

# INFO216: Knowledge Graphs

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# Session S14: OWL DL

- Themes:
  - description logic
  - decision problems
  - OWL DL
  - Manchester OWL-syntax



# Readings

- Forum links (cursory):
  - <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-primer/>
    - show: Turtle and Manchester syntax
    - hide: other syntaxes
  - Description Logic Handbook:
    - Chapter 1: Nardi & Brachman:  
Introduction to Description Logics
    - Chapter 2: Baader & Nutt:  
Formal Description Logics (*gets hard*)



# Description Logic (DL)



# Relationship to other logics

- *Proposition logics* are about *statements* (*propositions*):  
    “Martha is a Woman”  $\Leftarrow$   
        “Martha is Human”  $\wedge$  “Martha is Female”
- (First order) *predicate logics* are about *predicates* and *objects*:
  - $\forall x. (\text{Woman}(x) \Leftrightarrow \text{Human}(x) \wedge \text{Female}(x))$
- *Description logics* are about *concepts*:
  - **Woman**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$  **Female**
  - ...and also about *roles* and *individuals*
- There are many other logic systems:
  - *modal logics*: necessarily  $\square$ , possibly  $\diamond$
  - *temporal logics*: always  $\square$ , sometimes  $\diamond$ , next time  $\circ$



# Description logics

- Description Logic (DL)
  - a simple *fragment* of predicate logic
    - ...or, rather, a *family of such fragments*
  - not very *expressive* (“uttrykkskraftig”)
  - but (can have) *good decision problems*, i.e.,
    - it answers *decision problems* (rather) quickly
- Suitable for describing *concepts* (“begreper”)
  - formal basis for *OWL DL*
  - can be used to:
    - describe *concepts* and their *roles* (“Tbox”)
    - describe *roles* and their relations (“Rbox”)
    - describe *individuals* and their *roles* (“ABox”)



# Definition of concepts (“begreper”)

- **Woman**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$  **Female**
- **Man**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\neg$  **Woman**
- **Parent**  $\doteq$  **Mother**  $\sqcup$  **Father**
  - **concepts**: **Human, Female, Woman...**
  - **definition**:  $\doteq$
  - **conjunction** (and):  $\sqcap$
  - **disjunction** (or):  $\sqcup$
  - **negation** (not):  $\neg$
  - **nested expressions**: ( )
- **Childless**  $\doteq$  ..using **Human** and **Parent**..



# Definition of concepts (“begreper”)

- **Woman**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$  **Female**
- **Man**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\neg$  **Woman**
- **Parent**  $\doteq$  **Mother**  $\sqcup$  **Father**
  - concepts: **Human, Female, Woman...**
  - definition:  $\doteq$
  - conjunction (and):  $\sqcap$
  - disjunction (or):  $\sqcup$
  - negation (not):  $\neg$
  - nested expressions: ( )
- **Childless**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\neg$  **Parent**





# Types of concepts (“begreper”)

- **Woman**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$  **Female**
- **Man**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\neg$  **Woman**
- **Parent**  $\doteq$  **Mother**  $\sqcup$  **Father**
  - atomic (or basic, primitive) concepts:  
**Human, Female, Woman...**
    - only used on the r.h.s. of definitions
  - concept expressions (complex concepts) :  
 $\neg$  **Woman, Human**  $\sqcap$  **Female...**
    - only used on the r.h.s. of definitions
  - defined (and named) concepts:  
**Woman, Man...**
    - defined on the l.h.s. of definitions



# Atomic and defined concepts

- **Atomic (or basic) concepts**
  - given, always named
  - cannot appear on the l.h.s. of a  $\doteq$  definition
  - correspond to simple OWL-NamedClasses
- **Concept expressions**
  - defined in terms of other concepts (and roles)
  - correspond to complex OWL-Classes
- Defined concepts can also be **named**
  - must appear on the l.h.s. of a  $\doteq$  definition
  - **concept\_name  $\doteq$  concept\_expression**
- ...similar distinction between atomic and defined **roles**



# Roles

An atomic  
(or basic) role

- **Mother**  $\doteq$  **Female**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasChild**. $\top$
- **Bachelor**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\neg\exists$ **hasSpouse**. $\top$
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasSibling**.**Parent**
  - **roles**: **hasChild**, **hasSibling**...
  - **universal concept** (“top”):  $\top$
  - **existential restriction**:  $\exists$
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  ..using **Human**, **hasChild**, **Parent**..
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  ..using only **Human**, **hasChild**..
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  ..using **Male**, **hasSibling**, **hasChild**..



# Roles

- **Mother**  $\doteq$  **Female**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasChild**. $\top$
- **Bachelor**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\neg\exists$ **hasSpouse**. $\top$
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasSibling**.**Parent**
  - *roles*: **hasChild**, **hasSibling**...
  - *universal concept* (“top”):  $\top$
  - *existential restriction*:  $\exists$
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasChild**.**Parent**
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  ..using only **Human**, **hasChild**..
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  ..using **Male**, **hasSibling**, **hasChild**..



# Roles

- **Mother**  $\doteq$  **Female**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasChild**. $\top$
- **Bachelor**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\neg\exists$ **hasSpouse**. $\top$
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasSibling**.**Parent**
  - *roles*: **hasChild**, **hasSibling**...
  - *universal concept* (“top”):  $\top$
  - *existential restriction*:  $\exists$
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasChild**.**Parent**
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   
 $\exists$  **hasChild**. $\exists$  **hasChild**. $\top$
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  ...using **Male**, **hasSibling**, **hasChild**....



# Roles

- **Mother**  $\doteq$  **Female**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ hasChild. $\top$
- **Bachelor**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\neg\exists$ hasSpouse. $\top$
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ hasSibling.Parent
  - *roles*: hasChild, hasSibling...
  - *universal concept* (“top”):  $\top$
  - *existential restriction*:  $\exists$
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ hasChild.Parent
- **Grandparent**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   
 $\exists$  hasChild. $\exists$  hasChild. $\top$
- **Uncle**  $\doteq$  **Male**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$  hasSibling. $\exists$  hasChild. $\top$



# Null concept

- **Male**  $\sqcap$  **Female**  $\sqsubseteq \perp$ 
  - **null concept** (“bottom”):  $\perp$
  - **subsumption** (sub concept):  $\sqsubseteq$
- $\doteq$  is used for *definitions* (or just  $\equiv$ )
  - $\equiv$  is used for *equivalence axioms*
- $\sqsubseteq$  is used for *subsumption axioms*
  - **or**: containment / specialisation axioms
- Note the use of **...  $\sqsubseteq \perp$**  (“subsumption of bottom”) to say that something is not the case



# Null concept

- **Male**  $\sqcap$  **Female**  $\sqsubseteq \perp$ 
  - *null concept* (“bottom”):  $\perp$
  - *subsumption* (sub concept):  $\sqsubseteq$
- $\sqsubseteq$  is used for *subsumption axioms*
  - or: *containment / specialisation axioms*
- $\doteq$  is used for *definitions* (or just  $\equiv$ )
  - $\equiv$  is also used for *equivalence axioms*
- Note the use of  $\dots \sqsubseteq \perp$  (“subsumption of bottom”) to say that something is not the case
- *This was our first proper axiom!*
  - so far we have just *defined* concepts
  - we have not used them in proper *axioms*





# Axioms

- $\doteq$  is used for *definitions*
- $\equiv$  is used for *equivalence axioms*
  - and sometimes for *definitions* too...
- Axioms are equivalences or subsumptions:
  - *subsumption axioms* ( $\sqsubseteq$ ):
    - composite concept (role) expressions on both sides
  - *equivalence axioms* ( $\equiv$ ):
    - composite concept (role) expressions on both sides
    - corresponds to:  $C \sqsubseteq D, D \sqsubseteq C$
- *expression*  $\sqsubseteq \perp$  (“subsumption of bottom”) is used to say that something is *not* the case



# More role definitions

- **HappyFather**  $\doteq$  **Father**  $\sqcap$   
 **$\forall$  hasChild.HappyPerson**
  - universal restriction:  **$\forall$**
- **MotherOfOne**  $\doteq$  **Mother**  $\sqcap$  **=1 hasChild.T**
- **Polygamist**  $\doteq$   **$\geq 3$  hasSpouse.T**
  - number restrictions: **=,  $\geq$ ,  $\leq$**
- **Narsissist**  $\doteq$   **$\exists$ hasLoveFor.Self**
  - self references: **Self**
- **MassMurderer**  $\doteq$  ...using hasKilled, Human...



# More uses of roles

- **HappyFather**  $\doteq$  **Father**  $\sqcap$   
 **$\forall$  hasChild.HappyPerson**
  - universal restriction:  **$\forall$**
- **MotherOfOne**  $\doteq$  **Mother**  $\sqcap$  **=1 hasChild.** **$\top$**
- **Polygamist**  $\doteq$   **$\geq 3$  hasSpouse.** **$\top$** 
  - number restrictions: **=,  $\geq$ ,  $\leq$**
- **Narsissist**  $\doteq$   **$\exists$ hasLoveFor.****Self**
  - self references: **Self**
- **MassMurderer**  $\doteq$   **$\geq 4$  hasKilled.Human**



# Inverse and transitive roles

- **Child**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ **hasChild**<sup>-</sup>.**T**
- **hasParent**  $\doteq$  **hasChild**<sup>-</sup>
- **hasSibling**  $\doteq$  **hasSibling**<sup>-</sup>
- **BlueBlood**  $\doteq$   $\forall$ **hasParent**<sup>\*</sup>.**BlueBlood**
  - inverse role: **hasChild**<sup>-</sup>
  - symmetric role: **hasSibling**<sup>-</sup>
  - transitive role: **hasParent**<sup>\*</sup>
- **Niece**  $\doteq$  **..Woman, hasChild, hasSibling..**



# Inverse and transitive roles

- $\text{Child} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}^- . \top$
- $\text{hasParent} \doteq \text{hasChild}^-$
- $\text{hasSibling} \doteq \text{hasSibling}^-$
- $\text{BlueBlood} \doteq \forall \text{hasParent}^* . \text{BlueBlood}$ 
  - inverse role:  $\text{hasChild}^-$
  - symmetric role:  $\text{hasSibling}^-$
  - transitive role:  $\text{hasParent}^*$
- $\text{Niece} \doteq \text{Woman} \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}^- . \text{hasSibling} . \top$
- *We just started to define roles!*
  - until now, we have only defined *concepts*



# Composite roles

- Similar to composite concepts, e.g.:
  - **hasUncle**  $\doteq$  **hasParent**  $\circ$  **hasBrother**
  - **hasLovedChild**  $\doteq$  **hasChild**  $\sqcap$  **hasLoveFor**
  - **hasBrother**  $\doteq$  (**hasSibling** | **Male**)
- Not always supported by reasoning engines
  - they can have “bad decision problems”
    - i.e., they compute slowly or intractably
  - ...with some exceptions
- **hasDaughter**  $\doteq$  ..using hasChild, Female..



# Composite roles

- Similar to composite concepts, e.g.:
  - **hasUncle**  $\doteq$  **hasParent**  $\circ$  **hasBrother**
  - **hasLovedChild**  $\doteq$  **hasChild**  $\sqcap$  **hasLoveFor**
  - **hasBrother**  $\doteq$  (**hasSibling** | **Male**)
- Not always supported by reasoning engines
  - they can have “bad decision problems”
    - i.e., they compute slowly or intractably
  - ...with some exceptions
- **hasDaughter**  $\doteq$  (**hasChild** | **Female**)



# TBox

- *Terminology box* (TBox):
  - a collection of definitions
  - *definition axioms* ( $\doteq$ ):
    - $\text{concept\_name} \doteq \text{concept\_expression}$
    - defined and named concept on the l.h.s.
    - complex concept expression on the r.h.s
  - *defined names*
    - must appear on the l.h.s. of some  $\doteq$  definition
  - *atomic (basic, primitive) names*
    - can only appear on the r.h.s. of  $\doteq$  definitions





# Acyclic, definitional TBox

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  $\equiv$  Mother  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ hasChild.Parent

MotherWithManyChildren  $\equiv$  Mother  $\sqcap$   $\geq 3$  hasChild

MotherWithoutDaughter  $\equiv$  Mother  $\sqcap$   $\forall$ hasChild. $\neg$ Woman

Wife  $\equiv$  Woman  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ hasHusband.Man

Note: The example uses  $\equiv$  instead of  $\doteq$  for definitions

# Acyclic, definitional TBox

Defined  
concepts

|                        |          |  |                 |
|------------------------|----------|--|-----------------|
| Woman                  | $\equiv$ | Person $\sqcap$ Female                           | Atomic concepts |
| 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            | $\equiv$ | Mother $\sqcap$ $\exists$ hasChild.Parent        |                 |
| MotherWithManyChildren | $\equiv$ | Mother $\sqcap$ $\geq 3$ hasChild                |                 |
| MotherWithoutDaughter  | $\equiv$ | Mother $\sqcap$ $\forall$ hasChild. $\neg$ Woman |                 |
| Wife                   | $\equiv$ | Woman $\sqcap$ $\exists$ hasHusband.Man          |                 |

Note: The example uses  $\equiv$   
instead of  $\doteq$  for definitions

*Acyclic and  
unequivocal!*

# TBox

- **Acyclicity**: no cyclic definitions in the TBox
- **Unequivocality**: each named defined term is only used on the l.h.s. of a single definition
- **Concept expansion**:
  - every concept can be written as an expression of only atomic concepts
  - algorithm:
    - start with the expression that defines the concept
    - recursively replace all the defined concepts used in the expression with their definitions
    - halt when only atomic concepts remain



# Expanded definitional TBox

*Only basic concepts  
on the right hand sides!*

Woman  $\equiv$  Person  $\sqcap$  Female

Man  $\equiv$  Person  $\sqcap \neg(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female})$

Mother  $\equiv$  (Person  $\sqcap$  Female)  $\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}$

Father  $\equiv$  (Person  $\sqcap \neg(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female})) \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}$

Parent  $\equiv$  ((Person  $\sqcap \neg(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female})) \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person})$   
 $\sqcup ((\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female}) \sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person})$

Grandmother  $\equiv$  ((Person  $\sqcap$  Female)  $\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}$ )  
 $\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\left(\left(\left(\text{Person} \sqcap \neg(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female})\right)\right.\right.$   
 $\left.\left.\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}\right)\right)$   
 $\sqcup \left(\left(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female}\right)\right.$   
 $\left.\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}\right)$

MotherWithManyChildren  $\equiv$  ((Person  $\sqcap$  Female)  $\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}$ )  $\sqcap \geq 3 \text{ hasChild}$

MotherWithoutDaughter  $\equiv$  ((Person  $\sqcap$  Female)  $\sqcap \exists \text{hasChild}.\text{Person}$ )  
 $\sqcap \forall \text{hasChild}.\left(\neg(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female})\right)$

Wife  $\equiv$  (Person  $\sqcap$  Female)  
 $\sqcap \exists \text{hasHusband}.\left(\text{Person} \sqcap \neg(\text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female})\right)$

Note: The example uses  $\equiv$   
instead of  $\doteq$  for definitions

# RBox

- *Role box* (RBox):
  - a collection of definitions *of roles*
  - otherwise similar to TBoxes:
    - atomic (basic, primitive) roles
    - role expressions
    - named defined roles
    - role expansion
  - not always necessary (i.e., only atomic roles)



# ABox

- So far definitions of concepts and roles (*TBox*, *RBox*)
- Also two types of axioms about individuals (*ABox*):
  - *class assertion* (using a *concept*):  
Märtha : Female  $\sqcap$  Royal
  - *role assertion* (using a *role*):  
<Märtha, EmmaTallulah> : hasChild  
<Märtha, HaakonMagnus> : hasBrother
- Together, a TBox, an ABox and possibly an RBox constitute a *knowledge base (KB)*
  - concepts, roles in the *TBox* (aka “the tags”)
  - roles in the *RBox* (also “tags”)
  - individuals, roles in the *ABox* (“the tagged data”)



# Syntaxes differ a bit...

- So far definitions of concepts and roles (*TBox*, *RBox*)
- Also two types of axioms about individuals (*ABox*):
  - *class assertion* (using a *concept*):  
`Female(Märtha) , (Female  $\sqcap$  Royal) (Märtha)`
  - *role assertion* (using a *role*):  
`hasChild(Märtha, EmmaTallulah)`  
`hasBrother(Märtha, HaakonMagnus)`
- Together, a TBox, an ABox and possibly an RBox constitute a *knowledge base* ( $\mathcal{K}$ )
  - concepts, roles in the *TBox* (aka “the tags”)
  - roles in the *RBox* (also “tags”)
  - individuals, roles in the *ABox* (“the tagged data”)



# Summary of axioms

- Terminology axioms (TBox):

- subsumptions:  $C \sqsubseteq D$

*C and D are expressions!*

- equivalences:  $C \equiv D$

- corresponds to:  $C \sqsubseteq D, D \sqsubseteq C$

- Role axioms (RBox)

- Individual assertion axioms (in the ABox):

- class assertions:  $a : C$

*a and b are individuals.*

- role assertions:  $\langle a, b \rangle : R$

*R is a role!*

- Knowledge base  $\mathcal{K} = ( \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A} )$  or  $\mathcal{K} = ( \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{A} )$

- TBox:  $\mathcal{T}$       RBox:  $\mathcal{R}$       ABox:  $\mathcal{A}$





# Decision Problems



# Reasoning over knowledge bases

- *What more can we do with ontologies?*
- For example:
  - a *security ontology* that describes an organisation and its computer systems as concepts, roles and individuals
  - can answer *competency questions*, e.g.:
    - are all the *security levels* subclasses of one another?
    - what is the highest security level of a *temporary*?
    - what is the necessary security level of a *component*?
    - which employees have access to *critical data*?
    - for which *security roles* is an employee qualified?
    - which individuals are *suspicious persons*?
  - *DL offers a clear and compact way of representing and reasoning about questions such as these!*



# Decision problems

- A computational problem with a yes/no answer, e.g.
  - is C *subsumed* by D:  $\mathcal{K} \models C \sqsubseteq D$  ?
  - are C and D *consistent*:  $\mathcal{K} \models a : (C \sqcap D)$  ?
  - does a *belong* to C:  $\mathcal{K} \models a : C$  ?
  - is a *R-related* to b:  $\mathcal{K} \models \langle a, b \rangle : R$  ?
- Given a knowledge base  $\mathcal{K}$ , reasoning engines are designed to give yes / no answer
  - ...but not all decision problems are *decidable*
  - ...or have tractable *complexity*
  - *depends on the expressions used!*

C and D are classes,  
a and b are individuals.  
R is a role!



# Decision problems for concepts

- Four important decision problems for concepts:

- consistency:

can an individual **a** exist so that

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{a} : \mathbf{C}$$

- subsumption:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqsubseteq \mathbf{D}$$

- equivalence:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \equiv \mathbf{D}, \text{ also written } \mathbf{C} \equiv_{\mathcal{T}} \mathbf{D},$$

- disjunction:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqcap \mathbf{D} \sqsubseteq \perp$$

- $\mathcal{T}$  can always be *emptied*, by expanding all its concepts



# Decision problems for concepts

- *All four can be reduced to subsumption or consistency!*

– consistency:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{a} : \mathbf{C} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{T} \not\models \mathbf{C} \sqsubseteq \perp$$

$$\mathcal{T} \not\models \mathbf{a} : \mathbf{C} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqsubseteq \perp$$

– subsumption:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqsubseteq \mathbf{D} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqcap \neg \mathbf{D} \sqsubseteq \perp$$

– equivalence:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \equiv \mathbf{D} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqsubseteq \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{D} \sqsubseteq \mathbf{C}$$

– disjunction:

$$\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{C} \sqcup \mathbf{D} \sqsubseteq \perp$$

- $\mathcal{T}$  can always be *emptied*, by expanding all its concepts



# Decision problems for individuals

- Decision problems for individuals and roles:
  - instance checking:
    - is individual **a** member of class/concept **C**?
    - $\mathcal{A} \models \mathbf{a} : \mathbf{C} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \not\models \mathcal{A} \sqcap \neg (\mathbf{a} : \mathbf{C})$
  - role checking:
    - is individual **a** **R**-related to individual **b**?
    - $\mathcal{A} \models \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \rangle : \mathbf{R} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \not\models \mathcal{A} \sqcap \neg (\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \rangle : \mathbf{R})$
  - classifications (not yes/no):
    - to which classes/concepts does **a** belong?
    - all individuals of class/concept **C**?
- *Everything boils down to consistency checking for ABoxes*
  - ...under certain (rather weak) conditions



# Tableau algorithm

- A simple reasoning procedure
- Tests satisfiability of a concept  $C_0$ 
  - $C_0$  is possible expanded
  - negation normal form (NNF)
- Starts with ABox  $A_0 = \{ C_0(x) \}$
- Applies transformation rules that preserve consistency
- Halt when not more rules can be applied
  - ...and halt a branch that contains a contradiction
- If all possible branches contain contradictions:
  - $C_0$  is unsatisfiable
- $C_0$  is satisfiable otherwise



### The $\rightarrow_{\sqcap}$ -rule

**Condition:**  $\mathcal{A}$  contains  $(C_1 \sqcap C_2)(x)$ , but it does not contain both  $C_1(x)$  and  $C_2(x)$ .

**Action:**  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{C_1(x), C_2(x)\}$ .

### The $\rightarrow_{\sqcup}$ -rule

**Condition:**  $\mathcal{A}$  contains  $(C_1 \sqcup C_2)(x)$ , but neither  $C_1(x)$  nor  $C_2(x)$ .

**Action:**  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{C_1(x)\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}'' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{C_2(x)\}$ .

### The $\rightarrow_{\exists}$ -rule

**Condition:**  $\mathcal{A}$  contains  $(\exists R.C)(x)$ , but there is no individual name  $z$  such that  $C(z)$  and  $R(x, z)$  are in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Action:**  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{C(y), R(x, y)\}$  where  $y$  is an individual name not occurring in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

### The $\rightarrow_{\forall}$ -rule

**Condition:**  $\mathcal{A}$  contains  $(\forall R.C)(x)$  and  $R(x, y)$ , but it does not contain  $C(y)$ .

**Action:**  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{C(y)\}$ .

### The $\rightarrow_{\geq}$ -rule

**Condition:**  $\mathcal{A}$  contains  $(\geq n R)(x)$ , and there are no individual names  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  such that  $R(x, z_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and  $z_i \neq z_j$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ) are contained in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Action:**  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{R(x, y_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{y_i \neq y_j \mid 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}$ , where  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  are distinct individual names not occurring in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

### The $\rightarrow_{\leq}$ -rule

**Condition:**  $\mathcal{A}$  contains distinct individual names  $y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$  such that  $(\leq n R)(x)$  and  $R(x, y_1), \dots, R(x, y_{n+1})$  are in  $\mathcal{A}$ , and  $y_i \neq y_j$  is not in  $\mathcal{A}$  for some  $i \neq j$ .

**Action:** For each pair  $y_i, y_j$  such that  $i > j$  and  $y_i \neq y_j$  is not in  $\mathcal{A}$ , the ABox  $\mathcal{A}_{i,j} = [y_i/y_j]\mathcal{A}$  is obtained from  $\mathcal{A}$  by replacing each occurrence of  $y_i$  by  $y_j$ .



# Complexity

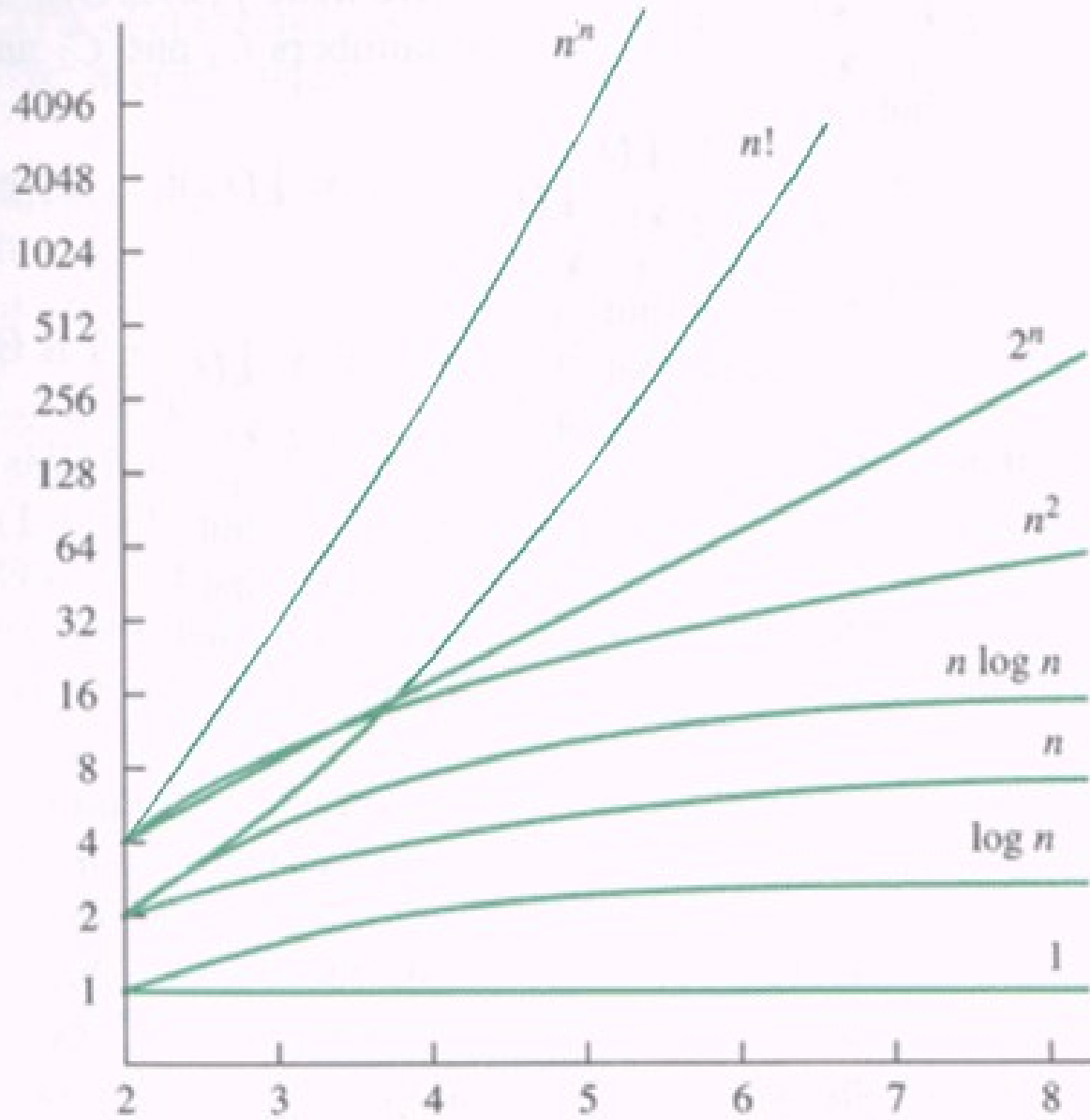
- *Decidability* (“bestembarhet”):
  - we can always calculate the yes/no answer in finite time
- *Semi-decidability* (“semibestembarhet”):
  - we can always calculate a yes-answer in finite time,  
...but not always a no-answer
- *Undecidability* (“ubestembarhet”):
  - we cannot always calculate the answer in finite time



# Complexity

- Decidability is necessary
  - but not enough
  - we also want a decision “in reasonable time”
  - different DL-variants have different *complexity*
  - many different *complexity classes*
    - polynomial (**P**), exponential (**EXP**)...
    - ...in time and space
- *Tractable* (or *feasible*) complexity
  - acceptable complexity for large knowledge bases
  - typically *polynomial* complexity (**P**)
  - complexity grows  $O(n^c)$  of problem size  $n$





**EXPTIME,  
NEXPTIME,  
EXPSpace**

**P, NP, PSPACE**



# DL-complexity

- We have presented many DL-notations
  - *do not* use all at the same time!
  - that gives high complexity
  - which is why we have different OWL Profiles
- Complexity calculator on the net:
  - *Complexity of reasoning in Description Logics*  
<http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/~ezolin/dl/>



# OWL DL



# Relation to OWL

- OWL DL and description logic are closely matched
  - everything in OWL DL has a DL-counterpart
  - most everything in DL can be expressed in OWL DL
- DL is a family of logic systems:
  - some of them correspond to particular OWL profiles
  - OWL1 DL:  $\mathcal{SHOIN}(\mathcal{D})$
  - OWL2 DL:  $\mathcal{SROIQ}(\mathcal{D})$



# OWL profiles revisited

- **OWL “1”** (2002):
  - OWL Full – “anything goes”
  - OWL DL – fragment of OWL Full,
    - formal semantics through *description logic*
  - OWL Lite – simple fragment of OWL DL, not much used
- **OWL 2** (2008):
  - OWL2 Full – “anything goes”
  - OWL2 DL – fragment of OWL2 full, extension of OWL DL
    - OWL2 EL – quick reasoning, fragment of OWL2 DL
    - OWL2 RL – rule language, fragment of OWL2 DL
      - OWL LD – linked data, fragment of OWL2 RL
    - OWL2 QL – query language, fragment of OWL2 DL

# And there is more...

- A few other constructions
- Formal definitions of
  - syntax (rules for valid expressions, reasoning)
  - semantics (rules for interpreting expressions)
- Tools and techniques
- Lots of applications





# Manchester OWL syntax



# Manchester OWL-syntax

- A simple DL notation without special symbols
  - used by Protege-OWL to construct classes
  - similar to DL syntax
- **Class: Woman**  
**EquivalentTo: Human and Female**
- **Class: Man**  
**EquivalentTo: Human and not Female**
- **Class: Parent**  
**EquivalentTo: Mother or Father**
- Can be used to *serialise* complete ontologies
  - ...we will look mostly at TBox expressions
- <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl2-manchester-syntax/>



# Comparison

- DL:

**Male**  $\doteq$  **Human**  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ **Female**

- Manchester OWL:

**Class: Man**

**EquivalentTo: Human and not Female**

- TURTLE:

family:Man owl:equivalentClass

owl:intersectionOf (

family:Human

[ a owl:Class ;

owl:complementOf family:Woman

]

).



# Roles in Manchester OWL syntax

- **Class: Mother**  
**EquivalentTo:**  
**Female and hasChild some owl:Thing**
- **Class: Bachelor**  
**EquivalentTo:**  
**Male and not hasSpouse some owl:Thing**
- **Class: Uncle**  
**EquivalentTo:**  
**Male and hasSibling some Parent**
  - universal concept (top): **owl:Thing**
  - existential restriction: **some**



# Null concept in Manchester OWL syntax

- **Class:** <class-name>
  - EquivalentTo:** Male and Female
  - SubClassOf:** owl:Nothing
  - null concept (bottom): owl:Nothing
  - subsumption (subconcept): SubClassOf:
  - equivalence: **EquivalentTo:**
    - ...used both for *definitions* and for *axioms*



# More roles in Manchester OWL syntax

- **Class:** HappyFather  
**EquivalentTo:** Father and hasChild **only** Happy  
– value restriction: **only**
- **Class:** MotherOfOne  
**EquivalentTo:** Mother and hasChild **exactly 1**
- **Class:** Bigamist  
**EquivalentTo:** hasSpouse **min 2**  
– number restriction: **exactly, min, max**
- **Class:** Narcissist  
**EquivalentTo:** loves **some Self**



# Inverse, symmetric and transitive roles

- **Class: Child**  
    **EquivalentTo:**  
    Human and inverse hasChild some owl:Thing
- **Class: hasParent**  
    **EquivalentTo: inverse hasChild**
- **ObjectProperty: hasSibling**  
    **Characteristic: Symmetric**
- **ObjectProperty: hasAncestor**  
    **Characteristic: Transitive**
- **inverse role: inverse**
  - symmetric role:  
    **Characteristic: SymmetricProperty**
  - transitive role:  
    **Characteristic: TransitiveProperty**

