

Decidability

Text: Melvin Fitting, *FOLATP*, Sections 3.4,4.4,4.5
Homework: Read these sections, attempt exercises

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March 2021

- There are many different proof systems. Our proof systems are **weakly sound**, every theorem is a valid formula. **Strongly sound**, every consequence of a theory is valid modulo that theory. **Weakly complete**, every valid formula ¹ has a proof in that proof system (Emil Post 1921).
- **Strongly complete**, every valid formula modulo Th ($Th \models A$) has a derivation from Th ($Th \vdash A$). Proved in textbook.

Question

Algorithm which says whether a formula is valid?

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A hundred years ago

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- Consistent theories are the counterpart of satisfiability. They extend to Hintikka theories, then models constructed.
- **Martin Davis, Hilary Putnam, George Logemann and Donald Loveland 1960-61** came up with a test for propositional satisfiability. Basis for modern sat solvers.

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3b	$[b \approx c]$	2a, <i>And</i>
4	$[\neg(b \approx c)]$	2b, 3a, <i>Repl</i>
5	$[\]$	3b, 4, <i>Cut</i>

Definition

- A **literal** L is an atomic formula (**positive**) or its negation. Its complement is $\bar{L} : \bar{P} = \neg P, \overline{\neg P} = P$.
- A **clause** is a disjunction $C = [L_1, \dots, L_n]$ where every L_i is a literal. Empty clause $[\]$ is **False**.
- A PL formula in **conjunctive normal form (CNF)** is a **clause set** $S = \langle C_1; \dots; C_m \rangle$ where each C_i is a clause. Empty clause set $\langle \rangle$ is **True**.
- A **block** is a disjunction of clause sets $[S_1, \dots, S_l]$.

Conjunctive normal form rules

Theorem

There are algorithms for converting a formula into CNF.

Proof.

(Fitting, Table 2.3, page 26) gives rewrite rules, including:

$$[\dots, \neg\neg A, \dots] \rightarrow [\dots, A, \dots], [\dots, A \vee B, \dots] \rightarrow [\dots, A, B, \dots],$$

$$[\dots, A \supset B, \dots] \rightarrow [\dots, \neg A, B, \dots],$$

$$[\dots, \neg(A \wedge B), \dots] \rightarrow [\dots, \neg A, \neg B, \dots],$$

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The last three rules rewrite to conjunctions of disjunctions.

Applying each rewrite rule, called **CNF expansion**, leads to an equivalent formula. Termination: only literals. \square

Exercise

Use König's lemma to prove termination.

Conversion to conjunctive normal form

Exercise

- 1 Given a truth table evaluation for a formula A under all possible valuations of its letters, write equivalent CNF for A .
- 2 Convert $(P_1 \wedge Q_1) \vee (P_2 \wedge Q_2) \vee \dots \vee (P_n \wedge Q_n)$ to CNF. Show that naively applied, conversion to CNF may blow up formula size exponentially.

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- 2 Convert $(P_1 \wedge Q_1) \vee (P_2 \wedge Q_2) \vee \dots \vee (P_n \wedge Q_n)$ to CNF. Show that naively applied, conversion to CNF may blow up formula size exponentially.
- 3 (Tseitin 1968) transformation: using fresh letters R_1, \dots, R_n , compare satisfiability of previous formula with:

$$(R_1 \vee \dots \vee R_n) \wedge ((R_1 \supset (P_1 \wedge Q_1)) \wedge ((R_2 \supset (P_2 \wedge Q_2)) \wedge \dots \wedge (R_n \supset (P_n \wedge Q_n)))$$

Theorem (Richard Karp 1972)

There is a polynomial time reduction from satisfiability to satisfiability in CNF.

Cut (Gerhard Gentzen 1934, Alan Robinson 1968)

- Cut/Resolution on A : $\langle [B, A]; [\neg A, C] \rangle \rightarrow [B, C]$. From (MP).
- One-literal/Unit cut propagation: If $[L]$ in clause set S , delete clauses of S containing L (including unit clause) and occurrences in S of complement \bar{L} .

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8	$[P, \neg Q]$	3a, 7a, <i>Cut $R \supset S$</i>

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9	$[\neg Q]$	6a, 8, <i>Cut P</i>

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10	$[R \supset S]$	3b, 9, <i>Unit Cut Q</i>

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Split (George Boole 1854, Claude Shannon 1948)

- Check satisfiability of A by testing that of $A \wedge L$ and of $A \wedge \bar{L}$.
- **Splitting on L :** If clause set S has clauses with L and clauses with \bar{L} , replace S with: clause set S_1 where clauses containing L are removed, and occurrences of \bar{L} are deleted, and clause set S_2 where clauses containing \bar{L} are removed and occurrences of L are deleted.

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2 $\langle [Q, R]; [\neg R]; [\neg Q, R] \rangle, \langle [\neg Q, R]; [R]; [\neg Q, \neg R] \rangle$ *Split on P*

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2 $\langle [Q, R]; [\neg R]; [\neg Q, R] \rangle, \langle [\neg Q, R]; [R]; [\neg Q, \neg R] \rangle$ *Split on P*

Other rules:

- **Affirmative-negative:** If some literal L occurs only positively/only negatively in clause set S , delete clauses in S with L .
- **Subsumption:** If clause set S has clause C_1 subsuming C_2 (every literal in C_1 occurs in C_2), delete clause C_2 from S .

(Martin Davis-Hilary Putnam 1960) refutation system

Preliminary steps: Put in block form, remove repetitions from clauses, order literals, delete *False*, delete clauses containing *True*, delete clauses containing literal and its complement.

Definition

- A *refutation* from $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$ consists of beginning with the block $[\langle [A_1]; \dots; [A_n] \rangle]$, and applying rules.
- If the empty clause \square appears in a clause set, it is *closed*.
- A refutation is *closed* if all clause sets are closed.
- A *proof* of A (written $\vdash_{pDP} A$) is a closed refutation from $\{\neg A\}$.
- Th is *consistent* if no closed refutation from Th .

Theorem (Fitting, Proposition 4.4.3, page 89)

(Unit Propagation) preserves satisfiability.

- Ignoring the unaffected clause sets, suppose $S = \langle [L]; [L, K_1]; \dots; [L, K_n]; [\bar{L}, N_1]; \dots; [\bar{L}, N_m]; [O_1]; \dots; [O_l] \rangle$ with neither L nor \bar{L} appearing in the K_i, N_i, O_i .
- The **resolvent** is $\langle [N_1]; \dots; [N_m]; [O_1]; \dots; [O_l] \rangle$.
- First suppose v makes every clause of S true. Then $v(L) = v(N_i) = v(O_i) = \text{true}$. So resolvent is satisfiable.
- On the other hand, if the resolvent is satisfiable, every clause in it is made true by some v . Define $v'(L) = \text{true}$, $v'(P) = v(P)$ otherwise. v' makes every clause of S true.

Exercise

Show that other rules preserve satisfiability.

PL decidability (Ludwig Wittgenstein, Emil Post 1921)

Theorem (Decidability, Fitting, Theorem 4.4.6)

The Davis-Putnam refutation procedure for A terminates establishing whether A is a tautology or not.

- If a nonempty clause set does not contain the empty clause, then some rule is applicable. Choose order.
- So a terminating refutation attempt ends with satisfiability (some clause set is empty) or unsatisfiability (every clause set has empty clause). Implicit backtracking, $O(n2^n)$.
- Every rule reduces the number of literals except for (Subsumption), which removes clauses, so terminating.
- A is a theorem ($\vdash_{pDP} A$) iff starting block is not satisfiable.

Question

Can these ideas be extended to ZOL?

PHP₂ (Cook and Reckhow 1979, Haken 1985)

Given 3 pigeons and 2 pigeonholes.

Let P_{ij} stand for pigeon i in pigeonhole j (Fitting, Section 4.5).

Propositional pigeonhole principle:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((P_{11} \vee P_{12}) \wedge (P_{21} \vee P_{22}) \wedge (P_{31} \vee P_{32})) \\ & \supset ((P_{11} \wedge P_{21}) \vee (P_{21} \wedge P_{31}) \vee (P_{11} \wedge P_{31}) \\ & \vee (P_{12} \wedge P_{22}) \vee (P_{22} \wedge P_{32}) \vee (P_{12} \wedge P_{32})) \end{aligned}$$

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Negated, negations pushed to literals:

$$\begin{aligned} & (P_{11} \vee P_{12}) \wedge (P_{21} \vee P_{22}) \wedge (P_{31} \vee P_{32}) \\ & \wedge (\neg P_{11} \vee \neg P_{21}) \wedge (\neg P_{21} \vee \neg P_{31}) \wedge (\neg P_{11} \vee \neg P_{31}) \\ & \wedge (\neg P_{12} \vee \neg P_{22}) \wedge (\neg P_{22} \vee P_{32}) \wedge (\neg P_{12} \vee \neg P_{32}) \end{aligned}$$

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Negation, block form, $O(n^3)$ clauses for PHP_n :

$$\langle [P_{11}, P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$$

Propositional pigeonhole principle

Negation, block form:

$$\langle [P_{11}, P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$$
$$; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$$

Propositional pigeonhole principle

Negation, block form:

$$\langle [P_{11}, P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$$

(Splitting) on P_{11} (first pigeon in first pigeonhole or not):

$$[\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \\ \langle [P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle]$$

Propositional pigeonhole principle

Negation, block form:

$\langle [P_{11}, P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$
 $; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$

(Splitting) on P_{11} (first pigeon in first pigeonhole or not):

$\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$
 $; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle,$
 $\langle [P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$
 $; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$

(Negative) on P_{12} in first clause set:

$\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \langle \dots \rangle$

Propositional pigeonhole principle

Negation, block form:

$$\langle [P_{11}, P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$$

(Splitting) on P_{11} (first pigeon in first pigeonhole or not):

$$[\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \\ \langle [P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}] \\ ; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle]$$

(Negative) on P_{12} in first clause set:

$$[\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \langle \dots \rangle]$$

(Unit) on $\neg P_{21}$ (excluding second pigeon) in first set:

$$[\langle [P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \langle \dots \rangle]$$

Propositional pigeonhole principle

Negation, block form:

$\langle [P_{11}, P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$
 $; [\neg P_{11}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$

(Splitting) on P_{11} (first pigeon in first pigeonhole or not):

$\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$
 $; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle,$
 $\langle [P_{12}]; [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]$
 $; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{22}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}]; [\neg P_{12}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle$

(Negative) on P_{12} in first clause set:

$\langle [P_{21}, P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{21}]; [\neg P_{21}, \neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \langle \dots \rangle$

(Unit) on $\neg P_{21}$ (excluding second pigeon) in first set:

$\langle [P_{22}]; [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{31}]; [\neg P_{22}, \neg P_{32}] \rangle, \langle \dots \rangle$

(Unit) on P_{22} (second in second) in first set, closure ahead:

$\langle [P_{31}, P_{32}]; [\neg P_{31}]; [P_{32}]; [\neg P_{32}] \rangle, \langle \dots \rangle$

Similarly second clause set.

$O(c^n)$, $c > 1$ proof steps lower bound for PHP_n (Haken 1985).