

Formal Foundations of Ontologies and Reasoning



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A stylized globe with a blue and white color scheme. The continents of North and South America are visible in white against a blue background representing the oceans. The globe is shown from a perspective that includes parts of Europe and Africa.

[illegible]

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Overview of the course

Main parts

1. Introduction to ontologies and description logics
2. The description logic \mathcal{ALC}
3. Introduction to modelling and reasoning with \mathcal{ALC}
4. Reasoning with ontologies
5. More and less expressive DLs
6. Formal ontologies in OWL and Protégé

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There will be

- Examples
- Exercises
- A lot of interaction (I hope)

Overview of the course

Bibliography

- F. Baader, D. Calvanese, D. McGuinness, D. Nardi, and P. Patel-Schneider (eds.): [The Description Logic Handbook: Theory, Implementation and Applications](#). Cambridge University Press, 2nd edition, 2007.
- F. Baader, I. Horrocks, C. Lutz, and U. Sattler. [An Introduction to Description Logic](#). Cambridge University Press, 2017.
- M. Krötzsch, F. Simančík, and I. Horrocks. [Description Logic Primer](#). <http://arxiv.org/pdf/1201.4089v3.pdf>
- [The Protégé Ontology Editor](#). <http://protege.stanford.edu>
- [The Description Logic workshop series](#). <http://dl.kr.org>

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Course website

- <https://tinyurl.com/Graz2019DL>

Outline of Part 1

Formal Ontologies

Introduction to DLs

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Ontologies

Explicit **specification** of a **shared conceptualisation**

Example (The student ontology)

- Employed students are students and employees
- Students are not taxpayers (do not pay taxes)
- Employed students are taxpayers (pay taxes)
- Employed students who are parents are not taxpayers (do not pay taxes)
- To work for is to be employed by
- John is an employed student, John works for IBM

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classes relations individuals

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- Employed students **are** students and employees
- Students **are** not taxpayers (do not **pay** taxes)
- Employed students **are** taxpayers (**pay** taxes)
- Employed students who are parents **are** not taxpayers (do not **pay** taxes)
- To **work for** **is** to be employed by
- **John** **is** an employed student, **John** and **IBM** **are** in works for

classes relations individuals
specialisation and **instantiation**

Main ingredients in formal ontologies

A **common vocabulary** and a **shared understanding**

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Classes or concepts

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- E.g.: **Employed student**, **Parent**

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Instances of classes and relations

- Name **objects** of the domain and denote **representatives** of a concept
- E.g.: **John**, **John** is an **employed student**, **John** **works for IBM**

Why Description Logics?

Expressivity

- Concepts ✓
- Relations ✓
- Instances ✓

DLs have all one needs to formalise **ontologies**!

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Computational properties

- Amenability to **implementation** ✓
- **Decidability** ✓
- Good trade-off between **expressivity** and **complexity** ✓

Most DL-based systems satisfy **all** of these!

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Available tools



FaCT++

Pellet

HermiT

CEL

...

Outline of Part 1

Formal Ontologies

Introduction to DLs

First of all, what are DLs?

Decidability

- Some logics can be made decidable by **sacrificing** expressive power
- DLs are **less expressive** than full first-order logic
- DLs are decidable, but **what complexity** is “OK”?

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Technically

- DLs are a family of **fragments** of first-order logic
- Only **two** variable names
- For the *cognoscenti*: correspond to **guarded fragments** of FOL
- But much, much **simpler** than FOL...

Elements of the language (domain dependent)

Atomic concept names

- $C =_{\text{def}} \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$ (Special concepts: \top , \perp)
- Intuition: **basic classes** of a domain of interest
- Student, Employee, Parent

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- *worksFor*, *empBy*

Individual names

- $I =_{\text{def}} \{a_1, \dots, a_l\}$
- Intuition: **names** of objects in the domain
- *john*, *mary*, *ibm*

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Boolean constructors

- Concept negation:  (class **complement**)
- Concept conjunction:  (class **intersection**)
- Concept disjunction:  (class **union**)

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- Existential restriction: \exists (**at least one** relationship)
- Value restriction: \forall (**all** relationships)

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Further constructors: **cardinality constraints, inverse roles, ...** (if needed)

Building concepts

Definition (Complex concepts)

- \top and \perp are concepts
- Every concept name $A \in \mathbf{C}$ is a concept
- If C and D are concepts and $r \in \mathbf{R}$, then

$\neg C$ (complement of C)

$C \sqcap D$ (intersection of C and D)

$C \sqcup D$ (union of C and D)

$\exists r.C$ (existential restriction)

$\forall r.C$ (value restriction)

are all concepts

- Nothing else is a concept (at least for now)

Exercise

Which ones are concepts and which aren't?

- $\top \sqcap \perp \sqcup \top$
- $C \sqcup \forall r. \top \sqcap \neg D$
- $C \sqcup \neg \neg \exists D$
- $\exists r. \top$
- $\exists r. \forall s. C \sqcap D$
- $\forall r. C \sqcap \neg D$
- $\forall r. (C \sqcap \neg D)$
- $\forall \exists r. C$

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Full negation

- Negation of arbitrary concepts
- Intuition: the complement of a concept
- E.g.: $\neg\neg\text{Student} \quad \neg(\text{Student} \sqcap \text{Parent})$

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Atomic negation

- Some DLs only allow negation of **concept names**
- Good complexity results
- E.g.: $\neg\text{Student} \quad \neg\text{Parent}$

Building concepts

Concept conjunction

- Intuition: the **intersection** of two concepts
- E.g.: **Student** \sqcap **Parent**

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So far we have seen the **Boolean** fragment of our concept language

- At least as expressive as **classical propositional logic**

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- E.g.: $\exists \text{pays}.\text{Tax}$

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So far we have got *ALC* (Attributive Language with Complement)

- Prototypical concept description language (there are others)

Language

Different flavours

- \mathcal{ALC} : $C ::= \top \mid \perp \mid \mathbf{C} \mid \neg C \mid C \sqcap C \mid C \sqcup C \mid \forall r.C \mid \exists r.C$
- \mathcal{ALCQ} : $C ::= \dots \mid \geq nr.C \mid \leq nr.C$
- \mathcal{EL} , DL-Lite, \mathcal{SHIQ} , \mathcal{SHOQ} , \mathcal{SROIQ} (basis of OWL 2), \dots

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Example

 $\neg(\text{Student} \sqcap \text{Parent})$
 $\text{Student} \sqcap \neg \exists \text{pays.Tax}$
 $\exists \text{empBy.Company}$
 $\text{EmpStud} \sqcap \exists \text{pays.Tax}$
 $\text{Employee} \sqcup \text{Student} \sqcap \exists \text{worksFor.Parent}$
 $\forall \text{worksFor.Company}$

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With $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{ALC}}$ we denote the **concept language** of \mathcal{ALC}

Semantics

Definition (Interpretation)

Tuple $\mathcal{I} =_{\text{def}} \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$, where

- $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ is a **domain** (set of objects)
- $\cdot^{\mathcal{I}}$ is an **interpretation function** such that

$$A^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \quad r^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \times \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \quad a^{\mathcal{I}} \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$$

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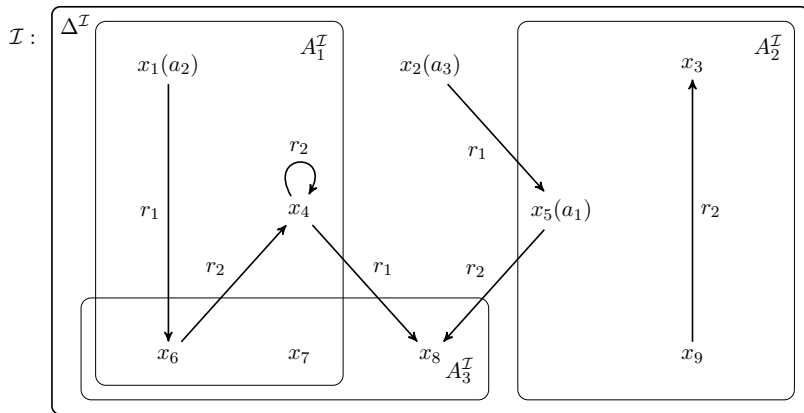
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Example

Let $C = \{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$, $R = \{r_1, r_2\}$, $I = \{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$. Let $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$ where:

- $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq 9\}$, $a_1^{\mathcal{I}} = x_5$, $a_2^{\mathcal{I}} = x_1$, $a_3^{\mathcal{I}} = x_2$
- $A_1^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_4, x_6, x_7\}$, $A_2^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_3, x_5, x_9\}$, $A_3^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_6, x_7, x_8\}$
- $r_1^{\mathcal{I}} = \{(x_1, x_6), (x_4, x_8), (x_2, x_5)\}$, $r_2^{\mathcal{I}} = \{(x_4, x_4), (x_6, x_4), (x_5, x_8), (x_9, x_3)\}$

Semantics



Semantics

Extending DL interpretations

$$\begin{aligned}\top^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} & \perp^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \emptyset & (\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} & (C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \cap C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset\} \\ (\forall r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \subseteq C^{\mathcal{I}}\}\end{aligned}$$

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Semantics

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$$\begin{aligned}\top^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} & \perp^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \emptyset & (\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} & (C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \cap C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset\} \\ (\forall r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \subseteq C^{\mathcal{I}}\}\end{aligned}$$

Semantics

Extending DL interpretations

$$\begin{aligned}\top^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} & \perp^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \emptyset & (\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}} & (C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}} \\ (\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \cap C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset\} \\ (\forall r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} &=_{\text{def}} \{x \in \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \subseteq C^{\mathcal{I}}\}\end{aligned}$$

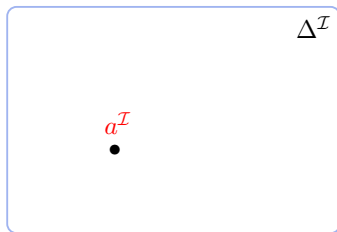
Definition (Concept Satisfiability)

A concept C is **satisfiable** if there is $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$ s.t. $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$

Semantics

Individual names

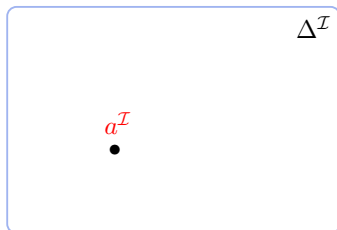
- At most **one** element of $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$



Semantics

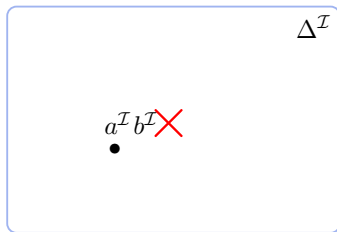
Individual names

- At most **one** element of $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$



Unique Name Assumption

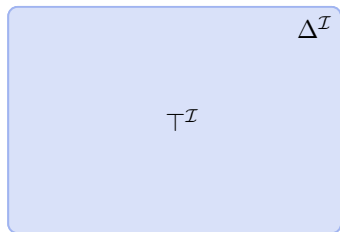
- At most **one** name per object



Semantics

The 'top' concept

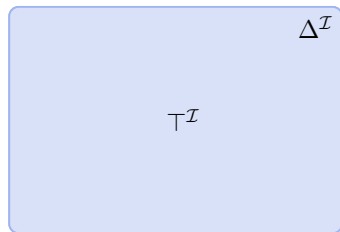
- Everything is in $\top^{\mathcal{I}}$
- Also called **Thing**



Semantics

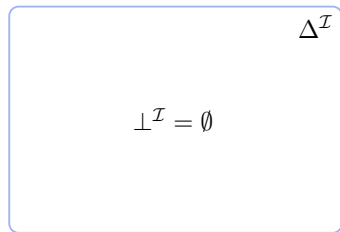
The 'top' concept

- Everything is in $\top^{\mathcal{I}}$
- Also called **Thing**



The 'bottom' concept

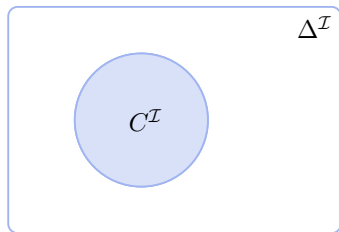
- $\perp^{\mathcal{I}}$ is in everything
- Also called **Nothing**



Semantics

Arbitrary concept

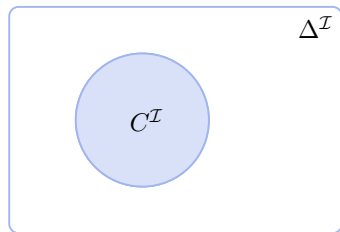
- A **class** in the domain
- $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$



Semantics

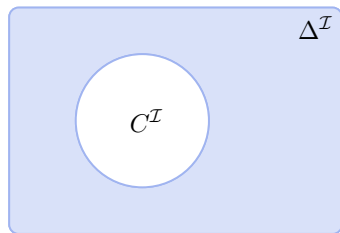
Arbitrary concept

- A **class** in the domain
- $C^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$



Concept negation

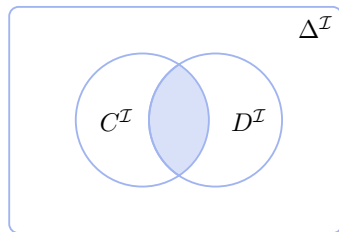
- The **complement** of a concept
- $(\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}} \setminus C^{\mathcal{I}}$



Semantics

Concept conjunction

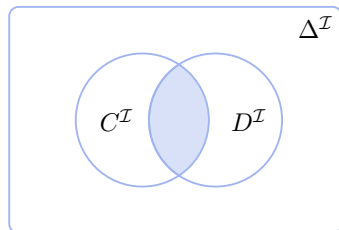
- The **intersection** of two classes
- $(C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}}$



Semantics

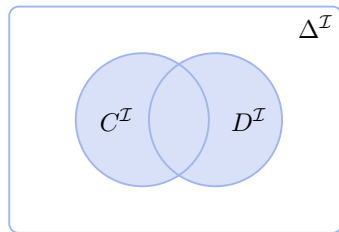
Concept conjunction

- The **intersection** of two classes
- $(C \sqcap D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cap D^{\mathcal{I}}$



Concept disjunction

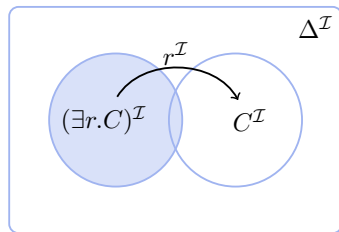
- The **union** of two classes
- $(C \sqcup D)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}} \cup D^{\mathcal{I}}$



Semantics

Existential restriction

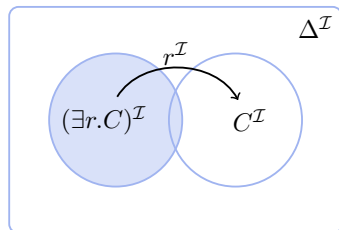
- **At least one value** of a class
- $(\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \cap C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset\}$



Semantics

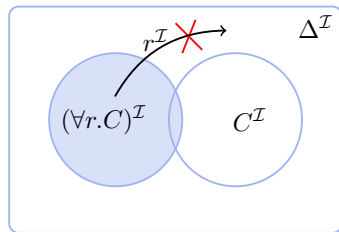
Existential restriction

- **At least one value** of a class
- $(\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \cap C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset\}$



Value restriction

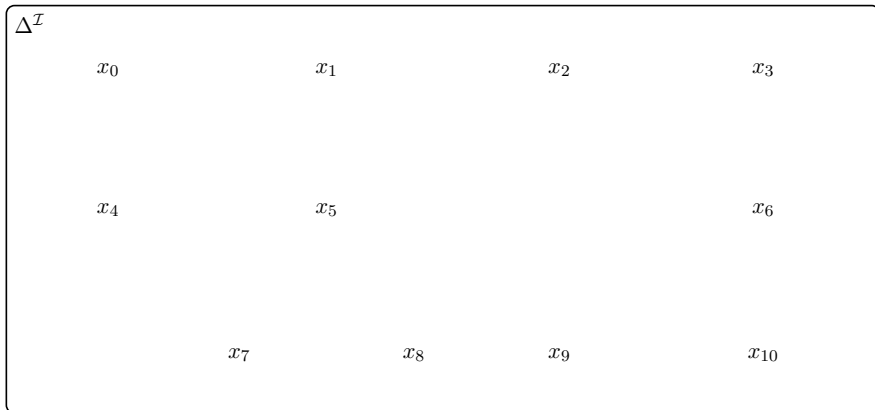
- **All values** of a class
- $(\forall r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x \mid r^{\mathcal{I}}(x) \subseteq C^{\mathcal{I}}\}$



Semantics

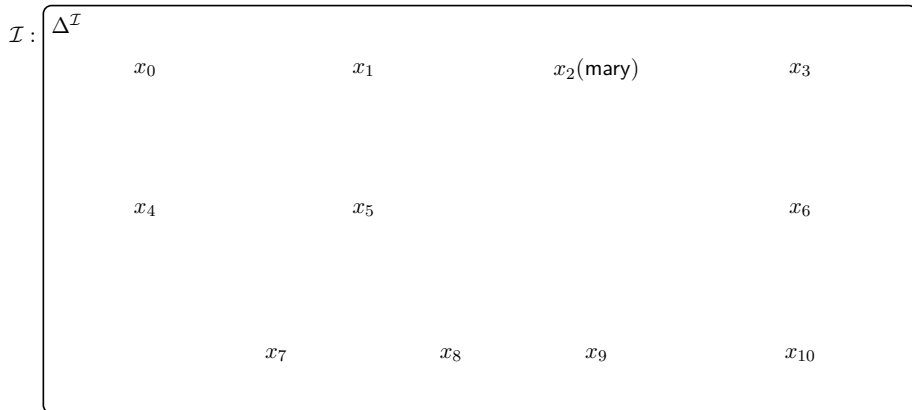
An interpretation is a **complete description** of the world

$\mathcal{I} :$



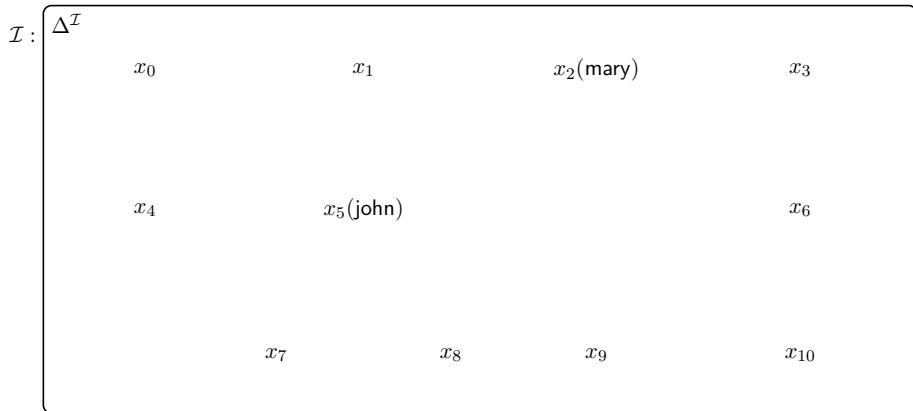
Semantics

An interpretation is a **complete description** of the world



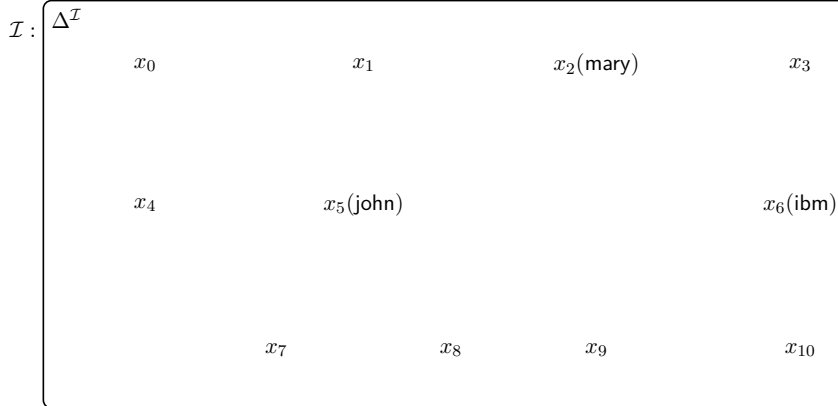
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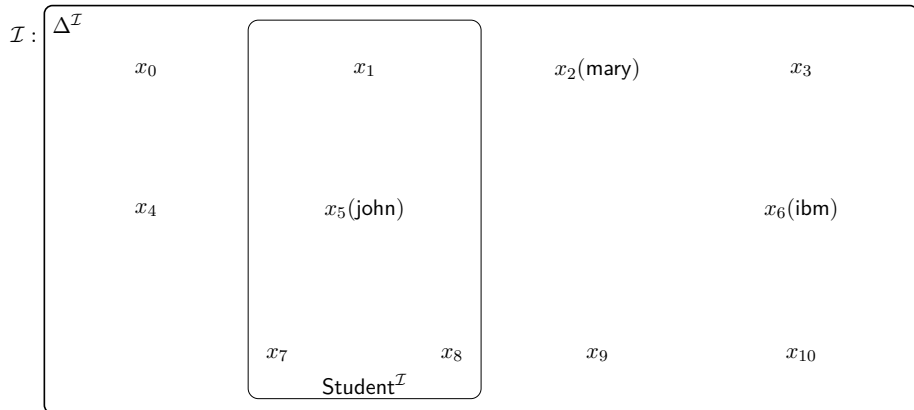
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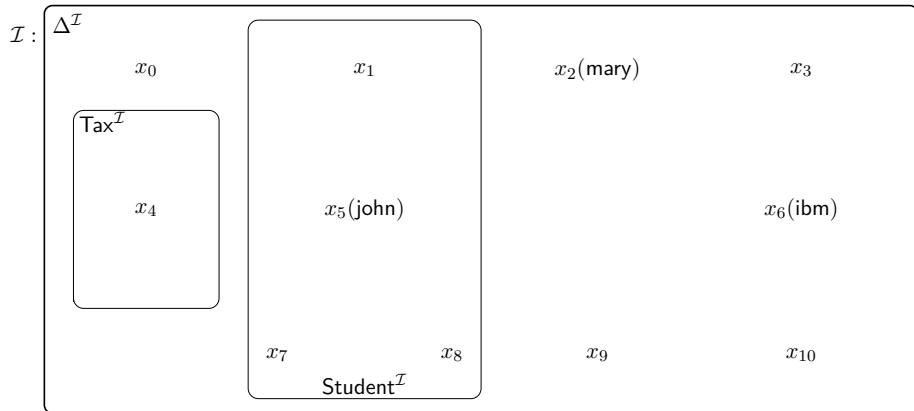
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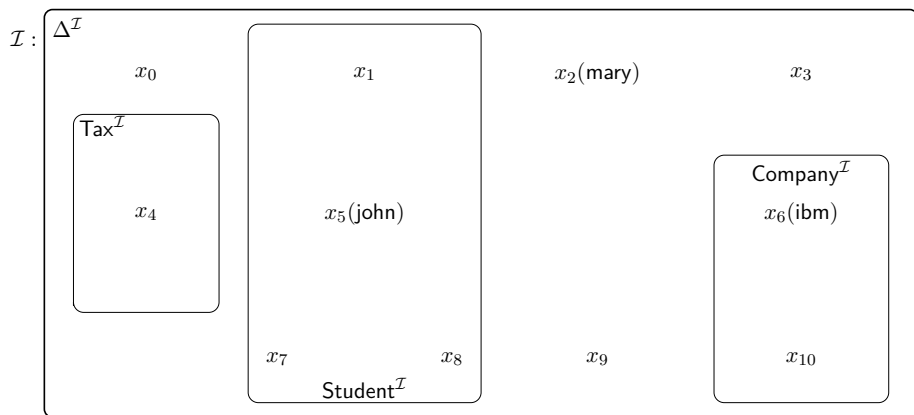
Semantics

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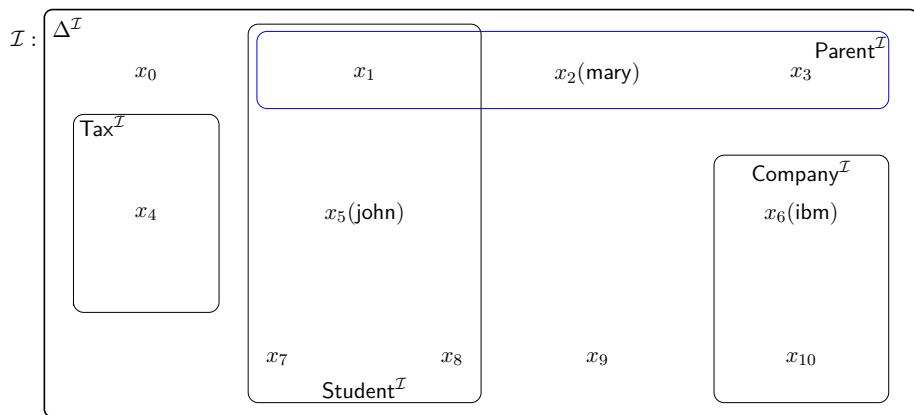
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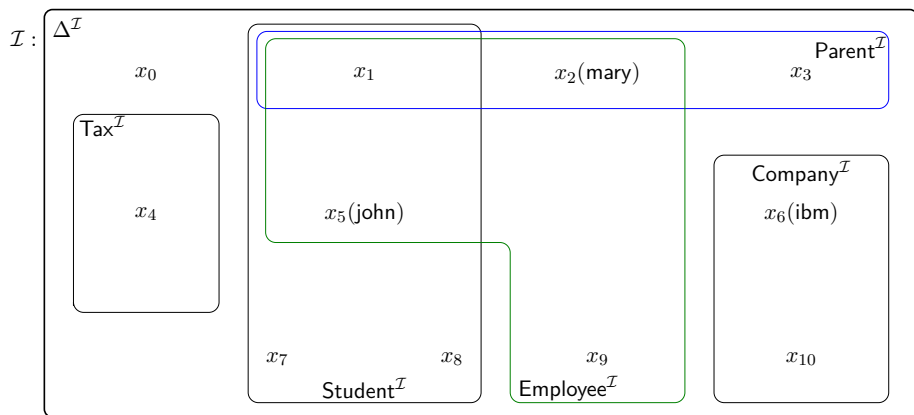
Semantics

An interpretation is a **complete description** of the world



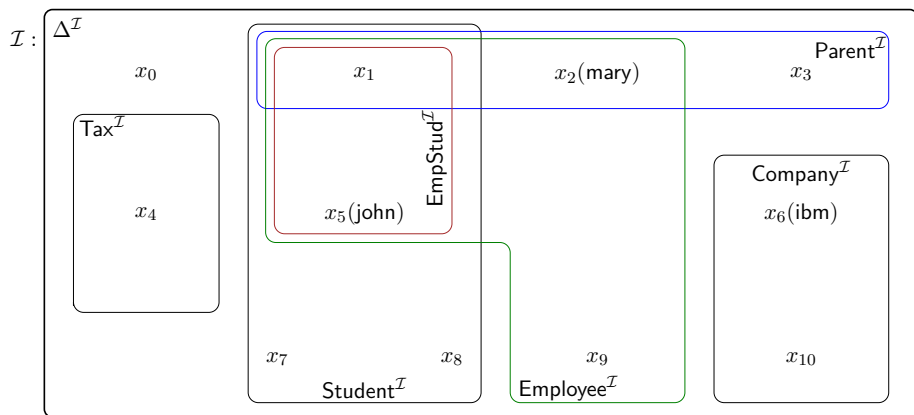
Semantics

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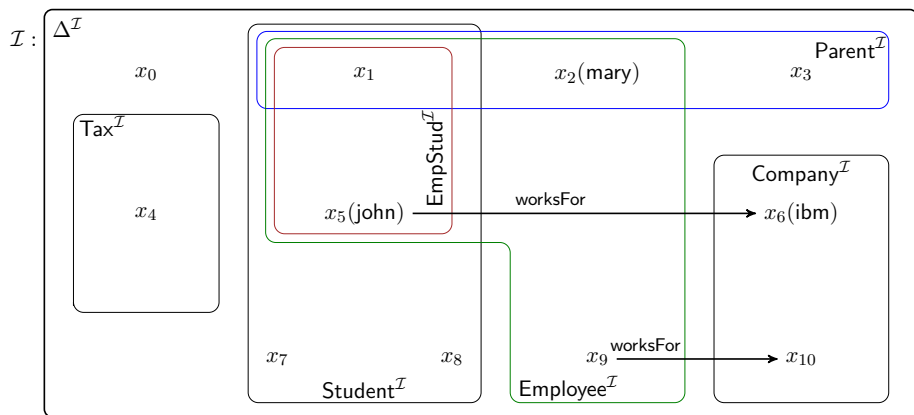
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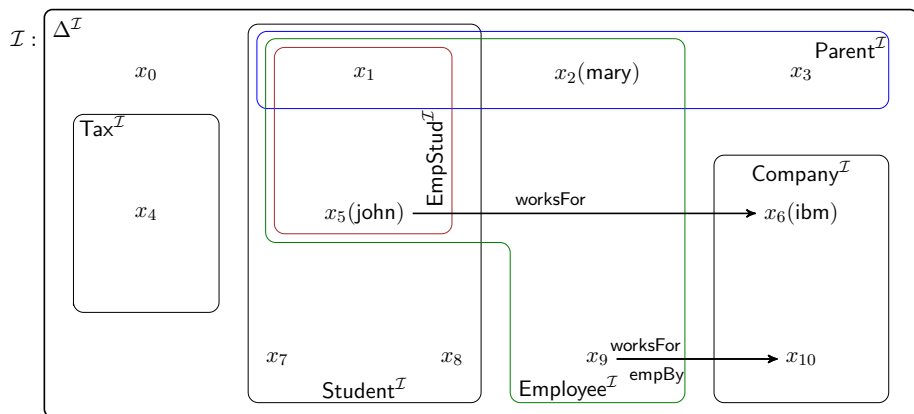
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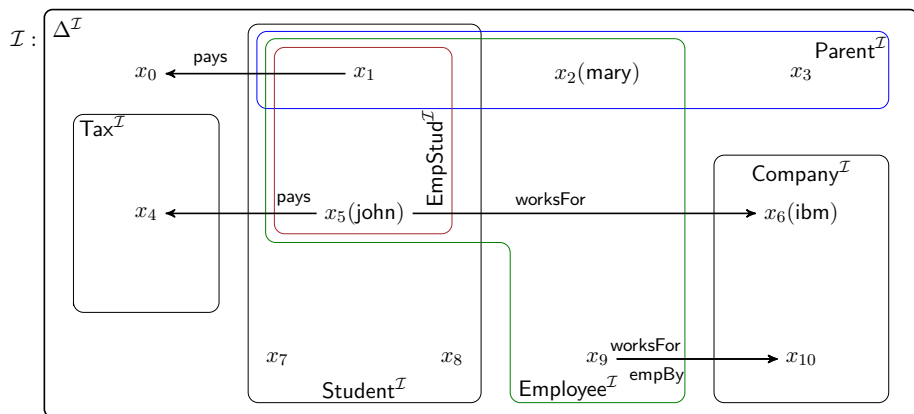
Semantics

An interpretation is a **complete description** of the world



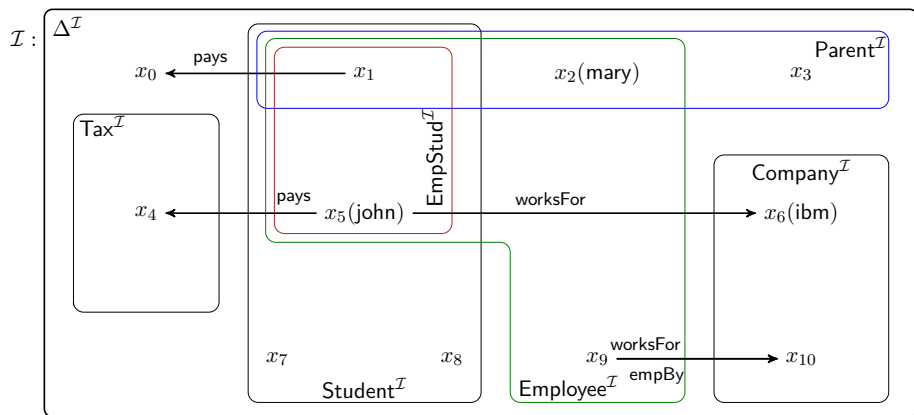
Semantics

An interpretation is a **complete description** of the world



Semantics

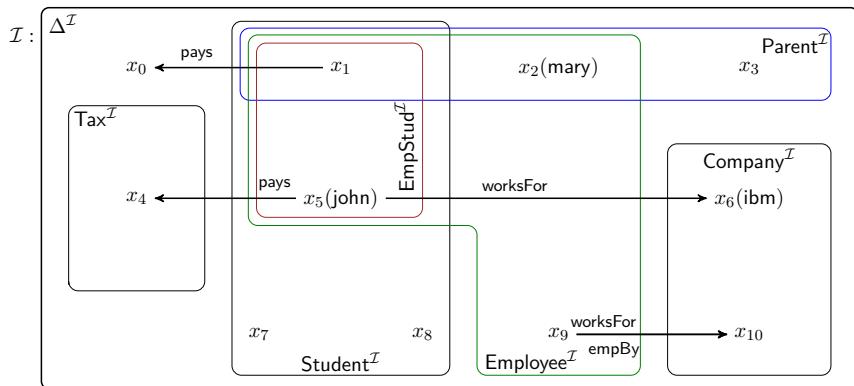
An interpretation is a **complete description** of the world



$$((\text{EmpStud} \sqcup \text{Parent}) \sqcap \exists \text{pays} . \top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_5\}$$

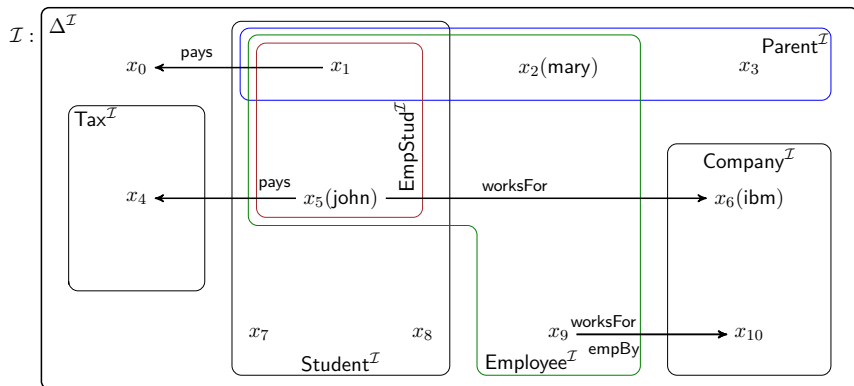
Exercise

Let $C = \{\text{Company}, \text{Employee}, \text{EmpStud}, \text{Parent}, \text{Student}, \text{Tax}\}$, $R = \{\text{empBy}, \text{pays}, \text{worksFor}\}$ $I = \{\text{ibm}, \text{john}, \text{mary}\}$



Exercise

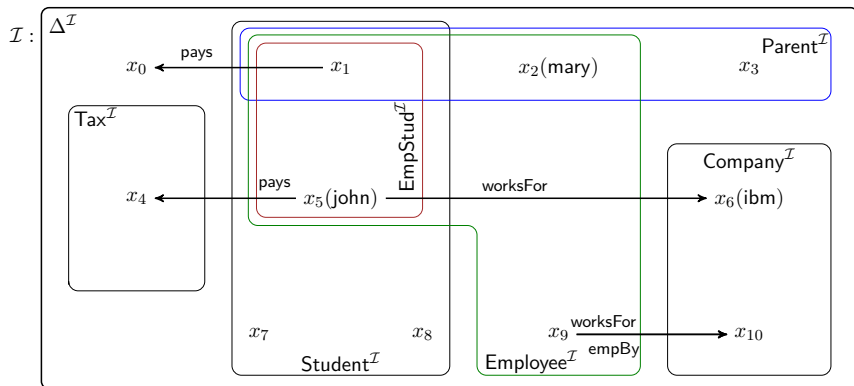
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- $(\neg \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\neg \text{EmpStud} \sqcap \forall \text{empBy}.\text{Company})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\exists \text{empBy}.\text{Parent})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$

Exercise

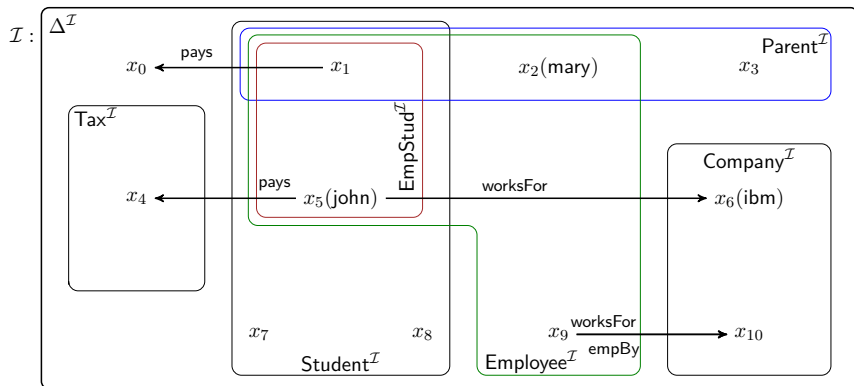
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- $(\neg \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_0, x_3, x_4, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_{10}\}$
- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\neg \text{EmpStud} \sqcap \forall \text{empBy}.\text{Company})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
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- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$

Exercise

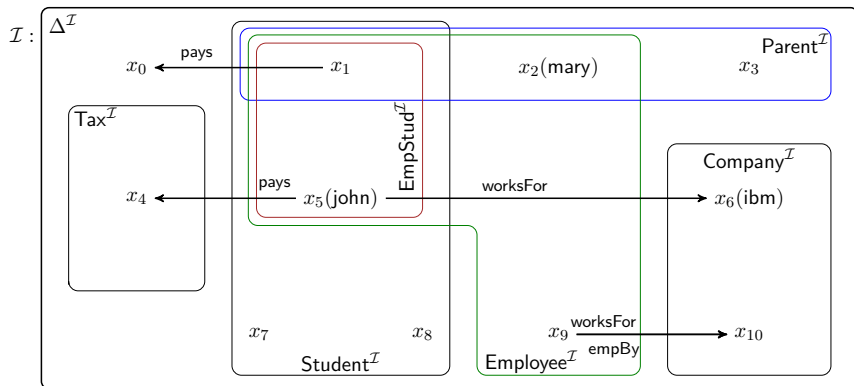
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- $(\neg \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_0, x_3, x_4, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_{10}\}$
- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_5\}$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\neg \text{EmpStud} \sqcap \forall \text{empBy}.\text{Company})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\exists \text{empBy}.\text{Parent})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
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Exercise

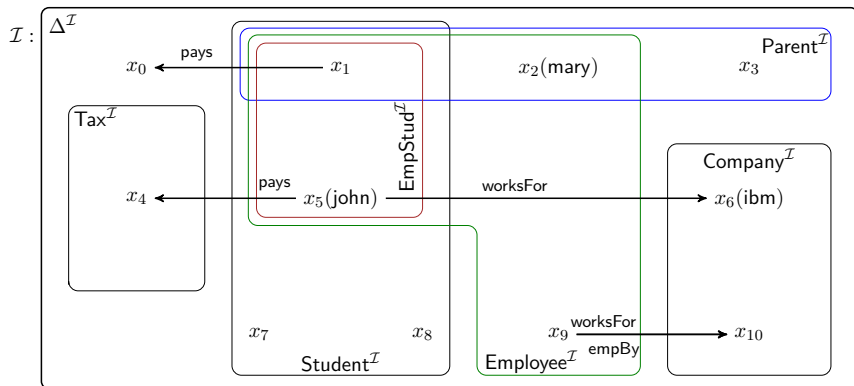
Let $C = \{\text{Company}, \text{Employee}, \text{EmpStud}, \text{Parent}, \text{Student}, \text{Tax}\}$, $R = \{\text{empBy}, \text{pays}, \text{worksFor}\}$ $I = \{\text{ibm}, \text{john}, \text{mary}\}$



- $(\neg \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_0, x_3, x_4, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_{10}\}$
- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_5\}$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_5, x_9\}$
- $(\neg \text{EmpStud} \sqcap \forall \text{empBy}.\text{Company})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\exists \text{empBy}.\text{Parent})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
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Exercise

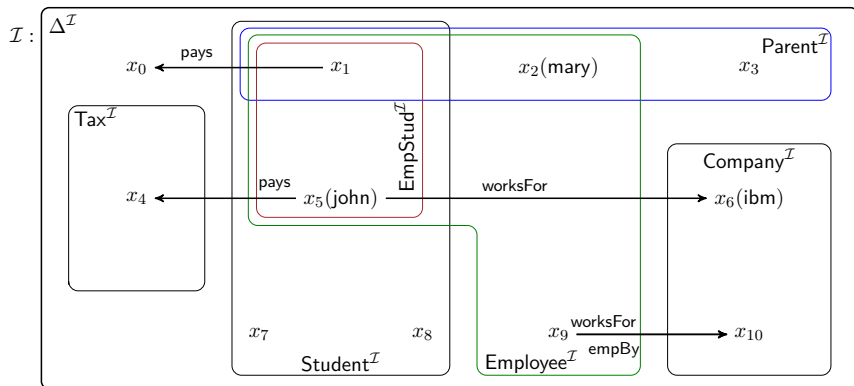
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- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_5\}$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_5, x_9\}$
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- $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\exists \text{empBy}.\text{Parent})^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$
- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$

Exercise

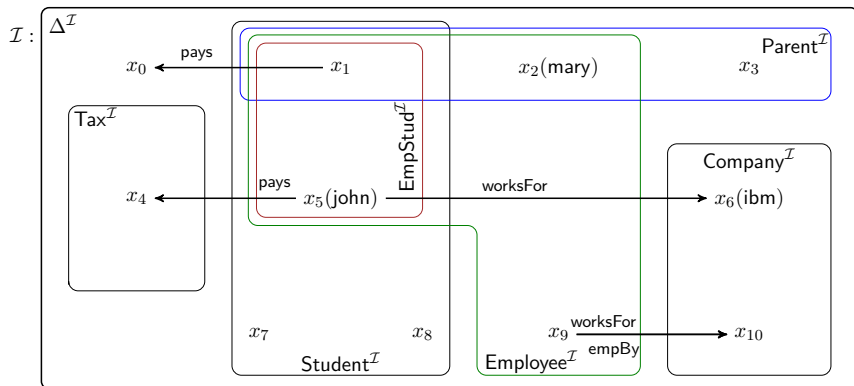
Let $C = \{\text{Company}, \text{Employee}, \text{EmpStud}, \text{Parent}, \text{Student}, \text{Tax}\}$, $R = \{\text{empBy}, \text{pays}, \text{worksFor}\}$ $I = \{\text{ibm}, \text{john}, \text{mary}\}$



- $(\neg \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_0, x_3, x_4, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_{10}\}$
- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_5\}$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_5, x_9\}$
- $(\neg \text{EmpStud} \sqcap \forall \text{empBy}.\text{Company})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_9\}$
- $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\exists \text{empBy}.\text{Parent})^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$
- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} = ?$

Exercise

Let $C = \{\text{Company}, \text{Employee}, \text{EmpStud}, \text{Parent}, \text{Student}, \text{Tax}\}$, $R = \{\text{empBy}, \text{pays}, \text{worksFor}\}$ $I = \{\text{ibm}, \text{john}, \text{mary}\}$



- $(\neg \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_0, x_3, x_4, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_{10}\}$
- $(\exists \text{pays}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_1, x_5\}$
- $(\neg \text{Parent} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_5, x_9\}$
- $(\neg \text{EmpStud} \sqcap \forall \text{empBy}.\text{Company})^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_9\}$
- $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\exists \text{empBy}.\text{Parent})^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$
- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}} = \{x_7, x_8\}$

Exercise

Let $C = \{\text{Company}, \text{Employee}, \text{EmpStud}, \text{Parent}, \text{Student}, \text{Tax}\}$, $R = \{\text{empBy}, \text{pays}, \text{worksFor}\}$ $I = \{\text{ibm}, \text{john}, \text{mary}\}$

Find an interpretation $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$ such that:

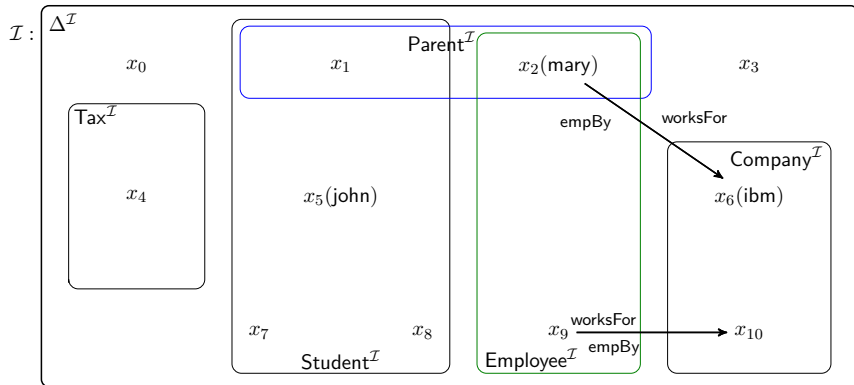
- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$, $\text{Parent}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\text{Student} \sqcup \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}}$, $(\neg \text{EmpStud})^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $\text{Student}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}}$, $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\neg(\text{Student} \sqcup \text{Tax} \sqcup \text{Company}))^{\mathcal{I}}$, $\text{Employee}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\exists \text{empBy}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}}$

Exercise

Let $C = \{\text{Company}, \text{Employee}, \text{EmpStud}, \text{Parent}, \text{Student}, \text{Tax}\}$, $R = \{\text{empBy}, \text{pays}, \text{worksFor}\}$ $I = \{\text{ibm}, \text{john}, \text{mary}\}$

Find an interpretation $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$ such that:

- $(\text{Student} \sqcap \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}} = \emptyset$, $\text{Parent}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\text{Student} \sqcup \text{Employee})^{\mathcal{I}}$, $(\neg \text{EmpStud})^{\mathcal{I}} = \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $\text{Student}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\forall \text{pays}.\perp)^{\mathcal{I}}$, $(\exists \text{worksFor}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\neg(\text{Student} \sqcup \text{Tax} \sqcup \text{Company}))^{\mathcal{I}}$, $\text{Employee}^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq (\exists \text{empBy}.\top)^{\mathcal{I}}$



Some Properties

Lemma

For every interpretation $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$, and for every $C, D \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{ALC}}$

- $(\neg\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}} = C^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg(C \sqcap D))^{\mathcal{I}} = (\neg C \sqcup \neg D)^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg(C \sqcup D))^{\mathcal{I}} = (\neg C \sqcap \neg D)^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg\forall r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = (\exists r.\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}}$
- $(\neg\exists r.C)^{\mathcal{I}} = (\forall r.\neg C)^{\mathcal{I}}$

\mathcal{ALC} is the smallest **propositionally closed** DL

Some Properties

Lemma

For every interpretation $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$, and for every $C, D \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{ALC}}$

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\mathcal{ALC} is the smallest **propositionally closed** DL

Theorem

\mathcal{ALC} has the **finite model property**: if C is satisfiable, then there is $\mathcal{I} = \langle \Delta^{\mathcal{I}}, \cdot^{\mathcal{I}} \rangle$ such that $C^{\mathcal{I}} \neq \emptyset$ and $\Delta^{\mathcal{I}}$ is finite

Epilogue

Summary

- What we mean by **ontology**
- **Formal** ontologies and their main **ingredients**
- **Basic** description logics
- The **concept language** and its **semantics**
- How DLs relate to **other formalisms**

Epilogue

Summary

- What we mean by **ontology**
- **Formal** ontologies and their main **ingredients**
- **Basic** description logics
- The **concept language** and its **semantics**
- How DLs relate to **other formalisms**

What next?

- A fundamental notion in DLs
- Formalising ontologies with DLs

