

# The Price of Selfishness

## Conjunctive Query Entailment for $ALC_{Self}$ is 2ExpTime-hard

February 22 - March 1 2022, AAI 2022

Bartosz "Bart" Bednarczyk, Sebastian Rudolph

TU DRESDEN & UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW



**TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DRESDEN**



Uniwersytet  
Wrocławski



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

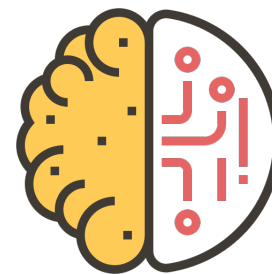
## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

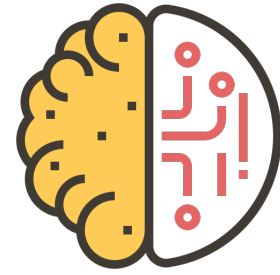
## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



*hasParent*(Heracles, Zeus)

Knowledge (TBox)



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

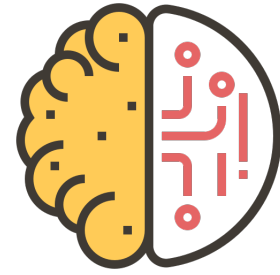
Database (ABox)



*hasParent*(Heracles, Zeus)

*Diety*(Zeus), *Female*(Rhea)

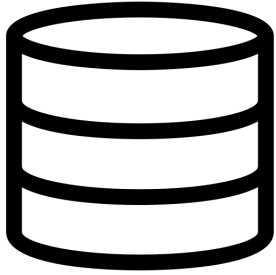
Knowledge (TBox)



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)

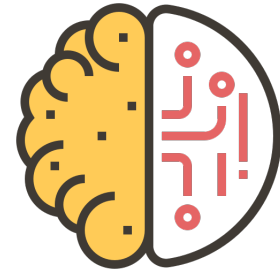


*hasParent*(Heracles, Zeus)

*Diety*(Zeus), *Female*(Rhea)

*Narcissist*(Narcissus)

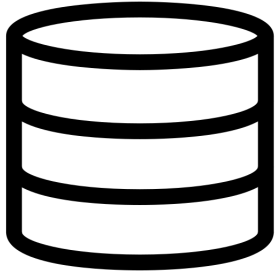
Knowledge (TBox)



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)

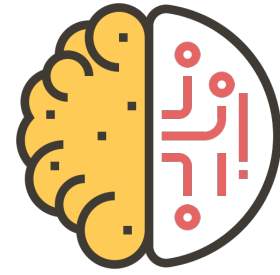


$hasParent(\text{Heracles}, \text{Zeus})$

$Diety(\text{Zeus}), Female(\text{Rhea})$

$Narcissist(\text{Narcissus})$

Knowledge (TBox)



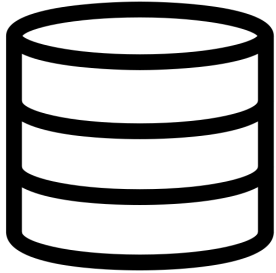
$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)

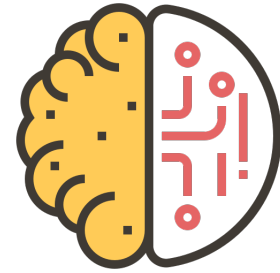


$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

Knowledge (TBox)



$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.



## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)

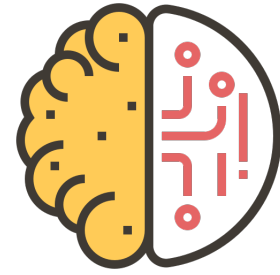


$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

Knowledge (TBox)



$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)

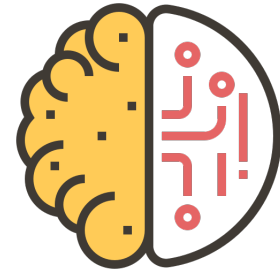


$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

Knowledge (TBox)



$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

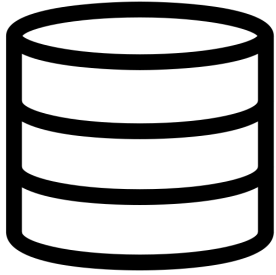
$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



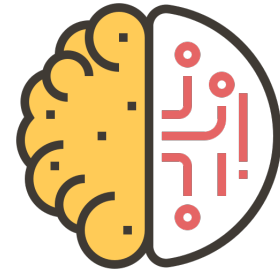
The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

Knowledge (TBox)



$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

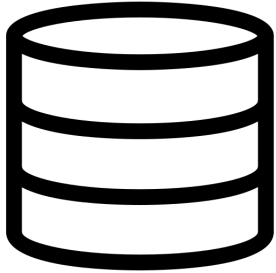
$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$



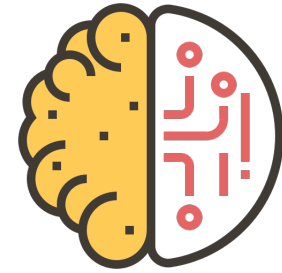
Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

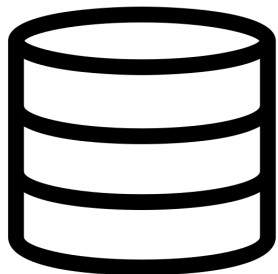
$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$



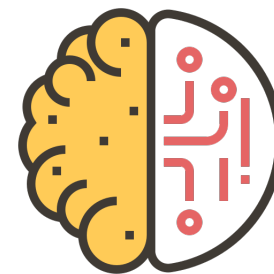
Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$

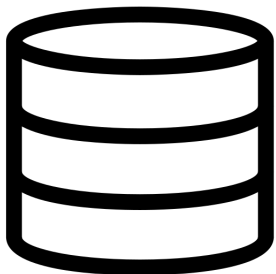
**Conjunctive Queries:** Give me IDs of all candidates who applied for “computer science”.



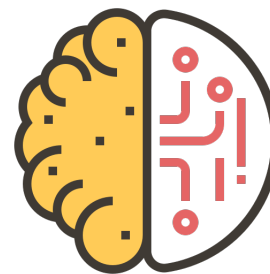
Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$

**Conjunctive Queries:** Give me IDs of all candidates who applied for "computer science".

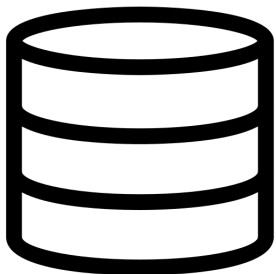
```
SELECT CandID
FROM Candidate
WHERE Major = "Computer Science"
```



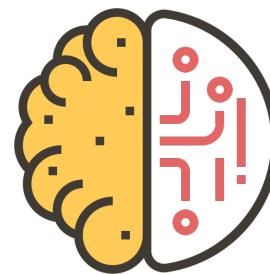
Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$

**Conjunctive Queries:** Give me IDs of all candidates who applied for "computer science".

```
SELECT CandID
FROM Candidate
WHERE Major = "Computer Science"
```

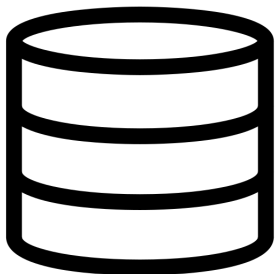
$\rightsquigarrow \varphi(i)$



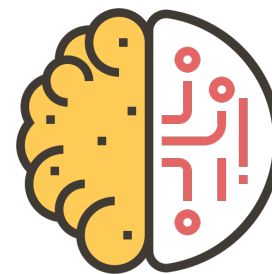
Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$

**Conjunctive Queries:** Give me IDs of all candidates who applied for "computer science".

```
SELECT CandID
FROM Candidate
WHERE Major = "Computer Science"
```

$\rightsquigarrow \varphi(i)$

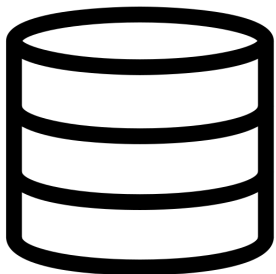


Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

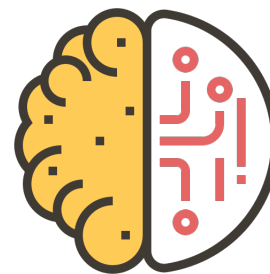


## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$

**Conjunctive Queries:** Give me IDs of all candidates who applied for "computer science".

```
SELECT CandID
FROM Candidate
WHERE Major = "Computer Science"
```

$\rightsquigarrow \varphi(i)$

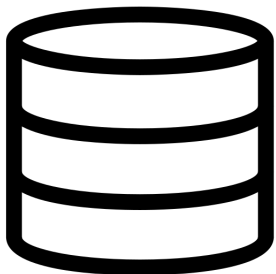
$\varphi(i) = \exists n \exists s \text{CANDIDATE}(i, n, s) \wedge \text{APPL}(\text{"Computer Science"}, i)$



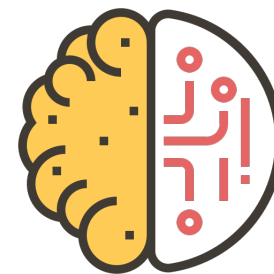
Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalypt Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Running example: Greek mythology $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ knowledge base

Database (ABox)



Knowledge (TBox)



The DL encompasses all these features is called  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ .

$hasParent(Heracles, Zeus)$

$Diety(Zeus), Female(Rhea)$

$Narcissist(Narcissus)$

$Mortal \sqsubseteq \neg Diety$

$\top \sqsubseteq \exists hasParent.Male \sqcap \exists hasParent.Female$

$Narcist \sqsubseteq \exists loves.Self$

**Conjunctive Queries:** Give me IDs of all candidates who applied for “computer science”.

```
SELECT CandID
FROM Candidate
WHERE Major = "Computer Science"
```

$\rightsquigarrow \varphi(i)$

$\varphi(i) = \exists n \exists s \text{CANDIDATE}(i, n, s) \wedge \text{APPL}(\text{"Computer Science"}, i)$

A knowledge base  $\mathcal{K}$  entails a conjunctive query  $q$  (written:  $\mathcal{K} \models q$ ) if  $q$  matches all models of  $\mathcal{K}$ .



Icons downloaded from icon-icons.com by ©Rena Xiao and ©Eucalyp Studio (both under CC BY 4.0). No changes have been made.

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALL}$ ?

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

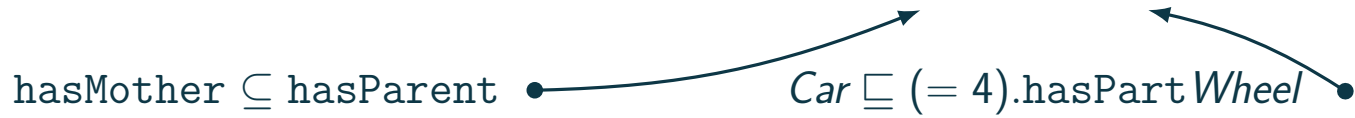
1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent



## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]



## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiv]



## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

**What about the eponymous Self operator? Is it harmless?**

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent •  $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$  •

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

### What about the eponymous Self operator? Is it harmless?

Self is supported by OWL 2 Web Ontology Language,  $(\exists r.\text{Self})^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \mid (d, d) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}\}$

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\sqsubseteq$  hasParent  $\bullet$   $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$   $\bullet$

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

## What about the eponymous Self operator? Is it harmless?

Self is **supported by OWL 2** Web Ontology Language,  $(\exists r.\text{Self})^I := \{d \mid (d, d) \in r^I\}$

- The complexity of **satisfiability stays the same**, even for very expressive  $\mathcal{Z}$  family, a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\sqsubseteq$  hasParent  $\bullet$   $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$   $\bullet$

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

## What about the eponymous Self operator? Is it harmless?

Self is **supported by OWL 2** Web Ontology Language,  $(\exists r.\text{Self})^I := \{d \mid (d, d) \in r^I\}$

- The complexity of **satisfiability stays the same**, even for very expressive  $\mathcal{Z}$  family, a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$
- **Easy to accommodate** in the automata-based approach

## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\sqsubseteq$  hasParent  $\bullet$   $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$   $\bullet$

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

## What about the eponymous Self operator? Is it harmless?

Self is **supported by OWL 2** Web Ontology Language,  $(\exists r.\text{Self})^I := \{d \mid (d, d) \in r^I\}$

- The complexity of **satisfiability stays the same**, even for very expressive  $\mathcal{Z}$  family, a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$
- **Easy to accommodate** in the automata-based approach
- Self is present in OWL2 EL/RL, **without harming tractability** [Krötzsch et al, ISWC'08]



## Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

1. Some of them do not increase the complexity, e.g.  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{ALC}+\mathcal{Q}$  [Lutz'08]

hasMother  $\sqsubseteq$  hasParent  $\bullet$   $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$   $Car \sqsubseteq (= 4).hasPart Wheel$   $\bullet$

- Also **arithmetic** and **statistical** properties [Baader, B., Rudolph'20]
- As well as **regular expressions**, **fixed points**, (safe) **role combination** [B.'21, ArXiV]
- And even a tamed use of **higher-arity** relations [B.'21, JELIA]

2. Some of them **increase** the complexity **exponentially**:

E.g. **inverses** [Lutz'07], **transitivity** [Eiter et al.'09], **nominals** (a.k.a. constants) [Ngo et al.'16]

---

## What about the eponymous Self operator? Is it harmless?

Self is **supported by OWL 2** Web Ontology Language,  $(\exists r.\text{Self})^{\mathcal{I}} := \{d \mid (d, d) \in r^{\mathcal{I}}\}$

- The complexity of **satisfiability stays the same**, even for very expressive  $\mathcal{Z}$  family, a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$
- **Easy to accommodate** in the automata-based approach
- Self is present in OWL2 EL/RL, **without harming tractability** [Krötzsch et al, ISWC'08]

# Our motivation: what features make CQ answering hard for $\mathcal{ALC}$ ?

## The Price of Selfishness: Conjunctive Query Entailment for $\mathcal{ALC}_{Self}$ is $2EXPTIME$ -hard

Bartosz Bednarczyk<sup>1,2</sup> and Sebastian Rudolph<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Computational Logic Group, Technische Universität Dresden, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Computer Science, University of Wrocław, Poland  
{bartosz.bednarczyk, sebastian.rudolph}@tu-dresden.de

Various modelling features of DLs affect the complexity of conjunctive query (CQ) entailment in a rather intricate sense. In the most popular basic description logic (DL),  $\mathcal{ALC}$ , the complexity of CQ entailment is known to be  $EXPTIME$ -complete, as is that of knowledge base satisfiability. It was first shown in [9, Thm. 2] that CQ entailment becomes exponentially harder when  $\mathcal{ALC}$  is extended with inverse roles ( $\mathcal{I}$ ), while the complexity of satisfiability remains the same. Shortly after, a combination of transitivity and role hierarchies ( $\mathcal{SH}$ ) was shown to be another culprit of higher worst-case complexity of reasoning [5, Thm. 1]. Finally, also nominals ( $\mathcal{O}$ ) turned out to be equally problematic [10, Thm. 9]. On the other hand, there are DL constructs that do not affect the complexity of CQ entailment. Examples are counting ( $\mathcal{Q}$ ) [11, Thm. 4] (the complexity stays the same even for expressive arithmetical constraints [1, Thm. 21]), role-hierarchies alone ( $\mathcal{H}$ ) [6, Cor. 3], and even a tamed use of high arity relations [2, Thm. 20].

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{Self}$  is  $2EXPTIME$ -hard.

1. Some of them do not

hasMother  $\subseteq$  hasParent

- Also arithmetic and
- As well as regular expressions
- And even a tamed

2. Some of them increase

E.g. inverses [Lutz'07],

W

Self is supported

- The complexity of reasoning
- Easy to accommodate
- Self is present in  $\mathcal{O}$

et al.'16]

ss?

$\{(d, d) \in r^I\}$

a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{reg}^{Self}$

VC'08]

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is  $2\text{EXPTIME}$ -hard.

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

Consequences?

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*

\* Hardness does not follow from  $\mathcal{SH}$  (no transitivity in CQs!).

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>



Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

$$\dagger \forall x_1 (\text{self}_r(x_1) \rightarrow \exists x_2 [\text{R}(x_1, x_2) \wedge x_1 = x_2]) \wedge \forall x_1 \forall x_2 (\text{R}(x_1, x_2) \rightarrow [x_1 = x_2 \rightarrow \text{self}_r(x_2)])$$

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with = has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

## Proof scheme?

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is  $2\text{EXPTIME}$ -hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is  $2\text{EXPTIME}$ -hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has  $2\text{EXPTIME}$ -hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

## Proof scheme?

- A reduction from the acceptance problem for the empty-tape  $\text{AEXPSPACE}$  TMs.

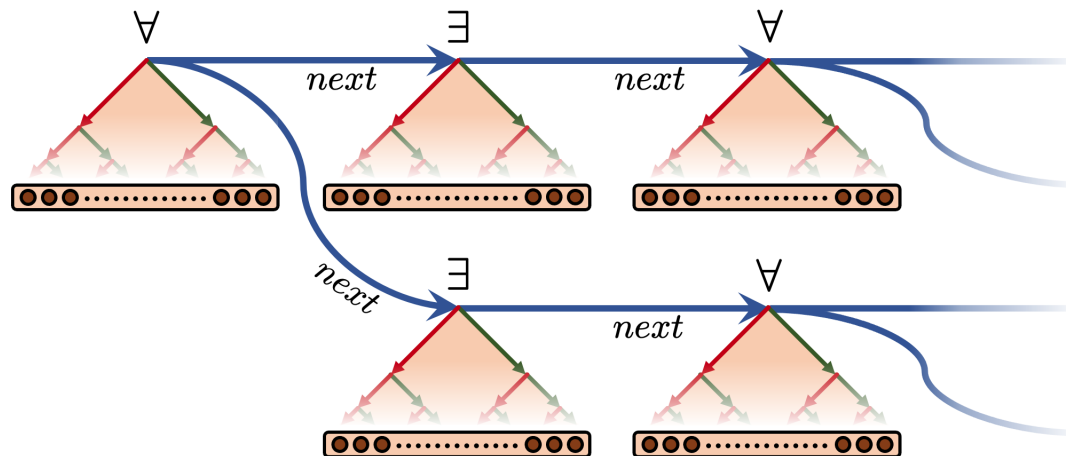
Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

## Proof scheme?

- A reduction from the acceptance problem for the empty-tape AEXPSPACE TMs.



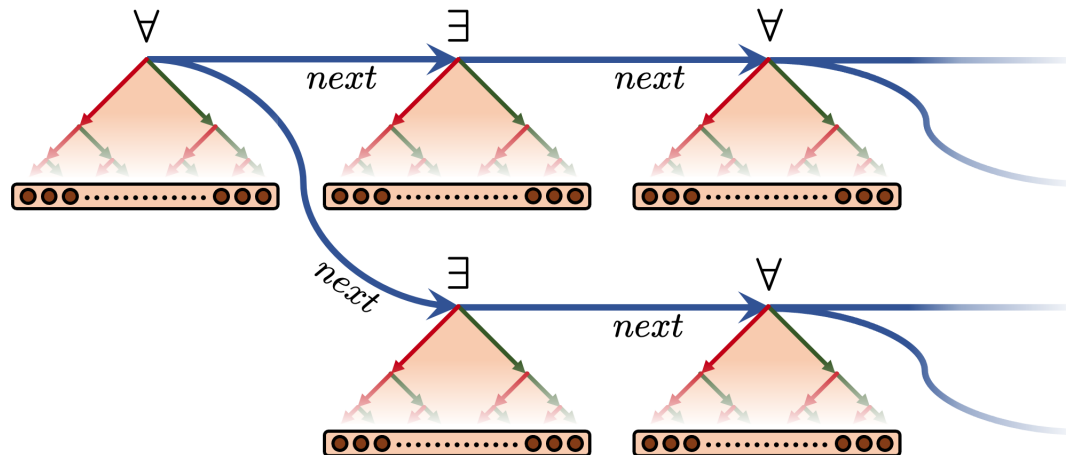
Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

## Proof scheme?

- A reduction from the acceptance problem for the empty-tape AEXPSPACE TMs.



- The models of an  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ -KB  $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}$  describe possibly faulty runs of a given ATM  $\mathcal{M}$ .

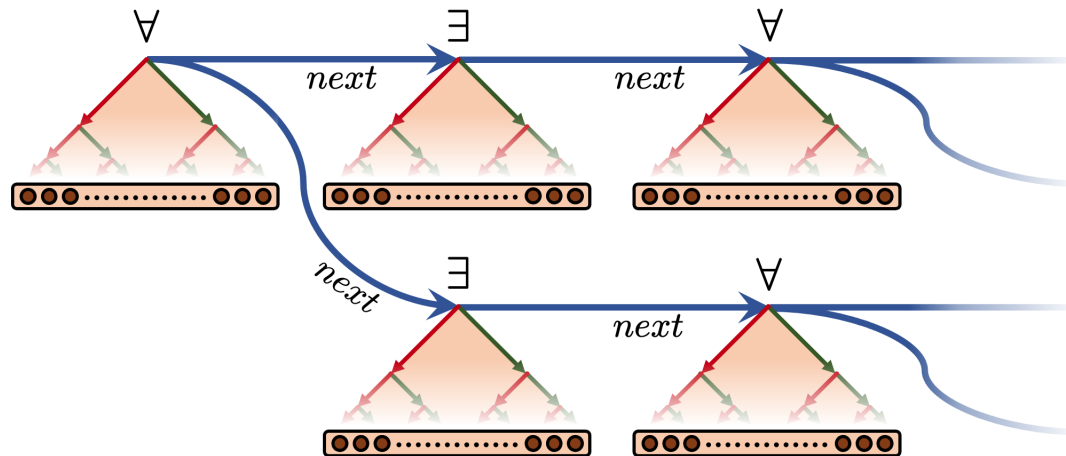
Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

## Proof scheme?

- A reduction from the acceptance problem for the empty-tape AEXPSPACE TMs.



- The models of an  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ -KB  $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}$  describe possibly faulty runs of a given ATM  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- A CQ  $q_{\mathcal{M}}$  detects mismatches in the consecutive transitions.

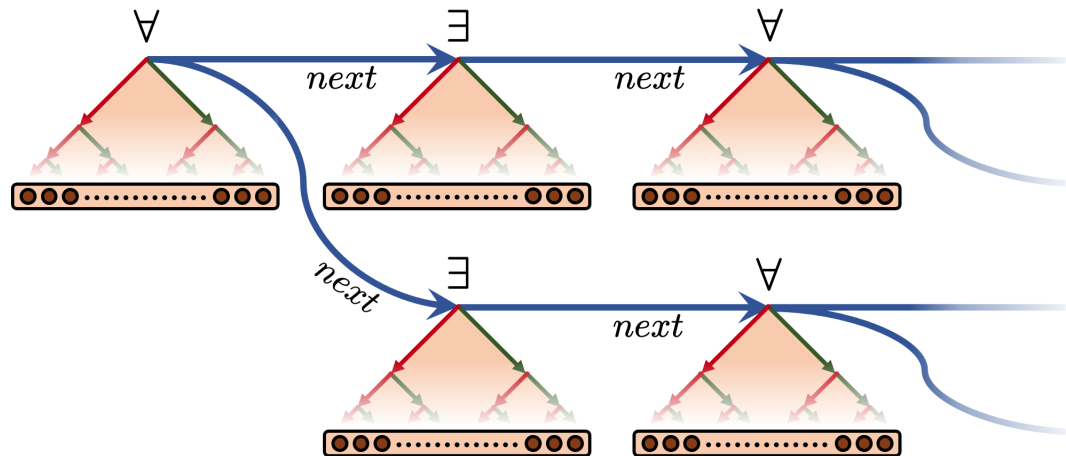
Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.

## Consequences?

- Querying the  $\mathcal{Z}$  (a.k.a.  $\mathcal{ALCHb}_{\text{reg}}^{\text{Self}}$ ) family is 2EXPTIME-hard.\*
- Fluted Guarded Fragment with  $=$  has 2EXPTIME-hard CQ querying (contrasts [B'21, JELIA])<sup>†</sup>

## Proof scheme?

- A reduction from the acceptance problem for the empty-tape AEXPSPACE TMs.



- The models of an  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$ -KB  $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}}$  describe possibly faulty runs of a given ATM  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- A CQ  $q_{\mathcal{M}}$  detects mismatches in the consecutive transitions.
- $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{M}} \not\models q_{\mathcal{M}}$  iff there is a (non-faulty) accepting run of  $\mathcal{M}$ .



## Proof ideas: Our encoding

## Proof ideas: Our encoding

- We encode configurations as full-binary trees of depth  $n+1$  with their roots connected with next-role.

## Proof ideas: Our encoding

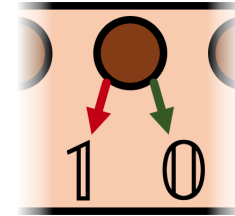
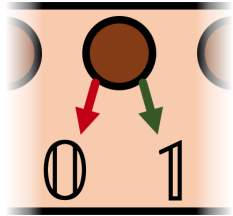
- We encode configurations as full-binary trees of depth  $n+1$  with their roots connected with next-role.
- Novelty: nodes will be decorated with certain self-loops.

## Proof ideas: Our encoding

- We encode **configurations** as full-binary **trees of depth  $n+1$**  with their roots connected with `next-role`.
- Novelty: nodes will be **decorated** with certain **self-loops**.
- **To avoid** a seemingly required **disjunction** in our CQs the tape content is stored implicitly with:

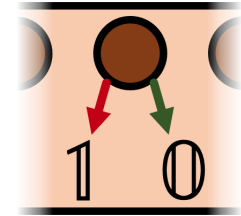
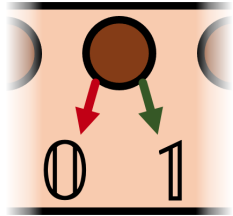
## Proof ideas: Our encoding

- We encode configurations as full-binary trees of depth  $n+1$  with their roots connected with next-role.
- Novelty: nodes will be decorated with certain self-loops.
- To avoid a seemingly required disjunction in our CQs the tape content is stored implicitly with:



## Proof ideas: Our encoding

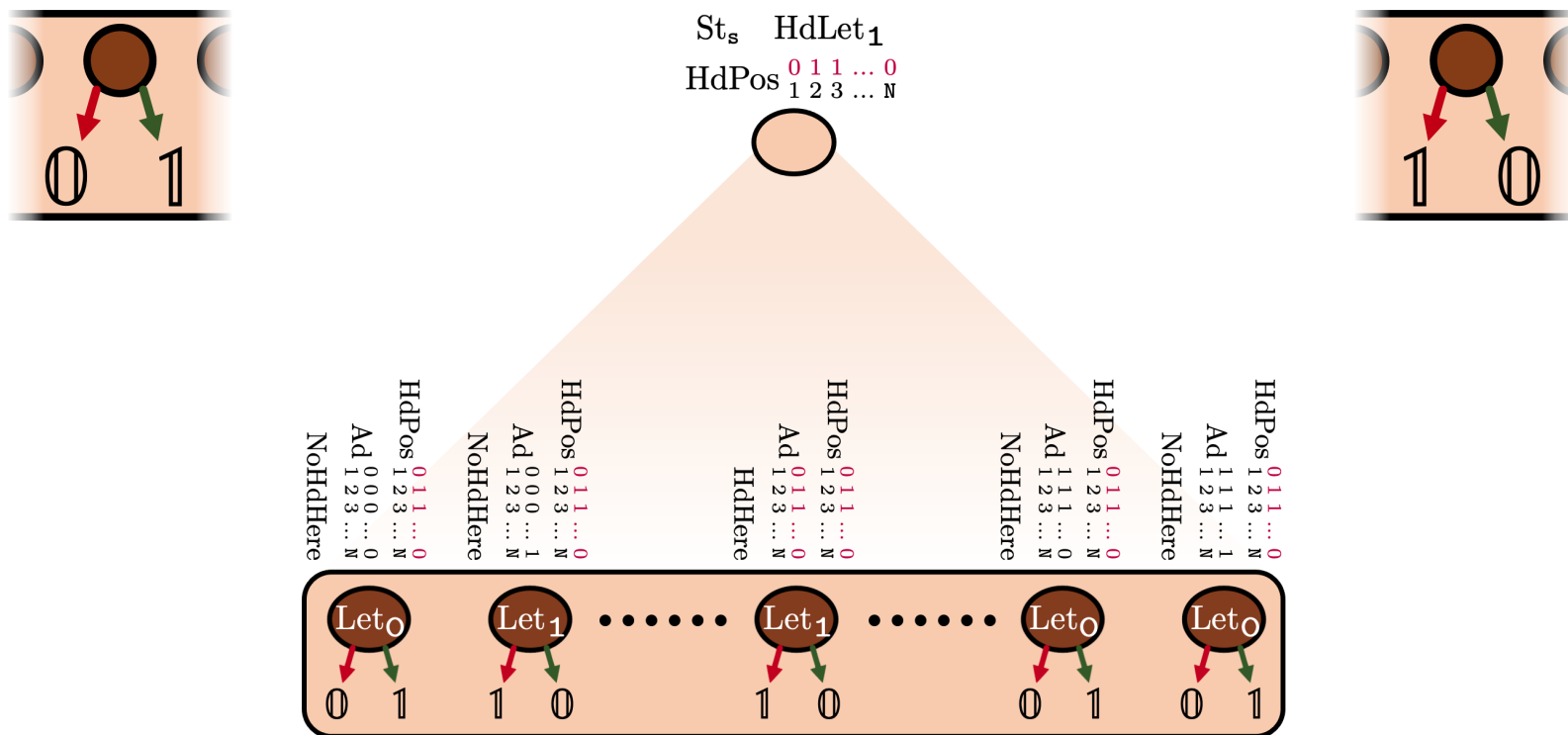
- We encode configurations as full-binary trees of depth  $n+1$  with their roots connected with next-role.
- Novelty: nodes will be decorated with certain self-loops.
- To avoid a seemingly required disjunction in our CQs the tape content is stored implicitly with:



- All other details are as one may expect. See: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.15150>

## Proof ideas: Our encoding

- We encode configurations as full-binary trees of depth  $n+1$  with their roots connected with next-role.
- Novelty: nodes will be decorated with certain self-loops.
- To avoid a seemingly required disjunction in our CQs the tape content is stored implicitly with:

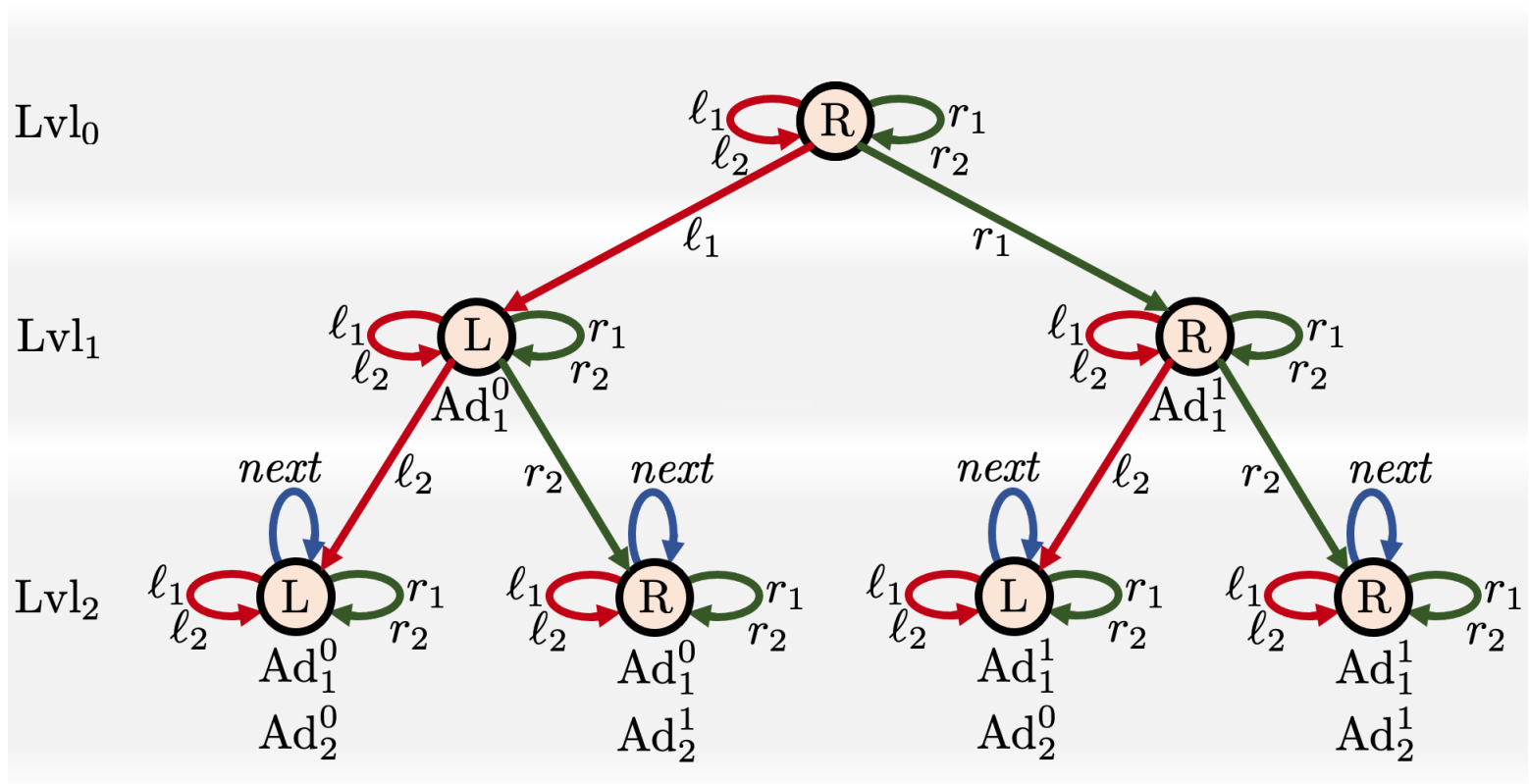


- All other details are as one may expect. See: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.15150>

## Trick no. 1: A single root-to-leaves conjunctive query

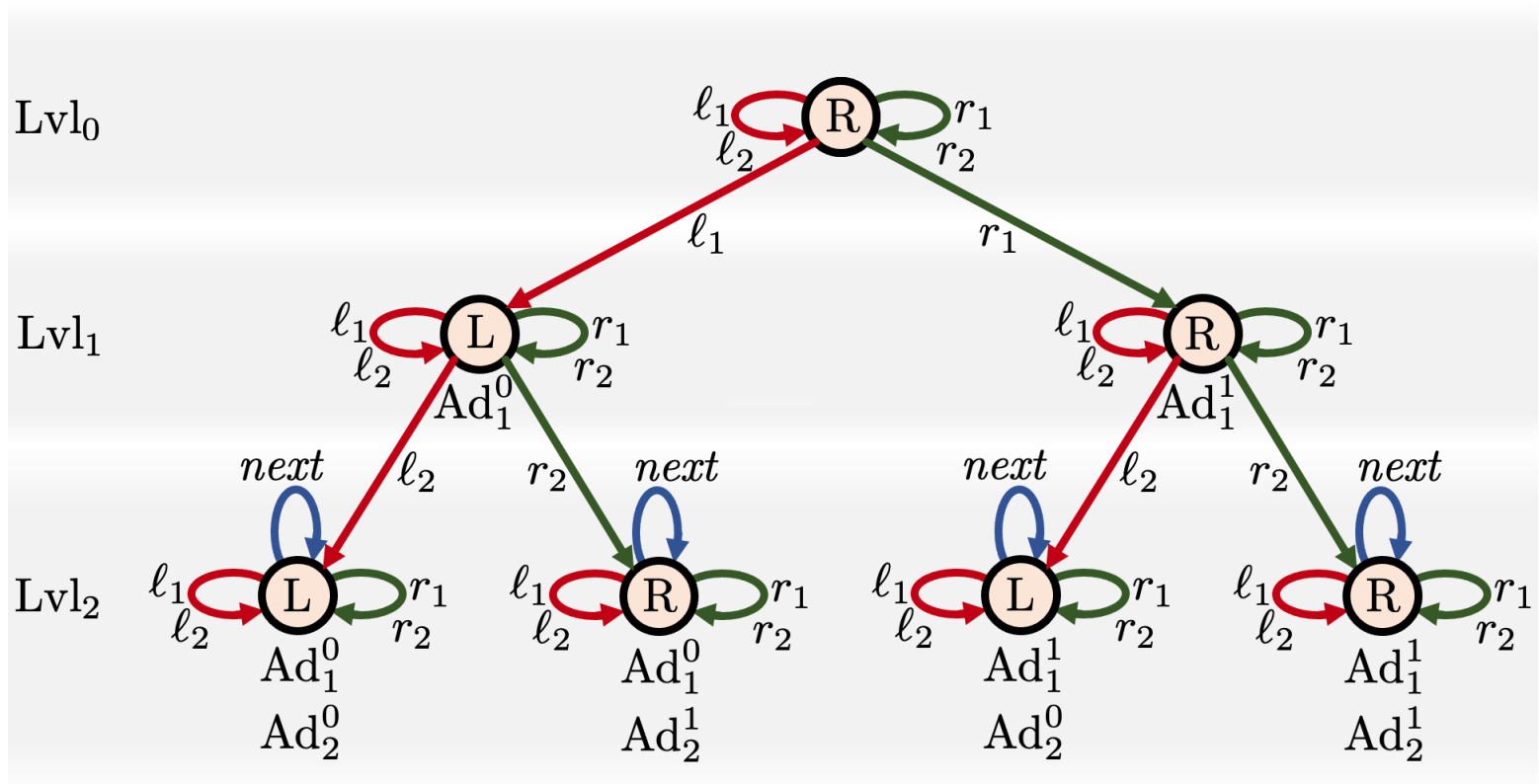


## Trick no. 1: A single root-to-leaves conjunctive query



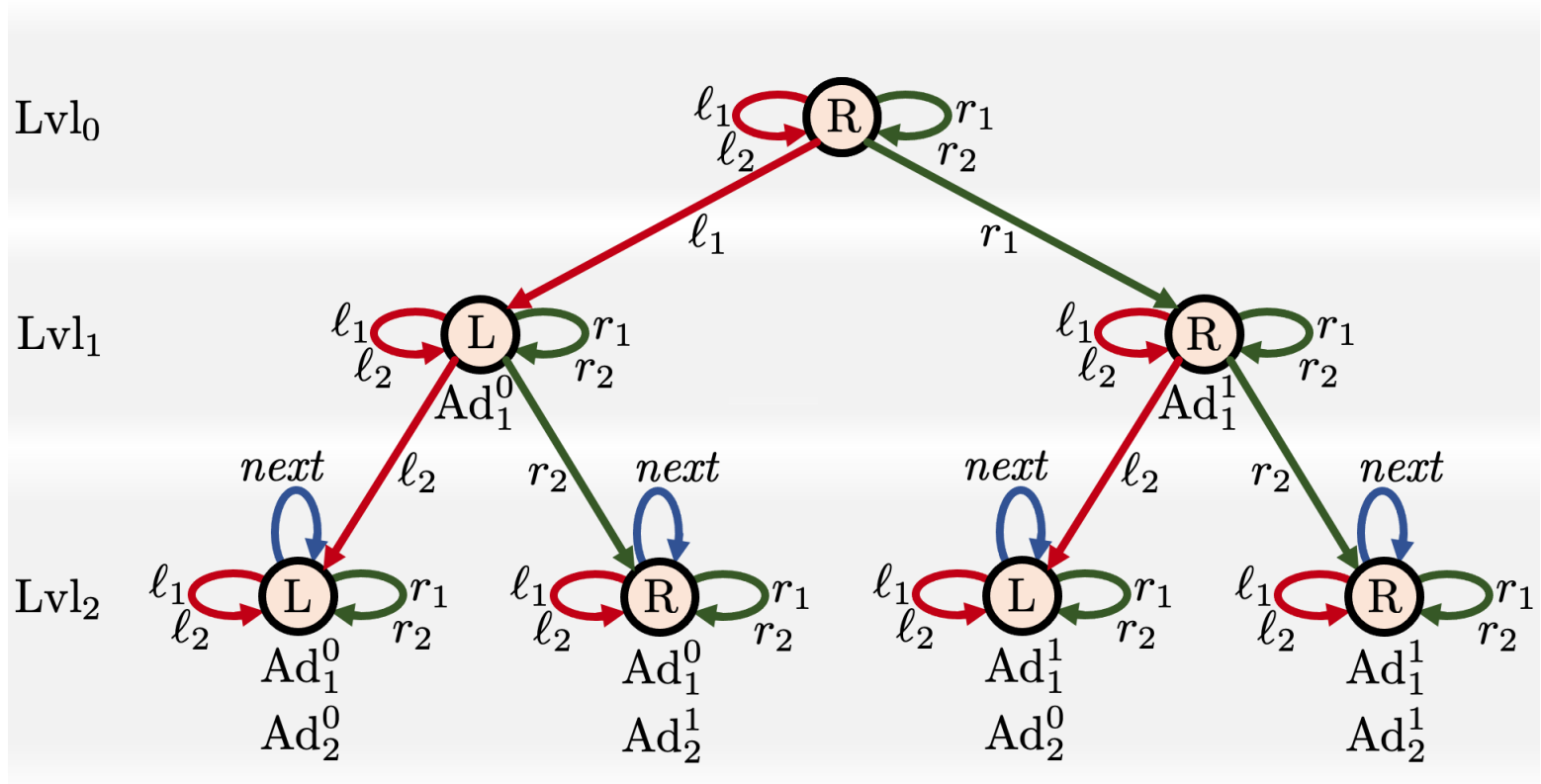
## Trick no. 1: A single root-to-leaves conjunctive query

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  such that  $x$  matches the root and  $y$  matches any of the leaves.



## Trick no. 1: A single root-to-leaves conjunctive query

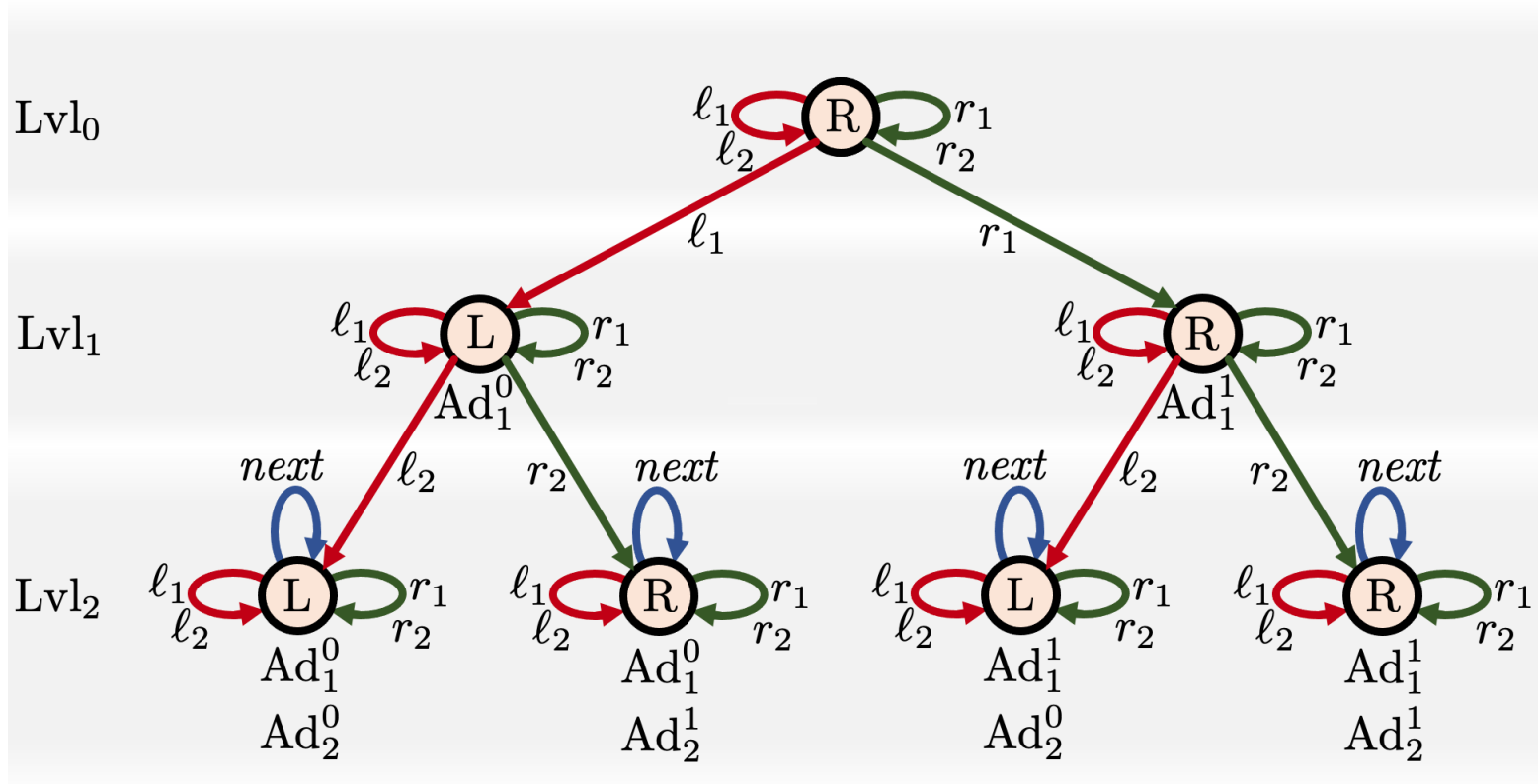
Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  such that  $x$  matches the root and  $y$  matches any of the leaves.



$$\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3 \text{ Lvl}_0(x) \wedge l_1(x, x_1) \wedge r_1(x_1, x_2) \wedge l_2(x_2, x_3) \wedge r_2(x_3, y) \wedge \text{Lvl}_2(y)$$

## Trick no. 1: A single root-to-leaves conjunctive query

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  such that  $x$  matches the root and  $y$  matches any of the leaves.

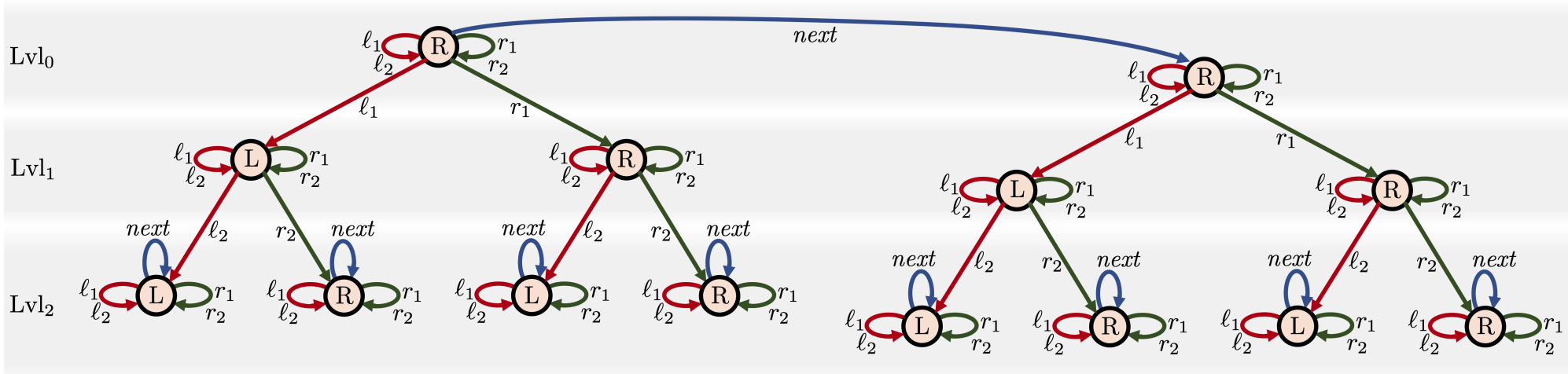


$$\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3 \text{ Lvl}_0(x) \wedge l_1(x, x_1) \wedge r_1(x_1, x_2) \wedge l_2(x_2, x_3) \wedge r_2(x_3, y) \wedge \text{Lvl}_2(y)$$

For brevity we write:  $(\text{Lvl}_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; \text{Lvl}_2?)(x, y)$ .

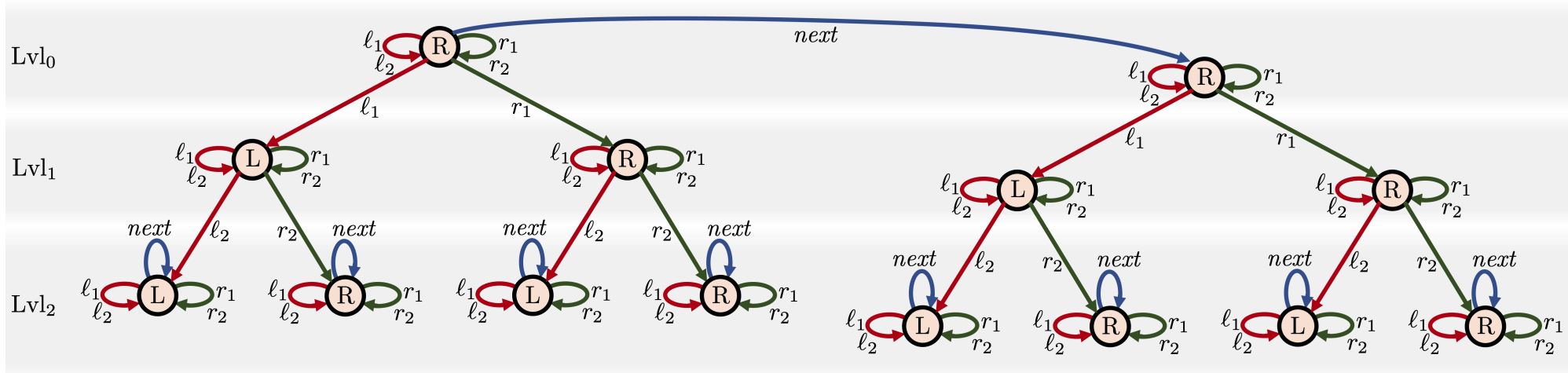
## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees



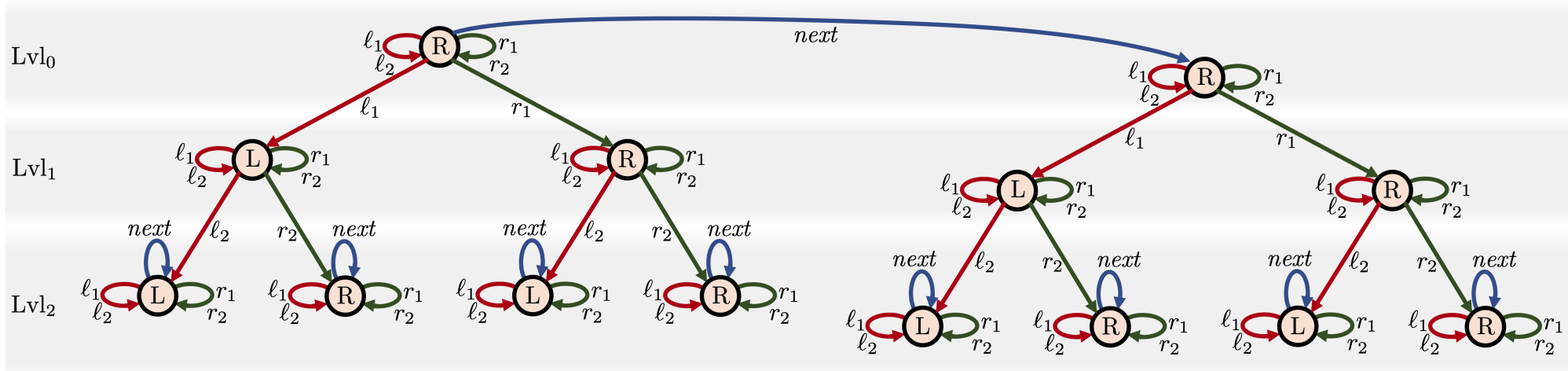
## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.



## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.

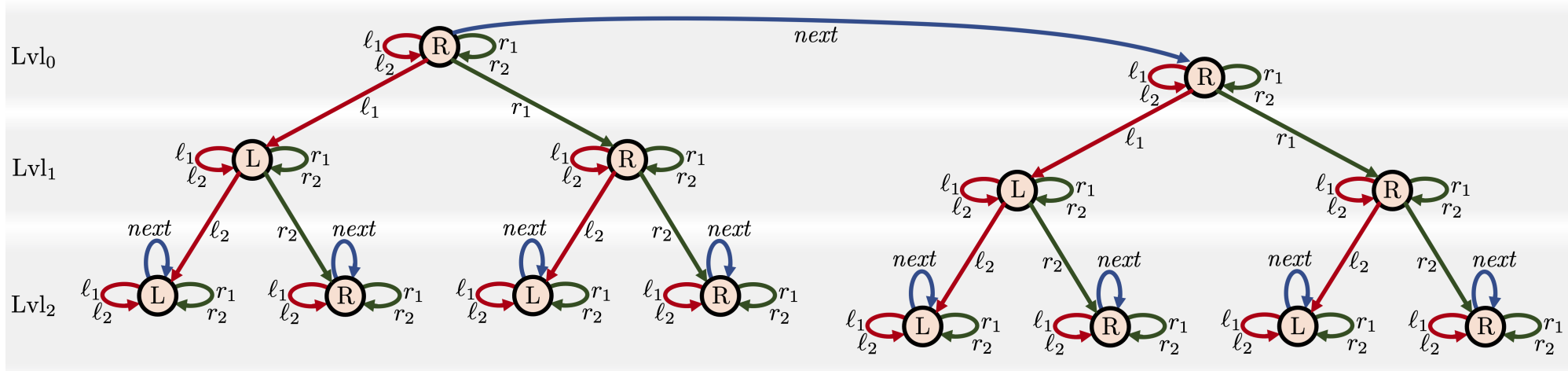


Select two leaves located in different trees:



## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.

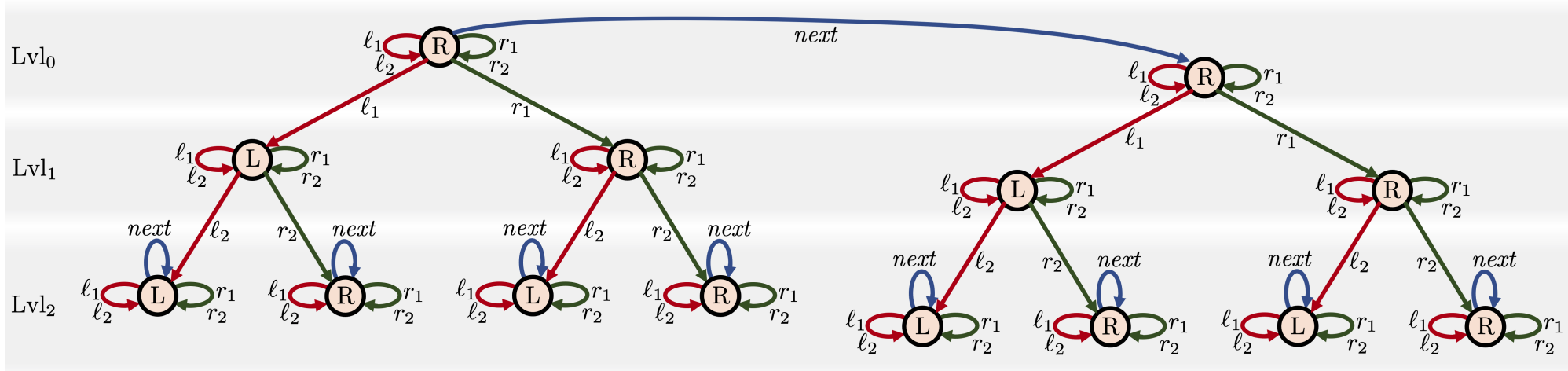


Select two leaves located in different trees:

$$(Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; Lvl_0?; next; Lvl_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?)(x, y)$$

## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.



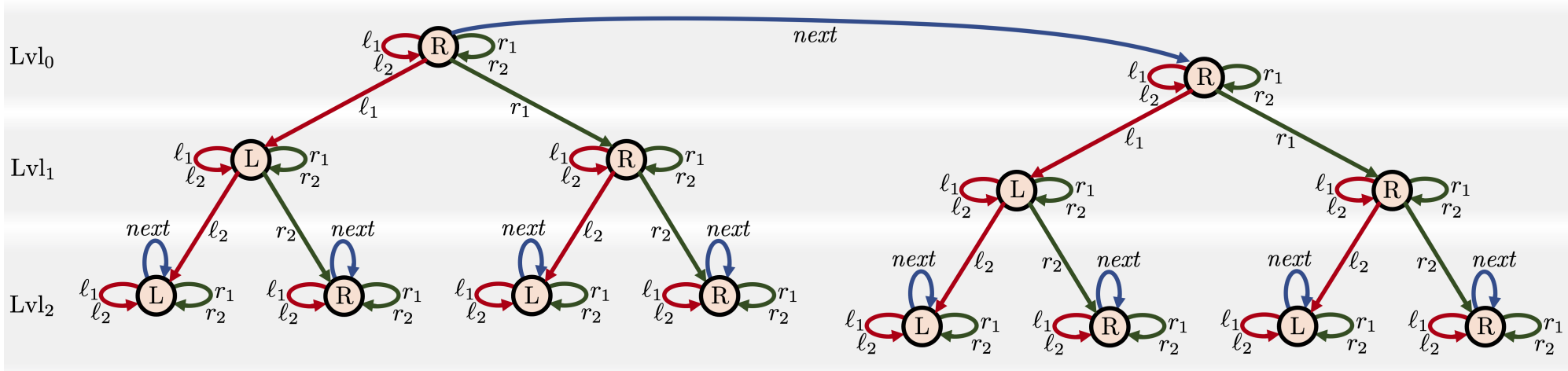
Select two leaves located in different trees:

$$(Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; Lvl_0?; next; Lvl_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?)(x, y)$$

Impose that they have the same first bit of their address:

## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.



Select **two leaves** located in **different trees**:

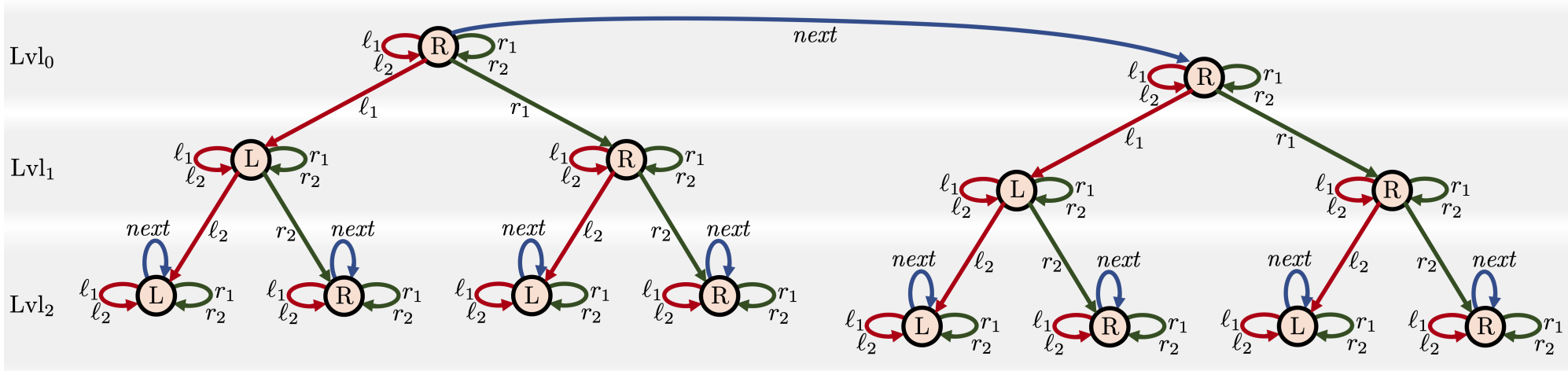
$$(Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; Lvl_0?; next; Lvl_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?)(x, y)$$

Impose that they have **the same first bit** of their address:

$$\wedge (r_2^-; l_2^-; l_1^-; next; l_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; next; r_1; l_2; r_2)(x, y)$$

## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.



Select **two leaves** located in **different trees**:

$$(Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; Lvl_0?; next; Lvl_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?)(x, y)$$

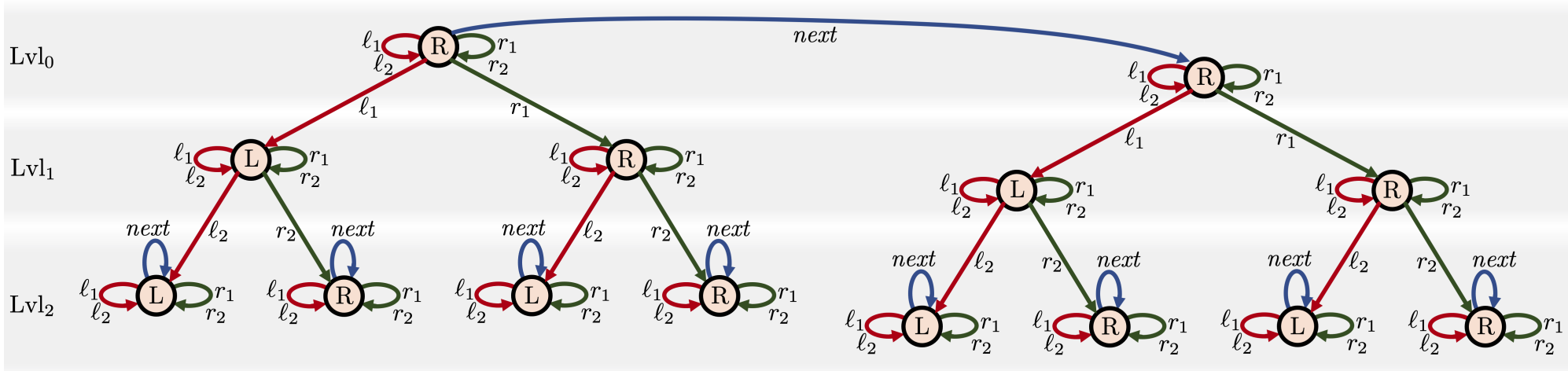
Impose that they have **the same first bit** of their address:

$$\wedge (r_2^-; l_2^-; l_1^-; next; l_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; next; r_1; l_2; r_2)(x, y)$$

as well as **the same second bit** of their address:

## Trick no. 2: Synchronisation of leaves among two trees

Goal: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.



Select **two leaves** located in **different trees**:

$$(Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; Lvl_0?; next; Lvl_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?)(x, y)$$

Impose that they have **the same first bit** of their address:

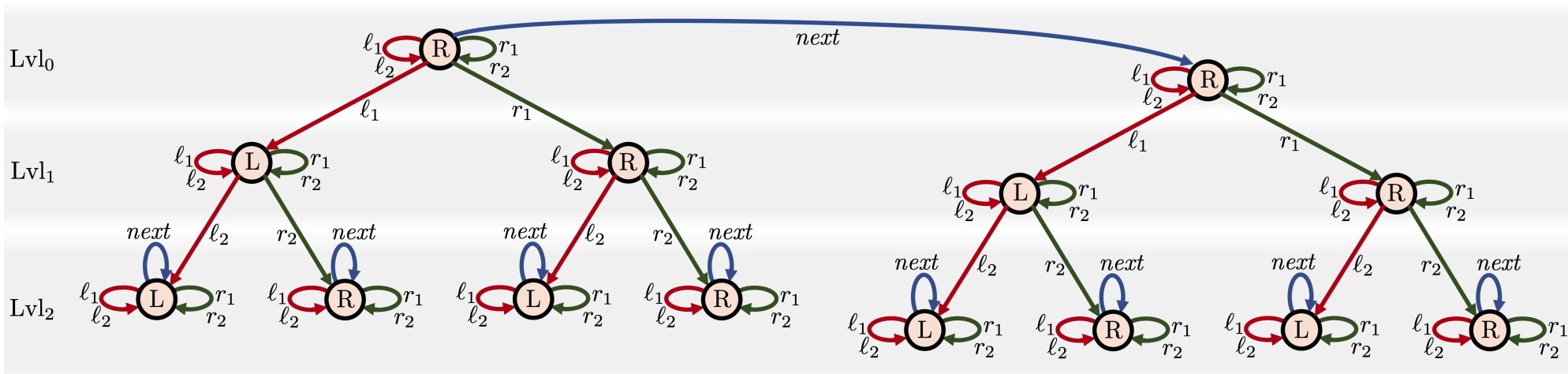
$$\wedge (r_2^-; l_2^-; l_1^-; next; l_1; l_2; r_2; Lvl_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; next; r_1; l_2; r_2)(x, y)$$

as well as **the same second bit** of their address:

$$\wedge (l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; next; l_1; r_1; l_2; Lvl_2?; r_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; next; l_1; r_1; r_2)(x, y)$$

## The end: Thanks for your attention!

Biggest challenge: Design a CQ  $q(x, y)$  that matches leaves  $x, y$  with equal addresses.



$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\text{Lvl}_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; \text{Lvl}_0?; \text{next}; \text{Lvl}_0?; l_1; r_1; l_2; r_2; \text{Lvl}_2?)(x, y) \\
 & \wedge (r_2^-; l_2^-; l_1^-; \text{next}; l_1; l_2; r_2; \text{Lvl}_2?; r_2^-; l_2^-; r_1^-; \text{next}; r_1; l_2; r_2)(x, y) \\
 & \wedge (l_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; \text{next}; l_1; r_1; l_2; \text{Lvl}_2?; r_2^-; r_1^-; l_1^-; \text{next}; l_1; r_1; r_2)(x, y)
 \end{aligned}$$

Conjunctive query entailment over  $\mathcal{ALC}_{\text{Self}}$  TBoxes is 2EXPTIME-hard.