What to produce?



- You can produce 3 different items
 - Phone cases, chargers, and smartphones
- Each take different amounts of resources to produce and generate a different amount of profit
- You have limited labor hours, machine hours and material available

Problem 1 - What to produce?



Resources available:

- 500 labor hours
- 800 machine hours
- 600 units of material

Name	Profit	Labor Hours	Machine Time	Raw Materials
Phone Case	10	3	3	4
Phone Charger	30	5	3	2
Smartphone	50	4	5	6

Problem 1 - Formalization



(2)(3)

(4)

(5)(6)

(7)

This can be expressed as a linear programming problem.

$$\max f(x) = 10 * A + 30 * B + 50 * C \tag{1}$$

with contraints

$$3*A + 5*B + 4*C \le 500$$

$$3*A + 3*B + 5*C \le 800$$

$$4*A + 2*B + 6*C \le 600$$

$$A >= 0$$

$$B>=0$$

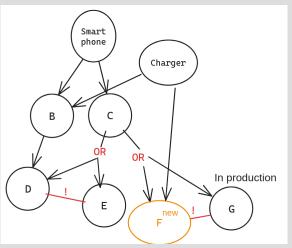
$$C >= 0 \tag{8}$$

Timo Lobitz | Z3 - Tutorial | July 2024



Problem 2 - Dependency Chaos

As part of the production line, you need to manage different parts and chips that are used in different devices.



Problem 2 - Formalization



- Each part is represented by a boolean variable
 - True if in production
 - False if not in production
- A depends on B : $A \implies B$
- A conflicts with B : $\neg A \lor \neg B$



The day 1 patch is currently in code review. You notice a strange function written by a coworker.

```
// Magic function
uint32_t f(int32_t v) {
   int32_t const mask = v >> 31;
   uint32_t r = (v + mask) ^ mask;
   return r;
}
```



- SMT solver
- open-source
- from Microsoft Research



Z3 - Usage



- 4 Step pattern:
 - 1 Create Solver
 - 2 Define variables
 - 3 Add constraints
 - 4 Check



- 4 Step pattern:
 - 1 Create Solver
 - 2 Define variables
 - 3 Add constraints
 - 4 Check

```
s = Solver()
x = Real("x")
s.add(3*x + 6 = 0)
if s.check() == sat:
        m = s.model()
        x = m. evaluate(x)
         print (f" \{x=\}") # x=-2
else:
         print(s.check())
```



```
# Real numbers
# Bool
                       x = Real('x')
x = Bool('a')
                       y,z = Reals("y-z")
a = BoolVal(True)
                       a = RealVal(3.141)
b = BoolVal(False)
                       b = Q(1.3) \# 1/3
# Integers
                       # Bit-vector
x = Int('x')
                       x = BitVec('x', 16) # 16 Bits
v = Int('v')
                       y = BitVec('y', 32) # 32 Bits
a = IntVal(5)
                       a = BitVecVal(16, 32) # 32 Bits
```



Arrays in Z3 map from one datatype to another. They support Store and Select operations.

```
# A is an array mapping from integer to integer A = Array("A", IntSort(), IntSort())
```



Custom Datatypes - Enum



Custom Datatypes - List

```
def DeclareList(sort):
 List = Datatype('List_of_%s' % sort.name())
 List.declare('cons', ('head', sort), ('tail', List))
 List.declare('nil')
 return List.create()
IntList = DeclareList(IntSort())
RealList = DeclareList(RealSort())
IntListList = DeclareList(IntList)
```

I1 = IntList.cons(10, IntList.nil)

12 = RealList.cons("1/3", RealList.nil)

Conclusion



- Z3 is versatile and can be applied to a lot of problems, such as
 - Software Verification / Static analysis
 - Optimization problems
 - Mathematical proofs
 - **...**
- Z3 uses formal methods like first-order logic and SMT to guarantee the correctness and consistency of solutions.

References



- Programming Guide by Microsoft https://z3prover.github.io/papers/programmingz3.html
- Python tutorial by Microsoft https://microsoft.github.io/z3guide/programming/Z3%20Python%20-%20Readonly/Introduction
- Z3 Github https://github.com/Z3Prover/z3
- SAT-SMT by example https://smt.st/SAT_SMT_by_example.pdf
- Z3 API https://z3prover.github.io/api/html/namespacez3py.html