

3. Reasoning Framework for Winograd Schema Challenge

We developed a logical reasoning based framework for solving the WSC problems. The framework takes the formal representations of a WSC problem (a sentence and a question) and a knowledge instance as inputs and performs a series of logical operations and intermediate generations to deduce the solution to the problem. The inputs and the set of intermediate operations are as described below.

There are three inputs to the reasoning framework, namely, a winograd schema sentence, a corresponding winograd schema question and a commonsense knowledge instance which belongs to any one of the first ten knowledge types defined in this work.

In this section, we show how, through a series of operations, the three inputs to the reasoning component entail the answer(s) to the input question. To show that, we define the inputs formally and also define a set of operations and the intermediate results. Later we show with the help of Answer Set Programming encoding of the formally defined inputs, how the answers entailed in this section are found using the ASP code.

Definition 1 (Formal Representation of the Given Text)

A formal representation of a given text (\mathcal{T}) is a rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graph, $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E})$, consisting of the set \mathcal{N} of nodes and the set \mathcal{E} of edges, where \mathcal{E} contains the edge labels between the ordered pairs of elements of \mathcal{N} .

The set of nodes in \mathcal{G} consists of two types of nodes, i.e., $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{C} \cup \mathcal{C}_o$, where

- \mathcal{C} is a set of constants in \mathcal{T} . The constants are the actual words² (uni-grams) in \mathcal{T} that are nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and pronouns, and the *Wh* question words in \mathcal{T} . In other words, $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_V \cup \mathcal{C}_N \cup \mathcal{C}_P \cup \mathcal{C}_R \cup \mathcal{C}_J \cup \mathcal{C}_W$, where
 - \mathcal{C}_V is a set of verbs in \mathcal{T} ,
 - \mathcal{C}_N is a set of nouns in \mathcal{T} ,
 - \mathcal{C}_P is a set of pronouns in \mathcal{T} ,
 - \mathcal{C}_R is a set of adverbs in \mathcal{T} ,
 - \mathcal{C}_J is a set of adjectives in \mathcal{T} , and
 - $\mathcal{C}_W = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$ such that “ q_i ” is a placeholder for an unknown entity³ in \mathcal{T} .

Constants’ occurrence index in \mathcal{T} is also preserved (except for “ q_i ”s). For example the word “*man*” occurs at index two in the example shown in figure 1 and it is represented as “*man_2*” in the formal representation of the sentence.

- \mathcal{C}_o is a set of concepts to which the constants in \mathcal{C} belong. The set of concepts is divided into two categories, namely \mathcal{C}_{o-N} and *non* – \mathcal{C}_{o-N} .
 - The set \mathcal{C}_{o-N} consists of the conceptual classes of the nouns and pronouns in \mathcal{C} . Each item in \mathcal{C}_{o-N} represents a basic class of entities to which a particular noun or a pronoun belongs. For example a “*man*” is an “*person*” (figure ??). There may be more than one conceptual class for an element in \mathcal{C} . For example, a “*man*” is a

² The idea of constant nodes is borrowed from (Bos 2016) about AMR representation (Banarescu et al. 2013)

³ An unknown entity is represented by any one of the following words in an English question. *what, when, where, which, who, whom, and whose*

“person” as well as an “entity” (not shown in the figure ?? but valid). \mathcal{C}_{o-N} also contains “q” which represents the conceptual class of an unknown entity identifier (i.e., “ q_i ”). An unknown entity identifier always belongs to at-least two conceptual classes, one is the real concept that it belongs to (for example, “ q_1 ”) in figure 2 is a “person”, and the other is “q” (See Figure 2).

- The set $non - \mathcal{C}_{o-N}$ consists of the base form of the words (except nouns and pronouns) in \mathcal{C} . For example, the base form of “ate” would be “eat”.

The set of edge labels in \mathcal{G} is consist of two kinds i.e., $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_{CC_o} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC}$

- \mathcal{E}_{CC_o} is a set of edge labels that are used to represent the edges from a node in \mathcal{C} to a node in \mathcal{C}_o . In other words, these edge labels are used to represent the relationship between a constant node in \mathcal{G} to a concept node in \mathcal{G} . There is only one such relationship possible in \mathcal{G} , i.e. $\mathcal{E}_{CC_o} = \{instance_of\}$. For example in Figure 1 there is an edge labeled “instance_of” from the node “man_2” to the node “person”.

- \mathcal{E}_{CC} is a set of edge labels that are used to represent the edges that originate from and end in the nodes in \mathcal{C} . In other words, these edge labels are used to represent the relationship between two constant nodes in \mathcal{G} . Based on the type of the end nodes, the edge labels are categorized into seven kinds i.e.,

$$\mathcal{E}_{CC} = \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-V)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-N/P/W)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-J)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(J-V)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-R)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(N-N/P/W)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(N/P/W-J)}$$

- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(V-V)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from and to items in \mathcal{C}_V .
- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(V-N/P/W)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from items in \mathcal{C}_V to the items in \mathcal{C}_N or \mathcal{C}_P or \mathcal{C}_W .
- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(V-J)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from items in \mathcal{C}_V to the items in \mathcal{C}_J .
- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(J-V)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from items in \mathcal{C}_J to the items in \mathcal{C}_V .
- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(V-R)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from items in \mathcal{C}_V to the items in \mathcal{C}_R .
- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(N-N/P/W)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from items in \mathcal{C}_N to the items in \mathcal{C}_N or \mathcal{C}_P or \mathcal{C}_W .
- $\mathcal{E}_{CC(N/P/W-J)}$ represents the set of all the possible edge labels from items in \mathcal{C}_N or \mathcal{C}_P or \mathcal{C}_W to the items in \mathcal{C}_J .

The items in \mathcal{E}_{CC} , consequently its various subcategories, consist of a predefined set of semantic relations. The semantic relations for representing \mathcal{G} could come from the vocabulary of any semantic parser, provided they satisfy the definition of \mathcal{G} . For this work the semantic relations in the Knowledge Parser (K-Parser)¹ are considered. For each of the edge label (e_i) in $\mathcal{E}_{CC} - \{\mathcal{E}_{CC(V-J)}, \mathcal{E}_{CC(J-V)}\}$, there also exists an inverse edge label e_i^{-1} such that the direction of the edges represented by e_i and e_i^{-1} is opposite in \mathcal{G} . For example if $e_i = instance_of$ then $e_i^{-1} = instance$.

$\mathcal{E}_{CC}^{-1} = \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-V)}^{-1} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-N/P)}^{-1} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(V-R)}^{-1}, \mathcal{E}_{CC(N-N/P)}^{-1} \cup \mathcal{E}_{CC(N/P/W-J)}^{-1}$ represents the set of inverse edge labels in \mathcal{G} .

Input Sentence (S): The man couldn't lift his son because he was so weak

Graphical Representation of S (\mathcal{G}_S):

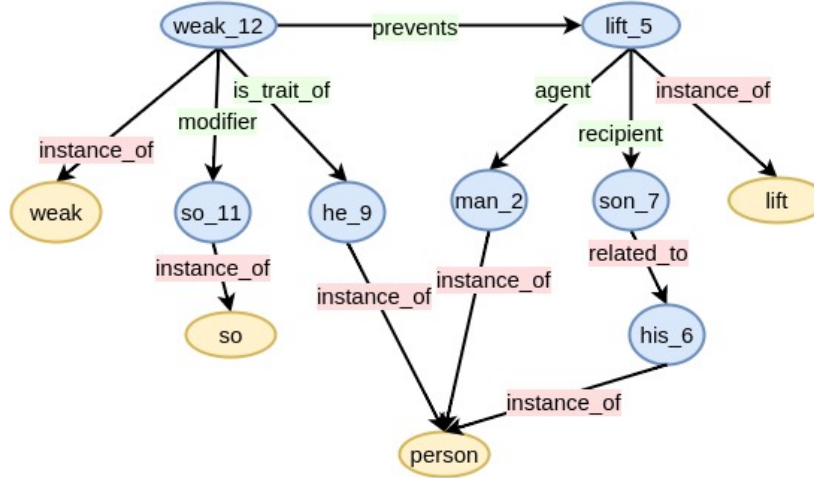


Figure 1: Graphical Representation of an input sentence

Definition 2 (Representation of the Input Sentence (\mathcal{G}_S))

A representation of the input English sentence S is a graph of the form $\mathcal{G} = \{\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E}\}$ (from definition 1), with following constraints.

- \mathcal{N} is the set of nodes extracted from S , such that there are no unknown nodes in \mathcal{N} , i.e., $\mathcal{C}_W = \emptyset$
- \mathcal{E} is the set of edges between the nodes in \mathcal{N} .

An example of the representation of an input sentence is shown in Figure ??.

Definition 3 (Representation of the Input Question (\mathcal{G}_Q))

A representation of the input English question Q is a graph of the form $\mathcal{G} = \{\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E}\}$ (from definition 1), with following constraints.

- \mathcal{N} is the set of nodes extracted from Q , such that \mathcal{N} contains at least one unknown node, i.e., $\mathcal{C}_W \neq \emptyset$
- \mathcal{E} is the set of edges between the nodes in \mathcal{N} .

An example of the represent of an input question is shown in Figure 2

Input Question (Q): Who was weak?

Graphical Representation of Q (G_Q):

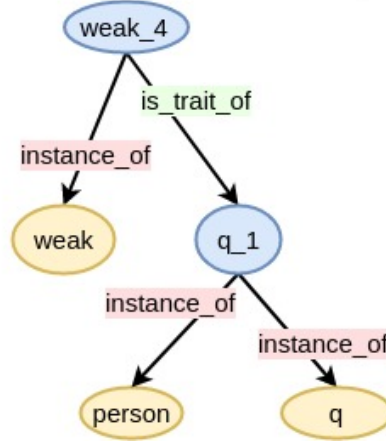


Figure 2: Graphical Representation of an Input Question

Definition 4 (Representation of the Required Knowledge (\mathcal{G}_K))

The representation of the commonsense knowledge is a graphical transformation of the categories of the commonsense knowledge defined in the section 2. Following are the different aspects of the transformation.

1. **Transformation of an Entity:** The generalized representation of an entity, as defined in the section 2.2, is shown below.

X [instance_of: C,
 trait: P₁, ..., trait: P_n,
 rel₁: X₁, ..., rel_m: X_m]

where, X is a placeholder that represents an entity, C represents the type of the entity, P₁, ..., P_n represent the properties associated with X via a relation *trait* and X₁, ..., X_n represent the entities that are associated with X via the relations rel₁, ..., rel_m respectively.

The above representation is transformed into a rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graph $\mathcal{G}_{Ent} = \{\mathcal{N}_{Ent}, \mathcal{E}_{Ent}\}$ such that \mathcal{N}_{Ent} represents the set of nodes in \mathcal{G}_{Ent} and \mathcal{E}_{Ent} represents the set of edge labels in \mathcal{G}_{Ent} . Following steps are taken to transform the above representation into \mathcal{G}_{Ent} .

- (i) X is transformed into the root node with label X,
- (ii) C is transformed into a non-root node with label C.
- (iii) The root nodes of the entities X₁, ..., X_n, defined recursively, are connected to the root node via directed relations rel₁, ..., rel_m from the root X to each entity's root node respectively.
- (iv) Same as the representation of an entity the properties are also represented as rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graphs (see the section *Transformation of a Property* below). The root nodes of the properties P₁, ..., P_m are connected to the root node via directed relation *trait* from the root X to each property's root node respectively.

The example graph generated for the above generalized representation is shown in Figure 3.

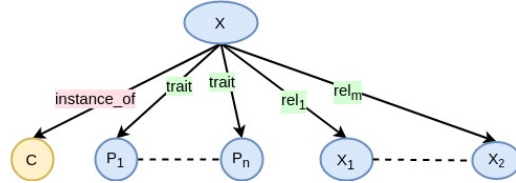


Figure 3: Graphical Representation of an Entity

2. **Transformation of a Property:** The generalized representation of a property, as defined in the section 2.2, is shown below.

P [instance_of: PROP, is_trait_of: X_1, \dots , is_trait_of: X_n]

where, P is a placeholder that represents a property, PROP represents the actual value of the property and X_1, \dots, X_n represent the entities that are associated with P via is_trait_of relation.

The above representation is transformed into a rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graph $\mathcal{G}_{Prop} = \{\mathcal{N}_{Prop}, \mathcal{E}_{Prop}\}$ such that \mathcal{N}_{Prop} represents the set of nodes in \mathcal{G}_{Prop} and \mathcal{E}_{Prop} represents the set of edge labels in \mathcal{G}_{Prop} . Following steps are taken to transform the above representation into \mathcal{G}_{Prop} .

- (i) P is transformed into the root node with label P ,
- (ii) PROP is transformed into a non-root node with label PROP.
- (iii) The root nodes of the entities X_1, \dots, X_n , as defined in the section *Transformation of an Entity* above, are connected to the root node P via directed relation is_trait_of from the root node P to each property's root node respectively.

The example graph generated from the above generalized representation is shown in figure 4.

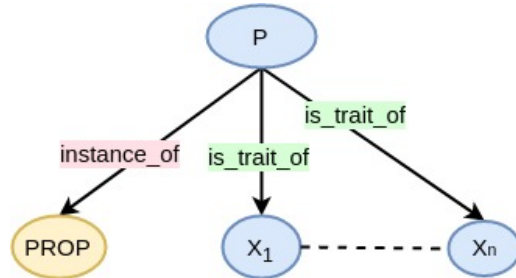


Figure 4: Graphical Representation of a Property

3. **Transformation of an Event:** The generalized representation of an event, as defined in the section 2.2, is shown below.

E [instance_of: A , rel₁: X_1, \dots , rel_n: X_n]

where, E is a placeholder that represents an event, A represents the driver action of the event and x_1, \dots, x_n represent the entities that are participating in the event via relations/roles rel_1, \dots, rel_n respectively.

The above representation is transformed into a rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graph $\mathcal{G}_E = \{\mathcal{N}_E, \mathcal{E}_E\}$ such that \mathcal{N}_E represents the set of nodes in \mathcal{G}_E and \mathcal{E}_E represents the set of edge labels in \mathcal{G}_E . Following steps are taken to transform the above representation into \mathcal{G}_E .

- (i) E is transformed into the root node with label E ,
- (ii) A is transformed into a non-root node with label A .
- (iii) The root nodes of the entities x_1, \dots, x_n , as defined above in the section *Transformation of an Entity*, are connected to the root node E via directed relations rel_1, \dots, rel_n from the root E to each entity's root node respectively.

The example graph generated from the above generalized representation is shown in figure 5.

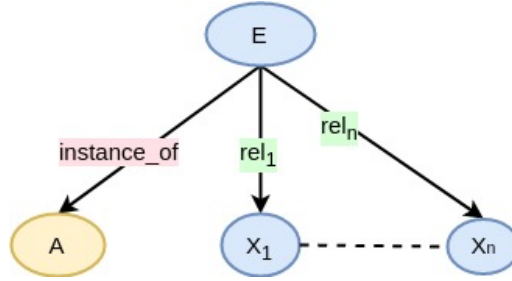


Figure 5: Graphical Representation of An Event

4. **Transformation of Causal and Sequential Relations:** The causal and sequential relations (*causes*, *prevents*, and *followed by*) exist between the events and properties in the different commonsense categories defined in this work (see section 2.2). These relations are directly transformed into directed edges between the roots of event graphs and property graphs as defined above. For example, let us consider the initial part IP (the part before the *implies* keyword) of an example knowledge instance from the commonsense category 1, as shown below.

```
P [instance-of: weak,
   is_trait_of: X [instance-of:person]]
prevents
E [instance_of: lift;
   agent: Y1 [instance-of:person]]
implies
X=Y1
```

According to the transformation process of the causal and sequential relations, the above representation is transformed into a rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graph \mathcal{G}_{K-Cond} as shown in figure 6.

Initial Part of a Knowledge Instance from Category 2 (IP):

```

P [instance_of: weak, is_trait_of: X [instance_of: person]]
prevents
E [instance_of: lift, agent: Y1 [instance_of: person]]

```

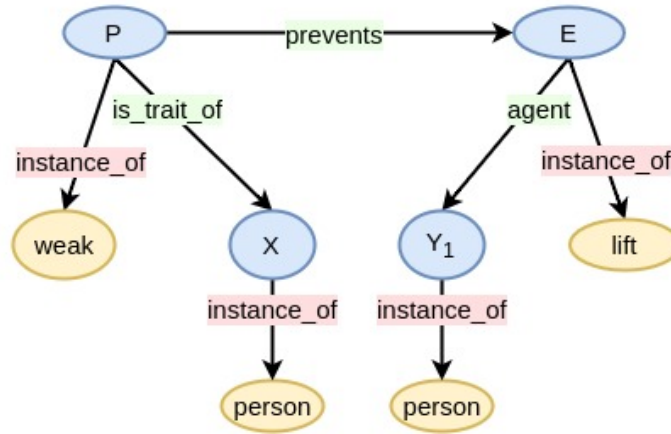
Graphical Representation of IP (G_{IP}):

Figure 6: Graphical representation of the initial part of a knowledge instance from category 1

5. **Transformation of the Commonsense Knowledge Format:** As mentioned in the section 2.2, all the commonsense knowledge categories defined in this work are of the form below.

S **implies** $X=Y$

where S is a combination of a set of events and/or properties connected via a chain of sequential and causal relations. Both X and Y are entities that either distinctly participate in two events in S or distinctly participate in an event and a property in S .

The above representation is transformed into a rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graph $\mathcal{G}_K = \{\mathcal{N}_K, \mathcal{E}_K\}$ such that \mathcal{N}_K represents the set of nodes in \mathcal{G}_K and \mathcal{E}_K represents the set of edge labels in \mathcal{G}_K . Following steps are taken to transform the above representation into \mathcal{G}_K .

- (i) Each property in S is transformed into a graphical representation by following the steps above to transform a property into a graph.
- (ii) Each event in S is transformed into a graphical representation by following the steps above to transform an event into a graph.
- (iii) The sequential and causal relationships in S are established between the graphical representations of events and properties in S by following the steps above for the transformation of causal and sequential relations.

- (iv) Finally, the right hand side of the implication mentioned above is addressed by equating the entities that represent X and Y by replacing the entity graph of one by the other. For example if the graph shown in Figure 6 represents S and the right side of the implication above is $X=Y_1$ then the root nodes of both the entities X and Y_1 are merged into one (keeping any one of the two labels) such that now all the incoming edges to both the nodes are going to just one node and all the outgoing node are coming from just one node i.e., the merged node. Also, the redundant edges and nodes which were created due to children of the roots of the entities X and Y_1 , are removed.
- (v) **Transformation of the Execution of an Event:** As mentioned in the section 2.3, there are two possible scenarios for the execution of an event. An event may be executed or not. In the generalized representation, there aspects are represented by the symbols $[+]$ and $[-]$ respectively. Whereas nothing is added while transforming the $[+]$ into the graphical representation, the $[-]$ symbol is transformed into an outgoing edge labeled *negative* from the driver action of the event to a newly created entity node of type *negation*. For example, let E be an event such that in a knowledge category E is represented as follow.

$[-] E [instance_of: A, rel_1: X_1, \dots, rel_n: X_n]$

where, A is the driver action of E and X_1, \dots, X_n are entities participating in E , in the roles rel_1, \dots, rel_n respectively. The above representation is transformed into the graphical representation shown in Figure 7

Example of Negative Execution of an Event (NEG):

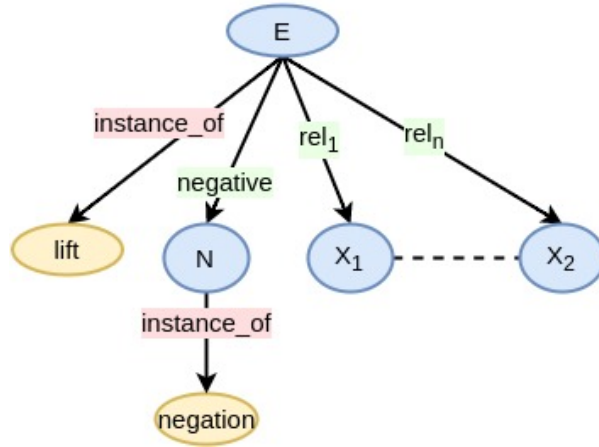
$$[-] E [\text{instance_of}: A, \text{rel}_1: X_1, \dots, \text{rel}_n: X_n]$$
Graphical Representation of NEG (G_{NEG}):

Figure 7: Graphical Representation of a Not Executed Event in Knowledge

Based on this transformation, the graphical representations for a knowledge instance from the category 1 is as shown in Figure 8.

The following definitions establish some of the properties on the basis of the representations of the input sentence, the input question and the input commonsense knowledge.

Definition 5 (Constant Node in a Sentence ($s_const(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a sentence's representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_S (from definition 2). We say that x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x has an outgoing edge labeled “instance_of” to another node i in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$s_const(x) \iff ((x, \text{instance_of}, i) \in \mathcal{G}_A)$$

For example, let us consider a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1. Then, according to the above definition following are the constant nodes.

s_const(weak_12)
s_const(he_9)
s_const(so_11)
s_const(lift_5)
s_const(son_7)
s_const(man_2)

A Knowledge Instance from Category 2 Knowledge (K):

```
P [instance_of: weak, is_trait_of: X [instance_of: person]]
prevents
E [instance_of: lift, agent: Y1 [instance_of: person]]
implies
X=Y1
```

Graphical Representation of K (G_K):

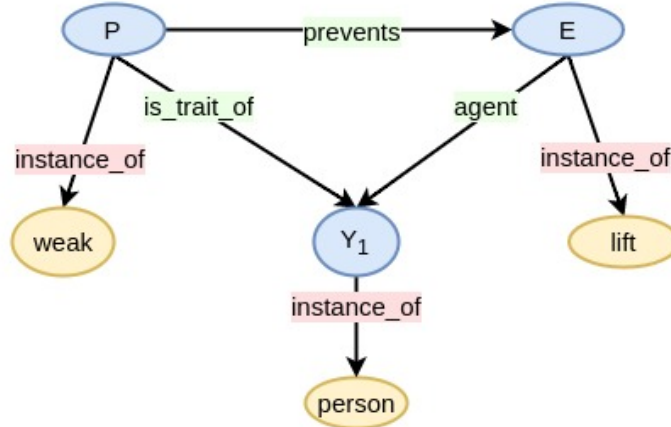


Figure 8: Graphical Representation of a Knowledge Instance from Category 2 Knowledge

Definition 6 (Constant Node in a Question ($q_const(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a question representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_Q (from definition 3). We say that x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x has an outgoing edge labeled “instance_of” to another node i in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$q_const(x) \iff ((x, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_A)$$

For example, let us consider a question’s representation as shown in figure 2. Then, according to the above definition following are the constant nodes.

$q_const(weak_4)$

$q_const(q_1)$

Definition 7 (Constant Node in Domain Knowledge ($k_const(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a required knowledge representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_K (from definition 4). We say that x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x has an outgoing edge labeled “instance_of” to another node i in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$k_const(x) \iff ((x, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_A)$$

For example, let us consider a required knowledge’s representation as shown in figure 8. Then, according to the above definition following are the constant nodes.

$k_const(P)$
 $k_const(E)$
 $k_const(Y_1)$

Definition 8 (A Node Has-Parent in Sentence ($s_has_par(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a sentence's representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_S (from definition 2). We say that x has a parent node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A and x has an incoming edge from a constant node p in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$s_has_par(x) \iff ((p, r, x) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge s_const(x) \wedge s_const(p)$$

For example, let us consider a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have parent(s).

$s_has_par(he_9)$
 $s_has_par(so_11)$
 $s_has_par(lift_5)$
 $s_has_par(son_7)$
 $s_has_par(man_2)$

Definition 9 (A Node Has-Parent in Question ($q_has_par(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a question's representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_Q (from definition 3). We say that x has a parent node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A and x has an incoming edge from a constant node p in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$q_has_par(x) \iff ((p, r, x) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge q_const(x) \wedge q_const(p)$$

For example, let us consider a question's representation as shown in figure 2. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have parent(s).

$q_has_par(q_1)$

Definition 10 (A Node Has-Parent in Domain Knowledge ($k_has_par(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a required knowledge representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_K (from definition 4). We say that x has a parent node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A and x has an incoming edge from a constant node p in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$k_has_par(x) \iff ((p, r, x) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge k_const(x) \wedge k_const(p)$$

For example, let us consider a required knowledge's representation as shown in figure 8. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have parents.

$k_has_par(E)$
 $k_has_par(Y_1)$

Definition 11 (A Node Has-Child in Sentence ($s_has_child(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a sentence's representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_S (from definition 2). We say that x has a child node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A and x has an outgoing edge to a constant node c in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$s_has_child(x) \iff ((x, r, c) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge s_const(x) \wedge s_const(c)$$

For example, let us consider a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have children.

s_has_child(weak_12)
s_has_child(lift_5)

Definition 12 (A Node Has-Child in Question ($q_has_child(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a question's representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_Q (from definition 3). We say that x has a child node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A and x has an outgoing edge to a constant node c in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$q_has_child(x) \iff ((x, r, c) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge q_const(x) \wedge q_const(c)$$

For example, let us consider a question's representation as shown in figure 2. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have children.

q_has_child(weak_4)

Definition 13 (A Node Has-Child in Domain Knowledge ($s_has_child(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a required knowledge representation such that \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_K (from definition 4). We say that x has a child node in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A and x has an outgoing edge to a constant node c in \mathcal{G}_A i.e.,

$$k_has_child(x) \iff ((x, r, c) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge k_const(x) \wedge k_const(c)$$

For example, let us consider a required knowledge's representation as shown in figure 8. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have children.

k_has_child(P)
k_has_child(E)

Definition 14 (Cross-Domain Sibling from Domain Knowledge to Sentence ($k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a required knowledge's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_K , see definition 4) and \mathcal{G}_B be a sentence's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_B is of the form \mathcal{G}_S , see definition 2). We say that a node y in \mathcal{G}_B is a cross-required sibling of a node x in \mathcal{G}_A (from required knowledge to sentence) iff all of the conditions below are satisfied.

- (a) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A ,
- (b) y is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_B ,
- (c) there exists an outgoing edge labeled "*instance_of*" from the node x to a node i in \mathcal{G}_A , and
- (d) there exists an outgoing edge labeled "*instance_of*" from y to a node i in \mathcal{G}_B

Logically,

$$k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y) \iff (k_const(x) \wedge s_const(y) \wedge ((x, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge ((y, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_B))$$

For example, let us consider a required knowledge's representation as shown in figure 8 and a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1. Then, according to the above definition following nodes are cross-domain siblings.

k_s_crossdom_sib(P, weak_12)
k_s_crossdom_sib(Y₁, he_9)
k_s_crossdom_sib(Y₁, son_7)
k_s_crossdom_sib(Y₁, man_2)
k_s_crossdom_sib(E, lift_5)

Definition 15 (Cross-Domain Clone from Domain Knowledge to Sentence ($k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a required knowledge's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_K , see definition 4) and \mathcal{G}_B be a sentence's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_B is of the form \mathcal{G}_S , see definition 2). We say that a node y in \mathcal{G}_B is a cross-domain clone of a node x in \mathcal{G}_A (from required knowledge to sentence) iff all of the following conditions are satisfied.

- (a) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A ,
- (b) y is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_B ,
- (c) y is a cross-domain sibling of x from required knowledge to sentence (i.e., $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$),
- (d) If (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_A , then (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_B such that $k_s_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$, where p_j is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A , and
- (e) If (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_A , then (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_B such that $k_s_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$, where c_k is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A .

For example, let us consider a required knowledge's representation as shown in figure 8 and a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1. Then, according to the above definition following nodes are cross-domain clones.

$k_s_crossdom_clone(P, weak_12)$
 $k_s_crossdom_clone(E, lift_5)$
 $k_s_crossdom_clone(Y_1, man_2)$
 $k_s_crossdom_clone(Y_1, he_9)$

Definition 16 (Merged Representation (\mathcal{G}_M))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a sentence's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_S , see definition 2) and \mathcal{G}_B be a required knowledge representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_B is of the form \mathcal{G}_K , see definition 4). A merged representation \mathcal{G}_M , is obtained by performing the following set of operations on \mathcal{G}_A and \mathcal{G}_B .

- (i) copy all the nodes and edges of \mathcal{G}_A into \mathcal{G}_M
- (ii) if all the constant nodes in \mathcal{G}_B have at-least one cross-domain clone in \mathcal{G}_A then, for each constant node v_i in \mathcal{G}_B , for every two distinct constant nodes vs_j and vs_k in \mathcal{G}_A such that they are cross-domain clones of v_i (i.e., $k_s_crossdom_clone(v_i, vs_j)$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(v_i, vs_k)$, and $vs_j \neq vs_k$), do the following if the respective conditions are satisfied.
 - (a) add (p_j, r_j, vs_k) to \mathcal{G}_M if $(p_j, r_j, vs_j) \in \mathcal{G}_A$
 - (b) add (vs_k, r_j, c_j) to \mathcal{G}_M if $(vs_j, r_j, c_j) \in \mathcal{G}_A$

For example, let us consider a required knowledge's representation as shown in figure 8 and a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1. Then, according to the above definition the merged representation is as shown in figure 9.

Definition 17 (Constant Node in Merged Representation ($m_const(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_M be a merged representation from definition 16. We say that x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M iff x has an outgoing edge labeled “*instance_of*” to another node i in \mathcal{G}_M i.e.,

$$m_const(x) \iff ((x, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_M)$$

For example, let us consider the merged representation as shown in figure 9. Then, according to the above definition following are the constant nodes.

$m_const(he_9)$

Input Sentence (S): The man couldn't lift his son because he was so weak

Graphical Representation of S (G_S):

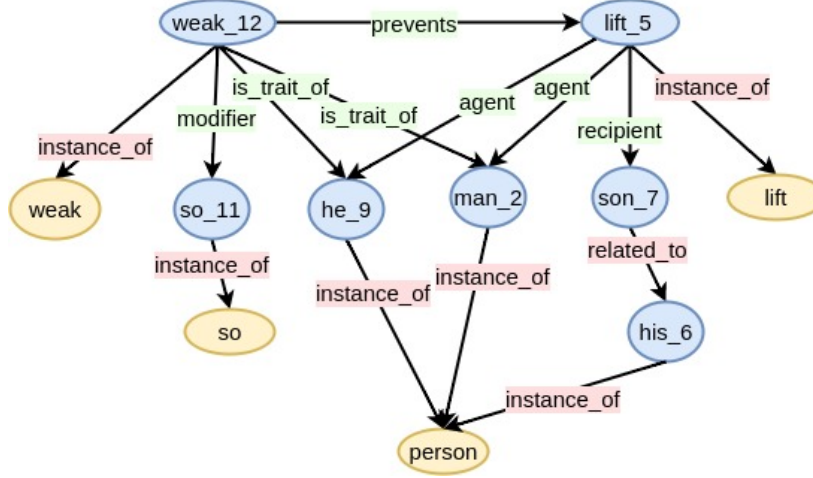


Figure 9: Graphical Representation of an input sentence

$m_const(so_11)$
 $m_const(weak_12)$
 $m_const(lift_5)$
 $m_const(son_7)$
 $m_const(man_2)$

Definition 18 (A Node Has-Parent in Merged Representation ($m_has_par(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_M be a merged representation from definition 16. We say that x has a parent node in \mathcal{G}_M iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M and x has an incoming edge from a constant node p in \mathcal{G}_M i.e.,

$$m_has_par(x) \iff ((p, r, x) \in \mathcal{G}_M) \wedge m_const(x) \wedge m_const(p)$$

For example, let us consider the merged representation as shown in figure 9. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have parent(s).

$m_has_par(he_9)$
 $m_has_par(so_11)$
 $m_has_par(man_2)$
 $m_has_par(son_7)$
 $m_has_par(lift_5)$

Definition 19 (A Node Has-Child in Merged Representation ($m_has_child(x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_M be a merged representation from definition 16. We say that x has a child node in \mathcal{G}_M iff x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M and x has an outgoing edge to a constant node c in \mathcal{G}_M i.e.,

$$m_has_child(x) \iff ((x, r, c) \in \mathcal{G}_M) \wedge m_const(x) \wedge m_const(c)$$

For example, let us consider the merged representation as shown in figure 9. Then, according to the above definition following nodes have children.

m_has_child(weak_12)
m_has_child(lift_5)

Definition 20 (Cross-Domain Sibling from Question to Merged Representation
(q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a question's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_Q , see definition 3) and \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation from definition 16. We say that a node x in \mathcal{G}_A has a cross-domain sibling node y in \mathcal{G}_M (from question to merged representation) iff all of the conditioned mentioned below are satisfied.

- (a) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A ,
- (b) y is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M ,
- (c) there exists an outgoing edge labeled “*instance_of*” from the node x to a node i in \mathcal{G}_A
- (d) there exists an outgoing edge labeled “*instance_of*” from y to a node i in \mathcal{G}_M .

Logically,

$$q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y) \iff (q_const(x) \wedge m_const(y) \wedge ((x, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge ((y, instance_of, i) \in \mathcal{G}_M))$$

For example, let us consider the merged representation as shown in figure 9 and a question's representation as shown in figure 2. Then, according to the above definition following nodes are cross-domain siblings.

q_m_crossdom_sib(q_1, he_9)
q_m_crossdom_sib(q_1, son_7)
q_m_crossdom_sib(q_1, man_2)
q_m_crossdom_sib(weak_4, weak_12)

Definition 21 (Cross-Domain Clone from Question to Merged Representation
(q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a question's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_Q , see definition 3) and \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation from definition 16. We say that a node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of node x in \mathcal{G}_A (from question to the merged representation) iff all of the following conditions are satisfied.

- (a) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A ,
- (b) y is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M ,
- (c) y is a cross-domain sibling of x from the question to merged representation (i.e., $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$),
- (d) If (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_A , then (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M such that $q_m_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$, where p_j is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A , and
- (e) If (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_A , then (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M such that $q_m_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$, where c_k is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A .

For example, let us consider the merged representation as shown in figure 9 and a question's representation as shown in figure 2. Then, according to the above definition following nodes are cross-domain clones.

q_m_crossdom_clone(weak_4, weak_12)

q_m_crossdom_clone(q_1, he_9)
q_m_crossdom_clone(q_1, man_2)

Definition 22 (Final Answers ($ans(q_i, x)$))

Let \mathcal{G}_A be a question's representation (i.e., \mathcal{G}_A is of the form \mathcal{G}_Q , see definition 2) and \mathcal{G}_M be a merged representation from definition 16. We say that if each constant node in \mathcal{G}_Q has a cross-domain clone in \mathcal{G}_M , q_i is an unknown node in \mathcal{G}_Q (i.e. $(q_i, instance_of, q) \in \mathcal{G}_A$), and x is a cross-domain clone of q_i from \mathcal{G}_A to \mathcal{G}_M (i.e., $q_m_crossdom_clone(q_i, x)$), then x is an answer to the unknown node, q_i , in the input question. Logically,

$$ans(q_i, x) \iff q_m_crossdom_clone(q_i, x) \wedge ((q_i, instance_of, q) \in \mathcal{G}_A) \wedge q_all_covered$$

where, $q_all_covered$ is true if and only if each constant node in \mathcal{G}_Q has at-least one clone in \mathcal{G}_M .

For example, let us consider a sentence's representation as shown in figure 1, a question's representation as shown in figure 2, a required knowledge's representation as shown in figure 8 and the merged representation as shown in figure 9. Then, according to the above definition following are the answers to the question.

ans(q_1, he_9)
ans(q_1, man_2)

4. Answer Set Programming Encoding of the Reasoning Aspects

In this section we present the ASP encoding of the inputs (the sentence, the question and the required knowledge) and the rules (based on the definitions 2-22) that are used to perform the commonsense reasoning on the inputs.

4.1 ASP Encoding of the Input

There are three inputs to the reasoning framework. All three inputs, namely, the sentence, the question and the corresponding required knowledge are formally represented as rooted, edge labeled directed acyclic graphs. These graphs are easily translated into RDF style triples⁴ of the form (h, l, t) , where h and t represent two nodes in the graph and l represents the label of a directed edge from h to t . To differentiate between inputs, we appended the triple with different identifiers for each input. For example an edge in a sentence is represented as $has_s(h, l, t)$, and edge in a question is represented as $has_q(h, l, t)$ and an edge in the corresponding required knowledge is represented as $has_k(h, l, t)$. The RDF style triple representations of a set of actual inputs from the WSC problem are as shown below.

```
% Sent: The man couldn't lift his son because he was so weak .
% Sent's ASP encoding:
has_s(he_9, instance_of, person) .
has_s(weak_12, is_trait_of, he_9) .
has_s(weak_12, modifier, so_11) .
has_s(so_11, instance_of, so) .
```

⁴ <https://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-rdf-concepts-20040210/#section-triples>


```

has_s(weak_12,instance_of,weak).
has_s(lift_5,instance_of,lift).
has_s(lift_5,agent,man_2).
has_s(lift_5,recipient,son_7).
has_s(son_7,instance_of,person).
has_s(man_2,instance_of,person).
has_s(son_7,related_to,his_6).
has_s(weak_12,prevents,lift_5).

% Question: Who was weak ?
% Question's ASP encoding:
has_q(weak_3,is_trait_of,q_1).
has_q(q_1,instance_of,q).
has_q(q_1,instance_of,person).
has_q(weak_3,instance_of,weak).

% Knowledge Instance: If x is tasty then probably x is eaten
% Knowledge Instance's ASP encoding:
has_k(p,instance_of,weak).
has_k(p,is_trait_of,y_1).
has_k(y_1,instance_of,person).
has_k(e,instance_of,lift).
has_k(e,agent,y_1).
has_k(p,prevents,e).

```

4.2 ASP Rule to Obtain Constant Nodes in Sentence's Representation

According to the definition 5 ($s_const(x)$), a node x in a sentence's representation (say \mathcal{G}_A) is a constant node iff x has an outgoing edge labeled "*instance_of*". The following ASP rule is used to encode definition 5.

```
n1: s_const(X) :- has_s(X,instance_of,I).
```

Here, $s_const(X)$ represents that X is a constant node in the given sentence's representation. The output of the rule, based on the inputs mentioned in the section 4.1 is shown below.

```

s_const(he_9)
s_const(so_11)
s_const(weak_12)
s_const(lift_5)
s_const(son_7)
s_const(man_2)

```

4.3 ASP Rule to Obtain Constant Nodes in Question's Representation

According to the definition 6 ($q_const(x)$), a node x in a question's representation (say \mathcal{G}_A) is a constant node iff x has an outgoing edge labeled "*instance_of*". Following ASP rule is used to encode definition 6.

```
n2: q_const(X) :- has_q(X,instance_of,I).
```

Here, $q_const(X)$ represents that x is a constant node in the given question's representation. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned in the section 4.1 is as shown below.

```
q_const(weak_3)
q_const(q_1)
```

4.4 ASP Rule to Obtain Constant Nodes in Domain Knowledge's Representation

According to the definition 7 ($k_const(x)$), a node x in a required knowledge's representation (say \mathcal{G}_A) is a constant node iff x has an outgoing edge labeled "instance_of". Following ASP rule is used to encode definition 7.

```
n3: k_const(X) :- has_k(X,instance_of,I) .
```

Here, $k_const(X)$ represents that x is a constant node in the given required knowledge's representation. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned in the section 4.1 is as shown below.

```
k_const(p)
k_const(y_1)
k_const(e)
```

4.5 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Parent Information in Sentence's Representation

According to the definition 8 ($s_has_par(x)$), a node x in a sentence's representation, say \mathcal{G}_A , has a parent in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node and x has an incoming edge from a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to encode the definition 8.

```
p1: s_has_par(X) :- has_s(P,R,X) , s_const(X) , s_const(P) .
```

Here, $s_has_par(X)$ represents that x has a parent in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the inputs mentioned in the section 4.1 and the outputs of the ASP rules in sections 4.2 to 4.4 is as shown below.

```
s_has_par(he_9)
s_has_par(so_11)
s_has_par(man_2)
s_has_par(son_7)
s_has_par(lift_5)
```

4.6 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Parent Information in Question's Representation

According to the definition 9 ($s_has_par(x)$), a node x in a question's representation, say \mathcal{G}_A , has a parent in \mathcal{G}_A iff x is a constant node and x has an incoming edge from a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to encode definition 8.

```
p2: q_has_par(X) :- has_q(P,R,X) , q_const(X) , q_const(P) .
```

Here, $s_has_par(X)$ represents that x has a parent in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the inputs mentioned in the section 4.1 is as shown below.

```
q_has_par(q_1)
```

4.7 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Parent Information in Domain Knowledge Representation

According to the definition of $k_has_par(x)$ above, a constant node in the required knowledge representation \mathcal{G}_A has a parent in \mathcal{G}_A if it has an incoming edge from a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```
p3: k_has_par(X) :- has_k(P,R,X), k_const(X), k_const(P).
```

where, $k_has_par(X)$ represents that X has a parent in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
k_has_par(y_1)  
k_has_par(e)
```

4.8 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Child Information in Sentence's Representation

According to the definition of $s_has_child(x)$ above, a constant node in the textual representation \mathcal{G}_A has a child in \mathcal{G}_A if it has an outgoing edge to a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```
h1: s_has_child(X) :- has_s(X,R,C), s_const(X), s_const(C).
```

where, $s_has_child(X)$ represents that X has a child in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
s_has_child(weak_12)  
s_has_child(lift_5)
```

4.9 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Child Information in Question's Representation

According to the definition of $q_has_child(x)$ above, a constant node in the question representation \mathcal{G}_A has a child in \mathcal{G}_A if it has an outgoing edge to a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```
h2: q_has_child(X) :- has_q(X,R,C), q_const(X), q_const(C).
```

where, $q_has_child(X)$ represents that X has a child in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
q_has_child(weak_3)
```

4.10 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Child Information in Domain Knowledge Representation

According to the definition of $k_has_child(x)$ above, a constant node in the required knowledge's representation \mathcal{G}_A has a child in \mathcal{G}_A if it has an outgoing edge to a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```
h3: k_has_child(X) :- has_k(X,R,C), k_const(X), k_const(C).
```

where, $k_has_child(X)$ represents that X has a child in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
k_has_child(e)  
k_has_child(p)
```

4.11 ASP Rules to Obtain Cross-Domain Siblings from Domain Knowledge to Sentence

According to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ above, a constant node x in the required knowledge's representation \mathcal{G}_A has a cross-domain sibling node y in the textual representation \mathcal{G}_B if they are instances of two nodes with same label. Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship.

```
s1: k_s_crossdom_sib(X, Y) :- has_s(Y, instance_of, I),
                             has_k(X, instance_of, I),
                             s_const(Y),
                             k_const(X).
```

where, $k_s_crossdom_sib(X, Y)$ represents that X in the representation of required knowledge has a cross-domain sibling Y in the textual representation. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
k_s_crossdom_sib(p, weak_12)
k_s_crossdom_sib(y_1, he_9)
k_s_crossdom_sib(y_1, son_7)
k_s_crossdom_sib(y_1, man_2)
k_s_crossdom_sib(e, lift_5)
```

4.12 ASP Rules to Obtain Cross-Domain Clones from Domain Knowledge to Sentence

According to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ above, a node x in the required knowledge's representation \mathcal{G}_A has a cross-domain clone node y in the textual representation \mathcal{G}_B if they are cross-domain siblings, their parents are cross-domain clones (in case there are any) and their children are cross-domain siblings (in case there are any). Following ASP rules are used to extract this relationship.

```
c1: k_s_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- k_s_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                               has_k(Pj, Rj, X),
                               has_s(Pj_prime, Rj, Y),
                               k_s_crossdom_clone(Pj, Pj_prime),
                               k_const(Pj),
                               has_k(X, Rk, Cj),
                               has_s(Y, Rk, Cj_prime),
                               k_s_crossdom_sib(Cj, Cj_prime),
                               k_const(Cj).
```

```
c2: k_s_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- k_s_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                               not k_has_par(X),
                               has_k(X, Rk, Cj),
                               has_s(Y, Rk, Cj_prime),
                               k_s_crossdom_sib(Cj, Cj_prime),
                               k_const(Cj).
```

```
c3: k_s_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- k_s_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                               has_k(Pj, Rj, X),
```

```

has_s(Pj_prime,Rj,Y),
k_s_crossdom_clone(Pj,Pj_prime),
k_const(Pj),
not k_has_child(X).

c4: k_s_crossdom_clone(X,Y) :- k_s_crossdom_sib(X,Y),
                               not k_has_par(X),
                               not k_has_child(X).

```

where, $k_s_crossdom_clone(X, Y)$ represents that X in the representation of required knowledge has a cross-domain clone Y in the textual representation. The output of these rules, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```

k_s_crossdom_clone(p, weak_12)
k_s_crossdom_clone(e, lift_5)
k_s_crossdom_clone(y_1, man_2)
k_s_crossdom_clone(y_1, he_9)

```

4.13 ASP Rules to Obtain the Merged Representation

Intuitively, a merged representation of a sentence and knowledge instance represents a representation that contains all the information provided in the sentence and also the knowledge contained in the knowledge instance.

According to the definition of a merged representation (Definition 16), a merged representation of an input sentence and a knowledge instance is a representation that contains all the information provided in the sentence and also the knowledge contained in the knowledge instance. It is generated in two parts.

Firstly, all the nodes and edges from the sentence's representation are copied as is to the merged representation. An ASP rule to accomplish that is as shown below.

```

m1: has_m(X,R,Y) :- has_s(X,R,Y)

```

Secondly, if each the constant node in the knowledge instance's representation has a cross-domain clone in the sentence's representation then for each constant node in the knowledge instance's representation, all of its cross-domain clones in the sentence's representation are merged as one node. This part is encoded in ASP in two steps. Step 1 involves the rules to identify if each constant node in the knowledge instance's representation has a cross-domain clone in the sentence's representation. Following are the rules.

```

m2: k_covered(X) :- k_const(X),
                  s_const(Y),
                  k_s_crossdom_clone(X,Y).
m3: k_not_all_covered :- not k_covered(X),
                        k_const(X).
m4: k_all_covered :- not k_not_all_covered.

```

Step 2 involves the rule to merge cross-domain clone nodes. Following are the rules.

```

m5: has_m(X,R,Y) :- has_s(X,R,Y1),
                    has_s(X2,R2,Y),
                    Y1!=Y,
                    k_s_crossdom_clone(Y_k,Y1),

```

```

k_s_crossdom_clone(Y_k, Y),
k_all_covered.

m6: has_m(X, R, Y) :- has_s(X1, R1, Y),
                      has_s(X, R, Y2),
                      Y!=Y2,
                      k_s_crossdom_clone(Y_k, Y),
                      k_s_crossdom_clone(Y_k, Y2),
                      k_all_covered.

m7: has_m(X, R, Y) :- has_s(X1, R, Y),
                      has_s(X, R2, Y2),
                      X1!=X,
                      k_s_crossdom_clone(X_k, X1),
                      k_s_crossdom_clone(X_k, X),
                      k_all_covered.

m8: has_m(X, R, Y) :- has_s(X, R1, Y1),
                      has_s(X1, R, Y),
                      X!=X1,
                      k_s_crossdom_clone(X_k, X),
                      k_s_crossdom_clone(X_k, X1),
                      k_all_covered.

```

where, $\text{has_m}(X, R, Y)$ represents a directed edge, labeled R , from the node X to the node Y in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_M .

The output of these rules, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```

has_m(he_9, instance_of, person)
has_m(weak_12, is_trait_of, he_9)
has_m(weak_12, modifier, so_11)
has_m(so_11, instance_of, so)
has_m(weak_12, instance_of, weak)
has_m(lift_5, instance_of, lift)
has_m(lift_5, agent, man_2)
has_m(lift_5, recipient, son_7)
has_m(son_7, instance_of, person)
has_m(man_2, instance_of, person)
has_m(son_7, related_to, his_6)
has_m(weak_12, prevents, lift_5)
has_m(lift_5, agent, he_9)
has_m(weak_12, is_trait_of, man_2)

```

4.14 ASP Rule to Obtain Constant Nodes in Merged Representation

According to the definition of $m_const(x)$ above, a node x in the required knowledge representation \mathcal{G}_A is a constant node if it has an outgoing edge labeled “*instance_of*”. Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```

n4: m_const(X) :- has_m(X, instance_of, I).

```

where, $m_const(X)$ represents that X is a constant node in the required knowledge representation. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
m_const(he_9)
m_const(so_11)
m_const(weak_12)
m_const(lift_5)
m_const(son_7)
m_const(man_2)
```

4.15 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Parent Information in Merged Representation

According to the definition of $m_has_par(x)$ above, a constant node in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_A has a parent in \mathcal{G}_A if it has an incoming edge from a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule are used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```
p4: m_has_par(X) :- has_m(P,R,X), m_const(X), m_const(P).
```

where, $m_has_par(X)$ represents that X has a parent in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
m_has_par(he_9)
m_has_par(so_11)
m_has_par(man_2)
m_has_par(son_7)
m_has_par(lift_5)
```

4.16 ASP Rule to Obtain Has-Child Information in Merged Representation

According to the definition of $m_has_child(x)$ above, a constant node in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_A has a child in \mathcal{G}_A if it has an outgoing edge to a constant node in \mathcal{G}_A . Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship from \mathcal{G}_A .

```
h4: m_has_child(X) :- has_m(X,R,C), m_const(X), m_const(C).
```

where, $m_has_child(X)$ represents that X has a child in the representation of the input sentence. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
m_has_child(weak_12)
m_has_child(lift_5)
```

4.17 ASP Rules to Obtain Cross-Domain Siblings from Question to Merged Representation

According to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_sib(x,y)$ above, a constant node x in the question's representation \mathcal{G}_A has a cross-domain sibling node y in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_B if they are instances of two nodes with same label. Following ASP rule is used to extract this relationship.

```
s2: q_m_crossdom_sib(X,Y) :- has_m(Y,instance_of,I),
                             has_q(X,instance_of,I),
```

```

m_const(Y),
q_const(X).

```

where, $q_m_crossdom_sib(X, Y)$ represents that X in the representation of the question has a cross-domain sibling Y in the merged representation. The output of the rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```

q_m_crossdom_sib(q_1, he_9)
q_m_crossdom_sib(q_1, son_7)
q_m_crossdom_sib(q_1, man_2)
q_m_crossdom_sib(weak_4, weak_12)

```

4.18 ASP Rules to Obtain Cross-Domain Clones from Question to Merged Representation

According to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ above, a node x in the question's representation \mathcal{G}_A has a cross-domain clone node y in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_B if they are cross-domain siblings, their parents are cross-domain clones (in case there are any) and their children are cross-domain siblings (in case there are any). Following ASP rules are used to extract this relationship.

```

c5: q_m_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- q_m_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                                has_q(Pj, Rj, X),
                                has_m(Pj_prime, Rj, Y),
                                q_m_crossdom_clone(Pj, Pj_prime),
                                q_const(Pj),
                                has_q(X, Rk, Cj),
                                has_m(Y, Rk, Cj_prime),
                                q_m_crossdom_sib(Cj, Cj_prime),
                                q_const(Cj).

```

```

c6: q_m_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- q_m_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                                not q_has_par(X),
                                has_q(X, Rk, Cj),
                                has_m(Y, Rk, Cj_prime),
                                q_m_crossdom_sib(Cj, Cj_prime),
                                q_const(Cj).

```

```

c7: q_m_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- q_m_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                                has_q(Pj, Rj, X),
                                has_m(Pj_prime, Rj, Y),
                                q_m_crossdom_clone(Pj, Pj_prime),
                                q_const(Pj),
                                not q_has_child(X).

```

```

c8: q_m_crossdom_clone(X, Y) :- q_m_crossdom_sib(X, Y),
                                not q_has_par(X),
                                not q_has_child(X).

```


where, $q_m_crossdom_clone(X, Y)$ represents that X in the representation of the question has a cross-domain clone Y in the merged representation. The output of these rules, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
q_m_crossdom_clone(weak_4, weak_12)
q_m_crossdom_clone(q_1, he_9)
q_m_crossdom_clone(q_1, man_2)
```

4.19 ASP Rules to Obtain the Final Answers

According to the definition of $ans(q_i, x)$ above, the set of answers, with respect to an unknown node in the question, consists of the cross-domain clone nodes of the unknown node from the formal representation of the input question to the merged representation. The definition is encoded in ASP in two steps. Step 1 involves the rules to identify if each constant node in a question's representation has a cross-domain clone in the merged representation. Following are the rules.

```
a1: q_covered(X) :- q_const(X),
                  m_const(Y),
                  q_m_crossdom_clone(X, Y).
```

```
a2: q_not_all_covered :- not q_covered(X),
                        q_const(X).
```

```
a3: q_all_covered :- not q_not_all_covered.
```

Step 2 involves the answer deduction rule mentioned below.

```
a4: ans(Q, X) :- crossdom_clone(q, m, Q, X),
                has_q(Q, instance_of, q),
                q_all_covered.
```

where $ans(Q, X)$ represents that the answer to the question, with respect to the unknown entity Q , is X . $q_m_crossdom_clone(Q, X)$ represents that the unknown node, Q , in the question's representation has a cross-domain clone X in the merged representation, and $has_q(Q, instance_of, q)$ represents that Q is an unknown node in the given question.

The output of this rule, based on the input mentioned above is shown below.

```
ans(q_1, he_9)
ans(q_1, man_2)
```

5. Correctness of the ASP Encoding

Definition 23

Given the graphical representations of a sentence (\mathcal{G}_S), a question (\mathcal{G}_Q) and the corresponding required knowledge (\mathcal{G}_K), the AnsProlog program $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ is the answer set program consisting of the following:

- (i) the facts of the form $has_s(h, l, t)$, $has_q(h, l, t)$, and $has_k(h, l, t)$, representing the edges in \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q and \mathcal{G}_K respectively.
- (ii) the rules n1 to n4 for constant nodes, p1 to p4 for has-parent information, h1 to h4 for has-child information, s1 and s2 for cross-domain siblings, c1 to c8 for cross-domain clones, m1 to m8 for the merged representation, and the rules a1 to a4 for final answer(s) to the given question.

Proposition 1

(Gelfond and Lifschitz 1988) Any stratified AnsProlog program is categorical and it has a unique answer set.

Lemma 1

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation, a question's representation and the representation of a required knowledge instance respectively. Then $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ is stratified.

Proof. According to the definition of a stratified AnsProlog program in (Baral 2003), an AnsProlog program Π is stratified if there exists a stratification (π_0, \dots, π_k) of Π .

Also, a partition π_0, \dots, π_k of the set of all predicate symbols of Π is a stratification of Π , if for any rule of the type $A_0 \leftarrow A_1, \dots, A_m, \text{not}A_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not}A_n$, and for any $p \in \pi_s$, $0 \leq s \leq k$ if $A_0 \in \text{atoms}(p)$, then:

- (a) for every $1 \leq i \leq m$ there is q and $j \leq s$ such that $q \in \pi_j$ and $A_i \in \text{atoms}(q)$, and
- (b) for every $m+1 \leq i \leq n$ there is q and $j < s$ such that $q \in \pi_j$ and $A_i \in \text{atoms}(q)$

Now, let us divide all the predicates in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ in the following manner,

$\pi_0 = \{has_s, has_q, has_k\},$
 $\pi_1 = \{s_const, q_const, k_const\},$
 $\pi_2 = \{s_has_par, q_has_par, k_has_par, s_has_child, q_has_child, k_has_child\},$
 $\pi_3 = \{k_s_crossdom_sib\},$
 $\pi_4 = \{k_s_crossdom_clone\},$
 $\pi_5 = \{k_covered\},$
 $\pi_6 = \{k_not_all_covered\},$
 $\pi_7 = \{k_all_covered\},$
 $\pi_8 = \{has_m\},$
 $\pi_9 = \{m_const\},$
 $\pi_{10} = \{m_has_par, m_has_child\},$
 $\pi_{11} = \{q_m_crossdom_sib\},$
 $\pi_{12} = \{q_m_crossdom_clone\},$ and
 $\pi_{13} = \{q_covered\},$
 $\pi_{14} = \{q_not_all_covered\},$
 $\pi_{15} = \{q_all_covered\},$
 $\pi_{16} = \{ans\}$

The above partitioning of all the predicates in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ satisfies the definition of a stratification of an AnsProlog program and therefore π_0, \dots, π_{16} is a stratification of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$.

This means that there exists a stratification of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Hence, $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ is stratified. \square

Lemma 2

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ has a unique answer set.

Proof. By Proposition 1 and Lemma 1, $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ is categorical and it has a unique answer set. \square

Proposition 2 ((Marek and Subrahmanian 1989))(a) **Forced atom Proposition:** Let S be an answer set of an AnsProlog program Π . For any ground instance of a rule in Π of the type $A_0 \leftarrow A_1, \dots, A_m, \text{not}A_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not}A_n$. If $\{A_1, \dots, A_m\} \subseteq S$ and $\{A_{m+1}, \dots, A_n\} \cap S = \emptyset$ then $A_0 \in S$.
 (b) **Supporting rule proposition:** If S is an answer set of an AnsProlog program Π then S is supported by Π . That is, if $A_0 \in S$, then there exists a ground instance of a rule in Π of the type $A_0 \leftarrow A_1, \dots, A_m, \text{not}A_{m+1}, \dots, \text{not}A_n$. Such that $\{A_1, \dots, A_m\} \subseteq S$ and $\{A_{m+1}, \dots, A_n\} \cap S = \emptyset$.

Lemma 3

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then

- (i) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models s_const(x)$
- (ii) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_K iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models k_const(x)$
- (iii) x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_Q iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models q_const(x)$

Proof. (i) Let x be a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S . Therefore, by the definition of $s_const(x)$ (Definition 5), there exists an outgoing edge labeled “*instance_of*” from x to another node (say p) in \mathcal{G}_S . This means that $has_s(x, instance_of, p)$ is present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as a fact and hence $has_s(x, instance_of, p)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule n1 in section 4.2 and part (a) of Proposition 2, $s_const(x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $s_const(x)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then, according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2, and the rule n1 in section 4.2, $\{has_s(x, instance_of, p)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is an instance of p in \mathcal{G}_S . Therefore, according to the definition of $s_const(x)$ (Definition 5), x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S .

Hence, x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models s_const(x)$. Similarly, (ii) and (iii) are true with respect to the rules n2 and n3 (Section 4.3 and 4.4) in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ respectively. \square

Lemma 4

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then a node y ($y \in \mathcal{G}_S$) is a cross-domain sibling of a node x ($x \in \mathcal{G}_K$) iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$$

Proof. Let a node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of a node x in \mathcal{G}_K . Therefore, by the definition of $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ (Definition 14), y is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_S , x is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_K , and both x and y are constant nodes in \mathcal{G}_K and \mathcal{G}_S respectively. This

means that $has_s(y, instance_of, i)$, $has_k(x, instance_of, i)$, $const(s, y)$ and $const(k, x)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule $s1$ in section 4.11 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2, and rule $s1$ in section 4.11, $\{has_s(y, instance_of, i), has_k(x, instance_of, i), const(s, y), const(k, x)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, y is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_S , x is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_K , and both x and y are constant nodes in \mathcal{G}_K and \mathcal{G}_S respectively. Therefore, according to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ (Definition 14), the node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of the node x in \mathcal{G}_K .

Hence, a node y ($y \in \mathcal{G}_S$) is a cross-domain sibling of a node x ($x \in \mathcal{G}_K$) iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ \square

Lemma 5

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then

- (i) A node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a parent iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_par(s, x)$
- (ii) A node x in \mathcal{G}_K has a parent iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_par(k, x)$
- (iii) A node x in \mathcal{G}_Q has a parent iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_par(q, x)$

Proof. (i) Let a node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a parent. Therefore, by definition of $s_has_par(x)$ (Definition 8), there exists an incoming edge (say labeled r) from a constant node p to x in \mathcal{G}_S . This means that $has_s(p, r, x)$, $s_const(x)$ and $s_const(p)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule $p1$ in section 4.5 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $s_has_par(x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $s_has_par(x) \in \mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of Proposition 2 and the rule $p1$ in section 8, $\{has_s(p, r, x), s_const(x), s_const(p)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S , p is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_K , and there exists an incoming edge from p to x in \mathcal{G}_S . Therefore, according to the definition of $s_has_par(x)$ (Definition 8), the node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a parent.

Hence, a node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a parent iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models s_has_par(x)$.

Similarly, (ii) and (iii) above are true with respect to the rules $p2$ and $p3$ in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. \square

Lemma 6

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then

- (i) A node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a child iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_child(s, x)$
- (ii) A node x in \mathcal{G}_K has a child iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_child(k, x)$
- (iii) A node x in \mathcal{G}_Q has a child iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_child(q, x)$

Proof. (i) Let a node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a child. Therefore, by definition of $s_has_child(x)$ (Definition 11), there exists an outgoing edge (say labeled r) from x to a constant node c in \mathcal{G}_S . This means that $has_s(x, r, c)$, $s_const(x)$ and $s_const(c)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are present in the unique answer set

\mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule h1 in section 4.8 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $s_has_child(x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $s_has_child(x) \in \mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of Proposition 2 and the rule h1 in section 11, $\{has_s(x, r, c), s_const(x), s_const(c)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S , c is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_S , and there exists an outgoing edge from x to c in \mathcal{G}_S . Therefore, according to the definition of $s_has_child(x)$ (Definition 11), the node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a child.

Hence, a node x in \mathcal{G}_S has a child iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models s_has_child(x)$.

Similarly, (ii) and (iii) above are true with respect to the rules h2 and h3 in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. \square

Lemma 7

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then a node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of a node x in \mathcal{G}_K iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$$

Proof. Let a node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of a node x in \mathcal{G}_K . Therefore, according to the the definition of $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 15), exactly one of the following scenario is true.

- (a) y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j , (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k . This means that $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_s(p'_j, r_j, y)$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$, $has_k(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_s(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $k_s_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule c1 in the section 4.12 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (b) y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , x does not have a parent, (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k . This means that $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_s(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $k_s_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Also, $k_has_par(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . Now, according to the rule c2 in the section 4.12 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (c) y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j and x does not have a child. This means that $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_s(p'_j, r_j, y)$ and $k_s_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$ are present as facts in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and hence are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Also, $k_has_child(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . Now, according to the rule c3 in the section 4.12 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (d) y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , x does not have a parent and x does not have a child. This means that $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ is present as a fact in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and hence it is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Also, $k_has_par(x)$ and $k_has_child(x)$ are not true in \mathcal{M} . Now,

according to the rule c4 in the section 4.12 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.

As shown above in all of the scenarios, $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$, i.e., $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ belongs to the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$.

Conversely, let $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2 and the rules c1 to c4 in the section 4.12 any one of the following is true.

- (a) $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_s(p'_j, r_j, y)$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$, $has_k(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_s(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $k_s_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. In other words, y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j , (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , and c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k . Therefore according to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 15), the node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_K .
- (b) $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_s(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $k_s_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$, and $k_has_par(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k and x does not have a parent. Therefore according to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 15), the node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_K .
- (c) $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_s(p'_j, r_j, y)$ and $k_s_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$ are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and $k_has_child(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_K , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j and x does not have a child. Therefore according to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 15), the node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_K .
- (d) $k_s_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$, and $k_has_par(x)$ and $k_has_child(x)$ are not true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_K , x does not have a parent and x does not have a child. Therefore according to the definition of $k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 15), the node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_K .

As shown above in all of the scenarios, the node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_K .

Hence, a node y in \mathcal{G}_S is a cross-domain clone of a node x in \mathcal{G}_K iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models k_s_crossdom_clone(x, y)$. \square

Lemma 8

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Then, there exists a merged representation \mathcal{G}_M such that there exists an edge $(h, l, t) \in \mathcal{G}_M$ iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_m(h, l, t)$$

Proof. Let (h, l, t) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M . Therefore, by definition of \mathcal{G}_M (Definition 16), exactly one of the following scenarios is true.

- (a) (h, l, t) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S . This means that $has_s(h, l, t)$ is present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as a fact and hence $has_s(h, l, t)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule $m1$ in the section 4.13 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $has_m(h, l, t) \in \mathcal{M}$
- (b) $(h, l, t1)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $(h2, l2, t)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $t \neq t1$, $t1$ is a cross-domain clone of t_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S and t is a cross-domain clone of t_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S . This means that $has_s(h, l, t1)$, $has_s(h2, l2, t)$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(t_k, t1)$ and $k_s_crossdom_clone(t_k, t)$ are present as facts in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and hence all of the above are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule $m2$ in the section 4.13 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $has_m(h, l, t) \in \mathcal{M}$
- (c) $(h, l2, t2)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $(h1, l, t)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $h \neq h1$, $h1$ is a cross-domain clone of h_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S and h is a cross-domain clone of h_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S . This means that $has_s(h, l2, t2)$, $has_s(h1, l, t)$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(h_k, h1)$ and $k_s_crossdom_clone(h_k, h)$ are present as facts in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and hence all of the above are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule $m3$ in the section 4.13 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $has_m(h, l, t) \in \mathcal{M}$

As shown in all the scenarios above, $has_m(h, l, t) \in \mathcal{M}$, i.e., if (h, l, t) is an edge in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_M then $has_m(h, l, t)$ belongs to the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$.

Conversely, let $has_m(h, l, t)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2 and the rules $m1$ to $m3$ in the section 4.13 any one of the following scenarios must be true.

- (a) $has_s(h, l, t)$ is true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, (h, l, t) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S . Therefore, according to the definition of \mathcal{G}_M (Definition 16), (h, l, t) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M .
- (b) $has_s(h, l, t1) \in \mathcal{M}$, $has_s(h2, l2, t) \in \mathcal{M}$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(t_k, t1) \in \mathcal{M}$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(t_k, t) \in \mathcal{M}$ and $t \neq t1$. In other words, $(h, l, t1)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $(h2, l2, t)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $t1$ is a cross-domain clone of t_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S and t is a cross-domain clone of t_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S and $t \neq t1$. Therefore, according to the definition of \mathcal{G}_M (Definition 16), (h, l, t) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M .
- (c) $has_s(h, l2, t2) \in \mathcal{M}$, $has_s(h1, l, t) \in \mathcal{M}$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(h_k, h1) \in \mathcal{M}$, $k_s_crossdom_clone(h_k, h) \in \mathcal{M}$ and $h \neq h1$. In other words, $(h, l2, t2)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $(h1, l, t)$ is an edge in \mathcal{G}_S , $h1$ is a cross-domain clone of h_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S , h is a cross-domain clone of h_k from \mathcal{G}_K to \mathcal{G}_S and $h \neq h1$. Therefore, according to the definition of \mathcal{G}_M (Definition 16), (h, l, t) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M .

As shown above, in all the scenarios, if $has_m(h, l, t) \in \mathcal{M}$ then (h, l, t) is an edge in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_M .

Hence, an edge (h, l, t) is an edge in the merged representation \mathcal{G}_M iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models has_m(h, l, t)$ \square

Lemma 9

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Also, \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation of \mathcal{G}_S and \mathcal{G}_K (By definition 10). Then, a node x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models m_const(x)$$

Proof. Let x be a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M . Therefore, by the definition of $m_const(x)$ (Definition 17), there exists an outgoing edge labeled "instance_of" from x to another

node (say p) in \mathcal{G}_M . This means that $has_m(x, instance_of, p)$ is present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as a fact and hence according to the part (a) Proposition 2, $has_m(x, instance_of, p)$ is present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule n3 in section 4.2 and part (a) of Proposition 2, $m_const(x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $m_const(x)$ is present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then, according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2, and the rule n3 in section 4.2, $\{has_m(x, instance_of, p)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is an instance of p in \mathcal{G}_M . Therefore, according to the definition of $m_const(x)$ (Definition 17), x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M .

Hence, x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models s_const(x)$ \square

Lemma 10

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Also, \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation of \mathcal{G}_S and \mathcal{G}_K (By Definition 16). Then, a node y ($y \in \mathcal{G}_M$) is a cross-domain sibling of a node x ($x \in \mathcal{G}_Q$) iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$$

Proof. Let a node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of a node x in \mathcal{G}_Q . Therefore, by the definition of $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ (Definition 20), y is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_M , x is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_Q , and both x and y are constant nodes in \mathcal{G}_Q and \mathcal{G}_M respectively. This means that $has_m(y, instance_of, i)$, $has_q(x, instance_of, i)$, $m_const(y)$ and $q_const(x)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule s2 in section 4.17 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2, and rule s2 in section 4.17, $\{has_m(y, instance_of, i), has_q(x, instance_of, i), m_const(y), q_const(x)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, y is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_M , x is an instance of i in \mathcal{G}_Q , and both x and y are constant nodes in \mathcal{G}_Q and \mathcal{G}_M respectively. Therefore, according to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ (Definition 20), the node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of the node x in \mathcal{G}_Q .

Hence, a node y ($y \in \mathcal{G}_M$) is a cross-domain sibling of a node x ($x \in \mathcal{G}_Q$) iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ \square

Lemma 11

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Also, \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation of \mathcal{G}_S and \mathcal{G}_K (By definition 16). Then, a node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a parent iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models m_has_par(x)$$

Proof. Let a node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a parent. Therefore, by definition of $m_has_par(x)$ (Definition 18), there exists an incoming edge (say labeled r) from a constant node p to x in \mathcal{G}_M . This means that $has_m(p, r, x)$, $m_const(x)$ and $m_const(p)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule p4 in section 4.15 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $m_has_par(x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $m_has_par(x) \in \mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of Proposition 2 and the rule p4 in section

4.15, $\{has_m(p, r, x), m_const(x), m_const(p)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M , p is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M , and there exists an incoming edge from p to x in \mathcal{G}_M . Therefore, according to the definition of $m_has_par(x)$ (Definition 8), the node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a parent.

Hence, a node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a parent iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models m_has_par(x)$. \square

Lemma 12

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Also, \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation of \mathcal{G}_S and \mathcal{G}_K (By definition 10). Then, a node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a child iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models m_has_child(x)$$

Proof. Let a node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a child. Therefore, by definition of $m_has_child(x)$ (Definition 19), there exists an outgoing edge (say labeled r) from x to a constant node c in \mathcal{G}_M . This means that $has_m(x, r, c)$, $m_const(x)$ and $m_const(c)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are present in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule h4 in section 4.16 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $m_has_child(x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $m_has_child(x) \in \mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of Proposition 2 and the rule h4 in section 4.16, $\{has_m(x, r, c), m_const(x), m_const(c)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M , c is a constant node in \mathcal{G}_M , and there exists an outgoing edge from x to c in \mathcal{G}_M . Therefore, according to the definition of $m_has_child(x)$ (Definition 19), the node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a child.

Hence, a node x in \mathcal{G}_M has a child iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models m_has_child(x)$. \square

Lemma 13

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Also, \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation of \mathcal{G}_S and \mathcal{G}_K (By Definition 16). Then, a node x in \mathcal{G}_Q has a cross-domain clone y in \mathcal{G}_M iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$$

Proof. Let a node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of a node x in \mathcal{G}_Q . Therefore, according to the the definition of $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 21), exactly one of the following scenario is true.

- (a) y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j , (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k . This means that $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_k(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_m(p'_j, r_j, y)$, $q_m_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$, $has_q(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_m(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $q_m_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule c5 in the section 4.18 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (b) y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , x does not have a parent, (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k . This means that $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_q(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_m(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $q_m_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are present in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ as facts and hence all of them are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Also, $q_has_par(x)$ is not true

- in \mathcal{M} . Now, according to the rule c6 in the section 4.18 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (c) y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j and x does not have a child. This means that $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_q(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_m(p'_j, r_j, y)$ and $q_m_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$ are present as facts in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and hence are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Also, $q_has_child(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . Now, according to the rule c7 in the section 4.18 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.
- (d) y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , x does not have a parent and x does not have a child. This means that $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ is present as a fact in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and hence it is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Also, $q_has_par(x)$ and $q_has_child(x)$ are not true in \mathcal{M} . Now, according to the rule c8 in the section 4.18 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$.

As shown above in all of the scenarios, $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$, i.e., $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ belongs to the unique answer set of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$.

Conversely, let $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2 and the rules c1 to c4 in the section 4.18 any one of the following is true.

- (a) $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_q(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_m(p'_j, r_j, y)$, $q_m_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$, $has_q(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_m(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $q_m_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. In other words, y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j , (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , and c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k . Therefore according to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 21), the node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_Q .
- (b) $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_q(x, r_k, c_k)$, $has_m(y, r_k, c'_k)$ and $q_m_crossdom_sib(c_k, c'_k)$ are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$, and $q_has_par(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, (x, r_k, c_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (y, r_k, c'_k) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , c'_k is a cross-domain sibling of c_k and x does not have a parent. Therefore according to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 21), the node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_Q .
- (c) $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$, $has_q(p_j, r_j, x)$, $has_m(p'_j, r_j, y)$ and $q_m_crossdom_clone(p_j, p'_j)$ are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$ and $q_has_child(x)$ is not true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p_j, r_j, x) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_Q , (p'_j, r_j, y) is an edge in \mathcal{G}_M , p'_j is a cross-domain clone of p_j and x does not have a child. Therefore according to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 21), the node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_Q .
- (d) $q_m_crossdom_sib(x, y)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$, and $q_has_par(x)$ and $q_has_child(x)$ are not true in \mathcal{M} . In other words, y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain sibling of x in \mathcal{G}_Q , x does not have a parent and x does not have a child. Therefore according to the definition of $q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$ (Definition 21), the node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_Q .

As shown above in all of the scenarios, the node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of the node x in \mathcal{G}_Q .

Hence, a node y in \mathcal{G}_M is a cross-domain clone of a node x in \mathcal{G}_Q iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models q_m_crossdom_clone(x, y)$. \square

Theorem 1

Let \mathcal{G}_S , \mathcal{G}_Q , and \mathcal{G}_K be a sentence's representation (by Definition 2), a question's representation (by Definition 3) and a representation of the corresponding required knowledge (by Definition 4) respectively. Also, \mathcal{G}_M is the merged representation of \mathcal{G}_S and \mathcal{G}_K (Obtained by Definition 16). Then, an unknown node q_i in \mathcal{G}_Q has an answer x ($x \in \mathcal{G}_M$) iff:

$$\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models ans(q_i, x)$$

Proof. Let q_i be an unknown node in \mathcal{G}_Q and x be its answer in \mathcal{G}_M . Therefore, according to the definition of $ans(q_i, x)$ (Definition 22), x is a cross-domain clone of q_i and the edge $(q_i, instance_of, q) \in \mathcal{G}_Q$. This means that $crossdom_clone(q, m, q_i, x)$, and $has_q(q_i, instance_of, q)$ are present as facts in $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$, and hence they are true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Now, according to the rule a1 in section 4.19 and part (a) of the Proposition 2, $ans(q_i, x) \in \mathcal{M}$.

Conversely, let $ans(q_i, x)$ is true in the unique answer set \mathcal{M} of $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K)$. Then, according to the part (b) of the Proposition 2 and the rule a1 in the section 4.19, $\{crossdom_clone(q, m, q_i, x), has_q(q_i, instance_of, q)\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. In other words, x is a cross-domain clone of q_i from \mathcal{G}_Q to \mathcal{G}_M and the edge $(q_i, instance_of, q) \in \mathcal{G}_Q$. Therefore, according to the definition of $ans(q_i, x)$ (Definition 22), the node x in \mathcal{G}_M is an answer to the unknown node q_i .

Hence an unknown node q_i in \mathcal{G}_Q has an answer x ($x \in \mathcal{G}_M$) iff $\Pi(\mathcal{G}_S, \mathcal{G}_Q, \mathcal{G}_K) \models ans(q_i, x)$. \square