



CS 251 Spring 2020
Principles of Programming Languages
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Deductive Programming and Unification

Prolog *terms*

- atoms

cs251 'hello world' carrots

- Variables

X ABC Course Course_number

- compound terms: *functor(arg, U, ments)*

major(cs111)

prereq(cs230, cs251)

Prolog *facts* and *rules*

- facts

```
major(cs111).  
major(cs230).  
major(cs235).  
major(cs251).  
elective(cs304).  
prereq(cs111, cs230).  
prereq(cs230, cs235).  
prereq(cs230, cs251).  
prereq(cs230, cs304).
```

- rules: *head* :- *body*.

```
core(C) :- major(C), prereq(cs230, C).
```

– conjunction: , disjunction: ;

Prolog queries

```
?- elective(cs304).  
true.
```

```
?- elective(cs235).  
false .
```

```
?- core(cs235).  
true.
```

```
?- prereq(cs230, C).  
C = cs235 ;  
C = cs251 ;  
C = cs 304 ;  
false.
```

Unification (Prolog =)

Find environment(s)/substitution(s) under which two terms are equivalent.

Example Terms to unify	Unifying Environment
$a = a$	
$a = X$	$X \mapsto a$
$p(X) = p(a)$	$X \mapsto a$
$p(X) = p(Y)$	$X \mapsto Y$
$X = a, p(a) = p(X)$	$X \mapsto a$
$X = a, X = Y$	$X \mapsto a, Y \mapsto a$

Prolog examples: courses.pl

- Basics
- Unification
- **Unification/Proof search algorithm demo**

Applications

- Prolog (&friends):
 - AI, NLP, logic, mechanized verification
- Datalog (non-Turing complete subset):
 - data analytics, program analysis
- Unification:
 - ML type inference
 - Codder
 - proof systems, mechanized verification
 - ...

Codder example (CS 111 checker)

```
# Pattern
def sumList(_xs_):
    _sum_ = 0
    for _elem_ in _xs_:
        _sum_ += _elem_
    return _sum_
```