

Artificial Intelligence

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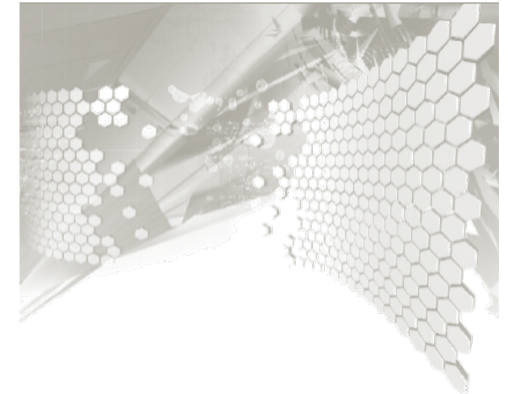
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First-Order Logic: Inference Techniques

We can do inference in propositional logic. Let us extend it to first-order logic now.

The main differences:

- quantifiers → **skolemization**
- functions and variables → **unification**



The core inference principles are known:

- **forward chaining** (deduction databases, production systems)
- **backward chaining** (logic programming)
- **resolution** (theorem proving)

Reasoning in first-order logic can be done by conversion to propositional logic and doing reasoning there.

- **Grounding** (propositionalization)
 - instantiate variables by all possible terms
 - atomic sentences then correspond to propositional variables
- And what about quantifiers?
 - universal quantifiers: each variable is substituted by a term
 - existential quantifier: **skolemization** (variable is substituted by a new constant)

Universal instantiation

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

For a variable **v** and a grounded term **g**, apply substitution of **g** for **v**.

Can be applied more times for different terms g.

– Example: $\forall x \text{King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Evil}(x)$ leads to:

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

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

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

...

Existential instantiation

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

For a variable **v** and a new constant **k**, apply substitution of **k** for **v**.

Can be applied once with a new constant that has not been used so far
(Skolem constant)

– Example: $\exists x \text{Crown}(x) \wedge \text{OnHead}(x, \text{John})$ leads to:

$\text{Crown}(C_1) \wedge \text{OnHead}(C_1, \text{John})$

Let us start with a knowledge base in FOL (**no functions** yet):

$\forall x (King(x) \wedge Greedy(x) \Rightarrow Evil(x))$

$King(John)$

$Greedy(John)$

$Brother(Richard, John)$

By assigning all possible constants for variables we will get a knowledge base in propositional logic:

$King(John) \wedge Greedy(John) \Rightarrow Evil(John)$

$King(Richard) \wedge Greedy(Richard) \Rightarrow Evil(Richard)$

$King(John)$

$Greedy(John)$

$Brother(Richard, John)$

Inference can be done in propositional logic then.

Problem: having even a single **function symbol** gives infinite number of terms: $LeftLeg(John)$, $LeftLeg(LeftLeg(John))$,...

- Herbrand: there is an inference in FOL from a given KB if there is an inference in PL from a finite subset of a fully instantiated KB
- We can add larger and larger terms to KB until we find a proof.
- However, if there is no proof, this procedure will never stop ☹.

We can modify the inference rules to work with FOL:

- **lifting** – we will do only such substitutions that we need to do
- **lifted Modus Ponens rule:**

$$\frac{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n, q_1 \wedge q_2 \wedge \dots \wedge q_n \Rightarrow q}{\text{Subst}(\theta, q)}$$

where θ is a substitution s.t. $\text{Subst}(\theta, p_i) = \text{Subst}(\theta, q_i)$
 (for **definite clauses** with exactly one positive literal – **rules**)

- We need to find substitution such that two sentences will be identical (after applying the substitution)
 - $\text{King}(\text{John}) \wedge \text{Greedy}(y)$ $\text{King}(x) \wedge \text{Greedy}(x)$
 - substitution $\{x/\text{John}, y/\text{John}\}$

How to find substitution θ such that two sentences p and q are identical after applying that substitution?

- $\text{Unify}(p,q) = \theta$, where $\text{Subst}(\theta,p) = \text{Subst}(\theta,q)$

p	q	θ
<i>Knows(John,x)</i>	<i>Knows(John,Jane)</i>	$\{x/\text{Jane}\}$
<i>Knows(John,x)</i>	<i>Knows(y,OJ)</i>	$\{x/OJ, y/\text{John}\}$
<i>Knows(John,x)</i>	<i>Knows(y,Mother(y))</i>	$\{y/\text{John}, x/\text{Mother}(\text{John})\}$
<i>Knows(John,x)</i>	<i>Knows(x,OJ)</i>	$\{\text{fail}\}$

- **What if there are more such substitutions?**

Knows(John,x) *Knows(y,z)*

$\Rightarrow \theta_1 = \{y/\text{John}, x/z\}$ or $\theta_2 = \{y/\text{John}, x/\text{John}, z/\text{John}\}$

- The first **substitution is more general** than the second one (the second substitution can be obtained by applying one more substitution after the first substitution $\{z/\text{John}\}$).
- There is a unique (except variable renaming) substitution that is more general than any other substitution unifying two terms – **the most general unifier** (mgu).

function UNIFY($x, y, \theta = \text{empty}$) **returns** a substitution to make x and y identical, or *failure*
if $\theta = \text{failure}$ **then return** *failure*
else if $x = y$ **then return** θ
else if VARIABLE?(x) **then return** UNIFY-VAR(x, y, θ)
else if VARIABLE?(y) **then return** UNIFY-VAR(y, x, θ)
else if COMPOUND?(x) **and** COMPOUND?(y) **then**
 return UNIFY(ARGS(x), ARGS(y), UNIFY(OP(x), OP(y), θ))
else if LIST?(x) **and** LIST?(y) **then**
 return UNIFY(REST(x), REST(y), UNIFY(FIRST(x), FIRST(y), θ))
else return *failure*

function UNIFY-VAR(var, x, θ) **returns** a substitution
if $\{var/val\} \in \theta$ for some val **then return** UNIFY(val, x, θ)
else if $\{x/val\} \in \theta$ for some val **then return** UNIFY(var, val, θ)
else if OCCUR-CHECK?(var, x) **then return** *failure*
else return add $\{var/x\}$ to θ

explore the sentences recursively and build mgu until obtaining trivially unifiable or different sentences

complex terms must have the same "name" and unifiable arguments

lists are being unified separately to omit cycles when representing the list as a term (First,Rest)

Checking occurrence of variable var in term x

- x and $f(x)$ are not unifiable
- gives quadratic time complexity
- there are also linear complexity algorithms
- not always done (Prolog)

Assume a **query** $Knows(John, x)$.

We can find an answer in the knowledge base by finding a fact **unifiable with the query**:

$Knows(John, Jane) \rightarrow \{x/Jane\}$

$Knows(y, Mother(y)) \rightarrow \{x/Mother(John)\}$

$Knows(x, Elizabeth) \rightarrow fail$

– ???

– $Knows(x, Elizabeth)$ means that anybody knows Elizabeth (universal quantifier is assumed there), so John knows Elizabeth.

– The problem is that both sentences contain variable **x** and hence cannot be unified.

– $\forall x Knows(x, Elizabeth)$ is identical to $\forall y Knows(y, Elizabeth)$

– Before we use any sentence from KB, we rename its variables to new fresh variables not ever used before – **standardizing apart**.

According to US law, any American citizen is a criminal, if he or she sells weapons to hostile countries. Nono is an enemy of USA. Nono owns missiles that colonel West sold to them. Colonel West is a US citizen.

Prove that West is a criminal.

... any US citizen is a criminal, if he or she sells weapons to hostile countries:

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

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

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

... colonel West sold missiles to Nono

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

Missiles are weapons.

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

Hostile countries are enemies of USA.

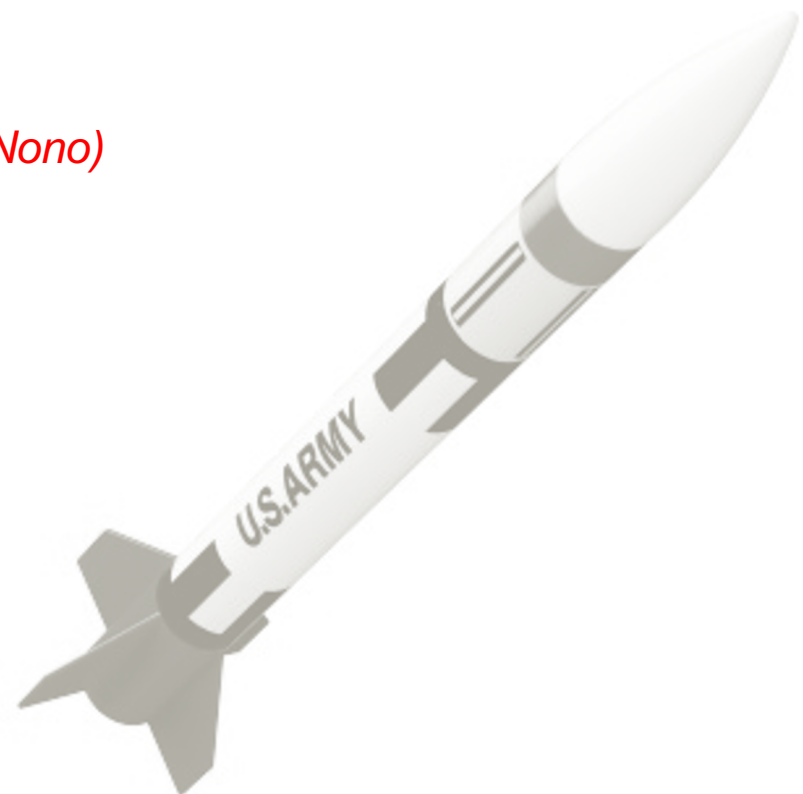
$Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$

West is a US citizen ...

$American(West)$

Nono is an enemy of USA ...

$Enemy(Nono,America)$



All sentences in the example are definite clauses and there are no function symbols there.

To solve the problem we can use:

- **forward chaining**

- using Modus Ponens we can infer all valid sentences
- this is an approach used in deductive databases (Datalog) and production systems

- **backward chaining**

- we can start with a query **Criminal(West)** and look for facts supporting that claim
- this is an approach used in logic programming

function FOL-FC-ASK(KB, α) **returns** a substitution or *false*

inputs: KB , the knowledge base, a set of first-order definite clauses
 α , 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**

$(p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n \Rightarrow q) \leftarrow \text{STANDARDIZE-VARIABLES}(rule)$

for each θ such that $\text{SUBST}(\theta, p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) = \text{SUBST}(\theta, p'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p'_n)$

for some p'_1, \dots, 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 ϕ is not *failure* **then return** ϕ

if $new = \{ \}$ **then return** *false*

add *new* to KB

take a rule from KB and rename its variables (standardizing apart)

infer all conclusions not yet present in KB

if we infer a sentence unifiable with the query then we can return the corresponding mgu

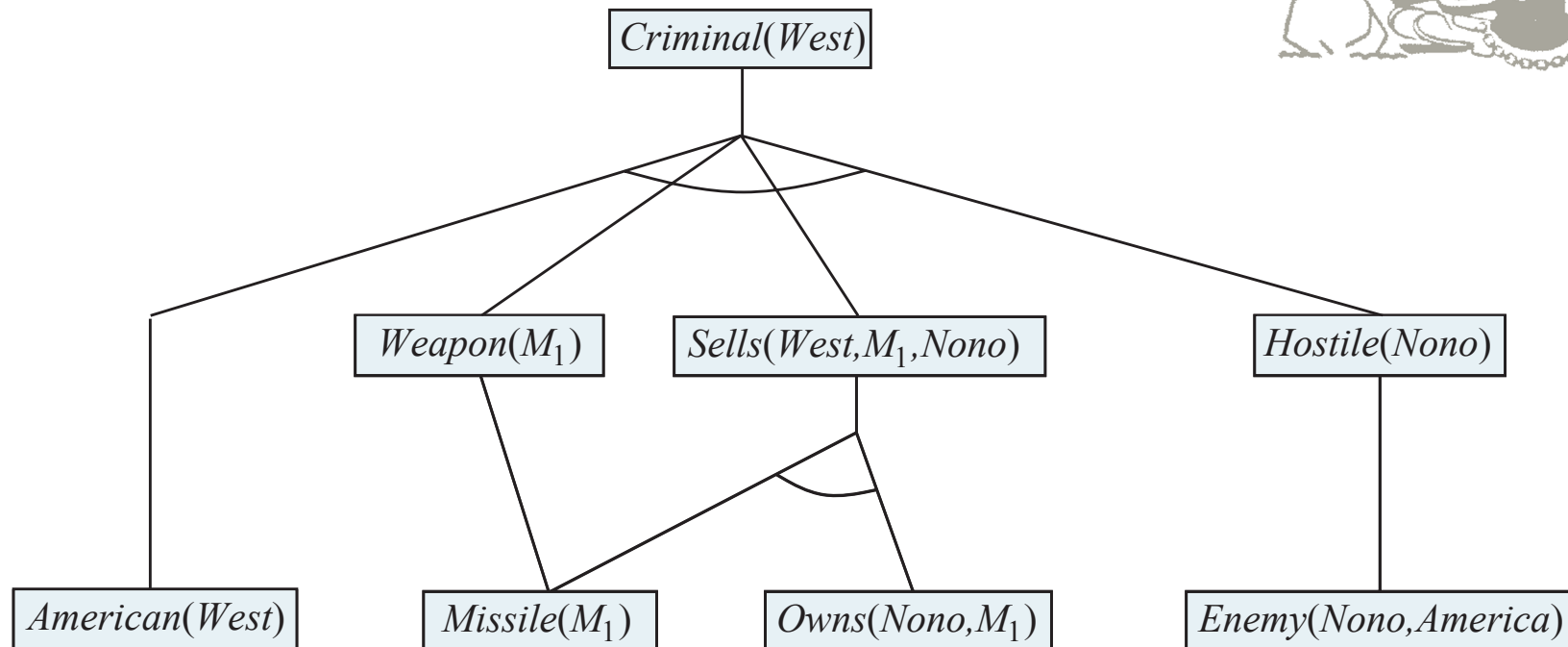
obtained sentences are placed to KB as theorems and the whole process is repeated

Forward chaining is a **sound** and **complete** inference algorithm.

- Beware! If the sentence is not entailed by KB then the algorithm may not finish (if there is at least one function symbol).

Forward chaining: an example

$American(x) \wedge Weapon(y) \wedge Sells(x,y,z) \wedge Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$
 $Owns(Nono,M1) \text{ and } Missile(M1) \text{ (from } \exists x Owns(Nono,x) \wedge Missile(x))$
 $Missile(x) \wedge Owns(Nono,x) \Rightarrow Sells(West,x,Nono)$
 $Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)$
 $Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$
 $American(West)$
 $Enemy(Nono,America)$



Forward chaining: pattern matching

for each θ such that $\text{SUBST}(\theta, p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) = \text{SUBST}(\theta, p'_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p'_n)$
for some p'_1, \dots, p'_n in KB

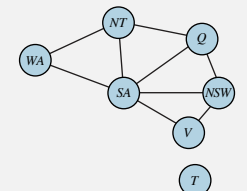
How to find (fast) a set of facts p'_1, \dots, p'_n unifiable with the body of the rule?

- This is called **pattern matching**.
- Example 1: *Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)*
 - we can **index the set of facts** according to predicate name so we can omit failing attempts such as *Unify(Missile(x), Enemy(Nono, America))*
- Example 2: *Missile(x) \wedge Owns(Nono, x) \Rightarrow Sells(West, x, Nono)*
 1. we can find objects own by Nono which are missiles ...
 2. or we can find missiles that are owned by NonoWhich order is better?
 - Start with less options (if there are two missiles while Nono owns many objects then alternative 2 is faster) – **recall the first-fail heuristic** from constraint satisfaction



Pattern matching is an NP-complete problem.

$\text{Diff}(wa, nt) \wedge \text{Diff}(wa, sa) \wedge \text{Diff}(nt, q) \wedge \text{Diff}(nt, sa) \wedge \text{Diff}(q, nsw) \wedge$
 $\text{Diff}(q, sa) \wedge \text{Diff}(nsw, v) \wedge \text{Diff}(nsw, sa) \wedge \text{Diff}(v, sa) \Rightarrow \text{Colorable}()$
 $\text{Diff}(\text{Red}, \text{Blue}), \text{Diff}(\text{Red}, \text{Green}), \text{Diff}(\text{Green}, \text{Red}), \text{Diff}(\text{Green}, \text{Blue}), \text{Diff}(\text{Blue}, \text{Red}), \text{Diff}(\text{Blue}, \text{Green})$



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

- during the iteration, the forward chaining algorithm infers that all known missiles are weapons
- during the second (and every other) iteration the algorithm deduces exactly the same information so KB is not updated

When should we use the rule in inference?

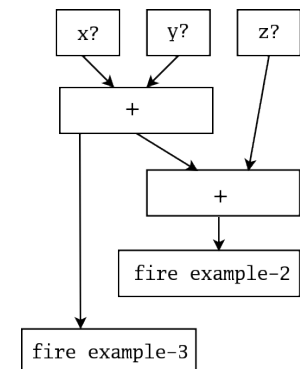
- if there is a new fact in KB that is also in the rule body

Incremental forward chaining

- a rule is fired in iteration t , if a new fact was inferred in iteration $(t-1)$ and this fact is unifiable with some fact in the rule body
- when a new fact is added to KB, we can verify all rules such that the fact unifies with a fact in rule body

– Rete algorithm

- the rules are pre-processed to a **dependency network** where it is faster to find the rules to be fired after adding a new fact



Forward chaining algorithm deduces all inferable facts even if they are not relevant to a query.

- to omit it we can use **backward chaining**
- another option is modifying the rules to work only with relevant constants using a so called **magic set**

Example: query Criminal(West)

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

Magic(West)

- The magic set can be constructed by backward exploration of used rules.



TESTY

COMPUTERWORLD 2, 2007 17

Podnikoví správci pravidel

Máte-li možnost dosáhnout flexibility, výkonu a snadné údržby vašich firemních aplikací díky implementaci nákladově efektivního produktu, jako je JBoss Rules nebo Jess, naskytá se otázka, v čem se tyto systémy liší od BRMS podnikové třídy. Několik rozdílů se mezi nimi přece jenom najde. Strana 18

Servery s architekturou x86

Servery postavené na architektuře x86, letitým a takřka nesmrtelným standardem, představují velmi efektivní řešení „hardwarového problému“ pro mnoho firem a širokou škálu aplikací. Jejich výkon lze díky stále lepším komponentám škálovat až do nebetných výšin a pevně se zde zabydlely i 64bitové technologie. Strana 20

Řízení obchodních pravidel

levně a jednoduše

JAMES OWEN

Uvážíme-li, že high-endové systémy pro řízení obchodních pravidel, BRMS (Business Rule Management System) vás vyjdou na zhruba 50 000 dolarů jen při zprovoznění a ze roční údržba, provozní poplatky a profesionální služby mohou celkové náklady vytáhnout téměř až k půl milionu nebo více, mají organizace s těsnějším rozpočtem velmi dobrou motivaci poohlédnout se po alternativách. Dobré volby našťastě existují – JBoss Rules a Jess představují solidní nástroje pro řízení pravidel a respektu hodný výkon za sympatickou cenu.

Dvěma z těch lepších BRMS nástrojů s nižší až nulovou cenou jsou Jess společnosti Sandia National Laboratories a JBoss Rules firmy JBoss, divize společnosti Red Hat. Stejně jako podnikové systémy jako Blaze Advisor společnosti Fair Isaac nebo JRules firmy ILog i Jess a JBoss odhalují obchodní logiku komplexních javových aplikací jako sadu pravidel, která mohou být rychle a snadno změněna beze změn v základním Java kódu. Nicméně na rozdíl od těchto systémů třídy Enterprise ani Jess, ani JBoss Rules neposkytují uživatelsky

přívětivá rozhraní (vizuální editor, diagramy toků či tabulkové GUI), jež dovolují běžným firemním/obchodním uživatelům stejně jako programátorům vkládat, měnit a mazat pravidla.

Na rozdíl od systémů Blaze Advisor a JRules postrádají Jess a JBoss Rules rovněž i plnohodnotný archiv pravidel (rule repository). Jess a JBoss Rules mohou být integrovány s CVS systémem pro kontrolu verzí, takové řešení však daleko zaostává za možnostmi řízení životního cyklu, granularní kontroly přístupů a rozsáhlého reportingu, poskytovanými sklady pravidel v podnikových produktech. Funkčně plně vybavený repository může být klíčem ke spolupráci mezi mnoha vývojáři a obchodními analytiky a bohaté možnosti reportingu mohou být nepostradatelnými prostředky pro ladění a optimalizaci.

Samozejmé, přístup vycházející z filozofie open source, který reprezentují Jess a JBoss, má také své výhody. Jak Jess, tak JBoss Rules vyvíjejí vývojáři z celého světa, kteří nepřetržitě hledají a opravují chyby, navrhnou nové funkce, píší nový kód a ve skutečnosti vlastně fungují jako neplacená inženýrská skupina starající se o tyto produkty. Váš IT personál by tak mohl – pod vedením uživatelské komunity Jess či JBoss Rules nebo konzultantů třetích stran – vyvinout uživatelsky přívětivé tabulkové GUI, vizuální editor toků a dalších žádoucích prostředků, které si budete přát. Takové snahy ale budou klást značné nároky na personál, školení a investice po dobu několika měsíců až let, zatímco problém, který potřebujete řešit, existuje právě nyní.

V kostce se dá říci, že Jess a JBoss Rules jsou nevhodnější pro menší projekty, kde archiv pravidel či rozsáhlé možnosti reportingu a ladění nepředstavují kritické požadavky a kde tvorba a údržba pravidel mohou být svěřeny jednomu nebo několika zasvěceným programátorům.

Sandia Labs Jess 7.0

Jess, systém společnosti Sandia Labs a Ernesta Friedmana-Hilla, byl, pokud je nám známo, první implementací na pravidlech založeného systému v Javě. Šlo o přímý výsledek portování dobře známých částí CLIPS (na jazyce C založeného rozhraní k Production Systems), projektu organizace NASA. Poté se začala objevovat řada high-endových systémů, jako je zmíněný JRules od ILog a Blaze Advisor od Fair Isaac. V následujících letech trval Fried-

- based on rete algorithm
- XCON (R1)
 - configuration of DEC computers
- OPS-5
 - programming language based on forward chaining
- CLIPS
 - A tool for expert system design from NASA
- Jess, JBoss Rules,...
 - business rules

Backward chaining in FOL

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

θ , the current substitution, initially the empty substitution $\{ \}$

local variables: ans , a set of substitutions, initially empty

if $goals$ is empty **then return** $\{ \theta \}$

take the first goal and apply the so-far found substitution

$q' \leftarrow \text{SUBST}(\theta, \text{FIRST}(goals))$

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

$ans \leftarrow \text{FOL-BC-ASK}(KB, [p_1, \dots, p_n | \text{REST}(goals)], \text{COMPOSE}(\theta, \theta')) \cup ans$

find a rule whose head is unifiable with the first goal (from query)

return ans

add the rule body among the goals and recursively continue in goal reduction until obtaining an empty goal

composition of substitutions

$\text{Subst}(\text{Compose}(\theta, \theta'), p) = \text{Subs}(\theta', \text{Subst}(\theta, p))$



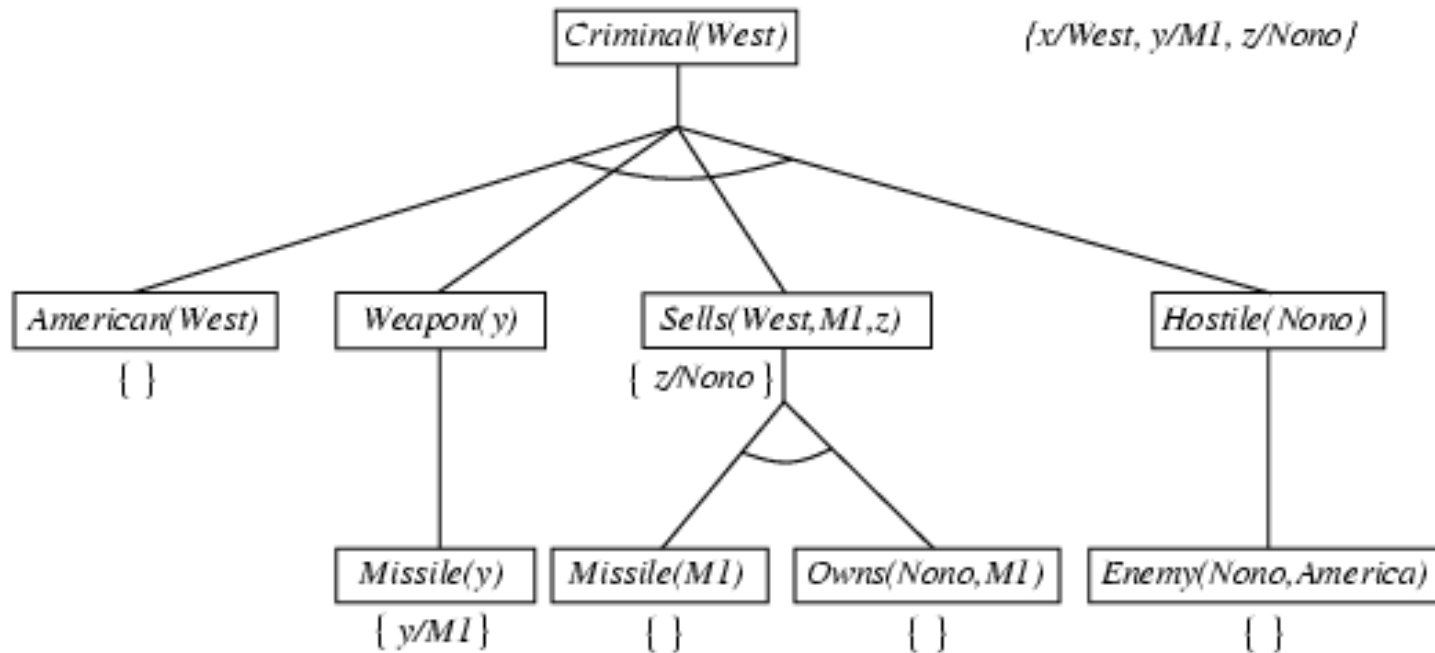
Algorithm FOL-BC-Ask uses **depth-first search** to find **all solutions** (all substitutions) to a given query.

We need **linear space** (in the length of the proof).


This algorithm is **not complete** (the same goals can be explored again and again).

Backward chaining: an example

$American(x) \wedge Weapon(y) \wedge Sells(x,y,z) \wedge Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$
 $Owns(Nono,M1) \wedge Missile(M1) \text{ (from } \exists x Owns(Nono,x) \wedge Missile(x))$
 $Missile(x) \wedge Owns(Nono,x) \Rightarrow Sells(West,x,Nono)$
 $Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)$
 $Enemy(x,America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$
 $American(West)$
 $Enemy(Nono,America)$



Backward chaining is a method used in **logic programming** (Prolog).



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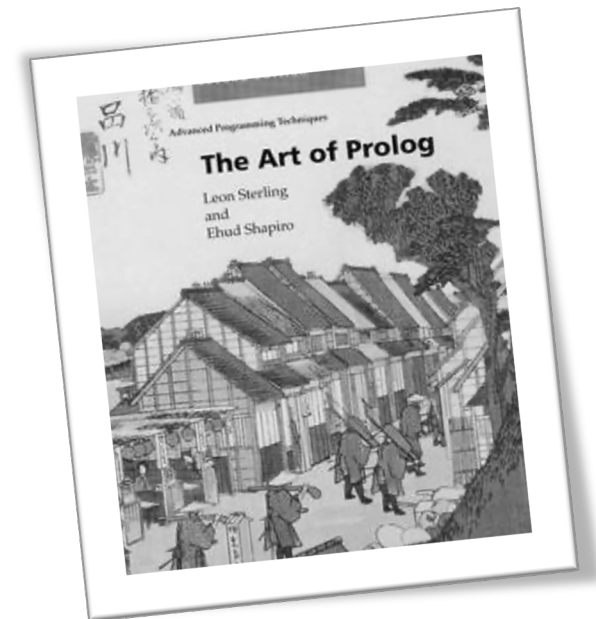
criminal(X) :-
    american(X) , weapon(Y) , sells(X,Y,Z) , hostile(Z) .
owns(nono,m1) .
missile(m1) .
sells(west,X,nono) :-
    missile(X) , owns(nono,X) .
weapon(X) :-
    missile(X) .
hostile(X) :-
    enemy(X,america) .
american(west) .
enemy(nono,america) .

?- criminal(west) .
    
```

```

?- criminal(west) .
?- american(west) , weapon(Y) ,
sells(west,Y,Z) , hostile(Z) .
?- weapon(Y) , sells(west,Y,Z) ,
hostile(Z) .
?- missile(Y) , sells(west,Y,Z) ,
hostile(Z) .
?- sells(west,m1,Z) , hostile(Z) .
?- missile(m1) , owns(nono,m1) ,
hostile(nono) .
?- owns(nono,m1) , hostile(nono) .
?- hostile(nono) .
?- enemy(nono,america) .
?- true .
    
```


- **fixed computation mechanism**
 - goal is reduced from left to right
 - rules are explored from top to down
- returns a **single solution**, a next solution on request
 - possible cycling (`brother(X,Y) :- brother(Y,X)`)
- build-in **arithmetic**
 - `X is 1+2.`
 - (numerically) evaluates the expression on right and unifies the result with the term on the left
- **equality** gives explicit access to unification
 - `1+Y = 3.`
 - It is possible to naturally exploit constraints (CLP – Constraint Logic Programming)
- **negation as failure**
 - `alive(X) :- not dead(X).`
 - „everyone is alive, if we cannot prove he is dead“
 - $\neg Dead(x) \Rightarrow Alive(x)$ is not a definite clause!
 - $Alive(x) \vee Dead(x)$
 - „Everyone is alive or dead“



To apply a **resolution method** we first need a formula in a **conjunctive normal form**.

- $\forall x [\forall y \text{Animal}(y) \Rightarrow \text{Loves}(x,y)] \Rightarrow [\exists y \text{Loves}(y,x)]$
- **remove implications**
 $\forall x [\neg \forall y \neg \text{Animal}(y) \vee \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists y \text{Loves}(y,x)]$
- **put negation inside** ($\neg \forall x p \equiv \exists x \neg p$, $\neg \exists x p \equiv \forall x \neg p$)
 $\forall x [\exists y \neg(\neg \text{Animal}(y) \vee \text{Loves}(x,y))] \vee [\exists y \text{Loves}(y,x)]$
 $\forall x [\exists y \neg \neg \text{Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists y \text{Loves}(y,x)]$
 $\forall x [\exists y \text{Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists y \text{Loves}(y,x)]$
- **standardize variables**
 $\forall x [\exists y \text{Animal}(y) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,y)] \vee [\exists z \text{Loves}(z,x)]$
- **Skolemize** (Skolem functions)
 $\forall x [\text{Animal}(F(x)) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,F(x))] \vee [\text{Loves}(G(x),x)]$
- **remove universal quantifiers**
 $[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \wedge \neg \text{Loves}(x,F(x))] \vee [\text{Loves}(G(x),x)]$
- **distribute** \vee and \wedge
 $[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)] \wedge [\neg \text{Loves}(x,F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)]$

A lifted version of the resolution rule for first-order logic:

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

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

We assume standardization apart so variables are not shared by clauses.

To make the method complete we need to:

- extend the binary resolution to more literals
- use **factoring** to remove redundant literals (those that can be unified together)

Example:

$$\frac{[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \vee \text{Loves}(G(x),x)], \quad [\neg \text{Loves}(u,v) \vee \neg \text{Kills}(u,v)]}{[\text{Animal}(F(x)) \vee \neg \text{Kills}(G(x),x)]}$$

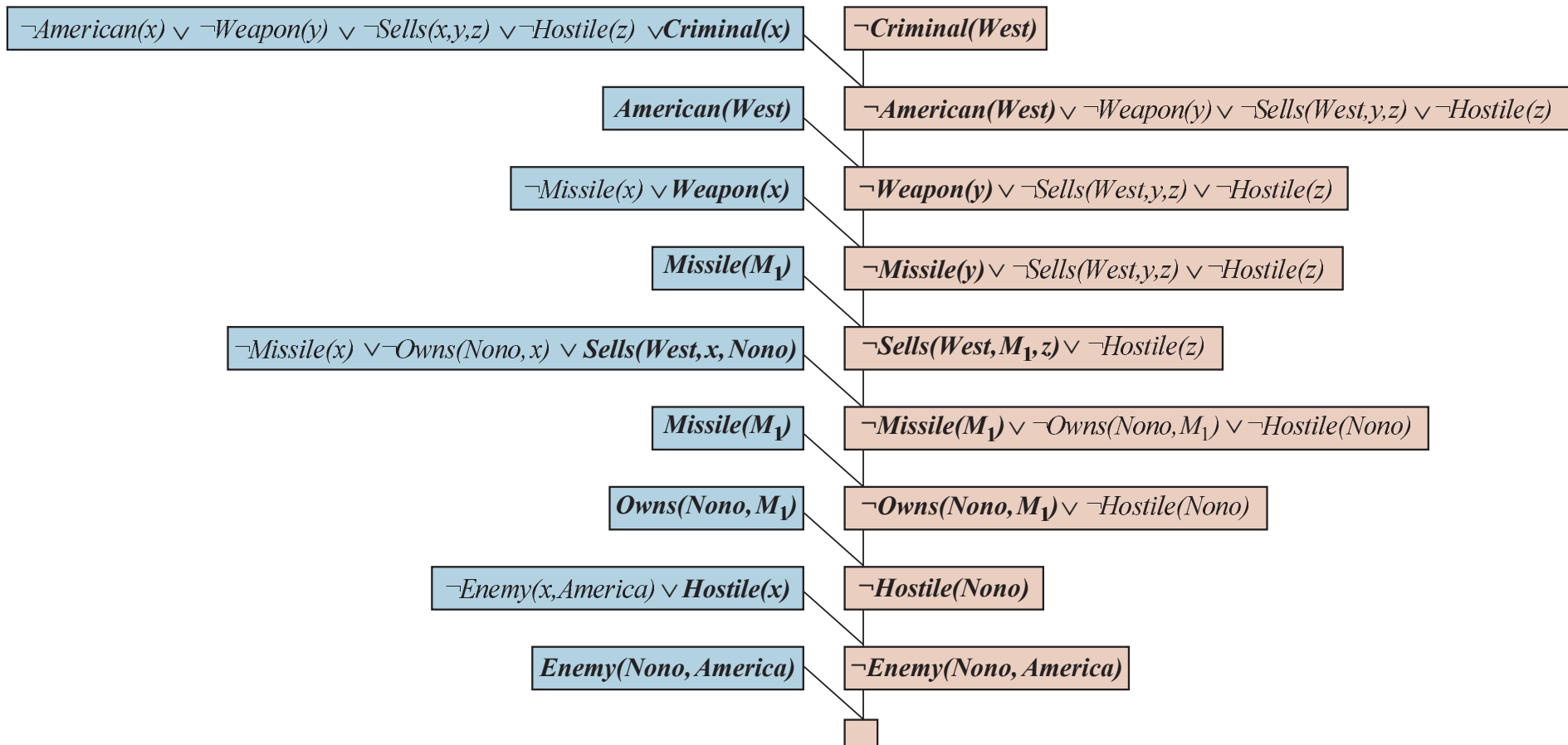
where $\theta = \{u/G(x), v/x\}$

Query α for KB is answered by applying the resolution rule to $\text{CNF}(\text{KB} \wedge \neg \alpha)$.

- If we obtain an empty clause, then $\text{KB} \wedge \neg \alpha$ is not satisfiable and hence $\text{KB} \models \alpha$.

This is a **sound** and **complete** inference method for first-order logic.

Resolution method: an example



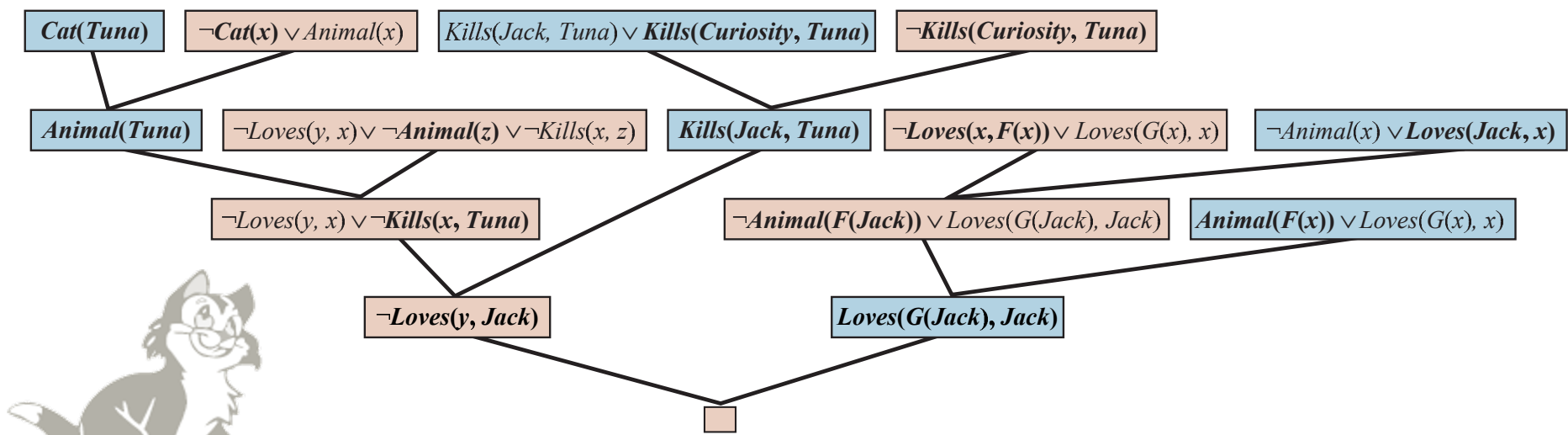
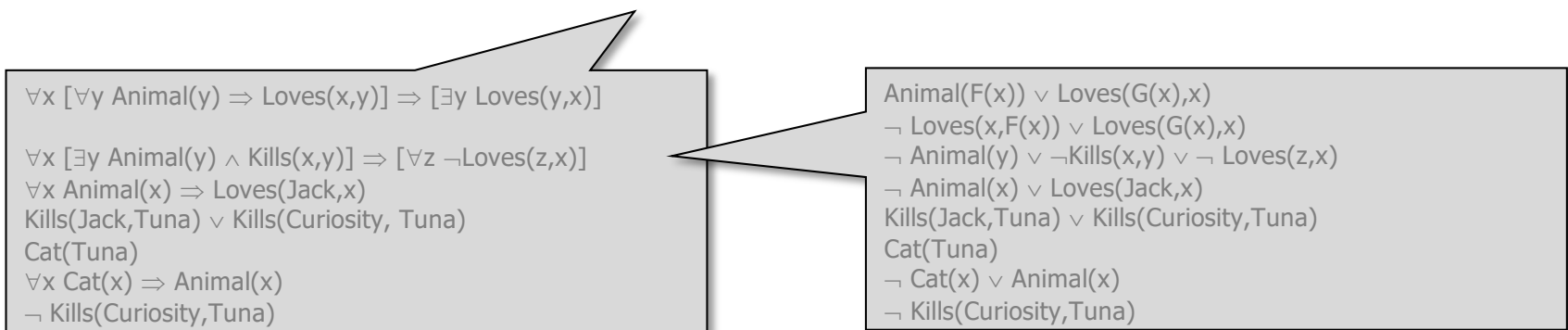
Resolution method applied to definite clauses is actually **backward chaining**, where the clauses to resolve are determined.

$American(x) \wedge Weapon(y) \wedge Sells(x,y,z) \wedge Hostile(z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$
 $Owns(Nono, M_1) \text{ and } Missile(M_1) \text{ (from } \exists x Owns(Nono, x) \wedge Missile(x))$
 $Missile(x) \wedge Owns(Nono, x) \Rightarrow Sells(West, x, Nono)$
 $Missile(x) \Rightarrow Weapon(x)$
 $Enemy(x, America) \Rightarrow Hostile(x)$
 $American(West)$
 $Enemy(Nono, America)$

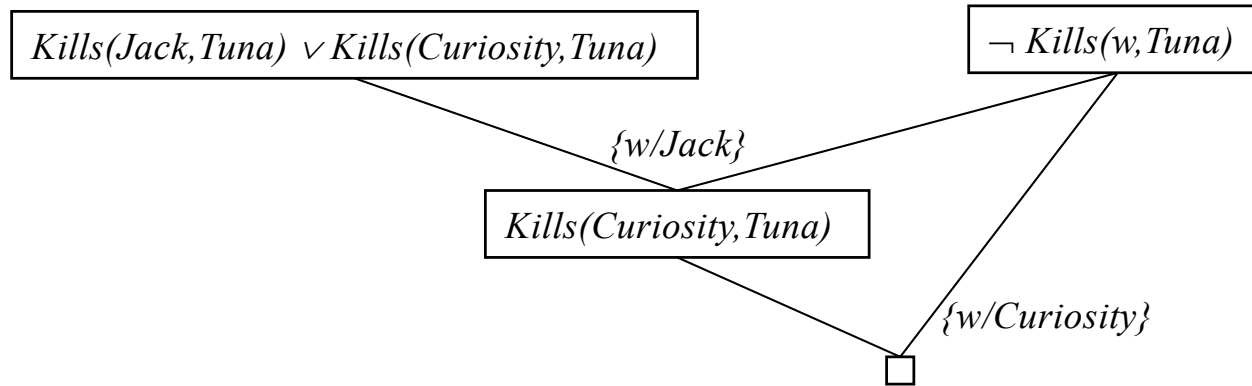
Resolution: a complex example

Everyone, who likes animals, is loved by somebody. Everyone, who kills animals, is loved by nobody. Jack likes all animals. Either Jack or Curiosity killed cat named Tuna. Cats are animals.

Did Curiosity kill Tuna?



What if the query is „**Who did kill Tuna?**“



The answer is „**Yes, somebody killed Tuna**“.

We can include an **answer literal** in the query.

$\neg Kills(w, Tuna) \vee Answer(w)$

– The previous non-constructive proof would give now:

$Answer(Curiosity) \vee Answer(Jack)$

– Hence we need to use the original proof leading to:

$\neg Kills(Curiosity, Tuna)$

How to **effectively** find proofs by resolution?

- **unit resolution**

- the goal is obtaining an empty clause so it is good if the clauses are shortening
- hence we prefer a resolution step with a unit clause (contains one literal)
- in general, one cannot restrict to unit clauses only, but for Horn clauses this is a complete method (corresponds to forward chaining)

- **a set of support**

- this is a special set of clauses such that one clause for resolution is always selected from this set and the resolved clause is added to this set
- initially, this set can contain the negated query

- **input resolution**

- each resolution step involves at least one clause from the input – either query or initial clauses in KB
- this is not a complete method

- **subsumption**

- eliminates clauses that are subsumed (are more specific than) by another sentence in KB
- having $P(x)$, means that adding $P(A)$ and $P(A) \vee Q(B)$ to KB is not necessary

How can we handle **equalities** in the inference methods?

- **Axiomatizing equality**

$$\forall x \ x=x$$

$$\forall x,y \ x=y \Rightarrow y=x$$

$$\forall x,y,z \ x=y \wedge y=z \Rightarrow x=z$$

$$\forall x,y \ x=y \Rightarrow P(x) \Leftrightarrow P(y)$$

$$\forall x,y \ x=y \Rightarrow F(x) = F(y)$$

...

- **Special inference rules such as demodulation**

$$\frac{x=y \quad m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_n}{\text{sub}(x\theta, y\theta, m_1 \vee \dots \vee m_n)}$$

where $\text{Unify}(x, z) = \theta$, where x appears somewhere in m_i , and $\text{sub}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{m})$ replaces \mathbf{x} for \mathbf{y} in \mathbf{m}

$$\frac{\text{Father}(\text{Father}(x)) = \text{PaternalGrandfather}(x) \quad \text{Birthdate}(\text{Father}(\text{Father}(\text{Bella})), 1926)}{\text{Birthdate}(\text{PaternalGrandfather}(\text{Bella}), 1926)}$$

- **Extended unification**

- handle equality directly by the unification algorithm





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