

Many practical problems can be phrased as constraint satisfaction problems. For many combinatorial problems the constraints can be expressed in propositional logic. In this lecture we look at a particularly simple case, known as 2-SAT, where each constraint is a disjunction involving only two literals.



This diagram shows the truth tables for the 16 possible boolean functions of two variables.

We can also view it as a diagram of the subsets of a situation with four individuals, each representative of one of the four possible combinations of two boolean

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We can also view it as a diagram of the subsets of a situation with four representative individuals for the four possible combinations of two boolean





Each line in the diagram represents the addition of an additional element to the set. Each arrow represents a valid implication



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Binary constraints

You may not take both Archeology and Chemistry If you take Biology you must take Chemistry You must take Biology or Archeology If you take Chemistry you must take Divinity You may not take both Divinity and Biology

 $(\neg A \vee \neg C) \land (\neg B \vee C) \land (B \vee A) \land (\neg C \vee D) \land (\neg D \vee \neg B)$

 $(A \rightarrow \neg C) \land (B \rightarrow C) \land (\neg B \rightarrow A) \land (C \rightarrow D) \land (D \rightarrow \neg B)$















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 $(\neg A \lor \neg C) \land (\neg B \lor C) \land (B \lor A) \land (\neg C \lor D) \land (\neg D \lor \neg B)$

 $(\mathsf{A} {\rightarrow} \neg \mathsf{C}) \land (\mathsf{B} {\rightarrow} \mathsf{C}) \land (\neg \mathsf{B} {\rightarrow} \mathsf{A}) \land (\mathsf{C} {\rightarrow} \mathsf{D}) \land (\mathsf{D} {\rightarrow} \neg \mathsf{B})$







If we have cycles of implications, then all nodes in the cycle must take the same truth value.







This map uses four colours and colours two adjacent states with the same colour. Can we use 3 colours to colour the map so that no two adjacent regions have the same colour



Add a node for each region (we place it at the capital city). The constraints are represented by a graph - a (symmetric) binary relation. We link two capitals if their states share a common border.



We can get rid of the map and focus on the graph.



We introduce atomic propositions Pr = red(Perth), and express the constraints



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To include the sea we need a fourth colour.