SYMMETRY BREAKING FOR QUANTIFIED BOOLEAN FORMULAS



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Joint work with Martina Seidl (SAT'18)







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- Any such subgroup splits Σ into orbits
- All formulas in the orbit containing φ are equivalent to φ

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• Key fact: if G is a symmetry group for $\phi \in \Sigma$ and ψ is a symmetry breaker for G then ϕ has a solution if and only if $\phi \land \psi$ has a solution.

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{0,1}ⁿ

semantic

every $\sigma \in \{0,1\}^n$ is a solution of at least one formula in the orbit of ψ

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{every orbit of } \{0,1\}^n \\ \mbox{contains at least one} \\ \mbox{solution of } \psi \end{array}$

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5)$$

$$0 - 1 - 0 - 0 - 1$$

$$\phi(x_1, x_4, x_3, x_2, x_5)$$

$$\phi(x_1, x_4, \overline{x_3}, x_2, x_5)$$

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 Observe that we use a "syntactic" group but a "semantic" justification.

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- + $\psi = (x \rightarrow y) \wedge (y \rightarrow z)$ is a symmetry breaker for G
- Instead of solving ϕ , we can solve $\phi \wedge \psi$.

What about QBF?

$\exists x_1, x_2 \forall x_3, x_4 \exists x_5, x_6. \phi(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6)$






































 $\exists x_1, x_2 \forall x_3, x_4 \exists x_5, x_6, \phi(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6)$





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Given a quantifier prefix P, we write $\mathbb{S}(P)$ for the corresponding set of tree assignments.

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Semantic symmetries

- bijectively map tree assignments to tree assignments
- in principle no restrictions

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• Key fact: If G_{syn} is a syntactic symmetry group for P. ϕ and G_{sem} is a semantic symmetry group for P. ϕ and ψ is a symmetry breaker for G_{syn} and G_{sem} , then P. ϕ has a solution in $\mathbb{S}(P)$ if and only if P. $(\phi \land \psi)$ does.

What does permutation of variables mean semantically?

 $\exists x_1, x_2 \forall x_3, x_4 \exists x_5, x_6 : \phi(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6)$



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Unlike in SAT, there is no longer a 1:1 correspondence.

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• Then G_{sem} is called the associated group for G_{syn} .

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- Then

$$\psi = \bigwedge_{g \in G_{\text{syn}}} \bigwedge_{\substack{i=1 \\ Q_i = \exists}}^n \left(\bigwedge_{j < i} (x_j = g(x_j)) \to (x_i \leq g(x_i)) \right)$$

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• Observe that only G_{syn} appears in the formula. The group G_{sem} is only used for the justification.

Case study: the Kleine-Büning et al family

Solving times of DepQBF (in sec)				
	w/o	SB	with SB	
n	QRes	LD	QRes	LD
10	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4
20	160	0.5	0.4	0.4
40	> 3600	0.5	0.4	0.4
80	> 3600	0.7	0.4	0.4
160	> 3600	2.2	0.5	0.4
320	> 3600	12.3	0.6	0.5
640	> 3600	36.8	1.0	0.8
1280	> 3600	241.1	22.6	19.7
2560	> 3600	> 3600	215.7	155.2
5120	> 3600	> 3600	1873.2	1042.6

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In fact, we can show that there is a proof of size O(n) when a symmetry breaker is added.

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 ∃ x₁, x₂ ∀ x₃, x₄ ∃ x₅, x₆.φ(x₁, x₂, x₃, x₄, x₅, x₆)

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- $\psi\in\Sigma$ is a universal symmetry breaker for G_{syn}^\forall and G_{sem}^\forall if

$$\forall \ t \in \mathbb{S}_{\forall}(\mathsf{P}) \ \exists \ g_{\mathsf{syn}} {\in} \mathsf{G}_{\mathsf{syn}}^{\forall} \ \exists \ g_{\mathsf{sem}} {\in} \mathsf{G}_{\mathsf{sem}}^{\forall} : \left[\mathsf{P}.g_{\mathsf{syn}}(\psi)\right]_{g_{\mathsf{sem}}(t)} {=} \bot$$

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- Symmetry breakers as previously defined will now be called existential symmetry breakers
- ψ is an existential symmetry breaker iff ¬ψ is a universal symmetry breaker (w.r.t. suitably chosen groups)

• Let $\Phi = P.\phi$ be a QBF

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- Then

 $\begin{array}{rcl} \text{P.}\varphi \text{ is true } & \Longleftrightarrow & \text{P.}((\varphi \land \psi_\exists) \lor \psi_\forall) \text{ is true} \\ & \Longleftrightarrow & \text{P.}((\varphi \lor \psi_\forall) \land \psi_\exists) \text{ is true} \end{array}$

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- Existential and universal symmetry breakers can be applied simultaneously