

# CPSC 322: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

## Uncertainty: Inference by Enumeration and Independence

Textbook reference: [8.2]

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Credit: These slides are adapted from the slides of the previous offerings of the course. Thanks to all instructors for creating and improving the teaching material and making it available!

# Announcements

- Assignment 4 has been released.
  - Due date: **Nov 29th, 11:59 PM**
- Final exam scheduled:
  - **Time:** Dec 9 at 7:00pm
  - **Location:** SRC A

# A rough CPSC 322 overview

Representation  
and reasoning

Environment

Problem

Deterministic

Stochastic

Constraint  
satisfaction

Static

Query

Arc consistency

Variables +  
constraints

Search

Logics

Search

Belief networks

Variable elimination

Sequential

Planning

STRIPS

Search


Decision networks

Variable elimination

Markov decision  
processes

Value iteration

# Lecture outline

- Recap 
- Inference with enumeration
- Marginal independence
- Conditional independence
- Bayesian networks (time permitting)

# Recap: Random variables

**Random variables:** Some aspect of the world about which we may have uncertainty. Like CSP variables, random variables have **domains**.

Examples:

S: Is it sunny?  $S \in \{yes, no\}$


M: What will be my mood tomorrow?

$M \in \{happy, sad, disgusted\}$


B: How many bikes are parked at the moment on UBC campus?  $B \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 100000\}$

# Recap: Probability distributions

Unobserved random variables have distributions.

  $P(M)$

| Mood (M)  | P    |
|-----------|------|
| happy     | 0.60 |
| sad       | 0.20 |
| disgusted | 0.20 |

  $P(W)$

| Weather (W) | P    |
|-------------|------|
| sunny       | 0.40 |
| cloudy      | 0.60 |

A distribution is a table of probabilities of values.

$$\forall x P(X = x) \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_x P(X = x) = 1$$

# Recap: Marginal distributions

Marginal distributions are sub-tables for a subset of variables.

What are the marginal distributions for  $P(\text{Activity})$  and  $P(\text{Mood})$ ?

$P(\text{Activity})$

| Activity (A) | Mood (M) | P    |
|--------------|----------|------|
| study        | happy    | 0.45 |
| cry          | happy    | 0.05 |
| study        | sad      | 0.15 |
| cry          | sad      | 0.35 |

| Activity (A) | P |
|--------------|---|
|              |   |
|              |   |

$P(\text{Mood})$

| Mood (M) | P |
|----------|---|
|          |   |
|          |   |

# Recap: Marginal distributions

Marginal distributions are sub-tables for a subset of variables.

What are the marginal distributions for  $P(\text{Activity})$  and  $P(\text{Mood})$ ?

$P(\text{Activity})$

| Activity (A) | P    |
|--------------|------|
| study        | 0.60 |
| cry          | 0.40 |

$P(\text{Mood})$

| Mood (M) | P    |
|----------|------|
| happy    | 0.50 |
| sad      | 0.50 |

| Activity (A) | Mood (M) | P    |
|--------------|----------|------|
| study        | happy    | 0.45 |
| cry          | happy    | 0.05 |
| study        | sad      | 0.15 |
| cry          | sad      | 0.35 |



# Recap: Conditional probability (pair-share)

What is the **conditional probability**  $P(\text{Activity} = \text{study} | \text{Mood} = \text{happy})$ ?

Whats the **conditional distribution** of  $P(\text{Activity} | \text{Mood} = \text{happy})$ ?

| Activity (A) | Mood (M) | P    |
|--------------|----------|------|
| study        | happy    | 0.45 |
| cry          | happy    | 0.05 |
| study        | sad      | 0.15 |
| cry          | sad      | 0.35 |

$P(\text{Activity} | \text{Mood} = \text{happy})$

| Activity (A) | $P(A   M = \text{happy})$ |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| study        |                           |
| cry          |                           |

# Recap: Conditional probability (pair-share)

What is the **conditional probability**  $P(\text{Activity} = \text{study} | \text{Mood} = \text{happy})$ ?

Whats the **conditional distribution** of  $P(\text{Activity} | \text{Mood} = \text{happy})$ ?

| Activity (A) | Mood (M) | P    |
|--------------|----------|------|
| study        | happy    | 0.45 |
| cry          | happy    | 0.05 |
| study        | sad      | 0.15 |
| cry          | sad      | 0.35 |

$P(\text{Activity} | \text{Mood} = \text{happy})$

| Activity (A) | $P(A   M = \text{happy})$     |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| study        | $0.45 / (0.45 + 0.05) = 0.90$ |
| cry          | $0.05 / (0.45 + 0.05) = 0.10$ |

# Today: Learning outcomes

From this lecture, students are expected to be able to:

- Use inference by enumeration
  - to compute joint posterior probability distributions over any subset of variables given evidence
- Define and use marginal independence
- Define and use conditional independence

# Lecture outline

- Recap
- Inference with enumeration 📌
- Marginal independence
- Conditional independence
- Bayesian networks (time permitting)

# Probabilistic inference

- Compute a desired probability from other known probabilities
- We generally compute conditional probabilities  
Example:  $P(\text{study} \mid \text{happy}) = 0.90$
- These represent the agent's beliefs given the evidence
- Probabilities change with new evidence:  
Example:  $P(\text{study} \mid \text{happy, exams\_finished}) = 0.60$

# Inference by enumeration

With conditional probability, we can compute arbitrary probabilities now!

Given: **Prior** joint probability distribution (JPD) on set of variables  $X$  and specific values  $e$  for the **evidence** variables  $E$  (subset of  $X$ ).

We want to compute: **Posterior** joint distribution of query variables  $Y$  (a subset of  $X$ ) given evidence  $e$ .

Step 1: Condition to get distribution  $P(X | e)$

Step 2: Marginalize to get distribution  $P(Y | e)$

# Inference by enumeration

Given  $P(X)$  as JPD below, and evidence  $e = \text{“Wind=yes”}$

What is the probability it is **hot**?

Step 1: condition to get distribution  $P(X | e)$

$P(\text{Temperature=hot} \mid \text{Wind=yes})?$

| Wind (N) | Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(N,W,T) |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| yes      | sunny       | hot             | 0.04     |
| yes      | sunny       | mild            | 0.09     |
| yes      | sunny       | cold            | 0.07     |
| yes      | cloudy      | hot             | 0.01     |
| yes      | cloudy      | mild            | 0.10     |
| yes      | cloudy      | cold            | 0.12     |
| no       | sunny       | hot             | 0.06     |
| no       | sunny       | mild            | 0.11     |
| no       | sunny       | cold            | 0.03     |
| no       | cloudy      | hot             | 0.04     |
| no       | cloudy      | mild            | 0.25     |
| no       | cloudy      | cold            | 0.08     |

# Inference by enumeration

Given  $P(X)$  as JPD below, and evidence  $e = \text{“Wind=yes”}$

What is the probability it is **hot**?

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$P(\text{Temperature=hot} \mid \text{Wind=yes})?$

| Wind (N) | Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(N,W,T) |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| yes      | sunny       | hot             | 0.04     |
| yes      | sunny       | mild            | 0.09     |
| yes      | sunny       | cold            | 0.07     |
| yes      | cloudy      | hot             | 0.01     |
| yes      | cloudy      | mild            | 0.10     |
| yes      | cloudy      | cold            | 0.12     |
| no       | sunny       | hot             | 0.06     |
| no       | sunny       | mild            | 0.11     |
| no       | sunny       | cold            | 0.03     |
| no       | cloudy      | hot             | 0.04     |
| no       | cloudy      | mild            | 0.25     |
| no       | cloudy      | cold            | 0.08     |

| Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(W,T   N = yes) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| sunny       | hot             |                  |
| sunny       | mild            |                  |
| sunny       | cold            |                  |
| cloudy      | hot             |                  |
| cloudy      | mild            |                  |
| cloudy      | cold            |                  |

$$\begin{aligned} &P(W = w \wedge T = t \mid N = \text{yes}) \\ &= \frac{P(W = w \wedge T = t \wedge N = \text{yes})}{P(N = \text{yes})} \end{aligned}$$



# Inference by enumeration

Given  $P(X)$  as JPD below, and evidence  $e = \text{"Wind=yes"}$

What is the probability it is **hot**?

Step 1: condition to get distribution  $P(X|e)$

$P(\text{Temperature=hot} \mid \text{Wind=yes})?$

| Wind (N) | Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(N,W,T) |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| yes      | sunny       | hot             | 0.04     |
| yes      | sunny       | mild            | 0.09     |
| yes      | sunny       | cold            | 0.07     |
| yes      | cloudy      | hot             | 0.01     |
| yes      | cloudy      | mild            | 0.10     |
| yes      | cloudy      | cold            | 0.12     |
| no       | sunny       | hot             | 0.06     |
| no       | sunny       | mild            | 0.11     |
| no       | sunny       | cold            | 0.03     |
| no       | cloudy      | hot             | 0.04     |
| no       | cloudy      | mild            | 0.25     |
| no       | cloudy      | cold            | 0.08     |

| Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(W,T   N = yes)         |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| sunny       | hot             | $0.04/0.43 \approx 0.10$ |
| sunny       | mild            | $0.09/0.43 \approx 0.21$ |
| sunny       | cold            | $0.07/0.43 \approx 0.16$ |
| cloudy      | hot             | $0.01/0.43 \approx 0.02$ |
| cloudy      | mild            | $0.10/0.43 \approx 0.23$ |
| cloudy      | cold            | $0.12/0.43 \approx 0.28$ |

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(W = w \wedge T = t \mid N = \text{yes}) \\
 &= \frac{P(W = w \wedge T = t \wedge N = \text{yes})}{P(N = \text{yes})}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Inference by enumeration

Given  $P(X)$  as JPD below, and evidence  $e = \text{"Wind=yes"}$

What is the probability it is **hot**?

Step 2: marginalize to get distribution  $P(Y|e)$

$P(\text{Temperature=hot} \mid \text{Wind=yes})?$

$= 0.12$


| Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | $P(W,T \mid N = \text{yes})$ |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| sunny       | hot             | 0.10                         |
| sunny       | mild            | 0.21                         |
| sunny       | cold            | 0.16                         |
| cloudy      | hot             | 0.02                         |
| cloudy      | mild            | 0.23                         |
| cloudy      | cold            | 0.28                         |

| Temperature (T) | $P(T \mid N = \text{yes})$ |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| hot             | $0.10 + 0.02 = 0.12$       |
| mild            | $0.21 + 0.23 = 0.44$       |
| cold            | $0.16 + 0.28 = 0.44$       |

# Space complexity for inference by enumeration



If all entries are Boolean, how many entries does the joint probability distribution (JPD)  $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$  have?

A.  $2^n$  

C.  $2n$

B.  $2 + n$

D.  $n^2$

# Problems of inference by enumeration

- If we have  $n$  variables and  $d$  is the size of the the largest domain, what's the space complexity to store the joint distribution?
  - We need to store the probability for each possible world
  - There are  $O(d^n)$  possible worlds, so the space complexity is  $O(d^n)$
- How do we find the numbers for  $O(d^n)$  entries?
- Time complexity  $O(d^n)$
- We have some of our basic tools, but to gain computational efficiency we need to do more
- We will exploit (conditional) independence between variables

# Lecture outline

- Recap
- Inference with enumeration
- Marginal independence 📌
- Conditional independence
- Bayesian networks (time permitting)

# Marginal independence: example

Some variables are independent: Knowing the value of one does not tell you anything about the other.

Example: variables  $W$ (weather) and  $R$  (result of a die throw)

Let's compare  $P(W)$  vs.  $P(W \mid R = 6)$ .

| Weather (W) | Result (R) | $P(W,R)$ |
|-------------|------------|----------|
| sunny       | 1          | 0.066    |
| sunny       | 2          | 0.066    |
| sunny       | 3          | 0.066    |
| sunny       | 4          | 0.066    |
| sunny       | 5          | 0.066    |
| sunny       | 6          | 0.066    |
| cloudy      | 1          | 0.1      |
| cloudy      | 2          | 0.1      |
| cloudy      | 3          | 0.1      |
| cloudy      | 4          | 0.1      |
| cloudy      | 5          | 0.1      |
| cloudy      | 6          | 0.1      |

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Let's compare  
 $P(W)$  vs.  $P(W \mid R = 6)$ .

What's  $P(W = \text{cloudy})$ ?

| Weather<br>(W) | Result<br>(R) | $P(W,R)$ |
|----------------|---------------|----------|
| sunny          | 1             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 2             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 3             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 4             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 5             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 6             | 0.066    |
| cloudy         | 1             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 2             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 3             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 4             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 5             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 6             | 0.1      |

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Knowing the value of one does not  
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Example: variables  $W$ (weather) and  $R$  (result of  
a die throw)

Let's compare  
 $P(W)$  vs.  $P(W \mid R = 6)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P(W = \text{cloudy}) &= \sum_{r \in \text{dom}R} P(W = \text{cloudy}, R = r) \\ &= 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 \\ &= \textcircled{0.6} \end{aligned}$$

| Weather<br>(W) | Result<br>(R) | P(W,R) |
|----------------|---------------|--------|
| sunny          | 1             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 2             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 3             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 4             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 5             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 6             | 0.066  |
| cloudy         | 1             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 2             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 3             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 4             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 5             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 6             | 0.1    |



# Marginal independence: example

Some variables are independent:  
Knowing the value of one does not  
tell you anything about the other.

Example: variables  $W$ (weather) and  $R$  (result of a  
die throw)

Let's compare  
 $P(W)$  vs.  $P(W \mid R = 6)$ .

$P(W = \text{cloudy} \mid R = 6)$

$$= \frac{P(W = \text{cloudy} \wedge R = 6)}{P(R = 6)} = \frac{0.1}{0.1 + 0.066}$$

$$= 0.6$$

| Weather<br>(W) | Result<br>(R) | P(W,R) |
|----------------|---------------|--------|
| sunny          | 1             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 2             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 3             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 4             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 5             | 0.066  |
| sunny          | 6             | 0.066  |
| cloudy         | 1             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 2             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 3             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 4             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 5             | 0.1    |
| cloudy         | 6             | 0.1    |

# Marginal independence: example

Some variables are independent:  
Knowing the value of one does not  
tell you anything about the other.

Example: variables  $W$ (weather)  
and  $R$  (result of a die throw)

Let's compare  
 $P(W)$  vs.  $P(W \mid R = 6)$ .

$P(W = \text{cloudy}) = P(W = \text{cloudy} \mid R = 6) = \mathbf{0.6}$

| Weather<br>(W) | Result<br>(R) | $P(W,R)$ |
|----------------|---------------|----------|
| sunny          | 1             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 2             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 3             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 4             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 5             | 0.066    |
| sunny          | 6             | 0.066    |
| cloudy         | 1             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 2             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 3             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 4             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 5             | 0.1      |
| cloudy         | 6             | 0.1      |

# Marginal independence: example

Some variables are independent:  
Knowing the value of one does not  
tell you anything about the other.

Example: variables  $W$ (weather) and  $R$   
(result of a die throw)

Let's compare  $P(W)$  vs.  $P(W \mid R = 6)$ .

| Weather ( $W$ ) | $P(W)$ |
|-----------------|--------|
| sunny           | 0.4    |
| cloudy          | 0.6    |

| Weather ( $W$ ) | $P(W \mid R=6)$       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| sunny           | $0.066 / 0.166 = 0.4$ |
| cloudy          | $0.1 / 0.166 = 0.6$   |

The two distributions are identical!!  
Knowing the result of the die does  
not change our belief in the weather

| Weather ( $W$ ) | Result ( $R$ ) | $P(W,R)$ |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| sunny           | 1              | 0.066    |
| sunny           | 2              | 0.066    |
| sunny           | 3              | 0.066    |
| sunny           | 4              | 0.066    |
| sunny           | 5              | 0.066    |
| sunny           | 6              | 0.066    |
| cloudy          | 1              | 0.1      |
| cloudy          | 2              | 0.1      |
| cloudy          | 3              | 0.1      |
| cloudy          | 4              | 0.1      |
| cloudy          | 5              | 0.1      |
| cloudy          | 6              | 0.1      |

# Marginal independence

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (marginally) independent of random variable  $Y$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k) = P(X = x_i)$$

Intuitively, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are **marginally independent**, then

- Learning that  $Y = y$  does not change your belief in  $X$
- And this is true for **all** values  $y$  that  $Y$  could take.

In the example we saw before, weather is marginally independent of the results of a dice throw.

# Marginal independence (pair-share)

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (marginally) independent of random variable  $Y$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k) = P(X = x_i)$$

Are weather and temperature marginally independent? Why or why not?



| Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(W,T) |
|-------------|-----------------|--------|
| sunny       | hot             | 0.10   |
| sunny       | mild            | 0.20   |
| sunny       | cold            | 0.10   |
| cloudy      | hot             | 0.05   |
| cloudy      | mild            | 0.35   |
| cloudy      | cold            | 0.20   |

# Marginal independence (pair-share)

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (marginally) independent of random variable  $Y$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k) = P(X = x_i)$$

Are weather and temperature marginally independent? Why or why not?

No we saw before that knowing weather changes our belief about the temperature. For example:

$$P(\text{cold} | \text{sunny}) \neq p(\text{cold})$$

| Weather (W) | Temperature (T) | P(W,T) |
|-------------|-----------------|--------|
| sunny       | hot             | 0.10   |
| sunny       | mild            | 0.20   |
| sunny       | cold            | 0.10   |
| cloudy      | hot             | 0.05   |
| cloudy      | mild            | 0.35   |
| cloudy      | cold            | 0.20   |

# Marginal independence (pair-share)

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (marginally) independent of random variable  $Y$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k) = P(X = x_i)$$

A and B are results of two tosses of a fair coin.

Are A and B marginally independent?



Yes.

| A     | B     | P(A, B) |
|-------|-------|---------|
| heads | heads | 0.25    |
| heads | tails | 0.25    |
| tails | heads | 0.25    |
| tails | tails | 0.25    |

# Marginal independence (pair-share)

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (marginally) independent of random variable  $Y$  if, for all

$x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k) = P(X = x_i)$$

Intuitively (without numbers)

Boolean random variable  $W$ : “Canucks win the Stanley Cup this season”

Numerical random variable  $R$ : “Canucks’ revenue last season”

Are  $W$  and  $R$  marginally independent?



# Marginal independence (pair-share)

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (marginally) independent of random variable  $Y$  if, for all

$x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k) = P(X = x_i)$$

Intuitively (without numbers)

Boolean random variable  $W$ : “Canucks win the Stanley Cup this season”

Numerical random variable  $R$ : “Canucks’ revenue last season”

Are  $W$  and  $R$  marginally independent?

No because without the revenue they cannot afford to keep the best players. (Assuming that the revenue does influence how much money you can pay to the players.)

# Exploiting marginal independence

- Recall the product rule:  $P(f_2 \wedge f_1) = P(f_2 | f_1) \times P(f_1)$
- Thus  $P(X = x \wedge Y = y) = P(X = x | Y = y) \times P(Y = y)$
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are marginally independent,
- $P(X = x) = P(X = x | Y = y)$
- So  $P(X = x \wedge Y = y) = P(X = x) \times P(Y = y)$
- In distribution form:  $P(X, Y) = P(X) \times P(Y)$

# Exploiting marginal independence

In general, if  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are marginally independent, then we can represent their JPD as a **product of marginal distributions**

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i)$$

# Exploiting marginal independence



In general, if  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are marginally independent, then we can represent their JPD as a **product of marginal**

**distributions:**  $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i)$

If all entries are Boolean, how many entries would all **marginal distributions** have combined?

A.  $2^n$

B.  $2 + n$

C.  $2n$

D.  $n^2$



# Exploiting marginal independence

In general, if  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are marginally independent, then we can represent their JPD as a **product of marginal**


**distributions:**  $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i)$

If all entries are Boolean, how many entries would all marginal distributions have combined?  $2n$

Each of the  $n$  tables only has two entries:

$P(X_i) = \text{True}, P(X_i) = \text{False}$

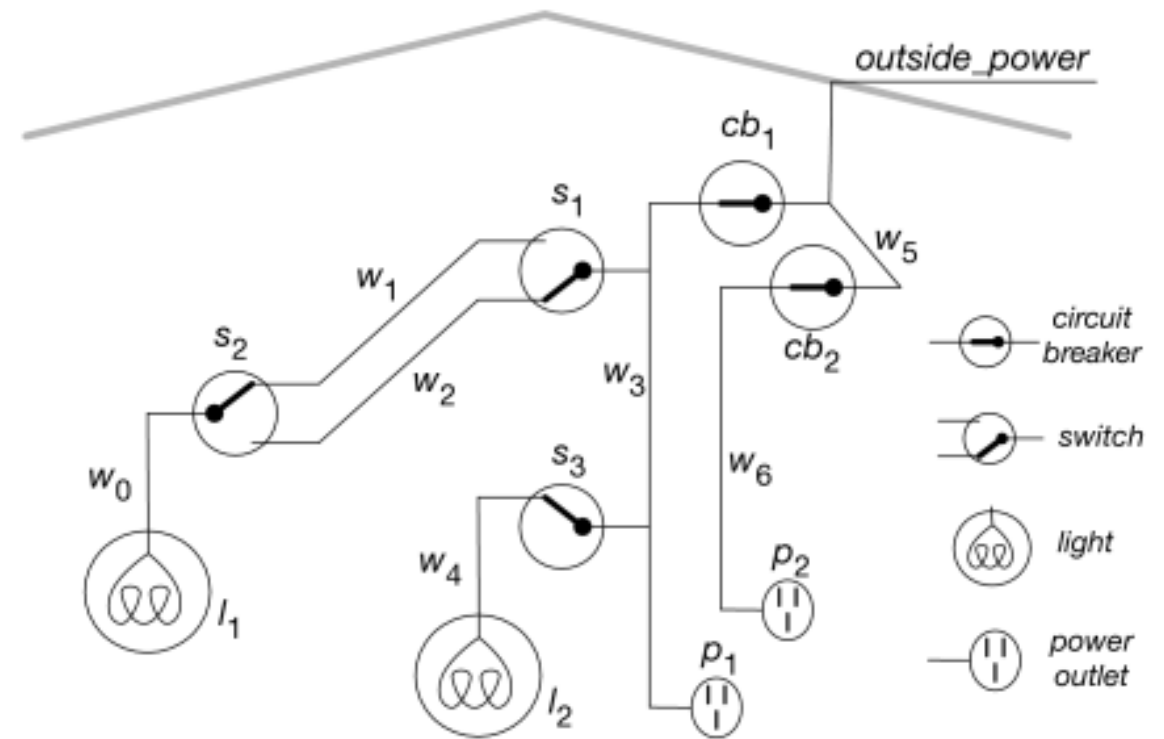
# Lecture outline

- Recap
- Inference with enumeration
- Marginal independence
- Conditional independence 
- Bayesian networks (time permitting)

# Conditional independence: example

Whether light  $l_1$  is lit or not is conditionally independent from the position of the switch  $s_2$  given whether there is power in  $w_0$ .

Once we know  $Power(w_0)$ , learning values from any other variable will not change our beliefs about  $Lit(l_1)$ .



$Lit(l_1)$  is independent of any other variable given  $Power(w_0)$

# Conditional independence

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is **conditionally independent** of random variable  $Y$  given random variable  $Z$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$ ,  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $z_n \in \text{dom}(Z)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j, Z = z_m) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k, Z = z_m) = P(X = x_i | Z = z_m)$$

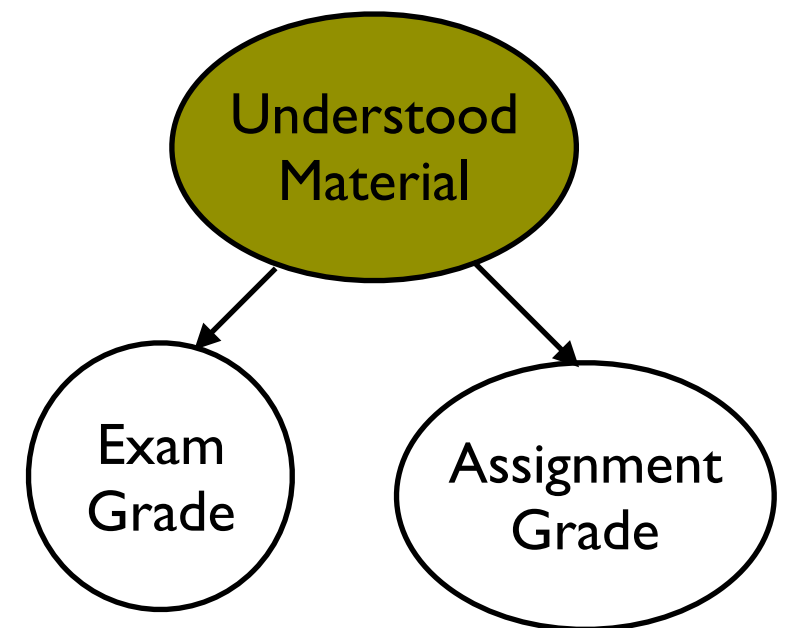
Intuitively: If  $X$  and  $Y$  are conditionally independent given  $Z$ ,

- then learning that  $Y = y$  does not change your belief in  $X$  when we already know  $Z = z$
- and this is true for all values  $y$  that  $Y$  could take and all values  $z$  that  $Z$  could take



# Conditionally but not marginally independent: example

- ExamGrade and AssignmentGrade are not marginally independent
  - Students who do well on one typically do well on the other
- But conditional on UnderstoodMaterial, ExamGrade and AssignmentGrade are independent
  - Variable UnderstoodMaterial is a common cause of variables ExamGrade and AssignmentGrade
  - UnderstoodMaterial shields any information we could get from AssignmentGrade



# Marginally but not conditionally independent: example

Two variables can be marginally but not conditionally independent

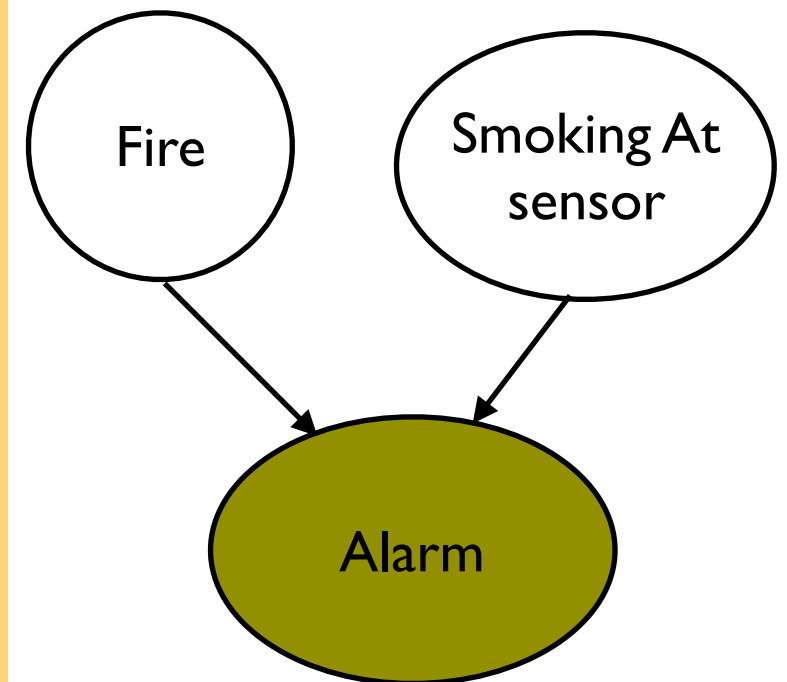
“Smoking At Sensor” (S): resident smokes cigarette next to fire sensor

“Fire” (F): there is a fire somewhere in the building

“Alarm” (A): the fire alarm rings

S and F are marginally independent: Learning  $S=\text{true}$  or  $S=\text{false}$  does not change your belief in F

But they are not conditionally independent given alarm: If the alarm rings and you learn  $S=\text{true}$  your belief in F decreases



# Conditional vs. marginal independence

Two variables can be

- Both marginally and conditionally independent  
CanucksWinStanleyCup and  $Lit(l_1)$   
CanucksWinStanleyCup and  $Lit(l_1)$  given  $Power(w_0)$
- Neither marginally nor conditionally independent  
Temperature and Cloudiness  
Temperature and Cloudiness given Wind
- Conditionally but not marginally independent  
ExamGrade and AssignmentGrade  
ExamGrade and AssignmentGrade given UnderstoodMaterial
- Marginally but not conditionally independent  
SmokingAtSensor and Fire  
SmokingAtSensor and Fire given Alarm

# Exploiting conditional independence

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (conditionally) independent of random variable  $Y$  given random variable  $Z$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$ ,  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $z_n \in \text{dom}(Z)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j, Z = z_m) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k, Z = z_m) = P(X = x_i | Z = z_m)$$

Example 1: Boolean variables A,B,C

C is conditionally independent of A given B

We can then rewrite  $P(C | A,B)$  as  $P(C|B)$

# Exploiting conditional independence

Definition: Random variable  $X$  is (conditionally) independent of random variable  $Y$  given random variable  $Z$  if, for all  $x_i \in \text{dom}(X)$ ,  $y_j \in \text{dom}(Y)$ ,  $y_k \in \text{dom}(Y)$  and  $z_n \in \text{dom}(Z)$ , the following equation holds.

$$P(X = x_i | Y = y_j, Z = z_m) = P(X = x_i | Y = y_k, Z = z_m) = P(X = x_i | Z = z_m)$$

Example 2: Consider Boolean variables A,B,C,D

D is conditionally independent of A given C and D is conditionally independent of B given C.

We can then rewrite  $P(D | A,B,C)$  as  $P(D|B,C)$

And can further rewrite  $P(D|B,C)$  as  $P(D|C)$

# Exploiting conditional independence

Recall the chain rule:

$$P(f_n \wedge \dots \wedge f_1) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(f_i | f_{i-1} \wedge \dots \wedge f_1)$$

Examples:

$$P(A, B, C, D) = P(A) \times P(B | A) \times P(C | A, B) \times P(D | A, B, C)$$


If  $D$ , for example, is conditionally independent of  $A$  and  $B$  given  $C$ , we can rewrite this as

$$P(A, B, C, D) = P(A) \times P(B | A) \times P(C | A, B) \times P(D | C)$$

# Conditional independence

- Under independence we gain **compactness**
- The chain rule lets us represent the JPD as a product of conditional distributions
- Conditional independence allows us to write them compactly

# Lecture outline

- Recap
- Inference with enumeration
- Marginal independence
- Conditional independence
- Bayesian networks (time permitting) 



# Bayesian networks: Motivation

We want a representation and reasoning system that is based on conditional (and marginal) independence

Compact yet expressive representation

Efficient reasoning procedures

# Bayesian networks: Motivation

- Bayes[ian] (Belief) Net[work]s are such a representation.
- Named after Thomas Bayes (1702 –1761)
- Term coined in 1985 by Judea Pearl
- Their invention changed the primary focus of AI from logic to probability!

Thomas Bayes



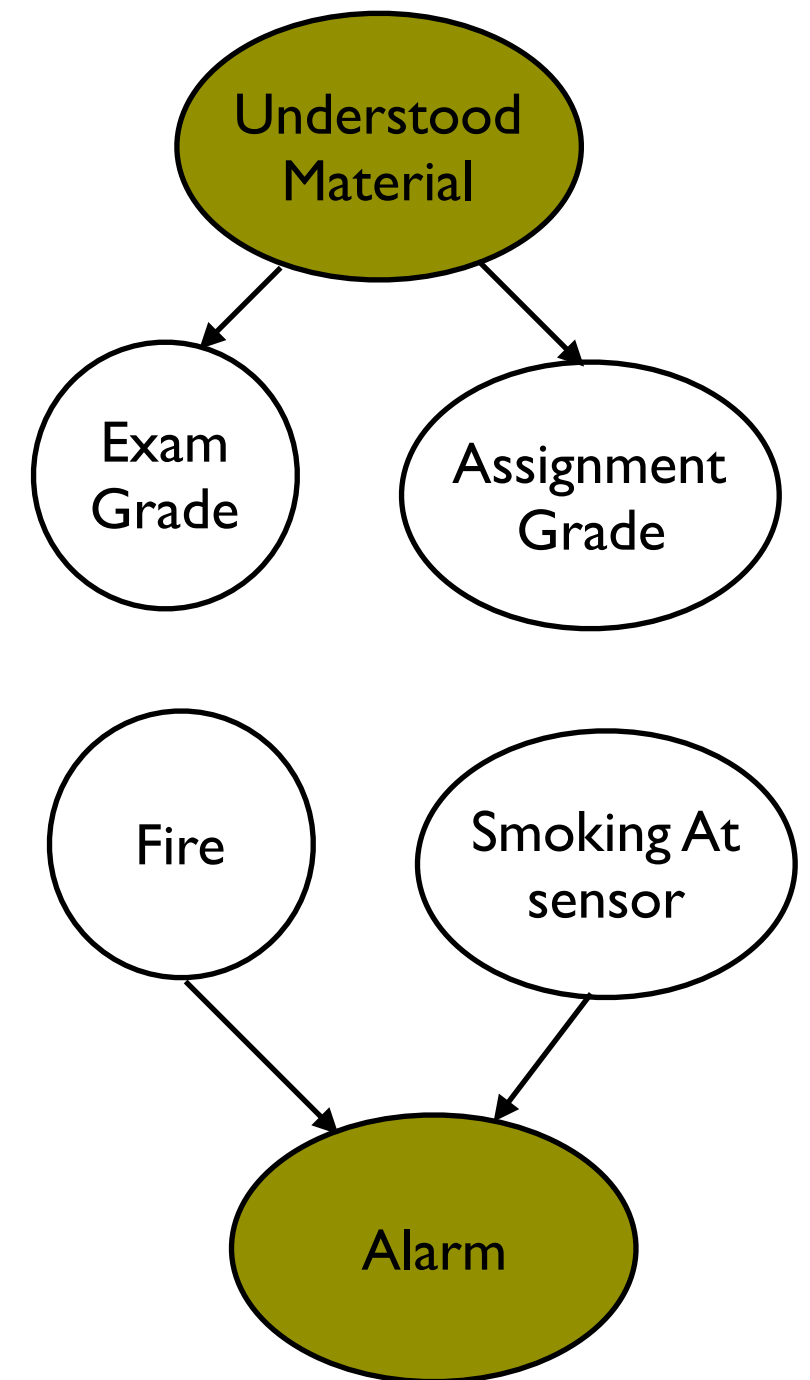
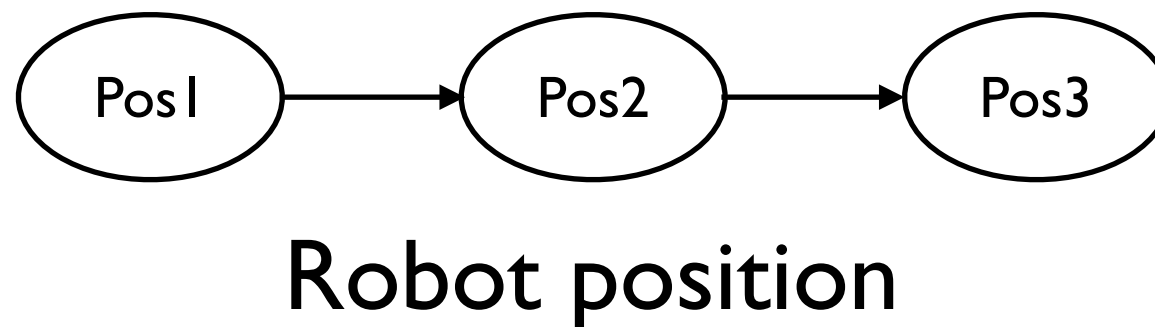
Judea Pearl



# Bayesian networks intuition

A **graphical representation** for a joint probability distribution

- Nodes are random variables
- Directed edges between nodes reflect dependence



# Summary

- Probability is a rigorous formalism for uncertain knowledge
- Joint probability distribution specifies probability of every possible world
- Queries can be answered by summing over possible worlds
- For nontrivial domains, we must find a way to reduce the joint distribution size
- Independence (*rare*) and conditional independence (*frequent*) provide the tools

# Coming up

8.3 Belief Networks

8.4 Probabilistic Inference

