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CSCI – Advance AI

# DESCRIPTION LOGICS

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Reference: Handbook of Knowledge Representation

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## My job for presentation -

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- ▶ Introduction of Description Logics
- ▶ Concepts of Description Logics
- ▶ Application of Description Logics with Demo





# Overview

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- ▶ Introduction
  - ▶ *History*
  - ▶ *Importance in Artificial Intelligence*
- ▶ Domain Languages
  - ▶ *Attribute languages including concepts*
  - ▶ *Approaches*
- ▶ Web Ontology language & DLs
- ▶ Application and Demo





# Importance of Description Logics in AI/C.S.

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- ▶ DLs are used in artificial intelligence to describe and reason about the relevant concepts of an application domain (known as *terminological knowledge*).
- ▶ There are general, spatial, temporal, spatiotemporal, and fuzzy descriptions logics, and each description logic features a different balance between DL expressivity and reasoning complexity by supporting different sets of mathematical constructors.
- ▶ Example: DLs and OWL is in biomedical informatics where DL assists in the codification of biomedical knowledge.





# Description Logics

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- ▶ Description logics (DLs): family of knowledge representation languages, used to represent the knowledge of an application domain.
- ▶ in terms of –
  - concepts (classes),
  - roles (properties and relations) and
  - individuals (instances of classes).





# Description Logics

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- ▶ The important notions of the domain: descriptions, i.e., expressions built from **atomic concepts (unary predicates)** and **atomic roles (binary predicates)** using the concept and role constructors provided by the particular DL.
- ▶ DLs differ from their predecessors, such as semantic networks and frames, as they are equipped with a formal, logic-based semantics.





# GENERAL VIEW

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- ▶ In computer applications, to have access to **symbolic models** of an application world described in terms of **individuals** and related to **other individuals** and **classes** of individuals by **relationships** -

e.g., **CSCI 8110** that are grouped into classes

**COURSE,      TEACHER,      STUDENT**

**CSCI 8110** taught by **TEACHER** (conceptual structuring of domain knowledge )

Specifically used to structure and allow reasoning





# Description Logics employ a similar structuring

- ▶ Description Logics **subsets** of *first order logic*, and so can be viewed as providing a semantics for many network-based object-orientated formalisms.
- ▶ They serve to disambiguate imprecise representations that these formalisms permit.

**For example**, what precisely is the meaning of the description?

**FROG** HasColour **GREEN**?

Every *frog* is just **green**?

Every frog is also **green**?

There is a frog which is just **green**?

## Reasoning







# Difference in First order Logic and DL

First-Order Logic	Description Logic
$A(x)$	$A$
$C(a)$	$C(a)$ , alternatively $a : C$
$A \approx B$	$A \equiv B$
$\neg C(x)$	$\neg C$
$C(x) \wedge D(x)$	$C \sqcap D$
$C(x) \vee D(x)$	$C \sqcup D$
$\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow D(x))$	$C \sqsubseteq D$
$R(a,b)$	$R(a,b)$ , alternatively $(a,b) : R$
$\forall x \forall y(R(x,y) \rightarrow S(x,y))$	$R \sqsubseteq S$
$\exists y(R(x,y) \wedge C(y))$	$\exists R.C$
$\forall x \forall y \forall z(R(x,y) \rightarrow R(y,z) \rightarrow R(x,z))$	$R \circ R \sqsubseteq R$





## Difference in First order Logic and DL

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- ▶ Description logics have more *features* than first order logics.
- ▶ Description logic is less *expressive* than first order logic.
- ▶ Despite of the feasibility of direct translation between FOL and DL, guaranteeing complete and terminating reasoning requires a different transformation, such as the *structural transformation*.
- ▶ The *structural transformation* is based on a conjunction normal form, which replaces FOL sub-formulae with new predicates, for which it also provides definitions.





## Formal Definitions By Example

- “A man that is married to a doctor, and all of whose children are either doctors or professors.”

*Let's define the concept –*

$\text{Human} \sqcap \neg \text{Female} \sqcap (\exists \text{married}.\text{Doctor}) \sqcap (\forall \text{hasChild}.\text{(\text{Doctor} \sqcup \text{Professor})})$

### Details:

Employs the Boolean constructors – *conjunction* as set intersection, *disjunction* as set Union, *negation* as set complement, *existential restriction constructor* ( $\exists r.C$ ), and the *value restriction constructor* ( $\forall r.C$ ).





## Applications on the concept

$\text{Human} \sqcap \neg \text{Female} \sqcap (\exists \text{married}.\text{Doctor}) \sqcap (\forall \text{hasChild} . (\text{Doctor} \sqcup \text{Professor}))$

- ▶ Let's say an individual, *Bob*, belongs to  $\exists \text{married}$ .  
*Doctor*, belongs to the concept *Doctor*.  
*Doctor* married to *Bob* (is related to Bob via the *married role*).  
*Bob* belongs to  $\forall \text{hasChild}$ .  
*Bob's children* are either *doctors or professors* ( $\text{Doctor} \vee \text{Professor}$ ) .





# Structure of Concept Descriptions

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- ▶ *Concept descriptions* used to *build* statements in a *DL knowledge base*.
- ▶ It has two parts:

**terminological**  
**and**  
**assertional**





## Terminological (TBox)

- ▶ *Terminological part (Tbox)* – describe the *relevant notions* of an *application domain* by stating properties of *concepts and roles*, and *relationships* between them.
- ▶ *Simplest form*, a TBox statement introduce a **name (abbreviation)** for a complex description.
- ▶ **Example:** Let's introduce the name *HappyMan* as an abbreviation using previous concept –

$\text{HappyMan} \equiv \text{Human} \sqcap \neg \text{Female} \sqcap (\exists \text{married.Doctor}) \sqcap (\forall \text{hasChild.}(\text{Doctor} \sqcup \text{Professor}))$

- ▶ **Conclusion:** all the *knowledge* in example could easily be represented by *formulae* of *first-order predicate logic*.





## Assertional (ABox)

- ▶ *Assertional part (Abox)* – describe a *concrete situation* by stating properties of *individuals*—it corresponds to the *data* in a *database setting*.
- ▶ **Example:** Bob belongs to the concept *HappyMan*, that Mary is one of his children, and that Mary is not a *doctor*.

```
HappyMan(BOB), hasChild(BOB, MARY), ¬Doctor(MARY)
```

- ▶ **Conclusion:** Modern DL systems of restricted ABox formalism, which basically used to *state ground facts*.





## What We understand by this.....

- ▶ *Modern description logic systems* provide their users with *reasoning services* that can automatically deduce *implicit knowledge* from the *explicitly represented knowledge*, and always yield a *correct answer in finite time*.
- ▶ *Inference capabilities* have both the *terminological statements (schema)* and the *assertional statements (data)*.
- ▶ For building the *TBox*, making use of the reasoning services provided to ensure that all concepts in it are *satisfiable*. An ABox, one would first check for its *consistency* with the TBox, for example, compute the *most specific concept(s)* that each individual is an instance of (this is often called realizing the ABox).





## Work & Research in DLs

- ▶ *Investigating* this trade-off between the *expressivity of DLs* and the *complexity* of their *inference problems*.
- ▶ This investigation both *theoretical research*, e.g., determining the worst case complexities for various DLs and reasoning problems, and *practical research*, e.g., developing systems and optimization techniques, and empirically evaluating their behavior when applied to benchmarks and used in various applications.
- ▶ The *goal* of the research was still to *design decidable extensions* i.e. extensions leave the realm of classical *first-order predicate logic*, such as DLs with modal and temporal operators, fuzzy DLs, and probabilistic DLs.





## History of Description Logics – Phase 0

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- ▶ **Phase 0 (1965–1980)** : pre-DL phase, *semantic networks* and *frames* were introduced as specialized approaches for *representing knowledge* in a *structured way*.
- ▶ *Failed* : lack of a formal semantics.
- ▶ *Solution*: Brachman's structured inheritance networks.





# History of Description Logics – Phase 1

- ▶ **Phase 1 (1980–1990):** implementation of systems, such as KL-ONE, K-REP, KRYPTON, BACK, and LOOM. These have *Structural subsumption algorithms*, which first *normalize* the *concept descriptions*, and then *recursively* compare the *syntactic structure* of the normalized descriptions.
- ▶ *Failed* : complete only for very *inexpressive DLs*, i.e., for more expressive DLs they cannot detect all subsumption/instance relationships.
- ▶ *Solution*: First *logic-based accounts* of the semantics of the underlying representation formalisms.





## History of Description Logics – Phase 2

- ▶ **Phase 2 (1990–1995):** introduction of a *new* algorithmic paradigm into DLs, so-called *tableau based algorithms*. It has DLs with all Boolean operators. Also, *complete* also for expressive DLs.
- ▶ *Failed* : all attempts to build a model failed with contradictions.
- ▶ *Solution*: Related to *modal logics*, thorough analysis of the complexity of reasoning in various DLs.





## History of Description Logics – Phase 3

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- ▶ **Phase 3 (1995–2000)** : development of inference procedures for very expressive DLs, either based on the tableau approach or on a translation into modal logics.
- ▶ *Work Methodology*: the relationship to *modal logics* and to *decidable fragments* of first order logic was studied in more detail, and applications in databases (like schema reasoning, query optimization, and integration of databases) were investigated.





## Current Phase - Phase 4

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### ► **Working Methodolgy:**

Results from the previous phases are being used to *develop industrial strength DL systems* employing very expressive DLs.

*Applications* like the *Semantic Web* or *knowledge representation and integration in medical and bio-informatics* in mind.

Academic side, the interest in less expressive DLs has been revived, with the goal of developing tools that can deal with very large terminological and/or assertional knowledge bases





# Attributive concept Language with Complements, ALC

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- ▶ **ALC**: A basic DL, first naming scheme for DLs.
- ▶ Obtained from **AL** by adding the *complement operator* ( $\neg$ ).
- ▶ **ALE**, obtained from AL by adding *existential restrictions* ( $\exists r.C$ ).
- ▶ **Definition**: The DL that includes set of constructors like, *conjunction, disjunction, negation, existential restriction and value restriction* is called **ALC**.



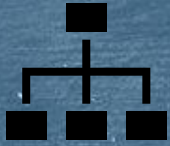


# Syntax and Semantics of ALC

- **Syntax:**  $NC$  be a set of concept names and  $NR$  be a set of role names then, if  $C$  and  $D$  are ALC-concept descriptions and  $r \in NR$ , then  $C \sqcup D$ ,  $C \sqcap D$ ,  $\neg C$ ,  $\forall r.C$ , and  $\exists r.C$  are **ALC-concept descriptions**.
- **Semantics:** An interpretation consists of a nonempty set  $\Delta I$ , called the domain of  $I$ , and a function that maps every ALC-concept to a subset of  $\Delta I$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \top^I &= \Delta I, & \perp^I &= \emptyset, \\ (C \sqcap D)^I &= C^I \cap D^I, & (C \sqcup D)^I &= C^I \cup D^I, & \neg C^I &= \Delta I \setminus C^I, \\ (\exists r.C)^I &= \{x \in \Delta I \mid \text{There is some } y \in \Delta I \text{ with } \langle x, y \rangle \in r^I \text{ and } y \in C^I\}, \\ (\forall r.C)^I &= \{x \in \Delta I \mid \text{For all } y \in \Delta I, \text{ if } \langle x, y \rangle \in r^I, \text{ then } y \in C^I\}. \end{aligned}$$





## Extensions to ALC

- ▶ DL based ontology languages: OIL, DAML + OIL, and OWL.
- ▶ ALC has been extended with several features that are important in an **ontology language**, including **number restrictions**, **inverse roles**, **transitive roles**, **sub-roles**, **concrete domains**, and **nominals**.
- ▶ **Number restrictions**: it is possible to describe the number of relationships of a particular type that individuals can participate in. Example: a person can be married to at most one other individual

$\text{Person} \sqsubseteq \leq 1 \text{ married.}$





## Extensions to ALC

- **Qualified number restrictions:** we can additionally describe the type of individuals that are counted by a given number restriction. Example: **HappyMan** to include the fact that instances of **HappyMan** have at least two children who are **doctors**:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{HappyMan} \equiv & \text{Human} \sqcap \neg \text{Female} \sqcap (\exists \text{married.Doctor}) \\ & \sqcap (\forall \text{hasChild.}(\text{Doctor} \sqcup \text{Professor})) \\ & \sqcap \geq 2 \text{ hasChild.Doctor} \sqcap \leq 4 \text{ hasChild.}\end{aligned}$$





## Extensions to ALC

- ▶ **Inverse roles, transitive roles, and subroles** we can, in addition to *hasChild*, also use its inverse *hasParent*, specify that *hasAncestor* is transitive, and specify that *hasParent* is a subrole of *hasAncestor*.
- ▶ **Concrete domains** integrate DLs with concrete sets such as the real numbers, integers, or strings, as well as concrete predicates defined on these sets, such as numerical comparisons, string comparisons (e.g., *isPrefixOf*), or comparisons with constants.



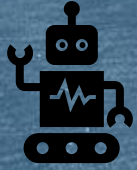


## Extensions to ALC

- **Nominal constructor**: allows us to use individual names also within concept descriptions: if “*a*” is an individual name, then **{*a*}** is a concept, called a **nominal**, which is interpreted by a **singleton set**.

**Example:** Using the individual **Turing**, we can describe all those computer scientists that have met Turing by **CScientist  $\wedge$   $\exists$ hasMet.{Turing}**.





# Naming Convention

An additional comment on the naming of DLs is in order:

The letter **S** is often used as an abbreviation for the “basic” DL consisting of ALC extended with transitive roles.

The letter **H** represents subroles (role Hierarchies),

**O** represents nominals (nominals),

**I** represents inverse roles (inverse),

**N** represent number restrictions (Number), and

**Q** represent qualified number restrictions (Qualified).

The “**generic**” **D** is used to express that some concrete domain/datatype has been integrated.

The DL corresponding to the OWL DL ontology language includes all of these constructors and is therefore called -





## More about ALC

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- ▶ **Relationships with ALC** : Predicate Logic & Modal Logic
- ▶ **Implementation & optimization techniques**: Absorption, Dependency directed backtracking.
- ▶ **Complexity**: PSpace and ExpTime
- ▶ **Reasoning Techniques**: Automata Based approach
- ▶ Automata based approach contains tree modal property, looping tree automata, the emptiness test, & the reduction.





## More Naming conventions

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- ▶ Frame based description language (**FL**)
- ▶ Existential Language (**EL**)





# DLs in Language Applications

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- ▶ Telecommunications equipment
- ▶ software information
- ▶ documentation systems
- ▶ area of databases, support schema design, schema & data integration and query answering
- ▶ basis for ontology languages, OIL, DAML + OIL and OWL





# Semantic web ontology Language (OWL)

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- ▶ *OWL*, a semantic web ontology language, developed by the *W3C Web-Ontology* working group.
- ▶ *Semantics* defined via a *translation* into an *expressive DL*.
- ▶ *Mapping* allows *OWL* to exploit results from *DL research* (e.g., regarding the decidability and complexity of key inference problems).





# Semantic web ontology Language (OWL)

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- ▶ *Mapping* allows to use implemented *DL reasoners* (e.g., *FaCT*) in order to provide reasoning services for OWL applications.
- ▶ *A role hierarchy*, describing: *domain* in terms of *classes* (corresponding to *concepts*) and *properties* (corresponding to *roles*).
- ▶ *ontology* consists of a set of *axioms* that assert, e.g., subsumption relationships between *classes or properties*.





# Facets of OWL

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- ▶ 3 “species” of OWL: *OWL Lite*, *OWL DL* and *OWL full*.
- ▶ Only the first two, have DL based semantics.
- ▶ The semantics of OWL full is given by an extension of the *RDF model theory*.
- ▶ **Resource Description Framework (RDF)** : a family of *W3C* for *meta data modelling*. Used in knowledge management applications





## More About OWL

- ▶ **OWL classes** - *names* or *expressions* built up from simpler classes and properties using a variety of constructors.
- ▶ **Example:** Human  $\wedge$  Male would be written as - *The full XML serialization*

```
<owl:Class>
  <owl:intersectionOf rdf:parseType="Collection">
    <owl:Class rdf:about="#Human"/>
    <owl:Class rdf:about="#Male"/>
  </owl:intersectionOf>
</owl:Class>
```

while ( $\geq 2$  hasChild.Thing) would be written as

```
<owl:Restriction>
  <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#hasChild"/>
  <owl:minCardinality
    rdf:datatype="&xsd;NonNegativeInteger">2
  </owl:minCardinality>
</owl:Restriction>
```





## More About OWL.....

- There are a few additional constructors provided as “syntactic sugar”, but all are trivially reducible to -

Constructor	DL syntax	Example
intersectionOf	$C_1 \sqcap \dots \sqcap C_n$	Human $\sqcap$ Male
unionOf	$C_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup C_n$	Doctor $\sqcup$ Lawyer
complementOf	$\neg C$	$\neg$ Male
oneOf	$\{x_1 \dots x_n\}$	{john, mary}
allValuesFrom	$\forall P.C$	$\forall$ hasChild.Doctor
someValuesFrom	$\exists r.C$	$\exists$ hasChild.Lawyer
hasValue	$\exists r.\{x\}$	$\exists$ citizenOf.{USA}
minCardinality	$(\geq nr)$	$(\geq 2$ hasChild)
maxCardinality	$(\leq nr)$	$(\leq 1$ hasChild)
inverseOf	$r^-$	hasChild $^-$





## Features of OWL

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- ▶ besides “*abstract*” classes, use of *XML Schema datatypes*- string, decimal and float & has *someValuesFrom*, *allValuesFrom*, and *hasValue* restrictions
- ▶ Allowing for concepts such as  $\exists \text{age.xsd} : \text{nonNegativeInteger}$ ; e.g., be used in an axiom `Person "  $\exists \text{age.xsd} : \text{nonNegativeInteger}$  to assert that all persons have an age that is a nonnegative integer.`





## Features of OWL

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- ▶ *Axioms* allows to assert *subsumption* or *equivalence* with respect to *classes or properties*, the *disjointness* of classes, and the *equivalence* or *non-equivalence* of individuals (resources).
- ▶ OWL also allows *properties of properties (i.e., DL roles)* to be asserted. Possible to assert a property i.e. transitive, functional, inverse functional or symmetric.





# OWL Axioms

Axiom	DL syntax	Example
subClassOf	$C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2$	Human $\sqsubseteq$ Animal $\sqcap$ Biped
equivalentClass	$C_1 \equiv C_2$	Man $\equiv$ Human $\sqcap$ Male
subPropertyOf	$P_1 \sqsubseteq P_2$	hasDaughter $\sqsubseteq$ hasChild
equivalentProperty	$P_1 \equiv P_2$	cost $\equiv$ price
disjointWith	$C_1 \sqsubseteq \neg C_2$	Male $\sqsubseteq \neg$ Female
sameAs	$\{x_1\} \equiv \{x_2\}$	{Pres_Bush} $\equiv$ {G_W_Bush}
differentFrom	$\{x_1\} \sqsubseteq \neg \{x_2\}$	{john} $\sqsubseteq \neg$ {peter}
TransitiveProperty	$P$ transitive role	hasAncestor is a transitive role
FunctionalProperty	$\top \sqsubseteq (\leq 1 P)$	$\top \sqsubseteq (\leq 1 \text{ hasMother})$
InverseFunctionalProperty	$\top \sqsubseteq (\leq 1 P^-)$	$\top \sqsubseteq (\leq 1 \text{ isMotherOf}^-)$
SymmetricProperty	$P \equiv P^-$	isSiblingOf $\equiv$ isSiblingOf $^-$





## OWL tools and applications

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- ▶ Ontology design tools, both “*academic*” and “*commercial*”.
- ▶ *Objective*: highlighting inconsistent classes and implicit subsumption relationships.
- ▶ **Example** - Protégé, Swoop, OilEd and TopBraid Composer.
- ▶ Reasoning support for such tools provided by a DL reasoner, ex - *FaCT++*, *RACER* or *Pellet*.





## OWL tools and applications

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- ▶ Ontology development in fields as **diverse** as -  
biology, medicine,  
geography, geology,  
astronomy, agriculture and  
defence.
- ▶ **Example:** Biological Pathways Exchange (BioPAX) ontology, the GALEN ontology, the Foundational Model of Anatomy (FMA), and the National Cancer Institute thesaurus, Medical Entities Dictionary (MED).





## Other researches in DLs.

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- ▶ Great deal of interest in the idea of *combining DLs* with other KR formalisms such as *rules* and *Answer Set Programming (ASP)*.
- ▶ *Via* with the ability to describe more complex relationships between named individuals, or by adding support for non-monotonic features such as negation as failure.





## Other researches in DLs.

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- ▶ **Important contributions:** rule support in the Classic system, the integration of Datalog with DLs in AL-log and CARIN, the integration of answer set programming with DLs, and the extension of DLs with so-called DL-safe rules.
- ▶ Investigating the implementation and optimization of DL systems.
- ▶ A number of tools available that use the reasoners to support, e.g., ontology design or schema integration.





Let's see a demo on software named.....

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Protégé

<https://protege.stanford.edu/>



# References

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Handbook of knowledge representation

[https://dai.fmph.uniba.sk/~sefranek/kri/handbook/handbook\\_of\\_kr.pdf](https://dai.fmph.uniba.sk/~sefranek/kri/handbook/handbook_of_kr.pdf)



# Thank You!

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## Questions ?