



# Propositional Logic: Pro & Con

# Propositional logic: pro and con



- **Advantages**

- Simple KR language good for many problems
- Lays foundation for higher logics (e.g., FOL)
- Reasoning is decidable, though NP complete; efficient techniques exist for many problems

- **Disadvantages**

- Not expressive enough for most problems
- Even when it is, it can very “un-concise”

# PL is a weak KR language

- Hard to identify *individuals* (e.g., Mary, 3)
- Can't directly represent properties of individuals or relations between them (e.g., “Bill age 24”)
- Generalizations, patterns, regularities hard to represent (e.g., “all triangles have 3 sides”)
- First-Order Logic (FOL) represents this information via **relations, variables & quantifiers**, e.g.,
  - *John loves Mary*:  $\text{loves}(\text{John}, \text{Mary})$
  - *Every elephant is gray*:  $\forall x (\text{elephant}(x) \rightarrow \text{gray}(x))$
  - *There is a black swan*:  $\exists x (\text{swan}(X) \wedge \text{black}(X))$

# Hunt the Wumpus domain

- Some atomic propositions:

A12 = agent is in cell (1,2)

S12 = There's a stench in cell (1,2)

B34 = There's a breeze in cell (3,4)

W22 = Wumpus is in cell (2,2)

V11 = We've visited cell (1,1)

OK11 = cell (1,1) is safe

...

- Some rules:

$\neg S22 \rightarrow \neg W12 \wedge \neg W23 \wedge \neg W32 \wedge \neg W21$

$S22 \rightarrow W12 \vee W23 \vee W32 \vee W21$

$B22 \rightarrow P12 \vee P23 \vee P32 \vee P21$

$W22 \rightarrow S12 \wedge S23 \wedge S32 \wedge W21$

$W22 \rightarrow \neg W11 \wedge \neg W21 \wedge \dots \neg W44$

$A22 \rightarrow V22$

$A22 \rightarrow \neg W11 \wedge \neg W21 \wedge \dots \neg W44$

$V22 \rightarrow OK22$

1,4	2,4	3,4	4,4
1,3 W!	2,3	3,3	4,3
1,2 A S OK	2,2 OK	3,2	4,2
1,1 V OK	2,1 B V OK	3,1 P!	4,1

A = Agent  
 B = Breeze  
 G = Glitter, Gold  
 OK = Safe square  
 P = Pit  
 S = Stench  
 V = Visited  
 W = Wumpus

If there's no stench in cell 2,2 then the Wumpus isn't in cell 21, 23 32 or 21

# Hunt the Wumpus domain

- Eight symbols for each cell, i.e.: A11, B11, G11, OK11, P11, S11, V11, W11
- Lack of variables requires giving similar rules for each cell!
- Ten rules (I think) for each

A11  $\rightarrow$  ...      W11  $\rightarrow$  ...  
 V11  $\rightarrow$  ...       $\neg$ W11  $\rightarrow$  ...  
 P11  $\rightarrow$  ...      S11  $\rightarrow$  ...  
 $\neg$ P11  $\rightarrow$  ...       $\neg$ S11  $\rightarrow$  ...  
                          B11  $\rightarrow$  ...  
                           $\neg$ B11  $\rightarrow$  ...

1,4	2,4	3,4	4,4
1,3 W!	2,3	3,3	4,3
1,2 A S OK	2,2 OK	3,2	4,2
1,1 V OK	2,1 B V OK	3,1 P!	4,1

A = Agent  
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 S = Stench  
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 W = Wumpus

- 8 symbols for 16 cells  $\Rightarrow$  128 symbols
- $2^{128}$  possible models ☹️
- Must do better than brute force

# After third move

- We can prove that the Wumpus is in (1,3) using these four rules
- See R&N section 7.5

1,4	2,4	3,4	4,4
1,3 W!	2,3	3,3	4,3
1,2 A S OK	2,2 OK	3,2	4,2
1,1 V OK	2,1 B V OK	3,1 P!	4,1

**A** = Agent  
**B** = Breeze  
**G** = Glitter, Gold  
**OK** = Safe square  
**P** = Pit  
**S** = Stench  
**V** = Visited  
**W** = Wumpus

$$(R1) \neg S_{11} \rightarrow \neg W_{11} \wedge \neg W_{12} \wedge \neg W_{21}$$

$$(R2) \neg S_{21} \rightarrow \neg W_{11} \wedge \neg W_{21} \wedge \neg W_{22} \wedge \neg W_{31}$$

$$(R3) \neg S_{12} \rightarrow \neg W_{11} \wedge \neg W_{12} \wedge \neg W_{22} \wedge \neg W_{13}$$

$$(R4) S_{12} \rightarrow W_{13} \vee W_{12} \vee W_{22} \vee W_{11}$$

# Proving W13: Wumpus is in cell 1,3

Apply **MP** with  $\neg S11$  and R1:

$$\neg W11 \wedge \neg W12 \wedge \neg W21$$

Apply **AE**, yielding three sentences:

$$\neg W11, \neg W12, \neg W21$$

Apply **MP** to  $\neg S21$  and R2, then apply **AE**:

$$\neg W22, \neg W21, \neg W31$$

Apply **MP** to S12 and R4 to obtain:

$$W13 \vee W12 \vee W22 \vee W11$$

Apply **UR** on  $(W13 \vee W12 \vee W22 \vee W11)$  and  $\neg W11$ :

$$W13 \vee W12 \vee W22$$

Apply **UR** with  $(W13 \vee W12 \vee W22)$  and  $\neg W22$ :

$$W13 \vee W12$$

Apply **UR** with  $(W13 \vee W12)$  and  $\neg W12$ :

$$W13$$

QED

$$(R1) \neg S11 \rightarrow \neg W11 \wedge \neg W12 \wedge \neg W21$$

$$(R2) \neg S21 \rightarrow \neg W11 \wedge \neg W21 \wedge \neg W22 \wedge \neg W31$$

$$(R3) \neg S12 \rightarrow \neg W11 \wedge \neg W12 \wedge \neg W22 \wedge \neg W13$$

$$(R4) S12 \rightarrow W13 \vee W12 \vee W22 \vee W11$$

## Rule Abbreviation

MP: modes ponens

AE: and elimination

R: unit resolution

# Propositional Wumpus problems

- Lack of variables prevents general rules, e.g.:
  - $\forall x, y V(x,y) \rightarrow OK(x,y)$
  - $\forall x, y S(x,y) \rightarrow W(x-1,y) \vee W(x+1,y) \dots$
- Change of KB over time difficult to represent
  - In classical logic; a fact is true or false for all time
  - A standard technique is to index dynamic facts with the time when they're true
    - $A(1, 1, 0)$  # agent was in cell 1,1 at time 0
    - $A(2, 1, 1)$  # agent was in cell 2,1 at time 1
  - Thus we have a separate KB for every time point



# Propositional logic summary

- **Inference**: deriving new sentences from old
  - **Sound** inference derives true conclusions given true premises
  - **Complete** inference derives all true conclusions from premises
- Different logics make different **commitments** about what world is made of and kinds of beliefs we can have
- **Propositional logic** commits only to existence of facts that may or may not be the case
  - Simple syntax & semantics illustrates inference process
  - Sound, complete and fast proof procedures
  - It can be impractical or cumbersome for many worlds

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