



Interactive debugging of non-ground ASP programs

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- 1 Introduction and contribution
- 2 Interactive debug and DWASP
- 3 Conclusion

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Answer Set Programming (ASP)

- declarative programming paradigm
- strong theoretical basis
- availability of efficient implementations
- ease in representing complex problems

Idea

- 1 logic programs represent computational problems
- 2 answer sets correspond to solutions

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...and then the solution is not correct!

ASP encoding: graph coloring

Goal

Input: A direct graph $G = \langle V, E \rangle$ and a set of three colors

Output: A color assignment for each node in V

3-Graph Coloring Problem

% Compute nodes from arcs

node(X) ← arc(X, Y)

node(X) ← arc(Y, X)

% Assign a color to each node

col(X, blue) | col(X, red) | col(X, yellow) ← node(X)

% Different colors for adjacent nodes

← col(X, C1), col(Y, C2), arc(X, Y)

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← col(X, C1), col(Y, C2), arc(X, Y), C1 = C2

- ASP encodings are usually compact compared to C++ programs
 - the encoding of [Valves Location Problem](#) from the 5th competition is composed by ~100 lines of code
 - the file [clasp_options.cpp](#) contains ~1000 lines of code
- However, faulty detection of ASP programs may be tedious
 - finding errors in (even small) ASP programs requires a lot of time
 - **debuggers make the development process faster and more comfortable**

- Algorithmic/native approaches
 - DLV debugger, IDEAS, stepping framework
- Declarative approaches
 - SPOCK, OUROBOROS
 - ASP to debug ASP
 - represents the input program in a reified form
- **Limitations**
 - some of them work only for ground programs
 - declarative approaches cause a blow up in the size of the grounded program
 - a novice might find it difficult to understand the output of debuggers

- A new debugging technique
 - works on non-ground ASP programs
 - no grounding blow up
 - the output is the faulty rule(s)
- Implementation of the technique in [DWASP](#)

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- A bug in an ASP program is revealed when
 - 1 one or more answer sets are incorrect
 - 2 one or more answer sets are missing
- The definition of **test cases**
 - is a good practice of software engineering
 - two meanings: **unit testing** [De Vos et al., TPLP 2012; Febraro et al., INAP/WLP 2011] and **coverage testing** [Janhunen et al., ECAI 2010; Janhunen et al., LPNMR 2011]
 - is supported by modern tools like ASPIDE and SEALION

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 - is supported by modern tools like ASPIDE and SEALION
- In the following the faulty ASP program is assumed to be *Incoherent* in presence of one or more test cases

Debug of an incoherent ASP program

- **Input:** an incoherent program Π
- **Output:** the faulty rule(s) causing the problem
- **Debugging:** based on the concept of **unsatisfiable core**
 - a set of rules causing the incoherence of Π
 - it is computed by modern ASP solvers during the solving process

Input program

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| $r_1 : a \mid b \leftarrow$ | $r_2 : c \leftarrow a$ | $r_3 : c \leftarrow b$ |
| $r_4 : d \mid e \leftarrow$ | $r_5 : e \leftarrow a$ | $r_6 : d \leftarrow b$ |

Test case

Execution

The program is coherent: $\{a, c, e\}$ is an answer set

Unsatisfiable core

Input program

$r_1 : a \mid b \leftarrow$ $r_2 : c \leftarrow a$ $r_3 : c \leftarrow b$
 $r_4 : d \mid e \leftarrow$ $r_5 : e \leftarrow a$ $r_6 : d \leftarrow b$
 $r_7 : \leftarrow c$

Test case

FALSE(C).

Execution

The program is now incoherent

Unsatisfiable core

Input program

$r_1 : a \mid b \leftarrow$ $r_2 : c \leftarrow a$ $r_3 : c \leftarrow b$
 $r_4 : d \mid e \leftarrow$ $r_5 : e \leftarrow a$ $r_6 : d \leftarrow b$
 $r_7 : \leftarrow c$

Test case

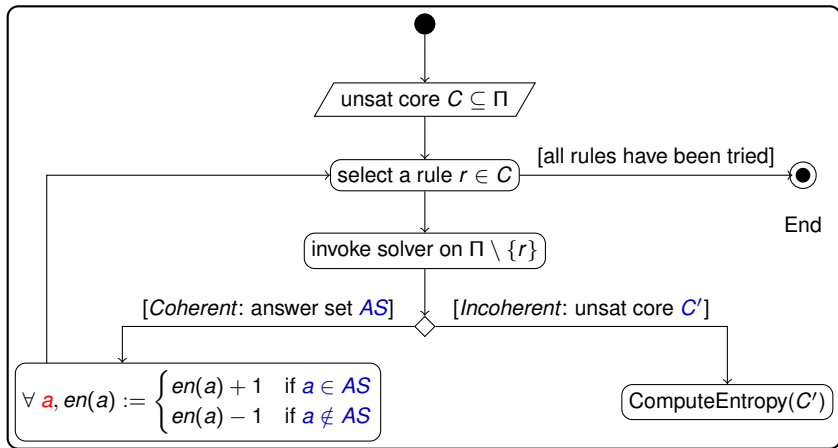
FALSE(c).

Execution

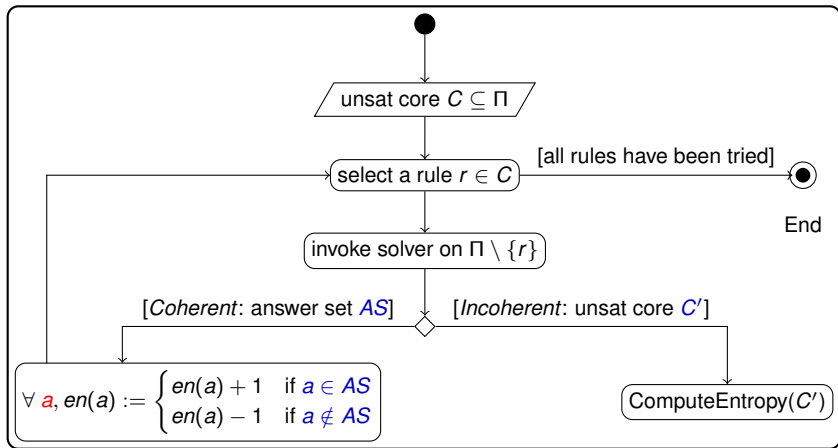
The program is now incoherent: $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_7\}$ is an unsatisfiable core

- An unsatisfiable core might contain a high number of rules
 - **minimize** the core (e.g. using QUICKXPLAIN)
 - the core might still be huge!
 - is not informative in this case

- An unsatisfiable core might contain a high number of rules
 - **minimize** the core (e.g. using QUICKXPLAIN)
 - the core might still be huge!
 - is not informative in this case
- A **query-based** approach to obtain smaller cores
 - ask the user whether an atom must be **true or false**
 - too many queries may be tedious
 - maximize the SPLIT-IN-HALF measure [Shchekotykhin and Friedrich, ISWC 2010]



ComputeEntropy



ComputeEntropy

The query atom q is the one whose $en(q)$ is the closest to 0

Input program

$$\begin{array}{lll} r_1 : & a \mid b \leftarrow & r_2 : & c \leftarrow a & r_3 : & c \leftarrow b \\ r_4 : & d \mid e \leftarrow & r_5 : & e \leftarrow a & r_6 : & d \leftarrow b \\ r_7 : & \leftarrow c & & & & \end{array}$$

Unsat core

 $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_7\}$

Execution

Entropy

$$\begin{array}{l} en(a) := 0 \\ en(b) := 0 \\ en(c) := 0 \\ en(d) := 0 \\ en(e) := 0 \end{array}$$

Input program

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 r_2 : & c \leftarrow a & r_3 : c \leftarrow b \\
 r_4 : & d \mid e \leftarrow & r_5 : e \leftarrow a \\
 r_7 : & \leftarrow c & r_6 : d \leftarrow b
 \end{array}$$

Unsat core

 $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_7\}$

Execution

 $\Pi \setminus r_1 : \{e\}$

Entropy

$$\begin{array}{l}
 en(a) := -1 \\
 en(b) := -1 \\
 en(c) := -1 \\
 en(d) := -1 \\
 en(e) := 1
 \end{array}$$

Input program

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 r_1 : & a \mid b \leftarrow & r_2 : & c \leftarrow a & r_3 : & c \leftarrow b \\
 r_4 : & d \mid e \leftarrow & r_5 : & e \leftarrow a & r_6 : & d \leftarrow b \\
 r_7 : & \leftarrow c & & & &
 \end{array}$$

Unsat core

$$\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_7\}$$

Execution

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \Pi \setminus r_1 : \{e\} \\
 \Pi \setminus r_2 : \{a, e\} \\
 \Pi \setminus r_3 : \{b, d\} \\
 \Pi \setminus r_7 : \{a, c, e\}
 \end{array}$$

Entropy

$$\begin{array}{l}
 en(a) := 0 \\
 en(b) := -2 \\
 en(c) := -2 \\
 en(d) := -2 \\
 en(e) := 2
 \end{array}$$

Input program

$$\begin{array}{lll} r_1 : & a \mid b \leftarrow & r_2 : & c \leftarrow a & r_3 : & c \leftarrow b \\ r_4 : & d \mid e \leftarrow & r_5 : & e \leftarrow a & r_6 : & d \leftarrow b \\ r_7 : & \leftarrow c & & & & \end{array}$$

Unsat core

 $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_7\}$

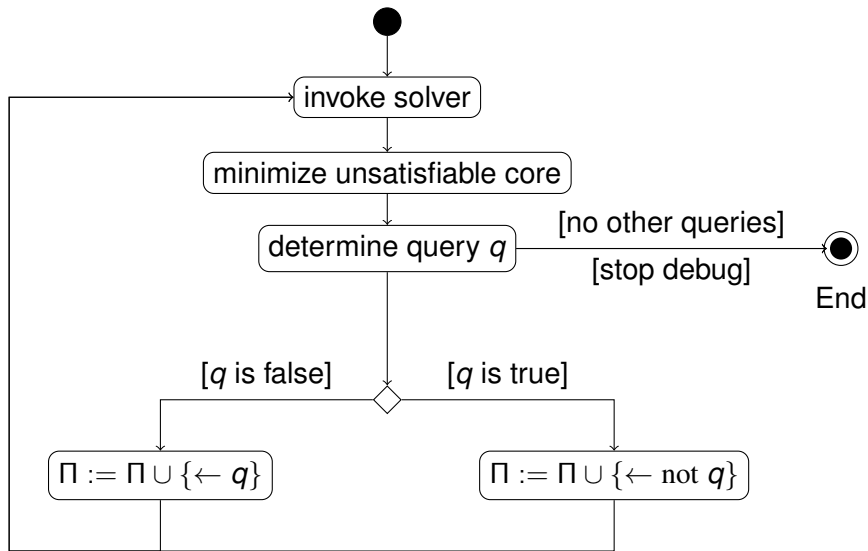
Execution

$$\begin{array}{l} \Pi \setminus r_1 : \{e\} \\ \Pi \setminus r_2 : \{a, e\} \\ \Pi \setminus r_3 : \{b, d\} \\ \Pi \setminus r_7 : \{a, c, e\} \end{array}$$

Entropy

$$\begin{array}{l} en(a) := 0 \\ en(b) := -2 \\ en(c) := -2 \\ en(d) := -2 \\ en(e) := 2 \end{array}$$

DWASP: debugging session



- GRINGO-WRAPPER
 - disables the simplifications of GRINGO
 - wrong rules can lead to unintended simplifications
 - adorns the program to label the rules
- WASP is used as internal solvers
 - used as black box exploiting its **incremental interface**
 - other ASP solvers might be used

| Instance | GRINGO | GRINGO-WRAPPER | OUROBOROS |
|----------------|--------|----------------|-----------|
| GraphCol1-125 | 6 145 | 8 031 | 19 020 |
| GraphCol11-130 | 6 455 | 8 416 | 19 845 |
| GraphCol21-135 | 7 269 | 9 305 | 21 174 |
| GraphCol30-135 | 6 597 | 8 633 | 20 502 |
| GraphCol31-140 | 7 467 | 9 578 | 21 887 |
| GraphCol40-140 | 8 097 | 10 208 | 22 517 |
| GraphCol41-145 | 8 260 | 10 446 | 23 195 |
| GraphCol51-120 | 8 773 | 11 034 | 24 223 |
| Hanoi09-28 | 31 748 | 94 166 | 1 739 800 |
| Hanoi11-30 | 34 056 | 100 942 | 1 864 222 |
| Hanoi15-34 | 38 672 | 114 524 | 2 112 986 |
| Hanoi16-40 | 27 137 | 80 615 | 1 491 281 |
| Hanoi22-60 | 28 311 | 84 644 | 1 678 483 |
| Hanoi38-80 | 34 044 | 100 942 | 1 864 250 |
| Hanoi41-100 | 31 738 | 94 166 | 1 739 830 |
| Hanoi47-120 | 25 968 | 77 227 | 1 429 695 |

| Instance | GRINGO | GRINGO-WRAPPER | OUROBOROS |
|---------------------|---------|----------------|-------------|
| KnightsTour01-8 | 1 384 | 3 413 | 12 985 716 |
| KnightsTour03-12 | 3 356 | 8 652 | >72 244 034 |
| KnightsTour05-16 | 6 192 | 16 285 | >69 494 641 |
| KnightsTour06-20 | 9 892 | 26 321 | >62 785 993 |
| KnightsTour07-30 | 22 922 | 61 911 | >59 166 564 |
| KnightsTour08-40 | 41 352 | 112 501 | >54 944 042 |
| KnightsTour09-46 | 55 002 | 150 055 | >56 443 633 |
| KnightsTour10-50 | 65 182 | 178 094 | >62 402 315 |
| PartnerUnits176-24 | 12 563 | 14 218 | 102 023 |
| PartnerUnits23-30 | 39 231 | 42 106 | 276 645 |
| PartnerUnits29-40 | 59 979 | 64 413 | 629 639 |
| PartnerUnits207-58 | 158 564 | 168 289 | 2 726 182 |
| PartnerUnits204-67 | 218 808 | 231 083 | 4 280 282 |
| PartnerUnits175-75 | 682 015 | 699 472 | 8 604 415 |
| PartnerUnits52-100 | 952 363 | 979 603 | 20 125 857 |
| PartnerUnits115-100 | 952 369 | 979 759 | 20 317 011 |

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Contribution

- 1 a new debugging technique for non-ground ASP programs
- 2 no blow up in the size of the grounding
- 3 the output of the debugger is the faulty rule(s)

Current status

- implementation of DWASP-GUI
- integration of DWASP with ASPIDE

- annotate the “trusty” rules
- support weak constraints
- integrate DWASP with SEALION
- disable the simplifications of GRINGO
- hybrid approach

- 1 **DWASP**: <https://github.com/gaste/dwasp>
- 2 **GRINGO-WRAPPER**:
<https://github.com/gaste/gringo-wrapper>
- 3 **DWASP-GUI (BETA)**:
<https://github.com/gaste/dwasp-gui>
- 4 **ASPIDE**: <http://www.mat.unical.it/ricca/aspide>
- 5 **GRINGO**: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/potassco/files/gringo/>
- 6 **WASP**: <http://alviano.github.io/wasp/>

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Thank you!