

Bayesian networks

CS4881 Artificial Intelligence

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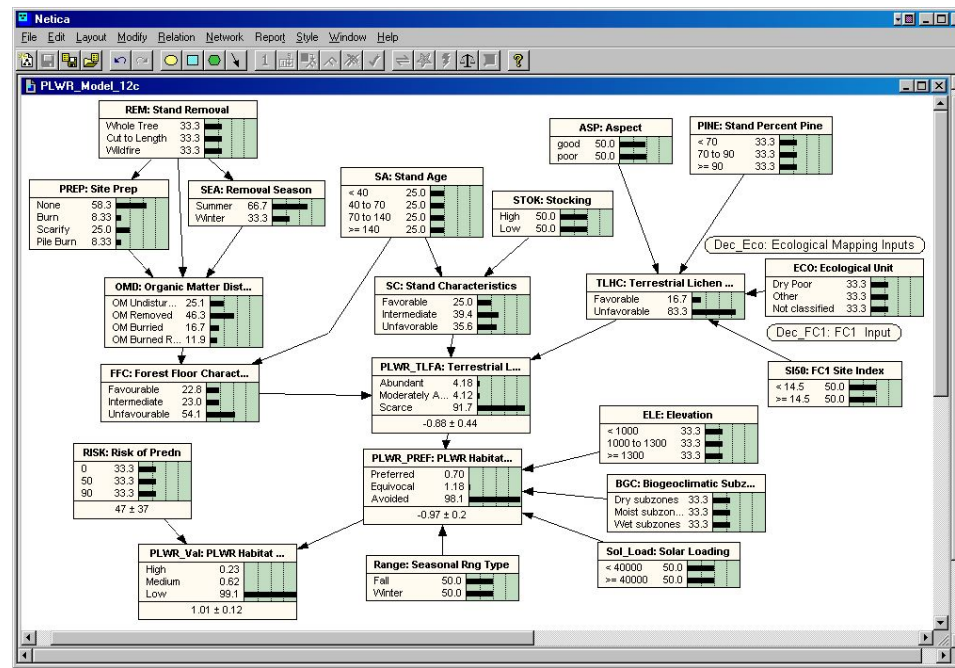
Credits:

Judea Pearl, “Causality: Models, Reasoning, and Inference”

Russell and Norvig, AIMA

Outline

- Introduction to Bayesian Networks
- Syntax
- Semantics

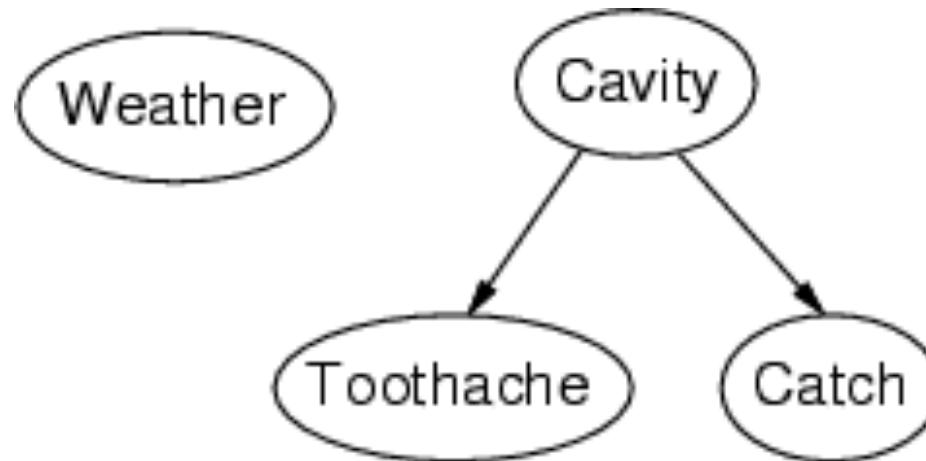


Bayesian networks

- Graphical notation for conditional independence assertions of full joint distributions.
- Syntax:
 - a set of nodes, one per random variable
 - a directed, acyclic graph (Semantics: link \approx "directly influences" or "causes")
 - a conditional distribution for each node given its parents:
$$\mathbf{P}(X_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i))$$
- In the simplest case, conditional distributions are represented as a **conditional probability table** (CPT) giving the distribution over each random variable X_i for each combination of parent values.

Example

- Topology of network encodes conditional independence assertions:

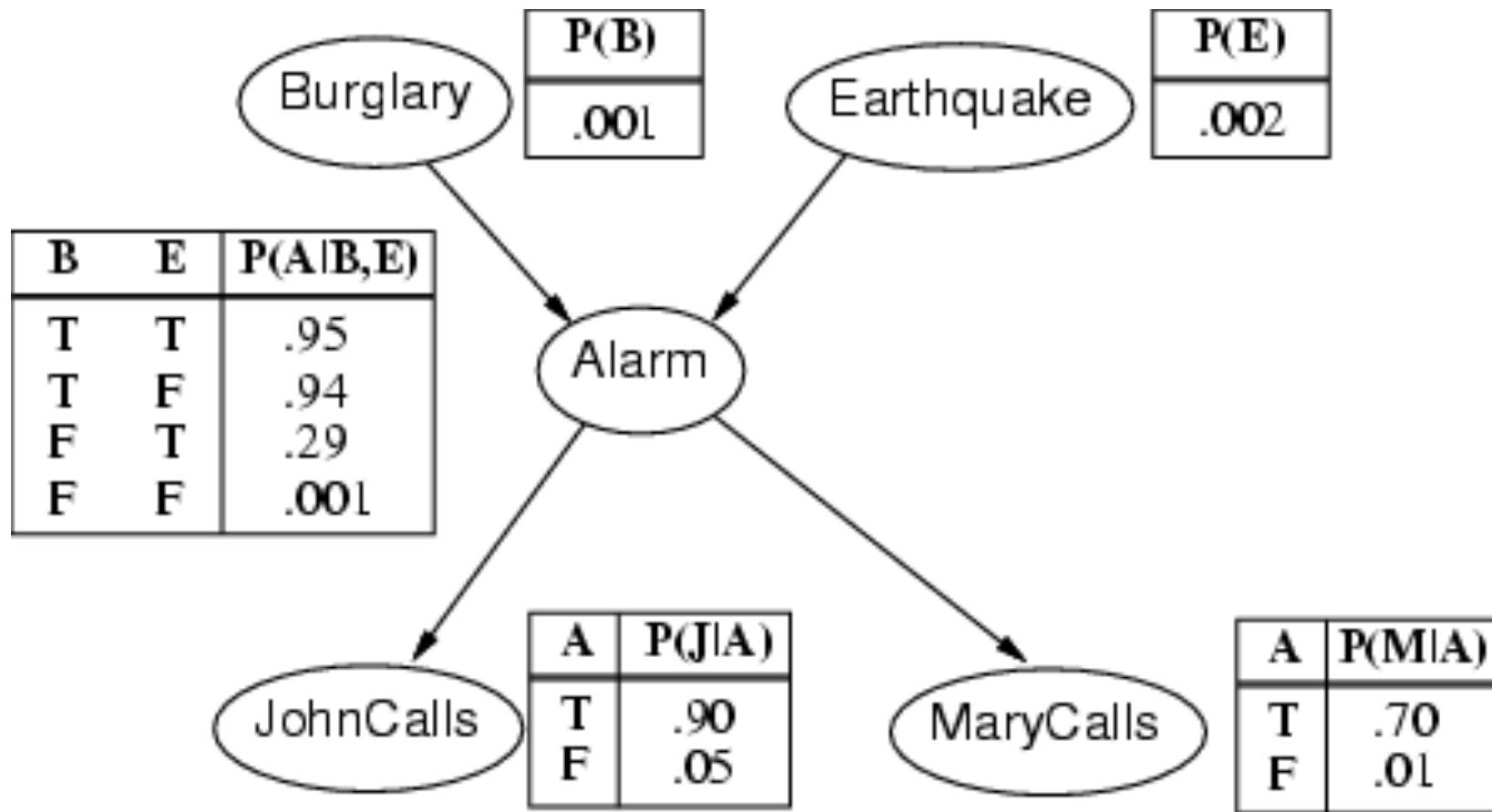


- *Weather* is independent of the other variables.
- *Toothache* and *Catch* are conditionally independent given *Cavity*.

Example

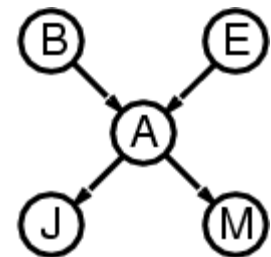
- I'm at work, neighbor John calls to say my alarm is ringing, but neighbor Mary doesn't call. Sometimes it's set off by minor earthquakes. Is there a burglar?
- Variables: *Burglary*, *Earthquake*, *Alarm*, *JohnCalls*, *MaryCalls*
- Network topology reflects "causal" knowledge:
 - A burglar can set the alarm off
 - An earthquake can set the alarm off
 - The alarm can cause Mary to call
 - The alarm can cause John to call

Example cont' d.



Compactness

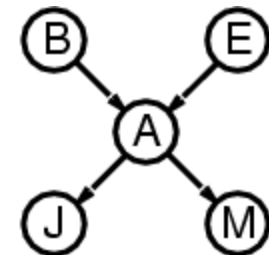
- A CPT for Boolean random variable X_i with k Boolean parents has 2^k rows for the combinations of parent values, i.e., 2 parents \Rightarrow 4 rows
- Each row requires one number p for $X_i = \text{true}$ (the number for $X_i = \text{false}$ is just $1-p$)
- If each variable has no more than k parents, the complete network of n variables requires $O(n \cdot 2^k)$ numbers
- I.e., the network grows linearly in n , vs. $O(2^n)$ for the full joint distribution
- For burglary net, $1 + 1 + 4 + 2 + 2 = 10$ numbers (vs. $2^5 - 1 = 31$)
- *Note: Show factorization!*



Semantics

The full joint distribution is defined as the product of the local conditional distributions:

$$\mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i))$$



e.g., $\mathbf{P}(j \wedge m \wedge a \wedge \neg b \wedge \neg e)$
 $= \mathbf{P}(j \mid a) \mathbf{P}(m \mid a) \mathbf{P}(a \mid \neg b, \neg e) \mathbf{P}(\neg b) \mathbf{P}(\neg e)$
 $= 0.90 * 0.70 * 0.001 * 0.999 * 0.998$

Constructing Bayesian networks

- 1. Choose an ordering of variables X_1, \dots, X_n
- 2. For $i = 1$ to n
 - add X_i to the network
 - select parents from X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}

$$\mathbf{P}(X_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i)) = \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})$$

This choice of parents guarantees (conditional independence):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_n) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) \text{ (chain rule)} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i)) \text{ (by construction)}\end{aligned}$$

Example

- Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E

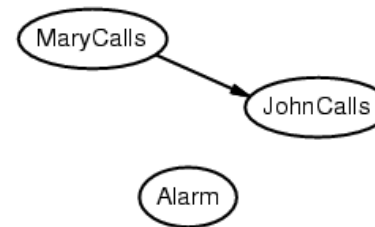
MaryCalls

JohnCalls

$$P(J \mid M) = P(J)?$$

Example

- Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E

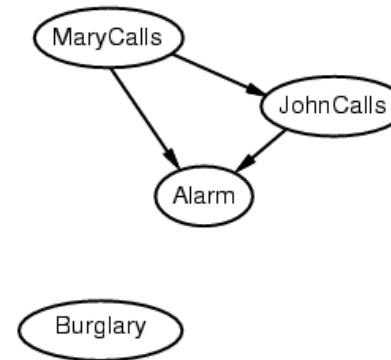


$P(J \mid M) = P(J)$? No

$P(A \mid J, M) = P(A \mid J)$?, $P(A \mid J, M) = P(A)$?

Example

- Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E



$P(J \mid M) = P(J)$? **No**

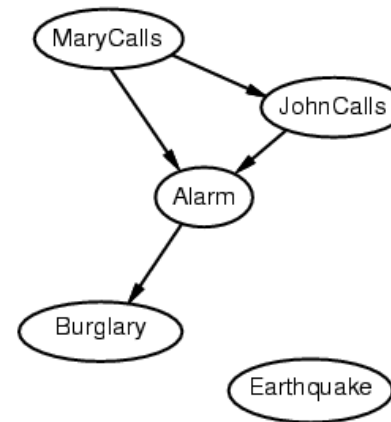
$P(A \mid J, M) = P(A \mid J)$? $P(A \mid J, M) = P(A)$? **No**

$P(B \mid A, J, M) = P(B \mid A)$?

$P(B \mid A, J, M) = P(B)$?

Example

- Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E



$P(J \mid M) = P(J)$? **No**

$P(A \mid J, M) = P(A \mid J)$? $P(A \mid J, M) = P(A)$? **No**

$P(B \mid A, J, M) = P(B \mid A)$? **Yes**

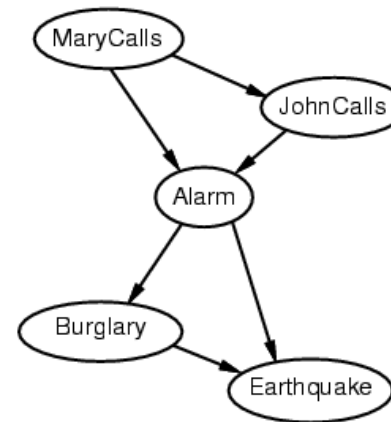
$P(B \mid A, J, M) = P(B)$? **No**

$P(E \mid B, A, J, M) = P(E \mid A)$?

$P(E \mid B, A, J, M) = P(E \mid A, B)$?

Example

- Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E



$P(J \mid M) = P(J)$? **No**

$P(A \mid J, M) = P(A \mid J)$? $P(A \mid J, M) = P(A)$? **No**

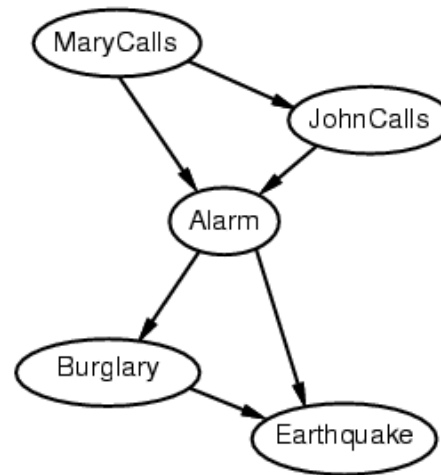
$P(B \mid A, J, M) = P(B \mid A)$? **Yes**

$P(B \mid A, J, M) = P(B)$? **No**

$P(E \mid B, A, J, M) = P(E \mid A)$? **No/Yes?**

$P(E \mid B, A, J, M) = P(E \mid A, B)$? **Yes**

Example contd.



- **Deciding conditional independence is hard in *non-causal* directions**
- Causal models and conditional independence seem hardwired for humans!
- Network is less compact: $1 + 2 + 4 + 2 + 4 = 13$ numbers needed

Summary

- Bayesian networks provide a natural representation for (causally induced) conditional independence
- Topology + CPTs = compact representation of joint distribution
- Generally easy for domain experts to construct
- Very powerful real world systems
- *Note: Example...*