CDSAT: Conflict-Driven SATisfiability modulo theories and assignments¹

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The conflict-driven reasoning paradigm

Conflict-driven reasoning in theory combination

The CDSAT transition system

Discussion

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Archetype of conflict-driven reasoning: DPLL-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 DPLL-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; Deduce: *b* must be true
- 2. Decide: *c* is true; Deduce: *d* must be true
- 3. Decide: *e* is true; Deduce: $\neg f$ must be true
- ► Trail $\Gamma = a$, b, c, d, e, $\neg f$
- Conflict: $f \lor \neg e \lor \neg b$ is false

A taste of CDCL: conflict-solving

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

$$\Gamma = a, \ b, \ c, \ d, \ e, \ \neg f$$

- 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 level with $\neg b$ false and $\neg e$ unassigned: $\Gamma = a, b, \neg e$
- 5. Continue until it finds a satisfying assignment (model) or none can be found (conflict at level 0)

Conflict-driven reasoning 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]

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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)

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. Deduce: L_0 yields x > 0
- 3. Conflict between x > 0 and L_2
- Explanation: infer -y < -2 by the linear combination of L₀ and L₂ that eliminates x -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 DPLL-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 on the trail
- MCSAT [de Moura, Jovanović: VMCAI 2013]

Open questions

Problems from applications require combinations of theories:

- ► How to combine multiple conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedures with DPLL-CDCL?
- Better: How to combine multiple conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedure one of which is DPLL-CDCL?
- 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 $\mathcal{T}_{\infty} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{T}_{k}$
- ▶ Disjoint theories: share only \simeq (and sorts)
- Mixed terms handled by introducing new variables or viewing as variables maximal subterms with foreign root symbol
- The T_k -satisfiability procedures need to agree on:
 - Which shared variables are equal
 - 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 variables are equal and which are not by letting the *T_k*-satisfiability procedures generate and propagate all entailed (disjunctions of) equalities between shared variables
- Minimize interaction: the *T_k*-satisfiability procedures are treated as black-boxes
- Integrated in DPLL(T) with new atoms on the trail only for equalities between shared variables [Barrett, Nieuwenhuis, Oliveras, Tinelli: LPAR 2006] [Krstić, Goel: FroCoS 2007]

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More open questions

- Conflict-driven behavior and black-box integration are at odds: a conflict-driven T_k-satisfiability procedure needs to access the trail and performs inferences to explain conflicts on a par with DPLL-CDCL
- ► How can we combine multiple T_k-satisfiability procedures some conflict-driven and some not?

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

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 *T_k*-satisfiability procedures some conflict-driven and some not into a conflict-driven *T*-satisfiability procedure for *T_∞* = ⋃_{k=1}ⁿ *T_k*

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► CDSAT reduces to equality sharing if no T_k-satisfiability procedure is conflict-driven

Basic features of CDSAT

- CDSAT treats propositional and theory reasoning uniformly: formulas are terms of sort prop
- Propositional logic is one of \$\mathcal{T}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_n\$
 DPLL-CDCL is one of the \$\mathcal{T}_k\$-satisfiability procedures
- With formulas reduced to terms, assignments become the basic data for inferences
- ► CDSAT combines inference systems called theory modules *I*₁,...,*I*_n for *T*₁,...,*T*_n
- CDSAT treats a non-conflict-driven T_k-satisfiability procedure as a theory module whose only inference rule invokes the procedure to detect T_k-unsatisfiability

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CDSAT is sound, complete, and terminating

In CDSAT everything is assignment

- $P = \{f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, f(u) \simeq w 2, i \simeq j, u \simeq v\}$
- ► $P = \{ f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w \leftarrow true f(u) \simeq w 2 \leftarrow true i \simeq j \leftarrow true u \simeq v \leftarrow true \}$
- Combination of the theories of Equality (EUF), Linear Rational Arithmetic (LRA), and Arrays (Arr)

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- EUF and Arr share the sort of array values
- EUF and LRA share the sort of rational numbers

Beyond propositional variables and Boolean values

- Assignments to propositional variables: $L \leftarrow true$
- Assignments to first-order variables: $x \leftarrow 3$, $y \leftarrow \sqrt{2}$
- 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 ≥ b ← true
 P(a, b) ← false a ≥ b ∨ P(a, b) ← true all theories feature sort prop
- *L* stands for $L \leftarrow true$, $t_1 \not\simeq t_2$ stands for $t_1 \simeq t_2 \leftarrow false$ \overline{L} is the flip of *L*
- What are values? 3, $\sqrt{2}$ are not in the signature of any theory

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Theory extension

- Theory extension T_k⁺ of theory T_k: add new constant symbols (and possibly new axioms)
- ► Example: add a constant symbol for every number (e.g., integers, rationals, algebraic reals) √2 is a constant symbol interpreted as √2
- The values in assignments are these constant symbols, called *T_k*-values (*true* and *false* are values for all theories)
- ► Conservative theory extension: a T⁺_k-unsatisfiable set of T_k-formulas is T_k-unsatisfiable

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$$\mathcal{T}_{\infty}^{+} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{T}_{k}^{+}$$
 extension of $\mathcal{T}_{\infty} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{T}_{k}$

Assignment

- $\blacktriangleright \{t_1 \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_1, \ldots, t_m \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_m\}$
- $\blacktriangleright t_1, \ldots, t_m$: \mathcal{T}_{∞} -terms
- \blacktriangleright $\mathfrak{c}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{c}_m$: values
- \triangleright \mathfrak{c}_i has the same sort as t_i
- $t_i \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_i$ is a \mathcal{T}_k -assignment if \mathfrak{c}_i is a \mathcal{T}_k -value
- An assignment must be plausible: it does not contain L ← true and L ← false
- ▶ All theories may contribute: e.g., $t_i \leftarrow true$ is a \mathcal{T}_1 -assignment, $t_j \leftarrow 3$ is a \mathcal{T}_2 -assignment, $t_h \leftarrow \sqrt{2}$ is a \mathcal{T}_3 -assignment

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Problems as assignments

- Boolean assignment: Boolean values
- First-order assignment: non-Boolean values
- Satisfiability Modulo Theory problem: a plausible Boolean assignment
- Satisfiability Modulo theory and Assignment problem: a plausible assignment with both Boolean and first-order assignments

Theory view of an assignment

Let \mathcal{T} stand for either \mathcal{T}_k , for any k, $1 \le k \le n$, or \mathcal{T}_∞ \mathcal{T}_∞ -assignment: $H = \{t_1 \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_1, \dots, t_m \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}_m\}$

The \mathcal{T} -view of H is the \mathcal{T} -assignment made of:

- The \mathcal{T} -assignments in H
- ▶ $u \simeq t$ if H includes \mathcal{T}_j -assignments $(1 \le j \le n)$ $u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$ and $t \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$ of a sort known to \mathcal{T}

Examples of theory views

$$H = \{y \leftarrow -1, z \leftarrow 2, x > 1, store(a, i, v) \simeq b, select(a, j) \leftarrow red\}$$

• Bool-view:
$$\{x > 1, store(a, i, v) \simeq b\}$$

Arr-view: {
$$x > 1$$
, store(a, i, v) $\simeq b$, select(a, j) \leftarrow red}

► LRA-view:
{
$$x > 1$$
, store(a, i, v) $\simeq b$, $y \leftarrow -1$, $z \leftarrow 2$, $y \neq z$ }

► EUF-view: {x>1, store(a, i, v) ≃ b, y ≠ z} assuming EUF has the sort of the rational numbers

• Global view:
$$H \cup \{y \neq z\}$$

Assignments and models: endorsement

- ▶ Let \mathcal{T} stand for either \mathcal{T}_k , for any k, $1 \leq k \leq n$, or \mathcal{T}_∞
- What does it mean that a *T*⁺-model *M* satisfies a *T*-assignment?
- ► *T*⁺-model *M* endorses *T*-assignment *u* ← c if *M* interprets *u* and c as the same element
- ► T⁺-model *M* satisfies T-assignment *J* if *M* endorses the T-view of *J*

Another example

- $\blacktriangleright \ \{t \leftarrow 3.1, u \leftarrow 5.4, t \leftarrow \mathsf{red}, u \leftarrow \mathsf{blue}\} \subseteq H$
- $t \leftarrow 3.1$ and $u \leftarrow 5.4$ are \mathcal{T}_1 -assignments
- $t \leftarrow \text{red and } u \leftarrow \text{blue are } \mathcal{T}_2\text{-assignments}$
- \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 share the sort of t and u
- Both \mathcal{T}_1^+ and \mathcal{T}_2^+ provide values for this sort
- ▶ The \mathcal{T}_1 -view of H includes $\{t \leftarrow 3.1, u \leftarrow 5.4, t \neq u\}$
- ▶ The \mathcal{T}_2 -view of H includes { $t \leftarrow \text{red}, u \leftarrow \text{blue}, t \neq u$ }
- A combined model that identifies 3.1 with red and 5.4 with blue can satisfy H

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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 an inference system for \mathcal{T}_k
- \mathcal{I}_k -inferences transforms assignments
- Examples in arithmetic on the reals (RA):

$$\begin{array}{l} \blacktriangleright \quad (x \leftarrow \sqrt{2}), \ (y \leftarrow \sqrt{2}) \vdash (x \cdot y \simeq 1+1) \\ \blacktriangleright \quad (y \leftarrow \sqrt{2}), \ (x \leftarrow \sqrt{2}) \vdash (y \simeq x) \\ \vdash \quad (y \leftarrow \sqrt{2}), \ (x \leftarrow \sqrt{3}) \vdash (y \not\simeq x) \end{array}$$

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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 viewed as a forced decision in CDSAT

Equality inferences

All theory modules include equality inferences:

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

How about decisions?

Module \mathcal{I}_k decides a value for term *u* if *u* is relevant to theory \mathcal{T}_k :

$$\bullet \ H = \{x \leftarrow 5, \ f(x) \leftarrow 2, \ f(y) \leftarrow 3\}$$

Rational variables x and y are LRA-relevant, not EUF-relevant

- ➤ x ~ y is EUF-relevant (assume EUF has sort Q), not LRA-relevant
- LRA 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

Two ways to communicate an equality: making it *true* and assigning the same value to its sides

Acceptability

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

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

- 1. *u* is relevant to \mathcal{T}_k
- 2. J does not already assign a T_k -value to u
- 3. For $u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$ first-order, it does not happen $J' \cup \{u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}\} \vdash_{\mathcal{I}_k} L$, where $J' \subseteq J$ and $\overline{L} \in J$

We have theory modules for

- Propositional logic
- Linear rational arithmetic (LRA)
- Equality (EUF)
- Arrays (Arr) first time conflict-driven
- 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:

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

The CDSAT trail

- Trail: sequence of assignments that are either decisions or justified assignments
- Decisions can be either Boolean or first-order
- A justified assignment A has a justification that is a set of assignments that appear before A in the trail:
 - ▶ Due to inferences, e.g., $J \vdash_{\mathcal{I}_k} A$
 - Input assignments (empty justification)
 - Due to conflict-solving transitions
 - Boolean except the input first-order assignments of an SMA problem

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 trail is not a stack: there may be late propagations

The CDSAT transition system

- Trail rules: Decide, Deduce, Fail, ConflictSolve
- Conflict state rules: UndoClear, Resolve, Backjump, UndoDecide
- Parameter: global basis:
 - A set from which CDSAT can draw new terms
 - Finite to ensure termination
 - Depends on the input and is fixed throughout a CDSAT derivation



- Apply to the trail Γ
- Decide: adds an acceptable assignment
- ▶ 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 state rules

Conflict state rules

• Apply to trail and conflict: $\langle \Gamma, H \rangle$ with $H \subseteq \Gamma$

▶ If $H = E \uplus \{A\}$ and level(A) = m is greater than level(E):

- ► UndoClear: A is a first-order decision remove A and all assignments of level ≥ m (i.e., backjump to m - 1)
- Backjump: A is a Boolean L backjump to *level*(E) and add L
 with justification E if E ⊎ {L} ⊢⊥ then E ⊢ L

Example of UndoClear

$$\Gamma = -2x - y < 0, \ x + y < 0, \ x < -1$$
 (level 0)

- 1. Decide $y \leftarrow 0$ (level 1)
- 2. Deduce -y < -2 from -2x y < 0 and x < -1 (level 0)
- 3. Conflict is $\{y \leftarrow 0, -y < -2\}$
- 4. UndoClear removes $y \leftarrow 0$ resulting in $\Gamma = -2x - y < 0, x + y < 0, x < -1, -y < -2$ (level 0)

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5. -y < -2 is a late propagation

Example of Backjump

 $\Gamma = f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, \ f(u) \simeq w - 2, \ i \simeq j, \ u \simeq v$ (level 0)

- ▶ Decide: $u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$ (level 1) $v \leftarrow \mathfrak{c}$ (level 2)
- ▶ Decide: $select(store(a, i, v), j) \leftarrow c$ (level 3) $w \leftarrow 0$ (level 4)

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- ▶ Decide: $f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \leftarrow 0$ (level 5) $f(u) \leftarrow -2$ (level 6)
- Deduce: u ≃ select(store(a, i, v), j) (level 3) f(u) ≄ f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) (level 6)
- Conflict: the last two yield \perp in \mathcal{I}_{EUF}
- Backjumps to level 3 and adds f(u) ~ f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) with u ~ select(store(a, i, v), j) as justification

Conflict state rules

- Apply to trail and conflict: $\langle \Gamma, H \rangle$ with $H \subseteq \Gamma$
- If H = E ⊎ {A} and A has justification J Resolve transforms H into E ⊎ {J}, provided J does not contain a first-oder decision A' of the same level as H to avoid looping with an UndoClear-Decide-Deduce sequence
- If H = E ⊎ {L}, L is Boolean (no UndoClear), level(L) = level(E) (no Backjump), and L has justification J that contains such an A' (no Resolve) UndoDecide undoes A' and decides L

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Example of Resolve

$$\begin{split} & \Gamma = f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \simeq w, \quad f(u) \simeq w - 2, \quad i \simeq j, \quad u \simeq v \\ (\text{level } 0) \\ & u \leftarrow \mathfrak{c} \text{ (level } 1) \\ & v \leftarrow \mathfrak{c} \text{ (level } 2) \\ & select(store(a, i, v), j) \leftarrow \mathfrak{c} \text{ (level } 3) \\ & u \simeq select(store(a, i, v), j) \text{ (level } 3) \\ & f(u) \simeq f(select(store(a, i, v), j)) \text{ (level } 3) \\ & \blacktriangleright \text{ Deduce: } f(u) \simeq w \text{ (level } 3) \\ & w - 2 \simeq w \text{ (level } 3) \end{aligned}$$

both by transitivity of equality

▶ Conflict:
$$w - 2 \simeq w$$
 yields \perp in \mathcal{I}_{LRA}

• Resolve:
$$f(u) \simeq w$$
, $f(u) \simeq w - 2$

Example of UndoDecide

$$\Gamma = x > 1 \lor y < 0, \ x < -1 \lor y > 0$$
 (level 0)

• Decide:
$$x \leftarrow 0$$
 (level 1)

• Deduce:
$$(x > 1) \leftarrow false$$
 (level 1)
 $(x < -1) \leftarrow false$ (level 1)
 $y < 0$ (level 1)
 $y > 0$ (level 1)

► Conflict: 0 < 0

▶ Resolve:
$$\{y < 0, y > 0\}$$

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

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Example of UndoDecide (continued)

$$\Gamma = x > 1 \lor y < 0, x < -1 \lor y > 0$$
 (level 0)

- UndoDecide: x > 1 (level 1)
- **Decide**: $x \leftarrow 2$ (level 2)
- ▶ Deduce: (x < −1) ← false (level 2) y > 0 (level 2)
- ▶ Decide: $y \leftarrow 1$ (level 3)
- Deduce: $(y < 0) \leftarrow false$ (level 3)
- Satisfiable

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

Current work

- Lemma learning
- Proof generation
- Completeness of the theory modules
- Construction of a global basis from local bases at the combined theories
 - Size of the global basis as a function of the sizes of the local bases

Current and future work

- CDSAT in C++: forthcoming SMT solver Eos (by Giulio Mazzi at U. Verona)
- Heuristic strategies to make decisions and prioritize theory inferences
- Efficient techniques to detect the applicability of theory inference rules and the acceptability of assignments
- More theory modules (e.g., real arithmetic from NLSAT [Jovanović, de Moura: IJCAR 2012])
- Complexity of a combination given the complexities of the theory procedures

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