A brief history of reasoning

450 B.C.	Stoics	propositional logic, inference (maybe)
322 B.C.	Aristotle	"syllogisms" (inference rules), quantifiers
1565	Cardano	probability theory (propositional logic + uncertainty)
1847	Boole	propositional logic (again)
1879	Frege	first-order logic
1922	Wittgenstein	proof by truth tables
1930	Gödel	$\exists$ complete algorithm for FOL
1930	Herbrand	complete algorithm for FOL (reduce to propositional)
1931	Gödel	$\neg\exists$ complete algorithm for arithmetic
1960	Davis/Putnam	"practical" algorithm for propositional logic
1965	Robinson	"practical" algorithm for FOL—resolution

Resolution

Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF—universal)

$\underbrace{\textbf{conjunction of disjunctions of literals}}$ — **conjunction** of $\underbrace{\textbf{disjunctions}\text{ of }\textbf{literals}}_{\textbf{clauses}}$

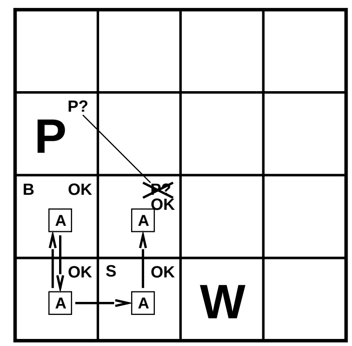
E.g., $(A \lor \neg B) \land (B \lor \neg C \lor \neg D)$

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

$$\frac{\ell_1 \lor \cdots \lor \ell_k, \qquad m_1 \lor \cdots \lor m_n}{\ell_1 \lor \cdots \lor \ell_{i-1} \lor \ell_{i+1} \lor \cdots \lor \ell_k \lor m_1 \lor \cdots \lor m_{j-1} \lor m_{j+1} \lor \cdots \lor m_n}$$

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

$$\frac{P_{1,3} \lor P_{2,2}, \qquad \neg P_{2,2}}{P_{1,3}}$$



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 algorithm

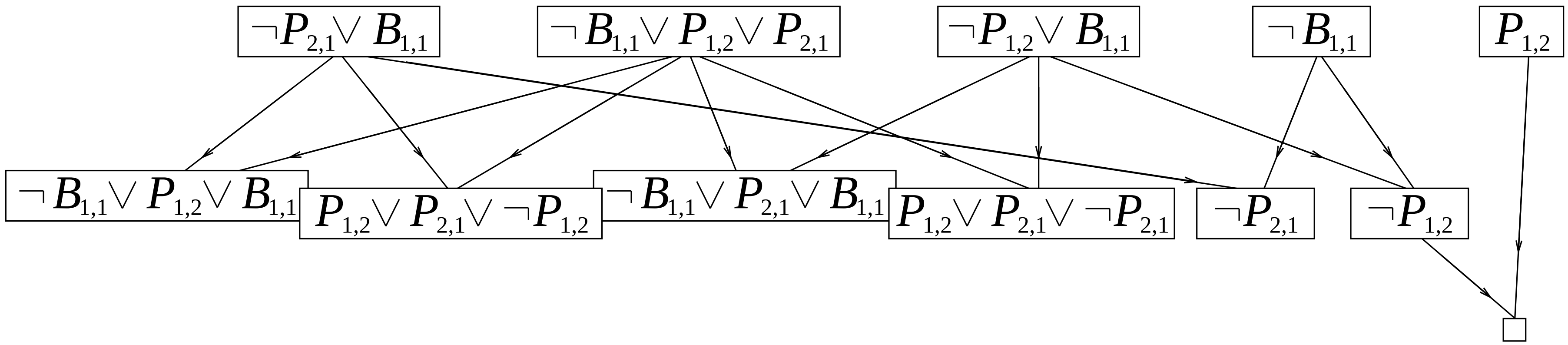
Proof by contradiction, i.e., show $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$ unsatisfiable

function PL-RESOLUTION(KB, α) **returns** *true* or *false*
    inputs: KB, the knowledge base, a sentence in propositional logic
        α, the query, a sentence in propositional logic

    clauses ← the set of clauses in the CNF representation of $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$
    new ← { }
    loop do
        for each C_i, C_j **in** *clauses* **do**
            resolvents ← PL-RESOLVE(C_i, C_j)
            if *resolvents* contains the empty clause **then return** *true*
            new ← *new* ∪ *resolvents*
        if *new* ⊆ *clauses* **then return** *false*
        clauses ← *clauses* ∪ *new*

Resolution example

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



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

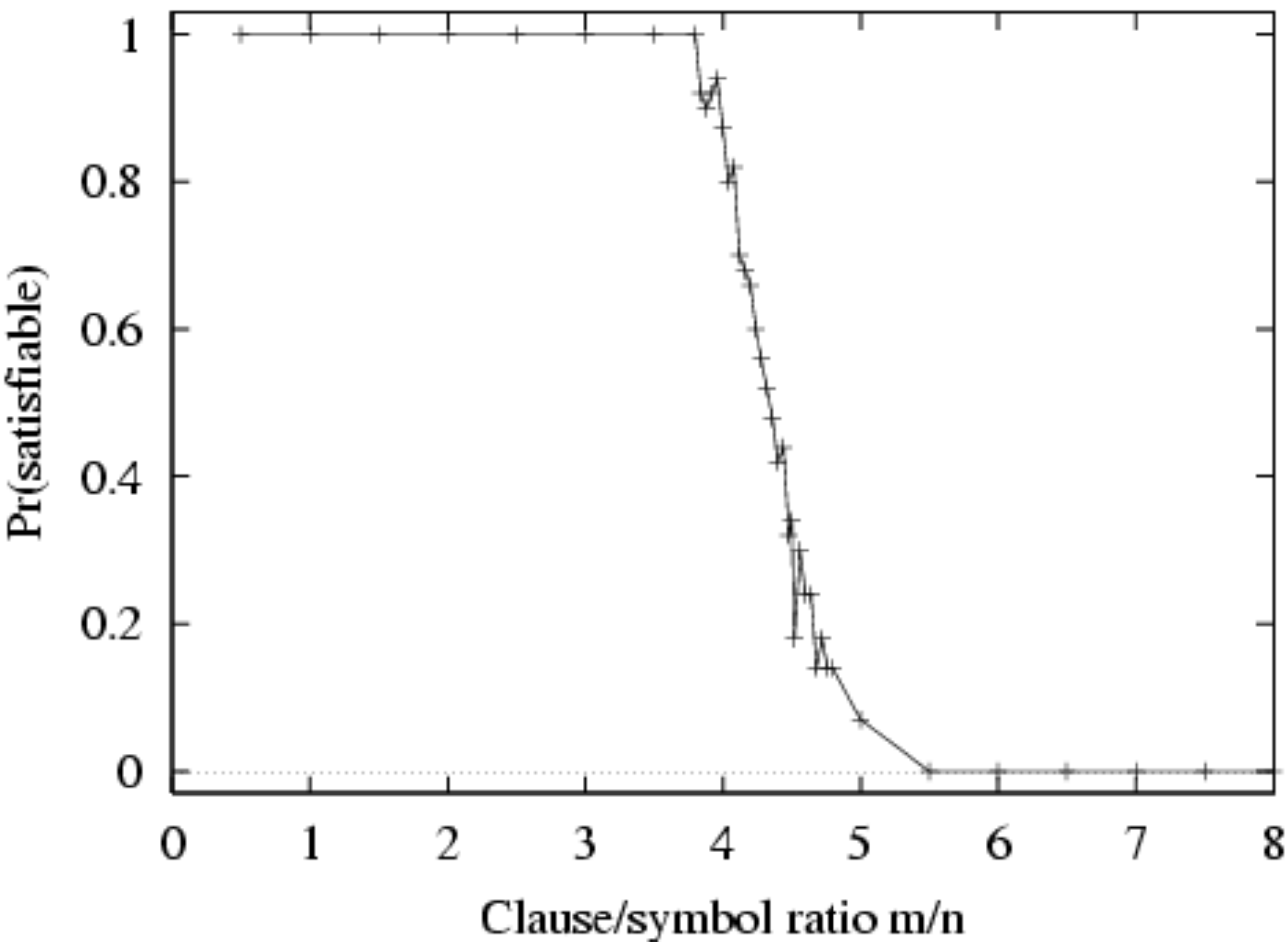
- Consider random 3-CNF sentences. e.g.,
  $(\neg D \lor \neg B \lor C) \land (B \lor \neg A \lor \neg C) \land (\neg C \lor \neg B \lor E) \land (E \lor \neg D \lor B) \land (B \lor E \lor \neg C)$

  m = number of clauses

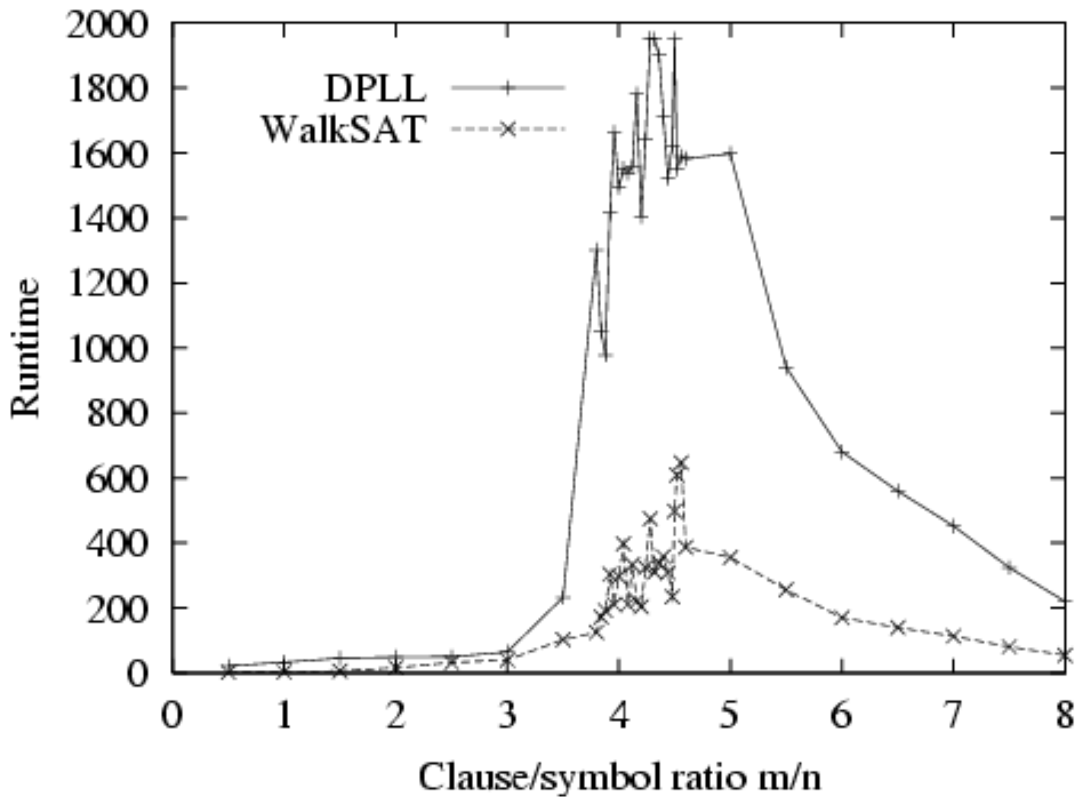
  n = number of symbols

  – 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

Pros and cons of propositional logic

- Propositional logic is **declarative**: pieces of syntax correspond to facts
- Propositional logic allows partial/disjunctive/negated information (unlike most data structures and databases)
- Propositional logic is **compositional**: meaning of $B_{1,1} \wedge P_{1,2}$ is derived from meaning of $B_{1,1}$ and of $P_{1,2}$
- Meaning in propositional logic is **context-independent** (unlike natural language, where meaning depends on context)
- Propositional logic has very limited expressive power (unlike natural language)
  E.g., cannot say "pits cause breezes in adjacent squares"
  except by writing one sentence for each square

First-order logic

Whereas propositional logic assumes world contains **facts**,
first-order logic (like natural language) assumes the world contains

- Objects: people, houses, numbers, theories, Ronald McDonald, colors, baseball games, wars, centuries . . .
- Relations: red, round, bogus, prime, multistoried . . .,
  brother of, bigger than, inside, part of, has color, occurred after, owns, comes between, . . .
- Functions: father of, best friend, third inning of, one more than, end of . . .

Syntax of FOL: Basic elements

Constants	$KingJohn,\ 2,\ UCB, \ldots$
Predicates	$Brother,\ >, \ldots$
Functions	$Sqrt,\ LeftLegOf, \ldots$
Variables	$x,\ y,\ a,\ b, \ldots$
Connectives	$\land \quad \lor \quad \neg \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Leftrightarrow$
Equality	$=$
Quantifiers	$\forall\ \exists$

Deducing hidden properties

Properties of locations:
$\forall x, t \;\; At(Agent, x, t) \land Smelt(t) \;\Rightarrow\; Smelly(x)$
$\forall x, t \;\; At(Agent, x, t) \land Breeze(t) \;\Rightarrow\; Breezy(x)$

Squares are breezy near a pit:

Diagnostic rule—infer cause from effect

$$\forall y \;\; Breezy(y) \;\Rightarrow\; \exists x \;\; Pit(x) \land Adjacent(x, y)$$

Causal rule—infer effect from cause

$$\forall x, y \;\; Pit(x) \land Adjacent(x, y) \;\Rightarrow\; Breezy(y)$$

Neither of these is complete—e.g., the causal rule doesn't say whether squares far away from pits can be breezy

Definition for the $Breezy$ predicate:

$$\forall y \;\; Breezy(y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; [\exists x \;\; Pit(x) \land Adjacent(x, y)]$$

Knowledge base for the wumpus world

"Perception"

$\forall\, b, g, t \;\; Percept([Smell, b, g], t) \;\Rightarrow\; Smelt(t)$

$\forall\, s, b, t \;\; Percept([s, b, Glitter], t) \;\Rightarrow\; AtGold(t)$

Reflex: $\forall\, t \;\; AtGold(t) \;\Rightarrow\; Action(Grab, t)$

Reflex with internal state: do we have the gold already?

$\forall\, t \;\; AtGold(t) \wedge \neg Holding(Gold, t) \;\Rightarrow\; Action(Grab, t)$

$Holding(Gold, t)$ cannot be observed

$\Rightarrow$ keeping track of change is essential

Reduction to propositional inference

Suppose the KB contains just the following:

$$\forall\, x\;\; King(x) \land Greedy(x) \;\Rightarrow\; Evil(x)$$
$$King(John)$$
$$Greedy(John)$$
$$Brother(Richard, John)$$

Instantiating the universal sentence in **all possible** ways, we have

$$King(John) \land Greedy(John) \;\Rightarrow\; Evil(John)$$
$$King(Richard) \land Greedy(Richard) \;\Rightarrow\; Evil(Richard)$$
$$King(John)$$
$$Greedy(John)$$
$$Brother(Richard, John)$$

The new KB is propositionalized: proposition symbols are

$King(John),\; Greedy(John),\; Evil(John), King(Richard)$ etc.

Reduction contd.

Claim: a ground sentence* is entailed by new KB iff entailed by original KB

Claim: every FOL KB can be propositionalized so as to preserve entailment

Idea: propositionalize KB and query, apply resolution, return result

Problem: with function symbols, there are infinitely many ground terms,
e.g., $Father(Father(Father(John)))$

Theorem: Herbrand (1930). If a sentence α is entailed by an FOL KB,
it is entailed by a **finite** subset of the propositional KB

Idea: For $n = 0$ to ∞ do
create a propositional KB by instantiating with depth-n terms
see if α is entailed by this KB

Problem: works if α is entailed, loops if α is not entailed

Theorem: Turing (1936), Church (1936), entailment in FOL is semidecidable

Problems with propositionalization

Propositionalization seems to generate lots of irrelevant sentences.
E.g., from

$$\forall x \;\; King(x) \land Greedy(x) \;\Rightarrow\; Evil(x)$$
$$King(John)$$
$$\forall y \;\; Greedy(y)$$
$$Brother(Richard, John)$$

it seems obvious that $Evil(John)$, but propositionalization produces lots of facts such as $Greedy(Richard)$ that are irrelevant

With p k-ary predicates and n constants, there are $p \cdot n^k$ instantiations

With function symbols, it gets nuch much worse!

Resolution: brief summary

Full first-order version:

$$\frac{\ell_1 \vee \cdots \vee \ell_k, \qquad m_1 \vee \cdots \vee m_n}{(\ell_1 \vee \cdots \vee \ell_{i-1} \vee \ell_{i+1} \vee \cdots \vee \ell_k \vee m_1 \vee \cdots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \cdots \vee m_n)\theta}$$

where $\textsc{Unify}(\ell_i, \neg m_j) = \theta$.

For example,

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l}\neg Rich(x) \vee Unhappy(x) \\ Rich(Ken)\end{array}}{Unhappy(Ken)}$$

with $\theta = \{x/Ken\}$

Apply resolution steps to $CNF(KB \wedge \neg\alpha)$; complete for FOL

Conversion to CNF

Everyone who loves all animals is loved by someone:

$$\forall\, x\ \ [\forall\, y\ \ Animal(y)\ \Rightarrow\ Loves(x,y)]\ \Rightarrow\ [\exists\, y\ \ Loves(y,x)]$$

1. Eliminate biconditionals and implications

$$\forall\, x\ \ [\neg\forall\, y\ \ \neg Animal(y) \lor Loves(x,y)] \lor [\exists\, y\ \ Loves(y,x)]$$

2. Move $\neg$ inwards: $\neg\forall\, x, p\ \ \equiv \exists\, x\ \ \neg p$, $\neg\exists\, x, p\ \ \equiv \forall\, x\ \ \neg p$:

$$\forall\, x\ \ [\exists\, y\ \ \neg(\neg Animal(y) \lor Loves(x,y))] \lor [\exists\, y\ \ Loves(y,x)]$$
$$\forall\, x\ \ [\exists\, y\ \ \neg\neg Animal(y) \land \neg Loves(x,y)] \lor [\exists\, y\ \ Loves(y,x)]$$
$$\forall\, x\ \ [\exists\, y\ \ Animal(y) \land \neg Loves(x,y)] \lor [\exists\, y\ \ Loves(y,x)]$$

Conversion to CNF contd.

3. Standardize variables: each quantifier should use a different one

   $\forall\, x\ \ [\exists\, y\ \ Animal(y) \land \neg Loves(x, y)] \lor [\exists\, z\ \ Loves(z, x)]$

4. Skolemize: a more general form of existential instantiation.
   Each existential variable is replaced by a Skolem function
   of the enclosing universally quantified variables:

   $\forall\, x\ \ [Animal(F(x)) \land \neg Loves(x, F(x))] \lor Loves(G(x), x)$

5. Drop universal quantifiers:

   $[Animal(F(x)) \land \neg Loves(x, F(x))] \lor Loves(G(x), x)$

6. Distribute $\land$ over $\lor$:

   $[Animal(F(x)) \lor Loves(G(x), x)] \land [\neg Loves(x, F(x)) \lor Loves(G(x), x)]$