

***Advanced consistency  
methods  
Chapter 8***

ICS-275  
Spring 10

# Relational consistency

## (Chapter 8)

---

- Relational arc-consistency
- Relational path-consistency
- Relational m-consistency
- Relational consistency for Boolean and linear constraints:
  - Unit-resolution is relational-arc-consistency
  - Pair-wise resolution is relational path-consistency

# Example

---

- Consider a constraint network over five integer domains, where the constraints take the form of linear equations and the domains are integers bounded by
  - $D_x$  in  $[-2,3]$
  - $D_y$  in  $[-5,7]$
  - $R_{\{xyz\}} := x + y = z$
  - $R_{\{ztl\}} := z + t = l$
  - From  $D_x$  and  $R_{xyz}$  infer  $z-y$  in  $[-2,3]$  from this and  $D_y$  we can infer  $z$  in  $[-7,10]$

# Relational arc-consistency

---

Let  $R$  be a constraint network ,  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  
 $D_1, \dots, D_n$ ,  $R_S$  a relation.

$R_S$  in  $R$  is *relational-arc-consistent* relative to  $x$   
in  $S$ , iff any *consistent* instantiation of the  
variables in  $S - \{x\}$  has an extension to a value  
in  $D_x$  that satisfies  $R_S$ . Namely,

$$\rho(S - x) \subseteq \pi_{S-x} R_S \otimes D_x$$

## Enforcing relational arc-consistency

---

- If arc-consistency is not satisfied add:

$$R_{S-x} \leftarrow R_{S-x} \cap \pi_{S-x} R_S \otimes D_S$$

# Example

---

- $R_{\{xyz\}} = \{(a,a,a), (a,b,c), (b,b,c)\}$ .
- This relation is not relational arc-consistent, but if we add the projection:  
 $R_{\{xy\}} = \{(a,a), (a,b), (b,b)\}$ , then  $R_{\{xyz\}}$  will be relational arc-consistent relative to  $\{z\}$ .
- To make this network relational-arc-consistent, we would have to add all the projections of  $R_{\{xyz\}}$  with respect to all subsets of its variables.

# Relational path-consistency

---

- Let  $R_S$  and  $R_T$  be two constraints in a network.
- $R_S$  and  $R_T$  are relational-path-consistent relative to a variable  $x$  in  $S \cup T$  iff any consistent instantiation of variables in  $S \cap T - \{x\}$  has an extension to in the domain  $D_x$ , s.t.  $R_S$  and  $R_T$  simultaneously;

$$\rho(A) \subseteq \pi_A R_S \otimes R_T \otimes D_x$$

$$A = S \cup T - x$$

- A pair of relations  $R_S$  and  $R_T$  is relational-path-consistent iff it is relational-path-consistent relative to every variable in  $S \cap T$ . A network is relational-path-consistent iff every pair of its relations is relational-path-consistent.

Example:

$$R_{\{xyz\}} := x + y = z$$

$$D_x \text{ in } [-2,3]$$

$$D_y \text{ in } [-5,7]$$

$$R_{\{ztl\}} := z + t = l$$

---

- We can assign to  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $l$  and  $t$  values that are consistent relative to the relational-arc-consistent network generated in earlier. For example, the assignment
- $(x=2, y=-5, t=3, l=15)$  is consistent, since only domain restrictions are applicable, but no value of  $z$  that satisfies  $x+y=z$  and  $z+t=l$ .
- To make the two constraints relational path-consistent relative to  $z$  add :  $x+y+t=l$ .



# Enforcing relational arc, path and m-consistency

- If arc-consistency is not satisfied add:

r.a.c

$$R_{S-x} \leftarrow R_{S-x} \cap \pi_{S-x} R_S \otimes D_S$$

r.p.c

$$\rho(A) \subseteq \pi_A R_S \otimes R_T \otimes D_x$$

$$A = S \cup T - x$$

$$\rho(A) \subseteq \pi_A \otimes_{i=1,m} R_{S_i} \otimes D_x$$

r.m.c

$$A = S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_m - x$$

# Extended composition

---

- The extended composition of relation  $R_{\{S_1\}}, \dots, R_{\{S_m\}}$  relative to  $A$  is defined by

$$EC_A(R_1, \dots, R_m) = \pi_A(R_1 \otimes R_2 \otimes \dots \otimes R_m)$$

- If the projection operation is restricted to subsets of size  $i$ , it is called extended  $(i, m)$ -composition.
- Special cases: domain propagation and relational arc-consistency

$$D_x \leftarrow D_x \cap \pi_x R_S \otimes D_S$$

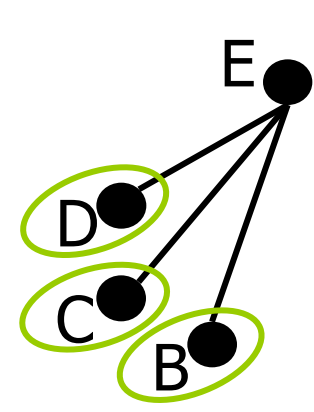
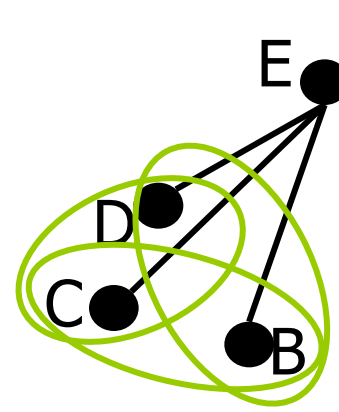
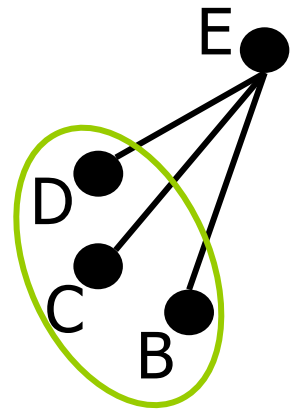
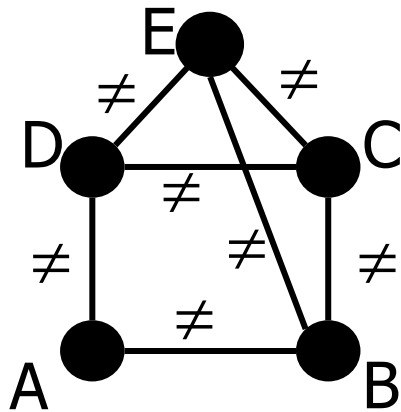
$$R_{S-x} \leftarrow R_{S-x} \cap \pi_{S-x} R_S \otimes D_S$$

## Directional relational consistency

---

- Given an ordering  $d$ , a constraint network  $R$  is  **$m$ -directionally relationally consistent** r.t  $d$  iff for every subset  $R_1 \dots, R_m$  whose latest variable is  $x_l$ , for every  $A$  in  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{l-1}\}$ , every consistent assignment to  $A$  can be extended to  $x_l$  simultaneously satisfying all these constraints.

# Summary: directional i-consistency



Adaptive

d-path

d-arc

**E:**  $E \neq D, E \neq C, E \neq B$

**D:**  $D \neq C, D \neq A$

**C:**  $C \neq B$

**B:**  $A \neq B$

**A:**

$R_{DCB}$

$R_{DC}, R_{DB}$

$R_{CB}$

$R_D$

$R_C$

$R_B$

# Example: crossword puzzle

$$R_{1,2,3,4,5} = \{(H, O, S, E, S), (L, A, S, E, R), (S, H, E, E, T), \\ (S, N, A, I, L), (S, T, E, E, R)\}$$

$$R_{3,6,9,12} = \{(H, I, K, E), (A, R, O, N), (K, E, E, T), (E, A, R, N), \\ (S, A, M, E)\}$$

$$R_{5,7,11} = \{(R, U, N), (S, U, N), (L, E, T), (Y, E, S), (E, A, T), (T, E, N)\}$$

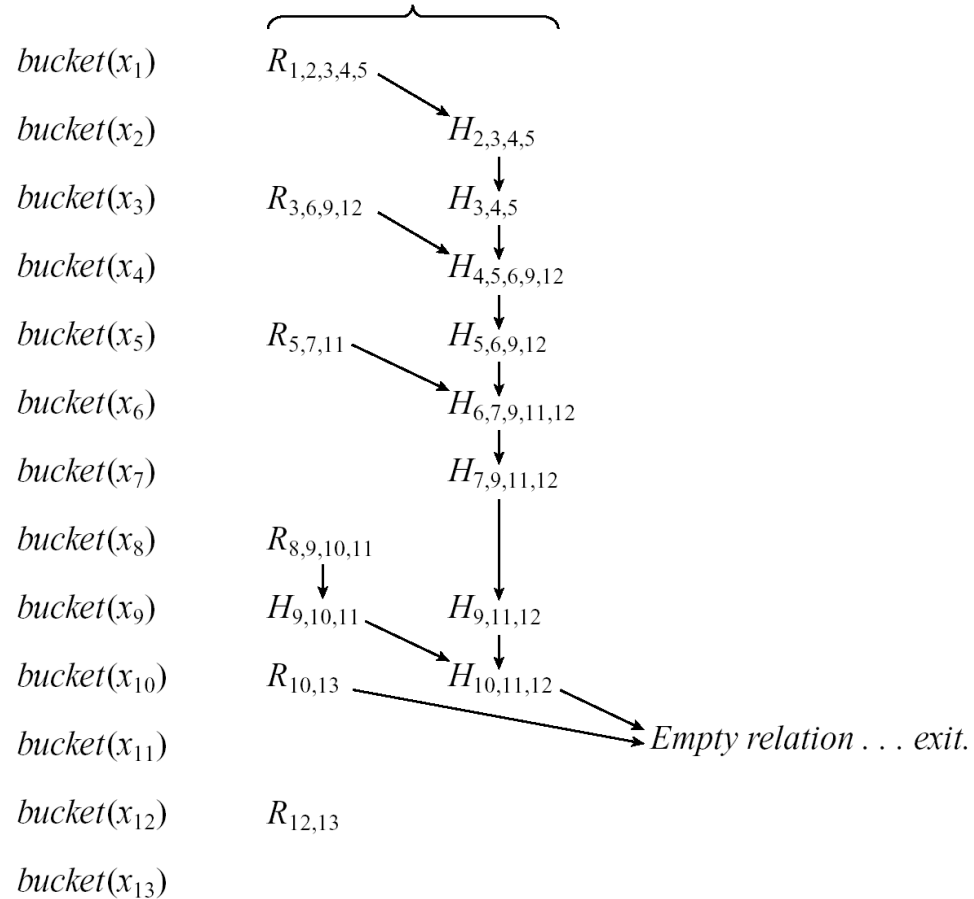
$$R_{8,9,10,11} = R_{3,6,9,12}$$

$$R_{10,13} = \{(N, O), (B, E), (U, S), (I, T)\}$$

$$R_{12,13} = R_{10,13}$$

1	2	3	4	5
		6		7
	8	9	10	11
		12	13	

# Example: crossword puzzle, DRC\_2



# Complexity

---

- Even DRC\_2 is exponential in the induced-width.
- Crossword puzzles can be made directional backtrack-free by DRC\_2

# Domain tightness

---

- **Theorem:** a strong relational 2-consistent constraint network over bi-valued domains is globally consistent.
- **Theorem:** A strong relational  $k$ -consistent constraint network with at most  $k$  values is globally consistent.



# Inference for Boolean theories

---

- Resolution is identical to Extended 2 decomposition
- Boolean theories have domain size 2
- Therefore DRC\_2 makes a cnf globally consistent.
- DRC\_2 expressed on cnfs is directional resolution

# Directional resolution

## DIRECTIONAL-RESOLUTION

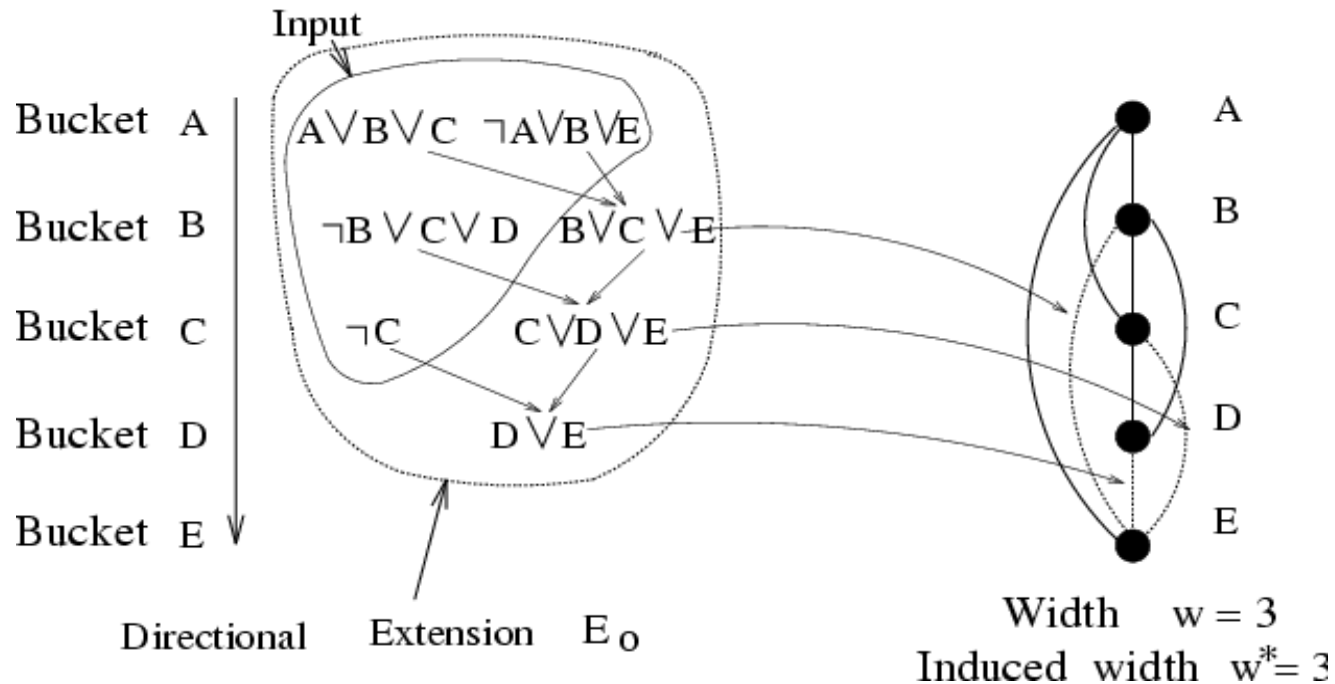
**Input:** A *CNF* theory  $\varphi$ , an ordering  $d = Q_1, \dots, Q_n$  of its variables.

**Output:** A decision of whether  $\varphi$  is satisfiable. If it is, a theory  $E_d(\varphi)$ , equivalent to  $\varphi$ , else an empty directional extension.

1. **Initialize:** generate an ordered partition of clauses into buckets.  $bucket_1, \dots, bucket_n$ , where  $bucket_i$  contains all clauses whose highest literal is  $Q_i$ .
2. **for**  $i \leftarrow n$  **downto** 1 **process**  $bucket_i$ :
3.     **if** there is a unit clause **then** (the instantiation step)  
        apply unit-resolution in  $bucket_i$  and place the resolvents in their right buckets.  
        **if** the empty clause was generated, theory is not satisfiable.
4.     **else** resolve each pair  $\{(\alpha \vee Q_i), (\beta \vee \neg Q_i)\} \subseteq bucket_i$ .  
        **if**  $\gamma = \alpha \vee \beta$  is empty, return  $E_d(\varphi) = \{\}$ , theory is not satisfiable  
        **else** determine the index of  $\gamma$  and add it to the appropriate bucket.
5. **return**  $E_d(\varphi) \leftarrow \bigcup_i bucket_i$

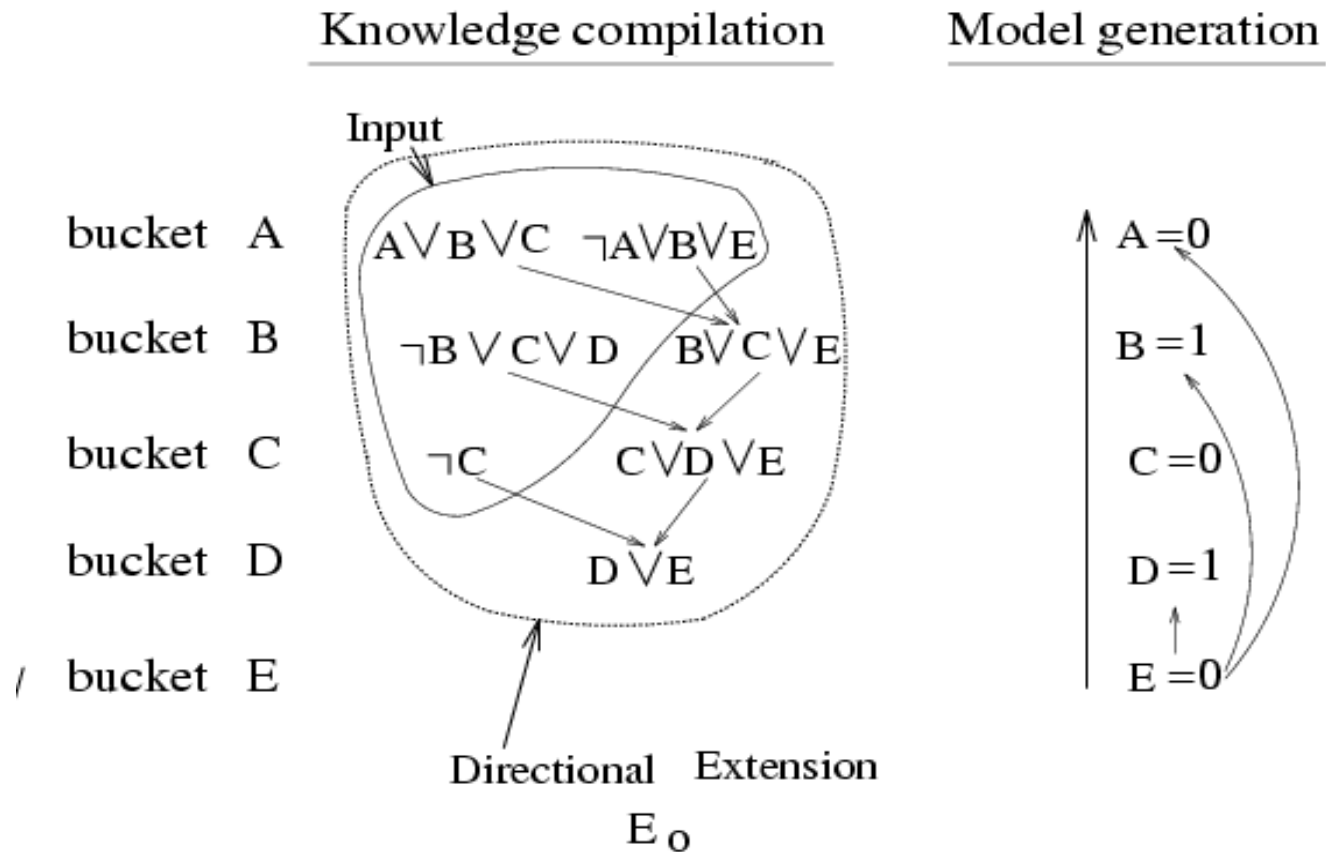
Figure 4.20: Directional-resolution

# DR resolution = adaptive-consistency=directional relational path-consistency



$|bucket_i| = O(\exp(w^*))$   
 DR time and space:  $O(n \exp(w^*))$

# Directional Resolution $\Leftrightarrow$ Adaptive Consistency



# History

---

- 1960 – resolution-based Davis-Putnam algorithm
- 1962 – resolution step replaced by conditioning (Davis, Logemann and Loveland, 1962) to avoid memory explosion, resulting into a backtracking search algorithm known as Davis-Putnam (DP), or DPLL procedure.
- The dependency on induced width was not known in 1960.
- 1994 – Directional Resolution (DR), a rediscovery of the original Davis-Putnam, identification of tractable classes (Dechter and Rish, 1994).

# Complexity of DR

---

**Theorem 4.7.6** (*complexity of DR*)

*Given a theory  $\varphi$  and an ordering of its variables  $\sigma$ , the time complexity of algorithm DR along  $\sigma$  is  $O(n \cdot 9^{w_\sigma^*})$ , and  $E_\sigma(\varphi)$  contains at most  $n \cdot 3^{w_\sigma^*+1}$  clauses, where  $w_\sigma^*$  is the induced width of  $\varphi$ 's interaction graph along  $\sigma$ .  $\square$*

- 2-cnfs and Horn theories

**Theorem 4.7.7** *Given a 2-cnf theory  $\varphi$ , its directional extension  $E_\sigma(\varphi)$  along any ordering  $\sigma$  is of size  $O(n \cdot w_\sigma^{*2})$ , and can be generated in  $O(n \cdot w_\sigma^{*2})$  time.*

**Theorem 4.7.8** *The consistency of Horn theories can be determined by unit propagation. If the empty clause is not generated, the theory is satisfiable.  $\square$*

# Linear inequalities

---

- Consider  $r$ -ary constraints over a subset of variables  $x_1, \dots, x_r$  of the form
- $a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_r x_r \leq c$ ,  $a_i$  are rational constants. The  $r$ -ary inequalities define corresponding  $r$ -ary relations that are row convex.
- Since  $r$ -ary linear inequalities that are closed under relational path-consistency are row-convex, relative to any set of integer domains (using the natural ordering).
- **Proposition:** A set of linear inequalities that is closed under RC\_2 is globally consistent.

# Linear inequalities

---

- Gaussian elimination with domain constraint is relational-arc-consistency
- Gaussian elimination of 2 inequalities is relational path-consistency
- **Theorem:** directional relational path-consistency is complete for CNFs and for linear inequalities



### DIRECTIONAL-LINEAR-ELIMINATION ( $\varphi, d$ )

**Input:** A set of linear inequalities  $\varphi$ , an ordering  $d = x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

**Output:** A decision of whether  $\varphi$  is satisfiable. If it is, a backtrack-free theory  $E_d(\varphi)$ .

1. **Initialize:** Partition inequalities into ordered buckets.
2. **for**  $i \leftarrow n$  **downto** 1 **do**
3.     **if**  $x_i$  has one value in its domain **then**
  - substitute the value into each inequality in the bucket and put the resulting inequality in the right bucket.
4.     **else, for each pair**  $\{\alpha, \beta\} \subseteq \text{bucket}_i$ , **compute**  $\gamma = \text{elim}_i(\alpha, \beta)$ 
  - **if**  $\gamma$  has no solutions, **return**  $E_d(\varphi) = \{\}$ , “inconsistency”
  - **else** add  $\gamma$  to the appropriate lower bucket.
5. **return**  $E_d(\varphi) \leftarrow \bigcup_i \text{bucket}_i$

Figure 4.22: Fourier Elimination; DLE

## **Directional linear elimination, DLE : generates a backtrack-free representation**

---

**Theorem 4.8.3** *Given a set of linear inequalities  $\varphi$ , algorithm DLE (Fourier elimination) decides the consistency of  $\varphi$  over the Rationals and the Reals, and it generates an equivalent backtrack-free representation.  $\square$*

# Example

---

$bucket_4 : 5x_4 + 3x_2 - x_1 \leq 5, x_4 + x_1 \leq 2, -x_4 \leq 0,$   
 $bucket_3 : x_3 \leq 5, x_1 + x_2 - x_3 \leq -10$   
 $bucket_2 : x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 0.$   
 $bucket_1 :$

Figure 4.23: initial buckets

$bucket_4 : 5x_4 + 3x_2 - x_1 \leq 5, x_4 + x_1 \leq 2, -x_4 \leq 0,$   
 $bucket_3 : x_3 \leq 5, x_1 + x_2 - x_3 \leq -10$   
 $bucket_2 : x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 0 \parallel 3x_2 - x_1 \leq 5, x_1 + x_2 \leq -5$   
 $bucket_1 : \parallel x_1 \leq 2.$

Figure 4.24: final buckets