



# Hypothesis Management in support of Inferential Reasoning

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# Agenda

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- Background & Hypothesis Framework
- North Atlantic Smuggling Scenario
- Hypothesis Management Engine
- Hypothesis Discovery Engine
- Interaction with PROGNOS



**PROGNOS**

Framework | Scenario | Management Engine | Discovery Engine | Interaction

April 2010



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# Background & Framework



PROGNOS

April 2010



# Hypothesis Management

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Control of exponential growth in fusion hypotheses created by incoming data reports, without which the computational capability of hardware is quickly overwhelmed



# Hypothesis Management Module

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- Development in two phases to support the PROGNOS project
  - Phase I: Hypothesis Management Engine
    - Essential to the successful operation of the system
    - Manages the creation, modification, administration, storage and movement of hypotheses
    - Ensures that only attributes relative to the current context are presented for inferential reasoning
  - Phase II: Hypothesis Discovery Engine
    - Provides decision support to system operator
    - Supports recognition of observation trends leading to most likely hypotheses and the discovery of unpredicted hypotheses to provide asymmetric possibilities that match the incoming data
- Component engines operate independently, allowing success of the PROGNOS project before completion of Phase II



# Hypothesis

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- A specifically defined plan of execution in which an actor will conduct an action against a target with a location, time and methodology of his choosing
- Statement of anticipated action
- Captured as an *m-tuple* of attributes and an associated weight vector

$$Hypothesis_k = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

attributes associated,  $a_1 \dots a_{m-1}$   
context,  $a_m$

$$Weight_k = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_{m-1} \\ r \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$c_i \sim$  credibility  
 $r_i \sim$  relevance

# North Atlantic Hypothesis Domain

| Organization |              | Target |               | Delivery      | Method |                     | Location |              | Time |         | Context |          |
|--------------|--------------|--------|---------------|---------------|--------|---------------------|----------|--------------|------|---------|---------|----------|
| AQ           | Al Quaida    | CA     | Canada        | C_Cruise Ship | AD     | Amphibious Drop     | NE       | Northeast    | 2W   | 2 Weeks | A       | Air      |
| ID           | Islamic Dawn | MX     | Mexico        | M_Merchant    | SB     | Small Boat Transfer | MA       | Mid-Atlantic | 4W   | 4 Weeks | L       | Land     |
| TT           | Tamil Tigers | PR     | Puerto Rico   | W_Warship     | CP     | Container in Port   | SE       | Southeast    | 6W   | 6 Weeks | M       | Maritime |
| OT           | Org. Other   | US     | United States | O_Ship Other  | OM     | Method Other        | GC       | Gulf Coast   | 8W   | 8 Weeks | S       | Space    |
|              |              | OC     | Country Other |               |        |                     | OL       | Loc. Other   | FU   | Future  |         |          |

- Example of a *7-tuple* attribute field domain for North Atlantic Ocean maritime awareness scenario
- Each attribute category contains possible characteristics and an identifier
- Answers the questions of who, what, when, where, and how



# Query Hypothesis

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A domain-specific inquiry is posed to PROGNOS by the System Operator

- Captured as an *m-tuple*
- Compared with the stored metadata

Associated *m x 1* Priority Vector

- System Operator prioritization of attribute fields
- Used by HMM to retrieve and prioritize hypotheses from Hypothesis Knowledge Base

$$\text{Priority}_i = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ \vdots \\ p_m \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

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# North Atlantic Smuggling Scenario

# North Atlantic Smuggling Scenario

Scenario:

Mediterranean Sea and North Atlantic Ocean. Agents of the terrorist organization Islamic Dawn operating out of Izmir, Turkey, plan to smuggle radiological material into the United States on a bulk cargo vessel to build radiological dispersal devices. They intend to move the material ashore from the motor vessel *Mustafa Kamal* by offloading to commercial fishing craft off the Grand Banks and Cape Hatteras.

| Location     | Target           | Delivery      | Method                 | Location        | Time       | Context    |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| Canada       | CA Canada        | C_Cruise Ship | AD Amphibious Drop     | NE Northeast    | 2W 2 Weeks | A Air      |
| Islamic Dawn | MX Mexico        | M_Merchant    | SB Small Boat Transfer | MA Mid-Atlantic | 4W 4 Weeks | L Land     |
| Tigers       | PR Puerto Rico   | W_Warship     | CP Container in Port   | SE Southeast    | 6W 6 Weeks | M Maritime |
| Other        | US United States | O_Ship Other  | OM Method Other        | GC Gulf Coast   | 8W 8 Weeks | S Space    |
|              | OC Country Other |               |                        | OL Loc. Other   | FU Future  |            |

# Smuggler's Perspective

$Hypothesis_{True}$  summarizes the situation

$$Hypothesis_{True} = \begin{bmatrix} Islamic\ Dawn & \dots is smuggling to the \\ United\ States & \dots on the \\ M\_Mustafa\ Kamal & \dots using \\ Small\ boat\ transfer & \dots near the \\ Northeast & \dots in the next \\ 6\ weeks & \dots in the \\ Maritime\ Domain \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$Weight_{True}$  represents the relevance, credibility, and force of each of the six attributes in the hypothesis

$$Weight_{True} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

# PROGNOS Perspective

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Hypothesis is created for each ship entered into PROGNOS

- Possible that a single ship has multiple hypotheses
- Created by the HMM from incoming data, or
- Resides in the Hypothesis Storage Module from a previous episode in a similar environment

The weight vector

- Represents the credibility and relevance of attributes
- Represents the context in which it occurs
- Initialized using weights based on content and source of data report
- Updated from incoming data related to same hypothesis

# System Operator's Perspective

*Hypothesis<sub>Query</sub>*: “What ships match the profile of Islamic Dawn smuggling material into the United States by sea in the next 6 weeks?”

$$Hypothesis_{Query} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Islamic Dawn} \\ \text{United States} \\ M_{*} \\ - \\ - \\ 6 \text{ weeks} \\ \text{Maritime Domain} \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

*Priority<sub>Query</sub>*:

- Certain of Islamic Dawn
- Strong belief in US as target
- Confident of timeline and medium

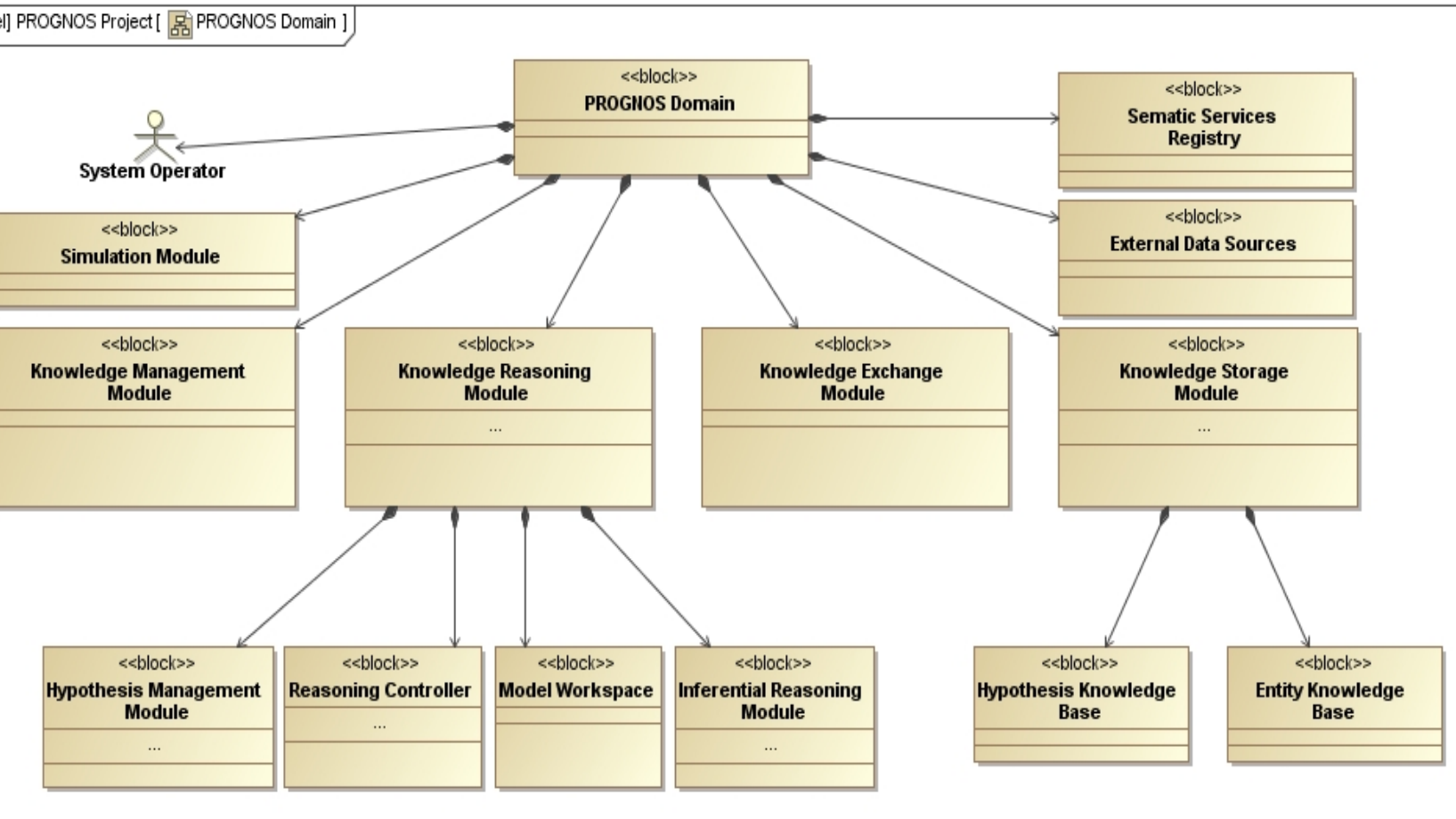
$$Priority_{Query} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ 0.9 \\ - \\ 0.75 \\ 0.75 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

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Hypothesis Management Module

# Hypothesis Management Engine

# PROGNOS Domain



# Hypothesis Management Module

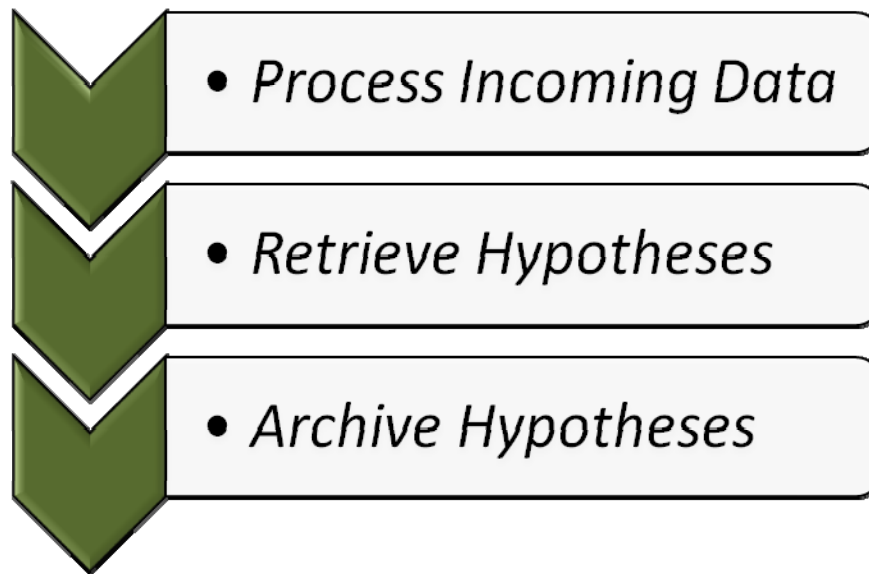
The Hypothesis Management Module manages the creation, modification, administration and movement of hypotheses between the Knowledge Storage Module and the Model Workspace in response to tasks assigned by the Reasoning Controller. It also predicts behavior and identifies original hypotheses based on observation of incoming data.

## Components

Hypothesis Management Engine | Hypothesis Discovery Engine

# Hypothesis Management Engine

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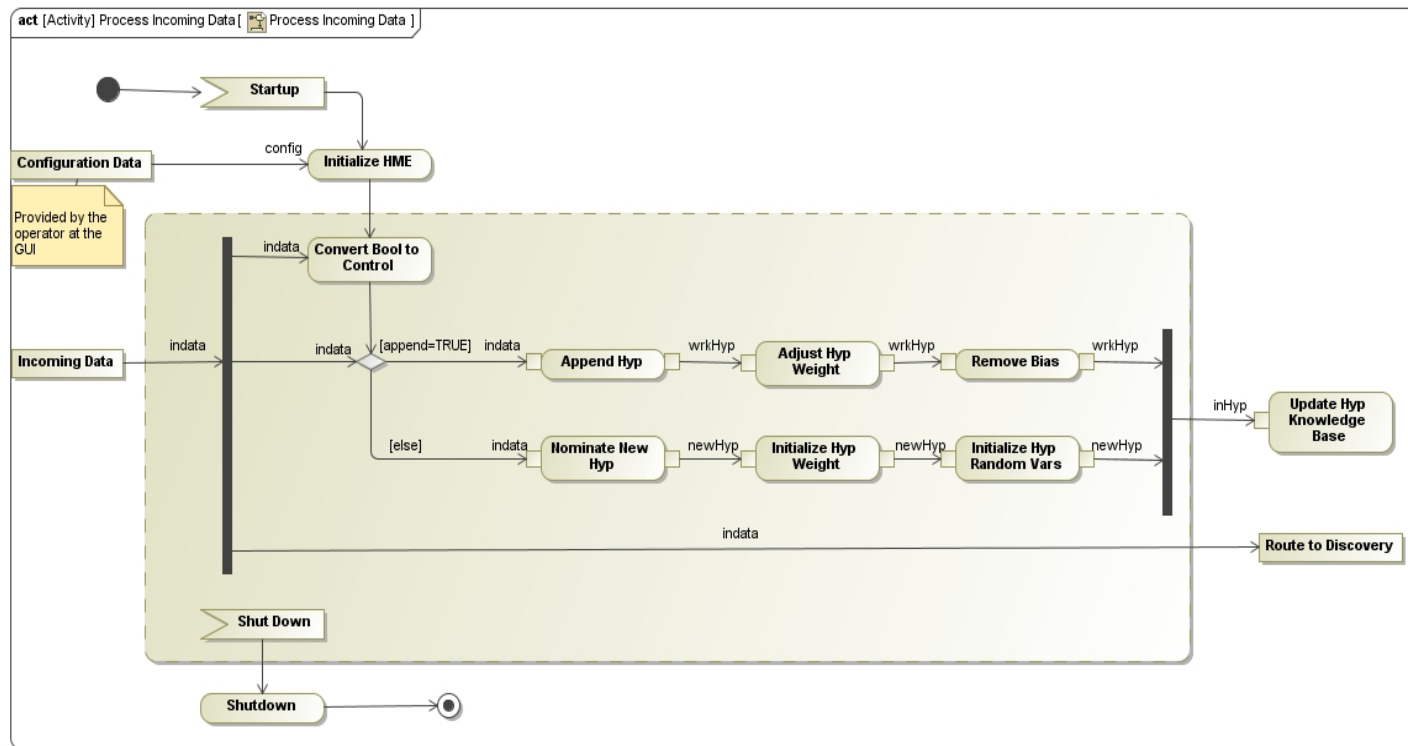


Creates, updates, administrates, filters and routes hypotheses

Coordinates with Hypothesis Knowledge Base for retrieval and storage of hypotheses

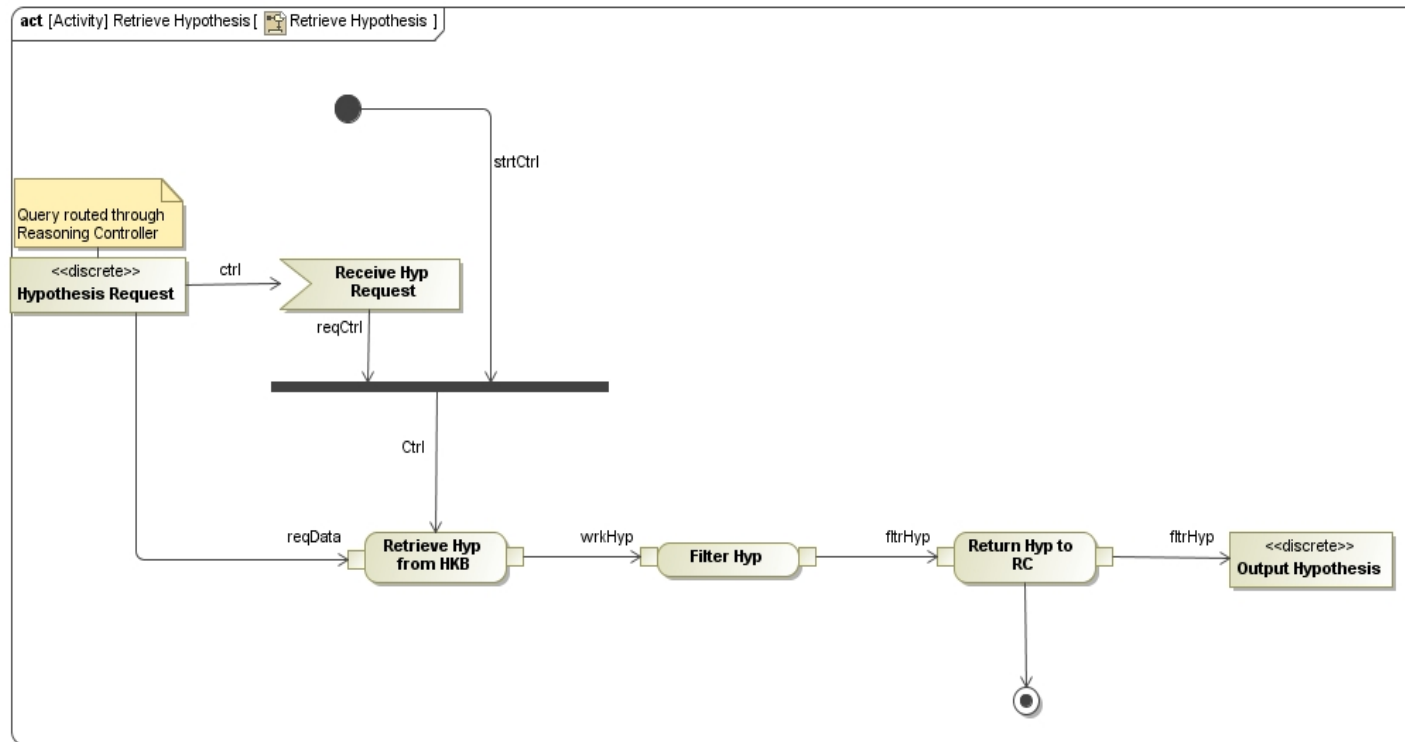
Delivers set of contextually relevant hypotheses to the Model Workspace in response to Reasoning Controller demand as a result of an operator query

# Process Incoming Data Activity Diagram



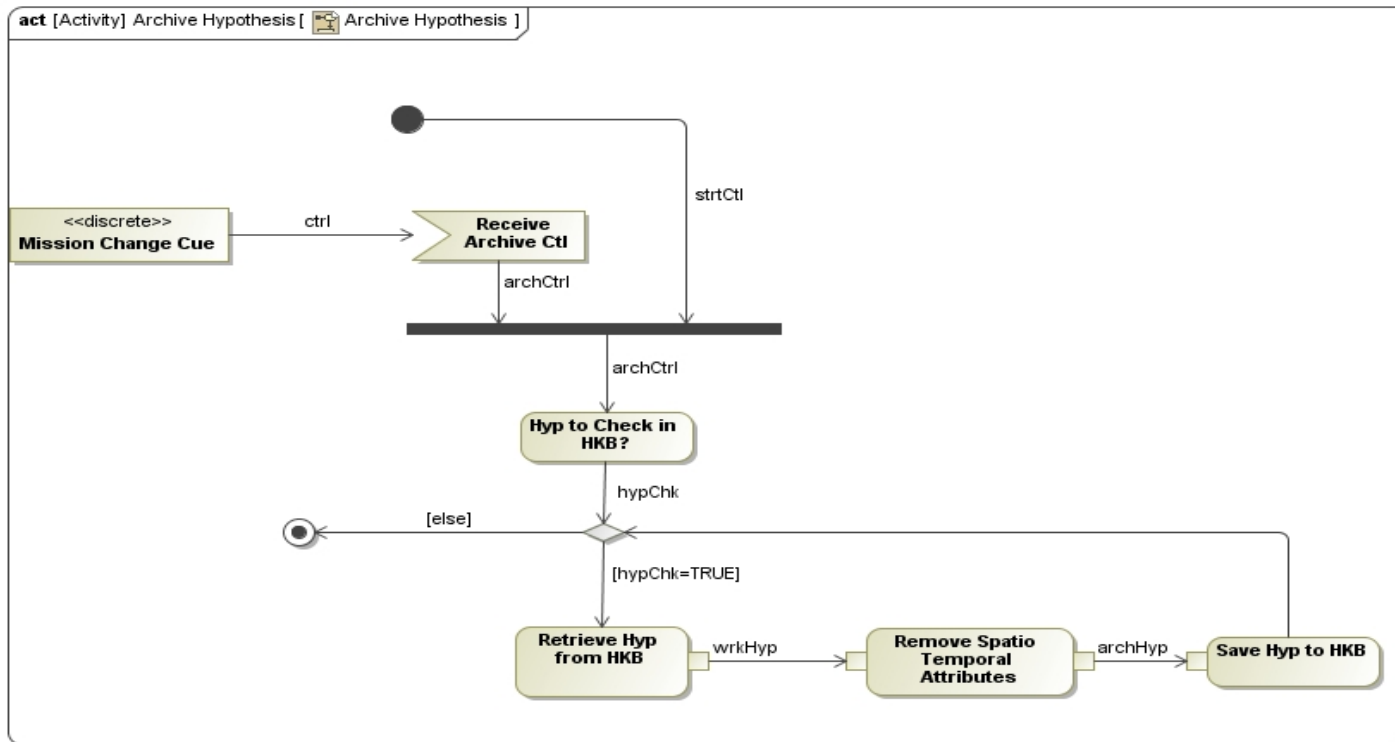
Continuously creates and updates hypotheses from data  
Operations within the shaded interruptible region execute continually on incoming streaming data until shutdown

# Retrieve Hypothesis Activity Diagram



Reasoning Controller requests candidate hypotheses  
HME coordinates with the Hypothesis Knowledge Base for retrieval, filters and prunes the hypotheses within the context of the query, and forwards the filtered hypotheses

# Archive Hypothesis Activity



Allows non-time sensitive attributes of hypotheses to be archived in the Hypothesis Knowledge Base in anticipation of building upon them upon return to the area of operations

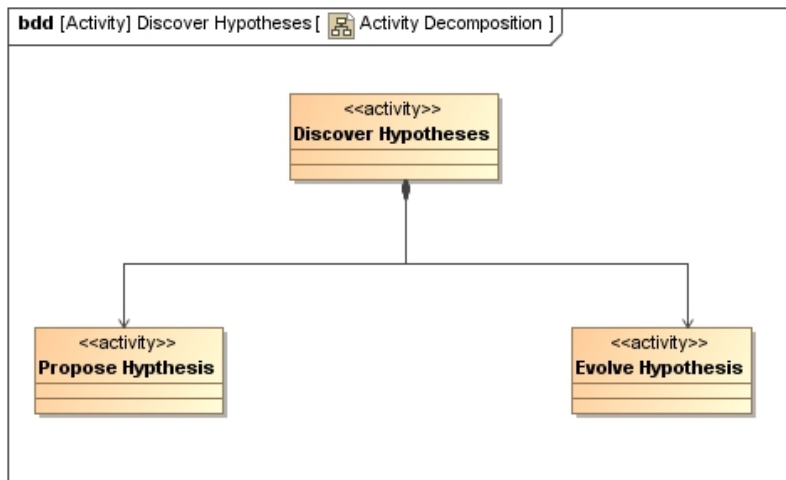
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Hypothesis Management Module

# Hypothesis Discovery Engine

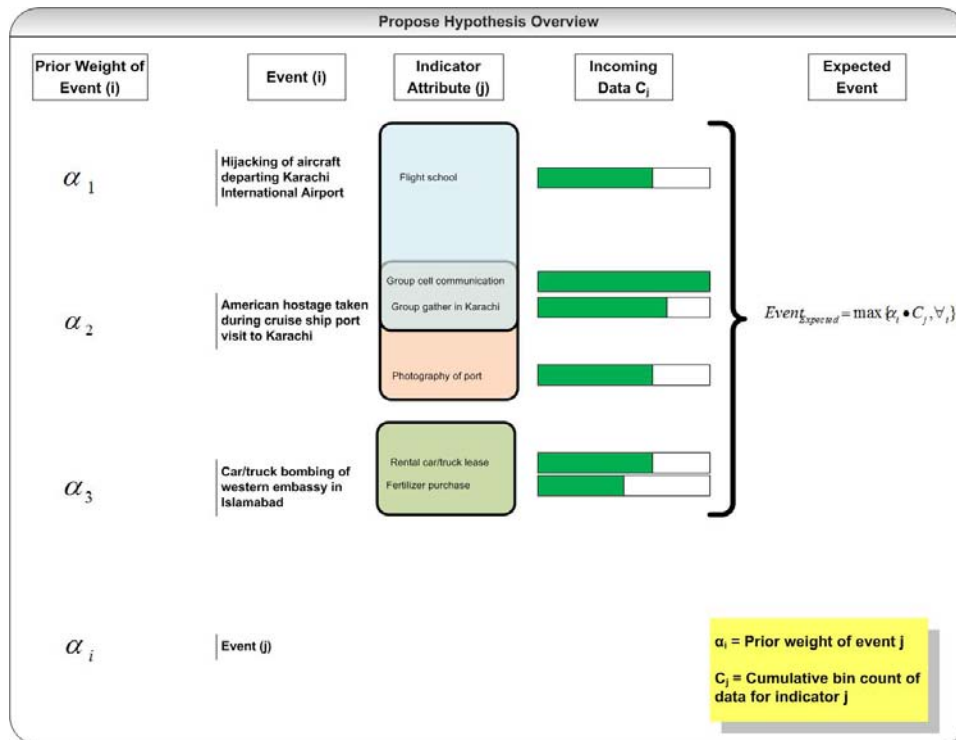
# Hypothesis Discovery Engine

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Produces original hypotheses from observed attribute data  
and recommends queries to pose  
Decision aid for wading through data  
Identifying potential asymmetric actions

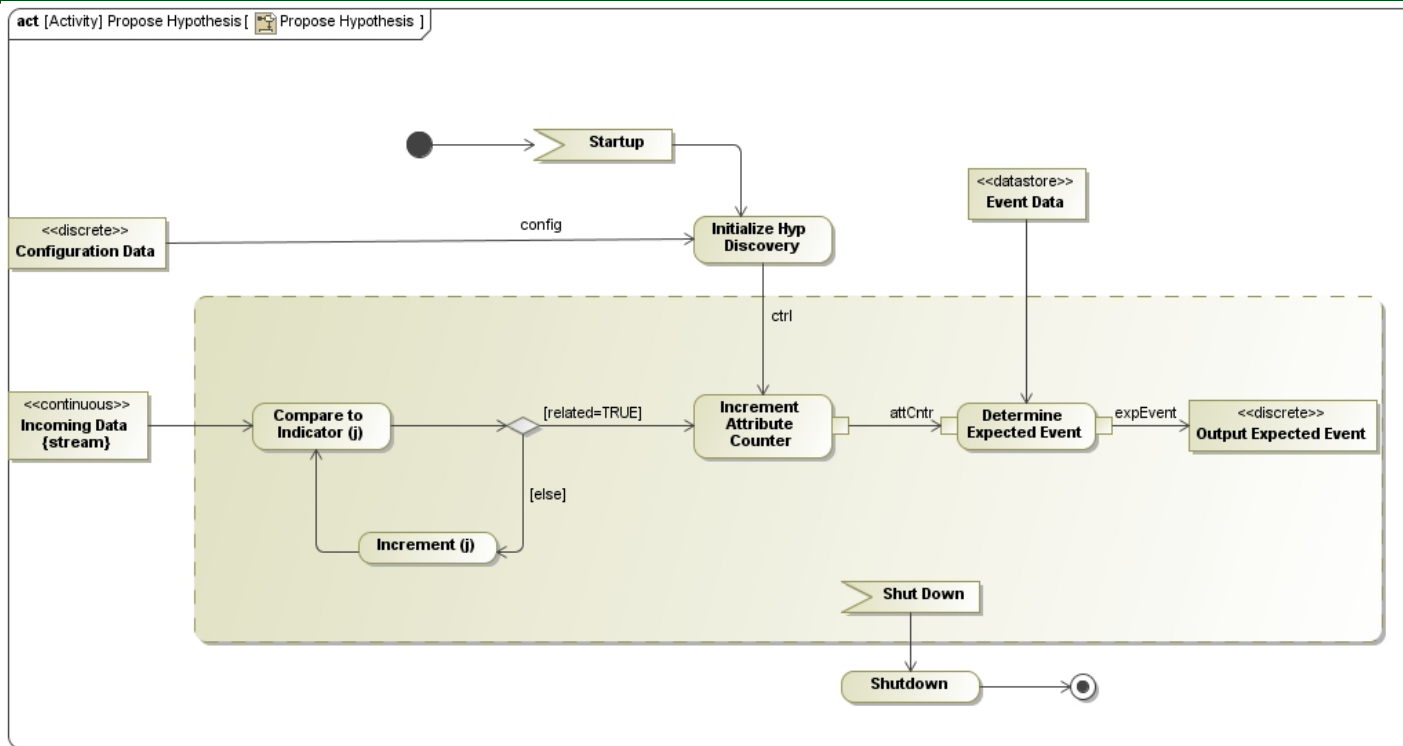
# Propose Hypothesis Activity



Collects statistical information on incoming data and bins it into hypothesis areas

Periodically dump of prioritized list of likely events and associated queries

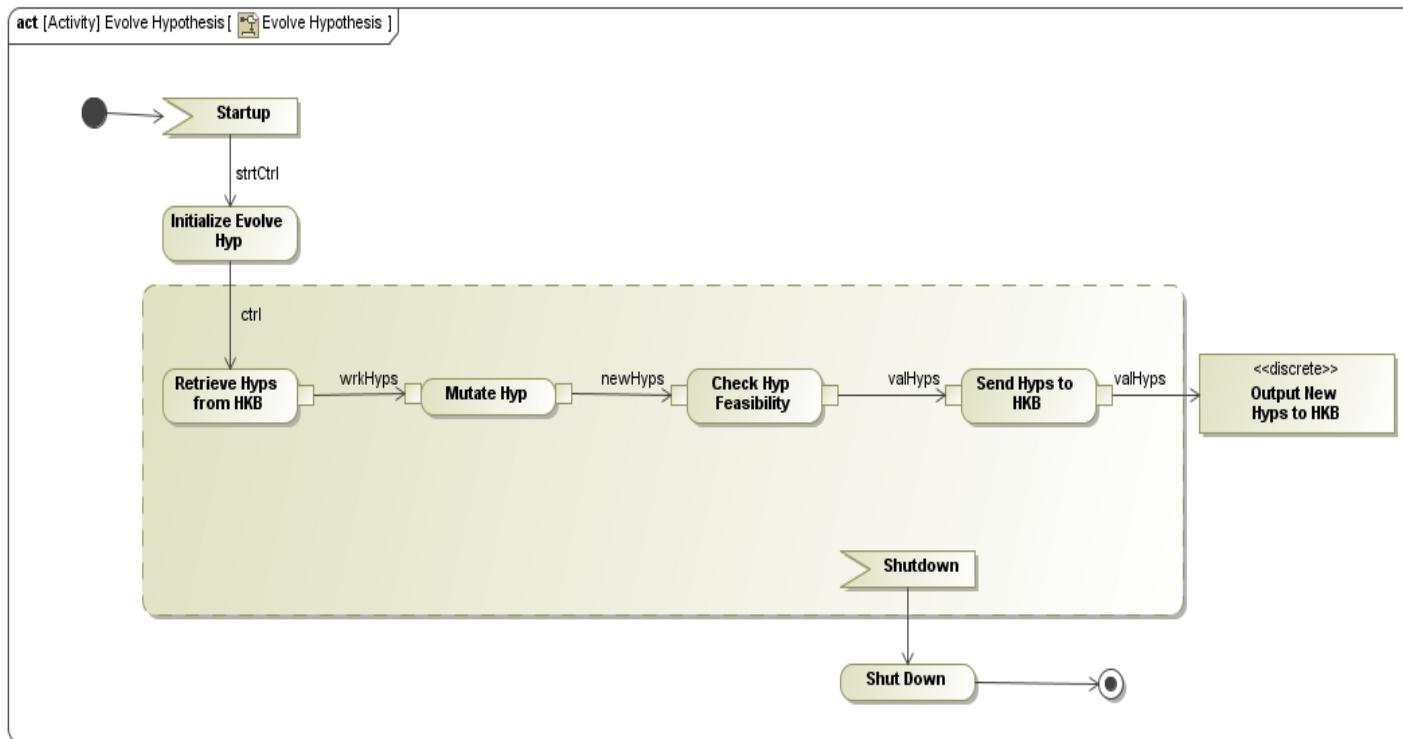
# Propose Hypothesis Activity Diagram



Streaming data compared to indicators pre-identified by regional subject matter experts

Weights associated with each event that are stored in the Event Data datastore

# Evolve Hypothesis Activity



Create unforeseen hypotheses to identify asymmetric actions

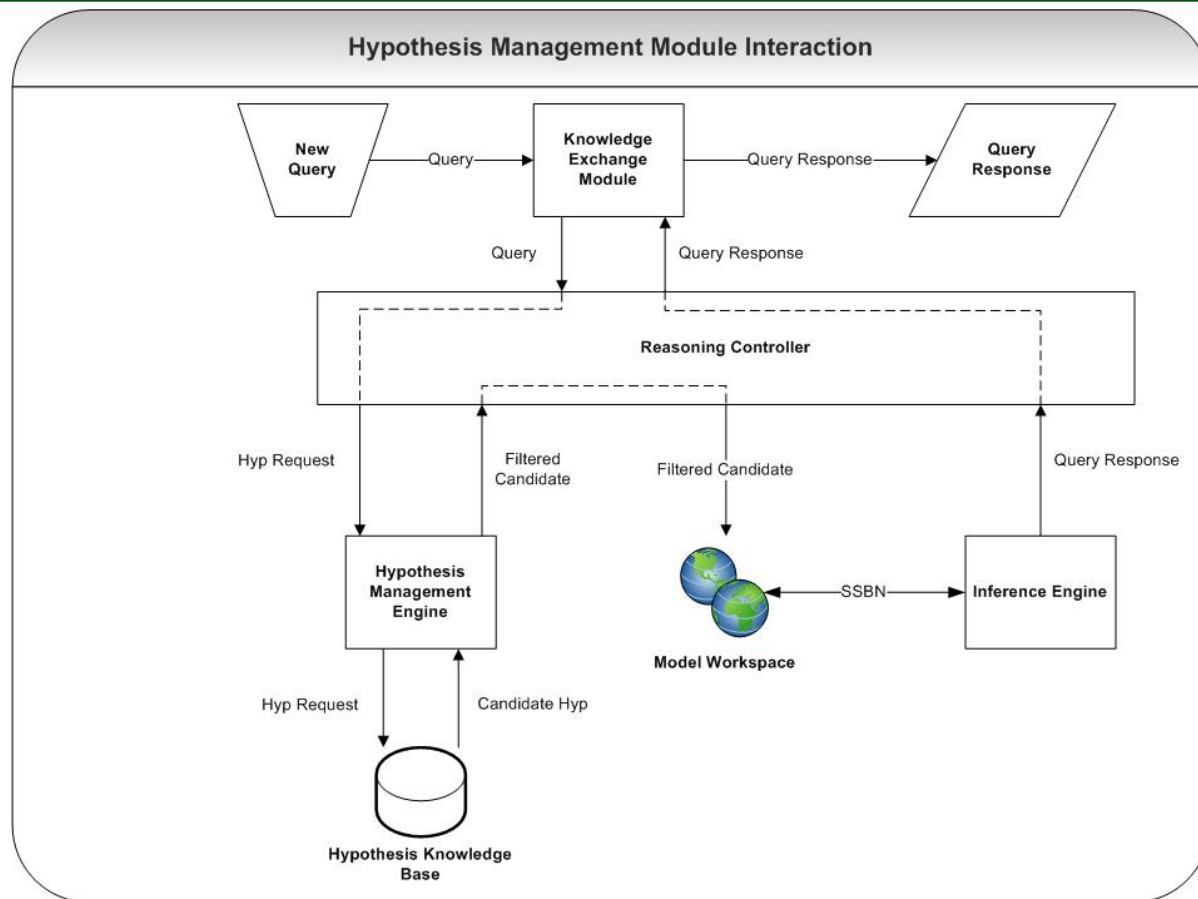
Transforms existing hypotheses in HKB

Genetic mutation of hypotheses is the transformation planned for initial implementation of the activity

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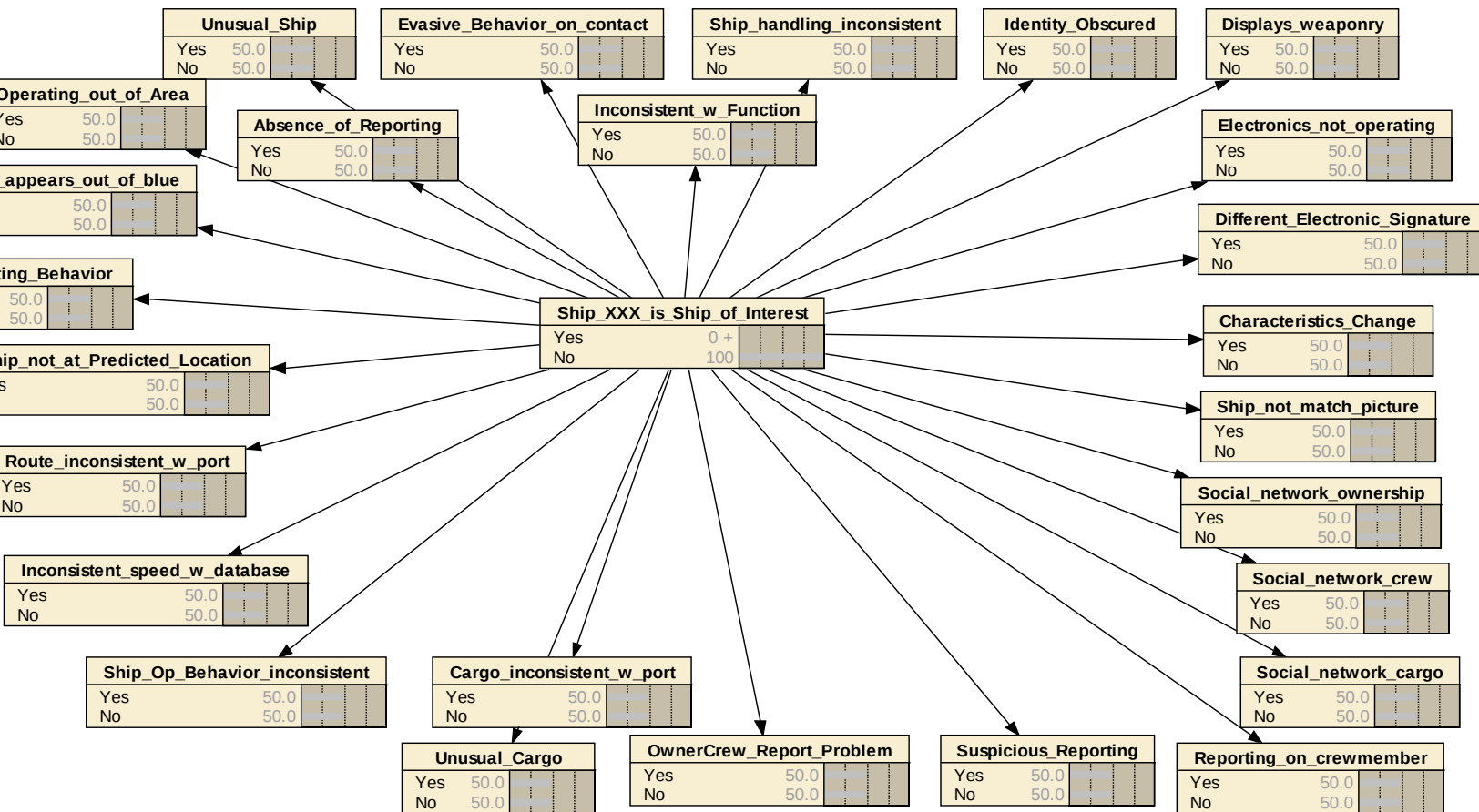
# Interaction with PROGNOS

# HMM Interaction with PROGNOS



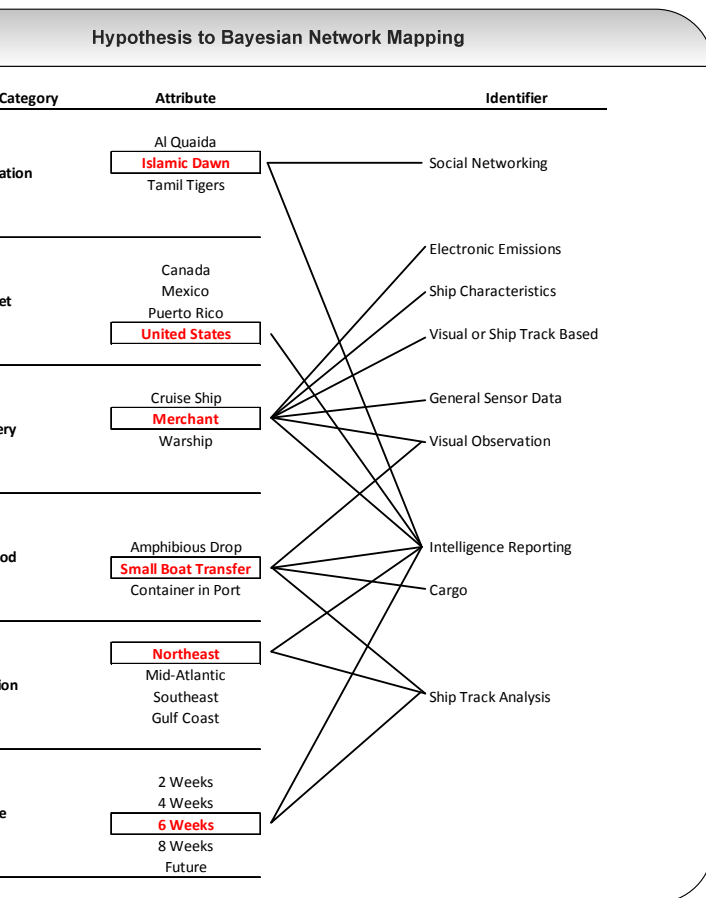
Primarily through the query process – *Retrieve Hypothesis*  
Continuously processes incoming data, proposes hypotheses,  
and discovers hypotheses

# Naïve Bayesian Network Example (M. Locher)



copy is generated for each surface ship in the system, updated with incoming data, and stored in the Entity Knowledge Base

# Hypothesis Pruning Example



Hypothesis query1

Islamic Dawn  
United States  
M.  
-  
-  
6 weeks  
Maritime

Unknowns:

- Method of delivery
- Location

Hypothesis query2

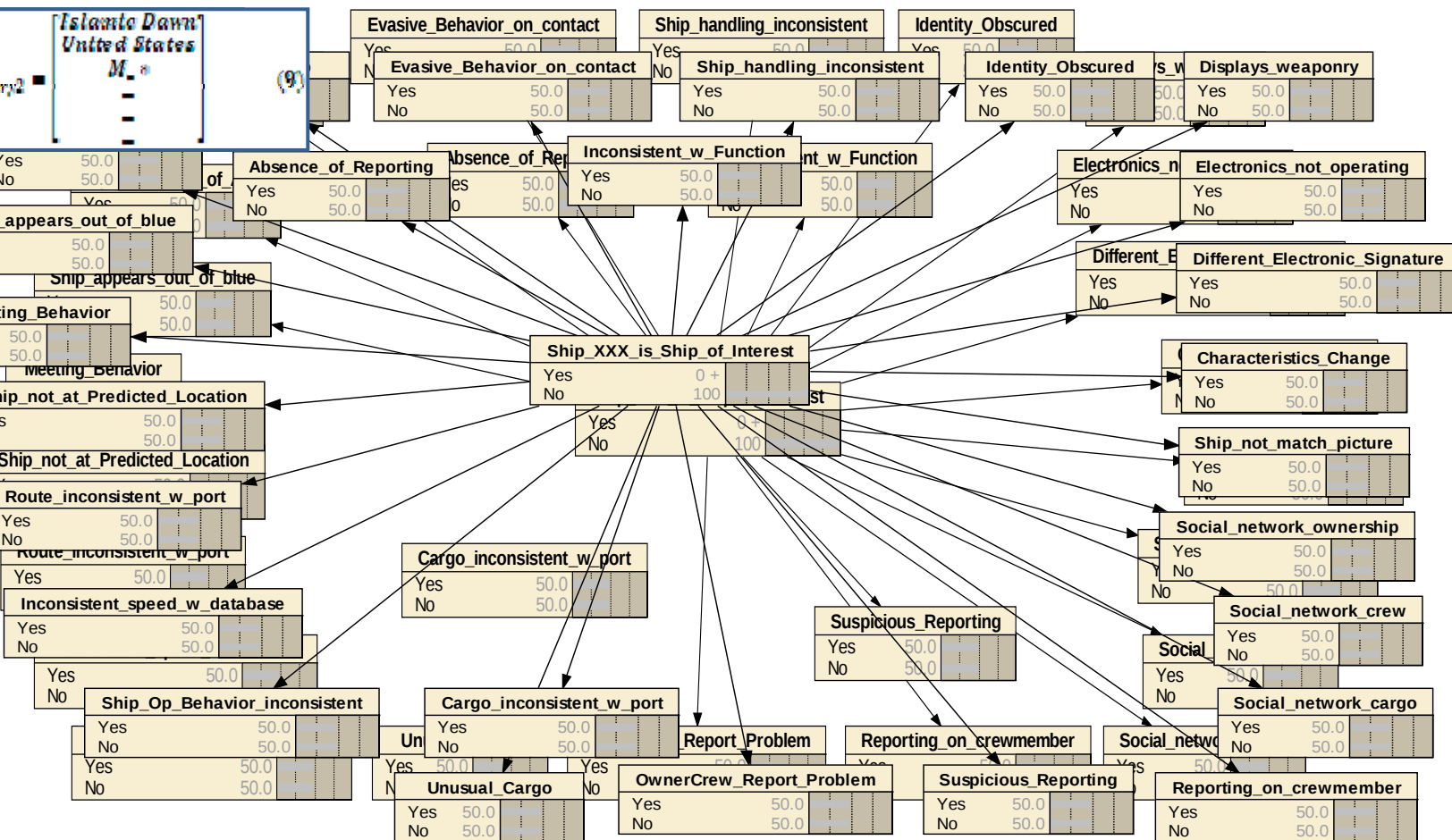
Islamic Dawn  
United States  
M.  
-  
-

Unknowns:

- Method of delivery
- Location
- Timeline

Eliminates information not relevant to the current query or context

# Pruned Network Example



Original reasoning network associated with *Hypothesis*<sub>Query</sub>

Pruned reasoning network associated with *Hypothesis*<sub>Query2</sub>

# Conclusions

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## Creation

- Revision
  - Movement
    - Filtering
      - Archiving of hypotheses

Focus on corrective action, vice data fusion

# Hypothesis Management in support of Inferential Reasoning