

# Multi-Agent Systems

## Lecture II

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# Shout out to...

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# Lecture II Learning Objectives

☐ To understand the elements of an Expert System (ES):

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☐ To understand Inference rules of an ES;

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☐ To understand the principles Distributed AI;

☐ To understand the definition of Agent

☐ To understand the differences of Agency



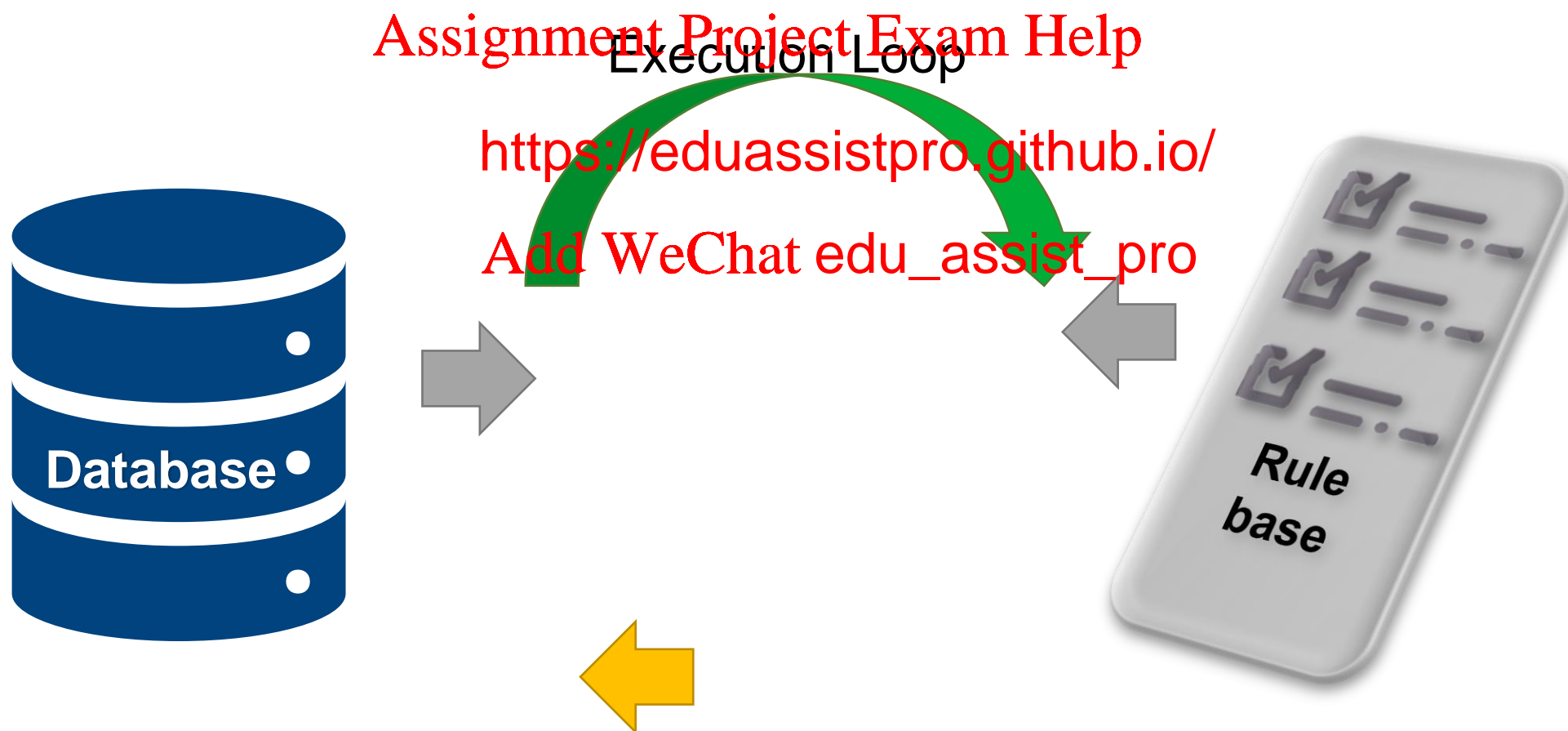
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# Anatomy <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> rt System

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# Anatomy of An Expert System

Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state.





# Anatomy of An Expert System

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The database typically in the form of a list state, about the problem domain:

e.g. for a weather system, this might be:

LOW\_PRESSURE  
CLOUDY  
COLD

# Anatomy of An Expert System

Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** (represent the expertise knowledge as data or rules) about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state.

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The rule base describes <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> can be derived from existing state.

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e.g. for a weather system, this might be:

**IF** LOW\_PRESSURE & CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_LIKELY

**IF** HIGH\_PRESSURE & NOT CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_UNLIKELY



# Anatomy of An Expert System

Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** (represent the expertise knowledge as data or rules) about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state

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Rules are known as **pr** <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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ANTECEDENT >-----> CONSEQ

e.g.

HOT & SUNNY >-----> GOOD DAY

The rule base is typically **ordered**.





# Anatomy of An Expert System

Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** (represent the expertise knowledge as data or rules) about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state

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Some systems include <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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ANTECEDENT >---X---> CONSEQUENT

e.g.

HOT & SUNNY >--0.8--> GOOD DAY

It is 80% certain that it will be a good day if it is hot and sunny.





# Anatomy of An Expert System

Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state.

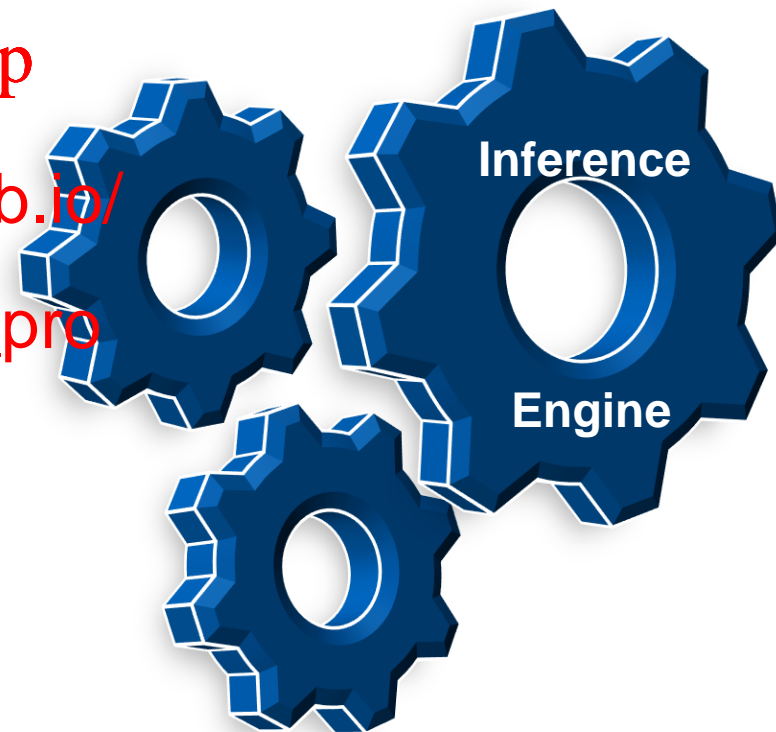
The inference engine is the procedural part that actually applies the additional state:

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- 1) **Forwards Chaining** inference engine generate all the consequences of the initial state.
- 2) **Backwards Chaining** inference engines are query oriented – i.e. based on the initial state and rule base, is the following fact true?



# Anatomy of An Expert System

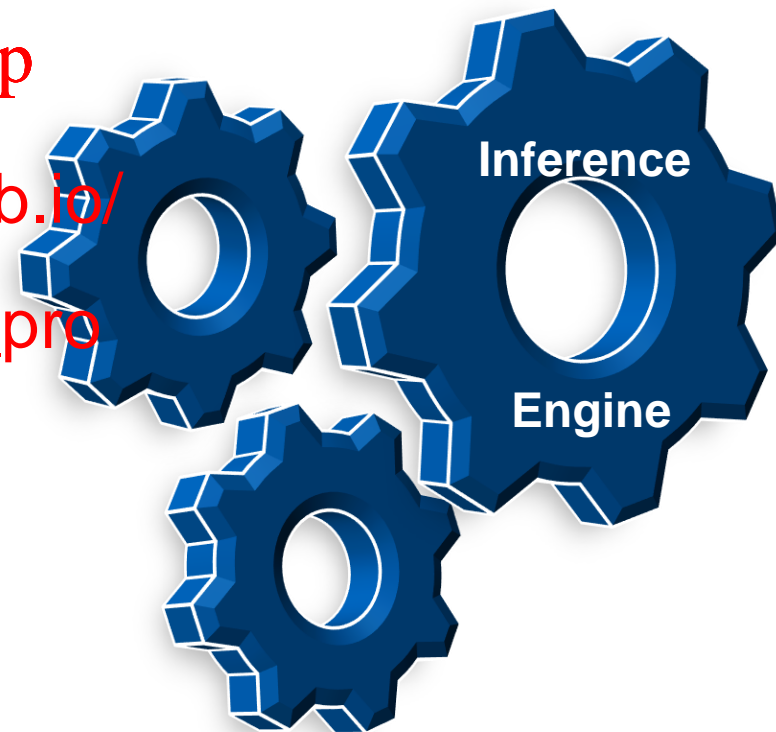
- Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state.

**Forwards Chaining:**

The inference engine  
a rule and *updates* the database.

If the update does not add new state,  
the rule is ignored until an update  
occurs.

If none of the rules add new state, then  
the inference engine terminates.



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# Anatomy of An Expert System

- Expert systems start with some **initial state** relating to a problem domain which they combine with **general rules** about how **additional state** information can be derived from the current state.

**Forwards Chaining:**

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LOW\_PRESSURE <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

CLOUDY

COLD

**RAIN\_LIKELY**

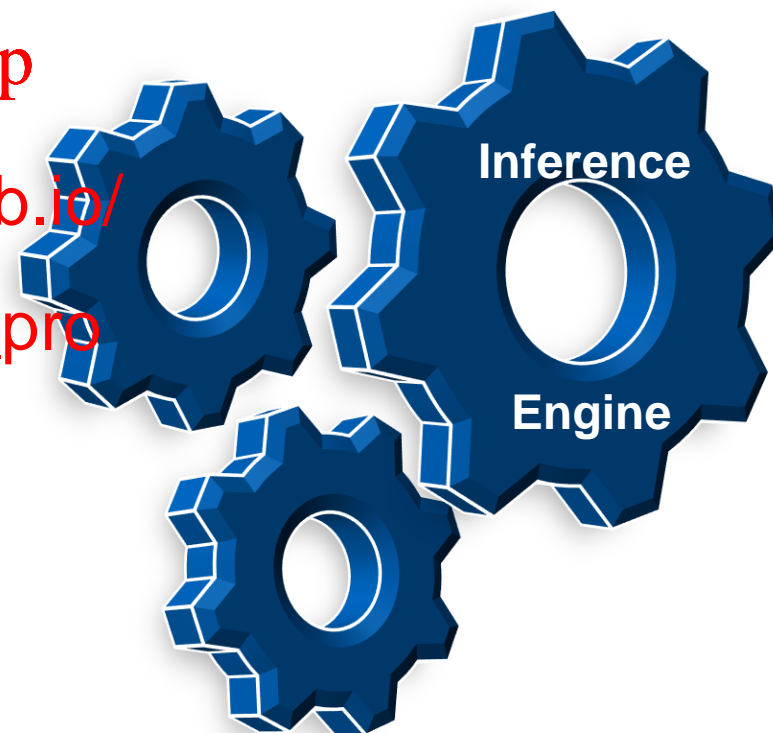
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**IF** LOW\_PRESSURE & CLOUDY

**THEN** RAIN\_LIKELY

**IF** HIGH\_PRESSURE & NOT CLOUDY

**THEN** RAIN\_UNLIKELY



# Anatomy of An Expert System

## Backwards Chaining:

Start with a question – given the initial state and the rules, is the X true?

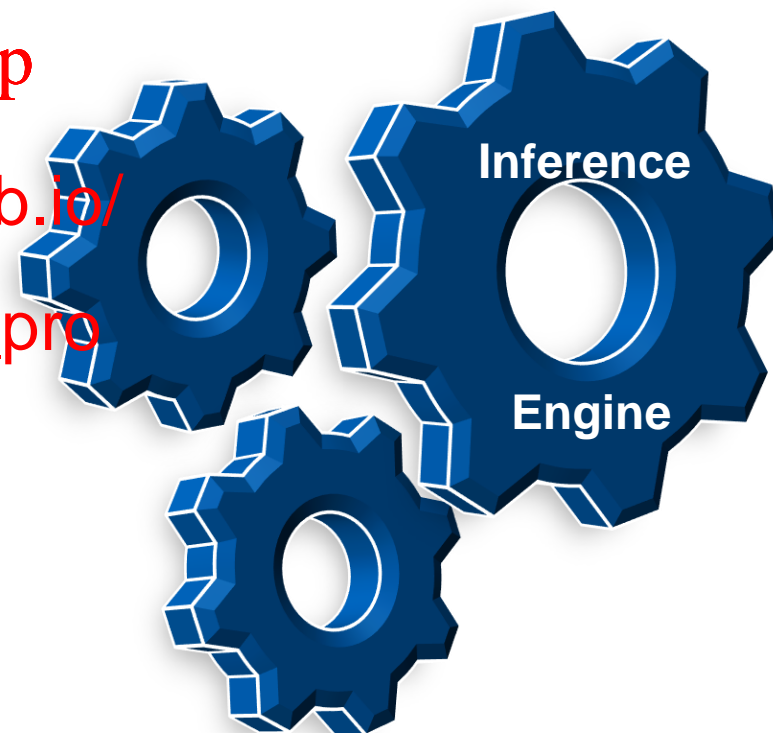
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Check the data base – if X is th <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

Check for a rule R where X is a consequent – i  
is no R then X is false.

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Recursively check is the antecedents of R are true.



# Anatomy of An Expert System

## Backwards Chaining:

•

LOW\_PRESSURE

CLOUDY

COLD

**IF** LOW\_PRESSURE & CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_LIKELY

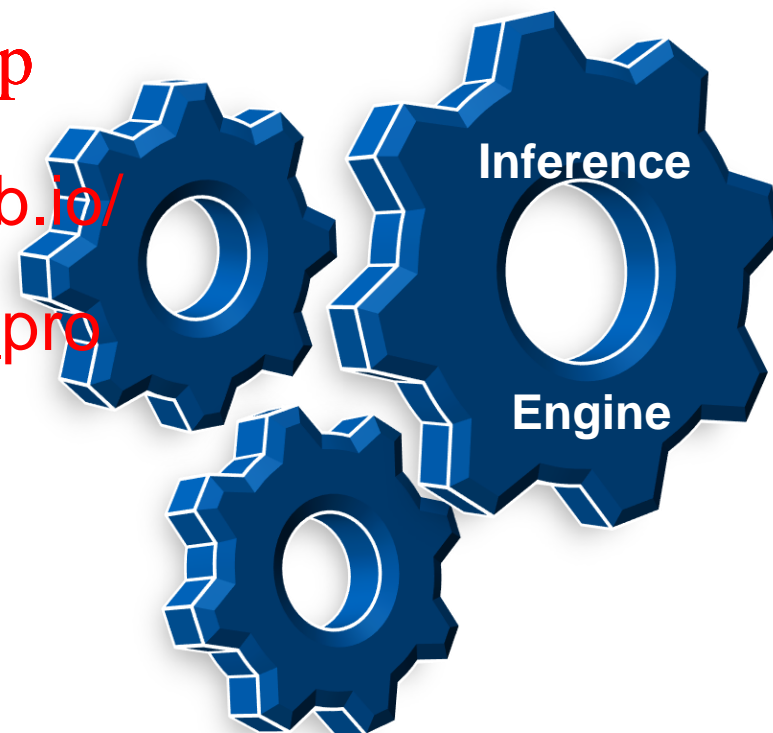
**IF** HIGH\_PRESSURE & NOT CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_UNLIKELY

Is RAIN\_LIKELY true?

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# Anatomy of An Expert System

## Backwards Chaining:

LOW\_PRESSURE  
CLOUDY  
COLD

**IF** LOW\_PRESSURE & CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_LIKELY

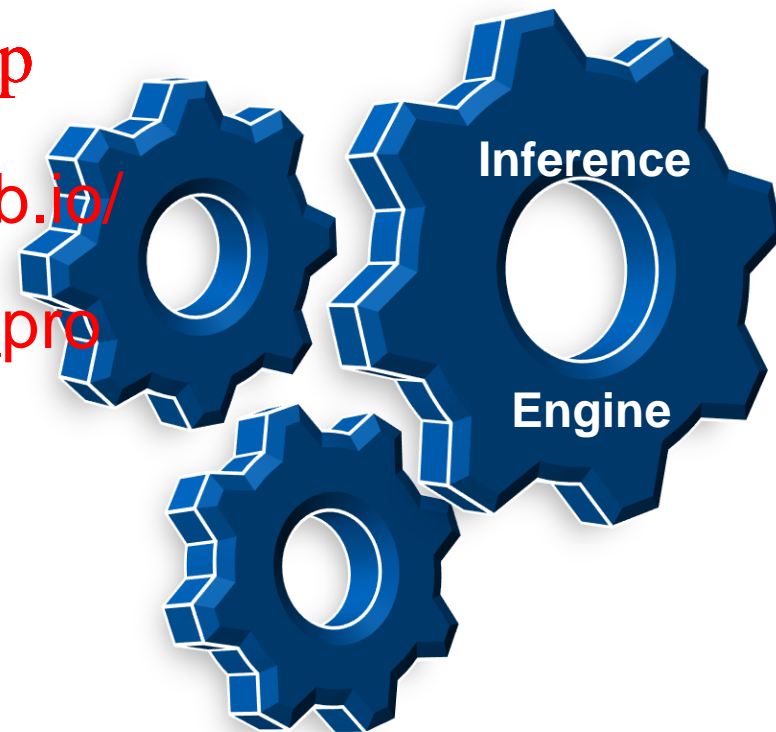
**IF** HIGH\_PRESSURE & NOT CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_UNLIKELY

Is LOW\_PRESSURE & CLOUDY true?

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# Anatomy of An Expert System

## Backwards Chaining:

LOW\_PRESSURE  
CLOUDY  
COLD

**IF** LOW\_PRESSURE & CLOUD  
**THEN** RAIN\_LIKELY

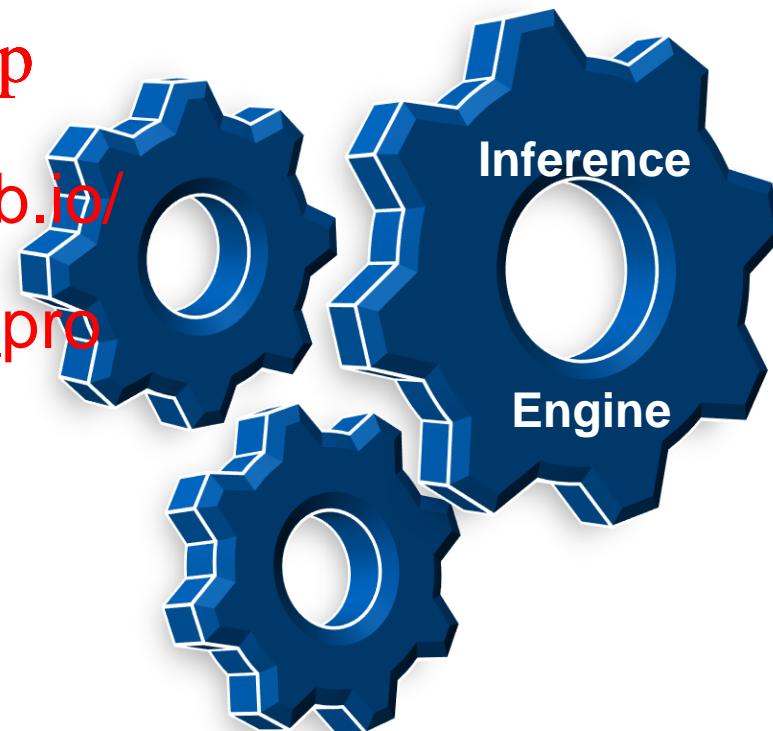
**IF** HIGH\_PRESSURE & NOT CLOUDY  
**THEN** RAIN\_UNLIKELY

It then follows that RAIN\_LIKELY is true!

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# Example Expert System

•The *rule base*:

- 1 SALTY AND FRIED-->GOOD
- 2 MEATY AND NO\_V
- 3 MEATY AND VEGG --> HEALTHY
- 4 COLD AND NOT MEATY --> YU
- 5 NOT FRIED OR MEATY-->BAD

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# Forwards Chaining

- Benefits:

- Good for query intensive applications:
- Once you have derived all possible facts, querying is low cost (you can check the database many times).
- Works well with dynamic
- Rules can be added to database can be easily updated due to changes in the sy

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- Drawbacks:

- Excessive overheads:
  - Large rule base = lots of derived facts (very slow)
- Wasted computations:
  - Only a small subset of the derived facts may be required for the queries that are made.



# Backwards Chaining

## Benefits:

- On-demand inference:

Derived facts are generated when necessary.

- Optimised Performance

Only the pertinent facts

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## Drawbacks:

- Replication of reasoning:

Sometimes the same fact may be derived many times for the same state  
(can be alleviated through caching)

- Loss of intermediate facts:

Often, any fact derived while checking a query is thrown away once the query is complete.



# Beyond Propositional Symbols...

Experts systems can be extended to first-order logic:

- **Facts:** predicates
- **Rules:** Inferences
- **Inference Engine:** forward chaining) or resolution (backward chaining). <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

Example:

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- **Facts:**
  - $\text{Is}(\text{greg}, \text{man}), \text{is}(\text{man}, \text{human})$
  - $\text{Is}(\text{caroline}, \text{woman}), \text{is}(\text{woman}, \text{human})$
- **Rules:**
  - $\text{is}(X, Y) \text{ and } \text{is}(Y, Z) \Rightarrow \text{is}(X, Z)$
  - $\text{is}(X, Z) \text{ and } \text{is}(Y, Z) \Rightarrow \text{same}(X, Y)$