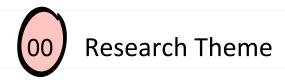




# **Axiom Pinpointing**

Justifying consequences in Automated Reasoning

M. Fareed Arif



#### Research Theme

My research interest lies in applying **formal verification** to ensure the **safety** and **security** of Computational Systems

#### Research Theme

[Postdoctoral Researcher]

**VERDICT:** Cyber Resilience Verifier



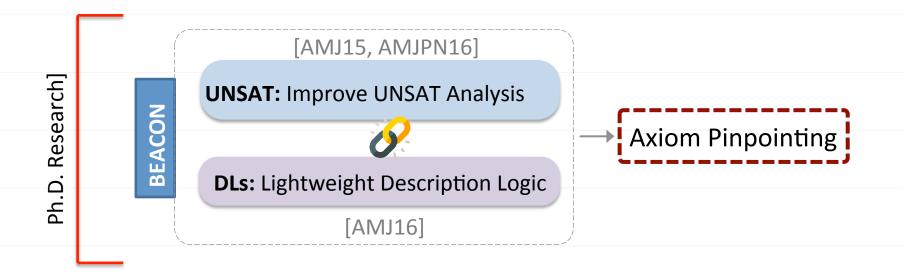
**PHOENIX**: PLTL Synthesizer

[USENIX security20, FMCAD20]

**HDR:** Hardware Model Checker

[HDR Competition 2020]

#### Research Theme

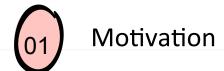




# **Axiom Pinpointing**

Justifying consequences using Automated Reasoning

# Agenda of the Talk





03 Proposed Solutions



Intelligent applications need to represent and handle knowledge effectively

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A Knowledge Representation Language, say  $\mathcal{K}$ , provides formal semantics and reasoning methods for driving an implicit consequence, called axiom  $\alpha$  from explicitly represented elements.

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$$\mathcal{K} \models \widehat{\alpha}$$

Understand the error and repair to rectify the error

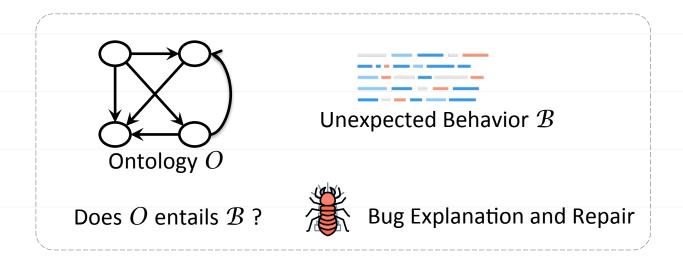
# **Debugging Ontologies**

SNOMED-CT is a medical ontology used by U.S Federal Government systems For the electronic exchange of clinical health information





Amputation of finger is an Amputation of a Hand [BP08]

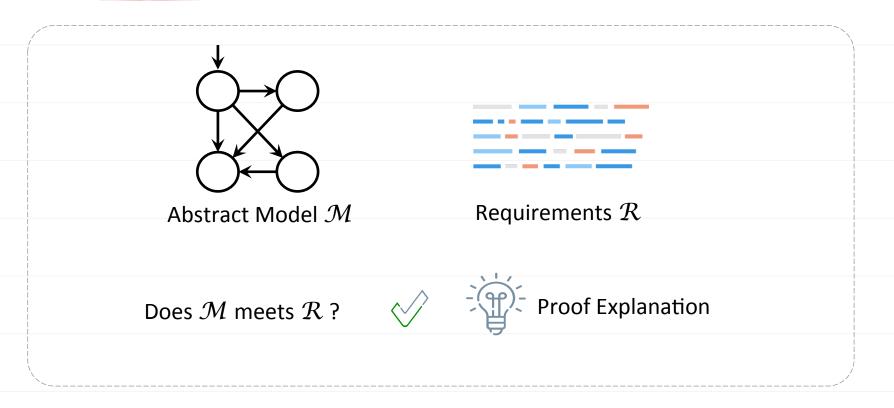


A Knowledge Representation Language, say  $\mathcal{K}$ , provides formal semantics and reasoning methods for driving an implicit consequence, called axiom  $\alpha$  from explicitly represented elements.

$$\mathcal{K} \models \widehat{\alpha}$$

If Consequence is a property of an interest then explaining it enhances both the correctness and acceptance of an intelligent computational system

# Symbolic Model Checking



Proof explanation in Symbolic Model Checking [GWG17]

Pinpointing lines in the source code responsible for an error [JM11]

# **Axiom Pinpointing:**

Identifying the axioms in a  ${\mathcal K}$  that are responsible for a given consequence  $\alpha$ 

Identified axioms are called justification

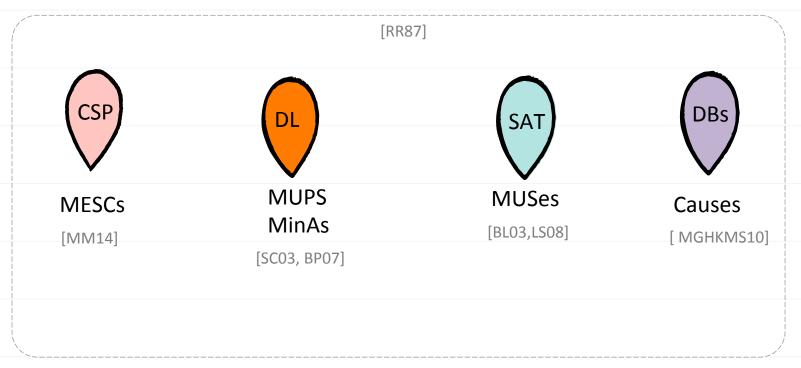
A single consequence can have multiple justifications

Finding not only one but all justification-based explanations

#### **Problem Relevance**

Axiom pinpointing is a well-studied problem across several domains

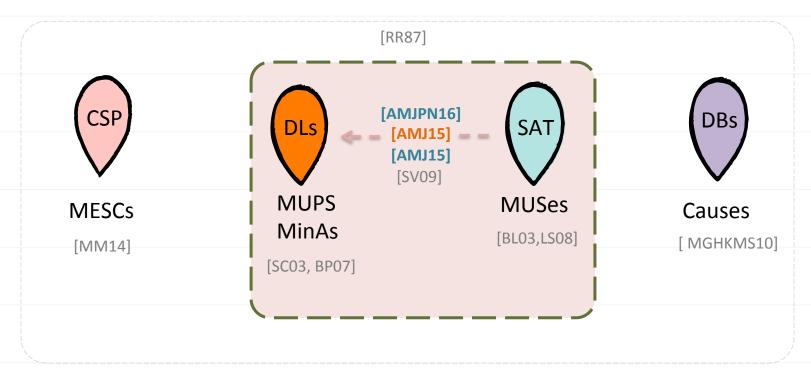
Different research communities know **justification** by different names



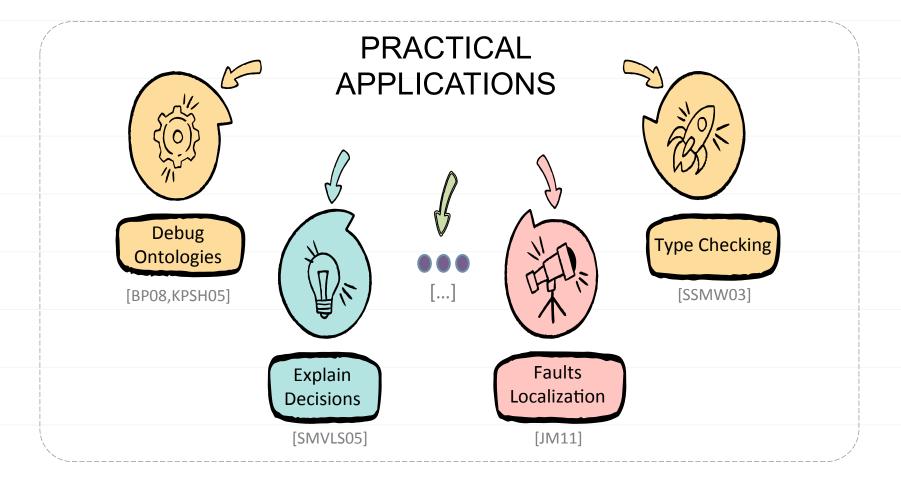
#### **Problem Relevance**

Axiom pinpointing is a well-studied problem across several domains

Different research communities know **justification** by different names



**Axiom pinpointing** is well-studied problem across several domains and has many interesting applications





# A Simple Ontology Language

A simple Ontology Language  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{O})$  that contains four components

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{O}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{A}} \text{ a class of well-formed axioms}$$
 
$$\mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \text{a class of consequences}$$
 
$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{O}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}} \subseteq \mathscr{P}(\mathcal{A}) \longrightarrow \text{a valid-set of ontologies}$$
 
$$\models \subseteq \mathscr{O} \times \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \text{entailment relation}$$

We only consider a monotonic relation:

$$\mathcal{O},\mathcal{O}'\in\mathscr{O}$$
 and  $c\in\mathcal{C}$  if  $\mathcal{O}\models c$  and  $\mathcal{O}\subseteq\mathcal{O}'$  , then  $\mathcal{O}'\models c$ 

# A Simple Ontology Language:

Given an ontology  $\, \mathcal{O} \in \mathscr{O} \,$  and a consequence  $\, c \in \mathcal{O} \,$ 

#### **Entailment:**

Decide 
$$\mathcal{O} \models c$$
 holds?

Justification:  $\mathcal{O} \models c$ 

A minimal subset Ontology  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{O}$  that meets two conditions:

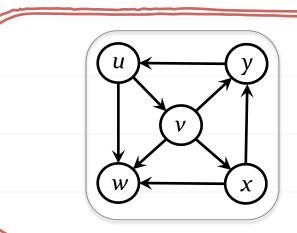
- 1.  $\mathcal{M} \models c$
- 2. For every  $\mathcal{M}' \subsetneq \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M} \not\models c$

 $\mathcal{V} \longrightarrow \text{a countable set of vertices}$ 

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{C} = \{(v, w) | v, w \in \mathcal{V}\} \longrightarrow \text{edges}$$

$$\mathscr{O}\subseteq\mathscr{P}(\mathcal{A})$$
  $\longrightarrow$  a finite set of graphs

⊨ → any two reachable vertices in a graph



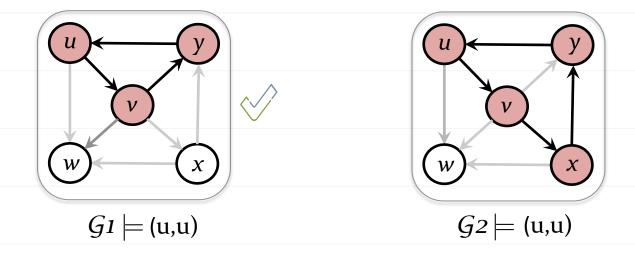
 $\mathcal{G} \in \mathscr{O}$  is a finite graph, such that

$$\mathcal{G} \models (u, x)$$
 but  $\mathcal{G} \not\models (w, u)$ 

# **Axiom Pinpointing:**

A justification is a minimal sub-ontology that still entails the consequence

Find one or more justification in ontology  $\mathcal{G}$  for a consequence: u is reachable from u.



#### Over-constrained Formulas in SAT:

#### Minimal Unsatisfiable Subset [MUS]:

 $\mathcal{M}\subseteq\mathcal{F}$  is minimally unsatisfiable subformula of  $\mathcal{F}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M}$  is unsatisfiable and  $\forall_{\mathcal{M}'\subsetneq\mathcal{M}}\mathcal{M}'$  is satisfiable

#### Minimal Correction Subset [MCS]:

 $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  is minimally correction subformula of  $\mathcal{F}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{F} \setminus \mathcal{C}$  is satisfiable and  $\forall_{\mathcal{C}' \subsetneq \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{F} \setminus \mathcal{C}'$  is unsatisfiable



#### Black-box Method:

Compute one justification by removing an axiom at a time

```
Data: Ontology \mathcal{O}, consequence c

Result: A justification \mathcal{M} for c w.r.t. \mathcal{O}

1 \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}

2 for \alpha \in \mathcal{O} do

3 \mid \text{ if } \mathcal{M} \setminus \{\alpha\} \models c \text{ then}

4 \mid \mathcal{M} \leftarrow \mathcal{M} \setminus \{\alpha\}

5 Return \mathcal{M}
```

There is a relation between the order of axioms selected for removal and the computed justification

#### **Enumeration over Justifications**

Increase our understanding about the derivation by finding more than one or all justifications

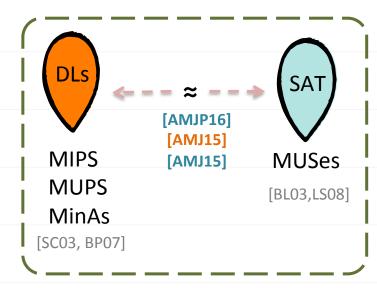
To find all Justifications, one can simply enumerate all sub-ontologies

Problem: Exponential many entailment checks, one for each subset of  ${\mathcal O}$ 

The question is: can we do better?

#### Contribution

[RR87] Minimal Conflict Set Diagnosis (Repair) (Justification) Hitting set Duality [AMJ15] MUSes are justifications and MCSes is a repairs



# Optimizations:

[AMJ15]

If a set  $\mathcal{O}'\subseteq\mathcal{O}$  is such that  $\mathcal{O}'\models c$ , then ignore all strict superset of  $\mathcal{O}'$  because minimality condition fails for superset

If  $\mathcal{O}' \not\models c$  then ignore subset of  $\mathcal{O}'$  because subsets fail to entail c

#### Glass-box Method:

Modified Tableau-based reasoning method for standard reasoning can track the relevant traces but are inefficient

Tableau-based pinpointing approaches does not behave well in practice

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Modified Tableau-based reasoning method for standard reasoning can track the relevant traces but are inefficient

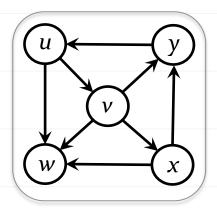
Tableau-based pinpointing approaches does not behave well in practice

A propositional formula encodes the execution of a consequence-based algorithm

# Consequence-based Axiom Pinpointing:

[SV09]

A Horn clause simulates each rule possible application and a propositional variable represents a conclusion

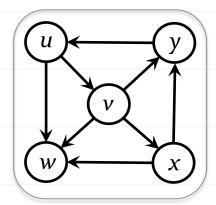


$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{G}} = x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \wedge x_{(x,w)} \wedge x_{(y,u)} \\ x_{(u,w)} \wedge x_{(v,w)} \wedge x_{(x,y)} \wedge x_{(v,x)}$$

# Consequence-based Axiom Pinpointing:

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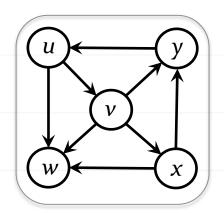
Constraints encode the edges of the example graph

A consequence-based algorithm contains only one rule:

$$\{(X,Y),(Y,Z)\}\Rightarrow\{(X,Z)\}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{array}{c} x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \to x_{(u,y)} \\ x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,w)} \to x_{(u,w)} \end{array}$$

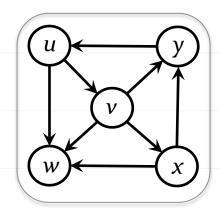
$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{array}{c} x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,x)} \to x_{(u,x)} \\ x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \to x_{(u,y)} \\ x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \to x_{(u,y)} \\ x_{(u,x)} \wedge x_{(x,w)} \to x_{(u,w)} \\ x_{(u,x)} \wedge x_{(x,y)} \to x_{(u,y)} \\ x_{(u,y)} \wedge x_{(y,u)} \to x_{(u,u)} \end{array}$$

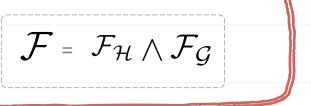


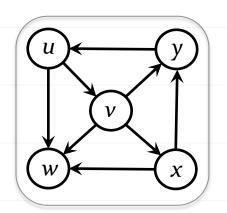
A consequence-based algorithm contains only one rule:

$$\{(X,Y),(Y,Z)\} \Rightarrow \{(X,Z)\}$$

Constraints encode all the reachable paths in the example graph







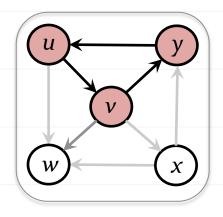
$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}} = x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \rightarrow x_{(u,y)} \wedge x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,w)} \rightarrow x_{(u,w)} \wedge x_{(u,x)} \wedge x_{(x,w)} \rightarrow x_{(u,w)}$$

$$x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,x)} \rightarrow x_{(u,x)} \wedge x_{(u,x)} \wedge x_{(x,y)} \rightarrow x_{(u,y)}$$

$$x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \rightarrow x_{(u,y)} \wedge x_{(u,y)} \wedge x_{(y,u)} \rightarrow x_{(u,u)}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{G}} = \frac{x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \wedge x_{(x,w)} \wedge x_{(y,u)}}{x_{(u,w)} \wedge x_{(v,w)} \wedge x_{(x,y)} \wedge x_{(v,x)}}$$

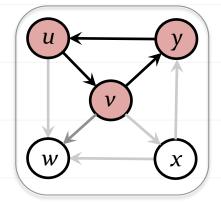
$$\mathcal{F}$$
 =  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}} \wedge \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{G}}$ 



$$\mathcal{G} \models (u, u) \leftarrow \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \models x_{(u, u)}$$

[AMJ15]

$$\mathcal{G} \models (u, u)$$



$$\mathcal{F} \models x_{(u,u)}$$

$$\mathcal{F}$$
 =  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}} \wedge \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{G}}$ 

$$x_{(u,v)} \wedge x_{(v,y)} \to x_{(u,y)}$$

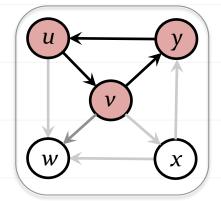
$$x_{(u,y)} \wedge x_{(y,u)} \to x_{(u,u)}$$

$$x_{(u,v)} \quad x_{(v,y)} \quad x_{(y,u)}$$

$$\mathcal{F} \cup \{\neg x_{(u,u)}\}$$

[AMJ15]

$$\mathcal{G} \models (u, u)$$



$$\mathcal{F} \models x_{(u,u)}$$

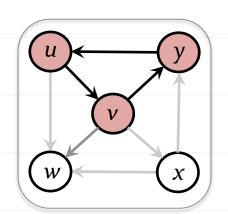
$$\mathcal{F}$$
 =  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}} \wedge \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{G}}$ 

$$\frac{x_{(u,v)} \land x_{(v,y)} \to x_{(u,y)}}{x_{(u,y)} \land x_{(y,u)} \to x_{(u,u)}}$$

$$x_{(u,v)}$$
  $x_{(v,y)}$   $x_{(y,u)}$ 

$$\mathcal{F}$$
 =  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}}$   $\wedge$   $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{G}}$   $\wedge \neg x_{(u,u)}$ 

$$\mathcal{G}_0=\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}}$$



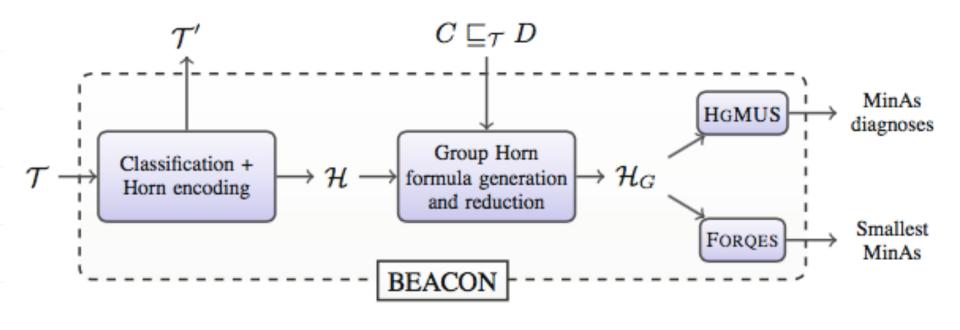
$$\mathcal{G}_{1} = \{x_{(u,v)}\} \quad \mathcal{G}_{2} \models \{x_{(x,w)}\} \quad \mathcal{G}_{5} \models \{x_{(u,w)}\} \\
\mathcal{G}_{2} \models \{x_{(v,y)}\} \quad \mathcal{G}_{4} \models \{x_{(y,u)}\} \quad \mathcal{G}_{6} \models \{x_{(v,w)}\} \\
\mathcal{G}_{7} \models \{x_{(x,y)}\} \quad \mathcal{G}_{8} \models \{x_{(v,x)}\}$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{G}_0 \cup \mathcal{G}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathcal{G}_8 \{ \neg x_{(u,u)} \}$$

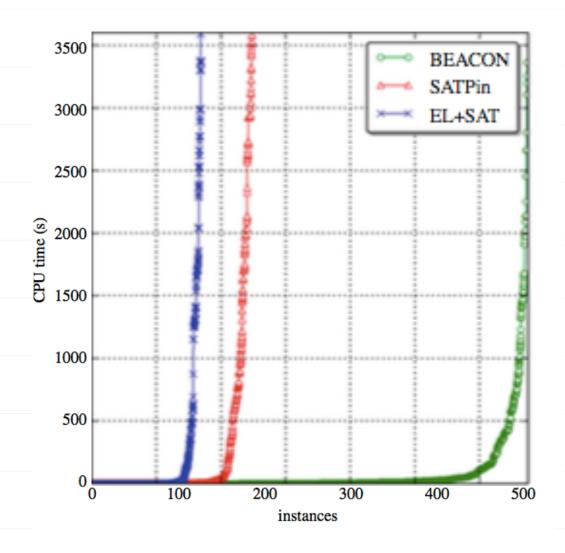
$$\mathcal{M} = \{\mathcal{G}_1, \mathcal{G}_2, \mathcal{G}_4\}$$
 Hitting set Duality

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_1 &= \{\mathcal{G}_1\} \ \mathcal{S}_2 &= \{\mathcal{G}_2\} \ \mathcal{S}_3 &= \{\mathcal{G}_4\} \end{aligned}$$

[AMJ15]



#### Performance:



#### **Medical Ontologies**

- SNOMED-CT
- ☐ GENE
- ☐ GALEN
- □ NCI

39



#### List of applications

1. Debugging Medical Ontologies [FS08] 2. Requirement analysis [JB17] 3. Equivalence checking [OGNLV10] 4. Counter-example Guided Abstraction Refinement[CGJLV00] 5. Proof-based abstraction refinement [MA03] 6. Boolean function bi-decomposition [CM11] 7. Circuit error Diagnosis [HL99] 8.1 Type Debugging in Haskell [SSW03] 9. Proof explanation in Symbolic model checking[GWG17] **Domain of Constraints:** 1. Axioms of an Ontology 2. Boolean Formulas 3. Temporal logic formula 4. Transition state Predicates

Domain agnostic MUS enumeration Tool



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