The cut "!"  (Controlling control)

[1]  \( \text{max}(X,Y,X) :\text{-} X \geq Y, \ ! . \)
[2]  \( \text{max}(X,Y,Y) :\text{-} X < Y . \)  (We assume "even" is built in.)

\(?- \text{max}(5,4,M), \text{even}(M).\)

\( 5 \geq 4, \ !, \text{even}(5). \)

\(, \text{even}(5).\)

\(, \text{even}(5).\)

\(, \text{even}(5).\)

\(, \text{even}(5).\)

FAIL

Succeed and freeze all choices from the parent goal to the cut goal, inclusive.

\([\ast]\)  indicates choice of a built-in rule