

Saarland Informatics Campus

A Verified SAT Solver with Watched Literals Using Imperative HOL

Peter Lammich Mathias Fleury

Jasmin C. Blanchette







How reliable are SAT solvers?

Two ways to ensure correctness:

- certify the certificate
 - certificates are huge
- verification of the code
 - code will not be competitive
 - allows to study metatheory







How reliable is the theory?

Conference version

Branch and Bound for Boolean Optimization and the Generation of Optimality Certificates Javier Larrosa, Robert Nieuwenhuis, Albert Oliveras, and Enric Rodríguez-Carbonell (SAT 2009)

A literal l is true in I if $l \in I$, false in I if

 $\neg l \in I$, and undefined in I otherwise.

A clause set S is true in I if all its clauses are true in I. Then I is called a *model* of S, and we write $I \models S$ (and similarly if a literal or clause is true in I).







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A clause set S is true in I if all its clauses are true in I. Then I is called a *model* of S, and we write $I \models S$ (and similarly if a literal or clause is true in I).

Journal version

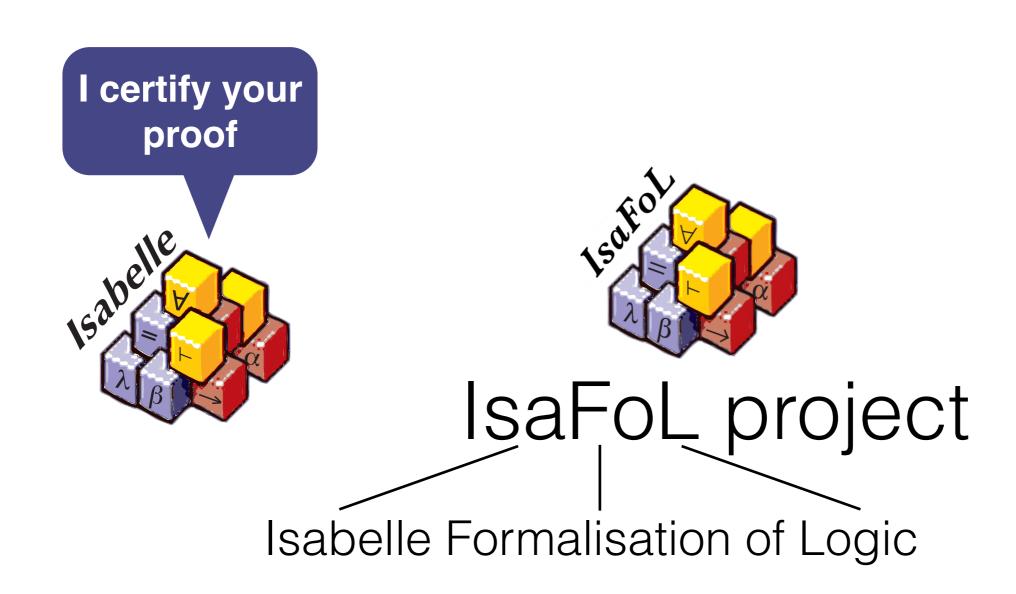
A Framework for Certified Boolean Branch-and-Bound Optimization Javier Larrosa, Robert Nieuwenhuis, Albert Oliveras, and Enric Rodríguez-Carbonell (JAR 2011)

literals of a clause C are false in I. A clause set S is true in I if all its clauses are true in I; if I is also total, then I is called a *total model* of S, and we write $I \models S$.















IsaFoL

- FO resolution by Schlichtkrull (ITP 2016)
- CDCL with learn, forget, restart, and incrementality by Blanchette, Fleury, Weidenbach (IJCAR 2016)
- GRAT certificate checker
 by Lammich (CADE-26, 2017)
- A verified SAT solver with watched literals by Fleury, Blanchette, Lammich (CPP 2018, now)







IsaFoL

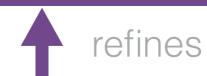
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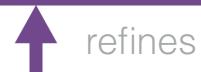




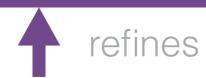
Abstract CDCL Previous work



Watched Literals Calculus
Transition system



Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-deterministic program



Refined SAT solver
Towards efficient data structures



Executable SAT solver Standard ML









Abstract CDCL Previous work







Candidate model

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- **4.** ¬**A** ∨ **B**







Candidate model

A?

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- **4.** ¬**A** ∨ B







Candidate model

A? B

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. ¬A ∨ B







Candidate model

A? B ¬C

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. ¬A ∨ B







Candidate model

¬Α

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- **4.** ¬**A** ∨ B







Candidate model

¬A ¬C?

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. ¬A ∨ B







Candidate model

- 1. Guess
- 2. or propagate information
- 3. or take the opposite of the last guess if there is a conflict

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. ¬A ∨ B







Candidate model

 $\neg A$

CDCL = DPLL +
non-chronological backtracking +
learning

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. ¬C ∨ ¬B ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. ¬A ∨ B
- 5. ¬A







Propagate rule

in Isabelle

$$C \lor L \in N \Longrightarrow M \models as \neg C \Longrightarrow undefined_lit M L \Longrightarrow (M, N) \Rightarrow_{CDCL} (L \# M, N)$$







Propagate rule

in Isabelle

$$C \lor L \in N \Longrightarrow M \models as \neg C \Longrightarrow undefined_lit M L \Longrightarrow (M, N) \Rightarrow_{CDCL} (L \# M, N)$$

Problem:

Iterating over the clauses is inefficient







Abstract CDCL

Previous work



refines

Watched Literals Calculus

Transition system



refines

Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-Deterministic program



refines

Refined SAT solver
Towards efficient data structures



refines

Executable SAT solver Standard ML









Watched Literals Calculus Transition system







Candidate model

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 1. '¬B ∨' C ∨ A

- 4. '¬A ∨' B







Candidate model

A?

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

To upuat





Candidate model

A?

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause



To update: 3. 4.







Candidate model

A?

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 1. '¬B ∨' C ∨ A
- 2. |¬C | ∨ |¬B | ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C

To update: 4.







Candidate model

A?

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 2. |¬C | ∨ |¬B | ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. <mark>'¬A</mark> ∨<mark>'</mark> B







Candidate model

A? B

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false





Clause

- 1. | B | C | A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. '¬A ∨ B



Candidate model

A? B

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 1. | B | V | C | V | A
- 2. '¬C '¬B ' ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C

To update: 1. 2. 3.







Candidate model

A? **B**

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. |¬C | ∨ |¬B | ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. '¬A ∨ B

To update: **2. 3.**







Candidate model

A? B

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 2. '¬C '¬B ' ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. '¬A ∨ B

To update: 3.







Candidate model

A? B ¬C

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false





Clause

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C

To update:

3.



Candidate model

A? B ¬C

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

Clause

- 1. ¬B ∨ C ∨ A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. '¬A ∨ B







Candidate model

 $\neg A$

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false





Clause

- 1. ¬B ∨<mark>' C ∨' A</mark>
- 2. |¬C | ∨ |¬B | ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. '¬A ∨' B



Candidate model

 $\neg A$

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false





Clause

- 1. ¬B ∨<mark>' C ∨' A</mark>
- 2. |¬C | ∨ |¬B | ∨ ¬A
- 3. ¬A ∨ ¬B ∨ C
- 4. '¬A ∨' B
- 5. ¬A



Watched literals invariant

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false







Watched literals invariant

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

unless a conflict has been found







- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

unless a conflict has been found

or an update is pending







(less wrong)

this literal has been set earlier

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

or an update is pending

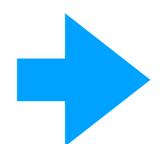
unless a conflict has been found







- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false



- 1. Watch any literal if there is a true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

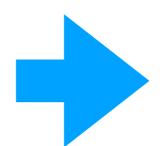






with blocking literals

- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false



- 1. Watch any literal if there is a true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false







with blocking literals



- 1. Watch one true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false



- 1. Watch any literal if there is a true literal
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with blocking literals



- 1. Watch one true literal
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- 1. Watch any literal if there is a true literal
- 2. or watch two unset literals
- 3. or watch a false literal if all other literals are false

(not yet refined to code)







Blocking Literals (historical perspective)

- Barcelogic Tool (?): save other watched literal in watch list
- Chu et al. (08): save some literals in watch list
- Minisat 2.1 (08): save one literal from the clause in watch list
- Ryan (04): binary/ternary clause handling









Finding invariants (11 new ones)



No high-level description



sledgehammer









Finding invariants (11 new ones)



No high-level description



sledgehammer

Correctness theorem

If S is well-formed and S ⇒TWL! T then

$$S \Rightarrow_{CDCL} ! T$$











Previous work



refines

Watched Literals Calculus

Transition system



refines

Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-deterministic Program



refines

Refined SAT solver
Towards efficient data structures



refines

Executable SAT solver Standard ML









Watched Literals Calculus

Transition system



Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-deterministic Program







Picking Next Clause

```
propagate_conflict_literal L S :=
  WHILE<sub>T</sub>
    (λT. clauses_to_update T ≠ {})

    (λT. do {
        ASSERT(clauses_to_update T ≠ {})
        C ← SPEC (λC. C ∈ clauses_to_update T);
        U ← remove_from_clauses_to_update C T;
        update_clause (L, C) U
        }
    )
    S
```







```
propagate_conflict_literal L S :=
  WHILE<sub>T</sub>
   (λT. clauses_to_update T ≠ {})

  (λT. do {
     ASSERT(clauses_to_update T ≠ {})
     C ← SPEC (λC. C ∈ clauses_to_update T);
     U ← remove_from_clauses_to_update C T;
     update_clause (L, C) U
     }
  )
  S
```







Assertions







```
propagate_conflict_literal L S :=
WHILE<sub>T</sub>
  (λT. clauses_to_update T ≠ {})

(λT. do {
    ASSERT(clauses_to_update T ≠ {})
    C ← SPEC (λC. C ∈ clauses_to_update T);
    U ← remove_from_clauses_to_update C T;
    update_clause (L, C) U
    }
)
```

Non-deterministic getting of a clause







```
propagate_conflict_literal L S :=
  WHILE<sub>T</sub>
   (λT. clauses_to_update T ≠ {})

  (λT. do {
     ASSERT(clauses_to_update T ≠ {})
     C ← SPEC (λC. C ∈ clauses_to_update T);
     U ← remove_from_clauses_to_update C T;
     update_clause (L, C) U
     }
  )
  S
```







- More deterministic (order of the rules)
- But still non deterministic (decisions)
- Goals of the form







- More deterministic (order of the rules)
- But still non deterministic (decisions)
- Goals of the form

propagate_conflict_literal L $S \leq SPEC(\lambda T. S \Rightarrow_{TWL}^* T)$

in Isabelle









VCG's goals hard to read



Very tempting to write fragile proofs



sledgehammer







Abstract CDCL

Previous work



refines

Watched Literals Calculus

Transition system



refines

Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-deterministic Program



refines

Refined SAT Solver

Towards efficient data structures



refines

Executable SAT solver Standard ML









Watched Literals Algorithm Non-deterministic Program



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DPLL with Watched Literals

Clauses (multisets)

To update:









```
propagate_conflict_literal L S :=
 WHILE<sub>T</sub>
    (\lambda T. clauses_to_update T \neq \{\})
    (λT. do {
      ASSERT(clauses_to_update T ≠ {})
       C \leftarrow SPEC (\lambda C. C \in clauses\_to\_update T);
       U ← remove_from_clauses_to_update C T;
       update_clause L C U
                           propagate_conflict_literal_list L S :=
                             WHILET
                               (\lambda(w, T). w < length (watched_by T L))
    S
                               (\lambda(w, T). do \{
                                  C \leftarrow (watched\_by T L) ! w;
                                  update_clause_list L C T
                               (S, 0)
```







```
propagate_conflict_literal L S :=
 WHILE<sub>T</sub>
    (\lambda T. clauses_to_update T \neq \{\})
    (λT. do {
      ASSERT(clauses_to_update T ≠ {})
       C \leftarrow SPEC (\lambda C. C \in clauses\_to\_update T);
       U ← remove_from_clauses_to_update C T;
       update_clause L C U
                           propagate_conflict_literal_list L S :=
                             WHILET
                               (\lambda(w, T). w < length (watched_by T L))
    S
                               (\lambda(w, T). do \{
                                  C \leftarrow (watched\_by T L) ! w;
                                  update_clause_list L C T
```





/C A)





More new invariants



Aligning goals is hard...



Fast code uses many invariants



Forgotten and new invariants



sledgehammer







- Choice on the heuristics
- Orange Choice on the data structures
- Orepare code synthesis







Decision heuristic

- Variable-move-to-front heuristic
- No correctness w.r.t. a standard implementation
- Behaves correctly:
 - returns an unset literal if there is one
 - no exception (out-of-bound array accesses)







Abstract CDCL

Previous work



refines

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refines

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refines

Executable SAT Solver
Standard ML









Refined SAT Solver Towards efficient data structures



Executable SAT Solver Standard ML







```
sepref_definition executable_version
is cpropagate_conflict_literal_heuristics>
:: <unat_lit_assnk *a state_assnd →a state_assn>
by sepref
```







```
sepref_definition executable_version
is cpropagate_conflict_literal_heuristics>
:: <unat_lit_assnk *a state_assnd →a state_assn>
by sepref
```

```
main_loop S :=
   heap_WHILET
        (λ(finished, _). return (¬ finished))
        (λ(_, state).
            propagate state »=
            analyse_or_decide)
        (False, state) »=
        (λ(_, final_state). return final_state)
```







```
sepref_definition executable_version
  is cpropagate_conflict_literal_heuristics>
  :: <unat_lit_assnk *a state_assnd →a state_assn>
  by sepref
```

```
fun main_loop state =
  fn () =>
  let
  val (_, final_state) =
    heap_WHILET
     (fn (done, _) => (fn () => not done))
     (fn (_, state) =>
          (analyse_or_decide (propagate state ()) ()))
     (false, xi)
     ();
  in final_state end;
```







```
sepref_definition executable_version
is cpropagate_conflict_literal_heuristics>
:: <unat_lit_assnk *a state_assnd →a state_assn>
by sepref
```







Choice on the data structures

Clauses: resizable arrays of (fixed sized) arrays

However, no aliasing

- Indices instead of pointers
- N[C] makes a copy, so only use N[C][i]
- Generates imperative code
- No error messages
- Transformations before generating code







Clauses of length 0 and 1

Once combined with an initialisation:

```
<(IsaSAT_code, model_if_satisfiable)
  ∈ [λN. each_clause_is_distinct N ∧
        literals_fit_in_32_bit_integer N]a
        clauses_as_lists<sup>k</sup> → model>
```

in Isabelle

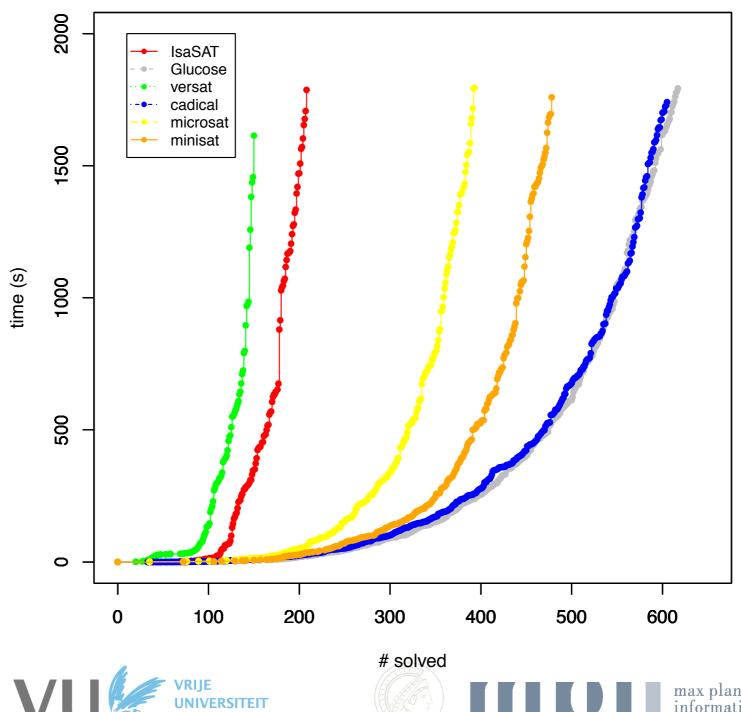
Exported code tested with an unchecked parser (easy and medium problems from the SAT competition 2009)







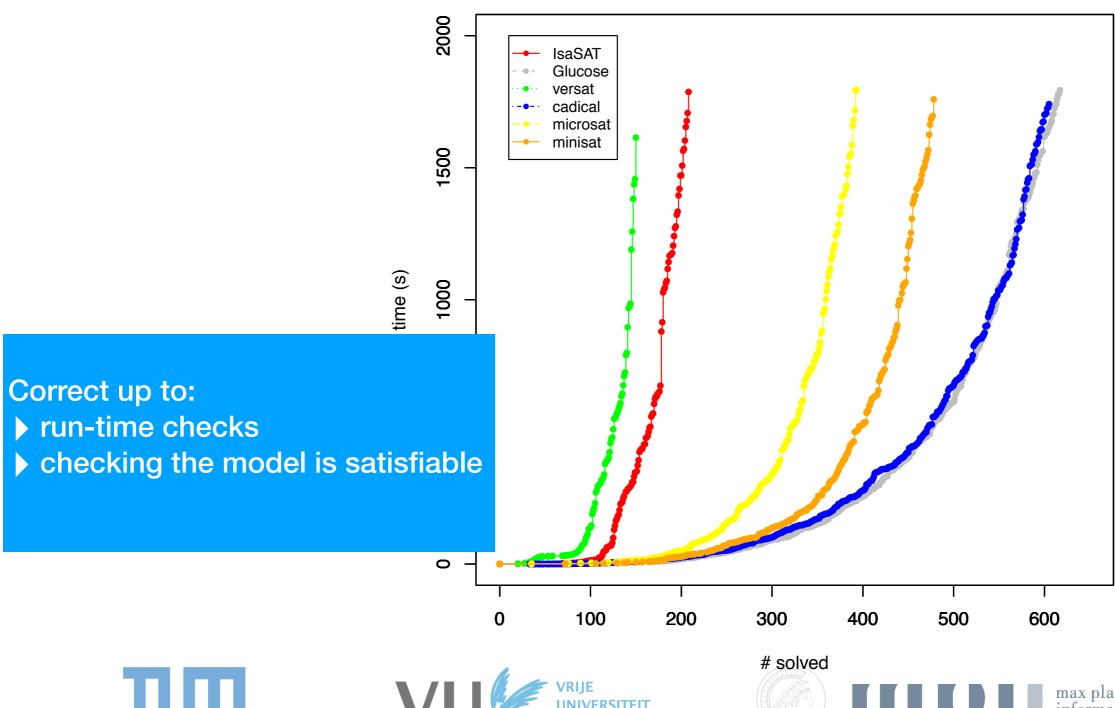
SAT-Comp '09, '15 (main track), and '14 (all submitted problems), already preprocessed, duplicates removed







SAT-Comp '09, '15 (main track), and '14 (all submitted problems), already preprocessed, duplicates removed







SAT-Comp '09, '15 (main track), and '14 (all submitted problems), already preprocessed

1192 problems,30 minutes timeout

	#solved	Average time (s)	Crash or errors
versat	159	233	4 (?)
IsaSAT	200	147	3 (OOM)
microsat	483	297	
MiniSAT	582	280	
cadical	759	330	
glucose	784	337	







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refines

Executable SAT solver Standard ML

- better implementation (trail, conflict)
- dynamic decision heuristic







Previous work



refines

Watched Literals Calculus

Transition system



refines

Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-deterministic program



refines

Refined SAT Solver

Towards efficient data structures



refines

Executable SAT solver
Standard ML

- allow learned clause minimisation
- no reuse of restarts

- better implementation (trail, conflict)
- dynamic decision heuristic
- learned clause minimisation









Previous work



refines

Watched Literals Calculus

Transition system



refines

Watched Literals Algorithm
Non-deterministic program



refines

Refined SAT Solver

Towards efficient data structures



refines

Executable SAT solver Standard ML



no reuse of restarts

more invariants

- better implementation (trail, conflict)
- dynamic decision heuristic
- learned clause minimisation







How hard is it?

	Paper	Proof assistant
Very abstract	13 pages	50 pages
Abstract CDCL	9 pages (½ month)	90 pages (5 months)
Watched Literals	1 page	600 pages
	(C++ code of MiniSat)	(15 months)







Conclusion

Concrete outcome

- Watched literals optimisation
- Verified executable SAT solver

Methodology

- Refinement using the Refinement Framework
- No proof of heuristics (w.r.t. standard)

Future work

- Restarts and blocking literals (ongoing)
- Use SAT solver in IsaFoR







Annex







What is in IsaSAT?

Conflict Analysis

- conflict as lookup table (Minisat)
- and as explicit array (Minisat's "outl", to simplify proofs)

Decisions

Variable move to front (Splatz, cadical)

Propagations

Mostly following MiniSAT (without BLIT)







```
for (i = j = 1; i < out_learnt.size(); i++)
  if (reason(var(out_learnt[i])) == CRef_Undef II
  !litRedundant(out_learnt[i]))
  out_learnt[j++] = out_learnt[i];</pre>
```







```
fun minimize_and_extract_highest_lookup_conflict_code x =
 (fn ai => fn bid => fn bic => fn bib => fn bia => fn bi => fn () =>
  let
   val a =
    heap WHILET
      (fn (_, (a1a, (_, a2b))) =>
       (fn f_=> fn () => f_((length_arl_u_code heap_uint32 a2b) ()) ())
         (fn x_a => (fn () => (Word32.< (a1a, x_a)))))
      (fn (a1, (a1a, (a1b, a2b))) =>
       (fn f_ => fn () => f_ 
         (((fn () => Array.sub (fst a2b, Word32.toInt a1a))) ()) ())
         (fn x a =>
          (fn f_=> fn () => f_=
           ((literal redundant wl lookup code ai bid a1 a1b x a bia) ())
           ())
           (fn (a1c, (\_, a2d)) =>
             (if not a2d
              then (fn () =>
                   (a1, (Word32.+ (a1a, (Word32.fromInt 1)),
                       (a1c, a2b))))
              else (fn f \Rightarrow fn () \Rightarrow f
                   ((delete_from_lookup_conflict_code x_a a1) ()) ())
                   (fn x e =>
                    (fn f_=> fn () => f_((arl_last heap_uint32 a2b))
                     ())
                     (fn xa =>
                       (fn f_=> fn () => f_=
                        ((arl_set_u heap_uint32 a2b a1a xa) ()) ())
                        (fn xb =>
                         (fn f_= > fn () = > f_=
((arl_butlast heap_uint32 xb) ()) ())
(fn xc => (fn () => (x_e, (a1a, (a1c, xc)))))))))))
      (bic, ((Word32.fromInt 1), (bib, bi))) ();
  in
   let
    val(a1, (\_, (a1b, a2b))) = a;
```







Features (I)

10

- arena based memory allocation for clauses and watchers
- blocking literals (BLIT)
- special handling of binary clause watches
- literal-move-to-front watch replacement (LMTF)
- learned clause minimization with poison
- on-the-fly hyper-binary resolution (HBR)
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Splatz @ POS'15

Thank you, Norbert & Mate!

Slides by Armin Biere

Features (II)

11

- stamping based VMTF instead of VSIDS
- subsumption for both irredundant and learned clauses
- inprocessing blocked clause decomposition (BCD) enabling ...
- ... inprocessing SAT sweeping for backbones and equivalences
- equivalent literal substitution (ELS)
- bounded variable elimination (BVE)
- blocked clause elimination (BCE)
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- delaying restarts
- trail reuse







Features (I)

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- arena based memory allocation for clauses and watchers
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Code only

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Strengthening

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Strengthening

Change CDCL

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Restarts (future)

Strengthening

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Restarts (future)

Strengthening

Change WL

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Slides by Armin Biere

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Restarts (future)

Strengthening

Change WL

Change CDCL

Thank you, Norbert & Mate!

Slides by Armin Biere

Features (II)

stamping hased VMTF instead of VSIDS

- Unchecked array accesses (Isabelle takes care of it)
- No unbounded integers (in theory, not complete anymore)
- Restarts
- exponential moving average based restart scheduling
- delaying restarts
- trail reuse

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A first idea

A better strategy

M

Clauses N

CBAM

Clauses N





C



В

С







A first idea

A better strategy

Clauses N

CBAM

Clauses N









С







A first idea A better strategy **Clauses N Clauses N AM CBAM** С







A first idea

A better strategy

AM

Clauses N

CBAM

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A first idea

A better strategy

Clauses N

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Clauses N

















A first idea

A better strategy

Clauses N

Clauses N

A





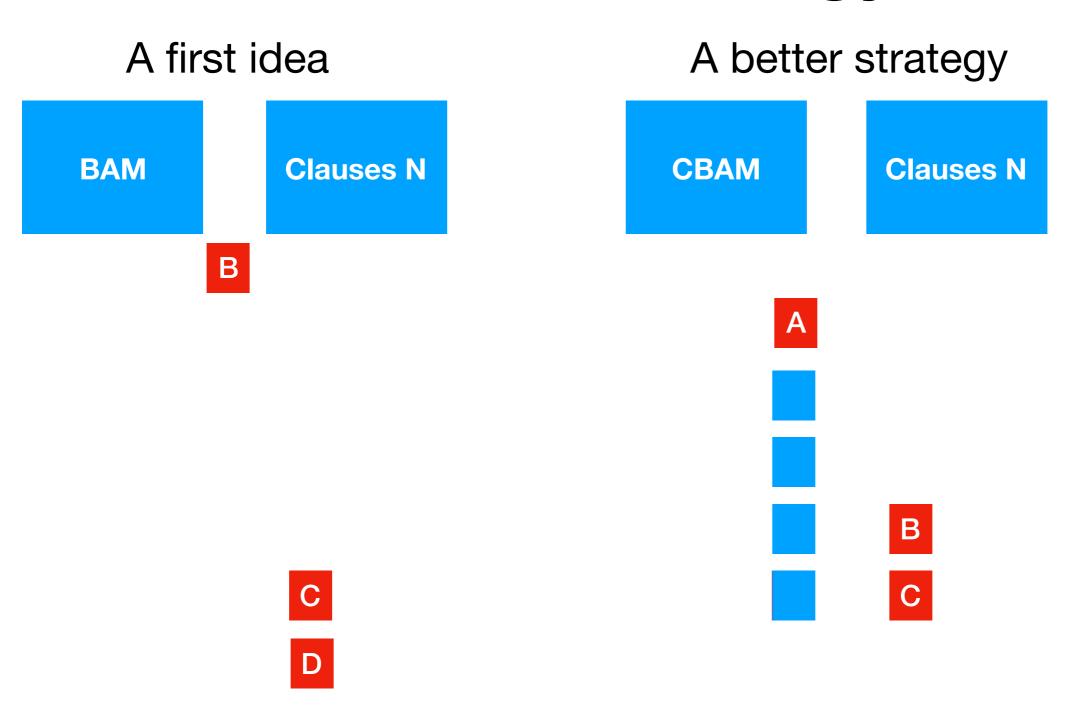


















A first idea

A better strategy

Clauses N

DCBAM

Clauses N

















A first idea

A better strategy

Clauses N

DCBAM

Clauses N

B





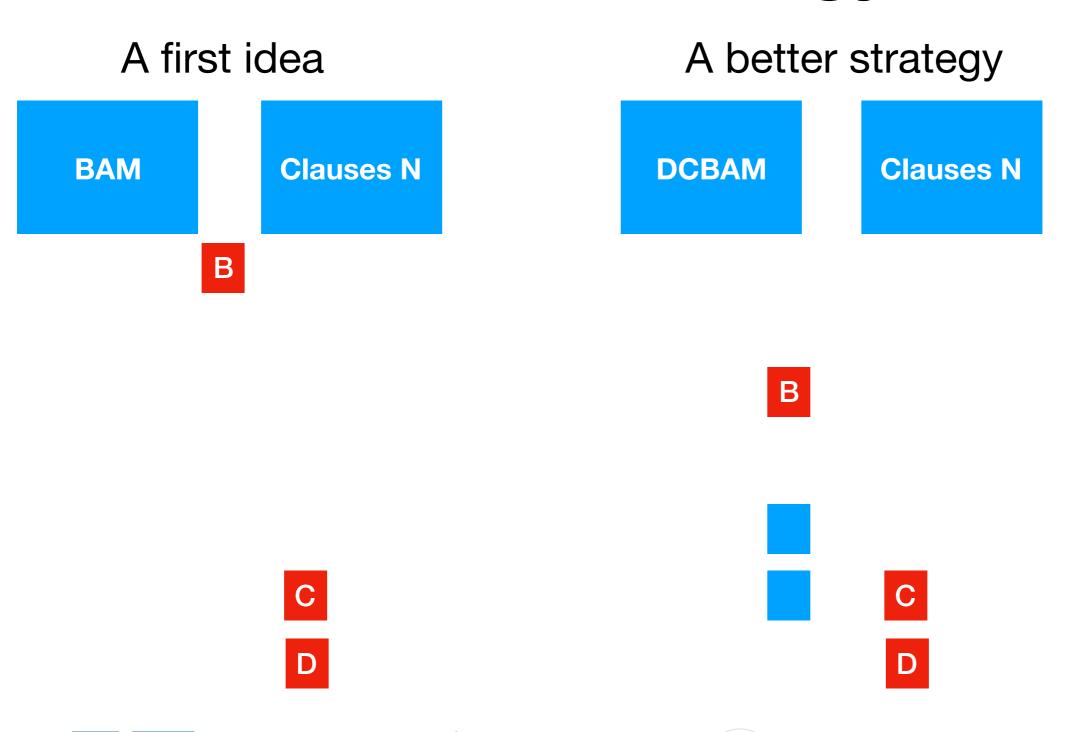


















A first idea

A better strategy

Clauses N

DCBAM

Clauses N









