

# Reasoning and the Open World Assumption

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# Reasoning

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The fundamental reasoning service is logical implication:

## Logical implication

$\mathcal{O}$  **logically implies** and assertion  $\alpha$ , written  $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ , if  $\alpha$  is satisfied by all models of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

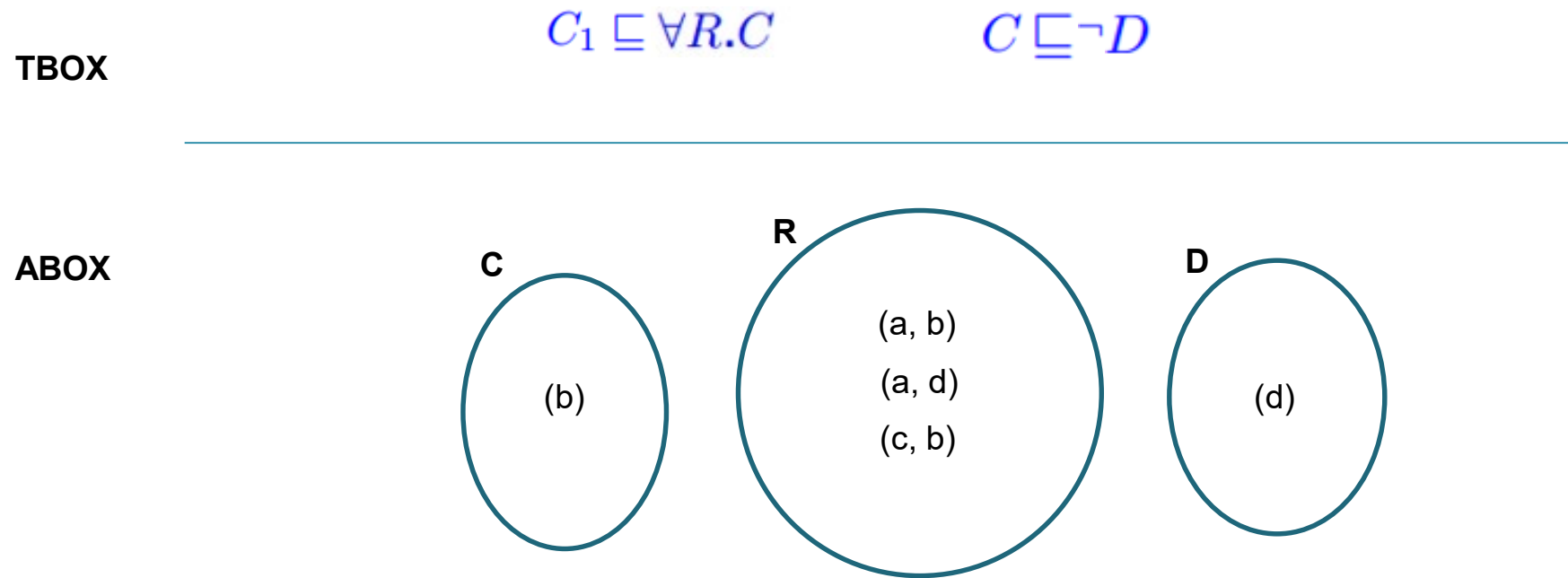
The main methods to perform reasoning are **resolution** and **semantic tableau**.

Since Description Logics is a subset of FOL, we can use the usual methods to perform logical implication on FOL.

- Resolution: [Logic for computer scientists - Schöning, U, Birkhäuser, 2008. ISBN: 9780817647636](#)
- Semantic Tableau: [Automated reasoning – Harald Ganzinger, Viorica Sofronie and Uwe Waldmann, 2004.](#)

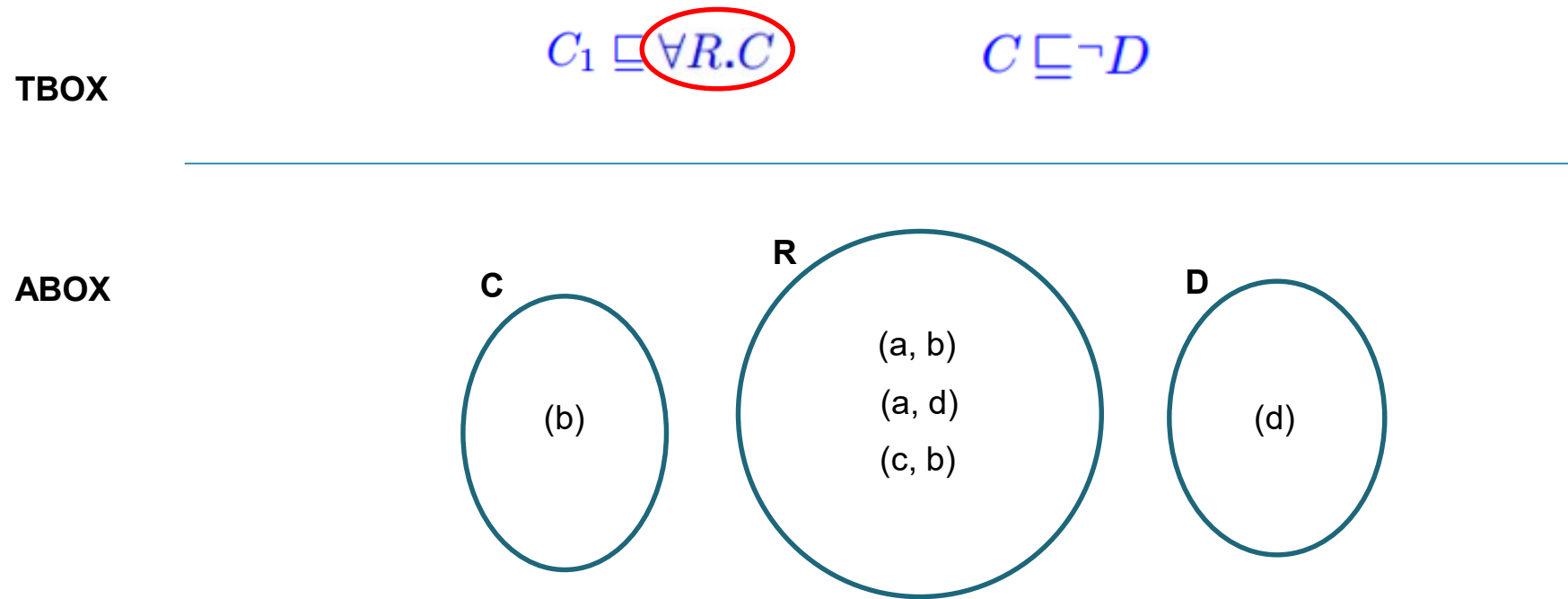
# Closed Vs. Open World Assumption

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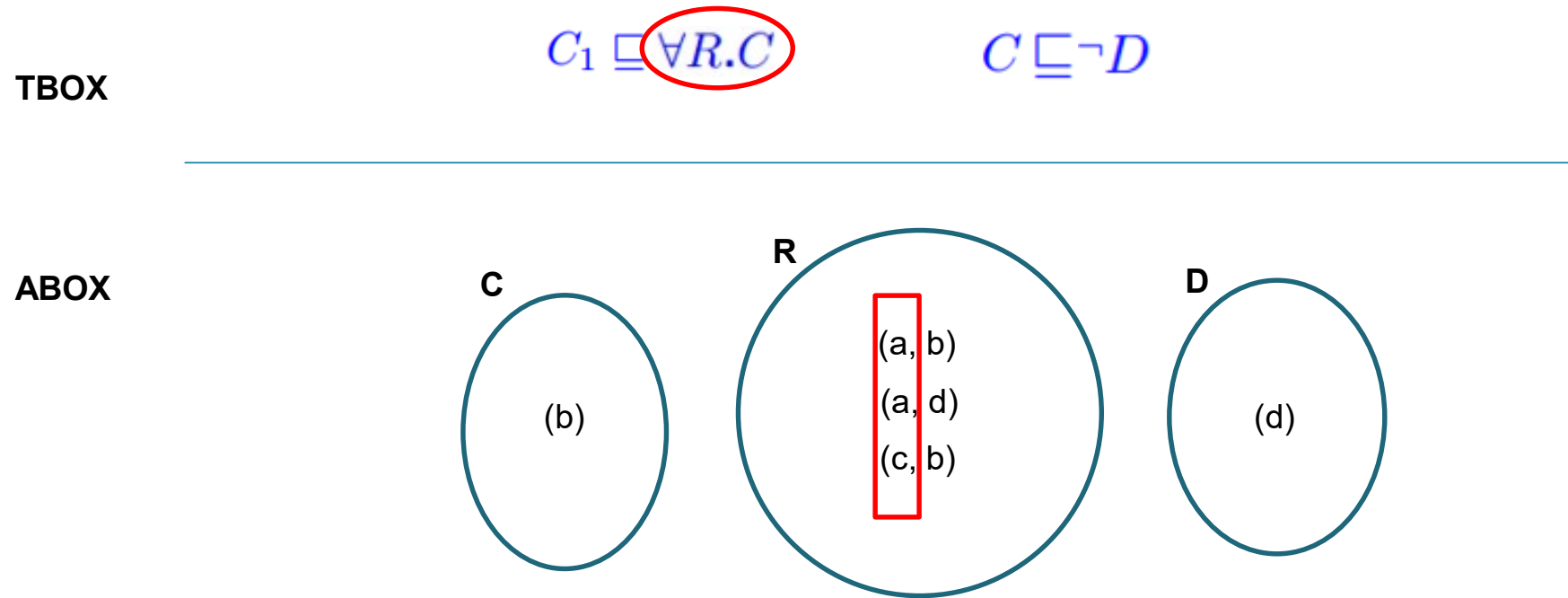
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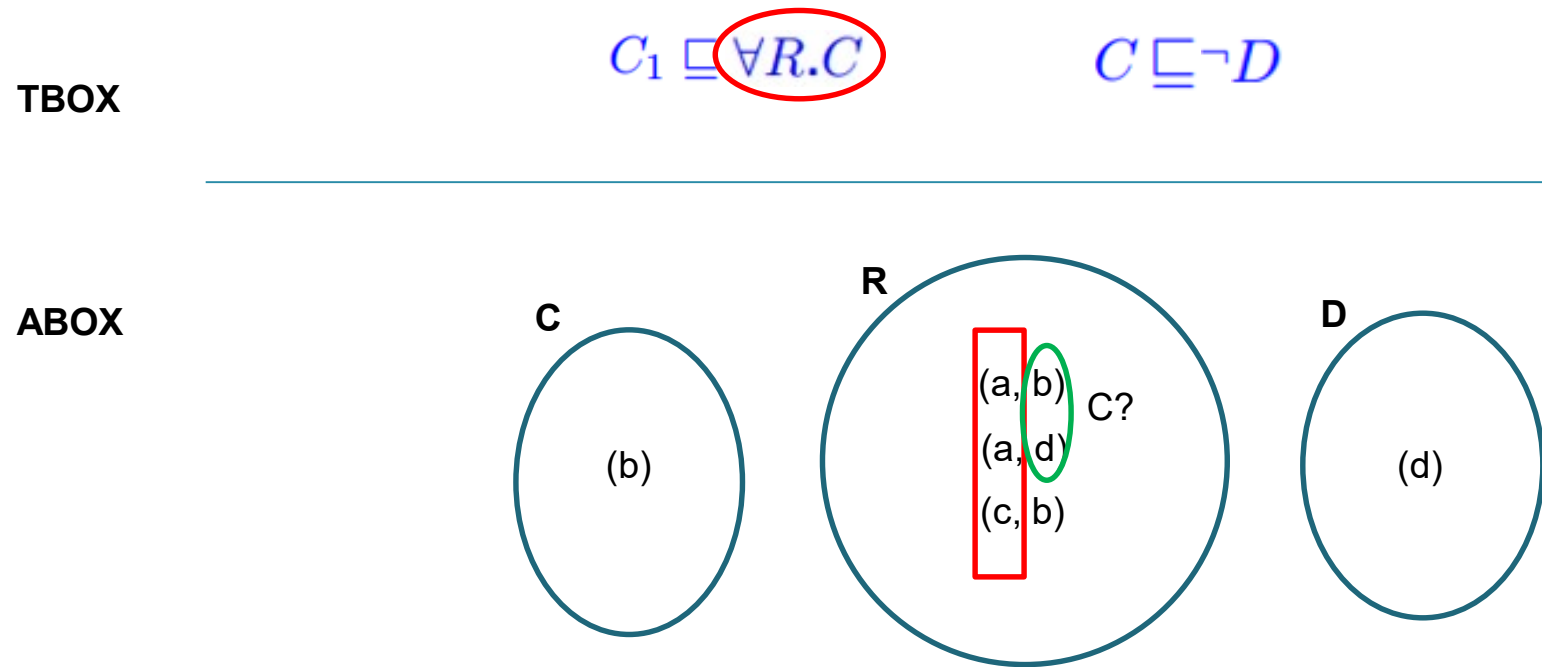
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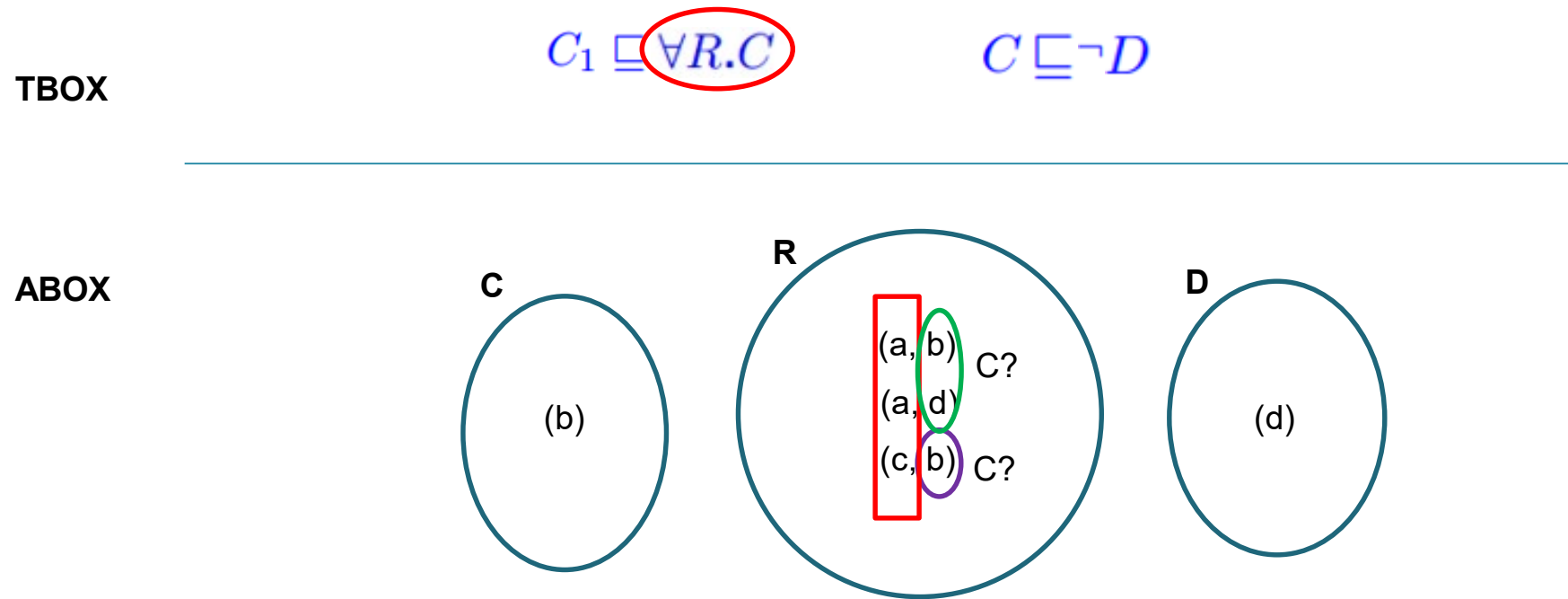
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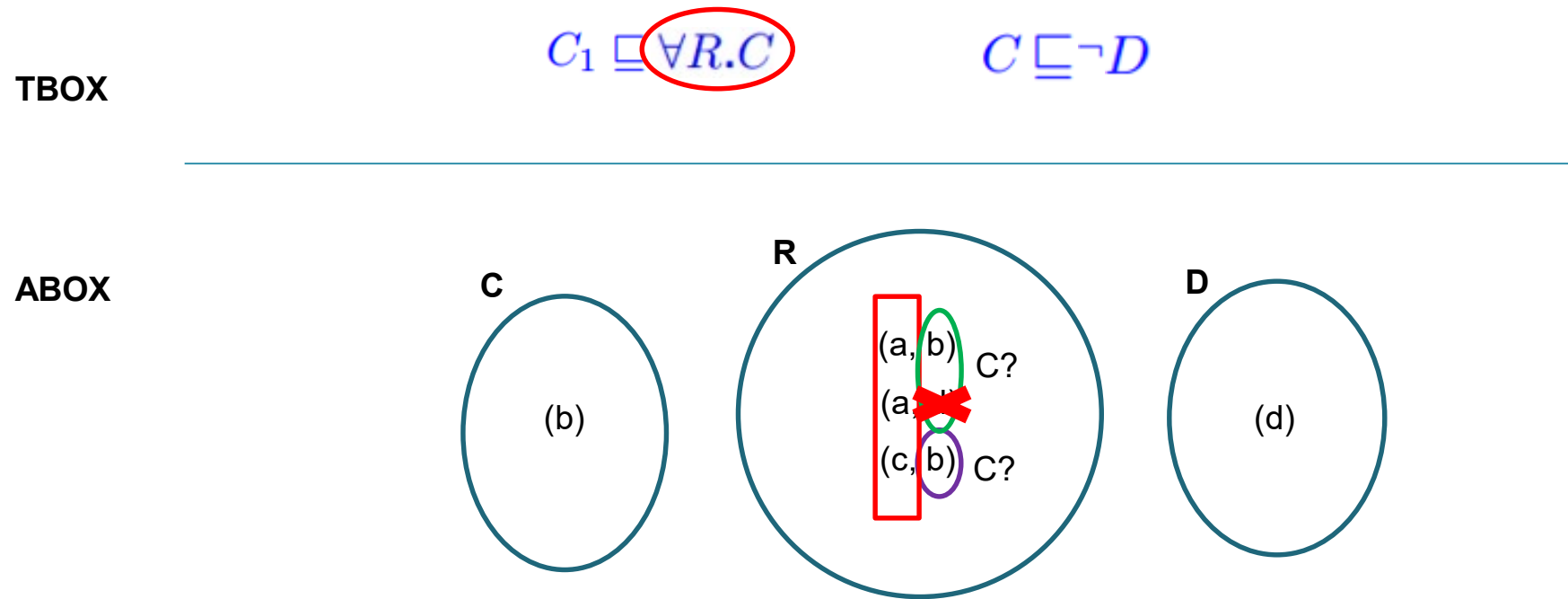
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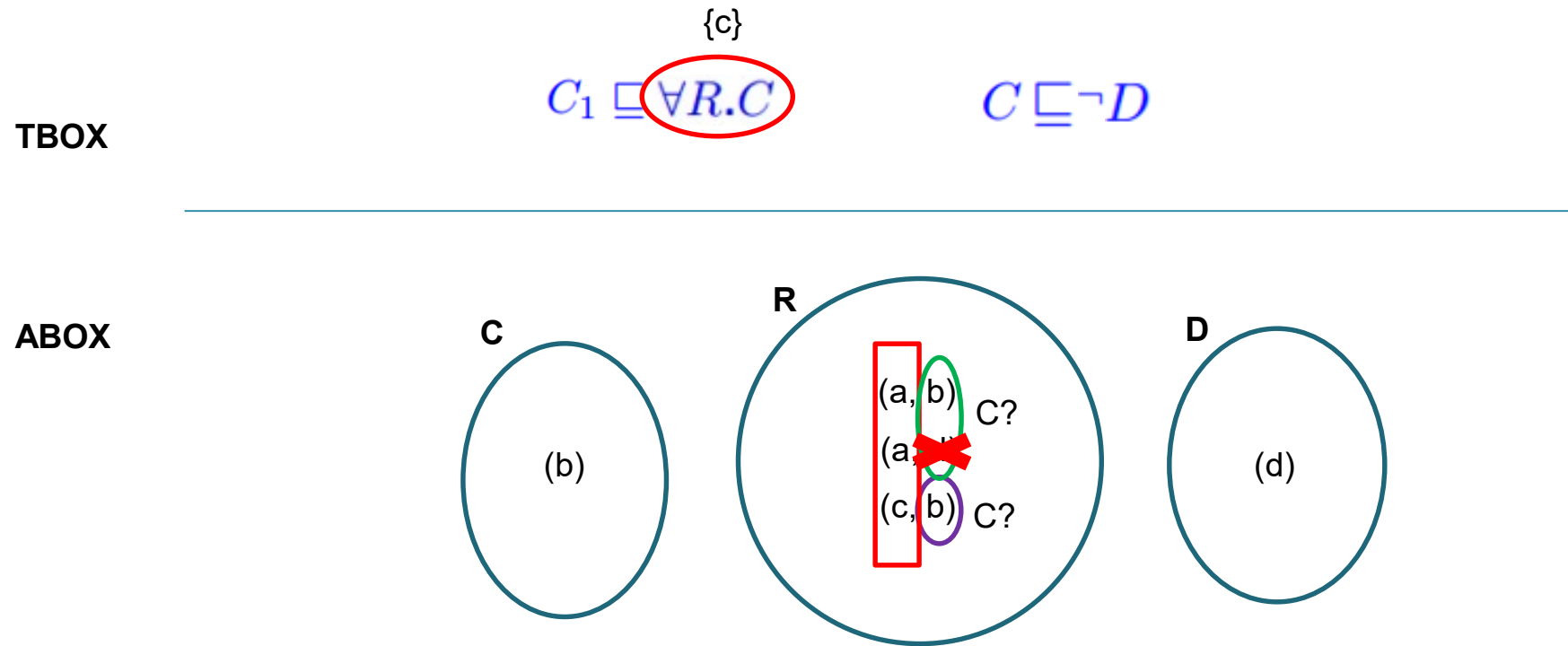
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# Closed World Assumption

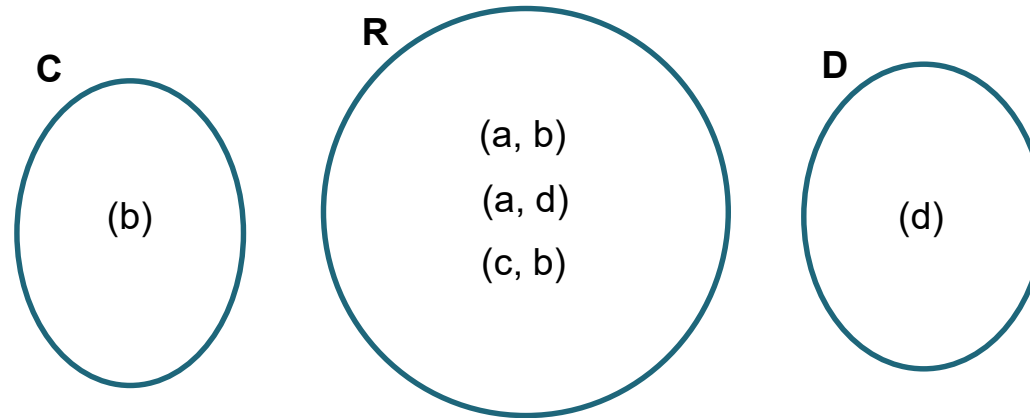
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TBOX

$$C_1 \sqsubseteq \forall R.C$$



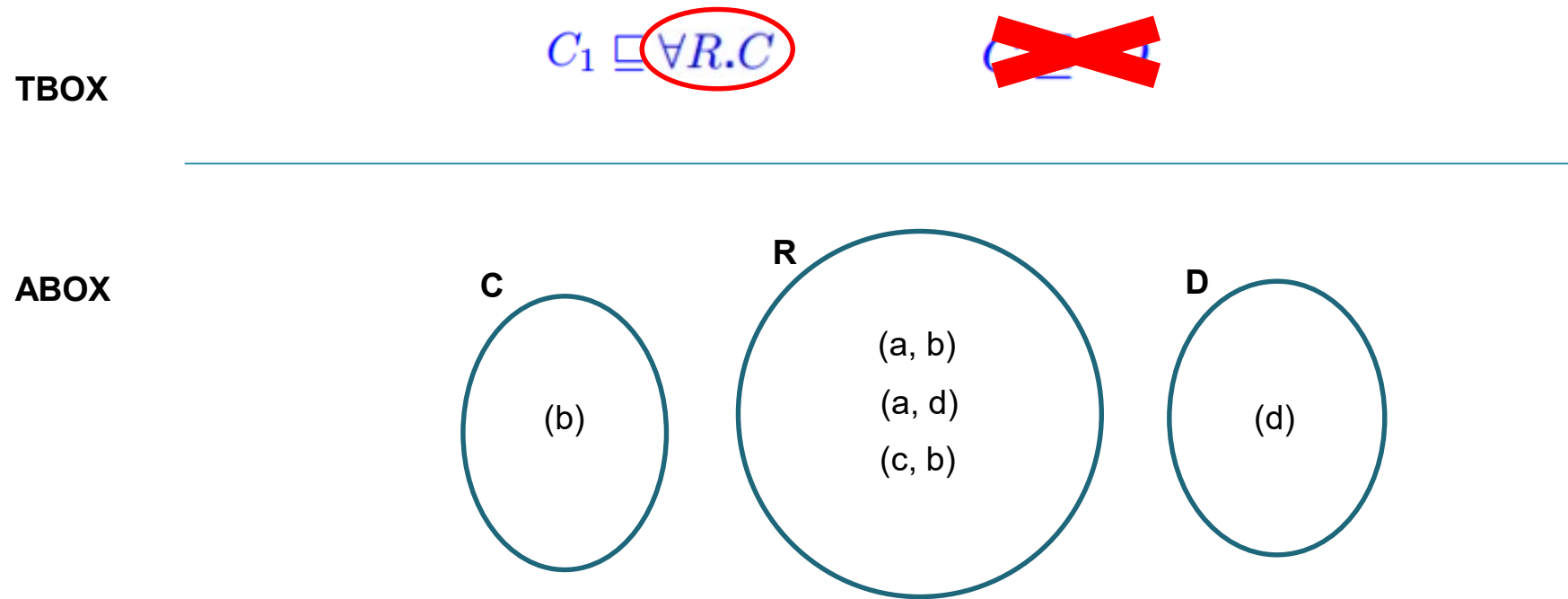
ABOX



The closed world assumption relies on the current **ABOX state**. It means that any knowledge not stated is not considered and the current state is considered “complete”. In short, if I do not know it it is not considered

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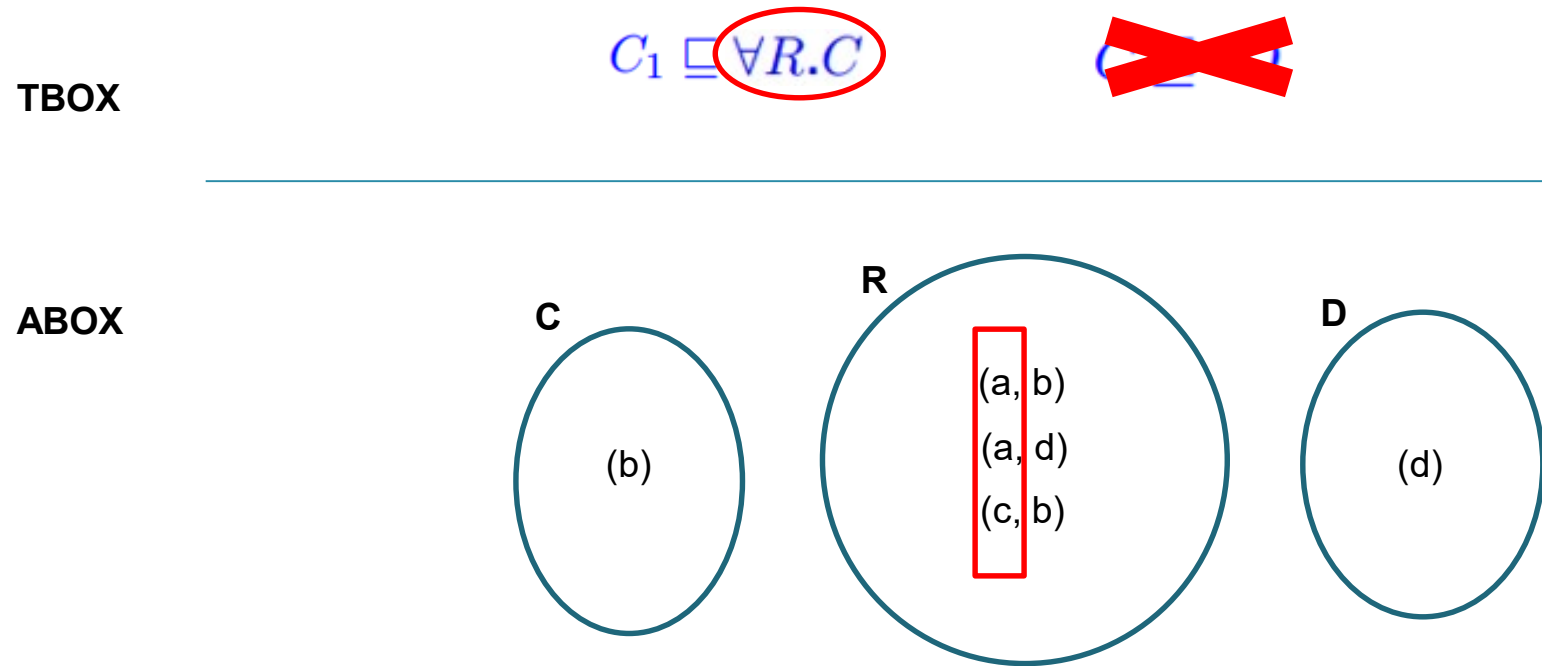
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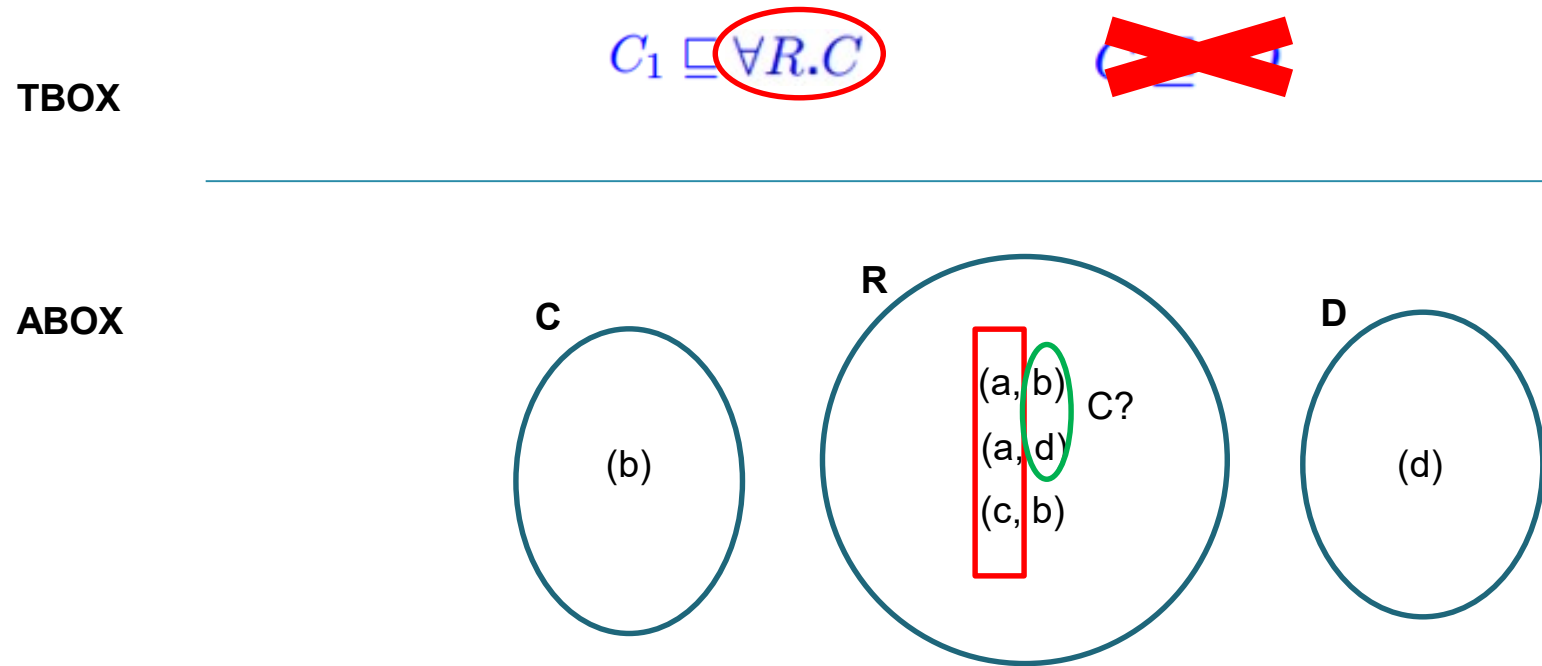
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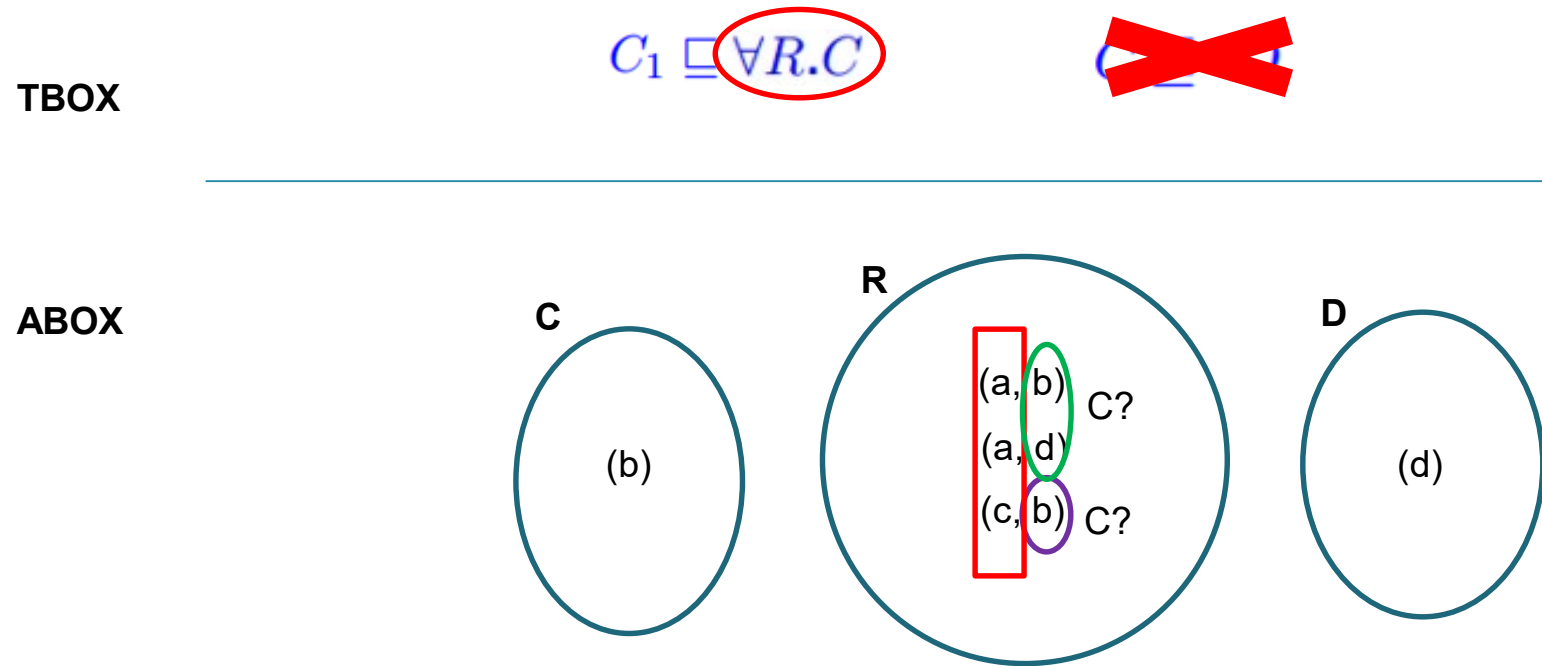
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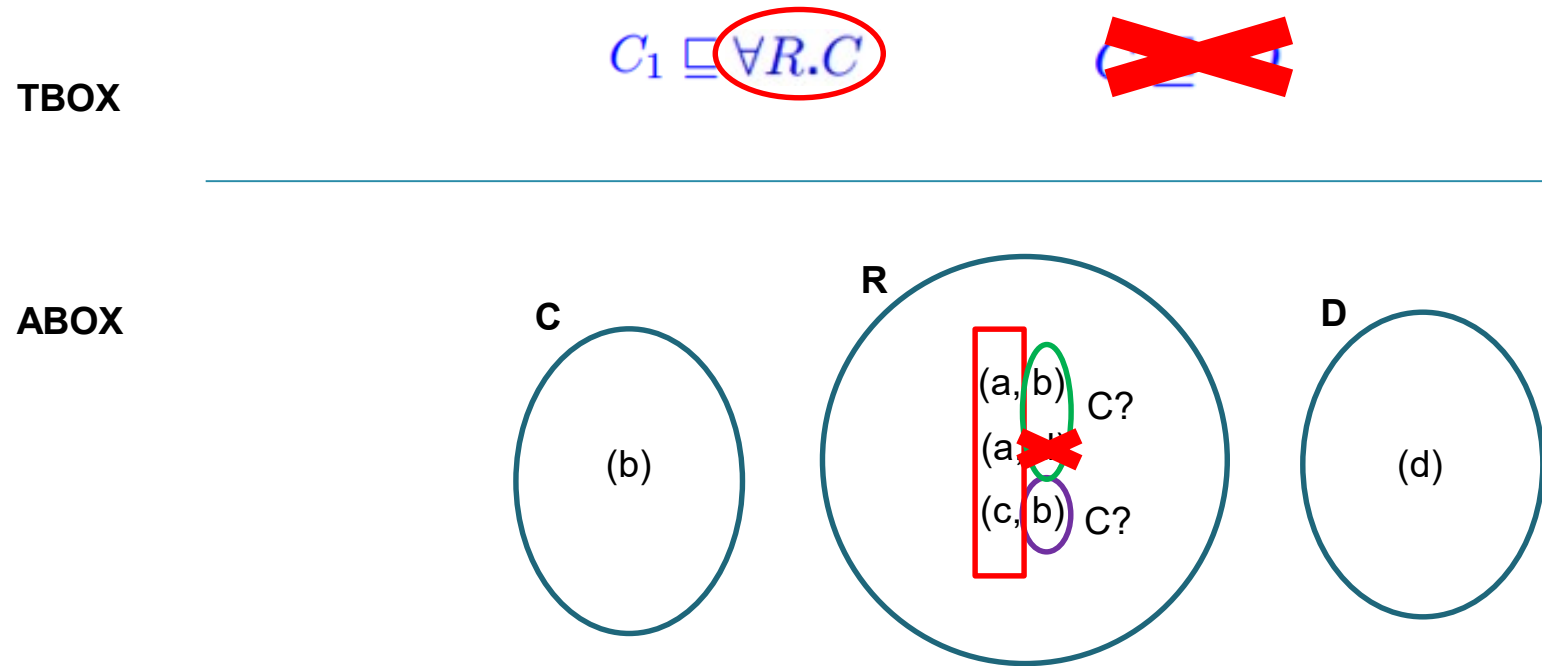
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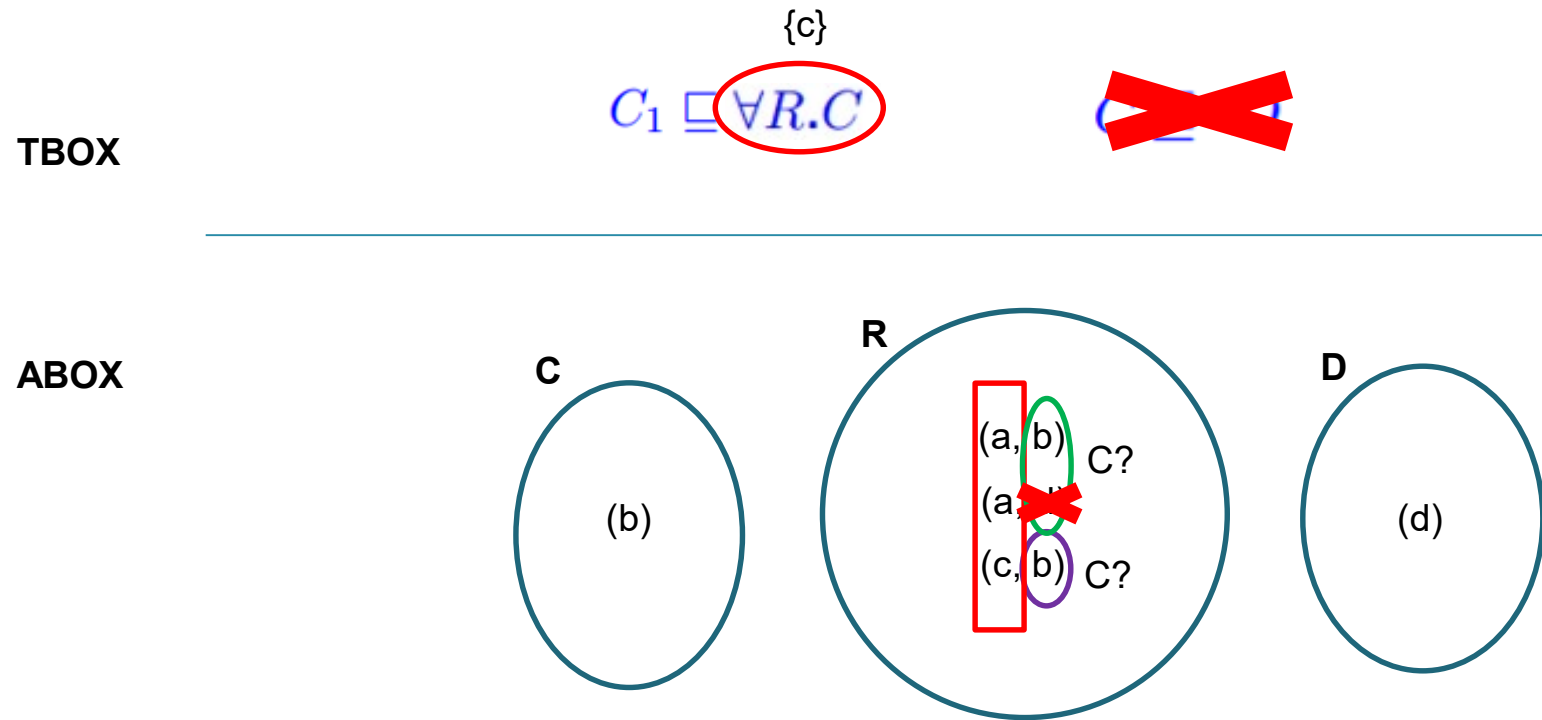
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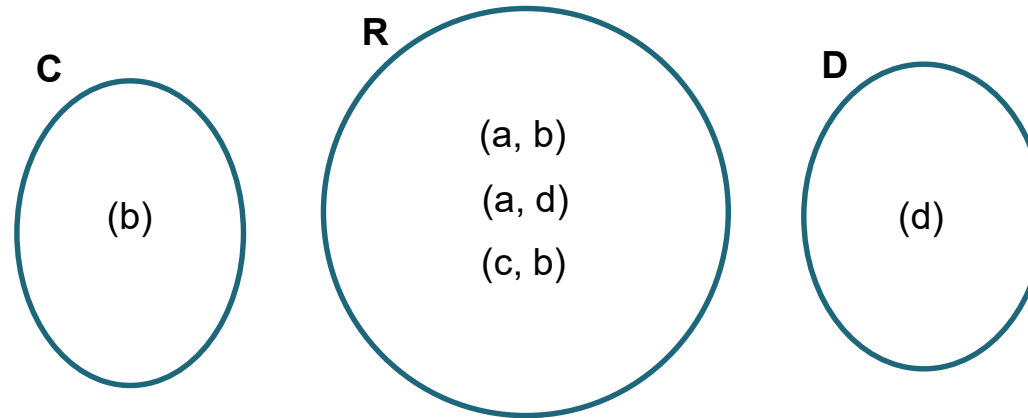
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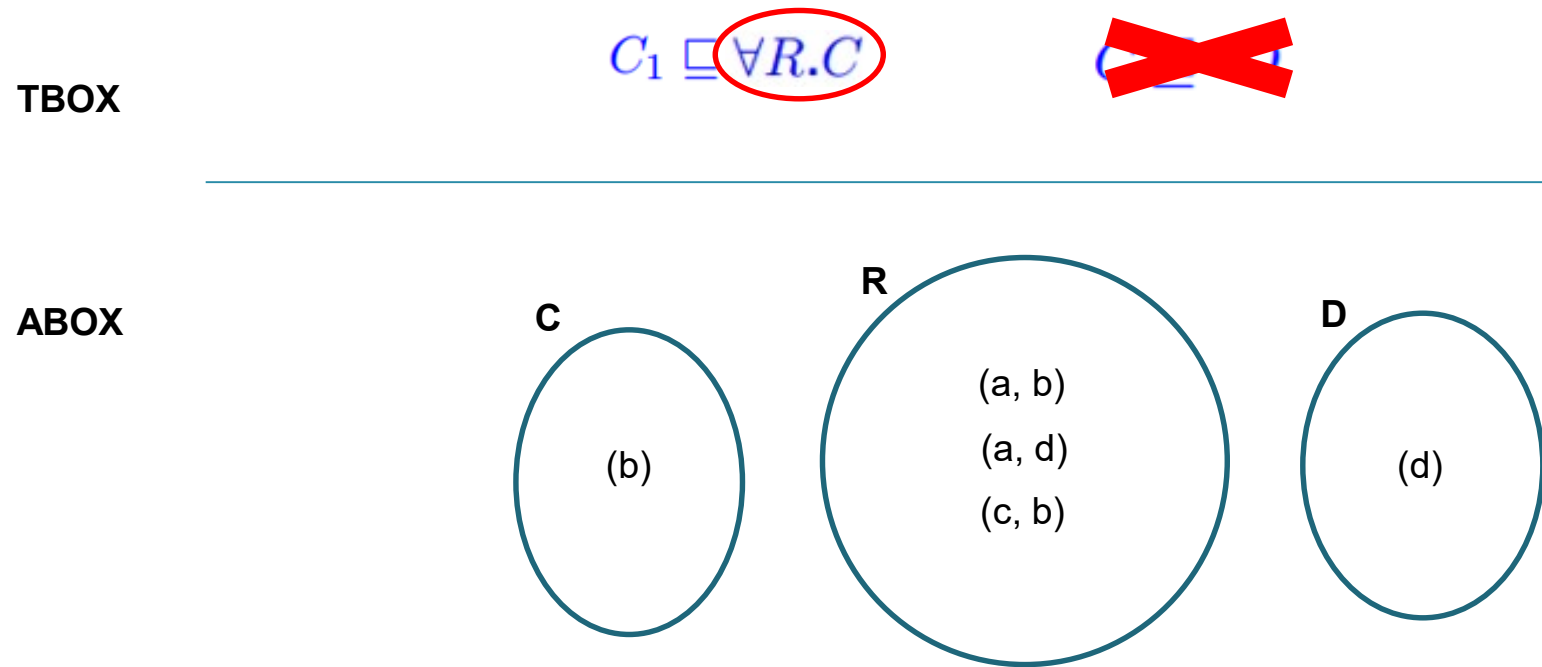
ABOX



According to my TBOX, is there any knowledge preventing  $d$  of belonging to  $C$ ? If nothing prevents so, then, it is possible (we assume there is knowledge we do not know and therefore we do not rely on states to answer, just on the TBOX knowledge)

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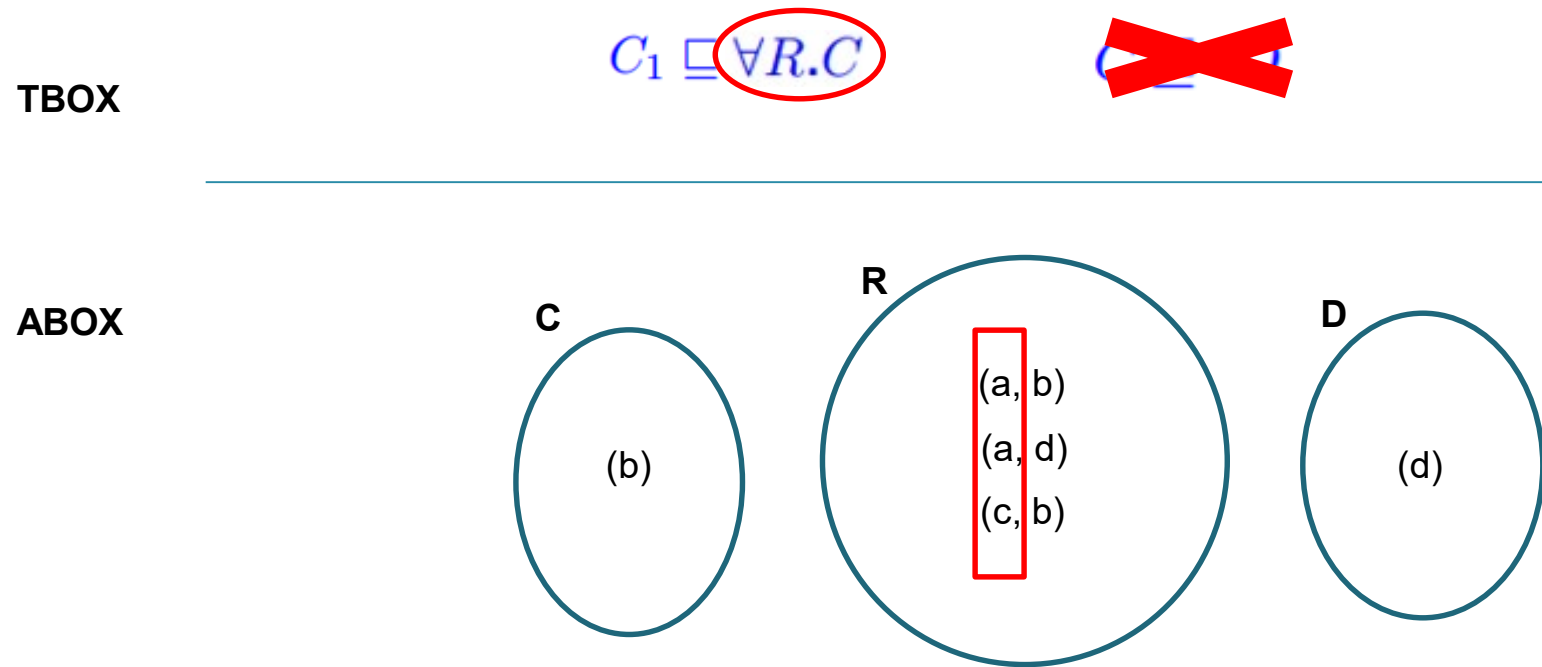
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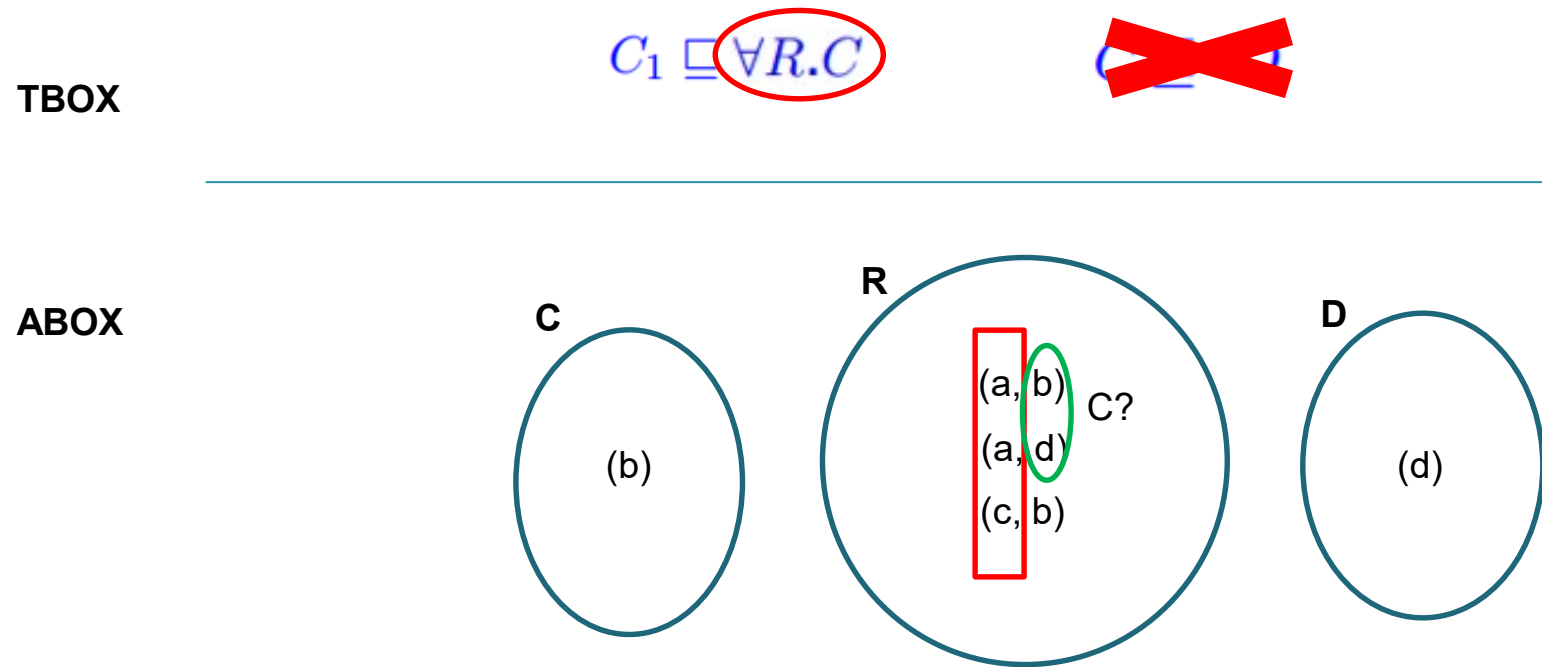
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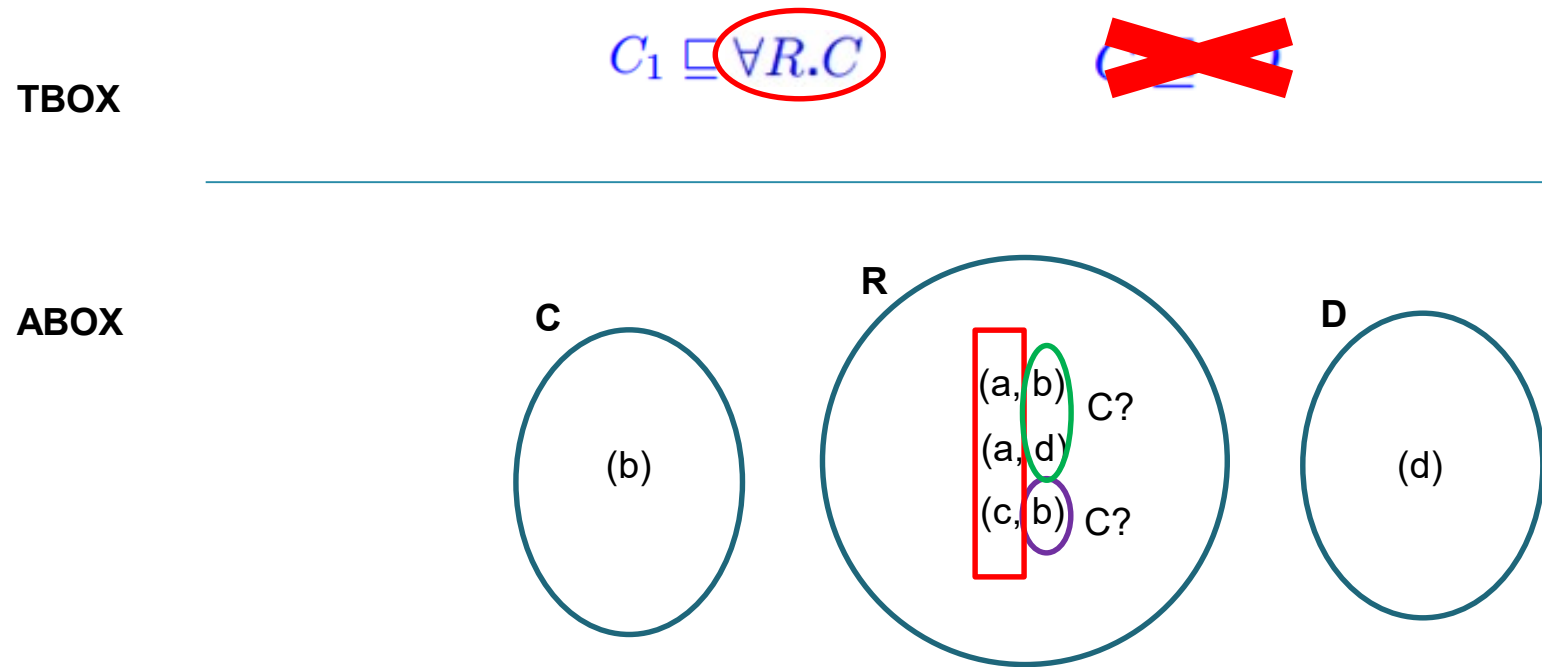
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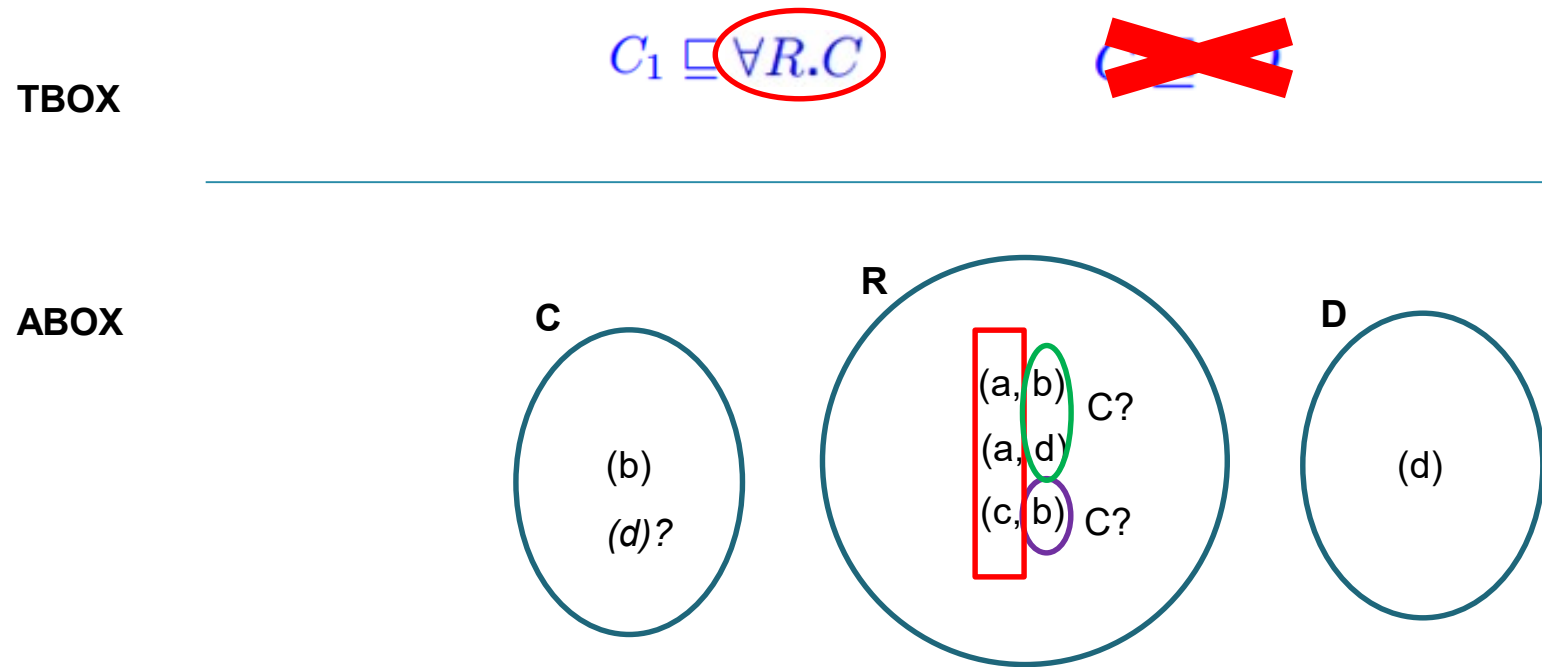
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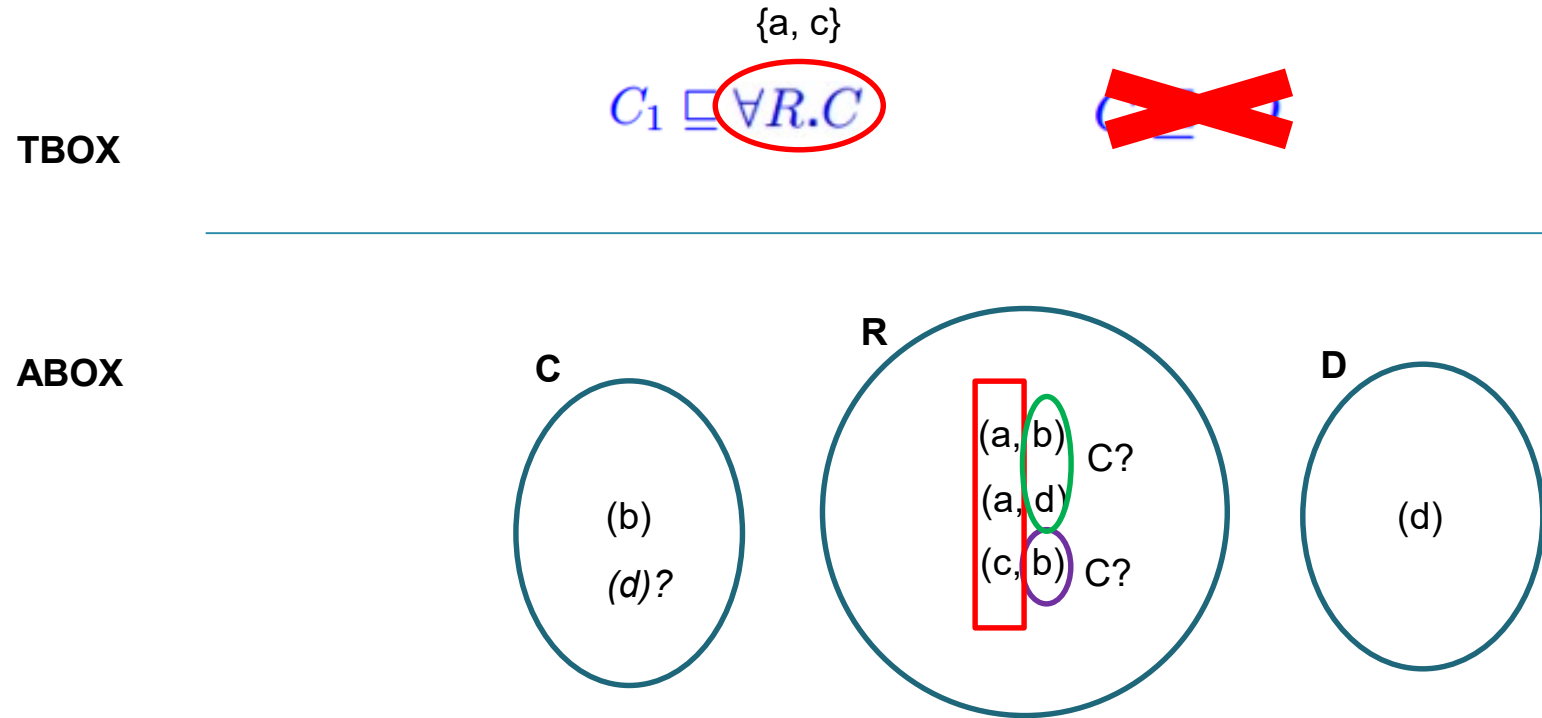
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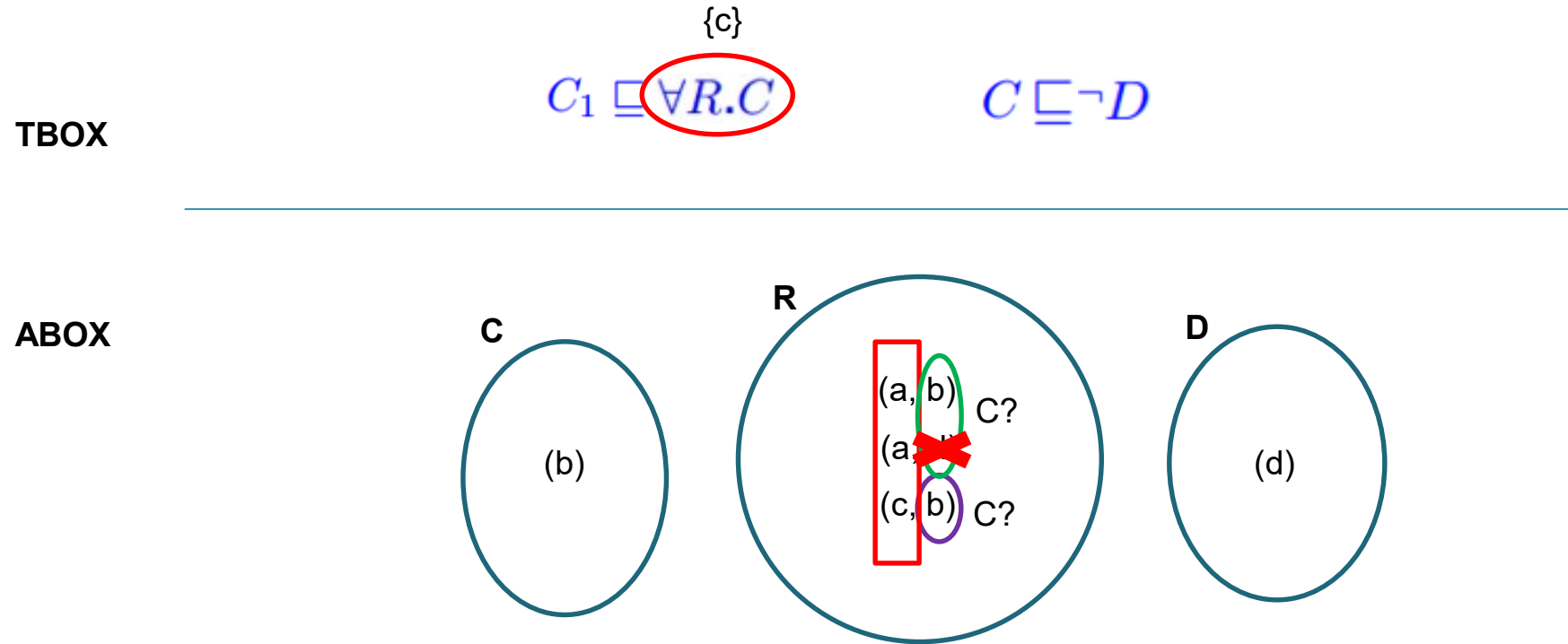
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# Back to the first example...



Both, the closed and open world assumption reach the same conclusion, but the rationale is different.

- The closed world assumption relies on the state (where according to it, I do not know  $C(d)$  and therefore we do not consider it.
- The open world assumption relies on the TBOX saying that  $C$  and  $D$  are disjoint and, therefore,  $C(d)$  is no longer possible