

# **Combinatorial Decision Making and Optimization (Module 2)**

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# 1 Satisfiability modulo theory

**Satisfiability modulo theory (SMT)** Satisfiability of a formula with respect to some background formal theory/theories.

Satisfiability modulo theory (SMT)

SMT extends SAT and exploits domain-specific reasoning (possibly with infinite domains).

## 1.1 First-order logic for SMT

### 1.1.1 Syntax

**Remark.** Only quantifier-free formulas (q.f.f.) are considered in SMT.

**Functions** The set of all the functions is denoted as  $\Sigma^F = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} \Sigma_k^F$  where  $\Sigma_k^F$  denotes the set of  $k$ -ary functions.

Functions

**Constants**  $\Sigma_0^F$

**Predicates** The set of all the predicates is denoted as  $\Sigma^P = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} \Sigma_k^P$  where  $\Sigma_k^P$  denotes the set of  $k$ -ary predicates.

Predicates

**Propositional symbols**  $\Sigma_0^P$

**Signature** The set of the non-logical symbols of FOL is denoted as:

Signature

$$\Sigma = \Sigma^F \cup \Sigma^P$$

**Terms** The set of terms over  $\Sigma$  is denoted as  $\mathbb{T}^\Sigma$ :

Terms

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{T}^\Sigma = & \Sigma_0^F \cup \\ & \{f(t_1, \dots, t_k) \mid f \in \Sigma_k^F \wedge t_1, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{T}^\Sigma\} \cup \\ & \{\text{ite}(\varphi, t_1, t_2) \mid \varphi \in \mathbb{F}^\Sigma \wedge t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{T}^\Sigma\} \end{aligned}$$

**Remark.** `ite` is an auxiliary function to capture the if-then-else construct.

**Formulas** The set of formulas over  $\Sigma$  is denoted as  $\mathbb{F}^\Sigma$ :

Formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{F}^\Sigma = & \{\perp, \top\} \cup \Sigma_0^P \cup \\ & \{t_1 = t_2 \mid t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{T}^\Sigma\} \cup \\ & \{p(t_1, \dots, t_k) \mid p \in \Sigma_k^P \wedge t_1, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{T}^\Sigma\} \cup \\ & \{\neg \varphi \mid \varphi \in \mathbb{F}^\Sigma\} \cup \\ & \{(\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2), (\varphi_1 \iff \varphi_2), (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2), (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \mid \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in \mathbb{F}^\Sigma\} \end{aligned}$$

### 1.1.2 Semantics

**$\Sigma$ -model** Pair  $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, (\cdot)^{\mathcal{M}} \rangle$  defined on a given signature  $\Sigma$  where:

$\Sigma$ -model

- $M$  is the universe of  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- $(\cdot)^{\mathcal{M}}$  is a mapping such that:
  - $\forall f \in \Sigma_k^F : f^{\mathcal{M}} \in \{\varphi \mid \varphi : M^k \rightarrow M\}$ .
  - $\forall p \in \Sigma_k^P : p^{\mathcal{M}} \in \{\varphi \mid \varphi : M^k \rightarrow \{\mathbf{true}, \mathbf{false}\}\}$ .

**Interpretation** Extension of the mapping function  $(\cdot)^{\mathcal{M}}$  to terms and formulas:

Interpretation

- $\top^{\mathcal{M}} = \mathbf{true}$  and  $\perp^{\mathcal{M}} = \mathbf{false}$ .
- $(f(t_1, \dots, t_k))^{\mathcal{M}} = f^{\mathcal{M}}(t_1^{\mathcal{M}}, \dots, t_k^{\mathcal{M}})$  and  $(p(t_1, \dots, t_k))^{\mathcal{M}} = p^{\mathcal{M}}(t_1^{\mathcal{M}}, \dots, t_k^{\mathcal{M}})$ .
- $\text{ite}(\varphi, t_1, t_2)^{\mathcal{M}} = \begin{cases} t_1^{\mathcal{M}} & \text{if } \varphi^{\mathcal{M}} = \mathbf{true} \\ t_2^{\mathcal{M}} & \text{if } \varphi^{\mathcal{M}} = \mathbf{false} \end{cases}$ .

### 1.1.3 $\Sigma$ -theory

**Satisfiability** A model  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfies a formula  $\varphi \in \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$  if  $\varphi^{\mathcal{M}} = \mathbf{true}$ .

Satisfiability

**$\Sigma$ -theory** Possibly infinite set  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $\Sigma$ -models.

$\Sigma$ -theory

**$\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiability** A formula  $\varphi \in \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiable if there exists a model  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{T}$  that satisfies it.

$\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiability

**$\mathcal{T}$ -consistency** A set of formulas  $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent iff  $\varphi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_k$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiable.

$\mathcal{T}$ -consistency

**$\mathcal{T}$ -entailment** A set of formulas  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$   $\mathcal{T}$ -entails a formula  $\varphi \in \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$  ( $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{T}} \varphi$ ) iff in every model  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{T}$  that satisfies  $\Gamma$ ,  $\varphi$  is also satisfied.

$\mathcal{T}$ -entailment

**Remark.**  $\Gamma$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent iff  $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{T}} \perp$ .

**$\mathcal{T}$ -validity** A formula  $\varphi \in \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -valid iff  $\emptyset \models_{\mathcal{T}} \varphi$ .

$\mathcal{T}$ -validity

**Remark.**  $\varphi$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent iff  $\neg\varphi$  is not  $\mathcal{T}$ -valid.

**Theory lemma**  $\mathcal{T}$ -valid clause  $c = l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k$ .

Theory lemma

**$\Sigma$ -expansion** Given a  $\Sigma$ -model  $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, (\cdot)^{\mathcal{M}} \rangle$  and  $\Sigma' \supseteq \Sigma$ , an expansion  $\mathcal{M}' = \langle M', (\cdot)^{\mathcal{M}'} \rangle$  over  $\Sigma'$  is any  $\Sigma'$ -model such that:

$\Sigma$ -expansion

- $M' = M$ .
- $\forall s \in \Sigma : s^{\mathcal{M}'} = s^{\mathcal{M}}$

**Remark.** Given a  $\Sigma$ -theory  $\mathcal{T}$ , we implicitly consider it to be the theory  $\mathcal{T}'$  defined as:

$$\mathcal{T}' = \{\mathcal{M}' \mid \mathcal{M}' \text{ is an expansion of a } \Sigma\text{-model } \mathcal{M} \text{ in } \mathcal{T}\}$$

**Ground  $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiability** Given a  $\Sigma$ -theory  $\mathcal{T}$ , determine if a ground formula is  $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiable over a  $\Sigma$ -expansion  $\mathcal{T}'$ .

Ground  
 $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiability

**Axiomatically defined theory** Given a minimal set of formulas (axioms)  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma}$ , its corresponding theory is the set of all the models that respect  $\Lambda$ .

Axiomatically  
defined theory

**Example.** Let  $\Sigma$  be defined as:

$$\Sigma_0^F = \{a, b, c, d\} \quad \Sigma_1^F = \{f, g\} \quad \Sigma_2^P = \{p\}$$

A  $\Sigma$ -model  $\mathcal{M} = \langle [0, 2\pi[, (\cdot)^\mathcal{M} \rangle$  can be defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} a^\mathcal{M} &= 0 & b^\mathcal{M} &= \frac{\pi}{2} & c^\mathcal{M} &= \pi & d^\mathcal{M} &= \frac{3\pi}{2} \\ f^\mathcal{M} &= \sin & g^\mathcal{M} &= \cos & p^\mathcal{M}(x, y) &\iff x > y \end{aligned}$$

To determine if  $p(g(x), f(d))$  is  $\mathcal{M}$ -satisfiable, we have to expand  $\mathcal{M}$  as there are free variables ( $x$ ). Let  $\Sigma' = \Sigma \cup \{x\}$ . The expansion  $\mathcal{M}'$  such that  $x^{\mathcal{M}'} = \frac{\pi}{2}$  makes the formula satisfiable.

### 1.1.4 Theories of interest

**Equality with Uninterpreted Functions theory (EUF)** Theory  $\mathcal{T}_{\text{EUF}}$  containing all the possible  $\Sigma$ -models.

Equality with  
Uninterpreted  
Functions theory  
(EUF)

**Remark.** Also called empty theory as its axiom set is  $\emptyset$  (i.e. allows any model).

**Remark.** Useful to deal with black-box functions (i.e. prove satisfiability without a specific theory).

**Example.** The following formula can be proved to be unsatisfiable by only using syntactic manipulations of basic FOL concepts:

$$\begin{aligned} &(a * (f(b) + f(c)) = d) \wedge (b * (f(a) + f(c)) \neq d) \wedge \underline{(a = b)} \\ &\underline{(a * (f(a) + f(c)) = d) \wedge (a * (f(a) + f(c)) \neq d)} \\ &\quad (g(a, c) = d) \wedge (g(a, c) \neq d) \end{aligned}$$

**Arithmetic theories** Theories with  $\Sigma = (0, 1, +, -, \leq)$ .

Arithmetic theories

**Presburger arithmetic** Theory  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  that interprets  $\Sigma$ -symbols over integers.

- Ground  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ -satisfiability is **NP**-complete.
- Extended with multiplication,  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ -satisfiability becomes undecidable.

**Real arithmetic** Theory  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{R}}$  that interprets  $\Sigma$ -symbols over reals.

- Ground  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{R}}$ -satisfiability is in **P**.
- Extended with multiplication,  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{R}}$ -satisfiability becomes doubly-exponential.

**Remark.** In floating points, commutativity still holds, but associativity and distributivity are not guaranteed.

**Array theory** Let  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{A}}$  be the signature containing two functions:

Array theory

**read**( $a, i$ ) Reads the value of  $a$  at index  $i$ .

**write**( $a, i, v$ ) Returns an array  $a'$  where the value  $v$  is at the index  $i$  of  $a$ .

The theory  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{A}}$  is the set of all models respecting the following axioms:

- $\forall a \forall i \forall v : \text{read}(\text{write}(a, i, v), i) = v$ .
- $\forall a \forall i \forall j \forall v : (i \neq j) \Rightarrow (\text{read}(\text{write}(a, i, v), j) = \text{read}(a, j))$ .
- $\forall a \forall a' : (\forall i : \text{read}(a, i) = \text{read}(a', i)) \Rightarrow (a = a')$ .

**Remark.** The full  $\mathcal{T}_A$  theory is undecidable but there are decidable fragments.

**Bit-vectors theory** Theory  $\mathcal{T}_{BV}$  with vectors of bits of fixed length as constants and operations such as: Bit-vectors theory

- String-like operations (e.g. slicing, concatenation, ...).
- Logical operations (e.g. bit-wise operators).
- Arithmetic operations (e.g.  $+$ ,  $-$ , ...).

**String theory** Theory to handle strings of unbounded length. String theory

**Theory of word equations** Given an alphabet  $\mathcal{S}$ , a word equation has form  $L = R$  where  $L$  and  $R$  are concatenations of string constants over  $\mathcal{S}^*$ .

**Remark.** The general theory of word equations is undecidable.

**Remark.** The quantifier-free theory of word equations is decidable.

**Remark.** In practice, many theories are often combined.

## 1.2 Encoding to SAT

### 1.2.1 Eager approaches

All the information on the formal theory is used from the beginning to encode an SMT formula  $\varphi$  into an equisatisfiable SAT formula  $\varphi'$  (i.e. SMT is compiled into SAT).

**Equisatisfiability** Given a  $\Sigma$ -theory  $\mathcal{T}$ , two formulas  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$  are equisatisfiable iff: Equisatisfiability

$$\varphi \text{ is } \mathcal{T}\text{-satisfiable} \iff \varphi' \text{ is } \mathcal{T}\text{-satisfiable}$$

Eager approaches have the following advantages:

- Does not require an SMT solver.
- Once encoded, whichever SAT solver can be used.

Eager approaches have the following disadvantages:

- An ad-hoc encoding is needed for all the theories.
- The resulting SAT formula might be huge.

**Algorithm** Given an EUF formula  $\varphi$ , to determine if it is  $\mathcal{T}_{EUF}$ -satisfiable, the following steps are taken:

1. Replace functions and predicates with constant equalities. Given the terms  $f(t_1), \dots, f(t_k)$ , possible approaches are:

**Ackermann approach** Ackermann approach

- Each  $f(t_i)$  is encoded into a new constant  $A_i$ .
- Add the constraints  $(t_i = t_j) \Rightarrow (A_i = A_j)$  for each  $i < j$ .

**Bryant approach** Bryant approach

- $f(t_1)$  is encoded as  $A_1$ .
- $f(t_2)$  is encoded as  $\text{ite}(t_2 = t_1, A_1, A_2)$ .

- $f(t_3)$  is encoded as  $\text{ite}(t_3 = t_1, A_1, \text{ite}(t_3 = t_2, A_2, A_3))$ .
- $f(t_i)$  is encoded as:

$$\text{ite}\left(t_i = t_1, A_1, \text{ite}\left(t_i = t_2, A_2, \text{ite}\left(\dots, \text{ite}(t_i = t_{i-1}, A_{i-1}, A_i)\right)\right)\right)$$

2. Remove equalities to reduce  $\varphi$  into propositional logic. Possible encodings are:

**Small-domain encoding** If  $\varphi$  has  $n$  distinct variables  $\{c_1, \dots, c_n\}$ , a possible model  $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, (\cdot)^\mathcal{M} \rangle$  that satisfies it must have  $|M| \leq n$ .

Therefore, each  $c_i^\mathcal{M}$  can be associated to a value in  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . In SAT, this mapping from  $c_i^\mathcal{M}$  to  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  can be encoded using  $O(\log n)$  bits. Finally, an equality  $c_i = c_j$  (or  $c_i \neq c_j$ ) can be encoded by adding bitwise constraints.

**Direct encoding** Encode each equality  $a = b$  with a propositional symbol  $P_{a,b}$  and add transitivity constraints of form  $(P_{a,b} \wedge P_{b,c}) \Rightarrow P_{a,c}$ .

### 1.2.2 Lazy approaches

Integrate SAT solvers with theory-specific decision procedures.

These approaches are more flexible and modular and avoid an explosion of SAT clauses. On the other hand, the search becomes SAT-driven and not theory-driven.

**Remark.** Most SMT solvers follow a lazy approach.

**Algorithm** Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a theory. Given a conjunction of  $\mathcal{T}$ -literals  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_n$ , to determine its  $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiability, a generic lazy solver does the following:

1. Each SMT literal  $\varphi_i$  is encoded (abstracted) into a SAT literal  $l_i$  to form the abstraction  $\Phi = \{l_1, \dots, l_n\}$  of  $\varphi$ .
2. The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver sends  $\Phi$  to the SAT-solver.
  - If the SAT-solver determines that  $\Phi$  is unsatisfiable, then  $\varphi$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -unsatisfiable.
  - Otherwise, the SAT-solver returns a model  $\mathcal{M} = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  (an assignment of the literals, possibly partial).
3. The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver determines if  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent.
  - If it is, then  $\varphi$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -satisfiable.
  - Otherwise, update  $\Phi = \Phi \cup \neg\mathcal{M}$  and go to Point 2.

**Example.** Consider the EUF formula  $\varphi$ :

$$(g(a) = c) \wedge ((f(g(a)) \neq f(c)) \vee (g(a) = d)) \wedge (c \neq d)$$

- $\varphi$  abstracted into SAT is:

$$\underbrace{(g(a) = c)}_{l_1} \wedge \neg \underbrace{(f(g(a)) = f(c))}_{l_2} \vee \underbrace{(g(a) = d)}_{l_3} \wedge \neg \underbrace{(c = d)}_{l_4}$$

$$l_1 \wedge (\neg l_2 \vee l_3) \wedge \neg l_4$$

Therefore,  $\Phi = \{l_1, (\neg l_2 \vee l_3), \neg l_4\}$

- The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver sends  $\Phi$  to the SAT-solver. Let's say that it return  $\mathcal{M} = \{l_1, \neg l_2, \neg l_4\}$ .

- The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver checks if  $\mathcal{M}$  is consistent. Let's say it is not. Let  $\Phi' = \Phi \cup \neg\mathcal{M} = \{l_1, (\neg l_2 \vee l_3), \neg l_4, (\neg l_1 \vee l_2 \vee l_4)\}$ .
- The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver sends  $\Phi'$  to the SAT-solver. Let's say that it return  $\mathcal{M}' = \{l_1, l_2, l_3, \neg l_4\}$ .
- The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver checks if  $\mathcal{M}'$  is consistent. Let's say it is not. Let  $\Phi'' = \Phi' \cup \neg\mathcal{M}' = \{l_1, (\neg l_2 \vee l_3), \neg l_4, (\neg l_1 \vee l_2 \vee l_4), (\neg l_1 \vee \neg l_2 \vee \neg l_3 \vee l_4)\}$ .
- The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver sends  $\Phi''$  to the SAT-solver and it detects the unsatisfiability. Therefore,  $\varphi$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -unsatisfiable.

### Optimizations

- Check  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistency on partial assignments.
- Given a  $\mathcal{T}$ -inconsistent assignment  $\mu$ , find a smaller  $\mathcal{T}$ -inconsistent assignment  $\eta \subseteq \mu$  and add  $\neg\eta$  to  $\Phi$  instead of  $\neg\mu$ .
- When reaching  $\mathcal{T}$ -inconsistency, backjump to a  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent point in the computation.

## 1.3 CDCL( $\mathcal{T}$ )

Lazy solver based on CDCL for SAT extended with a  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver. The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver does the following: CDCL( $\mathcal{T}$ )

- Checks the  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistency of a conjunction of literals.
- Performs deduction of unassigned literals.
- Explains  $\mathcal{T}$ -inconsistent assignments.
- Allows to backtrack.

**State transition** Transition system to describe the reasoning of SAT or SMT solvers. A transition has form: State transition

$$(\mu \parallel \varphi) \rightarrow (\mu' \parallel \varphi')$$

where:

- $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$  are  $\mathcal{T}$ -formulas.
- $\mu$  and  $\mu'$  are (partial) boolean assignments to atoms of  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$ , respectively.
- $(\mu \parallel \varphi)$  and  $(\mu' \parallel \varphi')$  are states.

**Transition rule** Determine the possible transitions.

**Derivation** Sequence of transitions.

**Initial state**  $(\emptyset \parallel \varphi)$ .

**$\mathcal{T}$ -consistency** Given a  $\mathcal{T}$ -formula  $\varphi$  and a full assignment  $\mu$  of  $\varphi$ ,  $\varphi$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -consistent ( $\mu \models_{\mathcal{T}} \varphi$ ) if there is a derivation from  $(\emptyset \parallel \varphi)$  to  $(\mu \parallel \varphi)$ .

**$\mathcal{T}$ -propagation** Deduce the assignment of an unassigned literal  $l$  using some knowledge of the theory.  $\mathcal{T}$ -propagation

**$\mathcal{T}$ -consequence** If:  $\mathcal{T}$ -consequence

- $\mu \models_{\mathcal{T}} l$ ,



- $l$  or  $\neg l$  occur in  $\varphi$ ,
- $l$  and  $\neg l$  do not occur in  $\mu$ ,

then:

$$(\mu \parallel \varphi) \rightarrow (\mu \cup \{l\} \parallel \varphi)$$

**Example.** Given the formula  $\varphi$ :

$$(g(a) = c) \wedge \left( (f(g(a)) \neq f(c)) \vee (g(a) = d) \right) \wedge (c \neq d)$$

A possible derivation for some theory  $\mathcal{T}$  (i.e.  $\mathcal{T}$ -propagation are decided arbitrarily) is:

1.  $\emptyset \parallel \varphi$  (initial state).
2.  $\emptyset \parallel \varphi \rightarrow \{l_1\} \parallel \varphi$  (Unit propagation).
3.  $\{l_1\} \parallel \varphi \rightarrow \{l_1, l_2\} \parallel \varphi$  ( $\mathcal{T}$ -propagation).
4.  $\{l_1, l_2\} \parallel \varphi \rightarrow \{l_1, l_2, l_3\} \parallel \varphi$  (Unit propagation).
5.  $\{l_1, l_2, l_3\} \parallel \varphi \rightarrow \{l_1, l_2, l_3, l_4\} \parallel \varphi$  ( $\mathcal{T}$ -propagation).
6.  $\{l_1, l_2, l_3, l_4\} \parallel \varphi \rightarrow \text{fail}$  (Failure).

As we are at decision level 0 (as no decision literal has been fixed), we can conclude that  $\varphi$  is unsatisfiable.

**Remark.** Unit and theory propagation are alternated (see algorithm description).

**Algorithm** Given a  $\mathcal{T}$ -formula  $\varphi$  and a (partial)  $\mathcal{T}$ -assignment  $\mu$  (i.e. initial decisions), CDCL( $\mathcal{T}$ ) does the following:

---

#### Algorithm 1 CDCL( $\mathcal{T}$ )

---

```

def cdclT( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ ):
    if preprocess( $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$ ) == CONFLICT: return UNSAT
     $\varphi^p$ ,  $\mu^p$  = SMT_to_SAT( $\varphi$ ), SMT_to_SAT( $\mu$ )
    level = 0
     $l$  = None

    while True:
        status = propagate( $\varphi^p$ ,  $\mu^p$ ,  $l$ )
        if status == SAT:
            return SAT_to_SMT( $\mu^p$ )
        elif status == UNSAT:
             $\eta^p$ , jump_level = analyzeConflict( $\varphi^p$ ,  $\mu^p$ )
            if jump_level < 0: return UNSAT
            backjump(jump_level,  $\varphi^p \wedge \neg \eta^p$ ,  $\mu^p$ )
        elif status == UNKNOWN:
             $l$  = decideNextLiteral( $\varphi^p$ ,  $\mu^p$ )
            level += 1

```

---

Where:

**preprocess** Preprocesses  $\varphi$  with  $\mu$  through operations such as simplifications,  $\mathcal{T}$ -specific rewritings, ...

**SMT\_TO\_SAT** Provides the boolean abstraction of an SMT formula.

**SAT\_TO\_SMT** Reverses the boolean abstraction of an SMT formula.

**propagate** Iteratively apply:

- Unit propagation,
- $\mathcal{T}$ -consistency check,
- $\mathcal{T}$ -propagation.

Returns **SAT**, **UNSAT** or **UNKNOWN** (when no deductions are possible and there are still free variables).

**analyzeConflict** Performs conflict analysis:

- If the conflict is detected by SAT boolean propagation ( $\mu^p \wedge \varphi^p \models_p \perp$ ), a boolean conflict set  $\eta^p$  is outputted (as in standard CDCL).
- If the conflict is detected by  $\mathcal{T}$ -propagation ( $\mu \wedge \phi \models_{\mathcal{T}} \perp$ ), a theory conflict  $\eta$  is produced and its boolean abstraction  $\eta^p$  is outputted.

Moreover, the earliest decision level at which a variable of  $\eta^p$  is unassigned is returned.

As in standard CDCL,  $\neg\eta^p$  is added to  $\varphi^p$  and the algorithm backjumps to a previous decision level (if possible).

**decideNextLiteral** Decides the assignment of an unassigned variable (as in standard CDCL). Theory information might be exploited.

**Implication graph** As in the standard CDCL algorithm, an implication graph is used to explain conflicts.

Implication graph

**Nodes** Decisions, derived literals or conflicts.

**Edges** If  $v$  allows to unit/theory propagate  $w$ , then there is an edge  $v \rightarrow w$ .

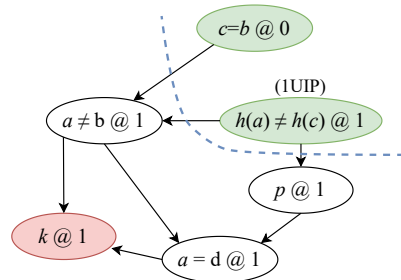
**Example.** Given the  $\mathcal{T}$ -formula  $\varphi$ :

$$(h(a) = h(c) \vee p) \wedge (a = b \vee \neg p \vee a = d) \wedge (a \neq d \vee a = b)$$

and an initial decision  $(c = b) \in \mu$ ,  $\text{CDCL}(\mathcal{T})$  does the following:

1. As no propagation is possible, the decision  $h(a) \neq h(c)$  is added to  $\mu$ .
2. Unit propagate  $p$  due to the clause  $(h(a) = h(c) \vee p)$  and the decision at the previous step.
3.  $\mathcal{T}$ -propagate  $(a \neq b)$  due to the current assignments:  $\{c = b, h(a) \neq h(c)\} \models_{\mathcal{T}} a \neq b$ .
4. Unit propagate  $(a = d)$  due to the clause  $(a = b \vee \neg p \vee a = d)$  and the current knowledge base ( $p$  and  $a \neq b$ ).
5. There is a conflict between  $(a \neq d)$  and  $(a = d)$ .

By building the conflict graph, one can identify the 1UIP as the decision  $h(a) \neq h(c)$ .



A cut in front of the 1UIP that separates decision nodes and the conflict node (as in standard CDCL) is made to obtain the conflict set  $\eta = \{h(a) \neq h(c), c = b\}$ .  $((h(a) = h(c)) \vee (c \neq b))$  is added as a clause and the algorithm backjumps at the decision level 0.

## 1.4 Theory solvers

Decide satisfiability of theory-specific formulas.

### 1.4.1 EUF theory

**Congruence closure** Given a conjunction of EUF literals  $\Phi$ , its satisfiability can be decided in polynomial time as follows:

Congruence closure

1. Add a new variable  $c$  and replace each  $p(t_1, \dots, t_k)$  with  $f_p(t_1, \dots, t_k) = c$ .
2. Partition input literals into the sets of equalities  $E$  and disequalities  $D$ .
3. Define  $E^*$  as the congruence closure of  $E$ . It is the smallest equivalence relation  $\equiv_E$  over terms such that:
  - $(t_1 = t_2) \in E \Rightarrow (t_1 \equiv_E t_2)$ .
  - For each  $f(s_1, \dots, s_k)$  and  $f(t_1, \dots, t_k)$  occurring in  $E$ , if  $s_i \equiv_E t_i$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ , then  $f(s_1, \dots, s_k) \equiv_E f(t_1, \dots, t_k)$ .
4.  $\Phi$  is satisfiable iff  $\forall (t_1 \neq t_2) \in D \Rightarrow (t_1 \not\equiv_E t_2)$ .

**Remark.** In practice, congruence closure is usually implemented using a DAG to represent terms and union-find for the  $E^*$  class.

### 1.4.2 Arithmetic theories

**Linear real arithmetic** LRA theory has signature  $\Sigma_{\text{LRA}} = (\mathbb{Q}, +, -, *, \leq)$  where the multiplication  $*$  is only linear.

**Fourier-Motzkin elimination** Given an LRA formula, its satisfiability can be decided as follows:

Fourier-Motzkin elimination

1. Replace:
  - $(t_1 \neq t_2)$  with  $(t_1 < t_2) \vee (t_2 < t_1)$ .
  - $(t_1 \leq t_2)$  with  $(t_1 < t_2) \vee (t_1 = t_2)$ .
2. Eliminate equalities and apply the Fourier-Motzkin elimination<sup>1</sup> method on all variables to determine satisfiability.

**Remark.** Not practical on a large number of constraints. The simplex algorithm is more suited.

**Linear integer arithmetic** LIA theory has signature  $\Sigma_{\text{LRA}} = (\mathbb{Z}, +, -, *, \leq)$  where the multiplication  $*$  is only linear.

Fourier-Motzkin can be applied to check satisfiability. Simplex and branch & bound is usually better.

<sup>1</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourier%E2%80%93Motzkin\\_elimination](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourier%E2%80%93Motzkin_elimination)

### 1.4.3 Difference logic theory

Difference logic (DL) atomic formulas have form  $(x - y \leq k)$  where  $x, y$  are variables and  $k$  is a constant.

**Remark.** Constraints with form  $(x - y \bowtie k)$  where  $\bowtie \in \{=, \neq, <, \geq, >\}$  can be rewritten using  $\leq$ .

**Remark.** Unary constraints  $x \leq k$  can be rewritten as  $x - z_0 \leq k$  with the assignment  $z_0 = 0$ .

**Theorem 1.4.1.** By allowing  $\neq$  and with domain in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , deciding satisfiability becomes NP-hard.

*Proof.* Any graph  $k$ -coloring instance can be poly-reduced to a difference logic formula.  $\square$

**Graph consistency** Given DL literals  $\Phi$ , it is possible to build a weighted graph  $\mathcal{G}_\Phi$  where: Graph consistency

**Nodes** Variables occurring in  $\Phi$ .

**Edges**  $x \xrightarrow{k} y$  for each  $(x - y \leq k) \in \Phi$ .

**Theorem 1.4.2.**  $\Phi$  is inconsistent  $\iff \mathcal{G}_\Phi$  has a negative cycle (i.e. cycle whose cost is negative).

**Remark.** A negative cycle acts as an inconsistency explanation (not necessarily minimal).

**Remark.** From the consistency graph, if there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$  with cost  $k$ , then  $(x - y \leq k)$  can be deduced.

## 1.5 Combining theories

Given  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -solvers for theories  $\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_n$ , a general approach to combine them into a  $\bigcup_i^n \mathcal{T}_i$ -solver is the following:

1. Purify the formula so that each literal belongs to a single theory. New constants can be introduced.

**Interface equalities** Equalities involving shared constants across solvers should be the same for all solvers.

2. Iteratively run the following:
  - a) Each  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -solver checks the satisfiability of  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -formulas. If one detects unsatisfiability, the whole formula is unsatisfiable.
  - b) When a  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -solver deduces a new literal, it sends it to the other solvers.

**Example.** Consider the formula:

$$(f(f(x) - f(y)) = a) \wedge (f(a) = a + 2) \wedge (x = y)$$

where the theories of EUF and linear arithmetic (LA) are involved.  
To determine satisfiability, the following steps are taken:

1. The formula is purified to obtain the literals:

LA	EUF
$e_1 = e_2 - e_3$	$f(e_1) = a$
$e_4 = 0$	$e_2 = f(x)$
$e_5 = a + 2$	$e_3 = f(y)$
	$f(e_4) = e_5$
	$x = y$

where  $e_1, \dots, e_5$  are new constants.

2. Both EUF-solver and LA-solver determine **SAT**. Moreover, the EUF-solver deduces that  $\{x = y, f(x) = e_2, f(y) = e_3\} \models_{EUF} (e_2 = e_3)$  and sends it to the LA-solver.

LA	EUF
$e_1 = e_2 - e_3$	$f(e_1) = a$
$e_4 = 0$	$e_2 = f(x)$
$e_5 = a + 2$	$e_3 = f(y)$
<u><math>e_2 = e_3</math></u>	$f(e_4) = e_5$
	$x = y$

3. Both EUF-solver and LA-solver determine **SAT**. Moreover, the LA-solver deduces that  $\{e_2 - e_3 = e_1, e_4 = 0, e_2 = e_3\} \models_{LA} (e_1 = e_4)$  and sends it to the EUF-solver.

LA	EUF
$e_1 = e_2 - e_3$	$f(e_1) = a$
$e_4 = 0$	$e_2 = f(x)$
$e_5 = a + 2$	$e_3 = f(y)$
$e_2 = e_3$	$f(e_4) = e_5$
	$x = y$
	<u><math>e_1 = e_4</math></u>

$\vdots$

4. The EUF-solver determines **SAT** but the LA-solver determines **UNSAT**. Therefore, the formula is unsatisfiable.

### 1.5.1 Deterministic Nelson-Oppen

Let  $\mathcal{T}_1$  be a  $\Sigma_1$ -theory and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  be a  $\Sigma_2$ -theory.  $(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2)$ -satisfiability can be checked with the deterministic Nelson-Oppen if  $\mathcal{T}_1$  and  $\mathcal{T}_2$  are:

Deterministic  
Nelson-Oppen

**Signature-disjoint**  $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2 = \emptyset$ .

**Stably-infinite**  $\mathcal{T}_i$  is stably-infinite iff every  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -satisfiable formula  $\varphi$  has a corresponding  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -model with a universe of infinite cardinality that satisfies it.

**Convex** For each set of  $\mathcal{T}_i$ -literals  $S$ , it holds that:

$$(S \models_{\mathcal{T}_i} (a_1 = b_1) \vee \dots \vee (a_n = b_n)) \Rightarrow (S \models_{\mathcal{T}_i} (a_k = b_k)) \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

**Example.**  $\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is not convex. Consider the following formula  $\varphi$ :

$$(1 \leq z) \wedge (z \leq 2) \wedge (u = 1) \wedge (v = 2)$$

We have that:

$$\varphi \models_{\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}} (z = u) \vee (z = v)$$

But it is not true that:

$$\varphi \not\models_{\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}} z = u \quad \varphi \not\models_{\mathcal{T}_{\mathbb{Z}}} z = v$$

**Algorithm** Given a  $(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2)$ -formula  $S$ , the deterministic Nelson-Oppen algorithm works as follows:

1. Purify  $S$  into  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . Let  $E$  be the set of interface equalities between  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  (i.e. it contains all the equalities that involve shared constants).
2. If  $S_1 \models_{\mathcal{T}_1} \perp$  or  $S_2 \models_{\mathcal{T}_2} \perp$ , then  $S$  is unsatisfiable.
3. If  $S_1 \models_{\mathcal{T}_1} (x = y)$  with  $(x = y) \in (E \setminus S_2)$ , then  $S_2 \leftarrow S_2 \cup \{x = y\}$ . Go to Point 2.
4. If  $S_2 \models_{\mathcal{T}_2} (x = y)$  with  $(x = y) \in (E \setminus S_1)$ , then  $S_1 \leftarrow S_1 \cup \{x = y\}$ . Go to Point 2.
5.  $S$  is satisfiable.

### 1.5.2 Non-deterministic Nelson-Oppen

Extension of the deterministic Nelson-Oppen algorithm to non-convex theories.

Works by doing case splitting on pairs of shared variables and has exponential time complexity.

Non-deterministic  
Nelson-Oppen

## 1.6 SMT extensions

### 1.6.1 Layered solvers

Stratify the problem into layers of increasing complexity. The satisfiability of each layer is determined by a different solver of increasing expressivity and complexity.

Layered solvers

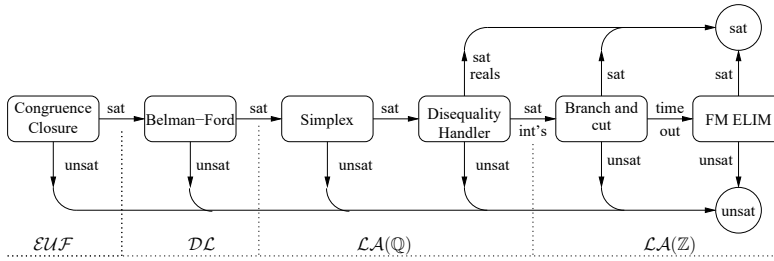


Figure 1.1: Example of layered solvers

### 1.6.2 Case splitting

Case reasoning on free variables.

Case splitting

**Example.** Given the formula:

$$y = \text{read}(\text{write}(A, i, x), j)$$

A solver can explore the case when  $i = j$  and  $i \neq j$ .

**$\mathcal{T}$ -solver case reasoning** The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver internally detects inconsistencies through case reasoning.

**SAT solver case reasoning** The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver encodes the case reasoning and sends it to the SAT solver.

**Example.** Given the formula:

$$y = \text{read}(\text{write}(A, i, x), j)$$

The  $\mathcal{T}$ -solver sends to the SAT solver the following:

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \text{read}(\text{write}(A, i, x), j) \wedge (i = j) \Rightarrow y = x \\ y &= \text{read}(\text{write}(A, i, x), j) \wedge (i \neq j) \Rightarrow y = \text{read}(A, j) \end{aligned}$$

### 1.6.3 Optimization modulo theory

Extension of SMT so that it finds a model that simultaneously satisfies the input formula  $\varphi$  and optimizes an objective function  $f_{\text{obj}}$ .

$\varphi$  belongs to a theory  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_{\preceq} \cup \mathcal{T}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{T}_n$  where  $\mathcal{T}_{\preceq}$  contains a predicate  $\preceq$  (e.g.  $\leq$ ) representing a total order.

Optimization  
modulo theory

**Offline OTM( $\mathcal{LRA}$ )** Approach that does not require to modify the SMT solver.

**Linear search** Repeatedly solve the problem and, at each iteration, add the constraint  $\text{cost} < c_i$  where  $c_i$  is the cost found at the  $i$ -th iteration.

**Binary search** Given the cost domain  $[l_i, u_i]$ , repeatedly pick a pivot  $p_i \in [l_i, u_i]$  and add the constraint  $\text{cost} < p_i$ . If a model is found, recurse in the domain  $[l_i, p_i]$ , otherwise recurse in  $[p_i, u_i]$ .

**Inline OTM( $\mathcal{LRA}$ )** SMT solver that integrates an optimization procedure.