

# **Encoding High-Level Constraints into SAT and MIP**

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# PicatSAT's Performance at 2022 FLOC Olympic Games



# *PicatSAT's Performance in 2024*

- XCSP Competition**

Rank	Main CSP	Main COP	Fast COP
1st	Picat	CPMpy_ortools	Picat
2nd	CPMpy-ortools	Picat	CoSoCo
3rd	Fun-sCOP	CoSoCo	Choco

- MiniZinc Challenge**

Category	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Fixed	OR-Tools CP-SAT	Choco-solver CP-SAT	SICStus Prolog
Free	OR-Tools CP-SAT	PicatSAT	iZplus
Parallel	OR-Tools CP-SAT	PicatSAT	Choco-solver CP
Open	OR-Tools CP-SAT	PicatSAT	Choco-solver CP
Local Search	OR-Tools CP-SAT LS	Yuck	

# Constraint Programming in Picat

```
import sat.
```

cp  
mip  
smt

```
sudoku(Board) =>
```

```
    N = Board.len,
```

```
    Vars = Board.vars(),
```

```
    Vars :: 1..N,
```

```
    foreach (Row in Board)
```

```
        all_different(Row)
```

```
    end,
```

```
    foreach (J in 1..N)
```

```
        all_different([Board[I,J] : I in 1..N])
```

```
    end,
```

```
    M = round(sqrt(N)),
```

```
    foreach (I in 1..M..N-M, J in 1..M..N-M)
```

```
        all_different([Board[I+K,J+L] : K in 0..M-1, L in 0..M-1])
```

```
    end,
```

```
    solve(Vars).
```

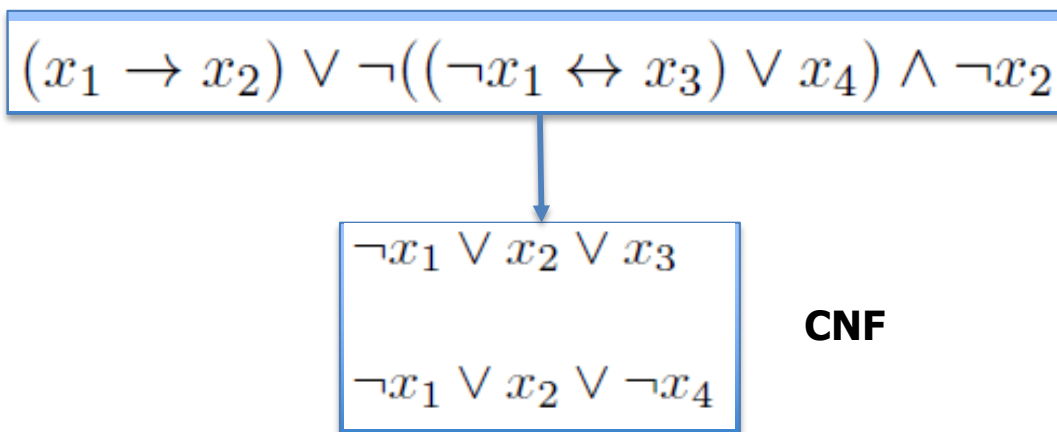
			3			1	
						9	7
		4			8	6	
6						2	1
				6		4	
		2			4		6
	9	6	4	1			3
3					7		6
	1		5			8	2

## *Outline*

- **Encoding CSP into SAT**
  - *Encodings and Optimizations*
- **Encoding CSP into MIP**
- ***Summary***

# The Satisfiability Problem (SAT)

Given a Boolean formula, the SAT problem is to determine if the formula is satisfiable. If yes, it finds an assignment for the variables that makes the formula satisfiable.



1. *Choice*: Assign a value to a selected variable.
2. *Unit propagation*: Use this assignment to determine values for the other variables.
3. *Backjump*: If a conflict is found, add the negation of the conflict-causing clause as a new clause and backtrack to the choice that made the conflict occur.
4. Continue from step 1.

- Martin Davis, Hilary Putnam: A Computing Procedure for Quantification Theory, 1960.
- Martin Davis, George Logemann, Donald Loveland: A Machine Program for Theorem Proving, 1962.
- Joao Marques-Silva, Ines Lynce and Sharad Malik: Conflict-Driven Clause Learning SAT Solvers, 2009.
- J. K. Fichte, D. Le Berre, M. Hecher, S. Szeider: The Silent (R)evolution of SAT, 2023.

$$X :: \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$$

- Direct encoding

$$\begin{aligned} B_i &\leftrightarrow X = a_i \\ B_1 \vee B_2 \vee \dots \vee B_n \\ \text{at\_most\_one}([B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n]) \end{aligned}$$

- Order encoding

$$B_i \leftrightarrow X \leq a_i$$

- Log encoding (sign-and-magnitude)

$$\begin{aligned} X.m &= \langle B_{k-1} \dots B_1 B_0 \rangle \\ X.s &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \end{aligned}$$

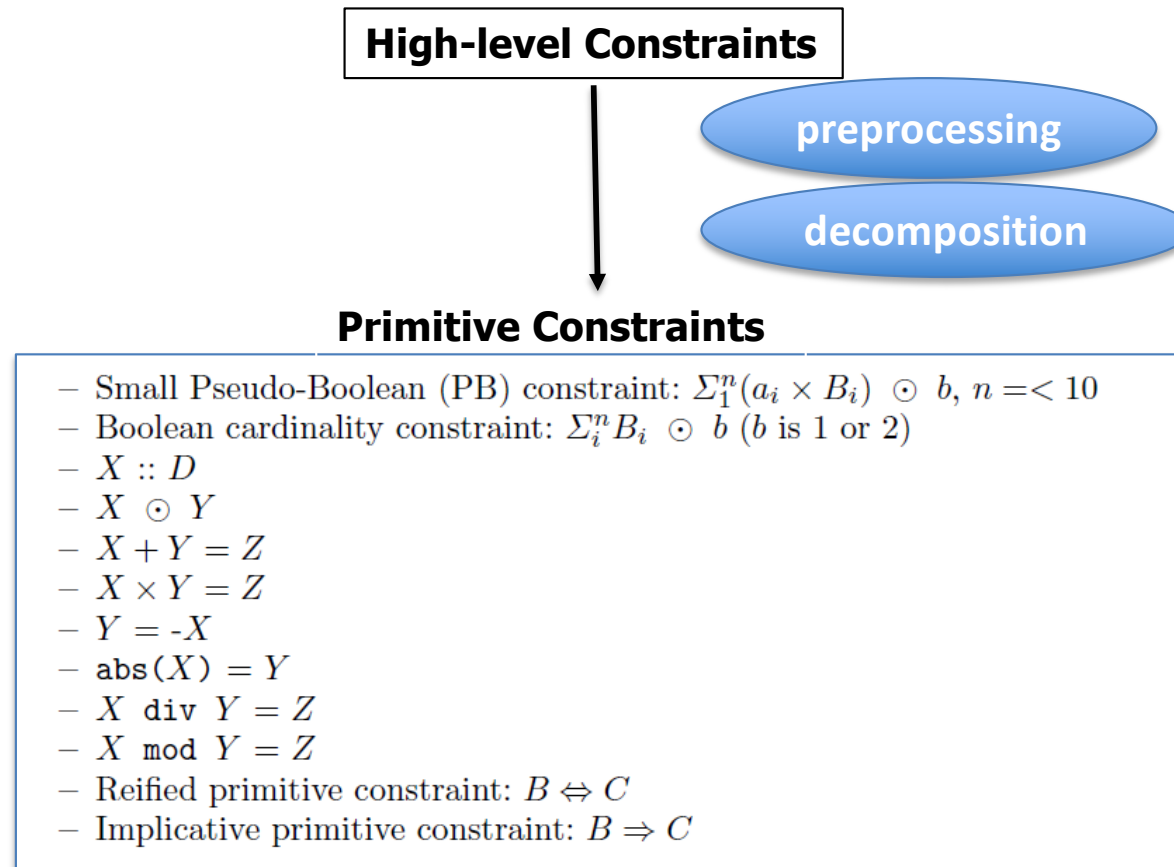
- Johan de Kleer: A Comparison of ATMS and CSP Techniques, 1989.
- James M. Crawford, Andrew B. Baker: Experimental Results on the Application of Satisfiability Algorithms to Scheduling Problems, 1994.
- Kazuo Iwama, Shuichi Miyazaki: SAT - Variable Complexity of Hard Combinatorial Problems, 1994.



- BEE (order encoding)
- FznTini (log encoding)
- meSAT (order and direct encodings)
- PicatSAT (log and direct encodings)
- Savile Row (order and direct encodings)
- Sugar (order encoding) and its successors

- Naoyuki Tamura, Akiko Taga, Satoshi Kitagawa, Mutsunori Banbara: Compiling finite linear CSP into SAT, 2009.
- Jinbo Huang: Universal Booleanization of Constraint Models, 2008.
- Amit Metodi, Michael Codish: Compiling finite domain constraints to SAT with BEE, 2012.
- Mirko Stojadinovic, Filip Maric: meSAT - multiple encodings of CSP to SAT, 2014.
- Neng-Fa Zhou and Hakan Kjellerstrand: Optimizing SAT Encodings for Arithmetic Constraints, 2017.

# The PicatSAT Compiler



- Constraints are made to be arc-consistent or interval consistent
- No primitive constraints are duplicated
- Avoid creating large-domain variables
- Avoid creating domains with negative values

# Encoding Small PB Constraints

- Espresso

```
% X+Y = 2*U+V,  
% where [X,Y,U,V] :: 0..1, UV ≠ 11
```

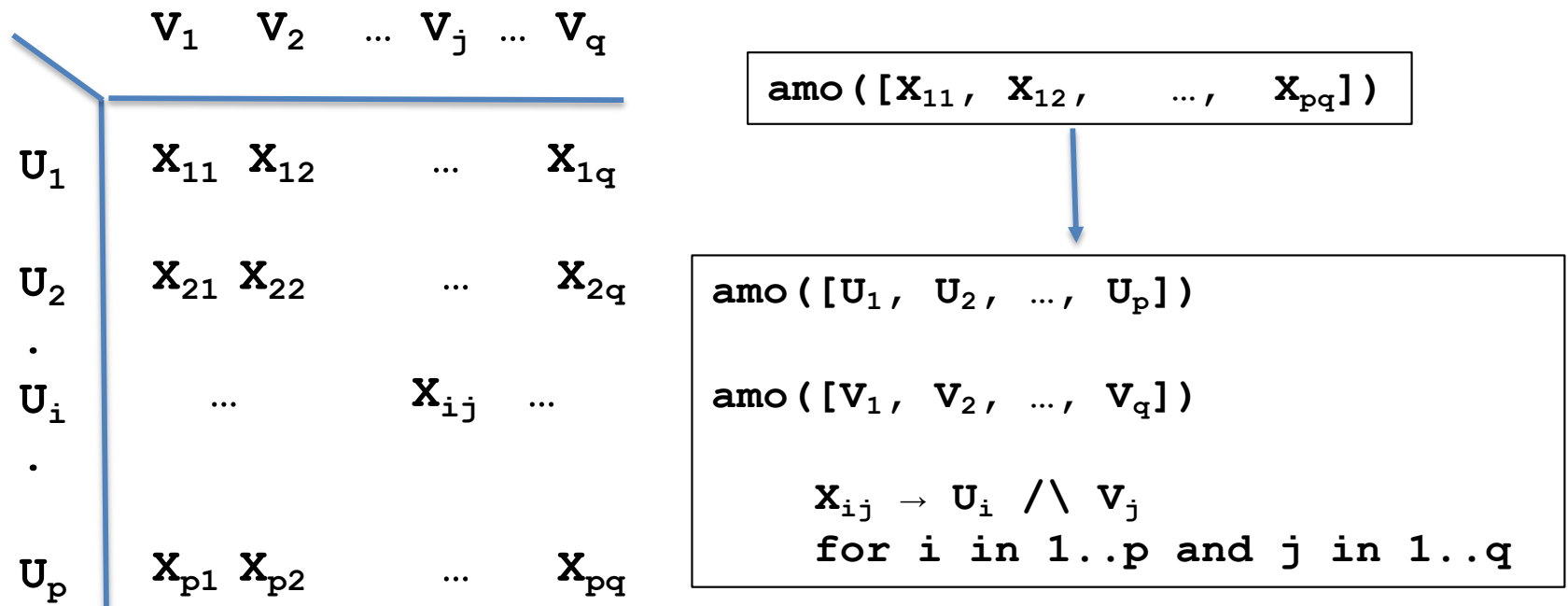
```
.i 4  
.o 1  
0000 0  
0001 1  
0010 1  
0011 -  
0100 1  
0101 0  
0110 1  
0111 -  
1000 1  
1001 0  
1010 1  
1011 -  
1100 1  
1101 1  
1110 0  
1111 -
```

```
.i 4  
.o 1  
.p 5  
1-00 1  
-01- 1  
01-0 1  
110- 1  
00-1 1  
.e
```

```
 $\neg X \vee U \vee V$   
 $Y \vee \neg U$   
 $X \vee \neg Y \vee V$   
 $\neg X \vee \neg Y \vee U$   
 $X \vee Y \vee \neg V$ 
```

# Encoding the at-most-one Constraint

- Chen's two-product encoding



Jingchao Chen: A New SAT Encoding of the At-Most-One Constraint, 2010.

# Sign-and-Magnitude Log Encoding

**$X :: D$**

- Each domain variable is encoded as a vector of Boolean variables
  - $X.m = \langle B_{n-1}, \dots, B_1, B_0 \rangle$
  - $X.s$  is the sign bit
- No negative zero is allowed
  - $X.m = \langle 0, \dots, 0, 0 \rangle \Rightarrow X.s = 0$

# Sign-and-Magnitude Log Encoding (Example)

$x :: [-2, -1, 1, 2]$

$x.m = \langle x_1, x_0 \rangle$

$x.s = s$

- Naïve Encoding

$\neg s \vee \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_0$	$(x \neq -3)$
$\neg s \vee x_1 \vee x_0$	$(x \neq -0)$
$s \vee x_1 \vee x_0$	$(x \neq 0)$
$s \vee \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_0$	$(x \neq 3)$

- Optimized Encoding  
(Using Espresso)

$x_0 \vee x_1$   
 $\neg x_0 \vee \neg x_1$

# The Comparison Constraint: $X \geq Y$

- Signed comparison

$$\begin{aligned} &X.s = 0 \wedge Y.s = 1 \vee \\ &X.s = 1 \wedge Y.s = 1 \Rightarrow X.m \leq Y.m \vee \\ &X.s = 0 \wedge Y.s = 0 \Rightarrow X.m \geq Y.m \end{aligned}$$

- Unsigned comparison

$$X.m = \langle X_{n-1}X_{n-2} \dots X_1X_0 \rangle, Y.m = \langle Y_{n-1}Y_{n-2} \dots Y_1Y_0 \rangle$$

$$T_0 \Leftrightarrow (X_0 \geq Y_0)$$

$$T_1 \Leftrightarrow (X_1 > Y_1) \vee (X_1 = Y_1 \wedge T_0)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$T_{n-1} \Leftrightarrow (X_{n-1} > Y_{n-1}) \vee (X_{n-1} = Y_{n-1} \wedge T_{n-2})$$

# The Addition Constraint: $X+Y = Z$

- Unsigned addition (ripple-carry adders)

$$\begin{array}{r} X_{n-1} \dots X_1 X_0 \\ + Y_{n-1} \dots Y_1 Y_0 \\ \hline Z_n Z_{n-1} \dots Z_1 Z_0 \end{array} \quad \text{Carriers are used}$$

- Signed addition

$$\begin{aligned} X.s = 0 \wedge Y.s = 0 &\Rightarrow Z.s = 0 \wedge X.m + Y.m = Z.m \\ X.s = 1 \wedge Y.s = 1 &\Rightarrow Z.s = 1 \wedge X.m + Y.m = Z.m \\ X.s = 0 \wedge Y.s = 1 \wedge Z.s = 1 &\Rightarrow X.m + Z.m = Y.m \\ X.s = 0 \wedge Y.s = 1 \wedge Z.s = 0 &\Rightarrow Y.m + Z.m = X.m \\ X.s = 1 \wedge Y.s = 0 \wedge Z.s = 0 &\Rightarrow X.m + Z.m = Y.m \\ X.s = 1 \wedge Y.s = 0 \wedge Z.s = 1 &\Rightarrow Y.m + Z.m = X.m \end{aligned}$$



# The Full Adder

$$X_i + Y_i + C_{in} = C_{out}Z_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} &X_i \vee \neg Y_i \vee C_{in} \vee Z_i \\ &X_i \vee Y_i \vee \neg C_{in} \vee Z_i \\ &\neg X_i \vee \neg Y_i \vee C_{in} \vee \neg Z_i \\ &\neg X_i \vee Y_i \vee \neg C_{in} \vee \neg Z_i \\ &\neg X_i \vee C_{out} \vee Z_i \\ &X_i \vee \neg C_{out} \vee \neg Z_i \\ &\neg Y_i \vee \neg C_{in} \vee C_{out} \\ &Y_i \vee C_{in} \vee \neg C_{out} \\ &\neg X_i \vee \neg Y_i \vee \neg C_{in} \vee Z_i \\ &X_i \vee Y_i \vee C_{in} \vee \neg Z_i \end{aligned}$$

# An Optimized Carrier-free Encoding for $Y = X+1$

$$\begin{array}{r} X_{m-1} \dots X_1 X_0 \\ + \phantom{X_{m-1} \dots X_1} 1 \\ \hline Y_{m-1} \dots Y_1 Y_0 \end{array}$$

- Consider two bits a time

$$\begin{aligned} \neg Y_{i-1} \wedge X_{i-1} &\Rightarrow Y_i = \neg X_i && \rightarrow 11 \text{ clauses} \\ \neg Y_{i-1} \wedge X_{i-1} \wedge X_i &\Rightarrow Y_{i+1} = \neg X_{i+1} \\ \text{otherwise} &\Rightarrow Y_i = X_i \wedge Y_{i+1} = X_{i+1} \end{aligned}$$

- Top-most 4 bits  $\rightarrow 21$  clauses

$$\begin{array}{ll} X_{m-1} \vee X_{m-4} \vee \neg Y_{m-1} & X_{m-2} \vee X_{m-4} \vee \neg Y_{m-2} \\ X_{m-1} \vee \neg Y_{m-1} \vee \neg Y_{m-2} & X_{m-3} \vee X_{m-4} \vee \neg Y_{m-3} \\ X_{m-1} \vee \neg Y_{m-1} \vee \neg Y_{m-3} & X_{m-2} \vee \neg Y_{m-2} \vee \neg Y_{m-3} \\ X_{m-1} \vee \neg Y_{m-1} \vee \neg Y_{m-4} & X_{m-2} \vee \neg Y_{m-2} \vee \neg Y_{m-4} \\ X_{m-3} \vee \neg Y_{m-3} \vee \neg Y_{m-4} & \neg X_{m-4} \vee X_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-4} \\ \neg X_{m-4} \vee \neg Y_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-4} & X_{m-1} \vee \neg X_{m-2} \vee Y_{m-1} \vee Y_{m-2} \\ X_{m-2} \vee \neg X_{m-3} \vee Y_{m-2} \vee Y_{m-3} & X_{m-4} \vee \neg X_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-4} \\ X_{m-4} \vee X_{m-5} \vee \neg Y_{m-4} & X_{m-4} \vee \neg Y_{m-5} \vee \neg Y_{m-4} \\ \neg X_{m-1} \vee Y_{m-1} & \neg X_{m-1} \vee \neg X_{m-2} \vee \neg Y_{m-1} \vee Y_{m-2} \\ \neg X_{m-2} \vee \neg X_{m-3} \vee \neg Y_{m-2} \vee Y_{m-3} & X_{m-3} \vee \neg X_{m-4} \vee \neg X_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-3} \\ \neg X_{m-3} \vee \neg X_{m-4} \vee \neg X_{m-5} \vee Y_{m-5} \vee \neg Y_{m-3} & \end{array}$$

# The Multiplication Constraint: $X * Y = Z$

- The Shift-and-Add Algorithm

$$X.m * Y.m = Z.m \quad X.m = \langle X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1, X_0 \rangle$$

$$X_0 = 0 \Rightarrow S_0 = 0$$

$$X_0 = 1 \Rightarrow S_0 = Y$$

$$X_1 = 0 \Rightarrow S_1 = S_0$$

$$X_1 = 1 \Rightarrow S_1 = (Y \ll 1) + S_0$$

$$\vdots$$

$$X_i = 0 \Rightarrow S_i = S_{i-1}$$

$$X_i = 1 \Rightarrow S_i = (Y \ll i) + S_{i-1}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$X_{n-1} = 0 \Rightarrow S_{n-1} = S_{n-2}$$

$$X_{n-1} = 1 \Rightarrow S_{n-1} = (Y \ll (n-1)) + S_{n-2}$$

$$Z = S_{n-1}$$

- H. Bierlee, etc.: Single Constant Multiplication for SAT. CPAIOR'24.

# Equivalence Reasoning

- Equivalence reasoning is an optimization that reasons about a possible value for a Boolean variable or the relationship between two Boolean variables at compile time.

$$X = \text{abs}(Y) \quad \Rightarrow \quad X.m = Y.m, X.s = 0$$

$$X = -Y \quad \Rightarrow \quad X.m = Y.m, X.s = Y.s = 0 \rightarrow X.m = 0$$

$$X = Y \bmod 2^K \quad \Rightarrow \quad X_0 = Y_0, X_1 = Y_1, \dots, X_{k-1} = Y_{k-1}$$

$$X = Y \text{ div } 2^K \quad \Rightarrow \quad X_0 = Y_K, X_1 = Y_{K+1}, \dots$$

- No clauses are needed to encode  $X = \text{abs}(Y)$ .

# Constant Propagation on $X+Y = Z$

$$X_i + Y_i = C_{out}Z_i$$

**Rule-1** :  $X_i = 0 \Rightarrow C_{out} = 0 \wedge Z_i = Y_i$ .

**Rule-2** :  $X_i = 1 \Rightarrow C_{out} = Y_i \wedge Z_i = \neg Y_i$ .

**Rule-3** :  $Z_i = 0 \Rightarrow C_{out} = X_i \wedge X_i = Y_i$

**Rule-4** :  $Z_i = 1 \Rightarrow C_{out} = 0 \wedge X_i = \neg Y_i$ .

- Example-1

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 & \\ + & 1 & 0 & 0 & \\ \hline Z_3 & Z_2 & Z_1 & Z_0 & \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} X_0 = Z_0 \\ X_1 = Z_1 \\ \neg X_2 = Z_2 \\ X_2 = Z_3 \end{array}$$

- Example-2

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 & \\ + & Y_2 & Y_1 & Y_0 & \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \neg X_0 = Y_0 \\ \neg X_1 = Y_1 \\ X_2 = Y_2 \\ X_2 = 1 \\ Y_2 = 1 \end{array}$$

# Constant Propagation on $X * Y = Z$

$$X_0 = 0 \Rightarrow S_0 = 0$$

$$X_0 = 1 \Rightarrow S_0 = Y$$

$$X_1 = 0 \Rightarrow S_1 = S_0$$

$$X_1 = 1 \Rightarrow S_1 = (Y \ll 1) + S_0$$

$\vdots$

$$X_i = 0 \Rightarrow S_i = S_{i-1}$$

$$X_i = 1 \Rightarrow S_i = (Y \ll i) + S_{i-1}$$

$\vdots$

$$X_{n-1} = 0 \Rightarrow S_{n-1} = S_{n-2}$$

$$X_{n-1} = 1 \Rightarrow S_{n-1} = (Y \ll (n-1)) + S_{n-2}$$

$$Z = S_{n-1}$$

**Rule 5** :  $X_i = 0 \Rightarrow$  copy all of the bits of  $S_{i-1}$  into  $S_i$ .

**Rule 6** :  $X_i = 1 \Rightarrow$  copy the lowest  $i$  bits of  $S_{i-1}$  into  $S_i$ .

**Rule 7** :  $X.m = \langle X_{n-1} \dots X_i 0 \dots 0 \rangle \wedge X_i = 1 \Rightarrow$   
 $Z_i = Y_0 \wedge Z_k = 0 \text{ for } k \in 0..(i-1).$

`all_different([V1, V2, ..., Vn])`

- Standard

$V_i \neq V_j$  for  $i, j = 1, \dots, n, i < j$ .

- Use `at_most_one`

- Let  $D = D_1 \cup D_2 \cup \dots \cup D_n$

- If  $|D| > n$ :  $\forall a \in D$ : `at_most_one([V1 = a, V2 = a, ..., Vn = a])`

- If  $|D| = n$ :  $\forall a \in D$ : `exactly_one([V1 = a, V2 = a, ..., Vn = a])`

- A hybrid of log and direct encodings

# The cumulative Constraint

$\text{cumulative}([S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n], [D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n], [R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n], \text{Limit})$

- Occupation constraints

for each time  $t_i$  and each task  $j$ :

$$O_{ij} \leftrightarrow S_j \leq t_i < S_j + D_j$$

- Resource constraints

for each time  $t_i$ :

$$\sum_{j=1}^n O_{ij} * R_j \leq \text{Limit}$$

- Time points

- Time decomposition: all the time points in the make span
- Task decomposition: only the start or end points

- Andreas Schutt, Thibaut Feydy, Peter J. Stuckey, and Mark G. Wallace. Explaining the cumulative propagator, 2011.



# The acyclic\_d(V, E) Constraint

- Leaf-elimination encoding (LEE)
  - A graph is acyclic if the graph can be reduced to empty after leaves are repeatedly eliminated.

$$G_0 = G \longrightarrow G_1 \quad \dots \quad \longrightarrow G_t$$

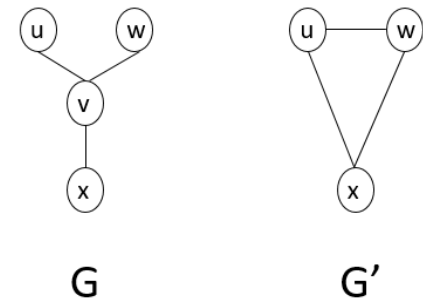
- Use a time variable for each vertex
- Vertex-elimination encoding (VEE)



- If G' is cyclic, then G is cyclic
  - Hybrid encoding (HYB)
    - Combines LEE and VEE
- M. F. Rankooh and J. Rintanen: Propositional Encodings of Acyclicity and Reachability by Using Vertex Elimination, AAAI'22.
  - N.F. Zhou, R. Want, and R. Yap: A Comparison of SAT Encodings for Acyclicity of Directed Graphs, SAT'23.

# The hcp(V,E) Constraint

- Distance encoding (DIST)
  - Use a distance variable for each vertex
  - If an arc  $(u,v)$  is in the cycle and  $v$  is not the starting vertex, then  $D_v = D_u + 1$
- Vertex elimination encoding (VEE)
  - Ensure the mapping between  $H_G$  and  $H_{G'}$
- Hybrid encoding combining DIST and VEE
  - N.F. Zhou: In Pursuit of an Efficient SAT Encoding for the Hamiltonian Cycle Problem, CP 2020.
  - N.F. Zhou: Encoding the Hamiltonian Cycle Problem into SAT Based on Vertex Elimination, CP 2024.

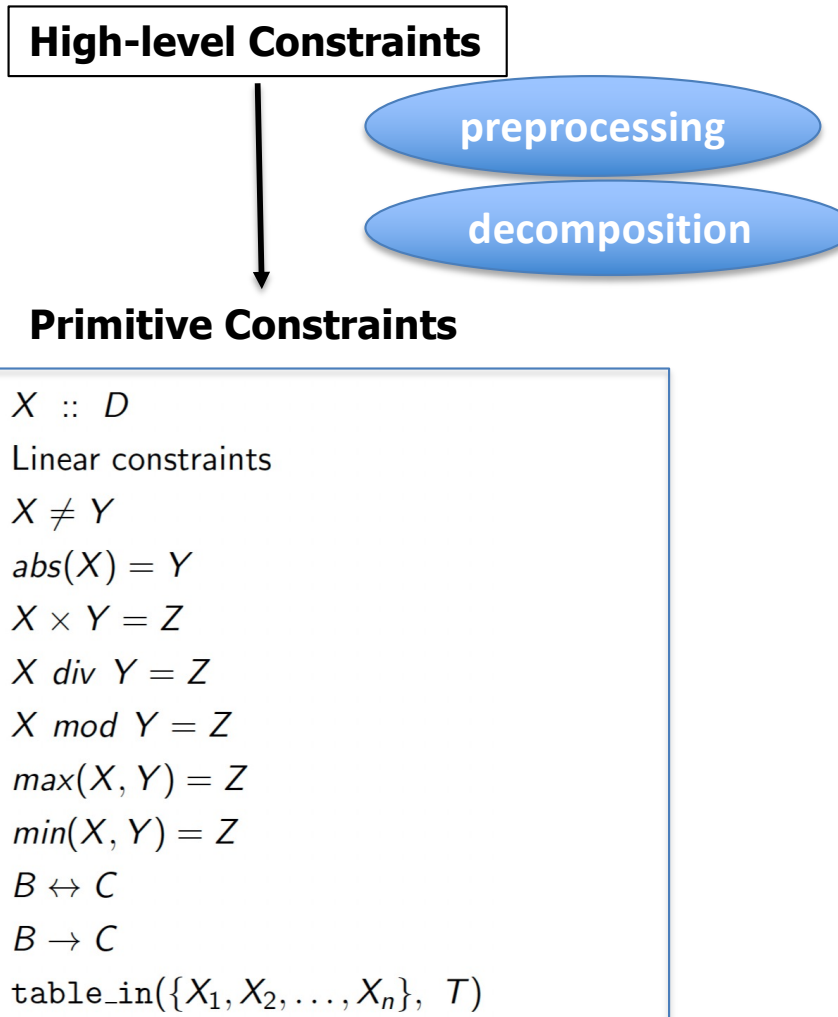


## *Further Readings*

- N.F. Zhou, H. Kjellerstrand: The Picat-SAT Compiler, PADL 2016.
- N.F. Zhou, H. Kjellerstrand: Optimizing SAT Encodings for Arithmetic Constraints, CP 2017.
- R. Bartak, N.F. Zhou, R. Stern, E. Boyarski, and P. Surynek: Modeling and Solving the Multi-Agent Pathfinding Problem in Picat, ICTAI'17.
- N.F. Zhou: In Pursuit of an Efficient SAT Encoding for the Hamiltonian Cycle Problem, CP 2020.
- N.F. Zhou: Modeling and Solving Graph Synthesis Problems Using SAT-Encoded Reachability Constraints in Picat, ICLP 2021.
- N.F. Zhou, R. Want, and R. Yap: A Comparison of SAT Encodings for Acyclicity of Directed Graphs, SAT 2023.
- N.F. Zhou: Encoding the Hamiltonian Cycle Problem into SAT Based on Vertex Elimination, CP 2024.

- MIP for combinatorial search
  - Symplex method
  - LP relaxation
  - Branch-and-bound
  - Cutting planes method
- MIP solvers support nonlinear constraints
- Encoding nonlinear constraints into linear ones is still important

# CSP to MIP




- Constraints are made to be arc-consistent or interval consistent
- No primitive constraints are duplicated

- Let  $D = L_1..U_1 \cup L_2..U_2 \cup \dots \cup L_m..U_m$
- Introduce a binary variable  $B_i$  for each interval  $L_i..U_i$ 
  - $B_i \rightarrow X \geq L_i$
  - $B_i \rightarrow X \leq U_i$
- Translate  $X :: D$  to  $B_1 + B_2 + \dots + B_m = 1$

# $X \neq Y$ and $\text{abs}(X) = Y$

- **$X \neq Y$** 
  - $B \rightarrow X > Y$
  - $\sim B \rightarrow X < Y$
- **$\text{abs}(X) = Y$** 
  - $T = -X$
  - $Y = \max(X, T)$

$$X \times Y = Z, X \text{ div } Y = Z, X \text{ mod } Y = Z$$

- Let  $X$ 's binary representation be  $\langle X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1, X_0 \rangle$
- Translate  $X \times Y = Z$  to:
  - $Z = 2^{n-1} T_{n-1} + \dots + 2 T_1 + T_0$   Binary expansion
    - $X_i \rightarrow T_i = Y$
    - $\neg X_i \rightarrow T_i = 0$
- Convert  $X \text{ div } Y = Z$  ( $X \geq 0, Y > 0$ ) to
  - $X = Y \times Z + R$
  - $0 \leq R < Y$
- Convert  $X \text{ mod } Y = Z$  ( $X \geq 0, Y > 0$ ) to
  - $X = Y \times Q + Z$
  - $0 \leq Z < Y$



$$\min(X,Y) = Z$$

- $\min(X,Y) = Z$ 
  - $Z \leq X$
  - $Z \leq Y$
  - $B1 \rightarrow X \leq Z$
  - $B2 \rightarrow Y \leq Z$
  - $B1+B2 \geq Z$

$$B \rightarrow X \leq Y, B \leftrightarrow X \leq Y$$

- $B \rightarrow X \leq Y$

- $X - (1-B)M \leq Y$



The big-M method

- $B \leftrightarrow X \leq Y$

- $B \rightarrow X \leq Y$

- $\sim B \rightarrow X > Y$

$table\_in(\{X1, X2, \dots, Xn\}, T)$

$$T = [\{t_{11}, t_{12}, \dots, t_{1n}\}, \\ \{t_{21}, t_{22}, \dots, t_{2n}\}, \\ \dots \\ \{t_{m1}, t_{m2}, \dots, t_{mn}\}]$$

- Introduce a binary variable  $B_i$  for each row
  - for  $j \in 1..n$  :  $X_j = \sum_{i=1}^m B_i \times t_{ij}$
  - $\sum_{i=1}^m B_i = 1$

<https://www.minizinc.org/>

## *Summary*

- As demonstrated by Picat, encoding CSP into SAT and MIP are viable and economical ways to having efficient CSP solvers
- The **sat** encoder incorporates cutting-edge encodings and optimizations for constraints
- The **mip** encoder implements some of the standard linearization algorithms
- A logic language, like Picat, is ideal for implementing these encoders

*THANK YOU!*

*picat-lang.org*