

**SATURATION-BASED DECISION PROCEDURES:
FROM SIMPLE DESCRIPTION LOGICS
TO EXPRESSIVE EXTENSIONS
OF THE GUARDED FRAGMENT
AND BACK TO IMPLEMENTATION**

Yevgeny Kazakov

Max-Planck Institute für Informatik

March 17, 2006

OUTLINE

1 MOTIVATION

- Description Logics

2 THE APPROACH

- Limitations of Tableau-Base Procedures for DLs
- Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

3 SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS

- Combination of Decidable Fragments
- Paramodulation-Based Decision Procedures
- Guarded Fragment over Compositional Theories

4 BACK TO IMPLEMENTATION

- Implementing the Procedure for DL EL

5 CONCLUSIONS

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TREE (UNRELATED?) QUESTIONS

- 1 How to use **automated theorem provers** for obtaining **decision procedures**?
- 2 Why some **fragments of first-order logics** are **decidable** and others are not?
- 3 How to design **practical** and **complexity-optimal** procedures for reasoning in **description logics**?

WHAT ARE DESCRIPTION LOGICS?

“... [formalisms] for providing high level description of the world that can be effectively used to build intelligent applications.” (Nardi & Brachman, 2003).

- A family of languages for **knowledge representation** which:
- Provide a **logic-based descriptions** of concepts by means of their mutual relationships
- Distinguished by a **formal semantics** which gives **unambiguous** reading for these descriptions
- Have **effective procedures** to identify logical consequences of descriptions and answer queries

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Description Logics

CLASSICAL APPROACH

DATA (COLLECTION OF FACTS):

PhDStudent	Supervisor	D2Member	Email
...	
Yevgeny Kazakov	Hans de Nivelles	Hans de Nivelles	...
Yevgeny Kazakov	Gert Smolka	Yevgeny Kazakov	...
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DL-BASED APPROACH

DATA **ABox** (COLLECTION OF FACTS):

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METADATA **TBox** (PROPERTIES OF CLASSES AND RELATIONS):

$\text{Supervisor} \doteq \exists \text{hasStudent. PhDStudent}$

$\text{PhDStudent} \sqcap \text{Supervisor} \sqsubseteq \perp$

$\text{PhDStudent} \sqcap \text{D2Member} \sqsubseteq \exists \text{hasSupervisor. D2Member}$

$\text{hasStudent} \doteq (\text{hasSupervisor})^{-}$

- Gives a more expressive query language:

- $? - \exists \text{hasStudent. VhasSupervisor. D2Member}(X).$

- Enables query optimisations:

- $? - \text{Supervisor}(X) \sqcap \text{D2Member}(X).$

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Description Logics

THE LANGUAGE OF **DLs**

- PRIMITIVE CONCEPTS (unary relations):

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- PRIMITIVE CONCEPTS (unary relations):
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hasStudent
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Description Logics

THE LANGUAGE OF DLs

- PRIMITIVE CONCEPTS (unary relations): PhDStudent
Supervisor
D2Member
- PRIMITIVE ROLES (binary relations): hasStudent
hasSupervisor
- INDIVIDUALS (elements): “Gert Smolka”
“Hans de Nivelle”

REASONING PROBLEMS OF DLs

TBox (TERMINOLOGY)

$$\text{Supervisor} \doteq \exists \text{hasStudent}.\text{PhDStudent}$$

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ABox (ASSERTIONS)

$$\text{D2Member}(\text{Hans de Nivelle})$$

$$\text{PhDStudent}(\text{Ruzica Piskas})$$

$$\text{hasStudent}(\text{Hans de Nivelle}, \text{Ruzica Piskas})$$

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QUERIES (REASONING PROBLEMS)

? – $\exists \text{hasStudent}.\text{D2Member} \sqsubseteq \text{Supervisor}$ (subsumption)

? – Supervisor(Hans de Nivelle) (instance)

? – $(\text{PhDStudent} \sqcap \text{D2Member})(X)$ (retrieval)

SOME APPLICATIONS OF DLs

- **Databases**: integration of conceptual schemata (\sim **TBox**), query subsumption, configuration, . . .

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- **Semantic Web**:

“the idea of having data on the web defined and linked in a way that it can be used by machines not just for display purposes, but for automation, integration and reuse of data across various applications.” [W3C Semantic Web vision]

SOME APPLICATIONS OF DLs

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- **Semantic Web**:
 - “the idea of having data on the web defined and linked in a way that it can be used by machines not just for display purposes, but for automation, integration and reuse of data across various applications.”* [W3C Semantic Web vision]
- The present Web is **syntactic** (**HTML**), is designed to be **readable by humans**
- The new Web must be **readable by programs** (a search engine should “understand” the web content)
- A **DL**-based language **OWL** has been recommended by **W3C** as an **ontology language** for the Semantic Web

SOME APPLICATIONS OF DLs

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HOME PAGE OF YEVGENY KAZAKOV

```
<a href=http://ontology.net/academic/. . .
. . . /PhDStudent>Yevgeny Kazakov</a>
```

OWL-ONTOLOGY

PhDStudent = . . .

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1985–1990 **Incomplete** reasoning procedures based on **structural** subsumption algorithms (**KL-ONE** (Brachman & Schmolze, 1985), systems: **BLACK**, **CLASSIC**, **LOOM** ...)

$$\begin{array}{l}
 C_1 \doteq \forall R.(A \sqcap B) \\
 \sqcap \\
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 \end{array}$$

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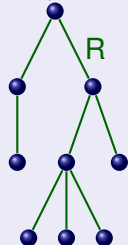
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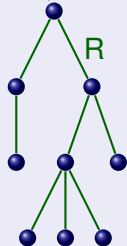
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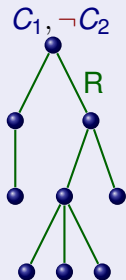
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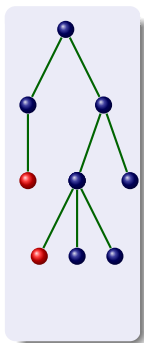


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???? What is next?

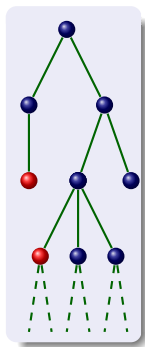
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TABLEAU-BASED PROCEDURES AND COMPLEXITY



- $\mathcal{ALC} = (\sqcap, \sqcup, \neg, \exists, \forall)$ - concept subsumption. Tableau procedure runs in **PSPACE** (optimal).
- \mathcal{ALC} with general **TBox**-es requires cycle detection. Theoretical complexity: **EXPTIME**, Tableau worst case: **EXPSPACE**.
- Adding number restrictions ($\geq n.R$), and ($\leq n.R$) makes the worst case **2EXPSPACE**.
- **Tree-model property** of **DLs** is the reason behind their decidability, however:
 - **Transitive roles** $T \circ T \subseteq T$ destroy the tree model property. Instead, tableau procedures search for a **tree-representation** of a model.
 - **Nominals** $O = \{c\}$ can break even this underlying tree-structure. Dealing with nominals is tricky.

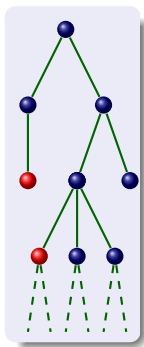
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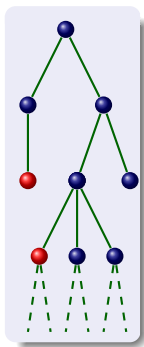
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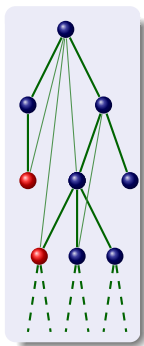
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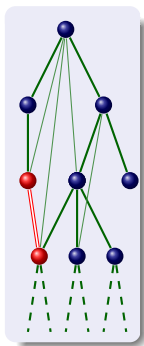
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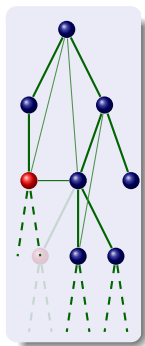
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- **Tree-model property** of **DLs** is the reason behind their decidability, however:
 - **Transitive roles** $T \circ T \sqsubseteq T$ destroy the tree model property. Instead, tableau procedures search for a **tree-representation** of a model.
 - **Nominals** $O \doteq \{c\}$ can break even this underlying tree-structure. Dealing with nominals is tricky.

TABLEAU-BASED PROCEDURES AND COMPLEXITY



- $\mathcal{ALC} = (\sqcap, \sqcup, \neg, \exists, \forall)$ - concept subsumption. Tableau procedure runs in **PSPACE** (optimal).
- \mathcal{ALC} with **general TBox**-es requires **cycle detection**. Theoretical complexity: **EXPTIME**, Tableau worst case: **EXPSPACE**.
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AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH

- Use a general-purpose **automated** first-order **theorem prover** (e.g. **SPASS** or **VAMPIRE**) to solve reasoning problems in **DLs**:
 - Translate **TBox** + **ABox** + **Query** to clauses according to the **semantics** of **DL**.
 - **Run** a theorem prover on the resulted set of clauses.
 - **Tweak** the parameters of a prover to ensure **termination**.
- We demonstrate this approach on a simple description logic **\mathcal{EL}** .

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Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

SUBBOOLEAN DLs

$$\mathcal{ALC} ::= A \mid C_1 \sqcap C_2 \mid C_1 \sqcup C_2 \mid \neg C_1 \mid \exists R.C_1 \mid \forall R.C_1 .$$

Subsumption w.r.t. \mathcal{ALC} TBox-es is EXPTIME-complete

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

SUBBOOLEAN DLs

$$\mathcal{ALC} ::= A \mid C_1 \sqcap C_2 \mid C_1 \sqcup C_2 \mid \neg C_1 \mid \exists R.C_1 \mid \forall R.C_1 .$$

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THEOREM (BAADER (1996), KAZAKOV & DE NIVELLE (2003))

Subsumption w.r.t. \mathcal{FL}_0 **TBox**-es is **PSPACE**-complete

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

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SUBBOOLEAN **DL**S
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Subsumption w.r.t. \mathcal{FL}_0 **TBox**-es is **PSPACE**-complete

THEOREM (BAADER (2002))

Subsumption w.r.t. \mathcal{EL} **TBox**-es is **polynomially solvable**

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

TBox

$$A \doteq C$$

$$\text{Man} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \text{Male}$$

$$\text{Parent} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

$$\text{Father} \doteq \text{Man} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

$$\text{Grandfather} \doteq \text{Man} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Parent}$$

Subsumption Query

$$?- C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2$$

$$?- \text{Father} \sqsubseteq \text{Parent}$$

$$?- \text{Grandfather} \sqsubseteq \text{Father}$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

- 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION
- 2 FO-TRANSLATION
- 3 CLAUSIFICATION
- 4 SATURATION IN **ATP**

TBox

$$A \dot{=} C$$

$$\text{Man} \dot{=} \text{Human} \sqcap \text{Male}$$

$$\text{Parent} \dot{=} \text{Human} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

$$\text{Father} \dot{=} \text{Man} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

$$\text{Grandfather} \dot{=} \text{Man} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Parent}$$

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Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 TBox-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Take a compound concept

TBox

$$A \doteq C$$

$$\text{Man} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \text{Male}$$

$$\text{Parent} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

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A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 TBox-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Take a compound concept
- Replace by a new concept name

TBox

$$A \doteq C$$

$$\text{Man} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \text{Male}$$

$$\text{Parent} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \underline{\text{N1}}$$

$$\text{Father} \doteq \text{Man} \sqcap \underline{\text{N1}}$$

$$\text{Grandfather} \doteq \text{Man} \sqcap \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Parent}$$

$$\underline{\text{N1}} \doteq \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

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Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

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$$\text{Grandfather} \doteq \text{Man} \sqcap \text{N2}$$

$$\text{N1} \doteq \exists \text{has-child.Human}$$

$$\text{N2} \doteq \exists \text{has-child.Parent}$$

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 TBox-SIMPLIFICATION

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4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Take a compound concept
- Replace by a new concept name
- After simplifications all definitions have the form:

TBox

$$A \doteq C$$

$$\text{Man} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \text{Male}$$

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$$\text{Father} \doteq \text{Man} \sqcap N1$$

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$$N1 \doteq \exists \text{has-child.Human}$$

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SIMPLIFIED CONCEPT DEFINITIONS

$$A \doteq B \sqcap C$$

$$A \doteq \exists R.B$$

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

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SIMPLIFIED CONCEPT DEFINITIONS

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Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 TBox-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Translate simplified definitions according to the semantics of DL:

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$$\text{Man} \doteq \text{Human} \sqcap \text{Male}$$

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$$\text{N1} \doteq \exists \text{has-child}.\text{Human}$$

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FIRST-ORDER TRANSLATION

$$A \doteq B \sqcap C \quad A(x) \leftrightarrow B(x) \wedge C(x)$$

$$A \doteq \exists R.B \quad A(x) \leftrightarrow \exists y.[R(x, y) \wedge B(y)]$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

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Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP**

- Apply standard Skolemization and clause normal form transformations

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \neg A(x) \vee B(x)$$

CLAUSIFICATION

$$\begin{aligned} (\Rightarrow) \quad & A(x) \leftrightarrow B(x) \wedge C(x) \\ & A(x) \leftrightarrow \exists y. [R(x, y) \wedge B(y)] \end{aligned}$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

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4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Apply standard Skolemization and clause normal form transformations

CLAUSE TYPES

$$\text{T1. } \neg A(x) \vee B(x)$$

$$\text{T2. } \neg B(x) \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

CLAUSIFICATION

$$(\Leftarrow) \quad A(x) \leftrightarrow B(x) \wedge C(x)$$

$$A(x) \leftrightarrow \exists y. [R(x, y) \wedge B(y)]$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

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- Apply standard Skolemization and clause normal form transformations

CLAUSE TYPES

T1. $\neg A(x) \vee B(x)$

T2. $\neg B(x) \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$

T3. $\neg A(x) \vee R(x, f_A(x))$

CLAUSIFICATION

$$A(x) \leftrightarrow B(x) \wedge C(x)$$

$$(\Rightarrow) A(x) \leftrightarrow \exists y. [R(x, y) \wedge B(y)]$$

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

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$$T4. \neg A(x) \vee B(f_A(x))$$

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A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

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$$T4. \neg A(x) \vee B(f_A(x))$$

$$T5. \neg R(x, y) \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

CLAUSIFICATION

$$A(x) \leftrightarrow B(x) \wedge C(x)$$

$$(\Leftarrow) A(x) \leftrightarrow \exists y. [R(x, y) \wedge B(y)]$$

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 TBox-SIMPLIFICATION

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3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Consider all possible inferences between clauses

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \neg A(x) \vee B(x)$$

$$T2. \neg B(x) \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$T3. \neg A(x) \vee R(x, f_A(x))$$

$$T4. \neg A(x) \vee B(f_A(x))$$

$$T5. \neg R(x, y) \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

- 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION
- 2 FO-TRANSLATION
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- 4 SATURATION IN **ATP**

RESOLUTION

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{A} \quad D \vee \underline{\neg B}}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

where (i) $\sigma = mgu(A, B)$,
and (ii) A, B are *eligible*

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \neg A(x) \vee B(x)$$

$$T2. \neg B(x) \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$T3. \neg A(x) \vee R(x, f_A(x))$$

$$T4. \neg A(x) \vee B(f_A(x))$$

$$T5. \neg R(x, y) \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP****RESOLUTION**

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{A} \quad D \vee \underline{\neg B}}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

where (i) $\sigma = mgu(A, B)$,
and (ii) A, B are *eligible*

CLAUSE TYPES

$$\Rightarrow \text{T1. } \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee B(x)$$

$$\text{T2. } \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$\text{T3. } \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{T4. } \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))}$$

$$\text{T5. } \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

POSSIBLE INFERENCE

$$\frac{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))} \quad \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee C(x)}{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee C(f_A(x))} \Rightarrow \text{T4}$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP****RESOLUTION**

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{A} \quad D \vee \underline{\neg B}}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

where (i) $\sigma = mgu(A, B)$,
and (ii) A, B are *eligible*

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee B(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow T2. \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$T3. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))}$$

$$\Rightarrow T4. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))}$$

$$T5. \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

$$T6. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(f_A(x))$$

POSSIBLE INFERENCE

$$\frac{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))} \quad \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee D(x)}{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \neg C(f_A(x)) \vee D(f_A(x))} \Rightarrow T6$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP****RESOLUTION**

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{A} \quad D \vee \underline{\neg B}}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

where (i) $\sigma = mgu(A, B)$,
and (ii) A, B are *eligible*

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee B(x)$$

$$T2. \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow T3. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))}$$

$$T4. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))}$$

$$\Rightarrow T5. \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

$$T6. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(f_A(x))$$

$$T7. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(x)$$

POSSIBLE INFERENCE

$$\frac{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))} \quad \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee C(x)}{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(x) \Rightarrow T7}$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP****RESOLUTION**

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{A} \quad D \vee \underline{\neg B}}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

where (i) $\sigma = mgu(A, B)$,
and (ii) A, B are *eligible*

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee B(x)$$

$$T2. \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$T3. \neg A(x) \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))}$$

$$\Rightarrow T4. \neg A(x) \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))}$$

$$T5. \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow T6. \neg A(x) \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(f_A(x))$$

$$T7. \neg A(x) \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(x)$$

POSSIBLE INFERENCE

$$\frac{\neg A(x) \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))} \quad \neg A(x) \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(f_A(x))}{\neg A(x) \vee C(f_A(x)) \Rightarrow T4}$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL} 1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP****RESOLUTION**

$$\frac{C \vee \underline{A} \quad D \vee \underline{\neg B}}{(C \vee D)\sigma}$$

where (i) $\sigma = mgu(A, B)$,
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CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee B(x)$$

$$T2. \underline{\neg B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$T3. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))}$$

$$\Rightarrow T4. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))}$$

$$T5. \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

$$T6. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(f_A(x))$$

$$\Rightarrow T7. \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(x)$$

POSSIBLE INFERENCE

$$\frac{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))} \quad \underline{\neg A(x)} \vee \underline{\neg B(f_A(x))} \vee C(x)}{\underline{\neg A(x)} \vee C(x) \Rightarrow T1}$$

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 TBox-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN ATP

- Since there are **at most finitely many** clauses of types T1 – T7, the saturation procedure **is guaranteed to terminate**

CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \neg \underline{A(x)} \vee B(x)$$

$$T2. \neg \underline{B(x)} \vee \neg C(x) \vee A(x)$$

$$T3. \neg A(x) \vee \underline{R(x, f_A(x))}$$

$$T4. \neg A(x) \vee \underline{B(f_A(x))}$$

$$T5. \underline{\neg R(x, y)} \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

$$T6. \neg A(x) \vee \neg \underline{B(f_A(x))} \vee C(f_A(x))$$

$$T7. \neg A(x) \vee \neg \underline{B(f_A(x))} \vee C(x)$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

A RESOLUTION DECISION PROCEDURE FOR \mathcal{EL}

1 **TBox**-SIMPLIFICATION

2 FO-TRANSLATION

3 CLAUSIFICATION

4 SATURATION IN **ATP**

- Subsumption queries are handled in a similar way together with **TBox**

Subsumption Query

$$?- C_1 \sqsubseteq C_2$$

$$?- \text{Father} \sqsubseteq \text{Parent}$$

$$?- \text{Grandfather} \sqsubseteq \text{Father}$$

Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

THE GENERAL RECIPE

- Saturation-Based decision procedures have been invented by Joyner Jr. (1976)
- The general strategy can be described as follows:
 - Define an appropriate **clause class** for the target fragment
 - Insure that this class is **closed under inferences**
 - Demonstrate that the class is **finite** for a fixed signature
- Many decision procedures based on this principle have been found later on.

(**clause classes** (\mathcal{E} , \mathcal{S}^+ , \mathcal{E}^+ , ...) (Fermüller, Leitsch, Tammet & Zamov, 1993), **modal logics** (Schmidt, 1997; Hustadt, 1999; Hustadt, de Nivelle & Schmidt, 2000), **fragments of first-order logic** (Bachmair, Ganzinger & Waldmann, 1993; Ganzinger & de Nivelle, 1999; de Nivelle & Pratt-Hartmann, 2001))

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- We **extend** the approach of Joyner Jr. (1976) using several techniques and refinements known in automated theorem proving, namely:
 - 1 The **general notion of redundancy** introduced by Bachmair & Ganzinger (1990, 1994)
 - 2 **Structure-preserving transformations**
 - 3 **Dynamic renaming** based on semantical properties
- This allows one to design **custom simplification rules** to improve termination behaviour, which results in that:
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 - in a **modular way**
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OUTLINE

1 MOTIVATION

- Description Logics

2 THE APPROACH

- Limitations of Tableau-Base Procedures for DLs
- Saturation-Based Decision Procedures

3 SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS

- Combination of Decidable Fragments
- Paramodulation-Based Decision Procedures
- Guarded Fragment over Compositional Theories

4 BACK TO IMPLEMENTATION

- Implementing the Procedure for DL EL

5 CONCLUSIONS

THE GUARDED FRAGMENT

- Was introduced by Andréka, van Benthem & Németi (1996, 1998) to transfer good computational properties of modal logics to first-order level

THE BASIC DESCRIPTION LOGIC AND ITS FIRST-ORDER VARIANT

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{ALC} &::= A \mid C_1 \sqcap C_2 \mid \neg C_1 \mid \exists R.C_1 . \\
 F(\mathcal{ALC}) &::= A(x) \mid C_1(x) \wedge C_2(x) \mid \neg C_1(x) \mid \exists y.[R(x, y) \wedge C_1(y)] .
 \end{aligned}$$

- The range of quantified variables is **bounded** by atoms-**guards**

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$$\mathcal{GF} ::= A(\vec{x}) \mid F_1 \wedge F_2 \mid \neg F_1 \mid \exists \vec{y}.[G(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) \wedge F_1(\vec{x}, \vec{y})] .$$

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Combination of Decidable Fragments

TWO-VARIABLE AND MONADIC FRAGMENTS

- Other useful fragments studied before include:

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- We studied **combinations** of fragments \mathcal{GF} , \mathcal{FO}^2 and \mathcal{MF} in which their **constructors** are joint:

EXAMPLE

$$\forall xy. [\text{Nat}(x) \wedge \text{Nat}(y) \rightarrow \underbrace{\exists z. (\text{Sum}(x, y, z) \wedge \text{Nat}(z))}_{\text{Summable}(x,y) \in \mathcal{GF}}] \in \mathcal{GF} | \mathcal{FO}^2$$

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- \mathcal{GF} captures only relatively simple description logics
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- Nominals can be expressed using a **guarded formula with constant**: $O \sqsubseteq \{c\} \Rightarrow \forall x.[O(x) \rightarrow x \simeq c]$
- We found two paramodulation-based procedures for \mathcal{GF}_{\simeq} with constants:
 - Using **elimination of constants** proposed by Grädel (1999) combined with elimination of equational guards, and
 - A procedure that handles constants **directly**
- Both procedures have **theoretically optimal complexity** both with bounded and unbounded number of variable names (**EXPTIME** and **2EXPTIME** respectively).

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- Moreover, the guarded fragment with functionality is **undecidable** (Grädel, 1999)
- We consider a syntactical restriction $\mathcal{GF}_{\simeq}[FG]$ of \mathcal{GF}_{\simeq} , when functional relations may appear in guards only.
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 - $\mathcal{GF}_{\simeq}[FG]$ is **decidable** by paramodulation with a custom simplification rule:
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LITERAL PROJECTION

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FROM FUNCTIONALITY TO COUNTING

- Our procedure for $\mathcal{GF}_{\approx}[FG]$ can be extended for **counting restrictions**: $\forall x.\exists y^{\leq n}.R(x, y)$ and $\forall x.\exists y^{\geq n}.R(x, y)$
- Gives the **same complexity** as for $\mathcal{GF}_{\approx}[FG]$ assuming **unary coding of numbers**
- An alternative procedure which is optimal for **binary coding of numbers** has been described in Kazakov (2004):

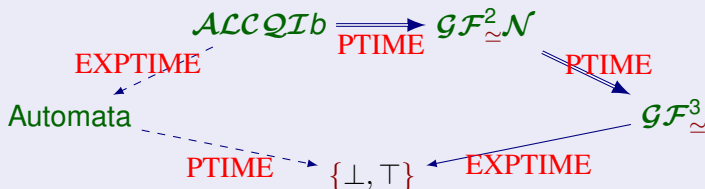
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POLYNOMIAL TRANSLATION FROM $\mathcal{GF} \simeq \mathcal{N}$ TO $\mathcal{GF} \simeq^3$



SIMPLE COMPOSITIONAL AXIOMS

- Many useful properties are expressible using:

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$$S \circ T \sqsubseteq H_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup H_n$$

TEMPORAL PROPERTIES

If $(x \text{ before } y)$ and $(y \text{ before } z)$ then $(x \text{ before } z)$

ORDERINGS

If $(x < y)$ and $(y < z)$ then $(x < z)$

TOPOLOGICAL AND DISTANCE RELATIONS

$(x \text{ is a part of } y) \circ (y \text{ is located in } z) \rightarrow (x \text{ is located in } z)$

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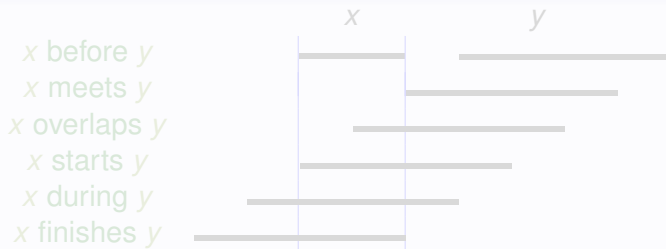
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REGION CONNECTION CALCULI $RCC5$, $RCC8$

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ALLEN'S (1983) INTERVAL ALGEBRA



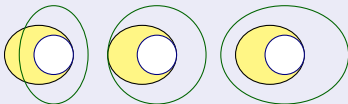
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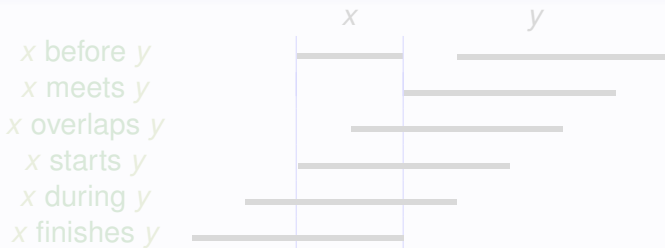
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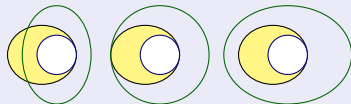
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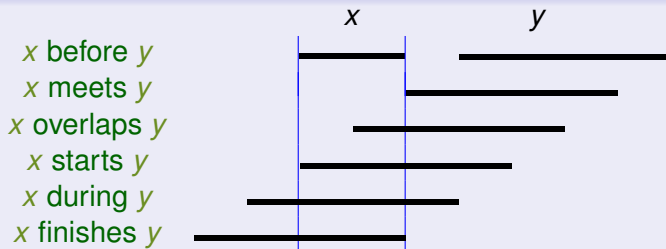
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- Transitivity $T \circ T \sqsubseteq T$ is the simplest compositional axiom
- The guarded fragment with transitivity is **undecidable** (Grädel, 1999; Ganzinger, Meyer & Veanes, 1999)
 - We have **sharpened** these results and demonstrated that already **two** transitive relations makes \mathcal{GF}^2 undecidable.
- Szwaast & Tendera (2001) and later Kieronski (2003) demonstrated that a restriction $\mathcal{GF}[TG]$ is **decidable**.
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- Our procedure employs a **custom simplification rule**:

Guarded Fragment over Compositional Theories

THE GUARDED FRAGMENT WITH TRANSITIVE GUARDS

- Transitivity $T \circ T \sqsubseteq T$ is the simplest compositional axiom
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- Implementing the Procedure for DL EL

5 CONCLUSIONS

HOW TO IMPLEMENT SATURATION-BASED PROCEDURES?

- Adopt a theorem prover to your strategy
- Difficult for complicated strategies (which employ **non-standard orderings** and custom **simplification rules**)
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Implementing the Procedure for DL EL

BACK TO **DL** \mathcal{EL}

- The types of inferences we had for **DL** \mathcal{EL} can be written as follows:

CLASSIFICATION OF \mathcal{EL} -TBox-ES
$$T4(A, B, f_A), T1(B, C) \vdash T4(A, C, f_A)$$

$$T4(A, B, f_A), T2(B, C, D) \vdash T6(A, C, f_A, D)$$

$$T3(A, R, f_A), T5(R, B, A) \vdash T7(A, B, f_A, C)$$

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CLAUSE TYPES

$$T1. \neg A(x) \vee B(x)$$

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$$T4. \neg A(x) \vee B(f_A(x))$$

$$T5. \neg R(x, y) \vee \neg B(y) \vee A(x)$$

$$T6. \neg A(x) \vee \neg B(f_A(x)) \vee C(f_A(x))$$

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- Conclusions:

- The procedure for \mathcal{EL} can be implemented in *datalog*
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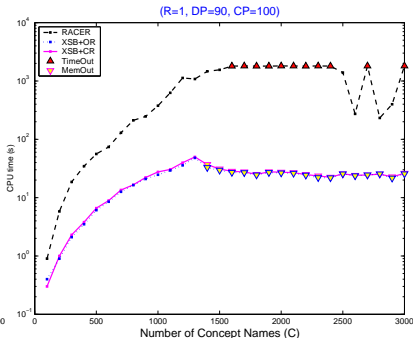
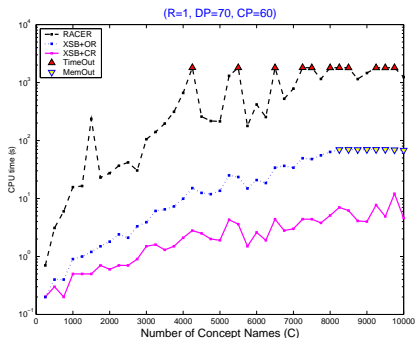
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Implementing the Procedure for DL EL

EMPIRICAL EVALUATION

- We have performed a series of tests on randomly generated **EL-TBox**-es (up to 10.000 concepts) using our procedure in **XSB**-system **vs** **RACER** system:



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CONTRIBUTIONS

- We obtained many (un)decidability, complexity results and decision procedures for first-order fragments relevant to knowledge representation languages. Most important:
 - 1 Polynomial saturation-based decision procedures for \mathcal{EL} and its extensions (most studied in (Baader, Brandt & Lutz, 2005) and new). Empirical evaluation demonstrates that our approach is promising.
 - 2 Combination of the guarded, two-variable and monadic fragments. Optimal complexity results.
 - 3 Paramodulation-based decision procedures for extensions of the guarded fragment with constants, functionality and number restrictions. Optimal complexity results.
 - 4 Full classification of (un)decidability results for the guarded fragment over compositional theories. Saturation-based decision procedures. Optimal complexities.

IN MEMORIAM HARALD GANZINGER (1950-2004)

- Most of our the results are based on a theory of saturation-based theorem proving developed by Prof. **Harald Ganzinger** and would not have been possible without his scientific achievements.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Thank you for your
attention!

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