



Programmation en Logique

Lars Hupel
Lambda Days
2019-02-21

INOQ



PROLOG

PROLOG

PROLOG

PROLOG

PROLOG

PROLOG

coffee bags: 100kr

PROLOG

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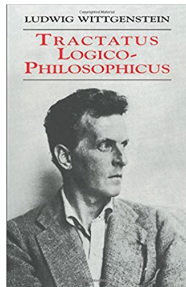
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talk(lars) :-  
    joke(funny), % laugh  
    introduction(prolog),  
    features(cool),  
    audience(Questions),  
    answer(Questions).
```

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Who invented Prolog?

“ 1. *The world is everything that is the case.*
1.1 *The world is the totality of facts, not of things.*
1.11 *The world is determined by the facts, and by these being all the facts.* ”

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– Ludwig Wittgenstein, 1918

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```

Who invented Prolog?

- appeared in the early 70s in France
- original developers: Alain Colmerauer and Philippe Roussel
- used the .pl extension before Perl
- radically different programming paradigm



A brief primer on Prolog

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Just like in SQL!

Hello World!

Program

hi.

Hello World!

Program

```
hi.
```

Interpreter

```
?- hi.
```

```
true.
```

Hello World!

Program

hi.

hello(world).

Interpreter

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Interpreter

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?- hello(world).
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```

```
?- hello(coworld).
```

```
false.
```

Hello World!

Program

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```
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Interpreter

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```
true.
```

```
?- hello.
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```
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```
false.
```

This used to be yes/no,
for 100% toddler com-
patibility



Hello World!

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hi.

hello(world).

Interpreter

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?- hello(X).

X = world.

Hello World!

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Interpreter

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```

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false.
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?- hello(X).
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```
X = world.
```

Variables: upper-case
Rest: lower-case

A small program

Facts

`location(munich, germany).`

`location(augsburg, germany).`

`location(germany, europe).`

`location(london, unitedkingdom).`

`location(unitedkingdom, europe).`

A small program

Facts

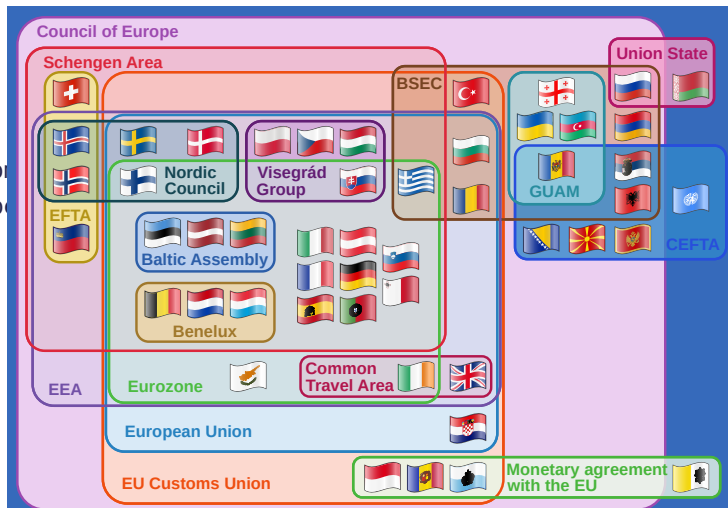
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```

Rules

```
neighbour(X, Y) :-  
    location(X, Z), location(Y, Z).
```

A small program

Facts

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location(munich, germany).  
location(augsburg, germany).  
location(germany, europe).  
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```

Rules

```
is_in(X, Y) :- location(X, Y).  
is_in(X, Y) :- location(X, Z), is_in(Z, Y).
```

Prolog syntax

What's with the weird syntax?

Prolog syntax

What's with the weird syntax?

Is it stolen from Erlang?

Prolog syntax

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Hello, Alain!



Prolog syntax

What's with the weird syntax?

Is it stolen from Erlang?



Hello, Joe!



Erlang, inspired by Prolog

“The first interpreter was a simple Prolog meta interpreter which added the notion of a suspendable process to Prolog ... [it] was rapidly modified (and re-written) ...”

– Armstrong, Virding, Williams: Use of Prolog for developing a new programming language

```
talk(lars) :-  
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Backtracking

```
best_boy(X) :-  
    dog(good, X),  
    colour(dark_brown, X),  
    behind(X, Y),  
    colour(light_brown, Y).
```



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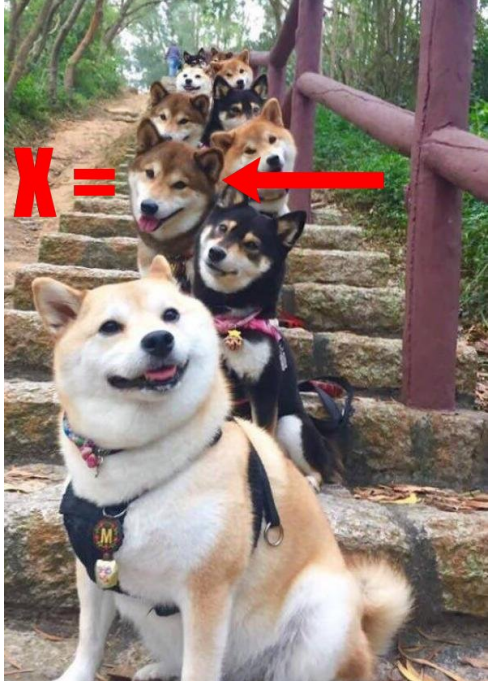
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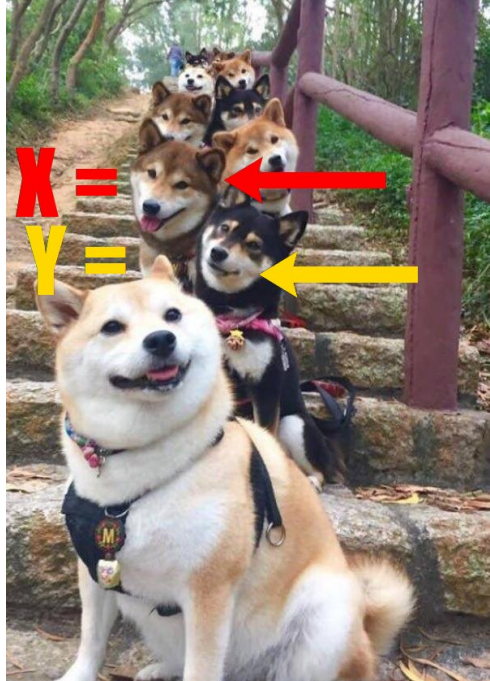
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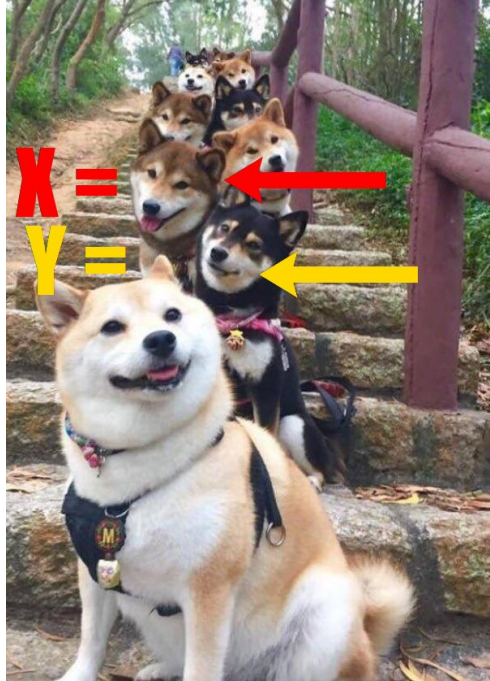
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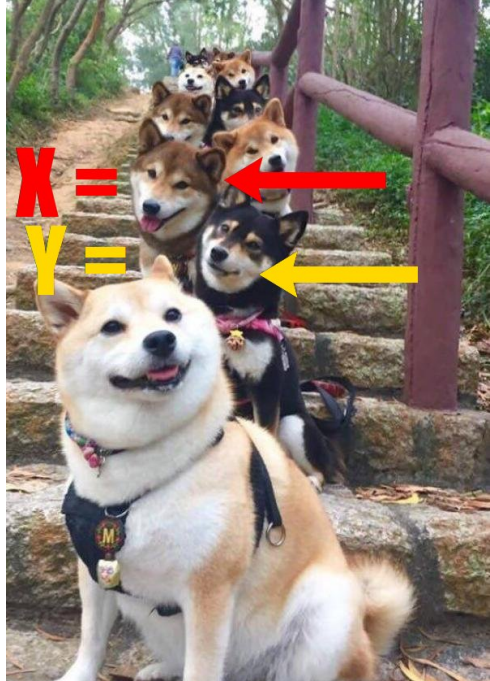
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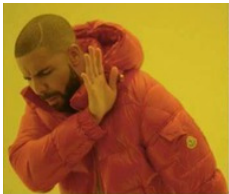
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Bi-directional computing

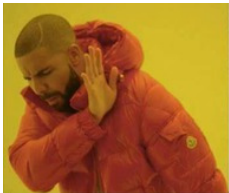
$$f : I \rightarrow O$$

Bi-directional computing



$$f : I \rightarrow O$$

Bi-directional computing



$$f : I \rightarrow O$$



$$R : (I \times O) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

Bi-directional computing

Scala

```
def append[A](xs: List[A], ys: List[A]): List[A]
```


Bi-directional computing

Scala

```
def append[A](xs: List[A], ys: List[A]): List[A]
```

Prolog

```
append(?List1, ?List2, ?List1AndList2)
```

Bi-directional computing

Scala

```
def appendAll[A](xss: List[List[A]]): List[A]
```

Bi-directional computing

Scala

```
def appendAll[A](xss: List[List[A]]): List[A]
```

Prolog

```
append_all(+ListOfLists, ?List)
```

Mode signatures

- ++ Argument must be ground, i.e., the argument may not contain a variable anywhere.
- + Argument must be fully instantiated to a term that satisfies the type. This is not necessarily *ground*, e.g., the term `[_]` is a *list*, although its only member is unbound.
- Argument is an *output* argument. Unless specified otherwise, output arguments need not to be unbound. For example, the goal `findall(X, Goal, [T])` is good style and equivalent to `findall(X, Goal, Xs), Xs = [T]`⁴⁵ Note that the *determinism* specification, e.g., ```det''` only applies if this argument is unbound.
- Argument must be unbound. Typically used by predicates that create 'something' and return a handle to the created object, such as [open/3](#) which creates a *stream*.
- ? Argument must be bound to a *partial term* of the indicated type. Note that a variable is a partial term for any type. Think of the argument as either *input* or *output* or *both* input and output. For example, in `stream_property(S, reposition(Bool))`, the `reposition` part of the term is input and the uninstantiated *Bool* is output.
- :
- Argument is a meta-argument. Implies +. See [chapter 6](#) for more information on module handling.
- @ Argument is not further instantiated. Typically used for type tests.
- ! Argument contains a mutable structure that may be modified using [setarg/3](#) or [nb_setarg/3](#).

Not a silver bullet ...

?- member(X, [1, 2, 3]), Y = 2, X > Y.

X = 3, Y = 2.

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Not a silver bullet ...

```
?- member(X, [1, 2, 3]), Y = 2, X > Y.
```

```
X = 3, Y = 2.
```

```
?- use_module(library(clpfd)).
```

```
?- X #> Y, X in 1..3, Y = 2.
```

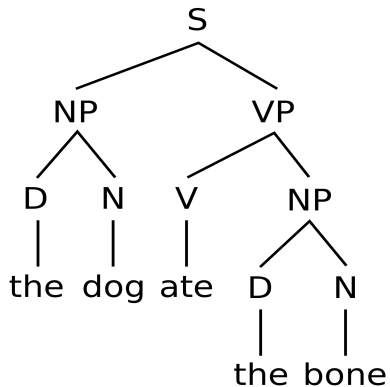

Constraint solving

Puzzle

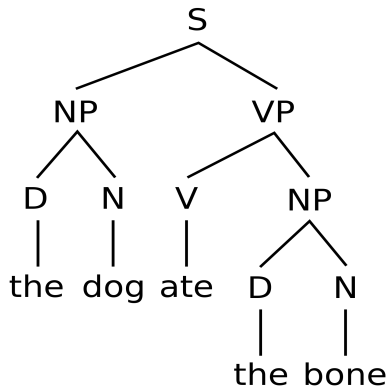
There are five houses.

1. The English person lives in the red house.
2. The Swedish person owns a dog.
3. The Danish person likes to drink tea.
4. The green house is left to the white house.
5. The owner of the green house drinks coffee.
6. ...

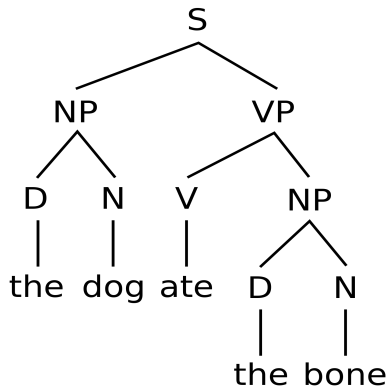
Grammars



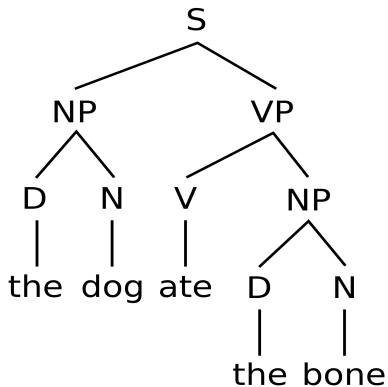
Grammars



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Grammars



$s \rightarrow np, vp.$

$np \rightarrow d, n.$

$d \rightarrow [the].$

$d \rightarrow [a].$

$vp \rightarrow v, np.$

$n \rightarrow [dog].$

$n \rightarrow [bone].$

Prolog is for parsing?

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– Colmerauer, Roussel: The Birth of Prolog

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Parsing

Scala

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type Parser[A] = String => List[(A, String)]
```


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Prolog

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parse(?A, ?ListIn, ?ListOut)
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+ monad syntax

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+ DCG syntax

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Q & A

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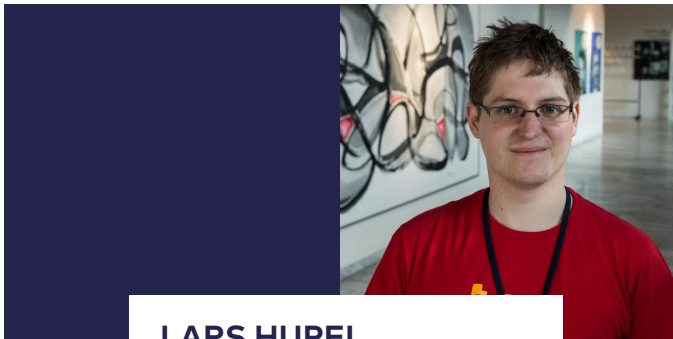
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Switzerland



LARS HUPEL

Consultant
innoQ Deutschland GmbH

Lars enjoys programming in a variety of languages, including Scala, Haskell, and Rust. He is known as a frequent conference speaker and one of the founders of the Typelevel initiative which is dedicated to providing principled, type-driven Scala libraries.

Image sources

- Prolog coffee: Marek Kubica
- Shiba row: <https://www.pinterest.de/pin/424112489894679416/>
- Shiba with mlem: https://www.reddit.com/r/mlem/comments/6tc1of/shibe_doing_a_mlem/
- Happy dog: <https://www.rover.com/blog/is-my-dog-happy/>
- Kid with crossed arms: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/spycatcher/201410/9-truths-exposing-myth-about-body-language>
- Noam Chomsky: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Noam_Chomsky_Toronto_2011.jpg
- Alain Colmerauer: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:A-Colmerauer_web-800x423.jpg
- Joe Armstrong: Erlang, the Movie
- Signatures: <http://www.swi-prolog.org/pldoc/man?section=preddesc>
- Zebra puzzle: StackOverflow contributors (<https://stackoverflow.com/q/11122814/4776939>)
- Owl: <https://www.theloop.ca/angry-owl-terrorizes-oregon-joggers/>