Chapter 5

Pure PROLOG
Outline

- Pure PROLOG vs. logic programming
- Lists in Pure PROLOG
- Adding Arithmetics to Pure PROLOG
- Adding the Cut to Pure PROLOG
Syntax of Pure Prolog

- \( p(X,a) \leftarrow q(X), r(X,Y_i) \) \( \equiv p(x, a) \leftarrow q(x), r(x,y_i) \)
- \% Comment
- Ambivalent syntax:
  \( p(p(a,b), [c,p(a)]) \) \( \equiv p_1(p_2(a, b), [c, p_3(a)]) \leftarrow \)
  predicate \( p/2 \), functions \( p/1, p/2 \)
- Anonymous variables:
  \( p(X,a) \leftarrow q(X), r(X,_) \) \( \equiv p(x, a) \leftarrow q(x), r(x, y) \)
Specifics of Prolog

- Leftmost selection rule
  - LD-resolution, LD-resolvent, ...
- A program is a sequence of clauses
- Unification without occur check
- Depth-first search, backtracking
LD-Trees and Prolog Trees

Finitely branching trees of queries, possibly marked with “success” or “failure”,
produced as follows:

- $P$ program and $Q_0$ query
- Start with tree $T_{Q_0}$, which contains $Q_0$ as unique node.
- LD-Tree for $P \cup \{Q_0\}$: repeatedly apply to current tree $T$ and every unmarked leaf $Q$ in $T$ the operation $\text{expand}(T, Q)$
  ($\Rightarrow$ LD-Tree obeys leftmost selection rule)
- Prolog Tree for $P \cup \{Q_0\}$: repeatedly apply to current tree $T$ and leftmost unmarked leaf $Q$ in $T$ the operation $\text{expand}(T, Q)$
  ($\Rightarrow$ Prolog Tree additionally obeys order of clauses and depth-first search)
The Expand Operation

operation \textit{expand}(T, Q) is defined by:

- if $Q = \square$, then mark $Q$ with \textit{“success”}

- if $Q$ has no LD-resolvents, then mark $Q$ with \textit{“failure”}

- else add for each clause that is applicable to the leftmost atom of $Q$ an LD-resolvent as descendant of $Q$. If a Prolog tree is constructed, respect the order in which the clauses appear in the program.
Outcomes of Prolog Computations (I)

Assume here that also in LD-trees the order in which the clauses appear in the program is respected:

- **$Q_0$ universally terminates**
  \[ \iff \text{LD-tree for } P \cup \{Q_0\} \text{ is finite} \]

- **$Q_0$ diverges**
  \[ \iff \text{LD-tree for } P \cup \{Q_0\} \text{ contains an infinite branch to the left of any success node} \]

- **$Q_0$ potentially diverges**
  \[ \iff \text{LD-tree for } P \cup \{Q_0\} \text{ contains a success node, all branches to its left are finite, an infinite branch exists to its right} \]
Outcomes of Prolog Computations (II)

- $Q_0$ produces infinitely many answers
  \[\iff \text{LD-tree for } P \cup \{Q_0\} \text{ has infinitely many success nodes, all infinite branches lie to the right of them}\]

- $Q_0$ fails
  \[\iff \text{LD-tree for } P \cup \{Q_0\} \text{ is finitely failed}\]
Recap: The List Datastructure

\[ a_1, \ldots, a_n \]
\[ \text{head} \mid \text{tail} \]

\[ \text{member}(X, [X \mid \text{List}]). \]
\[ \text{member}(X, [Y \mid \text{List}]) :- \text{member}(X, \text{List}). \]

\[ \text{[apples, pears, plums]} \]
\[ = \text{[apples} \mid \text{[pears, plums]}] \]
Some List Processing Predicates (I)

% app(Xs,Ys,Zs) :- Zs is the concatenation of lists Xs and Ys
app([],Ys,Ys).
app([X|Xs],Ys,[X|Zs]) :- app(Xs,Ys,Zs).

% rev1(Xs,Ys) :- Ys is the reversal of list Xs
rev1([],[]).
rev1([X|Xs],Ys) :- rev1(Xs,Zs), app(Zs,[X],Ys).

% rev2(Xs,Ys) :- Ys is the reversal of list Xs
rev2(Xs,Ys) :- rev(Xs,[],Ys).
rev([],Ys,Ys).
rev([X|Xs],Ys,Zs) :- rev(Xs,[X|Ys],Zs).

% sub(Xs,Ys) :- Xs is a sublist of list Ys
sub(Xs,Ys) :- app(Xs,_,Zs), app(_,Zs,Ys).
Some List Processing Predicates (II)

% perm(Xs,Ys) :- Ys is a permutation of list Xs
perm([],[]).
perm(Xs,[X|Ys]) :- app(X1s,[X|X2s],Xs), app(X1s,X2s,Zs), perm(Zs,Ys).

% quick(Xs,Ys) :- Ys is obtained by sorting Xs using quicksort
quick([],[]).
quick([X|Xs],Ys) :- smaller(Xs,X,Ss), quick(Ss,X1s),
   greater(Xs,X,Gs), quick(Gs,X2s),
   app(X1s,[X|X2s],Ys).

smaller([],_,[]).
smaller([Y|Ys],X,[Y|Zs]) :- Y<X, smaller(Ys,X,Zs).
smaller([Y|Ys],X,Zs) :- Y>=X, smaller(Ys,X,Zs).
greater([],_,[]).
greater([Y|Ys],X,[Y|Zs]) :- Y>=X, greater(Ys,X,Zs).
greater([Y|Ys],X,Zs) :- Y<X, greater(Ys,X,Zs).
Arithmetic Expressions

arithmetic expression
:\ ⇔

term over variables and the following function symbols:

\( 0, 1, -1, 2, -2, \ldots \)  (nullary)
\( -, \text{abs} \)  (unary)
\( +, -, *, //, \text{mod} \)  (binary)

ground arithmetic expression (GAE)
:\ ⇔ variable free arithmetic expression
Comparison Relations and GAEs (I)

Comparison relations are defined only for GAEs.

?- 5*2 > 3+4.

yes

?- [] < 5.

{DOMAIN ERROR: []<5 – arg 1: expected expression, found []}

?- X < 5.

{INSTANTIATION ERROR: _33<5 – arg 1}
Comparison Relations and GAES (II)

max(X, Y, X) :- X > Y.
max(X, Y, Y) :- X =< Y.

?- max(2, 3, Z).
Z = 3

?- max(Z, 7, 7).
{INSTANTIATION ERROR: _33=<7 – arg 1}

?- max(Z, 7, 8).
Z = 8
Evaluation of GAEs

The evaluation of GAEs is triggered by the sub-query

\[ s \text{ is } t \]

- \( t \) is a GAE with value \( \text{val}(t) \) \( \Rightarrow \)
  - \( s \) is a GAE syntactically identical to \( \text{val}(t) \)
    \( \Rightarrow \) sub-query succeeds with \( \text{CAS} \{s/\text{val}(t)\} \)
  - \( s \) is a variable
    \( \Rightarrow \) sub-query succeeds with \( \text{CAS} \{s/\text{val}(t)\} \)
  - else \( \Rightarrow \) sub-query fails

- \( t \) is not a GAE \( \Rightarrow \) runtime error
Evaluation of GAES - Examples

| ?- 7 is 3+4. 
yes
| ?- X is 3+4. 
X = 7
| ?- 8 is 3+4. 
no
| ?- 3+4 is 3+4 
no
| ?- X is Y+1. 
{INSTANTIATION ERROR: _36 is _33+1 – arg 2}
The Cut – Advantages and Disadvantages

Cut operator is nullary predicate symbol, denoted by “!”, which can prune off subtrees of Prolog trees.

Advantages:
- Efficiency gain, since search space is reduced.
- Simplification of programs (e.g. of programs dealing with sets).

Disadvantages:
- Main source of errors in Prolog programs (e.g. if successful branches are pruned off or wrong answers are delivered).
- Harder verification of programs, since procedural interpretation must be used (declarative interpretation cannot be used, since the semantics of the cut depends on leftmost selection rule and clause ordering).
Informal Semantics of Cut

Let $P$ be a Prolog program containing exactly the following $k$ clauses for a predicate $p$: 

\[
p(t_{1,1}, ..., t_{1,n}) \leftarrow A_1
\]

\[
... 
\]

\[
p(t_{i,1}, ..., t_{i,n}) \leftarrow B, !, C 
\]

\[
... 
\]

\[
p(t_{k,1}, ..., t_{k,n}) \leftarrow A_k 
\]

Let some atom $p(t_1, ..., t_n)$ in a query be resolved using the $i$-th clause for $p$ and suppose that later the cut atom thus introduced become the leftmost atom. Then:

- The indicated occurrence of $!$ succeeds immediately.
- All other ways of resolving the atoms in $B$ are discarded.
- All derivations of $p(t_1, ..., t_n)$ using the $(i + 1)$-st to $k$-th clause for $p$ are discarded.
Formal Semantics of Cut

Let $Q$ be a node in an initial fragment of a Prolog tree $T$ with the cut as leftmost atom. 

**Origin** of this cut-occurrence :\[\Leftrightarrow\]

youngest ancestor of $Q$ in $T$ that contains less cut atoms than $Q$

Construction of Prolog trees with cuts by extending the operation $\text{expand}(T, Q)$ (cf. Slide 6):

- if $Q = !$, $A$ and $Q'$ is origin of this cut-occurrence, then add $A$ as only direct descendant of $Q$ and remove from $T$ all the nodes that are descendants of $Q'$ and lie to the right of the path connecting $Q'$ and $Q$. 
Using the Cut: Sets in Prolog (I)

member(X,[X|_]).
member(X,[_|Xs]) :- member(X,Xs).

set([],[]).
set([X|Xs],Ys)     :- member(X,Xs), !, set(Xs,Ys).
set([X|Xs],[X|Ys]) :- set(Xs,Ys).

| ?- set([1,2,1],Us).
Us = [2,1] ? ;
no

| ?- set([1,2,1],[2,1]).
yes

| ?- set([1,2,1],[1,2]).
no
Using the Cut: Sets in Prolog (II)

member(X,[X|_]).
member(X,[_|Xs]) :- member(X,Xs).

union([],Ys,Ys).
union([X|Xs],Ys,Zs) :- member(X,Ys), !, union(Xs,Ys,Zs).
union([X|Xs],Ys,[X|Zs]) :- union(Xs,Ys,Zs).

|  ?- union([1,2],[1,3],Us).
Us = [2,1,3]  ? ;
no
Incorrect Use of Cut: Successful Branches Pruned off

```
only_b(a) :- !,test(a).
only_b(b) :- !,test(b).
test(b).

| ?- only_b(a).  
|    no           
| ?- only_b(b).  
|    yes         
| ?- only_b(X).  
|    no          
```
Incorrect Use of Cut: Wrong Answers

% max(X,Y,Z) :- Z is the maximum of X and Y
max(X,Y,Y) :- X=<Y,!.
max(X,_,X).

| ?- max(2,5,Z).
Z = 5

| ?- max(2,1,Z).
Z = 2

| ?- max(2,5,2).
yes
Objectives

- Pure PROLOG vs. logic programming
- Lists in Pure PROLOG
- Adding Arithmetics to Pure PROLOG
- Adding the Cut to Pure PROLOG