



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DRESDEN

# FOUNDATIONS OF SEMANTIC WEB TECHNOLOGIES

## OWL & Description Logics

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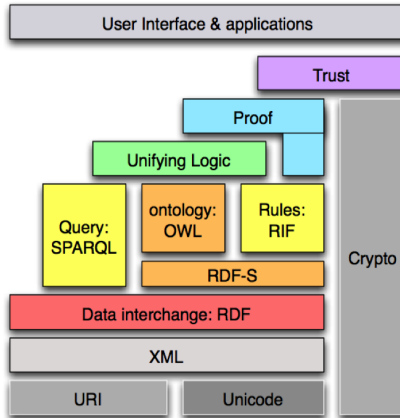


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SCHOOL OF  
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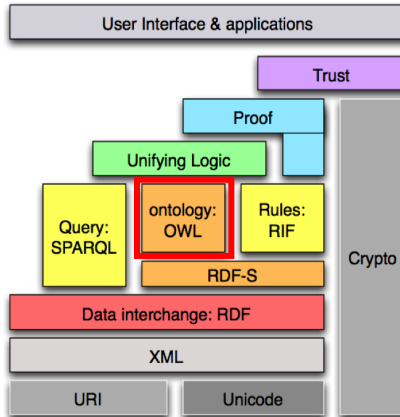
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# OWL & Description Logics



# OWL & Description Logics



# Agenda

- Motivation
- Introduction Description Logics
- The Description Logic  $\mathcal{ALC}$
- Extensions of  $\mathcal{ALC}$
- Inference Problems

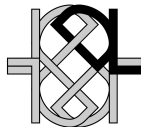
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## Description Logics

- description logics (DLs) are one of the current KR paradigms
- have significantly influenced the standardization of Semantic Web languages
  - OWL is essentially based on DLs
- numerous reasoners

Quonto	JFact	FaCT++	RacerPro
Owlgres	Pellet	SHER	snorocket
OWLIM	Jena	Oracle Prime	QuOnto
Trowl	Hermit	condor	CB
	ELK	konclude	RScale



**Semantic  
Web**



## OWL Tools

Tools and editors for OWL:

- Protégé, <http://protege.stanford.edu> (free editor)



- TopBraid Composer, <http://www.topquadrant.com> (commercial editor)
- OWL API, <http://owlapi.sourceforge.net/> (free Java library)
- OWL Syntax Converter,  
<http://mowl-power.cs.man.ac.uk:8080/converter/>  
(conversion/validation service)



# Description Logics

- Origin of DLs: semantic networks and frame-based systems
- Downside of the former: only intuitive semantics - diverging interpretations
- DLs provide a formal semantics on logical grounds
- Can be seen as decidable fragments of first-order logic (FOL), closely related to modal logics
- Significant portion of DL-related research devoted to clarifying the computational effort of reasoning tasks in terms of their worst-case complexity
- Despite high complexities, even for expressive DLs exist optimized reasoning algorithms with good average case behavior

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## DL building blocks

- **individuals:** `birte`, `cs63.800`, `sebastian`, **etc.**
  - ↪ constants in FOL, resources in RDF
- **concept names:** `Person`, `Course`, `Student`, **etc.**
  - ↪ unary predicates in FOL, classes in RDF
- **role names:** `hasFather`, `attends`, `worksWith`, **etc.**
  - ↪ binary predicates in FOL, properties in RDF
    - can be subdivided into abstract and concrete roles (object und data properties)

the set of all individual, concept and role names is called **signature** or **vocabulary**

## Constituents of a DL Knowledge Base

TBox  $\mathcal{T}$

information about concepts and their taxonomic dependencies

ABox  $\mathcal{A}$

informationen about individuals, their concept and role memberships

in more expressive DLs also:

RBox  $\mathcal{R}$

information about roles and their mutual dependencies

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# Complex Concepts

$\mathcal{ALC}$ , Attribute Language with Complement, is the simplest DL that is Boolean closed

we define (complex)  $\mathcal{ALC}$  concepts as follows:

- every **concept name** is a concept,
- $\top$  and  $\perp$  are concepts,
- for concepts  $C$  and  $D$ ,  $\neg C$ ,  $C \sqcap D$ , and  $C \sqcup D$  are concepts,
- for a role  $r$  and a concept  $C$ ,  $\exists r.C$  and  $\forall r.C$  are concepts

**Example:** `Student  $\sqcap$   $\forall$ attendsCourse.MasterCourse`

Intuitively: describes the concept comprising all students that attend only master courses

## Concept Constructors vs. OWL

- $\top$  corresponds to `owl:Thing`
- $\perp$  corresponds to `owl:Nothing`
- $\sqcap$  corresponds to `owl:intersectionOf`
- $\sqcup$  corresponds to `owl:unionOf`
- $\neg$  corresponds to `owl:complementOf`
- $\forall$  corresponds to `owl:allValuesFrom`
- $\exists$  corresponds to `owl:someValuesFrom`

# Concept Axioms

For concepts  $C, D$ , a **general concept inclusion** (GCI) axiom has the form

$$C \sqsubseteq D$$

- $C \equiv D$  is an abbreviation for  $C \sqsubseteq D$  and  $D \sqsubseteq C$
- a **TBox** (terminological Box) consists of a set of GCIs

TBox  $\mathcal{T}$



# ABox

an  $\mathcal{ALC}$  ABox assertion can be of one of the following forms

- $C(a)$ , called **concept assertion**
- $r(a, b)$ , called **role assertion**

an ABox consists of a set of ABox assertions

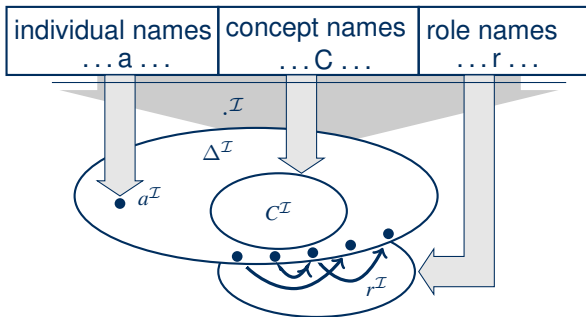


ABox  $\mathcal{A}$

# The Description Logic $\mathcal{ALC}$

- $\mathcal{ALC}$  is a syntactic variant of the modal logic **K** with multiple modalities
- semantics defined in a model-theoretic way, that is, via interpretations
- can be expressed in first-order predicate logic
- a DL interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  consists of a domain  $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$  and a function  $\cdot^{\mathcal{I}}$ , that maps
  - individual names  $a$  to domain elements  $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - concept names  $C$  to sets of domain elements  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - role names  $r$  to sets of pairs of domain elements  $r^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$

# Schematic Representation of an Interpretation



# Interpretation of Complex Concepts

the interpretation of complex concepts is defined inductively:

Name	Syntax	Semantics
top	$\top$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
bottom	$\perp$	$\emptyset$
negation	$\neg C$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$
conjunction	$C \sqcap D$	$C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}}$
disjunction	$C \sqcup D$	$C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}}$
universal quantifier	$\forall r.C$	$\{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (x, y) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \text{ implies } y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$
existential quantifier	$\exists r.C$	$\{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{there is some } y \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \text{ such that } (x, y) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \text{ and } y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$

## Interpretation of Axioms

interpretation can be extended to axioms:

name	syntax	semantic	notation
inclusion	$C \sqsubseteq D$	holds if $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$	$\mathcal{I} \models C \sqsubseteq D$
equivalence	$C \equiv D$	holds if $C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$	$\mathcal{I} \models C \equiv D$
concept assertion	$C(a)$	holds if $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$	$\mathcal{I} \models C(a)$
role assertion	$r(a, b)$	holds if $(a^{\mathcal{I}}, b^{\mathcal{I}}) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$	$\mathcal{I} \models r(a, b)$

## Logical Entailment in Knowledge Bases

- Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an interpretation,  $\mathcal{T}$  a TBox,  $\mathcal{A}$  an Abox and  $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$  a knowledge base
- $\mathcal{I}$  is a **model for  $\mathcal{T}$** , if  $\mathcal{I} \models ax$  for every axiom  $ax$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ , written  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$
- $\mathcal{I}$  is a **model for  $\mathcal{A}$** , if  $\mathcal{I} \models ax$  for every assertion  $ax$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , written  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$
- $\mathcal{I}$  is a **model for  $\mathcal{K}$** , if  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$
- An axiom  $ax$  **follows** from  $\mathcal{K}$ , written  $\mathcal{K} \models ax$ , if every model  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$  is also a model of  $ax$ .

# Semantics via Translation into FOL

translation of TBox axioms into first-order predicate logics through the mapping  $\pi$  with  $C, D$  complex classes,  $r$  a role and  $A$  an atomic class:

$$\pi(C \sqsubseteq D) = \forall x. (\pi_x(C) \rightarrow \pi_x(D)) \quad \pi(C \equiv D) = \forall x. (\pi_x(C) \leftrightarrow \pi_x(D))$$

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$$\pi_x(A) = A(x)$$

$$\pi_x(\neg C) = \neg \pi_x(C)$$

$$\pi_x(C \sqcap D) = \pi_x(C) \wedge \pi_x(D)$$

$$\pi_x(C \sqcup D) = \pi_x(C) \vee \pi_x(D)$$

$$\pi_x(\forall r. C) = \forall y. (r(x, y) \rightarrow \pi_y(C))$$

$$\pi_x(\exists r. C) = \exists y. (r(x, y) \wedge \pi_y(C))$$



# Semantics via Translation into FOL

translation of TBox axioms into first-order predicate logics through the mapping  $\pi$  with  $C, D$  complex classes,  $r$  a role and  $A$  an atomic class:

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$$\pi_x(A) = A(x)$$

$$\pi_y(A) = A(y)$$

$$\pi_x(\neg C) = \neg \pi_x(C)$$

$$\pi_y(\neg C) = \neg \pi_y(C)$$

$$\pi_x(C \sqcap D) = \pi_x(C) \wedge \pi_x(D)$$

$$\pi_y(C \sqcap D) = \pi_y(C) \wedge \pi_y(D)$$

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$$\pi_x(\forall r. C) = \forall y. (r(x, y) \rightarrow \pi_y(C))$$

$$\pi_y(\forall r. C) = \forall x. (r(y, x) \rightarrow \pi_x(C))$$

$$\pi_x(\exists r. C) = \exists y. (r(x, y) \wedge \pi_y(C))$$

$$\pi_y(\exists r. C) = \exists x. (r(y, x) \wedge \pi_x(C))$$

# Semantics via Translation into FOL

- translation only requires two variables
- ↪  $\mathcal{ALC}$  is a fragment of FOL with two variables  $\mathcal{L}_2$
- ↪ satisfiability checking of sets of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  axioms is decidable

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## Inverse Roles

- a role can be
  - a role name  $r$  or
  - an **inverse role**  $r^-$
- the semantics of inverse roles is defined as follows:

$$(r^-)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{(y, x) \mid (x, y) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

- the extension of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  by inverse roles is denoted as  $\mathcal{ALCI}$
- corresponds to `owl:inverseOf`

## Parts of a Knowledge Base

TBox  $\mathcal{T}$

information about concepts and their taxonomic dependencies

ABox  $\mathcal{A}$

information about individuals, their concepts and role connections

in more expressive DLs also:

RBox  $\mathcal{R}$

information about roles and their mutual dependencies

## Role Axioms

- for  $r, s$  roles, a **role inclusion axiom** – RIA has the form  $r \sqsubseteq s$
- $r \equiv s$  is the abbreviation for  $r \sqsubseteq s$  and  $s \sqsubseteq r$
- an **RBox** (role box) or **role hierarchy** consists of a set of role axioms
- $r \sqsubseteq s$  holds in an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  if  $r^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq s^{\mathcal{I}}$ , written  $\mathcal{I} \models r \sqsubseteq s$
- the extension of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  by role hierarchies is denoted with  $\mathcal{ALCH}$ , if we also have inverse roles:  $\mathcal{ALCHI}$
- corresponds to `owl:subPropertyOf`

RBox  $\mathcal{R}$

# An Example Knowledge Base

RBox  $\mathcal{R}$

$\text{own} \sqsubseteq \text{careFor}$

TBox  $\mathcal{T}$

$\text{Healthy} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Dead}$

$\text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \text{Dead} \sqcup \text{Alive}$

$\text{HappyCatOwner} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{owns.Cat} \sqcap \forall \text{caresFor.Healthy}$

ABox  $\mathcal{A}$

$\text{HappyCatOwner}$  (schrödinger)

## An Example Knowledge Base

RBox  $\mathcal{R}$

$\text{own} \sqsubseteq \text{careFor}$

“If somebody owns something, they care for it.”

TBox  $\mathcal{T}$

$\text{Healthy} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Dead}$

“Healthy beings are not dead.”

$\text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \text{Dead} \sqcup \text{Alive}$

“Every cat is dead or alive.”

$\text{HappyCatOwner} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{owns.Cat} \sqcap \forall \text{caresFor.Healthy}$

“A happy cat owner owns a cat and everything he cares for is healthy.”

ABox  $\mathcal{A}$

$\text{HappyCatOwner}(\text{schrödinger})$

“Schrödinger is a happy cat owner.”



## Role Transitivity

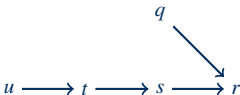
- for  $r$  a role, a **transitivity axiom** has the form  $\text{Trans}(r)$
- $\text{Trans}(r)$  holds in an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  if  $r^{\mathcal{I}}$  is a transitive relation, i.e.,  $(x, y) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$  and  $(y, z) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$  imply  $(x, z) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$ , written  $\mathcal{I} \models \text{Trans}(r)$
- the extension of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  by transitivity axioms is denoted by  $\mathcal{S}$  (after the modal logic  $S_4$  – although it is really based on  $K_4$ )
- corresponds to `owl:TransitiveProperty`

## Role Functionality

- for  $r$  a role, a **functionality axiom** has the form  $\text{Func}(r)$
- $\text{Func}(r)$  holds in an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  if  $(x, y_1) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$  and  $(x, y_2) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$  imply  $y_1 = y_2$ , written  $\mathcal{I} \models \text{Func}(r)$
- translation into FOL requires equality (=)
- the extension of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  by functionality axioms is denoted by  $\mathcal{ALCF}$
- corresponds to `owl:FunctionalProperty`

## Simple and Non-Simple Roles

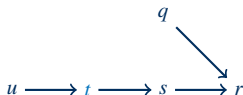
- Given a role hierarchy  $\mathcal{R}$ , we let  $\underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}}$  be the smallest relation such that:
  - if  $r \sqsubseteq s$  then  $r \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} s$
  - $r \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} r$  for every role  $r$  (reflexive)
  - if  $r \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} s$  and  $s \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} t$  then  $r \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} t$  (transitive)
  - if  $r \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} s$  then  $r^- \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} s^-$ , where “ $(r^-)^-$ ” means  $r$
- For a role hierarchy  $\mathcal{R}$ , we can distinguish the roles in  $\mathcal{R}$  into **simple** and **non-simple** roles:
  - a role  $r$  is non-simple w.r.t.  $\mathcal{R}$ , if there is a role  $t$  such that  $\text{Trans}(t) \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $t \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} r$  holds
  - all other roles are simple
- Example:  $\mathcal{R} = \{u \sqsubseteq t, t \sqsubseteq s, s^- \sqsubseteq r^-, q \sqsubseteq r, \text{Trans}(t)\}$



non-simple:

## Simple and Non-Simple Roles

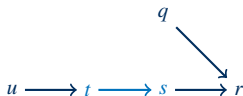
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non-simple:  $t$

## Simple and Non-Simple Roles

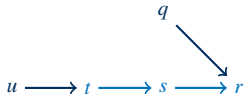
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  - all other roles are simple
- Example:  $\mathcal{R} = \{u \sqsubseteq t, t \sqsubseteq s, s^- \sqsubseteq r^-, q \sqsubseteq r, \text{Trans}(t)\}$



non-simple:  $t, s$

## Simple and Non-Simple Roles

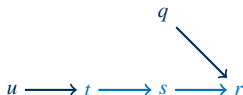
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- Example:  $\mathcal{R} = \{u \sqsubseteq t, t \sqsubseteq s, s^- \sqsubseteq r^-, q \sqsubseteq r, \text{Trans}(t)\}$



non-simple:  $t, s, r$

## Simple and Non-Simple Roles

- Given a role hierarchy  $\mathcal{R}$ , we let  $\underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}}$  be the smallest relation such that:
  - if  $r \sqsubseteq s$  then  $r \underline{\star}_{\mathcal{R}} s$
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- Example:  $\mathcal{R} = \{u \sqsubseteq t, t \sqsubseteq s, s^- \sqsubseteq r^-, q \sqsubseteq r, \text{Trans}(t)\}$



non-simple:  $t, s, r$     simple:  $q, u$

## (Unqualified) Number Restrictions

- For a simple role  $s$  and a natural number  $n$ ,  $\leq n s$ ,  $\geq n s$  and  $= n s$  are concepts
- Semantics defined by:

$$(\leq n s)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \#\{y \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (x, y) \in s^{\mathcal{I}}\} \leq n\}$$

$$(\geq n s)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \#\{y \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (x, y) \in s^{\mathcal{I}}\} \geq n\}$$

$$(= n s)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \#\{y \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (x, y) \in s^{\mathcal{I}}\} = n\}$$

- Extension of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  by (unqualified) number restrictions denoted by  $\mathcal{ALCN}$
- Correspond to `owl:maxCardinality`, `owl:minCardinality`, and `owl:cardinality`
- Restriction to simple roles ensures decidability, e.g., for checking knowledge base satisfiability
- Definition of TBox requires an RBox being already defined



## (Unqualified) Number Restrictions in FOL

- Translation into FOL requires equality or counting quantifiers
- Translation defined as follows (likewise for  $\pi_y$ ):

$$\pi_x(\leq n s) = \exists^{\leq n} y. (s(x, y))$$

$$\pi_x(\geq n s) = \exists^{\geq n} y. (s(x, y))$$

$$\pi_x(= n s) = \exists^{\leq n} y. (s(x, y)) \wedge \exists^{\geq n} y. (s(x, y))$$

- The following equivalences hold:

$$\neg(\leq n s) \hat{=} \geq (n + 1) s \qquad \neg(\geq n s) \hat{=} \leq (n - 1) s, \quad n \geq 1$$

$$\neg(\geq 0 s) \hat{=} \perp \qquad \geq 1 s \hat{=} \exists s. \top$$

$$\leq 0 s \hat{=} \forall s. \perp \qquad \top \sqsubseteq \leq 1 s \hat{=} \text{Func}(s)$$

## Nominals or Closed Classes

- A **nominal** for an individual  $a$  is a concept of the form  $\{a\}$ ; it denotes a class with a single element (denoted by  $a$ )
- **Closed class** with multiple elements expressed as union of nominals;  $\{a_1\} \sqcup \dots \sqcup \{a_n\}$  can also be abbreviated as  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$
- Semantics defined as follows (the special case  $n = 1$  covers nominals):

$$\text{DL: } (\{a_1, \dots, a_n\})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a_1^{\mathcal{I}}, \dots, a_n^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

$$\text{FOL: } \pi_x(\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}) = (x = a_1 \vee \dots \vee x = a_n)$$

- Extension of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  by nominals denoted as  $\mathcal{ALCO}$
- Corresponds to `owl:oneOf`

# Nominals for Encoding Further OWL Constructors

- `owl:hasValue` “forces” role to a certain individual

```
<owl:Class rdf:ID="Woman">
  <owl:equivalentClass>
    <owl:Restriction>
      <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#hasGender"/>
      <owl:hasValue rdf:resource="#female"/>
    </owl:Restriction>
  </owl:equivalentClass>
</owl:Class>
```

- In description logic:

$$\text{Woman} \equiv \exists \text{hasGender}.\{\text{female}\}$$

## Further Kinds of ABox Assertions

ABox assertions can have one of the following forms:

- $C(a)$  (concept assertion)
- $r(a, b)$  (role assertion)
- $\neg r(a, b)$  (negative role assertion)
- $a \approx b$  (equality assertion)
- $a \not\approx b$  (inequality assertion)

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## Internalization of ABox Assertions

If nominals are supported, every knowledge base with an ABox can be transformed into an equivalent one without ABox:

$$\begin{aligned}C(a) &\hat{=} \{a\} \sqsubseteq C \\r(a, b) &\hat{=} \{a\} \sqsubseteq \exists r. \{b\} \\ \neg r(a, b) &\hat{=} \{a\} \sqsubseteq \forall r. (\neg \{b\}) \\ a \approx b &\hat{=} \{a\} \equiv \{b\} \\ a \not\approx b &\hat{=} \{a\} \sqsubseteq \neg \{b\}\end{aligned}$$

# Overview Nomenclature

$\mathcal{ALC}$  Attribute Language with Complement

$\mathcal{S}$   $\mathcal{ALC}$  + role transitivity

$\mathcal{H}$  subroles

$\mathcal{O}$  nominals

$\mathcal{I}$  inverse roles

$\mathcal{N}$  (unqualified) number restrictions

(D) datatypes

$\mathcal{F}$  functional roles

OWL DL is  $\mathcal{SHOIN}(\text{D})$  and OWL Lite is  $\mathcal{SHIF}(\text{D})$

## Different Terms in DLs and in OWL

### OWL

class

property

object property

data property

oneOf\*

ontology

–

### DL

concept

role

abstract role

concrete role

nominal

knowledge base

TBox, RBox, ABox

\* ) with one individual



## Example: A More Complex Knowledge Base

Human  $\sqsubseteq$  Animal  $\sqcap$  Biped

Man  $\equiv$  Human  $\sqcap$  Male

Male  $\sqsubseteq$   $\neg$ Female

{President.Obama}  $\equiv$  {Barack.Obama}

{john}  $\sqsubseteq$   $\neg$ {peter}

hasDaughter  $\sqsubseteq$  hasChild

hasChild  $\equiv$  hasParent<sup>-</sup>

cost  $\equiv$  price

Trans(ancestor)

Func(hasMother)

Func(hasSSN<sup>-</sup>)

# Open versus Closed World Assumption

## OWA Open World Assumption

- the existence of further individuals is possible, if they are not explicitly excluded
- OWL uses the OWA

## CWA Closed World Assumption

- it is assumed that the knowledge base contains all individuals and facts

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Are all of Bill's  
children male?

DL answers Prolog answers

---

child(bill, bob)  
Man(bob)  $\models?$   $(\forall \text{ child.Man})(\text{bill})$

$(\leq 1 \text{ child})(\text{bill}) \models?$   $(\forall \text{ child.Man})(\text{bill})$

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# Agenda

- Motivation
- Introduction Description Logics
- The Description Logic  $\mathcal{ALC}$
- Extensions of  $\mathcal{ALC}$
- Inference Problems



# Important Inference Problems for a Knowledge Base $\mathcal{K}$

- global consistency of the knowledge base:  $\mathcal{K} \models? \text{false?}$   $\mathcal{K} \models? \top \sqsubseteq \perp?$ 
  - Is the knowledge base “plausible”?
- class consistency:  $\mathcal{K} \models? C \sqsubseteq \perp?$ 
  - Is the class  $C$  necessarily empty?
- class inclusion (subsumption):  $\mathcal{K} \models? C \sqsubseteq D?$ 
  - taxonomic structure of the knowledge base
- class equivalence:  $\mathcal{K} \models? C \equiv D?$ 
  - Do two classes comprise the same individual sets?
- class disjointness:  $\mathcal{K} \models? C \sqcap D \sqsubseteq \perp?$ 
  - Are two classes disjoint?
- class membership:  $\mathcal{K} \models? C(a)?$ 
  - Is the individual  $a$  contained in class  $C$ ?
- instance retrieval: find all  $x$  with  $\mathcal{K} \models C(x)$ 
  - Find all (known!) members of the class  $C$ .

## Decidability of OWL DL

- decidability means that there is a terminating algorithm for all the aforementioned inference problems
- OWL DL is a fragment of FOL, thus FOL inference procedures could be used in principle (Resolution, Tableaux)
  - but these are not guaranteed to terminate!
- problem: find algorithms that are guaranteed to terminate
- no “naive” solutions for this

## OWL 2: Outlook

- OWL 2 extends the fragments introduced here by further constructors
- OWL 2 also defines simpler fragments (PTime for standard inferencing problems)
- diverse tools for automated inferencing
- editors support creation of ontologies / knowledge bases

## Further Literature

- [Description Logic Primer](#)  
A gentle introduction to DLs and pointers to further literature  
Available at <http://arxiv.org/abs/1201.4089>