



**Semantic Web Technologies**  
**Web Ontology Language (OWL)**



# Previously on “Semantic Web Technologies”

- We have got to know
  - OWL, a more powerful ontology language than RDFS
  - Simple ontologies and some reasoning
  - Sudoku solving
- Today
  - New constructs in OWL2
  - Russell's paradox
  - Reasoning in OWL
  - Complexity of ontologies
  - A peek at rule languages for the Semantic Web



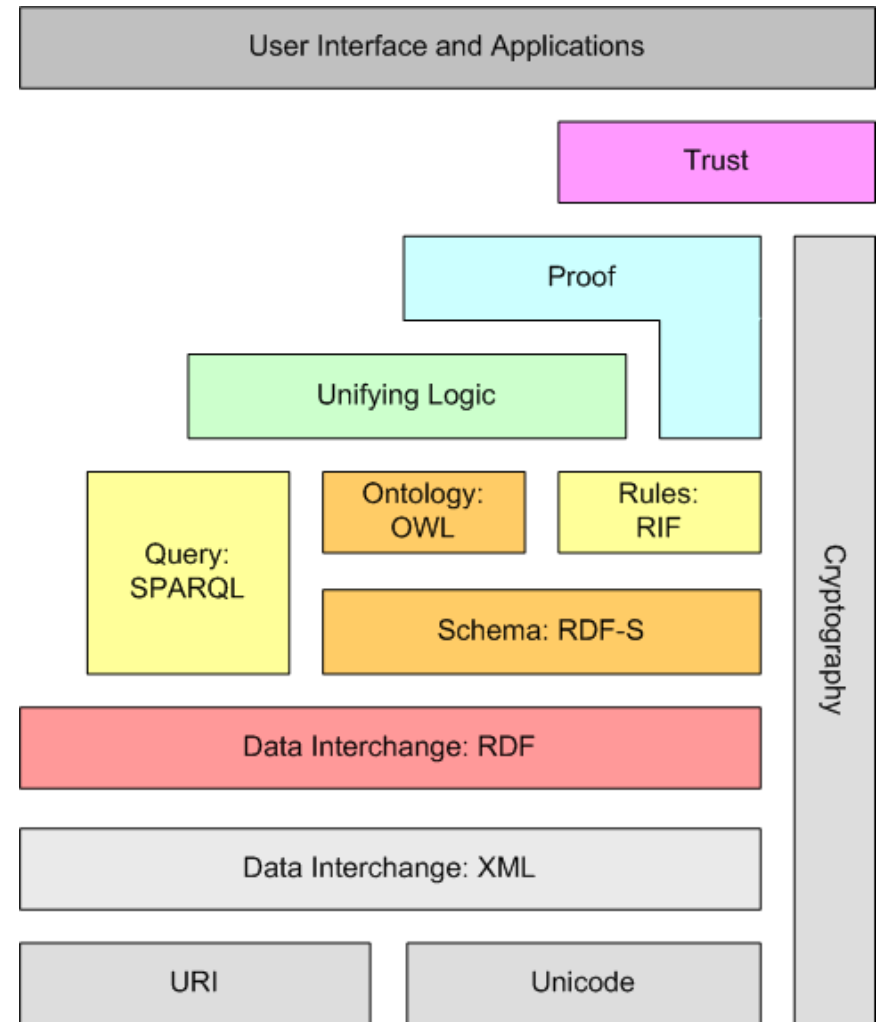
# Semantic Web – Architecture



here be dragons...

Semantic Web Technologies  
(This lecture)

Technical Foundations



# OWL2 – New Constructs and More

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- Five years after the first OWL standard
- OWL2: 2009
  - Syntactic sugar
  - New language constructs
  - OWL profiles
- We have already encountered some, e.g.,
  - Qualified relations
  - Reflexive, irreflexive, and antisymmetric properties



# OWL2: Syntactic Sugar

- Disjoint classes and disjoint unions

- OWL 1:

```
:Wine owl:equivalentClass [  
  a owl:Class ;  
  owl:unionOf (:RedWine :RoséWine :WhiteWine) ] .  
  
:RedWine owl:disjointWith :RoséWine, :WhiteWine .  
:RoséWine owl:disjointWith :WhiteWine .
```

- OWL 2:

```
:Wine owl:disjointUnionOf (:RedWine  
  :RoséWine :WhiteWine ).
```

- Also possible:

```
_:x a owl:AllDisjointClasses ;  
  owl:members (:RedWine :RoséWine WhiteWine ).
```

# OWL2: Syntactic Sugar

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- Negative(Object|Data)PropertyAssertion
- Allow negated statements
- e.g.: Paul is not Peter's father

```
_x [ a owl:NegativeObjectPropertyAssertion;  
      owl:sourceIndividual :Paul ;  
      owl:targetIndividual :Peter ;  
      owl:assertionProperty :fatherOf ] .
```

- If that's syntactic sugar, it must also be possible differently
  - But how?

# OWL2: Syntactic Sugar

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- Negative(Object|Data)PropertyAssertion
- Replaces less intuitive set constructs
- Paul is not Peter's father

```
Paul a [ owl:complementOf [  
          a owl:Restriction ;  
          owl:onProperty :fatherOf ;  
          owl:hasValue :Peter  
        ]  
      ].
```

# OWL2: Reflexive Class Restrictions

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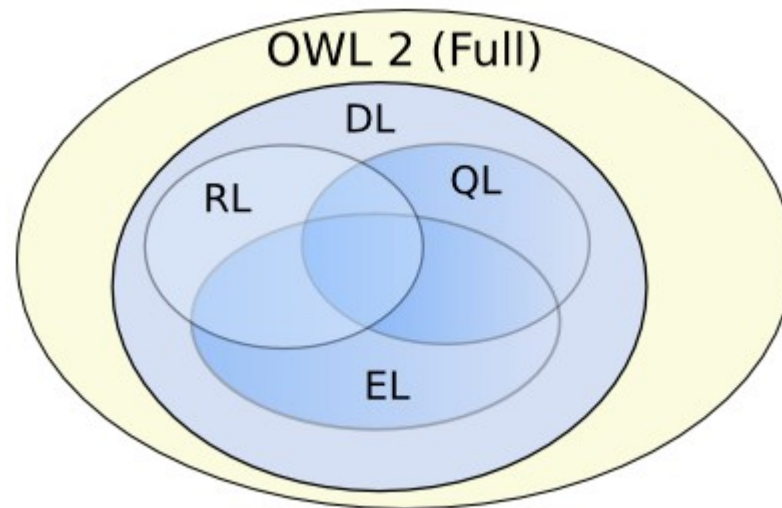
- Using `hasSelf`
- Example: defining the set of all autodidacts:

```
:AutoDidact owl:equivalentClass [  
  a owl:Restriction ;  
  owl:onProperty :teaches ;  
  owl:hasSelf "true"^^xsd:boolean ] .
```



# OWL2: Profiles

- Profiles are subsets of OWL2 DL
  - EL, RL und QL
  - Similar to complexity classes
- Different runtime and memory complexity
- Depending on requirements



# OWL2 Profile

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- OWL2 EL (Expressive Language)
  - Fast reasoning on many standard ontologies
  - Restrictions, e.g.:
    - someValuesFrom, but not allValuesFrom
    - No inverse and symmetric properties
    - No unionOf and complementOf
- OWL2 QL (Query Language)
  - Fast query answering on relational databases
  - Restrictions, e.g.:
    - No unionOf, allValuesFrom, hasSelf, ...
    - No cardinalities and functional properties

# OWL2 Profile

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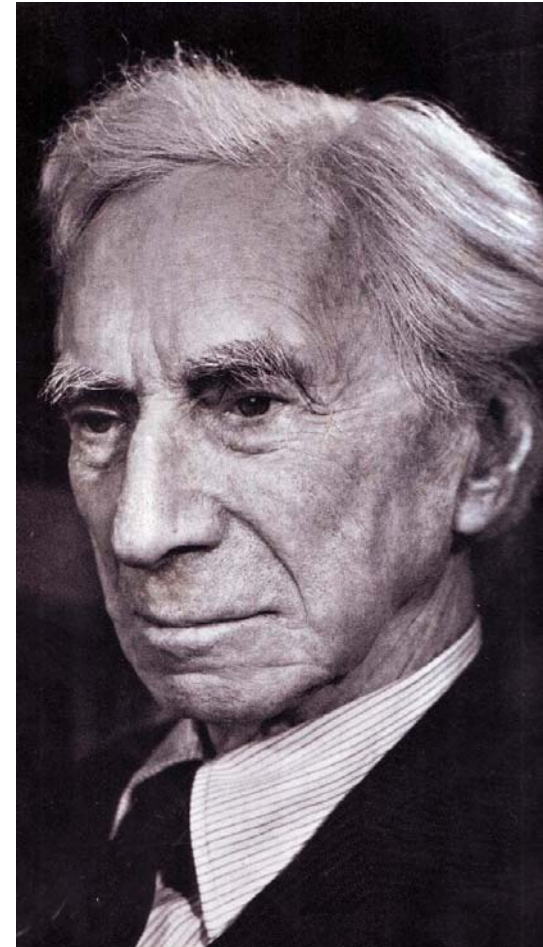
- OWL2 RL (Rule Language)
  - Subset similar to rule languages such as datalog
    - subClassOf is translated to a rule (Person  $\leftarrow$  Student)
  - Restrictions, e.g.:
    - Only qualified restrictions with 0 or 1
    - Some restrictions for head and body
- The following holds for all three profiles:
  - Reasoning can be implemented in polynomial time for each of the three
  - Reasoning on the union of two profiles only possible in exponential time

# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox

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- A classic paradox by Bertrand Russell, 1918
- In a city, there is exactly one barber who shaves everybody who does not shave themselves.

Who shaves the barber?



# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox

- Class definitions

```
:People owl:disjointUnionOf  
(:PeopleWhoShaveThemselves  
:PeopleWhoDoNotShaveThemselves ) .
```

- Relation definitions:

```
:shavedBy rdfs:domain :People .  
:shavedBy rdfs:range :People .  
:shaves owl:inverseOf :shavedBy .
```

- Every person is shaved by exactly one person:

```
:People rdfs:subClassOf [  
  a owl:Restriction ;  
  owl:onProperty :shavedBy ;  
  owl:cardinality "1"^^xsd:integer ] .
```

# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox

---

- Then, we define the barber:

```
:Barbers rdfs:subClassOf :People ;  
  owl:equivalentClass [  
    rdf:type owl:Class ;  
    owl:oneOf ( :theBarber )  
  ] .
```

# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox

- Definition of people shaving themselves:

```
:PeopleWhoShaveThemselves owl:equivalentClass [  
  rdf:type owl:Class ;  
  owl:intersectionOf  
  ( :People  
    [  
      a owl:Restriction ;  
      owl:onProperty :shavedBy ;  
      owl:hasSelf "true"^^xsd:boolean  
    ]  
  )  
]
```

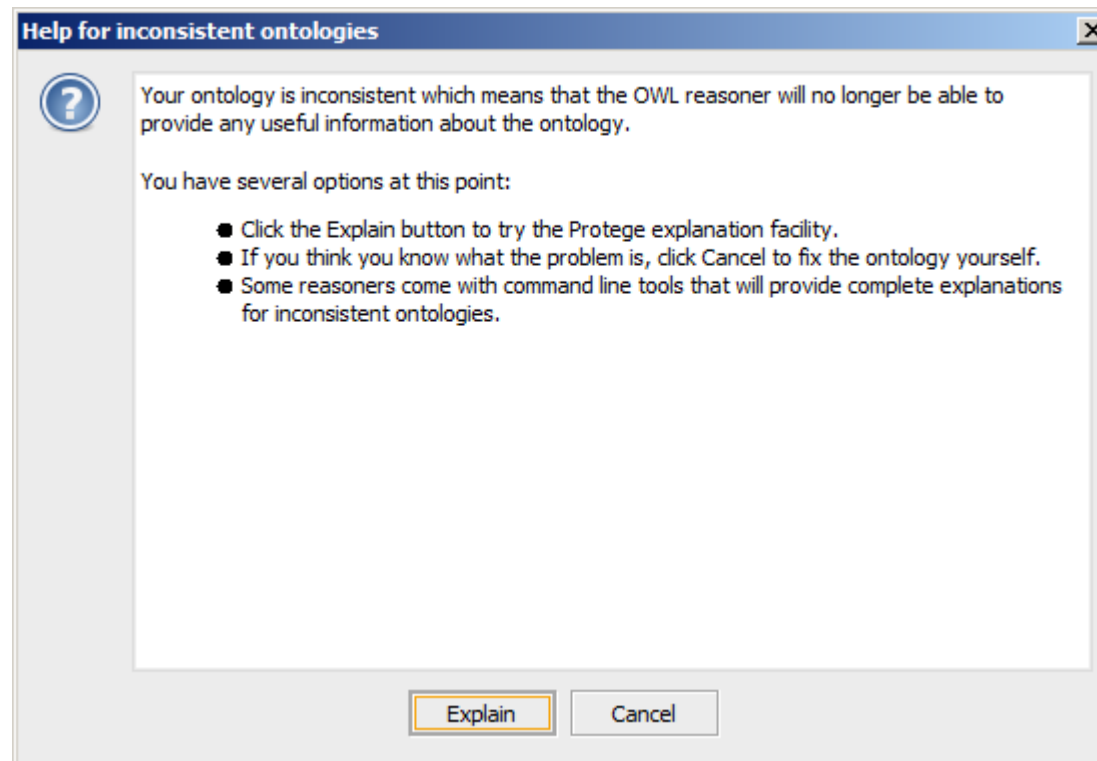
# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox

- Definition of people who do not shave themselves:

```
:PeopleWhoDoNotShaveThemselves owl:equivalentClass [  
  a owl:Class ;  
  owl:intersectionOf (  
    :People  
    [ a owl:Restriction  
      owl:onProperty :shavedBy ;  
      owl:allValuesFrom :Barbers  
    ]  
  )  
] .
```



# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox



# OWL2 Example: Russell's Paradox

**Inconsistent ontology explanation**

Show regular justifications     All justifications  
 Show laconic justifications     Limit justifications to

1

Explanation 1     Display laconic explanation

Explanation for: Thing SubClassOf Nothing

1)	PersonsWhoDoNotShaveThemselves(?x) -> shaves(the-barber, ?x)	In 1 other justifications	?
2)	PersonsWhoDoNotShaveThemselves <b>DisjointWith</b> PersonsWhoShaveThemselves	In ALL other justifications	?
3)	Barber <b>SubClassOf</b> Person	In ALL other justifications	?
4)	shaves(?x, ?x) -> PersonsWhoShaveThemselves(?x)	In ALL other justifications	?
5)	shaves(the-barber, ?x) -> PersonsWhoDoNotShaveThemselves(?x)	In 1 other justifications	?
6)	PersonsWhoShaveThemselves(?x) -> shaves(?x, ?x)	In ALL other justifications	?
7)	Person <b>EquivalentTo</b> PersonsWhoDoNotShaveThemselves <b>or</b> PersonsWhoShaveThemselves	ALL other justifications	?
8)	the-barber <b>Type</b> Barber	In ALL other justifications	?

OK

# Reasoning in OWL DL

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- We have seen reasoning for RDFS
  - Forward chaining algorithm
  - Derive axioms from other axioms
- Reasoning for OWL DL is more difficult
  - Forward chaining may have scalability issues
  - Conjunction (e.g., unionOf) is not supported by forward chaining
  - Different approach: Tableau Reasoning
  - Underlying idea: find contradictions in ontology
    - i.e., both a statement and its opposite can be derived from the ontology

# Typical Reasoning Tasks

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- What do we want to know from a reasoner?
  - Subclass relations
    - e.g., Are all birds flying animals?
  - Equivalent classes
    - e.g., Are all birds flying animals *and vice versa*?
  - Disjoint classes
    - e.g., Are there animals that are mammals and birds at the same time?
  - Class consistency
    - e.g., Can there be mammals that lay eggs?
  - Class instantiation
    - e.g., Is Flipper a dolphin?
  - Class enumeration
    - e.g., List all dolphins

# Example: A Simple Contradiction

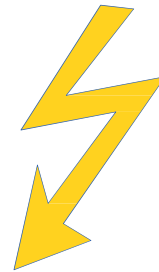
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- Given:

```
:Man a owl:Class .  
:Woman a owl:Class .  
:Man owl:disjointWith :Woman .  
  
:Alex a :Man .  
:Alex a :Woman .
```

# Example: A Simple Contradiction

- We can derive:
  - $:Man \cap :Woman = \emptyset$   
`owl:Nothing owl:intersectionOf (:Man :Woman) .`
  - $:Alex \in (:Man \cap :Woman)$   
`:Alex a [ a owl:Class; owl:intersectionOf (:Man :Woman) ] .`
- i.e.:
  - $:Alex \in \emptyset$   
`:Alex a owl:Nothing .`
  - That means: the instance must not exist
  - but it does



# Reasoning Tasks Revisited

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- Subclass Relations
  - Student  $\subseteq$  Person  $\Leftrightarrow$  „Every student is a person“
- Proof method: Reductio ad absurdum
  - "Invent" an instance  $i$
  - Define Student( $i$ ) and  $\neg$ Person( $i$ )
  - Check for contradictions
    - If there is one: Student  $\subseteq$  Person has to hold
    - If there is none: Student  $\subseteq$  Person cannot be derived
      - Note: it may still hold!

# Example: Subclass Relations

- **Ontology:**

```
:Student owl:subClassOf :UniversityMember .  
:UniversityMember owl:subClassOf :Person .
```

- **Invented instance:**

```
:i a :Student .  
:i a [ owl:complementOf :Person ] .
```

- **We have**

```
:i a :Student .  
:Student owl:subClassOf :UniversityMember .
```

**Thus**

```
:i a :UniversityMember .
```

- **And from**

```
:UniversityMember owl:subClassOf :Person .
```

- **We further derive that**

```
:i a Person .
```



# Example: Subclass Relations

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- Now, we have

```
:i a :Person .
```

```
:i a [ owl:complementOf :Person ] .
```

i.e.,

```
:i a [ owl:intersectionOf (:Person  
                             [ owl:complementOf :Person  
                             ])) ] .
```

- from which we derive

```
:i a owl:Nothing .
```



# Reasoning Tasks Revisited

---

- Class equivalence
  - $\text{Person} \equiv \text{Human}$
- Split into
  - $\text{Person} \subseteq \text{Human}$  and
  - $\text{Human} \subseteq \text{Person}$
- i.e., show subclass relation twice
  - We have seen that
  
- Class disjointness
  - Are C and D disjoint?
  - "Invent" an instance i
  - Define  $C(i)$  and  $D(i)$ 
    - We have done set (the Alex example)

# Class Consistency

- Can a class have instances?

- e.g., married bachelors

```
:Bachelor owl:subClassOf :Man .
```

```
:Bachelor owl:subClassOf
```

```
  [ a owl:Restriction;
```

```
    owl:onProperty :marriedTo;
```

```
    owl:cardinality 0 ] .
```

```
:MarriedPerson owl:subClassOf [
```

```
  a owl:Restriction;
```

```
    owl:onProperty :marriedTo;
```

```
    owl:cardinality 1 ] .
```

```
:MarriedBachelor owl:intersectionOf
```

```
  (:Bachelor :MarriedPerson) .
```

- Now: invent an instance of the class

- And check for contradictions

# Reasoning Tasks Revisited

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- Class Instantiation
  - Is Flipper a dolphin?
- Check:
  - define  $\neg$ Dolphin(Flipper)
  - Check for contradiction
- Class enumeration
  - Repeat class instantiation for all known instances

# Typical Reasoning Tasks Revisited

---

- What do we want to know from a reasoner?
  - Subclass relations
    - e.g., Are all birds flying animals?
  - Equivalent classes
    - e.g., Are all birds flying animals *and vice versa*?
  - Disjoint classes
    - e.g., Are there animals that are mammals and birds at the same time?
  - Class consistency
    - e.g., Can there be mammals that lay eggs?
  - Class instantiation
    - e.g., Is Flipper a dolphin?
  - Class enumeration
    - e.g., List all dolphins

# Typical Reasoning Tasks Revisited

---

- We have seen
  - All reasoning tasks can be reduced to the same basic tasks
  - i.e., consistency checking
- This means: for building a reasoner that can solve those tasks,
  - We only need a reasoner capable of consistency checking

# Ontologies in Description Logics Notation

- Classes and Instances

- $C(x) \leftrightarrow x \text{ a } C .$
- $R(x,y) \leftrightarrow x R y .$
- $C \sqsubseteq D \leftrightarrow C \text{ rdfs:subClassOf } D$
- $C \equiv D \leftrightarrow C \text{ owl:equivalentClass } D$
- $C \sqsubseteq \neg D \leftrightarrow C \text{ owl:disjointWith } D$
- $C \equiv \neg D \leftrightarrow C \text{ owl:complementOf } D$
- $C \equiv D \sqcap E \leftrightarrow C \text{ owl:intersectionOf } (D \ E) .$
- $C \equiv D \sqcup E \leftrightarrow C \text{ owl:unionOf } (D \ E) .$
- $T \quad \text{— owl:Thing}$
- $\perp \quad \text{— owl:Nothing}$

# Ontologies in Description Logics Notation

- Domains, ranges, and restrictions
  - $\exists R.T \sqsubseteq C \leftrightarrow R$  `rdfs:domain C .`
  - $\forall R.C \sqsubseteq \neg R$  `rdfs:range C .`  
 $C \sqsubseteq \forall R.D \leftrightarrow C$  `owl:subClassOf`  
`[ a owl:Restriction;`  
`owl:onProperty R;`  
`owl:allValuesFrom D ] .`
  - $C \sqsubseteq \exists R.D \leftrightarrow C$  `owl:subClassOf`  
`[ a owl:Restriction;`  
`owl:onProperty R;`  
`owl:someValuesFrom D ] .`
  - $C \sqsubseteq \geq nR \sqsubseteq \neg C$  `owl:subClassOf`  
`[ a owl:Restriction;`  
`owl:onProperty R;`  
`owl:minCardinality n ] .`



# Negation Normal Form (NNF)

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- Transforming ontologies to Negation Normal Form:
  - $\sqsubseteq$  und  $\equiv$  are not used
  - Negation only for atomic classes and axioms
- A simplified notation of ontologies
- Used by tableau reasoners

# Negation Normal Form (NNF)

- Eliminating  $\sqsubseteq$ :
  - Replace  $C \sqsubseteq D$  by  $\neg C \sqcup D$
  - Note: this is a shorthand notation for  $\forall x: \neg C(x) \vee D(x)$
- Why does this hold?
  - $C \sqsubseteq D$  is equivalent to  $C(x) \rightarrow D(x)$

$C(x)$	$D(x)$	$C(x) \rightarrow D(x)$	$\neg C(x) \vee D(x)$
true	true	true	true
true	false	false	false
false	true	true	true
false	false	true	true

# Negation Normal Form (NNF)

---

- Eliminating  $\equiv$ :
  - Replace  $C \equiv D$  by  $C \sqsubseteq D$  and  $D \sqsubseteq C$
  - Proceed as before
- i.e.:  $C \equiv D$  becomes
  - $C \sqsubseteq D$
  - $D \sqsubseteq C$
  - and thus
    - $\neg C \sqcup D$
    - $\neg D \sqcup C$

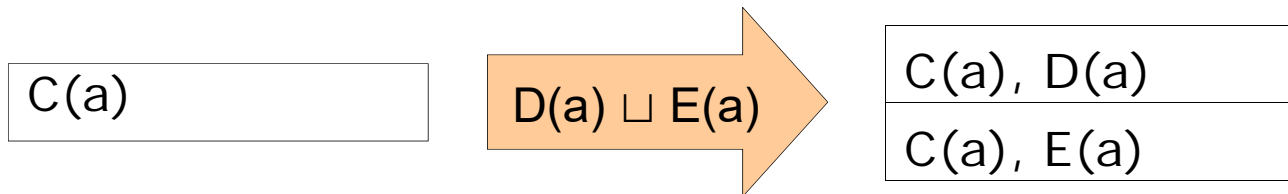
# Negation Normal Form (NNF)

- Further transformation rules

- $\text{NNF}(C) = C$  (for atomic  $C$ )
- $\text{NNF}(\neg C) = \neg C$  (for atomic  $C$ )
- $\text{NNF}(\neg \neg C) = C$
- $\text{NNF}(C \sqcup D) = \text{NNF}(C) \sqcup \text{NNF}(D)$
- $\text{NNF}(C \sqcap D) = \text{NNF}(C) \sqcap \text{NNF}(D)$
- $\text{NNF}(\neg(C \sqcap D)) = \text{NNF}(\neg C) \sqcup \text{NNF}(\neg D)$
- $\text{NNF}(\neg(C \sqcup D)) = \text{NNF}(\neg C) \sqcap \text{NNF}(\neg D)$
- $\text{NNF}(\forall R.C) = \forall R.\text{NNF}(C)$
- $\text{NNF}(\exists R.C) = \exists R.\text{NNF}(C)$
- $\text{NNF}(\neg \forall R.C) = \exists R.\text{NNF}(\neg C)$
- $\text{NNF}(\neg \exists R.C) = \forall R.\text{NNF}(\neg C)$

# The Basic Tableau Algorithm

- Tableau: Collection of derived axioms
  - Is subsequently extended
  - As for forward chaining
- In case of conjunction
  - Split the tableau



# When is an Ontology Free of Contradictions?

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- Tableau is continuously extended and split
- Free of contradictions if...
  - No further axioms can be created
  - At least one partial tableau is free of contradictions
  - A partial tableau has a contradiction if it contains both an axiom and its negation
    - e.g..  $\text{Person}(\text{Peter})$  und  $\neg\text{Person}(\text{Peter})$
    - The partial tableau is then called *closed*

# The Basic Tableau Algorithm

- Given: an ontology  $O$  in NNF

While not all partial tableaux are closed

- \* Choose a non-closed partial tableau  $T$  and an  $A \in O \cup T$

If  $A$  is not contained in  $T$

If  $A$  is an atomic statement

add  $A$  to  $T$

back to \*

If  $A$  is a non-atomic statement

Choose an individual  $i \in O \cup T$

Add  $A(i)$  to  $T$

back to \*

else

Extend the tableau with consequences from  $A$

back to \*

# The Basic Tableau Algorithm

- Extending a tableau with consequences

Nr	Axiom	Action
1	$C(a)$	Add $C(a)$
2	$R(a,b)$	Add $R(a,b)$
3	$C$	Choose an individual $a$ , add $C(a)$
4	$(C \sqcap D)(a)$	Add $C(a)$ and $D(a)$
5	$(C \sqcup D)(a)$	Split tableau into T1 and T2. Add $C(a)$ to T1, $D(a)$ to T2
6	$(\exists R.C)(a)$	Add $R(a,b)$ and $C(b)$ for a <i>new</i> Individual $b$
7	$(\forall R.C)(a)$	For all $b$ with $R(a,b) \in T$ : add $C(b)$



# A Simple Example

---

- Given the following ontology:
  - :Animal owl:unionOf (:Mammal :Bird :Fish :Insect :Reptile) .
  - :Animal owl:disjointWith :Human .
  - :Seth a :Human .
  - :Seth a :Insect .
- Is this knowledge base consistent?

# A Simple Example

- Given the following ontology:
  - :Animal owl:unionOf (:Mammal :Bird :Fish :Insect :Reptile) .
  - :Animal owl:disjointWith :Human .
  - :Seth a :Human .
  - :Seth a :Insect .
- The same ontology in DL-NNF:
  - $\neg\text{Animal} \sqcup \neg\text{Human}$
  - $\text{Animal} \sqcup (\neg\text{Mammal} \sqcap \neg\text{Bird} \sqcap \neg\text{Fish} \sqcap \neg\text{Insect} \sqcap \neg\text{Reptile})$
  - $\neg\text{Animal} \sqcup (\text{Mammal} \sqcup \text{Bird} \sqcup \text{Fish} \sqcup \text{Insect} \sqcup \text{Reptile})$
  - Human(Seth)
  - Insect(Seth)
- Let's try how reasoning works now!

# A Simple Example

---

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth)

Nr	Axiom	Action
1	C(a)	Add C(a)

# A Simple Example

---

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
( $\neg$ Animal  $\sqcup$   $\neg$ Human)(Seth)

Nr	Axiom	Action
3	C	Choose an individual a, add C(a)

# A Simple Example

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Animal(Seth)

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Human(Seth)

Nr	Axiom	Action
5	$(C \sqcup D)(a)$	Split the tableau into T1 and T2. Add C(a) to T1, D(a) to T2

# A Simple Example

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Animal(Seth)  
Animal  $\sqcup$  ( $\neg$ Mammal  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Bird  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Fish  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Insect)(Seth)

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Human(Seth)

Nr	Axiom	Action
3	C	Choose an individual a, add C(a)

# A Simple Example

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),

$\neg$ Animal(Seth)

Animal(Seth)

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),

$\neg$ Animal(Seth)

$(\neg$ Mammal  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Bird  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Fish  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Insect  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Reptile)(Seth)

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),

$\neg$ Human(Seth)

Nr	Axiom	Action
5	$(C \sqcup D)(a)$	Split the tableau into T1 and T2. Add C(a) to T1, D(a) to T2

# A Simple Example

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Animal(Seth)  
Animal(Seth)

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Animal(Seth)  
 $(\neg$ Mammal  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Bird  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Fish  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Insect  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Reptile)(Seth)  
 $\neg$ Mammal(Seth)  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Bird(Seth)  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Fish(Seth)  $\sqcap$   
 $\neg$ Insect(Seth)  $\sqcap$   $\neg$ Reptile(Seth)

Human(Seth), Insect(Seth),  
 $\neg$ Human(Seth)

Nr	Aussage	Aktion
4	$(C \sqcap D)(a)$	Add C(a) and D(a)



# Another Example

---

- Again, a simple ontology:

```
:Woman rdfs:subClassOf :Person .  
:Man rdfs:subClassOf :Person .  
:hasChild rdfs:domain :Person .  
:hasChild rdfs:range :Person .  
:Peter :hasChild :Julia .  
:Julia a :Woman .  
:Peter a :Man .
```

# Another Example

---

- in DL NNF:
  - ¬Man  $\sqsubseteq$  Person
  - ¬Woman  $\sqsubseteq$  Person
  - ¬ $\exists$ hasChild.T  $\sqsubseteq$  Person
  - $\forall$ hasChild.Person
  - hasChild(Peter,Julia)
  - Woman(Julia)
  - Man(Peter)

# Another Example

---

hasChild(Peter,Julia)

Nr	Axiom	Action
2	$R(a,b)$	Add $R(a,b)$

# Another Example

---

hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia)

Nr	Axiom	Action
1	C(a)	Add C(a)

# Another Example

---

hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia),  
 $(\neg \exists \text{hasChild.T} \sqcup \text{Person})(\text{Peter})$

Nr	Axiom	Action
3	C	Choose an individual a, add C(a)

# Another Example

hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia), ( $\neg\exists\text{hasChild.T} \sqcup \text{Person}$ )(Peter), $\neg\exists\text{hasChild.T}$ (Peter)
hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia), ( $\neg\exists\text{hasChild.T}$ )(Peter), Person(Peter)

Nr	Axiom	Action
5	( $C \sqcup D$ )(a)	Split the tableau into T1 and T2. Add C(a) to T1, D(a) to T2

# Another Example

hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia), ( $\neg\exists$ hasChild.T)(Peter), $\neg$ ParentsOfSons(Peter)
hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia), ( $\neg\exists$ hasChild.T)(Peter), Person(Peter), $\neg$ hasChild(Peter,b0), T(b0)

Nr	Axiom	Action
6	( $\exists R.C$ )(a)	Add R(a,b) und C(b) for a <i>new</i> Individual b

# Another Example

hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia),  
( $\neg$ ParentsOfSons  $\sqcup$   $\exists$ hasChild.Man)(Peter),  
 $\neg$ ParentsOfSons(Peter)

hasChild(Peter,Julia), Woman(Julia),  
( $\neg\exists$ hasChild.T)(Peter),  
Person(Peter),  
 $\neg$ hasChild(Peter,b0), T(b0),  
 $\neg$ hasChild(Peter,b1), T(b1),  
...

Nr	Axiom	Action
6	$(\exists R.C)(a)$	Add R(a,b) und C(b) for a <i>new</i> Individual b



# Introducing Rule Blocking

- Observation
  - The tableau algorithm does not necessarily terminate
  - We can add arbitrarily many new axioms

Nr	Axiom	Action
6	$(\exists R.C)(a)$	Add $R(a,b)$ und $C(b)$ for a <i>new</i> Individual $b$

- Idea: avoid rule 6 if no new information is created
  - i.e., if we already created one instance  $b_0$  for instance  $a$ , then block using rule 6 for  $a$ .

# Tableau-Algorithmus with Rule Blocking

- Given: an ontology  $O$  in NNF

While not all partial tableaux are closed  
and further axioms can be created

- \* Choose a non-closed partial tableau  $T$  and a non-blocked  $A \in O \cup T$

If  $A$  is not contained in  $T$

If  $A$  is an atomic statement

add  $A$  to  $T$

back to \*

If  $A$  is a non-atomic statement

Choose an individual  $i \in O \cup T$

Add  $A(i)$  to  $T$

back to \*

else

Extend the tableau with consequences from  $A$

If rule 6 was used, block  $A$  for  $T$

back to \*

# Tableau Algorithm: Wrap Up

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- An algorithm for description logic based ontologies
  - works for OWL Lite and DL
- We have seen examples for some OWL expressions
  - Other OWL DL expressions can be “translated” to DL as well
  - And they come with their own expansion rules
  - Reasoning may become more difficult
    - e.g., dynamic blocking and unblocking

# Optimizing Tableau Reasoners

- Given: an ontology  $O$  in NNF

While not all partial tableaux are closed  
and further axioms can be created

\* Choose a non-closed partial tableau  $T$  and a non-blocked  $A \in O \cup T$

If  $A$  is not contained in  $T$

If  $A$  is an atomic statement

add  $A$  to  $T$

back to \*

If  $A$  is a non-atomic statement

Choose an individual  $i \in O \cup T$

Add  $A(i)$  to  $T$

back to \*

else

Extend the tableau with consequences from  $A$

If rule 6 was used, block  $A$  for  $T$

back to \*

# OWL Lite vs DL Revisited

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- Recap: OWL Lite has some restrictions
  - Those are meant to allow for faster reasoning
- Restrictions only with cardinalities 0 and 1
  - Higher cardinalities make blocking more complex
- unionOf, disjointWith, complementOf, closed classes, ...
  - they all introduce more disjunctions
  - i.e., more splitting operations

# Complexity of Ontologies

---

- Reasoning is usually expensive
- Reasoning performance depends on ontology complexity
  - Rule of thumb: the more complexity, the more costly
- Most useful ontologies are in OWL DL
  - But there are differences
  - In detail: complexity classes

# Simple Ontologies: ALC

---

- ALC: Attribute Language with Complement
- Allowed:
  - subClassOf, equivalentClass
  - unionOf, complementOf, disjointWith
  - Restrictions: allValuesFrom, someValuesFrom
  - domain, range
  - Definition of individuals

# SHIQ, SHOIN & co

---

- Complexity classes are noted as letter sequences
- Using
  - S = ALC plus transitive properties (basis for most ontologies)
  - H = Property hierarchies (subPropertyOf)
  - O = closed classes (oneOf)
  - I = inverse properties (inversePropertyOf)
  - N = numeric restrictions (min/maxCardinality)
  - F = functional properties
  - Q = qualified numerical restrictions (OWL2)
  - (D) = Usage of datatype properties



# Some Tableau Reasoners

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- Fact
  - University of Manchester, free
  - SHIQ
- Fact++/JFact
  - Extension of Fact, free
  - SHOIQ(and a little D), OWL-DL + OWL2
- Pellet
  - Clark & Parsia, free for academic use
  - SHOIN(D), OWL-DL + OWL2
- RacerPro
  - Racer Systems, commercial
  - SHIQ(D)

# Sudoku Revisited

- Recap: we used a closed class
  - Plus some disjointness
- Resulting complexity: SO
- Which reasoners do support that?
  - Fact: SHIQ :-(
    - RacerPro: SHIQ(D) :-(
      - Pellet: SHOIN(D) :-)
      - HermiT: SHOIQ :-)

5	3			7				
6			1	9	5			
	9	8					6	
8				6				3
4			8		3			1
7				2				6
	6					2	8	
			4	1	9			5
				8			7	9

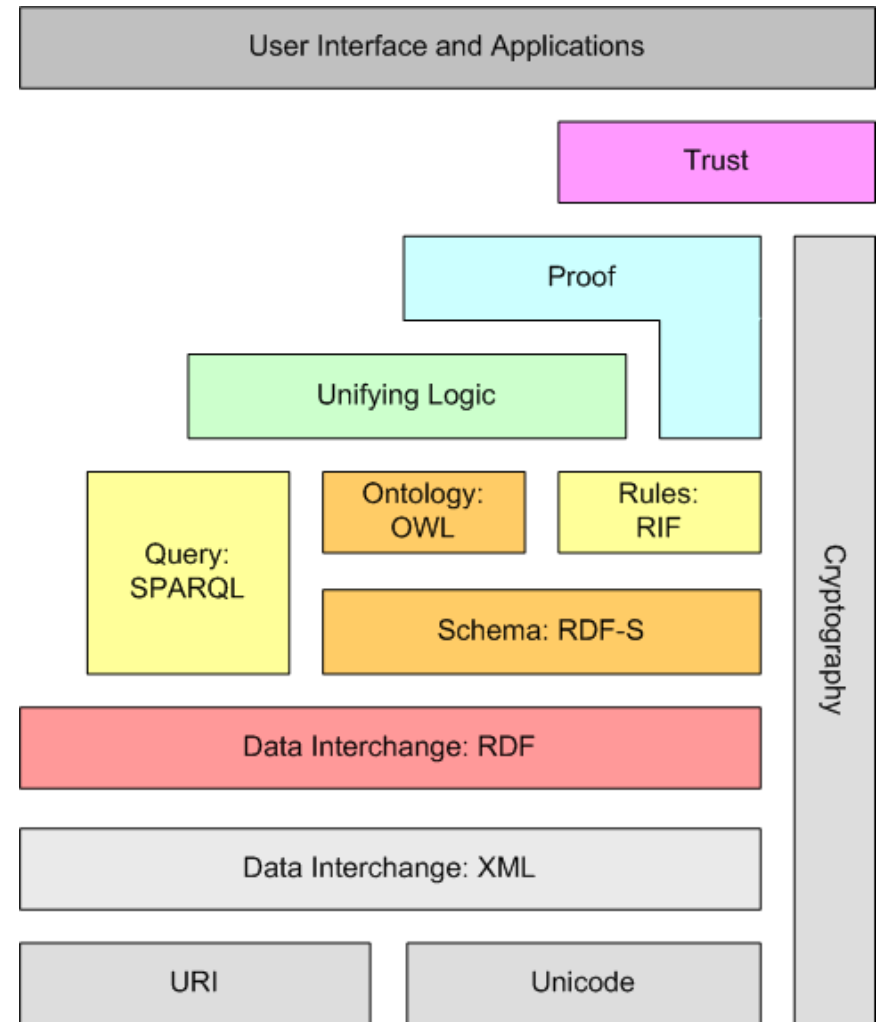
# Rules: Beyond OWL



here be dragons...

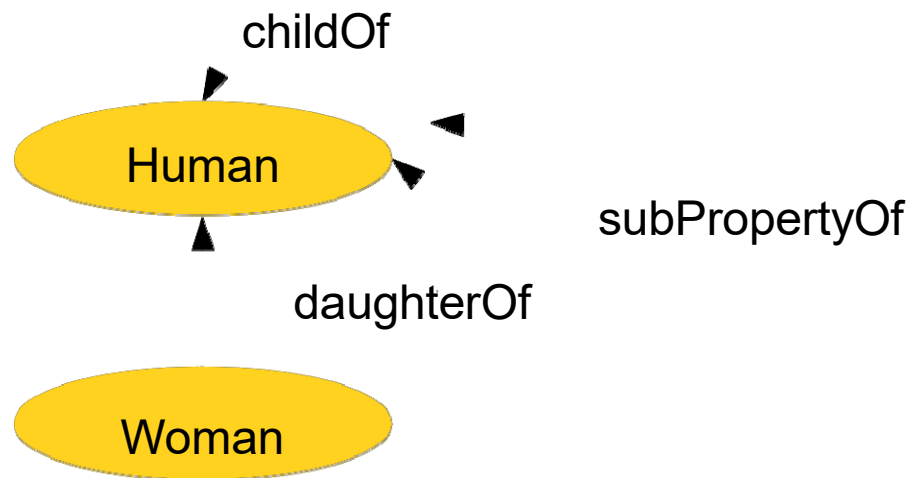
Semantic Web Technologies  
(This lecture)

Technical Foundations



# Limitations of OWL

- Some things are hard or impossible to express in OWL
- Example:
  - If A is a woman and the child of B  
then A is the daughter of B



# Limitations of OWL

---

- Let's try this in OWL:

```
:Woman rdfs:subClassOf :Human .
:childOf a owl:ObjectProperty ;
         rdfs:domain :Human ;
         rdfs:range :Human .
:daughterOf a owl:ObjectProperty ;
           rdfs:subPropertyOf :childOf ;
           rdfs:domain :Woman .
```

# Limitations of OWL

---

- What can a reasoner conclude with this ontology?

- Example:

```
:Julia :daughterOf :Peter .
```

```
→ :Julia a :Woman .
```

- What we would like to have instead:

```
:Julia :childOf :Peter .
```

```
:Julia a :Woman .
```

```
→ :Julia :daughterOf :Peter .
```

# Limitations of OWL

---

- What we would like to have:  
     $\text{daughterOf}(X,Y) \leftarrow \text{childOf}(X,Y) \wedge \text{Woman}(X) .$
- Rules are flexible
- There are rules in the Semantic Web, e.g.
  - Semantic Web Rule Language (SWRL)
  - Rule Interchange Format (RIF)
  - Some more
- Some reasoners do (partly) support rules

# SWRL

---

- Semantic Web Rule Language
  - A rule language for the Semantic Web
  - Closely interacts with OWL
- W3C Member Submission (2004)
  - i.e., no standard in the narrower sense
  - But widely used
- Tool support
  - Many reasoners
  - Protégé
- Built ins (support varies)
  - Arithmetics and comparisons
  - String operations





# SWRL in RDF

```
<ruleml:imp>
  <ruleml:_rlab ruleml:href="#example1"/>
  <ruleml:_body>
    <swrlx:individualPropertyAtom swrlx:property="hasParent">
      <ruleml:var>x1</ruleml:var>
      <ruleml:var>x2</ruleml:var>
    </swrlx:individualPropertyAtom>
    <swrlx:individualPropertyAtom swrlx:property="hasBrother">
      <ruleml:var>x2</ruleml:var>
      <ruleml:var>x3</ruleml:var>
    </swrlx:individualPropertyAtom>
  </ruleml:_body>
  <ruleml:_head>
    <swrlx:individualPropertyAtom swrlx:property="hasUncle">
      <ruleml:var>x1</ruleml:var>
      <ruleml:var>x3</ruleml:var>
    </swrlx:individualPropertyAtom>
  </ruleml:_head>
</ruleml:imp>
```

Example from <http://www.w3.org/Submission/SWRL/>

# Wrap Up

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- OWL comes in many flavours
  - OWL Lite, OWL DL, OWL Full
  - Detailed complexity classes of OWL DL
  - Additions and profiles from OWL2
- Reasoning is typically done using the Tableau algorithm
- Rules (e.g., SWRL)
  - Add further capabilities
  - Where OWL is still not expressive enough