Logics for Computation

Lecture #3: How many Angels can Dance on the Head of a Pin?

Carlos Areces and Patrick Blackburn {carlos.areces,patrick.blackburn}@loria.fr

INRIA Nancy Grand Est Nancy, France

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Any ideas?

- One way to do it:
 - 1) What can we encode in the language?
 - 2) How much does it cost?

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How Many Angels can Dance on the Head of a Pin? Or, how much can you encode in a 1-point structure?

- ▶ We will see that we can code quite complex problems in PL.
- ▶ In particular, we will show that we can code the Graph Coloring problem.
- ► Then, we will introduce an efficient algorithm for deciding satisfiability of PL-SAT: the Davis Putnam algorithm.

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 - hardware verification
 - planning (e.g., graphplan).
- Note that these problems have real world applications!

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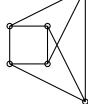
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Graph Coloring: The Nitty-Gritty Details

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- 3. Neighboring nodes have different colors. $\neg p_{il} \lor \neg p_{jl}$, for i and j neighboring nodes, and $1 \le l \le k$

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- What have we done?!!!
 - Perhaps you know that graph coloring is a difficult algorithmic problem.
 - It is actually what is called an NP-complete problem (i.e., one of the hardest problems in the class of non-deterministiec polynomial problems).
 - Assuming that, we just proved that PL-SAT is also NP-complete.

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 - ▶ They always answer SATISFIABLE or UNSATISFIABLE after a finite time, for any input formula φ .
 - ▶ They always answer correctly.
- The best known complete methods probably are
 - truth tables
 - ▶ tableaux
 - axiomatics, Gentzen calculi, natural deduction, resolution
 - Davis-Putnam

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The Diplomatic Problem:

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procedure DP(\Sigma) if \Sigma={} then return SAT // (SAT)
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```
procedure DP(\Sigma) if \Sigma = \{\} then return SAT // (SAT) if \{\} \in \Sigma then return UNSAT // (UNSAT) if \Sigma has unit clause \{1\} then DP(\Sigma[\{1=true\}]) // (Unit Pr.) Choose literal 1 and if DP(\Sigma[\{1=true\}]) return SAT then return SAT else return DP(\Sigma[\{1=false\}]) // (Split)
```

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- ► Sadly real world applications easily go into the thousands of variables (remember coloring: #nodes × #colors).
- ▶ But this is worst time complexity. You might get lucky...

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 - they are stochastic methods
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 - and try to maximize the probability that the valuation actually satisfies the input formula.
- ▶ Examples of these methods are GSAT and WalkSAT.
- ► For example, a *k*-coloring algorithm based on GSAT was able to beat specialized coloring algorithms.

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- ► Still, no matter how nicely we paint them, 1-point relational structures are booooooooring.

Cook's Theorem: the satisfiability problem for propositional logic is NP-complete.

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The Davis Putnam Algorithm

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