

Combining Decision Procedures

Silvio Ranise and Christophe Ringeissen

LORIA

Lecture 3

Outline

- 1 Motivation and basic notions
- 2 Nelson-Oppen, Shostak: A Family Picture
- 3 Related Work and Other Combination Problems

The Combination Problem

Verification conditions typically are in combination of many data-structures/theories

- arithmetic
- uninterpreted function symbols
- arrays
- lists
- records
- sets
- ...

Uninterpreted Functions + Arithmetic: An Example

Consider T_{UF} the theory of equality, and $T_{\mathbb{R}}$ the theory of linear of arithmetic (over the Reals)

The $T_{UF} \cup T_{\mathbb{R}}$ -satisfiability problem

$$f(c) + 1 \neq 1 + f(d), c \leq d, d + a \leq c, a + b = 1, b = 1 + a$$

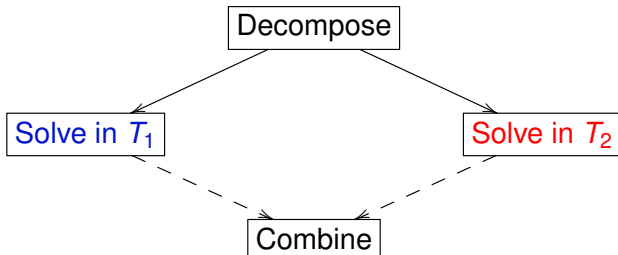
can be equivalently transformed into

$$x = f(c), y = f(d),$$

$$x + 1 \neq 1 + y, c \leq d, d + a \leq c, a + b = 1, b = 1 + a$$

How to solve this conjunction of pure formulas in a modular way by combining a T_{UF} -satisfiability procedure and a $T_{\mathbb{R}}$ -satisfiability procedure?

Combination: General Principle



Decompose: purify the problem, by introducing existentially quantified new variables to denote aliens

Solve: existence of models?

Combine: build a combined model from the models of T_1 and T_2

Decomposition

Purification performed via Variable Abstraction

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{VA} \quad \varphi \cup \{p(\dots, \mathbf{s}[t]_\omega, \dots)\} \\
 \quad \vdash \\
 \quad \varphi \cup \{p(\dots, \mathbf{s}[x]_\omega, \dots), x = t\} \\
 \text{IEQ} \quad \varphi \cup \{\mathbf{s} = t\} \\
 \quad \vdash \\
 \quad \varphi \cup \{x = \mathbf{s}, x = t\} \\
 \text{IDEQ} \quad \varphi \cup \{\mathbf{s} \neq t\} \\
 \quad \vdash \\
 \quad \varphi \cup \{x = \mathbf{s}, y = t, x \neq y\}
 \end{array}$$

where \mathbf{s} is a Σ_i -term, t is a Σ_j -term, $i \neq j$

Union of Theories: Example

- Two theories:

$T_1 = \text{Linear Rational Arithmetic}$

$$T_2 = \begin{cases} r(w(v, i, e), i) = e \\ i \neq j \Rightarrow r(w(v, i, e), j) = r(v, j) \end{cases}$$

- $T_1 \cup T_2$ -satisfiability of Φ :

$$e = r(v, j) \wedge e' = r(v, i) \wedge r(w(v, i, e), i) \neq e' \wedge i + j \leq 2j \wedge j + 4i \leq 5i$$

Decomposition: Example

Naive approach :

- Decompose Φ into $\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$:

$$\Phi_1 = i+j \leq 2j \wedge j+4i \leq 5i$$

$$\Phi_2 = e = r(v, j) \wedge e' = r(v, i) \wedge r(w(v, i, e), i) \neq e'$$

- Φ_1 is T_1 -satisfiable
- Φ_2 is T_2 -satisfiable
- Return *satisfiable* ???

Decomposition (cont'd)

- In fact : *unsatisfiable*...

$$i+j \leq 2j \wedge j+4i \leq 5i \Rightarrow i = j$$

$$e = r(v, j) \wedge e' = r(v, i) \wedge r(w(v, i, e), i) \neq e' \wedge i = j \Rightarrow \perp$$

- Problems :
 - Shared variables
 - Shared equality predicate
- Possible solution: *propagation of shared equalities between variables*...

A Family Picture: Outline

- State of the art: *combination of disjoint theories*
 - Nelson-Oppen: *conjunction of ground literals*
 - Shostak: *conjunction of ground equalities and inequalities*
- **This lecture:**
 - **New:** rational reconstruction of combination methods
 - ➔ classification of component theories

Combination Methods for the Satisfiability Problem

- **Nelson-Oppen Approach**

- Unions of disjoint theories
- Combination of satisfiability procedures
- General brute-force method, easy to understand, but no interest in practice...

- **Shostak Approach**

- Union of disjoint theories including the theory of equality
- Combination of Congruence Closure (for the theory of equality) and specific procedures for other theories
- Efficient method, difficult to prove, but implemented in many systems...

A Rational Reconstruction

Address the following problems:

- Which theories to ensure correctness of combination methods?
- Which procedures to combine?
- How to specify the combination methods to ease understanding and correctness?

Combination of Satisfiability Procedures

- Combination procedure:** under some conditions,
 $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2$ is $T_1 \cup T_2$ -satisfiable iff there exists some finite set Φ_0
of shared literals such that
- $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_0$ is T_1 -satisfiable,
 - $\Phi_2 \cup \Phi_0$ is T_2 -satisfiable,
 - and Φ_0 states which shared variables are equal or not.
- When is this procedure complete?
if T_1 and T_2 are signature-disjoint and **stably infinite**
 T is **stably infinite** if for any T -satisfiable Φ , there exists a model of T satisfying Φ and whose domain is infinite.
 - How to find Φ_0 ? Thanks to **Convexity**
 T is **convex** if for any set of literals Φ , we have
 $T \models (\Phi \Rightarrow \bigvee_{i=1}^n x_i = y_i)$ if and only if
 $T \models (\Phi \Rightarrow x_j = y_j)$ for some $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

Arrangements

Guess a shared formula Φ_0 as an arrangement defined by an equivalence relation over a set of variables V .

Notations

Given an equivalence relation \equiv on V , the equivalence class of $x \in V$ w.r.t \equiv is denoted by $[x]_{\equiv}$.

Let $r : V / \equiv \rightarrow V$ such that for any $x \in V$, $r([x]_{\equiv}) \equiv x$. The mapping r returns a representative element for each equivalence class w.r.t \equiv .

An equivalence relation \equiv on V uniquely defines a (consistent) set of (shared) V -literals called an **arrangement over V** :

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_0 &= \{x = r([x]_{\equiv}) \mid x \in V, x \neq r([x]_{\equiv})\} \\ &\quad \cup \{r([x]_{\equiv}) \neq r([y]_{\equiv}) \mid x, y \in V, r([x]_{\equiv}) \neq r([y]_{\equiv})\} \end{aligned}$$

Example

Let $V = \{x, y, u, v\}$ and \equiv the equivalence relation over V whose equivalence classes are $\{x, y\}, \{u, v\}$. Then $\Phi_0 = \{x = y, u = v, y \neq v\}$.

For \equiv defined by $\{x, y, u, v\}$, $\Phi_0 = \{x = v, y = v, u = v\}$

For \equiv defined by $\{x\}, \{y, u, v\}$, $\Phi_0 = \{y = v, u = v, x \neq v\}$

For \equiv defined by $\{x\}, \{y\}, \{u\}, \{v\}$, $\Phi_0 = \{x \neq y, x \neq u, x \neq v, y \neq u, y \neq v, u \neq v\}$

Non-Deterministic Nelson-Oppen Algorithm

Identification $(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)_{T_1 \cup T_2}$

\vdash

$\bigvee_{\Phi_0} ((\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_0)_{T_1} \wedge (\Phi_2 \cup \Phi_0)_{T_2})$

where Φ_0 is any arrangement over $Var(\Phi_1) \cap Var(\Phi_2)$

Decision – True $(\Phi_i)_{T_i} \vdash \top$ if Φ_i is T_i -satisfiable

Decision – False $(\Phi_i)_{T_i} \vdash \perp$ if Φ_i is T_i -unsatisfiable

Combination Procedure: Completeness

Completeness proof is based on this *Combination Lemma*:

Lemma

Let T_1 be a Σ_1 -theory and T_2 a Σ_2 -theory such that Σ_1 and Σ_2 are disjoint signatures.

A formula $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$ is $T_1 \cup T_2$ -satisfiable iff there exists an arrangement ϕ_0 over the set of shared variables $\text{Var}(\phi_1) \cap \text{Var}(\phi_2)$ such that

- $\phi_1 \cup \phi_0$ is satisfiable in a model \mathcal{A}_1 of T_1 , and
- $\phi_2 \cup \phi_0$ is satisfiable in a model \mathcal{A}_2 of T_2 , and
- $|\mathcal{A}_1| = |\mathcal{A}_2|$

Combination Lemma: Proof Sketch

(\Leftarrow) Consider a model \mathcal{A}_1 of the Σ_1 -theory T_1 and a model \mathcal{A}_2 of the Σ_2 -theory T_2 such that $\mathcal{A}_1[\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_0]$ and $\mathcal{A}_2[\Phi_2 \cup \Phi_0]$ are true.

Let $h: A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ be a **bijective** mapping.

- construct a model \mathcal{A} of $T_1 \cup T_2$ such that $\mathcal{A}^{\Sigma_1} \simeq \mathcal{A}_1$ and $\mathcal{A}^{\Sigma_2} \simeq \mathcal{A}_2$:

The domain of \mathcal{A} is defined as the domain A_1 of \mathcal{A}_1 and the function symbols are interpreted in \mathcal{A} as follows:

$$\mathcal{A}[f_1] = \mathcal{A}_1[f_1] \text{ if } f_1 \in \Sigma_1$$

$$\forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in A_1, \mathcal{A}[f_2](a_1, \dots, a_n) = h^{-1}(\mathcal{A}_2[f_2](h(a_1), \dots, h(a_n))) \text{ if } f_2 \in \Sigma_2$$

- construct an interpretation \mathcal{A} satisfying both $\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_0$ and $\Phi_2 \cup \Phi_0$.

Thanks to the arrangement Φ_0 , we have $\mathcal{A}_1[x] = \mathcal{A}_1[y]$ iff $\mathcal{A}_2[x] = \mathcal{A}_2[y]$ for any shared variables x, y

\Rightarrow h is chosen such that $\mathcal{A}_1[x] = h^{-1}(\mathcal{A}_2[x])$ for any shared variable x

$$\mathcal{A}[x] = \mathcal{A}_1[x] \text{ for } x \in \text{Var}(\Phi_1)$$

$$\mathcal{A}[x] = h^{-1}(\mathcal{A}_2[x]) \text{ for } x \in \text{Var}(\Phi_2)$$

Eventually \mathcal{A} is a model of $T_1 \cup T_2$ such that $\mathcal{A}[\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_0 \cup \Phi_2]$ is true.

Combination Lemma with Stably Infinite Theories

Theorem (Upward Lowenheim-Skolem Theorem)

If a formula is satisfiable in a model of infinite cardinality, then it is satisfiable in a model of greater cardinality

Consequence: the assumption $|A_1| = |A_2|$ can always be satisfied in stably infinite theories.

How to get rid of arrangements?

Problem: there is a lot of arrangements to consider...

Remark

Number of arrangements = Bell number

$$B_{n+1} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k \text{ where } \binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

$$B_0 = 1, B_1 = 1, B_2 = 2, B_3 = 5, B_4 = 15, B_5 = 52, B_6 = 203, \dots$$

Solutions: use a more deductive approach to reduce the number of cases to consider

- Computation of entailed elementary equalities (for convex theories)
- Computation of entailed disjunctions of elementary equalities (for arbitrary theories)

Deterministic Nelson-Oppen Algorithm (1/2)

Assumption: T_1 and T_2 are **convex** (length of disjunctions is 1)

Contradiction₁ $\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \vdash \text{false}$

if Φ_1 is T_1 -unsatisfiable

Deduction₁ $\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \vdash \Phi_1 \cup \{x = y\}; \Phi_2 \cup \{x = y\}$

if $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable,} \\ \Phi_2 \text{ is } T_2\text{-satisfiable,} \\ T_1 \models \Phi_1 \Rightarrow x = y \\ T_2 \not\models \Phi_2 \Rightarrow x = y \end{array} \right.$

Contradiction₂ and Deduction₂ obtained by symmetry

Deterministic Nelson-Oppen Algorithm (2/2)

Contradiction₂ $\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \vdash \text{false}$

if Φ_2 is T_2 -unsatisfiable

Deduction₂ $\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \vdash \Phi_1 \cup \{x = y\}; \Phi_2 \cup \{x = y\}$

if $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable,} \\ \Phi_2 \text{ is } T_2\text{-satisfiable,} \\ T_2 \models \Phi_2 \Rightarrow x = y \\ T_1 \not\models \Phi_1 \Rightarrow x = y \end{array} \right.$

Soundness Proof (Deterministic Nelson-Oppen Algo)

Consider $R = \{\text{Contradiction}_i, \text{Deduction}_i\}_{i=1,2}$

Termination: since there are finitely many shared variables

Soundness: $\varphi \downarrow_R \neq \text{false}$ iff φ is $T_1 \cup T_2$ -satisfiable

(\Leftarrow) because each rule of R transforms the premise into a $T_1 \cup T_2$ -equivalent conclusion.

(\Rightarrow) By contradiction: Assume that a normal form $\varphi'_1 \wedge \varphi'_2$ ($\neq \text{false}$) is unsatisfiable

Apply Combination Lemma, with the arrangement Φ_0 defined by the shared equalities entailed by both φ'_1 and φ'_2 : we have that $\varphi'_i \cup \Phi_0$ is T_i -unsatisfiable.

- If Φ_0 contains no disequality, then φ'_i is T_i -equivalent to $\varphi'_i \cup \Phi_0$. Hence, φ'_i is T_i -unsatisfiable and Contradiction_i applies: impossible.
- Otherwise, $\varphi'_i \cup \Phi_0$ is T_i -unsatisfiable and $\varphi'_j \cup \Phi_0$ is T_j -satisfiable for $j \neq i$. So φ'_i implies a new equality (by convexity) and Deduction_i applies: impossible.

Nelson-Oppen in Practice

How to deduce elementary equalities?

Default case: by refutation, with the satisfiability procedure

$T \models \Phi \Rightarrow x = y$ iff $\Phi \wedge x \neq y$ is T -unsatisfiable

other *cleverer* solutions?

➔ see the combination procedure proposed by Shostak

What is the Shostak Combination Procedure?

- a seminal paper published in '80, which had a strong impact in the Automated Deduction Community
- applied for combining the arithmetic and the equality theory in an efficient way
- but difficult to understand and to prove
- a lot of papers, that aim at correcting the description initially given by Shostak using pseudo-code

Shostak Theories

A *Shostak* theory T admits two specialized procedures:

- **Solver** for T : $solve(s = t)$
 - If $T \models s \neq t$ then return *false*
 - Else, return a most general **solution** (substitution)
 $\sigma = \{x_i \rightarrow t_i\}_{i \in I}$, where $\hat{\sigma}$ denotes the related **solved form**

$$\hat{\sigma} = \bigwedge_{i \in I} x_i = t_i$$

- **Canonizer** for T : an idempotent function *canon* such that

$$T \models s = t \text{ iff } \models canon(s) = canon(t)$$

- Motivation: **Solver + Canonizer** implies (decidability of) satisfiability

Shostak Theories: Example

Linear Arithmetic over the Rationals is a Shostak theory, where a solver can be implemented thanks to Gauss Elimination, and a canonizer is provided by the canonical forms of linear expressions (using a given ordering on variables).

For instance,

$z + 1 + y + x + z + y + 3 + y$ canonized into $4 + x + 3y + 2z$

A solved form of

$$\Gamma = \begin{cases} x + y + z = 10 \\ 2x + y + 3z = 20 \\ v + y + 5 = -z + 15 \end{cases}$$

is $\hat{\sigma} = \{x = 10 - 2z, y = z, v = -z + 15 - z - 5\}$ and the corresponding most general solution is the substitution

$\sigma = \{x \mapsto 10 - 2z, y \mapsto z, v \mapsto -z + 15 - z - 5\}$

Shostak Theories: Counter-Example

The theory of equality does not admit a solver, it is not a Shostak theory...

Satisfiability Procedure for Shostak Theories

Γ is a set equalities and Δ is a set of disequalities

- **Solve – fail**

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta}{\text{false}} \quad \text{if } \text{solve}(\Gamma) = \text{false}$$

- **Solve – success**

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta}{\hat{\sigma}, \Delta} \quad \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Gamma \text{ is not in solved form} \\ \sigma = \text{solve}(\Gamma) \neq \text{false} \end{array} \right.$$

- **Contradiction**

$$\frac{\hat{\sigma}, \Delta}{\text{false}} \quad \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s \neq t \in \Delta \\ \text{canon}(s\sigma) = \text{canon}(t\sigma) \end{array} \right.$$

Entailment of Elementary Equalities

- 1 Disequalities are useless to entail elementary equalities
- 2 The canonizer can be used to check the equality of solved variables

Proposition

- 1 *(thanks to convexity)*

$$T \models (\Gamma \cup \Delta \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}) \text{ iff } T \models (\Gamma \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y})$$

where Γ is set of equalities, Δ is a set of disequalities, and $\Gamma \cup \Delta$ is T -satisfiable

- 2 $T \models (\hat{\sigma} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y})$ iff $\text{canon}(\mathbf{x}\sigma) = \text{canon}(\mathbf{y}\sigma)$ where σ is the substitution associated to the solved form $\hat{\sigma}$

Entailment of Elementary Equalities: An Example

Let us consider the solved form

$$\hat{\sigma} = \{x = 10 - 2z, y = z, v = -z + 15 - z - 5\}$$

We have $\hat{\sigma} \Rightarrow y = z$ since $y\sigma = z$ and $z\sigma = z$ have the same canonical form z

We have $\hat{\sigma} \Rightarrow x = v$

since $x\sigma = 10 - 2z$ and $v\sigma = -z + 15 - z - 5$
have the same canonical form, say $10 - 2z$

Combination Algorithms for Convex Theories

- Consider the following classes of theories:
NOc = stably infinite + convex + satisfiability proc.
SH = stably infinite + convex + canonizer + solver
- Study the combination of theories $T_1 \cup T_2$ such that
($T_1, T_2 \in \mathbf{NOc}$) or ($T_1 \in \mathbf{NOc}, T_2 \in \mathbf{SH}$)
 - 1 Develop combination rules for **NOc** + **NOc**
 - 2 Refine these combination rules for the case $T_2 \in \mathbf{SH}$
➔ Important case in practice: $T_1 = UF, T_2 = LRA$

NOc + NOc Combination (1/2)

Transform $\Phi_1; \Phi_2$ such that Φ_i consists of T_i -pure literals

NO₁ rules:

- **Contradiction₁**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Phi_2}{\text{false}} \quad \text{if } \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-unsatisfiable}$$

- **Deduction₁**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Phi_2}{\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \cup \{x = y\}} \quad \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable} \\ \Phi_1 \wedge x \neq y \text{ is } T_1\text{-unsatisfiable} \\ \Phi_2 \wedge x \neq y \text{ is } T_2\text{-satisfiable} \\ x, y \in \text{Var}(\Phi_1) \cap \text{Var}(\Phi_2) \end{array} \right.$$

NO₂ rules: obtained by symmetry

NOc + NOc Combination (2/2)

NO₂ rules:

- **Contradiction₂**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Phi_2}{\text{false}} \quad \text{if } \Phi_2 \text{ is } T_2\text{-unsatisfiable}$$

- **Deduction₂**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Phi_2}{\Phi_1 \cup \{x = y\}; \Phi_2} \quad \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_2 \text{ is } T_2\text{-satisfiable} \\ \Phi_2 \wedge x \neq y \text{ is } T_2\text{-unsatisfiable} \\ \Phi_1 \wedge x \neq y \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable} \\ x, y \in \text{Var}(\Phi_1) \cap \text{Var}(\Phi_2) \end{array} \right.$$

NOc + SH Combination

Transform $\phi_1; \Gamma_2, \Delta_2$ such that

ϕ_1 consists of T_1 -pure literals

Γ_2 (resp. Δ_2) consists of of T_2 -pure equalities (resp. disequalities)

Combination rules: use of Shostak rules to check satisfiability and to perform the entailment of shared equalities

NOc + SH Combination: NO rules

- **Contradiction₁**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Gamma_2, \Delta_2}{\text{false}} \quad \text{if } \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-unsatisfiable}$$

- **Deduction₁**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \widehat{\sigma}_2, \Delta_2}{\Phi_1; \widehat{\sigma}_2 \cup \{x = y\}, \Delta_2} \quad \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable} \\ \Phi_1 \wedge x \neq y \text{ is } T_1\text{-unsatisfiable} \\ \text{*canon}_2(x\sigma_2) \neq \text{*canon}_2(y\sigma_2) \\ x, y \in \text{Var}(\Phi_1) \cap \text{Var}(\widehat{\sigma}_2) \end{array} \right.**$$

NOc + SH Combination: SH rules (using Solver)

- **Solve – fail₂**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Gamma_2, \Delta_2}{false} \quad \text{if } solve_2(\Gamma_2) = false$$

- **Solve – success₂**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \Gamma_2, \Delta_2}{\Phi_1; \widehat{\sigma}_2, \Delta_2} \quad \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Gamma_2 \text{ is not in solved form} \\ \sigma_2 = solve_2(\Gamma_2) \neq false \end{array} \right.$$

NOc + SH Combination: SH rules (using Canonizer)

- **Contradiction₂**

$$\frac{\Gamma_1; \widehat{\sigma}_2, \Delta_2}{\text{false}} \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s \neq t \in \Delta_2 \\ \text{canon}_2(s\sigma_2) = \text{canon}_2(t\sigma_2) \end{array} \right.$$

- **Deduction₂**

$$\frac{\Phi_1; \widehat{\sigma}_2, \Delta_2}{\Phi_1 \cup \{x = y\}; \widehat{\sigma}_2, \Delta_2} \quad \text{if} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_1 \wedge x \neq y \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable} \\ \text{canon}_2(x\sigma_2) = \text{canon}_2(y\sigma_2) \\ x, y \in \text{Var}(\Phi_1) \cap \text{Var}(\widehat{\sigma}_2) \end{array} \right.$$

Deductive Nelson-Oppen Algorithm (general case)

Contradiction₁ $\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \vdash \text{false}$

if Φ_1 is T_1 -unsatisfiable

Deduction₁ $\Phi_1; \Phi_2 \vdash \bigvee_{k \in K} (\Phi_1 \cup \{x_k = y_k\}; \Phi_2 \cup \{x_k = y_k\})$

if $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Phi_1 \text{ is } T_1\text{-satisfiable,} \\ \Phi_2 \text{ is } T_2\text{-satisfiable,} \\ T_1 \models \Phi_1 \Rightarrow \bigvee_{k \in K} x_k = y_k \\ T_2 \not\models \Phi_2 \Rightarrow \bigvee_{k \in K} x_k = y_k \end{array} \right.$

Contradiction₂ and Deduction₂ obtained by symmetry

Combination Results à la Nelson-Oppen

Nelson-Oppen Deductive algorithm (1979)

Nelson's thesis introduction of stably infinite theories,
combination lemma

Harandi & Tinelli correction of a flaw in the seminal
Nelson-Oppen paper

Ringeissen & Tinelli a non-disjoint extension (using shared
constructors)

Baader & Tinelli application to the word-problem, in a
non-disjoint constructor-based case

Baader & Ghilardi & Tinelli non-disjoint extension, with
applications to modal logics

Zarba combining lists/sets/multisets with integers

Tinelli & Zarba Beyond stably infinite theories (mono-sorted
logic)

Combination Results à la Shostak

Shostak combination algorithm (1980)

Ruess & Shankar correction of flaws in the seminal Shostak paper, using the same pseudo-code presentation

Barrett, Kapur first comparison with Nelson-Oppen

Conchon & Krstic a rule-based description of the Shostak combination method implemented in ICS

Manna & Zarba use of Shostak decision procedures in the Nelson-Oppen combination method

Ganzinger et al. integration of a solver and a canonizer in the superposition calculus