Exploitation of dynamic symmetries for solving SAT problems

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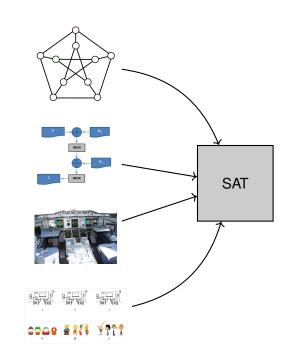
Motivation

Graph coloring

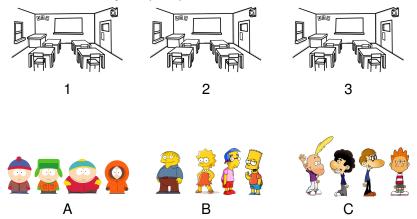
Cryptanalysis

Hardware model checking

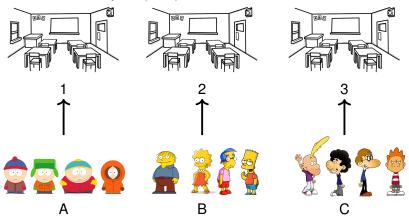
Planning



SAT: an example (1/2)

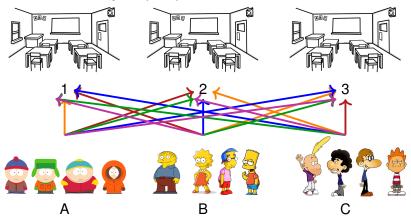


SAT: an example (1/2)



YES! SAT!
$$\alpha = (A, 1), (B, 2), (C, 3)$$

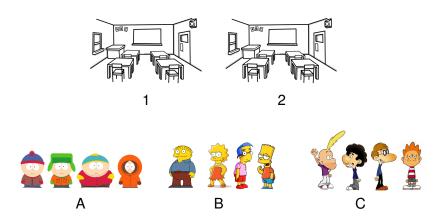
SAT: an example (1/2)



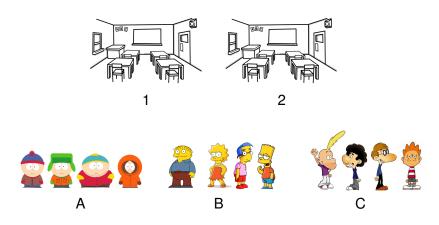
YES! SAT!
$$\alpha = (A, 1), (B, 2), (C, 3)$$

Many solutions $\alpha = (A, 2), (B, 3), (C, 1); \cdots$

SAT: an example (2/2)



SAT: an example (2/2)



Encoding the problem

$$(A, 1)(A, 2)(A, 3) \qquad (x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land (B, 1)(B, 2)(B, 3) \qquad (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (C, 1)(C, 2)(C, 3) \qquad (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_8) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8 \lor x_8) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor$$

Encoding the problem

$$\neg (A, 1) \neg (B, 1)$$

$$\neg (A,1) \neg (C,1)$$
$$\neg (B,1) \neg (C,1)$$

$$\neg (A,2) \neg (B,2) \\ \neg (A,2) \neg (C,2) \\ \neg (B,2) \neg (C,2)$$

$$\neg (A,3) \neg (B,3)$$

 $\neg (A,3) \neg (C,3)$
 $\neg (B,3) \neg (C,3)$

Clause

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

$$\begin{array}{c} (\neg x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land \\ (\neg x_2 \lor \neg x_8) \land \\ (\neg x_5 \lor \neg x_8) \land \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} (\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_6) \land \\ (\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_9) \land \\ (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_9) \land \end{array}$$

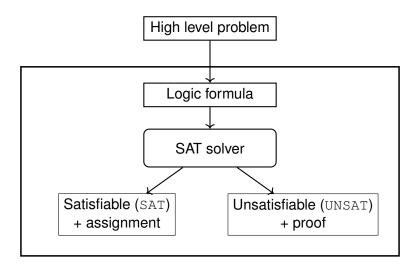
Encoding the problem Clause $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land$ (A, 1)(A, 2)(A, 3) $\overline{(x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6)} \wedge$ (B,1)(B,2)(B,3)(C,1)(C,2)(C,3) $(x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9) \land$ $\neg (A, 1) \neg (B, 1)$ $(\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_4) \land$ $\neg (A, 1) \neg (C, 1)$ $\neg (B, 1) \neg (C, 1)$ $(\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_7) \land$ $(\neg x_4 \lor \neg x_7) \land$ CNF **\$200 \$**₹₹₹ **\$**\$\$\$ ¬(A, 2)¬(B, 2) $(\neg x_2 \lor \neg x_5) \land$ $(\neg x_2 \lor \neg x_8) \land$ $\neg (A, 2) \neg (C, 2)$ $\neg (B, 2) \neg (C, 2)$ $(\neg x_5 \vee \neg x_8) \wedge$ $\neg (A,3) \neg (B,3)$ $(\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_6) \land$ $\neg (A,3) \neg (C,3)$ $(\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_9) \land$

Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)

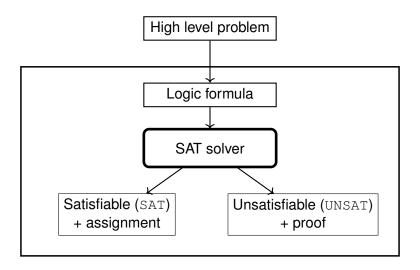
 $(\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_9) \land$

 $\neg (B,3) \neg (C,3)$

SAT



SAT



SAT Solving

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

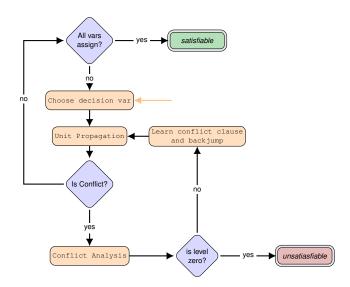
Good performance in practice:

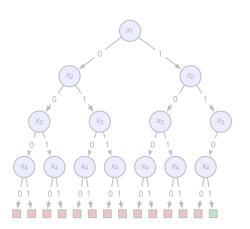
- Handle large problem (million variables and clauses)
- International SAT competition each year on academic and industrial problems

Enumerative algorithms:

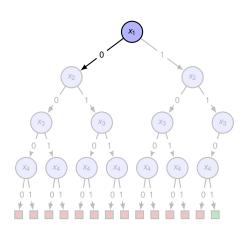
- Davis, Putnam, Logemann, and Loveland (DPLL) [DLL62]
 - Boolean Constraint Propagation (BCP)
- Conflict Driven Clause Learning (CDCL) [MSS99]
 - Derived from DPLL
 - Clause learning

CDCL in detail

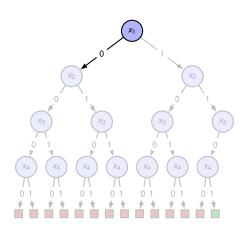




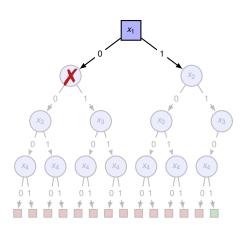
$$\omega_{1} = \{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}, x_{4}\}
\omega_{2} = \{x_{1}, \neg x_{4}\}
\omega_{3} = \{x_{1}, x_{4}\}
\omega_{4} = \{x_{2}, \neg x_{4}\}
\omega_{5} = \{x_{2}, x_{4}\}
\omega_{6} = \{x_{3}, x_{4}\}$$



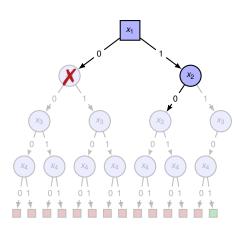
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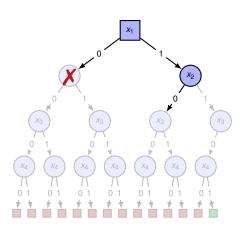
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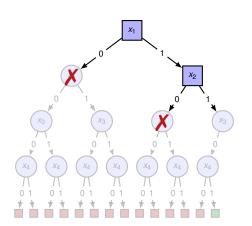
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\omega_{5} = \{x_{2}, x_{4}\}
\omega_{6} = \{x_{3}, x_{4}\}
\omega_{7} = \{x_{1}\}$$



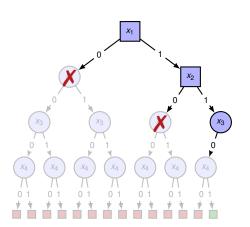
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\omega_{6} = \{x_{3}, x_{4}\}
\omega_{7} = \{x_{1}\}$$



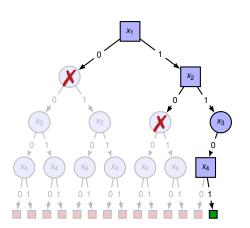
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$$\omega_{1} = \{X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, X_{4}\}
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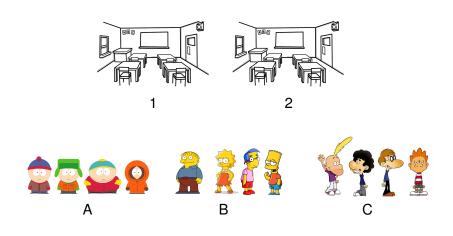


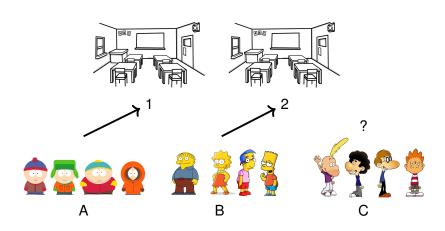
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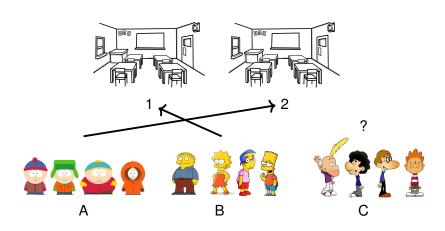


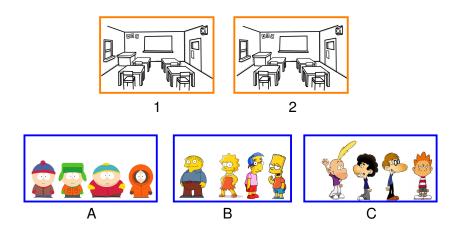
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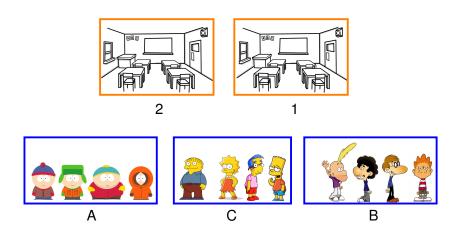
SAT and symmetries











Symmetry (Syntactic)

A symmetry (permuation) g is a bijective function (on variables) that leaves the formula invariant

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

$$\begin{array}{c} \omega_1 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \\ \omega_2 = \{x_4, x_5, x_6\} \\ \omega_3 = \{x_7, x_8, x_9\} \\ \omega_4 = \{-x_1, -x_4\} \\ \omega_5 = \{-x_1, -x_7\} \\ \omega_6 = \{-x_4, -x_7\} \\ \omega_7 = \{-x_2, -x_6\} \\ \omega_9 = \{x_5, x_4, x_6\} \\ \omega_9 = \{x_5, x_8\} \\ \omega_{11} = \{x_7, x_7\} \\ \omega_{12} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{13} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{14} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{15} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{17} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{18} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{19} = \{x_7, x_9\} \\ \omega_{1$$

Equi-satisfiability:

$$\alpha \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow g.\alpha \models \varphi$$

Computing symmetries of a SAT problem

CNF formula

$$\begin{array}{l} (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3^*) \wedge (x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6) \wedge (x_7 \vee x_8 \vee x_9) \\ \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_4) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_7) \wedge (\neg x_4 \vee \neg x_7) \\ \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_8) \wedge (\neg x_5 \vee \neg x_8) \\ \wedge (\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_6) \wedge (\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_9) \wedge (\neg x_6 \vee \neg x_9) \end{array}$$

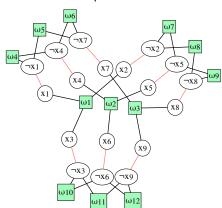
Computing symmetries of a SAT problem $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor x_3) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (x_7 \lor x_8 \lor x_9)$

CNF formula

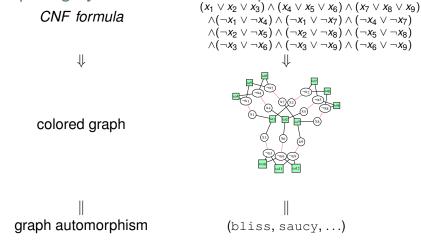


colored graph

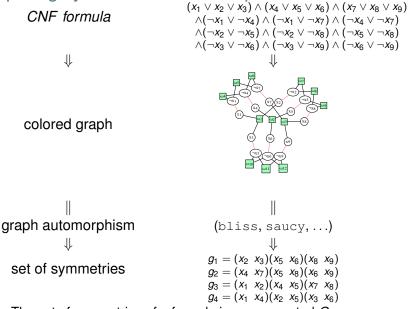




Computing symmetries of a SAT problem



Computing symmetries of a SAT problem



The set of symmetries of a formula is a group noted *G*

Exploitation of symmetries

Static symmetry breaking

Orbit

Orbit of an assignment $\alpha = G.\alpha = \{g.\alpha \mid g \in G\}$

Orbit of an assignment $\alpha = G.\alpha = \{g.\alpha \mid g \in G\}$

Example:

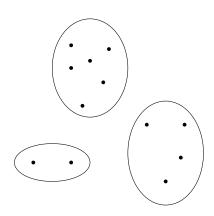
full assignment

15/35

Orbit of an assignment $\alpha = G.\alpha = \{g.\alpha \mid g \in G\}$

Example:

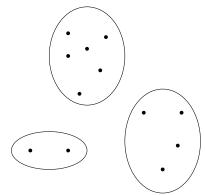
- · full assignment
- orbit



Orbit of an assignment $\alpha = G.\alpha = \{g.\alpha \mid g \in G\}$

Example:

- · full assignment
- orbit



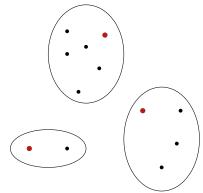
Equivalence relation with respect to SAT:

- Either $G.\alpha$ contains no solution
- Or all elements of $G.\alpha$ are solutions

Orbit of an assignment $\alpha = G.\alpha = \{g.\alpha \mid g \in G\}$

Example:

- full assignment
- orbit
- representative



Equivalence relation with respect to SAT:

- Either $G.\alpha$ contains no solution
- Or all elements of $G.\alpha$ are solutions

Compare assignment

Define an ordering relation to compare assignment

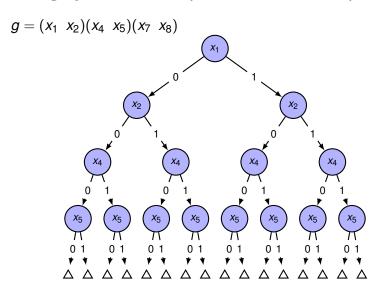
- Total ordering on variables
- Minimum value: F < T or T < F

Allow only minimal (maximal) value

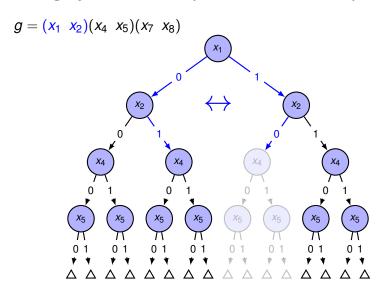
Forbids other assignment in each orbit

Adds Symmetry breaking predicates (SBP)

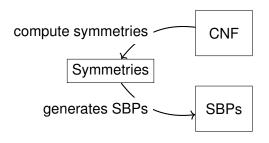
Using symmetries to prune the search space



Using symmetries to prune the search space



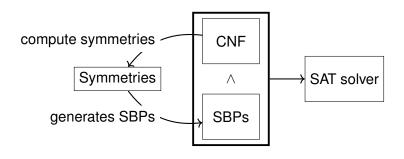
Static symmetry breaking



State-of-the-art approaches:

- Shatter [ASM06]
- BreakID [DBBD16]
- ...

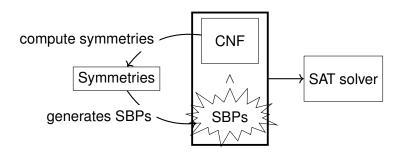
Static symmetry breaking



State-of-the-art approaches:

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Static symmetry breaking



State-of-the-art approaches:

- Shatter [ASM06]
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- ...

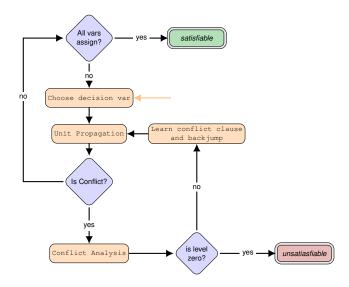
The solver can "explode" instead of being helped

CDCL[sym] Introducing Effective Symmetry Breaking in SAT Solving

TACAS'18 [MBCK18]

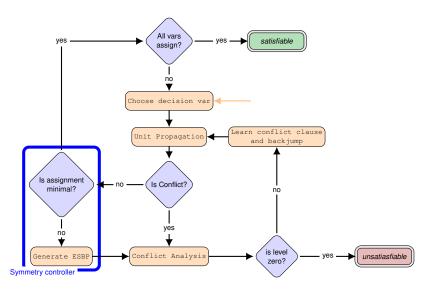
CDCL[Sym]

Compute and inject SBP opportunistically, during the solving



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

Update whenever variables are assigned / unassigned

CDCL[Sym] Implementation

- Packaged as a library cosy¹
- Lightweight
- Fast update and low memory
- Follows symmetry status

- Works with any enumerative SAT solver
- Can be integrated easily

ightarrow e.g. +3% LOC on MiniSAT.

¹https://github.com/lip6/cosy

Experiments

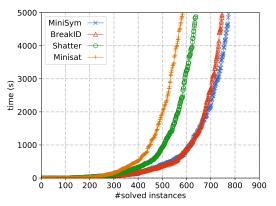
Benchmark:

- from SAT contests 2012 2017
- filter: bliss finds symmetries in 1000s
- 36 % of instances, 1 350/3 700

Setup:

- four tools
 - MiniSat (no symmetry, baseline)
 - MiniSat + BreakID (SOTA SAT solver using symmetries)
 - MiniSat + Shatter (SOTA SAT solver using symmetries)
 - MiniSym = MiniSat + CDCL[Sym] (our approach)
- 5000s timeout, 8GB memory
- includes time to compute symmetries (except for MiniSat)

Experimental results



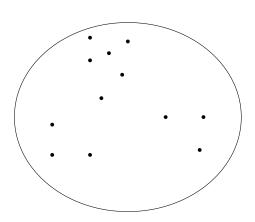
Solver	PAR-2	ALL	SAT	UNSAT
MiniSAT	2243h	586	325	261
Shatter	2088h	640	316	324
BreakID	1790h	749	334	415
MiniSym	1735h	775	336	439

Exploitation of symmetries

Dynamic symmetry breaking

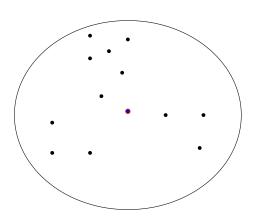
Learn symmetrical clauses

- formula
- clause



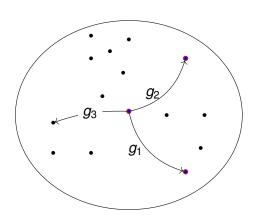
Learn symmetrical clauses

- formula
 - clause
 - learnt clause

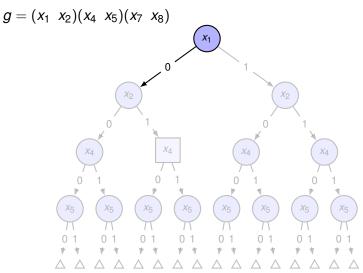


Learn symmetrical clauses

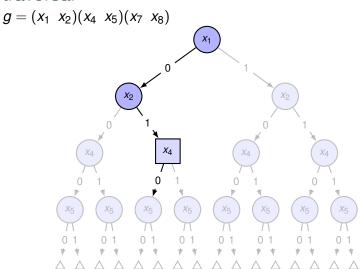
- formula
- clause
- learnt clause



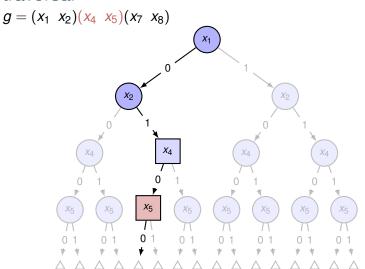
Using symmetries to accelerate the tree traversal



Using symmetries to accelerate the tree traversal

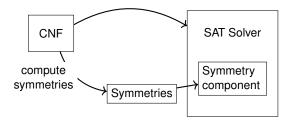


Using symmetries to accelerate the tree traversal



Use symmetries to deduce symmetrical facts.

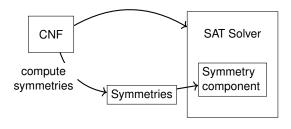
Dynamic Symmetry Breaking



State-of-the-art:

- Symmchaff [Sab05]
- Symmetry Propagation (SP) [DBdC+12]
- Symmetry Learning Scheme (SLS) [BNOS10]
- Symmetry Explanation Leaning (SEL) [DBB17]
- ...

Dynamic Symmetry Breaking



State-of-the-art:

- Symmchaff [Sab05]
- Symmetry Propagation (SP) [DBdC+12]
- Symmetry Learning Scheme (SLS) [BNOS10]
- Symmetry Explanation Leaning (SEL) [DBB17]
- ...

Cannot handle some instances solved by static approach

Composing Symmetry Propagation and Effective Symmetry Breaking for SAT Solving

NFM'19 [MBK19]

ESBP + SP

Compose the symmetry propagation and the ESBP prune the decision tree while accelerating its traversal

Problems:

- ESBP breaks symmetries (incrementally)
- SP considers the manipulated symmetries valid all time

In a hybrid approach, SP must be able to identify valid symmetries

$$\omega_1 \leftarrow (\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}) \ \omega_2 \leftarrow (\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}) \ \omega_3 \leftarrow (\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}) \ \omega_4 \leftarrow (\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}) \ \omega_4 \leftarrow (\{g_1, g_2, g_3\})$$

Macro level \rightarrow Micro level

$$\omega_1 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_2 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_3 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_4 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_5$$
 Macro level \rightarrow Micro level

$$\omega_1 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_2 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_3 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_4 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_5 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$
 Macro level \rightarrow Micro level

Compute valid local symmetries on-the-fly at a minimal cost.

$$\omega_1 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_2 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_3 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_4 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_5 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_2,g_3\})$$

$$\omega_5 \leftarrow (\{g_1,g_3\})$$
 Macro level \rightarrow Micro level

Compute valid local symmetries on-the-fly at a minimal cost.

- Inductive construction of the valid symmetries
- During the solving
- At a minimal cost

Experimental results

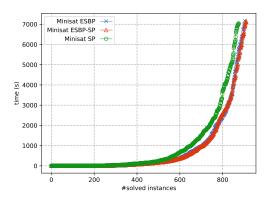
Benchmark:

- from SAT contests 2012 2018
- retain only instances for which bliss finds significant symmetries in 1000s
- 1400 symmetric instances (out of 4000)

Setup:

- three tools
 - MiniSat SP (Minisat with Symmetry Propagation)
 - MiniSat ESBP (Minisat with CDCL[Sym])
 - Minisat ESBP-SP (our approach)
- 7200s timeout

Experimental results



Solver	PAR-2	ALL	SAT	UNSAT
SP	1674h00	876	406	470
ESBP	1578h30	904	416	488
ESBP-SP	1570h15	911	420	491

Conclusion

- A new dynamic symmetry breaking approach
 - Generation of SBP on the fly
 - Package as a library cosy usable with any CDCL solver
 - Overcomes drawbacks of the existing approaches

- A new hybrid approach (ESBP-SP)
 - Take advantage of static and dynamic approach
 - Introduce local symmetries

Perspectives

 Combination of CDCL[Sym] with other dynamic symmetry breaking approach

Combination with parallel SAT solver

Exploitation of partial symmetries

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 Combination of CDCL[Sym] with other dynamic symmetry breaking approach

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Thanks!



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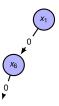
In AAAI, volume 5, pages 467-474, 2005.



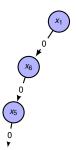
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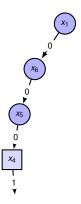
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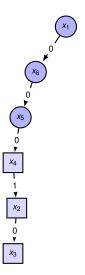
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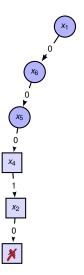
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$$\omega_7 = \{x_1, \neg x_4\}$$

Weakly active symmetries

Logical consequence

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Symmetry propagation

Let σ a weakly active symmetry, then

$$\varphi \cup \alpha \vdash \{I\} \Leftrightarrow \varphi \cup \alpha \vdash \sigma.\{I\}$$

Local symmetries

Logical consequence

When ω is satisfied in all satisfying assignments of φ , we say that ω is a logical consequence of φ , and we denote this by $\varphi \vdash \omega$.

Local Symmetries

Let φ be a formula. We define $L_{\omega,\varphi}$, the set of *local symmetries* for a clause ω , and with respect to a formula φ , as follows:

$$L_{\omega,\varphi} = \{ \sigma \in \mathfrak{S} \mid \varphi \vdash \sigma.\omega \}$$

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We can state that:

$$\bigcap_{\omega\in\varphi}L_{\omega,\varphi}\subseteq G.$$

Computing local symmetries

Formula can be decomposed as : $\varphi = \varphi_o \cup \varphi_e \cup \varphi_d$ where

- φ_o is the set of the original clauses
- φ_e is the set of ESBPs
- φ_d is the set of deduced clauses.

Local symmetries

- $\omega \in \varphi_o, L_{\omega,\varphi} \supseteq G$
- $\omega \in \varphi_e, L_{\omega,\varphi} \supseteq Stab(\omega) = \{ \sigma \in G \mid \omega = \sigma.\omega \}$
- $\omega \in \varphi_d, L_{\omega,\varphi} \supseteq (\bigcap_{\omega' \in \varphi_1} L_{\omega',\varphi}) \cup Stab(\omega)$

where φ_1 is the set of clauses that derives ω .

- Define lexicographic order
 - Define total order on variables
 - Define minimal value
- Forbid non minimal assignment for each orbit

$$x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8; \mathbb{F} < \mathbb{T}$$

 $g = (x_1 \ x_2)(x_4 \ x_5)(x_7 \ x_8)$

$ x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_5 \cdots $ lex-leader	SBP

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	X ₁	<i>x</i> ₂	<i>X</i> ₃	<i>x</i> ₄	<i>x</i> ₅		lex-leader	SBP
<i>O</i> ₁	F	Т	-	–	-		✓	

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0	F	Т	-	-	-		✓ X	
O_1	Т	F	-	–	-		×	$\rightarrow \neg x_1 \lor x_2$

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Ω_{t}	F	Т	-	_	-		✓ X	
——	Т	F	_	_	_		X	$\rightarrow \neg x_1 \lor x_2$
	F	F	-	F	Т		/	$\bigg \to x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_4 \vee x_5$
O_2	F	F	-	Т	F		×	$ \rightarrow x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_4 \lor x_5 $

- Define lexicographic order
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Example:

$$x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8; \mathbb{F} < \mathbb{T}$$

 $g = (x_1 \ x_2)(x_4 \ x_5)(x_7 \ x_8)$

	<i>x</i> ₁	<i>X</i> ₂	<i>X</i> ₃	<i>x</i> ₄	<i>x</i> ₅		lex-leader	SBP
O_1	F	Т	-	_	-		✓ X	
	Т	F	–	–	-		X	$\rightarrow \neg x_1 \lor x_2$
0-	F	F	-	F	Т		✓	$\bigg \to x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_4 \vee x_5$
02	F	F	-	Т	F		×	$\rightarrow x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_4 \vee x_5$

. . .

$$g_1 = (x_2 \ x_3)(x_5 \ x_6)(x_8 \ x_9)$$
 $g_2 = (x_1 \ x_2)(x_4 \ x_5)(x_7 \ x_8)$

$$F < T \quad x_1 \le x_2 \le x_3 \le x_4 \le x_5 \le x_6 \le x_7 \le x_8 \le x_9$$

$$\overline{g_1}$$

$$\alpha = \quad \underline{U} \quad \overline{U} \quad U \quad U \quad U \quad U \quad U \quad U$$

$$\underline{g_2} \quad \Box$$

$$g_1 = (x_2 \ x_3)(x_5 \ x_6)(x_8 \ x_9)$$
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$$\overline{g_1}$$

$$\alpha = \underline{T} \quad F \quad F \quad U \quad \overline{U} \quad U \quad U \quad U \quad U$$

$$\underline{g_2} \quad \Box$$

$$g_2$$
 generates ESBP $\omega = \{\neg x_1, x_2\}$

- 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

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

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

$$g_2$$
 generates $\omega = \{\neg x_1, x_2\}$

Encoding the problem

(A, 1)(A, 2)(A, 3) (B, 1)(B, 2)(B, 3) (C, 1)(C, 2)(C, 3)	$X_1 \lor X_2 \lor X_3 X_4 \lor X_5 \lor X_6 X_7 \lor X_8 \lor X_9 $
$\neg (A, 1) \neg (B, 1)$ $\neg (A, 1) \neg (C, 1)$ $\neg (B, 1) \neg (C, 1)$	$ \begin{array}{c} \neg X_1 \lor \neg X_4 \\ \neg X_1 \lor \neg X_7 \\ \neg X_4 \lor \neg X_7 \end{array} $
$\neg (A,2) \neg (B,2)$ $\neg (A,2) \neg (C,2)$ $\neg (B,2) \neg (C,2)$	
$\neg (A,3) \neg (B,3)$ $\neg (A,3) \neg (C,3)$ $\neg (B,3) \neg (C,3)$	$ \begin{array}{l} \neg x_3 \lor \neg x_6 \\ \neg x_3 \lor \neg x_9 \\ \neg x_6 \lor \neg x_9 \end{array} $