



## E. Description Logics



This section is based on material from

- Ian Horrocks: <http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/~horrocks/Teaching/cs646/>

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## Description Logics

- OWL DL ist äquivalent zur Beschreibungslogik  $\mathcal{SHOIN}(\mathbf{D}_n)$ . Auf letzterer basiert also die Semantik von OWL DL.
- Unter Beschreibungslogiken (Description Logics) versteht man eine Familie von Teilsprachen der Prädikatenlogik 1. Stufe, die entscheidbar sind.
- $\mathcal{SHOIN}(\mathbf{D}_n)$  ist eine relativ komplexe Beschreibungslogik.
- Um einen ersten Einblick in das Prinzip der Beschreibungslogiken zu erhalten, werfen wir zum Abschluss der Vorlesung einen Blick auf etwas abgespeckte Fassungen.

Literatur:

- D. Nardi, R. J. Brachman. An Introduction to Description Logics. In: F. Baader, D. Calvanese, D.L. McGuinness, D. Nardi, P.F. Patel-Schneider (eds.): Description Logic Handbook, Cambridge University Press, 2002, 5-44.
- F. Baader, W. Nutt: Basic Description Logics. In: Description Logic Handbook, 47-100.
- Ian Horrocks, Peter F. Patel-Schneider and Frank van Harmelen. From SHIQ and RDF to OWL: The making of a web ontology language. <http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/%7Ehorrocks/Publications/download/2003/HoPH03a.pdf>

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## Aside: Semantics and Model Theories



- Ontology/KR languages aim to model (part of) world
- Terms in language correspond to entities in world
- Meaning given by, e.g.:
  - Mapping to another formalism, such as FOL, with own well defined semantics
  - or a bespoke Model Theory (MT)
- MT defines relationship between syntax and *interpretations*
  - Can be many interpretations (models) of one piece of syntax
  - Models supposed to be analogue of (part of) world
    - **E.g., elements of model correspond to objects in world**
  - Formal relationship between syntax and models
    - **Structure of models reflect relationships specified in syntax**
  - Inference (e.g., subsumption) defined in terms of MT
    - **E.g.,  $\mathcal{T} \models \mathbf{A} \sqsubseteq \mathbf{B}$  iff in every model of  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $\text{ext}(\mathbf{A}) \subseteq \text{ext}(\mathbf{B})$**

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## Aside: Set Based Model Theory

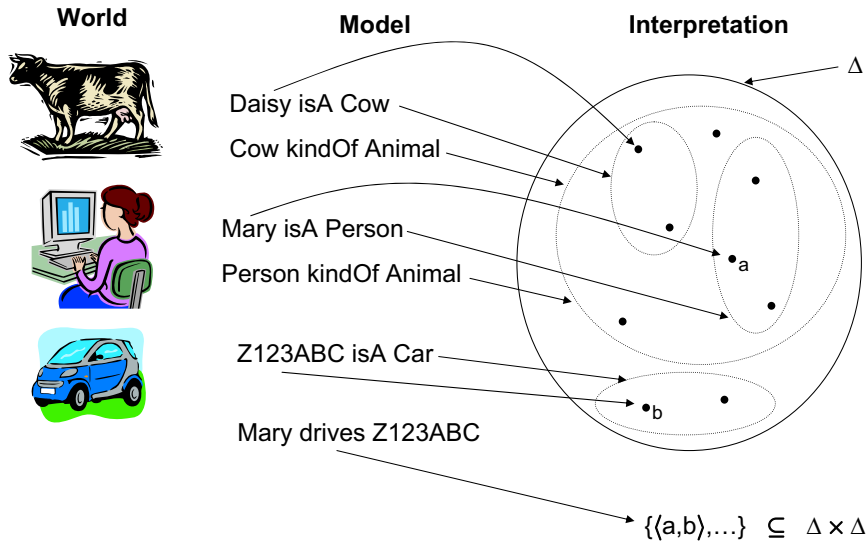


- Many logics (including standard First Order Logic) use a model theory based on [Zermelo-Frankel set theory](#)
- The [domain of discourse](#) (i.e., the part of the world being modelled) is represented as a [set](#) (often referred as  $\Delta$ )
- Objects in the world are [interpreted](#) as elements of  $\Delta$ 
  - Classes/concepts (unary predicates) are subsets of  $\Delta$
  - Properties/roles (binary predicates) are subsets of  $\Delta \times \Delta$  (i.e.,  $\Delta^2$ )
  - Ternary predicates are subsets of  $\Delta^3$  etc.
- The sub-class relationship between classes can be interpreted as set inclusion
- Doesn't work for RDF, because in RDF a class (set) can be a member (element) of another class (set)
  - In Z-F set theory, elements of classes are atomic (no structure)

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### Aside: Set Based Model Theory Example



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### Aside: Set Based Model Theory Example

- Formally, the **vocabulary** is the set of names we use in our model of (part of) the world
  - {Daisy, Cow, Animal, Mary, Person, Z123ABC, Car, drives, ...}
- An interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is a tuple  $\langle \Delta, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$ 
  - $\Delta$  is the domain (a set)
  - $\cdot^{\mathcal{I}}$  is a mapping that maps
    - Names of objects to elements of  $\Delta$
    - Names of unary predicates (classes/concepts) to subsets of  $\Delta$
    - Names of binary predicates (properties/roles) to subsets of  $\Delta \times \Delta$
    - And so on for higher arity predicates (if any)

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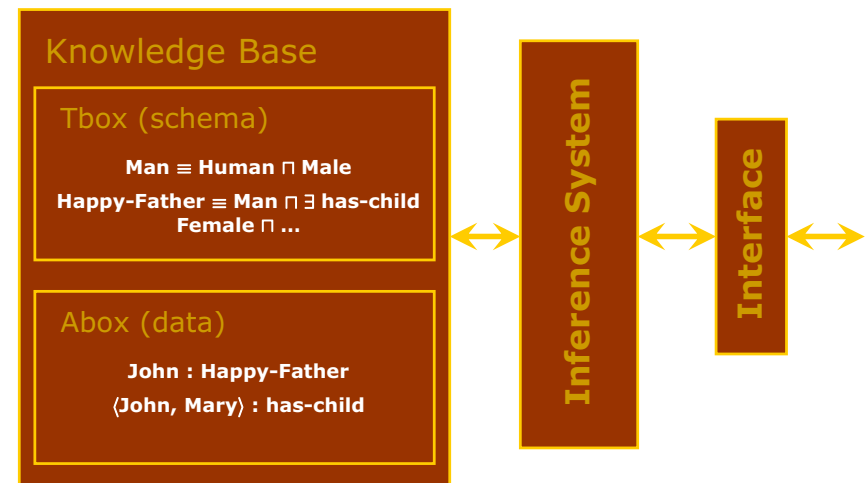
## What Are Description Logics?

- A family of logic based Knowledge Representation formalisms
  - Descendants of semantic networks and KL-ONE
  - Describe domain in terms of concepts (classes), roles (relationships) and individuals
- Distinguished by:
  - Formal semantics (typically model theoretic)
    - Decidable fragments of FOL
    - Closely related to Propositional Modal & Dynamic Logics
  - Provision of inference services
    - Sound and complete decision procedures for key problems
    - Implemented systems (highly optimised)

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## DL Architecture



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## Short History of Description Logics



Phase 1:

- **Incomplete systems (Back, Classic, Loom, . . . )**
- **Based on** structural algorithms

Phase 2:

- **Development of** tableau algorithms and complexity results
- **Tableau-based systems for Pspace logics (e.g., Kris, Crack)**
- **Investigation of optimisation techniques**

Phase 3:

- **Tableau algorithms for** very expressive DLs
- Highly optimised **tableau systems for ExpTime logics (e.g., FaCT, DLP, Racer)**
- **Relationship to modal logic and decidable fragments of FOL**

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## From RDF to OWL



- Two languages developed to satisfy the requirements
  - **OIL**: developed by group of (largely) European researchers (several from EU OntoKnowledge project)
  - **DAML-ONT**: developed by group of (largely) US researchers (in DARPA DAML programme)
- Efforts merged to produce **DAML+OIL**
  - Development was carried out by “Joint EU/US Committee on Agent Markup Languages”
  - Extends (“DL subset” of) RDF
- DAML+OIL submitted to W3C as basis for standardisation
  - Web-Ontology (**WebOnt**) Working Group formed
  - WebOnt group developed **OWL** language based on DAML+OIL
  - OWL language now a W3C **Recommendation** (i.e., a standard like HTML and XML)

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## Latest Developments



Phase 4:

- **Mature** implementations
- **Mainstream applications and Tools**
  - **Databases**
    - **Consistency of conceptual schemata (EER, UML etc.)**
    - **Schema integration**
    - **Query subsumption (w.r.t. a conceptual schema)**
  - Ontologies and **Semantic Web** (and **Grid**)
    - **Ontology engineering (design, maintenance, integration)**
    - **Reasoning with ontology-based markup (meta-data)**
    - **Service description and discovery**
- Commercial **implementations**
  - Cerebra system from Network Inference Ltd

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## Description Logic Family



- DLs are a **family** of logic based KR formalisms
- Particular languages mainly characterised by:
  - Set of constructors for building complex concepts and roles from simpler ones
  - Set of axioms for asserting facts about concepts, roles and individuals
- $\mathcal{ALC}$  is the smallest DL that is propositionally closed
  - Constructors include booleans (and, or, not), and
  - Restrictions on role successors
  - E.g., concept describing “happy fathers” could be written:  
$$\text{Man} \wedge \exists \text{hasChild.Female} \wedge \exists \text{hasChild.Male} \\ \wedge \forall \text{hasChild.}(\text{Rich} \vee \text{Happy})$$

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## DL Concept and Role Constructors



- Range of other constructors found in DLs, including:
  - Number restrictions (cardinality constraints) on roles, e.g.,  $\geq 3$  hasChild,  $\leq 1$  hasMother
  - Qualified number restrictions, e.g.,  $\geq 2$  hasChild.Female,  $\leq 1$  hasParent.Male
  - Nominals (singleton concepts), e.g., {Italy}
  - Concrete domains (datatypes), e.g., hasAge.( $\leq 21$ )
- Inverse roles, e.g., hasChild<sup>-</sup> (hasParent)
- Transitive roles, e.g., hasChild\* (descendant)
- Role composition, e.g., hasParent  $\circ$  hasBrother (uncle)

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## DL Knowledge Base



- DL Knowledge Base (KB) normally separated into 2 parts:
  - TBox is a set of axioms describing structure of domain (i.e., a conceptual schema), e.g.:
    - **HappyFather**  $\equiv$  **Man**  $\wedge$   $\exists$ hasChild.Female  $\wedge$  ...
    - **Elephant**  $\equiv$  **Animal**  $\wedge$  **Large**  $\wedge$  **Grey**
    - **transitive(ancestor)**
  - ABox is a set of axioms describing a concrete situation (data), e.g.:
    - **John:HappyFather**
    - **<John,Mary>:hasChild**
- Separation has no logical significance
  - But may be conceptually and implementationally convenient

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## OWL as DL: Class Constructors



Constructor	DL Syntax	Example	FOL Syntax
intersectionOf	$C_1 \sqcap \dots \sqcap C_n$	Human $\sqcap$ Male	$C_1(x) \wedge \dots \wedge C_n(x)$
unionOf	$C_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup C_n$	Doctor $\sqcup$ Lawyer	$C_1(x) \vee \dots \vee C_n(x)$
complementOf	$\neg C$	$\neg$ Male	$\neg C(x)$
oneOf	$\{x_1\} \sqcup \dots \sqcup \{x_n\}$	{john} $\sqcup$ {mary}	$x = x_1 \vee \dots \vee x = x_n$
allValuesFrom	$\forall P.C$	$\forall$ hasChild.Doctor	$\forall y.P(x, y) \rightarrow C(y)$
someValuesFrom	$\exists P.C$	$\exists$ hasChild.Lawyer	$\exists y.P(x, y) \wedge C(y)$
maxCardinality	$\leq nP$	$\leq 1$ hasChild	$\exists \leq n y.P(x, y)$
minCardinality	$\geq nP$	$\geq 2$ hasChild	$\exists \geq n y.P(x, y)$

- XMLS **datatypes** as well as classes in  $\forall P.C$  and  $\exists P.C$ 
  - E.g.,  $\exists$ hasAge.nonNegativeInteger
- Arbitrarily complex **nesting** of constructors
  - E.g., Person  $\sqcap \forall$ hasChild.Doctor  $\sqcup \exists$ hasChild.Doctor

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## RDFS Syntax



E.g., Person  $\sqcap \forall$ hasChild.Doctor  $\sqcup \exists$ hasChild.Doctor:

```
<owl:Class>
  <owl:intersectionOf rdf:parseType=" collection">
    <owl:Class rdf:about="#Person"/>
    <owl:Restriction>
      <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#hasChild"/>
      <owl:toClass>
        <owl:unionOf rdf:parseType=" collection">
          <owl:Class rdf:about="#Doctor"/>
          <owl:Restriction>
            <owl:onProperty rdf:resource="#hasChild"/>
            <owl:hasClass rdf:resource="#Doctor"/>
          </owl:Restriction>
        </owl:unionOf>
      </owl:toClass>
    </owl:Restriction>
  </owl:intersectionOf>
</owl:Class>
```

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## OWL as DL: Axioms



Axiom	DL Syntax	Example
subClassOf	$C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2$	Human $\sqsubseteq$ Animal $\sqcap$ Biped
equivalentClass	$C_1 \equiv C_2$	Man $\equiv$ Human $\sqcap$ Male
disjointWith	$C_1 \sqsubseteq \neg C_2$	Male $\sqsubseteq \neg$ Female
sameIndividualAs	$\{x_1\} \equiv \{x_2\}$	{President_Bush} $\equiv$ {G.W_Bush}
differentFrom	$\{x_1\} \sqsubseteq \neg\{x_2\}$	{john} $\sqsubseteq \neg$ {peter}
subPropertyOf	$P_1 \sqsubseteq P_2$	hasDaughter $\sqsubseteq$ hasChild
equivalentProperty	$P_1 \equiv P_2$	cost $\equiv$ price
inverseOf	$P_1 \equiv P_2^-$	hasChild $\equiv$ hasParent $^-$
transitiveProperty	$P^+ \sqsubseteq P$	ancestor $^+$ $\sqsubseteq$ ancestor
functionalProperty	$T \sqsubseteq \leq 1P$	T $\sqsubseteq \leq 1$ hasMother
inverseFunctionalProperty	$T \sqsubseteq \leq 1P^-$	T $\sqsubseteq \leq 1$ hasSSN $^-$

- Axioms (mostly) reducible to inclusion ( $\sqsubseteq$ )
  - $C \equiv D$  iff both  $C \sqsubseteq D$  and  $D \sqsubseteq C$
- Obvious FOL equivalences
  - E.g.,  $C \equiv D$  iff  $\forall x. C(x) \Leftrightarrow D(x)$ ,
  - $C \sqsubseteq D$  iff  $\forall x. C(x) \Rightarrow D(x)$

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## XML Schema Datatypes in OWL



- OWL supports **XML Schema** primitive datatypes
  - E.g., integer, real, string, ...
- Strict **separation** between “object” classes and datatypes
  - Disjoint interpretation domain  $\Delta_D$  for datatypes
    - For a datavalue  $d$  holds  $d^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta_D$
    - and  $\Delta_D \cap \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$
  - Disjoint “object” and datatype properties
    - For a datatype property  $P$  holds  $P^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta_D$
    - For object property  $S$  and datatype property  $P$  hold  $S^{\mathcal{I}} \cap P^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$
- Equivalent to the “(D<sub>n</sub>)” in *SHOIN*(D<sub>n</sub>)

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## Why Separate Classes and Datatypes?



- Philosophical reasons:
  - Datatypes structured by **built-in predicates**
  - Not appropriate to form new datatypes using ontology language
- Practical reasons:
  - Ontology language remains **simple and compact**
  - **Semantic integrity** of ontology language not compromised
  - **Implementability** not compromised — can use hybrid reasoner

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## OWL DL Semantics



- Mapping OWL to equivalent DL (*SHOIN*(D<sub>n</sub>)):
  - Facilitates provision of reasoning services (using DL systems)
  - Provides **well defined semantics**
- DL semantics defined by **interpretations**:  $\mathcal{I} = (\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}})$ , where
  - $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$  is the **domain** (a non-empty set)
  - $\cdot^{\mathcal{I}}$  is an **interpretation function** that maps:
    - **Concept (class) name A** to subset  $A^{\mathcal{I}}$  of  $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
    - **Role (property) name R** to binary relation  $R^{\mathcal{I}}$  over  $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
    - **Individual name i** to element  $i^{\mathcal{I}}$  of  $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$

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## DL Semantics



- Interpretation function  $\mathcal{I}$  extends to **concept expressions** in the obvious way, i.e.:

$$\begin{aligned}(C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} &= C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} &= C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ \{x\}^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{x^{\mathcal{I}}\} \\ (\exists R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{x \mid \exists y. \langle x, y \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \wedge y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \\ (\forall R.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{x \mid \forall y. \langle x, y \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \Rightarrow y \in C^{\mathcal{I}}\} \\ (\leq nR)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{x \mid \#\{y \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}\} \leq n\} \\ (\geq nR)^{\mathcal{I}} &= \{x \mid \#\{y \mid \langle x, y \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}\} \geq n\}\end{aligned}$$

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## DL Knowledge Bases (Ontologies)



- An OWL ontology maps to a DL Knowledge Base  $\mathcal{K} = \langle \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A} \rangle$ 
  - $\mathcal{T}$  (Tbox) is a set of axioms of the form:
    - $C \sqsubseteq D$  (**concept inclusion**)
    - $C \equiv D$  (**concept equivalence**)
    - $R \sqsubseteq S$  (**role inclusion**)
    - $R \equiv S$  (**role equivalence**)
    - $R^+ \sqsubseteq R$  (**role transitivity**)
  - $\mathcal{A}$  (Abox) is a set of axioms of the form
    - $x \in D$  (**concept instantiation**)
    - $\langle x, y \rangle \in R$  (**role instantiation**)
- Two sorts of Tbox axioms often distinguished
  - “Definitions”
    - $C \sqsubseteq D$  or  $C \equiv D$  where  $C$  is a concept name
  - General Concept Inclusion axioms (GCIs)
    - $C \sqsubseteq D$  where  $C$  in an arbitrary concept

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## Knowledge Base Semantics



- An **interpretation**  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies (models) an axiom  $A$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models A$ ):
  - $\mathcal{I} \models C \sqsubseteq D$  iff  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\mathcal{I} \models C \equiv D$  iff  $C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\mathcal{I} \models R \sqsubseteq S$  iff  $R^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq S^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\mathcal{I} \models R \equiv S$  iff  $R^{\mathcal{I}} = S^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\mathcal{I} \models R^+ \sqsubseteq R$  iff  $(R^{\mathcal{I}})^+ \subseteq R^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\mathcal{I} \models x \in D$  iff  $x^{\mathcal{I}} \in D^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\mathcal{I} \models \langle x, y \rangle \in R$  iff  $\langle x^{\mathcal{I}}, y^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $\mathcal{I}$  **satisfies a Tbox**  $\mathcal{T}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{T}$ ) iff  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies every axiom  $A$  in  $\mathcal{T}$
- $\mathcal{I}$  **satisfies an Abox**  $\mathcal{A}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{A}$ ) iff  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies every axiom  $A$  in  $\mathcal{A}$
- $\mathcal{I}$  **satisfies an KB**  $\mathcal{K}$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models \mathcal{K}$ ) iff  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies both  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$

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## Inference Tasks



- Knowledge is **correct** (captures intuitions)
  - $C$  **subsumes**  $D$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  iff for **every model**  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq D^{\mathcal{I}}$
- Knowledge is **minimally redundant** (no unintended synonyms)
  - $C$  is **equivalent** to  $D$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  iff for **every model**  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $C^{\mathcal{I}} = D^{\mathcal{I}}$
- Knowledge is **meaningful** (classes can have instances)
  - $C$  is **satisfiable** w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  iff there exists **some model**  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$  s.t.  $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$
- **Querying** knowledge
  - $x$  is an **instance** of  $C$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  iff for **every model**  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $x^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - $\langle x, y \rangle$  is an **instance** of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  iff for, **every model**  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\langle x^{\mathcal{I}}, y^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$
- Knowledge base **consistency**
  - A KB  $\mathcal{K}$  is **consistent** iff there exists **some model**  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$

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## DL Reasoning

- Tableau algorithms used to test satisfiability (consistency)
- Try to build a **tree-like model**  $I$  of the input concept  $C$
- Decompose  $C$  syntactically
  - Apply **tableau expansion rules**
  - Infer constraints on elements of model
- Tableau rules correspond to constructors in logic ( $\sqcap$ ,  $\sqcup$  etc)
  - Some rules are **nondeterministic** (e.g.,  $\sqcup$ ,  $\leq$ )
  - In practice, this means **search**
- Stop when no more rules applicable or **clash** occurs
  - Clash is an obvious contradiction, e.g.,  $A(x)$ ,  $\neg A(x)$
- Cycle check (**blocking**) may be needed for termination
- $C$  satisfiable **iff** rules can be applied such that a fully expanded clash free tree is constructed



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## Highly Optimised Implementation

- Naive implementation leads to effective non-termination
- Modern systems include MANY **optimisations**
- Optimised classification (compute partial ordering)
  - Use **enhanced traversal** (exploit information from previous tests)
  - Use structural information to select classification order
- Optimised subsumption testing (search for models)
  - **Normalisation and simplification** of concepts
  - **Absorption** (rewriting) of general axioms
  - Davis-Putnam style **semantic branching search**
  - **Dependency directed backtracking**
  - **Caching** of satisfiability results and (partial) models
  - **Heuristic ordering** of propositional and modal expansion
  - ...



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**someValuesFrom restrictions**

**Properties subpane showing alternative 'frame view'**

- What it means
  - All Margherita\_pizzas (amongst other things)
    - **Are Pizzas**
    - **have\_topping some Tomato\_topping**
    - **have\_topping some Mozzarella\_topping**
      - & because they are Pizzas
      - **have\_base some Pizza\_base**

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