

# Deficiencies of prolog



1. **Resolution order control:** Prolog matches in the same order, starting at the beginning of the database. Because of this, the user can profoundly affect the efficiency by ordering the database statements to optimize a particular application. If the user knows certain rules are more likely to succeed, he can place them in the beginning.

Ex: Explicit control of backtracking.

a, b, !, c, d.

This ability to tamper with control flow is against the principles of declarative paradigm.

prolog is declarative  $\rightarrow$  you can't specify order

But this way you can specify order to minimize time

if result of A requires you to evaluate C  
in A, b, c, d (only fall on true, will predicate be true)  
if C is false, don't evaluate A  
 $\Rightarrow$  a, b, !, c, d [if C is false, don't come back]

(2) The closed world assumption: Misleading results

(3) Negation:

Sibling(x, y) :- (parent(m, y), parent(m, x))  
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