# Efficient Term-ITE Conversion for Satisfiability Modulo Theories ${ }^{\star}$ 

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#### Abstract

This paper describes how term-if-then-else (Term-ITE) is handled in Linear Arithmetic Logic (LA) problem. In LA problem, Term-ITE is used to express a set of atomic formulae with the same relational operator type ( $<, \leq,>, \geq$ ) and a different set of terms. To handle $L A$ problem with (Term-ITE) in SMT solver, term-if-then-else (Term-ITE) to Boolean if-then-else (ITE) conversion is required. The conversion induces an exponential blow-up in worst case. We show how effectively Term-ITE is handled in $L A$ problems.


## 1 Introduction

Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT) solvers find increasing applications in areas like formal verification in which one needs to reason about complex Boolean combinations of numerical constraints. The most common approach to this problem leverages the efficiency of modern propositional satisfiability solvers that work on a propositional abstraction of the given formula. At the same time, they interact with theory solvers, which check conjunctions of literals for consistency and learn consequences (new lemmas) from them. This approach has come to be known as DPLL(T) [11].

Among the logics for which theory solvers have been developed in recent times, linear arithmetic is one of the most useful and well-researched. Many current solvers adopt some variant of the simplex algorithm. In particular, the backtrackable version of [2] fits well in the DPLL(T) scheme and has shown good results in practice for both integer and real-valued variables.

The Boolean dimension of many SMT instances, however, continues to pose a challenge to solvers. In this paper we address this problem. In particular, we focus on those instances that make extensive use of the term if-then-else (ITE) operator. This operator facilitates the analysis of problems in which paths through control-flow graphs must be translated into SMT formulae. It is not surprising, therefore, that many of the available benchmark instances for linear arithmetic are rich in term ITEs. Given a code fragment that contains if statements, a verification condition can be naturally formulated with ITEs as shown in Fig. 1.

Two major approaches can be envisioned to deal with term ITEs. On the one hand, one can modify the theory solver to deal with conditional expressions. Without ITEs,

[^0]main(void) \{
$$
i f(x=0)\{
$$
$$
y=1 ;
$$
$$
\text { \}else if }(x=1)\{
$$
$$
y=2
$$
$$
\text { \}else if }(x=2)\{
$$
$$
y=3 ;
$$
$$
\text { \}else \{ }
$$

$$
y=4 ;
$$
\}
assert ( $y \leq 2$ );
\}

Fig. 1. Verification condition $\mathcal{F}$ with Term-Ites
every assignment to an atom of the SMT formula adds to a conjunction of literals that is analyzed by the theory solver. With ITEs, this is no longer the case. In order to analyze the atom, the conditional expressions of the ITEs need to be assigned. On the other hand, one can eliminate all the ITEs from the formula by rewriting. The problem here is that the rewritten formula may retain a lot of redundancies depending on how one rewrites it. We address this problem by a procedure based on cofactoring and theory simplification. Although our approach may cause a blow-up, it often simplifies the formula in practice. Our approach is applied to linear arithmetic logic in this paper; however, it can be easily applied to other logics like the logic of equality and uninterpreted function symbols (EUF), the logic of bit-vector, the logic of array, etc. Only the terminal cases are different in each logic. Our experiments show that our approach is promising and often speeds up a solver by a few orders of magnitude. The experiments also demonstrate the effectiveness of theory simplification.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 defines notation and summarizes the main concepts. Section 3 discusses motivation and outlines our approach to the problem. Section 4 presents the simplifications applied before invoking the Term-Ite conversion. Section 5 presents an algorithm of Term-Ite conversion with theory reasoning. After a survey of related work in Sect. 6, experiments are presented in Sect. 7, and conclusions are offered in Sect. 8.

## 2 Preliminaries

We consider the satisfiability problem for linear arithmetic logic, which is the quantifierfree fragment of first-order logic that deals with linear arithmetic constraints. Let $V_{B}$
be a set of propositional variables and $V_{R}$ be a set of real-valued variables. The formulae in linear arithmetic logic are inductively defined as the largest set that satisfies the following rules.

- A propositional variable $a \in V_{B}$ is a formula.
- A real number $c \in \mathbb{R}$ is a (constant) term.
- The product $c x$ of a real number $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and a real-valued variable $x \in V_{R}$ is a term.
- If $t_{1}$ and $t_{2}$ are terms, then $t_{1}+t_{2}$ is a term.
- If $t_{1}$ and $t_{2}$ are terms, and $f$ is a formula, then term-ite $\left(f, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)$ is a term.
- if $t$ is a term, $r \in \mathbb{R}$ is a real number, and $\sim \in\{=, \neq,<, \leq\}$ is a relational operator, then $t \sim r$ is a formula.
- If $f_{1}, f_{2}$ and $f_{3}$ are formulae, then $\neg f_{1}, f_{1} \wedge f_{2}$ and ite $\left(f_{1}, f_{2}, f_{3}\right)$ are formulae.

Further types of formulae can be defined as abbreviations. For instance, $t \neq c$ is defined as $\neg(t=c)$ and $a \vee b$ as $\neg(\neg a \wedge \neg b)$. An atomic formula is one of the form $t \sim c$, where $t$ is a term and $c$ is a constant. A positive literal is either a propositional variable or an atomic formula; a negative literal is the negation of a positive literal. A clause is the disjunction of a set of literals such that no two literals in the set are identical or complementary. A formula is in conjunctive normal form (CNF) if it is the conjunction of a set of clauses.

A model for a formula $f$ is an assignment of values to the variables in the formula that is consistent with the type of each variable and that makes the formula true. A formula that has at least one model is satisfiable. In recent years, decision procedure for $L A$, and other fragments of quantifier-free first-order logic, have been based on the DPLL procedure. formula $\mathcal{F}$, a propositional abstraction $\mathcal{F}_{b}$ of $\mathcal{F}$ is built by substituting each atomic formula with a new propositional variable. As the DPLL procedure provides a model for $\mathcal{F}_{b}$, a theory solver for $L A$ is invoked with the set of atomic formulae that are assigned. The theory solver checks the feasibility of the set. If the set is feasible, then the model is also a model in theory. If the set is infeasible, then the explanation of the infeasibility is returned to the DPLL procedure. The procedure continues until it finds a complete model, or decides that $\mathcal{F}$ is unsatisfiable in the given theory.

## 3 Term-ITE Conversion

### 3.1 Term-ITE

An $L A$ formula can often be expressed more concisely by using term-ites. For example, Fig. 2 shows that the formula $f$ in $(a)$ is equivalent to the formula $f^{\prime}$ in $(b)$, but is more concise. Despite the conciseness of term-ite representation, $L A$ formula with term-ites are often converted into a formula without these term-ites, so that the formula may be solved by an SMT solver based on the propositional abstraction. A common way to eliminate these term-ites is to introduce a fresh constant that replaces the termite. In particular, an $L A$ formula $f\left(\right.$ term-ite $\left.\left(g, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)\right)$ is converted to $f(c) \wedge i f$-thenelse $\left(g, t_{1}=c, t_{2}=c\right)$ where $c$ is a constant that does not appear in the given formula. The advantage of this conversion is that it does not blow up; however, it often retains redundancies in the converted formula. For example, the formula term-ite $(g, 1,2)=$
term-ite $(h, 3,4)$ can be reduced to $\perp$, whereas the conversion generates a rather complex formula if-then-else $(g, c=1, c=2) \wedge$ if-then-else $(h, c=3, c=4)$ that contains a redundancy. To remove the redundancy, additional theory reasoning is required. A naive approach to the Term-ite conversion will be to combine every term in the left-hand side of the relational operator with the terms in the right-hand side depending on the conditional terms of term-ites. In particular, an $L A$ formula $f\left(\right.$ term-ite $\left.\left(g, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)\right)$ is converted according to following conversion rule.

$$
f\left(\text { term-ite }\left(g, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)\right) \Longleftrightarrow\left(g \wedge f\left(t_{1}\right)\right) \vee\left(\neg g \wedge f\left(t_{2}\right)\right)
$$

This approach removes the redundancy in the above example on the fly; however, as Fig. 2 shows, the converted formula may grow exponentially large in the worst case.

(a)

(b)

Fig. 2. Term-Ite conversion

### 3.2 Term-ITE Conversion with Cofactors

As an alternative to the naive approaches described in Sect. 3.1, Term-ite conversion can be done by computing cofactors.

Definition 1. Let $f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ be an LA formula, where each $x_{i}$ is an atomic predicate. Then,

$$
\begin{gathered}
f_{x_{i}}=f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{i-1}, \top, x_{i+1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right) \\
f_{\neg x_{i}}=f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{i-1}, \perp, x_{i+1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

are the positive and negative cofactors of $f$ with respect to $x_{i}$.
Theorem 1 (Boole). Let $f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ be a Boolean function. Then $f\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)=$ $\left(x_{i} \wedge f_{x_{i}}\right) \vee\left(\neg x_{i} \wedge f_{\neg x_{i}}\right)$.

According to Theorem 1, an $L A$ formula $f$ (term-ite $\left.\left(g, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)\right)$ can be rewritten as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(g \wedge f_{g}\left(t_{1}\right)\right) \vee\left(\neg g \wedge f_{\neg g}\left(t_{2}\right)\right) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

By computing the cofactors for $f$, the conversion gets a great benefit of simplifying the converted formula. In Fig. 3, $f$ is simplified to $\perp$ using the conversion rule. In particular, the cofactors $f_{A} \Longleftrightarrow($ term-ite $(B, 3,5)=4)$ and $f_{\neg A} \Longleftrightarrow(5=4) \Longleftrightarrow \perp$ are first computed for the conversion $f \Longleftrightarrow\left(A \wedge f_{A}\right) \vee\left(\neg A \wedge f_{\neg A}\right)$. Then $f$ is simplified to $\left(A \wedge f_{A}\right)$, and finally reduced to $\perp$ by cofactoring $f_{A}$ with respect to $B$. In practice, this kind of simplification can be often done in $L A$ problems of SMT-LIB [13]. As the conversion shows, the simplification for equality is easily done by comparing two constants. On the other hand, if we use the conversion that introduces a fresh constant, the redundancy still resides in the converted formula. Following the conventional conversion rule, $\operatorname{term}$-ite $(\operatorname{ite}(A, B, \perp)$, $\operatorname{term}$-ite $(\neg A, x, 3), 5)$ in $f$ is replace with a fresh constant $c$. Then $f$ is converted to

$$
\begin{gathered}
(c=4) \wedge \operatorname{ite}(\text { ite }(A, B, \perp), c=\operatorname{term-ite}(\neg A, x, 3), c=5) \Longleftrightarrow \\
(c=4) \wedge \operatorname{ite}(\text { ite }(A, B, \perp), \operatorname{ite}(\neg A, c=x, c=3), c=5) .
\end{gathered}
$$

To remove the redundancy in the converted formula, a rather complicated theory reasoning is required. Although the cofactoring method gives a huge reduction, it may still blow up if there is no simplification. Compared to the approach that introduces a fresh constant, our approach is more aggressive.

Definition 2. Let $x_{1}$ and $x_{2}$ be atomic formulae. We write $x_{1} \models_{T} x_{2}$ if $x_{2}$ is a consequence of $x_{1}$ in theory $T$, and we call $x_{2}$ a theory consequence of $x_{1}$.

In $L A$, the cofactoring method can be further extended with theory reasoning. Using the theory propagation method [11], an assignment to an atomic predicate may entail the assignments to other atomic predicates. For example, if we make an assignment to $(x<0)=\top$, then $(x<3)=\top$ and $(x>1)=\perp$. Following rules give how theory propagation helps to simplify the converted formula.

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{g \models_{T} h}{f_{g}\left(\text { term-ite }\left(h, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)\right)} \Longleftrightarrow  \tag{2}\\
\frac{g \models_{T} \neg h}{}  \tag{3}\\
\frac{f_{g}\left(t_{1}\right)}{} \\
\end{align*}
$$

As we compute the cofactors in Term-ite conversion, we make an assignment to a cofactoring variable. If the cofactoring variable is an atomic predicate and the computed cofactor is also an atomic predicate, then the theory reasoning can be invoked to check the relation between these two atoms. The following theorem gives an idea of how this simplification can be done, and it will be used in Sect. 5.

Theorem 2. Given an LA formula $f$ and an atomic predicate $x_{i}$, if $x_{i} \models_{T} f_{x_{i}}$, then $f=x_{i} \vee f_{\neg x_{i}}$. If $x_{i} \models_{T} \neg f_{x_{i}}$, then $f=\neg x_{i} \wedge f_{\neg x_{i}}$.

Proof. By Theorem 1.


Fig. 3. Term-ITE conversion with cofactor

## 4 Simple Preprocessing

Before we execute Term-Ite conversion for an $L A$ formula $\mathcal{F}$, terminal cases for term-ite are detected and basic simplification is done for the formula. Let $a \in V_{B}$; let $t_{1}, t_{2}$, and $t_{3}$ be terms and each $c_{1}, c_{2}, c_{3} \in \mathbb{R}$. In the $L A$ formula, we detect terminal cases like term-ite $\left(T, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)=t_{1}$, term-ite $\left(\perp, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)=t_{2}$,term-ite $\left(a, t_{1}, t_{1}\right)=t_{1}$. We also simplify nested term-ites such as term-ite ( $a$, term-ite $\left.\left(a, t_{1}, t_{3}\right), t_{2}\right)=$ term-ite $\left(a, t_{1}, t_{2}\right)$, term-ite $\left(a\right.$, term-ite $\left.\left(\neg a, t_{3}, t_{2}\right), t_{1}\right)=$ term-ite $\left(a, t_{2}, t_{1}\right)$. For arithmetic terms, $\left(0+t_{1}\right)=$ $t_{1},\left(0 * t_{1}\right)=0,\left(1 * t_{1}\right)=t_{1},\left(-\left(-t_{1}\right)\right)=t_{1},\left(c_{1}+c_{2}\right)=c_{3}$.

Furthermore, if a formula $f$ has a root node that is a relational operator with termites and has leaves that are all constants, then it can be simplified. Example 1 shows such a case.

Example 1. Let $f$ be a formula shown in Fig. 4. The formula $f$ is an equality with termites. As Fig. 4 shows, the terms on the left-hand side of the root node are all constants and the one on the right-hand side is also a constant. In such a case, we compare all the constants in the left hand side for equality with the constant on the right, 204. Clearly, $(202=204) \Longleftrightarrow \perp,(201=204) \Longleftrightarrow \perp$ and $(201=203) \Longleftrightarrow \perp$; hence $f=\perp$.


Fig. 4. Term-Ite conversion with simple check

## 5 Algorithm

We assume that an SMT solver adopts the rewriting procedure. Given an $L A$ formula $\mathcal{F}$ with term-ites, an SMT solver converts $\mathcal{F}$ into $\mathcal{F}^{\prime}$ by removing all term-ites in $\mathcal{F}$. After the conversion, the SMT solver decides the satisfiability of $\mathcal{F}^{\prime}$. In this section, we describe how $\mathcal{F}$ is converted into $\mathcal{F}^{\prime}$.

As the pseudocode shows in Fig. 5, the main function of Term-Ite conversion is called with an $L A$ formula $\mathcal{F}$. The formula $\mathcal{F}$ is represented as a $D A G$ (directed acyclic graph), where each node is a Boolean operator, a relational operator, an arithmetic operator, a term-ite or an atom. The conversion is applied to each relational operator in the $D A G$, and the procedure ends if $\mathcal{F}$ no longer has term-ites. The main function starts by selecting the candidates for the conversion in the $D A G$. Each candidate is a relational operator that has a term-ite as a descendant, and the candidates are gathered in $F$. As line 4 in Fig. 5 shows, the Term-Ite conversion is invoked with $f \in F$, and all the term-ites are removed from $f$. After the conversion of $f$, the converted formula $f^{\prime}$ is either a Boolean ite or an atom. The procedure is continued until all $f \in F$ are considered. When the Term-Ite conversion finishes, $\mathcal{F}$ has been converted into $\mathcal{F}^{\prime}$, and $\mathcal{F}^{\prime}$ does not contain any term-ites.

As Term-Ite conversion is invoked with $f \in F$, a cofactoring variable $v$ is searched for in $f$ in line 10 . We select an atom as a cofactoring variable that resides in the conditional term of the term-ite. With $v$, we recursively compute the cofactor of $f$. In general, the cofactors are computed for the children of $f$ with respect to $v$, and a new formula $f_{v}$ is created with new children. As shown in line 38 of Fig. 6, if $f$ is a relational operator, we compute the cofactors $l_{v}$ and $r_{v}$ for the children of $f$. After computing the cofactors, we check for simple case with $l_{v}$ and $r_{v}$. The simple check detects a terminal case for the terms $l_{v}$ and $r_{v}$ with respect to the type $(=,<, \leq,>, \geq)$ of $f$. Figure 4 shows an example of simplification. If the terminal case is not found, a new formula $f_{v}$ is generated with type $(f), l_{v}$ and $r_{v}$. The newly generated formula, $f_{v}$ is either an atom or a relation operator with term-ites. In the latter case, Term-Ite conversion is called with $f_{v}$, again.

```
TermIteConversionMain (F) \{
    \(F:=\) GatherCandidateForTermIteConversion (F);
    For each \(f \in F\) (in topological order) \{
        \(f^{\prime}:=\) TermIteConversion ( \(f\) );
        \(\mathcal{F}^{\prime}:=\) UpdateFormula \(\left(\mathcal{F}, f^{\prime}\right) ;\)
    \}
    return \(\mathcal{F}^{\prime}\)
\}
TermIteConversion ( \(f\) ) \{
    while \((v:=\operatorname{GetCofactorVariable}(f)\) ) \{
        \(f_{v}:=\) CofactorRecur \((f, v)\);
        \(f_{\neg v}:=\) CofactorRecur \((f, \neg v)\);
        \(f:=\operatorname{Ite}\left(v, f_{v}, f_{\neg v}\right)\);
    \}
    return \(f\);
\}
CofactorRecur \((f, v)\{\)
    if \((f=v)\{\)
            \(f_{v}:=\mathrm{T} ;\)
    \(\}\) else if \((f=\neg v)\{\)
            \(f_{v}:=\perp ;\)
    \(\}\) else if (is_relation \((f)\) ) \{
            \(f_{v}:=\) CofactorRelRecur ( \(f, v\) );
    \(\}\) else if (is_term_ite \((f)\) ) \{
            \(f_{v}:=\) CofactorTiteRecur \((f, v)\);
    \(\}\) else \(\{/ *+,-, \times * /\)
            \(C:=\operatorname{children}(f)\);
            For each \(c \in C\{\)
                    \(d:=\) CofactorRecur \((c, v)\);
            \(\operatorname{Add}(D, d)\);
        \}
        \(f_{v}:=\operatorname{NewFormula}(\operatorname{type}(f), D) ; / * \operatorname{type}(f)\) is either,,\(+- \times\). */
        SimplifyArithFormula \(\left(f_{v}\right)\);
    \}
    return \(f_{v}\);
\}
```

Fig. 5. Term-Ite conversion algorithm

In line 47 of Fig. 6, if $f_{v}$ is an atom, theory reasoning is done with $v$. As Theorem 2 shows, if $v \models_{T} f_{v}$, then $f$ in line 13 of Fig. 5 is simplified to $v \vee f_{\neg v}$. Likewise, if $v \models_{T} \neg f_{v}$, then $f$ is simplified to $\neg v \wedge f_{\neg v}$. When $f$ is either a term-ite or a Boolean ite, the cofactor for each term of $f$ is computed as shown in line 58 of Fig. 6. As in

```
CofactorRelRecur \((f, v)\) \{
    \(l_{v}:=\) CofactorRelRecur \((f \rightarrow l e f t, v)\);
    \(r_{v}:=\) CofactorRelRecur \((f \rightarrow\) right,\(v)\);
    \(f_{v}:=\) SimpleCheckWithTerms (type \(\left.(f), l_{v}, r_{v}\right)\);
    if ( \(\left.f_{v}=0\right)\left\{/ * f_{v}\right.\) is either an atom or \(0 * /\)
        \(f_{v}:=\) NewFormula (type \(\left.(f), l_{v}, r_{v}\right)\);
        if ( is_term_ite \(\left(l_{v}\right)\) or is_term_ite \(\left(r_{v}\right)\) ) \{
            \(f_{v}=\) TermIteConversion \(\left(f_{v}\right)\);
        \}
    \}
    if ( is_pred \(\left.\left(f_{v}\right)\right)\{\)
        if \(\left(v \models_{T} f_{v}\right)\{/ *\) theory reasoning */
            \(f_{v}:=\top\)
        \(\}\) else if ( \(v \models_{T} \neg f_{v}\) ) \{/* theory reasoning */
            \(f_{v}:=\perp\)
        \}
    \}
    return \(f_{v}\);
\}
CofactorTiteRecur \((f, v)\{\)
    \(f_{c}:=\operatorname{CondTerm}(f) ; f_{t}:=\operatorname{ThenTerm}(f) ; f_{e}:=\operatorname{ElseTerm}(f) ;\)
    if ( \(f_{c}=\top\) ) \{
        return CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{t}, v\right)\);
    \(\}\) else if \(\left(f_{c}=\perp\right)\{\)
        return CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{e}, v\right)\);
    \(\}\) else if (is_pred \(\left.\left(f_{c}\right)\right)\{\)
        if ( \(v \models_{T} f_{c}\) ) \{/* theory reasoning */
            return CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{t}, v\right)\);
        \(\}\) else if \(\left(v \models_{T} \neg f_{c}\right)\) ) \{/* theory reasoning */
            return CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{e}, v\right)\);
        \}
    \}
    \(c_{v}:=\) CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{c}, v\right)\);
    \(t_{v}:=\) CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{t}, v\right)\);
    \(e_{v}:=\) CofactorRecur \(\left(f_{e}, v\right)\);
    \(f_{v}:=\) Ite \(\left(c_{v}, t_{v}, e_{v}\right) ;\)
    return \(f_{v}\);
\}
```

Fig. 6. Term-Ite conversion algorithm
the cofactoring on the relational operator, a terminal case is checked for the conditional term $f_{c}$. If $f_{c}$ is an atomic predicate, theory reasoning is done with $v$ and $f_{c}$ using the Rules 2-3 in Sect. 3.2. If the terminal case is not found, then the cofactors for the terms of $f$ are computed to obtain $f_{v}$.


Fig. 7. Term-Ite conversion

Example 2. Let $f$ is a relational operator such that $D(f)$ contains term-ites. We convert $f$ into $f^{\prime}$ such that there is no term-ite in $D\left(f^{\prime}\right)$. In Fig. 7, let $A \leftrightarrow(x \geq 50)$ and $B \leftrightarrow(y \leq 58)$. We first traverse $D(f)$ to find a cofactoring variable. We pick an atomic formula $A$ as a cofactoring variable and compute cofactors for $f$ with respect to $A$. As we proceed, $f_{A}=(36 \leq 55)=\top$ and $f_{\neg A}$ is constructed with a new term-ite. Since there still exists a term-ite in $D\left(f_{\neg A}\right)$, we look for another cofactoring variable in $f_{\neg A}$. We select $B$ and compute the cofactors for $f_{\neg A}$. As a result, we get $f_{\neg A B}=(x \leq 55)$ and $f_{\neg A \neg B}=(y \leq 55)$. Since $A \models_{T} f_{\neg A B}$ and $\neg B \models_{T} \neg f_{\neg A \neg B}, f_{\neg A B}=\top$ and $f_{\neg A \neg B}=\perp$. Finally, the converted formula $f^{\prime}$ gets reduced to ite $(A, \top, B)$ as the Fig. 7 shows.

## 6 Related Work

In recent years, a number of decision procedures for $L A$ have been proposed. Yices [2] presented a new Simplex-based linear arithmetic solver that enables fast backtracking and efficient integration with DPLL(T) framework. MathSAT [1] introduced a lazy and layered approach, and BarcelogicTools [11] presented DPLL(T) with exhaustive theory propagation.

For SMT preprocessing, HTP [12] introduces several preprocessing techniques such as unate predicate detection, variable substitution and symmetry breaking. Yices [2] uses a Gaussian elimination to reduce the size of initial tableau of equality constraints. In [15], Yu et al. describes a static learning technique that analyzes the relationship of
the linear constraints. In Karplus's technical report [6], a new canonical form for ITE DAGs is introduced using two-cuts, and ITE normalization using recursive transformation is shown in [10].

## 7 Experimental Results

We have implemented the algorithm presented in Sect. 5 in Sateen [9, 8, 7], a theorem prover for quantifier-free first-order logic that combines the propositional reasoning engine of $[4,5]$ with theory-specific procedures. Experiments are done with the full set of QF_LIA (Quantifier free linear integer arithmetic logic) benchmarks from SMT-COMP (Satisfiability Modulo Theories Competition) [13]. The experiments were performed on a Intel 2.4 GHz Quad Core with 4 GB of RAM running Linux. Time out was set at 1000 seconds. Sateen was compared with Z3.2 [13], MathSAT-4.2[13] and Yices-1.0.16 [14]. Z3.2 and MathSAT-4.2 are the ones that were submitted to SMT-COMP in 2008. We used most recent version of Yices that is available.

In QF_LIA benchmarks, there are two benchmark sets, nec-smt and rings, that are rich in term-ite operators. More than 90 percent of QF_LIA benchmarks belong to these two sets. The benchmarks in nec-smt set are generated by the SMT-based BMC engine inside F-Soft [3], and the benchmarks in rings encode associativity properties on modulo arithmetic.

Figures 8-10 show scatterplots comparing Z3, MathSAT and Yices to Sateen. Points below the diagonal represent wins for Sateen. Each scatterplot shows two lines: The main diagonal, and $y=\kappa \cdot x^{\eta}$, where $\kappa$ and $\eta$ are obtained by least-square fitting. Figure 8 shows that Sateen is often an order of magnitude faster than Z3. In Fig. 9 and 10, Sateen is often a few orders of magnitude faster than MathSAT and Yices.

For the evaluation of our preprocessor, we generated a set of simplified benchmarks out of the nec-smt benchmarks and ran the experiments on them. All solvers took less than a second on each simplified problem. Figures 11-13 show scatterplots comparing Z3, MathSAT and Yices with preprocessor and without preprocessor. The times for the solvers with preprocessor include preprocessing time. As Figures 11-13 show, our preprocessor is also effective for other solvers.

Table 1 shows the number of Term-Ite reductions with the simple preprocessing on randomly selected benchmarks. The first column gives the name of the benchmarks, the second one is the initial number of Term-Ite, and the third one is the number of TermIte after the simple preprocessing. The last column gives the rate of the reduction. On average, we achieved 15 percent of Term-Ite reduction with the simple preprocessing of Section 4.

To assess the effectiveness of our approach, we compared our approach with the naive approach of Eq. 3.1. As Fig. 15 shows, our approach is significantly better than the naive approach. In addition, we disabled theory simplification in the algorithm and ran the experiment on the problems where the simplifications play a significant role. Figure 14 shows that Sateen with theory simplification is consistently better than the one without simplification.


Fig. 8. Z3 vs. Sateen on QF_LIA


Fig. 10. Yices vs. Sateen on QF_LIA


Fig. 12. MATHSAT WITH PREPROCESS vs MATHSAT on QF_LIA


Fig. 9. MathSAT vs. Sateen on QF_LIA


Fig. 11. Z3 WITH PREPROCESS vs. Z 3 on QF_LIA


Fig. 13. YICES WITH PREPROCESS vs. YICES on QF_LIA


Fig. 14. Sateen vs. Sateen without Theory- Fig. 15. Sateen vs. Sateen with naive apSimp on QF_LIA proach on QF_LIA

Table 1. Number of Term-ITE Reduction with Simple Preprocessing

| Benchmark | Before S.P. | After S.P. | rate(\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| bftpd_login/prp-74-50.smt | 38773 | 34085 | 12 |
| checkpass/prp-10-46.smt | 17240 | 14949 | 13 |
| checkpass/prp-63-50.smt | 25376 | 21893 | 14 |
| checkpass_pwd/prp-38-42.smt | 12196 | 10354 | 15 |
| getoption/prp-2-200.smt | 11269 | 9791 | 13 |
| getoption_directories/prp-0-110.smt | 72892 | 62457 | 14 |
| getoption_group/prp-72-49.smt | 15021 | 12094 | 20 |
| handler_sigchld/prp-20-46.smt | 7800 | 6824 | 13 |
| int_from_list/prp-34-41.smt | 7184 | 5888 | 18 |
| user_is_in_group/prp-23-48.smt | 22549 | 17939 | 20 |

## 8 Conclusions

We have presented an algorithm for the Term-Ite conversion in $L A$. The approach is based on the computation of cofactors and theory simplification. The simplification is done by detecting terminal cases on the formula or using theory propagation on the atomic predicates. Experiments show that this approach is very effective in most of QF_LIA benchmarks compared to the other SMT solvers. On the other hand, since our approach may still blow up in general, it will be a good future work to find out how to combine it with the approach that does not blow up.

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