

1.

In the domain of colloquial arguments formed from general statements, assume that an argument is formed by a premise and a conclusion statement. Conclusions can be inferred through chaining arguments. Some arguments may, however, be fallacious and conclusions drawn from those arguments must be discarded. Note that a fallacy is a flaw in the structure of an argument. Assume that the following GNU Prolog program is written to help a user check what conclusions can be drawn from their arguments.

Predicate Definitions:

- `argument(Prem, Conc)`: the user has asserted an argument with premise `Prem` and conclusion `Conc`
- `fallacy(Prem, Conc)`: a pattern stating that any argument concluding `Conc` from `Prem` is a fallacy
- `infer(Root, Conc)`: a conclusion `Conc` can be inferred from `Root`
- `getConclusions(Root)`: prints all conclusions that can be inferred from `Root`
- `check(X, Y)`: checks whether an asserted argument is fallacious.

Program:

```
argument(a,b).
argument(b,c).
argument(a,e).
fallacy(a,c).
fallacy(a,e).

infer(Root, Conc):-argument(Root, Conc).
infer(Root, Conc):-argument(Root, Z), infer(Z, Conc).

check(X, Y):-fallacy(X, Y), argument(X, Y), !, fail.
check(X, Y).

getConclusions(Root):-infer(Root, Conc), write(Conc), nl, fail.
```

- Analyse how Prolog resolves a query for goal `?-getConclusions(a)`. In your description, please list key steps taken by the algorithm to satisfy the goal, justify its output, and highlight backtracking and matching steps if any occur. [4 marks]
- Modify the program such that conclusions inferred from arguments that are fallacious are discarded with the help of predicate `check(X, Y)`. Justify your solution and discuss any changes in the execution in comparison with the previous program when querying for goal `?-getConclusions(a)`. You may avoid reporting unaffected clauses for this question. [3 marks]