

# Bayesian Networks

Read R&N Ch. 14.1-14.2

Next lecture: Read R&N 18.1-18.4

# You will be expected to know

- Basic concepts and vocabulary of Bayesian networks.
  - Nodes represent random variables.
  - Directed arcs represent (informally) direct influences.
  - Conditional probability tables,  $P(X_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i))$ .
- Given a Bayesian network:
  - Write down the full joint distribution it represents.
- Given a full joint distribution in factored form:
  - Draw the Bayesian network that represents it.
- Given a variable ordering and some background assertions of conditional independence among the variables:
  - Write down the factored form of the full joint distribution, as simplified by the conditional independence assertions.

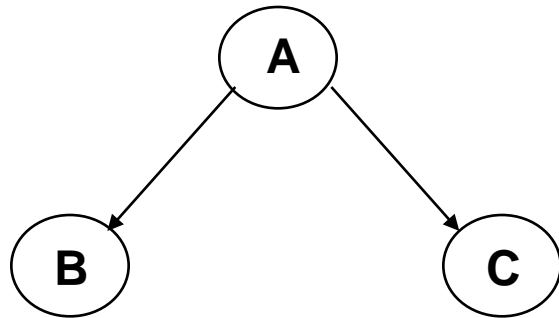
**“Faith, and it’s an uncertain world entirely.”**

**--- Errol Flynn, “Captain Blood” (1935)**

**= We need probability theory for our agents!! The world is chaos!!**  
**Could you design a logical agent that does the right thing below??**



# Extended example of 3-way Bayesian Networks



**Conditionally independent effects:**

$$p(A,B,C) = p(B|A)p(C|A)p(A)$$

**B and C are conditionally independent  
Given A**

**E.g., A is a disease, and we model  
B and C as conditionally independent  
symptoms given A**

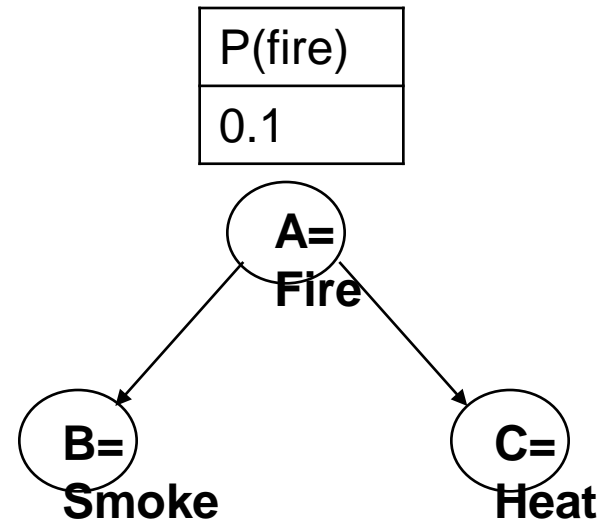
**E.g., A is Fire, B is Heat, C is Smoke.  
“Where there’s Smoke, there’s Fire.”**

**If we see Smoke, we can infer Fire.**

**If we see Smoke, observing Heat tells  
us very little additional information.**

# Extended example of 3-way Bayesian Networks

Suppose I build a fire in my fireplace about once every 10 days...



P(fire)
0.1

Conditionally independent effects:  
 $P(A,B,C) = P(B|A)P(C|A)P(A)$

Smoke and Heat are conditionally independent given Fire.

If we see B=Smoke, observing C=Heat tells us very little additional information.

Fire	P(Smoke)
t	.90
f	.001

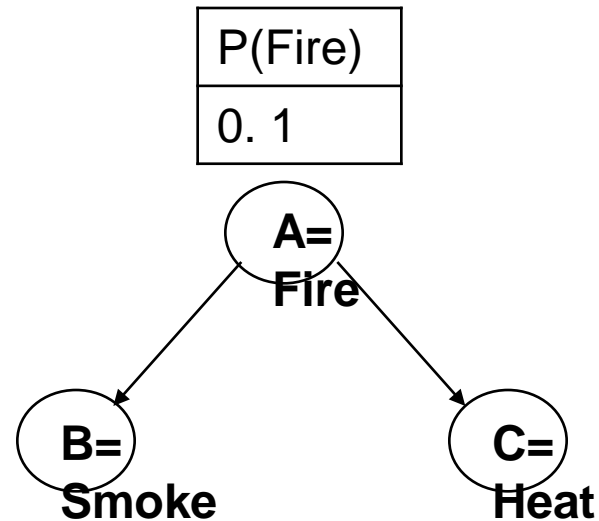
Fire	P(Heat)
t	.99
f	.0001

# Extended example of 3-way Bayesian Networks

**What is  $P(\text{Fire}=t \mid \text{Smoke}=t)$ ?**

$P(\text{Fire}=t \mid \text{Smoke}=t)$

$= P(\text{Fire}=t \ \& \ \text{Smoke}=t) / P(\text{Smoke}=t)$

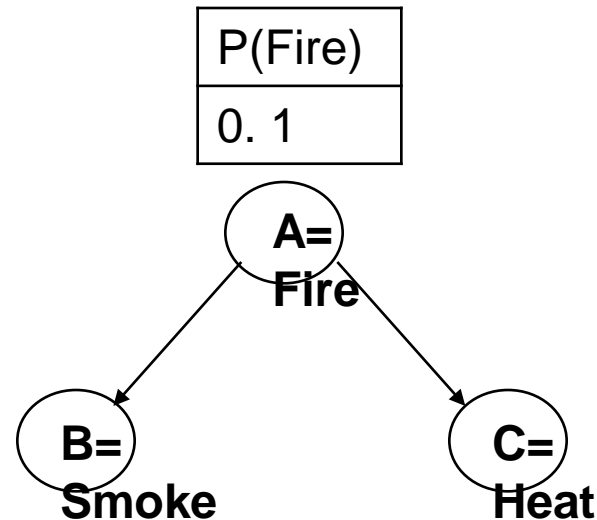


$P(\text{Fire})$
0.1

Fire	$P(\text{Smoke})$
t	.90
f	.001

Fire	$P(\text{Heat})$
t	.99
f	.0001

# Extended example of 3-way Bayesian Networks



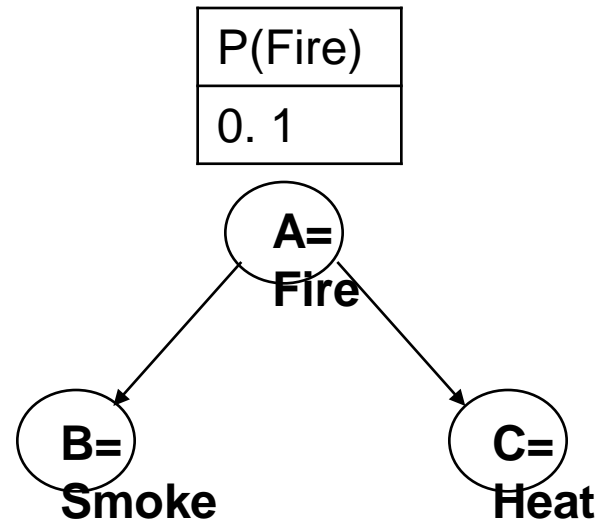
Fire	P(Smoke)
t	.90
f	.001

Fire	P(Heat)
t	.99
f	.0001

**What is  $P(\text{Fire}=t \ \& \ \text{Smoke}=t)$ ?**

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(\text{Fire}=t \ \& \ \text{Smoke}=t) \\
 &= \sum_{\text{heat}} P(\text{Fire}=t \ \& \ \text{Smoke}=t \ \& \ \text{heat}) \\
 &= \sum_{\text{heat}} P(\text{Smoke}=t \ \& \ \text{heat} | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{Fire}=t) \\
 &= \sum_{\text{heat}} P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{heat} | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{Fire}=t) \\
 &= P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{heat}=t | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{Fire}=t) \\
 &\quad + P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{heat}=f | \text{Fire}=t) P(\text{Fire}=t) \\
 &= (.90 \times .99 \times .1) + (.90 \times .01 \times .1) \\
 &= 0.09
 \end{aligned}$$

# Extended example of 3-way Bayesian Networks



Fire	P(Smoke)
t	.90
f	.001

Fire	P(Heat)
t	.99
f	.0001

**What is  $P(\text{Smoke}=t)$ ?**

$P(\text{Smoke}=t)$

$= \sum_{\text{fire}} \sum_{\text{heat}} P(\text{Smoke}=t \& \text{fire} \& \text{heat})$

$= \sum_{\text{fire}} \sum_{\text{heat}} P(\text{Smoke}=t \& \text{heat} | \text{fire}) P(\text{fire})$

$= \sum_{\text{fire}} \sum_{\text{heat}} P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{fire}) P(\text{heat} | \text{fire}) P(\text{fire})$

$= P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{fire}=t) P(\text{heat}=t | \text{fire}=t) P(\text{fire}=t)$

$+ P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{fire}=t) P(\text{heat}=f | \text{fire}=t) P(\text{fire}=t)$

$+ P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{fire}=f) P(\text{heat}=t | \text{fire}=f) P(\text{fire}=f)$

$+ P(\text{Smoke}=t | \text{fire}=f) P(\text{heat}=f | \text{fire}=f) P(\text{fire}=f)$

$= (.90 \times .99 \times .1) + (.90 \times .01 \times .1)$

$+ (.001 \times .0001 \times .9) + (.001 \times .9999 \times .9)$

$\approx 0.0909$



# Extended example of 3-way Bayesian Networks

**What is  $P(\text{Fire}=t \mid \text{Smoke}=t)$ ?**

$$P(\text{Fire}=t \mid \text{Smoke}=t)$$

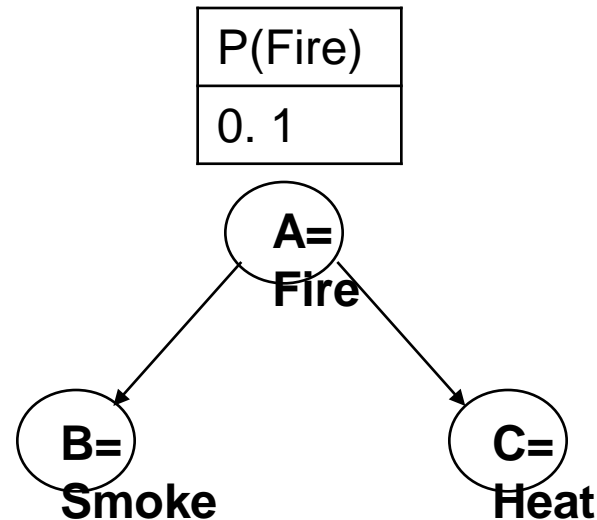
$$= P(\text{Fire}=t \ \& \ \text{Smoke}=t) / P(\text{Smoke}=t)$$

$$\approx 0.09 / 0.0909$$

$$\approx \mathbf{0.99}$$

So we've just proven that

**“Where there's smoke, there's (probably) fire.”**

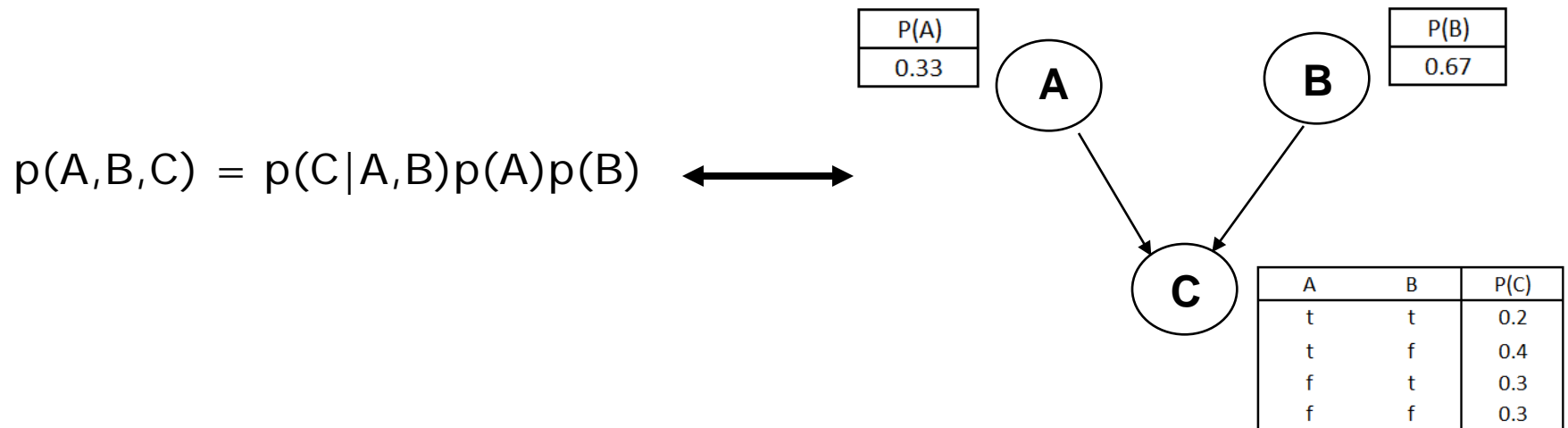


Fire	P(Smoke)
t	.90
f	.001

Fire	P(Heat)
t	.99
f	.0001

# Bayesian Network

- A Bayesian network specifies a joint distribution in a structured form:



- Dependence/independence represented via a directed graph:
  - Node = random variable
  - Directed Edge = conditional dependence
  - Absence of Edge = conditional independence
- Allows concise view of joint distribution relationships:
  - Graph nodes and edges show conditional relationships between variables.
  - Tables provide probability data.

# Bayesian Networks

- Structure of the graph  $\Leftrightarrow$  Conditional independence relations

In general,

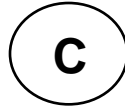
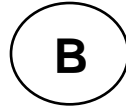
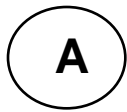
$$p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N) = \prod p(X_i \mid \text{parents}(X_i))$$

The full joint distribution

The graph-structured approximation

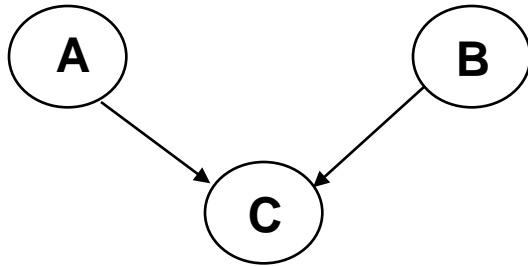
- Requires that graph is acyclic (no directed cycles)
- 2 components to a Bayesian network
  - The graph structure (conditional independence assumptions)
  - The numerical probabilities (for each variable given its parents)
- Also known as belief networks, graphical models, causal networks

# Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks



**Marginal Independence:**  
 $p(A,B,C) = p(A) p(B) p(C)$

# Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks



**Independent Causes:**

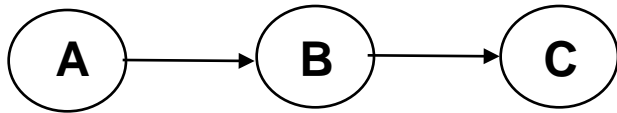
$$p(A,B,C) = p(C|A,B)p(A)p(B)$$

**“Explaining away” effect:**

**Given C, observing A makes B less likely  
e.g., earthquake/burglary/alarm example**

**A and B are (marginally) independent  
but become dependent once C is known**

# Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks

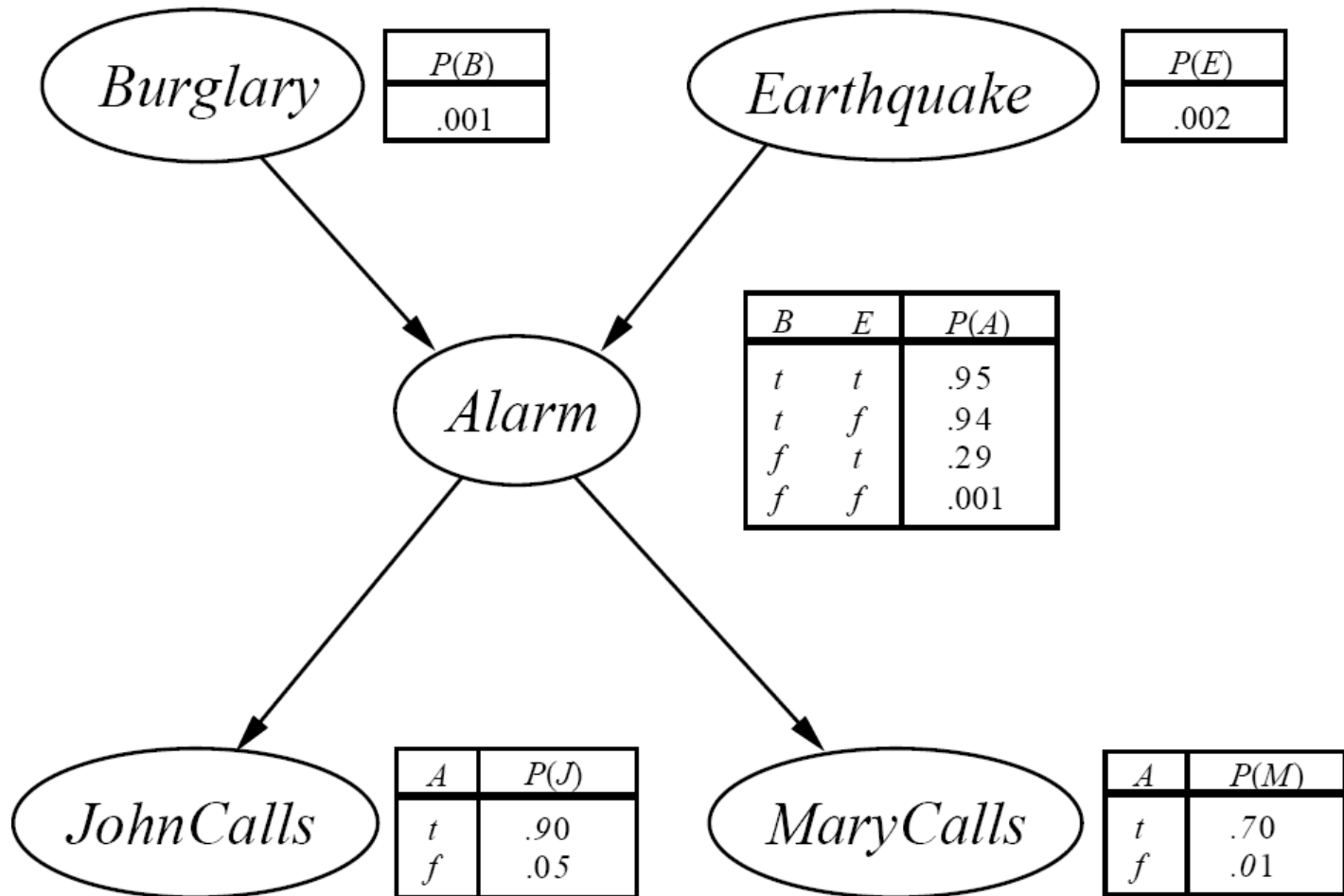


**Markov dependence:**  
 $p(A,B,C) = p(C|B) p(B|A)p(A)$

# Burglar Alarm Example

- Consider the following 5 binary variables:
  - $B$  = a burglary occurs at your house
  - $E$  = an earthquake occurs at your house
  - $A$  = the alarm goes off
  - $J$  = John calls to report the alarm
  - $M$  = Mary calls to report the alarm
- What is  $P(B \mid M, J)$  ? (for example)
- We can use the full joint distribution to answer this question
  - Requires  $2^5 = 32$  probabilities
  - Can we use prior domain knowledge to come up with a Bayesian network that requires fewer probabilities?

# The Desired Bayesian Network



Only requires 10 probabilities!



# Constructing a Bayesian Network: Step 1

- Order the variables in terms of influence (may be a partial order)

e.g.,  $\{E, B\} \rightarrow \{A\} \rightarrow \{J, M\}$

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

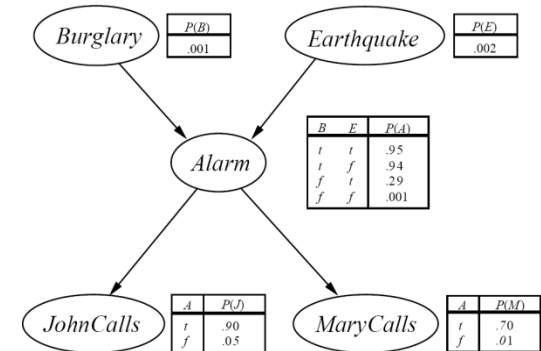
$$\approx P(J, M \mid A) P(A \mid E, B) P(E) P(B)$$

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

These conditional independence assumptions are reflected in the graph structure of the Bayesian network

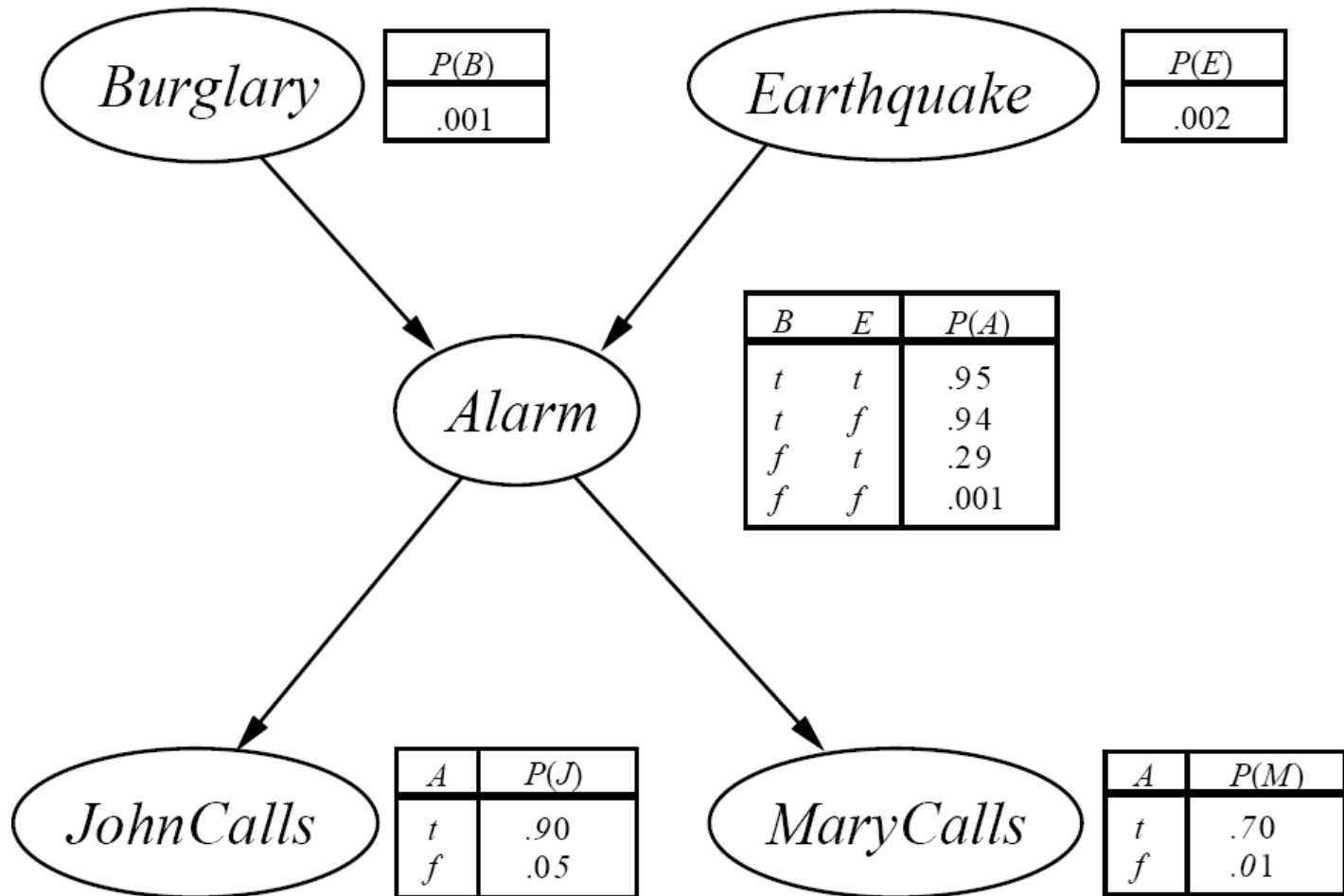
# Constructing this Bayesian Network: Step 2

- $P(J, M, A, E, B) =$   
 $P(J | A) P(M | A) P(A | E, B) P(E) P(B)$



- There are 3 conditional probability tables (CPDs) to be determined:  
 $P(J | A)$ ,  $P(M | A)$ ,  $P(A | E, B)$ 
  - Requiring  $2 + 2 + 4 = 8$  probabilities
- And 2 marginal probabilities  $P(E)$ ,  $P(B)$  -> 2 more probabilities
- Where do these probabilities come from?
  - Expert knowledge
  - From data (relative frequency estimates)
  - Or a combination of both - see discussion in Section 20.1 and 20.2 (optional)

# The Resulting Bayesian Network



# Example of Answering a Probability Query

- So, what is  $P(B \mid M, J)$  ?  
E.g., say,  $P(b \mid m, \neg j)$  , i.e.,  $P(B=\text{true} \mid M=\text{true} \wedge J=\text{false})$

$$P(b \mid m, \neg j) = P(b, m, \neg j) / P(m, \neg j) \text{ ;by definition}$$

$$P(b, m, \neg j) = \sum_{A \in \{a, \neg a\}} \sum_{E \in \{e, \neg e\}} P(\neg j, m, A, E, b) \text{ ;marginal}$$

$$P(J, M, A, E, B) \approx P(J \mid A) P(M \mid A) P(A \mid E, B) P(E) P(B) \text{ ; conditional indep.}$$

$$P(\neg j, m, A, E, b) \approx P(\neg j \mid A) P(m \mid A) P(A \mid E, b) P(E) P(b)$$

Say, work the case  $A=a \wedge E=\neg e$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\neg j, m, a, \neg e, b) &\approx P(\neg j \mid a) P(m \mid a) P(a \mid \neg e, b) P(\neg e) P(b) \\ &\approx 0.10 \times 0.70 \times 0.94 \times 0.998 \times 0.001 \end{aligned}$$

Similar for the cases of  $a \wedge e$ ,  $\neg a \wedge e$ ,  $\neg a \wedge \neg e$ .

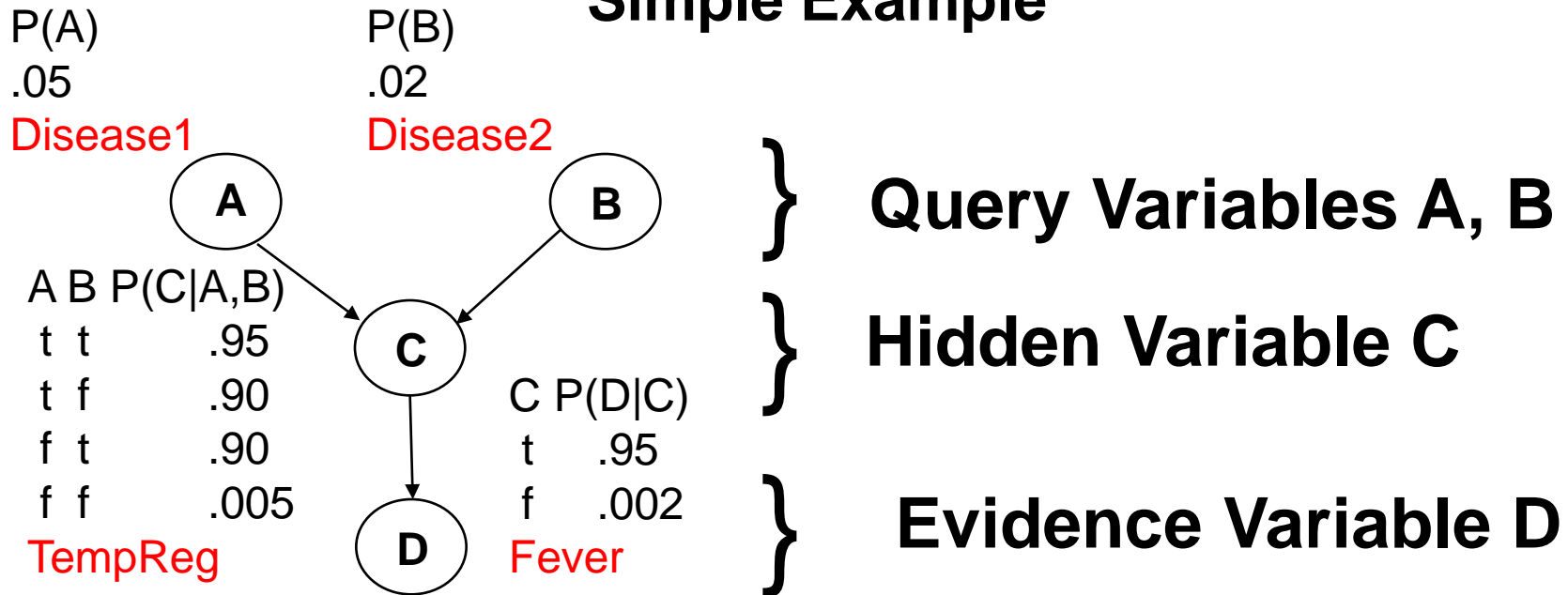
Similar for  $P(m, \neg j)$ . Then just divide to get  $P(b \mid m, \neg j)$ .

# Inference in Bayesian Networks

- $\mathbf{X} = \{ X1, X2, \dots, Xk \}$  = **query variables** of interest
  - $\mathbf{E} = \{ E1, \dots, El \}$  = **evidence variables** that are observed
    - ( $\mathbf{e}$ , an **event**)
  - $\mathbf{Y} = \{ Y1, \dots, Ym \}$  = **hidden variables** (nonevidence, nonquery)
- 
- What is the posterior distribution of  $\mathbf{X}$ , given  $\mathbf{E}$ ?
  - $P(\mathbf{X} | \mathbf{e}) = \alpha \sum_y P(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e})$
- 
- What is the most likely assignment of values to  $\mathbf{X}$ , given  $\mathbf{E}$ ?
  - $\operatorname{argmax}_x P(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{e}) = \operatorname{argmax}_x \sum_y P(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e})$

# Inference in Bayesian Networks

## Simple Example

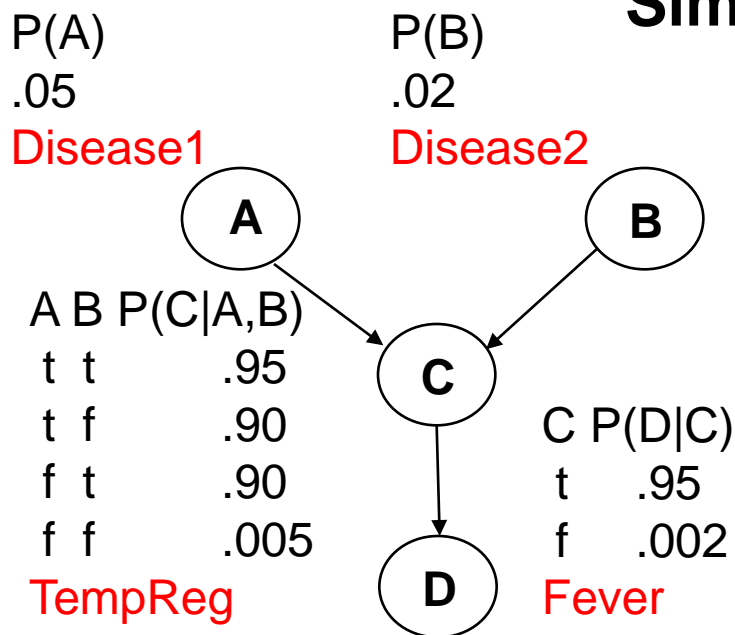


**Note: Not an anatomically correct model of how diseases cause fever!**

Suppose that two different diseases influence some imaginary internal body temperature regulator, which in turn influences whether fever is present.

# Inference in Bayesian Networks

## Simple Example



What is the posterior conditional distribution of our query variables, given that fever was observed?

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(A,B|d) &= \alpha \sum_c P(A,B,c,d) \\
 &= \alpha \sum_c P(A)P(B)P(c|A,B)P(d|c) \\
 &= \alpha P(A)P(B) \sum_c P(c|A,B)P(d|c)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(a,b|d) &= \alpha P(a)P(b) \sum_c P(c|a,b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(a)P(b) \{ P(c|a,b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|a,b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .05 \times .02 \times \{ .95 \times .95 + .05 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .000903 \approx .014
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\neg a,b|d) &= \alpha P(\neg a)P(b) \sum_c P(c|\neg a,b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(\neg a)P(b) \{ P(c|\neg a,b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|\neg a,b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .95 \times .02 \times \{ .90 \times .95 + .10 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .0162 \approx .248
 \end{aligned}$$

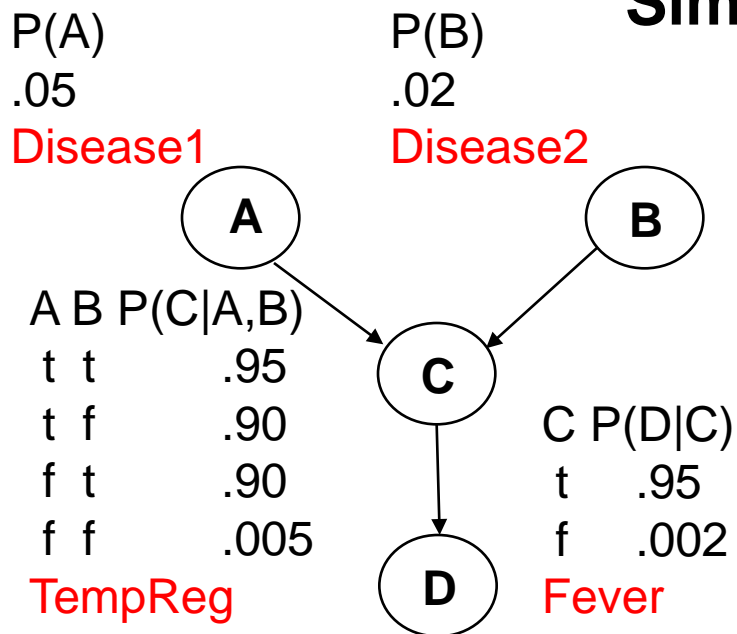
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(a,\neg b|d) &= \alpha P(a)P(\neg b) \sum_c P(c|a,\neg b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(a)P(\neg b) \{ P(c|a,\neg b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|a,\neg b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .05 \times .98 \times \{ .90 \times .95 + .10 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .0419 \approx .642
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\neg a,\neg b|d) &= \alpha P(\neg a)P(\neg b) \sum_c P(c|\neg a,\neg b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(\neg a)P(\neg b) \{ P(c|\neg a,\neg b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|\neg a,\neg b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .95 \times .98 \times \{ .005 \times .95 + .995 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .00627 \approx .096
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha \approx 1 / (.000903 + .0162 + .0419 + .00627) \approx 1 / .06527 \approx 15.32$$

# Inference in Bayesian Networks

## Simple Example



What is the most likely posterior conditional assignment of values to our query variables, given that fever was observed?

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \operatorname{argmax}_{\{a,b\}} P(a, b | d) \\
 &= \operatorname{argmax}_{\{a,b\}} \sum_c P(a, b, c, d) \\
 &= \{a, \neg b\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(a, b | d) &= \alpha P(a)P(b) \sum_c P(c|a, b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(a)P(b) \{ P(c|a, b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|a, b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .05 \times .02 \times \{ .95 \times .95 + .05 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .000903 \approx .014
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\neg a, b | d) &= \alpha P(\neg a)P(b) \sum_c P(c|\neg a, b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(\neg a)P(b) \{ P(c|\neg a, b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|\neg a, b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .95 \times .02 \times \{ .90 \times .95 + .10 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .0162 \approx .248
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(a, \neg b | d) &= \alpha P(a)P(\neg b) \sum_c P(c|a, \neg b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(a)P(\neg b) \{ P(c|a, \neg b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|a, \neg b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .05 \times .98 \times \{ .90 \times .95 + .10 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .0419 \approx .642
 \end{aligned}$$

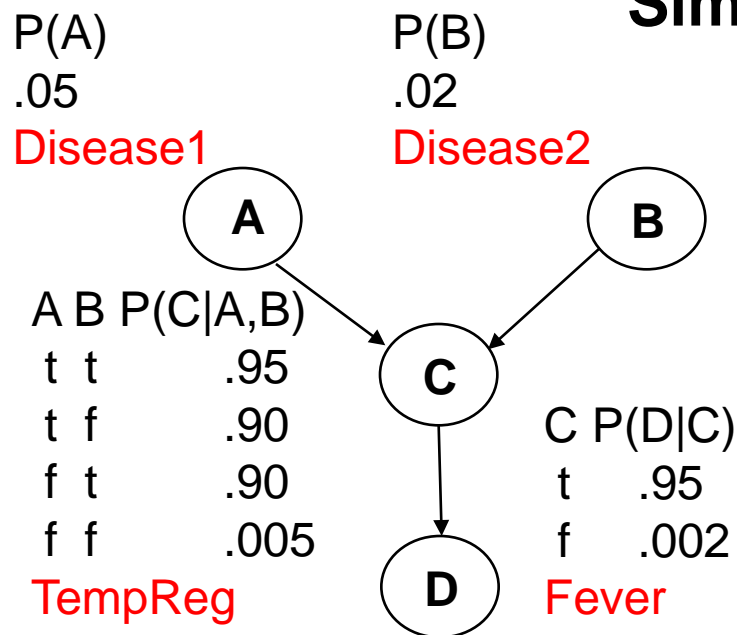
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\neg a, \neg b | d) &= \alpha P(\neg a)P(\neg b) \sum_c P(c|\neg a, \neg b)P(d|c) = \alpha P(\neg a)P(\neg b) \{ P(c|\neg a, \neg b)P(d|c) + P(\neg c|\neg a, \neg b)P(d|\neg c) \} \\
 &= \alpha .95 \times .98 \times \{ .005 \times .95 + .995 \times .002 \} \approx \alpha .00627 \approx .096
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha \approx 1 / (.000903 + .0162 + .0419 + .00627) \approx 1 / .06527 \approx 15.32$$



# Inference in Bayesian Networks

## Simple Example



What is the posterior conditional distribution of A, given that fever was observed? (I.e., temporarily make B into a hidden variable.)

We can use  $P(A,B|d)$  from above.

$$P(A|d) = \alpha \sum_b P(A,b|d)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(a|d) &= \sum_b P(a,b|d) = P(a,b|d) + P(a,\neg b|d) \\
 &= (.014 + .642) \approx .656
 \end{aligned}$$

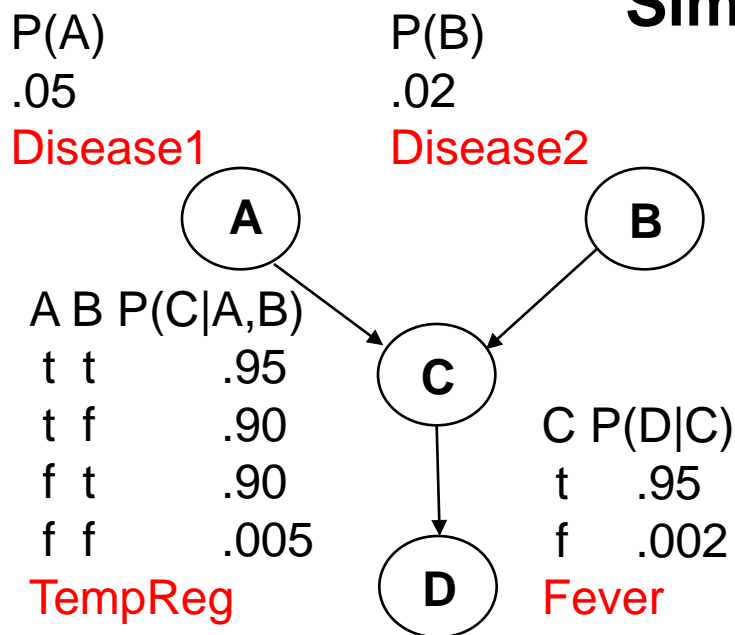
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\neg a|d) &= \sum_b P(\neg a,b|d) = P(\neg a,b|d) + P(\neg a,\neg b|d) \\
 &= (.248 + .096) \approx .344
 \end{aligned}$$

This is a marginalization, so we expect from theory that  $\alpha = 1$ ; but check for round-off error.

A	B	$P(A,B d)$ from above
t	t	$\approx .014$
f	t	$\approx .248$
t	f	$\approx .642$
f	f	$\approx .096$

# Inference in Bayesian Networks

## Simple Example



What is the posterior conditional distribution of A, given that fever was observed, and that further lab tests definitely rule out Disease2? (I.e., temporarily make B into an evidence variable with B = false.)

$$P(A|\neg b,d) = \alpha P(A,\neg b|d)$$

$$P(a|\neg b,d) = \alpha P(a,\neg b|d)$$

$$\approx \alpha .642 \approx .870$$

$$P(\neg a|\neg b,d) = \alpha P(\neg a,\neg b|d)$$

$$\approx \alpha .096 \approx .130$$

$$\alpha \approx 1 / (.642 + .096) \approx 1 / .738 \approx 1.355$$

A	B	$P(A,B d)$ from above
t	t	$\approx .014$
f	t	$\approx .248$
t	f	$\approx .642$
f	f	$\approx .096$

# General Strategy for inference

---

- Want to compute  $P(q \mid e)$

Step 1:

$$P(q \mid e) = P(q, e) / P(e) = \alpha P(q, e), \quad \text{since } P(e) \text{ is constant wrt } Q$$

Step 2:

$$P(q, e) = \sum_{a..z} P(q, e, a, b, \dots, z), \quad \text{by the law of total probability}$$

Step 3:

$$\sum_{a..z} P(q, e, a, b, \dots, z) = \sum_{a..z} \prod_i P(\text{variable } i \mid \text{parents } i)$$

(using Bayesian network factoring)

Step 4:

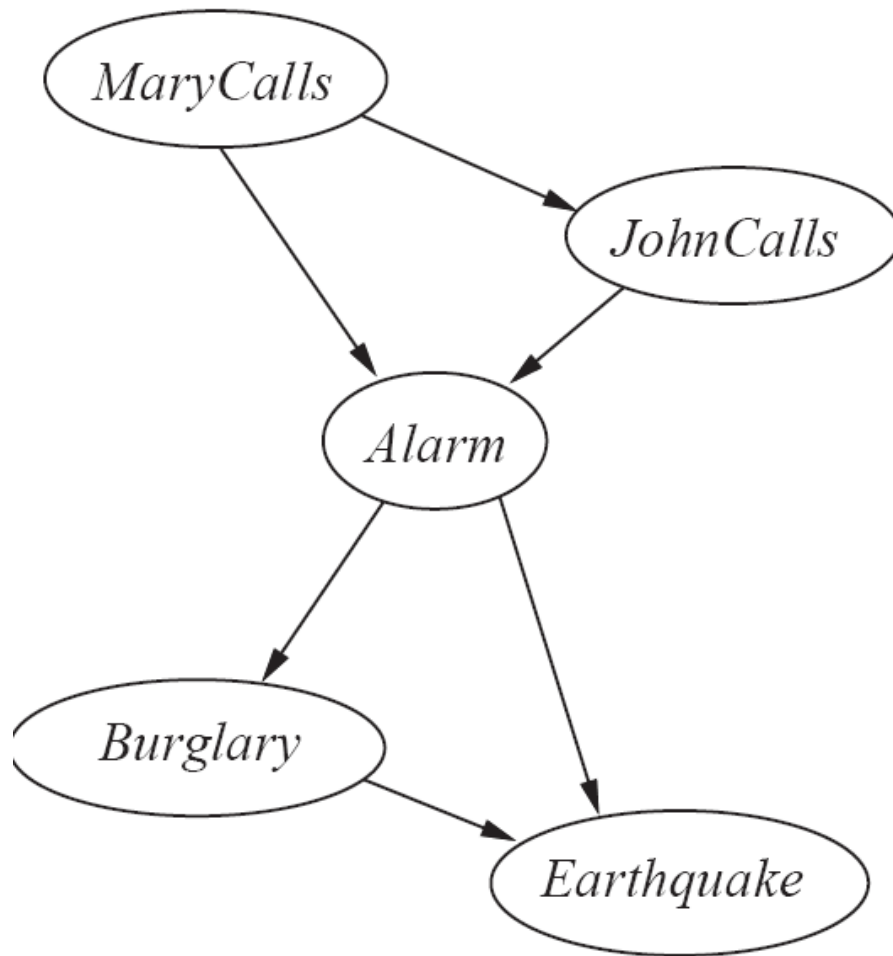
Distribute summations across product terms for efficient computation

Section 14.4 discusses exact inference in Bayesian Networks. The complexity depends strongly on the network structure. The general case is intractable, but there are things you can do. Section 14.5 discusses approximation by sampling.

# Number of Probabilities in Bayesian Networks

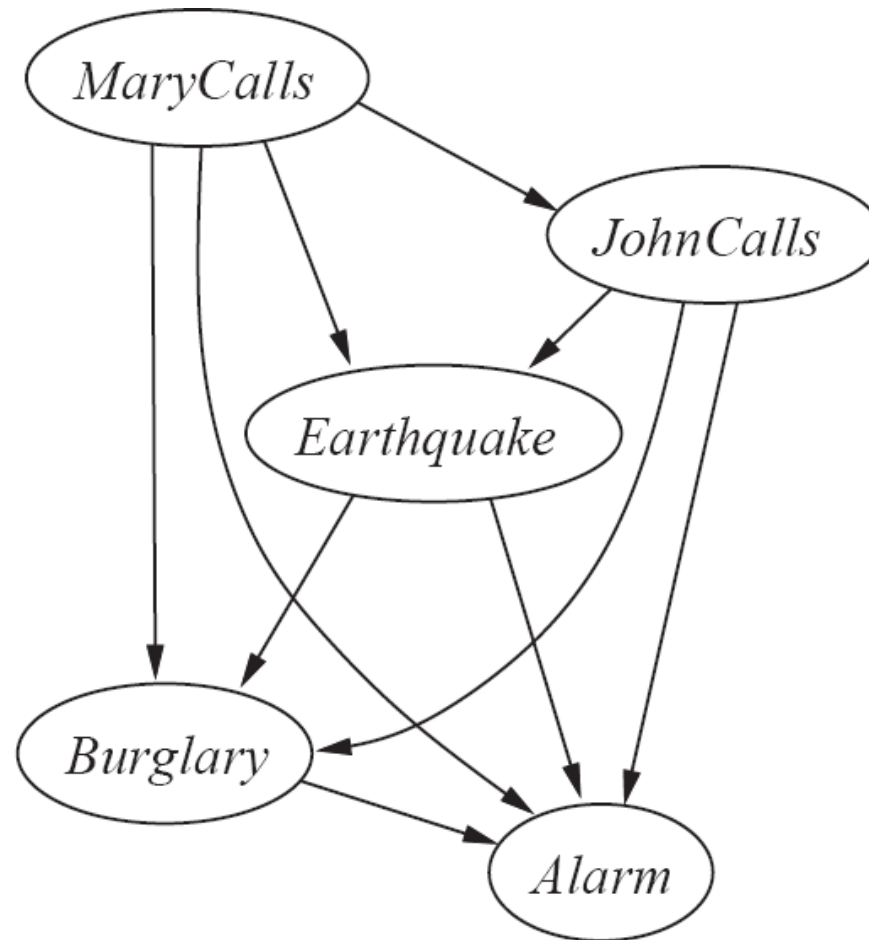
- Consider  $n$  binary variables
- Unconstrained joint distribution requires  $O(2^n)$  probabilities
- If we have a Bayesian network, with a maximum of  $k$  parents for any node, then we need  $O(n 2^k)$  probabilities
- Example
  - Full unconstrained joint distribution
    - $n = 30, k = 4$ : need  $10^9$  probabilities for full joint distribution
  - Bayesian network
    - $n = 30, k = 4$ : need 480 probabilities

## The Bayesian Network from a different Variable Ordering



(a)

## The Bayesian Network from a different Variable Ordering



(b)

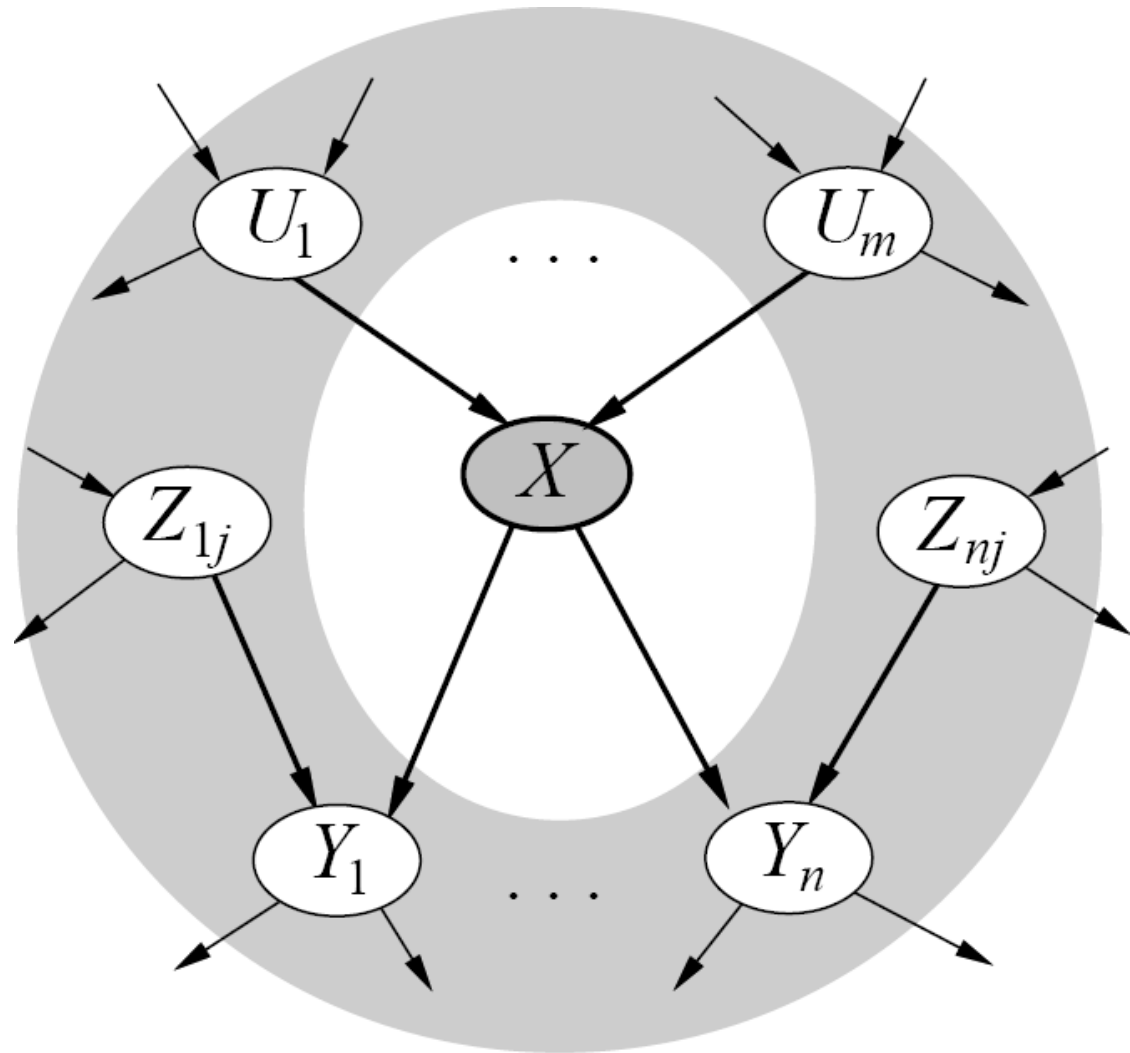
Given a graph, can we “read off” conditional independencies?

**The “Markov Blanket” of  $X$**   
(the gray area in the figure)

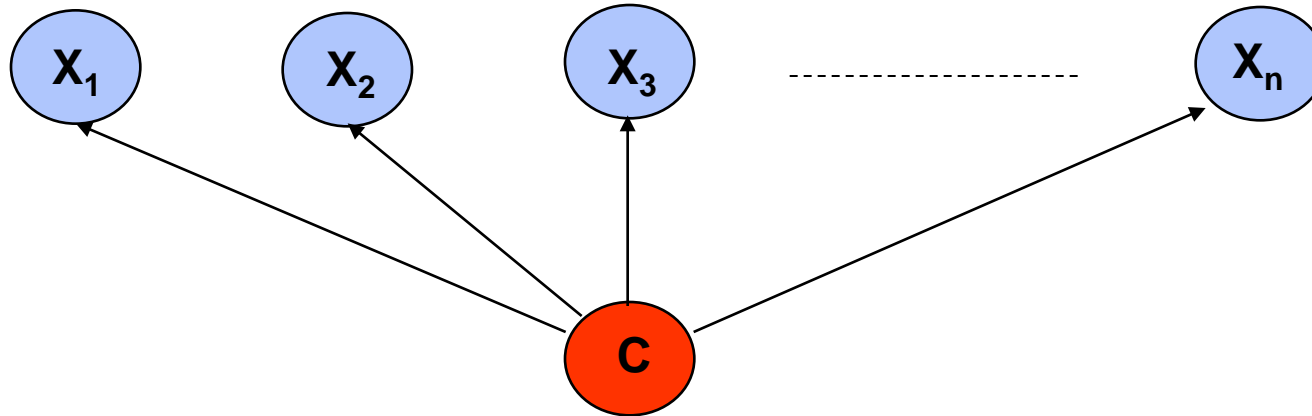
$X$  is conditionally independent of everything else, GIVEN the values of:

- \*  $X$ ’s parents
- \*  $X$ ’s children
- \*  $X$ ’s children’s parents

$X$  is conditionally independent of its non-descendants, GIVEN the values of its parents.



# Naïve Bayes Model



$$P(C | X_1, \dots, X_n) = \alpha \prod P(X_i | C) P(C)$$

Features  $X$  are conditionally independent given the class variable  $C$

Widely used in machine learning

e.g., spam email classification:  $X$ 's = counts of words in emails

Probabilities  $P(C)$  and  $P(X_i | C)$  can easily be estimated from labeled data



# Naïve Bayes Model (2)

$$P(C | X_1, \dots, X_n) = \alpha \prod P(X_i | C) P(C)$$

Probabilities  $P(C)$  and  $P(X_i | C)$  can easily be estimated from labeled data

$$P(C = c_j) \approx \#(\text{Examples with class label } c_j) / \#(\text{Examples})$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_i = x_{ik} | C = c_j) \\ \approx \#(\text{Examples with } X_i \text{ value } x_{ik} \text{ and class label } c_j) \\ / \#(\text{Examples with class label } c_j) \end{aligned}$$

Usually easiest to work with logs

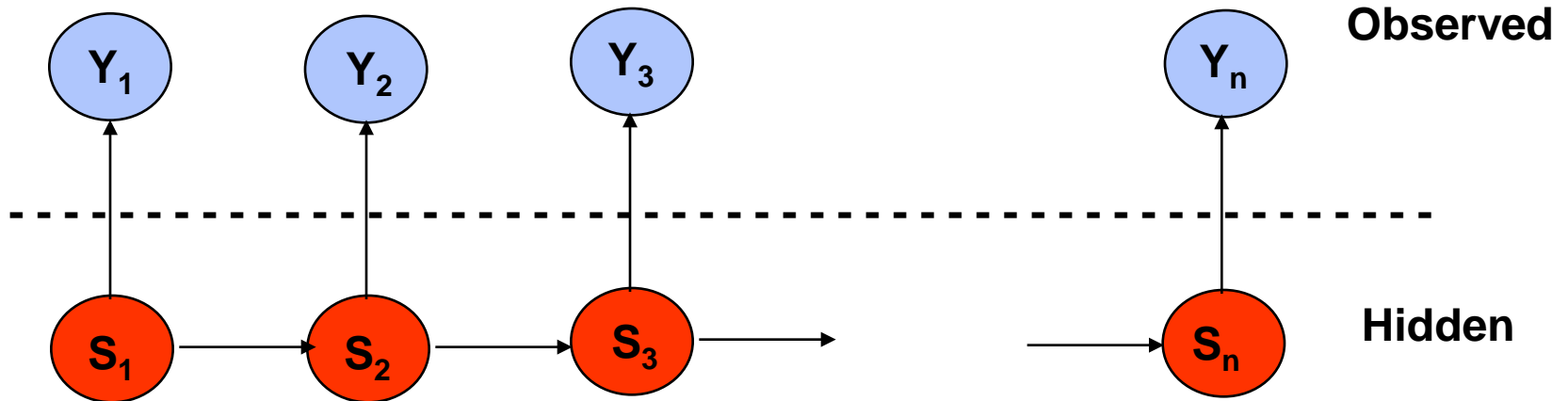
$$\begin{aligned} \log [ P(C | X_1, \dots, X_n) ] \\ = \log \alpha + \sum [ \log P(X_i | C) + \log P(C) ] \end{aligned}$$

**DANGER:** Suppose ZERO examples with  $X_i$  value  $x_{ik}$  and class label  $c_j$  ?  
An unseen example with  $X_i$  value  $x_{ik}$  will NEVER predict class label  $c_j$  !

Practical solutions: Pseudocounts, e.g., add 1 to every  $\#()$  , etc.

Theoretical solutions: Bayesian inference, beta distribution, etc.

# Hidden Markov Model (HMM)



Two key assumptions:

1. hidden state sequence is Markov
2. observation  $Y_t$  is CI of all other variables given  $S_t$

Widely used in speech recognition, protein sequence models

Since this is a Bayesian network polytree, inference is linear in  $n$

# Summary

- Bayesian networks represent a joint distribution using a graph
- The graph encodes a set of conditional independence assumptions
- Answering queries (or inference or reasoning) in a Bayesian network amounts to efficient computation of appropriate conditional probabilities
- Probabilistic inference is intractable in the general case
  - But can be carried out in linear time for certain classes of Bayesian networks