

# Current Research in Proof Complexity: Lecture 4

## Space and Width in Resolution

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# Goal of Today's Lecture

- Study space in resolution and prove some basic facts
- Then once again take detour of studying width instead
- Show that width is a lower bound for space
- So optimal space lower bounds follow from width lower bounds
- Finally start discussing trade-offs between width and space
- Make detour into pebble games (for the first but not the last time)

# Outline

- 1 Definition of Space
- 2 Some Basic Properties
- 3 Combinatorial Characterization of Width
- 4 Space is Greater than Width
- 5 Pebble Games and Pebbling Formulas

# Introducing Space

- Memory usage is a major concern in practical SAT solving
- Question raised by Haken at workshop in Toronto 1998 whether proof complexity could say anything about this
- Formal measure of **proof space** introduced in [Esteban & Torán '99] (maximal # clauses in memory while verifying proof)
- Generalized and developed further in [Alekhnovich et al. '00] Name **clause space** adopted to distinguish from other space measures
- But we'll sometimes be sloppy — just “space” usually means “clause space” unless stated otherwise

# Resolution Derivation (When We Care About Space)

Sequence of sets of clauses, or **clause configurations**,  $\{\mathbb{C}_0, \dots, \mathbb{C}_\tau\}$  such that  $\mathbb{C}_0 = \emptyset$  and  $\mathbb{C}_t$  follows from  $\mathbb{C}_{t-1}$  by:

*Download*  $\mathbb{C}_t = \mathbb{C}_{t-1} \cup \{C\}$  for clause  $C \in F$  (**axiom**)

*Erasure*  $\mathbb{C}_t = \mathbb{C}_{t-1} \setminus \{C\}$  for clause  $C \in \mathbb{C}_{t-1}$

*Inference*  $\mathbb{C}_t = \mathbb{C}_{t-1} \cup \{C \vee D\}$  for clause  $C \vee D$  inferred by **resolution rule** from  $C \vee x, D \vee \bar{x} \in \mathbb{C}_{t-1}$

Resolution derivation  $\pi : F \vdash D$  of clause  $D$  from  $F$ :

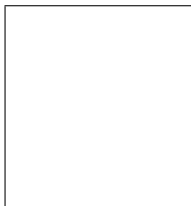
Derivation  $\{\mathbb{C}_0, \dots, \mathbb{C}_\tau\}$  such that  $D \in \mathbb{C}_\tau$

**Resolution refutation** of  $F$ :

Derivation  $\pi : F \vdash \perp$  of empty clause  $\perp$  from  $F$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |



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$x \vee z$

Download axiom 1:  $x \vee z$

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$$x \vee z$$

$$\bar{z} \vee y$$

Download axiom 1:  $x \vee z$

Download axiom 2:  $\bar{z} \vee y$



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Infer  $x \vee y$  from

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$$x \vee y$$

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Infer  $x \vee y$  from

$$x \vee z \text{ and } \bar{z} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee z$

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$$x \vee y$$

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Download axiom 2:  $\bar{z} \vee y$

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$$x \vee z \text{ and } \bar{z} \vee y$$

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Download axiom 2:  $\bar{z} \vee y$

Infer  $x \vee y$  from

$$x \vee z \text{ and } \bar{z} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{z} \vee y$

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Erase the clause  $\bar{z} \vee y$

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$$\begin{array}{l} x \vee y \\ x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \end{array}$$

Infer  $x \vee y$  from

$$x \vee z \text{ and } \bar{z} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{z} \vee y$

**Download** axiom 3:  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$$x \vee z \text{ and } \bar{z} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{z} \vee y$

Download axiom 3:  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

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Erase the clause  $\bar{z} \vee y$

Download axiom 3:  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Download axiom 4:  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

**Infer  $x \vee \bar{y}$**  from

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

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$$\begin{array}{l} x \vee y \\ x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \\ \bar{y} \vee \bar{u} \\ x \vee \bar{y} \end{array}$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{z} \vee y$

Download axiom 3:  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Download axiom 4:  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x \vee \bar{y}$  from

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

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Download axiom 3:  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Download axiom 4:  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x \vee \bar{y}$  from

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

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Infer  $x \vee \bar{y}$  from

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

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$$\begin{array}{l} x \vee y \\ \bar{y} \vee \bar{u} \\ x \vee \bar{y} \end{array}$$

Download axiom 4:  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x \vee \bar{y}$  from

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$$x \vee y$$

$$x \vee \bar{y}$$

Download axiom 4:  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x \vee \bar{y}$  from

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$$x \vee y$$

$$x \vee \bar{y}$$

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

**Infer  $x$**  from

$$x \vee y \text{ and } x \vee \bar{y}$$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$$x \vee y$$

$$x \vee \bar{y}$$

$x$

$$x \vee \bar{y} \vee u \text{ and } \bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x$  from

$$x \vee y \text{ and } x \vee \bar{y}$$



# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x \vee y$   
 $x \vee \bar{y}$   
 $x$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x$  from

$x \vee y$  and  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Erase the clause  $x \vee y$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$$x \vee \bar{y}$$

$$x$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x$  from

$$x \vee y \text{ and } x \vee \bar{y}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee y$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$$x \vee \bar{y}$$

$$x$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x$  from

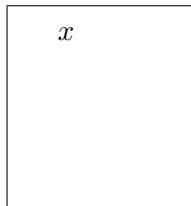
$$x \vee y \text{ and } x \vee \bar{y}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee y$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |



Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $x$  from

$$x \vee y \text{ and } x \vee \bar{y}$$

Erase the clause  $x \vee y$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$u \vee v$

Infer  $x$  from

$x \vee y$  and  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Erase the clause  $x \vee y$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Download axiom 5:  $u \vee v$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$u \vee v$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

$x \vee y$  and  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Erase the clause  $x \vee y$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Download axiom 5:  $u \vee v$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$u \vee v$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Download axiom 5:  $u \vee v$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$u \vee v$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $x \vee \bar{y}$

Download axiom 5:  $u \vee v$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$



# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$u \vee v$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

Download axiom 5:  $u \vee v$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $u \vee v$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

Download axiom 5:  $u \vee v$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $u \vee v$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $u \vee v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$
$\bar{x} \vee u$

Download axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $u \vee v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
| 5. | $u \vee v$                          | Axiom | 13. | $x$                    | Res(9, 10)  |
| 6. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$              | Axiom | 14. | $\bar{x}$              | Res(11, 12) |
| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$
$\bar{x} \vee u$
$\bar{u} \vee w$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee u$  from

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $u \vee v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Download axiom 7:  $\bar{u} \vee w$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
| 2. | $\bar{z} \vee y$                    | Axiom | 10. | $x \vee \bar{y}$       | Res(3, 4)   |
| 3. | $x \vee \bar{y} \vee u$             | Axiom | 11. | $\bar{x} \vee u$       | Res(5, 6)   |
| 4. | $\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}$              | Axiom | 12. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$ | Res(7, 8)   |
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| 7. | $\bar{u} \vee w$                    | Axiom | 15. | $\perp$                | Res(13, 14) |
| 8. | $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$ | Axiom |     |                        |             |

$x$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

$\bar{u} \vee w$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

$u \vee v$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Erase the clause  $u \vee v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Download axiom 7:  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Download axiom 8:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

- |    |                                     |       |     |                        |             |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | $x \vee z$                          | Axiom | 9.  | $x \vee y$             | Res(1, 2)   |
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$x$   
 $\bar{x} \vee u$   
 $\bar{u} \vee w$   
 $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

Download axiom 7:  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Download axiom 8:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

**Infer  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$**  from

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$$x$$
$$\bar{x} \vee u$$
$$\bar{u} \vee w$$
$$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$$
$$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}$

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Infer  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$  from

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# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$

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$\bar{u} \vee w$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Download axiom 7:  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Download axiom 8:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$  from

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$$x$$
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$$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$$

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Infer  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$  from

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$$x$$
$$\bar{x} \vee u$$
$$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$$
$$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$$

Download axiom 8:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$  from

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$
$\bar{x} \vee u$
$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Download axiom 8:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$  from

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x}$  from

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

$\bar{x}$

$\bar{u} \vee w$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x}$  from

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$

$\bar{x} \vee u$

$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

$\bar{x}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x}$  from

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee u$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$$x$$
$$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$$
$$\bar{x}$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x}$  from

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

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# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$
$\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$
$\bar{x}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x}$  from

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee u$

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# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$

$\bar{x}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w}$

Infer  $\bar{x}$  from

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$\bar{x}$

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee u$

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Infer  $\perp$  from

$x$  and  $\bar{x}$

# Example (Our Favourite Resolution Refutation Again)

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$x$

$\bar{x}$

$\perp$

$\bar{x} \vee u$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee u$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{u}$

Infer  $\perp$  from

$x$  and  $\bar{x}$

# Clause Space

- Clause space of resolution derivation  $\pi = \{\mathbb{C}_0, \dots, \mathbb{C}_\tau\}$  is  
max # clauses in any configuration

$$Sp(\pi) = \max_{t \in [\tau]} \{|\mathbb{C}_t|\}$$

- Clause space of deriving  $D$  from  $F$  is

$$Sp(F \vdash D) = \min_{\pi: F \vdash D} \{Sp(\pi)\}$$

- Clause space of refuting  $F$  is clause space of deriving empty clause  $\perp$

As for length, space measures in general and tree-like resolution differ

We concentrate on the interesting case: general resolution

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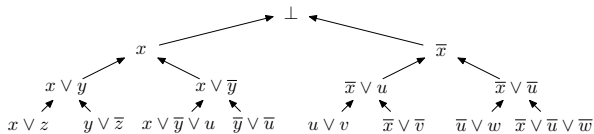
- Clause space of refuting  $F$  is clause space of deriving empty clause  $\perp$

As for length, space measures in general and tree-like resolution differ

We concentrate on the interesting case: general resolution

# Space $\lesssim$ # variables

Consider decision tree for  $F$



$n$  variables  $\Rightarrow$  height of decision tree at most  $n$

By induction: Clause at root of subtree of height  $h$  derivable in space  $h + 2$

- Derive left child clause in space  $h + 1$  and keep in memory
- Derive right child clause in space  $1 + (h + 1)$
- Resolve the two children clauses to get root clause

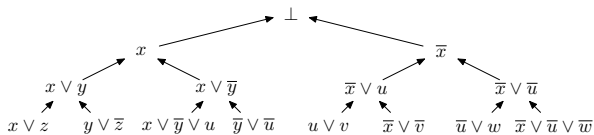
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## Theorem

$$Sp(F \vdash \perp) \leq |Vars(F)| + 2$$

# Space $\lesssim$ # variables

Consider decision tree for  $F$



$n$  variables  $\Rightarrow$  height of decision tree at most  $n$

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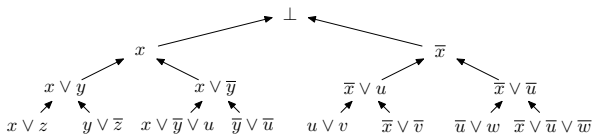
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# Minimally Unsatisfiable CNF formula

## Definition

An unsatisfiable CNF formula  $F$  is **minimally unsatisfiable** if removing any clause from  $F$  makes it satisfiable.

## Example

$$F = (x \vee z) \wedge (\bar{z} \vee y) \wedge (x \vee \bar{y} \vee u) \wedge (\bar{y} \vee \bar{u}) \\ \wedge (u \vee v) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee \bar{v}) \wedge (\bar{u} \vee w) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee \bar{u} \vee \bar{w})$$

is minimally unsatisfiable (but tedious to verify)

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# A Theorem About Minimally Unsatisfiable CNFs

## Theorem (Tarsi's lemma)

*Any minimally unsatisfiable CNF formula must have more clauses than variables.*

The proof uses matching arguments, so Hall will come in handy again

## Theorem (Hall's Marriage Theorem)

*Let  $G = (U \dot{\cup} V, E)$  be a bipartite graph. Then there is a matching of  $U$  into  $V$  if and only if for all subsets  $U' \subseteq U$  it holds that  $|N(U')| \geq |U'|$ .*

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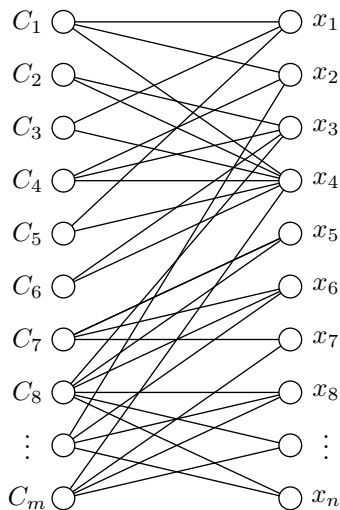
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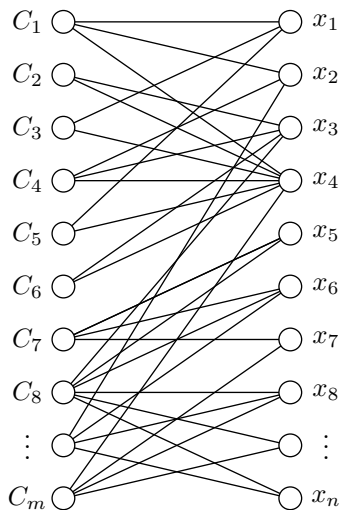
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- Unsatisfiable  $\Rightarrow$  no matching
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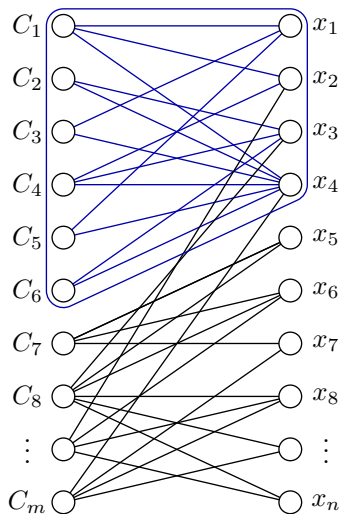
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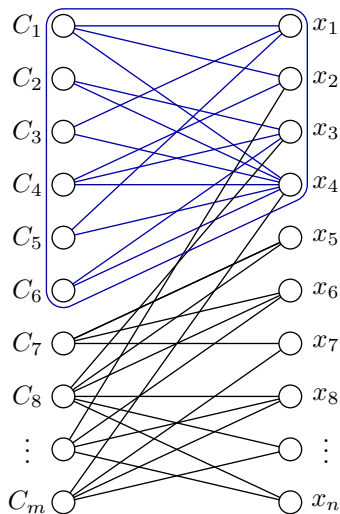
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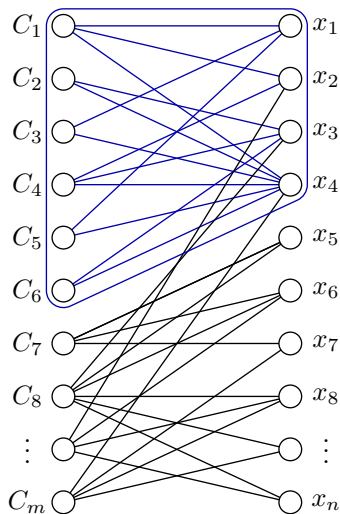
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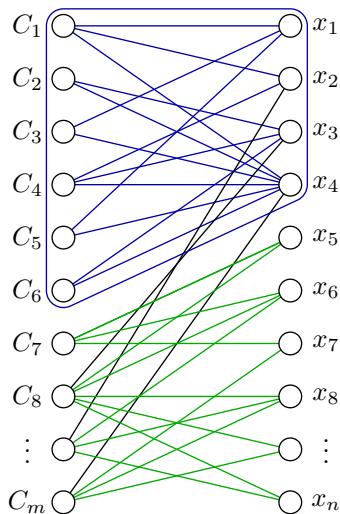
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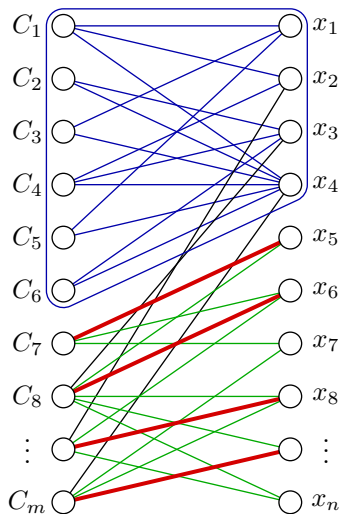
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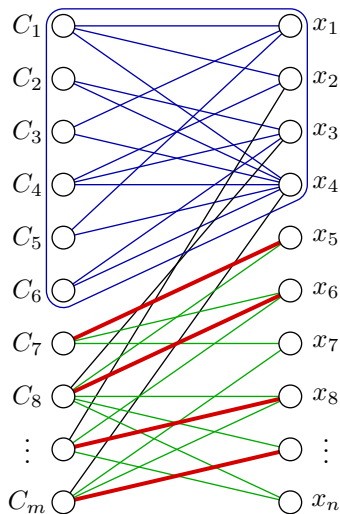
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## Theorem

$$Sp(F \vdash \perp) \leq |F| + 1$$

## Proof.

- Pick minimally unsatisfiable  $F' \subseteq F$
- We know  $|F'| > |Vars(F')|$
- Use bound in terms of # variables to get refutation in space  $\leq |Vars(F')| + 2 \leq |F'| + 1 \leq |F| + 1$  □

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# The Parameter Range of Interest for Space

We just showed

$$Sp(F \vdash \perp) \leq \min\{|F| + 1, |Vars(F)| + 2\}$$

So clause space at most linear

The interesting questions is:

- Which formulas require this much space? (Are there such formulas?)
- Which formulas can be refuted in, say, just logarithmic space?
- Or even constant space?

# Tight Lower Bounds on Clause Space

Theorem (Alekhnovich et al. '00, Torán '99)

*There is a polynomial-size family  $\{F_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  of unsatisfiable 3-CNF formulas such that  $Sp(F \vdash \perp) = \Omega(|F|) = \Omega(|Vars(F)|)$ .*

But the history of clause space lower bounds is interesting

- PHP formulas? — same lower bound as for width
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# A Natural Conjecture

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*Could it be that width is always a lower bound on clause space?*

Remained open...

But seemed more and more plausible

Until one day...

A beautiful paper out of the blue that

- Resolved this question completely (the answer is “yes”)
- Did so by providing elegant combinatorial characterization of width
- Using tools from finite model theory (of all things)
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# Informal Description of Existential Pebble Game

Game between **Spoiler** and **Duplicator** over CNF formula  $F$

Duplicator claims formula is satisfiable

Spoiler wants to disprove this, but suffers from light, selective senility (can only keep  $p$  variable assignments in memory)

In each round, Spoiler

- picks a variable to which Duplicator must assign a value, or
- forgets a variable (can choose which)

In each round, Duplicator

- assigns value to chosen variable to get partial assignment to variables in Spoiler's memory not falsifying  $F$ , or
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# Formal Definition

Duplicator wins the **Boolean existential  $p$ -pebble game** over the CNF formula  $F$  if there is a nonempty family  $\mathcal{H}$  of partial truth value assignments that do not falsify any clause in  $F$  and for which the following holds:

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If there is a winning strategy for Duplicator, then there is a deterministic winning strategy that for each  $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$  and each move of Spoiler defines a move  $\beta$  for Duplicator.

## Proposition

*If Duplicator has no winning strategy, then there is a winning strategy (in the form of a partial function from partial truth value assignments to variable queries/deletions) for Spoiler.*

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If there is a winning strategy for Duplicator, then there is a deterministic winning strategy that for each  $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$  and each move of Spoiler defines a move  $\beta$  for Duplicator.

## Proposition

*If Duplicator has no winning strategy, then there is a winning strategy (in the form of a partial function from partial truth value assignments to variable queries/deletions) for Spoiler.*

## Proof sketch.

The number of possible deterministic strategies for Duplicator is finite, so Spoiler can build a strategy by evaluating all possible responses to sequences of queries and deletions. □



# Existential Pebble Game Characterizes Width

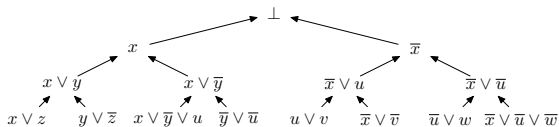
It turns out that the Boolean existential  $p$ -pebble game **exactly characterizes resolution width**.

## Theorem (Atserias & Dalmau '03)

*The CNF formula  $F$  has a resolution refutation of width  $\leq p$  if and only if Spoiler wins the existential  $(p+1)$ -pebble game on  $F$ .*

# Narrow Proof Yields Winning Strategy for Spoiler

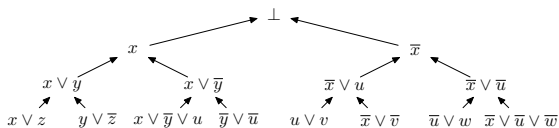
- Given  $\pi : F \vdash \perp$   
with DAG  $G_\pi$ .



- Spoiler starts at the vertex for  $\perp$  and inductively queries the variable resolved upon to get there
- Spoiler moves to the assumption clause  $D$  falsified by Duplicator's answer and forgets all variables not in  $D$
- Repeat for the new clause et cetera
- Sooner or later Spoiler reaches a falsified axiom, having used no more than  $W(\pi) + 1$  variables simultaneously (+1 is for the variable resolved on)

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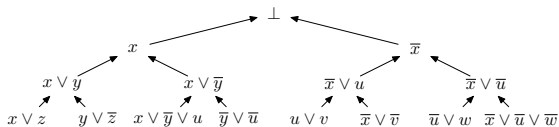
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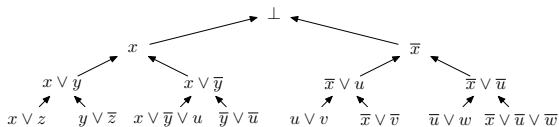
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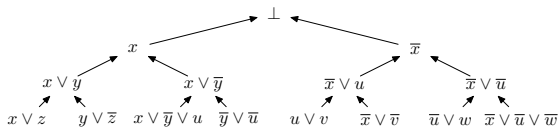
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# Winning Strategy for Spoiler Yields Narrow Proof

Given strategy for Spoiler, build DAG  $G_\pi$  as follows:

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- If move on  $\rho_v$  is deletion of  $y$ , make new vertex  $D_v \setminus \{y, \bar{y}\}$  with edge to  $D_v$ . Otherwise, if  $y$  is queried, make new vertices  $D \vee y, D \vee \bar{y}$  with edges to  $D$ .
- In the (finite) DAG  $G$  constructed, all sources are (weakenings of) axioms of  $F$ , and by induction  $G$  describes a resolution derivation with weakening.
- If we eliminate the weakening we get a derivation in width at most  $p$ , since if  $|\rho_v| = p + 1$  the next move for Spoiler must be a deletion.

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# Spoiler Strategy for Tight Proofs

The lower bound on space in terms of width follows from the fact that Spoiler can use **proofs in small space** to construct **winning strategies with few pebbles**.

## Lemma

Let  $F$  be an unsatisfiable CNF formula with

- $W(F) = w$  and
- $Sp(F \vdash \perp) = s$ .

Then

- Spoiler wins the existential  $(s+w-2)$ -pebble game on  $F$ .

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## Proof of Lemma (1 / 2)

Given: proof  $\pi = \{\mathbb{C}_0 = \emptyset, \mathbb{C}_1, \dots, \mathbb{C}_\tau\}$  with  $\perp \in \mathbb{C}_\tau$  in space  $s$

Spoiler constructs a strategy by inductively defining partial truth value assignments  $\rho_t$  such that

$\rho_t$  satisfies  $\mathbb{C}_t$  by setting (at most) one literal per clause to true.

W.l.o.g. axiom downloads occur only for  $\mathbb{C}_t$  of size  $|\mathbb{C}_t| \leq s - 2$ .

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- At download of  $C \in F$ , Spoiler queries Duplicator about all variables in  $C$  and keep the literal satisfying it, using at most  $(s - 2) + w$  pebbles.
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# Lower Bound on Space in Terms of Width

## Theorem (Atserias & Dalmau '03)

For any unsatisfiable  $k$ -CNF formula  $F$  ( $k$  fixed) it holds that

$$Sp(F \vdash \perp) - 3 \geq W(F \vdash \perp) - W(F).$$

## Proof.

Combine the facts that:

- If Spoiler wins the existential  $(p+1)$ -pebble game on  $F$ , then  $W(F \vdash \perp) \leq p$ .
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# Some Interesting Corollaries

- This theorem allows us to rederive all optimal (i.e., linear) lower bounds on space known
- Namely, just use lower bounds on width in [Ben-Sasson & Wigderson] and then the space  $\geq$  width inequality from [Atserias & Dalmau]
- Natural question: **Do space and width always coincide?**
- Will get back to this question later in the course

## Another Interesting Corollary

If a  $k$ -CNF formula is easy w.r.t. space, it is also easy w.r.t length

### Corollary

*If a  $k$ -CNF formula  $F$  over  $n$  variables is refutable in constant space, then  $F$  is also refutable in polynomial length.*

### Proof.

- Constant space  $\Rightarrow$  constant width
- There are only polynomially many distinct clauses of constant width
- This is an upper bound on the length by simple counting □



# Open Problems (1/2)

## Open Problem

*Is it true that a **logarithmic** upper bound on space implies a polynomial upper bound on length?*

## Open Problem

*Is it true that a resolution refutation in constant space also w.l.o.g. has polynomial length?*

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*Is there a **constructive, explicit** version of [Atserias & Dalmau '03] that can tell us how to convert space-efficient refutations to narrow refutations?*

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# Not an Open Problem

Is it true that the space-efficient refutation can itself also be narrow?

In general, NO.

Actually proven before [Atserias & Dalmau '03] in [Ben-Sasson '02]

[Ben-Sasson '02] interesting paper for other reasons as well

Will start discussing it today but won't have time to finish

# A Detour into More Combinatorial Games

Want to find formulas that exhibit space-width trade-off

Turns out such formulas can be constructed by using **pebble games** modelling calculations described by DAGs ([Cook & Sethi '76] and many other references)

- **Time** needed for calculation:  $\#$  pebbling moves
- **Space** needed for calculation:  $\max \#$  pebbles required

## Some quick graph terminology

- DAGs consist of **vertices** with directed **edges** between them
- vertices with no incoming edges: **sources**
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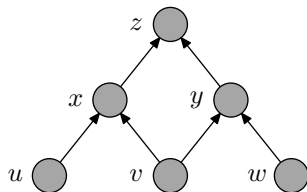
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# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get single black pebble on sink vertex  $z$  of  $G$



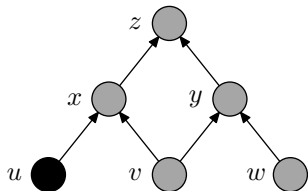
# moves	0
Current # pebbles	0
Max # pebbles so far	0

- 1 Can place black pebble on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
- 2 Can always remove black pebble from vertex
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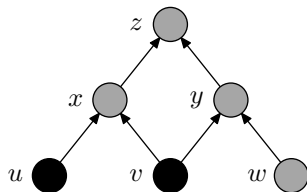


# moves	1
Current # pebbles	1
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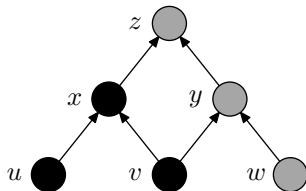


# moves	2
Current # pebbles	2
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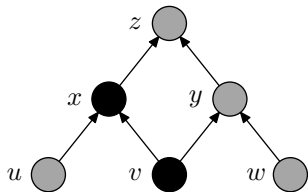


# moves	3
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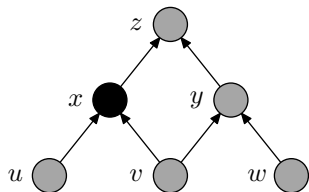


# moves	4
Current # pebbles	2
Max # pebbles so far	3

- 1 Can **place black pebble** on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
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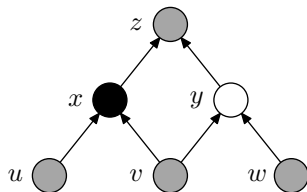


# moves	5
Current # pebbles	1
Max # pebbles so far	3

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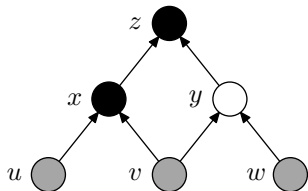


# moves	6
Current # pebbles	2
Max # pebbles so far	3

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- 4 Can **remove white pebble** if all predecessors have pebbles

# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get **single black pebble** on **sink vertex  $z$**  of  $G$

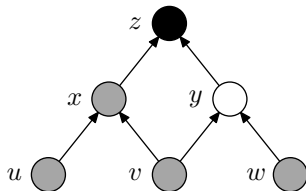


# moves	7
Current # pebbles	3
Max # pebbles so far	3

- 1 Can **place black pebble** on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
- 2 Can always **remove black pebble** from vertex
- 3 Can always **place white pebble** on (empty) vertex
- 4 Can **remove white pebble** if all predecessors have pebbles

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Goal: get **single black pebble** on **sink vertex  $z$**  of  $G$



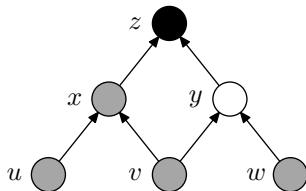
# moves	8
Current # pebbles	2
Max # pebbles so far	3

- 1 Can **place black pebble** on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
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- 3 Can always **place white pebble** on (empty) vertex
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# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get single black pebble on sink vertex  $z$  of  $G$

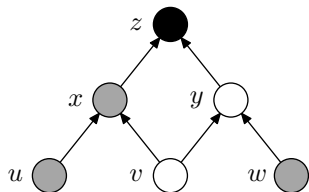


# moves	8
Current # pebbles	2
Max # pebbles so far	3

- 1 Can place black pebble on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
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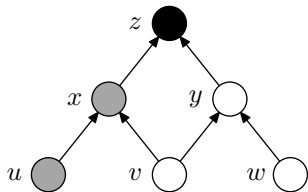


# moves	9
Current # pebbles	3
Max # pebbles so far	3

- 1 Can place black pebble on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
- 2 Can always remove black pebble from vertex
- 3 Can always place white pebble on (empty) vertex
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# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get **single black pebble** on **sink vertex  $z$**  of  $G$

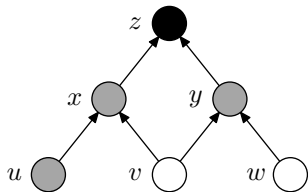


# moves	10
Current # pebbles	4
Max # pebbles so far	4

- 1 Can **place black pebble** on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
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# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get single black pebble on sink vertex  $z$  of  $G$

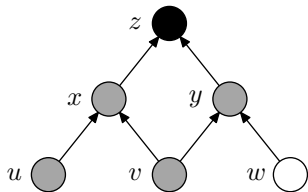


# moves	11
Current # pebbles	3
Max # pebbles so far	4

- 1 Can place black pebble on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
- 2 Can always remove black pebble from vertex
- 3 Can always place white pebble on (empty) vertex
- 4 Can remove white pebble if all predecessors have pebbles

# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get single black pebble on sink vertex  $z$  of  $G$

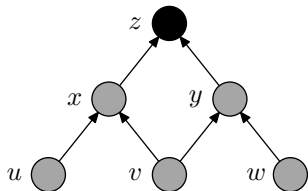


# moves	12
Current # pebbles	2
Max # pebbles so far	4

- 1 Can place black pebble on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
- 2 Can always remove black pebble from vertex
- 3 Can always place white pebble on (empty) vertex
- 4 Can remove white pebble if all predecessors have pebbles

# The Black-White Pebble Game

Goal: get single black pebble on sink vertex  $z$  of  $G$



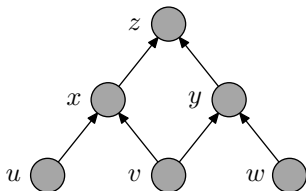
# moves	13
Current # pebbles	1
Max # pebbles so far	4

- 1 Can place black pebble on (empty) vertex  $v$  if all predecessors (vertices with edges to  $v$ ) have pebbles on them
- 2 Can always remove black pebble from vertex
- 3 Can always place white pebble on (empty) vertex
- 4 Can remove white pebble if all predecessors have pebbles

# Pebbling Contradiction

CNF formula encoding pebble game on DAG  $G$

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



- sources are true
- truth propagates upwards
- but sink is false

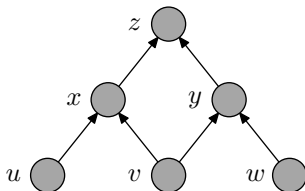
Studied by [Bonet et al. '98, Raz & McKenzie '99, Ben-Sasson & Wigderson '99] and others

We want to show that pebbling properties of DAGs somehow carry over to resolution refutations of pebbling contradictions

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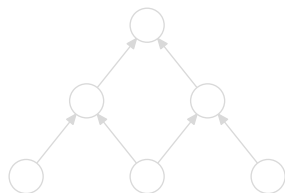
We want to show that **pebbling properties of DAGs** somehow carry over to resolution **refutations of pebbling contradictions**



# Interpreting Refutations as Black-White Pebblings

**Black-white pebbling** models **non-deterministic computation** (where one can guess partial results and verify later)

- **black pebbles**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **computed results**
- **white pebbles**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **guesses** needing to be verified



“Know  $z$  assuming  $v, w$ ”

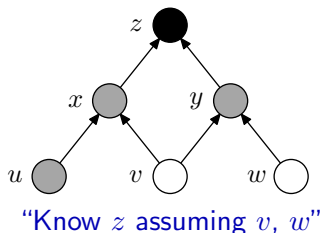
Corresponds to  $(v \wedge w) \rightarrow z$ , i.e.,  
blackboard clause  $\boxed{\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z}$

So translate clauses to pebbles by:  
**unnegated** variable  $\Rightarrow$  **black** pebble  
**negated** variable  $\Rightarrow$  **white** pebble

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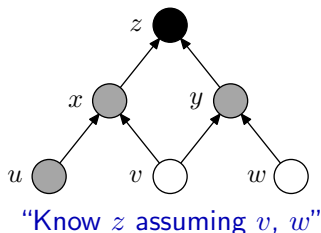
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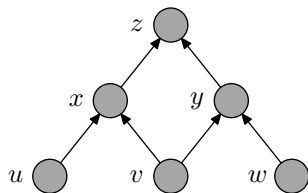


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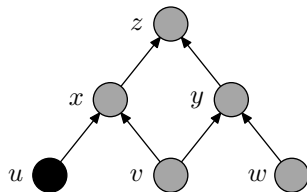
# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
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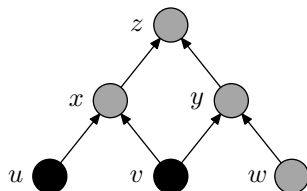


$u$

Write down axiom 1:  $u$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$u$

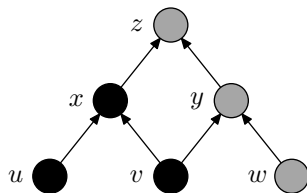
$v$

Write down axiom 1:  $u$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$u$

$v$

$\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

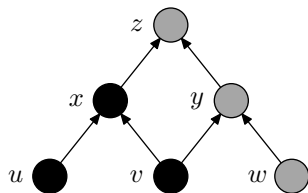
Write down axiom 1:  $u$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$u$   
 $v$   
 $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Write down axiom 1:  $u$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

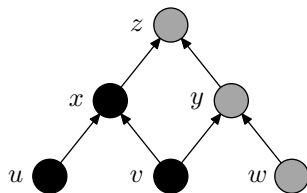
Infer  $\bar{v} \vee x$  from

$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
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$u$

$v$

$\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

$\bar{v} \vee x$

Write down axiom 1:  $u$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

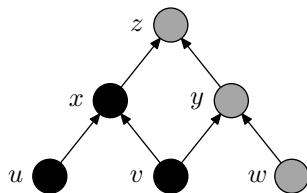
Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee x$  from

$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$u$

$v$

$\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

$\bar{v} \vee x$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

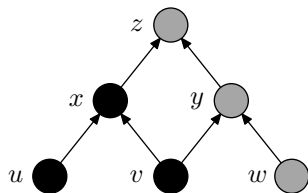
Infer  $\bar{v} \vee x$  from

$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$u$   
 $v$   
 $\bar{v} \vee x$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

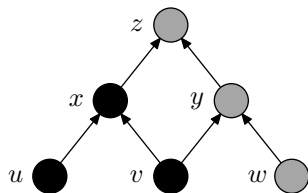
Infer  $\bar{v} \vee x$  from

$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
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4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$u$   
 $v$   
 $\bar{v} \vee x$

Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee x$  from

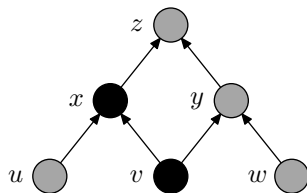
$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $u$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$v$   
 $\bar{v} \vee x$

Write down axiom 4:  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee x$  from

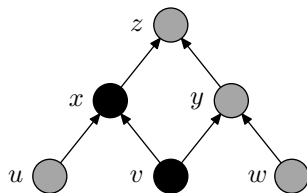
$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $u$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
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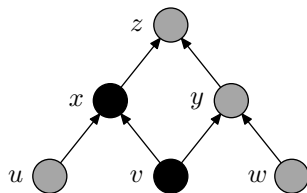


$v$   
 $\bar{v} \vee x$

$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$   
Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$   
Erase the clause  $u$   
**Infer  $x$**  from  
 $v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$

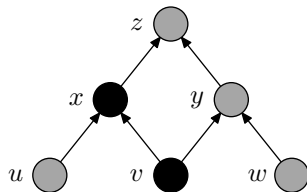


$v$   
 $\bar{v} \vee x$   
 $x$

$u$  and  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$   
Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$   
Erase the clause  $u$   
**Infer  $x$**  from  
 $v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$v$   
 $\bar{v} \vee x$   
 $x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $u$

Infer  $x$  from

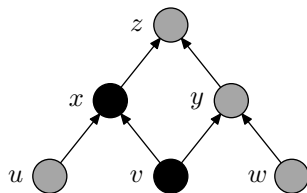
$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$v$

$x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $u$

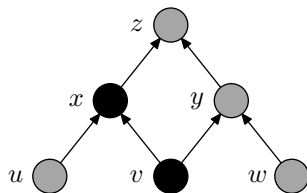
Infer  $x$  from

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$v$

$x$

Erase the clause  $u$

Infer  $x$  from

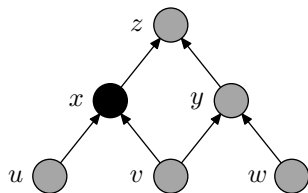
$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $v$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$

Erase the clause  $u$

Infer  $x$  from

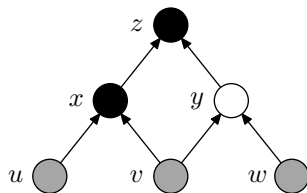
$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $v$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$   
 $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Infer  $x$  from

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee x$

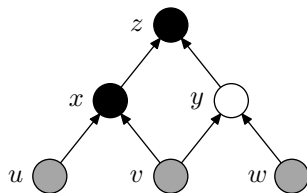
Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $v$

**Write down** axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$   
 $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $v$

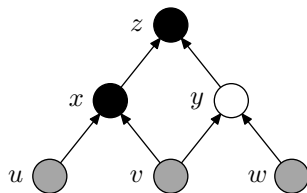
Write down axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$   
 $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$   
 $\bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee x$

Erase the clause  $v$

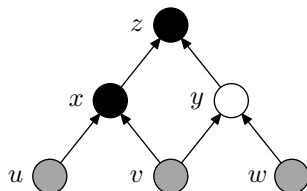
Write down axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$   
 $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$   
 $\bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

Write down axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

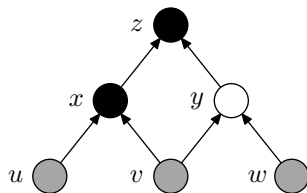
Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$   
 $\bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

Write down axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

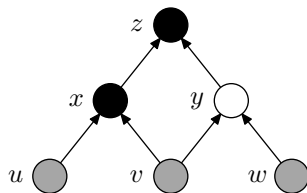
$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$x$   
 $\bar{y} \vee z$

Write down axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

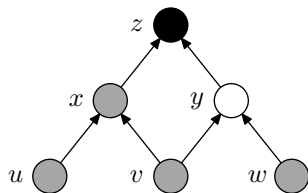
$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{y} \vee z$$

Write down axiom 6:  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

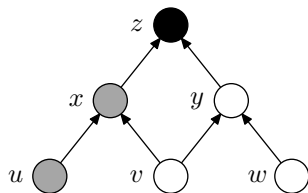
$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $x$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{y} \vee z$$
$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

Infer  $\bar{y} \vee z$  from

$x$  and  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

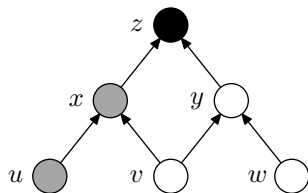
Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $x$

**Write down** axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{y} \vee z$$
$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $x$

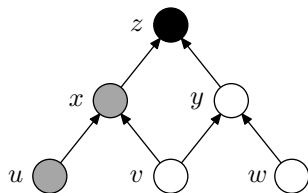
Write down axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

$$\bar{y} \vee z \text{ and } \bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{y} \vee z$   
 $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$   
 $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $x$

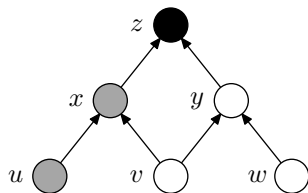
Write down axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

$\bar{y} \vee z$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{y} \vee z$$

$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$$

Erase the clause  $x$

Write down axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

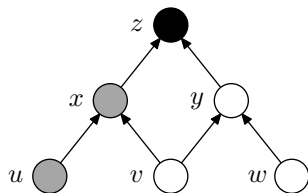
Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

$$\bar{y} \vee z \text{ and } \bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{y} \vee z$$
$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$$

Erase the clause  $x$

Write down axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

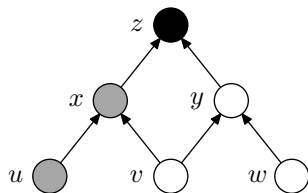
Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

$$\bar{y} \vee z \text{ and } \bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{y} \vee z$$
$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$$

Write down axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

$$\bar{y} \vee z \text{ and } \bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

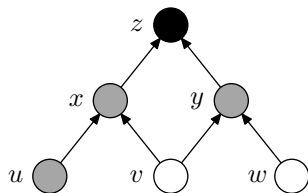
Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee z$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$$

Write down axiom 5:  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

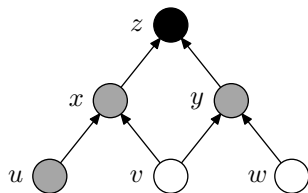
$$\bar{y} \vee z \text{ and } \bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

$v$

Infer  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$  from

$\bar{y} \vee z$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

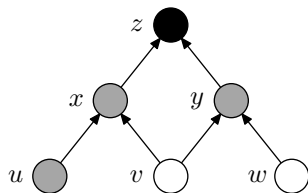
Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee z$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

$v$

$w$

$\bar{y} \vee z$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

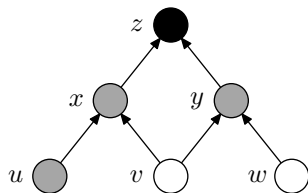
Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee z$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 3:  $w$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

$v$

$w$

$\bar{z}$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$

Erase the clause  $\bar{y} \vee z$

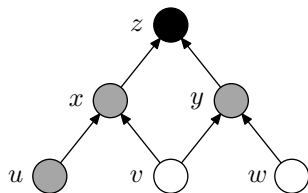
Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 3:  $w$

Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

$v$

$w$

$\bar{z}$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 3:  $w$

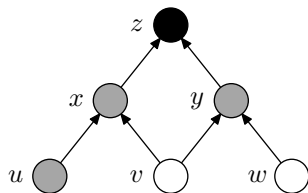
Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

Infer  $\bar{w} \vee z$  from

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$$

$$v$$

$$w$$

$$\bar{z}$$

$$\bar{w} \vee z$$

Write down axiom 2:  $v$

Write down axiom 3:  $w$

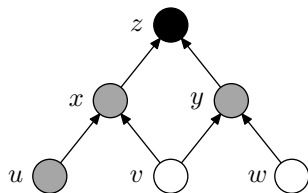
Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

Infer  $\bar{w} \vee z$  from

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

$v$

$w$

$\bar{z}$

$\bar{w} \vee z$

Write down axiom 3:  $w$

Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

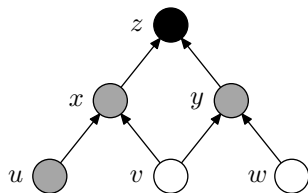
Infer  $\bar{w} \vee z$  from

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$   
 $w$   
 $\bar{z}$   
 $\bar{w} \vee z$

Write down axiom 3:  $w$

Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

Infer  $\bar{w} \vee z$  from

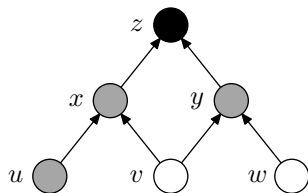
$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

$w$

$\bar{z}$

$\bar{w} \vee z$

Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

Infer  $\bar{w} \vee z$  from

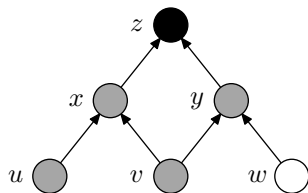
$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$w$

$\bar{z}$

$\bar{w} \vee z$

Write down axiom 7:  $\bar{z}$

Infer  $\bar{w} \vee z$  from

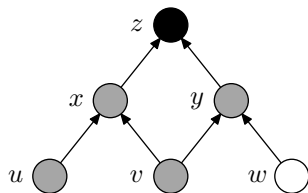
$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$w$

$\bar{z}$

$\bar{w} \vee z$

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

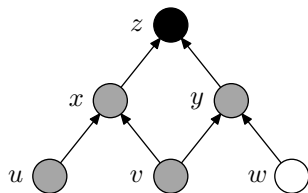
Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Infer  $z$  from

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$w$

$\bar{z}$

$\bar{w} \vee z$

$z$

$v$  and  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $v$

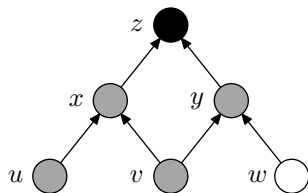
Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Infer  $z$  from

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$w$

$\bar{z}$

$\bar{w} \vee z$

$z$

Erase the clause  $v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

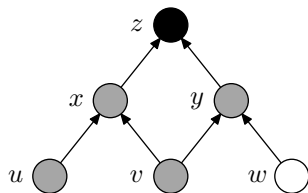
Infer  $z$  from

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $w$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{z}$   
 $\bar{w} \vee z$   
 $z$

Erase the clause  $v$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

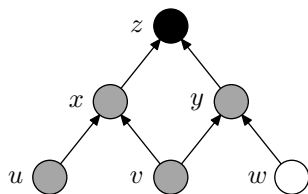
Infer  $z$  from

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $w$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{z}$   
 $\bar{w} \vee z$   
 $z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Infer  $z$  from

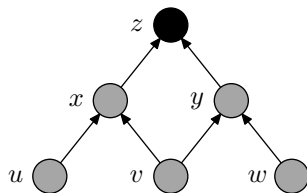
$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{w} \vee z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
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$\bar{z}$

$z$

Erase the clause  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee z$

Infer  $z$  from

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

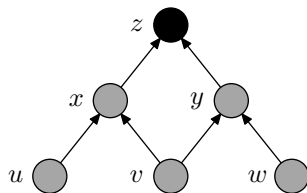
Erase the clause  $w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{w} \vee z$



# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

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7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{z}$

$z$

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $w$

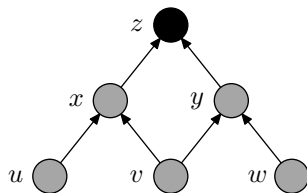
Erase the clause  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Infer  $\perp$  from

$\bar{z}$  and  $z$

# Example of Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

1.  $u$
2.  $v$
3.  $w$
4.  $\bar{u} \vee \bar{v} \vee x$
5.  $\bar{v} \vee \bar{w} \vee y$
6.  $\bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee z$
7.  $\bar{z}$



$\bar{z}$

$z$

$\perp$

$w$  and  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Erase the clause  $w$

Erase the clause  $\bar{w} \vee z$

Infer  $\perp$  from

$\bar{z}$  and  $z$

# Formal Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

## Theorem (Ben-Sasson '02)

*Any refutation translates into black-white pebbling with*

- *# moves =  $\mathcal{O}(\text{refutation length})$*
- *# pebbles =  $\mathcal{O}(\text{total space})$*

## Observation (Ben-Sasson et al. '00)

*Any black-pebbles-only pebbling translates into refutation with*

- *refutation length =  $\mathcal{O}(\text{\# moves})$*
- *total space =  $\mathcal{O}(\text{\# pebbles})$*

# Formal Refutation-Pebbling Correspondence

## Theorem (Ben-Sasson '02)

Any refutation translates into black-white pebbling with

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Any black-pebbles-only pebbling translates into refutation with

- $\text{refutation length} = \mathcal{O}(\# \text{ moves})$
- $\text{total space} = \mathcal{O}(\# \text{ pebbles})$

# To Be Continued. . .

- Time to wrap up for today
- But we will study these formulas further next time