

# Counterfactual Reasoning

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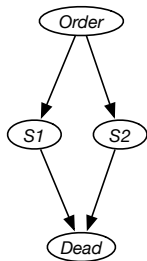
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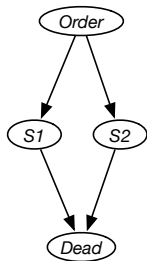
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 $P(x \mid y, do(z))$  means the probability of  $x$  after doing  $z$  then observing  $y$ .
- The other case is observing then intervening.
- When the intervention is different from what actually happened, this is **counterfactual reasoning**, which is asking “what if something else were true” .
- Let's use a more general notion of counterfactual, where you can ask “what if  $x$  were true” without knowing whether  $x$  were true.

## Example: firing squad



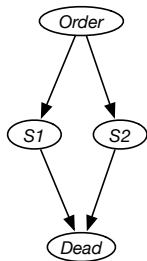
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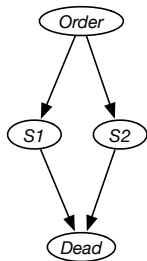
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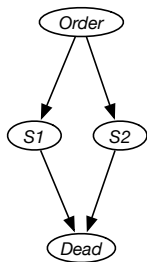
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- Another counterfactual query is “if the prisoner died; what would have happened if shooter 2 had not shot”.



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This can be implemented by constructing a causal network, from which queries from the counterfactual situation can be made.

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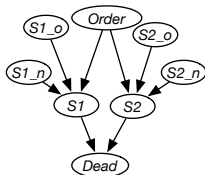
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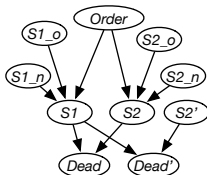
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- Condition on the observations of the initial situation using unprimed variables.

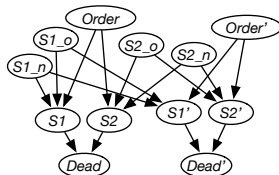
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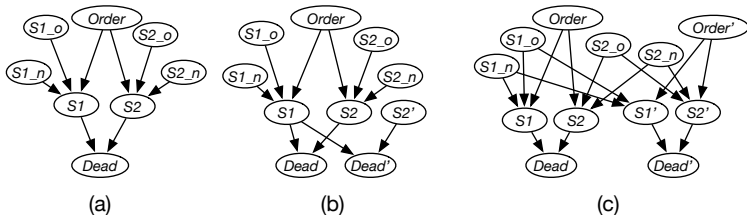
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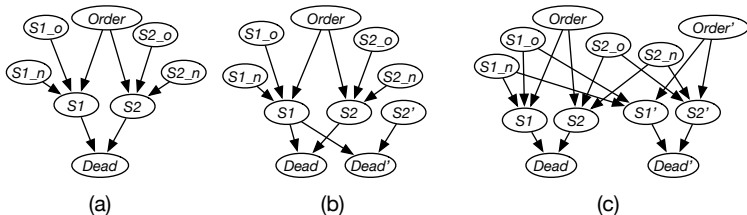
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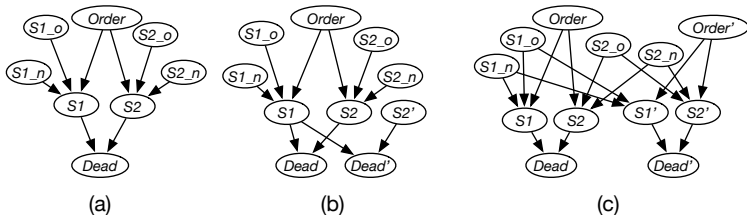


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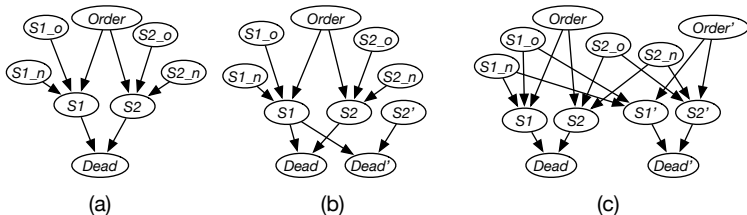
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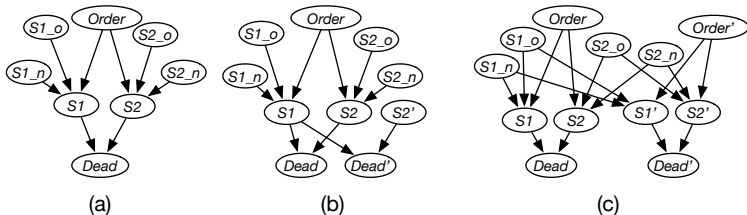
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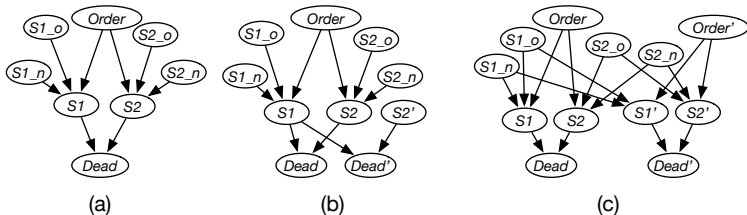
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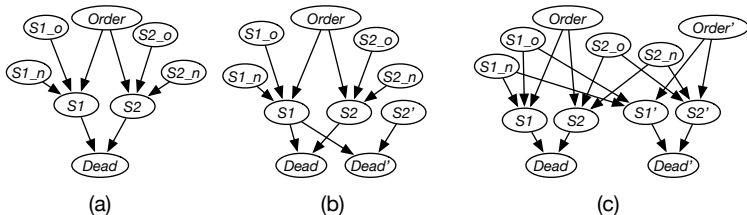


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