

# Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

## Logical Reasoning

Henry Kautz

# Outline

- Logic
- Efficient satisfiability testing by backtracking search
- Efficient satisfiability testing by local search
- Applications

## Summary

Logical agents apply **inference** to a **knowledge base** to derive new information and make decisions

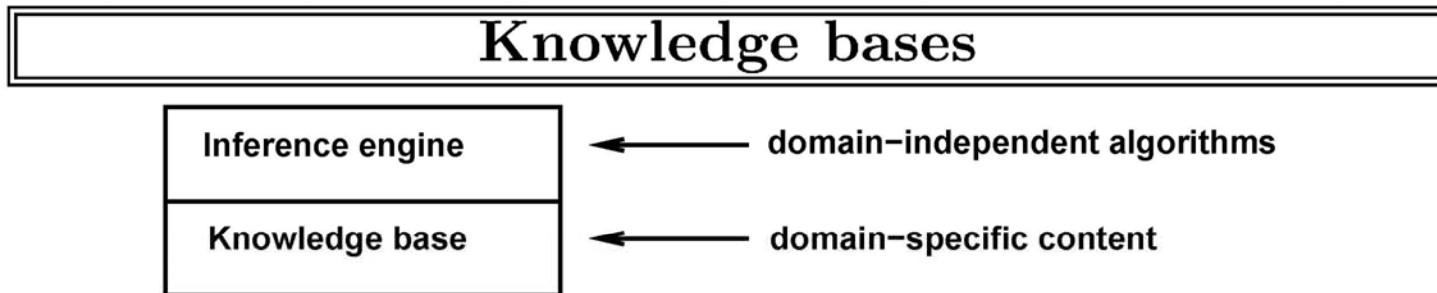
Basic concepts of logic:

- **syntax**: formal structure of **sentences**
- **semantics**: **truth** of sentences wrt **models**
- **entailment**: necessary truth of one sentence given another
- **inference**: deriving sentences from other sentences
- **soundness**: derivations produce only entailed sentences
- **completeness**: derivations can produce all entailed sentences

Wumpus world requires the ability to represent partial and negated information, reason by cases, etc.

Forward, backward chaining are linear-time, complete for Horn clauses  
Resolution is complete for propositional logic

**Powerful & practical reasoning algorithms search through space of partial or total truth assignments**



Knowledge base = set of **sentences** in a **formal** language

**Declarative** approach to building an agent (or other system):

TELL it what it needs to know

Then it can **ASK** itself what to do—answers should follow from the KB

Agents can be viewed at the **knowledge level**

i.e., what they know, regardless of how implemented

Or at the **implementation level**

i.e., data structures in KB and algorithms that manipulate them

# Wumpus World PEAS description

**Performance measure**

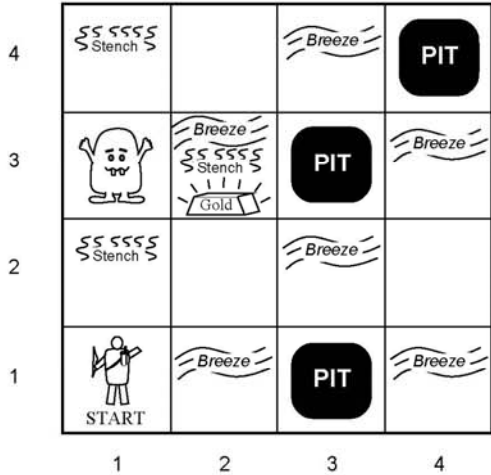
- gold +1000, death -1000
- 1 per step, -10 for using the arrow

**Environment**

- Squares adjacent to wumpus are smelly
- Squares adjacent to pit are breezy
- Glitter iff gold is in the same square
- Shooting kills wumpus if you are facing it
- Shooting uses up the only arrow
- Grabbing picks up gold if in same square
- Releasing drops the gold in same square

**Sensors** Breeze, Glitter, Smell

**Actuators** Left turn, Right turn,  
Forward, Grab, Release, Shoot



## Wumpus world characterization

Observable?? No—only local perception

Deterministic?? Yes—outcomes exactly specified

Episodic?? No—sequential at the level of actions

Static?? Yes—Wumpus and Pits do not move

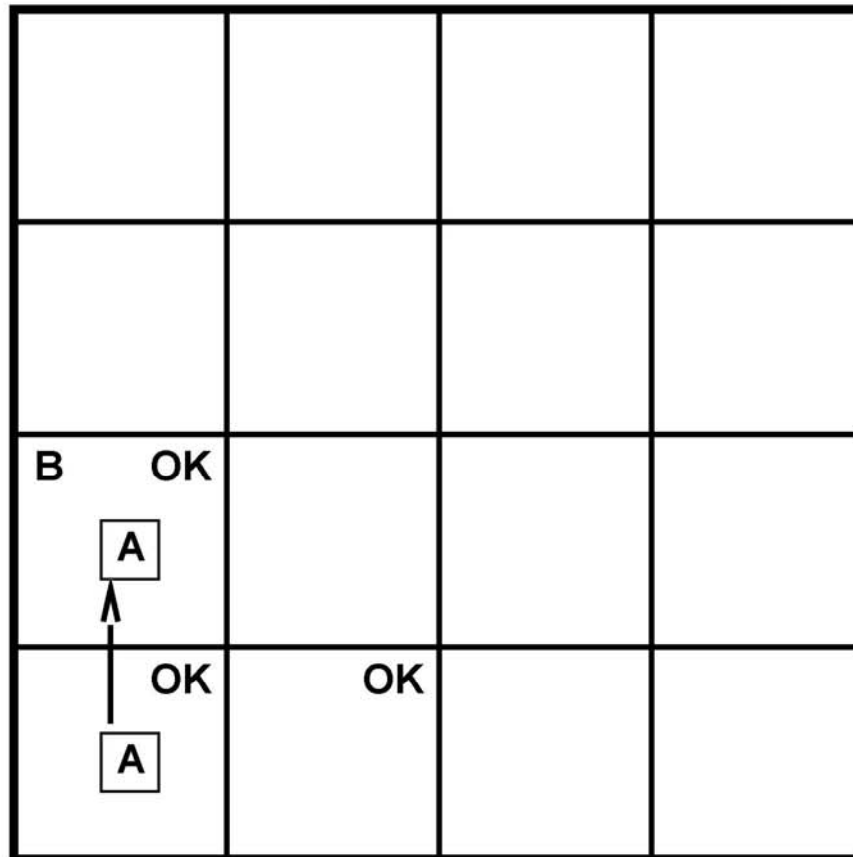
Discrete?? Yes

Single-agent?? Yes—Wumpus is essentially a natural feature

## Exploring a wumpus world

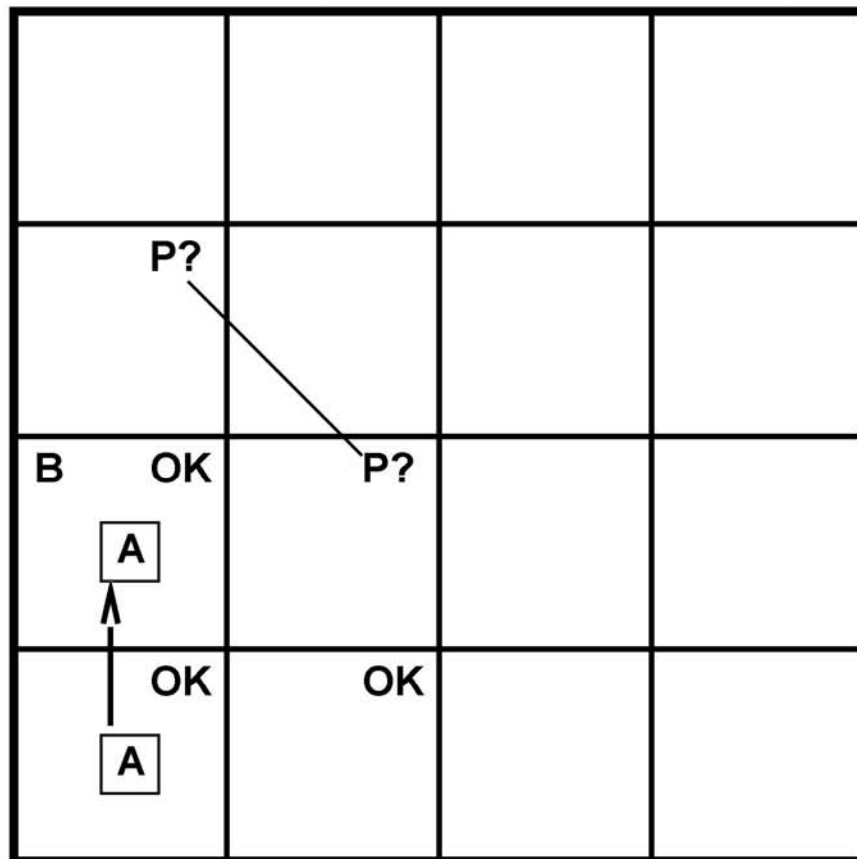
OK			
OK <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">A</span>	OK		

## Exploring a wumpus world

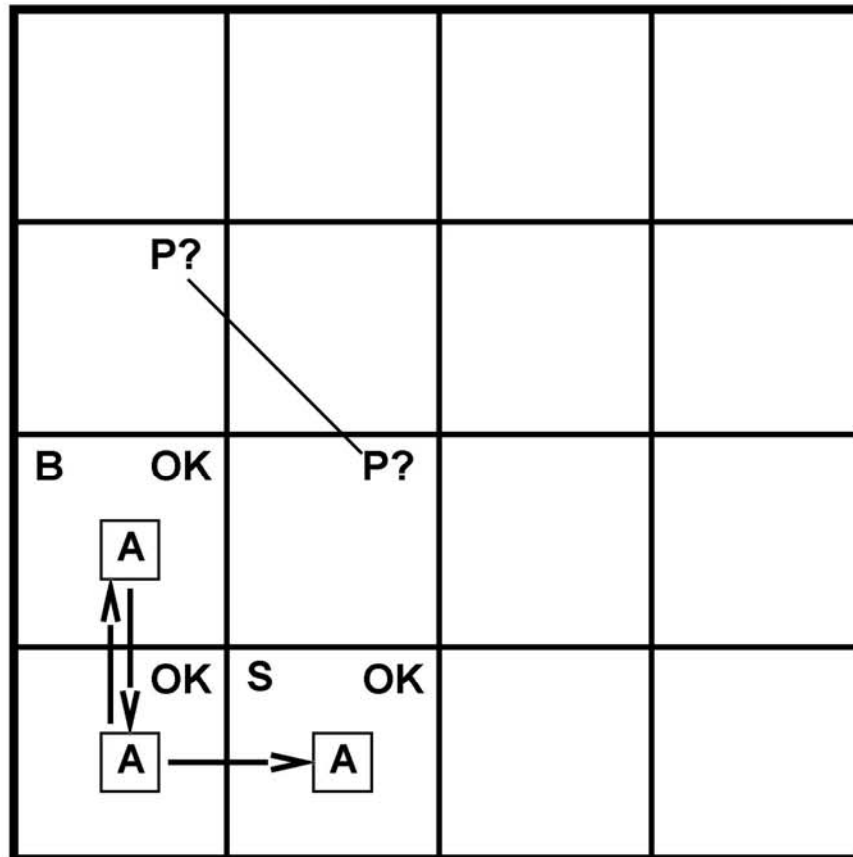




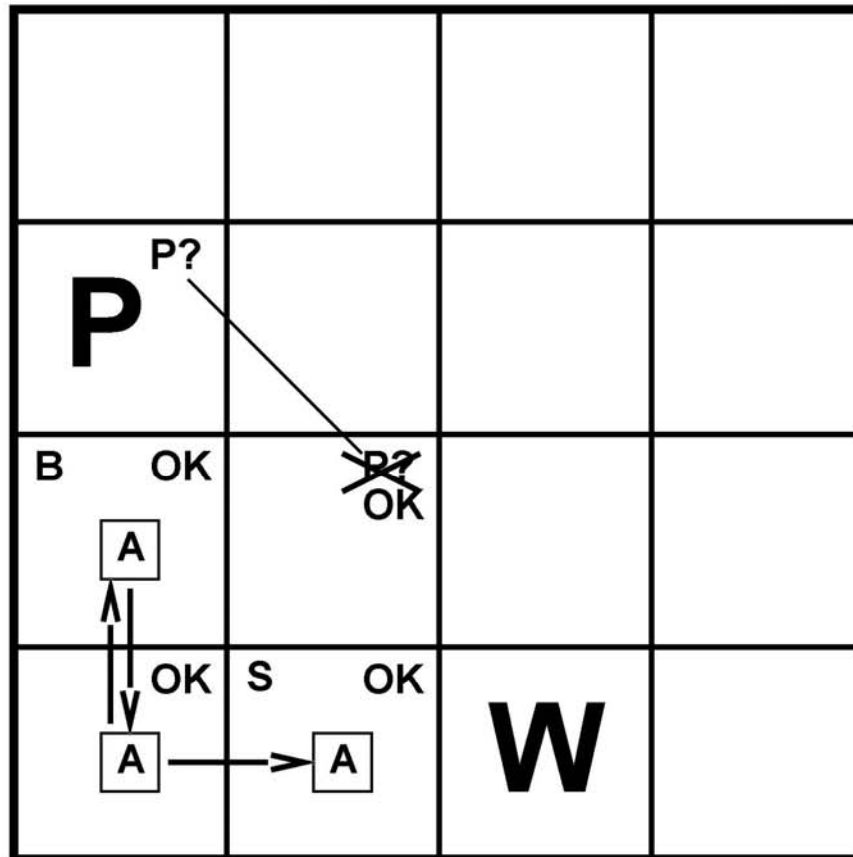
## Exploring a wumpus world



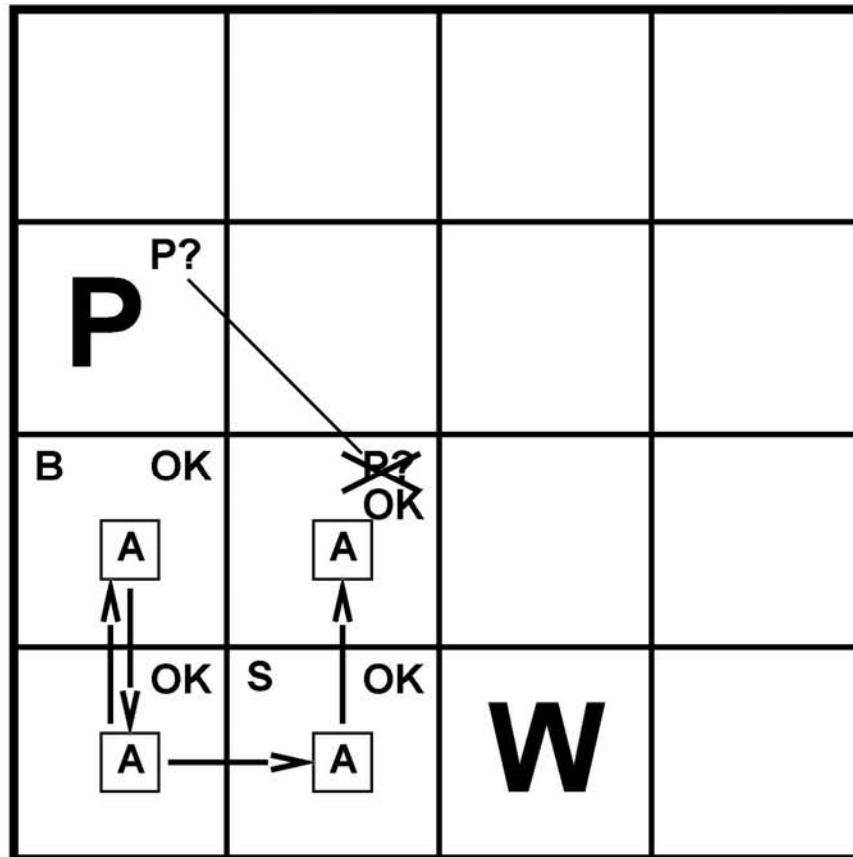
## Exploring a wumpus world



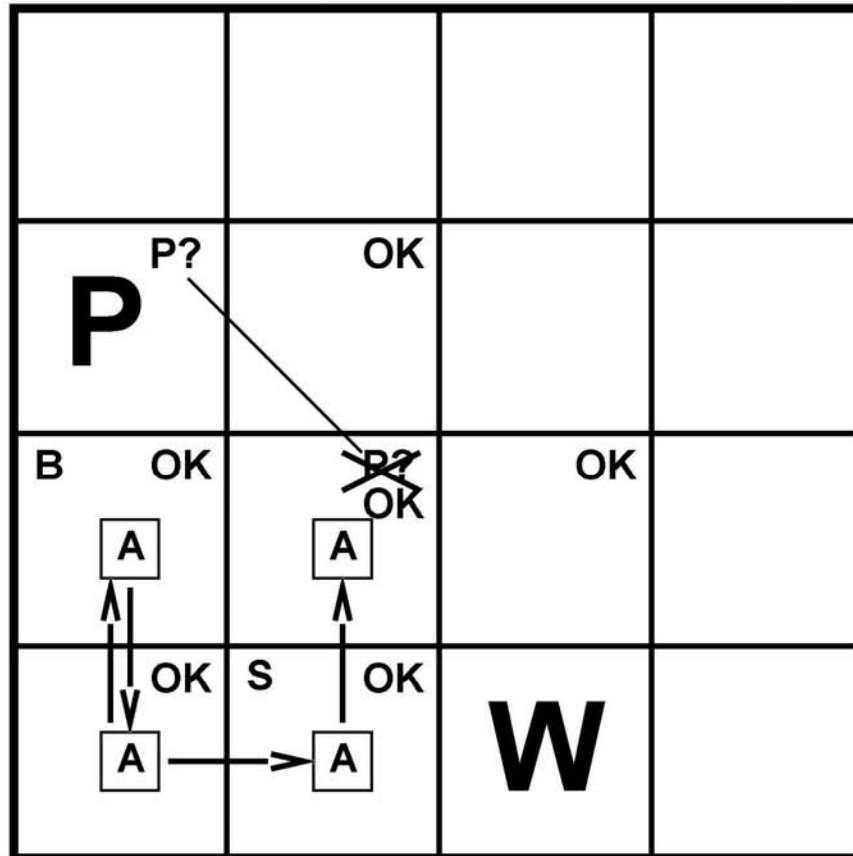
## Exploring a wumpus world



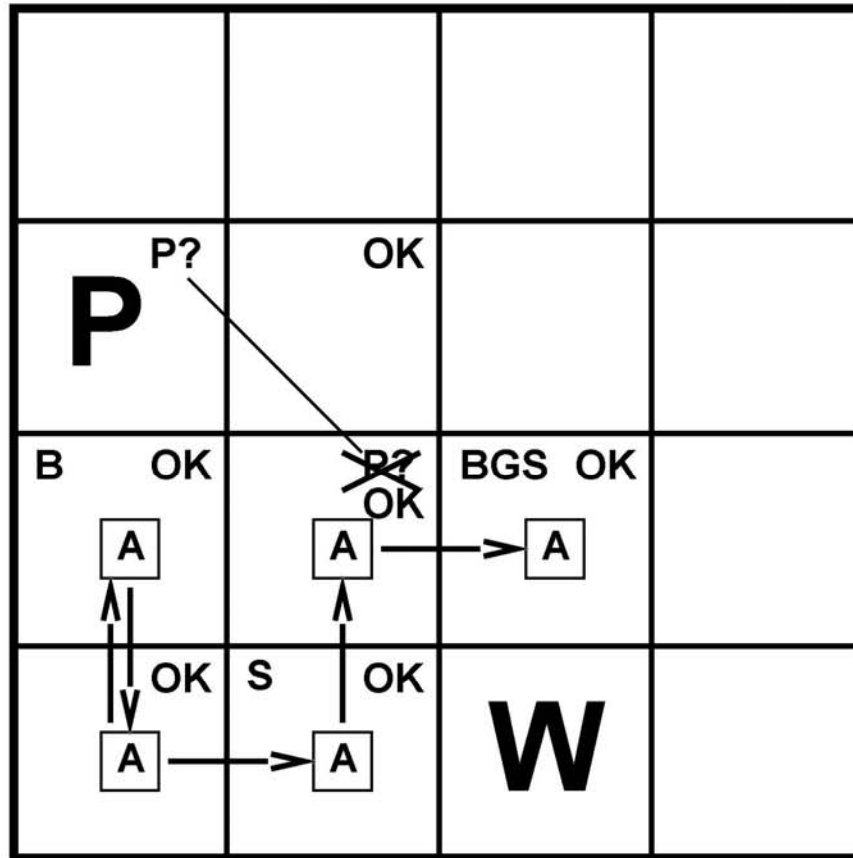
## Exploring a wumpus world



## Exploring a wumpus world



## Exploring a wumpus world



## Logic in general

Logics are formal languages for representing information such that conclusions can be drawn

Syntax defines the sentences in the language

Semantics define the “meaning” of sentences; i.e., define truth of a sentence in a world

E.g., the language of arithmetic

$x + 2 \geq y$  is a sentence;  $x^2 + y >$  is not a sentence

$x + 2 \geq y$  is true iff the number  $x + 2$  is no less than the number  $y$

$x + 2 \geq y$  is true in a world where  $x = 7, y = 1$

$x + 2 \geq y$  is false in a world where  $x = 0, y = 6$

## Entailment

Entailment means that one thing *follows from* another:

$$KB \models \alpha$$

Knowledge base  $KB$  entails sentence  $\alpha$   
if and only if  
 $\alpha$  is true in all worlds where  $KB$  is true

E.g., the KB containing “the Giants won” and “the Reds won”  
entails “Either the Giants won or the Reds won”

E.g.,  $x + y = 4$  entails  $4 = x + y$

Entailment is a relationship between sentences (i.e., *syntax*)  
that is based on *semantics*

Note: brains process *syntax* (of some sort)



# Models

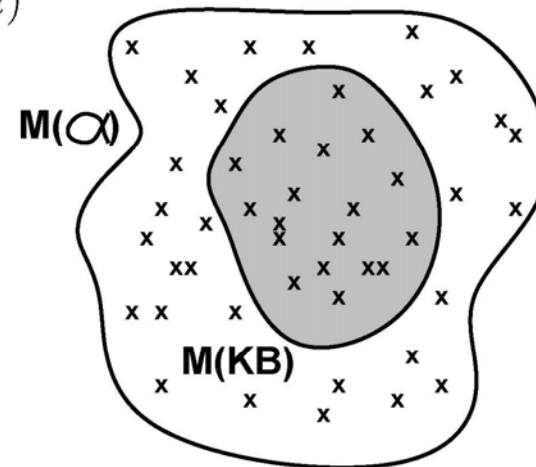
Logicians typically think in terms of **models**, which are formally structured worlds with respect to which truth can be evaluated

We say  $m$  is a **model** of a sentence  $\alpha$  if  $\alpha$  is true in  $m$

$M(\alpha)$  is the set of all models of  $\alpha$

Then  $KB \models \alpha$  if and only if  $M(KB) \subseteq M(\alpha)$

E.g.  $KB =$  Giants won and Reds won  
 $\alpha =$  Giants won

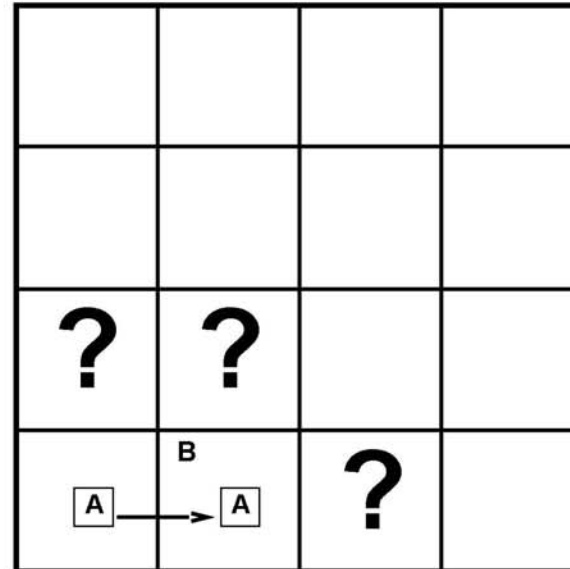


## Entailment in the wumpus world

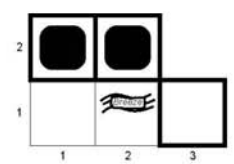
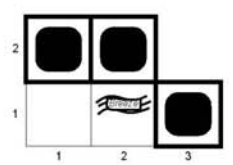
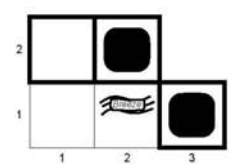
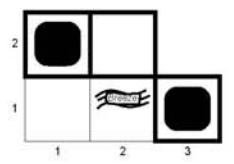
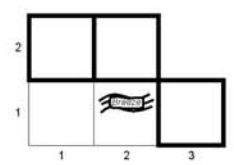
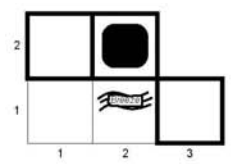
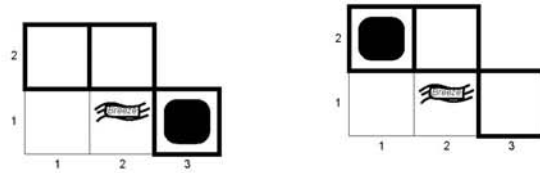
Situation after detecting nothing in [1,1],  
moving right, breeze in [2,1]

Consider possible models for ?s  
assuming only pits

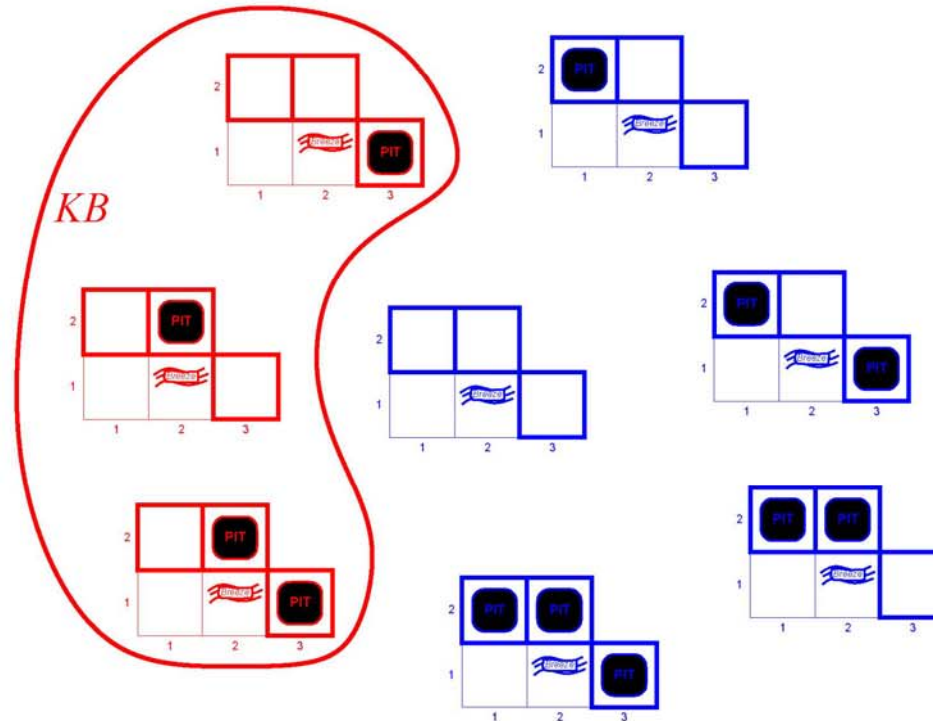
3 Boolean choices  $\Rightarrow$  8 possible models



# Wumpus models

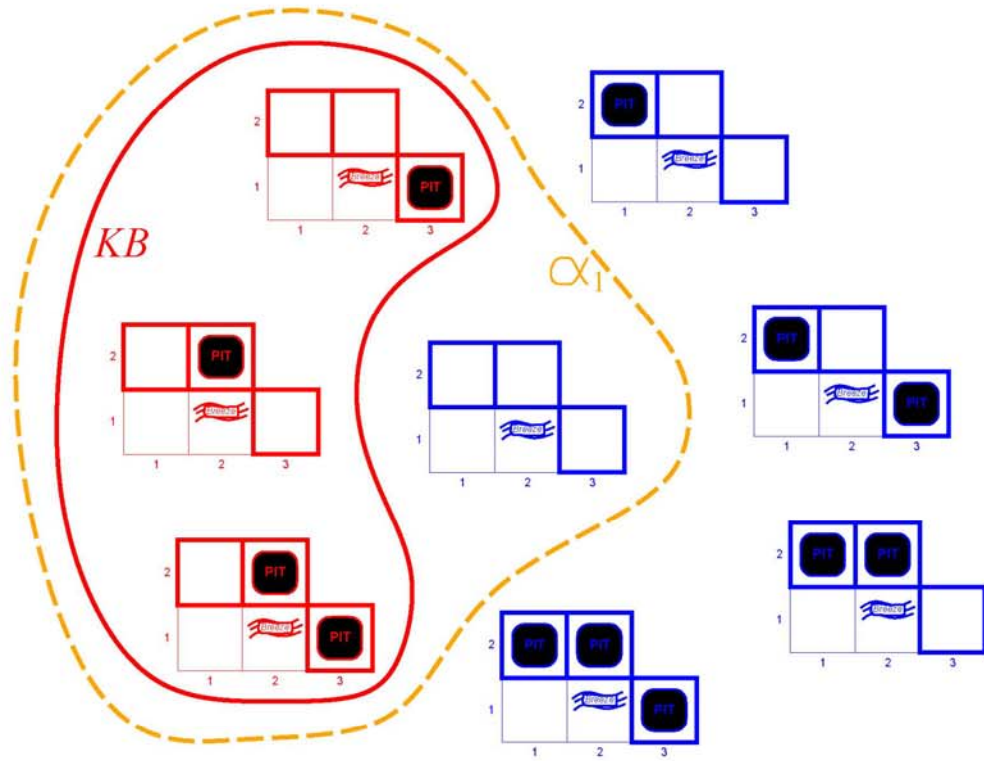


# Wumpus models



$KB = \text{wumpus-world rules} + \text{observations}$

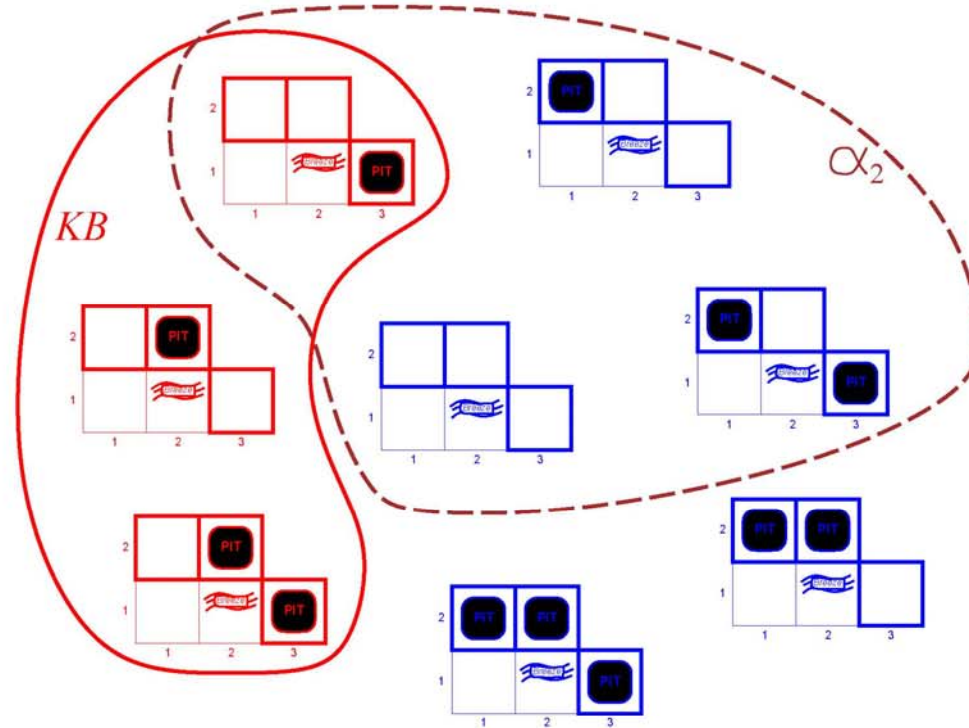
# Wumpus models



$KB$  = wumpus-world rules + observations

$\alpha_1$  = "[1,2] is safe",  $KB \models \alpha_1$ , proved by model checking

# Wumpus models



$KB$  = wumpus-world rules + observations

$\alpha_2$  = "[2,2] is safe",  $KB \not\models \alpha_2$

## Inference

$KB \vdash_i \alpha$  = sentence  $\alpha$  can be derived from  $KB$  by procedure  $i$

Consequences of  $KB$  are a haystack;  $\alpha$  is a needle.

Entailment = needle in haystack; inference = finding it

**Soundness:**  $i$  is sound if

whenever  $KB \vdash_i \alpha$ , it is also true that  $KB \models \alpha$

**Completeness:**  $i$  is complete if

whenever  $KB \models \alpha$ , it is also true that  $KB \vdash_i \alpha$

## Propositional logic: Syntax

Propositional logic is the simplest logic—illustrates basic ideas

The proposition symbols  $P_1, P_2$  etc are sentences

If  $S$  is a sentence,  $\neg S$  is a sentence (negation)

If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are sentences,  $S_1 \wedge S_2$  is a sentence (conjunction)

If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are sentences,  $S_1 \vee S_2$  is a sentence (disjunction)

If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are sentences,  $S_1 \Rightarrow S_2$  is a sentence (implication)

If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are sentences,  $S_1 \Leftrightarrow S_2$  is a sentence (biconditional)



## Propositional logic: Semantics

Each model specifies true/false for each proposition symbol

E.g.  $P_{1,2}$   $P_{2,2}$   $P_{3,1}$   
*true true false*

(With these symbols, 8 possible models, can be enumerated automatically.)

Rules for evaluating truth with respect to a model  $m$ :

$\neg S$	is true iff	$S$	is false		
$S_1 \wedge S_2$	is true iff	$S_1$	is true <b>and</b>	$S_2$	is true
$S_1 \vee S_2$	is true iff	$S_1$	is true <b>or</b>	$S_2$	is true
$S_1 \Rightarrow S_2$	is true iff	$S_1$	is false <b>or</b>	$S_2$	is true
	i.e., is false iff	$S_1$	is true <b>and</b>	$S_2$	is false
$S_1 \Leftrightarrow S_2$	is true iff	$S_1 \Rightarrow S_2$	is true <b>and</b>	$S_2 \Rightarrow S_1$	is true

Simple recursive process evaluates an arbitrary sentence, e.g.,

$\neg P_{1,2} \wedge (P_{2,2} \vee P_{3,1}) = \text{true} \wedge (\text{false} \vee \text{true}) = \text{true} \wedge \text{true} = \text{true}$

## Truth tables for connectives

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \Rightarrow Q$	$P \Leftrightarrow Q$
<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>
<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>
<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>

## Wumpus world sentences

Let  $P_{i,j}$  be true if there is a pit in  $[i, j]$ .

Let  $B_{i,j}$  be true if there is a breeze in  $[i, j]$ .

$$\neg P_{1,1}$$

$$\neg B_{1,1}$$

$$B_{2,1}$$

“Pits cause breezes in adjacent squares”

## Wumpus world sentences

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$$\neg P_{1,1}$$

$$\neg B_{1,1}$$

$$B_{2,1}$$

“Pits cause breezes in adjacent squares”

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

$$B_{2,1} \Leftrightarrow (P_{1,1} \vee P_{2,2} \vee P_{3,1})$$

“A square is breezy *if and only if* there is an adjacent pit”

## Truth tables for inference

$B_{1,1}$	$B_{2,1}$	$P_{1,1}$	$P_{1,2}$	$P_{2,1}$	$P_{2,2}$	$P_{3,1}$	$KB$	$\alpha_1$
<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<u><i>true</i></u>	<u><i>true</i></u>
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<u><i>true</i></u>	<u><i>true</i></u>
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<u><i>true</i></u>	<u><i>true</i></u>
<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>false</i>

## Inference by enumeration

Depth-first enumeration of all models is sound and complete

```
function TT-ENTAILS?(KB,  $\alpha$ ) returns true or false
```

```
  symbols  $\leftarrow$  a list of the proposition symbols in KB and  $\alpha$ 
```

```
  return TT-CHECK-ALL(KB,  $\alpha$ , symbols, [])
```

```
function TT-CHECK-ALL(KB,  $\alpha$ , symbols, model) returns true or false
```

```
  if EMPTY?(symbols) then
```

```
    if PL-TRUE?(KB, model) then return PL-TRUE?( $\alpha$ , model)
```

```
    else return true
```

```
  else do
```

```
    P  $\leftarrow$  FIRST(symbols); rest  $\leftarrow$  REST(symbols)
```

```
    return TT-CHECK-ALL(KB,  $\alpha$ , rest, EXTEND(P, true, model) and
```

```
      TT-CHECK-ALL(KB,  $\alpha$ , rest, EXTEND(P, false, model))
```

Don't sweat  
the details:  
later we will  
see a much  
more  
efficient way  
of searching  
through  
model  
space!

$O(2^n)$  for  $n$  symbols; problem is co-NP-complete

## Logical equivalence

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

$\alpha \equiv \beta$  if and only if  $\alpha \models \beta$  and  $\beta \models \alpha$

$(\alpha \wedge \beta) \equiv (\beta \wedge \alpha)$  commutativity of  $\wedge$

$(\alpha \vee \beta) \equiv (\beta \vee \alpha)$  commutativity of  $\vee$

$((\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma) \equiv (\alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma))$  associativity of  $\wedge$

$((\alpha \vee \beta) \vee \gamma) \equiv (\alpha \vee (\beta \vee \gamma))$  associativity of  $\vee$

$\neg(\neg\alpha) \equiv \alpha$  double-negation elimination

$(\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \equiv (\neg\beta \Rightarrow \neg\alpha)$  contraposition

$(\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \vee \beta)$  implication elimination

$(\alpha \Leftrightarrow \beta) \equiv ((\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \wedge (\beta \Rightarrow \alpha))$  biconditional elimination

$\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$  de Morgan

$\neg(\alpha \vee \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$  de Morgan

$(\alpha \wedge (\beta \vee \gamma)) \equiv ((\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee (\alpha \wedge \gamma))$  distributivity of  $\wedge$  over  $\vee$

$(\alpha \vee (\beta \wedge \gamma)) \equiv ((\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \gamma))$  distributivity of  $\vee$  over  $\wedge$

## Validity and satisfiability

A sentence is **valid** if it is true in *all* models,

e.g., *True*,  $A \vee \neg A$ ,  $A \Rightarrow A$ ,  $(A \wedge (A \Rightarrow B)) \Rightarrow B$

Validity is connected to inference via the **Deduction Theorem**:

$KB \models \alpha$  if and only if  $(KB \Rightarrow \alpha)$  is valid

A sentence is **satisfiable** if it is true in *some* model

e.g.,  $A \vee B$ ,  $C$

A sentence is **unsatisfiable** if it is true in *no* models

e.g.,  $A \wedge \neg A$

Satisfiability is connected to inference via the following:

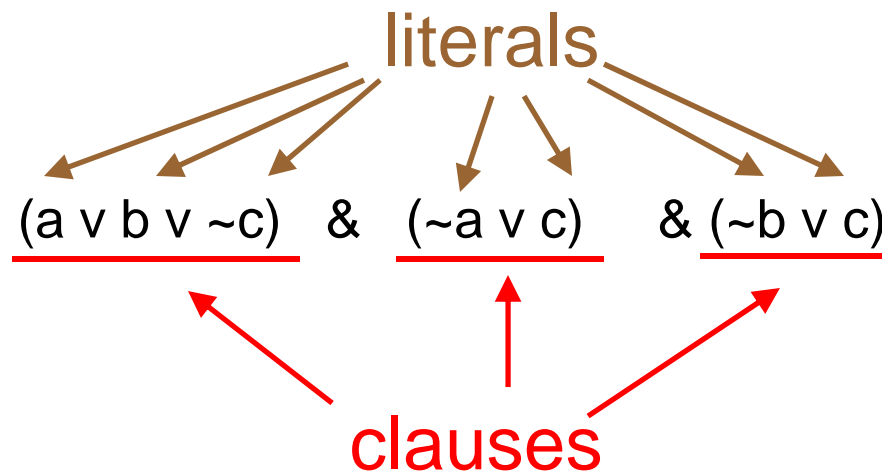
$KB \models \alpha$  if and only if  $(KB \wedge \neg \alpha)$  is unsatisfiable

i.e., prove  $\alpha$  by *reductio ad absurdum*



# Formal Computational Complexity

- SAT = Prototypical NP-complete problem:
  - Given a Boolean formula, is there a assignment of truth values to the Boolean variables that makes it true?
  - As hard as any problem where an answer can be *verified* in polynomial time
  - Still NP-complete if formulas are restricted to Conjunctive Normal Form:



## Proof methods

Proof methods divide into (roughly) two kinds:

### Application of inference rules

- Legitimate (sound) generation of new sentences from old
- **Proof** = a sequence of inference rule applications
  - Can use inference rules as operators in a standard search alg.
- Typically require translation of sentences into a **normal form**

### Model checking

- truth table enumeration (always exponential in  $n$ )
- improved backtracking, e.g., Davis–Putnam–Logemann–Loveland
- heuristic search in model space (sound but incomplete)
  - e.g., min-conflicts-like hill-climbing algorithms

## Forward and backward chaining

Horn Form (restricted)

KB = *conjunction* of *Horn clauses*

Horn clause =

- ◇ proposition symbol; or
- ◇ (conjunction of symbols)  $\Rightarrow$  symbol

E.g.,  $C \wedge (B \Rightarrow A) \wedge (C \wedge D \Rightarrow B)$

Modus Ponens (for Horn Form): complete for Horn KBs

$$\frac{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \quad \alpha_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_n \Rightarrow \beta}{\beta}$$

Can be used with *forward chaining* or *backward chaining*.  
These algorithms are very natural and run in *linear* time

# Expert System for Automobile Diagnosis

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Knowledge Base:

$\text{GasInTank} \wedge \text{FuelLineOK} \supset \text{GasInEngine}$

$\text{GasInEngine} \wedge \text{GoodSpark} \supset \text{EngineRuns}$

$\text{PowerToPlugs} \wedge \text{PlugsClean} \supset \text{GoodSpark}$

$\text{BatteryCharged} \wedge \text{CablesOK} \supset \text{PowerToPlugs}$

Observed:

$\neg \text{EngineRuns},$   
 $\text{GasInTank}, \text{PlugsClean}, \text{BatteryCharged}$

Prove:

$\neg \text{FuelLineOK} \vee \neg \text{CablesOK}$

# Solution by Forward Chaining

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Knowledge Base and Observations:

~~( $\neg$  GasInTank  $\vee$   $\neg$  FuelLineOK  $\vee$  GasInEngine)~~

~~( $\neg$  GasInEngine  $\vee$   $\neg$  GoodSpark  $\vee$  EngineRuns)~~

~~( $\neg$  PowerToPlugs  $\vee$   $\neg$  PlugsClean  $\vee$  GoodSpark)~~

~~( $\neg$  BatteryCharged  $\vee$   $\neg$  CablesOK  $\vee$  PowerToPlugs)~~

( $\neg$ EngineRuns)

(GasInTank)

(PlugsClean)

(BatteryCharged)

Negation of Conclusion:

(FuelLineOK)

(CablesOK)

# Resolution

Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF—universal)

*conjunction* of *disjunctions* of *literals*  
*clauses*

E.g.,  $(A \vee \neg B) \wedge (B \vee \neg C \vee \neg D)$

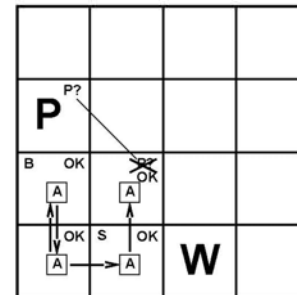
Resolution inference rule (for CNF): complete for propositional logic

$$\frac{l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k, \quad m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_n}{l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_{i-1} \vee l_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee l_k \vee m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee m_n}$$

where  $l_i$  and  $m_j$  are complementary literals. E.g.,

$$\frac{P_{1,3} \vee P_{2,2}, \quad \neg P_{2,2}}{P_{1,3}}$$

Resolution is sound and complete for propositional logic



## Conversion to CNF

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

1. Eliminate  $\Leftrightarrow$ , replacing  $\alpha \Leftrightarrow \beta$  with  $(\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \wedge (\beta \Rightarrow \alpha)$ .

$$(B_{1,1} \Rightarrow (P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1})) \wedge ((P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1}) \Rightarrow B_{1,1})$$

2. Eliminate  $\Rightarrow$ , replacing  $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$  with  $\neg\alpha \vee \beta$ .

$$(\neg B_{1,1} \vee P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1}) \wedge (\neg(P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1}) \vee B_{1,1})$$

3. Move  $\neg$  inwards using de Morgan's rules and double-negation:

$$(\neg B_{1,1} \vee P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1}) \wedge ((\neg P_{1,2} \wedge \neg P_{2,1}) \vee B_{1,1})$$

4. Apply distributivity law ( $\vee$  over  $\wedge$ ) and flatten:

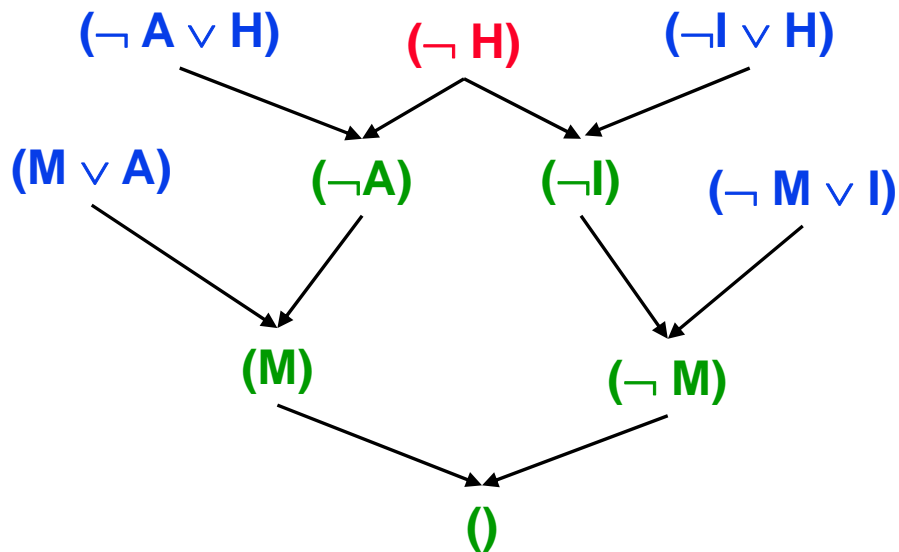
$$(\neg B_{1,1} \vee P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1}) \wedge (\neg P_{1,2} \vee B_{1,1}) \wedge (\neg P_{2,1} \vee B_{1,1})$$

# Resolution Proof

DAG, where leaves are **input clauses**

Internal nodes are **resolvants**

Root is false (**empty clause**)



KB:

- If the unicorn is mythical, then it is immortal,
- if it is not mythical, it is an animal
- If the unicorn is either immortal or an animal, then it is horned.

**Prove:** the unicorn is horned.



# THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT

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A racehorse was stolen from a stable, and a bookmaker Fitzroy Simpson was accused. Sherlock Holmes found the true thief by reasoning from the following premises:

1. The horse was stolen by Fitzroy or by the trainer, John Straker.
2. The thief entered the stable the night of the theft.
3. The dog barks if a stranger enters the stable.
4. Fitzroy was a stranger.
5. The dog did not bark.

Create a resolution refutation proof, using the propositions:

thief\_fitzroy

thief\_john

entered\_fitzroy

entered\_john

stranger\_fitzroy

stranger\_john

barks

# Efficient Local Search for Satisfiability Testing

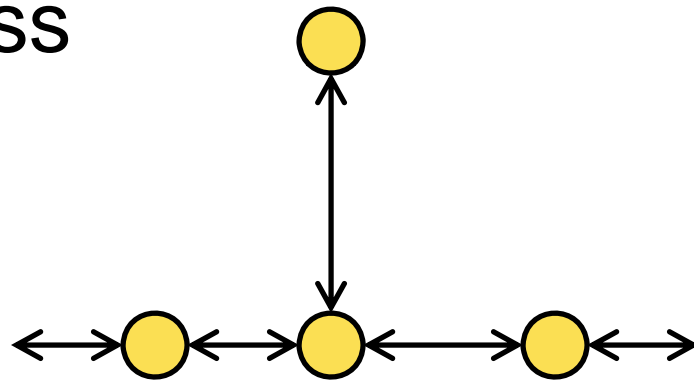
# Greedy Local Search for SAT: GSAT

```
state = choose_start_state();  
while ! GoalTest(state) do  
    state := arg min { h(s) | s in Neighbors(state) }  
end  
return state;
```

- start = random truth assignment
- GoalTest = formula is satisfied
- h – number of false (unsatisfied) clauses
- neighbors = flip one variable (from true to false, or from false to true)

# Smarter Noise Strategies

- For both random noise and simulated annealing, nearly all uphill moves are useless



- Can we find uphill moves that are more likely to be helpful?
- At least for SAT we can...

# Random Walk for SAT

- Observation: if a clause is unsatisfied, at least one variable in the clause must be different in any global solution  
$$(A \vee \sim B \vee C)$$
- Suppose you randomly pick a variable from an unsatisfied clause to flip. What is the probability this was a good choice?

# Random Walk for SAT

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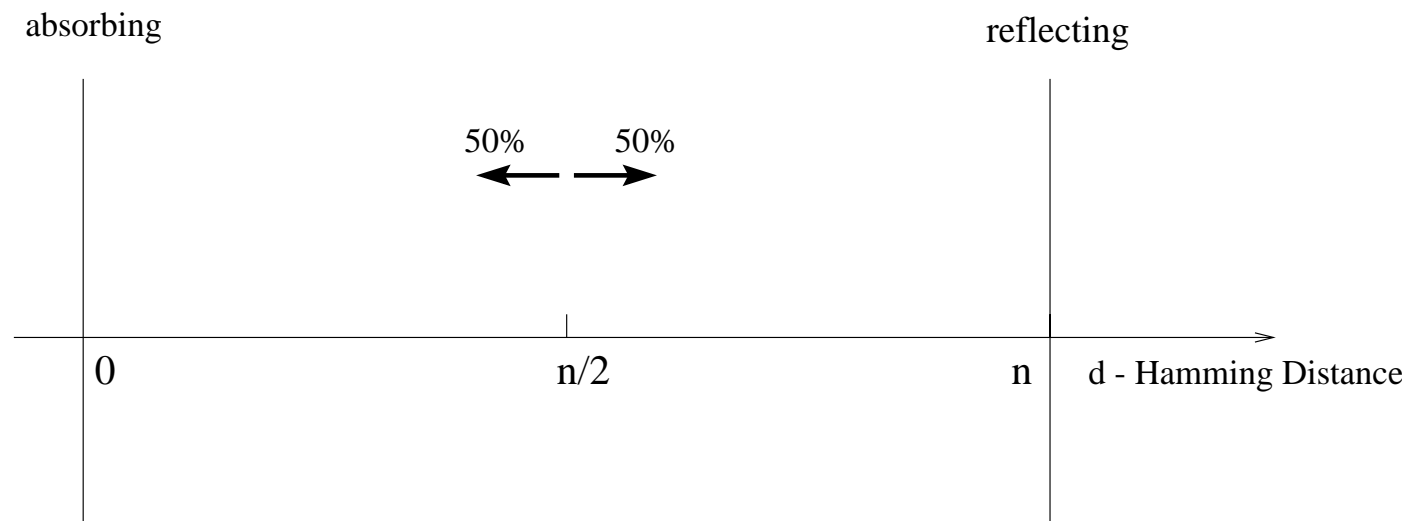
$$\Pr(\text{good choice}) \geq \frac{1}{\text{clause length}}$$

# Random Walk Local Search

```
state = choose_start_state();  
while ! GoalTest(state) do  
    clause := random member { C | C is a clause of F and  
                             C is false in state }  
    var := random member { x | x is a variable in clause }  
    state[var] := 1 - state[var];  
end  
return state;
```

# Properties of Random Walk

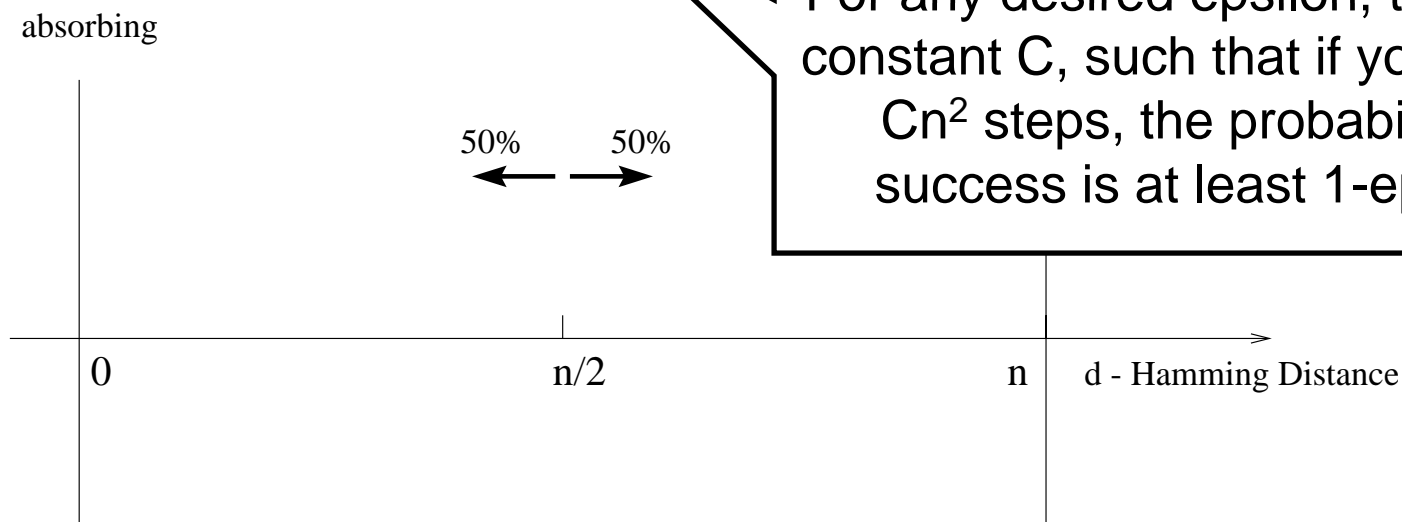
- If clause length = 2:
  - 50% chance of moving in the right direction
  - Converges to optimal with high probability in  $O(n^2)$  time





# Properties of Random Walk

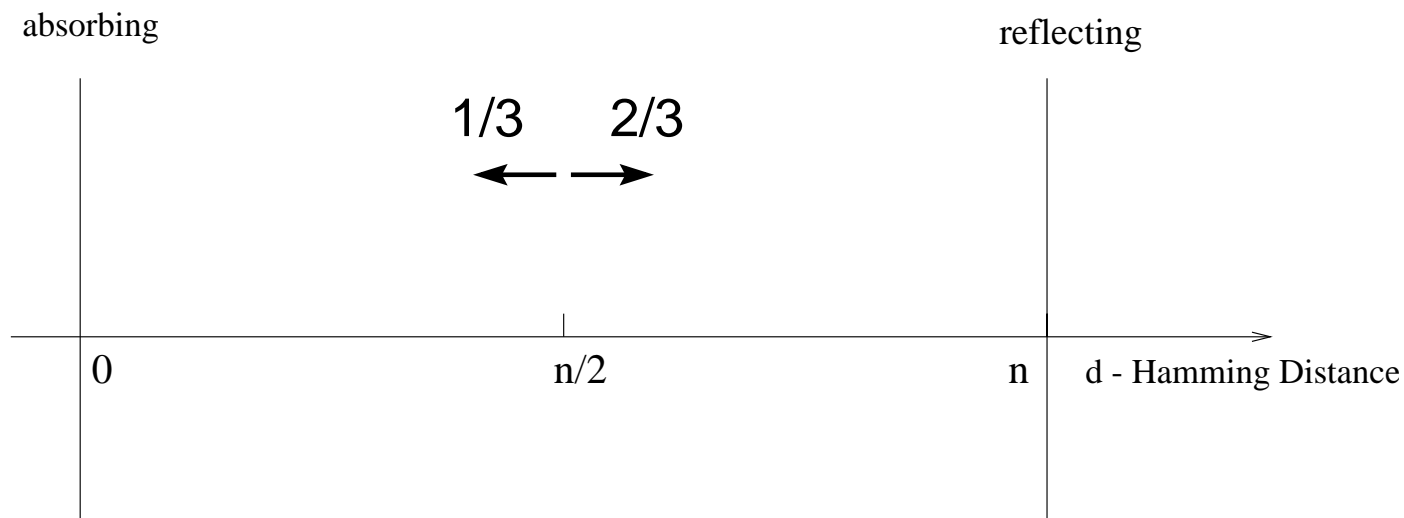
- If clause length = 2:
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For any desired epsilon, there is a constant  $C$ , such that if you run for  $Cn^2$  steps, the probability of success is at least  $1-\epsilon$

# Properties of Random Walk

- If clause length = 3:
  - 1/3 chance of moving in the right direction
  - Exponential convergence
  - Compare pure noise:  $1/(n\text{-Hamming distance})$  chance of moving in the right direction
    - The closer you get to a solution, the more likely a noisy flip is bad



# Greedy Random Walk

```
state = choose_start_state();
while ! GoalTest(state) do
  clause := random member { C | C is a clause of F and
                           C is false in state };
  with probability noise do
    var := random member { x | x is a variable in clause };
  else
    var := arg x min { #unsat(s) | x is a variable in clause,
                        s and state differ only on x};
  end
  state[var] := 1 - state[var];
end
return state;
```

# Refining Greedy Random Walk

- Each flip
  - **makes** some false clauses become true
  - **breaks** some true clauses, that become false
- Suppose  $s1 \rightarrow s2$  by flipping  $x$ . Then:  
$$\#unsat(s2) = \#unsat(s1) - make(s1,x) + break(s1,x)$$
- **Idea 1:** if a choice breaks nothing, it is very likely to be a good move
- **Idea 2:** near the solution, only the break count matters
  - the make count is usually 1

# Walksat

```
state = random truth assignment;
while ! GoalTest(state) do
  clause := random member { C | C is false in state };
  for each x in clause do compute break[x];
  if exists x with break[x]=0 then var := x;
  else
    with probability noise do
      var := random member { x | x is in clause };
    else
      var := arg x min { break[x] | x is in clause };
    endif
  state[var] := 1 - state[var];
end
return state;
```

Put everything inside of a restart loop.  
Parameters: noise, max\_flips, max\_runs

# SAT Translation of N-Queens

- At least one queen each row:

$(Q_{11} \vee Q_{12} \vee Q_{13} \vee \dots \vee Q_{18})$

$(Q_{21} \vee Q_{22} \vee Q_{23} \vee \dots \vee Q_{28})$

...

}  $O(N^2)$  clauses

- No attacks:

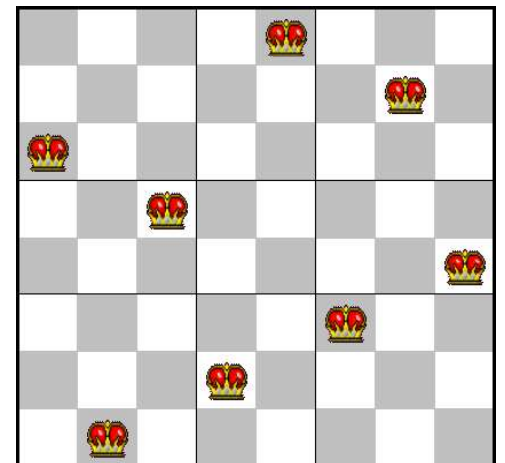
$(\sim Q_{11} \vee \sim Q_{12})$

$(\sim Q_{11} \vee \sim Q_{22})$

$(\sim Q_{11} \vee \sim Q_{21})$

...

}  $O(N^3)$  clauses



Demo:  
Solving N-Queens with Walksat

# Walksat Today

- Hard random 3-SAT: 100,000 vars, 15 minutes
  - Walksat (or slight variations) winner every year in “random formula” track of *International SAT Solver Competition*
  - Backtrack search methods: 700 variables
- Certain kinds of structured problems (graph coloring, Latin squares, n-queens, ...)  $\approx$  30,000 variables
  - But best systematic search routines better on certain other kinds of problems – e.g., verification
- Inspired huge body of research linking SAT testing to statistical physics (spin glasses)



# Efficient Backtrack Search for Satisfiability Testing

# Basic Backtrack Search for a Satisfying Model

Solve( F ): return Search(F, { });

Search( F, assigned ):

if all variables in F are in assigned then

if evaluate(F, assigned) then return assigned;

else return FALSE;

choose unassigned variable x;

return Search(F, assigned U {x=0}) ||

Search(F, assigned U {x=1});

end;

State Space:

All partial or complete assignments of truth values to variables

# Propagating Constraints

- Suppose formula contains

$$(A \vee B \vee \sim C)$$

and we set  $A=0$ .

- What is the resulting constraint on the remaining variables B and C?

$$(B \vee \sim C)$$

- Suppose instead we set  $A=1$ . What is the resulting constraint on B and C?

*No constraint*

# Empty Clauses and Formulas

- Suppose a clause in  $F$  is shortened until it become empty. What does this mean about  $F$  and the partial assignment?

*$F$  cannot be satisfied by any way of completing the assignment; must backtrack*

- Suppose all the clauses in  $F$  disappear. What does this mean?

*$F$  is satisfied by any completion of the partial assignment*

# Unit Propagation

- Suppose a clause in  $F$  is shortened to contain a single literal, such as

(A)

What should you do?

*Immediately add the literal to assigned.  
Repeat if another single-literal clause  
appears.*

- Applying resolution where one clause is a single literal is called **unit propagation**

# DPLL

DPLL( F, assigned ):

while F has a unit clause (c) do

assigned = assigned U {c};

shorten clauses containing  $\sim c$ ;

delete clauses containing c;

end

if F is empty then return assigned;

if F contains an empty clause then return FALSE;

choose an unassigned literal c; // variable and initial value

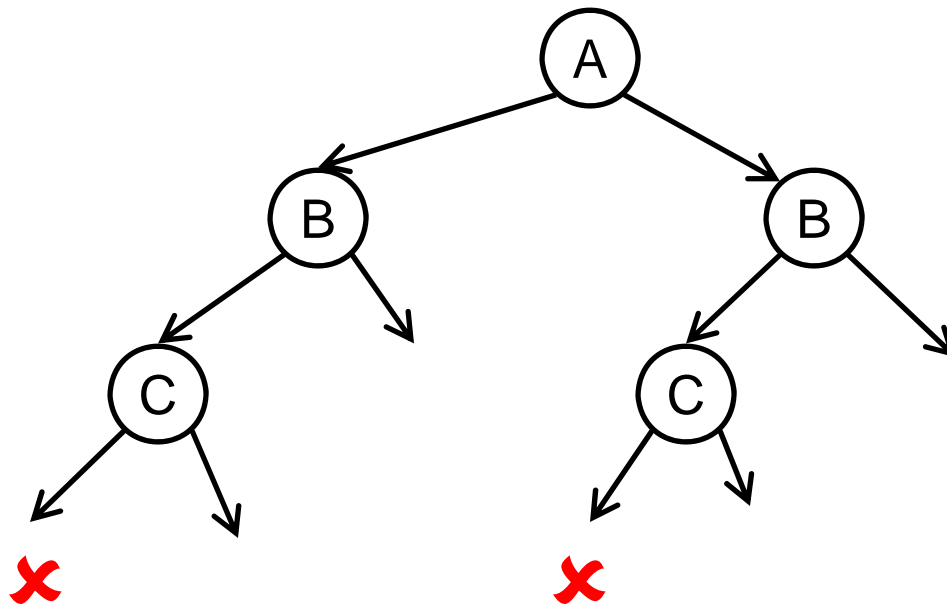
return Search(F U { (c) }, assigned) ||

Search(F U { ( $\sim c$ ) }, assigned);

end;

# Improving Efficiency: Clause Learning

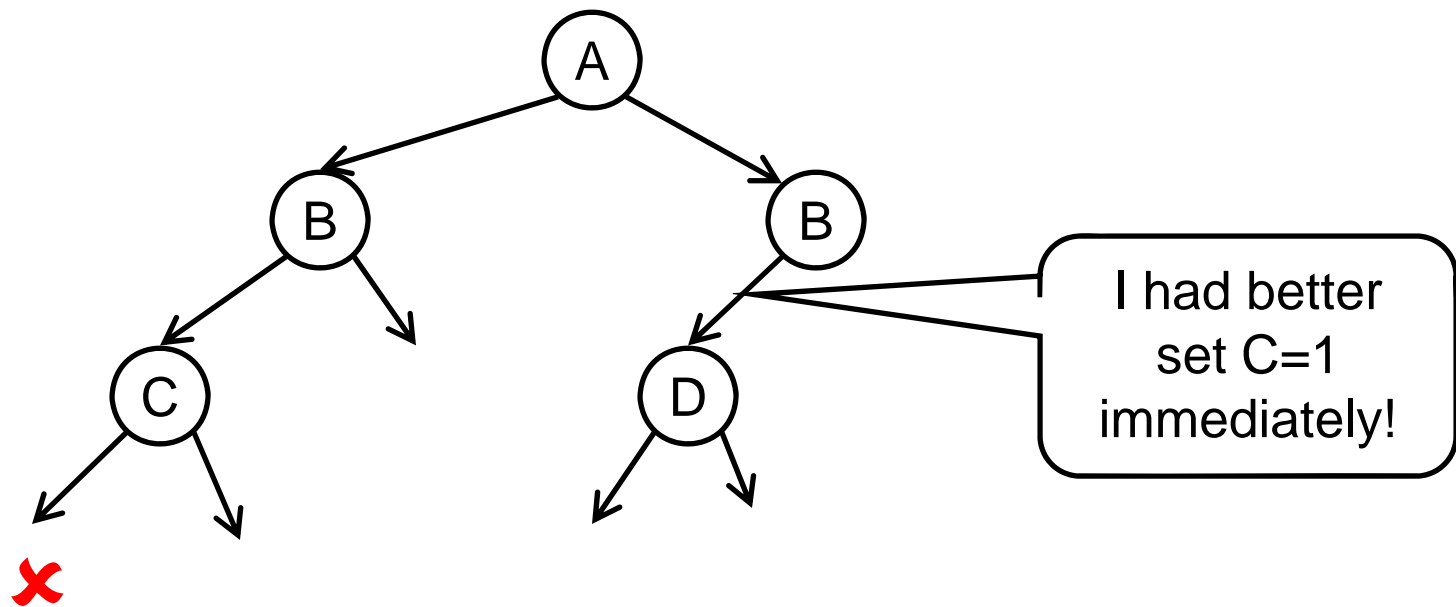
- Idea: backtrack search can repeatedly reach an empty clause (backtrack point) for the same reason



Example: Propagation from  $B=0$  and  $C=0$  leads to empty clause

# Improving Efficiency: Clause Learning

- If reason was remembered, then could avoid having to rediscover it

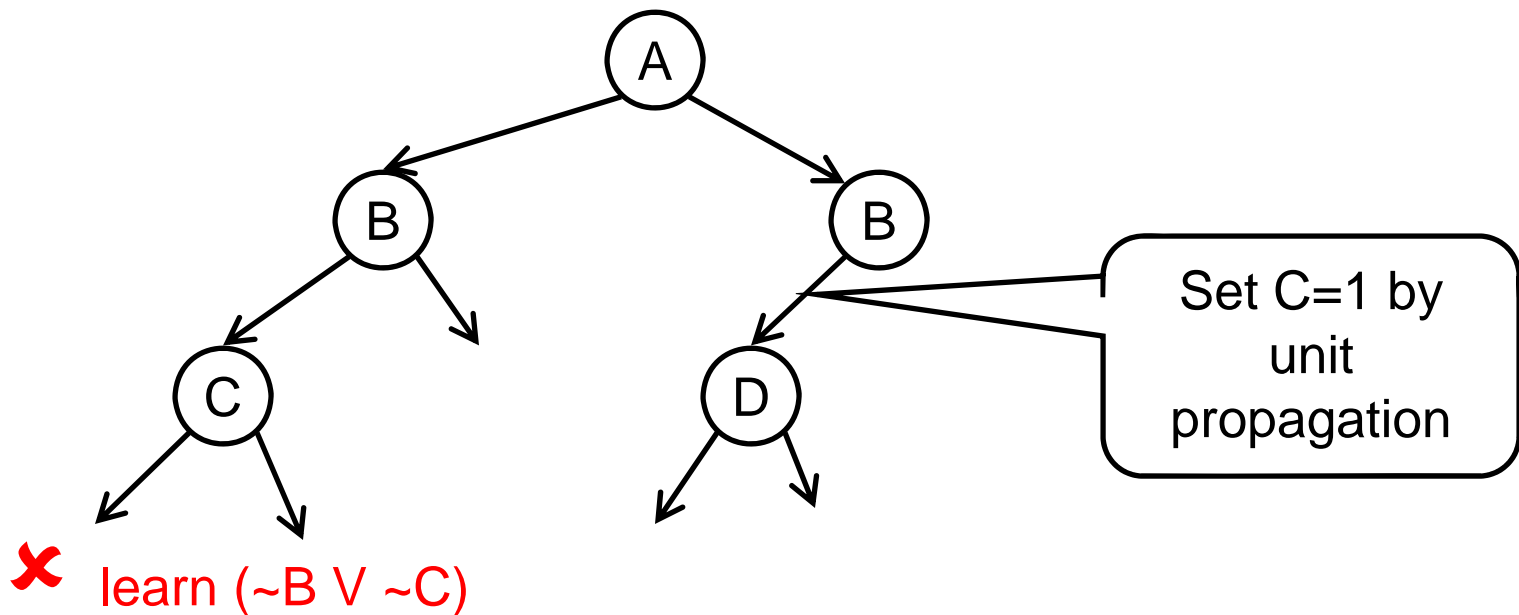


Example: Propagation from  $B=0$  and  $C=0$  leads to empty clause



# Improving Efficiency: Clause Learning

- The reason can be remembered by adding a new **learned clause** to the formula



Example: Propagation from  $B=0$  and  $C=0$  leads to empty clause

# Scaling Up

- Clause learning greatly enhances the power of unit propagation
- Tradeoff: memory needed for the learned clauses, time needed to check if they cause propagations
- Clever data structures enable modern SAT solvers to manage **millions** of learned clauses efficiently

# What is BIG?

Consider a real world Boolean Satisfiability (SAT) problem

The instance `bmc-ibm-6.cnf`, IBM LSU 1997:

`p cnf |`

`-1 7 0`

`-1 6 0`

`-1 5 0`

`-1 -4 0`

`-1 3 0`

`-1 2 0`

`-1 -8 0`

`-9 15 0`

`-9 14 0`

`-9 13 0`

`-9 -12 0`

`-9 11 0`

`-9 10 0`

`-9 -16 0`

`-17 23 0`

`-17 22 0`

**i.e., ((not  $x_1$ ) or  $x_7$ )  
((not  $x_1$ ) or  $x_6$ )  
etc.**

**$x_1, x_2, x_3$ , etc. our Boolean variables  
(set to True or False)**

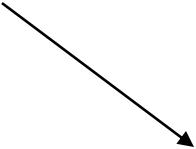
**Set  $x_1$  to False ??**

# 10 pages later:

```

]
185 -9 0
185 -1 0
177 169 161 153 145 137 129 121 113 105 97
 89 81 73 65 57 49 41
 33 25 17 9 1 -185 0
186 -187 0
186 -188 0
...

```



I.e., (x\_177 or x\_169 or x\_161 or x\_153 ...  
x\_33 or x\_25 or x\_17 or x\_9 or x\_1 or (not x\_185))

clauses / constraints are getting more interesting...

*Note x\_1 ...*

## 4000 pages later:

10236 -10050 0  
10236 -10051 0  
10236 -10235 0  
10008 10009 10010 10011 10012 10013 10014  
10015 10016 10017 10018 10019 10020 10021  
10022 10023 10024 10025 10026 10027 10028  
10029 10030 10031 10032 10033 10034 10035  
10036 10037 10086 10087 10088 10089 10090  
10091 10092 10093 10094 10095 10096 10097  
10098 10099 10100 10101 10102 10103 10104  
10105 10106 10107 10108 -55 -54 53 -52 -51 50  
10047 10048 10049 10050 10051 10235 -10236 0  
10237 -10008 0  
10237 -10009 0  
10237 -10010 0

...

# Finally, 15,000 pages later:

-7 260 0  
7 -260 0  
1072 1070 0  
-15 -14 -13 -12 -11 -10 0  
-15 -14 -13 -12 -11 10 0  
-15 -14 -13 -12 11 -10 0  
-15 -14 -13 -12 11 10 0  
-7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 0  
-7 -6 -5 -4 -3 2 0  
-7 -6 -5 -4 3 -2 0  
-7 -6 -5 -4 3 2 0  
185 0

*Search space of truth assignments:*

**HOW?**

$$2^{50000} \approx 3.160699437 \cdot 10^{15051}$$

***Current SAT solvers solve this instance in  
approx. 1 minute!***

# Demo: SatPlan

# Progress in SAT Solvers

Instance	Posit' 94	Grasp' 96	Sato' 98	Chaff' 01
ssa2670-136	40,66s	1,2s	0,95s	0,02s
bf1355-638	1805,21s	0,11s	0,04s	0,01s
pret150_25	>3000s	0,21s	0,09s	0,01s
dubois100	>3000s	11,85s	0,08s	0,01s
aim200-2_0-no-1	>3000s	0,01s	0s	0s
2dlx_..._bug005	>3000s	>3000s	>3000s	2,9s
c6288	>3000s	>3000s	>3000s	>3000s

Source: Marques Silva 2002