# **Using ABoxes to store Data**

### **ABoxes (Assertion Boxes)**

## **Knowledge Base (KB)**

**TBox** (terminological box, schema)

 $\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{Man} \equiv \mathsf{Human} \sqcap \mathsf{Male} \\ \mathsf{HappyFather} \equiv \mathsf{Man} \sqcap \exists \mathsf{hasChild} \end{array}$ 

•••

**ABox** (assertion box, data)

john: Man (john, mary): hasChild

...

# Inference System

Interface

### **Assertion Box (ABox)**

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a description logic. A  $\mathcal{L}$ -ABox is a finite set  $\mathcal{A}$  of assertions of the form

$$C(a), \quad r(a,b),$$

where C is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -concept, r a role name, and a, b are individual names.

• r(a,b) says that (a,b) is an instance of r.

ABoxes generalize database instances in which only ground sentences

$$7$$
 $7$  $3$  $4$  $A(a)$ ,  $r(a,b)$ 

with A a concept name and r a role name are allowed. We sometimes call ABoxes that are database instances simple ABoxes.

### **Semantics for ABoxes (Open World Assumption)**

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an ABox. By  $\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{A})$  we denote the set of individual names in  $\mathcal{A}$ . An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of  $\mathcal{A}$ , in symbols  $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$ , if

- $\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ ;
- If  $C(a) \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $a \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$ ;
- If  $r(a,b) \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $(a,b) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}$ .

The set of models of  $\mathcal{A}$  is denoted by  $Mod(\mathcal{A})$ .

Let  $F(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$  be an FOPL query. Then  $(a_1,\ldots,a_n)$  in  $\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{A})$  is a **certain** answer to  $F(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , in symbols

$$\mathcal{A} \models F(a_1,\ldots,a_n),$$

if  $\mathcal{I} \models F(a_1,\ldots,a_n)$  for all  $\mathcal{I} \in \mathsf{Mod}(\mathcal{A})$ . If  $f \mid A \mid f \cap A$  is  $f \mid A \mid f \cap A$  in  $f \mid A \mid A \mid A$  in  $f \mid$ 

The set of certain answers to  $F(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$  in  ${\mathcal A}$  is

$$\mathsf{certanswer}(F(x_1,\ldots,x_n),\mathcal{A}) = \{(a_1,\ldots,a_n) \mid \mathcal{A} \models F(a_1,\ldots,a_n)\}$$

### **FOPL Query Answering (Open World Semantics)**

- ullet 'Yes' is the certain answer to a Boolean query F if  $\mathcal{I} \models F$  for all  $\mathcal{I} \in \mathsf{Mod}(\mathcal{A})$ .
- ullet 'No' is the certain answer to a Boolean query F if  $\mathcal{I} \not\models F$  for all  $\mathcal{I} \in \mathsf{Mod}(\mathcal{A})$
- If neither 'Yes' nor 'No' is a certain answer, then we say that the certain answer is 'Don't know'.

### What is the answer to this query?

### Consider the ABox A:

- 1. friend(john, susan)
- 2. friend(john, andrea)
- 3. loves(susan, andrea)
- 4. loves(andrea, bill)
- 5. Female(susan)
- 6. ¬Female(bill)

Does John have a female friend who is in love with a not female person?

The corresponding Boolean FOPL query is

 $F = \exists x. (\mathsf{friend}(\mathsf{john}, x) \land \mathsf{Female}(x) \land \exists y. (\mathsf{loves}(x, y) \land \neg \mathsf{Female}(y)))$ 

or, in description logic notation:

∃friend.(Female □ ∃loves.¬Female)(john)

### **Answers: Example**

Let

$$A = \{ Male(harry), hasChild(peter, harry) \}$$

The answer to the query "Are all children of Peter male?", in symbols

$$F = \forall x. (\mathsf{hasChild}(\mathsf{peter}, x) \to \mathsf{Male}(x)),$$

given by A is "don't know".

In order to prevent this, we could add

- \(\forall \) hasChild.Male(peter)
- or  $(\leq 1 \text{ hasChild .T})(\text{peter})$

to the ABox  $\mathcal{A}$ .

### **3-Colorability**

A graph G is a pair (W, E) consisting of a set W and a symmetric relation E on W.

G is 3-colorable if there exist subsets blue, red, and green of W such that

- the sets blue, green, and red are mutually disjoint;
- blue  $\cup$  red  $\cup$  green = W;
- if  $(a,b) \in E$ , then a and b do not have the same color.

3-colorability of graphs is an NP-complete problem.

### 3-Colorability as a Query Answering Problem

Assume G=(W,E) is given. Construct the ABox  $\mathcal A$  by taking a role name r and concept names Blue, Green, and Red and setting

- $r(a,b) \in \mathcal{A}$  for all  $a,b \in W$  with  $(a,b) \in E$ .
- Blue  $\sqcup$  Green  $\sqcup$  Red $(a) \in \mathcal{A}$  for all  $a \in W$ .
- (Blue  $\rightarrow \forall r.(\mathsf{Red} \sqcup \mathsf{Green}))(a) \in \mathcal{A}$ , for all  $a \in W$ ;
- $(\mathsf{Red} \to \forall r.(\mathsf{Blue} \sqcup \mathsf{Green}))(a) \in \mathcal{A}$ , for all  $a \in W$ ;
- (Green  $\rightarrow \forall r. (\mathsf{Red} \sqcup \mathsf{Blue}))(a) \in \mathcal{A}$ , for all  $a \in W$ .

Define query F by setting

$$F = \exists x ((\mathsf{Blue}(x) \land \mathsf{Red}(x)) \lor (\mathsf{Blue}(x) \land \mathsf{Green}(x)) \lor (\mathsf{Red}(x) \land \mathsf{Green}(x))$$

Then G is not 3-colorable if, and only if, the certain answer to F in  $\mathcal A$  is 'Yes'.

Thus, query answering is coNP-hard (the complement of NP) in data complexity!

### Using the $\mathcal{ALC}$ Tableau to Answer Queries

Consider an  $\mathcal{ALC}$  ABox  $\mathcal{A}$  and a query of the form C(x), where C is an  $\mathcal{ALC}$  concept. Assume  $a \in Ind(\mathcal{A})$  is given. We want to know whether

$$a \in \operatorname{certanswer}(C(x), \mathcal{A}),$$

in other words, we want to know whether  $a \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$  for all interpretations  $\mathcal{I} \in \mathbf{Mod}(\mathcal{A})$ .

We can reformulate this problem as follows: Let  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A} \cup \{\neg C(a)\}$ . Then  $a \in \operatorname{certanswer}(C(x), \mathcal{A})$  if there does not exist any model of  $\mathcal{A}'$ .

### Tableau Algorithm Deciding whether A has a Model

Consider  $\mathcal{ALC}$  ABox  $\mathcal{A}$ . We may assume that each concept D in  $\mathcal{A}$  is in negation normal form and obtain the constraint system  $\mathcal{A}^*$  as the set of constraints

- $ullet a:C ext{ for all } C(a)\in \mathcal{A};$   $ullet (a,b):r ext{ for all } r(a,b)\in \mathcal{A}.$

Then  $\mathcal{A}$  has a model if, and only if, starting from  $\mathcal{A}^*$  there is a sequence of completion rule applications that terminates with a set of constraints containing no clash.

th TrA= Male (jack) MA\*= } jack: Male }

### Consider again the ABox $\mathcal{A}$ :

- 1. friend(john, susan)
- 2. friend(john, andrea)
- 3. loves(susan, andrea)
- 4. loves(andrea, bill)
- 5. Female(susan)
- 6. ¬Female(bill)

Does John have a female friend who is in love with a not female person?

Thus, we want to know whether 'Yes' is the certain answer to the query:

∃friend.(Female □ ∃loves.¬Female)(john)

To this end we check whether

 $A \cup \{\neg \exists friend.(Female \sqcap \exists loves. \neg Female)(john)\}$ 

has a model. If not, then 'Yes' is indeed the certain answer to

∃friend.(Female □ ∃loves.¬Female)(john)

Transformation into negation normal form gives:

∀friend.(¬Female ⊔ ∀loves.Female)(john)

Thus, we apply the tableau to the constraint system

 $\mathcal{A}^* \cup \{\text{john} : \forall \text{friend.}(\neg \text{Female} \sqcup \forall \text{loves.Female})\}$ 

### given by

- 1. (john, susan): friend
- 2. (john, andrea): friend
- 3. (susan, andrea): loves
- 4. (andrea, bill): loves
- 5. susan: Female
- 6. bill: ¬Female
- 7. john: ∀friend.(¬Female ⊔ ∀loves.Female)

Two applications of the rule  $\rightarrow_\forall$  give the additional constraints:

susan : (¬Female ⊔ ∀loves.Female)

and

andrea: (¬Female ⊔ ∀loves.Female)

We now apply the rule  $\rightarrow_{\lor}$  to the first constraint:

- Adding the constraint susan :  $\neg$ Female results in a clash since we have already susan : Female  $\in \mathcal{A}^*$ .
- Thus we add the constraint susan: ∀loves. Female to the constraint system.

We now apply  $\rightarrow_{\forall}$  to

susan: ∀loves.Female, (susan, andrea): loves

and add

andrea: Female

to the constraint system. We apply  $\rightarrow_{\lor}$  to

andrea: (¬Female ⊔ ∀loves.Female)

- Adding andrea: ¬Female to the constraint systems results in a clash since andrea: Female is in the constraint system.
- Thus we add the constraint andrea: ∀loves.Female to the constraint system.

Now we apply  $\rightarrow_{\forall}$  to

andrea: ∀loves.Female, (andrea, bill): loves

and add

bill: Female

to the constraint system. But this results in a clash since bill: ¬Female is already in the constraint system.

It follows that every sequence of completion rule application results in a clash.