

using backward chaining for query of Resolution in Amazon's customer support AI

Introduction:

In today's digital economy, customer satisfaction and efficiency in service delivery are vital for companies like The Amazon, which handle millions of orders daily. one common customer query is, "where is my order?" (wismo).

Efficiently resolving such questions is critical to optimize query resolution. Amazon employs artificial intelligence (AI) techniques such as backward chaining - a rule-based inference.

How Backward chaining Helps trace the source of a customer's issue:

Backward chaining is a goal-driven approach commonly used in expert system. When they applied to Amazon's AI-driven begins with customer's

customer's question (goal), such as "where is my order?", and then searches backwards through rules to find the facts that support an answer.

Example:

Goal: Determine the status of an order.

Rule:

If $orderStatus(x)$ is true, then:

$orderStatus(x) \leftarrow shipped(x) \wedge$

$Not\ Delivered(x) \wedge location(x,y)$

Here, the system needs to confirm:

* was the order shipped?

* Has it not been delivered?

($Not\ Delivered(x)$)

* where is it currently? ($location(x,y)$)

tracing logic:

1. the system receives the query: "where is my order?"

2. It sets the goal: find $orderstatus(x)$
3. It checks rules that could conclude $orderstatus(x)$
4. It looks for existing data in internal systems.
5. Once all conditions are met, it provides the answers.

This process is highly traceable. If the AI can't verify a shipment, it highlights that the issue likely lies in warehouse. If location tracking fails.

B) Rule-Based example for determining the status of a delayed shipment:

- * $orderstatus(x) \leftarrow shipped(x) \wedge$
 $Not\ delivered(x) \wedge location(x,y)$
- * $shipped(x) \leftarrow orderconfirmed(x) \wedge$
 $dispatchtime(x, \pi_1)$
- * $location(x,y) \leftarrow$
 $carriertracking(x,y)$

sample workflow:

query: "where is my order?"

Step 1: Try to satisfy order status(x) by the
evaluating:

* is it shipped? (check warehouse logs)

* It is not delivered?

* where is it? (query carrier system)

c) How backward chaining Reduces Redundant
queries and improves agent efficiency

Benefits:

- Focused Data Retrieval.
- Faster Resolution.
- Contextual Intelligence.
- Improved Escalation.

Real-world Impact:

Instead of an agent manually checking
shipment records, carrier portals, order
delivery status.

D) challenges with Backward chaining in high-volume customer system.

1. Performance Bottlenecks:

If the rule system is not optimized, each query could trigger expensive searches, slowing down system performance under the high load.

2. Incomplete or Inaccurate Data:

Backward chaining fails if critical facts are missing or systems (e.g. carrier APIs) are unavailable. Unlike forward chaining, which can make conclusions with partial data backward.

3. Complex Rule Maintenance.

As business rules evolve (e.g. changes in delivery policies, multiple carriers), updating and maintaining thousands of interdependent rules becomes labor-intensive.