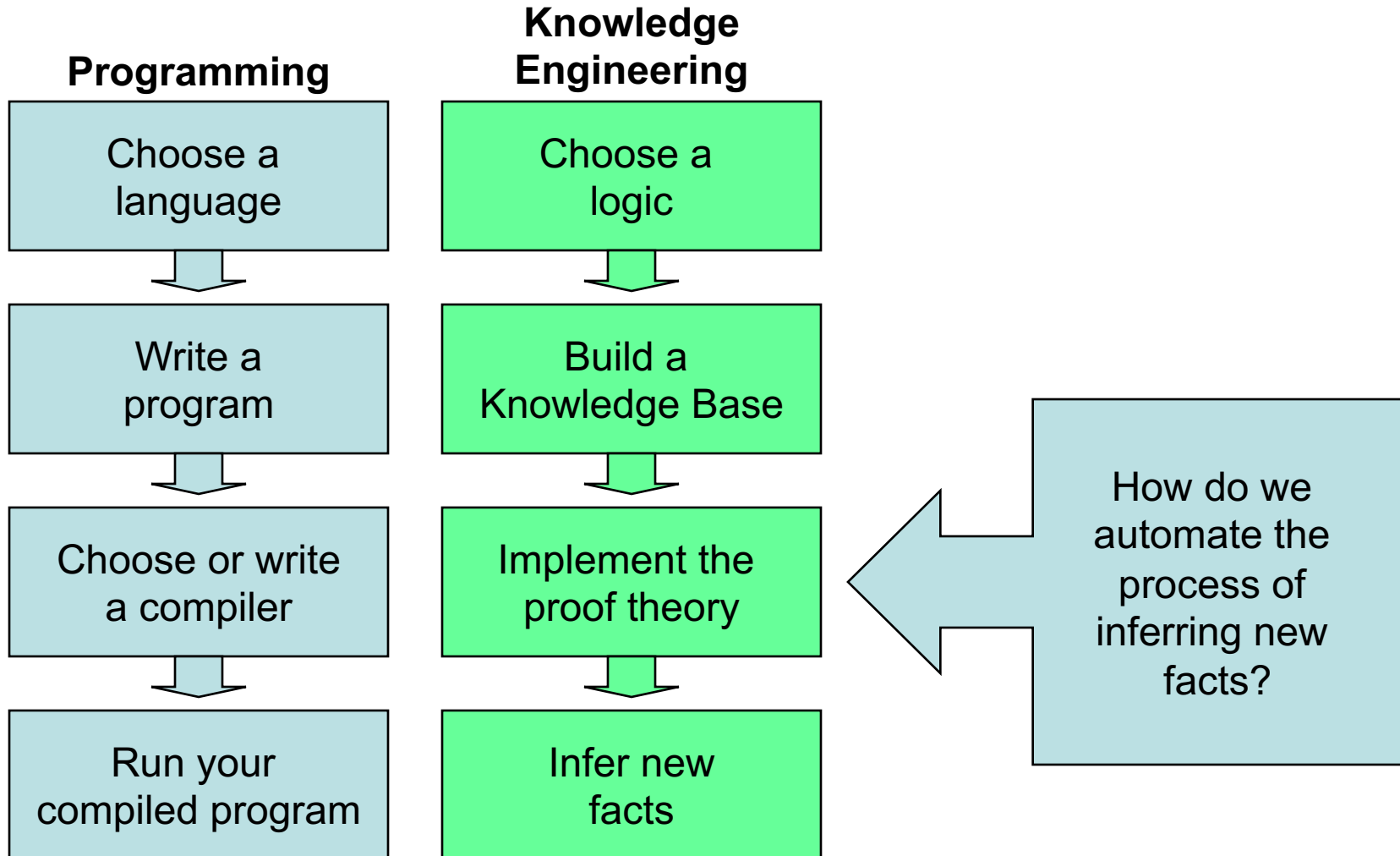


# Inference

CPSC 470 – Artificial Intelligence

Brian Scassellati

# Analogies to Programming



# Review of Inference in Propositional Logic

# Inference Rules for Propositional Logic

- Modus Ponens (Implication-Elimination)
  - From an implication and its premise, infer conclusion

$$\frac{\alpha \Rightarrow \beta , \alpha}{\beta}$$

- And-Elimination
  - From a conjunction, you can infer any conjunct

$$\frac{\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2 \wedge \alpha_3 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_n}{\alpha_i}$$

# Inference Rules for Propositional Logic

- And-Introduction

- From a list of sentences, you can infer the conjunct

$$\frac{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n}{\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_n}$$

- Or-Introduction

- From a sentence, infer its disjunction with anything

$$\frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_1 \vee \alpha_2 \vee \dots \vee \alpha_n}$$

# Inference Rules for Propositional Logic

- Double-Negative Elimination

- From a double negation, infer the positive sentence

$$\frac{\neg\neg\alpha}{\alpha}$$

- Unit Resolution

- From a disjunction in which one is false, then you can infer the other is true

$$\frac{\alpha \vee \beta, \neg\beta}{\alpha}$$

# Inference Rules for Propositional Logic

- Resolution

- Since beta cannot be both true and false, one of the disjuncts must be true

$$\frac{\alpha \vee \beta , \neg\beta \vee \gamma}{\alpha \vee \gamma}$$

- Implication is transitive

$$\frac{\alpha \Rightarrow \beta , \beta \Rightarrow \gamma}{\alpha \Rightarrow \gamma}$$

# First-Order Logic Requires Additional Rules of Inference



# Inference involving Quantifiers

- Remove variables using a substitution function

$\text{Subst}(\theta, \alpha)$  : apply the binding list  $\theta$  to the sentence  $\alpha$

$\text{Subst}(\{x/\text{Tom}, y/\text{Jerry}\}, \text{Chases}(x,y)) = \text{Chases}(\text{Tom}, \text{Jerry})$

# Inference involving Quantifiers

- Universal Elimination

- For any sentence  $\alpha$ , variable  $v$ , and ground term  $g$

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

- For example, from  $\forall x \text{Likes}(x, \text{FrenchFries})$  we can substitute  $\{x/\text{Ben}\}$  to conclude  $\text{Likes}(\text{Ben}, \text{FrenchFries})$

# Inference involving Quantifiers

- Existential Elimination

- For any sentence  $\alpha$ , variable  $v$ , and constant symbol  $k$  that does not appear elsewhere

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

- For example,  $\exists x \text{Kill}(x, \text{Victim})$  we can infer  $\text{Kill}(\text{Murderer}, \text{Victim})$
- ONLY works when **Murderer** does not already appear in the KB

# Inference involving Quantifiers

- Existential Introduction

- For any sentence  $\alpha$ , variable  $v$  that does **not** occur in  $\alpha$  and ground term  $g$  that does appear in  $\alpha$

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

- For example, from **Speaks(Jim, German)** we can infer  $\exists x$  **Speaks(x, German)**

# An Example Proof

It is a crime for an American to sell alcohol to a minor. Jimmy, a minor, has some beer. All of Jimmy's beer was sold to him by Nathan, an American.

Prove that Nathan is a criminal.

Goal: Criminal(Nathan)

1.  $\forall x,y,z \text{ American}(x) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(y) \wedge \text{Minor}(z) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$
2.  $\text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy})$
3.  $\exists x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x)$
4.  $\forall x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},x,\text{Jimmy})$
5.  $\text{American}(\text{Nathan})$
6.  $\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
1	$\forall x,y,z \text{ American}(x) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(y) \wedge \text{Minor}(z) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$	given
2	Minor(Jimmy)	given
3	$\exists x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x)$	given
4	$\forall x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},x,\text{Jimmy})$	given
5	American(Nathan)	given
6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
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4	$\forall x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},x,\text{Jimmy})$	given
5	American(Nathan)	given
6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given
7	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1)$	Existential elim on 3

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
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5	American(Nathan)	given
6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given
7	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1)$	Existential elim on 3
8a	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1)$	And-elim on 7
8b	$\text{Beer}(B1)$	



#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
1	$\forall x,y,z \text{ American}(x) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(y) \wedge \text{Minor}(z) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$	given
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3	$\exists x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x)$	given
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6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given
7	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1)$	Existential elim on 3
8a	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1)$	And-elim on 7
8b	$\text{Beer}(B1)$	
9	$\text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Universal elim on 6

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
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10	$\text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Modus ponens 9, 8b

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	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
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5	American(Nathan)	given
6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given
7	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1)$	Existential elim on 3
8a	Owns(Jimmy, B1)	And-elim on 7
8b	Beer(B1)	
9	$\text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Universal elim on 6
10	Alcohol(B1)	Modus ponens 9, 8b
11	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy},B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	Universal elim on 4

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
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4	$\forall x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},x,\text{Jimmy})$	given
5	American(Nathan)	given
6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given
7	<b>Owns(Jimmy, B1) <math>\wedge</math> Beer(B1)</b>	Existential elim on 3
8a	Owns(Jimmy, B1)	And-elim on 7
8b	Beer(B1)	
9	$\text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Universal elim on 6
10	Alcohol(B1)	Modus ponens 9, 8b
11	<b>Owns(Jimmy,B1) <math>\wedge</math> Beer(B1) <math>\Rightarrow</math> Sells(Nathan,B1,Jimmy)</b>	Universal elim on 4
12	<b>Sells(Nathan,B1,Jimmy)</b>	<b>Modus ponens 11 7</b>

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11	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy},B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	Universal elim on 4
12	$\text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	Modus ponens 11 7
13	$\text{American}(\text{Nathan}) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(B1) \wedge \text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy}) \wedge \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy}) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(\text{Nathan})$	Universal elim on 1 (x3)

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	Criminal(Nathan)	-- GOAL --
1	$\forall x,y,z \text{ American}(x) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(y) \wedge \text{Minor}(z) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$	given
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6	$\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$	given
7	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1)$	Existential elim on 3
8a	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1)$	And-elim on 7
8b	$\text{Beer}(B1)$	
9	$\text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Universal elim on 6
10	Alcohol(B1)	Modus ponens 9, 8b
11	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy},B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	Universal elim on 4
12	Sells(Nathan,B1,Jimmy)	Modus ponens 11 7
13	$\text{American}(\text{Nathan}) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(B1) \wedge \text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy}) \wedge \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy}) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(\text{Nathan})$	Universal elim on 1 (x3)
14	American(Nathan) $\wedge$ Alcohol(B1) $\wedge$ Minor(Jimmy) $\wedge$ Sells(Nathan,B1,Jimmy)	And introduction 5, 10, 2, 12

#	FOPC statement	Reasoning
	<b>Criminal(Nathan)</b>	<b>-- GOAL --</b>
1	$\forall x,y,z \text{ American}(x) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(y) \wedge \text{Minor}(z) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$	given
2	$\text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy})$	given
3	$\exists x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x)$	given
4	$\forall x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},x,\text{Jimmy})$	given
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7	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1)$	Existential elim on 3
8a	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy}, B1)$	And-elim on 7
8b	$\text{Beer}(B1)$	
9	$\text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Universal elim on 6
10	$\text{Alcohol}(B1)$	Modus ponens 9, 8b
11	$\text{Owns}(\text{Jimmy},B1) \wedge \text{Beer}(B1) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	Universal elim on 4
12	$\text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	Modus ponens 11 7
13	$\text{American}(\text{Nathan}) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(B1) \wedge \text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy}) \wedge \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy}) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(\text{Nathan})$	Universal elim on 1 (x3)
14	$\text{American}(\text{Nathan}) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(B1) \wedge \text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy}) \wedge \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},B1,\text{Jimmy})$	And introduction 5, 10, 2, 12
15	<b>Criminal(Nathan)</b>	<b>Modus ponens 13, 14</b>

# Can we perform inference as a search problem?

- Our example proof has 6 initial sentences and 9 additional proof steps
  - Initial state: 6 sentences
  - Operators: ~10 inference rules
    - But can be applied multiple ways
  - Goal: obtain the sentence Criminal(Nathan)
- Branching factor increases as the knowledge base grows
- Universal elimination can have a large branching factor on its own (any ground term can be used)



# Unification

- **Unification** is the process of finding substitutions that match a set of conditions
- The **UNIFY** algorithm takes two sentences and returns a unifier (a binding list) for them if one exists:

$\text{UNIFY}(p,q)=\Theta$  where  $\text{SUBST}(\Theta,p)=\text{SUBST}(\Theta,q)$

# Unification Examples

- Example using  $\text{Knows}(x,y)$ 
  - $\text{UNIFY}(\text{Knows}(\text{John}, x), \text{Knows}(\text{John}, \text{Jane}))$   
 $= \{x/\text{Jane}\}$
  - $\text{UNIFY}(\text{Knows}(\text{John}, x), \text{Knows}(y, \text{Bill}))$   
 $= \{x/\text{Bill}, y/\text{John}\}$
  - $\text{UNIFY}(\text{Knows}(\text{John}, x), \text{Knows}(y, \text{Mother}(y)))$   
 $= \{y/\text{John}, x/\text{Mother}(\text{John})\}$
  - $\text{UNIFY}(\text{Knows}(\text{John}, x), \text{Knows}(x, \text{Elizabeth}))$   
 $= \text{FAILURE}$
  - $\text{UNIFY}(\text{Knows}(\text{John}, x_1), \text{Knows}(x_2, \text{Elizabeth}))$   
 $= \{x_1/\text{Elizabeth}, x_2/\text{John}\}$

# Using Inference Rules

We can use these rules in two ways

- We can generate new inferences from existing sentences to expand the knowledge base
  - Used when a new sentence is added to KB
  - From premises to implications
  - **Forward chaining**
- We can try to prove a given sentence
  - From implications to premises
  - **Backward chaining**

# Forward Chaining

- Forward-Chaining:
  - Until no rule produces a new assertion
    - For each rule,
      - For each set of possible variable bindings
        - » Instantiate the consequent
        - » If the instantiated consequent is not already asserted, then assert it.
- Data-driven process (not driven toward any particular goal)

# Forward Chaining Example

1.  $\forall x,y,z \text{ American}(x) \wedge \text{Alcohol}(y) \wedge \text{Minor}(z) \wedge \text{Sells}(x,y,z) \Rightarrow \text{Criminal}(x)$
2.  $\text{Minor}(\text{Jimmy})$
3.  $\exists x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x)$
4.  $\forall x \text{ Owns}(\text{Jimmy},x) \wedge \text{Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Sells}(\text{Nathan},x,\text{Jimmy})$
5.  $\text{American}(\text{Nathan})$
6.  $\forall x \text{ Beer}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(x)$

- Consider all the base terms: Nathan, Jimmy, B1, B2, ....
- Start instantiating #6

$\text{Beer}(\text{Nathan}) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(\text{Nathan})$       using  $\{x/\text{Nathan}\}$

$\text{Beer}(\text{Jimmy}) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(\text{Jimmy})$       using  $\{x/\text{Jimmy}\}$

$\text{Beer}(\text{B1}) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(\text{B1})$       using  $\{x/\text{B1}\}$

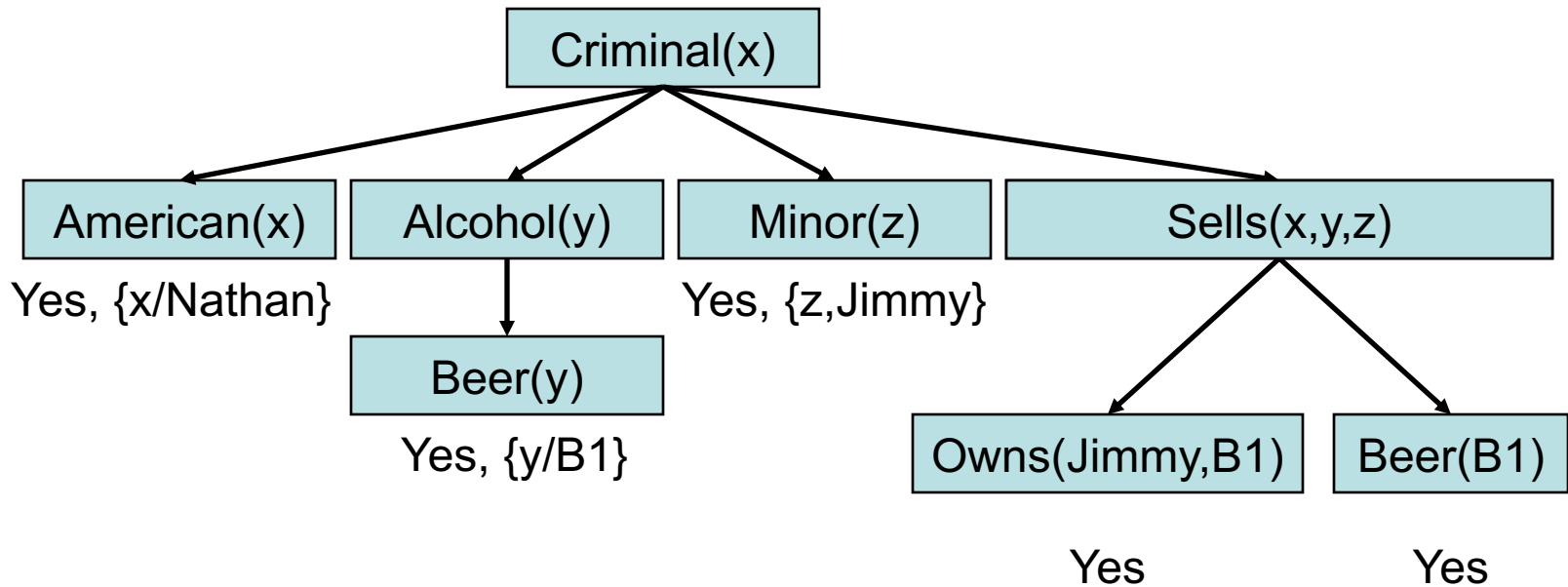
$\text{Beer}(\text{B2}) \Rightarrow \text{Alcohol}(\text{B2})$       using  $\{x/\text{B2}\}$

Leads to a very disorganized (and full) knowledge base!

# Backward Chaining

- Goal-directed
- Starts with a goal state
- Moves backward through implications
- Attempts to construct a set of basic sentences in the KB

# Backward Chaining



1.  $American(x) \wedge Alcohol(y) \wedge Minor(z) \wedge Sells(x,y,z) \Rightarrow Criminal(x)$
2.  $Minor(Jimmy)$
3.  $Owns(Jimmy,B1)$
4.  $Beer(B1)$
5.  $Owns(Jimmy,x) \wedge Beer(x) \Rightarrow Sells(Nathan,x,Jimmy)$
6.  $American(Nathan)$
7.  $Beer(x) \Rightarrow Alcohol(x)$

# Failures of Modus Ponens

- We've been using modus ponens as the primary tool for inference
    - But modus ponens does not allow us to deduce new implications, it only derives atomic conclusions
- $$\begin{array}{ll} P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x) & Q(x) \Rightarrow S(x) \\ \neg P(x) \Rightarrow R(x) & R(x) \Rightarrow S(x) \end{array}$$
- Show that  $S(A)$  is true
- Problem is that  $\neg P(x) \Rightarrow R(x)$  cannot be converted into Horn form
- We need a more powerful inference rule!
    - Resolution!



# Resolution

- Since beta cannot be both true and false, one of the disjuncts must be true

$$\frac{\alpha \vee \beta , \neg\beta \vee \gamma}{\alpha \vee \gamma}$$

- Implication is transitive

$$\frac{\alpha \Rightarrow \beta , \beta \Rightarrow \gamma}{\alpha \Rightarrow \gamma}$$

# Modus Ponens is a Simplified version of Resolution

- Resolution

$$\frac{\alpha \Rightarrow \beta \quad , \quad \beta \Rightarrow \gamma}{\alpha \Rightarrow \gamma}$$

- Modus Ponens

$$\frac{\alpha, \alpha \Rightarrow \beta}{\beta}$$

*is the same as*

$$\frac{\text{True} \Rightarrow \alpha, \alpha \Rightarrow \beta}{\text{True} \Rightarrow \beta}$$

- Thus, resolution is a more general (and more powerful) format than modus ponens

# Resolution has a Canonical Form

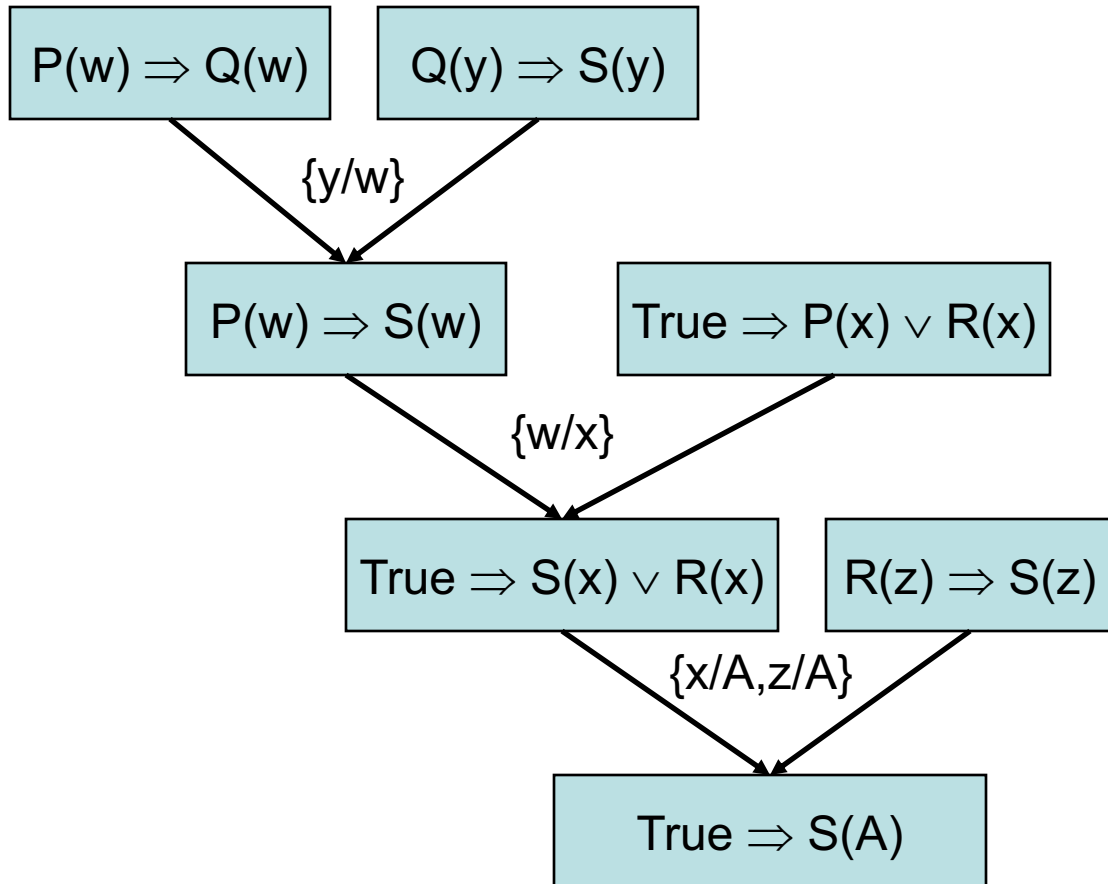
- Using this variant of resolution:

$$\frac{\alpha \vee \beta, \neg\beta \vee \gamma}{\alpha \vee \gamma}$$

- We define the conjunctive normal form as the conjunction of all sentences in the knowledge base, where each sentence is a disjunction of literals

$$(p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \dots \vee p_n) \wedge (q_1 \vee q_2 \vee \dots \vee q_n) \wedge \dots$$

# Resolution Proofs



- KB:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(w) \Rightarrow Q(w) \\
 &Q(y) \Rightarrow S(y) \\
 &\neg P(x) \Rightarrow R(x) \\
 &R(z) \Rightarrow S(z)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Could be rewritten in CNF

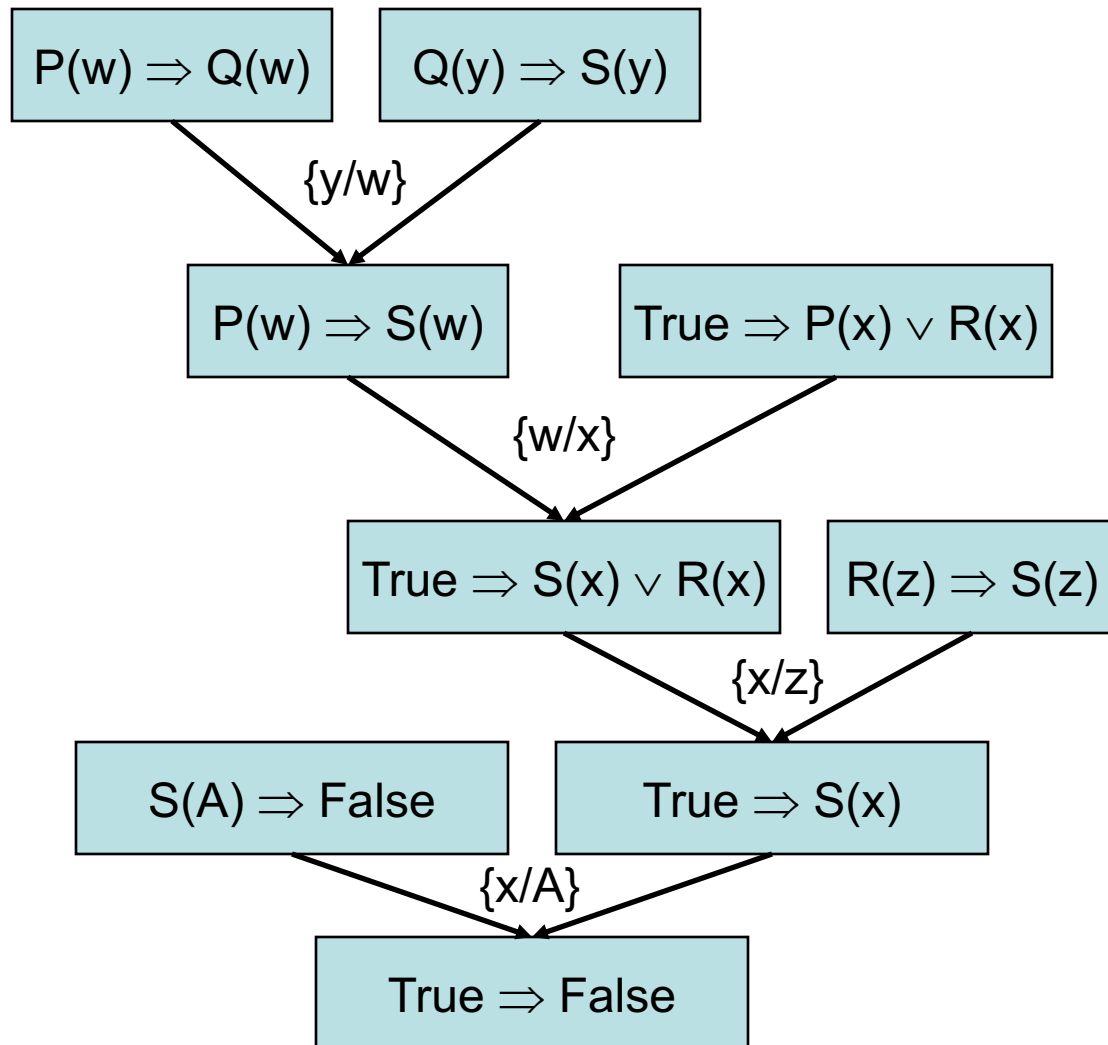
$$\begin{aligned}
 &\neg P(w) \vee Q(w) \\
 &\neg Q(y) \vee S(y) \\
 &P(x) \vee R(x) \\
 &\neg R(z) \vee S(z)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Or more simply as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(w) \Rightarrow Q(w) \\
 &Q(y) \Rightarrow S(y) \\
 &\text{True} \Rightarrow P(x) \vee R(x) \\
 &R(z) \Rightarrow S(z)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Prove  $S(A)$  follows

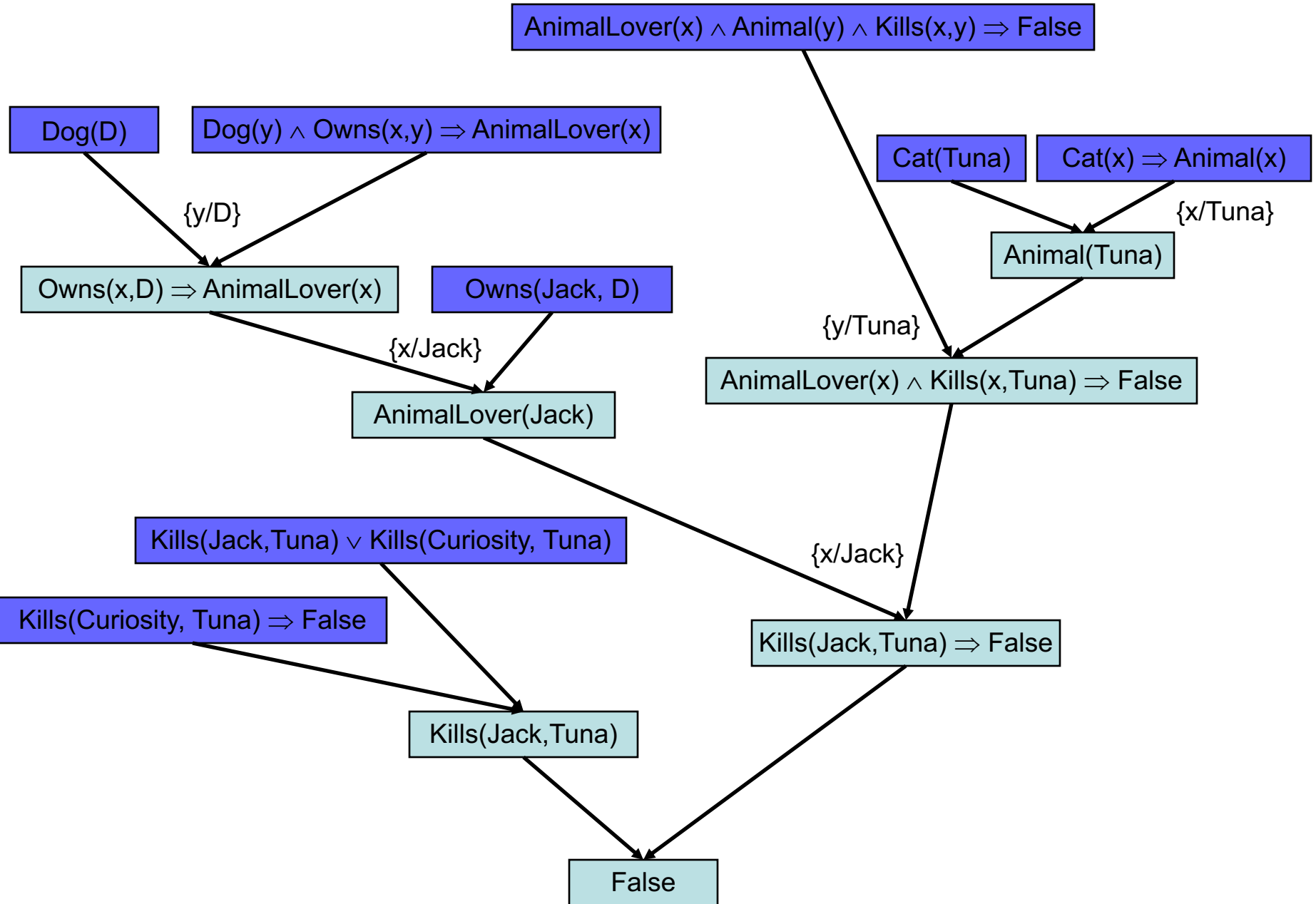
# Resolution Proofs



- Some statements are valid, but cannot be shown using resolution  
 $P \vee \neg P$
- Refutation (proof by contradiction)
  - To prove  $S(A)$  is true, assume  $S(A)$  is false and show a contradiction

# One last Example

- Every dog owner is an animal lover
  - No animal lover kills an animal
  - Either Jack or Curiosity killed the cat, who is named Tuna
  - A cat is an animal
  - Jack owns a dog
  - Did Curiosity kill the cat?
- $\text{Dog}(y) \wedge \text{Owns}(x,y) \Rightarrow \text{AnimalLover}(x)$
  - $\text{AnimalLover}(x) \wedge \text{Animal}(y) \wedge \text{Kills}(x,y) \Rightarrow \text{False}$
  - $\text{Kills}(\text{Jack}, \text{Tuna}) \vee \text{Kills}(\text{Curiosity}, \text{Tuna})$
  - $\text{Cat}(\text{Tuna})$
  - $\text{Cat}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Animal}(x)$
  - $\text{Dog}(D)$
  - $\text{Owns}(\text{Jack}, D)$
  - $\text{Kills}(\text{Curiosity}, \text{Tuna}) \Rightarrow \text{False}$



# Coming Up

- Friday: Practical uses for Logical Inference Systems
- Problem Set #3 out today!
- Special Guest Lecture on Monday!