

Jieh Hsiang: *Refutational Theorem Proving Using Term-Rewriting Systems*, Artificial Intelligence, 25 (1985) 255–300.

From  $\langle \vee, \wedge, ' \rangle$  to  $\langle +, * \rangle$  and vice versa:

$x \vee y = x + y + (x * y)$ $x \wedge y = x * y$ $x' = 1 + x$	$x + y = (x' \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge y')$ $x * y = x \wedge y$
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Axioms for a Boolean Ring:

$x + 0$	$=$	$x$
$x + (-x)$	$=$	$0$
$x + y$	$=$	$y + x$
$x + (y + z)$	$=$	$(x + y) + z$
$x * 1$	$=$	$x$
$x * x$	$=$	$x$
$(x + y) * z$	$=$	$(x * z) + (y * z)$
$x * (y * z)$	$=$	$(x * y) * z$
$x * y$	$=$	$y * x$
$x + x$	$=$	$0$

Canonical Term Rewriting System for a Boolean Algebra, modulo *associativity* and *commutativity* of  $+$  and  $*$ :

$x \vee y$	$\Rightarrow$	$(x * y) + x + y$
$x \rightarrow y$	$\Rightarrow$	$(x * y) + x + 1$
$x \leftrightarrow y$	$\Rightarrow$	$x + y + 1$
$x'$	$\Rightarrow$	$1 + x$
$x + 0$	$\Rightarrow$	$x$
$x + x$	$\Rightarrow$	$0$
$x * 1$	$\Rightarrow$	$x$
$x * x$	$\Rightarrow$	$x$
$x * 0$	$\Rightarrow$	$0$
$x * (y + z)$	$\Rightarrow$	$(x * y) + (x * z)$

**THEOREM.** A boolean term is valid iff its irreducible expression is 1; unsatisfiable iff its irreducible expression is 0; and satisfiable but not valid iff its irreducible expression is neither 0 nor 1.

**EXERCISE.** Let us show that:  $p \vee (p \wedge q) \leftrightarrow p$ . Indeed, we have the following rewriting:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p \vee (p \wedge q) \leftrightarrow p && \Rightarrow (p * (p * q) + p + (p * q)) + p + 1 \Rightarrow \\
 \Rightarrow & ((p * q) + p + (p * q)) + p + 1 && \Rightarrow (0 + p) + p + 1 \Rightarrow \\
 \Rightarrow & p + p + 1 && \Rightarrow 0 + 1 \Rightarrow \\
 \Rightarrow & 1 &&
 \end{aligned}$$