

Lecture 24.

# Inference in Ontologies (Reasoning). Applications and Tools

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## Why Reasoning?

### Ontology design

- Check class consistency and (unexpected) implied relationships
- Particularly important with large ontologies/multiple authors

### Ontology integration

- Assert inter-ontology relationships
- Reasoner computes integrated class hierarchy/consistency

### Ontology deployment

- Determine if set of facts are consistent with respect to ontology
- Determine if individuals are instances of ontology classes
- Query Inclusion
- Service description matchmaking
- Classification-based querying.



## **Reasoning Types**

- Tool support for three types of reasoning exists:
  - Consistency checking: Can a class have any instances?
  - Classification:
    Is A a subclass of B? Are two classes equivalent?
  - Instance classification (Instantiaton): Which classes does an individual belong to?



## **Simple Inference: Instance Classification**

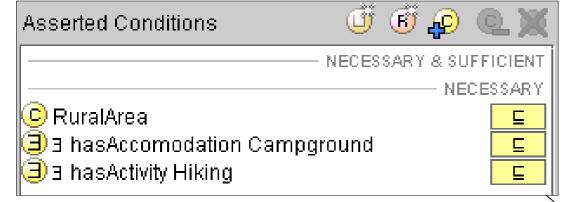
 Given the definition for the property hasParent with domain=Animal, range=Animal and

```
<owl:Thing rdf:ID="Tuzik">
  <hasParent rdf:resource="#Layka"/>
  </owl:Thing>
```

we can infer that Tuzik is an Animal and Layka is an Animal

## Classification

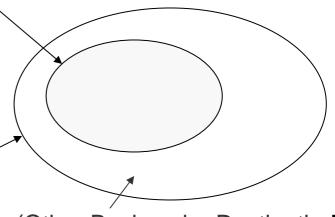
NationalPark



- A RuralArea is a Destination
- A Campground is BudgetAccomodation
- Hiking is a Sport
- Inference:
   Every NationalPark is
   a Backpackers Destiantion

BackpackersDestination

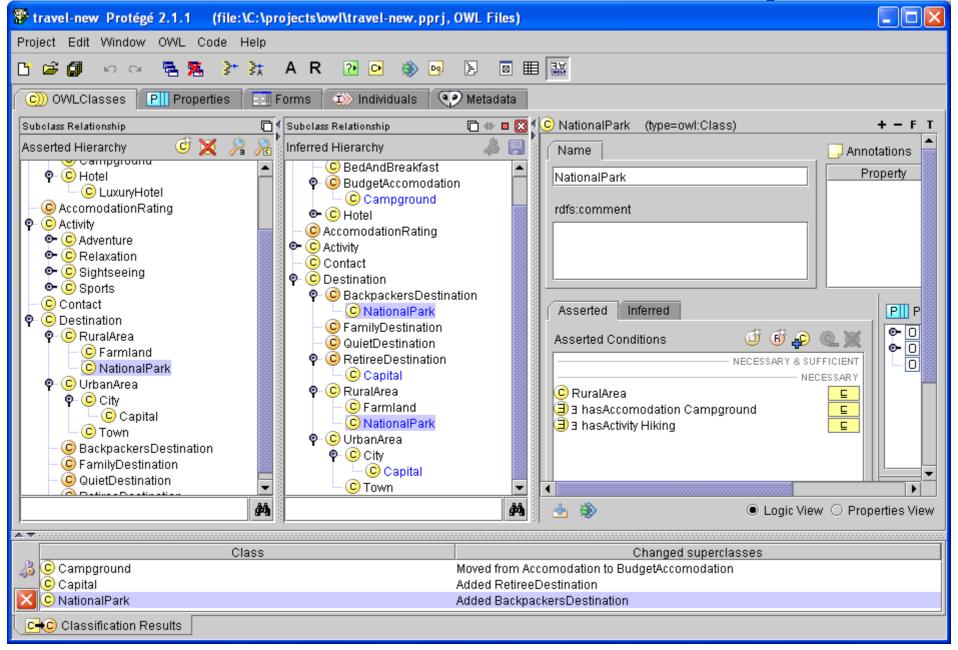




(Other BackpackerDestinations)

Reasoning

Classification results in Protege





## **Inference in Protege**

- Protégé OWL plug-in
- Reasoner "Racer" for inference
  - Description Logic based reasoning engine
  - Server-based
  - Integrates with Protégé-OWL



## **Need for Inference Tools**

- OWL is about content, not the syntax
- Statements from different documents about the same URI are automatically conjoined
- OWL can appear unintuitive to the uninitiated
  - Declare that no one can have more than one mother
  - Declare Mary is John's mother
  - Declare Jane is John's mother
- An OWL reasoner would say Mary = Jane



### **OWL Inference Tools**

- Racer (see above)
- Pellet
  - DL based reasoner implemented in Java
- Euler
  - an inference engine supporting logic based proofs. Finds out whether a given set of facts support a given conclusion
- FaCT
  - DL classifier



## OWL Tools (2)

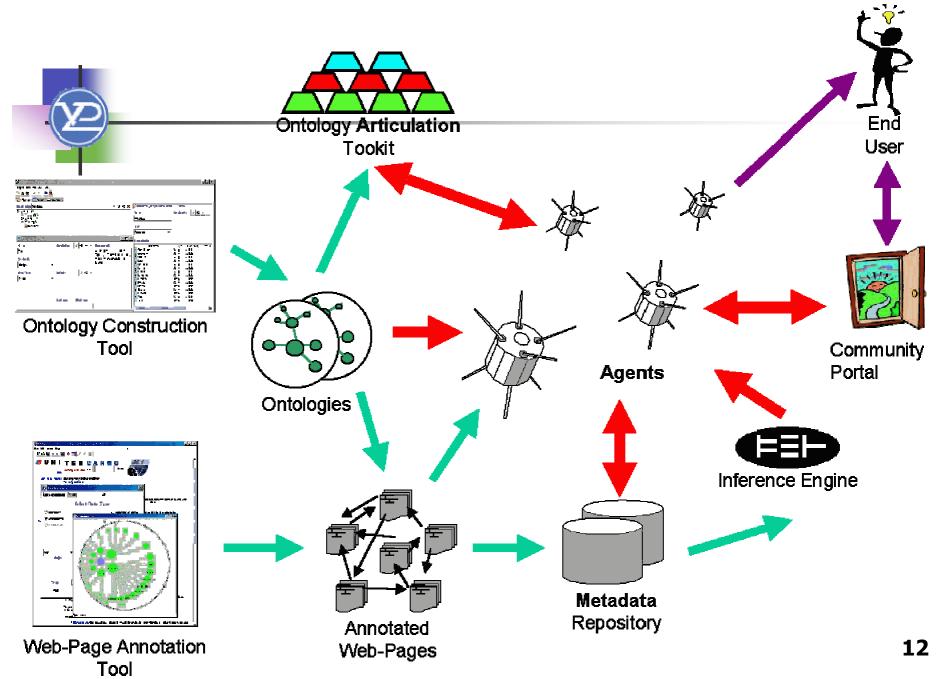
- Hoolet
  - DL Reasoner that uses a First Order Prover to reason about ontologies
- Jena2
  - sound (but not complete) instance reasoning for OWL Lite
- Surnia
  - OWL Full reasoner
- etc.



## **Other Types of Ontology Tools**

- Being able to express ontologies is not enough...we need tools!
- Existing tools, especially for DAML+OIL, are adapting to OWL
- Types of tools:
  - Ontology construction tools
  - Annotation tools
  - Inference engines (Reasoners)
  - Ontology articulation (integration) tools

#### Reasoning





## **Ontologies in Applications**

- In the past, ontologies have been embedded in the application
- This introduces problems with:
  - Maintenance
  - Implementation
  - Exchange of terms
- Considering the ontology as a separate resource provides greater flexibility

Reasoning

## **Implementations of Ontologies**



- What does it mean to provide implementations of ontologies?
- What do you want to do with the ontology?
  - Read it
  - Manipulate it
  - Reason about it
  - Where does the reasoner go?
    - Inside or outside?



## **Ontology Interactions**

### Modelling

Provide data structures that represent OWL ontologies/documents

### Parsing

 Taking some syntactic presentation, e.g. OW-RDF and converting it to some [useful] internal data structure

#### Serialization

 Producing a syntactic presentation, e.g. OWL-XML from a local data structure

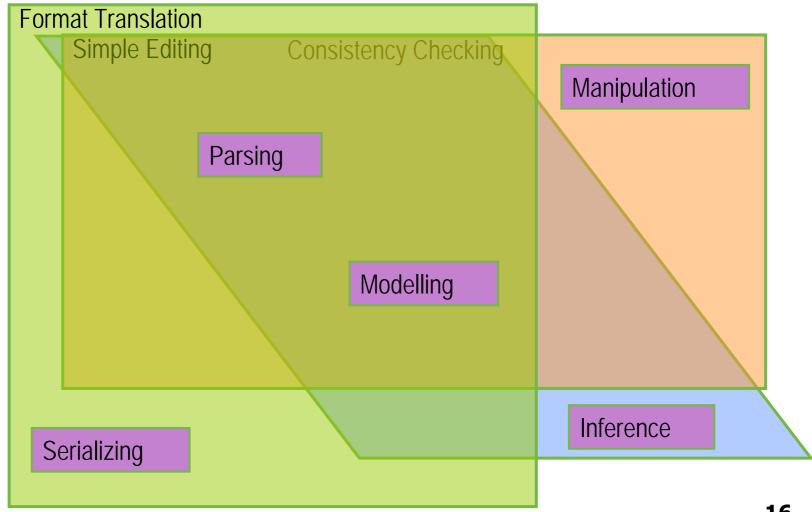
### Manipulation

Being able to manipulate the underlying objects

#### Inference



## **Implementation Aspects**



**16** 

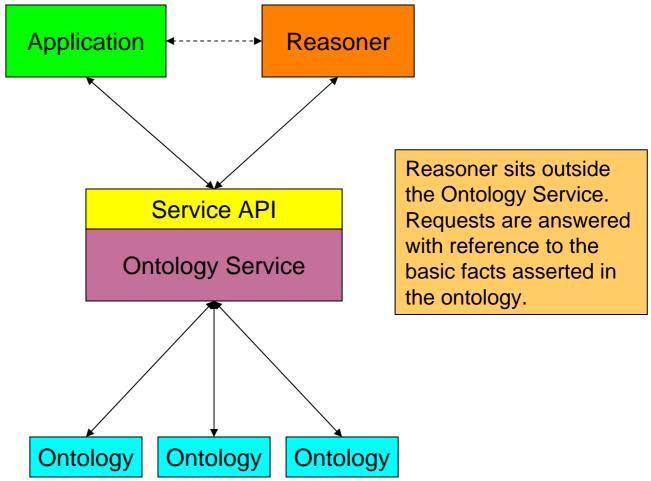


## Layering

- OWL is layered on RDF.
- This layering provides us with a number of different options in terms of accessing the ontology.
- Direct access to the RDF triple structures
  - E.g. Jena, Sesame, 3store
  - May require client applications to "understand" or implement aspects of the language, e.g. inference.
- Access at a "higher level" using some API.
  - OWL-API, Protégé API, Jena Ontology API

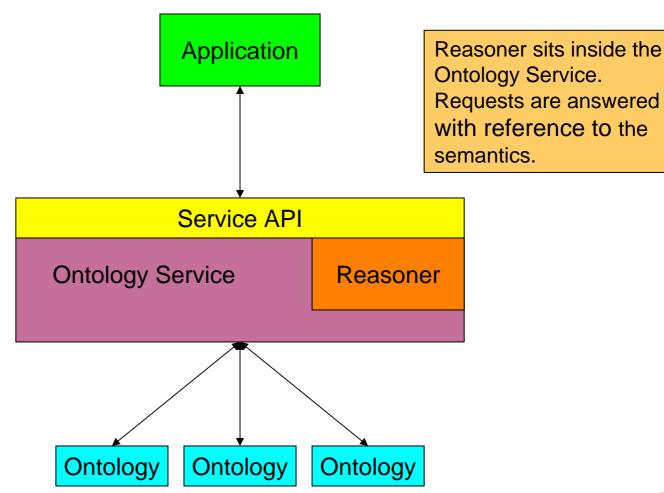


### **Reasoner Outside**



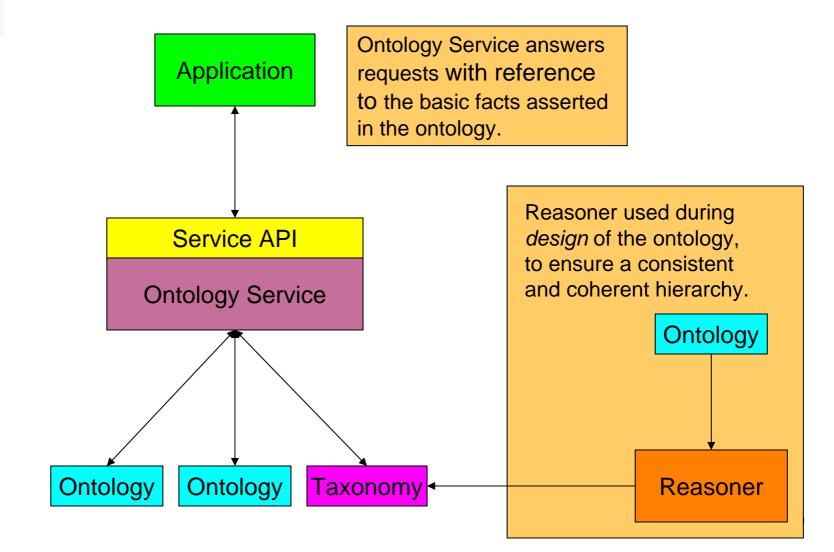


### **Reasoner Inside**





## Do You Really Need Reasoning?





## **Summary**

- Reasoning services help knowledge engineers to check consistency of ontologies, to make them more full
- Reasoning services help user to query ontologies

Ontology tools are increasingly available



## МУ к курсовому проекту

- ftp://10.12.57.254/upload/vitko/ITI/ Course Project/IIT\_course-project.pdf
- Проверить содержание пояснительной записки и требования
- Проверить ГОСТы !!!