# Exploitation des symétries dynamiques pour la résolution des problèmes SAT

Thèse de doctorat de Sorbonne Université

#### Hakan METIN

#### Jury Members:

PASCAL FONTAINE
LAURE PETRUCCI
JEAN-MICHEL COUVREUR
EMANUELLE ENCRENAZ
SOUHEIB BAARIR
FABRICE KORDON

Directors:

SOUHEIB BAARIR FABRICE KORDON Maître de conférences, Université de Liège Professeur, Université Paris 13 Professeur, Université d'Orléans Maître de conférences, Sorbonne Université Maître de conférences, Université Paris Nanterre Professeur, Sorbonne Université

Maître de conférences, Université Paris Nanterre Professeur, Sorbonne Université





#### Motivation

#### SAT is widely used in different domains:

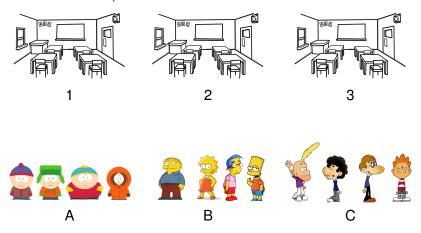
- Artificial intelligence (planning, games, ...)
- Bioinformatics (haplotype inference, ...)
- Security (cryptanalysis, inversion attack on hash function)
- Computationally hard problems (graph coloring, ...)
- Formal Methods (hardware model checking, ...)

#### Outline

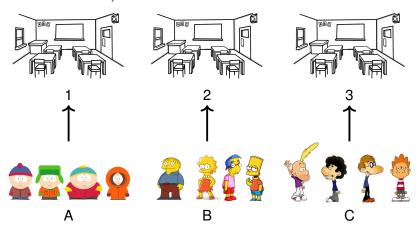
- SAT overviewSAT basicsSAT and symmetries
- 2 Existing approaches

3 Contribution and results

# SAT an example



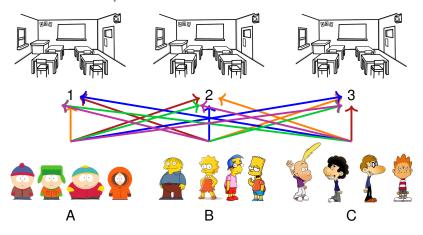
# SAT an example



Is it possible to attribute each group to a classroom?

YES!

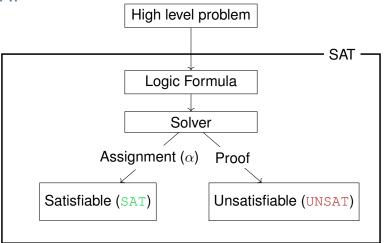
## SAT an example



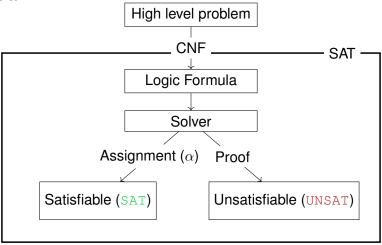
Is it possible to attribute each group to a classroom?

YES! Many solutions

#### SAT



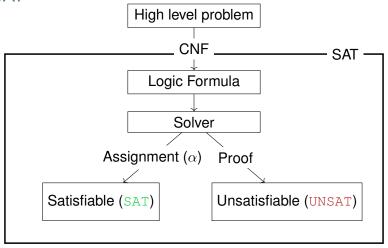




#### **CNF** Representation:

$$\underbrace{\left(X_1 \lor X_2 \lor \neg X_3\right)}_{\text{Clause with literals } X_1, X_2, \neg X_3}$$

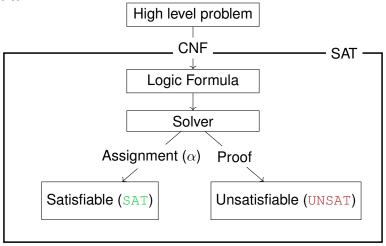
#### SAT



#### **CNF** Representation:

Formula (CNF) 
$$\underbrace{\left(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_3\right)}_{\textit{Clause}} \land \left(\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_2\right) \land \left(x_2 \lor \neg x_4\right)$$





#### **CNF** Representation:

$$(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_3) \to \{x_1, x_2, \neg x_3\}$$

5/29

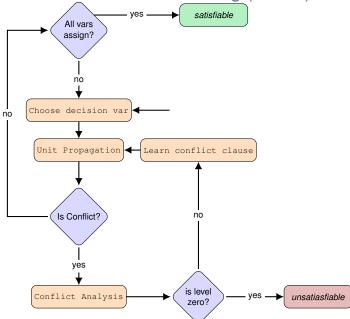
## **SAT Solving**

Solving SAT formula is known to be **NP-complete** [Coo71]

#### Enumerative Algorithm:

- Davis, Putnam, Logemann, and Loveland (DPLL) [DLL62]
  - Boolean Constraint Propagation (BCP)
- Conflict Driven Clause Learning (CDCL) [MSS99]
  - derived from DPLL
  - clause learning

## Conflict Driven Clause Learning (CDCL)

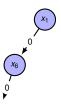




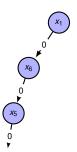
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$



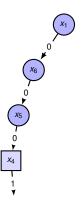
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$



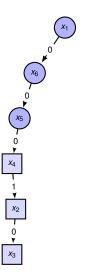
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$



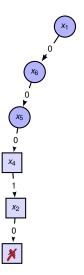
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$



$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$



$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$

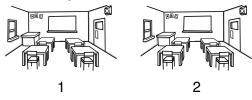


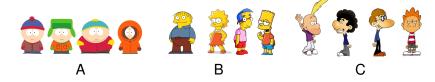
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$

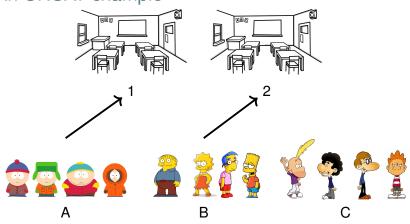


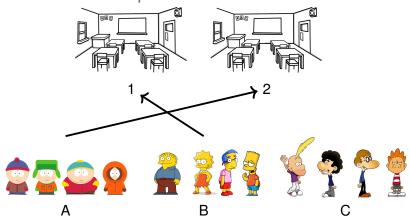
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\} 
\omega_{2} = \{x_{4}, x_{5}, x_{6}\} 
\omega_{3} = \{\neg x_{1}, \neg x_{5}\} 
\omega_{4} = \{\neg x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{5} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{4}\} 
\omega_{6} = \{\neg x_{3}, \neg x_{6}\}$$

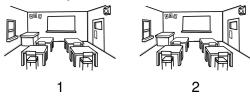
$$\omega_7 = \{x_1, \neg x_4\}$$

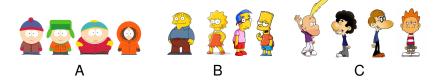






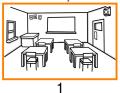


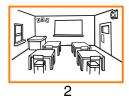


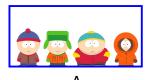


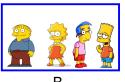
Is it possible to attribute each group to a classroom?

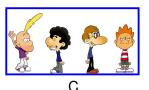
No!











Is it possible to attribute each group to a classroom?

No!

Presence of symmetries hinders the performance of the solver

#### Outline

SAT overview
 SAT basics

SAT basics SAT and symmetries

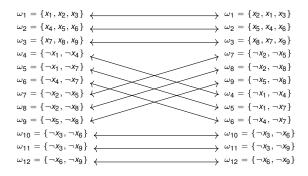
2 Existing approaches

Static symmetry breaking Dynamic symmetry breaking

3 Contribution and results

## Symmetry

$$g = \left( \begin{array}{cccccc} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & x_6 & x_7 & x_8 & x_9 \\ x_2 & x_1 & x_3 & x_5 & x_4 & x_6 & x_8 & x_7 & x_9 \end{array} \right) \ \rightarrow \ (x_1 \ x_2)(x_4 \ x_5)(x_7 \ x_8)$$



A symmetry (permuation) g is a bijective function (on variables) that leaves  $\varphi$  invariant.

# Computing symmetries of a SAT problem $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9)$

CNF formula

 $\begin{array}{c|c} (x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3^{\circ}) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_6) \\ \land (\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_4) \land (\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_7) \land (\neg x_4 \lor \neg x_7) \\ \land (\neg x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land (\neg x_2 \lor \neg x_8) \land (\neg x_5 \lor \neg x_8) \\ \land (\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_6) \land (\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_9) \land (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_9) \end{array}$ 

<sup>1</sup>http://www.tcs.hut.fi/Software/bliss/

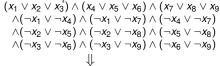
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://vlsicad.eecs.umich.edu/BK/SAUCY/

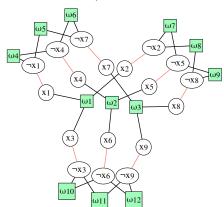
# Computing symmetries of a SAT problem $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9)$

CNF formula



colored graph





# Computing symmetries of a SAT problem $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9)$

CNF formula  $\wedge(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_4) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_7) \wedge (\neg x_4 \vee \neg x_7)$  $\wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_8) \wedge (\neg x_5 \vee \neg x_8)$  $\wedge(\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_6) \wedge (\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_9) \wedge (\neg x_6 \vee \neg x_9)$ colored graph (bliss 1 or saucy 2) graph automorphism

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>http://www.tcs.hut.fi/Software/bliss/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://vlsicad.eecs.umich.edu/BK/SAUCY/

# Computing symmetries of a SAT problem

CNF formula

 $\Downarrow$ 

colored graph

graph automorphism ↓

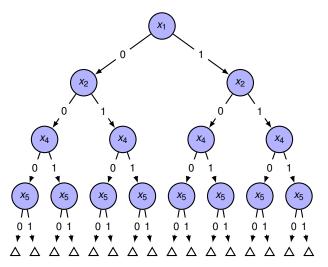
set of symmetries

 $<sup>(</sup>x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9)$  $\wedge(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_4) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_7) \wedge (\neg x_4 \vee \neg x_7)$  $\wedge(\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_8) \wedge (\neg x_5 \vee \neg x_8)$  $\wedge(\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_6) \wedge (\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_9) \wedge (\neg x_6 \vee \neg x_9)$ (bliss 1 or saucy 2)  $g_1 = (x_2 \ x_3)(x_5 \ x_6)(x_8 \ x_9)$  $g_2 = (x_4 \ x_7)(x_5 \ x_8)(x_6 \ x_9)$  $g_3 = (x_1 \ x_2)(x_4 \ x_5)(x_7 \ x_8)$  $q_4 = (x_1 \ x_4)(x_2 \ x_5)(x_3 \ x_6)$ 

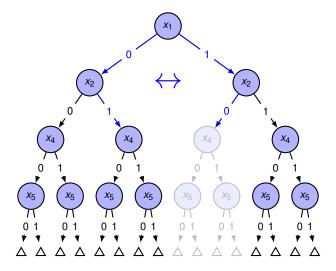
<sup>1</sup>http://www.tcs.hut.fi/Software/bliss/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://vlsicad.eecs.umich.edu/BK/SAUCY/

# Using symmetries to prune search space



# Using symmetries to prune search space



Adds additional constraints to prune search space.

# Generates symmetry breaking predicates (SBP)

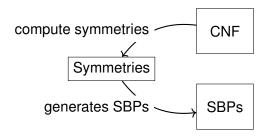
- Define lexicographic order
  - Define total order on variables
  - Define minimal value
- Forbid non minimal assignment with addition of SBP

#### Example:

$$x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8;$$
false  $<$ true  $g = (x_1 \ x_2)(x_4 \ x_5)(x_7 \ x_8)$ 

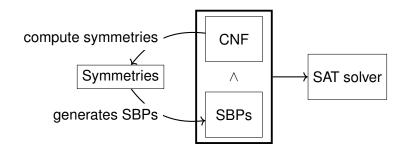
$x_1 \leq x_2$	$x_1 \vee \neg x_2$
$x_1=x_2\to x_4\le x_5$	$x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_4 \lor \neg x_5$
	$\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_2 \lor x_4 \lor \neg x_5$
$x_1 = x_2 \wedge x_4 = x_5 \rightarrow x_8 \leq x_3$	$X_1 \vee X_2 \vee X_4 \vee X_5 \vee X_7 \vee \neg X_8$
	$\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_7 \vee \neg x_8$
	• • •

## Static symmetry breaking



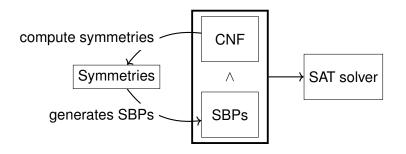
- Works well on many symmetric instances
- The solver can "explode" instead of being helped

# Static symmetry breaking



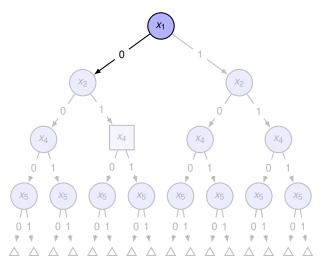
- Works well on many symmetric instances
- The solver can "explode" instead of being helped

### Static symmetry breaking

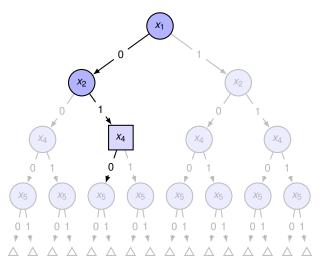


- Works well on many symmetric instances
- The solver can "explode" instead of being helped

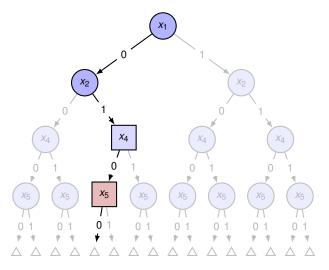
## Using symmetries to accelerate tree traversal



## Using symmetries to accelerate tree traversal

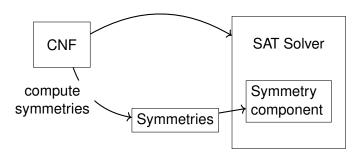


### Using symmetries to accelerate tree traversal



Use symmetries to deduce symmetrical facts.

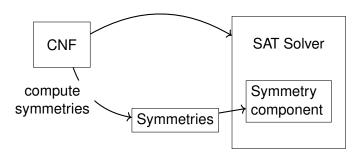
## Dynamic Symmetry Breaking



### Different approaches:

- Symmetry Propagation (SP) [DBdC+12]
- Symmetry Learning Scheme (SLS) [BNOS10]
- Symmetry Explanation Leaning (SEL) [DBB17]

## Dynamic Symmetry Breaking



### Different approaches:

- Symmetry Propagation (SP) [DBdC<sup>+</sup>12]
   Need to keep track of active symmetries
- Symmetry Learning Scheme (SLS) [BNOS10]
- Symmetry Explanation Leaning (SEL) [DBB17]

### Outline

SAT overview

SAT basics SAT and symmetries

2 Existing approaches

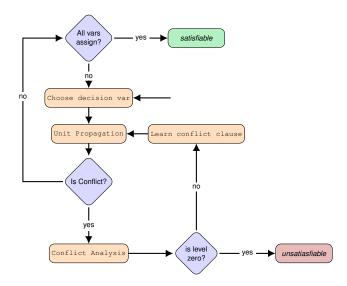
Static symmetry breaking Dynamic symmetry breaking

3 Contribution and results

CDCL [Sym]
Combination of different approaches

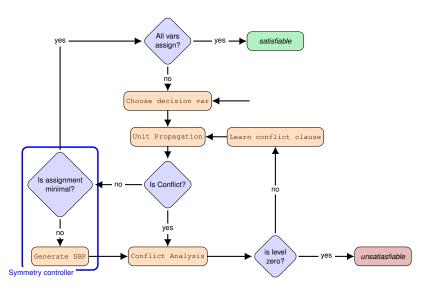
## Our contribution CDCL[Sym]

Compute and inject SBP opportunistically, during the solving



### Our contribution CDCL[Sym]

Compute and inject SBP opportunistically, during the solving



### Symmetry status

- reducer:  $g.\alpha. \prec \alpha$
- inactive:  $\alpha \prec g.\alpha$
- active: not enough information

### Efficient implementation of symmetry status

Keep track the smallest unassigned variable x:

- **①**  $\alpha(g.x) \le \alpha(x)$ , then g is reducer ⇒ Effective SBP (ESBP)
- 2  $\alpha(x) \le \alpha(g.x)$ , then g is inactive  $\Rightarrow g$  cannot reduce  $\alpha$
- 3  $\alpha(g.x)$  or  $\alpha(x)$  is unassigned then g is active

Update whenever variables are assigned / unassigned

- 1 reducer:  $\alpha(g.x) \leq \alpha(x)$
- 2 inactive:  $\alpha(x) \leq \alpha(g.x)$
- 3 active:  $\alpha(g.x)$  or  $\alpha(x)$  is unassigned

$$x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8$$
; false < true   
 $g_1 = (x_2 \quad x_3) \quad (x_5 \quad x_6) \quad (x_8 \quad x_9) \quad x = x_2 \quad g.x = x_3$  active   
 $g_2 = (x_1 \quad x_2) \quad (x_4 \quad x_5) \quad (x_7 \quad x_8) \quad x = x_1 \quad g.x = x_2$  active   
...

 $\alpha = \{$ 

21/29

- 1 reducer:  $\alpha(g.x) \leq \alpha(x)$
- 2 inactive:  $\alpha(x) \leq \alpha(g.x)$
- 3 active:  $\alpha(g.x)$  or  $\alpha(x)$  is unassigned

$$x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8$$
; false < true  $g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 & x_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_5 & x_6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_8 & x_9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x = x_2 & g.x = x_3 \\ & & \text{active} \end{pmatrix}$   $g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_4 & x_5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_7 & x_8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x = x_1 & g.x = x_2 \\ & & \text{active} \end{pmatrix}$  ...

- 1 reducer:  $\alpha(g.x) \leq \alpha(x)$
- 2 inactive:  $\alpha(x) \leq \alpha(g.x)$
- 3 active:  $\alpha(g.x)$  or  $\alpha(x)$  is unassigned

$$x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8$$
; false < true  $g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 & x_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_5 & x_6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_8 & x_9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x = x_5 & g.x = x_6 \\ & \text{active} \end{pmatrix}$   $g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_4 & x_5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_7 & x_8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x = x_1 & g.x = x_2 \\ & \text{reducer} \end{pmatrix}$ 

$$\alpha = \{\neg x_2, \neg x_3, x_1\}$$

- 1 reducer:  $\alpha(g.x) \leq \alpha(x)$
- 2 inactive:  $\alpha(x) \leq \alpha(g.x)$
- 3 active:  $\alpha(g.x)$  or  $\alpha(x)$  is unassigned

$$x_1 \leq x_2 \leq x_3 \leq x_4 \leq x_5 \leq x_6 \leq x_7 \leq x_8$$
; false < true  $g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 & x_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_5 & x_6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_8 & x_9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x = x_5 & g.x = x_6 \\ & & \text{active} \end{pmatrix}$   $g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_4 & x_5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_7 & x_8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x = x_1 & g.x = x_2 \\ & & \text{reducer} \end{pmatrix}$  ...  $\alpha = \{ \neg x_2, \neg x_3, x_1 \}$   $g_2$  generates  $\omega = \{ \neg x_1, x_2 \}$ 

### Experiments: benchmark

#### Benchmark:

- from SAT contests 2012 2017,
- retain only instances for which bliss finds significant symmetries in 1000s,
- 1350 symmetric instances (out of 3700)

### Setup:

- four tools
  - MiniSat (no symmetry, baseline)
  - MiniSat + breakID (state-of-the-art symmetry SAT solver)
  - MiniSat + Shatter (state-of-the-art symmetry SAT solver)
  - MiniSym = MiniSat + CDCLSym (our approach)
- 5000s timeout, 8GB memory,
- includes time to compute symmetries (except for MiniSat)

### Experimental results

### bliss gives more generators than saucy3

### Figure: cactus plot total number of instances

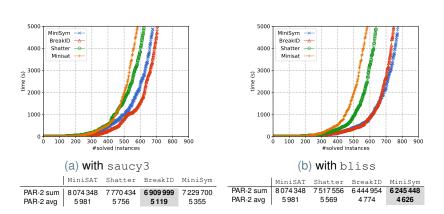


Table: time comparison

### Experimental results (UNSAT versus SAT)

I	MiniSAT	Shatter	BreakID	MiniSym	1	MiniSAT	Shatter	BreakID	MiniSym	
TOTAL (no dup)	261	302	371	345	TOTAL (no dup)	261	324	415	439	
(a) With saucy3					(b) With bliss					

#### Table: comparison on UNSAT instances

	MiniSAT	Shatter	BreakID	MiniSym		MiniSAT	Shatter	BreakID	MiniSym	
TOTAL (no dup)	325	323	337	335	TOTAL (no dup)	325	316	334	336	
(a) With saucv3					(b) With bliss					

Table: comparison on SAT instances

### ESBP + SP

TODO Symmetry propagation on top of ESBP Compose both approaches Is it possible?

## Notion of local symmetries

**TODO** 

## Computation of local symmetries

**TODO** 

# Experimental results

**TODO** 

## Conclusion and Perspective

**TODO** 

Conclusion:

Perspectives:

#### Thanks!



Belaid Benhamou, Tarek Nabhani, Richard Ostrowski, and Mohamed Reda Saidi.

#### Enhancing clause learning by symmetry in sat solvers.

In 2010 22nd IEEE International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence, volume 1, pages 329–335. IEEE, 2010.



Stephen A Cook.

#### The complexity of theorem-proving procedures.

In Proceedings of the third annual ACM symposium on Theory of computing, pages 151–158. ACM, 1971.



Jo Devriendt, Bart Bogaerts, and Maurice Bruynooghe.

Symmetric explanation learning: Effective dynamic symmetry handling for sat. In *International Conference on Theory and Applications of Satisfiability Testing*, pages 83–100. Springer, 2017.



Jo Devriendt, Bart Bogaerts, Broes de Cat, Marc Denecker, and Christopher Mears.

Symmetry propagation: Improved dynamic symmetry breaking in SAT.

In IEEE 24th International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence, ICTAI 2012, Athens, Greece, November 7-9, 2012, pages 49–56, 2012.



Martin Davis, George Logemann, and Donald Loveland.

A machine program for theorem-proving.

Commun. ACM, 5(7):394-397, July 1962.



Joao P Marques-Silva and Karem A Sakallah.

Grasp: A search algorithm for propositional satisfiability. *IEEE Transactions on Computers*, 48(5):506–521, 1999.