

AUTOMATED REASONING

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1 KR AND COMPLEXITY

- Languages
- Consistency Problem
 - Programmi Definiti
 - General Programs
 - Disjunctive programs without `not`
 - Programmi disgiuntivi generali
- Decision Problem
 - Programmi Definiti
 - Programmi Generali
 - Programmi disgiuntivi senza `not`
 - Programmi disgiuntivi generali

A **definite program** is a set of rules:

$$A \leftarrow B_1, \dots, B_m$$

where A, B_i are (positive) atoms.

If P is definite, it has a unique **stable model**, which is its minimum (w.r.t. \subseteq) Herbrand model.

A **general program** is a set of rules:

$$A \leftarrow B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{not } C_1, \dots, \text{not } C_n$$

where A, B_i, C_j are atoms.

Stable models are looked for in the Herbrand models that are minimal (w.r.t. \subseteq)

Let us recall that S is a stable model of P if and only if it is the minimum Herbrand model of P^S (**reduct of P w.r.t. S**). P^S is obtained:

- 1 removing any rule whose body contains a naf-literal $\text{not } L$ s.t. $L \in S$;
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Disjunctive programs without `not` are conjunctions of rules:

$$A_1 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } A_m \leftarrow B_1, \dots, B_n$$

where A_i, B_j are (positive) atoms.

If $m = 0$ the rule is interpreted as a **constraint**.

If P is a Disjunctive programs without `not`, its stable models are **all** its minimal (w.r.t. \subseteq) Herbrand models
(of course, `or` is interpreted as \vee , while `,` is interpreted as \wedge).

LANGUAGES

DISJUNCTIVE PROGRAMS WITHOUT not

```
living(X) or dead(X) :- man(X).  
man(lazarus).
```

Its Herbrand models are:

1. {man(lazarus), living(lazarus)}
2. {man(lazarus), dead(lazarus)}
3. {man(lazarus), dead(lazarus), living(lazarus)}.

The latter is not minimal.

The general program:

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dead(X) :- man(X), not living(X).  
man(lazarus).
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is “logically” equivalent, but its unique stable model is only the second one (we have no justification for stating that lazarus is living).


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DISJUNCTIVE PROGRAMS WITHOUT not

a or b.

b or c :- a.

Choose a in the first rule. Then b or c can be chosen from the second rule. It seems that $\{a, b\}$ and $\{a, c\}$ are stable models.

Choose b in the first rule, the second rule is true since the body is false, thus $\{b\}$ seems a minimal model, hence stable.

Therefore $\{a, b\}$ is not stable!

Similarly, $\{b, c\}$ is not stable (not minimal).

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`b or c :- a.`

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Consider a graph G

```
node(a) . node(b) . node(c) . . . . .
```

```
edge(a,b) . edge(a,c) . . . . .
```

and a set of (three) colors RGB

```
color(red) . color(green) . color(blue) .
```

Let us model the 3-coloring problem as follows:

```
colored(X,red) or colored(X,green) or colored(X,blue) :- node(X) .  
:- color(C), edge(A,B), colored(A,C), colored(B,C) .
```

Its stable models (if any) are the solutions to the 3-coloring problem.
(So What?)

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General disjunctive programs are sets of rules:

$$A_1 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } A_m \leftarrow B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{ not } C_1, \dots, \text{ not } C_n$$

where A_i, B_j, C_k are atoms.

If P is a general disjunctive program, its **stable models** should be looked for in the minimal (w.r.t. \subseteq) Herbrand models.

S is a stable model of P if and only if S is a minimal model of P^S
reduct of P w.r.t. S , defined as follows:

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$C = \{c_1, \dots, c_m\}$ ($m \geq 1$) is a set of companies; each company produces some goods in a set G , and each company $c_i \in C$ is possibly controlled by a set of owner companies $O_i \subseteq C$.

A set $S \subseteq C$ is a **strategic set** iff it is a minimal set satisfying:

- companies in S produce all goods in G
- If $O_i \subseteq S$ then $c_i \in S$

In the instances proposed in the ASP competition, moreover, each product is produced by at most four companies and each company is controlled by at most four companies. Even with these restriction the problem is **NP^{NP} complete**.

Instances:

- `producedBy(p, c1, c2, c3, c4)` if product p is produced by companies c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 . Repetitions are used if less than 4 companies produce p .
- `controlledBy(c, c1, c2, c3, c4)` if a company c is controlled by companies c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 . Repetitions are used if less than 4 companies control c .
- A fact `strategic_pair(ci, cj)` forces to look for a a strategic S such that $\{c_i, c_j\} \subseteq S$.

```

strategic(W) :-    controlled_by(W, X1, X2, X3, X4),
                  strategic(X1), strategic(X2), strategic(X3), strategic(X4).
:- strategic_pair(X, Y), not strategic(X).
:- strategic_pair(X, Y), not strategic(Y).
% DISJUNCTIVE RULE:
strategic(X1) or strategic(X2) or strategic(X3) or strategic(X4) :-
    produced_by(X, X1, X2, X3, X4) .
    
```

Given a ground program P establish whether there is (or not) a stable model for P .

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

DEFINITE PROGRAMS

- We have seen that a definite program P admits always a unique minimum Herbrand model M_P
- M_P is also its stable model.
- Thus the answer is simply **yes**.
- Trivial problem (computing M_P is another problem).

BACKGROUND

THE CLASS **NP**

A problem/language L belongs to the class **NP** if, for each $x \in L$, there exists a succinct **certificate (guess)** c for x that allows us to prove that $x \in L$ (**verify**) in polynomial time.

Finding the certificate is typically the hard task. For NP complete problems (currently) we need to visit a search space of exponential size w.r.t. $|x|$.

A problem L in **NP** is **NP**-complete if any problem in **NP** can be **reduced** to L . SAT is **NP**-complete. The certificate c for x is the Boolean assignment for the variables.

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CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

GENERAL PROGRAMS

THEOREM

*The problem of establishing whether a general ground program admits a stable model is **NP**-complete.*

NP Let P ground program, a candidate stable model S will contain only atoms occurring in P , thus $|S| \leq |P|$. Computing P^S , the fixpoint computation of M_{PS} , and checking if $S = M_{PS}$ therefore polynomial w.r.t. $|P|$. Thus the problem is in NP.

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

GENERAL PROGRAMS

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Hardness Let us consider an instance φ of 3SAT:

$$\underbrace{(A \vee \neg B \vee C)}_{c1} \wedge \underbrace{(\neg A \vee B \vee \neg C)}_{c2}$$

and define accordingly the program P_φ :

```
a :- not na.   na :- not a.  
b :- not nb.   nb :- not b.  
c :- not nc.   nc :- not c.  
c1 :- a.   c1 :- nb.   c1 :- c.  
c2 :- na.   c2 :- b.   c2 :- nc.  
:- not c1.   :- not c2.
```

P_φ can be computed in LOGSPACE and it is immediate to check that it admits a stable model iff φ is satisfiable.

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

DISJUNCTIVE PROGRAMS WITHOUT `not`

THEOREM

*The problem of establishing whether a disjunctive programs without `not` P admits a stable model is **NP**-complete.*

NP. Given P ground, a candidate stable model S will contain only atoms occurring in P . Thus, $|S| \leq |P|$.

Checking whether S is or not a model of P can be made in polynomial time on P . S could be not minimal. However, if this is the case, another minimal model would exist. Thus, checking S can be made in polynomial time (hence the problem is in **NP**).

Let us observe that in absence of constraints B_P is always a model and therefore a minimal model would exist always.

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

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Let us define the program P :

`a or c :- b. b :- a, c. :- a, b.`

It is immediate to see that P has a model (and, therefore it has a minimal model) iff φ is satisfiable.

BACKGROUND

THE POLYNOMIAL HIERARCHY

The polynomial hierarchy (for complexity) is defined in a similar way as Kleene defined the arithmetical hierarchy (for computability).

$$\Sigma_0^P = \Pi_0^P = P$$
$$\Sigma_{k+1}^P = \mathbf{NP}^{\Sigma_k^P}, \Pi_{k+1}^P = \text{co-}\Sigma_{k+1}^P$$

A problem/language L belongs to \mathbf{NP}^C if there is an algorithm such that for all x , it allows to prove that $x \in L$ (**verify**) in a polynomial number of steps. At every step the algorithm can require the help of a **oracle** that answers **in constant time** a membership check in the class C .

A problem/language L belongs to $\text{co-}\mathbf{NP}^C$ if there is an algorithm capable of verifying the **non** membership to L with the same rules above.

BACKGROUND

THE POLYNOMIAL HIERARCHY

- $B[\vec{v}]$ denotes a Boolean formula (without quantifiers) on the variables $\vec{v} = v_1, \dots, v_k$
- $\Sigma_1^P = \mathbf{NP}^P = \mathbf{NP}$. Typical problem: SAT, namely establishing whether

$$\exists x_1 \cdots \exists x_n B[\vec{x}]$$

- $\Pi_1^P = \text{co-}\mathbf{NP}^P = \text{co-}\mathbf{NP}$. Typical problem: VALIDITY, namely establishing whether

$$\forall x_1 \cdots \forall x_n B[\vec{x}]$$

- $\Sigma_2^P = \mathbf{NP}^{\mathbf{NP}}$. Typical problem: establishing whether

$$\exists x_1 \cdots \exists x_n \forall y_1 \cdots \forall y_m B[\vec{x}, \vec{y}]$$

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$$\forall x_1 \cdots \forall x_n \exists y_1 \cdots \exists y_m B[\vec{x}, \vec{y}]$$

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

GENERAL DISJUNCTIVE PROGRAMS

THEOREM

The problem of establishing whether a general disjunctive program admits a stable model is Σ_2^P -complete.

We first show that the problem **belongs** to Σ_2^P .

Given a candidate stable model S we should be able to check it in a polynomial number of steps possibly querying an oracle in **NP**.

The reduct P^S is obtained in polynomial time and it is a disjunctive program without `not`.

Now we need to check if S is a model of P^S (again, polynomial). It remains to check if it is minimal, namely that does not exist $S' \subset S$ that is a model of P^S .

Stating whether such a S' exists is NP (if you have it, you can verify it easily), thus, if the oracle answers no, we have checked that S is a stable model with a polynomial number of steps.

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

GENERAL DISJUNCTIVE PROGRAMS

THEOREM

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For the Σ_2^P **hardness**, we reduce the problem of validity of

$$\varphi \equiv \exists x_1 \cdots \exists x_n \forall y_1 \cdots \forall y_m B[\vec{x}, \vec{y}]$$

to the problem of existence of a stable model for a program obtained from φ .

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

GENERAL DISJUNCTIVE PROGRAMS: Σ_2^P HARDNESS

To fix the ideas, let us consider φ :

$$\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3 \forall y_1 \forall y_2 ((x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge y_1) \vee (\neg x_1 \wedge x_3 \wedge \neg y_1 \wedge y_2))$$

Let us introduce variables $x'_1, x'_2, x'_3, y'_1, y'_2, w$ and let us define $P(\varphi)$:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 \vee x'_1 &\leftarrow & x_2 \vee x'_2 &\leftarrow & x_3 \vee x'_3 &\leftarrow \\y_1 \vee y'_1 &\leftarrow & y_2 \vee y'_2 &\leftarrow & & \\y_1 &\leftarrow w. & y_2 &\leftarrow w. & y'_1 &\leftarrow w. & y'_2 &\leftarrow w. \\w &\leftarrow x_1, x'_2, y_1. \\w &\leftarrow x'_1, x_3, y'_1, y_2. \\w &\leftarrow \text{not } w.\end{aligned}$$

x'_i stands for $\neg x_i$.

y'_i stands intuitively for $\neg y_i$; in this case w can force both of them to be true.

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DISGIUNTIVI GENERALI: Σ_2^P HARDNESS

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Assume S is a stable model of $P(\varphi)$. The last rule ensures that w cannot be false. Thus, w must be supported by one of the rules (D_1) , (D_2) (think to $P(\varphi)^S$) and therefore all y_i and y'_i are true in S for $i = 1$ and $i = 2$.

Consider now an interpretation (set of atoms) I that coincides with S on x_j, x'_j and such that, for every i choose one and only one in y_i and y'_i and that does not contain w (there are 4 of them in this example).

I is not a model of $P(\varphi)^S$, otherwise, since $S \supset I$, S would not be stable contradicting the hypothesis.

For being not a model (by case analysis) I makes true (at least) one of the bodies of (D_1) and (D_2) .

Therefore, we have proved that there are x_1, x_2, x_3 such that any value assigned to \bar{y} makes true the Boolean disjunction of φ . Thus φ is valid.

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Consider now an interpretation (set of atoms) I that coincides with S on x_j, x'_j and such that, for every i choose one and only one in y_i and y'_i and that does not contain w (there are 4 of them in this example).

I is not a model of $P(\varphi)^S$, otherwise, since $S \supset I$, S would not be stable contradicting the hypothesis.

For being not a model (by case analysis) I makes true (at least) one of the bodies of (D_1) and (D_2) .

Therefore, we have proved that there are x_1, x_2, x_3 such that any value assigned to \bar{y} makes true the Boolean disjunction of φ . Thus φ is valid.

CONSISTENCY PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DISGIUNTIVI GENERALI: Σ_2^P HARDNESS

$$\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3 \forall y_1 \forall y_2 ((x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge y_1) \vee (\neg x_1 \wedge x_3 \wedge \neg y_1 \wedge y_2))$$

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Conversely, if φ is valid, given an assignment for \vec{x} it is immediate to find a stable model (complete the details looking at the previous slide).

CONCLUSIONS

- We have seen 4 families of logic programs for KR
- Each of them allows different expressivity and allows to deal with problems at different complexity
- All these languages are correctly interpreted by modern ASP solvers (DLV and clingo)
- Other families of logics have been used in AI. E.g., modal/temporal logics (subject of the course on verification) and description logics (foundation of Semantic Web).
- For the sake of completeness in the slides you can find the results of the four languages seen today on a different problem: the *Decision Problem*. [Remaining slides are in Italian but you can find the material in Eiter and Gottlob. On the Computational Cost of Disjunctive Logic Programming: Propositional Case. *Annals of Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence*, 15(3/4):289-323, 1995]

DECISION PROBLEM

Dato un programma ground P , e un letterale L , il problema è quello di stabilire se $P \models_{sm} L$, ovvero che L è vero in *ogni* modello stabile di P .

(Se $L = A$ allora L è vero in S sse $A \in S$. Se $L = \neg A$ allora L è vero in S sse $A \notin S$)

Se P è inconsistent (o incoerente), allora $P \models_{sm} L$ per ogni letterale L (e per ogni altra formula)

DECISION PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DEFINITI

Dato un programma definito ground P , e un atomo A , stabilire se $P \models_{sm} A$ equivale a dire se $A \in M_P$

Usando la T_P questo si verifica in **tempo polinomiale**.

In più, sappiamo che $A \in M_P$ sse $P \cup \{\neg A\}$ è insoddisfacibile. Ma la verifica di soddisfacibilità di una teoria di clausole di Horn (HORNSAT) è un problema lineare [Dowling and Gallier, JLP 1:267–284, 1984—riduzione ad un problema di cammini su grafo.]

Il problema $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ si riduce in questo caso a $A \notin M_P$: stesse considerazioni di sopra.

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Il problema $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ si riduce in questo caso a $A \notin M_P$: stesse considerazioni di sopra.

THEOREM

*Dato un programma generale ground P , e un atomo A , stabilire se $P \models_{sm} A$ è **co-NP** completo.*

co-NP Ragioniamo su $P \not\models_{sm} A$. Ciò accade quando esiste un modello stabile S di P tale che $A \notin S$.

Dato S (guess) verificare che S è modello stabile di P e $A \notin S$ è polinomiale in P (ed in S , ma S contiene un sottoinsieme degli atomi presenti in P).

Dunque stabilire se $P \not\models_{sm} A$ è **NP** e pertanto $P \models_{sm} A$ è **co-NP**.

DECISION PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI GENERALI

THEOREM

*Dato un programma generale ground P , e un atomo A , stabilire se $P \models_{sm} A$ è co-**NP** completo.*

Mostriamo che stabilire se $P \not\models_{sm} A$ è **NP hard**.

Uso la riduzione da SAT usata per la **NP**-completezza dell'esistenza del modello stabile.

Aggiungiamo: `nonphi :- not phi.`

Se P ha modelli stabili, in nessuno ci può essere `nonphi`:

$P \not\models_{sm} \text{nonphi}.$

Se P non ha modelli stabili, allora tutti contengono `nonphi`

(banalmente): $P \models_{sm} \text{nonphi}.$

Dunque, per la riduzione già studiata, φ è soddisfacibile sse

$P \not\models_{sm} \text{nonphi}.$

THEOREM

*Dato un programma generale ground P , e un letterale negativo $\neg A$, stabilire se $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ è co-**NP** completo.*

Appartenenza: per dire che $P \not\models_{sm} \neg A$ dobbiamo mostrare che esiste un modello stabile S tale che $A \in S$. Dato S questa verifica si fa in tempo polinomiale.

Completezza: si pensi alla riduzione di prima. Aggiungiamo p . Se ci sono modelli stabili, questi contengono p . Dunque φ soddisfacibile implica esistenza di modelli stabili, perciò $P \not\models_{sm} \neg p$. φ insoddisfacibile implica assenza di modelli stabili, perciò da P si deduce banalmente tutto, in particolare: $P \models_{sm} \neg p$.

THEOREM

*Dato un programma generale ground P , e un letterale negativo $\neg A$, stabilire se $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ è co-**NP** completo.*

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DECISION PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DISGIUNTIVI SENZA `not`

THEOREM

Sia P programma disgiuntivo senza `not` e A atomo.

- 1 Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} A$ è co-NP completo.
- 2 Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ è Π_2^P completo.

Si noti l'asimmetria rispetto ai programmi generali.

Per mostrare che $P \not\models_{sm} A$ verifico che un certificato S sia modello di P tale che $A \notin S$. S potrebbe non essere minimale, ma se $A \notin S$ allora A non apparterrà nemmeno al minimale.

DECISION PROBLEM

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Sia P programma disgiuntivo senza `not` e A atomo.

- 1 Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} A$ è co-NP completo.
- 2 Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ è Π_2^P completo.

Mostrare che $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ è più complicato. Ragioniamo al solito su $P \not\models_{sm} \neg A$. Significa che devo verificare se un certificato S è modello stabile di P e contiene A . Che sia modello e che $A \in S$ si verifica in tempo polinomiale. Il problema è che S potrebbe non essere minimale e dunque esistere $S' \subseteq S \setminus \{A\}$ modello (non necessariamente stabile, ma in caso ce n'è uno stabile incluso in lui e che dunque non contiene A). Verificare che esista un tale S' è proprietà **NP**.

Dunque, per mostrare che $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ (proprietà co-), analizzo un certificato (proprietà **NP**). Per dire che il certificato va bene uso un oracolo in co-**NP** (che è lo stesso di un oracolo in **NP**).

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Sia P programma disgiuntivo senza `not` e A atomo.

- 1 Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} A$ è co-NP completo.
- 2 Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} \neg A$ è Π_2^P completo.

Sorvolo la completezza (Si basa sulle stesse riduzioni viste prima).

DECISION PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DISGIUNTIVI GENERALI

THEOREM

Sia P programma disgiuntivo generale e L letterale. Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} L$ è Π_2^P completo.

Ragioniamo prima con $L = A$ positivo e concentriamoci su: $P \not\models_{sm} A$. Significa che deve esistere S è modello stabile di P e non contiene A . Dato S (guess), verifico che $A \notin S$ e dunque calcolo P^S in tempo polinomiale. Verifico che S sia modello di P^S in tempo polinomiale. Ma S deve essere minimale e dunque non deve esistere $S' \subset S$ modello di P^S . Dire se esiste $S' \subseteq S$ è proprietà **NP** e dunque ci serve un oracolo in co-**NP** (dunque in **NP**).

Si noti che non basta, in questo caso, dire che S è modello di P^S allora ce n'è uno stabile incluso in lui che non contiene A ! E' proprio la stabilità di S che va mostrata. D'altro canto un $S' \subset S$ potrebbe non essere modello di $P^{S'}$.

DECISION PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DISGIUNTIVI GENERALI

THEOREM

Sia P programma disgiuntivo generale e L letterale. Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} L$ è Π_2^P completo.

Con $L = \neg A$ il ragionamento è (in questo caso) analogo, ovvero, dato S che contiene A , devo dimostrare che non esiste $S' \subseteq S$ modello di P^S .

DECISION PROBLEM

PROGRAMMI DISGIUNTIVI GENERALI

THEOREM

Sia P programma disgiuntivo generale e L letterale. Stabilire se $P \models_{sm} L$ è Π_2^P completo.

La completezza deriva aggiungendo $p.$ al programma usato per il teorema analogo per i programmi senza `not`.