

The Last Analyst — Mini-SAT Case Study

Case #1: The Romance Scam

Background

A client believes her elderly father is being scammed by a woman he met online. The woman claims to be living overseas and frequently requests money for 'emergencies.' The father insists the relationship is real and resents interference.

Mini-SAT Applied: Key Assumptions Check

This method is used to challenge assumptions that may be driving an inaccurate conclusion. Each assumption is identified and countered with available evidence or lack thereof.

Analysis

1. Assumption: The woman is who she says she is.
 - No verified ID, only photos and vague personal details.
2. Assumption: She's using the money for real emergencies.
 - The emergencies are frequent, dramatic, and unverifiable.
3. Assumption: The relationship is emotionally genuine.
 - She avoids video calls and pushes for secrecy from family.

Outcome

Using the Key Assumptions Check helped clarify where the client's concern was rooted in untested beliefs. It framed the investigation around validating or disproving these assumptions, which supported the daughter in having a clearer, less emotional conversation with her father — and prepared her with evidence in case further action was needed.