

# Finding similar/dissimilar Solutions with ASP

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- 2 Clique approach
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## Problem definition

# Motivation

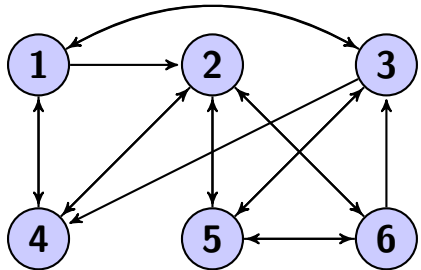
- subset of good diverse/similar solutions for decision-making
- Design space exploration
- Product configuration
- Planning
- Phylogeny reconstruction

## Example: Hamiltonian cycle

```
% Generate
1{cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y)}1
:- node(X).
1{cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y)}1
:- node(Y).

% Define
reached(Y) :- cycle(1,Y).
reached(Y) :- cycle(X,Y);
reached(X).

% Test
:- node(Y), not reached(Y).
```

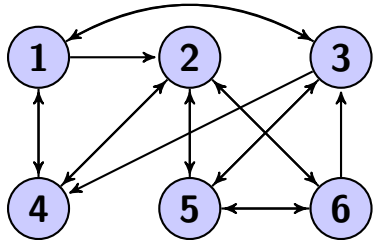


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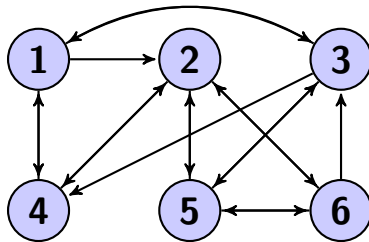
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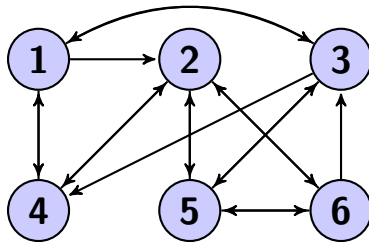
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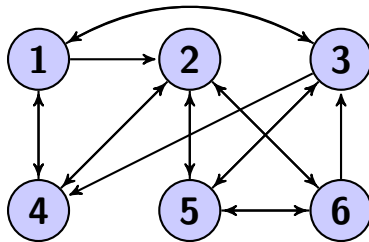


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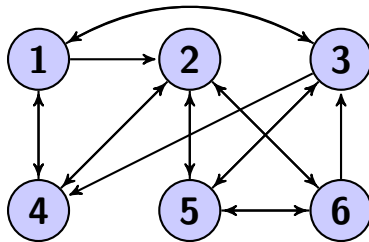
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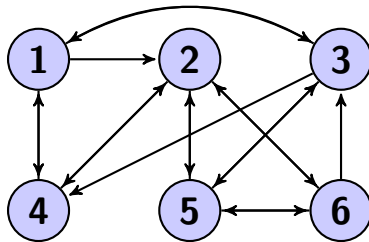
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↔ atoms of 2 solutions are 50% different,  $d(2, 3) = 50$ .

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Distances:

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$$\hookrightarrow \Delta(S) = 100$$

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Other similarity problems:  $k$ -similar/dissimilar solution, maximal  $n$   $k$ -similar/dissimilar solutions, most similar/dissimilar solutions,  $k$ -similar/dissimilar set

# Complexity

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$n$ $k$ -similar/dissimilar solutions	$NP$ -complete
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maximal $n$ $k$ -similar/dissimilar solutions	$FNP // \log$ -complete
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- $\hookrightarrow$  challenging problems; need to find heuristics and approximations to handle complexity or accept restrictions.
- In practice mostly evolutionary/genetic problem specific algorithms for multiobjective optimization.

# Main inspiration

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Three basic approaches are found in literature for ASP:

- 1 Offline method
- 2 Iterative method
- 3 Modifying solver branching heuristic

## Clique approach

# Overview

- Model solutions as vertices of graph with distances as labels of edges
- search for cliques in graph
- complete, correct
- easy to implement, versatile
- not efficient

## Current implementation

- ASP problems can be normal logic programs or optimization problems in *asprin*-format
- solves  $n$   $k$ -similar/dissimilar solutions and  $n$  most similar/most dissimilar solutions
- full python script
- distance function in python

# Algorithm

**Data:** Distance function  $d$ , Problem  $P$ , distance  $k$ , number solutions  $n$

**Result:** Set  $C$  of  $n$  solutions of  $P$  with  $\Delta(S) \leq k$

$S = \text{getSolutions}(P)$ ;

$V \leftarrow$  Set of  $|S|$  vertices, each element unique solution of  $P$ ;

$E = \{(v_1, v_2) \mid v_1, v_2 \in V, v_1 \neq v_2, d(v_1, v_2) \leq k\}$ ;

$C \leftarrow$  clique with  $n$  vertices in  $\langle V, E \rangle$ ;

**return**  $C$

## Getting solutions

$S = \text{getSolutions}(P);$

- $P$  either normal logic program in ASP or optimization problem in asprin-format
- $S$  contains all answer sets of  $P$
- answer sets consist of shown atoms as *gringo* *Fun*-objects

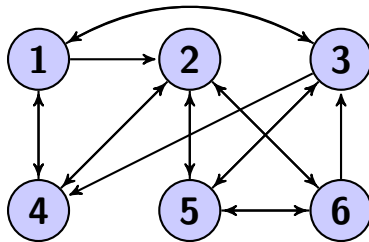


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## Calculating cliques

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$C \leftarrow$  clique with  $n$  vertex in  $\langle V, E \rangle$ ;

- first calculate pairwise distance between solutions
- build edges between all solutions with distances as labels
- add edges as instance to ASP clique program

## Getting edges: Example

Distance function  $d$  in my example is percentage of different atoms.

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Complete instance:

edge(0,1,83). edge(0,2,50). edge(0,3,83). edge(0,4,100).  
edge(0,5,50). edge(1,2,66). edge(1,3,66). edge(1,4,83).  
edge(1,5,100). edge(2,3,50). edge(2,4,50). edge(2,5,100).  
edge(3,4,50). edge(3,5,83). edge(4,5,50).

## Getting cliques: Example

```
#program clique_sim(n,k).  
  
edge(X,Y,D):-edge(Y,X,D).  
vert(X):-edge(X,_,_).  
vert(Y):-edge(_,Y,_).  
  
n{cl_vert(X):vert(X)}n.  
  
cl_edge(X,Y):-cl_vert(X),cl_vert(Y),  
               edge(X,Y,D),X<Y,D<=k.  
  
:-cl_vert(X),cl_vert(Y),X<Y,  
   0{cl_edge(X,Y):edge(X,Y,_)}0.
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```

For  $k = 60$  and  $n = 3$ :

cl\_vert(2), cl\_vert(3), cl\_vert(4)

# Improvements

- optimal cliques
- only calculate subset of solutions
- iterate calculated solutions starting with number of required solutions
- add heuristic to enumerate more likely candidates

## Getting optimal cliques: Example

```
#program clique_sim_opt(n).  
  
...  
  
cl_edge(X,Y,D):-cl_vert(X),cl_vert(Y),  
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...  
  
#minimize { D@1,(cl_edge,X,Y): cl_edge(X,Y,D)}.
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Optimal  $k = 50$  for  $n = 3$  with same solution:

cl\_vert(2), cl\_vert(3), cl\_vert(4)

## Iterative approach

# Overview

- iteratively calculate solutions
- one call to the solver adds a solutions satisfying distance constraints
- not complete, correct
- easy to implement, only normal logic problems
- more efficient

## Current implementation

- ASP problems can be normal logic programs
- solves  $n$   $k$ -similar/dissimilar solutions and  $n$  most similar/most dissimilar solutions given a initial solution
- python script in logic program
- distance definition in ASP

# Algorithm

## Data:

- Solve.lp (calculates solution  $s$  of  $P$ )
- Distance.lp (calculates distances between set of solution  $S$  and  $s$ )
- Constraint.lp (eliminates solution  $s$  with distance  $\Delta(S \cup \{s\}) > k$ )
- number solutions  $n$

**Result:** Set  $S$  of maximum  $n$  solutions of  $P$  with  $\Delta(S) \leq k$

$S = \emptyset$ ;

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

$s \leftarrow$  Solve  $S$  Solve.lp Distance.lp Constraint.lp;

**if** *Unsat* **then**

        break;

**end**

$S = S \cup s$ ;

**end**

**return**  $S$



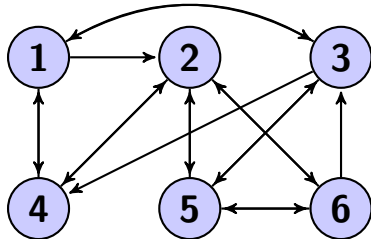
## Solve.Ip: Example

```
% Generate
1{cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y)}1 :- node(X).
1{cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y)}1 :- node(Y).

% Define
reached(Y) :- cycle(1,Y).
reached(Y) :- cycle(X,Y); reached(X).

% Test

:- node(Y), not reached(Y).
```



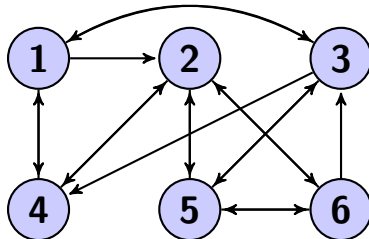
## Solve.lp: Example

```
% Generate
1{cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y)}1 :- node(X).
1{cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y)}1 :- node(Y).

% Define
reached(Y) :- cycle(1,Y).
reached(Y) :- cycle(X,Y); reached(X).

% Test

:- node(Y), not reached(Y).
```



Additional definition of atoms that constitute a solution:

```
#program solve.
_solution(0,cycle(X,Y)):-cycle(X,Y).
#show cycle/2.
```

Each step a new solution 0 is calculated.

## Distance.lp: Example

Following logic program saves solution and excludes it in the future  
( $S = S \cup s$ ):

## Distance.lp: Example

Following logic program saves solution and excludes it in the future  
( $S = S \cup s$ ):

```
#program savesol(m).  
_solution(m,X) :- X = @getSols(m).  
  
#program deletemodel(m).  
:- _solution(0,X) : X = @getSols(m);  
   N #sum { 1,X: _solution(0,X) } N;  
   N = @solSize(m).
```

## Distance.lp: Example

Following logic program is grounded in each step for each element in  $S$  and calculates distance to  $s$ :

## Distance.lp: Example

Following logic program is grounded in each step for each element in  $S$  and calculates distance to  $s$ :

```
#program distance_prct(n,step).
_otsame12(step,n,0,X):-_step(step);_solution(n,X);
                        not _solution(0,X).
_otsame21(step,n,0,X):-_step(step);_solution(0,X);
                        not _solution(n,X).
_nratoms(step,n,0,N,K):-_step(step);N={_solution(n,X)};
                        K={_otsame12(step,n,0,A)}.
_nratoms(step,0,n,N,K):-_step(step);N={_solution(0,X)};
                        K={_otsame21(step,n,0,A)}.
_distance(step,n,0,K):- _step(step);_nratoms(step,n,0,N1,K1);
                        _nratoms(step,0,n,N2,K2);
                        K=@calcPrct(N1,K1,N2,K2).
```

## Constraint.lp: Example

Following logic program is grounded in each step for each element in  $S$  to exclude  $s$  with  $\Delta(S \cup s) > k$ :

## Constraint.lp: Example

Following logic program is grounded in each step for each element in  $S$  to exclude  $s$  with  $\Delta(S \cup s) > k$ :

```
#program constraint_sim(step,n,k).  
:-_distance(step,n,0,X); X > k; _step(step).
```



## Result: Example

All parts together with  $k = 90$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:

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All parts together with  $k = 90$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:

① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)

## Result: Example

All parts together with  $k = 90$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:

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- ② cycle(1,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,2) cycle(2,4)  
cycle(4,1) \_step(2) \_distance(2,1,0,83)

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- ② cycle(1,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,2) cycle(2,4)  
cycle(4,1) \_step(2) \_distance(2,1,0,83)
- ③ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,4)  
cycle(4,1) \_step(3) \_distance(3,1,0,83) \_distance(3,2,0,66)

# Improvements

- use optimize statements to ensure least distance for next candidate
- no more need to specify  $k$

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- no more need to specify  $k$

Add following statement instead of Constraint.lp to the grounding and save the last model:

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- use optimize statements to ensure least distance for next candidate
- no more need to specify  $k$

Add following statement instead of Constraint.lp to the grounding and save the last model:

```
#program opt_sim(step).  
_maxdist(K,step):-K = #max{X:_distance(step,_,0,X)};  
                    _step(step).  
#minimize{K: _maxdist(K,step),_step(step)}.
```

## Improvements: Example

Same example now without  $k$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:



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Same example now without  $k$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:

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Same example now without  $k$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,5) cycle(5,3)  
cycle(3,1) \_step(2) \_distance(2,1,0,50)

## Improvements: Example

Same example now without  $k$  and  $n = 3$  yield the following results:

- ❶ cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ❷ cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,5) cycle(5,3)  
cycle(3,1) \_step(2) \_distance(2,1,0,50)
- ❸ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,4)  
cycle(4,1) \_step(3) \_distance(3,1,0,83) \_distance(3,2,0,83)

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cycle(3,1) \_step(2) \_distance(2,1,0,50)
- ❸ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,4)  
cycle(4,1) \_step(3) \_distance(3,1,0,83) \_distance(3,2,0,83)

Slight improvement in quality to  $k = 83$  and better distance between 1 and 2 but not nearly optimal due to unfortunate start candidate.

## asprin + Hclasp approach

# Overview

- extend *asprin* preference framework with heuristic to enable similarity
- modify branching heuristic to find similar/dissimilar models from previous solutions
- no guarantees
- easy to implement, directly aids in finding solutions
- tampering with branching heuristics may decrease performance

## Current implementation

- ASP problems can only be optimization problems in *asprin*-format
- approximates  $n$  most similar/most dissimilar solutions
- python script in logic program
- distance can only be expressed in `_heuristic-atoms`

# Algorithm

- same branch and bound algorithm of *asprin*
- change branching heuristic with *hclasp* when optimal solution is found:



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- same branch and bound algorithm of *asprin*
- change branching heuristic with *hclasp* when optimal solution is found:

**Data:** Set  $H$  of atoms of optimal solution, step  $s$   
**foreach**  $a \in H$  **do** Add atom `_heuristic(_holds( $a,0$ ),true, $s$ )` ;

# Algorithm

- same branch and bound algorithm of *asprin*
- change branching heuristic with *hclasp* when optimal solution is found:

**Data:** Set  $H$  of atoms of optimal solution, step  $s$

**foreach**  $a \in H$  **do** Add atom  $\text{\_heuristic}(\text{\_holds}(a,0),\text{true},s)$  ;

- variable with highest value  $s$  is decided first and declared true, if possible
- *CDCL*-algorithm tries to pick same atoms from past optimal solutions, regarding newer solutions the most

## Adding heuristic

If optimal solution is found, following logic program is added:

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If optimal solution is found, following logic program is added:

```
#program dosimilar(m).  
_heuristic(_holds(X,0),true,m) :- X=@getHolds().  
  
#show _holds/2.  
#show _heuristic/3.
```

## Adding heuristic: Example

```
% Generate
1{ cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y) }1
:- node(X).
1{ cycle(X,Y) : edge(X,Y) }1
:- node(Y).
```

```
% Define
reached(Y) :- cycle(1,Y).
reached(Y) :- cycle(X,Y);
reached(X).
```

```
% Test
:- node(Y), not reached(Y).
```

```
%optimize
#preference(c1,less(weight)){
    V::cycle(X,Y) : cost(1,X,Y,V)
}.
#preference(c2,less(weight)){
    V::cycle(X,Y) : cost(2,X,Y,V)
}.
#preference(c3,less(weight)){
    V::cycle(X,Y) : cost(3,X,Y,V)
}.

#preference(all,pareto){
    name(c1); name(c2); name(c3)
}.

#optimize(all).
```

## Adding heuristic: Example

Same example with 3 random cost function at the edges. Pareto optimal answers are:

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① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)

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- ③ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)
- ④ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,4) cycle(4,1)

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- ③ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)
- ④ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,4) cycle(4,1)
- ⑤ cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,5) cycle(5,3) cycle(3,1)

## Adding heuristic: Example

cycle/2 is in preference declaration which leads to rule:

```
holds(for(cycle(X,Y)),0):-cycle(X,Y).
```

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Optimal solution in step 2:

```
cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
```

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cycle/2 is in preference declaration which leads to rule:

```
_holds(for(cycle(X,Y)),0):-cycle(X,Y).
```

Optimal solution in step 2:

```
cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
```

Adds heuristic:

```
_heuristic(_holds(for(cycle(6,3))),0,true,2)
```

```
_heuristic(_holds(for(cycle(5,6))),0,true,2)
```

```
_heuristic(_holds(for(cycle(1,4))),0,true,2)
```

```
_heuristic(_holds(for(cycle(2,5))),0,true,2)
```

```
_heuristic(_holds(for(cycle(4,2))),0,true,2)
```

```
_heuristic(_holds(for(cycle(3,1))),0,true,2)
```

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers without heuristic:

① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)

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First three answers without heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
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- ③ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers without heuristic:

- ❶ cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
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- ❸ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

1,3 50%

## Adding heuristic: Example

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- ② cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,5) cycle(5,3) cycle(3,1)
- ③ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

1,3 50%

2,3 100%

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers without heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,6) cycle(6,5) cycle(5,3) cycle(3,1)
- ③ cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

1,3 50%

2,3 100%

$\hookrightarrow k = 100$  and  $n = 3$

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)
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## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

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- ③ cycle(1,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,2) cycle(2,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)
- ③ cycle(1,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,2) cycle(2,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

1,3 83%

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)
- ③ cycle(1,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,2) cycle(2,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

1,3 83%

2,3 66%

## Adding heuristic: Example

First three answers with heuristic:

- ① cycle(1,4) cycle(4,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,1)
- ② cycle(1,2) cycle(2,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,3) cycle(3,4) cycle(4,1)
- ③ cycle(1,3) cycle(3,5) cycle(5,6) cycle(6,2) cycle(2,4) cycle(4,1)

Distances:

1,2 50%

1,3 83%

2,3 66%

$\hookrightarrow k = 83$  and  $n = 3$

# Improvements

- heuristic modifying atoms regarding all previous solution
- dynamic heuristic

# Benchmarks

# Overview

## Clique:

# Overview

## Clique:

- Calculating all solutions:
  - finds globally optimal clique
  - nlp and optimization
  - inefficient



# Overview

## Clique:

- Calculating all solutions:
  - finds globally optimal clique
  - nlp and optimization
  - inefficient
- Calculating solutions iterative:
  - no optimal clique
  - nlp and optimization
  - more efficient

# Overview

## Clique:

- Calculating all solutions:
  - finds globally optimal clique
  - nlp and optimization
  - inefficient
- Calculating solutions iterative:
  - no optimal clique
  - nlp and optimization
  - more efficient

## Iterative:

- no globally optimal solutions
- not guaranteed to find solution
- only nlp
- fast

# Overview

## asprin+hclasp:

- approximation of optimal solutions
- no hard cutoff
- only optimization
- fast

# Setup

- all benchmarks were run on Zuse with 2 cores exclusively
- tried to find dissimilar solutions
- Optimization problems (6000 sek timeout, 20 Gb memout):
  - Design space exploration
  - Benchmark suite from *asprin*-paper with Pareto preference statements
- Normal problems (2000 sek timeout, 20 Gb memout):
  - Hamilton cycle suite
  - Benchmark suite from *asprin*-paper without preference statements

# Results

		$n = 3$ $k = 60$ Clique	$n = 3$ $k = 60$ Clique(iter)	$n = 3$ $k = 60$ Iter
Class	#ins	time(s)	time(s)	time(s)
DSE	500	<b>2779.55(453)</b>	2832.50(455)	<b>1193.70(280)</b> <b>880.17(52)</b>
asprin-paper-opt	133	2713.82(58)	<b>1298.26(26)</b>	
Hamilton	474	1986.96(470)	<b>1322.72(275)</b>	
asprin-paper-nlp	133	1911.83 (127)	1576.63(92)	

# Results

		$n = 3$ opt Clique		$n = 3$ opt lter		$n = 3$ opt heur	
Class	#ins	time(s)	dist	time(s)	dist	time(s)	dist
DSE	500	2777.67 (453)	986			<b>2723.18</b> <b>(447)</b>	<b>1043</b>
asprin-paper- opt	133	2722.65 (58)	425			<b>361.03</b> <b>(4)</b>	<b>4769</b>
Hamilton	474	1995.78 (473)	63	<b>1223.83</b> <b>(289)</b>	<b>201</b>		
asprin-paper- nlp	133	1912.03 (127)	159	<b>1130.57</b> <b>(73)</b>	<b>579</b>		

## Conclusion

# Conclusion

- iterative approach much better performance for normal logic programs
- with tweaks, clique approach is useful in small examples and for getting a baseline
- heuristic approach promising for multiobjective optimization problems



# Improvements

- chose different starting solutions parallel for iterative approaches
- generate different subsets of solutions parallel for clique approach
- improve performance of getting a solution:
  - decrease iterations for *asprin* with *hclasp*
  - improve finding similar solutions with clique(iterative) and iterative approach with *hclasp*

# Conclusion

Thank you! Questions?