

# Combining Apples and Oranges: A Flexible Representation for Defeasible Logics and Repair Semantics

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26 June 2018, Montpellier, France.



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# Research Context: Knowledge Representation and Reasoning

- Query answering from different sources of information (**Data Exchange**).

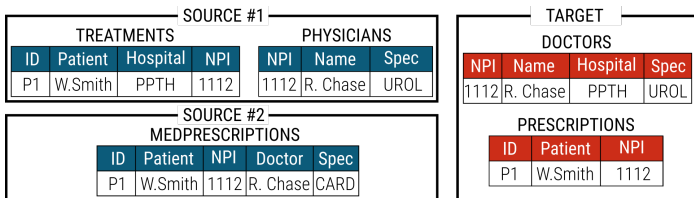


Figure: DOCTORS Data Exchange Ontology (Geerts et al. 2004)

- Bringing together different point of views for **Decision Making**.



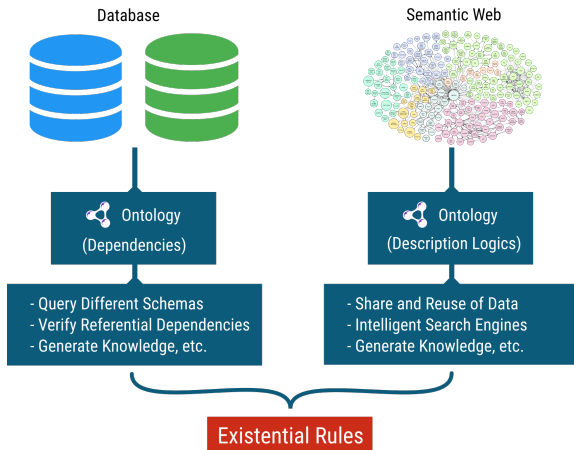
Figure: DUR-DUR Knowledge Base



Figure: EcoBioCap Knowledge Base

An expressive logical language is needed: Existential Rules

# What Can Existential Rules Do?



- Existential Rules account for **unknown individuals** (value invention). e.g. Any prescription had to be made by a doctor X (might be unknown but must exist).
- They generalize certain fragments **Description Logic** (n-arity predicates, etc.).

# Existential Rules Language Datalog<sup>±</sup>

- First order language composed of formulas built with  $(\exists, \forall, \wedge, \rightarrow)$ .
- **Atom**: of the form  $p(t_1 \dots t_k)$  where  $p$  is a predicate and  $t_i$  are variables  $(X, Y, \dots)$ , fresh variables (a.k.a nulls, unknown constants.  $Null_1, Null_1, \dots$ ) or constants  $(a, b, \dots)$ . Example: `human(raouf)`
- **Fact**: is an existentially closed atom. Example :  `$\exists X$  hasParent(raouf, X)`
- **Rule**: A rule  $r$  is a formula of the form  `$\forall \vec{X}, \vec{Y} (\mathcal{B}[\vec{X}, \vec{Y}] \rightarrow \exists \vec{Z} \mathcal{H}[\vec{X}, \vec{Z}])$`  where  $\vec{X}, \vec{Y}$  are tuple of variables,  $\vec{Z}$  is a tuple of existential variables and  $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{H}$  are finite non empty conjunctions of atoms respectively called **Body** and **Head**.  
 `$\forall PAT, NPI$  prescription(PAT, NPI)  $\rightarrow \exists NAME, SPEC$  doctor(NPI, NAME, SPEC)`

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 `$\forall PAT, NPI \text{ prescription}(PAT, NPI) \rightarrow \exists NAME, SPEC \text{ doctor}(NPI, NAME, SPEC)$`
- **Negative Constraint**: (binary) of the form  `$\forall \vec{X}, \vec{Y} (p[\vec{X}, \vec{Y}] \wedge q[\vec{X}, \vec{Z}] \rightarrow \perp)$`   
 `$\forall NAME, NPI \text{ doctor}(NAME, NPI, card) \wedge \text{ doctor}(NAME, NPI, urol) \rightarrow \perp$`
- **Knowledge Base**:  $\mathcal{KB} = (\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{N})$  where  $\mathcal{F}$  is a set of facts,  $\mathcal{R}$  is a set of rules, and  $\mathcal{N}$  is a set of negative constraints.

# What Can Defeasible Reasoning Do?

## The problem of Inconsistency and Incoherence

- Merging and integrating different Databases might produce inconsistent knowledge. (**Inconsistency: conflicts within factual information**).
- Ontologies might describe different point of view of the same domain, putting them together might create incoherence. (**Incoherence: contradictions between inference rules**)

Inconsistency and Incoherence are problematic for **query answering**. Classical entailment would yield the whole language in such case (principle of explosion).

# Incoherence

- A  $\mathcal{KB} = (\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{N})$  is **incoherent** iff  $\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{N}$  are unsatisfiable.
- Unsatisfiable means that there does not exist any set of facts  $S$  (even outside of the facts of the knowledge base) where all rules in  $\mathcal{R}$  are applicable such that no negative constraint is applicable [Flouris et al., 2006].

## Penguin Example: (Incoherent)



- $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{penguin}(\text{kowalski})\}$
- $\mathcal{R} = \{$ 
  - $r_1 : \forall X \text{ penguin}(X) \rightarrow \text{bird}(X),$
  - $r_2 : \forall X \text{ bird}(X) \rightarrow \text{fly}(X),$
  - $r_2 : \forall X \text{ penguin}(X) \rightarrow \text{notFly}(X),$ $\}$
- $\mathcal{N} = \{\forall X \text{ fly}(X) \wedge \text{notFly}(X) \rightarrow \perp\}$

$\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{N}$  are unsatisfiable: there does not exist a set of facts such that all rules in  $\mathcal{R}$  are applicable and the negative constraint is not applicable.



# Inconsistence

- A  $\mathcal{KB} = (\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{N})$  is **inconsistent** iff a negative constraint is applicable on the knowledge derived from it.

## Legal Example: (Inconsistent but Coherent)



- $\mathcal{F} = \{incrim(e1, alice), absolv(e2, alice), alibi(alice)\}$

- $\mathcal{R} = \{$

$$\begin{aligned} r_1 &: \forall X, Y \text{ incrim}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{resp}(Y), \\ r_2 &: \forall X, Y \text{ absolv}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{notResp}(X), \\ r_3 &: \forall X \text{ resp}(X) \rightarrow \text{guilty}(X), \\ r_4 &: \forall X \text{ alibi}(X) \rightarrow \text{innocent}(X) \} \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathcal{N} = \{\forall X \text{ resp}(X) \wedge \text{notResp}(X) \rightarrow \perp, \forall X \text{ guilty}(X) \wedge \text{innocent}(X) \rightarrow \perp\}$

- $\mathcal{KB}$  is **inconsistent** because a negative constraint is applicable.
- $\mathcal{KB}$  is **coherent** because  $\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{N}$  is satisfiable: there exists a set of facts (e.g.  $S = \{incrim(e1, bob), absolv(e2, alice), alibi(alice)\}$ ) s.t. all rules are applicable and no negative constraint is applicable.

# Incoherence vs Inconsistence

- The problem of **inconsistence** has been resolved for existential rules using **Repair Semantics**. However, this techniques assume that the knowledge base is **coherent**.
- The problem of **incoherence** can be solved using **Defeasible Logics**
- **Defeasible Logics** [Pollock, 1987] originate from the need to reason with **incomplete knowledge** by “*filling the gaps in the available information by making some kind of plausible (or desirable) assumptions*”.  
Applications: **Legal reasoning, agent negotiations, etc.**
- **Repair Semantics** [Lembo and Ruzzi, 2007] originate from the need to handle inconsistency that arises due to **merging or revision of different data sources**.  
Applications: **Ontology Based Data Access, etc.**

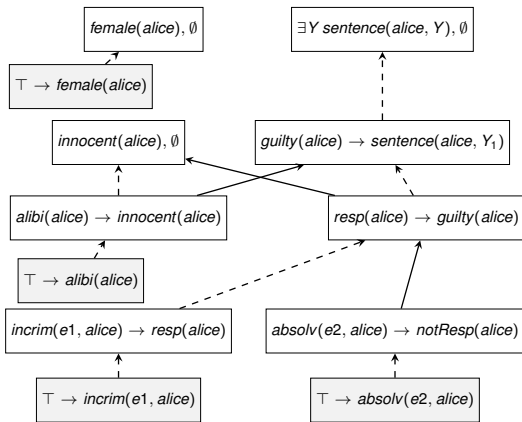
# Incoherence vs Inconsistence

- Defeasible Logics were made to handle **incoherence**.
- Repair Semantics were made to handle **inconsistence**.
  
- **Inconsistence is a special case of incoherence**: Incoherence will always lead to Inconsistence [Flouris et al., 2006].
- Defeasible Logics and Repair Semantics can both be applied to inconsistent but coherent knowledge bases.
  
- **There is no universally agreed upon / appropriate way to reason with conflicts** (inconsistence or incoherence). [Horty et al., 1987]. Defeasible Logics and Repair Semantics are based on **different intuitions**.

Objective: Compare and Combine Defeasible Logics and Repair Semantics Intuitions (in a single formalism)!

# Statement Graph

**Statement Graph** is a representation of the reasoning process happening inside a knowledge base. It is built using logical building blocks (called **statements**) that describe a situation (premises) and a rule that can be applied on that situation.



**Figure:** Statement Graph of Legal Example (support are dashed edges and fact statements are gray).

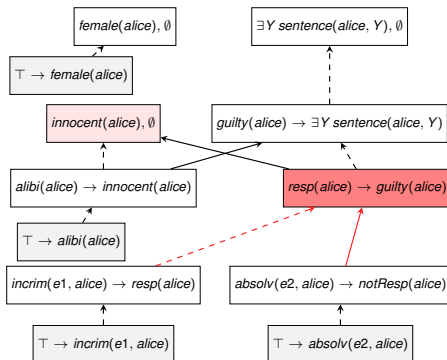
# Reasoning with Statement Graphs

- An SG provides **statements and edges with a label** using a **labeling function**.
- Labeling is used for Query answering.
- **Labeling Function** is  $Lbl : \mathcal{V} \cup \mathcal{E}_A \cup \mathcal{E}_S \rightarrow Label = \{IN, OUT, AMBIG\}$ .
- The intuition behind these labels is: **IN** indicates that the statement is **accepted** and its rule can be applied, **AMBIG** indicates that the statement's premises are **challenged** by conflicting facts, and **OUT** indicates that the statement is **rejected**.
- **Complete Support** of a statement is a minimal set of support edges that support each one of its premises. **IN complete support**: for each premise there is a support edge labeled IN. **AMBIG complete support**: not IN complete support and for each premise there is a support edge labeled IN or AMBIG.

# Defeasible Reasoning Intuitions

- **Ambiguity Handling** whether an information that is derived from a contested (ambiguous) fact should be used to contest another fact.

A fact  $f$  is **ambiguous** if there is an accepted rule application for  $f$  and another one for  $f'$  such that  $f$  and  $f'$  are in conflict.



# Defeasible Reasoning Intuitions

- **Ambiguity Blocking**  $\models_{block}$  facts based on ambiguous facts are **blocked** from challenging other facts.

*innocent(alice)* is in conflict with *guilty(alice)* that relies on the ambiguous *resp(alice)*. Therefore  $\mathcal{KB} \models_{block} \text{innocent}(alice)$

- We use the labeling function **BDL (Blocking Defeasible Logic)** to obtain entailment results equivalent to blocking defeasible logics [Billington, 1993].
- 1  $BDL(\mathfrak{s}) = IN$  iff  $\mathfrak{s}$  is a fact statement or  $\mathfrak{s}$  has a *IN* complete support, and  $\nexists \mathbf{e} \in \mathcal{E}_A^-(\mathfrak{s})$  s.t  $BDL(\mathbf{e}) = IN$ .
  - 2  $BDL(\mathfrak{s}) = AMBIG$  iff either  $\mathfrak{s}$  has an *AMBIG* complete support, or  $\mathfrak{s}$  has a *IN* complete support and  $\exists \mathbf{e} \in \mathcal{E}_A^-(\mathfrak{s})$  s.t  $BDL(\mathbf{e}) = IN$ .
  - 3  $BDL(\mathfrak{s}) = OUT$  iff  $\mathfrak{s}$  does not have a *IN* or *AMBIG* complete support.

# Statement Graph: BDL

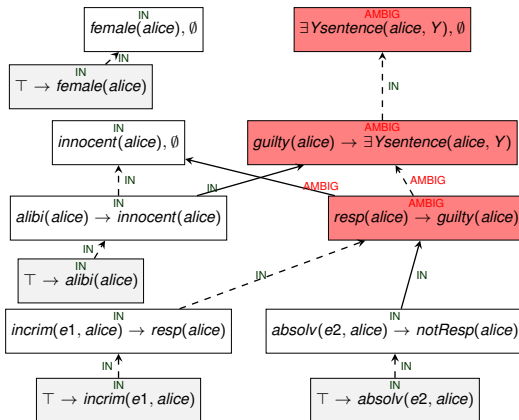


Figure: BDL applied to Legal Example's Statement Graph.



## Labeling for Ambiguity Propagating

- **Ambiguity Propagating**  $\models_{prop}$  The ambiguity of a fact is **propagated** to any fact it is in conflict with.

*innocent(alice)* is in conflict with *guilty(alice)* that relies on the ambiguous *resp(alice)*. Therefore  $\mathcal{KB} \models_{block} \text{innocent}(alice)$

- We use the labeling function **PDL (Propagating Defeasible Logic)** to obtain entailment results equivalent to propagating defeasible logics [Antoniou et al., 2000].

1 **PDL( $s$ ) = IN** iff:  $s$  is a fact statement or  $s$  has a IN complete support, and  $\nexists \mathbf{e} \in \mathcal{E}_A^-(s)$  s.t  $\text{PDL}(\mathbf{e}) \in \{IN, AMBIG\}$ .

2 **PDL( $s$ ) = AMBIG** iff:

1 either  $s$  has an AMBIG complete support,

2 or  $s$  has a IN complete support and  $\exists \mathbf{e} \in \mathcal{E}_A^-(s)$  s.t  $\text{PDL}(\mathbf{e}) \in \{IN, AMBIG\}$ .

3 **PDL( $s$ ) = OUT** iff  $s$  does not have a IN or AMBIG complete support.

# Statement Graph: PDL

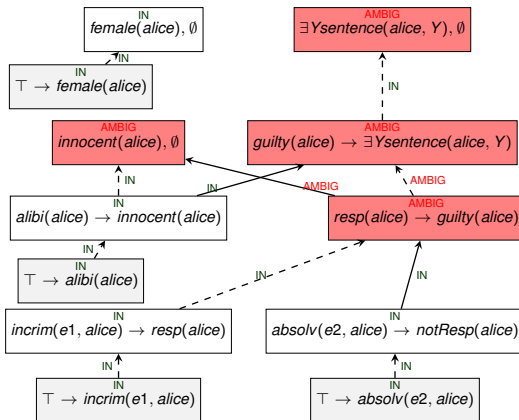


Figure: PDL applied to Legal Example's Statement Graph.

# Repair Semantics: IAR

- **IAR semantics**  $\models_{IAR}$  The intersection of ABox Repairs [Lembo et al., 2010]. A query  $Q$  is IAR entailed if it is classically entailed by the intersection of all repairs constructed from the **starting** set of facts.
- $Repair_1 = \{absolv(e2, alice), alibi(alice), female(alice)\}$
- $Repair_2 = \{incrim(e2, alice), female(alice)\}$   
 $\mathcal{KB} \models_{IAR} female(alice)$
- Labeling function **IAR**: First apply PDL to detect conflicts, then start from the top (query statements) and reject any statement that leads to or is generated after a conflict.
- 1  $IAR(s) = IN$  iff  $IAR(s) \neq AMBIG$  and  $PDL(s) = IN$ .
- 2  $IAR(s) = AMBIG$  iff either  $PDL(s) = AMBIG$  or  $\exists e \in \mathcal{E}_S^+(s) \cup \mathcal{E}_A^+(s)$  such that  $IAR(Target(e)) = AMBIG$ .
- 3  $IAR(s) = OUT$  iff  $PDL(s) = OUT$ .

# Repair Semantics: IAR

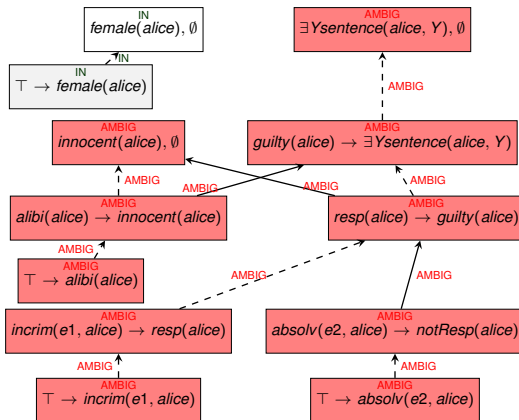


Figure: IAR applied to Legal Example's Statement Graph.

# Repair Semantics: ICAR

- **ICAR semantics**  $\models_{ICAR}$  The intersection of Closed ABox Repairs [Lembo et al., 2010]. A query  $Q$  is IAR entailed if it is classically entailed by the intersection of all repairs constructed from the **saturated** set of facts.
  - $Repair_1 = \{absolv(e2, alice), alibi(alice), female(alice), notResp(alice), \exists Y sentence(alice, Y)\}$
  - $Repair_2 = \{incrim(e2, alice), female(alice), resp(alice), guilty(alice), \exists Y sentence(alice, Y)\}$
  - $\mathcal{KB} \models_{ICAR} female(alice) \wedge \exists Y sentence(alice, Y)$
  
- Labeling function **ICAR**: First apply PDL to detect conflicts, then start from the top (query statements) and reject any statement that leads to a conflict and accept those that are generated after a conflict.
  - 1  $ICAR(s) = IN$  iff  $ICAR(s) \neq AMBIG$  and  $PDL(s) \in \{IN, AMBIG\}$ .
  - 2  $ICAR(s) = AMBIG$  iff
    - 1 either  $PDL(s) = AMBIG$  and  $\exists e \in \mathcal{E}_A^-(s)$  s.t.  $PDL(e) \in \{IN, AMBIG\}$ ,
    - 2 or  $\exists e \in \mathcal{E}_S^+(s) \cup \mathcal{E}_A^+(s)$  such that  $ICAR(Target(e)) = AMBIG$ .
  - 3  $ICAR(s) = OUT$  iff  $PDL(s) = OUT$ .

# Repair Semantics: ICAR

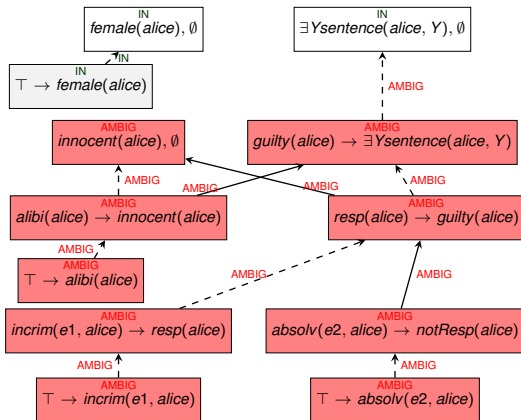


Figure: ICAR applied to Legal Example's Statement Graph.

# Human Reasoning Experiment

## What intuitions humans follow in abstract inconsistent situations?

- Experiment with 41 participants, 5 situations.  
Context: engineer trying to analyze a situation based on a set of sensors.
- **Example:** Three sensors are respectively indicating that “o” has the properties S, Q, and T. We know that any object that has the property S also has the property V. Moreover, an object cannot have the properties S and Q at the same time, and the properties V and T at the same time. **Question:** Can we say that the object “o” has the property T?

Logical representation (not shown to participants):

$$- \mathcal{F} = \{s(o), q(o), t(o)\}$$

$$- \mathcal{R} = \{\forall X s(X) \rightarrow v(X)\}$$

$$- \mathcal{N} = \{\forall X s(X) \wedge q(X) \rightarrow \perp, \forall X v(X) \wedge t(X) \rightarrow \perp\}$$

$$- \text{Query } Q() = t(o)$$

# Human Reasoning

Table: Situations Entailment and Results.

| Situations | $\models_{block}$ | $\models_{prop}$ | $\models_{IAR}$ | $\models_{ICAR}$ | % of "Yes" | $\models_{\substack{block \\ IAR}}$ |
|------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| #1         | ✓                 | -                | -               | -                | 73.17%     | ✓                                   |
| #2         | ✓                 | ✓                | -               | -                | 21.95%     | -                                   |
| #3         | ✓                 | ✓                | -               | ✓                | 21.95%     | -                                   |
| #4         | -                 | -                | -               | ✓                | 4.87%      | -                                   |
| #5         | ✓                 | ✓                | ✓               | ✓                | 78.04%     | ✓                                   |

- We observe that blocking and IAR are correspond the most to human reasoning.
- However, blocking or IAR alone are not sufficient.
- **Possible explanation:** participants are using a semantics that is a mix of IAR and ambiguity blocking.



## Combining Defeasible Logics and Repair Semantics

- We define  $\models_{block}^{IAR}$  by using a labeling function that first applies BDL from fact statements to query statements then applies IAR from query statement to fact statements.

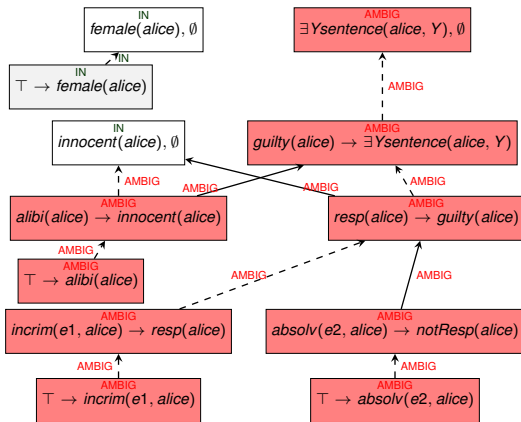


Figure: BDL/IAR applied to Legal Example's Statement Graph.

# Productivity Comparison

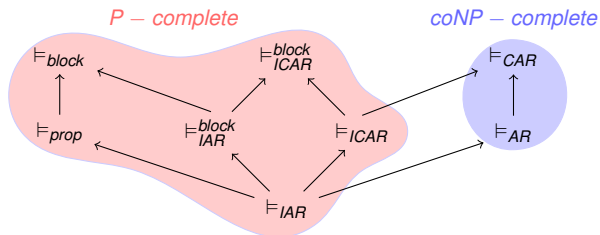


Figure: Productivity and complexity of different semantics under FES fragment of existential rules.

# Questions?

**Thank you for your attention.**



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