

## 1: Starting Prolog

Open Prolog by calling `gprolog` in a terminal window. If you prefer, you can open a shell in an Emacs window by typing `<esc x shell>` into Emacs.

Construct your knowledge base in a file in your favourite editor and load it by typing `consult('kb_name.pl')`.

To enter knowledge bases directly into Prolog, type `[user]` at the Prolog prompt. Prolog now expects input from you. You can cut and paste your knowledge base. End your input by typing `<ctrl-d>`. Prolog will now go back into query mode.

## 2: Lecture Examples

Download `kb1.pl` and `printlist.pl` from Moodle, load them into your interpreter and play around. Ask yes/no questions, try queries with variables and wrap your head around recursion (hint: use `trace`).

## 3: Append in Prolog

`[X|Xs]`: This matches a list where `X` is the head (the first element) and `Xs` is the tail (the rest of the list).  
For example, if the list is `[a, b, c]`, `X` would be `a` and `Xs` would be `[b, c]`.  
`Ys`: This is the second list that is to be appended.  
`[X|Zs]`: This represents the result list where `X` is the head and `Zs` is the rest of the result list.

In Prolog, one list (written as `[a,b,c]` or `[]` for the empty list) is appended to another by the following code:

```
acc_append([], Ys, Ys).  
acc_append([X|Xs], Ys, [X|Zs]) :- acc_append(Xs, Ys, Zs).
```

Analyse the code by answering the following questions. You may use `trace`.

What is the base case for recursion?

`acc_append([], Ys, Ys).`

NOT TAIL RECURSION

Which of the variables accumulates the result?

`Zs`

What value should this variable therefore have for the initial call?

`acc_append([1, 2], [3, 4], Zs).`

What happens when the non-base case rule is applied? Where is the new call with the smaller argument that allows recursion to terminate?

1. `X` becomes the head of the new tail `Zs` which appends `Xs` and `Ys`.
2. The new call with the smaller argument is `acc_append(Xs, Ys, Zs)`. In this call, the first list `Xs` is smaller than the original list `[X|Xs]` because it has one fewer element (i.e., it is the tail of the original list).

The recursion will terminate when the first list becomes empty (`[]`), at which point the base case is applied. This ensures that the recursion terminates correctly.

```
Call:acc_append([1, 2],[3, 4],_4926)  
Call:acc_append([2],[3, 4],_690)  
Call:acc_append([], [3, 4],_702)  
Exit:acc_append([], [3, 4], [3, 4])  
Exit:acc_append([2],[3, 4], [2, 3, 4])  
Exit:acc_append([1, 2],[3, 4], [1, 2, 3, 4])
```

`trace, acc_append([1,2], [3,4], Zs)`

`Zs = [1, 2, 3, 4]`

#### 4: Optional: Logic puzzle (from Learn Prolog Now! with thanks)

There is a street with three neighbouring houses that all have a different colour, namely red, blue, and green. People of different nationalities live in the different houses and they all have a different pet. Here are some more facts about them:

- The Englishman lives in the red house.
- The jaguar is the pet of the Spanish family.
- The Japanese lives in the blue house.
- The snail keeper lives to the left of the blue house.

Who keeps the zebra? Define a predicate `zebra/1` that tells you the nationality of the owner of the zebra!

Hint 1: Think of a representation for the houses and the street. Code the constraints in Prolog.

Hint 2: `member/2` checks whether a term is the member of a given list.

Hint 3: `is/2` does arithmetic computations – e.g., `is(X,7+2)`.