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University of Ulm

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Classical Algorithms for Reasoning and Explanation in Description Logics



Which physicists were born in Germany?

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 - there is a Web page for that!
- In general, Web search is based on matching keywords

Science and technology in Germany - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org > wiki > Science_and_technology_in_Germany -

German science have been very significant and research and development efforts form an ... They were preceded by such key physicists as Hermann von Helmholtz, Joseph von Fraunhofer, and Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit, among others . Wilhelm ... Wladimir Köppen (1846– 1940) was an eclectic Russian-born botanist and ...

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Which physicists were born in Germany?

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- How does it know?
 - there is a Web page for that!
- In general, Web search is based on matching keywords
- There is no guarantee that the answer will be found
 - even if there is a Web page with the answer
- In some applications wrong/missed results cannot be tolerated
 - medicine, banking, autonomous driving,...

 Description Logics (DLs) are formal languages designed for knowledge representation

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Main advantage: an answer can be obtained by combinding several sources of information (formulas)

- Example:
 - F1 = "Albert Einstein was a physicist"
 - F2 = "Albert Einstein was born in Ulm"
 - F3 = "UIm is a city in Germany"
 - \Rightarrow "Albert Einstein was a German Physicists"

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DLs @ RW

Reasoning Web summer school hosted many courses on DLs:

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- DL introduction (@RW 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013)
- lightweight DLs (@RW 2010)
- query answering (@RW 2012, 2014, 2015)
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- reasoning: tableau-based procedures
- explantion: axiom-pinpointing methods
- Main focus: correctness, complexity, optimizations

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Outline

Description Logics

The Basic Description Logic \mathcal{ALC} Semantics of \mathcal{ALC} Reasoning Problems Reduction of Reasoning

Tableau Procedures

Axiom Pinpointing

Conclusions

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Vocabulary of ALC

The vocabulary of DL ALC consists of:

- Concept names (atomic concepts): A, B,...
- Role names (atomic roles): R, S, H,...
- Individual names (individuals): a, b, c,...
- ▶ Logical symbols: \top , \bot , \neg , \Box , \sqcup , \forall , \exists .

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- Concepts represent sets of things:
 - Human set of all human beings
 - Male the set of all male (not necessarily human) beings

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Country – the set of all countries

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- Roles represent relations between things:
 - hasChild holds between parents and their children
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- Individuals represent concrete (unique) objects:
 - germany the country of Germany
 - john the person John

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Complex concepts are built using concept constructors:

- \blacktriangleright \top (top) is a concept that represents all objects in the world
- \perp (bottom) is a concept that has no member objects
- $C \sqcap D$ (conjunction) are the common objects of C and D
- $C \sqcup D$ (disjunction) is the union of objects in C and D
- $\neg C$ (negation) are all objects that are not in C
- ► ∃R.C (existential restriction) are all objects that are related via role R to some object in C
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Examples:

Male □ Human – the set of male humans

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Examples:

∃hasChild.Male – all beings that have a male child

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- Description Logic axioms postulate facts about concepts, roles, or individuals:
 - C ⊆ D (concept inclusion) states that every member of C is also a member of D
 - $C \equiv D$ (concept equivalence) states that C and D have the same members
 - C(a) (concept assertion) states that the individual a is a member of C
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- Parent ≡ ∃hasChild.⊤ parents are exactly those that have some child
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- ► bornIn(einstein, ulm) Albert Einstein was born in Ulm

 \mathcal{ALC} Knowledge Bases

An ALC knowledge base (or ontology) is a finite set O of axioms.

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- Example: take O consisting of three axioms:
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- Then its TBox = {(ax1), (ax2)}, its ABox = {(ax3)}

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Reduction of Reasoning

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 - the meaning of concepts and axioms is defined using interpretations

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- to every concept name A a subset $A^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
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- to every concept name A a subset $A^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
- ▶ to every role name *R* a relation $R^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
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to every concept name A a subset A^I ⊆ Δ^I
to every role name R a relation R^I ⊆ Δ^I × Δ^I
to every individual a an element a^I ∈ Δ^I
Example: define I = (Δ^I, ·^I) as follows:

•
$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\}$$

• Human <sup>$\mathcal{I} = \{a, b\}, Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}$
• hasChild ^{\mathcal{I}} = $\{\langle a, b \rangle\}$
• iohn ^{\mathcal{I}} = a mary ^{\mathcal{I}} = b</sup>

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► The interpretation function ·^{*I*} can be recursively extended to complex concepts as follows:

$$\begin{array}{l} \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \downarrow^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset \\ \bullet \quad (C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \bullet \quad (C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \bullet \quad (\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \bullet \quad (\exists R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \exists y : (x,y) \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \& y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \\ \bullet \quad (\forall R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \forall y. (x,y) \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \Rightarrow y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \end{array}$$

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Example: let $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\},$
 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:

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$$\begin{array}{l} \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \perp^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset \\ \bullet \quad (C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \bullet \quad (C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \bullet \quad (\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \bullet \quad (\exists R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \exists y : (x,y) \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \And y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \\ \bullet \quad (\forall R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid \forall y. (x,y) \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \Rightarrow y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \\ \end{array}$$
Example: let $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\},$
 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
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 $\begin{array}{l} \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \\ \bullet \quad (Male \sqcap Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset \\ \bullet \quad (Male \sqcup Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \\ \bullet \quad (\neg Male)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\} \\ \bullet \quad (Male \sqcap \neg Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \end{array}$

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 $\quad \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \\ \bullet \quad (Male \sqcap Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \\ \bullet \quad (Male \sqcup Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \\ \bullet \quad (Male \sqcap \neg Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\} \end{array}$

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Example: let $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\},$
 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, \ Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, \ hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
 $\bullet \quad (\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} =$

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Example: let $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\},$
 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
 $\bullet \quad (\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$

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 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, \ Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, \ hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
 $\bullet \quad (\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$
 $\bullet \quad (\forall hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$

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 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, \ Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, \ hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
 $\bullet \quad (\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$
 $\bullet \quad (\forall hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \quad (!!!)$

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Example: let $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\},$
 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, \ Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, \ hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
 $(\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$
 $(\forall hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \quad (!!!)$
 $(\forall hasChild.Male)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\} \quad (!!!)$

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 $Male^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}, \ Female^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}, \ hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b\rangle\}.$ Then:
 $(\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$
 $(\forall hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$ (!!!)
 $(\forall hasChild.Male)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}$ (!!!)
 $(\exists hasChild.\forall hasChild.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} =$

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 $(\exists hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$
 $(\forall hasChild.Female)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\} \quad (!!!)$
 $(\exists hasChild.\forall hasChild.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$

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Interpretation of Axioms

An interpretation can either satisfy an axiom (*I* ⊨ α) or violate it (*I* ⊭ α):

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$$\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{I} \models C \sqsubseteq D \quad \text{iff} \quad C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \mathcal{I} \models C \equiv D \quad \text{iff} \quad C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \mathcal{I} \models C(a) \quad \text{iff} \quad a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \mathcal{I} \models R(a,b) \quad \text{iff} \quad (a^{\mathcal{I}}, b^{\mathcal{I}}) \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \end{array}$$
An interpretation can either satisfy an axiom (*I* ⊨ α) or violate it (*I* ⊭ α):

$$\begin{array}{l} \downarrow \models C \sqsubseteq D & \text{iff} \quad C^{\perp} \subseteq D^{\perp} \\ \downarrow \models C \equiv D & \text{iff} \quad C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \downarrow \models C(a) & \text{iff} \quad a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \end{array}$$

•
$$\mathcal{I} \models R(a, b)$$
 iff $(a^{\mathcal{I}}, b^{\mathcal{I}}) \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$

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Example: let I = (Δ^I, ·^I) with Δ^I = {a, b}, Male^I = {a}, Female^I = {b}, and hasChild^I = {⟨a, b⟩}, john^I = a, mary^I = b. Then:
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Indeed: $(\exists hasChild.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} \equiv \emptyset = Parent^{\mathcal{I}}$ and $(\exists hasChild.Parent)^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset = GrandParent^{\mathcal{I}}$

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- The trivial interpretation does not satisfy the last axiom! john^T ∉ Ø = (GrandParent □ ¬Parent)^T
- Proving unsatisfiability is harder: one has to prove that *I* \not O for every interpretation *I*!

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$$A \text{ w.r.t. } \mathcal{O} = \{A \sqsubseteq \neg A\}$$
? (tricky!)

Entailment

One is often interested in logical consequences of an ontology

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- An ontology O entails an axiom α (O ⊨ α) if for every I such that I ⊨ O we have I ⊨ α.
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Outline

Description Logics

The Basic Description Logic ALC Semantics of ALC Reasoning Problems Reduction of Reasoning

Tableau Procedures

Axiom Pinpointing

Conclusions

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How to create a useful ontology?

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- How to create a useful ontology?
 - 1. It should be detailed enough to capture the intended application domain in a precise way

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2. It should be error-free

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We should aim at detecting as much errors as possible automatically

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Modeling Errors

What can be regarded as a modeling error?

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Modeling Errors

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1. Inconsistency of an ontology \mathcal{O} .

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Modeling Errors

What can be regarded as a modeling error?

1. Inconsistency of an ontology \mathcal{O} .

Example: $\mathcal{O} =$

- 1. Parent $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
- 2. GrandParent $\equiv \exists hasChild.Parent$
- 3. (*GrandParent* $\sqcap \neg$ *Parent*)(*john*)

- What can be regarded as a modeling error?
 - 1. Inconsistency of an ontology \mathcal{O} .
 - 2. Unsatisfiability of an atomic concept: $\mathcal{O} \models A \sqsubseteq \bot$

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Example: $\mathcal{O} =$

- 1. Parent \sqsubseteq GrandParent
- 2. Parent \sqcap GandParent $\sqsubseteq \bot$

 \models Parent $\sqsubseteq \bot$

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3. Unexpected consequence: $\mathcal{O} \models C \sqsubseteq D$

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3. Unexpected consequence: $\mathcal{O} \models C \sqsubseteq D$

Example: $\mathcal{O} =$

- 1. $HappyParent \equiv \forall hasChild.Happy$
- 2. *NotParent* $\equiv \neg \exists hasChild. \top$

 \models NotParent \sqsubseteq HappyParent

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Ontology satisfiability checking:

- ► Given: *O* an ontology
- Return: yes if O is satisfiable, and no otherwise

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- Ontology satisfiability checking:
 - Given: O an ontology
 - Return: yes if O is satisfiable, and no otherwise
- Concept satisfiability checking:
 - ▶ Given: O an ontology, C a concept
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- Concept subsumption checking:
 - ▶ Given: *O* an ontology, *C*, *D* concepts
 - Return: yes if $\mathcal{O} \models C \sqsubseteq D$ and no otherwise

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 - Given: O an ontology
 - Return: yes if O is satisfiable, and no otherwise
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 - Given: O an ontology, C a concept
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- Concept subsumption checking:
 - Given: \mathcal{O} an ontology, C, D concepts
 - Return: yes if $\mathcal{O} \models C \sqsubseteq D$ and no otherwise
- Instance checking:
 - Given: O an ontology, C a concept, a an individual

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• Return: yes if $\mathcal{O} \models C(a)$ and no otherwise

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Standard Reasoning Problems: Examples

- Example: ontology O:
 - 1. *Parent* $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
 - 2. GrandParent $\equiv \exists hasChild.Parent$
 - 3. hasChild(john, mary)

- Example: ontology O:
 - 1. *Parent* $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
 - 2. *GrandParent* $\equiv \exists hasChild.Parent$
 - 3. hasChild(john, mary)

► Satisfiability checking: is *O* satisfiable? Yes:

► Take
$$\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$$
 with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\}$, $john^{\mathcal{I}} = a$, $mary^{\mathcal{I}} = b$, $hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b \rangle\}$, $Parent^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$, $GrandParent^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$.

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- Example: ontology O:
 - 1. Parent $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
 - 2. GrandParent $\equiv \exists hasChild.Parent$
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Satisfiability checking: is O satisfiable? Yes:

► Take $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\}$, $john^{\mathcal{I}} = a$, $mary^{\mathcal{I}} = b$, $hasChild^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle a, b \rangle\}$, $Parent^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a\}$, $GrandParent^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$.

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Concept satisfiability: is Parent satisfiable w.r.t. O? Yes

- Example: ontology O:
 - 1. Parent $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
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- Concept satisfiability: is Parent satisfiable w.r.t. O? Yes
- ▶ Concept satisfiability: is *GrandParent* satisfiable w.r.t. *O*?

- Example: ontology O:
 - 1. Parent $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
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Satisfiability checking: is O satisfiable? Yes:

- Take *I* = (Δ^I, ·^I) with Δ^I = {a, b}, john^I = a, mary^I = b, hasChild^I = {⟨a, b⟩}, Parent^I = {a}, GrandParent^I = ∅.
- ► Concept satisfiability: is *Parent* satisfiable w.r.t. *O*? Yes
- ► Concept satisfiability: is *GrandParent* satisfiable w.r.t. *O*? Yes
 - Take *I* = (Δ^I, ·^I) with Δ^I = {x, a, b}, john^I = a, mary^I = b, hasChild^I = {⟨x, a⟩, ⟨a, b⟩}, Parent^I = {x, a}, GrandParent^I = {x}.

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Example: ontology O:

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- 1. Parent $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
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• Concept subsumption: $\mathcal{O} \models Parent \sqsubseteq GrandParent$? No:

• $\mathcal{I} \not\models Parent \sqsubseteq GrandParent.$

- Example: ontology O:
 - 1. *Parent* $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
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• Take any interpretation \mathcal{I} such that $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$.

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• Hence, $\exists y : \langle x, y \rangle \in hashChild^{\mathcal{I}} \& y \in Parent^{\mathcal{I}}$.

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- Hence, $\exists y : \langle x, y \rangle \in hashChild^{\mathcal{I}} \& y \in Parent^{\mathcal{I}}$.
- Trivially, $y \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \top^{\mathcal{I}}$, so $x \in (\exists hasChild.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = Parent^{\mathcal{I}}$.

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Since x ∈ GrandParent^I was arbitrary, we proved that GrandParent^I ⊆ Parent^I.

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Instance checking: what are the instances of Parent?

- Parent(john)
 - Parent(mary)

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- ▶ O ⊨ Parent(john) − See the paper
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- $\mathcal{O} \not\models \mathsf{Parent}(\mathsf{mary}) \mathsf{mary}^{\mathcal{I}} \notin \mathsf{Parent}^{\mathcal{I}}$

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- ▶ Instance checking: what are the instances of ¬*Parent*?

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- ► (¬Parent)(john)
 - $(\neg Parent)(mary)$

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 - 1. Parent $\equiv \exists hasChild. \top$
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▶ Instance checking: what are the instances of ¬*Parent*?

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•
$$\mathcal{O} \not\models (\neg Parent)(john) - Exercise$$

• $\mathcal{O} \not\models (\neg Parent)(mary) - Exercise$

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Outline

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The Basic Description Logic ALCSemantics of ALCReasoning Problems Reduction of Reasoning

Tableau Procedures

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Conclusions

There are quite many reasoning problems for DLs. Do we really need to find algorithms for each of them independently?

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There are quite many reasoning problems for DLs. Do we really need to find algorithms for each of them independently?

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- Use a reduction!
 - if we solve one problem, we solve all of them!

► Recall: a decision problem (for the input set X) is a mapping P : X → yes, no.

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Definition (Reduction)

27/96

 $P_1: X \to \{yes, no\}$ is reducible to $P_2: Y \to \{yes, no\}$ if \exists an algorithm $R: X \to Y$ (a reduction) such that $\forall x \in X$:

- if $P_1(x) = yes$ then $P_2(R(x)) = yes$
- if $P_1(x) = no$ then $P_2(R(x)) = no$

► Recall: a decision problem (for the input set X) is a mapping P : X → yes, no.

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27/96

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• if
$$P_1(x) = yes$$
 then $P_2(R(x)) = yes$

• if
$$P_1(x) = no$$
 then $P_2(\mathbb{R}(x)) = no$

If R is polynomial then P_1 is polynomially reducible to P_2 .

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polynomial reductions are of a most interest

Reduction between Reasoning Problems



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Concept Satisfiability \Rightarrow Ontology Satisfiability



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Concept Satisfiability \Rightarrow Ontology Satisfiability

Lemma

C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .

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Lemma

C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .

Proof.

• (\Rightarrow) : if *C* is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} then there exists $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$ such that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$. That is, there exists some $x \in C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$.

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C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .

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C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .

Proof.

Then $\mathcal{J} \models \mathcal{O}$ and $\mathcal{J} \models \mathcal{C}(a)$.

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Lemma

C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .

Proof.

• (\Leftarrow) : If $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable then there exists a model $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}.$

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Lemma

C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .

Proof.

• (\Leftarrow) : If $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}$ is satisfiable then there exists a model $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\}.$

Then $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$ and $a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$.

Concept Non-Subsumption \Rightarrow Concept Unsatisfiability



Concept Non-Subsumption \Rightarrow Concept Unsatisfiability

Lemma $\mathcal{O} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C \sqcap \neg D$ is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} .



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Concept Non-Subsumption \Rightarrow Concept Unsatisfiability

Lemma $\mathcal{O} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C \sqcap \neg D$ is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} .

Proof.

▶ (⇒) : If $\mathcal{O} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$ then $\exists \mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O} : \mathcal{I} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$.

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Concept Non-Subsumption \Rightarrow Concept Unsatisfiability

Lemma

 $\mathcal{O} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $C \sqcap \neg D$ is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} .

Proof.

► (⇒) : If
$$\mathcal{O} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$$
 then $\exists \mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$: $\mathcal{I} \not\models C \sqsubseteq D$.
Then $C^{\mathcal{I}} \not\subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$. Hence $\exists x \in (C^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus D^{\mathcal{I}}) = (C \sqcap \neg D)^{\mathcal{I}}$.

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 $\mathsf{Concept} \ \mathsf{Non-Subsumption} \Rightarrow \mathsf{Concept} \ \mathsf{Unsatisfiability}$

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Concept Subsumption \Rightarrow Concept Instance



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Concept Subsumption \Rightarrow Concept Instance

Lemma

 $\mathcal{O} \models C \sqsubseteq D$ iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{C(a)\} \models D(a)$ for every *a* not appearing in \mathcal{O} .



Concept Non-Instance \Rightarrow Ontology Satisfiability



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Concept Non-Instance \Rightarrow Ontology Satisfiability

Lemma $\mathcal{O} \not\models C(a)$ iff $\mathcal{O} \cup \{(\neg C)(a)\}$ is satisfiable.

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Ontology Satisfiability \Rightarrow Everything Else



Ontology Satisfiability \Rightarrow Everything Else

Lemma

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Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1. \mathcal{O} is unsatisfiable,
- 2. \top is unsatisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} ,
- 3. $\mathcal{O} \models \top \sqsubseteq \bot$,
- 4. $\mathcal{O} \models (\bot)(a)$ for every a,
- 5. $\mathcal{O} \models (\bot)(a)$ for some a.

Ontology Satisfiability \Rightarrow Everything Else

Corollary

All standard reasoning problems are reducible to each other in polynomial time.

Outline

Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Deciding Concept Satisfiability Correctness of the Tableau Procedure Termination and Complexity Analysis Tableau with TBoxes Blocking

Axiom Pinpointing

Conclusions

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Conclusions
- We first focus first on pure concept satisfiability
 - ▶ Given: *C* a concept
 - Return: yes if C is satisfiable, and no otherwise

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- We first focus first on pure concept satisfiability
 - Given: C a concept
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- A tableau is a directed labeled graph T = (V, E, L) (most commonly, a tree) in which:

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 - nodes V represent domain elements,
 - edges E represent pairs from role interpretations.
 - labeling function L assigns:

to each $v \in V \mapsto$ a set of concepts L(v)to each $e \in E \mapsto$ a set of roles L(e)

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Tableau: Example

Interpretation
$$\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$$
:
 $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\}$
 $\mathsf{Child}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{a, b\}$
 $\mathsf{Dog}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{b\}$
 $\mathsf{likes}^{\mathcal{I}} = \{(a, b), (b, b)\}$



Tableau: Example

Interpretation $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$:

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 Child^I = {a, b}
 Dog^I = {b}
 likes^I = {(a, b), (b, b)}



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Tableau T = (V, E, L):

$$\blacktriangleright V = \{v, w\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright E = \{ \langle v, w \rangle, \langle w, w \rangle \}$$

$$\blacktriangleright L(v) = \{Child\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright L(w) = \{Child, Dog\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright L\langle v, w \rangle = L\langle w, w \rangle = \{ likes \}$$

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Before constructing a tableau for a concept C, it is first converted into a suitable normal form

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Before constructing a tableau for a concept C, it is first converted into a suitable normal form

Definition

C is in Negation Normal Form (short NNF) if \neg in *C* appears only in front of atomic concepts.

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► Example: in NNF:
$$\forall R.(\neg A \sqcup \exists S.\neg B)$$

not in NNF: $\neg \exists R.A$, $\forall R.\neg(A \sqcap B)$, $A \sqcap \exists R.\neg\top$

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- ► Example: in NNF: $\forall R.(\neg A \sqcup \exists S.\neg B)$ not in NNF: $\neg \exists R.A$, $\forall R.\neg(A \sqcap B)$, $A \sqcap \exists R.\neg\top$
- ► Transformation to NNF: "pushing negation inwards":

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \neg (C \sqcap D) & \Rightarrow & (\neg C) \sqcup (\neg D) \\ \neg (C \sqcup D) & \Rightarrow & (\neg C) \sqcap (\neg D) \\ \neg (\exists R.C) & \Rightarrow & \forall R.(\neg C) \\ \neg (\forall R.C) & \Rightarrow & \exists R.(\neg C) \\ \neg \neg C & \Rightarrow & C \\ \neg \top & \Rightarrow & \bot, & \neg \bot & \Rightarrow & \top \end{array}$$

To check satisfiability of a concept C in NNF, create a node x and set L(x) = {C}. We call it tableau initialization rule.



Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

To check satisfiability of a concept C in NNF, create a node x and set L(x) = {C}. We call it tableau initialization rule.

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Example: C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)
\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)
\lor \bullet
```

► □-Rule: if $(A \sqcap B) \in L(x)$ and $\{A, B\} \not\subseteq L(x)$ then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{A, B\}$ × • $A \sqcap B$, A, B

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Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B$$

► ⊔-Rule:

if
$$(A \sqcup B) \in L(x)$$
 and $\{A, B\} \cap L(x) = \emptyset$
then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{A\}$ or $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{B\}$

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Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \forall \bullet \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B$$

► ⊔-Rule:

$$x \bullet A \sqcup B \xrightarrow{\sim} x \bullet A \sqcup B, A \xrightarrow{\sim} x \bullet A \sqcup B, B$$

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Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \lor \bullet \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B, \\ \forall R.(\neg A)$$

► ∃-Rule:

if $(\exists R.B) \in L(x)$ and $B \notin L(y)$ for all y with $R \in L\langle x, y \rangle$ then create a new y and set $L\langle x, y \rangle := \{R\}$ and $L(y) := \{B\}$

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Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \lor \bullet \quad \exists R.A, \ \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B, \\ \forall R.(\neg A) \end{cases}$$

► ∃-Rule:

if $(\exists R.B) \in L(x)$ and $B \notin L(y)$ for all y with $R \in L\langle x, y \rangle$ then create a new y and set $L\langle x, y \rangle := \{R\}$ and $L(y) := \{B\}$

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Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B),$$

$$v \bullet \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B,$$

$$\forall R.(\neg A)$$

$$w \bullet A$$

► ∀-Rule:

if $(\forall R.B) \in L(x)$ and $R \in L\langle x, y \rangle$, $B \notin L(y)$ for some $y \in V$ then update $L(y) := L(y) \cup \{B\}$

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$$\forall R.(\neg A)$$

$$w \bullet A, \neg A$$

► ⊥-Rule:
if
$$\{A, \neg A\} \subseteq L(x)$$
 and $\bot \notin L(x)$
then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{\bot\}$
 $x \bullet A, \neg A$ \longrightarrow $x \bullet A, \neg A, \bot$

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Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B),$$

$$v \bullet \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B,$$

$$\forall R.(\neg A)$$

$$w \bullet A, \neg A$$

►
$$\perp$$
-Rule:
if $\{A, \neg A\} \subseteq L(x)$ and $\perp \notin L(x)$
then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{\bot\}$
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$$v \bullet \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B,$$

$$R \downarrow \forall R.(\neg A)$$

$$w \bullet A, \neg A, \bot$$

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Tableau Expansion Rules

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \downarrow P \\ \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B, \\ \forall R.(\neg A) \\ w \bullet A, \neg A, \bot \\ \end{bmatrix} R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B, \\ R \\ w \bullet A \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$ (two tableau expansions)

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Outline

Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Deciding Concept Satisfiability

Correctness of the Tableau Procedure

Termination and Complexity Analysis Tableau with TBoxes Blocking

Axiom Pinpointing

Conclusions

RW'2019

Completeness of Tableau

Definition

A tableau T = (V, E, L) contains a clash if $\bot \in L(x)$ for some node $x \in V$. A tableau is clash-free if it does not contain a clash.

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Theorem (Completeness)

If an ALC concept C is satisfiable then the tableau rules can be always applied in such a way that a clash is never produced.

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Proof Idea.

Use a model of C to guide construction of the tableau.

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Completeness: Proof Idea

Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$ Model \mathcal{I} : Tableau T = (V, E, L): A, B \vdots R $V \models B$ R R $V \models A$ BA

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Completeness: Proof Idea

Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$



For every created node x we assign the corresponding element $\tau(x) \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ of the model \mathcal{I} .

Completeness: Proof Idea

Example: $C = \exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B)$



For every created node x we assign the corresponding element $\tau(x) \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ of the model \mathcal{I} .

We can always apply the rules such that:

1. if
$$D \in L(x)$$
 then $\tau(x) \in D^{\mathcal{I}}$, and

2. if
$$R \in L(x, y)$$
 then $\langle \tau(x), \tau(y) \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$.

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Soundness of Tableau
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Theorem (Soundness)

If there exists a clash-free tableau T = (V, E, L)such that $C \in L(v)$ for some $v \in V$, then C is satisfiable.

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Soundness of Tableau
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Theorem (Soundness)

If there exists a clash-free fully expanded tableau T = (V, E, L) such that $C \in L(v)$ for some $v \in V$, then C is satisfiable.

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A tableau is fully expanded if all expansion rules are applied to every node.

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Theorem (Soundness)

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Proof Idea. Build a model from the tableau.
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Soundness: Proof Idea

Tableau T = (V, E, L):

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B),$$

$$v \bullet \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B,$$

$$R \downarrow B$$

$$w \bullet A$$

Soundness: Proof Idea

Tableau T = (V, E, L):

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \downarrow BR.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B, \\ R \\ B \\ w \bullet A$$

Model $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$:

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{v, w\}$$

$$A^{\mathcal{I}} = \{w\}$$

$$B^{\mathcal{I}} = \{v\}$$

$$R^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle v, w \rangle\}$$

Soundness: Proof Idea

46/96

Tableau T = (V, E, L):

	$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B),$
v •	$\exists R.A, \ \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B,$
R	В
W/	Δ

Model $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$:

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{v, w\}$$

$$A^{\mathcal{I}} = \{w\}$$

$$B^{\mathcal{I}} = \{v\}$$

$$R^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle v, w \rangle\}$$

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• The model $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ is defined from T = (V, E, L) by:

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = V A^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \mid A \in L(x)\} R^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid R \in L(x, y)\}$$

Soundness: Proof Idea

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Tableau T = (V, E, L):

$$\exists R.A \sqcap (\forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B), \\ \exists R.A, \forall R.(\neg A) \sqcup B, \\ B \\ W \bullet A$$

Model $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$:

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{v, w\}$$

$$A^{\mathcal{I}} = \{w\}$$

$$B^{\mathcal{I}} = \{v\}$$

$$R^{\mathcal{I}} = \{\langle v, w \rangle\}$$

► The model $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ is defined from T = (V, E, L) by:

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = V$$

$$A^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \mid A \in L(x)\}$$

$$\blacktriangleright R^{\mathcal{I}} = \{ \langle x, y \rangle \mid R \in L(x, y) \}$$

By structural induction it can be shown that:

if
$$D \in L(x)$$
 then $x \in D^{\mathcal{I}}$

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Tableau with TBoxes Blocking

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Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

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1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash.

Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable

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Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable
- 2. Every attempt to apply the rules eventually results in a clash.

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Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable
- 2. Every attempt to apply the rules eventually results in a clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is unsatisfiable

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Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable
- 2. Every attempt to apply the rules eventually results in a clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is unsatisfiable

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3.

Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable
- 2. Every attempt to apply the rules eventually results in a clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is unsatisfiable
- 3. The rules can be applied forever without producing a clash.

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Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable
- 2. Every attempt to apply the rules eventually results in a clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is unsatisfiable
- 3. The rules can be applied forever without producing a clash. \Rightarrow we will never find out if the concept is satisfiable or not

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Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow in this case the concept is satisfiable
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Is outcome 3 possible?

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Properties of Tableau Expansion Rules



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Properties of Tableau Expansion Rules



1. Each new concept in the label is a sub-concept of the concept to which the rule is applied, or \perp

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Properties of Tableau Expansion Rules



- 1. Each new concept in the label is a sub-concept of the concept to which the rule is applied, or \perp
- 2. There can be at most one predecessor of every node



1. Tableau is a tree: each non-root node has a single predecessor

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1. Tableau is a tree: each non-root node has a single predecessor

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 The number of node children ≤ the number of concepts of the form ∃*R*.*D* in the label



- 1. Tableau is a tree: each non-root node has a single predecessor
- The number of node children ≤ the number of concepts of the form ∃*R*.*D* in the label
- 3. Each concept in the label is a sub-concepts of the original concept (in the root) or \perp



- 1. Tableau is a tree: each non-root node has a single predecessor
- The number of node children ≤ the number of concepts of the form ∃*R*.*D* in the label
- 3. Each concept in the label is a sub-concepts of the original concept (in the root) or \perp
- 4. The depth of the tree is bounded by the maximal quantifier depth of concepts the maximal number of nested quantifiers



- 1. Tableau is a tree: each non-root node has a single predecessor
- The number of node children ≤ the number of concepts of the form ∃*R*.*D* in the label
- 3. Each concept in the label is a sub-concepts of the original concept (in the root) or \perp
- The depth of the tree is bounded by the maximal quantifier depth of concepts – the maximal number of nested quantifiers

The tableau expansion rules are non-deterministic due to the U-Rule:

 $x \bullet A \sqcup B \rightsquigarrow A \mid B$

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Hence, ALC concept satisfiability can be decided in non-deterministic exponential time (NExpTime)

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- Hence, ALC concept satisfiability can be decided in non-deterministic exponential time (NExpTime)
- In fact, it is possible to decide concept satisfiability in polynomial space (PSpace ⊆ ExpTime ⊆ NExpTime)



Expand the tableau depth-first and keep only one branch in memory.



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- Expand the tableau depth-first and keep only one branch in memory.
- Once all nodes on a branch are fully expanded, nothing new can be added to these nodes anymore.


RW'2019

Outline

Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Deciding Concept Satisfiability Correctness of the Tableau Procedure Termination and Complexity Analysis **Tableau with TBoxes** Blocking

Axiom Pinpointing

Conclusions

Concept Satisfiability w.r.t. TBox Axioms

Our goal is to extend the tableau procedure so that we can test satisfiability of a concept C w.r.t. an ontology O

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Concept Satisfiability w.r.t. TBox Axioms

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► Recall that C is satisfiable w.r.t. O if there exists an interpretation I such that C^I ≠ Ø and I ⊨ O

Concept Satisfiability w.r.t. TBox Axioms

- Our goal is to extend the tableau procedure so that we can test satisfiability of a concept C w.r.t. an ontology O
- ► Recall that C is satisfiable w.r.t. O if there exists an interpretation I such that C^I ≠ Ø and I ⊨ O
- ▶ For simplicity, assume that *O* contains only of TBox axioms:

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- concept inclusions $C \sqsubseteq D$
- concept equivalences $C \equiv D$

As for concepts, we first need to normalize TBox axioms

• convert to the form $\top \sqsubseteq C$ where C is in NNF

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1. $C \equiv D \iff C \sqsubseteq D, D \sqsubseteq C$

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1.
$$C \equiv D \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad C \sqsubseteq D, \quad D \sqsubseteq C$$

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1.
$$C \equiv D \implies C \sqsubseteq D, D \sqsubseteq C$$

2. $C \sqsubseteq D \implies \top \sqsubseteq \neg C \sqcup D$
3. $\top \sqsubseteq C \implies T \sqsubseteq \mathsf{NNF}(C)$

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$$\top \sqsubseteq C \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \top \sqsubseteq NNF(C)$$

• Note that $\mathcal{I} \models \top \sqsubseteq C$ if and only if $C^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$.

• or $d \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$ for every $d \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$

Tableau Rules for TBox Axioms

To take TBox axioms into account, we need to add one more rule: \sqcap -Rule: if $(A \sqcap B) \in L(x)$ and $\{A, B\} \not\subseteq L(x)$ then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{A, B\}$ \sqcup -Rule: if $(A \sqcup B) \in L(x)$ and $\{A, B\} \cap L(x) = \emptyset$ then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{A\}$ or $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{B\}$ \exists -Rule: if $(\exists R.B) \in L(x)$ and $B \notin L(y)$ for all y with $R \in L(x, y)$ then create a new y and set $L(x, y) := \{R\}$ and $L(y) := \{B\}$ \forall -Rule: if $(\forall R.B) \in L(x)$ and $R \in L(x, y)$, $B \notin L(y)$ for some $y \in V$ then update $L(y) := L(y) \cup \{B\}$ \perp -Rule: if $\{A, \neg A\} \subseteq L(x)$ and $\perp \notin L(x)$ then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{\bot\}$ \top -Rule: | if $\top \Box C \in \mathcal{O}$ and $C \notin L(x)$ then update $L(x) := L(x) \cup \{C\}$ イロト 不得 トイヨト イヨト 二日

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Example

• Consider $\mathcal{O} = \{A \sqcap \forall R.B \sqsubseteq \exists R.A\}.$

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- ► Let's check satisfiability of A w.r.t. O:
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$$A, \ (\neg A \sqcup \exists R. \neg B) \sqcup \exists R.A$$
$$v \bullet \neg A \sqcup \exists R. \neg B, \ \exists R. \neg B$$

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 Let's check satisfiability of A w.r.t. O:
 - \exists -Rule: $L(v, w) := \{R\}, L(w) := \{\neg B\}$

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$$A, (\neg A \sqcup \exists R. \neg B) \sqcup \exists R.A$$

$$v \bullet \neg A \sqcup \exists R. \neg B, \exists R. \neg B$$

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Completeness of Tableau for TBoxes

Theorem (Completeness)

If an ALC concept C is satisfiable w.r.t. O then the tableau rules can be always applied in such a way that a clash is never produced.

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If an ALC concept C is satisfiable w.r.t. O then the tableau rules can be always applied in such a way that a clash is never produced.

Proof.

As before, we build the tableau T = (V, E, L) by applying the rules to mimic $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$ such that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$.

Soundness of Tableau for TBoxes

Theorem (Soundness)

If there exists a clash-free fully expanded tableau T = (V, E, L) such that $C \in L(v)$ for some $v \in V$, then C is satisfiable w.r.t. \mathcal{O} .

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Proof.

As in the case without \mathcal{O} , we define an interpretation $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ from $\mathcal{T} = (V, E, L)$ with $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = V$ and prove that:

if $D \in L(x)$ then $x \in D^{\mathcal{I}}$

This implies that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$.

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This implies that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$. Now we also prove that $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$:

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This implies that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$. Now we also prove that $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$: Take any $\top \sqsubset D \in \mathcal{O}$ and $x \in \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = V$.
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This implies that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$. Now we also prove that $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$: Take any $\top \sqsubseteq D \in \mathcal{O}$ and $x \in \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = V$. Then $D \in L(x)$ because \top -Rule is applied to x.

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This implies that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$. Now we also prove that $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{O}$:

Take any $\top \sqsubseteq D \in \mathcal{O}$ and $x \in \top^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = V$. Then $D \in L(x)$ because \top -Rule is applied to x. Then $x \in D^{\mathcal{I}}$. Hence $\mathcal{I} \models \top \sqsubseteq D$.

Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow In this case the concept is satisfiable.
- 2. Every attempt to apply the rules eventually results in a clash. \Rightarrow In this case the concept is unsatisfiable.
- The rules can be applied forever without producing a clash.
 ⇒ We will never find out if the concept is satisfiable or not.

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- 3. The rules can be applied forever without producing a clash. \Rightarrow We will never find out if the concept is satisfiable or not.

Three possible outcomes of tableau rules application:

- 1. Tableau can be fully expanded without producing clash. \Rightarrow In this case the concept is satisfiable.
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Unfortunately, with TBoxes, the outcome 3 becomes possible!

Non-Termination: Example

• Consider
$$\mathcal{O} = \{A \sqsubseteq \exists R.A\}$$



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• tableau initialization: $L(v_0) := \{A\}$

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 ▶ □-Rule: L(v₀) := L(v₀) ∪ {∃R.A}

$$v_0 \bullet A, \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \exists R.A$$

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 ∃-Rule: *L*⟨*v*₀, *v*₁⟩ := {*R*}, *L*(*v*₁) := {*A*}

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 $R \downarrow$
 $v_1 \bullet A$

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Let's check satisfiability of A w.r.t. O: $\blacktriangleright \quad \top \text{-Rule:} \ L(v_1) := L(v_1) \cup \{\neg A \sqcup \exists R.A\}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} v_0 \bullet & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ R & \downarrow \\ v_1 \bullet & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A \end{array}$$

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Let's check satisfiability of A w.r.t. O:
 ▶ ⊔-Rule: L(v₁) := L(v₁) ∪ {∃R.A}

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} v_0 \bullet & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ R \\ v_1 \bullet & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ \end{array}$$

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Let's check satisfiability of A w.r.t. O: • \exists -Rule: $L\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle := \{R\}, L(v_2) := \{A\}$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} v_0 & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ R \\ v_1 & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ R \\ v_2 & A \end{array}$$

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 Normalization: A ⊑ ∃R.A ~→ T ⊑ ¬A ⊔ ∃R.A
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Normalization:

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Let's check satisfiability of A w.r.t. O:

This process can continue forever!

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
v_{0} & A, \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \exists R.A \\
R \\
v_{1} & A, \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \exists R.A \\
R \\
v_{2} & A, \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \exists R.A \\
\end{array}$$

Outline

Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Deciding Concept Satisfiability Correctness of the Tableau Procedure Termination and Complexity Analysis Tableau with TBoxes Blocking

Axiom Pinpointing

Conclusions

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Blocking

Notice that the labels of the nodes repeat:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} v_0 \bullet & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ R \\ v_1 \bullet & A, \ \neg A \sqcup \exists R.A, \ \exists R.A \\ \end{array}$$

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We can block further expansion for such repetitions

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We can block further expansion for such repetitions

Definition (Blocking)

A node $v \in V$ is blocked if there exists an ancestor node $w \in V$ of v such that $L(v) \subseteq L(w)$. (We say that v is blocked by w.)

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Definition (Blocking)

A node $v \in V$ is blocked if there exists an ancestor node $w \in V$ of v such that $L(v) \subseteq L(w)$. (We say that v is blocked by w.)

• Above v_1 is blocked by v_0 , but v_0 is not blocked by v_1
Soundness with Blocking

Definition

A tableau is fully expanded if all expansion rules are applied to every <u>non-blocked</u> node.



Soundness with Blocking

Definition

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Theorem (Soundness)

If there exists a clash-free fully expanded tableau T = (V, E, L) such that $C \in L(v)$ for some $v \in V$, then C is satisfiable w.r.t. O.

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We can extend the blocking condition to prevent further unnecessary rule applications:

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- We can extend the blocking condition to prevent further unnecessary rule applications:
- Example:



v₃ is not blocked, but it is a descendant of a blocked node v₂
 no rules need to be applied as v₃ can be simply removed

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- We can extend the blocking condition to prevent further unnecessary rule applications:
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Definition (Direct Blocking, Blocking)

A node $v \in V$ is directly blocked if there exists an ancestor node $w \in V$ of v such that $L(v) \subseteq L(w)$.

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Definition (Direct Blocking, Blocking)

A node $v \in V$ is directly blocked if there exists an ancestor node $w \in V$ of v such that $L(v) \subseteq L(w)$.

A node $v \in V$ is blocked if it is either directly blocked or one of its ancestor nodes is directly blocked.

What is the size of the largest clash-free tableau one can obtain without applying the rules to blocked nodes?

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 - Let *n* be the number of sub-concepts occurring in *C* or \mathcal{O}
 - ▶ The number of different subsets of these concepts is 2ⁿ
 - So, if a path in a tableau contains more than 2ⁿ nodes, then at least one node on this path is directly blocked

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- ► So, the depth of the tableau is always bounded by 2ⁿ + 1

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However, the optimal complexity for ALC concept satisfiability w.r.t. TBoxes, is "only" ExpTime.



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Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Axiom Pinpointing

Justifications The Reiter's Hitting Set Tree Algorithm Axiom Pinpointing using SAT Solvers

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Motivation

Reasoning algorithms (such as tableau) can detect the presence of modeling errors: answer yes or no



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Motivation

- Reasoning algorithms (such as tableau) can detect the presence of modeling errors: answer yes or no
- How to determine what causes the error?
 - existing ontologies contain hundreds of thousands of axioms
 - an inconsistency is rarely caused by more than a few axioms

1254.
$$Parent \equiv \exists hasChild. \top$$

2456. $GrandParent \equiv \exists hasChild.Parent$
...
7312. ($GrandParent \sqcap \neg Parent$)($John$)
...

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- Reasoning algorithms (such as tableau) can detect the presence of modeling errors: answer yes or no
- How to determine what causes the error?
 - existing ontologies contain hundreds of thousands of axioms
 - an inconsistency is rarely caused by more than a few axioms
- The axiom pinpointing algorithms can be used to narrow down the axioms responsible for the error

using a series of entailment tests

1254. $Parent \equiv \exists hasChild. \top$ 2456. $GrandParent \equiv \exists hasChild.Parent$ 7312. ($GrandParent \sqcap \neg Parent$)(John)

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- A justification for an entailment O ⊨ α is a a minimal subset of axioms J ⊆ O such that J ⊨ α
 - minimal means that for every $J' \subsetneq J$, we have $J' \not\models \alpha$.

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- Example: $\{A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot\} \models A \sqsubseteq C$
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The Number of Justifications

- How many justifications an entailment may have?
 - there can be exponentially-many justifications!

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 - there can be exponentially-many justifications!
- Example:

$$\{ A_0 \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_1, A_1 \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_2, \dots, A_{n-1} \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_n, \\ A_0 \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_1, A_1 \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_2, \dots, A_{n-1} \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_n \} \models A_0 \sqsubseteq A_n$$

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The Number of Justifications

- How many justifications an entailment may have?
 - there can be exponentially-many justifications!
- Example:
 - $\{A_0 \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_1, A_1 \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_2, \dots, A_{n-1} \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_n, A_0 \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_1, A_1 \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_2, \dots, A_{n-1} \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_n\} \models A_0 \sqsubseteq A_n$

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- There are 2ⁿ justifications:
 - ▶ for every *i* choose either $A_{i-1} \sqsubseteq B \sqcap A_i$ or $A_{i-1} \sqsubseteq C \sqcap A_i$

- How to find a justification?
 - remove axioms one by one so long the entailment still holds

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How to find a justification?

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▶ Example: $\{A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot\} \models A \sqsubseteq C$

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► Example: { $A \sqsubseteq C$, $A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot$ } $\models A \sqsubseteq C$ $\models \{A \sqsubseteq C\}$

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► Example: { $A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot$ } |= $A \sqsubseteq C$ ► { $A \sqsubseteq C$ } |= $A \sqsubseteq C$

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• Example: {
$$A \sqsubseteq C$$
 } $\models A \sqsubseteq C$

- How to find a justification?
 - remove axioms one by one so long the entailment still holds

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- Example: { $A \sqsubseteq C$ } $\models A \sqsubseteq C$
- Result: $J_2 = \{A \sqsubseteq C\}$

Notice that the justification returned by the previous algorithm depends on the order in which axioms are considered.

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Example: removal in the reversed order of axioms:

 $\{A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot, A \sqsubseteq C, B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq B\} \models A \sqsubseteq C$

Gives: $J_1 = \{B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq B\}$

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- The number of permutations of *n* axioms is $n! \le 2^{n^2}$ \Rightarrow algorithmically optimal, but not practical
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- To compute all justifications it is sufficient to consider all permutations of axioms
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 - previously computed justifications are ignored
- Next we describe a more goal-directed algorithm

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Outline

Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Axiom Pinpointing

The Reiter's Hitting Set Tree Algorithm Axiom Pinpointing using SAT Solvers

Conclusions

Computing a New Justification

- Suppose we have computed justifications J_1, \ldots, J_n for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$
- ▶ How to find a new justification J?

▶ J should miss at least one axiom β_i from each J_i $(1 \le i \le n)$

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- Solution:
 - 1. iterate over tuples $\langle \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n \rangle$ such that $\beta_i \in J_i$ $(1 \le i \le n)$
 - 2. check whether $\mathcal{O} \setminus \{\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n\} \models \alpha$
 - 3. if so, extract a minimal $J \subseteq \mathcal{O} \setminus \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n\}$ such that $J \models \alpha$

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► The Hitting Set Tree algorithm (short: HST-algorithm) explores such tuples ⟨β₁,...,β_n⟩ in a systematic way

The Hitting Set Tree (short: HS-tree) for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ is a labeled tree such that:

- 1. Each non-leaf node is labeled by a justification for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$
- 2. Each edge is labeled by an axiom from the justification of the parent
- 3. Each justification misses all axioms on the path to the root
- 4. If there is no such a justification, the node is labeled by \perp (leaf)



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Properties of Hitting Set Trees

1. HS-tree for an entailment $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ is not unique:

Example: two different HS-trees for our entailment:



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1. HS-tree for an entailment $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ is not unique:

Example: two different HS-trees for our entailment:



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Note that a HS-tree may contain a justification multiple times!

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Properties of Hitting Set Trees

2. Each justification J appears in every HS-tree T at least once

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For a node v, let H(v) be the set of the axioms on the path from v to the root of T

 $\{A \sqsubseteq C\}$ $A \sqsubseteq C$ $T \quad \{A \sqsubseteq B, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot\}$ $A \sqsubseteq B \quad A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot$ $\bot \quad \{A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C\}$ $A \sqsubseteq B \quad B \sqsubseteq C$ $\bot \quad \bot$

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- For a node v, let H(v) be the set of the axioms on the path from v to the root of T
- Let v be a node with a maximal H(v) such that $H(v) \cap J = \emptyset$

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Each HS-tree contains at most exponentially-many nodes
every path is labeled by a unique sequence of different axioms

tht (c) Birte Glimm, Yevgeny Kazakov, Ulm Universty

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Construction of a HS-Tree

A HS-Tree for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ can be constructed as follows:

- 1. Create a root node v_0
- 2. Repeatedly assign a label to every node v:
 - If $\mathcal{O} \setminus H(v) \not\models \alpha$ then label v by \bot .
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The sets H(v) for leaf nodes are special:
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The sets H(v) for leaf nodes are special: $\mathcal{O} \setminus H(v) \not\models \alpha$ A subset $R \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ is a repair for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ if $\mathcal{O} \setminus R \not\models \alpha$ $A \sqsubseteq B, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \alpha$

$$\{A \sqsubseteq C\}$$

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$$A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot$$

$$\downarrow \{A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C\}$$

$$A \sqsubseteq B$$

$$B \sqsubseteq C$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \bot$$

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- Note: not all computed repairs are minimal
- However, each HS-tree contains all minimal repairs among H(v)



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The HST-algorithm can be further optimized

- One branch at a time:
 - it is enough to store only the current branch in memory

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Early pruning:

- check if H(v) = H(w) for some processed node w
- no need to expand below the node v (the subtree is identical)

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- however, requires storing all sets H(v)
- \Rightarrow Flexible trade-off: memory vs speed

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Outline

Description Logics

Tableau Procedures

Axiom Pinpointing

Justifications The Reiter's Hitting Set Tree Algorithm Axiom Pinpointing using SAT Solvers

Conclusions

• Let J be a justification R a repair for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$

• i.e.,
$$J \models \alpha$$
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Definition

- Let $P = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}$ be a collection of sets.
- ▶ A set *H* is a hitting set for *P* if $H \cap S_i \neq \emptyset$ for each *i* $(1 \le i \le n)$.
- A hitting set is minimal if every $H' \subsetneq H$ is not a hitting set for P.

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- \Rightarrow Each justification is a minimal hitting set of all repairs
- ⇒ Each (minimal) repair is a (minimal) hitting set of all justifications
- Gives the name of the HST-algorithm

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Assume we have computed some justifications J_1, \ldots, J_n and repairs R_1, \ldots, R_n for $\mathcal{O} \models \alpha$ and want to find more

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 - $\blacktriangleright \mathcal{O} \setminus R = \mathcal{O} \setminus (\mathcal{O} \setminus M) = M \not\models \alpha$
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- Suppose some $M \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ satisfies these two conditions
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Either way we find a new justification or a new repair

▶ Question: how to find *M* satisfying 1 and 2?

The conditions on M can be expressed in Propositional Logic

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and solved using existing satisfiability (SAT) solvers

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- For each axiom $\beta \in \mathcal{O}$ introduce a propositional variable p_{β}

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- Goal: find a model \mathcal{I} such that $p_{\beta}^{\mathcal{I}} = 1$ iff $\beta \in M$
- Then the conditions can be expressed by the formula:

$$F = \bigwedge_{i=1}^{n} \bigvee_{\beta \in J_{i}} \neg p_{\beta} \land \bigwedge_{j=1}^{m} \bigvee_{\beta \in R_{j}} p_{\beta}$$

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1. *M* must miss some $\beta \in J_i$ for each $i \ (1 \le i \le n)$
SAT Encoding

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1. *M* must miss some $\beta \in J_i$ for each $i \ (1 \le i \le n)$ 2. *M* must contain some $\beta \in R_i$ for each $j \ (1 \le j \le n)$

▶ Entailment: ${A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot} \models A \sqsubseteq C$

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- ▶ Entailment: ${A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot} \models A \sqsubseteq C$
- Propositional assignment:
- Suppose that justifications and repairs found so far are:
 J₁ = {A ⊆ B, B ⊆ C}, J₂ = {A ⊆ C},
 R₁ = {A ⊆ B, A ⊆ C}

- ▶ Entailment: ${A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot} \models A \sqsubseteq C$
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$$J_1 = \{A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C\}, J_2 = \{A \sqsubseteq C\},$$

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• *F* has a model \mathcal{I} : $p_1^{\mathcal{I}} = 1$ and $p_2^{\mathcal{I}} = p_3^{\mathcal{I}} = p_4^{\mathcal{I}} = 0$

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 - $A \sqsubseteq B \qquad \rightsquigarrow p_1, \qquad \qquad \land A \sqsubseteq C \qquad \rightsquigarrow p_3, \\ B \sqsubseteq C \qquad \rightsquigarrow p_2, \qquad \qquad \land A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot \rightsquigarrow p_4.$
- Suppose that justifications and repairs found so far are:
 - ► $J_1 = \{A \sqsubseteq B, B \sqsubseteq C\}, J_2 = \{A \sqsubseteq C\},$ ► $R_1 = \{A \sqsubseteq B, A \sqsubseteq C\}$

• The resulting formula is: $F = (\neg p_1 \lor \neg p_2) \land (\neg p_3) \land (p_1 \lor p_3)$

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- \mathcal{I} corresponds to $M = \{A \sqsubseteq B\} \not\models A \sqsubseteq C$
- $\mathcal{O} \setminus M = \{ B \sqsubseteq C, A \sqsubseteq C, A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq \bot \}$ is a new repair

in fact, even a new minimal repair

The SAT-Based Algorithm

- 1. Set $F = \top$
- 2. While F is satisfiable do:
 - take any model \mathcal{I} of F
 - define $M = \{\beta \mid p_{\beta}^{\mathcal{I}} = 1\}$
 - if $M \models \alpha$ then extract a justification $J \subseteq M$
 - otherwise set $R = O \setminus M$ (and optionally minimize)
 - update F based on J or R
- 3. Return all computed justifications J (and / or repairs R)

Comparison of Axiom Pinpointing Methods

	HST	SAT
Repetition of justifications:	may repeat ^(*)	no repetition
Memory consumption:	polynomial	exponential

(*) There is an example in which justifications repeat exponentially-many times

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Outline

- **Description Logics**
- Tableau Procedures
- Axiom Pinpointing
- Conclusions

- ► A family of logic-based languages for knowledge representation
- Distinguished by the well-defined formal semantics

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- Distinguished by the well-defined formal semantics
- Exceptional application support:

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 - ontology reasoners

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 - ontology reasoners
 - ontology repositories



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Tableau Procedures

Main focus: expressivity and efficiency

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Tableau Procedures

- Main focus: expressivity and efficiency
- Rely on a (generalized) tree model property

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 - termination requires extensions, such as blocking
 - correctness proofs become complicated
 - theoretical complexity vs. practical efficiency

Tableau Procedures

- Main focus: expressivity and efficiency
- Rely on a (generalized) tree model property
- Development effort increases with expressivity:
 - termination requires extensions, such as blocking
 - correctness proofs become complicated
 - theoretical complexity vs. practical efficiency
- Alternative reasoning procedures: consequence-based
 - work by deriving consequences, not building models

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Explanations

- Main application: ontology debugging
 - other applications, e.g., inconsistency-tolerant reasoning

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Explanations

- Main application: ontology debugging
 - other applications, e.g., inconsistency-tolerant reasoning
- Implemented in many tools
 - explanation workbench, EL+SAT, EL2MUS, SATPin,...

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lanation for: American SubClassOf C	heeseyPizza		
American SubClassOf has	Fopping some MozzarellaTopping	In ALL other justifications	0
hasTopping Domain F	lizza	In NO other justifications	0
			-
MozzarellaTopping Sul	ClassOf CheeseTopping	In ALL other justifications	

Explanations

- Main application: ontology debugging
 - other applications, e.g., inconsistency-tolerant reasoning
- Implemented in many tools

explanation workbench, EL+SAT, EL2MUS, SATPin,...

Other explanation methods: proof-based explanations

show how consequences are derived from axioms



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Algorithms

Lessons learned about algorithms in general:

- 1. Never neglect correctness!
- 2. Worst-case complexity may be misleading
- 3. Goal-directed behavior is the key to practical efficiency
- 4. Only empirical evaluation can give a complete picture

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