## Principles of Al Planning Planning by satisfiability testing

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SAT planning

Parallel plans

- Early work on deductive planning viewed plans as proofs that lead to a desired goal (theorem).
- Planning as satisfiability testing was proposed in 1992.
  - A propositional formula represents all length *n* action sequences from the initial state to a goal state.
  - ② If the formula is satisfiable then a plan of length n exists (and can be extracted from the satisfying valuation).
- Heuristic search and satisfiability planning are currently the best approaches for planning.
  - Satisfiability planning is often more efficient for small, but difficult problems.
  - Heuristic search is often more efficient for big, but easy problems.
- Bounded model-checking in Computer Aided Verification
  was introduced in 1998 as an extension of satisfiability
  planning after the success of the latter had been noticed
  outside the AI community.

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Actions in CPC
Plans in CPC
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- Represent actions (= binary relations) as propositional formulae.
- ② Construct a formula saying "execute one of the actions"
- ullet Construct a formula saying "execute a sequence of n actions, starting from the initial state, ending in a goal state".
- Test the satisfiability of this formula by a satisfiability algorithm.
- If the formula is satisfiable, construct a plan from a satisfying valuation.

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Example
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## Satisfiability testing vs. state-space search

- Like our earlier algorithms (progression and regression planning, possibly with heuristics), planning as satisfiability testing can be interpreted as a search algorithm.
- However, unlike these algorithms, satisfiability testing is undirected search:
  - As the first decision, the algorithm may decide to include a certain action as the 7th operator of the plan.
  - As the second decision, it may require a certain state variable to be true after the 5th operator of the plan.
  - . . .

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## Sets (of states) as formulae

#### Reminder: Formulae on A as sets of states

We view formulae  $\phi$  as representing sets of states  $s:A\to\{0,1\}.$ 

#### Example

Formula  $a \lor b$  on the state variables a,b,c represents the set  $\{010,011,100,101,110,111\}$ .

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## Relations/actions as formulae

#### Formulae on $A \cup A'$ as binary relations

Let  $A=\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\}$  represent state variables in the current state, and  $A'=\{a'_1,\ldots,a'_n\}$  state variables in the successor state.

Formulae  $\phi$  on  $A \cup A'$  represent binary relations on states: a valuation of  $A \cup A' \to \{0,1\}$  represents a pair of states  $s: A \to \{0,1\}, \ s': A' \to \{0,1\}.$ 

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inal remarks

### Example

Formula  $(a \to a') \land ((a' \lor b) \to b')$  on a,b,a',b' represents the binary relation

 $\{(00,00),(00,01),(00,11),(01,01),(01,11),(10,11),(11,11)\}.$ 

### Matrices as formulae

### Example (Formulae as relations as matrices)

Binary relation a'b' a'b' a'b' a'b' $\{(00,00),(00,01),$ (00, 11), (01, 01),ab00 01 10 11 1 1 0 1 (01, 11), (10, 11), $00 \, 1$ 0 1  $01 \, \, 1$ (11, 11)can be represented as 10 | 0 the adjacency matrix: 0 11

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Final remarks

### Representation of big matrices is possible

For n state variables, a formula (over 2n variables) represents an adjacency matrix of size  $2^n \times 2^n$ .

For n=20, matrix size is  $2^{20}\times 2^{20}\sim 10^6\times 10^6$ .

# Actions/relations as propositional formulae Example

$\phi = (a$	$a_1 \leftrightarrow$	$\neg a_1') \wedge $	$(a_2 \leftrightarrow$	$\neg a_2')$ :	as a ma	atrix
		$a'_{1}a'_{2}$	$a'_{1}a'_{2}$	$a_1'a_2' \\ 10$	$a'_{1}a'_{2}$	
(	$a_1a_2$	00	01	10	11	
	00	0	0	0	1	
	01	0	0	1	0	
	10	0	1	0	0	
	11	1	0	0	0	

and as a conventional truth table:

$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_1'$	$a_2'$	$\phi$
0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	1	0
$0 \\ 0$	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	1
0 0 0 0	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	0

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# Actions/relations as propositional formulae Example

$= (a_1 \leftrightarrow$	$\neg a_1') \land$	$(a_2 \leftrightarrow$	$\neg a_2')$	as a matr
	$\begin{vmatrix} a_1'a_2' \\ 00 \end{vmatrix}$	$a'_{1}a'_{2}$	$a'_{1}a'_{2}$	$a_1'a_2'$
$a_1a_2$	00	01	10	11
00	0 0 0 1	0	0	1
01	0	0	1	0
10	0	1	0	0
11	1	0	0	0

$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_1'$	$a_2'$	$\phi$
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1 0 0
1	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	0

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## Actions/relations as propositional formulae Example

 $(a_1\leftrightarrow a_2')\wedge (a_2\leftrightarrow a_3')\wedge (a_3\leftrightarrow a_1')$  represents the matrix:

	000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
001	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
010	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
011	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
100	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
101	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
110	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

This action rotates the value of the state variables  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  one step forward.

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## Translating operators into formulae

- Any operator can be translated into a propositional formula.
- Translation takes polynomial time.
- Resulting formula has polynomial size.
- Two main applications in planning algorithms are:
  - planning as satisfiability and
  - 2 progression & regression for state sets as used in symbolic state-space traversal, typically implemented with the help of binary decision diagrams.

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## Translating operators into formulae

#### Definition (operators in propositional logic)

Let  $o=\langle c,e\rangle$  be an operator and A a set of state variables. Define  $\tau_A(o)$  as the conjunction of

$$c \qquad (1)$$

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((\mathsf{EPC}_a(e) \lor (a \land \neg \mathsf{EPC}_{\neg a}(e))) \leftrightarrow a') \quad (2)$$

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} \neg (EPC_a(e) \land EPC_{\neg a}(e)) \tag{3}$$

Condition (1) states that the precondition of o is satisfied. Condition (2) states that the new value of a, represented by a', is 1 if the old value was 1 and it did not become 0, or if it became 1.

Condition (3) states that none of the state variables is assigned both 0 and 1. Together with (1), this encodes applicability of the operator.

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## Translating operators into formulae Example

#### Example

Let the state variables be  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ .

Consider the operator  $\langle a \lor b, (b \rhd a) \land (c \rhd \neg a) \land (a \rhd b) \rangle$ .

The corresponding propositional formula is

$$(a \lor b) \land ((b \lor (a \land \neg c)) \leftrightarrow a')$$

$$\land ((a \lor (b \land \neg \bot)) \leftrightarrow b')$$

$$\land ((\bot \lor (c \land \neg \bot)) \leftrightarrow c')$$

$$\land \neg (b \land c) \land \neg (a \land \bot) \land \neg (\bot \land \bot)$$

$$\equiv (a \lor b) \land ((b \lor (a \land \neg c)) \leftrightarrow a')$$

$$\land ((a \lor b) \leftrightarrow b')$$

$$\land (c \leftrightarrow c')$$

$$\land \neg (b \land c)$$

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## Translating operators into formulae Example

#### Example

Let  $A = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$  be the state variables.

Consider the operator  $\langle a \wedge b, c \wedge (d \triangleright e) \rangle$ .

After simplifications, the formula  $\tau_A(o)$  is

$$(a \wedge b) \wedge (a \leftrightarrow a') \wedge (b \leftrightarrow b') \wedge c' \wedge (d \leftrightarrow d') \wedge ((d \vee e) \leftrightarrow e')$$

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### Correctness

#### Lemma

Let s and s' be states and o an operator. Let  $v:A\cup A'\to\{0,1\}$  be a valuation such that

- for all  $a \in A$ , v(a) = s(a), and

Then  $v \models \tau_A(o)$  if and only if  $s' = \mathsf{app}_o(s)$ .

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- Encode operator sequences of length 0, 1, 2, ... as formulae  $\Phi_0^{seq}$ ,  $\Phi_1^{seq}$ ,  $\Phi_2^{seq}$ , ... (see next slide).
- 2 Test satisfiability of  $\Phi_0^{seq}$ ,  $\Phi_1^{seq}$ ,  $\Phi_2^{seq}$ , ....
- lacksquare If a satisfying valuation v is found, a plan can be constructed from v.

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### Definition (transition relation in propositional logic)

For  $\langle A, I, O, G \rangle$  define  $\mathcal{R}_1(A, A') = \bigvee_{o \in O} \tau_A(o)$ .

### Definition (bounded-length plans in propositional logic)

Existence of plans of length t is represented by the following formula over propositions  $A^0\cup\cdots\cup A^t$  , where

$$A^i = \{ a^i \mid a \in A \} \text{ for all } i \in \{0, \dots, t\}$$
:

$$\Phi_t^{seq} = \iota^0 \wedge \mathcal{R}_1(A^0, A^1) \wedge \mathcal{R}_1(A^1, A^2) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{R}_1(A^{t-1}, A^t) \wedge G^t$$

where 
$$\iota^0 = \bigwedge_{a \in A, I(a)=1} a^0 \wedge \bigwedge_{a \in A, I(a)=0} \neg a^0$$
 and  $G^t$  is  $G$  with propositions  $a$  replaced by  $a^t$ .

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#### Example

#### Consider

$$I \models b \land c$$

$$G = (b \land \neg c) \lor (\neg b \land c)$$

$$o_1 = \langle \top, (c \rhd \neg c) \land (\neg c \rhd c) \rangle$$

$$o_2 = \langle \top, (b \rhd \neg b) \land (\neg b \rhd b) \rangle$$

The formula  $\Phi_3^{seq}$  for plans of length 3 is:

$$(b^{0} \wedge c^{0})$$

$$\wedge (((b^{0} \leftrightarrow b^{1}) \wedge (c^{0} \leftrightarrow \neg c^{1})) \vee ((b^{0} \leftrightarrow \neg b^{1}) \wedge (c^{0} \leftrightarrow c^{1})))$$

$$\wedge (((b^{1} \leftrightarrow b^{2}) \wedge (c^{1} \leftrightarrow \neg c^{2})) \vee ((b^{1} \leftrightarrow \neg b^{2}) \wedge (c^{1} \leftrightarrow c^{2})))$$

$$\wedge (((b^{2} \leftrightarrow b^{3}) \wedge (c^{2} \leftrightarrow \neg c^{3})) \vee ((b^{2} \leftrightarrow \neg b^{3}) \wedge (c^{2} \leftrightarrow c^{3})))$$

$$\wedge ((b^{3} \wedge \neg c^{3}) \vee (\neg b^{3} \wedge c^{3})).$$

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Existence of (optimal) plans

#### Theorem

Let  $\Phi_t^{seq}$  be the formula for  $\langle A, I, O, G \rangle$  and plan length t. The formula  $\Phi_t^{seq}$  is satisfiable if and only if there is a sequence of states  $s_0, \ldots, s_t$  and operators  $o_1, \ldots, o_t$  such that  $s_0 = I$ ,  $s_i = \mathsf{app}_{o_i}(s_{i-1})$  for all  $i \in \{1, \ldots, t\}$ , and  $s_t \models G$ .

### Consequence

If  $\Phi_0^{seq}, \Phi_1^{seq}, \dots, \Phi_{i-1}^{seq}$  are unsatisfiable and  $\Phi_i^{seq}$  is satisfiable, then the length of shortest plans is i. Satisfiability planning with  $\Phi_i^{seq}$  yields optimal plans, like heuristic search with admissible heuristics and optimal algorithms like A\* or IDA\*.

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All satisfiability algorithms give a valuation v that satisfies  $\Phi_i^{seq}$  upon finding out that  $\Phi_i^{seq}$  is satisfiable. This makes it possible to construct a plan.

### Constructing a plan from a satisfying valuation

Let v be a valuation so that  $v \models \Phi^{seq}_t$ . Then define  $s_i(a) = v(a^i)$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $i \in \{0, \dots, t\}$ . The i-th operator in the plan is  $o \in O$  if  $app_o(s_{i-1}) = s_i$ . Note: There may be more than one such operator, in which case any of them may be chosen.

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Example, continued

#### Example

One valuation that satisfies  $\Phi_3^{seq}$ :

	tir	ne $i$	į,	
	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1	1	0	0
$c^i$	1	0	0	1

#### Note:

- 1. There also exists a plan of length 1.
- 2 No plan of length 2 exists.

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## Conjunctive normal form

Many satisfiability algorithms require formulas in the conjunctive normal form: transformation by repeated applications of the following equivalences.

$$\neg(\phi \lor \psi) \equiv \neg \phi \land \neg \psi 
\neg(\phi \land \psi) \equiv \neg \phi \lor \neg \psi 
\neg \neg \phi \equiv \phi 
\phi \lor (\psi_1 \land \psi_2) \equiv (\phi \lor \psi_1) \land (\phi \lor \psi_2)$$

The formula is a conjunction of clauses (disjunctions of literals).

#### Example

$$(A \vee \neg B \vee C) \wedge (\neg C \vee \neg B) \wedge A$$

Note: Transformation to conjunctive normal form can increase formula size exponentially. There are also polynomial translations which introduce additional variables.

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### The unit resolution rule

#### Unit resolution

From  $l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \cdots \vee l_n$  (here  $n \geq 1$ ) and  $\overline{l_1}$ , infer  $l_2 \vee \cdots \vee l_n$ .

#### Example

From  $a \lor b \lor c$  and  $\neg a$  infer  $b \lor c$ .

#### Unit resolution: a special case

From A and  $\neg A$  we get the empty clause  $\bot$  ("disjunction consisting of zero disjuncts").

### Unit subsumption

The clause  $l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \cdots \vee l_n$  can be eliminated if we have the unit clause  $l_1$ .

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## The Davis-Putnam-Logemann-Loveland procedure

- The first efficient decision procedure for any logic (Davis, Putnam, Logemann & Loveland, 1960/62).
- Based on binary search through the valuations of a formula.
- Unit resolution and unit subsumption help pruning the search tree.
- The currently most efficient satisfiability algorithms are variants of the DPLL procedure.
   (Although there is currently a shift toward viewing these procedures as performing more general reasoning: clause learning.)

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## Satisfiability test by the DPLL procedure

#### Davis-Putnam-Logemann-Loveland Procedure

**def**  $\mathsf{DPLL}(C: \mathsf{clauses})$ :

while there are clauses  $(l_1 \vee \cdots \vee l_n) \in C$  and  $\overline{l_1} \in C$ :

$$C := (C \setminus \{l_1 \vee \cdots \vee l_n\}) \cup \{l_2 \vee \cdots \vee l_n\}$$

while there are clauses  $(l_1 \vee \cdots \vee l_n) \in C \ (n \geq 2)$  and

 $l_1 \in C$ :

$$C := C \setminus \{l_1 \vee \cdots \vee l_n\}$$

if  $\bot \in C$ :

return false

**if** *C* contains only unit clauses:

return true

Pick some variable a such that  $a \notin C$  and  $\neg a \notin C$ .

return DPLL $(C \cup \{a\})$  or DPLL $(C \cup \{\neg a\})$ 

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## Planning as satisfiability Example: plan search with DPLL

Consider the problem from a previous slide, with two operators each inverting the value of one state variable, for plan length 3.

$$(b^{0} \wedge c^{0})$$

$$\wedge (((b^{0} \leftrightarrow b^{1}) \wedge (c^{0} \leftrightarrow \neg c^{1})) \vee ((b^{0} \leftrightarrow \neg b^{1}) \wedge (c^{0} \leftrightarrow c^{1})))$$

$$\wedge (((b^{1} \leftrightarrow b^{2}) \wedge (c^{1} \leftrightarrow \neg c^{2})) \vee ((b^{1} \leftrightarrow \neg b^{2}) \wedge (c^{1} \leftrightarrow c^{2})))$$

$$\wedge (((b^{2} \leftrightarrow b^{3}) \wedge (c^{2} \leftrightarrow \neg c^{3})) \vee ((b^{2} \leftrightarrow \neg b^{3}) \wedge (c^{2} \leftrightarrow c^{3})))$$

$$\wedge ((b^{3} \wedge \neg c^{3}) \vee (\neg b^{3} \wedge c^{3})).$$

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## Planning as satisfiability Example: plan search with DPLL

To obtain a short CNF formula, we introduce auxiliary variables  $o_1^i$  and  $o_2^i$  for  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  denoting operator applications.

$b^0$	$o_1^1 \to ((b^0 \leftrightarrow b^1) \land (c^0 \leftrightarrow \neg c^1))$
$c^0$	$o_2^1 \to ((b^0 \leftrightarrow \neg b^1) \land (c^0 \leftrightarrow c^1))$
$o_1^1 \lor o_2^1$	$o_1^2 \to ((b^1 \leftrightarrow b^2) \land (c^1 \leftrightarrow \neg c^2))$
$o_1^2 \lor o_2^2$	$o_2^2 \to ((b^1 \leftrightarrow \neg b^2) \land (c^1 \leftrightarrow c^2))$
$o_1^3 \lor o_2^3$	$o_1^3 \to ((b^2 \leftrightarrow b^3) \land (c^2 \leftrightarrow \neg c^3))$
$(b^3 \wedge \neg c^3) \vee (\neg b^3 \wedge c^3)$	$o_2^3 \to ((b^2 \leftrightarrow \neg b^3) \land (c^2 \leftrightarrow c^3))$

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## Planning as satisfiability Example: plan search with DPLL

We rewrite the formulae for operator applications by using the equivalence  $\phi \to (l \leftrightarrow l') \equiv ((\phi \land l \to l') \land (\phi \land \bar{l} \to \bar{l'})).$ 

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Example: plan search with DPLL

Eliminate implications with  $((l_1 \wedge l_2) \rightarrow l_3) \equiv (\overline{l_1} \vee \overline{l_2} \vee l_3)$ .

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### Valuation constructed by the DPLL procedure

_		0	1	2	3
_	$b^i$				
	$c^i$				

	1	2	3	
$\begin{array}{c} o_1^i \\ o_2^i \end{array}$				

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Identify unit clauses.

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	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1			
$c^i$	1			

	1	2	3	
$egin{array}{c} o_1^i \ o_2^i \end{array}$				

Example: plan search with DPLL

Perform unit resolution with  $b^0$  and  $c^0$ .

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	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1			
$c^i$	1			

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline o_1^i & & & \\ o_2^i & & & \end{array}$$

Example: plan search with DPLL

Perform unit subsumption with  $b^0$  and  $c^0$ .

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	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1			
$c^i$	1			

	1	2	3	
$\begin{array}{c} o_1^i \\ o_2^i \end{array}$				

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### No unhandled unit clauses exist. Must branch.

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# SAT planning Relations in CPC Actions in CPC Plans in CPC DPLL Example

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	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1			
$c^i$	1			

	1	2	3	
$\begin{array}{c} o_1^i \\ o_2^i \end{array}$				

Example: plan search with DPLL

We branch on  $b^1$ , first trying out  $b^1 = 1$ .

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	0	1	2	3	
$c^i$	1 1	1			

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$ $o_2^i$				

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $b^1$ .

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	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1	1		
c	1			

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline o_1^i & & & \\ o_2^i & & & \end{array}$$

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $\neg o_2^1$ .

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# SAT planning Relations in CPC Actions in CPC Plans in CPC DPLL Example

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	0	1	2	3	
$c^i$	1 1	1			

	1	2	3	
$egin{array}{c} o_1^i \ o_2^i \end{array}$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $o_1^1$ .

 $\neg o_1^2 \lor \neg b^1 \lor b^2$  $\neg o_1^3 \lor \neg b^2 \lor b^3$  $\neg o_1^3 \lor b^2 \lor \neg b^3$  $\neg o_1^1 \lor \neg c^0 \lor \neg c^1$  $\neg o_1^2 \lor \neg c^1 \lor \neg c^2$  $\neg o_1^3 \lor \neg c^2 \lor \neg c^3$  $o_1^1 \vee o_2^1$  $\neg o_1^1 \lor c^0 \lor c^1$  $\neg o_1^2 \lor c^1 \lor c^2$  $\neg o_1^3 \lor c^2 \lor c^3$  $o_1^2 \vee o_2^2$  $\neg o_2^2 \lor \neg b^1 \lor \neg b^2$  $\neg o_0^3 \lor \neg b^2 \lor \neg b^3$  $o_1^{\bar{3}} \vee o_2^{\bar{3}}$  $\neg o_2^{\bar{3}} \vee b^2 \vee b^3$  $\neg o_0^2 \vee b^1 \vee b^2$  $b^{\bar{3}} \vee c^{\bar{3}}$  $\neg o_2^1 \lor \neg c^0 \lor c^1 \qquad \neg o_2^2 \lor \neg c^1 \lor c^2$  $\neg o_0^3 \lor \neg c^2 \lor c^3$  $\neg c^3 \vee \neg b^3$  $\neg o_2^2 \lor c^1 \lor \neg c^2$  $\neg o_2^3 \lor c^2 \lor \neg c^3$ 

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# SAT planning Relations in CPC Actions in CPC Plans in CPC DPLL Example

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Final remarks

	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1	1		
$c^i$	1			

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			_
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $\neg c^1$ .

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# SAT planning Relations in CPC Actions in CPC Plans in CPC DPLL Example

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Final remarks

	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1			
$c^i$	1	0			

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

No unhandled unit clauses exist. Must branch a second time.

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	0	1	2	3
$b^i$	1	1		
$c^i$	1	0		

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

We branch on  $c^3$ , first trying out  $c^3 = 1$ .

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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1			
$c^i$	1	0		1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $c^3$ .

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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1			
$c^i$	1	0		1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $\neg b^3$ .

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# SAT planning Relations in CPC Actions in CPC Plans in CPC DPLI

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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1		0	
$c^i$	1	0		1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

No unhandled unit clauses exist. Must branch a third time.

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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1		0	
$c^i$	1	0		1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0			

Example: plan search with DPLL

We branch on  $o_2^2$ , first trying out  $o_2^2 = 1$ .

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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1		0	
$c^i$	1	0		1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1			
$o_2^i$	0	1		

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $o_2^2$ .

#### Valuation constructed by the DPLL procedure

	0	1	2	3			1	2	3	
$b^{i}$	1	1		0	0	$\stackrel{i}{1}$	1 0			
$c^{\circ}$	1	0		1	$O_2^{i}$	$\begin{vmatrix} i \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	0	1		

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Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with with $\neg b^2$ and $\neg c^2$ .

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Example
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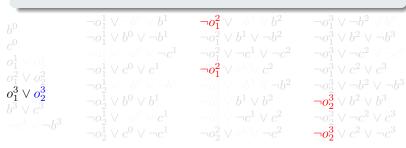
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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1	0	0	
$c^i$	1	0	0	1	

	1	2	3	
$\overline{o_1^i}$	1			
$o_2^i$	0	1		

Example: plan search with DPLL

Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with with  $\neg o_1^2$  and  $\neg o_2^3$ .



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	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1	0	0	
$c^i$	1	0	0	1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1	0		
$o_2^i$	0	1	0	

Example: plan search with DPLL

#### Perform unit resolution and unit subsumption with $o_1^3$ .

#### Valuation constructed by the DPLL procedure

	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1	0	0	
$c^i$	1	0	0	1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1	0	1	
$o_2^i$	0	1	0	

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Example: plan search with DPLL

#### The formula is satisfiable.

#### Valuation constructed by the DPLL procedure

	0	1	2	3	
$b^i$	1	1	0	0	
$c^i$	1	0	0	1	

	1	2	3	
$o_1^i$	1	0	1	
$o_2^i$	0	1	0	

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#### SAT planning Relations in CPC

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Parallel plans

# Planning as satisfiability with parallel plans

- Efficiency of satisfiability planning is strongly dependent on the plan length because satisfiability algorithms have runtime  $O(2^n)$  where n is the formula size, and formula sizes are linearly proportional to plan length.
- Formula sizes can be reduced by allowing several operators in parallel.
- On many problems this leads to big speed-ups.
- However there are no guarantees of optimality.

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# Parallel operator application Definition attempt

Similar to relaxed planning graphs, we consider the possibility of executing several operators simultaneously.

#### Definition (?)

Let  $\sigma$  be a set of operators (a plan step) and s a state.

Define  $app_{\sigma}(s)$  as the state that is obtained from s by making the literals in  $\bigcup_{\langle c,e\rangle\in\sigma}[e]_s$  true.

For  $app_{\sigma}(s)$  to be defined, we require that  $s \models c$  for all  $o = \langle c, e \rangle \in \sigma$  and  $\bigcup_{\langle c, e \rangle \in \sigma} [e]_s$  is consistent.

Unfortunately, the definition is flawed. Why?

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# Parallel operator application Definition attempt

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Unfortunately, the definition is flawed. Why?

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Non-interleavable actions

#### Example

According to the definition attempt, the operators  $\langle a, \neg b \rangle$  and  $\langle b, \neg a \rangle$  may be executed simultaneously in state  $\{a \mapsto 1, b \mapsto 1\}$ , resulting in the state  $\{a \mapsto 0, b \mapsto 0\}$ . But this state is not reachable by the two operators sequentially, because executing any one operator makes the precondition of the other false.

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#### Comparison to relaxed planning tasks

- When discussing relaxed planning tasks, we gave a conservative definition of parallel operator application:
  - It is not guaranteed that each serialization of a plan step  $\sigma$  (or even one of them) leads to the state  $app_{\sigma}(s)$ .
  - However, the resulting state of the serialized plan is guaranteed to be at least as good as  $app_{\sigma}(s)$ .
- Our general definition attempt was not conservative not even if we require positive normal form (as the example shows).
- A conservative definition extending the earlier one for relaxed planning tasks is possible, but complicated.
- Instead, we use a semantic definition based on serializations.

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Serializations and semantics

#### Definition (serialization)

A serialization of plan step  $\sigma = \{o_1, \ldots, o_n\}$  is a sequence  $o_{\pi(1)}, \ldots, o_{\pi(n)}$  where  $\pi$  is a permutation of  $\{1, \ldots, n\}$ .

#### Definition (semantics of plan steps)

A plan step  $\sigma = \{o_1, \dots, o_n\}$  is applicable in a state s iff each serialization of  $\sigma$  is applicable in s and results in the same state s'.

The result of applying  $\sigma$  in s is then defined as  $app_{\sigma}(s) = s'$ .

Note: This definition does not extend the earlier definition for relaxed planning tasks.

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# Parallel plans

#### Definition (parallel plan)

A parallel plan for a general planning task  $\langle A, I, O, G \rangle$  is a sequence of plan steps  $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$  of operators in O with:

- $s_0 := I$
- For  $i=1,\ldots,n$ , step  $\sigma_i$  is applicable in  $s_{i-1}$  and  $s_i:=app_{\sigma_i}(s_{i-1})$ .
- $\bullet$   $s_n \models G$

Remark: By ordering the operators within each single step arbitrarily, we obtain a (regular, non-parallel) plan.

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# Parallel plans Sufficient conditions

• Testing the condition for parallel applicability is difficult: even testing whether a set  $\sigma$  of operators is applicable in all serializations is co-NP-hard.

- Representing the executability test exactly as a propositional formula seems complicated: doing this test exactly would seem to cancel the benefits of parallel plans.
- Instead, all work on parallel plans so far has used sufficient but not necessary conditions that can be tested in polynomial-time.
- We use a simple syntactic test (which may be overly strict).

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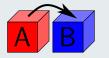
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# Interference Example

#### Actions do not interfere









Actions can be taken simultaneously.

#### Actions interfere



If A is moved first, B will not be clear and cannot be moved.

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#### Interference

Auxiliary definition: affects

#### Definition (affect)

Let A be a set of state variables and  $o = \langle c, e \rangle$  and  $o' = \langle c', e' \rangle$  operators over A. Then o affects o' if there is  $a \in A$  such that

- lacktriangledown a is an atomic effect in e and a occurs in a formula in e' or it occurs negatively in c', or
- $\bullet$   $\neg a$  is an atomic effect in e and a occurs in a formula in e' or it occurs positively in e'.

#### Example

$$\begin{split} \langle c,d \rangle \text{ affects } \langle \neg d,e \rangle \text{ and } \langle e,d \rhd f \rangle. \\ \langle c,d \rangle \text{ does not affect } \langle d,e \rangle \text{ nor } \langle e,\neg c \rangle. \end{split}$$

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#### Interference

# Definition (interference)

Operators o and o' interfere if o affects o' or o' affects o.

#### Example

 $\langle c, d \rangle$  and  $\langle \neg d, e \rangle$  interfere.

 $\langle c,d\rangle$  and  $\langle e,f\rangle$  do not interfere.

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#### Interference

Sufficient condition for applying a plan step

#### Lemma

Let s be a state and  $\sigma$  a set of operators so that each operator in  $\sigma$  is applicable in s, no two operators in  $\sigma$  interfere, and  $\bigcup_{\langle c,e\rangle\in\sigma}[e]_s$  is consistent.

Then  $\sigma$  is applicable in s and results in the state that is obtained from s by making the literals in  $\bigcup_{\langle c,e\rangle\in\sigma}[e]_s$  true.

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# Parallel operator application

We cannot simply use our current definition of  $\tau_A(o)$  within a satisfiability encoding for parallel planning:

- The formula  $\tau_A(o)$  completely defines the relationship between current state and successor state when o is applied.
- It leaves no room for applying another operator in sequence.

Basic idea for parallel plan encodings:

 Decouple the parts of the formula that describe what changes from parts that describe what does not change. Al Planning

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### Parallel operator application

Representation in propositional logic

Consider the formula  $\tau_A(o)$  representing operator  $o = \langle c, e \rangle$ :

This can be logically equivalently written as follows:

$$\wedge \bigwedge_{a \in A} (EPC_{\neg a}(e) \rightarrow \neg a)$$

$$\wedge \bigwedge_{a \in A} ((a \land \neg EPC_{\neg a}(e)) \to a')$$

$$\land \bigwedge_{a \in A} ((\neg a \land \neg \mathsf{EPC}_a(e)) \to \neg a')$$

This separates the changes from non-changes.

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### The explanatory frame axioms

The formula states that the only explanation for a changing its value is the application of one operator:

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((a \land \neg a') \to \mathsf{EPC}_{\neg a}(e)) 
\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((\neg a \land a') \to \mathsf{EPC}_a(e))$$

When several operators could be applied in parallel, we have to consider all operators as possible explanations:

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((a \land \neg a') \to \bigvee_{i=1}^{n} (o_i \land EPC_{\neg a}(e_i))) 
\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((\neg a \land a') \to \bigvee_{i=1}^{n} (o_i \land EPC_a(e_i)))$$

where  $\sigma = \{o_1, \dots, o_n\}$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are the respective effects.

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Formula in propositional logic

#### Definition (plan step application in propositional logic)

Let  $\sigma$  be a plan step. Let  $\tau_A(\sigma)$  denote the conjunction of formulae

$$(o \to c)$$

$$\wedge \bigwedge_{a \in A} (o \wedge EPC_a(e) \rightarrow a')$$

$$\land \bigwedge_{a \in A} (o \land \mathsf{EPC}_{\neg a}(e) \to \neg a')$$

for all 
$$o = \langle c, e \rangle \in \sigma$$
 and

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((a \land \neg a') \to \bigvee_{i=1}^{n} (o_i \land EPC_{\neg a}(e_i)))$$

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((\neg a \land a') \to \bigvee_{i=1}^{n} (o_i \land EPC_{\neg a}(e_i)))$$

$$\bigwedge_{a \in A} ((\neg a \land a') \to \bigvee_{i=1}^{n} (o_i \land \mathsf{EPC}_a(e_i)))$$

where  $\sigma = \{o_1, \dots, o_n\}$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are the respective effects.

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### Correctness

The formula  $\tau_A(\sigma)$  exactly matches the definition of  $app_{\sigma}(s)$  provided that no actions in  $\sigma$  interfere.

### Lemma

Let s and s' be states and  $\sigma$  a set of operators. Let  $v:A\cup A'\cup\sigma\to\{0,1\}$  be a valuation such that

- for all  $o \in \sigma$ , v(o) = 1,
- ② for all  $a \in A$ , v(a) = s(a), and
- **3** for all  $a \in A$ , v(a') = s'(a).

If  $\sigma$  is applicable in s, then:

$$v \models \tau_A(\sigma)$$
 if and only if  $s' = \mathsf{app}_\sigma(s)$ .

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## Translation of parallel plans into propositional logic

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Final remarks

### Definition

Define  $\mathcal{R}_2(A, A', O)$  as the conjunction of  $\tau_A(O)$  and

$$\neg(o \land o')$$

 $\text{for all } o \in O \text{ and } o' \in O \text{ such that } o \text{ and } o' \text{ interfere and } o \neq o'.$ 

## Definition (bounded step number plans in propositional logic)

Existence of parallel plans of length t is represented by the following formula over propositions  $A^0 \cup \cdots \cup A^t \cup O^1 \cup \cdots \cup O^t$  where  $A^i = \{ a^i \mid a \in A \}$  for all  $i \in \{0, \ldots, t\}$  and  $O^i = \{ o^i \mid o \in O \}$  for all  $i \in \{1, \ldots, t\}$ :

$$\Phi_t^{par} = \iota^0 \wedge \mathcal{R}_2(A^0, A^1, O^1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathcal{R}_2(A^{t-1}, A^t, O^t) \wedge G^t$$

where  $\iota^0 = \bigwedge_{a \in A, I(a)=1} a^0 \wedge \bigwedge_{a \in A, I(a)=0} \neg a^0$  and  $G^t$  is G with propositions a replaced by  $a^t$ .

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## Planning as satisfiability Existence of plans

### Theorem

Let  $\Phi_t^{par}$  be the formula for  $\langle A, I, O, G \rangle$  and plan length t. The formula  $\Phi_t^{par}$  is satisfiable if and only if there is a sequence of states  $s_0, \ldots, s_t$  and plan steps  $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_t$ , each consisting of non-interfering operators, such that  $s_0 = I$ ,  $s_i = \mathsf{app}_{\sigma_i}(s_{i-1})$  for all  $i \in \{1, \ldots, t\}$ , and  $s_t \models G$ . Al Planning

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## Why is optimality lost?

## Minimal step count does not imply minimal length

That a plan has the smallest number of steps does not guarantee that it has the smallest number of actions.

- Satisfiability algorithms return any satisfying valuation of  $\Phi_i^{par}$ , and this does not have to be the one with the smallest number of operators.
- There could be better solutions with more time points.
- Moreover, even optimality in the number of time steps is not guaranteed because the non-interference requirement is only sufficient, but not necessary, for parallel applicability.

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### Example

Let I be a state such that  $s \models \neg c \land \neg d \land \neg e \land \neg f$ .

Let  $G = c \wedge d \wedge e$ , and let:

$$o_1 = \langle \top, c \rangle$$

$$o_2 = \langle \top, d \rangle$$

$$o_3 = \langle \top, e \rangle$$

$$o_4 = \langle \top, f \rangle$$

$$o_5 = \langle f, c \wedge d \wedge e \rangle$$

Now  $\pi_1 = \{o_1, o_2, o_3\}$  is a plan with one step, and  $\pi_2 = \{o_4\}; \{o_5\}$  is a plan with two steps.

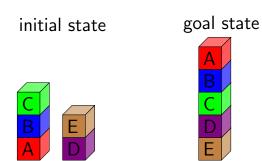
Plan  $\pi_1$  is optimal with respect to the number of steps, but not with respect to the number of actions, where  $\pi_2$  is optimal. There is no plan which minimizes both measures.

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The DPLL procedure solves the problem quickly:

- Formulae for lengths 0 to 4 shown unsatisfiable without any search.
- Formula for plan length 5 is satisfiable: 3 nodes in the search tree.
- Plans have 5 to 7 operators, optimal plan has 5.

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Example

```
v0.9 13/08/1997 19:32:47
30 propositions 100 operators
Length 0
Length 1
Length 2
Length 3
Length 4
Length 5
branch on -clear(b)[1] depth 0
branch on clear(a)[3] depth 1
Found a plan.
  0 totable(e.d)
  1 totable(c,b) fromtable(d,e)
  2 totable(b,a) fromtable(c,d)
  3 fromtable(b,c)
  4 fromtable(a,b)
Branches 2 last 2 failed 0; time 0.0
```

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Example

```
012345
  clear(a) 00
  clear(b) 0
  clear(c) 11
               00
  clear(d) 0 1 1 0 0 0
  clear(e) 110000
  on(a,b) 0 0 0
   on(a,c)00000
  on(a,d) 000000
  on(a.e) 000000
  on(b,a) 11
               0.0
  on(b,c)00
               11
  on(b,d) 000000
  on(b,e) 00000
   on(c.a) 000000
  on(c,b)1 000
   on(c,d) 000111
   on(c,e) 000000
  on(d.a) 000000
  on(d,b) 000000
  on(d,c) 000000
  on(d,e) 001111
  on(e,a) 000000
  on(e,b) 000000
   on(e,c) 000000
   on(e,d) 100000
ontable(a) 111
ontable(b) 00
               00
ontable(c) 0
             000
ontable(d) 110000
ontable(e) 011111
```

- Infer state variable values from initial values and goals.
- ② Branch:  $\neg \operatorname{clear}(b)[1]$ .
- 3 Branch: clear(a)[3]
- Plan found:

```
\begin{array}{c} 01234 \\ from table(a,b) \ldots 1 \\ from table(b,c) \ldots 1 \\ from table(c,d) \ldots 1 \\ from table(c,d) \ldots 1 \\ totable(b,a) \ldots 1 \\ totable(c,b) \ldots \\ totable(e,d) \ldots \end{array}
```

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Fxample

```
012345
                   012345
  clear(a) 00
                   000 11
  clear(b) 0
                   00 110
  clear(c) 11
                   111100
              0.0
                   011000
  clear(d) 0 1 1 0 0 0
  clear(e) 110000
                   110000
  on(a,b) 000
                   000001
  on(a,c)00000
                   000000
  on(a,d) 000000
                   000000
  on(a.e) 000000
                   000000
  on(b,a) 11
              0.0
                   111 00
  on(b,c)00
              11
                   000011
  on(b,d) 000000
                   000000
  on(b,e) 00000
                   000000
  on(c,a) 000000
                   000000
  on(c,b)1 000
                   11 000
  on(c,d) 000111
                   000111
  on(c,e) 000000
                   000000
  on(d.a) 000000
                   000000
  on(d,b) 000000
                   000000
  on(d,c) 000000
                   000000
  on(d,e) 001111
                   001111
  on(e,a) 000000
                   000000
                   000000
  on(e,b) 000000
  on(e,c) 000000
                   000000
  on(e,d) 100000
                   100000
ontable(a) 111
                   111110
                   000 00
ontable(b) 00
              00
                   00 000
ontable(c) 0
            000
ontable(d) 110000
                   110000
ontable(e) 011111
                   011111
```

- Infer state variable values from initial values and goals.
- ② Branch:  $\neg \operatorname{clear}(b)[1]$ .
- Branch: clear(a)[3]
- Plan found:

```
\begin{array}{c} \text{U1234} \\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{a},\mathsf{b}) \dots 1 \\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{b},\mathsf{c}) \dots 1 \dots \\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{c},\mathsf{d}) \dots 1 \dots \\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{d},\mathsf{e}) \dots 1 \dots \\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{b},\mathsf{a}) \dots 1 \dots \\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{c},\mathsf{b}) \dots \dots \\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{e},\mathsf{d}) \dots \dots \end{array}
```

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Example

```
012345
                   012345
                              012345
  clear(a) 00
                   000 11
                              000111
  clear(b) 0
                   00 110
                              001110
  clear(c) 11
                   111100
                              111100
             0.0
                   011000
                              011000
  clear(d) 0 1 1 0 0 0
  clear(e) 110000
                   110000
                              110000
  on(a,b) 0 0 0
                   000001
                              000001
  on(a,c)00000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(a,d) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(a.e) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(b,a) 11
             0.0
                   111 00
                              111000
  on(b,c)00
             11
                   000011
                              000011
  on(b,d) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(b,e) 00000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(c,a) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(c,b)1 000
                   11 000
                              110000
  on(c,d) 000111
                   000111
                              000111
  on(c,e) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d.a) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d,b) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d,c) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d,e) 001111
                   001111
                              001111
  on(e,a) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(e,b) 000000
  on(e,c) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(e,d) 100000
                   100000
                              100000
ontable(a) 111
                   111110
                              111110
                   000 00
ontable(b) 00
             00
                              000100
                   00 000
ontable(c) 0
            000
                              001000
ontable(d) 110000
                   110000
                              110000
ontable(e) 011111
                   011111
                              011111
```

 Infer state variable values from initial values and goals.

2 Branch:  $\neg \operatorname{clear}(b)[1]$ .

Branch: clear(a)[3].

Plan found

```
\begin{array}{c} \text{Tomtable}(\mathsf{a},\mathsf{b}) \dots 1\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{b},\mathsf{c}) \dots 1\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{c},\mathsf{d}) \dots 1\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{d},\mathsf{e}) \dots 1\\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{b},\mathsf{a}) \dots 1\\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{c},\mathsf{b}) \dots 1\\ \end{array}
```

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Example

```
012345
                   012345
                              012345
  clear(a) 00
                   000 11
                              000111
  clear(b) 0
                   00 110
                              001110
                   111100
                              111100
  clear(c) 11
             00
                   011000
                              011000
  clear(d) 0 1 1 0 0 0
  clear(e) 110000
                   110000
                              110000
  on(a,b) 000
                   000001
                              000001
  on(a,c)000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(a,d) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(a.e) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(b,a) 11
             0.0
                   111 00
                              111000
  on(b,c)00
             11
                   000011
                              000011
  on(b,d) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(b,e) 000000
  on(c,a) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(c,b)1 000
                   11 000
                              110000
  on(c,d) 000111
                   000111
                              000111
  on(c,e) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d.a) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d,b) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d,c) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(d,e) 001111
                   001111
                              001111
  on(e,a) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(e,b) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(e,c) 000000
                   000000
                              000000
  on(e,d) 100000
                   100000
                              100000
ontable(a) 111
                   111110
                              111110
ontable(b) 00
                   000 00
             00
                              000100
                   00 000
ontable(c) 0
            000
                              001000
ontable(d) 110000
                   110000
                              110000
ontable(e) 011111
                   011111
                              011111
```

```
    Infer state variable values
from initial values and
goals.
```

- 2 Branch:  $\neg \operatorname{clear}(b)[1]$ .
- Branch: clear(a)[3].
- Plan found:

```
\begin{array}{c} 01234\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{a},\mathsf{b}) \dots 1\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{b},\mathsf{c}) \dots 1\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{c},\mathsf{d}) \dots 1\\ \text{fromtable}(\mathsf{d},\mathsf{e}) \dots 1\\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{b},\mathsf{a}) \dots 1\\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{c},\mathsf{b}) \dots \\ \text{totable}(\mathsf{e},\mathsf{d}) \dots \end{array}
```

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Example

### Final remarks

- All successful satisfiability-based planners use some kind of parallel encoding.
- Sequential encodings are not regarded as competitive with (admissible) heuristic search planners.
- In practice, the presented encoding is further refined to be able to rule out bad variable assignments early in the SAT solving procedure.
- The state-of-the-art SATPLAN06 (formerly SATPLAN04, formerly Blackbox) planner supports a number of different encodings.
- The ones that typically perform best are based on (non-relaxed) planning graphs.

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