CDSAT: conflict-driven theory combination¹

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A paradigm of conflict-driven reasoning

Conflict-driven reasoning in theory combination

CDSAT: Conflict-Driven SATisfiability

Satisfiability Modulo theory and Assignment (SMA)

The CDSAT transition system

Archetype of conflict-driven reasoning: CDCL

- SAT: satisfiability of a set of clauses in propositional logic
- Conflict-Driven Clause Learning (CDCL) procedure [Marques-Silva, Sakallah: ICCAD 1996]
 [Marques-Silva, Sakallah: IEEE Trans. on Computers 1999]
 [Moskewicz, Madigan, Zhao, Zhang, Malik: DAC 2001]
 [Marques-Silva, Lynce, Malik: SAT Handbook 2009]
- CDCL is conflict-driven SAT-solving

A taste of CDCL: decisions and propagations

$$\{ \neg a \lor b, \ \neg c \lor d, \ \neg e \lor \neg f, \ f \lor \neg e \lor \neg b \} \subseteq S$$

- 1. Decide: *a* is true; Propagate: *b* must be true
- 2. Decide: *c* is true; Propagate: *d* must be true
- 3. Decide: *e* is true; Propagate: $\neg f$ must be true
- ▶ Trail M = a, b, c, d, e, $\neg f$
- Conflict: $f \lor \neg e \lor \neg b$ is false

A taste of CDCL: conflict-solving

$$\{\neg a \lor b, \neg c \lor d, \neg e \lor \neg f, f \lor \neg e \lor \neg b\} \subseteq S$$
$$M = a, b, c, d, e, \neg f$$

- 1. Conflict: $f \lor \neg e \lor \neg b$
- 2. Explain by resolving $f \lor \neg e \lor \neg b$ with $\neg e \lor \neg f$: $\neg e \lor \neg b$
- 3. Learn $\neg e \lor \neg b$: no model with *e* and *b* true
- 4. Backjump to earliest state with $\neg b$ false and $\neg e$ unassigned: $M = a, b, \neg e$
- 5. Continue until it finds a satisfying assignment (model) or none can be found (conflict at level 0)

Conflict-driven reasoning: what is a conflict?

- Conflict: between constraints to be satisfied and a candidate partial model
- Methods that build a candidate partial model: model-based reasoning

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Model-based reasoning

- A reasoning method is model-based if it works with a candidate (partial) model of a set of clauses
- The state of the derivation includes a representation of the current candidate model
- Inferences transform the candidate model
- The candidate model drives the inferences

Conflict-driven reasoning

- Conflict: one of the clauses is false in the current candidate model
- A model-based reasoning method is conflict-driven if inferences
 - Explain the conflict
 - Solve the conflict repairing the model

Two directions of generalization of CDCL

- Towards first-order logic
- Towards theory reasoning, satisfiability modulo theories (SMT), and beyond

Towards first-order logic

- The Bernays-Schönfinkel class aka EPR (∃*∀*φ: no quantifiers, no function symbols in φ)
 - DPLL(SX)
 [Piskac, de Moura, Bjørner: JAR 2010]
 - NRCL (Non-Redundant Clause Learning) [Alagi, Weidenbach: FroCoS 2015]

Full first-order logic (without equality)

- SGGS (Semantically-Guided Goal-Sensitive reasoning) [Bonacina, Plaisted: JAR 2016, JAR 2017]
- Conflict-Resolution

[Slaney, Woltzenlogel Paleo: JAR to appear]

[Itegulov, Slaney, Woltzenlogel Paleo: CADE 2017]

Two directions of generalization of CDCL

- Towards first-order logic
- Towards theory reasoning, SMT, and beyond: this talk

Conflict-driven reasoning in fragments of arithmetic

Early forerunners, e.g.:

LPSAT [Wolfman, Weld: IJCAI 1999]

- Separation logic [Wang, Ivančić, Ganai, Gupta: LPAR 2005]
- Linear rational arithmetic, e.g.:
 - Generalized DPLL [McMillan, Kuehlmann, Sagiv: CAV 2009]
 - Conflict Resolution [Korovin, Tsiskaridze, Voronkov: CP 2009]
 - Natural domain SMT [Cotton: FORMATS 2010]
- Linear integer arithmetic, e.g.:

Cutting-to-the-chase method [Jovanović, de Moura: CADE 2011]

- Non-linear arithmetic, e.g.: NLSAT [Jovanović, de Moura: IJCAR 2012]
- Floating-point binary arithmetic, e.g.: Systematic abstraction [Haller, Griggio, Brain, Kroening: FMCAD 2012]

Conflict-driven \mathcal{T} -satisfiability procedures

- *T*-satisfiability procedure: decides satisfiability of a set of literals in the quantifier-free fragment of a theory *T*
- Conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedures generalize CDCL with at least two key features:
 - Assignments to first-order variables
 - Explanation of conflicts with lemmas containing new atoms (i.e., non-input)

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Example in linear rational arithmetic

$$R = \{L_0 : (-2x - y < 0), \ L_1 : (x + y < 0), \ L_2 : (x < -1)\}$$

- 1. Decide a first-order assignment: $y \leftarrow 0$;
- 2. Propagate: L_0 yields x > 0
- 3. Conflict between x > 0 and L_2 : (x < -1)
- Explanation: deduce -y < -2 by the linear combination of L₀ and L₂ that eliminates x Note that -y < -2 is a new (non-input) atom that excludes not only y ← 0, but all assignments y ← c where c ≤ 2

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From sets of literals to arbitrary QF formulas

- How to combine a conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedure with CDCL to decide the satisfiability of an arbitrary formula in the quantifier-free fragment of theory *T*?
- Using the standard DPLL(T) framework? [Nieuwenhuis, Oliveras, Tinelli: JACM 2006]
 No: it allows neither first-order assignment nor new atoms
- Answer: MCSAT (Model-Constructing SATisfiability) [de Moura, Jovanović: VMCAI 2013]

Key features of MCSAT

- CDCL-based SAT-solver + conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedure: cooperate on the same level
- ▶ Trail *M*: both *L* (meaning $L \leftarrow true$) and $x \leftarrow 3$
- ► Any *T* equipped with an inference system to explain theory conflicts
- Such inferences may introduce new atoms
- Beyond input literals: finite basis for termination
- MCSAT lifts CDCL to Satisfiability Modulo one Theory

Instances of MCSAT

- One generic theory [de Moura, Jovanović: VMCAI 2013]
- Equality + linear rational arithmetic [Jovanović, de Moura, Barrett: FMCAD 2013]
- Bit-vectors

[Zeljić, Wintersteiger, Rümmer: SAT 2016] [Graham-Lengrand, Jovanović: SMT 2017]

 Equality + non-linear arithmetic (mixed integer-real problems) [Jovanović: VMCAI 2017]

Open questions

Problems from applications require combinations of theories:

- ► How to combine multiple conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedures with CDCL?
- Better: How to combine multiple conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedure one of which is CDCL?
- Equivalently: How to generalize MCSAT to generic combinations of theories?
- Which requirements should theories and procedures satisfy to ensure soundness, completeness, and termination of the conflict-driven combination?

Answer: The new system CDSAT (Conflict-Driven SATisfiability)

Classical approach to theory combination: equality sharing

Equality sharing aka Nelson-Oppen method [Nelson, Oppen: ACM TOPLAS 1979]

- Given theories $\mathcal{T}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_n$ with \mathcal{T}_k -satisfiability procedures
- Get \mathcal{T} -satisfiability procedure for $\mathcal{T} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{T}_{k}$
- ▶ Disjoint theories: share sorts, ≃, uninterpreted constants
- Mixed terms separated by introducing new constants (e.g., f(g(a)) ≃ b becomes f(c) ≃ b ∧ g(a) ≃ c, with c new, if f and g belong to different theories)
- The T_k -satisfiability procedures need to agree on:
 - Shared constants
 - Cardinalities of shared sorts

Theory combination by equality sharing

- ► For cardinality: assume stably infinite: every T_k-satisfiable ground formula has T_k-model with infinite cardinality
- For equality: compute an arrangement saying which shared constants are equal and which are not by letting the *T_k*-satisfiability procedures generate and propagate all entailed (disjunctions of) equalities between shared constants
- Minimize interaction: the *T_k*-satisfiability procedures are treated as black-boxes
- Integrated in DPLL(T) with new atoms only for equalities between shared constants [Barrett, Nieuwenhuis, Oliveras, Tinelli: LPAR 2006] [Krstić, Goel: FroCoS 2007]

More open questions

- Conflict-driven behavior and black-box behavior seem at odds: e.g., in MCSAT the *T*-satisfiability procedure accesses the central trail and performs deductions to explain conflicts on a par with CDCL
- ► Can we generalize equality sharing to the case where the *T_k*-satisfiability procedures are conflict-driven?
- ► How can we combine multiple T_k-satisfiability procedures some conflict-driven and some black-boxes?

Answer: The new system CDSAT (Conflict-Driven SATisfiability)

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What is CDSAT (Conflict-Driven SATisfiability)

- CDSAT is a new method for theory combination
- ► CDSAT generalizes conflict-driven reasoning to generic combinations of disjoint theories T₁,..., T_n
- ► CDSAT solves the problem of combining multiple conflict-driven T_k-satisfiability procedures into a conflict-driven T-satisfiability procedure for T = Uⁿ_{k=1} T_k
- CDSAT reduces to MCSAT if there are two theories: propositional logic with CDCL

a $\mathcal T$ with a conflict-driven $\mathcal T$ -satisfiability procedure

Basic features of CDSAT

- CDSAT treats propositional and theory reasoning uniformly: formulas are terms of sort prop; all theories have sort prop
- Propositional logic is one of \$\mathcal{T}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_n\$
 CDCL is one of the \$\mathcal{T}_k\$-satisfiability procedures
- With formulas reduced to terms, assignments become the basic data for inferences
- ► Key abstraction: CDSAT combines inference systems called theory modules *I*₁,..., *I*_n for *T*₁,..., *T*_n
- CDSAT is sound, complete, and terminating

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How about black-box procedures?

- CDSAT treats a non-conflict-driven T_k-satisfiability procedure as a theory module whose only inference rule invokes the procedure to detect the T_k-unsatisfiability of a set of assignments
- Thus CDSAT generalizes equality sharing: CDSAT reduces to equality sharing, if none of the theories has a conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedure

Running example

$$P = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w - 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$$

Combination of

- Equality (EUF)
- Linear rational arithmetic (LRA)
- Arrays (Arr)

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Running example

- LRA has sorts {prop, Q}
 ≃ on each sort
 0,1: Q +: Q × Q → Q
 c ·: Q → Q for all rational number c
 Arr has sorts {prop, V, I, A}
 ≃ on each sort
 select: A × I → V store: A × I × V → A
 EUF has sorts {prop, Q, V}
 - \simeq on each sort $f: V \rightarrow Q$

Everything is assignment

Initial state of the trail:

$$M = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w - 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$$

means
$$M = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w \leftarrow true$$

$$f(u) \simeq w - 2 \leftarrow true$$

$$i \simeq j \leftarrow true$$

$$u \simeq v \leftarrow true \}$$

Assignments such as $x \leftarrow 3$ in the input: Satisfiability Modulo theory and Assignment (SMA)

One central trail shared by all theories

Assignment

- Assignments to propositional variables: $L \leftarrow true$
- Assignments to first-order variables: $x \leftarrow 3$
- Assignments to first-order terms: $select(a, i) \leftarrow 3$
- Assignments to first-order atoms, literals, clauses ... all seen as first-order terms of sort prop:

$$a \ge b \leftarrow true \qquad P(a,b) \leftarrow false$$

- $a \geq b \lor P(a, b) \leftarrow true$
- Abbreviations: L for L ← true, L for L ← false t₁ ≄ t₂ for t₁ ≃ t₂ ← false
- Flipping a Boolean assignment: from L to \overline{L} or vice versa

Assignment

$$\blacktriangleright \{t_1 \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_1, \ldots, t_m \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_m\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright$$
 t_1, \ldots, t_m : terms

- \blacktriangleright $\mathfrak{c}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{c}_m$: values
- c_i has the same sort as t_i
- $t_i \leftarrow 3$ is a \mathcal{T}_1 -assignment
- $t_j \leftarrow \sqrt{2}$ is a \mathcal{T}_2 -assignment
- What are values? 3, $\sqrt{2}$ are not in the signature of the theory

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Theory extension

- Theory \mathcal{T}_k
- Theory extension \mathcal{T}_k^+ : add new constant symbols
- Example: add a constant symbol for every number $\sqrt{2}$ is a constant symbol interpreted as $\sqrt{2}$
- The values in assignments are these constant symbols (also for *true* and *false*)
- ► Conservative theory extension: a T⁺_k-unsatisfiable set of T_k-formulas is T_k-unsatisfiable

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Plausible assignment

- ► An assignment is plausible if it does not contain L ← true and L ← false
- Assignments are required to be plausible
- A plausible assignment may contain {t ← 3.1, u ← 5.4, t ← green, u ← yellow} two by T₁ and two by T₂
- When building a model from this assignment 3.1 is identified with green and 5.4 with yellow

Theory view of an assignment

Theory ${\mathcal T}$

Assignment:
$$H = \{t_1 \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_1, \ldots, t_m \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_m\}$$

 \mathcal{T} -view of H:

- ▶ The *T*-assignments
- ▶ $t \simeq s$ if there are e.g. $t \leftarrow 3$ and $s \leftarrow 3$ by any theory
- ▶ $t \not\simeq s$ if there are e.g. $t \leftarrow 3$ and $s \leftarrow 4$ by any theory

Theory modules

- Theories $\mathcal{T}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_n$
- Equipped with theory modules $\mathcal{I}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{I}_n$
- \mathcal{I}_k is the inference system for \mathcal{T}_k
- \mathcal{I}_k -inferences transforms assignments

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Examples of inferences

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Inferences in theory modules

- ► Inference $J \vdash L$
- J is an assignment
- L is a singleton Boolean assignment
- Only Boolean assignments are inferred
- Getting y ← 2 from x ← 1 and (x + y) ← 3 is not treated as inference in CDSAT

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Equality inferences

All theory modules include equality inferences:

- Same value: $t \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, s \leftarrow \mathfrak{c} \vdash t \simeq s$
- ▶ Different values: $t \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, s \leftarrow \mathfrak{q} \vdash t \not\simeq s$
- ▶ Reflexivity: $\vdash t \simeq t$
- Symmetry: $t \simeq s \vdash s \simeq t$
- Transitivity: $t \simeq s$, $s \simeq u \vdash t \simeq u$

Acceptability

Given \mathcal{T}_k -assignment J (e.g., the \mathcal{T}_k -view of the trail)

Assignment $t \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$ is acceptable for J and the \mathcal{T}_k -module \mathcal{I}_k if

- 1. J does not already assign a T_k -value to t:
 - No repetition
 - No contradiction if t ← c is Boolean
- 2. It does not happen $J' \cup \{t \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}\} \vdash_{\mathcal{I}_k} L$ where $J' \subseteq J$ and $\overline{L} \in J$

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Relevance

Subdivision of labor among theories:

- $H = \{x \leftarrow \sqrt{5}, f(x) \leftarrow \sqrt{2}, f(y) \leftarrow \sqrt{3}\}$
- \blacktriangleright x and y of sort real are RA-relevant, not EUF-relevant
- ➤ x ≃ y is EUF-relevant (assume EUF has sort R), not RA-relevant
- RA can make x and y equal/different by assigning them the same/different value
- ► EUF can make x and y equal/different by deciding the truth value of x ≃ y

We have theory modules for

- Propositional logic
- Linear rational arithmetic (LRA)
- Equality (EUF)
- Arrays (Arr)
- Any stably infinite theory T_k equipped with a T_k-satisfiability procedure that detects the T_k-unsatisfiability of a set of Boolean assignments:

$$\{L_1 \leftarrow \mathfrak{b}_1, \ldots, L_m \leftarrow \mathfrak{b}_m\} \vdash_{\mathcal{T}_k} \bot$$

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The CDSAT trail

- Trail: sequence of assignments that are either decisions or justified assignments
- A justified assignment A has a justification J
- ▶ Justification: a set of assignments *J* that appear before *A* in the trail and yields *A*, e.g., by an inference $J \vdash_{\mathcal{I}_k} A$

The CDSAT trail

- Every assignment has a level
- The level of a decision is defined as in CDCL
- The level of a justified assignment is that of its justification
- The level of a justification is the maximum among those of its elements

The CDSAT transition system

Search rules

- Conflict-resolution rules
- Finite global basis for termination

Search rules

- Apply to the trail
- Decide: adds an acceptable assignment to a relevant term
- **Deduce**: adds *L* with justification *J* if $J \vdash_{\mathcal{I}_k} L$
- Conflict: $J \vdash_{\mathcal{I}_k} L$ and \overline{L} is on the trail $J \cup \overline{L}$ is the conflict
- Fail: declares unsatisfiability if the level of the conflict is 0
- ConflictSolve: solves a conflict of level > 0 by calling the conflict-resolution rules

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Conflict-resolution rules

- Apply to trail and conflict
- Backjumping rules: Undo and Backjump
- Explanation rules: Resolve and UndoDecide
- If the conflict contains an assignment A of level n greater than that of the rest E of the conflict:
 a backjumping rule applies
- Otherwise, an explanation rule applies

Conflict-resolution rules: backjumping rules

- The conflict contains an assignment A of level n greater than that of the rest E of the conflict:
- ► Undo: A is a first-order decision: remove A and all assignments of level ≥ n (equivalently: backjump to n − 1)
- Backjump: A is a Boolean assignment L: backjump to the level of E and add L
 with justification E: if E ∪ {L} ⊢⊥ then E ⊢ L

Example I

- $P = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$
 - **Decide**: $u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, v \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$
 - Decide: $select(store(a, i, v), j) \leftarrow c, w \leftarrow 0$
 - ▶ Decide: $f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \leftarrow 0, f(u) \leftarrow -2$
 - Deduce: $u \simeq select(store(a, i, v), j), f(u) \not\simeq f(select(store(a, i, v), j))$
 - Conflict: the last two yield \perp in \mathcal{I}_{EUF}
 - Backjump: flips f(u) ≄ f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) and clears the trail saving u ≃ select(store(a, i, v), j) and its justification

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Example II

$$P = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w - 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$$

- ▶ Decide: $u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, v \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, select(store(a, i, v), j) \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$
- Deduce: $u \simeq select(store(a, i, v), j)$
- Deduce: $f(u) \simeq f(select(store(a, i, v), j))$
- Deduce: $f(u) \simeq w$, $w 2 \simeq w$ by transitivity of equality
- Conflict: $w 2 \simeq w$ yields \perp in \mathcal{I}_{LRA}
- Resolve: $f(u) \simeq w$, $f(u) \simeq w 2$
- ▶ Resolve: $f(u) \simeq f(select(store(a, i, v), j)),$ $f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w - 2$
- ▶ Resolve: $u \simeq select(store(a, i, v), j),$ $f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w - 2$

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Example III

- $P = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$
 - Backjump: flips u ~ select(store(a, i, v), j) and jumps back to level 0
 - $u \neq select(store(a, i, v), j)$
 - ▶ Decide: $u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, v \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}, select(store(a, i, v), j) \leftarrow \mathfrak{d}$
 - **Deduce**: $v \not\simeq select(store(a, i, v), j)$
 - ▶ Conflict: $i \simeq j$, $v \not\simeq select(store(a, i, v), j)$ yield \perp in \mathcal{I}_{Arr}

Example IV

- $P = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$
 - $u \not\simeq select(store(a, i, v), j)$
 - Backjump: flips v ≄ select(store(a, i, v), j) and jumps back to level 0

•
$$v \simeq select(store(a, i, v), j)$$

- Conflict: u ≃ v, u ≄ select(store(a, i, v), j), and v ≃ select(store(a, i, v), j) yield ⊥ at level 0
- ► Fail: *P* is unsatisfiable

Conflict-resolution rules: explanation rules

- The explanation rules unfolds the conflict by replacing an assignment in the conflict *E* with its justification *H*
- Resolve applies if H does not contain a first-order assignment A of the same level as E
- Otherwise UndoDecide applies: there are two Boolean assignments L and F both depending on A; the rule undoes A and flips either L or F

Example I

$$\{x > 1 \lor y < 0, \ x < -1 \lor y > 0\}$$

Decide:
$$x \leftarrow 0$$

• Deduce:
$$(x > 1) \leftarrow$$
 false, $(x < -1) \leftarrow$ false

• Resolve:
$$\{y < 0, y > 0\}$$

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Example II

$$\{x > 1 \lor y < 0, \ x < -1 \lor y > 0\}$$

- UndoDecide: x > 1
- **Decide**: $x \leftarrow 2$
- Deduce: $(x < -1) \leftarrow false$
- Deduce: y > 0
- **Decide**: $y \leftarrow 1$
- Deduce: $(y < 0) \leftarrow false$
- Satisfiable

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Three main theorems

- Soundness: if CDSAT returns unsatisfiable, there is no model
- Termination: CDSAT is guaranteed to terminate if the global basis is finite
- Completeness: if CDSAT terminates without returning unsatisfiable, there is a model

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