Logic Programming: Lecture 1

Madhavan Mukund

Chennai Mathematical Institute madhavan@cmi.ac.in

PLC, 3 April 2017

Logic programming

- Programming with relations
- Variables
 - Names starting with a capital letter
 - ► X, Y, Name, ...
- Constants
 - Names starting with a small letter
 - ▶ ball, node, graph, a, b,
 - ▶ Uninterpreted no types like Char, Bool etc!
 - ► Exception: natural numbers, some arithmetic

Defining relations

A Prolog program describes a relation

Example: A graph



- ► Want to define a relation path(X,Y)
- ▶ path(X,Y) holds if there is a path from X to Y

Facts and rules



Represent edge relation using the following facts.

```
edge(3,4).
edge(5,4).
edge(5,1).
edge(1,2).
edge(3,5).
```

edge(2,3).

Facts and rules . . .



Define path using the following rules.

```
path(X,Y) := X = Y.

path(X,Y) := edge(X,Z), path(Z,Y).
```

Read the rules read as follows:

```
Rule 1 For all X, (X,X) \in path.
```

Rule 2 For all X,Y, $(X,Y) \in path$ if there exists Z such that $(X,Z) \in edge$ and $(Z,Y) \in path$.

Facts and rules . . .

```
path(X,Y) := X = Y.

path(X,Y) := edge(X,Z), path(Z,Y).
```

► Each rule is of the form

Conclusion if Premise₁ and Premise₂ ... and Premise_n

- ▶ if is written :-
- and is written .
- This type of logical formula is called a Horn Clause
- Quantification of variables
 - Variables in goal are universally quantified
 - ▶ X, Y above
 - Variables in premise are existentially quantified
 - Z above

Computing in Prolog

Ask a question (a query)

```
?- path(3,1).
```

- Prolog scans facts and rules top-to-bottom
 - ▶ 3 cannot be unified with 1, skip Rule 1.
 - ▶ Rule 2 generates two subgoals. Find Z such that
 - \blacktriangleright (3,Z) \in edge and
 - ightharpoonup (Z,1) \in path.
- Sub goals are tried depth-first
 - ▶ (3,Z) ∈ edge?
 - \blacktriangleright (3,4) \in edge, set Z = 4
 - ► (4,1) ∈ path? 4 cannot be unifed with 1, two subgoals, new Z'
 - ▶ (4,Z') ∈ edge
 - \triangleright (Z',1) \in path
 - ► Cannot find Z' such that (4,Z') ∈ edge!

Backtracking

- (3,Z) ∈ edge?
 edge(3,4) ∈ edge, set Z = 4
- ▶ (4,1) ∈ path? 4 cannot be unified with 1, two subgoals, new Z'
 - (4,Z') ∈ edge(Z',1) ∈ path
- ▶ No Z' such that (4,Z') ∈ edge
- Backtrack and try another value for Z
 - ightharpoonup edge(3,5) \in edge, set Z = 5
- ▶ $(5,1) \in \text{path?} (5,1) \in \text{edge}, \sqrt{ }$

Backtracking is sensitive to order of facts

► We had put edge(3,4) before edge(3,5)

Reversing the question

Consider the question

```
?- edge(3,X).
```

- ► Find all X such that (3,X) ∈ edge
- Prolog lists out all satisfying values, one by one

```
X=4;
X=5;
X=2;
No.
```

Unification and pattern matching

▶ A goal of the form X = Y denotes unification.

```
path(X,Y) := X = Y.

path(X,Y) := edge(X,Z), path(Z,Y).
```

Can implicitly represent such goals in the head

```
path(X,X).
path(X,Y) :- edge(X,Z), path(Z,Y).
```

- Unification provides a formal justification for pattern matching in rule definitions
 - ▶ Unlike Haskell, a repeated variable in the pattern is meaningful
 - ▶ In Haskell, we cannot write

```
path (x,x) = True
```

Complex data and terms

Represent arbitrary structures with nested terms

► A record or struct of the form

```
personal_data{
   name : amit
   date_of_birth{
      year : 1980
      month : 5
      day : 30
   }
}
```

...can be represented by a term

Lists

- ▶ Write [Head | Tail] for Haskell's (head:tail)
 - denotes the emptylist
 - ▶ No types, so lists need not be homogeneous!
- Checking membership in a list

```
member(X,[Y|T]) :- X = Y.
member(X,[Y|T]) :- member(X,T).
```

Use patterns instead of explicit unification

```
member(X,[X|T]).
member(X,[H|T]) :- member(X,T).
```

... plus anonymous variables.

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

Lists . . .

Appending two lists

- ▶ append(X,Y,[X|Y]). will not work
 - ▶ append([1,2],[a,b],Z] yields Z = [[1,2],a,b]
- Inductive definition, like Haskell

Again, eliminate explicit unification

```
append([], Ys, Ys).
append([X | Xs], Ys, [X | Zs]) :- append(Xs, Ys, Zs).
```

Reversing the computation

```
?- append(Xs, Ys, [mon, wed, fri]).
```

All possible ways to split the list

```
Xs = []
Ys = [mon, wed, fri];
Xs = \lceil mon \rceil
Ys = [wed, fri];
Xs = [mon, wed]
Ys = [fri];
Xs = [mon, wed, fri]
Ys = [];
no
```

Reversing the computation . . .

► Want to define a relation sublist(Xs,Ys)

```
|-----|
| Xs
|-----|
| Ys
```

Add an intermediate list Zs

```
|-----|
| Xs
|------ Zs
|------ Ys
```

Yields the rule

```
sublist(Xs, Ys) :- append(_, Zs, Ys), append(Xs, _, Zs).
```

What happens if we try the following instead?

```
sublist(Xs, Ys) :- append(Xs, _, Zs), append(_, Zs, Ys).
```

Reversing the computation . . .

Type inference for simply typed lambda calculus

$$x \in Var \mid \lambda x.M \mid MN$$

- ▶ Inference rules to derive type judgments of the form $A \vdash M$: s
 - ▶ A is list $\{x_i : t_i\}$ of type "assumptions" for variables
 - ▶ Under the assumptions in A the expression M has type s.

$$\frac{x:t\in A}{A\vdash x:t}$$

$$\frac{A\vdash M:s\to t, \quad A\vdash N:s}{A\vdash (MN):t}$$

$$\frac{A+x:s\vdash M:t}{A\vdash (\lambda x.M):s\to t}$$

Reversing the computation . . .

- Encoding λ -calculus and types in Prolog
 - var(x) for variable x (Note: x is a constant!)
 - ▶ lambda(x,m) for $\lambda x.M$
 - ► apply(m,n) for MN
 - ▶ arrow(s,t) for $s \rightarrow t$

Type inference in Prolog

```
% type(A, S, T):- lambda term S has type T in the environment A.
type(A, var(X), T):- member([X, T], A).
type(A, apply(M, N), T):- type(A, M, arrow(S,T)), type(A, N, S).
type(A, lambda(X, M), arrow(S,T)):- type([[X, S] | A], M, T).
```

► ?- type([],t,T). asks if term t is typable.

```
?- type([], lambda(x, apply(var(x), var(x))), T).
type([[x, S]], apply(var(x), var(x)), U)
type([[x, S]], var(x), arrow(S,U)).
member([x, arrow(S,U)], [[x, S]])
```

Unification fails

Example: special sequence . . .

Arrange three 1s, three 2s, ..., three 9s in sequence so that for all $i \in [1..9]$ there are exactly i numbers between successive occurrences of i

```
1, 9, 1, 2, 1, 8, 2, 4, 6, 2, 7, 9, 4, 5, 8, 6, 3, 4, 7, 5, 3, 9, 6, 8, 3, 5, 7.
% sequence(Xs) :- Xs is a list of 27 variables.
sequence([_,_,_,_,_,_,_,]).
solution(Ss) :-
sequence(Ss),
sublist([8,_,_,_,_,_,_,8,_,_,_,_,8], Ss),
sublist([7,...,7,...,7,...,7], Ss),
sublist([6,_,_,_,_,_,6,_,_,_,_,6], Ss),
sublist([5,_,_,_,5,_,_,5], Ss),
sublist([4, _, _, _, _, 4, _, _, _, _, 4], Ss),
sublist([3,_,_,3,_,_,3], Ss),
sublist([2, ..., 2, ..., 2], Ss),
sublist([1,_,1,_,1], Ss).
```

Arithmetic

Computing length of a list

```
length([],0).

length([_|T],N) := length(T,M), N = M+1.
```

What does the following query yield?

```
?- length([1,2,3,4],N).
N=0+1+1+1+1
```

- ► X = Y is unification
- X is Y captures arithmetic equality

```
\begin{split} & \operatorname{length}([],0)\,. \\ & \operatorname{length}([\_|T],N) \ :- \ \operatorname{length}(T,M)\,, \ N \ \text{is M+1}\,. \end{split}
```