

# Combining Existential Rules and Description Logics

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# Open-world query answering (QA)

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- We are **given**:

 Relational **instance**  $I$  (ground facts)

 Logical **constraints**  $\Sigma$

 Boolean conjunctive **query**  $q$

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- Consider all possible **completions**  $J \supseteq I$
  - Restrict to those that satisfy the **constraints**  $\Sigma$
- Is  $q$  **certain** among them?

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Open-world query answering: – query entailment or containment

- We are given:



Relational instance  $I$  (ground facts) – A-Box



Logical constraints  $\Sigma$  – T-Box



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Arity-two only 

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→ QA is **decidable** for **either** language

# Our problem

Can we have the best of both worlds?

- QA is decidable for **rich DLs** (i.e., expressible in  $GC^2$ , guarded two-variable first-order logic with counting)
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We show:

- QA is **undecidable** for rich DLs and **frontier-guarded rules**
- QA with rich DLs is **decidable** for some new **rule classes**
- **Functional dependencies** can be added under some **conditions**

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- 1 Problem statement
- 2 Undecidability**
- 3 Decidability
- 4 Adding FDs
- 5 Conclusion

# Undecidability of frontier-guarded plus DLs

## Theorem

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- DLs can express **Func** ( $\leftrightarrow$  **functional dependencies**, FDs)
- Frontier-guarded can express **inclusion dependencies** (IDs)
- **Implication** of IDs and FDs is **undecidable** [Mitchell, 1983]
- Implication **reduces to** QA [Calì et al., 2003]

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QA is *undecidable* for rich DLs and frontier-one rules

Problem:

- Rule heads and bodies may contain **cycles**
  - We have **Funct** assertions
- We can build a **grid** and encode **tiling problems**

# Undecidability of frontier-one plus DLs: proof

We reduce from **tiling problems**:

- finite set of **colors**: , , 

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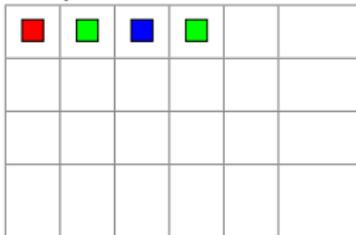
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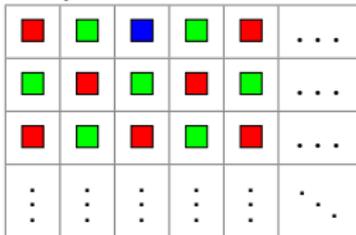
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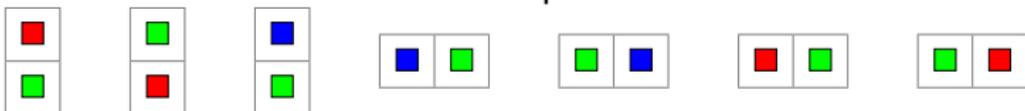
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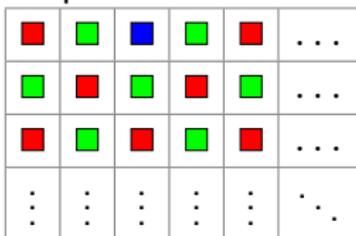
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→ **Undecidable** for some sets of colors and configurations

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- **Functional** relations  $D$  for **down** and  $R$  for **right**
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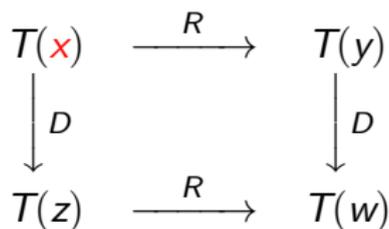
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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T(x) & \xrightarrow{R} & T(y) \\
 \downarrow D & & \downarrow D \\
 T(z) & \xrightarrow{R} & T(w)
 \end{array}$$

→ There is an **extension of the instance** iff there is a **tiling**

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# Decidability of non-looping frontier-one and DLs

Idea: prohibit **cycles** in existential rules:

- $R(x, y) S(y, z) T(z, x)$  is a **cycle**
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# Decidability of non-looping frontier-one and DLs

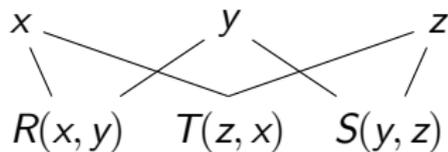
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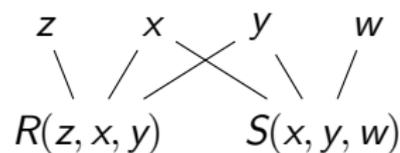
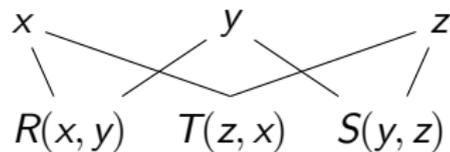
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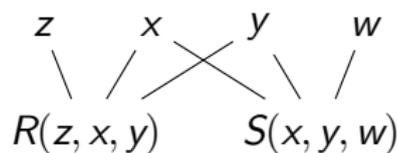
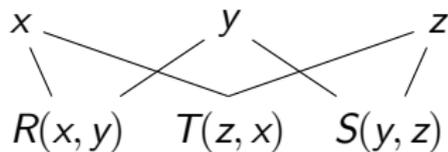
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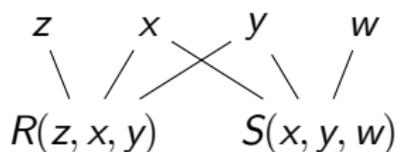
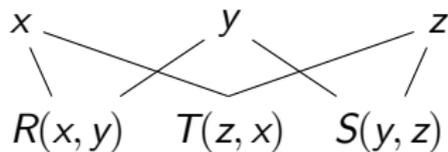
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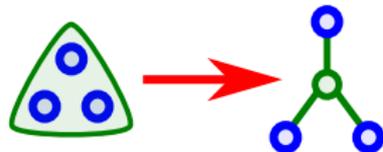
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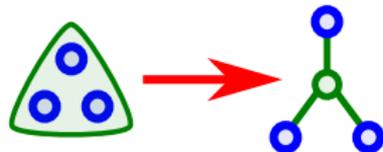
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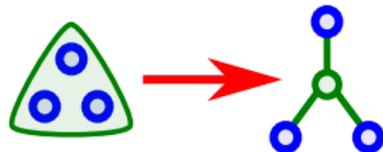
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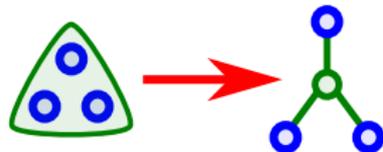
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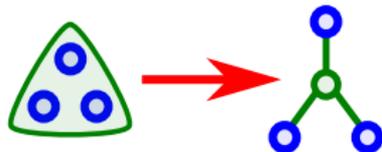


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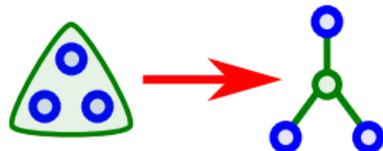


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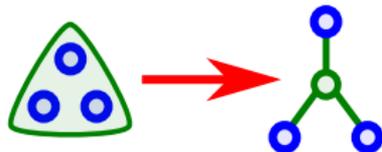


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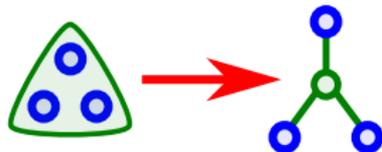


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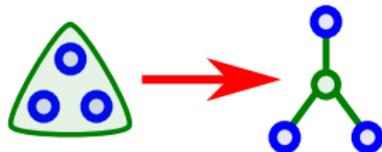


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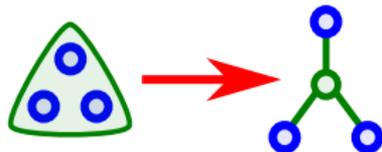


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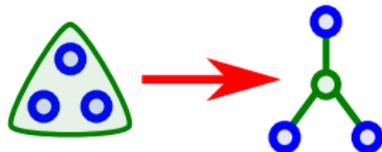


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- Reduces to **QA for  $GC^2$** : decidable [Pratt-Hartmann, 2009]

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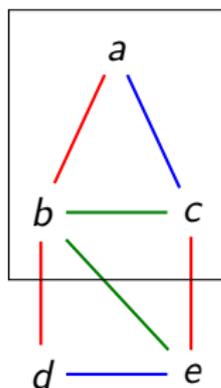
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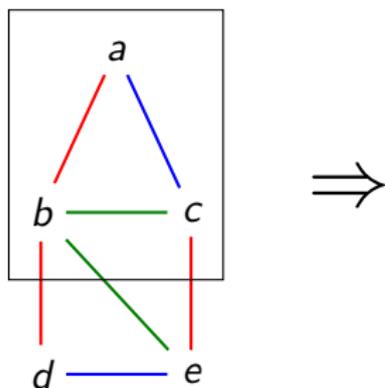
Basic idea:

- If there is a counterexample model to QA, we can **unravel it**
    - It is still a **counterexample**
    - It has **no cycles** (except in the instance part)
- **Looping** rule bodies can only match on the **instance part**

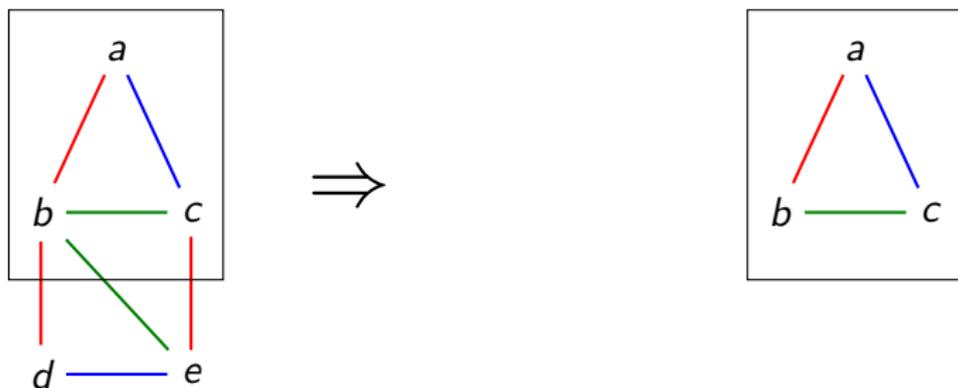
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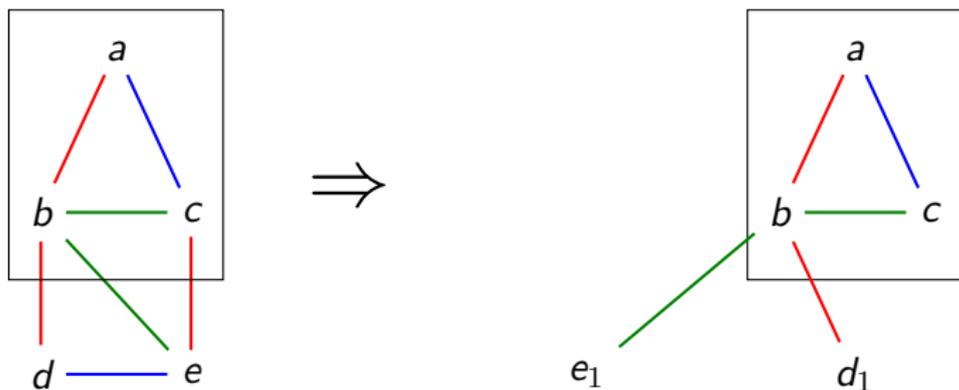
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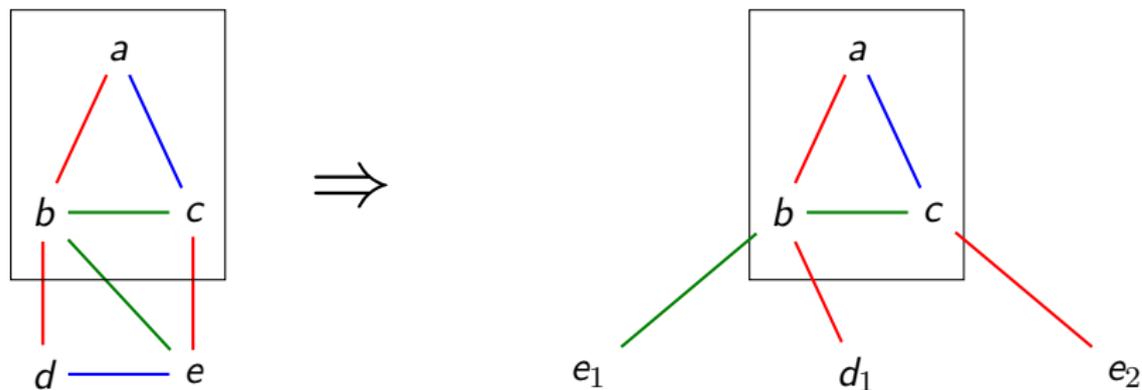
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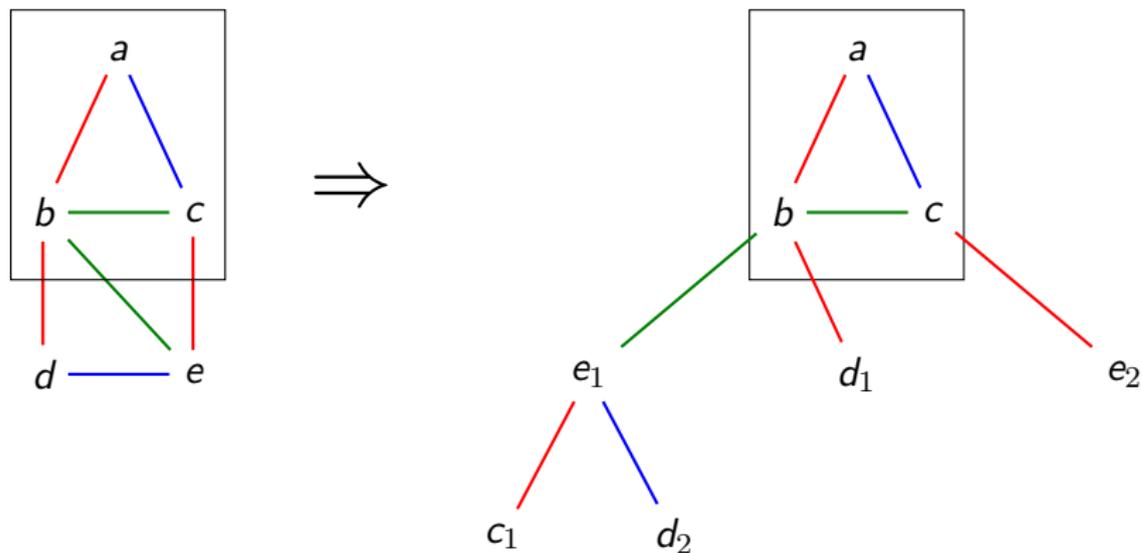
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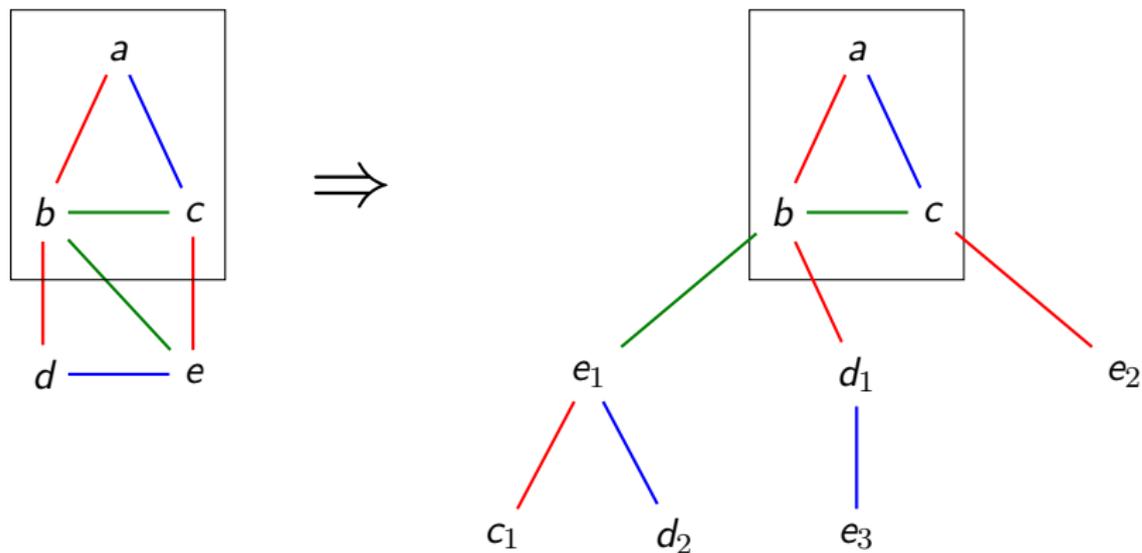
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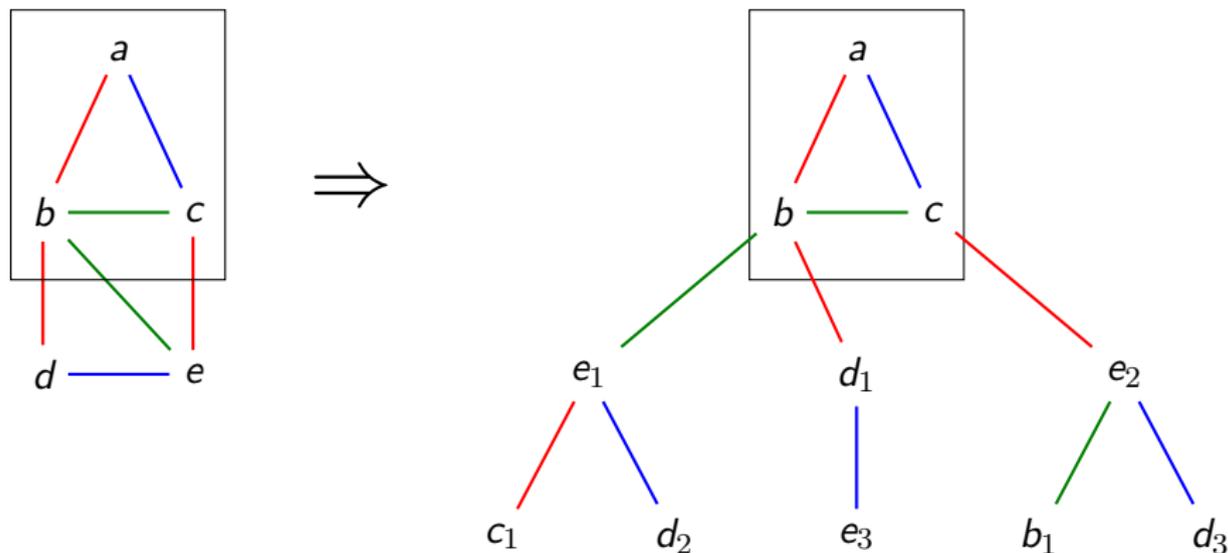
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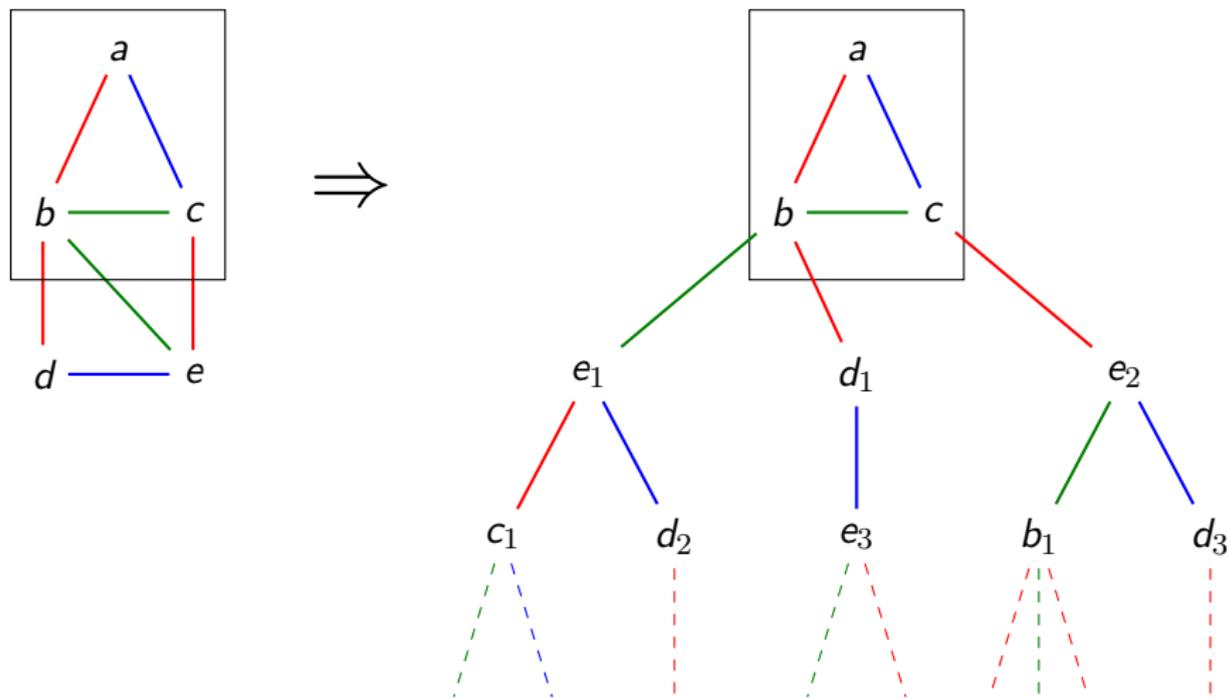
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- 2 Undecidability
- 3 Decidability
- 4 Adding FDs**
- 5 Conclusion

# Adding functional dependencies

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- We have **functional dependencies**  $\text{Func}(R)$  on **binary relations**
- Could we also allow **FDs** on **higher-arity relations**?  
**Ex.:**  $\text{Talk}[\textit{speaker}, \textit{session}]$  determines  $\text{Talk}[\textit{title}]$

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*QA for FDs and linear frontier-one rules is undecidable.*

### Proof ideas:

- Reduce from **implication** of unary FDs and **frontier-2** IDs
- Leverage **variable reuse** and FDs to export two variables:  
to encode the ID  $R[1, 2] \subseteq R[3, 4]$  with the FD  $R[1] \rightarrow R[2]$ ,  
write  $R(x, y, z, w) \Rightarrow R(x, y', x, y')$ : we must have  $y = y'$

→ We need an **additional restriction** for decidability

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Consider QA under **single-head rules**  $\Sigma$  and **FDs**  $\Phi$

- $\Sigma$  and  $\Phi$  are **separable** if  $\text{QA}(\Sigma, \Phi) \Leftrightarrow \text{QA}(\Sigma)$  when  $I \models \Phi$
- Separability guaranteed under the **non-conflicting condition**:
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QA is *decidable* for:

- Rich DL constraints (with Funct)
- *Single-head* (hence, head-non-looping) frontier-one rules
- *Non-conflicting* FDs (on higher-arity predicates)

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- if  $S' = S$  for  $S'$  an FD determiner
  - copy **only one such fact**, distinguish its other elements (no equality between them is **required** by the constraints)

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## Summary of results

# Combining Existential Rules and Description Logics

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  - QA is **decidable** for head-non-looping frontier-one + rich DLs
  - Can add **non-conflicting FDs**
- What about QA on **finite models**?
- Could we have an expressive **frontier-one** language? (FDs, disjunctions... like DLs but higher-arity)

## Related things I work on

- Adding **transitive** and **order relations** to existential rules<sup>1</sup>
  - QA for frontier-guarded is **decidable** with transitive relations
  - Also for **order relations** (with atom-covered requirement)

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Thanks for your attention!

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