



LECTURE 14 OF 42

FOL: Unification, Forward and Backward Chaining, and Resolution Theorem Proving Discussion: GMP, Constraint Logic Programming

William H. Hsu

Department of Computing and Information Sciences, KSU

KSOL course page: <http://snipurl.com/v9v3>

Course web site: <http://www.kddresearch.org/Courses/CIS730>

Instructor home page: <http://www.cis.ksu.edu/~bhsu>

Reading for Next Class:

Section 9.5, p. 295 - 309, Russell & Norvig 2nd edition

Handout, Nilsson & Genesereth, *Logical Foundations of Artificial Intelligence*



LECTURE OUTLINE

- **Reading for Next Class: Sections 9.5 (p. 295 – 309), R&N 2^e**
- **Last Class: KR in FOL, 8.3-8.4 (p. 253-266), 9.1 (p. 272-274), R&N 2^e**
 - * **Frame problem: representational (frame axioms) vs. inferential**
 - * **Related inference problems: ramification and qualification**
 - * **Representing states, actions: situation calculus, successor-state axioms**
 - * **Towards planning systems**
 - * **First-order inference: Generalized Modus Ponens (GMP)**
- **Today: Unification and Resolution, 9.2 – 9.4 (p. 275 – 294), R&N 2^e**
 - * **Unification (previewed last time)**
 - * **GMP implemented**
 - ⇒ forward chaining and the Rete algorithm for production systems
 - ⇒ backward chaining
 - * **Resolution theorem proving**
 - * **Constraint logic programming**
 - * **Preview: backward chaining in logic programming**
- **Next Class: Logic Programming (Prolog)**

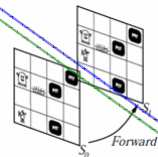




SUCCESSOR-STATE AXIOMS AND SITUATION CALCULUS: REVIEW

Situation calculus is one way to represent change in FOL:
 Adds a situation argument to each non-eternal predicate
 E.g., *Now* in *Holding(Gold, Now)* denotes a situation

Situations are connected by the *Result* function
Result(a, s) is the situation that results from doing *a* in *s*



Successor-state axioms solve the representational frame problem

Each axiom is "about" a **predicate** (not an action per se):

P true afterwards \Leftrightarrow [an action made P true
 \vee P true already and no action made P false]

For holding the gold:

$\forall a, s \text{ Holding}(\text{Gold}, \text{Result}(a, s)) \Leftrightarrow$
 $[(a = \text{Grab} \wedge \text{AtGold}(s)) \vee (\text{Holding}(\text{Gold}, s) \wedge a \neq \text{Release})]$

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CHAPTER 9 TOPICS: REVIEW

- ◇ Reducing first-order inference to propositional inference
- ◇ Unification
- ◇ Generalized Modus Ponens
- ◇ Forward and backward chaining
- ◇ Logic programming
- ◇ Resolution

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HERBRAND'S LIFTING LEMMA: REVIEW

Claim: a ground sentence* is entailed by new KB iff entailed by original KB

Claim: every FOL KB can be propositionalized so as to preserve entailment

Idea: propositionalize KB and query, apply resolution, return result

Problem: with function symbols, there are infinitely many ground terms,
e.g., *Father(Father(Father(John)))*

Theorem: Herbrand (1930). If a sentence α is entailed by an FOL KB,
it is entailed by a **finite** subset of the propositional KB

Idea: For $n = 0$ to ∞ do
create a propositional KB by instantiating with depth- n terms
see if α is entailed by this KB

Problem: works if α is entailed, loops if α is not entailed

Theorem: Turing (1936), Church (1936), entailment in FOL is semidecidable

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AUTOMATED DEDUCTION [1]: SEQUENT RULES FOR FOL

Sound inference: find α such that $KB \models \alpha$.

Proof process is a search, operators are inference rules.

E.g., Modus Ponens (MP)

$$\frac{\alpha, \quad \alpha \Rightarrow \beta}{\beta} \quad \frac{At(Joe, UCB) \quad At(Joe, UCB) \Rightarrow OK(Joe)}{OK(Joe)}$$

E.g., And-Introduction (AI)

$$\frac{\alpha \quad \beta}{\alpha \wedge \beta} \quad \frac{OK(Joe) \quad CSMajor(Joe)}{OK(Joe) \wedge CSMajor(Joe)}$$

E.g., Universal Elimination (UE)

$$\frac{\forall x \alpha}{\alpha\{x/\tau\}} \quad \frac{\forall x At(x, UCB) \Rightarrow OK(x)}{At(Pat, UCB) \Rightarrow OK(Pat)}$$

τ must be a ground term (i.e., no variables)

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AUTOMATED DEDUCTION [2]: EXAMPLE PROOF

•	Bob is a buffalo	1. $Buffalo(Bob)$
	Pat is a pig	2. $Pig(Pat)$
	Buffaloes outrun pigs	3. $\forall x, y \text{ } Buffalo(x) \wedge Pig(y) \Rightarrow Faster(x, y)$
	Bob outruns Pat	

• Apply Sequent Rules to Generate New Assertions

AI 1 & 2	4. $Buffalo(Bob) \wedge Pig(Pat)$
UE 3, $\{x/Bob, y/Pat\}$	5. $Buffalo(Bob) \wedge Pig(Pat) \Rightarrow Faster(Bob, Pat)$
MP 6 & 7	6. $Faster(Bob, Pat)$

$$\frac{\alpha, \quad \alpha \Rightarrow \beta}{\beta}$$

• Modus Ponens

$$\frac{\alpha \quad \beta}{\alpha \wedge \beta}$$

And Introduction

$$\frac{\forall x \alpha}{\alpha\{x/\tau\}}$$

Universal Elimination

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GENERALIZED MODUS PONENS (GMP): REVIEW

$$\frac{p_1', p_2', \dots, p_n', (p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q)}{q\theta} \quad \text{where } p_i'\theta = p_i\theta \text{ for all } i$$

p_1' is *King(John)* p_1 is *King(x)*
 p_2' is *Greedy(y)* p_2 is *Greedy(x)*
 θ is $\{x/John, y/John\}$ q is *Evil(x)*
 $q\theta$ is *Evil(John)*

GMP used with KB of definite clauses (**exactly** one positive literal)
All variables assumed universally quantified

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UNIFICATION [1]: ALGORITHM — MAIN FUNCTION

```
function UNIFY( $x, y, \theta$ ) returns a substitution to make  $x$  and  $y$  identical
  inputs:  $x$ , a variable, constant, list, or compound
          $y$ , a variable, constant, list, or compound
          $\theta$ , the substitution built up so far

  if  $\theta = \text{failure}$  then return failure
  else if  $x = y$  then return  $\theta$ 
  else if VARIABLE?( $x$ ) then return UNIFY-VAR( $x, y, \theta$ )
  else if VARIABLE?( $y$ ) then return UNIFY-VAR( $y, x, \theta$ )
  else if COMPOUND?( $x$ ) and COMPOUND?( $y$ ) then
    return UNIFY(ARGS[ $x$ ], ARGS[ $y$ ], UNIFY(OP[ $x$ ], OP[ $y$ ],  $\theta$ ))
  else if LIST?( $x$ ) and LIST?( $y$ ) then
    return UNIFY(REST[ $x$ ], REST[ $y$ ], UNIFY(FIRST[ $x$ ], FIRST[ $y$ ],  $\theta$ ))
  else return failure
```

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UNIFICATION [2]: CO-RECURSIVE FUNCTION FOR UNIFYING VARIABLES

```
function UNIFY-VAR( $var, x, \theta$ ) returns a substitution
  inputs:  $var$ , a variable
          $x$ , any expression
          $\theta$ , the substitution built up so far

  if  $\{var/val\} \in \theta$  then return UNIFY( $val, x, \theta$ )
  else if  $\{x/val\} \in \theta$  then return UNIFY( $var, val, \theta$ )
  else if OCCUR-CHECK?( $var, x$ ) then return failure
  else return add  $\{var/x\}$  to  $\theta$ 
```

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UNIFICATION [3]: EXAMPLES

We can get the inference immediately if we can find a substitution θ such that $King(x)$ and $Greedy(x)$ match $King(John)$ and $Greedy(y)$

$\theta = \{x/John, y/John\}$ works

$UNIFY(\alpha, \beta) = \theta$ if $\alpha\theta = \beta\theta$

p	q	θ
$Knows(John, x)$	$Knows(John, Jane)$	$\{x/Jane\}$
$Knows(John, x)$	$Knows(y, OJ)$	$\{x/OJ, y/John\}$
$Knows(John, x)$	$Knows(y, Mother(y))$	$\{y/John, x/Mother(John)\}$
$Knows(John, x)$	$Knows(x, OJ)$	$fail$

Standardizing apart eliminates overlap of variables, e.g., $Knows(z_{17}, OJ)$

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FRAME, RAMIFICATION, & QUALIFICATION PROBLEMS: REVIEW

“Effect” axiom—describe changes due to action

$\forall s \text{ AtGold}(s) \Rightarrow \text{Holding}(\text{Gold}, \text{Result}(\text{Grab}, s))$

“Frame” axiom—describe **non-changes** due to action

$\forall s \text{ HaveArrow}(s) \Rightarrow \text{HaveArrow}(\text{Result}(\text{Grab}, s))$

Frame problem: find an elegant way to handle non-change

- (a) representation—avoid frame axioms
- (b) inference—avoid repeated “copy-overs” to keep track of state

Qualification problem: true descriptions of real actions require endless caveats—what if gold is slippery or nailed down or . . .

Ramification problem: real actions have many secondary consequences—what about the dust on the gold, wear and tear on gloves, . . .

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EXAMPLE KNOWLEDGE BASE [1]: ENGLISH STATEMENT OF KB AND QUERY

The law says that it is a crime for an American to sell weapons to hostile nations. The country Nono, an enemy of America, has some missiles, and all of its missiles were sold to it by Colonel West, who is American.

Prove that Col. West is a criminal

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EXAMPLE KNOWLEDGE BASE [2]: RULES AND FACTS

... it is a crime for an American to sell weapons to hostile nations:

$American(x) \wedge Weapon(y) \wedge Sells(x, y, z) \wedge Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$

Nono ... has some missiles, i.e., $\exists x Owns(Nono, x) \wedge Missile(x)$:

$Owns(Nono, M_1)$ and $Missile(M_1)$

... all of its missiles were sold to it by Colonel West

$\forall x Missile(x) \wedge Owns(Nono, x) \Rightarrow Sells(West, x, Nono)$

Missiles are weapons:

$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)$

An enemy of America counts as "hostile":

$Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

West, who is American ...

$American(West)$

The country Nono, an enemy of America ...

$Enemy(Nono, America)$

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FORWARD CHAINING IN FOL [1]: ALGORITHM

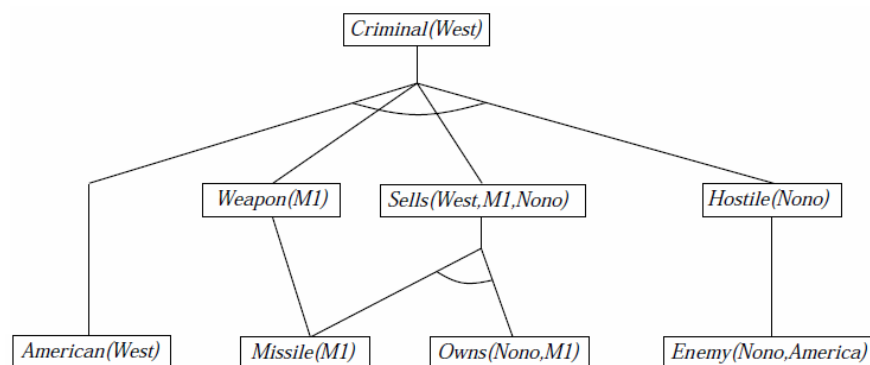
```

function FOL-FC-Ask( $KB, \alpha$ ) returns a substitution or false
  repeat until new is empty
     $new \leftarrow \{\}$ 
    for each sentence  $r$  in  $KB$  do
       $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q) \leftarrow \text{STANDARDIZE-APART}(r)$ 
      for each  $\theta$  such that  $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n)\theta = (p'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p'_n)\theta$ 
        for some  $p'_1, \dots, p'_n$  in  $KB$ 
           $q' \leftarrow \text{SUBST}(\theta, q)$ 
          if  $q'$  is not a renaming of a sentence already in  $KB$  or  $new$  then do
            add  $q'$  to  $new$ 
             $\phi \leftarrow \text{UNIFY}(q', \alpha)$ 
            if  $\phi$  is not fail then return  $\phi$ 
    add  $new$  to  $KB$ 
  return false
  
```

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FORWARD CHAINING IN FOL [2]: EXAMPLE PROOF



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FORWARD CHAINING IN FOL [3]: PROPERTIES

Sound and complete for first-order definite clauses
(proof similar to propositional proof)

Datalog = first-order definite clauses + **no functions** (e.g., crime KB)

FC terminates for Datalog in poly iterations: at most $p \cdot n^k$ literals

May not terminate in general if α is not entailed

This is unavoidable: entailment with definite clauses is semidecidable

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FORWARD CHAINING IN FOL [4]: EFFICIENCY

Simple observation: no need to match a rule on iteration k
if a premise wasn't added on iteration $k - 1$

\Rightarrow match each rule whose premise contains a newly added literal

Matching itself can be expensive

Database indexing allows $O(1)$ retrieval of known facts

e.g., query *Missile(x)* retrieves *Missile(M₁)*

Matching conjunctive premises against known facts is NP-hard

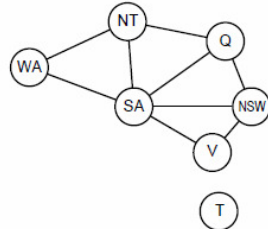
Forward chaining is widely used in deductive databases

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HARD MATCHING EXAMPLE: CONSTRAINT LOGIC PROGRAMMING



$Diff(wa, nt) \wedge Diff(wa, sa) \wedge$
 $Diff(nt, q) Diff(nt, sa) \wedge$
 $Diff(q, nsw) \wedge Diff(q, sa) \wedge$
 $Diff(nsw, v) \wedge Diff(nsw, sa) \wedge$
 $Diff(v, sa) \Rightarrow Colorable()$
 $Diff(Red, Blue) \quad Diff(Red, Green)$
 $Diff(Green, Red) \quad Diff(Green, Blue)$
 $Diff(Blue, Red) \quad Diff(Blue, Green)$

Colorable() is inferred iff the CSP has a solution

CSPs include 3SAT as a special case, hence matching is NP-hard

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BACKWARD CHAINING IN FOL [1]: ALGORITHM

```
function FOL-BC-Ask(KB, goals,  $\theta$ ) returns a set of substitutions
  inputs: KB, a knowledge base
         goals, a list of conjuncts forming a query ( $\theta$  already applied)
          $\theta$ , the current substitution, initially the empty substitution {}
  local variables: answers, a set of substitutions, initially empty

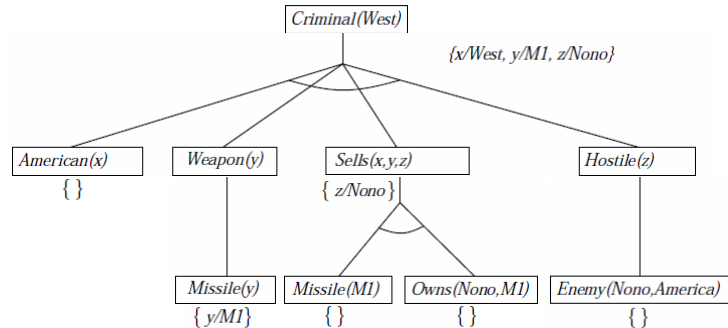
  if goals is empty then return { $\theta$ }
   $q' \leftarrow \text{SUBST}(\theta, \text{FIRST}(\text{goals}))$ 
  for each sentence r in KB
    where  $\text{STANDARDIZE-APART}(r) = (p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q)$ 
    and  $\theta' \leftarrow \text{UNIFY}(q, q')$  succeeds
     $\text{new\_goals} \leftarrow [p_1, \dots, p_n | \text{REST}(\text{goals})]$ 
     $\text{answers} \leftarrow \text{FOL-BC-Ask}(\text{KB}, \text{new\_goals}, \text{COMPOSE}(\theta', \theta)) \cup \text{answers}$ 
  return answers
```

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BACKWARD CHAINING IN FOL [2]: EXAMPLE PROOF



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BACKWARD CHAINING IN FOL [3]: PROPERTIES

Depth-first recursive proof search: space is linear in size of proof

Incomplete due to infinite loops

⇒ fix by checking current goal against every goal on stack

Inefficient due to repeated subgoals (both success and failure)

⇒ fix using caching of previous results (extra space!)

Widely used (without improvements!) for logic programming

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LOGIC PROGRAMMING

Sound bite: computation as inference on logical KBs

Logic programming

1. Identify problem
2. Assemble information
3. Tea break
4. Encode information in KB
5. Encode problem instance as facts
6. Ask queries
7. Find false facts

Ordinary programming

- Identify problem
- Assemble information
- Figure out solution
- Program solution
- Encode problem instance as data
- Apply program to data
- Debug procedural errors

Should be easier to debug *Capital(NewYork,US)* than $x := x + 2$!

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LOGIC PROGRAMMING (PROLOG) SYSTEMS

Basis: backward chaining with Horn clauses + bells & whistles

Widely used in Europe, Japan (basis of 5th Generation project)

Compilation techniques \Rightarrow approaching a billion LIPS

Program = set of clauses = $\text{head} \text{ :- literal}_1, \dots \text{literal}_n.$

`criminal(X) :- american(X), weapon(Y), sells(X,Y,Z), hostile(Z).`

Efficient unification by open coding

Efficient retrieval of matching clauses by direct linking

Depth-first, left-to-right backward chaining

Built-in predicates for arithmetic etc., e.g., `X is Y*Z+3`

Closed-world assumption ("negation as failure")

e.g., given `alive(X) :- not dead(X).`

`alive(joe)` succeeds if `dead(joe)` fails

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PROLOG EXAMPLES

Depth-first search from a start state X:

```
dfs(X) :- goal(X).
dfs(X) :- successor(X,S),dfs(S).
```

No need to loop over S: successor succeeds for each

Appending two lists to produce a third:

```
append([],Y,Y).
append([X|L],Y,[X|Z]) :- append(L,Y,Z).
```

query: append(A,B,[1,2]) ?

answers: A=[] B=[1,2]

A=[1] B=[2]

A=[1,2] B=[]

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RESOLUTION: BRIEF SUMMARY

Full first-order version:

$$\frac{\ell_1 \vee \dots \vee \ell_k, \quad m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_n}{(\ell_1 \vee \dots \vee \ell_{i-1} \vee \ell_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee \ell_k \vee m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee m_n)\theta}$$

where $\text{UNIFY}(\ell_i, \neg m_j) = \theta$.

For example,

$$\frac{\neg \text{Rich}(x) \vee \text{Unhappy}(x) \quad \text{Rich}(\text{Ken})}{\text{Unhappy}(\text{Ken})}$$

with $\theta = \{x/\text{Ken}\}$

Apply resolution steps to $\text{CNF}(KB \wedge \neg \alpha)$; complete for FOL

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CONVERSION OF FOL TO CLAUSAL FORM (CNF) [1]

Everyone who loves all animals is loved by someone:

$$\forall x [\forall y \text{ Animal}(y) \Rightarrow \text{Loves}(x, y)] \Rightarrow [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y, x)]$$

1. Eliminate biconditionals and implications

$$\forall x [\neg \forall y \neg \text{Animal}(y) \vee \text{Loves}(x, y)] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y, x)]$$

2. Move \neg inwards: $\neg \forall x, p \equiv \exists x \neg p$, $\neg \exists x, p \equiv \forall x \neg p$:

$$\forall x [\exists y \neg(\neg \text{Animal}(y) \vee \text{Loves}(x, y))] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y, x)]$$

$$\forall x [\exists y \neg \neg \text{Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x, y)] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y, x)]$$

$$\forall x [\exists y \text{ Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x, y)] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y, x)]$$

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CONVERSION OF FOL TO CLAUSAL FORM (CNF) [2]

3. Standardize variables: each quantifier should use a different one

$$\forall x [\exists y \text{ Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x, y)] \vee [\exists z \text{ Loves}(z, x)]$$

4. Skolemize: a more general form of existential instantiation.
Each existential variable is replaced by a Skolem function
of the enclosing universally quantified variables:

$$\forall x [\text{Animal}(F(x)) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x, F(x))] \vee \text{Loves}(G(x), x)$$

5. Drop universal quantifiers:

$$[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x, F(x))] \vee \text{Loves}(G(x), x)$$

6. Distribute \wedge over \vee :

$$[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x), x)] \wedge [\neg \text{Loves}(x, F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x), x)]$$

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RESOLUTION MNEMONIC: INSEUDOR

- Implications Out (Replace with Disjunctive Clauses)
- Negations Inward (DeMorgan's Theorem)
- Standardize Variables Apart (Eliminate Duplicate Names)
- Existentials Out (Skolemize)
- Universals Made Implicit
- Distribute *And* Over *Or* (i.e., Disjunctions Inward)
- Operators Made Implicit (Convert to List of Lists of Literals)
- Rename Variables (Independent Clauses)
- A Memonic for *Star Trek: The Next Generation* Fans

Captain Picard:

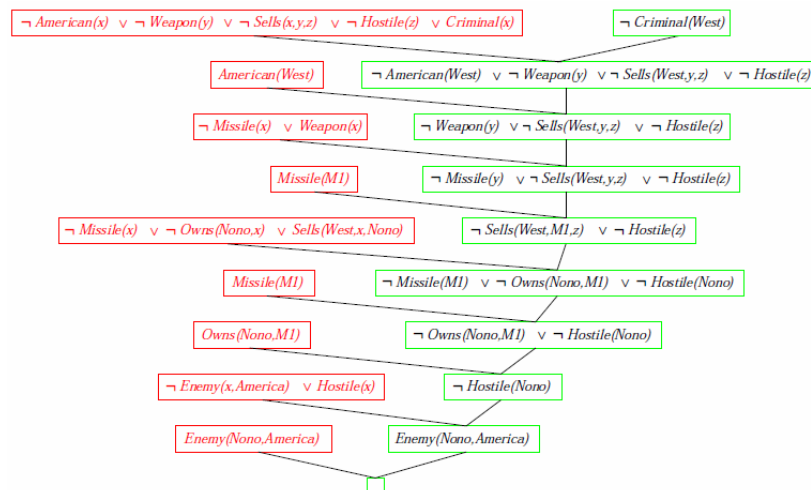
I'll Notify Spock's Eminent Underground Dissidents On Romulus

I'll Notify Sarek's Eminent Underground Descendant On Romulus

Adapted from: Nilsson and Genesereth (1987). *Logical Foundations of Artificial Intelligence*.
<http://bit.ly/45Cmqg>



RESOLUTION PROOF: DEFINITE CLAUSES



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TERMINOLOGY

- **Generalized Modus Ponens (GMP)**
 - * Sound and complete rule for first-order inference (reasoning in FOL)
 - * Requires pattern matching by unification
- **Unification: Algorithm for Matching Patterns**
 - * Used in type inference, first-order inference
 - * Matches well-formed formulas (WFFs), atoms, terms
 - * Terms: variables, constants, functions and arguments
 - * Arguments: nested terms
- **Resolution: Sound and Complete Inference Rule/Procedure for FOL**
 - * Antecedent (*aka* precedent): sentences “above line” in sequent rule
 - * Resolvent (*aka* consequent): sentences “below line” in sequent rule
- **Forward Chaining: Systematic Application of Rule to Whole KB**
 - * Rete algorithm in production systems for expert systems development
 - * Susceptible to high fan-out (branch factor)
- **Backward Chaining: Goal-Directed**



SUMMARY POINTS

- **Last Class: From Propositional Logic to FOL**
 - * Herbrand theory
 - ⇒ ground terms: full instantiation (propositionalization)
 - ⇒ lifting lemma: can generalize from propositional inference
 - * Need to convert FOL to clausal form (CNF)
- **Generalized Modus Ponens (GMP)**
 - * Sound and complete rule for first-order inference (reasoning in FOL)
 - * Requires pattern matching by unification
- **Unification: Algorithm for Matching Patterns**
 - * Used in type inference, first-order inference
 - * Matches well-formed formulas (WFFs), atoms, terms
 - * Terms: variables, constants, functions and arguments
 - * Arguments: nested terms
- **Resolution: Sound and Complete Inference Rule/Procedure for FOL**
- **Forward Chaining: Systematic Application of Sequent Rule to KB**

