



UNIVERSITY  
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# LODE - The logic of Knowledge Bases (KBs)

Sept 13, 2023

# LODE - The logic of Knowledge bases

- Introduction
- LoDE definition
- Language
- Domain
- Interpretation function
- Entailment
- Expansion
- LoDe Reasoning

# Knowledge Bases (KB's)

The original use of the term knowledge base was to describe one of the two sub-systems of an expert system (a knowledge-based system).

A knowledge-based system [\*] consists of

- a knowledge-base representing *facts* about the world and
- ways of reasoning about those *facts* to deduce new facts or highlight inconsistencies.

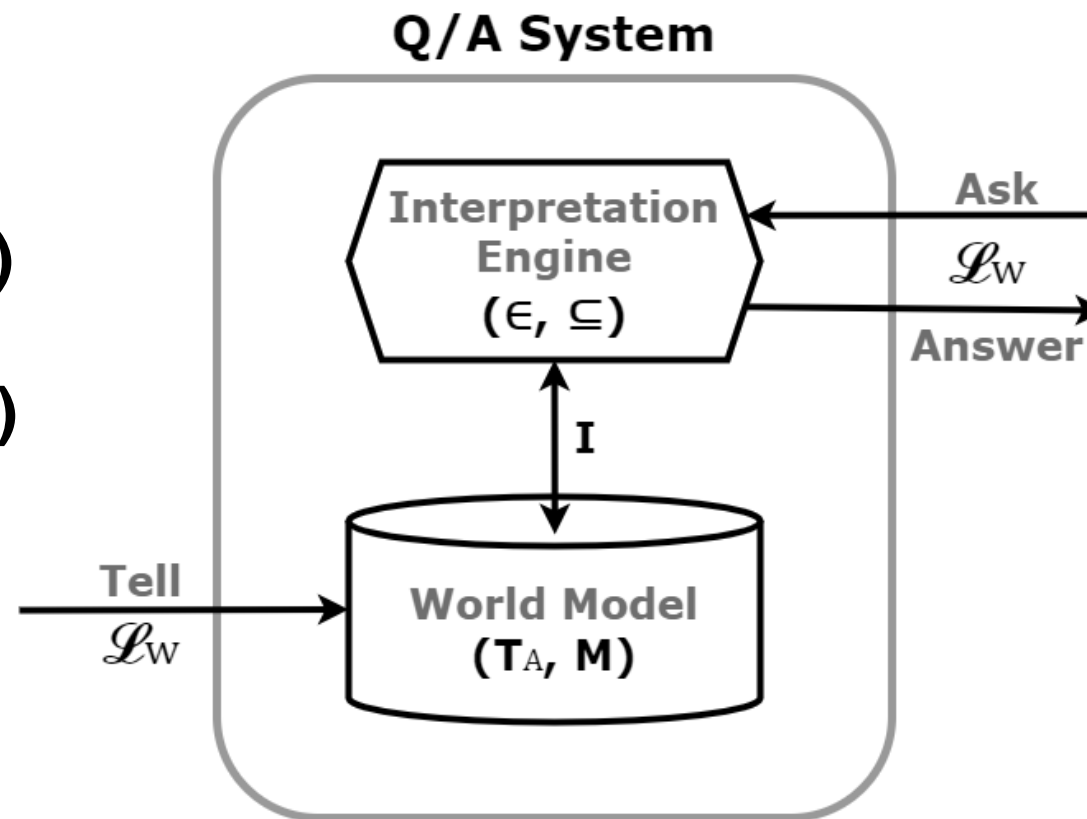
[\*] Hayes-Roth, Frederick; Donald Waterman; Douglas Lenat (1983). Building Expert Systems. Addison-Wesley.

# KB - Components

- The language (concepts) used to name the entities and properties which are the case in the world (concept definitions)
- The knowledge (complex assertions) used to describe the properties of the entities as we perceive them in the world
- The names of the entities which are the case in the world
- The (data and object) properties which describe how entities correlate in the world
- The possibility to query it and get answers back

# KB = Reasoning as Question Answering

**Tell Language (basic LODE)**  
+  
**Ask Language (basic LODE)**



# KB – Informal definition

$$KB = \langle T, A \rangle$$

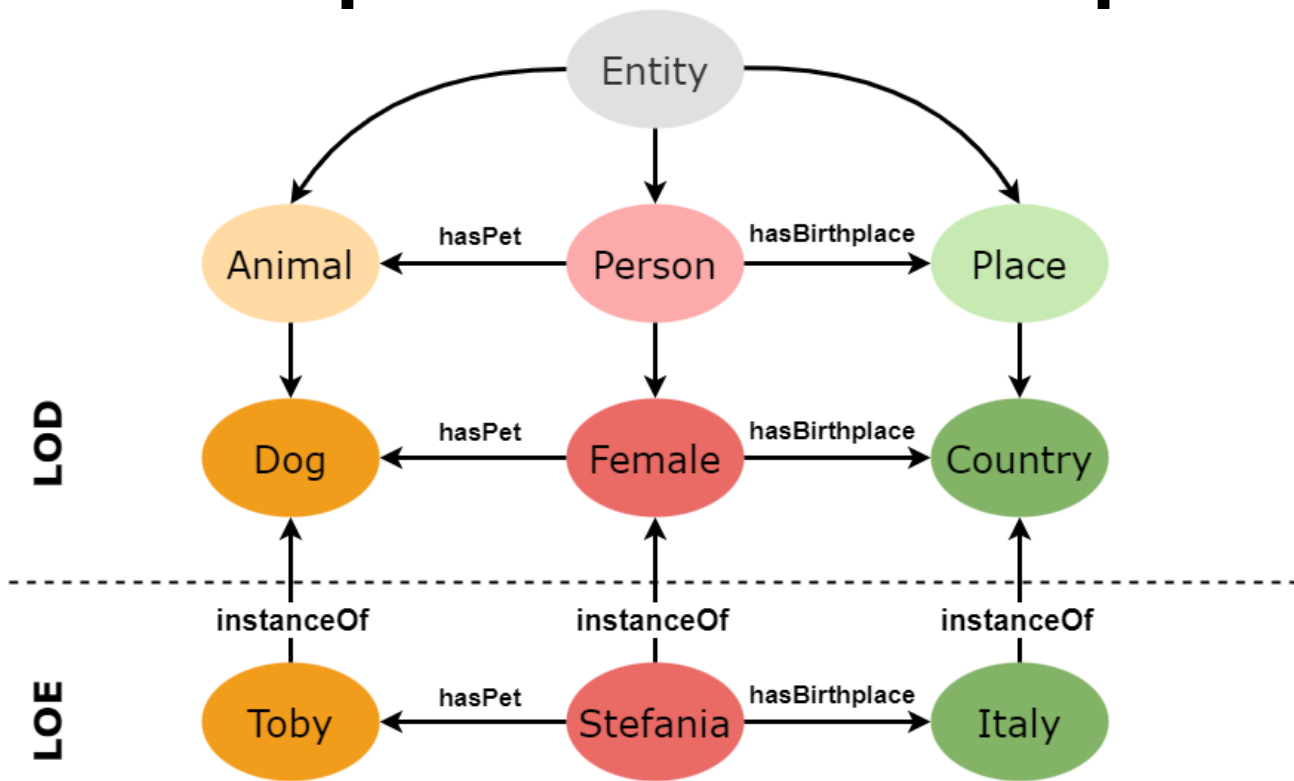
where:

- ***T*** (for ***T***erminology) is a theory which models the background general (commonsense, scientific, ...) knowledge of the world. We formalize ***T*** in LOD.
- ***A*** (for ***A***ssertions) is a theory which models our knowledge of the world as we perceive it, we are told about it, we infer about it. We formalize ***A*** in LOE.

LOD and LOE provide, respectively, the means for reasoning about ***T*** and ***A*** independently.

LODE provide the means for reasoning about ***A*** based on the background knowledge encoded in ***T***.

# KB Components – an example



## A populated (knowledge) teleontology

- Which LoD definitions?
- Which LoD descriptions?
- Which LoE assertions?

*Could we have an EG encoding the following assertions?*

- Person (Lucia)
- HasBirthplace (person#1, Italy)
- Person(Stefania)
- HasHusband(Stefania, Mario)
- HasHusband(Lucia, Mario)

**Observation:** in a KB the key issue is to provide answers about assertions, namely the properties of entities in the LOE EG. The LOD knowledge component is used «only» to make assertions more flexible and extended using the extra power enabled by the LOD knowledge, as encoded in T.

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## LoDE – Definition

We formally define LODE as follows

$$\text{LoDE} = \langle \text{EG}_{\text{LoDE}}, \models_{\text{LoDE}} \rangle$$

with

$$\text{EG}_{\text{LoDE}} = \langle L_{\text{LoDE}}, D_{\text{LoDE}}, I_{\text{LoDE}} \rangle$$

Below, any time no confusion arises, we drop the subscripts.

**Observation:** the KG of LoDE is declared an EG. By this we mean that in terms of reasoning / entailment, LoDe entailment is restricted to use an EG.

## LoDE – Definition (continued)

$$EG_{LODE} = \langle L_{LODE}, D_{LODE}, I_{LODE} \rangle$$

is not given but it must be constructed by suitably integrating

$$EG_{LOE} = \langle L_{LOE}, D_{LOE}, I_{LOE} \rangle$$

and

$$ETG_{LOD} = \langle L_{LOD}, D_{LOD}, I_{LOD} \rangle$$

under the assumptions

$$D_{LOE} = D_{LOD} = D_{LODE}$$

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# LoDE – The language of assertions A

## Definition 10.6 (Language L)

$$L = LA \cup \emptyset$$

where  $LA$  is a set of assertions.  $LA$  is constructed from an alphabet  $Aa$  defined as follows.

## Definition 10.7 (Alphabet A)

$$Aa = \langle E, \{C\}, \{P\} \rangle$$

where  $E$  is a set of **(names of) entities**  $e$  and of values  $v$ ,  $\{C\} = ET \cup DT \cup L$  is a set of (names of) etypes  $ET$ , of dtypes and of labels  $L$  (i.e., defined etypes),  $\{P\}$  is a set of **properties**, also called **roles**, with  $\{P\} = \{OP\} \cup \{DP\}$ , where  $OP$  is an **object property** and  $DP$  is a **data property**.

$LA$  is a set of assertions, constructed from the alphabet  $Aa$ .

# LoDE – the production rules for A

$\langle \text{awff} \rangle$	$::= \neg \langle \text{awff} \rangle$	
	$\langle \text{etype} \rangle (\langle \text{nameEntity} \rangle$	
	$\langle \text{dtype} \rangle (\langle \text{value} \rangle$	
	$\langle \text{objProp} \rangle (\langle \text{nameEntity} \rangle, \langle \text{nameEntity} \rangle)$	
	$\langle \text{dataProp} \rangle (\langle \text{nameEntity} \rangle, \langle \text{value} \rangle)$	
$\langle \text{etype} \rangle$	$::= \text{ET1} \mid \dots \mid \text{ETn} \mid \langle \text{label} \rangle$	
$\langle \text{dtype} \rangle$	$::= \text{DT1} \mid \dots \mid \text{DTn}$	
$\langle \text{objProp} \rangle$	$::= \text{OP1} \mid \dots \mid \text{OPn}$	
$\langle \text{dataProp} \rangle$	$::= \text{DP1} \mid \dots \mid \text{DPn}$	
$\langle \text{nameEntity} \rangle$	$::= e1 \mid \dots \mid en$	
$\langle \text{value} \rangle$	$::= v1 \mid \dots \mid vn$	

**Observation:** Compare with LoE, we are building an EG with (new!) defined etypes  $\langle \text{label} \rangle$  plus we allow for negated atomic formulas

# LoDE – The language of the terminology T

## Definition 11.4 (The language L)

$$L = L_a \cup L_c$$

with

$$L_a = L_A \cup L_{Ac}$$

**Observation 11.2 (LOE *versus* LOD)** LOE allows for atomic assertions. LOD allows for (different) **atomic assertions** ( $L_A$ ), for **complex assertions** ( $L_{Ac}$ ) and also **complex formulas** ( $L_c$ ), but only at the knowledge level. LoDE allows for LOE atomic assertions using etypes defined via LOD complex formulas

# LoDE – the production rules for T

<cwff>	::= <label> $\equiv$ <definition>   <description>	% A concept definition or description
<definition>	::= <deflabel> $\equiv$ <genus> $\sqcap$ <differentia>	% A definition
<description>	::= <descrlabel> $\equiv$ <deflable> $\sqcap$ <description>	% A description
<genus>	::= <label>   etype	% Etype(s) are the root(s) of the subsumption hierarchy
<differentia>	::= <awff>	
<description>	::= <awff>	
<cwff>	::= <label> $\sqsubseteq \neg$ <label>	% A disjointness constraint
<label>	::= DET1   ...   DETn	% DETi is a defined etype/concept

# LoDE – the production rules for T

$\langle \text{awff} \rangle ::= \langle \text{assertion} \rangle \mid \neg \langle \text{assertion} \rangle \mid \langle \text{awff} \rangle \sqcap \langle \text{awff} \rangle$     % Atomic formulas

$\langle \text{assertion} \rangle ::= \top \mid \perp \mid \langle \text{etype} \rangle \mid \langle \text{dtype} \rangle \mid \exists \langle \text{objProp} \rangle . \langle \text{etype} \rangle \mid \exists \langle \text{dataProp} \rangle . \langle \text{dtype} \rangle \mid \forall \langle \text{objProp} \rangle . \langle \text{etype} \rangle \mid \forall \langle \text{dataProp} \rangle . \langle \text{dtype} \rangle$     % (Atomic) assertions, NO labels here!

**Observation 1 :** Compare with LoD, we are building a teleontology

**Observation 2 :**  $\langle \text{label} \rangle$  connects LOD to LOE in LoDE



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# LoDE – Domain

## Definition (LoE/ LoD/ LoDE Domain)

$$D = \langle E, \{C\}, \{R\} \rangle$$

with:

$$E = \{e\} \cup \{v\}$$

$$\{C\} = ET \cup DT \cup DET$$

$$\{R\} = \{OR\} \cup \{DR\}$$

where:

- E is a set of **entities** and **values**,
- $ET = \{E_T\}$ ,  $E_T = \{e\}$  and  $DT = \{D_T\}$ ,  $D_T = \{v\}$ ,  $DET = \{DE_T\}$ , are **sets of etypes, dtypes**, and **defined etypes**, respectively
- OR, DR are **(binary) object** and **data relations**.

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- LOD to LOE reasoning
- Entailment properties

# LoDE – Interpretation function

**Definition (Interpretation function  $I_{\text{LoDE}}$ ):**

$$I_{\text{LoDE}} = \langle I_{\text{LoD}}, I_{\text{LoE}} \rangle$$

**Observation:**  $I_{\text{LoD}}$  is first applied to compute the extension the of defined etypes, which are then used to compute the semantics of assertions (via  $I_{\text{LoE}}$ ). This is a two step process:

1. Compute the extension of LOD complex assertions
2. Compute the extension of LOD (atomic) assertions (which are used to compute the semantics of LOE EG assertions)

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# Entailment relation

## Definition (Entailment $\models$ )

$$M \models a \iff I(a) \in M$$

with  $a \in LA$

**Observation:** The same of LoE, but (!) on an EG hugely extended with defined etypes (denoted by labels)

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# Concept expansion

**Definition (Concept expansion)** Let  $T$  be an unfolded LoDE definitional TBox and  $A$  a LoDE ABox. Let  $C$  be a concept defined in  $T$  as  $C \equiv C'$ . Let  $a$  be an individual (entity) occurring in  $A$ . Assume  $C(a)$  occurs in  $A$ . Then **the expansion  $\exp(C(a))$  of  $C(a)$  in  $A$  in  $T$**  is defined as follows:

$$\exp(C(a)) = \{C(a), \exp(C_1(a)), \dots, \exp(C_n(a))\}$$

where  $C$  is defined as

$$C \equiv C_1 \sqcap \dots \sqcap C_n$$

where  $C_1, \dots, C_n$  are the assertions occurring as conjuncts in  $C'$ .



# Concept expansion (continued)

**Definition (Conjunct expansion)** Let  $C_i(a)$ , be an assertion in  $A$  which is a conjunct in the expansion of  $C$  as from the definition  $C \equiv C'$ . Then **the expansion  $\exp(C_i(a))$  of  $C_i(a)$**  is defined as follows

- If  $C_i$  is an etype  $C$ , then

$$\exp(C_i(a)) = C(a)$$

- If  $C_i$  is of the form  $\exists P.C$ , then

$$\exp(C_i(a)) = \{P(a_1, a_2), C(a_2)\}$$

with  $a_2$  new in  $A$ .

- If  $C_i$  is of the form  $\forall P.C$ , with  $P(a_1, a_2)$  then

$$\exp(C_i(a)) = C(a_2)$$

# Concept expansion (observations)

**Observation 1:** The expansion of a defined etype applied to an individual allows to unfold it into multiple independent assertions, one per conjunct.

**Observation 2:** The expansion of conjunct consisting of an etype applied to an individual allows to infer a new etype for that individual (for instance, from Woman(e) to Mother(e))

**Observation 3:** The expansion of conjunct consisting of an existential quantification allows to create a new link to an individual which is anonymous (in the sense that it can be any of the known individuals) (for instance, from  $\exists \text{HasChild.Person}(e1)$  to  $\text{HasChild}(e1, \text{anonymous}\#1)$  with  $\text{anonymous}\#1$  not occurring in the EG) .

**Observation 4:** The expansion of conjunct consisting of a universal quantification allows to know the etype of the individual in the codomain of the link) (for instance, from  $\forall \text{HasChild.Person}(e1)$  to  $\text{Person}(e2)$  with  $\text{HasChild}(e1, e2)$  occurring in the EG.

## Expansion (main result)

**Definition (ABox expansion wrt a TBox).** Apply concept expansion to all the assertions occurring in the ABox with respect to the TBox  $T$ . The resulting ABox  $A'$  is called **expansion** of  $A$  with respect to  $T$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $T$  be a terminology and  $A$  and an ABox. Let  $A'$  be the result of expanding  $A$  with respect to  $T$ . Then  $M$  is a model of  $T \cup A$  if and only if  $M$  is a model of  $A'$ .

$$M \models T \cup A \iff M \models A'$$

# Expansion of an ABox

$T =$

- Bachelor  $\equiv \text{Student} \sqcap \text{Undergrad}$
- Master  $\equiv \text{Student} \sqcap \neg \text{Undergrad}$
- PhD  $\equiv \text{Master} \sqcap \text{Research}$
- Assistant  $\equiv \text{Student} \sqcap \neg \text{Undergrad} \sqcap \text{Research} \sqcap \text{Teach}$

$A = \{\text{PhD}(\text{Rui})\}$

$C = \text{PhD}$

$\text{Exp}(\text{PhD}(\text{Rui})) = \{\text{PhD}(\text{Rui}), \text{Student}(\text{Rui}), \neg \text{Undergrad}(\text{Rui}), \text{Research}(\text{Rui}), \text{Master}(\text{Rui})\}$

## Expansion - example

$T = \{ \text{Mother} \equiv \text{Female} \sqcap \exists \text{HasChild}.\text{Person}, \text{Female} \equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \neg \text{Male} \}$

$A = \{ \text{Mother}(\text{Anna}) \}$

The expansion  $A'$  of  $A$  with respect to  $T$  is:

$A' = \{ \text{Mother}(\text{Anna}), \text{Female}(\text{Anna}), \text{HasChild}(\text{Anna}, \text{Anonymous\#1}), \text{Person}(\text{Anonymous\#1}), \text{Person}(\text{Anna}), \neg \text{Male}(\text{Anna}) \}$

## Expansion - example

$T = \{ \text{Mother} \equiv \text{Female} \sqcap \forall \text{HasChild.Female}, \text{Female} \equiv \text{Person} \sqcap \neg \text{Male} \}$

$A = \{ \text{Mother}(\text{Anna}), \text{HasChild}(\text{Anna}, \text{Mary}) \}$

The expansion  $A'$  of  $A$  with respect to  $T$  is:

$A' = \{ \text{Mother}(\text{Anna}), \text{HasChild}(\text{Anna}, \text{Mary}), \text{Female}(\text{Anna}), \text{Female}(\text{Mary}), \text{Person}(\text{Anna}), \neg \text{Male}(\text{Anna}), \text{Person}(\text{Mary}), \neg \text{Male}(\text{Mary}) \}$

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# LoDE reasoning

**Theorem.** Let  $a' \in \text{exp}(a)$ . Then

$$A' \models a' \iff a' \in A' \iff T \cup A \models a$$

**Observation 1.** Theorem above corollary of main result of expansion.

**Observation 2.** To summarize:

- T is a teleontology
- A is an EG
- By unfolding T into T' and then using T' we expand A into A'
- A' is an extended EG where the original nodes and links of the A have been extended with the conjuncts resulting from the expansion of A with respect to T'



# Concept expansion (observations)

**Observation 1:** A LoDE EG may contain both primitive and defined etypes.

**Observation 2:** The expansion of an assertion involving a primitive etype does not change anything. The expansion of defined terms increases the number of nodes and also of links of the EG.

**Observation 3:** The teleontology provides the space of terms (definitions) and facts about concepts (descriptions). The EG defines the level of abstraction at which the EG is expressed.

**Observation 4:** For each assertion in the EG, the level of detail at which an EG is expressed can be increased by expansion or decreased by its inverse operation, thus allowing for the fine tuning of the EG to the user questions.

# LODE (LOE) Reasoning problems

**Instance retrieval** Given an etype (or object/ data property), retrieve all the entities (or pairs entity, entity/data) which satisfy the etype (object/data property)

$$M \models E$$

$$M \models P$$

with  $M = I(T)$ : A satisfiability problem!

# LODE (LOE) Reasoning problems

**Instance checking**, Checking whether an assertion is entailed by a Model, i.e. checking whether

$$M \models E(e)$$

$$M \models P(e1, e2)$$

with  $M = I(T)$ : A model checking problem!



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