Description Logics

Exercise Sheet 9

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Exercise 29

We consider another form of blocking, where an individual can be blocked by an individual that is not necessarily an ancestor: *anywhere blocking*. Instead of the depth of an individual and the ancestor relation, it uses the age of an individual and the relation $<$.

The *age* of an individual x ($\mathsf{age}(x)$) is defined as 0 for old individuals and n for a new individual x, if x was generated by the nth application of the $\exists$-rule.

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an ABox obtained by applying the tableau rules and the GCI rule to an initial ABox $\mathcal{A}_0$. A new individual x is *anywhere blocked* by an individual a in $\mathcal{A}$ iff

- $\{C \mid C(x) \in \mathcal{A}\} \subseteq \{D \mid D(a) \in \mathcal{A}\}$, and
- $\mathsf{age}(a) < \mathsf{age}(x)$.

Prove the following for this form of blocking:

a) soundness,

b) completeness,

Hint: For what subset of the complete tableau do we need to construct a model?

c) termination.

Exercise 30

Let $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{T} \rangle$ be an $\mathcal{ALC}$-knowledge base, where $\mathcal{T}$ is a general TBox. The *precompletion of* $\mathcal{K}$ is the set of ABoxes M that is produced by the tableau algorithm when starting with the set of ABoxes $\{\mathcal{A}_0\}$ and exhaustively applying all tableau rules plus the GCI-rule except for the modified $\exists$-rule. Do the following:

a) Show that $\mathcal{K}$ is consistent iff there is an open ABox $\mathcal{A} \in M$ such that for all individual names a occurring in $\mathcal{A}$, the concept $C^a_{\mathcal{A}} := \bigsqcap_{C(a) \in \mathcal{A}} C$ is satisfiable w.r.t. $\mathcal{T}$.

Hint: For the "if" direction, proceed as follows: The correctness of the tableau algorithm for $\mathcal{ALC}$ implies that, if $C^a_{\mathcal{A}}$ is satisfiable, then exhaustively applying all (!) rules to the set of ABoxes $\{\{C^a_{\mathcal{A}}(a)\}\}$ yields a set M' that contains an open and complete ABox. Show how to join all these ABoxes to obtain an open and complete tableau for $\mathcal{A}$ and conclude that $\mathcal{A}_0$ is consistent w.r.t. $\mathcal{T}$.

b) Use the result from a) to prove that ABox consistency in $\mathcal{ALC}$ can be decided in deterministic exponential time.