

CS 228 : Logic in Computer Science

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Normal Forms : CNF Validity

Let $\varphi = C_1 \wedge C_2 \wedge \dots \wedge C_n$ be in CNF.

- ▶ Checking if φ is satisfiable is NP-complete.
- ▶ Checking if φ is valid is polynomial time. Why?
- ▶ Question raised in class : If validity check is polynomial time, so should be satisfiability. Is this true?
- ▶ If φ is valid, it is indeed satisfiable
- ▶ If φ is not valid, then...?

Normal Forms : DNF Satisfiability

Let $\varphi = D_1 \vee D_2 \vee \dots \vee D_n$ be in DNF.

- ▶ Checking if φ is valid is NP-complete. Why?
- ▶ Checking if φ is satisfiable is polynomial time. Why?

Normal Forms from Truth Tables

Assume you are given the truth table of a formula φ . Then it is very easy to obtain the equivalent CNF/DNF of φ .

- ▶ Consider for example $\varphi = p \leftrightarrow q$.
- ▶ Truth table of φ : φ is false when $p = T, q = F$ and $p = F, q = T$.
- ▶ CNF equivalent is $(\neg p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee \neg q)$.

CNF to DNF Sizes

- ▶ $\varphi = (p_1 \vee q_1) \wedge (p_2 \vee q_2) \wedge \dots (p_n \vee q_n)$
- ▶ What is the equivalent DNF formula?

▶

$$\varphi' = \bigvee_{S \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} \left(\bigwedge_{i \in S} p_i \wedge \bigwedge_{i \notin S} q_i \right)$$

- ▶ Prove that any equivalent DNF formula has 2^n clauses
- ▶ Call an assignment *minimal* if it maps exactly one of p_i, q_i to 1
- ▶ There are 2^n *minimal* assignments, satisfying clauses in φ'
- ▶ Show that no two *minimal* assignments satisfy the same clause of φ' (hence there must be 2^n clauses in φ')

CNF to DNF Sizes

- ▶ Let α and β be two minimal assignments such that $\alpha(p_i) \neq \beta(p_i)$ for $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$
- ▶ Define a new assignment $\min(\alpha, \beta)$ as a pointwise min of α, β
- ▶ $\min(\alpha, \beta)(p) = \min(\alpha(p), \beta(p))$ for each variable p with the assumption that $0 < 1$, 0 represents false and 1 represents true
- ▶ $\min(\alpha, \beta) \not\models p_i \vee q_i$, $\min(\alpha, \beta) \not\models \varphi'$
- ▶ However, if $\alpha \models D_j$ and $\beta \models D_j$ for some clause D_j of φ' , then $\min(\alpha, \beta) \models D_j$ and hence $\min(\alpha, \beta) \models \varphi'$, a contradiction.

Think of an example where DNF to CNF explodes.