

# Exploiting Constraint Solving History to Construct Interaction Test Suites

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Matthew Dwyer

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# Highly-Configurable Systems

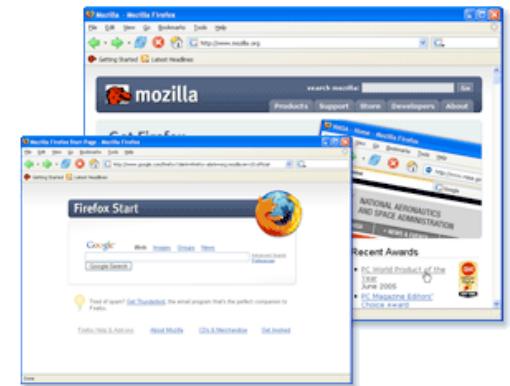
- **Highly-Configurable** Systems



Office Applications



Database Servers



Web Browsers

# Highly-Configurable Systems

- **Highly-Configurable** Systems



Software Product Lines



Dynamically Reconfigurable

# Highly-Configurable Systems

- **Features** (bound) added/removed from the system
  - build, compile, run-time
- Module (feature) developers **do not** control or **anticipate** all possible feature combinations
- Encompass **families** of software systems

# Phone Software Product Line

Possible Values	Product Line Options (factors)				
	Display	Email Viewer	Camera	Video Camera	Video Ringtones
	16 Million Colors	Graphical	2 Megapixels	Yes	Yes
	8 Million Colors	Text	1 Megapixel	No	No
Black and White	None	None			

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# A Combinatorial Problem

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•  $3^3 \times 2^2 = 108$  feasible configurations

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- **10 factors** each with **5 values** =  $5^{10}$  or  
**9,765,625 configurations**

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- $3^3 \times 2^2 = 108$  feasible configurations
- 10 factors each with 5 values =  $5^{10}$  or  
9,765,625 configurations
- 4 hours to run test suite = approximately 4,459 years  
to test

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GCC 4.1 optimizer configuration space:

**199 factors:**

189 with 2 values

10 factors with 3 values



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GCC 4.1 optimizer configuration space:

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10 factors with 3 values

**$4.6 \times 10^{61}$**

# Sampling Configurations for Testing

- Desirable qualities for sampling technique:
  - Systematic
  - Quantifiable

# Combinatorial Interaction Testing (CIT)

- Test all *pairs* or *t-way* combinations of factor-values, where *t* is a defined *strength* of testing
- Use mathematical object - *covering array*

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- Test all *pairs* or *t-way* combinations of factor-values, where  $t$  is a defined *strength* of testing
- Use mathematical object - *covering array*
- Algorithms for generating CIT samples:
  - *Greedy* search, *meta-heuristic* search, *mathematical* constructions

# 2-way CIT

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# Limitations of CIT

- The theory of CIT, doesn't extend to most **real systems**

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- The theory of CIT, doesn't extend to most **real systems**
  - Many current algorithms and tools will fail to construct a valid sample in the presence of **constraints.....**

# The *Real* System

## Constraints on Valid Configurations:

---

- (1) *Graphical email viewer* **requires** *color display*
- (2) 2 Megapixel camera **requires** a *color display*
- (3) *Graphical email viewer* **not supported** with 2 *Megapixel camera*
- (4) 8 Million color display **does not support** a 2 Megapixel camera
- (5) *Video camera* **requires** a *camera* **and** a *color display*
- (6) *Video ringtones* **cannot occur** with *No video camera*
- (7) The combination of *16 Million colors, Text* and *2 Megapixel camera* will **not be supported**

# The *Real* System

Con	No	Forbidden Tuples	Derived from
(1)	1	<i>(Black and white display, Graphical email viewer)</i>	1
(2)	2	<i>(Black and white display, 2 Megapixel camera)</i>	2
(3)	3	<i>(Graphical email viewer, 2 Megapixel camera)</i>	3
(4)	4	<i>(8 Million color display, 2 Megapixel camera)</i>	4
(5)	5	<i>(Video camera=Yes, Camera=No)</i>	5
(6)	6	<i>(Video camera=Yes, Black and white display)</i>	5
(7)	7	<i>(Video ringtones= Yes, Video camera=No)</i>	6
	8	<i>(16 Million colors, Plain text, 2 Megapixel camera)</i>	7

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(4)	4	<i>(8 Million color display, 2 Megapixel camera)</i>	4
(5)	5	<i>(Video camera=Yes, Camera=No)</i>	5
(6)	6	<i>(Video camera=Yes, Black and white display)</i>	5
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**Violates Constraint:** "Video Ringtones cannot occur without video camera"



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**Violates Constraint:** "Video camera requires a camera and a color display"

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2	8 Million Colors	<b>Case Study Data: 96% of configurations in unconstrained CIT samples violate one or more constraints</b>				
3	16 Million Colors					
4	Black and White					
5	8 Million Colors					None
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# Constrained CIT

- Few existing tools handle constraints
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- Tools that do handle constraints, often require the user to re-model their system
- **But: real systems have constraints**

# Existing Constraint Support

<b>Algorithm</b>	<b>Constraint Handling</b>	<b>Re-Implementable</b>
AETG	Remodel	Partial
DDA	Soft only	Yes
Whitch - CTS	Simple/Expand	No
Whitch - TOFU	Expand	No
IPO	None	--
TestCover	Remodel	No
Simulated Annealing	Soft only	Yes
PICT	Full	Partial
Constraint Solving	None	--

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# Our Original Approach Constrained CIT

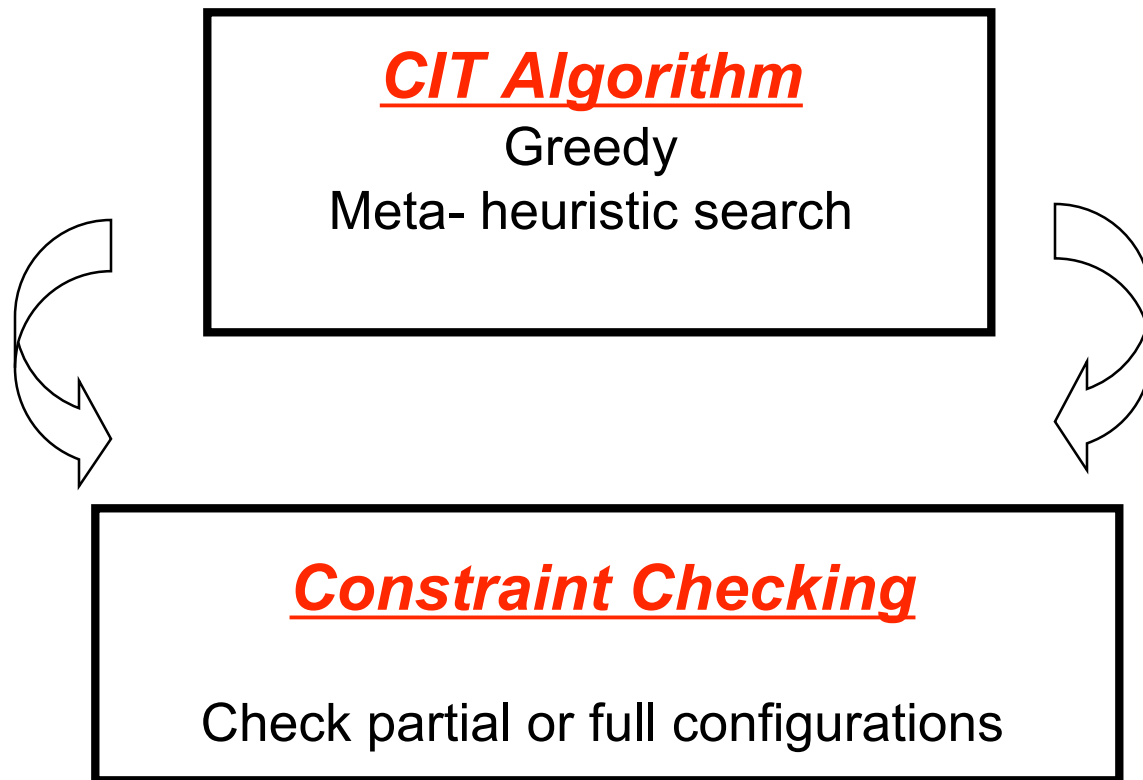
Represent **constraints as boolean formulae**

 Use **standard CIT** algorithms   
Use a SAT solver to:

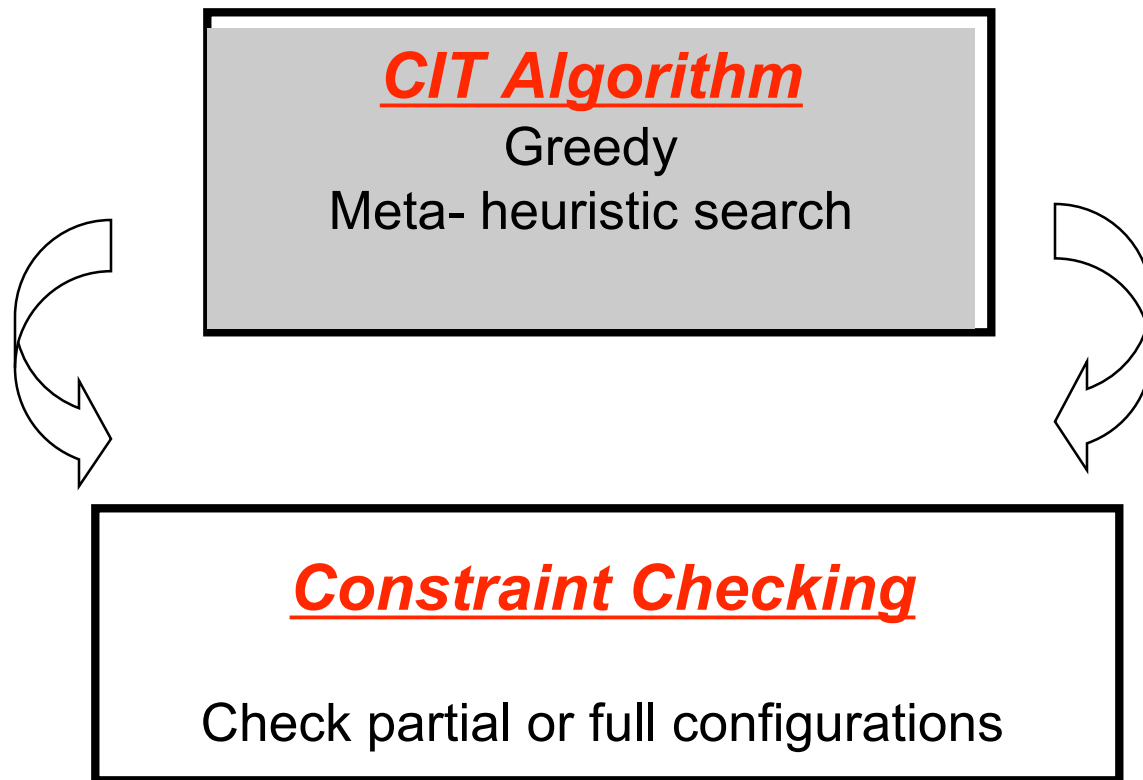
1. Uncover all implicit constraints
2. Incrementally check for satisfiability as the algorithms proceed



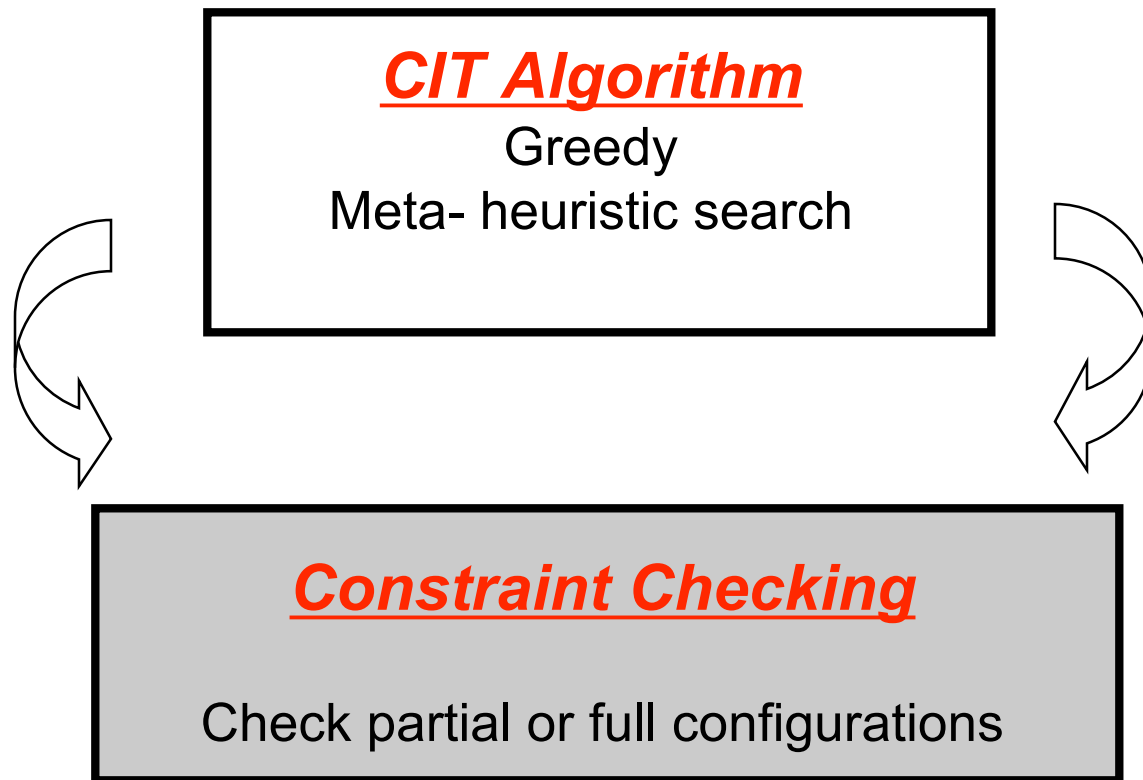
# Our Approach



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# Our Approach





## Greedy AETG-like

	?				

-select the first factor-value  
that covers most uncovered  
t-sets

## Greedy AETG-like

	4				

## Greedy AETG-like

	4			?	

- Iterate through all values for the factor
- Select value that covers most new t-sets

## Greedy AETG-like

	4		9		

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## Greedy AETG-like

	4		10		

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## Greedy AETG-like

	4		11		

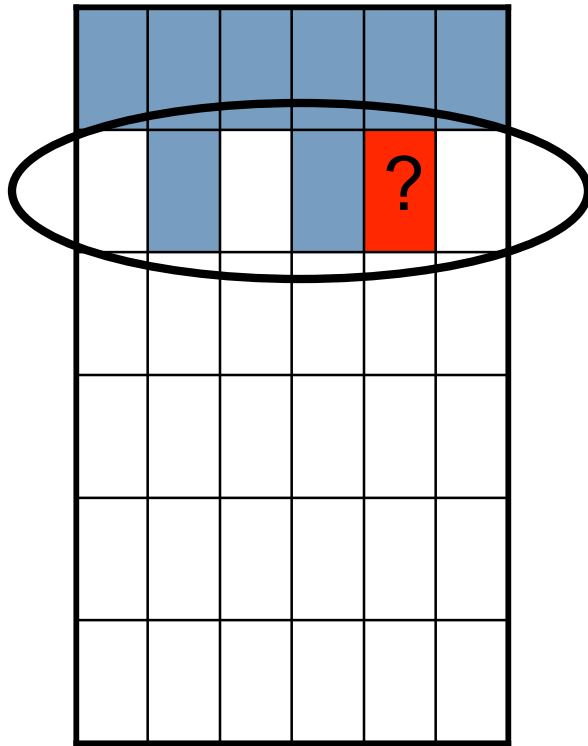
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## Greedy AETG-like

	4			9	

- Iterate through all values for the factor
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## Constraint Checking



- If **factor involved** in constraints
- Pass **partial** configuration
- Check if **SAT**

$$GV \wedge VC \wedge VR$$

# Performance

- Although our method was feasible, the overhead was **not insignificant**
- This agrees with conventional wisdom in the CIT community:
  - “Large numbers of constraints may significantly increase the time to find a solution”

# An Insight

- The most **expensive portion** of the AETG algorithm is selection of the “best” value at each step
- If we can **mine data** about infeasible and required values from the SAT solver’s **history** we may be able to decrease the evaluations

# Boolean Propagation

## Factors:

f: {v1,v2,v3}

g: {v4,v5}

h: {v6,v7,v8}

## Constraints:

require(g=v4,h=v6)

forbidden(f=v1,h=v6)

## at-most:

{!x1,!x2},{!x1,!x3},{!x2,!x3}

{!x4,!x5}

{!x6,!x7},{!x6,!x8},{!x7,!x8}

## at-least:

{x1,x2,x3}

{x4,x5}

{x6,x7,x8}

## forbidden:

{!x4,!x7}

{!x4,!x8}

{!x1,!x6}

# Boolean Propagation

X1

level 1



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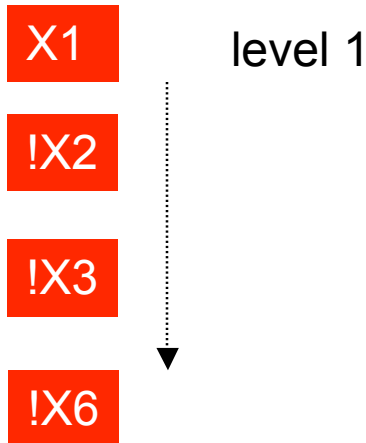
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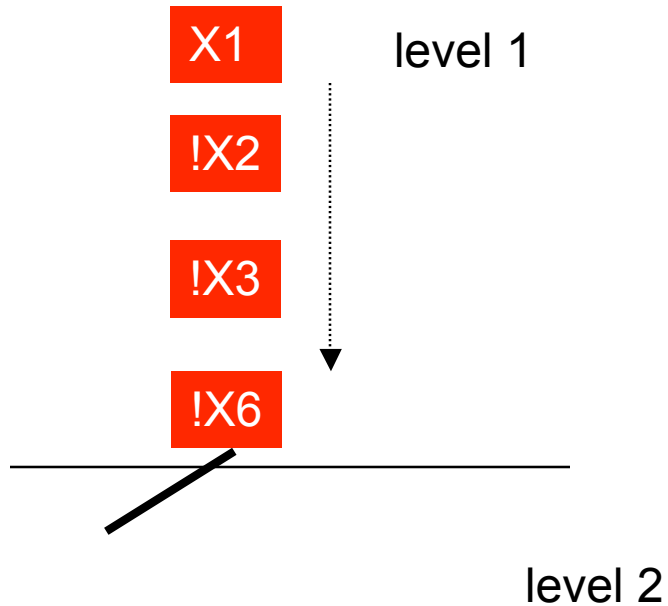
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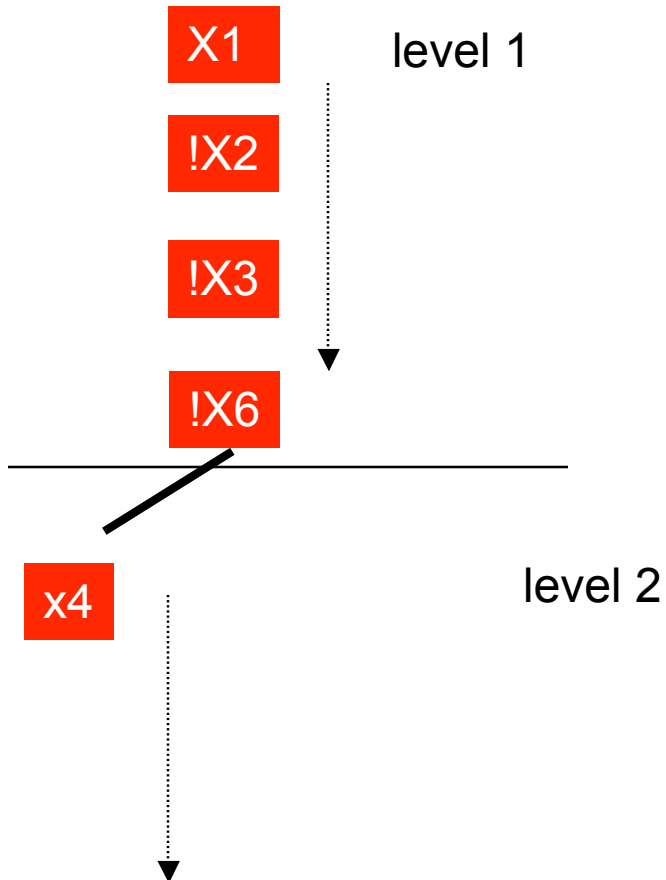
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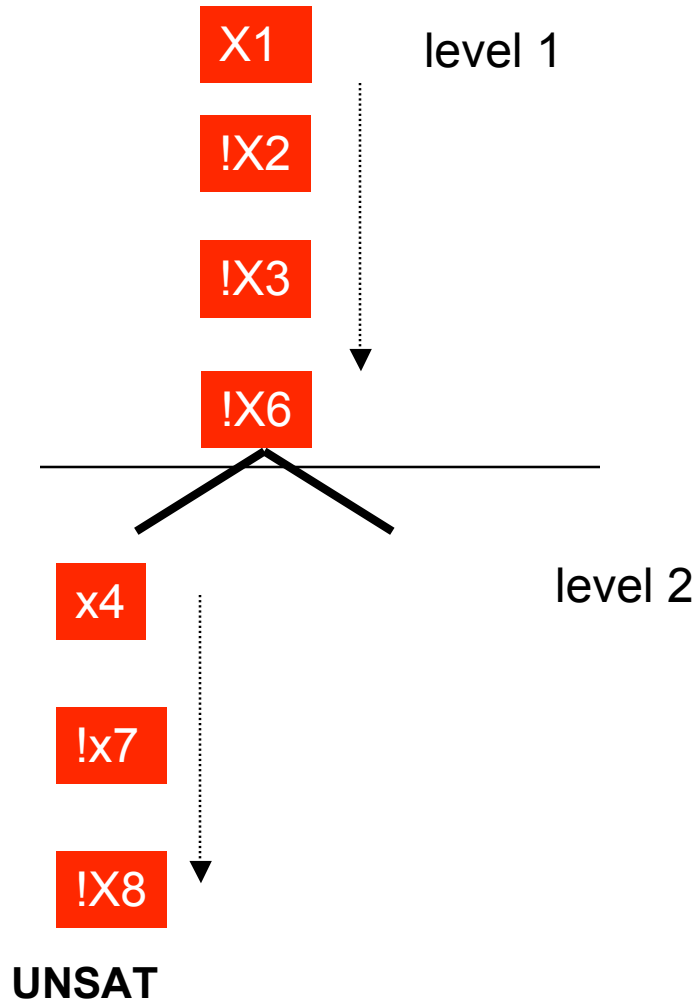
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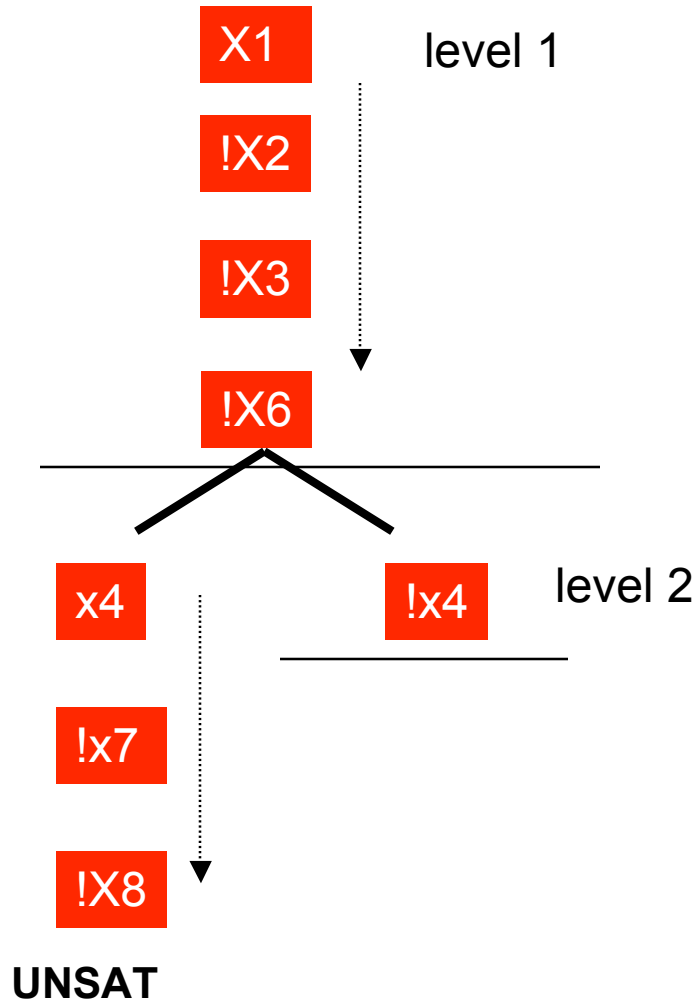
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## at-least:

{x1,x2,x3}

{x4,x5}

{x6,x7,x8}

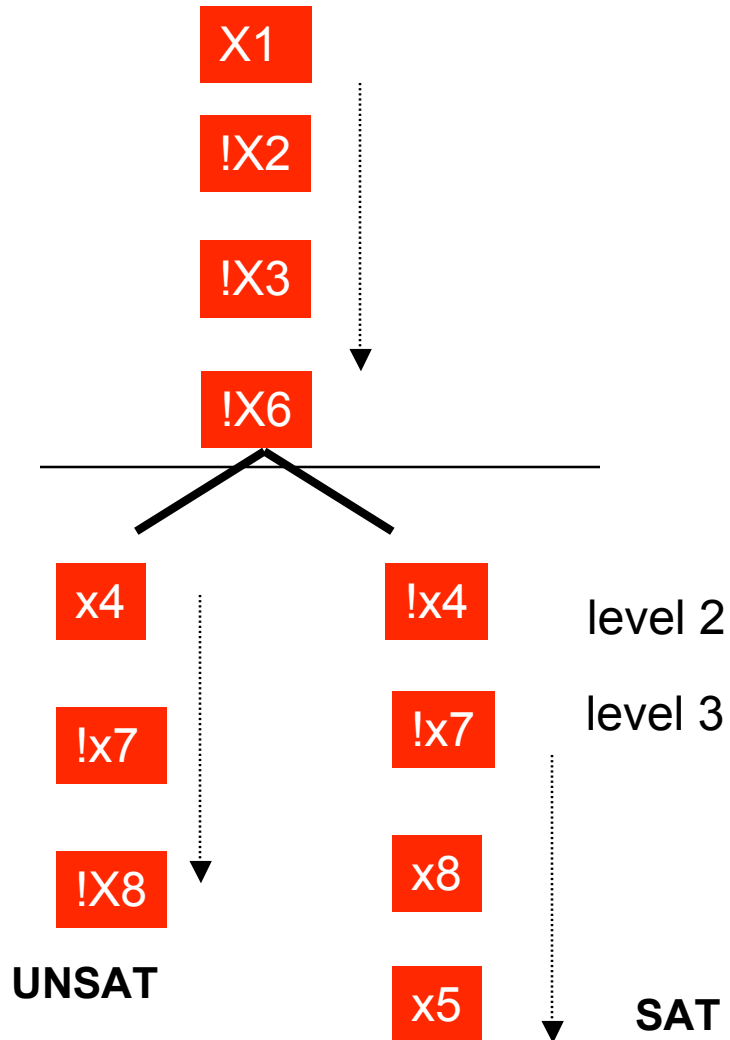
## forbidden:

{!x4,!x7}

{!x4,!x8}

{!x1,!x6}

# Boolean Propagation



## Factors:

$f: \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$   
 $g: \{v_4, v_5\}$   
 $h: \{v_6, v_7, v_8\}$

## Constraints:

$\text{require}(g=v_4, h=v_6)$   
 $\text{forbidden}(f=v_1, h=v_6)$

## at-most:

$\{\neg x_1, \neg x_2\}, \{\neg x_1, \neg x_3\}, \{\neg x_2, \neg x_3\}$   
 $\{\neg x_4, \neg x_5\}$   
 $\{\neg x_6, \neg x_7\}, \{\neg x_6, x_8\}, \{\neg x_7, \neg x_8\}$

## at-least:

$\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$   
 $\{x_4, x_5\}$   
 $\{x_6, x_7, x_8\}$

## forbidden:

$\{\neg x_4, \neg x_7\}$   
 $\{\neg x_4, \neg x_8\}$   
 $\{\neg x_1, \neg x_6\}$

## Filling in Factor 1

?	4				

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factor 5:

9,10,11

forbidden tuples:

(4,9)

(4,10)



## Filling in Factor 1

?	4				

factor 5:

9,10,11

forbidden tuples:

(4,9)

(4,10)

## Greedy AETG-like

?	4			11	

The SAT solver will deduce that factor 5 **MUST** be 11

## Filling in Factor 1

1	4			11	

We have filled in 2 values at once


## Filling in Factor 1

?	4			10	

If instead:

factor 5:

9,10,11

forbidden tuples:

(4,9)

## Filling in Factor 1

1	4			?	

Have 2 values on a  
**MAY list**  
10 or 11

This prunes the space that  
AETG has to search

# History Based Approach

- At each step of the algorithm
  - Mine the **MUST** and **MAY** -lists
  - Fill in MUST values
  - Only evaluate MAY values for a factor
  - Continue to check SAT at end of selection

# Evaluation

- We evaluated this on 5 case studies we have conducted from the literature
- A set of 30 simulated data sets based on the characteristics of our case studies
- Use MiniSAT: an incremental SAT solver

# Case Studies

	<b>Num Factors</b>	<b>Values</b>	<b>Num Cons</b>	<b>Factor Involved</b>	<b>Cons Arity</b>
<b><i>SPINs</i></b>	18	2-4	13	9	2
<b><i>SPINv</i></b>	55	2-4	49	33	2-3
<b><i>GCC</i></b>	199	2-3	40	36	2-3
<b><i>Apache</i></b>	172	2-6	7	18	2-5
<b><i>Bugzilla</i></b>	82	2-4	5	11	2-3



# Techniques

- We compared several versions of our algorithms:
  - Base version with no optimization
  - Incremental version - uses incremental SAT solving
  - History version - mines MUST and MAY data

# Case Studies: SAT calls

	Average # SAT calls (50 runs)			
	<b>Base SAT</b>	<b>Inc SAT</b>	<b>Hist SAT</b>	<b>% Dec</b>
SPINs	14,557	14,480	7,993	44.8
SPINv	97,379	95,848	37,021	61.4
GCC	57,388	55,432	31,089	43.9
Apac	44,199	40,088	32,687	18.5
Bugz	15,691	15,353	10,609	30.9

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# Case Studies: Time

	Average Time in Seconds (50 runs)					Avg Size	
	mAETG	Base SAT	Inc SAT	Hist SAT	% Inc	Basic SAT	Hist SAT
SPINs	0.3	1.7	0.4	0.3	8.4	27	27
SPINv	8.2	32.2	11.3	8.5	3.8	43	43
GCC	217.6	320.0	286.9	204.0	<b>-6.2</b>	25	25
Apac	278.7	318.6	249.2	244.1	<b>-12.4</b>	43	43
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# Across All Samples

	SAT Calls			
	Base SAT	Inc SAT	Hist SAT	% Dec
<b>Avg</b>	<b>55,793</b>	<b>55,058</b>	<b>24,265</b>	<b>59.0</b>

	Time in Seconds				
	mAETG	Base SAT	Inc SAT	Hist SAT	% Inc
<b>Avg</b>	<b>83.5</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>92.3</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>-9.8</b>

# Conclusions

- Most real industrial problems have non-trivial constraints - existing CIT methods will not scale
- Our method **integrates constraints** in such a way that **reduces CIT solution** time over unconstrained solutions **without sacrificing quality**
- Mining SAT history reduces the number of SAT calls and evaluations by reducing decisions made during the AETG algorithm

# Conclusions

- Most real industrial problems have non-trivial constraints - existing CIT methods will not scale
- Our method integrates constraints in such a way that reduces CIT solution time over unconstrained solutions without sacrificing quality
- Mining SAT history reduces the number of SAT calls and evaluations by reducing decisions made during the AETG algorithm
- In new work we have driven down the cost without sacrificing quality even further...

# Future Work

- Additional case studies
- Integrating more tightly with meta-heuristic search algorithms

# Acknowledgements

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