

# Informatics 1

## Lecture 9 Resolution (part 2)

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# Resolution (v 0.1)

$$\frac{X \vee G \qquad \neg G \vee Y}{X \vee Y}$$

This rule is sound:

if a valuation falsifies the **conclusion**  
then it falsifies one of the **premises**

# Constructing a refutation

If we apply this resolution  
rule

$$\frac{X \vee G \quad \neg G \vee Y}{X \vee Y}$$

then given a refutation,  $\mathbf{v}$   
of the conclusion

$$\mathbf{V}(X \vee Y) = \perp$$

we can produce a  
premise that it refutes

if  $\mathbf{V}(G) = \top$  then

$\mathbf{V}$  refutes  $\neg G \vee Y$

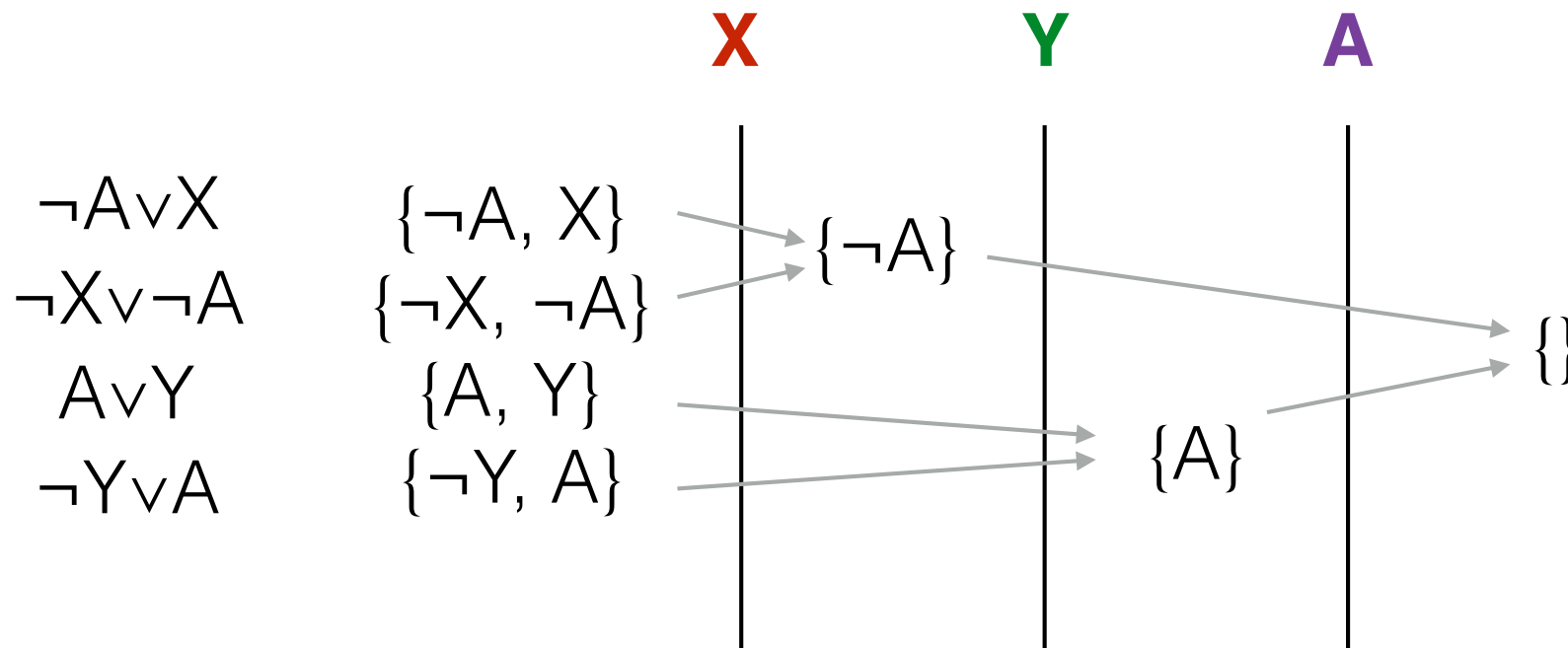
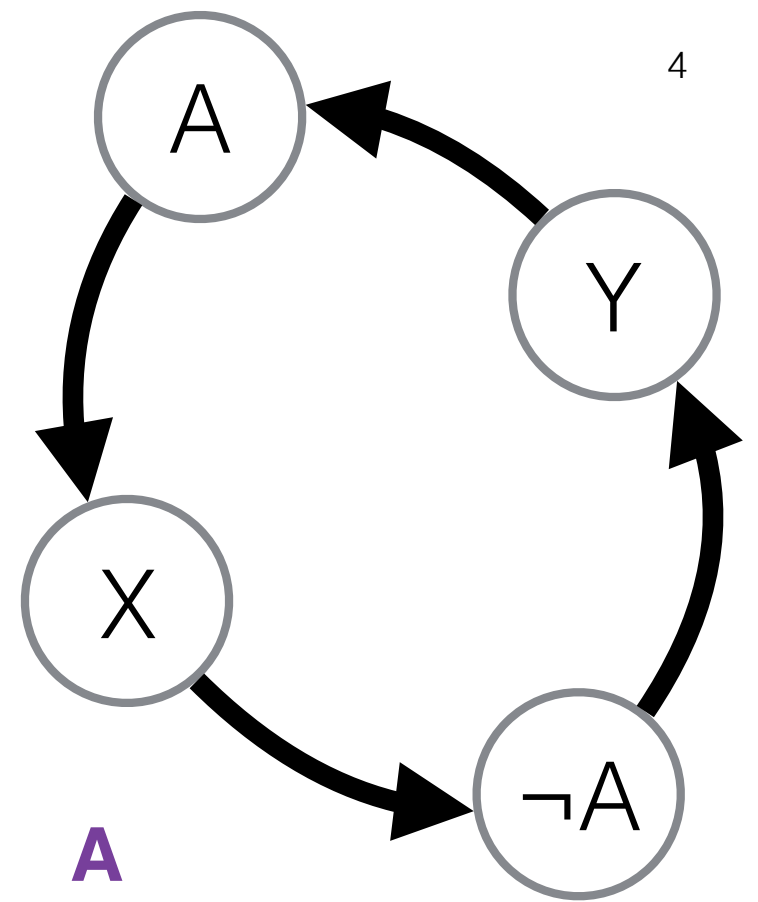
$$\mathbf{V}(\neg G \vee Y) = \perp$$

if  $\mathbf{V}(G) = \perp$  then

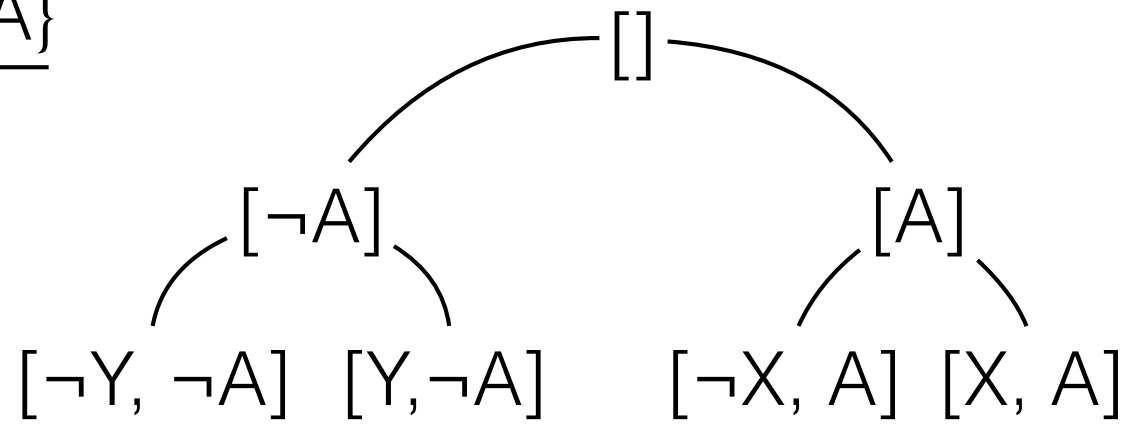
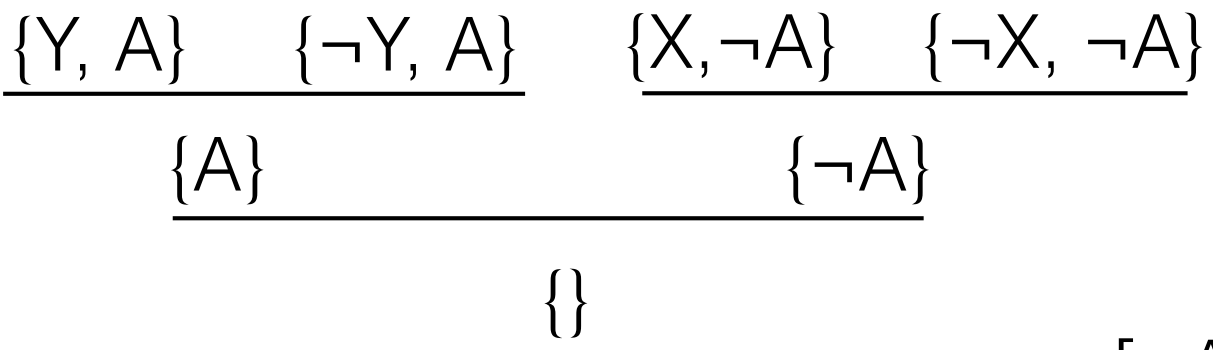
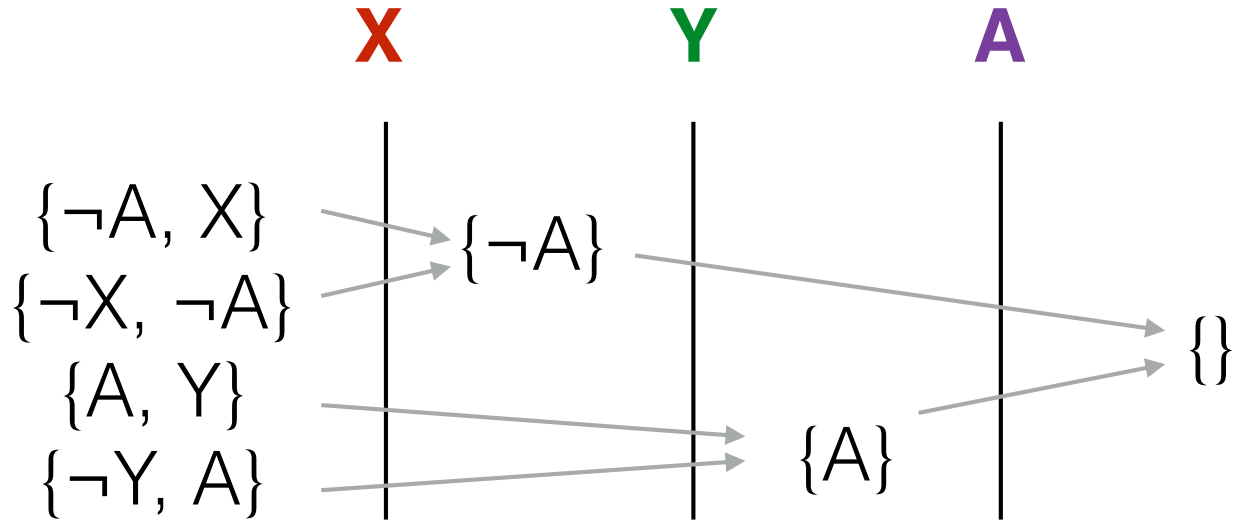
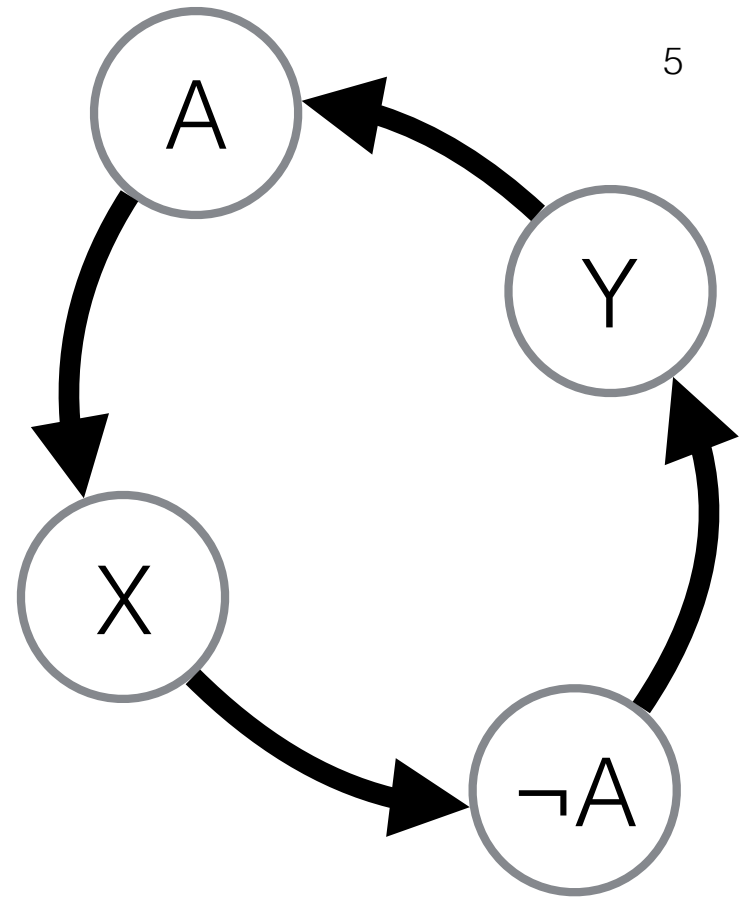
$\mathbf{V}$  refutes  $X \vee G$

$$\mathbf{V}(X \vee G) = \perp$$

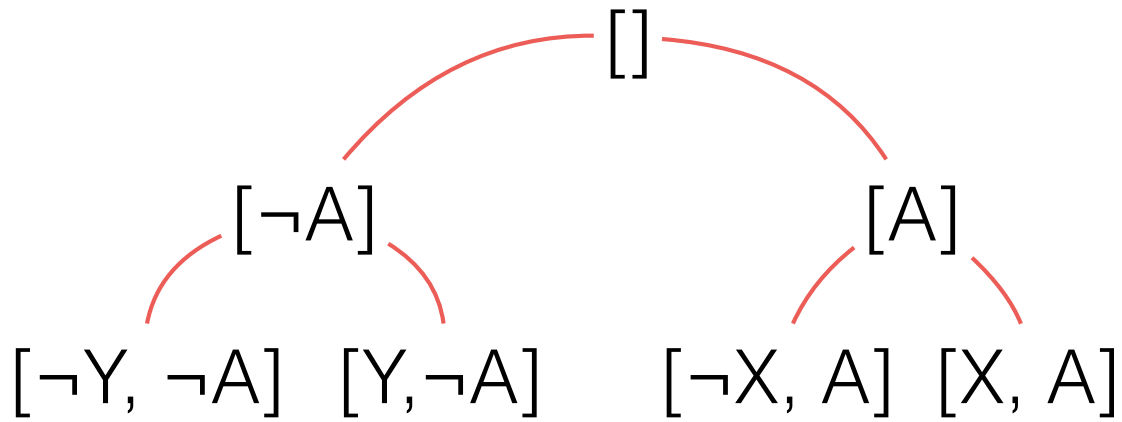
# A contradictory cycle



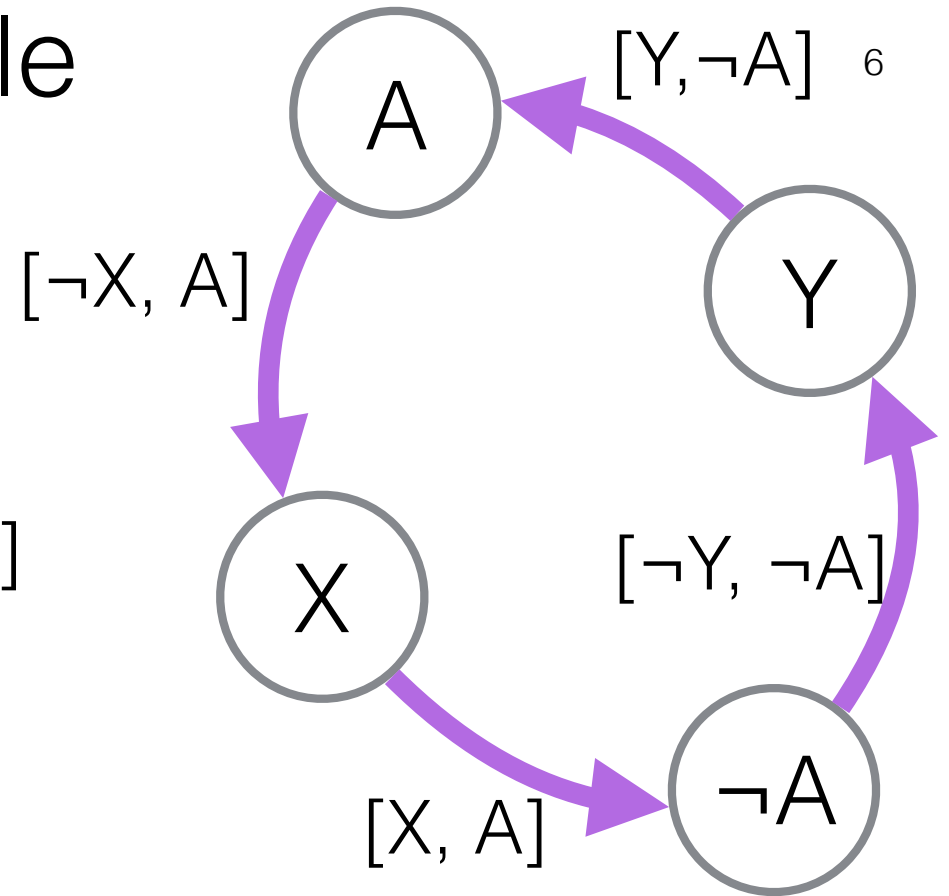
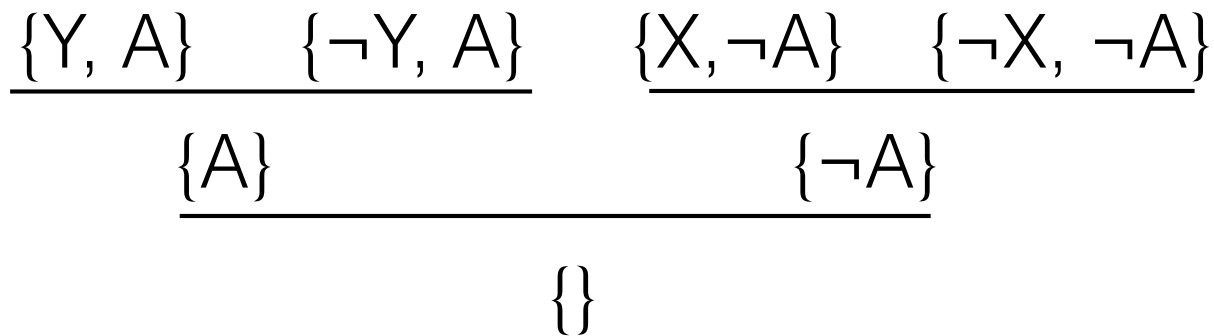
# A contradictory cycle



# A contradictory cycle



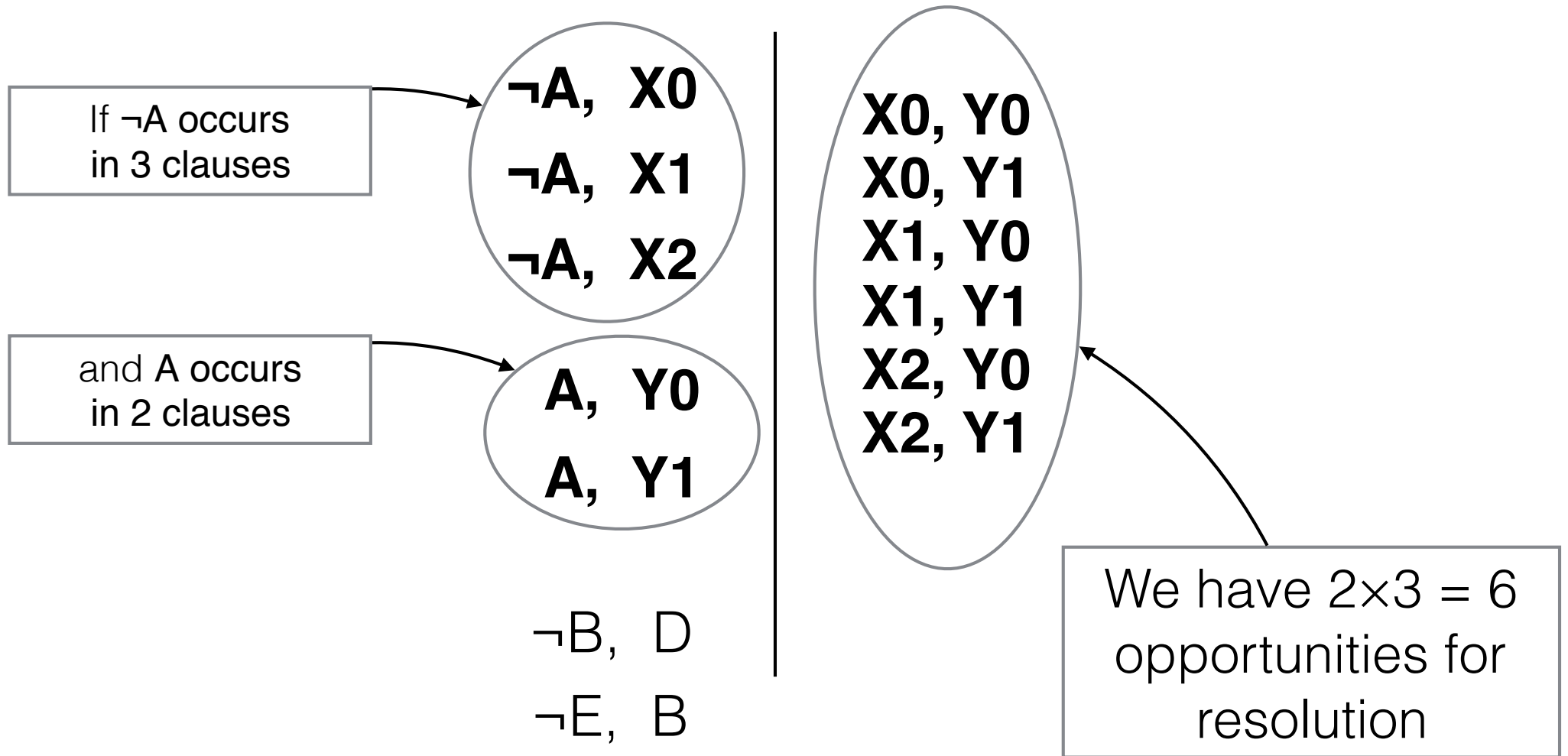
Resolution proof generates a refutation tree.



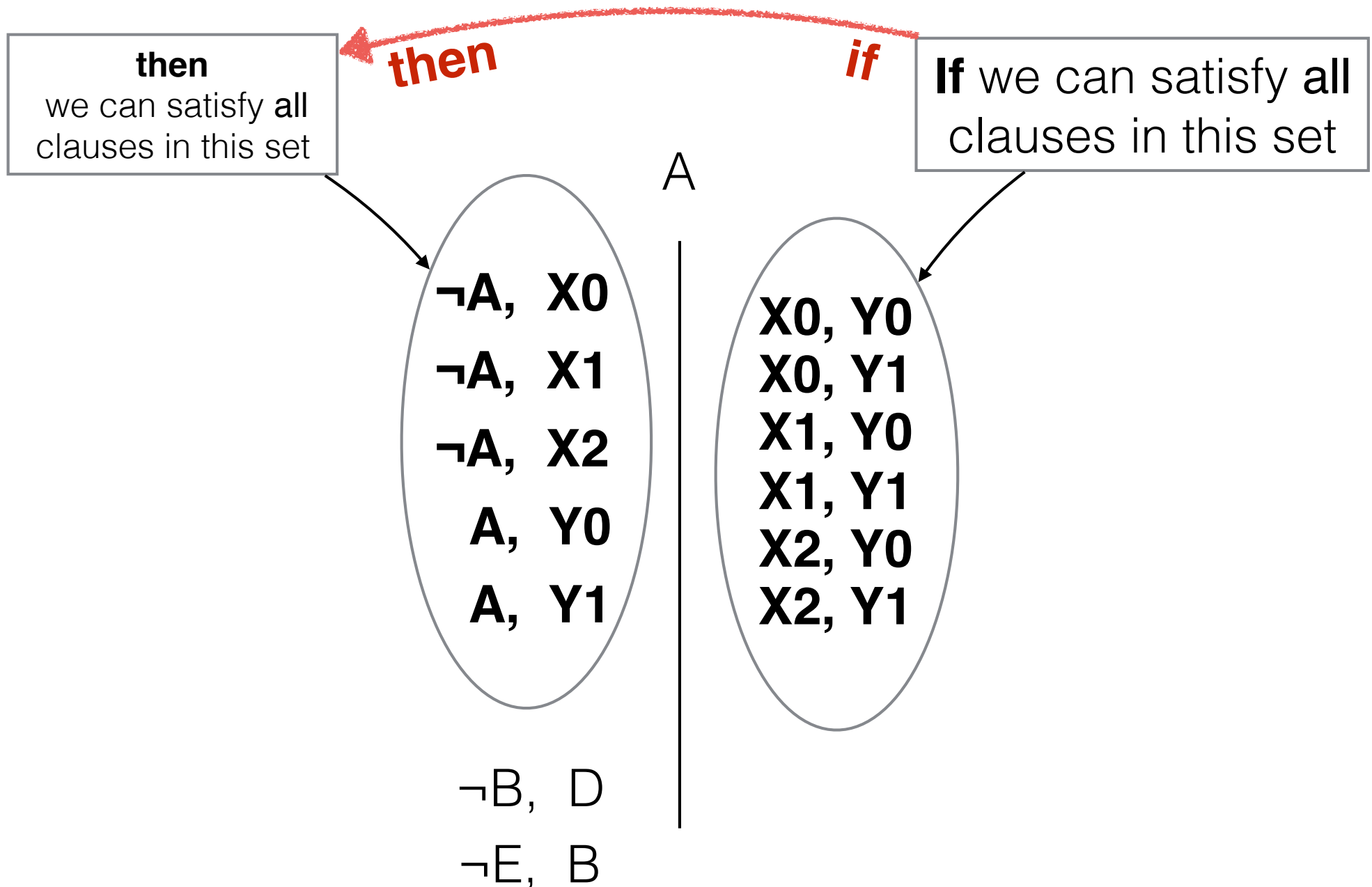
Note that we only need to look at two values to produce the counterexample

# Resolution on A

A



# Making progress





# Making progress

A

$\neg A, X_0$   
 $\neg A, X_1$   
 $\neg A, X_2$   
 $A, Y_0$   
 $A, Y_1$

$X_0, Y_0$   
 $X_0, Y_1$   
 $X_1, Y_0$   
 $X_1, Y_1$   
 $X_2, Y_0$   
 $X_2, Y_1$

**then** we can  
satisfy **all**  
clauses in  
these two  
sets

$\neg B, D$   
 $\neg E, B$

**If** we can satisfy **all**  
clauses in these  
two sets

# Making progress

A

~~$\neg A, X_0$~~

~~$\neg A, X_1$~~

~~$\neg A, X_2$~~

~~$A, Y_0$~~

~~$A, Y_1$~~

$X_0, Y_0$

$X_0, Y_1$

$X_1, Y_0$

$X_1, Y_1$

$X_2, Y_0$

$X_2, Y_1$

**then** we can satisfy all clauses in this set, so we can forget them.

These are carried forward.

$\neg B, D$

$\neg E, B$

**If** we can satisfy all clauses in this set

An example

$\neg A, C$

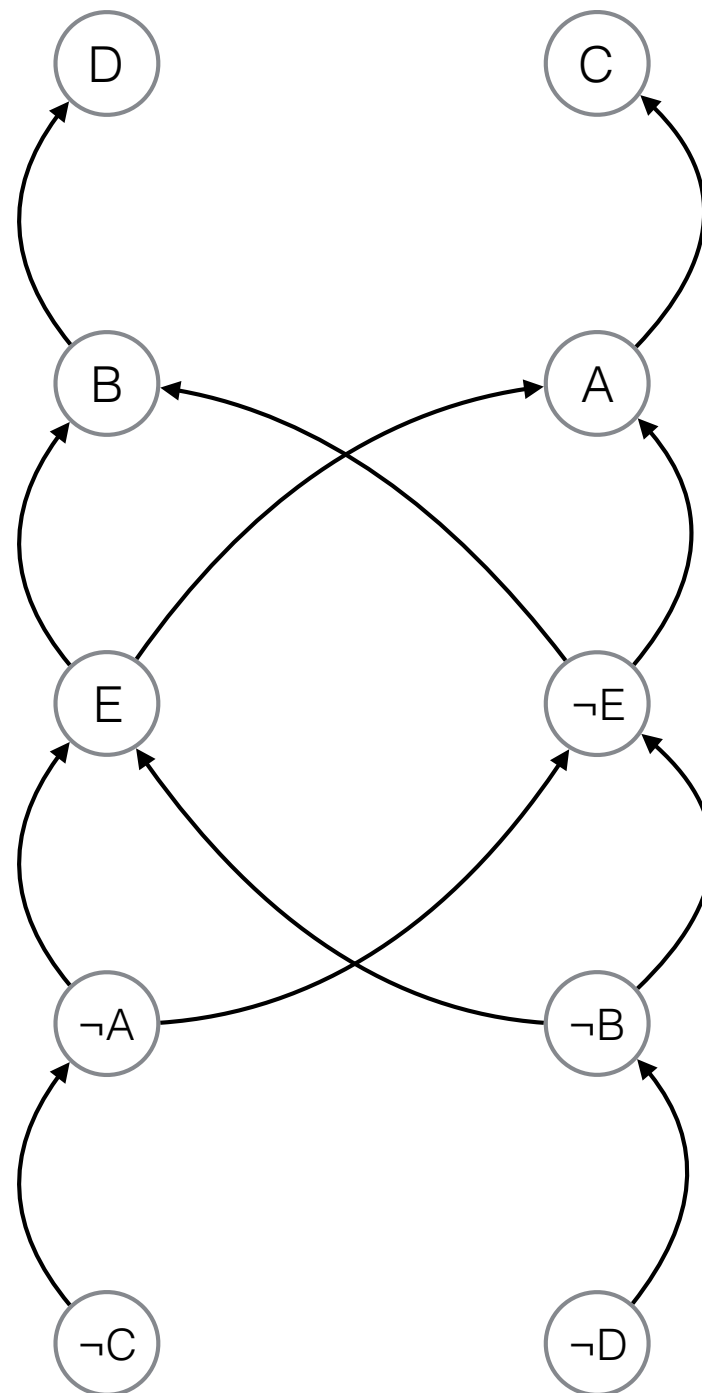
$\neg B, D$

$\neg E, B$

$\neg E, A$

$A, E$

$E, B$



$$\neg A \vee C \quad A \rightarrow C$$

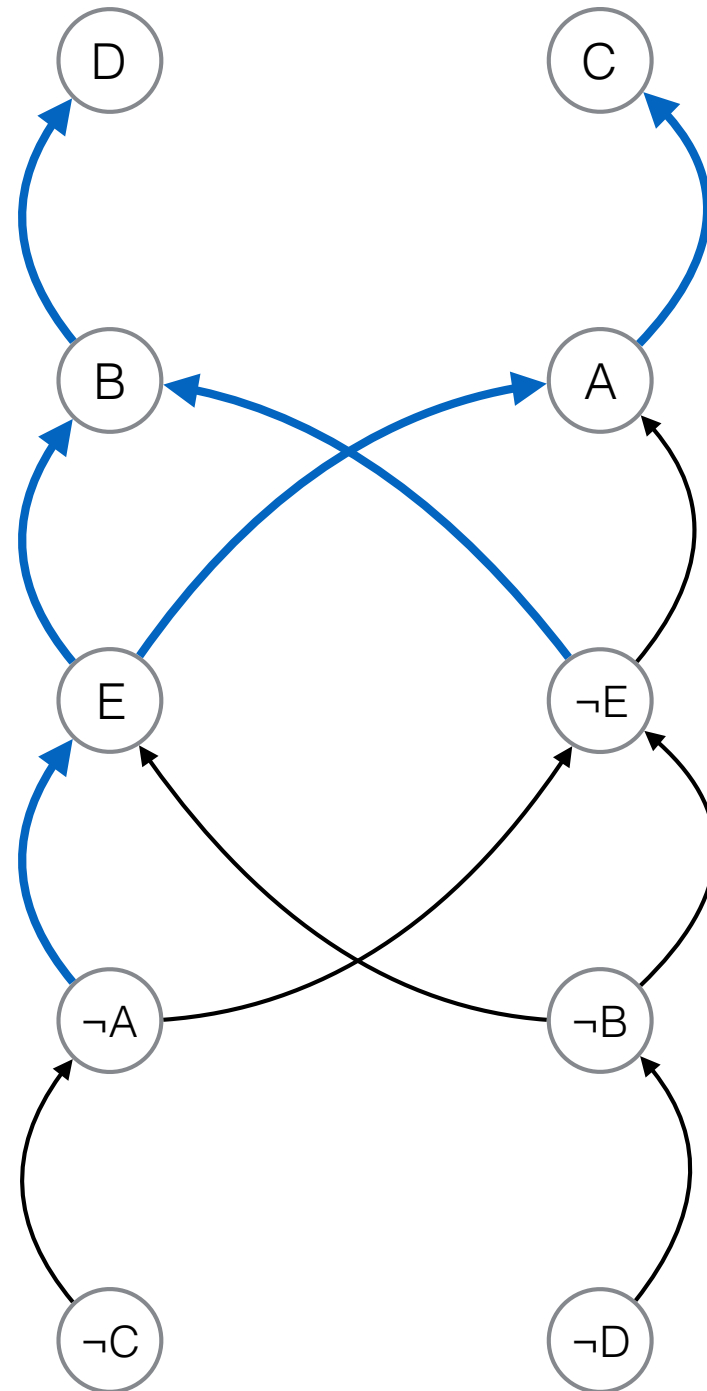
$$\neg B \vee D \quad B \rightarrow D$$

$$\neg E \vee B \quad E \rightarrow B$$

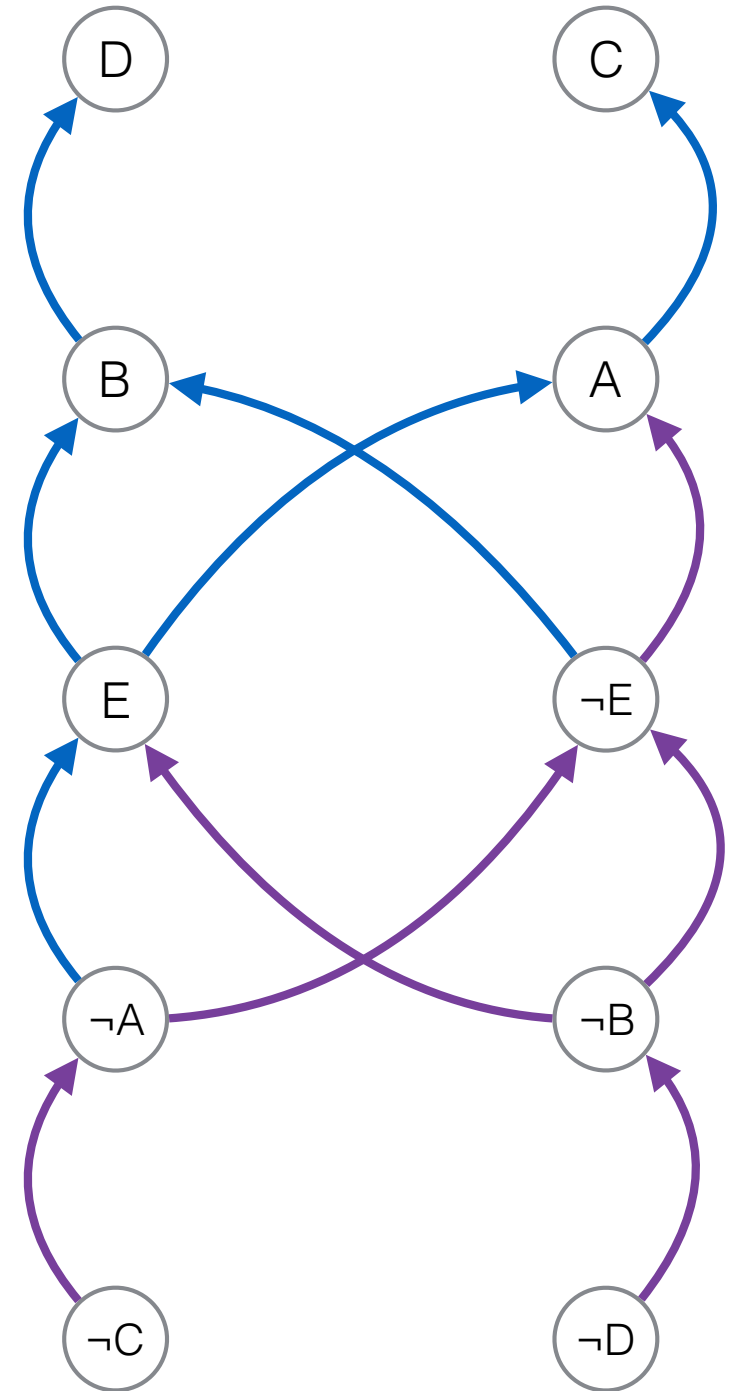
$$\neg E \vee A \quad E \rightarrow A$$

$$A \vee E \quad \neg A \rightarrow E$$

$$E \vee B \quad \neg E \rightarrow B$$



$\neg A \vee C$	$A \rightarrow C$	$\neg C \rightarrow \neg A$
$\neg B \vee D$	$B \rightarrow D$	$\neg D \rightarrow \neg B$
$\neg E \vee B$	$E \rightarrow B$	$\neg B \rightarrow \neg E$
$\neg E \vee A$	$E \rightarrow A$	$\neg A \rightarrow \neg E$
$A \vee E$	$\neg A \rightarrow E$	$\neg E \rightarrow A$
$E \vee B$	$\neg E \rightarrow B$	$\neg B \rightarrow E$



# How many satisfying valuations?

$$\neg A \vee C$$

$$\neg B \vee D$$

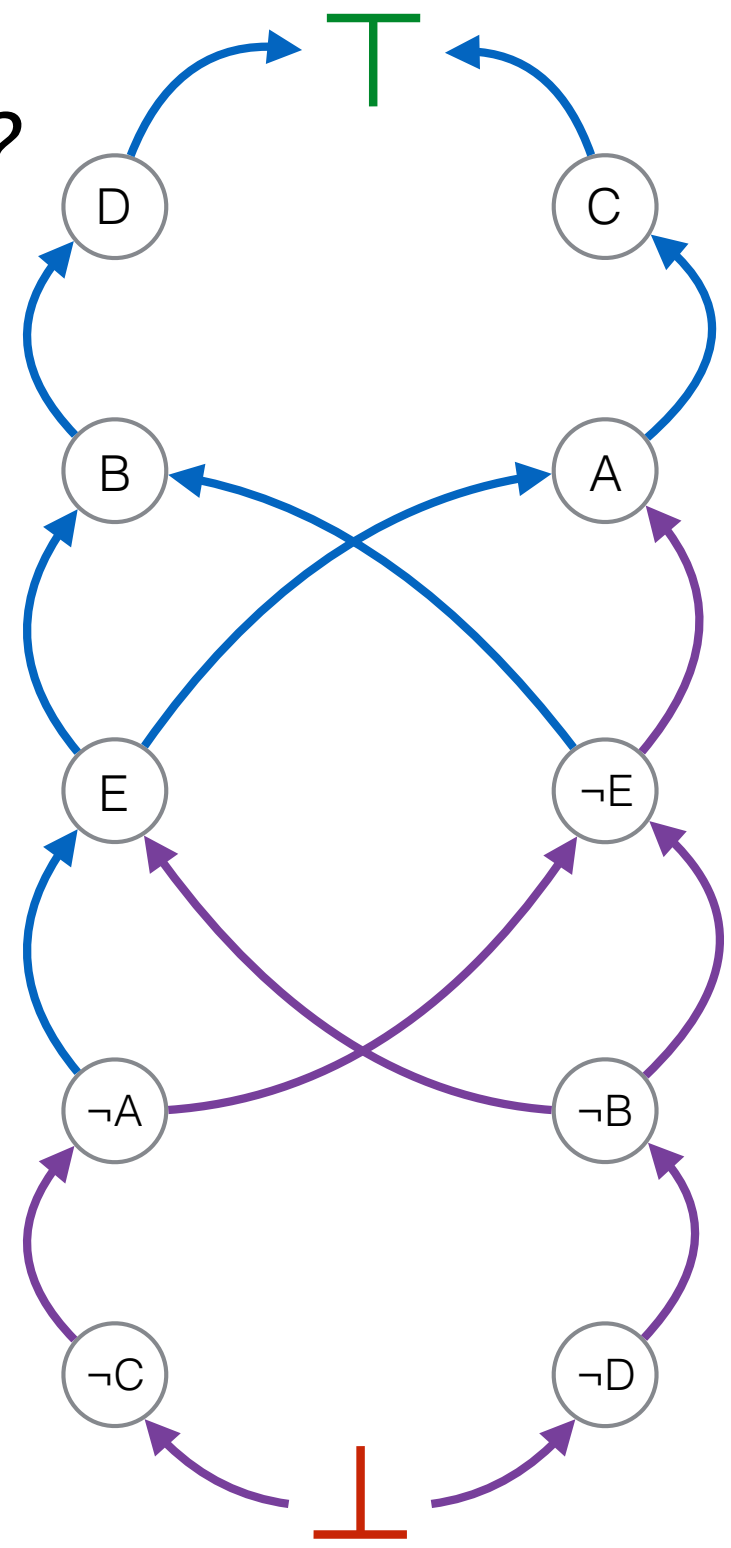
$$\neg E \vee B$$

$$\neg E \vee A$$

$$A \vee E$$

$$E \vee B$$

A satisfying valuation draws a line between false and true, such that each atom is separated from its negation, and no arrow leads from true to false.



# How many satisfying valuations?

$\neg A \vee C$  Unless there is a cycle including both  $X$  and  $\neg X$ , for some letter  $X$ , there is at least one satisfying valuation.

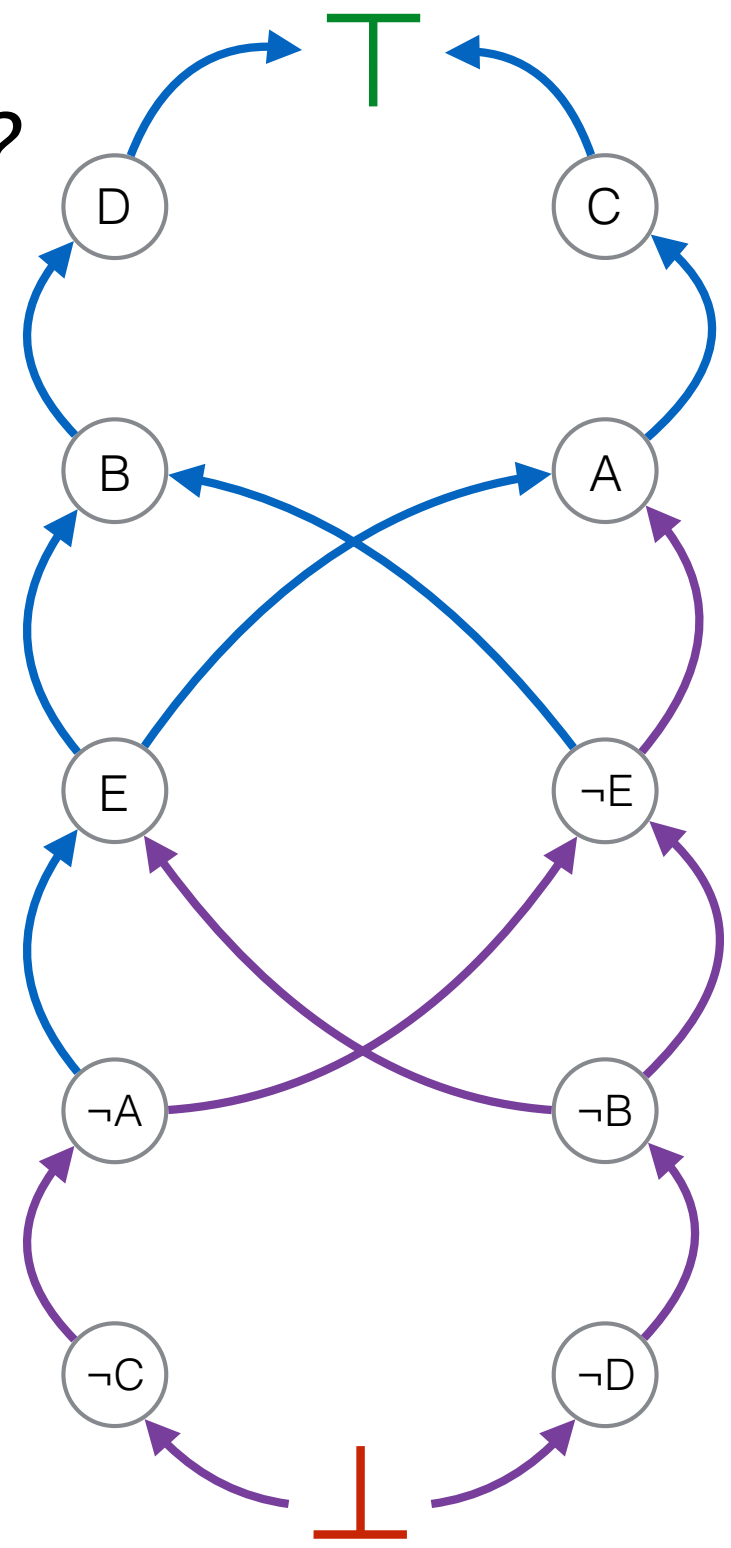
$\neg B \vee D$

$\neg E \vee B$

$\neg E \vee A$  If there is a path  $\neg X \rightarrow X$  then  $X$  must be true in every satisfying valuation.

$A \vee E$

$E \vee B$  If there is a path  $X \rightarrow \neg X$  then  $X$  must be false in every satisfying valuation.



## *Focus on one chain*

$$\neg A \vee C \quad A \rightarrow C \quad \neg C \rightarrow \neg A$$

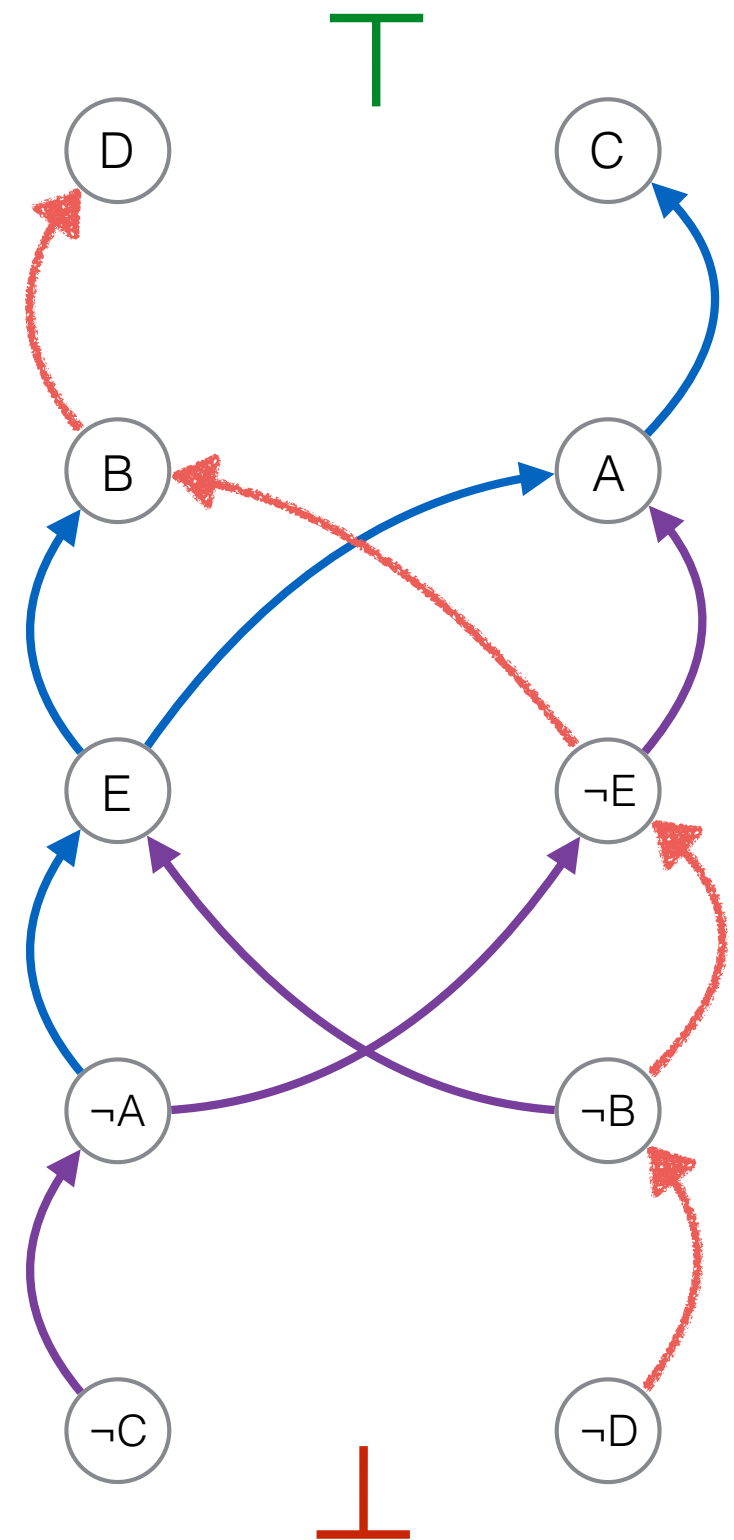
$$\neg B \vee D \quad B \rightarrow D \quad \neg D \rightarrow \neg B$$

$$\neg E \vee B \quad E \rightarrow B \quad \neg B \rightarrow \neg E$$

$$\neg E \vee A \quad E \rightarrow A \quad \neg A \rightarrow \neg E$$

$$A \vee E \quad \neg A \rightarrow E \quad \neg E \rightarrow A$$

$$E \vee B \quad \neg E \rightarrow B \quad \neg B \rightarrow E$$





# Focus on one chain of reasoning

$\neg A \vee C$

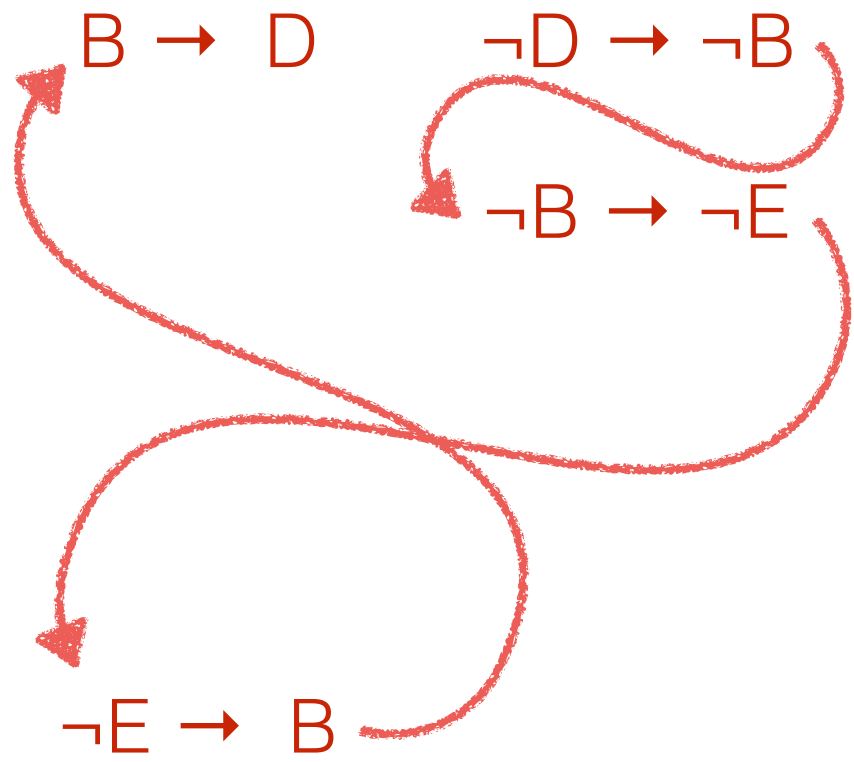
**$\neg B \vee D$**

**$\neg E \vee B$**

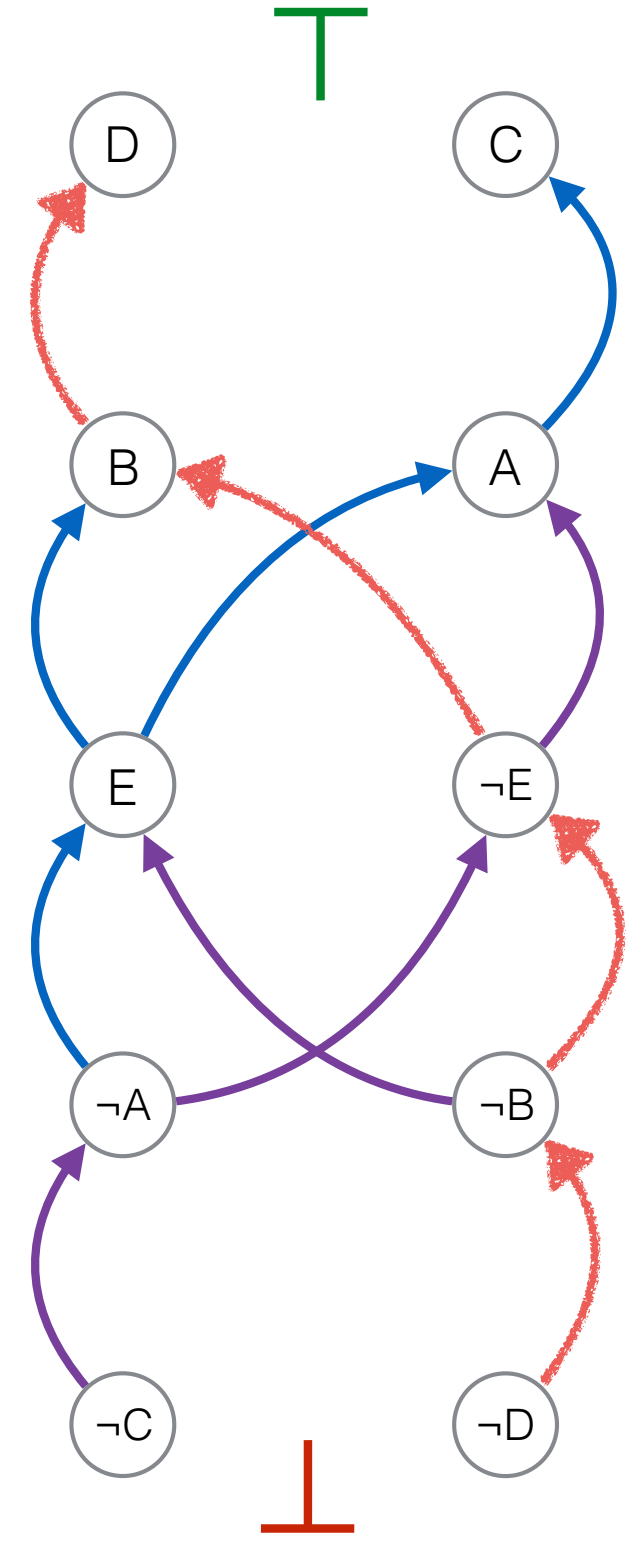
$\neg E \vee A$

$A \vee E$

**$E \vee B$**



$\neg D \rightarrow \neg B$	$\neg B \rightarrow \neg E$	$\neg E \rightarrow B$	$B \rightarrow D$
<hr/>		<hr/>	
$\neg D \rightarrow \neg E$	$\neg E \rightarrow D$		
<hr/>			
$\neg D \rightarrow D$			



$\neg A, C$

$\neg B, D$

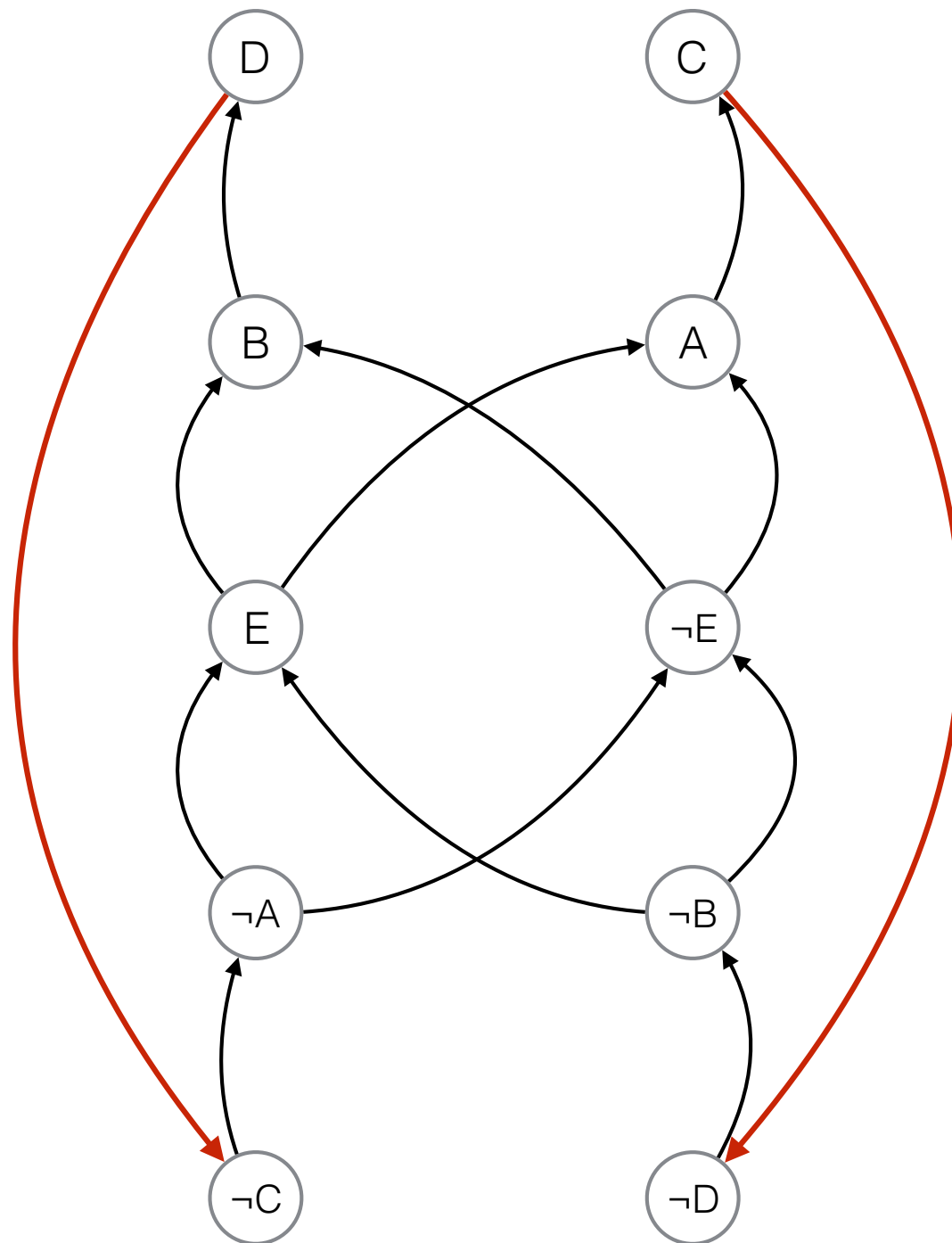
$\neg E, B$

$\neg E, A$

$A, E$

$E, B$

**$\neg C, \neg D$**



A

**$\neg A, C$**

$\neg B, D$

$\neg E, B$

**$\neg E, A$**

**A, E**

E, B

$\neg C, \neg D$

	A	
<b><math>\neg A, C</math></b>		$\neg E, C$
$\neg B, D$		$C, E$
$\neg E, B$		
<b><math>\neg E, A</math></b>		
<b><math>A, E</math></b>		
$E, B$		
$\neg C, \neg D$		

A	B
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	$\neg E, C$
<b><math>\neg B, D</math></b>	$C, E$
<b><math>\neg E, B</math></b>	
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>	
<del><math>A, E</math></del>	
<b><math>E, B</math></b>	
$\neg C, \neg D$	

A		B
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	$\neg E, C$	$\neg E, D$
<b><math>\neg B, D</math></b>	$C, E$	$E, D$
<b><math>\neg E, B</math></b>		
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>		
<del><math>A, E</math></del>		
<b><math>E, B</math></b>		
$\neg C, \neg D$		

A		B		C
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<b><math>\neg E, C</math></b>		$\neg E, D$	
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<b><math>C, E</math></b>		$E, D$	
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>				
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>				
<del><math>A, E</math></del>				
<del><math>E, B</math></del>				
<b><math>\neg C, \neg D</math></b>				

A		B		C
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<b><math>\neg E, C</math></b>		$\neg E, D$	$\neg E, \neg D$
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<b><math>C, E</math></b>		$E, D$	$\neg D, E$
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>				
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>				
<del><math>A, E</math></del>				
<del><math>E, B</math></del>				
<b><math>\neg C, \neg D</math></b>				



A	B	C	D
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, C</math></del>	<b><math>\neg E, D</math></b>	<b><math>\neg E, \neg D</math></b>
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<del><math>C, E</math></del>	<b><math>E, D</math></b>	<b><math>\neg D, E</math></b>
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>			
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>			
<del><math>A, E</math></del>			
<del><math>E, B</math></del>			
<del><math>\neg C, \neg D</math></del>			

A	B	C	D
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, C</math></del>	<b><math>\neg E, D</math></b>	<b><math>\neg E, \neg D</math></b>
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<del><math>C, E</math></del>	<b><math>E, D</math></b>	<b><math>\neg D, E</math></b>
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>			$\neg E, E$
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>			$E, E$
<del><math>A, E</math></del>			$\neg E, \neg E$
<del><math>E, B</math></del>			$\neg E, E$
<del><math>\neg C, \neg D</math></del>			

A	B	C	D	E
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, C</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, D</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, \neg D</math></del>	$\neg E, E$
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<del><math>C, E</math></del>	<del><math>E, D</math></del>	<del><math>\neg D, E</math></del>	<b><math>E, E</math></b>
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>				<b><math>\neg E, \neg E</math></b>
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>				$\neg E, E$
<del><math>A, E</math></del>				
<del><math>E, B</math></del>				
<del><math>\neg C, \neg D</math></del>				

A	B	C	D	E	
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, C</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, D</math></del>	<del><math>\neg E, \neg D</math></del>	$\neg E, E$	}
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<del><math>C, E</math></del>	<del><math>E, D</math></del>	<del><math>\neg D, E</math></del>	<b>E</b> , E	
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>				<b><math>\neg E</math></b> , $\neg E$	
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>				$\neg E, E$	
<del><math>A, E</math></del>					
<del><math>E, B</math></del>					
<del><math>\neg C, \neg D</math></del>					

# Resolution

A complete proof procedure for propositional logic that works on formulas expressed in conjunctive normal form. (Robinson 1965)

## Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)

**Literal:** a propositional atom  $A$  or its negation  $\neg A$

**Clause:** a disjunction of (a set of) literals.

**CNF:** a conjunction of (a set of) clauses.

# Resolution

From two clauses

$$C_1 = (X \cup \{A\}), C_2 = (Y \cup \{\neg A\})$$

the resolution rule generates the new clause

$$(X \cup Y) = R(C_1, C_2)$$

where  $X$  and  $Y$  are sets of literals, not containing  $A$  or  $\neg A$ .

$(X \cup Y)$  is the resolvent

$A$  is the variable resolved on

# Resolution

A resolution refutation of a CNF  $F$  (a set of clauses) is a sequence  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m$  of clauses such that

$$C_m = \{\}, \text{ and}$$

each  $C_i$  is either

a member of  $F$

or

the resolvent of two previous clauses in the proof:

$$C_i = R(C_j, C_k), \text{ where } j, k < i$$

# Resolution

Any resolution proof can be represented as a DAG  
nodes are clauses in the proof.

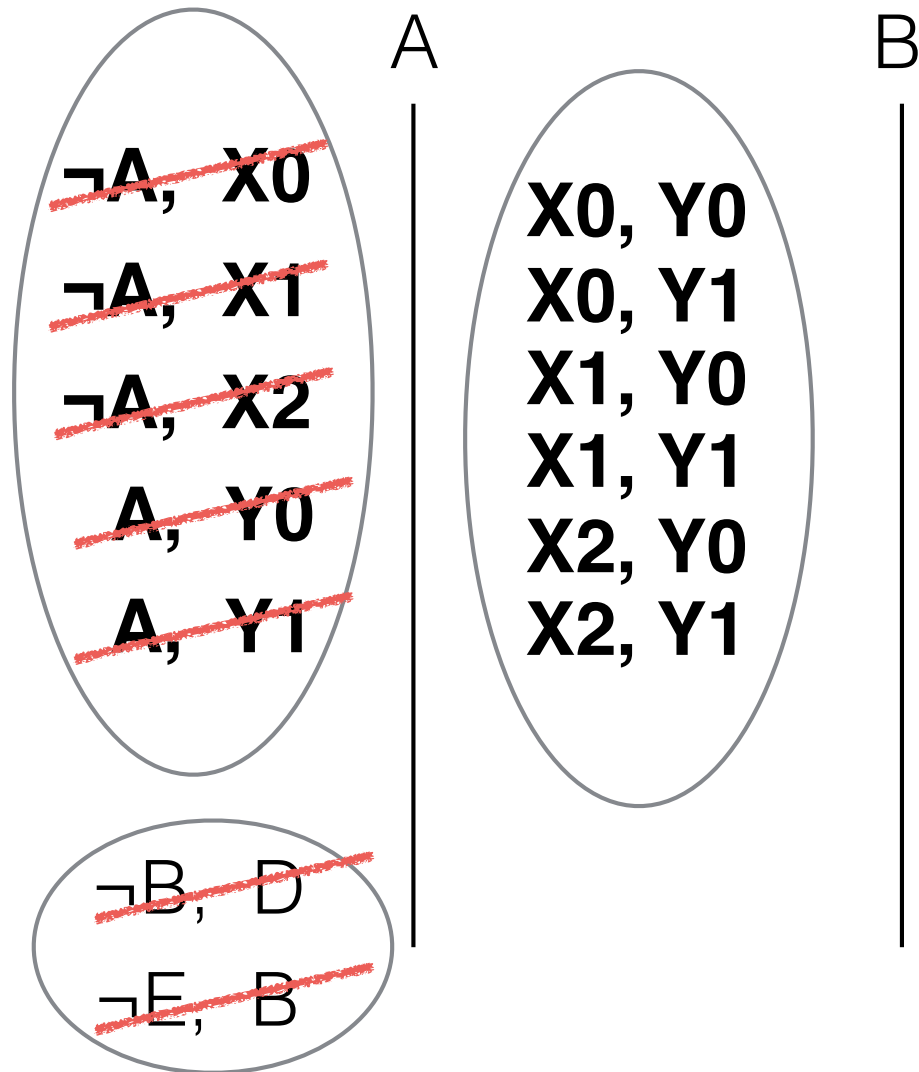
Clauses in  $F$  are leaves: they have no incoming edges.

Every clause  $C_i$  that arises from a resolution  
step has two incoming edges. One from each  
of the clauses  $(C_j, C_k)$  that were resolved together to  
obtain  $C_i = R(C_j, C_k)$ .

Each non-leaf node  $C_i$  is labeled by the variable that  
was resolved away to obtain it.



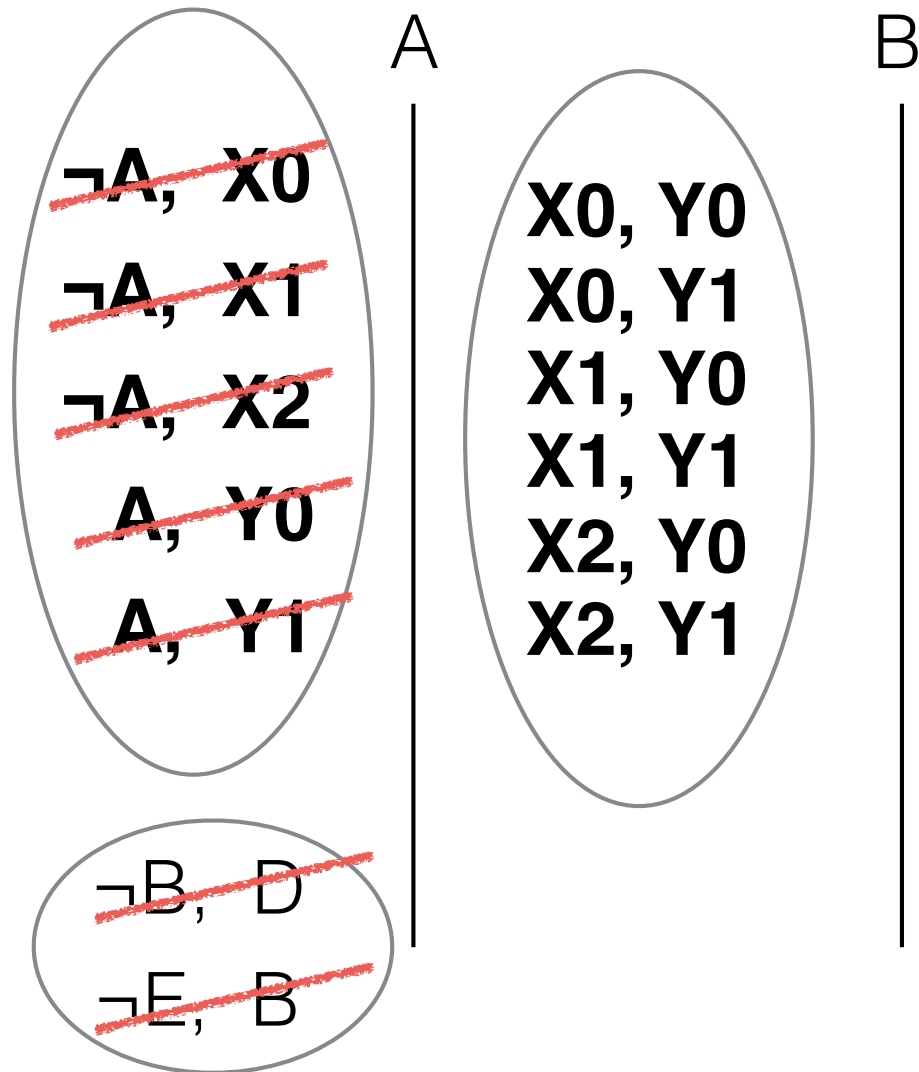
# When resolution 'fails'



If we have not produced  
 $\}$ , and there are no  
remaining opportunities  
for resolution, then every  
remaining literal is a  
**pure literal**.

*Pure* means that its  
negation does not occur.  
We can satisfy the  
remaining clauses by  
making every literal true.

# When resolution 'fails'

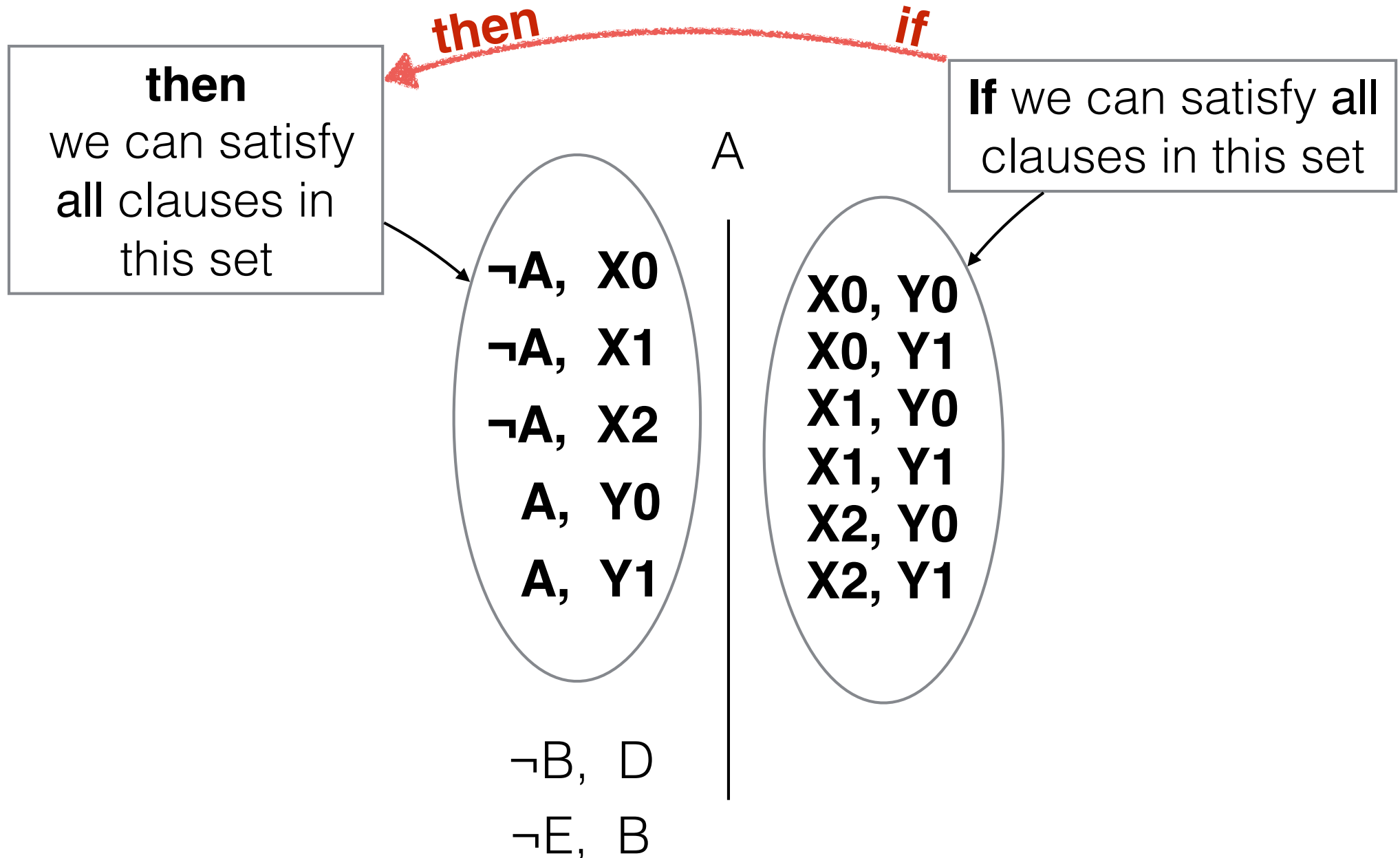


$\neg E, D$

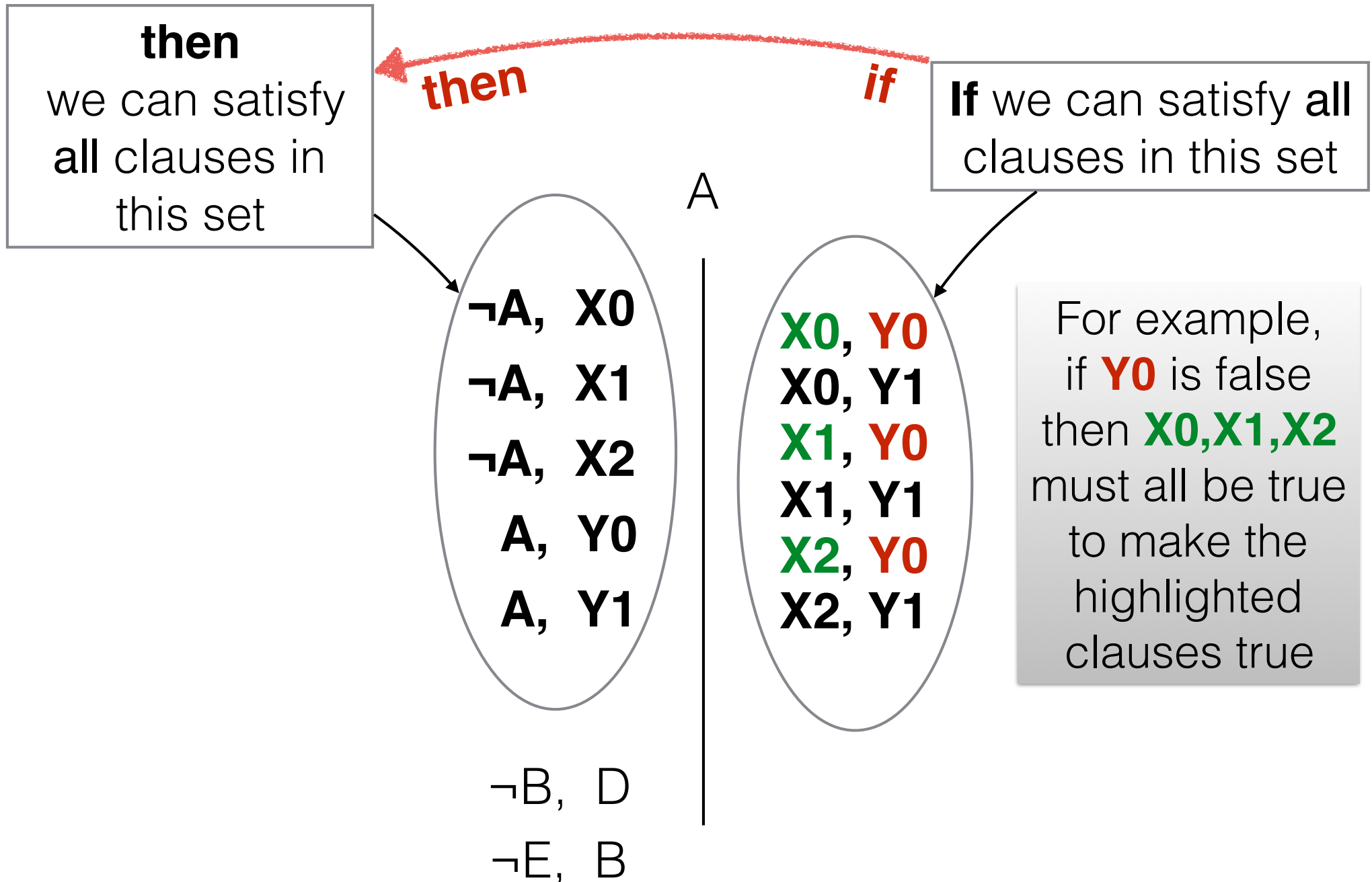
We can satisfy the remaining clauses by making every literal true.

This gives a partial valuation, which can be extended to the resolved variables in order to satisfy every clause.

# Making progress



# Extending a partial solution



# one way

**then**  
we can satisfy  
**all** clauses in  
this set

**If** we can satisfy **all**  
clauses in this set

*then* *if*

A

If **X0, X1, X2**  
are all true  
we can  
make **A** true  
to make all  
these clauses true

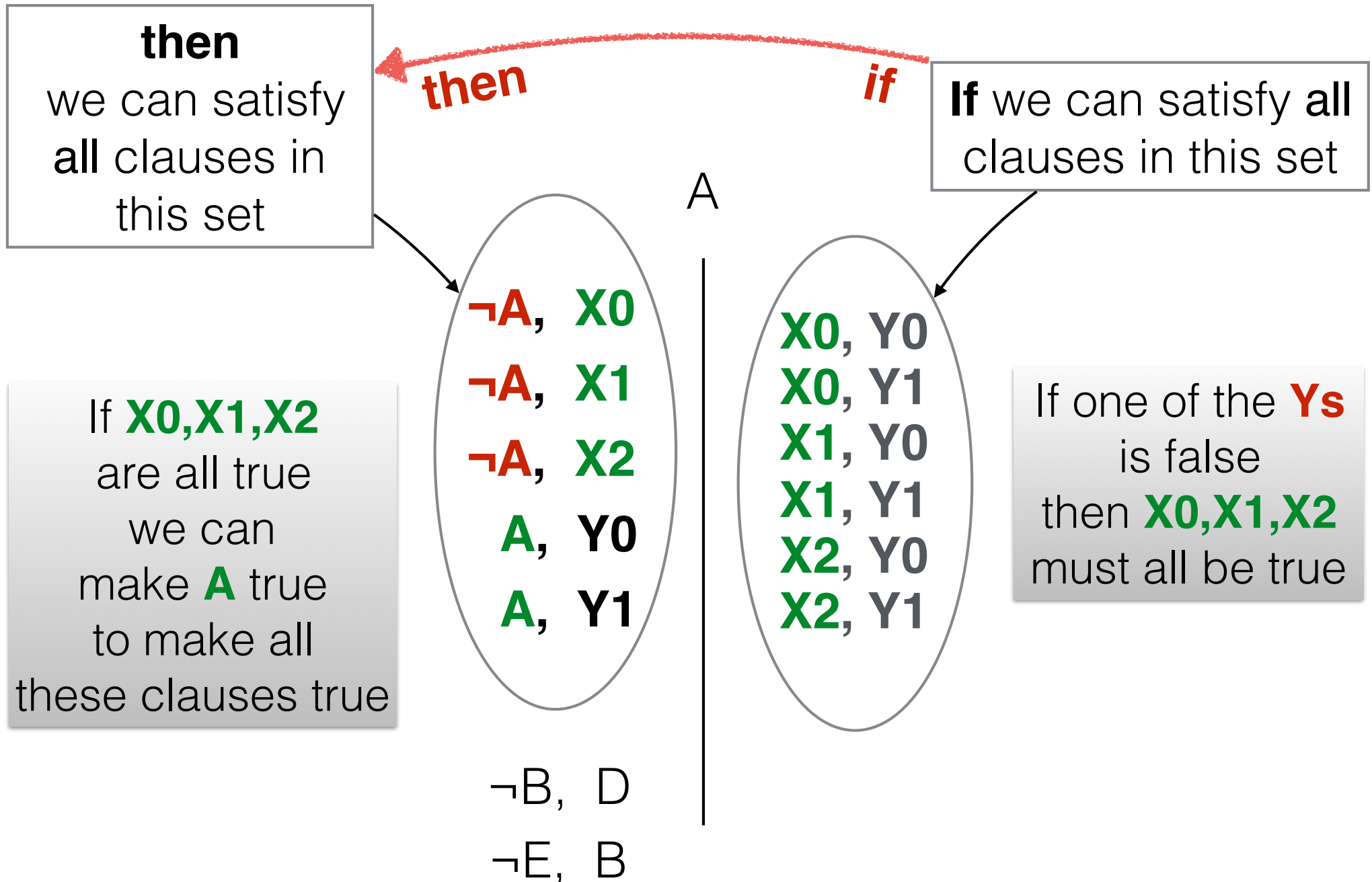
- $\neg A$ , X0**
- $\neg A$ , X1**
- $\neg A$ , X2**
- A, Y0**
- A, Y1**

- X0, Y0**
- X0, Y1**
- X1, Y0**
- X1, Y1**
- X2, Y0**
- X2, Y1**

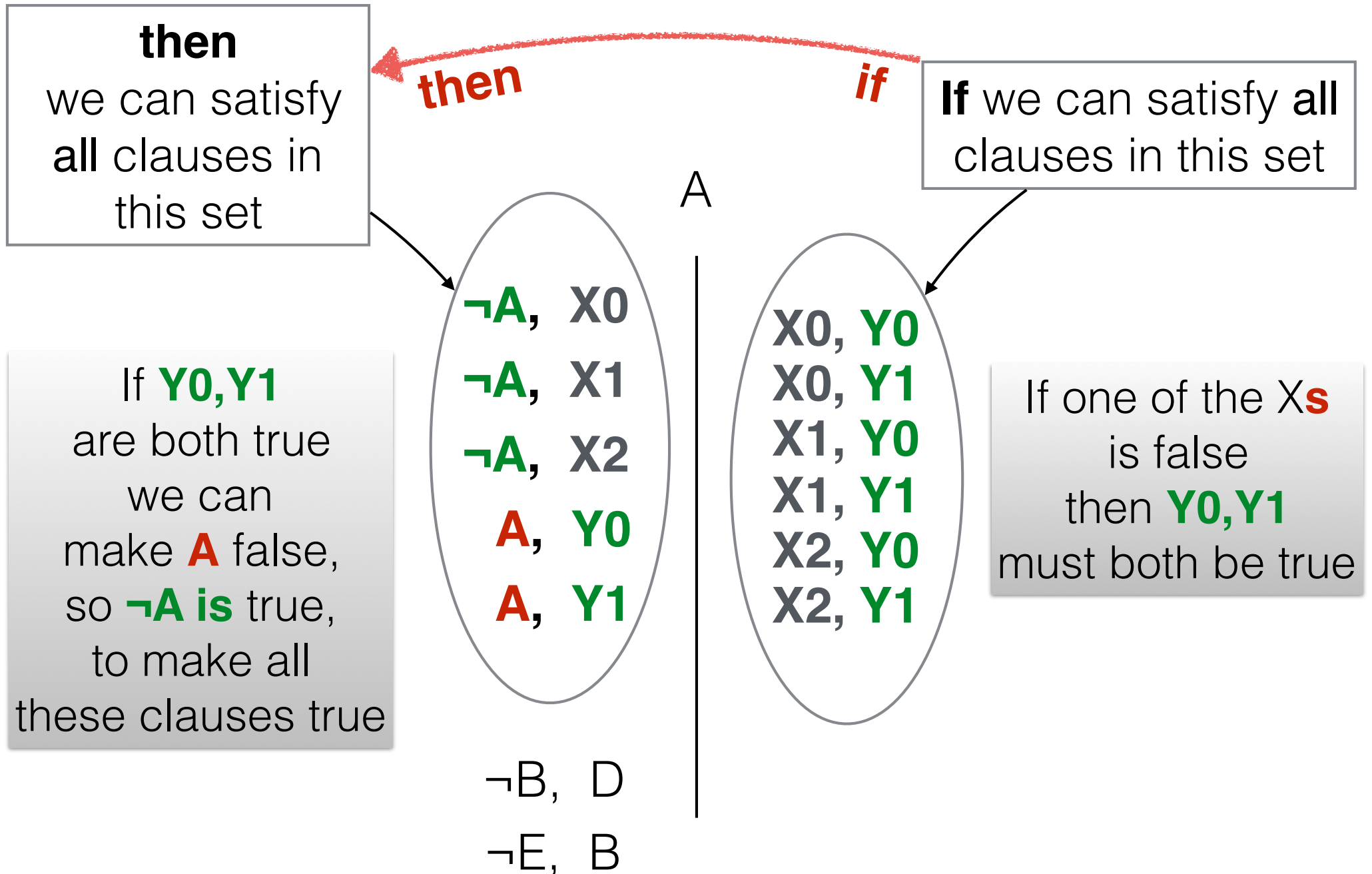
For example,  
if **Y0** is false  
then **X0, X1, X2**  
must all be true  
to make the  
highlighted  
clauses true

- $\neg B$ , D
- $\neg E$ , B

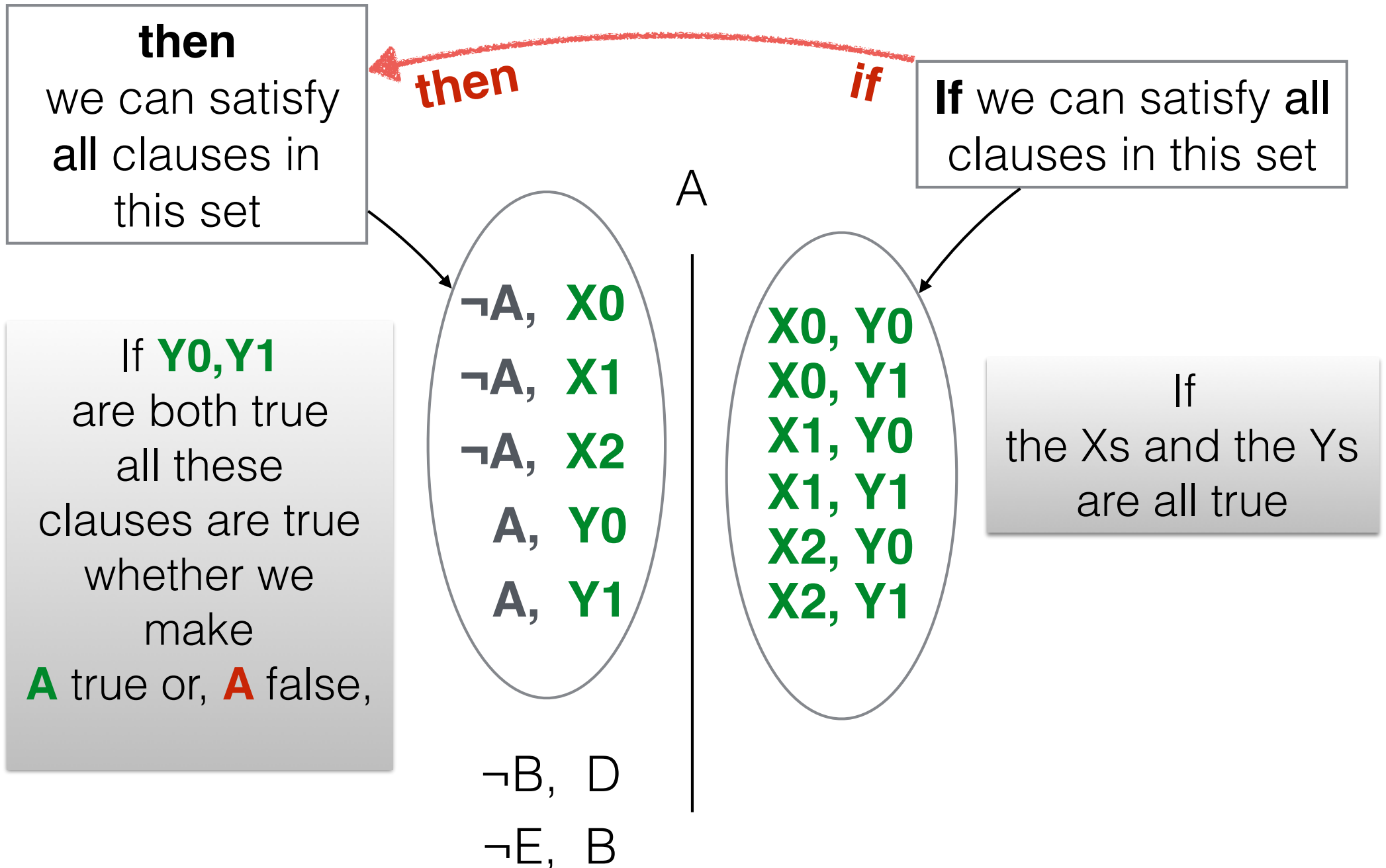
# or another



# one way or another

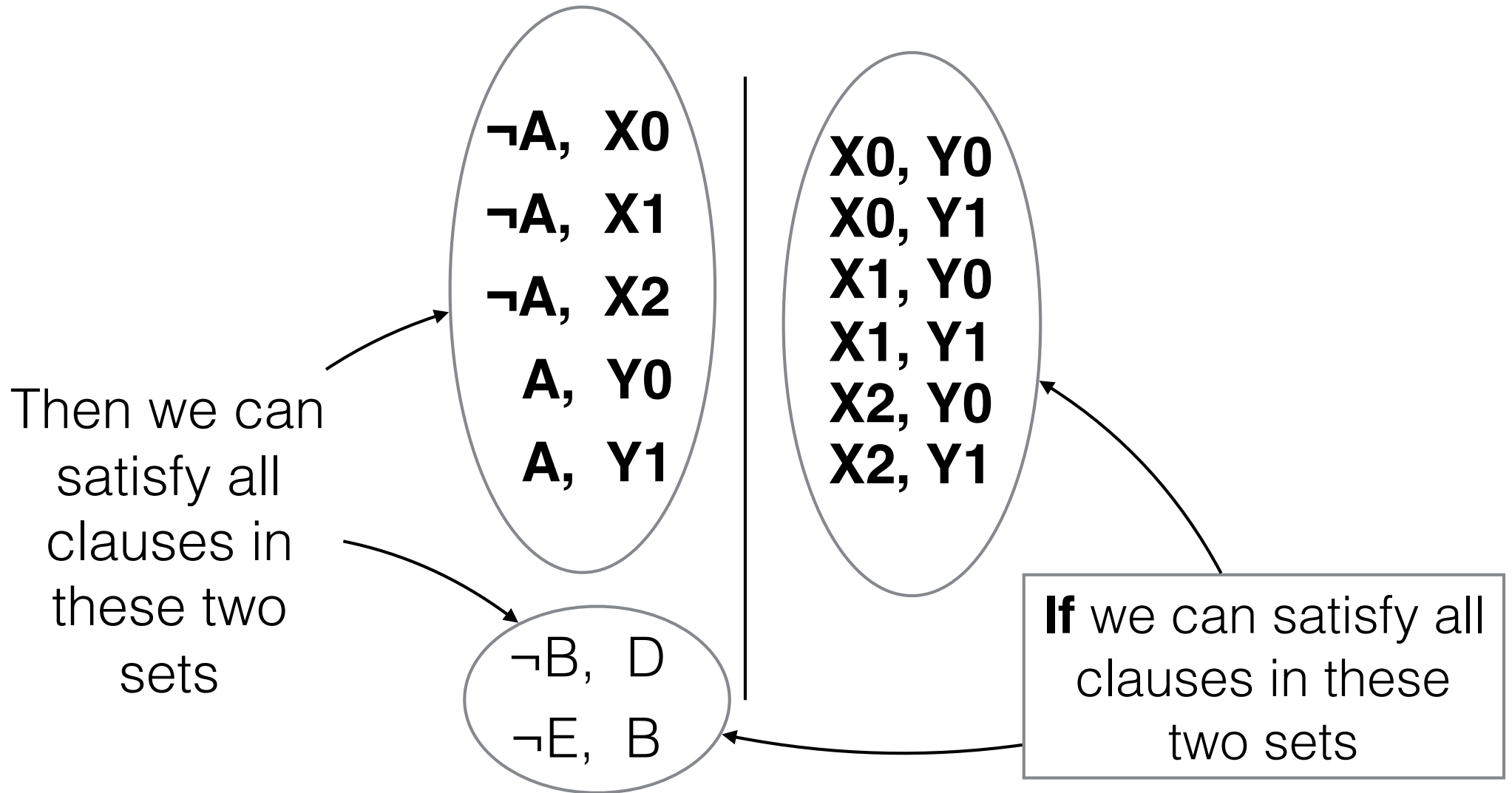


# one way or another

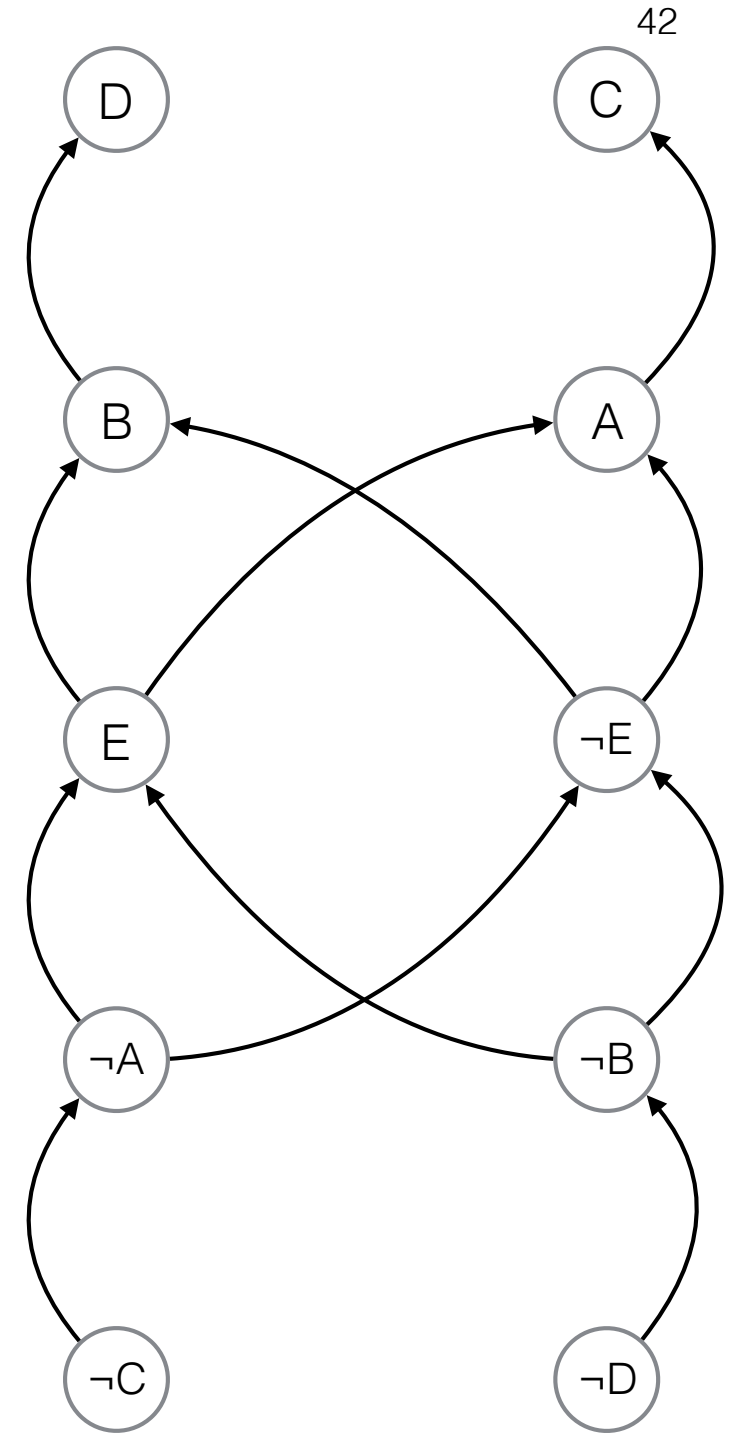


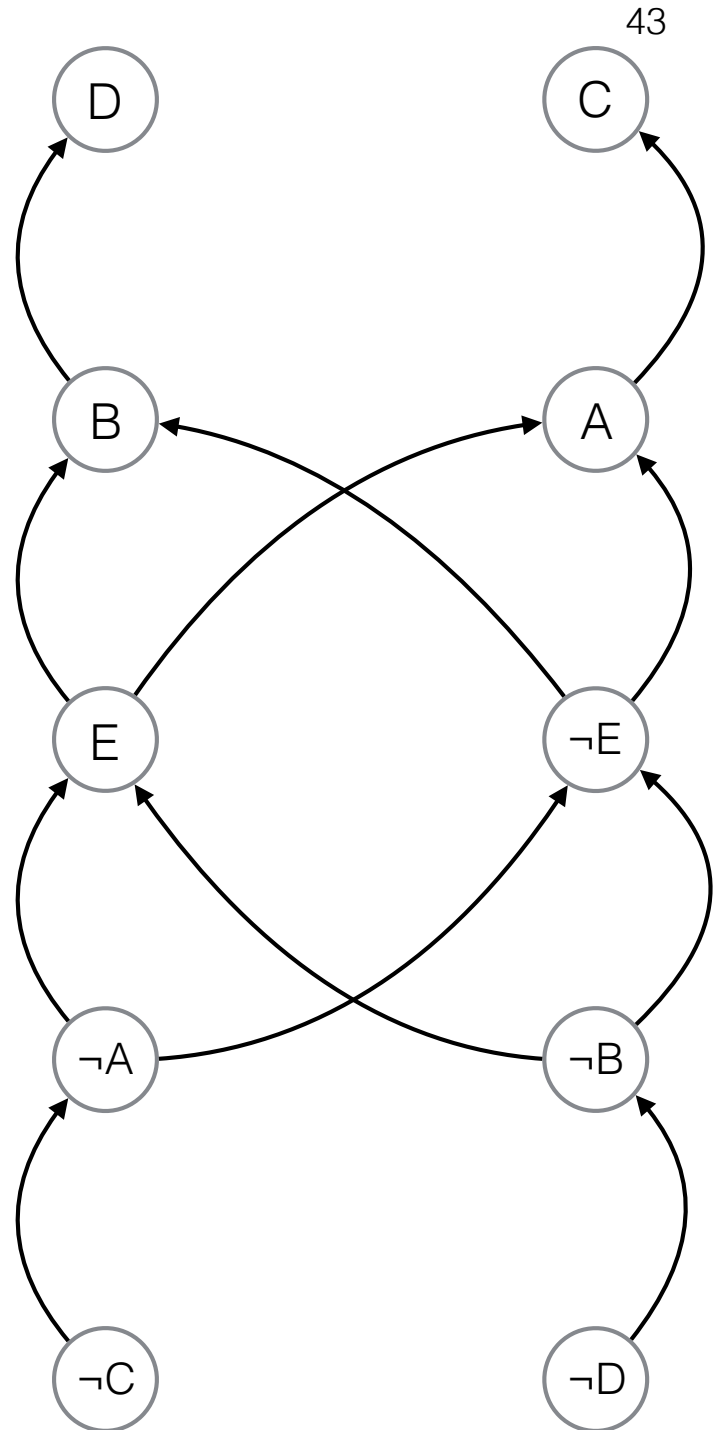
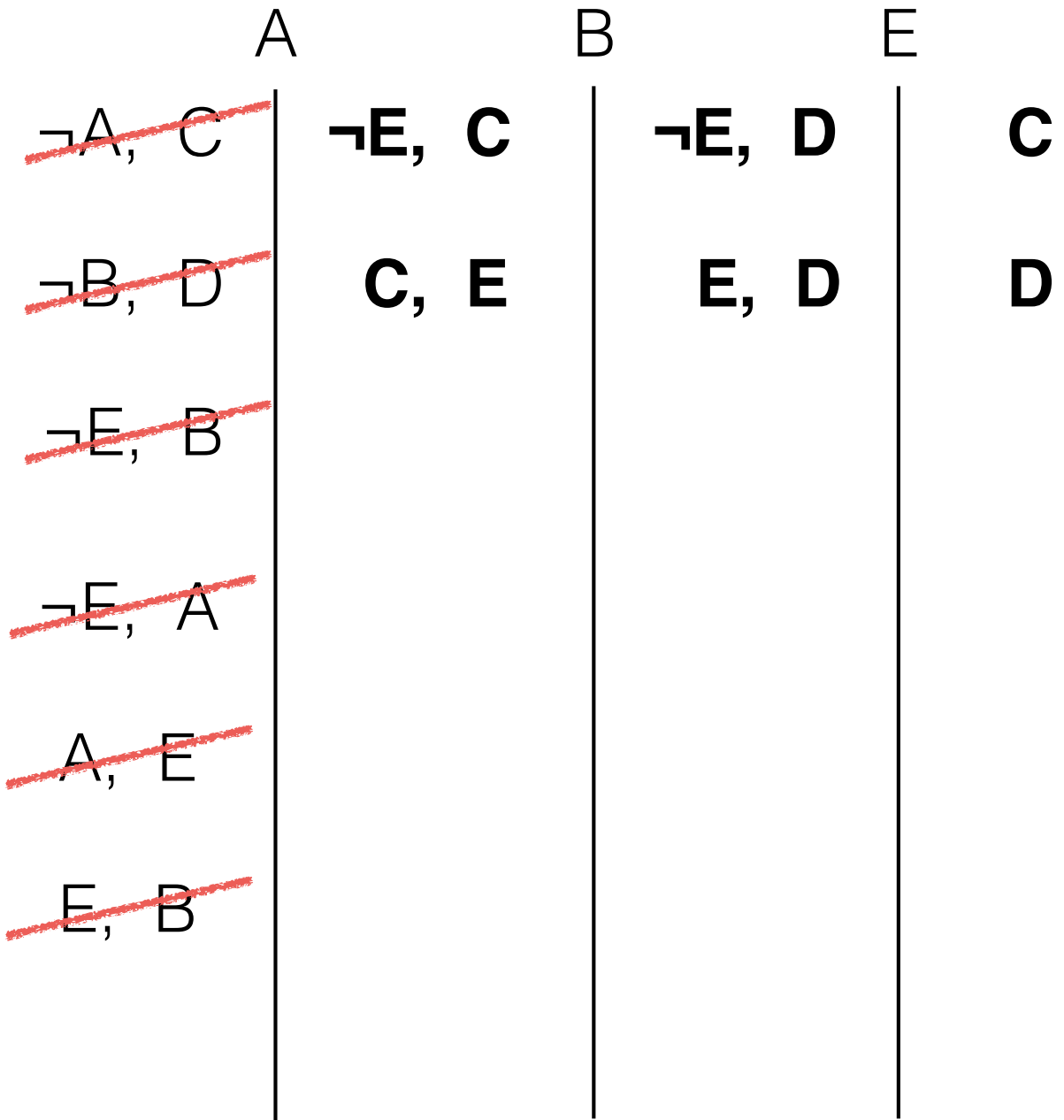


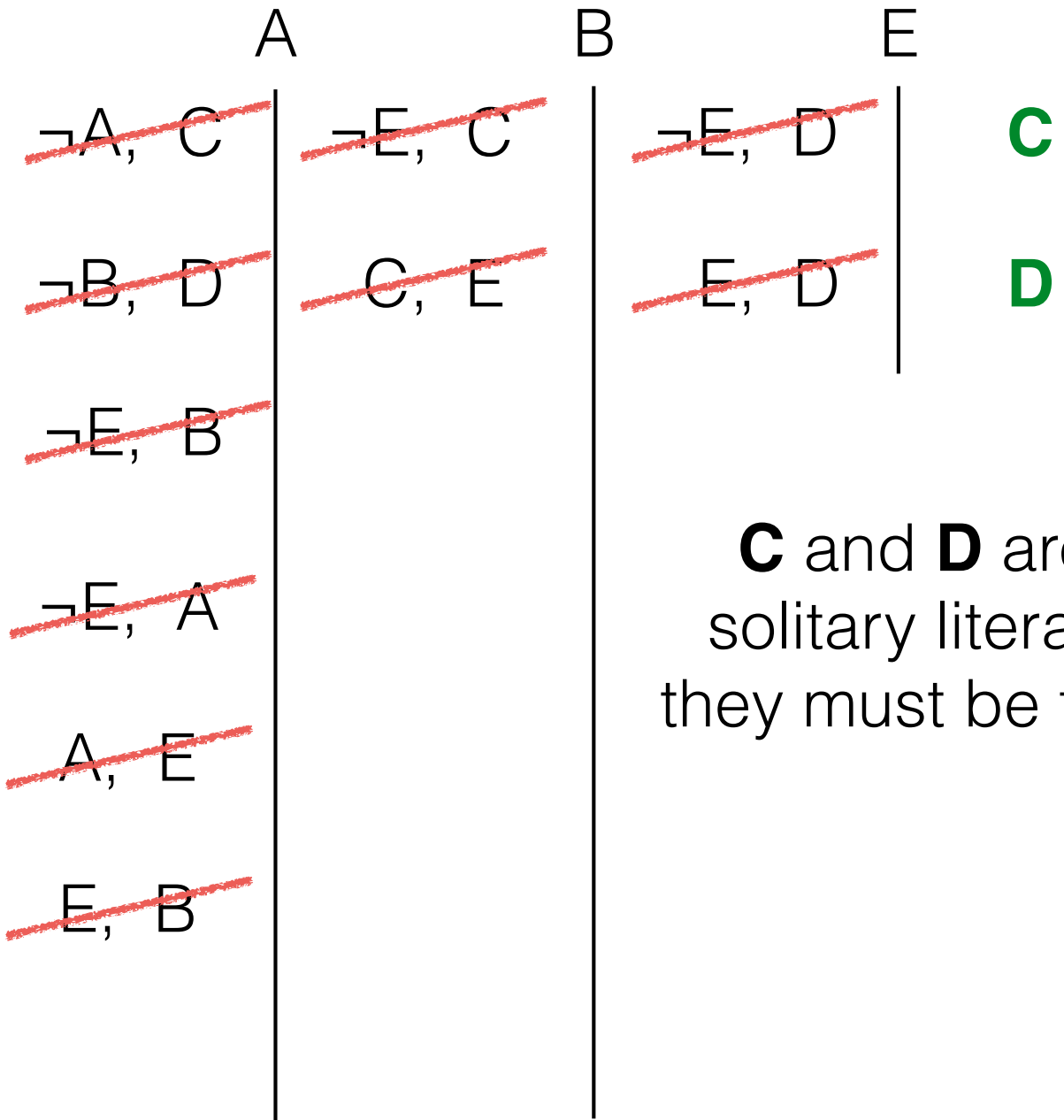
# When resolution 'fails'



A	B	E
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	<b><math>\neg E, C</math></b>	<b><math>\neg E, D</math></b>
<del><math>\neg B, D</math></del>	<b><math>C, E</math></b>	<b><math>E, D</math></b>
<del><math>\neg E, B</math></del>		
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>		
<del><math>A, E</math></del>		
<del><math>E, B</math></del>		

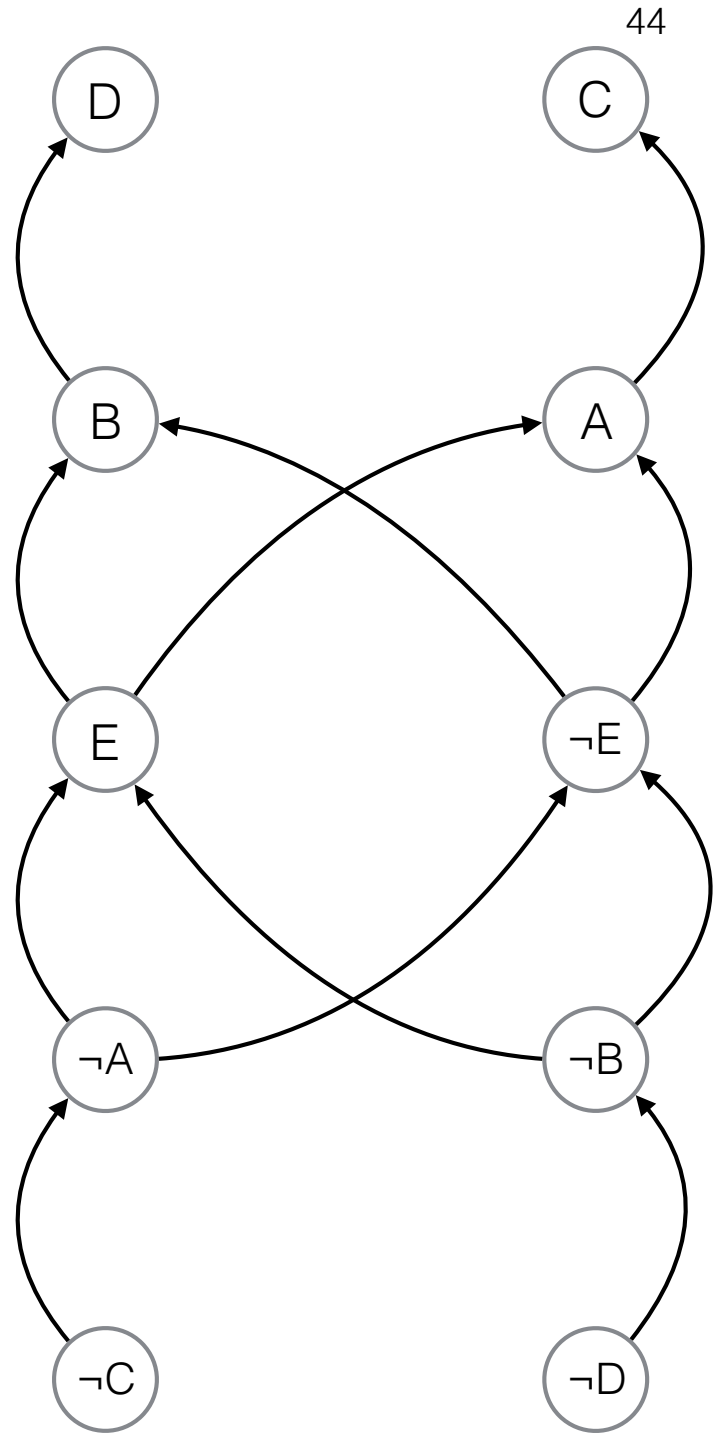


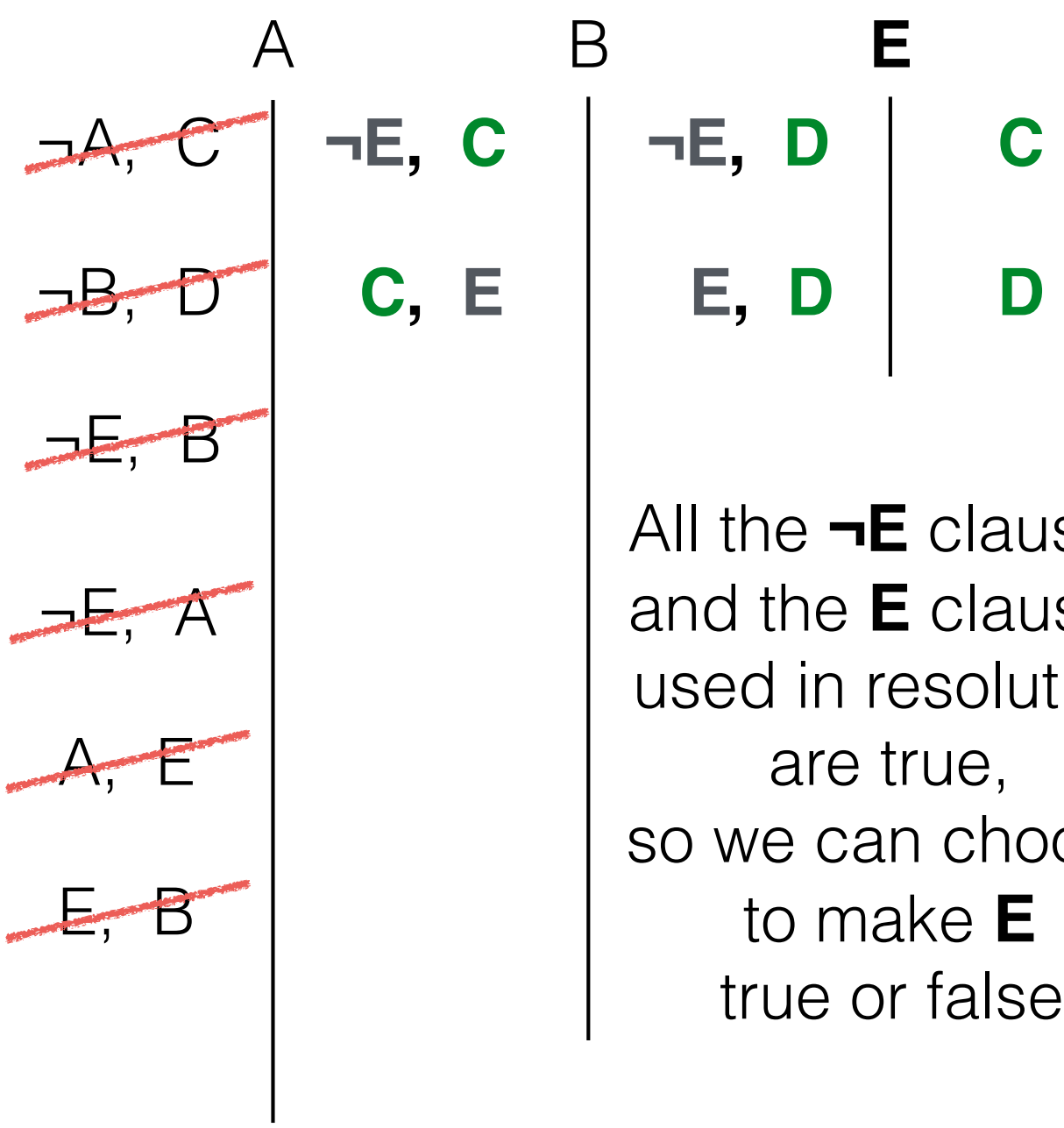




**C** and **D** are solitary literals they must be true

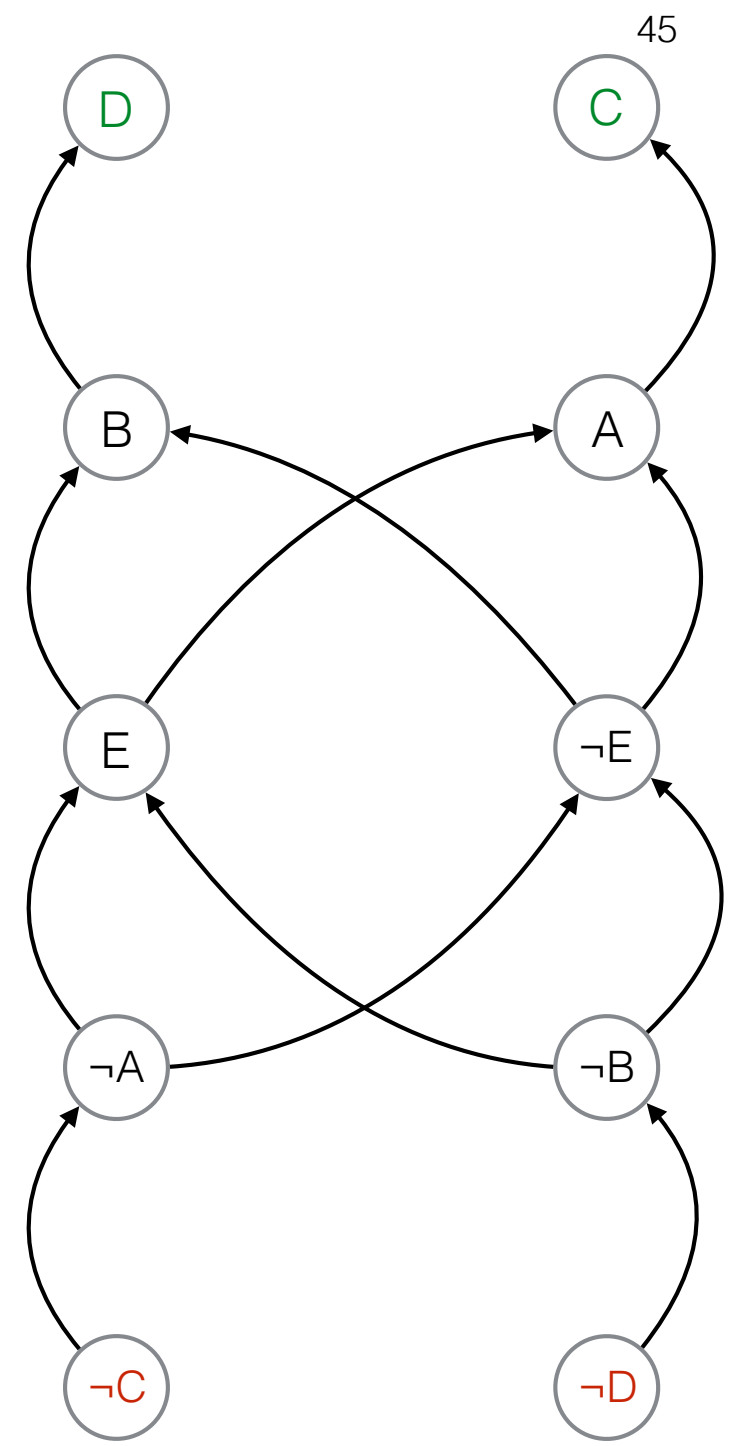
partial valuation [**C, D, ...**]





All the  $\neg E$  clauses and the  $E$  clauses used in resolution are true, so we can choose to make  $E$  true or false

partial valuation [**C, D, ...**]  
**E** can be freely chosen

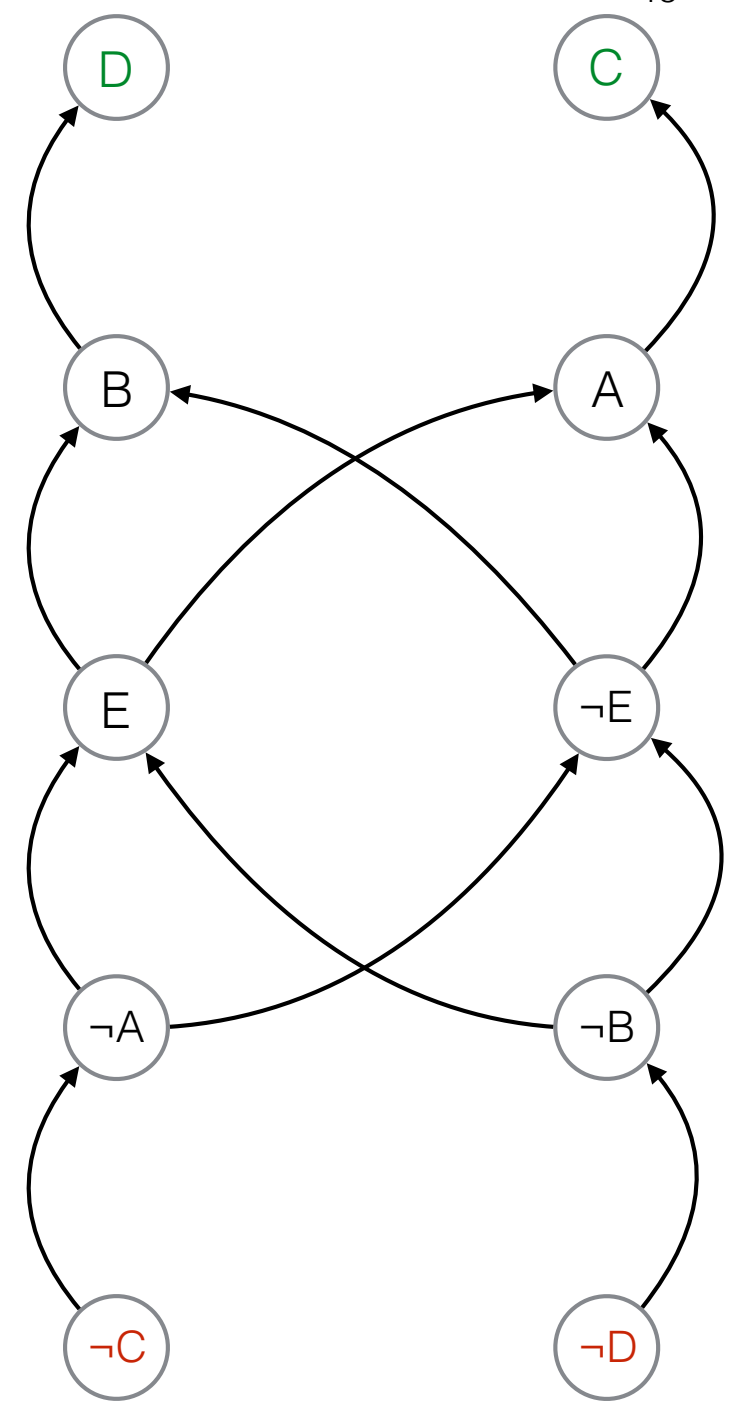


A	B	E
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	$\neg E, C$	$\neg E, D$
$\neg B, D$	$C, E$	$E, D$
$\neg E, B$		
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>		
<del><math>A, E</math></del>		
$E, B$		

No matter how we chose **E**  
 The  $\neg B$  clause is true  
 since **D** is true

No matter how we chose **E**  
 to make both **B** clauses true  
 we must make **B** true

partial valuation [**C, D, ...**]  
**E** can be freely chosen

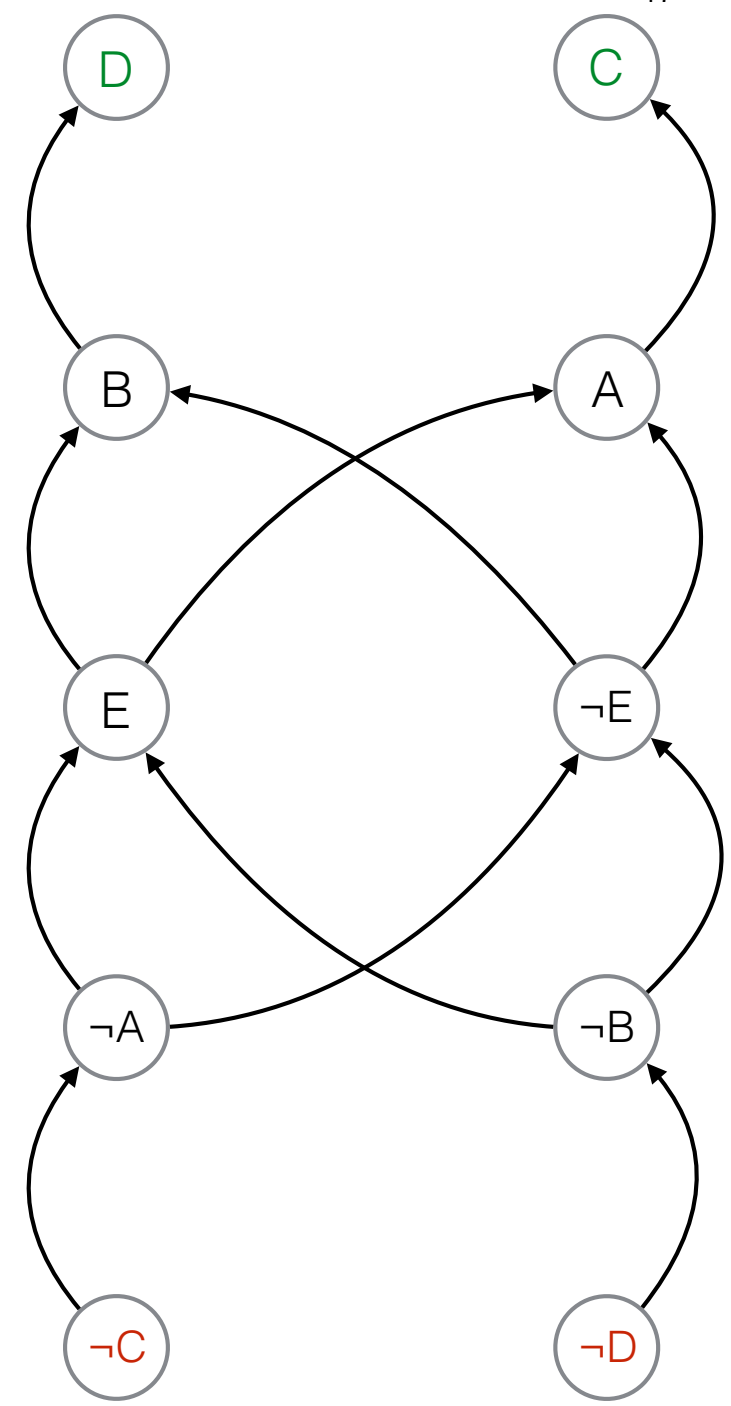


A	B	E
<del><math>\neg A, C</math></del>	$\neg E, C$	$\neg E, D$ C
$\neg B, D$	$C, E$	$E, D$ D
$\neg E, B$		
<del><math>\neg E, A</math></del>		
<del><math>A, E</math></del>		
$E, B$		

No matter how we chose **E**  
 The  $\neg B$  clause is true  
 since **D** is true

No matter how we chose **E**  
 to make both **B** clauses true  
 we must make **B** true

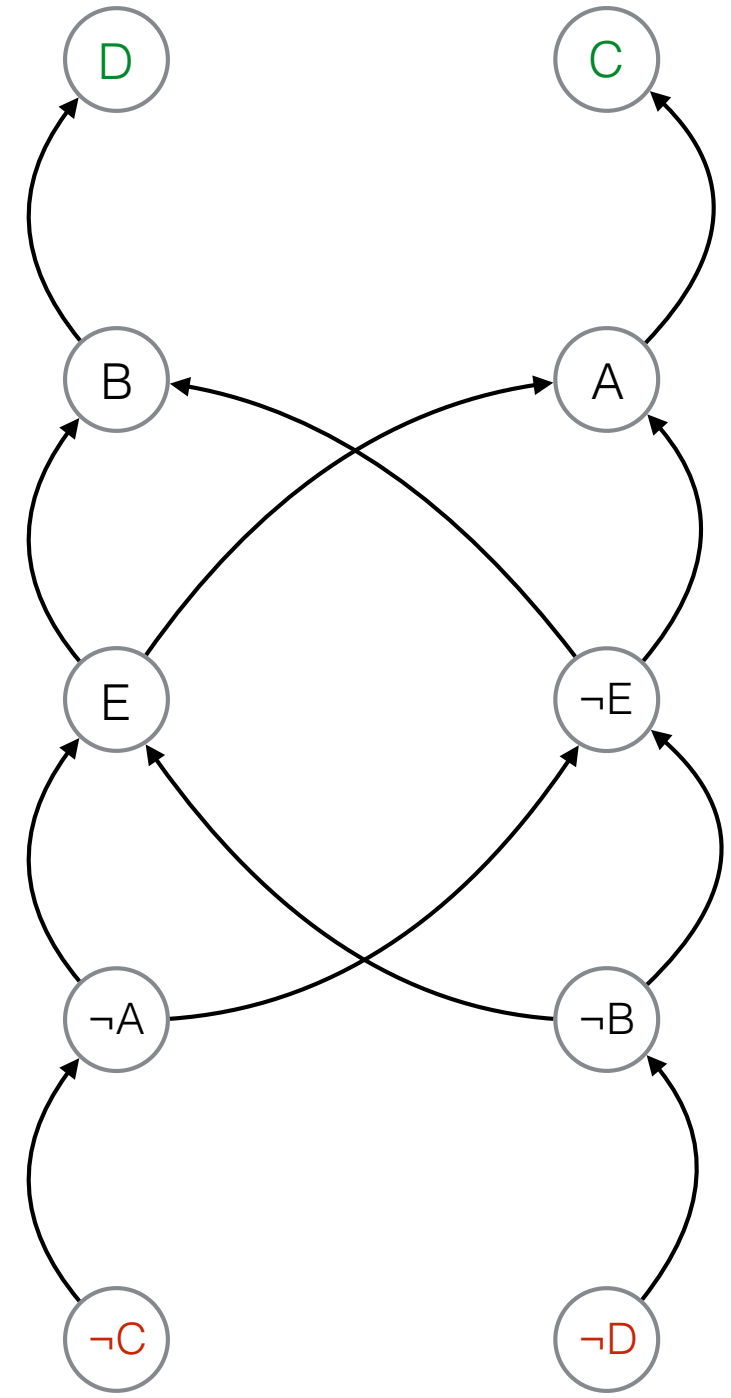
partial valuation [**C, D, B, ...**]  
**E** can be freely chosen



A		B		E	
$\neg A$ , C	$\neg E$ , C	$\neg E$ , D	C		
$\neg B$ , D	C, E	E, D	D		
$\neg E$ , B					

No matter how we chose **E**  
 The  $\neg A$  clause is true  
 since **C** is true

No matter how we chose **E**,  
 to make both **A** clauses true  
 we must make **A** true



partial valuation [**C, D, B, A**]  
**E** can be freely chosen