



Cyc

What is Cyc?

- “The longest-lived artificial intelligence project...that spans the basic concepts and ‘rules of thumb’ about how the world works” –Wikipedia
- “A revolutionary AI platform with human reasoning, knowledge and logic” –Cycorp
- “A really large knowledge base/ontology” –Irina



What is Cyc?

- Started by Doug Lenat in 1984
- As of 2017, complete ontology contained:
 - >1.5 million terms
 - >24.5 million facts and rules
- Constructed by knowledge engineers
 - Thousands of person-hours
- Also includes an inference engine

Cyc syntax

- Sentences/facts generally take the form:
`(<predicate> <arg1> ... <argn>)`
- Predicates are camelCase (e.g. `performedBy`)
- Collections are CamelCase (e.g. `BookSeries`), sometimes with a hyphen (e.g. `Book-CW`)
- Functions are CamelCase, typically with “Fn” at the end (e.g. `MotherFn`)

Let's try it

- Holmes is a cat.

(isa Holmes Cat)



- Watson is a doctor.

(isa Watson Doctor-Medical)



- Watson is married to Mary.

(spouse Watson Mary)



KB Concept Search

Possible completions for **married**

- Married (Collection)
- MarriedCouple (Collection)

- married (Entity)
- Married-TheWord (Entity)

Married

[type = Collection]:

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

comment: An instance of PersonTypeByMaritalStatus . Each instance of Married is a Person who is married. In MainstreamAmericanCultureMt , Married is a specialization of HumanAdult .

MarriedCouple

[type = Collection]:

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

comment: The collection of all pairs of people who are married to each other. A type of Couple-Romantic .

KB Concept Search

Possible completions for **spouse**

- Spouse-TheWord (Entity)
- spouseless (Entity)
- Spouseless-TheWord (Entity)
- spouses (Entity)

- spouse (Relation)

spouse

[type = Relation]:

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
</app/websketch/kb/>

comment: (spouse PERSON1 PERSON2) means the two Persons PERSON1 and PERSON2 are married and committed to being permanent, lifelong partners. Cultures vary in whether such a couple must be of opposite genders, or may possibly belong to the same gender. Cultures also vary in whether a person is restricted to having only one cotermporal spouse.

spouse

[type = Relation]:

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

comment: (spouse
whether such a couple m
cotemporal spouse.

Human readable
description

s PERSON1 and PERSON2 are married and committed to being permanent, lifelong partners. Cultures vary in
possibly belong to the same gender. Cultures also vary in whether a person is restricted to having only one

isa:

in Universal
InterActorSlot
in GeneralLexicon
in TopicMt: Relati
in UnitedStatesSocial

Collection membership

CoexistingObjectsPredicate , DirectBinaryPredicate , FamilyRelationsConcept , FamilyRelationSlot ,
mmetricBinaryPredicate , TerrorismOWLExportBinaryPredicate

arity: 2

arg1Isa: HomoSapiens
arg2Isa: HomoSap.

Expected argument types

prettyString-Canonical:
in EnglishMt: "spous

genlPreds:

in UniversalVoca.

Inheritance hierarchy

eRelatives , mate , relativesByMarriage

specPreds:

in UniversalVocabular

spouse

[type = Relation]:

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

comment: (spouse PERSON1 PERSON2) means the two Persons PERSON1 and PERSON2 are married and committed to being permanent, lifelong partners. Cultures vary in whether such a couple must be of opposite genders, or may possibly belong to the same gender. Cultures also vary in whether a person is restricted to having only one cotermporal spouse.

isa:
in UniversalVocabularyMt: Analyst-PertinentConcept , CoexistingObjectsPredicate , DirectBinaryPredicate , FamilyRelationsConcept , FamilyRelationSlot , InterActorSlot , PersonalAssociationPredicate , SymmetricBinaryPredicate , TerrorismOWLEXPORtBinaryPredicate
in GeneralLexiconMt: RelationalNounSlot
in TopicMt: Relationships-Social-Topic
in UnitedStatesSocialLifeMt: InterExistingObjectPredicate

arity: 2
arg1Isa: HomoSapiens
arg2Isa: HomoSapiens

prettyString-Canonical:
in EnglishMt: "spouse"

genlPreds:
in UniversalVocabularyMt: cohabitingFamilyMembers , coreRelatives , mate , relativesByMarriage

specPreds:
in UniversalVocabularyMt: husband , wife

Cat

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

[type = Collection]:

comment: The collection of all members of the species *Felis domesticus*. Most members of this collection are *DomesticCats* , but feral cats are also included in this collection. Big cats, e.g., lions, ocelots, or tigers, are not members of this collection, although they are of its superset, *FelidaeFamily* .

isa:

in **UniversalVocabularyMt**: *BiologicalSpecies* , *DomesticatedAnimalType* , *OrganismClassificationType*

prettyString-Canonical:

in **EnglishMt**: "cat"

genls:

in **UniversalVocabularyMt**: *FelisGenus*

in **WebSearchEnhancementMt**: *NonPersonAnimal*

specs:

in **BaseKB**: (*JuvenileFn Cat*) , (*SubcollectionOfWithRelationToTypeFn Cat on-Physical Bookcase*)

in **UniversalVocabularyMt**: *Cat* , *DomesticCat*

in **BiologyMt**: (*MaleFn Cat*)

in **BiologyVocabularyMt**: (*AdultFn Cat*)

Cat

[type = Collection]

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

comment: The collection
cats, e.g., lions, ocelots, c

Human readable
description

mesticus. Most members of this collection are DomesticCats , but feral cats are also included in this collection. Big
ection, although they are of its superset, FelidaeFamily .

isa:

in Universal

icatedAnimalType , OrganismClassificationType

prettyString-Canonical
in EnglishMt: "ca

Collection membership

genls:

in Universal

in WebSearchEnhanc

Inheritance hierarchy

specs:

in BaseKB: (JuvenileFn Cat) , (SubcollectionOfWithRelationToTypeFn Cat on-Physical Bookcase)

in UniversalVocabularyMt: Cat , DomesticCat

in BiologyMt: (MaleFn Cat)

in BiologyVocabularyMt: (AdultFn Cat)

Cat

NextKB (41590df90f0f)
/app/websketch/kb/

[type = Collection]:

comment: The collection of all members of the species *Felis domesticus*. Most members of this collection are *DomesticCats* , but feral cats are also included in this collection. Big cats, e.g., lions, ocelots, or tigers, are not members of this collection, although they are of its superset, *FelidaeFamily* .

isa:

in **UniversalVocabularyMt**: *BiologicalSpecies* , *DomesticatedAnimalType* , *OrganismClassificationType*

prettyString-Canonical:

in **EnglishMt**: "cat"

genls:

in **UniversalVocabularyMt**: *FelisGenus*

in **WebSearchEnhancementMt**: *NonPersonAnimal*

specs:

in **BaseKB**: (*JuvenileFn Cat*) , (*SubcollectionOfWithRelationToTypeFn Cat on-Physical Bookcase*)

in **UniversalVocabularyMt**: *Cat* , *DomesticCat*

in **BiologyMt**: (*MaleFn Cat*)

in **BiologyVocabularyMt**: (*AdultFn Cat*)

Collections: isa vs. genls

`(isa Cat BiologicalSpecies)`

`(isa Holmes Cat)`

- Analogous to set membership
- Not transitive
 - Holmes is **not** a BiologicalSpecies

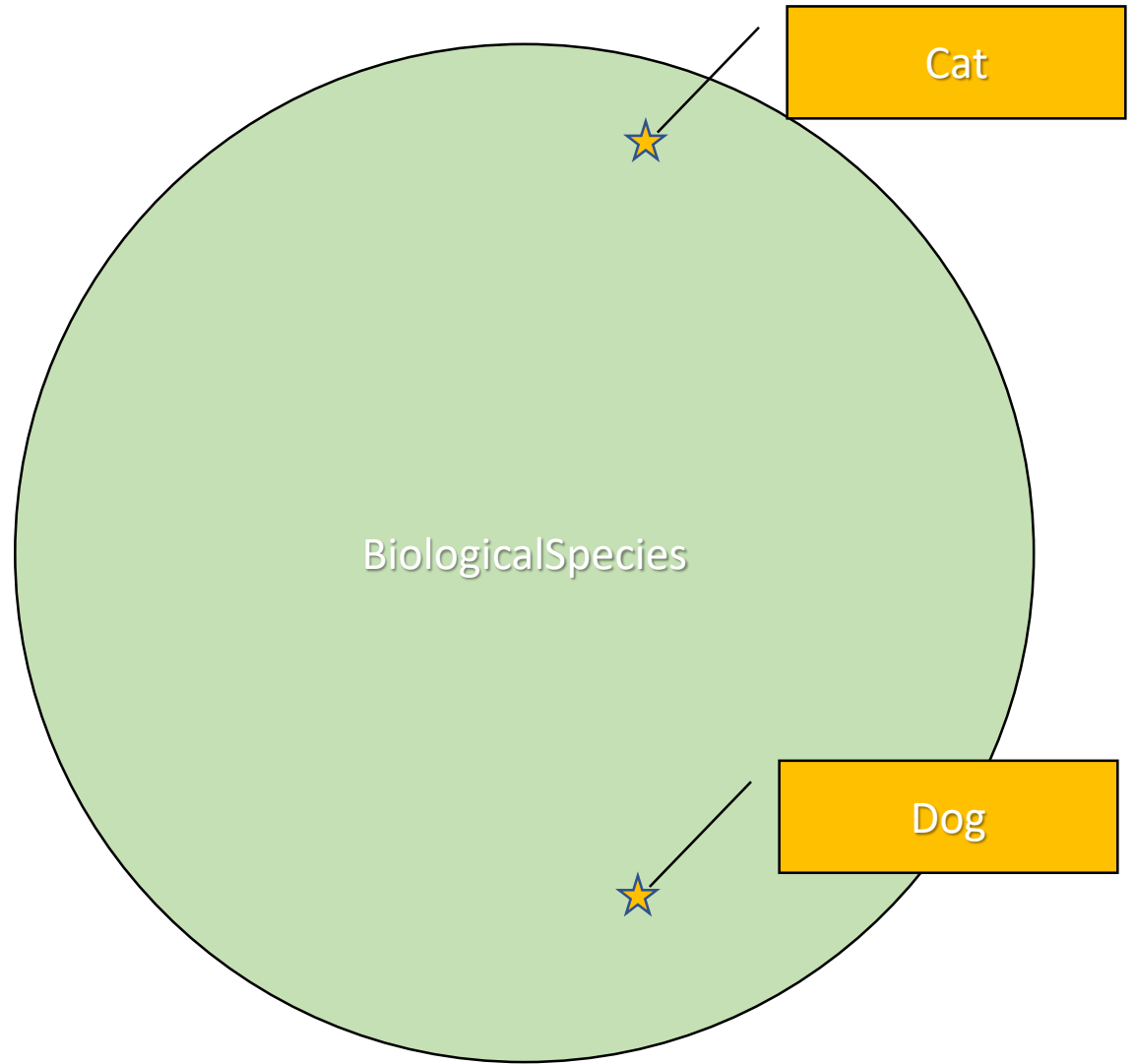
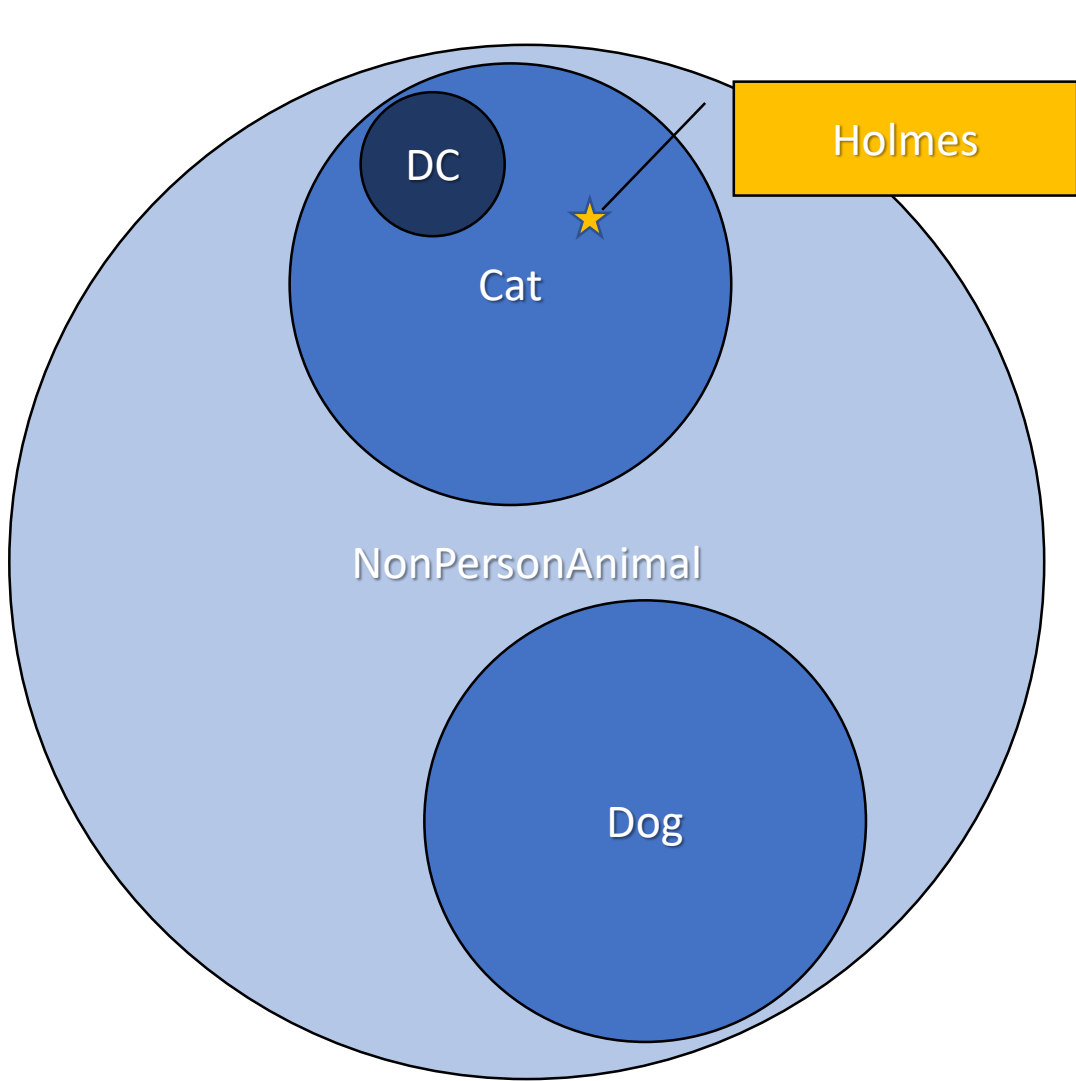
`(genls Cat NonPersonAnimal)`

`(genls DomesticCat Cat)`

- Analogous to subset
- Transitive
 - DomesticCat **is** a subset of NonPersonAnimal

Some notes:

- genls and spec are inverse predicates
 - `(spec Cat DomesticCat) == (genls DomesticCat Cat)`
- isa **does** transfer through genls
 - `(isa Holmes NonPersonAnimal)` is true



Pop quiz

`(isa SaltFatAcidHeat CookBook)`

`(genls CookBook Book-CW)`

- a. `(isa SaltFatAcidHeat Book-CW)`
- b. `(genls SaltFatAcidHeat Book-CW)`
- c. `(isa CookBook Book-CW)`
- d. None of the above

Pop quiz

`(genls CookBook Book-CW)`

`(genls Book-CW PropositionalConceptualWork)`

- a. `(isa CookBook PropositionalConceptualWork)`
- b. `(genls PropositionalConceptualWork CookBook)`
- c. `(genls CookBook PropositionalConceptualWork)`
- d. None of the above

Pop quiz

`(isa SaltFatAcidHeat CookBook)`

`(isa CookBook ObjectType)`

- a. `(isa SaltFatAcidHeat ObjectType)`
- b. `(genls SaltFatAcidHeat ObjectType)`
- c. `(genls CookBook ObjectType)`
- d. **None of the above**

Activity: Exploring Cyc

- Repeat the activity from last class using the Cyc ontology
- But first...

Choosing a scope



Activity: Exploring Cyc

- If necessary, rescope your application from last time
- What concepts and facts do you need in order to explore this domain?
- What concepts and facts are available in Cyc?
- How are they organized?
- What's missing?
- What are the pros and cons of using Cyc vs. the ontology you looked at on Thursday?

Turn in on Canvas for participation points

- Assignment: Cyc Exploration
- Any format is fine
 - Take a picture and upload that if you did it on paper
- Only need to turn in one per group
 - Make sure all group member names are in the doc OR in a comment to the exercise

Defining new concepts

- SherlockHolmes (the fictional character)
- BookCharacter (the collection)
- characterInBookCW (the predicate/relation)
- BookCWAaboutCharacterFn (the function)

Defining new concepts

- SherlockHolmes (the fictional character)

```
(isa SherlockHolmes FictionalCharacter)
```

```
(comment SherlockHolmes "The eccentric detective in  
    Arthur Conan Doyle's short stories")
```

- BookCharacter
- characterInBookCW
- BookCWAaboutCharacterFn (the function)

Defining new concepts

- SherlockHolmes (the fictional character)

- BookCharacter

```
(isa BookCharacter FirstOrderCollection)
```

```
(genls BookCharacter FictionalCharacter)
```

```
(comment BookCharacter "The collection of all book  
characters")
```

- characterInBookCW

- BookCWAaboutCharacterFn (the function)

Defining new concepts

- SherlockHolmes (the fictional character)
- BookCharacter
- characterInBookCW

```
(isa characterInBookCW BinaryPredicate)
(genlPreds characterInBookCW characterInCW)
(arity characterInBookCW 2)
(arg1Isa characterInBookCW BookCharacter)
(arg2Isa characterInBookCW Book-CW)
(comment characterInBookCW "A relation connecting a
character to the book they belong in")
```

- BookCWAaboutCharacterFn (the function)

Defining new concepts

- SherlockHolmes (the fictional character)
- BookCharacter
- characterInBookCW
- BookCWAboutCharacterFn (the function)

```
(isa BookCWAboutCharacterFn CollectionDenotingFunction)
(arity BookCWAboutCharacterFn 1)
(resultIsa BookCWAboutCharacterFn Collection)
(resultGen1 BookCWAboutCharacterFn Book-CW)
(comment BookCWAboutCharacterFn "The collection of all
    instances of Book-CW about character")
```

Representing sentences

- Holmes is a cat.

(isa Holmes Cat)

- Watson is married to Mary.

(spouse Watson Mary)

- Watson is a biographer.

(isa Watson Biographer)

- Watson is Holmes's biographer.

Watson is Holmes's biographer.

```
(creatorOfCW Watson (BiographyFn Holmes))
```

Watson is Holmes's biographer.

~~(creatorOfCW Watson (BiographyFn Holmes))~~

(isa biography123 (BiographyFn Holmes))

(creatorOfCW Watson biography123)

Consider

- Willie teaches.
- Willie teaches at 2pm.
- Willie teaches EECS371 at 2pm.
- Willie teaches EECS371 at 2pm at Northwestern.
- Willie teaches EECS371 in Tech LR2 at 2pm at Northwestern.
- Etc.

Willie teaches.


```
(isa teach123 TeachingACourse)  
(instructor teach123 Willie)
```

Willie teaches at 2pm.

```
(isa teach123 TeachingACourse)
```

```
(instructor teach123 Willie)
```

```
(timeOfDayOfEvent teach123 TimeOfDay-2PM)
```



(genls TeachingACourse Event)
so
(isa teach123 Event)

Cycl practice

- Maria is a student.
- Maria studies computer science.
- Maria studies at the library.
- Maria reads *Knowledge Representation & Reasoning*.
- Maria reads *Knowledge Representation & Reasoning* at the library on Tuesday.

Turn in on Canvas for participation points

- Assignment: CycL Practice
- Any format is fine
 - Take a picture and upload that if you did it on paper
- Only need to turn in one per group
 - Make sure all group member names are in the doc OR in a comment to the exercise

For next time:

- HW 2 due before class
- Read Chapters 3-5 of SW20