

# Importance Sampling with Likelihood Weighting

## 1 Procedure for Importance Sampling

1. Start by setting the values of the evidence variables.
2. Each variable  $Z_i$  is sampled, conditioned on its parents in the Bayesian network.
3. The weight  $W(Z)$  for each sample is calculated as:

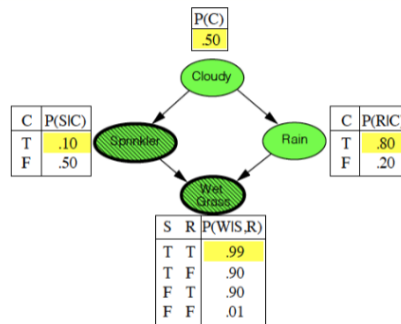
$$W(Z) = \frac{P(Z | e)}{Q_{ws}(Z)}$$

where:

- $P(Z | e)$  is the true probability of the event given the evidence.
  - $Q_{ws}(Z)$  is the proposal distribution based on likelihood weighting.
4. Multiply the weight by a normalizing factor  $\alpha$  such that the weights sum to 1. This ensures the weights correctly reflect probabilities.

## 2 Example: Bayesian Network Query

Consider the query  $P(\text{Rain} \mid \text{Cloudy} = \text{true}, \text{WetGrass} = \text{true})$  in a Bayesian network. The nodes are in topological order: Cloudy, Sprinkler, Rain, WetGrass.



## 2.1 Steps:

1. Set the initial weight  $W = 1.0$ .
2. Generate a sample event by setting the evidence variables and updating the weights as follows:
  - Sample Cloudy: Evidence variable Cloudy = true.
  - Update the weight:  $W = W \times P(\text{Cloudy} = \text{true}) = 1.0 \times 0.5 = 0.5$ .
  - Sample Sprinkler given Cloudy = true: Sprinkler = false.
  - Sample Rain given Cloudy = true: Rain = true.
3. Now consider the evidence variable WetGrass = true:
  - Update the weight again:

$$W = W \times P(\text{WetGrass} = \text{true} \mid \text{Sprinkler} = \text{false}, \text{Rain} = \text{true}) = 0.5 \times 0.9 = 0.45$$

## 2.2 Final Result:

The final event sampled is (Cloudy = true, Sprinkler = false, Rain = true, WetGrass = true), and the associated weight is 0.45.