

# Description Logics

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Winter 2025



# Outline

- 1 Formal Ontologies
- 2 Towards Description Logics
- 3  $\mathcal{ALC}$  Language



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# Formal Ontologies



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- How to check they are designed correctly? How to reason about the knowledge inside?
- We need a **formal language**.



# Logics for Ontologies

- 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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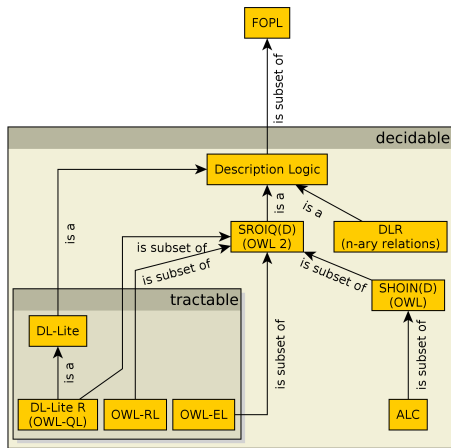


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  - ☹ Prolog is not an implementation of FOPL – OWA vs. CWA, negation as failure, problems in expressing disjunctive knowledge, etc.

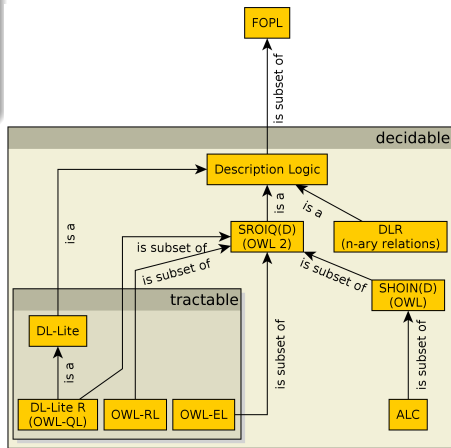


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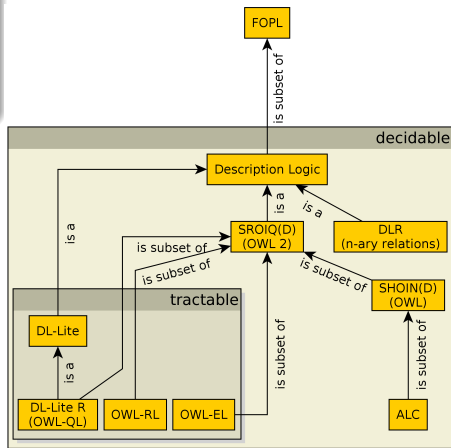




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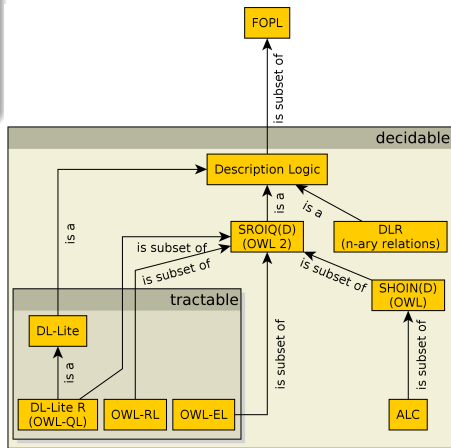
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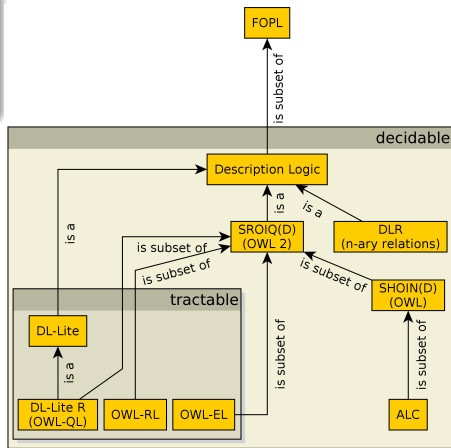
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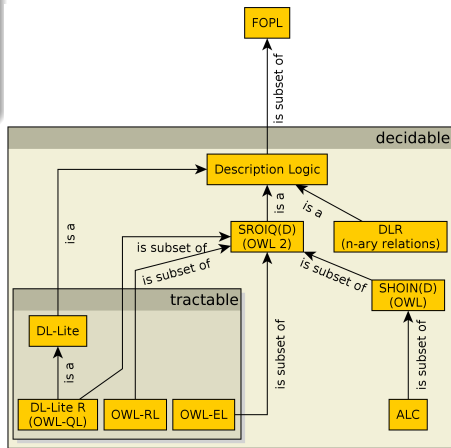
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- DLs differ in their expressive power (concept/role constructors, axiom types).



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

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





# $\mathcal{ALC}$ (= attributive language with complements)

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<i>concept</i>	<i>concept<math>^{\mathcal{I}}</math></i>	<i>description</i>
$\top$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$	(universal concept)
$\perp$	$\emptyset$	(unsatisfiable concept)
$\neg C$	$\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$	(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>	$\mathcal{I} \models \text{axiom iff}$	<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

## Example

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

*Woman*  $\equiv$  *Person*  $\sqcap$  *Female*

*Man*  $\equiv$  *Person*  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ *Woman*

*Mother*  $\equiv$  *Woman*  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ *hasChild*  $\cdot$  *Person*

*Father*  $\equiv$  *Man*  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ *hasChild*  $\cdot$  *Person*

*Parent*  $\equiv$  *Father*  $\sqcup$  *Mother*

*Grandmother*  $\equiv$  *Mother*  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ *hasChild*  $\cdot$  *Parent*

*MotherWithoutDaughter*  $\equiv$  *Mother*  $\sqcap$   $\forall$ *hasChild*  $\cdot$   $\neg$ *Woman*

*Wife*  $\equiv$  *Woman*  $\sqcap$   $\exists$ *hasHusband*  $\cdot$  *Man*



# Interpretation – Example

## Example

- Consider a theory  $\mathcal{K}_1 = (\{GrandParent \equiv Person \sqcap \exists hasChild \cdot \exists hasChild \cdot \top\}, \{GrandParent(JOHN)\})$ . Find some model.



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- Consider a theory  $\mathcal{K}_1 = (\{GrandParent \equiv Person \sqcap \exists hasChild \cdot \exists hasChild \cdot \top\}, \{GrandParent(JOHN)\})$ . Find some model.
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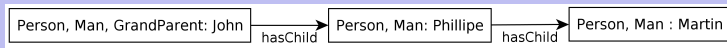
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  - $GrandParent^{\mathcal{I}_1} = \{John\}$
  - $JOHN^{\mathcal{I}_1} = \{John\}$
- this model is finite and has the form of a tree with the root in the node John :





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The last example revealed several important properties of DL models:



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Both properties represent important characteristics of  $\mathcal{ALC}$  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 $\times$ OWA

## Example

**ABox**

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

*hasChild*(*JOCASTA*, *POLYNEIKES*)  
*hasChild*(*POLYNEIKES*, *THERSANDROS*)  
 $\neg$ *Patricide*(*THERSANDROS*)



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### ABOX

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 $hasChild(OEDIPUS, POLYNEIKES)$   
 $Patricide(OEDIPUS)$

$hasChild(JOCASTA, POLYNEIKES)$   
 $hasChild(POLYNEIKES, THERSANDROS)$   
 $\neg Patricide(THERSANDROS)$

Edges represent role assertions of *hasChild*; red/green colors distinguish concepts instances – *Patricide* a  $\neg Patricide$



# Example – CWA $\times$ OWA

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*hasChild*(JOCASTA, POLYNEIKES)  
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Q1  $(\exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot (\textit{Patricide} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot \neg \textit{Patricide}))(JOCASTA),$

$JOCASTA \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$

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Q1  $(\exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot (\textit{Patricide} \sqcap \exists \textit{hasChild} \cdot \neg \textit{Patricide}))(\textit{JOCASTA})$ ,

*JOCASTA*  $\longrightarrow$  ●  $\longrightarrow$  ●

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

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

What is the difference, when considering CWA ?

*JOCASTA*  $\longrightarrow$  ●  $\longrightarrow$  x

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