Feature Extraction with Description Logics Functional Subsumption

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# A conflict

- Most machine learning algorithms use feature vectors as inputs.
- ? Most data is best represented as structured data.
- ? Feature extraction is the conversion from one to the other (and may be most of the work).

## Structured data – I

Mohammed Atta met with an Iraqi intelligence agent in Prague in April 2001



## Structured data – II



## Feature Extraction



# **Feature Extraction**

- ? Typically done in ad hoc fashion:
   ? Prevents general analysis;
  - ? Prevents Feature Extraction/Learning unified analysis (e.g. kernels).
- ? Using a language is tricky
  - ? Type of inference.
  - ? May be intractable if not careful.

# A language for declaring which features to generate

































## Feature Description Logics



#### (AND (SOME spouse ANY) (SOME child (AND male tall)))



# Subsumption

<sup>?</sup>A description C *subsumes* ( $\supseteq$ ) a description D if every individual in D must be in C, no matter the interpretation.

?Subsumption is tractable.

C = (AND (SOME spouse ANY) (SOME child male)) D = (AND (SOME spouse (SOME student ANY)) (SOME child (AND tall male)) (SOME child female))











## A problem in practice



Subsumption would be natural in this case but does not occur

## A problem in practice



## A problem in practice



## Make comparison more flexible

<sup>2</sup>At core of subsumption algorithm is the comparison of attributes:

 $\dots$  if (attr1 == attr2)  $\dots$ 

We simply make that a function call:

... if (f (attr1, attr2) == 1) ...

## Is this just a hack?

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What about the nice DL semantics? n fact, equivalent to "shallow OR" (*tractable*). Replace any attr by (OR  $a_1 a_2 ... a_n$ ) 'here f(attr,  $a_i$ ) = 1.

AND kill (SOME object JFK))

AND (OR kill murder sassinate) (SOME object (OR JFK kennedy "John F. Kennedy" ...))

# Why not just use shallow OR then?

<sup>?</sup>Function is an implicit representation.
<sup>?</sup>We may incorporate procedural knowledge:
<sup>?</sup>Typos;

? Similar sounding words;

? Context-sensitive knowledge.

## Take home message

- Feature Description Logics provides an expressive way to deal with structured examples.
- ? Syntax choices render it tractable.
- Allows for FE-learning integrated approaches
   like kernels (Cumby & Roth 2003).
- <sup>?</sup> Can be made even more expressive with little extra cost by functional subsumption.

The End