

# Propositional Satisfiability: Unit Propagation and DPLL



Empirical analysis  
slides draw upon  
material from:  
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Cornell University

**Brian C. Williams**  
**16.410/413**  
**November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

# Assignments

- Assignment:
  - Problem Set #7: Due Wednesday.
- Reading:
  - Today: *[AIMA] Ch. 7, 8.*

## Monday:

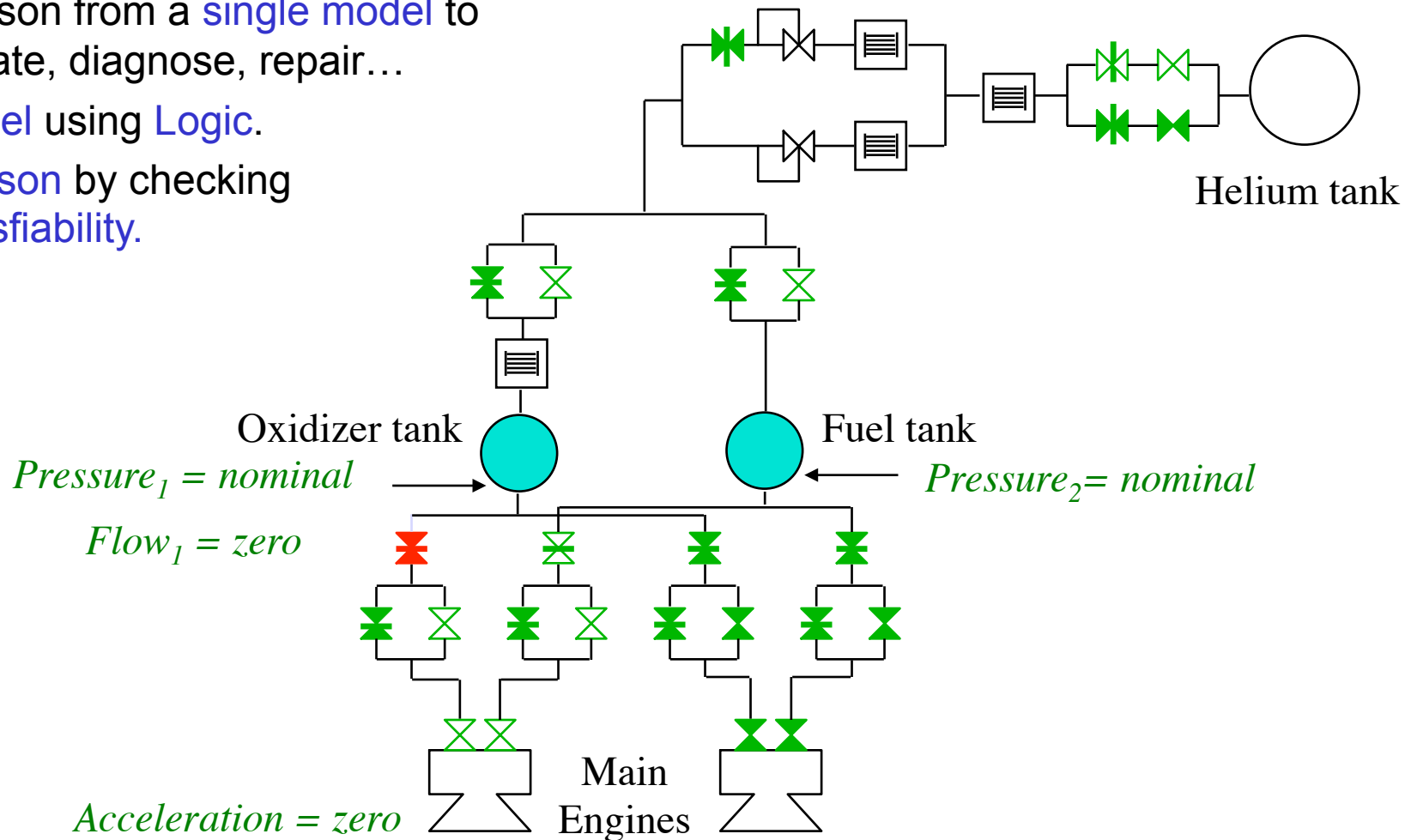
- J. de Kleer and B. C. Williams, "Diagnosing Multiple Faults," *Artificial Intelligence*, 32:100-117, 1987.
- Wednesday: B. C. Williams, and R. Ragno, "Conflict-directed A\* and its Role in Model-based Embedded Systems," Special Issue on Theory and Applications of Satisfiability Testing, *Journal of Discrete Applied Math*, January 2003.

# Outline

- Review
- Propositional Satisfiability with Inference
- Empirical, Average Case Analysis
- Model-based Diagnosis (separate slide packet).

# Model-based Reasoning

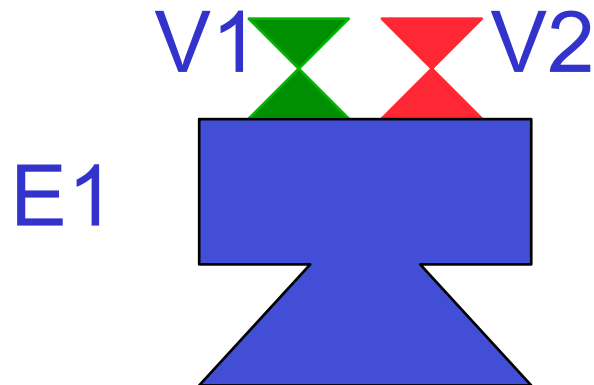
- Reason from a **single model** to operate, diagnose, repair...
- **Model** using **Logic**.
- Reason by checking **Satisfiability**.



# Engine Model in Propositional Logic

“An Engine E1 can either be okay, or broken in some unknown way.

When E1 is okay, it will thrust when there is a flow through V1 and V2.”



$(\text{mode}(E1) = \text{ok} \text{ or } \text{mode}(E1) = \text{unknown}) \text{ and}$   
 $\text{not } (\text{mode}(E1) = \text{ok} \text{ and } \text{mode}(E1) = \text{unknown}) \text{ and}$

$(\text{mode}(E1) = \text{ok} \text{ implies}$   
 $(\text{thrust}(E1) = \text{on} \text{ if and only if } \text{flow}(V1) = \text{on} \text{ and } \text{flow}(V2) = \text{on}))$

# Propositional Satisfiability

Given: a logical sentence  $S$

Find: a truth assignment (true / false) that satisfies  $S$ :

1. Reduce  $S$  to *clausal form*.
2. Perform search + inference
  - similar to MAC = Backtrack + Constraint Propagation [Davis, Logmann & Loveland, 1962].

# Propositional Satisfiability as Backtrack Search

**Procedure:**  $BT(\Phi, A)$

**Input:** A *cnf theory*  $\Phi$ ,  
An assignment  $A$  to some propositions in  $\Phi$ .

**Output:** true if  $\Phi$  is satisfiable; false otherwise.

If a clause in  $\Phi$  is *violated*, Return *false*;

Else If *all* propositions in  $\Phi$  are *assigned* by  $A$ , Return *true*;

Else  $Q =$  *some* proposition in  $\Phi$  that is *unassigned* by  $A$ ;

Return ( $BT(\Phi, A[Q = \text{True}])$  or  
 $BT(\Phi, A[Q = \text{False}])$ )

# Outline

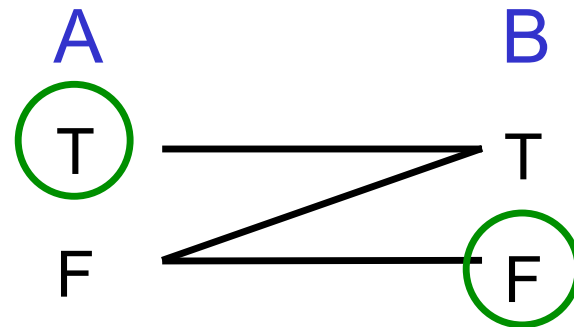
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# Unit Clause Resolution

**Idea:** Apply arc consistency (AC-3) to binary clauses.

Clause: (not A or B)



**Unit clause resolution (aka unit propagation rule):**

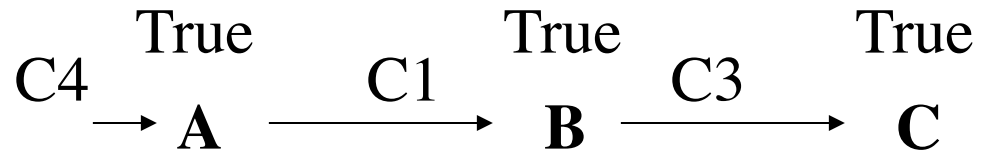
If all literals are **false** save L, then L must be true:

- $\frac{(\text{not } A) \quad (\text{not } B) \quad (A \text{ or } B \text{ or } C)}{C}$
- Unit propagation = repeated application of unit clause resolution rule.

# Unit Propagation Examples

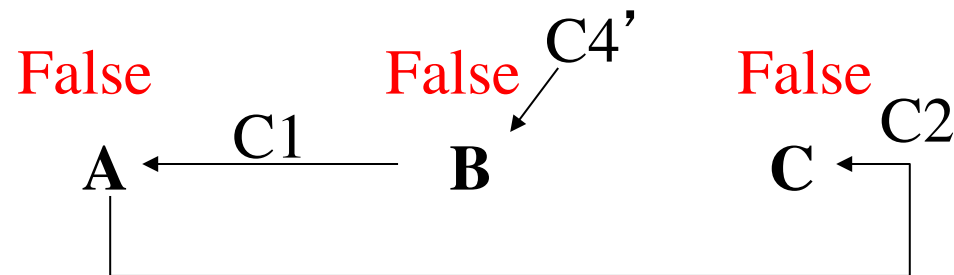
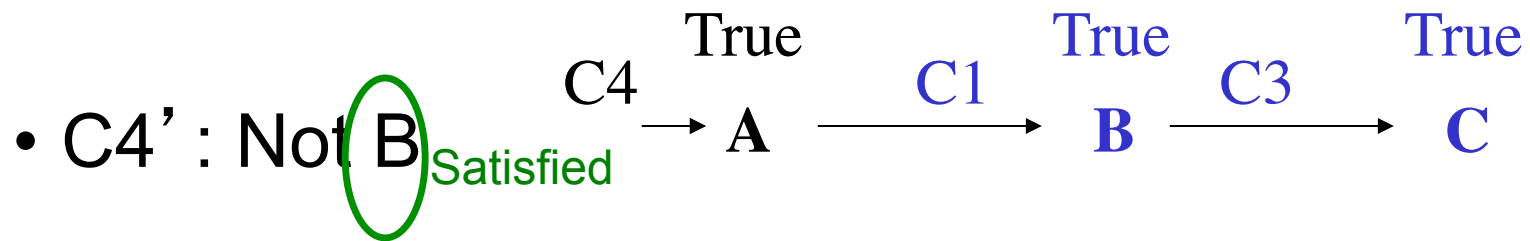
- C1: ~~Not A~~ or **B**      Satisfied
- C2: Not C or A      Satisfied
- C3: ~~Not B~~ or **C**      Satisfied
- C4: **A**      Satisfied

Support



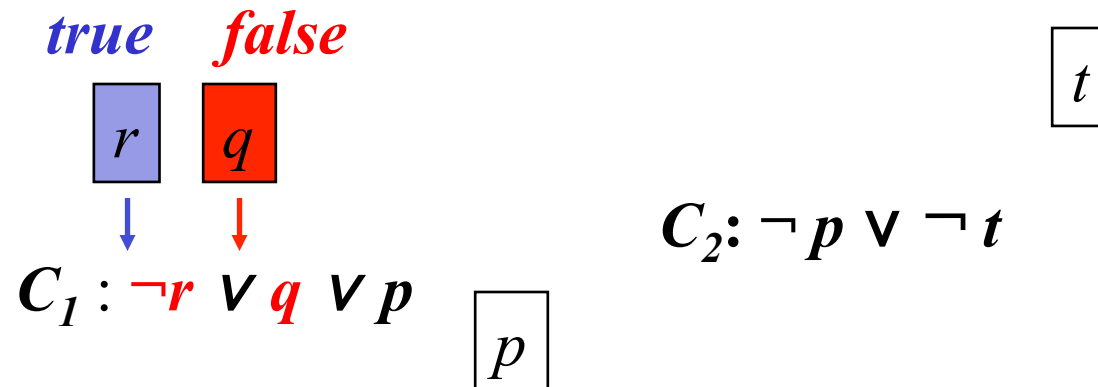
# Unit Propagation Examples

- C1: Not A or B Satisfied
- C2: Not C or A Satisfied
- C3: Not B or C Satisfied
- C4: A





# Unit Propagation

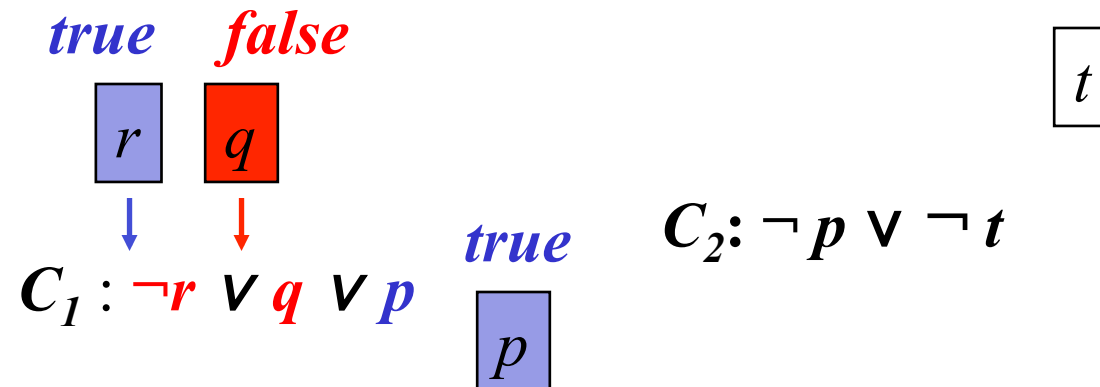


**Procedure:** *propagate*(**C**) // **C** is a clause

- **if** all literals in **C** are false except **L**, and **L** is unassigned
- then** assign true to **L** and
- record **C** as a support for **L** and
- for each** clause **C'** mentioning “not **L**”,
- propagate*(**C'**)

**end propagate**

# Unit Propagation



**Procedure:** *propagate*(**C**) // **C** is a clause

if all literals in **C** are false except **L**, and **L** is unassigned

→ then assign true to **L** and

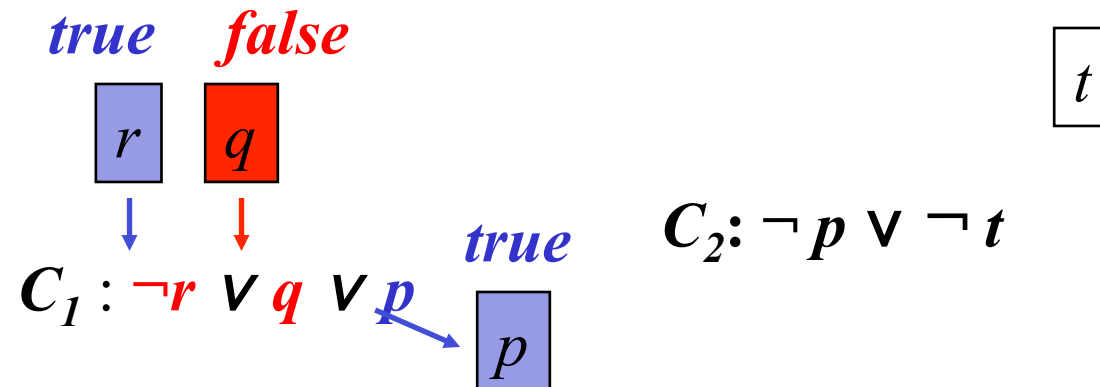
record **C** as a support for **L** and

for each clause **C'** mentioning “not **L**”,

*propagate*(**C'**)

**end propagate**

# Unit Propagation



**Procedure:** *propagate*(**C**)      // **C** is a clause

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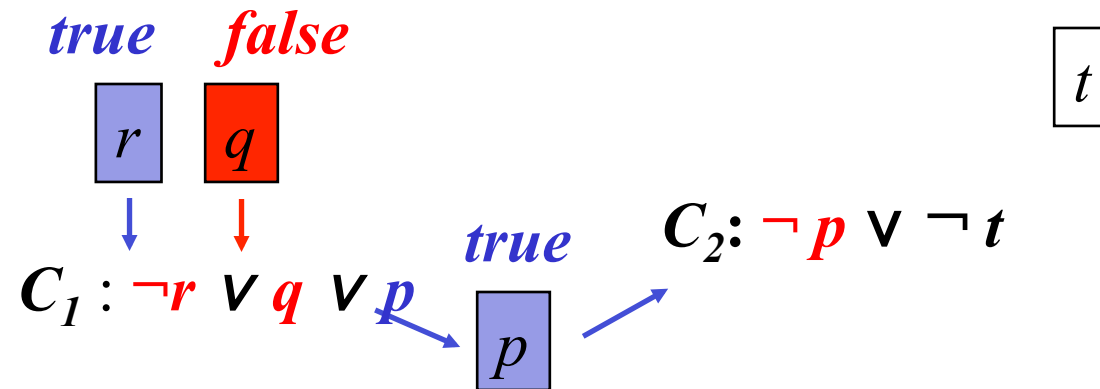
→ record **C** as a support for **L** and

for each clause **C'** mentioning “not **L**”,

propagate(**C'**)

**end propagate**

# Unit Propagation



**Procedure:**  $propagate(\mathbf{C})$  //  $\mathbf{C}$  is a clause

if all literals in  $\mathbf{C}$  are false except  $\mathbf{L}$ , and  $\mathbf{L}$  is unassigned

then assign true to  $\mathbf{L}$  and

record  $\mathbf{C}$  as a support for  $\mathbf{L}$  and

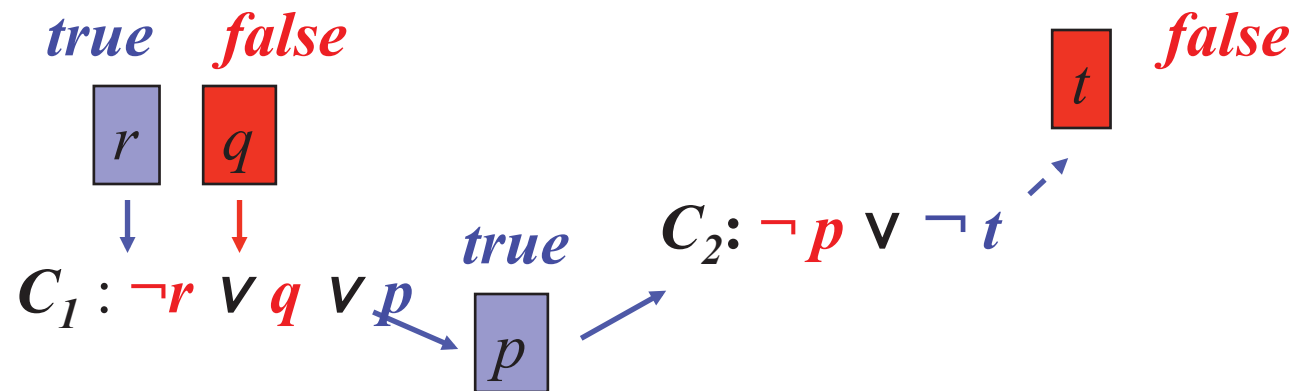
→ for each clause  $\mathbf{C}'$  mentioning “not  $\mathbf{L}$ ”,

propagate( $\mathbf{C}'$ )

end  $propagate$



# Unit Propagation



**Procedure:** *propagate*(**C**) // **C** is a clause

if all literals in **C** are false except **L**, and **L** is unassigned

then assign true to **L** and

record **C** as a support for **L** and

for each clause **C'** mentioning “not **L**”,

→ *propagate*(**C'**)

**end propagate**

# Outline

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    - DPLL: Unit Propagation + Backtrack Search
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# Propositional Satisfiability using DPLL

[Davis, Logmann, Loveland, 1962]

Initially:

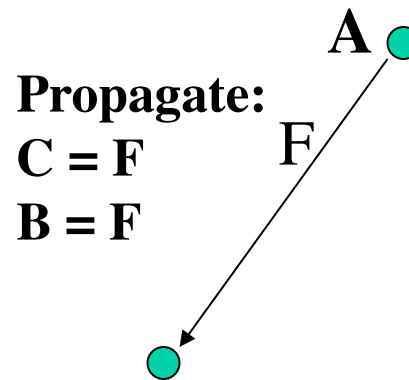
- Unit propagate.

Repeat:

1. Assign **true** or **false** to unassigned proposition.
2. Unit propagate.
3. Backtrack when clause violated.
4. Satisfiable if assignment complete.

Example:

- C1: Not A or B satisfied
- C2: Not C or ~~A~~ satisfied
- C3: Not B or ~~C~~ satisfied



# Propositional Satisfiability using DPLL

[Davis, Logmann, Loveland, 1962]

Initially:

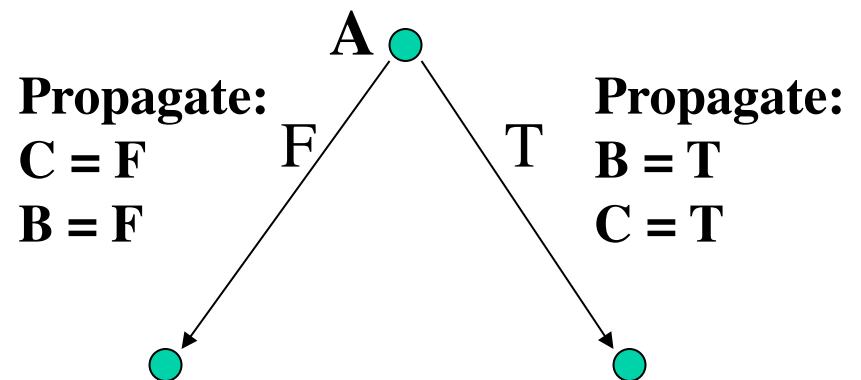
- Unit propagate.

Repeat:

1. Assign **true** or **false** to unassigned proposition.
2. Unit propagate.
3. Backtrack when clause violated.
4. Satisfiable if assignment complete.

Example:

- C1: ~~Not~~ A or B satisfied
- C2: Not C or A satisfied
- C3: ~~Not~~ B or C satisfied



# How Do We Fold Unit Propagation into Backtracking?

**Procedure:**  $\text{BT}(\Phi, \mathbf{A})$

**Input:** A *cnf* theory  $\Phi$ ,  
An assignment  $\mathbf{A}$  to some propositions in  $\Phi$ .

**Output:** A decision of whether  $\Phi$  is satisfiable.

If a clause in  $\Phi$  is *violated*, Return *false*;

Else If *all* propositions of  $\Phi$  are *assigned* in  $\mathbf{A}$ , Return *true*;

Else  $Q =$  *some unassigned* proposition in  $\Phi$ ;

Return ( $\text{BT}(\Phi, \mathbf{A}[Q = \text{True}])$  or  
 $\text{BT}(\Phi, \mathbf{A}[Q = \text{False}])$ )

Hint: Like MAC and Forward Checking:

- limited inference
- apply inference after assigning each variable.

# D(P)LL Procedure

[Davis, Logmann, Loveland, 1961]

**Procedure:** DPLL( $\Phi$ ,  $A$ )

**Input:** A *cnf* theory  $\Phi$ ,  
An assignment  $A$  to propositions in  $\Phi$

**Output:** A decision of whether  $\Phi$  is satisfiable.

➔  $A' = \text{propagate}(\Phi)$ ;

If a clause in  $\Phi$  is **violated**, given  $A'$  Return **false**;

Else If **all** propositions of  $\Phi$  are **assigned** in  $A'$ , Return **true**;

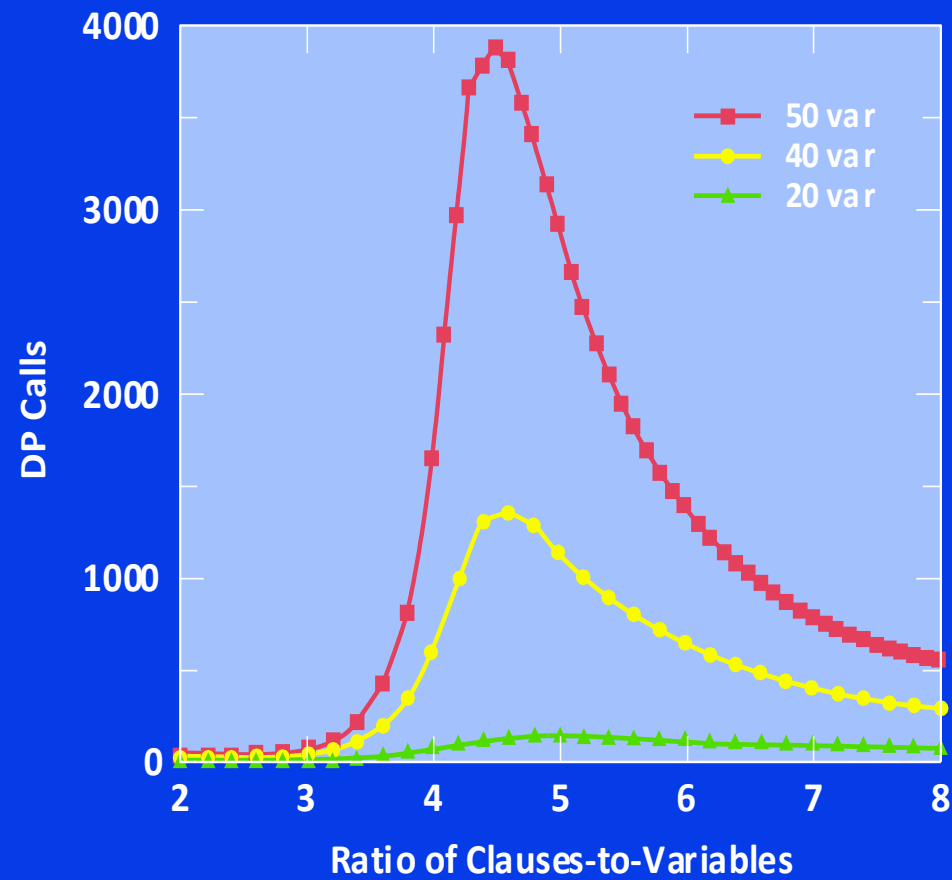
Else  $Q =$  **some unassigned** proposition in  $\Phi$ ;

Return (DPLL( $\Phi$ ,  $A'$  [ $Q = \text{True}$ ]) or  
DPLL( $\Phi$ ,  $A'$  [ $Q = \text{False}$ ]))

# Outline

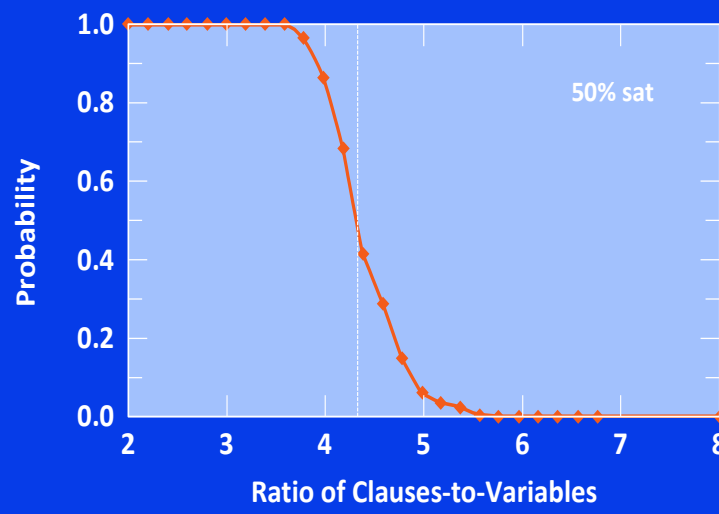
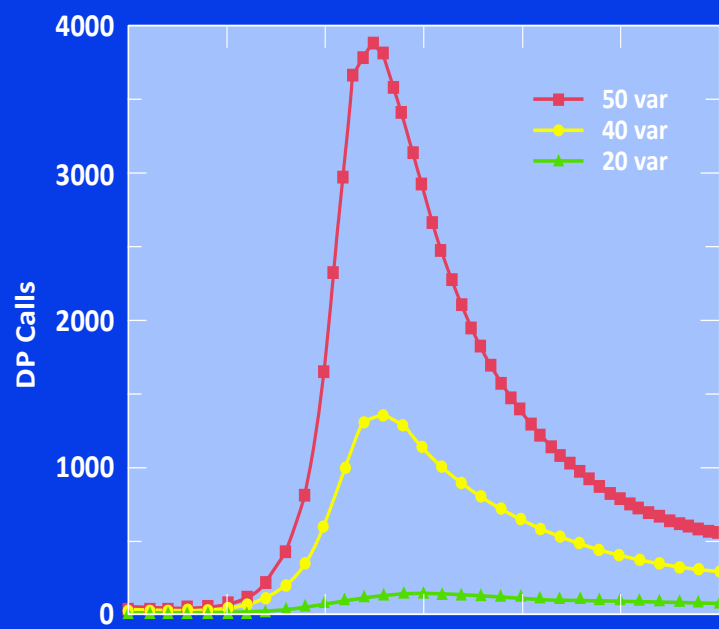
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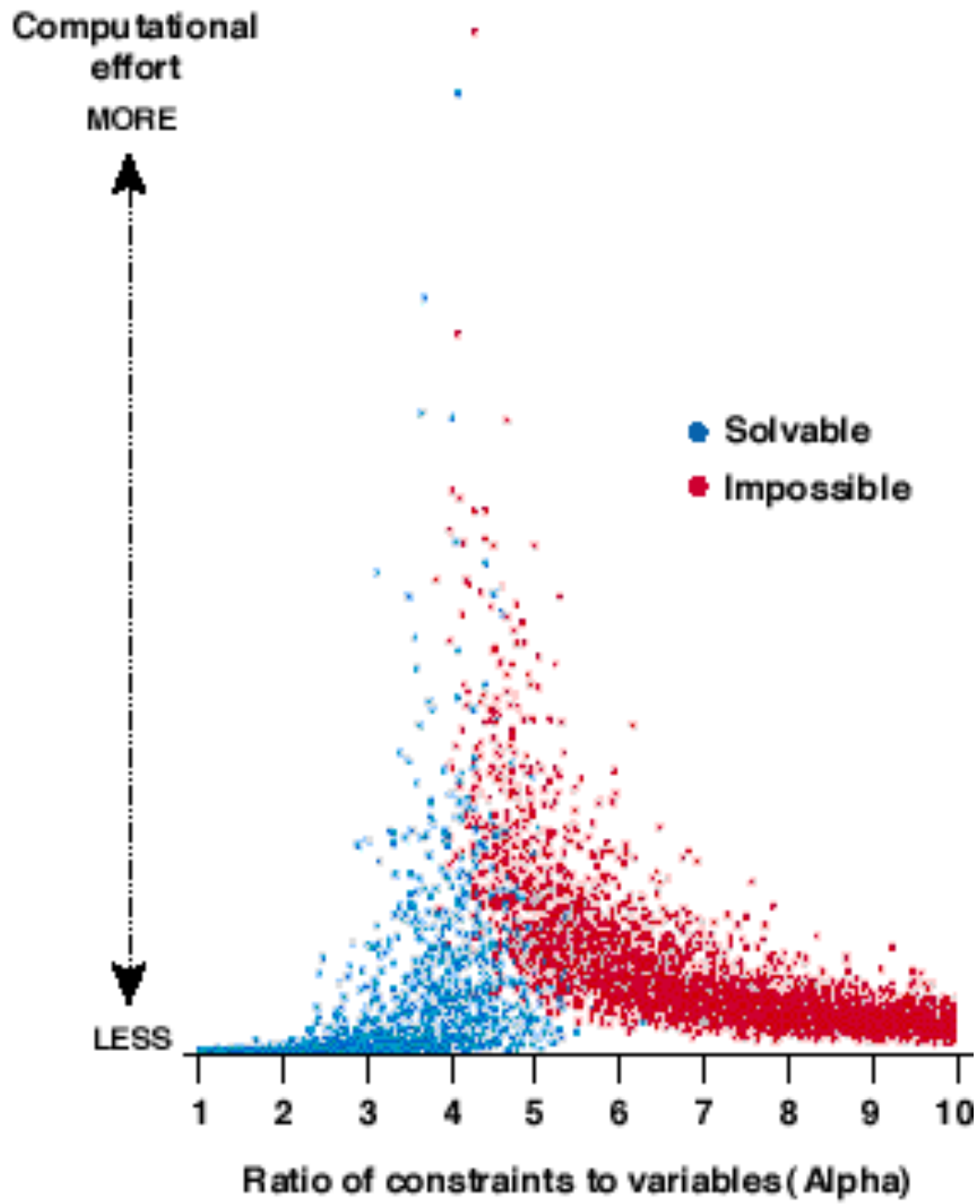
## Hardness of 3SAT





# The 4.3 Point

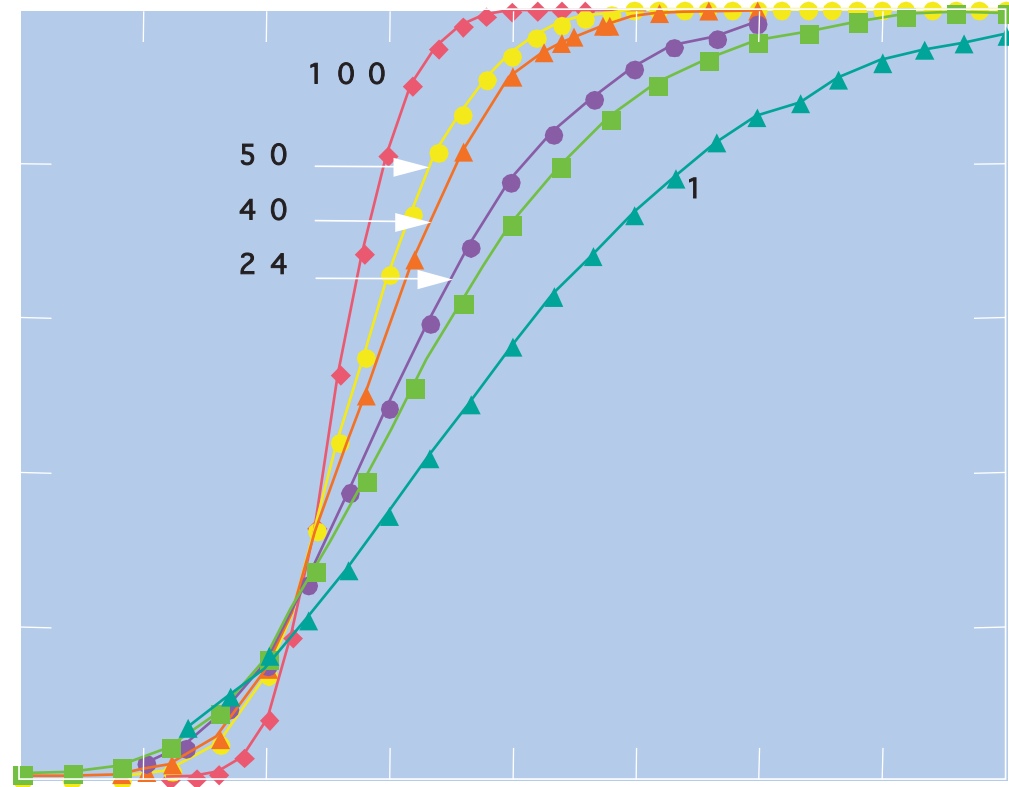




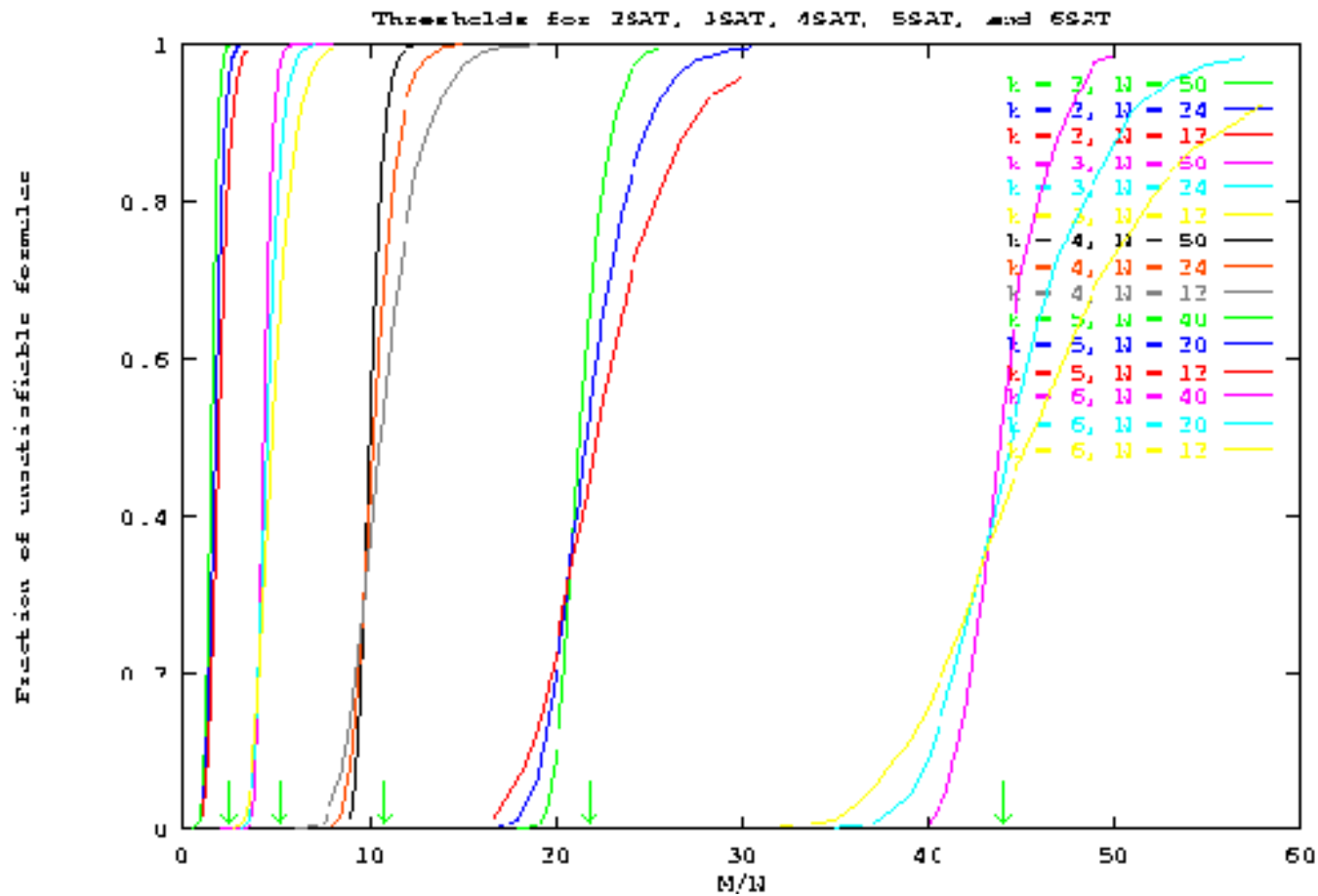
# Intuition

- At low ratios:
  - few clauses (constraints),
  - many assignments,
  - easily found.
- At high ratios:
  - many clauses,
  - inconsistencies easily detected.

# Phase Transitions for Different Numbers of Variables



# Phase Transitions: 2, 3 4, 5 and 6-SAT



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