ISWC 2014 submission 176

Page 4:

Page 5 : Pairs of statements C(a) - D(a) and C(a) - E(a) and are respectively given as an example and a counterexample for the axiom subClassOf(C,D), provided disjointClasses(C,E) is in the ontology for the second one.

Two questions here:

- I assume there is a typo for the disjointness: disjointClasses(D,E) instead of disjointClasses(C,E). Otherwise the base would simply be inconsistent. This is also coherent with the given SPARQL query patterns.
- The notion of a counterexample seems to be understood on a strict logical basis : C(a) E(a) is a counterexample because \$\neg E(a)\$ could be inferred. But the notion of an example seems stronger : on a strict logical basis, one could arguably say that C(a) alone is an example as well, or even F(a), D(b), ...

Page 5, same paragraph: I agree on the intuition that some statements (like Mammal(a)) are unlikely to be found in a real dataset. But what is unclear to me is the reason why statements involving more common concepts (e.g. Dog(a)) cannot be used as examples or counterexamples for axioms which involve rarer concepts.

For instance, according to the authors, the pair Basset(a) - Mammal(a) would be an example for the axiom subClassOf(Basset,Mammal). Assume now that subClassOf(Dog,Mammal) is also in the ontology. Then the pair Basset(a) - Dog(a) may actually also be viewed as an example for subClassOf(Basset,Mammal), given that Mammal(a) can be inferred from Dog(a) together with subClassOf(Dog,Mammal).

The same holds for counterexamples.

Page 7, first paragraph: an error in in the DL transcription: the formula \$\top \sqsubseteq Raven \sqcap \neg Black\$ does not mean "there are ravens that are not black", but "everything is a non black raven".

In order to express "there are ravens that are not black", one can use an Abox statement : \$\neg Black \sqcap Raven(a)\$.

Page 7, first paragraph:

The text states that "evidence of a black raven selectively confirms the hypothesis \$Raven \sqsubseteq Black\$ because it fails to confirm its negation". This is not sufficient: evidence of a green apple also fails to confirm the negation of \$Raven \sqsubseteq Black\$, but it does not selectively confirm \$Raven \sqsubseteq Black\$.

If I understand correctly (which I am not certain of), the sentence could be rewritten as "evidence of a black raven selectively confirms the hypothesis \$Raven \sqsubseteq Black\$ *because it both confirms it and fails to confirm its negation*".

The next sentence seems logically equivalent to stating that evidence of a green apple does not confirm either \$Raven \sqsubseteq Black\$ nor its negation. It may be easier to understand that way,

in the continuation of the previous sentence, instead of using the notion of *contradiction*.

page 9, definition 12 : use |content(\phi)| instead of ||content(\phi)|| (single vertical bar)

page 9 : I cannot see where *content*(\phi | B) is used elsewhere in the article. Which may indeed be very interesting, considering it would allow for additional consequences to be derived, because *content*(\phi) \subseteq *content*(\phi | B).

For instance, back to the previous example, one would have to test the consequence Basset(a) \Rightarrow Dog(a)

page 11: equations 16 and 17 seem unnecessary.

General:

- I cannot see why the possibilistic approach followed here is an answer to the limitations of the probabilistic approach described page 5.
 If I understand correctly, the lack of explicit support for concepts like *Mammal* might be an issue for both approaches. The way this precise problem is addressed seems to be conditions 5 and 6 page 9. But a similar effect could be obtained in a probabilistic setting, taking for instance log(u^+_\phi) and log(u^-_\phi) as the respective numbers of success and failures, and log(u^-_\phi) + log(u^+_\phi) as the sample size.
- Some versions of DBPedia have been partially closed deductively, following the rule \$C \sqsubseteq D, C(a) \vdash D(a)\$. Is it the case for the dump being used in this article?

If this is the case, I would personally opt either for a complete classification (with a reasoner) of the individuals considered, or a deletion of statements which are likely to have been automatically inferred.