FAQ For Rule Networks Assignment

In part 4, can I supply more facts in addition to those listed?

Do this in part 5, for instance to test nephew and niece rules and see how the rulenet advantage varies with the number of rules.

Can I reduce the amount of output that is produced by RunRuleNet and FChain?

Yes, the printouts are there to help you see what's happening. Once you're satisfied your code is working correctly you can comment out the print statements you don't need.

The notes say the Rule Network code is in java\RuleNets but there is no such folder

That's because it's an assignment this year. Everything you need is in RuleNets_Assignment.zip on MOLE in the assignment 2 folder.

In part 5 the execution time for the same problem is different every time.. what do I do?

Take an average. If you stop every other process the variability should decrease.

Duplicate Deductions

The final part of assignment 2 asks you to compare RuleNets with Forward Chaining. As some of you have realised, it's possible to make the same deduction twice, in which case you shouldn't pursue it twice. I hadn't allowed for that in the FChain code. I've now given you a version that does the check for duplicate deductions. It's in a zip archive in the MOLE assignment folder.

Thanks to the students who pointed this out.

Erroneous deductions in FChain

In part 5, you will find FChain makes nonsensical deductions like "pip sibling of pip". Don't worry about this. The fault is that in FChain, when a fact has been matched against an antecedent that fact should not be considered as a match for the remaining antecedents.