



Aalto University  
School of Science

# Answer Set Programming modulo Acyclicity

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# Translation-Based ASP

ASP can be implemented by translating ground programs into:

- **Boolean Satisfiability** (SAT)  
[J., ECAI 2004; J. and Niemelä, MG-65 2010]
- **Integer Difference Logic** (IDL)  
[Niemelä, AMAI 2008; J. et al., LPNMR 2009]
- **Integer Programming** (IP)  
[Liu et al., KR 2012]
- **Bit-Vector Logic** (BV)  
[Nguyen et al., INAP 2011; Extended in 2013]

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- **Bit-Vector Logic** (BV)  
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- **SAT modulo Acyclicity** (ACYC-SAT)  
[G. et al., ECAI 2014]

# Extensions to ASP

- ▶ There are existing **SMT-style extensions** of ASP:
  - ▶ Constraint programming [G. et al., ICLP 2009]
  - ▶ Difference logic [J. et al., GTTV 2011]
  - ▶ Linear programming [Liu et al., INAP 2013]
  - ▶ General SMT [Lee & Meng, IJCAI 2013]

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- ▶ In this work, we propose **ASP modulo Acyclicity**
  - ▶ as an extension to ASP and
  - ▶ as a target formalism for translations of ASP.
- ▶ Functionality available in CLASP version 3.2.0 onward.

# Standard Logic Programs

- ▶ Logic programs consist of **rules** of the following forms:

$$\begin{aligned}a &\leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_n, \text{not } c_1, \dots, \text{not } c_m. \\ \{a\} &\leftarrow b_1, \dots, b_n, \text{not } c_1, \dots, \text{not } c_m. \\ a &\leftarrow k \leq [b_1 = w_1, \dots, b_n = w_n, \\ &\quad \text{not } c_1 = w_{n+1}, \dots, \text{not } c_m = w_{n+m}].\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ A model is **supported** [Apt et al., 1988] iff  $M = T_{PM}(M)$  and **stable** [Gelfond and Lifschitz, ICLP 1988] iff  $M = LM(P^M)$ .

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## Example

$$a \leftarrow b. \quad a \leftarrow c. \quad b \leftarrow a. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not } d. \quad d \leftarrow \text{not } c.$$

$\implies M_1 = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $M_2 = \{a, b, d\}$  are both supported, and  $M_1$  is also stable.



# Acyclicity Extension

An **acyclicity extension** is a pair  $\langle V, e \rangle$  where

1.  $V$  is a set of **vertices** and
2.  $e : \text{At}(P) \rightarrow V \times V$  is a **partial injection** that maps atoms of a logic program  $P$  to edges.

# Acyclicity Extension

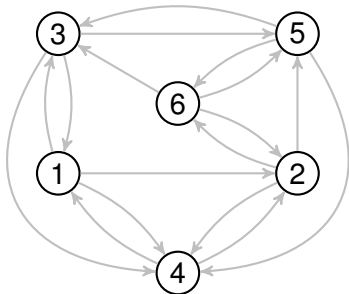
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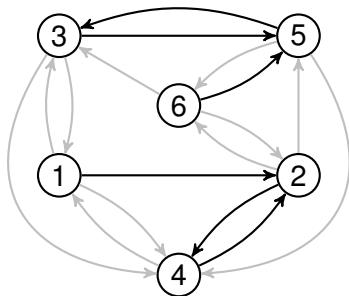
An interpretation  $M \subseteq \text{At}(P)$  is a **stable/supported** model of  $P$  subject to an acyclicity extension  $\langle V, e \rangle$ , iff

1.  $M$  is a stable/supported model of  $P$  and
2. the graph  $\langle V, e(M) \rangle$  is acyclic, where
$$e(M) = \{ \langle v, u \rangle \in V \times V \mid a \in M, e(a) = \langle v, u \rangle \}.$$

# Hamiltonian Cycles in ASP

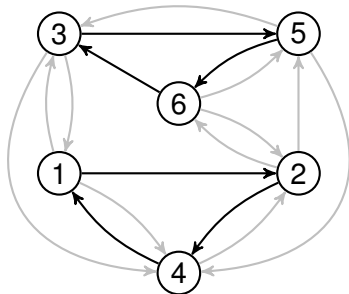


# Hamiltonian Cycles in ASP



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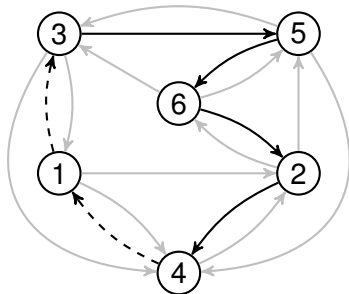
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```
_edge(X,Y) :- hc(X,Y), X > 1, Y > 1.
```

# Example: Acyclicity Constraints

Let us consider a standard logic program

$$\begin{aligned} a \leftarrow b. \quad a \leftarrow c. \quad b \leftarrow a. \quad c \leftarrow \text{not } d. \quad d \leftarrow \text{not } c. \\ \text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(a, b)} \leftarrow a, \text{not } c. \quad \text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(b, a)} \leftarrow b. \end{aligned}$$

and extend it by  $\langle V, e \rangle$  where  $V = \{a, b\}$  and  $e$  is the mapping

$$\text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(a, b)} \mapsto \langle a, b \rangle, \quad \text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(b, a)} \mapsto \langle b, a \rangle.$$

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$\Rightarrow M_1 = \{a, b, c, \text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(b, a)}\}$  is a **stable** and **supported** model;  
 $M_2 = \{a, b, d, \text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(a, b)}, \text{\textcolor{brown}{\_edge}(b, a)}\}$  is neither.



# Translation from ASP to ACYC-ASP

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- ▶ The **stable models** of  $P$  coincide with the **stable/supported** models of  $\text{Tr}_{\text{ACYC}}(P)$  modulo acyclicity.
- ▶ **Well-support** of answer sets can be addressed by performing on  $\text{Tr}_{\text{ACYC}}(P)$  one or both of
  - unfounded set checking or
  - acyclicity checking.

# Tool Support

gringo		
lp2acyc		
lp2sat [-g]	acyc2solver [--diff] [--bv] [--pb] [--mip]	clasp --enable-acyc

These tools are published under:

<http://research.ics.aalto.fi/software/asp/lp2acyc/>  
<http://potassco.sourceforge.net/projects/potassco/>

# Experiments: Decision Problems

Mode	Cycle #60		Laby #20		Soko #30		Route #23	
UFS	<b>36.0</b>	<b>0</b>	255.3	<b>4</b>	182.6	<b>2</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>0</b>
ACYC	373.6	37	261.0	6	350.7	10	134.5	4
BCYC	266.3	26	286.7	7	256.2	7	111.5	2
ACYC/UFS	209.4	18	279.2	<b>4</b>	174.6	3	11.4	<b>0</b>
BCYC/UFS	209.2	19	314.3	6	179.7	4	10.0	<b>0</b>
ACYC+	118.0	7	366.7	7	336.7	10	137.2	4
BCYC+	85.3	5	279.6	5	230.4	5	138.6	4
ACYC+/UFS	115.9	8	311.8	5	176.6	4	15.4	<b>0</b>
BCYC+/UFS	91.9	6	<b>212.7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>170.2</b>	3	12.3	<b>0</b>

**ACYC:** Acyclicity checking

**UFS:** Unfounded set checking

**BCYC:** ACYC with backward  
propagation

**+: Extended translation**

# Experiments: Optimization Problems

Mode	<i>Bayes</i> #30		<i>Markov</i> #21		<i>Sched</i> #18	
UFS	116.8	<b>0</b>	100.7	<b>0</b>	<b>281.2</b>	<b>7</b>
ACYC	<b>66.3</b>	<b>0</b>	120.3	1	320.9	8
BCYC	84.6	<b>0</b>	54.1	<b>0</b>	324.2	<b>7</b>
ACYC/UFS	103.1	1	170.2	3	348.2	9
BCYC/UFS	104.3	1	72.5	<b>0</b>	340.3	9
ACYC+	106.2	1	61.5	<b>0</b>	340.9	9
BCYC+	102.2	2	<b>39.9</b>	<b>0</b>	341.1	9
ACYC+/UFS	110.3	1	171.4	3	367.5	9
BCYC+/UFS	122.5	2	111.5	1	360.6	9

**ACYC:** Acyclicity checking

**UFS:** Unfounded set checking

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propagation

**+: Extended translation**

# Conclusion

- ▶ We propose ASP modulo Acyclicity
  - to help in application areas involving DAGs, trees, etc., and
  - to embed ASP into itself.
- ▶ Well-support of answer sets can be addressed by acyclicity checking
- ▶ Implementation is built into the tools `lp2acyc` and `clasp`