"When Logic Changes: Exploring Non-Monotonic Reasoning and Argumentation"

Part III. Reflection and Discussion

Instruction: Write a short essay (150–200 words) answering the prompt below. "Think of a time when you changed your conclusion after learning new information. How is this similar to non-monotonic reasoning in AI?"

During senior high school, I stumbled upon a shared post indicating that there wasn't any school the upcoming week. Since the main post was from a Governor, I concluded that they were reliable and that there won't be any face-to-face classes that will be held. For a brief moment, I thought that I could rest for a while and postpone the activities that were assigned to us. However, I became reluctant. Upon further realization, there wasn't any reason for classes to be suspended as there weren't any natural disasters that happened during that time. Thus, I've decided to look at the shared post again and see if there were anomalies. After inspection, my pieces of evidence were indeed correct. The main post from the Governor was posted 3 years ago and didn't match the date that time, which means there were classes in the upcoming week.

My situation back then demonstrates how Non-Monotonic Reasoning in AI works. Non-Monotonic Reasoning is a process where assumptions or claims are changed depending on the newly added information/knowledge. My assumption was that there were no classes the upcoming week as the post was created by someone credible. However, upon further inspection and fact-checking (newly added knowledge), my conclusion was changed as the post didn't match the time and date from that day.