

Semantic Networks and Description Logics

Description Logics – Reasoning Services and Reductions

Knowledge Representation and Reasoning

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Description Logics – Reasoning Services and Reductions

Motivation

Basic Reasoning Services

Eliminating the TBox

General TBox Reasoning Services

General ABox Reasoning Services

Summary and Outlook

Example TBox & ABox

Male $\doteq \neg$ Female
 Human \sqsubseteq Living_entity
 Woman \doteq Human \sqcap Female
 Man \doteq Human \sqcap Male
 Mother \doteq Woman $\sqcap \exists$ has-child.Human
 Father \doteq Man $\sqcap \exists$ has-child.Human
 Parent \doteq Father \sqcup Mother
 Grandmother
 \doteq Woman $\sqcap \exists$ has-child.Parent
 Mother-without-daughter
 \doteq Mother $\sqcap \forall$ has-child.Male
 Mother-with-many-children
 \doteq Mother $\sqcap (\geq 3$ has-child)

DIANA:	Woman	
ELIZABETH:	Woman	
CHARLES:	Man	
EDWARD:	Man	
ANDREW:	Man	
DIANA:	Mother-without-daughter	
(ELIZABETH,	CHARLES):	has-child
(ELIZABETH,	EDWARD):	has-child
(ELIZABETH,	ANDREW):	has-child
(DIANA,	WILLIAM):	has-child
(CHARLES,	WILLIAM):	has-child

Motivation: Reasoning Services

- ▶ What do we want to know?
- ▶ We want to check whether the *knowledge base* is reasonable:
 - ▶ Is each defined concept in a TBox satisfiable?
 - ▶ Is a given TBox satisfiable?
 - ▶ Is a given ABox satisfiable?
- ▶ What can we **conclude** from the represented knowledge?
 - ▶ Is concept X **subsumed** by concept Y ?
 - ▶ Is an object a **instance** of a concept X ?
- ▶ These problems can be **reduced** to logical satisfiability or implication – using the logical semantics.
- ▶ We take a different route: We will try to simplify these problems and then we specify *direct inference methods*.

Satisfiability of Concept Descriptions in a TBox

- ▶ **Motivation:** Given a TBox \mathcal{T} and a concept description C , does C make sense, i.e., is C **satisfiable**?
- ▶ **Test:**
 - ▶ Does there exist a *model* I of \mathcal{T} such that $C^I \neq \emptyset$?
 - ▶ Is the formula $\exists x: C(x)$ together with the formulas resulting from the translation of \mathcal{T} satisfiable?
- ▶ **Example:** $\text{Mother-without-daughter} \sqcap \forall \text{has-child.Female}$ is unsatisfiable.

Satisfiability of Concept Descriptions (without a TBox)

- ▶ **Motivation:** Given a concept description C in “isolation”, i.e., in an *empty TBox*, does C make sense, i.e., is C **satisfiable**?
- ▶ **Test:**
 - ▶ Does there exist an *interpretation* I such that $C^I \neq \emptyset$?
 - ▶ Is the formula $\exists x: C(x)$ satisfiable?
- ▶ **Example:** $\text{Woman} \sqcap (\leq 0 \text{ has-child}) \sqcap (\geq 1 \text{ has-child})$ is unsatisfiable.

Reduction: Getting Rid of the TBox

- ▶ We can **reduce** satisfiability in a TBox to simple satisfiability.
- ▶ **Idea:**
 - ▶ Since TBoxes are *cycle-free*, one can understand a concept definition as a kind of “macro”
 - ▶ For a given TBox \mathcal{T} and a given concept description C , all defined concept symbols appearing in C can be *expanded* until C contains only undefined concept symbols
 - ▶ An *expanded* concept description is then satisfiable iff C is satisfiable in \mathcal{T}
 - ▶ *Problem:* What do we do with partial definitions (using \sqsubseteq)?

Normalized Terminologies

- ▶ A terminology is called **normalized** when it does not contain definitions using \sqsubseteq .
- ▶ In order to *normalize* a terminology, replace

$$A \sqsubseteq C$$

by

$$A \doteq A^* \sqcap C,$$

where A^* is a **fresh** concept symbol (not appearing elsewhere in \mathcal{T}).

- ▶ If \mathcal{T} is a terminology, the normalized terminology is denoted by $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$.

Normalizing is Reasonable

Theorem (Normalization Invariance)

If I is a model of the terminology \mathcal{T} , then there exists a model I' of $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$ (and vice versa) such that for all concept symbols A appearing in \mathcal{T} we have:

$$A^I = A^{I'}.$$

Proof.

“ \Rightarrow ”: Let I be a model of \mathcal{T} . This model should be *extended* to I' so that the freshly introduced concept symbols also get interpretations. Assume $(A \sqsubseteq C) \in \mathcal{T}$, i.e., we have $(A \doteq A^* \sqcap C) \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}$. Then set $A^{*I'} = A^I$. I' obviously satisfies $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$ and has the same interpretation for all symbols in \mathcal{T} .

“ \Leftarrow ”: Given a model I' of $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$, its restriction to symbols of \mathcal{T} is the interpretation we looked for. □

TBox Unfolding

- ▶ We say that a *normalized TBox* is **unfolded by one step** when all defined concept symbols on the right sides are replaced by their defining terms.
- ▶ **Example:** $\text{Mother} \doteq \text{Woman} \sqcap \dots$ is unfolded to $\text{Mother} \doteq (\text{Human} \sqcap \text{Female}) \sqcap \dots$
- ▶ We write $U(\mathcal{T})$ to denote a one-step unfolding and $U^n(\mathcal{T})$ to denote an *n-step unfolding*.
- ▶ We say \mathcal{T} is **unfolded** if $U(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$.
- ▶ We say that $U^n(\mathcal{T})$ is the **unfolding** of \mathcal{T} if $U^n(\mathcal{T}) = U^{n+1}(\mathcal{T})$. If such an unfolding exists, it is denoted by $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$

Properties of Unfoldings (1): Existence

Theorem (Existence of unfolded terminology)

For each normalized terminology \mathcal{T} , there exists its unfolding $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$.

Proof idea.

The main reason is that terminologies have to be *cycle-free*. The proof can be done by induction of the *definition depth* of concepts. □

Properties of Unfoldings (2): Equivalence

Theorem (Model equivalence for unfolded terminologies)

I is a model of a normalized terminology \mathcal{T} iff it is a model of $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$.

Proof Sketch.

“ \Rightarrow ”: Let I be a model of \mathcal{T} . Then it is also a model of $U(\mathcal{T})$, since on the right side of the definitions only terms with identical interpretations are substituted. However, then it must also be a model of $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$.

“ \Leftarrow ”: Let I be a model for $U(\mathcal{T})$. Clearly, this is also a model of \mathcal{T} (with the same argument as above). This means that any model $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ is also a model of \mathcal{T} . □

Generating Models

- ▶ All concept and role names *not appearing on the left hand side* in a terminology \mathcal{T} are called **primitive components**.
- ▶ Interpretations restricted to primitive components are called **initial interpretations**.

Theorem (Model extension)

For each initial interpretation \mathcal{J} of a normalized TBox, there exists a unique interpretation I extending \mathcal{J} and satisfying \mathcal{T} .

Proof idea.

Use $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ and compute an interpretation for all defined symbols. □

Corollary (Model existence for TBoxes)

Each TBox has at least one model.

Unfolding of Concept Descriptions

- ▶ Similar to the unfolding of TBoxes, we can define **unfolding of concept descriptions**.
- ▶ We write \widehat{C} for the **unfolded version** of C .

Theorem (Satisfiability of unfolded concepts)

An concept description C is satisfiable in a terminology \mathcal{T} iff \widehat{C} is satisfiable in an empty terminology.

Proof.

“ \Rightarrow ”: trivial.

“ \Leftarrow ”: Use the interpretation for all the symbols in \widehat{C} to generate an initial interpretation of \mathcal{T} . Then extend it to a full model I of \mathcal{T} . This satisfies \mathcal{T} as well as \widehat{C} . Since $\widehat{C}^I = C^I$, it satisfies also C . □

Subsumption in a TBox

- ▶ **Motivation:** Given a terminology \mathcal{T} and two concept descriptions C and D , is C *subsumed by* (or a *sub-concept* of) D in \mathcal{T} ($C \sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}} D$)?
- ▶ **Test:**
 - ▶ Is C interpreted as a subset of D for all models I of \mathcal{T} ($C^I \subseteq D^I$)?
 - ▶ Is the formula $\forall x : (C(x) \rightarrow D(x))$ a logical consequence of the translation of \mathcal{T} to predicate logic?
- ▶ **Example:** Grandmother $\sqsubseteq_{\mathcal{T}}$ Mother

Subsumption

(Without a TBox)

- ▶ **Motivation:** Given two concept descriptions C and D , is C *subsumed by* D regardless of a TBox (or in an *empty TBox*), written $C \sqsubseteq D$?
- ▶ **Test:**
 - ▶ Is C interpreted as a subset of D for *all interpretations* I ($C^I \subseteq D^I$)?
 - ▶ Is the formula $\forall x : (C(x) \rightarrow D(x))$ *logically valid*?
- ▶ **Example:** $\text{Human} \sqcap \text{Female} \sqsubseteq \text{Human}$

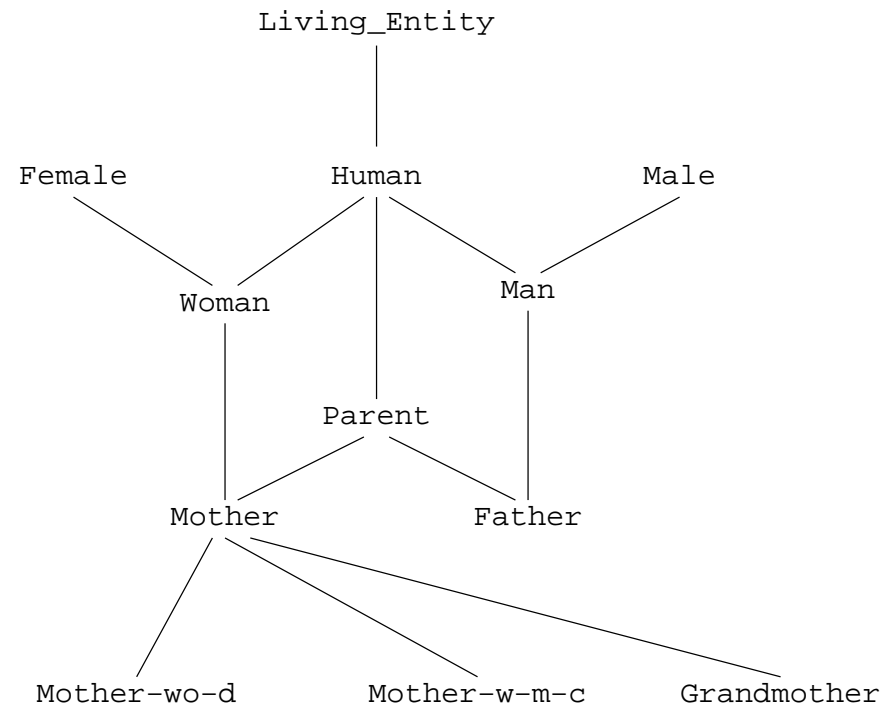
Reductions

- ▶ Subsumption in a TBox can be reduced to subsumption in the empty TBox
- ▶ *Normalize* and *unfold* TBox and concept descriptions.
- ▶ Subsumption in the empty TBox can be reduced to unsatisfiability
- ▶ $C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C \sqcap \neg D$ is unsatisfiable
- ▶ Unsatisfiability can be reduced to subsumption
- ▶ C is unsatisfiable iff $C \sqsubseteq (C \sqcap \neg C)$

Classification

- ▶ **Motivation:** Compute all subsumption relationships (and represent them using only a minimal number of relationships) in order to
 - ▶ check the modeling – does the terminology make sense?
 - ▶ use the precomputed relations later when subsumption queries have to be answered
 - ▶ reduce to subsumption
 - ▶ it is a *generalized sorting* problem!

Example



ABox Satisfiability

- ▶ **Motivation:** An ABox should *model* the real world, i.e., it should have a **model**.
- ▶ **Test:** Check for a model
- ▶ **Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} X & : (\forall r. \neg C) \\ Y & : C \\ (X, Y) & : r \end{aligned}$$

is not satisfiable.

ABox Satisfiability in a TBox

- ▶ **Motivation:** Is a given ABox \mathcal{A} compatible with the terminology introduced in \mathcal{T} ?
- ▶ **Test:** Is $\mathcal{T} \cup \mathcal{A}$ satisfiable?
- ▶ **Example:** If we extend our example with
MARGRET: Woman
(DIANA, MARGRET): has-child,

then the ABox becomes unsatisfiable in the given TBox.
- ▶ **Reduction:**
 - ▶ to satisfiability of an ABox
 - ▶ *Normalize* terminology, then *unfold* all concept and role descriptions in the ABox

Instance Relations

- ▶ **Motivation:** Which additional ABox formulas of the form $a: C$ follow logically from a given ABox and TBox?
- ▶ **Test:**
 - ▶ Is $a^I \in C^I$ true in all models of I of $\mathcal{T} \cup \mathcal{A}$?
 - ▶ Does the formula $C(a)$ logically follow from the translation of \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{T} to predicate logic?
- ▶ **Reductions:**
 - ▶ Instance relations wrt. an ABox and a TBox can be reduced to instance relations wrt. ABox.
 - ▶ Use *normalization* and *unfolding*
 - ▶ Instance relations in an ABox can be reduced to ABox unsatisfiability:

$a: C$ holds in \mathcal{A} iff $\mathcal{A} \cup \{a: \neg C\}$ is unsatisfiable

Examples

- ▶ ELIZABETH: Mother-with-many-children?
- ▶ **yes**
- ▶ WILLIAM: \neg Female?
- ▶ **yes**
- ▶ ELIZABETH: Mother-without-daughter?
- ▶ **no** (no CWA!)
- ▶ ELIZABETH: Grandmother?
- ▶ **no** (only male, but not necessarily human!)

Realization

- ▶ **Idea**: For a given object a , determine the **most specialized concept symbols** such that a is an instance of these concepts
- ▶ **Motivation**:
 - ▶ Similar to *classification*
 - ▶ Is the minimal representation of the instance relations (in the set of concept symbols)
 - ▶ Will give us faster answers for instance queries!
- ▶ **Reduction**: Can be reduced to (a sequence of) instance relation tests.

Retrieval

- ▶ **Motivation:** Sometimes, we want to get the set of instances of a concept (as in database queries)
- ▶ **Example:** Asking for all instances of the concept `Male`, we will get the answer `CHARLES, ANDREW, EDWARD, WILLIAM`.
- ▶ **Reduction:** Compute the set of instances by testing the instance relation for each object
- ▶ **Implementation:** Realization can be used to speed this up

Reasoning Services – Summary

- ▶ Satisfiability of concept descriptions
 - ▶ in a given TBox or in an empty TBox
- ▶ Subsumption between concept descriptions
 - ▶ in a given TBox or in an empty TBox
- ▶ Classification
- ▶ Satisfiability of an ABox
 - ▶ in a given TBox or in an empty TBox
- ▶ Instance relations in an ABox
 - ▶ in a given TBox or in an empty TBox
- ▶ Realization
- ▶ Retrieval

Outlook

- ▶ How to determine *subsumption* between two concept description (in the empty TBox)?
- ▶ How to determine *instance relations/ABox satisfiability*?
- ▶ How to implement the mentioned reductions *efficiently*?
- ▶ Does normalization and unfolding introduce another source of *computational complexity*?