# Abstraction-Based Algorithm for 2QBF 

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## Definition

Given: $\exists X \forall Y . \phi$, where $\phi$ is a propositional formula Question: Is there value vector $\nu$ such that $\forall Y . \phi[X / \nu]$ ?

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Example

$$
\exists x_{1}, x_{2} \forall y_{1}, y_{2} .\left(x_{1} \vee x_{2}\right) \Rightarrow\left(y_{1} \wedge y_{2}\right)
$$

solution: $x_{1}=0, x_{2}=0$

## Motivation

- $\Sigma_{2}^{P}, \Pi_{2}^{P}$ complete
- interesting problems in this class, e.g. propositional circumscription [Janota et al., 2010], AI [Remshagen and Truemper, 2005], LTS diameter [Mneimneh and Sakallah, 2003], MUS-membership [Janota and Marques-Silva, 2011]
- separate track at QBF Eval


## Looking at Valuations



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## Expanding into SAT

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\exists X \forall Y . \phi \longrightarrow \mathrm{SAT}\left(\bigwedge_{\mu \in \mathcal{B}^{|Y|}} \phi[Y / \mu]\right)
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\begin{gathered}
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\left(x_{1} \vee x_{2}\right) \Rightarrow(0 \wedge 0) \\
\wedge \quad\left(x_{1} \vee x_{2}\right) \Rightarrow(0 \wedge 1) \\
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\left(\mathrm{x}_{1} \vee \mathrm{x}_{2}\right) \Rightarrow(0 \wedge \mathbf{0}) \\
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- But not the other way around, a solution to an abstraction is not necessarily a solution to the original problem.


## CEGAR Loop

input : $\exists X \forall Y . \phi$
output: (true, $\nu$ ) if there exists $\nu$ s.t. $\forall Y \phi[X / \nu]$, (false, -) otherwise
$W \leftarrow \emptyset$
while true do

```
(outc
// find a candidate
if outc
return (false,-) // no candidate found
end
if \nu}\mathrm{ is a solution // solution check
then
return (true, }\nu
else
Grow W // refinement
end
```


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## Testing for Solution

A value $\nu$ is a solution to $\exists X \forall Y . \phi$ iff

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\forall Y . \phi[X / \nu] \text { iff UNSAT }(\neg \phi[X / \nu])
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Example
$\exists x_{1}, x_{2} \forall y_{1}, y_{2} .\left(x_{1} \vee x_{2}\right) \Rightarrow\left(y_{1} \wedge y_{2}\right)$

- candidate: $x_{1}=1, x_{2}=0$
- counterexamples: $y_{1}=0, y_{2}=0$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& y_{1}=0, y_{2}=1 \\
& y_{1}=1, y_{2}=0
\end{aligned}
$$

## Refinement



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## Refinement



## The Algorithm

input : $\exists X \forall Y . \phi$
output: (true, $\nu$ ) if there exists $\nu$ s.t. $\forall Y \phi[X / \nu]$, (false, -) otherwise
$\omega \leftarrow 1$
while true do
 end

## Properties of Refinement



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## Consequences of Refinement

- No candidate for counterexample appears more than once, therefore the upper bound on the number of iterations is:

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\min \left(2^{|X|}, 2^{|Y|}\right)
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- Heuristic: look for such counterexamples that are also counterexamples to many other candidates, look for $\mu$ s.t.

$$
\neg \phi[X / \nu] \wedge \max \left(\left|\left\{\nu^{\prime} \mid \neg \phi\left[X / \nu^{\prime}, Y / \mu\right]\right\}\right|\right)
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## Why the Choice of Counterexamples Matters?

- Consider an invalid QBF and nightmare vs. jackpot scenarios.



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## Results

|  | struqs | QuBE7.1 | qbf2circ | AReQS | AReQS-H |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2qbf 10 pre (114) | 30 | 93 | 37 | $\mathbf{1 0 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 1}$ |
| circ pre (117) | 6 | 113 | 117 | $\mathbf{1 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 7}$ |
| icore pre (140) | 30 | 23 | 33 | $\mathbf{6 2}$ | $\mathbf{6 2}$ |
| robots pre $(999)$ | 516 | 921 | 647 | 974 | $\mathbf{9 7 5}$ |
| noprepro $(232)$ | 15 | 47 | 18 | 51 | $\mathbf{5 5}$ |
| total (1602) | 597 | 1197 | 852 | 1305 | $\mathbf{1 3 1 0}$ |

## Results QuBE/AReQS-H



## Results AReQS/AReQS-H



## Results AReQS/AReQS-H Iterations

number of iterations of the CEGAR loop


## Conclusions

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- It is to be expected that the algorithm will work well for formulas where counterexamples takes out many candidates.
- A QCNF implementation of the algorithm consistently outperforms current solvers.

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