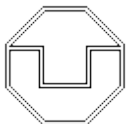


Description Logics

Franz Baader & Anni-Yasmin Turhan

Literature:

- F. Baader, D. Calvanese, D. McGuinness, D. Nardi, P. Patel-Schneider (ed.): **The Description Logic Handbook**. Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- F. Baader, C. Lutz: **Description Logics**. In *The Handbook of Modal Logic*, Elsevier, 2006.
- F. Baader: **Description Logics**. In *Reasoning Web: Semantic Technologies for Information Systems*, 5th International Summer School 2009, Springer LNCS 5689, 2009.

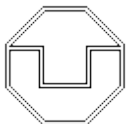


Description Logics

subfield of **knowledge representation**,
which is a subfield of **Artificial Intelligence**

Description comes from **concept description**, i.e., a formal expression that determines a set of individuals with common properties

Logics comes from the fact that the **semantics** of concept descriptions can be defined using **logic**;
in particular, most Description Logics can be seen as **fragments of first-order logic**.



Description Logics

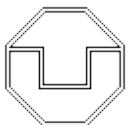
subfield of knowledge representation,
which is a subfield of Artificial Intelligence

Description Logics: name of a research field

Description Logics: a family of knowledge representation languages

Description Logic: a member of this family

$DL(s)$



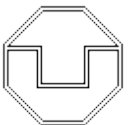
Knowledge Representation

general goal

“develop formalisms for providing high-level descriptions of the world that can be effectively used to build intelligent applications”

[Brachman & Nardi, 2003]

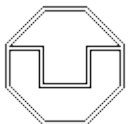
- **formalism:** well-defined **syntax** and formal, unambiguous **semantics**
- **high-level description:** only relevant aspects represented, others left out
- **intelligent applications:** must be able to reason about the knowledge, and infer implicit knowledge from the explicitly represented knowledge
- **effectively used:** need for practical reasoning tools and efficient implementations



Syntax

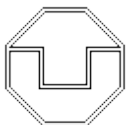
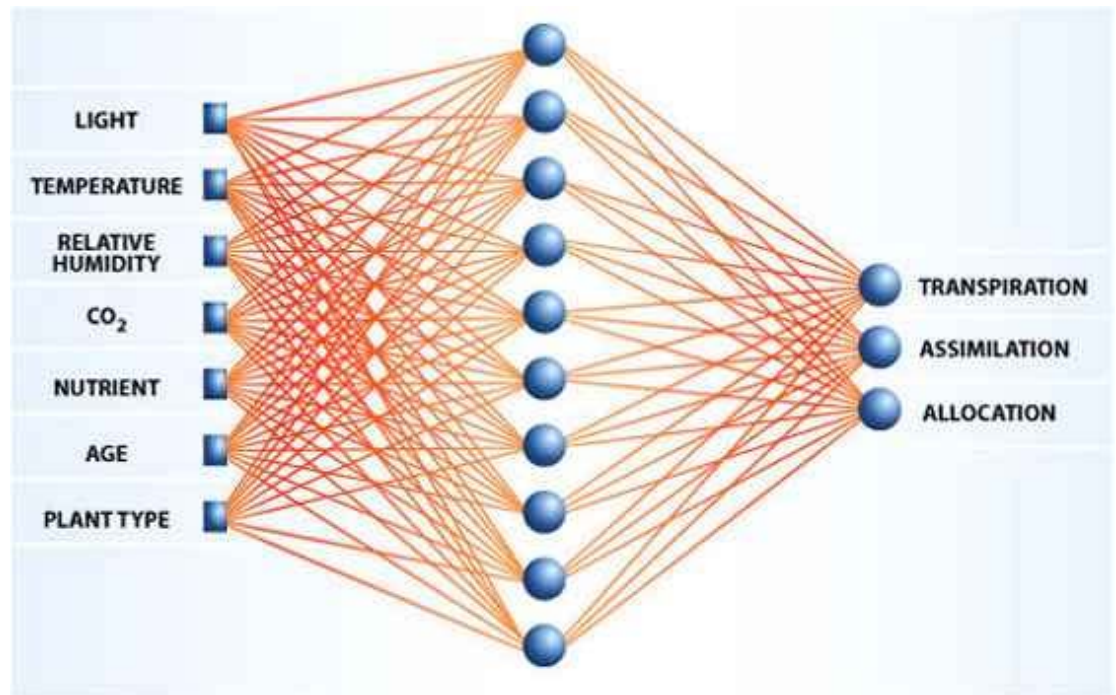
- provides an **explicit symbolic representation** of the knowledge
- **not** just implicit, as e.g. in neural networks

Woman	\equiv Person \sqcap Female	
Man	\equiv Person \sqcap \neg Female	
Mother	\equiv Woman \sqcap \exists hasChild.T	
Person	\equiv Man \sqcup Woman	Male(JOHN)
\perp	\equiv Male \sqcap Female	Male(MARC)
		Male(STEPHEN)
hasChild(STEPHEN , MARC)		Male(JASON)
hasChild(MARC , ANNA)		Female(MICHELLE)
hasChild(JOHN , MARIA)		Female(ANNA)
hasChild(ANNA , JASON)		Female(MARIA)



Syntax

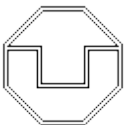
- provides an **explicit symbolic representation** of the knowledge
- **not** just implicit, as e.g. in neural networks



Semantics

describes the connection between the **symbolic representation** and the **real-world entities** it is supposed to represent

- **no procedural semantics**, i.e., should **not** just be defined by how certain programs using the symbolic representation behave
- instead **declarative semantics**:
 - mapping of the symbolic expressions to an abstraction of the “world” (**interpretation**)
 - notion of “**truth**” that allows us to determine whether a symbolic expression is true in the world under consideration (**model**)

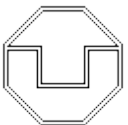


Syntax & Semantics

determine the **expressive power** of a formalism

Adequate expressive power:

- **not too low**: can all the knowledge relevant for solving the problem at hand be represented?
- **not too high**: are the available representational means really necessary in this application?



Reasoning

deduce implicit knowledge from the explicitly represented knowledge

$$\forall x.\forall y. (male(y) \wedge \exists z.(child(x, z) \wedge child(z, y)) \rightarrow grandson(x, y))$$

child(John, Mary)

child(Mary, Paul)

male(Paul)

grandson(John, Paul)

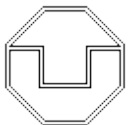
implicit knowledge

Knowledge representation systems

should provide their users with inference tools
that can deduce (certain) implicit consequences

results should **depend only on the semantics** of the representation language,
and **not on the syntactic representation**:

semantically equivalent knowledge should lead to the same result



Reasoning

deduce implicit knowledge from the explicitly represented knowledge

$\forall x.\forall y.\forall z. (male(y) \wedge child(x, z) \wedge child(z, y)) \rightarrow grandson(x, y)$

$child(John, Mary)$

$child(Mary, Paul)$

$male(Paul)$

$grandson(John, Paul)$

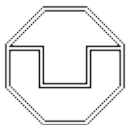
implicit knowledge

Knowledge representation systems

should provide their users with inference tools
that can deduce (certain) implicit consequences

results should **depend only on the semantics** of the representation language,
and **not on the syntactic representation**:

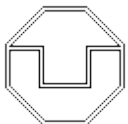
semantically equivalent knowledge should lead to the same result



Reasoning procedures

requirements in knowledge representation

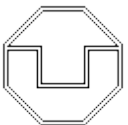
- The procedure should be a **decision procedure** for the problem:
 - **soundness**: positive answers are correct
 - **completeness**: negative answers are correct
 - **termination**: always gives an answer in finite time
- The procedure should be as **efficient** as possible:
preferably **optimal** w.r.t. the (worst-case) complexity of the problem
- The procedure should be **practical**:
easy to implement and optimize, and behave well in applications



Reasoning procedures

example

- Satisfiability in **first-order logic** does not have a decision procedure.
 - full first-order logic is thus not an appropriate knowledge representation formalism
- Satisfiability in **propositional logic** has a decision procedure, but the problem is NP-complete.
 - there are, however, highly optimized **SAT solvers** that behave well in practice
 - **expressive power** is, however, often **not sufficient** to express the relevant knowledge



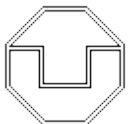
Terminological knowledge

formalize the terminology of the application domain:

- define important notions (classes, relations, objects) of the domain
- state constraints on the way these notions can be interpreted
- deduce consequences of definitions and constraints:
subclass relationships, instance relationships

Example: domain conference

- **classes** (concepts) like **Person, Speaker, Author, Talk, Participant, Workshop, ...**
- **relations** (roles) like **gives, attends, likes, ...**
- **objects** (individuals) like **Richard, Frank, Paper_176, ...**
- **constraints** like: every talk is given by a speaker, every speaker is an author, every workshop must have at least 10 participants, ...

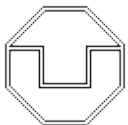


Ontologies

terminological knowledge bases are nowadays often called ontologies

Ontologies are, for example, used in:

- the **Semantic Web** to enable a common understanding of important notions, which can be used in the semantic labeling of Web pages
- **Information Retrieval** to support the automatic extraction of information from text documents
- **Medicine** to provide formal definitions for important notions that can be used by medical doctors to describe findings and procedures, insurance companies to determine payment, ... (SNOMED CT, GALEN, ...)
- **Biology** to enable semantic access to gene databases (Gene Ontology)
- ...



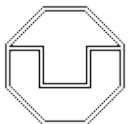
Description Logics

class of logic-based **knowledge representation formalisms**
tailored towards representing **terminological knowledge**

Prehistory:

- Descended from **early approaches** for representing terminological knowledge
 - **semantic networks** (Quillian, 1968)
 - **frames** (Minsky, 1975)
- problems with **missing semantics** lead to
 - **structured inheritance networks** (Brachman, 1978)
 - the first DL system **KL-ONE** (Brachman&Schmolze, 1985)

Chapter 1



Description Logics

history

Phase 1:

- implementation of systems (Back, K-Rep, Loom, Meson, ...)
- based on incomplete structural subsumption algorithms

Phase 2:

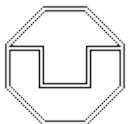
- development of tableau-based algorithms and complexity results
- first implementation of tableau-based systems (Kris, Crack)
- first formal investigation of optimization methods

Phase 3:

- tableau-based algorithms for very expressive DLs
- highly optimized tableau-based systems (FaCT, Racer)
- relationship to modal logic and decidable fragments of FOL

Phase 4:

- Web Ontology Language (OWL-DL) based on very expressive DL
- industrial-strength reasoners and ontology editors for OWL-DL
- investigation of light-weight DLs with tractable reasoning problems



Chapter 2

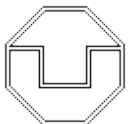
A Basic Description Logic

ALC

attributive language with complement

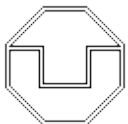
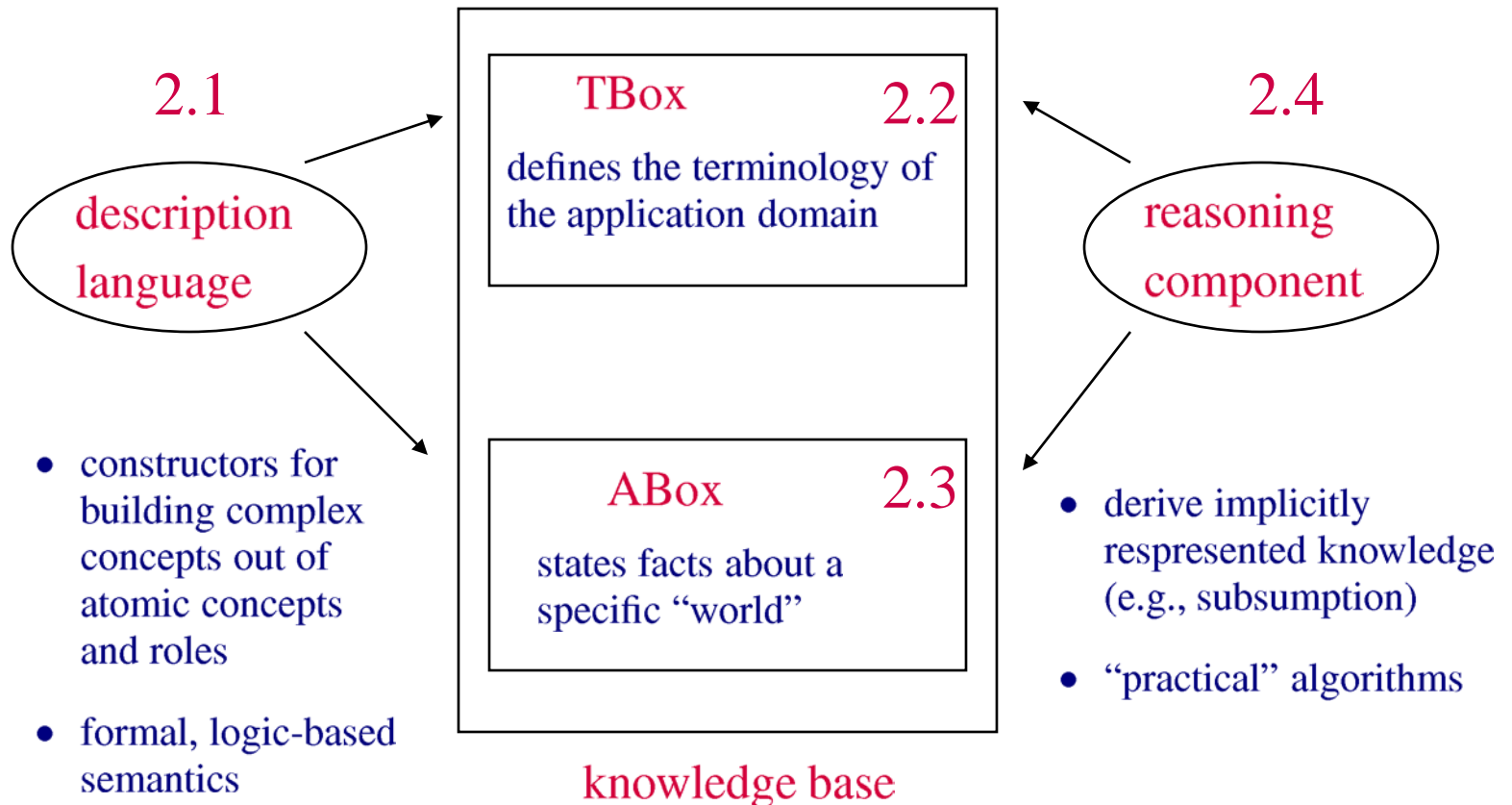
Naming scheme:

- basic language *AL*
- extended with **constructors** whose “letter” is added after the *AL*
- *C* stands for **complement**, i.e., *ALC* is obtained from *AL* by adding the complement (\neg) operator



Description logic system

structure



2.1. The description language

syntax and semantics of \mathcal{ALC}

Definition 2.1 (Syntax of \mathcal{ALC})

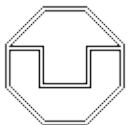
Let N_C and N_R be disjoint sets of **concept names** and **role names**, respectively.

\mathcal{ALC} -concept descriptions are defined by induction:

- If $A \in N_C$, then A is an \mathcal{ALC} -concept description.
- If C, D are \mathcal{ALC} -concept descriptions, and $r \in N_R$, then the following are \mathcal{ALC} -concept descriptions:
 - $C \sqcap D$ (conjunction)
 - $C \sqcup D$ (disjunction)
 - $\neg C$ (negation)
 - $\forall r.C$ (value restriction)
 - $\exists r.C$ (existential restriction)

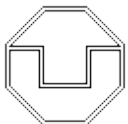
Abbreviations:

- $\top := A \sqcup \neg A$ (top)
- $\perp := A \sqcap \neg A$ (bottom)
- $C \Rightarrow D := \neg C \sqcup D$ (implication)



Notation (use and abuse):

- concept names are called **atomic**
- all other descriptions are called **complex**
- instead of *ALC*-concept description we often say *ALC*-concept or concept description or concept
- *A, B* often used for concept names, *C, D* for complex concept descriptions, *r, s* for role names



The description language

examples of \mathcal{ALC} -concept descriptions

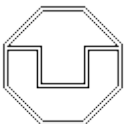
Person \sqcap Female

Participant \sqcap \exists attends.Talk

Participant \sqcap \forall attends.(Talk \sqcap \neg Boring)

Speaker \sqcap \exists gives.(Talk \sqcap \forall topic.DL)

Speaker \sqcap \forall gives.(Talk \sqcap \exists topic.(DL \sqcup FuzzyLogic))



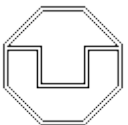
Definition 2.2 (Semantics of \mathcal{ALC})

An interpretation $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ consists of a non-empty domain $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ and an extension mapping $\cdot^{\mathcal{I}}$:

- $A^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all $A \in N_C$, concepts interpreted as sets
- $r^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all $r \in N_R$. roles interpreted as binary relations

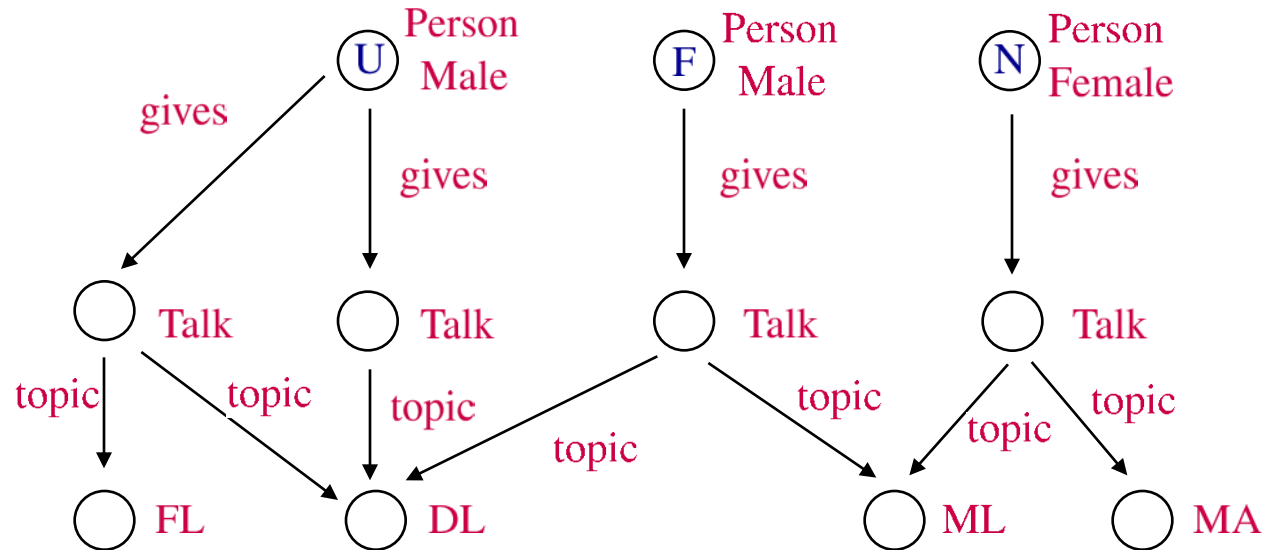
The extension mapping is extended to complex \mathcal{ALC} -concept descriptions as follows:

- $(C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} := C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} := C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\forall r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{for all } e \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} : (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \text{ implies } e \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$
- $(\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{there is } e \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} : (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \text{ and } e \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$



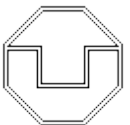
Example

of an interpretation



$$(\text{Person} \sqcap \exists \text{gives} . (\text{Talk} \sqcap \forall \text{topic} . \text{DL}))^{\mathcal{I}} = \{U\}$$

$$(\text{Person} \sqcap \forall \text{gives} . (\text{Talk} \sqcap \exists \text{topic} . \text{DL}))^{\mathcal{I}} = \{U, F\}$$



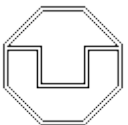
Relationship with First-Order Logic

\mathcal{ALC} can be seen as a fragment of first-order logic:

- Concept names are **unary predicates**, and role names are **binary predicates**.
- **Interpretations** for \mathcal{ALC} can then obviously be viewed as first-order interpretations for this signature.
- Concept descriptions correspond to **first-order formulae with one free variable**.
- Given such a formula $\phi(x)$ with the free variable x and an interpretation \mathcal{I} , the **extension** of ϕ w.r.t. \mathcal{I} is given by

$$\phi^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \mathcal{I} \models \phi(d)\}$$

- **Goal:** translate \mathcal{ALC} -concepts C into first-order formulae $\tau_x(C)$ such that their extensions coincide.



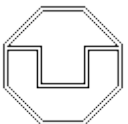
Relationship with First-Order Logic

Concept description C translated into formula with one free variable $\tau_x(C)$:

- $\tau_x(A) := A(x)$ for $A \in N_C$
- $\tau_x(C \sqcap D) := \tau_x(C) \wedge \tau_x(D)$
- $\tau_x(C \sqcup D) := \tau_x(C) \vee \tau_x(D)$
- $\tau_x(\neg C) := \neg \tau_x(C)$
- $\tau_x(\forall r.C) := \forall y.(r(x, y) \rightarrow \tau_y(C))$
- $\tau_x(\exists r.C) := \exists y.(r(x, y) \wedge \tau_y(C))$

y variable different from x

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_x(\forall r.(A \sqcap \exists r.B)) &= \forall y.(r(x, y) \rightarrow \tau_y(A \sqcap \exists r.B)) \\ &= \forall y.(r(x, y) \rightarrow (A(y) \wedge \exists z.(r(y, z) \wedge B(z))))\end{aligned}$$



Relationship with First-order Logic

Concept description C translated into formula with one free variable $\tau_x(C)$:

- $\tau_x(A) := A(x)$ for $A \in N_C$
- $\tau_x(C \sqcap D) := \tau_x(C) \wedge \tau_x(D)$
- $\tau_x(C \sqcup D) := \tau_x(C) \vee \tau_x(D)$
- $\tau_x(\neg C) := \neg \tau_x(C)$
- $\tau_x(\forall r.C) := \forall y.(r(x, y) \rightarrow \tau_y(C))$
- $\tau_x(\exists r.C) := \exists y.(r(x, y) \wedge \tau_y(C))$

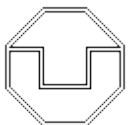
y variable different from x

Lemma 2.3

C and $\tau_x(C)$ have the same extension, i.e.,

$$C^{\mathcal{I}} = \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \mathcal{I} \models \tau_x(C)(d)\}$$

Proof: induction on the structure of C



Relationship with First-Order Logic

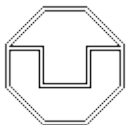
\mathcal{ALC} can be seen as a fragment of first-order logic:

- Concept names are unary predicates, and role names are binary predicates.
- Concept descriptions C yield formulae with one free variable $\tau_x(C)$.

These formulae belong to known decidable subclasses of first-order logic:

- two-variable fragment
- guarded fragment

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_x(\forall r.(A \sqcap \exists r.B)) &= \forall y.(r(x, y) \rightarrow \tau_y(A \sqcap \exists r.B)) \\ &= \forall y.(r(x, y) \rightarrow (A(y) \wedge \exists x.(r(y, x) \wedge B(x))))\end{aligned}$$



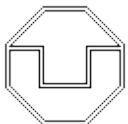
Relationship with Modal Logic

\mathcal{ALC} is a syntactic variant of the basic modal logic \mathbf{K} :

- Concept names are **propositional variables**, and role names are names for **transition relations**.
- Concept descriptions C yield **modal formulae** $\theta(C)$:
 - $\theta(A) := a$ for $A \in N_C$
 - $\theta(C \sqcap D) := \theta(C) \wedge \theta(D)$
 - $\theta(C \sqcup D) := \theta(C) \vee \theta(D)$
 - $\theta(\neg C) := \neg\theta(C)$
 - $\theta(\forall r.C) := \Box_r\theta(C)$
 - $\theta(\exists r.C) := \Diamond_r\theta(C)$

multimodal \mathbf{K} :
several pairs of
boxes and diamonds

C and $\theta(C)$ have the **same semantics**: $C^{\mathcal{I}}$ is the set of worlds that make $\theta(C)$ true in the Kripke structure described by \mathcal{I} .



Additional constructors

\mathcal{ALC} is only an example of a description logic.

DL researchers have introduced and investigated many additional constructors.

Example

letter \mathcal{Q} in the naming scheme

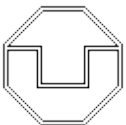
Qualified number restrictions: $(\geq n r.C)$, $(\leq n r.C)$ with semantics

$$(\geq n r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{card}(\{e \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge e \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}) \geq n\}$$

$$(\leq n r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{card}(\{e \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge e \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}) \leq n\}$$

Persons that attend at most 20 talks, of which at least 3 have the topic DL:

$$\text{Person} \sqcap (\leq 20 \text{ attends.Talk}) \sqcap (\geq 3 \text{ attends.}(\text{Talk} \sqcap \exists \text{topic.DL}))$$



Additional constructors

\mathcal{ALC} is only an example of a description logic.

DL researchers have introduced and investigated many additional constructors.

Example

letter \mathcal{Q} in the naming scheme

Qualified number restrictions: $(\geq n r.C)$, $(\leq n r.C)$ with semantics

$$(\geq n r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{card}(\{e \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge e \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}) \geq n\}$$

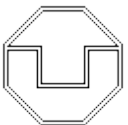
$$(\leq n r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{card}(\{e \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge e \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}) \leq n\}$$

Number restrictions: $(\geq n r)$, $(\leq n r)$ as abbreviation for $(\geq n r.\top)$ and $(\leq n r.\top)$:

$$(\geq n r)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{card}(\{e \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}\}) \geq n\}$$

$$(\leq n r)^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{card}(\{e \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}\}) \leq n\}$$

letter \mathcal{N} in the naming scheme



Additional constructors

In addition to concept constructors, one can also introduce **role constructors**.

Example

letter \mathcal{I} in the naming scheme

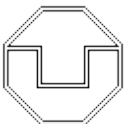
Inverse roles: if r is a role, then r^{-1} denotes its inverse

$$(r^{-1})^{\mathcal{I}} := \{(e, d) \mid (d, e) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

Inverse roles can be used like role names in value and existential restrictions.

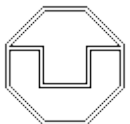
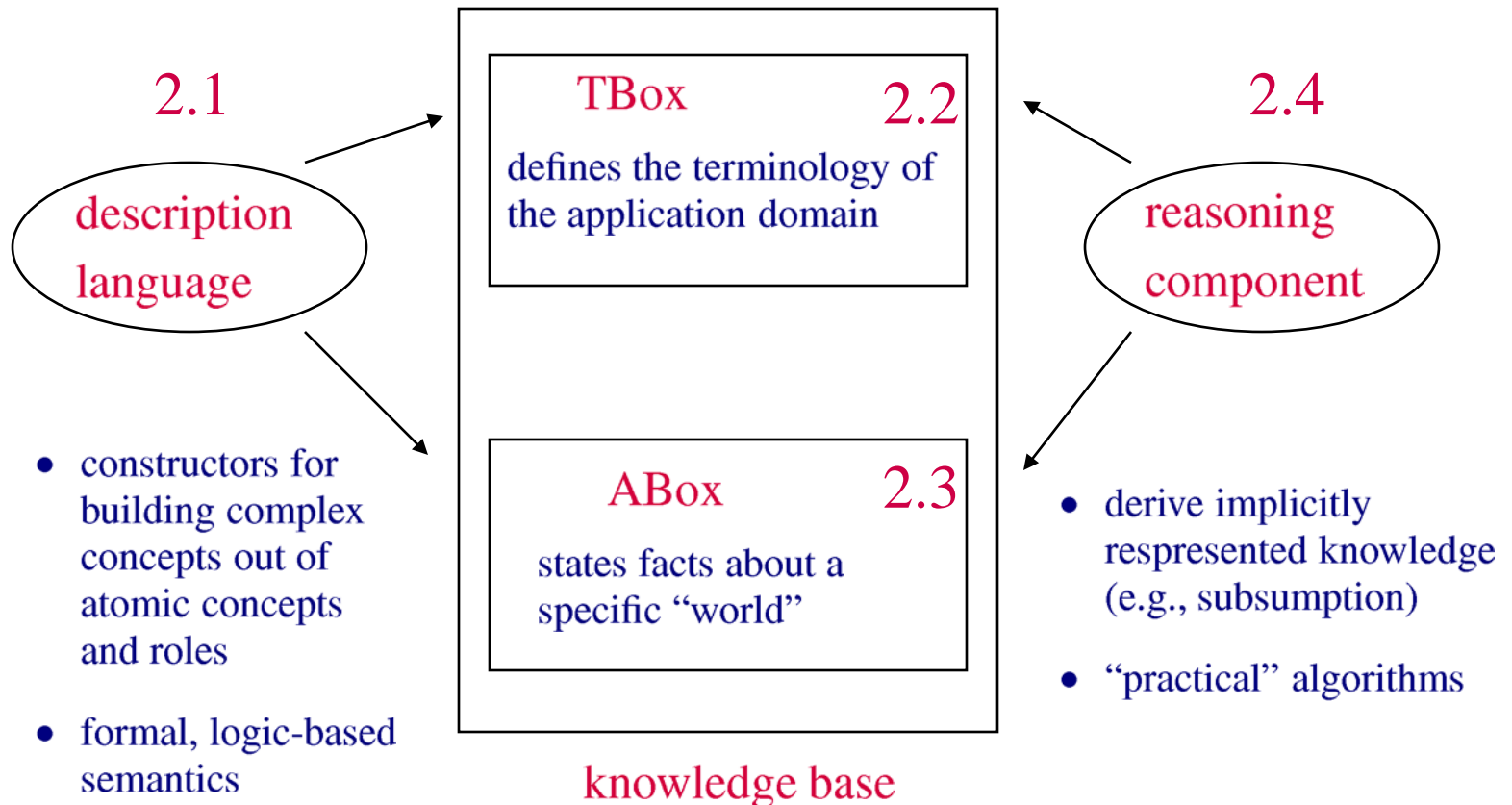
Presenter of a boring talk:

$\text{Speaker} \sqcap \exists \text{gives}. (\text{Talk} \sqcap \forall \text{attends}^{-1}. (\text{Bored} \sqcup \text{Sleeping}))$



Description logic system

structure



2.2. Terminological knowledge

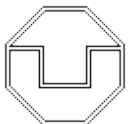
GCI, TBox, and concept definitions

Definition 2.4 (GCI and TBoxes)

- A **general concept inclusion** is of the form $C \sqsubseteq D$ where C, D are concept descriptions.
- A **TBox** is a finite set of GCIs.
- The interpretation \mathcal{I} **satisfies** the GCI $C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$.
- The interpretation \mathcal{I} is a **model** of the TBox \mathcal{T} iff it satisfies all the GCIs in \mathcal{T} .

Note: this definition is not specific for \mathcal{ALC} .

It applies also to other concept description languages.



2.2. Terminological knowledge

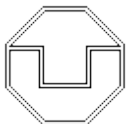
GCI, TBox, and concept definitions

Definition 2.4 (GCI and TBox)

- A **general concept inclusion** is of the form $C \sqsubseteq D$ where C, D are concept descriptions.
- A **TBox** is a finite set of GCIs.
- The interpretation \mathcal{I} **satisfies** the GCI $C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$.
- The interpretation \mathcal{I} is a **model** of the TBox \mathcal{T} iff it satisfies all the GCIs in \mathcal{T} .

$\text{Talk} \sqcap \forall \text{attends}^{-1} . \text{Sleeping} \sqsubseteq \text{Boring}$

$\text{Author} \sqcap \text{PCchair} \sqsubseteq \perp$



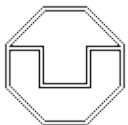
2.2. Terminological knowledge

GCI, TBox, and concept definitions

Definition 2.4 (GCI and TBoxes)

- A **general concept inclusion** is of the form $C \sqsubseteq D$ where C, D are concept descriptions.
- A **TBox** is a finite set of GCIs.
- The interpretation \mathcal{I} **satisfies** the GCI $C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$.
- The interpretation \mathcal{I} is a **model** of the TBox \mathcal{T} iff it satisfies all the GCIs in \mathcal{T} .

Notation: two TBoxes are called **equivalent** if they have the same models



Restricted TBoxes

concept definitions and acyclic TBoxes

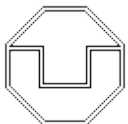
Definition 2.5

A **concept definition** is of the form $A \equiv C$ where

- A is a concept name;
- C is a concept description.

The interpretation \mathcal{I} **satisfies** the concept definition $A \equiv C$ iff $A^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}}$.

↑
abbreviation for the two GCIs
 $A \sqsubseteq C$ and $C \sqsubseteq A$



Restricted TBoxes

concept definitions and acyclic TBoxes

Definition 2.5 (continued)

An **acyclic TBox** is a finite set of concept definitions that

- does **not** contain **multiple definitions**;
- does **not** contain **cyclic definitions**.

multiple definition

$$\begin{array}{l} \cancel{A \equiv C} \\ \cancel{A \equiv D} \end{array} \quad \text{for } C \neq D$$

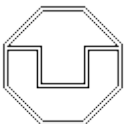
$$\begin{array}{l} \cancel{A \equiv B \sqcap \forall r.P} \\ \cancel{B \equiv P \sqcap \forall r.C} \\ \cancel{C \equiv \exists r.A} \end{array}$$

cyclic definition

No cyclic definitions:

there is no sequence $A_1 \equiv C_1, \dots, A_n \equiv C_n \in \mathcal{T}$ ($n \geq 1$) such that

- A_{i+1} occurs in C_i ($1 \leq i < n$)
- A_1 occurs in C_n



Restricted TBoxes

concept definitions and acyclic TBoxes

Definition 2.5 (continued)

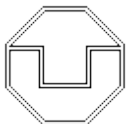
An **acyclic TBox** is a finite set of concept definitions that

- does **not** contain **multiple definitions**;
- does **not** contain **cyclic definitions**.

The interpretation \mathcal{I} is a **model** of the acyclic TBox \mathcal{T} iff it **satisfies all** its **concept definitions**: $A^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all $A \equiv C \in \mathcal{T}$

Given an acyclic TBox, we call a **concept name** A **occurring in** \mathcal{T} a

- **defined concept** iff there is C such that $A \equiv C \in \mathcal{T}$;
- **primitive concept** otherwise.



Example

of an acyclic TBox

Woman \equiv Person \sqcap Female

Man \equiv Person \sqcap \neg Female

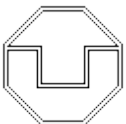
Talk \equiv \exists topic. \top

Speaker \equiv Person \sqcap \exists gives.Talk

Participant \equiv Person \sqcap \exists attends.Talk

BusySpeaker \equiv Speaker \sqcap (≥ 3 gives.Talk)

BadSpeaker \equiv Speaker \sqcap \forall gives. $(\forall$ attends $^{-1}.$ (Bored \sqcup Sleeping))



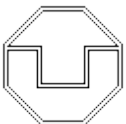
Acyclic TBoxes

an important result

Proposition 2.6

For every acyclic TBox \mathcal{T} we can effectively construct an equivalent acyclic TBox $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ such that the **right-hand sides** of concept definitions in $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ contain **only primitive concepts**.

Proof: blackboard



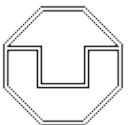
Acyclic TBoxes

an important result

Proposition 2.6

For every acyclic TBox \mathcal{T} we can effectively construct an equivalent acyclic TBox $\hat{\mathcal{T}}$ such that the **right-hand sides** of concept definitions in $\hat{\mathcal{T}}$ contain **only primitive concepts**.

We call $\hat{\mathcal{T}}$ the *expanded version* of \mathcal{T} .



Acyclic TBoxes

an important result

Given an acyclic TBox \mathcal{T} , a **primitive interpretation** \mathcal{J} for \mathcal{T} consists of a nonempty set $\Delta^{\mathcal{J}}$ together with an extension mapping $\cdot^{\mathcal{J}}$, that maps

- **primitive** concepts P to sets $P^{\mathcal{J}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{J}}$
- role names r to binary relations $r^{\mathcal{J}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{J}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{J}}$

The interpretation \mathcal{I} is an **extension** of the primitive interpretation \mathcal{J} iff $\Delta^{\mathcal{J}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ and

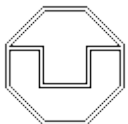
- $P^{\mathcal{J}} = P^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all primitive concepts P
- $r^{\mathcal{J}} = r^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all role names r

Corollary 2.7

Let \mathcal{T} be an acyclic TBox.

Any **primitive interpretation** \mathcal{J} has a **unique extension** to a model of \mathcal{T} .

Proof: blackboard



Relationship with First-Order Logic

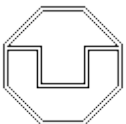
\mathcal{ALC} -TBoxes can be translated into first-order logic:

$$\tau(\mathcal{T}) := \bigwedge_{C \sqsubseteq D \in \mathcal{T}} \forall x. (\tau_x(C) \rightarrow \tau_x(D))$$

Lemma 2.8

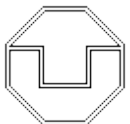
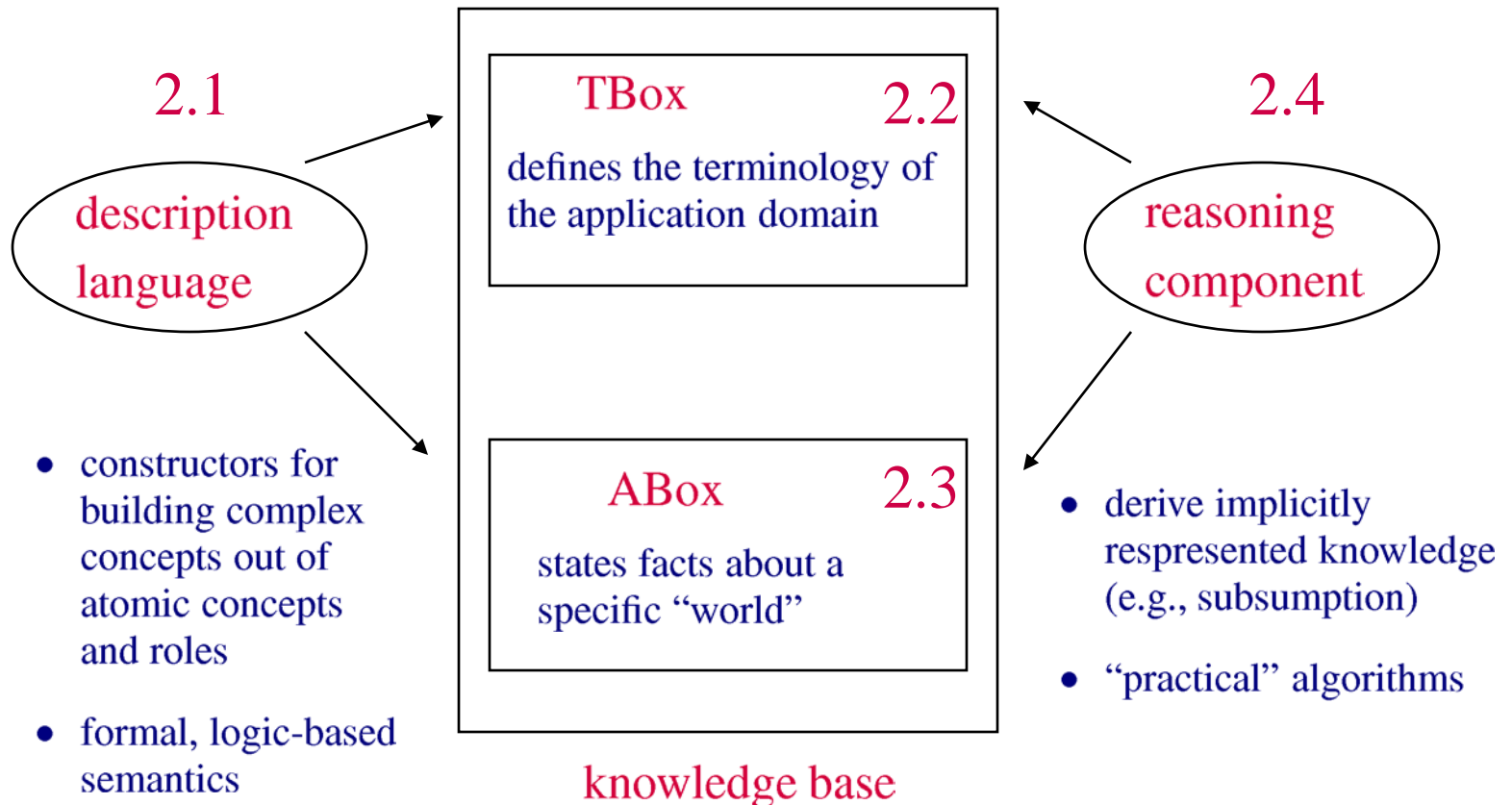
Let \mathcal{T} be a TBox and $\tau(\mathcal{T})$ its translation into first-order logic.
Then \mathcal{T} and $\tau(\mathcal{T})$ have the same models.

Proof: blackboard



Description logic system

structure



2.3. Assertional knowledge

Definition 2.9 (Assertions and ABoxes)

An **assertion** is of the form

$C(a)$ (concept assertion) or $r(a, b)$ (role assertion)

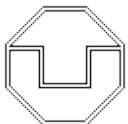
where C is a concept description, r is a role, and a, b are **individual names** from a **set** N_I of such names (disjoint with N_C and N_R).

An **ABox** is a finite set of assertions.

An interpretation \mathcal{I} is a **model** of an ABox \mathcal{A} if it **satisfies all** its **assertions**:

$a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all $C(a) \in \mathcal{A}$
 $(a^{\mathcal{I}}, b^{\mathcal{I}}) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all $r(a, b) \in \mathcal{A}$

\mathcal{I} assigns elements $a^{\mathcal{I}}$
of $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ to individual names
 $a \in N_I$



2.3. Assertional knowledge

Definition 2.9 (Assertions and ABoxes)

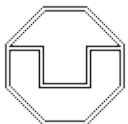
An **assertion** is of the form

$C(a)$ (concept assertion) or $r(a, b)$ (role assertion)

where C is a concept description, r is a role, and a, b are **individual names** from a **set** N_I of such names (disjoint with N_C and N_R).

An **ABox** is a finite set of assertions.

Lecturer(FRANZ), teaches(FRANZ, TU03),
Tutorial(TU03), topic(TU03, RinDL),
DL(RinDL)



Relationship with First-Order Logic

\mathcal{ALC} -ABoxes can be translated into first-order logic:

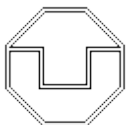
$$\tau(\mathcal{A}) := \bigwedge_{C(a) \in \mathcal{T}} \tau_x(C)(a) \wedge \bigwedge_{r(a,b) \in \mathcal{T}} r(a,b)$$

individual names are
viewed as constants

Lemma 2.10

Let \mathcal{A} be an ABox and $\tau(\mathcal{A})$ its translation into first-order logic.
Then \mathcal{A} and $\tau(\mathcal{A})$ have the **same models**.

Proof: easy



Knowledge Bases

Definition 2.11

A **knowledge base** $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ consists of a TBox \mathcal{T} and an ABox \mathcal{A} .

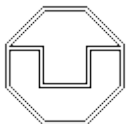
The interpretation \mathcal{I} is a **model** of the knowledge base $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ iff it is a model of \mathcal{T} and a model of \mathcal{A} .

First-order translation: $\tau(\mathcal{K}) := \tau(\mathcal{T}) \wedge \tau(\mathcal{A})$

Lemma 2.12

Let \mathcal{K} be a knowledge base and $\tau(\mathcal{K})$ its translation into first-order logic. Then \mathcal{K} and $\tau(\mathcal{K})$ have the **same models**.

Proof: immediate consequence of Lemma 2.8 and Lemma 2.10



Additional constructors

Individual names can also be used as **concept constructors** to increase the expressive power of the concept description language.

They yield a **singleton set** consisting of the extension of the individual name.

Nominals

letter \mathcal{O} in the naming scheme

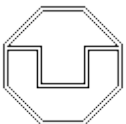
Nominals: $\{a\}$ for $a \in N_I$ with semantics

$$\{a\}^{\mathcal{I}} := \{a^{\mathcal{I}}\}$$

Nominals can be used to express ABox assertions using GCIs:

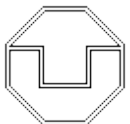
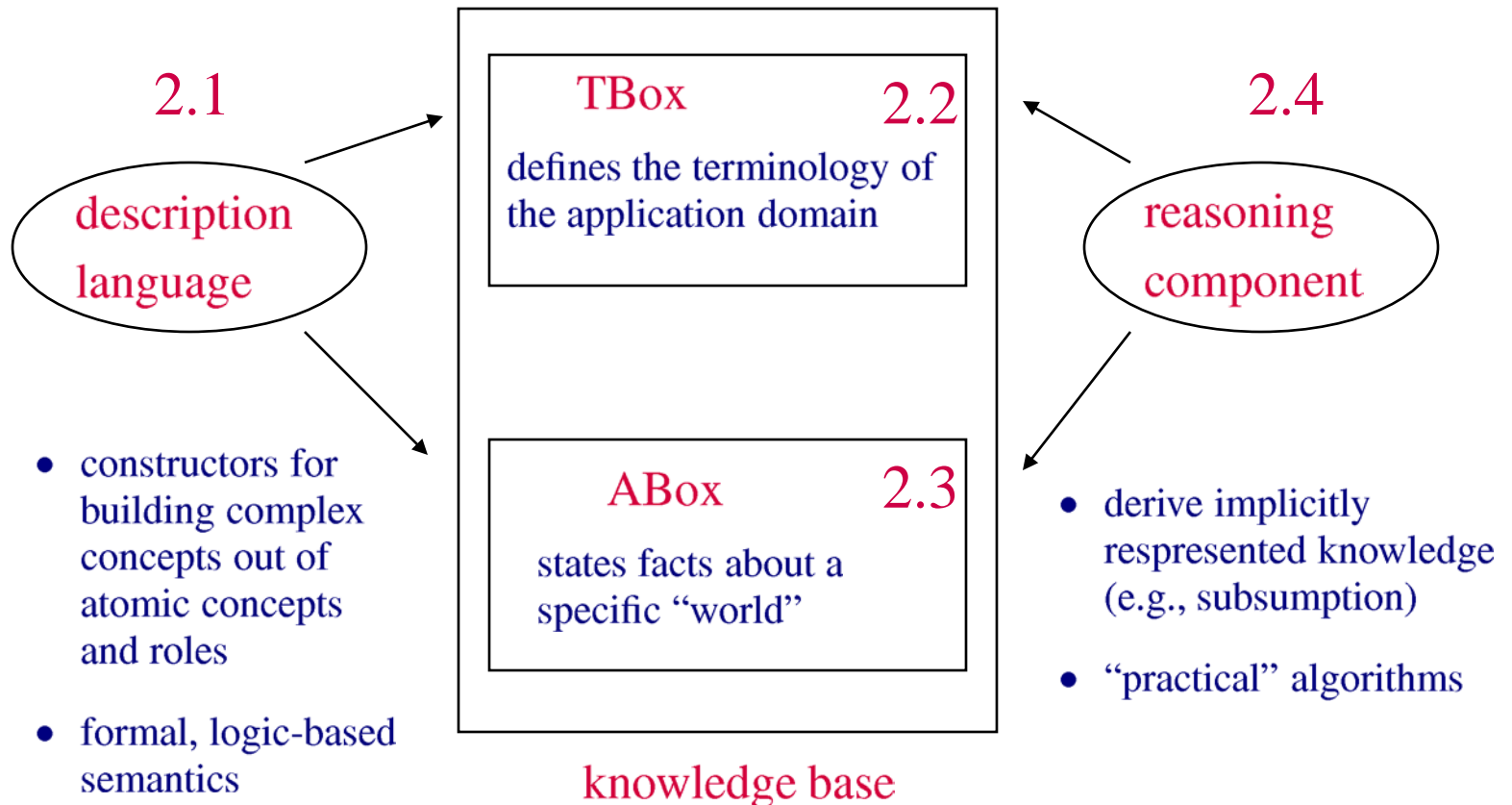
$C(a)$ is expressed by $\{a\} \sqsubseteq C$

$r(a, b)$ is expressed by $\{a\} \sqsubseteq \exists r. \{b\}$



Description logic system

structure



2.4. Reasoning Problems and Services

make implicitly
represented
knowledge explicit

Definition 2.13 (terminological reasoning)

Let \mathcal{T} be a TBox.

Satisfiability:

C is **satisfiable** w.r.t. \mathcal{T} iff $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$ for some model \mathcal{I} of \mathcal{T} .

Subsumption:

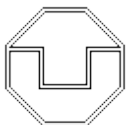
C is **subsumed** by D w.r.t. \mathcal{T} ($C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$) iff

$C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all models \mathcal{I} of the TBox \mathcal{T} .

Equivalence:

C is **equivalent** to D w.r.t. \mathcal{T} ($C \equiv_{\mathcal{T}} D$) iff

$C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all models \mathcal{I} of the TBox \mathcal{T} .



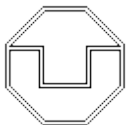
Terminological Reasoning

Note:

If $\mathcal{T} = \emptyset$, then satisfiability/subsumption/equivalence w.r.t. \mathcal{T} is simply called satisfiability/subsumption/equivalence and we write \sqsubseteq and \equiv .

Examples:

- $A \sqcap \neg A$ and $\forall r.A \sqcap \exists r.\neg A$ are not satisfiable (unsatisfiable)
- $A \sqcap \neg A$ and $\forall r.A \sqcap \exists r.\neg A$ are equivalent
- $A \sqcap B$ is subsumed by A and by B .
- $\exists r.(A \sqcap B)$ is subsumed by $\exists r.A$ and by $\exists r.B$
- $\forall r.(A \sqcap B)$ is equivalent to $\forall r.A \sqcap \forall r.B$
- $\exists r.A \sqcap \forall r.B$ is subsumed by $\exists r.(A \sqcap B)$



Properties of Subsumption

Lemma 2.14

- The subsumption relation $\sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}}$ is a **pre-order** on concept descriptions, i.e.,

- $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} C$ (reflexive)

- $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D \wedge D \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} E \rightarrow C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} E$ (transitive)

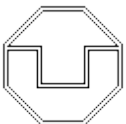
It is **not a partial order** since it is not antisymmetric:

- $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D \wedge D \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} C \not\rightarrow C = D$

- The constructors **existential restriction** and **value restriction** are **monotonic** w.r.t. subsumption, i.e.,

- $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D \rightarrow \exists r.C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} \exists r.D \wedge \forall r.C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} \forall r.D$

Proof: blackboard



Assertional Reasoning

Definition 2.15 (assertional reasoning)

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base.

Consistency:

\mathcal{K} is **consistent** iff there exists a model of \mathcal{K} .

Instance:

a is an **instance** of C w.r.t. \mathcal{K} iff $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$ for all models \mathcal{I} of \mathcal{K} .

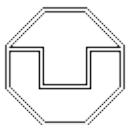
Lemma 2.16

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base.

If a is an instance of C w.r.t. \mathcal{K} and $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$,

then a is an instance of D w.r.t. \mathcal{K} .

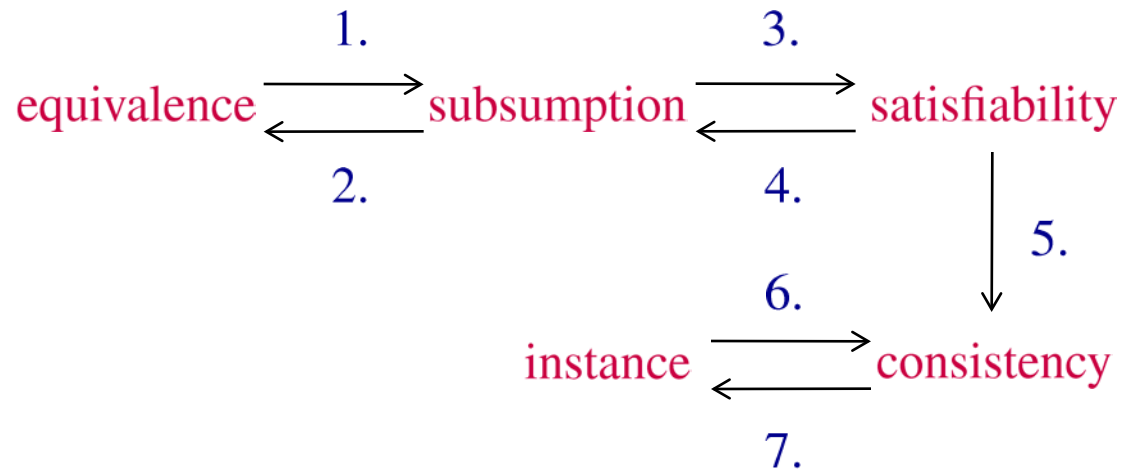
Proof: exercise



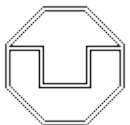
Reductions

between reasoning problems

There are the following **polynomial time** reductions between the introduced reasoning problems:



This holds not only for \mathcal{ALC} , but for all DLs that have the constructors **conjunction** and **negation**.

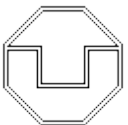


Theorem 2.17

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base, C, D concept descriptions, and $a \in N_I$.

1. $C \equiv_{\mathcal{T}} D$ iff $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$ and $D \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} C$
2. $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$ iff $C \equiv_{\mathcal{T}} C \sqcap D$
3. $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$ iff $C \sqcap \neg D$ is unsatisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{T}
4. C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{T} iff $C \not\sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} \perp$
5. C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{T} iff $(\mathcal{T}, \{C(a)\})$ is consistent
6. a is an instance of C w.r.t. \mathcal{K} iff $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A} \cup \{\neg C(a)\})$ is inconsistent
7. \mathcal{K} is consistent iff a is not an instance of \perp w.r.t. \mathcal{K}

Proof: blackboard



Reduction

getting rid of acyclic TBoxes

Expansion of concepts and ABoxes:

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base, where \mathcal{T} is acyclic,
and C a concept description.

The expanded versions \hat{C} and $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$ of C and \mathcal{A} w.r.t. \mathcal{T} are obtained as follows:

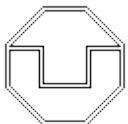
- replace all defined concepts occurring in C and \mathcal{A} by their definitions in the expanded version $\hat{\mathcal{T}}$ of \mathcal{T} .

\mathcal{T}

Woman	\equiv	Person \sqcap Female
Talk	\equiv	\exists topic. \top
Speaker	\equiv	Person \sqcap \exists gives.Talk

$C = \text{Woman} \sqcap \text{Speaker}$ expands to

$\hat{C} = \text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female} \sqcap \text{Person} \sqcap \exists \text{gives.}(\exists \text{topic.} \top)$



Reduction

getting rid of acyclic TBoxes

Expansion of concepts and ABoxes:

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base, where \mathcal{T} is acyclic, and C a concept description.

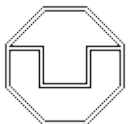
The expanded versions \hat{C} and $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$ of C and \mathcal{A} w.r.t. \mathcal{T} are obtained as follows:

- replace all defined concepts occurring in C and \mathcal{A} by their definitions in the expanded version $\hat{\mathcal{T}}$ of \mathcal{T} .

Proposition 2.18

1. C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{T} iff \hat{C} is satisfiable
2. $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ is consistent iff $(\emptyset, \hat{\mathcal{A}})$ is consistent

Proof: blackboard



Reduction

getting rid of acyclic TBoxes

Expansion of concepts and ABoxes:

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base, where \mathcal{T} is acyclic,
and C a concept description.

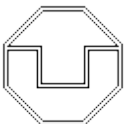
The expanded versions \hat{C} and $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$ of C and \mathcal{A} w.r.t. \mathcal{T} are obtained as follows:

- replace all defined concepts occurring in C and \mathcal{A} by their definitions in the expanded version $\hat{\mathcal{T}}$ of \mathcal{T} .

Proposition 2.18

1. C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{T} iff \hat{C} is satisfiable
2. $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ is consistent iff $(\emptyset, \hat{\mathcal{A}})$ is consistent

Similar reductions exist for the other reasoning problems.



Reduction

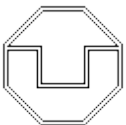
getting rid of the TBox

This reduction is in general **not polynomial**,
since the expanded versions may be **exponential** in the size of \mathcal{T} .

$$\begin{aligned} A_0 &\equiv \forall r.A_1 \sqcap \forall s.A_1 \\ A_1 &\equiv \forall r.A_2 \sqcap \forall s.A_2 \\ &\vdots \\ A_{n-1} &\equiv \forall r.A_n \sqcap \forall s.A_n \end{aligned}$$

The size of \mathcal{T} is linear in n ,
but the expansion version \hat{A}_0 of A_0 contains A_n 2^n times.

Proof: induction on n



Relationship with First-Order Logic

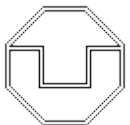
Reasoning in \mathcal{ALC} can be translated into reasoning in first-order logic:

Lemma 2.19

Let $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$ be a knowledge base, C, D be \mathcal{ALC} -concept descriptions, and a an individual name.

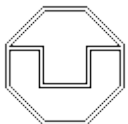
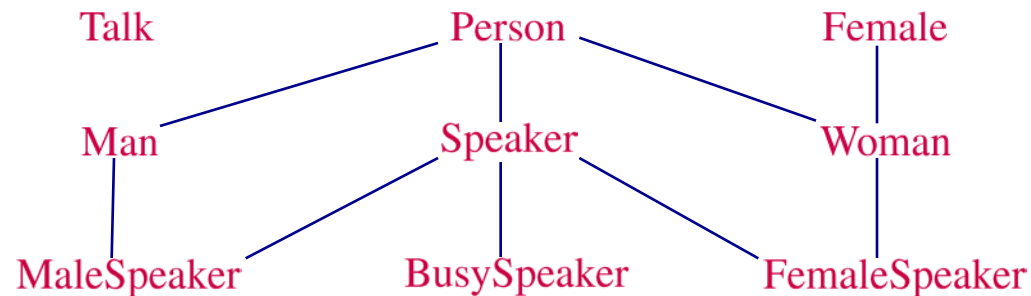
1. $C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$ iff $\tau(\mathcal{T}) \models \forall x. (\tau_x(C)(x) \rightarrow \tau_x(D)(x))$
2. \mathcal{K} is consistent iff $\tau(\mathcal{K})$ is consistent
3. a is an instance of C w.r.t. \mathcal{K} iff $\tau(\mathcal{K}) \models \tau_x(C)(a)$

Proof: blackboard



Classification

Computing the subsumption hierarchy of all concept names occurring in the TBox.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Man} &\equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \neg\text{Female} \\ \text{Woman} &\equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female} \\ \text{MaleSpeaker} &\equiv \text{Man} \sqcap \exists\text{gives.Talk} \\ \text{FemaleSpeaker} &\equiv \text{Woman} \sqcap \exists\text{gives.Talk} \\ \text{Speaker} &\equiv \text{FemaleSpeaker} \sqcup \text{MaleSpeaker} \\ \text{BusySpeaker} &\equiv \text{Speaker} \sqcap (\geq 3 \text{ gives.Talks})\end{aligned}$$


Realization

Computing the most specific concept names in the TBox to which an ABox individual belongs.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Man} &\equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \neg\text{Female} \\ \text{Woman} &\equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \text{Female} \\ \text{MaleSpeaker} &\equiv \text{Man} \sqcap \exists\text{gives.Talk} \\ \text{FemaleSpeaker} &\equiv \text{Woman} \sqcap \exists\text{gives.Talk} \\ \text{Speaker} &\equiv \text{FemaleSpeaker} \sqcup \text{MaleSpeaker} \\ \text{BusySpeaker} &\equiv \text{Speaker} \sqcap (\geq 3 \text{ gives.Talks})\end{aligned}$$
$$\text{Man}(\text{FRANZ}), \text{ gives}(\text{FRANZ}, \text{T1}), \\ \text{Talk}(\text{T1})$$

FRANZ is an instance of Man, Speaker, MaleSpeaker.
most specific

