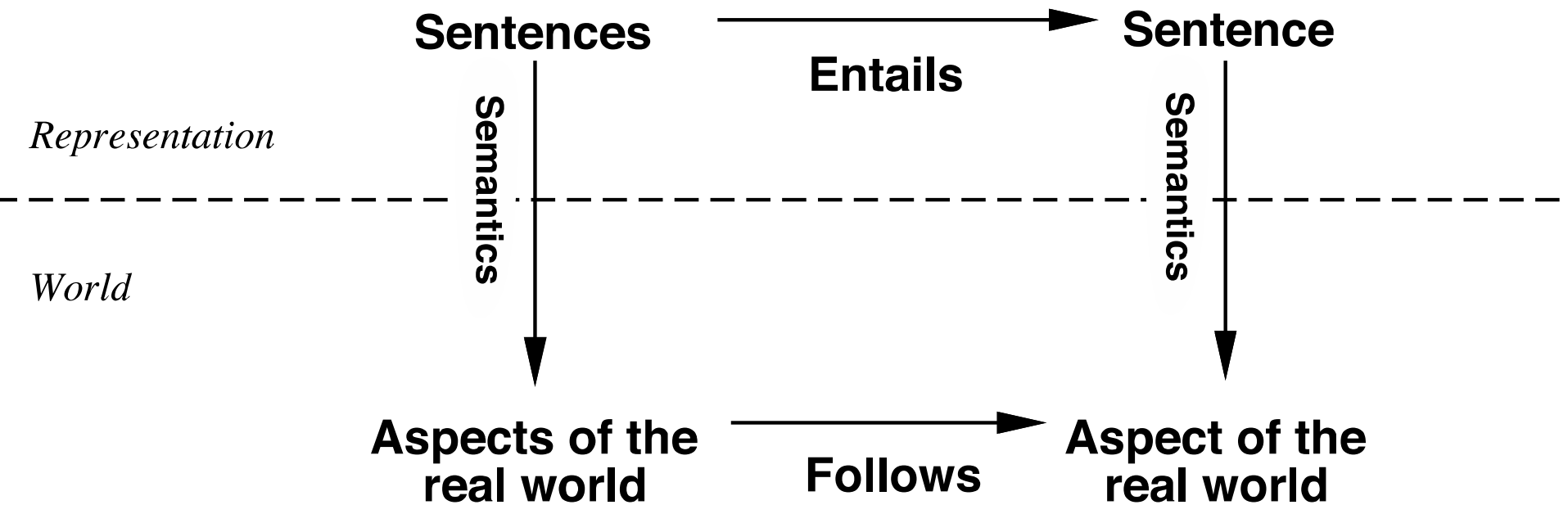


# Rappresentazione e elaborazione della conoscenza: dalla sintassi (frasi della KB) alla semantica (mondo reale)



**Entails:** implica

**Follows:** conseguenza (logica)

# Procedura di Inferenza/Deduzione

- “Metodo automatico per derivare nuove frasi (formule) a partire da quelle già presenti nella base di conoscenza (KB)”
- **Corretta** (“sound”) se per ogni formula  $\phi$  derivata da KB usando la procedura di inferenza si ha che  $\phi$  e’ una *conseguenza logica* di KB. **Completa** se vale anche il viceversa.
- **Dimostrazione** di  $\phi$ : insieme di operazioni eseguite dalla procedura di inferenza (corretta) per derivare  $\phi$
- **Teoria della dimostrazione** (“proof theory”): è relativa ad un linguaggio di KR. Specifica un insieme di passi di ragionamento/inferenza che sono corretti

# Alcuni Linguaggi di KR (Knowledge Representation)

- Un linguaggio di KR deve essere **conciso**, **espressivo** (il più possibile), **non ambiguo** e indipendente dal contesto, **efficace** (esiste una procedura di inferenza corretta ed implementabile)
- **Linguaggio naturale**: espressivo, ma ambiguo, non conciso
- **Linguaggio di programmazione**: preciso, strutturato, ma poco espressivo
- **Logica**: precisa, concisa, espressiva

# Logica e KR

- Varie logiche, differenti assunzioni ontologiche e epistemologiche (esempi)
- Una logica è descritta da *sintassi* e *semantica*
- Vedremo Logica Proposizionale e Logica del I Ordine (Calcolo dei Predicati) in dettaglio, Logica Temporal (cenni)

# Assunzioni Ontologiche/Epistemologiche nei Linguaggi di KR

Language	Ontological Commitment (What exists in the world)	Epistemological Commitment (What an agent believes about facts)
Propositional logic	facts	true/false/unknown
First-order logic	facts, objects, relations	true/false/unknown
Temporal logic	facts, objects, relations, times	true/false/unknown
Probability theory	facts	degree of belief $\in [0, 1]$
Fuzzy logic	facts with degree of truth $\in [0, 1]$	known interval value

**Figure 8.1** Formal languages and their ontological and epistemological commitments.

# Sintassi logica proposizionale

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Sentence} &\rightarrow \textit{AtomicSentence} \mid \textit{ComplexSentence} \\ \textit{AtomicSentence} &\rightarrow \textit{True} \mid \textit{False} \mid P \mid Q \mid R \mid \dots \\ \textit{ComplexSentence} &\rightarrow (\textit{Sentence}) \mid [\textit{Sentence}] \\ &\mid \neg \textit{Sentence} \\ &\mid \textit{Sentence} \wedge \textit{Sentence} \\ &\mid \textit{Sentence} \vee \textit{Sentence} \\ &\mid \textit{Sentence} \Rightarrow \textit{Sentence} \\ &\mid \textit{Sentence} \Leftrightarrow \textit{Sentence} \end{aligned}$$

OPERATOR PRECEDENCE :  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow$

**Figure 7.7** A BNF (Backus–Naur Form) grammar of sentences in propositional logic, along with operator precedences, from highest to lowest.

# Semantica operatori logici

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \Rightarrow Q$	$P \Leftrightarrow Q$
<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>

**Figure 7.8** Truth tables for the five logical connectives. To use the table to compute, for example, the value of  $P \vee Q$  when  $P$  is true and  $Q$  is false, first look on the left for the row where  $P$  is *true* and  $Q$  is *false* (the third row). Then look in that row under the  $P \vee Q$  column to see the result: *true*.

# Semantica della Logica

- Ciò che la formula asserisce sul mondo = **significato della frase**
- Dipende da una particolare **interpretazione**: Una formula è **vera rispetto ad una interpretazione** se ciò che rappresenta è vero nel mondo.

Es: “*il Papa è in Francia*” ...  $\rightarrow$  “*la chiave è nel frigorifero*”

- **Principio di composizionalità**: il significato di una formula è una funzione del significato delle sue parti (si per la logica!)
- **Formula valida (tautologia)**: vera per qualsiasi interpretazione (“*piove o non piove*”. Altri esempi meno ovvi dopo)
- **Formula soddisfacibile**: esiste una interpretazione per cui la formula è vera (“*piove e fa-caldo*”), **insoddisfacibile** (“*piove e non piove*”) altrimenti
- Ogni formula tautologica è soddisfacibile (no vicerersa)



# Modelli (logica proposizionale)

- Un **Modello** per una (formula ben formata) F.B.F  $\phi$  è una interpretazione (associazione) dei simboli proposizionali di  $\phi$  in valori di verità (V,F) per i quali  $\phi$  è vero.
- Modello per  $\phi$ : “mondo” in cui  $\phi$  è vero rispetto ad una certa interpretazione
- Esempio, modelli di “ $P \Rightarrow \text{not } Q$ ”: [F,F], [F,V], [V,F]
- Servono per definire il concetto (**semantico**) di **conseguenza logica**: Se l’insieme di tutti i modelli di una KB di F.B.F. sono anche modelli di  $\phi$ , allora  $\phi$  è una conseguenza logica di KB

$KB = \{“piove”, “piove \Rightarrow bagnato”\}$ ,  $\phi = “bagnato”$

# Validity and Unsatisfiability

Validità

A sentence is **valid** if it is true in **all** interpretations,  
Ad es. *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

Insoddisfacibilità

A sentence is **unsatisfiable** if it is true in **no** interpretation  
e.g.,  $A \wedge \neg A$

Logical implication (entailment) is connected to unsatisfiability  
via the following:  $KB \models \alpha$  ( $(KB \Rightarrow \alpha)$  is valid)  
*if and only if  $(KB \wedge \neg \alpha)$  is unsatisfiable*

# Metodi semantici (model checking)

- Non usano procedure di inferenza, ma modelli (dimostriamo la conseguenza logica).
- Metodo basato su **tabelle di verità** (esempi)

$KB = \{A, \text{not } B, (A \text{ or } B \Rightarrow C)\} \quad KB \models C ?$

$KB = \{A, \text{not } B, (A \text{ or } B \Rightarrow C)\} \quad KB \models (B \Rightarrow C) ?$

- Complessità temporale e spaziale  
*esponenziale.....*

$KB = \{A, \text{not } B, (A \text{ or } B \Rightarrow C)\}$      $KB \models C?$   
 $KB = \{A, \text{not } B, (A \text{ or } B \Rightarrow C)\}$      $KB \models B \Rightarrow C?$

A	B	C	not B	A or B $\Rightarrow$ C	B $\Rightarrow$ C
V	V	V	F	V	V
V	V	F	F	F	F
V	F	V	V	V	V
V	F	F	V	F	V
F	V	V	F	V	V
F	V	F	F	F	F
F	F	V	V	V	V
F	F	F	V	V	V

1 MODELLO DI KB: A=V, B=F, C=V

# Altro Metodo Semantico

$\Phi$  è una conseguenza logica di una KB consistente (soddisfacibile) se e solo se  $KB' = KB \wedge \text{NOT } \Phi$  è insoddisfacibile (non ha modelli).

- Formulo il problema come **CSP Booleano (SAT) !!**  
Se trovo un modello per  $KB'$ , allora è soddisfacibile e  $\Phi$  non è una conseguenza logica di KB (altrimenti lo è)
- Complessità esponenziale nel caso generale, polinomiale per 2SAT e per *formule di Horn*

# Dimostrazioni e Inferenza (ragionamento deduttivo)

- **Dimostrazione (derivazione) logica** di una formula  $f$ : sequenza di applicazioni di *regole di inferenza* a partire dalle F.B.F. nella KB fino a generare il **teorema**  $f$
- **Procedura di inferenza**: procedura per costruire dimostrazioni logiche attraverso l'individuazione di appropriate *sequenze di applicazioni di regole di inferenza*
- **Regole di inferenza**: *Modus ponens, and-elimination, and-introduction, or-introduction, double-negation, unit resolution, resolution*
- Richiedono formule in *formato normalizzato*
- Esempi di dimostrazione

# Resolution

Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)

= conjunction of disjunctions of literals (= conjunction of clauses)

Example:  $(A \vee \neg B)$ ,  $(B \vee \neg C \vee \neg D)$

- Resolution inference rule (for CNF):

$$\begin{array}{c} \ell_1 \vee \dots \vee \ell_k, \quad m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_n \\ \hline \ell_1 \vee \dots \vee \ell_{i-1} \vee \ell_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee \ell_k \vee m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee m_n \end{array}$$

where  $\ell_i$  and  $m_j$  are complementary literals.

Resolution is sound and complete for propositional logic

# Resolution

Implicative version of the rule

$$\frac{\neg(l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_{i-1} \vee l_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee l_k) \Rightarrow l_i \quad \neg m_j \Rightarrow (m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee m_n)}{\neg(l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_{i-1} \vee l_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee l_k) \Rightarrow (m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee m_n)}$$



# 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 ( $\wedge$  over  $\vee$ ) and flatten:

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

# Some Logical Equivalences

---

$(\alpha \wedge \beta) \equiv (\beta \wedge \alpha)$	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
$\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \vee \neg\beta)$	<b>De Morgan</b>
$\neg(\alpha \vee \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$	<b>De Morgan</b>
$(\alpha \wedge (\beta \vee \gamma)) \equiv ((\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee (\alpha \wedge \gamma))$	distributivity of $\wedge$ over $\vee$
$(\alpha \vee (\beta \wedge \gamma)) \equiv ((\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \gamma))$	distributivity of $\vee$ over $\wedge$

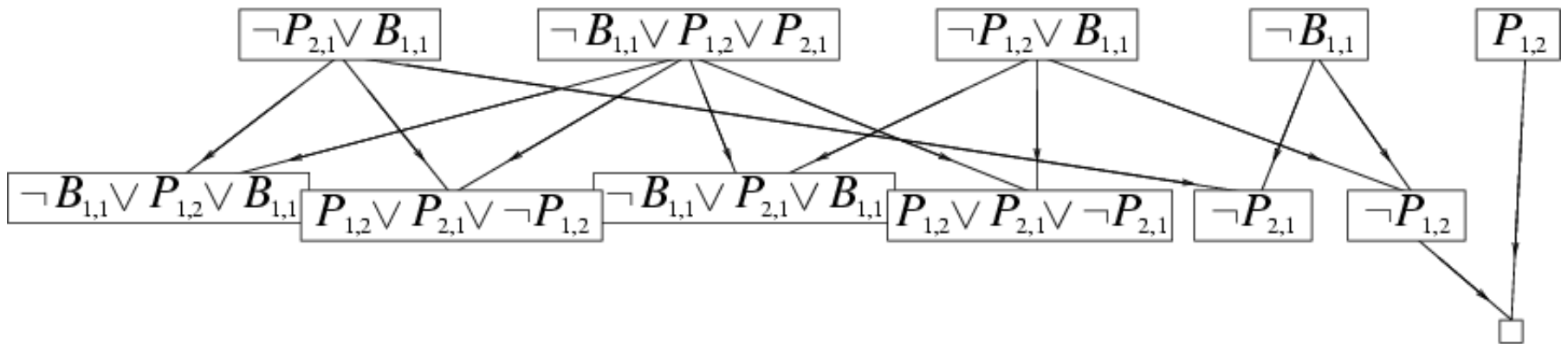
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**Figure 7.11** Standard logical equivalences. The symbols  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  stand for arbitrary sentences of propositional logic.

---

# Resolution example

- $KB = (B_{1,1} \Leftrightarrow (P_{1,2} \vee P_{2,1})) \wedge \neg B_{1,1}$
- $\alpha = \neg P_{1,2}$
- 



# Completezza della risoluzione

- *Una procedura di inferenza che applica la regola di risoluzione con una opportuna strategia è completa per dimostrare, attraverso il metodo di refutazione, qualsiasi formula della logica proposizionale*
- Esempio: Se  $KB = \{A\}$  non posso derivare “A or B” con la risoluzione, ma posso dimostrare “A or B” attraverso il metodo di refutazione....
- **Strategia di risoluzione** = come scelgo le 2 clausole da risolvere
- La KB congiunta con la formula negata devono essere in **formato CNF** (congiunzione/insieme di clausole)

# Resolution algorithm

- Proof by contradiction, i.e., show  $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$  unsatisfiable

**function** PL-RESOLUTION( $KB, \alpha$ ) *returns true or false*

*clauses*  $\leftarrow$  the set of clauses in the CNF representation of  $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$

*new*  $\leftarrow \{ \}$

**loop do**

**for each**  $C_i, C_j$  **in** *clauses* **do**

*resolvents*  $\leftarrow$  PL-RESOLVE( $C_i, C_j$ )

**if** *resolvents* contains the empty clause **then return true**

*new*  $\leftarrow$  *new*  $\cup$  *resolvents*

**if** *new*  $\subseteq$  *clauses* **then return false**

*clauses*  $\leftarrow$  *clauses*  $\cup$  *new*

# Resolution example (2)

- KB
- ①  $\neg E \vee D$
  - ②  $\neg C \vee \neg F \vee U \vee B$
  - ③  $\neg E \vee B$
  - ④  $\neg B \vee F$
  - ⑤  $\neg B \vee C$
  - ⑥  $\neg A \vee B \vee E$
  - ⑦  $\neg B \vee A$
  - ⑧  $\neg E \vee A$
  - ⑨  $\neg \Phi = \neg(\neg A \wedge \neg B) = A \vee B$

KB  $\neq$   $\neg A \wedge \neg B$

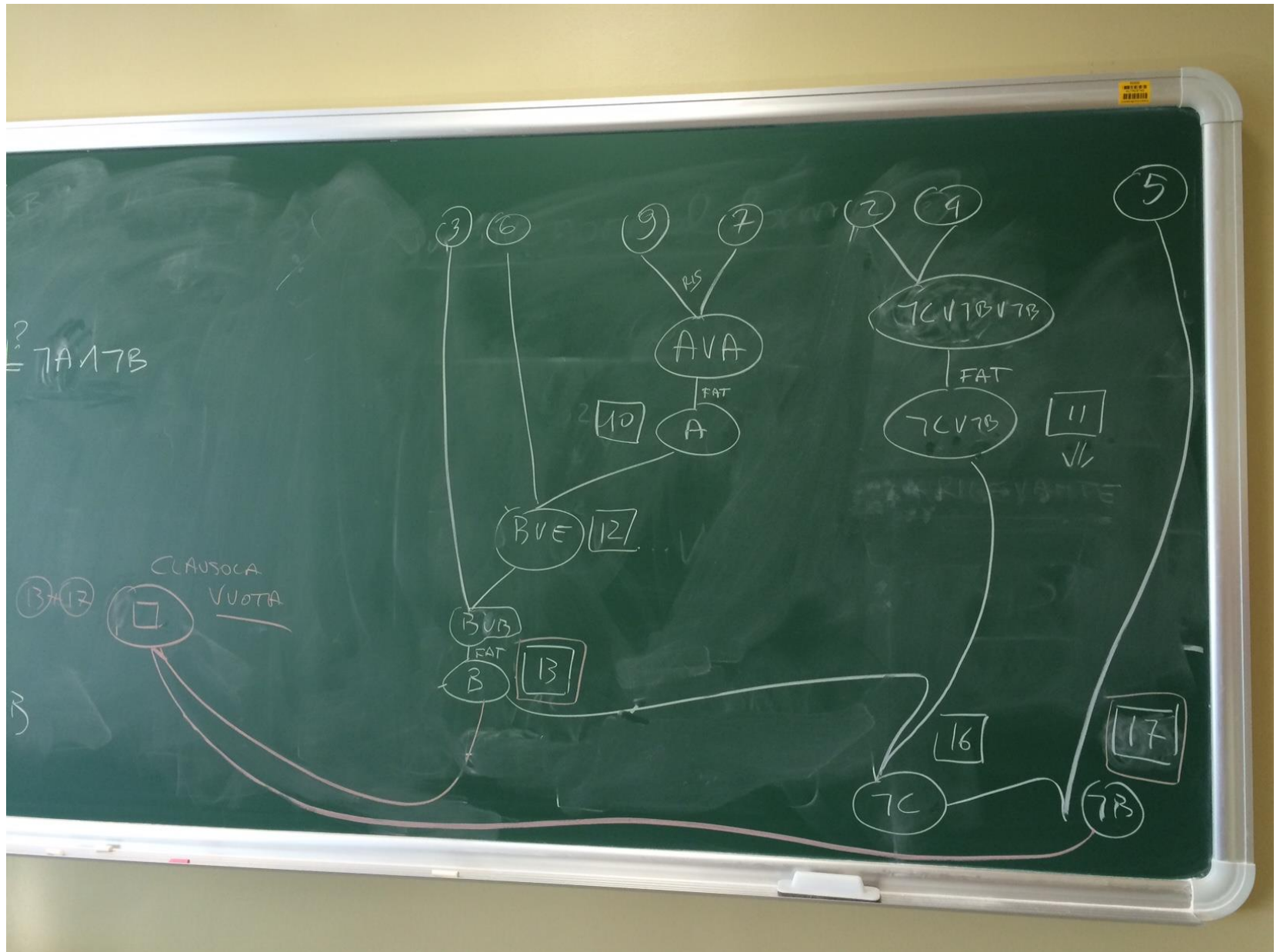
~~13~~ ~~12~~

CLAUSOLA  
VUOTA

9

14

# Solution example 2 (refutation graph)





# CNF, Horn, Clause Definite

---

*CNFSentence*  $\rightarrow$  *Clause*<sub>1</sub>  $\wedge \dots \wedge$  *Clause*<sub>n</sub>

*Clause*  $\rightarrow$  *Literal*<sub>1</sub>  $\vee \dots \vee$  *Literal*<sub>m</sub>

*Literal*  $\rightarrow$  *Symbol* |  $\neg$ *Symbol*

*Symbol*  $\rightarrow$  *P* | *Q* | *R* | ...

*HornClauseForm*  $\rightarrow$  *DefiniteClauseForm* | *GoalClauseForm*

*DefiniteClauseForm*  $\rightarrow$  (*Symbol*<sub>1</sub>  $\wedge \dots \wedge$  *Symbol*<sub>l</sub>)  $\Rightarrow$  *Symbol*

*GoalClauseForm*  $\rightarrow$  (*Symbol*<sub>1</sub>  $\wedge \dots \wedge$  *Symbol*<sub>l</sub>)  $\Rightarrow$  *False*

---

**Figure 7.14** A grammar for conjunctive normal form, Horn clauses, and definite clauses. A clause such as  $A \wedge B \Rightarrow C$  is still a definite clause when it is written as  $\neg A \vee \neg B \vee C$ , but only the former is considered the canonical form for definite clauses. One more class is the  $k$ -CNF sentence, which is a CNF sentence where each clause has at most  $k$  literals.

---



# Forward and backward chaining

- **Horn Form** (restricted)

KB = **conjunction** of **Horn clauses (DEFINITE 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

$$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \quad \alpha_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_n \Rightarrow \beta$$

---

$\beta$

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

# Esercizi

$$\neg P \vee Q$$

$$\neg L \vee \neg M \vee P$$

$$\neg B \vee \neg L \vee M$$

$$\neg A \vee \neg P \vee L$$

$$\neg A \vee \neg B \vee L$$

A

B

1. Sono clausole di Horn? Sono definite?
2. Convertite in forma implicativa (come vuole modus ponens)
3. Costruire l'ipergrafo AND-OR che rappresenta KB
4. Dimostrare se  $KB \models Q$  usando
  - risoluzione con strategie: **ampiezza**, clausola **unitaria** positiva, **lineare**
  - forward chaining (dopo trasformazione in clausole definite implicative)

# Forward chaining

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

$$P \Rightarrow Q$$

$$L \wedge M \Rightarrow P$$

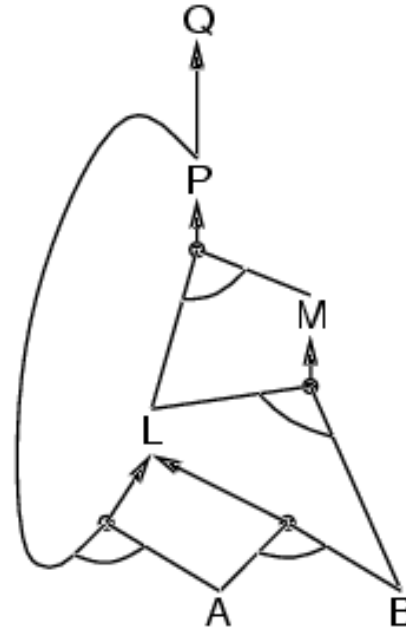
$$B \wedge L \Rightarrow M$$

$$A \wedge P \Rightarrow L$$

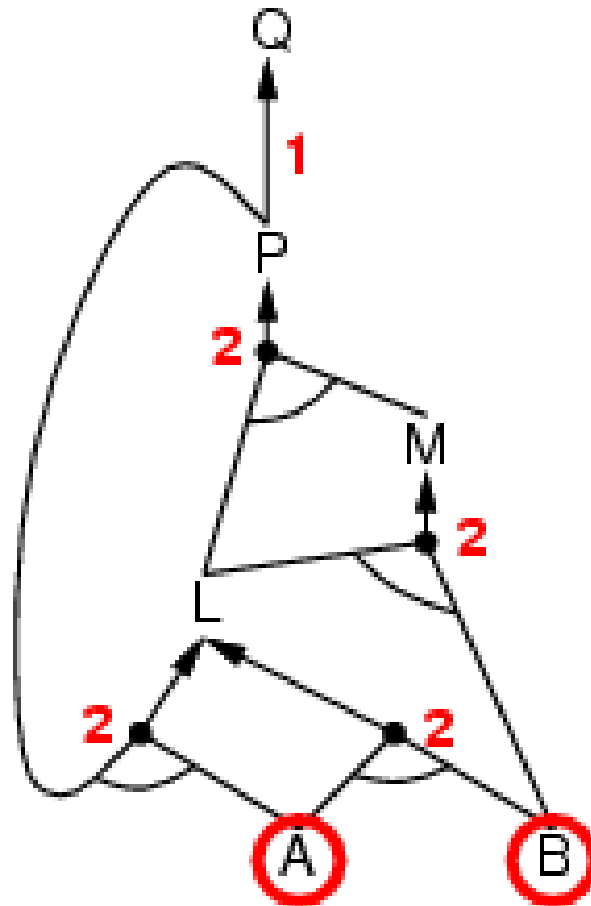
$$A \wedge B \Rightarrow L$$

*A*

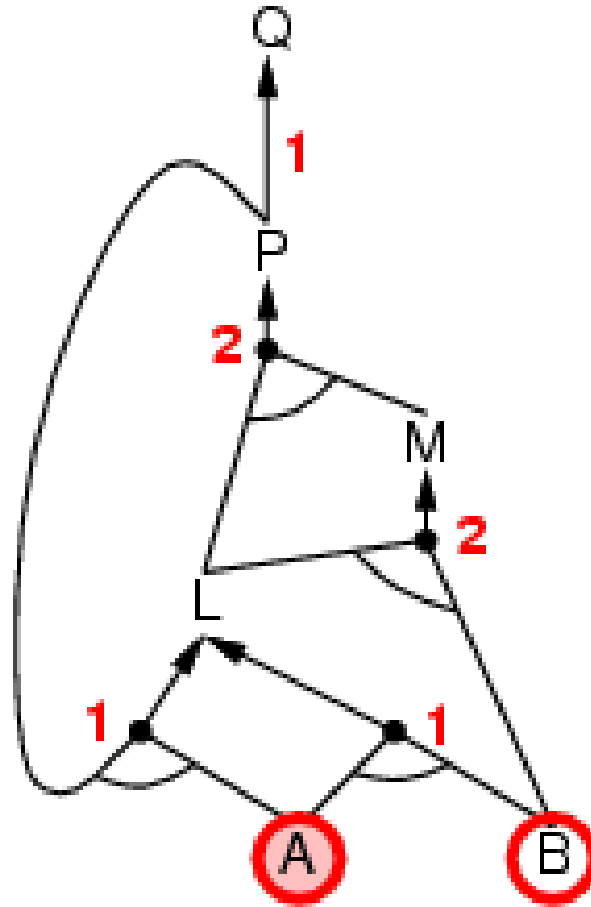
*B*



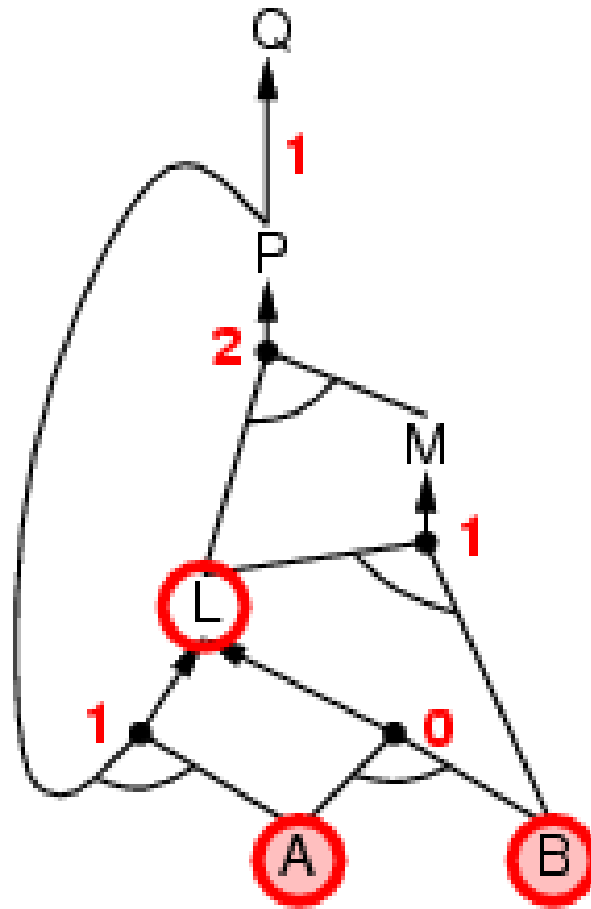
# Forward chaining example



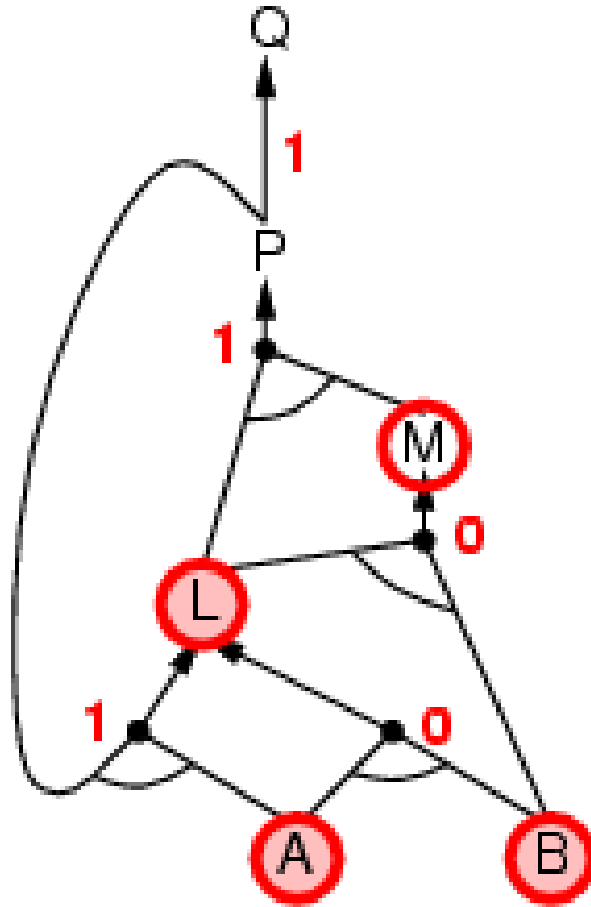
# Forward chaining example



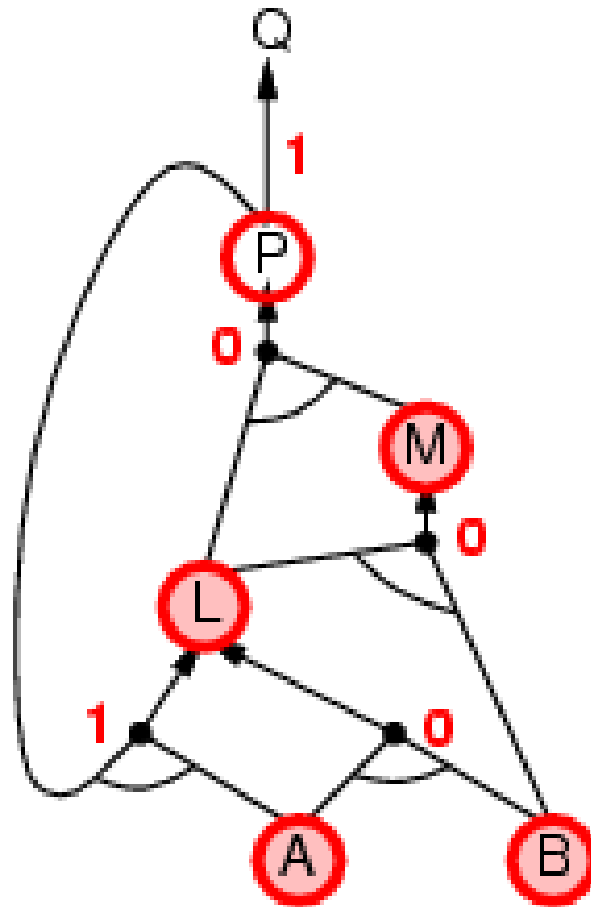
# Forward chaining example



# Forward chaining example

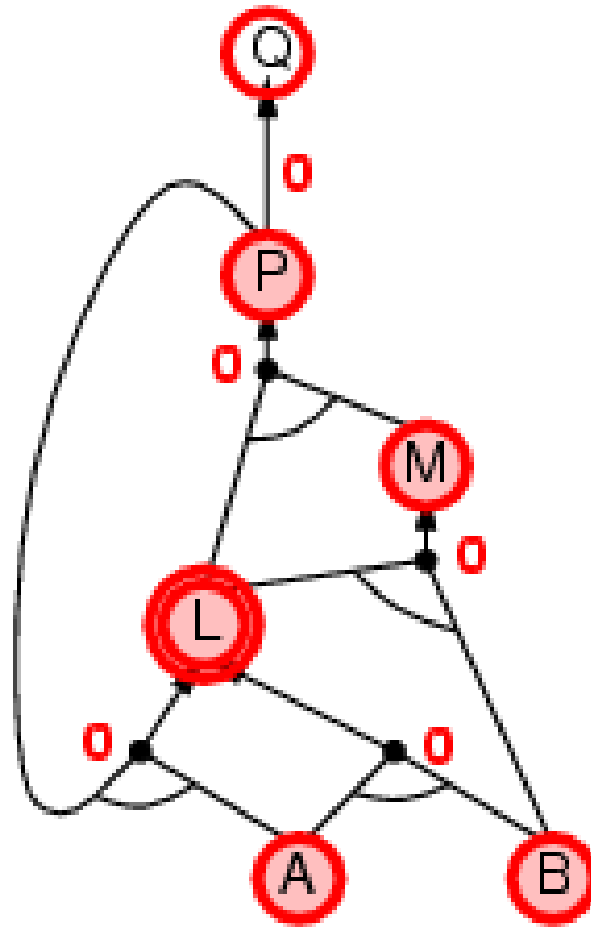


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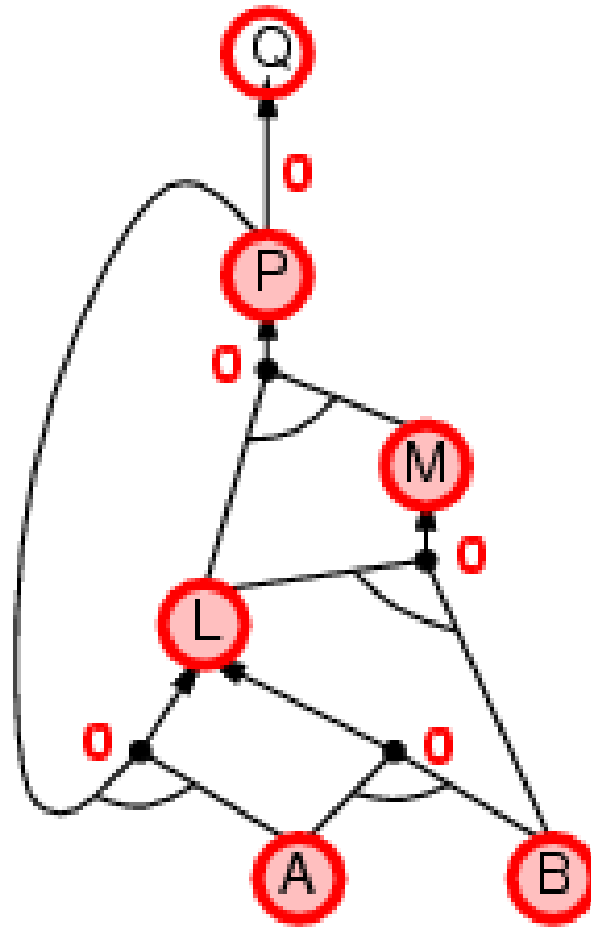




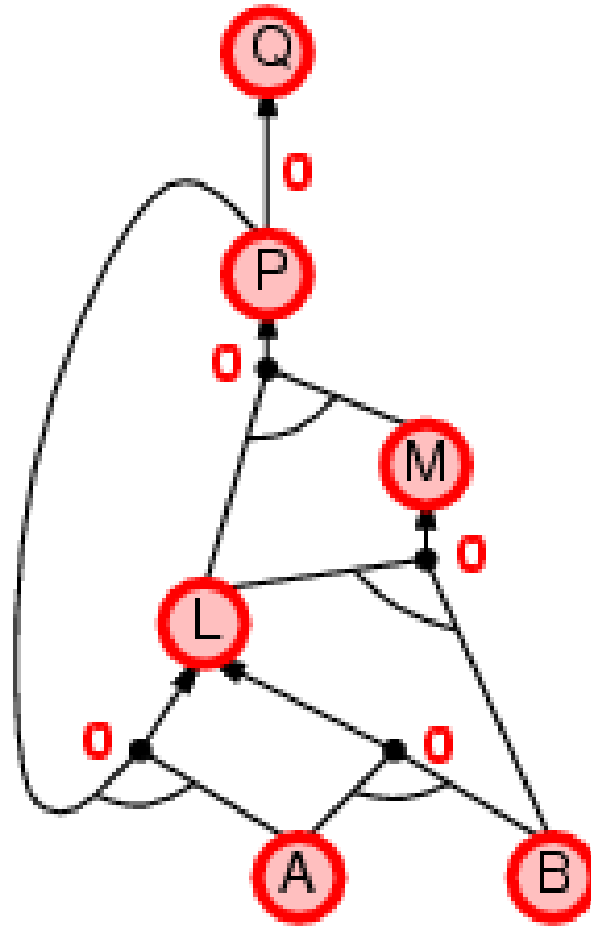
# Forward chaining example



# Forward chaining example



# Forward chaining example



# 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

# 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  $m$   
(if  $a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_k \Rightarrow b$  is *false* in  $m$  FC has not reached fixed point)
4. Hence  $m$  is a model of  $KB$
5. If  $KB \not\models q$ ,  $q$  is true in **every** model of  $KB$ , including  $m$

Perciò è impossibile che FC **non** derivi  $q$ ; se così fosse, allora per costruzione di  $m$  esisterebbe un modello ( $m$ ) di  $KB$  in cui  $q = \text{false}$  e, per definizione di  $\models$ ,  $m$  dovrebbe essere anche modello di  $q$ , che è impossibile

# Backward Chaining (BC)

Idea: work backwards from the query  $q$ :

to prove  $q$  by BC,

check if  $q$  is known already, or

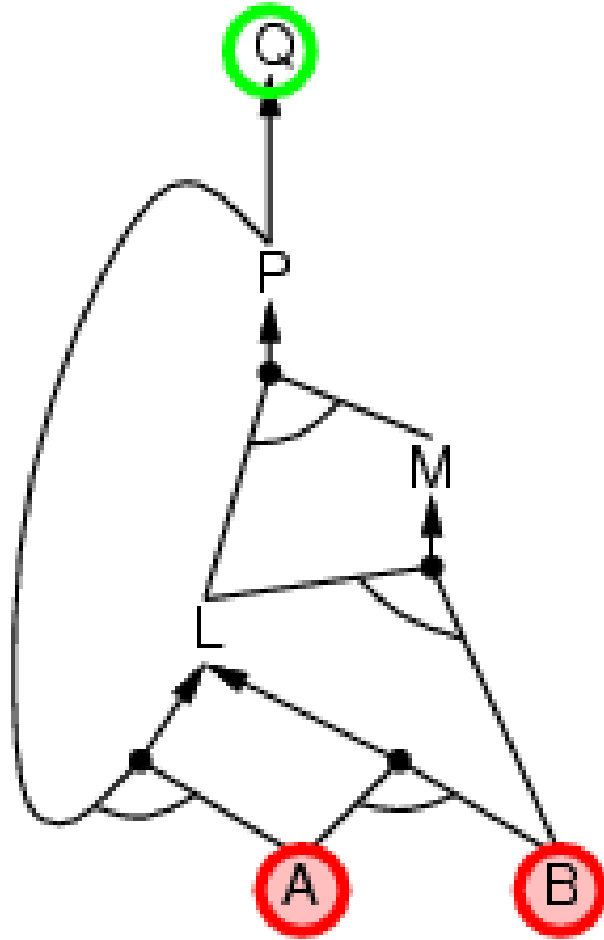
prove by BC all premises of some rule concluding  $q$

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

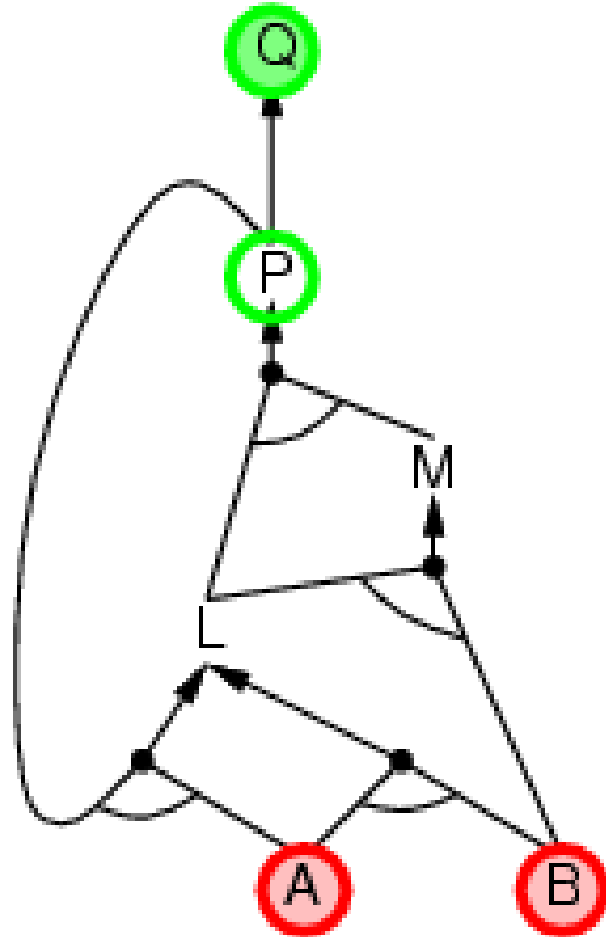
Avoid repeated work: check if new subgoal

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

# Backward chaining example

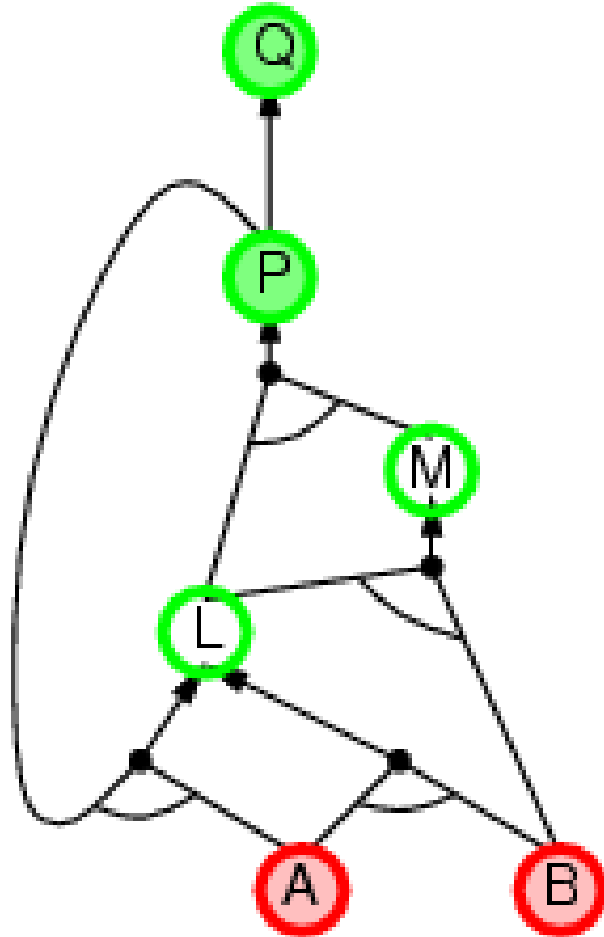


# Backward chaining example

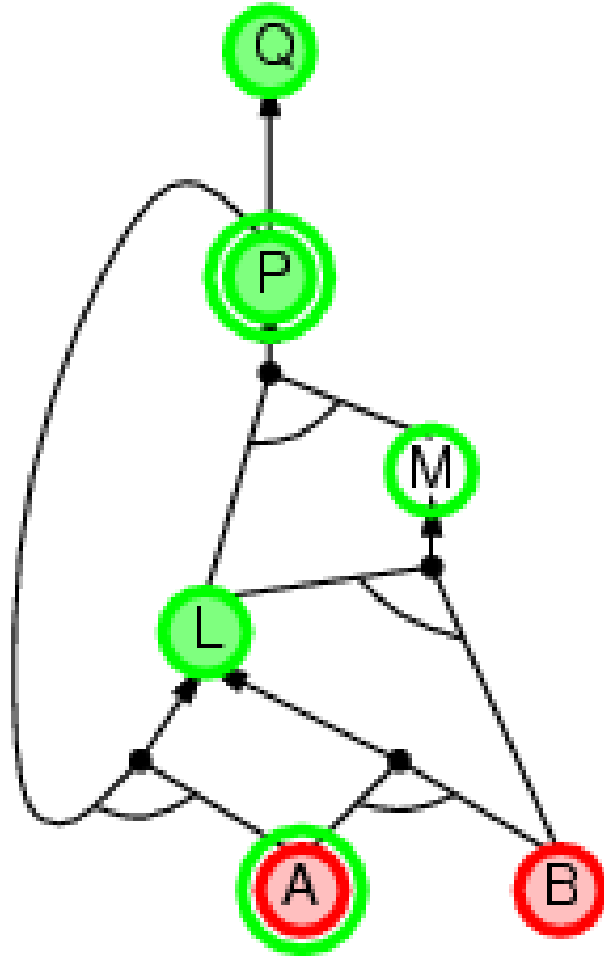




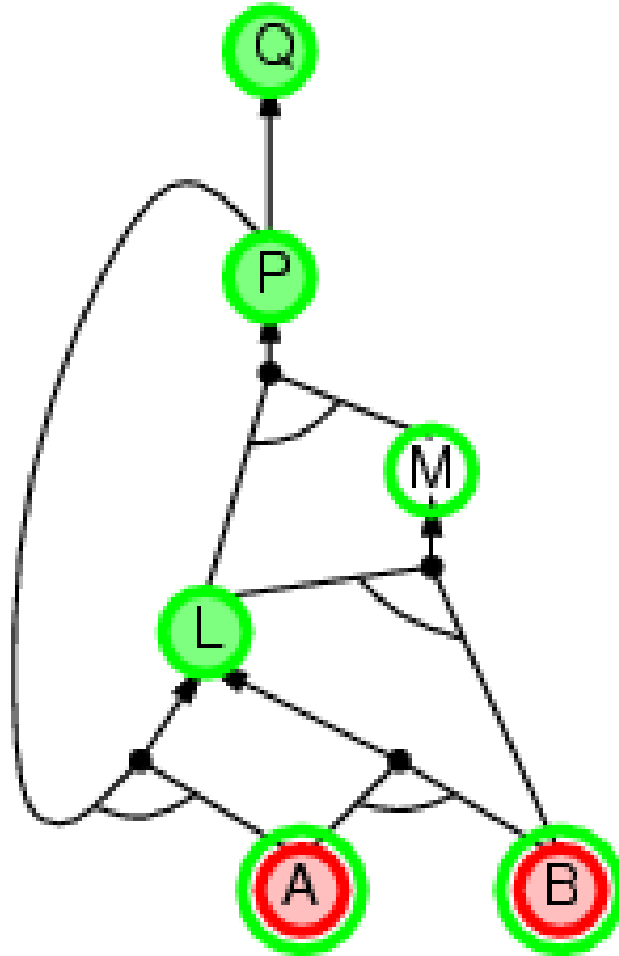
# Backward chaining example



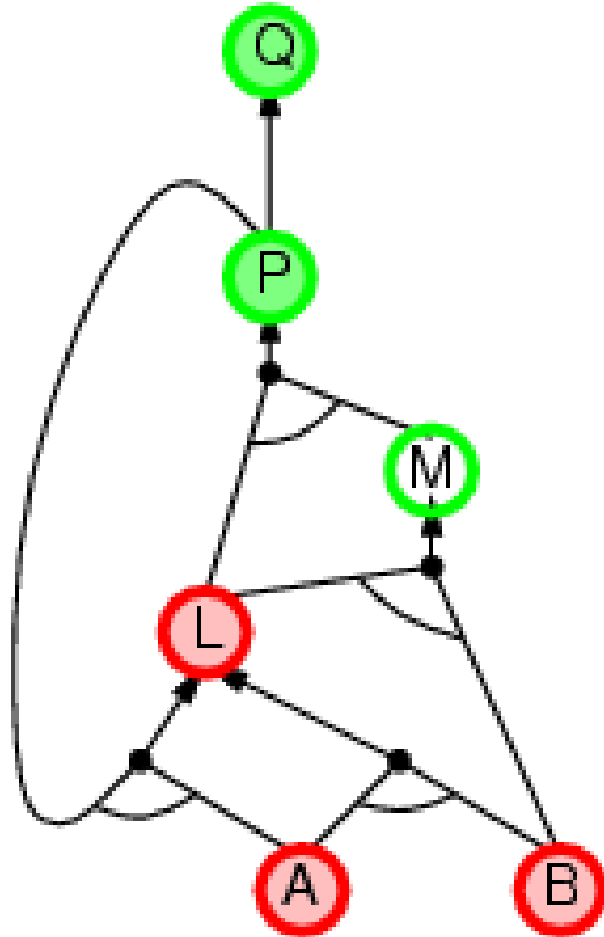
# Backward chaining example



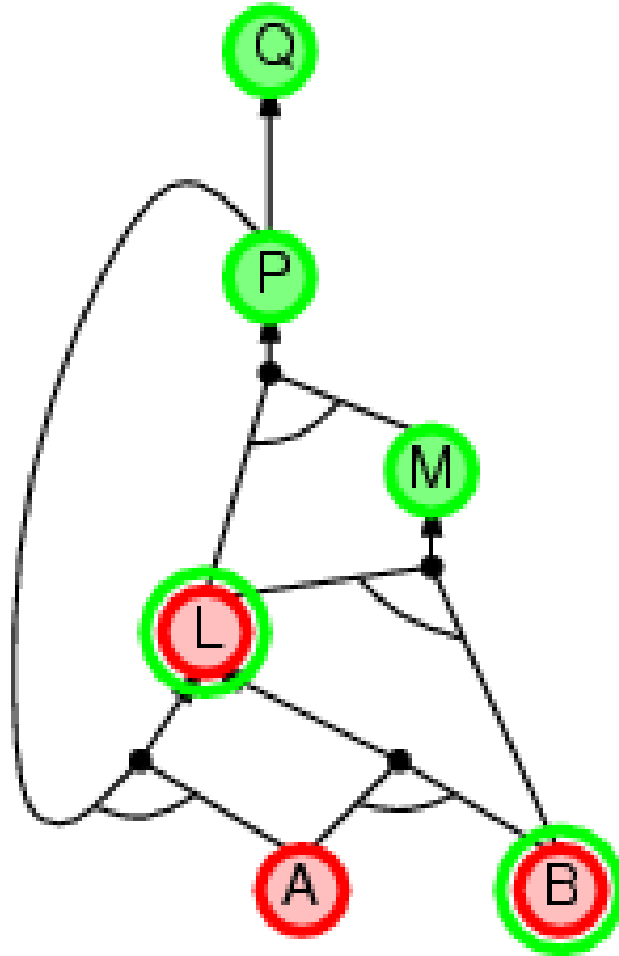
# Backward chaining example



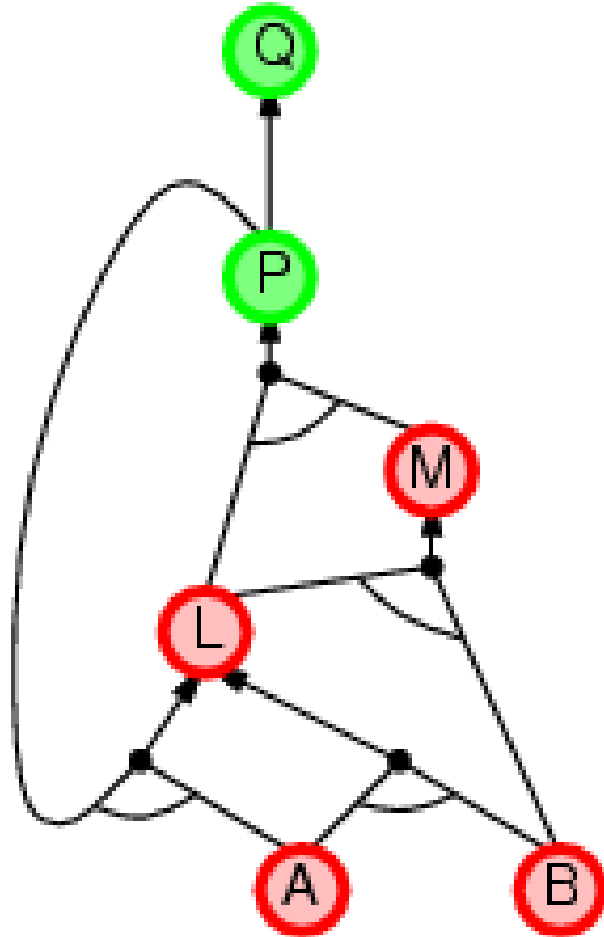
# Backward chaining example



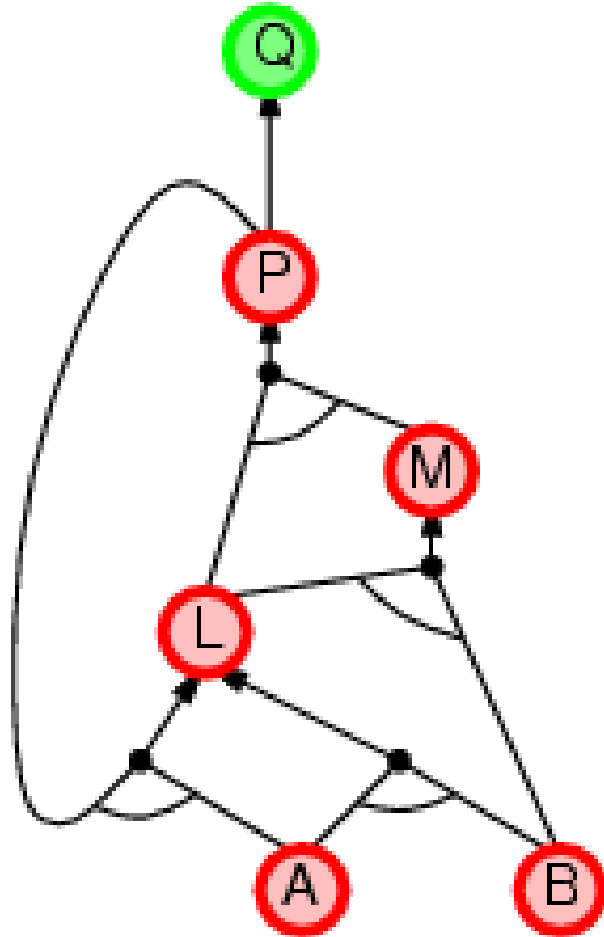
# Backward chaining example



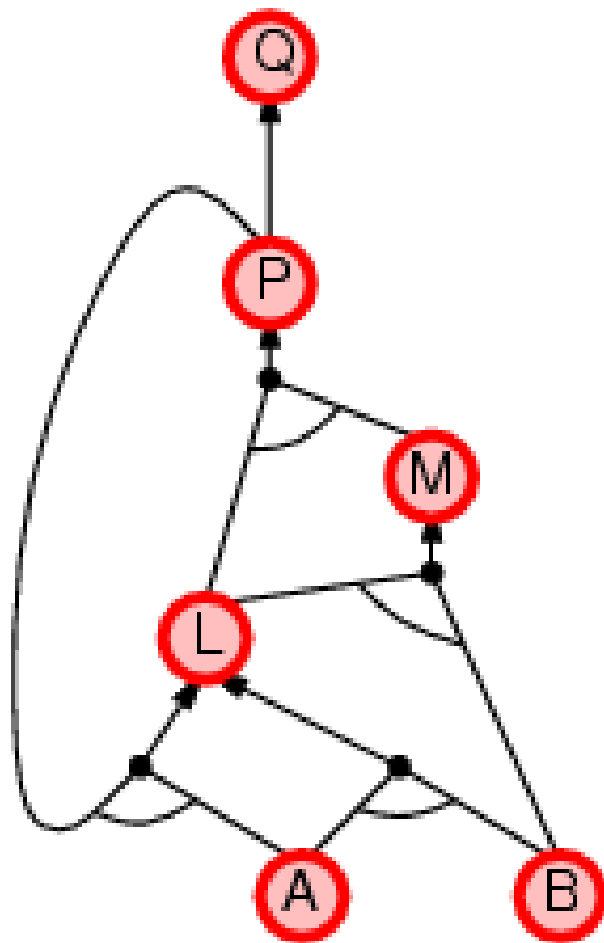
# Backward chaining example



# Backward chaining example



# 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?
- Complexity of BC can be **much less** than linear in size of KB

# Efficient semantic propositional inference

Two families of efficient algorithms for propositional inference (they work at *semantic* level):

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 (conjunction of clauses) 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*])

# Esercizio DPLL-satisfiable?

(svolto in aula a lezione)

clauses =

$\neg P \vee \neg Q$

$\neg L \vee \neg D$

$D \vee P$

$L$

$\neg L \vee F \vee R$

$\neg F \vee \neg R$

symbols = ....

model = ....

Q è puro ....

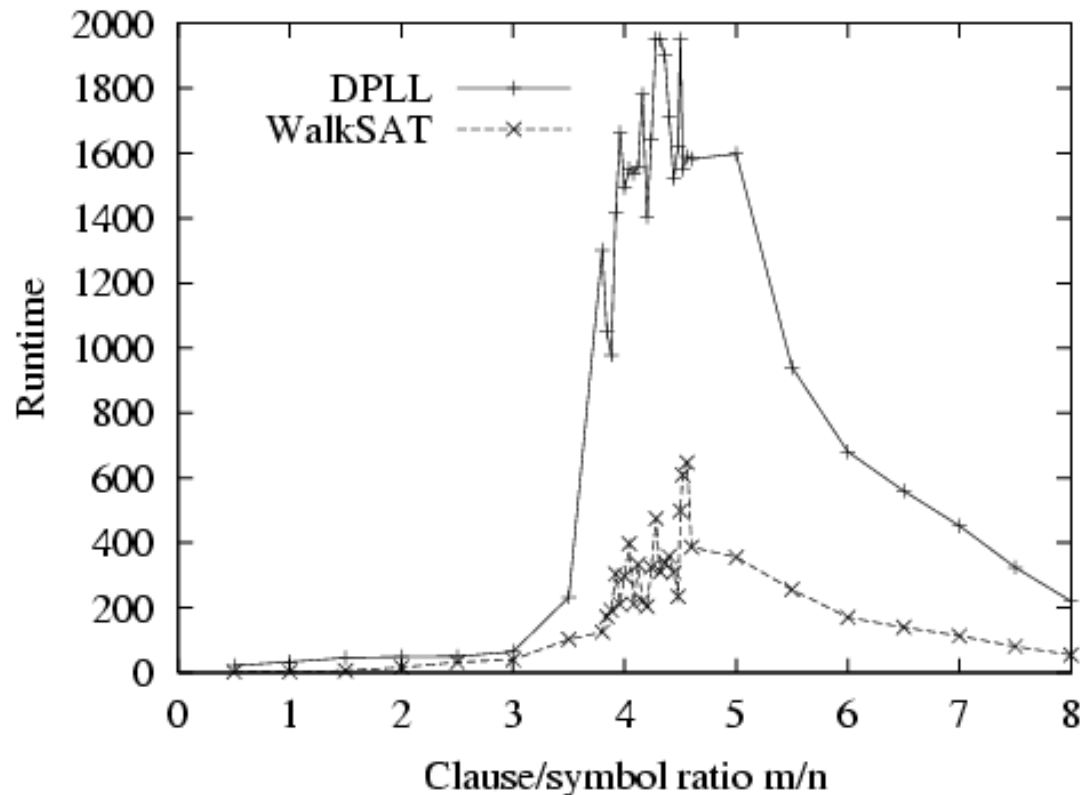
# WalkSAT algorithm

- 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



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



# 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

