

Primitive and Derived Atoms

- A **primitive atom** is an atom that is defined using facts.
- A **derived atom** is an atom that is defined using rules.
- Typically, the designer writes axioms for the derived atoms and then expects a user to specify which primitive atoms are true.

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- What if the world changes to make a no longer true?
What happens to b ?

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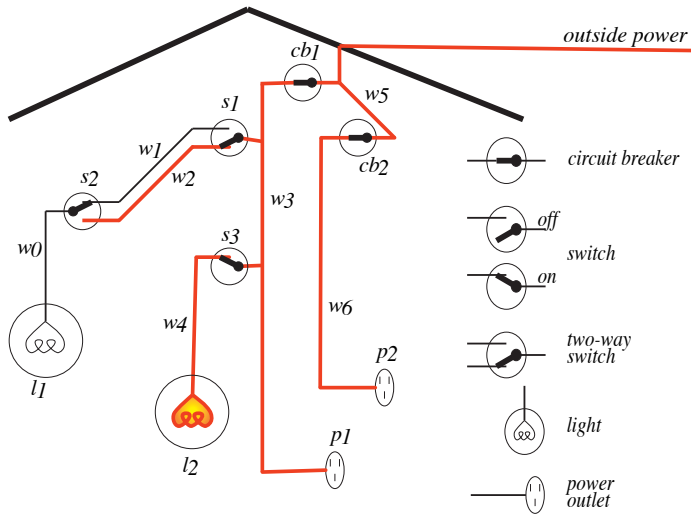
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- A **structural causal model** defines a **causal mechanism** for each atom. This causal mechanism specifies when the atom is true in terms of other atoms.
- If the model is manipulated to make an atom true or false, the clauses for that atom are replaced by the atomic fact or are removed.

Electrical Environment



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is logically equivalent to

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- The relationship between these propositions is **not** symmetric:
 - ▶ Suppose both switches were up and the light was lit.
 - ▶ Putting s_1 down does not make s_2 go down to preserve lit_l_1 .
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Combining Evidential & Causal Reasoning

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- An evidential model

$$up_s_1 \leftarrow lit_l_1 \wedge up_s_2.$$

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can be used to answer questions about whether s_1 is up based on the position of s_2 and whether l_1 is lit.

It does not accurately predict the effect of interventions.