1?-[myprogram.P] loads program in

To launch prolog at dos promopt > xsb 1?- halt //exits prolog ctrl-d // exits prolog

Simple prolog program example

/* this is a prolog comment */ /* prolog has 2 o-ary predicates true/fail */ /* all lower case letters means a constant bird(ostrich). */ bird(penguin). /* variables begin with uppercase letters */ bird(seagull). bird(eagle). flies(W) :- bird(W), /* flies W if W is a bird, but not an ostrich or penguin W = ostrich/* /= is not equals in prolog */ W = penguinloves(jane, X) :- flies(X). /* jane loves things that fly */ loves(penguin, jane). /* penguin loves jane */ /* aadvark loves jane */ loves(aadvark, jane). /* r1 :- c1, ... cn /* this is a rule */ /* f1 :- ... /* this is a fact/clause */ /* bird, loves, flies are called predicates /* number of slots predicate has called arity. Often when describing a predicate add arity after name /* bird /1 means bird has parity 1 or bird(x) /* bird /2 means bird has parity 2 or bird(x,y) /* r1 :- c1, c..., cn the r1 is the head of the rule, c1, c2, c3, ... is the tail of the rule 1?- bird(seagull). yes. 1?- bird(duck). no. 1?- bird(X), loves(X, jane). X = penguin /* if you put a semicolon at the end of this line and hit return, compiler looks for more solutions */ no. 1?- loves(X, Y). X = janeY = seagull;X = janeY = eagle;X = penguinY = jane;X = aadvarkY = jane;no.

Lists in prolog

Looks different than scheme, but roughly same idea

[] = empty list [a, b, c] = commas between items like C [dogs, cats, marbles, mix] [root, [11, 12], [13]] = list of lists

code to append two lists

append([], L, L). empty list appended with list L gives just list L append([X | L1], L2, [X | L3]) :- append(L1, L2, L3) X denotes first element of list, | denotes rest of list

1?- append([a, b], [c], Z). [a, b, c]

/* this tries to match the 2nd rule, X = a, L1 = [b], L2 = [c] tries to compute append([b], [c], L3) matches 2nd rule X = b L1 = [] L2 = [c] tries to compute append([], [c], L3) matches 1st rule L = [c]