Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology HST.952: Computing for Biomedical Scientists

Data and Knowledge Representation Lecture 6



Last Time We Talked About

Medical Coding SystemsUMLS



Today We Will Talk About

Major KR schemes
Semantic Network
Frame-based Representation
Production Rules



Semantic Network

 An long existing notion: there are different pieces of knowledge of world, and they are all linked together through certain semantics.



Basic Components

Nodes
Represent concepts
Arcs
Represent relations
Labels for nodes and arcs





Relation

- Directed or non-directed
- Multiple relations between two concepts
- Can have different properties
 - Reflexive (e.g. concurrence)
 - Transitive (e.g. causal)
 - Symmetric (e.g. sibling)
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Some Often Used Relations in Biomedical Domain

IS A
IS PART OF
CAUSE OF
MEASURES
CO-OCCURS



Major Limitation

- Lack of Semantics
 - No formal semantic of the relations
 - E.g. Does "ISA" mean subclass, member, etc?
 - Possible multiple interpretations
 - Restricted expressiveness
 - E.g. can not distinguish between instance and class

Extension

- Extending expressivity (distinguish different types of concepts and relations"
 - Distinguish between "some" and "all"
 - Distinguish between "existence" and "intension"
 - Distinguish between "definition" and "assertion"
- Add semantic rigor
 Map to logic (Sowa CG)

UMLS Semantic Network – Concept Hierarchy



http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/archive/2002AA/META3.HTML Figure 1

UMLS Semantic Network – Relation Hierarchy



http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/archive/2002AA/META3.HTML Figure 2

UMLS Semantic Network – Relation Constraints



http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/archive/2002AA/META3.HTML Figure 3

Frame-based Network

- Distinguish instance vs. class
- Hierarchical structure (superclass and subclass)
- Multiple hierarchy
- Slots
 - Member slot
 - Own slot

Slot

- Frame identifying information
- Relationship between frames
- Descriptors of requirements for frame match
- Procedural information
- Default information
- Restrictions and constraints
- New instance information



Strength

Help organize knowledge hierarchically
Procedure information
Support multiple inheritance



Weakness

- Expressiveness (e.g. quantifier)
- Inheritance
 - Sub classing (override slot value)
 - Multiple inheritance
- Large complex knowledge system

Example: MED

http://www.cpmc.columbia.edu/homepages/dab7001/topics/index.html



Example: Protégé

http://protege.stanford.edu/



Production Rules

- Also called IF-THEN rules
- Many forms:
 - IF condition THEN action
 - IF premise THEN conclusion
 - IF proposition p1 and proposition p2 are true THEN proposition p3 is true

Components

Rule base
Inference engine
Working memory

Inference

Modus ponens
Forward chaining
Modus tollens
Background chaining

Example: MYCIN

IF the identity of the germ is not known with certainty AND the germ is gram-positive AND the morphology of the organism is "rod" AND the germ is aerobic THEN there is a strong probability (0.8) that the germ is of type enterobacteriacae

Pro and Con

Pro Modular Natural Con Not efficient Not expressive



Exercise

"Mrs Z.N. : 35 yr old farmer labourer from the Kwazulu-Natal province. She presented with a one week history of right sided pleuritic chest pain. The onset was sudden. This was associated with a warm flushing feeling and dizziness. There was also a pain in the right upper quadrant of her abdomen. There was no history of shortness of breath, cough or wheezing. There were no cardiac symptoms, no symptoms of malaise or loss of weight. No history of fevers. She was not a smoker and drank no alcohol. Of note is that she admitted to eating the entrails of the goats that she keeps." http://www.wits.ac.za/fac/med/pulmonology/case1.htm



Exercise

- Represent the information in semantic network
- Represent the information in frame-based network



Exercise

- The thyroid gland is located at the base of your neck in front of your trachea (or windpipe). It has two sides and is shaped like a butterfly.
- The thyroid gland makes, stores, and releases two hormones T4 (thyroxine) and T3 (triiodothyronine). Thyroid hormones control the rate at which every part of your body works. This is called your metabolism. Your metabolism controls whether you feel hot or cold or tired or rested. When your thyroid gland is working the way it should, your metabolism stays at a steady pace -not too fast or too slow.
- If no cancer cells are found, your doctor may prescribe a thyroid hormone to decrease the size of your nodule. Or, your doctor may suggest surgery to remove it. If cancer cells are found, further treatment will be needed. Thyroid cancer usually can be treated with success.





• Which representation scheme to choose?



Knowledge Representation Process

- Identify Needs
- Conceptualization
- Formalization
- Implementation
- Evaluation



Reading

• Sowa Chap. 4

