

# Declarative Programming

6: reasoning with incomplete information:  
default reasoning, abduction

# Reasoning with incomplete information:

## overview

reasoning that leads to conclusions that are plausible, but not guaranteed to be true because not all information is available

Such reasoning is unsound.  
Deduction is sound, but only makes implicit information explicit.

default  
reasoning

assume normal state  
of affairs, unless  
there is evidence to  
the contrary

*"If something is a bird, it  
flies."*

abduction

choose between  
several explanations  
that explain an  
observation

*"I flipped the switch, but  
the light doesn't turn on.  
The bulb must be broken"*

induction

generalize a rule  
from a number of  
similar observations

*"The sky is full of dark  
clouds. It will rain."*

# Default reasoning:

*Tweety is a bird. Normally, birds fly.  
Therefore, Tweety flies.*



```
bird(tweety).  
flies(X) :- bird(X), normal(X).
```

has three models:

```
{bird(tweety)}  
{bird(tweety), flies(tweety)}  
{bird(tweety), flies(tweety), normal(tweety)}
```

**bird(tweety) is the only logical conclusion of the program because it occurs in every model.**

**If we want to conclude flies(tweety) through deduction, we have to state normal(tweety) explicitly. Default reasoning assumes something is normal, unless it is known to be abnormal.**

# Default reasoning:

*A more natural formulation using abnormal/1*



```
bird(tweety).  
flies(X) ; abnormal(X) :- bird(X).
```

indefinite  
clause

has two minimal models:

```
{bird(tweety), flies(tweety)}  
{bird(tweety), abnormal(tweety)}
```

model 2 is model of the general clause:

```
abnormal(X) :- bird(X), not(flies(X)).
```

model 1 is model of the general clause:

```
flies(X) :- bird(X), not(abnormal(X)).
```

using negation as failure:  
tweety flies if it cannot be  
proven that he is abnormal

```
bird(tweety).  
flies(X) :- bird(X), not(abnormal(X)).  
ostrich(tweety).  
abnormal(X) :- ostrich(X).
```

tweety no longer flies, he is an ostrich: the  
default rule (birds fly) is cancelled by the  
more specific rule (ostriches)

# Default reasoning: *non-monotonic form of reasoning*

new information can  
invalidate previous  
conclusions:

```
bird(tweety).  
flies(X) :- bird(X), not(abnormal(X)).
```

```
bird(tweety).  
flies(X) :- bird(X), not(abnormal(X)).  
ostrich(tweety).  
abnormal(X) :- ostrich(X).
```

Not the case for deductive reasoning,  
which is monotonic in the following sense:

$$Th \vdash p \Rightarrow Th \cup \{q\} \vdash p$$

$$\text{Closure}(Th) = \{p \mid Th \vdash p\}$$

$$Th1 \subseteq Th2 \Rightarrow \text{Closure}(Th1) \subseteq \text{Closure}(Th2)$$

# Default reasoning: *without not/1, using a meta-interpreter*

problematic: e.g., floundering but also because it has no clear declarative semantics



Distinguish regular rules (without exceptions) from default rules (with exceptions.)

Only apply a default rule when it does not lead to an inconsistency.

```
default((flies(X) :- bird(X))).  
rule((not(flies(X)) :- penguin(X))).  
rule((bird(X) :- penguin(X))).  
rule((penguin(tweety) :- true)).  
rule((bird(opus) :- true)).
```

# Default reasoning: *using a meta-interpreter*

```
explain(F,E):-  
  explain(F,[],E).  
explain(true,E,E) :- !.  
explain((A,B),E0,E) :- !,  
  explain(A,E0,E1),  
  explain(B,E1,E).  
explain(A,E0,E):-  
  prove(A,E0,E).  
explain(A,E0,[default((A:-B))|E]):-  
  default((A:-B)),  
  explain(B,E0,E),  
  not(contradiction(A,E)).
```

E explains F: lists the rules used to prove F

prove using regular rules

prove using default rules

do not use a default to prove A (or not(A)) if you can prove not(A) (or A) using regular rules

```
prove(true,E,E) :- !.  
prove((A,B),E0,E) :- !,  
  prove(A,E0,E1),  
  prove(B,E1,E).  
prove(A,E0,[rule((A:-B))|E]) :-  
  rule((A:-B)),  
  prove(B,E0,E).
```

```
contradiction(not(A),E) :- !,  
  prove(A,E,_).  
contradiction(A,E):-  
  prove(not(A),E,_).
```

# Default reasoning: *using a meta-interpreter, Opus example*

```
default((flies(X) :- bird(X))).  
rule((not(flies(X)) :- penguin(X))).  
rule((bird(X) :- penguin(X))).  
rule((penguin(tweety) :- true)).  
rule((bird(opus) :- true)).
```

```
?- explain(flies(X),E)  
X=opus  
E=[default((flies(opus) :- bird(opus))),  
   rule((bird(opus) :- true))]
```

```
?- explain(not(flies(X)),E)  
X=tweety  
E=[rule((not(flies(tweety)) :- penguin(tweety))),  
   rule((penguin(tweety) :- true))]
```

default rule has  
been cancelled



# Default reasoning: *using a meta-interpreter, Dracula example*

```
default((not(flies(X)) :- mammal(X))).
default((flies(X) :- bat(X))).
default((not(flies(X)) :- dead(X))).
  rule((mammal(X) :- bat(X))).
  rule((bat(dracula) :- true)).
  rule((dead(dracula) :- true)).
```

```
?-explain(flies(dracula),E)
E= [default((flies(dracula) :- bat(dracula))),
    rule((bat(dracula) :- true))]
```

dracula flies because  
bats typically fly

```
?-explain(not(flies(dracula)),E)
E= [default((not(flies(dracula)) :- mammal(dracula))),
    rule((mammal(dracula) :- bat(dracula))),
    rule((bat(dracula) :- true))]
E= [default((not(flies(dracula)) :- dead(dracula))),
    rule((dead(dracula) :- true))]
```

dracula doesn't fly  
because mammals  
typically don't

dracula doesn't fly  
because dead things  
typically don't

# Default reasoning: *using a revised meta-interpreter*


need a way to cancel particular defaults in certain situations: bats are flying mammals although the default is that mammals do not fly



name associated with  
default rule

```
default(mammals_dont_fly(X), (not(flies(X)):-mammal(X))).
default(bats_fly(X), (flies(X):-bat(X))).
default(dead_things_dont_fly(X), (not(flies(X)):-dead(X))).
rule((mammal(X):-bat(X))).
rule((bat(dracula):-true)).
rule((dead(dracula):-true)).
rule((not(mammals_dont_fly(X)):-bat(X))).
rule((not(bats_fly(X)):-dead(X))).
```

# Default reasoning: *using a revised meta-interpreter*



need a way to cancel particular defaults in certain situations: bats are flying mammals although the default is that mammals do not fly

name associated with  
default rule

```
default(mammals_dont_fly(X), (not(flies(X)):-mammal(X))).  
default(bats_fly(X), (flies(X):-bat(X))).  
default(dead_things_dont_fly(X), (not(flies(X)):-dead(X))).  
rule((mammal(X):-bat(X))).  
rule((bat(dracula):-true)).  
rule((dead(dracula):-true)).  
rule((not(mammals_dont_fly(X)):-bat(X))).  
rule((not(bats_fly(X)):-dead(X))).
```

rule cancels the  
mammals\_dont\_fly default

# Default reasoning: *using a revised meta-interpreter*

explanations keep  
track of names rather  
than default rules

```
explain(A, E0, [default(Name) | E]) :-  
    default(Name, (A :- B)),  
    explain(B, E0, E),  
    not(contradiction(Name, E)),  
    not(contradiction(A, E)).
```

default rule is not cancelled in this  
situation: e.g., do not use default  
named `bats_fly(X)` if you can prove  
`not(bats_fly(X))`

dracula can not fly after all

```
?-explain(flies(dracula), E)  
no  
?-explain(not(flies(dracula)), E)  
E= [default(dead_things_dont_fly(dracula)),  
     rule((dead(dracula) :- true))]
```

# Default reasoning: *Dracula revisited*

using meta-interpreter

```
default(mammals_dont_fly(X), (not(flies(X)):-mammal(X))).  
default(bats_fly(X), (flies(X):-bat(X))).  
default(dead_things_dont_fly(X), (not(flies(X)):-dead(X))).  
rule((mammal(X):-bat(X))).  
rule((bat(dracula):-true)).  
rule((dead(dracula):-true)).  
rule((not(mammals_dont_fly(X)):-bat(X))).  
rule((not(bats_fly(X)):-dead(X))).
```

typical case is a clause that is only applicable when it does not lead to inconsistencies; applicability can be restricted using clause names

using naf

```
notflies(X):-mammal(X),not(flying_mammal(X)).  
flies(X):-bat(X),not(nonflying_bat(X)).  
notflies(X):-dead(X),not(flying_deadthing(X)).  
mammal(X):-bat(X).  
bat(dracula).  
dead(dracula).  
flying_mammal(X):-bat(X).  
nonflying_bat(X):-dead(X).
```

typical case is general clause that negates abnormality predicate

# Abduction:

given a theory  $T$  and an observation  $O$ ,  
find an explanation  $E$  such that  $T \cup E \models O$

$T$  `likes(peter,S) :- student_of(S,peter).`  
`likes(X,Y) :- friend(X,Y).`

$O$  `likes(peter,paul)`

$E1$  `{student_of(paul,peter)}`

$E2$  `{friend(peter,paul)}`

`{(likes(X,Y) :- friendly(Y)),  
friendly(paul)}`

Default reasoning makes assumptions about what is false (e.g., tweety is not an abnormal bird), abduction can also make assumptions about what is true.

another possibility, but abductive explanations are usually restricted to ground literals with predicates that are undefined in the theory (abducibles)

# Abduction: *abductive* *meta-interpreter*



Theory  $\cup$  Explanation  $\models$  Observation

Try to prove Observation from theory,  
when a literal is encountered that  
cannot be resolved (an abducible),  
add it to the Explanation.

```
abduce (0, E) :-  
  abduce (0, [], E).  
abduce (true, E, E) :- !.  
abduce ((A, B), E0, E) :- !,  
  abduce (A, E0, E1),  
  abduce (B, E1, E).  
abduce (A, E0, E) :-  
  clause (A, B),  
  abduce (B, E0, E).  
abduce (A, E, E) :-  
  element (A, E).  
abduce (A, E, [A|E]) :-  
  not (element (A, E)),  
  abducible (A).  
abducible (A) :-  
  not (clause (A, B)).
```

A already  
assumed

A can be assumed if it  
was not already assumed  
and it is an abducible.

```
likes (peter, S) :- student_of (S, peter).  
likes (X, Y) :- friend (X, Y).
```

```
?-abduce (likes (peter, paul), E)  
E = [student_of (paul, peter)];  
E = [friend (paul, peter)]
```

# Abduction:

## *abductive meta-interpreter and negation*

general clauses

```
flies(X) :- bird(X), not(abnormal(X)).
abnormal(X) :- penguin(X).
bird(X) :- penguin(X).
bird(X) :- sparrow(X).

?-abduce(flies(tweety),E)
E = [not(abnormal(tweety)),penguin(tweety)];
E = [not(abnormal(tweety)),sparrow(tweety)];
```

abnormal/1 not an  
abducible

inconsistent with  
theory as penguins  
are abnormal

Since no clause is found for `not(abnormal(tweety))`, it is added to the explanation.



# Abduction:

## *first attempt at abduction with negation*

extend `abduce/3` with negation as failure:

```
abduce(not(A), E, E) :-  
    not(abduce(A, E, E)).
```

do not add negated literals to the explanation:

```
abducible(A) :-  
    A \= not(X),  
    not(clause(A, B)).
```

```
flies(X) :- bird(X), not(abnormal(X)).  
abnormal(X) :- penguin(X).  
bird(X) :- penguin(X).  
bird(X) :- sparrow(X).  
  
?-abduce(flies(tweety), E)  
E = [sparrow(tweety)]
```

# Abduction:

## *first attempt at abduction with negation: FAILED*

any explanation of `bird(tweety)` will also be an explanation of `flies1(tweety)`:

```
flies1(X):- not(abnormal(X)),bird(X)
abnormal(X) :- penguin(X).
bird(X) :- penguin(X).
bird(X) :- sparrow(X).
```

reversed order  
of literals

the fact that `abnormal(tweety)` is to be considered false, is not reflected in the explanation:

```
?- abduce(not(abnormal(tweety)), [], [])
true .
```

```
abduce(not(A), E, E) :-
  not(abduce(A, E, E)).
```

assumes the explanation  
is already complete

# Abduction:

## *final abductive meta-interpreter: abduce/3*

```
abduce(true,E,E) :- !.  
abduce((A,B),E0,E) :- !,  
    abduce(A,E0,E1),  
    abduce(B,E1,E).  
abduce(A,E0,E) :-  
    clause(A,B),  
    abduce(B,E0,E).  
abduce(A,E,E) :-  
    element(A,E).  
abduce(A,E,[A|E]) :-  
    not(element(A,E)),  
    abducible(A),  
    not(abduce_not(A,E,E)).  
abduce(not(A),E0,E) :-  
    not(element(A,E0)),  
    abduce_not(A,E0,E).
```

```
abducible(A) :-  
    A \= not(X),  
    not(clause(A,B)).
```

A already  
assumed

A can be assumed if  
it was not already,  
it is abducible,  
E doesn't explain not(A)

only assume not(A) if A was not already assumed,  
ensure not(A) is reflected in the explanation

# Abduction:

## *final abductive meta-interpreter: abduce\_not/3*

```
abduce_not((A,B),E0,E):-
```

```
!,
```

```
abduce_not(A,E0,E);
```

```
abduce_not(B,E0,E).
```

```
abduce_not(A,E0,E):-
```

```
setof(B,clause(A,B),L),
```

```
abduce_not_list(L,E0,E).
```

```
abduce_not(A,E,E):-
```

```
element(not(A),E).
```

```
abduce_not(A,E,[not(A)|E]):-
```

```
not(element(not(A),E)),
```

```
abducible(A),
```

```
not(abduce(A,E,E)).
```

```
abduce_not(not(A),E0,E):-
```

```
not(element(not(A),E0)),
```

```
abduce(A,E0,E).
```

**disjunction:** a negation conjunction can be explained by explaining A or by explaining B

not(A) is explained by explaining not(B) for **every** A:-B

not(A) already assumed

assume not(A) if not already so, A is abducible and E does not already explain A

explain not(not(A)) by explaining A

```
abduce_not_list([],E,E).  
abduce_not_list([B|Bs],E0,E):-  
abduce_not(B,E0,E1),  
abduce_not_list(Bs,E1,E).
```

# Abduction:

## *final abductive meta-interpreter: example*

```
flies(X) :- bird(X),not(abnormal(X)).  
flies1(X) :- not(abnormal(X)),bird(X).  
abnormal(X) :- penguin(X).  
abnormal(X) :- dead(X).  
bird(X) :- penguin(X).  
bird(X) :- sparrow(X).
```

```
?- abduce(flies(tweety),E).  
E = [not(penguin(tweety)),  
     not(dead(tweety)),  
     sparrow(tweety)]
```

```
?- abduce(flies1(tweety),E).  
E = [sparrow(tweety),  
     not(penguin(tweety)),  
     not(dead(tweety))]
```

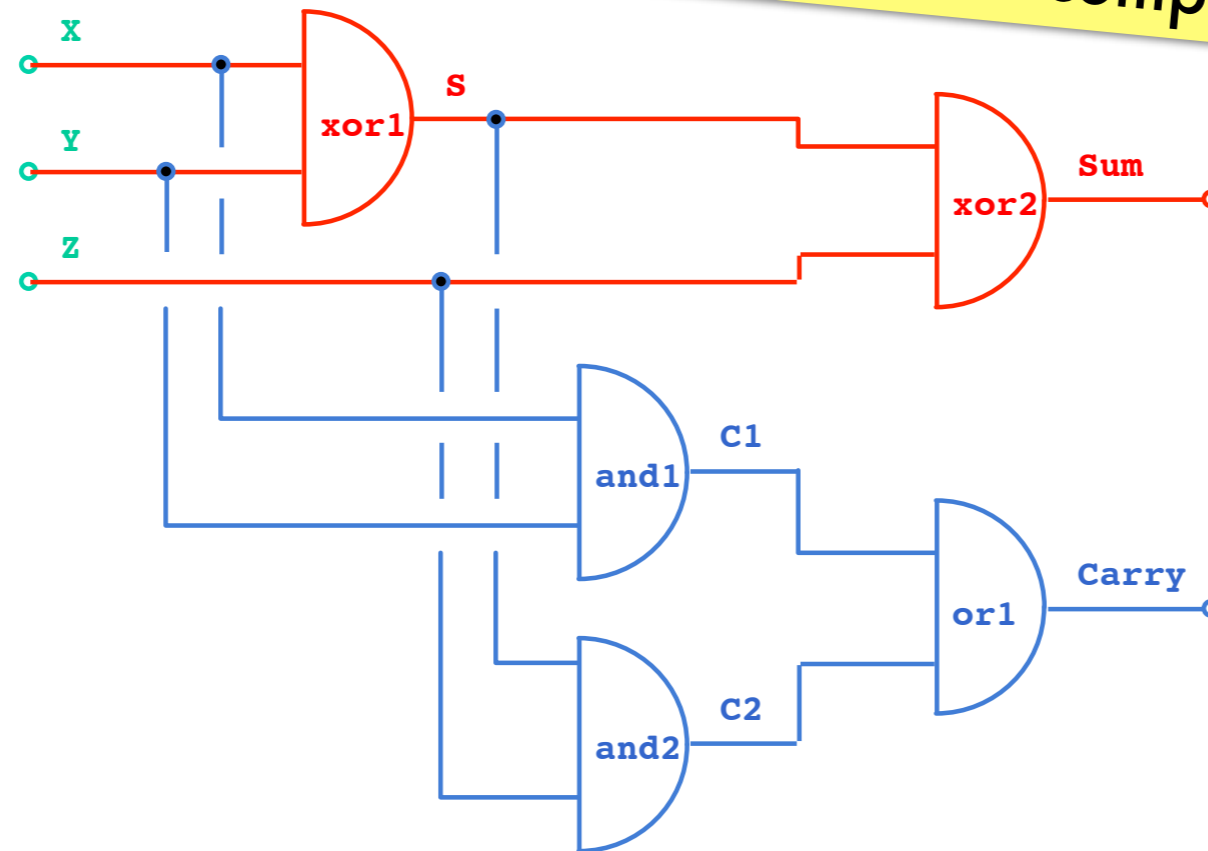
now abduces as  
expected

# Abduction: *diagnostic reasoning*

Theory: system description  
 Observation: input values, output values  
 Explanation: diagnosis=hypothesis  
 about which components are faulty

3-bit adder

usually what  
 has to be  
 carried on  
 from previous  
 computation



## Theory describing normal operation

```
adder (X, Y, Z, Sum, Carry) :-
  xor (X, Y, S),
  xor (Z, S, Sum),
  and (X, Y, C1), and (Z, S, C2),
  or (C1, C2, Carry).
```

```
xor (0, 0, 0).
xor (0, 1, 1).
xor (1, 0, 1).
xor (1, 1, 0).
and (0, 0, 0).
and (0, 1, 0).
and (1, 0, 0).
and (1, 1, 1).
or (0, 0, 0).
or (0, 1, 1).
or (1, 0, 1).
or (1, 1, 1).
```

# Abduction: *diagnostic reasoning - fault model*

describes how each component can behave in a faulty manner

```
fault (NameComponent=State)
```

```
adder (N, X, Y, Z, Sum, Carry) :-  
  xorg (N-xor1, X, Y, S),  
  xorg (N-xor2, Z, S, Sum),  
  andg (N-and1, X, Y, C1),  
  andg (N-and2, X, S, C2),  
  org (N-or1, C1, C2, Carry).
```

can be nested:  
subSystemName-  
componentName

```
xorg (N, X, Y, Z) :- xor (X, Y, Z).  
xorg (N, 0, 0, 1) :- fault (N=s1).  
xorg (N, 0, 1, 0) :- fault (N=s0).  
xorg (N, 1, 0, 0) :- fault (N=s0).  
xorg (N, 1, 1, 1) :- fault (N=s1).
```

correct behavior

faulty behavior

```
xandg (N, X, Y, Z) :- and (X, Y, Z).  
xandg (N, 0, 0, 1) :- fault (N=s1).  
xandg (N, 0, 1, 1) :- fault (N=s1).  
xandg (N, 1, 0, 1) :- fault (N=s1).  
xandg (N, 1, 1, 0) :- fault (N=s0).
```

```
org (N, X, Y, Z) :- or (X, Y, Z).  
org (N, 0, 0, 1) :- fault (N=s1).  
org (N, 0, 1, 0) :- fault (N=s0).  
org (N, 1, 0, 0) :- fault (N=s0).  
org (N, 1, 1, 0) :- fault (N=s0).
```

s0: output stuck at 0,  
s1: output stuck at 1

# Abduction:

*diagnostic reasoning - diagnoses for faulty adder*

```
diagnosis(Observation,Diagnosis):-  
  abduce(Observation,Diagnosis).
```

adder(N,X,Y,Z,Sum,Carry): both  
Sum and Carry are wrong

obvious diagnosis: outputs  
of adder are stuck

```
?-diagnosis(adder(a,0,0,1,0,1),D).  
D = [fault(a-or1=s1), fault(a-xor2=s0)];  
D = [fault(a-and2=s1), fault(a-xor2=s0)];  
D = [fault(a-and1=s1), fault(a-xor2=s0)];  
D = [fault(a-and2=s1), fault(a-and1=s1), fault(a-xor2=s0)];  
D = [fault(a-or1=s1), fault(a-and2=s0), fault(a-xor1=s1)];  
D = [fault(a-and1=s1), fault(a-xor1=s1)];  
D = [fault(a-and2=s0), fault(a-and1=s1), fault(a-xor1=s1)];  
D = [fault(a-xor1=s1)]
```

most plausible as only one faulty  
component accounts for entire fault