ON Q-RESOLUTION AND CDCL QBF SOLVING

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long-distance Q-resolution [Balabanov and Jiang, 2012] enables tautologous resolvents in *some cases*.

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$\forall u \exists e. \, (u \lor \neg e) \land (u \lor e)$



























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• Propagation + UIP Learning via Q-Resolution

 $\exists x_1 \dots x_n \forall z \exists y_1, \dots, y_m. \phi_{hard}[X] \land \phi_{easy}[z, Y]$

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- If $\phi_{hard}[X]$ is hard to refute (e.g. Pigeon-hole) but $\phi_{easy}[z, Y]$ is easy to refute, Q-Resolution defeats CDCL QBF Solving.
- Formulas are independent.
- The solver never assigns Y variables.
- Several ways how to deal with this issue.

LOOKING FOR INTRINSICALLY HARD PROBLEMS: IDEA

• Consider a formula $\exists \mathcal{X} \forall z \exists \mathcal{L} . \phi[\mathcal{X}, z, \mathcal{L}]$ such that proofs are exponential if they start on \mathcal{L} first.

LOOKING FOR INTRINSICALLY HARD PROBLEMS: IDEA

- Consider a formula $\exists \mathcal{X} \forall z \exists \mathcal{L} . \phi[\mathcal{X}, z, \mathcal{L}]$ such that proofs are exponential if they start on \mathcal{L} first.
- \cdot Prove that a DPLL-based solver resolves on ${\cal L}$ first.

<i>a</i> ₁	• • •	<i>a</i> ₁	• • •	a _N	• • •	a _N
<i>b</i> ₁	• • •	b _N	• • •	<i>b</i> ₁	• • •	b _N

a ₁	• • •	<i>a</i> ₁	• • •	a _N	• • •	a _N
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• $\mathcal{X} = x_{11} \dots x_{nn}$

a ₁	• • •	a ₁	• • •	a _N	• • •	a _N
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- $\mathcal{X} = x_{11} \dots x_{nn}$
- $\mathcal{L} = a_1 \dots a_n, b_1 \dots b_n$

a ₁	• • •	a ₁	• • •	a _N	• • •	a _N
<i>b</i> ₁	• • •	b _N	• • •	<i>b</i> ₁	• • •	b _N

- $\mathcal{X} = x_{11} \dots x_{nn}$
- $\mathcal{L} = a_1 \dots a_n, b_1 \dots b_n$
- $\cdot \exists \mathcal{X} \forall z \exists \mathcal{L}$

$$x_{ij} \lor z \lor a_i, i, j \in 1..n$$
$$\neg x_{ij} \lor \neg z \lor b_j, i, j \in 1..n$$
$$\bigvee_{i \in 1..n} \neg a_i$$
$$\bigvee_{i \in 1..n} \neg b_i$$

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- Even stronger: deriving a unit clause under such condition is already hard.
- Before a unit clause is learned, there is no propagation across levels, i.e. *L* variables are given a value only after all *X* variables are given a value.
- Derivations of the first unit clause is always by resolving $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{L}}$ first.

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n	CDCL	CDCL + SDCL	CDCL + SDCL – pure lits.
4	101	101	101
5	1081	1081	751
6	19611	19611	3531
7	370811	370811	36411
8	> 9995451	> 10000981	5464551
9	> 10612011	> 10619361	> 931211
10	> 10303551	> 10313901	> 8608251

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

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- Is the formula really hard for solution + conflict learning?

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- Is the formula really hard for solution + conflict learning?
- Other methods in solving to break the order?

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Thank You for Your Attention!

Questions?

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