

# Tutorial 1: Modern SMT Solvers and Verification

Sayan Mitra

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Coordinated Science Laboratory

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

# Tutorial 1: Modern SMT Solvers and Verification

Sayan Mitra

slides adapted from a lecture by Clark Barrett

# Plan

- SAT problem
  - Logic and circuit representation
  - Conversion to CNF
  - DPLL
  - Modeling and BMC using SAT (Z3)
- SMT
  - Architecture
  - Theories
  - Examples

# The satisfiability problem

SAT Problem: Given a well-formed formula  $\alpha$  in propositional logic, decide whether there exists a satisfying solution for  $\alpha$ .

Example:  $\alpha(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) := (x_1 \wedge x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \wedge \neg x_3 \vee x_2)$

Satisfying solution:  $(x_1 = 1; x_2 = 1; x_3 = 0)$

Complexity:  $2^n$

First problem shown to be NP-complete [Cook'71]

Though exponential, makes sense to build SAT-solvers and 30+ years of engineering has led to solvers that can solve practical problems

# SAT in Verification

Reachability and invariance questions automata can be encoded as SAT questions

Q.  $U$  is (not) reachable from  $Q_0$  in  $n$  steps:

$$F_{Q_0}(X_0) \wedge F_T(X_0, X_1) \wedge F_T(X_1, X_2) \wedge F_T(X_2, X_3) \wedge \cdots \wedge F_T(X_{n-1}, X_n) \wedge F_U(X_n)$$

SAT iff  $U$  is reachable (UNSAT iff not reachable)

Q.  $I$  is (not) an inductive invariant:

$$F_{Q_0}(X) \rightarrow F_I(X) \wedge F_I(X) \wedge F_T(X, X') \rightarrow F_I(X')$$

# Terminology

variables:  $x_1, x_2$

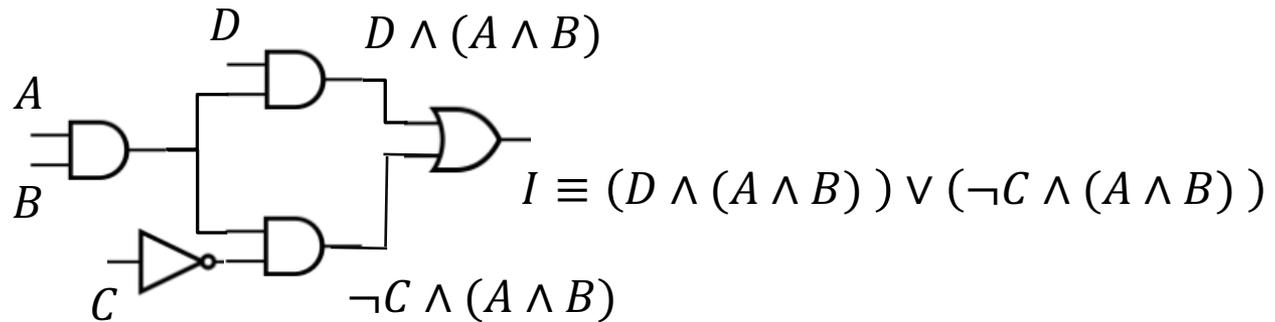
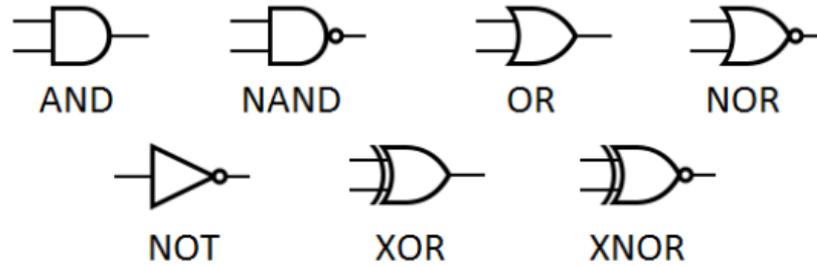
literals: positive or negative appearance of variables in a formula, e.g.,  $x_1, \neg x_2$ ,

clause: disjunction of literals, e.g.  $(x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_3)$

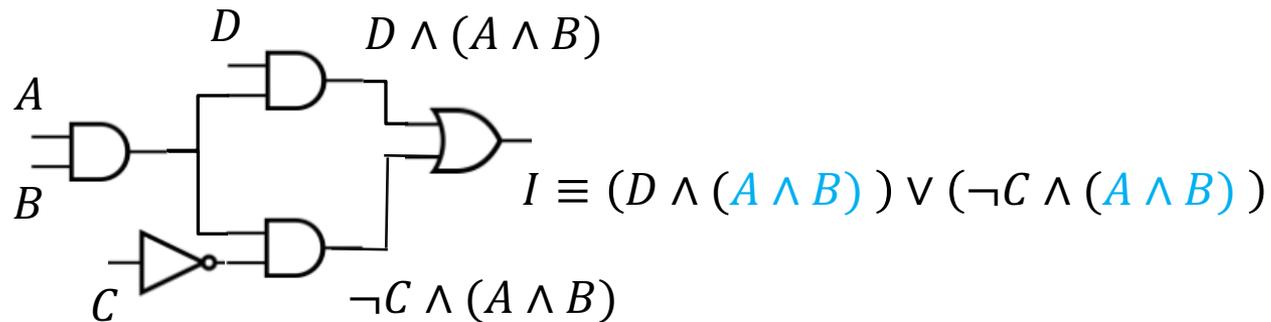
conjunctive normal form (CNF) formula: E.g.,  
 $(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee x_1)$

we will assume  $\alpha$  to be in CNF

# Propositional logic and circuits



# Propositional logic and circuits



Overcome inefficiency by renaming subexpressions

**Tautologically equivalent:** Every satisfying solution of  $I$  is a satisfying solution of  $I'$

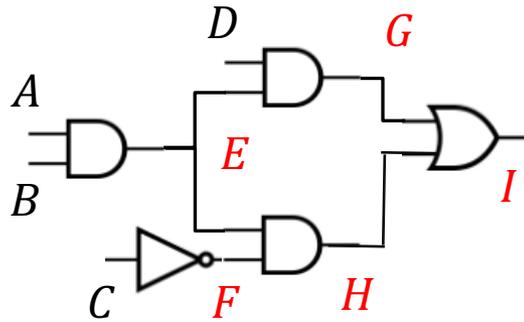
**Equisatisfiable:**  $I$  is satisfiable iff  $I'$  is satisfiable

$$(A \wedge B) \leftrightarrow E$$

$$I' \equiv (D \wedge E) \vee (\neg C \wedge E) \wedge ((A \wedge B) \leftrightarrow E)$$

$I'$  and  $I$  are not tautologically equivalent, but are equisatisfiable (e.g.,  $C = 0$ ;  $A = B = 1$ ;  $E = 0$  satisfies  $I$ )

# Converting to CNF



View formula as a circuit

1. Give new names to non-leaf nodes
2. For each non-leaf add conjunction of I/O clauses
3. Take conjunction of everything

$$E \leftrightarrow (A \wedge B)$$

$$\equiv (\neg(A \wedge B) \vee E) \wedge (\neg E \vee (A \wedge B))$$

$$\equiv (\neg A \vee \neg B \vee E) \wedge (\neg E \vee A) \wedge (\neg E \vee B)$$

$$G \leftrightarrow (D \wedge E)$$

$$\neg F \leftrightarrow C$$

$$H \leftrightarrow (F \wedge E)$$

$$I \leftrightarrow (H \vee G)$$

# SMT formats

## Alternative notations

- $(\neg A \vee \neg B \vee E) \wedge (\neg E \vee A) \wedge (\neg E \vee B) \wedge (\neg D \vee E)$
- $(A' \vee B' \vee E)(E' \vee A)(E' \vee B)(D' \vee E)$
- $(-1 - 2 5)(-5 1) \wedge (-5 2) \wedge (-4 5)$  [DIMACS]

# SAT solving algorithms

- Davis Putnam Logemann Loveland (DPLL) 1962
- Davis Putnam algorithm (DP) 1960

Basic idea: Given  $\alpha$  perform a sequence of satisfiability preserving transformations; if this ends with empty clause then UNSAT and if this ends with no clauses then SAT

# The DP rules

1. Unit propagation: If a clause has a single literal  $p$  then
  - remove all instances of  $\neg p$  from all clauses
  - remove all clauses with  $p$
2. Pure literal: If a variable appears only positively or negatively in all clauses then delete all clauses containing that literal
3. Resolution: Choose literal  $p$  (appears both positively and negatively)
  - Let  $P$  be the set of clauses in which  $p$  is +ve
  - Let  $N$  be the set of clauses in which  $p$  is -ve
  - Replace  $P, N$  with clauses obtained by resolving  $p$  in all pairs
  - For a single pair  $(p \vee \ell_1 \vee \ell_2 \dots \ell_m); (\neg p \vee k_1 \vee k_2 \dots k_n)$  resolved clause is  $(\ell_1 \vee \ell_2 \dots \ell_m \vee k_1 \vee k_2 \dots k_n)$
  - Quadratic blow-up in size of formula

# Some experimental results

Problem	tautology	dptaut	dplltaut
prime 3	0.00	0.00	0.00
prime 4	0.02	0.06	0.04
prime 9	18.94	2.98	0.51
prime 10	11.40	3.03	0.96
prime 11	28.11	2.98	0.51
prime 16	>1 hour	out of memory	9.15
prime 17	>1 hour	out of memory	3.87
ramsey 3 3 5	0.03	0.06	0.02
ramsey 3 3 6	5.13	8.28	0.31
mk_adder_test 3 2	>>1 hour	6.50	7.34
mk_adder_test 4 2	>>1 hour	22.95	46.86
mk_adder_test 5 2	>>1 hour	44.83	170.98
mk_adder_test 5 3	>>1 hour	38.27	250.16
mk_adder_test 6 3	>>1 hour	out of memory	1186.4
mk_adder_test 7 3	>>1 hour	out of memory	3759.9

Slides by Sayan Mitra (mitras@illinois.edu)

From talk by Clark Barrett

## ***Incomplete SAT: GSAT [SLM92]***

Input: a set of clauses  $F$ , MAX-FLIPS, MAX-TRIES

Output: a satisfying truth assignment of  $F$   
or  $\emptyset$ , if none found

for  $i := 1$  to MAX-TRIES

$v :=$  a randomly generated truth assignment

    for  $j := 1$  to MAX-FLIPS

        if  $v$  satisfies  $F$  then return  $v$

$p :=$  a propositional variable such that a  
        change in its truth assignment gives the  
        largest increase in the total number of  
        clauses of  $F$  that are satisfied by  $v$

$v := v$  with the assignment to  $p$  reversed

    end for

end for

return  $\emptyset$

## ***Stålmarck's Method [SS98]***

Breadth-first approach instead of depth-first.

### **Dilemma Rule**

Given a set of formulas  $\Delta$  and any basic deduction algorithm,  $R$ , the dilemma rule performs a case split on some literal  $p$  by considering the new sets of formulas  $\Delta \cup \{(\neg p)\}$  and  $\Delta \cup \{(p)\}$ .

To each of these sets, the algorithm  $R$  is applied to yield  $\Delta_0$  and  $\Delta_1$  respectively.

The original set  $\Delta$  is then augmented with  $\Delta_0 \cap \Delta_1$ .

## Abstract DPLL

We now return to DPLL. To facilitate a deeper look at DPLL, we use a high-level framework called *Abstract DPLL* [NOT06].

- Abstract DPLL uses *states* and *transitions* to model the progress of the algorithm.
- Most states are of the form  $M \parallel F$ , where
  - $M$  is a *sequence of annotated literals* denoting a partial truth assignment, and
  - $F$  is the CNF formula being checked, represented as a *set of clauses*.
- The *initial state* is  $\emptyset \parallel F$ , where  $F$  is to be checked for satisfiability.
- Transitions between states are defined by a set of *conditional transition rules*.

## Abstract DPLL

The *final state* is either:

- a special fail state: *fail*, if  $F$  is unsatisfiable, or
- $M \parallel G$ , where  $G$  is a CNF formula equisatisfiable with the original formula  $F$ , and  $M$  satisfies  $G$

We write  $M \models C$  to mean that for every truth assignment  $v$ ,  $v(M) = \text{True}$  implies  $v(C) = \text{True}$ .

# Abstract DPLL Rules

UnitProp :

$$M \parallel F, C \vee l \quad \Longrightarrow \quad M l \parallel F, C \vee l \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M \models \neg C \\ l \text{ is undefined in } M \end{array} \right.$$

PureLiteral :

$$M \parallel F \quad \Longrightarrow \quad M l \parallel F \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ occurs in some clause of } F \\ \neg l \text{ occurs in no clause of } F \\ l \text{ is undefined in } M \end{array} \right.$$

Decide :

$$M \parallel F \quad \Longrightarrow \quad M l^d \parallel F \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ or } \neg l \text{ occurs in a clause of } F \\ l \text{ is undefined in } M \end{array} \right.$$

Backtrack :

$$M l^d N \parallel F, C \quad \Longrightarrow \quad M \neg l \parallel F, C \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M l^d N \models \neg C \\ N \text{ contains no decision literals} \end{array} \right.$$

Fail :

$$M \parallel F, C \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \text{fail} \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M \models \neg C \\ M \text{ contains no decision literals} \end{array} \right.$$

# Example

$\emptyset$  |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Pureliteral 4)  
4 |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Decide 1)  
4  $1^d$  |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Unitprop  $\bar{2}$ )  
4  $1^d \bar{2}$  |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Unitprop 3)  
4  $1^d \bar{2} 3$  |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Backtrack)  
4  $\bar{1}$  |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Unitprop)  
4  $\bar{1} \bar{2} \bar{3}$  |  $1 \vee \bar{2}, \bar{1} \vee \bar{2}, 2 \vee 3, \bar{3} \vee 2, 1 \vee 4 \Rightarrow$  (Fail)

fail

Result: Unsatisfiable

# Modeling for SAT

Input:

$\mathcal{A} = \langle Q, Q_0, T \subseteq Q \times Q \rangle$ , Invariant  $I$  or unsafe set  $U$

Output:

$I$  is (not) an invariant of  $\mathcal{A}$

$U$  is (not) reachable from  $Q_0$

$U$  is (not) reachable from  $Q_0$  in  $n$  steps

# Modeling for SAT (2)

$\mathcal{A} = \langle Q, Q_0, T \subseteq Q \times Q \rangle$ , Invariant  $I$  or unsafe set  $U$

Assume  $Q$  is finite

Select  $k$  such that  $|Q| \leq 2^k$

Define state variables  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ ,  $type(x_i) = \{0,1\}$

Then,  $Q = val(X)$

$Q_0 \mapsto F_{Q_0}(X)$  a formula encoding initial set

$U \mapsto F_U(X)$  a formula encoding unsafe set

Define additional vars  $Y = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k\}$ ,  $type(y_i) = \{0,1\}$

$T \mapsto F_T(X, Y)$  a formula encoding transition relation

# Bounded model checking

$Q_0 \mapsto F_{Q_0}(X)$  a formula encoding initial set

$U \mapsto F_U(X)$  a formula encoding unsafe set

$T \mapsto F_T(X, Y)$  a formula encoding transition relation

We need  $n + 1$  copies of variables:  $X_0 = \{x_{01}, x_{02}, \dots, x_{0k}\}$ ,  $X_1 = \{x_{11}, x_{12}, \dots, x_{1k}\}$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $X_n$

Q.  $U$  is (not) reachable from  $Q_0$  in  $n$  steps:

$F_{Q_0}(X_0) \wedge F_T(X_0, X_1) \wedge F_T(X_1, X_2) \wedge F_T(X_2, X_3) \wedge \dots \wedge F_T(X_{n-1}, X_n) \wedge F_U(X_n)$

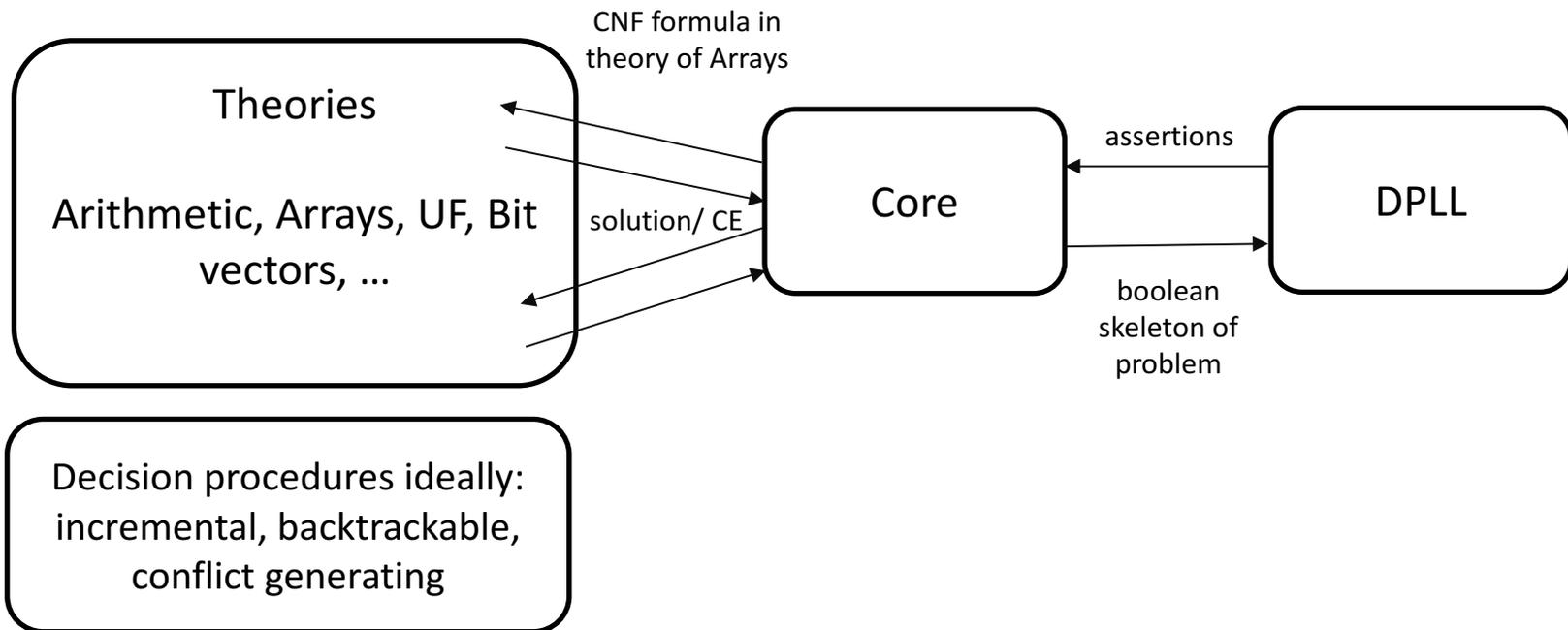
SAT iff  $U$  is reachable (UNSAT iff not reachable)

Tutorial 1

# FROM SAT TO SMT

# Architecture of SMT Solvers

Question: Input  $\alpha(x)$  formula in some set of logical theories,  $\exists x, x \models \alpha$ ?



# Theories and terminology

- **Signature** : function symbol, predicate symbol, arity, set of variables
- **Terms**( $\Sigma, V$ ):
  - $v \mid f(t_0, \dots, t_k) \mid$
  - ground terms
- **Atomic formula**  $AF(\Sigma, V)$ :
  - $T, F, p(t_0, \dots, t_k)$
  - literal: AF or its negation
- **QFF**( $\Sigma, V$ ):  $\phi, \neg\phi, \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2, \phi_1 \vee \phi_2, \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2$ , where  $\phi, \phi_1 \in AF$
- **FOF**( $\Sigma, V$ ):
  - QFF under universal and existential quantifiers
  - Free and bound variables
- **Sentence**: FOF with no free variables
- **Theory**( $\Sigma, V$ ): set of all sentences
- $\Sigma_f := \{0, +\}, \Sigma_p := \{<\}, \text{arity}(0) := 0, \text{arity}(+) := 2, \text{arity}(<) := 2, V := \{x, y, z\}$
- **Terms**:  
 $x, y, z, 0, +(x, y), +(+(x, y), 0)$
- **AF**:  
 $x < y, +(x, y) = +(y, x)$
- **QFF**:  
 $+(x, y) = 0 \wedge x > y$
- **FOF**:  $\forall x, \exists y: +(x, y) = 0 \wedge x > y$

# Decision procedures

Models give meaning to symbols and formula

A model  $M$  for  $\Sigma, V$  defines a domain, gives interpretation to all symbols and assignment to all the variables

Given a theory  $T$  a theory solver (decision procedure) takes as input a set of literals  $\Phi$  and determines whether  $\Phi$  is  $T$ -satisfiable, i.e., does there exist a model  $M$ , such that  $M \models \Phi$ ?

# Example theories

Uninterpreted functions (UF)

$$\Sigma_f = \{f, g, \dots\}, \Sigma_p = \{=\}, V = x_i$$

$$x_1 \neq x_2 \wedge x_3 \neq x_2 \wedge f(x_3) = f(x_2)$$

Arithmetic

$$\Sigma_p = \{<, >, \leq, \geq, =\}$$

Difference logic

$$\Sigma_f = \{-\}, \Sigma_p = \{<, >, \leq, \geq, =\}$$

$$x_1 - x_2 > k$$

$$\text{Linear arithmetic: } 7x_1 - 3x_2 + 6x_3 \leq 10$$

$$\text{Nonlinear arithmetic: } 7x_1^2 - 3x_2x_1 + 6x_3^3 \leq 1$$

Arrays

Bit vectors

# A decision procedure for UF

$$\Phi := x_1 = x_2 \wedge x_2 = x_3 \wedge x_4 = x_5 \wedge x_5 \neq x_1 \wedge F(x_1) \neq F(x_3)$$

Rules:

1. Put all variables and function instances in their own classes
2. if  $t_i = t_j$  is the predicate then merge the containing classes; repeat
3. If  $t_i$  and  $t_j$  are in the same class, then merge  $F(t_i)$  and  $F(t_j)$ ; repeat
4. If  $t_i \neq t_j$  is in  $\Phi$  such that  $t_i$  and  $t_j$  are in the same class then return UNSAT else return SAT

$\{x_1\}\{x_2\}\{x_3\}\{x_4\}\{x_5\}\{F(x_1)}\{F(x_3)}\}$   
 $\{x_1, x_2\}\{x_3\}\{x_4, x_5\}\{F(x_1)}\{F(x_3)}\}$   
 $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}\{x_4, x_5\}\{F(x_1)}\{F(x_3)}\}$   
 $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}\{x_4, x_5\}\{F(x_1), F(x_3)}\}$   
UNSAT

# Back to SMT

## Two approaches

- Eager: Translate to equisatisfiable propositional formula
- Lazy: Abstract to propositional form, feed to DPLL, refine

# SMT solver example

$$\Phi := \underbrace{g(a) = c}_1 \wedge \underbrace{f(g(a)) \neq f(c)}_{\bar{2}} \vee \underbrace{g(a) = d}_3 \wedge \underbrace{c \neq d}_{\bar{4}}$$

Send  $\{1, \bar{2} \vee 3, \bar{4}\}$  to SAT

SAT solver returns model  $\{1, \bar{2}, \bar{4}\}$

UF-solver finds concretization of  $\{1, \bar{2}, \bar{4}\}$  UNSAT

Send  $\{1, \bar{2} \vee 3, \bar{4}, \neg(1 \wedge \bar{2} \wedge \bar{4})\}$  to SAT

Send  $\{1, \bar{2} \vee 3, \bar{4}, \bar{1} \vee 2 \vee 4\}$  to SAT

SAT solver returns model  $\{1, 3, \bar{4}\}$

UF-solver finds concretization of  $\{1, 3, \bar{4}\}$  UNSAT

Send  $\{1, \bar{2} \vee 3, \bar{4}, \bar{1} \vee 2 \vee 4, \bar{1} \vee \bar{3} \vee 4\}$  to SAT

SAT solver returns UNSAT; Original formula is UNSAT in UF

# Summary

This was just an introduction to SMT solvers

Modern solvers Z3, CVC4, Chaff, have been used to solve practical verification problems

Many, many tools use SAT solvers for verification, synthesis, symbolic simulation, etc.

SMT competitions:

<http://www.satcompetition.org/>

The international SAT Competitions web page

The screenshot displays the website for the international SAT competitions. It is organized into sections for 'Current competition' and 'Past competitions'. The 'Current competition' section highlights the 'SAT 2017 competition' with links for organizers, proceedings, benchmarks, and solvers. The 'Past competitions' section lists 'SAT 2016 competition' and 'SAT-Race 2015'. The 'SAT 2016 competition' section includes a table of results for various tracks. The 'SAT-Race 2015' section also includes a table of results. The 'SAT 2014 competition' section is partially visible at the bottom, showing a table of results for various tracks. The tables use color-coded cells to indicate performance levels: Gold (yellow), Silver (light blue), Bronze (dark blue), and other categories. The tables list various solvers and their performance across different benchmarks and tracks.