

Satisfiability Modulo Theories

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Introduction

Satisfiability Modulo Theories =

Propositional satisfiability + background theories

Example: Job-Shop Scheduling

Given: n jobs, each composed of m tasks of varying duration, that must be performed consecutively on m machines; a total maximum time max .

$d_{i,j}$	Machine 1	Machine 2
Job 1	2	1
Job 2	3	1
Job 3	2	3

$$max = 8$$

Is there a [schedule](#) such that the end-time of every task is $\leq max$?

Job-Shop Scheduling: SMT Encoding

The job-shop scheduling problem has a straightforward **encoding** in propositional logic + linear integer arithmetic.

A schedule is specified by the start time $t_{i,j}$ for the j -th task of every job i .

Precedence constraints:

$$t_{i,1} \geq 0 \wedge t_{i,2} \geq t_{i,1} + d_{i,1} \wedge t_{i,2} + d_{i,2} \leq \max \quad (\text{for } i = 1, 2, 3)$$

Resource constraints:

$$\begin{aligned} & (t_{1,j} \geq t_{2,j} + d_{2,j} \vee t_{2,j} \geq t_{1,j} + d_{1,j}) \wedge \\ & (t_{1,j} \geq t_{3,j} + d_{3,j} \vee t_{3,j} \geq t_{1,j} + d_{1,j}) \wedge \\ & (t_{2,j} \geq t_{3,j} + d_{3,j} \vee t_{3,j} \geq t_{2,j} + d_{2,j}) \quad (\text{for } j = 1, 2) \end{aligned}$$

Job-Shop Scheduling: Solution

SMT formula encoding

$d_{i,j}$	Machine 1	Machine 2
Job 1	2	1
Job 2	3	1
Job 3	2	3

$max = 8$



Solution:

$$t_{1,1} = 5, t_{1,2} = 7$$

$$t_{2,1} = 2, t_{2,2} = 6$$

$$t_{3,1} = 0, t_{3,2} = 3$$

Background Theories

- EUF
- Arithmetic
- Arrays
- Bit-vectors

- Quantifiers
- Algebraic data types
- ...

$$x = y \implies f(x) = f(y)$$

$$y < 0 \implies x + y < x$$

$$\text{select}(\text{store}(a, i, x), i) = x$$

$$2 \cdot x = x \ll 1$$

Applications

SMT solvers are the core engine of many tools for program analysis, testing and verification.

Dynamic Symbolic Execution

Task: To find input that can steer program execution into specific branches.

Program Model Checking

Task: To prove/refute conjectures about the values of program variables in order to characterize a finite-state abstraction.

Static Program Analysis

Task: To check feasibility of certain program paths.

Program Verification

Task: To prove verification conditions that arise from claims of functional correctness.

SMT Solver Use

We've seen what SMT solvers are good for. How do you actually interact with them?



The SMT-LIB Language

SMT solvers provide a [textual interface](#). Most solvers support a standard language, SMT-LIB.

SMT-LIB defines

- concrete syntax for input formulas, and
- a command-based scripting language.

Solver-specific syntax is often available to extend SMT-LIB, e.g., for data types.

SMT-LIB: Example

```
; This example illustrates basic arithmetic and
; uninterpreted functions

(declare-fun x () Int)
(declare-fun y () Int)
(declare-fun z () Int)
(assert (>= (* 2 x) (+ y z)))
(declare-fun f (Int) Int)
(declare-fun g (Int Int) Int)
(assert (< (f x) (g x x)))
(assert (> (f y) (g x x)))
(check-sat)
(get-model)
(push)
(assert (= x y))
(check-sat)
(pop)
(exit)
```

[ask z3](#)

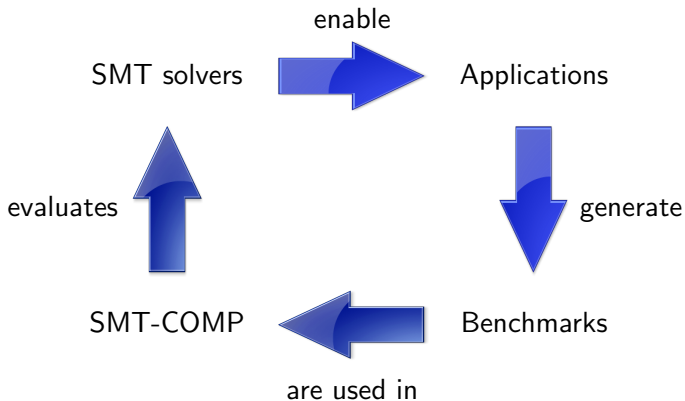
Is this formula satisfiable? **Click 'ask z3'!**

[tutorial](#)[home](#)[video](#)

Inter-Process Communication

- File-based (the basic solution)
- Stream-based (when you need online functionality)
- Web interface (mostly for quick experiments)
- In-memory API (the tightly integrated approach)
- ...

A Virtuous Circle



Choosing an SMT Solver

There are many good SMT solvers: Barcelogic, CVC, MathSAT, OpenSMT, Yices, Z3, ...

Differences:

- Supported background theories
- Platform, license, API, incrementality, quantifiers, ...
- Performance (cf. SMT-COMP)

Choosing an SMT Solver

Speaker's pick: **Z3**

- Good all-round solver, expressive input language
- Excellent performance
- Many other features: MaxSMT, fixed-point constraints, proofs
- Users can define custom theory solvers
- However, closed source (but free for academic use)

Your mileage may vary.

Algorithms

So far, we have considered SMT solvers as a black box.



This view is sufficient for many applications!

We'll now talk about what happens inside SMT solvers.

SAT: DPLL

```
 $\vartheta := \emptyset$ ; // partial Boolean valuation
while(true) {
   $\vartheta := \vartheta \cup$  propagate( $\varphi, \vartheta$ ); // deduce consequences
  if( $[[\varphi]]_{\vartheta} == \text{true}$ ) {
    return SATISFIABLE;
  } else if( $[[\varphi]]_{\vartheta} == \text{false}$ ) {
     $\vartheta :=$  backtrack( $\varphi, \vartheta$ ); // try a different branch
    if( $\vartheta == \emptyset$ ) { return UNSATISFIABLE; }
  } else {
     $\vartheta := \vartheta \cup$  decide( $\varphi, \vartheta$ ); // branch on unassigned variable
  }
}
```

Interfacing Theory Solvers with SAT

Γ := **abstraction function** that maps atomic formulas to Boolean variables;

$\varphi := \Gamma(\varphi)$;

while(true) {

$\vartheta := \text{dpll}(\varphi)$;

 if($\vartheta == \text{UNSATISFIABLE}$) { return UNSATISFIABLE; }

$\Theta := \Gamma^{-1}(\vartheta)$;

 if($\mathcal{T}(\Theta) == \text{SATISFIABLE}$) { return SATISFIABLE; }

$\varphi := \varphi \wedge \neg\vartheta$; // *theory lemma*

}

Combining Theory Solvers

Nelson-Oppen combination method: for disjoint, stably infinite theories it is sufficient to propagate **equalities between variables**.

Example: $x \leq y \wedge y \leq x \wedge P(f(x) - f(y)) \wedge \neg P(0)$

Combining Theory Solvers

Nelson-Open combination method: for disjoint, stably infinite theories it is sufficient to propagate **equalities between variables**.

$$\text{Example: } x \leq y \wedge y \leq x \wedge P(\underbrace{f(x)}_{v_1} - \underbrace{f(y)}_{v_2}) \wedge \neg P(\underbrace{0}_{v_4})$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{v_3}$

Arithmetic	EUF
$x \leq y$	$v_1 = f(x)$
$y \leq x$	$v_2 = f(y)$
$v_3 = v_1 - v_2$	$P(v_3)$
$v_4 = 0$	$\neg P(v_4)$

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$x = y$	$v_1 = v_2$
$v_3 = v_4$	\perp

Conclusion

SMT solvers are expressive and easy to use. They scale orders of magnitude beyond custom ad hoc solvers.

Use them!

Do not write your own constraint solver.