The Semantic Web Rule Language

Talk Outline

- Rules and the Semantic Web
- Basic SWRL Rules
- SWRL's Semantics
- SWRLTab: a Protégé-OWL
 development environment for SWRL
- SQWRL: a SWRL-based OWL query langauge

Semantic Web Stack



Rule-based Systems are common in many domains

- Engineering: Diagnosis rules
- Commerce: Business rules
- Law: Legal reasoning
- Medicine: Eligibility, Compliance
- Internet: Access authentication

Rule Markup (RuleML) Initiative

- Effort to standardize inference rules.
- RuleML is a markup language for publishing and sharing rule bases on the World Wide Web.
- Focus is on rule interoperation between industry standards.
- RuleML builds a hierarchy of rule sublanguages upon XML, RDF, and OWL, e.g., SWRL

What is SWRL?

- SWRL is an acronym for Semantic Web Rule Language.
- SWRL is intended to be the rule language of the Semantic Web.
- SWRL includes a high-level abstract syntax for Horn-like rules.
- All rules are expressed in terms of OWL concepts (classes, properties, individuals).
- Language FAQ:
 - http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLLanguageFAQ

SWRL Characteristics

- W3C Submission in 2004: <u>http://www.w3.org/Submission/SWRL/</u>
- Rules saved as part of ontology
- Increasing tool support: Bossam, R2ML, Hoolet, Pellet, KAON2, RacerPro, SWRLTab
- Can work with reasoners

Example SWRL Rule: Reclassification

$Man(?m) \rightarrow Person(?m)$

Possible in OWL - some rules are OWL syntactic sugar

Example SWRL Rule: property value assignment

Person(?p) $^$ hasSibling(?p,?s) $^$ Man(?s) \rightarrow hasBrother(?p,?s)

Example SWRL Rule: property value assignment

hasParent(?x, ?y) $^$ hasBrother(?y, ?z) \rightarrow hasUncle(?x, ?z)

Not possible in OWL 1.0 - some rules are *not* OWL syntactic sugar

Example SWRL Rule with Named Individuals: Has brother

Person(Fred) ^ hasSibling(Fred, ?s) ^ Man(?s) → hasBrother(Fred, ?s)

Example SWRL Rule with Literals and Built-ins: is adult?

Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p,?age) ^ swrlb:greaterThan(?age,17) → Adult(?p)

Built-ins dramatically increase expressivity - most rules are not OWL syntactic sugar

Example SWRL Rule with String Built-ins

Person(?p) ^ hasNumber(?p, ?number) ^ swrlb:startsWith(?number, "+") → hasInternationalNumber(?p, true)

Example SWRL Rule with Built-in Argument Binding

Person(?p) ^ hasSalaryInPounds(?p, ?pounds) ^
 swrlb:multiply(?dollars, ?pounds, 2.0) →
 hasSalaryInDollars(?p, ?dollars)

Example SWRL Rule with Built-in Argument Binding II

Person(?p) ^ hasSalaryInPounds(?p, ?pounds) ^
 swrlb:multiply(2.0, ?pounds, ?dollars) ->
 hasSalaryInDollars(?p, ?dollars)

Arguments can bind in any position - though generally an implementation will support binding of only the first argument

Can define new Built-in Libraries

• Temporal built-ins:

- temporal:before("1999-11-01T10:00", "2000-02-01T11:12:12.000")
- temporal:duration(2, "1999-11-01", "2001-02-01", temporal:Years)

• TBox built-ins:

- tbox:isDatatypeProperty(?p)
- tbox:isDirectSubPropertyOf(?sp, ?p)
- Mathematical built-ins:
 - swrlm:eval(?circumference, "2 * pi * r", ?r)

SWRLTab Built-in Libraries

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 A number of built-in libraries are provided by the <u>SWRLTab</u>. These include: (***) Core SWRL Built-Ins Library Contains implementations for the core built-ins defined by the <u>SWRL Submission</u>. It is documented here, (***) SQWRL Built-In Library Contains a set of built-ins that extend SWRL to SQWRL. It is documented here, (***) Temporal Built-Ins Library Defines a set of built-ins that can be used to perform temporal operations. It is documented here, (***) ABox Built-Ins Library Defines built-ins that can be used to query an ABox. It is documented here, (***) TBox Built-Ins Library Defines built-ins that can be used to query a TBox. It is documented here, (***) Mathematical Expressions Built-Ins Library Defines built-ins that can be used to query a TBox. It is documented here, (***) Mathematical Expressions Built-Ins Library Defines built-ins that can be used to query a TBox. It is documented here, (***) Mathematical Expressions Built-Ins Library Defines built-ins that can be used to evaluate complex mathematical expressions in SWRL rules. It is documented here, (***) XML Built-Ins Library Defines built-ins that can be used to query XML documents. It is documented here, (***) Extensions Built-ins Library Defines some experimental built-ins that can be used to increase the expressivity of SWRL. It is documented here, (***) 	Your Visited Pages SWRLTabBuiltInLibraries SWRLTabW SWRLTabW SWRLTabW SWRLTabW SWRLTBABW SWRLTBABW SWRLTBABW View Backlinks
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Example SWRL Rule with OWL Class Expressions

$(hasChild \ge 1)(?x) \rightarrow Parent(?x)$

This does not say: all individuals with a child are parents

It says: all individuals that are members of an OWL class with the associated restriction that its hasChild property has a minimum cardinality of one

Example SWRL Rule with Inferred OWL Class Expressions

$Parent(?x) \rightarrow (hasChild \ge 1)(?x)$

Arbitrary OWL class expressions are allowed

Expression syntax may very, though Manchester Syntax common

SWRL Semantics

- Based on OWL-DL
- Has a formal semantics
- Complements OWL and fully semantically compatible
- More expressive yet at expense of decidability
- Use OWL if extra expressiveness not required (possible exception: querying)

OWL Class Expressions and the Open World Assumption

$(hasChild \ge 1)(?x) \rightarrow Parent(?x)$

This does not say: all individuals with a child are parents

It says: all individuals that are members of the OWL class with the associated restriction that its hasChild property has a minimum cardinality of one

Individuals with no known children may be classified as parents

SWRL and Open World Semantics: sameAs, differentFrom

Publication(?p) o hasAuthor(?p, ?y) o hasAuthor(?p, ?z) o differentFrom(?y, ?z) \rightarrow cooperatedWith(?y, ?z)

Like OWL, SWRL does not adopt the unique name assumption

Individuals must also be explicitly stated to be different (using, for example, owl:allDifferents restriction)

SWRL is Monotonic: does not Support Negated Atoms

Person(?p) ^ not hasCar(?p, ?c) → CarlessPerson(?p)

Not possible - language does not support negation here

Potential invalidation - what if a person later gets a car?

SWRL is Monotonic: retraction (or modification) not supported

Incorrect - will run forever and attempt to assign an infinite number of values to hasAge property

Potential invalidation - essentially attempted retraction

SWRL is Monotonic: counting not supported

Publication(?p) ^ hasAuthor(?p,?a) ^ <has exactly one hasAuthor value in current ontology> → SingleAuthorPublication(?p)

Not expressible - open world applies Potential invalidation - what if author is added later?

SWRL is Monotonic: counting not supported II

Publication(?p) $^ (hasAuthor = 1)(?p)$ \rightarrow SingleAuthorPublication(?p)

Closure - though best expressed in OWL in this case

SWRLTab

- A Protégé-OWL development environment for working with SWRL rules
- Supports editing and execution of rules
- Extension mechanisms to work with thirdparty rule engines
- Mechanisms for users to define built-in method libraries
- Supports querying of ontologies

SWRLTab Wiki : http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLTab



What is the SWRL Editor?

- The SWRL Editor is an extension to Protégé-OWL that permits the interactive editing of SWRL rules.
- The editor can be used to create SWRL rules, edit existing SWRL rules, and read and write SWRL rules.
- It is accessible as a tab within Protégé-OWL.

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Def-hasAunt	→ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasSister(?y, ?z) → hasAunt(?x, ?z)				
Def-hasBrother	→ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ Man(?y) → hasBrother(?x, ?y)				
Def-hasDaughter	→ hasChild(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasDaughter(?x, ?y)				
Def-hasFather → hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ Man(?y) → hasFather(?x, ?y)					
Def-hasMother	→ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasMother(?x, ?y)				
Def-hasNephew	→ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ hasSon(?y, ?z) → hasNephew(?x, ?z)				
Def-hasNiece	hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ hasDaughter(?y, ?z) → hasNiece(?x, ?z)				
Def-hasParent → hasConsort(?y, ?z) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) → hasParent(?x, ?z)					
Def-hasSibling	→ hasChild(?y, ?x) ∧ hasChild(?y, ?z) ∧ differentFrom(?x, ?z) → hasSibling(?x, ?z)				
Def-hasSister	→ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasSister(?x, ?y)				
Def-hasSon	→ hasChild(?x, ?y) ∧ Man(?y) → hasSon(?x, ?y)				
Def-hasUncle	→ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasBrother(?y, ?z) → hasUncle(?x, ?z)				







Executing SWRL Rules

- SWRL is a language specification
- Well-defined semantics
- Developers must implement engine
- Or map to existing rule engines
- Hence, a bridge...

SWRL Rule Engine Bridge



SWRL Rule Engine Bridge

- Given an OWL knowledge base it will extract SWRL rules and relevant OWL knowledge.
- Also provides an API to assert inferred knowledge.
- Knowledge (and rules) are described in non Protégé-OWL API-specific way.
- These can then be mapped to a rule-engine specific rule and knowledge format.
- This mapping is developer's responsibility.

We used the SWRL Bridge to Integrate Jess Rule Engine with Protégé-OWL

- Jess is a Java-based rule engine.
- Jess system consists of a rule base, fact base, and an execution engine.
- Available free to academic users, for a small fee to non-academic users
- Has been used in Protégé-based tools, e.g., JessTab.

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Def-hasSister → h	nasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasSister(?x, ?y)						
Def-hasSon → h	$asChild(?x, ?y) \land Man(?y) \rightarrow hasSon(?x, ?y)$						
Def-hasUncle → h	lasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasBrother(?y, ?z) → hasUncle(?x, ?z)						
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See http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SW	VRLJessTab for SWRLJessTab documentation.						
Press the "OVVL+SVVRL->Jess" button to trans	ster SVRL rules and relevant OVVL knowledge to Jess.						
Press the "Jess->OWL" button to transfer the	e inferred Jess knowledge to OWL knowledge.						
IMPORTANT: With the exception of owl:same/	As, owl:differentFrom and owl:allDifferent,						
owl:equivalentProperty, and owl:equivalentClass, the Jess							
rule engine is currently ignoring OVVL restrictions. To ensure consistency, a reasoner							
transferred to Jess. Also, if inferred knowledge from Jess is inserted back into an OWL							
knowledge base, a reasoner should again be executed to ensure that the new knowledge does not							
conflict with OWL restrictions in that knowledge base.							
cf. http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLRuleEngineBridgeFAQ#nid6QL for details.							
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(defrule Def-hasBrother (hasSibling ?x ?y) (Man (name ?y)) => (assert (hasBrother ?x ?y)) (assertOWLProperty hasBrother ?x ?y))						
(defrule Def-hasAunt (hasParent ?x ?y) (hasSister ?y ?z) => (assert (hasAunt ?x ?z)) (assertOWLProperty hasAunt ?x ?z))						
(defrule Def-hasMother (hasParent ?x ?y) (Woman (name ?y)) => (assert (hasMother ?x ?y)) (assertOWLProperty hasMother ?x ?y))						
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(defemplate Son extends Child)							
(deftemplate owl: Thing (slot name))							
(deftemplate Relative extends Person)							
(deftemplate Sibling extends Person)							
(deftemplate Aunt extends Relative)							
(deftemplate Person extends owl:Thing)							
(deftemplate Mother extends Parent)							
(deftemplate Niece extends Relative)							
(deftemplate Daugther extends Child)							
(deftemplate Father extends Parent)							
(deftemplate Parent extends Person)							
(deftemplate Sister extends Sibling)							
(deftemplate Brother extends Sibling)							
(deftemplate Child extends Person)							
(dettemplate Uncle extends Relative)							
(deftemplate Woman extends Person)							

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Def-hasDaughter → hasChild(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y)	→ hasDaughter(?x, ?y)					
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Def-hasSister → hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?	y) → hasSister(?x, ?y)					
Def-hasSon → hasChild(?x, ?y) ∧ Man(?y) →	hasSon(?x, ?y)					
Def-hasUncle →hasParent(?x,?y) ∧ hasBrothe	er(?y, ?z) → hasUncle(?x, ?z)					
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See http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLJessTab for SWRLJessTab	documentation.					
Press the "OWL+SWRL->Jess" button to transfer SWRL rules and relevant C	JWL knowledge to Jess.					
Press the "Run Jess" button to run the Jess rule engine.						
Press the "Jess->OWL" button to transfer the inferred Jess knowledge to OV	NL knowledge.					
IMPORTANT: With the exception of owl:sameAs, owl:differentFrom and owl:allDifferent, owl:equivalentProperty, and owl:equivalentClass, the Jess rule engine is currently ignoring OWL restrictions. To ensure consistency, a reasoner should be run on an OWL knowledge base before SWRL rules and OWL knowledge are transferred to Jess. Also, if inferred knowledge from Jess is inserted back into an OWL knowledge base, a reasoner should again be executed to ensure that the new knowledge does not conflict with OWL restrictions in that knowledge base. cf. http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLRuleEngineBridgeFAQ#nid6QL for details.						
OWL+SWRL->Jess	Run Jess Jess->OWL					

Outstanding Issues

- SWRL Bridge does not know about all OWL restrictions:
 - Contradictions with rules possible!
 - Consistency must be assured by the user incrementally running a reasoner.
 - Hard problem to solve in general.
- Integrated reasoner and rule engine would be ideal.
- Current solution with Pellet, though only with core built-in libraries.

SWRLTab Java APIs

- The SWRLTab provides APIs for all components
- These APIs are accessible to all OWL Protégé-OWL developers.
- Third party software can use these APIs to work directly with SWRL rules and integrate rules into their applications
- Fully documented in SWRLTab Wiki

SWRL and Querying

- SWRL is a rule language, not a query language
- However, a rule antecedent can be viewed as a pattern matching specification, i.e., a query
- With built-ins, language compliant query extensions are possible
- Hence: SQWRL (Semantic Query-Enhanced Web Rule Language; pronounced squirrel)

Example SQWRL Query

Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p,?age) ^ swrlb:greaterThan(?age,17) → sqwrl:select(?p, ?age)

Ordering Query Results

Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p,?age) ^ swrlb:greaterThan(?age,17)

→ sqwrl:select(?p, ?age) ^ sqwrl:orderBy(?age)

Counting Query Results

Person(?p) ^ hasCar(?p,?car) → sqwrl:select(?p) ^ sqwrl:count(?car)

Important: no way of asserting count in ontology!

Count all Owned Cars in Ontology

Person(?p) ^ hasCar(?p, ?c) → sqwrl:count(?c)

Count all Cars in Ontology

$Car(?c) \rightarrow sqwrl:count(?c)$

Aggregation Queries: average age of persons in ontology

Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p, ?age) -> sqwrl:avg(?age)

Also: sqwrl:max, sqwrl:min, sqwrl:sum

Queries and Rules Can Interact

Person(?p) ^ hasAge(?p,?age) ^ swrlb:greaterThan(?age,17) → Adult(?p)

Adult(?a) \rightarrow sqwrl:select(?a)

Example SWRL Query with OWL Restrictions

$(hasChild \ge 1)(?x) \rightarrow sqwrl:select(?x)$

SQWRL can act as a DL query language

All Built-ins can be used in Queries

tbox:isDirectSubClassOf(?subClass, Person)
 -> sqwrl:select(?subClass)

tbox:isSubPropertyOf(?supProperty, hasName)
 -> sqwrl:select(?subProperty)

Note: use of property and class names as built-in arguments in not OWL DL

Important: these built-ins should be used in queries only – inference with them would definitely not be OWL DL

SQWRL Language FAQ



SQWRLTab

- Available as part of Protégé-OWL
 SWRLTab in current Protégé-3.4 beta
- Graphical interface to execute queries
- Low-level JDBC-like API for use in embedded applications
- Can use any existing rule engine back end

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See http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SQWRLQueryTab for documentation. Executing queries in this tab does not modify the ontology. Select a SQWRL query from the list above and press the 'Run' button. If the selected query generates a result, the result will appear in a new sub tab.	 ✓ Def-hasAunt ✓ Def-hasBrother ✓ Def-hasFather ✓ Def-hasFather ✓ Def-hasNother ✓ Def-hasNother ✓ Def-hasNiece ✓ Def-hasSibling ✓ Def-hasSibling ✓ Def-hasSister ✓ Def-hasSon ✓ Def-hasUncle ✓ Query-1 ✓ Query-2 ✓ Query-3 ✓ Query-5 ✓ Query-6 ✓ SQWRLQueryTab 	 Person(?x) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasSister(?y, ?z Person(?x) ∧ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ Man(?y) → hasE Person(?x) ∧ hasChild(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasE Person(?x) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasE Person(?x) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasE Person(?x) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasE Person(?x) ∧ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ MasSon(?y, ?z) Person(?x) ∧ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ hasDaughter(?y) Person(?y) ∧ hasConsort(?y, ?z) ∧ hasDaughter(?y, ?erson(?y) ∧ hasConsort(?y, ?z) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?) Person(?y) ∧ hasChild(?y, ?x) ∧ hasChild(?y, ?z) Person(?x) ∧ hasSibling(?x, ?y) ∧ Woman(?y) → hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasBon(?x, ?z) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasBother(?y, ?intescent(?x, ?z) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasBother(?y, ?intescent(?x, ?z) → hasSon(?x, ?z) → sqwrt:select(?x) ∧ sqwrt:count(?intescent(?w) → sqwrt:select(?m) Woman(?w) ∧ hasChild(?w, ?c) → sqwrt:select(?w) 	z) → hasAunt(?x, ?z) Brother(?x, ?y) sDaughter(?x, ?y) Father(?x, ?y) iasMother(?x, ?y) → hasNephew(?x, ?z) $\gamma, ?z) \rightarrow hasNiece(?x, ?z)$ $\gamma, ?z) \rightarrow hasNiece(?x, ?z)$ $\gamma) \rightarrow hasParent(?x, ?z) \rightarrow hasSiteasSister(?x, ?y)$ n(?x, ?y) $rz) \rightarrow hasUncle(?x, ?z)$ $z) \land sqwrt:orderByDescending(')$ $\lambda = sqwrt:count(?w)$	oling(?x, ?z) ?z)
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	Def-hasParent	t → Person(?y) ∧ hasConsort(?y, ?z) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) → hasParent(?x, ?z)	
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	Def-hasUncle	→ Person(?x) ∧ hasParent(?x, ?y) ∧ hasBrother(?y, ?z) → hasUncle(?x, ?z)	
	Query-1	→ hasSon(?x, ?z) → sqwrt:select(?x, ?z)	
	Query-2	→ hasSon(?x, ?z) → sqwrt:select(?x) ∧ sqwrt:count(?z) ∧ sqwrt:orderByDescending(?z)	
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SWRLTab Wiki : http://protege.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?SWRLTab



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