

# Algorithms For Error Localization On Numeric Constraints

(extended version)

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# Context

## ➤ Input

- Some imperative program with *numeric statements* (over integers or floating-point numbers)
- *An assertion* to be checked
- *A counter-example* that violates the assertion

➤ **Output** : *information on locations of potentially faulty statements*

# Goal

- Provide helpful information for error localization on numeric constraint systems
- Two categories of information
  - *How much of an unsatisfiable constraint set can be satisfied ?*
    - MaxSAT, Max CSP, MaxFS
  - *Where in the constraint set the “problem” lies ?*
    - Irreducible / Irredundant Infeasible / Inconsistent Subsystems (**IIS**), Minimal Unsatisfiable Core (**MUC**)

# Definitions

- **MUS** Minimal Unsatisfiable Subset  
*aka* Irreducible Inconsistent Subsystem (IIS)  
 $M \subseteq C$  is a MUS  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is UNSAT and  $\forall c \in M : M \setminus \{c\}$  is SAT
- **MSS** Maximal Satisfiable Subset  
a generalization of MaxSAT / MaxFS considering maximality instead of maximum cardinality  
 $M \subseteq C$  is a MSS  $\Leftrightarrow M$  is SAT and  $\forall c \in C \setminus M : M \cup \{c\}$  is UNSAT
- **MCS** Minimal Correction Set  
the complement of some MSS: removal yields a satisfiable MSS (it “corrects” the infeasibility)  
 $M \subseteq C$  is a MCS  $\Leftrightarrow C \setminus M$  is SAT and  $\forall c \in M : (C \setminus M) \cup \{c\}$  is UNSAT

# Generic Algorithms

- ***Irreducible infeasible subset (IIS)*** or ***MUS***, (Chinneck - 2008), ***Deletion Filter*** (Chinneck et Dravnieks – 1991), ***Additive Method*** (Tamiz et al -1996), ***Additive Deletion Method*** ( Guieu et Chinneck -1999 ), ***The Elastic filter***
- ***Irreducible Conflict Sets (MUS) QUICKXPLAIN*** : Divide-and-Conquer for Explanations (Junker-2004)
- ***All MCS / MUS***
  - ***Finding Multiple all MUSes***: (Liffiton & Sakallah-2008);
  - Enhancements :
    - MCS : adaptation of QUICKXPLAIN : ***FastDiag*** & Enhanced FastDiag (Felfernig et al -2012, Silva et al- 2013)
    - MUSes: ***Marco Polo - Finding Multiple MUSes Quickly*** (Liffiton & Malik -2013)

# Irreducible infeasible subset (IIS)

*« An irreducible infeasible subset (IIS) of the constraints, is a (small) subset of constraints that is itself infeasible, but becomes feasible if one or more constraints is removed » (Chinneck - 2008)*

- Used in global optimization /operational research
- Correspond to **MUS (Minimal Unsatisfiable Subset)** used in SAT
- Many algorithms:
  - **Deletion filter, Additive method, Additive/Deletion method**
  - **The Elastic filter**
  - Deletion filtering for inequality-constrained QCQP
  - Additive/deletion method for MIPs
  - Deletion filter for NLPs
  - Heuristic for MIN IIS COVER
  - All IIS of LP (based on the construction of a polytope using the simplex method)
  - ...

# The Deletion Filter

Chinneck and Dravnieks (1991)

**INPUT:** an infeasible set of constraints

FOR each constraint in the set:

1. Temporarily drop the constraint from the set
2. Test the feasibility of the reduced set:  
IF feasible THEN return dropped constraint to the set  
ELSE (infeasible) drop the constraint permanently

**OUTPUT:** constraints constituting *a single IIS*

## Remarks

- *The only constraints retained in the set are those whose removal renders the set feasible*
- *Efficiency improvement: dynamic reordering*

# The Additive Method Tamiz et al. (1995, 1996)

*Opposite of the the deletion filter: starting with an empty set of constraints, constraints are added until infeasibility is triggered*

**C:** ordered set of constraints in the infeasible model

**T:** the current test set of constraints **I:** the set of IIS members identified so far

**INPUT:** an infeasible set of constraints **C**

0.  $T \leftarrow \emptyset, I \leftarrow \emptyset$

1.  $T \leftarrow I$

**FOR each** constraint  $c_i$  in **C** :

$T \leftarrow T \cup c_i$

**IF**  $T$  infeasible **THEN**  $I \leftarrow I \cup c_i$

Go to Step 2.

2. **IF**  $I$  feasible **THEN** go to Step 1

**Exit**

**OUTPUT:**  $I$ , a single IIS



# The Additive Method - Example

```
INPUT: an infeasible set of constraints C
0.  T ← ∅, I ← ∅
1.  T ← I
    FOR each constraint ci in C :
        T ← T ∪ ci
        IF T infeasible THEN I ← I ∪ ci
        Go to Step 2.
2.  IF I feasible THEN go to Step 1
    Exit
OUTPUT: I, a single IIS
```

Consider an IIS {B,F,D} embedded in {A,B,C,D,E,F}.

The members of the IIS are **shown** in boldface:

1. {A}, {A,**B**}, {A,**B**,C}, {A,**B**,C,**D**}, {A,**B**,C,**D**,E} all feasible.
2. {A,**B**,C,**D**,E,**F**} infeasible:  $I = \{\mathbf{F}\}$  is feasible.
3. {**F**,A}, {**F**,A,**B**}, {**F**,A,B,C} all feasible.
4. {**F**,A,**B**,C,**D**} infeasible:  $I = \{\mathbf{F},\mathbf{D}\}$  is feasible.
5. {**F**,**D**,A} feasible.
6. {**F**,**D**,A,**B**} infeasible:  $I = \{\mathbf{F},\mathbf{D},\mathbf{B}\}$  is infeasible. Stop.
7. Output: the IIS {F,B,D}

# The Elastic Filter – Linear constraints (1)

- **LP solvers**
  - Adding *nonnegative artificial variables* ( $s_i$ ) to all inequality constraints
  - LP Phase 1 minimizes  $W = \sum s_i$ , via standard LP: If  $W^* \neq 0$ , no solution exists
- **Elastic Filter:** *nonnegative artificial variables* ( $s_i$ ) are added to all equality and  $\geq$  constraints
  - so a solution always exists in the space of the original plus artificial variables, but not in the space of just the original variables
  - If  $W^* \neq 0$  then at least one of  $s_i$  cannot be forced to zero: the corresponding constraint remains violated in the original variable space
- Rules for adding elastic variables are as follows:

non-elastic constraint	elastic version
$\sum_j a_{ij} x_j \geq b_i$	$\sum_j a_{ij} x_j + s_i \geq b_i$
$\sum_j a_{ij} x_j \leq b_i$	$\sum_j a_{ij} x_j - s_i \leq b_i$
$\sum_j a_{ij} x_j = b_i$	$\sum_j a_{ij} x_j + s'_i - s''_i = b_i$

# The Elastic Filter – Linear constraints (2)

*Intuition: remove elastic variable until the system becomes inconsistent*

**INPUT:** an infeasible set of constraints

1. Make all constraints elastic by incorporating nonnegative elastic variables  $s_i$
2. Solve the model using the elastic objective function

3. IF feasible THEN

- Enforce the constraints in which any  $s_i > 0$  by permanently removing their elastic variable(s)
- Go to step 2

ELSE (infeasible)

Exit

**OUTPUT:** the set of de-elasticized enforced constraints contains at least one IIS

# The Elastic Filter – Linear constraints (3)

**INPUT:** an infeasible set of constraints

1. Make all constraints elastic by incorporating nonnegative elastic variables  $s_i$
2. Solve the model using the elastic objective function

3. IF feasible THEN

- Enforce the constraints in which any  $s_i > 0$  by permanently removing their elastic variable(s)
- Go to step 2

ELSE (infeasible) Exit

**OUTPUT:** the set of de-elasticized enforced constraints contains at least one IIS

Consider the example in which the IIS {B,D,F} appears in the set of constraints {A,B,C,D,E,F,G}

Assume that the solver stretches just one constraint in the IIS at each iteration. The members of the IIS are shown in boldface and elasticized constraints are underscored:

1. {A,**B**,C,**D**,E,**F**,G} is feasible, B stretches, so is de-elasticized
2. {A,**B**,C,D,E,**F**,G} is feasible, F stretches, so is de-elasticized
3. {A,**B**,C,D,E,**F**,G} is feasible, D stretches, so is de-elasticized
4. {A,**B**,C,**D**,E,**F**,G} is infeasible
5. Output: the set {**B,F,D**}

**Number of iteration** : at most the size of the smallest IIS in the input set

# Speed-ups

- Combining the Additive Method and the Deletion Filter
- Treating Constraints in Groups
- The depth first binary search filter

# Combining the Additive Method and the Deletion Filter (Guieu and Chinneck 1999)

*Run the additive method until infeasibility is first detected and then change to the deletion filter to obtain a **Minimal Unsatisfiable Subset***

C: ordered set of constraints in the infeasible model, T: test set of constraints

**INPUT:** an infeasible set of constraints C

0. Set  $T = \emptyset$
1. FOR each constraint  $c_i$  in C:
  - Set  $T = T \cup c_i$
  - IF T infeasible THEN go to Step 2
2. FOR each constraint  $t_i$  to  $t_{|T|-1}$  in T:
  - Temporarily drop the constraint  $t_i$
  - Test the feasibility of the reduced set:
    - IF feasible THEN return dropped constraint to T
    - ELSE (infeasible)  $T \leftarrow T \setminus t_i$

**OUTPUT:** T is an IIS

# QUICKXPLAIN: overview (1)

- Computes *Preferred conflict set / Preferred relaxation*
- *Generic method* for CP, SAT, or DL (description logic) solver :  
Assumes only monotonic satisfiability property: *if  $S$  is a solution of a set of constraints  $C$  then it is also a solution of all subsets  $C_i$  of  $C$*
- *Divide-and-Conquer* strategy

# QUICKXPLAIN: overview (2)

- **Input** :  $P = (\mathcal{B}, C, \prec)$ 
  - $B$  : Background /mandatory constraints
  - $\prec$  : total order on set of constraints  $C$   
 $c_1 \prec c_2$  iff constraint  $c_1$  is preferred to  $c_2$
- **Output** :
  - *Preferred conflict set* of  $P$  : MUS (Minimal Unsatisfiable Subset )
  - *Preferred relaxation* of  $P$  : MSS (Maximal Satisfiable Subset)



# QUICKXPLAIN : Preferred relaxations & Conflicts

- $R \subseteq C$  is a **relaxation** of  $P = (\mathcal{B}, C)$  iff  $\mathcal{B} \cup R$  holds
  - A relaxation  $R$  of  $P = (\mathcal{B}, C, \prec)$  is a **preferred relaxation** of  $P$  iff there is no other relaxation  $R^*$  of  $P$  s.t.  $R^* \prec_{\text{lex}} R$
  - If  $\prec$  is a strict total order and  $\mathcal{B}$  is consistent, then  $P$  has a unique preferred relaxation
  - *No preferences : maximal relaxations  $\equiv$  preferred relaxations*
- A subset  $C$  of  $C$  is a **conflict** of a problem  $P = (\mathcal{B}, C)$  iff  $\mathcal{B} \cup C$  has no solution
  - A conflict  $C$  of  $P = (\mathcal{B}, C, \prec)$  is a **preferred conflict** of  $P$  iff there is no other conflict  $C^*$  of  $P$  s.t.  $C^* \prec_{\text{antilex}} C$
  - A **preferred conflict**  $C$  is minimal (irreducible) meaning that each proper subset of  $C$  has a solution.

# QUICKXPLAIN : constructive definitions

## Preferred relaxation of P

Elements of C are enumerated in increasing order  $c_1, \dots, c_n$

$$R_0 := \emptyset \text{ and}$$
$$R_i = \begin{cases} R_{i-1} \cup \{c_i\} & \text{if } B \cup R_{i-1} \cup \{c_i\} \text{ has a solution} \\ R_{i-1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Preferred conflict

constructed in the reverse order:  $C_n := C$  and

$$C_i = \begin{cases} C_{i+1} - \{c_i\} & \text{if } B \cup C_{i+1} - \{c_i\} \text{ has no solution} \\ C_{i+1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# QUICKXPLAIN: Divide-and-Conquer

**Intuition:** Split  $C$  until we obtain sub-problems of the form  $P' = (B, \{\alpha\}, \prec)$ , where all but one constraint are in the background, then we know that  $B \cup \{\alpha\}$  is inconsistent

**Algorithm QUICKXPLAIN**( $\mathcal{B}, C, \prec$ )

1. **if** *isConsistent*( $\mathcal{B} \cup C$ ) **return** 'no conflict';
2. **else if**  $C = \emptyset$  **then return**  $\emptyset$ ;
3. **else return** QUICKXPLAIN'( $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}, C, \prec$ );

**Algorithm QUICKXPLAIN'**( $\mathcal{B}, \Delta, C, \prec$ )

4. **if**  $\Delta \neq \emptyset$  and not *isConsistent*( $\mathcal{B}$ ) **then return**  $\emptyset$ ;
5. **If**  $C = \{\alpha\}$  **then return**  $\{\alpha\}$ ;
6. let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  be an enumeration of  $C$  that respects  $\prec$ ;
7. let  $k$  be *split*( $n$ ) where  $1 \leq k < n$ ;
8.  $C_1 := \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}$  and  $C_2 := \{\alpha_{k+1}, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ ;
9.  $\Delta_2 :=$  QUICKXPLAIN'( $\mathcal{B} \cup C_1, C_1, C_2, \prec$ );
10.  $\Delta_1 :=$  QUICKXPLAIN'( $\mathcal{B} \cup \Delta_2, \Delta_2, C_1, \prec$ );
11. **return**  $\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2$ ;

# QUICKXPLAIN: example

Consider again the set of constraints  $\{A,B,C,D,E,F\}$  where  $\{B,F,D\}$  is a MUS. No mandatory constraints and  $<$  is lex

$Q'(\emptyset, \emptyset, \{A,B,C,D,E,F\}, <)$

$C1 = \{A,B,C\}$   $C2 = \{D,E,F\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C\}, \{A,B,C\}, \{D,E,F\}, <)$

$C1 = \{D,E\}$   $C2 = \{F\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C,D,E\}, \{D,E\}, \{F\}, <)$

$C1 = \{F\}$   $C2 = \{\emptyset\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C,D,E,F\}, \{F\}, \{\emptyset\}, <)$

$\{A,B,C,D,E,F\}$  UNSAT,  $\Delta_2 = \{\emptyset\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C,D,E\}, \{\emptyset\}, \{F\}, <)$

$\Delta_1 = \{F\}$

$\Delta = \{F\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C,F\}, \{F\}, \{D,E\}, <)$

$C1 = \{D\}$ ,  $C2 = \{E\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C,F,D\}, \{D\}, \{E\}, <)$

$\{A,B,C,F,D\}$  UNSAT,  $\Delta_2 = \{\emptyset\}$

$Q'(\{A,B,C,F\}, \{\emptyset\}, \{D\}, <)$ ,  $\Delta_1 = \{D\}$

$\Delta = \{D\}$

$\Delta = \{D,F\}$

$Q'(\{D,F\}, \{D,F\}, \{A,B,C\}, <)$

$C1 = \{A,B\}$ ,  $C2 = \{C\}$

$Q'(\{D,F,A,B\}, \{A,B\}, \{C\}, <)$

$\{D,F,A,B\}$ , UNSAT,  $\Delta_2 = \emptyset$

$Q'(\{D,F\}, \emptyset, \{A,B\}, <)$

$C1 = \{A\}$ ,  $C2 = \{B\}$

$Q'(\{D,F,A\}, \{A\}, \{B\}, <)$

$\Delta_1 = \{B\}$

$Q'(\{D,F,A,B\}, \{B\}, \{A\}, <)$

$\Delta_2 = \{\emptyset\}$

$\Delta = \{B\}$

**$\Delta = \{D,F,B\}$**

**Algorithm QUICKXPLAIN'( $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\Delta$ ,  $C$ ,  $<$ )**

4. **if**  $\Delta \neq \emptyset$  and not *isConsistent*( $\mathcal{B}$ ) **then return**  $\emptyset$ ;
5. **If**  $C = \{\alpha\}$  **then return**  $\{\alpha\}$ ;
6. let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  be an enumeration of  $C$  that respects  $<$ ;
7. let  $k$  be *split*( $n$ ) where  $1 \leq k < n$ ;
8.  $C_1 := \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}$  and  $C_2 := \{\alpha_{k+1}, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ ;
9.  $\Delta_2 := \text{QUICKXPLAIN}'(\mathcal{B} \cup C_1, C_1, C_2, <)$ ;
10.  $\Delta_1 := \text{QUICKXPLAIN}'(\mathcal{B} \cup \Delta_2, \Delta_2, C_1, <)$ ;
11. **return**  $\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2$ ;

# QUICKXPLAIN : complexity

Number of Consistency Checks ( $k$  is size of conflicts,  $n$  size of C)

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Method	Split	Best Case	Worst Case
1.	$split(n)=n/2$	$\log(n/2) + 2k$	$2k \cdot \log(n/k) + 2k$
2.	$split(n) = n - 1$	$2k$	$2n$
3.	$split(n) = 1$	$k$	$n + k$

---

**Accelerates if  $k \ll n$**

# QUICKXPLAIN : Multiple Preferred Explanations

Set up a choice point when  $c_i$  is removed

from  $C_{i+1}$ :

- The left branch removes  $c_i$  from  $C_{i+1}$  and determines preferred conflicts not containing  $c_i$
- The right branch removes other constraints from  $C_{i+1}$  such the removal of  $c_i$  leads to a solution

# MUS (Minimal Unsatisfiable Subset) - MCS (Minimal Correction Set) duality

The set of MCSes  $\Leftrightarrow$  all the irreducible hitting sets of the MUSes  
The set of MUSes  $\Leftrightarrow$  The set of all irreducible hitting sets of the MCSes

H is a hitting set of  $\Omega$  if  $H \subseteq D$  and  $\forall S \in \Omega, H \cap S \neq \emptyset$

H is a minimal hitting sets if no element can be removed without losing the property of being a hitting set

Given an unsatisfiable constraint system C:

1. A subset M of C is an MCS of C iff M is an irreducible hitting set of MUSes(C)
2. A subset U of C is an MUS of C iff U is an irreducible hitting set of MCSes(C)

**Intuition:** A MCS *must at least remove one constraint* from each MUS

A MUS can be made satisfiable by removing any one constraint from it  
 $\rightarrow$  every MCS contains at least one constraint from each MUS.

# Computing all MCS / MUSes: CAMUS

Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

Easier to find *satisfiable subsets* of constraints than unsatisfiable ones

## ➤ CAMUS approach

1. Computing all MCS in order of increasing size
2. Computing all MUSes from MCS in order of decreasing size



# Computing all MCS : CAMUS

Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

## All\_MCSes( $\phi$ )

1.  $\phi' \leftarrow \text{AddYVars}(\phi)$  *% Adds  $y_i$  selector variables*
  2.  $\text{MCSes} \leftarrow \emptyset$
  3.  $k \leftarrow 1$
  4. **while** ( $\text{SAT}(\phi')$ )
  5.  $\phi'_k \leftarrow \phi' \wedge \text{AtMost}(\{\neg y_1, \neg y_2, \dots, \neg y_n\}, k)$
  6. **while** ( $\text{newMCS} \leftarrow \text{IncrementalSAT}(\phi'_k)$ ) *%All MCS of size K*
  7.  $\text{MCSes} \leftarrow \text{MCSes} \cup \{\text{newMCS}\}$
  8.  $\phi'_k \leftarrow \phi'_k \wedge \text{BlockingClause}(\text{newMCS})$  *% Excludes super sets for  
% for size  $k$*
  9.  $\phi' \leftarrow \phi' \wedge \text{BlockingClause}(\text{newMCS})$  *% Excludes super set  
% for size  $> k$*
  10. **end while**
  11.  $k \leftarrow k+1$
  12. **end while**
  13. **return** MCSes
- *Incremental solver (MiniSAT) can be used in loop (l. 6) because constraints are only added but not external loop(l.4) since incrementing  $k$  relaxes constraints*
  - *The set of  $y_i$  variables assigned to false indicates the clauses in MCS*

## Computing all MCS – Example / Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

- $\phi = C_1 \wedge C_2 \wedge C_3 \wedge C_4 \wedge C_5 \wedge C_6$
- $\phi = (x_1) \wedge (\neg x_1) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg x_2) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_3)$
- $\phi' = (\neg y_1 \vee x_1) \wedge (\neg y_2 \vee \neg x_1) \wedge (\neg y_3 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg y_4 \vee \neg x_2) \wedge (\neg y_5 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg y_6 \vee \neg x_3)$

- **K = 1**

$\neg y_1 \wedge \neg x_1 \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2) \vee \neg x_2 \vee (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \neg x_3 : \text{SAT } (\neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge x_3) \rightarrow \text{MCS} : (C_1)$

**Adding** :  $\neg \neg y_1$ , so  $(\neg y_1 \vee x_1)$  reduces to  $x_1$

$x_1 \wedge \neg y_2 \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2) \vee \neg x_2 \vee (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \neg x_3 : \text{UNSAT}$

$x_1 \wedge \neg x_1 \wedge \neg y_3 \wedge \neg x_2 \dots : \text{UNSAT}$

...

- **K = 2**

$\phi' = (\neg y_1 \vee x_1) \wedge (\neg y_2 \vee \neg x_1) \wedge (\neg y_3 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg y_4 \vee \neg x_2) \wedge (\neg y_5 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg y_6 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge y_1$

$= x_1 \wedge (\neg y_2 \vee \neg x_1) \wedge (\neg y_3 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg y_4 \vee \neg x_2) \wedge (\neg y_5 \vee \neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg y_6 \vee \neg x_3)$

$= x_1 \wedge \neg y_2 \wedge \neg y_3 \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_3) : \text{UNSAT}$

$x_1 \wedge \neg x_1 \wedge \dots : \text{UNSAT}$

...

- **K = 3**

$x_1 \wedge \neg y_2 \wedge \neg y_3 \wedge \neg y_4 \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_3) : \text{UNSAT}$

$x_1 \wedge \neg y_2 \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \neg y_4 \wedge \neg y_5 \wedge \neg x_3 : \text{SAT } (x_1, \neg y_2, x_2, \neg y_4, \neg y_5, \neg x_3) : \rightarrow \text{MCS} : (C_2, C_4, C_5)$

...

# Computing one MUS from a set of MCSes

*CAMUS* - Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

## Irreducible hitting set

Consider MCSes =  $\{\{C_1, C_2, C_3\}, \{C_2, C_4\}\}$  :  $\{C_1, C_2\}$  is a hitting set but is not Irreducible

**PropagateChoice**(MCSes, thisClause, thisMCS)

for each clause  $\in$  thisMCS

for each testMCS  $\in$  MCSes

if (clause  $\in$  testMCS) then testMCS  $\leftarrow$  testMCS - {clause}

for each testMCS  $\in$  MCSes

if (thisClause  $\in$  testMCS) then MCSes  $\leftarrow$  MCSes - {testMCS}

MaintainNoSupersets(MCSes) *% removes any set in MCSes that is now a  
% superset of some other*

Consider  $\{\{C_1, C_2, C_3\}, \{C_2, C_4\}, \{C_1, C_3, C_4, C_5\}\}$ , after selection of  $C_1$  of first MCS:

1. Remove  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  in other MCS  $\rightarrow \{\{C_4\}, \{C_1, C_4, C_5\}\}$
2. Remove MCS where  $C_1$  occurs  $\rightarrow \{\{C_4\}\}$

# Computing one MUS from a set of MCSes

*CAMUS* - Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

## Irreducible hitting set

Consider MCSes =  $\{\{C_1, C_2, C_3\}, \{C_2, C_4\}\}$  :  $\{C_1, C_2\}$  is a hitting set but is not Irreducible

**PropagateChoice**(MCSes, thisClause, thisMCS)

for each clause  $\in$  thisMCS

for each testMCS  $\in$  MCSes

if (clause  $\in$  testMCS) then testMCS  $\leftarrow$  testMCS - {clause}

for each testMCS  $\in$  MCSes

if (thisClause  $\in$  testMCS) then MCSes  $\leftarrow$  MCSes - {testMCS}

MaintainNoSupersets(MCSes) *% removes any set in MCSes that is now a  
% superset of some other*

Consider  $\{\{C_1, C_2, C_3\}, \{C_2, C_4\}, \{C_1, C_3, C_4, C_5\}\}$ , after selection of  $C_1$  of first MCS:

1. Remove  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  in other MCS  $\rightarrow \{\{C_4\}, \{C_1, C_4, C_5\}\}$
2. Remove MCS where  $C_1$  occurs  $\rightarrow \{\{C_4\}\}$

# Computing all MUSes: CAMUS

Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

*Intuition: recursive algorithm that branches at the two choice points*

**All\_MUSes(MCSes, currentMUS)**

```
1  if (MCSes =  $\emptyset$ )
2      print(currentMUS)
3      return
4  end if
5  for each selClause  $\in$  RemainingClauses(MCSes) % try all clause choices
6      newMUS  $\leftarrow$  currentMUS  $\cup$  selClause
7      for each selMCS  $\in$  MCSes such that selClause  $\in$  selMCS
                                                % try all MCS choices
8          newMCSes  $\leftarrow$  MCSes
9          PropagateChoice(newMCSes, selClause, selMCS)
10         AllMUSes(newMCSes, newMUS)
11     end for
12 end for
13 return
```

# Computing all MUSes – CAMUS: Optimizations & Relaxations

Liffiton & Sakallah-2007

- **Optimizations**

- Elimination of **duplicates**:

MCSes:  $\{\{C_1, C_2\}, \{C_1, C_2\}\} \rightarrow$  Outputs twice MUS  $\{C_1\}$

Using hash table to store an intermediate state  $\rightarrow$  returning immediately from AllMUSes if the current state matches an entry already in the table

- Optimizing **MaintainNoSupersets**

- **Grouping clauses**: assigning a *single clause-selector variable*  $y_i$  per per high-level statement (and it is added it to every constraint generated from that statement)  
 $\rightarrow$  **search can enable or disable entire statements/blocks**

- **Relaxations**

Set of MCSes and MUSes can be exponentially large: MUSes is an anytime algorithm but if **All\_MCSes** is stopped early computed hitting set may not be unsatisfiable

$\rightarrow$  truncating MCSes: A subset  $P \subseteq C$  is a PCS if there exists some MCS  $M$  such that  $P \subseteq M$

- **Reduce size** of All\_MCSes's output (each PCS "represents" all of the MCSes that are supersets of it)
- **Reduce the number of MUSes** computed by All\_MUSes

# Marco Polo : Finding Multiple MUSes Quickly

(Liffiton , Malik 2013)

- **Constraint-agnostic** (there exists a solving method capable of returning SAT or UNSAT)
- **As efficient as the best single-MUS algorithm**
- **Good anytime behaviour**
- **Polo** : Efficiently explores the **power set**  $\mathcal{P}(C)$ 
  - **Power set Logic** : general technique of maintaining a “map” of  $\mathcal{P}(C)$  as a propositional logic formula.
- **Marco** : **Mapping Regions of Constraint** sets — the MUS enumeration algorithm

# POLO Framework (1)

*Any function  $f: \mathcal{P}(C) \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  can be represented by a propositional formula over  $|C|$  variables*

- **POLO** maintains a particular function :  
 $f: \mathcal{P}(C) \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  that tracks “unexplored” subsets  
 $C' \subseteq C$  such that  $f(C') = 1$  iff the satisfiability of  $C'$  is unknown and it remains to be checked  
 $f$  is stored as a propositional formula and can be viewed as a “map” of  $\mathcal{P}(C)$  showing which “regions” have been explored and which have not
- **Solver for Map:**
  - any engine for obtaining a model of a Boolean formula can be used
  - an incremental interface or Binary Decision Diagram (**BDD**) engines will be most efficient



# POLO Framework (2)

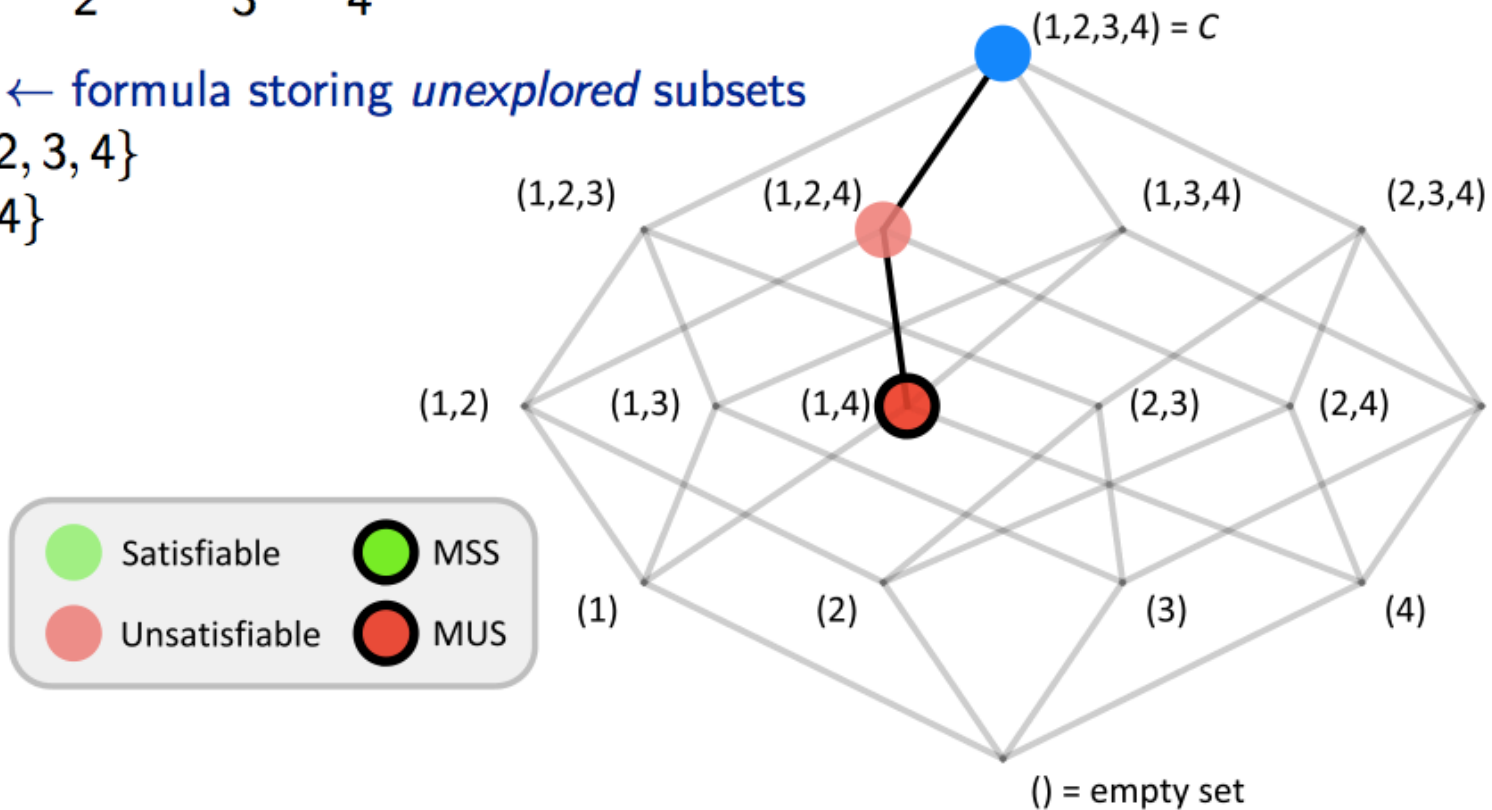
$$C = \{(a), (\neg a \vee b), (\neg b), (\neg a)\}$$

1      2      3      4

Map =  $\top$  ← formula storing *unexplored* subsets

Seed: {1, 2, 3, 4}

MUS: {1, 4}

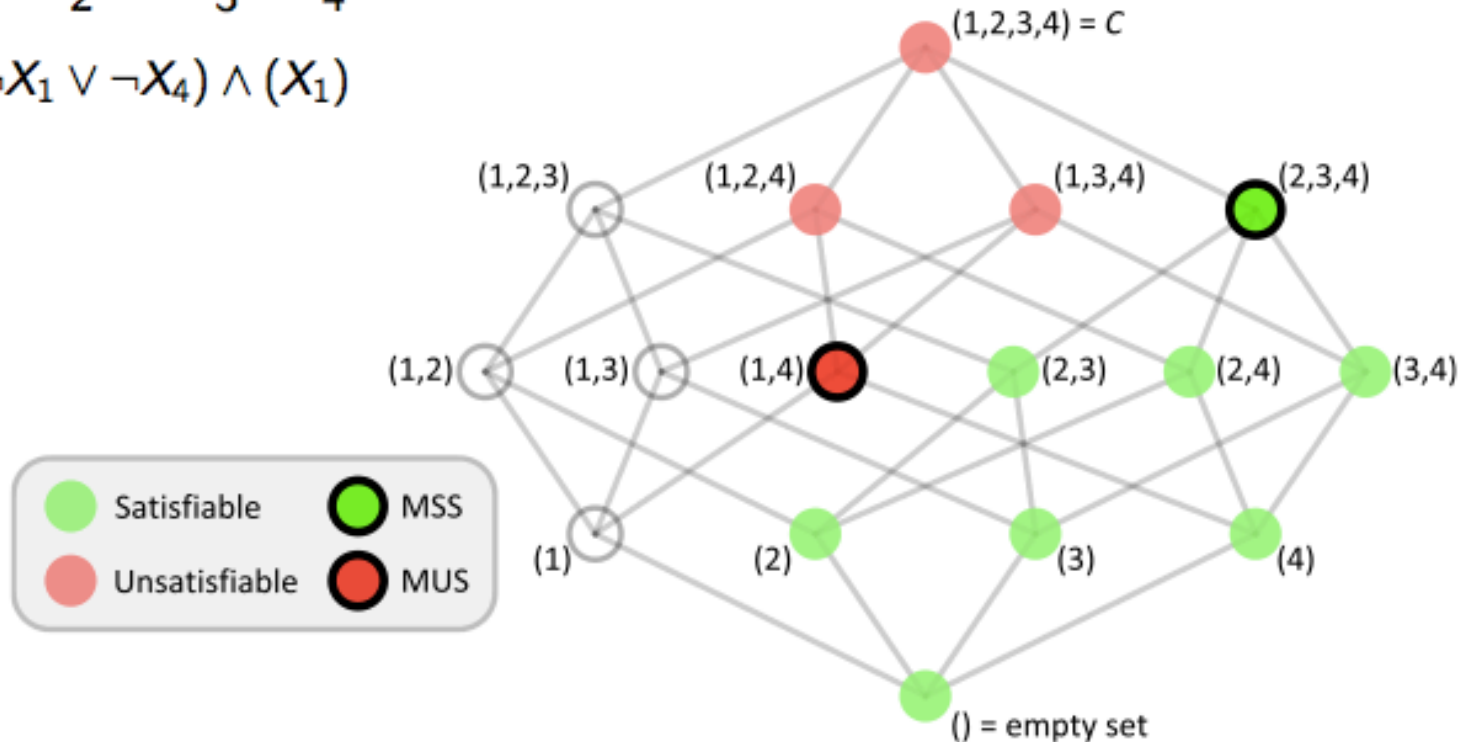


# POLO Framework (3)

$$C = \{(a), (\neg a \vee b), (\neg b), (\neg a)\}$$

1
2
3
4

$$Map = (\neg X_1 \vee \neg X_4) \wedge (X_1)$$



# MARCO algorithm for enumerating MSSes & MUSes of a constraint set (1)

**grow(seed, C)**

input: unsatisfiable constraint set C

input: satisfiable subset seed  $\subset$  C

output: an MSS of C

1. **for**  $c \in C \setminus \text{seed}$ :
2.   **if** seed  $\cup \{c\}$  **is satisfiable**:
3.       seed = seed  $\cup \{c\}$
4. **return** seed

**shrink(seed, C)**

input: unsatisfiable constraint set C

input: unsatisfiable subset seed  $\subseteq$  C

output: an MUS of C

1. **for**  $c \in \text{seed}$ :
2.   **if** seed  $\setminus \{c\}$  **is unsatisfiable**:
3.       seed = seed  $\setminus \{c\}$
4. **return** seed

Models corresponding to any subset of M are eliminated by requiring that later models of Map include at least one constraint not in M:

$$\mathbf{blockDown(M)} \equiv \bigvee_{i : C_i \notin M} x_i$$

Supersets of M are blocked by requiring models to exclude at least one of its constraints:

$$\mathbf{blockUp(M)} \equiv \bigvee_{i : C_i \in M} \neg x_i$$

# MARCO algorithm for enumerating MSSes & MUSes of a constraint set (2)

MARCO enumerates MUSes by repeatedly selecting an unexplored subset  $C' \in \mathcal{P}(C)$  from the map, checking whether  $C'$  is satisfiable, minimizing or maximizing it into an MUS or an MSS, and marking a region of the map as explored based on that result

**input:** unsatisfiable constraint set  $C = \{C_1, C_2, C_3, \dots, C_n\}$

**output:** MSSes and MUSes of  $C$  as they are discovered

Map  $\leftarrow$  BoolFormula(nvars =  $|C|$ )  $\triangleright$  *Empty formula over  $|C|$  Boolean variables*

**while** Map is satisfiable:

$m \leftarrow$  **getModel**(Map)

    seed  $\leftarrow$   $\{C_i \in C : m[x_i] = \text{True}\}$   $\triangleright$  *Project the assignment  $m$  onto  $C$*

**if** seed is satisfiable:

        MSS  $\leftarrow$  **grow**(seed,  $C$ )

**yield** MSS

        Map  $\leftarrow$  Map  $\wedge$  **blockDown**(MSS)

**else:**

        MUS  $\leftarrow$  **shrink**(seed,  $C$ )

**yield** MUS

        Map  $\leftarrow$  Map  $\wedge$  **blockUp**(MUS)

# MARCO : example

$$C = \{ \begin{array}{cccc} (a), & (-a \vee b), & (-b), & (-a) \\ C_1 & C_2 & C_3 & C_4 \end{array} \}$$

Initialization: Map  $\leftarrow$  [empty formula over  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ ]

Iteration 1: Map =  $\top$  : **SAT**

**getModel**  $\rightarrow [x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$   
seed  $\leftarrow \{C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4\}$  : **UNSAT**  
**shrink**  $\rightarrow$  MUS:  $\{C_1, C_2, C_3\}$   
Map  $\leftarrow$  Map  $\wedge$   $(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3)$

Iteration 2: Map =  $(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3)$  : **SAT**

**getModel**  $\rightarrow [\neg x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$   
seed  $\leftarrow \{C_2, C_3, C_4\}$  : **SAT**  
**grow**  $\rightarrow$  MSS:  $\{C_2, C_3, C_4\}$  — equiv. MCS:  $\{C1\}$   
Map  $\leftarrow$  Map  $\wedge$   $(x_1)$

Iteration 3: Map =  $(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_1)$  : **SAT**

**getModel**  $\rightarrow [x_1, \neg x_2, x_3, x_4]$   
seed  $\leftarrow \{C_1, C_3, C_4\}$  : **UNSAT**  
**shrink**  $\rightarrow$  MUS:  $\{C_1, C_4\}$   
Map  $\leftarrow$  Map  $\wedge$   $(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_4)$

...still 3 iterations required to ensure completeness

# Computing all MCS – SMT context (1)

Morgado, Liffiton, Marques-Silva 2012

- **Output of MaxSMT** : assignment  $A$  (consistent with theory  $T$ ) that minimize the number of falsified clauses of  $\phi$ 
  - *any MaxSMT solution indicates an MCS* :
    - the constraints not satisfied by that solution must be an MCS,
    - any such solution is a smallest MCS.
- **Two problems**:
  - **AllMinMCS** problem: finding all the minimum size MCSes of  $\phi$ .
  - **AllMCS** problem: finding all the MCSes of  $\phi$  (independent of their size)
- ALL MCS Algorithms based on *3 SMT algorithms*: MSU1-SMT, MSU3-SMT, FM-SMT

# Computing all MCS – SMT context (2)

Morgado, Liffiton, Marques-Silva 2012

## ALL-MCS-MSU3-SMT( $\phi$ )

$\phi_w \leftarrow \phi$             %  $\phi_w$  : working formula

$RV \leftarrow \emptyset$             %  $RV$  : Set of relaxation variables

$\lambda \leftarrow 0$             %  $\lambda$ : Lower bound on true relaxation variables

**while true**

**do**  $(st, A) \leftarrow$  **MSU3-SMT** ( $\phi, \phi_w, RV, \lambda$ )

**if**  $st = \mathbf{true}$  %  $A$  : satisfying assignment (solution to MaxSMT)

**then** ReportMCS( $\phi, A$ )

        BlockMCSbyRV( $\phi_w, RV, A$ )

**else exit**

# Computing all MCS – Speed up (1)

## FastDiag (Felfernig et al 2012)

*mimics QUICKXPLAIN's → approach same complexity*

If  $|largest\ MCS| \ll |R|$  BFD can outperform linear search

**Function BFD**( $R, T \subseteq R, hasD$ )

% R: set of clauses one aims to maximally satisfy (reference set)

% T : the clauses that can be extracted when attempting to satisfy the clauses in R

% hasD : indicates whether a valid correction set already exists.

1 **if** hasD  $\wedge$  SAT(R) then return  $\emptyset$

2 **if**  $|T|=1$  **then return** T

3  $m \leftarrow |T|/2$

4  $(T_1, T_2) \leftarrow (T_{1..m}, T_{m+1..|T|})$

5  $D_2 \leftarrow \text{BFD}(R \setminus T_1, T_2, T_1 \neq \emptyset)$

6  $D_1 \leftarrow \text{BFD}(R \setminus D_2, T_1, D_2 \neq \emptyset)$

7 **return**  $D_1 \cup D_2$       // Clauses of MCS

**Basic FASTDIAG (BFD)**



# Computing all MCS – Speed up (2)

## Enhanced FastDiag (Silva et al, 2013)

Three techniques to reduce the number of calls to a SAT solver and to simplify each call:

- finding a *disjoint set of unsatisfiable cores*
- Exploiting *backbone literals*
- Exploiting clauses satisfied by satisfying assignments for computing one MCS

# Computing all MCS – Speed up (3)

## Enhanced FastDiag (Silva et al, 2013)

### Intuition (see property 1 & 2)

- $F$ : an unsatisfiable formula  $F$ ,  $\mu$  an assignment  $\mu$ 
  - $\mu$  induces a partition  $\{S, U\}$  of  $F$  where  $S$  = satisfied clauses,  $U$  = falsified clauses
  - *There exist an MSS  $W$  and an MCS  $M$  of  $F$  such that  $S \subseteq W$  and  $U \supseteq M$*
- If  $F$  is partitioned into  $\{G, C_1, \dots, C_r\}$ , such that  $G$  is satisfiable, and  $C_1, \dots, C_r$  are disjoint unsatisfiable cores

→ any assignment  $\mu$  that satisfies  $G$  partitions each unsatisfiable core  $C_i$  into two disjoint sets  $S_i$  and  $U_i$  of satisfied and falsified clauses

Let  $S = G \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^r S_i$ , with  $S \subseteq F$ , the clauses satisfied by some assignment  $\mu$

→  $S \subseteq W$  where  $W$  is an MSS of  $F$

$S$  is to be iteratively updated with additional clauses.

Let  $S_q$   $q$ th update :  $S \equiv S_0 \subset S_1 \subset \dots \subset S_q \subset \dots \subseteq W$  (each set  $S_q$  is satisfiable, and so is a subset of an MSS  $W$  of  $F$  . The set of falsified clauses from unsatisfiable core  $C_1$  is  $U_1$  (with  $U_1 \neq \emptyset$ , since  $C_1$  is unsatisfiable)

Consider each clause  $c$  in  $U_1$ , the clauses in  $S_q$  must be satisfied. If  $S_q \cup \{c\}$  is satisfiable, then  $S_{q+1} = S_q \cup \{c\}$ ; otherwise, since  $S_q \cup \{c\} \models \perp$ ,  $c$  must be included in any MCS  $M$  of  $F$ , such that the MSS  $W = F \setminus M$  contains  $S_q$

# Computing all MCS – Speed up (4)

## Enhanced FastDiag (Silva et al, 2013)

### *Computing disjoint unsatisfiable cores*

**Function** DISJOINT\_UNSATISFIABLE\_CORES(F)

**Output:**  $\mu$ : Assignment; F: Subformula; U: Disjoint cores (unsatisfiable formula)

```
1  (U, st)  $\leftarrow$  ( $\emptyset$ , false)
2  while not st do
3      (st,  $\mu$ , V)  $\leftarrow$  SAT(F)
           % st: outcome (true or false) ,
           %  $\mu$ : the computed model (if the st is true)
           % V: computed unsatisfiable subformula (if st is false)
4      if not st then
5          F  $\leftarrow$  F \ V
6      U  $\leftarrow$  U  $\cup$  {V}
7  return ( $\mu$ , F, U)
```

For enumerating MCSes, function DISJOINT\_UNSATISFIABLE\_CORES can be used recursively until a computed unsatisfiable core is empty

# Computing all MCS – Speed up (6)

## Enhanced FastDiag (Silva et al, 2013)

### *Exploiting backbone literals*

M : an MCS of F

$$\forall c \in M, c = (l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \dots \vee l_k), (F \setminus M) \cup \{c\} \models \perp$$

$$\rightarrow F \setminus M \models \bar{c}, \text{ i.e. } \forall l_i \in c, F \setminus M \models \neg l_i$$

Thus,  $\neg l_i$  is a *backbone literal* of  $F \setminus M$

L : set of clauses to be included in some MCS of F

→ for every MCS M of F such that  $L \subseteq M$ , the complements of the literals of each of the clauses of L represent backbone literals of  $F \setminus M$

→ *any* algorithm for MCS computation can exploit backbone literals, by adding the negation of each clause that is decided to be included in a MCS of F

# Computing all MCS – Speed up (6)

## Enhanced FastDiag (Silva et al, 2013)

```
Function EFD( $R, T \subseteq R, \text{hasD}$ )  
  Global:  $S, B, U_1, \dots, U_r$   
if hasD then  
   $(st, \mu) \leftarrow \text{SAT}(R \cup S \cup B)$   
  if st then  
    UpdateSatisfiedClauses( $\mu$ )  
    return  $\emptyset$   
if  $|T|=1$  then  
  UpdateBackboneLiterals( $T$ )  
  return  $T$   
 $m \leftarrow |T| / 2$   
 $(T_1, T_2) \leftarrow (T_{1..m}, T_{m+1..|T|})$   
 $D_2 \leftarrow \text{EFD}(R \setminus T_1, T_2 \setminus S, T_1 \neq \emptyset)$   
 $D_1 \leftarrow \text{EFD}(R \setminus D_2, T_1 \setminus S, D_2 \neq \emptyset)$   
return  $D_1 \cup D_2$  // Clauses of MCS
```

# On going work at I3S

- Experiments
  - Simple tests: Slice, MinMax, Foo
  - Different versions of Trityp (determines the type of a triangle, computation of perimeter)
  - TCAS
- Efficient computation of MCS / MUS with a *limited cardinality*
- Efficient computation of MCS / MUSes with a *limited number of failing conditions*
- *Efficient consistency checking* for LP, MIP , floating point numbers