



Prolog programming

Introduction to Prolog

CSE 4102

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Prolog

"Programming with Logic"

Very different from other programming languages

- Declarative (not procedural)
- Non Recursive
(no “for” or “while” loops)
- Relations (no functions)

Differences between Procedural P. and Logic P.

- | | |
|--|---|
| • <i>Architecture</i> : Von Neumann machine (sequential steps) | • Abstract model (dealing with objects and their relationships) |
| • <i>Syntax</i> : Sequence of statements (a, s, I) | • Logic formulas (Horn Clauses) |
| • <i>Computation</i> : Sequential statements execution | • Deduction of the clauses |
| • <i>Control</i> : Logic and control are mixed together | • Logic and control can be separated |

Prolog(high level language) logically deduces new facts about the situation we described.

SWI-Prolog (IDE + Interpreter)

Similar IDE: Visual Prolog/GNU Prolog/Inter Prolog

- developed by Jan Wielemaker.
- Platform Independent

SWI (Software Improvement)- Prolog editor is an open source implementation of the programming language . Prolog is a free software and you can download it from here:

<http://www.swi-prolog.org/Download.html>



Getting started:

Any Prolog program in SWI-Prolog is written in a file with extension .pl.

Now, time for environment setup..

Facts

The syntax of facts is the same as in the predicate calculus.

Examples: Fact_name(parameter).

fish(ray).	% Ray is a fish.
fish(salmon).	% Salmon is a fish.
red(car).	% Car is red.
likes(mary , john).	% Mary likes John.
factorial(3 , 6).	% the factorial of 3 is 6

Add this fact in knowledge base.

*Fact must writes in lower case.

Prolog is conversational

- Here is an illustrative conversation with a Prolog system:

?- fish(ray).

yes

?- fish(dog).

no

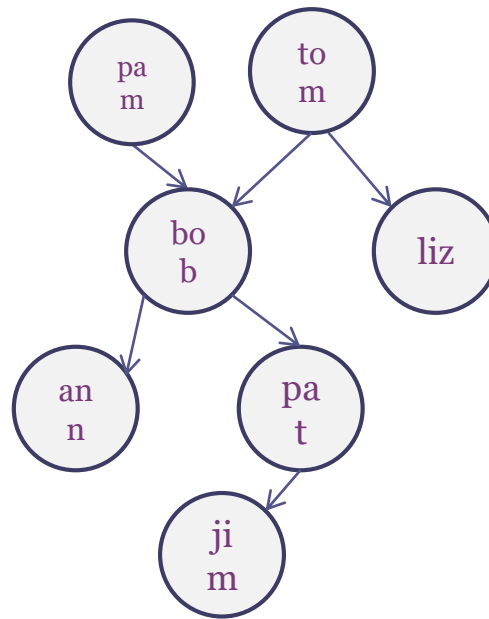
?- fish(sardine).

no

- A sardine is a fish, but prolog doesn't know that unless it is specified as a fact in the source file.

Defining relations by facts

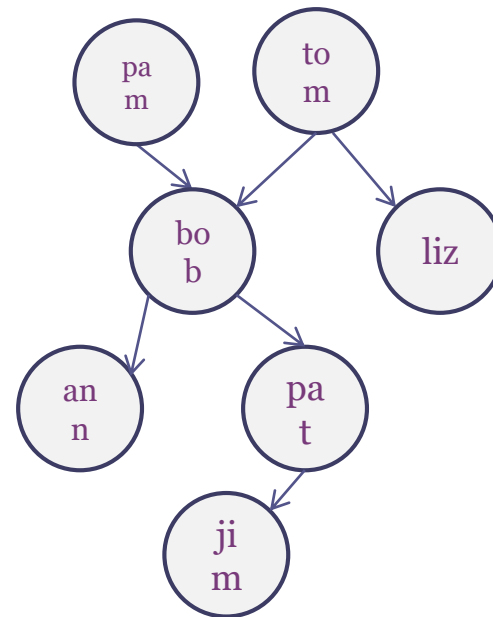
- The whole family tree can be described by the following facts:



Defining relations by facts

- The whole family tree can be described by the following facts:

parent(pam,bob).
parent(tom,bob).
parent(tom,liz).
parent(bob,ann).
parent(bob,pat).
parent(pat,jim).



Defining relations by facts

We can also add information about the origin of the people by the following facts:

female(pam).
male(tom).
male(bob).
female(liz).
female(pat).
female(ann).
male(jim).

** Here

female(pam) is a **Unary relation**

parent(bob,pat) is a **Binary relation**.

How to write Rule:

Inference

- Given the statement:
 “Fido is a dog”
 “All dogs are animals.” and
 “All animals will die.”
- Prove that “Fido will die.” ?

Inference

“Fido is a dog”

“All dogs are animals.” and

“All animals will die.”



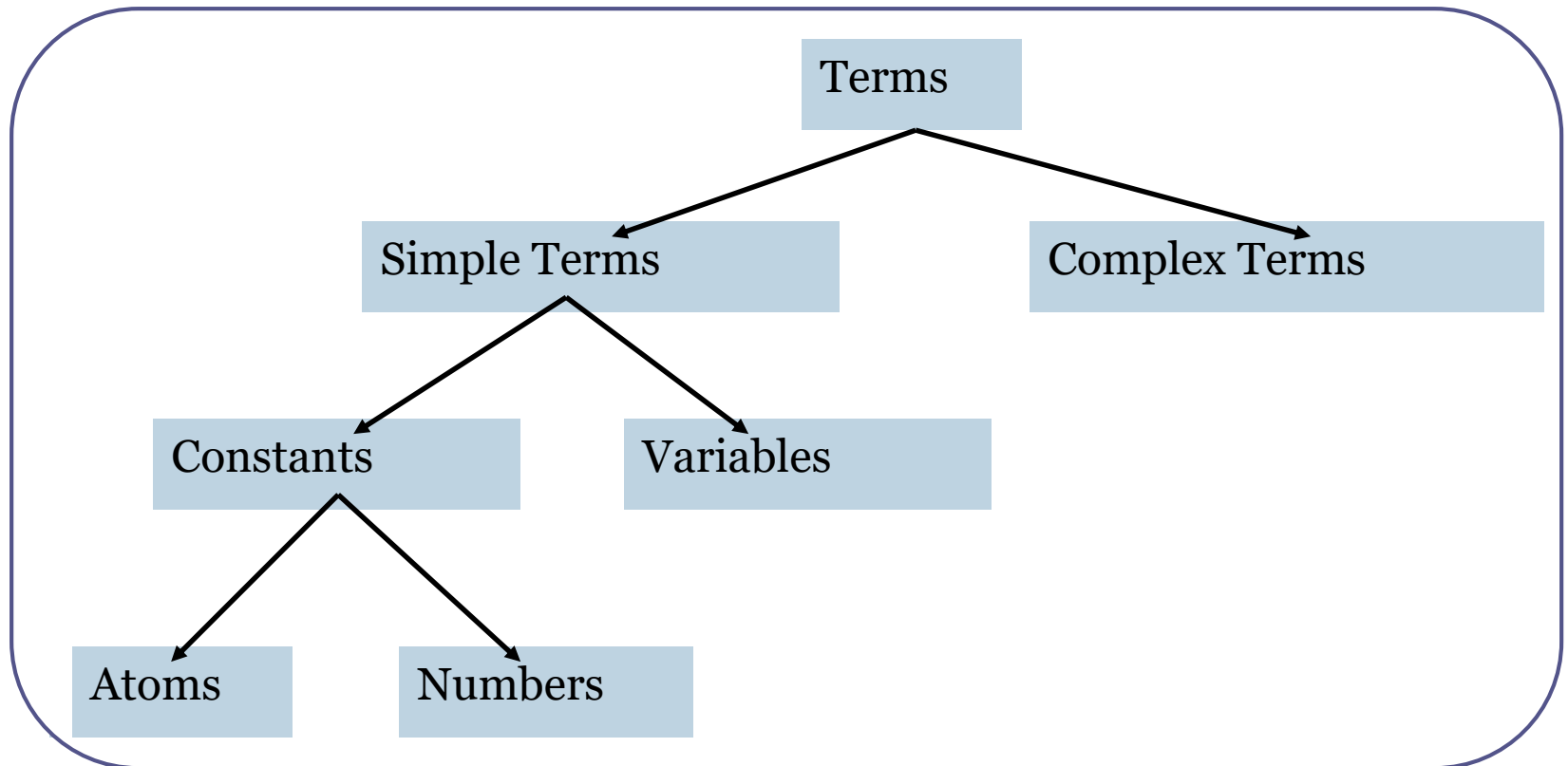
`dog(fido).`

`animal(X):-dog(X).`

`die(X):-animal(X).`

Prolog Syntax

What exactly are facts, rules and queries built out of?



Variables

- A sequence of characters of upper-case letters, lower-case letters, digits, or underscore, starting with either an uppercase letter or an underscore. Examples:

X, Y, Variable, Vincent, _tag

Atoms

A sequence of characters of upper-case letters, lower-case letters, digits, or underscore, starting with a lowercase letter

- *Examples:* butch, big_kahuna_burger, playGuitar

An arbitrary sequence of characters enclosed in single quotes

- *Examples:* 'Vincent', 'Five dollar shake', '@\$%'

A sequence of special characters

- *Examples:* : , ; . :-

Numbers

- Integers:

12, -34, 22342

- Floats:

34573.3234, 0.3435

Complex Terms

- Atoms, numbers and variables are building blocks for **complex terms**
- Complex terms are built out of a **functor** directly followed by a sequence of **arguments**
 - Arguments are put in round brackets, separated by commas
 - The functor must be an atom

Examples of complex terms

- Examples we have seen before:
 - `playsAirGuitar(mira)`
 - `loves(mira, ratul)`
 - `jealous(ratul, himu)`
- Complex terms inside complex terms:
 - `hide(X, father(father(father(butch))))`

Arity

- The number of arguments a complex term has is called its arity
- Examples:

woman(himu) is a term with arity 1

loves(mira,ratul) has arity 2

father(father(ratul)) arity 1

Arity is important

- In Prolog you can define two predicates with the same functor but with different arity
- Prolog would treat this as two different predicates
- In Prolog documentation arity of a predicate is usually indicated with the suffix `"/"` followed by a number to indicate the arity

Exercises

- Exercise 1.1 Which of the following sequences of characters are atoms, which are variables, and which are neither?
 1. vINCENT
 2. Footmassage
 3. Variable23
 4. Variable2000
 5. big_kahuna_burger
 6. 'big kahuna burger'
 7. big kahuna burger
 8. 'Jules'
 9. _Jules
 10. '_Jules'

Exercise

- Which of the following queries are satisfied? Where relevant, give all the variable instantiations that lead to success.
 1. ?- magic(house_elf).
 2. ?- wizard(harry).
 3. ?- magic(wizard).
 4. ?- magic('McGonagall').
 5. ?- magic(Hermione).