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# Efficient Dependency Analysis for Rule-Based Ontologies

ISWC 2022, 26th October 2022

# Motivation

human(x)  $\rightarrow$   $\exists p.$  child(x, p) human(p)

parent(x, y)  $\rightarrow$  child(y, x)

father(x, y)  $\rightarrow$  parent(x, y)

father(bob, alice)  
human(bob) human(alice)



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human(x)  $\rightarrow$   $\exists p.$  child(x, p) human(p)

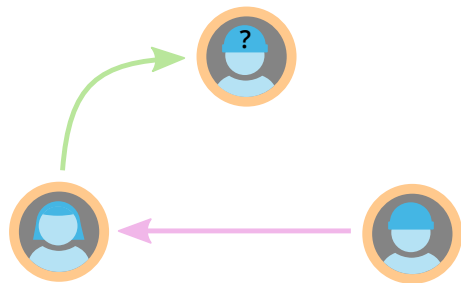
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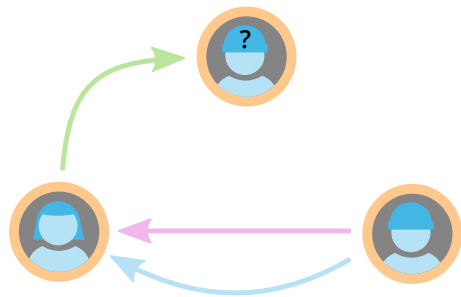
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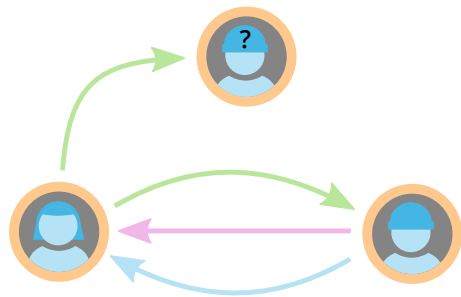
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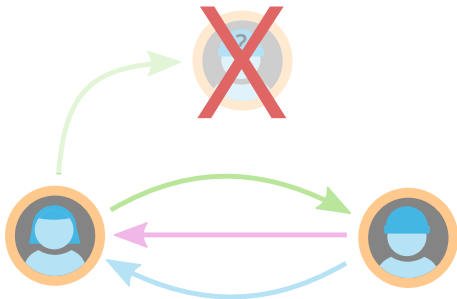
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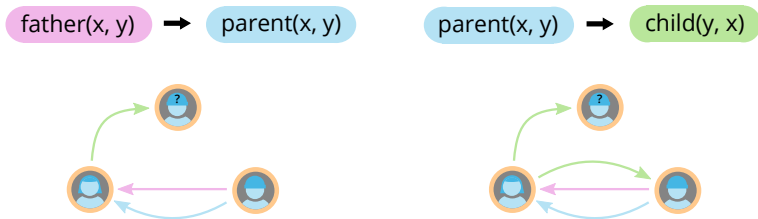


# Reliances

**Reliances** describe interactions between rules

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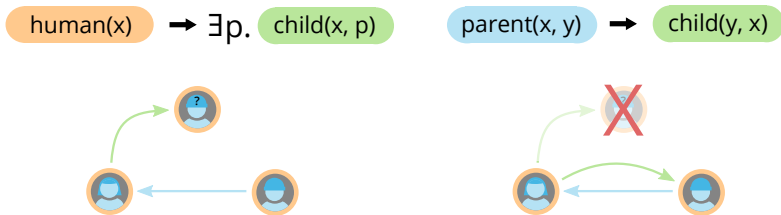
A rule **positively relies** on another rule if the application of the first enables the application of the second.

- Important termination criterion



# Reliances

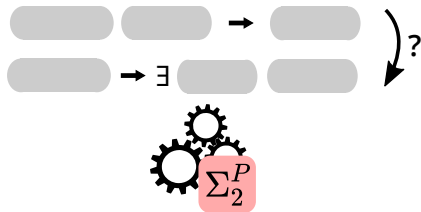
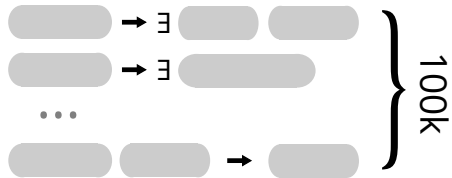
**Reliances** describe interactions between rules



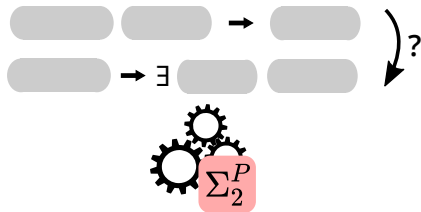
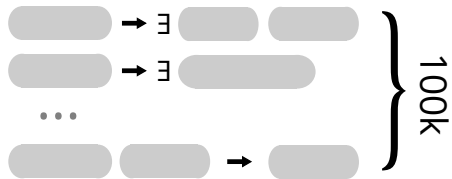
A rule **restrains** another rule if applying the second before the first introduces a redundancy.

- Checking for core stratification

# Computing Reliances is Hard



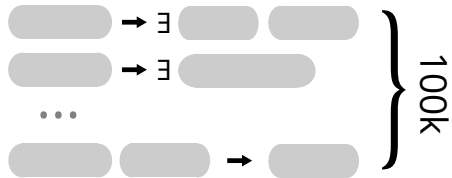
# Computing Reliances is Hard



## Global Optimizations

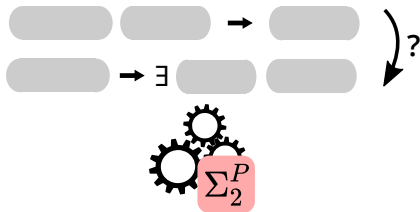
Reduce number of  
considered rule pairs

# Computing Reliances is Hard



## Global Optimizations

Reduce number of considered rule pairs

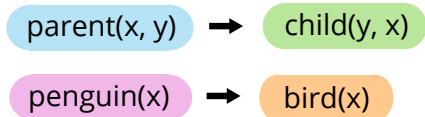


## Local Optimizations

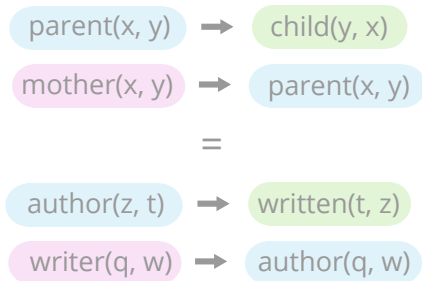
Reduce effort of computing reliance for a single pair

# Global Optimizations

**Goal:** Reduce the number of considered rule pairs



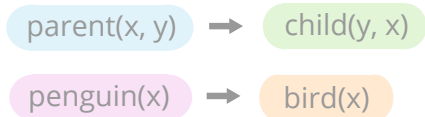
Only consider compatible  
rules



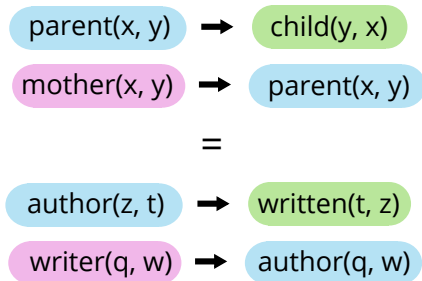
Hash previous results

# Global Optimizations

**Goal:** Reduce the number of considered rule pairs



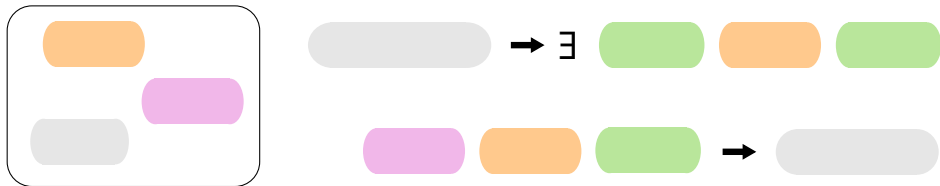
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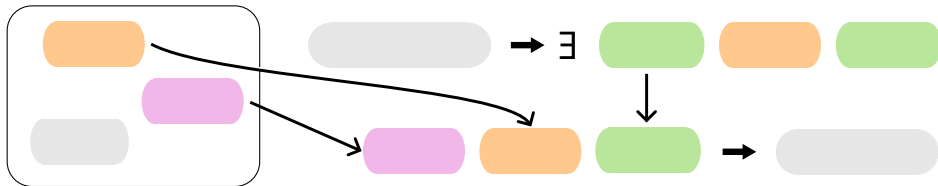
# Local Optimizations

**Goal:** Check whether there is a positive reliance



# Local Optimizations

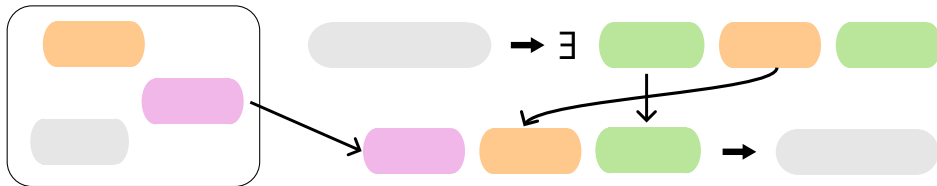
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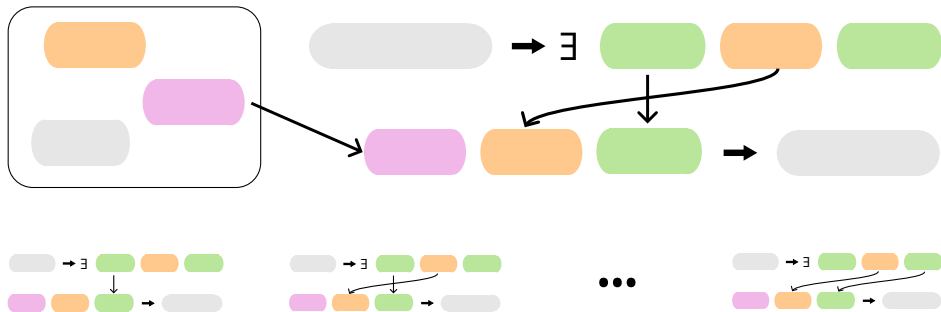
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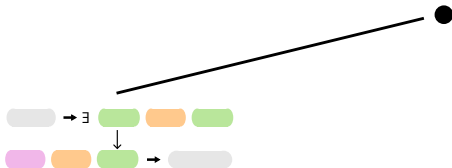
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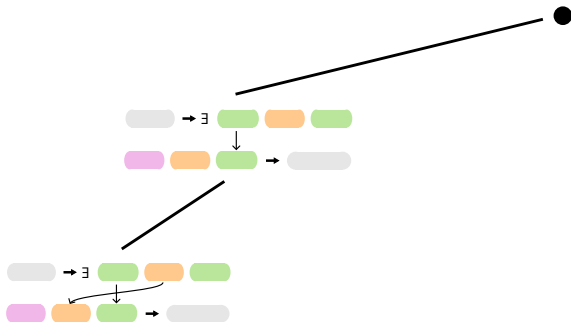


**Problem:** Exponentially many possibilities

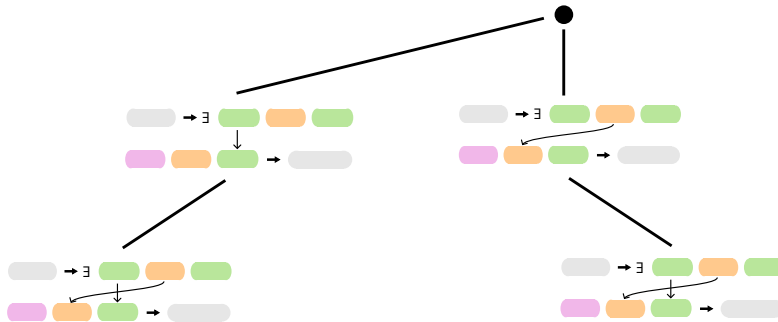
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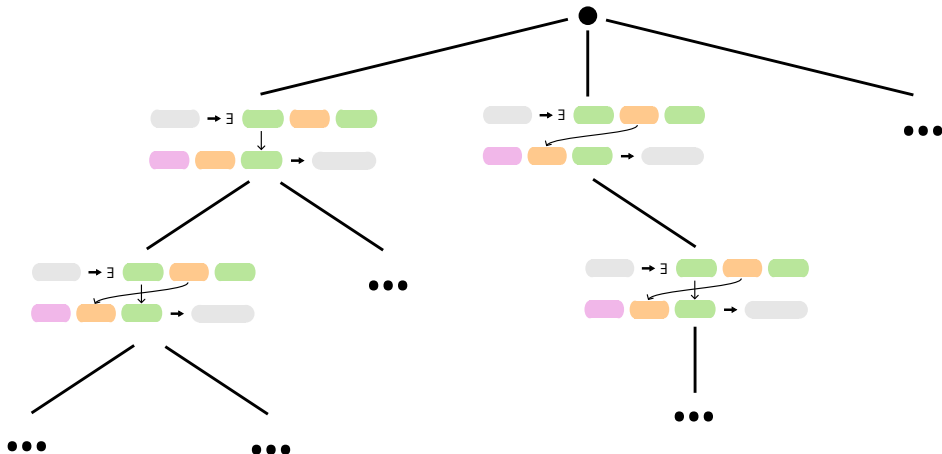
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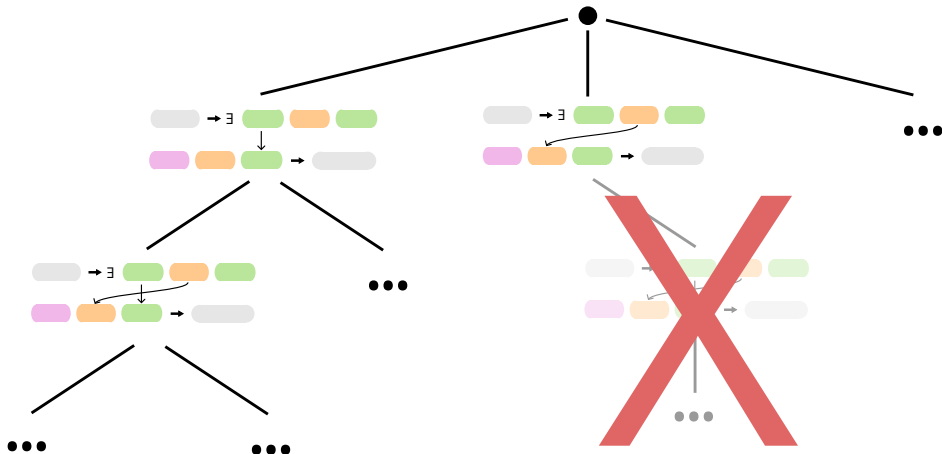
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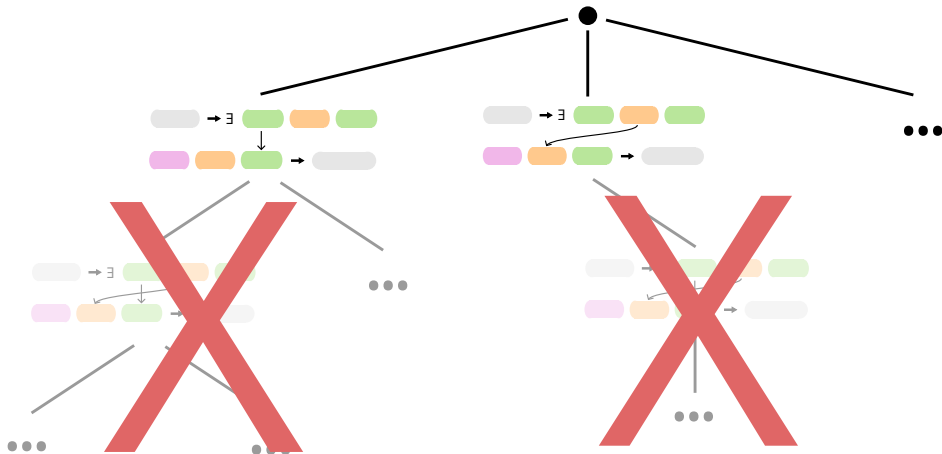
# Local Optimizations



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# Local Optimizations





# Experiments

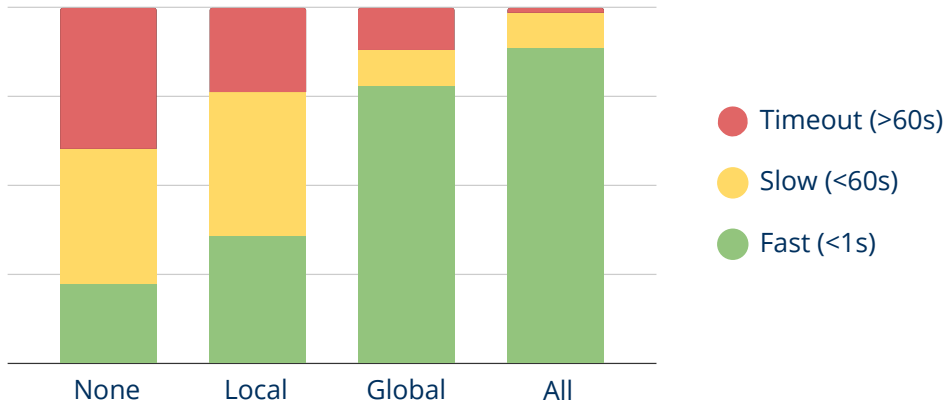
## Oxford Ontology Repository

- 201 rule sets of various sizes
  - 63 small (<1000 rules)
  - 90 medium (<10.000 rules)
  - 49 large (>10.000 rules)
- Individual rules contain up to 31 atoms

## Questions

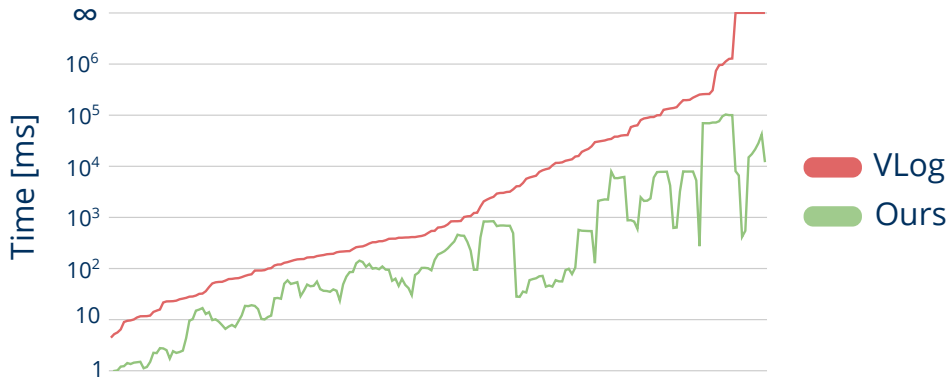
- Impact of optimizations
- Speedup in example applications
- Proportion of core stratified rule sets

# Impact of Optimizations



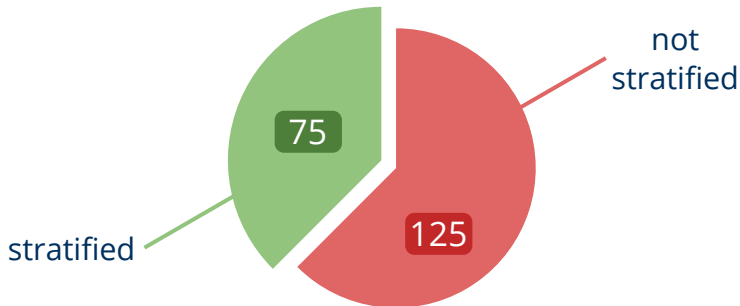
# Application – MFA

## MFA: Expensive termination criterion



# Proportion of Core Stratification

**Core-Stratification:** Redundancy can be avoided



**Future work:** Improved notion might cover more cases

# Summary

## What have we learned?

- Computing reliances is feasible
- Performance of applications was improved
- Core stratification appears often in practice

More scalable computation obtaining more natural results for rule-based reasoning with ontologies and knowledge graphs

## What is left to do?

- Utilize reliances to speed up reasoning
- Improve the notion of core stratification