

# Advanced Features of SAT Solvers

IA085: Satisfiability and Automated Reasoning

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- Conflict-Driven Clause Learning (CDCL): DPLL + clause learning + backjumping
- literal decision heuristics
- restarts

# Incremental SAT solving

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1. Call `solve( $\Phi$ )`.
2. Get the answer (+ possibly a model).
3. ???
4. Profit.

Some applications issue **incremental** queries:

1. Is  $\Phi_1$  satisfiable?
2. Is  $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2$  satisfiable?
3. Is  $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2 \cup \Phi_3$  satisfiable?
4. ...

## Examples

- symbolic execution
- planning

# Incremental Usage

Modern solvers support **incremental interface**:

1. **Add** clauses  $\Phi_1$ .
2. Call `solve()`.
3. Do something with the answer.
4. **Add** clauses  $\Phi_2$ .
5. Call `solve()`.
6. Do something with the answer.
7. **Add** clauses  $\Phi_3$ .
8. ...

Why is this better than calling `solve` for  $\Phi_1$ , for  $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2$ , for  $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2 \cup \Phi_3, \dots$ ?

# Solving Under Assumptions

What if we need to solve multiple queries that are not incremental, but differ in some literals?

- Is  $\Phi \wedge A$  satisfiable?
- Is  $\Phi \wedge \neg A \wedge B$  satisfiable?
- Is  $\Phi \wedge \neg B \wedge D \wedge E$  satisfiable?
- ...

## Examples

- planning (common constraints + individual goals)
- package dependencies (common constraints + individual queries for installed packages)

## Solving under assumptions (MiniSAT)

- Add clauses  $\Phi$ .
- Call `solve([A])` and do something with the result.
- Call `solve([¬A, B])` and do something with the result.
- Call `solve([¬B, D, E])` and do something with the result.
- ...

The calls to `solve()` reuse the learnt clauses!



## Solving under assumptions (CaDiCaL)

- Add clauses  $\Phi$ .
- Call `assume(A)`.
- Call `solve()` and do something with the result.
- Call `assume( $\neg$ A)` and `assume(B)`.
- Call `solve()` and do something with the result.
- Call `assume( $\neg$ B)` and `assume(D)` and `assume(E)`.
- Call `solve()` and do something with the result.
- ...

## Solving Under Assumptions: Implementation

`solve([l1, l2, ..., lk])`

- before the search, decide  $l_1, l_2, \dots, l_k$  on **dummy** decision levels **before decisions level 0**
- when backjumping before the real decision level 0, return UNSAT

### Nice bonus

- when UNSAT, a slight modification of clause learning (last UIP) can compute a conflict clause  $C = \neg\mu$  with  $\mu \subseteq \{l_1, l_2, \dots, l_k\}$
- identifies **failed assumptions** that contributed to the unsatisfiability

What if we need to vary additional **clauses**, not only literals?

- Is  $\Phi \wedge C_1$  satisfiable?
- Is  $\Phi \wedge C_2 \wedge C_3$  satisfiable?
- Is  $\Phi \wedge C_4$  satisfiable?
- ...

## Solution

- add a new **activation literal** to each clause that should be possible to disable

$$\Phi \wedge C_2 \wedge C_3 \rightsquigarrow \Phi \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee C_2) \wedge (\neg A_3 \vee C_3)$$

- use solving under assumptions to enable clauses
  - $\text{solve}([\neg A_2, \neg A_3]) \equiv$  is  $\Phi$  sat?
  - $\text{solve}([A_2, \neg A_3]) \equiv$  is  $\Phi \wedge C_2$  sat?
  - $\text{solve}([\neg A_2, A_3]) \equiv$  is  $\Phi \wedge C_3$  sat?
  - $\text{solve}([A_2, A_3]) \equiv$  is  $\Phi \wedge C_2 \wedge C_3$  sat?

## Proof generation

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## Facts

- SAT solvers are used in safety-critical systems
- SAT solvers are pieces of software
- all software has bugs

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## Solution

- besides SAT/UNSAT answer, produce an artifact that can be independently checked
- for SAT results = model
- for UNSAT results = **unsatisfiability proof**



## Recall

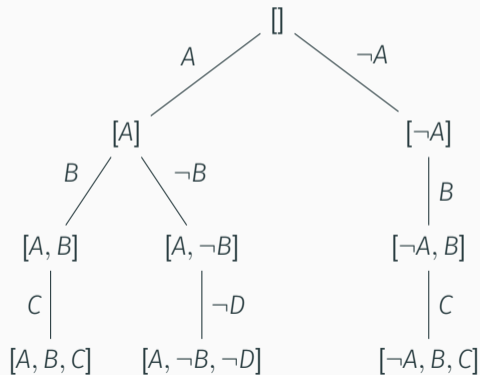
Each UNSAT run of DPLL corresponds to a **tree** resolution proof of unsatisfiability

## Algorithm

- conflicting clauses (leaves)  $\rightsquigarrow$  input clauses
- unit propagation steps  $\rightsquigarrow$  resolution with the clause that triggered the unit propagation
- decision nodes  $\rightsquigarrow$  resolution steps on the decided variable

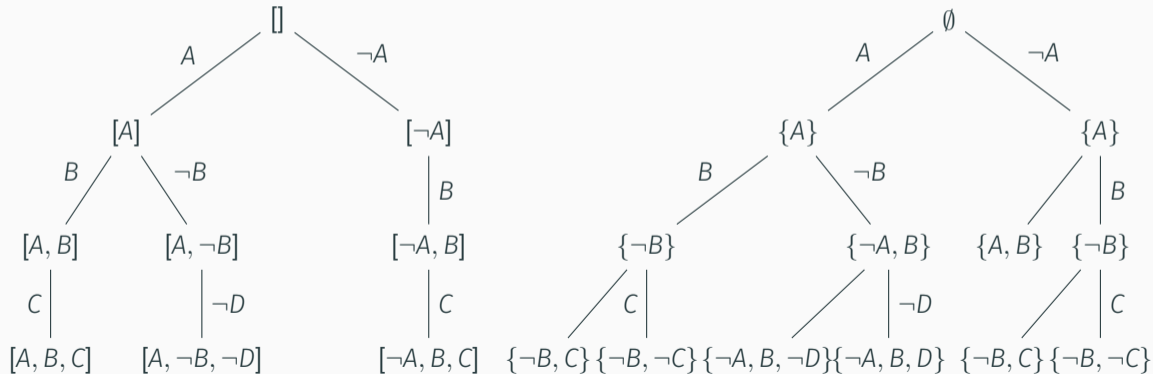
## Resolution Proof Generation from DPLL: Example

$\{\{A, B\}_1, \{\neg B, C\}_2, \{\neg B, \neg C\}_3, \{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\}_4, \{\neg A, B, \neg D\}_5, \{\neg A, B, D\}_6\}$



# Resolution Proof Generation from DPLL: Example

$\{\{A, B\}_1, \{\neg B, C\}_2, \{\neg B, \neg C\}_3, \{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\}_4, \{\neg A, B, \neg D\}_5, \{\neg A, B, D\}_6\}$



## CDCL observations

- the final conflict was achieved by backtracked literals and unit propagated literals (no decisions, why?)
- the final conflict is derived by unit propagation from input clauses and learnt clauses
- the final conflict can be obtained by resolving input clauses and learnt clauses
- each learnt clause was obtained by resolving input clauses and previous learnt clauses

## Algorithm

1. express the final conflict as resolution of input clauses and learnt clauses
2. while the proof contains a leaf that is a **learnt** clause, replace it by its resolution proof

## Practical considerations

- the solver needs to remember for each learnt clause its antecedent clauses from which it was obtained
- might require significant amount of memory and makes the solver more complex

For easier implementation: **clausal proofs**

- proof is a list of clauses
- each clause has to be entailed by **some** previous clauses (input or derived)
- SAT solver only outputs the learnt clauses during the search
- **proof checker** checks the entailment
- examples: DRUP, DRAT

# Clausal Proof Formats

$\{\{A, B\}_1, \{\neg B, C\}_2, \{\neg B, \neg C\}_3, \{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\}_4, \{\neg A, B, \neg D\}_5, \{\neg A, B, D\}_6\}$

DIMACS formula

```
p cnf 4 6
1 2 0
-2 3 0
-2 -3 0
-1 -2 -4 0
-1 2 -4 0
-1 2 4 0
```

Clausal proof

```
-2 0
1 0
-1 2 0
-1 0
0
```

## Reverse Unit Propagation (RUP)

$$\Phi \models (l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \dots \vee l_n) \iff \Phi \wedge \neg l_1 \wedge \neg l_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \neg l_n \models \perp$$

To check clause  $C = \{l_1, l_2, \dots, l_n\}$  using **reverse unit propagation (RUP)**

1. assign  $\neg l_1, \neg l_2, \dots, \neg l_n$
2. check that unit propagation produces a conflict

### Reverse Unit Propagation

- obviously not complete
- **sufficient for clauses learnt by CDCL**, because it learns clauses that were conflicting by unit propagation
- previous example was RUP proof



## Delete Reverse Unit Propagation (DRUP)

- proof checking of RUP requires checking large number of clauses
- some were actually deleted by the solver and are not needed for the proof anymore → express **deleting** (D) in the proof (DRUP)

DIMACS formula

```
p cnf 4 6
 1  2  0
-2  3  0
-2 -3  0
-1 -2 -4 0
-1  2 -4 0
-1  2  4 0
```

Clausal proof

```
-2 0
d -2 3 0
d -2 -3 0
 1 0
-1 2 0
-1 0
 0
```

# Clausal Proof Formats

Multiple clausal proof formats exist besides DRUP

- DRAT
- LRAT
- LPR
- ...

Most of them have efficient proof checkers (some even **formally verified**).

# Clausal Proof Formats

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Most of them have efficient proof checkers (some even **formally verified**).

## Challenge

- implement (D)RUP proof generation in your solver
- use e.g. DRAT-TRIM for proof checking  
(<https://www.cs.utexas.edu/~marijn/drat-trim/>)

## Unsatisfiable Cores

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# Unsatisfiable Cores

## Definition

For an unsatisfiable formula  $\Phi$  in CNF, its subset of clauses  $\Psi \subseteq \Phi$  is called **unsatisfiable core** if  $\Psi$  is unsatisfiable.

## Important

The set  $\Psi$  does **not** have to be minimal.

## Applications

- analysis of requirements
- package dependencies
- abstraction refinement

## Proof-based algorithm

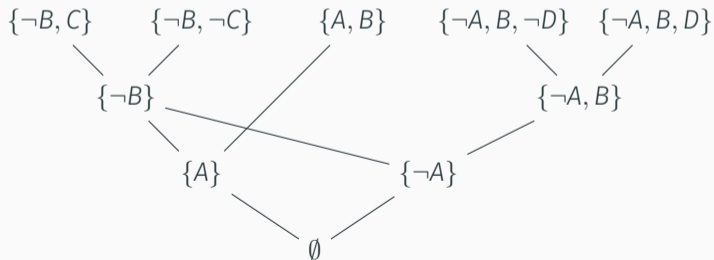
1. Compute a resolution proof of unsatisfiability of  $\Phi$ .
2. Return the set  $\Psi \subseteq \Phi$  of clauses that occur as leaves in the proof.

## Unsatisfiable Cores: Proof-based Algorithm

$\{\{A, B\}, \{D, \neg E\}, \{\neg B, C\}, \{\neg B, \neg C\}, \{B, \neg E, F\}, \{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\},$   
 $\{\neg A, \neg F\}, \{\neg A, B, \neg D\}, \{\neg E, \neg F\}, \{\neg A, B, D\}\}$

# Unsatisfiable Cores: Proof-based Algorithm

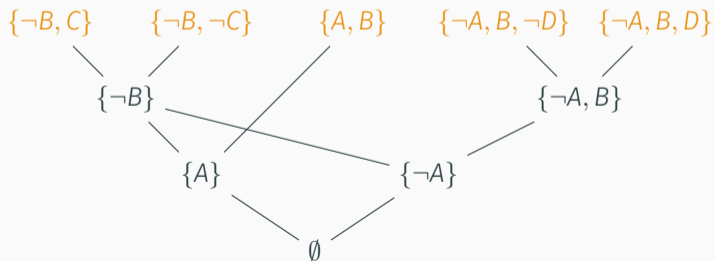
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 $\{\neg A, \neg F\}, \{\neg A, B, \neg D\}, \{\neg E, \neg F\}, \{\neg A, B, D\}$



## Assumption-based algorithm

1. Add a new activation literal  $\neg A_i$  to each clause  $C_i$  of  $\Phi$ .
2. Solve under assumptions `solve`( $[A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{|\Phi|}]$ ).
3. The result will be UNSAT.
4. The set  $F \subseteq \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{|\Phi|}\}$  of **failed assumption literals** corresponds to an unsatisfiable core of  $\Phi$ .

## Unsatisfiable Cores: Assumption-based Algorithm

$\{\{A, B\},$   
 $\{D, \neg E\},$   
 $\{\neg B, C\},$   
 $\{\neg B, \neg C\},$   
 $\{B, \neg E, F\},$   
 $\{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\},$   
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# Unsatisfiable Cores: Assumption-based Algorithm

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$\{D, \neg E\},$	$\{\neg A_2, D, \neg E\},$
$\{\neg B, C\},$	$\{\neg A_3, \neg B, C\},$
$\{\neg B, \neg C\},$	$\{\neg A_4, \neg B, \neg C\},$
$\{B, \neg E, F\},$	$\{\neg A_5, B, \neg E, F\},$
$\{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\},$	$\{\neg A_6, \neg A, \neg B, \neg D\},$
$\{\neg A, \neg F\},$	$\{\neg A_7, \neg A, \neg F\},$
$\{\neg A, B, \neg D\},$	$\{\neg A_8, \neg A, B, \neg D\},$
$\{\neg E, \neg F\},$	$\{\neg A_9, \neg E, \neg F\},$
$\{\neg A, B, D\}\}$	$\{\neg A_{10}, \neg A, B, D\}\}$

# Unsatisfiable Cores: Assumption-based Algorithm

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$\{B, \neg E, F\},$	$\{\neg A_5, B, \neg E, F\},$	$\text{solve}([A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{10}]) =$
$\{\neg A, \neg B, \neg D\},$	$\{\neg A_6, \neg A, \neg B, \neg D\},$	
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$\text{solve}([A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{10}]) = \text{UNSAT}$

# Unsatisfiable Cores: Assumption-based Algorithm

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$\text{solve}([A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{10}]) = \text{UNSAT}$

failed literals  $\{A_1, A_3, A_4, A_8, A_{10}\}$

# Unsatisfiable Cores: Assumption-based Algorithm

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$\{D, \neg E\},$

$\{\neg B, C\},$

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$\{B, \neg E, F\},$

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$\{\{\neg A_1, A, B\},$

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failed literals  $\{A_1, A_3, A_4, A_8, A_{10}\}$



# Interpolation

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## Definition (Craig Interpolant, 1957)

Given a pair of formulas  $(A, B)$  such that  $A \wedge B \models \perp$ , a **Craig interpolant** is a formula  $I$  such that

- $A \models I$
- $B \wedge I \models \perp$
- $Atoms(I) \subseteq Atoms(A) \cap Atoms(B)$

This is the definition used in formal methods, sometimes called **reverse Craig interpolant**.

## Craig Interpolants: Examples

$$A = A_1 \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee C_1) \wedge A_2 \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee C_2) \wedge C_3$$

$$B = (\neg C_1 \vee B_1) \wedge (\neg C_2 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge C_3$$

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$$A = A_1 \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee C_1 \vee C_3) \wedge A_2 \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee C_2 \vee C_3)$$

$$B = (\neg C_1 \vee B_1) \wedge (\neg C_2 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge \neg C_3$$

$$I = (C_1 \vee C_3) \wedge (C_2 \vee C_3)$$

## Craig Interpolants (alternative definition)

### Definition (Craig Interpolant: alternative)

Given a pair of formulas  $(A, B)$  such that  $A \models B$ , a **Craig interpolant** is a formula  $I$  such that

- $A \models I$
- $I \models B$
- $Atoms(I) \subseteq Atoms(A) \cap Atoms(B)$

The definitions are dual:  $(A, B)$  is a **reverse** Craig interpolant iff  $(A, \neg B)$  is a Craig interpolant in the above sense.

We discuss only reverse Craig interpolants from now on.

## Interpolants widely used in formal verification

- overapproximation of image
- computation of function summaries
- generalization of spurious counterexamples
- refinement of predicate abstraction
- ...



### Theorem (McMillan, 2003)

For every pair of propositional formulas  $(A, B)$  such that  $A \wedge B \models \perp$ , a Craig interpolant can be computed in *linear time with respect to the size of a resolution proof* of unsatisfiability of  $A \wedge B$ .

## Craig Interpolation: Existence and Size

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What does it say about the size of interpolant?

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What does it say about the size of interpolant?

What does it say about size with respect to  $|A| + |B|$ ?

## Computing Craig Interpolants

1. Get resolution proof of unsatisfiability of  $A \wedge B$ .
2. Label nodes of the proof by **preliminary interpolants**, starting from leaves.
3. The label of root of the proof is the Craig interpolant of  $(A, B)$ .

# Preliminary Interpolants

## Definition

A formula  $f$  is a **preliminary interpolant** of the resolution proof node  $C$  (written  $c[f]$ ) if

1.  $A \models f$
2.  $B \wedge f \models C$
3.  $Atoms(C) \subseteq Atoms(A) \cup Atoms(B)$
4.  $Atoms(f) \subseteq Atoms(A) \cap (Atoms(B) \cup Atoms(C))$

Preliminary interpolant  $f$  of the root  $C = \perp$  is the real Craig interpolant of  $(A, B)$ .

# Interpolation Algorithm

Leaves

$$\frac{}{C[C]} C \in A$$

$$\frac{}{C[\top]} C \in B$$

where  $\varphi|_l$  replaces all  $l$  in  $\varphi$  by  $\top$  and  $\neg l$  by  $\perp$

# Interpolation Algorithm

Leaves

$$\frac{}{C[C]} C \in A$$

$$\frac{}{C[\top]} C \in B$$

Inner nodes

$$\frac{(l \vee C) [f] \quad (\neg l \vee D) [g]}{(C \vee D) [\quad]} \text{var}(l) \in \text{Atoms}(B) \quad \frac{(l \vee C) [f] \quad (\neg l \vee D) [g]}{(C \vee D) [\quad]} \text{var}(l) \notin \text{Atoms}(B)$$

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# Interpolation Algorithm

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# Interpolation Algorithm

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where  $\varphi|_l$  replaces all  $l$  in  $\varphi$  by  $\top$  and  $\neg l$  by  $\perp$

## Interpolation Algorithm: Example

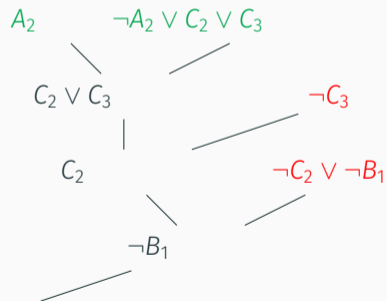
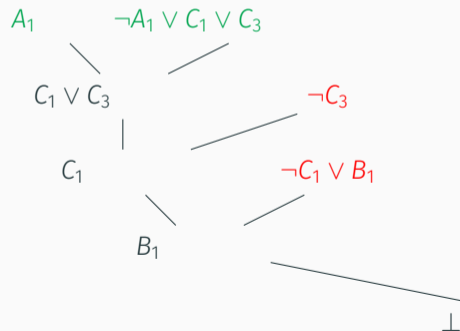
$$A = A_1 \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee C_1 \vee C_3) \wedge A_2 \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee C_2 \vee C_3)$$

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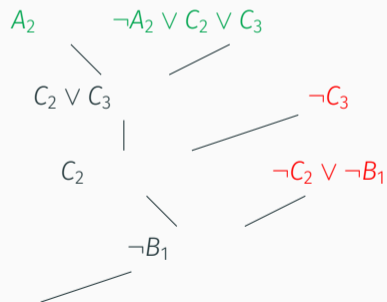
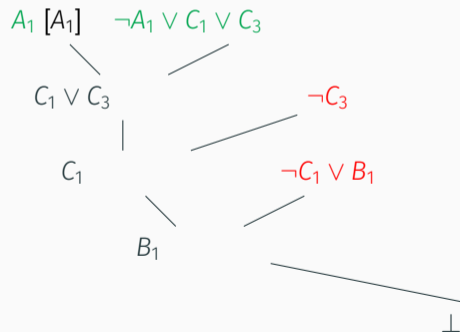
$$B = (\neg C_1 \vee B_1) \wedge (\neg C_2 \vee \neg B_1) \wedge \neg C_3$$



# Interpolation Algorithm: Example

$$A = A_1 \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee C_1 \vee C_3) \wedge A_2 \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee C_2 \vee C_3)$$

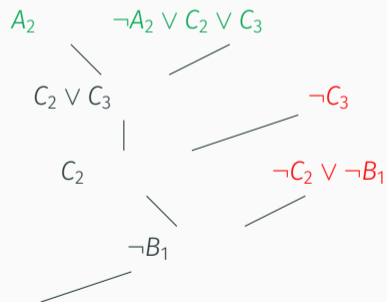
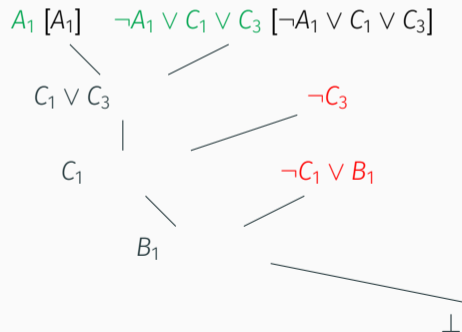
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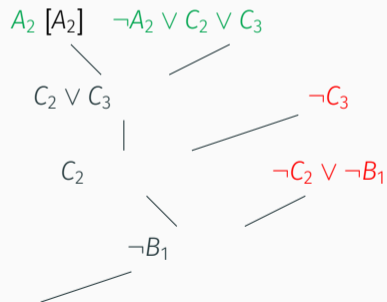
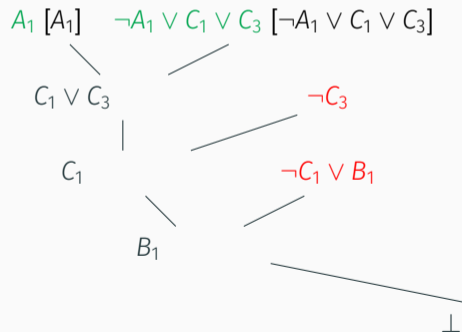
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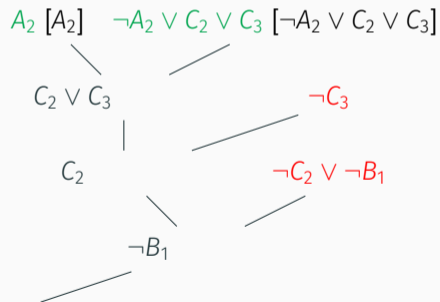
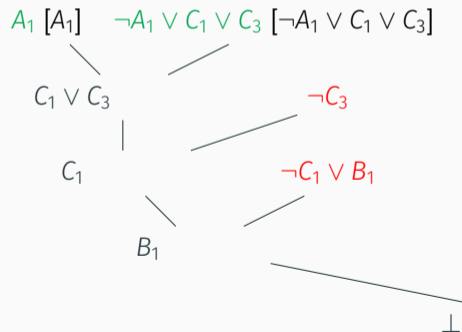
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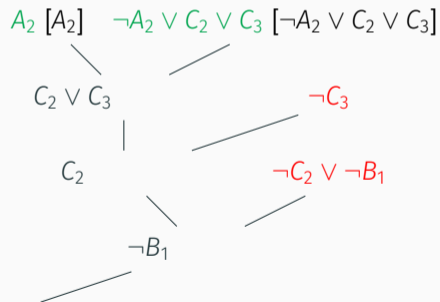
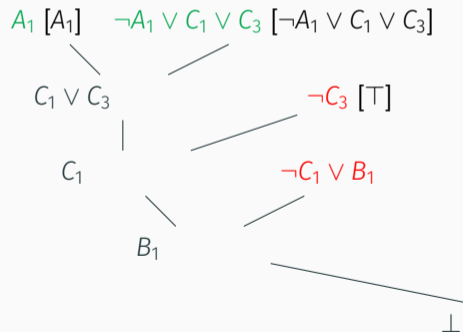
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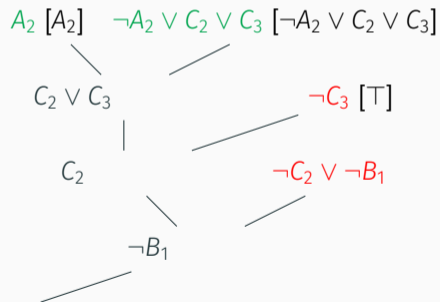
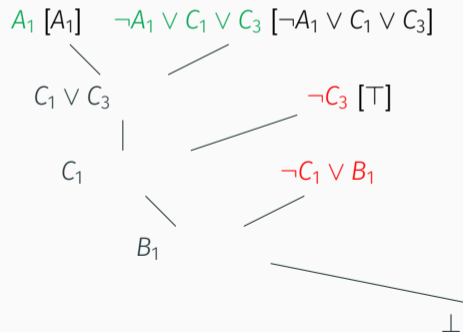




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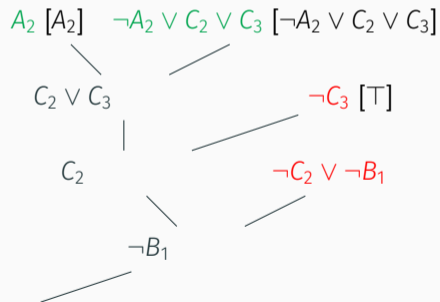
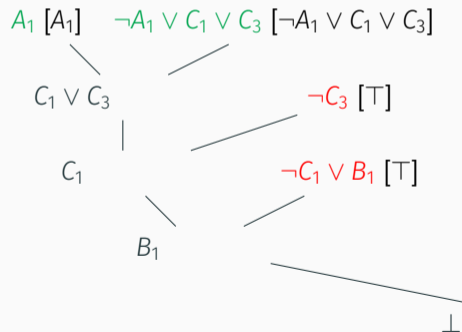
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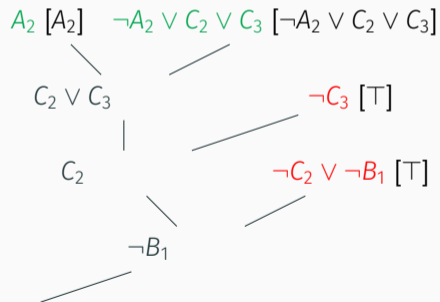
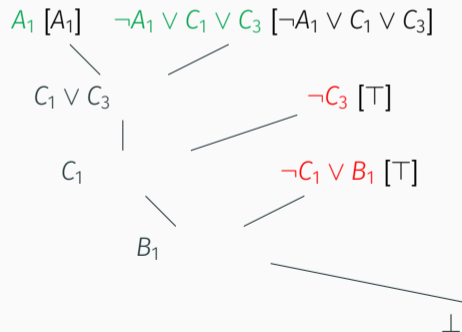
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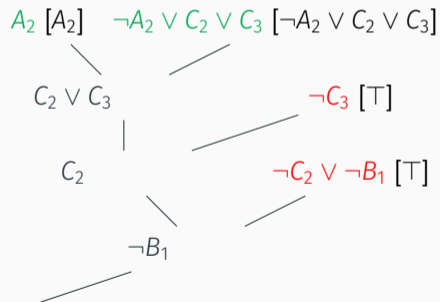
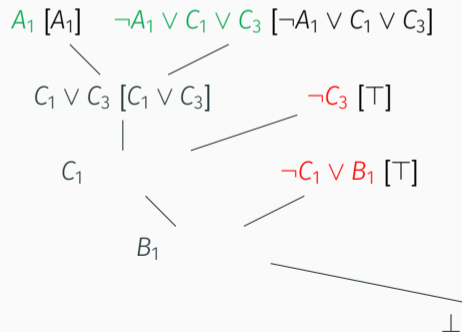
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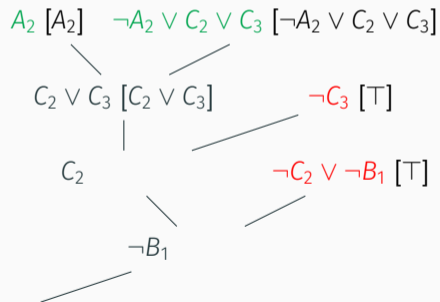
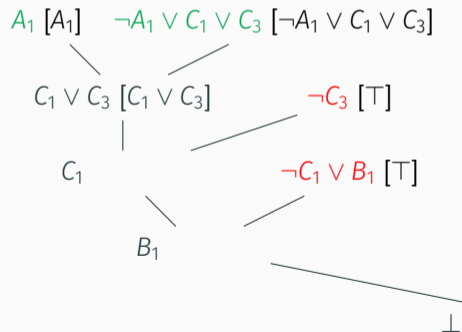
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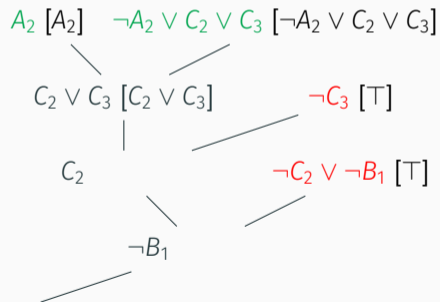
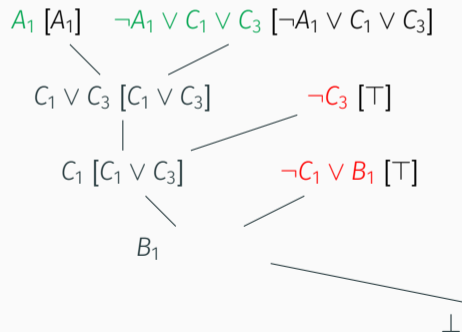
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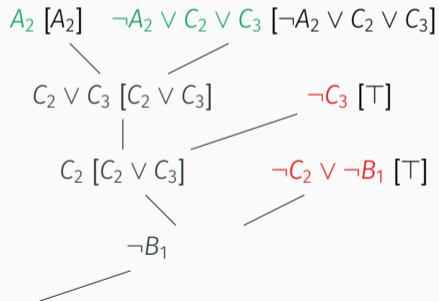
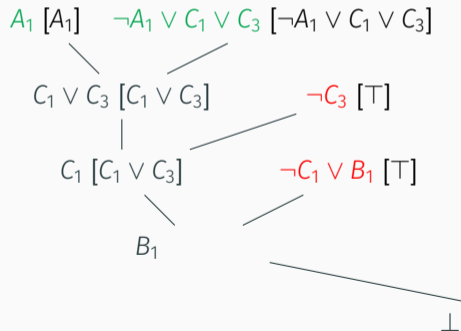
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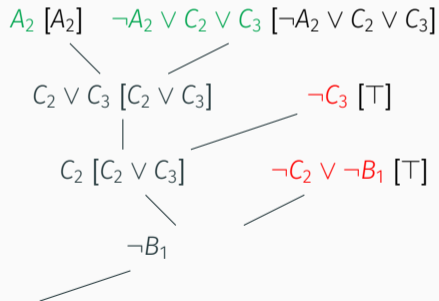
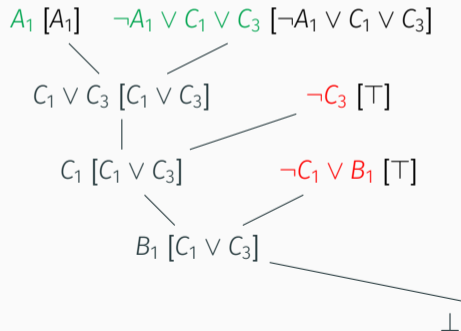
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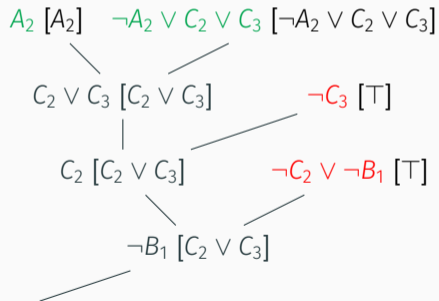
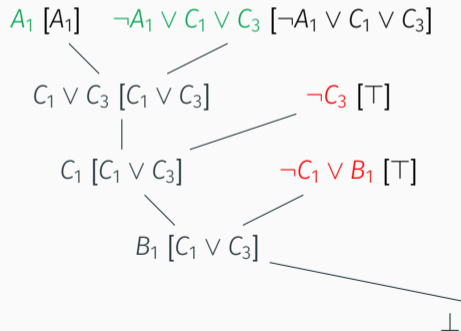




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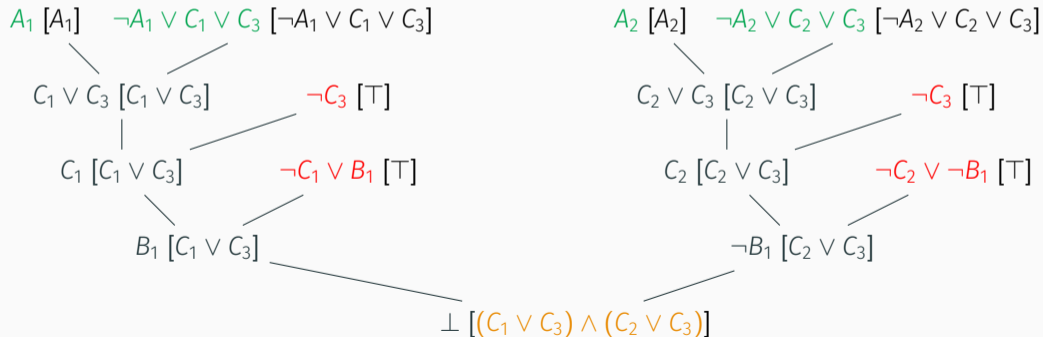
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# Interpolation Algorithm: Correctness

We can prove that

1. if

$$\overline{C [f]} ,$$

then  $f$  is a preliminary interpolant of  $C$

2. if

$$\frac{C [f] \quad D [g]}{E [h]}$$

and  $f$  is a preliminary interpolant of  $C$   
and  $g$  is preliminary interpolant of  $D$ ,  
then  $h$  is preliminary interpolant of  $E$

Where are we?

---

## Propositional satisfiability (SAT)

- $(A \vee \neg B) \wedge (\neg A \vee C)$
- is it satisfiable?
- ← YOU ARE STANDING HERE

## Satisfiability modulo theories (SMT)

- $x = 1 \wedge x = y + y \wedge y > 0$
- is it satisfiable over reals?
- is it satisfiable over integers?

## Automated theorem proving (ATP)

- axioms:  $\forall x (x + x = 0)$ ,  $\forall x \forall y (x + y = y + x)$
- do they imply  $\forall x \forall y ((x + y) + (y + x) = 0)$ ?

## We already know

- normal forms of propositional logic (CNF)
- efficient conversions (Tseitin encoding)
- resolution method and Davis-Putnam algorithm
- DPLL
- two watched literal scheme for unit propagation and conflict detection
- CDCL (clause learning and backjumping)
- literal decision heuristics, restarts
- incremental solving, proof generation, unsat core generation, interpolant generation

- first-order logic
- first-order theories
- satisfiability modulo theories (SMT)
- theories of interest (integer arithmetic, real arithmetic, uninterpreted functions, arrays, bit-vectors, ...)