

# Completeness



- As explained earlier, Generalized Modus Ponens requires sentences to be in Horn form:
  - atomic, or
  - an implication with a conjunction of atomic sentences as the antecedent and an atom as the consequent.
- However, some sentences cannot be expressed in Horn form.
  - e.g.:  $\forall x \neg \text{bored\_with\_this\_lecture}(x)$
  - Cannot be expressed in Horn form due to presence of negation.

## Completeness



- A significant problem since Modus Ponens (with FC/BC) cannot automatically operate on such a sentence, and thus cannot use it in inference.
- Knowledge exists but cannot be used.
- Thus inference using Modus Ponens for ALL of first order logic is ***incomplete***.

# Completeness



- However, Kurt Gödel in 1930-31 developed the **completeness theorem**, which shows that it is possible to find **complete** inference rules for First Order Logic.
  - The theorem states:
    - any sentence entailed by a set of sentences can be proven from that set.
- => **Resolution Algorithm** which is a complete inference method.

# Completeness



- The completeness theorem says that a sentence can be proved *if* it is entailed by another set of sentences.
- This is a big deal, since arbitrarily deeply nested functions combined with universal quantification make a potentially infinite search space.
- But entailment in first-order logic is only **semi-decidable**, meaning that if a sentence is not entailed by another set of sentences, it cannot necessarily be proven that it is not entailed.

## Completeness in FOL

Procedure  $i$  is complete if and only if

$$KB \vdash_i \alpha \quad \text{whenever} \quad KB \models \alpha$$

Forward and backward chaining are complete for Horn KBs  
but incomplete for general first-order logic

E.g., from

$$PhD(x) \Rightarrow HighlyQualified(x)$$

$$\neg PhD(x) \Rightarrow EarlyEarnings(x)$$

$$HighlyQualified(x) \Rightarrow Rich(x)$$

$$EarlyEarnings(x) \Rightarrow Rich(x)$$

should be able to infer  $Rich(Me)$ , but FC/BC won't do it

Does a complete algorithm exist?

## Historical note



450B.C.	Stoics	propositional logic, inference (maybe)
322B.C.	Aristotle	“syllogisms” (inference rules), quantifiers
15 <del>6</del> 5	Cardano	probability theory (propositional logic + uncertainty)
1847	Boole	propositional logic (again)
1879	Frege	first-order logic
1922	Wittgenstein	proof by truth tables
1930	Gödel	$\exists$ complete algorithm for FOL
1930	Herbrand	complete algorithm for FOL (reduce to propositional)
1931	Gödel	$\neg\exists$ complete algorithm for arithmetic
19 <del>6</del> 0	Davis/Putnam	“practical” algorithm for propositional logic
19 <del>6</del> 5	Robinson	“practical” algorithm for FOL—resolution

## Refutation Proof/Graph



$$\begin{array}{ccc} \neg \text{parent}(\text{art}, \text{jon}) & & \neg \text{father}(X, Y) \vee \text{parent}(X, Y) \\ \backslash & & / \\ \neg \text{father}(\text{art}, \text{jon}) & & \text{father}(\text{art}, \text{jon}) \\ \backslash & & / \\ & & \square \end{array}$$

# Resolution

Entailment in first-order logic is only semidecidable:

can find a proof of  $\alpha$  if  $KB \models \alpha$

cannot always prove that  $KB \not\models \alpha$

Cf. Halting Problem: proof procedure may be about to terminate with success or failure, or may go on for ever

Resolution is a refutation procedure:

to prove  $KB \models \alpha$ , show that  $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$  is unsatisfiable

Resolution uses  $KB, \neg\alpha$  in CNF (conjunction of clauses)

Resolution inference rule combines two clauses to make a new one:



Inference continues until an empty clause is derived (contradiction)



# Resolution inference rule

Basic propositional version:

$$\frac{\alpha \vee \beta, \neg\beta \vee \gamma}{\alpha \vee \gamma} \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \frac{\neg\alpha \Rightarrow \beta, \beta \Rightarrow \gamma}{\neg\alpha \Rightarrow \gamma}$$

Full first-order version:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} p_1 \vee \dots \vee p_j \vee \dots \vee p_m, \\ q_1 \vee \dots \vee q_k \vee \dots \vee q_n \end{array}}{(p_1 \vee \dots \vee p_{j-1} \vee p_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee p_m \vee q_1 \vee \dots \vee q_{k-1} \vee q_{k+1} \vee \dots \vee q_n)\sigma}$$

where  $p_j\sigma = \neg q_k\sigma$

For example,

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg Rich(x) \vee Unhappy(x) \\ Rich(Me) \end{array}}{Unhappy(Me)}$$

with  $\sigma = \{x/Me\}$

## Remember: normal forms

Other approaches to inference use syntactic operations on sentences, often expressed in standardized forms

Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF—universal)  
*conjunction of disjunctions of literals*  
*clauses*

“product of sums of simple variables or negated simple variables”

E.g.,  $(A \vee \neg B) \wedge (B \vee \neg C \vee \neg D)$

Disjunctive Normal Form (DNF—universal)  
*disjunction of conjunctions of literals*  
*terms*

“sum of products of simple variables or negated simple variables”

E.g.,  $(A \wedge B) \vee (A \wedge \neg C) \vee (A \wedge \neg D) \vee (\neg B \wedge \neg C) \vee (\neg B \wedge \neg D)$

Horn Form (restricted)

*conjunction of Horn clauses (clauses with  $\leq 1$  positive literal)*

E.g.,  $(A \vee \neg B) \wedge (B \vee \neg C \vee \neg D)$

Often written as set of implications:

$B \Rightarrow A$  and  $(C \wedge D) \Rightarrow B$

# Conjunctive normal form

Literal = (possibly negated) atomic sentence, e.g.,  $\neg Rich(Me)$

Clause = disjunction of literals, e.g.,  $\neg Rich(Me) \vee Unhappy(Me)$

The KB is a conjunction of clauses

Any FOL KB can be converted to CNF as follows:

1. Replace  $P \Rightarrow Q$  by  $\neg P \vee Q$
2. Move  $\neg$  inwards, e.g.,  $\neg \forall x P$  becomes  $\exists x \neg P$
3. Standardize variables apart, e.g.,  $\forall x P \vee \exists x Q$  becomes  $\forall x P \vee \exists y Q$
4. Move quantifiers left in order, e.g.,  $\forall x P \vee \exists x Q$  becomes  $\forall x \exists y P \vee Q$
5. Eliminate  $\exists$  by Skolemization (next slide)
6. Drop universal quantifiers
7. Distribute  $\wedge$  over  $\vee$ , e.g.,  $(P \wedge Q) \vee R$  becomes  $(P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R)$
8. Separate into different clauses that contain ONLY disjunction
9. Standardize variables so that each clause uses different variables

## Converting to clausal form

- The canonical (standard) form for resolution is **Conjunctive Normal Form** (conjunction of disjunctions), or equivalently, **Implicative Normal Form** (conjunction implies disjunction)
- Once you have the CNF, conversion to INF is relatively easy
- For example, say the CNF sentence is:
  - $\neg A(x) \vee \neg B(y) \vee C(y) \vee D(y,z)$
- Implicative Normal Form: Uses only positive literals
  - Group all the negative literals into the left side of the implication
  - $A(x) \wedge B(y) \rightarrow C(y) \vee D(y,z)$

# Converting sentences to clausal form

## 1. Eliminate all $\leftrightarrow$ connectives

$(P \leftrightarrow Q)$  rewritten as  $((P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P))$

## 2. Eliminate all $\rightarrow$ connectives

$(P \rightarrow Q)$  rewritten as  $(\sim P \vee Q)$

## 3. Reduce the scope of each negation symbol to a single predicate

$\sim\sim P$  rewritten as  $P$

$\sim(P \vee Q)$  rewritten as  $\sim P \wedge \sim Q$

$\sim(P \wedge Q)$  rewritten as  $\sim P \vee \sim Q$

$\sim(\forall x)P$  rewritten as  $(\exists x)\sim P$

$\sim(\exists x)P$  rewritten as  $(\forall x)\sim P$

## 4. Standardize variables: rename all variables so that each quantifier has its own unique variable name

## Skolemization Step 5 – Complicated by Quantifiers

$\exists x \text{ Rich}(x)$  becomes  $\text{Rich}(G1)$  where  $G1$  is a new “Skolem constant”

$\exists k \frac{d}{dy}(k^y) = k^y$  becomes  $\frac{d}{dy}(e^y) = e^y$

More tricky when  $\exists$  is inside  $\forall$

E.g., “Everyone has a heart”

$$\forall x \text{ Person}(x) \Rightarrow \exists y \text{ Heart}(y) \wedge \text{Has}(x, y)$$

Incorrect:

$$\forall x \text{ Person}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Heart}(H1) \wedge \text{Has}(x, H1)$$

Correct:

$$\forall x \text{ Person}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Heart}(H(x)) \wedge \text{Has}(x, H(x))$$

where  $H$  is a new symbol (“Skolem function”)

Skolem function arguments: all enclosing universally quantified variables

## Final Steps of Converting sentences to clausal form

6. Remove universal quantifiers by (1) moving them all to the left end; (2) making the scope of each the entire sentence; and (3) dropping the “prefix” part

Ex:  $(\forall x)P(x) \implies P(x)$

7. Put into conjunctive normal form (conjunction of disjunctions)

$$(P \wedge Q) \vee R \implies (P \vee R) \wedge (Q \vee R)$$

$$(P \vee Q) \vee R \implies (P \vee Q \vee R)$$

8. Split conjuncts into a separate clauses
9. Standardize variables so each clause contains only variable names that do not occur in any other clause



**EXAMPLE: Convert the following FOL sentence to CNF by applying the 9 steps discussed earlier**

$$(\forall x) [ P(x) \rightarrow \{ (\forall y)(P(y) \rightarrow P(f(x,y))) \wedge \neg(\forall y)(Q(x,y) \rightarrow P(y)) \} ]$$



## Examples: Converting FOL sentences to clause form...

Convert the sentence

1.  $(\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow ((\forall y)(P(y) \rightarrow P(f(x,y))) \wedge \neg(\forall y)(Q(x,y) \rightarrow P(y))))$   
(like  $A \Rightarrow B \wedge C$ )

2. Eliminate  $\Rightarrow$   $(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee ((\forall y)(\neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))) \wedge \neg(\forall y)(\neg Q(x,y) \vee P(y))))$

3. Reduce scope of negation  
 $(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee ((\forall y)(\neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))) \wedge (\exists y)(Q(x,y) \wedge \neg P(y))))$

4. Standardize variables apart  
 $(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee ((\forall y)(\neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))) \wedge (\exists z)(Q(x,z) \wedge \neg P(z))))$

## Examples: Converting FOL sentences to clause form...

5. Eliminate existential quantification – Skolem function  $g$  introduced:

$$(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee ((\forall y)(\neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))) \wedge (Q(x,g(x)) \wedge \neg P(g(x)))))$$

6. Drop universal quantification symbols

$$(\neg P(x) \vee ((\neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))) \wedge (Q(x,g(x)) \wedge \neg P(g(x)))))$$

7. Convert to conjunction of disjunctions

$$(\neg P(x) \vee \neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))) \wedge (\neg P(x) \vee Q(x,g(x))) \wedge (\neg P(x) \vee \neg P(g(x)))$$

## Examples: Converting FOL sentences to clause form...

8. Create separate clauses containing only disjunctions

$$\neg P(x) \vee \neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))$$

$$\neg P(x) \vee Q(x,g(x))$$

$$\neg P(x) \vee \neg P(g(x))$$

9. Standardize variables so that each clause uses different variables

$$\neg P(x) \vee \neg P(y) \vee P(f(x,y))$$

$$\neg P(z) \vee Q(z,g(z))$$

$$\neg P(w) \vee \neg P(g(w))$$

## Resolution proof



To prove  $\alpha$ :

- negate it
- convert to CNF
- add to CNF KB
- infer contradiction

E.g., to prove  $Rich(me)$ , add  $\neg Rich(me)$  to the CNF KB

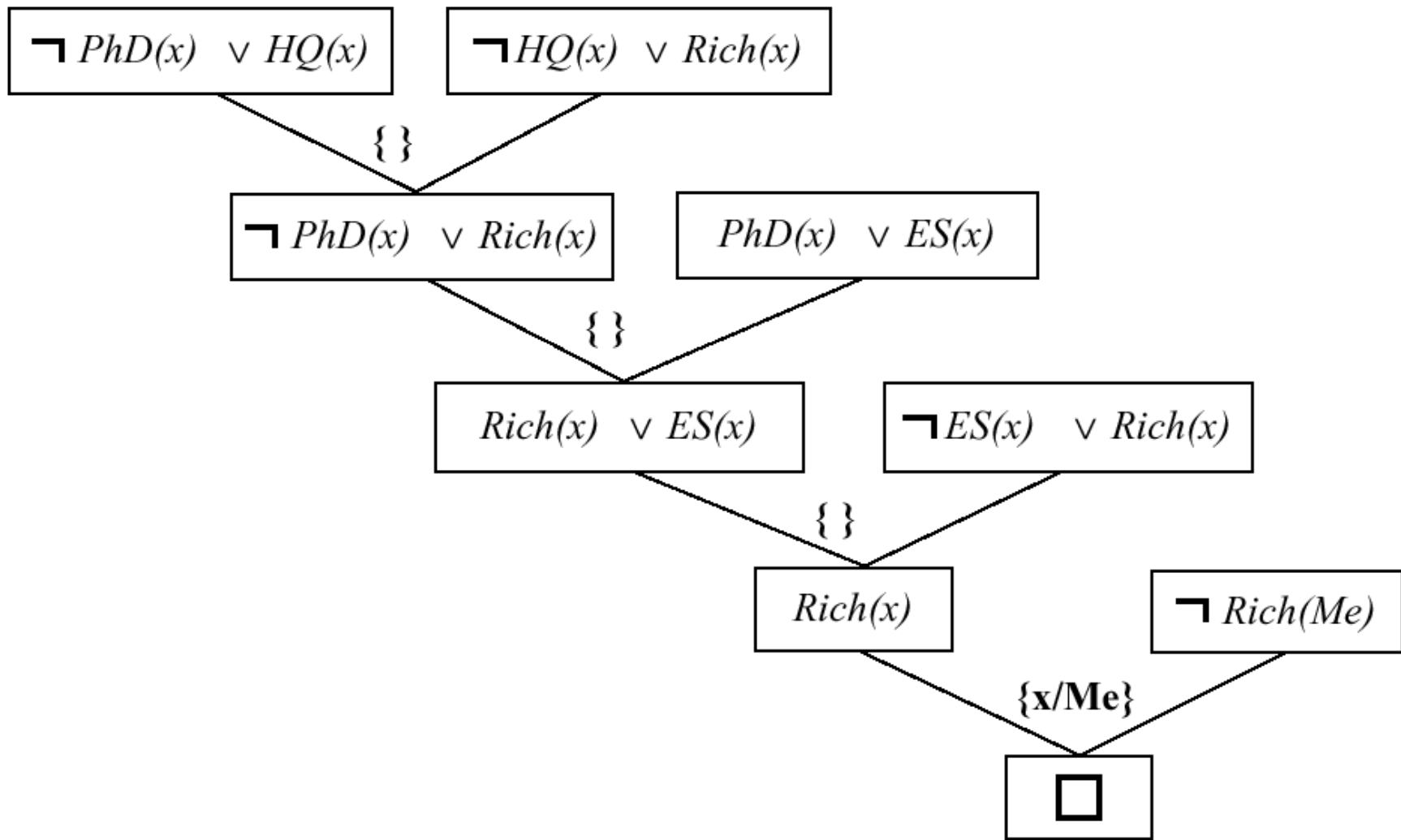
$\neg PhD(x) \vee HighlyQualified(x)$

$PhD(x) \vee EarlyEarnings(x)$

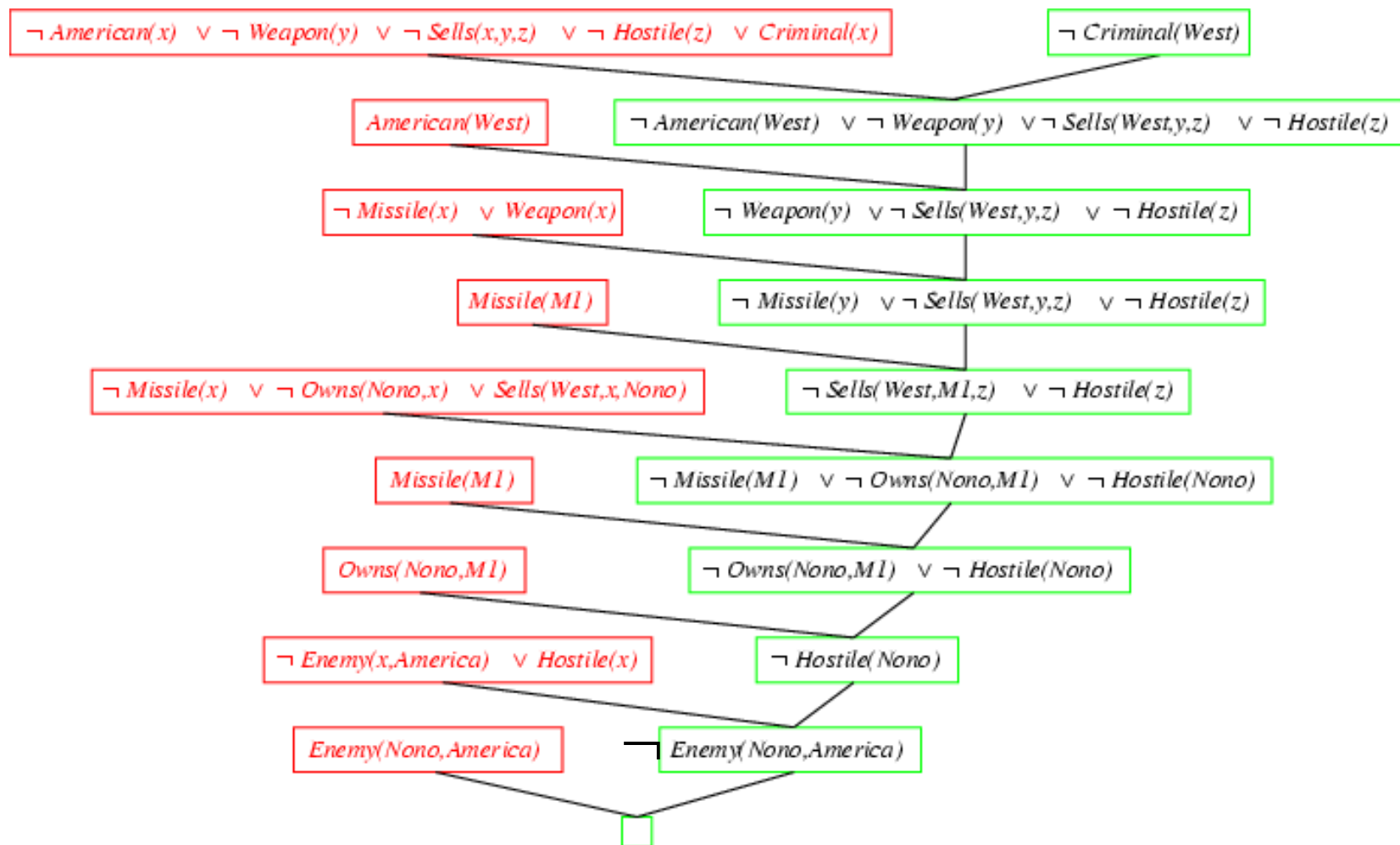
$\neg HighlyQualified(x) \vee Rich(x)$

$\neg EarlyEarnings(x) \vee Rich(x)$

# Resolution proof



# Resolution proof: definite clauses



# Inference in First-Order Logic

- Canonical forms for resolution

Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)

$$\neg P(w) \vee Q(w)$$

$$P(x) \vee R(x)$$

$$\neg Q(y) \vee S(y)$$

$$\neg R(z) \vee S(z)$$

Implicative Normal Form (INF)

$$P(w) \Rightarrow Q(w)$$

$$True \Rightarrow P(x) \vee R(x)$$

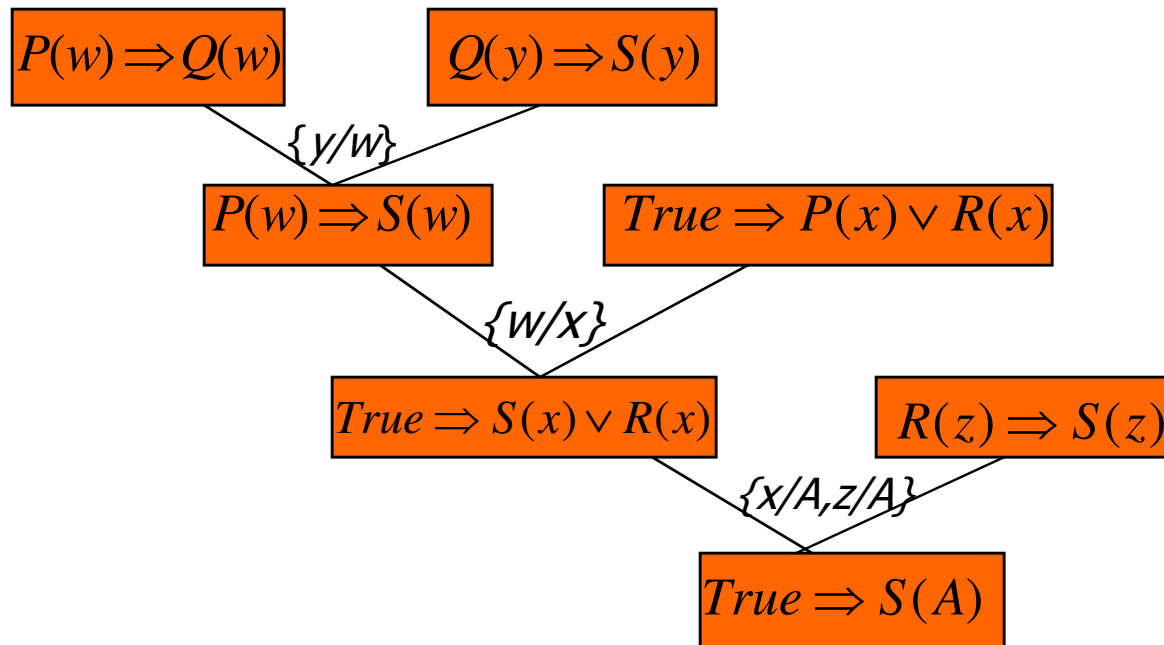
$$Q(y) \Rightarrow S(y)$$

$$R(z) \Rightarrow S(z)$$

# Inference in First-Order Logic

- Resolution Proofs

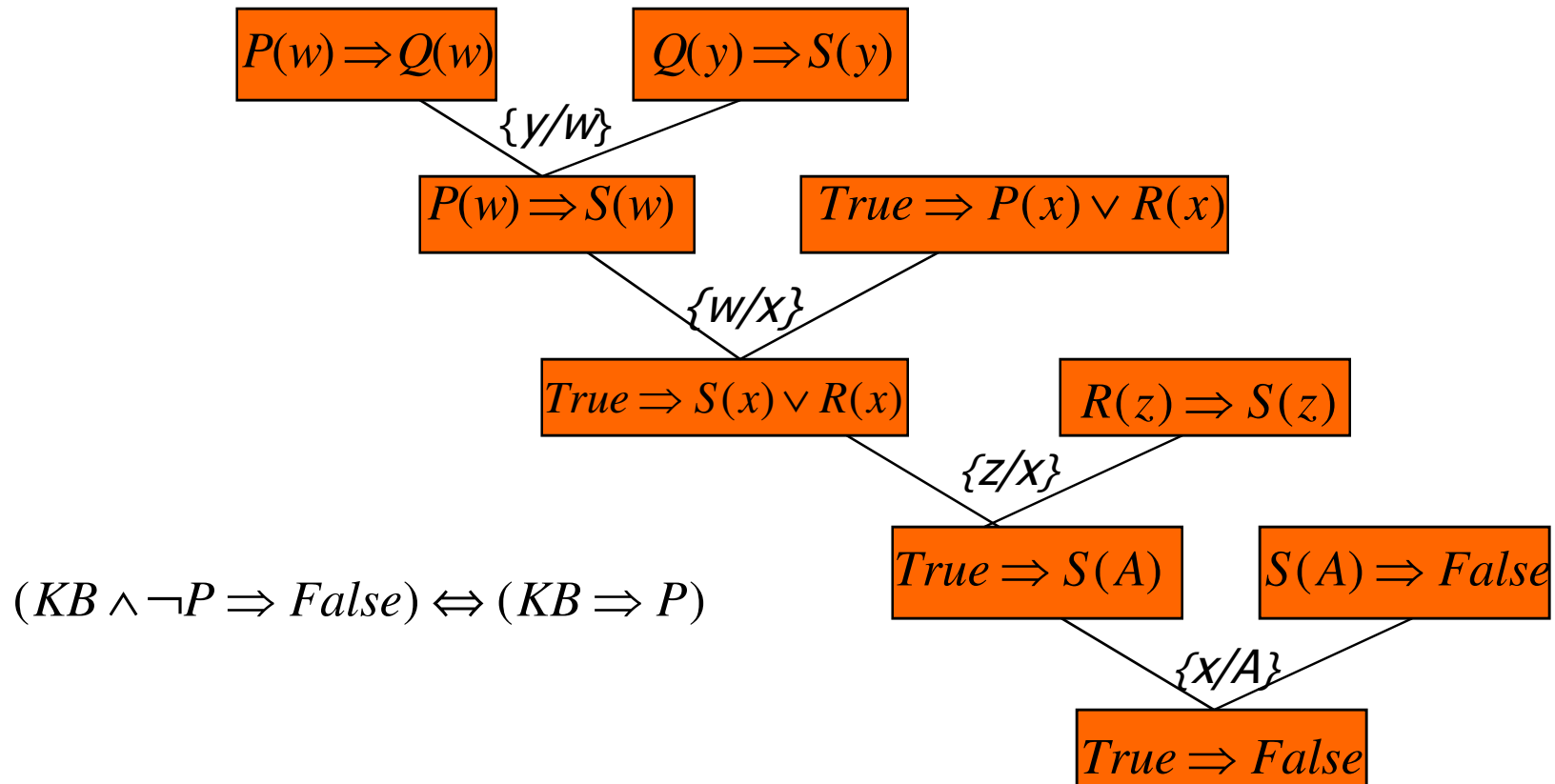
In a forward- or backward-chaining algorithm, just as Modus Ponens.





# Inference in First-Order Logic

- Refutation



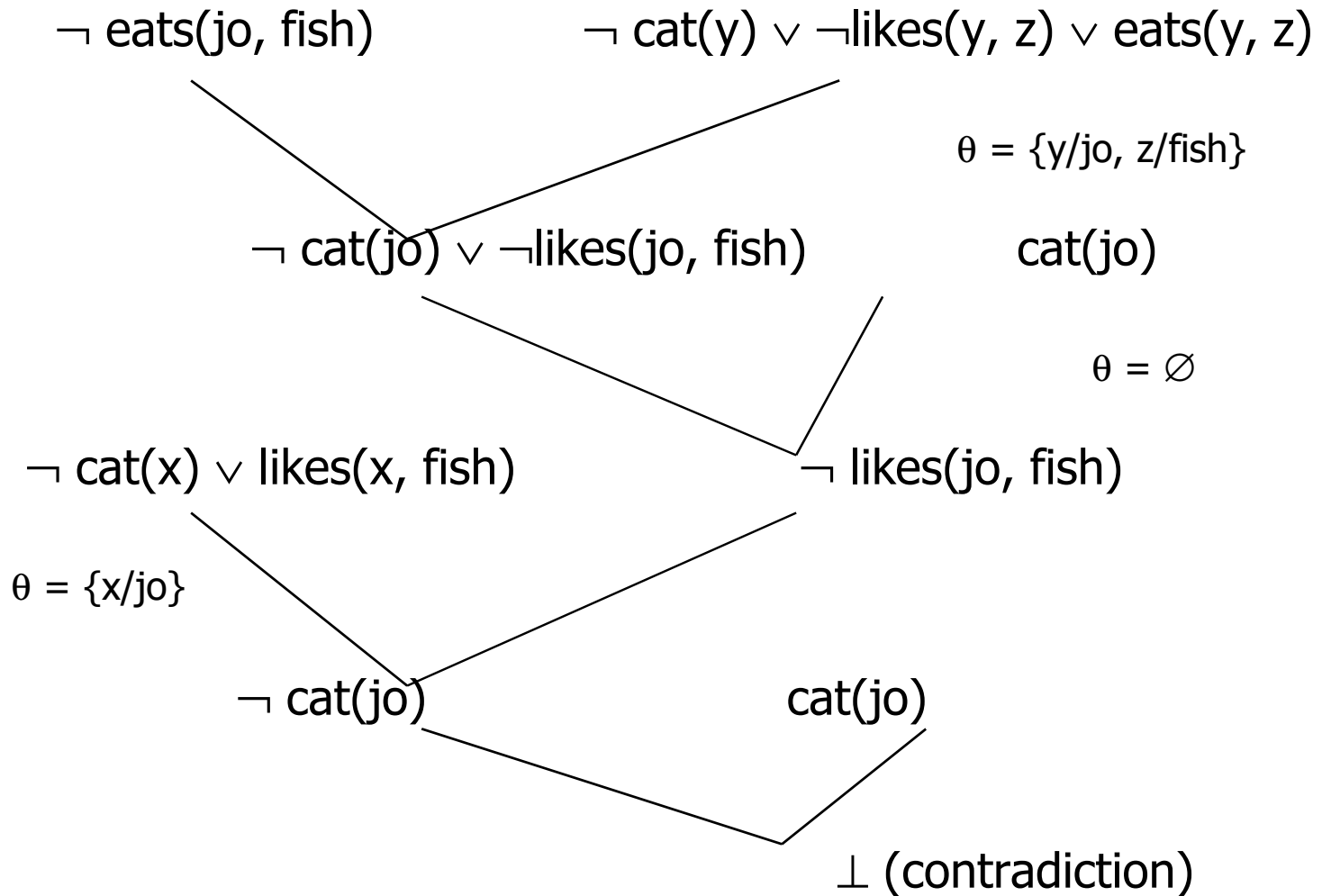
## Example of Refutation Proof (in conjunctive normal form)




- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| (1) Cats like fish                | $\neg \text{cat}(x) \vee \text{likes}(x, \text{fish})$                   |
| (2) Cats eat everything they like | $\neg \text{cat}(y) \vee \neg \text{likes}(y, z) \vee \text{eats}(y, z)$ |
| (3) Josephine is a cat.           | $\text{cat}(\text{jo})$  |
| (4) Prove: Josephine eats fish.   | $\text{eats}(\text{jo}, \text{fish})$                                    |

# Backward Chaining

Negation of goal wff:  $\neg \text{eats}(\text{jo}, \text{fish})$



# Forward chaining


$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{cat (jo)} & \neg \text{cat (X)} \vee \text{likes (X, fish)} \\ \backslash & / \\ \text{likes (jo, fish)} & \neg \text{cat (Y)} \vee \neg \text{likes (Y, Z)} \vee \text{eats (Y, Z)} \\ & \backslash \quad / \\ & \neg \text{cat (jo)} \vee \text{eats (jo, fish)} \quad \text{cat (jo)} \\ & \quad \backslash \quad / \\ & \quad \text{eats (jo, fish)} \quad \neg \text{eats (jo, fish)} \\ & \quad \quad \backslash \quad / \\ & \quad \quad \quad [] \end{array}$$

## Question:



- When would you use forward chaining? What about backward chaining?
- A:
  - FC: If expert needs to gather information before any inferencing
  - BC: If expert has a hypothetical solution