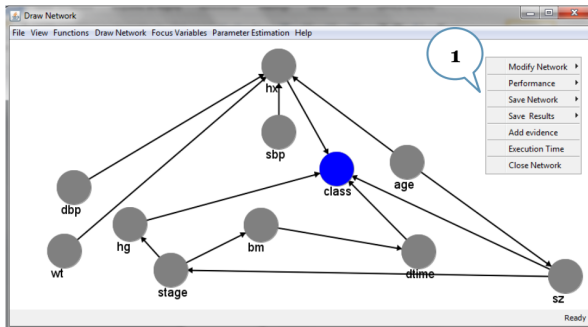


# Probabilistic Knowledge Representation and Reasoning



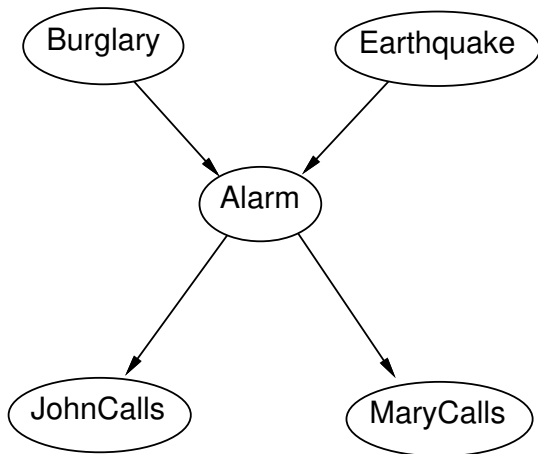
# Probabilistic Reasoning Systems

- How to build reasoning systems that can use uncertainty?
- **Belief Networks** or Bayesian networks: graph with the following characteristics:
  - ▶ Nodes are random variables.
  - ▶ Directed edges are connections between the random variables.
  - ▶ Each node has a conditional probability table that probabilistically represents the effect of this nodes's parents.
  - ▶ The graph has no cycles (it is a DAG).
- relatively easy to define relations, but tricky to define probabilities.

# Belief Networks

- Example: burglar alarm.
- Alarm sounds in two situations: burglary or earthquake.
- John e Mary are neighbours that call the owner's house when the alm goes off.
- John calls whenever the alarm goes off and also when the telephone rings.
- Mary calls only when the alarm goes off, but sometimes she doesn't hear the alarm.
- Given the evidence of who called the house owner, what is the probability of a burglary?

# Belief Networks

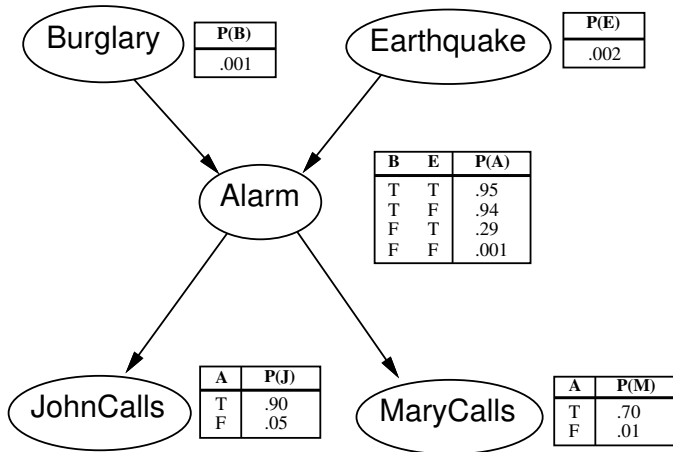


## Belief Networks

- Network only represents direct connections, causal.
- Nothing is informed about Mary listening to loud musci or to John confounding the telephone with the alarm sound.
- Conditional Probability Table:

Burglary	Earthquake	$\mathbf{P}(Alarm \mid Burglary, Earthquake)$
T	T	0.950 0.050
T	F	0.950 0.050
F	T	0.290 0.710
F	F	0.001 0.999

# Belief Networks



# Belief Networks

- Two ways of understanding:
  - ▶ representation of the joint probability distribution. Useful to **build** the network.
  - ▶ set of conditionally independent variables. Useful to design inference procedures.
- Representing the joint probability:
  - ▶ each table entry can be calculated through the information available in the network.
  - ▶ a generic table entry represents the probability of a conjunction of the random variable values:

$$P(X_1 = x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n = x_n).$$

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i \mid Parents(X_i))$$

# Belief Networks

- each table entry is represented by the product of the appropriate elements of the CPT (Conditional Probability Table).
- A CPT provides a decomposed representation of the joint distribution.
- Example:

$$P(J \wedge M \wedge A \wedge \neg B \wedge \neg E) = P(J | A)P(M | A)P(A | \neg B \wedge \neg E)P(\neg B)P(\neg E) = 0.9 \times 0.7 \times 0.001 \times 0.999 \times 0.998 = 0.00062$$



# Belief Networks

- Method to build belief networks:
  - ▶ Network is build such that each node is conditionally independent of its predecessors, given the probability of its parents.
  - ▶ equation  $P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | Parents(x_i))$  used to guide the knowledge engineer to build the network topology.
  - ▶ In order to build the network so that its structure is correct for the domain, choose suitable parents that guarantee that each node is conditionally independent on its parents.

## Belief Networks

- In general:

$\mathbf{P}(X_i | X_{i-1}, \dots, X_1) = P(X_i | Parents(X_i))$ , given that  $Parents(X_i)$  is a subset of  $\{x_{i-1}, \dots, x_1\}$

- This condition holds as long as we label the nodes in a way that is consistent with the partial order that is implicit in the graph structure.
- For example: Mary calls: is not **directly** affected by burglary or earthquake. It is affected by its effect: the alarm goes off.
- John calls also does not have direct influence over Mary calls. In that case, we have conditional independence:  
 $\mathbf{P}(MaryCalls | JohnCalls, Alarm, Earthquake, Burglary) = \mathbf{P}(MaryCalls | Alarm)$

# Belief Networks

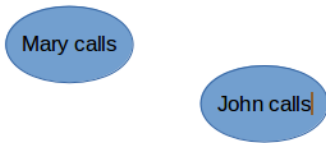
- General procedure:
  1. Choose a subset  $X_i$  of relevant variables that describe the domain.
  2. Choose an order for those variables.
  3. While there are variables to be placed in the network:
    - a) Take a var  $X_i$  and add a node to the network for that variable.
    - b) Build the set  $Parents(X_i)$  with a minimum set of nodes already in the net, such that the conditional independence constraint is satisfied.
    - c) Define the CPT for node  $X_i$ .

# Belief Networks

- Procedure guarantees that network is acyclic.
- Network does not have redundant probability values.
- Guarantees that the axioms of probability theory are not violated.

# Belief Networks

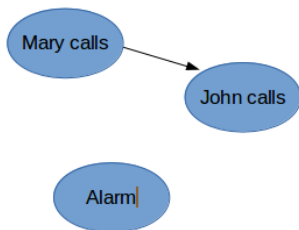
- Assuming the order:  $M, J, A, B, E$



$$P(J | M) = P(J)?$$

# Belief Networks

- Assuming the order:  $M, J, A, B, E$

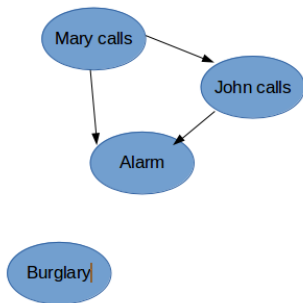


$P(J | M) = P(J)$ ? No

$P(A | J, M) = P(A | J)$ ?  $P(A | J, M) = p(A)$ ?

# Belief Networks

- Assuming the order:  $M, J, A, B, E$



$P(J | M) = P(J)$ ? No

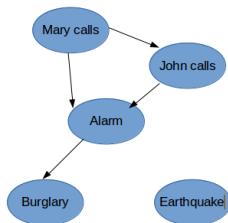
$P(A | J, M) = P(A | J)$ ?  $P(A | J, M) = p(A)$ ? No

$P(B | A, J, M) = P(B | A)$ ?

$P(B | A, J, M) = P(B)$ ?

# Belief Networks

- Assuming the order:  $M, J, A, B, E$



$P(J | M) = P(J)$ ? No

$P(A | J, M) = P(A | J)P(A | J, M) = p(A)$ ? No

$P(B | A, J, M) = P(B | A)$ ? Yes

$P(B | A, J, M) = P(B)$ ? No

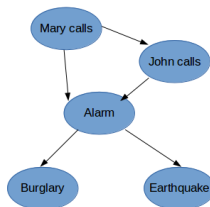
$P(E | B, A, J, M) = P(E | A)$ ?

$P(E | B, A, J, M) = P(E | A, B)$ ?



# Belief Networks

- Assuming the order:  $M, J, A, B, E$



$P(J | M) = P(J)$ ? No

$P(A | J, M) = P(A | J)$ ?  $P(A | J, M) = p(A)$ ? No

$P(B | A, J, M) = P(B | A)$ ? Yes

$P(B | A, J, M) = P(B)$ ? No

$P(E | B, A, J, M) = P(E | A)$ ? No

$P(E | B, A, J, M) = P(E | A, B)$ ? Yes

# Belief Networks

- Belief networks are more compact than the joint probability distribution table.
- **locally structured** systems: sparse with info distributed among the nodes.
- Polynomial growth.
- Assuming that most of the nodes are directly affected by at most  $k$  other variables (parents).
- Number of entries in each CPT:  $2^k$ .
- To the complete network ( $n$  nodes):  $n2^k$ .

# Belief Networks

- Concrete example: network with 20 nodes and at most 5 parents per node:
  - ▶ belief networks: 640 entries.
  - ▶ joint probability table: order of  $10^6$  entries.
- Number of edges: the more we have the greater the precision, but a big number of edges may increase the table sizes.
- General rule: add to the network: first the causal nodes and then their effects.

# Belief Networks

- Problem: choose the conditional probabilities of a TPC.
- Relation between parents and children nodes can fit a canonical distribution. In that case, probs can be specified by names and additional parameters.
- Simple example: deterministic nodes. Probs are the same as probs of their parents. Representation can be more compact.
- Non-deterministic nodes: noisy-OR.

## Belief Networks

- Representation of probs:
  - If all parents are False, output node will be False with 100% probability.
  - If only one of the parents is True, output node will have value False with noisy parameter of that parent.
- Ex:  $P(\text{Fever} \mid \text{Cold}) = 0.4$ ,  $P(\text{Fever} \mid \text{Flu}) = 0.8$  and  $P(\text{Fever} \mid \text{Malaria}) = 0.9$

Cold	Flu	Malaria	P(Fever)	P( $\neg$ Fever)
F	F	F	0.0	1.0
F	F	T	0.9	0.1
F	T	F	0.8	0.2
F	T	T	0.98	$0.02 = 0.2 \times 0.1$
T	F	F	0.4	0.6
T	F	T	0.94	$0.06 = 0.6 \times 0.1$
T	T	F	0.88	$0.12 = 0.6 \times 0.2$
T	T	T	0.988	$0.012 = 0.6 \times 0.2 \times 0.1$

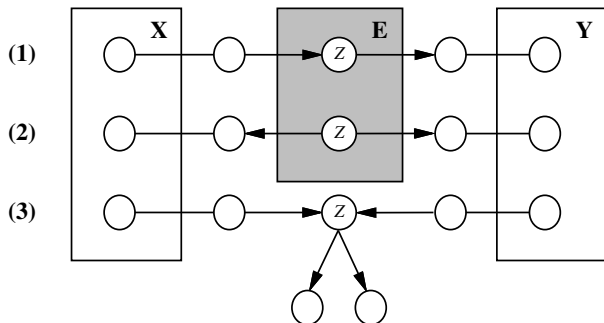
# Belief Networks

- Need to answer: “Is there any set of nodes  $X$  independent of other set  $Y$ , given the evidence  $E$ ?”
- Method: **direction-dependent separation** or **d-separation**.
- d-separation: *if every edge between  $X$  and  $Y$  is d-separated by  $E$ , then  $X$  and  $Y$  are conditionally independent, given  $E$ .* In that condition, we say that the edge is **blocked**.

# Belief Networks

- An edge is blocked, given a set of nodes  $E$ , if there is a path such that one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  1. Variable  $Z$  is in  $E$  and  $Z$  has an arc incident and other not incident.
  2.  $Z$  is in  $E$  and  $Z$  has both arcs non incident.
  3. Nor  $Z$  nor any descendant of  $Z$  are in  $E$ , and both arcs are incident to  $Z$ .

# Belief Networks





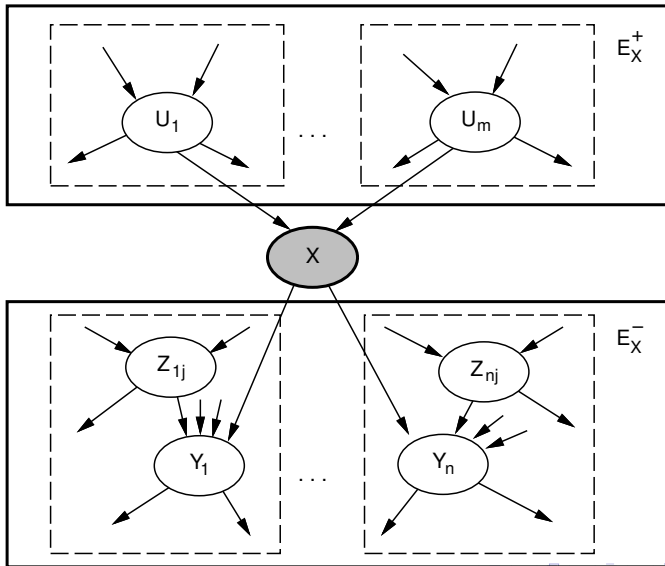
# Belief Networks

- Objective: compute posterior probability distribution for a set of query variables, given the evidence:  
 $P(\textit{Query} \mid \textit{Evidence})$ .
- In principle any node can be query or evidence. When learning classifiers, one variable is the query and some others are evidence.

# Belief Networks

- **Diagnostic:**  $P(\text{Burglary} \mid \text{JohnCalls})$  (effects to causes).
- **Causal:**  $P(\text{JohnCalls} \mid \text{Burglary})$  (cause to effects).
- **Inter-causal:**  $P(\text{Burglary} \mid \text{Alarm} \wedge \text{Earthquake})$ .
- **Mixed:** combination of one or more of the previous cases.
- Belief Networks can be used to:
  - ▶ make decisions.
  - ▶ decide which evidence variables to observe in order to obtain more useful information.
  - ▶ to perform “sensitivity analysis” and understand which aspects of the model have greater impact on the probability of the query variables.
  - ▶ Explain the results of the probabilistic inference to the user.

# Belief Networks



## Belief Networks

- Node  $X$  has parents  $U$  and children  $Y$ .
- Blocks are “singly connected”: all blocks are disjunct and do not have links.
- $X$  is the query variable.
- Objective: compute  $P(X | E)$ .
- Set of **causal support**: evidence variables “above”  $X$  that are connected through its parents.
- Set of **evidential support**: evidence variables that are “below”  $X$  and are connected through its children.
- $E_{U_i|X}$ : evidence connected with all  $U_i$  nodes, *except* via the edge that goes through  $X$ .

# Belief Networks

- General strategy:
  - ▶ Represent  $\mathbf{P}(X | E)$  in terms of contributions  $E_X^+$  e  $E_X^-$ .
  - ▶ Compute  $E_X^+$  thorough its effects on X's parents. Obs: to compute the effects of X's parents can be done recursively.
  - ▶ idem to  $E_X^-$
- Method: apply Bayes, and other methods such as simplifications (conditional independence).

# Belief Networks

- $\mathbf{P}(X | E) = \mathbf{P}(X | E_X^-, E_X^+) = \frac{\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | X, E_X^+) \mathbf{P}(X | E_X^+)}{\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | E_X^+)}$
- As  $X$  d-separates  $E_X^+$  from  $E_X^-$ , we can use conditional independence to simplify the first term's numerator. We can also use  $\frac{1}{\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | E_X^+)}$  as a normalization constant:  

$$\mathbf{P}(X | E) = \alpha \mathbf{P}(E_X^- | X) \mathbf{P}(X | E_X^+)$$
- $\mathbf{P}(X | E_X^+) = \sum_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{P}(X | \mathbf{u}, E_X^+) P(\mathbf{u} | E_X^+)$
- $\mathbf{P}(X | E_X^+) = \sum_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{P}(X | \mathbf{u}) \prod_i \mathbf{P}(u_i | E_X^+)$
- $\mathbf{P}(X | E_X^+) = \sum_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{P}(X | \mathbf{u}) \prod_i \mathbf{P}(u_i | E_{U_i | X})$

# Belief Networks

- Let  $Z_i$  parents of  $Y_i$  and  $z_i$  a set of values for  $Z_i$ .

$$\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | X) = \prod_i \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i|X}^- | X)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | X) = \prod_i \sum_{y_i} \sum_{z_i} \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i|X}^- | X, y_i, z_i) \mathbf{P}(y_i, z_i | X)$$

- Decomposing  $E_{Y_i|X}$  in two independent components  $E_{Y_i}^+$  and  $E_{Y_i}^-$

$$\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | X) = \prod_i \sum_{y_i} \sum_{z_i} \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^- | X, y_i, z_i) \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^+ | X, y_i, z_i) \mathbf{P}(y_i, z_i | X)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(E_X^- | X) = \prod_i \sum_{y_i} \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^- | y_i) \sum_{z_i} \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^+ | z_i) \mathbf{P}(y_i, z_i | X)$$

# Belief Networks

- Applying Bayes to  $\mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^+ | X | z_i)$ :

$$\mathbf{P}(X | E_X^-) = \prod_i \sum_{y_i} \mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^- | y_i) \sum_{z_i} \frac{P(z_i | E_{Y_i}^+ | X) P(E_{Y_i}^+ | X)}{P(z_i)} \mathbf{P}(y_i, z_i | X)$$

...

$$\mathbf{P}(X | E_X^-) = \beta \prod_i \sum_{y_i} P(E_{Y_i}^- | y_i) \sum_{z_i} P(y_i | X, z_i) \prod_{z_i} P(z_{ij} | E_{Z_{ij}|Y_i})$$

- $P(E_{Y_i}^- | y_i)$  is a recursive instance of  $P(E_X^- | X)$ .
- $P(y_i | X, z_i)$  is taken directly from the CPT of  $Y_i$ .
- $P(z_{ij} | E_{Z_{ij}|Y_i})$  is a recursive instance of  $P(X | E)$ .



# Belief Networks

**function** BELIEF-NET-ASK( $X$ ) **returns** a probability distribution over the values of  $X$   
**inputs:**  $X$ , a random variable

SUPPORT-EXCEPT( $X$ , null)

---

**function** SUPPORT-EXCEPT( $X$ ,  $V$ ) **returns**  $\mathbf{P}(X|E_{X \setminus V})$

**if** EVIDENCE?( $X$ ) **then return** observed point distribution for  $X$

**else**

calculate  $\mathbf{P}(E_{X \setminus V}^- | X) = \text{EVIDENCE-EXCEPT}(X, V)$

$U \leftarrow \text{PARENTS}[X]$

**if**  $U$  is empty

**then return**  $\alpha \mathbf{P}(E_{X \setminus V}^- | X) \mathbf{P}(X)$

**else**

**for each**  $U_i$  **in**  $U$

calculate and store  $\mathbf{P}(U_i | E_{U_i \setminus X}) = \text{SUPPORT-EXCEPT}(U_i, X)$

**return**  $\alpha \mathbf{P}(E_{X \setminus V}^- | X) \sum_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{P}(X|\mathbf{u}) \prod_i \mathbf{P}(U_i | E_{u_i \setminus X})$

---

**function** EVIDENCE-EXCEPT( $X$ ,  $V$ ) **returns**  $\mathbf{P}(E_{X \setminus V}^- | X)$

$Y \leftarrow \text{CHILDREN}[X] - V$

**if**  $Y$  is empty

**then return** a uniform distribution

**else**

**for each**  $Y_i$  **in**  $Y$  **do**

calculate  $\mathbf{P}(E_{Y_i}^- | y_i) = \text{EVIDENCE-EXCEPT}(Y_i, \text{null})$

$Z_i \leftarrow \text{PARENTS}[Y_i] - X$

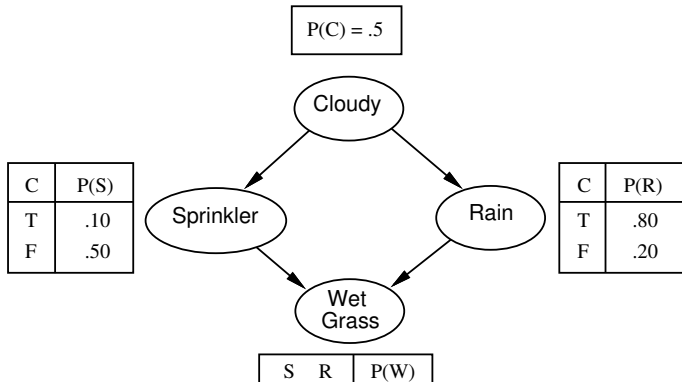
**for each**  $Z_{ij}$  **in**  $Z_i$

calculate  $\mathbf{P}(Z_{ij} | E_{Z_{ij} \setminus Y_i}) = \text{SUPPORT-EXCEPT}(Z_{ij}, Y_i)$

**return**  $\beta \prod_i \sum_{y_i} P(E_{Y_i}^- | y_i) \sum_{\mathbf{z}_i} \mathbf{P}(y_i | X, \mathbf{z}_i) \prod_j P(z_{ij} | E_{z_{ij} \setminus Y_i})$

## Belief Networks

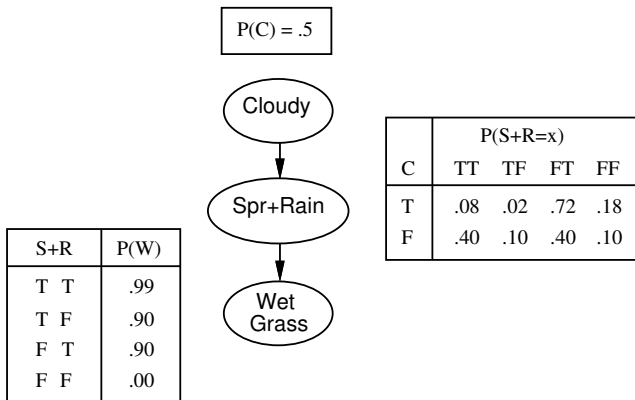
Multiply connected network: two nodes are connected through more than one path in the graph.



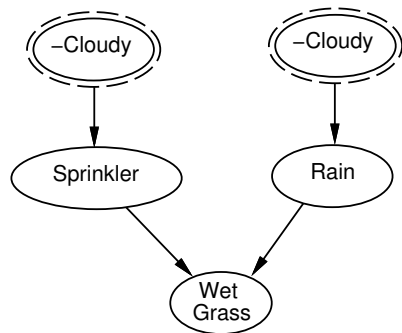
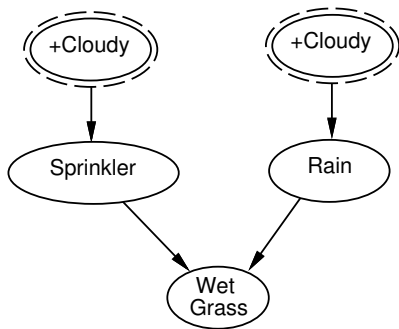
# Belief Networks

- three classes of algorithms:
  - ▶ **Clustering**: transforms the network in a poly-tree probabilistically equivalent, but with different topology.
  - ▶ **Conditioning**: opposite of clustering, transforms the network in several poly-trees by instantiating different values for the random variables. Evaluates each poly-tree for each different instantiation.
  - ▶ **Stochastic Simulation** (logical sampling): computes an approximate probability through repeated simulations of the network, observing the frequency of relevant events.
  - ▶ In general: exact inference in belief networks is an NP-hard problem.

# Belief Networks



# Belief Networks



# Belief Networks

- Decide about what to talk.
- Decide about the vocabulary and random variables.
- Code the knowledge about dependencies among variables.
- Code a specific description of the problem.
- Query the system.