

Solving Puzzles (Place to calculate 714!)

🔍 **SUMMLE** 📄 ⚙️

714

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2 **2** **5** **5** **7** **50**

Satisfiability Testing

Recent Developments and Open Problems

Norbert Manthey

`nmanthey@conp-solutions.com`



Introduction

- ▶ Who Am I?
 - ▶ PhD in parallel SAT [Man14b], advancing solvers full time
 - ▶ Success in international competitions
 - ▶ SAT: RISS [Man14a], PCASSO [ILM14], MERGESAT [Man21b] family
 - ▶ MaxSAT: OPEN-WBO
 - ▶ HWMCC [hwm15]: SHIFTBMC
 - ▶ Since 2016: *hacking from couch* [FMSS20b, FMSS20a, Man21b]
 - ▶ `github/conp-solutions` [Man21a, Man21b, FMSS20b]
 - ▶ `twitter/norbert_manthey`
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- ▶ Audience experience with SAT and solvers?

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Solving Puzzles – Using Solver

- ▶ Parse Puzzle
 - ▶ Translate to High Order Logic (C program)
 - ▶ Translate to SAT/SMT/... → solve
 - ▶ Run with test input
 - ▶ Convert solution

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Solving Puzzles – Example Formulas

p cnf 7 7

-1 2 0

-2 3 0

-3 1 0

2 7 6 0

2 -7 -6 0

-6 7 0

-7 6 0

p cnf 7 10

1 3 0

-3 7 0

-5 -2 0

-1 -7 0

-7 -3 0

1 5 3 0



3 -5 2 0

5 7 -2 0

5 7 2 0


-7 -3 6 0

Solving Puzzles – Solution

② **SUMMLE**  

714

50	×	2	=	100
100	+	2	=	102
102	×	7	=	714
			=	
			=	

C **+** **-** **×** **÷** 

2 2 5 5 7 50

Outline

- Solving Puzzles
- SAT – Foundations
- SAT – Open Areas
- Summary

SAT Introduction

Satisfiability Testing

- ▶ Propositional Logic (conjunction of clauses)
 - ▶ *Clause*: *disjunction*, non-trivial set of *literals* (integers)
 - ▶ *Formula*: *conjunction* (*multiset*) of clauses (list of sets)

- ▶ Applying Truth Values
 - ▶ Interpretation: complement-free set of literals (collision free hashmap + stack)
 - ▶ $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, $I = \{-1, -3\}$, $C|_I = \{2, 4\}$ ($\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$)
 - ▶ SAT solver does not actually modify clauses
 - ▶ Actual simplification is performed separately

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Satisfiability Testing

- ▶ **Is a formula satisfiable?**
 - ▶ What is the *model*?
 - ▶ Why is it not satisfiable?
 - ▶ Given a formula, which ask applies?

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Satisfiability Testing – SAT

- ▶ Assign a truth value to each variable
 - ▶ Via stochastic local search (SLS) [BHvMW21]
 - ▶ Incremental tree-search (backtracking) [DLL62]
 - ▶ Heuristically (all false, most frequent, ...)
 - ▶ Re-Use previous polarities (*phase-saving*)
 - ▶ Re-calculate polarities to be used (*rephase*)
 - ▶ Restarting
- ▶ **Best case: linear**

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Satisfiability Testing – Search Example

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C_{01} : 1 3 0

C_{02} : -3 7 0

C_{03} : -5 -2 0

C_{04} : -1 -7 0

C_{05} : -7 -3 0

C_{06} : 1 5 3 0

C_{07} : 3 -5 2 0

C_{08} : 5 7 -2 0

C_{09} : 5 7 2 0

C_{10} : -7 -3 6 0

▶ Pick a literal, 7, propagate

1. $C_{05} \rightarrow -3\ 0$

2. $C_{04} \rightarrow -1\ 0$

3. $C_{10} \rightarrow \top$ (thanks to -3)

▶ Propagate literal -3

1. $C_{01} \rightarrow \perp$ (conflict)

▶ Learn: $-7\ 0$ ($C_{01} \otimes C_{04} \otimes C_{05}$)

▶ Add learned clause as **redundant** clause

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Satisfiability Testing – UNSAT

- ▶ Resolve clauses
 - ▶ Which clauses to resolve next?
 - ▶ Variable elimination [DP60] – exponential
- ▶ Use a different representation
- ▶ Introduce new variables – which ones?
- ▶ Separate field: **proof complexity** [BN21]

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Example Proof

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RUP proof (with resolution steps)

C_{11}^1 : -3 0 ($C_{02} \otimes C_{05}$)

C_{12}^1 : -3 6 0 ($C_{02} \otimes C_{10}$)

C_{13}^1 : -5 3 0 ($C_{03} \otimes C_{07}$)

C_{14}^1 : -2 7 0 ($C_{03} \otimes C_{08}$)

C_{15}^1 : 5 7 0 ($C_{08} \otimes C_{09}$)

C_{16}^2 : 1 0 ($C_{01} \otimes C_{11}$)

C_{17}^2 : -5 0 ($C_{11} \otimes C_{13}$)

C_{18}^3 : -7 0 ($C_{04} \otimes C_{16}$) or ($C_{01} \otimes C_{05} \otimes C_{04}$)

C_{19}^4 : 0 ($C_{15} \otimes C_{17} \otimes C_{18}$)

Notation for a clause: C_{step}^{depth}

This proof: length: 9, width: 3, depth: 4

Satisfiability Testing – Algorithm

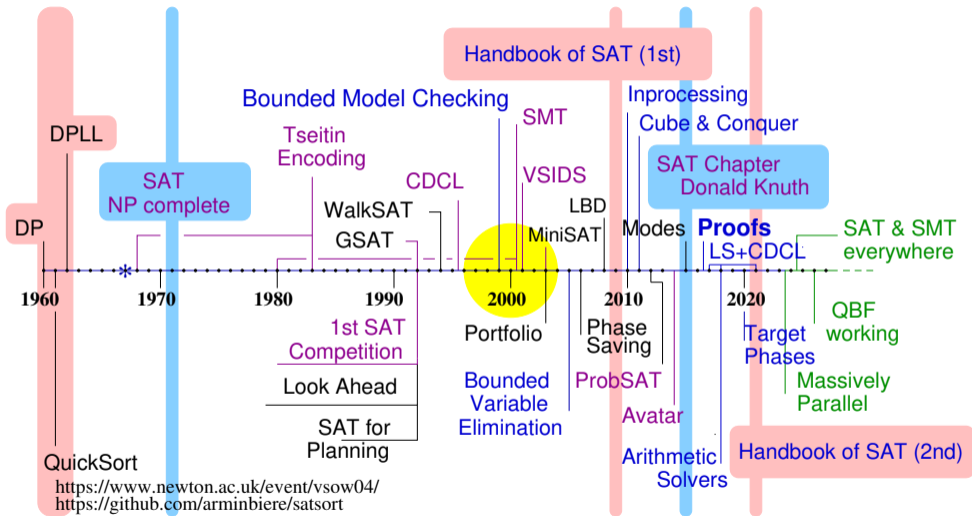
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(with permission from Armin Biere)

Why Is SAT Used?

- ▶ Simple representation
 - ▶ effective data structures [MMZ⁺01]
 - ▶ fast algorithms
- ▶ Translation into SAT uses additional variables
 - ▶ improves UNSAT results (see proof complexity)
- ▶ Development driven by annual competition [BFH⁺21]

SAT – More Details

- ▶ Past KRR Lectures, thesis and projects
- ▶ Parallel SAT Solving [Man14b]
- ▶ Videos from Simon's Institute lectures ([talks/sat-solving](#))
- ▶ Handbook of SAT v2 [BHvMW21, BHvMW09]
- ▶ TAOCP by Don Knuth, SAT Chapter [Knu06]
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SAT – Open Areas

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- ▶ Areas
 - ▶ Proof Complexity Related
 - ▶ Parallel Solving
 - ▶ Application
 - ▶ Implementation and Hardware

Related to Proof Complexity

- ▶ Which clauses to resolve?
 - ▶ Which redundant clauses to keep (or share)?
 - ▶ How to find the shortest proof?
 - ▶ Learn from proof properties to steer search?
- ▶ How to represent the input? (have framework to auto-select)
 - ▶ Unary, binary or order encoding [TTKB09]?
 - ▶ Propagation complete encodings
- ▶ Introduce variables while solving? Which?
 - ▶ Representing conjunctions [AKS10]
 - ▶ Detect semantically, from recent proof?

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Parallel Solving

- ▶ Show that conflict analysis is inherently sequential
- ▶ Parallelize core algorithm, e.g. unit propagation (for 4 cores) [Man11]
- ▶ Portfolio solving vs partitioning [ILM13, Man14b]
 - ▶ Portfolio is limited wrt configurations and proofs
 - ▶ Static vs dynamic, recursive partitioning; **how?**
 - ▶ What to share?
 - ▶ How to search in parallel? [GHJS10, ILM13, Man21b]
 - ▶ Purpose build vs code reuse

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SAT Applications

- ▶ Process larger input, handle more complex functions
- ▶ Effective incremental interface
- ▶ Effective encoding vs formula size
 - ▶ Effective representation
 - ▶ Propagation complete
- ▶ Experimental, sharing negative results
- ▶ Feedback from application owners, high and low level benchmarks

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 - ▶ How to build data structures? [MMZ⁺01, HMS10]
 - ▶ How to exploit more hardware properties/features? [HMS10, FMSS20b]
 - ▶ Same rules for sequential and parallel?
- ▶ On which hardware does SAT work well? SpecSAT

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My Recent Activities

- ▶ **MERGESAT**, combining enhancements of other solvers
 - ▶ Stable interface (MiniSat, IPASIR, DRUP proof)
 - ▶ Automated (Unit tests, CI, ...)
 - ▶ Deterministic parallel solving
 - ▶ Parallel proof, clause sharing
 - ▶ WIP: Recursive search space partitioning and (lazy) parallel incremental solving
- ▶ WIP: SpecSAT – Benchmark hardware for SAT
 - ▶ Comparable score for sequential and parallel solving per platform
 - ▶ Have competitive, parallel, cross-platform deterministic, solver

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Summary

Propositional Logic is Relevant

- ▶ Works well for many applications
 - ▶ No publishing of bad results
 - ▶ Hard to find the current weaknesses
- ▶ Many open areas
 - ▶ Heuristics and algorithms for applications
 - ▶ Implementation improvements
 - ▶ Proof complexity driven change
 - ▶ Better parallel solving

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Open SAT Areas

- ▶ Solver development needs a good mix of
 - ▶ Systems knowledge
 - ▶ Algorithm knowledge
 - ▶ Automation
 - ▶ Compute resources

- ▶ Run SpecSAT and share results!

- [AKS10] Gilles Audemard, George Katsirelos, and Laurent Simon.
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