Knowledge Representation for the Semantic Web
Lecture 5: Description Logics IV

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slides based on Reasoning Web 2011 tutorial “Foundations of Description Logics and OWL” by S. Rudolph

Max Planck Institute for Informatics
D5: Databases and Information Systems group

WS 2017/18
Unit Outline

Satisfaction and Entailment

Other Reasoning Problems

Algorithmic Approaches to DL Reasoning
Satisfaction and Satisfiability
Satisfaction and Satisfiability of Knowledge Bases

Satisfaction of a KB by an interpretation

An interpretation $\mathcal{I}$ satisfies (or is a model of) a knowledge base $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A} \rangle$, if $\mathcal{I}$ satisfies every axiom of $\mathcal{K}$, i.e., $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$ for $\alpha \in \mathcal{K}$. 
Satisfaction and Satisfiability of Knowledge Bases

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**KB (un)satisfiability / (in)consistency**

A KB $\mathcal{K}$ is satisfiable (also: consistent), if it has some model; otherwise it is unsatisfiable (also: inconsistent or contradictory).
Satisfaction and Satisfiability of Knowledge Bases

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KB (un)satisfiability / (in)consistency

A KB $\mathcal{K}$ is satisfiable (also: consistent), if it has some model; otherwise it is unsatisfiable (also: inconsistent or contradictory).

- unsatisfiability of a KB hints at a design bug
- unsatisfiable axioms carry no information:

  $\alpha$ is unsatisfiable $\iff$ $\neg \alpha$ is tautologic (if negation is applicable), i.e., $\mathcal{I} \models \neg \alpha$ for every interpretation $\mathcal{I}$
## Example: KB Satisfiability

### RBox $\mathcal{R}$

- **owns** $\sqsubseteq$ **caresFor**
  
  "If somebody owns something, s/he cares for it."

### TBox $\mathcal{T}$

- **Healthy** $\sqsubseteq \neg$ **Dead**
  
  "Healthy beings are not dead."

- **Cat** $\sqsubseteq$ **Dead $\sqcup$ Alive**
  
  "Every cat is dead or alive."

- **HappyCatOwner** $\sqsubseteq \exists$ **owns**. **Cat** $\sqcap \forall$ **caresFor**. **Healthy**
  
  "A happy cat owner owns a cat and all beings he cares for are healthy."

### ABox $\mathcal{A}$

- **HappyCatOwner**($\text{schroedinger}$)
  
  "Schrödinger is a happy cat owner."

Is $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A} \rangle$ satisfiable?
## Example: KB Satisfiability

### RBox $\mathcal{R}$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relation</th>
<th>Constraint</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><code>owns</code></td>
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"If somebody owns something, s/he cares for it."

### TBox $\mathcal{T}$

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"Healthy beings are not dead."

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"A happy cat owner owns a cat and all beings he cares for are healthy."

### ABox $\mathcal{A}$

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"Schrödinger is a happy cat owner."

Is $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A} \rangle$ satisfiable? **Yes!**
## Example: KB Satisfiability

### TBox $T$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>DL Expression</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>$\sqsubseteq$ Mammal</td>
<td>&quot;Deers are mammals.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammal $\sqcap$ Flies</td>
<td>$\sqsubseteq$ Bat</td>
<td>&quot;Mammals, who fly are bats.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bat</td>
<td>$\sqsubseteq$ $\forall$ worksFor.{batman}</td>
<td>&quot;Bats work only for Batman&quot;</td>
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### ABox $A$

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<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deer $\sqcap$ $\exists$ hasNose.Red(rudolph)</td>
<td>&quot;Rudolph is a deer with a red nose.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\forall$ worksFor$^\sim$.($\neg$Deer $\sqcap$ Flies)(santa)</td>
<td>&quot;Only non-deers or fliers work for Santa.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>worksFor(rudolph, santa)</td>
<td>&quot;Rudolph works for Santa.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>santa $\neq$ batman</td>
<td>&quot;Santa is different from Batman.&quot;</td>
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Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?
**Example: KB Satisfiability**

**TBox** $\mathcal{T}$

<table>
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<th>Sub-Concept</th>
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<td>Deer</td>
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<tr>
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Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable? **No!**
Entailment of Axioms

Entailment checking

A knowledge base $\mathcal{K}$ entails an axiom $\alpha$ (in symbols, $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$), if every model $\mathcal{I}$ of $\mathcal{K}$ satisfies $\alpha$.

- Informally, $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$ elicits implicit knowledge
- If $\alpha$ occurs in $\mathcal{K}$, then trivially $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$
- If $\mathcal{K}$ is unsatisfiable, then $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$ for every axiom $\alpha$
## Example: Entailment

**RBox $\mathcal{R}$**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>owns</code>  ⊑ <code>caresFor</code></td>
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**TBox $\mathcal{T}$**

<table>
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<td><code>Healthy</code> ⊑ ¬ <code>Dead</code></td>
<td>&quot;Healthy beings are not dead.&quot;</td>
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Example: Entailment

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- $\mathcal{K} \models \exists$caresFor.(Cat $\sqcap$ Alive)(schroedinger)?
**Example: Entailment**

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- $\mathcal{K} \models \exists$caresFor.(Cat $\sqcap$ Alive)(schroedinger)
- $\mathcal{K} \not\models \forall$owns.$\neg$Cat $\sqsubseteq \neg$HappyCatOwner?
Example: Entailment

**RBox** $\mathcal{R}$
- `owns` $\sqsubseteq$ `caresFor`
  
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- `HappyCatOwner` $\sqsubseteq$ $\exists$ `owns.Cat` $\land$ $\forall$ `caresFor.Healthy`
  
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**ABox** $\mathcal{A}$
- `HappyCatOwner`(schroedinger)
  
  "Schrödinger is a happy cat owner."

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{K} & \models \exists \text{caresFor.}(\text{Cat} \land \text{Alive})(\text{schroedinger}) \\
\mathcal{K} & \models \forall \text{owns.}\neg \text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{HappyCatOwner} \\
\mathcal{K} & \models \text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \text{Healthy}?
\end{align*}
\]
### Example: Entailment

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| ABox $\mathcal{A}$ | HappyCatOwner(schroedinger) | "Schrödinger is a happy cat owner.” |

- $\mathcal{K} \models \exists\text{caresFor.(Cat} \sqcap \text{Alive)}(\text{schroedinger})$
- $\mathcal{K} \models \forall\text{owns.¬Cat} \sqsubseteq \neg\text{HappyCatOwner}$
- $\mathcal{K} \not\models \text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \text{Healthy}$
Decidability of DLs

DLs are decidable, i.e., there exists an algorithm that:

Given: a KB and an axiom $\alpha$,

Output: “yes” iff $KB \models \alpha$ and no otherwise.

- Likewise, there is a similar algorithm that decides whether an input KB is satisfiable.
- Just ask $KB \models \top \sqsubseteq \bot$: if the answer is “yes”, then KB is unsatisfiable, otherwise it is satisfiable.
Standard Reasoning Problems
Standard DL Reasoning Problems

- **KB Satisfiability**: verify whether the KB is satisfiable

- **Entailment**: verify whether the KB entails a certain axiom
e.g., \( K \models \text{CatOwner}(\text{Schroedinger}) \)

- **Concept Satisfiability**: verify whether a given concept is
  (un)satisfiable, e.g., \( K \models \text{Dead} \sqcap \text{Alive} \sqsubseteq \bot \)

- **Coherence**: verify whether none of the concepts in the KB is
  unsatisfiable

- **Classification**: compute the subsumption hierarchy of all atomic
  concepts, e.g. \( K \models \text{Healthy} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Dead}, \text{etc.} \)

- **Instance Retrieval**: retrieve all the individuals known to be
  instances of a certain concept, e.g., find all \( a \), s.t. \( \exists \text{caresFor}(a) \)
Deciding KB Satisfiability

- deciding KB satisfiability is a basic inference task (the “mother” of all standard reasoning tasks)
- directly needed in the process of KB engineering
  - detect severe modeling errors
- other reasoning tasks can be reduced to checking KB (un)satisfiability (and vice versa)

Theorem 1: Reducing reasoning problems to KB satisfiability

Let $\mathcal{K}$ be a KB and $a$ an individual name not in $\mathcal{K}$. Then

2. $C$ is satisfiable w.r.t. $\mathcal{K}$ iff $\mathcal{K} \cup C(a)$ is satisfiable;
3. $\mathcal{K}$ is coherent iff, for each concept name $C$, $\mathcal{K} \cup C(a)$ is satisfiable;
4. $\mathcal{K} \models A \subseteq B$ iff $\mathcal{K} \cup (A \cap \neg B)(a)$ is unsatisfiable;
5. $\mathcal{K} \models B(b)$ iff $\mathcal{K} \cup \neg B(b)$ is unsatisfiable.
Entailment Checking

- used in the KB modeling process to check, whether the specified knowledge has the intended consequences
- used for querying the KB if certain propositions are necessarily true

Reduction of entailment problem $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$ to checking KB inconsistency (see Th.1) follows the idea of proof by contradiction:

- negate the axiom $\alpha$
- add the negated axiom $\neg \alpha$ to $\mathcal{K}$
- check for inconsistency of the resulting KB $\mathcal{K} \cup \{\neg \alpha\}$

If an axiom cannot be negated directly, its negation can be emulated ($\{\neg \alpha\} \leadsto A_\alpha$).
### Entailment Checking, cont’d

Axiom sets $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$ such that $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$ exactly if $\mathcal{K} \cup \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ is unsatisfiable:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\alpha$</th>
<th>$\mathcal{A}_\alpha$</th>
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<tr>
<td>$r_1 \circ \ldots \circ r_n \sqsubseteq r$</td>
<td>$\left{ \neg r(c_0, c_n), r_1(c_0, c_1), \ldots, r_n(c_{n-1}, c_n) \right}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dis$(r, r')$</td>
<td>$\left{ r(c_1, c_2), r'(c_1, c_2) \right}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C \sqsubseteq D$</td>
<td>$\left{ (C \cap \neg D)(c) \right}$ or $\top \sqsubseteq \exists u(C \cap \neg D)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C(a)$</td>
<td>$\left{ \neg C(a) \right}$</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$a \approx b$</td>
<td>$\left{ a \neq b \right}$</td>
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<td>$\left{ a \approx b \right}$</td>
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- Individual names $c$ with possible subscripts are supposed to be fresh\(^1\).
- For GCI(s) (third line), the first variant is normally employed; the second is logical equivalent instead of just emulating.

\(^1\)Fresh individuals are those not appearing in the given KB $\mathcal{K}$.
A concept expression $C$ is called **satisfiable** with respect to a knowledge base $\mathcal{K}$, if there exists a model $\mathcal{I}$ of $\mathcal{K}$ such that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$.

- Unsatisfiable atomic concepts normally indicate KB modeling errors.
- Concept satisfiability can be reduced to KB consistency (Th. 1) and non-entailment resp.:
  
  - $C$ is satisfiable wrt. $\mathcal{K} \iff \mathcal{K} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is consistent, where $a$ is a fresh individual name
  
  - $C$ is satisfiable wrt. $\mathcal{K} \iff \mathcal{K} \not\models C \sqsubseteq \bot$
Concept Satisfiability, cont’d

Entailment of general concept inclusions $C \sqsubseteq D$ and equivalences $C \equiv D$ can be reduced to both concept (un)satisfiability and KB (un)satisfiability.

- $C \sqsubseteq D \iff C \cap \neg D$ is unsatisfiable
  $\iff$ KB $\{C(a), \neg D(a)\}$ is unsatisfiable

- $C \equiv D \iff (C \cap \neg D) \sqcup (D \cap \neg C)$ is unsatisfiable
  $\iff$ both $C \cap \neg D$ and $D \cap \neg C$ are unsatisfiable
  $\iff$ both KBs $\{C(a), \neg D(a)\}$ and $\{D(a), \neg C(a)\}$ are unsatisfiable
Classification

**KB Classification**

Classification of a knowledge base $\mathcal{K}$ is to determine for any two concept names $A, B$, whether $\mathcal{K} \models A \subseteq B$ holds.

- This is useful at KB design time for checking the inferred concept hierarchy. Also, computing this hierarchy once and storing it can speed up further queries.

- Classification can be reduced to checking entailment of GCIs.

- While this requires quadratically many checks, one can often do much better in practice by applying optimizations and exploiting that subsumption is a preorder.
# Instance Retrieval

Instance retrieval task is to find all named individuals that are known to be in a certain concept (role).

- \( \hat{\text{retrieve}}(C, \mathcal{K}) = \{ a \in N_I \mid a^I \in C^I \text{ for every model } I \text{ of } \mathcal{K} \} \)
- \( \hat{\text{retrieve}}(r, \mathcal{K}) = \{ (a, b) \in N_I^2 \mid (a^I, b^I) \in r^I \text{ for every model } I \text{ of } \mathcal{K} \} \)

- It can be reduced to checking entailment of as many individual assertions as there are named individuals in \( \mathcal{K} \) i.e., test \( \mathcal{K} \models C(a) \) for each \( a \) occurring in \( \mathcal{K} \) (excluding pathologic cases).

- Depending on the system used and the inference algorithm, this can be done in a much more efficient way (e.g. by a transformation into a database query, in SQL or Datalog).
Novel Reasoning Problems

In recent years, other reasoning tasks have been gaining attention.
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- **Conjunctive Query Answering**
  
  conjunctive queries allow to join pieces of information
  more expressive: union of CQAs (akin to SQL), rules
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- **Inconsistency Handling**
  
  repair inconsistent KB or avoid that $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$ for every $\alpha$ (‘knowledge explosion’) if $\mathcal{K}$ is inconsistent by introducing, e.g., new semantics
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- **Entailment Explanation**
  
  identify axioms in the knowledge base that support a conclusion $\mathcal{K} \models \alpha$, typically a smallest $\mathcal{K}' \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ such that $\mathcal{K}' \models \alpha$ (‘axiom pinpointing’)

Conjunctive Query Answering

Generalize Instance Retrieval by allowing joins and projections:

\[ q(Z) = \exists Y \exists X. \text{childOf}(Z, Y) \land \text{childOf}(Z, X) \land \text{marriedWith}(Y, X) \]

- In databases:
  - just one model (the DB itself) by \textit{Closed World Assumption} (R. Reiter, 1978: if atom \( A \) is not provable from DB, \( \neg A \) is true).
  - this is rather easy
Conjunctive Query Answering, cont’d

Generalize Instance Retrieval by allowing joins and projections:
\[ q(Z) = \exists Y \exists X. \text{childOf}(Z, Y) \land \text{childOf}(Z, X) \land \text{marriedWith}(Y, X) \]

- In Description Logics:
  - one knowledge base, many models (Open World Assumption)
  - not so easy
  - the \( \exists \)-variables must be suitably mapped in every model
Algorithmic Approaches to DL Reasoning
Types of Reasoning Procedures

- Roughly, DL inference algorithms can be separated into two groups:
  
  **model-based algorithms**: show satisfiability by constructing a model (or a representation of it).

  **Examples**: tableau, automata, type elimination algorithms

  **proof-based algorithms**: apply deduction rules to the KB to infer new axioms.

  **Examples**: resolution, consequence-based algorithms

**Note:**

- both strategies are known from first-order logic theorem proving

- additional care is needed to ensure decidability (in particular completeness and termination of algorithms).
Types of Reasoning Procedures

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Note:

- both strategies are known from first-order logic theorem proving
- additional care is needed to ensure decidability (in particular completeness and termination of algorithms).
Tableau Algorithm for DLs

Tableau-based techniques

They try to decide the satisfiability of a formula (or theory) by using rules to construct (a representation of) a model.

- Tableau-based techniques have been used in FOL and modal logics for many years.
- For DLs, they have been extensively explored since the late 1990s [Smolka, 1990], [Baader and Sattler, 2001].
- They are considered well-suited for implementation.
- In fact, many of the most successful DL reasoners implement tableau techniques or variations of them, e.g.: RACER, FaCT++, Pellet, Hermit, etc.
Tableau Algorithm for Deciding KB Satisfiability

- Perform a "bottom-up" construction of a model:
Tableau Algorithm for Deciding KB Satisfiability

- Perform a "bottom-up" construction of a model:
  - Initialize an interpretation by all explicitly known (i.e., named) individuals and their known properties.
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  - Most probably, this "model draft" will violate some of the axioms.
Tableau Algorithm for Deciding KB Satisfiability

- Perform a "bottom-up" construction of a model:
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  - Iteratively "repair" it by adding new information about concept or role memberships and/or introducing new (i.e., anonymous) individuals, this may require case distinction and backtracking.
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- Perform a ”bottom-up” construction of a model:
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  - If we arrive at an interpretation satisfying all axioms, satisfiability has been shown.
Tableau Algorithm for Deciding KB Satisfiability

- Perform a "bottom-up" construction of a model:
  - Initialize an interpretation by all explicitly known (i.e., named) individuals and their known properties.
  - Most probably, this "model draft" will violate some of the axioms.
  - Iteratively "repair" it by adding new information about concept or role memberships and/or introducing new (i.e., anonymous) individuals, this may require case distinction and backtracking.
  - If we arrive at an interpretation satisfying all axioms, satisfiability has been shown.
  - If every repairing attempt eventually results in an overt inconsistency, unsatisfiability has been shown.

Note: as the finite model property does not hold in general, not a full model is constructed but a *finite* representation of it (cf. “blocking”).
## Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

**RBox** $R$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>owns</th>
<th>caresFor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"If somebody owns something, s/he cares for it."

**TBox** $T$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Healthy</th>
<th>$\sqsubseteq$</th>
<th>$\neg$Dead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"Healthy beings are not dead."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat</th>
<th>$\sqsubseteq$</th>
<th>Dead $\sqcup$ Alive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"Every cat is dead or alive."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HappyCatOwner</th>
<th>$\sqsubseteq$</th>
<th>$\exists$owns.Cat $\sqcap$ $\forall$caresFor.Healthy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"A happy cat owner owns a cat and all beings he cares for are healthy."

**ABox** $A$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HappyCatOwner(schroedinger)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

"Schrödinger is a happy cat owner."

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?
**Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner**

**RBox** $\mathcal{R}$

- $\text{owns} \sqsubseteq \text{caresFor}$

**TBox** $\mathcal{T}$

- $\text{Healthy} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Dead}$
- $\text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \text{Dead} \sqcap \text{Alive}$
- $\text{HappyCatOwner} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{owns} \cdot \text{Cat} \sqcap \forall \text{caresFor} \cdot \text{Healthy}$

**ABox** $\mathcal{A}$

- $\text{HappyCatOwner}(s)$

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?
### Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RBox ( \mathcal{R} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>owns</code> ( \sqsubseteq ) <code>caresFor</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TBox ( \mathcal{T} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>Healthy</code> ( \sqsubseteq ) <code>\neg Dead</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>Cat</code> ( \sqsubseteq ) <code>Dead \sqcup Alive</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>HappyCatOwner</code> ( \sqsubseteq \exists owns. Cat \sqcap \forall caresFor. Healthy`</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ABox ( \mathcal{A} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \text{HappyCatOwner}(s) )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Is \( \mathcal{K} \) satisfiable?

\[ s : \quad \mathcal{L}(s) = \{ \text{HappyCatOwner} \} \]
Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

**RBox** $\mathcal{R}$

- $\text{owns} \sqsubseteq \text{caresFor}$

**TBox** $\mathcal{T}$

- $\text{Healthy} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Dead}$
- $\text{Cat} \sqsubseteq \text{Dead} \sqcup \text{Alive}$
- $\text{HappyCatOwner} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{owns} . \text{Cat} \sqcap \forall \text{caresFor} . \text{Healthy}$

**ABox** $\mathcal{A}$

- $\text{HappyCatOwner}(s)$

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?

$s \bullet$

\[ \mathcal{L}(s) = \{ \text{HappyCatOwner} \} \]

- $\text{owns}$

$c \bullet$

\[ \mathcal{L}(c) = \{ \text{Cat} \} \]
Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

\( RBox \mathcal{R} \)
- \( own \) \( \sqsubseteq \) \( caresFor \)

\( TBox \mathcal{T} \)
- \( Healthy \) \( \sqsubseteq \) \( \neg Dead \)
- \( Cat \) \( \sqsubseteq \) \( Dead \sqcup Alive \)
- \( HappyCatOwner \) \( \sqsubseteq \) \( \exists owns.Cat \sqcap \forall caresFor.Healthy \)

\( ABox \mathcal{A} \)
- \( HappyCatOwner(s) \)

Is \( \mathcal{K} \) satisfiable?

\( s \) \( \bullet \)

\( owns \) \( caresFor \)

\( c \) \( \bullet \)

\( \mathcal{L}(s) = \{ HappyCatOwner \} \)

\( \mathcal{L}(c) = \{ Cat \} \)
Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

### RBox $\mathcal{R}$
- $\text{owns} \sqsubseteq \text{caresFor}$

### 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 $\mathcal{A}$
- $\text{HappyCatOwner}(s)$

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?

$$s \quad \mathcal{L}(s) = \{ \text{HappyCatOwner} \}$$

$$\text{owns} \quad \text{caresFor}$$

$$c \quad \mathcal{L}(c) = \{ \text{Cat, Healthy} \}$$
Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

RBox $\mathcal{R}$

$$
\text{owns} \sqsubseteq \text{caresFor}
$$

TBox $\mathcal{T}$

$$
\begin{align*}
\text{Healthy} & \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Dead} \\
\text{Cat} & \sqsubseteq \text{Dead} \sqcup \text{Alive} \\
\text{HappyCatOwner} & \sqsubseteq \exists \text{owns}.\text{Cat} \sqcap \forall \text{caresFor}.\text{Healthy}
\end{align*}
$$

ABox $\mathcal{A}$

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

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?

$s \bullet$

$$
\mathcal{L}(s) = \{ \text{HappyCatOwner} \}
$$

owns $\rightarrow$ caresFor

$c$ $\bullet$

$$
\mathcal{L}(c) = \{ \text{Cat, Healthy, } \neg \text{Dead} \}
$$
**Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner**

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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\text{HappyCatOwner}(s)$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable?

```
s
owns

\text{caresFor}
```

$\mathcal{L}(s) = \{\text{HappyCatOwner}\}$

```
c
\text{L}(c) = \{\text{Cat}, \text{Healthy}, \neg \text{Dead}, \text{Alive}\}
```
### Tableau Overview Example: Happy Cat Owner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RBox $\mathcal{R}$</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ABox $\mathcal{A}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HappyCatOwner($s$)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Is $\mathcal{K}$ satisfiable? Yes!

$L(s) = \{\text{HappyCatOwner}\}$

$L(c) = \{\text{Cat, Healthy, } \neg\text{Dead, Alive}\}$
Naive Tableau Algorithm for \( \mathcal{ALC} \)

Given a KB in NNF we construct a tableau, which for \( \mathcal{ALC} \) KBs consists of

- a set of nodes, labeled with individual names or variable names
- directed edges between some pairs of nodes
- for each node labeled \( x \), a set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \) of class expressions and
- for each pair of nodes \( x \) and \( y \), a set \( \mathcal{L}(x, y) \) of role names.

Provisos:

- omit edges which are labeled with the empty set
- assume \( \top \) is contained in \( \mathcal{L}(x) \) for any \( x \).
- concept expressions should be in negation normal form
## Recall $\mathcal{ALC}$ Syntax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construct</th>
<th>Syntax</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Semantics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>atomic concept</td>
<td>$A$</td>
<td>Doctor</td>
<td>$A^I \subseteq \Delta^I$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atomic role</td>
<td>$r$</td>
<td>hasChild</td>
<td>$r^I \subseteq \Delta^I \times \Delta^I$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conjunction</td>
<td>$C \sqcap D$</td>
<td>Human $\sqcap$ Male</td>
<td>$C^I \cap D^I$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unqual. exist. res.$^2$</td>
<td>$\exists r$</td>
<td>$\exists$hasChild</td>
<td>${ o \mid \exists o'.(o, o') \in r^I }$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>value res.</td>
<td>$\forall r.C$</td>
<td>$\forall$hasChild.Male</td>
<td>${ o \mid \forall o'.(o, o') \in r^I \rightarrow o' \in C^I }$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>full negation</td>
<td>$\neg C$</td>
<td>$\neg \forall$hasChild.Male</td>
<td>$\Delta^I \setminus C^I$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^2$Unqualified existential restriction
Negation Normal Form

Negation normal form (NNF)

A concept expression $C$ is in negation normal form, if negation occurs in $C$ only in front of atomic concepts, nominal concepts and self-restrictions.
Negation Normal Form

Negation normal form (NNF)

A concept expression $C$ is in negation normal form, if negation occurs in $C$ only in front of atomic concepts, nominal concepts and self-restrictions.

Given a KB $K$ to construct $\text{nnf}(K)$ we need to

- replace every $C \equiv D$ by $C \subseteq D$ and $D \subseteq C$;
- replace every $C \subseteq D$ by $\neg C \sqcup D$;

$C$ and $\text{nnf}(C)$ are logically equivalent, i.e., $C_I = \text{nnf}(C)_I$, for every interpretation $I$, and the translation process terminates in linear time.
Negation Normal Form

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Given a KB $\mathcal{K}$ to construct $\text{nnf}(\mathcal{K})$ we need to

- replace every $C \equiv D$ by $C \sqsubseteq D$ and $D \sqsubseteq C$;
- replace every $C \sqsubseteq D$ by $\neg C \sqcup D$;
- recursively translate every $C$ into $\text{nnf}(C)$:

$\text{nnf}(C) \leadsto C$ if $C \in \{A, \neg A, \{a_1 \ldots a_n\}, \neg\{a_1 \ldots a_n\}, \exists r.\text{Self}, \neg\exists r.\text{Self}, \top, \bot\}$

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{nnf}(\neg\neg C) & \leadsto \text{nnf}(C) \\
\text{nnf}(C \sqcap D) & \leadsto \text{nnf}(C) \sqcap \text{nnf}(D) \\
\text{nnf}(C \sqcup D) & \leadsto \text{nnf}(C) \sqcup \text{nnf}(D) \\
\text{nnf}(\neg(C \sqcap D)) & \leadsto \text{nnf}(\neg C \sqcap \neg D) \\
\text{nnf}(\neg(C \sqcup D)) & \leadsto \text{nnf}(\neg C \sqcup \neg D) \\
\text{nnf}(\forall r. C) & \leadsto \forall r.\text{nnf}(C) \\
\text{nnf}(\exists r. C) & \leadsto \exists r.\text{nnf}(C) \\
\text{nnf}(\neg \forall r. C) & \leadsto \exists r.\neg\text{nnf}(\neg C) \\
\text{nnf}(\neg \exists r. C) & \leadsto \forall r.\neg\text{nnf}(\neg C) \\
\text{nnf}(\leq k r. C) & \leadsto \leq (k + 1) r.\text{nnf}(C) \\
\text{nnf}(\geq k r. C) & \leadsto \geq (k - 1) r.\text{nnf}(C) \\
\text{nnf}(\neg \top) & \leadsto \bot 
\end{align*}
\]
Negation Normal Form

Negation normal form (NNF)

A concept expression $C$ is in negation normal form, if negation occurs in $C$ only in front of atomic concepts, nominal concepts and self-restrictions.

Given a KB $\mathcal{K}$ to construct $\text{nff}(\mathcal{K})$ we need to

- replace every $C \equiv D$ by $C \subseteq D$ and $D \subseteq C$;
- replace every $C \subseteq D$ by $\neg C \sqcup D$;
- recursively translate every $C$ into $\text{nff}(C)$:

$$ \text{nff}(C) \leadsto C \text{ if } C \in \{ A, \neg A, \{a_1 \ldots a_n\}, \neg\{a_1 \ldots a_n\}, \exists r.\text{Self}, \neg \exists r.\text{Self}, \top, \bot \} $$

- $\text{nff}(\neg \neg C) \leadsto \text{nff}(C)$
- $\text{nff}(C \sqcap D) \leadsto \text{nff}(C) \sqcap \text{nff}(D)$
- $\text{nff}(C \sqcup D) \leadsto \text{nff}(C) \sqcup \text{nff}(D)$
- $\text{nff}(\neg(C \sqcap D)) \leadsto \text{nff}(\neg C \sqcap \neg D)$
- $\text{nff}(\neg(C \sqcup D)) \leadsto \text{nff}(\neg C \sqcup \neg D)$
- $\text{nff}(\forall r. C) \leadsto \forall r.\text{nff}(C)$
- $\text{nff}(\exists r. C) \leadsto \exists r.\text{nff}(C)$

$C$ and $\text{nff}(C)$ are logically equivalent, i.e., $C^\mathcal{I} = \text{nff}(C)^\mathcal{I}$, for every interpretation $\mathcal{I}$, and the translation process terminates in linear time.
Example: Negation Normal Form

Negation Normal Form

\[ FilmActor \subseteq (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap Artist) \sqcup \neg(\neg\exists \text{actedIn} \sqcup \exists \text{playsIn}.Theater) \]
Example: Negation Normal Form

**Negation Normal Form**

\[ \text{FilmActor} \subseteq (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \text{Artist}) \sqcup \neg (\neg \exists \text{actedIn} \sqcup \exists \text{playsIn. Theater}) \]

1. \( \neg \text{FilmActor} \sqcup (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \text{Artist}) \sqcup \neg (\neg \exists \text{actedIn} \sqcup \exists \text{playsIn. Theater}) \)
Example: Negation Normal Form

Negation Normal Form

\[ \text{FilmActor} \subseteq (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \text{Artist}) \cup \neg (\neg \exists \text{actedIn} \cup \exists \text{playsIn}. \text{Theater}) \]

1. \( \neg \text{FilmActor} \cup (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \text{Artist}) \cup \neg (\neg \exists \text{actedIn} \cup \exists \text{playsIn}. \text{Theater}) \)

2. \( \neg \text{FilmActor} \cup (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \text{Artist}) \cup (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \neg \exists \text{playsIn}. \text{Theater}) \)
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3. \( \neg\text{FilmActor} \cup (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \text{Artist}) \cup (\exists \text{actedIn} \cap \forall \text{playsIn. Theater}) \)
For an $\mathcal{ALC}$ knowledge base $\mathcal{K}$ in negation normal form, the initial tableau is defined as follows:

1. For each individual $a$ occurring in $\mathcal{K}$, create a node labeled $a$ and set $L(a) = \emptyset$.

2. For all pairs $a, b$ of individuals, set $L(a, b) = \emptyset$.

3. For each ABox statement $C(a)$ in $\mathcal{K}$, set $L(a) \leftarrow C$.

4. For each ABox statement $r(a, b)$ in $\mathcal{K}$ set $L(a, b) \leftarrow r$.

Note: “$\leftarrow$” means “update with”, “add to”
Example: Initial Tableau

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ A(a), (\exists r. B)(a), r(a, b), r(a, c), s(b, b), (A \sqcup B)(c), \neg A \sqcup (\forall s. B) \} \]
Example: Initial Tableau

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ A(a), \ (\exists r.B)(a), \ r(a, b), \ r(a, c), \ s(b, b), \ (A \sqcup B)(c), \ \neg A \sqcup (\forall s.B) \} \]

\[ b \bullet \]

\[ a \bullet \quad \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ A, \} \]

\[ c \bullet \]
**Example: Initial Tableau**

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ A(a), (\exists r.B)(a), r(a,b), r(a,c), s(b,b), (A \sqcup B)(c), \neg A \sqcup (\forall s.B) \} \]

- \( b \bullet \)
- \( a \bullet \) \( \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ A, \exists r.B \} \)
- \( c \bullet \)
Example: Initial Tableau

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ A(a), \ (\exists r.B)(a), \ r(a, b), \ r(a, c), \ s(b, b), \ (A \sqcup B)(c), \neg A \sqcup (\forall s.B) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ A, \exists r.B \} \]
Example: Initial Tableau

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ A(a), \quad (\exists r. B)(a), \quad r(a, b), \quad r(a, c), \quad s(b, b), \quad (A \sqcup B)(c), \quad \neg A \sqcup (\forall s. B) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ A, \exists r. B \} \]
Example: Initial Tableau

\[ K = \{ A(a), (\exists r. B)(a), r(a, b), r(a, c), s(b, b), (A \sqcup B)(c), \neg A \sqcup (\forall s. B) \} \]

\[ L(b) = \emptyset \]
\[ L(a) = \{ A, \exists r. B \} \]
\[ L(c) = \{ A \sqcup B \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ A, \exists r. B \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(c) = \{ A \sqcup B \} \]
Example: Initial Tableau

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ A(a), \ (\exists r.B)(a), \ r(a, b), \ r(a, c), \ s(b, b), \ (A \sqcup B)(c), \ \neg A \sqcup (\forall s.B) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(b) = \emptyset \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ A, \exists r.B \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(c) = \{ A \sqcup B \} \]
Expansion Rules for the Naive Tableau

- $\sqcap$-rule: If $C \sqcap D \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and $\{C, D\} \not\subseteq \mathcal{L}(x)$, then set $\mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow \{C, D\}$. 

- $\exists$-rule: If $\exists r.C \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and there is no $y$ with $r \in \mathcal{L}(x,y)$ and $C \in \mathcal{L}(y)$, then
  1. add a new node with label $y$ (where $y$ is a new node label),
  2. set $\mathcal{L}(x,y) = \{r\}$,
  3. set $\mathcal{L}(y) = \{C\}$.

- $\forall$-rule: If $\forall r.C \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and there is a node $y$ with $r \in \mathcal{L}(x,y)$ and $C \not\in \mathcal{L}(y)$, then set $\mathcal{L}(y) \leftarrow C$.

- $\top$-rule: If $C$ is a (rewritten and normalized) TBox statement and $C \not\in \mathcal{L}(x)$, then set $\mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow C$. 

Expansion Rules for the Naive Tableau

- \( \sqcap \)-rule: If \( C \sqcap D \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and \( \{C, D\} \not\subseteq \mathcal{L}(x) \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow \{C, D\} \).

- \( \sqcup \)-rule: If \( C \sqcup D \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and \( \{C, D\} \cap \mathcal{L}(x) = \emptyset \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow C \) or \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow D \).
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• \( \exists \)-rule: If \( \exists r.C \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and there is no \( y \) with \( r \in L(x, y) \) and \( C \in \mathcal{L}(y) \), then
  1. add a new node with label \( y \) (where \( y \) is a new node label),
  2. set \( \mathcal{L}(x, y) = \{r\} \), and
  3. set \( \mathcal{L}(y) = \{C\} \).

• \( \forall \)-rule: If \( \forall r.C \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and there is a node \( y \) with \( r \in L(x, y) \) and \( C \not\in \mathcal{L}(y) \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(y) \leftarrow C \).

• \( \top \)-rule: If \( \top \) is a (rewritten and normalized) TBox statement and \( \top \not\in \mathcal{L}(x) \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow \top \).
Expansion Rules for the Naive Tableau

- **∩-rule:** If $C \cap D \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and $\{C, D\} \not\subseteq \mathcal{L}(x)$, then set $\mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow \{C, D\}$.

- **⊔-rule:** If $C \sqcup D \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and $\{C, D\} \cap \mathcal{L}(x) = \emptyset$, then set $\mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow C$ or $\mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow D$.

- **∃-rule:** If $\exists r. C \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and there is no $y$ with $r \in \mathcal{L}(x, y)$ and $C \in \mathcal{L}(y)$, then
  1. add a new node with label $y$ (where $y$ is a new node label),
  2. set $\mathcal{L}(x, y) = \{r\}$, and
  3. set $\mathcal{L}(y) = \{C\}$.

- **∀-rule:** If $\forall r. C \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ and there is a node $y$ with $r \in \mathcal{L}(x, y)$ and $C \not\in \mathcal{L}(y)$, then set $\mathcal{L}(y) \leftarrow C$. 

- **∪Box-rule:** If $C$ is a (rewritten and normalized) TBox statement and $C \not\in \mathcal{L}(x)$, then set $\mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow C$. 

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Expansion Rules for the Naive Tableau

- **⊓-rule**: If \( C \sqcap D \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and \( \{C, D\} \not\subseteq \mathcal{L}(x) \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow \{C, D\} \).

- **⊔-rule**: If \( C \sqcup D \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and \( \{C, D\} \cap \mathcal{L}(x) = \emptyset \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow C \) or \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow D \).

- **∃-rule**: If \( \exists r.C \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and there is no \( y \) with \( r \in L(x, y) \) and \( C \in \mathcal{L}(y) \), then
  1. add a new node with label \( y \) (where \( y \) is a new node label),
  2. set \( \mathcal{L}(x, y) = \{r\} \), and
  3. set \( \mathcal{L}(y) = \{C\} \).

- **∀-rule**: If \( \forall r.C \in \mathcal{L}(x) \) and there is a node \( y \) with \( r \in L(x, y) \) and \( C \notin \mathcal{L}(y) \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(y) \leftarrow C \).

- **TBox-rule**: If \( C \) is a (rewritten and normalized) TBox statement and \( C \notin \mathcal{L}(x) \), then set \( \mathcal{L}(x) \leftarrow C \).
Naive Tableau Algorithm

**Input:** $\mathcal{ALC}$ knowledge base $\mathcal{K}$ in negation normal form

**Output:** “yes” if $\mathcal{K}$ is satisfiable

1. Initialize the tableau;
2. While some expansion rule is applicable:
   1. nondeterministically apply an applicable rule;
   2. if for some node $x$, there exists some $C \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ such that $\neg C \in \mathcal{L}(x)$, output “no” and terminate;
3. Output “yes”.

A nondeterministic run of the algorithm terminates, if either

- for some node $x$, $\mathcal{L}(x)$ contains a contradiction (“no”; attempt to find a model for $\mathcal{K}$ was unsuccessful), or
- no expansion rule is applicable (“yes”; attempt was successful)
- $\mathcal{K}$ is satisfiable if some run outputs “yes”, and unsatisfiable if every run outputs “no’
- only the $\blacksquare$-rule creates true branching regarding yes/no output
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r. D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r. \neg E(a) \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \lnot C \sqcup \exists r.D, \lnot D \sqcup E, \forall r.\lnot E(a) \} \]

\[ a \quad \bullet \quad \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r.\neg E(a) \} \]

\[ a \bullet \quad \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\neg E, \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\( K = \{ C(a), \lnot C \sqcup \exists r.D, \lnot D \sqcup E, \forall r.\lnot E(a) \} \)

\( a \bullet \quad L(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\lnot E, \lnot C \sqcup \exists r.D, \} \)
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r.\neg E(a) \} \]

\[ a \bullet \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r.\neg E(a) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \exists r.D \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ D, \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r.\neg E(a) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \exists r.D \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ D, \neg D \sqcup E, \} \]
**Example: Expansion Rules**

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r.\neg E(a) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \exists r.D \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ D, \neg D \sqcup E \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r. D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r. \neg E(a) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r. \neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r. D, \exists r. D \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ D, \neg D \sqcup E, E, \} \]
Example: Expansion Rules

\( \mathcal{K} = \{C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r. D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r. \neg E(a)\} \)

\( a \)

\( \mathcal{L}(a) = \{C, \forall r. \neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r. D, \exists r. D\} \)

\( r \)

\( x \)

\( \mathcal{L}(x) = \{D, \neg D \sqcup E, E, \neg E\} \)
**Example: Expansion Rules**

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ C(a), \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \neg D \sqcup E, \forall r.\neg E(a) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(a) = \{ C, \forall r.\neg E, \neg C \sqcup \exists r.D, \exists r.D \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ D, \neg D \sqcup E, E, \neg E \} \]

Clash is obtained, KB is unsatisfiable!
Tableau Algorithm with Blocking for $\mathcal{ALC}$

- Naive tableau algorithm does not always terminate
  Example: $\mathcal{K} = \{\neg\text{Person} \sqcup \exists\text{hasParent}, \text{Person}(a_1)\}$.

- Modify the naive tableau algorithm to ensure termination

- Use blocking

- A node with label $x$ is **directly blocked** by a node with label $y$ if
  - $x$ is a variable (i.e., not an individual),
  - $y$ is an ancestor of $x$, and
  - $\mathcal{L}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(y)$

- A node with label $x$ is **blocked**, if it is directly blocked or one of its ancestors is blocked

- Expansion rules may only be applied if $x$ is not blocked
Example: Blocking

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{B(t), \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, H(t)\} \]
Example: Blocking

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ B(t), \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, H(t) \} \]

\[ t \bullet \quad \mathcal{L}(t) = \{ B, H \} \]
Example: Blocking

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ B(t), \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, H(t) \} \]

\[ t \bullet \quad \mathcal{L}(t) = \{ B, H, \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, \} \]
Example: Blocking

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ B(t), \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, H(t) \} \]

\[ t \bullet L(t) = \{ B, H, \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, \} \]
Example: Blocking

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ B(t), \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, H(t) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(t) = \{ B, H, \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, \exists P.H \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ H \} \]
Example: Blocking

\[ \mathcal{K} = \{ B(t), \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, H(t) \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(t) = \{ B, H, \neg H \sqcup \exists P.H, \exists P.H \} \]

\[ \mathcal{L}(x) = \{ H \} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(t) \]
Computational Properties

- The simple tableau algorithm is expensive in general (worst case):
  - the worst case complexity is double exponential
  - testing KB consistency in $\mathcal{ALC}$ is EXPTIME-complete
  - testing concept satisfiability in $\mathcal{ALC}$ is PSPACE-complete
- Still in practice, (optimized) tableaux algorithms work well
  - other notions of blocking might be used, e.g. “cross-path blocking”
    (blocking node need not be an ancestor)
  - single exponential time tableaux algorithms are available
- For many other description logics, also tableaux algorithms exist
  (e.g. $\mathcal{SHIQ}$, $\mathcal{SHOIQ}$, ...)
Some algorithms are quite involved!
Summary

1. Satisfaction and Entailment
   - Notions
   - Decidability

2. Reasoning Problems
   - Knowledge base consistency
   - Entailment checking
   - Concept satisfiability
   - Classification
   - Instance retrieval

3. Algorithmic Approaches to DL Reasoning
   - Types of reasoning procedures
   - Tableaux

4. Novel reasoning problems
   - Conjunctive query answering
Franz Baader, Diego Calvanese, Deborah McGuinness, Daniele Nardi, and Peter Patel-Schneider, editors.


Pascal Hitzler, Markus Krötzsch, and Sebastian Rudolph.

Foundations of Semantic Web Technologies.

Sebastian Rudolph.

Foundations of description logics.