## Answer Set Programming

- Introduction
- Normal Logic Programs
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## 2 Extensions

- Strong Negation
- Choice Rules
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#### Generalisation

Extend the language of Logic Programs to allow classical negation  $\neg$  (for atoms only!), besides default negation *not* (or  $\sim$ ).

#### Definition (Language)

Given an alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  of atoms, let  $\overline{\mathcal{A}} = \{\neg A \mid A \in \mathcal{A}\}.$ 

- We assume  $\mathcal{A} \cap \overline{\mathcal{A}} = \emptyset$ .
- The atoms A and  $\neg A$  are complementary.
  - $\neg A$  is the classical negation of A, and vice versa.

#### Definition (Consistency)

A set X of atoms (over  $A \cup \overline{A}$ ) is consistent if  $X \cap \{A \mid \neg A \in X\} = \emptyset$ , and inconsistent, otherwise.

#### Definition (Answer Set)

A set X of atoms is an answer set of a logic program  $\Pi$  over  $\mathcal{A} \cup \overline{\mathcal{A}}$  if X is an answer set of  $\Pi \cup \{B \leftarrow A, \neg A \mid A \in A, B \in (A \cup \overline{A})\}$ 

#### Proposition

For a logic program  $\Pi$  over  $\mathcal{A} \cup \overline{\mathcal{A}}$ , exactly one of the following two cases applies:

**2**  $X = \mathcal{A} \cup \overline{\mathcal{A}}$  is the only answer set of  $\Pi$ .

#### Example

- $\Pi_1 = \{ cross \leftarrow not train \}$ 
  - Answer set: { cross}
- $\Pi_2 = \{ cross \leftarrow \neg train \}$ 
  - Answer set: Ø

• 
$$\Pi_3 = \{ cross \leftarrow \neg train, \ \neg train \leftarrow \}$$

- Answer set: {*cross*, ¬*train*}
- $\Pi_4 = \{ cross \leftarrow \neg train, \ \neg train \leftarrow, \ \neg cross \leftarrow \}$ 
  - Answer set: {*cross*, ¬*cross*, *train*, ¬*train*}
- $\Pi_5 = \{ cross \leftarrow \neg train, \neg train \leftarrow not train, \neg cross \leftarrow \}$ 
  - No answer set

#### Definition ((Possibly inconsistent) answer sets)

For determining the (possibly inconsistent) answer sets of a logic program  $\Pi$  over  $\mathcal{A} \cup \overline{\mathcal{A}}$  in the standard way, translate  $\Pi$  into  $\Pi'$  as follows:

$$\Pi' = \Pi \cup \{ B \leftarrow A, \neg A \ \neg B \leftarrow A, \neg A \mid A \in \mathcal{A}, B \in \mathcal{A}, A \neq B \}$$

#### Definition (Consistent answer sets)

In order to determine the answer sets of a logic program  $\Pi$  over  $\mathcal{A} \cup \overline{\mathcal{A}}$  in the standard way, translate  $\Pi$  (or  $\mathcal{F}$ ) into  $\Pi''$  (or  $\mathcal{F}''$ ) as follows:

$$\Pi'' = \Pi \cup \{\leftarrow A, \neg A \mid A \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

#### Example

•  $\Pi = \{p \text{ ; not } p \leftarrow \top, \neg p \text{ ; not } q \leftarrow \top, q \text{ ; not } q \leftarrow \top \}$   $\Pi' = \Pi \cup \{A \leftarrow (B, \neg B), \neg A \leftarrow (B, \neg B) \mid A, B \in \{p, q\}\}$ Answer sets:  $\emptyset$ ,  $\{p\}$ ,  $\{\neg p, q\}$ , and  $\{p, \neg p, q, \neg q\}$ 

- The expressiveness of a language can be enhanced by introducing new constructs.
- To this end, we must address the following issues:
  - What is the syntax of the new language construct?
  - What is the semantics of the new language construct?
  - How to implement the new language construct?
- A way of providing semantics is to furnish a translation removing the new constructs, e.g., classical negation.
- This translation might also be used for implementing the language extension. When is this feasible?

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## **Choice Rules**

#### ldea

Choices over subsets.

#### Syntax

$$\{A_1,\ldots,A_m\} \leftarrow A_{m+1},\ldots,A_n, not A_{n+1},\ldots, not A_o,$$

#### Informal meaning

If the body is satisfied in an answer set, then any subset of  $\{A_1, \ldots, A_m\}$  can be included in the answer set.

#### Example

The program  $\Pi = \{ \{a\} \leftarrow b, b \leftarrow \}$  has two answer sets:  $\{b\}$  and  $\{a, b\}$ .

#### Implementation

lparse/gringo/i-dlv + smodels/cmodels/nomore/clasp/wasp

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#### Definition (Embedding of Choice Rules in normal logic programs)

A choice rule of form

$$\{A_1,\ldots,A_m\} \leftarrow A_{m+1},\ldots,A_n, not A_{n+1},\ldots, not A_o$$

can be translated into 2m + 1 rules

$$A \leftarrow A_{m+1}, \dots, A_n, \text{ not } A_{n+1}, \dots, \text{ not } A_o.$$
  

$$A_1 \leftarrow A, \text{ not } \overline{A_1}. \qquad \dots \qquad A_m \leftarrow A, \text{ not } \overline{A_m}.$$
  

$$\overline{A_1} \leftarrow \text{ not } A_1. \qquad \dots \qquad \overline{A_m} \leftarrow \text{ not } A_m$$

by introducing new atoms  $A, \overline{A_1}, \ldots, \overline{A_m}$ .

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## Cardinality constraints

#### Syntax

A (positive) cardinality constraint is of the form  $I \{A_1, \ldots, A_m\} u$ 

#### Informal meaning

A cardinality constraint is satisfied in an answer set X, if the number of atoms from  $\{A_1, \ldots, A_m\}$  satisfied in X is between I and u (inclusive). More formally, if  $I \leq |\{A_1, \ldots, A_m\} \cap X| \leq u$ .

#### Conditions

 $I \{A_1 : B_1, \ldots, A_m : B_m\}$  *u* where  $B_1, \ldots, B_m$  are used for restricting instantiations of variables occurring in  $A_1, \ldots, A_m$ .

#### Example

2 {hd(a),...,hd(m)} 4

#### Implementation

lparse/gringo/i-dlv + smodels/cmodels/nomore/clasp/wasp

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Answer Set Programming

#### Example (*n*-colorability (with n = 3))

C(I)	vertex(1) $\leftarrow$ edge(1,2) $\leftarrow$
	vertex(2) $\leftarrow$ edge(2,3) $\leftarrow$
	vertex(3) $\leftarrow$ edge(3,1) $\leftarrow$
C(P)	$color(r) \leftarrow color(b) \leftarrow color(g) \leftarrow$
	1 {colored(V,C) : color(C)} 1 $\leftarrow$ vertex(V)
	$\leftarrow  edge(V,U),color(C),$
	colored(V,C),colored(U,C)
Answer set	$\{ colored(1,r), colored(2,b), colored(3,g), \}$

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## Cardinality rules

#### ldea

Control cardinality of subsets.

#### Syntax

$$A_0 \leftarrow I \{A_1, \ldots, A_m, not \ A_{m+1}, \ldots, not \ A_n\}$$

#### Informal meaning

If at least *I* elements of the "body" are true in an answer set, then add  $A_0$  to the answer set. *I* is a lower bound on the "body"

#### Example

The program 
$$\Pi = \{ a \leftarrow 1\{b, c\}, b \leftarrow \}$$
 has one answer set:  $\{a, b\}$ .

#### Implementation

lparse/gringo/i-dlv + smodels/cmodels/nomore/clasp/wasp

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Answer Set Programming

## Cardinality Rules: Embedding in normal logic programs

Definition (Embedding of Cardinality Rules in normal logic programs)

Replace each cardinality rule

$$A_0 \leftarrow I \{A_1, \ldots, A_m\}$$
 by  $A_0 \leftarrow cc(1, I)$ 

where atom cc(i, j) represents the fact that at least *j* of the atoms in  $\{A_i, \ldots, A_m\}$ , that is, of the atoms that have an index equal or greater than *i*, are in a particular answer set.

The definition of cc(i, j) is given by the rules

$$egin{array}{rcl} cc(i,j+1) &\leftarrow & cc(i+1,j), A_i \ cc(i,j) &\leftarrow & cc(i+1,j) \ cc(m+1,0) &\leftarrow \end{array}$$

What about space complexity? The problem is that if the set  $\{A_1, ..., A_m\}$  is big, then for this quadratic translation the resulting set of rules is rather large, requiring O(ml) new atoms to be introduced. Moreover, the size of the translation grows towards  $O(m^2)$  with the value of *I*.

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Answer Set Programming

#### Definition (Normal Rules: Embedding in Cardinality Rules)

#### A normal rule

$$A_0 \leftarrow A_1, \ldots, A_m$$
, not  $A_{m+1}, \ldots$ , not  $A_n$ ,

can be represented by the cardinality rule

$$A_0 \leftarrow n + m \{A_1, \ldots, A_m, not A_{m+1}, \ldots, not A_n\}.$$

Definition (Embedding of Cardinality Rules with upper bounds in normal logic programs)

A rule of the form

$$A_0 \leftarrow I \{A_1, \ldots, A_m, not A_{m+1}, \ldots, not A_n\} u$$

stands for

$$\begin{array}{rcl} A_0 & \leftarrow & B, \ not \ C \\ B & \leftarrow & I \left\{ A_1, \dots, A_m, \ not \ A_{m+1}, \dots, \ not \ A_n \right\} \\ C & \leftarrow & u+1 \left\{ A_1, \dots, A_m, \ not \ A_{m+1}, \dots, \ not \ A_n \right\} \end{array}$$

Definition (Embedding of Cardinality Constraints as heads in normal logic programs)

A rule of the form

$$I \{A_1, \ldots, A_m\} \ u \leftarrow A_{m+1}, \ldots, A_n, not \ A_{n+1}, \ldots, not \ A_o,$$

stands for

$$B \leftarrow A_{m+1}, \dots, A_n, \text{ not } A_{n+1}, \dots, \text{ not } A_o$$
  
$$\{A_1, \dots, A_m\} \leftarrow B$$
  
$$C \leftarrow I \{A_1, \dots, A_m\} u$$
  
$$\leftarrow B, \text{ not } C$$

#### Definition (Embedding of Cardinality Rules in normal logic programs)

A rule of the form

$$I_0 S_0 u_0 \leftarrow I_1 S_1 u_1, \ldots, I_n S_n u_n$$

stands for  $0 \le i \le n$ 

$$egin{array}{rcl} B_i &\leftarrow & l_i \, S_i \ C_i &\leftarrow & u_i+1 \, S_i \ A &\leftarrow & B_1,\ldots,B_n, not \, C_1,\ldots, not \, C_n \ &\leftarrow & A, not \, B_0 \ &\leftarrow & A, C_0 \ S_0 \cap \mathcal{A} &\leftarrow & A \end{array}$$

where  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{A}}$  is the underlying alphabet.

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#### Syntax

$$I [A_1 = w_1, \dots, A_m = w_m, not A_{m+1} = w_{m+1}, \dots, not A_n = w_n] u$$

#### Informal meaning

A weight constraint is satisfied in an answer set X, if

$$I \leq \left(\sum_{1 \leq i \leq m, A_i \in X} w_i + \sum_{m < i \leq n, A_i \notin X} w_i\right) \leq u$$
.

Generalization of cardinality constraints.

#### Example

10 [course(1)=3,course(2)=6,...,course(10)=9] 20

#### Implementation

lparse/gringo/i-dlv + smodels/cmodels/nomore/clasp/wasp

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Answer Set Programming

#### ldea

Compute optimal answer sets by minimizing or maximizing a weighted sum of given atoms, respectively.

#### Syntax

minimize 
$$[A_1 = w_1, ..., A_m = w_m, not A_{m+1} = w_{m+1}, ..., not A_n = w_n]$$
  
maximize  $[A_1 = w_1, ..., A_m = w_m, not A_{m+1} = w_{m+1}, ..., not A_n = w_n]$ 

Several optimization statements are interpreted lexicographically.

#### Example

- maximize [course(1)=3,course(2)=6,...,course(10)=9]
- minimize [road(X,Y) : length(X,Y,L) = L]

#### Implementation

lparse/gringo/i-dlv + smodels/cmodels/nomore/clasp/wasp

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#### Syntax

$$:\sim A_1, \ldots, A_m$$
, not  $A_{m+1}, \ldots$ , not  $A_n$  [ $w : I$ ]

#### Informal meaning

- minimize the sum of weights of violated constraints in the highest level;
- Image: minimize the sum of weights of violated constraints in the next lower level;
- etc

#### Implementation

dlv (i-dlv + wasp)

## Conditional literals in gringo

- We often want to encode the contents of a (multi-)set rather than enumerating each of the elements.
- To support this, lparse and gringo allow for conditional literals.

Syntax

$$A_0: A_1: \ldots : A_m: not \ A_{m+1}: \ldots : not \ A_n$$

Informal meaning

List all ground instances of  $A_0$  such that corresponding instances of  $A_1, \ldots, A_m$ , not  $A_{m+1}, \ldots$ , not  $A_n$  are true.

Example

gringo instantiates the program:

```
p(1). p(2). p(3). q(2).
{r(X) : p(X) : not q(X)}.
to:
    p(1). p(2). p(3). q(2).
    {r(1), r(3)}.
```

- The predicates of literals on the right-hand side of a colon (:) must be defined from facts without any negative recursion.
- Such domain predicates are fully evaluated by gringo.

Example

p(1). p(2). q(X) :- p(X), not p(X+1). q(X) :- p(X), q(X+1). r(X) :- p(X), not r(X+1).

- p/1 and q/1 are domain predicates because none of them negatively depends on itself.
- r/l is not a domain predicate because it is defined in terms of not r(X+1).

See gringo documentations for further details.

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- Aggregates provide a general way to obtain a single value from a collection of input values given as a set, a bag, or a list.
- Popular aggregate (functions):
  - Average
  - Count
  - Maximum
  - Minimum
  - Sum
- Cardinality and Weight constraints rely on Count and Sum aggregates.

## Aggregates: Syntax

#### Definition (Aggregate)

An aggregate has the form:

$$\mathsf{F} \langle \mathsf{A}_1 = \mathsf{w}_1, \dots, \mathsf{A}_m = \mathsf{w}_m, \mathsf{not} \ \mathsf{A}_{m+1} = \mathsf{w}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathsf{not} \ \mathsf{A}_n = \mathsf{w}_n \rangle \prec \mathsf{k}$$

where

- F stands for a function mapping multi-sets of Z to Z ∪ {+∞, -∞},
- $\prec$  stands for a relation between  $\mathbb{Z} \cup \{+\infty, -\infty\}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,
- k is an integer,
- A<sub>i</sub> are atoms, and
- w<sub>i</sub> are integers

for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

#### Example

 $\textit{sum} \; \langle \textit{course}(1) = 3, \textit{course}(2) = 6, \dots, \textit{course}(10) = 9 \rangle \leq 60$ 

#### Definition (Semantics of Aggregates)

 A (positive) aggregate F ⟨A<sub>1</sub> = w<sub>1</sub>,..., A<sub>n</sub> = w<sub>n</sub>⟩ ≺ k can be represented by the formula:

$$\bigwedge_{I\subseteq\{1,\ldots,n\},F\langle w_i|i\in I\rangle\not\prec k} \left(\bigwedge_{i\in I} A_i \to \bigvee_{i\in \overline{I}} A_i\right)$$

where  $\overline{I} = \{1, \ldots, n\} \setminus I$  and  $\not\prec$  is the complement of  $\prec$ .

• Then,  $F \langle A_1 = w_1, \dots, A_n = w_n \rangle \prec k$  is true in X iff the above formula is true in X.

## Aggregates: An example

#### Example

• Consider 
$$sum\langle p = 1, q = 1 \rangle \neq 1$$
  
• i.e,  $A_1 = p$ ,  $A_2 = q$  and  $w_1 = 1$ ,  $w_2 = 1$   

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
I & \langle w_i \mid i \in I \rangle & sum\langle w_i \mid i \in I \rangle & sum\langle w_i \mid i \in I \rangle = 1 \\
\hline
\emptyset & \langle \rangle & 0 & false \\
\hline
\{1\} & \langle 1 \rangle & 1 & true \\
\{2\} & \langle 1 \rangle & 1 & true \\
\{1,2\} & \langle 1,1 \rangle & 2 & false
\end{array}$$

- We get  $(p 
  ightarrow q) \land (q 
  ightarrow p)$
- Analogously, we obtain  $(p \lor q) \land \neg (p \land q)$  for  $sum \langle p = 1, q = 1 \rangle = 1$ .

#### Recall

$$\bigwedge_{I\subseteq\{1,\ldots,n\},F\langle w_i|i\in I\rangle\not\prec k} \left(\bigwedge_{i\in I} A_i\to\bigvee_{i\in \bar{I}}A_i\right)$$

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## Aggregates: Monotonicity

#### Monotone aggregates

#### • For instance,

- body<sup>+</sup>(r)
- $sum\langle p=1,q=1\rangle>1~$  amounts to  $q\wedge p$
- We get a simpler characterization:  $\bigwedge_{I \subseteq \{1,...,n\}, F \langle w_i | i \in I \rangle \not\prec k} \bigvee_{i \in \overline{I}} A_i$

#### Anti-monotone aggregates

For instance,

- body<sup>-</sup>(r)
- $sum\langle p=1,q=1
  angle < 1$  amounts to  $\neg p \land \neg q$
- We get a simpler characterization:  $\bigwedge_{I \subseteq \{1,...,n\}, F \langle w_i | i \in I \rangle \neq k} \neg \bigwedge_{i \in I} A_i$

#### Non-monotone aggregates

• For instance,  $sum(p = 1, q = 1) \neq 1$  is non-monotone.

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