

Constraint Satisfaction Problems (CSP)

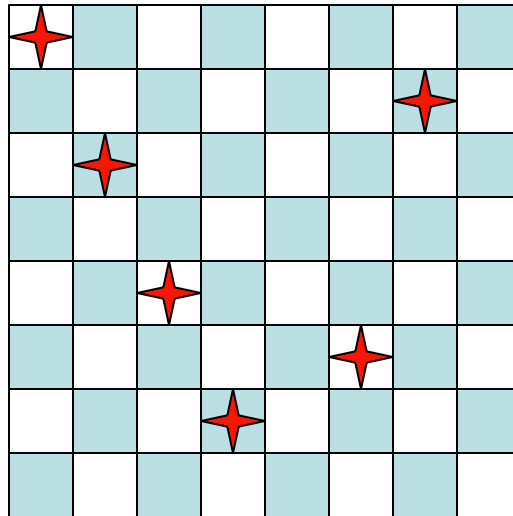
(Where we postpone making difficult decisions until they become easy to make)

R&N: Chap. 5

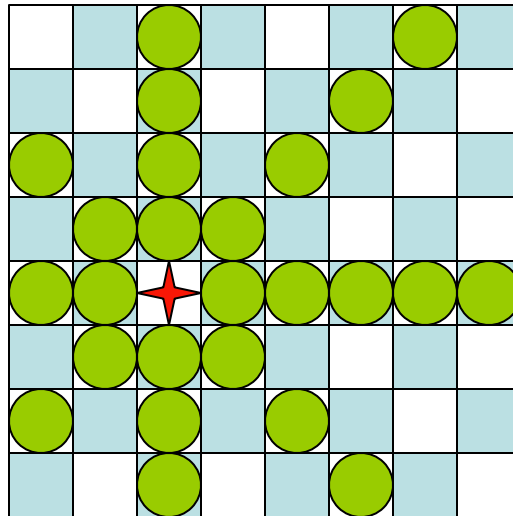
What we will try to do ...

- Search techniques make choices in an often arbitrary order. Often little information is available to make each of them
- In many problems, the same states can be reached independent of the order in which choices are made ("commutative" actions)
- Can we solve such problems more efficiently by picking the order appropriately? Can we even avoid making any choice?

Uninformed Search

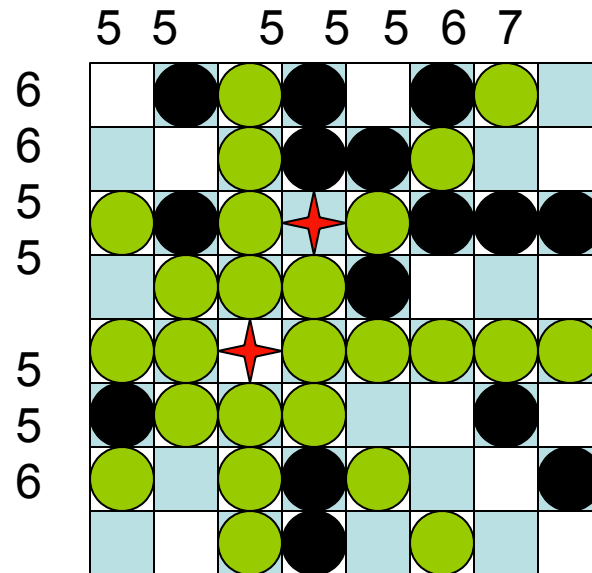


Constraint Propagation



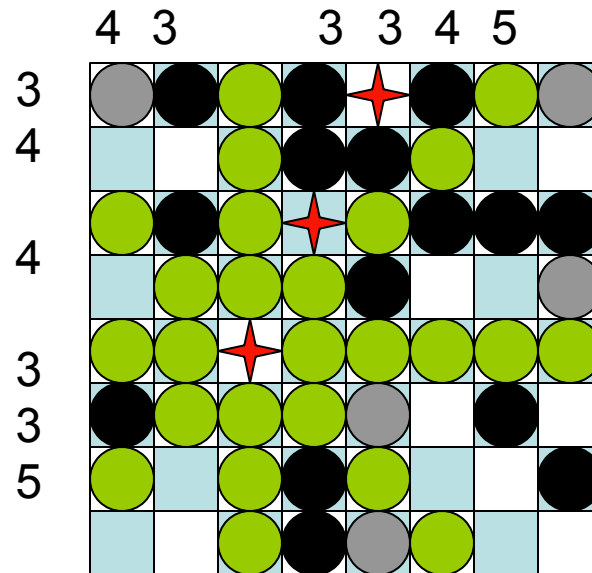
- Place a queen in a square
- Remove the attacked squares from future consideration

Constraint Propagation



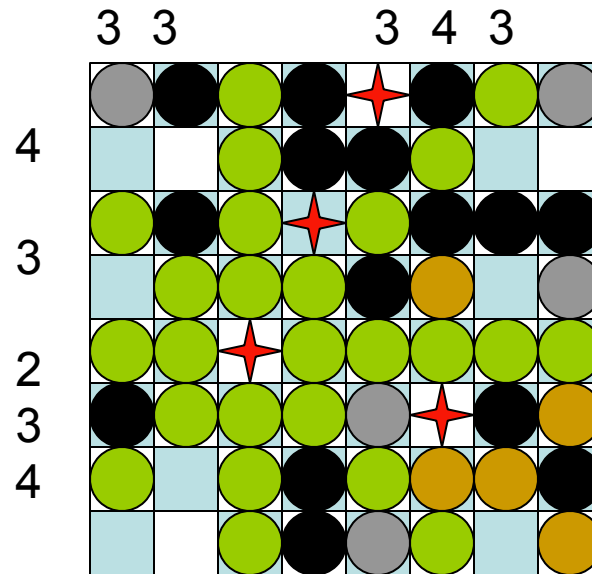
- Count the number of non-attacked squares in every row and column
- Place a queen in a row or column with minimum number
- Remove the attacked squares from future consideration

Constraint Propagation

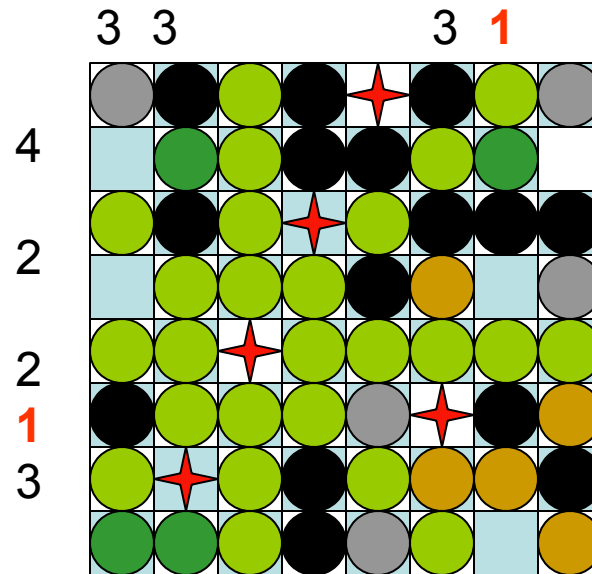


- Repeat

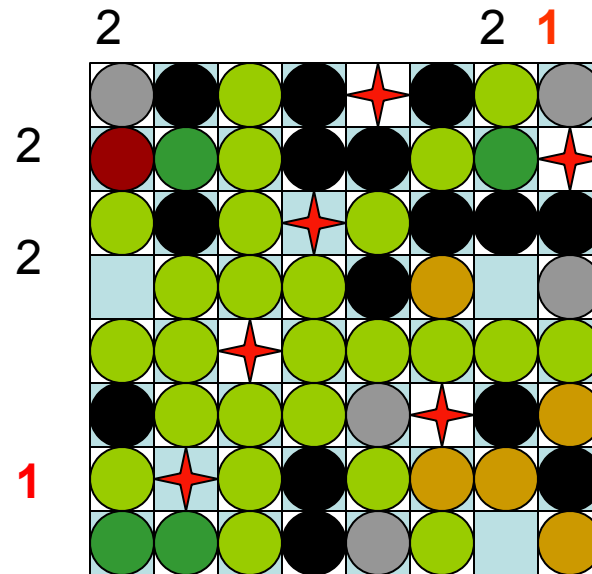
Constraint Propagation



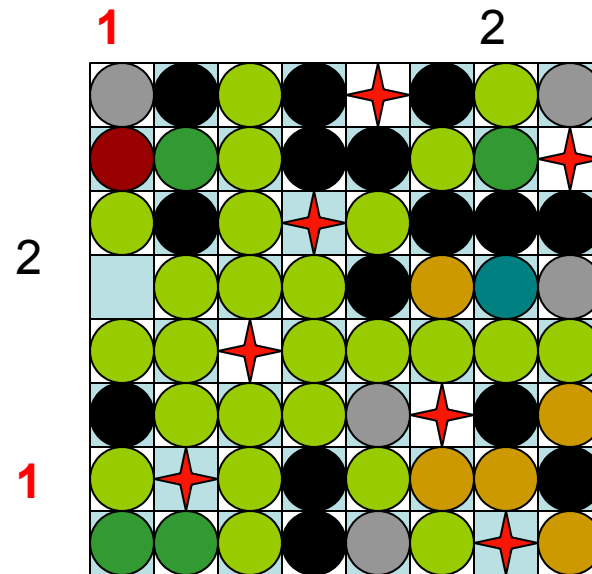
Constraint Propagation



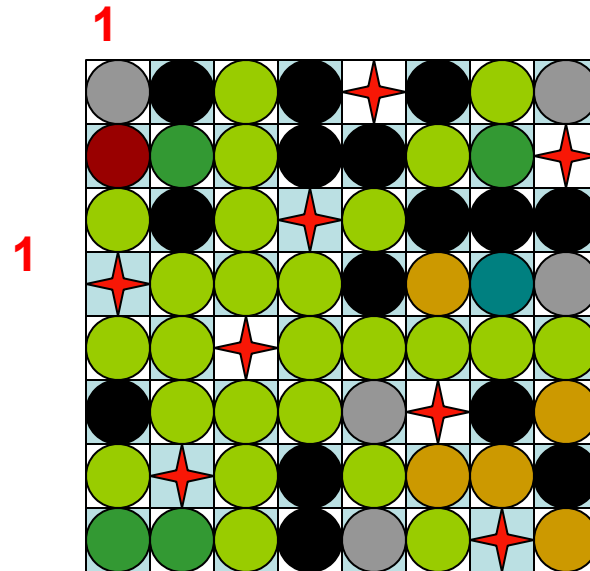
Constraint Propagation



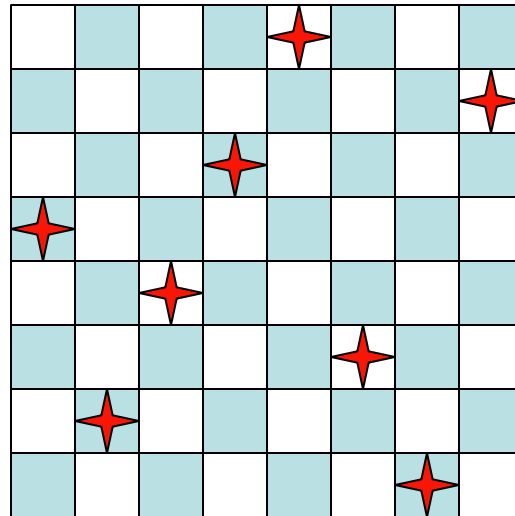
Constraint Propagation



Constraint Propagation



Constraint Propagation



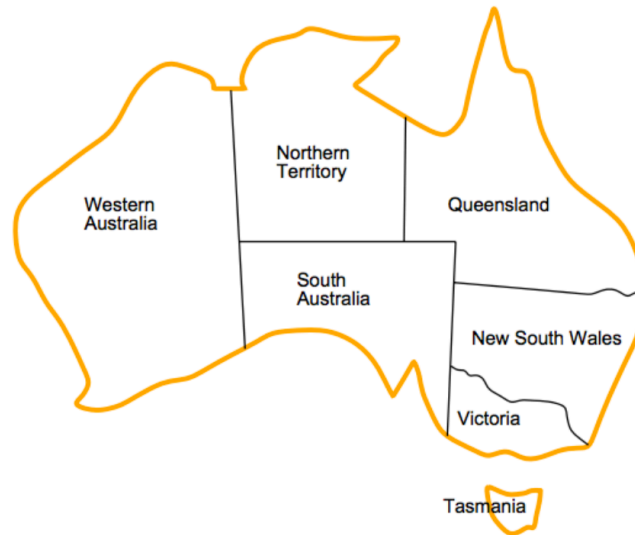
What do we need?

- More than just a successor function and a goal test
 - We also need:
 - A means to **propagate the constraints** imposed by one queen's position on the positions of the other queens
 - An early **failure test**
- Explicit representation of constraints
- Constraint propagation algorithms

Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP)

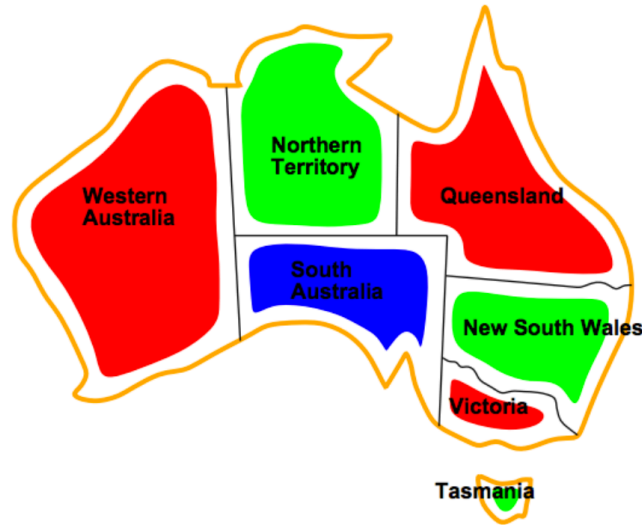
- Set of **variables** $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$
- Each variable X_i has a **domain** D_i of possible values. Usually, D_i is finite
- Set of **constraints** $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_p\}$
- Each constraint relates a subset of variables by specifying the valid combinations of their values
- Goal: **Assign a value to every variable such that all constraints are satisfied**

Map Coloring



- 7 variables {WA,NT,SA,Q,NSW,V,T}
- Each variable has the same domain:
{red, green, blue}
- No two adjacent variables have the same value:
WA \neq NT, WA \neq SA, NT \neq SA, NT \neq Q, SA \neq Q,
SA \neq NSW, SA \neq V, Q \neq NSW, NSW \neq V

Map Coloring



- 7 variables {WA,NT,SA,Q,NSW,V,T}
- Each variable has the same domain:
{red, green, blue}
- No two adjacent variables have the same value:
 $WA \neq NT$, $WA \neq SA$, $NT \neq SA$, $NT \neq Q$, $SA \neq Q$,
 $SA \neq NSW$, $SA \neq V$, $Q \neq NSW$, $NSW \neq V$

8-Queen Problem

- 8 variables X_i , $i = 1$ to 8
- The domain of each variable is: $\{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$
- Constraints are of the forms:
 - $X_i = k \rightarrow X_j \neq k$ for all $j = 1$ to 8, $j \neq i$
 - Similar constraints for diagonals

All constraints are binary

Street Puzzle

1 2 3 4 5

$N_i = \{\text{English, Spaniard, Japanese, Italian, Norwegian}\}$

$C_i = \{\text{Red, Green, White, Yellow, Blue}\}$

$D_i = \{\text{Tea, Coffee, Milk, Fruit-juice, Water}\}$

$J_i = \{\text{Painter, Sculptor, Diplomat, Violinist, Doctor}\}$

$A_i = \{\text{Dog, Snails, Fox, Horse, Zebra}\}$

The Englishman lives in the Red house

The Spaniard has a Dog

The Japanese is a Painter

The Italian drinks Tea

The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left

The owner of the Green house drinks Coffee

The Green house is on the right of the White house

The Sculptor breeds Snails

The Diplomat lives in the Yellow house

The owner of the middle house drinks Milk

The Norwegian lives next door to the Blue house

The Violinist drinks Fruit juice

The Fox is in the house next to the Doctor's

The Horse is next to the Diplomat's

Who owns the Zebra?
Who drinks Water?

Street Puzzle

1 2 3 4 5

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$\forall i, j \in [1, 5], i \neq j, N_i \neq N_j$

$\forall i, j \in [1, 5], i \neq j, C_i \neq C_j$

...

The Englishman lives in the Red house

The Spaniard has a Dog

The Japanese is a Painter

The Italian drinks Tea

The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left

The owner of the Green house drinks Coffee

The Green house is on the right of the White house

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Street Puzzle



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$A_i = \{\text{Dog, Snails, Fox, Horse, Zebra}\}$

The Englishman lives in the Red house $\dots\dots\dots (N_i = \text{English}) \Leftrightarrow (C_i = \text{Red})$

The Spaniard has a Dog

The Japanese is a Painter $\dots\dots\dots (N_i = \text{Japanese}) \Leftrightarrow (J_i = \text{Painter})$

The Italian drinks Tea

The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left $\dots\dots\dots (N_1 = \text{Norwegian})$

The owner of the Green house drinks Coffee

The Green house is on the right of the White house

The Sculptor breeds Snails

The Diplomat lives in the Yellow house

The owner of the middle house drinks Milk

The Norwegian lives next door to the Blue house

The Violinist drinks Fruit juice

The Fox is in the house next to the Doctor's

The Horse is next to the Diplomat's

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (C_i = \text{White}) \Leftrightarrow (C_{i+1} = \text{Green}) \\ (C_5 \neq \text{White}) \\ (C_1 \neq \text{Green}) \end{array} \right.$$

left as an exercise

Street Puzzle



$N_i = \{\text{English, Spaniard, Japanese, Italian, Norwegian}\}$

$C_i = \{\text{Red, Green, White, Yellow, Blue}\}$

$D_i = \{\text{Tea, Coffee, Milk, Fruit-juice, Water}\}$

$J_i = \{\text{Painter, Sculptor, Diplomat, Violinist, Doctor}\}$

$A_i = \{\text{Dog, Snails, Fox, Horse, Zebra}\}$

The Englishman lives in the Red house $\dots\dots\dots (N_i = \text{English}) \Leftrightarrow (C_i = \text{Red})$

The Spaniard has a Dog

The Japanese is a Painter $\dots\dots\dots (N_i = \text{Japanese}) \Leftrightarrow (J_i = \text{Painter})$

The Italian drinks Tea

The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left $\dots\dots\dots (N_1 = \text{Norwegian})$

The owner of the Green house drinks Coffee

The Green house is on the right of the White house

The Sculptor breeds Snails

The Diplomat lives in the Yellow house

The owner of the middle house drinks Milk

The Norwegian lives next door to the Blue house

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The Fox is in the house next to the Doctor's

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$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (C_i = \text{White}) \Leftrightarrow (C_{i+1} = \text{Green}) \\ (C_5 \neq \text{White}) \\ (C_1 \neq \text{Green}) \end{array} \right.$$

unary constraints

Street Puzzle

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$N_i = \{\text{English, Spaniard, Japanese, Italian, Norwegian}\}$

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The Englishman lives in the Red house

The Spaniard has a Dog

The Japanese is a Painter

The Italian drinks Tea

The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left → $N_1 = \text{Norwegian}$

The owner of the Green house drinks Coffee

The Green house is on the right of the White house

The Sculptor breeds Snails

The Diplomat lives in the Yellow house

The owner of the middle house drinks Milk → $D_3 = \text{Milk}$

The Norwegian lives next door to the Blue house

The Violinist drinks Fruit juice

The Fox is in the house next to the Doctor's

The Horse is next to the Diplomat's

Street Puzzle



$N_i = \{\text{English, Spaniard, Japanese, Italian, Norwegian}\}$

$C_i = \{\text{Red, Green, White, Yellow, Blue}\}$

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$J_i = \{\text{Painter, Sculptor, Diplomat, Violinist, Doctor}\}$

$A_i = \{\text{Dog, Snails, Fox, Horse, Zebra}\}$

The Englishman lives in the Red house $\rightarrow C_1 \neq \text{Red}$

The Spaniard has a Dog $\rightarrow A_1 \neq \text{Dog}$

The Japanese is a Painter

The Italian drinks Tea

The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left $\rightarrow N_1 = \text{Norwegian}$

The owner of the Green house drinks Coffee

The Green house is on the right of the White house

The Sculptor breeds Snails

The Diplomat lives in the Yellow house

The owner of the middle house drinks Milk $\rightarrow D_3 = \text{Milk}$

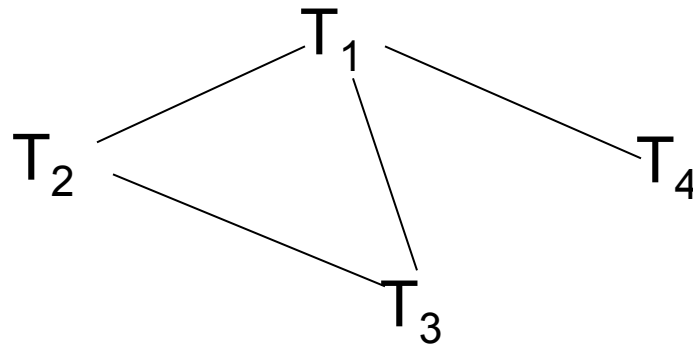
The Norwegian lives next door to the Blue house

The Violinist drinks Fruit juice $\rightarrow J_3 \neq \text{Violinist}$

The Fox is in the house next to the Doctor's

The Horse is next to the Diplomat's

Task Scheduling



Four tasks T_1 , T_2 , T_3 , and T_4 are related by time constraints:

- T_1 must be done during T_3
 - T_2 must be achieved before T_1 starts
 - T_2 must overlap with T_3
 - T_4 must start after T_1 is complete
-
- Are the constraints compatible?
 - What are the possible time relations between two tasks?
 - What if the tasks use resources in limited supply?

How to formulate this problem as a CSP?

3-SAT

- n Boolean variables u_1, \dots, u_n

- p constraints of the form

$$u_i^* \vee u_j^* \vee u_k^* = 1$$

where u^* stands for either u or $\neg u$

- Known to be NP-complete

Finite vs. Infinite CSP

- **Finite CSP**: each variable has a finite domain of values
- **Infinite CSP**: some or all variables have an infinite domain

E.g., linear programming problems over the reals:

$$\text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p : a_{i,1}x_1 + a_{i,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{i,n}x_n = a_{i,0}$$

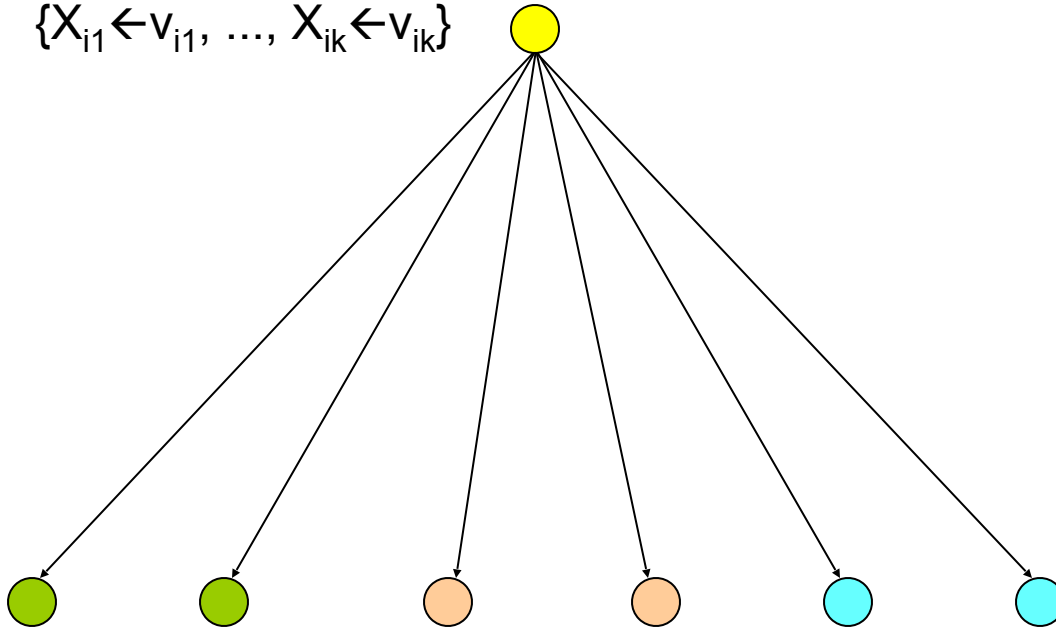
$$\text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, q : b_{j,1}x_1 + b_{j,2}x_2 + \dots + b_{j,n}x_n \leq b_{j,0}$$

- **We will only consider finite CSP**

CSP as a Search Problem

- n variables X_1, \dots, X_n
- **Valid assignment:** $\{X_{i_1} \leftarrow v_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_k} \leftarrow v_{i_k}\}$, $0 \leq k \leq n$,
such that the values v_{i_1}, \dots, v_{i_k} satisfy all constraints relating the variables X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_k}
- **Complete assignment:** one where $k = n$
[if all variable domains have size d , there are $O(d^n)$ complete assignments]
- **States:** valid assignments
- **Initial state:** empty assignment $\{\}$, i.e. $k = 0$
- **Successor of a state:**
 $\{X_{i_1} \leftarrow v_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_k} \leftarrow v_{i_k}\} \rightarrow \{X_{i_1} \leftarrow v_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_k} \leftarrow v_{i_k}, X_{i_{k+1}} \leftarrow v_{i_{k+1}}\}$
- **Goal test:** $k = n$

$$\{X_{i1} \leftarrow v_{i1}, \dots, X_{ik} \leftarrow v_{ik}\}$$



$$\{X_{i1} \leftarrow v_{i1}, \dots, X_{ik} \leftarrow v_{ik}, X_{ik+1} \leftarrow v_{ik+1}\}$$

$r = n - k$ variables with s values $\rightarrow r \times s$ branching factor

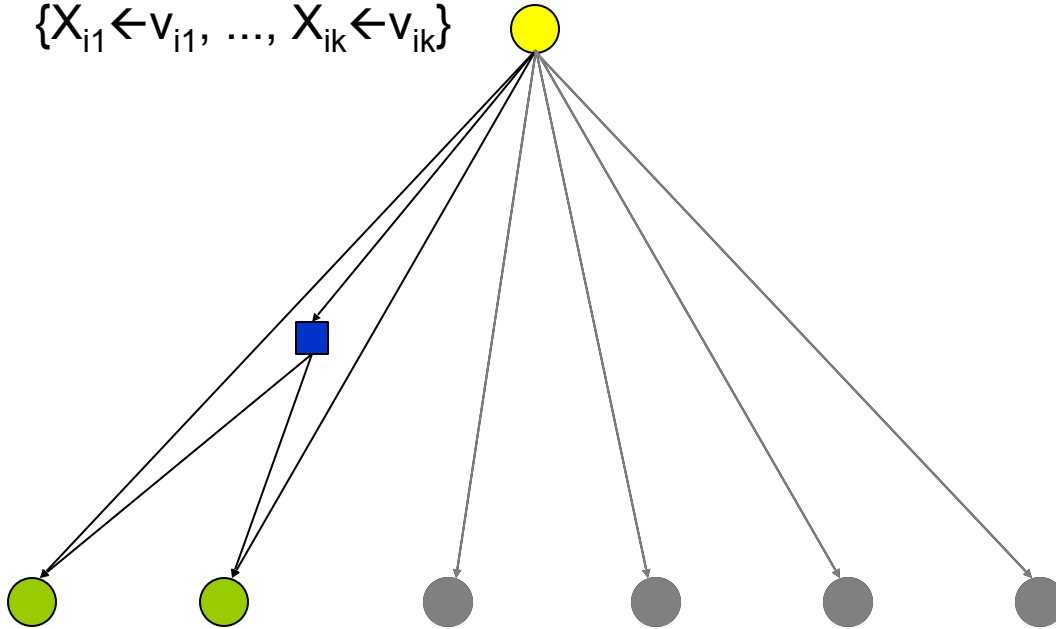
A Key property of CSP: Commutativity

The order in which variables are assigned values has no impact on the reachable complete valid assignments

Hence:

- 1) One can expand a node N by first selecting **one** variable X not in the assignment A associated with N and then assigning every value v in the domain of X
[→ big reduction in branching factor]

$\{X_{i1} \leftarrow v_{i1}, \dots, X_{ik} \leftarrow v_{ik}\}$



$\{X_{i1} \leftarrow v_{i1}, \dots, X_{ik} \leftarrow v_{ik}, X_{ik+1} \leftarrow v_{ik+1}\}$

$r = n - k$ variables with s values \rightarrow s^r branching factor

The depth of the solutions in the search tree is un-changed (n)

- 4 variables X_1, \dots, X_4
- Let the valid assignment of N be:
$$A = \{X_1 \leftarrow v_1, X_3 \leftarrow v_3\}$$
- For example pick variable X_4
- Let the domain of X_4 be $\{v_{4,1}, v_{4,2}, v_{4,3}\}$
- The successors of A are all the valid assignments among:
$$\{X_1 \leftarrow v_1, X_3 \leftarrow v_3, X_4 \leftarrow v_{4,1}\}$$

$$\{X_1 \leftarrow v_1, X_3 \leftarrow v_3, X_4 \leftarrow v_{4,2}\}$$

$$\{X_1 \leftarrow v_1, X_3 \leftarrow v_3, X_4 \leftarrow v_{4,3}\}$$

A Key property of CSP: Commutativity

The order in which variables are assigned values has no impact on the reachable complete valid assignments

Hence:

1) One can expand a node N by first selecting **one** variable X not in the assignment A associated with N and then assigning every value v in the domain of X

[→ big reduction in branching factor]

2) One need not store the path to a node

→ **Backtracking** search algorithm

Backtracking Search

Essentially a simplified depth-first algorithm using recursion

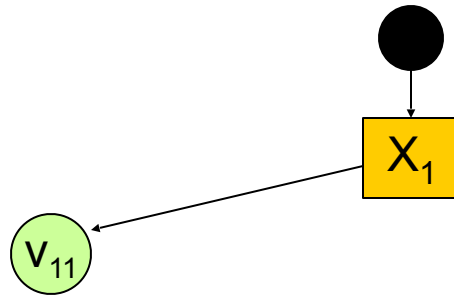
Backtracking Search

(3 variables)



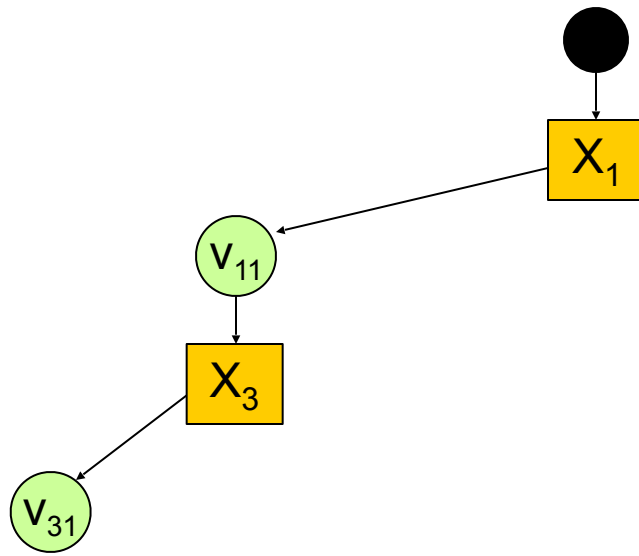
Assignment = {}

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



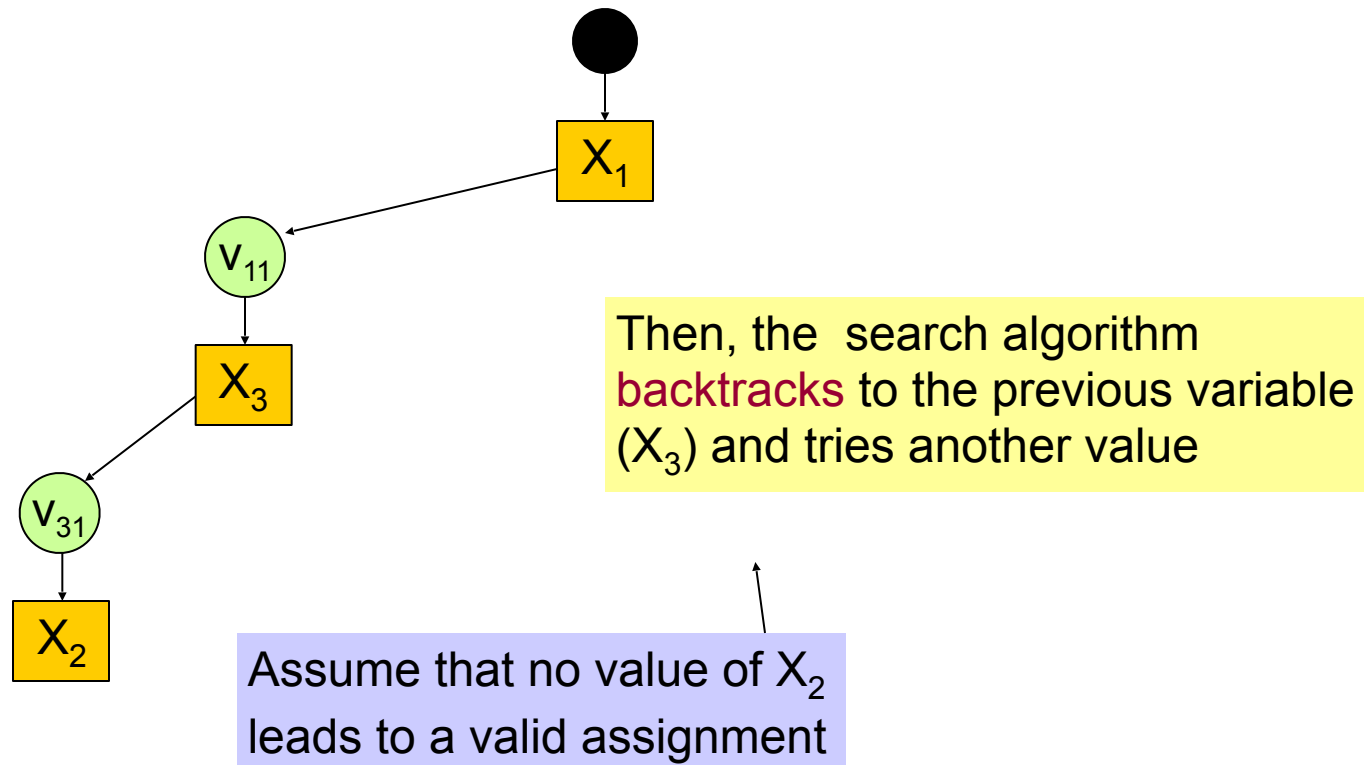
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{11})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



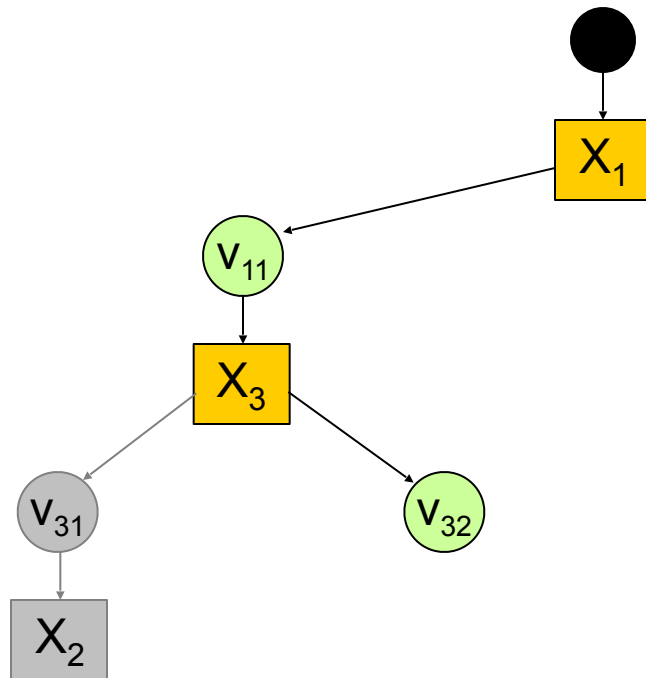
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{11}), (X_3, v_{31})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



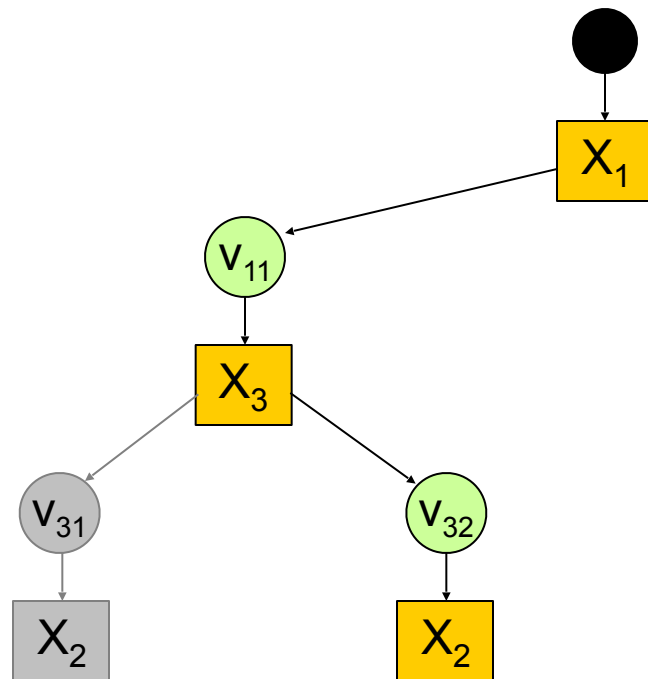
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{11}), (X_3, v_{31})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{11}), (X_3, v_{32})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)

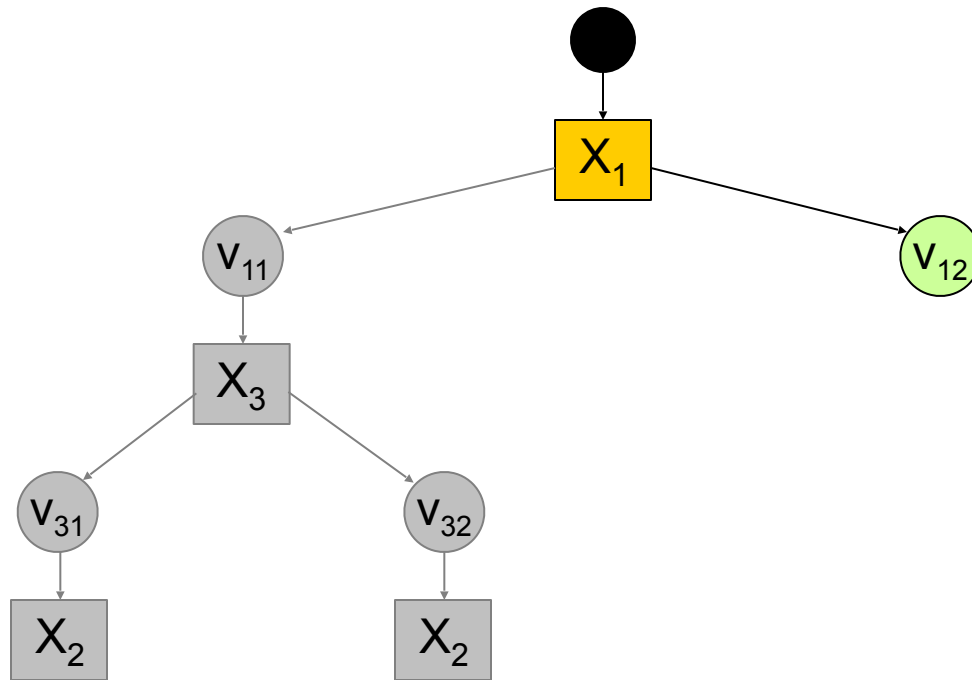


The search algorithm backtracks to the previous variable (X_3) and tries another value. But assume that X_3 has only two possible values. The algorithm backtracks to X_1

Assume again that no value of X_2 leads to a valid assignment

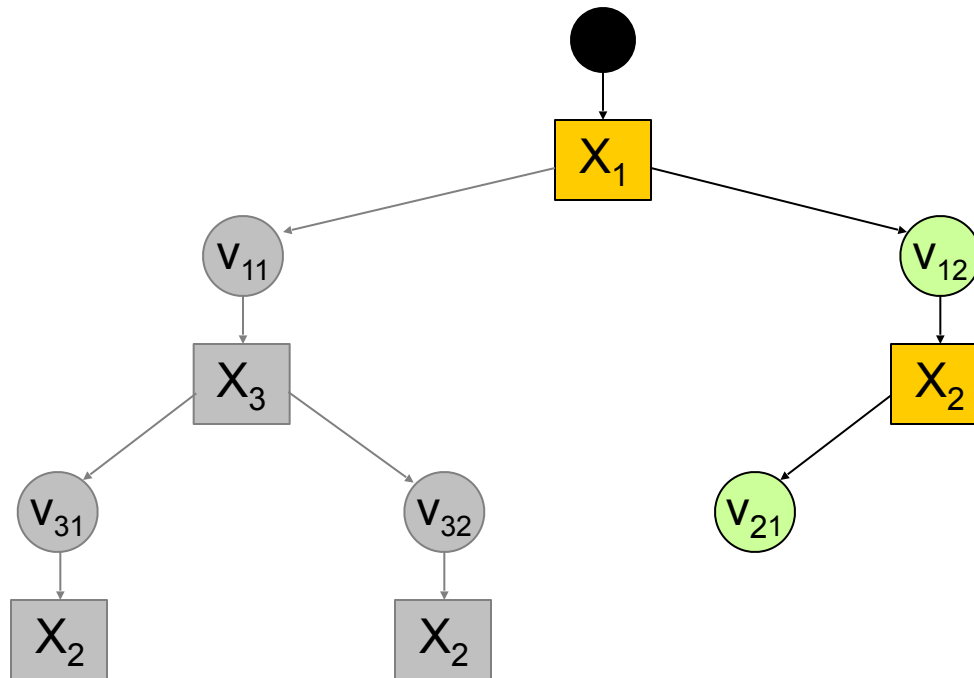
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{11}), (X_3, v_{32})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



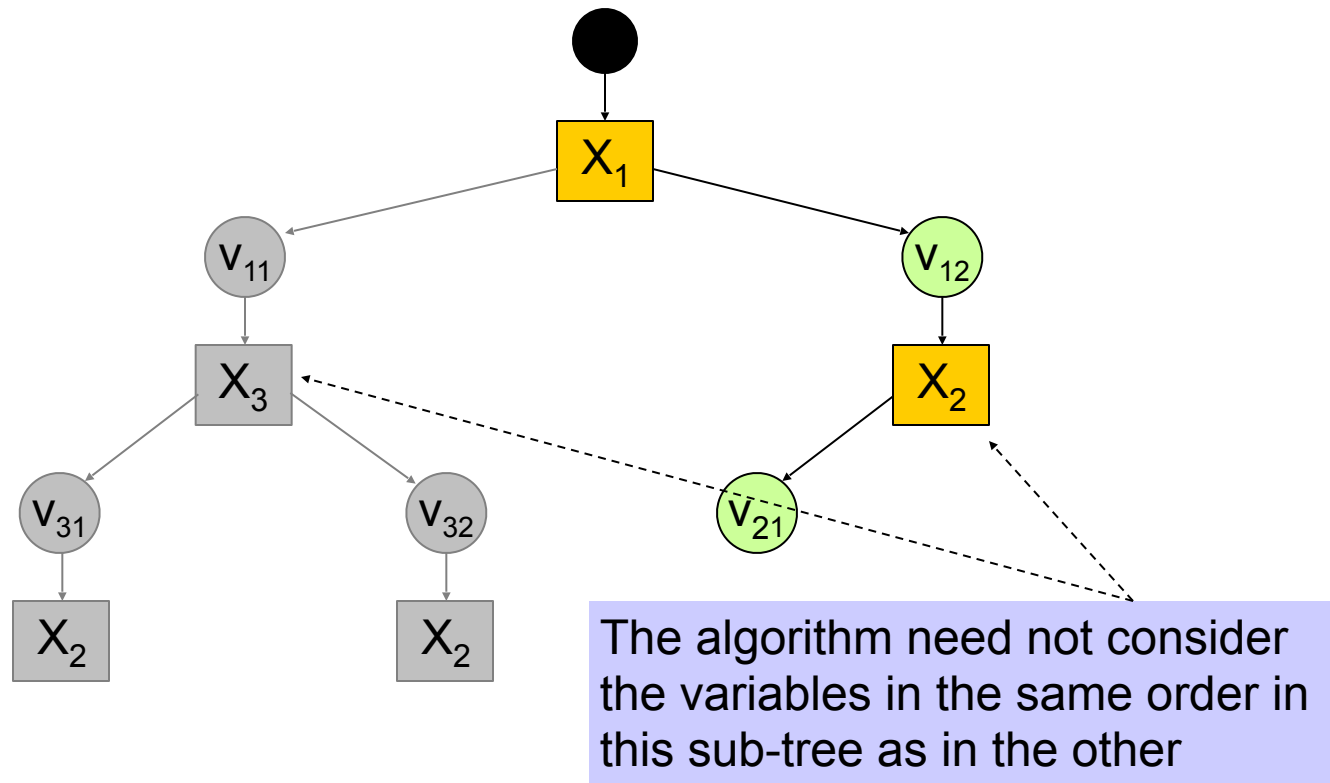
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{12})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



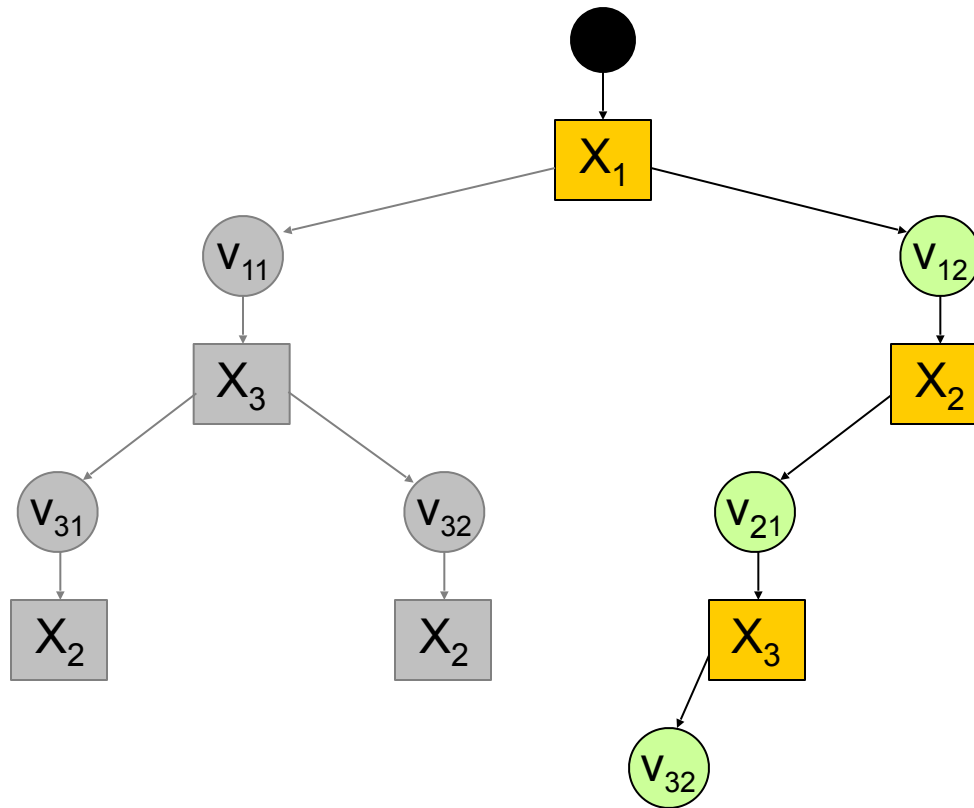
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{12}), (X_2, v_{21})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



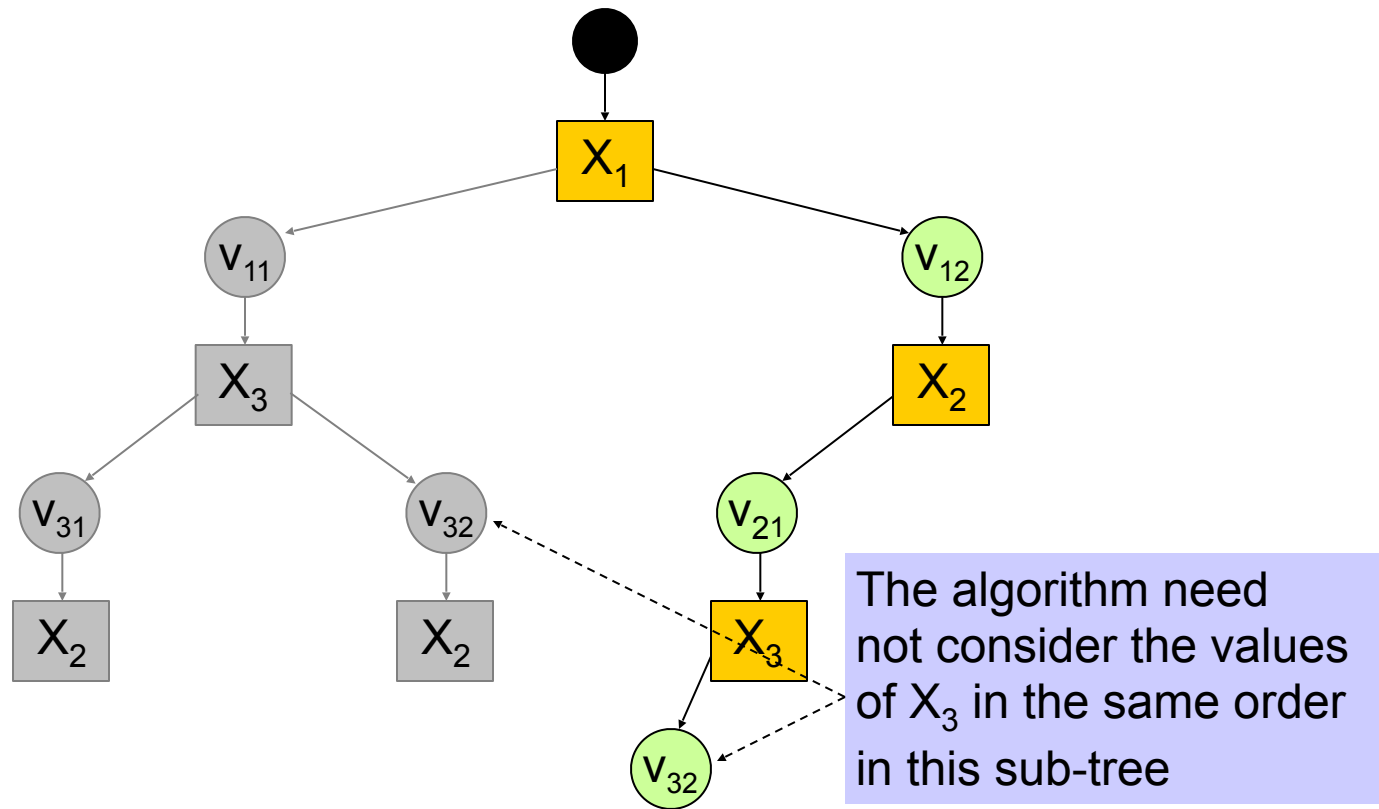
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{12}), (X_2, v_{21})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



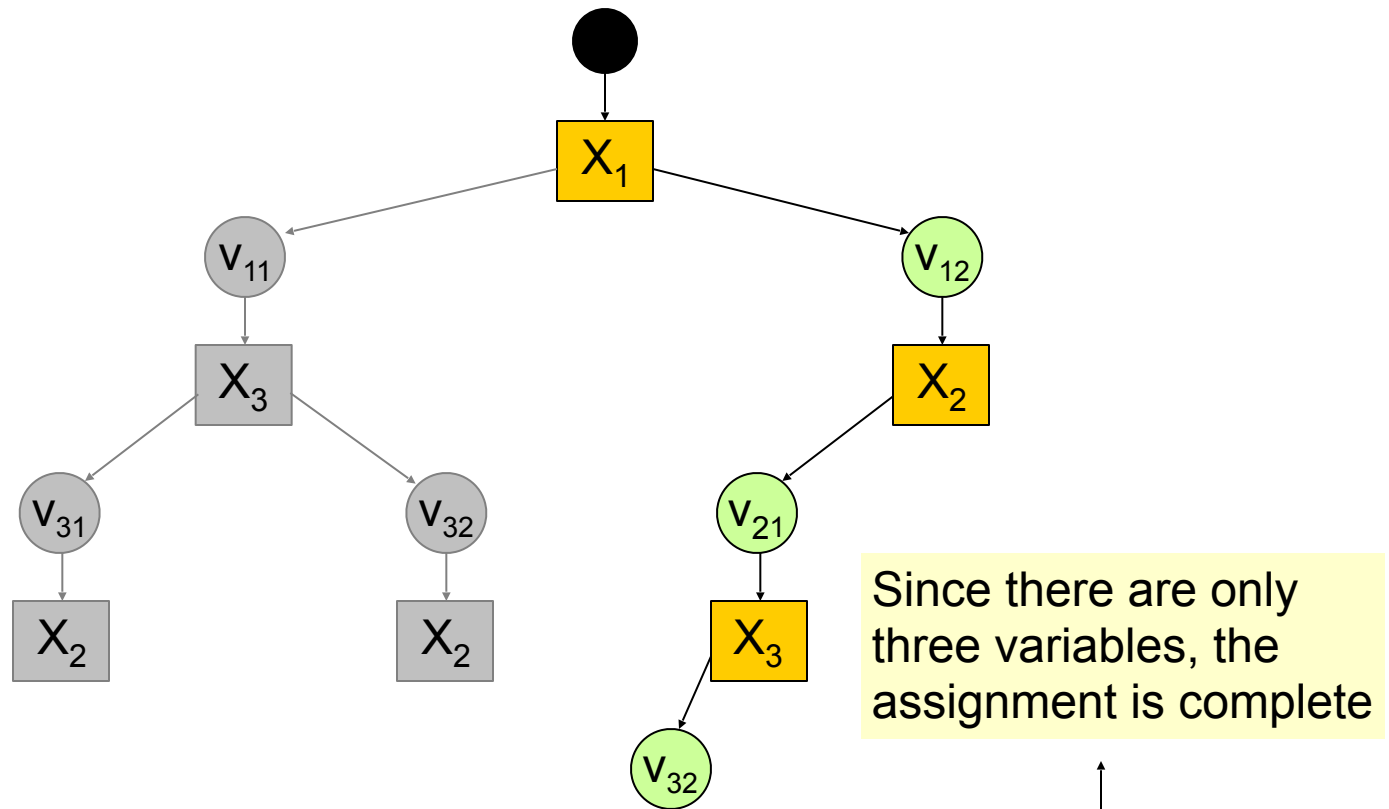
Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{12}), (X_2, v_{21}), (X_3, v_{32})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{12}), (X_2, v_{21}), (X_3, v_{32})\}$

Backtracking Search (3 variables)



Assignment = $\{(X_1, v_{12}), (X_2, v_{21}), (X_3, v_{32})\}$

Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
 2. $X \leftarrow$ select a variable not in A
 3. $D \leftarrow$ select an ordering on the domain of X
 4. For each value v in D do
 1. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 2. If A is valid then
 1. $result \leftarrow$ CSP-BACKTRACKING(A)
 - » If $result \neq$ failure then return $result$
 3. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
- Return failure

Call CSP-BACKTRACKING($\{\}$)

[This recursive algorithm keeps too much data in memory.
An iterative version could save memory (left as an exercise)]

Critical Questions for the Efficiency of CSP-Backtracking

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ **select** a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ **select** an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. If a is valid then
 - i. $\text{result} \leftarrow$ CSP-BACKTRACKING(A)
 - ii. If $\text{result} \neq \text{failure}$ then return result
 - Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

Critical Questions for the Efficiency of CSP-Backtracking

- 1) Which variable X should be assigned a value next?
- 2) In which order should X 's values be assigned?

Critical Questions for the Efficiency of CSP-Backtracking

- 1) Which variable X should be assigned a value next?
The current assignment may not lead to any solution, but the algorithm does not know it yet. Selecting the right variable X may help discover the contradiction more quickly
- 2) In which order should X 's values be assigned?

Critical Questions for the Efficiency of CSP-Backtracking

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2) In which order should X 's values be assigned?

The current assignment may be part of a solution. Selecting the right value to assign to X may help discover this solution more quickly

Critical Questions for the Efficiency of CSP-Backtracking

1) Which variable X should be assigned a value next?

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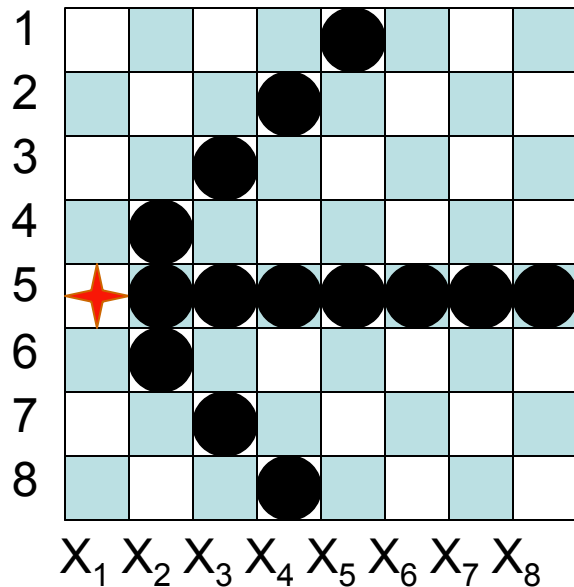
2) In which order should X 's values be assigned?

The current assignment may be part of a solution. Selecting the right value to assign to X may help discover this solution more quickly

More on these questions very soon ...

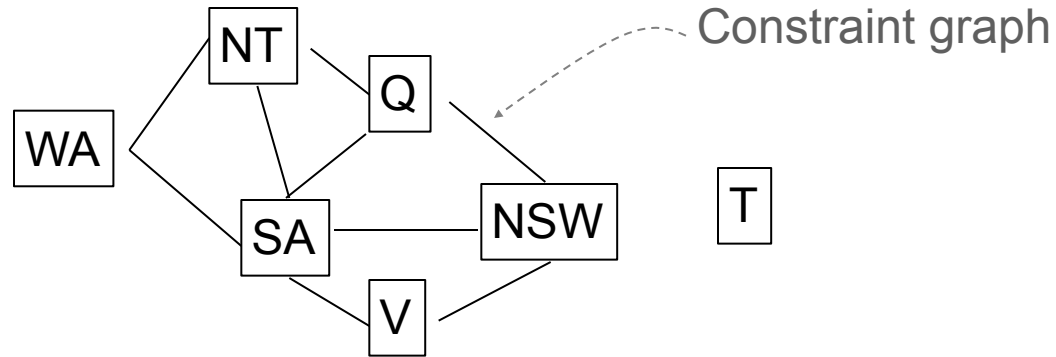
Forward Checking

A simple constraint-propagation technique:



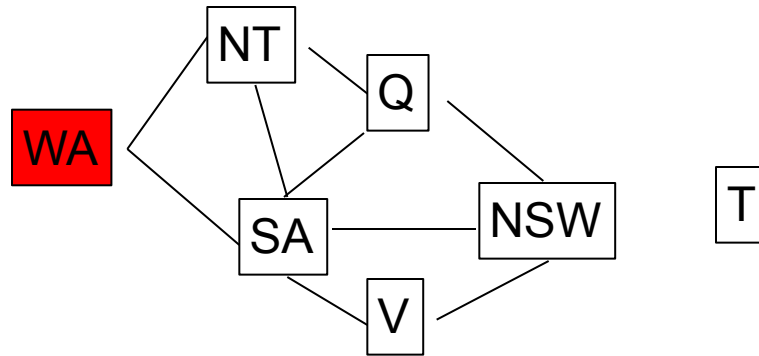
Assigning the value 5 to X_1 leads to removing values from the domains of X_2, X_3, \dots, X_8

Forward Checking in Map Coloring



WA	NT	Q	NSW	V	SA	T
RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB

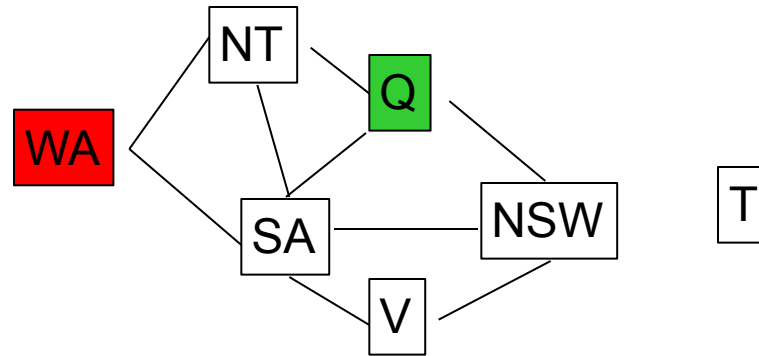
Forward Checking in Map Coloring



WA	NT	Q	NSW	V	SA	T
RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB
R	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB

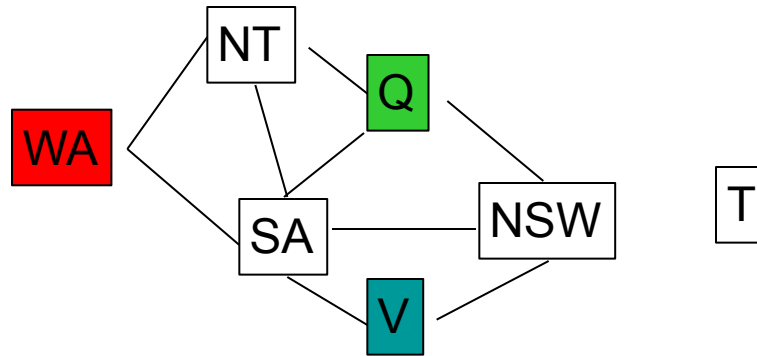
Forward checking removes the value Red of NT and of SA

Forward Checking in Map Coloring



WA	NT	Q	NSW	V	SA	T
RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB
R	GB	RGB	RGB	RGB	GB	RGB
R	GB	G	RGB	RGB	GB	RGB

Forward Checking in Map Coloring




WA	NT	Q	NSW	V	SA	T
RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB
R	GB	RGB	RGB	RGB	GB	RGB
R	B	G	RB	RGB	B	RGB
R	B	G	RB	B	B	RGB

Forward Checking in Map Coloring

Empty set: the current assignment
 $\{(WA \leftarrow R), (Q \leftarrow G), (V \leftarrow B)\}$
does not lead to a solution

WA	NT	Q	NSW	V	SA	T
RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB	RGB
R	GB	RGB	RGB	RGB	GB	RGB
R	B	G	RB	RGB	B	RGB
R	B	G	RB	B	B	RGB



Forward Checking (General Form)

Whenever a pair $(X \leftarrow v)$ is added to assignment A do:

For each variable Y not in A do:

For every constraint C relating Y to the variables in A do:

Remove all values from Y 's domain that do not satisfy C

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ select a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ select an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. $\text{var-domains} \leftarrow \text{forward checking}(\text{var-domains}, X, v, A)$
 - c. If no variable has an empty domain then
 - (i) $\text{result} \leftarrow \text{CSP-BACKTRACKING}(A, \text{var-domains})$
 - (ii) If $\text{result} \neq \text{failure}$ then return result
 - d. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ **select** a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ **select** an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. If a is valid then
 - i. $\text{result} \leftarrow$ CSP-BACKTRACKING(A)
 - ii. If $\text{result} \neq \text{failure}$ then return result
 - Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ select a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ select an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A -----> No need any more to verify that A is valid
 - b. var-domains \leftarrow forward checking(var-domains, X , v , A)
 - c. If no variable has an empty domain then
 - (i) result \leftarrow CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)
 - (ii) If result \neq failure then return result
 - d. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ select a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ select an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. $\text{var-domains} \leftarrow$ forward checking($\text{var-domains}, X, v, A$)
 - c. If no variable has an empty domain then
 - (i) $\text{result} \leftarrow$ CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)
 - (ii) If $\text{result} \neq$ failure then return result
 - d. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

Need to pass down the updated variable domains

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ **select** a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ **select** an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. var-domains \leftarrow **forward checking**(var-domains, X , v , A)
 - c. If no variable has an empty domain then
 - (i) result \leftarrow CSP-BACKTRACKING(A , var-domains)
 - (ii) If result \neq failure then return result
 1. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

- 1) Which variable X_i should be assigned a value next?
 - Most-constrained-variable heuristic
 - Most-constraining-variable heuristic
- 2) In which order should its values be assigned?
 - Least-constraining-value heuristic

These heuristics can be quite confusing

Keep in mind that **all** variables must eventually get a value, while only **one** value from a domain must be assigned to each variable

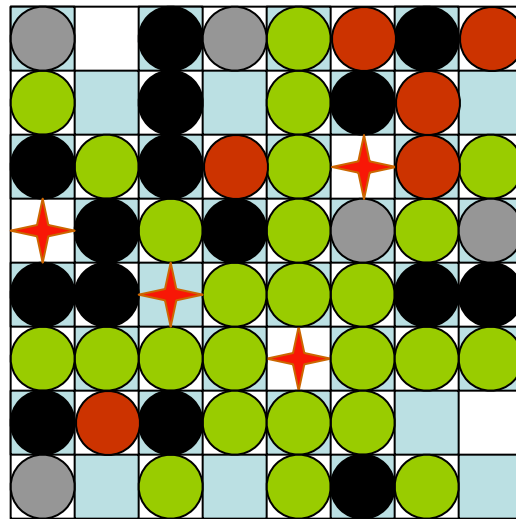
Most-Constrained-Variable Heuristic

- 1) Which variable X_i should be assigned a value next?

Select the variable with the smallest remaining domain

[Rationale: Minimize the branching factor]

8-Queens

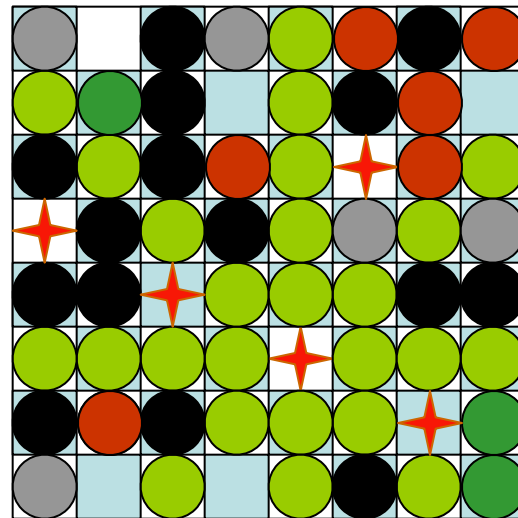


Forward checking

←----- New assignment

←----- Numbers
of values for
each un-assigned
variable

8-Queens

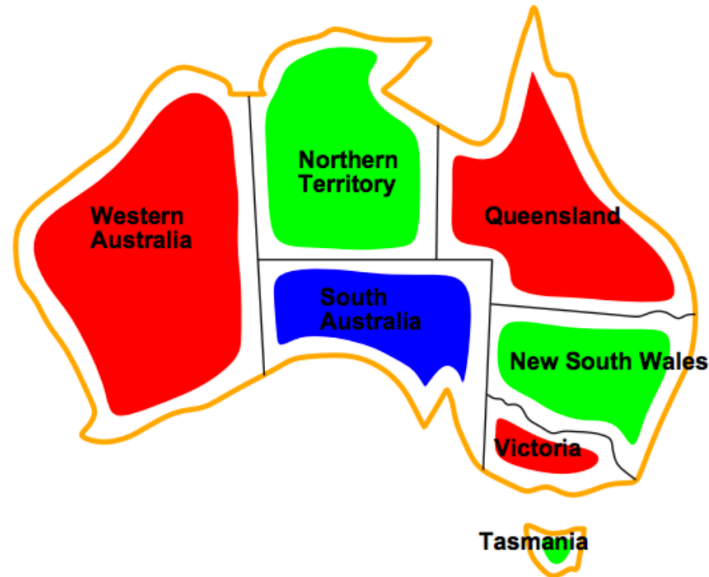


Forward checking

←----- New assignment

←----- New numbers
of values for
each un-assigned
variable

Map Coloring



- SA's remaining domain has size 1 (value Blue remaining)
- Q's remaining domain has size 2
- NSW's, V's, and T's remaining domains have size 3

→ Select SA

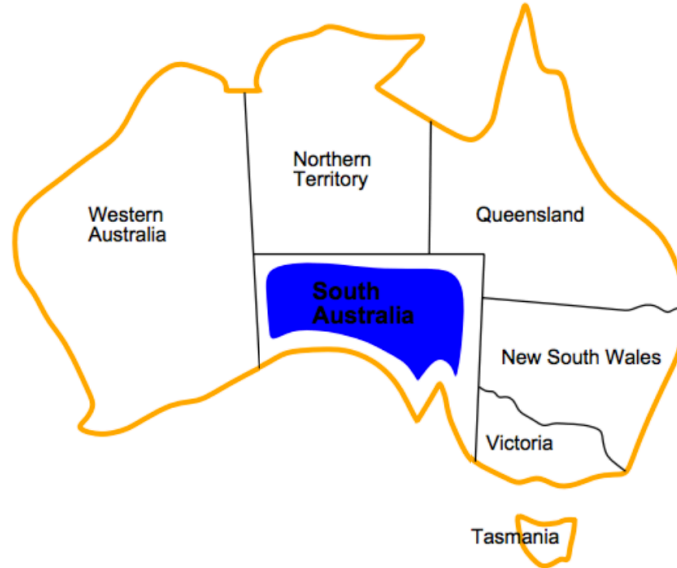
Most-Constraining-Variable Heuristic

1) Which variable X_i should be assigned a value next?

Among the variables with the smallest remaining domains (ties with respect to the most-constrained-variable heuristic), select the one that appears in the largest number of constraints on variables not in the current assignment

[Rationale: Increase future elimination of values, to reduce future branching factors]

Map Coloring



- Before any value has been assigned, all variables have a domain of size 3, but SA is involved in more constraints (5) than any other variable
→ Select SA and assign a value to it (e.g., Blue)

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A, var-domains)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ **select** a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ **select** an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. $\text{var-domains} \leftarrow$ forward checking($\text{var-domains}, X, v, A$)
 - c. If no variable has an empty domain then
 - (i) $\text{result} \leftarrow$ CSP-BACKTRACKING(A, var-domains)
 - (ii) If $\text{result} \neq$ failure then return result
 1. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

1) Most-constrained-variable heuristic
2) Most-constraining-variable heuristic

3) Least-constraining-value heuristic

- 1) Select the variable with the smallest remaining domain
- 2) Select the variable that appears in the largest number of constraints on variables not in the current assignment

Least-Constraining-Value Heuristic

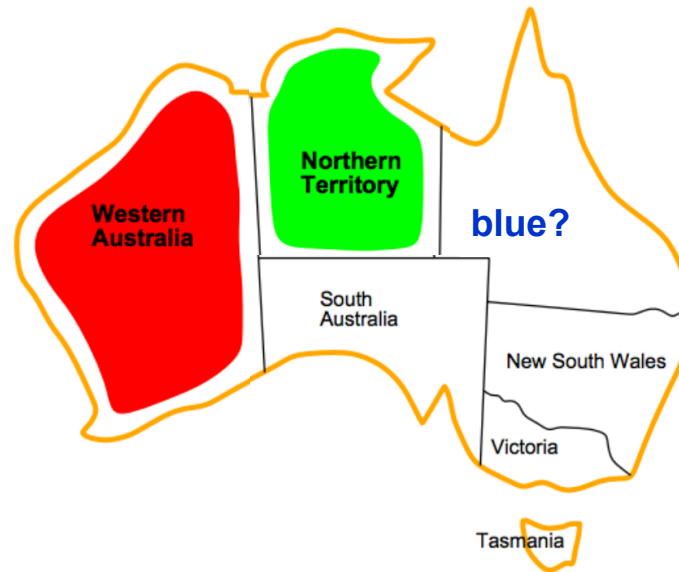
2) In which order should X 's values be assigned?

Select the value of X that removes the smallest number of values from the domains of those variables which are not in the current assignment

[Rationale: Since only one value will eventually be assigned to X , pick the least-constraining value first, since it is the most likely not to lead to an invalid assignment]

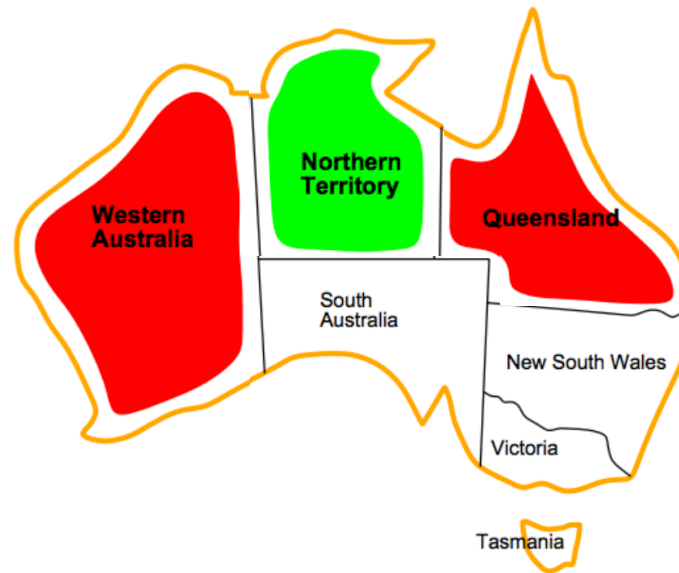
[Note: Using this heuristic requires performing a forward-checking step for every value, not just for the selected value]

Map Coloring



- Q's domain has two remaining values: Blue and Red
- Assigning Blue to Q would leave 0 value for SA, while assigning Red would leave 1 value

Map Coloring



- Q's domain has two remaining values: Blue and Red
 - Assigning Blue to Q would leave 0 value for SA, while assigning Red would leave 1 value
- So, assign Red to Q

Modified Backtracking Algorithm

CSP-BACKTRACKING(A, var-domains)

1. If assignment A is complete then return A
2. $X \leftarrow$ **select** a variable not in A
3. $D \leftarrow$ **select** an ordering on the domain of X
4. For each value v in D do
 - a. Add $(X \leftarrow v)$ to A
 - b. $\text{var-domains} \leftarrow$ forward checking($\text{var-domains}, X, v, A$)
 - c. If no variable has an empty domain then
 - (i) $\text{result} \leftarrow$ CSP-BACKTRACKING(A, var-domains)
 - (ii) If $\text{result} \neq$ failure then return result
1. Remove $(X \leftarrow v)$ from A
5. Return failure

1) Most-constrained-variable heuristic
2) Most-constraining-variable heuristic

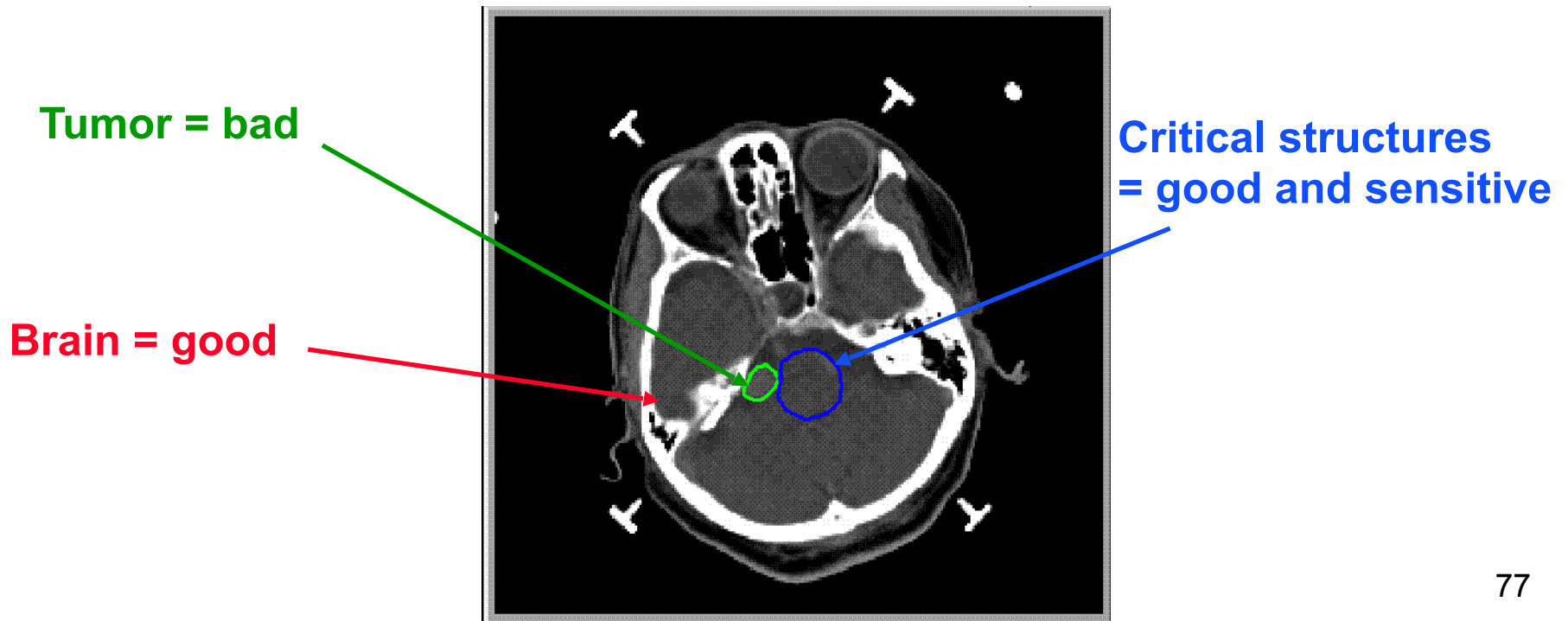
3) Least-constraining-value heuristic

Applications of CSP

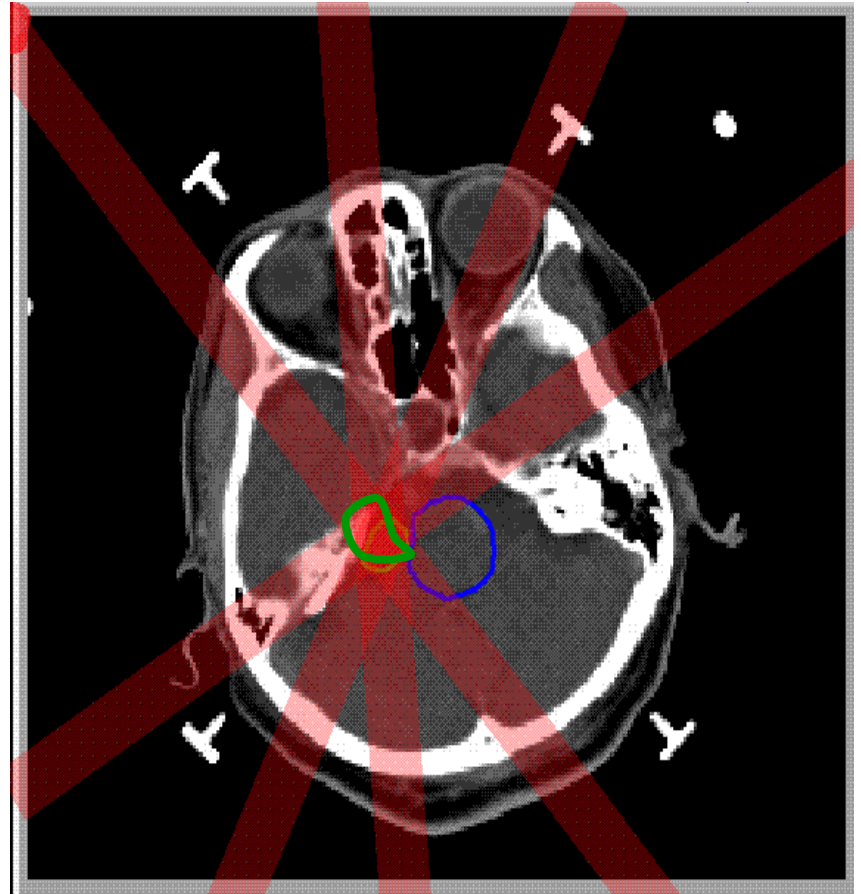
- CSP techniques are widely used
- Applications include:
 - Crew assignments to flights
 - Management of transportation fleet
 - Flight/rail schedules
 - Job shop scheduling
 - Task scheduling in port operations
 - Design, including spatial layout design
 - Radiosurgical procedures

Radiosurgery

Minimally invasive procedure that uses a beam of radiation as an ablative surgical instrument to destroy tumors



Problem



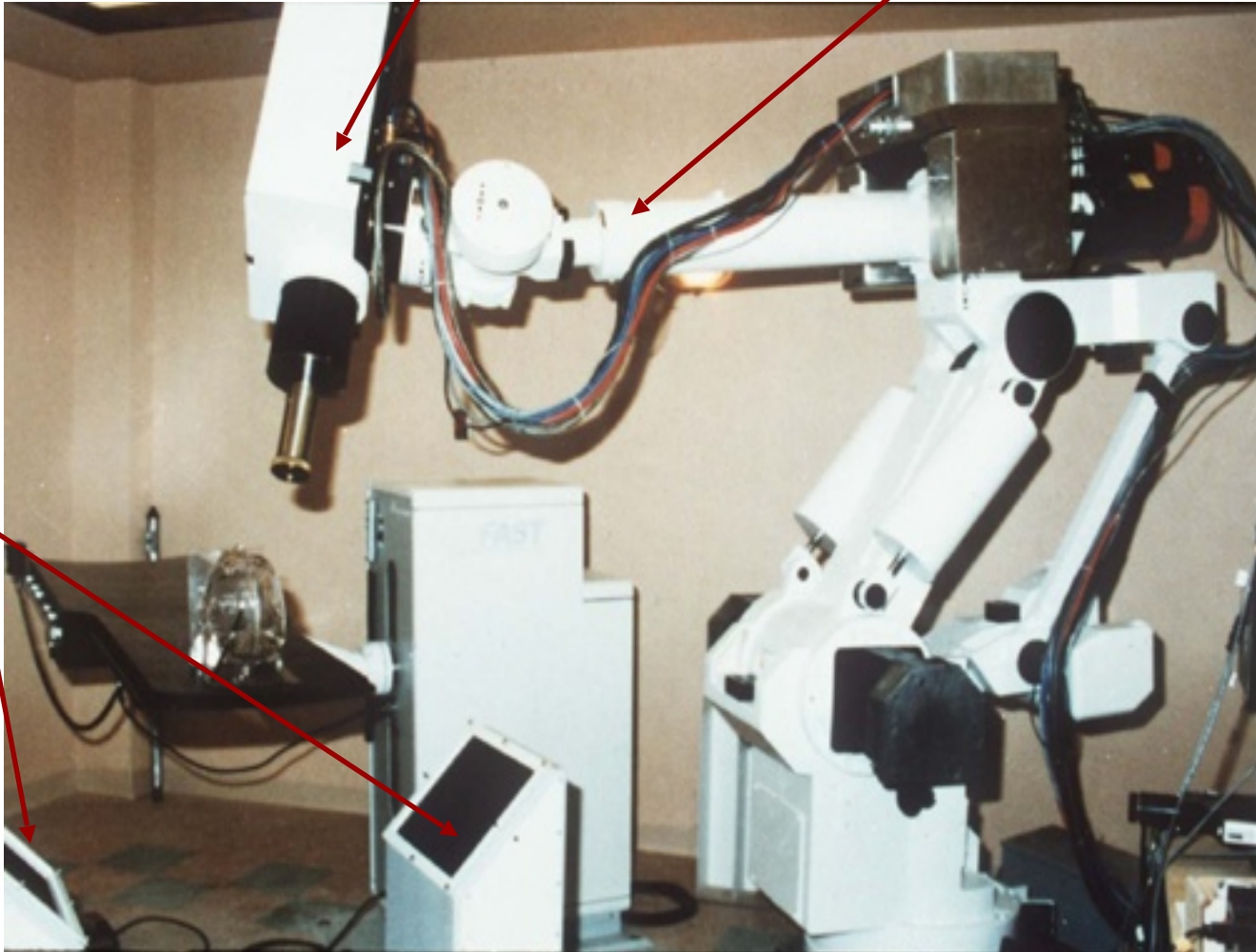
Burn tumor without damaging healthy tissue

The CyberKnife

linear accelerator

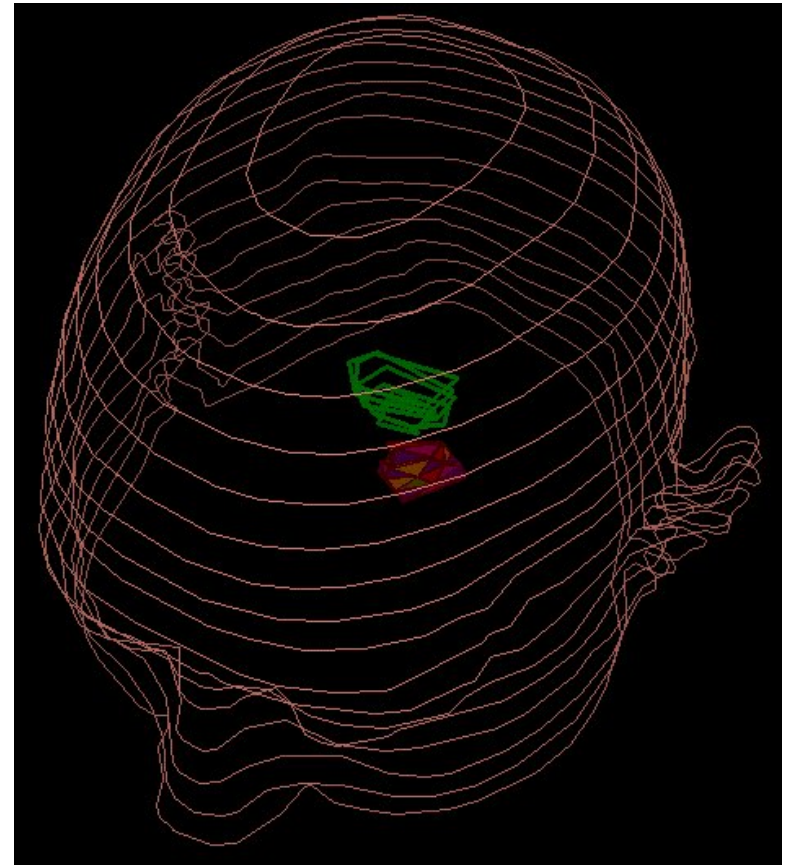
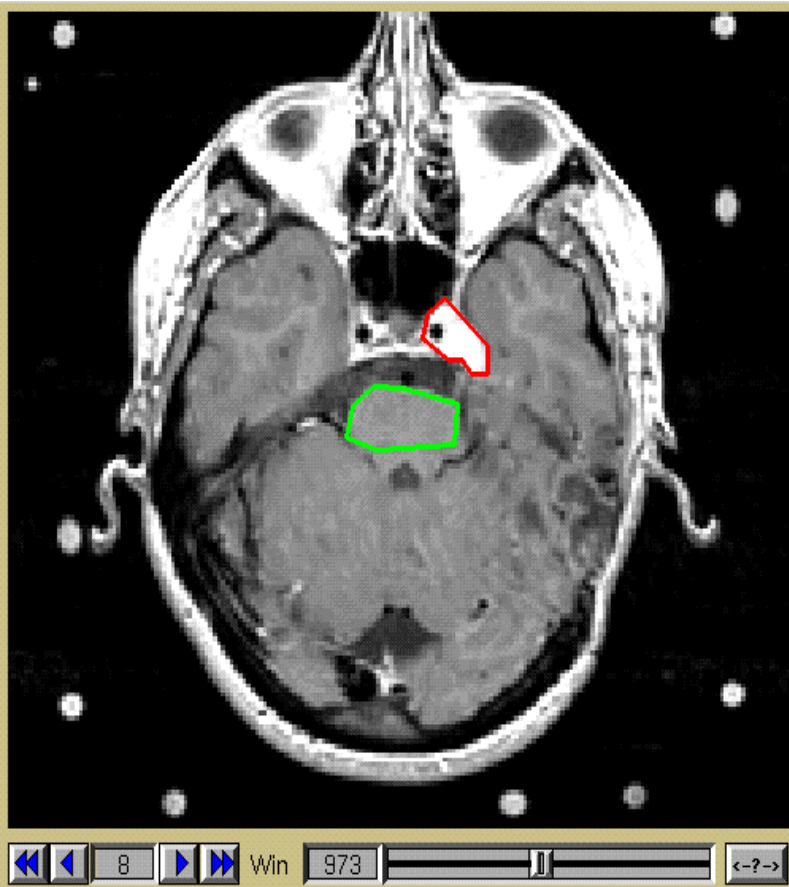
robot arm

X-Ray
cameras



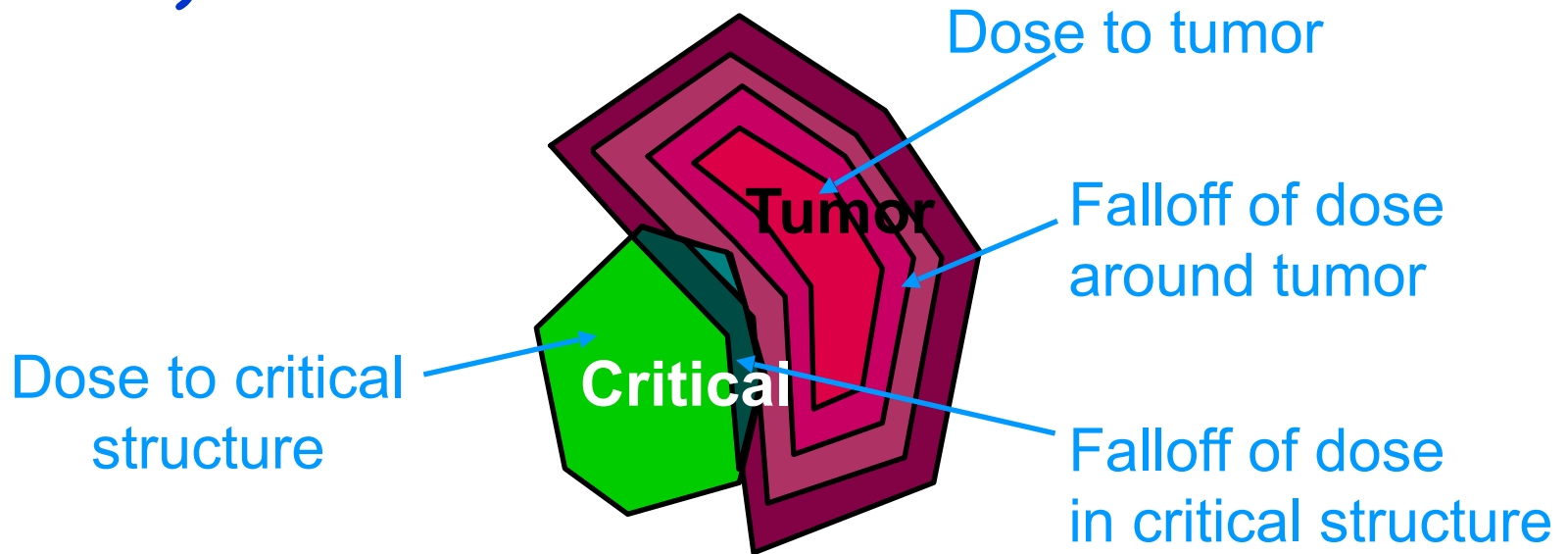
Inputs

1) Regions of interest

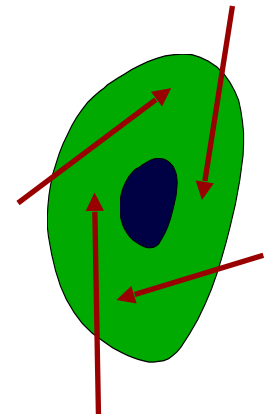
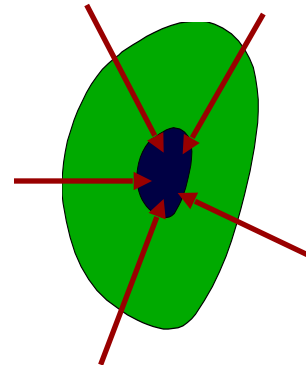
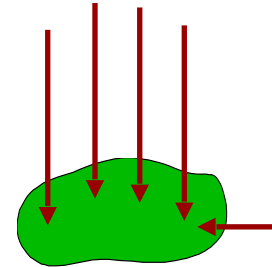
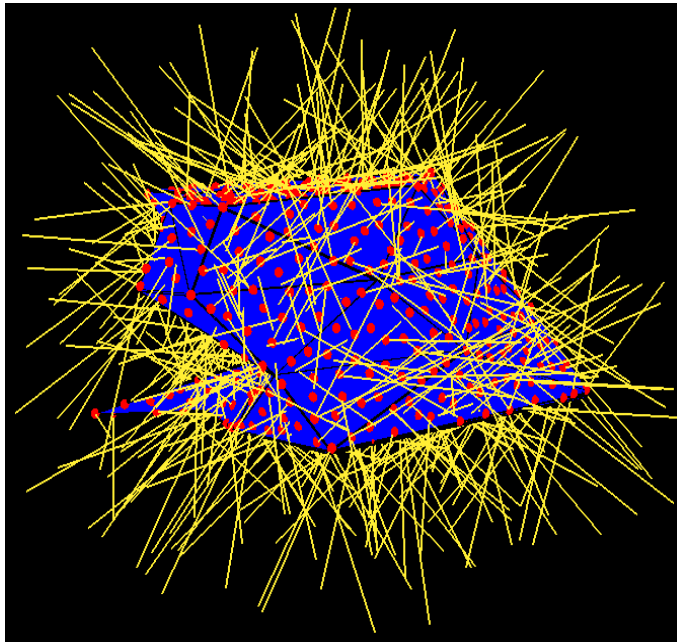


Inputs

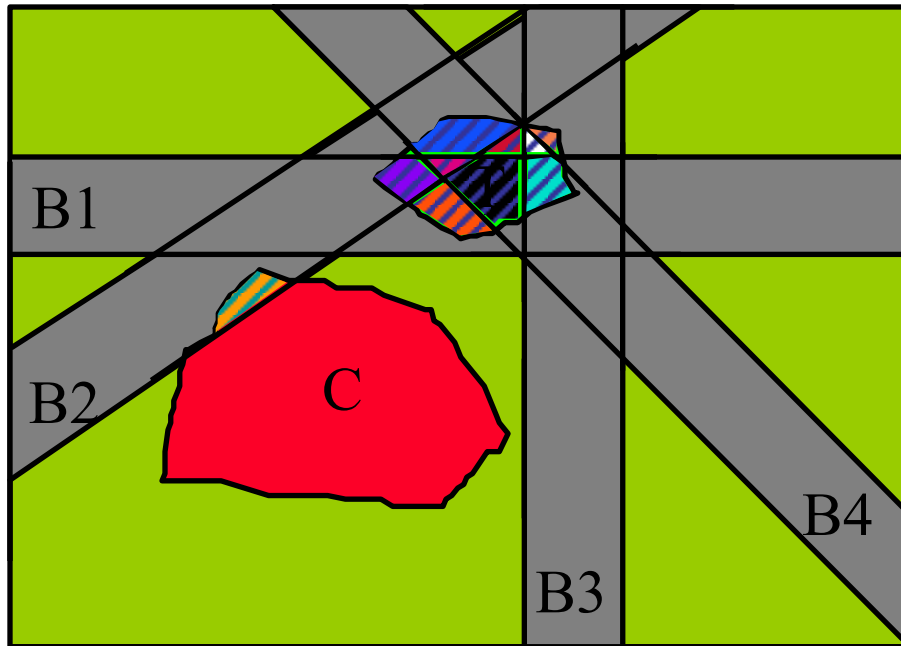
2) Dose constraints



Beam Sampling



Constraints



- $2000 \leq \text{Tumor} \leq 2200$

$$2000 \leq B2 + B4 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B4 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B3 + B4 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B3 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B1 + B3 + B4 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B1 + B4 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B1 + B2 + B4 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B1 \leq 2200$$

$$2000 \leq B1 + B2 \leq 2200$$

- $0 \leq \text{Critical} \leq 500$

$$0 \leq B2 \leq 500$$

$2000 < \text{Tumor} < 2200$

$$2000 < B2 + B4 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B4 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B3 + B4 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B3 < 2200$$

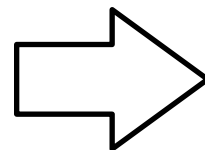
$$2000 < B1 + B3 + B4 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B1 + B4 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B1 + B2 + B4 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B1 < 2200$$

$$2000 < B1 + B2 < 2200$$



$2000 < \text{Tumor} < 2200$

$$2000 < B4$$

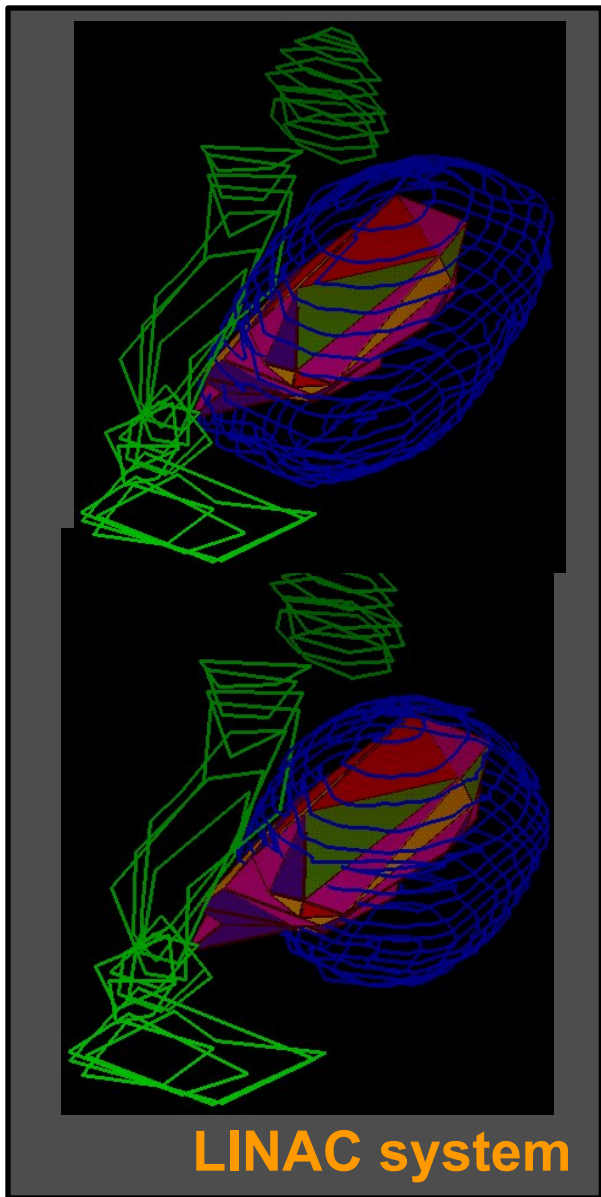
$$2000 < B3$$

$$B1 + B3 + B4 < 2200$$

$$B1 + B2 + B4 < 2200$$

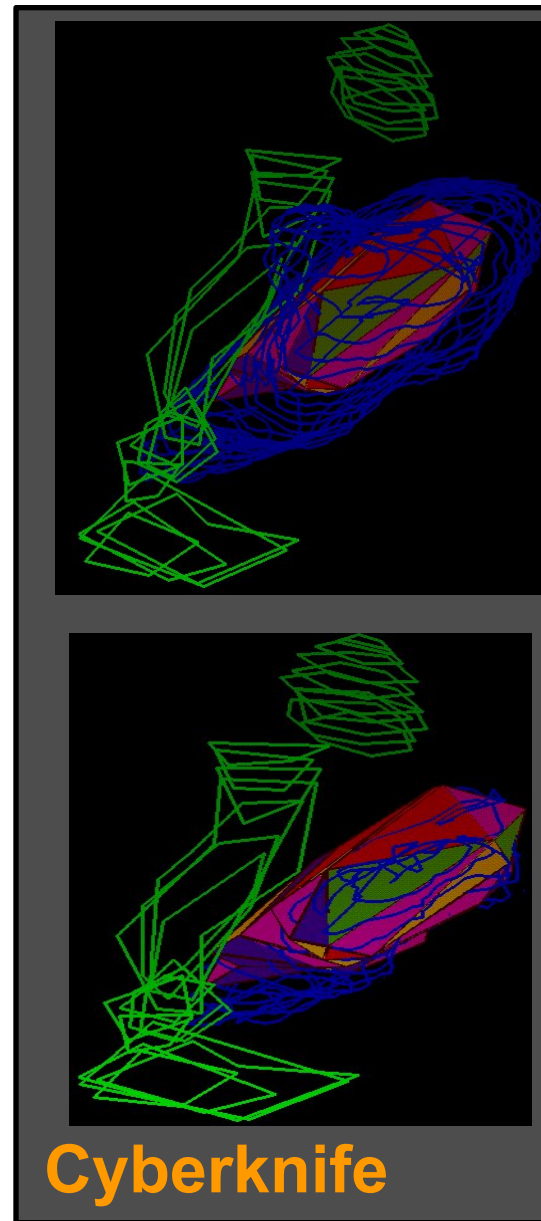
$$2000 < B1$$

Case Results



50% Isodose Surface

80% Isodose Surface



THE POWER OF T⁴ TECHNOLOGY

CyberKnife[®] Tight-to-the-Tumor (T⁴) Radiosurgery with Ultimate Conformality



INTEGRATION OF TWO REVOLUTIONARY TECHNOLOGIES

Proprietary Image-Guidance System

Locks and sets the tumor location to enable software to use position for tumor movement.

Multi-Jointed Robotic Arm

Enables access to previously unreachable tumors and reduces damage to surrounding critical structures.

Integration of these unique technologies allows physicians to treat complex-shaped tumors with clinically proven accuracy that has been demonstrated to be comparable, if not superior, to frame-based radiosurgical systems.¹

Simple Outpatient Treatment Process

Planning: CT scanning and advanced treatment planning are utilized.

Positioning: The patient lies on a table with only a face mask or body mold used for immobilization.

Verification: The image-guidance system verifies tumor location and compares it to previously stored data.

Targeting: When tumor movement is detected, the robotic arm is repositioned within a fraction of a second.

Repeat: This verification process is repeated prior to delivery of each radiation beam.

Treatment: Hundreds of finely collimated radiation beams deliver precise radiosurgery to the tumor.

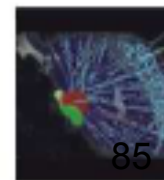
Completion: Following CyberKnife[®] treatment, the patient goes home. There is zero recovery time.

CyberKnife[®] T⁴ Radiosurgery

A new standard in IMRT conformality



100% frames
Able to achieve submillimeter accuracy¹



Source: A. S. Kulkarni, et al. "Treatment planning for CyberKnife T⁴ radiosurgery." *Journal of Neurosurgery*, 2010.