

Unification

- Two atoms unify only if they are identical.
- Two structures unify if they have the same functor and arity, **and** if each pair of corresponding arguments unify.
- A variable unifies with any term, including another variable. As a consequence, the variable is bound with the value of that term.

In the following, indicate which pairs of terms *do not* unify by crossing out the equality sign (\neq). If the terms *do* unify, give the variable bindings underneath.

$$a(X, c(d, X)) = a(g, c(d, Y)).$$

$$q(g(X, Y), f(X)) = q(g(h(a), Y), f(h(Z))).$$

$$q(f, Y) = q(Y, X).$$

$$a(b, c, d) = a(X, X, d).$$

$$b(a, X) = b(a, e(Y, c)).$$

$$p(X, g(X), Y) = p(a, g(X), b).$$

$$a(X) = a(b, c).$$

$$p(c, [a,b,c]) = p(X, [Y|Xs]).$$

$$d(c, g(a, e(f, b))) = d(c, g(a, e(f, b))).$$

$$a(b, X) = a(b, c(d, e)).$$

$$q(g(X, Y), f(X)) = q(g(h(Z), Y), f(h(Z))).$$

$$f(y, g(b, A)) = f(Z, g(X, b(X))).$$

$$f(g, h, Y) = f(g, h, f(a, b, f(c, d, e))).$$

$$b(a, X, X) = b(Y, Y, c).$$

$$a(X, Y) = a(b(c, Y), Z).$$

$$p(d, e) = q(X, Y).$$

$$g(f(A), L) = g(X, [X|Xs]).$$

$$p(t(U), t(V), Y) = p(V, R, c).$$

$$p(X, g(X), Y) = p(a, g(X), b).$$

$$a(b, c(d, e(f, g))) = a(b, c(d, e(g, f))).$$

$$p(a, X) = p(X, g(X)).$$

$$c(a, Y, Y) = c(_, _, b).$$

$$p(h(X)) = p(g(X)).$$

$$q(g(X, Y), f(X)) = q(g(h(Z), Y), f(h(Z))).$$

You can check your answers yourself using Prolog on the lab machines:

- Start Prolog in a shell with “swipl” (no &!)
- Quit with “halt.” (note the dot).
- If you make a mistake, type “abort.” to come back to the prompt.
- If Prolog answers “false”, the two terms do not unify.
- If they unify, the variable bindings will be printed.