## Effective Propositional Inference

Informatics 2D: Reasoning and Agents



## Outline

Two families of efficient algorithms for propositional inference:

Complete backtracking search algorithms

DPLL algorithm (Davis, Putnam, Logemann, Loveland)

Incomplete local search algorithms

WalkSAT algorithm

## Clausal Form (CNF)

DPLL and WalkSAT manipulate formulae in conjunctive normal form (CNF).

Sentence

- Formula whose satisfiability is to be determined
- Conjunction of clauses

Clause

• Disjunction of literals

Literal

• Proposition symbol or negated proposition symbol

e.g.  $(A, \neg B), (B, \neg C)$  represents  $(A \lor \neg B) \land (B \lor \neg C)$ 

## Recall Logical Equivalence

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Two sentences are logically equivalent iff true in the same models:

 $\alpha \equiv \beta$  iff  $\alpha \models \beta$  and  $\beta \models \alpha$ 

## Conversion to CNF

$$\left(B_{1,1} \Leftrightarrow P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1}\right)$$

#### **Eliminate** $\Leftrightarrow$ : replace $\alpha \Leftrightarrow \beta$ with $(\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \land (\beta \Rightarrow \alpha)$

 $\bullet \left( B_{1,1} \Rightarrow \left( P_{1,2} \lor P_{2,1} \right) \right) \land \left( \left( P_{1,2} \lor P_{2,1} \right) \Rightarrow B_{1,1} \right)$ 

#### **Eliminate** $\Rightarrow$ : replace $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$ with $\neg \alpha \lor \beta$

•  $(\neg B_{1,1} \lor (P_{1,2} \lor P_{2,1})) \land (\neg (P_{1,2} \lor P_{2,1}) \lor B_{1,1})$ 

### **Move ¬ inwards :** use de Morgan's rules and double negation $\neg \neg \alpha = \alpha$

•  $(\neg B_{1,1} \lor (P_{1,2} \lor P_{2,1})) \land ((\neg P_{1,2} \land \neg P_{2,1}) \lor B_{1,1})$ 

### **Create clauses:** apply distributivity law (V over $\Lambda$ ) and flatten

•  $(\neg B_{1,1} \lor P_{1,2} \lor P_{2,1}) \land (\neg P_{1,2} \lor B_{1,1}) \land (\neg P_{2,1} \lor B_{1,1})$ 

## DPLL

## The DPLL algorithm

Determine if an input propositional logic sentence (in CNF) is satisfiable.

### Improvements over truth table enumeration:

- 1. Early termination
- 2. Pure symbol heuristic
- 3. Unit clause heuristic

#### **DPLL**

## 1. Early termination

- > A clause is true if one of its literals is true,
  - $\circ$  e.g., if A is true then (A  $\vee$   $\neg$ B) is true.
- > A sentence is false if any of its clauses is false,
  - e.g., if A is false and B is true then
  - $\circ$  (A  $\vee \neg$ B) is false, so any sentence containing it is false.

## 2. Pure symbol heuristic

- > Pure symbol: always appears with the same "sign"/polarity in all clauses.
  - $\circ$  e.g., In the three clauses (A  $\vee \neg$ B), ( $\neg$ B  $\vee \neg$ C), (C  $\vee$  A):
    - A and B are pure, C is impure.
- Make literal containing a pure symbol true.
  - e.g., Let A and ¬B both be true.

## 3. Unit clause heuristic

- > Unit clause: only one literal in the clause
  - ∘ e.g. (A)
- > The only literal in a unit clause must be true.
  - e.g., A must be true.
- > Also includes clauses where all but one literal is false,
  - e.g. (A,B,C) where B and C are false since it is equivalent to (A, false, false) i.e. (A).

#### **DPLL**

```
function DPLL-SATISFIABLE?(s) returns true or false
  inputs: s, a sentence in propositional logic
   clauses \leftarrow the set of clauses in the CNF representation of s
  symbols \leftarrow a list of the proposition symbols in s
  return DPLL(clauses, symbols, { })
function DPLL(clauses, symbols, model) returns true or false
  if every clause in clauses is true in model then return true
  if some clause in clauses is false in model then return false
  P, value \leftarrow \text{FIND-PURE-SYMBOL}(symbols, clauses, model)
  if P is non-null then return DPLL(clauses, symbols – P, model \cup {P=value})
  P, value \leftarrow \text{FIND-UNIT-CLAUSE}(clauses, model)
  if P is non-null then return DPLL(clauses, symbols – P, model \cup {P=value})
  P \leftarrow \text{FIRST}(symbols); rest \leftarrow \text{REST}(symbols)
  return DPLL(clauses, rest, model \cup {P=true}) or
          DPLL(clauses, rest, model \cup \{P=false\}))
```

## The DPLL algorithm

## Tautology Deletion (Optional)

- > Tautology: both a proposition and its negation in a clause.
  - ∘ e.g. (A, B, ¬A)
- Clause bound to be true.
  - e.g., whether A is true or false.
  - Therefore, can be deleted.

## Mid-Lecture Exercise

> Apply DPLL heuristics to the following sentence:

$$(S_{2,1}), (\neg S_{1,1}), (\neg S_{1,2}),$$
  
 $(\neg S_{2,1}, W_{2,2}), (\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2}), (\neg S_{1,2}, W_{2,2}),$   
 $(\neg W_{2,2}, S_{2,1}, S_{1,1}, S_{1,2})$ 

- > Use case splits if model not found by the heuristics.
- $\triangleright$  Symbols:  $S_{1,1}$ ,  $S_{1,2}$ ,  $S_{2,1}$ ,  $W_{2,2}$

Pure symbol heuristic:

 $(S_{2,1})$  $(\neg S_{1,1})$ 

1,17

 $(\neg S_{1,2})$ 

 $(\neg S_{2,1}, W_{2,2})$ 

 $(\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2})$ 

 $(\neg S_{1,2}, W_{2,2})$ 

 $(\neg W_{2,2}, S_{2,1}, S_{1,1}, S_{1,2})$ 

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

Unit clause heuristic:

$$(S_{2,1})$$
  
 $(\neg S_{1,1})$   
 $(\neg S_{1,2})$   
 $(\neg S_{2,1}, W_{2,2})$   
 $(\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2})$   
 $(\neg S_{1,2}, W_{2,2})$   
 $(\neg W_{2,2}, S_{2,1}, S_{1,1}, S_{1,2})$ 

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

#### Unit clause heuristic:

 $\circ$  S<sub>2,1</sub> is true

T

$$(\neg S_{1,1})$$

$$(\neg S_{1,2})$$

$$(F, W_{2,2})$$

$$(\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2})$$

$$(\neg S_{1,2}, W_{2,2})$$

$$(\neg W_{2,2}, T, S_{1,1}, S_{1,2})$$

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

#### Unit clause heuristic:

 $\circ$  S<sub>2,1</sub> is true

#### Early termination heuristic:

 $\circ$  ( $\neg W_{2,2}$ ,  $S_{2,1}$ ,  $S_{1,1}$ ,  $S_{1,2}$ ) is true

T

$$(\neg S_{1,1})$$

$$(\neg S_{1,2})$$

$$(F, W_{2,2})$$

$$(\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2})$$

$$(\neg S_{1,2}, W_{2,2})$$

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

#### Unit clause heuristic:

- $\circ$  S<sub>2,1</sub> is true
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,1</sub> is false

#### Early termination heuristic:

 $\circ$  (¬W<sub>2,2</sub>, S<sub>2,1</sub>, S<sub>1,1</sub>, S<sub>1,2</sub>) is true

T

T

 $(\neg S_{1,2})$ 

 $(F, W_{2,2})$ 

 $(T, W_{2,2})$ 

 $(\neg S_{1,2}, W_{2,2})$ 

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

#### Unit clause heuristic:

- $\circ$  S<sub>2,1</sub> is true
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,1</sub> is false
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,2</sub> is false

#### Early termination heuristic:

- $\circ$  ( $\neg W_{2,2}$ ,  $S_{2,1}$ ,  $S_{1,1}$ ,  $S_{1,2}$ ) is true
- $\circ$  ( $\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2}$ ) is true

T

T

T

 $(F, W_{2,2})$ 

Т

 $(T, W_{2,2})$ 

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

#### Unit clause heuristic:

- $\circ$  S<sub>2,1</sub> is true
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,1</sub> is false
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,2</sub> is false

#### Early termination heuristic:

- $\circ$  (¬W<sub>2,2</sub>, S<sub>2,1</sub>, S<sub>1,1</sub>, S<sub>1,2</sub>) is true
- $\circ$  ( $\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2}$ ) is true
- $\circ$  ( $\neg S_{2,1}$ ,  $W_{2,2}$ ) is true

T

T

T

 $(F, W_{2,2})$ 

T

Т

Т

#### Pure symbol heuristic:

• No literal is pure.

#### Unit clause heuristic:

- $\circ$  S<sub>2,1</sub> is true
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,1</sub> is false
- $\circ$  S<sub>1,2</sub> is false
- $\circ$  W<sub>2,2</sub> is true

#### Early termination heuristic:

- $\circ$  ( $\neg W_{2,2}$ ,  $S_{2,1}$ ,  $S_{1,1}$ ,  $S_{1,2}$ ) is true
- $\circ$  ( $\neg S_{1,1}, W_{2,2}$ ) is true
- $\circ$  ( $\neg S_{2,1}, W_{2,2}$ ) is true

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## WalkSAT



## The WalkSAT algorithm



- > Incomplete, local search algorithm
- > Evaluation function:
  - The min-conflict heuristic of minimizing the number of unsatisfied clauses
- Algorithm checks for satisfiability by randomly flipping the values of variables
- ➤ Balance between greediness and randomness

## The WalkSAT algorithm

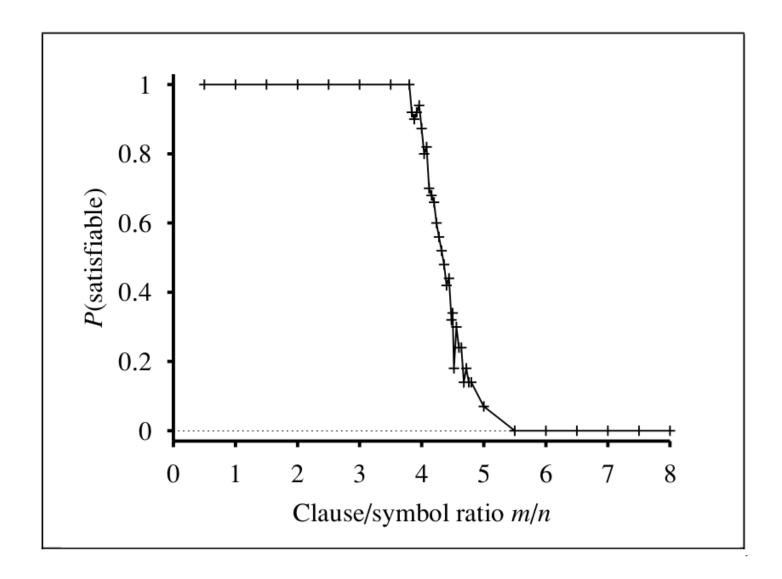


## Hard satisfiability problems

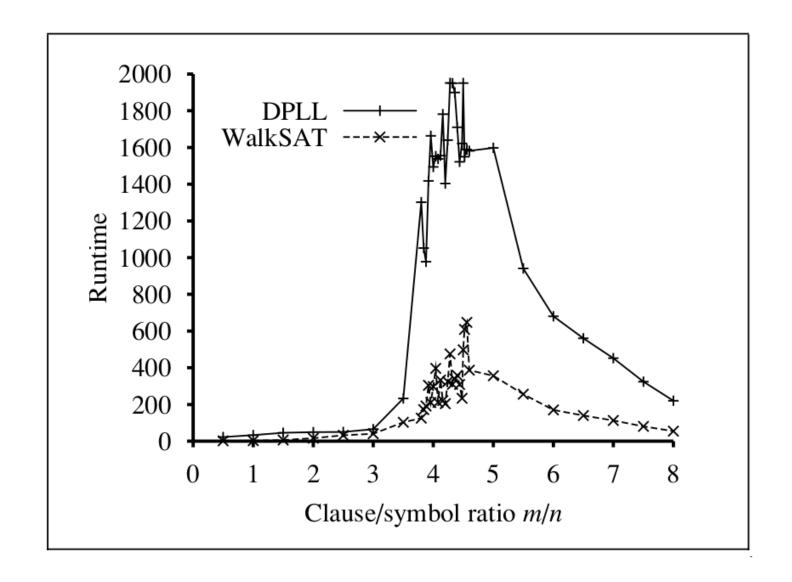
- Consider random 3-CNF sentences.
  - Example:

$$(\neg \mathsf{D} \lor \neg \mathsf{B} \lor \mathsf{C}) \land (\mathsf{B} \lor \neg \mathsf{A} \lor \neg \mathsf{C}) \land (\neg \mathsf{C} \lor \neg \mathsf{B} \lor \mathsf{E}) \land (\mathsf{E} \lor \neg \mathsf{D} \lor \mathsf{B}) \land (\mathsf{B} \lor \mathsf{E} \lor \neg \mathsf{C})$$

- m = number of clauses
- $\circ$  n = number of symbols
- $\triangleright$  Hard problems seem to cluster near m/n = 4.3 (critical point)

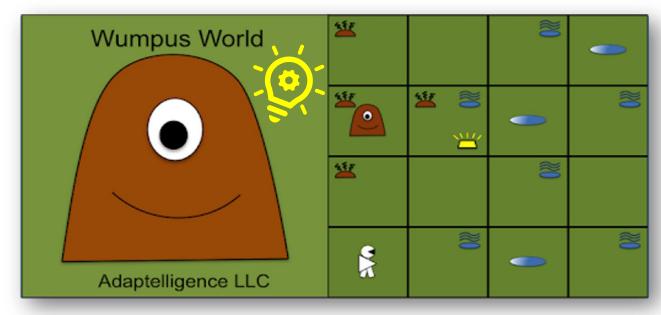


# Hard satisfiability problems



# Hard satisfiability problems

Median runtime for 100 satisfiable random 3-CNF sentences, n = 50

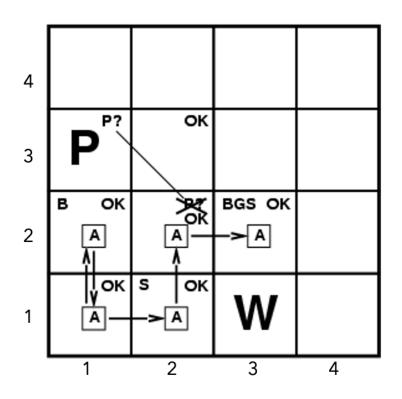


## Inference in the Wumpus World

## Inference-based agents in the wumpus world

> A wumpus-world agent using propositional logic:

> 64 distinct proposition symbols, 155 sentences



```
function HYBRID-WUMPUS-AGENT(percept) returns an action
  inputs: percept, a list, [stench,breeze,glitter,bump,scream]
  persistent: KB, a knowledge base, initially the atemporal "wumpus physics"
               t, a counter, initially 0, indicating time
               plan, an action sequence, initially empty
  Tell(KB, Make-Percept-Sentence(percept, t))
  TELL the KB the temporal "physics" sentences for time t
  safe \leftarrow \{[x, y] : Ask(KB, OK_{x,y}^t) = true\}
  if Ask(KB, Glitter^t) = true then
     plan \leftarrow [Grab] + PLAN-ROUTE(current, \{[1,1]\}, safe) + [Climb]
  if plan is empty then
     unvisited \leftarrow \{[x, y] : Ask(KB, L_{x,y}^{t'}) = false \text{ for all } t' \leq t\}
     plan \leftarrow PLAN-ROUTE(current, unvisited \cap safe, safe)
  if plan is empty and ASK(KB, HaveArrow^t) = true then
     possible\_wumpus \leftarrow \{[x, y] : Ask(KB, \neg W_{x,y}) = false\}
     plan \leftarrow PLAN-SHOT(current, possible\_wumpus, safe)
  if plan is empty then // no choice but to take a risk
     not\_unsafe \leftarrow \{[x, y] : Ask(KB, \neg OK_{x,y}^t) = false\}
     plan \leftarrow PLAN-ROUTE(current, unvisited \cap not\_unsafe, safe)
  if plan is empty then
     plan \leftarrow PLAN-ROUTE(current, \{[1, 1]\}, safe) + [Climb]
  action \leftarrow Pop(plan)
  Tell(KB, Make-Action-Sentence(action, t))
  t \leftarrow t + 1
  return action
```

# The Wumpus Agent

 $problem \leftarrow ROUTE-PROBLEM(current, goals, allowed)$  **return** A\*-GRAPH-SEARCH(problem)

# The Wumpus Agent

## We need more!

#### Effect axioms

$$L_{1,1}^0 \wedge FacingEast^0 \wedge Forward^0 \Rightarrow L_{2,1}^1 \wedge \neg L_{1,1}^1$$

We need extra axioms about the world.

Frame problem! - representational & inferential

#### Frame axioms:

$$Forward^{t} \Rightarrow (HaveArrow^{t} \Leftrightarrow HaveArrow^{t+1})$$
$$Forward^{t} \Rightarrow (WumpusAlive^{t} \Leftrightarrow WumpusAlive^{t+1})$$

#### Successor-state axioms:

 $HaveArrow^{t+1} \Leftrightarrow (HaveArrow^t \land \neg Shoot^t)$ 

## Expressiveness limitation of propositional logic

- > KB contains "physics" sentences for every single square.
- $\triangleright$  For every time t and every location [x,y],

$$L_{x,y}^t \wedge FacingRight^t \wedge Forward^t \Rightarrow L_{x+1,y}^{t+1}$$

Rapid proliferation of clauses!

## Why?

- > Fundamentals behind SAT/SMT solvers.
- > Highly specialised and optimised tools.
  - Capable of solving problems with thousands of propositions and millions of constraints, despite NP-completeness and exponential algorithms!
- Close relation to CSPs and optimization problems.
- Very large array of applications, e.g.:
  - Circuit routing and testing, automatic test generation, formal verification, planning
     & scheduling, configuration/customisation, etc.