



# COMP90049 Knowledge Technologies

**Introduction to basic probability  
(Lecture Set2) 2017**

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Some of slides are derived from Prof Vipin Kumar and modified, <http://www-users.cs.umn.edu/~kumar/>

## Probability

### Discrete Random Variables

- $A$  is a Boolean-valued random variable if  $A$  denotes an event, and there is some degree of uncertainty as to whether  $A$  occurs. This uncertainty is stated in terms of probability

### Examples:

$A$  = The next toss of coin is Head

$A$  = The next toss of a coin is Tail

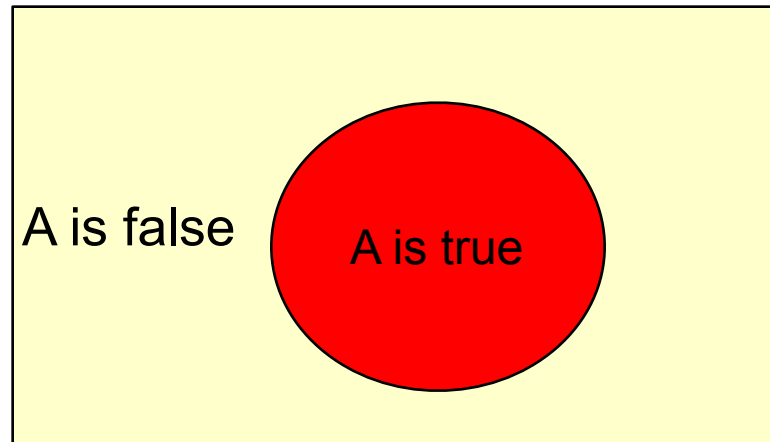
$A$  = The flights will resume next day

## Probability

### Discrete Random Variables

- $P(A)$  = “the fraction of worlds in which  $A$  is true” or the fraction of times the event is true in independent trials

$P(A)$  = Proportion of area of reddish oval.



## The Axioms of Probability

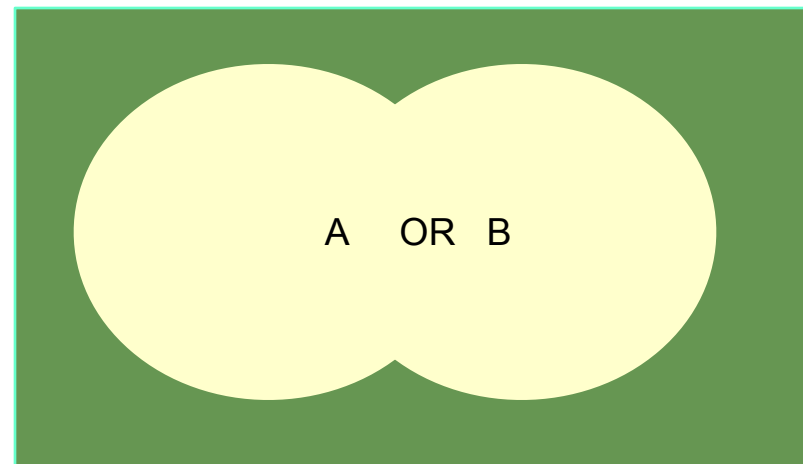
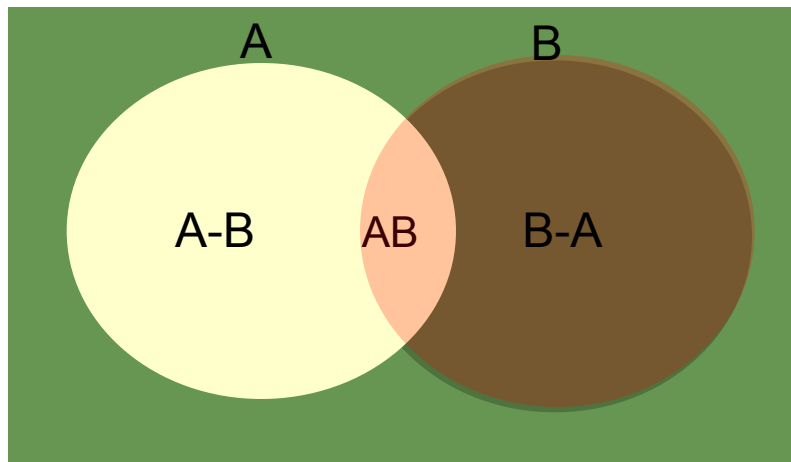
$0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$ , Head and Tail are mutually exclusive.

$P(\text{True}) = 1$  e.g.,  $p(A = \text{Head or } A = \text{Tail}) = 1$  (we also write  $P(\text{Head or Tail})$ )

$P(\text{False}) = 0$  e.g.  $P(A = \text{Head and } A = \text{Tail}) = 0$  (we also write  $P(\text{Head and Tail})$ )

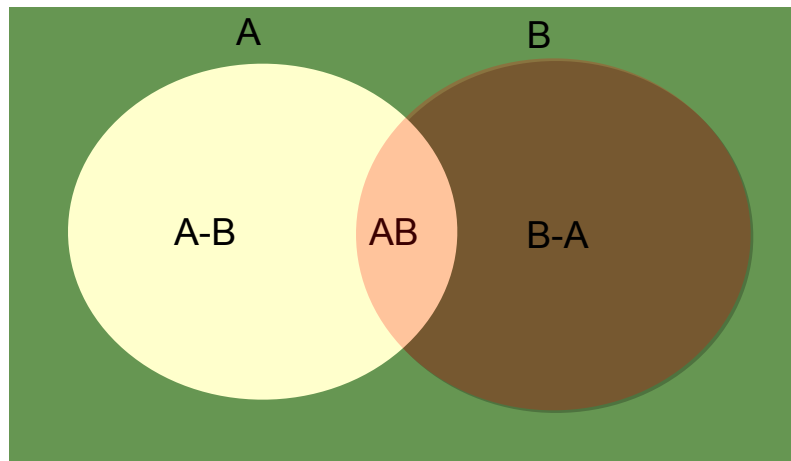
If A and B are not mutually exclusive

$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ and } B)$



## The Axioms of Probability

$$P(A) = P(A \text{ and } B) + P(A \text{ and Not } B)$$



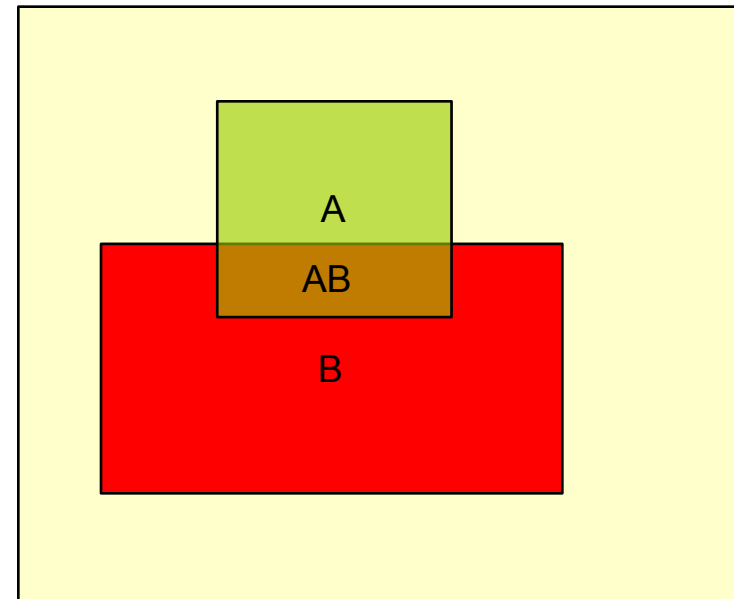
## Conditional Probability

$P(A|B)$  = Fraction of time A is true knowing B is true

$$= P(A \text{ and } B) / P(B)$$

$$P(A|B) = P(A \text{ and } B) / P(B)$$

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A|B) * P(B) \text{ -- product rule}$$



## Probability

**Product rule**  $p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{y})$

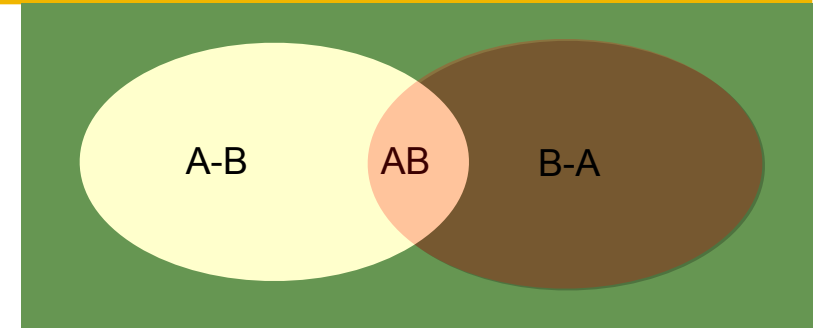
**Sum rule**  $p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{y})$$

**From these we have Bayes theorem**

$$p(y/x) = \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)} \quad p(y|x) = \frac{p(x|y)p(y)}{p(x)}$$

$$p(y|x) = \frac{p(x|y)p(y)}{\sum_y p(x|y)p(y)}$$



We use “ $\sim$ ” to represent “not”, E.g., Not B is represented by  $\sim B$

$$P(A) + P(\sim A) = 1; \quad P(A) = P(A, B) + P(A, \sim B)$$

$$P(x|y) + P(\sim x|y) = 1; \quad \text{But } P(x|y) + P(x|\sim y) \neq 1;$$

Example:

B = restaurant is bad; S = menu is smudged;

$\sim B$  = restaurant is good;

$$p(B) = \frac{1}{2} = 0.5 \quad \% \text{ Prior probability}$$

$$p(S|B) = \frac{3}{4}; \quad p(S|\sim B) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \% \text{ Likelihood}$$

We are interested to know  $p(B|S)$  % Posterior probability

$$p(B|S) = p(B, S)/p(S) = p(B, S)/[p(S, B) + p(S, \sim B)]$$

$$= p(S|B)P(B)/[p(S|B)P(B) + p(S|\sim B)P(\sim B)] \quad \% \text{ Bayes theorem}$$

$$= (3/4) * (1/2) / [(3/4) * (1/2) + (1/3) * (1/2)]$$

$$= 9/13 = 0.69$$



## Probabilistic Graphical Models (PGM)

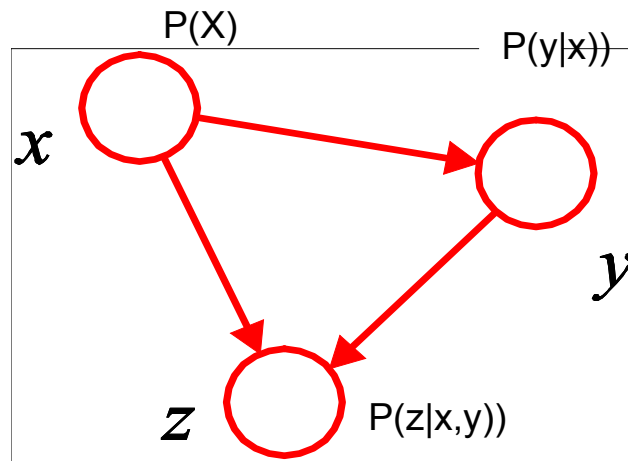
**PGM provides new insights into existing models**

**Consider an arbitrary joint distribution**

**By successive application of the product rule**  $p(x, y, z)$

$$p(x, y, z) = p(x)p(y, z|x)$$

$$= p(x)p(y|x)p(z|x, y)$$



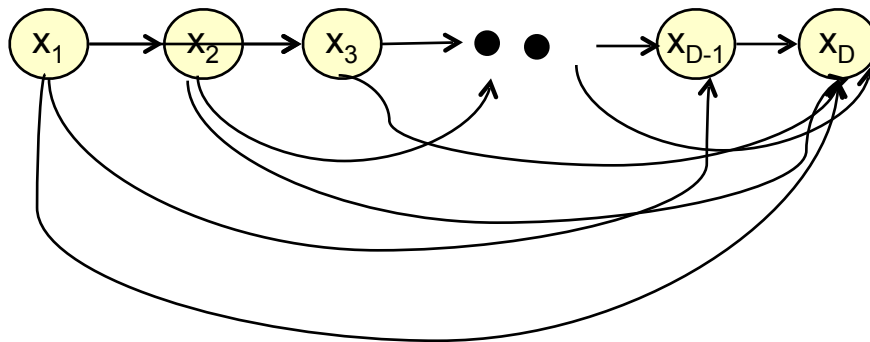
## Directed Acyclic Graphs

**Joint distribution**

**where  $\text{pa}_i$  denotes the parents of  $i$**

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_D) = \prod_{i=1}^D p(x_i | \text{pa}_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D) &= p(x_1) p(x_2, x_3, \dots, x_D | x_1) \\ &= p(x_1) p(x_2 | x_1) p(x_3, x_4, \dots, x_D | x_1, x_2) \\ &= p(x_1) p(x_2 | x_1) p(x_3 | x_1, x_2) p(x_4, \dots, x_D | x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ &= p(x_1) p(x_2 | x_1) p(x_3 | x_1, x_2) \dots p(x_D | x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{D-1}) \end{aligned}$$

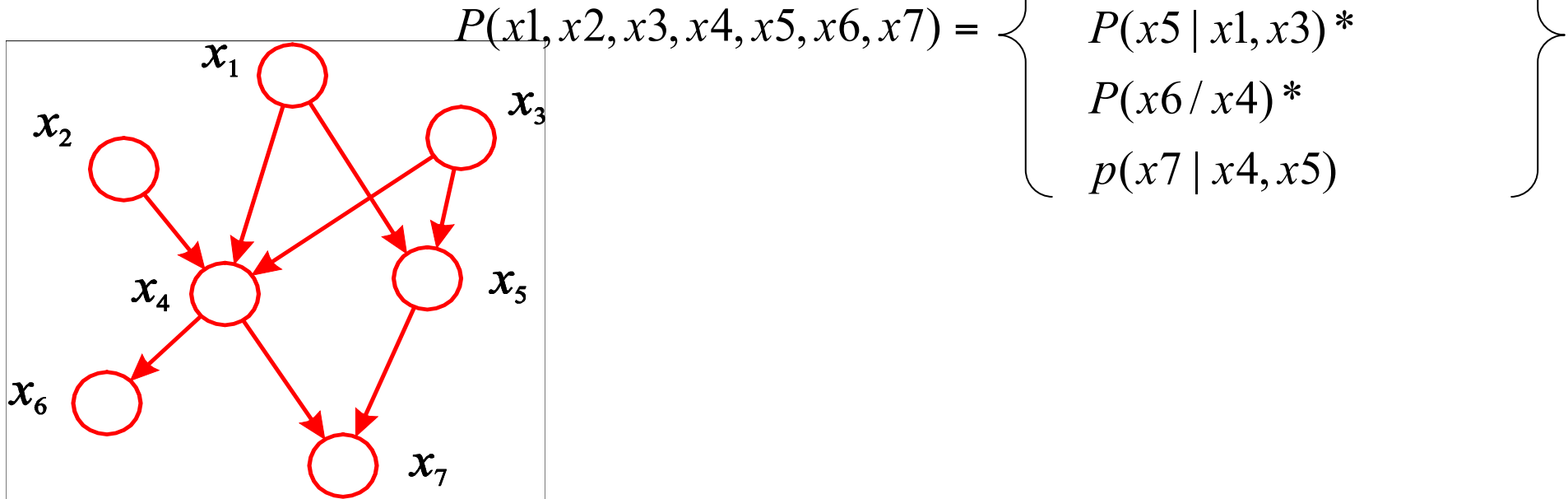


## Directed Acyclic Graphs

### Joint distribution

where  $pa_i$  denotes the parents of  $i$

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_D) = \prod_{i=1}^D p(x_i | pa_i)$$



## “Explaining Away”

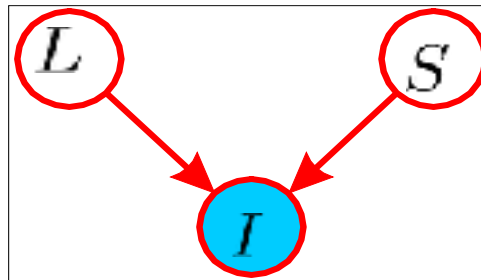
Conditional independence for directed graphs is similar, but with one subtlety

Illustration: pixel colour in an image

$$p(I, L, S) = p(L, S)p(I|L, S)$$

$$p(I, L, S) = p(L)p(S)p(I|L, S)$$

lighting  
colour of  
the room



surface  
colour of  
the  
painting

image colour

$$p(L, S) = p(L)p(S)$$

$$p(L, S|I) \neq p(L|I)p(S|I)$$

$$p(I, L, S) \neq p(I) * p(L|I) * p(S|I)$$

