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## Expert System

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# Expert System Architecture

#### ~ Basic Concepts of Expert Systems

# Basic Concepts of Expert SystemsComponents of ES

## ~ Basic Concepts of Expert Systems ~ Components of ES ~ Who is involved?

### Basic Concepts of Expert Systems

- ~ Expertise
- ~ Experts
- ~ Transferring Expertise
- ~ Inferencing Rules
- ~ Explanation Capability

#### **Expertise**

Expertise is the extensive, task-specific knowledge acquired from training, reading and experience

Theories about the problem area

Hard-and-fast rules and procedures

Rules (heuristics)

Global strategies

Meta-knowledge (knowledge about

knowledge)

**Facts** 

Enables experts to be better and faster than nonexperts

#### **Expertise**

- ~ Expertise is usually associated with a high degree of intelligence, but not always with the smartest person
- ~ Expertise is usually associated with a vast quantity of knowledge
- ~ Experts learn from past successes and mistakes
- ~ Expert knowledge is well-stored, organized and retrievable quickly from an expert
- ~ Experts have excellent recall

#### **Experts**

- ~ Degrees or levels of expertise
- ~ Nonexperts outnumber experts often by 100 to 1

#### **Human Expert Behaviors**

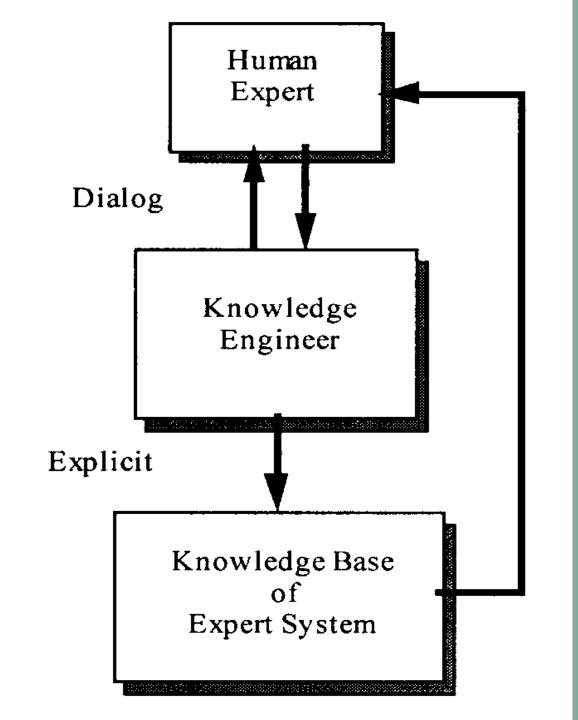
- ~ Recognizing and formulating the problem
- ~ Solving the problem quickly and properly
- ~ Explaining the solution
- ~ Learning from experience
- ~ Restructuring knowledge
- ~ Breaking rules
- ~ Determining relevance
- ~ Degrading gracefully (awareness of limitations)

#### Transferring Expertise

Two Knowledge Types

- ~ Facts
- ~ Procedures (Usually Rules)

Regarding the Problem Domain



#### Inferencing

- ~ Reasoning (Thinking)
- ~ The computer is programmed so that it can make inferences
- ~ Performed by the Inference Engine

#### Rules

IF-THEN-ELSE
Explanation Capability
By the justifier, or explanation subsystem

#### **Explanation Capability**

An ES has to explain how the ES has arrived at a particular recommendation.

#### **Explanation Capability**

# The explanation may appear in the following forms:

- Natural language displayed on screen.
- Verbal narrations in natural language.
- Listing of rule numbers displayed on the screen.

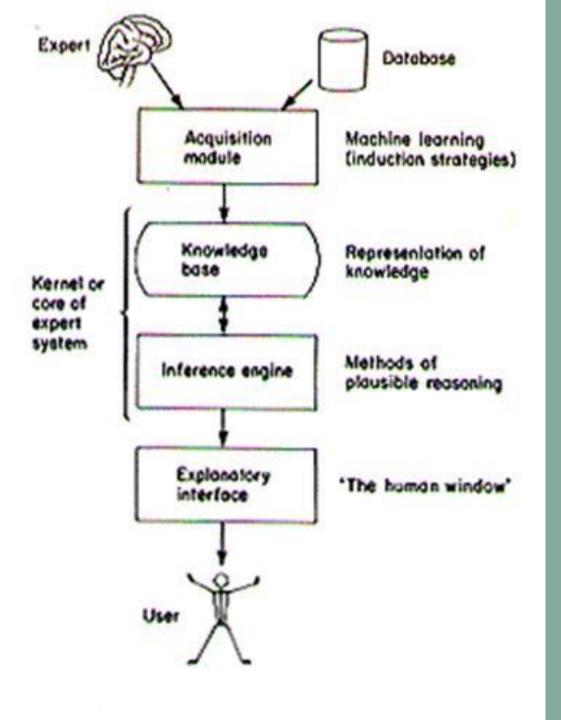
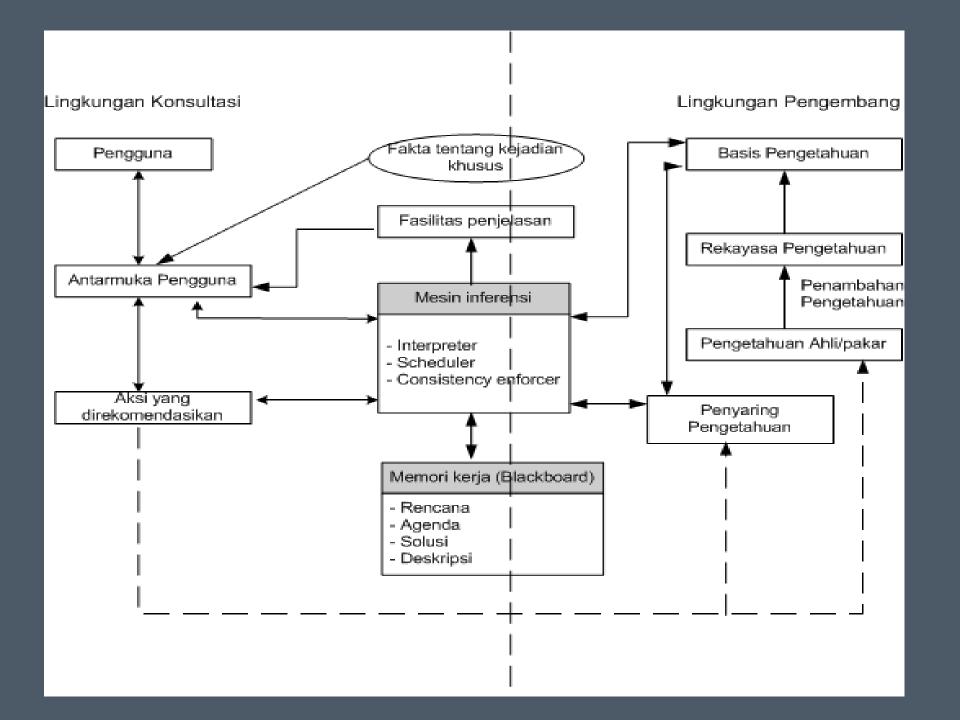


TABLE 12.1 Comparison of Conventional Systems and Expert Systems

Conventional Systems	Expert Systems
Information and its processing are usually combined in one sequential program	Knowledge base is clearly separated from the processing (inference) mechanism (i.e., knowledge rules separated from the control)
Program does not make mistakes (programmers do)	Program may make mistakes
Do not (usually) explain why input data are needed or how conclusions are drawn	Explanation is a part of most ES
Require <i>all</i> input data. May not function properly with missing data unless planned for	Do <i>not</i> require all initial facts. Typically can arrive at reasonable conclusions with missing facts
Changes in the program are tedious	Changes in the rules are easy to accomplish
The system operates only when it is completed	The system can operate with only a few rules (as the first prototype)
Execution is done on a step-by-step (algorithmic) basis	Execution is done by using heuristics and logic
Effective manipulation of large databases	Effective manipulation of large knowledge bases
Representation and use of data	Representation and use of knowledge
Efficiency is a major goal	Effectiveness is the major goal
Easily deal with quantitative data	Easily deal with qualitative data
Use numerical data representations	Use symbolic knowledge representations
Capture, magnify and distribute access to numeric data or to information	Capture, magnify and distribute access to judgment and knowledge

## Components of Expert Systems

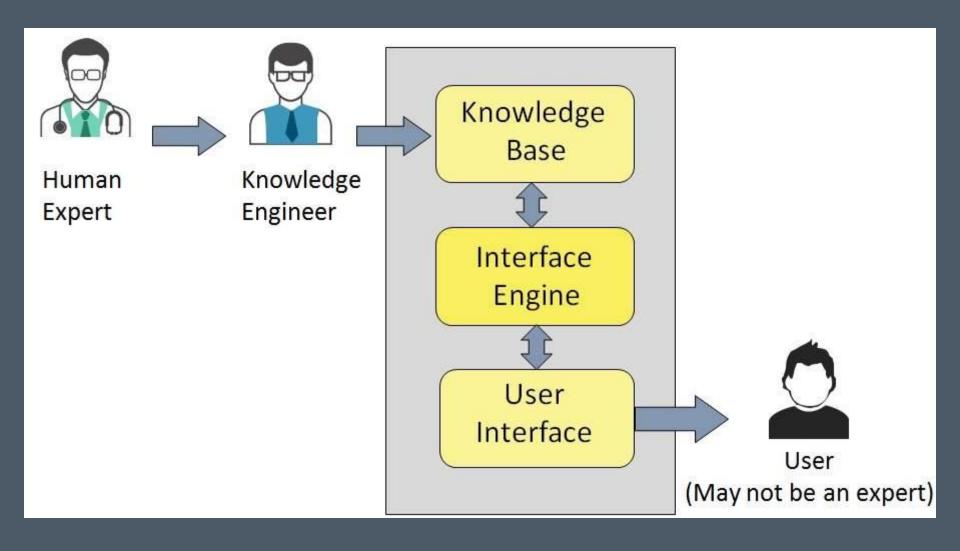


#### All ES Components

- ~ Knowledge Acquisition Subsystem
- ~ Knowledge Base
- ~ Inference Engine
- ~ User
- ~ User Interface
- ~ Blackboard (Workplace)
- ~ Explanation Subsystem (Justifier) Knowledge Refining System

# Three Major ES Components

- ~ Knowledge Base
- ~ Inference Engine
- ~ User Interface



# Knowledge Acquisition Subsystem

~ Knowledge acquisition is the accumulation, transfer and transformation of problem-solving expertise from experts and/or documented knowledge sources to a computer program for constructing or expanding the knowledge base ~ Requires a knowledge engineer

#### Knowledge Base

The knowledge base contains domainspecific and high-quality knowledge necessary for understanding, formulating, and solving problems

#### Knowledge Base

Knowledge is required to exhibit intelligence.

The success of any ES majorly depends upon the collection of highly accurate and precise knowledge.

#### Knowledge Base

#### Two Basic Knowledge Base Elements

- ~ Facts, It is the information widely accepted by the Knowledge Engineers and scholars in the task domain.
- ~ Special heuristics, or rules that direct the use of knowledge. It is about practice, accurate judgement, one's ability of evaluation, and guessing

- ~ The brain of the ES
- ~ The control structure or the rule interpreter
- ~ Provides a methodology for reasoning

Use of efficient procedures and rules by the Interface Engine is essential in deducting a correct, flawless solution.

In case of knowledge-based ES, the Interface Engine acquires and manipulates the knowledge from the knowledge base to arrive at a particular solution.

#### In case of rule based ES, it —

- Applies rules repeatedly to the facts, which are obtained from earlier rule application.
- Adds new knowledge into the knowledge base if required.
- Resolves rules conflict when multiple rules are applicable to a particular case.

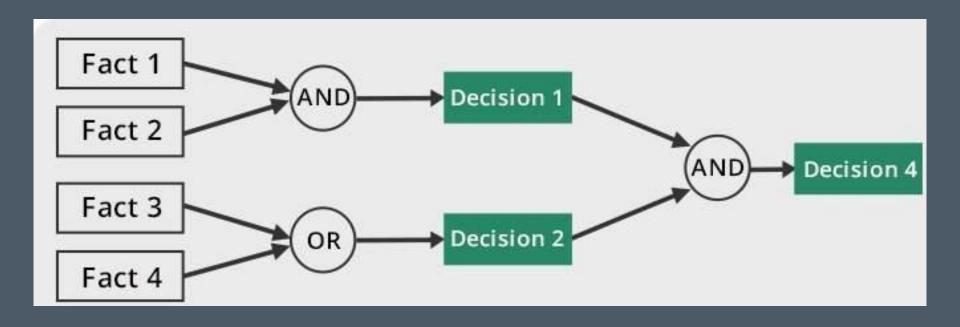
To recommend a solution, the interface engine uses the following strategies —

Forward Chaining Backward Chaining

#### **Forward Chaining**

It is a strategy of an expert system to answer the question, "What can happen next?"

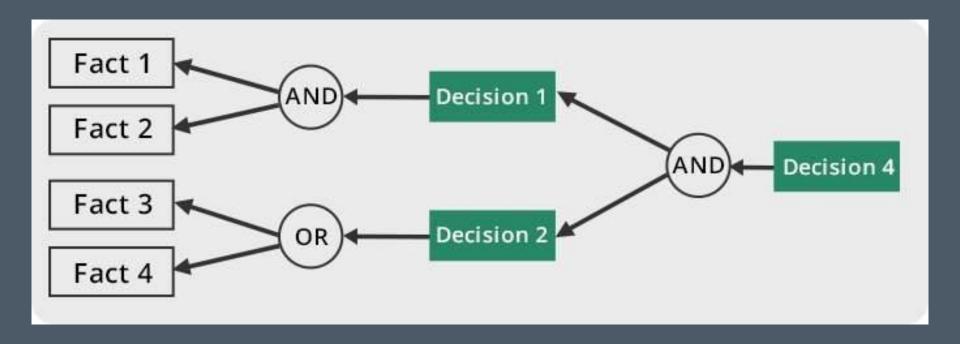
#### Forward Chaining



## **Backward Chaining**

With this strategy, an expert system finds out the answer to the question, "Why this happened?"

## **Backward Chaining**



User interface provides interaction between user of the ES and the ES itself.

Language processor for friendly, problem-oriented communication NLP, or menus and graphics

## The explanation may appear in the following forms:

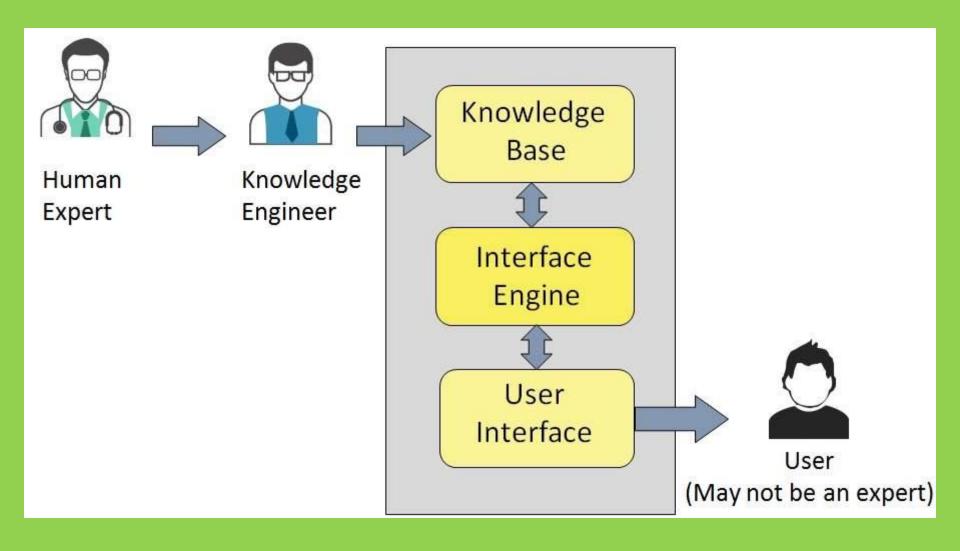
- Natural language displayed on screen.
- Verbal narrations in natural language.
- Listing of rule numbers displayed on the screen.

The user interface makes it easy to trace the credibility of the deductions.

# **Explanation Subsystem**(Justifier)

```
Traces responsibility and explains the
ES behavior by interactively
answering questions
  Why?
  How?
  What?
  (Where? When? Who?)
Knowledge Refining System
  Learning for improving performance
```

## Who is involved?



- ~ Knowledge Engineer
- ~ The Expert
- ~ The Builder
- ~ The User

## The Expert

Has the special knowledge, judgment, experience and methods to give advice and solve problems
 Provides knowledge about task performance

## Knowledge Engineer

A knowledge engineer is a computer scientist who knows how to design and implement programs that incorporate artificial intelligence techniques.

## Knowledge Engineer

Helps the expert(s) structure the problem area by interpreting and integrating human answers to questions, drawing analogies, posing counterexamples, and bringing to light conceptual difficulties

Usually also the System Builder

### The User

#### Possible Classes of Users

- A non-expert client seeking direct advice the ES acts as a *Consultant* or *Advisor*
- A student who wants to learn an *Instructor*
- An ES builder improving or increasing the knowledge base a *Partner*An expert a *Colleague* or *Assistant*

## The User

The Expert and the Knowledge Engineer Should Anticipate Users' Needs and Limitations When Designing ES

## Other Participants

- ~ System Builder
- ~ Tool Builder
- ~ Vendors
- ~ Support Staff
- ~ Network Expert