

# Probabilistic geospatial ontologies

Sumit Sen

sumitsen@uni-muenster.de

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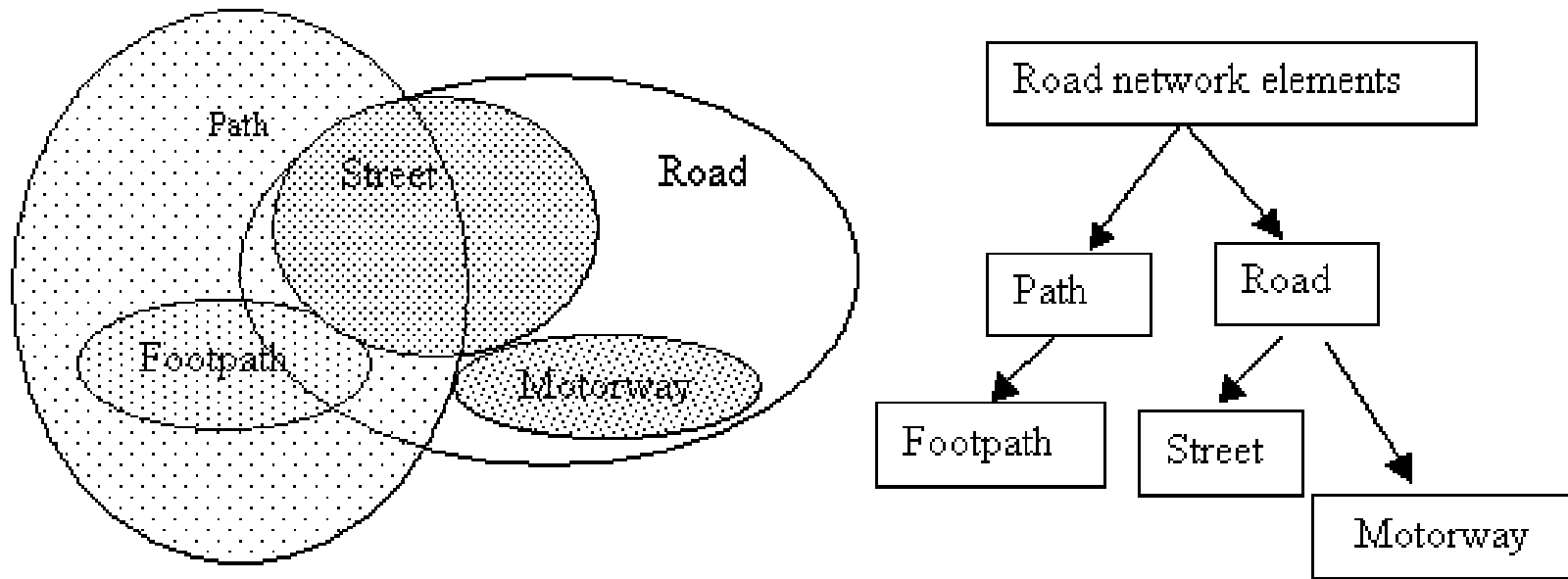
# Introduction

- Partial knowledge about geospatial categories is critical for knowledge modeling
- In the geospatial domain
  - Conventional ontologies do not address this issue
- Two components of geospatial ontologies
  - Geospatial Action concepts
  - Geospatial Entity concepts

# Overview

- Introduction
  - Road ontology example
  - Need for probabilistic geospatial ontologies
- Case study
  - Highway Code of UK and New York Drivers' Manual ontologies
  - Probabilistic linkages
- BayesOWL ontologies
  - Construction
  - Inferences
- Verification
- Conclusions and future work

# Motivation

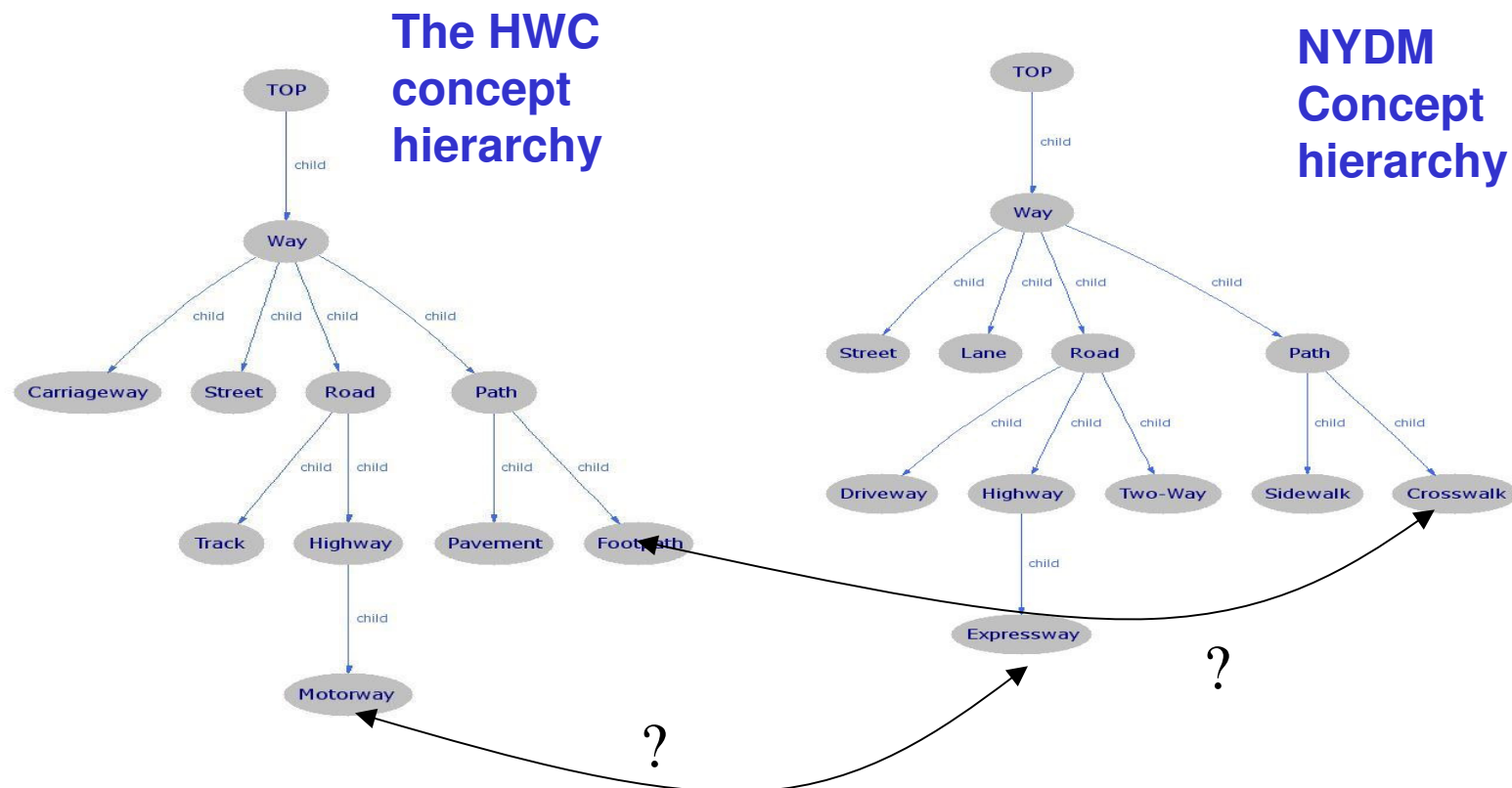


While Highway and Street are subclasses of Road, Footpath is a subclass of Path. Evidently this representation shows that Highway and Footpath are small subclasses of Road and Path respectively. Street has a major overlap with Path although it is not a subclass. Representation of the five classes as a subsumption relation in a conventional ontology does not represent or allow inferences based on the additional information about overlaps

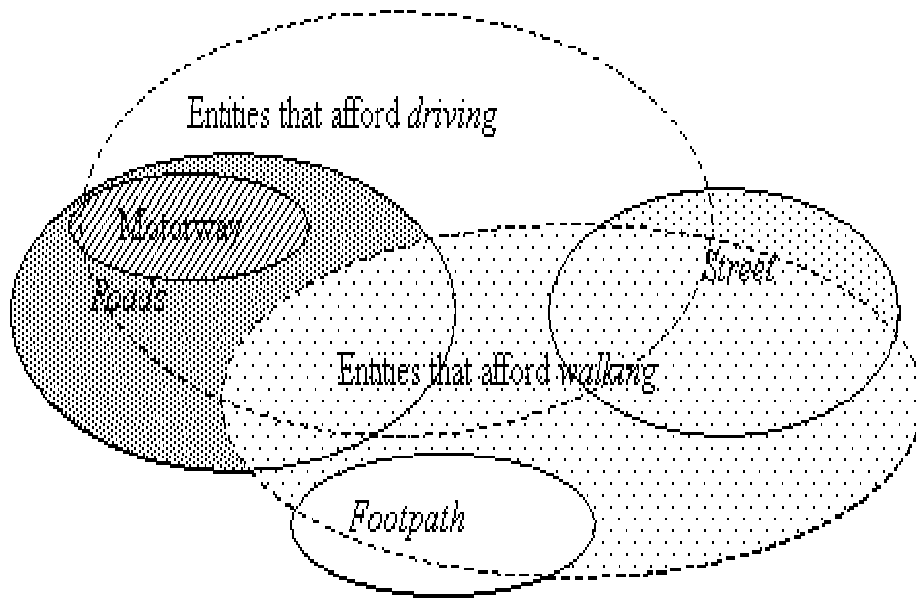
# Motivation ...

Concepts about actions and entities and why we need linkages

- Most similar entity for a Motorway, Footpath
- Degree of similarity



# Motivation ...



Representation of overlaps between some entity concepts and action based concepts for road networks in the UK.

While ellipses with solid borders represent geospatial entities, the ellipses with dashed borders represent abstract concepts based on the entities that afford certain geospatial action.

What is a Motorway?

What is a Footpath?

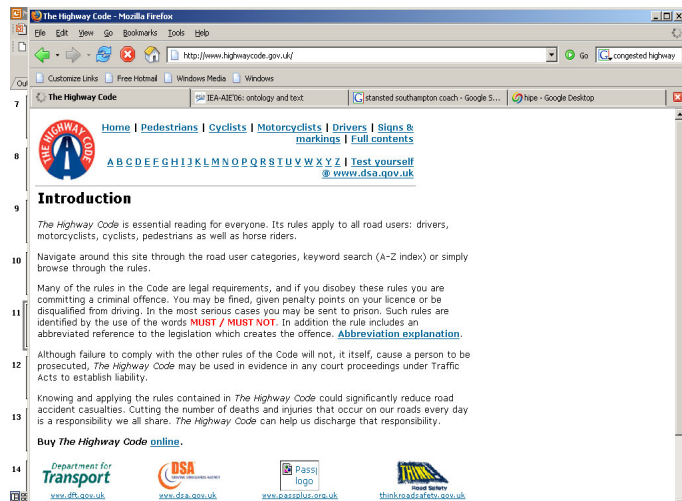
# Case study -Methodology

- **Ontology Extraction**
  - Lexicographic and frequency analysis
  - Hierarchies based on is-a relation of both entities and actions
- **Reasoning and Inferences (most similar and most dissimilar concepts)**
  - Within a single ontology
  - Across ontologies

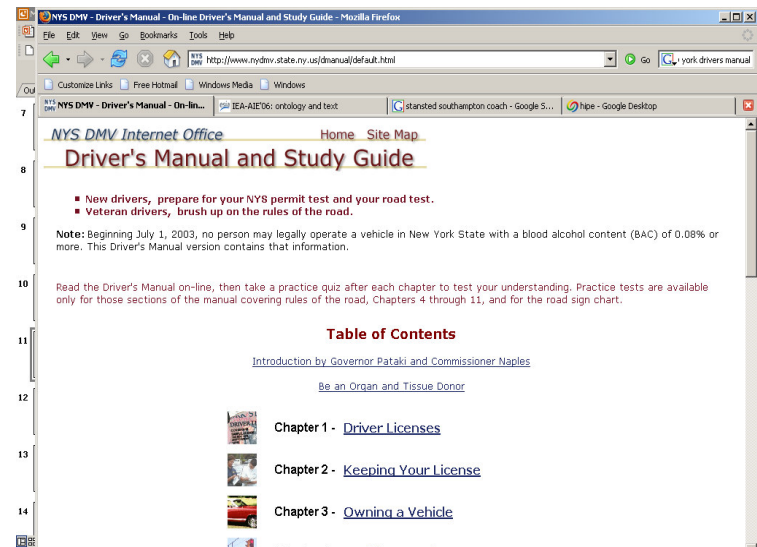
# Case study

The Highway Code:

The New York Driver's Manual



The screenshot shows the homepage of the UK Highway Code website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Pedestrians, Cyclists, Motorcyclists, Drivers, Signs & markings, and Full contents. Below the menu is a search bar and a list of letters from A to Z, with a link for 'Test yourself @ www.dsa.gov.uk'. The main content area features an 'Introduction' section with the following text: 'The Highway Code is essential reading for everyone. Its rules apply to all road users: drivers, motorcyclists, cyclists, pedestrians as well as horse riders. Navigate around this site through the road user categories, keyword search (A-Z index) or simply browse through the rules. Many of the rules in the Code are legal requirements, and if you disobey these rules you are committing a criminal offence. You may be fined, given penalty points on your licence or be disqualified from driving. In the most serious cases, you may be sent to prison. Such rules are identified by the use of the words **MUST** / **MUST NOT**. In addition the rule includes an abbreviated reference to the legislation which creates the offence. [Abbreviation explanation](#). Although failure to comply with the other rules of the Code will not, in itself, cause a person to be prosecuted, *The Highway Code* may be used in evidence in any court proceedings under Traffic Acts to establish liability. Knowing and applying the rules contained in *The Highway Code* could significantly reduce road accident casualties. Cutting the number of deaths and injuries that occur on our roads every day is a responsibility we all share. *The Highway Code* can help us discharge that responsibility. Buy *The Highway Code* [online](#).' At the bottom, there are logos for the Department for Transport, DSA, Passes logo, and Road Signs.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the New York State DMV's Driver's Manual and Study Guide. The page title is 'NYS DMV - Driver's Manual - On-line Driver's Manual and Study Guide'. The main heading is 'Driver's Manual and Study Guide'. Below the heading, there are two bullet points: 'New drivers, prepare for your NYS permit test and your road test.' and 'Veteran drivers, brush up on the rules of the road.' A note states: 'Note: Beginning July 1, 2003, no person may legally operate a vehicle in New York State with a blood alcohol content (BAC) of 0.08% or more. This Driver's Manual version contains that information.' Below the note, there is a section for 'Table of Contents' with links for 'Introduction by Governor Pataki and Commissioner Naples', 'Be an Organ and Tissue Donor', 'Chapter 1 - Driver Licenses', 'Chapter 2 - Keeping Your License', and 'Chapter 3 - Owning a Vehicle'.



# Tagged text

#	Token	Lemma	POS	Chunk	Relation	Sense	Sense Definition
179	You	you	PRP	NP-B	NPSBJ-B	no-sense	
180	must	must	MD	VP-B	VP-B	no-sense	
181	come	come	VB	VP-I	VP-I	come%2:38:04::	reach a "destination " arrive by movement or by making "progress " "She arrived home at 7 o'clock " "He got into college " She didn't get to Chicago until after midnight
182	to	to	TO	PP-B	PNP-B	no-sense	
183	a	a	DT	NP-B	PNP-I	no-sense	
184	stop	stop	NN	NP-I	PNP-I	stop%1:11:00::	the event of something "ending " it came to a stop at the bottom of the hill
185	before	before	IN	PP-B	PNP-B	no-sense	
186	the	the	DT	NP-B	PNP-I	no-sense	
187	stop	stop	NN	NP-I	PNP-I	stop%1:11:00::	the event of something "ending " it came to a stop at the bottom of the hill
188	line	line	NN	NP-I	PNP-I	line%1:06:00::	something (as a cord or rope) that is long and thin and "flexible " a washing line
189	,	,	,	,	,	no-sense	

GAMBL output: NYDM 179-189

# Extracting nouns - NYDM

*Term*

*Sense*

*Sense definition*

Driveway

driveway%1:06:00::

a road leading up to a private "house " they parked in the driveway

Road

road%1:06:00::

an open way (generally public) for travel or transportation

Lane

lane%1:06:00::-(default)

a narrow way or road

Way

way%1:04:01::

how a result is obtained or an end is "achieved " "a means of control " "an example is the best agency of instruction " the true way to success

Crosswalk

crosswalk%1:06:00::

a path (often marked) where a street or railroad can be crossed

Two-way(road)

two-way%5:00:00:bidirectional:00-(default)

operating or permitting operation in either of two opposite "directions " "a two-way valve " "two-way traffic " two-way streets

Street

street%1:06:00::

a thoroughfare (usually including sidewalks) that is lined with buildings; they walked the streets of the small town; he lives on Nassau Street

U-turn

u-turn%1:04:00::

complete reversal of direction of travel

Path

path%1:04:00::

a course of conduct; the path of virtue; we went our separate ways; our paths in life led us apart; genius usually follows a revolutionary path

Route

route%1:15:00::

an established line of travel or access

Incline

incline%1:06:00::-(default)

an inclined surface or roadway that moves traffic from one level to another or axle (as in vehicles or other machines)

Expressway

expressway%1:06:00::

a broad highway designed for high-speed traffic

Sidewalk

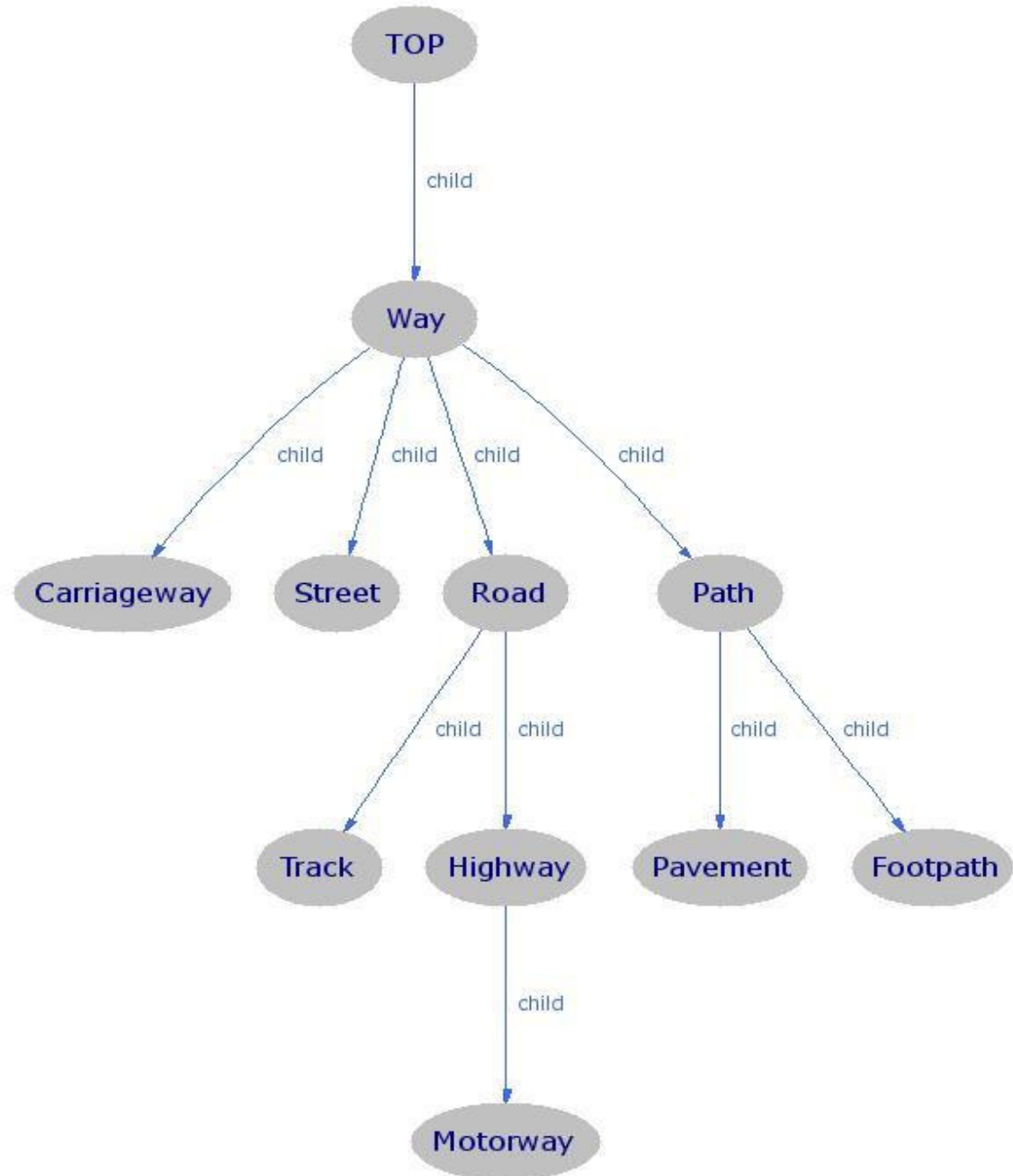
sidewalk%1:06:00::

walk consisting of a paved area for "pedestrians " usually beside a street or roadway

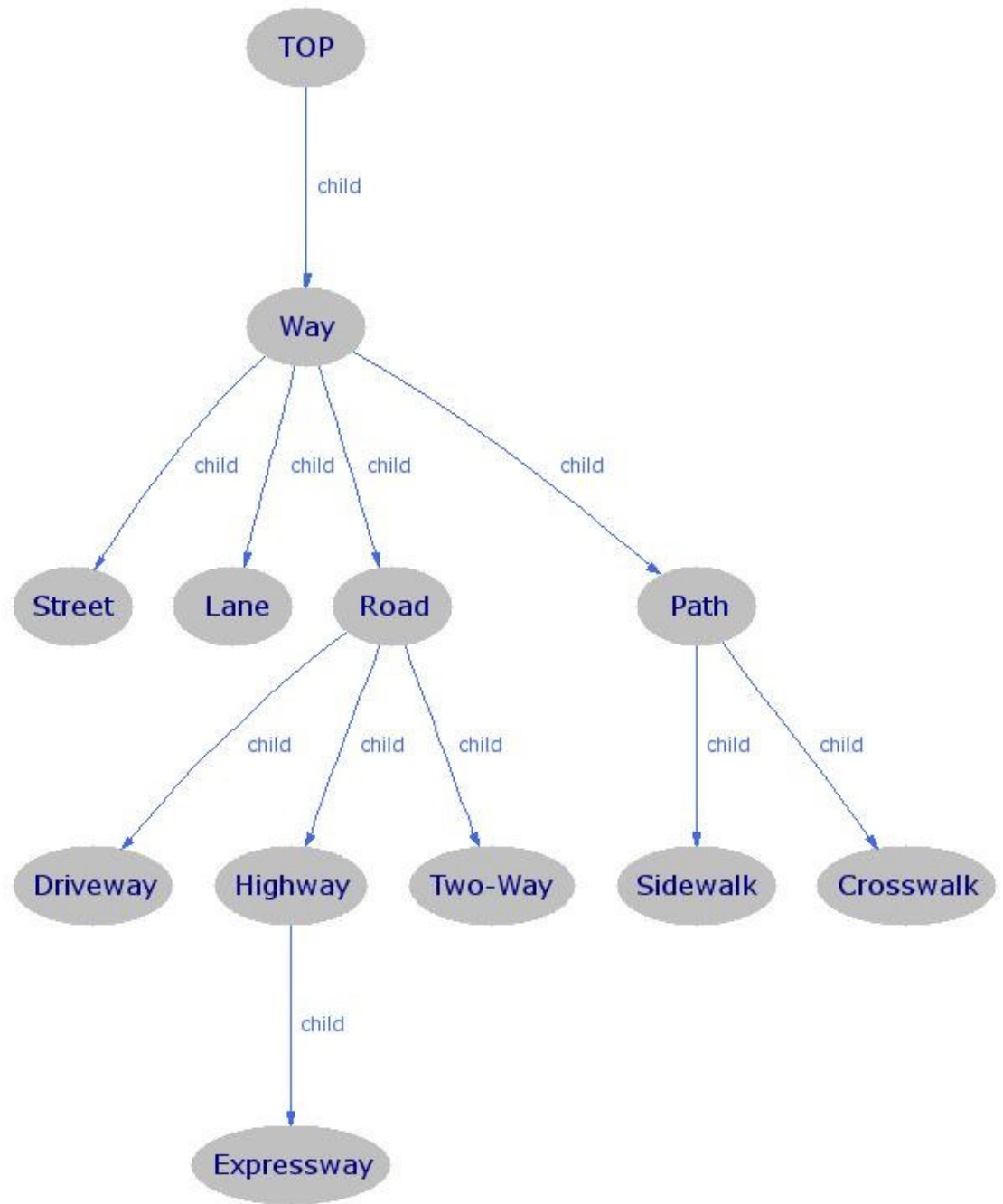
# Nouns from the HWC

<b>Term</b>	<b>Sense</b>	<b>Sense definition</b>
Motorway	motorway%1:06:00::	a broad highway designed for high-speed traffic
Road	road%1:06:00::	an open way (generally public) for travel or transportation
Carriageway	carriageway%1:06:00::	(British) one of the two sides of a motorway where traffic travels in one direction only usually in two or three lanes
Footpath	footpath%1:06:00::	a trodden path
Street	street%1:06:00::	a thoroughfare (usually including sidewalks) that is lined with buildings; they walked the streets of the small town; he lives on Nassau Street
Pavement	pavement%1:06:00::	the paved surface of a thoroughfare
Footbridge	footbridge%1:06:00::	a bridge designed for pedestrians
Kerb	kerb%1:06:00::	an edge between a sidewalk and a roadway consisting of a line of curbstones (usually forming part of a gutter)
Path	path%1:04:00::	a course of conduct; the path of virtue; we went our separate ways; our paths in life led us apart; genius usually follows a revolutionary path
Lane	lane%1:06:00::-(-defa	a narrow way or road

## The HWC concept hierarchy

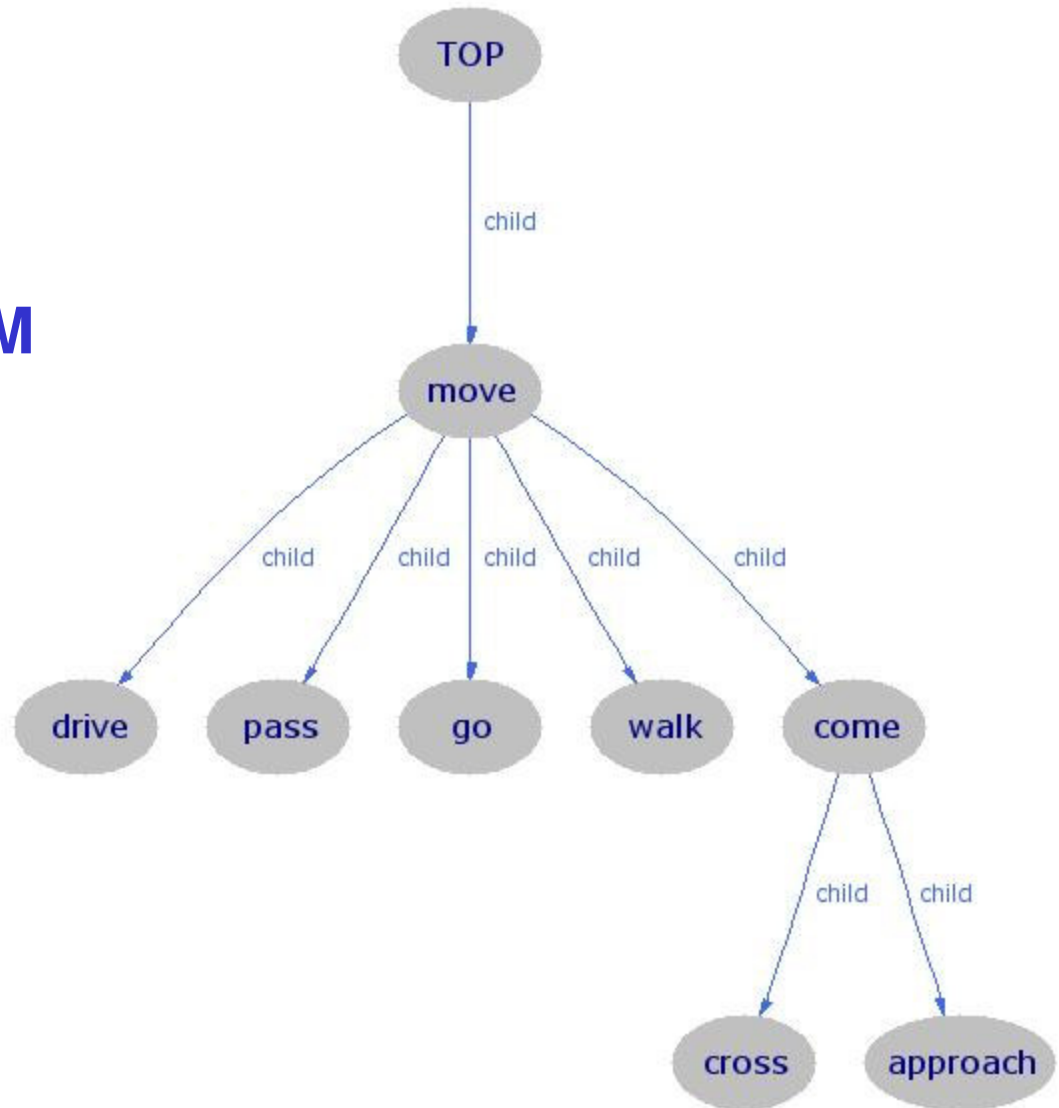


# NYDM Concept hierarchy



# Action/function hierarchy

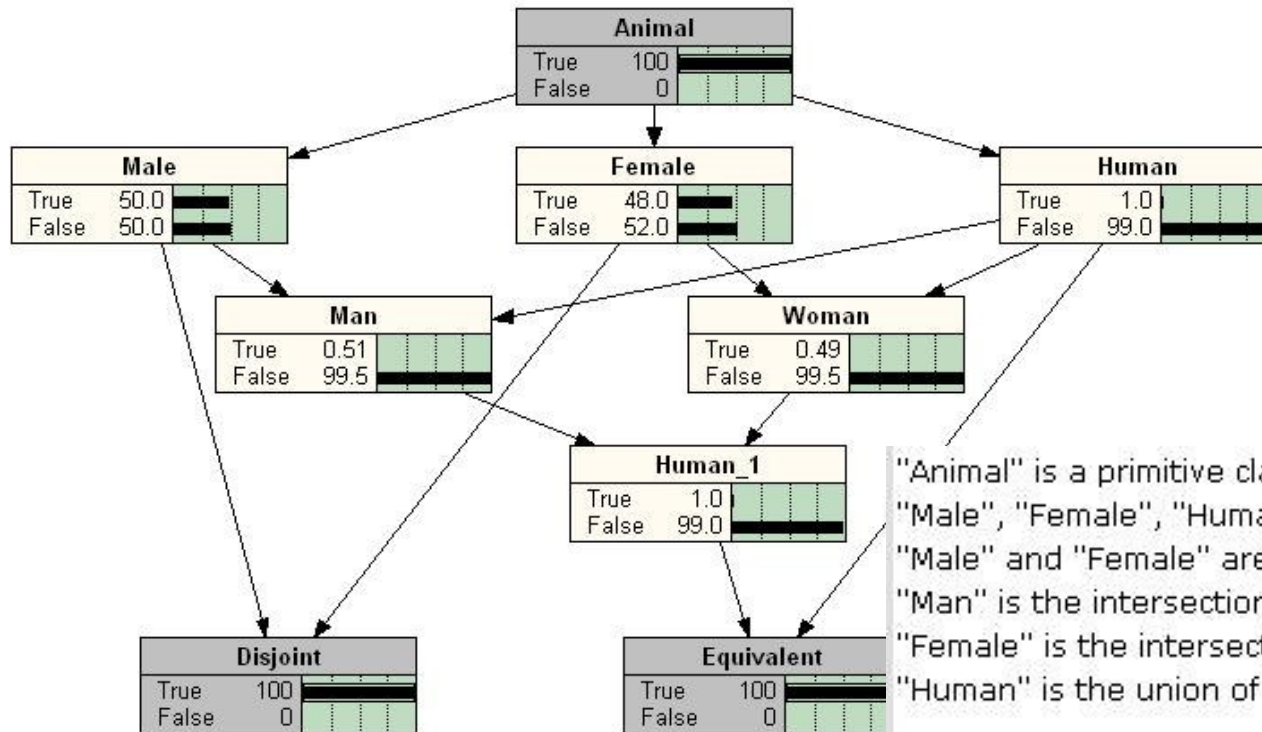
Both HWC and NYDM



# Linkages: Entities-functions

<b>NYDM</b>	Street	Road	Footpath	Motorway	Lane	Way	Path	Crosswalk	Expresswa
move	0.015	0.049		0.012	0.107	0.035	-	-	-
walk	-	0.026	0.056	0.000	-	-	-	-	-
drive	0.057	0.062	0.000	0.069	0.000	-	-	-	-
enter	-	0.025	-	-	0.000	0.020	-	-	-
stop	0.010	0.075	-	0.000	0.000	0.051	-	-	-
be	0.014	0.215	0.006	0.028	0.061	0.033	0.014	-	-
cross	0.029	0.135	-	0.000	0.024	0.067	0.020	-	-
turn	0.038	0.059	-		0.042	0.041	-	-	-
wait	-	0.040	-	0.000	0.009	0.031	-	-	-
approach	0.022	0.052	-	0.016	0.065	0.045	0.023	-	-
go	-	0.021	-	-	0.063	-	-	-	-
pass	-	0.038	-	-	0.032	0.012	0.017	-	-
<b>HWC</b>									
move	0.026	0.032	-	-	0.107	-	0.032	-	-
walk	-	0.010	-	-		-		-	-
drive	0.020	0.061	-	-	0.056	-	-	-	0.047
enter	0.025	0.048	-	-	0.077	0.041	-	0.053	0.064
stop	0.019	0.048	-	-	0.038	0.026	-	0.059	0.026
be	0.011	0.068	-	-	0.089	0.026	0.004	0.009	0.024
cross	0.061	0.033	-	-	0.017	0.071	-	0.030	
turn	0.037	0.080	-	-	0.094	0.051	0.029	0.018	0.008
wait	0.040	-	-	-	0.009	0.059	-	-	0.029
approach	0.015	0.060	-	-	0.034	-	-	-	0.026
go	0.020	0.029	-	-	0.030	0.051	-	-	0.017
pass	0.044	0.039	-	-	0.130	0.025	-	0.014	0.013

# BayesOWL- A mild intro



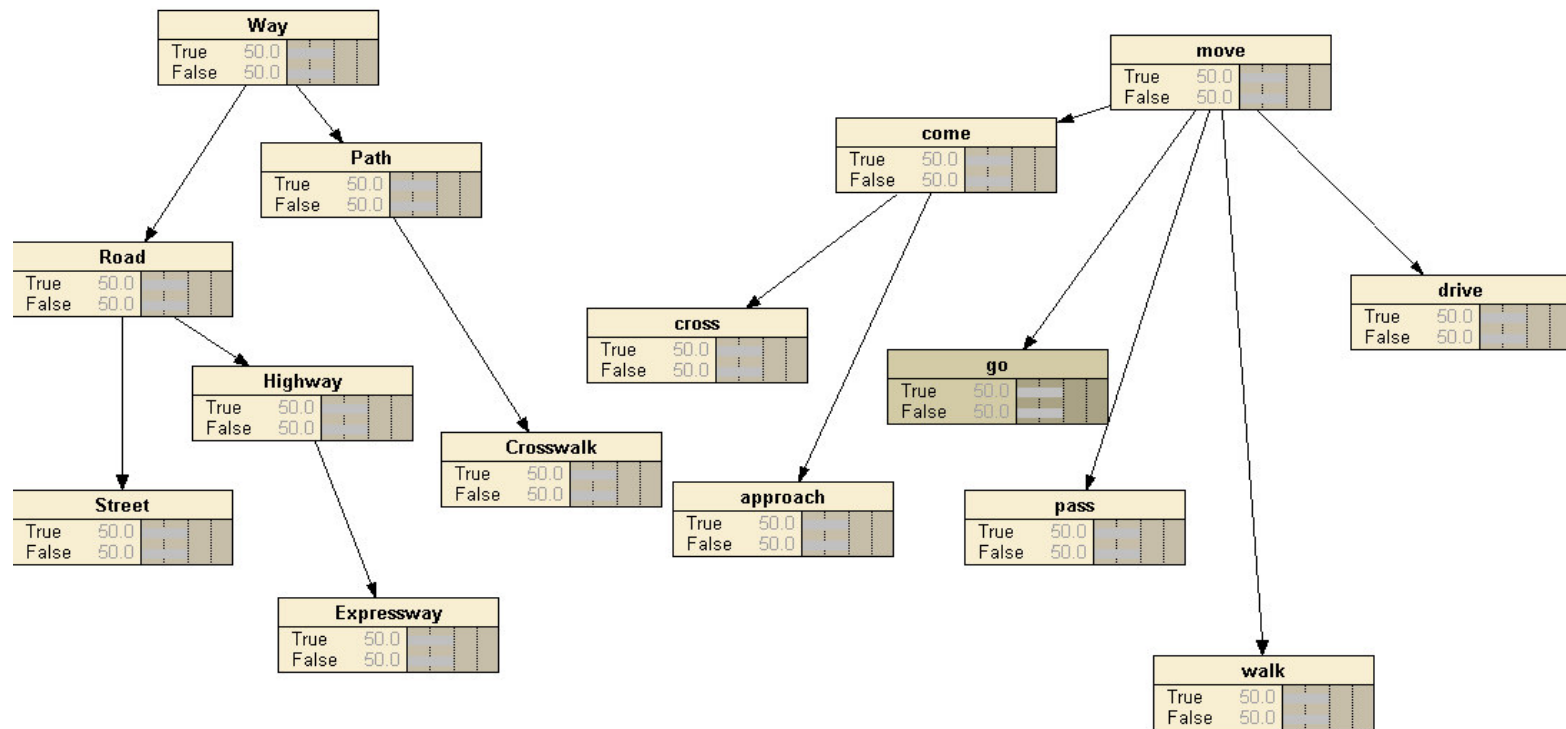
"Animal" is a primitive class  
 "Male", "Female", "Human" are subclasses of "Animal"  
 "Male" and "Female" are disjoint with each other  
 "Man" is the intersection of "Male" and "Human"  
 "Female" is the intersection of "Female" and "Human"  
 "Human" is the union of "Man" and "Woman"

Probability information:

- $P(\text{Animal}) = 0.5$
- $P(\text{Male}|\text{Animal}) = 0.5$
- $P(\text{Female}|\text{Animal}) = 0.48$
- $P(\text{Human}|\text{Animal}) = 0.01$



# BayesOWL for Geospatial ontologies

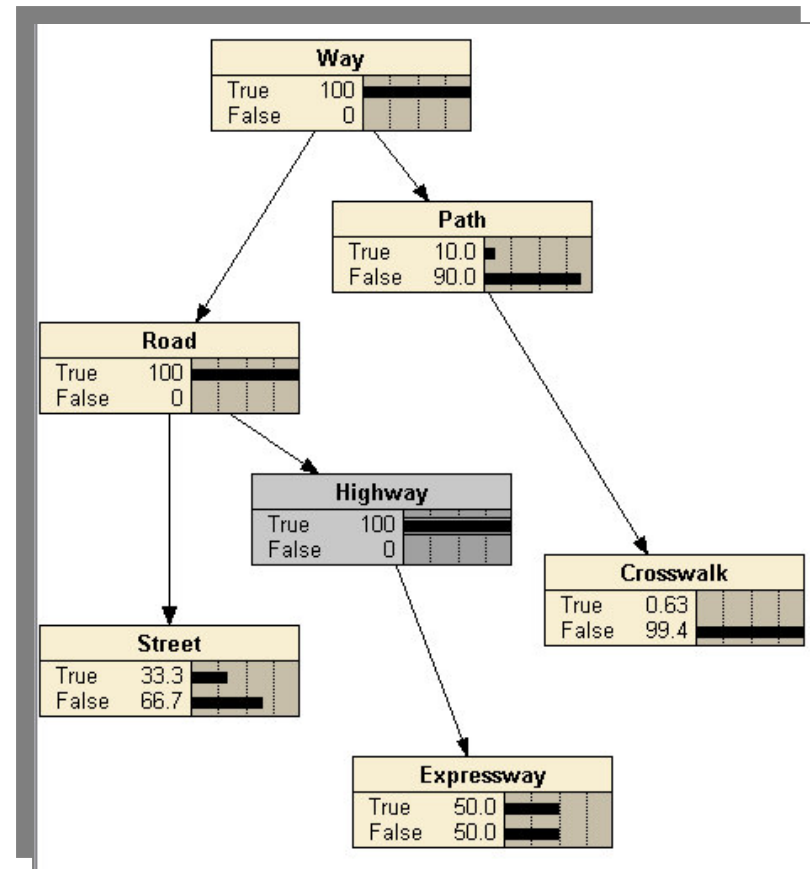


# Inferences within an ontology

<b>Entity Concept</b>	<b>Occurs in</b>	<b>Most similar function concept</b>		<b>Most dissimilar function concept</b>	
<i>Crosswalk</i>	NYDM	cross		move,go	
<i>Expressway</i>	NYDM	drive		cross	
<i>Footpath</i>	HWC	cross		drive	
<i>Highway</i>	NYDM/HWC	drive	drive	walk	go,move
<i>Motorway</i>	HWC	drive		cross,walk	
<i>Path</i>	NYDM/HWC	move,go	cross	cross	move,go
<i>Road</i>	NYDM/HWC	drive	drive	cross,walk	cross,walk
<i>Street</i>	NYDM/HWC	cross,walk	cross,walk	go	go
<i>Way</i>	NYDM/HWC	move,go	move,go	cross	cross,walk

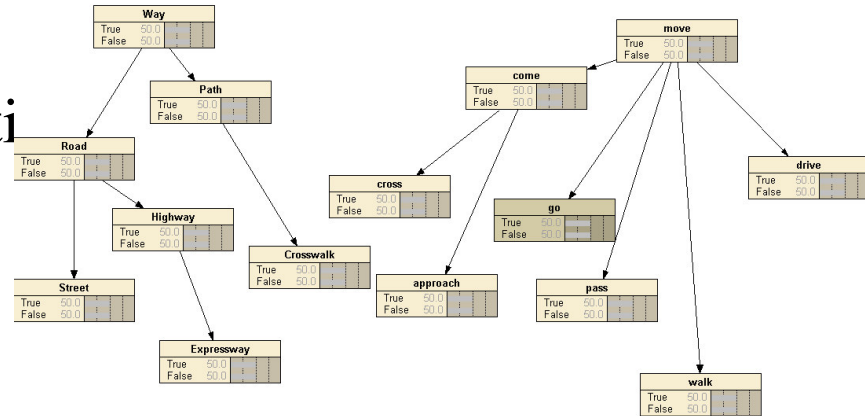
# Probabilistic inferences

- Simple adaptations of BayesOWL  
(without  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\equiv$ )
- Some inferences
  - Equivalent concepts and extent of overlap
  - Most Similar and dissimilar concepts
  - Inconsistent concepts



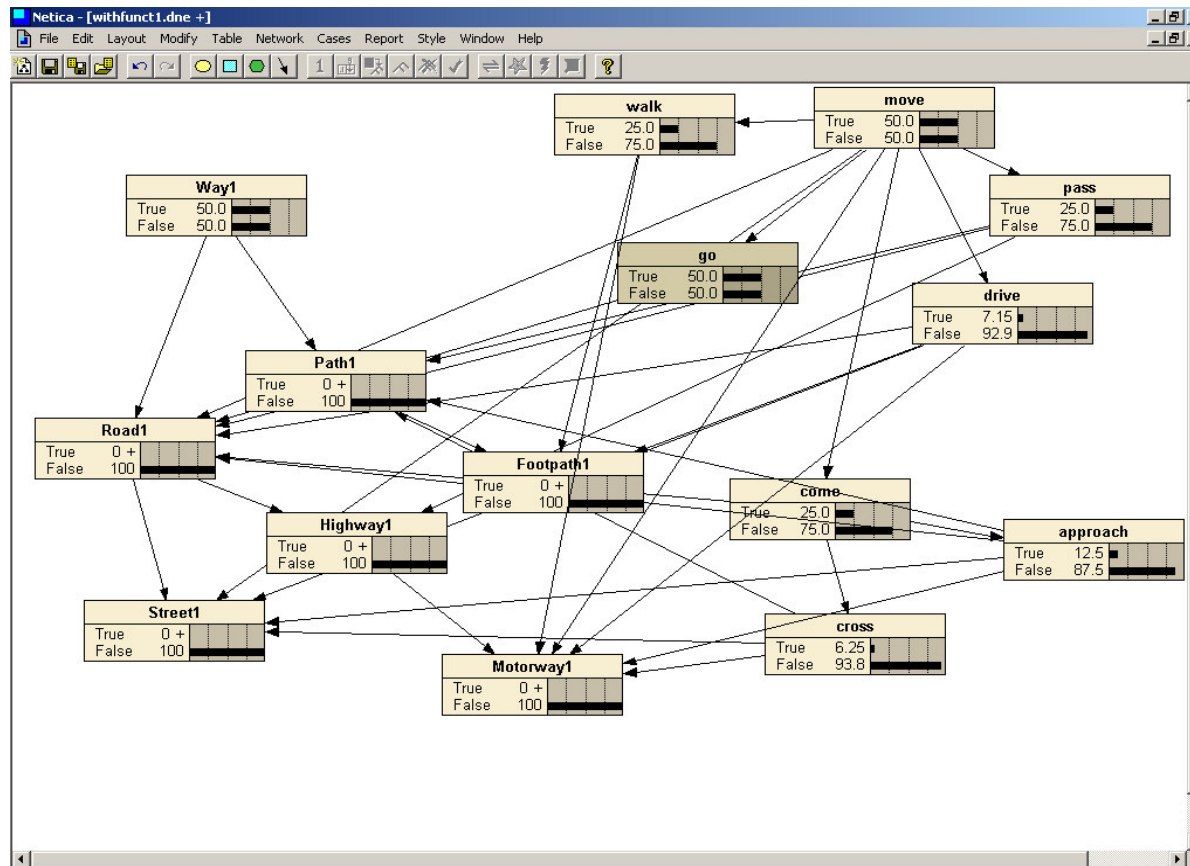
# Linking the BNs

- Virtual evidence via function
- Labels are not important
  - Functions are

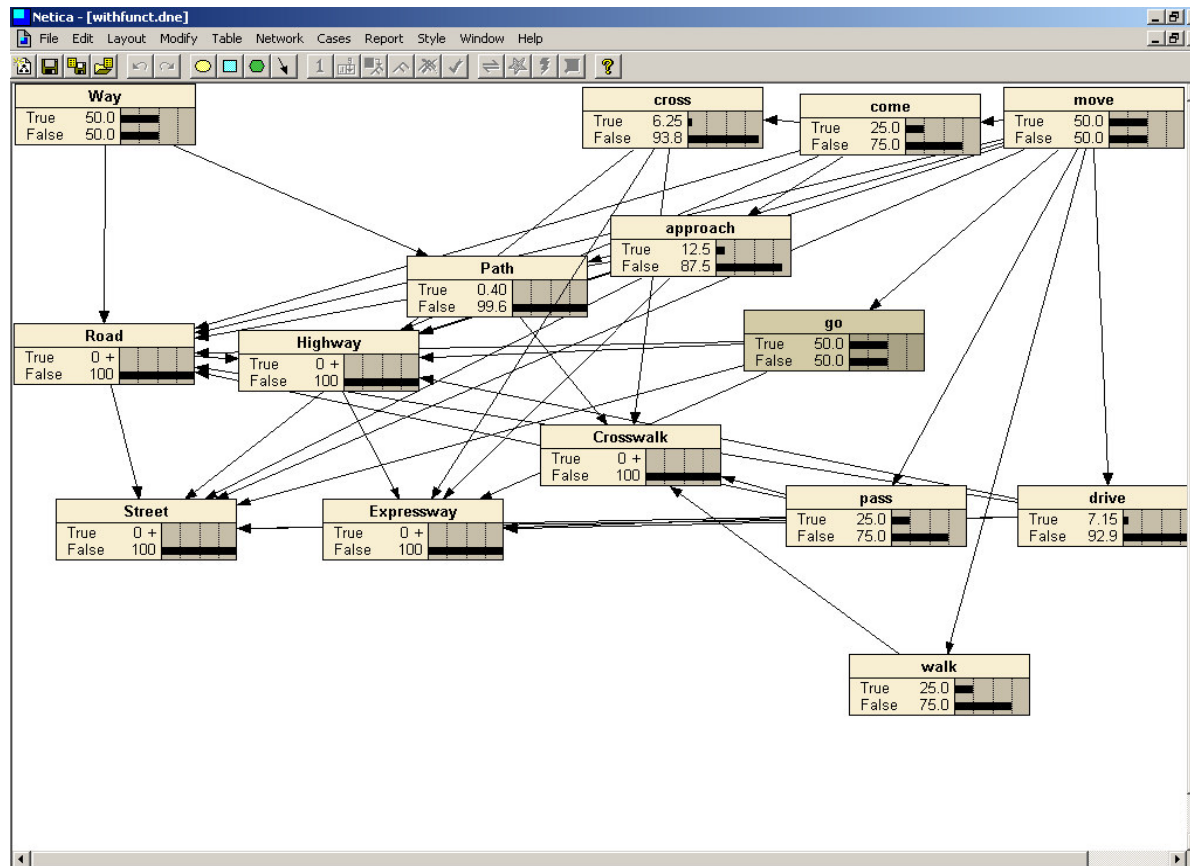


HWC	NYDM	pass	go	drive	walk	cross	approach	come	move
Footpath1	<b>Street</b>	0.044	0.020	0.020	<b>0.001</b>	0.061	0.015	<b>0.001</b>	0.026
Footpath1	<b>Road</b>	0.039	0.029	0.061	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	0.060	0.026	0.032
Footpath1	<b>Way</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>
Footpath1	<b>Path</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	0.032
Footpath1	<b>Crosswalk</b>	0.014	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	0.010	0.030	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>
Footpath1	<b>Expressway</b>	0.013	0.017	0.047	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.000</b>	0.026	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>

# Linking the hierarchies-HWC



# ...NYDM



# Inferences across ontologies

HWC Concept	Most similar entity	Most dissimilar entity
Footpath	Path	Expressway
Highway	Way	Street
Motorway	Road	Crosswalk
Path	Path	Expressway
Road	Road	Expressway
Street	Path	Street
Way	Way	Expressway

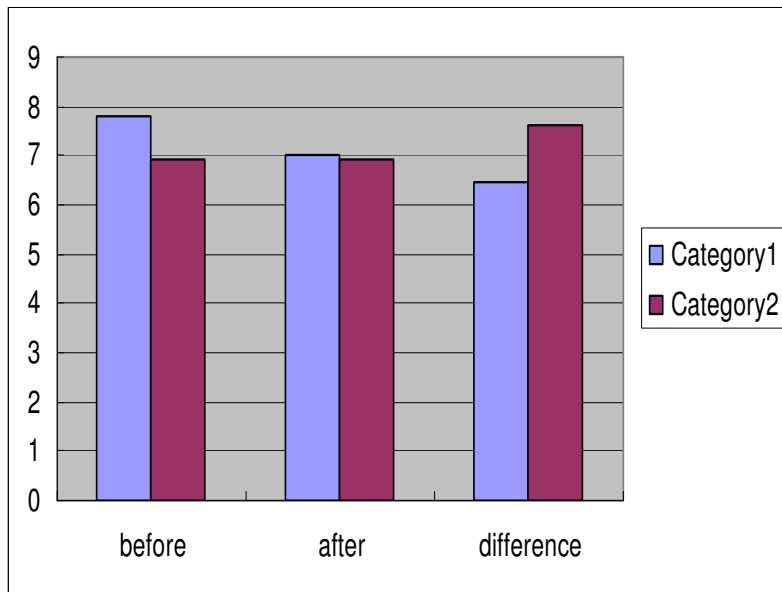
NYDM Concept	Most similar entity	Most dissimilar entity
Way <sup>t</sup>	Way	Motorway
Street	Way	Street
Road	Road	Street
Path	Path	Motorway
Highway	Path	Street
Expressway	Road	Street
Crosswalk	Path	Motorway

# Human subjects testing

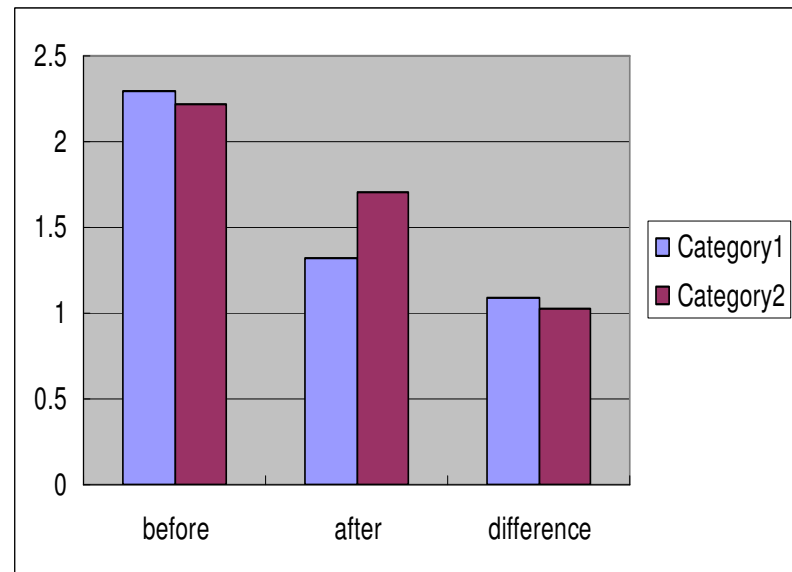
- 20 Subjects
  - Both Genders
  - Only familiar with HWC and familiar with both HWC and NYDM
  - Ages 25 to 60
- Game of cards
  - Matching concepts
    - Without entity names
    - Entity names with descriptions of actions permitted on the entity
- Even distribution of results



# Changes in mappings are consistent for both categories



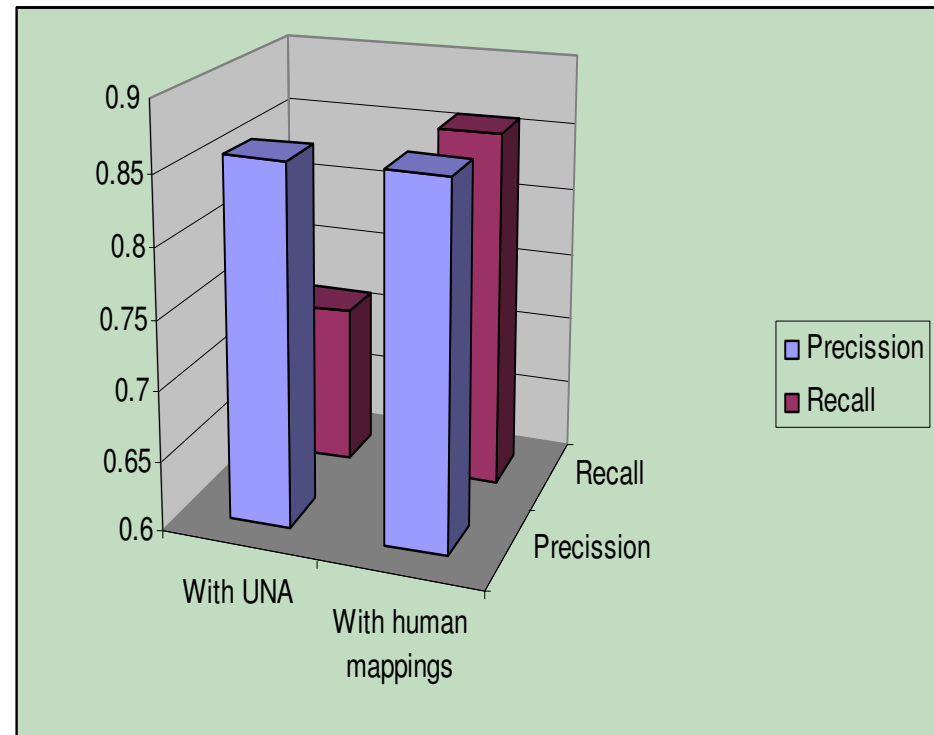
Average of number of mappings



Standard Deviation of number of mapping by the subjects

# Analysis

- Close resemblance between machine based matches and those from human subjects testing
- Entity names do not mean exactly the same; quantification of the differences is possible if actions are assumed invariant
- Human perception of the meaning of entity names change when the actions afforded by the entity is suggested to be different



# Main Conclusions

- Ontologies of geospatial entities need to be extended with probabilistic frameworks
- It is possible to use both hierarchies of geospatial entities as well as geospatial actions and link them with probabilistic knowledge about affordances of geospatial entities.
- The use of probabilistic geospatial ontologies for mappings between most similar entities mimics, to a large extent, the human mechanism of semantic translations of entity names.
- Our results provide support to the hypothesis that knowledge about geospatial actions and affordances to such actions are a critical part of geospatial knowledge.

# Directions for future work

- **Inclusion of Disjoint, Equivalent, Intersection and Union relations:** Using such relations in future will require use of some iterative algorithm such as Decomposed IPFP in order to enforce truth conditions of the LNodes in BayesOWL [Ding *et al*, 2005].
- **Testing on industrial scale:** this experiment, although at a prototype scale aims, in the end, to solve semantic problems, which occur at industrial scale.
- **Machine based learning:** The human mappings, especially that of the experts, are considered as the ideal mappings. Human interactions and judgments for most similar concepts can be used to improve heuristics involved in specification of entity-action linkages.

Thank you

Sumitsen@uni-muenster.de