

Relational Constraint Solving in SMT

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Relational Reasoning

Many problems can be modeled **relationally**

- Ontologies
- Network systems
- High-level system design
- ...

Relational logic is well suited for reasoning about structurally rich problems

A Motivating Example

Modeling a Toy File System

There is a **root** directory

The **contents** defines relations between directories and files or directories

All **directories** and **files** are reachable from the **root** directory by following the **contents**

Contents relation is acyclic

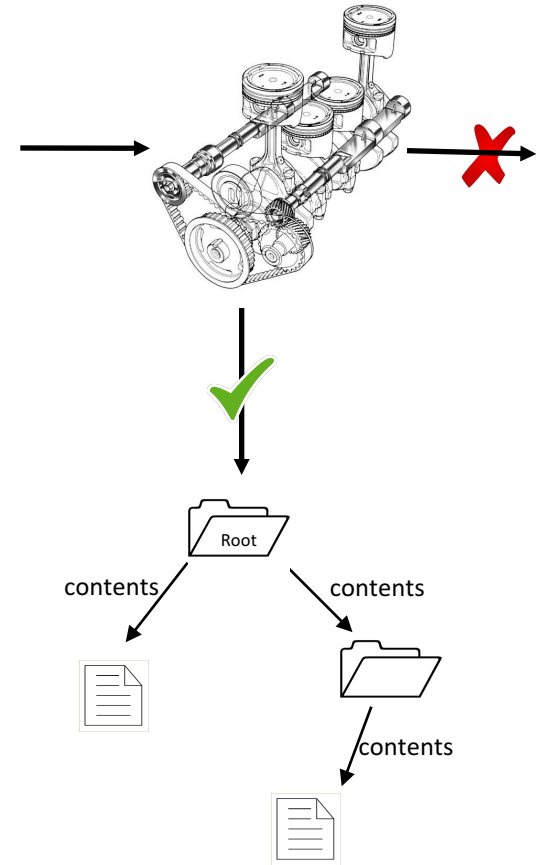
$Root \subseteq Dir$

$contents \subseteq Dir \times (File \cup Dir)$

$(File \cup Dir) \subseteq Root.^*contents$

$\forall d: Dir \mid \neg(d \subseteq d.^{\wedge}contents)$

A Relational Solver



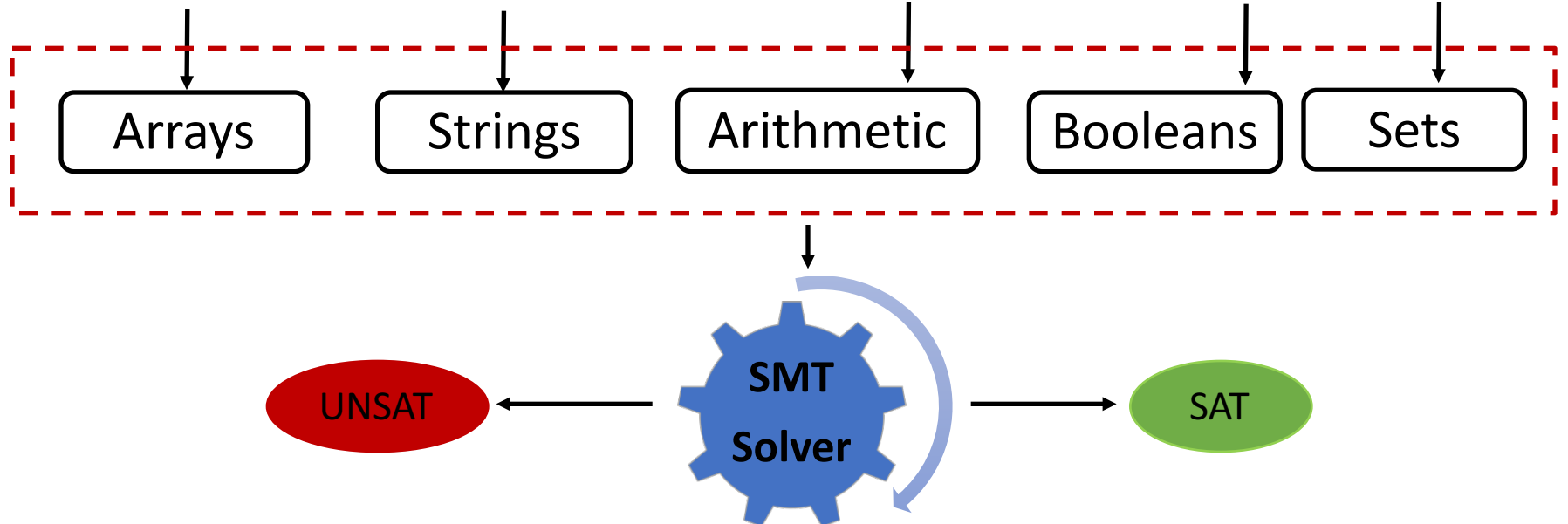
Technical Preliminaries

Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT)

Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT)

Decide the satisfiability of **many-sorted first-order logic** formulas with respect to combinations of background **theories**

$(a[i] > a[j]) \wedge (\text{str} = \text{"Hello World"}) \wedge (\text{len}(\text{str}) + x = 3) \wedge (A \vee B) \wedge (x \in S)$



Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT)

A **theory** $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathbf{I})$ defines

- A **signature** Σ : a set of non-logical symbols
- A class of Σ -**interpretations** \mathbf{I}
- **Examples**: integer arithmetic, strings, finite sets, ...
 - A simple **theory**: $\Sigma_s = \{0, 1, +, =\}$
 - A **formula** in the theory \mathcal{T}_s : $x + 0 = 1$

Related Work

Alloy

A **declarative language** based on first-order **relational logic** created at **MIT**

Model and analyze **structurally-rich** systems

SAT-based analysis by the Alloy Analyzer

- **Checks the consistency** of an Alloy Specification
- Can **disprove but only prove a given property** for an Alloy specification **within a given bounds**

Analysis of Alloy Specifications via SMT

El Ghazi et al. [8, 9, 10] **translates** the Alloy kernel language to SMT-LIB language and **solves using SMT solvers (AlloyPE)**

The resulting SMT formulas are difficult to solve due to **heavy usage of quantifiers** in the translation

Description Logics (DLs)

Fragments of relational logic for efficient **knowledge representation and reasoning**

Consider on purpose **only unary and binary relations**

OWL: a standardized semantic **web ontology language** based on **description logics**

- **Efficient solvers**: KONCLUDE, Hermit, FaCT++ and etc.

A Theory of Finite Set \mathcal{T}_S in SMT

A theory \mathcal{T}_S of **finite sets** was introduced by Kshitij Bansal et al. [3]

Signature Σ_S of \mathcal{T}_S

- **Singleton set constructor:** $[-]: \alpha \rightarrow \text{Set}(\alpha)$
- **Subset:** $\sqsubseteq : \text{Set}(\alpha) \times \text{Set}(\alpha) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$
- **Membership:** $\in : \alpha \times \text{Set}(\alpha) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$
- **Union, intersection, set difference:**
 $\sqcup, \sqcap, \setminus : \text{Set}(\alpha) \times \text{Set}(\alpha) \rightarrow \text{Set}(\alpha)$

A modular **set solver** was implemented in **CVC4**

My Research

A Theory of Finite Relations $\mathcal{J}_{\mathcal{R}}$

Type Notations

Tup_n($\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$): a parametric tuple sort ($n > 0$)

Set(Tup_n($\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$)): a relational sort
abbreviated as **Rel_n($\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$)**

Relational Signature $\Sigma_{\mathcal{R}}$ of $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$

Tuple constructor:

$$\langle _ , \dots , _ \rangle : \alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n \rightarrow \text{Tup}_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

- **Example:** $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$ a binary integer tuple constant

Singleton relation constructor:

$$[-] : \text{Tup}_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \rightarrow \text{Rel}_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

- **Example:** $[\langle 1, \text{“Hello”} \rangle]$ a singleton set of integer and string binary tuple

Relational Signature $\Sigma_{\mathcal{R}}$ of $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$

Product: $*$: $\text{Rel}_m(\alpha) \times \text{Rel}_n(\beta) \rightarrow \text{Rel}_{m+n}(\alpha, \beta)$

➤ **Example:** $R1 = [\langle 1, 2 \rangle, \langle 3, 4 \rangle]$; $R2 = [\langle 5, 6 \rangle]$
 $R1 * R2 = [\langle 1, 2, 5, 6 \rangle, \langle 3, 4, 5, 6 \rangle]$

Join: \bowtie : $\text{Rel}_{p+1}(\alpha, \gamma) \times \text{Rel}_{q+1}(\gamma, \beta) \rightarrow \text{Rel}_{p+q}(\alpha, \beta)$
with $p + q > 0$

➤ **Example:** $R1 = [\langle 1, \text{"Hello"} \rangle, \langle 2, \text{"Hi"} \rangle]$;
 $R2 = [\langle \text{"Hello"}, 3 \rangle, \langle \text{"World"}, 4 \rangle]$;
 $R1 \bowtie R2 = [\langle 1, 3 \rangle]$

Relational Signature $\Sigma_{\mathcal{R}}$ of $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$

Transpose: $_{}^{-1}: \text{Rel}_m(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) \rightarrow \text{Rel}_m(\alpha_m, \dots, \alpha_1)$

➤ **Example:** $R = [\langle 1, \text{"Hello"} \rangle, \langle 2, \text{"Hi"} \rangle];$
 $R^{-1} = [\langle \text{"Hello"}, 1 \rangle, \langle \text{"Hi"}, 2 \rangle];$

Transitive Closure: $_{}^{+}: \text{Rel}_2(\alpha, \alpha) \rightarrow \text{Rel}_2(\alpha, \alpha)$

➤ **Example:** $R = [\langle 1, 2 \rangle, \langle 2, 3 \rangle]$
 $R^{+} = [\langle 1, 2 \rangle, \langle 2, 3 \rangle, \langle 1, 3 \rangle]$

A Calculus $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}}$ for $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$

A Compact Calculus for $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}}$

INTER UP

$$\frac{x \in s \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad x \in t \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad s \sqcap t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in s \sqcap t}$$

INTER DOWN

$$\frac{x \in s \sqcap t \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in s, x \in t}$$

UNION UP

$$\frac{x \in u \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad u \in \{s, t\} \quad s \sqcup t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in s \sqcup t}$$

UNION DOWN

$$\frac{x \in s \sqcup t \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in s \quad \parallel \quad \mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in t}$$

Derivation rules for intersection and union

A Compact Calculus for $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}}$

DIFF UP

$$\frac{x \in s \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad s \setminus t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in t \quad \parallel \quad \mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in s \setminus t}$$

DIFF DOWN

$$\frac{x \in s \setminus t \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in s, x \notin t}$$

SINGLE UP

$$\frac{[x] \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \in [x]}$$

SINGLE DOWN

$$\frac{x \in [y] \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, x \approx y}$$

EMPTY UNSAT

$$\frac{x \in [] \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\text{unsat}}$$

SET DISEQ

$$\frac{s \not\approx t \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, z \in s, z \notin t \quad \parallel \quad \mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, z \notin s, z \in t}$$

EQ UNSAT

$$\frac{(t \not\approx t) \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\text{unsat}}$$

Derivation rules for set difference, singleton,
disequality and contradiction

TRANSPOSE Derivation Rule ($_^{-1}$)

TRANSP UP

$$\frac{\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \in R \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad R^{-1} \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_n, \dots, x_1 \rangle \in R^{-1}}$$

TRANSP DOWN

$$\frac{\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \in R^{-1} \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_n, \dots, x_1 \rangle \in R}$$

JOIN Derivation Rule (\bowtie)

JOIN UP

$$\frac{\langle x_1, \dots, x_m, z \rangle \in R_1, \langle z, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_2 \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad m + n > 0 \quad R_1 \bowtie R_2 \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_1 \bowtie R_2}$$

JOIN DOWN

$$\frac{\langle x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_1 \bowtie R_2 \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad \text{ar}(R_1) = m + 1}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, \dots, x_m, z \rangle \in R_1, \langle z, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_2}$$

z is a fresh variable

PRODUCT Derivation Rule (*)

PROD UP

$$\frac{\langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle \in R_1 \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_2 \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad R_1 * R_2 \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_1 * R_2}$$

PROD DOWN

$$\frac{\langle x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_1 * R_2 \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad \text{ar}(R_1) = m}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle \in R_1, \langle y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle \in R_2}$$

TRANSITIVE CLOSURE Derivation Rule ($_+$)

TCLOS UP I

$$\frac{\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \in R \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad R^+ \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{S})}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \in R^+}$$

TCLOS UP II

$$\frac{\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \in R^+, \langle x_2, x_3 \rangle \in R^+ \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, x_3 \rangle \in R^+}$$

TCLOS DOWN

$$\frac{\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \in R^+ \in \mathcal{S}^*}{\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \in R \quad \| \quad \mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, z \rangle \in R, \langle z, x_2 \rangle \in R \\ \| \quad \mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S}, \langle x_1, z_1 \rangle \in R, \langle z_1, z_2 \rangle \in R^+, \langle z_2, x_2 \rangle \in R, z_1 \not\approx z_2 \end{array}}$$

z, z_1, z_2 are fresh variables

An Example

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\langle a, b \rangle \in R^+, \langle a, b \rangle \notin R, \langle a, b \rangle \notin R \bowtie R\}$$

TCLOS DOWN

X

$$\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S} \cup \{\langle a, b \rangle \in R\} \cup \{\langle a, k \rangle \in R, \langle k, b \rangle \in R\}$$

EQ UNSAT

$$\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S} \cup \{\langle a, b \rangle \notin R, \langle a, k_1 \rangle \in R, \langle k_1, k_2 \rangle \in R, \langle k_2, b \rangle \in R, k_1 \neq k_2\}$$

UNSAT

NO RULES APPLY

$$\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S} \cup \{\langle a, b \rangle \in R \bowtie R\}$$

(After exhaustively applying JOIN-UP)

EQ UNSAT

$$\langle a, b \rangle \notin R \bowtie R$$

UNSAT

SAT

Calculus $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}}$ Correctness

Calculus $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}}$ Correctness

Refutation Sound – a closed derivation tree proves that input constraints are **UNSAT**

Model Sound – from a saturated branch of a derivation tree one can extract a model for input constraints

Detailed proof can be found in Meng et al. [21]

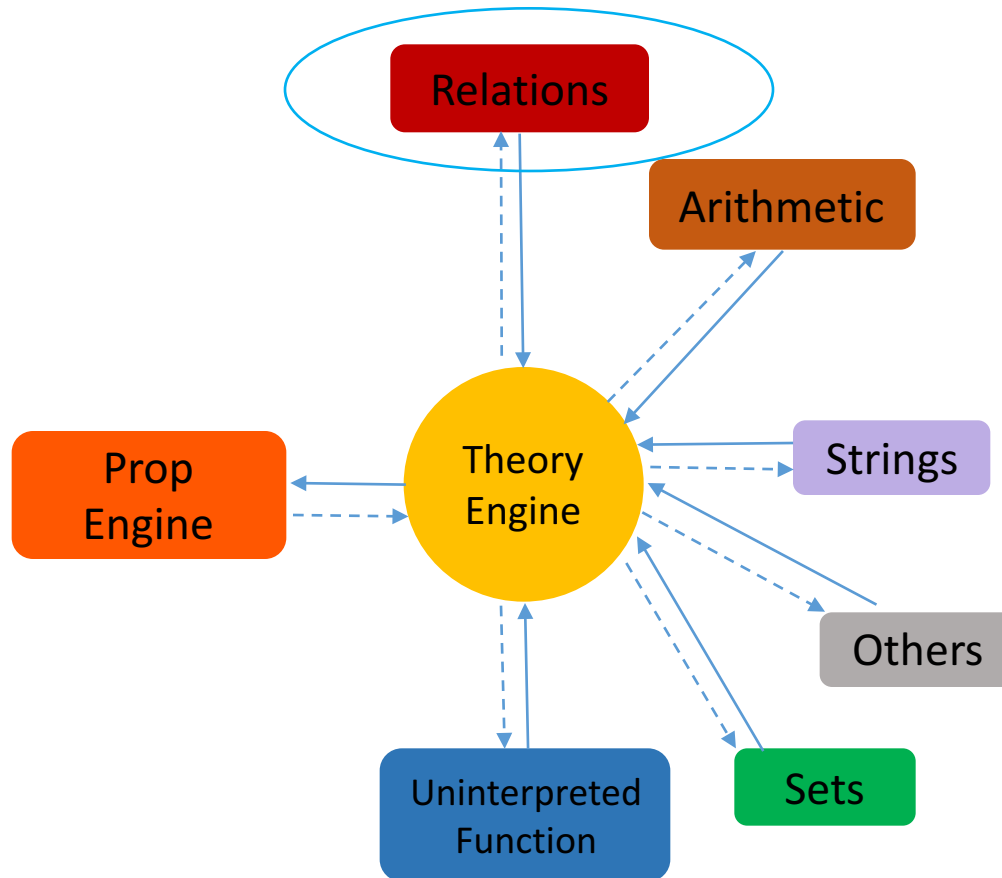
Termination for a Fragment of $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$

(element)	$e := x$
(unary relation)	$u := x \mid [] \mid u_1 \sqcup u_2 \mid u_1 \sqcap u_2 \mid [\langle e \rangle] \mid b \bowtie u$
(binary relation)	$b := x \mid [] \mid b_1 \sqcup b_2 \mid b_1 \sqcap b_2 \mid [\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle] \mid b^{-1}$
(constraint)	$\varphi := e_1 \approx e_2 \mid \langle e \rangle \in u \mid \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \in b \mid \neg\varphi_1$

Termination: If S is a finite set of constraints generated by the grammar above, then all derivation trees are finite.

Detailed proof can be found in Meng et al. [21]

A Relational Solver in CVC4



A Relational Solver in CVC4

- Allows us to solve constraints from a combination of relations and other domains
- Extend SMT-LIB/CVC4 native language with support for relations
- Enables natural mappings from several relational modeling languages to SMT
- Brings to those languages the power of SMT solvers and their ability to reason efficiently about built-in types

Applications of $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{R}}$

Application 1: Alloy to CVC4

Support Alloy kernel language in **SMT natively**

Finite model finding of CVC4 can efficiently reason about problems with presence of quantifiers

Built a **translator** from Alloy kernel language to SMT

Can **disprove and prove properties** with respect to Alloy specifications

ALLOY KERNEL LANGUAGE	CVC4
Signature sig S	$S : \text{Rel}_1(\text{Atom})$
Field $f : S_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow S_n$ of a sig S	$f : \text{Rel}_{n+1}(\text{Atom}, \dots, \text{Atom})$ $f \sqsubseteq S * S_1 * \dots * S_n$
sig S_1, \dots, S_n extends S	$S_1 \sqsubseteq S, \dots, S_n \sqsubseteq S$ $S_i \sqcap S_j = []$ for $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ $S_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup S_n = S$ if S is abstract
sig S_1, \dots, S_n in S,	$S_1 \sqsubseteq S, \dots, S_n \sqsubseteq S$

ALLOY KERNEL LANGUAGE	CVC4
Sets Operators: +, &, -, =, in	$\sqcup, \sqcap, -, \approx, \sqsubseteq$
Relational Operators: $\sim, \cdot, \rightarrow, \wedge$	$_{-}^{-1}, \bowtie, *, _{+}$
Logical operators: and, or, not	AND, OR, NOT
Quantifiers: all, some	FORALL, EXISTS

Evaluation on Alloy Benchmarks

Evaluated CVC4 with two configurations

- **CVC4**: enables full native support for relational operators
- **CVC4+AX**: encodes all relational operators as uninterpreted functions with axioms

Compared with **Alloy Analyzer** and **AlloyPE** on two sets of benchmarks:

1. From AlloyPE and
2. From an academic course

Evaluation on Alloy Benchmarks

Compared to the Alloy Analyzer

- CVC4 is **overall slower for SAT benchmarks**
- CVC4 **solves UNSAT benchmarks**, whereas the Alloy Analyzer can only answer bounded UNSAT

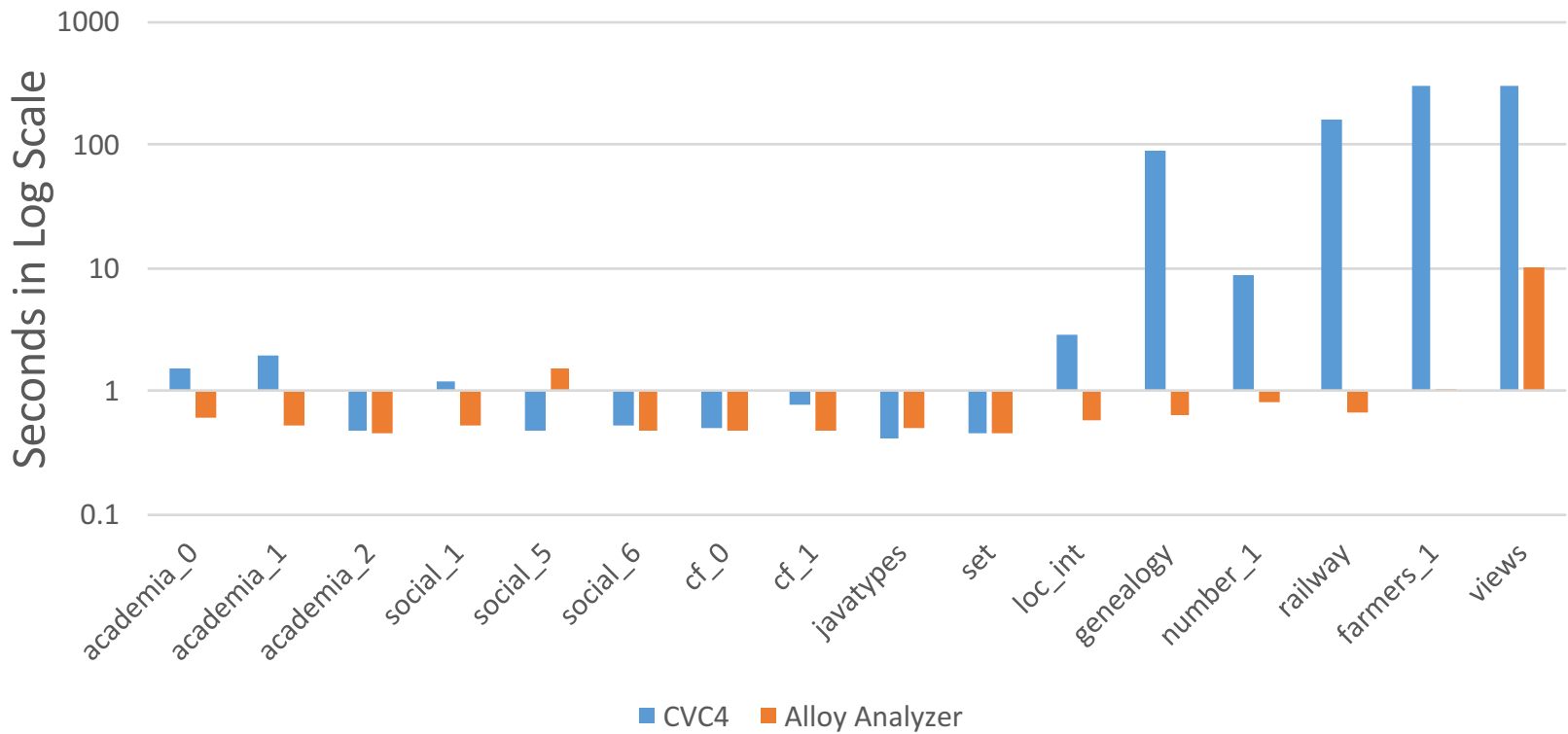
Compared to AlloyPE

- CVC4 **solves SAT benchmarks**, whereas AlloyPE solves none
- CVC4 **solves most of AlloyPE's benchmarks**

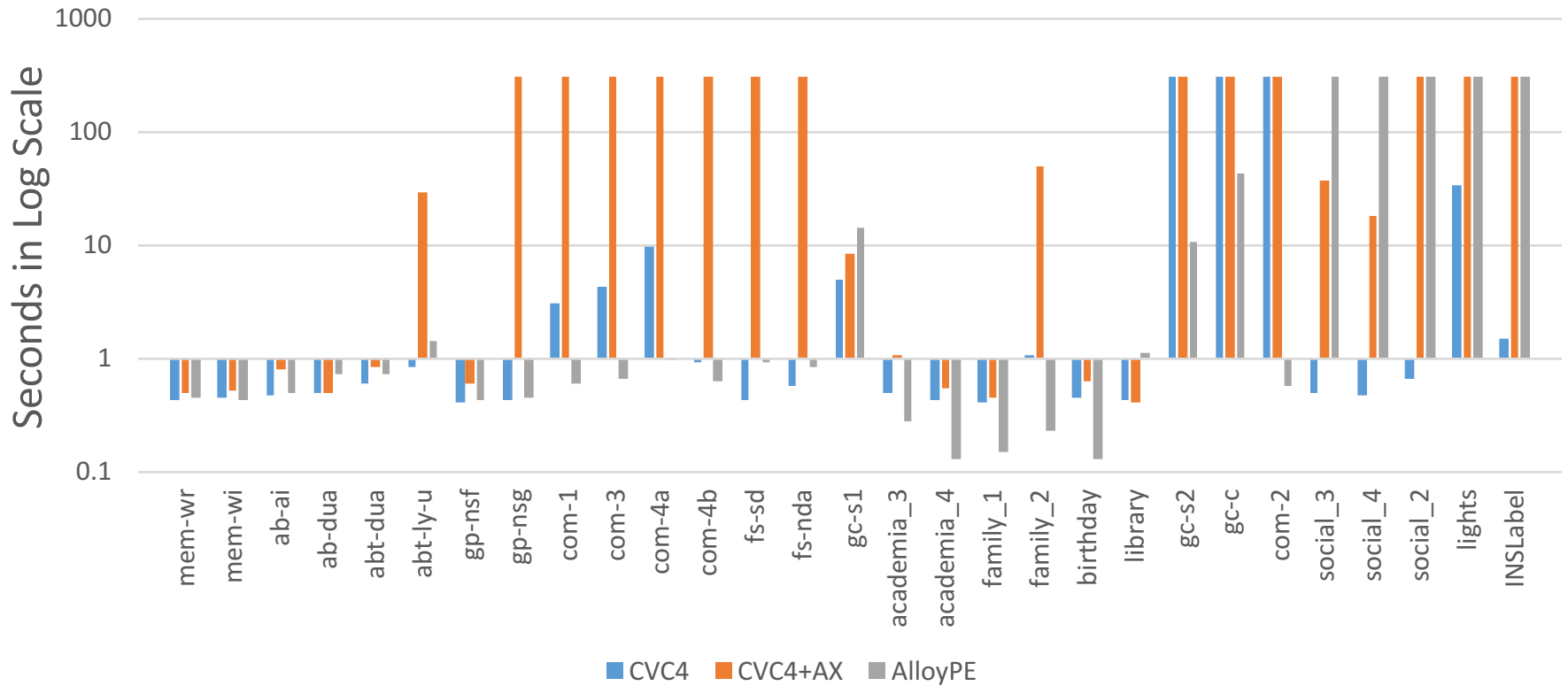
Compared to CVC4+AX

- CVC4 **solves SAT benchmarks**, whereas CVC4+AX solves none
- CVC4 **solves significantly more UNSAT benchmarks**

Evaluation on SAT Benchmarks



Evaluation on UNSAT Benchmarks



Application 2: OWL DL to SMT

OWL DL based on an **expressive** description logic fragment

Built a **translator** from **OWL DL** to **SMT** in $\mathcal{J}_{\mathcal{R}}$

Check **logical consistency** of OWL models using CVC4

OWL DL	CVC4
Individual name a	$a : \text{Atom}$
Nominal $\{a\}$	$\{<a>\}$
Top concept \top Bottom concept \perp	$\text{Univ}, \{\forall a : \text{Atom} \mid <a> \in \text{Univ}\}$ $[\]$
Atomic concept C Role R	$C : \text{Rel}_1(\text{Atom})$ $R : \text{Rel}_2(\text{Atom}, \text{Atom})$
Union $C \sqcup D$ Intersection $C \sqcap D$	$C \sqcup D$ $C \sqcap D$
Inverse role R^- Complement $\neg C$	R^{-1} $\text{Univ} \setminus C$

OWL DL	CVC4
Concept, role assertion $C(a), R(a; b)$	$a \in C, \langle a, b \rangle \in R$
Individual (dis)equality $a \approx b, a \not\approx b$	$a \approx b, a \not\approx b$
Concept, role inclusion $C \sqsubseteq D, R \sqsubseteq S$	$C \sqsubseteq D, R \sqsubseteq S$
Concept, role equiv. $C \equiv D, R \equiv S$	$C \approx D, R \approx S$
Complex role inclusion $R_1 \circ R_2 \sqsubseteq S$	$R_1 \bowtie R_2 \sqsubseteq S$
Role disjointness $\text{Disjoint}(R, S)$	$R \sqcap S \approx []$

OWL DL	CVC4
Existential restriction $\exists R.C$	$R \bowtie C$
Universal restriction $\forall R.C$	$[x \mid x \in \text{Univ} \wedge [x] \bowtie R \sqsubseteq C]$
At-least restriction $\geq_n R.C$	$[x \mid x \in \text{Univ} \wedge (\exists a_1, \dots, a_n: \text{Atom} \langle a_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle a_n \rangle \sqsubseteq (([x] \bowtie R) \sqcap C) \wedge \text{Dist}(a_1, \dots, a_n))]$
At-most restriction $\leq_n R.C$	$[x \mid x \in \text{Univ} \wedge (\exists a_1, \dots, a_n: \text{Atom} (([x] \bowtie R) \sqcap C) \sqsubseteq [\langle a_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle a_n \rangle] \wedge [\langle a_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle a_n \rangle] \sqsubseteq C)]$
Local reflexivity $\exists R.\text{Self}$	$\langle x, y \rangle \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in R \ x \approx y]$

Evaluation on OWL Benchmarks

Evaluated on **OWL models** from 4th OWL Reasoner Evaluation competition

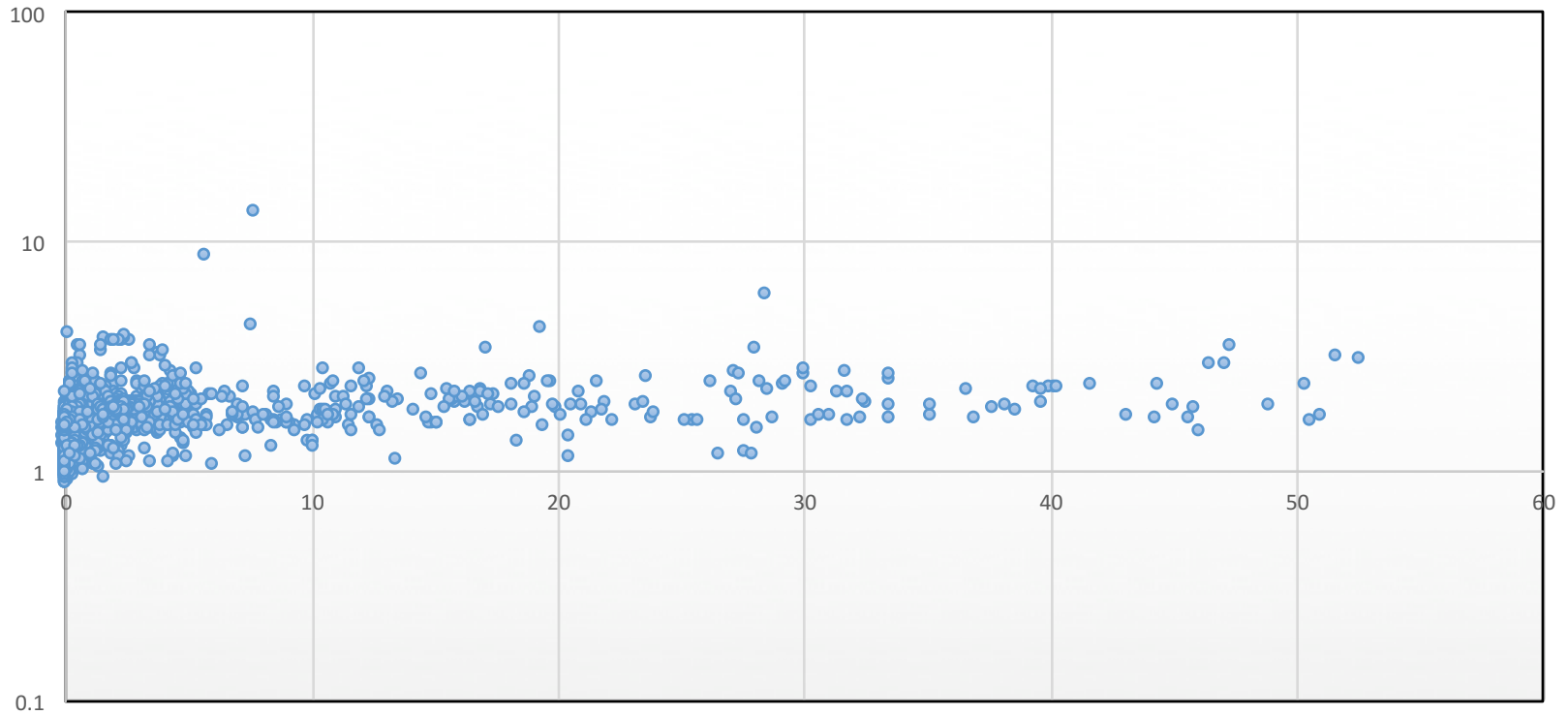
Compared with a state of the art **DL reasoner Hermit**

For the ones (4269) we both solved:

- **CVC4** takes **2.62s** per benchmark and solves faster on **1617** benchmarks
- **Hermit** takes **1.76s** per benchmark and solves faster on **2652** benchmarks

Comparison with HermiT

X-Values: CVC4
Y-Values: HermiT (in Log Scale)



Summary

- Introduced a **theory of finite relations in SMT**
- Developed a **refutation-sound and model-sound calculus** for the theory of relations
- Demonstrated useful **applications** in Alloy and OWL
- Shown **promising experimental results** on Alloy and OWL benchmarks

Thank you!



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A Toy File System Specification in Alloy

```
abstract sig FSO {}
sig File extends FSO {}
sig Dir extends FSO {
  contents: Set FSO
}
-- contents relation is acyclic
fact {all d: Dir | not (d in d.^contents)}
-- Every file system object only has one location
assert oneLocation {
  all o : FSO | lone d : FSO | o in d.contents
}
```

check oneLocation for 7

An Example

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\langle a, b \rangle \notin R^{-1}, R \approx Q, \langle a \rangle \in P, \langle b \rangle \in P, P * P \approx Q \sqcap T\}$$

PROD UP

$$\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S} \cup \{\langle a, b \rangle \in P * P, \langle b, a \rangle \in P * P, \langle a, a \rangle \in P * P, \dots\}$$

$P * P \approx Q \sqcap T$

INTER DOWN

$$\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S} \cup \{\langle a, b \rangle \in Q, \langle b, a \rangle \in Q, \langle a, a \rangle \in Q, \langle b, b \rangle \in Q, \dots\}$$

$\langle a, b \rangle \notin R^{-1}, R \approx Q$

TRANS UP

$$\mathcal{S} := \mathcal{S} \cup \{\langle a, b \rangle \in R^{-1}, \dots\}$$

EQ UNSAT

$\langle a, b \rangle \notin R^{-1}$

UNSAT

Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT)

A **theory** $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathbf{I})$ defines

- A **signature** Σ : a set of non-logical symbols
- A class of Σ -**interpretations** \mathbf{I}
- **Examples**: integer arithmetic, strings, finite sets, ...
 - A simple **theory**: $\Sigma_s = \{0, 1, +, =\}$
 - A **formula** in the theory \mathcal{T}_s : $x + 0 = 1$