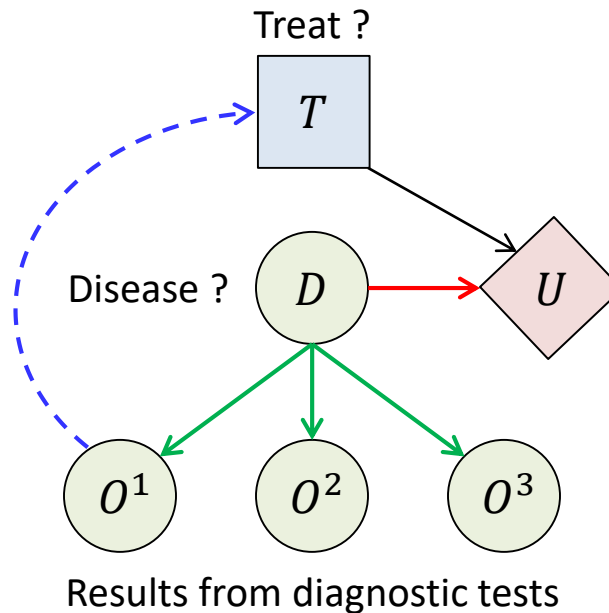





## **L11. Influential Diagram**

## Introduction

**Bayesian Network** + **Decision node** + **Utility node** = **Decision network (Influential Diagram)**

- make rational decisions based on a probabilistic model and utility function



-  **A chance node** corresponds to a random variable
-  **A decision node** corresponds to each decision to be made
-  **A utility node** corresponds to an additive utility component

How to compare the plausibility of different statements?

$A$  : “we can be a millinery if we go to graduate school”

vs

$B$  : “we can be a millenary if we go to Samsung”

- If you believe  $A$  more than  $B$ , you can write  $A \succ B$
- If you believe  $B$  more than  $A$ , you can write  $A \prec B$
- If you have the same belief, you can write  $A \sim B$

## Constraints on Rational Preference

Assumptions about relationships of  $\succ$  and  $\sim$

- Completeness (comparability) : either  $A \succ B$ ,  $A \prec B$  or  $A \sim B$
- Transitivity : if  $A \succ B$  and  $B \succ C$ , then  $A \succ C$
- Continuity : if  $A \succ B \succ C$ , there exists a probability  $p$  such that  $[A: p; C: 1 - p] \sim B$
- Monotonicity: if  $A \succ B$ , then for any  $C$  and probability  $p$ ,  $[A: p; C: 1 - p] \succ [B: p; C: 1 - p]$

The degree of belief can be represented by a real-valued function:

- $P(A) > P(B)$  if and only if  $A \succ B$
- $P(A) = P(B)$  if and only if  $A \sim B$

- Just as beliefs can be subjective, so can preferences.
- Preference operators can be used to compare preferences over uncertain outcomes. That is, a lottery is a set of probabilities  $p_{1:n}$  associated with a set of outcomes  $S_{1:n}$ .

$$[S_1:p_1; S_2:p_2; \dots; S_n:p_n]$$

- The utility of a lottery is given by

$$U([S_1:p_1; S_2:p_2; \dots; S_n:p_n]) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i U(S_i)$$

## Maximum Expected Utility Principle

- Reach rational decisions with imperfect knowledge of the state of the world.
- Expected utility of taking action  $a$  given that we observe  $o$  and take action  $a$ :

Probabilistic model      Utility function

$P(s'|o, a)$        $U(s')$

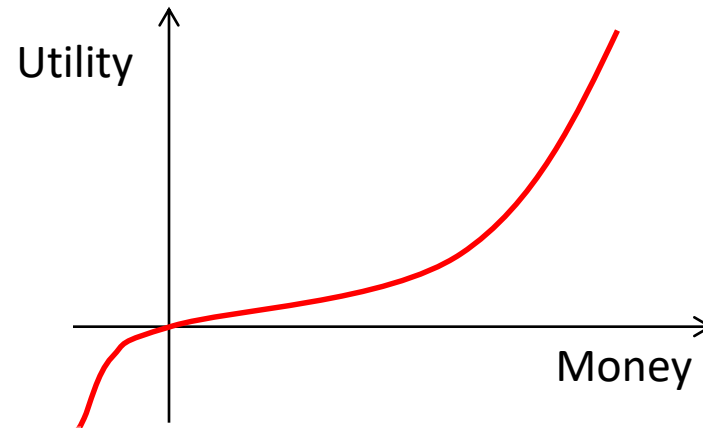
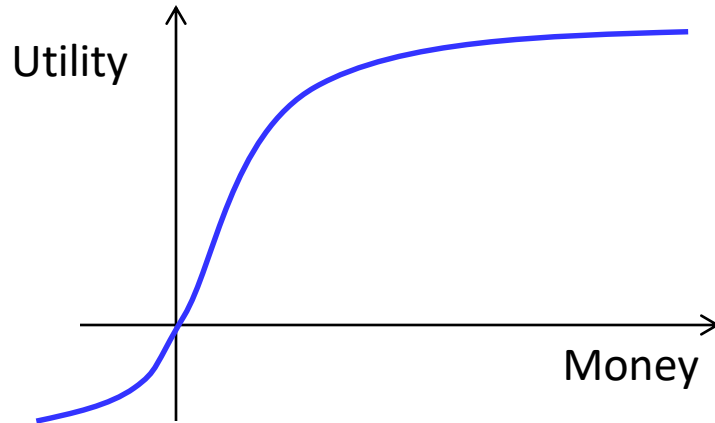
$$EU(a|o) = \sum_{s'} P(s'|o, a) U(s')$$

- The principle of maximum expected utility : a rational agent should choose the action that maximizes expected utility:

$$a^* = \operatorname{argmax}_a EU(a|o)$$

## Utility of Money

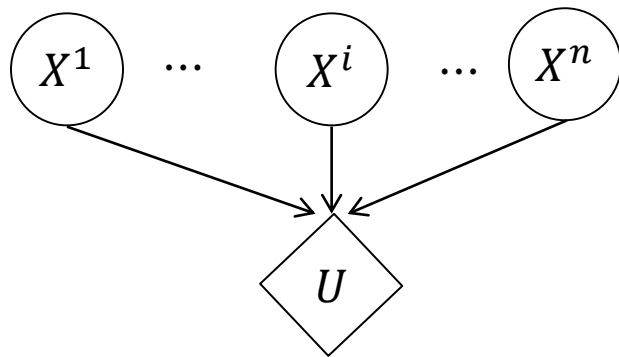
- Monetary values are often used to infer utility function.  
For example, cost of property and human loss damage caused by natural disasters
- It is well known that the relationship between utility and money is not linear as shown below



**A:** Wining 1\$ with a probability 1 vs **B:** Wining 100\$ with a probability 0.01

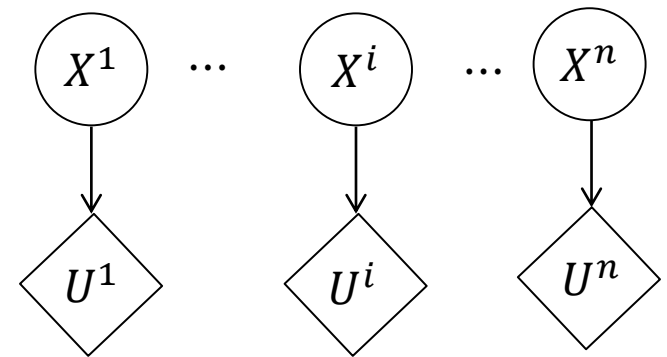
- **Risk averse** : Preference for A (Utility function is concave)
- **Risk neutral** : There is no difference between A and B (Utility function is a linear)
- **Risk seeking** : Preference for B (Utility function is convex)

## Multiple Variable Utility Function



$$U(X^{1:n})$$

Assumption:  
Sum of single-variable  
utility **function**



$$U(X^{1:n}) = \sum_{i=1}^n U(X^i)$$

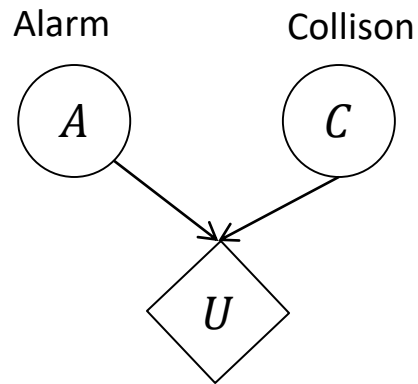
- If  $X^i$  is a binary variable,  
 $2^n$  parameters are required to specify  $U(X^{1:n})$
- If  $X^i$  is a binary variable,  
 $2n$  parameters are required to specify  $U(X^{1:n})$

Different additive decomposition can be explicitly imposed on the network structure!

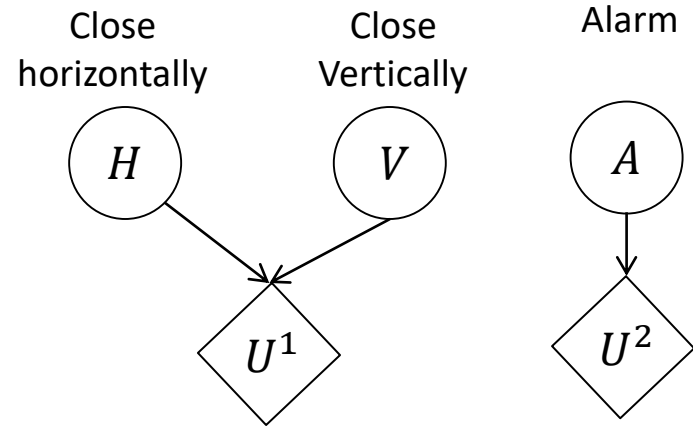


## Multiple Variable Utility Function

**Example :** Collision avoidance system



$A$	$C$	$U$
$a^0$	$c^0$	$U(a^0, c^0)$
$a^0$	$c^1$	$U(a^0, c^1)$
$a^1$	$c^0$	$U(a^1, c^0)$
$a^1$	$c^1$	$U(a^1, c^1)$

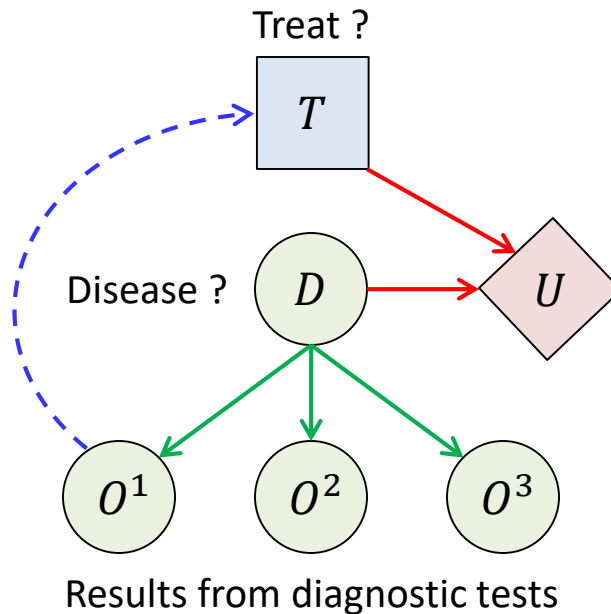


Additive decomposition of  
utility function

$$U(h, v, a) = U^1(h, v) + U^2(a)$$

## Decision Network

**Bayesian Network** + **Decision node** + **Utility node** = **Decision network (Influential Diagram)**



$T$	$D$	$U(T, D)$
0	0	0
0	1	-10
1	0	-1
1	1	-1

→ Conditional edge

→ Functional edge

----> Information edge  
(often omitted)

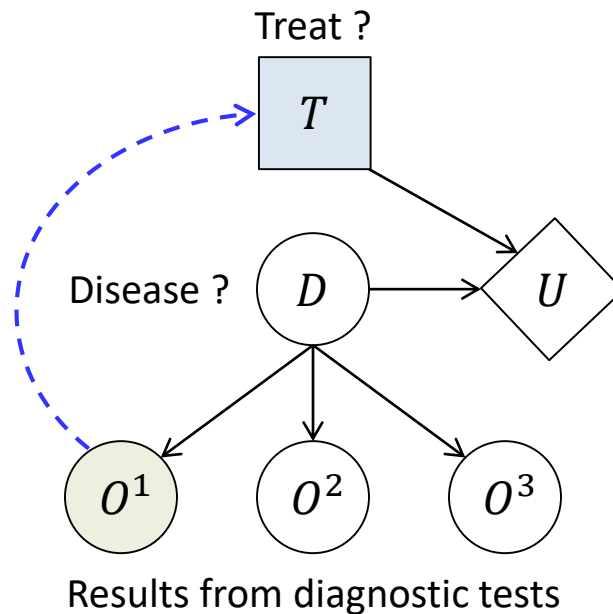
○ A **chance node** corresponds to a random variable

□ A **decision node** corresponds to each decision to be made

◇ A **utility node** corresponds to an additive utility component

## Decision Network

Assume we only have a single observation  $O^1 = 1 (= o_1^1)$  from test 1



$$\begin{aligned} EU(t^1|o_1^1) &= \sum_{o_3} \sum_{o_2} \sum_d P(d, o_2, o_3 | t^1, o_1^1) U(t^1, d, o_1^1, o_2, o_3) \\ &= \sum_d \underbrace{P(d | t^1, o_1^1)}_{\text{Can be computed using many inference methods}} U(t^1, d) \end{aligned}$$

Can be computed using many inference methods

Compare  $EU(t^0|o_1^1)$  and  $EU(t^1|o_1^1)$  and chose the treatment that lead maximum EU

## Value of Information

- It may be beneficial to administer additional diagnostic tests to reduce the uncertainty about the disease. Then, how to choose a test type to be conducted?
- Expected utility of optimal action given observation  $o$  :

$$EU^*(o) = \operatorname{argmax}_a EU(a|o)$$

- The value of information (VPI) about new variable  $O^{new}$  (**unobserved**) given the current observation  $o$  (**observed**):

$$VOI(O^{new}|o) = \left( \sum_{o^{new}} P(o^{new}|o) EU^*(o^{new}, o) \right) - EU^*(o)$$

- The value of information about a variable is the increase in expected utility with the observation of that variable
- VPI can only capture the increase in expected utility → need to consider the cost associated with observing the new information

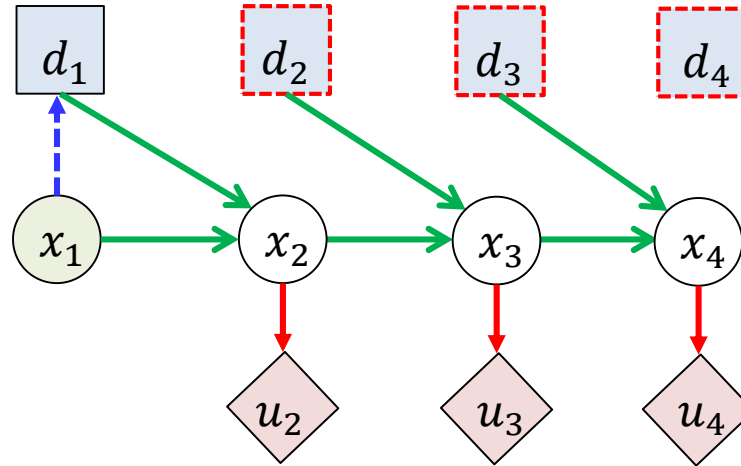
## Sequential Decision Making : Partial Ordering

- The sequential decision making problems can be solved by exploiting structure in the problem based on Bayesian Network and the corresponding inference routines
- The sequential decision making problem will be extended later to problems in **control theory** and **reinforcement learning**
- Influential Diagram defines a partial ordering of the nodes:

$$\mathcal{X}_0 < D_1 < \mathcal{X}_1 < D_2, \dots, < \mathcal{X}_{n-1} < D_n < \mathcal{X}_n$$

with  $\mathcal{X}_k$  being the variables revealed between decision  $D_k$  and  $D_{k+1}$

## Sequential Decision Making : Partial Ordering



- Transition probability :

$$p(x_{t+1}|x_t, d_t)$$

- Utility is

$$U(x_{1:4}) = \sum_{t=2}^4 u(x_t)$$

- The probability of the sequence

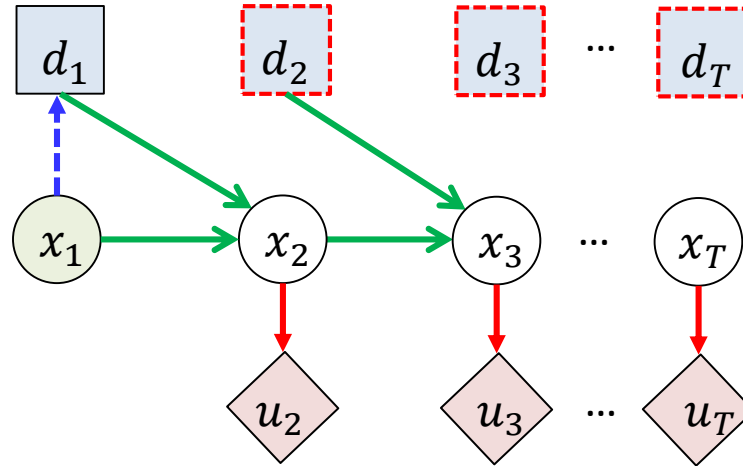
$$p(x_{2:4}|x_1, d_{1:3}) = \prod_{t=1}^3 p(x_{t+1}|x_t, d_t) = p(x_2|x_1, d_1)p(x_3|x_2, d_2)p(x_4|x_3, d_3)$$

- At time  $t = 1$ , we want to made the decision  $d_1$  that will lead to maximized expected total utility

$$U(d_1|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \max_{d_2} \sum_{x_3} \max_{d_3} p(x_{2:4}|x_1, d_{1:3}) U(x_{2:4})$$

$$U(d_1|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \max_{d_2} \sum_{x_3} \max_{d_3} \prod_{t=1}^3 p(x_{t+1}|x_t, d_t) \sum_{t=2}^4 u(x_t)$$

## Sequential Decision Making : Partial Ordering



- Transition probability :

$$p(x_{t+1}|x_t, d_t)$$

- Utility is

$$U(x_{1:T}) = \sum_{t=2}^T u(x_t)$$

- The probability of the sequence

$$p(x_{2:T}|x_1, d_{1:T-1}) = \prod_{t=1}^{T-1} p(x_{t+1}|x_t, d_t)$$

- At time  $t = 1$ , we want to make the decision  $d_1$  that will lead to maximized expected total utility

$$U(d_1|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \max_{d_2} \sum_{x_3} \max_{d_3} \sum_{x_4} \dots \max_{d_{T-1}} \sum_{x_T} p(x_{2:T}|x_1, d_{1:T-1}) U(x_{2:T})$$

$$U(d_1|x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \max_{d_2} \sum_{x_3} \max_{d_3} \sum_{x_4} \dots \max_{d_{T-1}} \sum_{x_T} \prod_{t=1}^{T-1} p(x_{t+1}|x_t, d_t) \sum_{t=2}^T u(x_t)$$

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with  $\mathcal{X}_k$  being the variables revealed between decision  $D_k$  and  $D_{k+1}$

- The optimal first decision  $D_1 = d_1$  is determined by computing

$$U(d_1|x_0) \equiv \sum_{\mathcal{X}_1} \max_{D_2} \dots \sum_{\mathcal{X}_{n-1}} \max_{D_n} \sum_{\mathcal{X}_n} \prod_{i \in \mathcal{L}} p(x_i | \text{pa}(x_i)) \sum_{j \in \mathcal{T}} U_j(\text{pa}(u_j))$$

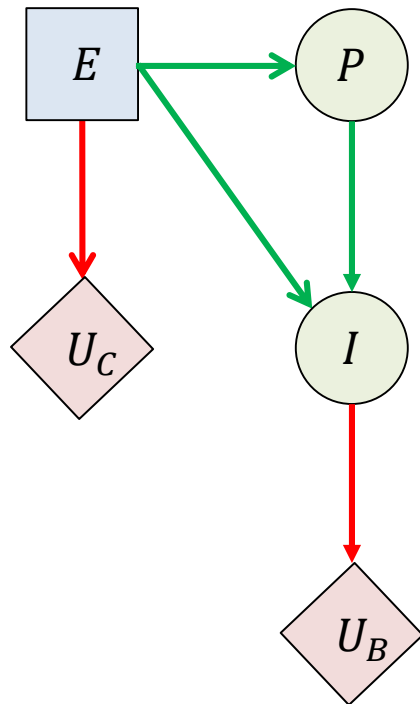
$\mathcal{L}$  is a set of random variables and  $\mathcal{T}$  is a set of utility variables

- The optimal first decision  $D_1^*$  is determined as

$$d_1^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{d_1} U(d_1|x_0)$$



## Example: Should I do a PhD?



### Do PhD to wind a Nobel Prize?

The ordering :  $E^* < \{I, P\}$

#### Domains

- $\text{dom}(E) = \{\text{do PhD, no PhD}\}$
- $\text{dom}(P) = \{\text{prize, no prize}\}$
- $\text{dom}(I) = \{\text{low, average, high}\}$

#### Utilities

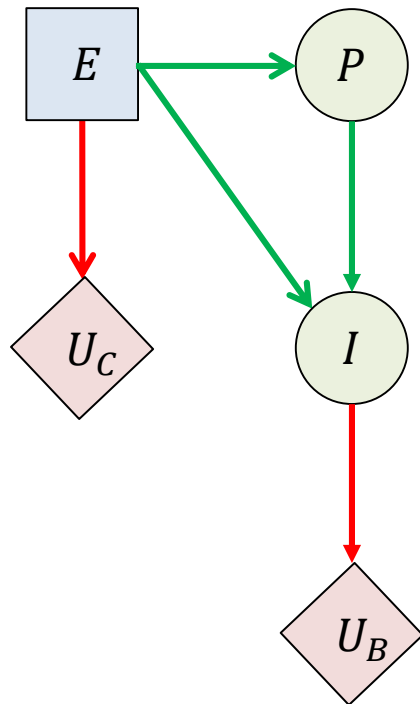
- $U_C(\text{do PhD}) = -50000$ ,  $U_C(\text{no PhD}) = 0$
- $U_B(\text{low}) = 100000$ ,  $U_B(\text{average}) = 200000$ ,  $U_B(\text{high}) = 500000$

#### Probabilities

- $p(\text{win Nobel Prize}|\text{no PhD}) = 0.0000001$ ,  $p(\text{win Nobel Prize}|\text{do PhD}) = 0.001$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{do PhD, no prize}) = 0.1$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{do PhD, no prize}) = 0.5$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{do PhD, no prize}) = 0.4$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{no PhD, no prize}) = 0.2$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{no PhD, no prize}) = 0.6$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{no PhD, no prize}) = 0.2$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{do PhD, prize}) = 0.01$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{do PhD, prize}) = 0.04$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{do PhD, prize}) = 0.95$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{no PhD, prize}) = 0.01$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{no PhD, prize}) = 0.04$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{no PhD, prize}) = 0.95$



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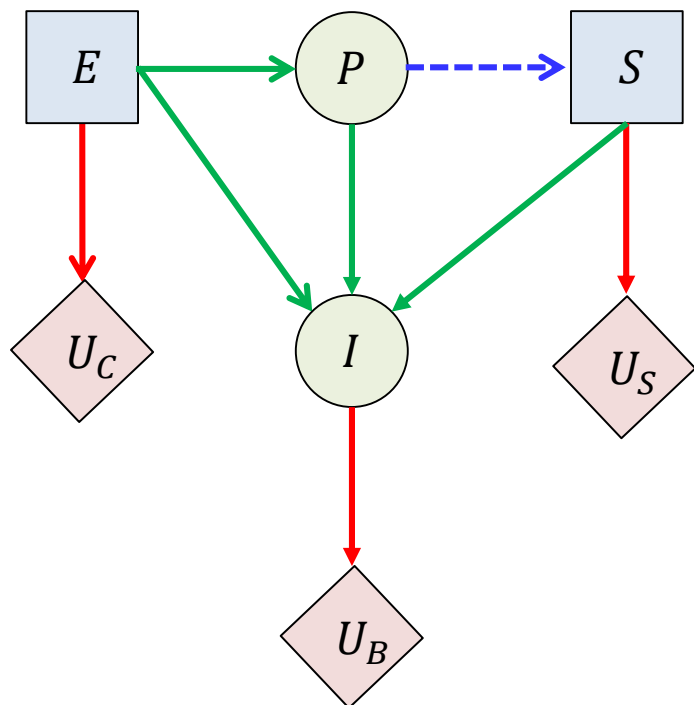
The expected utility of Education is

$$U(E) = \sum_{I,P} p(I|E,P)p(P|E)[U_C(E) + U_B(I)]$$

$$U(\text{do PhD}) = 260174$$

$$U(\text{no PhD}) = 240000$$

## Example: PhD and start-up companies



Do PhD to wind a Nobel Prize and start-up?

The ordering :  $E^* < P < S^* < I$

### Domains

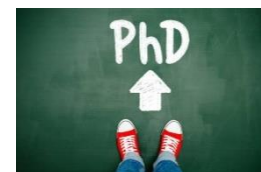
- $\text{dom}(E) = \{\text{do PhD, no PhD}\}$
- $\text{dom}(P) = \{\text{prize, no prize}\}$
- $\text{dom}(I) = \{\text{low, average, high}\}$
- $\text{dom}(S) = \{\text{yes, no}\}$

### Utilities

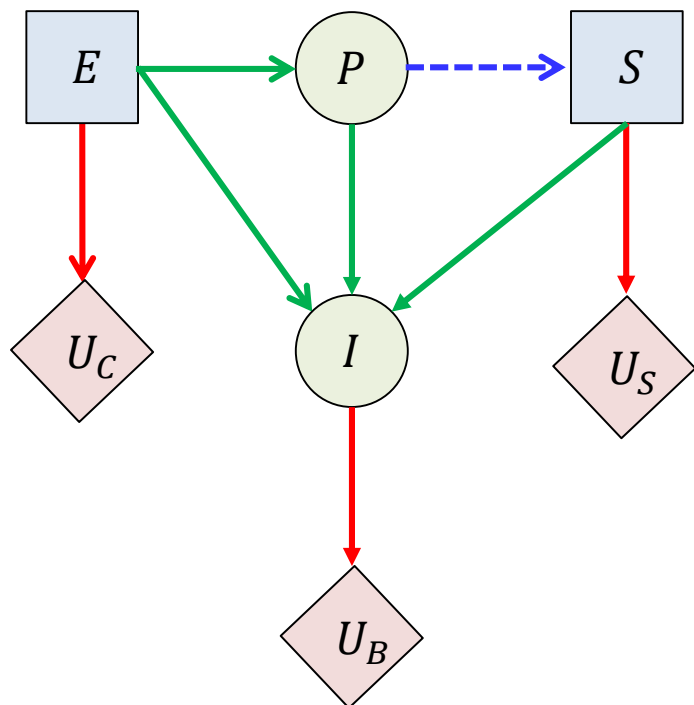
- $U_C(\text{do PhD}) = -50000$ ,  $U_C(\text{no PhD}) = 0$
- $U_B(\text{low}) = 100000$ ,  $U_B(\text{average}) = 200000$ ,  $U_B(\text{high}) = 500000$
- $U_S(\text{start up}) = -200000$ ,  $U_S(\text{no start up}) = 0$

### Probabilities

- $p(\text{win Nobel Prize}|\text{no PhD}) = 0.0000001$ ,  $p(\text{win Nobel Prize}|\text{do PhD}) = 0.001$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{do PhD, no prize}) = 0.1$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{do PhD, no prize}) = 0.5$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{do PhD, no prize}) = 0.4$
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- $p(\text{low}|\text{start up, no prize}) = 0.1$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{start up, no prize}) = 0.5$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{start up, no prize}) = 0.4$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{no start up, no prize}) = 0.2$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{no start up, no prize}) = 0.6$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{no start up, no prize}) = 0.2$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{start up, prize}) = 0.005$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{start up, prize}) = 0.005$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{start up, prize}) = 0.99$
- $p(\text{low}|\text{no start up, prize}) = 0.05$ ,  $p(\text{average}|\text{no start up, prize}) = 0.15$ ,  $p(\text{high}|\text{no start up, prize}) = 0.8$



## Example: PhD and start-up companies



Do PhD to wind a Nobel Prize and start-up?

The ordering :  $E^* < P < S^* < I$

### Domains

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- $\text{dom}(P) = \{\text{prize, no prize}\}$
- $\text{dom}(I) = \{\text{low, average, high}\}$
- $\text{dom}(S) = \{\text{yes, no}\}$

### Utilities

- $U_C(\text{do PhD}) = -50000$ ,  $U_C(\text{no PhD}) = 0$
- $U_B(\text{low}) = 100000$ ,  $U_B(\text{average}) = 200000$ ,  $U_B(\text{high}) = 500000$
- $U_S(\text{start up}) = -200000$ ,  $U_S(\text{no start up}) = 0$



- Our interest is to advise whether or not it is desirable to take a PhD, bearing mind that later one may or may not win the Nobel Prize, and may or may not form a start-up company
- The expected optimal utility for any state  $E$  is

$$U(E) = \sum_P \max_S \sum_I p(I|S, P) p(P|E) [U_C(E) + U_B(I) + U_S(S)]$$

(where we assume that the optimal decisions are taken in the future)

$$U(\text{do PhD}) = 190195$$

$$U(\text{no PhD}) = 240002$$