## Towards an operator for merging taxonomies

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Taaable (http://taaable.fr)
WikiTaaable (http://wikitaaable.loria.fr)
Kolflow project (http://kolflow.univ-nantes.fr)

## Outline of the talk

- Context and motivation
- Merging taxonomies
- Conclusion and future work

Context and motivation

## Taaable and WikiTaaable <br> http://taaable.fr <br> http://wikitaaable.loria.fr

- Taaable: a CBR system that reuses a cooking recipe base
- WikiTaaable: a semantic wiki for the Taaable knowledge base including a taxonomical domain ontology


## DSMW

- MW = MediaWiki, a wiki engine
- SMW = Semantic MW, a semantic wiki engine
- DSMW = Distributed SMW
- Several WikiTaaables


## http://kolflow.univ-nantes.fr

- Man-machine collaboration in continuous knowledge construction flows


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- Man-machine collaboration in continuous knowledge construction flows
- Merging the contents of two semantic wikis


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## Kolflow

## http://kolflow.univ-nantes.fr

- Man-machine collaboration in continuous knowledge construction flows
- Merging the contents of two semantic wikis
- The textual parts
- The knowledge parts
- Often, the two semantic wikis come from another one, so they are quite similar


## Knowledge representation in a semantic wiki: mainly class-superclass relations

$\square$

Browse
Main page
Recipe list
Food Ontology
Dish types
Dish roles
Origins
Diets
Culinary actions

Category:Melon
From Wikitaaable3ccc

## Description

Melon is a name given to various members of the plant family with sweet flavoured, fleshy fruit e.g. gourds or cucurbits. Melon can be referred as a


## Knowledge representation in a semantic wiki: mainly class-superclass relations



## Melon $\sqsubseteq$ Fruit

## Knowledge representation in a semantic wiki: mainly class-superclass relations



$$
\text { Melon } \sqsubseteq \text { Fruit }
$$

$$
\forall x \quad \operatorname{Melon}(x) \Rightarrow \operatorname{Fruit}(x)
$$

Merging taxonomies

## Taxonomy language

- $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$ : language of taxonomies

A formula of $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}: A \sqsubseteq B$
Deductive inferences based on the transitivity of $\sqsubseteq$


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- $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$ : language of taxonomies

A formula of $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}: A \sqsubseteq B$
Deductive inferences based on the transitivity of $\sqsubseteq$

- A taxonomy $\psi$ : a finite set of formulas of $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$
- Example:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\psi & =\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Apple } \sqsubseteq \text { Fruit, } & \text { Melon } \sqsubseteq \text { Fruit }, \\
\text { Fruit } \sqsubseteq \text { PlantFood, } & \text { Vegetable } \sqsubseteq \text { PlantFood }
\end{array}\right\} \\
\mathcal{V}(\psi) & =\{\text { Apple, Fruit, Melon, PlantFood, Vegetable }\}
\end{aligned}
$$

## PlantFood

## Merging two taxonomies, what does it mean?

- Usual intuition of merging $\psi_{1}$ and $\psi_{2}$ : minimally modify $\psi_{1}$ and $\psi_{2}$ into $\psi_{1}^{\prime}$ and $\psi_{2}^{\prime}$ so that their conjunction is consistent

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\Delta\left(\left\{\psi_{1}, \psi_{2}\right\}\right)=\psi_{1}^{\prime} \wedge \psi_{2}^{\prime}
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- Another definition of $\wedge$ is proposed for taxonomies.

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interpretation?

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interpretation? (incompleteness)


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1. $\psi_{2} \not \vDash$ Melon $\sqsubseteq$ Fruit
2. $\psi_{2} \models$ Melon $\not \subset$ Fruit
interpretation?
(incompleteness)
(closed-world assumption, CWA)

$$
\frac{\psi \not \models A \sqsubseteq B}{A \nsubseteq B} \mathrm{cwA}
$$

- A taxonomy $\psi$ of $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$ considered under CWA:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\widehat{\psi} & =\{A \sqsubseteq B \mid A, B \in \mathcal{V}(\psi), & & \psi \models A \sqsubseteq B\} \\
& \cup\{A \nsubseteq B \mid A, B \in \mathcal{V}(\psi), & & \psi \not \equiv A \sqsubseteq B\}
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- In the example, $\psi_{1} \wedge \psi_{2}$ is inconsistent, since $\psi_{1} \wedge \psi_{2} \supseteq\{$ Melon $\sqsubseteq$ Fruit, Melon $\nsubseteq$ Fruit $\}$

Taxonomy language with negations: $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$
$-\hat{\imath}: \psi \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}} \mapsto \widehat{\psi} \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}^{\mathcal{T}}$

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- $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$ 's formulas: $A \sqsubseteq B$ and $A \nsubseteq B$

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\begin{array}{llll}
A \sqsubseteq B & \text { means } & \forall x & A(x) \Rightarrow B(x) \\
A \nsubseteq B & \text { means } & \exists x & A(x) \wedge \neg B(x)
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- Remark: $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}$ is not propositionnaly closed


## Expected result of merging, on the example



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- Input: a set $\left\{\psi_{1}, \ldots, \psi_{n}\right\}$ of taxonomies (in practice, for the Kolflow project: $n=2$ )


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- Input: a set $\left\{\psi_{1}, \ldots, \psi_{n}\right\}$ of taxonomies (in practice, for the Kolflow project: $n=2$ )
- Output: $\Delta\left(\left\{\psi_{1}, \ldots, \psi_{n}\right\}\right)$ : a taxonomy


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5. Candidates $:=\left\{\begin{array}{l|l}\Gamma & \begin{array}{l}\alpha \subseteq \Gamma \subseteq \alpha \cup \delta \\ \Gamma \text { is consistent } \\ \Gamma \text { is maximal for } \subseteq\end{array}\end{array}\right\}$

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// magic step!
7. return deductive reduction of $\Gamma$

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- (A-5) and (A-6) only proven for binary merging ( $n=2$ ): sorry!
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- Complexity (of a straightforward algorithm): polynomial in $|\alpha|+$ exponential in $|\delta|$

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- More studies about the properties of the operator
- Integrating the user in the choice process (and reusing previous choices of users)
- Implementation, test, optimisation

