The MERGESAT Solver

Norbert Manthey



July 2021

Outline

- Motivation
- ► MERGESAT
- ► Usage and Performance
- Summary



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SAT Solver – Evolution with Dependencies

Year	Top Solver	Inc.	IPASIR
2020	RELAXED_LCMDCBDL_NEWTECH	×	×
2019	MapleLCMDiscChronoBT-DL-v3	×	×
2018	Maple_LCM_Dist_ChronoBT	×	×
2017	Maple LCM Dist	×	×
2016	MapleCOMSPS	×	×
2015	COMINISATPS	×	×
2009	Glucose	√	√
2003	MiniSat	\checkmark	✓

Evolution focusses on competition requirements Applications might have other requirements.



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Motivation

SAT solvers evolve via competitions

- Typically, next years winner is based on last years winner
- ► There are many more solvers in the previous year
- Innovation in other solvers are likely lost
- Bugfixes in older solvers are not propagated



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MERGESAT addresses some of the issues

MergeSat

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2020	MapleLCMDistChronoBT-f2trc	×	×
2020	Maple-LCM-Dist-alluip-trail	×	×
2019	MapleLCMDiscChronoBT-DL-v3	\times	\times
2018	Maple_LCM_Dist_ChronoBT	\times	×
2016	Riss	$\sqrt{}$	\checkmark
2016	Kiel	$\sqrt{}$	×
2011	RESTARTSAT	$\sqrt{}$	×
2011	Moussaka	\times	×

Merge features, using GIT and CLANG-FORMAT

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MERGESAT - Merged Features

Year	Feature Merged From
2018-2020	MergeSat
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2020	also simplify core-learnt clauses
2020	re-use trail after backjumping
2019	de-duplicate smaller clauses
2018	chronological backtracking
2016	reverse LCM, prefetching, initialization, limits
2016	linear resolution and subsumption in simplification
2011	partial restarts
2011	assign all assumptions at level 1

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MergeSat – Bugs and Generalizations

- ► Resource Leak in Low Memory (since MINISAT)
 - realloc error not handled correctly
- Cyclic Search in Chronological Backtracking
 - breaking cycle by modifying watch list is not sufficient
- ► Unsound SAT with heuristic switch (since MAPLESAT)
 - some literals might not be re-added to heap when switching
- Extend trail reusing to cope with chronological backtracking
 - combination requires special case handling



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Main Application

- There is no main applications
- Features have not been tuned
 - No relevance analysis
 - ► Tune it for yours, e.g. via SMAC
- Used as backend
 - in MaxSAT solvers
 - in CBMC
 - ▶ in HORDESAT

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Sequential Performance

Solver	sol	PAR2	$sol_{ op}$	sol_\perp	Inc.	IPASIR
Kissat	253	1215K	131	122	×	×
Cadical	237	1362K	127	110	\checkmark	\checkmark
MERGESAT	248	1278K	142	106	✓	✓
R_LCMDCBDL_NT	243	1279K	147	96	×	×
MLCDBT-DL-F2TRC	206	1566K	102	104	×	×

2020 Competition Benchmark, 7200s timeout

Thanks to TU Dresden for providing HPC cluster



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- Combines different interests
 - latest solving features (and a script to add more)
 - competitive performance
 - configurable to adapt to new application
 - continuous test infrastructure
 - MINISAT interface and IPASIR
 - parses compressed formulas for most types

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 - continuous test infrastructure
 - MINISAT interface and IPASIR
 - parses compressed formulas for most types
- Consume or extend or test or use MIT license

Sequential: https://github.com/conp-solutions/mergesat

Parallel: https://github.com/conp-solutions/hordesat