## MSML610: Advanced Machine Learning

# **Knowledge Representation**

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## References:

- Mostly papers and Internet
- AIMA 7: Logical agents
- AIMA 8, First-order logic
- AIMA 9: Inference in first-order logic
- AIMA 10, Knowledge representation

## • Knowledge Representation

- Basics of Knowledge Representation
- Examples of Logic
- Logical Agents
- Ontologies
- Reasoning in Ontologies
- Propositional logic
- First-order Logic
- Non-classical Logics

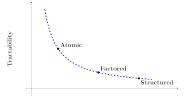
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## What is Knowledge Representation?

- Knowledge Representation (KR) is the study of how to formally encode information so that machines can reason with it
  - E.g., rules, logic, ontologies, semantic networks
  - It is at the heart of symbolic AI and complements learning-based approaches
- Defines:
  - structure (how knowledge is organized)
  - semantics (what it means)
- Serves as a bridge between perception (data) and reasoning (logic)
  - Essential for explainability and transparency in intelligent systems
- Enables machines to:
  - Draw conclusions
  - Perform planning
  - Answer queries
  - ...

# **Expressiveness vs. Tractability**

- Tradeoff in Al / ML
  - Expressiveness: richness of concepts that can be captured
  - Tractability: whether reasoning can be performed efficiently
  - More expressive languages lead to harder computation



Expressiveness

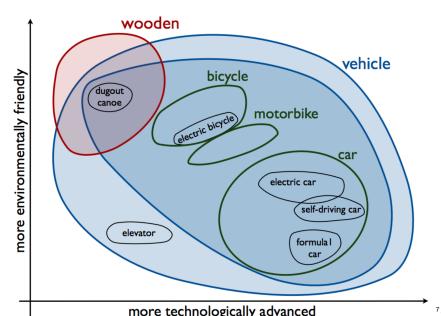
- Choosing the right knowledge representation formalism depends on the application needs
  - Atomic
    - Treats each state as a single, indivisible entity
    - E.g., depth-first search algorithms (e.g., E3 in Chess)
    - Simple and fast but limited in capturing complex relationships
  - Factored
    - E.g., propositional logic
    - E.g.,  $P_{1,1}$ : "Pit in square (1,1)",  $B_{1,2} \Leftrightarrow (P_{1,1} \vee P_{2,2} \vee P_{1,3})$
    - Captures relationships between variables but can't express complex structures
  - Structured
    - E.g., first-order logic
    - $\forall x \forall y \ Father(x, y) \Rightarrow Parent(x, y) = "A \ father of a person is their parent"$
    - More expressive but undecidable in general

# Symbolic vs. Sub-symbolic Representation

- Symbolic knowledge representation uses discrete, human-readable symbols
  - E.g., logic, knowledge graphs
  - Interpretable and suitable for rule-based reasoning
  - Struggle with ambiguity
- Sub-symbolic knowledge representation uses learned, distributed representations
  - · E.g., vector embeddings
  - E.g., deep learning excels at perception and pattern recognition
  - Lack transparency
- Neuro-symbolic approaches blends the two approaches
  - Reason over learned concepts using structured logic



# **Neuro-symbolic Approach: Conceptual Spaces**



# **Procedural vs Declarative Approaches**

## Procedural approach

- Focuses on how a task is done
- Encodes desired behavior directly into the program
- E.g., a robot programmed with specific steps to navigate a maze

## Declarative approach

- Specifies what the goal is, not how to achieve it
- Describes relationships between actions and goals
- Leaves solution search to the system
- E.g., describing the goal "reach the exit" and letting the system find the path

### Comparison

- Procedural: more control, less flexibility
- Declarative: more abstraction, easier to modify or extend

## • Integration of approaches

- Many successful AI systems use a hybrid
- Declarative knowledge can be compiled into procedural code
- E.g., a planner generates procedures (plans) from declarative goals

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# **Propositional Logic**

- Uses atomic statements (propositions) and logical connectives
  - Syntax
    - Atomic formulas: P, Q
    - Connectives: NOT  $(\neg)$ , AND  $(\land)$ , OR  $(\lor)$ , IMPLIES  $(\Longrightarrow)$
  - Semantics
    - Based on truth tables
    - Each proposition has a binary truth value: true or false
  - Inference mechanisms
    - Modus ponens: from P and  $P \implies Q$ , infer Q
    - Resolution: derive contradictions to infer conclusions
- Applications: best used in closed and well-defined environments
  - Digital circuit design
  - Rule-based systems
  - Simplified AI models
- Limitations
  - · Cannot represent objects, relations, or quantifiers
  - Not suitable for open or dynamic domains

# First-Order Logic (FOL)

- Extension of propositional logic
  - Introduces predicates, variables, and quantifiers
    - Variables x
    - Predicate Human(x)
    - Universal quantifier "for all" ∀
    - Existential quantifier "there exists" ∃
  - E.g.,  $\forall x (Human(x) \implies Mortal(x)) = "All humans are mortal"$
  - Represents more complex and structured knowledge than propositional logic
  - Can model properties, relationships, and quantification over objects
- Inference mechanisms
  - Unification: matches predicates with variables
  - Resolution: deduces new facts from known statements
  - Model checking: verifies truth of statements under specific interpretations
- Computational properties
  - Inference is semi-decidable: valid conclusions may require infinite time
  - More powerful but computationally more complex than propositional logic
- Applications
  - Knowledge representation
  - Automated theorem proving
  - Semantic web and ontologies

# Rule-Based Systems (1/2)

- A rule-based system uses "if-then" rules to derive conclusions or make decisions
  - It mimics human decision-making by applying logical rules to a set of facts

## Key Components

- Knowledge base: stores facts and rules
- Inference engine: applies rules to known facts to infer new facts or take actions
- · Working memory: holds current facts being considered

### How It Works

- Match: find rules whose conditions match current facts
- Conflict resolution: decide which rule to apply if multiple rules match
- Act: apply the chosen rule to modify facts or trigger actions
- Repeat: continue until no more rules can be applied
- E.g.,
  - Rule: If a patient has a fever and a rash, then suggest measles
  - Fact: Patient has a fever and a rash
  - Conclusion: Suggest measles

# Rule-Based Systems (2/2)

### Pros

- Easy to modify and update rules
- Transparent and explainable reasoning
- Good when expert knowledge can be clearly articulated

### Cons

- Hard to scale to very large or complex domains
- Cannot handle uncertainty without extensions (e.g., probabilistic reasoning)
- Rule conflicts and maintenance can become challenging

## Applications

- Expert systems (e.g., medical diagnosis, technical troubleshooting)
- Business rule engines
- Game AI
- Legal reasoning tools

# Reasoning and Inference in Logic

- Logical inference is the process of deriving new facts from known ones using formal rules
  - Used to make decisions and answer questions based on a Knowledge Base
- Knowledge base (KB):
  - A structured set of facts and rules used for logical reasoning
- Inference engine:
  - Mechanism that applies logical rules to a KB to derive conclusions or answer queries
  - Forward chaining:
    - Starts with known facts and applies inference rules to extract more data
    - E.g., given  $A \rightarrow B$  and A, infer B
  - Backward chaining:
    - Begins with a goal and works backward to find supporting facts
    - E.g., to prove B, check if  $A \rightarrow B$  and then prove A
  - Resolution:
    - A complete inference rule for propositional and first-order logic
    - Useful in automated theorem proving
  - Entailment ( $KB \models \alpha$ ):
    - Sentence  $\alpha$  is entailed by KB if it is true in all models where KB is true

# Grounding

## Grounding

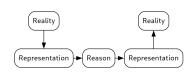
- Connect abstract symbols to real-world entities or observations
- E.g., link Apple to the fruit "apple"
- Make representations meaningful beyond syntax
  - Enable agents to act meaningfully in the real world
  - Avoid purely symbolic manipulation without real-world relevance

## Challenges

- Noisy, incomplete sensory data
- Complex, context-dependent mapping from inputs to concepts

## Applications

- Robotics: object recognition, manipulation
- Natural language understanding
- Autonomous agents, cognitive systems



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# Reflex Agents

- Reflex agents act based on the current percept, ignoring percept history
  - Operate using a condition-action rule: "if condition, then action"
  - Rely on predefined rules
  - Have no internal state or memory
    - E.g., a thermostat: "if temperature < threshold, turn on the heater"
- Pros
  - Fast and efficient in well-defined environments
- Cons
  - Struggle with complex or partially observable environments
  - · Cannot plan ahead or learn from experience
- Application
  - Simple or fully observable environments where quick reactions are sufficient

# **Knowledge-based Agents**

- Intelligence is achieved by reasoning on an internal representation of knowledge
- Knowledge-based agents:
  - Form representations of a complex world
  - Use inference to derive new representations
  - Deduce actions from new representations
  - Accept tasks as goal descriptions
  - Achieve competence by learning new knowledge
  - Adapt to changes by updating knowledge
  - Utilize a knowledge base to store information
  - Explain actions based on knowledge
    - E.g., medical diagnosis system infers diseases, suggests treatments
    - E.g., chess program uses move database to plan strategy
  - · Handle incomplete or uncertain information through probabilistic reasoning

# Logic / Knowledge Base (1/2)

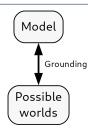
- Knowledge base (KB) is a set of:
  - ullet Sentences lpha expressing assertions (observed, assumed or derived) about the world
    - E.g., "it rains", "the ground is dry", "the ground is wet"
  - Rules
    - . E.g, "If it rains, the ground gets wet"
- Knowledge representation language is a formal way of creating sentences about the world
- $\bullet$  Syntax specifies all the sentences  $\alpha$  that are well-formed in a logic / knowledge base
  - E.g., in arithmetic the sentence:
    - "x + y = 4" is well-formed
    - "x4y+=" is not well-formed
- **Semantics** is the meaning of sentences (i.e., their truth) with respect to each possible world
  - E.g., the sentence x + y = 4
    - Is true in the world (model) in which x = 2, y = 2
    - Is false in the world x = 1, y = 1

# Logic / Knowledge Base (2/2)

- Axiom is a sentence taken as given
  - Not derived from other sentences
- Inference is the process of deriving new sentences from old ones
  - It should be done in a "logical" way
- Truth values of a sentence
  - In most logics every sentence is either true or false
  - Fuzzy logic allows sentences to have different degrees of truth
    - $Belief(\alpha) = 0.5$
  - Probabilistic logic allows sentences to have different probability of being true
    - $Pr(\alpha) = 0.3$

# Model and Possible Worlds: Examples

- Example: represent worlds where there is rain and wet ground
  - In each possible world/model, values are assigned to all relevant variables
  - "Possible worlds" can be thought of as real the environments
  - Model m is a mathematical abstraction of "possible world"
    - E.g., m is (Rain = F, WetGround = T)
  - Each possible world is a complete assignment of truth values to all relevant propositions
    - World 1: (Rain = T, WetGround = T)
    - World 2: (Rain = T, WetGround = F)
    - World 3: (Rain = F, WetGround = T)
    - World 4: (Rain = F, WetGround = F)
- Example: represent worlds with "men and women sitting at a table"
  - Model represents all possible worlds as (x men, y women)
  - Sentence x + y = 4 is true in certain worlds, false in others
  - In worlds with x = 2 men and y = 2 women,



## Satisfaction of a Sentence in a Model

- A model m fixes all the variables  $x_1, ..., x_n$  used in sentences
  - E.g., (Rain = T, WetGround = T)
- If a sentence  $\alpha$  is true in model m, we say "the model m satisfies the sentence  $\alpha$ "
  - E.g., the model (Rain = T, WetGround = F) satisfies  $\alpha : Rain = T$
  - Note: this seems backwards, since in our common way of reasoning, the world is fixed and sentences are evaluated as true or false
- $M(\alpha)$  is the set of all the models in which  $\alpha$  is true
  - E.g.,
    - $\alpha$  : Rain = T
    - $M(Rain = T) = \{(Rain, WetGround), (Rain, \neg WetGround)\}$

# **Logical Entailment**

- Logical entailment between sentences is the fact that a sentence follows logically from another sentence in a KB
- " $\alpha$  entails  $\beta$ " (written  $\alpha \models \beta$ ) iff (by def) in every model in which  $\alpha$  is true,  $\beta$  is also true
  - Equivalent to  $M(\alpha) \subseteq M(\beta)$
- E.g., in the "rain and wet ground" world
  - $\alpha$ : "Rain  $\implies$  WetGround" entails  $\beta$ : "(Rain = T, WetGround = T)"
- E.g., in the "sitting table" world
  - $\alpha$ : "x = 0",  $\beta$ : " $x \cdot y = 0$ "
  - $\alpha$  entails  $\beta$  since in any model in which x=0 is true, also  $x\cdot y=0$  is true, regardless of the value of y

### Intuition:

- Entailment is not related to a proof, it just "preserves truth" across all models
- "If you believe your KB, you must believe the entailed sentences"

# Logical Entailment vs Implication

- Entailment and implication are related but distinct
  - Logical entailment is about truth following from known facts
  - Implication is about a relationship between two statements
- Logical entailment ( $KB \models \alpha$ ):
  - ullet Means lpha is always true in any world where KB is true
  - E.g.,
    - KB: "It is raining", "If it rains, the ground is wet"
    - Entailed: "The ground is wet"
- Implication  $(A \Longrightarrow B)$ :
  - A statement in logic that says: "If A is true, then B is true"
    - Doesn't guarantee A or B is true by itself
    - Implication is true unless A is true and B is false

  - E.g.,
    A: "It is raining", B: "The ground is wet"
    - $A \implies B$  is the statement "If it is raining, then the ground is wet"
  - This statement can be true even if it's not raining
- Intuition:
  - Entailment is "meta-level truth-following"
  - Implication is "within the logic"

# **Model Checking Procedure**

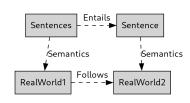
- M(KB) represents all the models / possible worlds that are true given our KB
- Problem:
  - We want to verify whether "a sentence  $\alpha$  is entailed by KB" ( $KB \models \alpha$ )
- Solution:
  - According to the definition, we need to verify that  $\alpha$  is true in all the models in which  $K\!B$  is true
    - I.e.,  $M(KB) \subseteq M(\alpha)$
- E.g., model checking procedure (brute force)
  - 1. Enumerate all the models / possible worlds
  - 2. Find which models are possible given the KB, i.e., M(KB)
  - 3. Check whether the sentence  $\alpha$  is true in all the models that are compatible with the  $K\!B$

# **Sound and Complete Inference Algorithm**

- Inference: a syntactic process of deriving new sentences from others, using formal rules of a proof system (e.g., modus ponens, resolution, etc.)
  - You know: "If it rains, the ground gets wet."
  - You see: "It is raining."
  - You infer: "The ground must be wet."
- The ideal inference algorithm is both sound and complete
- Sound inference algorithm
  - Derives only sentences entailed from KB
  - "Whatever the inference algorithm finds, it's correct", i.e., no false positives
  - · E.g., model checking is sound
    - It works only when the space of models is finite
    - · When it works, it is truth preserving
- Complete inference algorithm
  - Can derive any sentence entailed from KB
  - "The inference algorithm doesn't miss anything," i.e., no false negatives

## Isomorphism between Model and Possible Worlds

- A sound and complete inference algorithm should yield conclusions guaranteed to be true in any world where the premises are true
- In other words, even if the inference operates on "syntax" (the internal representation):
  - "Sentences in the representation" correspond to "aspects of the real world"
  - "Entailment between sentences in the representation" corresponds to "implication between aspects of the real world"



## **Entailment vs Inference vs Implication**

## Logical entailment

- A entails B: if the fact A is true and that automatically guarantees that fact B must also be true
- E.g., Rain entails WetGround iff in every possible world where Rain is true, WetGround is also true
  - Rain = T,  $WetGround = F \rightarrow violation$
  - Since there is at least one counterexample, Rain does not entail WetGround

### Inference

- This is what you (a person or a computer) figure out based on what you know
- You start with some truths, then reason your way to new truths
- It's "reasoning inside the logic system"

## Implication

- "If A, then B"
- It doesn't say whether A is true; it just says, if it happens, then B follows
- It's a "statement inside the logic system"

# Grounding

- Grounding is the operation of linking abstract symbols to reality
  - $\bullet$  E.g., words, variables in the representation  $\dots \to$  objects, entities, or situations in the real world
  - It is the bridge between representation in a KB and the world
- How can we know that a KB accurately reflects the real world?
  - We can't be sure!
  - Do we live in a simulation? What is reality?
- We assume that is correct
  - Agent's sensors create a sentence in the KB when something happens in the real world
    - IF smell = burning THEN food\_is\_burning
  - Agent learns rules and acts

    IF food is burning THEN turn off
    - IF food\_is\_burning THEN turn\_off\_stove
- We assume that "learning" (going from particular cases to general cases) is typically correct
  - Learning is still fallible
  - E.g., smell = burning because maybe somebody is cooking on a grill

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# Ontologies (in computer science)

## Ontology:

- Is a formal, explicit representation of a domain
- Describes the types of things that exist and how they relate to each other
  - Classes: types of things
  - Individuals: specific objects
  - Properties: how things are related

### • Examples:

- A medical ontology defines relationships between diseases, symptoms, and treatments
- A geographical ontology describes cities, states, and countries
- Semantic web (an extension of the current web to give meaning to information)

### Goal

- Provide a vocabulary for a domain of knowledge
- Enable machines and humans to understand and share information consistently
- Enable reasoning about entities and their relationships

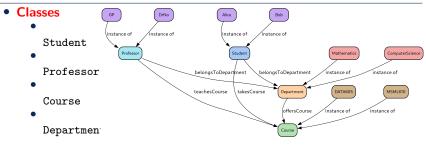
## • Related Concepts

- Schema: database-oriented structure, often more rigid than ontologies
- Taxonomy: simpler hierarchical tree-like classification
- Knowledge base: a collection of facts and rules, sometimes built from an ontology

## **Ontologies: Components**

- Classes / Concepts:
  - · Represent general concepts in a domain
  - E.g., Person, City, Car
- Individuals / Instances:
  - Specific, concrete examples of classes
  - E.g., GP (an instance of Person), Rome, Ferrari 458
- Properties / Relations:
  - Describe interactions or associations between classes or instances
  - E.g., isMortal, locatedIn, hasAge
- Attributes / Data values
  - Specify data associated with instances
  - E.g., (GP, hasAge, <your\_guess>)
- Constraints
  - Rules that restrict the kinds of values a property can take
  - E.g., (Ferrari 458, mustBe, red)
- Axioms:
  - · Logical statements that define rules and constraints
  - E.g., all humans are mortal:  $\forall x (Person(x) \implies Mortal(x))$
- Hierarchies:
  - Organize classes and properties into parent-child relationships
  - E.g., Student is a subclass of Person

## **Ontology: Example University**



- Properties: relationships between Classes
  - ullet takesCourse (Student o Course)
  - ullet teachesCourse (Professor o Course)
  - belongsToDepartment (Student, Professor  $\rightarrow$  Department)
- Individuals: examples of Classes
  - Student: Alice, Bob
  - Professor: GP, DrNo
  - Course: DATA605, MSML610
- Axioms: logical rules that must be true
  - Every Course must be taught by exactly one Professor
  - Every Student must belong to exactly one Department

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# Example of Reasoning Tasks (1/4)

## Subsumption

- "Is class A a subclass of B?"
- Check whether one concept is more general than another
- E.g., if Person subsumes Student, every Student is necessarily a Person
- Important for building taxonomies and ontologies

### Satisfiability

- "Can an instance of a concept exist?"
- Test if a concept is logically consistent (i.e., without contradiction)
- E.g., if the concept FlyingPenguin requires flying but is also defined as a penguin (which cannot fly), it might be not satisfiable

### Classification

- Organize concepts into a hierarchy
- Automatically organize concepts into a hierarchy by checking subsumption relationships
- E.g., given definitions of Animal, Bird, and Penguin, classification places
   Penguin under Bird, and Bird under Animal

# Example of reasoning tasks in KR (2/4)

## Instance Checking

- "Is a specific individual an instance of a concept?"
- E.g., is GP an instance of Student?

## Consistency Checking

- "Is the entire knowledge base free of contradictions?"
- E.g., no Person is both Alive and Dead at the same time

### Realization

- "What is the most specific class an instance belongs to?"
- E.g., discovering that GP is a Professor rather than just a Human

#### Retrieval

- Find all individuals that satisfy a certain condition
- E.g., retrieve all instances classified as TeachingAssistant

# Example of reasoning tasks in KR (3/4)

#### Query Answering

- Answer complex queries about the knowledge base
- E.g., "Find all Person that study at the university and are not Student"

#### Abduction

- Given an observation, infer the best explanation
- E.g., seeing a Person carrying a backpack and wearing flip-flops in the snow and infer that is likely a Student

#### Deduction

- Infer consequences that logically follow from facts and rules
- E.g., if John is a Student in ComputerScience then he can attend MSML610

# Example of reasoning tasks in KR (4/4)

#### Belief Revision

- Update the knowledge base when new, possibly conflicting, information arrives
- E.g., learning that not every student in ComputerScience can take MSML610 and revise a previous rule

#### Temporal Reasoning

- Reason about events over time
- E.g., If EventA happens before EventB, then EventB cannot Cause EventA

#### Causal Reasoning

- Infer causes and effects among entities or events
- E.g., inferring that (Storm, Cause, Flooding) based on temporal and physical knowledge

### **Ontologies tools: Protege Example**

- Protégé is a free, open-source platform for building ontologies
  - Developed at Stanford
- Provides tools to construct and visualize ontologies
  - Users can define classes, properties, individuals, and relationships
- Enable reasoning over ontologies using plugins
  - E.g., checking consistency, inferring new knowledge
- Supports
  - Major ontology languages
    - OWL (Web Ontology Language)
    - RDF (Resource Description Framework)
  - Multiple serialization formats
    - RDF/XML, Turtle, OWL Functional Syntax
- Use cases
  - Domain-specific knowledge modeling (e.g., biomedicine, law)
  - Semantic Web applications
  - Al systems that require structured knowledge

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### **Propositional Logic**

- Propositional logic is a formal system for reasoning about statements that can be true or false
  - Syntax defines the allowable sentences
    - · Consists of proposition symbol and logical connectives
    - E.g., *P* ∧ *Q*
  - Semantics is the way in which the truth of sentences is determined
    - Truth tables or deduction rules evaluate the truth value of complex sentences
    - E.g., if P is true and Q is false then  $P \wedge Q$  is false
- Atomic representation
  - No internal structure within atomic propositions
- Uses
  - SAT solvers
    - Tools for determining if a propositional logic formula can be satisfied
    - E.g., used in hardware verification and scheduling problems
  - Expert systems
    - Use logic rules to mimic human decision-making
    - E.g., medical diagnosis systems
  - Rule-based agents
    - Agents that operate based on a set of predefined rules
    - E.g., automated customer service chatbots

### **Proposition Symbol**

#### Proposition symbol

- Is an atomic sentence consisting of a single symbol
   E.g., P, Q, North
- Doesn't have truth value, it is just a symbol for a real-world statement
   Needs grounding
- Stands for a proposition that can be true or false
  - E.g.,  $K_{E.5}$  = "the Knight is in E5"
  - $K_{E,5}$  is not composed of any other symbol, it is an atomic symbol
- True and False are proposition symbols with inherent truth values

#### **Sentences**

- Atomic sentence
  - Is a sentence composed of a single proposition symbol
  - E.g., P
- Complex sentence
  - Is constructed from simpler (sentences) using parentheses and logical connectives
  - E.g., (*P* ∧ *Q*) ∨ *R*
  - It is a recursive definition that allow to build more complex sentences
- Common logical connectives
  - Not: ¬
  - And: ∧ (looks like an "A" for "and")
  - Or: ∨ (comes from Latin "vel" which means "or")
  - Implies: ⇒
  - If and only if: ←⇒
- Each sentence (atomic or complex) can be only true or false

## **Proposition Logic: Weather Example**

- Proposition symbols are:
  - Rain = "it's raining"
  - Cold = "it's cold"
  - *Sunny* = "it's sunny"
  - *Snow* = "it's snowing"
  - Cloudy = "it's cloudy"
- Atomic sentence can be positive or negated
  - E.g., Rain,  $\neg Rain = "it's not raining"$
- Negation
  - E.g.,  $\neg(Rain \lor Cloudy) = "it's not the case that it's raining or cloudy"$
- Conjunction / Disjunction
  - E.g., Rain ∧ Cold = "it's raining and it's cold"
  - E.g., *Rain* ∨ *Snow* = "it's either raining or snowing"
- **Implication** is a sentence containing a premise ⇒ conclusion
  - Aka "if-then statements", "rules"
  - E.g.,  $Rain \implies \neg Snow = "if it's raining, it's not snowing"$
- **Biconditional**:  $A \Longrightarrow B \land B \Longrightarrow A$ 
  - E.g., Sunny  $\iff \neg Cloudy = \text{``it's sunny if and only if it's not cloudy''}$

#### **Grammar in BNF form**

- Backus Normal Form formally represents the grammar of propositional logic
- Ambiguous, i.e., the same sentence can be parsed in multiple ways
  - E.g.,  $\neg A \lor B = (\neg A) \lor B$  or  $\neg (A \lor B)$ ?
- To eliminate ambiguity define the precedence for each operator
  - E.g., ¬ has higher precedence than ∧, ∨ so: ¬A ∨ B means (¬A) ∨ B

```
Sentence \rightarrow AtomicSentence \mid ComplexSentence
AtomicSentence \rightarrow True \mid False \mid P \mid Q \mid R \mid \dots
ComplexSentence \rightarrow (Sentence)
\mid \neg Sentence
\mid Sentence \land Sentence
\mid Sentence \lor Sentence
\mid Sentence \Rightarrow Sentence
```

- Knowledge Representation
- Propositional logic
  - Syntax
  - Semantics
- First-order Logic
- Non-classical Logics

## **Semantics of Propositional Logic**

- Semantics are rules for determining the truth of a sentence  $\alpha$  with respect to a model m
  - Determine if a sentence is true or false, given a possible world
- In propositional logic, a model m fixes the truth value (true or false) for every proposition symbol/atomic sentence, e.g.,
- The models are abstractions of the real world and have no a-priori connection to a specific world, e.g.,
  - $P_{1,2}$  is just a symbol and can mean:
    - "There is a pit in [1, 2]" or
    - "I'm in Paris today and tomorrow"
  - Need grounding

## Computing the Truth Value of a Sentence

 The truth value of a sentence is derived from the truth of the proposition symbols (recursively from the model m)

$$m = \{P_{1,2} = F, P_{2,2} = F, P_{3,1} = T\}$$

- All sentences  $\alpha$  are constructed from atomic sentences (assigned by the model m) and connectives:
  - $\neg P$  is T iff P is F in m
  - $P \wedge Q$  is T iff P and Q are both true in m
  - $P \lor Q$  is T iff P or Q are true in m
  - $P \implies Q$  is true unless P is true and Q is false in m
  - $P \iff Q$  is true iff P and Q are both true or both false in m
- Truth table contains the truth value of a sentence for each possible assignment of truth values to its components (which depends on model m)
  - E.g.,  $X = A \wedge B \vee C$

A B C X

 ${\tt F} \quad {\tt F} \quad {\tt F} \quad {\tt F}$ 

FFFT

### Interpretation of Implication

- In a logical implication  $P \implies Q$  there is no causation between P and Q
  - E.g., "5 is odd implies that Tokyo is the capital of Japan" is a true sentence in propositional logic (although very odd)
- $P \implies Q$  is saying "If P is true, I claim that Q is true. Otherwise I am making no claim"
- Pathological cases for implication
  - An implication is true whenever the antecedent is false
  - E.g., "5 is even implies pigs fly" is true

## Model Checking is Sound and Complete

- Model checking algorithm
  - Enumerate all the models (truth tables)
  - Check if  $\alpha$  is true for every model where KB is true
- The model checking algorithm is:
  - Sound
    - "Any inference made by the algorithm is correct"
    - Implements the definition of entailment
  - Complete
    - "Any true sentence is inferred correctly by the algorithm"
    - ullet Works for any KB and lpha
    - Always terminates (finite number of models)
- Complexity of model checking with n variables
  - Time complexity is  $O(2^n)$  (NP-complete)
    - Worst case is exponential
    - Average case is better than exponential
  - Space complexity is O(n) since enumeration is depth-first

#### Inference in Propositional Logic

- Inference are the rules of reasoning
  - Modus Ponens: if  $p \implies q$  and p, infer q
    - If it rains, the ground will be wet. It rains.
    - Therefore, the ground is wet.
  - Modus Tollens: if  $p \implies q$  and  $\neg q$ , infer  $\neg p$ 
    - If it rains, the ground will be wet. The ground is not wet.
    - Therefore, it did not rain.
  - Syllogism (Transitivity)
    - If  $p \implies q$  and  $q \implies r$ , then  $p \implies r$
  - Disjunctive Syllogism
    - If  $p \lor q$  and  $\neg p$ , infer q
  - Addition: if p, then  $p \vee q$
  - **Simplification**: from  $p \wedge q$ , infer p (or q)
  - Conjunction: from p and kq, infer  $p \wedge q$
  - Resolution Rule
    - From  $(p \lor q)$  and  $(\neg p \lor r)$ , infer  $(q \lor r)$

## **Propositional Theorem Proving**

- To prove a desired sentence  $\alpha$  under a knowledge base KB
  - ullet Apply rules of inference to construct a proof of lpha
  - Any sentence can have only one of the following truth values:
    - 1. True
    - 2. False
    - 3. Undecidable under the KB
- Theorem proving vs model checking
  - Model checking involves enumerating all models to show the sentence is true/false in all models where KB is true
  - Propositional theorem proving builds a proof
  - If the proof is short, theorem proving can be more efficient than model checking

## **Logical Equivalence of Sentences**

- Two sentences  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are logically equivalent  $\alpha \equiv \beta$ 
  - Iff they are true in the same set of models:

$$M(\alpha) = M(\beta)$$

• Iff they entail each other:

$$\alpha \models \beta \land \beta \models \alpha$$

• E.g.,  $P \lor Q \equiv Q \lor P$ 

# Logical Equivalences (1/2)

Commutativity of ∧ and ∨

$$(\alpha \wedge \beta) \equiv (\beta \wedge \alpha)$$
$$(\alpha \vee \beta) \equiv (\beta \vee \alpha)$$

• Associativity of  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ 

$$(\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma \equiv \alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma) \equiv \alpha \wedge \beta \wedge \gamma$$
$$(\alpha \vee \beta) \vee \gamma \equiv \alpha \vee (\beta \vee \gamma) \equiv \alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma$$

Distributivity of ∧ over ∨

$$\alpha \wedge (\beta \vee \gamma) \equiv (\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee (\alpha \wedge \gamma)$$

Distributivity of ∨ over ∧

$$\alpha \vee (\beta \wedge \gamma) \equiv (\alpha \vee \beta) \wedge (\alpha \vee \gamma)$$

Double negation elimination:

$$\neg(\neg\alpha)\equiv\alpha$$

# Logical Equivalences (2/2)

• Contraposition:

$$(\alpha \implies \beta) \equiv (\neg \beta \implies \neg \alpha)$$

• Implication elimination:

$$(\alpha \implies \beta) \equiv (\neg \alpha \lor \beta)$$

Biconditional elimination:

$$(\alpha \iff \beta) \equiv (\alpha \implies \beta) \land (\beta \implies \alpha)$$

• De Morgan equivalence:

$$\neg(\alpha \land \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \lor \neg\beta)$$

$$\neg(\alpha \vee \beta) \equiv (\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$$

#### **Deduction theorem**

- A valid sentence  $\alpha$  is true for all the models
  - E.g., *P* ∨ ¬*P*
  - Aka "tautology"
  - Every tautology is equivalent to the sentence True
- ullet Contradiction is a sentence lpha that is false for all the models
  - E.g., *P* ∧ ¬*P*
  - Every contraction is equivalent to the sentence False
- Deduction theorem
  - The sentence  $\alpha$  entails  $\beta$  (written  $\alpha \models \beta$ ) iff the sentence  $\alpha \implies \beta$  is a tautology, i.e., is equivalent to  $\mathit{True}$
- The deduction theorem is best thought of as a bridge between two different but closely related ideas
  - Entailment ⊨ is a semantic notion
    - It's about truth across all models
    - lpha entailseta means in every possible world where lpha is true, eta is also true
  - Implication ⇒ is a syntactic notion
  - $\alpha \implies \beta$  is just another formula inside the logic

# **Satisfiability**

- A sentence  $\alpha$  is satisfiable iff  $\alpha$  is true for some model
- SAT problem is about determining satisfiability of sentence in propositional logic
  - $\bullet$  One can enumerate all the possible models until one is found to satisfy the sentence  $\alpha$
  - It is NP-complete
- A sentence  $\alpha$  is un-satisfiable iff  $\alpha$  is never true (i.e., a contradiction)
- · Validity and satisfiability
  - $\alpha$  is valid (i.e., a tautology) iff  $\neg \alpha$  is un-satisfiable
  - By contrapositive  $\alpha$  is satisfiable iff  $\neg \alpha$  is not valid ( $\neg \alpha$  is not a tautology)

### **Proof by contraction**

- The sentence  $\alpha \models \beta$  is true iff the sentence  $(\alpha \lor \neg \beta)$  is un-satisfiable (i.e., a contradiction)
- In other words in a proof by contradiction:
  - Assume  $\alpha$
  - Assume that the sentence  $\beta$  is false and
  - Prove that this leads to a contradiction
  - Thus  $\beta$  must be true

- Knowledge Representation
- Propositional logic
- First-order Logic
  - Syntax
  - Semantics
- Non-classical Logics

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#### **Natural languages**

- Natural languages (e.g., English, Italian) are:
  - Expressive
    - Medium for communication rather than representation
  - Ambiguous
    - E.g., "spring" is both a "season" and "something that goes boing"
  - Context-dependent
    - · Meaning depends on the sentence and context
    - E.g., "Look!"
- Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
  - Understanding of the world is influenced by language
  - Language influences thought (even through arbitrary grammatical features, e.g., gender of nouns)
  - Some languages lack words for certain concepts (e.g., direction)

#### **Programming languages**

- A programming language (e.g., C++, Python) is a formal language
  - Data structures represent facts
  - Code updates data structures in a domain-specific way
- Cons:
  - Programming is procedural (vs declarative)
  - Programming languages lack:
  - 1. A general mechanism for deriving facts from other facts
    - Code updates data structures based on programmer's domain knowledge
  - 2. Expressiveness to handle partial information
    - A variable represents a single value or unknown
    - · Can't easily handle partial information or quantify uncertainty
    - E.g., "A white knight is in b1 or in f6"
- Declarative language (e.g., propositional logic, first order logic)
  - Knowledge and inference are separate:
    - 1. Knowledge represents the domain-specific problem
    - 2. Inference is domain independent
  - Compositional semantics
    - The meaning of a sentence is a function of the meaning of its parts

#### **Propositional logic**

- E.g., *P* ∧ *Q*
- Pros
  - Declarative
    - Semantics is based on relation between sentences and possible worlds
    - Can deal with partial information
      - E.g., "A white knight is in b1 or in f6" is represented with  $WK1_{b1} \vee WK2_{f6}$
    - Compositional semantics
      - The meaning of a sentence is a function of the meaning of its parts
    - Context independent
    - Unambiguous
- Cons
  - Can't concisely describe environment with many objects, e.g.,
    - In English "The pawn is in a cell around b6" requires all the possible states to be enumerated

## First-Order Logic (FOL): Intro

- First-order logic (FOL) extends propositional logic by:
  - Introducing quantifiers (∀, ∃)
  - Using predicates to represent properties and relations
- Combines pros of propositional logic with pros of natural language
  - Built around objects and relations
  - Allows to express facts about some or all objects, e.g.,
    - "Some humans have blue eyes"
    - "Squares neighboring the Wumpus are smelly"
- FOL provides expressive power to represent structured, relational knowledge

## First-Order Logic: Syntax

- Constants: represent specific objects (e.g., Socrates)
- Predicates: describe properties or relations (e.g., Human(x))
- Functions: map tuples of objects to objects (e.g., Mother(x))
- Variables: placeholders (e.g., x, y)
- Quantifiers:  $\forall x$  (for all x),  $\exists x$  (there exists an x)

```
Sentence -> AtomicSentence | ComplexSentence
          AtomicSentence \rightarrow Predicate | Predicate(Term,...) | Term = Term
        ComplexSentence → (Sentence)
                                - Sentence
                                Sentence A Sentence
                                Sentence ∨ Sentence
                                Sentence >> Sentence
                                Sentence \Leftrightarrow Sentence
                                Quantifier Variable,... Sentence
                     Term → Function(Term...)
                             Constant
                                Variable
                Ouantifier → ∀ | ∃
                 Constant \rightarrow A \mid X_1 \mid John \mid \cdots
                  Variable \rightarrow a \mid x \mid s \mid \cdots
                 Predicate → True | False | After | Loves | Raining | · · ·
                 Function → Mother | LeftLeg | · · ·
OPERATOR PRECEDENCE: ¬,=, A, V, ⇒, ⇔
```

#### **Sentences**

- Term is a logical expression that refers to an object in a FOL model
- Atomic sentence = predicate symbol (i.e., which corresponds to relations) followed by a list of terms in parenthesis (i.e., constant or function symbol) Predicate(Term1, Term2, ...)
  - E.g., Brother(Richard, John), under the model / interpretation, Richard is the brother of John
  - E.g., Married(Father(Richard), Mother(John))
- Complex sentences = sentences using logical connectives complex, with the same syntax and semantics as in propositional logic
- Variable is a term that represents a possible object
  - Typically represented as lowercase letter (e.g., x, y, z)
  - can be used as argument of a function, e.g., LeftLeg(x)
- Equality symbol signifies that two terms refer to the same object
- E.g., Father(John) = Henry

#### **Quantifiers and Scope**

- Quantifiers express properties of entire collections of objects, instead of enumerating objects by name (like in propositional logic)
- Universal quantifier:  $\forall x P(x)$ 
  - Universal quantifier makes a statement about every object
  - Statement is true if P(x) is true for all x
- Existential quantifier:  $\exists x P(x)$ 
  - Existential quantifier makes a statement about some object (without naming it)
  - True if P(x) is true for at least one x
- Scope determines the portion of a formula a quantifier applies to
- Variables are bound by quantifiers or free (unbound)
- Sentences with no free variables are called closed formulas
- Example:
  - $\forall x (Cat(x) \rightarrow Mammal(x))$

#### **Nested quantifiers**

- = express more complex sentences using multiple quantifiers
- The order of quantifiers is important, so one can use parentheses to clarify
- Example:
  - "Brothers are siblings":  $\forall x, y Brother(x, y) \implies Sibling(x, y)$
  - $\forall x, y Sibling(x, y) \iff Sibling(y, x)$  (symmetric relationship)
  - "Everybody loves somebody":  $\forall x \exists y Loves(x, y)$
  - "There is someone loved by everyone":  $\exists y \forall x Loves(x, y)$

#### Connection between $\forall$ and $\exists$

• The two quantifiers are connected through negation and De Morgan rules

$$(\forall x \neg P) \iff (\neg \exists x)$$
$$\neg(\forall x P) \iff (\exists x \neg P)$$
$$(\forall x P) \iff (\neg \exists x \neg P)$$
$$(\exists x P) \iff (\neg \forall x \neg P)$$

- Knowledge Representation
- Propositional logic
  - Syntax
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### First-order logic: Semantics

- Semantics define how sentences are interpreted in a domain
- Symbols represent entities, relationships, and functions in the domain
  - Constant symbols represent specific objects
    - E.g., Alice, GP, CS101
  - Predicate symbols represent relationships among objects
    - E.g., EnrolledIn(Student, Class), Teaches(Professor, Class), IsStudent(x), IsProfessor(x)
  - Function symbols represent mappings between objects
    - E.g., AdvisorOf(Student), DepartmentOf(Professor)
- An interpretation maps the world to its mathematical description, and vice versa
  - There are many possible interpretations
  - The intended interpretation is the one that is the most natural
  - ullet E.g., map the symbol  $\emph{GP} 
    ightarrow$  me
- Example:
  - Sentence:  $\forall x (Human(x) \rightarrow Mortal(x))$
  - True if for every x in the domain, Human(x) implies Mortal(x)

# Inference in First-Order Logic

- Goal: derive new sentences from existing ones using sound rules
- Universal Instantiation:
  - From  $\forall x P(x)$  infer P(c) for any constant c
- Existential Instantiation:
  - From  $\exists x P(x)$  infer P(c) with a new constant c
- Modus Ponens and other propositional rules apply
- FOL inference is semi-decidable:
  - If a sentence is entailed, a proof can be found
  - If not entailed, proof search may not terminate

# Representing Knowledge in FOL

- FOL enables representation of:
  - General rules:  $\forall x (Bird(x) \rightarrow CanFly(x))$
  - Specific facts: Bird(Tweety)
- Complex relations captured through predicates:
  - Loves(Romeo, Juliet), GreaterThan(3, 2)
- Functions express object construction:
  - FatherOf (John)
- Knowledge base built from axioms and facts
- Enables reasoning about objects, properties, and their relationships

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  - Intro
  - Description Logics
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## **Ontological commitment**

- Ontological commitments are assumptions about reality made by a language
- Different formal models make different assumptions on how the truth of sentences is defined:
  - Propositional logic:
    - The world consists of facts that are either true or false
  - First-order logic:
    - The world consists of objects with relations among them that hold or do not hold
  - Temporal logic:
    - · Facts about objects and relations hold at particular times or intervals
  - Higher-order logic:
    - Relations of first-order logic are objects themselves
    - E.g., can make assertions about relations (e.g., "all relations are transitive")

# **Epistemological commitment**

- Epistemological commitment is a possible states of knowledge by an agent with respect to each fact
  - Ontological commitment = what exists in the world
  - Epistemological commitment = what an agent believes about facts
- E.g,
  - Propositional logic, first-order logic
    - 3 possible states of belief regarding any sentence: true, false, or unknown
  - Probability theory
    - There is a degree of belief in [0, 1] about each sentence

## Non-monotonic Logic

- Non-monotonic logic is a type of logic where adding new information can invalidate previous conclusions
- Contrast with Classical (Monotonic) Logic
  - In classical logic, once something is proven, it stays proven even if more information is added
  - In non-monotonic logic, conclusions can change as new facts are learned

### • E.g.,

- Initial knowledge: "Birds typically fly"
- Conclusion: "Tweety is a bird, so Tweety can fly"
- New information: "Tweety is a penguin"
- Revised conclusion: "Tweety cannot fly"

### Why it Matters

- Real-world situations often involve incomplete or evolving knowledge
- Non-monotonic logic allows systems to reason flexibly and adapt to new circumstances

## **Default reasoning**

- Default reasoning is reasoning where assumptions are made by default in the absence of contrary evidence
  - It allows conclusions based on typical situations unless exceptions are found
- Key Idea
  - Assume the most likely case unless specified otherwise
  - If new information contradicts the assumption, revise the conclusion
- E.g.,
  - Default rule: "Typically, birds can fly"
  - Fact: "Tweety is a bird"
  - Conclusion: "Tweety can fly"
  - New fact: "Tweety is a penguin"
  - Revised conclusion: "Tweety cannot fly"
- Why It Is Useful
  - In real life, information is often incomplete or uncertain
  - Default reasoning allows systems to function reasonably without knowing everything

## Non-Monotonic Logic: University Example

#### Initial Facts

- Alice is a Student
- Alice belongs to the ComputerScience department
- CS101 is a Course offered by the ComputerScience department
- Default rule: *Students* in the *ComputerScience* department take classes in their department

### Initial Reasoning

- Since Alice is a Student in ComputerScience, by default Students take CS101
- Conclusion: Alice takesCourse CS101

#### New Information

 Alice is an exchange student who does not meet the prerequisites for CS101

#### Revised Reasoning

New conclusion: Alice does not takeCourse CS101

## **Common Sense Reasoning**

- Common sense reasoning is the ability to make assumptions, draw conclusions based on everyday knowledge about the world
  - Involves typical, unstated knowledge that humans take for granted, e.g.,
    - "If you drop a glass, it will likely break"
    - Knowing that "people eat food when they are hungry" without being explicitly told

#### Characteristics

- Deals with incomplete, uncertain, or ambiguous information
- Relies on defaults, heuristics, and typical patterns rather than strict logical proofs
- Often flexible and tolerant of exceptions

### Challenges

- Common sense knowledge is vast, informal, and often not precisely defined
- Difficult to encode all of it explicitly in a machine-readable form
- Handling exceptions and contradictions is complex

#### Techniques

- Knowledge graphs
- Non-monotonic logic
- Probabilistic reasoning
- Machine learning models trained on large, diverse data

# **Common Sense Reasoning: University Example**

#### Initial facts

- Alice is a Student
- Bob is a Student
- CS101 is a Course offered by the ComputerScience department

#### Common sense knowledge

- Students typically enroll in courses offered by their department
- Students usually attend classes they are enrolled in
- Professors usually teach the courses they are assigned

#### Reasoning steps

- Alice belongs to the ComputerScience department
- CS101 is offered by the ComputerScience department
- Common sense suggests Alice is likely enrolled in CS101, even if enrollment is not explicitly stated
- Therefore, it is reasonable to assume: Alice takesCourse CS101

#### New information

- Alice is pursuing research only and not taking courses
- The assumption that *Alice takesCourse CS*101 must be revised

# **Open World vs Closed World Assumptions**

### Closed World Assumption (CWA)

- Missing information is false, e.g.,
  - Fact: "Alice takes CS101" is known
  - Nothing is said about Bob
  - Under CWA: Conclude Bob does not take CS101
- Common in databases and logic programming

### Open World Assumption (OWA)

- Missing information is unknown, not false, e.g.,
  - Fact: "Alice takes CS101" is known
  - Nothing is said about Bob
  - Under OWA: Cannot conclude if Bob takes CS101: it is unknown
- Common in Semantic Web, RDF, ontologies

### Applications

- OWA
  - Semantic Web (RDF, OWL)
  - Knowledge representation with incomplete or growing data
- CWA
  - Traditional relational databases (SQL)
  - Business rules and systems requiring complete data

# **Inductive Logic Programming**

### Inductive Logic Programming

- Learns logical rules from examples and common sense knowledge
- Given positive and negative examples, and background facts, infer logical rules that explain the examples

#### Example

- Background: "Birds have wings"
- Positive example: "Tweety can fly"
- Negative example: "Penguin cannot fly"
- Learned rule: "Birds can fly unless they are penguins"

#### Features

- Produces human-readable logical rules
- Integrates learning with symbolic reasoning
- Supports background knowledge integration

### Challenges

- Computational complexity with large datasets
- Handling noisy, incomplete, or ambiguous data

- Knowledge Representation
- Propositional logic
- First-order Logic
- Non-classical Logics
  - Intro
  - Description Logics
  - Semantic Web

# **Description Logic**

- Description Logic
  - Represents structured knowledge about a domain
  - Balances expressivity and computational efficiency
  - More expressive than propositional logic, less than first-order logic
- Core building blocks:
  - Concepts / classes: abstract groups
    - E.g., Person, Animal
  - Roles / properties: binary relations between individuals
    - E.g., hasChild, ownsPet
  - Individuals / instances: specific objects
    - E.g., GP, Nuvolo
- Supports reasoning tasks such as:
  - Concept subsumption: "is A a subset of B?"
  - Instance checking: "does a belong to A?"
- Syntax often combines:
  - Atomic concepts and roles
  - Logical constructors  $(\sqcap, \sqcup, \neg, \forall, \exists)$
  - E.g.,
    - Father ≡ Man □ ∃hasChild.Person
- Widely used in ontologies, e.g., OWL (Web Ontology Language)

### **ALC**

- Attributive Concept Language with Complements (ALC) is a basic but expressive description logic
  - Concepts can be combined using logical operators, e.g.,
    - □ means "and"
    - □ means "or"
    - ¬ means "not"
  - Allows for existential and universal quantification, e.g.,  $\exists R.C, \forall R.C$
- Interpretation is set-theoretic
  - Concepts as sets, roles as binary relations
- Example:
  - "All students take some course": Student 

    ∃takes.Course
  - "A mother is a woman who has at least one child"
     Mother ≡ Woman □ ∃hasChild. □
- ALC:
  - Is decidable
  - balances expressiveness and computational complexity
  - Is basis for more complex logics used in OWL
  - Practical for moderate-sized ontologies

### **SHOIN**

- SHOIN is a description logic more expressive than ALC
- Components:
  - S: Allows transitive properties
    - E.g., ancestorOf is transitive
  - $\mathcal{H}$ : Supports role hierarchies
    - E.g., hasSon 

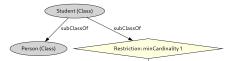
      hasChild
  - O: Introduces specific individuals
    - E.g., John is a nominal class
  - ullet  $\mathcal{I}$ : Enables roles to be navigated backward
    - E.g., isChildOf is inverse of hasChild
  - $\mathcal{N}$ : Sets cardinality constraints
    - E.g., "has exactly 1 passport"
- E.g.,:
  - "Exactly two children" Person  $\sqsubseteq$  (= 2 hasChild. $\top$ )
- Characteristics
  - More powerful but reasoning is harder (exponential complexity)
  - Model richer real-world scenarios
  - Foundation for OWL DL reasoning capabilities

### **OWL**

- OWL = Web Ontology Language
  - Semantic web language designed to represent complex knowledge about things and their relationships
  - Enables rich knowledge representation on the web (based on SHOIN)
  - "OWL" easier to pronounce than "WOL"
  - Supports formal semantics for machine reasoning
  - Key constructs:
    - Classes, properties, individuals, axioms
- Example:
- OWL variants:
  - OWL Lite: simpler, for classification hierarchies
  - OWL DL: full expressiveness with decidable reasoning
  - OWL Full: maximum expressiveness, but undecidable
- Applications
  - Semantic search
  - Biomedical data

## **Example of OWL in RDF**

```
1.
   <rdf:RDF xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
 3.
             xmlns:owl="http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#"
             xmlns:rdfs="http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#"
 4.
             xmlns:ex="http://example.org/">
 5.
      <owl:Class rdf:about="http://example.org/Person"/>
 6.
 7.
      <owl:Class rdf:about="http://example.org/Student">
 8.
        <rdfs:subClassOf rdf:resource="http://example.org/Person"/>
        <rdfs:subClassOf>
 9.
10.
          <owl:Restriction>
11.
            <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="http://example.org/hasAdvisor"/>
12.
            <owl:minCardinality rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#nonNegat</pre>
13.
            </owl:minCardinality>
14.
15.
          </owl:Restriction>
        </rdfs:subClassOf>
16.
17.
      </owl:Class>
18.
      <owl:ObjectProperty rdf:about="http://example.org/hasAdvisor"/>
19. </rdf:RDF>
20. ``
```



# RDF (Resource Description Framework)

- RDF is a standard model for data interchange on the web
  - Represent structured information in a machine-readable way
- Basic building block is a triple (Subject, Predicate, Object)
  - Subject: the entity being described, e.g., Nuvolo
  - Predicate: the property or relationship, e.g., isA
  - Object: the value or another entity, e.g., Dog
- Key Features:
  - Statements are directed graphs of nodes and edges
  - Components of the triple are URIs (Uniform Resource Identifiers) to ensure global uniqueness or literals (e.g., strings, numbers), e.g., http://example.org/Nuvolo
- Use Cases:
  - Building knowledge graphs
  - Enabling semantic search
  - Supporting ontologies (e.g., OWL)

| Subject   | Predicate   | Object  |
|---|---|---|
| Book123<br>Book123<br>Author456<br>Book123<br>Book123 | hasTitle<br>hasAuthor<br>hasName<br>publishedYear<br>belongsToGenre | "The Great Gatsby"<br>Author456<br>"F. Scott Fitzgerald"<br>"1925"<br>"Fiction" |
|   |   |   |

### **SPARQL**

- SPARQL is the query language for RDF data
  - Allows users to retrieve and manipulate data stored in RDF format
- Key Concepts:
  - Triple Patterns: Query fragments that match triples in an RDF graph
  - Basic Graph Pattern: A set of triple patterns combined
  - Variables: Stand in for unknown parts of the triples (e.g., ?person, ?animal)
- Main Query Types:
  - SELECT: Retrieve specific variables from the data
  - CONSTRUCT: Create new RDF triples based on query results
  - ASK: Return a boolean indicating whether a pattern exists
  - DESCRIBE: Return an RDF graph describing resources
- Example:
  - "Find all resources that are of type Bird"
     SELECT ?animal WHERE { ?animal rdf:type ex:Bird }

- Knowledge Representation
- Propositional logic
- First-order Logic
- Non-classical Logics
  - Intro
  - Description Logics
  - Semantic Web

### **Semantic Web**

- The Semantic Web extends the current Web by enabling machines to understand and interpret data
  - HTML is human-readable but lacks semantic structure for computers
  - The Semantic Web adds meaning / semantics to data
  - Allow better data integration, automation, and discovery across sites

### Key Technologies

- RDF (Resource Description Framework): base data model
- SPARQL: query language for RDF data
- OWL (Web Ontology Language): define rich ontologies

#### • Current Status

- Some core ideas (e.g., structured data and ontologies) are widely adopted
- Full vision remains only partially realized

### Challenges

- Complexity of widespread adoption
- · Issues around privacy, data ownership, and feasibility
- Need for standardization and tools

#### Criticism

- Skepticism about practicality and scalability
- Concerns about centralization and censorship

### WikiData

- WikiData is a free, open, collaborative knowledge base
  - Stores structured data for Wikipedia
  - Accessible via APIs using SPARQL queries
- Graph-based data model
  - Item: represents an entity or concept, e.g.,
    - Q42 → Douglas Adams
  - Property: describes a relationship or attribute, e.g.,
    - P31 (instance of), P27 (country of citizenship)
  - Value: specific data linked to an item via a property, e.g.,
    - Q42 (Douglas Adams)  $\rightarrow$  P31 (instance of)  $\rightarrow$  Q5 (human)
    - Q42  $\rightarrow$  P106 (occupation)  $\rightarrow$  Q36180 (science fiction writer)
  - Reference: supports a claim by citing a source, e.g.,
    - Stating Douglas Adams's citizenship with a reference to a biography
  - Qualifier: adds context or additional information to a statement
     Q90 (Paris) → P1082 (population) → "2,165,423"
    - With qualifier: P585 (point in time) → "2021"

- Meaning: "The population of Paris was 2,165,423 in the year 2021"
- Applications:
  - Knowledge graph
  - Semantic search
  - Al reasoning
  - Data enrichment

### **DBPedia**

- DBpedia extracts structured content from Wikipedia
  - Creates a large-scale, multilingual knowledge graph for querying
  - Data is extracted as RDF triples (subject-predicate-object), e.g.,
    - "Berlin" entity linked with properties like dbo:country Germany, dbo:populationTotal 3.7M
  - Enables semantic queries over Wikipedia data via SPARQL endpoints
- Applications
  - Semantic Web research
  - Enhancing AI models with real-world knowledge

### **Semantic Networks**

- Semantic Networks represent knowledge as graphs of concepts and relations
  - Nodes represent concepts
  - Edges represent relations (e.g., "is-a", "part-of")
    - E.g., if a Dog is an Animal, it inherits Animal traits
  - Examples: WordNet, ConceptNet
- Pros
  - Easy to visualize and traverse
  - Support reasoning
  - Common in early AI systems and current KG applications

### WordNet

- WordNet is a large lexical database of English words
  - Designed to model the semantic relationships between words
  - Groups words into sets of synonyms
  - Manually curated, ensuring high-quality semantic relations
  - Can be incomplete for domain-specific language
- Key Components:
  - Synsets: Sets of synonyms expressing a distinct concepts
    - E.g., {car, automobile} share the same synset
  - Relations between synsets:
    - Is-a relationships (e.g., Dog is a type of Animal)
    - Part-whole relationships (e.g., Wheel is a part of Car)
    - Opposite meanings
- Structure:
  - Semantic network where nodes are synsets and edges are relations
  - Organized hierarchically, especially for nouns and verbs
- Applications:
  - Word sense disambiguation: choose the correct meaning of a word in context
  - Semantic similarity measures: how close two concepts are
  - Information retrieval and question answering systems

## ConceptNet

- ConceptNet is a large knowledge graph
  - Connects words and phrases with labeled semantic relationships
  - Represents commonsense knowledge about the world
- Key Characteristics:
  - Designed to capture knowledge that people generally assume but often leave unstated
  - · Focuses on making AI systems more human-like in their understanding
- Structure:
  - Nodes: concepts (words or phrases)
  - Edges: semantic relationships between concepts, e.g.,
    - IsA: (dog, animal)
    - PartOf: (wheel, car)
    - UsedFor: (knife, cutting)
    - CapableOf: (bird, fly)
    - Causes: (fire, smoke)
- Example Triple:
  - (bicycle, UsedFor, transportation)
- Applications:
  - Natural language understanding
  - Question answering and chatbots
  - Commonsense reasoning in AI
  - Semantic search and recommendation systems

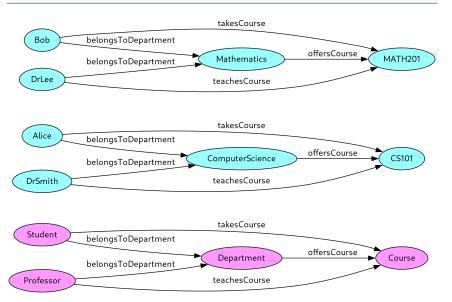
## Frame-Based Representations

- Frame-based systems represent structured knowledge about objects, events, or situations
- Key Concepts:
  - Frame: A data structure for a concept or entity
    - E.g., a frame for Dog might include properties like hasLegs, hasFur, barks
  - Slots: attributes or relationships associated with the frame
    - E.g., slot hasLegs with value 4
  - Slot fillers: values or links to other frames that fill the slots
    - E.g., slot eats might link to another frame Meat
- Example:
  - Frame: Dog
  - Slots:
    - isA: Animal
    - hasLegs: 4
    - sound: Bark
    - canDo: [Run, Fetch]
- Features:
  - Inheritance: frames can inherit slots and slot values from more general frames. e.g..

# Knowledge Graphs (KGs)

- KGs represent entities and their relationships as a graph structure
  - Nodes = entities
  - Edges = relations
  - E.g., "Paris  $\rightarrow$  isCapitalOf  $\rightarrow$  France"
- Query languages like SPARQL allow expressive information retrieval
- KGs support reasoning via path traversal and schema inference
- Applications:
  - Question answering
  - Recommendation
  - Semantic search
- Widely used by Google, Facebook, and academic search engines

## Knowledge Graph: University Example



## **Technologies**

- TransE (Translation Embedding)
  - Embedding model for knowledge graph completion
  - Represents relationships as translations in vector space:  $h + r \approx t$
  - Good for 1-to-1 relations, less effective with complex patterns
- RotatE
  - Embeds entities in complex space
  - Models relations as rotations:  $t = h \circ r$  where  $\circ$  is complex multiplication
  - Captures symmetry, antisymmetry, inversion, and composition
- DeepProbLog
  - Combines ProbLog (probabilistic logic) with deep learning
  - Supports neural predicates in logic programs
  - · Learns probabilistic facts and neural components jointly
- PyMLN
  - Python-based Markov Logic Network (MLN) system
  - MLNs combine first-order logic with probabilistic graphical models
  - Allows reasoning with weighted logical rules
- ProbLog
  - Probabilistic logic programming language
  - Extends Prolog by attaching probabilities to facts
  - Computes success probabilities of queries

• Tuffy