

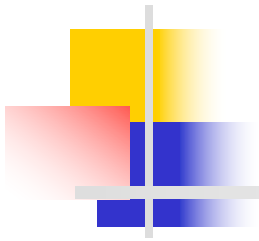
# COMP3411-9814- Artificial Intelligence

Prolog

Syntax, Lists, Operatores &  
Arithmetic

2020 – Summer Term

Tatjana Zrimec





# SWI Prolog

---

- ◆ SWI-Prolog
- ◆ <http://www.swi-prolog.org>
- ◆ SWI-Prolog reference manual
- ◆ [http://www.swi-prolog.org/pldoc/doc\\_for?object=manual](http://www.swi-prolog.org/pldoc/doc_for?object=manual)

# SWI Prolog



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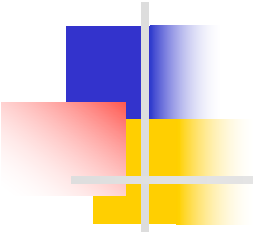
*-Prolog offers a comprehensive free Prolog environment. Since its start in 1977, SWI-Prolog development has been driven by the needs of real world applications. SWI-Prolog is widely used in research and education as well as commercial applications. Join over a million users who have downloaded SWI-Prolog. [more ...](#)*



# Outline

---

- ◆ Syntax and semantics
- ◆ Data objects
- ◆ Structures
- ◆ Matching
- ◆ Lists
- ◆ Operators
- ◆ Arithmetic



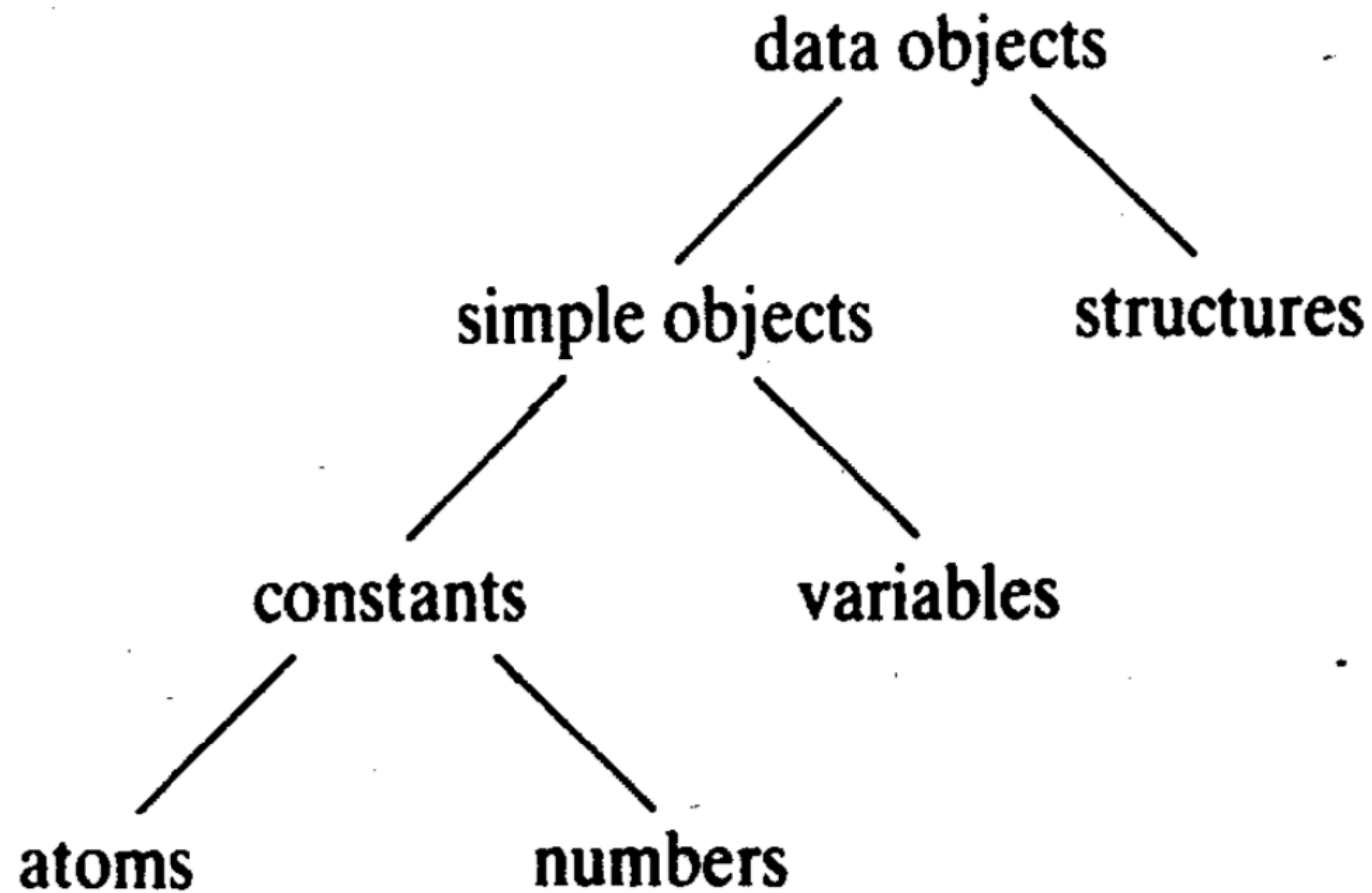
# Prolog – syntax and semantics

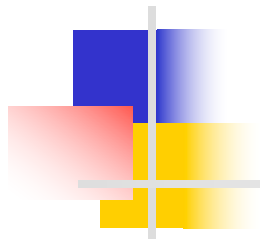
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# Data objects in Prolog

---

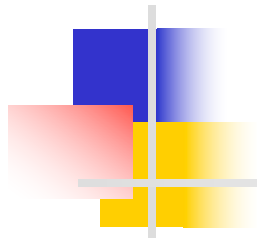




# Object Syntax

---

- ◆ The type of object is always recognizable from a syntactic form



## Three Syntactic Forms for Atoms

---

- (1) Strings of letters, digits and the underscore character “-”, starting with lower case letter

x          x15          x\_15          aBC\_CBa7

alpha\_beta\_algorithm          taxi\_35

peter          missJones          miss\_Jones2





## Three Syntactic Forms for Atoms

---

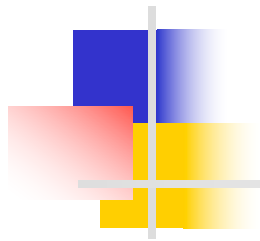
### (2) Strings of special characters

--->      <==>      <<  
.  
<   >   +   ++   !   ..   ...   ::=   []

### (3) Strings of characters enclosed in single quotes

'X\_35'   'Peter'   'Britney Spears'

This is useful if we want an atom to start with a capital letter



# Numbers

---

- Strings of special characters

1      1313      0      -55

- Real numbers

3.14      -0.0045      1.34E-21      1.34e-21

Real numbers not much used in Prolog



# Variables

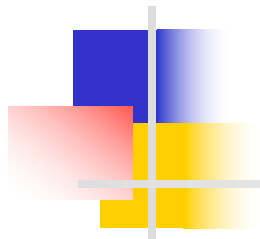
---

- ◆ Variable are strings of letters, digits and underscore character :

X     Results     Object2B     Participant\_list

\_x35     \_335

- ◆ The lexical range of variable names is one clause.



# Structures

- ◆ Structures are multi-component objects
  - For example, a date is a three-component structure
  - Date March 5 2017:

`date( 5, march, 2017)`

*functor*      *arguments*

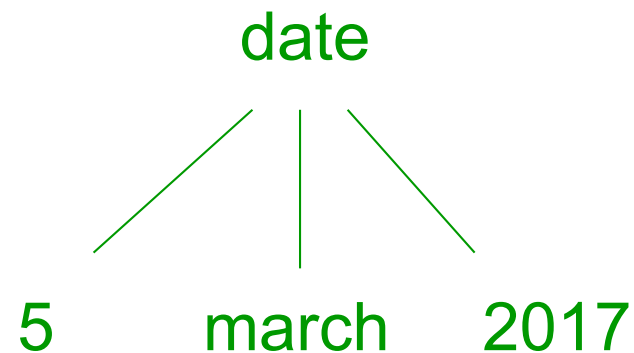
- ◆ The argument can be any object, including the structure

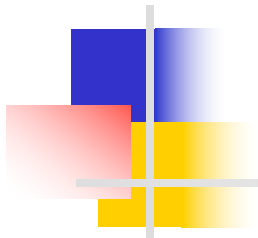


## Tree representation of structures

- ◆ Structures are sometimes illustrated as trees:

date( 5, march, 2017)

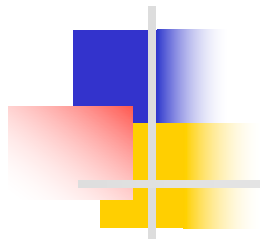




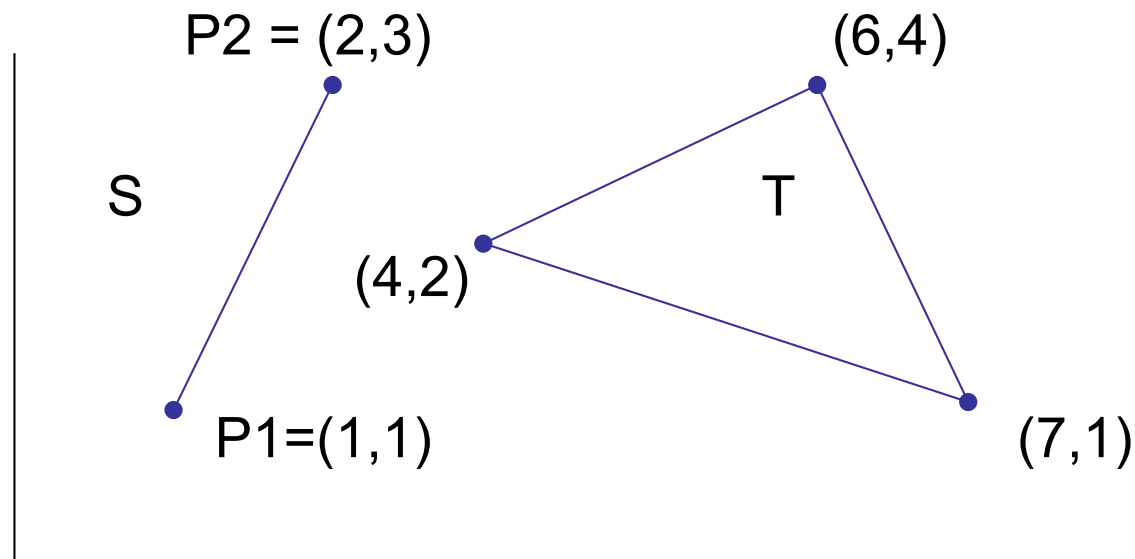
# Structure

---

- ◆ Structured objects are objects that several components.
  - The components can be also structures.
- ◆ All structured objects in the prolog can be illustrated by trees
  - This is the only way of constructing structures in a Prolog
- ◆ Syntactically all object in Prolog are “*terms*”



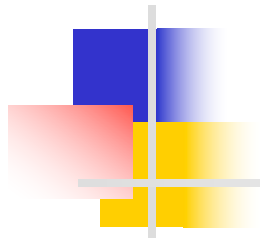
## Some simple geometric objects



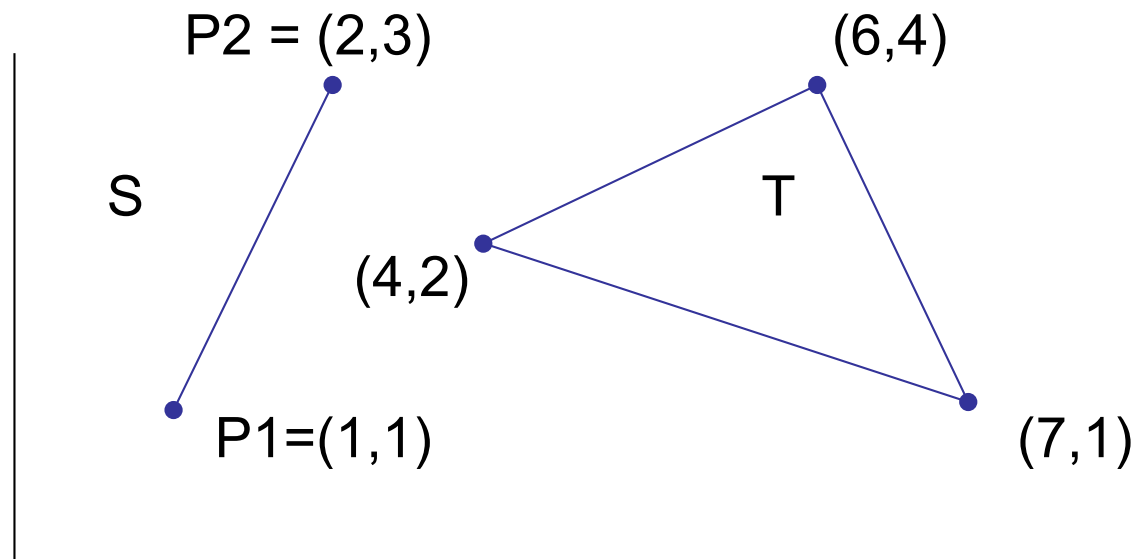
Points – point

Line segment – seg

Triangle – triangle



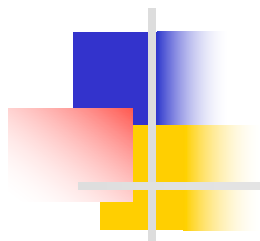
## Some simple geometric objects



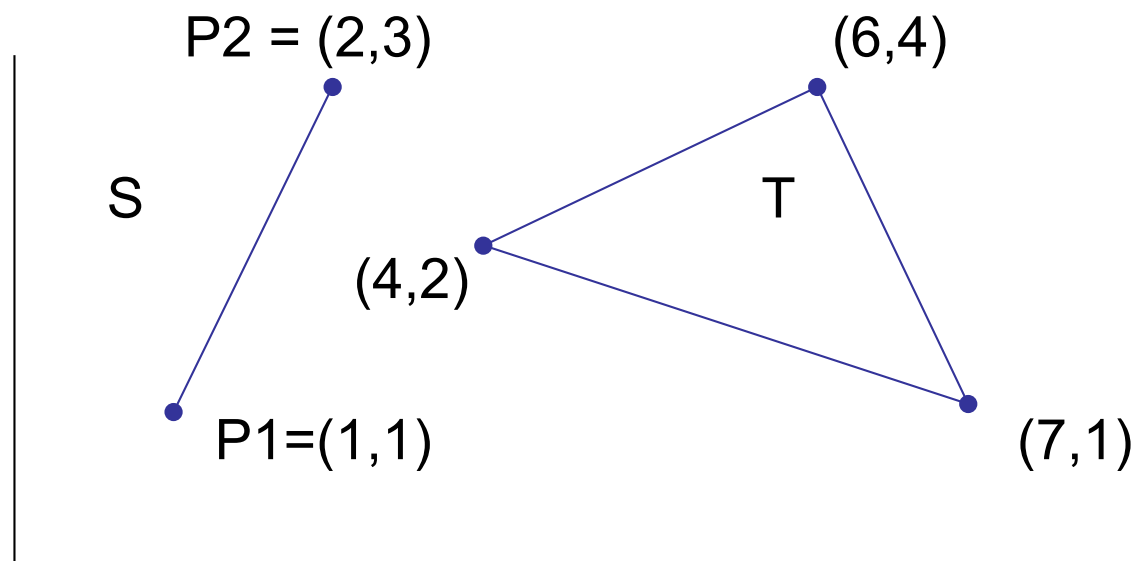
$P1 = \text{point}(1, 1)$

$P2 = \text{point}(2, 3)$

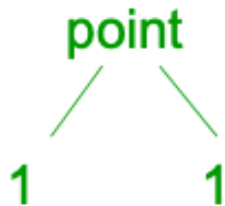




## Some simple geometric objects

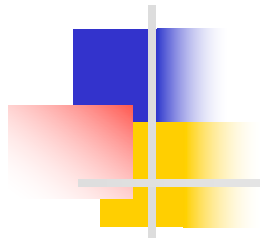


$P1 = \text{point}(1, 1)$

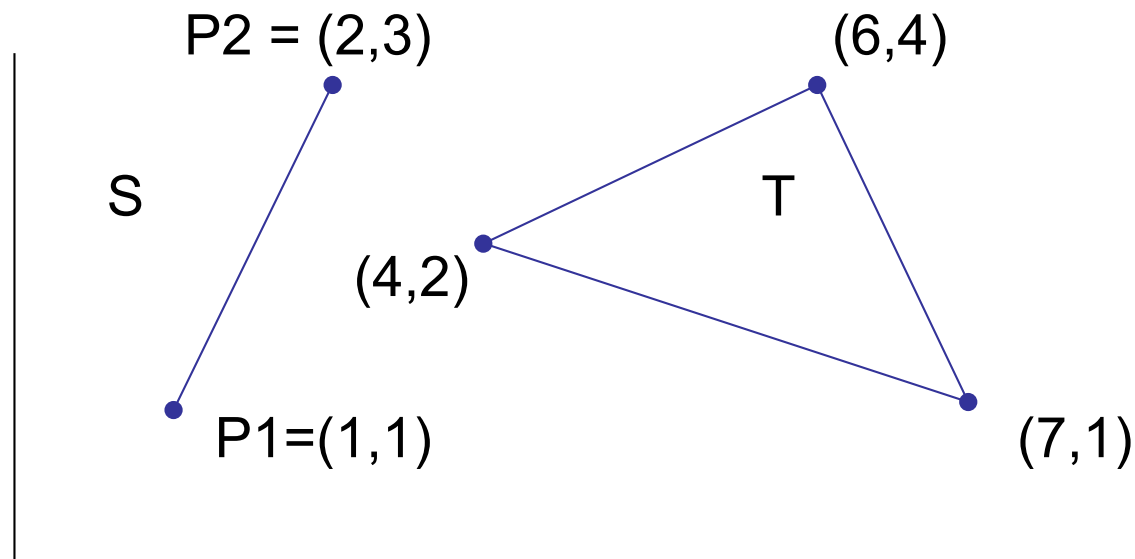


$P2 = \text{point}(2, 3)$





## Some simple geometric objects



$P1 = \text{point}(1, 1)$

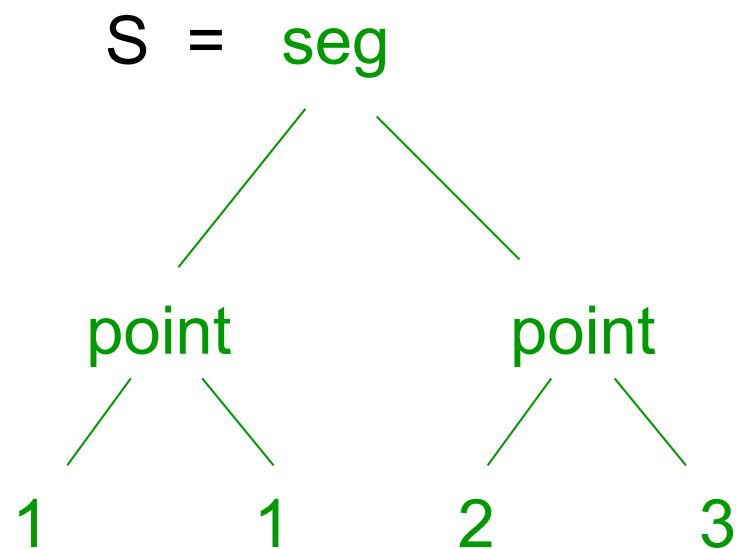
$P2 = \text{point}(2, 3)$

$S = \text{seg}(P1, P2) = \text{seg}(\text{point}(1,1), \text{point}(2,3))$

$T = \text{triangle}(\text{point}(4,2), \text{point}(6,4), \text{point}(7,1))$



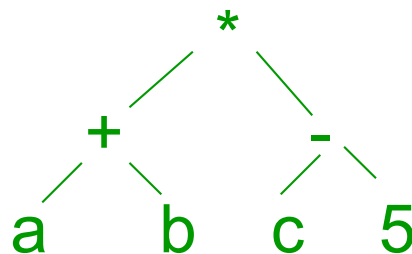
$S = \text{seg}(\text{point}(1,1), \text{point}(2,3))$



# The Arithmetic Expressions are also Trees

- ◆ For example:  $(a + b) * (c - 5)$
- ◆ Written as an expression with the functors:

$*(+(a, b), -(c, 5))$





# Matching

---

- ◆ Matching is an operation on *terms*.

Given two *terms*, *they match* if:

- (1) They are identical, or
- (2) The variable in both terms can be instantiated to objects in such a way that after the substitution of variables by these objects the terms become identical

- substitution of variable
  - the variable gets a value = instantiation of variable



## Examples of *Matching*

- ◆ *Matching of dates:*

$\text{date}(D1, M1, 2006) = \text{date}(D2, \text{june}, Y2)$

- ◆ One instantiation that make both terms identical

$D1 = D2$

$M1 = \text{june}$

$Y2 = 2006$

- ◆ This is the most general instantiation, there are others that are less general...

- ◆ For matching using the operator “=”



## *Matching*- most general instantiation

- ◆ Prolog always returns the most general instantiation.
- ◆ With this instantiation leaves grater freedom for further instantiation if further *Matching* is required

?- date( D1, M1, 2006) = date( D2, june, Y2),  
date( D1, M1, 2006) = date( 17, M3, Y3).

D1 = 17,      D2 = 17,  
M1 = june,    M3 = june,  
Y2 = 2006,   Y3 = 2006



## Matching

◆ *Matching* succeeds or fails.

The general rules:

Two terms S and T match:

1. If S and T are constants, then they match only if they are identical
2. If S is a variable, and T is anything, the *Matching* succeeds, S becomes equal to T. Conversely, if T is a variable, then T is instantiated to S.
3. If S and T are structures then they match only if:
  - a) they have the same principal functor and
  - b) all their corresponding components match.The resulting instantiation is determined by the matching of the components.





# Lists & Operatores

---



## List

- ◆ The *list* is a special structure in Prolog.
- ◆ A list is a collection of terms, which is useful for grouping items together, or for dealing with large volumes of related data, etc.
- ◆ Examples :

```
[ a, b, c, d] %Lists are enclosed by square brackets, and items are separated by commas.  
% The length of a list is the number of items it contains. The length of this list is 4.
```

```
[ ] % Empry Lists  
[ ann, tennis, tom, running]  
[ link(a,b), link(a,c), link(b,d)]  
[ a, [b,c], d, [ ], [a,a,a], f(X,Y) ]
```



## Representation of List with Head And Tail

- ◆ We can think of a list as being made up of two parts: the first element, known as the **Head**, and everything else, called the **Tail**.
- ◆ Prolog uses a built-in operator, the pipe ( `|` ) in order to give us this split for a list.

- ◆ The list

`[red, white, black, yellow]`

can be written as

`[Head|Tail] = [red, white, black, yellow].`

here is

**Head = red**

**Tail = [white, black, yellow]**



## Representation of List with Head And Tail

---

### ◆ Lists

$L = [\text{Head} | \text{Tail}]$

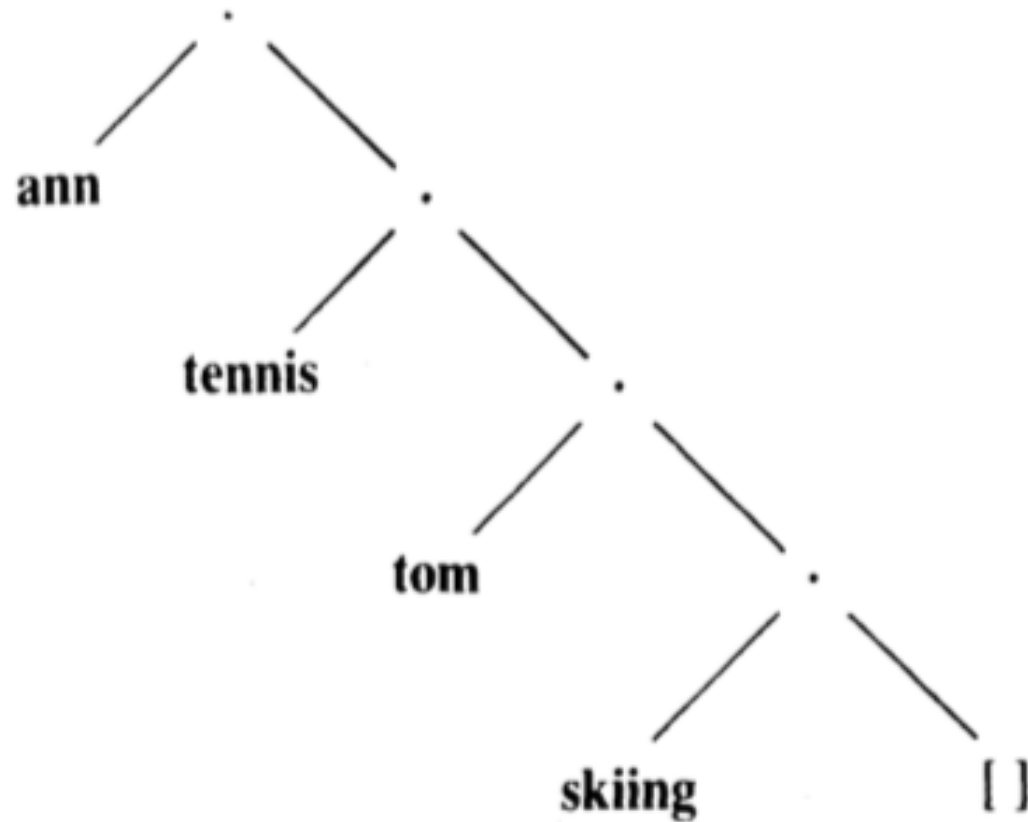
$L = [a, b, c] = [a | [b, c]] = [a, b | [c]] = [a, b, c | []]$

### ◆ In Prolog

$.( \text{Head}, \text{Tail} )$

$[a, b, c] = .(a, .(b, .(c, [])))$

# Tree representation of a List



[ann, tennis, tom, skiing]



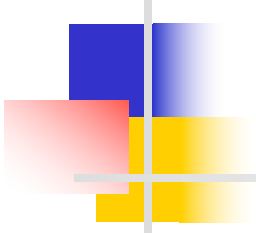
## Representation of List

?- Hobbies1 = .( tennis, .( music, [] ) ),  
Hobbies2 = [ skiing, food],  
L = [ ann, Hobbies1, tom, Hobbies2].

```
Hobbies1 = [ tennis, music]
Hobbies2 = [ skiing, food]
L = [ ann, [tennis,music], tom, [skiing,food] ]
```

?- List1 = [a,b,c],  
List2 = .( a, .( b, .( c, [] ) ) ).

```
List1 = [a,b,c]
List2 = [a,b,c]
```



## Membership – member/2

---

`% member( X, L): X is member of L`

`member( X, [ X | _]).`      `% X appears as head of list`

`member( X, [ _ | L]) :-`  
    `member( X, L).`      `% X in tail of list`



## Different usage of member/2

<code>?- member( c, [a,b,c,d]).</code>	<code>% Is an element of a given list</code>
<code>yes</code>	
<code>?- member( X, [a,b,c,d]).</code>	<code>% Search for any element in the list</code>
<code>X = a;</code>	
<code>X = b;</code>	
<code>...</code>	
<code>?- member( a, L).</code>	<code>% Find a List L containing "a"</code>
<code>L = [a   _ ] ;</code>	
<code>L = [ _ , a   _ ] ;</code>	<code>% "a" is the first element in L</code>
 <code>L = [ _ , _ , a   _ ] ;</code>	 <code>% "a" is the second element in L</code>
<code>...</code>	



## Concatenation Of Lists

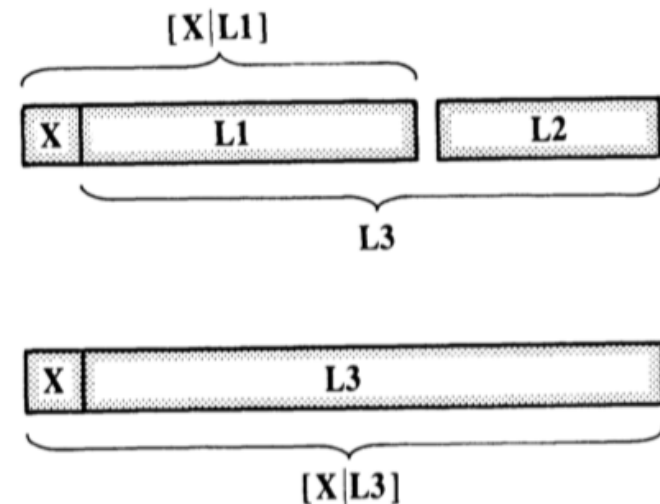
% conc( L1, L2, L3): L3 is concatenation of L1 and L2

conc( [], L, L).

% Base case

conc( [X | L1], L2, [X | L3]) :-  
conc( L1, L2, L3).

% Recursive case





## Examples of using Conc

?- conc( [a,b,c], [1,2,3], L).

L = [a,b,c,1,2,3]

?- conc( [a,[b,c],d], [a,[ ],b], L).

L = [a, [b,c], d, a, [ ], b]

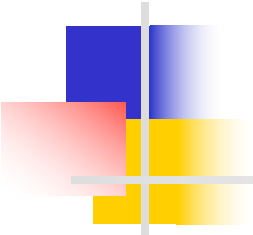
?- conc( L1, L2, [a,b,c] ).

L1 = [], L2 = [a,b,c];

L1 = [a], L2 = [b,c];

L1 = [a,b], L2 = [c];

L1 = [a,b,c], L2 = []



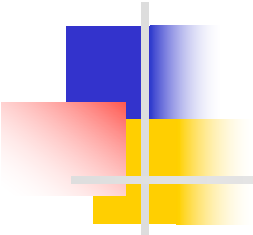
## Example: Which months are before May, which after?

### Try in Prolog

Write a Prolog Query:

Which months are before May, which after?

```
?- Months= [jan,feb,mar,apr,may,jun,jul,aug,sep,oct,nov,dec] ,  
   conc( Before, [may | After], Months).
```



## Example: Which months are before May, which after?

### Try in Prolog

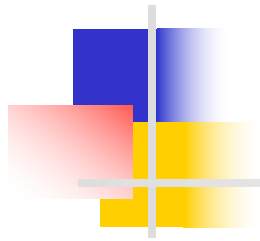
Write a Prolog Query:

Which months are before May, which after?

```
?- Months= [jan,feb,mar,apr,may,jun,jul,aug,sep,oct,nov,dec] ,  
   conc( Before, [may | After], Months).
```

```
Before = [jan, feb,mar,apr],
```

```
After = [jun,jul,aug,sep,oct,nov,dec]
```



## Exercise

---

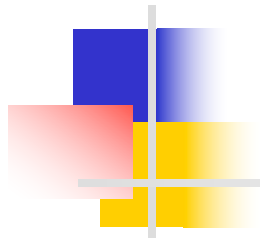
Write a Prolog Query:

Delete from the list L1 everything from three 'z' onwards.

```
?- L1 = [a,b,z,z,c,z,z,z,d,e],  
   conc(L2,[z,z,z|_],L1).
```

% A list L1 with a pattern

% L2 is L1 up to the pattern



## Exercise

---

Write a Prolog Query:

Delete from the list L1 everything from three 'z' onwards.

```
?- L1 = [a,b,z,z,c,z,z,z,d,e],  
   conc(L2,[z,z,z|_],L1).
```

% A list L1 with a pattern

% L2 is L1 up to the pattern



## Member by using Conc

---

- ◆ % member2( X, L): X is member of list L

```
member2( X, L) :-  
    conc( _, [X | _], L).
```



## Deleting and inserting elements in a List

---

Delete element from a List

```
% del( X, L, NewL)
```

Insertion is the reverse operation of deletion

```
% insert( X, L, NewL)
```

You can also use the "del" to insert elements in a list.





## Sublist

% sublist( List, Sublist): Sublist appears as a sublist  
% (subsection) in a List

```
sublist( S, L) :-  
    conc( L1, L2, L),  
    conc( S, L3, L2).
```



## Definition of a List

---

```
list( [ ]).
```

```
list( [ _ | Tail] ) :-  
    list( Tail).
```

```
% Generate lists of incremental lengths
```

```
?- list( L).
```

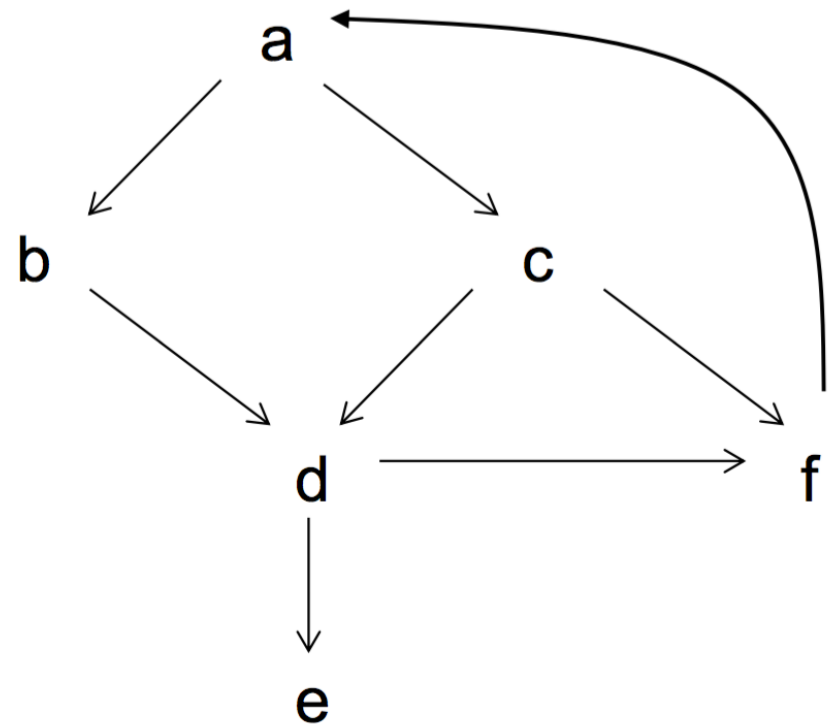
```
L = [ ];
```

```
L = [ _A];
```

```
...
```

# Path in a Graph

<b>link( a, b).</b>	<b>link( a, c).</b>
<b>link( b, d).</b>	<b>link( c, d).</b>
<b>link( c, f).</b>	<b>link( d, e).</b>
<b>link( d, f).</b>	<b>link( f, a).</b>





## Path in a Graph

---

`% path( StartNode, GoalNode): path exists between the nodes`

`path( Node, Node).`

`path( Start, End) :-  
 link( Start, Next),  
 path( Next, End).`



## Path in a Graph

---

```
% path( Start, Goal, Path):  
% Path = list of nodes from Start to Goal
```

```
path( Start, Start, [Start]).
```

```
path( Start, Goal, [Start | Rest]) :-  
    link( Start, Next),  
    path( Next, Goal, Rest).
```



## Exercise

---

Try:

```
?- path( a, e, P).
```

```
?- path( a, c, P).    % Problem: the search in depth misses the solution
```



# Arithmetic in Prolog

---



# Built-in Predicate for Arithmetic Operations

---

?- X = 1+2.

X=1+2

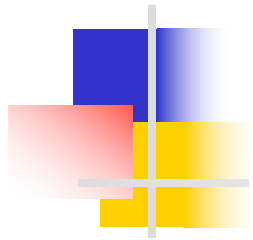
?- X is 1 + 2.

% “**is**”: built-in predicate that forces evaluation

X=3

A special predefined operator **is** to invoke arithmetic!





# Arithmetic Operations

$+, -, *, /, **$  for real numbers  
 $//, \text{mod}$  for integer  
 $\sin, \cos, \log, \dots$  standard functions

?- X is  $2 + \sin(3.14/2)$ .  
X = 2.9999996829318345

?- A is  $11/3$ .  
A = 3.6666666666666665

?- B is  $11//3$ .  
B=3

?-C is  $11\text{mod}3$ .  
C=2



# Comparison operators

$X > Y$	X is greater than Y
$X < Y$	X is less than Y
$X \geq Y$	X is greater than or equal to Y
$X \leq Y$	X is less than or equal to Y
$X ::= Y$	the values of X and Y are equal
$X \neq Y$	the values of X and Y are not equal

?-  $315*3 \geq 250*4$ .

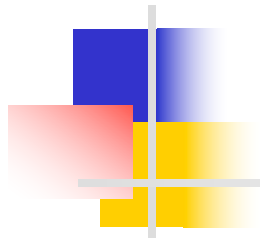
no

?-  $2+5 = 5+2$ .

no

?-  $2+5 ::= 5+2$ .

yes



# Comparison operators

---

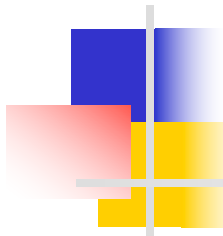
Operator

`::=`

we have to distinguish from the operator

`==`

which serves to compare the non- arithmetic terms



## Strings

---

- ◆ Strings are lists of positive integers
  - Positive integers correspond to an ASCII code character.

Prolog does not make difference between

"Prolog"    and    [80,114,111,108,111,103]



# Strings

---

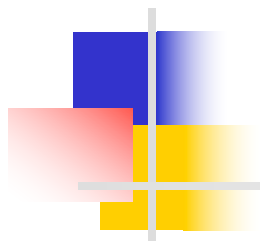
## The procedure

`name (Atom, List)`

allows the conversion of the atom into the list of ASCII code characters

```
?- name(A, [112,114,111,108,111,103]).
```

```
A = prolog           % No spaces without single quotation marks
```



◆ End