

Artificial Intelligence

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Inference in FOL - Chapter 9

- All rules of inference for propositional logic apply to first-order logic
- We just need to reduce FOL sentences to PL sentences by instantiating variables and removing quantifiers

- Suppose the KB contains the following:

$\forall x \text{ King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x)$

$\text{King}(\text{John}) \quad \text{Greedy}(\text{John}) \quad \text{Brother}(\text{Richard}, \text{John})$

- How can we reduce this to PL?
- Let's instantiate the universal sentence in all possible ways:

$\text{King}(\text{John}) \wedge \text{Greedy}(\text{John}) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(\text{John})$

$\text{King}(\text{Richard}) \wedge \text{Greedy}(\text{Richard}) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(\text{Richard})$

$\text{King}(\text{John}) \quad \text{Greedy}(\text{John}) \quad \text{Brother}(\text{Richard}, \text{John})$

- The KB is *propositionalized*
 - Proposition symbols are $\text{King}(\text{John})$, $\text{Greedy}(\text{John})$, $\text{Evil}(\text{John})$, $\text{King}(\text{Richard})$, etc.

- What about existential quantification, e.g.,
 $\exists x \text{Crown}(x) \wedge \text{OnHead}(x, \text{John})$?
- Let's instantiate the sentence with a new constant that doesn't appear anywhere in the KB:

$\text{Crown}(C_1) \wedge \text{OnHead}(C_1, \text{John})$

- Every FOL KB can be *propositionalized* so as to preserve entailment
 - A ground sentence is entailed by the new KB iff it is entailed by the original KB
- **Idea:** propositionalize KB and query, apply resolution, return result
- **Problem:** with function symbols, there are infinitely many ground terms
 - For example, *Father(X)* yields *Father(John)*, *Father(Father(John))*, *Father(Father(Father(John)))*, etc.

- **Theorem** (Herbrand 1930):
 - If a sentence α is entailed by an FOL KB, it is entailed by a *finite* subset of the propositionalized KB
- **Idea:** For $n = 0$ to Infinity 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 for FOL is **semidecidable**: algorithms exist that say yes to every entailed sentence, but no algorithm exists that also says no to every nonentailed sentence

- *“All men are mortal. Socrates is a man; therefore, Socrates is mortal.”*
- Can we prove this without full propositionalization as an intermediate step?

- **Substitution** of variables by *ground terms*:

$\text{SUBST}(\{v/g\}, P)$

- Result of $\text{SUBST}(\{x/\text{Harry}, y/\text{Sally}\}, \text{Loves}(x,y))$:
 $\text{Loves}(\text{Harry}, \text{Sally})$
- Result of $\text{SUBST}(\{x/\text{John}\}, \text{King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x))$:
 $\text{King}(\text{John}) \wedge \text{Greedy}(\text{John}) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(\text{John})$

- A universally quantified sentence entails every instantiation of it:

- $\forall v P(v)$
 $\text{SUBST}(\{v/g\}, P(v))$
-

for any variable v and ground term g

- E.g., $\forall x \text{King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x)$ yields:
 $\text{King}(\text{John}) \wedge \text{Greedy}(\text{John}) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(\text{John})$
 $\text{King}(\text{Richard}) \wedge \text{Greedy}(\text{Richard}) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(\text{Richard})$
 $\text{King}(\text{Father}(\text{John})) \wedge \text{Greedy}(\text{Father}(\text{John})) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(\text{Father}(\text{John}))$

- An existentially quantified sentence entails the instantiation of that sentence with a new constant:

$$\frac{\exists v P(v)}{\text{SUBST}(\{v/C\}, P(v))}$$

for any sentence P , variable v , and constant C that does not appear elsewhere in the knowledge base

- E.g., $\exists x \text{Crown}(x) \wedge \text{OnHead}(x, \text{John})$ yields:
- $\text{Crown}(C_1) \wedge \text{OnHead}(C_1, \text{John})$

provided C_1 is a new constant symbol, called a *Skolem constant*

Generalized Modus Ponens (GMP)

$$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q), p_1', p_2', \dots, p_n'$$

such that $\text{SUBST}(\theta, p_i) = \text{SUBST}(\theta, p_i')$ for all i

$$\text{SUBST}(\theta, q)$$

- All variables assumed universally quantified

- **Example:**

$$\forall x \text{ King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x)$$

$\text{King}(\text{John}) \text{ Greedy}(\text{John}) \quad \text{Brother}(\text{Richard}, \text{John})$

p_1 is $\text{King}(x)$, p_2 is $\text{Greedy}(x)$, q is $\text{Evil}(x)$

p_1' is $\text{King}(\text{John})$, p_2' is $\text{Greedy}(y)$, θ is $\{x/\text{John}, y/\text{John}\}$

$\text{SUBST}(\theta, q)$ is $\text{Evil}(\text{John})$

UNIFY(α, β) = θ means that **SUBST(θ, α) = SUBST(θ, β)**

p	q	θ	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(John,Jane)	{x/Jane}	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,Mary)	{x/Mary,	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,Mother(y))	{y/John,	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(x,Mary)	{x ₁ /John,	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,z)	{y/John, x/z}	

- Standardizing apart eliminates overlap of variables
- Most general unifier

$$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q), p_1', p_2', \dots, p_n'$$

such that $\text{SUBST}(\theta, p_i) = \text{SUBST}(\theta, p_i')$ for all i

$$\text{SUBST}(\theta, q)$$

- **Forward chaining**
 - Like search: keep proving new things and adding them to the KB until we can prove q
- **Backward chaining**
 - Find p_1, \dots, p_n such that knowing them would prove q
 - Recursively try to prove p_1, \dots, p_n

- 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

Example knowledge base

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

$\exists x Owns(Nono,x) \wedge Missile(x)$

$Owns(Nono,M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

All of its missiles were sold to it by Colonel West

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

Missiles are weapons:

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

An enemy of America counts as “hostile”:

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

West is American

$American(West)$

The country Nono is an enemy of America

$Enemy(Nono,America)$

- 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

American(West)

Missile(M1)

Owns(Nono,M1)

Enemy(Nono,America)

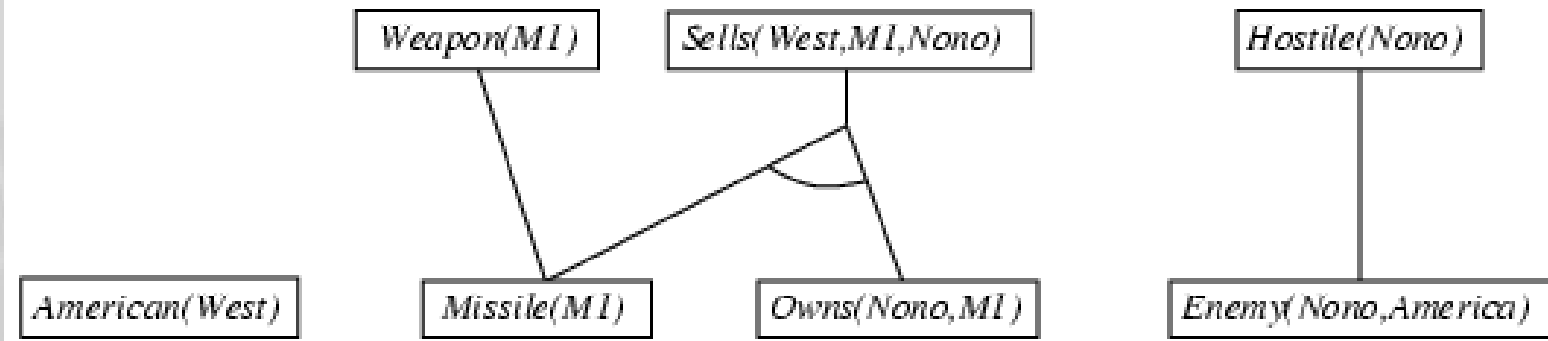
$American(x) \wedge Weapon(y) \wedge Sells(x,y,z) \wedge Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$

$Owns(Nono,M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

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

$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x) \qquad Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

$American(West) \qquad Enemy(Nono,America)$



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

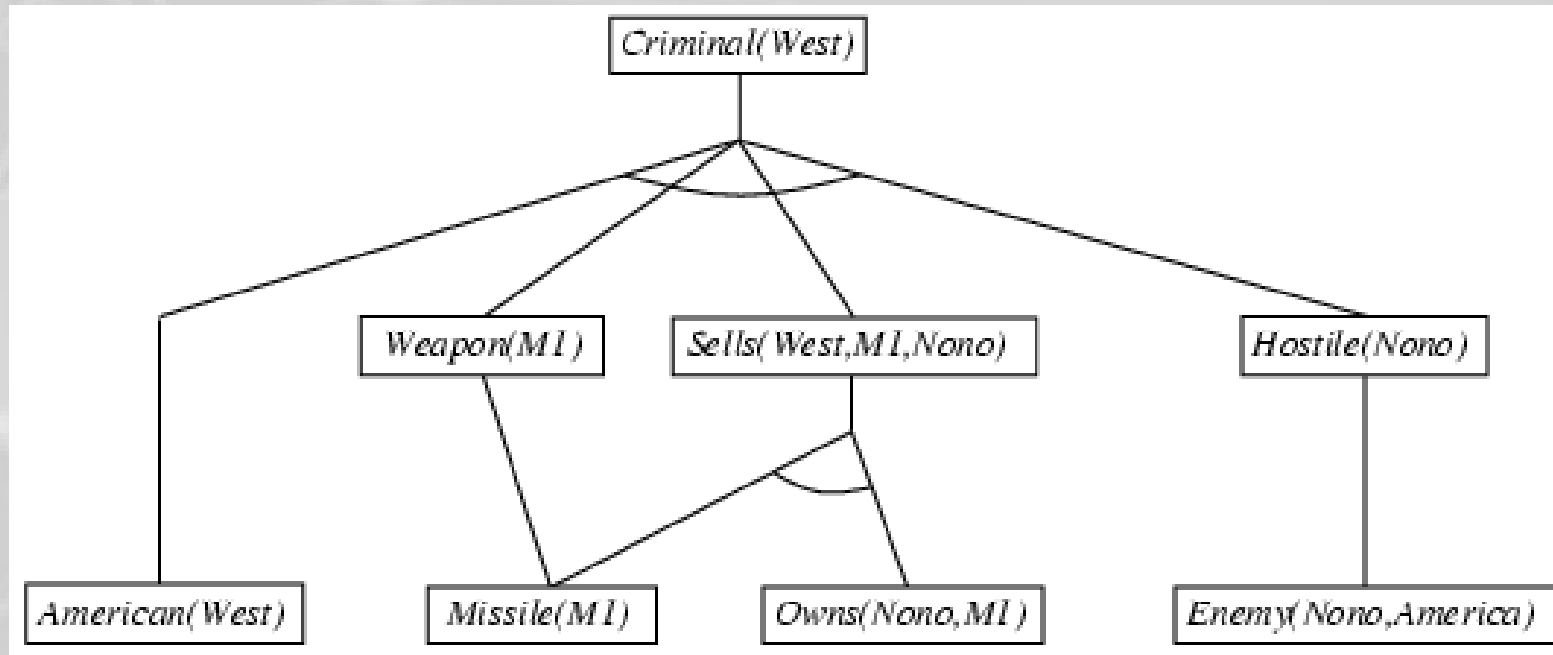
$Owns(Nono,M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

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

$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x) \qquad Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

$American(West) \qquad Enemy(Nono,America)$

Forward chaining proof



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

$Owns(Nono,M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

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

$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x) \quad Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

$American(West) \quad Enemy(Nono,America)$

Criminal(West)

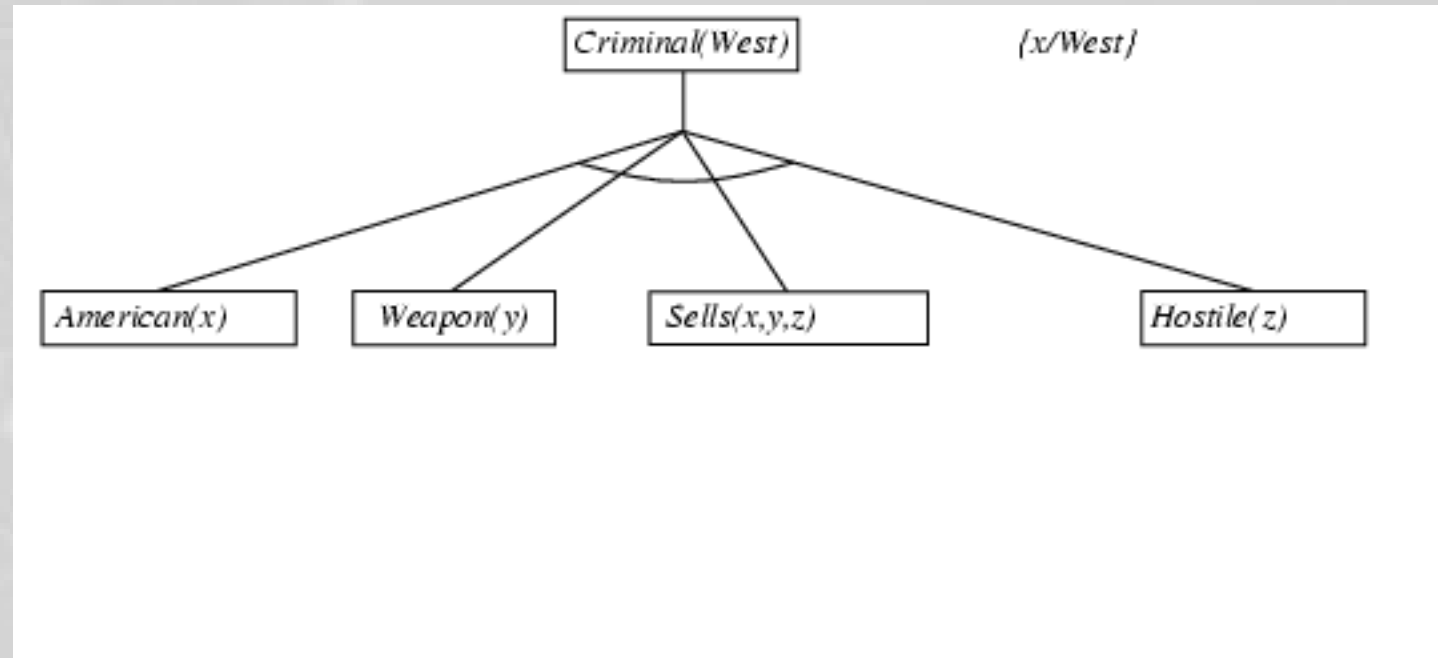
$\text{American}(x) \wedge \text{Weapon}(y) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \wedge \text{Hostile}(z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$

$\text{Owns}(\text{Nono}, M_1) \wedge \text{Missile}(M_1)$

$\text{Missile}(x) \wedge \text{Owns}(\text{Nono}, x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{West}, x, \text{Nono})$

$\text{Missile}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Weapon}(x) \qquad \text{Enemy}(x, \text{America}) \Rightarrow \text{Hostile}(x)$

$\text{American}(\text{West}) \qquad \text{Enemy}(\text{Nono}, \text{America})$



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

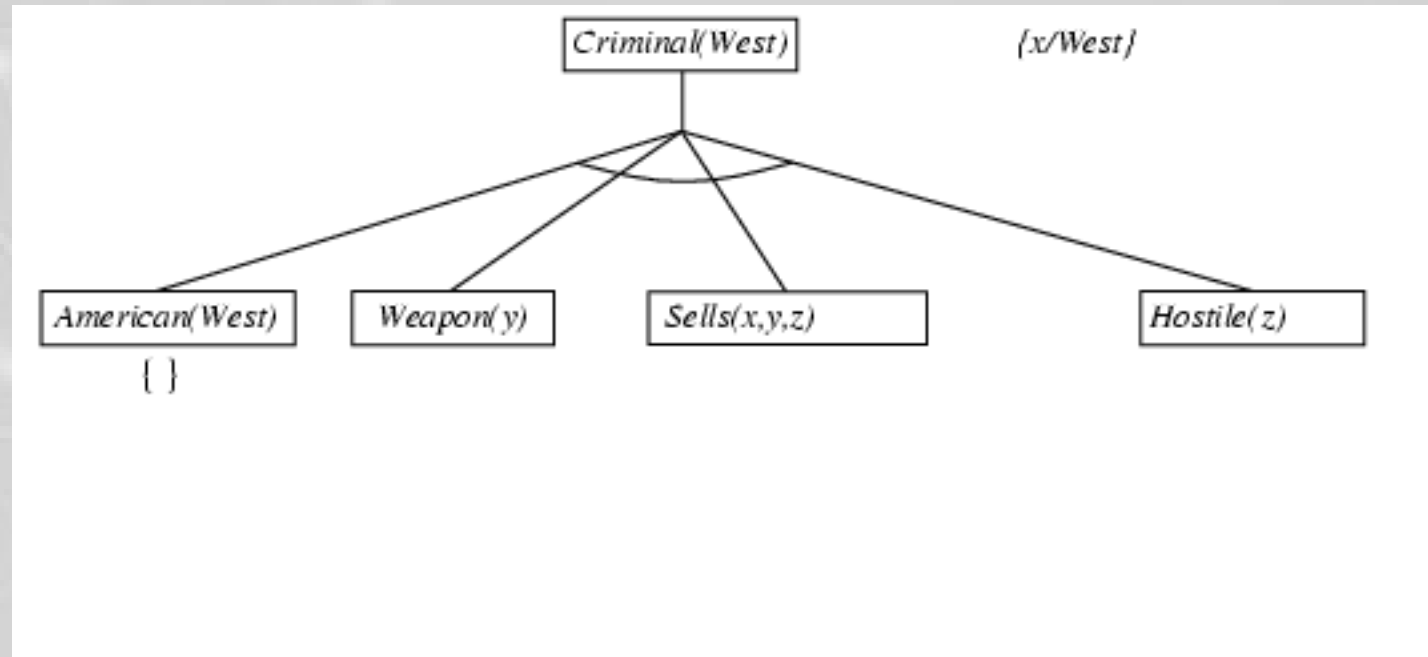
$Owns(Nono, M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

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

$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x) \quad Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

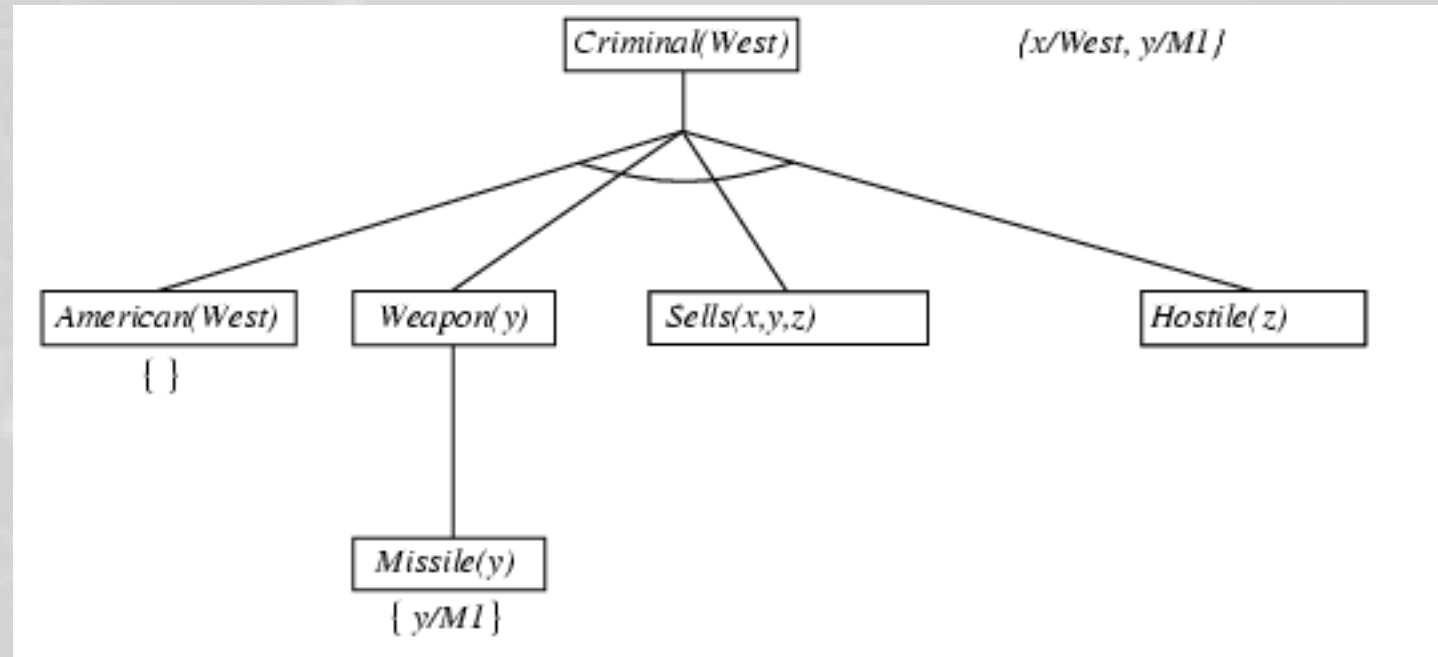
$American(West) \quad Enemy(Nono, America)$

Backward chaining example



$American(x) \wedge Weapon(y) \wedge Sells(x,y,z) \wedge Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$
 $Owns(Nono,M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$
 $Missile(x) \wedge Owns(Nono,x) \Rightarrow Sells(West,x,Nono)$
 $Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)$ $Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$
 $American(West)$ $Enemy(Nono,America)$

Backward chaining example



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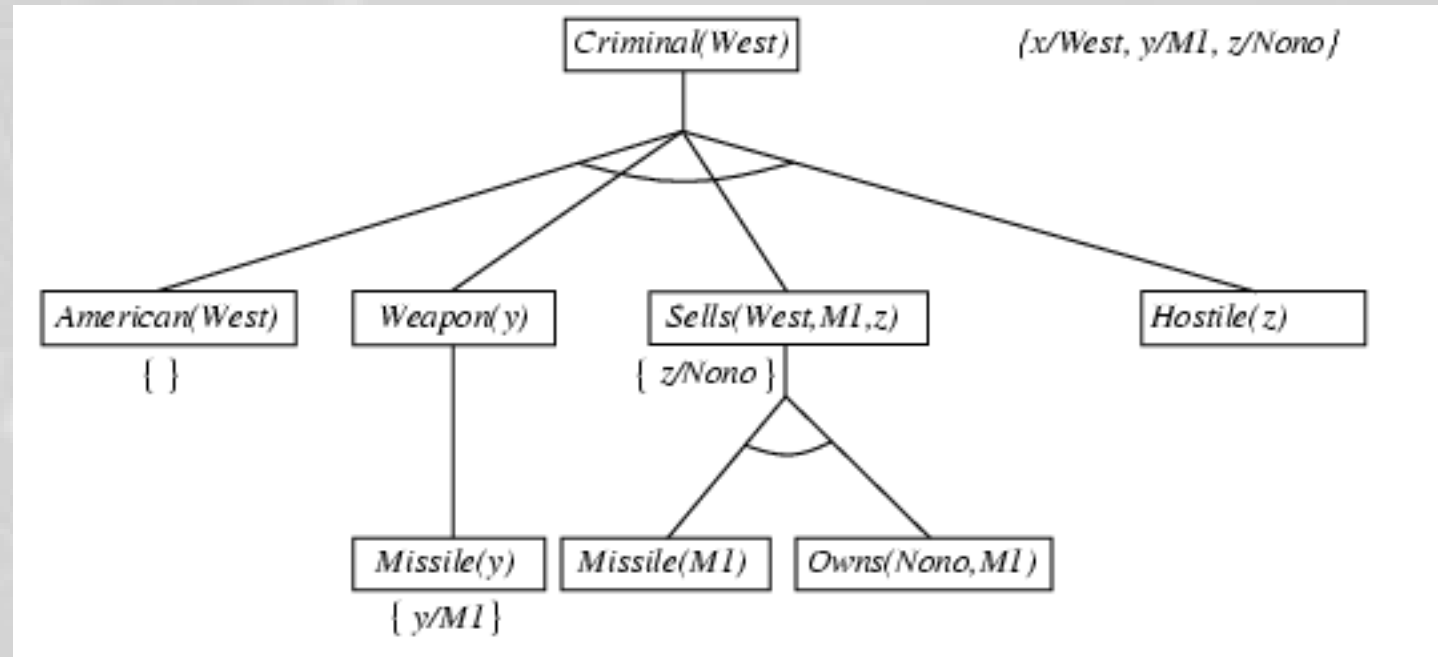
$Owns(Nono, M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

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

$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x) \quad Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

$American(West) \quad Enemy(Nono, America)$

Backward chaining example



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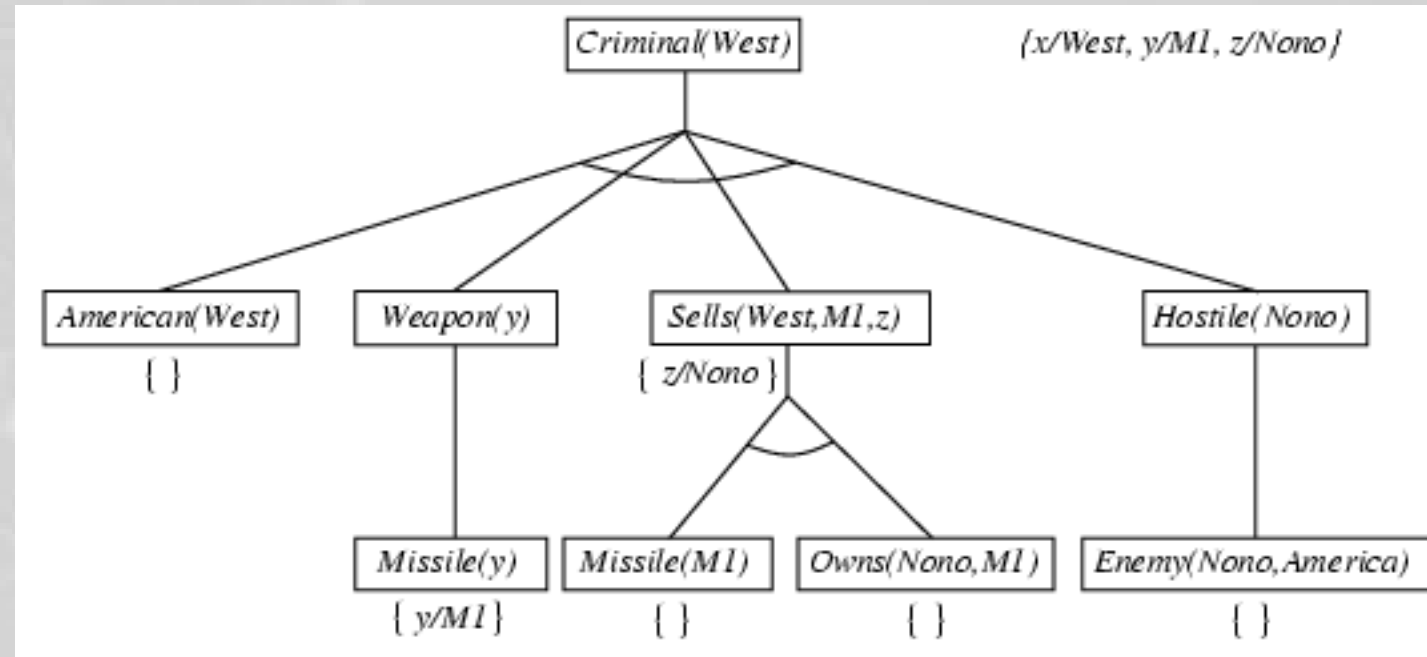
$Owns(Nono,M_1) \wedge Missile(M_1)$

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Backward chaining example



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

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$Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x) \qquad Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

$American(West) \qquad Enemy(Nono,America)$

```
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
```

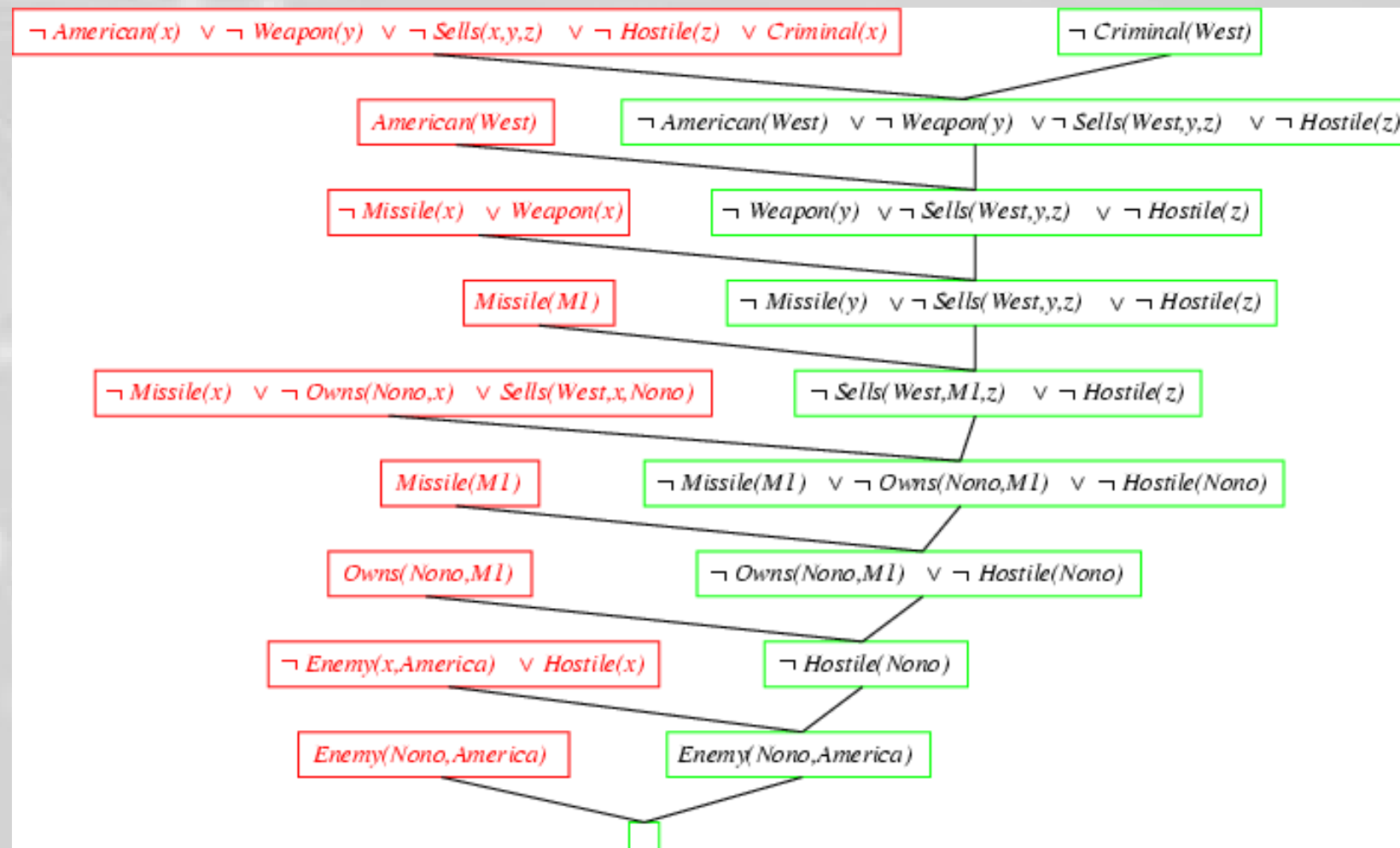
$$\frac{p_1 \vee \dots \vee p_k, \quad q_1 \vee \dots \vee q_n \quad \text{such that } \text{UNIFY}(p_i, \neg q_j) = \theta}{\text{SUBST}(\theta, p_1 \vee \dots \vee p_{i-1} \vee p_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee p_k \vee q_1 \vee \dots \vee q_{j-1} \vee q_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee q_n)}$$

- 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 $\text{CNF}(\text{KB} \wedge \neg \alpha)$; complete for FOL



- **FOL:**

$\text{King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x)$

$\text{Greedy}(y)$

$\text{King}(\text{John})$

- **Prolog:**

`evil(X) :- king(X), greedy(X).`

`greedy(Y).`

`king(john).`

- Closed-world assumption:

- Every constant refers to a unique object
- Atomic sentences not in the database are assumed to be false

- Inference by backward chaining, clauses are tried in the order in which they are listed in the program, and literals (predicates) are tried from left to right

```
parent(abraham,ishmael).  
parent(abraham,isaac).  
parent(isaac,esau).  
parent(isaac,jacob).
```

```
grandparent(X,Y) :- parent(X,Z), parent(Z,Y).  
descendant(X,Y) :- parent(Y,X).  
descendant(X,Y) :- parent(Z,X), descendant(Z,Y).
```

```
? parent(david,solomon).  
? parent(abraham,X).  
? grandparent(X,Y).  
? descendant(X,abraham).
```

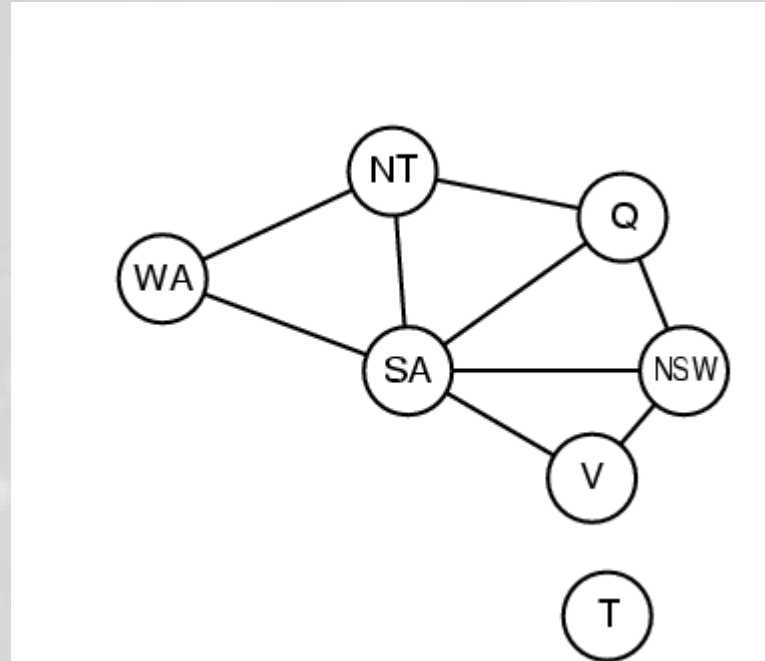
```
parent(abraham,ishmael).  
parent(abraham,isaac).  
parent(isaac,esau).  
parent(isaac,jacob).
```

- What if we wrote the definition of **descendant** like this :

```
descendant(X,Y) :- descendant(Z,Y), parent(Z,X).  
descendant(X,Y) :- parent(Y,X).
```

? descendant(w,abraham).

- Backward chaining would go into an infinite loop!
 - Prolog inference is **not complete**, so the ordering of the clauses and the literals is really important



```
colorable(Wa,Nt,Sa,Q,Nsw,V) :-  
diff(Wa,Nt), diff(Wa,Sa), diff(Nt,Q), diff(Nt,Sa), diff(Q,Nsw),  
diff(Q,Sa), diff(Nsw,V), diff(Nsw,Sa), diff(V,Sa).
```

```
diff(red,blue).    diff(red,green).    diff(green,red).  
diff(green,blue).  diff(blue,red).    diff(blue,green).
```

- 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=[]`