Prolog

The language of logic

History

- Kowalski: late 60’s Logician who showed logical proof can support computation.
- Colmerauer: early 70’s Developed early version of Prolog for natural language processing, mainly multiple parses.
- Warren: mid 70’s First version of Prolog that was efficient.

Characteristics

- Prolog approximates first-order logic.
- Every program is a set of Horn clauses.
- Inference is by resolution.
- Search is by backtracking with unification.
- Basic data structure is term or tree.
- Variables are unknowns not locations.
- Prolog does not distinguish between inputs and outputs. It solves relations/predicates.