

CS 228 : Logic in Computer Science

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Checking Satisfiability

- ▶ The SAT problem : Given a formula φ , is it satisfiable?
- ▶ Given a formula φ , is it valid?
- ▶ SAT is NP-complete. NP represents non-deterministic polynomial time.
- ▶ Given a witness, it is easy to check if the witness is a valid witness in polynomial time, Finding a witness is not as easy.
 - ▶ Given a valuation α for the variables p_1, \dots, p_n of a formula φ , we can check if φ evaluates to true under α in time polynomial in n .
 - ▶ Finding whether such a valuation α exists is not as easy.
- ▶ SAT solvers are tools which implement heuristics to check satisfiability.
- ▶ The input to a SAT solver is a formula in some specified form.

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Every formula F is equivalent to some formula F_1 in CNF and some formula F_2 in DNF.

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- ▶ Get rid of all double negations, and push all negations inside to the level of literals : Replace all subformulae
 - ▶ $\neg\neg G$ with G ,
 - ▶ $\neg(G \wedge H)$ with $\neg G \vee \neg H$
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- ▶ Distribute \vee wherever possible : that is, replace all $(F \vee (G \wedge H))$ or $((G \wedge H) \vee F)$ with $(F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$.

The resultant formula F_1 is in CNF and is provably equivalent to F .

$$[(\neg x \vee \neg y) \wedge (\neg x \vee \neg z)] \wedge [(\neg x \vee y) \wedge (\neg x \vee \neg x)]$$

Polynomial Time Formula Classes

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- ▶ $p \wedge (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee r) \wedge (\neg a \vee \neg b)$ is Horn, but $a \vee b$ is not Horn.
- ▶ A basic Horn formula is one which has no \wedge . Every Horn formula is a conjunction of basic Horn formulae.

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- ▶ Thus, a Horn formula is written as a conjunction of implications.

A Decision Problem

Horn SAT : The Horn Satisfiability Problem

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The class **P**

An algorithm is polynomial time if there exists a polynomial $p(x)$ such that given the input size n , the algorithm terminates with the correct answer in $\leq p(n)$ steps. The class of all problems which can be solved by a polynomial time algorithm is denoted **P**.

Horn SAT is in **P**

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- ▶ Consider subformulae of the form $(p_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge p_m) \rightarrow \perp$. If there is one such subformula with all p_i marked, then say **Unsat**, otherwise say **Sat**.

An Example

$$(\top \rightarrow A) \wedge (C \rightarrow D) \wedge ((A \wedge B) \rightarrow C) \wedge ((C \wedge D) \rightarrow \perp) \wedge (\top \rightarrow B).$$

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The Horn Algorithm

The Horn algorithm concludes Sat iff H is satisfiable.

Complexity of Horn

- ▶ Given a Horn formula of length n , Horn SAT takes at most n^2 steps to conclude.
- ▶ Read once marking all $\top \rightarrow p$ clauses.
- ▶ Inspect and mark all clauses $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_j) \rightarrow Q$ (at most n times)
- ▶ Check one final time

2-CNF

- ▶ 2-CNF : CNF where each clause has at most 2 literals.

$$(\neg p \vee q) \wedge p \wedge (r \vee \neg q) \wedge (\neg r \vee p)$$

Discussion on Consistency
