Detecting fake news using machine learning and reasoning in Description Logic

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Myth #1: The day in which you were born guides you to choose a profession

best suited for your abilities. It also increases your chances of success in the career.

Example (Those born on 1st, 10th, 19th, 28th)

The ruling planet for *number 1* is the Sun. They are born *leaders*. They are risk takers with a 'never surrender' attitude, which makes them excel in *business*. Elon Musk and Bill Gates belong to these dates. Business is the best career for number 1 individuals.

Example (Those born on 2nd, 11th, 20th, 29th)

They are *creative* people. The best suitable career options for them is diplomacy, arts, acting, fashion designing. Jennifer Aniston and Leornado Di Caprio were born on these dates.

- Pick classes from YAGO/DBPEDIA, representing succesfull careers according to the myth: leader, political leader, executive director, managing director.
- Calculate the proportion p_1 of people born in days 1, 10, 19 and 28 that are part of the chosen classes. Find the sample size n_1 .
- 3 Calculate the proportion p_2 of people born in the other days that are part of the chosen classes. Find the sample size n_2 .
- Compare the proportions. Check how is the difference compared to $\delta = 15\%$. Calculate p-value to find out if the results are relevant

How many leaders were born on day 10?

```
SELECT COUNT(?person) as ?nr_persons
WHERE { ?person yago:wasBornOnDate ?date ;
    rdf:type ?person_type ;
    rdf:type ?class .
    ?class rdfs:label "leader"@eng
    ?person_type rdfs:label "person"@eng .
FILTER (datatype(?date) = xsd:date
    && fn:month-from-date(xsd:date(?date)) = 7
    && fn:day-from-date(xsd:date(?date)) = 10)}
```

Career	<i>n</i> 1	n ₂	p_1	<i>p</i> ₂	
leader			0.00848	0.00832	$1.89 imes 10^{-46}$
political leader	1,660,382	10,441,109	0.00292	0.00278	6.27×10^{-10}
executive director			0.00122	0.00116	$5.25 imes 10^{-5}$
managing director			0.00148	0.00145	4.95×10^{-10}
artist			0.004274	0.00437	2.84×10^{-41}
actor	1,546,551	10,554,940	0.003862	0.003834	$5.6 imes 10^{-25}$
diplomat			0.000361	0.000348	0.00778

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1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Myth #2: The 'life path number' tells us if two persons are compatible

Repeatedly summing all the digits in one's birth date (e.g. $01.02.1998 \rightarrow 2$)

Example (LPN=1 compatible 3, 5, and 6)

Number 1's can sometimes be a little bossy and opinionated. 3 and 5 can put up with this sort of character as they have traits that can help them deal with this easier. [...]

Example (LPT=2 compatible 6, 8, and 9)

LPT=2, you are a natural peacemaker and will often see all sides of a story. You find it easy to deal with difficult situations too. This makes you very compatible with the number 8, who can sometimes become quite indecisive at times.

- Get the dates of birth for each married couple in DBpedia
- Calculate the proportion p₁ of people with *lpn* = 1 which are married to someone with *lpn* ∈ {3,5,6}
- 3 Calculate the proportion p₂ of people with *lpn* ∉ {1,3,5,6} which are married to someone with *lpn* ∈ {3,5,6}
 - Compare the proportions. Check if the result is larger than a threshold (15%)
 - Calculate p-value

Retrieving the birth dates of each married couple



lpn	'compatible' lpns	<i>n</i> 1	n ₂	p_1	<i>p</i> ₂	
1	3, 5 ,6	3,316	25,837	0.3543	0.3638	$2.06 imes 10^{-13}$
2	6, 8 ,9	3,228	25,925	0.3782	0.3767	$6.01 imes 10^{-10}$
3	1, 5, 7	3,011	26,142	0.3251	0.2996	0.0155
4	1, 8, 7	3,400	25,753	0.3321	0.3507	$6.41 imes 10^{-17}$
5	1, 3, 7	3,283	25,870	0.3290	0.3340	$1.26 imes 10^{-10}$
6	1, 2, 8, 9	3,199	25,954	0.4495	0.4432	$5.27 imes 10^{-11}$
7	3, 5	3,223	25,930	0.2144	0.2132	$2.97 imes10^{-5}$
8	2, 4, 6	3,332	25,821	0.3190	0.3293	$1.81 imes 10^{-12}$
9	2, 6	3,161	25,992	0.2186	0.2127	0.000 418

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Semantic Web Vision

"The Semantic Web is not a separate Web but an extension of the current one, in which information is given well-defined meaning, better enabling computers and people to work in cooperation."



Tim Barners Lee



Social Web



Semantic Web





Myth

5G mobile networks spread Covid-19

Exposing yourself to temperatures higher than 25C degrees prevents COVID

Drinking excessive amounts of water can flush out the virus

Regularly rinsing your nose with saline help prevent infection with Covid-19 Eating raw ginger counters the coronavirus

Antibiotics are effective in preventing and treating the new coronavirus

High dose of Vitamin C heals Covid-19

The new coronavirus can be transmitted through mosquito

Covid-19 can affect elderly only



Example (Terminological box)

 "Coronavirus disease (COVID) is an infectious caused by a newly discovered coronavirus"
 (1)

 COVID ≡ CoronavirusDisease
 (1)

 InfectiousDisease ⊑ Disease
 (2)

 CoronavirusDisease ⊑ InfectiosDisease □ ∀causedBy.NewCoronavirus
 (3)

Example (Assertional Box)	
SARS-CoV-2 : Virus	(4)
hasSource(SARS-CoV-2, bat)	(5)

Example (Incoherent ontology)	
Covid-19 _ InfectionDisease	(6)
Covid-19 $\sqsubseteq \neg$ <i>InfectionDisease</i>	(7)

Example (Reasoning to detect incoherence)	(8)
InfectiousDisease \Box Disease $\sqcap \exists$ causedBy.(Bacteria \sqcup Virus \sqcup Fungi \sqcup Parasites)	(9)
Covid-19 ⊑ <i>¬Disease</i>	(10)

Example (OIL antipattern)	
OIL_1 : Antibiotics $\sqsubseteq \forall kills. Virus$	(11)
OIL_2 : Antibiotics $\sqsubseteq \forall kills.Bacteria$	(12)
OIL₃ : Virus ⊏ ¬Bacteria	(13)

Myth: 5G mobile networks spread Covid-19			
5G : MobileNetwork	(14)		
covid19 : Virus	(15)		
spread(5G, covid19)	(16)		

Fact: Viruses can not travel on radio waves/mobile networks

Virus $\sqsubseteq \neg (\exists travel.(RadioWaves \sqcup MobileNetworks))$

(17)

Detecting inconsistencies

$Virus \sqsubseteq \neg (\exists travel.MobileNetworks)$	(18)
$Virus \sqsubseteq \forall travel. \neg MobileNetworks$	(19)
$Virus \sqsubseteq \forall spread. \neg MobileNetworks$	(20)

Here we need the subsumption relation between roles (*travel* \sqsubseteq *spread*). The reasoner finds that the individual 5G (which is a mobile network by axiom (14)) that spreads *COVID*19 (which is a virus by axiom (15)) is in conflict with the axiom (20).

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Fake news detector

Myth: Covid-19 can affect elderly only			
C	ovid-19 ⊑ ∀ <i>affects.Elderly</i>	(21)	
Fact: Covid-19 can affect anyone			
C	ovid-19 ⊑ ∀ <i>affects.Person</i>	(22)	
Detecting inconsistency: Abox + background knowledge			
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	5 5		
é	affectedBy(jon, Covid-19)	(23)	
	hasAge(jon, 40)	(24)	
$Elderly \sqsubseteq Person \sqcap (> hasAge 65) $ (2)			
	a ffects $^- \equiv a$ ffectedBy	(26)	
$Covid-19 \equiv one - of(Covid-19) $ (2)			

Step 1: "Covid-19 can affect elderly only"



Step 2: "Covid-19 can affect anyone"



- Step 3: Merge ontologies
- Step 4: Add background knowledge
- Step 5: Detect inconsistency/incoherence
- Step 6: Verbalise the inconsistency

Covid-19 $\sqsubseteq \forall a \textit{ffects}. \textit{Person}$ can be learned from data

Learning description logic concepts

Example (Father example: Background knowledge)

 $Male \sqsubseteq \neg Female$ markus : Male, heinz : Male, stefan : Male, martin : Male anna : Female, michelle : Female $\langle markus, anna \rangle$: hasChild, $\langle anna, heinz \rangle$: hasChild $\langle stefan, markus \rangle$: hasChild, $\langle martin, heinz \rangle$: hasChild

Example (Training examples)

Positive: stefan, markus, martin

Negative: heinz, anna, michelle

Results (CELOE algorithm)

Solution	Father	Accuracy	F-measure
1	Male ⊓ ∃hasChild.⊤	1	1
2	<i>¬Female ⊓</i> ∃hasChild.⊤	1	1
3	$Male \sqcap (Female \sqcup \exists hasChild. \top)$	1	1
4	<i>Female</i> \sqcup (\exists <i>hasChild</i> . \top) $\sqcap \neg$ <i>Female</i>)	1	1
5	$Male \sqcap (\neg Male \sqcup \exists hasChild. \top)$	1	1
6	Male	0.83	0.86
7	¬Female	0.83	0.86

Class Expression Learner for Ontology Eng.

- Generate and test: generates a set of class expressions C_i ordered based on an heuristic (Inductive Logic Programming)
- Semi-automatic approach to add axioms of the form *Target* ≡ C_i, *Target* ⊑ C_i
- Combination of a refinement operator and a search algorithm (very large search space)
- Top-down search

 $\top \rightsquigarrow Disease \rightsquigarrow Disease \sqcap \exists hasSymptom. \top \rightsquigarrow Disease \sqcap \exists hasSympthom. Fever Dataset (https://github.com/nshomron/covidpred): 14,729 (+) and 260,227 (-)$

- Covid-19_Symptom SubClassOf Symptom
- female SubClassOf Person
- male SubClassOf Person
- Person DisjointWith Symptom
- female DisjointWith male
- cough Type Covid-19_Symptom
- fever Type Covid-19_Symptom
- head_ache Type Covid-19_Symptom
- shortness_of_breath Type Covid-19_Symptom
- sore_throat Type Covid-19_Symptom
- hasSymptom Domain Person
- hasSymptom Range Symptom



person-97 Type contact, with, confirmed
 person-97 Type male
 person-98 Type Person
 person-98 Type age 60, and, above
 person-98 Type male
 shortness, of, breath Type Covid-19, Symptom
 sore, throat Type Covid-19, Symptom
 person-1 hasSymptom cough
 person-14 hasSymptom cough

Example (Natural language counter speech)

From input text: SARS-CoV-2 is a Bacterium. From trusted sources (counterspeech):

From trusted sources (counterspeed

1. No Virus is a Bacterium.

(https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters)

2. SARS-CoV-2 is a Virus. (https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/sars-cov-2)

Conclusion

- We built an automated fact checker with explanations
- The trusted knowledge can be:
 - 1 imported from the Semantic Web
 - 2 generated from NL (based on FRED)
 - 3 learned from data (based on DL-Learner and inductive logic programming); human-in-the-loop
- Detecting fake news triggers a counterspeech generation



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Formalising negation

You can not recover from the coronavirus infection



Modalities



Test sentences

#	Sentence	Verdict	Comment
1	Viruses are not bacteria.	true	Type Negation Pattern - plural
2	A virus is not a bacterium.	true	Type Negation Pattern - singular
3	Bacteria are viruses.	false	Positive form of (2), incoherent, DS
4	Antibiotics kill viruses.	false	VerbNet Role Pattern: Agent, Patient; inconsistent
5	Bacitracin kills viruses.	false	(4) + WordNet
6	Amoxicillin kills retrovirus.	false	(4) + WordNet
7	Amoxicillin kills retrovirus. Bacteria are not viruses.	false	Composed: $(1) + (6)$, with entailed axioms
8	Covid-19 is caused by SARS-CoV-2.	true	VerbNet Role Pattern: Theme1, Theme2
9	Covid-19 is caused by a coronavirus.	true	(8) + concept matching
10	Covid-19 is caused by a bacterium.	false	(9) + inconsistency
11	SARS-Cov-2 is a virus and a bacterium.	false	and
12	SARS-CoV-2 is a virus or a bacterium or an infection.	true	Type disjunction pattern
13	Vitamin C heals Covid-19.	false	VerbNet Role Pattern, inconsistent
14	Sars-CoV-2 is a virus.	true	
15	Sars-CoV-2 is not a virus.	false	Type Negation Pattern, instance matching
16	Sars-CoV-2 is not a Bacterium.	true	Type Negation Pattern, instance matching