Forward and backward chaining

- Horn Form (restricted)
  KB = conjunction of Horn clauses
  - Horn clause =
    - proposition symbol; or
    - (conjunction of symbols) ⇒ symbol
  - E.g., $C \wedge (B \Rightarrow A) \wedge (C \wedge D \Rightarrow B)$

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

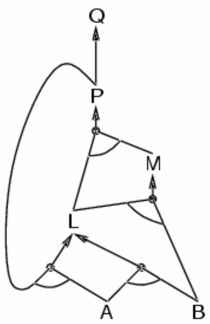
$$\frac{\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n, \qquad \alpha_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge \alpha_n \Rightarrow \beta}{\beta}$$

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

Forward chaining

- Idea: fire any rule whose premises are satisfied in the *KB*,
  - add its conclusion to the *KB*, until query is found

$$\begin{aligned} P &\Rightarrow Q \\ L \wedge M &\Rightarrow P \\ B \wedge L &\Rightarrow M \\ A \wedge P &\Rightarrow L \\ A \wedge B &\Rightarrow L \\ A & \\ B & \end{aligned}$$

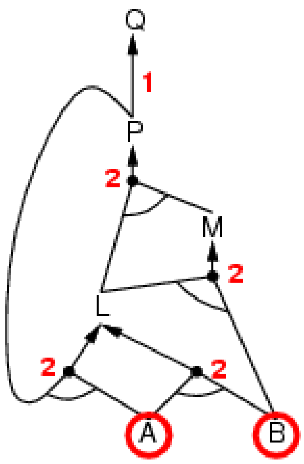


Forward chaining algorithm

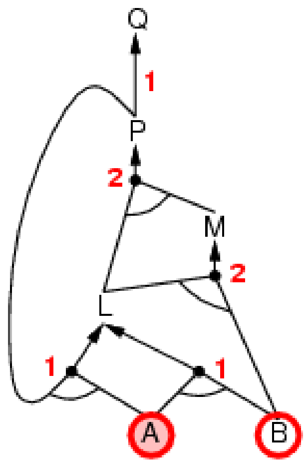
```
function PL-FC-ENTAILS?(KB, q) returns true or false
  local variables: count, a table, indexed by clause, initially the number of premises
                   inferred, a table, indexed by symbol, each entry initially false
                   agenda, a list of symbols, initially the symbols known to be true

  while agenda is not empty do
      p ← POP(agenda)
      unless inferred[p] do
          inferred[p] ← true
          for each Horn clause c in whose premise p appears do
              decrement count[c]
              if count[c] = 0 then do
                  if HEAD[c] = q then return true
                  PUSH(HEAD[c], agenda)
  return false
```

- Forward chaining is sound and complete for Horn KB

Forward chaining example



Forward chaining example



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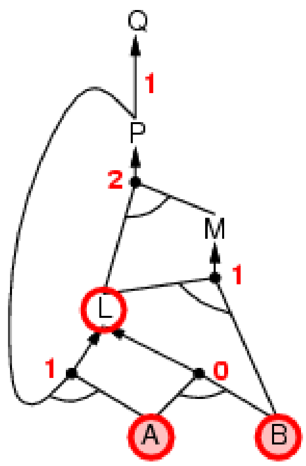
Forward chaining example



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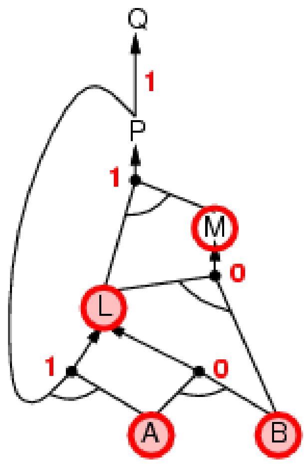
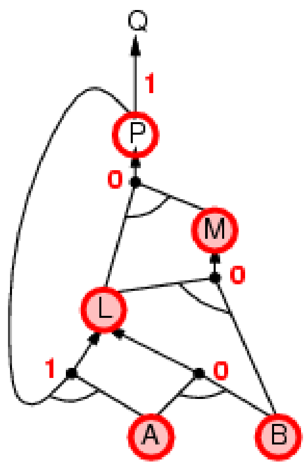
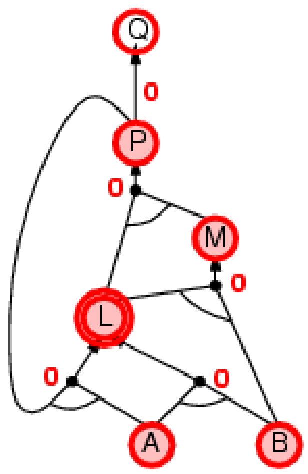
Forward chaining example



Forward chaining example



Forward chaining example



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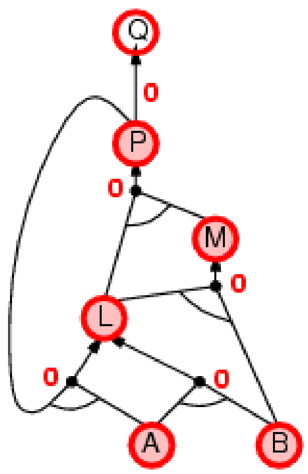
Forward chaining example



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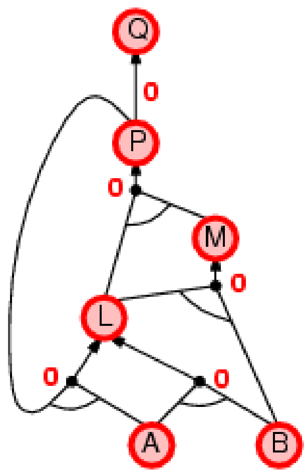
Forward chaining example



Proof of completeness

- FC derives every atomic sentence that is entailed by *KB*
  1. FC reaches a fixed point where no new atomic sentences are derived
  2. Consider the final state as a model *m*, assigning true/false to symbols
  3. Every clause in the original *KB* is true in *m*

     $a_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge a_k \Rightarrow b$
  4. Hence *m* is a model of *KB*
  5. If $KB \models q$, *q* is true in every model of *KB*, including *m*

Backward chaining

Idea: work backwards from the query *q*:

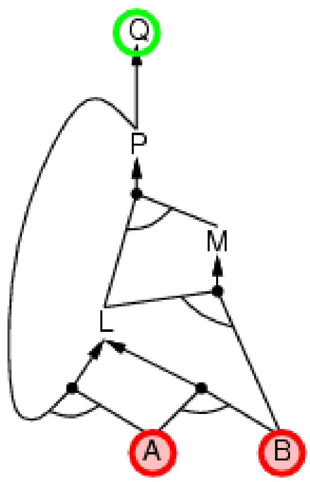
- to prove *q* by BC,
  - check if *q* is known already, or
  - prove by BC all premises of some rule concluding *q*

Avoid loops: check if new subgoal is already on the goal stack

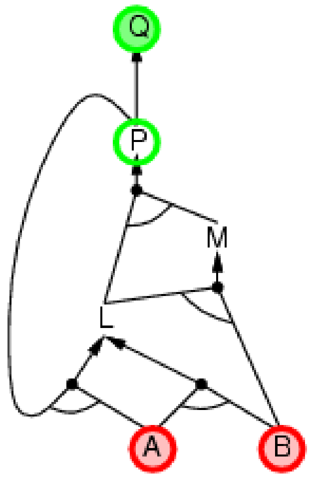
Avoid repeated work: check if new subgoal

1. has already been proved true, or
2. has already failed

Backward chaining example



Backward chaining example



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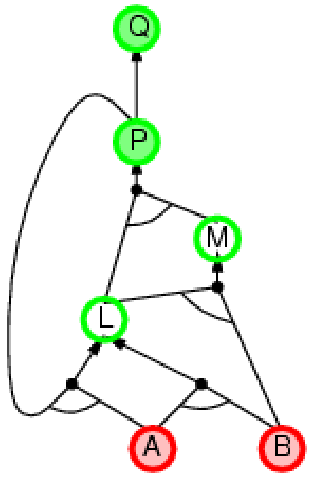
Backward chaining example



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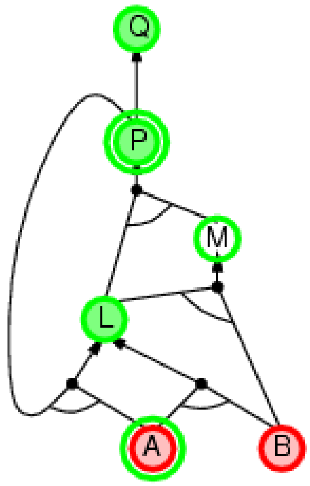
Backward chaining example



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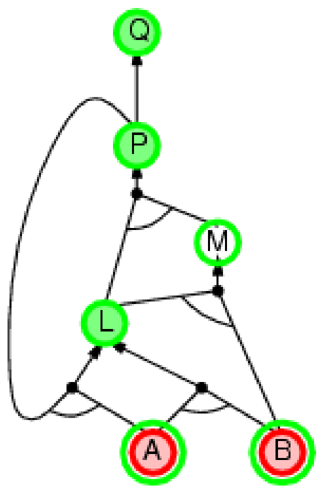
Backward chaining example



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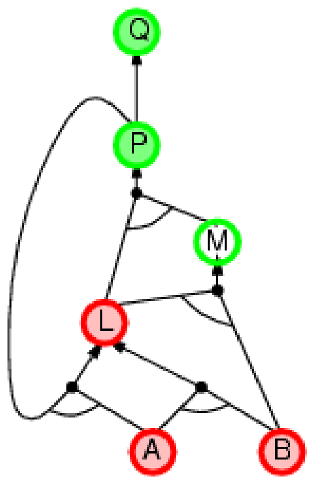
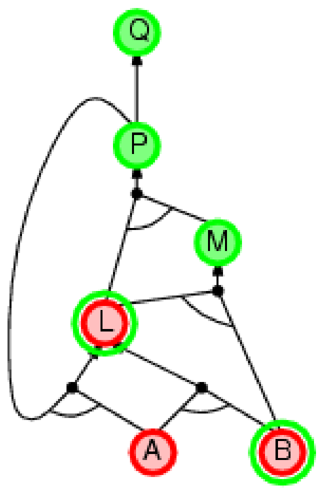
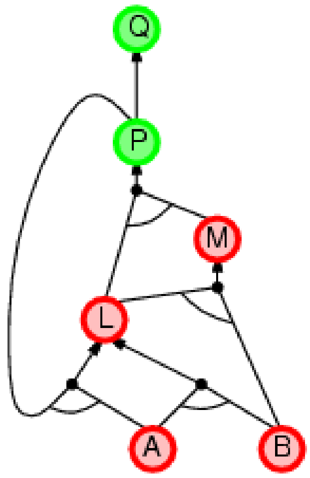
Backward chaining example



Backward chaining example



Backward chaining example



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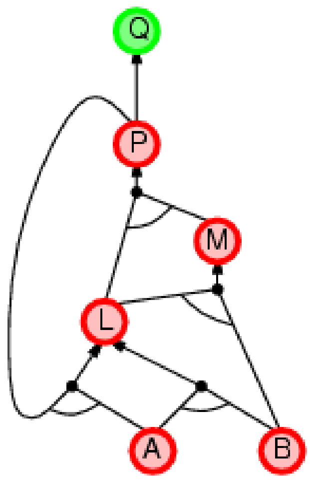
Backward chaining example



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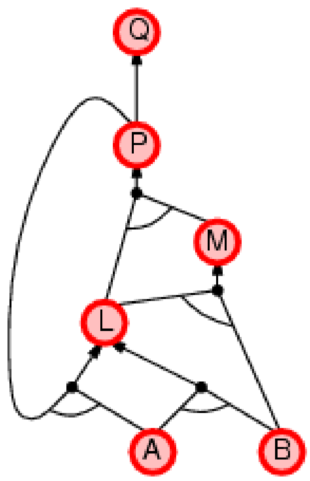
Backward chaining example



Forward vs. backward chaining

- FC is data-driven, automatic, unconscious processing,
  - e.g., object recognition, routine decisions
- May do lots of work that is irrelevant to the goal
- BC is goal-driven, appropriate for problem-solving,
  - e.g., Where are my keys? How do I get into a PhD program?
- Complexity of BC can be much less than linear in size of KB

Efficient propositional inference

Two families of efficient algorithms for propositional inference:

Complete backtracking search algorithms

- DPLL algorithm (Davis, Putnam, Logemann, Loveland)
- Incomplete local search algorithms
  - `WalkSAT` algorithm

The DPLL algorithm

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

Improvements over truth table enumeration:

1. Early termination
   A clause is true if any literal is true.
   A sentence is false if any clause is false.

2. Pure symbol heuristic
   Pure symbol: always appears with the same "sign" in all clauses.
   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 a pure symbol literal true.

3. Unit clause heuristic
   Unit clause: only one literal in the clause
   The only literal in a unit clause must be true.

The DPLL algorithm

function DPLL-SATISFIABLE?(s) **returns** *true* or *false*
  inputs: s, a sentence in propositional logic

  clauses ← the set of clauses in the CNF representation of s
  symbols ← 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* ← FIND-PURE-SYMBOL(*symbols*, *clauses*, *model*)
  if P is non-null **then return** DPLL(*clauses*, *symbols*–P, [$P =$ *value*|*model*])
  P, *value* ← FIND-UNIT-CLAUSE(*clauses*, *model*)
  if P is non-null **then return** DPLL(*clauses*, *symbols*–P, [$P =$ *value*|*model*])
  P ← FIRST(*symbols*); *rest* ← REST(*symbols*)
  return DPLL(*clauses*, *rest*, [$P =$ *true*|*model*]) **or**
      DPLL(*clauses*, *rest*, [$P =$ *false*|*model*])

The `WalkSAT` algorithm

- Incomplete, local search algorithm
- Evaluation function: The min-conflict heuristic of minimizing the number of unsatisfied clauses
- Balance between greediness and randomness

The `WalkSAT` algorithm

function WALKSAT(*clauses*, *p*, *max-flips*) **returns** a satisfying model or *failure*
  inputs: *clauses*, a set of clauses in propositional logic
    p, the probability of choosing to do a "random walk" move
    max-flips, number of flips allowed before giving up

  model ← a random assignment of *true*/*false* to the symbols in *clauses*
  for i = 1 **to** *max-flips* **do**
    if *model* satisfies *clauses* **then return** *model*
    clause ← a randomly selected clause from *clauses* that is false in *model*
    with probability *p* flip the value in *model* of a randomly selected symbol
      from *clause*
   else flip whichever symbol in *clause* maximizes the number of satisfied clauses
  return *failure*

Hard satisfiability problems

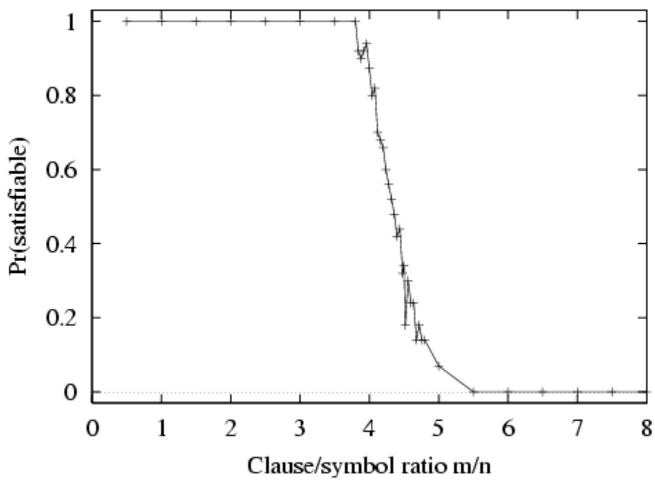
- Consider random 3-CNF sentences. e.g.,

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

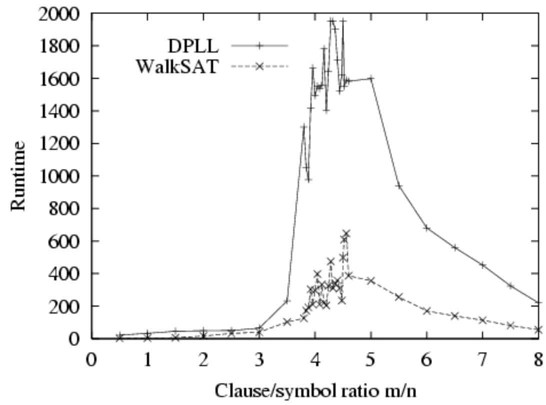
  m = number of clauses
  n = number of symbols

  – 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-based agents in the wumpus world

A wumpus-world agent using propositional logic:

$\neg P_{1,1}$
$\neg W_{1,1}$
$B_{x,y} \Leftrightarrow (P_{x,y+1} \vee P_{x,y-1} \vee P_{x+1,y} \vee P_{x-1,y})$
$S_{x,y} \Leftrightarrow (W_{x,y+1} \vee W_{x,y-1} \vee W_{x+1,y} \vee W_{x-1,y})$
$W_{1,1} \vee W_{1,2} \vee \ldots \vee W_{4,4}$
$\neg W_{1,1} \vee \neg W_{1,2}$
$\neg W_{1,1} \vee \neg W_{1,3}$
…

$\Rightarrow$ 64 distinct proposition symbols, 155 sentences

function PL-WUMPUS-AGENT(*percept*) **returns** an *action*
  inputs: *percept*, a list, [*stench*, *breeze*, *glitter*]
  static: *KB*, initially containing the "physics" of the wumpus world
    x, *y*, *orientation*, the agent's position (init. [1,1]) and orient. (init. *right*)
    visited, an array indicating which squares have been visited, initially *false*
    action, the agent's most recent action, initially null
    plan, an action sequence, initially empty

  update *x*, *y*, *orientation*, *visited* based on *action*
  if *stench* **then** TELL(KB, $S_{x,y}$) **else** TELL(KB, $\neg S_{x,y}$)
  if *breeze* **then** TELL(KB, $B_{x,y}$) **else** TELL(KB, $\neg B_{x,y}$)
  if *glitter* **then** *action* ← *grab*
  else if *plan* is nonempty then *action* ← POP(*plan*)
  else if for some fringe square [*i*,*j*], ASK(KB, $(\neg P_{i,j} \wedge \neg W_{i,j})$) is *true* **or**
    for some fringe square [*i*,*j*], ASK(KB, $(P_{i,j} \vee W_{i,j})$) is *false* **then do**
    plan ← A*-GRAPH-SEARCH(ROUTE-PB([*x*,*y*], *orientation*, [*i*,*j*], *visited*))
    action ← POP(*plan*)
  else *action* ← a randomly chosen move
  return *action*

Expressiveness limitation of propositional logic

- KB contains "physics" sentences for every single square

- For every time t and every location $[x,y]$,

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

- Rapid proliferation of clauses

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.
- Resolution is complete for propositional logic
  Forward, backward chaining are linear-time, complete for Horn clauses
- Propositional logic lacks expressive power