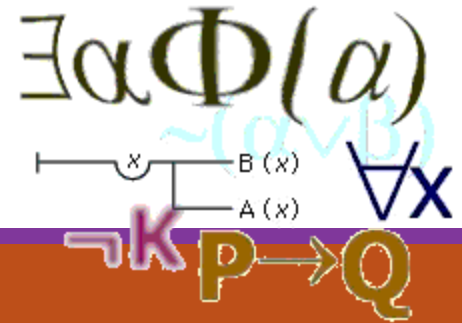


# Parallel Execution of Logic Programs: Back to the Future (??)

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# Overview

1. Some motivations  
*[Logic Programming and Parallelism]*
2. The Past  
*[Types of Parallelism, Basic Schemes]*
3. The Present  
*[Recent Schemes]*
4. (Back to) The Future  
*[New Directions]*

# MOTIVATIONS AND BASIC DEFINITIONS

# Logic Programming

- Definite programs

- collection of first-order Horn clauses

$\text{reachable}(X) \text{ :- edge}(Y,X), \text{reachable}(Y).$

- semantics based on least Herbrand model

- Normal programs

- enter negation as failure

$\text{color}(X,\text{red}) \text{ :- node}(X), \text{not color}(X,\text{blue}).$

- several alternative semantics

- well-founded semantics

[XSB, tabling]

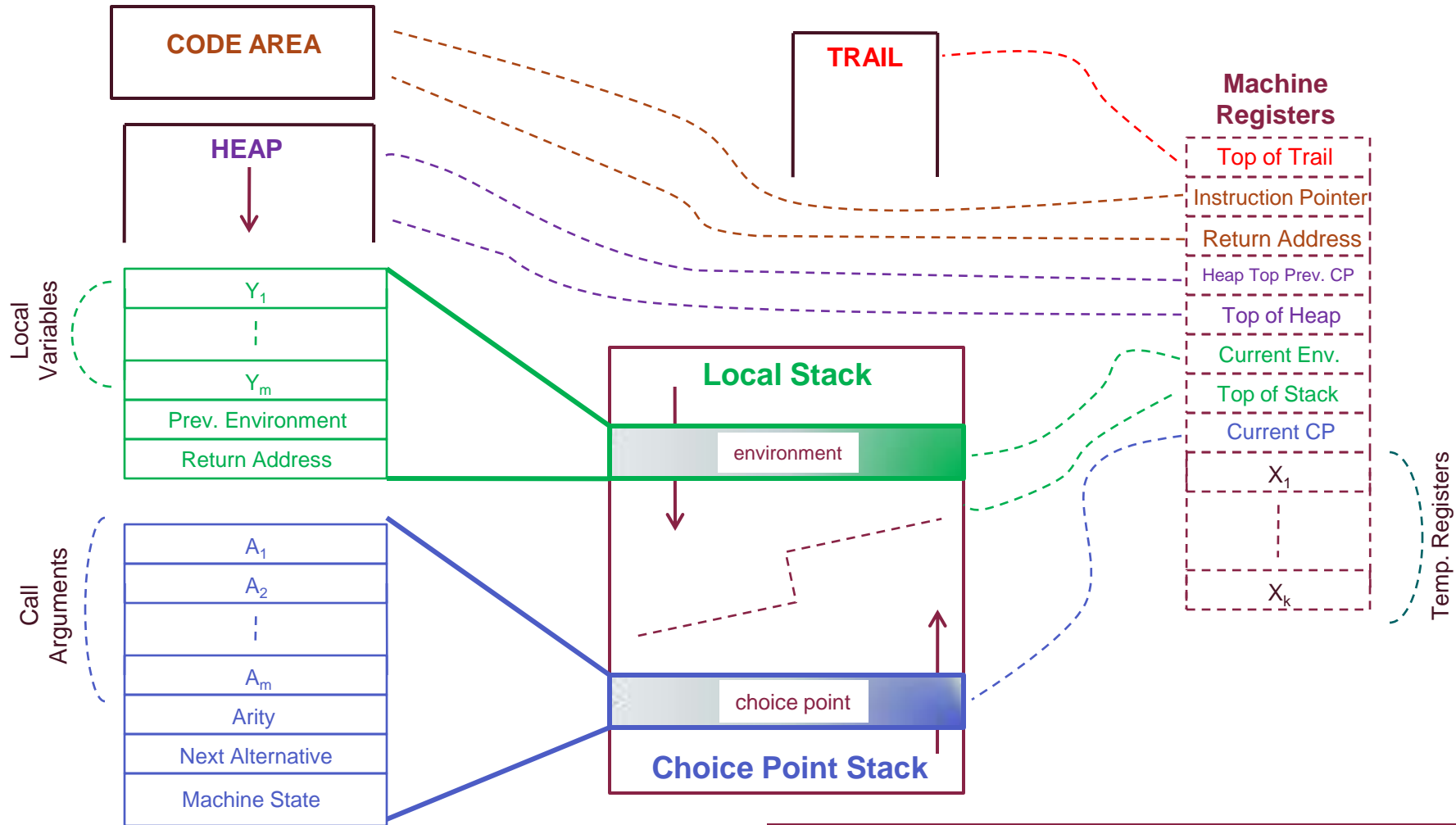
- answer set semantics

[Answer Set Programming]

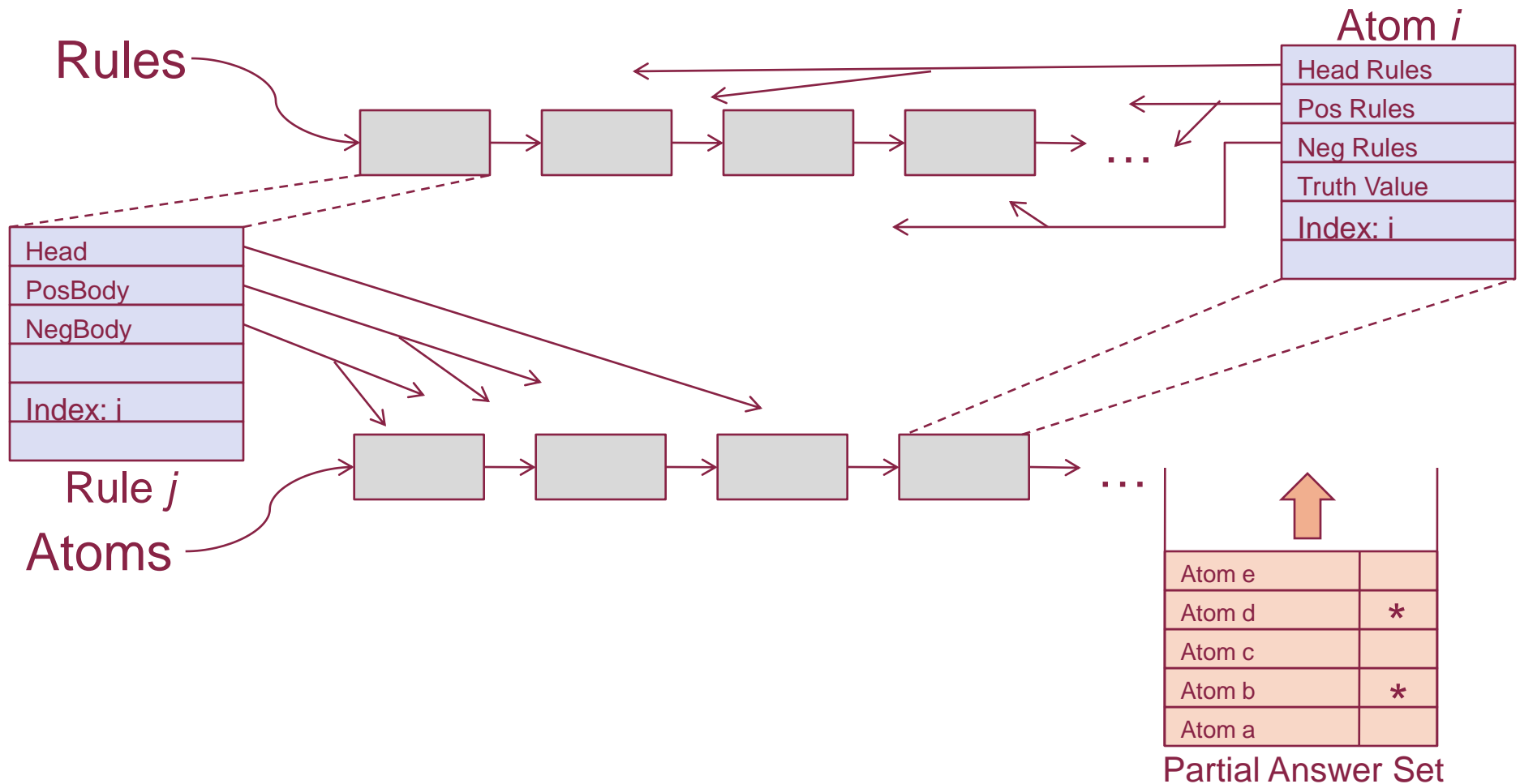
# Logic Programming: Systems

- Definite Programs (Prolog, CLP)
  - SLD-resolution
  - WAM-based
- Answer Set Programs
  - bottom-up execution models (answer = set)
    - variations of DPLL
    - mapping to SAT

# Logic Programming: WAM



# Logic Programming: Smodels



# LP and Parallelism

- LP considered suited for parallel execution since its inception
  - Kowalski “Logic for Problem Solving” (1979)
  - Pollard’s Ph.D. Thesis (1981)
- Interest spawned by
  - LP  $\Rightarrow$  Declarative Language  $\Rightarrow$  Limited or No Control  $\Rightarrow$  Limited Dependences  $\Rightarrow$  Easy Parallelism
  - Everlasting myth of “*LP = slow execution*”



# LP and Parallelism

- Several good surveys

J. Chassin de Kergommeaux, P. Codognet.(1994) “Parallel logic programming systems,” ACM Computing Surveys, 26(3).

V. Santos Costa. (2000) “Parallelism and Implementation Technology for Logic Programming Languages,” Encyclopedia of Computer Science and Technology, Vol. 42.

G. Gupta, E. Pontelli, M. Hermenegildo, M. Carlsson, K. Ali. (2001) “Parallel Execution of Logic Programs,” ACM TOPLAS, 23(4).

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# Models of Parallelism

**while** (Query not empty) **do**

$\text{select}_{\text{literal}} B \text{ from Query}$

*And-Parallelism*

**repeat**

$\text{select}_{\text{clause}} (H \text{ :- Body}) \text{ from Program}$

*Or-Parallelism*

**until** ( $\text{unify}(H,B)$  or no clauses left)

*Unification  
Parallelism*

**if** (no clauses left) **then** FAIL

**else**

$\sigma = \text{MostGeneralUnifier}(H,B)$

$\text{Query} = ((\text{Query} \setminus \{B\}) \cup \text{Body})\sigma$

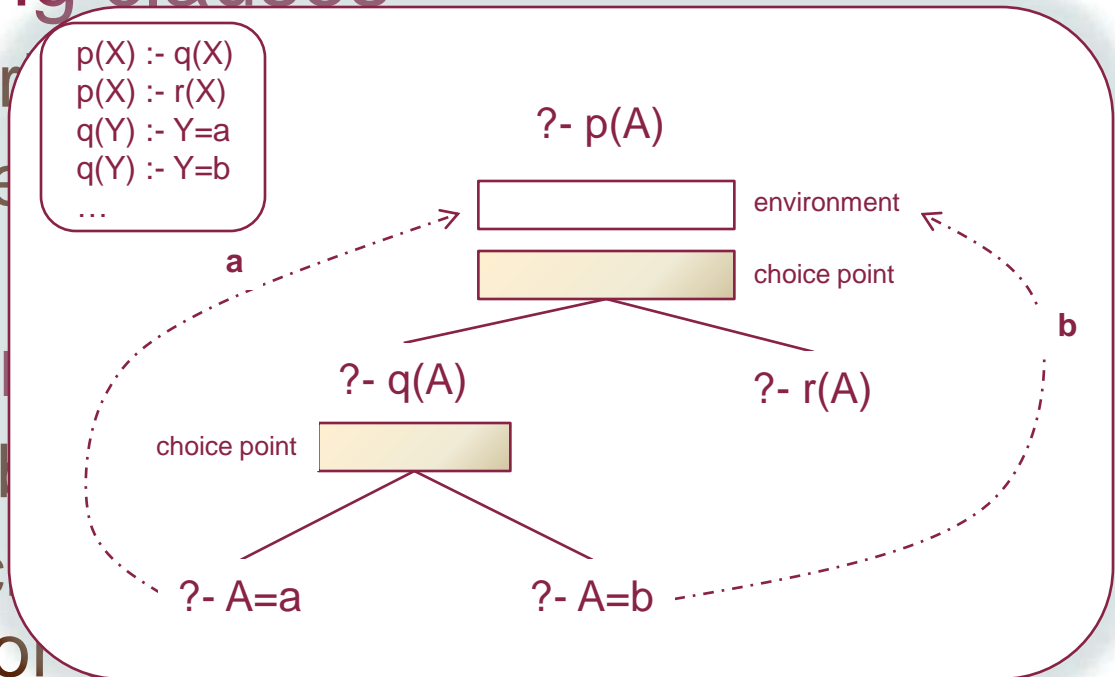
**endif**

**endwhile**



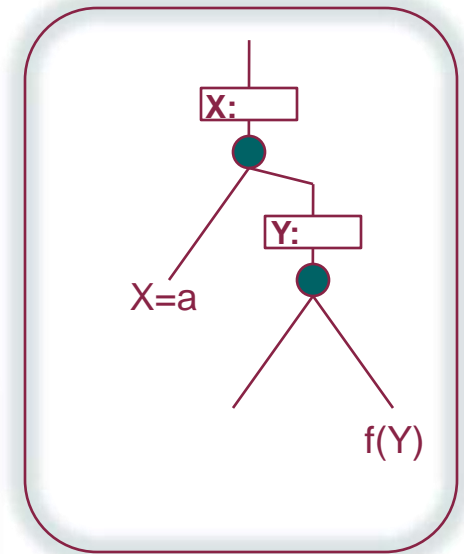
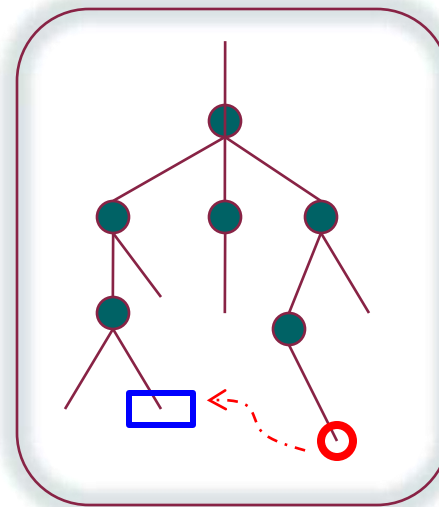
# Or-Parallelism

- Parallelize “*don't known*” non-determinism in selecting matching clauses
  - processes explore
  - computations are independent
- Environment representation
  - conditional variables
  - at minimum: each unbound ancestor



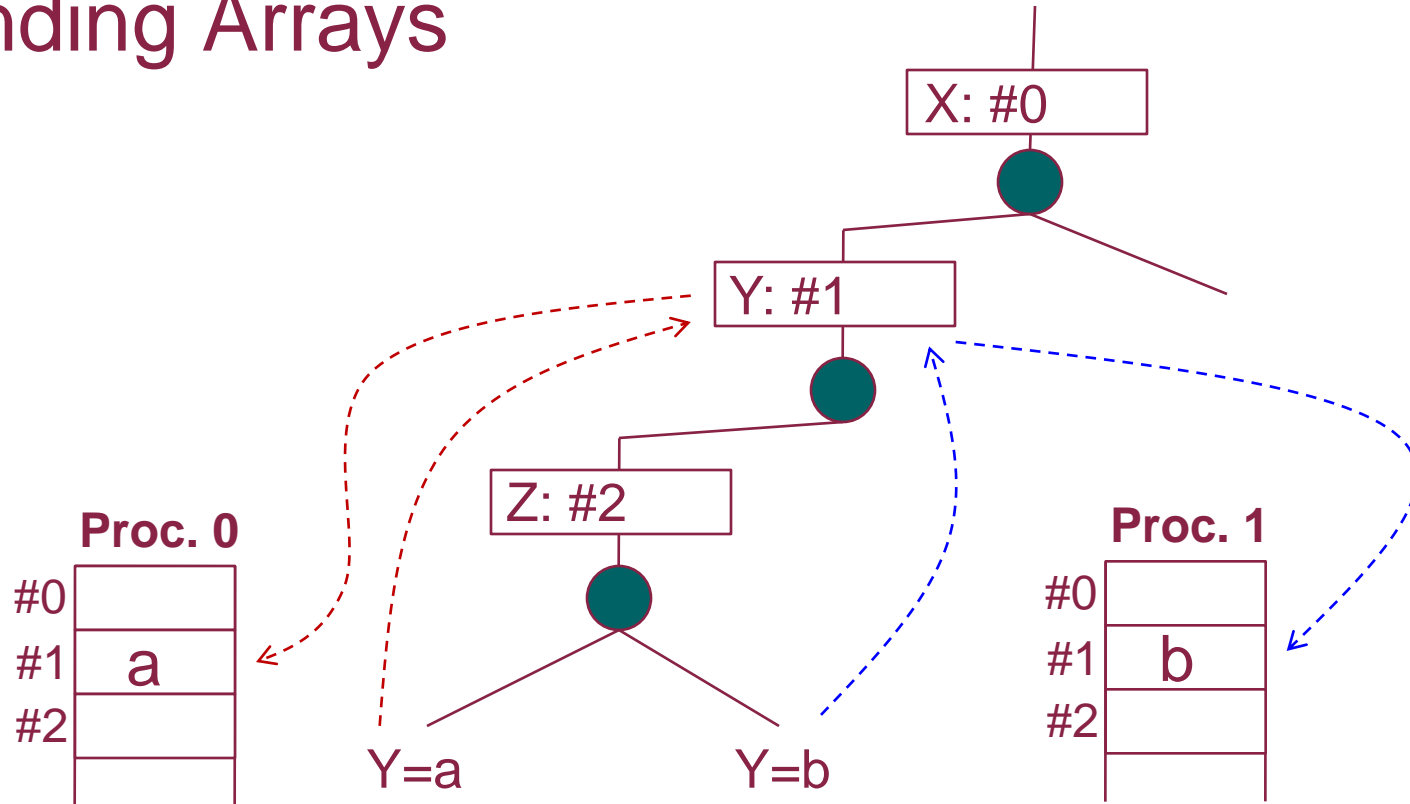
# Or-Parallelism: Classification Schemes

- Formalized in terms of three basic operations
  - binding management scheme
  - task switching scheme
  - task creation scheme
- **Binding Scheme**
  - Shared-tree methods
    - Binding arrays
    - Version vectors
  - Non shared-tree methods
    - Stack copying
- **Task Switching Scheme**
  - copying schemes
  - recomputation schemes



# Or-Parallelism: two popular schemes

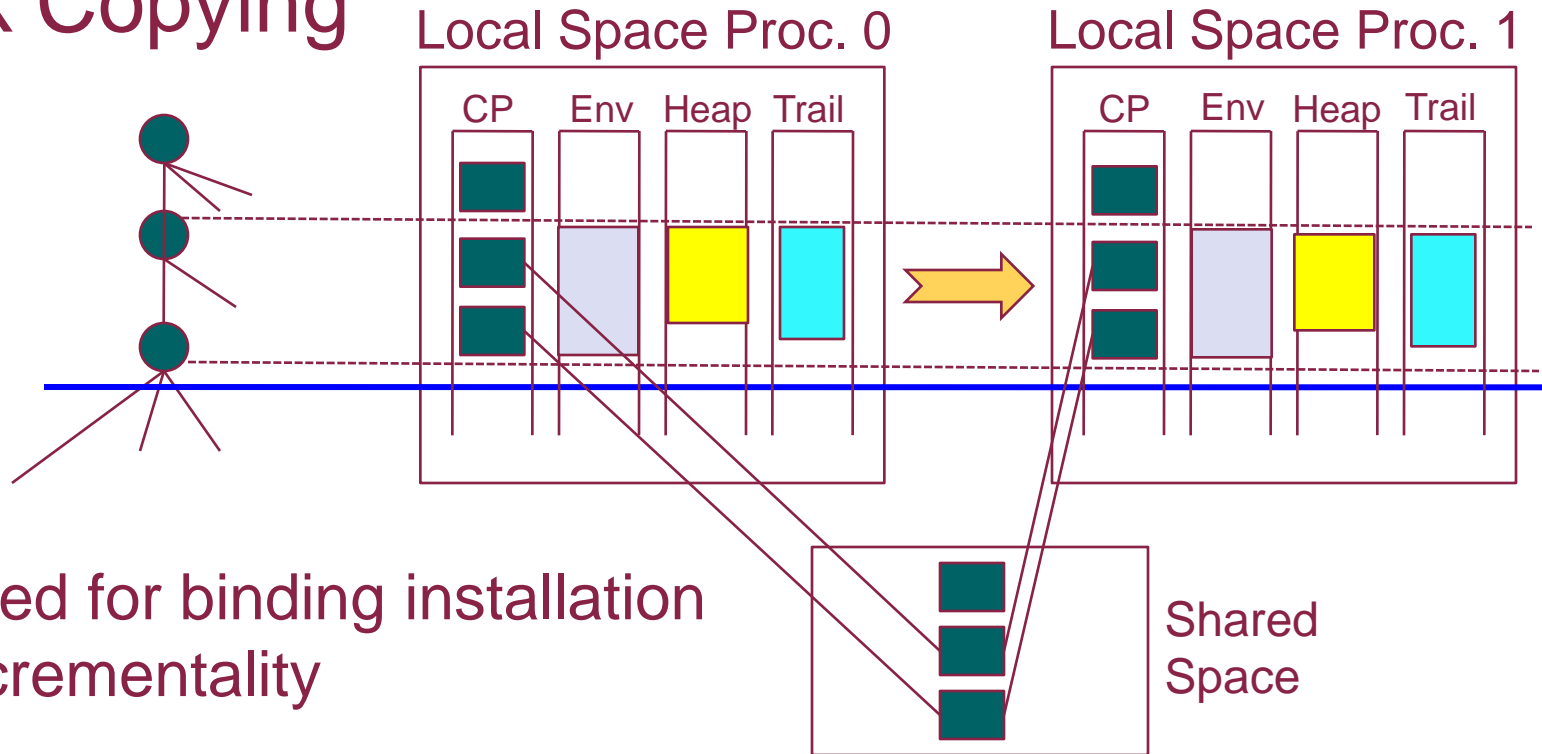
- Binding Arrays





# Or-Parallelism: two popular schemes

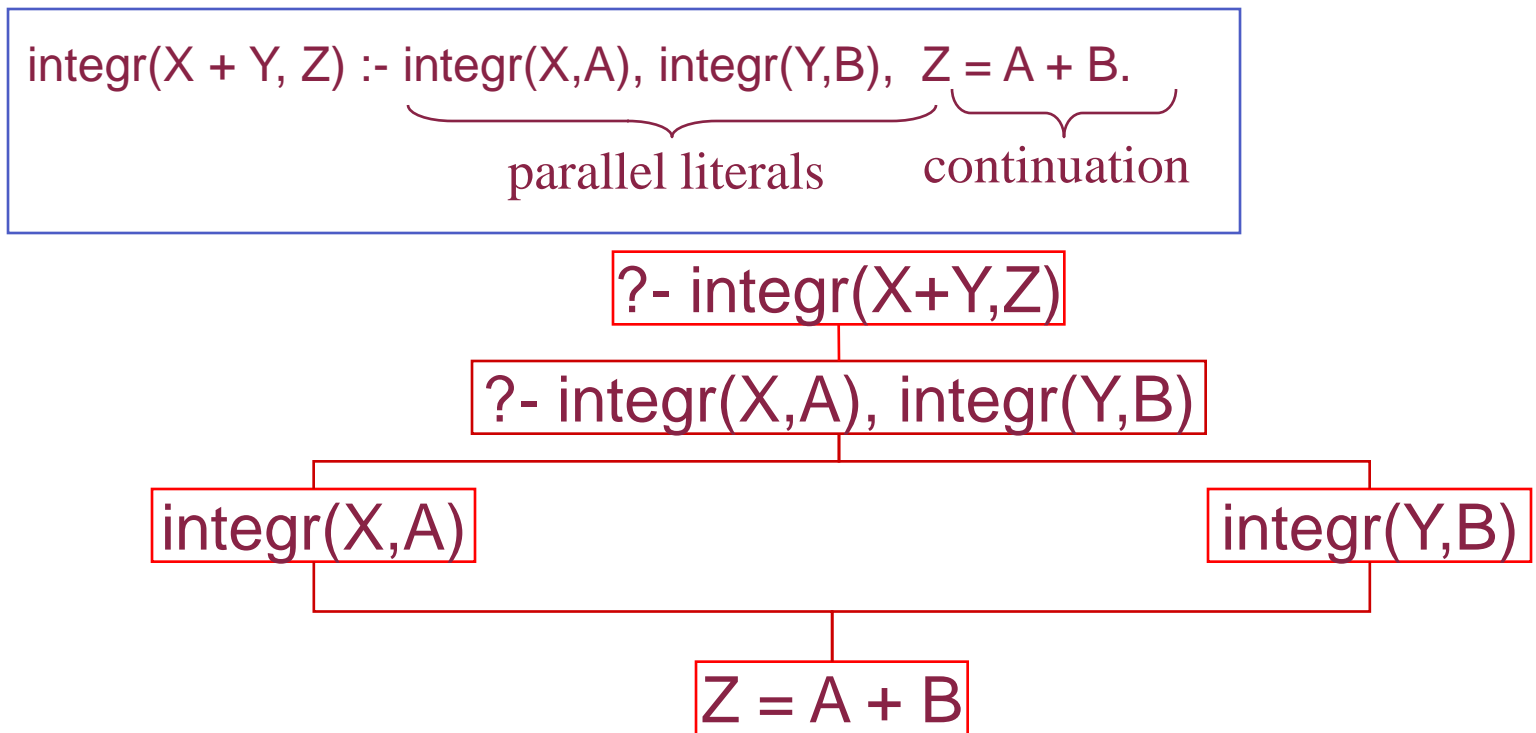
- Stack Copying



- need for binding installation
- incrementality

# And-Parallelism

- Concurrent execution of different literals in a resolvent

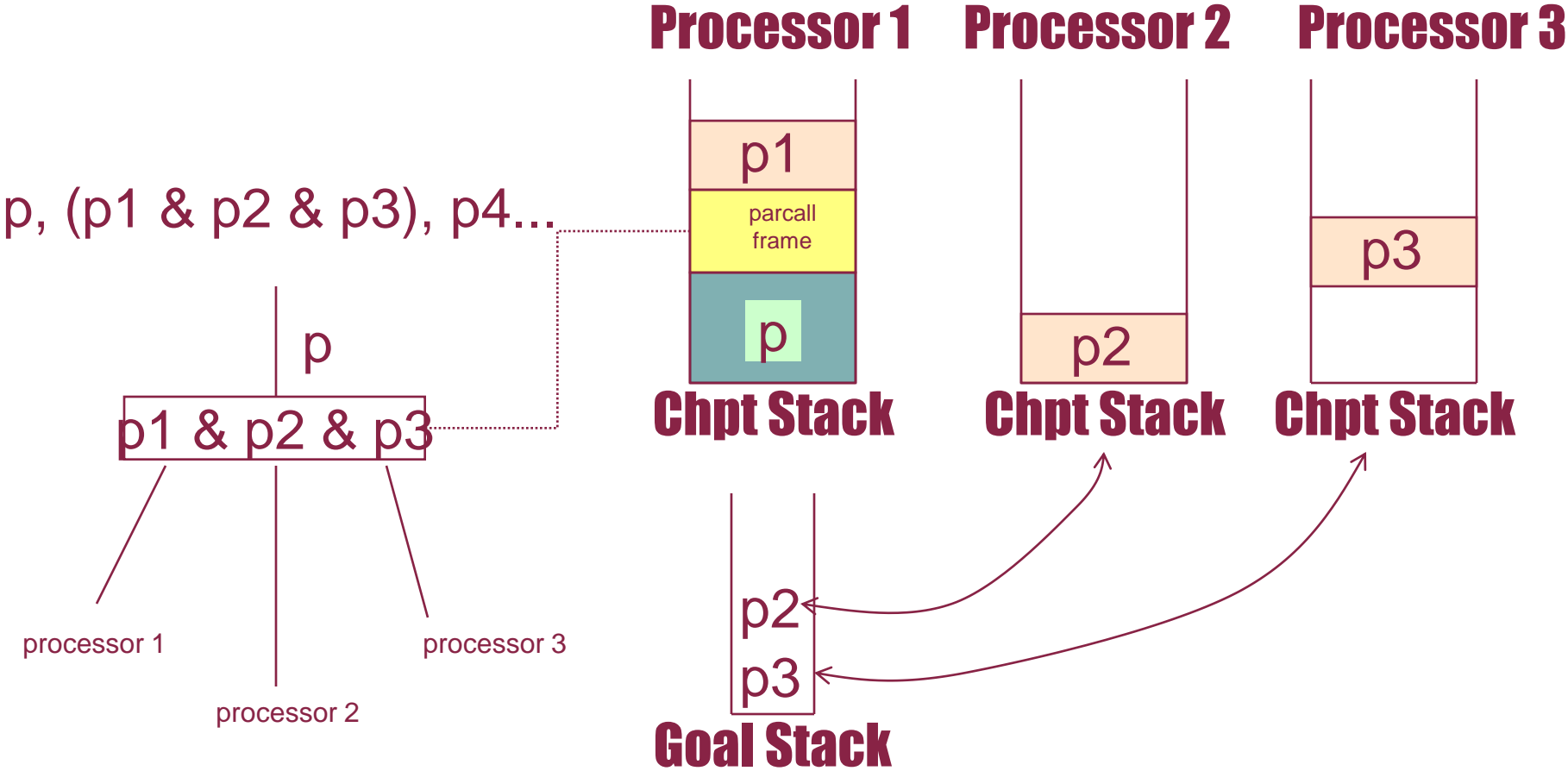


# And-Parallelism

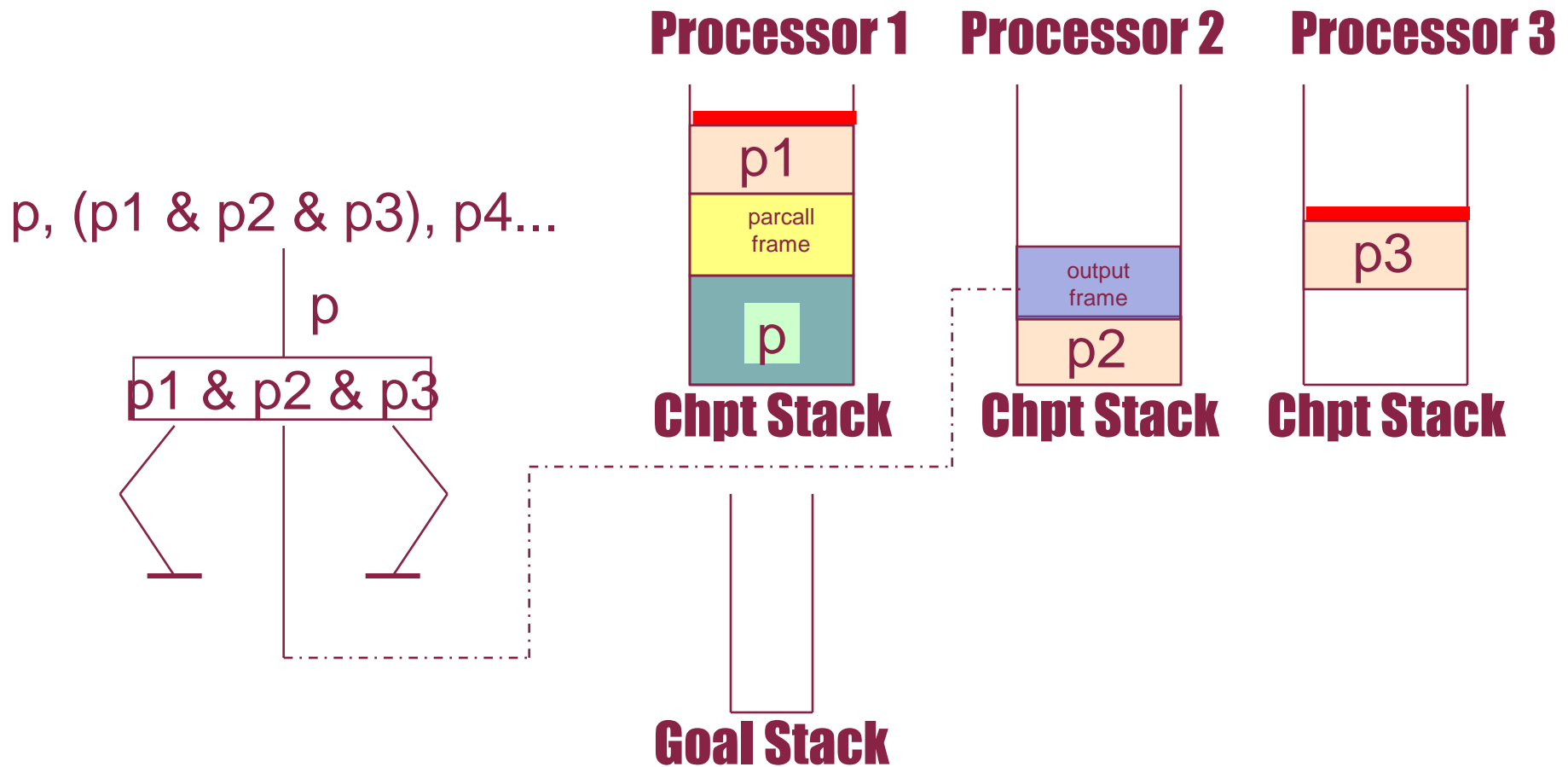
- Two traditional forms
  - Independent and-parallelism
    - runtime access to independent sets of variables

```
quick(In,Out) :- partition(In,First,Low,High),  
    ( indep(Low,High) => quick(Low,SLow) & quick(High,SHigh) parallel case  
      test ; quick(Low,SLow) , quick(High,SHigh) sequential case ),  
    append(SLow,[First|SHigh],Out).
```

# And-Parallelism



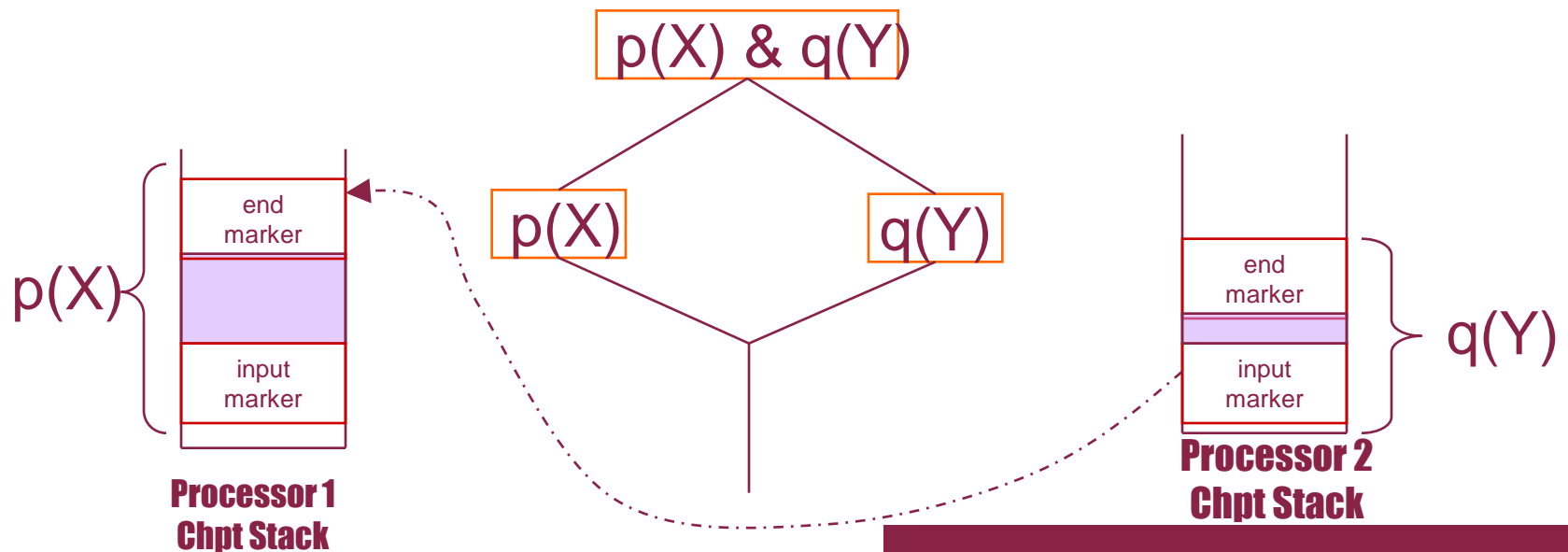
# And-Parallelism



# And-Parallelism

- Backtracking

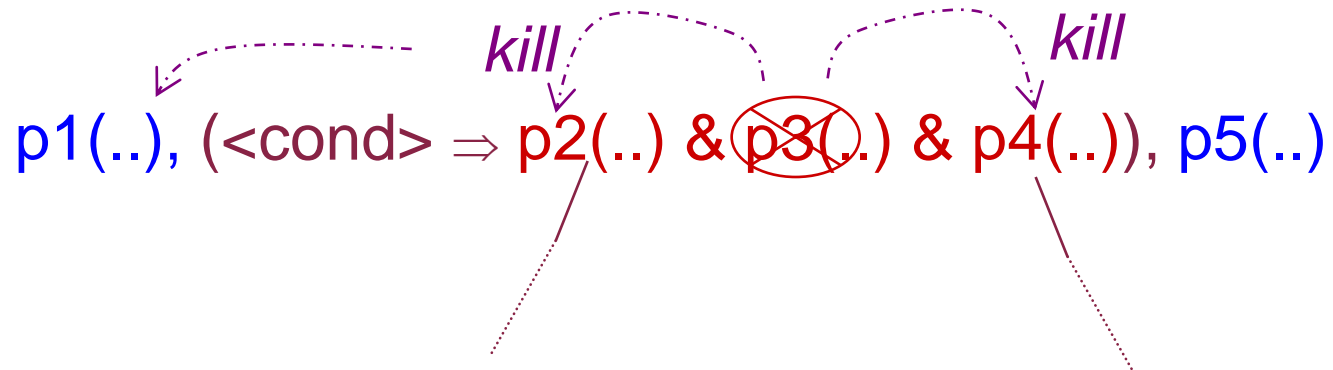
$p1(..)$ , ( $\langle \text{cond} \rangle \Rightarrow p2(..) \ \& \ p3(..) \ \& \ p4(..)$ ),  $p5(..)$





# And-Parallelism

- Inside backtracking





# And-Parallelism

- Dependent and-parallelism

$$p(X) \ \& \ q(X)$$

- Goals

- consistent bindings
- reproduce Prolog observable behavior

- Common approach

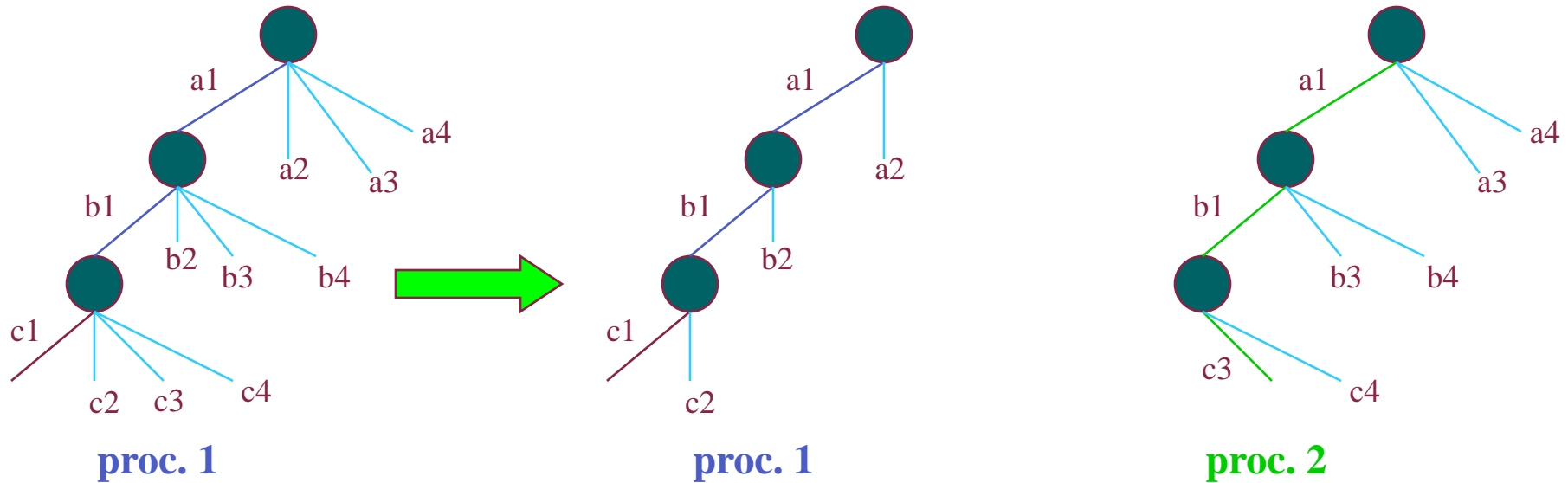
- dynamic classification of subgoals as producers/consumers
- several complex schemes (e.g., filtered binding model, DDAS)

- Complex backtracking

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# The Present (or recent past...)



- vertical splitting
  - partition:  $CP^* \rightarrow CP^* \times CP^*$  e.g.,
    - »  $\text{alternate}(a_1 b_1 a_2 b_2 a_3 b_3 \dots) = (a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots), (b_1 b_2 b_3 \dots)$
    - »  $\text{block}(a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots a_n) = (a_1 \dots a_{n/2-1}), (a_{n/2} \dots a_n)$

# Understanding the Problems...

- Formalizations

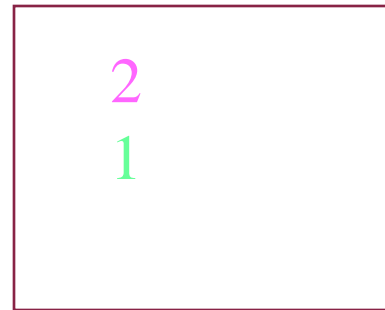
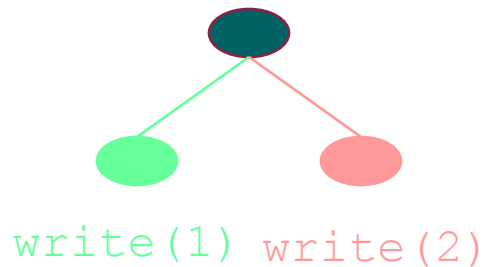
- modeling key aspects of parallel LP as problems on dynamic trees
- investigation of computational properties

- Some interesting results

- environment representation problem
  - operations: create\_tree, expand, remove, assign, dereference
  - $\Omega(\lg n)$

# Further Issues

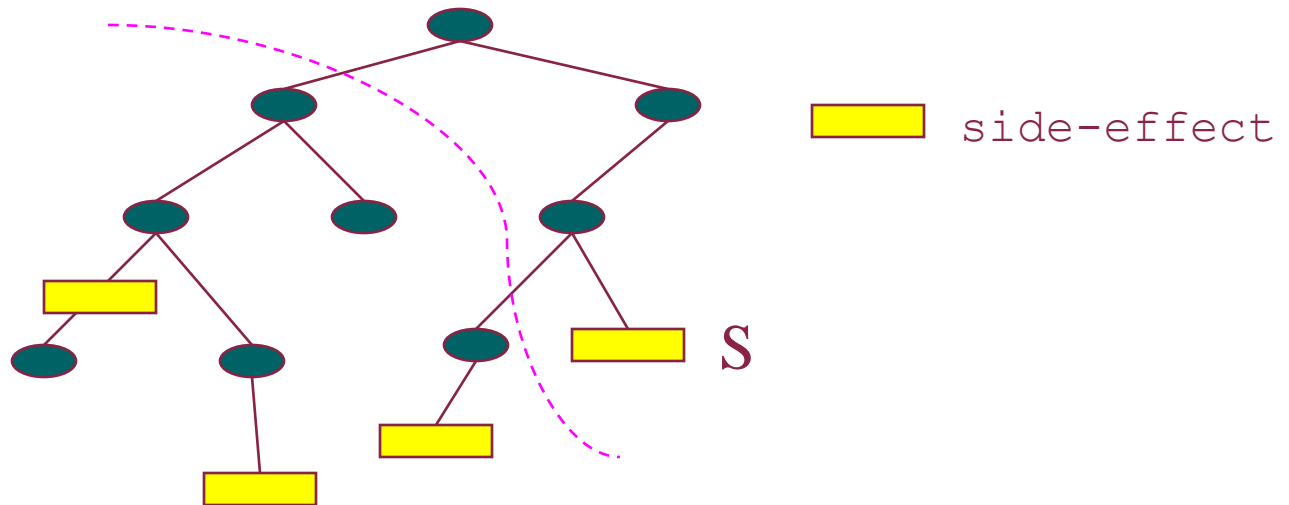
- Prolog as a “real” programming language
  - Side-effects, order-sensitive predicates



- Goal: recreate the same observable behavior of sequential Prolog
- Sequentialize order-sensitive predicates
- Sequential is opposite of Parallel...
- Dynamic vs. Static management of order-sensitive predicates

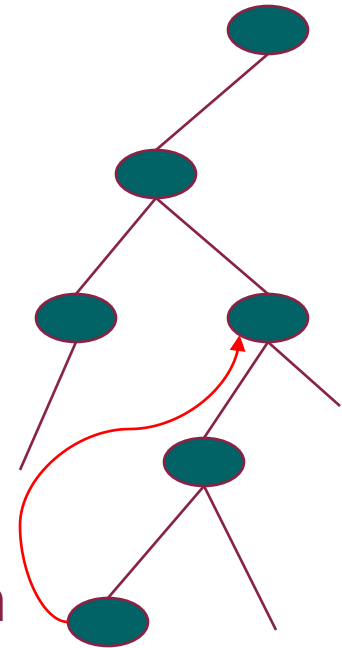
# Order-sensitive Executions

- Idea: a side-effect should be delayed until all “preceding” side-effects have been completed
- determining the exact time of execution: undecidable
- safe approximation: delay until all “impure” branches on the left of the side-effects have been completed



# Order-sensitive predicates

- Standard Technique: maintain subroot nodes for each node
  - $\text{Subroot}(X)$  = root of largest subtree containing X in which X is leftmost
- 
- ❖ Aurora, Muse:  $O(n)$  algorithms for maintaining subroot nodes
  - ❖ possible to perform  $O(1)$  on shared memory
  - ❖ approximated on distributed memory: block splitting, give away top part of branch
  - ❖ Preemptive scheduling



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# (Back to) The Future

[To Japanese Page for "The Home page of KLIC"](#)

This page describes KLIC, which is a concurrent logic programming language.

KLIC was developed in ICOT and distributed as an [IFS](#), and is now distributed by [KLIC Association](#).

Please read the [README](#) file for details

- ◆ [Current version](#)
- ◆ [Available platforms](#)
- ◆ [Parallel implementations](#)
- ◆ [Changes](#)
- ◆ [Documents](#)
- ◆ [Mailing lists](#)

## Current version

Version 3.003 is the latest and is currently distributed from the following sites:

- ◆ <http://www.klic.org/files/v3.0/klic-3.003.tgz>(primary site)
- ◆ <ftp://pwd.chroot.org/pub/klic/v3.0/klic-3.003.tgz>(secondary site)

This distribution contains the following three implementations.

- ◆ Sequential (pseudo parallel) implementation
- ◆ Distributed memory parallel implementation
- ◆ Shared memory parallel implementation

Unfortunately, the current shared memory parallel implementation still has fatal bugs. If you are using the old shared memory parallel implementation (previous version is [2.002](#)), *please do not replace it with the current version.*

**type** Status report

**message** /~/beaumont/andorra.html

**description** The requested resource (/~/beaumont/andorra.html) is not available.

Apache Tomcat/5.5.9

**type** Status report

**message** /~/beaumont/aurora.html

**description** The requested resource (/~/beaumont/aurora.html) is not available.

Apache Tomcat/5.5.9

# (Back to) The Future... NOT!

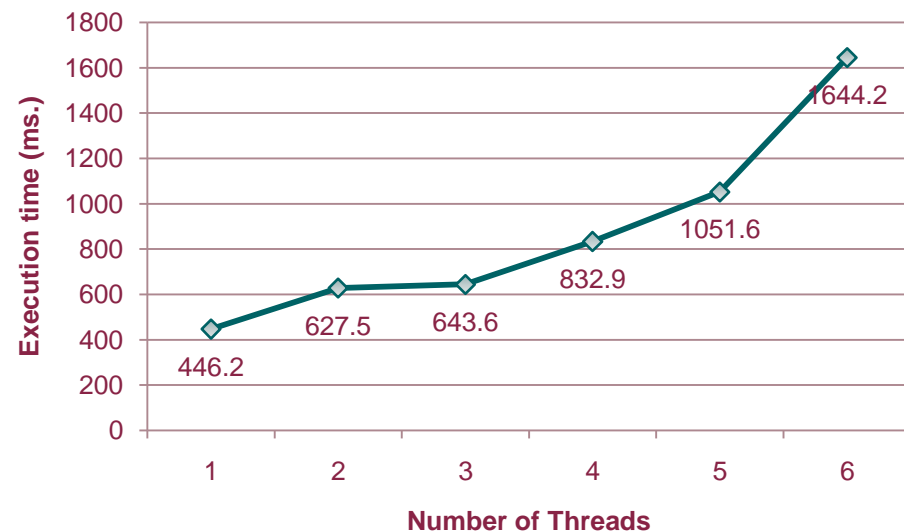
- Multi-core

- back to shared memory platforms
- small/medium/large scale
- the future is not the same as the past...

- GPUs: large number of simple complex memory model
- CPUs: tricky cache behavior
- Other upcoming platforms (e.g., ARM)

- Requirements

- better investigation of local memory
- hybrid architectures  $\Rightarrow$  hybrid
- ACE, Andorra-I, FIRE, AOW



# Perspectives

- Mapping forms of parallelism to hw levels
  - Originally designed in ACE
    - Teams of processors
    - Each team as an or-parallel agent (stack copying)
    - Each member of a team as an and-parallel agent (&ACE)
  - Experimented with in Jsmodels
    1. Propagation Parallelism – threads within a multicore node
    2. Or-Parallelism – processes allocated to distinct nodes of a cluster
      - Pathways 10
  - Other possibilities
    - GPUs for unification parallelism

# (Back to) The Future... NOT!

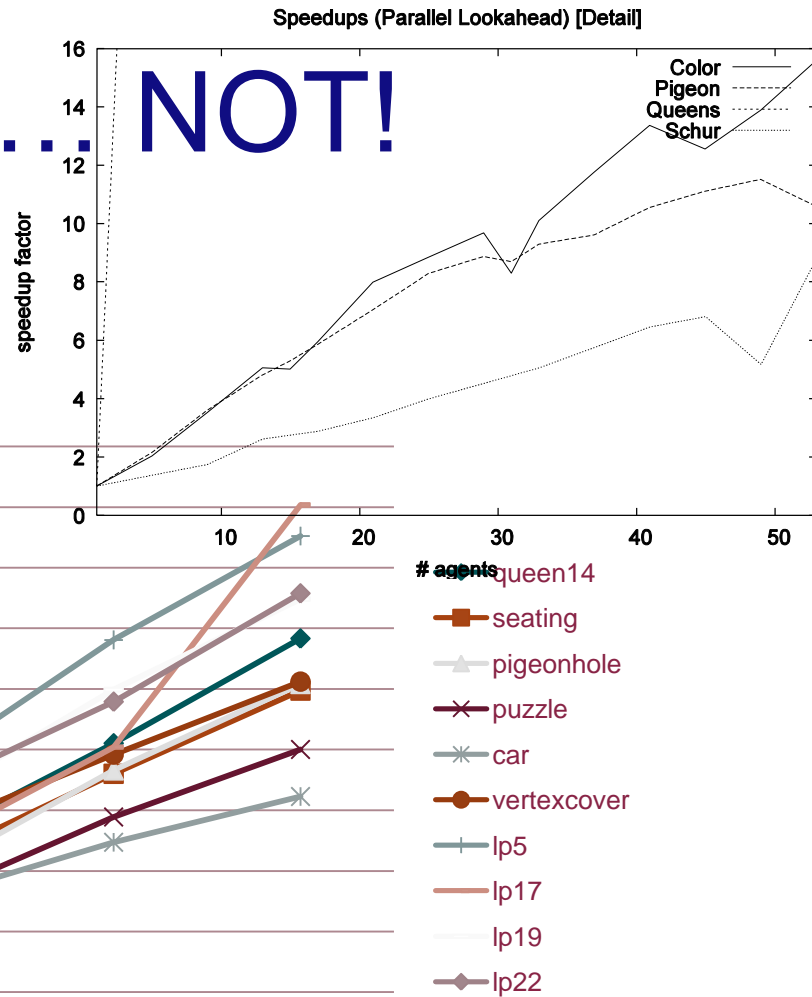
- Making parallel LP boring
  - High level parallel primitives
  - Implement forms of parallelism in Prolog
  - Original idea
    - Codish & Shapiro (1987)
    - &-Prolog CGE (1988)
    - &-ACE DAP (1995)
- An Example: primitives for and-parallelism
  - G&>Handler (post goal in a goal queue)
  - Handler &< (wait for goal associated to Handler)
    - A&B :- A&>Handler, call(B), Handler &<.
  - Operations for accessing goal list
  - Mutex on variables

# (Back to) The Future... NOT!

- Parallelism in
    - Parallel Answer Set Solvers
      - Jmodels
      - Platypus
    - Jmodels
      - sequential models
      - semantics are not
- ```
function jmodels(P)
  S = ( $\emptyset$ ,  $\emptyset$ )
  loop
    S = wfm(P, S)
    if ( $S^+ \cap S^- \neq \emptyset$ ) then fail
    if (S is complete) then return S
    pick  $f$  and choose
       $S^+ = S^+ \cup \{f\}$ 
       $S^- = S^- \cup \{f\}$ 
  endloop
```

# (Back to) The Future... NOT!

- Parallel jsmodels
  - search parallelism
    - parallel
    - environ
    - 3 sharir
      - cop
      - recc
      - recc
    - both se
  - lookahea
    - find unk
    - inconsi
    - lookahe
    - parallel



# Conclusion

- Parallel LP is coming back
- Novel perspectives
  - architectural impact
  - portability & maintainability at the price of greater overheads
  - language specific schemes
- Bright future ahead!

# Acknowledgments

- KLAP = Knowledge representation, Logic, and Advanced Programming



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M. Carro  
U.Politecnica Madrid



V. Santos Costa  
U. Porto



$d \exists \alpha \Phi(\alpha)$   
 $\neg K P \rightarrow Q$





# ICLP 2008

24th International Conference  
on Logic Programming

Udine (Italy)  
December 9-13, 2008

<http://iclp08.dimi.uniud.it>



# Thank You

# Questions?