Contents

List of Figures ..... **xiii**

Preface ..... **xv**

Acknowledgments ..... **xix**

1 Introduction **1**

1.1 Ontology-Based Interpretation of Natural Language 2
1.2 State of the Art in Natural Language Processing 6
1.3 Relation to the Semantic Web 9
1.4 What You Need to Know About RDF 11
1.5 What You Need to Know About Soccer 13

2 Ontologies **17**

2.1 Defining Ontologies 17
2.2 Ontologies in First-Order Logic 21
2.3 Ontologies in Description Logics 24
2.3.1 OWL DL or $\mathcal{SHOIN}$(**D**) 26
2.3.2 OWL 2 DL or $\mathcal{SROIQ}$(**D**) 27
2.4 Further Reading 31

3 Linguistic Formalisms **33**

3.1 Form and Meaning 33
3.2 Syntactic Representations: LTAG 34
3.3 Aligning Syntactic Representations to an Ontology 39
3.4 Semantic Representations: DRT 41
3.5 Aligning Semantic Representations to an Ontology 44
3.6 From DRT to DUDES: Pairing Syntactic and Semantic Representations 45
3.7 Quantifiers and Negation 49
3.8 Further Reading 57

4 Ontology Lexica 59

4.1 The *lemon* Model 59
4.2 Using LexInfo as Linguistic Ontology 64
4.3 Modeling Word Classes in *lemon* 67
4.3.1 Proper Nouns 67
4.3.2 Nouns 68
4.3.3 Verbs 71
4.3.4 Adjectives 75
4.3.5 Adverbs 79
4.4 Further Reading 79

5 Grammar Generation 81

5.1 From Ontology Lexica to Grammars 81
5.2 Generating Noun Entries 83
5.3 Generating Verb Entries 85
5.4 Generating Adjective Entries 90
5.5 Implementation 93
5.6 Further Reading 94

6 Putting Everything Together 95

6.1 From Conceptualizations to Meaning Representations 95
6.2 Challenges 102

7 Ontological Reasoning for Ambiguity Resolution 107

7.1 Ambiguities in the Context of Ontology-Based Interpretation 107
7.2 Representing and Resolving Ambiguities 109
7.2.1 Enumeration 109
7.2.2 Underspecification 111
7.3 Further Reading 115

8 Temporal Interpretation 117

8.1 The Time Ontology 117
8.1.1 Temporal Entities and their Ordering 118
8.1.2 Temporal Relations 119
8.1.3 The Structure of Time 122
8.2 Temporal Interpretation with Respect to the Time Ontology 123
8.3 Further Reading 129

9 Ontology-Based Interpretation for Question Answering 131
9.1 Question Answering over Structured Data 131
9.2 Querying Structured Data 133
9.3 From Natural Language Questions to Answers 135
9.4 Implementation 140
9.5 Further Reading 140

10 Conclusion 141

Bibliography 145

Authors' Biographies 157