

# PROLOG

- install either
  - GNU Prolog (gprolog): <http://www.gprolog.org/>
  - SWI-Prolog (swipl): <https://www.swi-prolog.org/>
  - these are generally command-line programs, but there are graphical IDEs
- tutorial
  - <https://people.engr.tamu.edu/ioerger/prolog.txt>

# Prolog Syntax

- Definite clauses (fact and conjunctive rules)
- facts: predicates with args, *followed by a period*.
  - `color(apple,red). meat(hamburger). in(london,england). college_of(csceDept,engineering).`
  - predicate names and constants must start with lower case
- rules:
  - write them backwards, using `:-` for  $\leftarrow$  (read it as “if”)
  - use commas for ‘and’
  - drop  $\forall$ ; variable must start with upper case
  - $\forall x,m,st \text{ graduated}(x,m) \wedge \text{medicalSchool}(m) \wedge \text{passedBoards}(x,st) \rightarrow \text{doctor}(x)$
  - `doctor(X) :- graduated(X,M),medicalSchool(M),passedBoards(X,State).`
  - "X is a doctor IF X graduated from a medical school and passed board exams in some state"

# Using Prolog

- run it from command-line, get interactive prompt

```
> swipl
Welcome to SWI-Prolog (threaded, 64 bits, version 7.6.4)
1 ?-
```
- load .pl files

```
1 ?- ['examples.pl']. // shorthand for consult('examples.pl').
```
- type in queries (see next slide)
- quitting

```
2 ?- halt.
```
- if you trigger an error warning, type 'a' to abort back to prompt

```
3 ?- foo(_).
ERROR: Undefined procedure: foo/1
Exception: (8) foo(_8282) ? a
% Execution Aborted
4 ?-
```

# Using Prolog

- make queries
  - solutions are variable bindings, not just T/F – this is how Prolog *computes*
  - get additional solutions by typing ‘;’
    - 4 ?- color(X). // equiv. to: " $\exists x$  color(x) ?"
    - X = red ;
    - X = green ;
    - X = blue.
  - you can also make queries with multiple goals, with commas:
    - lawyer(X),licensedIn(X,alabama).
      - X = atticusFinch ...
    - teachesAt(Faculty,tamu),degree(Faculty,phd),field(Faculty,math).
      - Faculty=stephen\_fulling ;
      - Faculty=boris\_hanin...

# Prolog does Back-chaining (with unification)

```
animal(X) :- mammal(X).
animal(X) :- bird(X).
animal(X) :- fish(X).
mammal(X) :- dog(X).
mammal(X) :- cat(X).
bird(X) :- canary(X).
bird(X) :- penguin(X).
bird(X) :- owl(X).
```

```
dog(fido).
dog(snoopy).
cat(garfield).
canary(tweety).
canary(woodstock).
penguin(opus).
owl(hedwig).
person(john).
state(rhode_island).
```

```
4 ?- animal(X).
X = fido ;
X = snoopy ;
X = garfield ;
X = tweety ;
X = woodstock ;
X = opus ;
X = hedwig ;
```

goal-stack:

```
animal(X)
  mammal(X) // try first rule, choice-point
    dog(X).
      X=fido (solution 1)
      X=snoopy
      no more solutions, so back-track
    cat(X).
      X=garfield
  bird(X)
    canary(X).
      X=tweety
    penguin(X).
```

*Note - you can ask Prolog to display tracing info during a query by typing 'trace.'*  
*Then type the query. To get out of it, type 'nodebug.'*

# Prolog files (.pl)

- rules can span across multiple lines
- order matters! (for back-chaining)
- group your facts or rules of same predicate name together
  - otherwise, it might give you a warning, which is harmless
- comments are indicated by '%'
- if ';' isn't working right, try this:  
`set_prolog_flag(tty_control,false).`

# Colonel West example in Prolog

colonel west.pl:

% from AIMA

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

weapon(Y) :- missile(Y).

hostile(Z) :- enemy(Z,america).

sells(west,m1,nono).

missile(m1).

enemy(nono,america).

query:

?- criminal(A).

A = west.

- there is a lot of other stuff in Prolog
    - numerics: there are predicates for doing math (+, \*, log...), and operators for comparison (<, =, etc)
    - negation: (we will talk about this later)
    - lists: special notation for using lists as terms, ([Head|Rest])
    - 'cut' (!): operator for controlling execution flow
    - '\_': anonymous variables
    - format(): for printing out strings
      - this always evaluates to True as an antecedent, but prints out as side-effect of execution.
- ```
message(M,Name) :- format("~w from ~w", [M,Name]).  
?- message("hello", "joe").  
hello from joe
```



# Doing Math in Prolog

- suppose you want to write a function for 'doubling' numbers

- write a predicate with 2 args, to be used as 'input' and 'output'
- in the body, use 'is' to bind a variable to a computed value
- this will get unified and returned when the predicate succeeds

```
double(X,Y) :- Y is 2*X.
```

```
?- double(5,A).
```

```
A = 10
```

- other functions are usually available, like sin, exp, sqrt

```
tan(Theta,Z) :- C is cos(Theta), S is sin(Theta), Z is S/C. % in radians
```

- can you write a conversion function: `radians(Deg, Rad) :- ...?`

- comparison operators act like regular antecedents, i.e. tests that are T or F.

- see [http://www.gprolog.org/manual/html\\_node/gprolog030.html](http://www.gprolog.org/manual/html_node/gprolog030.html)

```
large_frog(X) :- frog(X), length(X,W), W > 10. % large frogs are over 10 cm long
```

```
odd(A) :- B is A mod 2, B==1.
```

```
even(A) :- B is A mod 2, B\==1. % '\==' is inequality operator in gprolog
```

- can define mathematical functions in prolog
- typically defined as relations with args for input AND output

```

factorial(1,1) . % base case
factorial(N,F) :- % rule
    N>1,
    N1 is N-1,
    factorial(N1,F1) ,
    F is N * F1.

```

```

?- factorial(10,N) .
N = 3628800.

```

execution trace:

```

factorial(10,N) calls
factorial(9,N) calls
factorial(8,N) calls
...
factorial(2,N) calls
factorial(1,N) which returns
factorial(1,1).
factorial(2,2).
factorial(3,6).
factorial(4,24)...
factorial(10,3628800).

```

You can use this idea to calculate square roots by Newton-Raphson iteration. Write Prolog rules to define `sqrt(A,B)`.

# Paradigms for Programming in Prolog (Use Cases)

- 1. Expressing FOL sentences that define concepts

- examples

- `criminal(X) :-... weapon(W) :- ... hostile(C) :- ...`
- `check(Board,Player) :- % in the sense of chess`
- `loan_at_risk_of_default(L) :-`
- `invasive_surgery(P) :-`
- `can_graduate(P) :-`
- `grandmother(A,B) :- mother(A,C),mother(C,B). % if there exists a C in between`
- `safe(Row,Col) :- % from wumpus world`
- ...

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

# Paradigms for Programming in Prolog (Use Cases)

- 2. Datalog

- predicates encode facts like tuples in a database
- rules query them like 'joins'
- rules can also define higher concepts, and search for combinations of facts that satisfy them
- example: define 'outpatient\_procedure(X)' based on body parts or equipment used, and then search database for all outpatient procedures performed

```
state(al).  
state(ak).  
state(ca).  
state(co).  
...  
ocean(atlantic).  
ocean(pacific).  
island(Hi).
```

```
adjacent(ca,pacific).  
adjacent(fl,atlantic).  
adjacent(ny,atlantic).  
adjacent(tx,atlantic).  
adjacent(hi,pacific).
```

```
...
```

```
eastCoast(S) :- state(S),adjacent(S,atlantic).  
westCoast(S) :- state(S),adjacent(S,pacific).  
coastal(S) :- state(S),ocean(O),adjacent(S,O).
```

# Paradigms for Programming in Prolog (Use Cases)

- 3. Calculating mathematical functions
  - include multiple args for 'input' values (bound when called) and 'output' (bound when return)
  - `double(5,A).` => `A=10`
  - `factorial(5,F).` => `F=120`

# Paradigms for Programming in Prolog (Use Cases)

- 4. Enumerating Combinations of things

- generate all 3-bit strings (assigning values 0/1 to vars A-C)

```
bits3(A,B,C) :- bit(A),bit(B),bit(C).
```

```
bit(0).
```

```
bit(1).
```

- think about how back-tracking works by trying A=0, B=0, C=0 first (since bit(A) unifies with bit(0) hence A is bound to 0...),
- then changes C from 0 to 1 for second solution, then backtracks and flips B to 1 and sets C to 0 again...

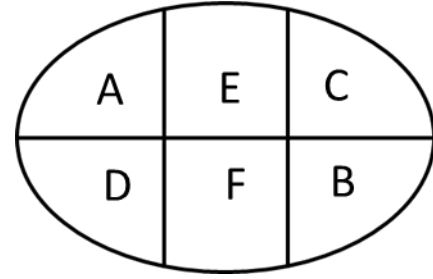
```
?- bits3(A,B,C).  
A = 0, B = 0, C = 0 ;  
A = 0, B = 0, C = 1 ;  
A = 0, B = 1, C = 0 ;  
A = 0, B = 1, C = 1 ;  
A = 1, B = 0, C = 0 ;  
A = 1, B = 0, C = 1 ;  
A = 1, B = 1, C = 0 ;  
A = 1, B = 1, C = 1.
```

type semi-colon to  
get all 8 solutions

# Paradigms for Programming in Prolog (Use Cases)

- 5. solving Constraint Satisfaction Problems
  - generate possible solution combinatorially; then check to see if they satisfy constraints (generate-and-test paradigm)
  - example: map-coloring (see next slide)
  - try implementing cryptarithmic problems like SEND+MORE=MONEY
    - hint: generate all combinations of digit assignments, then check for correctness
  - try solving the 5-queens problem
    - hint: generate all possible locations for 5 queens, and eliminate any that have attacks

# Using Prolog to solve the map-color CSP



```
color(red). color(green). color(blue).  
mapcolor(A,B,C,D,E,F) :-  
    color(A),color(B),color(C),color(D),color(E),color(F),  
    A \== D, A \== E, D \== F, E \== F, E \== C, F \== B, B \== C.  
  
?- map_color(A,B,C,D,E,F).  
A = red, B = red, C = green, F = green, D = blue, E = blue ;  
A = red, B = red, C = blue, F = blue, D = ggreen, E = green ;  
...
```

```
% generate all  
possible colorings  
  
% apply adjacency  
constraints
```