

CSC 384 Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

CSP 3

Alice Gao and Randy Hickey
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Learning Goals

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

- Trace the execution of the AC-3 algorithm.
- Trace the execution of Backtracking Search and AC-3.
- Explain why we must add arcs back to the queue in the AC-3 algorithm.
- Explain the properties of the AC-3 algorithm (order of removing arcs, three outcomes of the algorithm, guaranteed to terminate).

Outline

- 1. The AC-3 Algorithm
- 2. Properties of the AC-3 Algorithm
- 3. Backtracking Search with AC-3

THE AC-3 ALGORITHM

Types of Constraints

Unary constraints (over 1 variable)

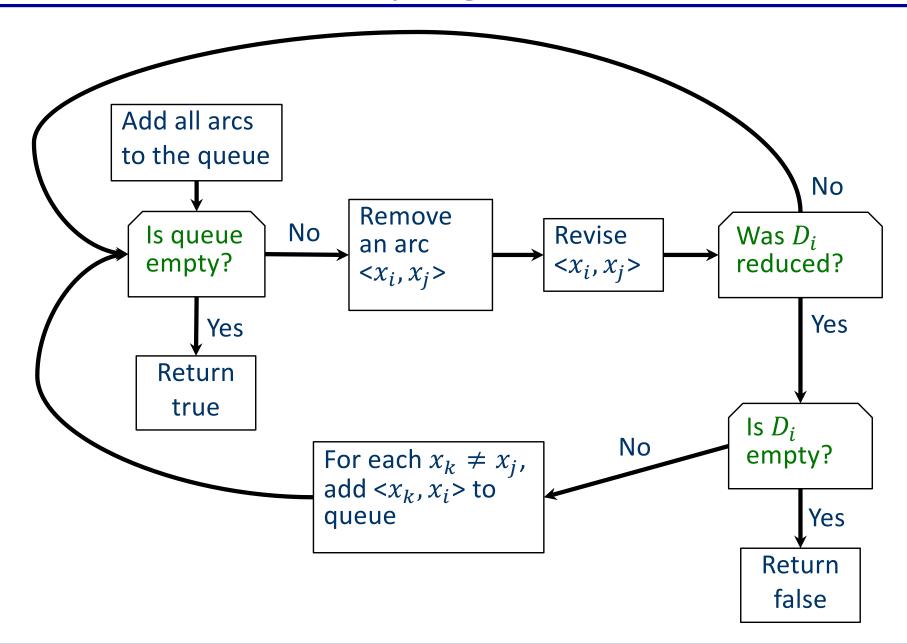
Examples:
$$c(x)$$
: $x = 2$; $c(y)$: $y > 5$

Binary constraints (over 2 variables)

Examples:
$$c(x, y)$$
: $x + y < 6$

- Higher-order (n-ary) constraints (over ≥ 3 variables)
- Possible to convert any higher-order constraint to a binary constraint by defining "dummy" variables.

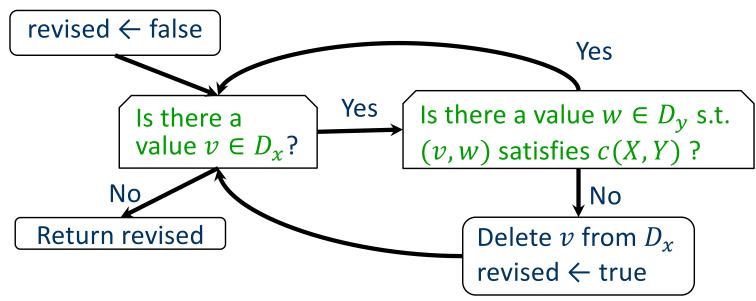
AC-3 Arc-Consistency Algorithm (Flowchart)



AC-3 Arc-Consistency Algorithm (Pseudocode)

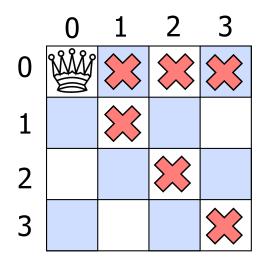
```
1. function AC-3(csp)
   # returns false if an inconsistency is found and true
   otherwise
     inputs: csp, a binary CSP with components (X, D, C)
3.
   local variables: queue, a queue of arcs, initially all
   the arcs in csp
5 -
6. add all the arcs to the queue
     while queue is not empty do
7.
          \langle X_i, X_i \rangle \leftarrow REMOVE-FIRST(queue)
8.
          if REVISE(csp, X_i, X_j) then
9.
               if D_i is empty then
10.
11.
                   return false
12.
               for each X_k in X_i.NEIGHBORS - \{X_i\} do
13.
                   add \langle X_k, X_i \rangle to queue
14.
      return true
```

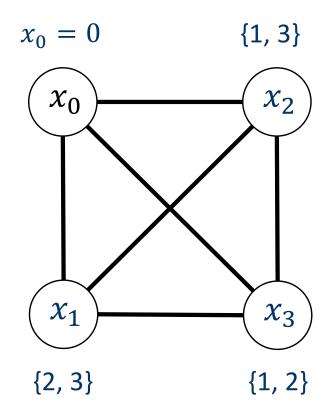
Revise Domain to Restore Arc-Consistency



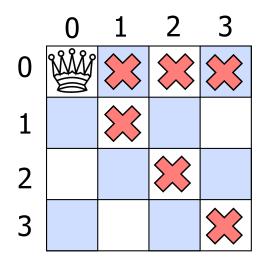
- 1. function REVISE(csp, X, Y)
- 2. revised ← false
- 3. for each v in D_x do
- 4. if no value w in D_y allows (v,w) to satisfy the constraint between X and Y then
- 5. delete v from D_x
- 6. revised ← true
- 7. return revised

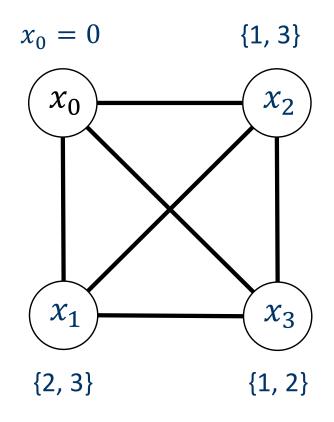
Step 1	
Arc removed	
Values deleted	
Arc(s) added	





Step 1	
Arc removed	$< x_1, x_2 >$
Values deleted	
Arc(s) added	



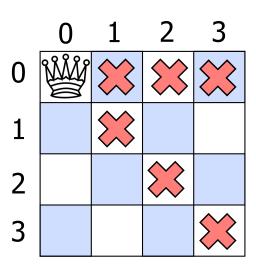


Step 1: Restore Arc Consistency

How can we make the arc below consistent?

$$< x_1, x_2 > (or < x_1, c(x_1, x_2) >)$$

- A. It is already consistent.
- B. Remove 2 from D_1 .
- C. Remove 3 from D_1 .
- D. Remove 2 and 3 from D_1 .
- E. Remove 1 from D_2 .
- F. Remove 3 from D_2 .
- G. Remove 1 and 3 from D_2 .



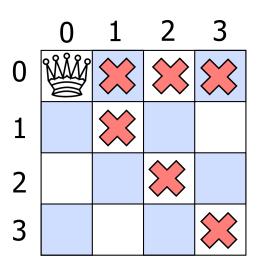
Step 1: Restore Arc Consistency

How can we make the arc below consistent?

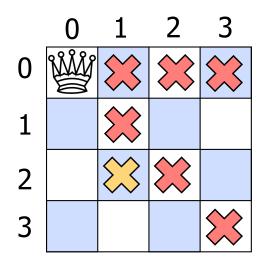
$$< x_1, x_2 > (or < x_1, c(x_1, x_2) >)$$

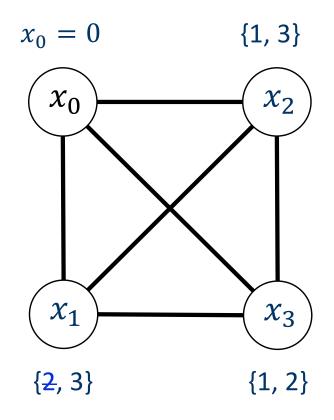
- A. It is already consistent.
- B. Remove 2 from D_1 .
- C. Remove 3 from D_1 .
- D. Remove 2 and 3 from D_1 .
- E. Remove 1 from D_2 .
- F. Remove 3 from D_2 .
- G. Remove 1 and 3 from D_2 .

Answers: B



Step 1	
Arc removed	$< x_1, x_2 >$
Values deleted	Remove 2 from D_1 .
Arc(s) added	





Step 1: Add Arcs to Queue

After reducing D_1 to restore consistency for $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, which arc(s) should we add to the queue?

A.
$$< x_0, x_1 >$$

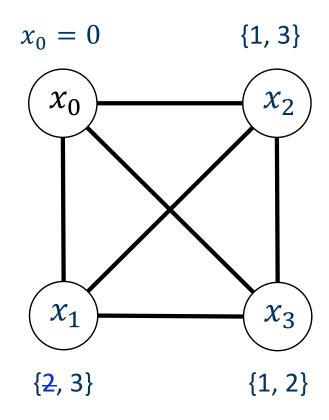
B.
$$< x_2, x_1 >$$

C.
$$< x_3, x_1 >$$

$$D. < x_1, x_0 >$$

E.
$$< x_1, x_2 >$$

$$F. < x_1, x_3 >$$



Step 1: Add Arcs to Queue

After reducing D_1 to restore consistency for $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, which arc(s) should we add to the queue?

A.
$$< x_0, x_1 >$$

B.
$$< x_2, x_1 >$$

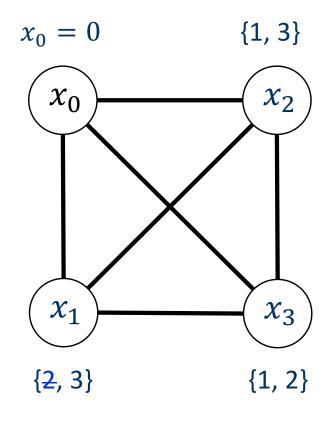
C.
$$< x_3, x_1 >$$

$$D. < x_1, x_0 >$$

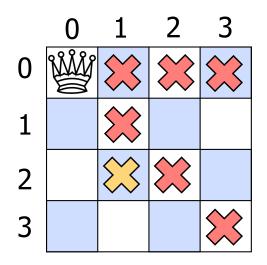
E.
$$< x_1, x_2 >$$

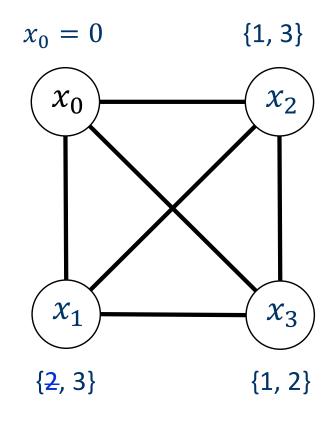
$$F. < x_1, x_3 >$$

Answers: C

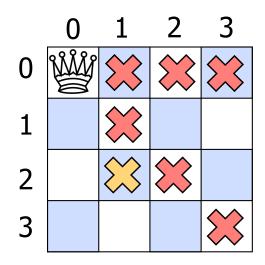


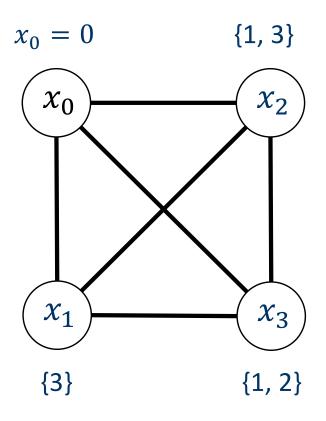
Step 1	
Arc removed	$< x_1, x_2 >$
Values deleted	Remove 2 from D_1 .
Arc(s) added	None. $(< x_3, x_1 > already in the queue)$



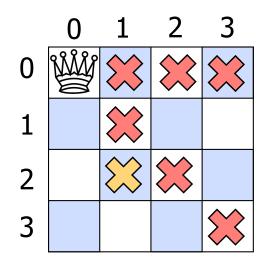


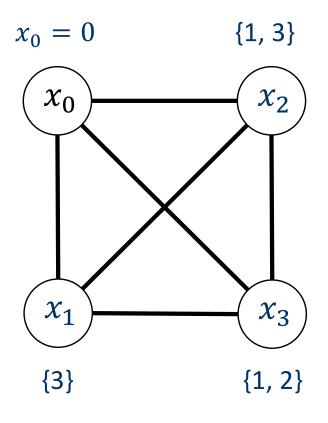
Step 2	
Arc removed	
Values deleted	
Arc(s) added	



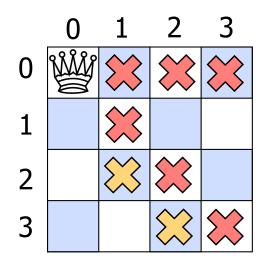


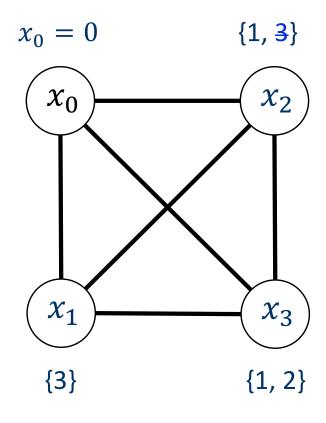
Step 2	
Arc removed	$< x_2, x_1 >$
Values deleted	
Arc(s) added	



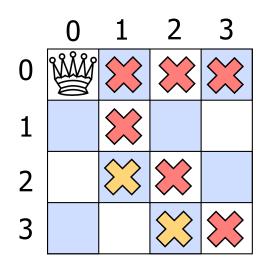


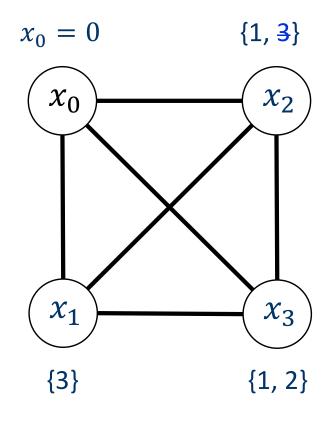
Step 2	
Arc removed	$< x_2, x_1 >$
Values deleted	Delete 3 from D_2 .
Arc(s) added	





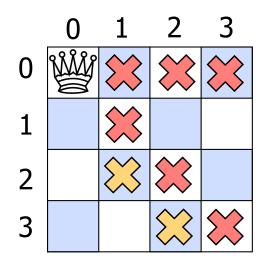
Step 2	
Arc removed	$< x_2, x_1 >$
Values deleted	Delete 3 from D_2 .
Arc(s) added	None. $(< x_3, x_2 > already in the queue)$

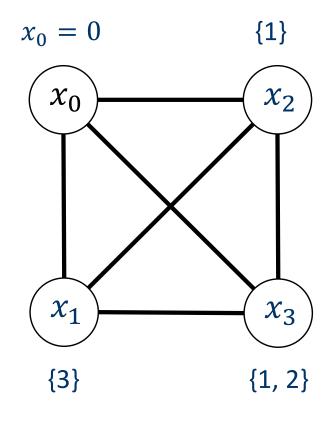




Queue: $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$

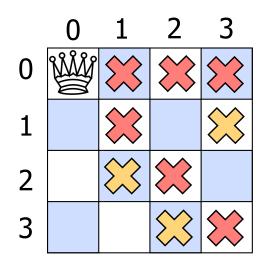
Step 3	
Arc removed	
Values deleted	
Arc(s) added	

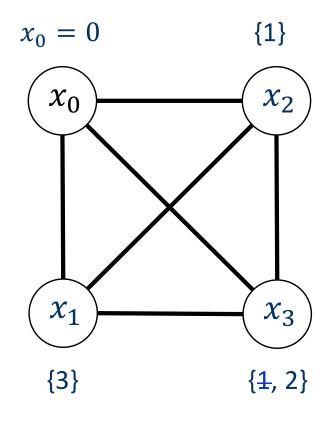




Queue: $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$

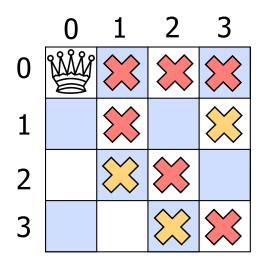
Step 3	
Arc removed	$< x_3, x_1 >$
Values deleted	Remove 1 from D_3 .
Arc(s) added	None. $(< x_2, x_3 > already in the queue.)$

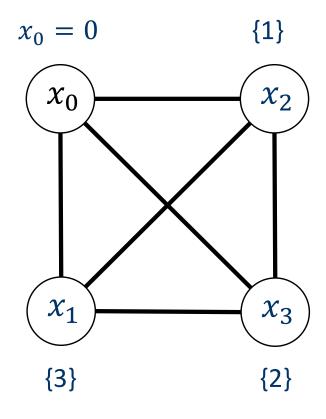




Queue: $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$

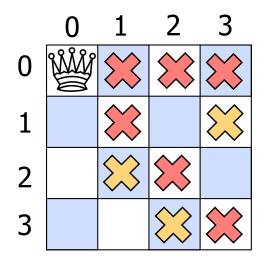
Step 4	
Arc removed	
Values deleted	
Arc(s) added	

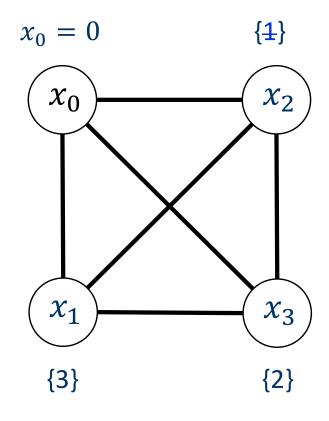




Queue: $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$

Step 4	
Arc removed	$< x_2, x_3 >$
Values deleted	Remove 1 from D_2 .
Arc(s) added	(Return false before reaching this step)





Queue: $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$ $\langle x_0 \rangle = 0, D_1 = \{2, 3\}, D_2 = \{1, 3\}, D_3 = \{1, 2\}$

Step	Arc removed	Values to delete	Updated Domains	Arc(s) added

Answer 1: Execute AC-3 Algorithm

Queue:
$$\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$$
, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$
 $\langle x_0 \rangle = 0$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

Step	Arc removed	Values to delete	Updated Domains	Arc(s) added
1	$< x_1, x_2 >$	Remove 2 from D_1	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{1, 3\}, D_3 = \{1, 2\}$	None
2	$< x_2, x_1 >$	Remove 3 from D_2	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{1\}, D_3 = \{1, 2\}$	None
3	$< x_3, x_1 >$	Remove 1 from D_3	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{1\}, D_3 = \{2\}$	None
4	$< x_2, x_3 >$	Remove 1 from D_2	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{\}, D_3 = \{2\}$	
5				

 D_2 is empty. Return false.

Why Do We Need to Add Arcs back to Queue?

Removing a value from a variable's domain may cause other arcs to become inconsistent.

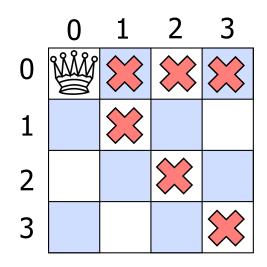
After reducing X_i 's domain to restore consistency for $< X_i, X_i >$,

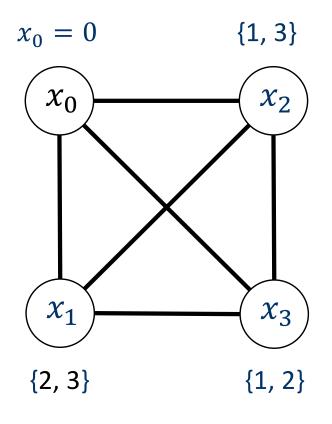
Add any arc $\langle X_k, X_i \rangle$ to the queue where

- X_k is a neighbour of X_i , and
- $X_k \neq X_j$.

Queue: $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

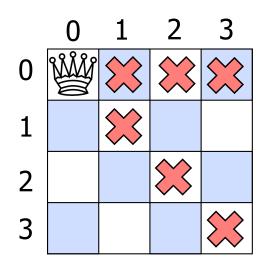
Step 1		
Arc removed		
Values deleted		
Arc(s) added		

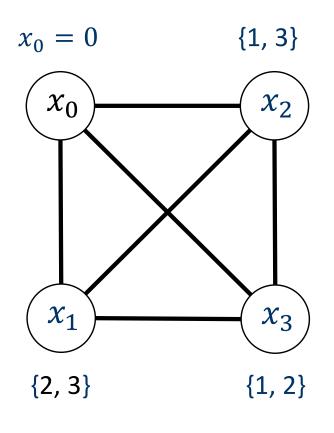




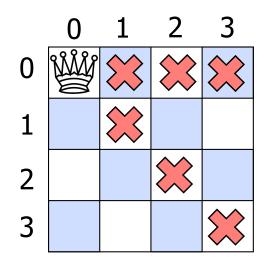
Queue: $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

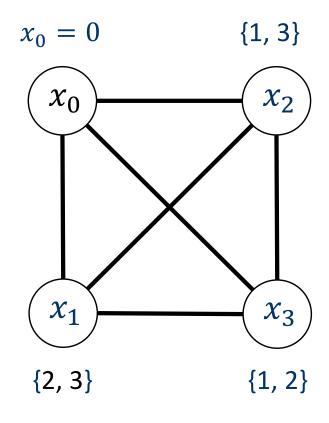
Step 1			
Arc removed $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$			
Values deleted	None		
Arc(s) added	None.		
	(domain was not reduced.)		



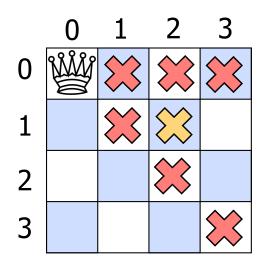


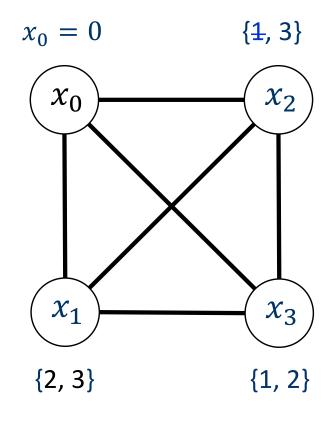
Step 2		
Arc removed		
Values deleted		
Arc(s) added		





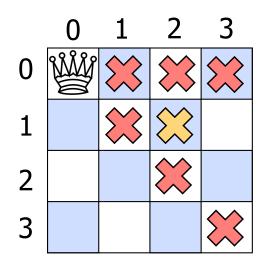
Step 2		
Arc removed $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$		
Values deleted	Remove 1 from D_2 .	
Arc(s) added	None. $(< x_1, x_2 > already in the queue.)$	

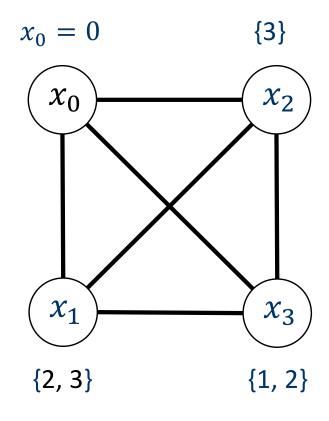




Queue: $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

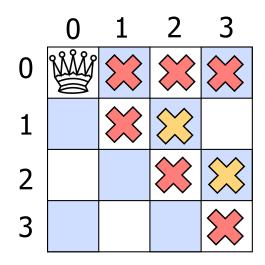
Step 3		
Arc removed		
Values deleted		
Arc(s) added		

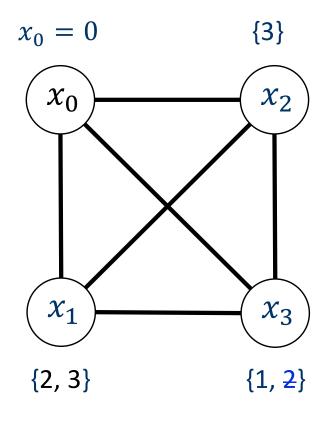




Queue: $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

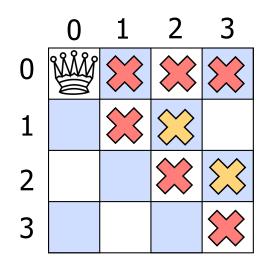
Step 3		
Arc removed	< x ₃ , x ₂ >	
Values deleted	Remove 2 from D_3 .	
Arc(s) added	$< x_1, x_3 >$	

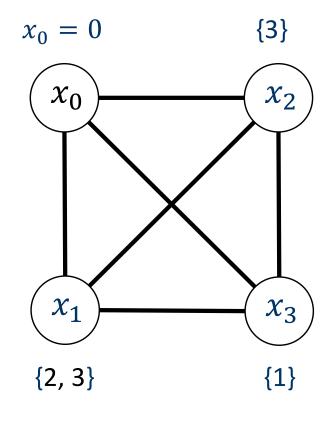




Queue: $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$

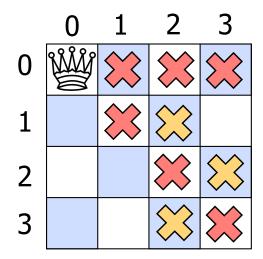
Step 4		
Arc removed		
Values deleted		
Arc(s) added		

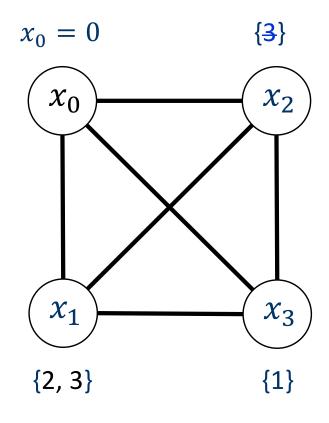




Queue: $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

Step 4		
Arc removed $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$		
Values deleted	Remove 3 from D_2 .	
Arc(s) added	(Return false before reaching this step)	





Answer 2: Execute AC-3 Algorithm

Queue:
$$\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$$
, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$
 $\langle x_0 \rangle = 0, D_1 = \{2, 3\}, D_2 = \{1, 3\}, D_3 = \{1, 2\}$

Step	Arc removed	Values to delete	Updated Domains	Arc(s) added
1	$< x_1, x_3 >$	None	$D_1 = \{2, 3\}, D_2 = \{1, 3\}, D_3 = \{1, 2\}$	None
2	$< x_2, x_3 >$	Remove 1 from D ₂	$D_1 = \{2, 3\}, D_2 = \{3\}, D_3 = \{1, 2\}$	None
3	< x ₃ , x ₂ >	Remove 2 from D_3	$D_1 = \{2, 3\}, D_2 = \{3\}, D_3 = \{1\}$	$< x_1, x_3 >$
4	$< x_2, x_1 >$	Remove 3 from D ₂	$D_1 = \{2, 3\}, D_2 = \{\}, D_3 = \{1\}$	
5				

 D_2 is empty. Return false.

PROPERTIES OF AC-3 ALGORITHM

Properties of AC-3 Algorithm

Order of removing arcs.

Outcomes of AC-3 algorithm.

Guaranteed to terminate? Complete?

Order of Removing Arcs

Does the order of removing arcs affect the outcome of AC-3?

No. The "queue" should really be called a "set."

What are three outcomes of AC-3 algorithm?

1.

2.

3.

What are three outcomes of AC-3 algorithm?

1. A domain is empty.

2. Every domain has one value.

3. Every domain has at least one value and at least one domain has at least two values.

What are three outcomes of AC-3 algorithm?

1. A domain is empty.

No solution

2. Every domain has one value.

A unique solution

3. Every domain has at least one value and at least one domain has at least two values.

There may or may not be a solution.

Is AC-3 Guaranteed to Terminate?

A. Yes.

B. No.

Why or why not?

Is AC-3 Guaranteed to Terminate?

- A. Yes.
- B. No.

Why or why not?

Yes. Finite # of variables with finite sized domains. We cannot reduce the domains forever. Eventually, we check all the arcs or one domain becomes empty.

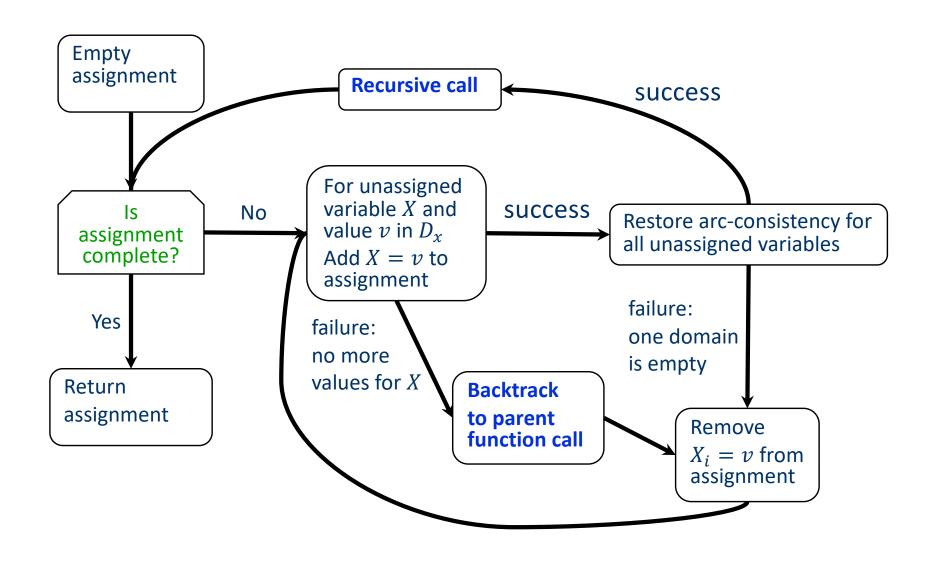
Properties of AC-3 Algorithm

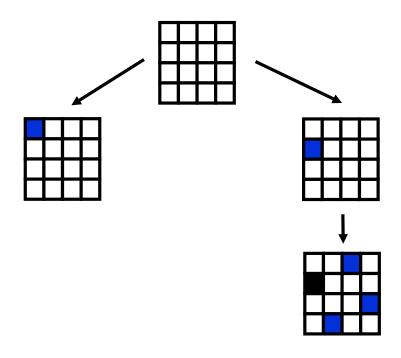
- Does the order of removing arcs affect the outcome?
 - No.
- What are three outcomes of AC-3 algorithm?
 - 1. A domain is empty. \rightarrow no solution
 - 2. Every domain has one value.

 a unique solution
 - 3. Every domain has at least one value and at least one domain has at least two values. → undetermined
- Is AC-3 guaranteed to terminate?
 - Yes. Finite # of variables with finite sized domains. We cannot reduce the domains forever. Eventually, we check all the arcs or one domain becomes empty.

BACKTRACKING SEARCH WITH AC-3

Backtracking Search w/ AC-3





Choose the next queen to assign from left to right. Choose the next value to assign from top to bottom.

Step	Assigning a Value and Revising Domains				What Next?
	x_0	x_1	x_2	x_3	
1	$x_0 = 0$				
2					
3					

After assigning $x_0 = 0$, execute AC-3.

Queue:
$$\langle x_1, x_0 \rangle$$
, $\langle x_2, x_0 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_0 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$

- Every binary constraint has two arcs. We need to add both to the queue.
- The purpose of adding an arc $< x_i, x_j >$ to the queue is to potentially remove values from x_i 's domain. Because of this, there is no need to add any arc $< x_0, x_j >$ to the queue since we have fixed x_0 to be 0 at this step.

After assigning $x_0 = 0$, execute AC-3.

Queue:
$$\langle x_1, x_0 \rangle$$
, $\langle x_2, x_0 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_0 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$

The steps of AC-3 will depend on the order of removing the arcs from the queue.

However, the result of AC-3 will be that one of x_1 , x_2 , or x_3 's domain becomes empty, meaning that assigning $x_0 = 0$ does not lead to a solution.

Choose the next queen to assign from left to right. Choose the next value to assign from top to bottom.

Step	Assigning a Value and Revising Domains				What Next?
	x_0	x_1	x_2	x_3	
1	$x_0 = 0$	One domain becomes empty.			Backtrack
2	$x_0 = 1$	3	0	2	Continue
3		$x_1 = 3$	0	2	Continue
4			$x_2 = 0$		Continue
5				$x_3 = 2$	Solution Found!

Extra Example 1: Execute AC-3 Algorithm

Queue:
$$\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$$
, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$
 $\langle x_0 \rangle = 1$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

Step	Arc removed	Values to delete	Updated Domains	Arc(s) added
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Extra 1 Answer: Execute AC-3 Algorithm

Queue:
$$\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle$$
, $\langle x_3, x_1 \rangle$, $\langle x_3, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_3 \rangle$, $\langle x_2, x_3 \rangle$
 $\langle x_0 \rangle = 1$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$, $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$

Step	Arc removed	Values to delete	Updated Domains	Arc(s) added
1	$ < x_2, x_1 >$	Remove 2 from D_2 .	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{0\}, D_3 = \{0, 2, 3\}$	None
2	$ < x_3, x_1 >$	Remove 3 from D_3 .	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{0\}, D_3 = \{0, 2\}$	None
3	$ < x_3, x_2 >$	Remove 0 from D_3 .	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{0\}, D_3 = \{2\}$	None
4	$ < x_1, x_2 >$	None	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{0\}, D_3 = \{2\}$	None
5	$ < x_1, x_3 >$	None	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{0\}, D_3 = \{2\}$	None
6	$< x_2, x_3 >$	None	$D_1 = \{3\}, D_2 = \{0\}, D_3 = \{2\}$	None

Return true.