

# Non-classical logics

## Lecture 17: Description Logics

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# Until now

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## Modal logic

### Syntax

### Semantics

Kripke models

global and local entailment; deduction theorem

### Correspondence theory

### First-order definability

### Theorem proving in modal logics

### Decidability

## Today

## Description logics

# Description Logics

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subfield of Knowledge Representation which is a subfield of AI.

- **Description**— comes from **concept description** (formal expression which determines a set of individuals with common properties)
- **Logics** – comes from the fact that the semantics of concept description can be defined using **logic** (a fragment of first-order logic)

# Why description logics?

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## Examples of concepts

teaching assistant, undergraduate, professor

## Examples of properties

Every teaching assistant is either not an undergraduated or a professor.

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## Formal description in first-order logic

Unary predicates: Teaching-Assistant, Undergrad, Professor

$\forall x \text{ Teaching-Assistant}(x) \rightarrow \neg \text{Undergrad}(x) \vee \text{Professor}(x)$

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## Examples of properties

Every teaching assistant is either not an undergraduated or a professor.

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## More concise description

Concept names: Teaching-Assistant, Undergrad, Professor

Teaching-Assistant  $\sqsubseteq$   $\neg$ Undergrad  $\sqcup$  Professor

# Why description logics?

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If predicate logic is directly used without some kind of restriction, then

- the structure of the knowledge/information is lost;
- the expressive power is too high for having good computational properties and efficient procedures.

# Example

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Teaching-Assistant  $\sqsubseteq$   $\neg$ Undergrad  $\sqcup$  Professor

$\forall x$  Teaching-Assistant( $x$ )  $\rightarrow$   $\neg$ Undergrad( $x$ )  $\vee$  Professor( $x$ )

A necessary condition in order to be a teaching assistant is to be either not undergraduated or a professor.



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A necessary condition in order to be a teaching assistant is to be either not undergraduated or a professor.

When the left-hand side is an atomic concept, the “ $\sqsubseteq$ ” symbol introduces a *primitive definition* – giving only necessary conditions.

Teaching-Assistant  $\doteq$   $\neg$ Undergrad  $\sqcup$  Professor

$\forall x$  Teaching-Assistant( $x$ )  $\leftrightarrow$   $\neg$ Undergrad( $x$ )  $\vee$  Professor( $x$ )

The “ $\doteq$ ” symbol introduces a real definition – with necessary and sufficient conditions. In general, we can have complex concept expressions at the left-hand side as well.

# The description logic ALC: Syntax

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- Concepts:**
- primitive concepts  $N_C$
  - complex concepts (built using constructors  $\neg, \sqcap, \sqcup, \exists R, \forall R, \top, \perp$ )
- Roles:**  $N_R$

# The description logic ALC: Syntax

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- Concepts:**
- primitive concepts  $N_C$
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**Roles:**  $N_R$

**Concepts:**

$C ::=$

- $\top$
- $\perp$
- $A$  primitive concept
- $C_1 \sqcap C_2$
- $C_1 \sqcup C_2$
- $\neg C$
- $\forall R.C$
- $\exists R.C$

# The description logic ALC: Semantics

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**Interpretations:**  $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$

- $C \in N_C \mapsto C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $R \in N_R \mapsto R^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$

We can also interpret “individuals” (as elements of  $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ ).

# The description logic ALC

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Syntax	Semantics	Name
$A$	$A^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$	primitive concept
$R$	$R^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$	primitive role
$\top$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$	top
$\perp$	$\emptyset$	bottom
$\neg C$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$	complement
$C \sqcap D$	$C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}}$	conjunction
$C \sqcup D$	$C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}}$	disjunction
$\forall R.C$	$\{x \mid \forall y \ R^{\mathcal{I}}(x, y) \rightarrow y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$	universal quantification (universal role restriction)
$\exists R.C$	$\{x \mid \exists y \ R^{\mathcal{I}}(x, y) \wedge y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$	existential quantification (existential role restriction)

# The description logic ALC: Semantics

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- **Conjunction** is interpreted as *intersection* of sets of individuals.
- **Disjunction** is interpreted as *union* of sets of individuals.
- **Negation** is interpreted as *complement* of sets of individuals.

For every interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$ :

- $(\neg(C \sqcap D))^{\mathcal{I}} = (\neg C \sqcup \neg D)^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg(C \sqcup D))^{\mathcal{I}} = (\neg C \sqcap \neg D)^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg(\forall R.C))^{\mathcal{I}} = (\exists R.\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg(\exists R.C))^{\mathcal{I}} = (\forall R.\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}}$

# Knowledge Bases

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- **Terminological Axioms (TBox):**  $C \sqsubseteq D$  ,  $C \doteq D$ 
  - $\text{Student} \doteq \text{Person} \sqcap \exists \text{NAME.String} \sqcap$   
 $\exists \text{ADDRESS.String} \sqcap$   
 $\exists \text{ENROLLED.Course}$
  - $\text{Student} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{ENROLLED.Course}$
  - $\exists \text{TEACHES.Course} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Undergrad} \sqcup \text{Professor}$
- **Membership statements (ABox):**  $C(a)$ ,  $R(a, b)$ 
  - $\text{Student}(\text{john})$
  - $\text{ENROLLED}(\text{john}, \text{cs415})$
  - $(\text{Student} \sqcup \text{Professor})(\text{paul})$

# Semantics

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We consider the *descriptive semantics*, based on classical logics.

- An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  *satisfies* the statement  $C \sqsubseteq D$  if  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  *satisfies* the statement  $C \doteq D$  if  $C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$ .

An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a *model* for a TBox  $\mathcal{T}$  if  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies all the statements in  $\mathcal{T}$ .



# ABox

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A set  $\mathcal{A}$  of assertions (membership or relationship statements) is called an *ABox*.

If  $\mathcal{I} = (D^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot_{\mathcal{I}})$  is an interpretation,

- $C(a)$  is satisfied by  $\mathcal{I}$  if  $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$ .
- $R(a, b)$  is satisfied by  $\mathcal{I}$  if  $(a^{\mathcal{I}}, b^{\mathcal{I}}) \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$ .

An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is said to be a *model* of the *ABox*  $\mathcal{A}$  if every assertion of  $\mathcal{A}$  is satisfied by  $\mathcal{I}$ .

The *ABox*  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be *satisfiable* if it admits a model.

# Semantics

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An interpretation  $\mathcal{I} = (D^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot_{\mathcal{I}})$  is said to be a *model* of a knowledge base  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$  if every axiom of the knowledge base is satisfied by  $\mathcal{I}$ .

A knowledge base  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$  is said to be *satisfiable* if it admits a model.

# Logical Implication

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$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models \varphi$  if every model of  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$  is a model of  $\varphi$

## Example 1:

- TBox:  $\mathcal{T}$ 
  - $\text{Student} \doteq \text{Person} \sqcap \exists \text{NAME.String} \sqcap$   
 $\exists \text{ADDRESS.String} \sqcap$   
 $\exists \text{ENROLLED.Course}$
  - $\text{Student} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{ENROLLED.Course}$
  - $\exists \text{TEACHES.Course} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Undergrad} \sqcup \text{Professor}$
- ABox:  $\mathcal{A} = \emptyset$

$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \stackrel{?}{\models} \text{Student} \sqsubseteq \text{Person}$

# Logical Implication

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$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models \varphi$  if every model of  $\Sigma$  is a model of  $\varphi$

## Example 2:

TBox:  $\mathcal{T}$

$\exists \text{TEACHES.Course} \sqsubseteq \neg \text{Undergrad} \sqcup \text{Professor}$

ABox:  $\mathcal{A}$

$\text{TEACHES}(\text{john}, \text{cs415}), \text{Course}(\text{cs415}),$   
 $\text{Undergrad}(\text{john})$

$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models \text{Professor}(\text{john})$

# Logical Implication

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TBox:  $\mathcal{T}$

$\exists \text{TEACHES.Course} \sqsubseteq$   
 $\neg \text{Undergrad} \sqcap \text{Professor}$

ABox:  $\mathcal{A}$

$\text{TEACHES}(\text{john}, \text{cs415}), \text{Course}(\text{cs415}),$   
 $\text{Undergrad}(\text{john})$

$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \stackrel{?}{\models} \text{Professor}(\text{john})$

$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \stackrel{?}{\models} \neg \text{Professor}(\text{john})$

# Reasoning Problems

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- **Concept Satisfiability**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \not\models C \equiv \perp \quad \text{Student} \sqcap \neg \text{Person}$$

the problem of checking whether  $C$  is satisfiable w.r.t.  $\Sigma$ , i.e. whether there exists a model  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\Sigma$  such that  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$

- **Subsumption**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models C \sqsubseteq D \quad \text{Student} \sqsubseteq \text{Person}$$

the problem of checking whether  $C$  is subsumed by  $D$  w.r.t.  $\Sigma$ , i.e. whether  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$  in every model  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$

- **Satisfiability**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \not\models \text{false} \quad \text{Student} \doteq \neg \text{Person}$$

the problem of checking whether  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$  is satisfiable, i.e. whether it has a model

- **Instance Checking**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models C(a) \quad \text{Professor}(\text{john})$$

the problem of checking whether the assertion  $C(a)$  is satisfied in every model of  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A})$

# Reduction to concept satisfiability

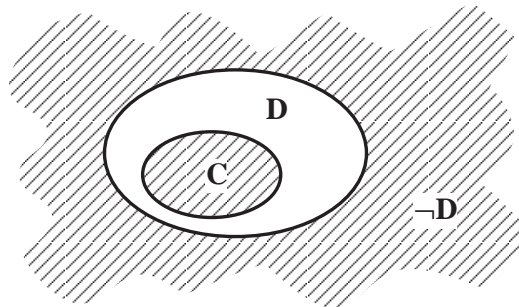
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- **Concept Satisfiability**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \not\models C \equiv \perp \quad \leftrightarrow$$
$$\mathcal{T} \cup \mathcal{A} \cup \{C(x)\} \text{ has a model}$$

- **Subsumption**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models C \sqsubseteq D \quad \leftrightarrow$$
$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models C \sqcap \neg D \equiv \perp \quad \leftrightarrow$$
$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \cup \{(C \sqcap \neg D)(x)\} \text{ has no models}$$



- **Instance Checking**

$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \models C(a) \quad \leftrightarrow$$
$$(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}) \cup \{\neg C(a)\} \text{ has no models}$$

# Other reasoning problems

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## Classification

- Given a concept  $C$  and a TBox  $T$ , for all concepts  $D$  of  $T$  determine whether  $D$  subsumes  $C$ , or  $D$  is subsumed by  $C$ .
- Intuitively, this amounts to finding the “right place” for  $C$  in the taxonomy implicitly present in  $T$ .
- *Classification* is the task of inserting new concepts in a taxonomy. It is *sorting* in partial orders.



# Goal

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- Prove decidability of description logic
- Give efficient decision procedures

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- Give efficient decision procedures

*ALC*: Express it as a multi-modal logic

# *ALC* as a multi-modal logic

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We translate every concept  $C$  of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  into a formula  $F_C$  in a many-modal logic which contains modal operators

$$\Box_R, \Diamond_R \quad \text{for every role } R$$

# *ALC* as a multi-modal logic

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We translate every concept  $C$  of *ALC* into a formula in a many-modal logic which contains modal operators

$$\Box_R, \Diamond_R \quad \text{for every role } R$$

In the translation we replace every primitive concept symbol with a propositional variable.

$$C \quad \mapsto \quad F_C := C \quad \text{if } C \text{ is a primitive concept}$$

# *ALC* as a multi-modal logic

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We translate every concept  $C$  of *ALC* into a formula in a many-modal logic which contains modal operators

$$\Box_R, \Diamond_R \quad \text{for every role } R$$

In the translation we replace every primitive concept symbol with a propositional variable.

$C$	$\mapsto$	$F_C := C$	if $C$ is a primitive concept
$C_1 \sqcap C_2$	$\mapsto$	$F_{C_1 \sqcap C_2} := F_{C_1} \wedge F_{C_2}$	
$C_1 \sqcup C_2$	$\mapsto$	$F_{C_1 \sqcup C_2} := F_{C_1} \vee F_{C_2}$	
$\neg C$	$\mapsto$	$F_{\neg C} := \neg F_C$	
$\forall R.C$	$\mapsto$	$F_{\forall R.C} := \Box_R F_C$	
$\exists R.C$	$\mapsto$	$F_{\exists R.C} := \Diamond_R F_C$	

# $\mathcal{ALC}$ as a multi-modal logic

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An interpretation  $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$  where

$$C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$R^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$$

clearly corresponds to a (multi-modal) Kripke structure

$\mathcal{K} = (S, \{\rho_R\}_{R \in N_R}, I)$  where

- $S = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $\rho_R = R^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $I : \Pi \times S \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  (where  $\Pi = N_C$ ) is defined by:  
 $I(C, x) = 1$  iff  $x \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$

# $\mathcal{ALC}$ as a multi-modal logic

**Lemma.** For every  $\mathcal{ALC}$  concept  $C$  and every interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  we have:

$$C^{\mathcal{I}} = \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (\mathcal{K}, d) \models F_C\}.$$

**Proof:** Structural induction

If  $C \in N_C$  the result follows from the way the valuation of  $\mathcal{K}$  is defined.

For the induction step we here only consider the case  $C = \forall R.C_1$

Induction hypothesis (IH): property holds for  $C_1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (\mathcal{K}, d) \models F_C\} &= \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (\mathcal{K}, d) \models F_{\forall R.C_1}\} &&= \\ \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid (\mathcal{K}, d) \models \Box_R F_{C_1}\} &&&\stackrel{IH}{=} \\ \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{for all } e \text{ with } R(d, e) \text{ we have } (\mathcal{K}, e) \models F_{C_1}\} &&&= \\ \{d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \text{for all } e \text{ with } R(d, e) \text{ we have } e \in C_1^{\mathcal{I}}\} &&&= (\forall R.C_1)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \end{aligned}$$

# *ALC* as a multi-modal logic

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**Lemma** There exists an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  and a  $d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$  such that  $d \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$  iff  $F_C$  is satisfiable in the multi-modal logic.

**Proof** Immediate consequence of the previous lemma.