

# Contents

## 3 Declarative Programming with Constraints

- Motivation
- CLPFD basics
- How does CLPFD work
- FDBG
- Reified constraints
- Global constraints
- Labeling
- From plain Prolog to constraints
- Improving efficiency
- Internal details of CLPFD
- Disjunctions in CLPFD
- Modeling
- User-defined constraints (ADVANCED)
- Some further global constraints (ADVANCED)
- Closing remarks

# What else is there in SICStus Prolog?

- Further constraint libraries:
  - CLPB – booleans
  - CLPQ/CLPR – linear inequalities on rationals/reals
  - Constraint Handling Rules: generic constraints
- Other features
  - “Traditional” built-in predicates, e.g. sorting, input/output, exception handling, etc.
  - Powerful data structures, e.g. AVL trees, multisets, heaps, graphs, etc.
  - Definite clause grammars, an extension of context-free grammars with Prolog terms
  - Interfaces to other programming languages, e.g. C/C++, Java, .NET, Tcl/Tk
  - Integrated development environment based on Eclipse (Spider)
  - Execution profiling
  - ...

## Some applications of (constraint) logic programming

- Boeing Corp.: Connector Assembly Specifications Expert (CASEy) – an expert system that guides shop floor personnel in the correct usage of electrical process specifications.
- Windows NT: `\WINNT\SYSTEM32\NETCFG.DLL` contains a small Prolog interpreter handling the rules for network configuration.
- Experian (one of the largest credit rating companies): Prolog for checking credit scores. Experian bought Prologia, the Marseille Prolog company.
- IBM bought ILOG, the developer of many constraint algorithms (e.g. that in `all_distinct`); ILOG develops a constraint programming / optimization framework embedded in C++.
- IBM uses Prolog in the Watson deep Question-Answer system for parsing and matching English text

# Part IV

## The Semantic Web

- 1 Introduction to Logic
- 2 Declarative Programming with Prolog
- 3 Declarative Programming with Constraints
- 4 The Semantic Web

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

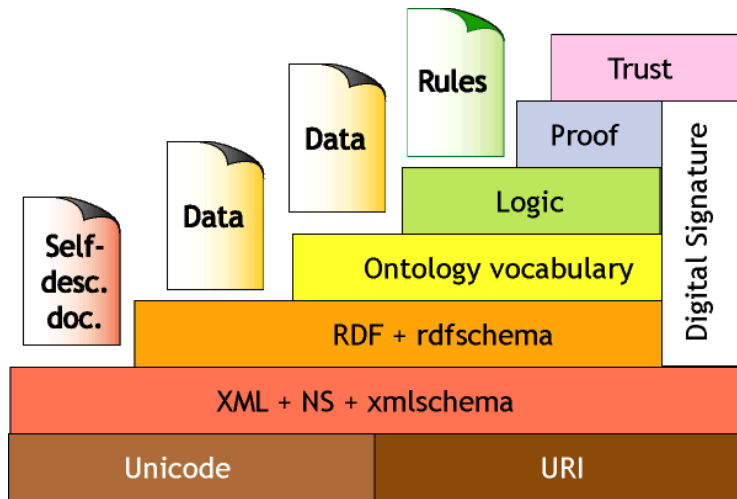
- **Introducing Semantic Technologies**
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# Semantic Technologies

- Semantics = meaning
- Semantic Technologies = technologies building on (formalized) meaning
- Declarative Programming as a semantic technology
  - A procedure definition describes its intended meaning
    - e.g. `intersect(L1, L2) :- member(X, L1), member(X, L2).`  
Lists L1 and L2 intersect **if**  
there exists an x, such that x is a member of both L1 and L2.
  - The execution of a program can be viewed as a process of deduction
- The main goal of the Semantic Web (SW) approach:
  - make the information on the web processable by computers
  - machines should be able to **understand** the web, not only **read** it
- Achieving the vision of the Semantic Web
  - Add (computer processable) **meta-information** to the web
  - Formalize background knowledge – build so called ontologies
  - Develop reasoning algorithms and tools

# The vision of the Semantic Web

- The Semantic Web layer cake – Tim Berners-Lee



# The Semantic Web

- The goal: making the information on the web processable by computers
- Achieving the vision of the Semantic Web
  - Add meta-information to web pages, e.g.  
(*AIT* hasLocation *Budapest*)  
(*AIT* hasTrack *Track:Foundational-courses*)  
(*Track:Foundational-courses* hasCourse *Semantic-and-declarative...*)
  - Formalise background knowledge – build so called terminologies
    - hierarchies of notions, e.g.  
a *University* is a (subconcept of) *Inst-of-higher-education*,  
the *hasFather* relationship is a special case of *hasParent*
    - definitions and axioms, e.g.  
a *Father* is a *Male Person* having at least one child
  - Develop reasoning algorithms and tools
- Main topics
  - Description Logic, the maths behind the Semantic Web is the basis of Web Ontology Languages OWL 1 & 2 (W3C standards)
  - A glimpse at reasoning algorithms for Description Logic

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- **An example of the Semantic Web approach**
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# First Order Logic

- Syntax:

- non-logical (“user-defined”) symbols: **predicates** and **functions**, including **constants** (function symbols with 0 arguments)
- terms (refer to individual elements of the universe, or interpretation), e.g. *fatherOf*(*Susan*)
- formulas (that hold or do not hold in a given interpretation), e.g.  
$$\varphi = \forall x. (\textit{Optimist}(\textit{fatherOf}(x)) \rightarrow \textit{Optimist}(x))$$

- Semantics:

- determines if a closed formula  $\varphi$  is true in an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$ :  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$  (also read as:  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of  $\varphi$ )
- an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  consists of a domain  $\Delta$  and a mapping from non-logical symbols (e.g. *Optimist*, *fatherOf*, *Susan*) to their meaning
- semantic consequence:  $S \models \alpha$  means: if an interpretation is a model of all formulas in the set  $S$ , then it is also a model of  $\alpha$  (note that the symbol  $\models$  is overloaded)

- Deductive system (also called proof procedure):

an algorithm to deduce a consequence  $\alpha$  of a set of formulas  $S$ :  $S \vdash \alpha$

- example: resolution

# Soundness, completeness and decidability

- Let  $\alpha$  denote a single FOL statement, and  $S$  a set of statements
- A deductive system is **sound** if  $S \vdash \alpha$  implies  $S \models \alpha$  (deduces only truths).
- A deductive system is **complete** if  $S \models \alpha$  implies  $S \vdash \alpha$  (deduces all truths).
- Kurt Gödel's original completeness theorem states that, given soundness, " $\models \Rightarrow \vdash$ " holds: if  $\alpha$  is true in all interpretations that satisfy  $S$ , i.e. if for all interpretations  $\mathcal{I}$  s.t.  $\mathcal{I} \models S$ ,  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$  also holds, then  $S \vdash \alpha$ , i.e.  $\alpha$  can be deduced from  $S$
- The inverse statement " $\vdash \Rightarrow \models$ " is trivially true, resulting in " $\models \equiv \vdash$ ", cf.

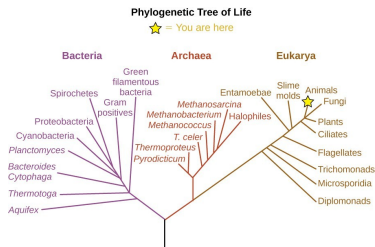


Association for Logic Programming

- FOL is not decidable: there is no decision procedure for the question "does  $S$  imply  $\alpha$  ( $S \vdash \alpha$ )?" (Gödel's completeness theorem ensures that if the answer is "yes", then there exists a proof of  $\alpha$  from  $S$ ; but if the answer is "no", we have no guarantees – this is called semi-decidability)
- Developers of the **Semantic Web** strive for using **decidable** languages, i.e. for languages with a sound and **complete** proof procedure
- Semantic Web languages are based on Description Logics, which are decidable sublanguages of FOL, i.e. there is an algorithm that delivers a yes or no answer to the question "does  $S$  imply  $\alpha$ ?"

# Ontologies

- **Ontology**: computer processable description of knowledge
- Early ontologies include classification system (biology, medicine, books)



- Entities in the Web Ontology Language (OWL):
  - **classes** – describe sets of objects (e.g. optimists)
  - **properties** (attributes, slots) – describe binary relationships (e.g. has parent)
  - **objects** – correspond to real life objects (e.g. people, such as Susan, her parents, etc.)

# Knowledge Representation

- **Natural Language:**

- ① Someone **having** a non-**optimist friend** is bound to be an **optimist**.
- ② **Susan** **has** herself as a **friend**.

- **First order Logic** (**unary predicate**, **binary predicate**, **constant**):

- ①  $\forall x. (\exists y. (\text{hasFriend}(x, y) \wedge \neg \text{opt}(y)) \rightarrow \text{opt}(x))$
- ②  $\text{hasFriend}(\text{Susan}, \text{Susan})$

- **Description Logics** (**concept**, **role**, **individual**):

- ①  $(\exists \text{hasFriend}. \neg \text{Opt}) \sqsubseteq \text{Opt}$  (GCI – Gen. Concept Inclusion axiom)
- ②  $\text{hasFriend}(\text{Susan}, \text{Susan})$  (role assertion)

- **Web Ontology Language** (Manchester syntax)<sup>5</sup> (**class**, **property**, **object**):

- ①  $(\text{hasFriend } \text{some } (\text{not } \text{Opt})) \text{ SubClassOf: } \text{Opt}$   
Those **having some not Opt friends** must be **Opt**  
(GCI – Gen. Class Inclusion axiom)
- ②  $\text{hasFriend}(\text{Susan}, \text{Susan})$  (object property assertion)

<sup>5</sup>[protegeproject.github.io/protege/class-expression-syntax](https://protegeproject.github.io/protege/class-expression-syntax)

## A sample ontology to be entered into Protégé

- 1 There is a class of **Animals**, some of which are **Male**, some are **Female**.
- 2 No one can be both **Male** and **Female**.
- 3 Every **Human** is an **Animal**.
- 4 Every **Optimist** is a **Human**.
- 5 There is a relationship **hasP** meaning “has parent”. Relations **hasFather** and **hasMother** are sub-relations (special cases) of **hasP**.
- 6 Let's define the class **C1** as those who have an optimistic parent.
- 7 State that everyone belonging to **C1** is **Optimistic**.
- 8 State directly that anyone having an **Optimistic** parent is **Optimistic**.
- 9 There is a relation **hasF**, denoting “has friend”. State that someone having a non-**Optimistic** friend must be **Optimistic**.
- 10 There are individuals: **Susan**, and her **parents** **Mother** and **Father**.
- 11 **Mother** has **Father** as her **friend**.

# The sample ontology in Description Logic and OWL/Protégé

English	Description Logic	OWL (Manchester syntax)
1 Male is a subclass of Animal. Female is a subclass of Animal.	$\text{Male} \sqsubseteq \text{Animal}$ $\text{Female} \sqsubseteq \text{Animal}$	<code>Male SubClassOf: Animal</code> <code>Female SubClassOf: Animal</code>
2 Male and Female are disjoint.	$\text{Male} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Female}$	<code>Male DisjointWith: Female</code>
3 Human is a subclass of Animal.	$\text{Human} \sqsubseteq \text{Animal}$	<code>Human SubClassOf: Animal</code>
4 Optimist is a subclass of Human.	$\text{Opt} \sqsubseteq \text{Human}$	<code>Opt SubClassOf: Human</code>
5 hasFather is a subprop. of hasP. hasMother is a subprop. of hasP.	$\text{hasFather} \sqsubseteq \text{hasP}$ $\text{hasMother} \sqsubseteq \text{hasP}$	<code>hasFather SubPropertyOf: hasP</code> <code>hasMother SubPropertyOf: hasP</code>
6 C1 = those having an Opt parent.	$\text{C1} \equiv \exists \text{hasP} . \text{Opt}$	<code>C1 EquivalentTo: hasP some Opt</code>
7 Everyone in C1 is Opt.	$\text{C1} \sqsubseteq \text{Opt}$	<code>C1 SubClassOf: Opt</code>
8 Children of Opt parents are Opt.	$\exists \text{hasP} . \text{Opt} \sqsubseteq \text{Opt}$	<code>hasP some Opt SubClassOf: Opt</code>
9 Those with a non-Opt friend are Opt.	$\exists \text{hasF} . \neg \text{Opt} \sqsubseteq \text{Opt}$	<code>hasF some not Opt SubClassOf: Opt</code>
10 Susan has parents Mother and Father.	$\text{hasP}(\text{Susan}, \text{Mother})$ $\text{hasP}(\text{Susan}, \text{Father})$	<code>hasP(Susan, Mother)</code> <code>hasP(Susan, Father)</code>
11 Mother has Father as a friend.	$\text{hasF}(\text{Mother}, \text{Father})$	<code>hasF(Mother, Father)</code>

(In Protégé, select the “save as” format as “Latex syntax” to obtain DL notation.)

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- **An overview of Description Logics**
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# Description Logic (DLs) – overview

DL is a subset of FOL, providing the maths background of OWL

- Signature – relation and function symbols allowed in DL
  - concept name ( $A$ ) – unary predicate symbol (cf. OWL class)
  - role name ( $R$ ) – binary predicate symbol (cf. OWL property)
  - individual name ( $a, \dots$ ) – constant symbol (cf. OWL object)
  - No non-constant function symbols, no preds of arity  $> 2$ , no vars
- Concept names and **concept expressions** represent sets, e.g.  
 $\exists \text{hasParent.Optimist}$  – the set of those who have an optimist parent
- Terminological axioms (TBox) state background knowledge
  - A simple axiom using the DL language  $\mathcal{AL}\mathcal{E}$ :  
 $\exists \text{hasParent.Optimist} \sqsubseteq \text{Optimist}$  – the set of those who have an optimist parent is a subset of the set of optimists
  - Translation to FOL:  $\forall x. (\exists y. (\text{hasP}(x, y) \wedge \text{Opt}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Opt}(x))$
- Assertions (ABox) state facts about individual names
  - Example:  $\text{Optimist}(\text{JACOB}), \text{hasParent}(\text{JOSEPH}, \text{JACOB})$
- A consequence of these TBox and ABox axioms is:  $\text{Optimist}(\text{JOSEPH})$
- DLs behind OWL 1 and OWL 2 are **decidable**: there are bounded time algorithms for checking if a set of axioms implies a statement.

## Some further examples of terminological axioms

(1) A **Mother** is a **Person**, who is a **Female** and who **has(a)Child**.

$$\text{Mother} \sqsubseteq \text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\top$$

(2) A **Tiger** is a **Mammal**.

$$\text{Tiger} \sqsubseteq \text{Mammal}$$

(3) All children of an **Optimist** are **Optimists**, too.

$$\text{Optimist} \sqsubseteq \forall \text{hasChild}.\text{Optimist}$$

(alternatively:)

$$\exists \text{hasParent}.\text{Opt} \sqsubseteq \text{Opt}$$

(4) Childless people are **Happy**.

$$\forall \text{hasChild}.\perp \sqcap \text{Person} \sqsubseteq \text{Happy}$$

(5) Those in the relation **hasChild** are also in the relation **hasDescendant**.

$$\text{hasChild} \sqsubseteq \text{hasDescendant}$$

(6) The relation **hasParent** is the inverse of the relation **hasChild**.

$$\text{hasParent} \sqsubseteq \text{hasChild}^{-}$$

(7) The **hasDescendant** relationship is transitive.

$$\text{Trans}(\text{hasDescendant})$$

# Description Logics – why the plural?

- These logic variants were progressively developed in the last two decades
- As new constructs were proved to be “safe”, i.e. keeping the logic decidable, these were added
- We will start with the very simple language  $\mathcal{AL}$ , extend it to  $\mathcal{AL}\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALU}$  and  $\mathcal{ALC}$
- As a side branch we then define  $\mathcal{ALCN}$
- We then go back to  $\mathcal{ALC}$  and extend it to languages  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{SH}$ ,  $\mathcal{SHI}$  and  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  (which encompasses  $\mathcal{ALCN}$ )
- We briefly tackle further extensions  $\mathcal{O}$ ,  $(\mathbf{D})$  and  $\mathcal{R}$
- OWL 1, published in 2004, corresponds to  $\mathcal{SHOIN}(\mathbf{D})$
- OWL 2, published in 2012, corresponds to  $\mathcal{SROIQ}(\mathbf{D})$

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- **The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family**
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# Overview of the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ language

- In  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  a statement (axiom) can be
  - a subsumption (inclusion), e.g.  $\text{Tiger} \sqsubseteq \text{Mammal}$ , or
  - an equivalence, e.g.  $\text{Woman} \equiv \text{Female} \sqcap \text{Person}$ ,  
 $\text{Mother} \equiv \text{Woman} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\top$
- In general, an  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  axiom can take these two forms:
  - subsumption:  $C \sqsubseteq D$
  - equivalence:  $C \equiv D$ , where  $C$  and  $D$  are concept expressions
- A concept expression  $C$  denotes a set of objects (a subset of the  $\Delta$  universe of the interpretation), and can be:
  - an atomic concept (or concept name), e.g.  $\text{Tiger}$ ,  $\text{Female}$ ,  $\text{Person}$
  - a composite concept, e.g.  $\text{Female} \sqcap \text{Person}$ ,  $\exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Female}$
  - composite concepts are built from atomic concepts and **atomic roles** (also called **role names**) using some constructors (e.g.  $\sqcap$ ,  $\sqcup$ ,  $\exists$ , etc.)
- We first introduce language  $\mathcal{AL}$ , that allows a minimal set of constructors (all examples on this page are valid  $\mathcal{AL}$  concept expressions)
- Next, we discuss richer extensions named  $\mathcal{U}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{N}$

# The syntax of the $\mathcal{AL}$ language

Language  $\mathcal{AL}$  (Attributive Language) allows the following concept expressions, also called concepts, for short:

$A$  is an atomic concept,  $C, D$  are arbitrary (possibly composite) concepts  
 $R$  is an atomic role

DL concept	OWL class	Name	Informal definition
$A$	$A$ (class name)	atomic concept	those in $A$
$\top$	<code>owl:Thing</code>	top	the set of all objects
$\perp$	<code>owl:Nothing</code>	bottom	the empty set
$\neg A$	not $A$	atomic negation	those not in $A$
$C \sqcap D$	$C$ and $D$	intersection	those in both $C$ and $D$
$\forall R.C$	$R$ only $C$	value restriction	those whose all $R$ s belong to $C$
$\exists R.\top$	$R$ some <code>owl:Thing</code>	limited exist. restr.	those having at least one $R$

Examples of  $\mathcal{AL}$  concept expressions:

$\text{Person} \sqcap \neg \text{Female}$

$\text{Person}$  and not  $\text{Female}$

$\text{Person} \sqcap \forall \text{hasChild}.\text{Female}$

$\text{Person}$  and ( $\text{hasChild}$  only  $\text{Female}$ )

$\text{Person} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\top$

$\text{Person}$  and ( $\text{hasChild}$  some `owl:Thing`)

# The semantics of the $\mathcal{AL}$ language (as a special case of FOL)

- An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a mapping:
  - $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta$  is the universe, the **nonempty** set of all individuals/objects
  - for each concept/class name  $A$ ,  $A^{\mathcal{I}}$  is a (possibly empty) subset of  $\Delta$
  - for each role/property name  $R$ ,  $R^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta \times \Delta$  is a binary relation on  $\Delta$
- The semantics of  $\mathcal{AL}$  extends  $\mathcal{I}$  to composite concept expressions, i.e. describes how to “calculate” the meaning of arbitrary concept exprs:

$$\top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta$$

$$\perp^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$$

$$(\neg A)^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta \setminus A^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$(C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$(\forall R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta \mid \forall b. (\langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \rightarrow b \in C^{\mathcal{I}})\}$$

$$(\exists R.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta \mid \exists b. \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

- Finally we define how to obtain the truth value of an axiom:

$$\mathcal{I} \models C \sqsubseteq D \quad \text{iff} \quad C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models C \equiv D \quad \text{iff} \quad C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$$

## A simple $\mathcal{AL}$ example

- An example TBox  $\mathcal{T}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{FatherOfGirls} \equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \neg \text{Woman} \sqcap \\ \quad \forall \text{hasChild}.\text{Woman} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\top, \\ \text{FatherOfGirls} \sqsubseteq \text{Happy} \end{array} \right\}$$

- The First Order Logic (FOL) equivalent of the above TBox:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x. (&\text{FatherOfGirls}(x) \leftrightarrow \\ &\text{Person}(x) \wedge \neg \text{Woman}(x) \wedge \\ &\quad \forall y. (\text{hasChild}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Woman}(y)) \wedge \exists y. \text{hasChild}(x, y)) \wedge \\ \forall x. (&\text{FatherOfGirls}(x) \rightarrow \text{Happy}(x)) \end{aligned}$$

# The $\mathcal{AL}$ language: limitations

## Recall the elements of the language $\mathcal{AL}$ :

DL concept	OWL class	Name	Informal definition
$A$	$A$ (class name)	atomic concept	those in $A$
$\top$	<code>owl:Thing</code>	top	the set of all objects
$\perp$	<code>owl:Nothing</code>	bottom	the empty set
$\neg A$	not $A$	atomic negation	those not in $A$
$C \sqcap D$	$C$ and $D$	intersection	those in both $C$ and $D$
$\forall R.C$	$R$ only $C$	value restriction	those whose all $R$ s belong to $C$
$\exists R.\top$	$R$ some <code>owl:Thing</code>	limited exist. restr.	those having at least one $R$

## What is missing from $\mathcal{AL}$ ?

- We can specify the intersection of two concepts, but not the union, e.g. those who are **either blue-eyed or tall**.
- $\exists R.\top$  – we cannot describe e.g. those having a **female** child.  
Remedy: allow for full exist. restr., e.g.  $\exists \text{hasCh.Female}$
- $\neg A$  – negation can be applied to atomic concepts only.  
Remedy: full negation,  $\neg C$ , where  $C$  can be non-atomic, e.g.  $\neg(U \sqcap V)$

# The $\mathcal{ALCN}$ language family: extensions $\mathcal{U}$ , $\mathcal{E}$ , $\mathcal{C}$ , $\mathcal{N}$

Further concept constructors, OWL equivalents shown in [square brackets]:

- Union:  $C \sqcup D$ , [ $C$  or  $D$ ] – those in either  $C$  or  $D$

$$(C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \quad (\mathcal{U})$$

- Full existential restriction:  $\exists R.C$ , [ $R$  some  $C$ ]  
– those who have at least one  $R$  belonging to  $C$

$$(\exists R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \exists b. \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge b \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \quad (\mathcal{E})$$

- (Full) negation:  $\neg C$ , [not  $C$ ] – those who do not belong to  $C$

$$(\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \quad (\mathcal{C})$$

- Unqualified number restrictions:  $(\leq nR)$ , [ $R$  max  $n$  owl:Thing] and  $(\geq nR)$ , [ $R$  min  $n$  owl:Thing]  
– those who have at most/at least  $n$   $R$ -related objects

$$\begin{aligned} (\leq nR)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid |\{b \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}\}| \leq n\} \\ (\geq nR)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid |\{b \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}\}| \geq n\} \end{aligned} \quad (\mathcal{N})$$

Example:  $\text{Person} \sqcap ((\leq 1 \text{ hasCh}) \sqcup (\geq 3 \text{ hasCh})) \sqcap \exists \text{hasCh.Female}$

$\text{Person}$  and ( $\text{hasCh max } 1$  or  $\text{hasCh min } 3$ ) and ( $\text{hasCh some Female}$ )

Note that qualified number restrictions, e.g., “those having at least 3 blue-eyed children” are not covered by the extension  $\mathcal{N}$ .

# Summary table of the $\mathcal{ALCUN}$ language

DL	OWL	Name	Informal definition	
$A$	$A$	atomic concept	those in $A$	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\neg A$	<b>not</b> $A$	atomic negation	those not in $A$ (cf. $\mathcal{C}$ )	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\top$	<b>owl:Thing</b>	top	the set of all objects	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\perp$	<b>owl:Nothing</b>	bottom	the empty set	$\mathcal{AL}$
$C \sqcap D$	$C$ <b>and</b> $D$	intersection	those in both $C$ and $D$	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\exists R.T$	$R$ <b>some</b>	existential restr.	those having an $R$ (cf. $\mathcal{E}$ )	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\forall R.C$	$R$ <b>only</b> $C$	value restriction	those whose all $R$ s belong to $C$	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\neg C$	<b>not</b> $C$	full negation	those not in $C$	$\mathcal{C}$
$C \sqcup D$	$C$ <b>or</b> $D$	union	those in either $C$ or $D$	$\mathcal{U}$
$\exists R.C$	$R$ <b>some</b> $C$	existential restr.	those with an $R$ belonging to $C$	$\mathcal{E}$
$(\leq nR)$	$R$ <b>max</b> $n$ <b>o:T</b>	unq. numb. restr.	those having at most $n$ $R$ s	$\mathcal{N}$
$(\geq nR)$	$R$ <b>min</b> $n$ <b>o:T</b>	unq. numb. restr.	those having at least $n$ $R$ s	$\mathcal{N}$

# Rewriting $\mathcal{ALCN}$ to first order logic

- Concept expressions map to predicates with one argument, e.g.

**Tiger**  $\implies$  **Tiger**( $x$ )

**Mammal**  $\implies$  **Mammal**( $x$ )

**Person**  $\implies$  **Person**( $x$ )

**Female**  $\implies$  **Female**( $x$ )

- Simple connectives  $\sqcap$ ,  $\sqcup$ ,  $\neg$  map to boolean operations  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ , e.g.

**Person**  $\sqcap$  **Female**  $\implies$  **Person**( $x$ )  $\wedge$  **Female**( $x$ )

**Person**  $\sqcup$   $\neg$ **Mammal**  $\implies$  **Person**( $x$ )  $\vee$   $\neg$ **Mammal**( $x$ )

- An axiom  $C \sqsubseteq D$  is rewritten as  $\forall x.(C(x) \rightarrow D(x))$ , e.g.

**Tiger**  $\sqsubseteq$  **Mammal**  $\implies \forall x.(\textbf{Tiger}(x) \rightarrow \textbf{Mammal}(x))$

- An axiom  $C \equiv D$  is rewritten as  $\forall x.(C(x) \leftrightarrow D(x))$ , e.g.

**Woman**  $\equiv$  **Person**  $\sqcap$  **Female**  $\implies \forall x.(\textbf{Woman}(x) \leftrightarrow \textbf{Person}(x) \wedge \textbf{Female}(x))$

- Concept constructors involving a quantifier  $\exists$  or  $\forall$  are rewritten to an appropriate quantified formula, where a role name is mapped to a binary predicate (a predicate with two arguments), e.g.

$\exists \text{hasParent}.\textbf{Opt} \sqsubseteq \textbf{Opt} \implies \forall x.(\exists y.(\text{hasParent}(x, y) \wedge \textbf{Opt}(y)) \rightarrow \textbf{Opt}(x))$

## Rewriting $\mathcal{ALCN}$ to first order logic, example

- Consider  $C = \text{Person} \sqcap ((\leq 1 \text{ hasCh}) \sqcup (\geq 3 \text{ hasCh})) \sqcap \exists \text{hasCh.Female}$
- Let's outline a predicate  $C(x)$  which is true when  $x$  belongs to concept  $C$ :  

$$C(x) \leftrightarrow \text{Person}(x) \wedge$$

$$(\text{hasAtMost1Child}(x) \vee \text{hasAtLeast3Children}(x)) \wedge$$

$$\text{hasFemaleChild}(x)$$
- Class practice:
  - Define the FOL predicates  $\text{hasAtMost1Child}(x)$ ,  $\text{hasAtLeast3Children}(x)$ ,  $\text{hasFemaleChild}(x)$
  - Additionally, define the following FOL predicates:
    - $\text{hasOnlyFemaleChildren}(x)$ , corresponding to the concept  $\forall \text{hasCh.Female}$
    - $\text{hasAtMost2Children}(x)$ , corresponding to the concept  $(\leq 2 \text{ hasCh})$

# General rewrite rules $\mathcal{ALCN} \rightarrow \text{FOL}$

Each concept expression can be mapped to a FOL formula:

- Each concept expression  $C$  is mapped to a formula  $\Phi_C(x)$  (expressing that  $x$  belongs to  $C$ ).
- Atomic concepts ( $A$ ) and roles ( $R$ ) are mapped to unary and binary predicates  $A(x)$ ,  $R(x, y)$ .
- $\sqcap$ ,  $\sqcup$ , and  $\neg$  are transformed to their counterpart in FOL ( $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ ), e.g.  $\Phi_{C \sqcap D}(x) = \Phi_C(x) \wedge \Phi_D(x)$
- Mapping further concept constructors:

$$\Phi_{\exists R.C}(x) = \exists y. (R(x, y) \wedge \Phi_C(y))$$

$$\Phi_{\forall R.C}(x) = \forall y. (R(x, y) \rightarrow \Phi_C(y))$$

$$\Phi_{\geq n R}(x) = \exists y_1, \dots, y_n. \left( R(x, y_1) \wedge \dots \wedge R(x, y_n) \wedge \bigwedge_{i < j} y_i \neq y_j \right)$$

$$\Phi_{\leq n R}(x) = \forall y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}. \left( R(x, y_1) \wedge \dots \wedge R(x, y_{n+1}) \rightarrow \bigvee_{i < j} y_i = y_j \right)$$

# Equivalent languages in the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ family

- Language  $\mathcal{AL}$  can be extended by arbitrarily choosing whether to add each of  $\mathcal{UECN}$ , resulting in  $\mathcal{AL}[\mathcal{U}][\mathcal{E}][\mathcal{C}][\mathcal{N}]$ .

Do these  $2^4 = 16$  languages have different expressive power?

Two concept expressions are said to be equivalent, if they have the same meaning, in all interpretations.

Languages  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  have the same expressive power ( $\mathcal{L}_1 \stackrel{e}{=} \mathcal{L}_2$ ), if any expression of  $\mathcal{L}_1$  can be mapped into an equivalent expression of  $\mathcal{L}_2$ , and vice versa.

- As a preparation for discussing the above let us recall that these axioms hold in all models, for arbitrary concepts  $C$  and  $D$  and role  $R$ :

$$C \sqcup D \equiv \neg(\neg C \sqcap \neg D)$$

$$\exists R.C \equiv \neg \forall R. \neg C$$

$$\neg \neg C \equiv C$$

$$\neg \top \equiv \perp$$

$$\neg \perp \equiv \top$$

$$\neg(C \sqcap D) \equiv \neg C \sqcup \neg D$$

$$\neg \exists R. \top \equiv \forall R. \perp$$

$$\neg \forall R. C \equiv \exists R. \neg C$$

# Equivalent languages in the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ family

Let us show that  $\mathcal{ALUE}$  and  $\mathcal{ALC}$  are equivalent:

- As  $C \sqcup D \equiv \neg(\neg C \sqcap \neg D)$  and  $\exists R.C \equiv \neg\forall R.\neg C$ , union and full existential restriction can be eliminated by using (full) negation. That is, to each  $\mathcal{ALUE}$  concept expression there exists an equivalent  $\mathcal{ALC}$  expression.
- The other way, each  $\mathcal{ALC}$  concept can be transformed to an equivalent  $\mathcal{ALUE}$  expression, by moving negation inwards, until before atomic concepts, and removing double negation; using the axioms from the right hand column on the previous slide
- Thus  $\mathcal{ALUE}$  and  $\mathcal{ALC}$  have the same expressive power, and so have the intermediate languages:

$$\mathcal{ALC}(N) \stackrel{e}{=} \mathcal{ALCU}(N) \stackrel{e}{=} \mathcal{ALCE}(N) \stackrel{e}{=} \mathcal{ALCUE}(N) \stackrel{e}{=} \mathcal{ALUE}(N).$$

Further remarks:

- As  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  is subsumed by  $\mathcal{C}$ , we will use  $\mathcal{ALC}$  to denote the language allowing  $\mathcal{U}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$
- It can be shown that any two of  $\mathcal{AL}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALU}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALE}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALN}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALUN}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALEN}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  have different expressive power

## Another $\mathcal{ALC}$ example requiring case analysis

- Some facts about the Oedipus family (ABox  $\mathcal{A}_{OE}$ ):

$\text{hasChild}(\text{IOCASTE}, \text{OEDIPUS})$

$\text{hasChild}(\text{IOCASTE}, \text{POLYNEIKES})$

$\text{hasChild}(\text{OEDIPUS}, \text{POLYNEIKES})$

$\text{hasChild}(\text{POLYNEIKES}, \text{THERSANDROS})$

$\text{Patricide}(\text{OEDIPUS})$

$(\neg \text{Patricide})(\text{THERSANDROS})$

- Let us call a person “special” if they have a child who is a patricide and who, in turn, has a child who is **not** a patricide:

$\text{Special} \equiv \exists \text{hasChild}.(\text{Patricide} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\neg \text{Patricide})$

- Let TBox  $\mathcal{T}_{OE}$  contain the above axiom only.
- Consider the instance check “Is locaste special?”:

$\mathcal{A}_{OE} \models_{\mathcal{T}_{OE}} \text{Special}(\text{IOCASTE})?$

- The answer is “yes”, but proving this requires case analysis

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- **TBox reasoning**
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

## A special case of ontology: definitional TBox

- $\mathcal{T}_{fam}$ : a sample **definitional** TBox for family relationships

Woman	$\equiv$	Person $\sqcap$ Female
Man	$\equiv$	Person $\sqcap \neg$ Woman
Mother	$\equiv$	Woman $\sqcap \exists$ hasChild.Person
Father	$\equiv$	Man $\sqcap \exists$ hasChild.Person
Parent	$\equiv$	Father $\sqcup$ Mother
Grandmother	$\equiv$	Woman $\sqcap \exists$ hasChild.Parent

- A TBox is definitional if it contains equivalence axioms only, where the left hand sides are distinct concept names (atomic concepts)
- The concepts on the left hand sides are called **name symbols**
- The remaining atomic concepts are called **base symbols**, e.g. in our example the two base symbols are **Person** and **Female**.
- In a definitional TBox the meanings of name symbols can be obtained by evaluating the right hand side of their definition

# Interpretations and semantic consequence

Recall the definition of assigning a truth value to TBox axioms in an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{I} \models C \sqsubseteq D & \text{ iff } C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \mathcal{I} \models C \equiv D & \text{ iff } C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}\end{aligned}$$

Based on this we introduce the notion of “semantic consequence” exactly in the same way as for FOL

- We can naturally extend the above  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$  notation
  - where  $\alpha$  is an axiom of the form  $C \sqsubseteq D$  or  $C \equiv D$  – to a TBox (i.e. a set of  $\alpha$  axioms)  $\mathcal{T}$ 
    - $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$  ( $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of  $\mathcal{T}$ ) iff for each  $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$ ,  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of  $\alpha$
- We now overload even further the “ $\models$ ” symbol:
  - $\mathcal{T} \models \alpha$  (read axiom  $\alpha$  is a **semantic** consequence of the TBox  $\mathcal{T}$ ) iff
    - all models of  $\mathcal{T}$  are also models of  $\alpha$ , i.e.
    - for all interpretations  $\mathcal{I}$ , if  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$  holds, then  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$  also holds

# TBox reasoning tasks

Reasoning tasks on TBoxes only (i.e. no ABoxes involved)

- A base assumption: the TBox is **consistent** (does not contain a contradiction), i.e. it has a model
- **Subsumption**: concept  $C$  is subsumed by concept  $D$  wrt. a TBox  $\mathcal{T}$ , iff  $\mathcal{T} \models (C \sqsubseteq D)$ , i.e.  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$  holds in all  $\mathcal{I}$  models of  $\mathcal{T}$  ( $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$ )  
e.g.  $\mathcal{T}_{fam} \models (\text{Grandmother} \sqsubseteq \text{Parent})$  (recall that  $\mathcal{T}_{fam}$  is the family TBox)
- **Equivalence**: concepts  $C$  and  $D$  are equivalent wrt. a TBox  $\mathcal{T}$ , iff  $\mathcal{T} \models (C \equiv D)$ , i.e.  $C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$  holds in all  $\mathcal{I}$  models of  $\mathcal{T}$  ( $C \equiv_{\mathcal{T}} D$ ).  
e.g.  $\mathcal{T}_{fam} \models (\text{Parent} \equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person})$
- **Disjointness**: concepts  $C$  and  $D$  are disjoint wrt. a TBox  $\mathcal{T}$ , iff  $\mathcal{T} \models (C \sqcap D \equiv \perp)$ , i.e.  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$  holds in all  $\mathcal{I}$  models of  $\mathcal{T}$ .  
e.g.  $\mathcal{T}_{fam} \models (\text{Woman} \sqcap \text{Man}) \equiv \perp$
- Note that all these tasks involve two concepts,  $C$  and  $D$

# Reducing reasoning tasks to testing satisfiability

- We now introduce a simpler, but somewhat artificial reasoning task: checking the satisfiability of a concept
- **Satisfiability:** a concept  $C$  is satisfiable wrt. TBox  $\mathcal{T}$ , iff there is a model  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $C^{\mathcal{I}}$  is non-empty (hence  $C$  is non-satisfiable wrt.  $\mathcal{T}$  iff in all  $\mathcal{I}$  models of  $\mathcal{T}$   $C^{\mathcal{I}}$  is empty)
- We will reduce each of the earlier tasks to checking non-satisfiability
- E.g. to prove: **Woman**  $\sqsubseteq$  **Person**, let's construct a concept  $C$  that contains all counter-examples to this statement:  $C = \text{Woman} \sqcap \neg \text{Person}$
- If we can prove that  $C$  has to be empty, i.e. there are no counter-examples, then we have proven the subsumption
- Assume we have a method for checking satisfiability.  
Other tasks can be reduced to this method (usable in  $\mathcal{ALC}$  and above):
  - $C$  is subsumed by  $D \iff C \sqcap \neg D$  is not satisfiable
  - $C$  and  $D$  are equivalent  $\iff (C \sqcap \neg D) \sqcup (D \sqcap \neg C)$  is not satisfiable
  - $C$  and  $D$  are disjoint  $\iff C \sqcap D$  is not satisfiable
- In simpler languages, not supporting full negation, such as  $\mathcal{ALN}$ , all reasoning tasks can be reduced to subsumption

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- **The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family**
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# The $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ Description Logic language – an overview

- Expanding the abbreviation  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ 
  - $\mathcal{S} \equiv \mathcal{ALC}_{\mathcal{R}^+}$  (language  $\mathcal{ALC}$  extended with transitive roles),  
i.e. one can state that certain roles (e.g. **hasAncestor**) are transitive.
  - $\mathcal{H} \equiv$  role hierarchies. Adds statements of the form  $R \sqsubseteq S$ ,  
e.g. if a pair of objects belongs to the **hasFriend** relationship, then it must belong to the **knows** relationship too: **hasFriend**  $\sqsubseteq$  **knows**  
(could be stated in English as: *everyone knows their friends*)
  - $\mathcal{I} \equiv$  inverse roles: allows using role expressions  $R^-$  to denote the inverse of role  $R$ , e.g. **hasParent**  $\equiv$  **hasChild**<sup>-</sup>
  - $\mathcal{Q} \equiv$  qualified number restrictions (a generalisation of  $\mathcal{N}$ ):  
allows the use of concept expressions ( $\leq nR.C$ ) and ( $\geq nR.C$ )  
e.g. those who have at least 3 tall children : ( $\geq 3$  **hasChild.Tall**)

## $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ language extensions – the details

- Language  $\mathcal{S} \equiv \mathcal{ALC}_{\mathcal{R}^+}$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{ALC}$  plus transitivity (cf. the index  $\mathcal{R}^+$ )
  - Concept axioms and concept expressions – same as in  $\mathcal{ALC}$
  - An additional axiom type: **Trans**( $R$ ) declares role  $R$  to be transitive
- Extension  $\mathcal{H}$  – introducing role hierarchies
  - Adds role axioms of the form  $R \sqsubseteq S$  and  $R \equiv S$   
( $R \equiv S$  can be eliminated, replacing it by  $R \sqsubseteq S$  and  $S \sqsubseteq R$ )
  - In  $\mathcal{SH}$  it is possible describe a weak form of transitive closure:

**Trans**(hasDescendant)  
hasChild  $\sqsubseteq$  hasDescendant

- This means that hasDescendant is a transitive role which includes hasChild
- What we cannot express in  $\mathcal{SH}$  is that hasDescendant is the **smallest** such role. (This property cannot be described in FOL either.)

## $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ language extensions – the details (2)

Extension  $\mathcal{I}$  – adding inverse roles

- Our first role constructor is  $^-$ :  $R^-$  is the inverse of role  $R$
- Example: consider role axiom  $\text{hasChild}^- \equiv \text{hasParent}$  and:

$$\text{GoodParent} \equiv \exists \text{hasChild}.\top \sqcap \forall \text{hasChild}.\text{Happy}$$

$$\text{MerryChild} \equiv \exists \text{hasParent}.\text{GoodParent}$$

A consequence of the above axioms:  $\text{MerryChild} \sqsubseteq \text{Happy}$

- Multiple inverses can be eliminated:  $(R^-)^- \equiv R, ((R^-)^-)^- \equiv R^-, \dots$

## $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ language extensions – the details (3)

- Extension  $\mathcal{Q}$  – qualified number restrictions – generalizing extension  $\mathcal{N}$ :
  - $(\leq nR.C)$  – the set of those who have **at most**  $n$   $R$ -related individuals belonging to  $C$ , e.g.  
 $(\leq 2\text{hasChild.Female})$  – those with at most 2 daughters
  - $(\geq nR.C)$  – those with **at least**  $n$   $R$ -related individuals belonging to  $C$
- A role is **simple** if it is not transitive and does not have a transitive sub-role
- Important: roles appearing in number restrictions have to be **simple**.  
 (This is because otherwise the decidability of the language would be lost.)
  - If the axiom **Trans**( $\text{hasDesc}$ ) is present, this means that role  $\text{hasDesc}$  is not simple, and so **cannot** be used in number restrictions
  - If we add further role axioms:  $\text{hasAnc} \equiv \text{hasDesc}^-$ ,  
 $\text{hasAnc} \sqsubseteq \text{hasBloodRelation}$ , then  $\text{hasBloodRelation}$  is **not simple**, as
    - $\text{hasAnc}$  is transitive because its inverse  $\text{hasDesc}$  is such
    - $\text{hasBloodRelation}$  has the transitive  $\text{hasAnc}$  as its sub-role

# $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ syntax summary

## Notation

- $A$  – atomic concept,  $C, C_i, D$  – concept expressions
- $R_A$  – atomic role,  $R, R_i$  – role expressions,  
 $R_S$  – simple role expression, i.e. a role with no transitive sub-role

## Concept expressions

DL	OWL	Name	Informal definition	
$A$	$A$	atomic concept	those in $A$	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\top$	owl:Thing	top	the set of all objects	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\perp$	owl:Nothing	bottom	the empty set	$\mathcal{AL}$
$C \sqcap D$	$C$ and $D$	intersection	those in both $C$ and $D$	$\mathcal{AL}$
$\forall R.C$	$R$ only $C$	value restriction	those whose all $R$ s belong to $C$	$\mathcal{AL}$
$C \sqcup D$	$C$ or $D$	union	those in either $C$ or $D$	$\mathcal{U}$
$\exists R.C$	$R$ some $C$	existential restr.	those with an $R$ belonging to $C$	$\mathcal{E}$
$\neg C$	not $C$	full negation	those not in $C$	$\mathcal{C}$
$(\leq n R_S)$	$R_S$ max $n$ $C$	qualif. num. restr.	those with at most $n$ $R_S$ s in $C$	$\mathcal{Q}$
$(\geq n R_S)$	$R_S$ min $n$ $C$	qualif. num. restr.	those with at least $n$ $R_S$ s in $C$	$\mathcal{Q}$

## $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ syntax summary (2)

- The syntax of role expressions

$R \rightarrow$	$R_A$	<i>atomic role</i>	$(\mathcal{AL})$
	$R^-$	<i>inverse role</i>	$(\mathcal{I})$

- The syntax of terminological axioms

$T \rightarrow$	$C_1 \equiv C_2$	<i>concept equivalence axiom</i>	$(\mathcal{AL})$
	$C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2$	<i>concept subsumption axiom</i>	$(\mathcal{AL})$
	$R_1 \equiv R_2$	<i>role equivalence axiom</i>	$(\mathcal{H})$
	$R_1 \sqsubseteq R_2$	<i>role subsumption axiom</i>	$(\mathcal{H})$
	<b>Trans</b> ( $R$ )	<i>transitivity axiom</i>	$(\mathcal{R}^+)$

# $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ semantics (ADVANCED)

- The semantics of concept expressions

$$\top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\perp^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$$

$$(\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$(C_1 \sqcap C_2)^{\mathcal{I}} = C_1^{\mathcal{I}} \cap C_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$(C_1 \sqcup C_2)^{\mathcal{I}} = C_1^{\mathcal{I}} \cup C_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$(\forall R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \forall b. \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \rightarrow b \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

$$(\exists R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \exists b. \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge b \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

$$(\geq n R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid |\{b \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge b \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}| \geq n\}$$

$$(\leq n R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid |\{b \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge b \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}| \leq n\}$$

- The semantics of role expressions

$$(R^-)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle b, a \rangle \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

## $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ semantics (2) (ADVANCED)

- The semantics of terminological axioms

$$\mathcal{I} \models C_1 \equiv C_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad C_1^{\mathcal{I}} = C_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad C_1^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq C_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models R_1 \equiv R_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad R_1^{\mathcal{I}} = R_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models R_1 \sqsubseteq R_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad R_1^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq R_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I} \models \mathbf{Trans}(R) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad & (\forall a, b, c \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}) \\ & (\langle a, b \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge \langle b, c \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \rightarrow \langle a, c \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}) \end{aligned}$$

- Read  $\mathcal{I} \models T$  as: “ $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies axiom  $T$ ” or as “ $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of  $T$ ”

# Negation normal form (NNF)

- Various normal forms are used in reasoning algorithms
- The tableau algorithms use NNF: only atomic negation allowed
- To obtain NNF, apply the following rules repeatedly until no subterm matching a left hand side can be found:

$$\neg\neg C \rightsquigarrow C$$

$$\neg(C \sqcap D) \rightsquigarrow \neg C \sqcup \neg D$$

$$\neg(C \sqcup D) \rightsquigarrow \neg C \sqcap \neg D$$

$$\neg(\exists R.C) \rightsquigarrow \forall R.(\neg C)$$

$$\neg(\forall R.C) \rightsquigarrow \exists R.(\neg C)$$

$$\neg(\leq n R.C) \rightsquigarrow (\geq k R.C) \text{ where } k = n + 1$$

$$\neg(\geq 1 R.C) \rightsquigarrow \forall R.(\neg C)$$

$$\neg(\geq n R.C) \rightsquigarrow (\leq k R.C) \text{ if } n > 1, \text{ where } k = n - 1$$

# Going beyond $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ – outline

- Extension  $\mathcal{O}$  introduces nominals, i.e. concepts which can only have a single element. Example:  $\{\text{EUROPE}\}$  is a concept whose interpretation must contain a single element  
 $\text{FullyEuropean} \equiv \forall \text{hasSite}.\forall \text{hasLocation}.\{\text{EUROPE}\}$
- Extension  $(\mathbf{D})$ : **concrete** domains, e.g. integers, strings etc, whose interpretation is fixed, cf. **data** properties in OWL
- The Web Ontology Language OWL 1 implements  $\mathcal{SHOIN}(\mathbf{D})$
- OWL 2 implements  $\mathcal{SROIQ}(\mathbf{D})$
- The main novelty in  $\mathcal{R}$  wrt.  $\mathcal{H}$  is the possibility to use role composition ( $\circ$ ):  
 $\text{hasParent} \circ \text{hasBrother} \sqsubseteq \text{hasUncle}$   
 i.e. one's parent's brother is one's uncle
- To ensure decidability, the use of role composition is seriously restricted (e.g. it is not allowed to have  $\equiv$  instead of  $\sqsubseteq$  in the above example)

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- **ABox reasoning**
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# The notion of ABox

- The ABox contains **assertions** about individuals, referred to by **individual names**  $a, b, c$  etc.

Convention: concrete individual names are written in **ALL\_CAPITALS**

- concept assertions:  $C(a)$ , e.g. **Father**(ALEX),  $(\exists \text{hasJob}.\top)$ (BOB)
  - role assertions:  $R(a, b)$ , e.g. **hasChild**(ALEX, BOB).
- Individual names correspond to constant symbols of first order logic
- The interpretation function has to be extended:
  - to each individual name  $a$ ,  $\mathcal{I}$  assigns  $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
- The semantics of ABox assertions is straightforward:
  - $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies a concept assertion  $C(a)$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models C(a)$ ), iff  $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$ ,
  - $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies a role assertion  $R(a, b)$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models R(a, b)$ ), iff  $\langle a^{\mathcal{I}}, b^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$ ,
  - $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies an ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$ ) iff  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies all assertions in  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  
i.e. for all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$  holds

# Reasoning on ABoxes

- ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  is consistent wrt. TBox  $\mathcal{T}$   
if and only if  
there is an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  which satisfies both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$   
i.e.  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$
- Is the ABox  $\{\text{Mother}(\text{S}), \text{Father}(\text{S})\}$  consistent wrt. an empty TBox?
- Is this ABox consistent wrt. the family TBox (slide 385)?
- Assertion  $\alpha$  is said to be a **consequence** of the ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  wrt. TBox  $\mathcal{T}$  ( $\mathcal{A} \models_{\mathcal{T}} \alpha$ ):
  - whenever an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies both the ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  and the TBox  $\mathcal{T}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$ )
  - $\alpha$  is bound to hold in interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \alpha$ )

# Reasoning on ABoxes – example

- Let  $\mathcal{T}$  refer to the family TBox from slide 385:

Woman	$\equiv$	Person $\sqcap$ Female
Man	$\equiv$	Person $\sqcap \neg$ Woman
Mother	$\equiv$	Woman $\sqcap \exists$ hasChild.Person
Father	$\equiv$	Man $\sqcap \exists$ hasChild.Person
Parent	$\equiv$	Father $\sqcup$ Mother
Grandmother	$\equiv$	Woman $\sqcap \exists$ hasChild.Parent

- Consider the ABox  $\mathcal{A}$ :

hasChild(SAM, SUE)    Person(SAM)    Person(SUE)    Person(ANN)  
 hasChild(SUE, ANN)    Female(SUE)    Female(ANN)

- Which of the assertions below is a consequence of  $\mathcal{A}$  wrt.  $\mathcal{T}$ ?

- 1 Mother(SUE)
- 2 Mother(SAM)
- 3  $\neg$ Mother(SAM)
- 4 Father(SAM)
- 5 (Mother  $\sqcup$  Father)(SAM)
- 6 ( $\leq 1$  hasChild)(SAM)

# ABoxes and databases

- An ABox may seem similar to a relational database, but
  - Querying a database uses the **closed world assumption** (CWA): is the query true in the world (interpretation) where the given **and only given** facts hold?
  - Contrastingly, ABox reasoning uses logical consequence, also called **open world assumption** (OWA): is it the case that the query holds in **all** interpretations satisfying the given facts
- At first one may think that with CWA one can always get more deduction possibilities
- However, case-based reasoning in OWA can lead to deductions not possible with CWA (e.g. Susan being optimistic)

# Some important ABox reasoning tasks

- **Instance check:** Decide if assertion  $\alpha$  is a consequence of ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  wrt.  $\mathcal{T}$ .  
Example: Check if **Mother**(SUE) holds wrt. the example ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  and the family TBox on slide 403.
- **Instance retrieval:**  
Given a concept expression  $C$  find the set of all individual names  $x$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \models_{\mathcal{T}} C(x)$   
Example: Find all individual names known to belong to the concept **Mother**

# The optimists example as an ABox reasoning task

- Our earlier example of optimists:
  - (1) If someone has an optimistic parent, then she is optimistic herself.
  - (2) If someone has a non-optimistic friend, then she is optimistic.
  - (3) Susan's maternal grandfather has her maternal grandmother as a friend.
- Consider the following TBox  $\mathcal{T}$ :
 
$$\exists hP.Opt \sqsubseteq Opt \quad (1)$$

$$\exists hF.\neg Opt \sqsubseteq Opt \quad (2)$$
- Consider the following ABox  $\mathcal{A}$ , representing (3):
 
$$hP(S, SM) \quad hP(SM, SMM) \quad hP(SM, SMF) \quad hF(SMF, SMM)$$
- An instance retrieval task: find the set of all individual names  $x$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \models_{\mathcal{T}} Opt(x)$

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

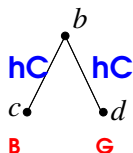
# Tableau algorithms

- Various TBox and ABox reasoning tasks have been presented earlier
- In  $\mathcal{ALC}$  and above, any TBox task can be reduced to checking satisfiability
- Principles of the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm
  - It checks if a concept is satisfiable, by trying to construct a model
  - Uses NNF, i.e. “ $\neg$ ” can appear only in front of atomic concepts
  - The model is built through a series of transformations
- The data structure representing the model is called the **tableau** (state):
  - a directed graph
  - the vertices can be viewed as the domain of the interpretation
  - edges correspond to roles, each edge is labelled by a role
  - vertices are labelled with sets of concepts, to which the vertex is expected to belong
- Example: If a person has a green-eyed and a blonde child, does it follow that she/he has to have a child who is both green-eyed and blonde?
- Formalize the above task as a question in the Description Logic  $\mathcal{ALC}$ :  
 Does the axiom  $(\exists hC.B) \sqcap (\exists hC.G) \sqsubseteq \exists hC.(B \sqcap G)$  hold?<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup>( $hC$  = has child,  $B$  = blonde,  $G$  = green-eyed)

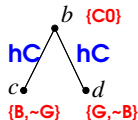
# An introductory example, using $\mathcal{ALC}$

- Question: Does the axiom  $(\exists \text{hC.B}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.G}) \sqsubseteq \exists \text{hC.}(B \sqcap G)$  hold? (1)
- Transform to an **unsatisfiability** task ( $U \sqsubseteq V \Leftrightarrow U \sqcap \neg V$  is **not** satisfiable):  
 $C = (\exists \text{hC.B}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.G}) \sqcap \neg(\exists \text{hC.}(B \sqcap G))$  is not satisfiable
- The neg. normal form of  $C$  is:  $C_0 = (\exists \text{hC.B}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.G}) \sqcap \forall \text{hC.}(\neg B \sqcup \neg G)$
- Goal: build an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  such that  $C_0^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$ . Thus we try to have a  $b$  such that  $b \in (\exists \text{hC.B})^{\mathcal{I}}$ ,  $b \in (\exists \text{hC.G})^{\mathcal{I}}$ , and  $b \in (\forall \text{hC.}(\neg B \sqcup \neg G))^{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- From  $b \in (\exists \text{hC.B})^{\mathcal{I}} \Rightarrow \exists c$  such that  $\langle b, c \rangle \in \text{hC}^{\mathcal{I}}$  and  $c \in B^{\mathcal{I}}$ .  
 Similarly,  $b \in (\exists \text{hC.G})^{\mathcal{I}} \Rightarrow \exists d$ , such that  $\langle b, d \rangle \in \text{hC}^{\mathcal{I}}$  and  $d \in G^{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- As  $b$  belongs to  $\forall \text{hC.}(\neg B \sqcup \neg G)$ , and both  $c$  and  $d$  are  $\text{hC}$  relations of  $b$ , we obtain constraints:  $c \in (\neg B \sqcup \neg G)^{\mathcal{I}}$  and  $d \in (\neg B \sqcup \neg G)^{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- $c \in (\neg B \sqcup \neg G)^{\mathcal{I}}$  means that either  $c \in (\neg B)^{\mathcal{I}}$  or  $c \in (\neg G)^{\mathcal{I}}$ . Assuming  $c \in (\neg B)^{\mathcal{I}}$  contradicts  $c \in B^{\mathcal{I}}$ . Thus we have to choose the option  $c \in (\neg G)^{\mathcal{I}}$ . Similarly, we obtain  $d \in (\neg B)^{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- We arrive at:  $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b, c, d\}$ ;  
 $\text{hC}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle b, c \rangle, \langle b, d \rangle\}$ ;  
 $B^{\mathcal{I}} = \{c\}$  and  $G^{\mathcal{I}} = \{d\}$ .  
 Here  $b \in C_0^{\mathcal{I}}$ , thus (1) does not hold.



## Extending the example to $\mathcal{ALCN}$

- Question: If a person **having at most one child** has a green-eyed and a blonde child, does it follow that she/he has to have a child who is both green-eyed and blonde?
- DL question:  $(\leq 1\text{hC}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.B}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.G}) \stackrel{?}{\sqsubseteq} \exists \text{hC.}(B \sqcap G)$  (2)
- Reformulation: “Is  $C$  not satisfiable?”, where  
 $C = (\leq 1\text{hC}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.B}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.G}) \sqcap \neg(\exists \text{hC.}(B \sqcap G))$
- Negation normal form:  
 $C_0 = (\leq 1\text{hC}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.B}) \sqcap (\exists \text{hC.G}) \sqcap \forall \text{hC.}(\neg B \sqcup \neg G)$
- We first build the same tableau as for (1):



- From  $(\leq 1\text{hC})(b)$ ,  $\text{hC}(b, c)$ , and  $\text{hC}(b, d)$  it follows that  $c = d$  has to be the case. However merging  $c$  and  $d$  results in an object being both **B** and  $\neg \text{B}$  which is a contradiction (**clash**)
- Thus we have shown that  $C_0$  cannot be satisfied, and thus the answer to question (2) is **yes**.

# Contents

4

## The Semantic Web

- Introducing Semantic Technologies
- An example of the Semantic Web approach
- An overview of Description Logics
- The  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  language family
- TBox reasoning
- The  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$  language family
- ABox reasoning
- The tableau algorithm for  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  – a simple example
- Further reading: the  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  tableau algorithm

# The $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm for empty TBoxes – outline

- “Is  $C$  satisfiable?”  $\implies$  Let’s build a model satisfying  $C$ , **exhaustively**.
- First, bring  $C$  to negation normal form  $C_0$ .
- The main data structure, the tableau structure  $T = (V, E, \mathcal{L}, I)$  where  $(V, E, \mathcal{L})$  is a finite directed graph (more about  $I$  later)
  - Nodes of the graph ( $V$ ) can be thought of as domain elements.
  - Edges of the graph ( $E$ ) represent role relationships between nodes.
  - The labeling function  $\mathcal{L}$  assigns labels to nodes and edges:
    - $\forall x \in V, \mathcal{L}(x) \subseteq \text{sub}(C_0)$ , the set of subexpressions of  $C_0$
    - $\forall \langle x, y \rangle \in E, \mathcal{L}(\langle x, y \rangle)$  is a role within  $C$  (in  $\mathcal{SHIQ}$ : set of roles)
  - The initial tableau has a single node, the root:  $(\{x_0\}, \emptyset, \mathcal{L}, \emptyset)$ , where  $\mathcal{L}(x_0) = \{C_0\}$ . Here  $C_0$  is called the **root concept**.
- The algorithm uses transformation rules to **extend** the tableau
- Certain rules are nondeterministic, creating a choice point; backtracking occurs when a trivial clash appears (e.g. both  $A$  and  $\neg A \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ )
- If a **clash-free** and **complete tableau** (no rule can fire) is reached  $\implies$   
 $C$  is **satisfiable**.
- When the whole search tree is traversed  $\implies C$  is **not satisfiable**.

## Outline of the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm (2)

- The tableau tree is built downwards from the root (edges are always directed downwards)
  - A node  $b$  is called an  $R$ -successor (or simply successor) of  $a$  iff there is an edge from  $a$  to  $b$  with  $R$  as its label, i.e.  $\mathcal{L}(\langle a, b \rangle) = R$
- Handling equalities and inequalities
  - To handle  $(\leq n R)$  we need to merge (identify) nodes
  - In handling  $(\geq n R)$  we will have to introduce  $n$   $R$ -successors which are pairwise non-identifiable ( $x \neq y$ :  $x$  and  $y$  are not identifiable)
  - The component  $I$  of the tableau data structure  $T = (V, E, \mathcal{L}, I)$  is a set of inequalities of the form  $x \neq y$

# Transformation rules of the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm (1)

## $\sqcap$ -rule

**Condition:**  $(C_1 \sqcap C_2) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$  and  $\{C_1, C_2\} \not\subseteq \mathcal{L}(x)$

**New state  $T'$ :**  $\mathcal{L}'(x) = \mathcal{L}(x) \cup \{C_1, C_2\}$ .

## $\sqcup$ -rule

**Condition:**  $(C_1 \sqcup C_2) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$  and  $\{C_1, C_2\} \cap \mathcal{L}(x) = \emptyset$ .

**New state  $T_1$ :**  $\mathcal{L}'(x) = \mathcal{L}(x) \cup \{C_1\}$ .

**New state  $T_2$ :**  $\mathcal{L}'(x) = \mathcal{L}(x) \cup \{C_2\}$ .

## $\exists$ -rule

**Condition:**  $(\exists R.C) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ ,  $x$  has no  $R$ -successor  $y$  s.t.  $C \in \mathcal{L}(y)$ .

**New state  $T'$ :**  $V' = V \cup \{y\}$  ( $y$  is a new node),  
 $E' = E \cup \{\langle x, y \rangle\}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}'(\langle x, y \rangle) = R$ ,  $\mathcal{L}'(y) = \{C\}$ .

## $\forall$ -rule

**Condition:**  $(\forall R.C) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$ ,  $x$  has an  $R$ -successor  $y$  s.t.  $C \notin \mathcal{L}(y)$ .

**New state  $T'$ :**  $\mathcal{L}'(y) = \mathcal{L}(y) \cup \{C\}$ .

# Transformation rules of the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm (2)

## $\geq$ -rule

**Condition:**  $(\geq n R) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$  and  $x$  has no  $n R$ -successors such that any two are non-identifiable.

**New state  $T'$ :**  $V' = V \cup \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  ( $y_i$  new nodes),  
 $E' = E \cup \{\langle x, y_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle x, y_n \rangle\}$ ,  
 $\mathcal{L}'(\langle x, y_i \rangle) = R$ ,  $\mathcal{L}'(y_i) = \emptyset$ , for each  $i = 1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  
 $I' = I \cup \{y_i \neq y_j \mid 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}$ .

# Transformation rules of the $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm (3)

## $\leq$ -rule

**Condition:**  $(\leq n R) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$  and  $x$  has  $R$ -successors  $y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$  among which there are at least two identifiable nodes.

**For each**  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $1 \leq i < j \leq n+1$ , where  $y_i$  and  $y_j$  are identifiable:

**New state  $T_{ij}$ :**  $V' = V \setminus \{y_j\}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}'(y_i) = \mathcal{L}(y_i) \cup \mathcal{L}(y_j)$ ,  
 $E' = E \setminus \{\langle x, y_j \rangle\} \setminus \{\langle y_j, u \rangle \mid \langle y_j, u \rangle \in E\} \cup$   
 $\{\langle y_i, u \rangle \mid \langle y_j, u \rangle \in E\},$   
 $\mathcal{L}'(\langle y_i, u \rangle) = \mathcal{L}(\langle y_j, u \rangle), \forall u \text{ such that } \langle y_j, u \rangle \in E,$   
 $I' = I[y_j \rightarrow y_i]$  (every occurrence of  $y_j$  is replaced by  $y_i$ ).

# The $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm – further details

- There is **clash** at some node  $x$  of a tableau state iff
  - $\{\perp\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(x)$ ; or
  - $\{A, \neg A\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(x)$  for some atomic concept  $A$ ; or
  - $(\leq nR) \in \mathcal{L}(x)$  and  $x$  has  $R$ -successors  $y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$  where for any two successors  $y_i$  and  $y_j$  it holds that  $y_i \neq y_j \in I$ .
- A tableau state is said to be **complete**, if no transformation rules can be applied at this state (there is no rule the conditions of which are satisfied)

# The $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm

In this version the algorithm handles a **set** of tableau states, one for each yet unexplored subtree of the search space.

- 1 Initialise the variable  $States = \{\mathbf{T}_0\}$  (a singleton set containing the initial tableau state)
- 2 If there is  $\mathbf{T} \in States$  such that  $\mathbf{T}$  contains a clash, remove  $\mathbf{T}$  from  $States$  and continue at step 2
- 3 If there is  $\mathbf{T} \in States$  such that  $\mathbf{T}$  is complete (and clash-free), exit the algorithm, reporting satisfiability
- 4 If  $States$  is empty, exit the algorithm, reporting non-satisfiability
- 5 Choose an arbitrary element  $\mathbf{T} \in States$  and apply to  $\mathbf{T}$  an arbitrary transformation rule, whose conditions are satisfied<sup>7</sup> (don't care nondeterminism). Remove  $\mathbf{T}$  from  $States$ , and add to  $States$  the  $NewStates$  resulting from the applied transformation, where  $NewStates = \{\mathbf{T}_1, \mathbf{T}_2\}$  for the  $\sqcup$ -rule,  $NewStates = \{\mathbf{T}_{ij} \mid \dots\}$  for the  $\leq$ -rule, and  $NewStates = \{\mathbf{T}'\}$  for all other (deterministic) rules. Continue at step 2

<sup>7</sup>Such a tableau state  $\mathbf{T}$  and such a rule exist, because  $States$  is nonempty, and none of its elements is a complete tableau

# The $\mathcal{ALCN}$ tableau algorithm – an example

- Consider checking the satisfiability of concept  $C_0$  ( $\text{hC}$  = has child,  $\text{B}$  = blonde):

$$C_0 = C_1 \sqcap C_2 \sqcap C_3 \sqcap C_4$$

$$C_1 = (\geq 2 \text{ hC})$$

$$C_2 = \exists \text{ hC.B}$$

$$C_3 = (\leq 2 \text{ hC})$$

$$C_4 = C_5 \sqcup C_6$$

$$C_5 = \forall \text{ hC.}\neg \text{B}$$

$$C_6 = \text{B}$$

- The tableau algorithm completes with the answer: concept  $C_0$  is satisfiable
- The interpretation constructed by the tableau algorithm:  
 $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b, c, d\}$ ;  $\text{hC}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle b, c \rangle, \langle b, d \rangle\}$ ;  $\text{B}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b, c\}$

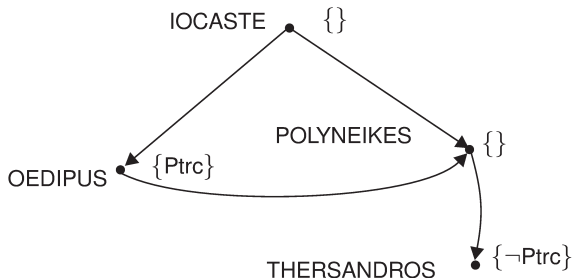
## Extending the tableau algorithm to ABox reasoning

- To solve an ABox reasoning task (with no TBox), we transform the ABox to a graph, serving as the initial tableau state, e.g. for the IOCASTE family ABox:

$hC(IOCASTE, OEDIPUS)$   
 $hC(OEDIPUS, POLYNEIKES)$   
 $P_{trc}(OEDIPUS)$

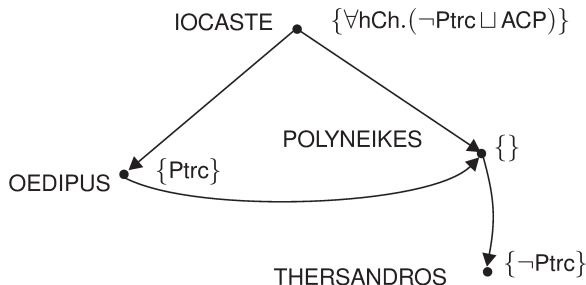
$hC(IOCASTE, POLYNEIKES)$   
 $hC(POLYNEIKES, THERSANDROS)$   
 $(\neg P_{trc})(THERSANDROS)$

- Individual names become nodes of the graph, labelled by a set of concepts, and each role assertion generates an edge, labelled (implicitly) by  $hC$ :



## Handling ABox axioms in the tableau algorithm (ctd.)

- Given the locaste ABox, we want to prove that **IOCASTE** is special, i.e. she belongs to the concept  $\exists hC.(\text{Ptrc} \sqcap \exists hC.\neg\text{Ptrc})$
- We do an indirect proof: assume that **IOCASTE** is **not** special, i.e. **IOCASTE** belongs to  $(\forall hC.(\neg\text{Ptrc} \sqcup \forall hC.\text{Ptrc}))$  (1)
- Let's introduce an abbreviation:  $\text{ACP} \equiv \forall hC.\text{Ptrc}$
- To prove that locaste is special, we add concept (1) to the **IOCASTE** node:



- The tableau algorithm, with this initial state, will detect non-satisfiability

# Handling TBox axioms in the tableau algorithm

- An arbitrary  $\mathcal{ALCN}$  TBox can be transformed to a set of subsumptions of the form  $C \sqsubseteq D$  ( $C \equiv D$  can be replaced by  $\{C \sqsubseteq D, D \sqsubseteq C\}$ )
- $C \sqsubseteq D$  can be replaced by  $\top \sqsubseteq \neg C \sqcup D$   
cf.  $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$  is the same as  $(\neg\alpha \vee \beta)$
- An arbitrary TBox  $\{C_1 \sqsubseteq D_1, C_2 \sqsubseteq D_2, \dots, C_n \sqsubseteq D_n\}$  can be transformed to a single equivalent axiom:  $\top \sqsubseteq C_{\mathcal{T}}$ , where

$$C_{\mathcal{T}} = (\neg C_1 \sqcup D_1) \sqcap (\neg C_2 \sqcup D_2) \sqcap \dots \sqcap (\neg C_n \sqcup D_n).$$

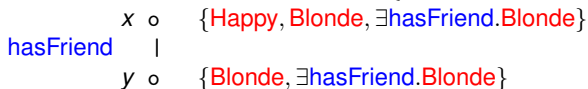
- Concept  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  is called the **internalisation** of TBox  $\mathcal{T}$
- An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of a TBox  $\mathcal{T}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$ ) iff each element of the domain belongs to the  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  internalisation concept
  - This observation can be used in the tableaux reasoning algorithm, which tries to build a model
  - To build a model which satisfies the TBox  $\mathcal{T}$  we add the concept  $C_{\mathcal{T}}$  to the label of each node of the tableau

# Handling TBoxes in the tableau algorithm – problems

- Example: Consider the task of checking the satisfiability of concept **Blonde** wrt. TBox  $\{\top \sqsubseteq \exists \text{hasFriend}.\text{Blonde}\}$ 
  - Concept  $\exists \text{hasFriend}.\text{Blonde}$  will appear in each node
  - thus the  $\exists$ -rule will generate an infinite chain of **hasFriend** successors
- To prevent the algorithm from looping the notion of **blocking** is introduced.

# Blocking

- Definition: Node  $y$  is blocked by node  $x$ , if  $y$  is a descendant of  $x$  and the blocking condition  $\mathcal{L}(y) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(x)$  holds (*subset blocking*).
- When  $y$  is blocked, we disallow **generator** rules ( $\exists$ - and  $\geq$ -rules, creating new successors for  $y$ )
- This solves the termination problem, but raises the following issue
  - How can one get an interpretation from the tableau?
  - Solution (approximation, for  $\mathcal{ALC}$  only): identify blocked node  $y$  with blocking node  $x$ , i.e. redirect the edge pointing to  $y$  so that it points to  $x$ . This creates a model, as
    - all concepts in the label of  $y$  are also present in  $x$
    - thus  $x$  belongs to all concepts  $y$  is expected to belong to
- Is **Happy**  $\sqcap$  **Blonde** satisfiable wrt. TBox  $\{\top \sqsubseteq \exists \text{hasFriend.Blonde}\}$  ?



- $x$  blocks  $y$ , the tableau is clash-free and complete
- The model:

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x\}; \text{Happy}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x\}; \text{Blonde}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x\}; \text{hasFriend}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle x, x \rangle\}$$