



## Introduction

- ☐ Knowledge-based agents (Previous lecture)
  - Represent knowledge about the world
  - Deduce the actions to take
- ☐ Representing knowledge using logic (Previous lecture)
  - Propositional logic (PL)
  - First-order logic (FOL)
- ☐ Inference in first-order logic (This lecture)
  - Propositionalization
  - Forward chaining
  - Backward chaining
  - Resolution inference

# Knowledge in First-Order Logic: Colonel West Problem

#### **Colonel West Problem**

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 Colonel West is a criminal.

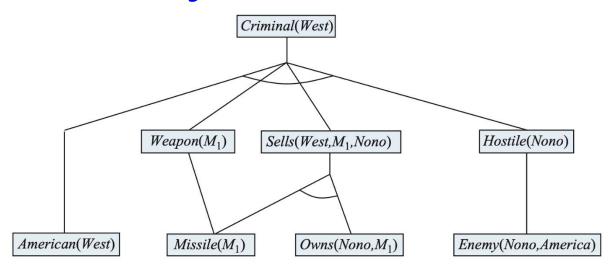
### First-order logic description of the problem

```
American(x) \land Weapon(y) \land Sells(x,y,z) \land Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)
Owns(Nono, M1)
Missile(M1)
Missile(x) \land Owns(Nono, x) \Rightarrow Sells(West, x, Nono)
Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)
Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)
American(West)
```

## **Inference in FOL: Proof Tree**

- ➤ How can answer any answerable first-order logic question?
- > There are four major ways to make inferences in FOL.
  - Propositionalization
  - Forward chaining
  - Backward chaining
  - Resolution inference

### **Proving if Colonel West is a criminal**



출처: Stuart J. Russell and Peter Norvig (2021). Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach (4rd Edition). Pearson

# Outline (Lecture 6)

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Stuart Russell & Peter Norvig (2021), Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach (4th Edition)



# 6.1 Propositional vs. First-Order Inference (1/5)

### Inference rules

- > Modus Ponens

whenever any sentences of the form  $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$  and  $\alpha$  are given, then the sentence  $\beta$  can be inferred.

- > And-Elimination
  - $\blacksquare \quad \frac{\alpha \wedge \beta}{\alpha}$
- > Resolution

$$\bullet \quad (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_j, \dots, \alpha_n), \quad (\alpha_1, \dots, \neg \alpha_j, \dots, \alpha_n) \; \vDash \; (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

- **➤** Universal instantiation (UI)
- > Existential instantiation (EI)

new for FOL

**Both for PL & FOL** 

# 6.1 Propositional vs. First-Order Inference (2/5)

## Inference rules for quantifiers

 $\forall x \; Smart(x)$ 

## 1) Universal instantiation (UI)

- We can infer any sentence  $\alpha$  obtained by substituting a ground term g for the variable  $\nu$ :  $\frac{\forall v \alpha}{Subst(\{v/g\}, \alpha)}$
- $\forall x \ King(x) \land Greedy(x) \Rightarrow Evil(x)$   $King(John) \land Greedy(John) \Rightarrow Evil(John)$ yields  $King(Richard) \land Greedy(Richard) \Rightarrow Evil(Richard)$   $King(Father(John)) \land Greedy(Father(John)) \Rightarrow Evil(Father(John))$

# 6.1 Propositional vs. First-Order Inference (3/5)

## 2) Existential instantiation (EI)

 $\triangleright$  The variable v in the sentence  $\alpha$  is replaced by a single new constant symbol k:

$$\frac{\exists v \alpha}{Subst(\{v/k\}, \alpha)}$$
 
$$\exists x \ Smart(x)$$

> From the sentence

$$\exists x \ Crown(x) \land OnHead(x, John)$$

we can infer the sentence

$$Crown(C_1) \land OnHead(C_1, John)$$

provided  $C_1$  is a new constant symbol, called a Skolem constant.

Inferentially equivalent (but not logically equivalent) in the sense that it is satisfiable exactly when the original KB is satisfiable.

# 6.1 Propositional vs. First-Order Inference (4/5)

## **Reduction to Propositional Inference**

> Suppose the KB contains just the following

```
\forall x \, King(x) \land Greedy(x) \Longrightarrow Evil(x)
King(John)
Greedy(John)
Brother(Richard, John)
```

Instantiating the universal sentence in all possible ways,  $\{x/John\}$  and  $\{x/Richard\}$ , we have

```
King(John) \land Greedy(John) \Rightarrow Evil(John)

King(Richard) \land Greedy(Richard) \Rightarrow Evil(Richard)
```

➤ The new KB is propositionalized:

King(John), Greedy(John), Evil(John), King(Richard), etc.

# 6.1 Propositional vs. First-Order Inference (5/5)

## **Technique of Propositionalization**

- First-order inference via propositionalization is complete—that is, any entailed sentence can be proved.
- ➤ What happens when the sentence is not entailed? We cannot tell.
- The question of entailment for first-order logic is semidecidable—that is, algorithms exist that say yes to every entailed sentence, but no algorithm exists that also says no to every non-entailed sentence.
- > Cf. The halting problem for Turing machines.



# 6.2 Unification and Lifting (1/4)

### **Motivating Example**

```
\forall x \, King(x) \land Greedy(x) \Longrightarrow Evil(x)
King(John)
\forall y \, Greedy(y)
```

> Propositionalization approach may generate

```
King(Richard) \land Greedy(Richard) \Longrightarrow Evil(Richard)
```

which does not match the KB and, thus, useless for proving *Evil(John)*.

- We can get the inference immediately if we can find a substitution  $\theta$  such that King(x) and Greedy(x) match King(John) and Greedy(John)
- $\triangleright \theta = \{x/John, y/John\}$  works

# 6.2 Unification and Lifting (2/4)

### Unification

- $ightharpoonup Unify(p,q) = \theta$  where  $p\theta = q\theta$  ( $\theta$ : most general unifier (MGU))
- ➤ Lifted inference rules require finding substitutions that make different logical expressions look identical. This process is called unification.

p	q	heta
Knows(John, x)	Knows(John, Jane)	$\{x/Jane\}$
Knows(John, x)	Knows(y, Bill)	$\{x / OJ, y / Jane \}$
Knows(John, x)	Knows(y, Mother(y))	$\{y \mid Jone, x \mid Mother(John)\}$
Knows(John, x)	Knows(x, Elizabeth)	fail

# 6.2 Unification and Lifting (3/4)

### **Generalized Modus Ponens (GMP)**

$$\frac{p_1', p_2', \dots, p_n', (p_1 \land p_2 \land \dots \land p_n \Rightarrow q)}{Subst(\theta, q)}$$

```
King(John)

\forall y \ Greedy(y)

\forall x \ King(x) \land Greedy(x) \Longrightarrow Evil(x)
```

where  $Subst(\theta, p_i') = Subst(\theta, p_i)$  or  $p_i'\theta = p_i\theta$  for  $\forall i$ .

```
p_1' is King(John) p_1 is King(x)

p_2' is Greedy(y) p_2 is Greedy(x)

\theta is \{x/John, y/John\} q is Evil(x)

Subst(\theta, q) = q\theta is Evil(John)
```

GMP is a lifted version of MP. It raises MP from ground (variable-free) propositional logic to first-order logic.

# 6.2 Unification and Lifting (4/4)

### **Soundness of GMP**

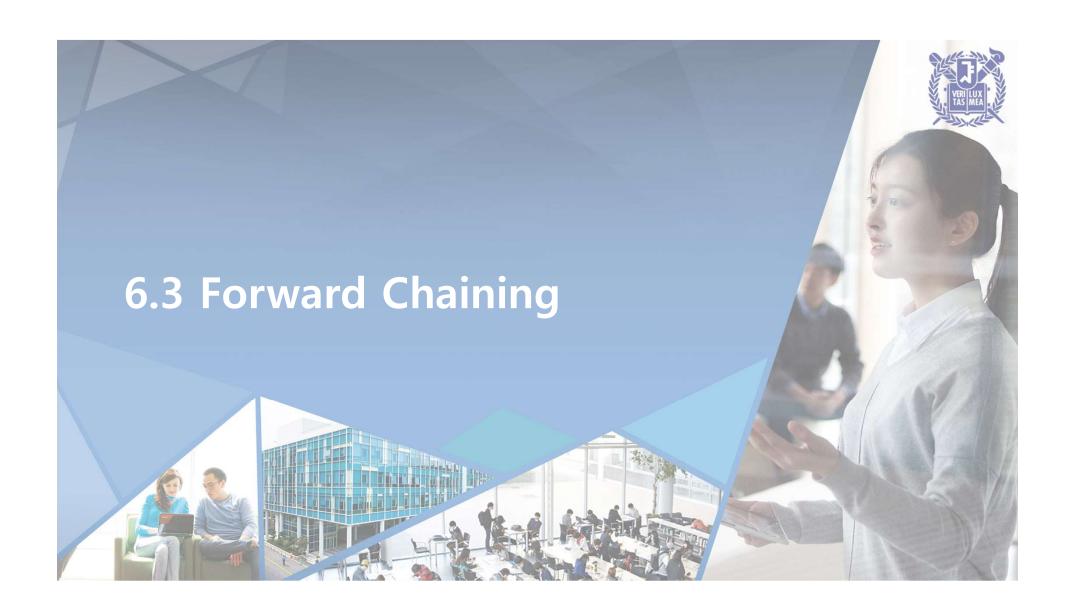
$$p \vDash p\theta$$
 by UI 
$$p\theta = Subst(\theta, p)$$
 
$$p'_1, ..., p'_n \vDash p'_1\theta, ..., p'_n\theta$$
 
$$p_1 \land ... \land p_n \Rightarrow q \vDash p_1\theta \land ... \land p_n\theta \Rightarrow q\theta$$

Now  $\theta$  in GMP is defined as  $p'_i\theta = p_i\theta$  for  $\forall i$ .

Thus, we have

$$p'_1, \ldots, p'_n, (p_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q) \vDash q\theta$$

provided that  $p'_i\theta = p_i\theta$  for  $\forall i$ 



# 6.3 Forward Chaining (1/6)

Inference methods for direct manipulation of FOL (unlike propositionalization)

### **Example: Colonel West Problem**

American(West)

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 Colonel West is a criminal.

```
American(x) \land Weapon(y) \land Sells(x,y,z) \land Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)
Owns(Nono, M1)
Missile(M1)
Missile(x) \land Owns(Nono, x) \Rightarrow Sells(West, x, Nono)
Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)
Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)
Datalog: First-order definite clauses clauses with no function symbols
```

# 6.3 Forward Chaining (2/6)

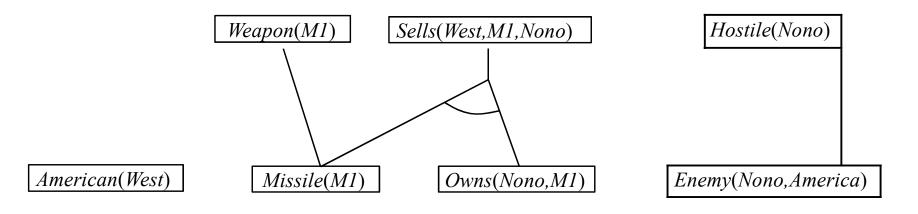
American(West)

Missile(M1)

Owns(Nono,M1)

Enemy(Nono,America)

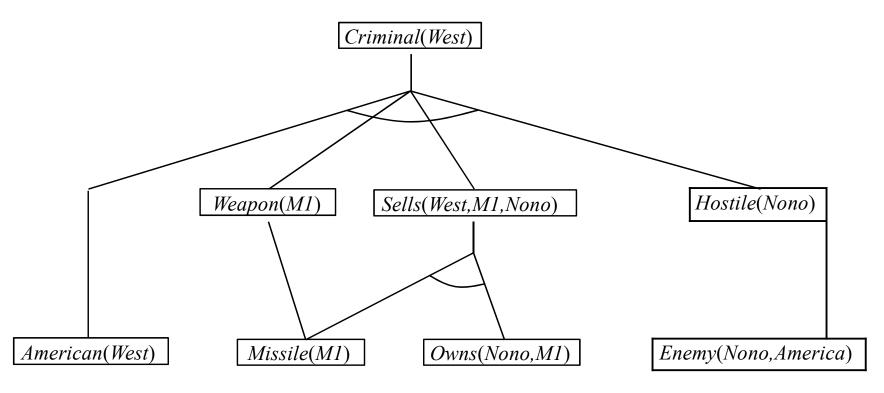
# 6.3 Forward Chaining (3/6)



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# 6.3 Forward Chaining (4/6)



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출처: Stuart J. Russell and Peter Norvig (2021). Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach (4rd Edition). Pearson

# 6.3 Forward Chaining (5/6)

### Forward chaining algorithm

```
function FOL-FC-ASK(KB, \alpha) returns a substitution or false
   inputs: KB, the knowledge base, a set of first-order definite clauses
            \alpha, the query, an atomic sentence
   while true do
       new \leftarrow \{\}
                          // The set of new sentences inferred on each iteration
       for each rule in KB do
            (p_1 \wedge ... \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q) \leftarrow \text{STANDARDIZE-VARIABLES}(rule)
            for each \theta such that SUBST(\theta, p_1 \land ... \land p_n) = \text{SUBST}(\theta, p_1' \land ... \land p_n')
                         for some p'_1, \ldots, p'_n in KB
                q' \leftarrow \text{SUBST}(\theta, q)
                if q' does not unify with some sentence already in KB or new then
                     add q' to new
                     \phi \leftarrow \text{UNIFY}(q', \alpha)
                     if \phi is not failure then return \phi
       if new = \{\} then return false
       add new to KB
```

# 6.3 Forward Chaining (6/6)

## **Properties of forward chaining**

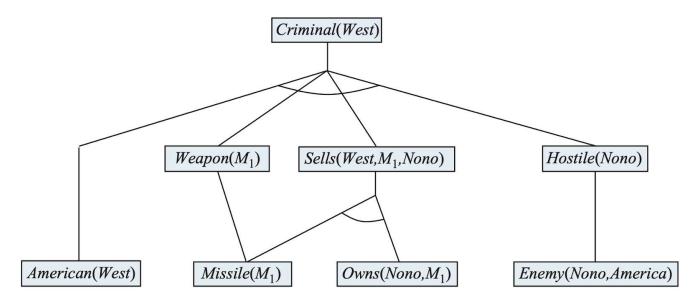
- > Sound and complete for first-order definite clauses
  - Proof similar to propositional proof
- > Datalog = first-order definite clauses + no functions (e.g., crime KB)
- > FC terminates for Datalog in polynomial number of iterations
- $\triangleright$  May not terminate in general if  $\alpha$  is not entailed
- > This is unavoidable: entailment with definite clauses is semidecidable
- Forward chaining is widely used in deductive databases



# 6.4 Backward Chaining (1/4)

### The proof tree generated by forward chaining on the crime example.

The initial facts appear at the bottom level, facts inferred on the first iteration in the middle level, and facts inferred on the second iteration at the top level.



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# 6.4 Backward Chaining (2/4)

#### A simple backward-chaining algorithm for first-order knowledge bases

```
function FOL-BC-ASK(KB, query) returns a generator of substitutions return FOL-BC-OR(KB, query, \{\})

function FOL-BC-OR(KB, goal, \theta) returns a substitution for each rule in FETCH-RULES-FOR-GOAL(KB, goal) do

(lhs \Rightarrow rhs) \leftarrow \text{STANDARDIZE-VARIABLES}(rule)

for each \theta' in FOL-BC-AND(KB, lhs, UNIFY(rhs, goal, \theta)) do

yield \theta'

function FOL-BC-AND(KB, goals, \theta) returns a substitution

if \theta = failure then return

else if LENGTH(goals) = 0 then yield \theta

else

first, rest \leftarrow \text{FIRST}(goals), REST(goals)

for each \theta' in FOL-BC-OR(KB, SUBST(\theta, first), \theta) do

for each \theta'' in FOL-BC-AND(KB, rest, \theta') do

yield \theta''
```

# 6.4 Backward Chaining (3/4)

## **Properties of backward chaining**

- > 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

# 6.4 Backward Chaining (4/4)

## **Logic programming (PROLOG)**

- ➤ Algorithm = Logic + Control
- > Prolog program = sets of definite clauses

```
criminal(X) :- american(X), weapon(Y), sells(X, Y, Z), hostile(Z) \\ append([], Y, Y). \\ append([A|X], Y, [A|Z]) :- append(X, Y, Z)
```

```
append(X, Y, [1,2])

\rightarrow

X=[]  Y=[1,2];

X=[1]  Y=[2];

X=[1,2]  Y=[]
```

- > Prolog uses database semantics, i.e. closed-world assumption and negation as failure
- > Depth-first backward-chaining search



# 6.5 Resolution (1/4)

### **Resolution in full first-order**

```
A_1 \vee ... \vee A_k, m_1 \vee ... \vee m_n
       (A_1 \lor ... \lor A_{i-1} \lor A_{i+1} \lor ... \lor A_{k} \lor m_1 \lor ... \lor m_{j-1} \lor m_{j+1} \lor ... \lor m_n)\theta
        where Unify(Ai, \neg m_i) = \theta.
For example,
             \neg Rich(x) \lor
 Unhappy(x)
 Rich(Ken)
        Unhappy(Ken)
       with \theta = \{x/Ken\}
```

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A 1 1 1 1 1 A CAMP (ID A ) 1 A C TOT

## 6.5 Resolution (2/4)

#### **Conversion to CNF**

Everyone who loves all animals is loved by someone:

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

1. Eliminate biconditionals and implications

$$\forall x \ [\neg \forall y \ \neg Animal(y) \lor Loves(x, y) \ ] \lor [\exists y \ Loves(y, x)]$$

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

$$\forall x \quad [\exists y \quad \neg(\neg Animal(y) \lor \neg Loves(x, y))] \lor [\exists y \ Loves(y, x)]$$

$$\forall x \quad [\exists y \quad \neg \neg Animal(y) \lor \neg Loves(x, y)] \lor [\exists y \ Loves(y, x)]$$

$$\forall x \quad [\exists y \quad Animal(y) \lor \neg Loves(x, y)] \lor [\exists y \ Loves(y, x)]$$

## 6.5 Resolution (3/4)

### **Conversion to CNF (contd.)**

- 3. Standardize variables: each quantifier should use a different one
  - $\forall x \ [\exists y \ Animal(y) \land \neg Loves(x, y)] \lor [\exists z \ Loves(z, x)]$
- 4. Skolemize: a more general form of existential instantiation. Each existential variable is replaced by a **Skolem function** of the enclosing universally quantified variables:

$$\forall x \ [Animal(F(x)) \land \neg Loves(x, F(x)) \ ] \lor Loves(G(z), x)$$

5. Drop universal quantifiers:

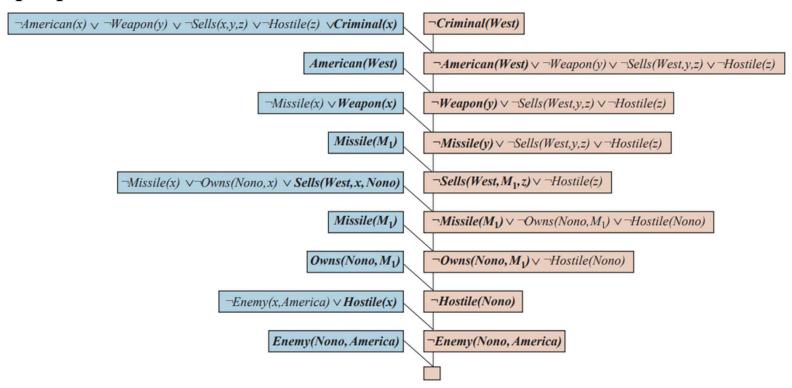
$$[Animal(F(x)) \land \neg Loves(x, F(x))] \lor Loves(G(x), x)$$

6. Distribute over:

$$[Animal(F(x)) \lor Loves(G(x), x)] \land [\neg Loves(x, F(x)) \lor Loves(G(x), x)] \leftarrow CNF$$
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## **6.5** Resolution (4/4)

### **Example proofs**



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# **Summary**

- Instantiation is slow, unless the domain is small.
- The use of unification to identify appropriate substitutions for variables eliminates the instantiation step in FO proofs, making the process more efficient.
- A lifted version of Modus Ponens uses unification to provide a powerful inference rule, generalized Modus Ponens. The forward-chaining and backward-chaining algorithms apply this rule to sets of definite clauses.
- Forward chaining is used in deductive databases and production systems. Forward chaining is complete for Datalog.
- Prolog, unlike first-order logic, uses a closed world with the unique names assumption and negation as failure.
- The generalized resolution inference rule provides a complete proof system for first-order logic, using knowledge bases in CNF.