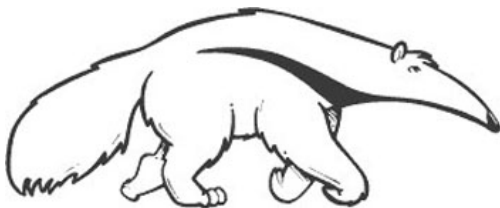


# First Order Logic

CS171, Fall 2016

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

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# Outline

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- New ontology
  - objects, relations, properties, functions.
- New Syntax
  - Constants, predicates, properties, functions
- New semantics
  - meaning of new syntax
- Inference rules for Predicate Logic (FOL)
  - Resolution
  - Forward-chaining, Backward-chaining
  - Unification
- Reading: Russell and Norvig Chapters 8 & 9

## Pros and cons of propositional logic

- 😊 Propositional logic is *declarative*: pieces of syntax correspond to facts
- 😊 Propositional logic allows partial/disjunctive/negated information (unlike most data structures and databases)
- 😊 Propositional logic is *compositional*:  
meaning of  $B_{1,1} \wedge P_{1,2}$  is derived from meaning of  $B_{1,1}$  and of  $P_{1,2}$
- 😊 Meaning in propositional logic is *context-independent*  
(unlike natural language, where meaning depends on context)
- 😞 Propositional logic has very limited expressive power  
(unlike natural language)  
E.g., cannot say “pits cause breezes in adjacent squares”  
except by writing one sentence for each square

# Building a more expressive language

Want to develop a better, more expressive language:

- Needs to refer to objects in the world,
- Needs to express general rules
  - $\text{On}(x,y) \rightarrow \sim \text{clear}(y)$
  - All men are mortal
  - Everyone over age 21 can drink
  - One student in this class got a perfect score
  - Etc....
- First order logic, or “predicate calculus” allows more expressiveness

## Logics in general

Language	Ontological Commitment	Epistemological Commitment
Propositional logic	facts	true/false/unknown
First-order logic	facts, objects, relations	true/false/unknown
Temporal logic	facts, objects, relations, times	true/false/unknown
Probability theory	facts	degree of belief $\in [0, 1]$
Fuzzy logic	degree of truth $\in [0, 1]$	known interval value

## First-order logic

Whereas propositional logic assumes world contains *facts*,  
first-order logic (like natural language) assumes the world contains

- **Objects**: people, houses, numbers, theories, Ronald McDonald, colors, baseball games, wars, centuries . . .
- **Relations**: red, round, bogus, prime, multistoried . . ., brother of, bigger than, inside, part of, has color, occurred after, owns, comes between, . . .
- **Functions**: father of, best friend, third inning of, one more than, beginning of . . .

## Syntax of FOL: Basic elements

Constants    *KingJohn, 2, UCB, ...*

Predicates   *Brother, >, ...*

Functions   *Sqrt, LeftLegOf, ...*

Variables    *x, y, a, b, ...*

Connectives    $\wedge \vee \neg \Rightarrow \Leftrightarrow$

Equality       $=$

Quantifiers    $\forall \exists$

## Atomic sentences

Atomic sentence =  $\text{predicate}(\text{term}_1, \dots, \text{term}_n)$   
or  $\text{term}_1 = \text{term}_2$

Term =  $\text{function}(\text{term}_1, \dots, \text{term}_n)$   
or *constant* or *variable*

E.g.,  $\text{Brother}(\text{KingJohn}, \text{RichardTheLionheart})$   
 $> (\text{Length}(\text{LeftLegOf}(\text{Richard})), \text{Length}(\text{LeftLegOf}(\text{KingJohn})))$



## Complex sentences

Complex sentences are made from atomic sentences using connectives

$$\neg S, \quad S_1 \wedge S_2, \quad S_1 \vee S_2, \quad S_1 \Rightarrow S_2, \quad S_1 \Leftrightarrow S_2$$

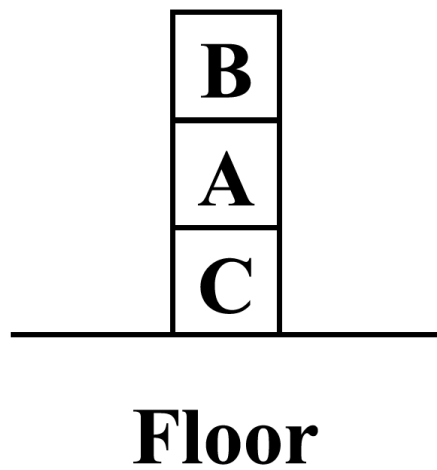
E.g.  $Sibling(KingJohn, Richard) \Rightarrow Sibling(Richard, KingJohn)$   
 $>(1, 2) \vee \leq(1, 2)$   
 $>(1, 2) \wedge \neg >(1, 2)$

# Semantics: Worlds

- The **world** consists of **objects** that have **properties**.
  - There are **relations** and **functions** between these objects
  - Objects in the world, individuals: people, houses, numbers, colors, baseball games, wars, centuries
    - Clock A, John, 7, the-house in the corner, Tel-Aviv
  - Functions on individuals:
    - father-of, best friend, third inning of, one more than
  - Relations:
    - brother-of, bigger than, inside, part-of, has color, occurred after
  - Properties (a relation of arity 1):
    - red, round, bogus, prime, multistoried, beautiful

# Semantics: Interpretation

- An interpretation of a sentence (wff) is an assignment that maps
  - Object constants to objects in the worlds,
  - n-ary function symbols to n-ary functions in the world,
  - n-ary relation symbols to n-ary relations in the world
- Given an interpretation, an atom has the value “true” if it denotes a relation that holds for those individuals denoted in the terms. Otherwise it has the value “false”
  - Example: Block world:
    - A,B,C,floor, On, Clear
  - World:
  - On(A,B) is false, Clear(B) is true, On(C,F1) is true...



# Truth in first-order logic

- Sentences are true with respect to a **model** and an **interpretation**
- Model contains objects (**domain elements**) and relations among them
- Interpretation specifies referents for
  - constant symbols**  $\rightarrow$  **objects**
  - predicate symbols**  $\rightarrow$  **relations**
  - function symbols**  $\rightarrow$  **functional relations**
- An atomic sentence  $\text{predicate}(\text{term}_1, \dots, \text{term}_n)$  is true iff the **objects** referred to by  $\text{term}_1, \dots, \text{term}_n$  are in the **relation** referred to by  $\text{predicate}$

# Semantics: Models

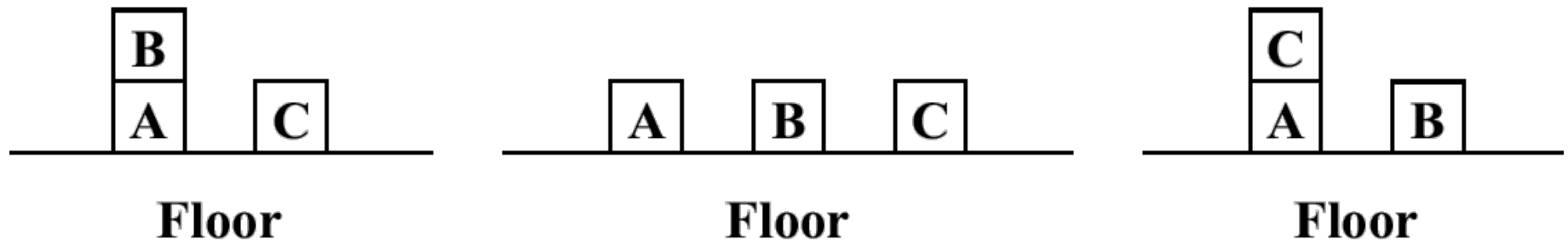
- An interpretation satisfies a wff (sentence) if the wff has the value “true” under the interpretation.
- Model: An interpretation that satisfies a wff is a model of that wff
- Validity: Any wff that has the value “true” under all interpretations is valid
- Any wff that does not have a model is inconsistent or unsatisfiable
- If a wff  $w$  has a value true under all the models of a set of sentences  $KB$  then  $KB$  logically entails  $w$

# Example of models (blocks world)

The formulas:

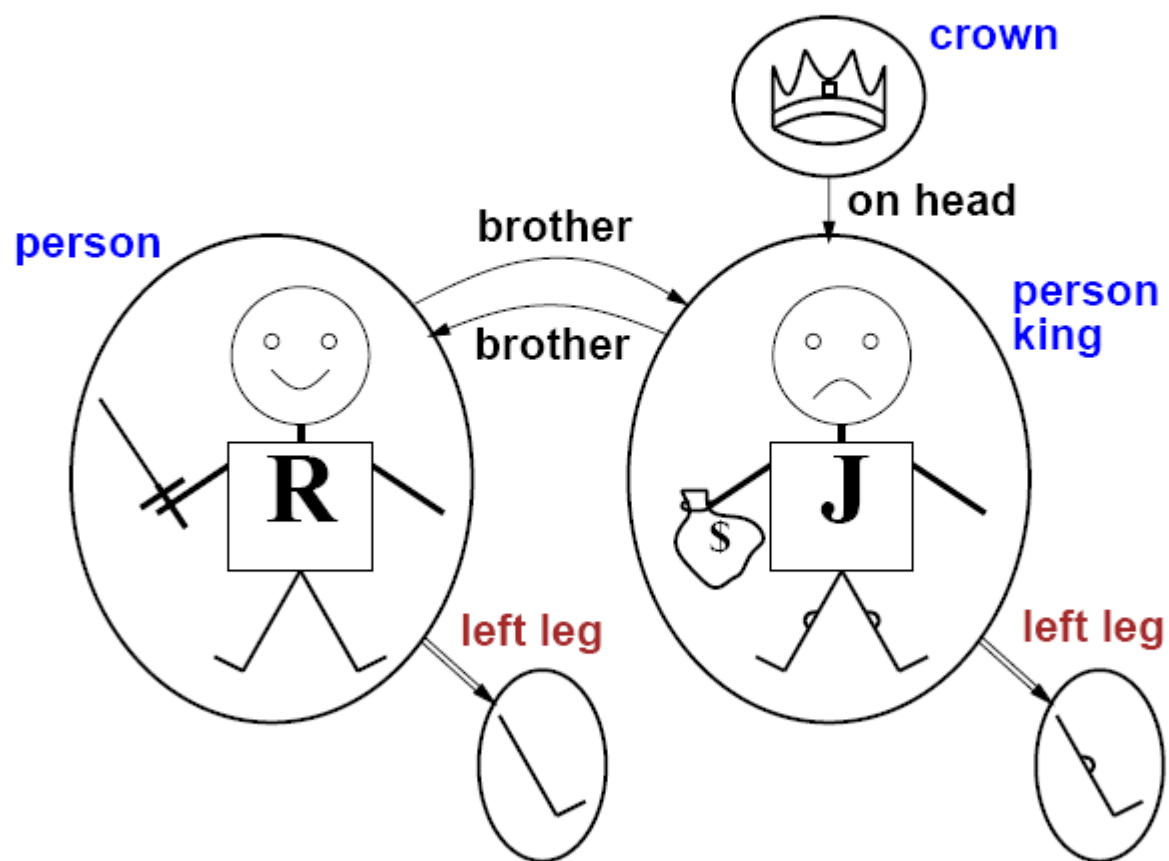
- $\text{On}(A, F1) \rightarrow \text{Clear}(B)$
- $\text{Clear}(B) \text{ and } \text{Clear}(C) \rightarrow \text{On}(A, F1)$
- $\text{Clear}(B) \text{ or } \text{Clear}(A)$
- $\text{Clear}(B)$
- $\text{Clear}(C)$

Possible interpretations that are models:



- $\text{On} = \{ \langle B, A \rangle, \langle A, \text{floor} \rangle, \langle C, \text{floor} \rangle \}$
- $\text{Clear} = \{ \langle C \rangle, \langle B \rangle \}$

## Models for FOL: Example





# Quantification

- Universal and existential quantifiers allow expressing general rules with variables
- Universal quantification

- All cats are mammals

$$\forall x \text{ Cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{Mammal}(x)$$

- It is equivalent to the conjunction of all the sentences obtained by substitution the name of an object for the variable  $x$ .

- Syntax: if  $w$  is a wff then  $(\text{forall } x) w$  is a wff.

$$\text{Cat}(\text{Spot}) \rightarrow \text{Mammal}(\text{Spot}) \wedge$$

$$\text{Cat}(\text{Rebbeka}) \rightarrow \text{Mammal}(\text{Rebbeka}) \wedge$$

$$\text{Cat}(\text{Felix}) \rightarrow \text{Mammal}(\text{Felix}) \wedge$$

,,,

# Quantification: Universal

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- Universal quantification  $\forall$  : a universally quantified sentence is true if it is true for every object in the model

Everyone in Irvine has a tan:

- Roughly equivalent to conjunction:

# A common mistake

- Typically, “implies” = “ $\Rightarrow$ ” is the main connective operator with  $\forall$

- Everyone in Irvine has a tan:

$$\forall x : \text{InIrvine}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Tan}(x)$$

- Operator  $\wedge$  is uncommon

$$\forall x : \text{InIrvine}(x) \wedge \text{Tan}(x)$$

means that everyone lives in Irvine and is tan.

# Quantification: Existential

- Existential quantification  $\exists$  : an existentially quantified sentence is true in case one of the disjunct is true

Spot has a sister who is a cat:

$$\exists x \text{Sister}(x, \text{spot}) \wedge \text{Cat}(x)$$

- Roughly equivalent to disjunction:

$$\text{Sister}(\text{Spot}, \text{Spot}) \wedge \text{Cat}(\text{Spot}) \vee$$

$$\text{Sister}(\text{Rebecca}, \text{Spot}) \wedge \text{Cat}(\text{Rebecca}) \vee$$

$$\text{Sister}(\text{Felix}, \text{Spot}) \wedge \text{Cat}(\text{Felix}) \vee$$

$$\text{Sister}(\text{Richard}, \text{Spot}) \wedge \text{Cat}(\text{Richard}) \dots$$

- We can mix existential and universal quantification.

# A common mistake

- Typically, “and” = “ $\wedge$ ” is the main connective operator with  $\exists$

- Spot has a sister who is a cat:

$$\exists x : \text{Sister}(x, \text{Spot}) \wedge \text{Cat}(x)$$

- Operator  $\Rightarrow$  is uncommon

$$\exists x : \text{Sister}(x, \text{Spot}) \Rightarrow \text{Cat}(x)$$

is true if there is anyone who is not Spot's sister

# Properties of quantifiers

- $\forall x \forall y$  is the same as  $\forall y \forall x$
- $\exists x \exists y$  is the same as  $\exists y \exists x$
- $\exists x \forall y$  is not the same as  $\forall y \exists x$
- $\exists x \forall y \text{ Loves}(x,y)$ 
  - “There is a person who loves everyone in the world”
- $\forall y \exists x \text{ Loves}(x,y)$ 
  - “Everyone in the world is loved by at least one person”
- Quantifier duality: each can be expressed using the other
$$\forall x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{IceCream}) \quad \neg \exists x \neg \text{ Likes}(x, \text{IceCream})$$
$$\exists x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli}) \quad \neg \forall x \neg \text{ Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli})$$

## Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

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$$\forall x, y \text{ Brother}(x, y) \Rightarrow \text{Sibling}(x, y).$$

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$$\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \text{Sibling}(y, x).$$

One's mother is one's female parent

## Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

$$\forall x, y \text{ Brother}(x, y) \Rightarrow \text{Sibling}(x, y).$$

“Sibling” is symmetric

$$\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \text{Sibling}(y, x).$$

One's mother is one's female parent

$$\forall x, y \text{ Mother}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow (\text{Female}(x) \wedge \text{Parent}(x, y)).$$

A first cousin is a child of a parent's sibling

# Equality

- $\text{term1} = \text{term2}$  is true under a given interpretation if and only if  $\text{term1}$  and  $\text{term2}$  refer to the same object
- E.g., definition of Sibling in terms of Parent:

$$\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \iff [\neg(x = y) \wedge \exists m, f \neg(m = f) \wedge \text{Parent}(m, x) \wedge \text{Parent}(f, x) \wedge \text{Parent}(m, y) \wedge \text{Parent}(f, y)]$$

# Using FOL

- The kinship domain:
  - object are people
  - Properties include gender and they are related by relations such as parenthood, brotherhood, marriage
  - predicates: Male, Female (unary) Parent, Sibling, Daughter, Son...
  - Function: Mother Father
- Brothers are siblings
  - $\forall x, y \text{ Brother}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \text{Sibling}(x, y)$
- One's mother is one's female parent
  - $\forall m, c \text{ Mother}(c) = m \Leftrightarrow (\text{Female}(m) \wedge \text{Parent}(m, c))$
- “Sibling” is symmetric
  - $\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \text{Sibling}(y, x)$

# Using FOL

- The set domain:
- $\forall s \text{ Set}(s) \Leftrightarrow (s = \{\}) \vee (\exists x, s2 \text{ Set}(s2) \wedge s = \{x | s2\})$
- $\neg \exists x, s \{x | s\} = \{\}$
- (Adjoining an element already in the set has no effect)
- $\forall x, s x \in s \Leftrightarrow s = \{x | s\}$
- (the only members of a set are the elements that were adjoined into it)
- $\forall x, s x \in s \Leftrightarrow [\exists y, s2 \{ (s = \{y | s2\} \wedge (x = y \vee x \in s2)) )]$
- $\forall s1, s2 s1 \subseteq s2 \Leftrightarrow (\forall x x \in s1 \Rightarrow x \in s2)$
- $\forall s1, s2 (s1 = s2) \Leftrightarrow (s1 \subseteq s2 \wedge s2 \subseteq s1)$
- $\forall x, s1, s2 x \in (s1 \cap s2) \Leftrightarrow (x \in s1 \wedge x \in s2)$
- $\forall x, s1, s2 x \in (s1 \cup s2) \Leftrightarrow (x \in s1 \vee x \in s2)$

**Objects** are sets

**Predicates:** unary predicate “set:”, binary predicate membership ( $x$  is a member of set), “subset” ( $s1$  is a subset of  $s2$ )

**Functions:** intersections, union, adjoining an element to a set.

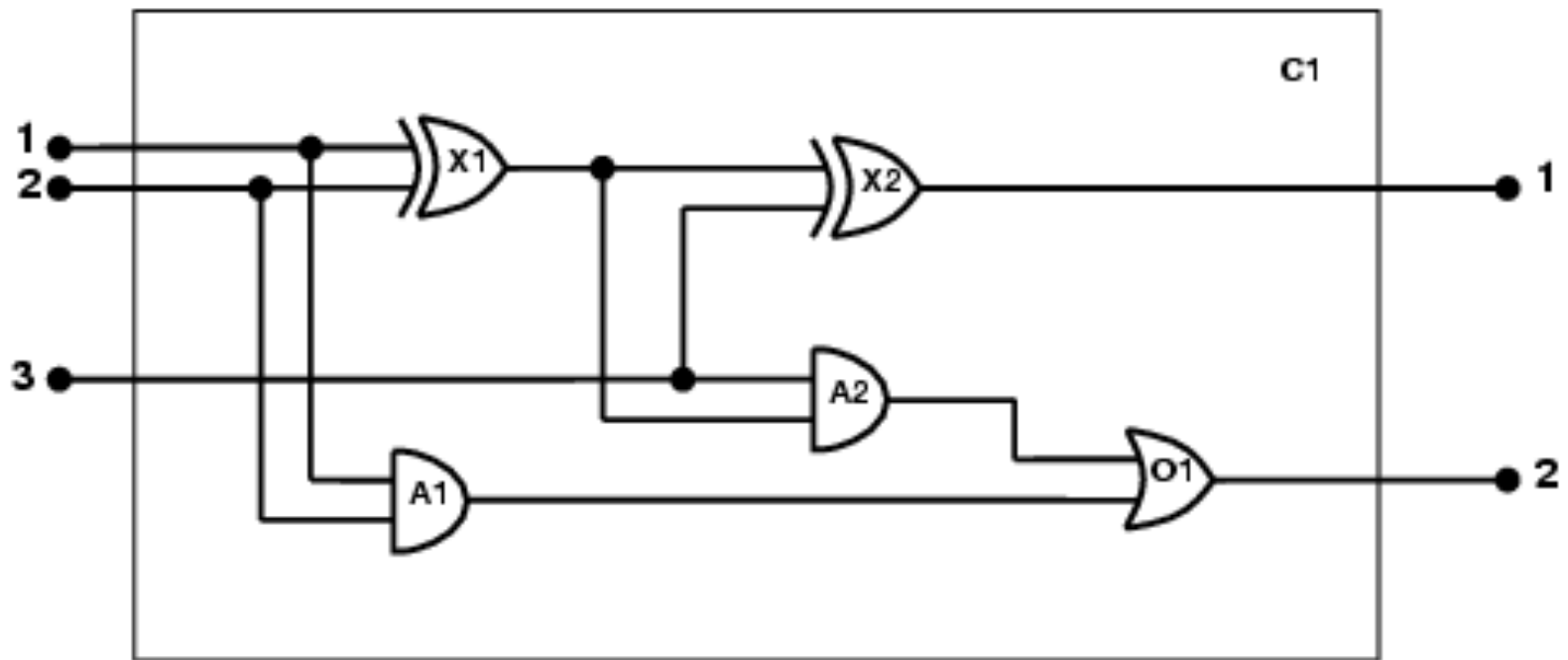
# Knowledge engineering in FOL

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- Identify the task
- Assemble the relevant knowledge
- Decide on a vocabulary of predicates, functions, and constants
- Encode general knowledge about the domain
- Encode a description of the specific problem instance
- Pose queries to the inference procedure and get answers
- Debug the knowledge base

# The electronic circuits domain

## One-bit full adder



# The electronic circuits domain

- Identify the task
  - Does the circuit actually add properly? (circuit verification)
- Assemble the relevant knowledge
  - Composed of wires and gates; Types of gates (AND, OR, XOR, NOT)
  - Irrelevant: size, shape, color, cost of gates
- Decide on a vocabulary
  - Alternatives:
    - $\text{Type}(X1) = \text{XOR}$
    - $\text{Type}(X1, \text{XOR})$
    - $\text{XOR}(X1)$



# The electronic circuits domain

- Encode general knowledge of the domain
  - $\forall t_1, t_2 \text{ Connected}(t_1, t_2) \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(t_1) = \text{Signal}(t_2)$
  - $\forall t \text{ Signal}(t) = 1 \vee \text{Signal}(t) = 0$
  - $1 \neq 0$
  - $\forall t_1, t_2 \text{ Connected}(t_1, t_2) \Rightarrow \text{Connected}(t_2, t_1)$
  - $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{OR} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \exists n \text{ Signal}(\text{In}(n, g)) = 1$
  - $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{AND} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \exists n \text{ Signal}(\text{In}(n, g)) = 0$
  - $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{XOR} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{In}(1, g)) \neq \text{Signal}(\text{In}(2, g))$
  - $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{NOT} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) \neq \text{Signal}(\text{In}(1, g))$

# The electronic circuits domain

- Encode the specific problem instance
  - Type(X1) = XOR                      Type(X2) = XOR
  - Type(A1) = AND                      Type(A2) = AND
  - Type(O1) = OR
  - Connected(Out(1,X1),In(1,X2))      Connected(In(1,C1),In(1,X1))
  - Connected(Out(1,X1),In(2,A2))      Connected(In(1,C1),In(1,A1))
  - Connected(Out(1,A2),In(1,O1))      Connected(In(2,C1),In(2,X1))
  - Connected(Out(1,A1),In(2,O1))      Connected(In(2,C1),In(2,A1))
  - Connected(Out(1,X2),Out(1,C1))      Connected(In(3,C1),In(2,X2))
  - Connected(Out(1,O1),Out(2,C1))      Connected(In(3,C1),In(1,A2))

# The electronic circuits domain

## 6. Pose queries to the inference procedure

What are the possible sets of values of all the terminals for the adder circuit?

$$\exists i_1, i_2, i_3, o_1, o_2 \text{ Signal(In(1, } C_1)) = i_1 \wedge \text{Signal(In(2, } C_1)) = i_2 \wedge \text{Signal(In(3, } C_1)) = i_3 \wedge \\ \text{Signal(Out(1, } C_1)) = o_1 \wedge \text{Signal(Out(2, } C_1)) = o_2$$

## 7. Debug the knowledge base

(May have omitted assertions like  $1 \neq 0$ )

## Interacting with FOL KBs

Suppose a wumpus-world agent is using an FOL KB  
and perceives a smell and a breeze (but no glitter) at  $t = 5$ :

$Tell(KB, Percept([Smell, Breeze, None], 5))$

$Ask(KB, \exists a \text{ Action}(a, 5))$

I.e., does the KB entail any particular actions at  $t = 5$ ?

Answer: *Yes*,  $\{a/Shoot\} \leftarrow$  **substitution** (binding list)

Given a sentence  $S$  and a substitution  $\sigma$ ,

$S\sigma$  denotes the result of plugging  $\sigma$  into  $S$ ; e.g.,

$S = Smarter(x, y)$

$\sigma = \{x/Hillary, y/Bill\}$

$S\sigma = Smarter(Hillary, Bill)$

$Ask(KB, S)$  returns some/all  $\sigma$  such that  $KB \models S\sigma$

## Knowledge base for the wumpus world

### “Perception”

$\forall b, g, t \text{ Percept}([Smell, b, g], t) \Rightarrow Smelt(t)$

$\forall s, b, t \text{ Percept}([s, b, Glitter], t) \Rightarrow AtGold(t)$

**Reflex:**  $\forall t \text{ AtGold}(t) \Rightarrow \text{Action}(Grab, t)$

**Reflex with internal state:** do we have the gold already?

$\forall t \text{ AtGold}(t) \wedge \neg Holding(Gold, t) \Rightarrow \text{Action}(Grab, t)$

$Holding(Gold, t)$  cannot be observed

$\Rightarrow$  keeping track of change is essential

## Deducing hidden properties

Properties of locations:

$$\forall x, t \text{ } At(Agent, x, t) \wedge Smelt(t) \Rightarrow Smelly(x)$$

$$\forall x, t \text{ } At(Agent, x, t) \wedge Breeze(t) \Rightarrow Breezy(x)$$

Squares are breezy near a pit:

**Diagnostic** rule—infer cause from effect

$$\forall y \text{ } Breezy(y) \Rightarrow \exists x \text{ } Pit(x) \wedge Adjacent(x, y)$$

**Causal** rule—infer effect from cause

$$\forall x, y \text{ } Pit(x) \wedge Adjacent(x, y) \Rightarrow Breezy(y)$$

Neither of these is complete—e.g., the causal rule doesn't say whether squares far away from pits can be breezy

**Definition** for the *Breezy* predicate:

$$\forall y \text{ } Breezy(y) \Leftrightarrow [\exists x \text{ } Pit(x) \wedge Adjacent(x, y)]$$

## Keeping track of change

Facts hold in **situations**, rather than eternally

E.g.,  $Holding(Gold, Now)$  rather than just  $Holding(Gold)$

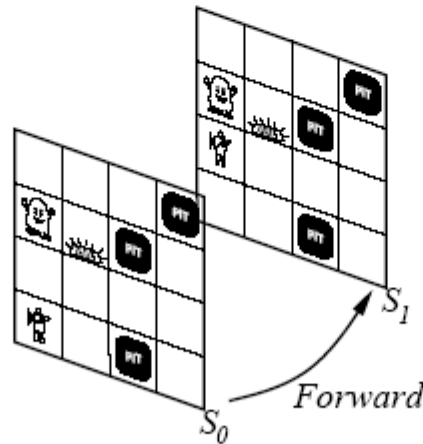
**Situation calculus** is one way to represent change in FOL:

Adds a situation argument to each non-eternal predicate

E.g.,  $Now$  in  $Holding(Gold, Now)$  denotes a situation

Situations are connected by the *Result* function

$Result(a, s)$  is the situation that results from doing  $a$  in  $s$



## Describing actions I

“Effect” axiom—describe changes due to action

$$\forall s \text{ } AtGold(s) \Rightarrow Holding(Gold, Result(Grab, s))$$

“Frame” axiom—describe **non-changes** due to action

$$\forall s \text{ } HaveArrow(s) \Rightarrow HaveArrow(Result(Grab, s))$$

**Frame problem**: find an elegant way to handle non-change

- (a) representation—avoid frame axioms
- (b) inference—avoid repeated “copy-overs” to keep track of state

**Qualification problem**: true descriptions of real actions require endless caveats—what if gold is slippery or nailed down or . . .

**Ramification problem**: real actions have many secondary consequences—what about the dust on the gold, wear and tear on gloves, . . .



## Describing actions II

Successor-state axioms solve the representational frame problem

Each axiom is “about” a predicate (not an action per se):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{P true afterwards} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad & [\text{an action made P true} \\ & \vee \quad \text{P true already and no action made P false}] \end{aligned}$$

For holding the gold:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a, s \quad \text{Holding}(\text{Gold}, \text{Result}(a, s)) \quad \Leftrightarrow \\ & [(a = \text{Grab} \wedge \text{AtGold}(s)) \\ & \vee (\text{Holding}(\text{Gold}, s) \wedge a \neq \text{Release})] \end{aligned}$$

# Some more notation

- Instantiation: specify values for variables
- Ground term
  - A term without variables
- Substitution
  - Setting a variable equal to something
  - $\theta = \{x / \text{John}, y / \text{Richard}\}$
  - Read as “ $x := \text{John}, y := \text{Richard}$ ”
- Write a substitution into sentence  $\alpha$  as  $\text{Subst}(\theta, \alpha)$  or just as  $\alpha\theta$

# Universal instantiation (UI)

- Every instantiation of a universally quantified sentence is entailed by it:

$$\frac{\forall v \alpha}{\text{Subst}(\{v/g\}, \alpha)}$$

for any variable  $v$  and ground term  $g$

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

# Existential instantiation (EI)

- For any sentence  $\alpha$ , variable  $v$ , and constant symbol  $k$  that does **not** appear elsewhere in the knowledge base:

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

- 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**

# Reduction to propositional inference

Suppose the KB contains just the following:

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

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

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

$\text{Brother}(\text{Richard}, \text{John})$

- Instantiating the universal sentence in **all possible** ways, we have:

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

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

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

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

$\text{Brother}(\text{Richard}, \text{John})$

- The new KB is **propositionalized**: proposition symbols are

$\text{King}(\text{John}), \text{Greedy}(\text{John}), \text{Evil}(\text{John}), \text{King}(\text{Richard}), \text{etc.}$

## Reduction contd.

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

# Reduction contd.

Theorem: Herbrand (1930). If a sentence  $\alpha$  is entailed by an FOL KB, it is entailed by a **finite** subset of the propositionalized KB

Idea: For  $n = 0$  to  $\infty$  do

- create a propositional KB by instantiating with depth- $n$  terms
- see if  $\alpha$  is entailed by this KB

Problem: works if  $\alpha$  is entailed, loops if  $\alpha$  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.)

# Problems with propositionalization

- Propositionalization seems to generate lots of irrelevant sentences.
- E.g., from:  
     $\forall x \text{ King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x)$   
     $\text{King}(\text{John})$   
     $\forall y \text{ Greedy}(y)$   
     $\text{Brother}(\text{Richard}, \text{John})$
- Given query “evil(x) it seems obvious that *Evil(John)*, but propositionalization produces lots of facts such as *Greedy(Richard)* that are irrelevant
- With  $p$   $k$ -ary predicates and  $n$  constants, there are  $p \cdot n^k$  instantiations.



# Generalized Modus Ponens (GMP)

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

where  $p_i'\theta = p_i \theta$  for all  $i$

$p_1'$  is *King(John)*       $p_1$  is *King(x)*

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

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

$q \theta$  is *Evil(John)*

- GMP used with KB of **definite clauses** (**exactly** one positive literal)
- All variables assumed universally quantified

# Soundness of GMP

- Need to show that

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

provided that  $p_i'\theta = p_i\theta$  for all  $i$

- Lemma: For any sentence  $p$ , we have  $p \vdash p\theta$  by UI

1.  $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q) \vdash (p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q)\theta = (p_1\theta \wedge \dots \wedge p_n\theta \Rightarrow q\theta)$
2.  $p_1', \dots, p_n' \vdash p_1' \wedge \dots \wedge p_n' \vdash p_1'\theta \wedge \dots \wedge p_n'\theta$
3. From 1 and 2,  $q\theta$  follows by ordinary Modus Ponens

# Unification

- We can get the inference immediately if we can find a substitution  $\theta$  such that  $King(x)$  and  $Greedy(x)$  match  $King(John)$  and  $Greedy(y)$

$\theta = \{x/John, y/John\}$  works

- $Unify(\alpha, \beta) = \theta$  if  $\alpha\theta = \beta\theta$

p	q	$\theta$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(John,Jane)	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,OJ)	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,Mother(y))	
Knows(John,x)	Knows(x,OJ)	

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Knows(John,x)	Knows(John,Jane)	$\{x/Jane\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,OJ)	$\{x/OJ, y/John\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,Mother(y))	
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Knows(John,x)	Knows(John,Jane)	$\{x/Jane\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,OJ)	$\{x/OJ, y/John\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,Mother(y))	$\{y/John, x/Mother(John)\}$
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- $Unify(\alpha, \beta) = \theta$  if  $\alpha\theta = \beta\theta$

p	q	$\theta$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(John,Jane)	$\{x/Jane\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,OJ)	$\{x/OJ, y/John\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(y,Mother(y))	$\{y/John, x/Mother(John)\}$
Knows(John,x)	Knows(x,OJ)	$\{fail\}$

- Standardizing apart** eliminates overlap of variables, e.g.,  $Knows(z_{17}, OJ)$

# Unification

- To unify  $Knows(John, x)$  and  $Knows(y, z)$ ,

$$\theta = \{y/John, x/z\} \text{ or } \theta = \{y/John, x/John, z/John\}$$

- The first unifier is **more general** than the second.
- There is a single **most general unifier** (MGU) that is unique up to renaming of variables.

$$MGU = \{y/John, x/z\}$$



# The unification algorithm

**function** UNIFY( $x, y, \theta$ ) **returns** a substitution to make  $x$  and  $y$  identical

**inputs:**  $x$ , a variable, constant, list, or compound

$y$ , a variable, constant, list, or compound

$\theta$ , the substitution built up so far

**if**  $\theta = \text{failure}$  **then return failure**

**else if**  $x = y$  **then return**  $\theta$

**else if** VARIABLE?( $x$ ) **then return** UNIFY-VAR( $x, y, \theta$ )

**else if** VARIABLE?( $y$ ) **then return** UNIFY-VAR( $y, x, \theta$ )

**else if** COMPOUND?( $x$ ) **and** COMPOUND?( $y$ ) **then**

**return** UNIFY(ARGS[ $x$ ], ARGS[ $y$ ], UNIFY(OP[ $x$ ], OP[ $y$ ],  $\theta$ ))

**else if** LIST?( $x$ ) **and** LIST?( $y$ ) **then**

**return** UNIFY(REST[ $x$ ], REST[ $y$ ], UNIFY(FIRST[ $x$ ], FIRST[ $y$ ],  $\theta$ ))

**else return failure**

# The unification algorithm

```
function UNIFY-VAR( $var, x, \theta$ ) returns a substitution
  inputs:  $var$ , a variable
          $x$ , any expression
          $\theta$ , the substitution built up so far

  if  $\{var/val\} \in \theta$  then return UNIFY( $val, x, \theta$ )
  else if  $\{x/val\} \in \theta$  then return UNIFY( $var, val, \theta$ )
  else if OCCUR-CHECK?( $var, x$ ) then return failure
  else return add  $\{var/x\}$  to  $\theta$ 
```

# Example knowledge base

---

- 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 contd.

... 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, i.e.,  $\exists x Owns(Nono,x) \wedge Missile(x)$ :

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

... 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, who is American ...

$American(West)$

The country Nono, an enemy of America ...

$Enemy(Nono,America)$

# Forward chaining algorithm

```
function FOL-FC-ASK( $KB, \alpha$ ) returns a substitution or false
  repeat until new is empty
     $new \leftarrow \{\}$ 
    for each sentence  $r$  in  $KB$  do
       $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q) \leftarrow \text{STANDARDIZE-APART}(r)$ 
      for each  $\theta$  such that  $(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n)\theta = (p'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p'_n)\theta$ 
        for some  $p'_1, \dots, p'_n$  in  $KB$ 
           $q' \leftarrow \text{SUBST}(\theta, q)$ 
          if  $q'$  is not a renaming of a sentence already in  $KB$  or new then do
            add  $q'$  to new
             $\phi \leftarrow \text{UNIFY}(q', \alpha)$ 
            if  $\phi$  is not fail then return  $\phi$ 
    add new to  $KB$ 
  return false
```

# Forward chaining proof

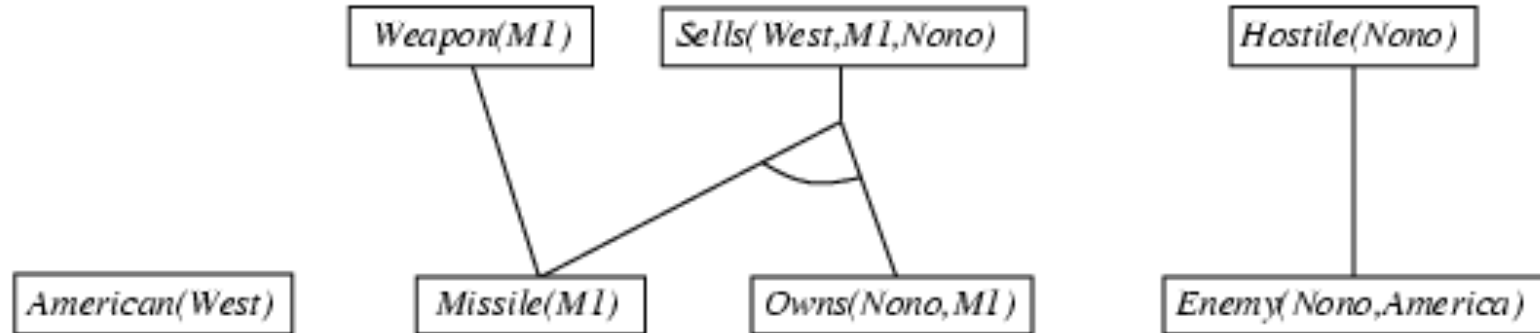
*American(West)*

*Missile(M1)*

*Owns(Nono,M1)*

*Enemy(Nono,America)*

# Forward chaining proof

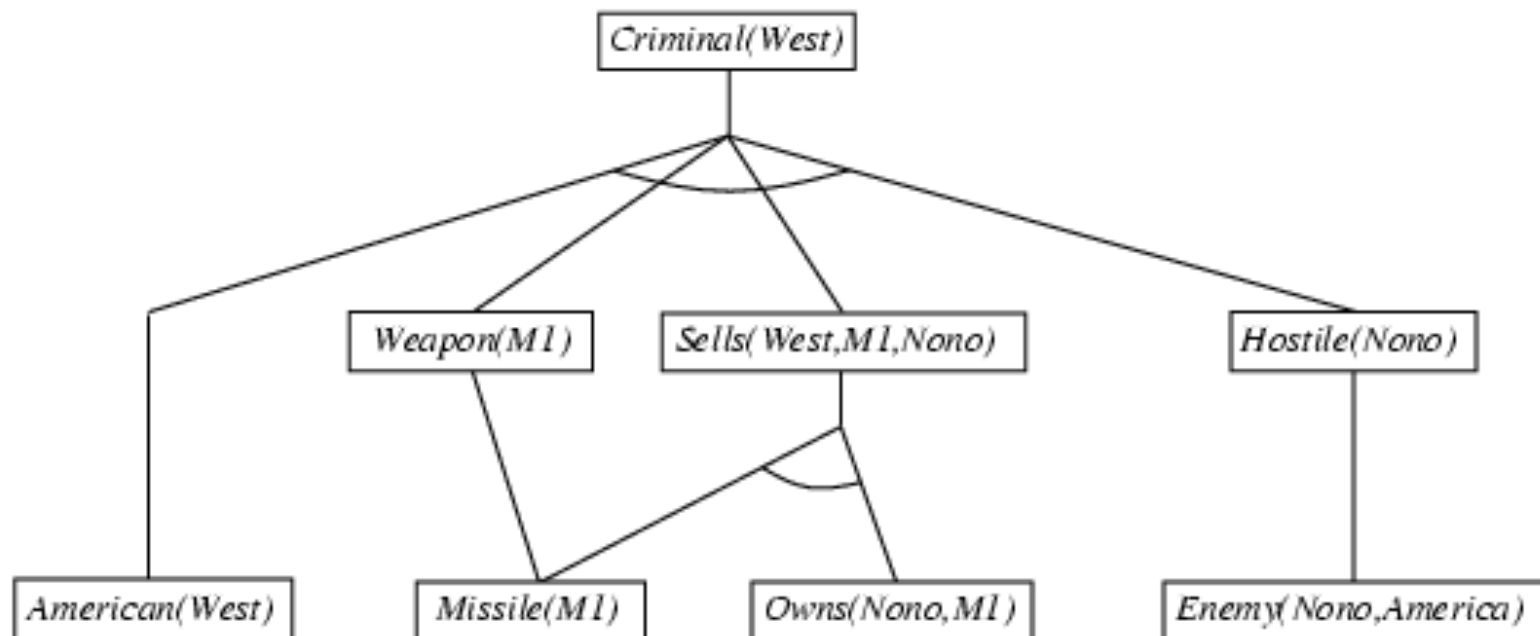


$Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

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

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

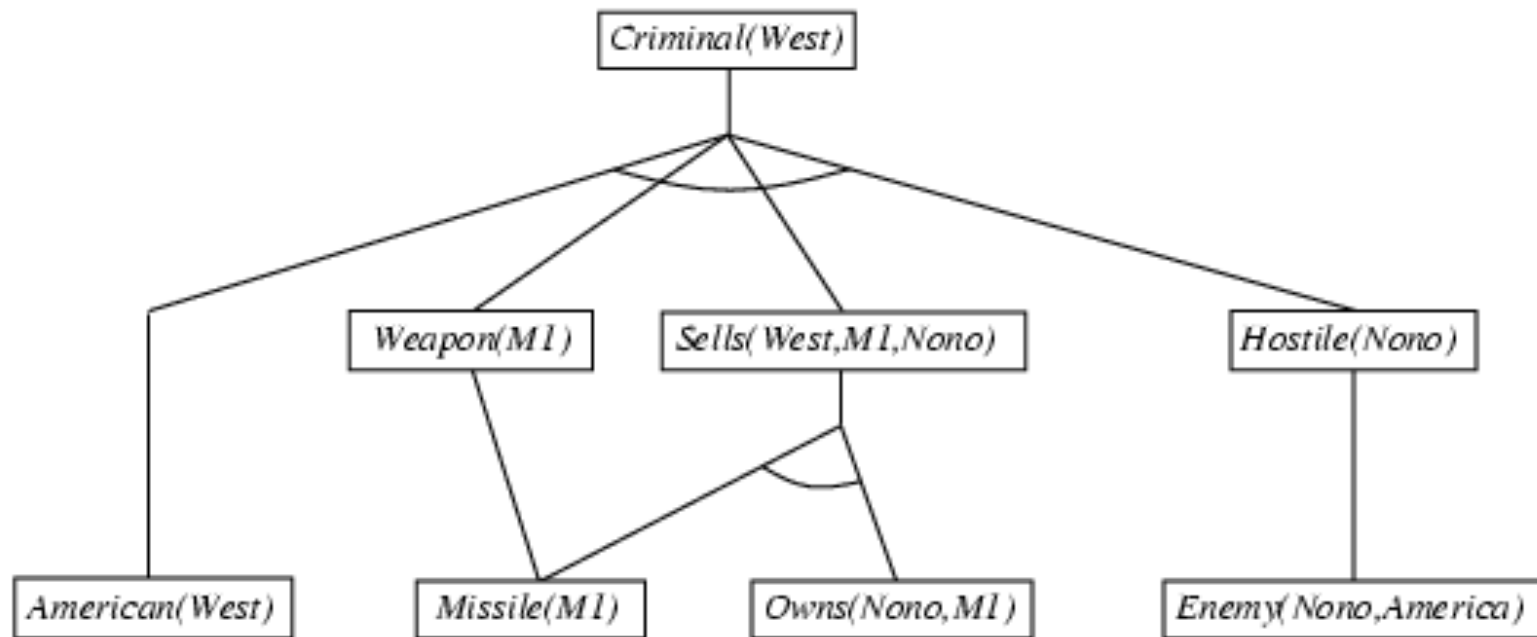
# Forward chaining proof



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



# Forward chaining proof



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

*\*Owns(Nono,M1) and Missile(M1)*

*\*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)*

# Properties of forward chaining

---

- Sound and complete for first-order definite clauses
- **Datalog** = first-order definite clauses + **no functions**
- FC terminates for Datalog in finite number of iterations
- May not terminate in general if  $\alpha$  is not entailed
- This is unavoidable: entailment with definite clauses is semidecidable

# Efficiency of forward chaining

Incremental forward chaining: no need to match a rule on iteration  $k$  if a premise wasn't added on iteration  $k-1$

⇒ match each rule whose premise contains a newly added positive literal

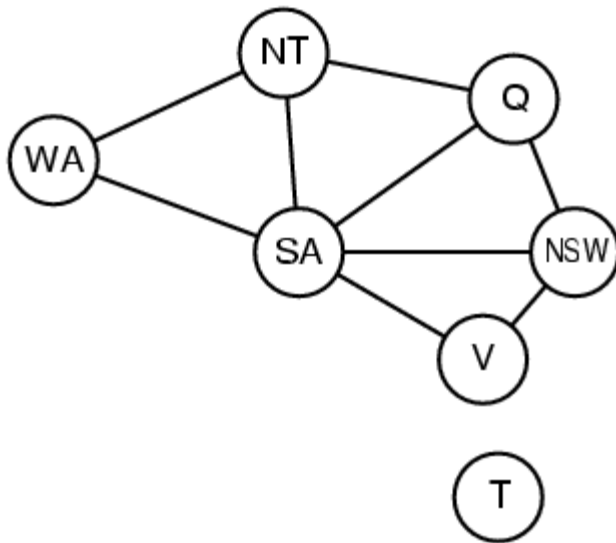
Matching itself can be expensive:

Database indexing allows  $O(1)$  retrieval of known facts

– e.g., query  $Missile(x)$  retrieves  $Missile(M_1)$

Forward chaining is widely used in deductive databases

# Hard matching example



$Diff(wa,nt) \wedge Diff(wa,sa) \wedge Diff(nt,q) \wedge$   
 $Diff(nt,sa) \wedge Diff(q,nsw) \wedge Diff(q,sa) \wedge$   
 $Diff(nsw,v) \wedge Diff(nsw,sa) \wedge Diff(v,sa) \Rightarrow$   
 $Colorable()$

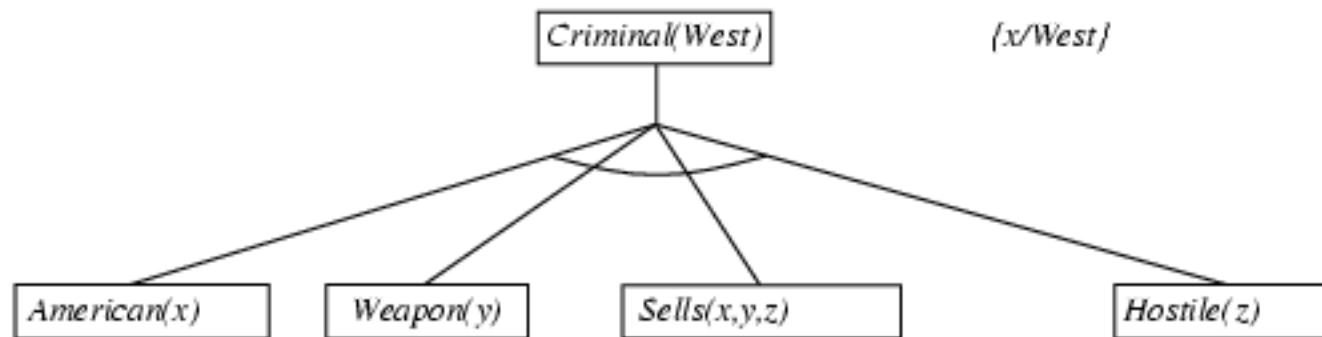
$Diff(Red,Blue) \quad Diff(Red,Green)$   
 $Diff(Green,Red) \quad Diff(Green,Blue)$   
 $Diff(Blue,Red) \quad Diff(Blue,Green)$

- ***Colorable()*** is inferred iff the CSP has a solution
- CSPs include 3SAT as a special case, hence matching is NP-hard

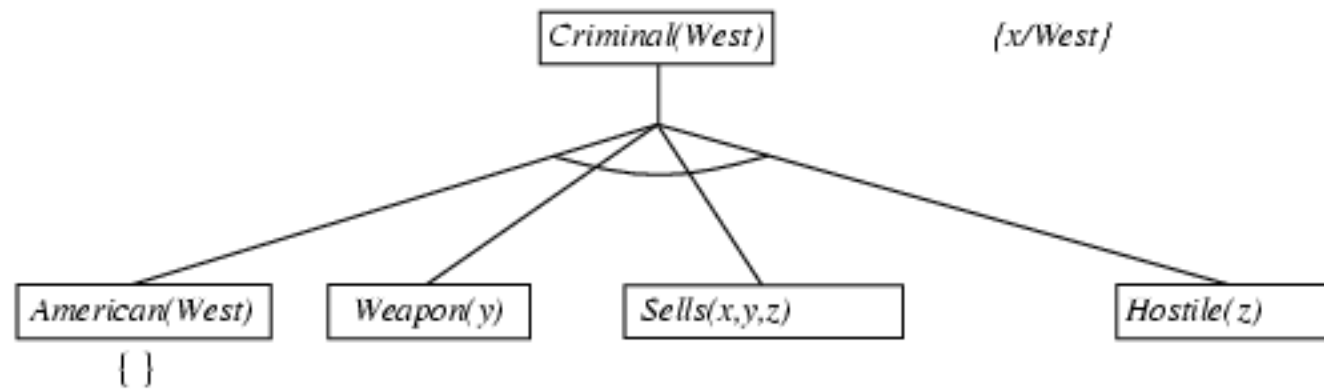
# Backward chaining example

*Criminal(West)*

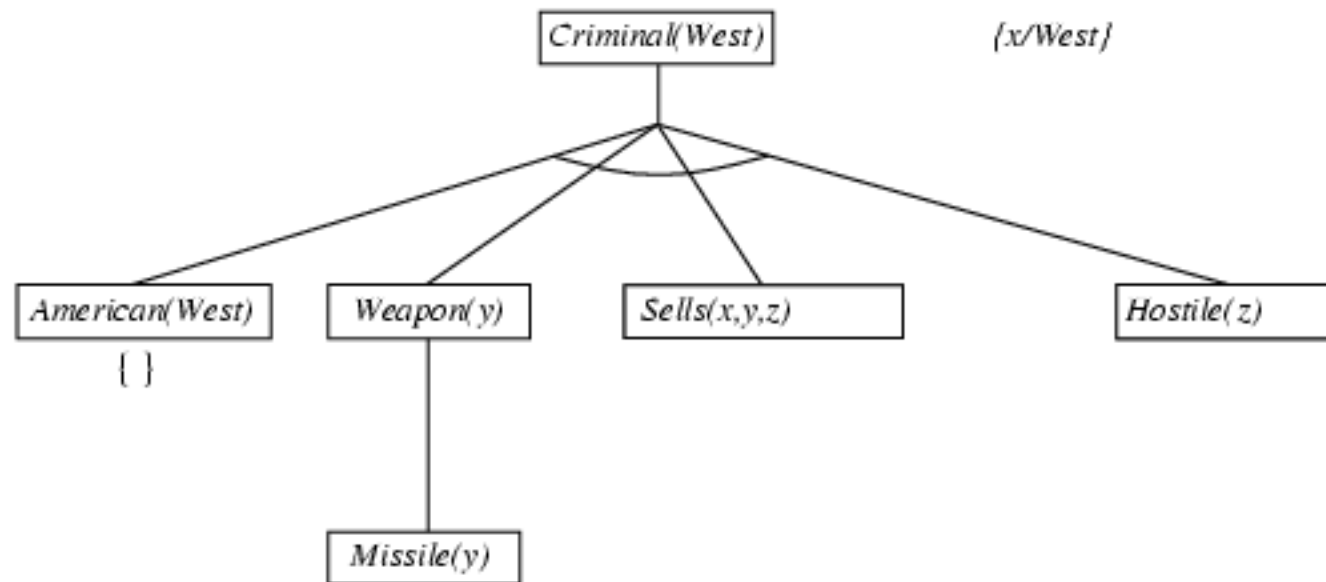
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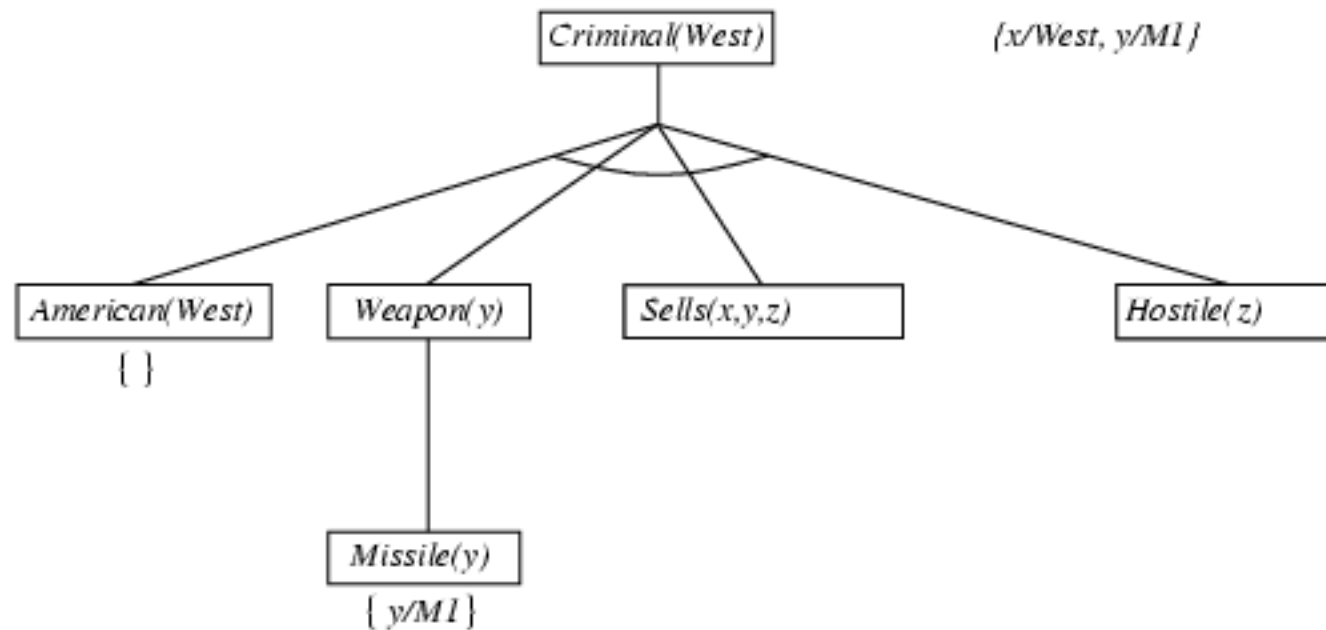


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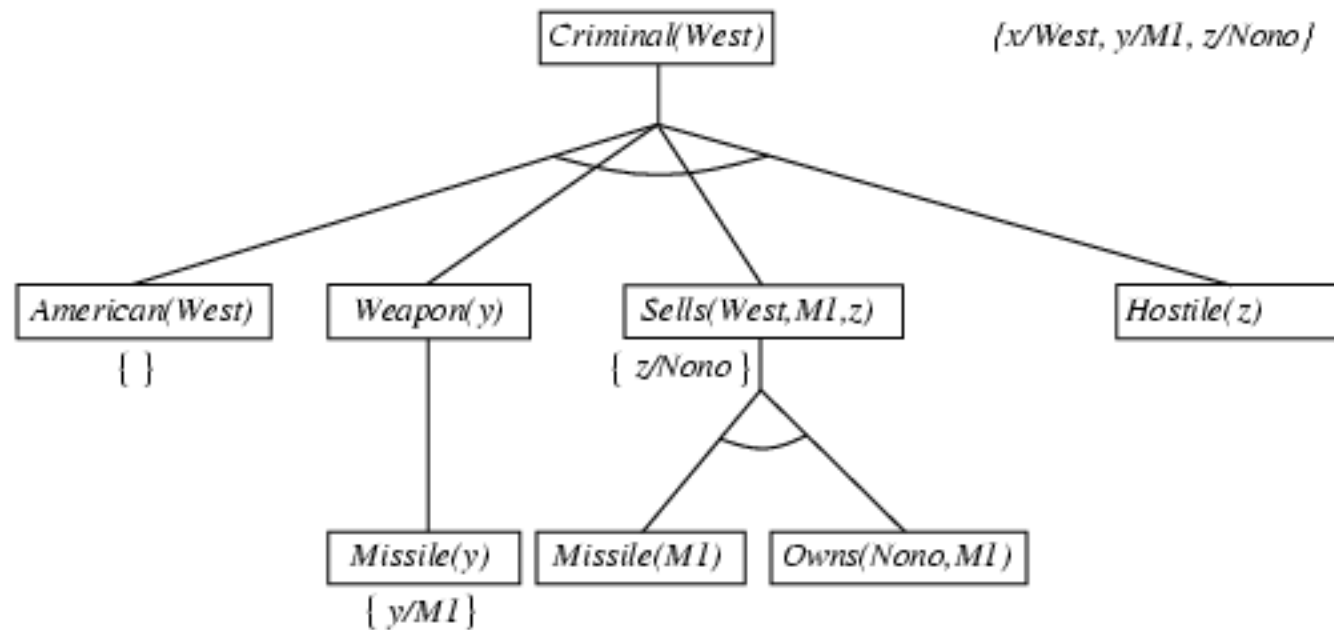




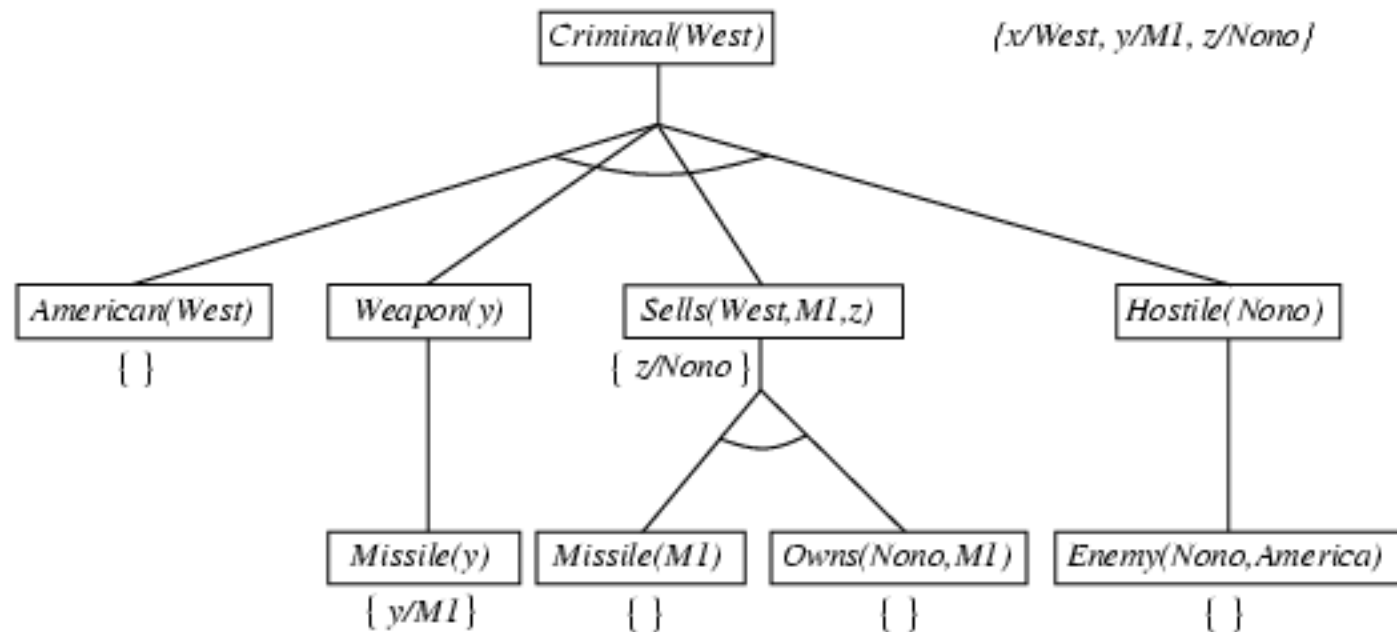
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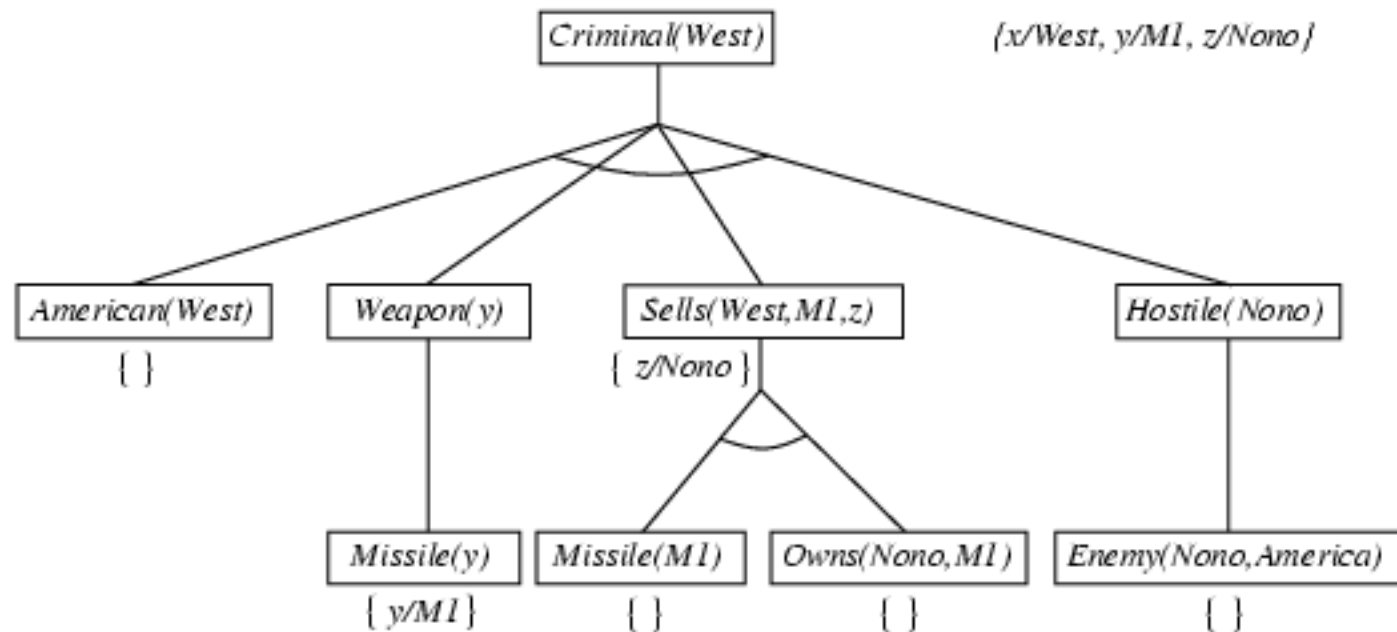
# Backward chaining example



# Backward chaining example



# Backward chaining example



# Backward chaining algorithm

```
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
            $\theta$ , the current substitution, initially the empty substitution  $\{ \}$ 
  local variables:  $ans$ , a set of substitutions, initially empty

  if  $goals$  is empty then return  $\{ \theta \}$ 
   $q' \leftarrow \text{SUBST}(\theta, \text{FIRST}(goals))$ 
  for each  $r$  in  $KB$  where  $\text{STANDARDIZE-APART}(r) = (p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q)$ 
    and  $\theta' \leftarrow \text{UNIFY}(q, q')$  succeeds
       $ans \leftarrow \text{FOL-BC-ASK}(KB, [p_1, \dots, p_n | \text{REST}(goals)], \text{COMPOSE}(\theta, \theta')) \cup ans$ 
  return  $ans$ 
```

$$\text{SUBST}(\text{COMPOSE}(\theta_1, \theta_2), p) = \text{SUBST}(\theta_2, \text{SUBST}(\theta_1, p))$$

# 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 for **logic programming**

# Logic programming: Prolog

- Algorithm = Logic + Control
- Basis: backward chaining with Horn clauses + bells & whistles  
Widely used in Europe, Japan (basis of 5th Generation project)  
Compilation techniques  $\Rightarrow$  60 million LIPS
- Program = set of clauses = head `:- literal1, ... literaln.`

```
criminal(X) :- american(X), weapon(Y), sells(X,Y,Z), hostile(Z).
```

- Depth-first, left-to-right backward chaining
- Built-in predicates for arithmetic etc., e.g., `X is Y*Z+3`
- Built-in predicates that have side effects (e.g., input and output)
- predicates, assert/retract predicates)
- Closed-world assumption ("negation as failure")
  - e.g., given `alive(X) :- not dead(X).`
  - `alive(joe)` succeeds if `dead(joe)` fails

# Prolog

- 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 = [ ]`



# Resolution: brief summary

- Full first-order version:

$$\frac{\ell_1 \vee \dots \vee \ell_k \quad m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_n}{(\ell_1 \vee \dots \vee \ell_{i-1} \vee \ell_{i+1} \vee \dots \vee \ell_k \vee m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_{j-1} \vee m_{j+1} \vee \dots \vee m_n)\theta}$$

where  $\text{Unify}(\ell_i, \neg m_j) = \theta$ .

- The two clauses are assumed to be standardized apart so that they share no variables.
- 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

# Conversion to CNF

- Everyone who loves all animals is loved by someone:

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

1. Eliminate biconditionals and implications

$$\forall x [\neg \forall y \neg \text{Animal}(y) \vee \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y,x)]$$

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

$$\forall x [\exists y \neg (\neg \text{Animal}(y) \vee \text{Loves}(x,y))] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y,x)]$$

$$\forall x [\exists y \neg \neg \text{Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y,x)]$$

$$\forall x [\exists y \text{ Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists y \text{ Loves}(y,x)]$$

# Conversion to CNF contd.

3. Standardize variables: each quantifier should use a different one

$$\forall x [\exists y \text{ Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists z \text{ Loves}(z,x)]$$

4. Skolemize: a more general form of existential instantiation.  
Each existential variable is replaced by a **Skolem function** of the enclosing universally quantified variables:

$$\forall x [\text{Animal}(F(x)) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,F(x))] \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)$$

5. Drop universal quantifiers:

$$[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,F(x))] \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)$$

6. Distribute  $\vee$  over  $\wedge$  :

$$[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)] \wedge [\neg \text{Loves}(x,F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)]$$

# Example knowledge base contd.

... 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, i.e.,  $\exists x Owns(Nono,x) \wedge Missile(x)$ :

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... all of its missiles were sold to it by Colonel West

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

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An enemy of America counts as "hostile":

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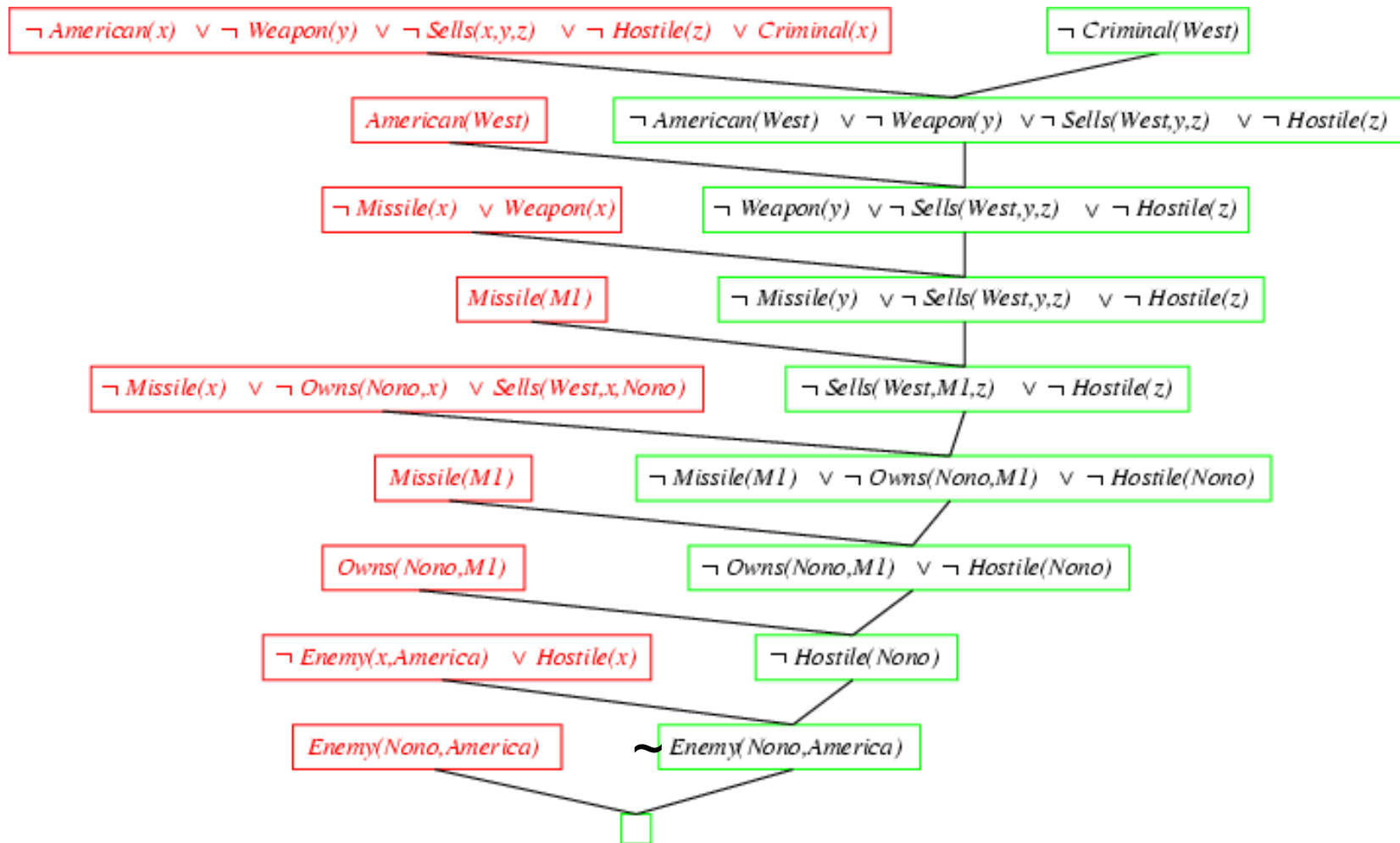
West, who is American ...

$American(West)$

The country Nono, an enemy of America ...

$Enemy(Nono,America)$

# Resolution proof: definite clauses



# Converting to clause form

$$\forall x, y P(x) \wedge P(y) \wedge I(x, 27) \wedge I(y, 28) \rightarrow S(x, y)$$

$$P(A), P(B)$$

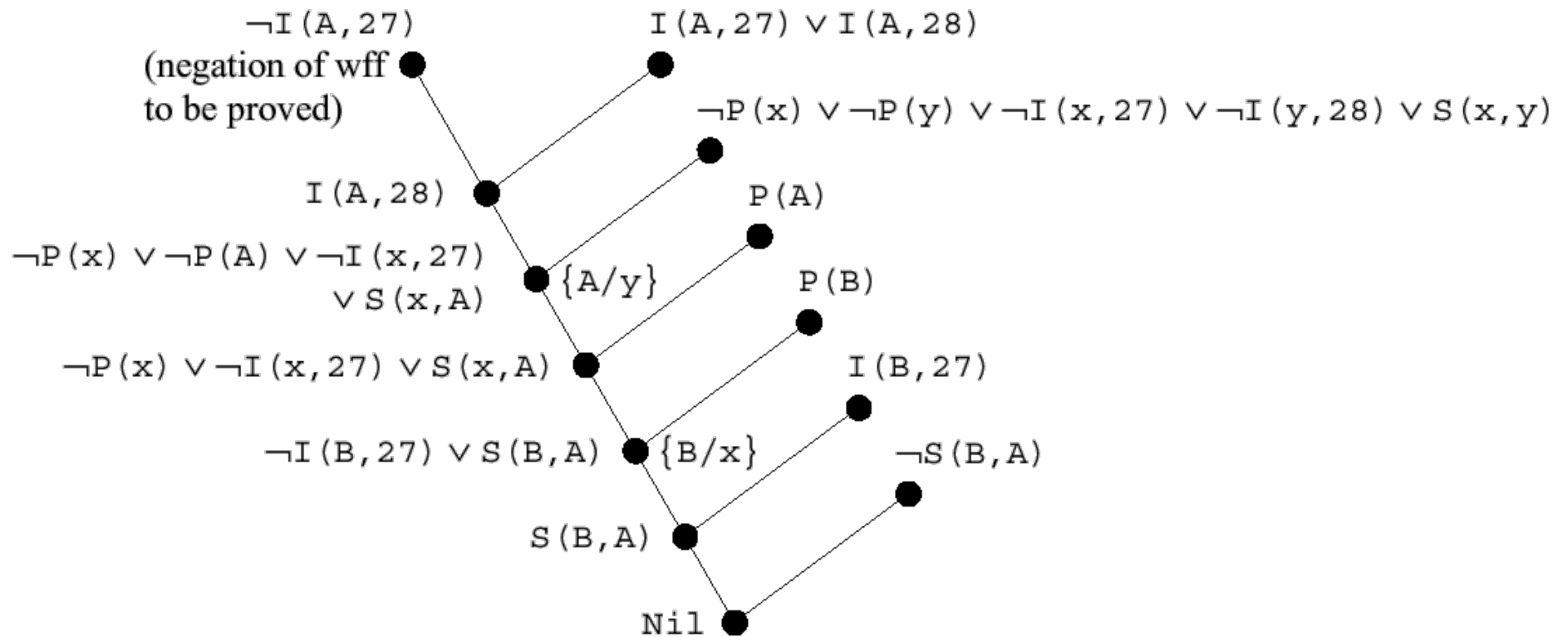
$$I(A, 27) \vee I(A, 28)$$

$$I(B, 27)$$

$$\neg S(B, A)$$

Prove  $I(A, 27)$

# Example: Resolution Refutation Prove $I(A, 27)$



## Example: Answer Extraction

