

Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning

Answer Set Programming

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November 28, 2012; December 5, 2012

Nonmonotonic logic programs: background



The Gelfond-Lifschitz
reduct
Logic of here-
and-there
SAT
translations
of ASP

- **Answer set semantics**: a formalization of **negation-as-failure** in logic programming (**Prolog**)
- Several formalizations: **well-founded semantics**, **perfect-model semantics**, **inflationary semantics**, ...
- Can be viewed as a simpler variant of **default logic**
- A better alternative to **propositional logic** in some applications

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Nonmonotonic logic programs I



Let A be a set of propositional atoms.

Rules:

$$c \leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_m, \text{not } d_1, \dots, \text{not } d_k$$

where $\{c, b_1, \dots, b_m, d_1, \dots, d_k\} \subseteq A$

- Meaning similar to default logic:

If

- 1 we have derived b_1, \dots, b_m and
- 2 cannot derive any of d_1, \dots, d_k ,

then derive c .

- Rules without right-hand side (**facts**): $c \leftarrow \top$
- Rules without left-hand side (**constraints**):

$$\perp \leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_m, \text{not } d_1, \dots, \text{not } d_k$$

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Nonmonotonic logic programs II



Let A be a set of propositions.

Rules:

$$c \leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_m, \text{not } d_1, \dots, \text{not } d_k$$

where $\{c, b_1, \dots, b_m, d_1, \dots, d_k\} \subseteq A$

- c is called the **head** of the rule (denoted by $\text{head}(r)$);
- b_1, \dots, b_m is called the **positive body** of the rule (denoted by $\text{body}^+(r)$);
- $\text{not } d_1, \dots, \text{not } d_k$ is called the **negative body** of the rule (denoted by $\text{body}^-(r)$);
- The **body** of the rule consists in its positive and negative part ($\text{body}(r) = \text{body}^+(r) \cup \text{body}^-(r)$).

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Example

fly \leftarrow *bird*, *not abnormal*.
abnormal \leftarrow *penguin*.
bird \leftarrow *penguin*.

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Example

$1\{sol(X, Y, A) : num(A)\}1.$
 $\leftarrow sol(X, Y, Z), sol(X, Y1, Z), Y \neq Y1.$
 $\leftarrow sol(X, Y, Z), sol(X1, Y, Z), X \neq X1.$
 $\leftarrow sol(W * 3 + W2, W1 * 3 + W3, Z),$
 $\quad sol(W * 3 + W4, W1 * 3 + W5, Z), W3 \neq W5.$
 $\leftarrow sol(W * 3 + W2, W1 * 3 + W3, Z),$
 $\quad sol(W * 3 + W4, W1 * 3 + W5, Z), W2 \neq W4.$

*

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not-free logic programs

Definition (Deductive closure)

Let Π be a logic program **without not**, $X \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$.

The **closure** $\text{dcl}(\Pi) \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$ of Π is defined by iterative application of the rules in the obvious way. X is an **answer set** of Π if $X = \text{dcl}(\Pi)$ and there is no constraint in Π violated by X .

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Example

$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \leftarrow b. \quad d \leftarrow f. \quad b. \\ d \leftarrow b. \quad c \leftarrow b, d. \quad e \leftarrow f. \end{array} \right\}$

$\Gamma_0 = \Gamma(\emptyset) = \{b\}$
 $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma(\Gamma_0) = \{b, d, a\}$
 $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma(\Gamma_1) = \{b, d, a, c\}$
 $\Gamma_3 = \Gamma(\Gamma_2) = \{b, d, a, c\} = \Gamma_2$

1 The Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct

- Language and notations
- Formal properties of answer sets
- Computation

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Definition 1: Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct



The Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct

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Definition (Reduct)

The **reduct** of a program Π with respect to a set of atoms $X \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$ is defined as:

$$\Pi^X := \{c \leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_m \mid (c \leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_m, \text{not } d_1, \dots, \text{not } d_k) \in \Pi, \{d_1, \dots, d_k\} \cap X = \emptyset\}$$

Definition (Answer set)

$X \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$ is an **answer set** of Π if X is an answer set of Π^X .

Illustration of Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct



The Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct

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Example

$$\begin{array}{ll} a \leftarrow \text{not } b. & b \leftarrow \text{not } a. \\ d \leftarrow a. & d \leftarrow b. \end{array}$$

Example

$$a \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a.$$

Example

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{woman} \leftarrow \text{not } n_woman. & n_woman \leftarrow \text{not } woman. \\ \leftarrow \text{woman}, n_woman. & \text{father} \leftarrow \text{parent}, n_woman. \\ \text{mother} \leftarrow \text{parent}, \text{woman}. & \text{parent}. \end{array}$$

We say that X satisfies a rule r iff $X \models \text{head}(r) \vee \neg \text{body}(r)$.
 $\Rightarrow X$ can satisfy all rules and not be an answer set.

Lparse and smodels



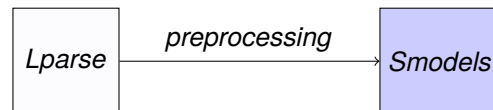
The Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct

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- Based on the Gelfond-Lifschitz reduction, Syrjanen created the ASP solver Smodels.



- Allow for using variables and cardinality statements.

Example

$$\begin{array}{ll} b :- \text{not } a. & a :- \text{not } b. \\ d :- a. & d :- b. \end{array}$$

The lparse format I



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- propositions are any combination of lowercase letters;
- variables are any combination of letters starting with an uppercase letter;
- integers can be used and so can arithmetic operations (+, −, *, /, %).
- negation as failure is denoted by not.
- implication is denoted by ":-".

The lparse format II



- The literal $l\{b_1, \dots, b_m\}u$ is true iff at least l and at most u atoms are true within the set $\{b_1, \dots, b_m\}$;
- `#domain` encodes the possible values in a given domain:
`#domain a(X). a(1..10).`
will replace occurrences of X by integers from 1 to 10.

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The lparse format III



- Domains can also be set within a cardinality rule:
`{clique(X) : num(X)}. num(1..3).`
will be understood as
`{clique(1), clique(2), clique(3)}.`
- Domains can be restricted thanks to relations. The rule
`:- size(X,Y), X<Y.`
will be instantiated only for value of X and Y s.t. $X < Y$.
- A subset of answer sets can be selected according to some optimization criteria.
`#minimize{a,b,c,d}.`
will choose the answer sets with the less number of atoms from $\{a,b,c,d\}$. Attention: Does not change the SAT/UNSAT question. You can only optimize one criterion at a time.

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The lparse format IV



Example

```
#domain a(X). a(1..2).  
c(X) :- not d(X). d(X) :- not c(X).
```

```
a(1). a(2).  
c :- not d(1). c :- not d(2).  
d :- not c(1). d :- not c(2).
```

```
1 2 1 1 3  
1 4 1 1 5  
1 3 1 1 2  
1 5 1 1 4  
1 6 0 0  
1 7 0 0  
0
```

```
2 d(1) 3 c(1) 4 d(2)  
5 c(2) 6 a(1) 7 a(2)
```

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Guess - check - optimize



How to represent a problem in ASP?

- Firstly, define what is a "solution candidate";
- Secondly, verify it fits the constraints
- Finally, keep only the best answer sets

Example

```
#domain node(X). #domain node(Y).  
node(1..5). edge(1,2). edge(3,4).  
edge(4,5). edge(4,2). edge(1,4).
```

```
uedge(X,Y) :- edge(X,Y), X < Y.  
uedge(Y,X) :- edge(X,Y), Y < X.
```

```
{ clique(X) : node(X) }.  
:- clique(X), clique(Y), not uedge(X,Y), X < Y.
```

```
#maximize { clique(X) : node(X) }.
```

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Complexity: existence of answer sets is NP-complete



- 1 **Membership in NP:** Guess $X \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$ (**nondet. polytime**), compute Π^X , compute its closure, compare to X (**everything det. polytime**).
- 2 **NP-hardness:** Reduction from 3SAT: an answer set exists iff clauses are satisfiable:

$$p \leftarrow \text{not } \hat{p}. \quad \hat{p} \leftarrow \text{not } p.$$

for every proposition p occurring in the clauses, and

$$\leftarrow \text{not } l'_1, \text{not } l'_2, \text{not } l'_3$$

for every clause $l_1 \vee l_2 \vee l_3$, where $l'_i = p$ if $l_i = p$ and $l'_i = \hat{p}$ if $l_i = \neg p$.

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Some properties I



Proposition

If an atom A belongs to an answer set of a logic program Π then A is the head of one of the rules of Π .

Proposition

Let F and G be sets of rules and let X be a set of atoms. Then the following holds:

$$(F \cup G)^X = \begin{cases} F^X \cup G^X, & \text{if } X \models F \cup G \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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Some properties II



Proposition

Let F be a set of (non-constraint) rules and G be a set of constraints. A set of atoms X is an answer set of $F \cup G$ iff it is an answer set of F which satisfies G .

Proof.

\Rightarrow X satisfies $F \cup G$. Then X satisfies the constraints in G and $(F \cup G)^X$ is $F^X \cup \perp$ which is equivalent to F^X . Consequently X is minimal among the sets satisfying F^X iff it is minimal among the sets satisfying $(F \cup G)^X$.

\Leftarrow X does not satisfy $F \cup G$. Then there exists a rule in F or a rule in G which is not satisfied, then X cannot be a model of F that satisfies G . \square

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Smodels: principles

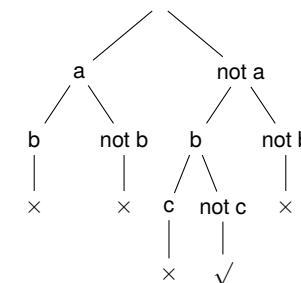


Smodels is:

- a Branch and Bound algorithm;
- based on the Gelfond-Lifschitz reduct;
- using reduct as a Forward-Checking procedure.

Example

$a :- \text{not } b.$
 $b :- \text{not } a.$
 $c :- \text{not } c, a.$



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Algorithm 1 Smodels algorithm

```

1:  $A := \text{expand}(P, A)$ 
2:  $A := \text{lookahead}(P, A)$ 
3: if  $\text{conflict}(P, A)$  then
4:   return false
5: else if  $A$  covers  $\text{Atoms}(P)$  then
6:   return  $\text{stable}(P, A)$ 
7: else
8:    $x := \text{heuristic}(P, A)$ 
9:   if  $\text{smodels}(P, A \cup \{x\})$  then
10:    return true
11:  else
12:    return  $\text{smodels}(P, A \cup \{\text{not } x\})$ 
13:  end if
14: end if

```

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Example

(1) $a \leftarrow \text{not } b, \text{not } d.$ (2) $d \leftarrow \text{not } a.$
 (3) $b \leftarrow \text{not } c.$ (4) $c \leftarrow \text{not } a.$
 (5) $e \leftarrow \text{not } f, \text{not } a.$ (6) $f \leftarrow \text{not } e.$

Case 1: $a \subseteq X$

- (4) cannot be fired,
 $\rightarrow c \not\subseteq X;$
- (3) becomes $c,$
 $\rightarrow b \subseteq X;$
- (1) cannot be fired,
 $\rightarrow a \not\subseteq X;$
- $a \not\subseteq X$ and $a \subseteq X,$
 \rightarrow contradiction.

Case 2: $a \not\subseteq X$

- (2) becomes $d,$
 $\rightarrow d \subseteq X;$
- (4) becomes $c,$
 $\rightarrow c \subseteq X;$
- (3) cannot be fired,
 $\rightarrow b \not\subseteq X;$
- (1) cannot be fired,
 $\rightarrow a \not\subseteq X;$
- Nothing new to be expanded.

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Example

(1) $a \leftarrow \text{not } b, \text{not } d.$ (2) $d \leftarrow \text{not } a.$
 (3) $b \leftarrow \text{not } c.$ (4) $c \leftarrow \text{not } a.$
 (5) $e \leftarrow \text{not } f, \text{not } a.$ (6) $f \leftarrow \text{not } e.$

Case 2.1: $e \subseteq X$

After reduction:

$e \leftarrow \text{not } f.$ $f \leftarrow \text{not } e.$

- (6) cannot be fired,
 $\rightarrow f \not\subseteq X;$
- (5) becomes $e,$
 $\rightarrow e \subseteq X;$
- X covers all atoms, there is no contradiction.
Solution: $\{c, d, e\}$ is a stable model.

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Are the two following logic programs

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1 = & \quad a \leftarrow \text{not} b. \quad b \leftarrow \text{not} a. \\ & \text{and} \\ \Pi_2 = & \quad a \leftarrow \text{not} b. \quad b \leftarrow \text{not} c, \text{not} a. \end{aligned}$$

equivalent?

They are weakly equivalent but not strongly equivalent.

Definition (Weak equivalence)

Π_1 and Π_2 are **weakly equivalent** if they have the same answer sets.

Definition (Strong equivalence)

Π_1 and Π_2 are **strongly equivalent** if for any Π , $\Pi_1 \cup \Pi$ and $\Pi_2 \cup \Pi$ have the same answer sets.

Example

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1 = & \quad a \leftarrow \text{not} b. \quad b \leftarrow \text{not} a. \\ \Pi_2 = & \quad a \leftarrow \text{not} b. \quad b \leftarrow \text{not} c, \text{not} a. \end{aligned}$$

- Do Π_1 and Π_2 have the same answer sets?
- Do $\Pi_1 \cup \{c.\}$ and $\Pi_2 \cup \{c.\}$ have the same answer sets?

One can also consider logic programs through the logic of here-and-there.

- A pair of sets of atoms (X, Y) such that $X \subseteq Y$ is called an **SE-interpretation**;
- A SE-interpretation (X, Y) is called an **SE-model** iff $Y \models \Pi$ and $X \models \Pi^Y$.

Example

$$a \leftarrow \text{not} b. \quad b \leftarrow \text{not} a. \quad c \leftarrow a.$$

Y	Π^Y	X
$\{a, c\}$	$a. \quad c \leftarrow a.$	$\{a, c\}$
$\{b\}$	$b. \quad c \leftarrow a.$	$\{b\}$
$\{b, c\}$	$b. \quad c \leftarrow a.$	$\{b\}, \{b, c\}$
$\{a, b, c\}$	$c \leftarrow a.$	$\{\emptyset\}, \{b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, b, c\}$

Proposition (Characterization of answer sets)

Y is an **answer set** of Π iff (Y, Y) is an SE-model of Π and there is no (X, Y) within the SE-models of Π such that $X \subsetneq Y$.

Example

$$a \rightarrow \text{not} b. \quad b \leftarrow \text{not} a. \quad c \leftarrow a.$$

Y	Π^Y	X
$\{a, c\}$	$a. \quad c \leftarrow a.$	$\{a, c\}$
$\{b\}$	$b. \quad c \leftarrow a.$	$\{b\}$
$\{b, c\}$	$b. \quad c \leftarrow a.$	$\{b\}, \{b, c\}$
$\{a, b, c\}$	$c \leftarrow a.$	$\{\emptyset\}, \{b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, b, c\}$

Thus, there are two answer sets here : $\{b\}$ and $\{a, c\}$

The set of SE-models of Π is denoted by $SE(\Pi)$.

Strong equivalence: properties

Proposition

The logic programs Π_1 and Π_2 are strongly equivalent iff they have the same set of SE-models.

Lemma

- 1 Programs with the same SE-models are weakly equivalent.
- 2 The SE-models of $\Pi_1 \cup \Pi_2$ are exactly the SE-models common to Π_1 and Π_2 .

Proof.

\Leftarrow Π_1 and Π_2 have the same SE-models. Consider Π . By lemma 2: $\Pi_1 \cup \Pi$ and $\Pi_2 \cup \Pi$ have the same SE-models. By lemma 1: $\Pi_1 \cup \Pi$ and $\Pi_2 \cup \Pi$ are weakly equivalent. \square

Proof.

\Rightarrow Assume $\exists (X, Y) \in SE(\Pi_1)$ and $(X, Y) \notin SE(\Pi_2)$. Two cases:

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contrary, $Y \models \Pi_1$ thus $Y \models \Pi_1 \cup Y$. Follows, $Y \models (\Pi_1 \cup Y)^Y$. No subset of Y satisfies $(\Pi_1 \cup Y)^Y$ and thus Y is a model of $\Pi_1 \cup Y$.

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3 SAT translations of ASP

- Positive-order consistent logic programs
- Clark's completion
- CLASP solver

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Dependency graph

Definition (Dependency graph)

The **dependency graph** of a program Π is the directed graph G such that the vertexes of G are the atoms in Π , and G has an edge from a_0 to a_1, \dots, a_m for each rule of the form $a_0 \leftarrow a_1, \dots, a_m, \text{not } a_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not } a_n$ in Π with $a_0 \neq \perp$.

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not } c. \\ c \leftarrow d. \quad d \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not } a. \end{array} \right\}$$



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Clark's completion

- For each $p \in \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$, let $p \leftarrow B_1, \dots, p \leftarrow B_n$ be all the rules about $p \in \Pi$, then $p \equiv B_1 \vee \dots \vee B_n$ is in $\text{Comp}(\Pi)$. In particular, if $n = 0$ then the equivalence is $p \equiv \perp$, which is equivalent to $\neg p$.
- If $\leftarrow B$ is a constraint in Π , then $\neg B$ is in $\text{Comp}(\Pi)$.

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not } c. \\ c \leftarrow d. \quad d \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not } a. \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{Comp}(\Pi) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \equiv \neg c \vee b \quad b \equiv a \\ c \equiv \neg a \vee d \quad d \equiv c \end{array} \right\}$$

$\text{Comp}(\Pi)$ has 3 models: $\{a, b\}$, $\{c, d\}$ and $\{a, b, c, d\}$.

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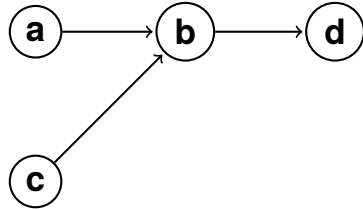
Tight programs

Definition (Tight program)

A logic program Π is said to be **tight** (or positive-order consistent) if its dependency graph is cycle-free.

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not}c. \\ d \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not}a. \end{array} \right\}$$



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Tightness and Clark's completion

Proposition

If Π is a positive-order consistent logic program, then X is an answer set of Π if and only if X is a model of $\text{Comp}(\Pi)$.

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not}c. \\ c \leftarrow d. \quad d \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not}a. \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{Comp}(\Pi) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \equiv \neg c \vee b \quad b \equiv a \\ c \equiv \neg a \vee d \quad d \equiv c \end{array} \right\}$$

$\text{Comp}(\Pi)$ has 3 models: $\{a, b\}$, $\{c, d\}$ and $\{a, b, c, d\}$.

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Tightness and Clark's completion (proof)

Definition (Well-supported model)

M is a **well-supported model** of Π if there exists a grounding sequence for M , i.e., there exists an order $<$ between rules such that for every rule $r \in \Pi$ with $a = \text{head}(r)$ and $M \models \text{body}(r)$, then $\forall b \in \text{body}^+(r), b < a$.

Theorem

If Π is a tight logic program then the model of $\text{Comp}(\Pi)$ are exactly the answer sets of Π .

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Tightness and Clark's completion (proof)

Proof.

\Rightarrow If X is an answer set of Π , then it is a well-supported model of Π , then it is a minimal Herbrand model of Π , then it is a model of $\text{Comp}(\Pi)$.

\Leftarrow Assume that M is model of $\text{Comp}(\Pi)$ but not a well-supported model of Π . $\exists x \in M$ that cannot be finitely justified. M being a supported model of (Π) , then $\exists r \in \Pi$ with $x = \text{head}(r)$ and $M \models \text{body}(r)$. Thus, there exists $y \in M$ which is upper in the dependency graph that cannot be justified and thus, there exists a $z \in M$ such that, etc... There is an infinite chain in the dependency graph which is contradictory with the tightness hypothesis. \square

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Definition (Loop)

A **loop** of Π is a set L of atoms such that for each pair A, A' of atoms in L there is a path from A to A' in the dependency graph of Π whose intermediate nodes belong to L .

$$\begin{aligned} R^+(L, \Pi) &= \{p \leftarrow G \mid (p \leftarrow G) \in \Pi, p \in L, (\exists q) \text{ s.t. } q \in G \wedge q \in L\} \\ R^-(L, \Pi) &= \{p \leftarrow G \mid (p \leftarrow G) \in \Pi, p \in L, \neg(\exists q) \text{ s.t. } q \in G \wedge q \in L\} \end{aligned}$$

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} a & \leftarrow & b. & b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not}c. \\ c & \leftarrow & d. & d \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not}a. \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R^+(L_1, \Pi) &= \{a \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a.\} & R^-(L_1, \Pi) &= \{a \leftarrow \text{not}c.\} \\ R^+(L_2, \Pi) &= \{c \leftarrow d. \quad d \leftarrow c.\} & R^-(L_2, \Pi) &= \{c \leftarrow \text{not}a.\} \end{aligned}$$

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Definition (Loop formulas)

Let $R^-(L, \Pi)$ be the following rules:

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 &\leftarrow B_{11} \quad \dots \quad p_1 \leftarrow B_{1k_1} \\ &\vdots \\ p_n &\leftarrow B_{n1} \quad \dots \quad p_n \leftarrow B_{nk_n} \end{aligned}$$

The **loop formula** associated with L is the following implication:

$$\neg[B_{11} \vee \dots \vee B_{1k_1} \vee \dots \vee B_{n1} \vee \dots \vee B_{nk_n}] \rightarrow \bigwedge_{p \in L} \neg p$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned} R^+(L_1, \Pi) &= \{a \leftarrow b. \quad b \leftarrow a.\} & R^-(L_1, \Pi) &= \{a \leftarrow \text{not}c.\} \\ R^+(L_2, \Pi) &= \{c \leftarrow d. \quad d \leftarrow c.\} & R^-(L_2, \Pi) &= \{c \leftarrow \text{not}a.\} \end{aligned}$$

$$LF(L_1) : c \rightarrow (\neg a \wedge \neg b) \quad LF(L_2) : a \rightarrow (\neg c \wedge \neg d)$$

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Theorem

Let Π be a logic program, then the models of $\text{Comp}(\Pi) \cup LF(\Pi)$ are exactly the answer sets of Π .

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} a & \leftarrow & b. & b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not}c. \\ c & \leftarrow & d. & d \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not}a. \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{Comp}(\Pi) \cup LF(\Pi) = \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} a & \equiv & \neg c \vee b & b \equiv a \\ c & \equiv & \neg a \vee d & d \equiv c \\ c & \rightarrow & (\neg a \wedge \neg b) & a \rightarrow (\neg c \wedge \neg d) \end{array} \right\}$$

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Definition (Body clauses)

Let β be a body of a rule $\beta = \{p_1, \dots, p_m, \text{not}p_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not}p_n\}$, then:

- $\delta(\beta) = \{\beta \vee \neg p_1 \vee \dots \vee p_m \vee \neg p_{m+1} \vee \dots \vee \neg p_n\}$
- $\Delta(\beta) = \{\{\neg \beta \vee p_1\}, \dots, \{\neg \beta \vee p_m\}, \{\neg \beta \vee \neg p_{m+1}\}, \dots, \{\neg \beta \vee \neg p_n\}\}$

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} a & \leftarrow & b. & b \leftarrow a. \quad a \leftarrow \text{not}c. \\ c & \leftarrow & d. & d \leftarrow c. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not}a. \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{llllll} \beta_1 \vee \neg b & \beta_2 \vee \neg a & \beta_3 \vee c & \beta_4 \vee \neg d & \beta_5 \vee \neg c & \beta_6 \vee a \\ \neg \beta_1 \vee b & \neg \beta_2 \vee a & \neg \beta_3 \vee \neg c & \neg \beta_4 \vee d & \neg \beta_5 \vee c & \neg \beta_6 \vee \neg a \end{array} \right\}$$

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Definition (Atoms clauses)

Let p be an atom appearing as head of rules whose body are $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k\}$, then:

- $\Delta(p) = \{\{p \vee \neg\beta_1\}, \dots, \{p \vee \neg\beta_k\}\}$
- $\delta(p) = \{\neg p \vee \beta_1 \vee \dots \vee \beta_k\}$

Example

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} a \leftarrow b. & b \leftarrow a. & a \leftarrow \text{not}c. \\ c \leftarrow d. & d \leftarrow c. & c \leftarrow \text{not}a. \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\Pi = \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} a \vee \neg\beta_1 & b \vee \neg\beta_2 & a \vee \neg\beta_3 & c \vee \neg\beta_4 \\ d \vee \neg\beta_5 & c \vee \neg\beta_6 & & \\ \neg a \vee \beta_1 \vee \beta_3 & \neg b \vee \beta_2 & \neg c \vee \beta_4 \vee \beta_6 & \neg d \vee \beta_5 \end{array} \right\}$$

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Definition (External body)

For a program Π and some $U \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$, we define the external bodies of U for Π , $EB_{\Pi}(U)$ as

$$\{\text{body}(r) \mid r \in \Pi, \text{head}(r) \in U, \text{body}(r) \cap U = \emptyset\}$$

Definition (Loop clause)

For a set $U \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$ and an atom $p \in U$:

$$\lambda(p, U) = \{\beta_1 \vee \dots \vee \beta_k \vee \neg p\}$$

where $EB_{\Pi}(U) = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k\}$.

We define $\Lambda_{\Pi} = \bigcup_{U \subseteq \text{Atoms}(\Pi), U \neq \emptyset} \{\lambda(p, U) \mid p \in U\}$.

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Proposition

X is an answer set of Π iff $X \cap \text{Atoms}(\Pi)$ is a model of the following CNF:

$$\Lambda_{\Pi} \cup \Delta(p) \cup \delta(p) \cup \delta(\beta) \cup \Delta(\beta)$$

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