

# Satisfiability Checking for Propositional Logic

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# Propositional (Boolean) Logic

Propositional logic is a language for representing Boolean functions  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ .

- ▶ sometimes we write  $\perp$  for 0 and  $\top$  for 1

Grammar of formulas:

$$P ::= x \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid P \wedge P \mid \neg P \mid P \vee P \mid P \oplus P \mid P \rightarrow P \mid P \leftrightarrow P$$

where  $x$  denotes variables (identifiers). Corresponding Scala trees:

```
sealed abstract class Expr
case class Var(id: Identifier) extends Expr
case class BooleanLiteral(b: Boolean) extends Expr
case class And(e1: Expr, e2: Expr) extends Expr
case class Or(e1: Expr, e2: Expr) extends Expr
case class Not(e: Expr) extends Expr
...
```

## Environment and Truth of a Formula

An environment  $e$  is a partial map from propositional variables to  $\{0,1\}$

For vector of  $n$  boolean variables  $\bar{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$  and  $\bar{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{0,1\}^n$ , we denote  $[\bar{p} \mapsto \bar{v}]$  the environment  $e$  given by  $e(p_i) = v_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

We write  $e \models F$ , and define  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ , to denote that  $F$  is true in environment  $e$ , otherwise define  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 0$

Let  $e = \{(a,1), (b,1), (c,0)\}$  and  $F$  be  $a \wedge (\neg b \vee c)$ . Then:

$$\llbracket a \wedge (\neg b \vee c) \rrbracket_e = e(a) \wedge (\neg e(b) \vee e(c)) = 1 \wedge (\neg 1 \vee 0) = 0$$

The general definition is recursive:

$$\begin{aligned}\llbracket x \rrbracket_e &= e(x) \\ \llbracket 0 \rrbracket_e &= 0 \\ \llbracket 1 \rrbracket_e &= 1 \\ \llbracket F_1 \wedge F_2 \rrbracket_e &= \llbracket F_1 \rrbracket_e \wedge \llbracket F_2 \rrbracket_e \\ \llbracket \neg F_1 \rrbracket_e &= \neg \llbracket F_1 \rrbracket_e\end{aligned}$$

Note:  $\wedge$  and  $\neg$  on left and right are different things

## Truth of a Formula in Scala

The interpret method in Expr.scala of Labs 02:

```
def interpret(env: Map[Identifier, Boolean]): Boolean = this match {  
  case Var(id)  $\Rightarrow$  env(id)  
  case BooleanLiteral(b)  $\Rightarrow$  b  
  case Equal(e1, e2)  $\Rightarrow$  e1.interpret(env) == e2.interpret(env)  
  case Implies(e1, e2)  $\Rightarrow$  !e1.interpret(env) || e2.interpret(env)  
  case And(e1, e2)  $\Rightarrow$  e1.interpret(env) && e2.interpret(env)  
  case Or(e1, e2)  $\Rightarrow$  e1.interpret(env) || e2.interpret(env)  
  case Xor(e1, e2)  $\Rightarrow$  e1.interpret(env) ^ e2.interpret(env)  
  case Not(e)  $\Rightarrow$  !e.interpret(env)  
}
```

# Satisfiability Problem

Formula  $F$  is *satisfiable*, iff there **exists**  $e$  such that  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ .

Otherwise we call  $F$  *unsatisfiable*: when there does not exist  $e$  such that  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ , that is, for all  $e$ ,  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 0$ .

Example: let  $F$  be  $a \wedge (\neg b \vee c)$ . Then  $F$  is satisfiable, with e.g.  $e = \{(a, 1), (b, 0), (c, 0)\}$   
Its negation of  $\neg F$ , is also satisfiable, with e.g.  $e = \{(a, 0), (b, 0), (c, 0)\}$

SAT is a problem: given a propositional formula, determine whether it is satisfiable.

The problem is decidable because given  $F$  we can compute its variables  $FV(F)$  and it suffices to look at the  $2^n$  environments for  $n = FV(F)$ . The problem is NP-complete, but useful heuristics exist.

A SAT solver is a program that, given boolean formula  $F$ , either:

- ▶ returns **sat**, and, optionally, returns one environment  $e$  such that  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ , or
- ▶ returns **unsat** and, optionally, returns a **proof** that no satisfying assignment exists

# Formal Proof System

We will consider a some set of logical formulas  $\mathcal{F}$  (e.g. propositional logic)

## Definition

An proof system is  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$  where  $\text{Infer} \subseteq \mathcal{F}^* \times \mathcal{F}$  a decidable set of *inference steps*.

- ▶ a set is *decidable* iff there is a program to check if an element belongs to it
- ▶ given a set  $S$ , notation  $S^*$  denotes all finite sequences with elements from  $S$

We schematically write an inference step  $((P_1, \dots, P_n), C) \in \text{Infer}$  by

$$\frac{P_1 \dots P_n}{C}$$

and we say that from  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  (**premises**) we derive  $C$  (**conclusion**).

An inference step is called an *axiom instance* when  $n=0$  (it has no premises).

Given a proof system  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$ , a proof is a finite sequence of inference steps such that, for every inference step, each premise is a conclusion of a previous step.

# Proof in a Proof System

## Definition

Given  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$  where  $\text{Infer} \subseteq \mathcal{F}^* \times \mathcal{F}$  a **proof** in  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$  is a finite sequence of inference steps  $S_0, \dots, S_m \in \text{Infer}$  such that, for each  $S_i$  where  $0 \leq i \leq m$ , for each premise  $P_j$  of  $S_i$  there exists  $0 \leq k < i$  such that  $P_j$  is the conclusion of  $S_k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} S_0: & \quad ((), \quad C_0) \\ & \quad \dots \\ S_k: & \quad ((\dots\dots\dots), \quad \mathbf{P}_j) \\ & \quad \dots \\ S_i: & \quad ((\dots, \mathbf{P}_j, \dots), \quad C_i) \end{aligned}$$

Given the definition of the proof, we can replace each premise  $P_j$  with the index  $k$  where  $P_j$  was the conclusion of  $S_k$  ( $P_j \equiv \text{Conc}(S_k)$ )

A proof is then a sequence of elements from  $\{0, 1, \dots\}^* \times \mathcal{F}$  where each  $S_i$  in the sequence is of the form  $(k_1, \dots, k_n, C)$  for  $0 \leq k_1, \dots, k_n < i$  and where  $(\text{Conc}(S_{k_1}), \dots, \text{Conc}(S_{k_n}), C) \in \text{Infer}$ .

## Proofs as Dags

We can view proofs as directed acyclic graphs.

Given a proof as a sequence of steps, for each  $(k_1, \dots, k_n, C)$  in the sequence we introduce a node labelled by  $C$ , and directed labelled edges  $(\text{Conc}(S_{k_j}), j, C)$  for all premises  $k_1, \dots, k_n$ .

To check such proof, for each node, follow all of its incoming edges backwards in the order of their indices to find the premises, then check that the inference step is in Infer.



# A Minimal Propositional Logic Proof System

Formulas  $\mathcal{F}$  defined by  $F ::= x \mid 0 \mid F \rightarrow F$

Shorthand:

$$\neg F \equiv F \rightarrow 0$$

Inference rules:  $\text{Infer} = P_2 \cup P_3 \cup \text{MP}$  where: (W: Hilbert system)

$$\begin{aligned} P_2 &= \{(((), \quad F \rightarrow (G \rightarrow F) \quad )) \mid F, G \in \mathcal{F}\} \\ P_3 &= \{(((), \quad ((F \rightarrow (G \rightarrow H)) \rightarrow ((F \rightarrow G) \rightarrow (F \rightarrow H))) \quad )) \mid F, G, H \in \mathcal{F}\} \\ \text{MP} &= \{((F \rightarrow G, F), \quad G \quad )) \mid F, G \in \mathcal{F}\} \end{aligned}$$

Elements of  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  are all axioms. These are infinite sets, but are given a schematic way and there is an algorithm to check if a given formula satisfies each of the schemas.

Exercise: draw a DAG representing proof of  $a \rightarrow a$  where  $a$  is a propositional variable.

## An Example Proof

Hint: use  $P_3$  for  $F \equiv a$ ,  $G \equiv a \rightarrow a$ ,  $H \equiv a$

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Hint: use  $P_3$  for  $F \equiv a$ ,  $G \equiv a \rightarrow a$ ,  $H \equiv a$

Apply MP to the above instance of  $P_3$  and an instance of  $P_2$ , then to another instance of  $P_2$ .

# Derivation is a Proof from Assumptions

## Definition

Given  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$ ,  $\text{Infer} \subseteq \mathcal{F}^* \times \mathcal{F}$  and a set of assumptions  $A \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ , a **derivation from  $A$**  in  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$  is a proof in  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer}')$  where:

$$\text{Infer}' = \text{Infer} \cup \{((\ ), F) \mid F \in A\}$$

Thus, assumptions from  $A$  are treated just as axioms.

## Definition

We say that  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  is provable from assumptions  $A$ , denoted  $A \vdash_{\text{Infer}} F$  iff there exists a derivation from  $A$  in  $\text{Infer}$  that contains an inference step whose conclusion is  $F$ .

We write  $\vdash_{\text{Infer}} F$  to denote that there exists a proof in  $\text{Infer}$  containing  $F$  as a conclusion (same as  $\emptyset \vdash_{\text{Infer}} F$ ).

# Consequence and Soundness in Propositional Logic

Given a set  $A \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  where  $\mathcal{F}$  are in propositional logic, and  $C \in \mathcal{F}$ , we say that  $C$  is a **semantic consequence** of  $A$ , denoted  $A \models C$  iff for every environment  $e$  that defines all variables in  $FV(C) \cup \bigcup_{P \in A} FV(P)$ , if  $\llbracket P \rrbracket_e = 1$  for all  $P \in A$ , then  $\llbracket C \rrbracket_e = 1$ .

## Definition

Given  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$  where  $\mathcal{F}$  are propositional, step  $((P_1 \dots P_n), C) \in \text{Infer}$  is **sound** iff  $\{P_1, \dots, P_n\} \models C$ . Proof system  $\text{Infer}$  is sound if every inference step is sound.

For axioms, this definition reduces to saying that  $C$  is true for all interpretations, i.e., that  $C$  is a valid formula (tautology).

## Theorem

*Let  $(\mathcal{F}, \text{Infer})$  where  $\mathcal{F}$  are propositional logic formulas. If every inference rule in  $\text{Infer}$  is sound, then  $A \vdash_{\text{Infer}} F$  implies  $A \models F$ .*

Proof is immediate by induction on the length of the formal proof.

Consequence:  $\vdash_{\text{Infer}} F$  implies  $F$  is a tautology.

## A Proof System with Decision and Simplification

Propositional formulas  $F$  and  $G$  are semantically equivalent if  $F \models G$  and  $G \models F$ .

Case analysis proof rule  $((F, G), F[x := 0] \vee G[x := 1]) \mid F, G \in \mathcal{F}, x\text{-variable}$ :

$$\frac{F \quad G}{F[x := 0] \vee G[x := 1]}$$

Proof of soundness: consider an environment  $e$  (that defines  $x$  as well as  $FV(F) \cup FV(G)$ ), and assume  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$  and  $\llbracket G \rrbracket_e = 1$ .

- ▶ If  $e(x) = 0$ , then  $\llbracket F[x := 0] \rrbracket_e = \llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ .
- ▶ If  $e(x) = 1$ , then  $\llbracket G[x := 1] \rrbracket_e = \llbracket G \rrbracket_e = 1$ .

Simplification rules that preserve equivalence can be applied:  $0 \wedge F \rightsquigarrow 0$ ,  $1 \wedge F \rightsquigarrow F$ ,  $0 \vee F \rightsquigarrow F$ ,  $1 \vee F \rightsquigarrow 1$ ,  $\neg 0 \rightsquigarrow 1$ ,  $\neg 1 \rightsquigarrow 0$ .

Introduce inferences  $\{(F, F') \mid F' \text{ is simplified } F\}$ . These rules are also sound. Call this  $\text{Infer}_D$ .

## Example Derivation

Derivation from  $A = \{a \wedge b, \neg b \vee \neg a\}$ . Draw the arrows to get a proof DAG

$$a \wedge b$$

$$\neg b \vee \neg a$$

$$(0 \wedge b) \vee (1 \wedge b)$$

$$(a \wedge 0) \vee (a \wedge 1)$$

$$b$$

$$a$$

$$0 \vee (\neg 1 \vee \neg a)$$

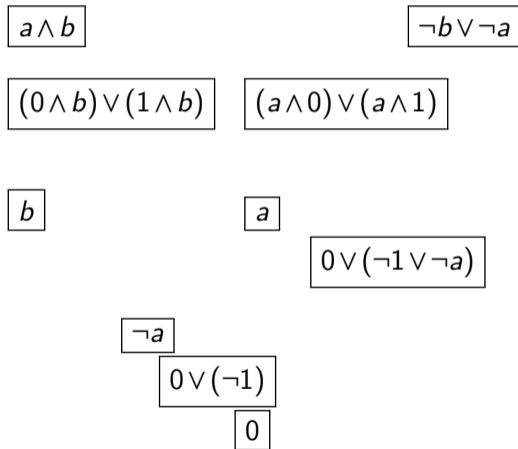
$$\neg a$$

$$0 \vee (\neg 1)$$

$$0$$

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This derivation shows that:  $A \vdash 0$



# Proving Unsatisfiability

A set  $A$  of formulas is *satisfiable* if there exists  $e$  such that, for every  $F \in A$ ,  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ .

- ▶ when  $A = \{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$  the notion is the same as the satisfiability of  $F_1 \wedge \dots \wedge F_n$

Otherwise, we call the set  $A$  *unsatisfiable*.

## Theorem (Soundness Consequence)

If  $A \vdash_{\text{Infer}_D} 0$  then  $A$  is unsatisfiable.

If there exists  $e$  is such that  $e(F) = 1$  for all  $F \in A$  then by soundness of  $\text{Infer}_D$ ,  $e(0) = 1$ , a contradiction. So there is no such  $e$ .

## Theorem (Refutation Completeness)

If a finite set  $A$  is unsatisfiable, then  $A \vdash_{\text{Infer}_D} 0$

Proof hint: take conjunction of formulas in  $A$  and existentially quantify it to get  $A'$ . What is the relationship of the truth of  $A'$  and the satisfiability of  $A$ ? For a conjunction of formulas  $F$ , can you express  $\exists x.F$  using  $\text{Infer}_D$ ?

## Illustration of Completeness

Let  $A = \{F_1, F_2\}$  and let  $FV(F_1) \cup FV(F_2) = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  and let  $x$  be some  $x_i$

We have the following equivalences:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists x.(F_1 \wedge F_2) \\ & (F_1 \wedge F_2)[x := 0] \vee (F_1 \wedge F_2)[x := 1] && \text{try both values} \\ & (F_1[x := 0] \wedge F_2[x := 0]) \vee (F_1[x := 1] \wedge F_2[x := 1]) && \text{meaning of substitution} \\ & (F_1[x := 0] \vee F_1[x := 1]) \wedge (F_1[x := 0] \vee F_2[x := 1]) \wedge \\ & (F_2[x := 0] \vee F_1[x := 1]) \wedge (F_2[x := 0] \vee F_2[x := 1]) \end{aligned}$$

Existentially quantifying over a variable gives us result of applying decision rule to all pairs of formulas  $F_1, F_2$ .

Systematically applying rules will derive formula  $Z$  equivalent to  $\exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n.(F_1 \wedge F_2)$ .

When  $A$  is unsatisfiable,  $Z$  is equivalent to 0, and has no free variables. By simplification rules, we can derive 0.

## Conjunctive Form, Literals, and Clauses

A propositional *literal* is either a variable (e.g.,  $x$ ) or its negation ( $\neg x$ ).

A *clause* is a disjunction of literals.

For convenience, we can represent clause as a finite *set of literals* (because of associativity, commutativity, and idempotence of  $\vee$ ).

Example:  $a \vee \neg b \vee c$  represented as  $\{a, \neg b, c\}$

If  $C$  is a clause then  $\llbracket C \rrbracket_e = 1$  iff there exists a literal  $l \in C$  such that  $\llbracket l \rrbracket_e = 1$ . We represent 0 using the empty clause  $\emptyset$ .

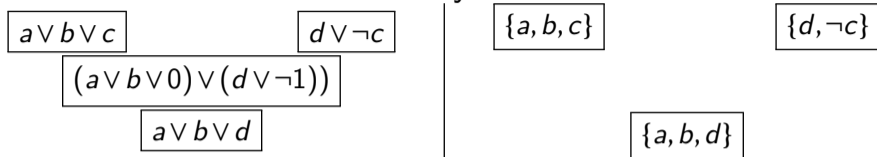
As for any formulas, a finite set of clauses  $A$  can be interpreted as a conjunction. Thus, a set of clauses can be viewed as a formula in conjunctive normal form:

$$A = \{\{a\}, \{b\}, \{\neg a, \neg b\}\}$$

represents the formula

$$a \wedge b \wedge (\neg a \vee \neg b)$$

## Resolution on Clauses as a Proof System



Clausal resolution rule (decision rule for clauses):

$$\frac{C_1 \cup \{x\} \quad C_2 \cup \{\neg x\}}{C_1 \cup C_2}$$

resolve two clauses with respect to  $x$

### Theorem (Soundness)

*Clausal resolution is sound for all clauses  $C_1, C_2$  and propositional variable  $x$ ,  $\{C_1 \cup \{x\}, C_2 \cup \{\neg x\}\} \models C_1 \cup C_2$ .*

### Theorem (Refutational Completeness)

*A finite set of clauses  $A$  is satisfiable if and only if there exists a derivation of the empty clause from  $A$  using clausal resolution.*

## Resolution as Transitivity of Implication

For three formulas  $F_1, F_2, F_3$  if  $F_1 \rightarrow F_2$  and  $F_2 \rightarrow F_3$  are true, so is  $F_1 \rightarrow F_3$ . Thus,  $\rightarrow$  denotes a transitive relation on  $\{0, 1\}$ .

We can view resolution as a consequence of transitivity.  
We use the fact that  $P \rightarrow Q$  is equivalent to  $\neg P \vee Q$ :

$$\frac{C_1 \vee x \quad C_2 \vee \neg x}{C_1 \vee C_2} \qquad \frac{(\neg C_1) \rightarrow x \quad x \rightarrow C_2}{(\neg C_1) \rightarrow C_2}$$

## Exercise

Use resolution to prove that the following formula is valid:

$$\neg(a \wedge b \wedge (\neg a \vee \neg b))$$

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$$\{\neg b\}$$

$$\emptyset$$

# Unit Resolution

A *unit clause* is a clause that has precisely one literal; it's of the form  $\{L\}$   
Given a literal  $L$ , its complement  $\bar{L}$  is defined by  $\bar{x} = \neg x$ ,  $\overline{\bar{x}} = x$ .

Unit resolution is a special case of resolution where at least one of the clauses is a unit clause:

$$\frac{C \quad \{L\}}{C \setminus \{\bar{L}\}}$$

Soundness: if  $L$  is true, then  $\bar{L}$  is false, so it can be deleted from a disjunction  $C$ .

Subsumption: when applying resolution, if we obtain a clause  $C' \subseteq C$  that is subset of a previously derived one, we can delete  $C$  so we do not consider it any more. Any use of  $C$  can be replaced by use of  $C'$  with progress towards  $\emptyset$  at least as good.

Unit resolution with  $\{L\}$  can remove all occurrences of  $L$  and  $\bar{L}$  from our set.

## Constructing a Conjunctive Normal Form

How would we transform this formula into a set of clauses:

$$\neg(((c \wedge a) \vee (\neg c \wedge b)) \leftrightarrow ((c \rightarrow b) \wedge (\neg c \rightarrow b)))$$

Which equivalences are guaranteed to produce a conjunctive normal form?

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(F_1 \wedge F_2) &\leftrightarrow (\neg F_1) \vee (\neg F_2) \\ F_1 \wedge (F_2 \vee F_3) &\leftrightarrow (F_1 \wedge F_2) \vee (F_1 \wedge F_3) \\ F_1 \vee (F_2 \wedge F_3) &\leftrightarrow (F_1 \vee F_2) \wedge (F_1 \vee F_3)\end{aligned}$$

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What is the complexity of such transformation in the general case?

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What is the complexity of such transformation in the general case?

Are there efficient algorithms for checking satisfiability of formulas in *disjunctive* normal form (disjunctions of conjunctions of literals)?

When checking satisfiability, is conversion into *conjunctive* normal form any better than disjunctive normal form?

## Discussion of Normal Form Transformation

Transformation is exponential in general, applying from left to right equivalence

$$F_1 \vee (F_2 \wedge F_3) \leftrightarrow (F_1 \vee F_2) \wedge (F_1 \vee F_3)$$

duplicates sub-formulas  $F_1$ , which may result in an exponentially larger formula.

If we were willing to do transformation using those rules, we might just as well transform formula into *disjunctive* normal form, because checking satisfiability of formula in disjunctive normal form is trivial, such formulas is a disjunction of conjunctions  $D_i$  and we have these equivalences:

$$\begin{aligned} \exists e. \llbracket D_1 \vee \dots \vee D_n \rrbracket_e = 1 \\ \exists e. (\llbracket D_1 \rrbracket_e = 1 \vee \dots \vee \llbracket D_n \rrbracket_e = 1) \\ (\exists e. \llbracket D_1 \rrbracket_e = 1) \vee \dots \vee (\exists e. \llbracket D_n \rrbracket_e = 1) \end{aligned}$$

and the last condition is trivial to check, because we check satisfiability of conjunction  $D_i$  separately.

## Equivalence and Equisatisfiability

Formulas  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are **equivalent** iff:  $F_1 \models F_2$  and  $F_2 \models F_1$  ( $\forall e. \llbracket F_1 \rrbracket_e = \llbracket F_2 \rrbracket_e$ )

Formulas  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are **equisatisfiable** iff:  $F_1$  is satisfiable whenever  $F_2$  is satisfiable.

Equivalent formulas are always equisatisfiable, but the converse is not the case in general. For example, formulas  $a$  and  $b$  are equisatisfiable, because they are both satisfiable.

Consider these two formulas:

- ▶  $F_1: (a \wedge b) \vee c$
- ▶  $F_2: (x \leftrightarrow (a \wedge b)) \wedge (x \vee c)$

They are equisatisfiable but not equivalent. For example, given  $e = \{(a, 1), (b, 1), (c, 0), (x, 0)\}$ ,  $\llbracket F_1 \rrbracket_e = 1$  whereas  $\llbracket F_2 \rrbracket_e = 0$ . Interestingly, every choice of  $a, b, c$  that makes  $F_1$  true can be extended to make  $F_2$  true appropriately, if we choose  $x$  as  $\llbracket a \wedge b \rrbracket_e$ .

## Flattenning as Satisfiability Preserving Transformation

Observation: Let  $F$  be a formula,  $G$  another formula, and  $x \notin FV(F)$  a propositional variable. Let  $F[G := x]$  denote the result of replacing an occurrence of formula  $G$  inside  $F$  with  $x$ . Then  $F$  is equisatisfiable with

$$(x = G) \wedge F[G := x]$$

(Here,  $=$  denotes  $\leftrightarrow$ .)

Proof of equisatisfiability: a satisfying assignment for new formula is also a satisfying assignment for the old one. Conversely, since  $x$  does not occur in  $F$ , if  $\llbracket F \rrbracket_e = 1$ , we can change  $e(x)$  to be defined as  $\llbracket G \rrbracket_e$ , which will make the new formula true.

(A transformation that produces an equivalent formula: *equivalence preserving*.)

A transformation that produces an equisatisfiable formula: *satisfiability preserving*.

Flattening is this satisfiability preserving transformation in any formalism that supports equality (here: equivalence): pick a subformula and given it a name by a fresh variable, applying the above observation.

Strategy: apply transformation from smallest non-variable subformulas.



## Tseytin's Transformation (see also Calculus of Computation, Section 1.7.3)

Consider formula with  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, =, \oplus$

- ▶ Replace  $F_1 \rightarrow F_2$  with  $\neg F_1 \vee F_2$  and push negation into the propositional variables using De Morgan's laws and switching between  $\oplus$  and  $=$ .
- ▶ Repeat: flatten an occurrence of a binary connective whose arguments are literals
- ▶ In the resulting conjunction, express each equivalence as a conjunction of clauses:

conjunct	corresponding clauses
$x = (a \wedge b)$	$\{\bar{x}, a\}, \{\bar{x}, b\}, \{\bar{a}, \bar{b}, x\}$
$x = (a \vee b)$	$\{\bar{x}, a, b\}, \{\bar{a}, x\}, \{\bar{b}, x\}$
$x = (a = b)$	
$x = (a \oplus b)$	

Exercise: Complete the missing entries. Are the rules in the last step equivalence preserving or only equisatisfiability preserving? Why is the resulting algorithm polynomial?

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$$\{c \wedge a \vee (\neg c \wedge b)\}$$

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$$\{x_1 \vee x_2, x_2 \rightarrow (\neg c \wedge b), (\neg c \wedge b) \rightarrow x_2, \\ x_1 \rightarrow (c \wedge a), (c \wedge a) \rightarrow x_1\}$$

$$\{x_1 \vee x_2, \neg x_2 \vee \neg c, \neg x_2 \vee b, c \vee \neg b \vee x_2, \\ \neg x_1 \vee c, \neg x_1 \vee a, \neg c \vee \neg a \vee x_1\}$$

When representing clauses as sets:

$$\{\{x_1, x_2\}, \{\neg x_2, \neg c\}, \{\neg x_2, b\}, \{c, \neg b, x_2\}, \\ \{\neg x_1, c\}, \{\neg x_1, a\}, \{\neg c, \neg a, x_1\}\}$$

# SAT Solvers

A SAT solver takes as input a set of clauses.

To check satisfiability, convert to equisatisfiable set of clauses in polynomial time using Tseytin's transformation.

To check validity of a formula, take negation, check satisfiability, then negate the answer.

How should we check satisfiability of a set of clauses?

- ▶ resolution on clauses, favoring unit resolution and applying subsumption (complete)  
Davis and Putnam, 1960
- ▶ truth table method: check one value of a variable, then other (space efficient)

## Davis-Putnam-Logemann-Loveland (DPLL) Algorithm Sketch

```
def DPLL(S: Set[Clause]) : Bool =  
  val S' = subsumption(UnitProp(S))  
  if  $\emptyset \in S'$  then false // unsat  
  else if S' has only unit clauses then true // unit clauses give e  
  else  
    val L = a literal from a clause of S' where  $\{L\} \notin S'$   
    DPLL(S'  $\cup$   $\{\{L\}\}$ ) || DPLL(S'  $\cup$   $\{\{\text{complement}(L)\}\}$ )  
  
def UnitProp(S: Set[Clause]): Set[Clause] = // Unit Propagation (BCP)  
  if  $C \in S$ , unit  $U \in S$ ,  $\text{resolve}(U,C) \notin S$   
  then UnitProp((S - {C})  $\cup$  {resolve(U,C)}) else S  
  
def subsumption(S: Set[Clause]): Set[Clause] =  
  if  $C_1, C_2 \in S$  such that  $C_1 \subseteq C_2$   
  then subsumption(S - {C2}) else S
```