# On Multi-valued Semantics for Logic Programs

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**Abstract:** For a general program P, multi-valued interpretations and models are defined, considering a set of truth logic values and an undefined value. The program P may contain constant propositions, which are defined for each truth logic value. Two orderings between the set of all multi-valued interpretations are considered: one is Fitting ordering and the other is standard ordering. The semantics of type well-founded and of type stable for a program P are introduced. This study showed that the well-founded model is the least stable model with respect to Fitting ordering.

**Key words:** Fixed points, stable models, well-founded models

## INTRODUCTION

The well-founded semantics has been introduced by Van Gelder *et al.*<sup>[1]</sup>. It is a 3-valued semantics. They use as truth values "true", "false" and "L" (an unknown truth value). They have shown that if a logic program P has a 2-valued well-founded model, then this model is the unique stable model of P.

The stable model semantics has been introduced by Gelfond and Lifschitz<sup>[2]</sup> and by Bidoit and Froidevaux<sup>[3]</sup>.

Przymusinski<sup>[4]</sup> has introduced 3-valued stable models as a generalization of 2-valued stable models. He also found that the well-founded model of any program P coincides with the smallest 3-valued stable model of P.

Luong<sup>[5]</sup> has defined a new semantics for Datalog programs, which includes the well-founded models and all stable models.

Fitting [6] has studied the structure of the family of all stable models for a logic program using two orderings; one is called the knowledge ordering based on degree of definedness, the other is called truth ordering based on degree of truth. In the first ordering every logic program has a smallest stable model, which coincides with the well-founded model.

Przymusinski<sup>[7]</sup> has introduced the stable model semantics for disjunctive logic programs and deductive databases. For normal programs, the partial disjunctive stable semantics coincides with the well-founded semantics.

Loyer and Umberto<sup>[8]</sup> proposed a well-founded semantics for deductive databases with uncertainty frameworks.

Malfon<sup>[9]</sup> gives a new characterization of Fitting model and of the well-founded model.

Lallouet<sup>[10]</sup> has defined a semantics for normal logic programs based on the property of composition. This

semantics extends well-founded semantics and Fitting semantics.

This study defines a semantics of type well-founded and a stable semantics for the case multi-valued interpretations and points out a relationship between them.

**Interpretations and models:** Let P be a general logic program in sense Gelder<sup>[1]</sup>. Let H be the Herbrand base associated to P. We consider a total ordered set of truth values  $L_n = (0, v_1, ..., v_{n-1}, 1)$ , where, value 0 corresponds to false, value 1 is for true and the values  $v_k$ ,  $1 \le k \le n-1$  are intermediate between false and true. For every truth value v from  $L_n$ , we used a constant proposition denoted by  $c_v$  and defined by  $c_v(A) = v$  for every ground atom A from H. The undefined value will be denoted by u and corresponding constant by  $c_v$ , where,  $c_v(A) = u$  for every  $A \in H$ . Let us denote 0 by  $v_0$  and 1 by  $v_1$ . The constant propositions  $c_v$ , as well  $c_v$  may appear in the bodies of rules from P.

**Definition 1:** By a multi-valued Herbrand partial interpretation I we mean a partial function from H into  $L_n$ . For an interpretation I, let us denote by  $V_I$  the vector of sets from H:

$$V_1 = (S_0, S_1, ..., S_n)$$

where,  $S_i = \{A/A \in H \text{ and } I(A) = v_i\}, 0 \le j \le n.$ 

We denote by  $S_u$  the set of all remaining atoms from H -  $\stackrel{n}{\underset{j=0}{U}}S_j$  . If V = (S0, S1,...,Sn) where, Sj are disjoint sets of

 $_{j=0}^{I}$   $_{j}^{I}$  . If  $V = (S_0, S_1,...,S_n)$  where,  $S_j$  are disjoint sets of I,  $0 \le j \le n$ , then there is an interpretation I, such that  $V_I = V$ . In the case  $S_u$  is empty, then I is called total interpretation.

Assume that  $L_n$  admits a negation, denoted l, which satisfies the following properties: l0 = 1, l1 = 0 and  $v_i < v_j$  implies  $lv_j < lv_i$ , for every i,j,  $0 \le i,j \le n$ . Moreover, we consider lu = u.

For an atom A, such that  $A \in S_u$ , we write I(A) = u and  $I(A) \neq u$ , otherwise.

For a ground instantiated rule r of P, having the form:  $r \equiv A - L_1,..., L_m$  let us denote by  $\hat{I}$  (body (r)) = min  $\{\hat{I}(L_i), \hat{I}(L_i) \neq u, 1 \leq i \leq m\}$ . We consider min  $\emptyset$ =1, where  $\emptyset$  is empty set.

Let  $M_A$  be the set of all ground instantiated rule of P, having A as its head. Let  $v^I_{j,A}$  be the truth value from  $L_n$  defined by:  $v^I_{j,A} = max\{\hat{I}(body(r))/r \in M_A\}$ .

The interpretation I is extended to ground literals denoted  $\hat{I}$  by :  $\hat{I}(A)$  = I(A) and  $\hat{I}(\sim A)$  = I(A) for every ground atom  $A \in H$ .

In the following we define the notion of model for P.

**Definition 2:** An interpretation I satisfies the ground instantiated rule of P having the form  $A - L_1,...,L_m$  if one of the following relations holds:

- a. there is j,  $1 \le j \le m$ , such that  $\hat{I}(L_i) = 0$  or
- b.  $\hat{I}(A) \neq u$  and min $\{\hat{I}(L_i), \hat{I}(L_i) \neq u, 1 \leq i \leq m\} \leq \hat{I}(A)$  or
- c.  $\hat{I}(A) = u \rightarrow [(\hat{I}(body(r)) = v^I_{j,A}) \rightarrow (\exists i, 1 \le i \le m, \text{ such that } \hat{I}(L_i) = u)].$

An interpretation I is a model for P if I satisfies every ground instantiated rule of P.

In the following we need to specify two ordering between interpretations. The first one denoted  $\leq_F$  is of type Fitting and the second one denoted  $\leq_s$  is of type standard<sup>[4]</sup>.

**Definition 3:** Let I and J be two interpretations, such that  $V_I = (S_0,..., S_n)$  and  $V_J = (T_0,..., T_n)$ . We say that  $I \le_{\mathbb{P}} J$  if  $S_j \subseteq T_j$ , for every j,  $0 \le j \le n$ .

We say that  $I\leq_s J$  if  $T_0\subseteq S_0,\ S_n\subseteq T_n$  and  $S_j\subseteq T_j\cup...\cup T_{n\cdot 1}$  for every  $j,\ 1\leq j\leq n\cdot 1$ .

**Remark 1:** In the case n = 1, the ordering  $\leq_F$  is the Fitting ordering and  $\leq_S$  is the standard ordering. These orderings were used by Przymusinski<sup>[4]</sup> to study the well-founded semantics and three-valued stable semantics.

**Stable semantics:** Study defines here multi-valued stable models. Firstly, define an operator between the set of all interpretations of the program P. This operator will be denoted by S<sub>P</sub>.

**Definition 4:** Let P be a logic program and I be an interpretation of P. We define the interpretation  $S_P(I)$  in the following manner: if  $V_{S_{p(I)}} = (T_0, T_1, \dots, T_n)$  then:

- i. For a ground atom  $A, A \in T_0$  if for every ground instantiated rule of P, having the form  $A L_1,..., L_m$ , there exists  $i, 1 \le i \le m$ , such that  $\hat{I}(L_i) = 0$ .
- ii. For each h, 1 ≤h < n, a ground atom A is considered in T<sub>b</sub> if a) and b) hold:
- a. for every ground instantiated rule of P having the form:  $A L_1,..., L_m$  we have: min  $\{\hat{I}(L_j), \hat{I}(L_j) \neq u, 1 \leq j \leq m \} \leq v_k$ .
- b. there is a ground instantiated rule of P of the form:  $A \vdash V_1, ..., \, V_m \text{ such that: min } \{\hat{I}(V_j), \, \hat{I}(V_j) \neq \, u, \, 1 \leq j \leq m \}$   $= v_h.$
- iii. For a ground atom A, A is considered in  $T_n$ , if there is a ground instantiated rule of P having the form  $A C_1, ..., C_n$ , such that  $\hat{I}(C_i) = 1$  for every  $j, 1 \le j \le q$ .

**Proposition 2:** Let P be a positive program. The operator  $S_p$  as it is defined in the definition 4 is monotonic with respect to the standard ordering  $\leq_s$ .

The proof results from the definition of the operator  $S_P$  and the standard ordering  $\leq_s$ .

The existence of the least model with respect to  $\leq$ , for a positive program P is emphasized by the following theorem:

**Theorem 1:** For a positive program P, there is the least fixed point of the operator  $S_p$  with respect to the ordering  $\leq_s$ , denoted  $L_p$ . Moreover,  $L_p$  is the least model of P with respect to the ordering  $\leq_s$ .

**Proof:** Consider  $\bot = (H, \emptyset, ..., \emptyset)$  the least interpretation with respect the ordering  $\le_s$ . The model  $L_p$  is obtained applying the operator  $S_p$   $\omega$  times:  $\bot$ ,  $S_p(\bot), ..., S^{\omega}_p$ ,  $(\bot)$  where,  $\omega$  is the first ordinal.

The rest of the proof is classical, therefore it is skipped.

Now, we need to introduce an operator  $\Gamma^*$  defined on the set of all interpretations, which extends the operator  $\Gamma$  defined by Przymusinski<sup>[4]</sup>.

**Definition 5:** Let P be a general logic program and I an interpretation. We denote by P|I the positive program, which is obtained from P by replacing in every ground instantiated clause of P, all negative literals of the form  $\sim$ A by  $c_v$  if  $I(A) \neq u$  and by u otherwise, where v = I(A). The program P|I is positive, hence applying the Theorem 1, it results that P|I admits a unique least model J with respect ordering  $\leq_s$ . The operator  $\Gamma^*$  is defined by:  $\Gamma^*(I) = J$ .

**Proposition 3:** Let M be a fixed point of the operator  $\Gamma^*$  from the definition 5. Then M is a minimal model of P with respect to ordering  $\leq_s$ .

**Proof:** Let M be a fixed point of  $\Gamma^*$ , hence M is the least model of P|M with respect to  $\leq_s$ -ordering. Firstly, we show that M is a model for P. Let r be an arbitrary ground instantiated clause from P of the form:

$$r = A - B_1, ..., B_p \sim D_1, ..., \sim D_q$$
 (1)

The corresponding clause r' from P|M has the form:

$$r' = A \leftarrow B_1, ..., B_p, c_{v_1}, ..., c_{v_q}$$
 (2)

where,  $v_i = M(D_i)$  if  $M(D_i) \neq u$  and u otherwise.

It results that  $M(\sim\!\!D_j)$  =  $M(D_j)$  =  $c_{v_j}$ , therefore M satisfies r' iff M satisfies r.

Secondly, it must show that M is a minimal model for P with respect to  $\leq_s$ -ordering. Let  $M_1$  be a model for P, such that  $M_1 \leq_s M$ . It is sufficient to show that  $M_1$  is also a model for P|M. Since M is the least model of P|M with respect to  $\leq_s$ -ordering, we obtain that  $M_1 \leq_s M$ , hence  $M_1 = M$ .

For the ground instantiated clause r having the form (1), let us denote by r'' the corresponding clause to r from  $P|M_1$ :

$$r'' = A - B_1, ..., B_p, c_{w_1}, ..., c_{w_q}$$
 (3)

where,  $w_j = \int M_1(D_j)$ , for every j,  $1 \le j \le q$ .

As before, since  $M_1$  is a model for P, it obtains that  $M_1$  is a model for P|M, hence M satisfies r''.

Since  $M_1 \leq_s M$  and using the definition of  $v_j$  and  $w_j$ , the following statements are satisfied:

- i. if  $w_i = 0$  then  $v_i = 0$ , for every j,  $1 \le j \le q$ .
- ii. if  $v_i = 1$  then  $w_i = 1, 1 \le j \le q$ .
- iii. if  $w_j \equiv 1$  then we have:  $v_j \le w_j$  whenever  $v_j \ne u$ ,  $1 \le j \le q$ .
- iv. If  $0 \le w_i \le 1$ , then we have  $(v_i \ne u \text{ and } v_i \le w_i, 1 \le j \le q)$ .

These statements imply the inequality:

$$\min \{ M_1(B_i), M_1(B_i) \neq u, 1 \leq i \leq p, c_{v_i}, v_j \neq u, 1 \leq j \leq q \} \leq$$

$$\leq \min \{ M_1(B_i), M_1(B_i) \neq u, 1 \leq i \leq p, c_{w_i}, w_j \neq u, 1 \leq j \leq q \}. \eqno(4)$$

The relation (4) and the fact that  $M_1$  is a model for r'' involve that  $M_1$  is a model for r', hence for P|M.

A multi-valued stable model for P is defined as a fixed point of the operator  $\Gamma^*$ .

**Definition 6:** A multi-valued interpretation M for a program P is called a multi-valued stable model for P if M is a fixed point of  $\Gamma^*$ .

**Well-founded models:** For definition of well-founded models we need to introduce an operator, denoted W, defined on the set of all multi-valued interpretations.

For an interpretation I, if J=W(I) and  $V_J=(S_0,\,S_1,...,\,S_n)$ , we define the sets  $S_i,\,0\le j\le n$ .

**Definition 7:** Let I be an interpretation. We define the sets  $S_i$ ,  $0 \le j \le n$  in the following manner:

- a. for every j,  $1 \le j \le n$ , a ground atom A is included in S. iff
- a1. for every ground instantiated rule r of P of the form:  $r \equiv A L_1, ..., L_m, \text{ we have : min } \{\hat{I}(L_j), \hat{I}(L_j) \neq u, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$   $\leq v_i \text{ and }$
- a2. there exists a ground instantiated rule  $r_i$  of P with the form:  $r_i = A Q_1, ..., Q_h$ , such that:  $\hat{I}(Q_i) \neq u$ , for every  $i, 1 \leq i \leq h$  and min  $\{\hat{I}(Q_i), 1 \leq i \leq h\} = v_i$ .
- b. A set of atoms V from H is called unfounded set of P with respect to I if every atom A from V satisfies the following property:
  for each ground instantiated rule r of P, having the form: r ≡ A L₁,..., Lm, one of the following
- b1. there is i,  $1 \le i \le m$ , such that  $\hat{I}(L_i) = 0$  or

statements holds:

- b2. there is i,  $1 \le i \le m$ , such that L<sub>i</sub> is an atom and L<sub>i</sub>  $\in$  V.
- We consider S<sub>0</sub> as the union of all unfounded sets of P with respect to I.

**Remark 2:** If  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are unfounded sets of P with respect to I, then their union  $V_1 \cup V_2$  is also an unfounded set with respect to I.

**Proposition 4:** The operator W is monotonic with respect to Fitting ordering  $\leq_F$ .

Proof. Let I and J be two interpretations, such that  $I \leq_F J$ . Let  $V_1 = (S_0, S_1,...,S_n)$  and  $V_J = (T_0, T_1,..., T_n)$ .

We have  $S_j \subseteq T_j$  for every j,  $0 \le j \le n$ . That means: if  $\hat{I}(L_i) \ne u$  then  $\hat{J}(L_i) \ne u$  and  $\hat{J}(L_i) = \hat{I}(L_i)$ , for every literal  $L_i$ .

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{If } V_{w(I)} \equiv (S_0',\ S_1',....,\ S_n') \text{ and } V_{w(J)} \equiv (T_\theta'\ T_\rho',....,\ T_n') \\ \text{then it obtains that } S_j' \subseteq T_j', \text{ for every } j,\ 1 \leq j \leq n. \end{array} \tag{1}$$

The relations  $S_0 \subseteq T_0$  and  $S_n \subseteq T_n$  imply the following statement: every unfounded set of P with respect to I is an unfounded set of P with respect to J.

We obtain  $S_0' \subseteq T_0'$ . This relation and those from (1) involve  $W(I) \leq_F W(J)$ .

Now, we define a sequence of interpretations using the operator W defined above.

**Definition 8:** Let  $\alpha$  range over countable ordinals. We define recursively the interpretations  $I_{\alpha}$  and  $I^{\infty}$  as follows:

1. For ordinal 0,  $I_0 = (\emptyset, ..., \emptyset)$ , where  $\emptyset$  is the empty set;

2. For the limit ordinal  $\alpha: I_{\alpha} = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} I_{\beta}$ ;

3. For successor ordinal  $\alpha = \gamma + 1$ :  $I_{\alpha} = W(I_{\nu})$ ;

4.  $I^{\infty} = U I_{\alpha}$ 

#### Remark 3

- The interpretation I<sup>∞</sup> is the least fixed point of W with respect to the Fitting ordering ≤<sub>F</sub>.
- ii. There exists a countable ordinal  $\alpha$ , such that  $I^{\infty} = I_{\alpha}$ .

Let us denote the interpretation  $I^{\infty}$  by  $I_{P}$ 

**Theorem 2:** The sequence of interpretation  $I_{\alpha}$  as defined in the Definition 8 is a monotonic sequence of interpretations with respect to  $\leq_F$ -ordering and moreover it is a sequence of models for P.

**Proof:** The monotony of the sequence of interpretations results from the Proposition 4.

By the Definition 2,  $I_0$  is a model for P. Since the operator W is monotonic with respect to ordering  $\leq_F$ , it results by induction on ordinals  $\alpha$  the following statement:

for every ground literal L and 
$$\gamma < \alpha$$
, if  $I_{\gamma}(L) \neq u$  then  $I_{\alpha}(L) \neq u$  and  $I_{\gamma}(L) = I_{\alpha}(L)$  (1)

Assume that  $I_{\gamma}$  is a model for P. Let us show that  $I_{\gamma+1}$  is also a model for P, where  $\gamma$  is an arbitrary ordinal. Let  $r \equiv A - L_1,..., L_m$  be a ground instantiated rule of P. If  $I_{\gamma+1}(A) = u$ , then  $I_{\gamma+1}$  satisfies r.

In the case  $I_{\gamma+1}$   $(A) \neq u$ , let  $V_{I_{\gamma+1}} = (S_0, S_1, ..., S_n)$ . There exists j,  $0 \leq j \leq n$ , such that  $A \in S_j$ . We have  $I_{\gamma+1}(A) = v_j$ . Using the Definition 7 and the relation (1), we obtain that  $I_{\gamma+1}$  satisfies r.

Now, let A be a limit ordinal. Assume that  $I_{\beta}$  for every  $\beta < \alpha$  are models for P. Let us show that  $I_{\alpha}$  is model.

Let 
$$V_{I_{\beta}} = (S_0^{\beta}, \dots S_n^{\beta})$$
. We have  $V_{I_{\alpha}} = \begin{pmatrix} U & S_0^{\beta}, \dots, U & S_n^{\beta} \\ S_0^{\beta}, \dots, S_n^{\beta} & S_n^{\beta} \end{pmatrix}$ 

Let r be defined as above. If  $I_{\alpha}$  (A) = u, then  $I_{\alpha}$  satisfies r. In the case  $I_{\alpha}\left(A\right)\neq u,$  there is h,  $0\!<\!h\!<\!n,$  such

that 
$$A\in \underset{\beta<\alpha}{U}S_h^\beta$$
 . The sequence of sets  $S_h^\beta,\ \beta{<}\alpha$  is

ascending monotonic with respect to the inclusion. Let  $\beta_i$ 

be the first ordinal such that  $\ A \in S_h^{\beta_l}.$  We have  $I_{\beta l}(A) \!\! = v_h$ 

and  $I_{\text{pl}}$  is a model for r. Since  $\beta_1 < \alpha$  and using the relation (1), it results that  $I_{\alpha}$  satisfies r.

Stable Semantics versus well-founded semantics: In this section we point out a relation between the stable semantics and the well-founded semantics, namely the well-founded model of P is the least stable model of P with respect to  $\leq_F$ -ordering.

**Theorem 3:** Let P be a normal logic program. Then P admits  $\leq_F$ -least stable model. Moreover, this model coincides with the well-founded model of P.

**Proof:** Let  $I_P$  be the well-founded model for P and  $\lambda$  be the minimum ordinal such that  $I_{\lambda} = I_{\lambda+1}$  (from the Definition 8).

Firstly, we show that  $I_p$  is a stable model for P. Let P' be  $P/I_p$  and  $M_1$  be an arbitrary model for P', such that  $M_1 \! \leq_s \! I_p.$  It must show that  $M_1 = I_p.$  Let  $V_{M_1}$  be the vector  $(T_0,...,T_n)$  and  $V_{I_\lambda} = (S_0^{\lambda},...,S_n^{\lambda}).$ 

The relation  $M_1 \leq_s I_P$  is equivalent with:

- i.  $S_0^{\lambda} \subseteq T_0$  and
- ii.  $T_n \subseteq S_n^{\lambda}$  and
- iii.  $T_h \subseteq S_h^{\lambda} \cup ... \cup S_{n-1}^{\lambda}$  for every  $h, 1 \le h \le n-1$ .

Assume that  $M_1 \neq I_p$ . Then, we have one of the following assertions:

- a.  $S_n^{\lambda} \otimes T_n$  or
- b.  $S_0^{\lambda} \subset T_0$  or
- e. there is h,  $1 \le h \le n-1$  such that  $S_h^{\lambda} \otimes T_h^{-} \cup \ldots \cup T_{n-1}^{-}$ .

The sign " $\subset$ " denotes the strict inclusion and " $\varnothing$ " means "not included".

In the case a) let us consider  $\alpha$  the least ordinal such

that 
$$S_n^{\,a+1} \otimes T_n$$
 . Where,  $V_{1_\alpha} = (S_0^{\,\alpha}, \ldots, S_n^{\,\alpha})$  and  $I_a$  is specified

in the Definition 8, for every ordinal  $\alpha$ . It results that  $S_n^{\alpha} \subseteq T_n$  and there exists a ground atom A, such that

 $A\in S_n^{a+1} \text{ and } A\notin T_n. \text{ By the definition of } S_n^{\alpha+1}, \text{ there is a ground instantiated rule } r \text{ of } P, \text{ having the form:} \\ r_1 \equiv A-B_1...B_m \sim D_1...\sim D_p,$ 

where,  $B_j$ ,  $1 \le j \le m$  and  $D_b$ ,  $1 \le l \le p$  are ground atoms with the properties:

 $\hat{I}_\alpha(B_j)=1 \text{ for every } j,\ 1\le j\le m \text{ and } \hat{I}_\alpha(D_l)=0 \text{ for every } l, \\ 1\le l\le p.$ 

Let  $r'_1$  be the rule from P' corresponding to  $r_1$ . Then  $r'_1 \equiv A \vdash B_1, ..., B_m$ ,  $c_{v_1}, ..., c_{v_p}$ , where,  $v_j = l\hat{l}_{\lambda}(D_j)$  for every j,  $1 \le j \le p$ . Since  $S^{\alpha}_{\ n} \sqsubseteq T_n$ , we obtain that  $M_1(B_j) = 1$ ,  $j = \overline{1,m}$ . Since  $I_{\alpha} \le_F I_{\lambda}$ , it results  $I_{\lambda}(D_j) = 0$ ,  $j = \overline{1,p}$ , hence  $v_j = 1$ , for every j,  $1 \le j \le p$ . We have:  $M_1$  is a model for  $r'_1$ . This implies  $M_1(A) = 1$ , hence  $A \in T_n$ , which is impossible. Therefore, we have  $T_n = S_n^{\ \lambda}$ .

It results: 
$$S_h^{\alpha} \otimes T_h \cup ... \cup T_{n-1}$$
 (2)

Using the relation (1), we obtain: there is A, such that  $A \in S_h^{\alpha+1}$  and  $A \notin T_h \cup ... \cup T_{n-1}$  (3)

 $A \in S_h^{\alpha+1} \text{ implies: for every } r \in M_{A}, r \equiv A - L_1, ..., L_m,$  we have  $\hat{I}_w(body(r)) \le v_h$  (4)

and there is  $r_1 \in M_{\mathbb{A}}$ ,  $r_1 \equiv A - Z_1,...,Z_p$ , such that  $\hat{I}_{\alpha}(Z_j) \neq u$ , for every  $j, 1 \le j \le p$  and min  $\{\hat{I}_{\alpha}(Z_j)\} = v_h$ . (5)

Let  $r_1$  from (5) be expressed as follows:  $r_1 \equiv A - B_1 ... \, B_m \sim D_1 ... \sim D_{\text{q}}$ 

 $\begin{array}{lll} We \ have: \ \hat{I}_{\alpha}(B_i) \neq u, \ i=\overline{1,m} \quad and \quad \hat{I}_{\alpha}(\sim D_j) \neq u, \\ i=\overline{1,q}, \ which \ imply: \ \hat{I}_{\alpha}(B_i) \geq v_h \ and \ \hat{I}_{\alpha}(\sim D_j) \geq v_h \ i=\overline{1,q}. \end{array}$ 

Let  $r'_1$  be the clause from  $P/I_p$  corresponding to  $r_1$ :  $r'_1 \equiv A - B_1, ..., B_m, c_{v_1}, ..., c_{v_q}$  where,  $v_j = \hat{I}_p(D_j)$ ,  $j = \overline{1,q}$ . Since  $I_\alpha \leq_F I_P$ , we have  $\hat{I}_p(\sim D_j) = \hat{I}_\alpha(\sim D_j)$ , for every  $j, j = \overline{1,q}$ , hence  $v_i \geq v_h$  for  $j = \overline{1,q}$ . (7)

We have  $I_{\alpha}(B_i) \!\!>\!\! 0$ ,  $i=\overline{1,m}.$  If  $I_{\alpha}(B_i)=1$ , then  $I_{\lambda}(B_i)=1$  and using  $T_n=S_n^{\lambda}$ , it obtains that  $M_{\epsilon}(B_i)=1$ . If  $I_{\alpha}(B_i) \!\!<\!\! 1$ , then using (2) it results:  $B_j \!\!\in T_h \cup ... \cup T_{n-1}$ , hence  $M_1(B_i) \!\!\geq\!\! v_h$ . Since  $M_1$  satisfies  $r'_1$ , we have  $M_1(A) \!\!\geq\!\! v_h$ . We show that  $M_1(A) \neq 1$ . Assume the contrary:  $M_{\epsilon}(A) = 1$ . Using  $T_n=S_n^{\lambda}$ , we obtain  $A \in S_n^{\lambda}$ . (8)

From 
$$A \in S_h^{\alpha+1}$$
, it results  $A \in S_h^{\lambda}$ , with  $h < n$ . (9)

But  $S_n^{\,\lambda}\cap S_n^{\,\lambda}=\emptyset$  for h<n. The relations (8) and (9) constitute a contradiction.

 $\begin{array}{l} From \ M_l(A){\geq} v_h \ and \ M_l(A){<}1 \ we \ obtain \ A \in T_h \cup ... \cup \\ T_{n\cdot 1} \ which \ contradicts \ the \ relation \ (3). \\ In \ conclusion \ for \ the \ case \ c), \ we \ have: \\ S_h^{\lambda}{\subseteq} T_h \cup ... \cup \ T_{n\cdot l} \ for \ every \qquad h = \overline{1,n-1}. \\ Using \ (iii), \ it \ results \quad S_h^{\lambda} = T_h, \ h = \overline{1,n-1}. \end{array}$ 

In the case b), namely  $S_0^{\lambda} \subset T_0$ , we show that  $T_0 \subseteq S_0^{\lambda}$ , which will be a contradiction.

Let A be from  $T_0$ , hence  $M_i(A) = 0$ . Let r be a ground instantiated rule from P, having the form:  $r \equiv A - B_1 ... B_m \sim D_1 ... \sim D_p$ 

The clause corresponding to r from  $P/I_p$  is r':

$$r' \equiv A - B_1, \dots, B_m \quad c_{v_1}, \dots c_{v_q} \text{ where, } v_j = \hat{\mathbb{I}}_{\lambda}(D_j), \ j = \overline{1, p}.$$

Since  $M_i$  is a model for r', it follows that there exists i,  $1 \le i \le m$  such that  $M_i(B_i) = 0$  or there is j,  $1 \le j \le p$ , such that  $c_{v_i} = 0$ 

For every 
$$c_{v_i} = 0$$
 we have  $\hat{I}_{\lambda}(\sim D_i) = 0$ . (10)

If  $c_{v_j} > 0$  for all j,  $1 \le j \le p$ , then there is i,  $1 \le i \le m$ , such that  $M_i$   $(B_i) = 0$ ,

hence 
$$B_i \in T_0$$
. (11)

The assertions (10) and (11) say that  $T_0$  is an unfounded set with respect to  $I_{\lambda}$ .

If 
$$V_{w(I_1)} = (T_0', ..., T_n')$$
, then  $T_0 \subseteq T_0'$ .

But  $W(I_{\lambda}) = I_{\lambda}$ , hence we have  $T'_{0} = S^{\lambda}_{0}$ , which implies  $T_{0} \subseteq S^{\lambda}_{0}$  therefore a contradiction.

Thus, we have  $S^{\lambda}_{\ 0}=T_0$ , hence  $M_{_1}=I_p$  and  $I_{\lambda}=I_p$  is a stable model for P.

Secondly, we show that  $I_P$  is  $\leq_F$ -least stable model for P.

Let  $M_{\scriptscriptstyle I}$  be a stable model for P. Let  $V_{\scriptscriptstyle M1}$  be defined as follows:

$$V_{M1} = (T_0, T_1, ..., T_n).$$

The model  $M_1$  is the least model of  $P/M_1$  with respect to the ordering  $\leq_s$ . Let  $I_a$  be the interpretations as in the

Definition 8. Let 
$$V_{I_{\alpha}} = (S_0^{\alpha}, ..., S_n^{\alpha})$$
.

We show by induction on  $\alpha$  the following relations:  $S^{\alpha} \subseteq T_{k}$ , for every k,  $0 \le k \le n$ . (12)

Since  $I_0 = (\emptyset,...,\emptyset)$ , we have that (12) are true for k = 0. Assume that (12) is true for every ordinal  $\alpha, \alpha < \beta$ .

If  $\beta$  is limit ordinal, then (12) is true for  $\beta$ .

Now let  $\beta$  be a successor ordinal,  $\beta = \alpha + 1$ .

It must show that  $S_k^{a+1} \subseteq T_k$ ,  $k = \overline{0, n}$ . (13) Let us distinguish two cases:

1) 
$$k \ge 1$$
, 2)  $k = 0$ .

In case 1) let A be from  $S^{\alpha+1}_k$ . We have: for every  $r \in M_A$ , having the form:  $r \equiv A - Z_1 \dots Z_q$ ,  $\min \{\hat{I}_\alpha(Z_j), \hat{I}_\alpha(Z_j) \neq u\} \le v_k$  and there is  $r_1 \equiv A - S_1 \dots S_p$ , such that  $\hat{I}_\alpha(S_j) \ne u$ , for every  $j, 1 \le j \le p$  and  $\min \{\hat{I}_\alpha(S_j), 1 \le j \le p\} = v_k$ . From (12) it results:

$$\hat{I}_{\alpha}(L) = M_1(L)$$
 for every ground literal L.

(14)

Since  $M_1$  is also a model for P, we have  $M_1(A) \neq u$  and moreover  $M_1(A) \geq v_k$ . Let us denote  $M_1(A) = v_h$ .

If we assume that  $v_h > v_k$ , then we define an interpretation  $M_1$  as follows:

$$M_1'(B) = M_1(B)$$
 if  $B \neq A$  and  $v_k$  otherwise.

It results that  $M_1'$  is a model for  $P/M_1$ ,  $M_1' \leq_s M_1$  and  $M_1' \neq M_1$ , which contradicts the fact  $M_1$  is the least model for  $P/M_1$  with respect to the ordering  $\leq_S$ . Hence, we have  $v_h = v_k$ , i.e.  $A \in T_k$ .

In the case 2) let A be form  $S_0^{\alpha+1}$ .

In this case, for every  $r \in M_A$ , of the form:  $r = A - L_1...$   $L_m$ , there is i such that  $\hat{I}_{\alpha}(L_i) = 0$ , or there is i, such that  $L_i$  is atom and  $L_i \in S_0^{\alpha+1}$ . (15)

Using the hypothesis of induction (12), we obtain:  $\hat{I}_{\alpha}(L_i) = 0$  implies M<sub>i</sub> ( $I_{\alpha}$ ) =0.

$$\begin{split} \text{Let } r \in M_{\mathtt{A}} \text{ be of the form } r &\equiv A \vdash B_1 ... \ B_q \sim D_1 ... \sim D_p \\ \text{The clause corresponding to } r \text{ from } P/M_1 \text{ is } r' : \\ r' &\equiv A \vdash B_1, ..., B_q, \ c_{v_1}, \cdots c_{v_p} \quad \text{where } v_j = M_1(D_j), \quad j = \overline{1,p} \,. \\ \text{If } M_1(A) \neq u \text{ and } M_1(A) = 0, \text{ then } A \in T_0. \end{split}$$

If  $M_i(A) \neq u$  and  $M(A) = v_k$  with  $v \geq 0$ , then we consider a model  $M_i{'}$  defined by following:

$$T'_{0} = T_{0} \cup S_{0}^{\alpha+1}, T'_{j} = T_{j} - S_{0}^{\alpha+1}j = \overline{1, n}$$

and 
$$V_{M'_1} = (T'_0, \dots, T'_n)$$

Since  $S_0^{x+1}$  is an unfounded set with respect to  $M_1$ , we have  $M_1'$  is a model for  $P/M_1$ .

Moreover, since  $M_1' \leq_s M_1$  and  $M_1' \neq M_1$ , it results a contradiction.

If  $M_i(A) = u$ , we consider the same interpretation  $M_i'$  as it was described above, which implies a contradiction. It results the statement (13). Taking in (13)  $\alpha = \lambda$ , it obtains that  $I_p \leq_F M_i$ , therefore  $I_p$  is the  $\leq_F$ -least stable model for P.

## CONCLUSION

This study introduced new semantics for general logic programs considering a set of n+1-truth logic values and an undefined value. One of semantics is of type well-founded and the other is of type stable. We have studied a relationship between the two semantics. For n=1 and u=1/2, the results of Przymusinski<sup>[4]</sup> are obtained.

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