

Project of Algorithms on Condition Satisfiability

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1 Main Idea

In the “Condition Satisfiability Problem”, we are given the following:

1. A number of n boolean variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , where x_i must be either true or false.
2. A set of P “lead-to” conditions $L = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_P\}$, where each T_i has $k_i \geq 0$ boolean variables to the left of its \Rightarrow symbol and always one boolean variable to the right. A “lead-to” condition takes the form of $(x_{i_1} \wedge x_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge x_{i_k}) \Rightarrow x_j$. The $k_i + 1$ variables for each $T_i \in L$ are unique, and the degenerate case with $k = 0$ simply means that x_j is true.
3. A set of Q “false-must-exist” conditions $F = \{M_1, M_2, \dots, M_Q\}$, where each M_i is a cumulative logical OR of $m_i > 0$ negated boolean variables. A “false-must-exist” condition takes the form of $(\neg x_{i_1} \vee \neg x_{i_2} \vee \dots \vee \neg x_{i_m})$. The m_i variables for each $M_i \in F$ are unique.

We want to find the truth values of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n such that the P conditions in L and the Q conditions in F will all evaluate to true. Such an assignment of truth values is called a “satisfying solution”. If there is no such assignment, then we want to output “*No satisfying solution exists*”.

The main idea behind this algorithm is to initialize a set of n boolean variables to be all false. Then, we iterate through all of the conditions until no more changes are being made. We check the “lead-to” conditions first, and if any has a true left-hand side and a false right-hand side, then we set the variable on the right-hand side to true. In each iteration, after we check all of the “lead-to” conditions, we check if any of the “false-must-exist” conditions are broken. If any of them are broken, we can early return “*No satisfying solution exists*”, since there must be a contradiction in the conditions. Once no more changes can be made according to our rules, we output the truth values of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n .

2 Pseudocode

Algorithm 1: Condition Satisfiability

Input: n boolean variables, a set $L = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_P\}$ of P “lead-to” conditions, and a set $F = \{M_1, M_2, \dots, M_Q\}$ of Q “false-must-exist” conditions.

Output: A satisfying solution or “No satisfying solution exists”.

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 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = \text{false};$ 
 $changed = \text{true};$ 
while  $changed$  do
     $changed = \text{false};$ 
    for each  $T_i \in L$  do
        if  $(x_{i_1} \wedge x_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge x_{i_k}) \wedge \neg x_j$  then
             $x_j = \text{true};$ 
             $changed = \text{true};$ 
        end
    end
    for each  $M_i \in F$  do
        if  $\neg M_i$  then
            return “No satisfying solution exists”;
        end
    end
end
return  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n;$ 
```

3 Proof of Correctness

Initially, the algorithm will set all of the variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n to false. In the main while loop, we enforce the conditions in L by setting the right-hand side of any $T_i \in L$ to true if and only if the entire left-hand side is true and the right-hand side is false. When this happens, the right hand side *must* be true, or else the condition would be broken. Thus, we only change the variables in L if they need to be changed. After we have iterated through all of the conditions in L , we check the conditions in F . If we break any of the conditions in F in an attempt to satisfy the conditions in L , then we early return “*No satisfying solution exists*”. This is because all of the conditions in F will initially be true, and if we break any of them, then it is broken out of necessity to satisfy some condition in L . This loop will run until no more changes can be made, i.e. all of the conditions in L and F are satisfied. Thus, the algorithm will output a satisfying solution if one exists, and “*No satisfying solution exists*” otherwise. The algorithm is correct.

4 Runtime Complexity Analysis

Initializing the n boolean variables takes $O(n)$ time. The main while loop will run until no more changes can be made, so the worst case is that the loop runs n times. Inside the main while loop, the first for loop will run up to P times per main loop iteration, and the second for loop will run up to Q times per main loop iteration. The first for loop will need to evaluate k_i logical ANDs for each $T_i \in L$, and the second for loop will need to evaluate m_i logical ORs for each $M_i \in F$. We shall call $k_{\max} = \max\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_P\}$ and $m_{\max} = \max\{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_Q\}$. Thus, the runtime complexity of the algorithm is $O(n(P \cdot k_{\max} + Q \cdot m_{\max}))$.