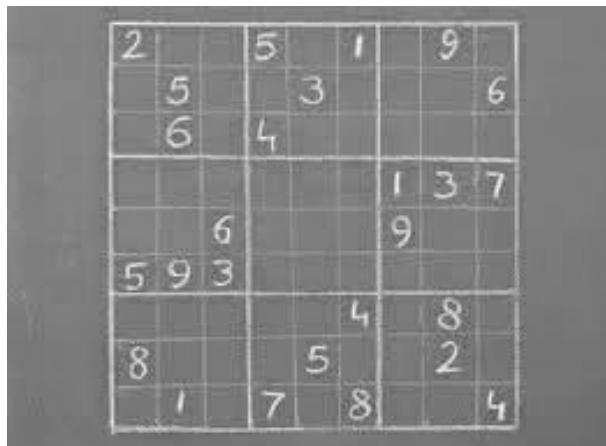


# Constraint Satisfaction Problems (CSPs)



# Roadmap

**Modeling**

Definitions

Examples

**Backtracking (exact) search**

Dynamic ordering

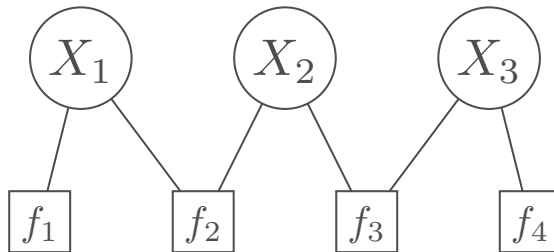
Arc consistency

**Approximate search**

Beam search

Local search

# Review: CSPs



## Definition: factor graph

Variables:

$X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ , where  $X_i \in \text{Domain}_i$

Factors:

$f_1, \dots, f_m$ , with each  $f_j(X) \geq 0$



## Definition: assignment weight

Each **assignment**  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  has a **weight**:

$$\text{Weight}(x) = \prod_{j=1}^m f_j(x)$$

Objective:

$$\arg \max_x \text{Weight}(x)$$

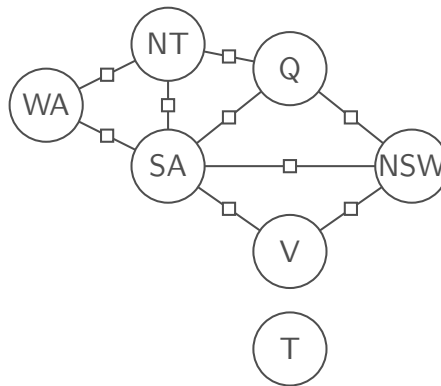
# Map coloring



(one possible solution)



## Example: map coloring



Variables:

$$X = (\text{WA}, \text{NT}, \text{SA}, \text{Q}, \text{NSW}, \text{V}, \text{T})$$

$$\text{Domain}_i \in \{\text{R}, \text{G}, \text{B}\}$$

Factors:

$$f_1(X) = [\text{WA} \neq \text{NT}]$$

$$f_2(X) = [\text{NT} \neq \text{Q}]$$

...



# Lecture

**Dynamic Ordering**

Arc Consistency

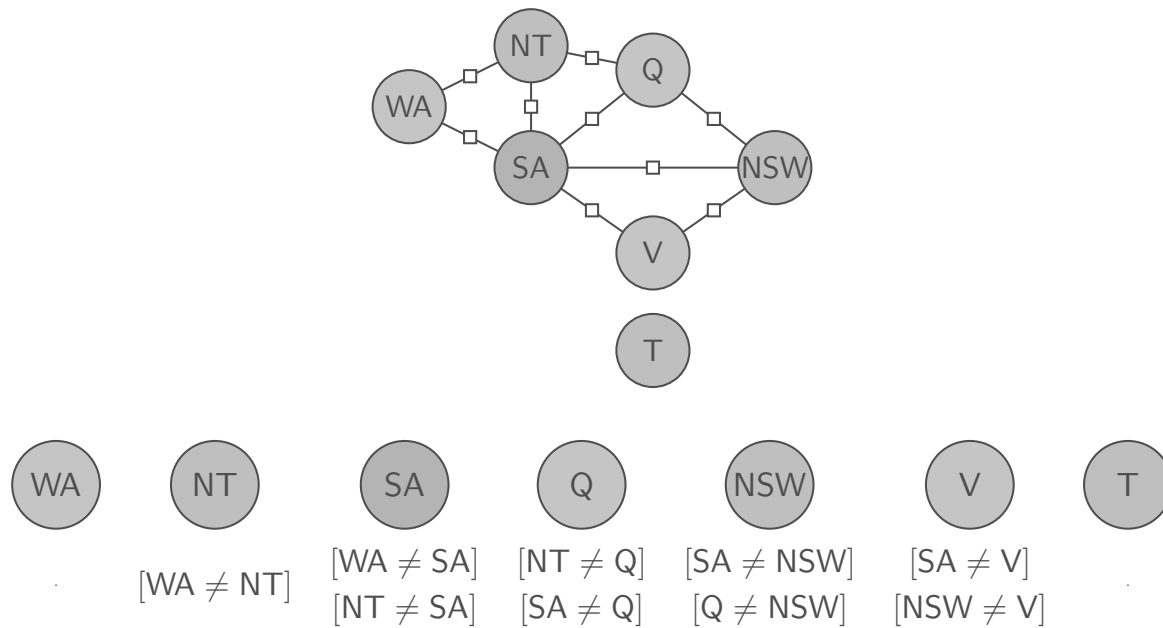
Beam Search

Local Search



# Partial assignment weights

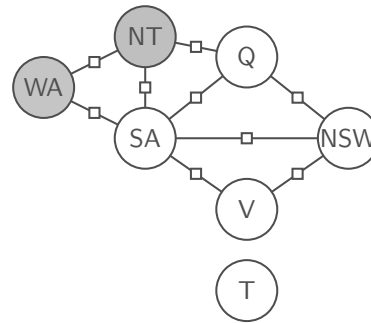
Idea: compute weight of partial assignment as we go





# Dependent factors

- Partial assignment (e.g.,  $x = \{WA : R, NT : G\}$ )



## Definition: dependent factors

Let  $D(x, X_i)$  be set of factors depending on  $X_i$  and  $x$  but not on unassigned variables.

$$D(\{WA : R, NT : G\}, SA) = \{[WA \neq SA], [NT \neq SA]\}$$

# Backtracking search



## Algorithm: backtracking search

Backtrack( $x, w, \text{Domains}$ ):

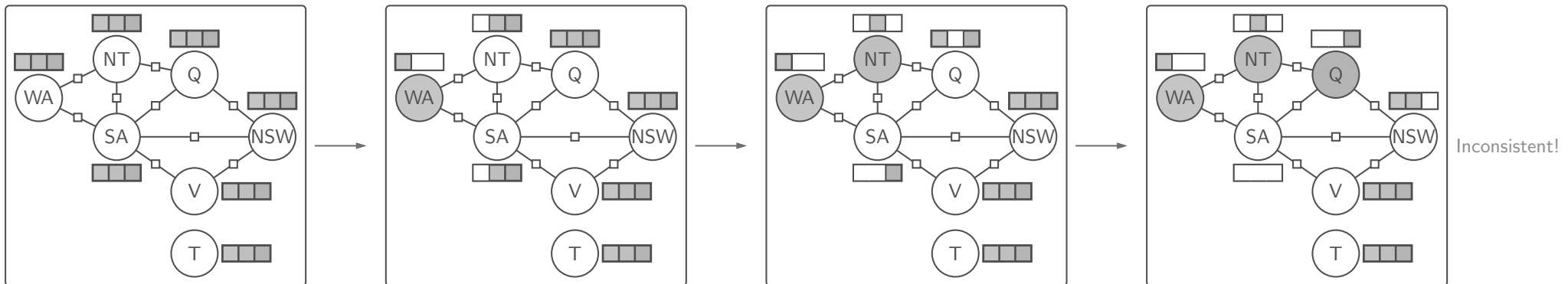
- If  $x$  is complete assignment: update best and return
- Choose unassigned **VARIABLE**  $X_i$
- Order **VALUES**  $\text{Domain}_i$  of chosen  $X_i$
- For each value  $v$  in that order:
  - $\delta \leftarrow \prod_{f_j \in D(x, X_i)} f_j(x \cup \{X_i : v\})$
  - If  $\delta = 0$ : continue
  - $\text{Domains}' \leftarrow \text{Domains}$  via **LOOKAHEAD**
  - If any  $\text{Domains}'_i$  is empty: continue
  - Backtrack( $x \cup \{X_i : v\}, w\delta, \text{Domains}'$ )

# Lookahead: forward checking

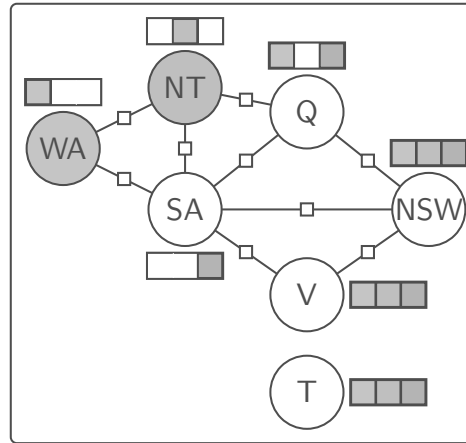


**Key idea: forward checking (one-step lookahead)**

- After assigning a variable  $X_i$ , eliminate inconsistent values from the domains of  $X_i$ 's neighbors.
- If any domain becomes empty, return.



# Choosing an unassigned variable



Which variable to assign next?



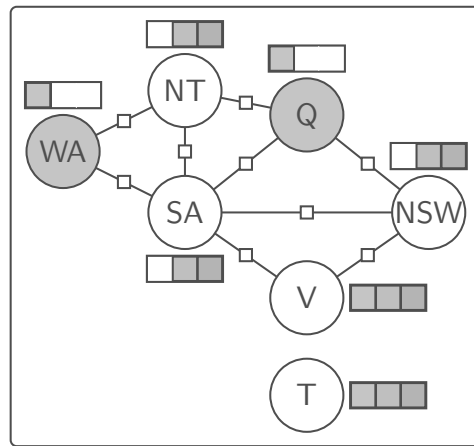
**Key idea: most constrained variable**

Choose variable that has the smallest domain.

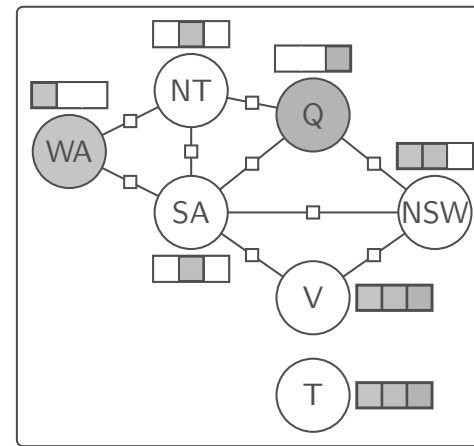
This example: SA (has only one value)

# Ordering values of a selected variable

What values to try for Q?



$2 + 2 + 2 = 6$  consistent values



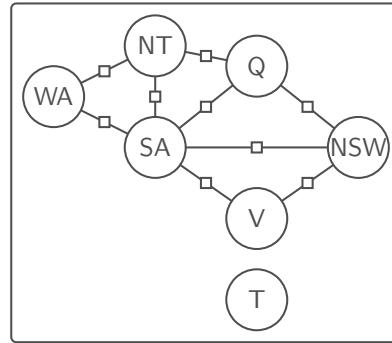
$1 + 1 + 2 = 4$  consistent values



**Key idea: least constrained value**

Order values of selected  $X_i$  by decreasing number of consistent values of neighboring variables.

# When to fail?



Most constrained variable (MCV):

- Must assign **every** variable
- If going to fail, fail early  $\Rightarrow$  more pruning

Least constrained value (LCV):

- Need to choose **some** value
- Choose value that is most likely to lead to solution

## When do these heuristics help?

- Most constrained variable: useful when **some** factors are constraints (can prune assignments with weight 0)

$$[x_1 = x_2]$$

$$[x_2 \neq x_3] + 2$$

- Least constrained value: useful when **all** factors are constraints (all assignment weights are 1 or 0)

$$[x_1 = x_2]$$

$$[x_2 \neq x_3]$$

- Forward checking: needed to prune domains to make heuristics useful!



# Summary



## Algorithm: backtracking search

Backtrack( $x, w, \text{Domains}$ ):

- If  $x$  is complete assignment: update best and return
- Choose unassigned **VARIABLE**  $X_i$  (MCV)
- Order **VALUES**  $\text{Domain}_i$  of chosen  $X_i$  (LCV)
- For each value  $v$  in that order:
  - $\delta \leftarrow \prod_{f_j \in D(x, X_i)} f_j(x \cup \{X_i : v\})$
  - If  $\delta = 0$ : continue
  - $\text{Domains}' \leftarrow \text{Domains}$  via **LOOKAHEAD** (forward checking)
  - If any  $\text{Domains}'_i$  is empty: continue
  - Backtrack( $x \cup \{X_i : v\}, w\delta, \text{Domains}'$ )





# Lecture

Dynamic Ordering

**Arc Consistency**

Beam Search

Local Search

# Arc consistency: example



## Example: numbers

Before enforcing arc consistency on  $X_i$ :

$$X_i \in \text{Domain}_i = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$X_j \in \text{Domain}_j = \{1, 2\}$$

$$\text{Factor: } [X_i + X_j = 4]$$

After enforcing arc consistency on  $X_i$ :

$$X_i \in \text{Domain}_i = \{2, 3\}$$

|       |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|
| $X_i$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| $X_j$ | 1 | 2 |   |   |   |

# Arc consistency



## Definition: arc consistency

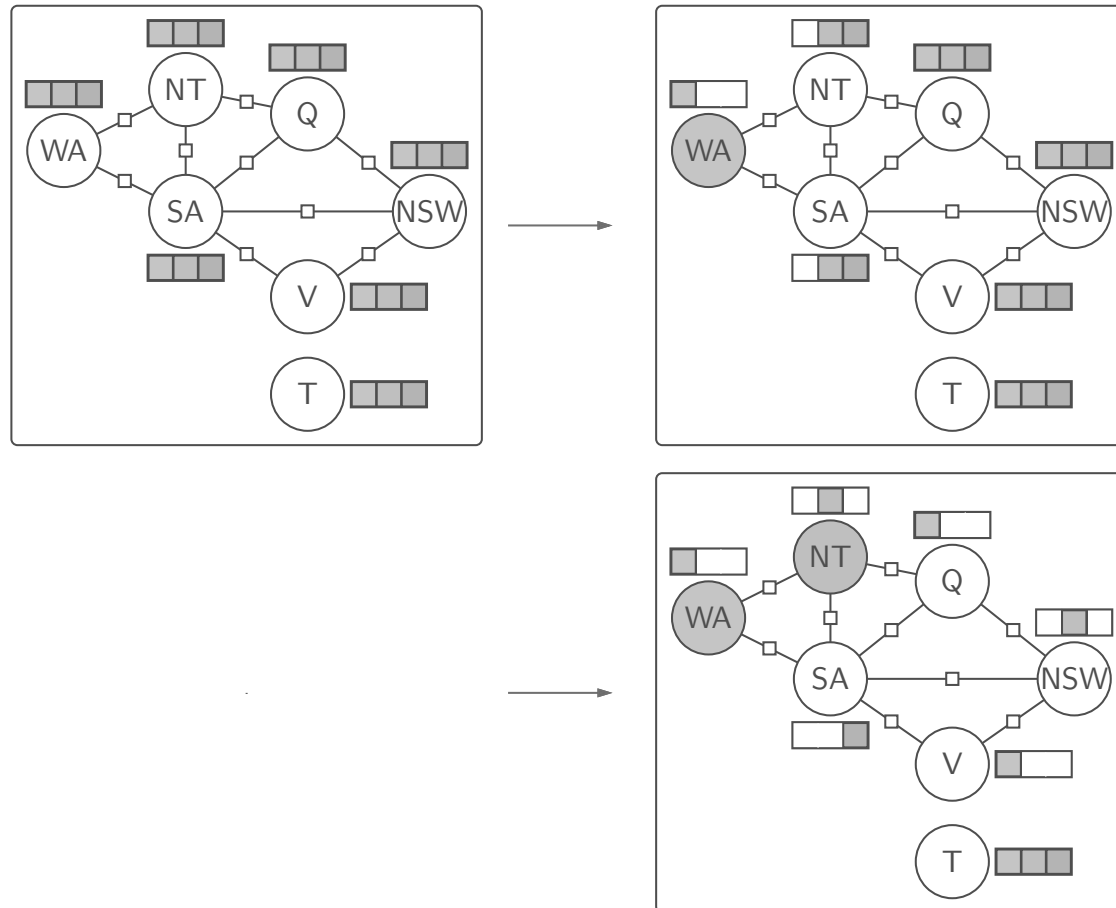
A variable  $X_i$  is **arc consistent** with respect to  $X_j$  if for each  $x_i \in \text{Domain}_i$ , there exists  $x_j \in \text{Domain}_j$  such that  $f(\{X_i : x_i, X_j : x_j\}) \neq 0$  for all factors  $f$  whose scope contains  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ .



## Algorithm: enforce arc consistency

$\text{EnforceArcConsistency}(X_i, X_j)$ : Remove values from  $\text{Domain}_i$  to make  $X_i$  arc consistent with respect to  $X_j$ .

## AC-3 (example)



# AC-3

Forward checking: when assign  $X_j : x_j$ , set  $\text{Domain}_j = \{x_j\}$  and enforce arc consistency on all neighbors  $X_i$  with respect to  $X_j$

AC-3: repeatedly enforce arc consistency on all variables



## Algorithm: AC-3

$S \leftarrow \{X_j\}$ .

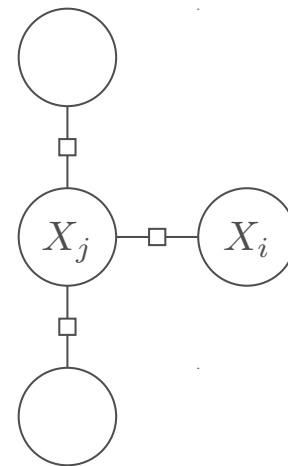
While  $S$  is non-empty:

    Remove any  $X_j$  from  $S$ .

    For all neighbors  $X_i$  of  $X_j$ :

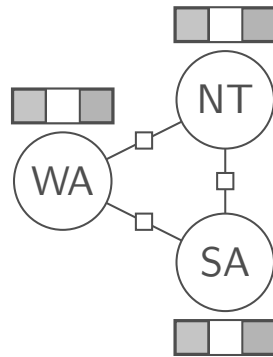
        Enforce arc consistency on  $X_i$  w.r.t.  $X_j$ .

        If  $\text{Domain}_i$  changed, add  $X_i$  to  $S$ .



# Limitations of AC-3

- AC-3 isn't always effective:



- No consistent assignments, but AC-3 doesn't detect a problem!
- Intuition: if we look locally at the graph, nothing blatantly wrong...



# Summary

- Enforcing arc consistency: make domains consistent with factors
- Forward checking: enforces arc consistency on neighbors
- AC-3: enforces arc consistency on neighbors and their neighbors, etc.
- Lookahead very important for backtracking search!



# Lecture

Dynamic Ordering

Arc Consistency

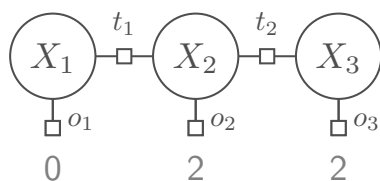
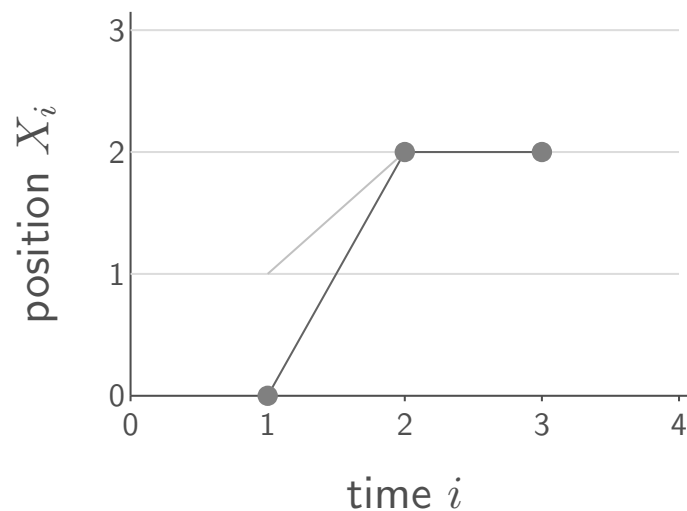
**Beam Search**

Local Search





# Example: object tracking



| $x_1$ | $o_1(x_1)$ |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 2          |
| 1     | 1          |
| 2     | 0          |

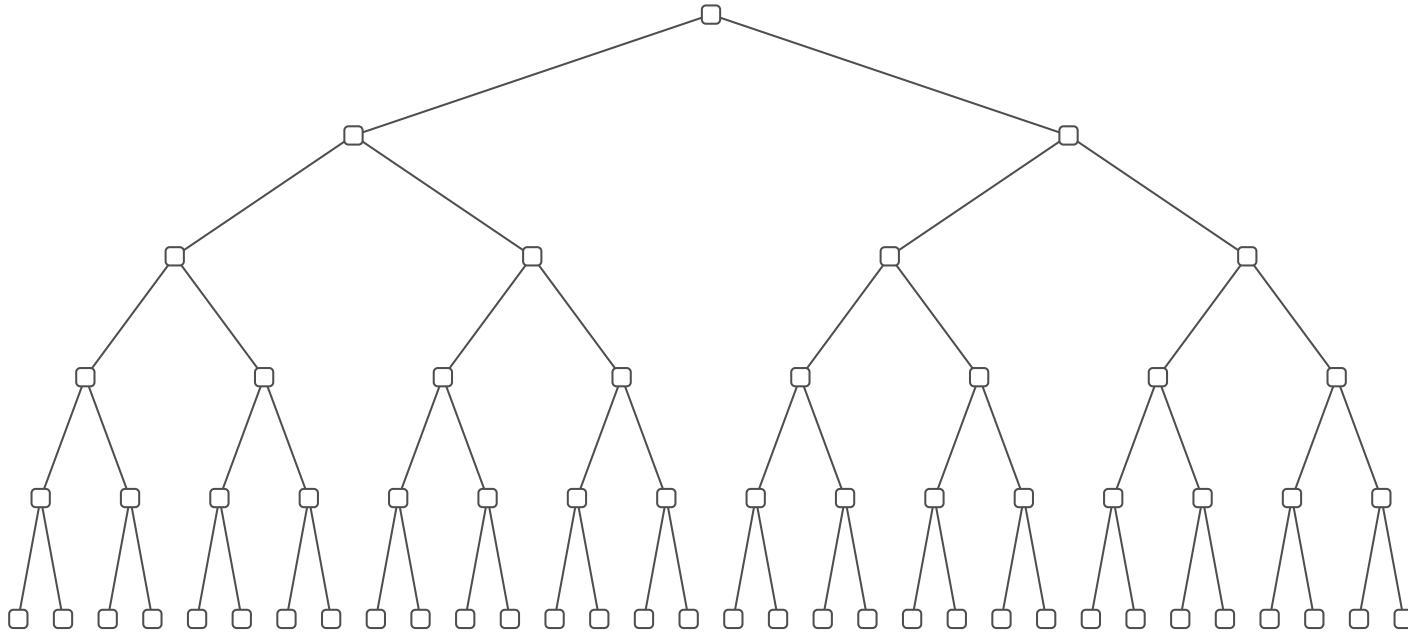
| $x_2$ | $o_2(x_2)$ |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 0          |
| 1     | 1          |
| 2     | 2          |

| $x_3$ | $o_3(x_3)$ |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 0          |
| 1     | 1          |
| 2     | 2          |

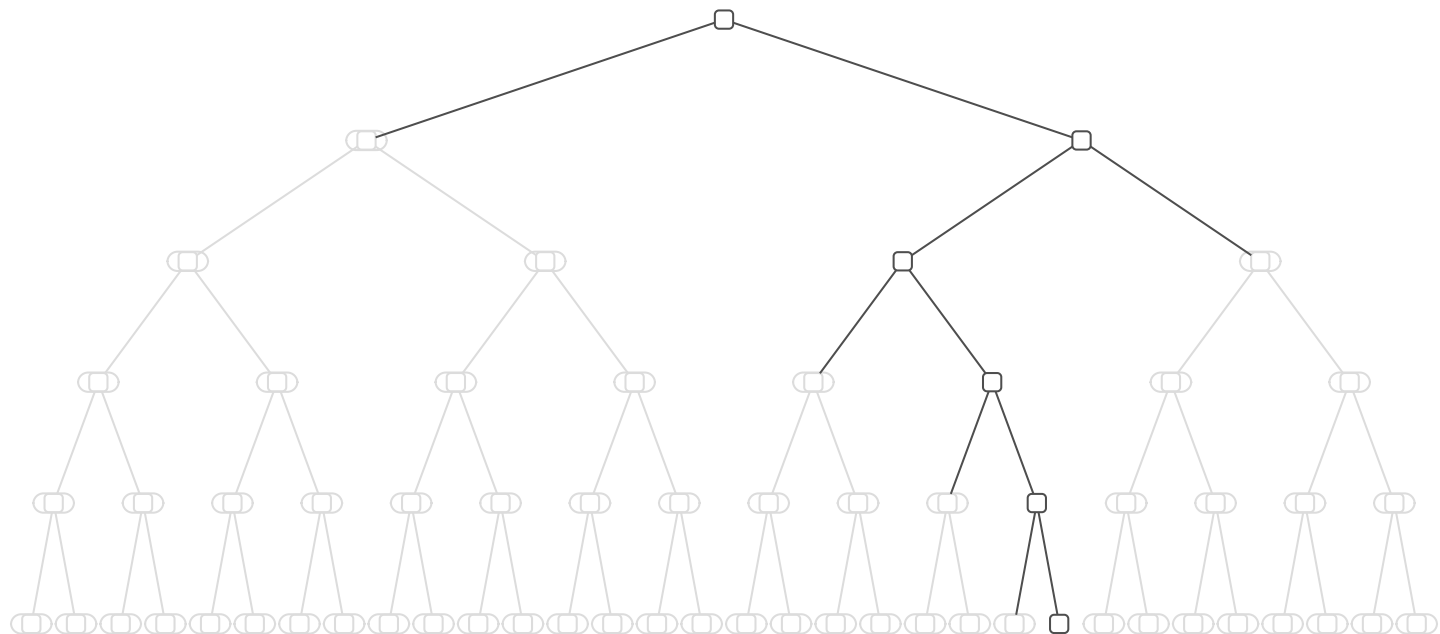
| $ x_i - x_{i+1} $ | $t_i(x_i, x_{i+1})$ |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 0                 | 2                   |
| 1                 | 1                   |
| 2                 | 0                   |

[demo]

# Backtracking search



# Greedy search



# Greedy search



## Algorithm: greedy search

Partial assignment  $x \leftarrow \{\}$

For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ :

Extend:

    Compute weight of each  $x_v = x \cup \{X_i : v\}$

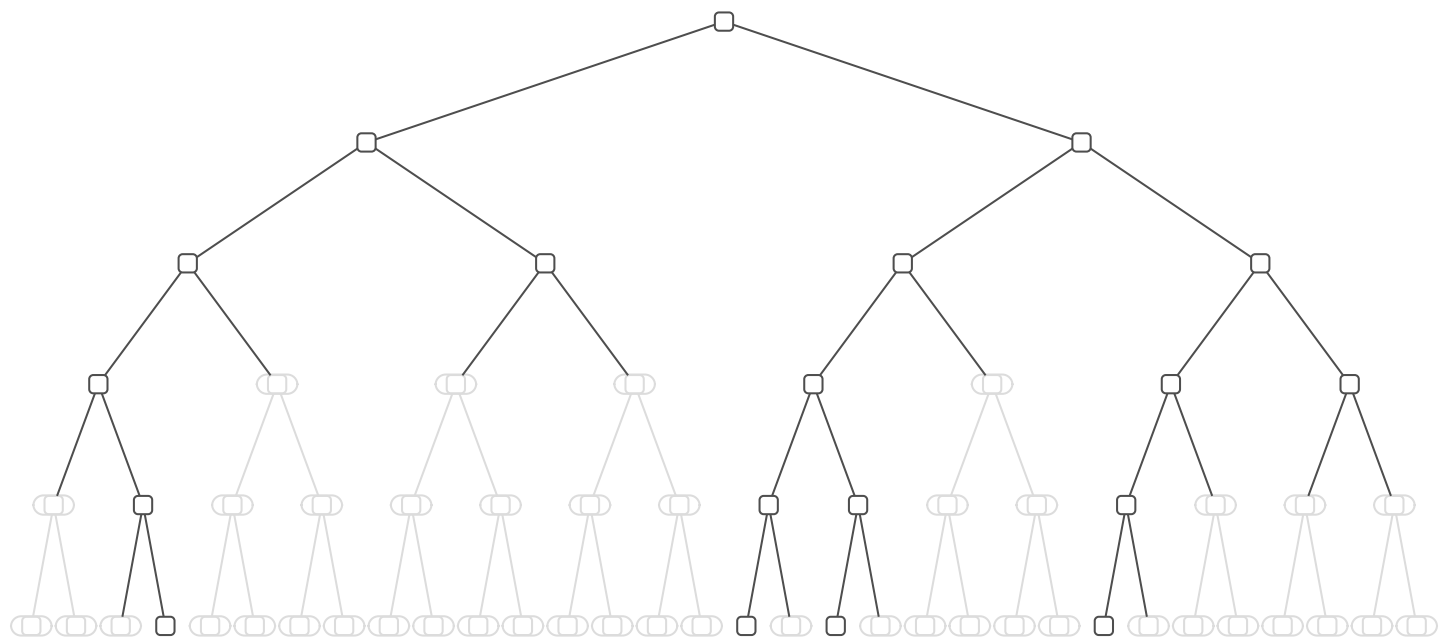
Prune:

$x \leftarrow x_v$  with highest weight

Not guaranteed to find maximum weight assignment!

[demo: beamSearch({K:1})]

# Beam search



Beam size  $K = 4$

# Beam search

Idea: keep  $\leq K$  **candidate list**  $C$  of partial assignments



## Algorithm: beam search

Initialize  $C \leftarrow [\{\}]$

For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ :

Extend:

$$C' \leftarrow \{x \cup \{X_i : v\} : x \in C, v \in \text{Domain}_i\}$$

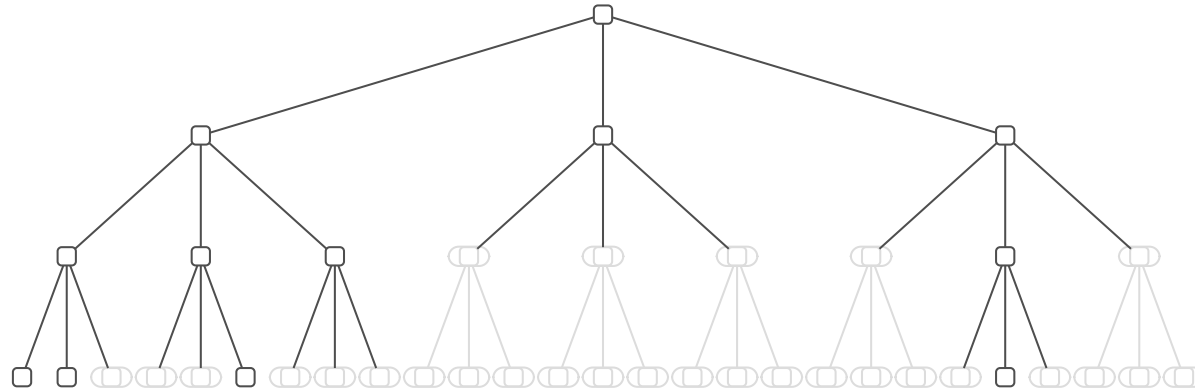
Prune:

$C \leftarrow K$  elements of  $C'$  with highest weights

Not guaranteed to find maximum weight assignment!

[demo: beamSearch({K:3})]

# Time complexity



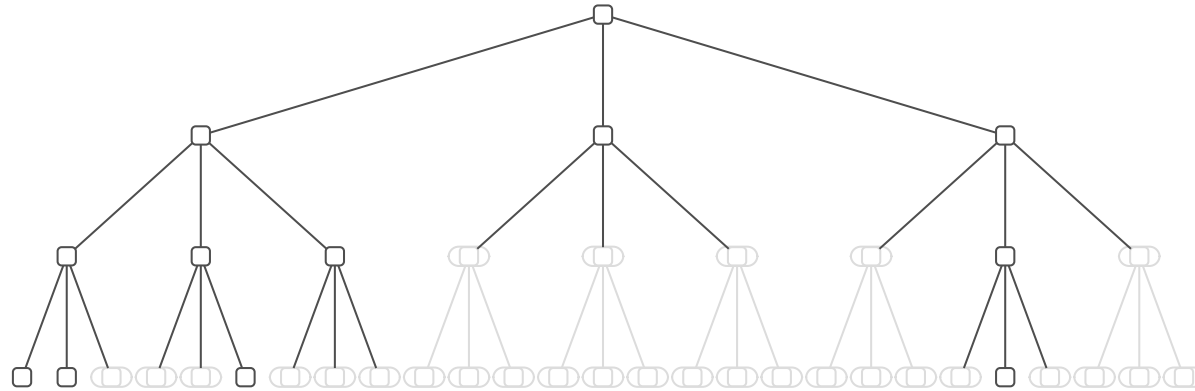
$n$  variables (depth)

Branching factor  $b = |\text{Domain}_i| \longrightarrow \text{Time: } O(nKb)$

Beam size  $K$



# Summary



- Beam size  $K$  controls tradeoff between efficiency and accuracy
  - $K = 1$  is greedy search ( $O(nb)$  time)
  - $K = \infty$  is BFS ( $O(b^n)$  time)

Backtracking search  $\simeq$  DFS ; Beam search  $\simeq$  Pruned BFS





# Lecture

Dynamic Ordering

Arc Consistency

Beam Search

**Local Search**

# Search strategies

Backtracking/beam search: extend partial assignments

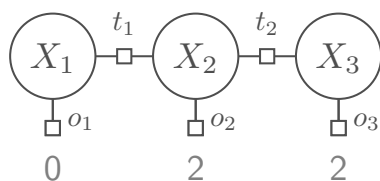
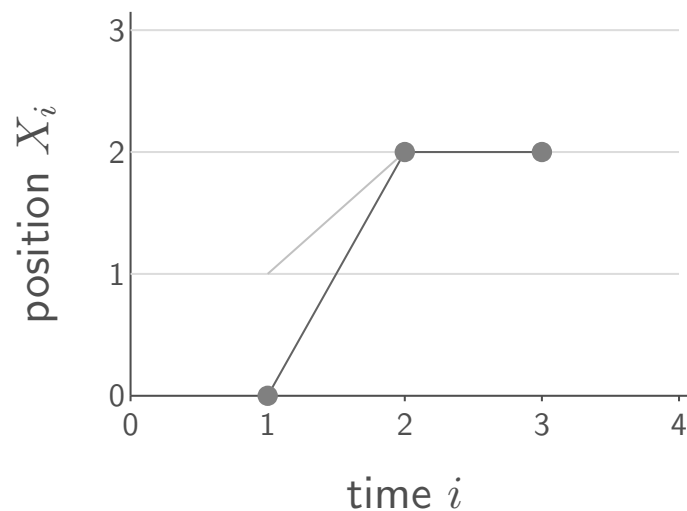


Local search: modify complete assignments





# Example: object tracking



| $x_1$ | $o_1(x_1)$ |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 2          |
| 1     | 1          |
| 2     | 0          |

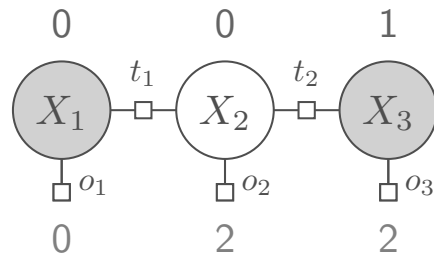
| $x_2$ | $o_2(x_2)$ |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 0          |
| 1     | 1          |
| 2     | 2          |

| $x_3$ | $o_3(x_3)$ |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 0          |
| 1     | 1          |
| 2     | 2          |

| $ x_i - x_{i+1} $ | $t_i(x_i, x_{i+1})$ |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 0                 | 2                   |
| 1                 | 1                   |
| 2                 | 0                   |

[demo]

## One small step

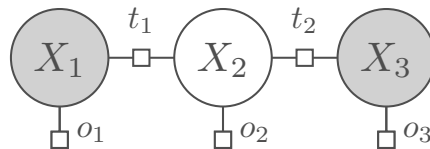


Old assignment:  $(0, 0, 1)$ ; how to improve?

| $(x_1, v, x_3)$ | weight                                  |
|-----------------|---|
| $(0, 0, 1)$     | $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 0 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = 0$ |
| $(0, 1, 1)$     | $2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 4$ |
| $(0, 2, 1)$     | $2 \cdot 0 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = 0$ |

New assignment:  $(0, 1, 1)$

# Exploiting locality



Weight of new assignment  $(x_1, v, x_3)$ :

$$o_1(x_1)t_1(x_1, v)o_2(v)t_2(v, x_3)o_3(x_3)$$



## Key idea: locality

When evaluating possible re-assignments to  $X_i$ , only need to consider the factors that depend on  $X_i$ .

# Iterated conditional modes (ICM)



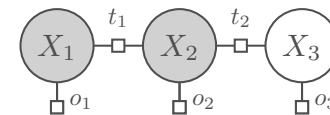
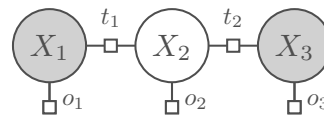
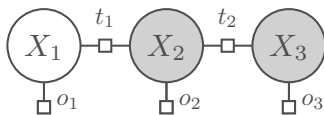
## Algorithm: iterated conditional modes (ICM)

Initialize  $x$  to a random complete assignment

Loop through  $i = 1, \dots, n$  until convergence:

    Compute weight of  $x_v = x \cup \{X_i : v\}$  for each  $v$

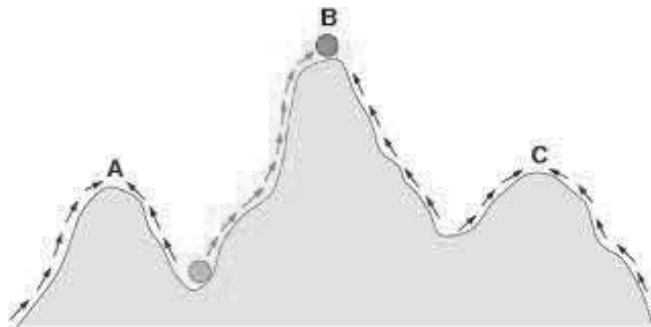
$x \leftarrow x_v$  with highest weight



[demo: iteratedConditionalModes()]

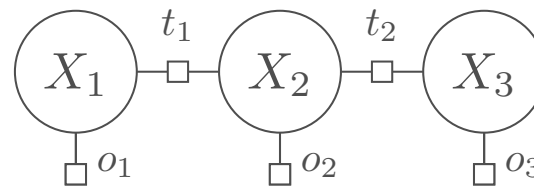
# Convergence properties

- $\text{Weight}(x)$  increases or stays the same each iteration
- Converges in a finite number of iterations
- Can get stuck in **local optima**
- Not guaranteed to find optimal assignment!





# Summary

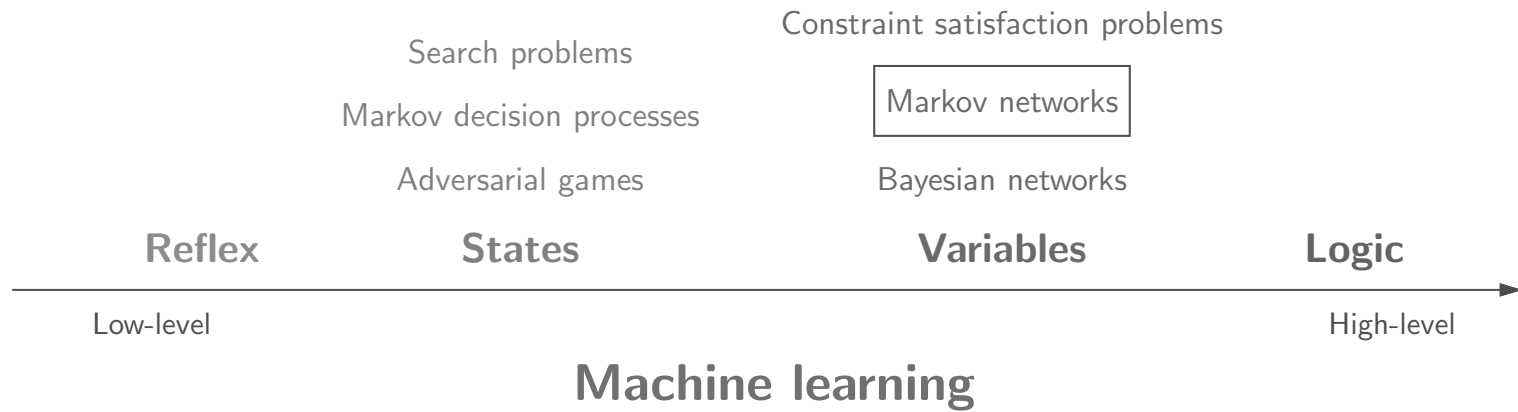


| Algorithm           | Strategy                    | Optimality  | Time complexity |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Backtracking search | extend partial assignments  | exact       | exponential     |
| Beam search         | extend partial assignments  | approximate | linear          |
| Local search (ICM)  | modify complete assignments | approximate | linear*         |

\* time to do  $O(1)$  passes



# Course plan



# Homework

due: the last class, two weeks later

作业 7-周6-周8-课程最终  
报告-马里奥玩家