

15-819M: Data, Code, Decisions

14: Instance Based Methods

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```
public class JavaProgram {  
    public Integer[] next() {  
        for (int i = p.length - 1; i >= 0; i--)  
            p[i] = nextInteger(0);  
        return p;  
    }  
    throw new NoSuchElementException();  
}
```

Recent Trends in Instance Based Proving

Instance Based Methods (IMs): a family of calculi and proof procedures for first-order logic (clauses), developed over past 15 years.

Overview

- Common principles behind IMs, some calculi, proof procedures
- Comparison among IMs, difference from tableaux and resolution
- Ranges of applicability/non-applicability
- Picking up SAT techniques
- ? Improvements and extensions: universal variables, equality, . . .
- ? Implementations and implementation techniques

Acknowledgments

Slides based on tutorial “Instance Based Methods” by Peter Baumgartner and Gernot Stenz at TABLEAUX’05

Skolem-Herbrand-Löwenheim Theorem

$\forall \phi$ is unsatisfiable iff some finite set of ground instances
 $\{\phi\gamma_1, \dots, \phi\gamma_n\}$ is unsatisfiable

For refutational theorem proving (i.e. start with negated conjecture)
thus sufficient to

- incrementally enumerate finite sets of ground instances, and
- test each for propositional unsatisfiability.
Stop with “unsatisfiable” when the first propositionally
unsatisfiability set arrives

This has been known for a long time: Gilmore’s algorithm, DPLL
It is also a common principle behind IMs

The Theory Strikes Back

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So what’s special about IMs? Do this in a clever way!

An early IM: the DPLL Procedure

Preprocessing:

Given Formula

$$\forall x \exists y P(y, x) \\ \wedge \forall z \neg P(z, a)$$



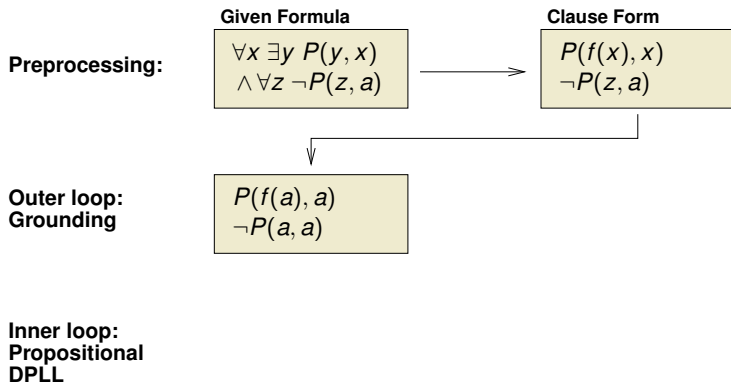
Clause Form

$$P(f(x), x) \\ \neg P(z, a)$$

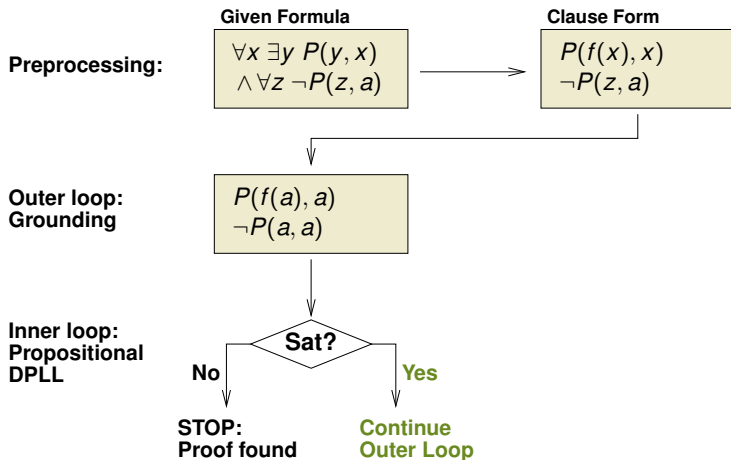
Outer loop:
Grounding

Inner loop:
Propositional
DPLL

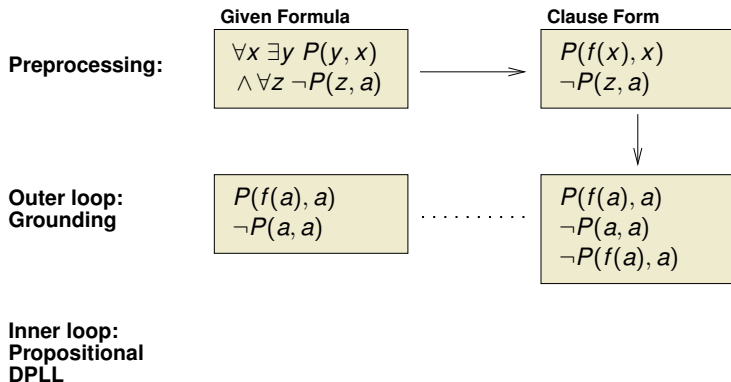
An early IM: the DPLL Procedure



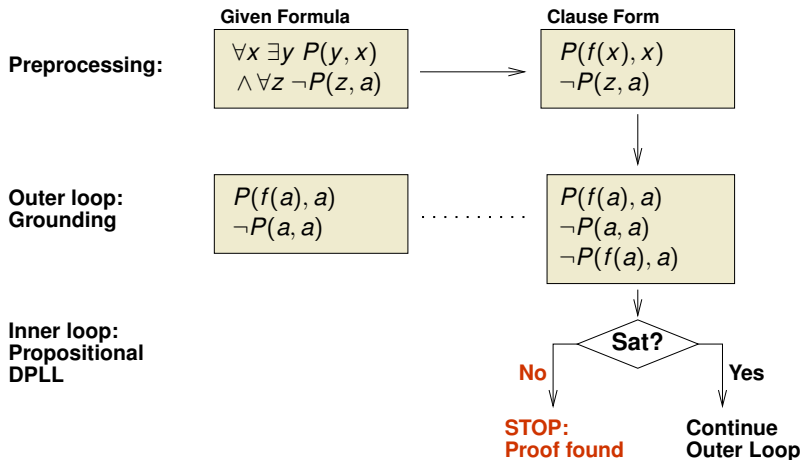
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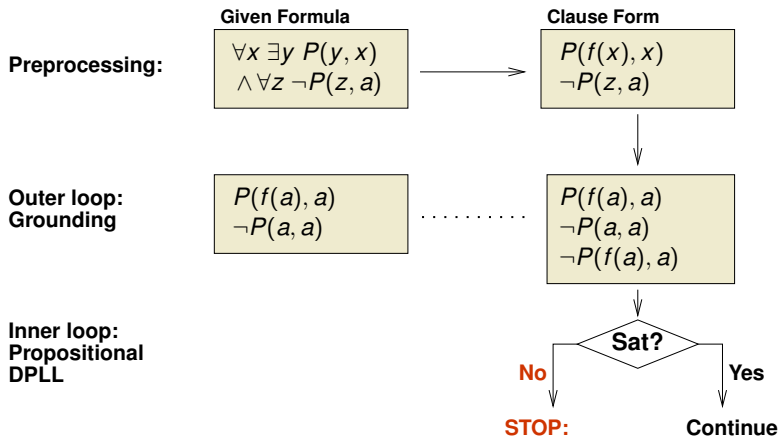
An early IM: the DPLL Procedure



An early IM: the DPLL Procedure



An early IM: the DPLL Procedure



Problems/Issues

- Controlled grounding process in *outer loop* (irrelevant instances)
- Repeat work *across* inner loops
- Weak redundancy criterion *within* inner loop

Part I: Overview of IMs

- Classification of IMs and some representative calculi
- Emphasis not too much on the details
- Identify common principles and also differences
- Comparison with resolution and tableaux
- Applicability/Non-Applicability

IM History

- List existing methods (apologies for “forgotten” ones . . .)
- Define abbreviations used later on
- Provide pointer to literature
- Itemize structure indicates reference relation (when obvious)
- *Not*: table of contents of what follows
(presentation is systematic instead of historical)

DPLL – Davis-Putnam-Logemann-Loveland procedure [Davis and Putnam, 1960], [Davis *et al.*, 1962b], [Davis *et al.*, 1962a], [Davis, 1963], [Chinlund *et al.*, 1964]

FDPLL – First-Order DPLL [Baumgartner, 2000]

- ME – Model Evolution Calculus [Baumgartner and Tinelli, 2003]
- ME with Equality [Baumgartner and Tinelli, 2005]

Development of IMs (III)

HL – Hyperlinking [Lee and Plaisted, 1992]

- SHL – Semantic Hyper Linking [Chu and Plaisted, 1994]
- OSHL – Ordered Semantic Hyper Linking [Plaisted and Zhu, 1997]

PPI – Primal Partial Instantiation (1994) [Hooker *et al.*, 2002]

- “Inst-Gen” [Ganzinger and Korovin, 2003]

MACE-Style Finite Model Buiding [McCune, 1994], . . . , [Claessen and Sörensson, 2003]

DC – Disconnection Method [Billon, 1996]

- HTNG - Hyper Tableaux Next Generation [Baumgartner, 1998]
- DCTP – Disconnection Tableaux [Letz and Stenz, 2001]

Ginsberg & Parkes method [Ginsberg and Parkes, 2000]

OSHT – Ordered Semantic Hyper Tableaux [Yahya and Plaisted, 2002]

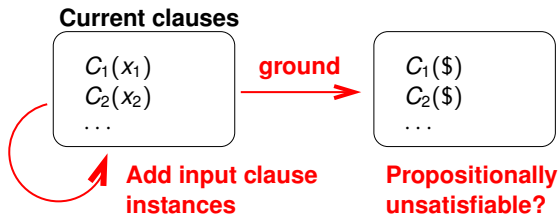
Two-Level vs. One-Level Calculi

Two-Level Calculi

- Separation between instance generation and SAT solving phase
- Uses (arbitrary) propositional SAT solver as a subroutine
- DPLL, HL, SHL, OSHL, PPI, Inst-Gen

Problem:

How to tell SAT solver e.g. $\forall xP(x)$?

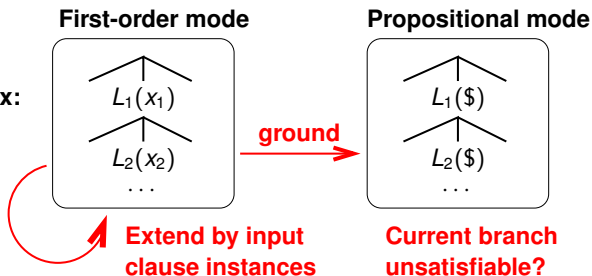


Two-Level vs. One-Level Calculi

One-Level Calculi

- Monolithic: one single base calculus, two modes of operation
- First-order mode: base calculus clauses from input instances
- Propositional mode: $\$$ -instance of clauses drives first-order mode
- HyperTableaux NG, DCTP (see Part II), OSHT, FDPLL, ME

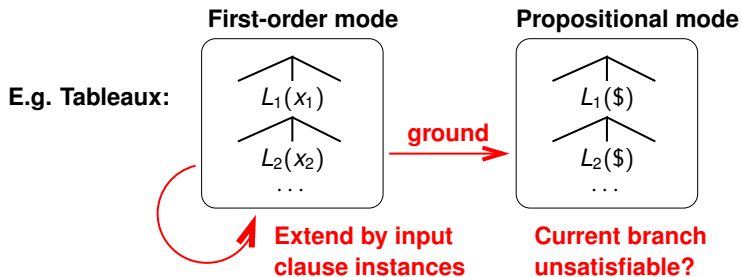
E.g. Tableaux:



Two-Level vs. One-Level Calculi

One-Level Calculi

- Monolithic: one single base calculus, two modes of operation
- First-order mode: base calculus clauses from input instances
- Propositional mode: \mathcal{L} -instance of clauses drives first-order mode
- HyperTableaux NG, DCTP (see Part II), OSHT, FDPLL, ME



Next: two-level calculus “Inst-Gen”

- Inst-Gen is simple and elegant
- Next:
 - Idea behind Inst-Gen
(it provides a clue to the working of two-level calculi)
 - Inst-Gen calculus
 - Comparison to resolution
 - Mentioning some improvements “idea behind”
- References: [Ganzinger and Korovin, 2003]

Inst-Gen - Underlying Idea (I)

Important notation:

\perp denotes both a unique constant and a substitution that maps every *variable* to \perp .

Example (S is “current clause set”):

$$S : \begin{array}{l} P(x, y) \vee P(y, x) \\ \neg P(x, x) \end{array}$$

$$S\perp : \begin{array}{l} P(\perp, \perp) \vee P(\perp, \perp) \\ \neg P(\perp, \perp) \end{array}$$

Analyze $S\perp$:

Case 1: SAT detects unsatisfiability of $S\perp$

Then Conclude S is unsatisfiable

Inst-Gen - Underlying Idea (I)

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Analyze $S\perp$:

Case 1: SAT detects unsatisfiability of $S\perp$

Then Conclude S is unsatisfiable

But what if $S\perp$ is satisfied by some model, denoted by I_\perp ?

Main idea:

Associate to model I_{\perp} of S_{\perp} a *candidate model* I_S of S .

Calculus goal: add instances to S so that I_S becomes a model of S

Example:

$$S : \frac{P(x) \vee Q(x)}{\underline{\neg P(a)}}$$

$$S_{\perp} : \frac{P(\perp) \vee Q(\perp)}{\underline{\neg P(a)}}$$

Analyze S_{\perp} :

Case 2: SAT detects model $I_{\perp} = \{P(\perp), \neg P(a)\}$ of S_{\perp}

Case 2.1: candidate model $I_S = \{\neg P(a)\}$ derived from literals selected in S by I_{\perp} is not a model of S

Inst-Gen - Underlying Idea (II)

Main idea:

Associate to model I_{\perp} of S_{\perp} a *candidate model* I_S of S .

Calculus goal: add instances to S so that I_S becomes a model of S

Example:

$$S : \frac{P(x) \vee Q(x)}{\underline{\neg P(a)}}$$

$$S_{\perp} : \frac{P(\perp) \vee Q(\perp)}{\underline{\neg P(a)}}$$

Analyze S_{\perp} :

Case 2: SAT detects model $I_{\perp} = \{P(\perp), \neg P(a)\}$ of S_{\perp}

Case 2.1: candidate model $I_S = \{\neg P(a)\}$ derived from literals selected in S by I_{\perp} is not a model of S

Add “problematic” instance $P(a) \vee Q(a)$ to S to refine I_S

Inst-Gen - Underlying Idea (III)

Clause set after adding $P(a) \vee Q(a)$

$$S : \frac{\frac{P(x) \vee Q(x)}{P(a) \vee Q(a)}}{\neg P(a)}$$

$$S_{\perp} : \frac{\frac{P(\perp) \vee Q(\perp)}{P(a) \vee Q(a)}}{\neg P(a)}$$

Analyze S_{\perp} :

Case 2: SAT detects model $I_{\perp} = \{P(\perp), Q(a), \neg P(a)\}$ of S_{\perp}

Case 2.2: candidate model $I_S = \{Q(a), \neg P(a)\}$ derived from literals selected in S by I_{\perp} is a model of S
Then conclude S is satisfiable

Inst-Gen - Underlying Idea (III)

Clause set after adding $P(a) \vee Q(a)$

$$S : \frac{\frac{P(x) \vee Q(x)}{P(a) \vee Q(a)}}{\neg P(a)}$$

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Analyze S_{\perp} :

Case 2: SAT detects model $I_{\perp} = \{P(\perp), Q(a), \neg P(a)\}$ of S_{\perp}

Case 2.2: candidate model $I_S = \{Q(a), \neg P(a)\}$ derived from literals selected in S by I_{\perp} is a model of S

Then conclude S is satisfiable

How to derive candidate model I_S ?

Inst-Gen - Model Construction

It provides (partial) interpretation for S_{ground} for given clause set S

$$S : \begin{array}{l} \underline{P(x)} \vee Q(x) \\ \underline{P(a)} \vee \underline{Q(a)} \\ \underline{\neg P(a)} \end{array} \quad \Sigma = \{a, b\}, S_{\text{ground}} : \begin{array}{l} \underline{P(b)} \vee Q(b) \\ \underline{P(a)} \vee \underline{Q(a)} \\ \underline{\neg P(a)} \end{array}$$

- For each $C_{\text{ground}} \in S_{\text{ground}}$ find *most specific* $C \in S$ that can be instantiated to C_{ground}
- Select literal in C_{ground} corresponding to selected literal in that C
- Add selected literal of that C_{ground} to I_S if not in conflict with I_S

Thus, $I_S = \{P(b), Q(a), \neg P(a)\}$

Inst-Gen - Summary so far

- Previous slides showed the main ideas underlying the working of calculus - not the calculus itself
- The models I_{\perp} and the candidate model I_S are not needed in the calculus, but justify improvements
- And they provide the conceptual tool for the completeness proof: as instances of clauses are added, the initial approximation of a model of S is refined more and more
- The purpose of this refinement is to remove conflicts “ $A - \neg A$ ” by selecting different literals in instances of clauses
- If this process does not lead to a refutation, every ground instance $C\gamma$ of a clause $C \in S$ will be assigned true by some sufficiently developed candidate model

Inst-Gen Inference Rule

$$\text{Inst-Gen} \frac{C \vee L \quad \bar{L}' \vee D}{(C \vee L)\theta \quad (\bar{L}' \vee D)\theta} \quad \text{where}$$

- (i) $\theta = \text{mgu}(L, L')$, and
- (ii) θ a *proper instantiator*: maps some variables to nonvariable terms

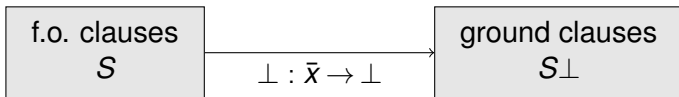
Example:

$$\text{Inst-Gen} \frac{Q(x) \vee P(x, b) \quad \neg P(a, y) \vee R(y)}{Q(a) \vee P(a, b) \quad \neg P(a, b) \vee R(b)} \quad \text{where}$$

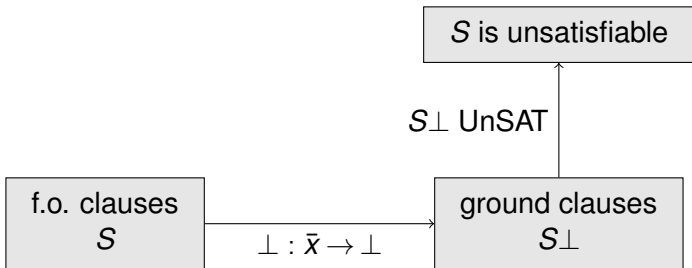
- (i) $\theta = \text{mgu}(P(x, b), \neg P(a, y)) = \{x \rightarrow a, y \rightarrow b\}$, and
- (ii) θ a proper instantiator

f.o. clauses
 S

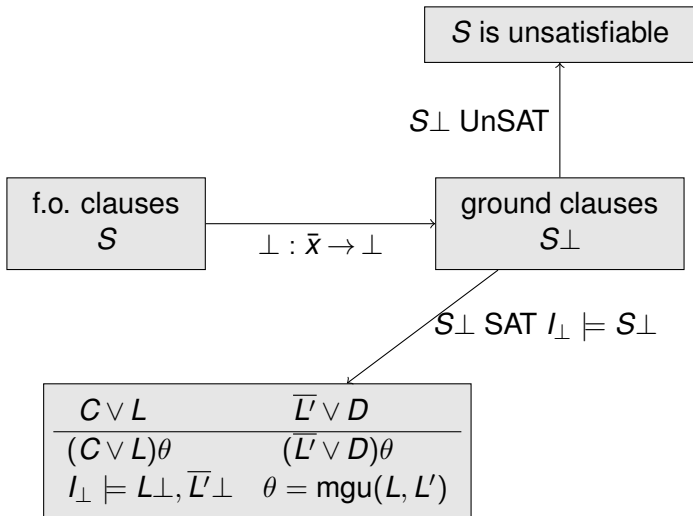
Inst-Gen - Outer Loop



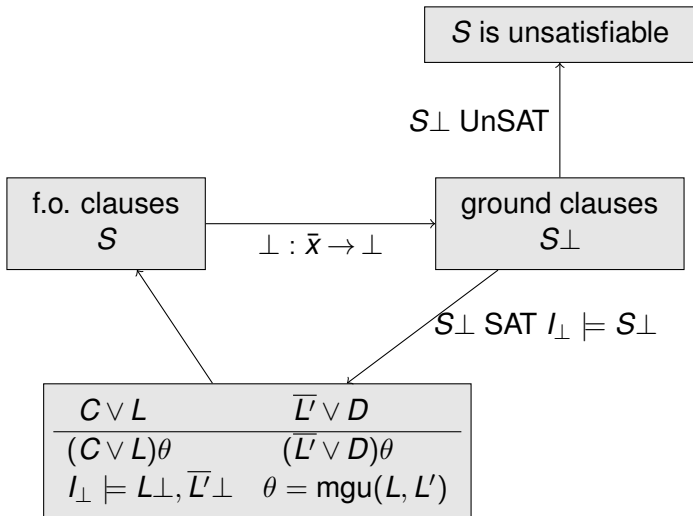
Inst-Gen - Outer Loop



Inst-Gen - Outer Loop



Inst-Gen - Outer Loop



Properties and Improvements

- As efficient as possible in propositional case
- Literal selection *in the calculus*
 - Require “back channel” from SAT solver (output of models) to select literals in S (as obtained in I_{\perp})
 - Restrict inference rule application to selected literals
 - Need only consider instances falsified in I_S
 - Allows to extract model if S is finitely saturated
 - Flexibility: may change models I_{\perp} arbitrarily during derivation
- Hyper-type inference rule, similar to Hyper Linking [Lee and Plaisted, 1992]
- Subsumption deletion by proper subclauses
- Special variables: allows to replace SAT solver by solver for richer fragment (guarded fragment, two-variable fragment)

Resolution vs. Inst-Gen

$$\frac{\text{Resolution}}{(C \vee L) \quad (\bar{L}' \vee D)} \\ \hline (C \vee D)\theta \\ \theta = \text{mgu}(L, L')$$

- Inefficient for propositional
- Length of clauses grow fast
- Recombination of clauses
- Subsumption deletion
- A-Ordered resolution: selection by term ordering
- Difficult to extract model
- Decides guarded fragment, two-variable fragment, some classes defined by Leitsch et al., not Bernays-Schönfinkel

$$\frac{\text{Inst-Gen}}{C \vee L \quad \bar{L}' \vee D} \\ \hline (C \vee L)\theta \quad (\bar{L}' \vee D)\theta \\ \theta = \text{mgu}(L, L')$$

- Efficient in propositional case
- Length of clauses fixed
- No recombination of clauses
- Subsumption deletion limited
- Selection based on propositional model
- Easy to extract model
- Decides Bernays-Schönfinkel class, nothing else known yet
- Current CASC-winning

Other Two-Level Calculi (I)

DPLL - Davis-Putnam-Logemann-Loveland Procedure

- Weak concept of redundancy already present (purity deletion)

PPI – Primal Partial Instantiation

- Comparable to Inst-Gen, but see [Jacobs and Waldmann, 2005]
- With fixed iterative deepening over term-depth bound

MACE-Style Finite Model Buiding (Different Focus)

- Enumerate finite domains $\{0\}$, $\{0, 1\}$, $\{0, 1, 2\}$, ...
- Transform clause set to encode search for finite domain model
- Apply (incremental) SAT solver
- Complete for finite models, not refutationally complete

HL - Hyper Linking (Clause Linking)

- Uses hyper type of inference rule, based on simultaneous mgu of nucleus and electrons
- Doesn't use selection (no guidance from propositional model)

SHL - Semantic Hyper Linking

- Uses “back channel” from SAT solver to guide search: find *single* ground clause C_γ so that $I_\perp \not\models C_\gamma$ and add it
- Doesn't use unification; basically guess ground instance, but ...
- Practical effectiveness achieved by other devices:
 - Start with “natural” initial interpretation
 - “Rough resolution” to eliminate “large” literals
 - Predicate replacement to unfold definitions [Lee and Plaisted, 1989]
- Important reference: [Plaisted, 1994]

OSHL - Ordered Semantic Hyper Linking

- [Plaisted and Zhu, 1997], [Plaisted and Zhu, 2000]
- Goal-orientation by choosing “natural” initial interpretation I_0 that falsifies (negated) theorem clause, but satisfies most of the theory clauses
- Stepwisely modify I_0
Modified interpretation represented as $I_0(L_1, \dots, L_m)$
(which is like I_0 except for ground literals L_1, \dots, L_m)
- Completeness via fair enumeration of modifications
- Special treatment of unit clauses
- Subsumption by proper subclasses
- Uses A-ordered resolution as propositional decision procedure

OSHL Proof Procedure

Input: S, I_0 ;; S input clauses I_0 initial interpretation
 $I := I_0$;; Current interpretation
 $G := \{\}$;; Current ground instances from S
while $\{\} \notin G$ **do**
 if $I \models S$;; ... and this can be detected
 then return “satisfiable”
 search $C \in S$ and γ
 such that $I \not\models C\gamma$;; Instance generation
 $G := \text{simplify}(G, C\gamma)$;; Have $C\gamma \in G$ after simplification
 $I := \text{update}(I_0, G)$;; Update such that $I \models G$
end while
return “unsatisfiable”

How to search C and γ for given $I = I_0(L_1, \dots, L_m)$

- Guess $C \in S$ and partition $C = C_1 \cup C_2$
- Let θ matcher of C_1 to $(\overline{L_1}, \dots, \overline{L_m})$ (with complementary signs)
- Guess δ s.th. $I_0(L_1, \dots, L_m) \not\models C\gamma$, where $\gamma = \theta\delta$

Search and Update in OSHL

$I_0 = \{R(a)\}$
(all other atoms false)

S: (1) $R(a) \leftarrow$ (4) $\leftarrow Q(a, c)$
(2) $P(x) \leftarrow R(a)$ (5) $\leftarrow R(c)$
(3) $R(y) \vee Q(x, y) \leftarrow P(x)$

OSHL Refutation:

(2) $I_0 \not\models P(x) \leftarrow R(a)$
 $I_0 \not\models P(a) \leftarrow R(a)$
(3) $I_0(P(a)) \not\models R(y) \vee Q(x, y) \leftarrow P(x)$
 $I_0(P(a)) \not\models R(y) \vee Q(a, y) \leftarrow P(a)$
 $I_0(P(a)) \not\models R(c) \vee Q(a, c) \leftarrow P(a)$
(5) $I_0(P(a), R(c)) \not\models \leftarrow R(c)$
(4) $I_0(P(a), Q(a, c)) \not\models \leftarrow Q(a, c)$
(1) $I_0(\neg R(a)) \not\models R(a) \leftarrow$

unsatisfiable

Recall:

- Two-level calculi: instance generation separated from SAT solving
– may use any SAT solver
- One-level calculi: monolithic, with two modes of operation:
First-order mode and propositional mode

Developed so far:

IM	Extended Calculus
DC	Connection Method, Tableaux
DCTP	Tableaux
OSHT	Hyper Tableaux
Hyper Tableaux NG	Hyper Tableaux
FDPLL	DPLL
ME	DPLL

Recall:

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Developed so far:

IM	Extended Calculus
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Hyper Tableaux NG	Hyper Tableaux
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Next: one-level calculus: FDPLL (simpler) / ME (better)

FDPLL: lifting of propositional core of DPLL to **F**irst-order logic

Why?

[Baumgartner, 2000]

- Lift very efficient propositional DPLL techniques to first-order
- From propositional DPLL: binary splitting, backjumping, learning, restarts, selection heuristics, simplification, . . .
Not all achieved yet; simplification not in FDPLL, but in ME
- Successful first-order techniques: unification, special treatment of unit clauses, subsumption (limited)
- For *theorem proving*: alternative to established methods
- For *model computation*:
counterexamples, diagnosis, abduction, planning, nonmonotonic reasoning, . . . – largely unexplored

- Propositional DPLL as a semantic tree method
- FDPLL calculus
- Model Evolution calculus
- FDPLL/ME vs. OSHL
- FDPLL/ME vs. Inst-Gen

Propositional DPLL as a Semantic Tree Method

$$(1) A \vee B$$

$$(2) C \vee \neg A$$

$$(3) D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$$

$$(4) \neg D \vee \neg B$$

$$\{\} \not\models A \vee B$$

$$\{\} \models C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{\} \models D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{\} \models \neg D \vee \neg B$$

<empty tree>

- A Branch stands for an interpretation
- *Purpose of splitting*: satisfy a clause that is currently falsified
- Close branch if some clause is plainly falsified by it (\star)

Propositional DPLL as a Semantic Tree Method

(1) $A \vee B$

(2) $C \vee \neg A$

(3) $D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$

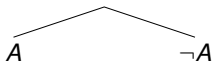
(4) $\neg D \vee \neg B$

$$\{A\} \models A \vee B$$

$$\{A\} \not\models C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{A\} \models D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{A\} \models \neg D \vee \neg B$$



- A Branch stands for an interpretation
- *Purpose of splitting*: satisfy a clause that is currently falsified
- Close branch if some clause is plainly falsified by it (\star)

Propositional DPLL as a Semantic Tree Method

$$(1) A \vee B$$

$$(2) C \vee \neg A$$

$$(3) D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$$

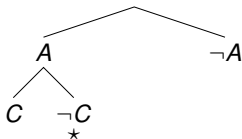
$$(4) \neg D \vee \neg B$$

$$\{A, C\} \models A \vee B$$

$$\{A, C\} \models C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{A, C\} \not\models D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{A, C\} \models \neg D \vee \neg B$$



- A Branch stands for an interpretation
- *Purpose of splitting*: satisfy a clause that is currently falsified
- Close branch if some clause is plainly falsified by it (*)

Propositional DPLL as a Semantic Tree Method

(1) $A \vee B$

(2) $C \vee \neg A$

(3) $D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$

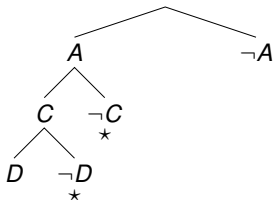
(4) $\neg D \vee \neg B$

$$\{A, C, D\} \models A \vee B$$

$$\{A, C, D\} \models C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{A, C, D\} \models D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$$

$$\{A, C, D\} \models \neg D \vee \neg B$$



- A Branch stands for an interpretation **Model** $\{A, C, D\}$ **found**.
- *Purpose of splitting*: satisfy a clause that is currently falsified
- Close branch if some clause is plainly falsified by it (*)

Propositional DPLL as a Semantic Tree Method

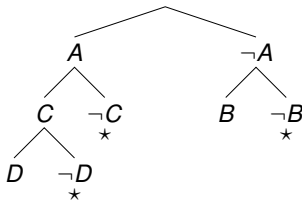
(1) $A \vee B$

(2) $C \vee \neg A$

(3) $D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$

(4) $\neg D \vee \neg B$

$\{B\} \models A \vee B$
$\{B\} \models C \vee \neg A$
$\{B\} \models D \vee \neg C \vee \neg A$
$\{B\} \models \neg D \vee \neg B$



Model $\{B\}$ found.

- A Branch stands for an interpretation
- *Purpose of splitting*: satisfy a clause that is currently falsified
- Close branch if some clause is plainly falsified by it (*)

Meta-Level Strategy: Lifted data structures

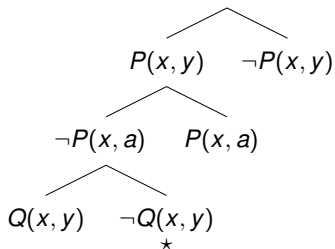
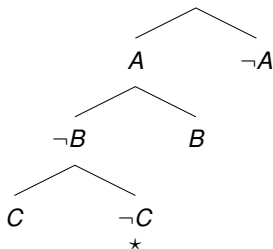
DPLL

FDPLL

Clauses

$B \vee C$

$P(x, y) \vee Q(x, x)$



Meta-Level Strategy: Lifted data structures

DPLL

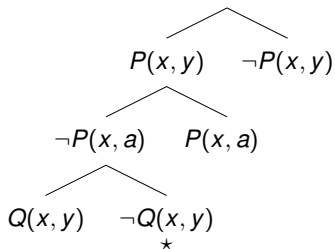
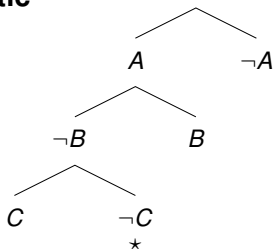
FDPLL

Clauses

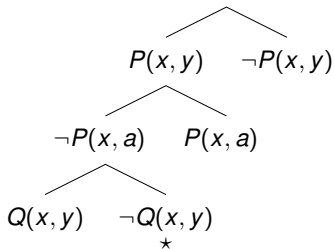
$B \vee C$

$P(x, y) \vee Q(x, x)$

**Semantic
Trees**



First-Order Semantic Trees



Issues:

- How are variables treated?
(a) Universal?, (b) Rigid?, (c) Schematic!
- What is the interpretation represented by a branch?
Clue to understanding of FDPLL (as is for Inst-Gen)

Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

Branch B :

|
 $P(x, y)$

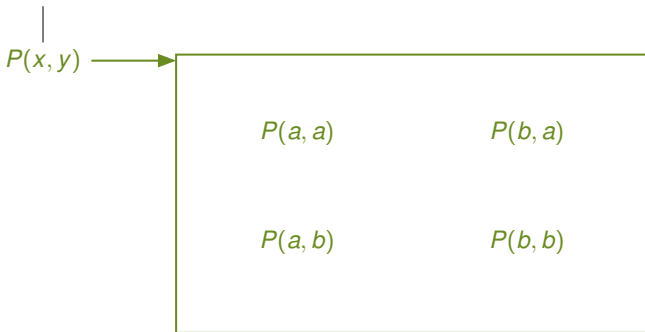
Interpretation $I_B = \{\dots\}$:

- A branch literal specifies the truth values for all its ground instances, unless there is a more specific literal specifying the opposite truth value

Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

Branch B :

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Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

Branch B:

|
 $P(x, y)$
|
 $-P(a, y)$

Interpretation $I_B = \{\dots\}$:

$P(a, a)$	$P(b, a)$
$P(a, b)$	$P(b, b)$

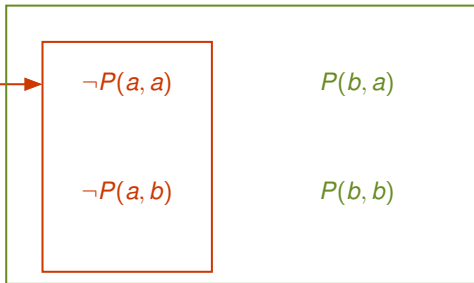
- A branch literal specifies the truth values for all its ground instances, unless there is a more specific literal specifying the opposite truth value

Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

Branch B:

$P(x, y)$
|
 $\neg P(a, y)$

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Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

Branch B:

$P(x, y)$
|
 $\neg P(a, y)$
|
 $\neg P(b, b)$

Interpretation $I_B = \{\dots\}$:

$\neg P(a, a)$	$P(b, a)$
$\neg P(a, b)$	$P(b, b)$

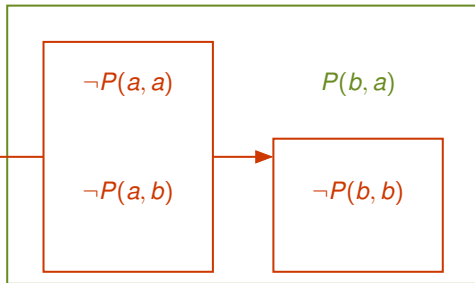
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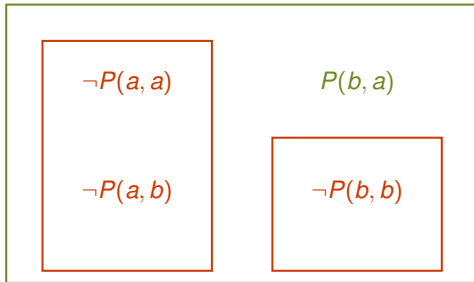
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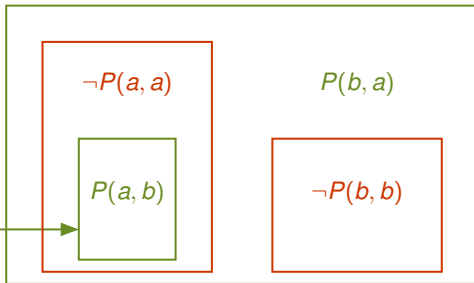
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Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

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Interpretation $I_B = \{\dots\}$:



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Extracting an Interpretation from a Branch

Branch B :

$P(x, y)$
|
 $\neg P(a, y)$
|
 $\neg P(b, b)$
|
 $P(a, b)$

Interpretation $I_B = \{\dots\}$:

$\{ \neg P(a, a) , P(b, a) ,$
 $P(a, b) , \neg P(b, b) \}$

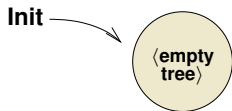
- A branch literal specifies the truth values for all its ground instances, unless there is a more specific literal specifying the opposite truth value
- The order of literals does not matter

FDPLL Calculus - Main Loop

Input: a clause set S

Output: “unsatisfiable” or “satisfiable” (if it terminates)

Note: Strategy much like in *inner* loop of propositional DPLL:



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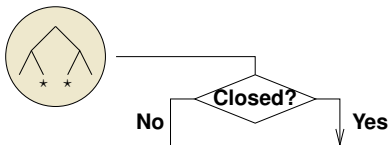


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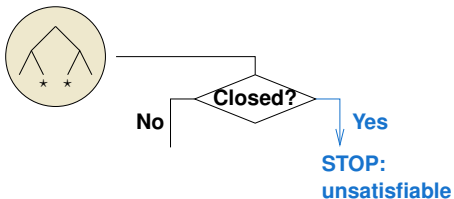


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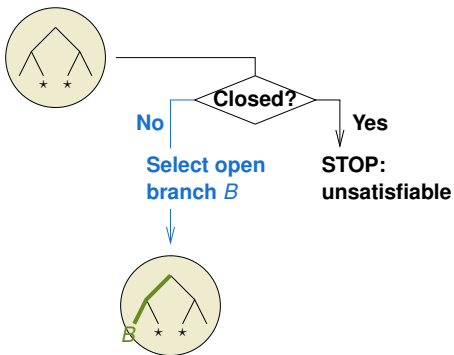


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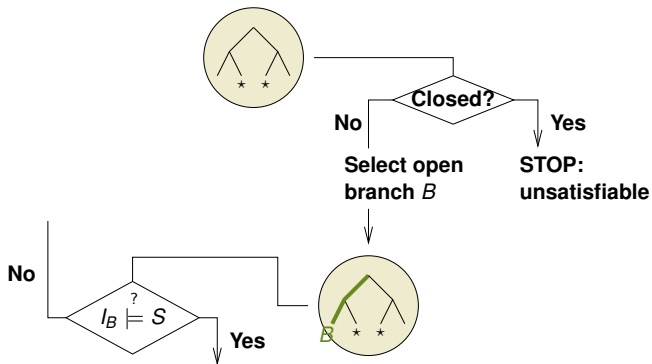


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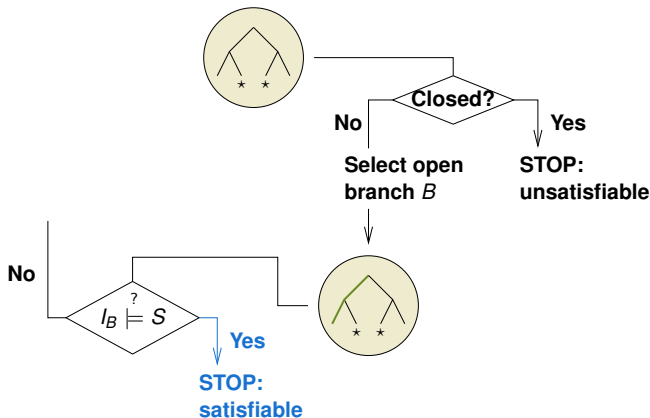


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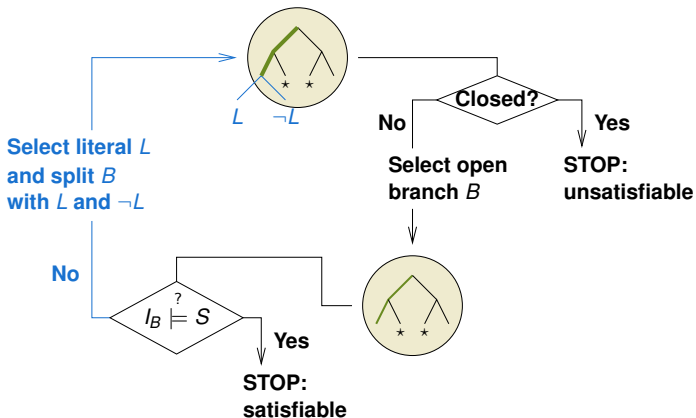


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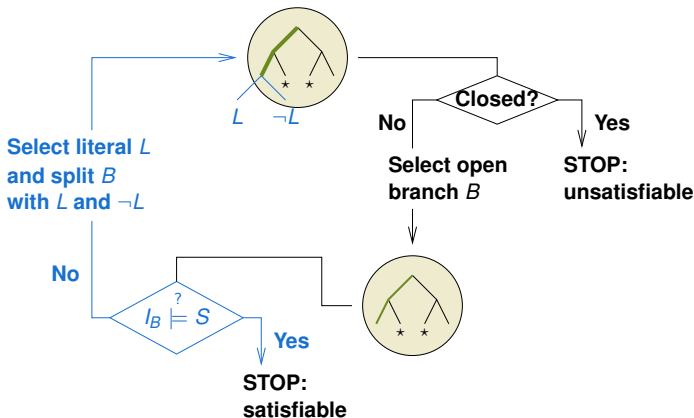


FDPLL Calculus - Main Loop

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Not here: FDPLL derivation rules for testing $I_B \models S$ and Splitting

FDPLL – Model Computation Example

Computed Model (as output by Darwin implementation)

```
(1) train(X,Y) ; flight(X,Y).      %% train from X to Y or flight.
(2) -flight(sb,X).                %% no flight from sb to anywhere
(3) flight(X,Y) :- flight(Y,X).    %% flight is symmetric
(4) connect(X,Y) :- flight(X,Y).   %% a flight is a connection
(5) connect(X,Y) :- train(X,Y).    %% a train is a connection
(6) connect(X,Z) :- connect(X,Y), %% connection is a transitive
    connect(Y,Z)                  %% relation
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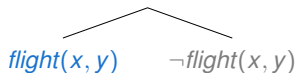
```
+ flight(X, Y)
- flight(sb, X)
- flight(X, sb)
+ train(sb, Y)
+ train(Y, sb)
+ connect(X, Y)
```

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



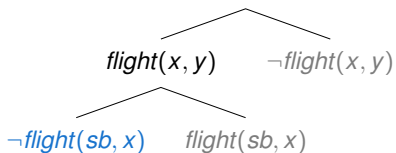
Clause instance used in inference: $\textit{train}(x, y) \vee \textit{flight}(x, y)$

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



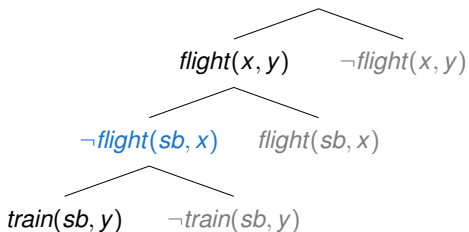
Clause instance used in inference: $\neg flight(sb, x)$

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



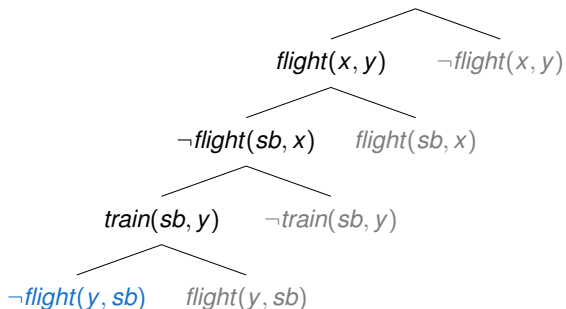
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FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



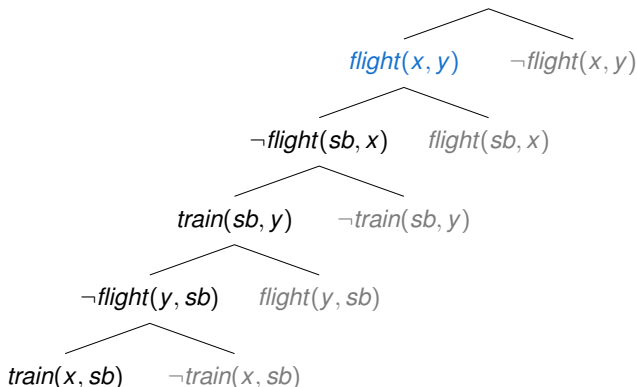
Clause instance used in inference: $flight(sb, y) \vee \neg flight(y, sb)$

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



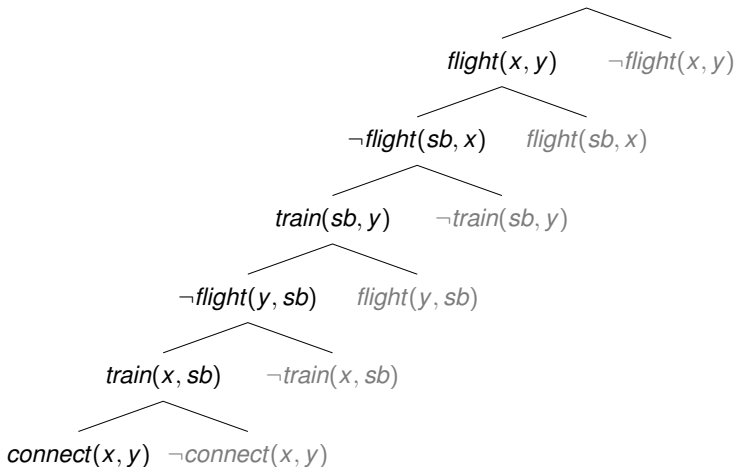
Clause instance used in inference: $train(x, sb) \vee flight(x, sb)$

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



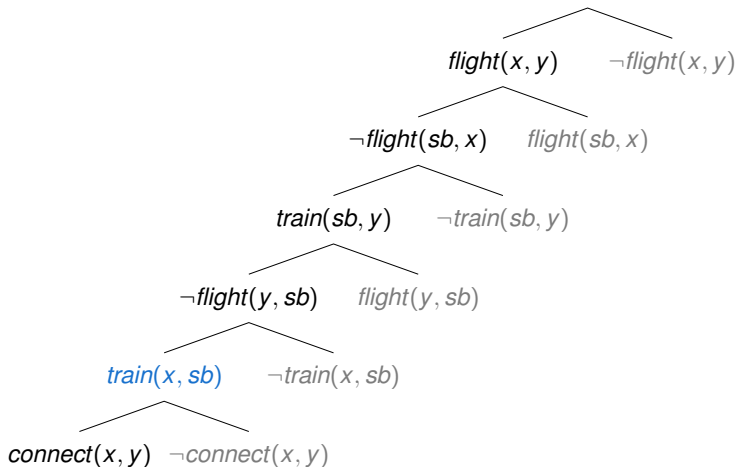
Clause instance used in inference: $connect(x, y) \vee \neg flight(x, y)$

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



Done. Return “satisfiable with model $\{flight(x, y), \dots, connect(x, y)\}$ ”

FDPLL Model Computation Example - Derivation



Done. Return “satisfiable with model $\{flight(x, y), \dots, connect(x, y)\}$ ”

Model Evolution (ME) Calculus

- Same motivation as for FDPLL: lift propositional DPLL to first-order
- Loosely based on FDPLL, but not really an “extension”
- Extension of Tinelli’s sequent-style DPLL [Tinelli, 2002]
- See [Baumgartner and Tinelli, 2003] for calculus, [?] for implementation “Darwin”

Difference to FDPLL

- Systematic treatment of universal and schematic variables
- Includes first-order versions of unit simplification rules
- Presentation as a sequent-style calculus, to cope with dynamically changing branches and clause sets due to simplification

Recall OSHL:

- Incrementally modify I_0
Modified interpretation represented as $I_0(L_1, \dots, L_m)$
- Find next **ground** instance C_γ by unifying subclause of C against (L_1, \dots, L_m) and guess Herbrand-instantiation of rest clause, so that $I_0(L_1, \dots, L_m) \not\models C_\gamma$

FDPLL/ME

- Initial interpretation I_0 is a **trivial** one (e.g. “false everywhere”)
- But (L_1, \dots, L_m) is a set of **first-order literals** now
- Find next (possibly) **non-ground** instance C_σ by unifying C against (L_1, \dots, L_m) so that $(L_1, \dots, L_m) \not\models C_\sigma$

FDPLL/ME vs. Inst-Gen

FDPLL/ME and Inst-Gen temporarily switch to propositional reasoning.
But:

Inst-Gen (and other two-level calculi)

- Use the \perp -version S_{\perp} of the **current clause set** S
- ⇒ Works **globally** on clause sets
- Flexible: may switch focus all the time – but memory problem (?)

FDPLL/ME (and other one-level calculi)

- Use the $\$$ -version of the **current branch**
- ⇒ Works **locally** in context of current branch
- Not so flexible – but don't expect memory problems:
FDPLL/ME need not keep *any* clause instance
DCTP needs to keep clause instances only along current branch

- Comparison: Resolution vs. Tableaux vs. IMs
- Conclusions from that

Consider a transitivity clause $P(x, z) \leftarrow P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z)$

Resolution

- Resolution may generate clauses of unbounded length:

$$\begin{aligned}P(x, z') &\leftarrow P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z) \wedge P(z, z') \\P(x, z'') &\leftarrow P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z) \wedge P(z, z') \wedge P(z', z'')\end{aligned}$$

- Does not decide function-free clause sets
- Complicated to extract model
- + (Ordered) Resolution very good on some classes, Equality

Resolution vs. Tableaux vs. IMs

Consider a transitivity clause $P(x, z) \leftarrow P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z)$

Rigid Variables Approaches (Tableaux, Connection Methods)

- Have to use unbounded number of variants per clause:

$$\begin{aligned}P(x', z') &\leftarrow P(x', y') \wedge P(y', z') \\P(x'', z'') &\leftarrow P(x'', y'') \wedge P(y'', z'')\end{aligned}$$

- Weak redundancy criteria
- Difficult to exploit proof confluence

Usual calculi backtrack more than theoretically necessary

But see [Giese, 2001], [Baumgartner *et al.*, 1999], [Beckert, 2003]

- Model Elimination: *goal-orientedness* compensates drawback

Difficulty with Rigid Variable Methods

Rigid variable methods “destructively” modify data structure

$$S: \forall x(P(x) \vee Q(x)) \\ \neg P(a) \\ \neg P(b) \\ \neg Q(b)$$

$$(1) P(X) \vee Q(X)$$

$$(2) P(X) \vee Q(X) \\ \neg P(a)$$

$$(3) P(a) \vee Q(a) \\ \neg P(a)$$

$$(5) P(a) \vee Q(a) \\ \neg P(a) \\ P(X') \vee Q(X') \\ \neg P(b)$$

$$(7) P(a) \vee Q(a) \\ \neg P(a) \\ P(b) \vee Q(b) \\ \neg P(b) \\ \neg Q(b)$$

- Connection method (and tableaux) proof confluent: no deadends
- Difficulty to find fairness criterion due to “destructive” nature
- All IMs are non-destructive – no problem here

Consider a transitivity clause $P(x, z) \leftarrow P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z)$

Instance Based Methods

- May need to generate and keep *proper* instances of clauses:

$$P(x, z) \leftarrow P(x, y) \wedge P(y, z)$$

$$P(a, z) \leftarrow P(a, y) \wedge P(y, b)$$

- **Cannot use subsumption: weaker than Resolution**
- **Clauses do not grow in length, no recombination of clauses: better than Resolution**, same as in rigid variables approaches
- + **Need not keep variants: better than rigid variables approaches**

Suggested applicability for IMs:

- Near propositional clause sets
- Clause sets without function symbols (except constants)
E.g. Translation from basic modal logics, Datalog
- Model computation (sometimes)

Other methods (currently?) better at:

- Goal orientation
- Equality, theory reasoning
- Many decidable fragments (Guarded fragment, two-variable fragment)

Part II: A Closer Look

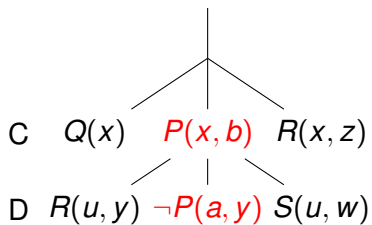
- Disconnection calculus
- Theory Reasoning and Equality
- Implementations and Techniques
 - Available Implementations
 - Proof Procedures
 - Exploiting SAT techniques

Disconnection Tableaux

The Disconnection Calculus(I)

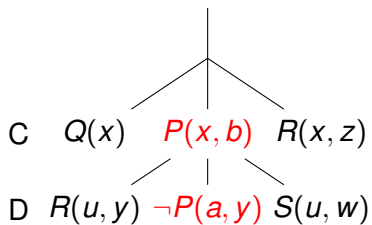
- Analytic tableau calculus for first order clause logic
- Introduced by J.-P. Billon (1996)
- Special characteristics of calculus:
 - No *rigid* variables
 - No *variants* in tableau
 - *Proof confluence*: One proof tree only, no backtracking in search
 - *Saturated* branches as indicator of satisfiability
 - *Decision procedure* for certain classes of formulae
- Related methods: hyper linking, hyper tableaux, first order Davis-Putnam . . .

The Disconnection Calculus (II): Proof Rule Linking



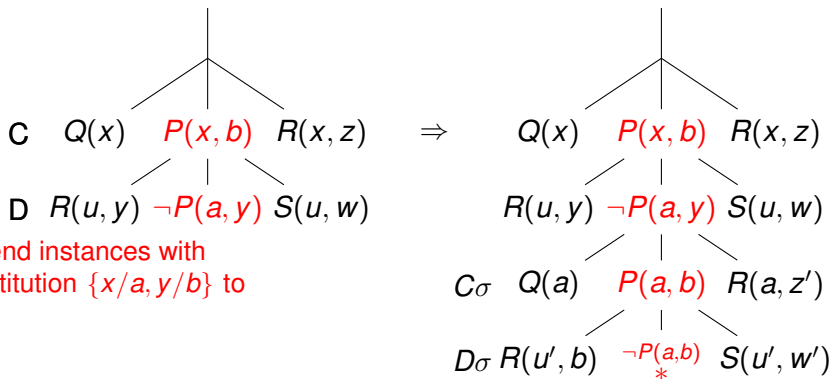
potentially complementary
literals on path

The Disconnection Calculus (II): Proof Rule Linking

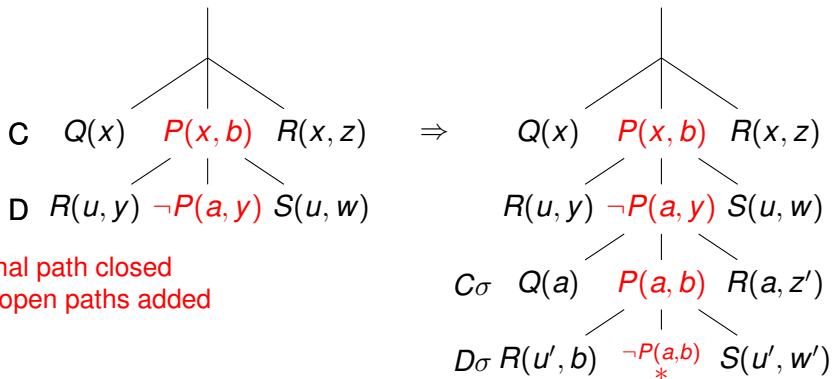


unifier for literals:
 $\{x/a, y/b\}$

The Disconnection Calculus (II): Proof Rule Linking



The Disconnection Calculus (II): Proof Rule Linking



- Concept of \forall -closure of branches
 closure by simultaneous instantiation of all variables by the same constant: path with $P(x, y)$ and $\neg P(z, z)$ is closed

Proof Search in the Disconnection Calculus

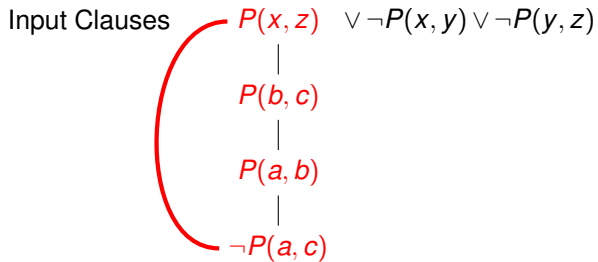
- Proof process in two phases:
 - An initial **active path** through the formula is don't-care nondeterministically selected
 - Using the links contained in the active path, instances of linked clauses are used to build a tableau
- An open tableau path may be selected don't-care nondeterministically, it becomes the next active path
- Each link can be used only once on a path (explains the name "disconnection")
- Absence of usable links (saturation of a path) indicates satisfiability of the formula
- Only requirement for (strong) completeness: fairness of link selection

An Example Proof

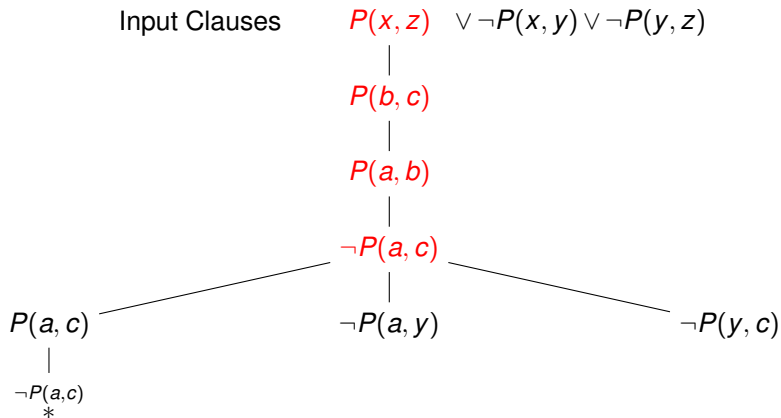
Input Clauses

$$\begin{array}{c} P(x, z) \vee \neg P(x, y) \vee \neg P(y, z) \\ | \\ P(b, c) \\ | \\ P(a, b) \\ | \\ \neg P(a, c) \end{array}$$

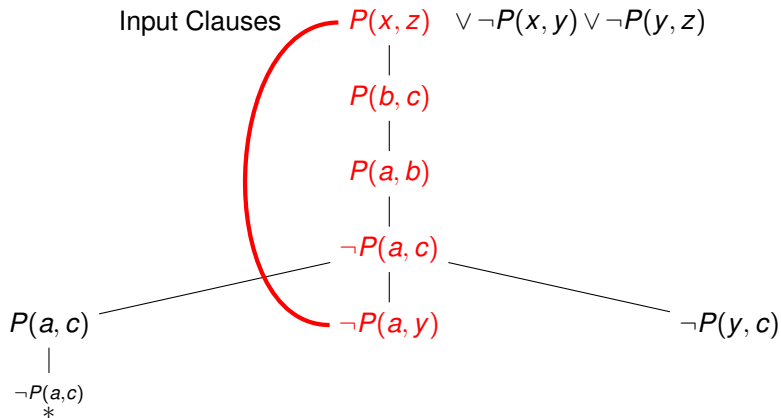
An Example Proof



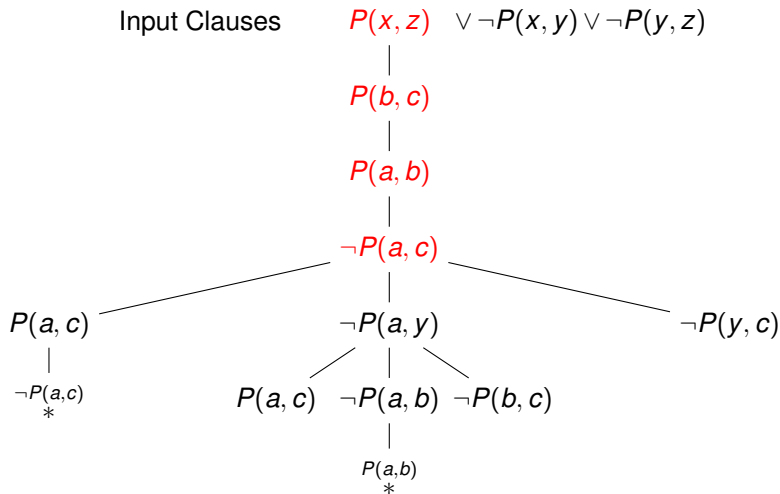
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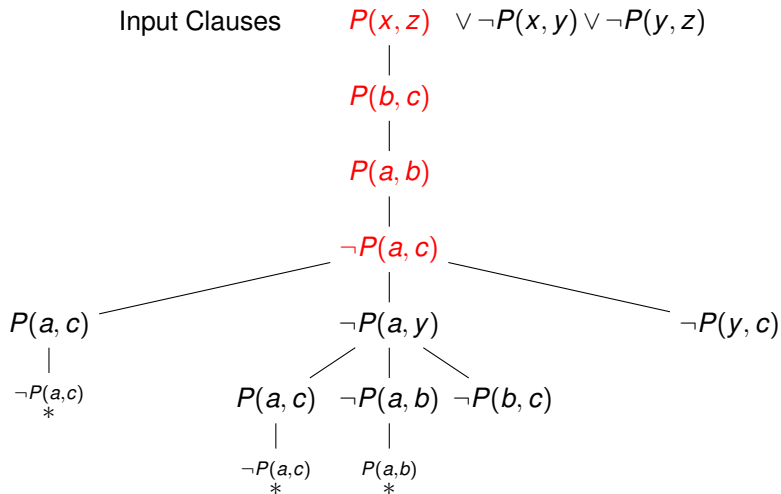
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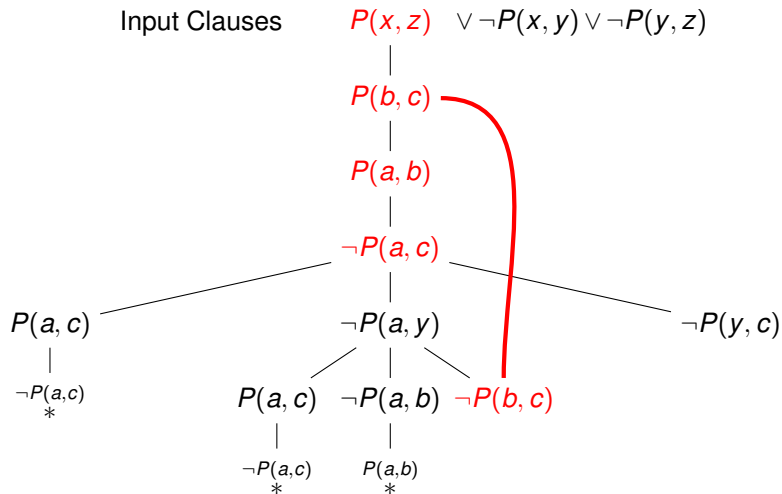
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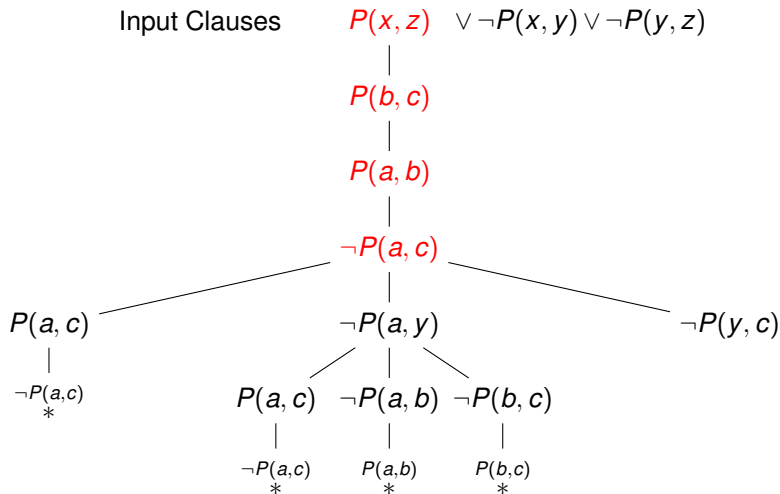
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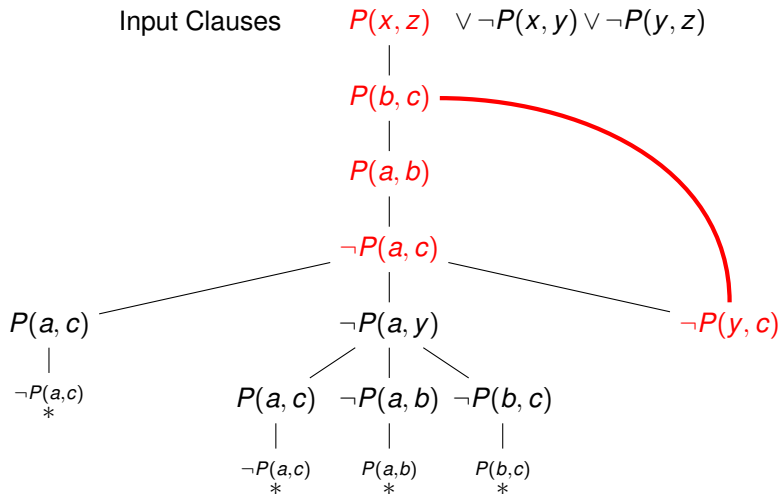
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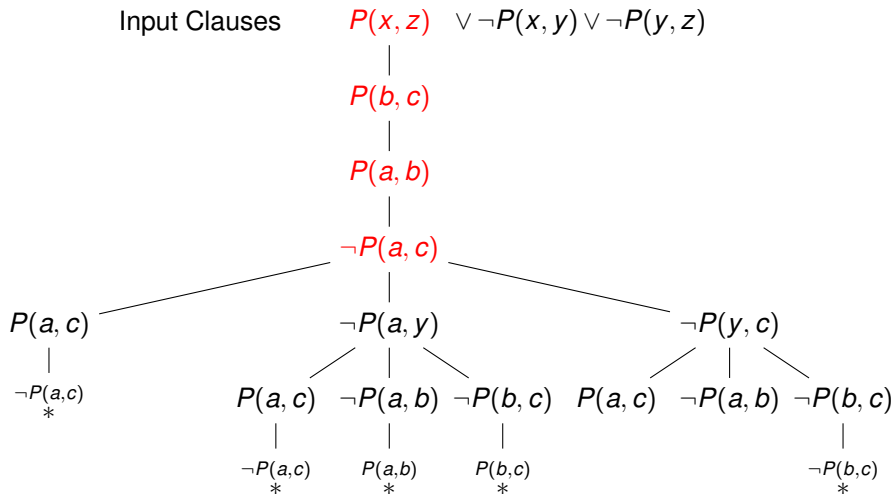
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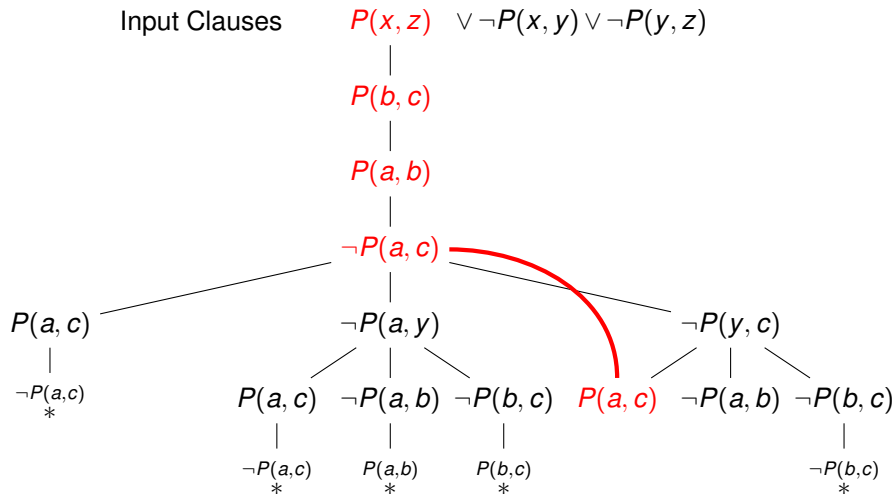
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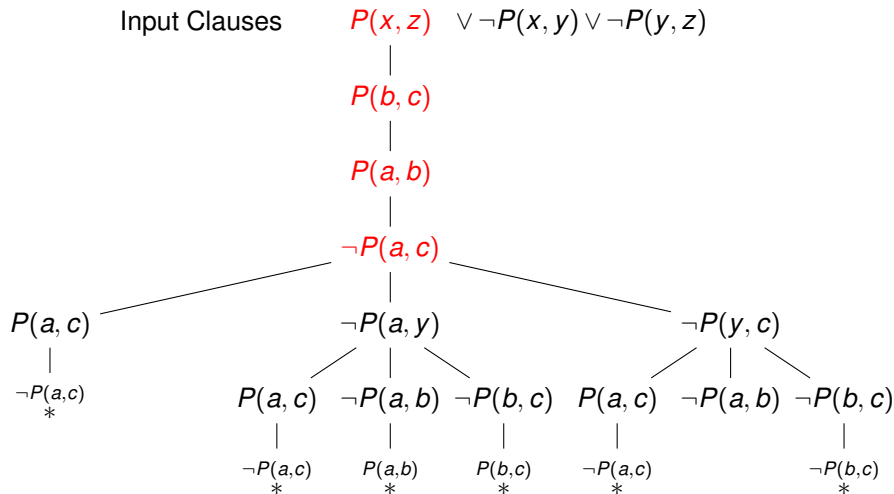
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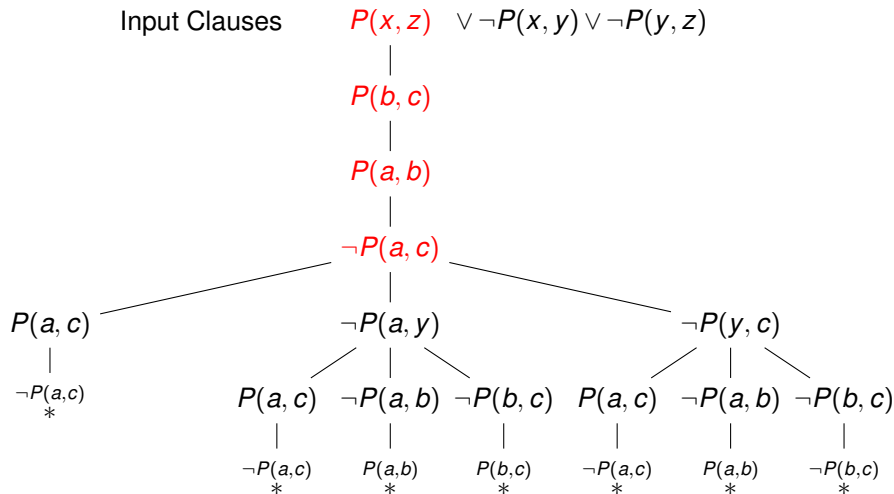
An Example Proof



An Example Proof



An Example Proof



- Two clauses are *variants* if they can be obtained from each other by variable renaming
- A tableau is *variant-free* if no branch contains literals l and k where the clauses of l and k are variants
- All disconnection tableaux are required to be variant-free
- Variant-freeness provides essential pruning (weak form of subsumption)
- Vital for model generation
- Implies the idea of *branch saturation*:
A branch is *saturated* if it cannot be extended in a variant-free manner

Failed Proof Attempts

- Proof attempts may fail - what happens then?

Failed Proof Attempts

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- In order to show this, we will change one clause in the previous example: the signs are inverted

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Input Clauses} \quad \neg P(x, z) \vee P(x, y) \vee P(y, z) \\ | \\ P(b, c) \\ | \\ P(a, b) \\ | \\ \neg P(a, c) \end{array}$$

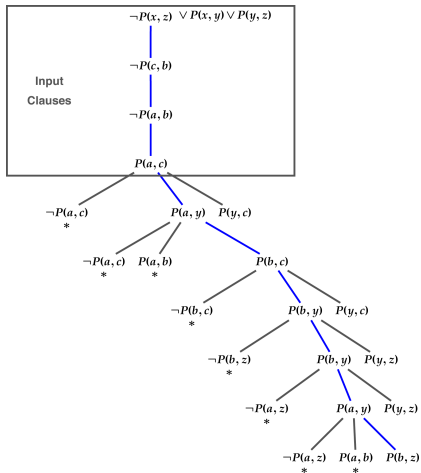
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- In order to show this,
we will change one clause in the previous example: the signs are inverted

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Input Clauses} \quad \neg P(x, z) \vee P(x, y) \vee P(y, z) \\ | \\ P(b, c) \\ | \\ P(a, b) \\ | \\ \neg P(a, c) \end{array}$$

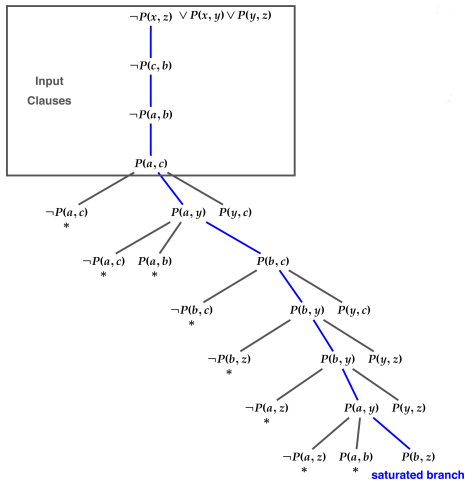
- Again, we attempt to find a proof

A Saturated Open Tableau



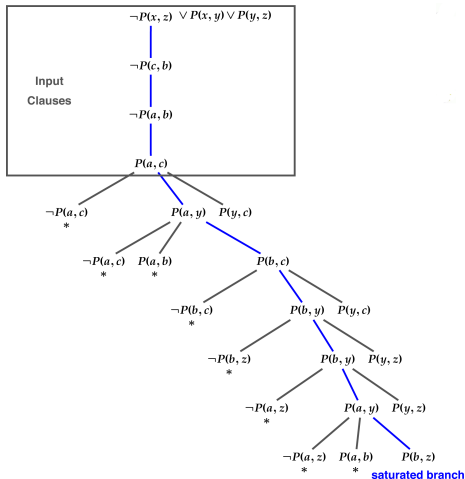
- This open tableau cannot be closed

A Saturated Open Tableau



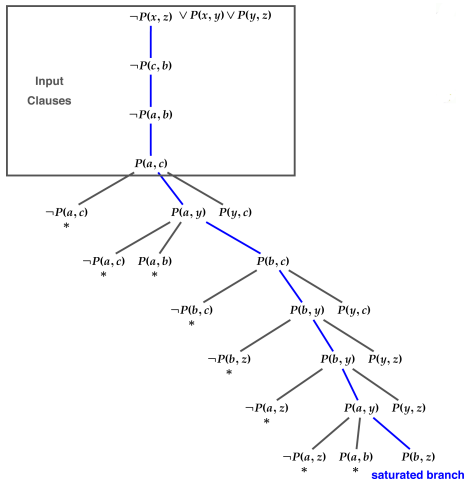
- This open tableau cannot be closed
- Indicated branch is saturated

A Saturated Open Tableau



- This open tableau cannot be closed
- Indicated branch is **saturated**
- **Saturated** open branch provides model

A Saturated Open Tableau



- This open tableau cannot be closed
- Indicated branch is **saturated**
- **Saturated** open branch provides model
- How to extract model?

Instance Preserving Enumerations

- *Instance Preserving Enumerations*: lists of literal occurrences on a path
- Path literals are partially ordered in enumeration (not unique)
- Each literal must occur before all more general instances of itself
- Instance preserving enumeration of a saturated open branch implies model
- Example: For the open (sub-) branch

$\neg P(a)$

|

$P(x)$

|

$\neg P(c)$

With Herbrand universe $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$ and enumeration

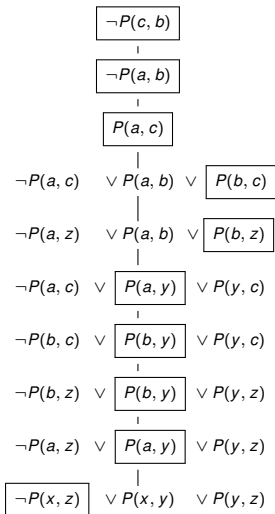
$[\neg P(a) \quad \neg P(c) \quad P(x)]$

the model implied is

$\{\neg P(a), P(b), \neg P(c), P(d), P(e)\}$

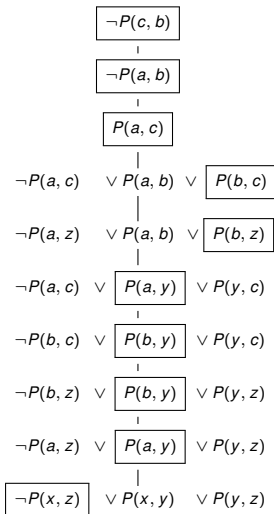
Model Extraction

We extract an instance preserving enumeration for the open branch of the preceding tableau:



Model Extraction

We extract an instance preserving enumeration for the open branch of the preceding tableau:



From which we get the finite Herbrand model:

$$\{ \neg P(c, b), \neg P(a, b), P(a, c),$$

$$P(b, c), P(b, a), P(b, b),$$

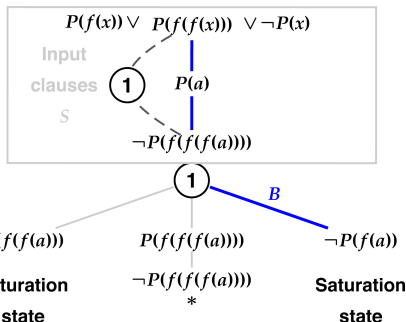
$$P(a, a), \neg P(c, a), \neg P(c, c) \}$$

Infinite Herbrand Models

Model extraction also works for infinite Herbrand universes

Infinite Herbrand Models

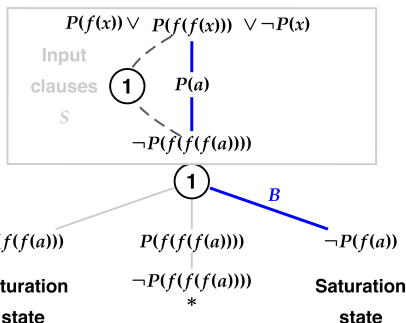
Model extraction also works for infinite Herbrand universes
Given a saturated tableau with open branch B:



Infinite Herbrand Models

Model extraction also works for infinite Herbrand universes

Given a saturated tableau with open branch B:



The enumeration for B

$\neg P(f(f(f(a))))$, $\neg P(f(a))$, $P(a)$, $P(f(f(x)))$
implies a finite representation of an

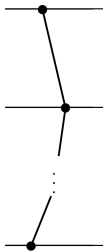
infinite Herbrand model:

$\{\neg P(f(f(f(a))))$, $\neg P(f(a))$, $P(a)\}$, $\{P(f(f(s))))\}$
with the constraint $s \neq f(a)$, where s
ranges over the Herbrand universe of S .

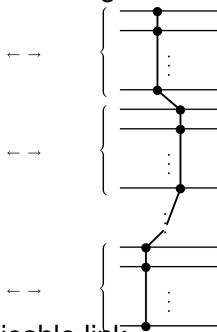
Completeness

- Basic concept: open saturated branch represents partial model
- Non-equational case: branch determines path through Herbrand set

non-ground open branch (non-rigid)



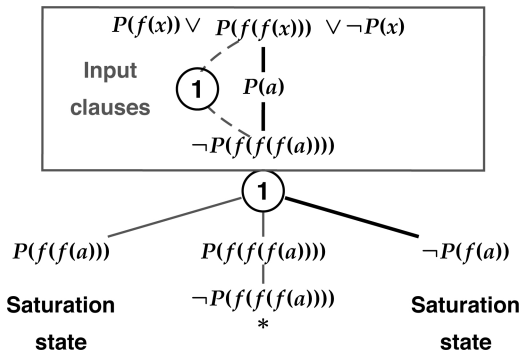
ground Herbrand set



- Closed ground path corresponds to applicable link
 \Leftrightarrow contradicts saturation

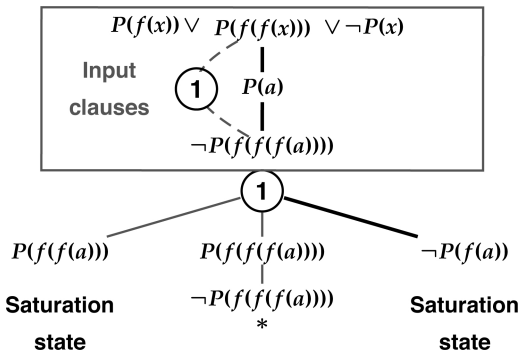
The Saturation Property

- Saturated open branch specifies a model (only such a branch)
- Model characterised as **blue exception-based representation (EBR)**



The Saturation Property

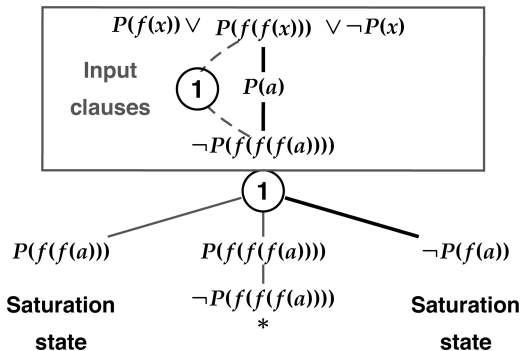
- Saturated open branch specifies a model (only such a branch)
- Model characterised as **blue exception-based representation (EBR)**



- Model: $\{\neg P(f(f(f(a))))\}, \neg P(f(a)), P(a)\} \cup \{P(f(f(s))) : s \neq f(a)\}$

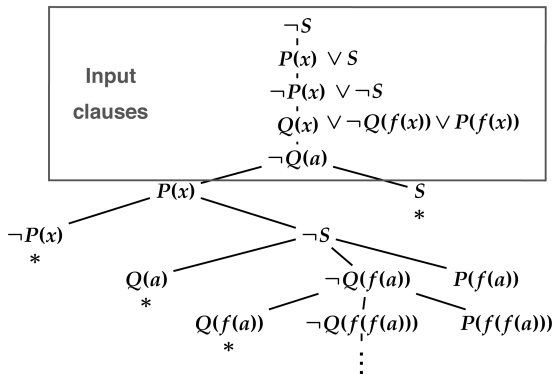
The Saturation Property

- Saturated open branch specifies a model (only such a branch)
- Model characterised as **blue exception-based representation (EBR)**



- EBR for model: $\{P(a), \neg P(f(a)), P(f(f(x))), \neg P(f(f(f(a))))\}$

An Example for Non-Termination



- The above problem is obviously satisfiable (P true, S and Q false)
- However, in general, the disconnection calculus does not terminate
- Termination fragile, depends on branch selection function

The Problem

- Here, the model is approximated, but not finitely represented
 $\{P(x), \neg S, \neg Q(a), \neg Q(f(a)), \neg Q(f(f(a))), \neg Q(f(f(f(a)))) \dots\}$
- Observation: linking instances are subsumed by path literal $P(x)$
- But: general subsumption does not work
- What can we do?

Link Blocking

- Original idea of model characterisation:
 - Currently considered branch is seen as an interpretation I
 - If a literal L is on branch, all instances of L are considered true in I
 - if a conflict occurs (a link is on the branch), the link is applied and I is modified

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- Consequence: Ignore clauses subsumed by I
- Concept of temporary **link blocking**
 - Path subgoal L will disable all links producing literals $K = L\sigma$
 - Unblocking of links occurs when a conflict involving L is resolved, i.e. the interpretation I is changed

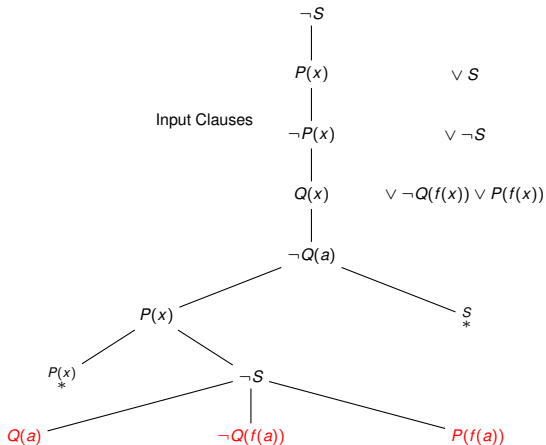
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- Similar to **productivity restriction** in ME

- Precise criteria needed to find out whether a literal is blocking
- EBRs are lists of branch literals partially sorted according to respective specialisation
- **Candidate model (CM)**: EBR enhanced by link blockings
- Blockings require a modified ordering on CMs, not necessarily based on instantiation
- Interpretation of a literal L given by **CM-matcher**:
the rightmost literal in CM subsuming L or $\sim L$

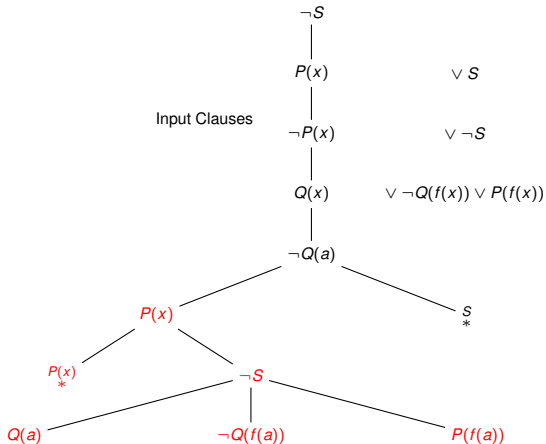
Link Blocking Example

- The non-termination example revisited



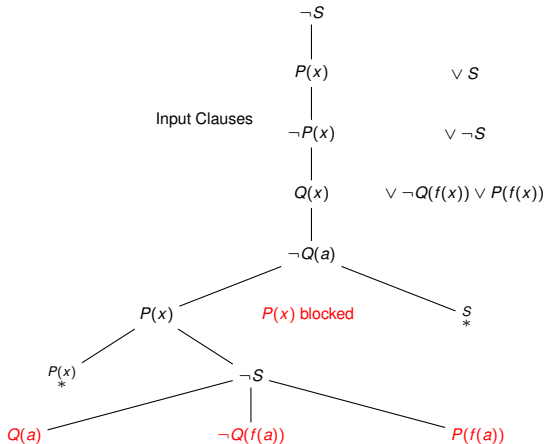
Link Blocking Example

- The non-termination example revisited



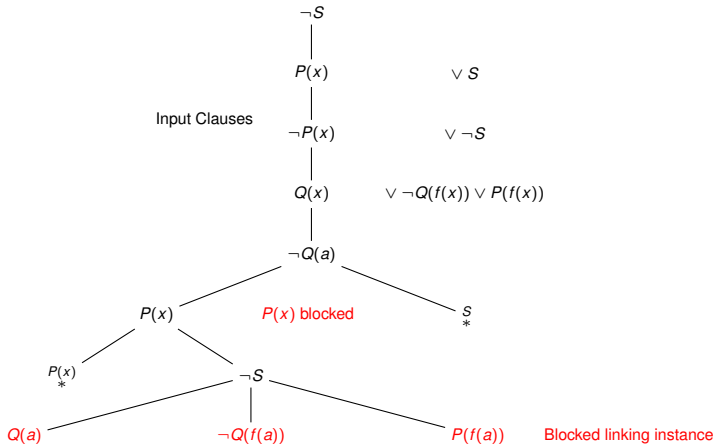
Link Blocking Example

- The non-termination example revisited



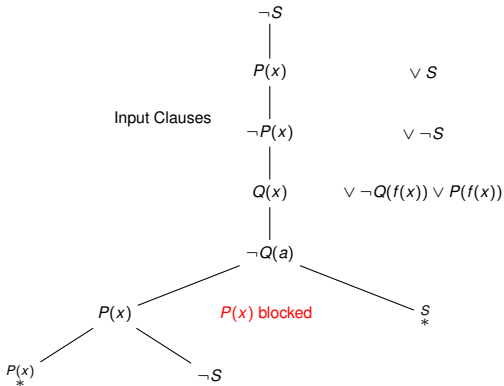
Link Blocking Example

- The non-termination example revisited



Link Blocking Example

- The non-termination example revisited



Saturation state

- Use of link blocking allows termination
- Largely independent of selection functions

Cyclic Link Blocking

$$Q(a, y) \vee \neg P(a, y)$$

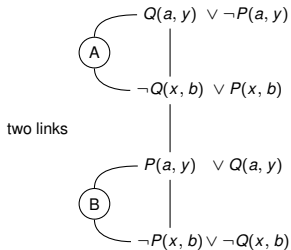
$$\neg Q(x, b) \vee P(x, b)$$

$$P(a, y) \vee Q(a, y)$$

$$\neg P(x, b) \vee \neg Q(x, b)$$

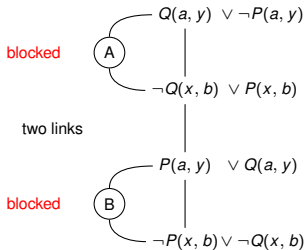
Unsatisfiable clause set

Cyclic Link Blocking



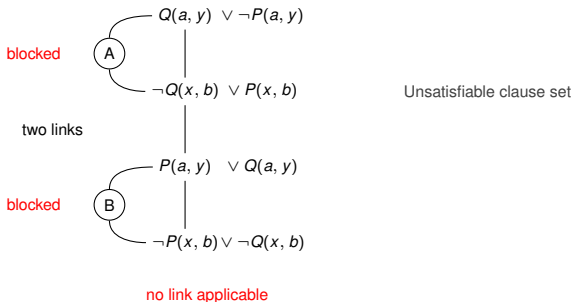
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Unsatisfiable clause set

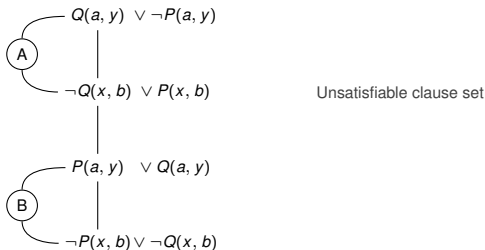
Cyclic Link Blocking



- For the above clause set, using blockings no refutation can be found
- Reason: The blocking relation for the clause set is **cyclic**
- To preserve completeness, blocking cycles must be avoided
- Well-founded ordering imposed on link blockings based on branch position

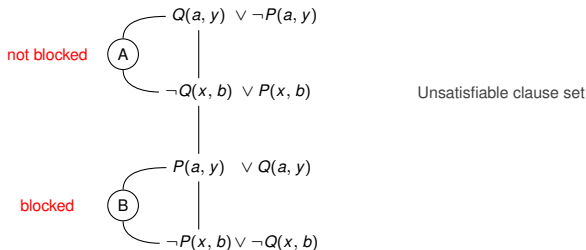
Cyclic Link Blocking Resolved

- We try again, this time with a blocking ordering



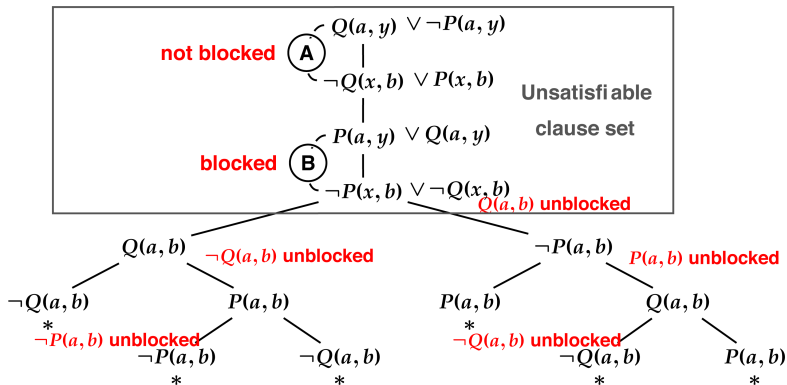
Cyclic Link Blocking Resolved

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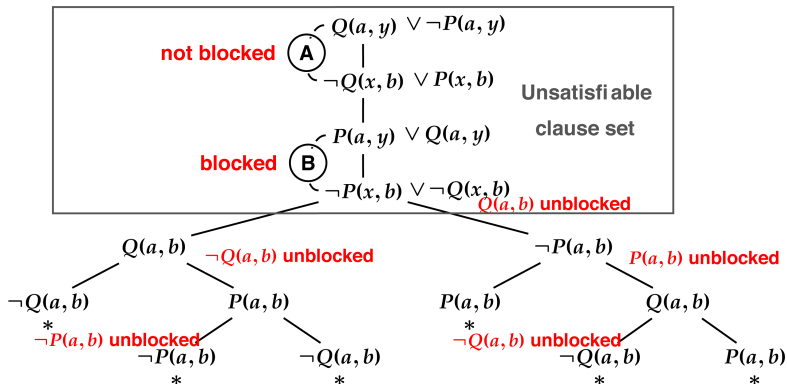
Cyclic Link Blocking Resolved

- We try again, this time with a blocking ordering



Cyclic Link Blocking Resolved

- We try again, this time with a blocking ordering



- Allowing link **A** to be applied, we initiate a series of blockings and unblockings that allow to refute the formula

The Basic Idea behind Completeness

- Completeness approach as in classical disconnection calculus:

saturated open tableau branch B^+

\implies

consistent path P^* through Herbrand set

- P^* path literal in each ground clause is determined by CM-matcher
- Tricky part: There exists a matched literal in each ground clause
- Partial order of CM dynamically evolving with the branch
- Acyclicity of blocking relation ensures that partial order exists

FDPLL/ME vs. DCTP - Conceptual Difference

FDPLL/ME and DCTP use propositional version of current branch to determine branch closure. But:

DCTP

- Branch is closed if it contains both $L \perp$ and $\bar{L} \perp$ (two clauses involved)
- Inference rule guided **syntactically**: find connection among branch literals
- **n -way branching** on literals of clause instance $L_1 \vee \dots \vee L_n$
Can simulate FDPLL/ME binary branching to some degree (folding up)
- Need to **keep clause instances along current branch**

FDPLL/ME

- Branch is closed if $\$$ -version falsifies some **single clause**
- Inference rule guided **semantically**: find falsified clause instance
- **Binary branching** on literals $L - \bar{L}$ taken from falsified clause instance
Can simulate n -way branching clause literals in ground case
- **Need not keep any clause instance**, but better cache certain subclauses (remainders) to support heuristics



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