

# SMT Solving: Combined Theories

Shaowei Cai

Institute of Software, Chinese Academy of Sciences  
Constraint Solving (2022. Autumn)



# Reminders: theories and signatures

- A first-order theory  $T$  is defined by the following components.
  1. Its **signature**  $\Sigma$  is a set of constant, function, and predicate symbols.
  2. Its set of **axioms**  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set of closed FOL formulae in which only constant, function, and predicate symbols of  $\Sigma$  appear.
- A  $\Sigma$ -formula is constructed from constant, function, and predicate symbols of  $\Sigma$ , as well as variables, logical connectives, and quantifiers.

# Reminders: T-satisfiability

- Given a FOL formula  $F$  and interpretation  $I: (D_I, \alpha_I)$ , we want to compute if  $F$  evaluates to true under interpretation  $I$ ,  $I \models F$ , or if  $F$  evaluates to false under interpretation  $I$ ,  $I \not\models F$ .
- T – interpretation: an interpretation satisfying  $I \models A$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ .
- A  $\Sigma$ -formula  $F$  is **satisfiable** in  $T$ , or **T-satisfiable**, if there is a T-interpretation  $I$  that satisfies  $F$ .

# Combining Theories

- We know how to decide EUF and Linear Integer Arithmetic :

$$\text{EUF: } (x_1 = x_2) \vee \neg (f(x_2) = x_3) \wedge \dots$$

$$\text{LIA: } 3x_1 + 5x_2 \geq 2x_3 \wedge x_2 \leq 4x_4 \dots$$

- What about a **combined** formula ?

$$(x_2 \geq x_1) \wedge (x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2) \wedge (x_3 \geq 0) \wedge f(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \neq f(x_3)$$

# The Theory-Combination problem

- Given theories  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  with signatures  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$ , the **combined theory**  $T_1 \oplus T_2$ 
  - has signature  $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$  and
  - the union of their axioms.
- Let  $F$  be a  $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$ -formula.
- **The problem:** Does  $T_1 \oplus T_2 \models F$  ?

# The Theory-Combination problem

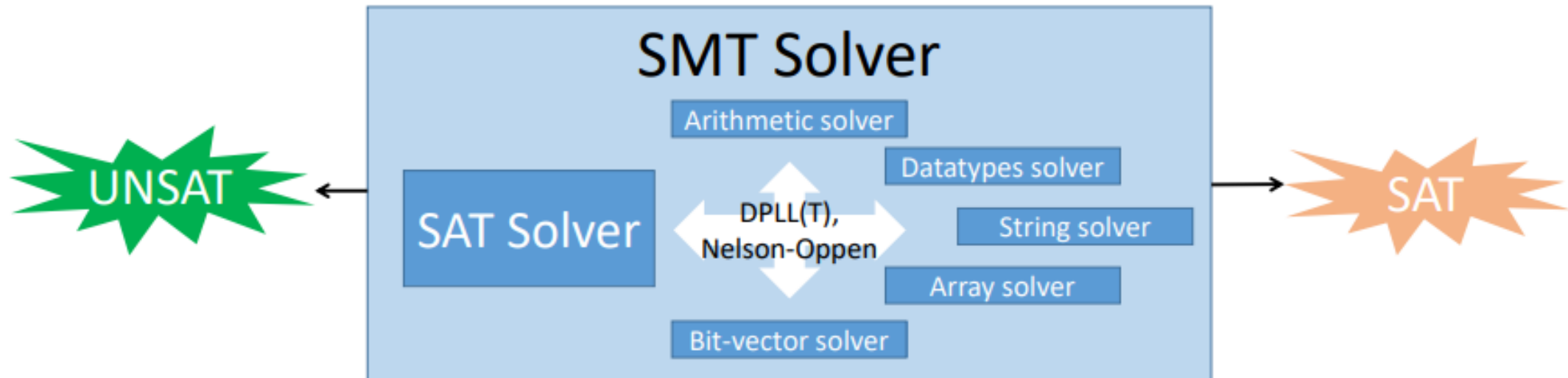
- The Theory-Combination problem is **undecidable** (even when the individual theories are decidable).
- Under **certain restrictions**, it becomes decidable.
- We will assume the following restrictions:
  - $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are **decidable, quantifier-free first-order theories with equality**;
  - Disjoint signatures (except =):  $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2 = \{=\}$  ;
  - $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are **stably infinite** (we will discuss this later).

# The Theory-Combination problem

- We can **reduce** all theories to a common logic (e.g. Propositional Logic).
- But here, we focus on the Nelson-Oppen method
  - **Combine decision procedures** of the individual theories.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Greg Nelson and Derek Oppen, *simplification by cooperating decision procedures*, 1979

# The Nelson-Oppen method

By utilizing DPLL(T), when deciding combined theories, we can focus on **conjunctive fragments**.





# The Nelson-Oppen method

**Step1: Purification:** validity-preserving transformation of the formula after which predicates from different theories are not mixed.

Continue replacing a **minimal “alien”** expression  $e$  by a fresh variable  $a$  and add  $a = e$  until no more “alien” expressions.

E.g. Transform  $x_1 \leq f(x_1)$   
..into  $x_1 \leq a_1 \wedge a_1 = f(x_1)$

# The Nelson-Oppen method

**Step1: Purification:** validity-preserving transformation of the formula after which predicates from different theories are not mixed.

$$x_2 \geq x_1 \wedge x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2 \wedge x_3 \geq 0 \wedge f(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \neq f(x_3)$$



$$x_2 \geq x_1 \wedge x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2 \wedge x_3 \geq 0 \wedge f(a) \neq f(x_3) \wedge a = f(x_1) - f(x_2)$$



$$x_2 \geq x_1 \wedge x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2 \wedge x_3 \geq 0 \wedge f(a) \neq f(x_3) \\ \wedge a = a_1 - a_2 \wedge a_1 = f(x_1) \wedge a_2 = f(x_2)$$

# The Nelson-Oppen method

- After purification we are left with several sets of pure expressions  $F_1 \dots F_n$ :
  - $F_i$  belongs to some 'pure' theory which we can decide.
  - Shared variables are allowed.
  - $\phi$  is satisfiable  $\leftrightarrow F_1 \wedge \dots \wedge F_n$  is satisfiable

$$x_2 \geq x_1 \wedge x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2 \wedge x_3 \geq 0 \wedge f(a) \neq f(x_3) \\ \wedge a = a_1 - a_2 \wedge a_1 = f(x_1) \wedge a_2 = f(x_2)$$



$$\phi_1: \quad x_2 \geq x_1 \wedge x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2 \wedge x_3 \geq 0 \wedge a = a_1 - a_2 \\ \wedge \\ \phi_2: \quad f(a) \neq f(x_3) \wedge a_1 = f(x_1) \wedge a_2 = f(x_2)$$

# The Nelson-Oppen method: A Basic Algorithm

1. Purify  $\phi$  into  $F_1 \wedge \dots \wedge F_n$
2. If  $\exists i, F_i$  is unsatisfiable, return 'unsatisfiable'.
3. If  $\exists i, j. F_i$  implies an equality not implied by  $F_j$ , add it to  $F_j$  and goto step 2.
4. Return 'satisfiable'.

The algorithm runs in **polynomial time**, if the conjunctive fragments of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  can be decided in polynomial time.

# Example

$$(x_2 \geq x_1) \wedge (x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2) \wedge (x_3 \geq 0) \wedge f(f(x_1) - f(x_2)) \neq f(x_3)$$

• Purification:

$$F_1: \quad x_2 \geq x_1 \wedge x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2 \wedge x_3 \geq 0 \wedge a = a_1 - a_2$$

$\wedge$

$$F_2: \quad f(a) \neq f(x_3) \wedge a_1 = f(x_1) \wedge a_2 = f(x_2)$$

# Example

Arithmetic	EUF
$x_2 \geq x_1$ $x_1 - x_3 \geq x_2$ $x_3 \geq 0$ $a_1 = a_2 - a_3$ <div data-bbox="642 721 845 806" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 5px;"><math>x_3 = 0</math></div> <div data-bbox="626 825 851 911" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 5px;"><math>x_1 = x_2</math></div> $a_2 = a_3$ <div data-bbox="626 1029 833 1115" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 5px;"><math>a_1 = 0</math></div>	$f(a_1) \neq f(x_3)$ $a_2 = f(x_1)$ $a_3 = f(x_2)$ $x_3 = 0$ $x_1 = x_2$ <div data-bbox="1195 929 1416 1015" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 5px;"><math>a_2 = a_3</math></div> $a_1 = 0$ <div data-bbox="1200 1172 1370 1258" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 5px;">False</div>

# Wait, it's not so simple...

- Consider:  $\varphi: 1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 2 \wedge p(x) \wedge \neg p(1) \wedge \neg p(2)$   
 $x \in \mathbb{Z}$

Arithmetic over $\mathbb{Z}$	Uninterpreted predicates
$1 \leq x$ $x \leq 2$	$p(x)$ $\neg p(1)$ $p(2)$

- Neither theories imply an equality, and both are satisfiable.
- But  $\phi$  is unsatisfiable!

# Convexity of Theories

- Definition: A  $\Sigma$ -theory  $T$  is *convex* if for every *conjunctive*  $\Sigma$ -formula  $F$ ,

$$F \rightarrow \bigvee_{i=1..n} x_i = y_i, \text{ for some } n > 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$F \rightarrow x_i = y_i, \text{ for some } i \in \{1..n\}$$

where  $x_i, y_i$  are some  $T$  variables.

- *Convex*: Linear Arithmetic over  $\mathbb{R}$ , EUF
- *Non-convex*: Almost anything else...



# Convexity of Theories: examples

Linear arithmetic over  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not convex.

For example, while

$$x_1 = 1 \wedge x_2 = 2 \wedge 1 \leq x_3 \wedge x_3 \leq 2 \Rightarrow (x_3 = x_1 \vee x_3 = x_2)$$

holds, neither

$$x_1 = 1 \wedge x_2 = 2 \wedge 1 \leq x_3 \wedge x_3 \leq 2 \Rightarrow x_3 = x_1$$

nor

$$x_1 = 1 \wedge x_2 = 2 \wedge 1 \leq x_3 \wedge x_3 \leq 2 \Rightarrow x_3 = x_2$$

holds

# LRA is Convex

Definition: A  $\Sigma$ -theory  $T$  is *convex* if for every conjunctive  $\Sigma$ -formula  $F$ ,

$$F \rightarrow \bigvee_{i=1..n} x_i = y_i, \text{ for some } n > 1 \Rightarrow F \rightarrow x_i = y_i, \text{ for some } i \in \{1..n\}$$

Denote  $G: \bigvee_{i=1..n} x_i = y_i$

**Intuition:** let us view an assignment of all variables as a point.

$S(F)$ : the set of points satisfying  $F$ ;  $S(G)$  similarly.

$F \rightarrow G$  means, if a point is in  $S(F)$ , then it is also in  $S(G)$ .

## Intuition:

F cannot be covered by any disjunction of equalities, no matter how many, if no single equality covers F.

A polyhedron F cannot be covered by a finite disjunction of planes unless at least one of the planes is F itself.

# LRA is Convex

Proof idea:

- F is a **conjunction** of linear rational equations/inequations.  $\Rightarrow$  F is convex.
- Suppose  $F \rightarrow G$ , but for no  $i \in \{1..n\}$  does  $F \rightarrow x_i = y_i$ , we will prove that then F is not convex. This leads to a contradiction.

# LRA is Convex

Proof:

- Each equality  $x_i = y_i$  is convex: for an equality  $x=y$ , if two points  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  satisfies the equality, then for any  $\lambda \in (0,1)$ ,  $\lambda\vec{u} + (1 - \lambda)\vec{v}$  also satisfies the equality.
- But the disjunction  $G$  is not convex (e.g.  $H: x = y \vee x = z$ , the points  $(0,0,1)$  and  $(1,0,1)$  are in the set of points satisfying  $H$ , denoted as  $S(H)$ , but  $\frac{1}{2}(0,0,1) + \frac{1}{2}(1,0,1) = (\frac{1}{2}, 0, 1)$  is not in  $S(H)$ ).
- Indeed,  $S(G)$  consists of  $S_{x_i=y_i}$  for each equation  $x_i = y_i$ .

# LRA is Convex

- Suppose, then, that  $F \rightarrow G : \bigvee_{i=1..n} x_i = y_i$ , but for no  $i \in \{1..n\}$  does  $F \rightarrow x_i = y_i$ .
- Then there must be two points  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  in  $S(F)$ , they are in separate subsets of  $S(G)$ .
  - otherwise, if all points are in the same subset, that means all points satisfy the same equality,  $F \rightarrow x_i = y_i$  for some  $i$ .
- By the arguments above, the points on the line segment between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are not in  $S(G)$  and thus not in  $S(F)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow F$  is not convex.

This leads to a contradiction.

# So why is convexity important ?

- Recall:  $\varphi: 1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 2 \wedge p(x) \wedge \neg p(1) \wedge \neg p(2)$   
 $x \in \mathbb{Z}$

Arithmetic over $\mathbb{Z}$	Uninterpreted predicates
$1 \leq x$ $x \leq 2$	$p(x)$ $\neg p(1)$ $p(2)$

- Neither theories imply an equality, and both are satisfiable.

# Propagate Disjunction for Non-Convex Theories

- But:  $1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 2$  imply the disjunction  $x = 1 \vee x = 2$
- Since the theory is non-convex we cannot propagate either  $x = 1$  or  $x = 2$ .
- We can only propagate the disjunction itself.



# Propagate Disjunction for Non-Convex Theories

- Propagate the disjunction and perform case-splitting.

Arithmetic over $\mathbb{Z}$	Uninterpreted predicates				
$1 \leq x$ $x \leq 2$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"><math>x = 1 \vee x = 2</math></div>	$p(x)$ $\neg p(1) \wedge \neg p(2)$ $x = 1 \vee x = 2$ <i>Split!</i> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"><tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 0 10px;"><math>\langle \cdot \rangle \wedge x = 1</math></td><td><math>\langle \cdot \rangle \wedge x = 2</math></td></tr><tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 0 10px;">False</td><td>False</td></tr></table>	$\langle \cdot \rangle \wedge x = 1$	$\langle \cdot \rangle \wedge x = 2$	False	False
$\langle \cdot \rangle \wedge x = 1$	$\langle \cdot \rangle \wedge x = 2$				
False	False				

# The Nelson-Oppen Method: the Full Algorithm

1. Purify  $\phi$  into  $\phi'$ :  $F_1 \wedge \dots \wedge F_n$
2. If  $\exists i, F_i$  is unsatisfiable, return 'unsatisfiable'.
3. If  $\exists i, j. F_i$  implies an equality not implied by  $F_j$ , add it to  $F_j$  and goto step 2.
4. If  $\exists i, F_i \rightarrow (x_1 = y_1 \vee \dots \vee x_k = y_k)$  but  $\exists j F_j \not\rightarrow x_j = y_j$ , apply recursively to  $\phi' \wedge x_1 = y_1, \dots, \phi' \wedge x_k = y_k$ . If any of them is satisfiable, return 'satisfiable'. Otherwise return 'unsatisfiable'.
5. Return 'satisfiable'.

The algorithm runs in **exponential time**, even if the conjunctive fragments of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  can be decided in polynomial time.

# Why the theories need to be Stably Infinite?

Example.

- $T_1 : \Sigma_1 = \{f, =\}$ , axioms enforce solutions with at most two distinct values.
- $T_2 : \Sigma_2 = \{g, =\}$ , axioms...

$f$  and  $g$  are function symbols.

- The combined theory  $T_1 \oplus T_2$  contains the union of the axioms, and thus, the solution to any formula  $\phi \in T_1 \oplus T_2$  cannot have more than two distinct values.

Consider this formula:  $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2) \wedge g(x_1) \neq g(x_3) \wedge g(x_2) \neq g(x_3)$

No equalities are propagated, and the algorithm returns Satisfiable. **Error!**

In fact, the formula is unsatisfiable, because any assignment satisfying it must use three different values for  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ .

$F_1$ (a $\Sigma_1$ -formula)	$F_2$ (a $\Sigma_2$ -formula)
$f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$	$g(x_1) \neq g(x_3)$ $g(x_2) \neq g(x_3)$

# Stably Infinite Theories

A  $\Sigma$  -theory is stably infinite if every satisfiable formula has a model with an **infinite domain**.

Examples of Stably infinite theories

- LIA and LRA: Linear integer arithmetic, Linear real arithmetic
- EUF: Equality logic with uninterpreted functions

Examples of non-stably infinite theories

- $\Sigma = \{a, b, =\}$  axiom:  $\forall x. x = a \vee x = b$
- Theory of fixed width bit vectors: BV

There are extensions of Nelson-Oppen method that can handle non-stably infinite theories.

[C. Tinelli and C. Zarba. Combining non-stably infinite theories.](#)

[Journal of Automated Reasoning, 34\(3\):209{238, 2005.](#)

# Nelson-Oppen Method: Nondeterministic Version

- In practice, Nelson-Oppen method is based on the deterministic method we just described.
- There is a nondeterministic version, which is easier to understand and to prove the correctness.
  - The purification phase is the same.
  - For the equality propagation phase, the nondeterministic version adopts a guess-and-check favor, instead of the construction favor in the deterministic version.

# Nelson-Oppen Method: Nondeterministic Version

Purification phase separates  $(\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2)$ -formula  $F$  into two formulas,  $\Sigma_1$ -formula  $F_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$ -formula  $F_2$ .

$F_1$  and  $F_2$  are linked by a set of shared variables.

- Let  $V = \text{shared}(F_1, F_2) = \text{free}(F_1) \cap \text{free}(F_2)$
- Let  $E$  be an equivalence relation over  $\text{shared}(F_1, F_2)$ .
- The **arrangement**  $\alpha(V, E)$  of  $V$  induced by  $E$  is the formula:

$$\alpha(V, E) : \bigwedge_{u, v \in V. uEv} u = v \wedge \bigwedge_{u, v \in V. \neg(uEv)} u \neq v$$

$F$  is  $T_1 \oplus T_2$ -satisfiable iff there exists an equivalence relation  $E$  of  $V$  such that  $F_1 \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_1$ -satisfiable, and  $F_2 \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_2$ -satisfiable.

# Nelson-Oppen Method: Nondeterministic Version

We can check the equivalence relation over  $V$ , one by one

- Once an equivalence relation  $E$  makes  $F_1 \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  be  $T_1$ -satisfiable and  $F_2 \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  be  $T_2$ -satisfiable, then we show that  $F$  is satisfiable
- If all the equivalence relations over  $V$  have been checked and failed, then  $F$  is unsatisfiable.

# Example

Example

$$F: 1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 2 \wedge f(x) \neq f(1) \wedge f(x) \neq f(2)$$

The purification phase separates it into a  $\Sigma_{\mathbb{Z}}$ -formula  $F_1$  and a  $\Sigma_{EUF}$ -formula  $F_2$ .

$$F_1: 1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 2 \wedge w_1 = 1 \wedge w_2 = 2$$

$$F_2: f(x) \neq f(w_1) \wedge f(x) \neq f(w_2)$$

$$\text{Then, } V = \text{shared}(F_1, F_2) = \{x, w_1, w_2\}$$



# Example

- There are 5 equivalence relations to consider:

1.  $\{\{x, w_1, w_2\}\}$ , *i.e.*,  $x = w_1 = w_2$ :  $F_E \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_E$ -unsatisfiable because it cannot be the case that both  $x = w_1$  and  $f(x) \neq f(w_1)$ .
2.  $\{\{x, w_1\}, \{w_2\}\}$ , *i.e.*,  $x = w_1, x \neq w_2$ :  $F_E \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_E$ -unsatisfiable because it cannot be the case that both  $x = w_1$  and  $f(x) \neq f(w_1)$ .
3.  $\{\{x, w_2\}, \{w_1\}\}$ , *i.e.*,  $x = w_2, x \neq w_1$ :  $F_E \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_E$ -unsatisfiable because it cannot be the case that both  $x = w_2$  and  $f(x) \neq f(w_2)$ .
4.  $\{\{x\}, \{w_1, w_2\}\}$ , *i.e.*,  $x \neq w_1, w_1 = w_2$ :  $F_Z \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_Z$ -unsatisfiable because it cannot be the case that both  $w_1 = w_2$  and  $w_1 = 1 \wedge w_2 = 2$ .
5.  $\{\{x\}, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}\}$ , *i.e.*,  $x \neq w_1, x \neq w_2, w_1 \neq w_2$ :  $F_Z \wedge \alpha(V, E)$  is  $T_Z$ -unsatisfiable because it cannot be the case that both  $x \neq w_1 \wedge x \neq w_2$  and  $x = w_1 = 1 \vee x = w_2 = 2$  (since  $1 \leq x \leq 2$  implies that  $x = 1 \vee x = 2$  in  $T_Z$ ).

Hence,  $F$  is  $(T_E \cup T_Z)$ -unsatisfiable. ■

# Nelson-Oppen Method: Nondeterministic Version

- Phase 2 is formulated as “guess and check”: first, guess an equivalence relation  $E$ , then check the induced arrangement.
- Unfortunately, the number of equivalence relations is given by the sequence of Bell numbers, which grows super-exponentially.
  - For example, just 12 shared variables induce over four million equivalence relations.
- However, there is no need to guess the entire equivalence relation at once; instead, construct it incrementally.

# Correctness of the Nelson-Oppen Method

- We reason at the level of arrangements, which is more suited to the nondeterministic version of the method.
- However, we have shown how to construct an arrangement in the deterministic version, so the proof can be extended to the deterministic version.
- We assume the purification phase is correct.

# Correctness of the Nelson-Oppen Method

## Theorem (Sound & Complete of Nelson-Oppen).

Consider stably infinite theories  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  such that  $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2 = \{=\}$ .

For conjunctive quantifier-free  $\Sigma_1$ -formula  $F_1$  and conjunctive quantifier-free  $\Sigma_2$ -formula  $F_2$ ,  $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -satisfiable iff

there exists an arrangement  $K = \alpha(\text{shared}(F_1, F_2), E)$  such that  $F_1 \wedge K$  is  $T_1$ -satisfiable and  $F_2 \wedge K$  is  $T_2$ -satisfiable.

# Proof of Soundness

Soundness is straightforward.

- Suppose that  $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -satisfiable with a satisfying  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -interpretation  $I$ .
- Extract from  $I$  the equivalence relation  $E$  such that the arrangement  $K = \alpha(V = \text{shared}(F_1, F_2), E)$  is satisfied by  $I$ .
- Then  $F_1 \wedge K$  and  $F_2 \wedge K$  are both satisfied by  $I$ , which can be viewed as both a  $T_1$  - interpretation and a  $T_2$  - interpretation, so that they are  $T_1$ -satisfiable and  $T_2$  -satisfiable, respectively.
- In other words, if the N.O. returns unsatisfiable, then  $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is unsatisfiable.

# Proof of Completeness

- Let  $K = \alpha(V = \text{shared}(F_1, F_2), E)$  be an arrangement such that  $F_1 \wedge K$  is  $T_1$ -satisfiable and  $F_2 \wedge K$  is  $T_2$ -satisfiable. We want to prove that,  $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -satisfiable.

Proof sketch:

- We suppose that  $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -unsatisfiable, and derive a contradiction.

- $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -unsatisfiable  $\Rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow \neg F_2$

- Using Craig Interpolation Lemma, we show that

there is a quantifier-free formula  $H$ , such that  $F_1 \rightarrow H$  over all infinite  $T_1$ -interpretations, and  $H \rightarrow \neg F_2$ , equally  $F_2 \rightarrow \neg H$ , over all infinite  $T_2$ -interpretations.

- We then show that  $K \rightarrow H$ , which means  $F_2 \rightarrow \neg K$  over all infinite  $T_2$ -interpretations.

- In other words, no infinite  $T_2$ -interpretation satisfies  $F_2 \wedge K$ .

- But, if  $T_2$  is stably infinite and  $F_2 \wedge K$  is  $T_2$ -satisfiable as assumed, then  $F_2 \wedge K$  is satisfied by some infinite  $T_2$ -interpretation, a contradiction.

Compactness Theorem. A countable set of first-order formulae  $S$  is simultaneously satisfiable iff the conjunction of every finite subset is satisfiable.

- Let  $S_1$  be conjunction of a finite subset of axioms of  $T_1$  and  $S_2$  a conjunction of a finite subset of axioms of  $T_2$ . Choose  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to include the axioms that imply reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity of equality.
- Since  $F_1 \wedge F_2$  is  $(T_1 \oplus T_2)$ -unsatisfiable, the Compactness Theorem tells us  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \wedge S_2 \wedge F_2$  is unsatisfiable.
- Then, rearranging, we have  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \Rightarrow \neg S_2 \vee \neg F_2$  (a)

## Craig Interpolation Lemma

If  $\phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2$ , then there exists a formula  $H$  such that  $\phi_1 \rightarrow H$  and  $H \rightarrow \phi_2$ , and each free variable, function symbol, and predicate symbol of  $H$  appears in  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .

- Using Craig Interpolation Lemma, according to (a), there exists an interpolant  $H'$  such that  $\text{free}(H') = \text{shared}(F_1, F_2)$  and  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \Rightarrow H'$  and  $S_2 \wedge H' \Rightarrow \neg F_2$  (b)

(The latter implication is derived by rearranging  $H' \Rightarrow \neg S_2 \vee \neg F_2$ )

- Because  $=$  is the only predicate or function shared between  $S_1 \wedge F_1$  and  $S_2 \wedge F_2$ ,  $H'$  is of a special form: its atoms are equalities between variables of  $\text{shared}(F_1, F_2)$ .

- 
- However,  $H'$  may have quantifiers.
  - We prove next that in fact a “weak” quantifier free interpolant  $H$  exists.



- What is “weakly equivalent”?
- We define  $\Rightarrow^*$  as a weaker form of implication:  $F \Rightarrow^* G$  iff  $G$  is true on every interpretation  $I$  that has an infinite domain and that satisfies  $F$ .
- Similarly, weaken  $\Leftrightarrow$  to  $\Leftrightarrow^*$ .
- If  $F \Rightarrow^* G$ , we say that  $F$  weakly implies  $G$ ;
- if  $F \Leftrightarrow^* G$ , we say that  $F$  is weakly equivalent to  $G$ .
- **Note:** since we are considering only stably infinite theories, we need only consider interpretations with infinite domains. We can extend a  $T_1$ - or  $T_2$ -interpretation with a finite domain to a  $T_1$ - or  $T_2$ -interpretation with an infinite domain.

**Lemma (Weak Quantifier Elimination for Pure Equality).** Consider any stably infinite theory  $T$  with equality. For each pure equality formula  $F$ , there exists a quantifier-free pure equality formula  $F'$  such that  $F$  is weakly  $T$ -equivalent to  $F'$ .

*Proof.* Consider pure equality formula  $\exists x. G[x, \bar{y}]$ , where  $G$  is quantifier-free with free variables  $x$  and  $\bar{y}$ . Define

$$G_0 : G\{x = x \mapsto \text{true}, x = y_1 \mapsto \text{false}, \dots, x = y_n \mapsto \text{false}\}$$

and, for  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,

$$G_i : G\{x \mapsto y_i\} .$$

We claim that  $\exists x. G$  is weakly  $T$ -equivalent to

$$G' : G_0 \vee G_1 \vee \dots \vee G_n .$$

For  $G'$  asserts that  $x$  is either equal to some free variable  $y_i$  or not. Because we consider only interpretations with infinite domains, it is always possible for  $x$  not to equal any  $y_i$ .

It is weak because equivalence is only guaranteed to hold on infinite interpretations.

- By Lemma(Weak Quantifier Elimination for Pure Equality), according to (b), we claim that there exists a quantifier-free pure equality formula  $H$  over  $\text{shared}(F_1, F_2)$  such that

$$S_1 \wedge F_1 \Rightarrow^* H \text{ and } S_2 \wedge H \Rightarrow^* \neg F_2$$

Next step:

- Recall from the beginning of the proof that  $F_1 \wedge K$  is  $T_1$ -satisfiable and  $F_2 \wedge K$  is  $T_2$ -satisfiable, where  $K = \alpha(V = \text{shared}(F_1, F_2), E)$  is an arrangement.
- Thus,  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \wedge K$  and  $S_2 \wedge F_2 \wedge K$
- Moreover, as  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are stably infinite, each of these formulae has an interpretation with an infinite domain.

Now, let's look at  $K$ .

- We know  $K$  is a conjunction of equalities and disequalities between pairs of variables of  $\text{shared}(F_1, F_2)$ .
- Now, we construct the formula  $K'$  by conjoining additional equality literals:
  - for each pair of variables  $u, v \in \text{shared}(F_1, F_2)$ , conjoin either  $u = v$  or  $u \neq v$ , depending on which maintains the satisfiability of  $K'$  in a theory with equality.
- Since  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \wedge K$  is satisfiable, then so is  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \wedge K'$ , indeed by the same interpretations

We claim that the DNF representation of  $H$  must include  $K'$  or a (conjunctive) subformula of  $K'$  as a disjunct.

- Suppose not; then every disjunct of the DNF representation of  $H$  contradicts the satisfying interpretations of  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \wedge K'$ . But we know at least one interpretation satisfies  $S_1 \wedge F_1 \wedge K'$ .
  
- So,  $K' \Rightarrow H$ , and because  $K$  and  $K'$  are equivalent in a theory with equality, thus  $K \Rightarrow H$ .

$$S_2 \wedge H \Rightarrow^* \neg F_2$$

Rearranging,

$$S_2 \wedge F_2 \Rightarrow^* \neg H$$

From  $K \Rightarrow H$ , we have  $\neg H \Rightarrow \neg K$ , so

$$S_2 \wedge F_2 \Rightarrow^* \neg K$$

- But this weak implication contradicts that  $S_2 \wedge F_2 \wedge K$  is satisfied by some infinite interpretation.

Proof finished  $\square$

- The Nelson-Oppen method is correct.

**Thank you!**