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# AIMA CHAPTER 12: KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION

Adapted from slides by Macskassy and slides by M.E. Latoschik

# GOAL OF CHAPTER 12: KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION

- × Previously we learned about
  - + Logical Agents
  - + Planning with Logical Agents
- × What contents to put into the Knowledge Base.
  - + How to represent facts about the world.
- × Content:
  - + General ontology
  - + Categories and objects
  - + Events and processes
  - + Reasoning systems
  - + Example> Internet shopping world

# GOOD KNOWLEDGE BASE

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- × Referential Uniqueness
- × Make References Explicit
- × Semantic Uniqueness
- × Functional Uniqueness
- × Expressive
- × Concise
- × Unambiguous
- × Context-insensitive
- × Effective
- × Clear
- × Correct

# CONSIDERATIONS

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- × The book & slide will use first-order logic (FOL) to discuss the content and organization of knowledge
  - + Certain aspects of the real world are hard to capture in FOL.
    - × Most generalizations have exceptions or hold only to a degree.
    - × For example, although “tomatoes are red” is a useful rule, some tomatoes are green, yellow, or orange.
    - × Similar exceptions can be found to almost all the rules in this chapter.
- × The ability to handle exceptions and uncertainty is extremely important, but is orthogonal to the task of understanding the general ontology.

# PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC VS FOL

## Propositional logic

- × **Logical constants:** true, false
- × **Propositional symbols:** P, Q, S, ... (**atomic sentences**)
- × **Wrapping parentheses:** ( ... )
- × Sentences are combined by **connectives:**
  - $\wedge$  ...and [conjunction]
  - $\vee$  ...or [disjunction]
  - $\Rightarrow$ ...implies [implication]
  - $\Leftrightarrow$ ..is equivalent [biconditional]
  - $\neg$  ...not [negation]
- × **Literal:** atomic sentence or negated atomic sentence

## First-order logic (FOL)

- × Models the world in terms of
  - + **Objects**, which are things with individual identities
  - + **Properties** of objects that distinguish them from other objects
  - + **Relations** that hold among sets of objects
  - + **Functions**, which are a subset of relations where there is only one “value” for any given “input”

# FIRST-ORDER LOGIC CONT.

- × **User provides:**
  - + **Constant symbols**, which represent individuals in the world
  - + **Function symbols**, which map individuals to individuals
  - + **Predicate symbols**, which map individuals to truth values
- × **FOL Provides**
  - + **Variable symbols**
    - × E.g.,  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $foo$
  - + **Connectives**
    - × Same as in PL: not ( $\neg$ ), and ( $\wedge$ ), or ( $\vee$ ), implies ( $\rightarrow$ ), if and only if (biconditional  $\leftrightarrow$ )
  - + **Quantifiers**
    - × Universal  $\forall x$  or (**Ax**)
    - × Existential  $\exists x$  or (**Ex**)
- × **Sentences are built from terms and atoms**
  - + A **term** is a constant symbol, a variable symbol, or an  $n$ -place function of  $n$  terms.
    - ×  $x$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  are terms, where each  $x_i$  is a term.
    - × A term with no variables is a **ground term**
  - + An **atomic sentence** (which has value true or false) is an  $n$ -place predicate of  $n$  terms
  - + A **complex sentence** is formed from atomic sentences connected by the logical connectives:
    - ×  $\neg P$ ,  $P \vee Q$ ,  $P \wedge Q$ ,  $P \rightarrow Q$ ,  $P \leftrightarrow Q$  where  $P$  and  $Q$  are sentences
  - + A **quantified sentence** adds quantifiers  $\forall$  and  $\exists$
  - + A **well-formed formula (wff)** is a sentence containing no “free” variables. That is, all variables are “bound” by universal or existential quantifiers.
    - ×  $(\forall x)P(x,y)$  has  $x$  bound as a universally quantified variable, but  $y$  is free.

# ONTOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

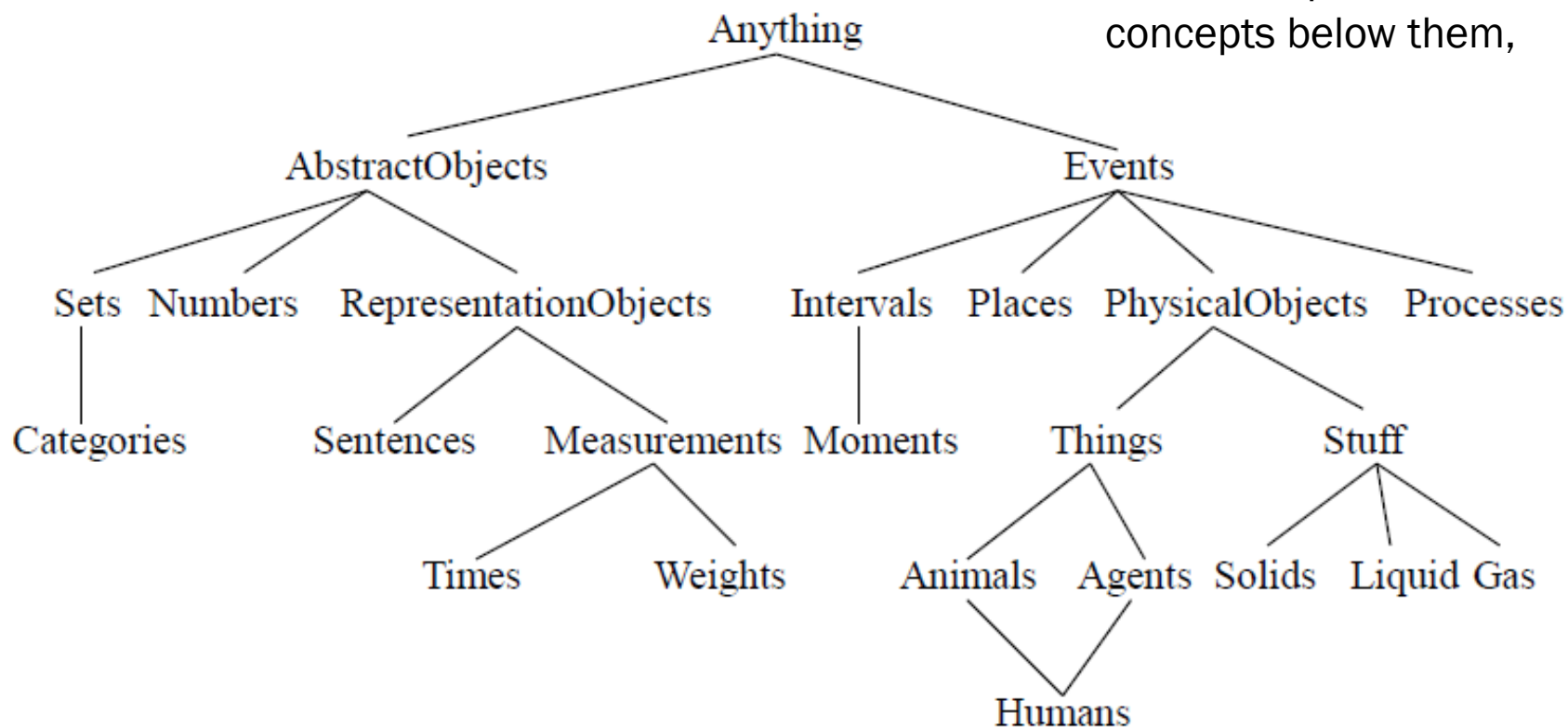
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- × Representation of abstracts concepts, such as *Events*, *Time*, *Physical Objects*, and *Beliefs* is called the **Ontological Engineering**.
- × **Ontology**: Collection of concepts and inter-relationships
  - + Widely used in the database community to “translate” queries and concepts from one database to another, so that multiple databases can be used conjointly
- × **Knowledge Engineer**: Populates KB with facts and relations

# THE UPPER ONTOLOGY

## × General framework of concepts

General framework of concepts is called an **upper ontology** because of the convention of drawing graphs with the general concepts at the top and the more specific concepts below them,





# GENERAL ONTOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

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- × A general-purpose ontology should be applicable in more or less any special-purpose domain (with the addition of domain-specific axioms).
- × In any sufficiently demanding domain, different areas of knowledge must be *unified*,
  - + Reasoning and problem solving could involve several areas simultaneously.
- × As Tom Gruber (2004) says,
  - + “Every ontology is a treaty—a social agreement—among people with some common motive in sharing.”

# GENERAL ONTOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

- ✗ Enterprise of general ontological engineering has so far had only limited success.
- ✗ Those ontologies that do exist have been created along four routes:
  - + By a team of trained ontologist/logicians, who architect the ontology and write axioms.
    - ✗ The CYC system was mostly built this way (Lenat and Guha, 1990).
  - + By importing categories, attributes, and values from an existing database or databases.
    - ✗ DBPEDIA was built by importing structured facts from Wikipedia (Bizer *et al.*, 2007).
  - + By parsing text documents and extracting information from them.
    - ✗ TEXTRUNNER was built by reading a large corpus of Web pages (Banko and Etzioni, 2008).
  - + By enticing unskilled amateurs to enter commonsense knowledge.
    - ✗ The OPENMIND system was built by volunteers who proposed facts in English (Singh *et al.*, 2002; Chklovski and Gil, 2005).

# GENE ONTOLOGY

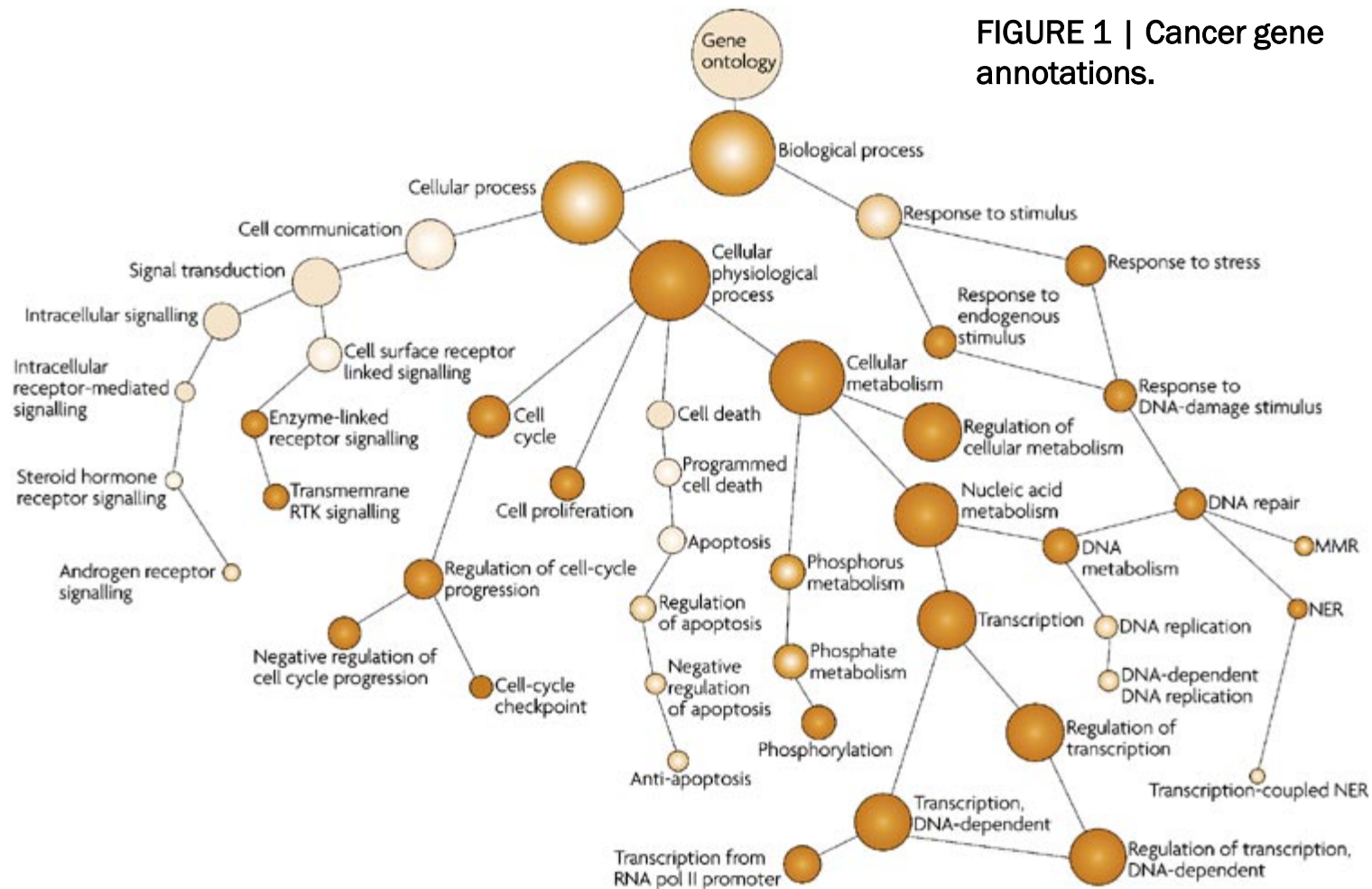


FIGURE 1 | Cancer gene annotations.

FROM THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE:

[Computational prediction of cancer-gene function](#)

Pingzhao Hu, Gary Bader, Dennis A. Wigle & Andrew Emili

*Nature Reviews Cancer* 7, 23-34 (January 2007)

doi: 10.1038/nrc2036

# TOWARDS A GENERAL ONTOLOGY

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- × Develop good representations for:
  - + categories
  - + measures
  - + composite objects
  - + time, space and change
  - + events and processes
  - + physical objects
  - + substances
  - + mental objects and beliefs

# CATEGORIES AND OBJECTS

- × We interact with individual objects, but much of reasoning takes place at the level of **categories**.
  - + The organization of objects into categories is a vital part of KR.
- × Categories are also needed to make predictions about objects once they are classified.
  - + Infers the presence of certain objects from perceptual input,
  - + Infers category membership from the perceived properties of the objects, and then
  - + Uses category information to make predictions about the objects
- × Important relationships are
  - subclass relation*** (AKO - a kind of)  
    <category> AKO <category>.
  - instance relation*** (ISA - is a)  
    <object> ISA <category>.

# CATEGORY REPRESENTATIONS

- × There are two choices of representing categories in first order logic: **predicates** and **objects**. That is, we can use the predicate `Basketball(b)` or we can **reify** the category as an "object" *basketball*. We could then write

`member(x,basketball)`    or

$x \in \text{basketball}$

- × We will also use the notation

**`isa(x,basketball)`.**

- × Basketball is a subset or subcategory of Ball, which is abbreviated

`Basketball  $\subset$  Ball`

- × We will also use the notation

**`ako(basketball,ball)`.**

\***reification**: turn a predicate or function into an object

## REIFYING PROPERTIES

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- × An individual object may have a property.
- × For example, a specific ball, BB9 can be round.
- × In ordinary FOL, we write  
     $\text{Round}(\text{BB9})$ .
- × As for categories, we can regard Round as higher order object, and say  
    BB9 has the property Round
- × We will also use the notation  
     **$\text{hasprop}(\text{BB9}, \text{round})$** .

# REIFYING PROPERTY VALUES

- × Some **properties** are determined by an **attribute** and a **value**. For example, the diameter of my basketball BB9 has diameter 9.5:

Diameter(BB9 )=9.5

- × We can also use the notation

**has(bb9,diameter,9.5).**

- × An alternative representation for properties , when regarded as Boolean attributes is

**has(BB9,round,true).**

- × In the same manner, we can express that a red ball has colour = red.

**has(BB9,colour,red).**



# TAXONOMY

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- × Taxonomy: hierarchy of subclasses
- × Subcategory relations organize categories into a **taxonomy** or **taxonomic hierarchy**.
  - + Other names are type hierarchy or class hierarchy .
- × We state that a category is a subcategory of another category by using the notation for subsets

Basketball  $\subset$  Ball

- × We will also use the notation
- × **ako(basketball,ball).**

# INHERITANCE

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- × Categories serve to organize and simplify the knowledge base through **inheritance**.
  - + Example: If we say that all instances of *Food* is edible, and if we assert that *Fruit* is a subcategory of *Food*, and *Apple* is a subcategory of *Fruit*, then we know that *apple is edible*.
- × We say that the individual apples inherit the property of edibility, in this case from their membership in the Food category.

# TYPES OF FACTS

- ✗ An object is a member of a category.
  - +  $BB9 \in \text{Basketballs}$
- ✗ A category is a subclass of another category.
  - +  $\text{Basketballs} \subset \text{Balls}$
- ✗ All members of a category have some properties.
  - +  $(x \in \text{Basketballs}) \implies \text{Spherical}(x)$
- ✗ Members of a category can be recognized by some properties.
  - +  $\text{Orange}(x) \wedge \text{Round}(x) \wedge \text{Diameter}(x)=9.5'' \wedge x \in \text{Balls} \implies x \in \text{Basketballs}$
- ✗ A category as a whole has some properties.
  - +  $\text{Dogs} \in \text{DomesticatedSpecies}$  (category of categories)

# CATEGORY DECOMPOSITIONS

- × Because categories are sets, we handle them as such.
  - + e.g., two categories are **disjoint** if they have no member in common
- × A disjoint **exhaustive decomposition** is called a **partition**
  - + Ex> We can say that both Male and Female is a subclass of Animal, but we have not said that a male cannot be a female.
    - ×  $\text{Disjoint}(\{\text{Males}, \text{Females}\})$
  - + If we know that all animals are either male or female, (they exhaust the possibilities)
    - ×  $\text{ExhaustiveDecomposition}(\{\text{Male}, \text{Female}\}, \text{Animals})$
  - + A disjoint exhaustive decomposition is known as a partition
    - ×  $\text{Partition}(\{\text{Males}, \text{Females}\}, \text{Animals})$
- × Categories can also be *defined* by providing necessary and sufficient conditions for membership.
  - + For example, a bachelor is an unmarried adult male:
  - +  $x \in \text{Bachelors} \iff \text{Unmarried}(x) \wedge x \in \text{Adults} \wedge x \in \text{Males} .$

# COMPOSITE OBJECTS

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- × **Composite object**: any object that has parts
- × One object can be a part of another **object**.
  - + Example, declaring direct parts
    - × **partof(bucharest,romania).**
    - × **partof(romania,eastern\_europe).**
    - × **partof(europe,earth).**
- × We can make a transitive extension partof
  - + **partof(Y,Z) and partof(X,Y) => partof(X,Z).**
- × and reflexive (depending on definition)
  - + **partof(X,X).**
- × Therefore we can conclude that
  - + **partof(bucharest,earth)**

# COMPOSITE OBJECTS

- × Categories of composite objects often characterized by their structure, i.e., what the parts are and how they relate.

e.g.,  $\forall a \text{ Biped}(a) \Rightarrow$   
 $\exists ll, lr, b$   
 $\text{Leg}(ll) \wedge \text{Leg}(lr) \wedge \text{Body}(b) \wedge$   
 $\text{PartOf}(ll, a) \wedge \text{PartOf}(lr, a) \wedge \text{PartOf}(b, a) \wedge$   
 $\text{Attached}(ll, b) \wedge \text{Attached}(lr, b) \wedge$   
 $ll \neq lr \wedge$   
 $\forall x \text{ Leg}(x) \wedge \text{PartOf}(x, a) \Rightarrow (x = ll \vee x = lr)$

- × Such description can be used to describe any objects, including events.

\* Biped : a two-footed animal.

## PHYSICAL COMPOSITIONS: BUNCHOF

- × It is also useful to define composite objects with definite parts but no particular structure.
  - + Ex> *"The apples in the bag weigh two pounds"*
- × It is advised that we don't regard these apples as the set of (all) apples, but instead define them as a **bunch of** apples.
  - + EX>If the apples are Apple1,Apple2 and Apple3, then  
**BunchOf**({Apple1,Apple2,Apple3})
- × Denotes the composite object with three apples as **parts**, not elements.

## MEASUREMENTS : QUANTITATIVE

- × Objects have height, mass, cost and so on. The values we assign for these properties are called **measures**.
- × Can be represented using **units functions**
  - + E.g.>  $\text{Length}(L1) = \text{Inches}(1.5) = \text{Centimeters}(3.81)$
- × Measures can be used to describe objects
  - + e.g.>  $\text{Mass}(\text{Tomato12}) = \text{Kilograms}(0.16)$   
 $\forall b, b \in \text{DollarBills} \Rightarrow \text{CashValue}(b) = \$(1.00)$
- × Caution: be careful to distinguish between measures and objects
  - + e.g.>



# MEASUREMENTS

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- × **Abstract** concepts like "autonomy", "quality" and **Mental** concepts are beliefs, thoughts, feelings etc. are difficult to represent without seeking artificial measurements. (e.g. IQ).
- × However, the most important aspect of measures is not the particular numerical values but the fact that measures can be **ordered**.

# EVENTS

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- × **Events** are chunks of spatio-temporal universe
  - + e.g., consider the event WorldWarII
  - it has parts or sub-events:
    - SubEvent(BattleOfBritain, WorldWarII)
  - it can be a sub-event:
    - SubEvent(WorldWarII, TwentiethCentury)
- × **Intervals** are events that include as sub-events all events occurring in a given time period (thus they are temporal sections of the entire spatial universe).

# SITUATION CALCULUS VS EVENT CALCULUS:

## × situation calculus:

- + fact true in particular situation
- + can't talk about what happens during the action and
- + can't describe two actions happening at the same time.

## × event calculus:

- + based on points of time
- + event occurs during particular interval,
- + focus on how to deal with change based on representing points of time rather than on situation

$T(f, t)$	Fluent $f$ is true at time $t$
$Happens(e, i)$	Event $e$ happens over interval $i$
$Initiates(e, f, t)$	Event $e$ causes fluent $f$ to start at $t$
$Terminates(e, f, t)$	Event $e$ causes $f$ to cease at $t$
$Clipped(f, t)$	Fluent $f$ ceases to be true in int. $i$
$Restored(f, i)$	Fluent $f$ becomes true in interval $i$

## EVENTS (CONT.)

- × Define  $T$  by saying that a
  - + *fluent holds at a point in time* if the fluent was initiated by an event at some time in the past and was not made false (clipped) by an intervening event.
  - + *a fluent holds over an interval* if it holds on every point within the interval
  - + *fluent does not hold* if it was terminated by an event and not made true (restored) by another event.
- × **Places**: spatial sections of the spatio-temporal universe that extend through time
- × Use  $\text{In}(x)$  to denote **sub-event relation** between places: e.g.
 
$$\text{In}(N \ \forall x, I \ \text{Location}(x) = I \Leftrightarrow \text{At}(x, I) \wedge \forall II \ \text{At}(x, II) \Rightarrow \text{In}(I, II)$$
- × **Location function**: maps an object to the smallest place that contains it:

# PROCESSES

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- × Event we have seen so far are **discrete events**.
  - + They have a definite structure.
- × Ones that are not discrete are **process categories (liquid events)**.
  - + Any process  $e$  that happens over an interval also happens over any subinterval.
  - + ex> *Flyings* : If we take a small interval of Shankar's flight, say, the third 20-minute segment (while he waits anxiously for a bag of peanuts), that event is still a member of *Flyings*.

# TIMES INTERVALS AND ACTIONS

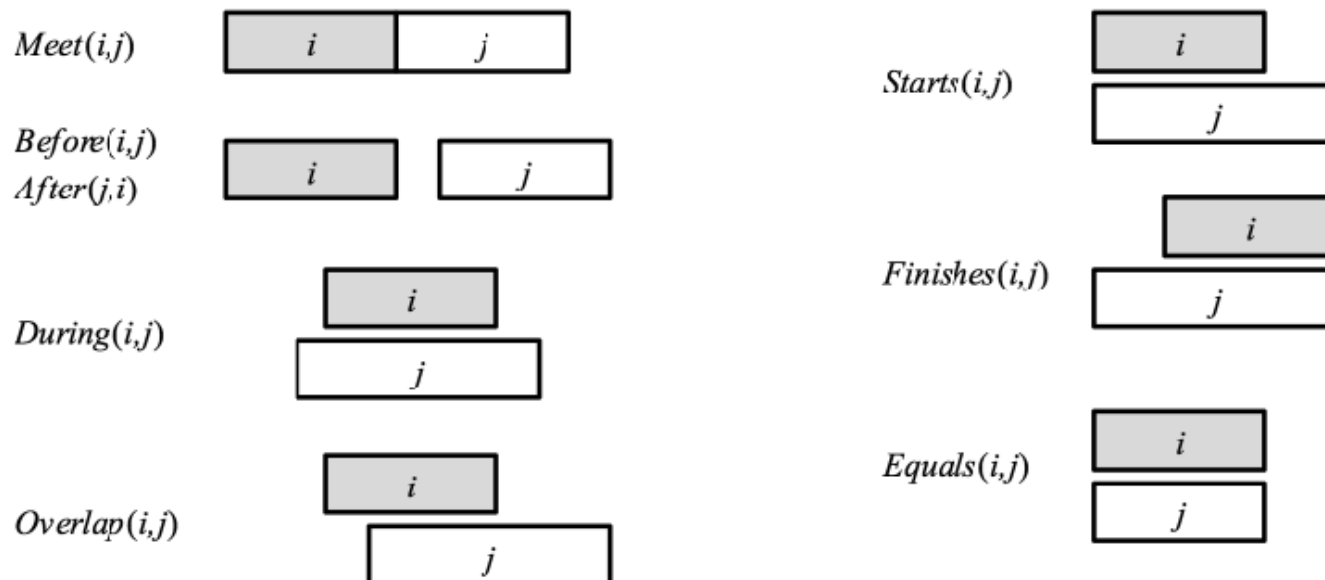
- × **Time intervals** can be partitioned between **moments** (=zero duration) and **extended intervals**:
- × Absolute times can then be derived from defining a time scale and associating points on that scale with events.
  - + e.g., seconds since midnight GMT on Jan 1, 1900
- × The functions **Start** and **End** then pick the earliest and latest moments in an interval.
- × The function **Duration** gives the difference between end and start times.

$\forall i \text{ Interval}(i) \Rightarrow \text{Duration}(i) = (\text{Time}(\text{End}(i)) - \text{Time}(\text{Start}(i)))$   
 $\text{Time}(\text{Start}(\text{AD1900})) = \text{Seconds}(0)$   
 $\text{Time}(\text{Start}(\text{AD1991})) = \text{Seconds}(2871694800)$   
 $\text{Time}(\text{End}(\text{AD1991})) = \text{Seconds}(2903230800)$   
 $\text{Duration}(\text{AD1991}) = \text{Seconds}(31536000)$

# PREDICATES IN TIME INTERVALS

$Meet(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$End(i) = Begin(j)$
$Before(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$End(i) < Begin(j)$
$After(j, i)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$Before(i, j)$
$During(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$Begin(j) < Begin(i) < End(i) < End(j)$
$Overlap(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$Begin(i) < Begin(j) < End(i) < End(j)$
$Begins(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$Begin(i) = Begin(j)$
$Finishes(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$End(i) = End(j)$
$Equals(i, j)$	$\Leftrightarrow$	$Begin(i) = Begin(j) \wedge End(i) = End(j)$

set of interval relations, as proposed by Allen (1983)



# FLUENTS AND OBJECTS REVISITED

- ✗ It is legitimate to describe physical objects as generalized events,
  - + In the sense that a physical object is a chunk of space-time
  - + e.x. *USA* can be thought of as an event that began in 1776 as a union of 13 states and is still in progress today as a union of 50.
- ✗ We can then use temporal and spatial sub-events to capture changing properties of the objects
  - e.g., *Poland*: event
  - e.g., *19thCenturyPoland*: temporal sub-event
  - e.g., *CentralPoland*: spatial sub-event
- ✗ We call **fluents** objects that can change across situations
  - + Describe the changing properties of *USA* using state fluents, such as *Population(USA)*.



# SUBSTANCES AND OBJECTS

- × Some objects cannot be divided into distinct parts –
  - + e.g., butter: one butter? no, some butter!
  - + butter substance (and similarly for temporal substances)
  - + (simple rule for deciding what is a substance: if you cut it in half, you should get the same).
- × How can we represent substances?
  - + Start with a category
    - e.g.,  $\forall x, y \quad x \in \text{Butter} \wedge \text{PartOf}(y, x) \Rightarrow y \in \text{Butter}$
  - + Then we can state properties
    - e.g.,  $\forall x \text{ Butter}(x) \Rightarrow \text{MeltingPoint}(x, \text{Centigrade}(30))$

- × Need to distinguish between substance and discrete objects
- × Substance (“stuff”)
  - + Mass nouns - not countable
  - + Intrinsic properties
  - + Part of a substance is (still) the same substance
- × Discrete objects (“things”)
  - + Count nouns - countable
  - + Extrinsic properties
  - + Parts are (generally) not of same category

## MENTAL EVENTS AND MENTAL OBJECTS

- ☐
- × Need to represent *beliefs* in self and other agents, e.g. for controlling reasoning, or for planning actions that involve others
- × How are beliefs represented?
  - + Beliefs are reified as *mental objects*
  - + Mental objects are represented as *strings* in a language
  - + *Inference rules* for this language can be defined
- × Rules for reasoning about logical agents' use their beliefs

$$\forall a, p, q \text{ LogicalAgent}(a) \wedge \text{Believes}(a, p) \wedge \\ \text{Believes}(a, "p \Rightarrow q") \Rightarrow \text{Believes}(a, q)$$

$$\forall a, p \text{ LogicalAgent}(a) \wedge \text{Believes}(a, p) \\ \Rightarrow \text{Believes}(a, "Believes(\text{Name}(a), p)")$$

# REASONING SYSTEMS FOR CATEGORIES

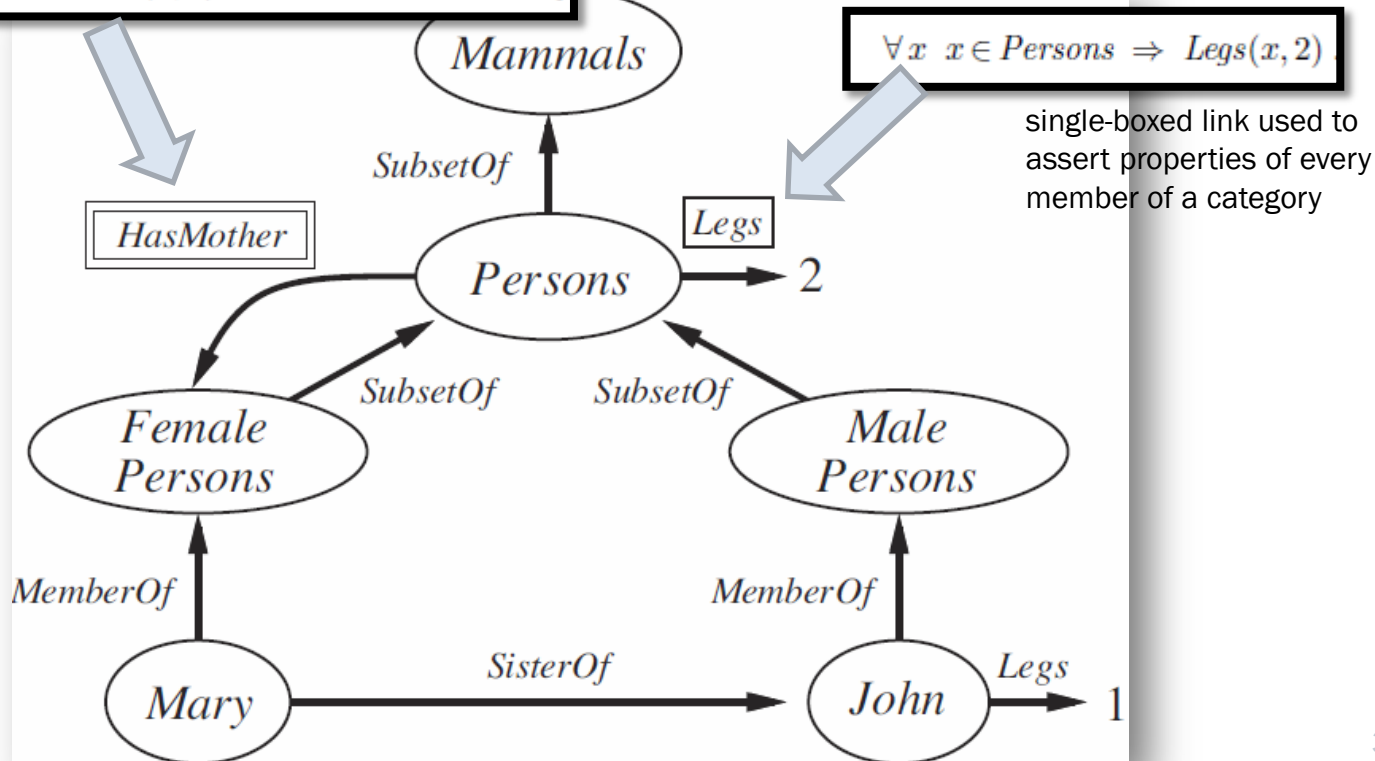
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- × **Semantic networks** graphical representation for visualizing
  - + a knowledge base and
  - + efficient algorithms for inferring properties of an object on the basis of its category membership
- × **Description logics** is a formal language for
  - + constructing and combining category definitions and
  - + efficient algorithms for deciding subset and superset relationships between categories.

# SEMANTIC NETWORKS

- ✗ There are many variants of semantic networks, but all are capable of representing individual objects, categories of objects, and relations among objects
- ✗ Natural representation of inheritance and default values

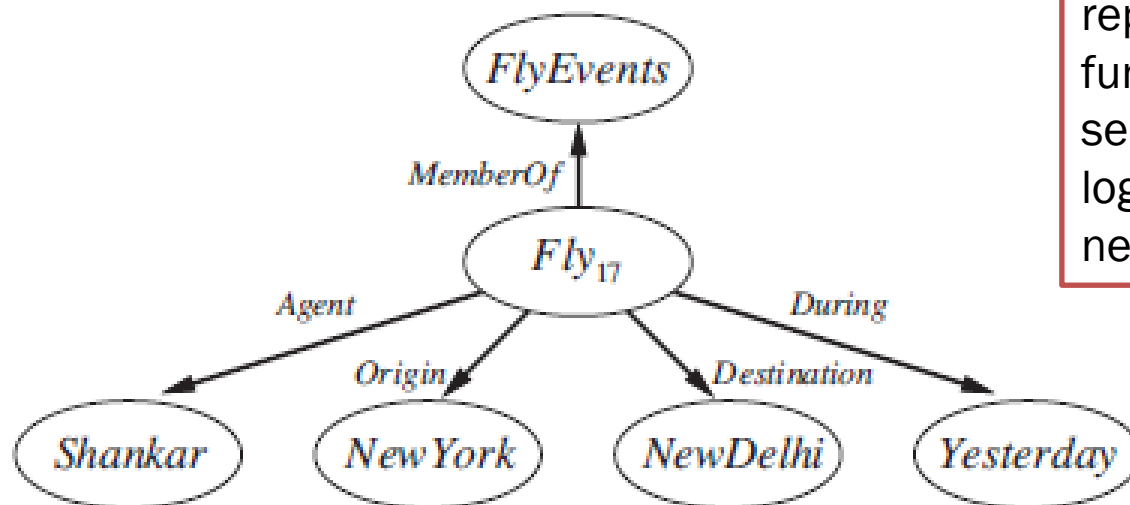
$$\forall x x \in \text{Persons} \Rightarrow [\forall y \text{ HasMother}(x,y) \Rightarrow y \in \text{FemalePersons}]$$

$$\forall x x \in \text{Persons} \Rightarrow \text{Legs}(x,2)$$


**NOTE:** links between bubbles represent only *binary* relations

## SEMANTIC NETWORKS CONT.

- × We can obtain the effect of n-ary assertions by reifying the proposition itself as an event belonging to an appropriate event category.



Reification of propositions makes it possible to represent every ground, function-free atomic sentence of first-order logic in the semantic network notation

A fragment of a semantic network showing the representation of the logical assertion  $Fly(Shankar, NewYork, NewDelhi, Yesterday)$ .

## DESCRIPTION LOGICS

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- × Derived from semantic networks, but more formal
- × For inference supports
  - + **Subsumption**: checking if one category is a subset of another by comparing their definition
  - + **Classification**: checking whether an object belongs to a category
  - + **Consistency**: whether the membership criteria are logically satisfiable.
- × But still not applicable to large problems

# CLASSIC LANGUAGE

- × The CLASSIC language (Borgida *et al.*, 1989) is a typical description logic

*Concept* → **Thing** | *ConceptName*  
 | **And**(*Concept*, ...)

| **All**(*RoleName*, *Concept*)

| **AtLeast**(*Integer*, *RoleName*)

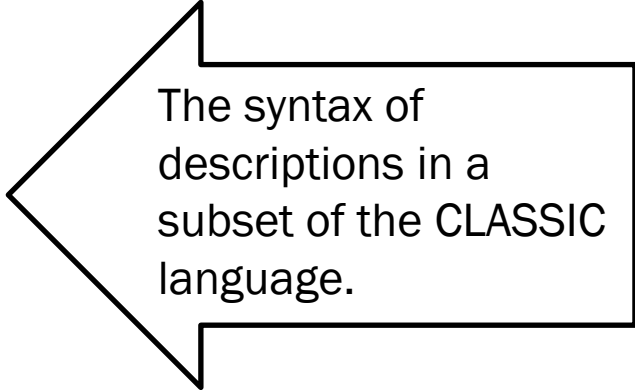
| **AtMost**(*Integer*, *RoleName*)

| **Fills**(*RoleName*, *IndividualName*, ...)

| **SameAs**(*Path*, *Path*)

| **OneOf**(*IndividualName*, ...)

*Path* → [*RoleName*, ...]



The syntax of descriptions in a subset of the CLASSIC language.



Example

*Bachelor* = *And*(*Unmarried*, *Adult*, *Male*) .

The equivalent in first-order logic would be

*Bachelor*(*x*)  $\Leftrightarrow$  *Unmarried*(*x*)  $\wedge$  *Adult*(*x*)  $\wedge$  *Male*(*x*) .



## EXAMPLE: INTERNET SHOPPING WORLD

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- × An agent that understands and acts in an internet shopping environment
- × The task is to shop for a product on the Web, given the user's product description
- × The product description may be **precise**, in which case the agent should find the **best price**
- × In other cases the description is only **partial**, and the agent has to **compare products**
- × The shopping agent depends on having **product knowledge, incl. category hierarchies**

# PEAS SPECIFICATION OF SHOPPING AGENT

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- × Performance goal
  - + Recommend product(s) to match user's description
- × Environment
  - + All of the Web
- × Actions
  - + Following links
  - + Retrieve page contents
- × Sensors
  - + Web pages: HTML, XML

## OUTLINE OF AGENT BEHAVIOR

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- × Start at home page of known web store(s)
  - + Must have knowledge of relevant web addresses
- × Spread out from home page, **following links** to relevant pages containing product offers
  - + Must be able to identify page relevance, using product category ontologies, as well parse page contents to detect product offers
- × Having located one or more product offers, agent must **compare offers** and recommend product
  - + Comparison range from simple price ranking to complex tradeoffs in several dimensions

- × Find relevant product offers
  - +  $\text{RelevantOffer}(\text{page}, \text{url}, \text{query}) \Leftrightarrow \text{Relevant}(\text{page}, \text{url}, \text{query}) \wedge \text{Offer}(\text{page})$
  - + Write axioms to define  $\text{Offer}(x)$
  - + Find relevant pages:  $\text{Relevant}(x, y, z)$  ?
    - × Start from an initial set of stores.
    - × What is a relevant category?
    - × What are relevant connected pages?
  - + Require rich category vocabulary.
    - × Synonymy and ambiguity
  - + How to retrieve pages:  $\text{GetPage}(\text{url})$ ?
    - × Procedural attachment
- × Compare offers (information extraction).

# EXAMPLE OF RICH CATEGORY VOCABULARY

*Books*  $\subset$  *Products*

*MusicRecordings*  $\subset$  *Products*

*MusicCDs*  $\subset$  *MusicRecordings*

*Electronics*  $\subset$  *Products*

*DigitalCameras*  $\subset$  *Electronics*

*StereoEquipment*  $\subset$  *Electronics*

*Computers*  $\subset$  *Electronics*

*DesktopComputers*  $\subset$  *Computers*

*LaptopComputers*  $\subset$  *Computers*

...

(a)

*Name*("books", *Books*)

*Name*("music", *MusicRecordings*)

*Name*("CDs", *MusicCDs*)

*Name*("electronics", *Electronics*)

*Name*("digital cameras", *DigitalCameras*)

*Name*("stereos", *StereoEquipment*)

*Name*("computers", *Computers*)

*Name*("desktops", *DesktopComputers*)

*Name*("laptops", *LaptopComputers*)

*Name*("notebooks", *LaptopComputers*)

...

(b)

**Figure 12.9** (a) Taxonomy of product categories. (b) Names for those categories.

## EXAMPLE OF FOLLOWING LINKS

- × The agent will have knowledge of a number of stores

$Amazon \in OnlineStores \wedge Homepage(Amazon, "amazon.com") .$

$Ebay \in OnlineStores \wedge Homepage(Ebay, "ebay.com") .$

$ExampleStore \in OnlineStores \wedge Homepage(ExampleStore, "example.com")$

- × A page is **relevant** to the query if it can be reached by a chain of zero or more **relevant category links** from a store's home page, and then from one more link to the product offer.

$Relevant(page, query) \Leftrightarrow$

$\exists store, home \quad store \in OnlineStores \wedge Homepage(store, home)$

$\wedge \exists url, url_2 \quad RelevantChain(home, url_2, query) \wedge Link(url_2, url)$

$\wedge page = Contents(url) .$

$RelevantChain(start, end, query) \Leftrightarrow (start = end)$

$\vee (\exists u, text \quad LinkText(start, u, text) \wedge RelevantCategoryName(query, text)$

$\wedge RelevantChain(u, end, query)) .$

$RelevantCategoryName(query, text) \Leftrightarrow$

$\exists c_1, c_2 \quad Name(query, c_1) \wedge Name(text, c_2) \wedge (c_1 \subseteq c_2 \vee c_2 \subseteq c_1) .$

## EXAMPLE OF COMPARING OFFERS

### × Wrapper to extract information

Given a page on the example.com site with the text

IBM ThinkBook 970. Our price: \$399.00

$$\begin{aligned} \exists c, offer \quad & c \in LaptopComputers \wedge offer \in ProductOffers \wedge \\ & Manufacturer(c, IBM) \wedge Model(c, ThinkBook970) \wedge \\ & ScreenSize(c, Inches(14)) \wedge ScreenType(c, ColorLCD) \wedge \\ & MemorySize(c, Gigabytes(2)) \wedge CPUSpeed(c, GHz(1.2)) \wedge \\ & OfferedProduct(offer, c) \wedge Store(offer, GenStore) \wedge \\ & URL(offer, \text{"example.com/computers/34356.html"}) \wedge \\ & Price(offer, \$(399)) \wedge Date(offer, Today) . \end{aligned}$$

### × Compare the offers that have been extracted

*A* : 1.4 GHz CPU, 2GB RAM, 250 GB disk, \$299 .

*B* : 1.2 GHz CPU, 4GB RAM, 350 GB disk, \$500 .

*C* : 1.2 GHz CPU, 2GB RAM, 250 GB disk, \$399 .