

STATE SPACE SEARCH - A state space is represented by a four-tuple  $[N, A, S, GD]$ , where:

N - is the set of nodes or states of the graph. These correspond to the states in a problem-solving process.

A - is the set of arcs (or links) between nodes. These correspond to the steps in a problem-solving process.

S - a nonempty subset of N, contains the start state(s) of the problem.

GD - a nonempty subset of N, contains the goal state(s) of the problem. The states in GD are described using either:

1. A measurable property of the states encountered in the search.
2. A measurable property of the path developed in the search, for example, the sum of the transition costs for the arcs of the path.

A solution path is a path through this graph from a node in S to a node in GD.

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### Logic as State Space Language

- **Propositional and predicate logic** can represent:
  - Nodes: logical **assertions** or **truth values**
  - Arcs: logical **inference rules**
- **Search algorithms** can then traverse this graph to reach conclusions (e.g., derive a goal formula from axioms).

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#### EXAMPLE 3.3.1: THE PROPOSITIONAL CALCULUS

The first example of how a set of logic relationships may be viewed as defining a graph is from the propositional calculus. If p, q, r,... are propositions, assume the assertions:

q  $\rightarrow$  p  
r  $\rightarrow$  p  
v  $\rightarrow$  q  
s  $\rightarrow$  r  
t  $\rightarrow$  r  
s  $\rightarrow$  u  
s  
t

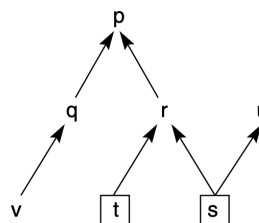


Figure 3.20 State space graph of a set of implications in the propositional calculus.

In Figure 3.20 the arcs correspond to logical implications ( $\rightarrow$ ). Propositions that are given as true (s and t) correspond to the given data of the problem

**FYI - Forward-Chaining** (start from known facts and infer new facts) and **Backward-Chaining** (start from goal and trace backward)

### EXAMPLE 3.3.2: AND/OR GRAPH SEARCH

The second example is also from the propositional calculus but generates a graph that contains both and and or descendants. Assume a situation where the following propositions are true:

a  
b  
c  
 $a \wedge b \rightarrow d$   
 $a \wedge c \rightarrow e$   
 $b \wedge d \rightarrow f$   
 $f \rightarrow g$   
 $a \wedge e \rightarrow h$

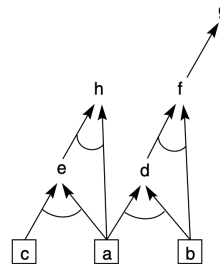


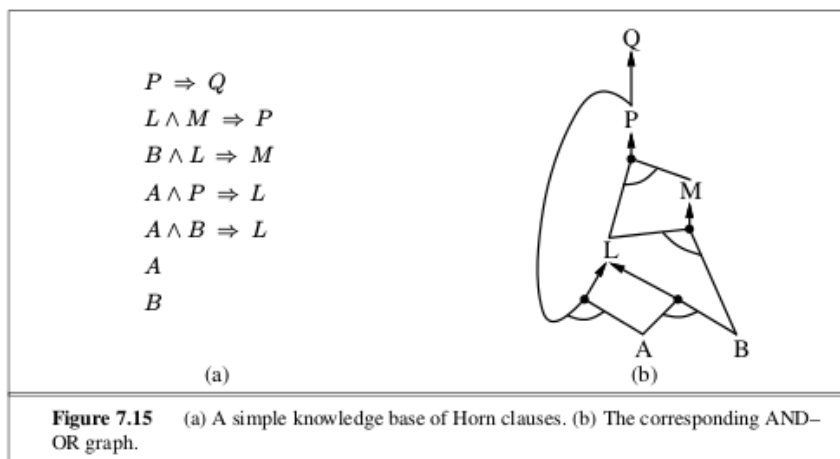
Figure 3.23 And/or graph of a set of propositional calculus expressions.

This set of assertions generates the and/or graph in Figure 3.23.

Questions that might be asked (answers deduced by the search of this graph) are:

1. Is h true? A and C are true -> E is true -> A and E are true therefore h is true.
2. Is h true if b is no longer true?

More examples:



Consider the following propositional logic  $KB$  in Horn form:

- A1:  $A \wedge B \implies D$
  - A2:  $A \wedge F \implies G$
  - A3:  $B \wedge C \implies F$
  - A4:  $D \wedge C \implies H$
  - A5:  $A \wedge C \implies E$
  - A6:  $G \wedge E \wedge H \implies I$
  - A7:  $A$
  - A8:  $B$
  - A9:  $C$
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4. (30 pt) Consider the following knowledge base

a. Prove that  $Q$  is true with:

1.  $P \rightarrow Q$
2.  $L \wedge M \rightarrow P$
3.  $B \wedge L \rightarrow M$
4.  $A \wedge P \rightarrow L$
5.  $A \wedge B \rightarrow L$
6.  $A$
7.  $B$

- i. (4 pt) Forward-Chaining
- ii. (4 pt) Backward-Chaining

**i. Forward-Chaining (start from known facts and infer new facts)**

**Known:**

- $A$
- $B$

**Step 1:**

From (5):  $A \wedge B \rightarrow L \rightarrow$  infer  $L$

**Step 2:**

From (3):  $B \wedge L \rightarrow M \rightarrow$  infer  $M$

**Step 3:**

From (2):  $L \wedge M \rightarrow P \rightarrow$  infer  $P$

**Step 4:**

From (1):  $P \rightarrow Q \rightarrow$  infer  $Q$

**$Q$  is inferred by forward chaining**

**Backward-Chaining (start from  $Q$  and trace backward)**

**Goal:  $Q$**

- To prove  $Q$ , need  $P$  (from 1:  $P \rightarrow Q$ )
- To get  $P$ , need  $L \wedge M$  (from 2)
  - To get  $M$ , need  $B \wedge L$  (from 3)
  - We already have  $B$
  - To get  $L$ :
    - (5):  $A \wedge B \rightarrow L$  (we have both  $A$  and  $B$ )  $\rightarrow$  infer  $L$
  - Now have  $B$  and  $L \rightarrow$  infer  $M$
- Now  $L$  and  $M \rightarrow$  infer  $P$
- $P \rightarrow Q \rightarrow$  infer  $Q$

**$Q$  is proven by backward chaining**