

# Description Logics

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# Outline

- 1 Formal Ontologies
- 2 Towards Description Logics
- 3 *ALC* Language



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# Formal Ontologies



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- We need a **formal language**.



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- propositional logic



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- ... what is the meaning of these formulas ?



## Logics for Ontologies (2)

Logics are defined by their

- Syntax – to *represent* concepts (*defining symbols*)

### Logics trade-off

A logical calculus is always a trade-off between *expressiveness* and *tractability of reasoning*.



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- Proof Theory – to enforce the semantics

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How to check satisfiability of the formula  $A \vee (\neg(B \wedge A) \vee B \wedge C)$  ?

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**complexity** – NP-Complete (Cook theorem)



# First Order Predicate Logic

## Example

What is the meaning of this sentence ?

$$(\forall x_1)((Student(x_1) \wedge (\exists x_2)(GraduateCourse(x_2) \wedge isEnrolledTo(x_1, x_2)))) \\ \Rightarrow (\forall x_3)(isEnrolledTo(x_1, x_3) \Rightarrow GraduateCourse(x_3)))$$

$Student \sqcap \exists isEnrolledTo. GraduateCourse \sqsubseteq \forall isEnrolledTo. GraduateCourse$



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**complexity** – undecidable (Goedel)



# Open World Assumption

## OWA

FOPL accepts Open World Assumption, i.e. whatever is not known is not necessarily false.

As a result, FOPL is *monotonic*, i.e.

## monotonicity

No conclusion can be invalidated by adding extra knowledge.

This is in contrary to relational databases, or Prolog that accept Closed World Assumption.



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# Towards Description Logics



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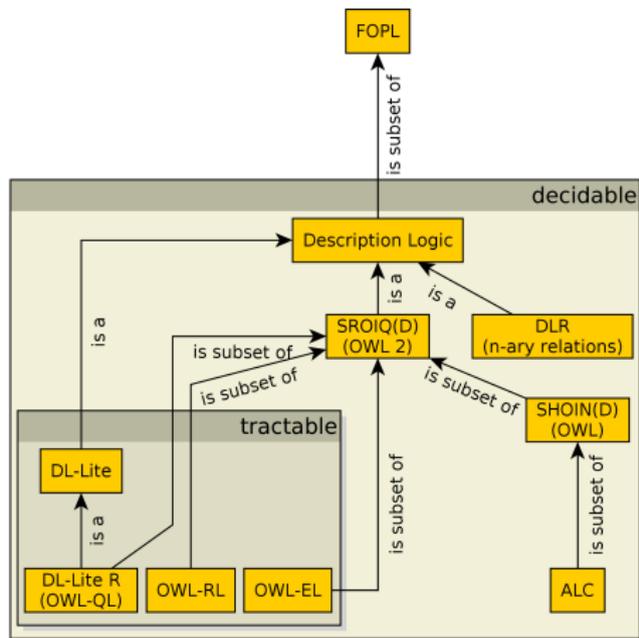


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  - ☹ Prolog is not an implementation of FOPL – OWA vs. CWA, negation as failure, problems in expressing disjunctive knowledge, etc.

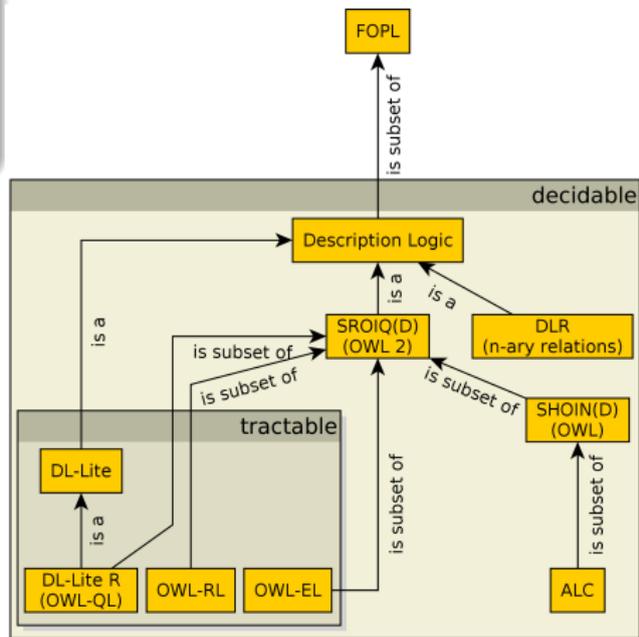


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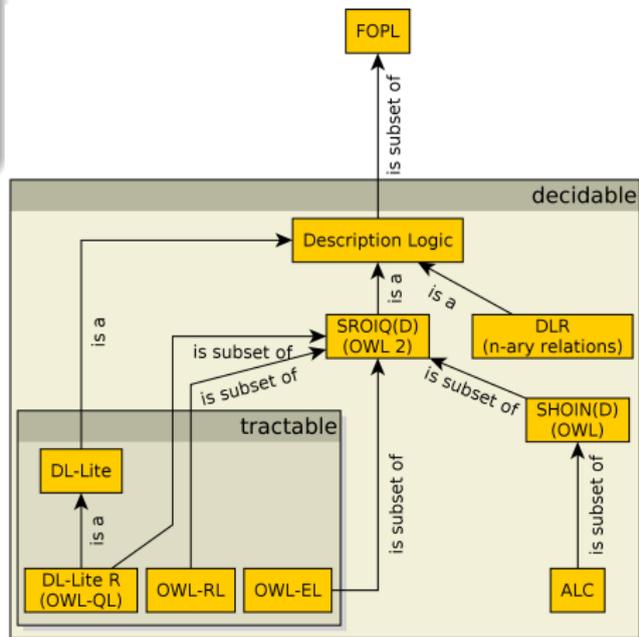
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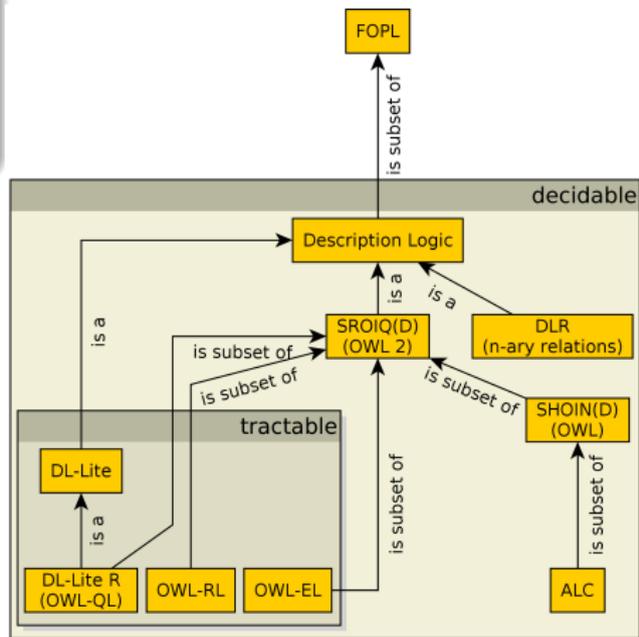
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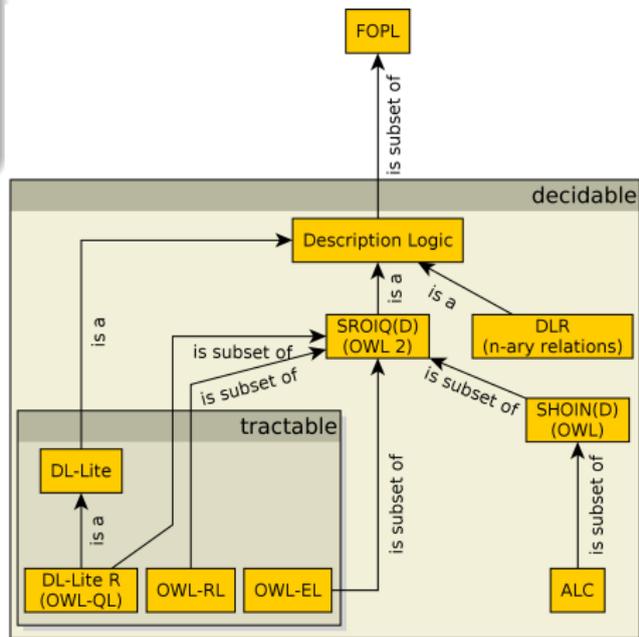
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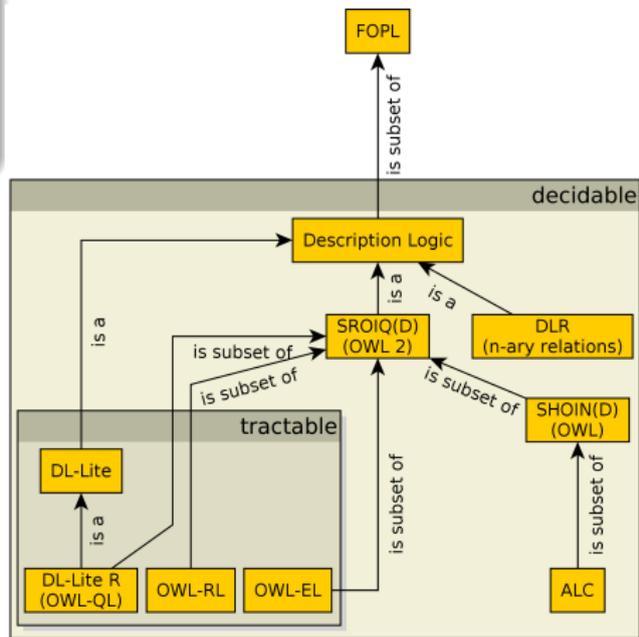
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- DLs differ in their expressive power (concept/role constructors, axiom types).



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- Having *atomic* concept  $A$ , *atomic* role  $R$  and individual  $a$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 A^{\mathcal{I}} &\subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \\
 R^{\mathcal{I}} &\subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \\
 a^{\mathcal{I}} &\in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}
 \end{aligned}$$



# ALC (= attributive language with complements)

Having concepts  $C$ ,  $D$ , atomic concept  $A$  and atomic role  $R$ , then for interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$ :

<i>concept</i>	<i>concept</i> <sup><math>\mathcal{I}</math></sup>	<i>description</i>
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$\neg C$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$	(negation)
$C_1 \sqcap C_2$	$C_1^{\mathcal{I}} \cap C_2^{\mathcal{I}}$	(intersection)
$C_1 \sqcup C_2$	$C_1^{\mathcal{I}} \cup C_2^{\mathcal{I}}$	(union)
$\forall R \cdot C$	$\{a \mid \forall b((a, b) \in R^{\mathcal{I}} \implies b \in C^{\mathcal{I}})\}$	(universal restriction)
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ABOX (UNA = unique name assumption<sup>1</sup>)

<i>axiom</i>	$\mathcal{I} \models$ axiom iff	<i>description</i>
$C(a)$	$a^{\mathcal{I}} \in C^{\mathcal{I}}$	(concept assertion)
$R(a_1, a_2)$	$(a_1^{\mathcal{I}}, a_2^{\mathcal{I}}) \in R^{\mathcal{I}}$	(role assertion)

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# ALC – Example

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Consider an information system for genealogical data integrating multiple genealogical databases. Let's have atomic concepts *Person*, *Man*, *GrandParent* and atomic role *hasChild*.

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  - $GrandParent \equiv Person \sqcap \exists hasChild \cdot \exists hasChild \cdot \top$
- How does the previous axiom look like in FOPL ?

$$\forall x (GrandParent(x) \equiv (Person(x) \wedge \exists y (hasChild(x, y) \wedge \exists z (hasChild(y, z))))))$$



ALC Example –  $\mathcal{T}$ 

## Example

$$\textit{Woman} \equiv \textit{Person} \sqcap \textit{Female}$$

$$\textit{Man} \equiv \textit{Person} \sqcap \neg \textit{Woman}$$

$$\textit{Mother} \equiv \textit{Woman} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot \textit{Person}$$

$$\textit{Father} \equiv \textit{Man} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot \textit{Person}$$

$$\textit{Parent} \equiv \textit{Father} \sqcup \textit{Mother}$$

$$\textit{Grandmother} \equiv \textit{Mother} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot \textit{Parent}$$

$$\textit{MotherWithoutDaughter} \equiv \textit{Mother} \sqcap \forall \textit{hasChild} \cdot \neg \textit{Woman}$$

$$\textit{Wife} \equiv \textit{Woman} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasHusband} \cdot \textit{Man}$$


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- this model is finite and has the form of a tree with the root in the node John :



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Both properties represent important characteristics of ALC that significantly speed-up reasoning.

In particular (generalized) TMP is a characteristics that is shared by most DLs and significantly reduces their computational complexity. 

# Example – CWA × OWA

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ABOX

*hasChild*(JOCASTA, OEDIPUS)  
*hasChild*(OEDIPUS, POLYNEIKES)  
*Patricide*(OEDIPUS)

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$JOCASTA \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$

Q2 Find individuals  $x$  such that  $\mathcal{K} \models C(x)$ , where  $C$  is

$\neg \textit{Patricide} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild}^- \cdot (\textit{Patricide} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild}^- \cdot \{JOCASTA\})$

What is the difference, when considering CWA ?

$JOCASTA \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow x$

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