

Surfing the waves of explanation



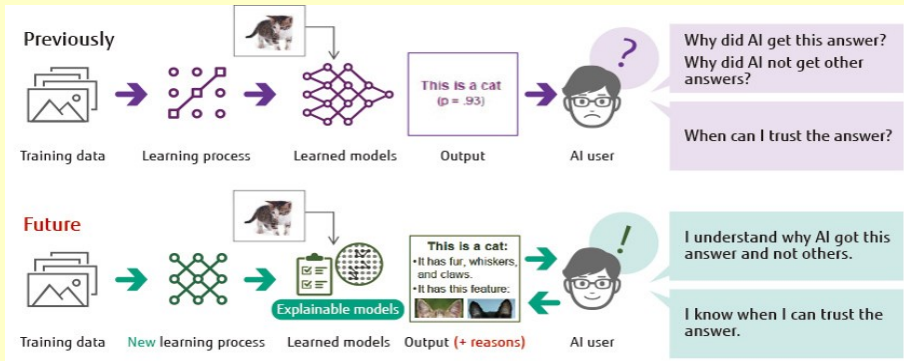
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The goal of explainable AI



Wikipedia:

Explainable AI (XAI) refers to methods and techniques in the application of artificial intelligence technology (AI) such that the results of the solution can be understood by human experts.

Explanations: a social science perspective

It is important to realise that [Miller, 2019]:

- 1 explanations are **contrastive**: “why P instead of Q?”
- 2 explanations are **selected** (in a biased manner): people include just one or two relevant causes as explanation; this selection is influenced by cognitive biases.
- 3 explanations do **not** refer to **probabilities or statistical relationships**; the most likely explanation is not always the best explanation.
- 4 explanations are **social**: presented as part of a conversation or interaction.

Miller [2019]:

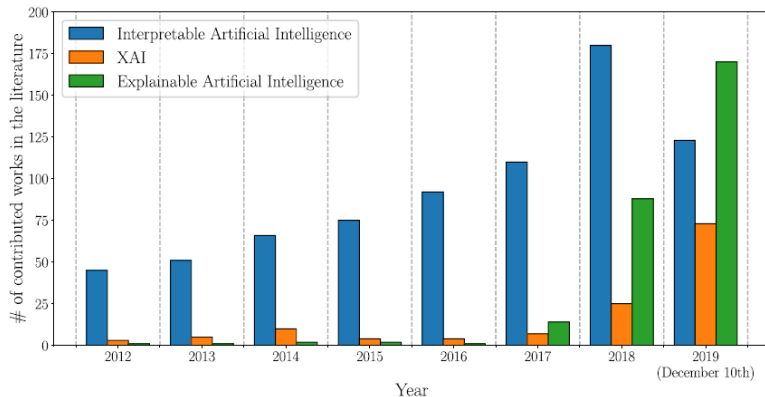
*For over **two decades**, cognitive psychologists and scientists have investigated how people generate explanations and how they evaluate their quality.*

When did AI start generating and evaluating explanations?

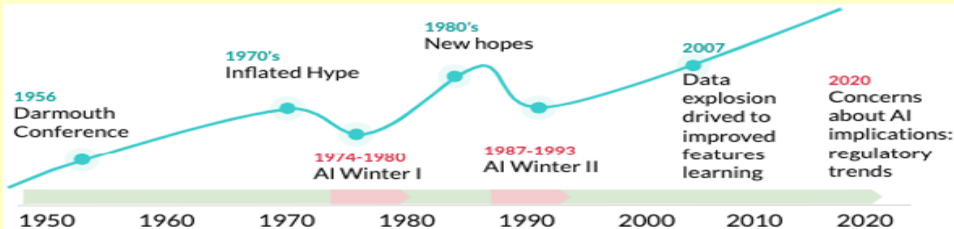
XAI output past decade

A. Barredo Arrieta, N. Díaz-Rodríguez and J. Del Ser et al.

Information Fusion 58 (2020) 82–115

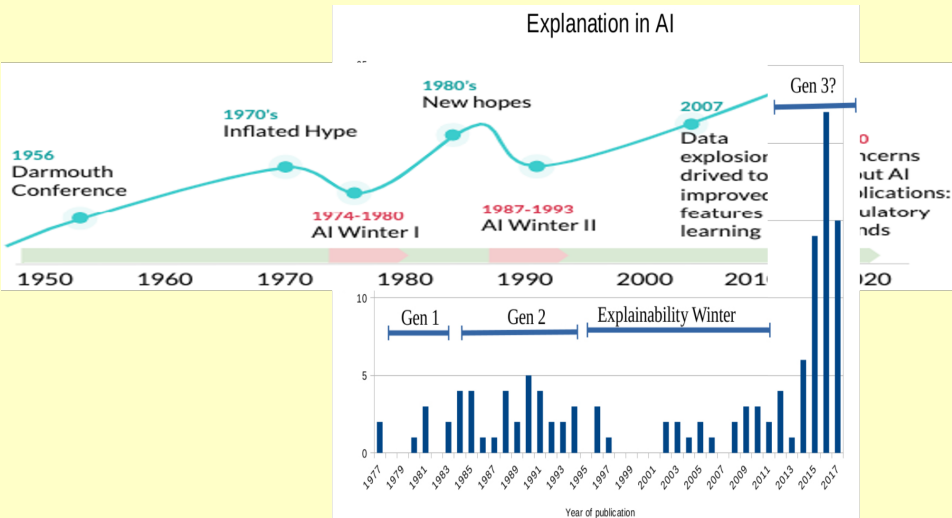


Waves of AI output



AI: <https://www.finextra.com/the-long-read/62/what-should-be-taken-into-account-if-artificial-intelligence-is-to-be-regulated>

Waves of AI and XAI output

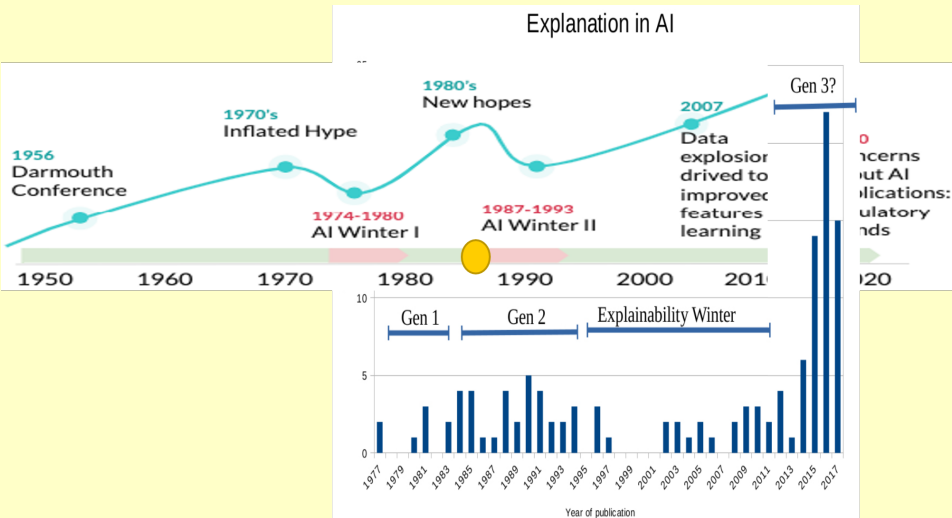


AI: [https://www.finextra.com/the-long-read/62/](https://www.finextra.com/the-long-read/62/what-should-be-taken-into-account-if-artificial-intelligence-is-to-be-regulated)

what-should-be-taken-into-account-if-artificial-intelligence-is-to-be-regulated

XAI: 2019 DARPA report *Explanation in Human-AI Systems: A Literature Meta-Review Synopsis of Key Ideas and Publications and Bibliography for Explainable AI*

Waves of AI and XAI output



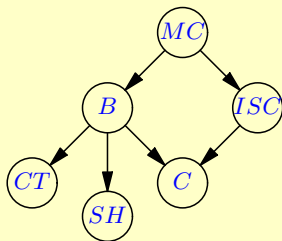
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XAI: 2019 DARPA report *Explanation in Human-AI Systems: A Literature Meta-Review Synopsis of Key Ideas and Publications and Bibliography for Explainable AI*

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Bayesian network (BN)

- late 1980s: introduced by J. Pearl;
- model \mathcal{B} of discrete joint probability distribution $P(\mathbf{V})$;
- qualitative part: intuitive (?) DAG G of independence relation;
- quantitative part: distributions $P(V_i \mid pa_G(V_i))$;



$$P(b \mid mc) = 0.20 \quad P(mc) = 0.20$$

$$P(b \mid \neg mc) = 0.05$$

$$P(sh \mid b) = 0.80 \quad P(c \mid b \wedge isc) = 0.80$$

$$P(sh \mid \neg b) = 0.60 \quad P(c \mid \neg b \wedge isc) = 0.80$$

$$P(ct \mid b) = 0.95 \quad P(c \mid b \wedge \neg isc) = 0.80$$

$$P(ct \mid \neg b) = 0.10 \quad P(c \mid \neg b \wedge \neg isc) = 0.02$$

$$P(isc \mid mc) = 0.80$$

$$P(isc \mid \neg mc) = 0.20$$

- can be handcrafted or learned from data;

$$P(\mathbf{V}) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(V_i \mid pa_G(V_i))$$

Reasoning in Bayesian networks: queries

Let $V = H \cup I \cup E$ be composed of three disjoint subsets.

Typical queries posed to a BN are:

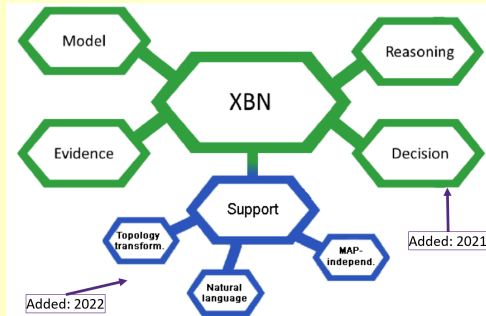
MAP/MPE: $\arg \max_h P(H = h \mid E = e)$ (classification)

Inference: $P(H = h \mid E = e)$ (What if?)
(typically H is a single V_i)

where e and h denote value assignments to E, H .

Explaining Bayesian networks

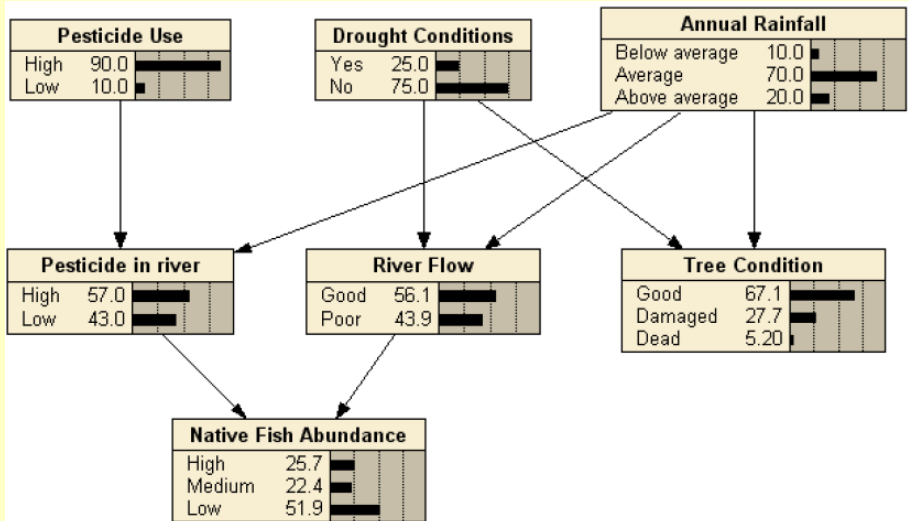
- 1992: *Explanation in Bayesian belief networks* (Stanford PhD thesis by H.J. Suermondt)
- 2001: *A Review of Explanation Methods for Bayesian Networks* (KER paper by C. Lacave and F.J. Díez)



2021: *A taxonomy of explainable Bayesian networks* (I.P. Derks, A. de Waal)

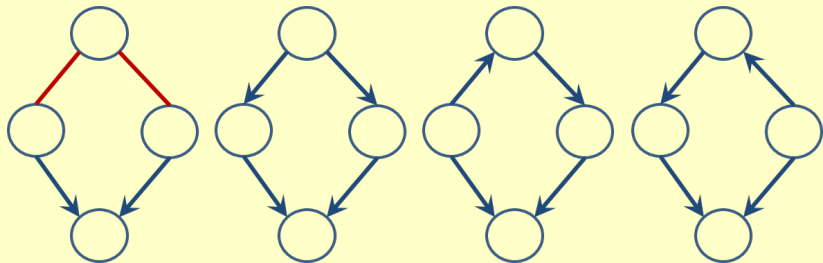
2022: *Extending MAP-independence for Bayesian network explainability* (E. Valero-Leal, P. Larrañaga, C. Bielza)

Explanation of the model: graph and visual priors



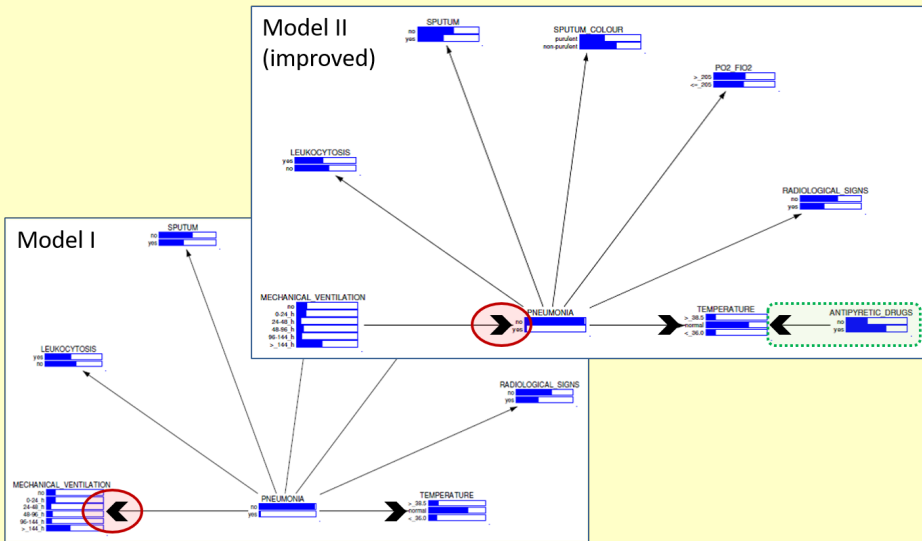
Beware of the DAG!

- DAG suggests causal interpretation;
- DAGs in the same Markov equivalence class represent the same probabilistic independences

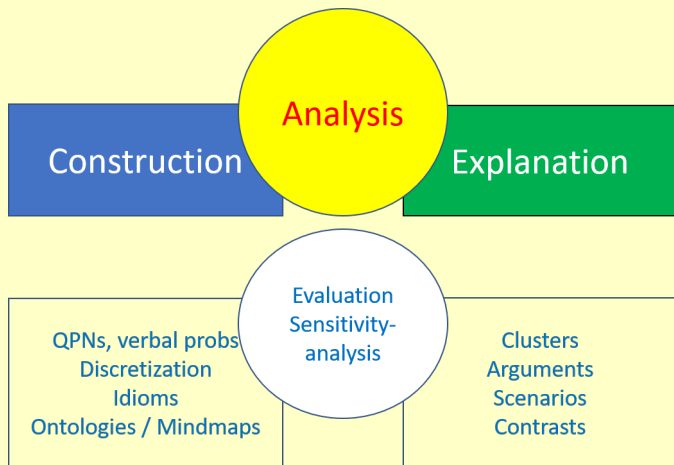


⇒ BNs with different graphs and different 'causal' interpretation can represent same $P(V)$!

Causal anecdote



Intermezzo: general overview of my research



Analysis for explaining decisions

Derks & De Waal (2021):

Explanation of decisions supports the following questions:

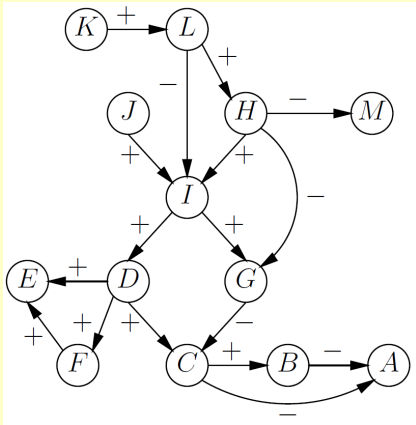
- “Given the available information, are we ready to make a decision?”, and **if not**
- “What additional information do we require to make an informed decision?”

using threshold-based solutions:

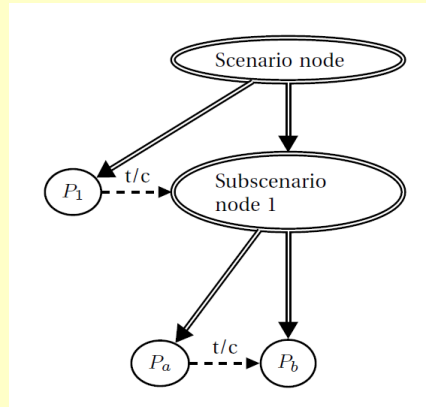
- **SDP**: probability that same decision is made upon obtaining additional evidence (2012 –)
- **sensitivity analysis**: to what extent does the outcome depend on the specified conditional probabilities? (1995 –)

Construction: using monotonicity & idioms

QPNs, ~1990 –



idioms, ~2000 –



QPN: *Qualitative approaches to quantifying probabilistic networks* (S. Renooij, PhD Thesis, UU, 2001)

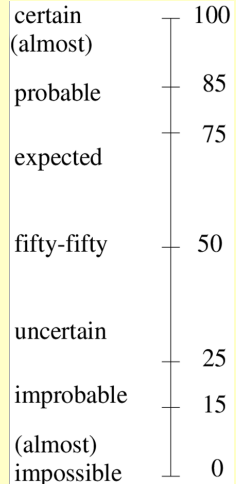
Narrative idiom: *When stories and numbers meet in court* (C.S. Vlek, PhD Thesis, RUG, 2016)

Construction: probability elicitation

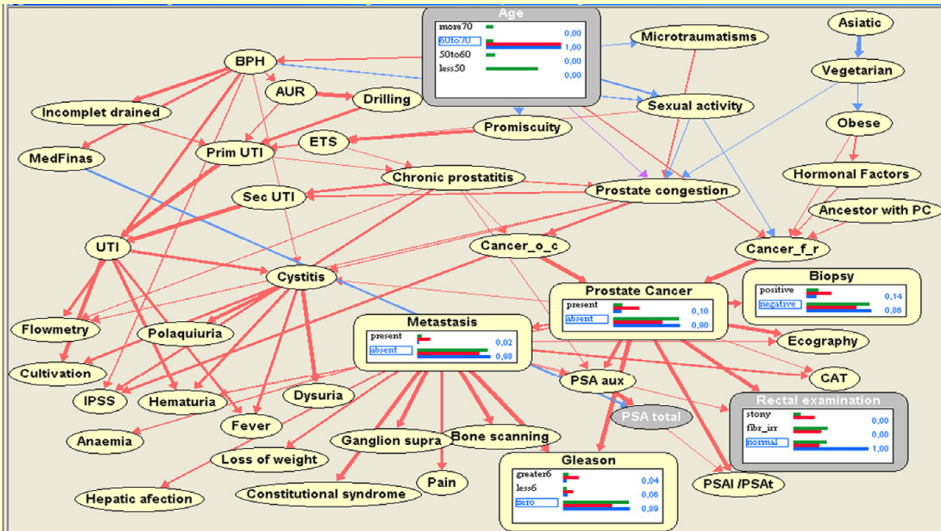
Eliciting $P(\text{Conjunctivitis} = \text{yes} \mid \text{Mucositis} = \text{no})$:

Conjunctivitis | Mucositis (1)

Consider a pig *without an infection of the mucous*.
How likely is it that this pig shows a *conjunctivitis* ?



Explanation of reasoning: monotonicity (visual)



Explanation of reasoning: scenarios (textual)

1991:

The following scenario(s) are compatible with cold:

A. Cold and no cat hence no allergy 0.47
Other less probable scenario(s) 0.06

The following scenario(s) are incompatible with cold:

B. No Cold and cat causing allergy 0.48

Scenario A is about as likely as scenario B (0.47/0.48) because cold in A is a great deal less likely than no cold in B (0.08/0.92), although no cat in A is a great deal more likely than cat in B (0.9/0.1).

Therefore cold is slightly more likely than not ($p=0.52$).

2016:

Scenario 2: Sylvia and Tom committed the burglary. (prior probability: 0.0001, posterior probability: 0.2326)

Scenario: Sylvia and Tom committed the burglary: Sylvia and Tom had debts and a window was already broken. Then, Sylvia and Tom climbed through the window. Then, Tom stole a laptop.

Scenario 2 is complete and consistent. It contains the evidential gap 'Sylvia and Tom had debts' and the supported implausible element 'A window was already broken'.

Evidence for and against scenario 2:

- * Broken window: moderate evidence to support scenario 2.
- * Statement: Tom sold laptop: moderate evidence to support scenario 2.
- * Testimony: window was already broken: weak evidence to support scenario 2.
- * All evidence combined: very strong evidence to support scenario 2.

Explanation of reasoning: relevance of evidence

2015:

1997:

Before presenting any evidence, the probability of GALLSTONES being present is 0.128.

The following pieces of evidence are considered important (in order of importance):

- Presence of GUARDING results in a posterior probability of 0.175 for GALLSTONES.
- AGE of 41 results in a posterior probability of 0.172 for GALLSTONES.

Their influence flows along the following paths:

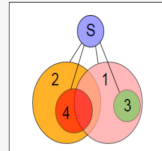
- GUARDING is caused by CHOLECYSTITIS, which is caused by GALLSTONES.
- AGE influences GALLSTONES.

Presentation of the evidence results in a posterior probability of 0.227 for the presence of GALLSTONES.

The value **scirrheus** of node **Shape** is certain ($P = 1.00$).

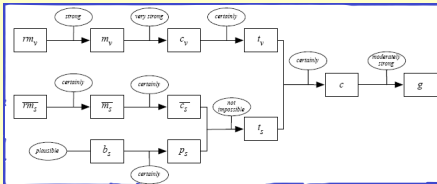
We were able to construct four arguments based on the evidence associated with the value **scirrheus** for node **Shape (S)**. The arguments are ordered by how influential they are for the value of the node **Shape (S)**.

- Argument 1: Node **Endosono-mediast** has value **no**
Node **Bronchoscopy** has value **no**
Node **Lapa-diagramm** has value **no**
Node **CT-organs** has value **none**
Node **X-fistula** has value **no**
Node **CT-liver** has value **no**
Node **X-lungs** has value **no**
Node **CT-lungs** has value **no**
Node **Endosono-wall** has value **T3**
- Argument 2: Node **Gastro-shape** has value **scirrheus**
Node **Gastro-circumf** has value **circular**
Node **Gastro-length** has value $5 \leq x < 10$
Node **Weightloss** has value $x < 10\%$
Node **Endosono-wall** has value **T3**
Node **Endosono-truncus** has value **non-determ**
Node **Endosono-loco** has value **yes**
Node **Gastro-necrosis** has value **no**
Node **X-fistula** has value **no**
Node **Endosono-mediast** has value **no**
Node **Gastro-location** has value **distal**
- Argument 3: Node **Gastro-shape** has value **scirrheus**
- Argument 4: Node **X-fistula** has value **no**
Node **Gastro-necrosis** has value **no**

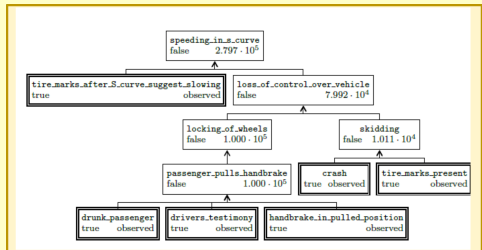


Explanation of reasoning: argument graphs

2011:



2017:



Persuasive contrastive explanation

(explanation of reasoning: classification)

Consider evidence $e \in \Omega(E)$, resulting in output t instead of t' .

A persuasive contrastive explanation combines

- **sufficient explanation s**
 - ▶ *minimal* sub-configuration of evidence e that suffices for concluding t , regardless of the values for $E \setminus S$
 - “evidence s would already be enough to conclude t ”
- **counterfactual explanation c**
 - ▶ *minimal* sub-configuration of **unobserved** values $\bar{e} \in \Omega(E)$ that in combination with the remaining evidence for $E \setminus C$ suffices to conclude t'
 - “ t' would result if the evidence contains c instead”

Computing Explanations

- # of potential sufficient explanations: $2^{|E|}$
- # of potential counterfactual explanations: $\prod_{k=1}^{|E|} |\Omega(E_k)| - 1$
- we need to compute the outcome for the associated value-assignments from the network
- in Bayesian networks, probabilistic inference is NP-hard....

Various **properties** of these explanations allow for their computation

- using a **breadth first search**: BFS-SFX-CFX
- on a **dynamically annotated subset lattice**

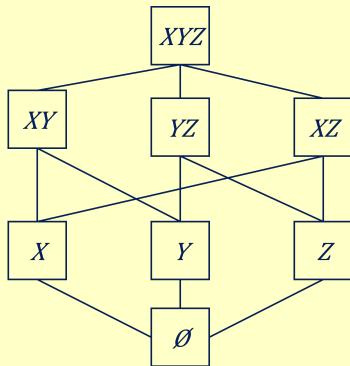
Explanation lattice I

Lattice $\mathcal{L} = (\mathcal{P}(E), \subseteq)$ and each element $S \subseteq E$ annotated with:

1 $s \subseteq e$

e.g. $x_1y_1z_1$ for $S = \{X, Y, Z\}$
 x_1z_1 for $S = \{X, Z\}$
 y_1 for $S = \{Y\}$

s is potentially a sufficient explanation;
(s should be as small as possible)



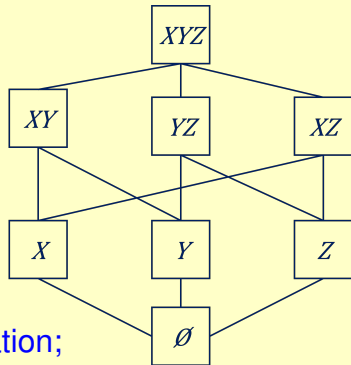
Explanation lattice II

Lattice $\mathcal{L} = (\mathcal{P}(E), \subseteq)$ and each element $S \subseteq E$ annotated with:

- 2 all pairs (c, t^*) with $c \in \Omega(E \setminus S)$,
 $c \subseteq \bar{e}$, and t^* is output for input sc

e.g. $(\mathbf{z}_2, t'), (\mathbf{z}_3, t)$ for $S = \{X, Y\}$
 (\mathbf{x}_2, t'') for $S = \{Y, Z\}$
 $(\mathbf{x}_2\mathbf{y}_2, \text{unkn})$ for $S = \{Z\}$

c is potentially a counterfactual explanation;
(c should be as small as possible)

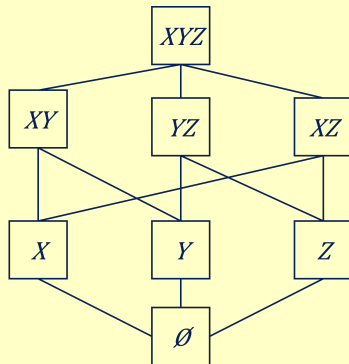


Explanation lattice III

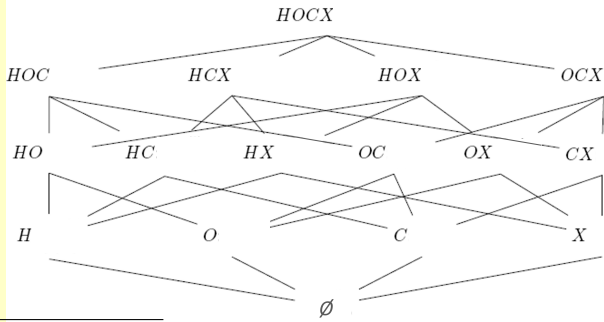
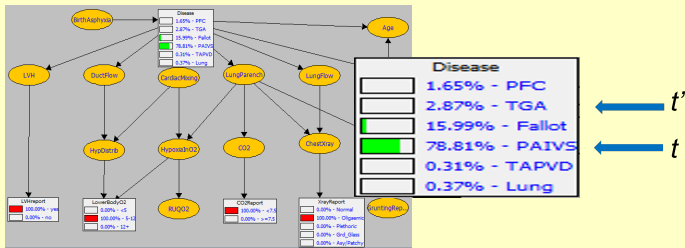
Lattice $\mathcal{L} = (\mathcal{P}(E), \subseteq)$ and each element $S \subseteq E$ annotated with:

- 3 $l_S \in \{\text{true}, \text{exp}, \text{oth}\}$
- true: all t^* in (c, t^*) are t
 \Rightarrow cue for **continuing** SFX
 - exp: all t^* are t'
 \Rightarrow cue for **stopping** CFX
 - oth: t^* mix of t, t', t'', \dots
 \Rightarrow cue for **SFX** and **CFX**

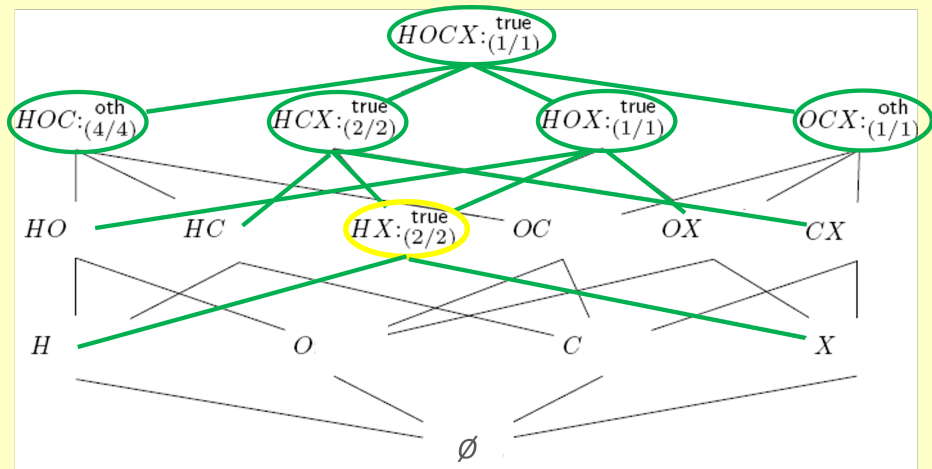
Initially all labels l_S are empty



Example

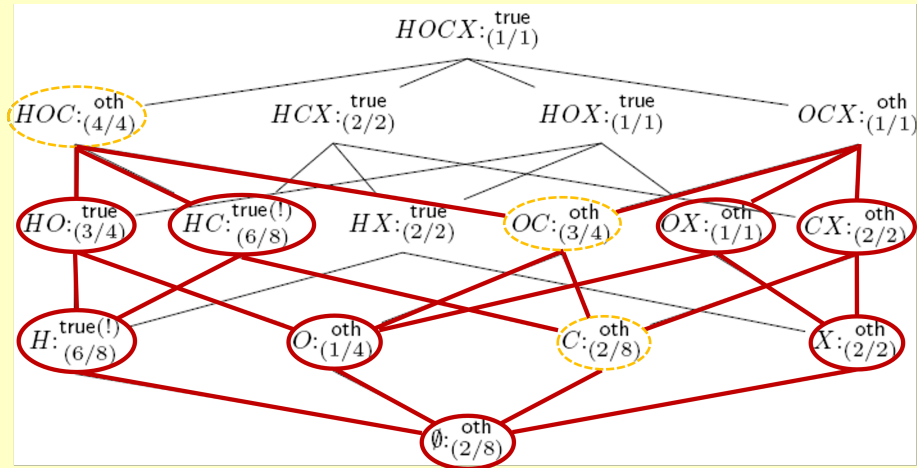


Example: finding sufficient explanations



Sufficient explanation(s): $\{ 'H = \text{yes} \wedge X = \text{Oligaemic}' \}$

Example: finding counterfactual explanations



Counterfactual explanations:

{ $'X = \text{Plethoric}'$, $'X = \text{Normal} \wedge H = \text{no}'$, $'X = \text{Grd_Glass} \wedge H = \text{no}'$, $'X = \text{Asy/Patchy} \wedge H = \text{no} \wedge O = < 5'$ }

Explanation support: MAP-independence

Recall: **MAP** $h^* = \arg \max_h P(\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{h} \mid \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{e})$.

h^* is *MAP-independent* of subset \mathbf{R} of **intermediate** variables, if for all $\mathbf{r} \in \Omega(\mathbf{R})$: (Kwisthout, 2021)

$$\arg \max_{h' \in \Omega(\mathbf{H})} \Pr(h' \wedge \mathbf{r} \mid \mathbf{e}) = h^*$$

If $\arg \max h' \neq h^*$ for some \mathbf{r} then

- \mathbf{r} provides for a *counterfactual*;
- that *contrasts* outputs h^* and h' .

Note that the explanation concerns the effects of possible **future** observations rather than current!

Interactive explanation

- S Based on the given evidence, what is your expected value for *Accident*?
- U I expect a moderate accident.
- S Based on the given evidence, it is found that *severe* is the most likely value for *Accident*.
Do you prefer understandable or convincing explanations for this finding?
- U I prefer understandable explanations.
- S We found the following sufficient and counterfactual explanations:
1. If only *Age = adolescent, Experience < 3, Model = old* was observed *severe* would always be the most probable value for *Accident* regardless of the values for the other evidence.
If *Model = normal* was observed instead of the actual values and all other values would stay the same, *moderate* would be the most probable value for *Accident*
 2. If only *Age = adolescent, Experience < 3, Model = old* was observed *severe* would always be the most probable value for *Accident* regardless of the values for the other evidence.
If *Model = old* was observed instead of the actual values and all other values would stay the same, *moderate* would be the most probable value for *Accident*.
 3. If only *Mileage = 2000, Experience < 3, Model = old* was observed *severe* would always be the most probable value for *Accident* regardless of the values for the other evidence.
If *Model = normal* was observed instead of the actual value and all other values would stay the same, *moderate* would be the most probable value for *Accident*.
- Do you want to see more explanations?
- U No.
- S On what observation is your expectation for a moderate accident based?
- U On the observation that I have a cautious driving style.
- S You probable have the right expectations of how E_i influences the target.
- S However, this influence was suppressed by the other observations.

Take home message

- explanations are more than ever necessary
- not everything needs explanation
- need to involve and interact with user more
- need to know what is technically possible
- effective explanations are not always accurate





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