

# Independence

Two variables are **independent** if:  $\forall x, y \ P(x, y) = P(x)P(y)$

We denote this as  $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$

# Conditional Independence

$X$  is **conditionally independent** of  $Y$  given  $Z$

if and only if:  $\forall x, y, z : P(x, y|z) = P(x|z)P(y|z)$

or, equivalently, if and only if  $\forall x, y, z : P(x|z, y) = P(x|z)$

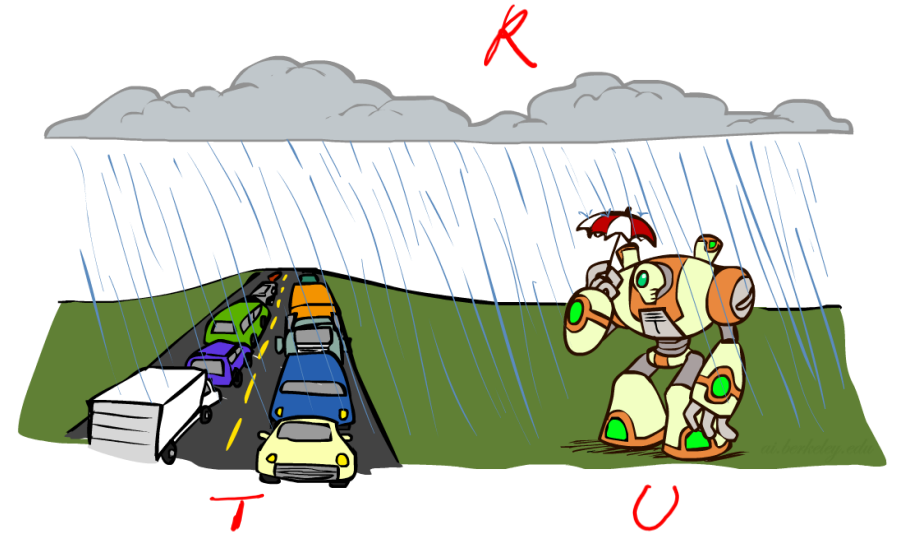
$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y|Z$$

# Conditional Independence

Traffic, Umbrella, Raining

$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y | Z$$

↑  
Raining



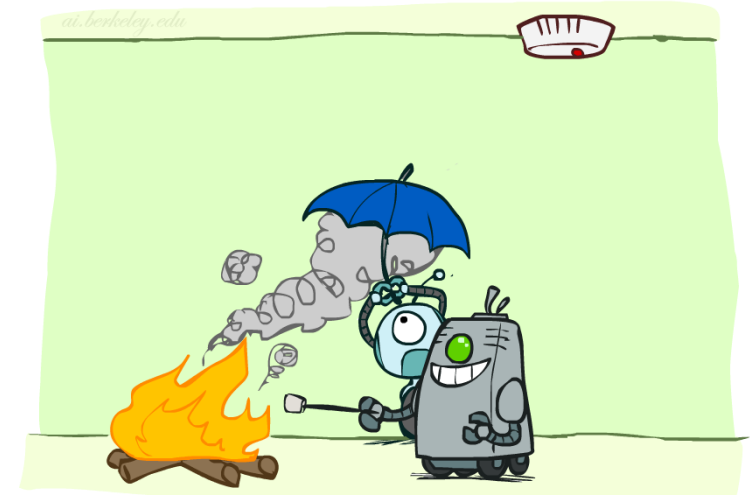
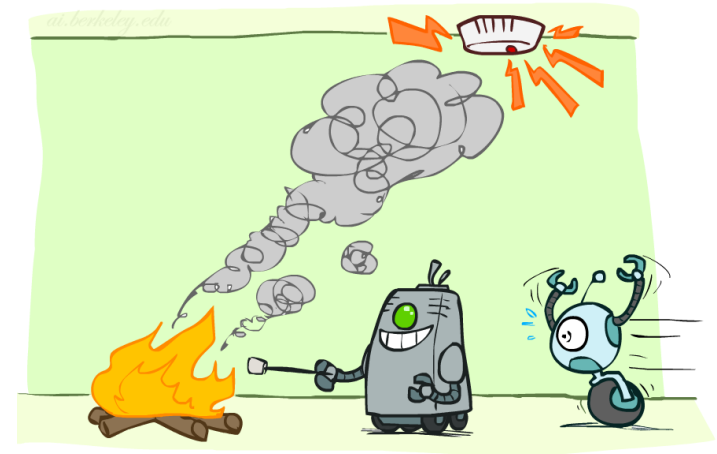
$$T \perp\!\!\!\perp U ?$$
$$\boxed{T \perp\!\!\!\perp U | R}$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$P(T | R, U) = P(T | R)$$

# Conditional Independence

Fire, Smoke, Alarm  
(Smoke detector)

$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y / Z$$

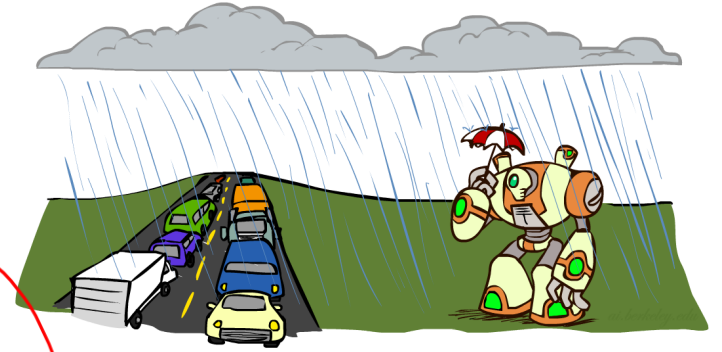
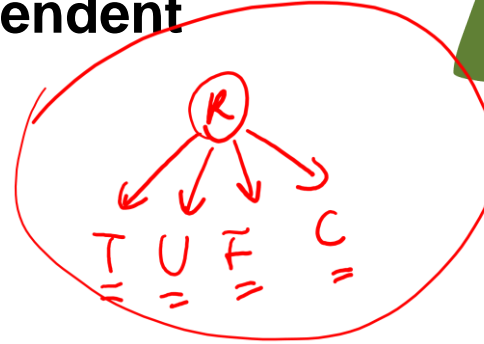
$$P(\text{Alarm} \mid \text{Smoke}) \stackrel{?}{=} P(\text{Alarm} \mid \text{Smoke}, \text{Fire})$$



# Independence vs. Conditional Independence

Rain  
Traffic  
Pedestrian holding umbrella  
Flood in the house  
Trip cancelled  
...

**Dependent**



$$P(\text{Traffic} \mid \text{Rain}, \text{Umbrella}) = P(\text{Traffic} \mid \text{Rain}) \quad \text{Conditional Independent}$$

Conditional distribution / independence allows us to model the probability of a certain event only using relevant factors.

# Bayesian Networks

Bayes Net

# Bayesian Network Example

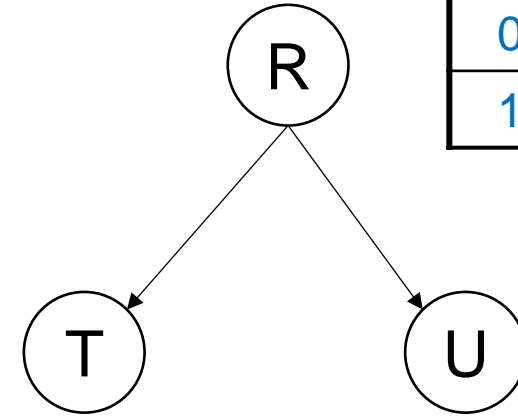
Traffic, Umbrella, Raining

$$P(t, u, r)$$

$$= P(r) P(t \mid r) P(u \mid r, t) \text{ (always hold by chain rule)}$$

$$= P(r) P(t \mid r) P(u \mid r)$$

$$T \perp\!\!\!\perp U \mid R$$



R	P(R)
0	0.7
1	0.3

R	T	P(T R)
0	0	0.5
0	1	0.5
1	0	0.2
1	1	0.8

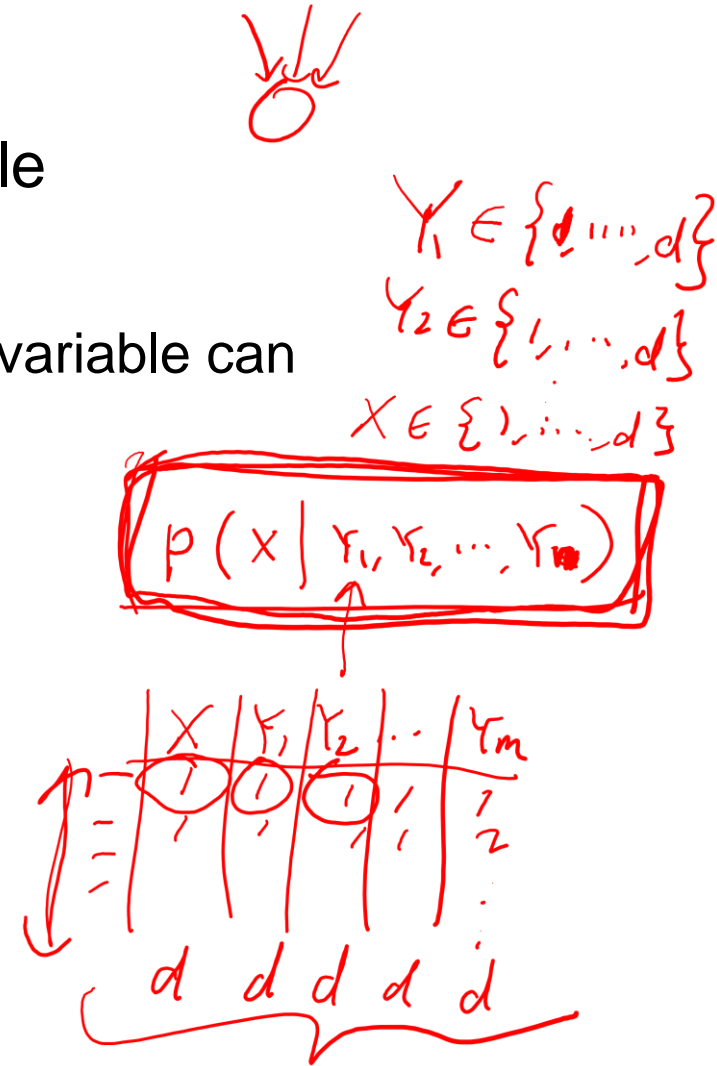
R	U	P(U R)
0	0	0.8
0	1	0.2
1	0	0.1
1	1	0.9

# Bayesian Network (BN)

- A directed, acyclic graph, one node per random variable
- A conditional probability table (CPT) for each node
  - Suppose a node as  $m$  parents, and suppose each random variable can take  $d$  different values
  - What is the size of the table?
- The BN models the joint probability as

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

# rows =  $d^{m+1}$





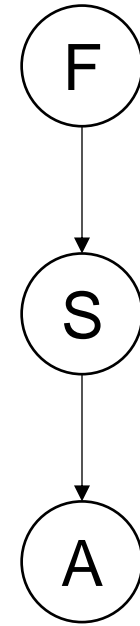
# Bayesian Network Example

Fire, Smoke, Alarm

$$P(f, s, a) = P(f) P(s | f) P(a | s) \quad (\text{by BN semantics})$$

Prove  $F \perp\!\!\!\perp A \mid S$ ?

$$P(f) P(s | f) P(a | s, f)$$



# Bayesian Network Example

Earthquake, Smoke, Alarm

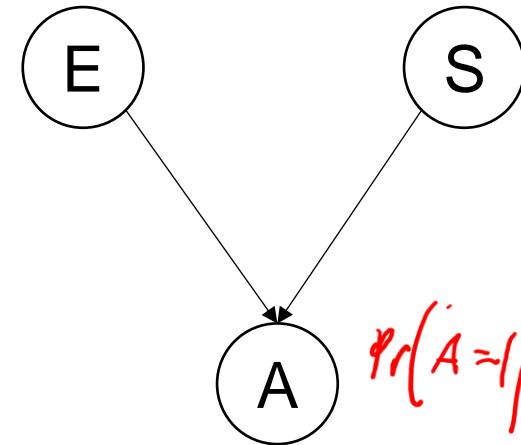
$$P(e, s, a) = P(e) P(s) P(a | e, s)$$

$E \perp\!\!\!\perp S$  ? *Yes*       $E \perp\!\!\!\perp S | A$  ? *No*

$$10^{-6}$$

E	P(E)
0	0.999
1	0.001

S	P(S)
0	0.999
1	0.001



$$P(A=1 | E, S) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } E=1 \text{ or } S=1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Pr( Earthquake | Alarm)    ?    Pr( Earthquake | Alarm, Smoke)

**“Explain away”**

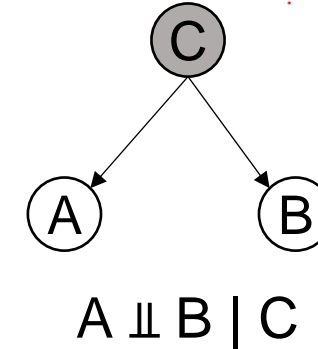
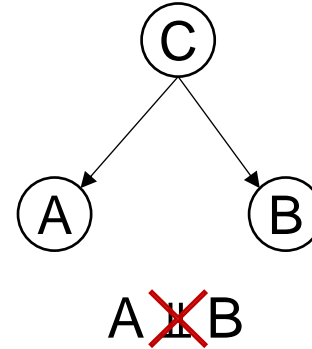
*1/2*

*0.001*

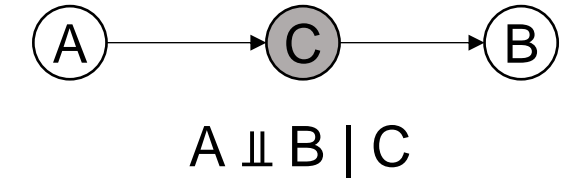
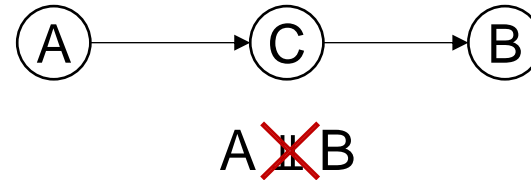
# Recap

- Common cause

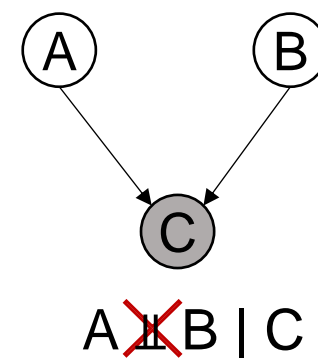
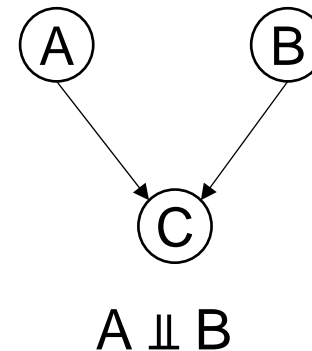
A and B are not independent *in general*  
They could still be independent *in special cases*



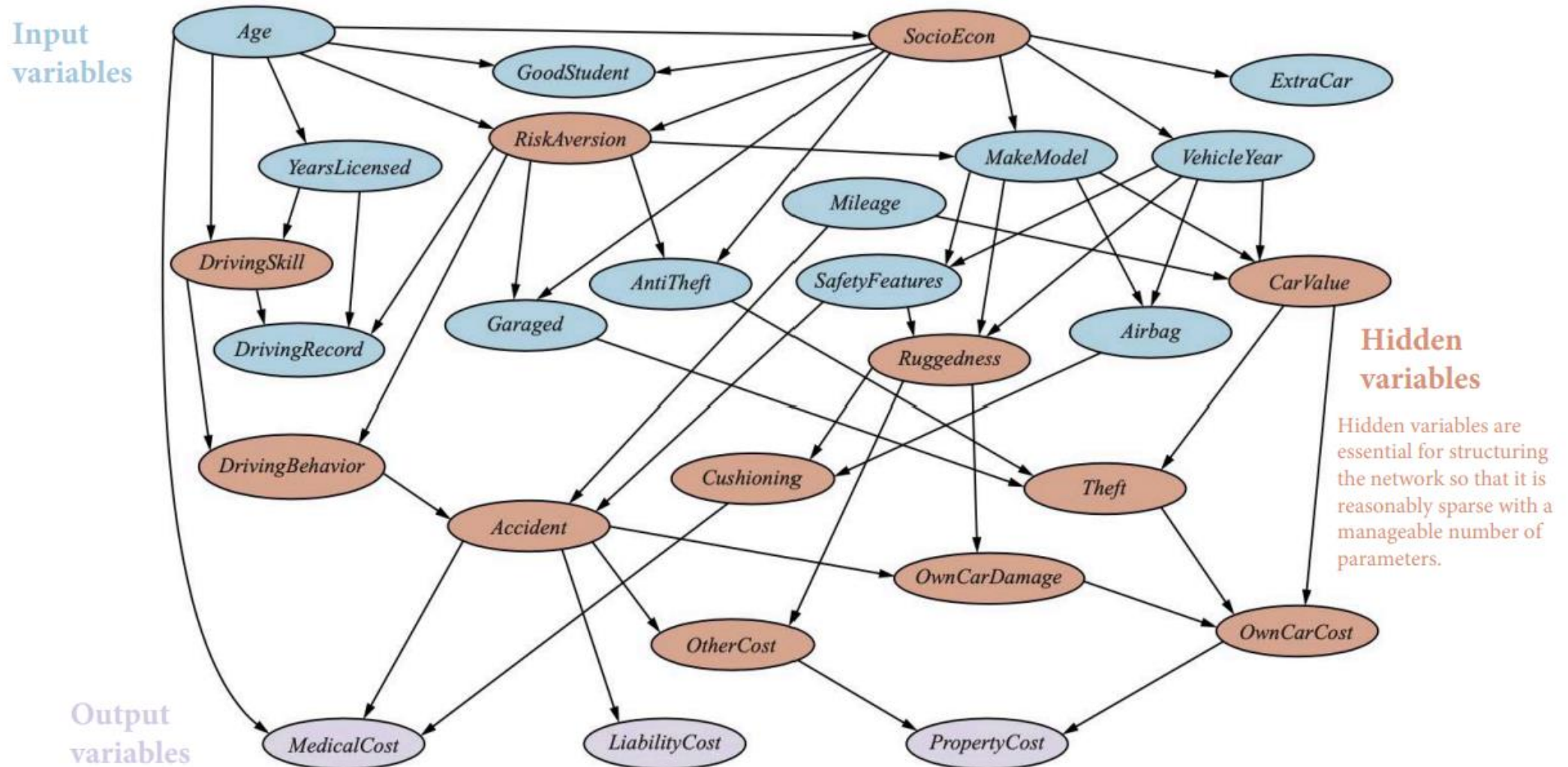
- Causal chain



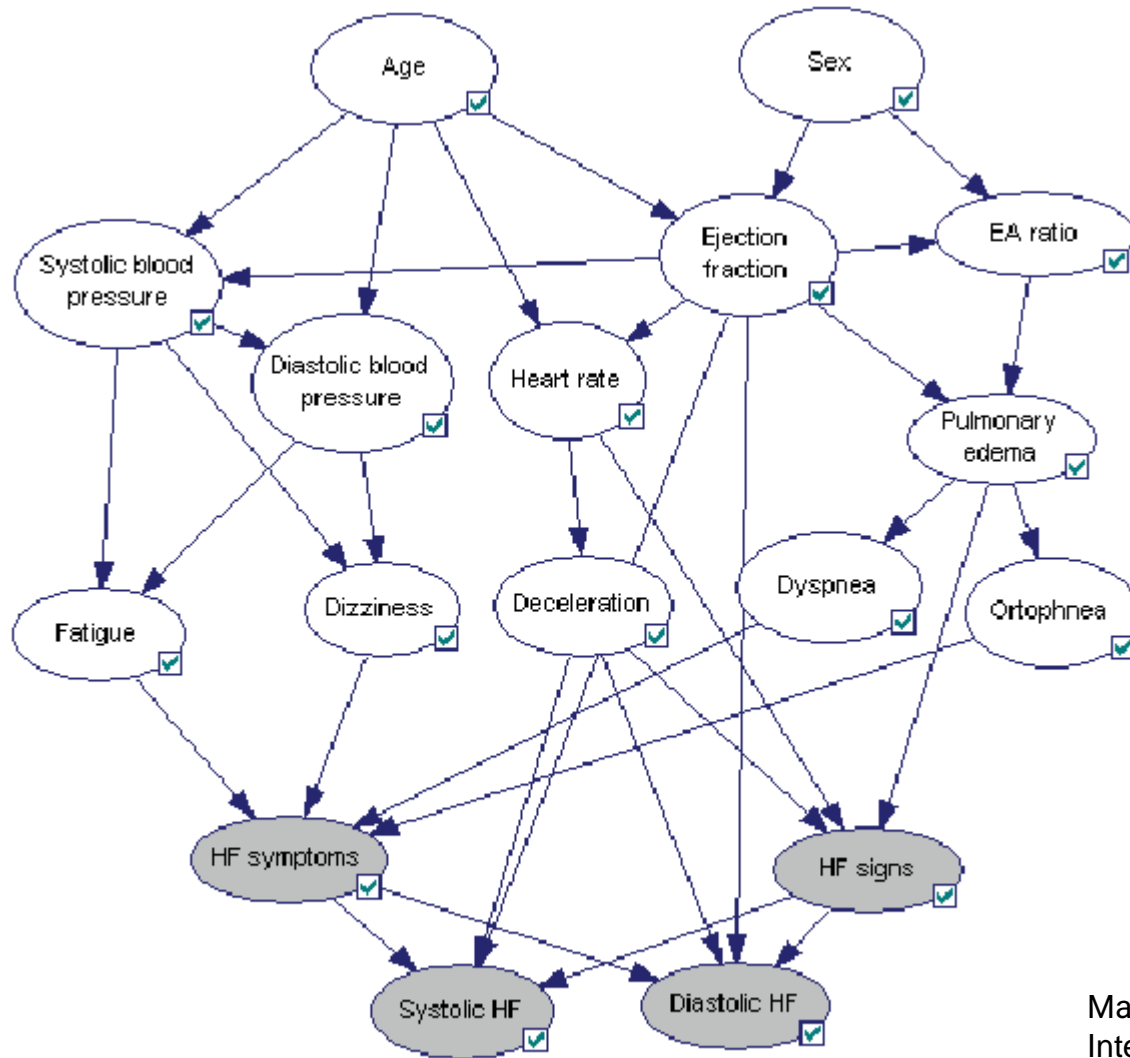
- Common effect



# Example: Car Insurance



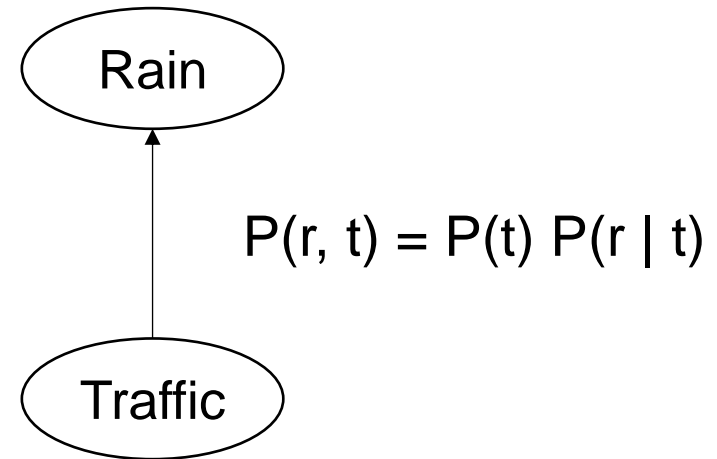
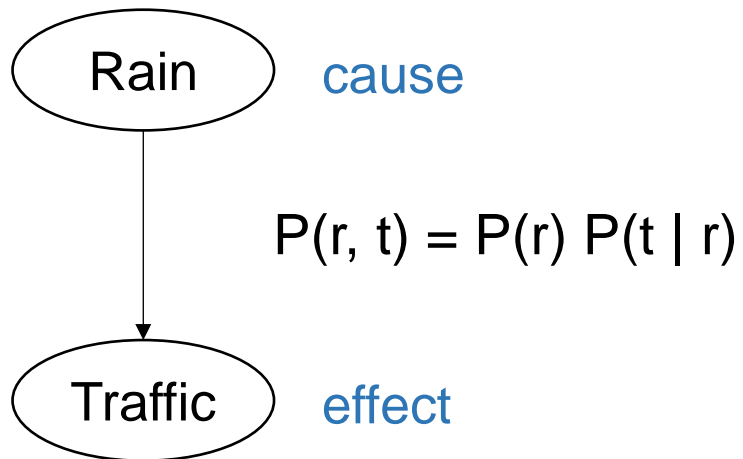
# Example: Medical Diagnosis



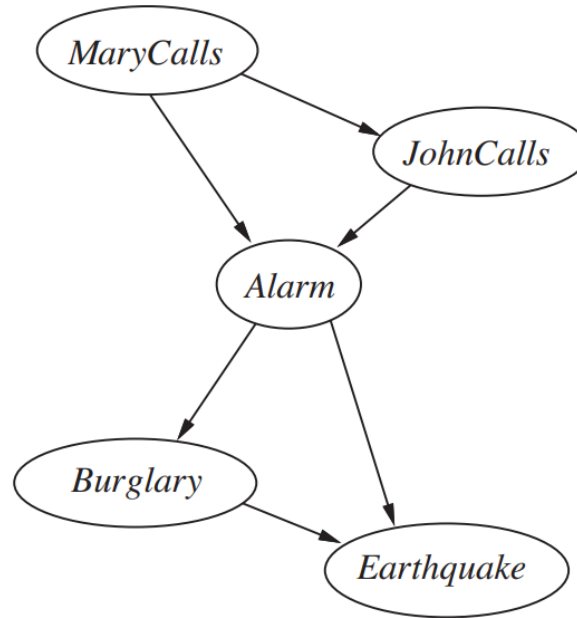
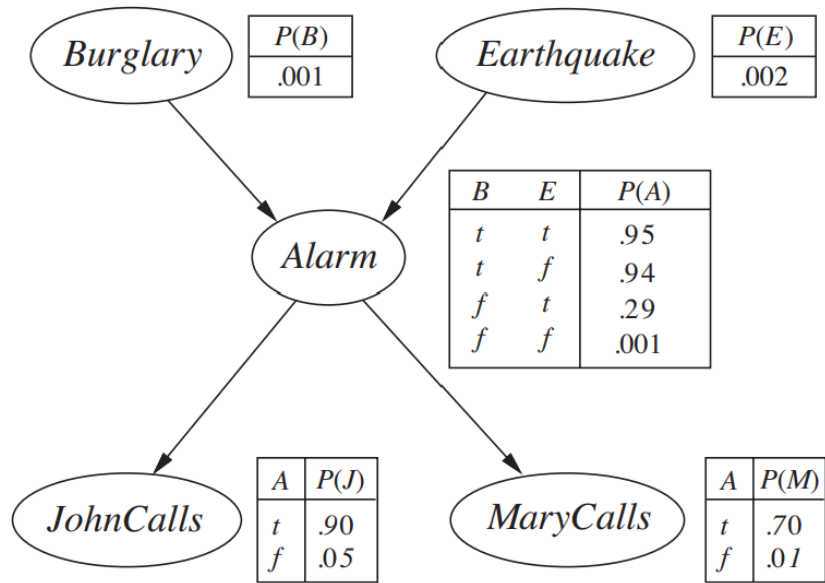
Marin Prcela et al. Information Gain of Structured Medical Diagnostic Tests - Integration of Bayesian Networks and Ontologies

# Causality?

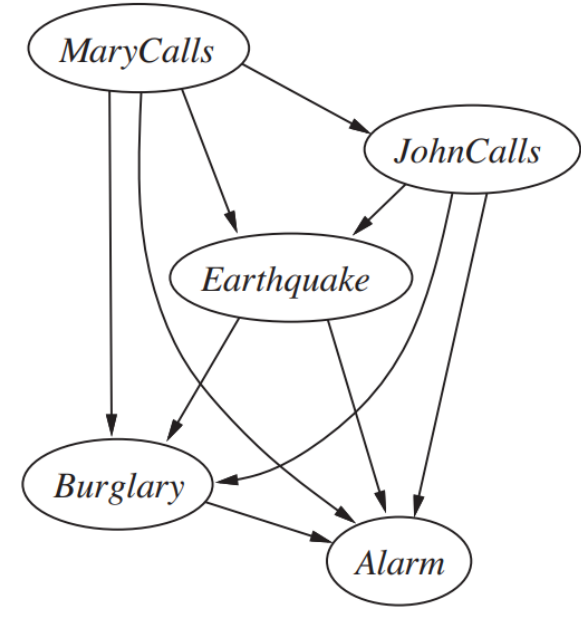
- When Bayes' nets reflect the true causal patterns:
  - Often simpler (nodes have fewer parents) and easier to think about
- BNs need not be causal
  - Sometimes no causal net exists over the domain (especially if variables are missing)
  - Arrows that reflect correlation, but not necessary causality



# Causality?



(a)



(b)

# Independence Given Evidence

**General question:** Are two variables  $X$ ,  $Y$  independent of each other conditioned on  $Z = \{Z_1, Z_2, \dots\}$ ?

Or: Are  $X$  and  $Y$  “**D-separated**” by  $Z$ ?

## Algorithm

1. Consider just the **ancestral subgraph** consisting of  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$ , and their ancestors.
2. Add links between any unlinked pair of nodes that share a common child; now we have the so-called **moral graph**.
3. Replace all directed links by undirected links.
4. If  $Z$  blocks all paths between  $X$  and  $Y$  in the resulting graph, then  $Z$  d-separates  $X$  and  $Y$ .



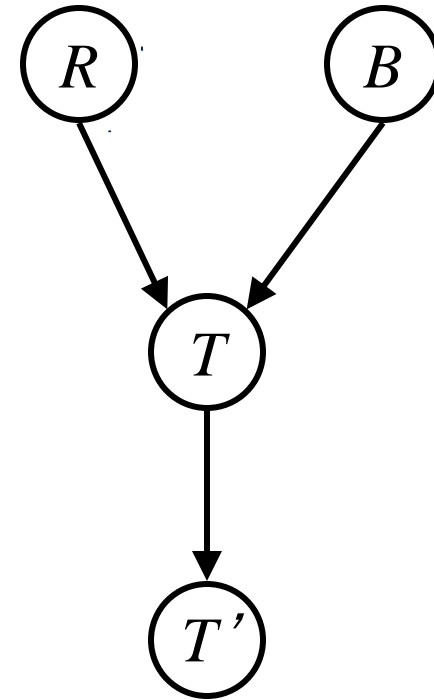
# Example

$$R \perp\!\!\!\perp B$$

*Yes*

$$R \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T$$

$$R \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T'$$



# Example

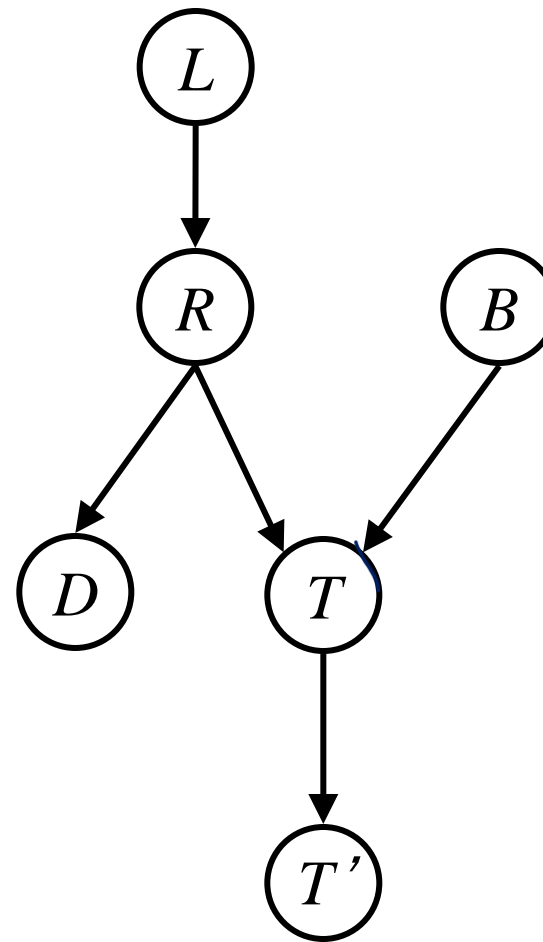
$\underline{L} \perp\!\!\!\perp T' | T$       *Yes*

$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B$       *Yes*

$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T$

$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T'$

$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T, R$       *Yes*



# Example

- Variables:
  - R: Raining
  - T: Traffic
  - D: Roof drips
  - S: I'm sad

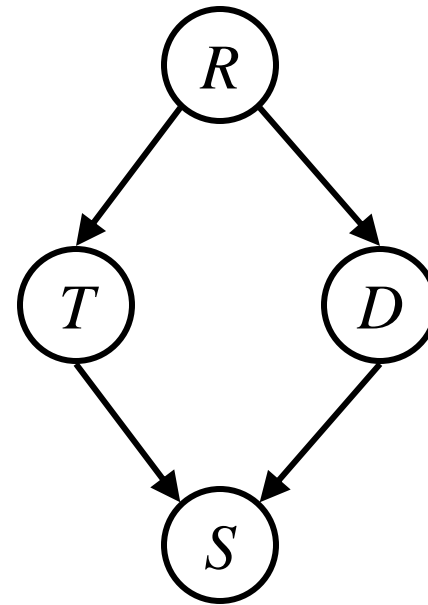
- Questions:

$$T \perp\!\!\!\perp D$$

$$T \perp\!\!\!\perp D | R$$

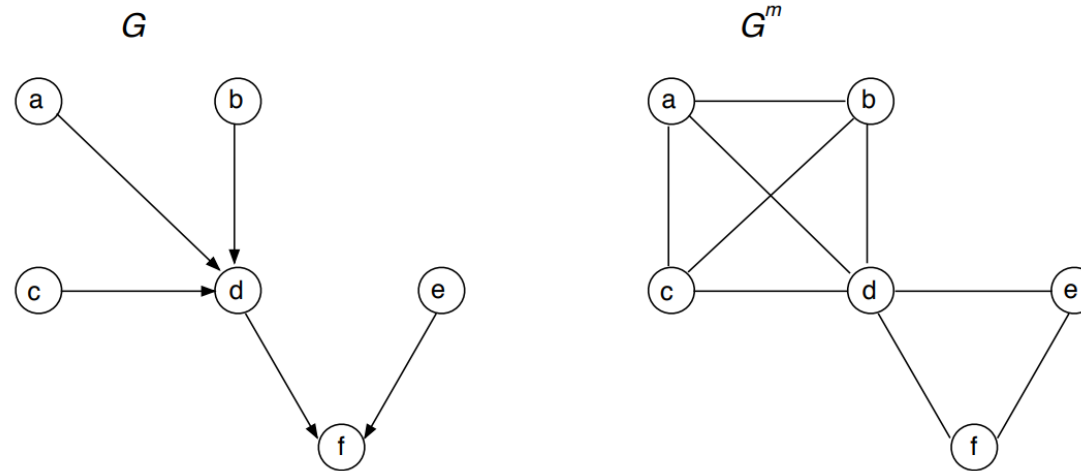
$$T \perp\!\!\!\perp D | R, S$$

Yes



# Proof Sketch

**Statement:** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are separated by  $Z$  in the moral graph, then  $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z$

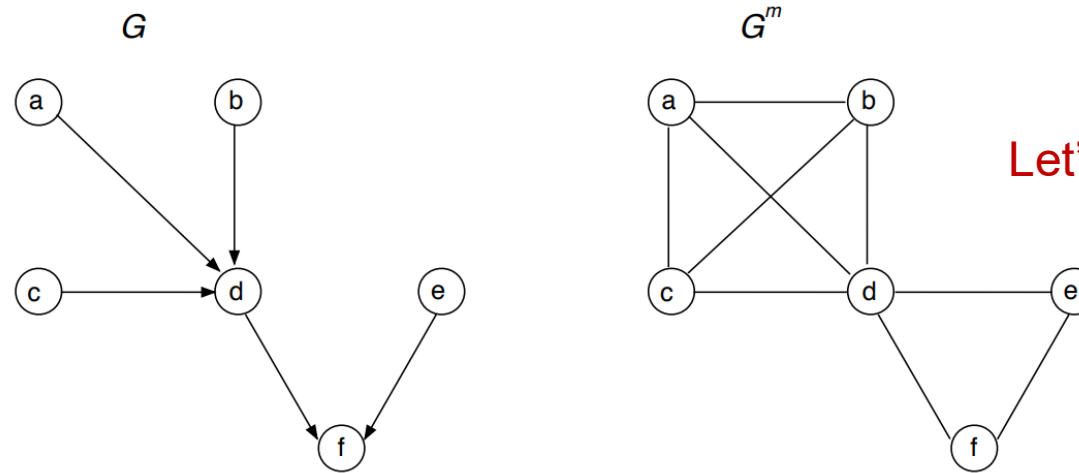


The moral graph gives a way to “**factorize**” the joint distribution of BN.  
Each **clique** in the moral graph is a **factor**.

$$\underbrace{P(a) P(b) P(c) P(d \mid a, b, c)}_{\phi(a, b, c, d)} \underbrace{P(e) P(f \mid d, e)}_{\phi(d, e, f)} = \phi(a, b, c, d) \phi(d, e, f)$$

# Proof Sketch

**Statement:** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are separated by  $Z$  in the moral graph, then  $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z$



Let's try to prove  $a \perp\!\!\!\perp f \mid d$

$$P(a|d) = \frac{P(a, d)}{P(d)} = \frac{\sum_f \phi(a, d) \phi(d, f)}{\sum_{a, f} \phi(a, d) \phi(d, f)} = \frac{\phi(a, d) \sum_f \phi(d, f)}{\sum_a \phi(a, d) \sum_f \phi(d, f)} = \frac{\phi(a, d)}{\sum_a \phi(a, d)}$$

$$P(a|d, f) = \frac{P(a, d, f)}{P(d, f)} = \frac{\phi(a, d) \phi(d, f)}{\sum_a \phi(a, d) \phi(d, f)} = \frac{\phi(a, d)}{\sum_a \phi(a, d)}$$

# Structure Implications

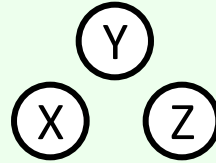
- Given a Bayes net structure, can run d-separation algorithm to build a complete list of conditional independences that are necessarily true of the form

$$X_i \perp\!\!\!\perp X_j \mid \{X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n}\}$$

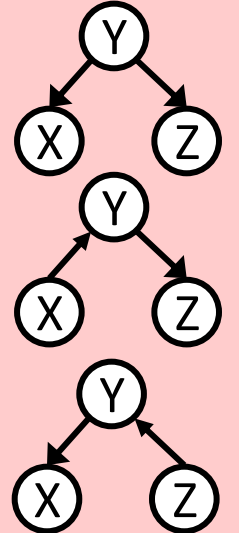
- This list determines the set of probability distributions that can be represented

# Topology Limits Distributions

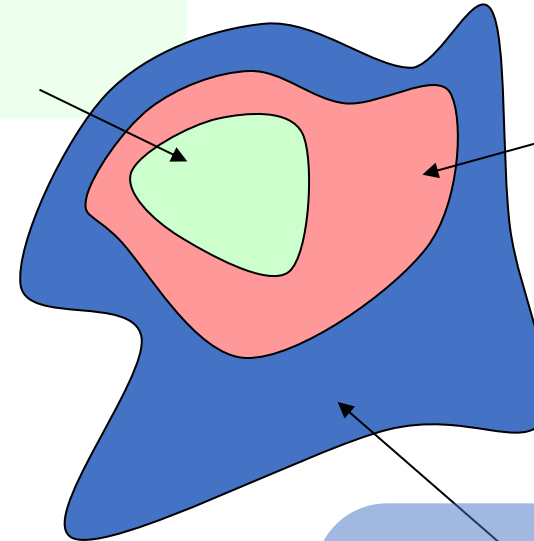
$$\{X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y, X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z, Y \perp\!\!\!\perp Z, \\ X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid Y, X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z, Y \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid X\}$$



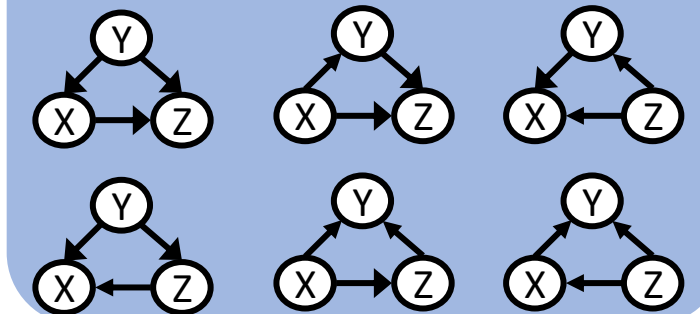
$$\{X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid Y\}$$



- Given some graph topology  $G$ , only certain joint distributions can be encoded
- The graph structure guarantees certain (conditional) independences
- Adding arcs increases the set of distributions, but has several costs



$$\{\}$$



# Application: Language Modeling

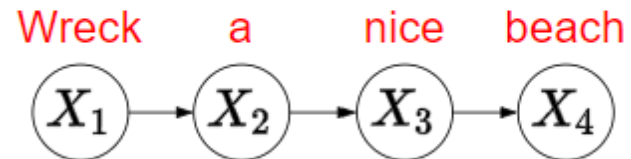
- Markov Model



## Probabilistic program: Markov model

For each position  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ :

Generate word  $X_i \sim p(X_i \mid X_{i-1})$





# Application: Object Tracking

- Hidden Markov Model

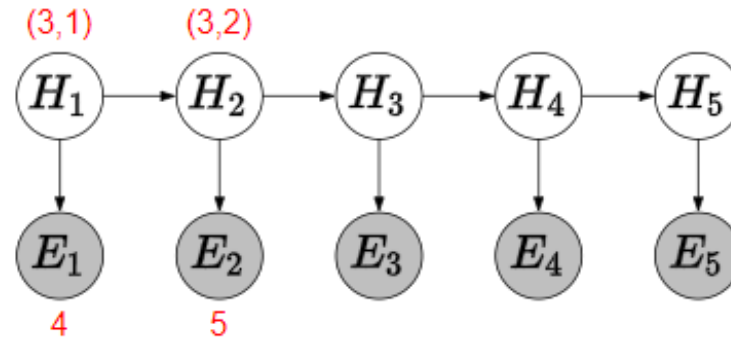


## Probabilistic program: hidden Markov model (HMM)

For each time step  $t = 1, \dots, T$ :

Generate object location  $H_t \sim p(H_t \mid H_{t-1})$

Generate sensor reading  $E_t \sim p(E_t \mid H_t)$



**Inference:** given sensor readings, where is the object?

# Application: Topic Modeling

- Latent Dirichlet Allocation



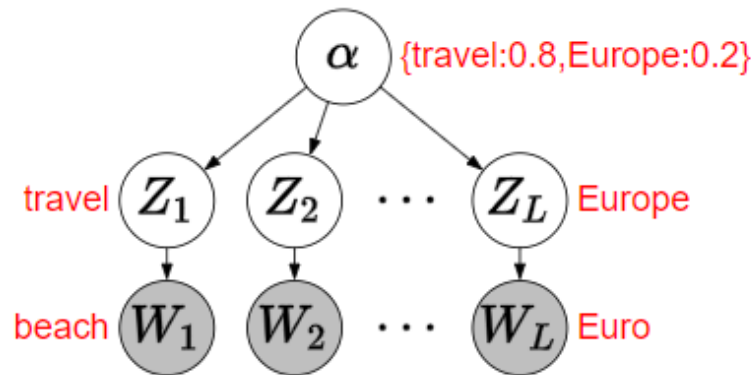
## Probabilistic program: latent Dirichlet allocation

Generate a distribution over topics  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^K$

For each position  $i = 1, \dots, L$ :

Generate a topic  $Z_i \sim p(Z_i \mid \alpha)$

Generate a word  $W_i \sim p(W_i \mid Z_i)$

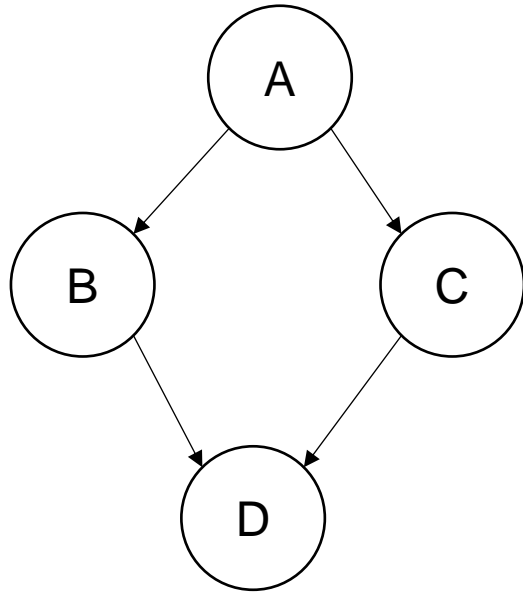


Document classification,  
information retrieval,  
customer segmentation, ...

**Inference:** given a text document, what topics is it about?

# **Exact Inference in Bayesian Networks**

# The “Join” Operation in Bayesian Network

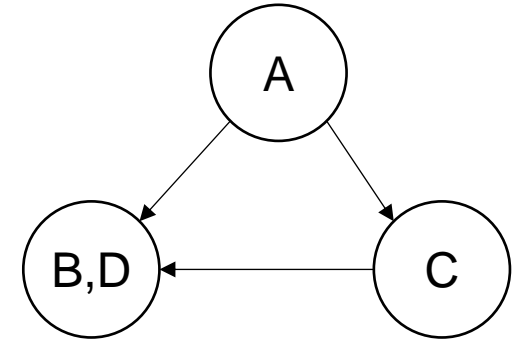


The BN defines four factors  $P(A)$ ,  $P(B|A)$ ,  $P(C|A)$ ,  $P(D|B,C)$

**Join on B:** Combine all factors that involve B

$P(A)$ ,  $P(B|A)$ ,  $P(C|A)$ ,  $P(D|B,C)$

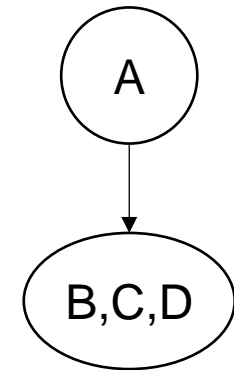
$P(A)$ ,  $P(B,D | A,C)$ ,  $P(C|A)$



**Further join on C:** Combine all factors that involve C

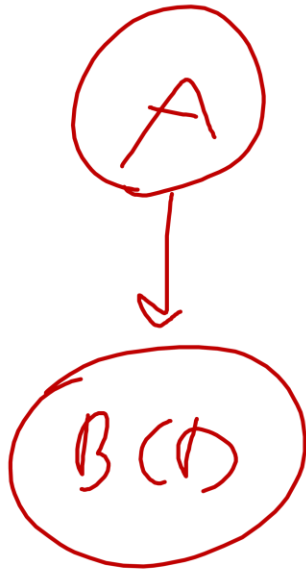
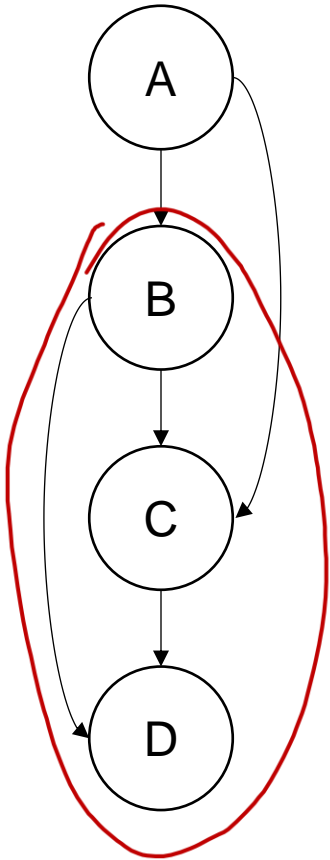
$P(A)$ ,  $P(B,D | A,C)$ ,  $P(C|A)$

$P(A)$ ,  $P(B,C,D | A)$



# Exercise

What are the factors after joining on B?



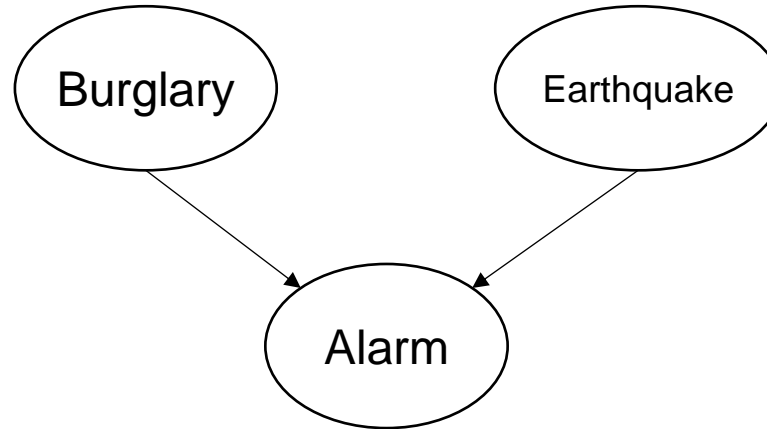
$$P(A) \quad P(B|A) \quad P(C|A,B) \quad P(D|B,C)$$
$$P(A) \quad P(B,C,D|A)$$

# Exercise

$$P(b, a | e) = P(b) P(a | b, e)$$

B	P(B)
T	0.001
F	0.999

E	P(E)
T	0.002
F	0.998



B	E	A	P(A B,E)
T	T	T	0.95
T	T	F	0.05
T	F	T	0.94
T	F	F	0.06
F	T	T	0.29
F	T	F	0.71
F	F	T	0.001
F	F	F	0.999

B	A	E	P(B,A E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
T	F	T	
T	F	F	
F	T	T	
F	T	F	
F	F	T	
F	F	F	

Can you calculate  $P(B, A|E)$ ?

$$P(b, a | e) = P(b | e) P(a | b, e)$$

# Review: Inference by Enumeration

General case:

- Evidence variables:  $E_1 \dots E_k = e_1 \dots e_k$
  - Query\* variable:  $Q$
  - Hidden variables:  $H_1 \dots H_r$
- } All variables

$$P(Q|e_1 \dots e_k) = ?$$

$$P(E_1, \dots, E_k, Q, H_1, \dots, H_r)$$

## Inference by Enumeration

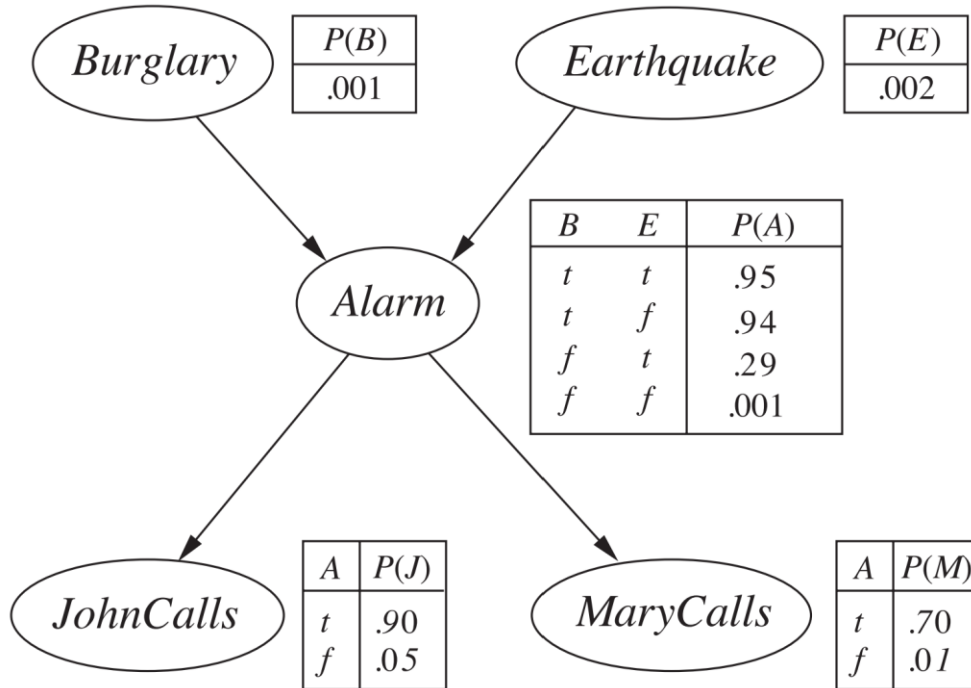
**Step 1.** Select the entries consistent with the evidence

**Step 2.** Sum out  $H$  to get joint probability of Query and evidence

**Step 3.** Normalize

# Inference by Enumeration

**Step 0.** Create a joint probability table



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

B	E	A	J	M	P(B,E,A,J,M)
T	T	T	T	T	0.001 * 0.002 * 0.95 * 0.90 * 0.70
T	T	T	T	F	0.001 * 0.002 * 0.95 * 0.90 * 0.30
T	T	T	F	T	0.001 * 0.002 * 0.95 * 0.10 * 0.70
...	...	...	...	...	
F	F	F	F	F	0.999 * 0.998 * 0.999 * 0.95 * 0.99

$$P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$$



# Step 0: Create a Joint Probability Table

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

B	E	A	P(A B,E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

B	P(B)
T	
F	

Join on B

B	A	E	P(B,A E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

E	P(E)
T	
F	

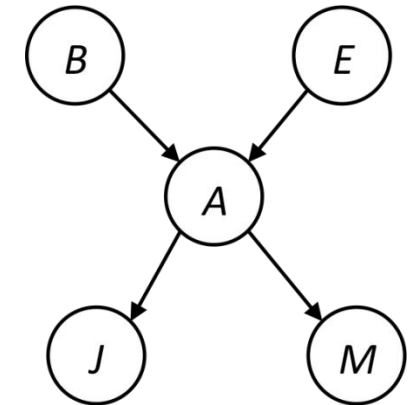
Join on E

B	E	A	P(B,E,A)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

A	J	P(J A)
T	T	
...	...	

A	M	P(M A)
T	T	
...	...	

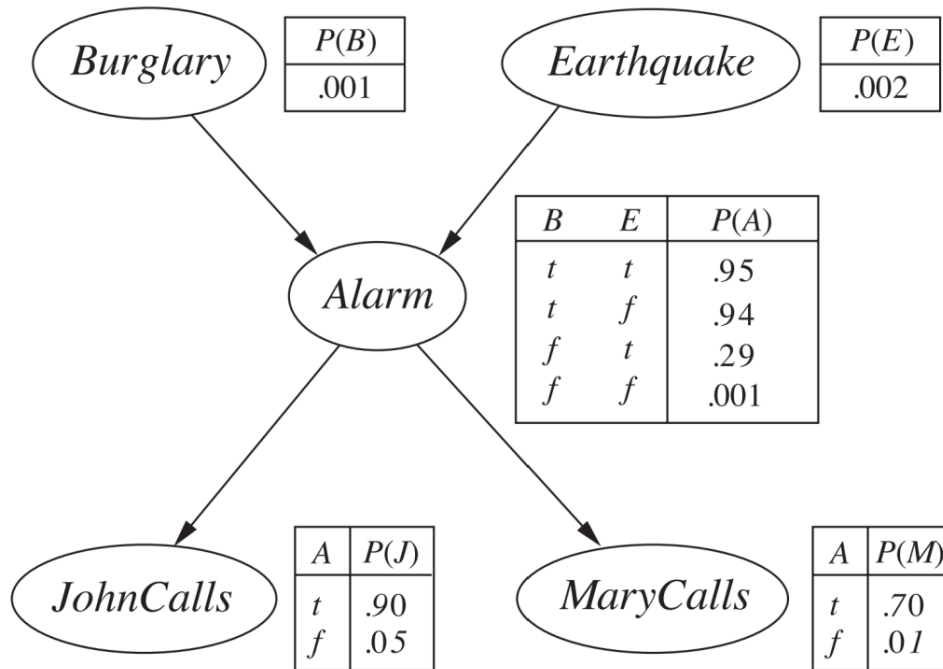
Join on A



$P(B,E,A,J,M)$

# Inference by Enumeration

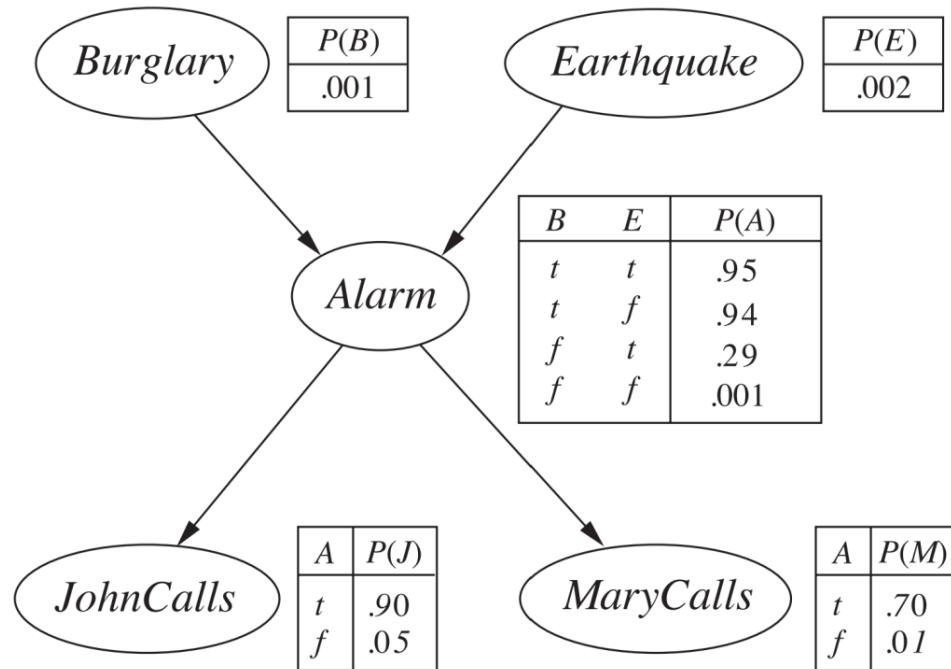
**Step 1.** Select the entries consistent with the evidence



B	E	A	J	M	$P(B,E,A,J,M)$
T	T	T	T	T	$0.001 * 0.002 * 0.95 * 0.90 * 0.70$
T	T	F	T	T	$0.001 * 0.002 * 0.05 * 0.05 * 0.01$
T	F	T	T	T	$0.001 * 0.998 * 0.94 * 0.90 * 0.70$
T	F	F	T	T	$0.001 * 0.998 * 0.06 * 0.05 * 0.01$
F	T	T	T	T	$0.999 * 0.002 * 0.29 * 0.90 * 0.70$
F	T	F	T	T	$0.999 * 0.002 * 0.71 * 0.05 * 0.01$
F	F	T	T	T	$0.999 * 0.998 * 0.001 * 0.90 * 0.70$
F	F	F	T	T	$0.999 * 0.998 * 0.999 * 0.05 * 0.01$

$$P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$$

# Inference by Enumeration



$$P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$$

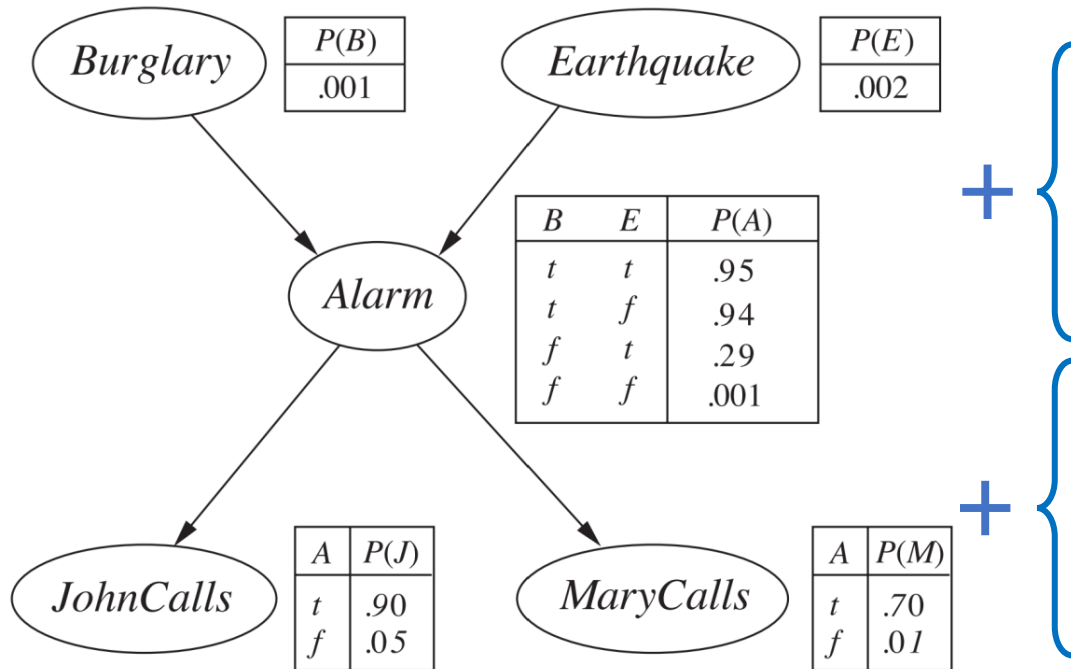
**Step 2.** Sum out hidden variable to get joint probability of query and evidence (**Marginalize**)

B	E	A	J	M	$P(B,E,A,J,M)$
T	T	T	T	T	$0.001 * 0.002 * 0.95 * 0.90 * 0.70$
T	T	F	T	T	$0.001 * 0.002 * 0.05 * 0.05 * 0.01$
T	F	T	T	T	$0.001 * 0.998 * 0.94 * 0.90 * 0.70$
T	F	F	T	T	$0.001 * 0.998 * 0.06 * 0.05 * 0.01$
F	T	T	T	T	$0.999 * 0.002 * 0.29 * 0.90 * 0.70$
F	T	F	T	T	$0.999 * 0.002 * 0.71 * 0.05 * 0.01$
F	F	T	T	T	$0.999 * 0.998 * 0.001 * 0.90 * 0.70$
F	F	F	T	T	$0.999 * 0.998 * 0.999 * 0.05 * 0.01$

B	J	M	$P(B,J,M)$
T	T	T	0.0006
F	T	T	0.0015

# Inference by Enumeration

## Step 3. Normalize



$$P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$$

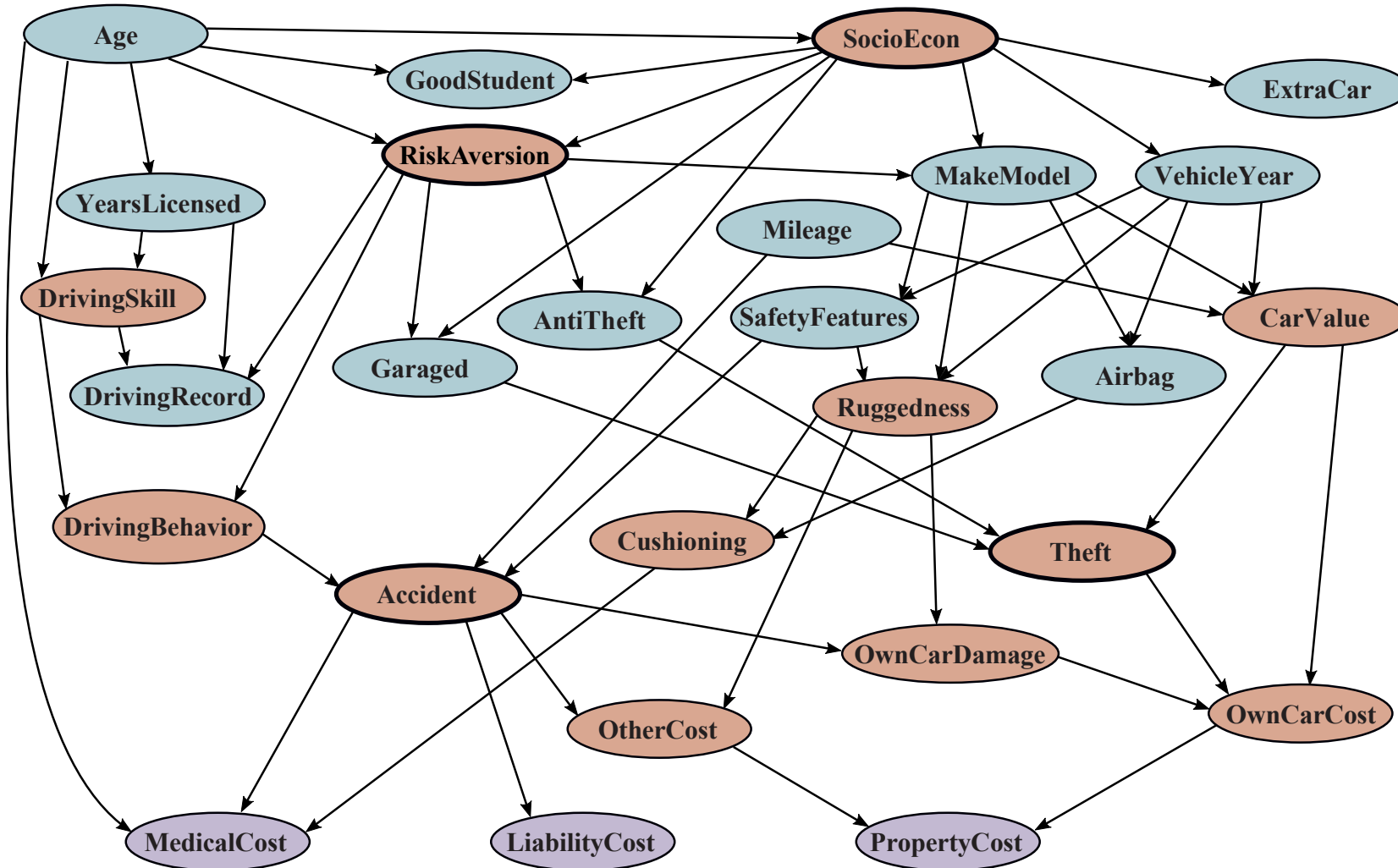
B	E	A	J	M	$P(B,E,A,J,M)$
T	T	T	T	T	$0.001 * 0.002 * 0.95 * 0.90 * 0.70$
T	T	F	T	T	$0.001 * 0.002 * 0.05 * 0.05 * 0.01$
T	F	T	T	T	$0.001 * 0.998 * 0.94 * 0.90 * 0.70$
T	F	F	T	T	$0.001 * 0.998 * 0.06 * 0.05 * 0.01$
F	T	T	T	T	$0.999 * 0.002 * 0.29 * 0.90 * 0.70$
F	T	F	T	T	$0.999 * 0.002 * 0.71 * 0.05 * 0.01$
F	F	T	T	T	$0.999 * 0.998 * 0.001 * 0.90 * 0.70$
F	F	F	T	T	$0.999 * 0.998 * 0.999 * 0.05 * 0.01$

B	J	M	$P(B,J,M)$
T	T	T	0.0006
F	T	T	0.0015



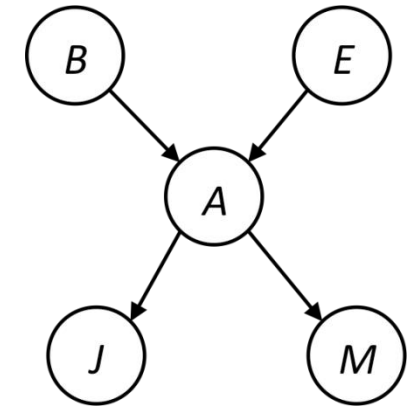
B	$P(B \mid +j, +m)$
T	0.285
F	0.715

# Inference by Enumeration?



# How did we do Inference by Enumeration?

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



B	E	A	P(A B,E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

B	P(B)
T	
F	

Join on B

B	A	E	P(B,A E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

E	P(E)
T	
F	

Join on E

B	E	A	P(B,E,A)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

A	J	P(J A)
T	T	
...	...	

A	M	P(M A)
T	T	
...	...	

Join on A

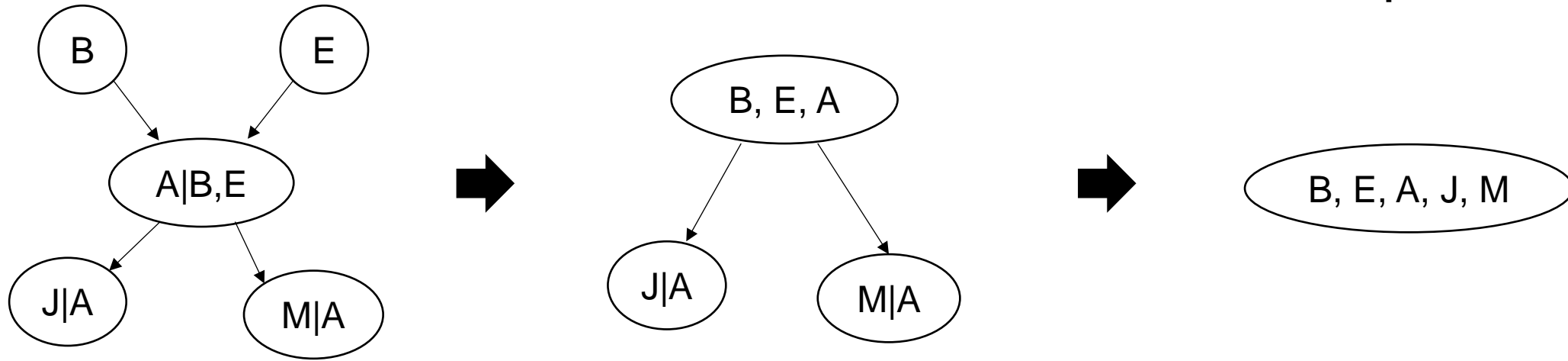
$P(B,E,A,J,M)$

We first create a big table by **joining all variables**, and then

- 1) Removing entries inconsistent with the evidence
- 2) Perform marginalization to eliminate hidden variables

# How did we do Inference by Enumeration?

Each node here represents a “table”



Joining all variables (**Step 0**)



1) only keep rows consistent with the evidence (**Step 1**)



2) Marginalize hidden variables (**Step 2**)

# Improving the Algorithm

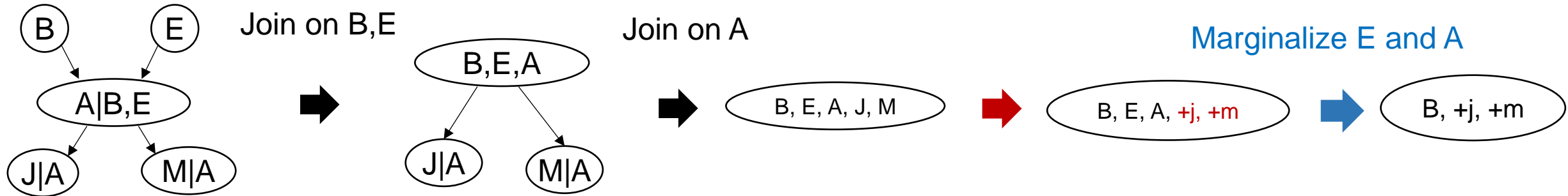
- **First improvement:** Instead of eliminating rows inconsistent with the evidence at the end, we will only keep rows consistent with evidence **from the beginning**.
- **Second improvement:** Instead of marginalize all hidden variables at the end after joining all variables, we will **interleave joining and marginalization**.



# Improving the Algorithm

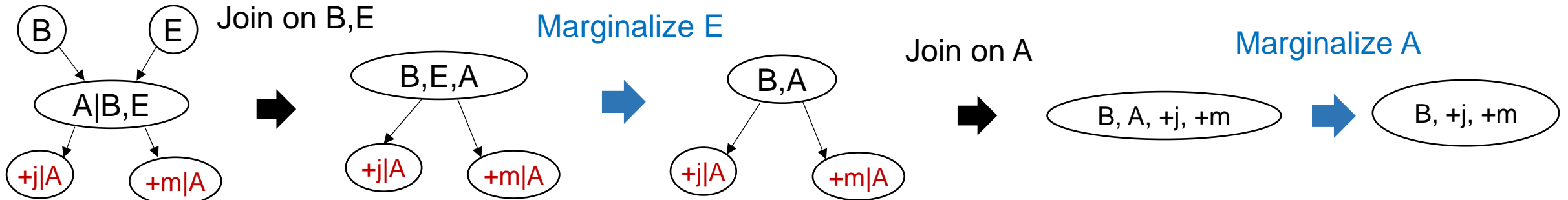
$$P(B \mid +_j, +_m)$$

## Inference by Enumeration



A variable can only be marginalized when it's only involved in one factor. Otherwise, it has to be joined first.

## Variable Elimination



# Variable Elimination

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$

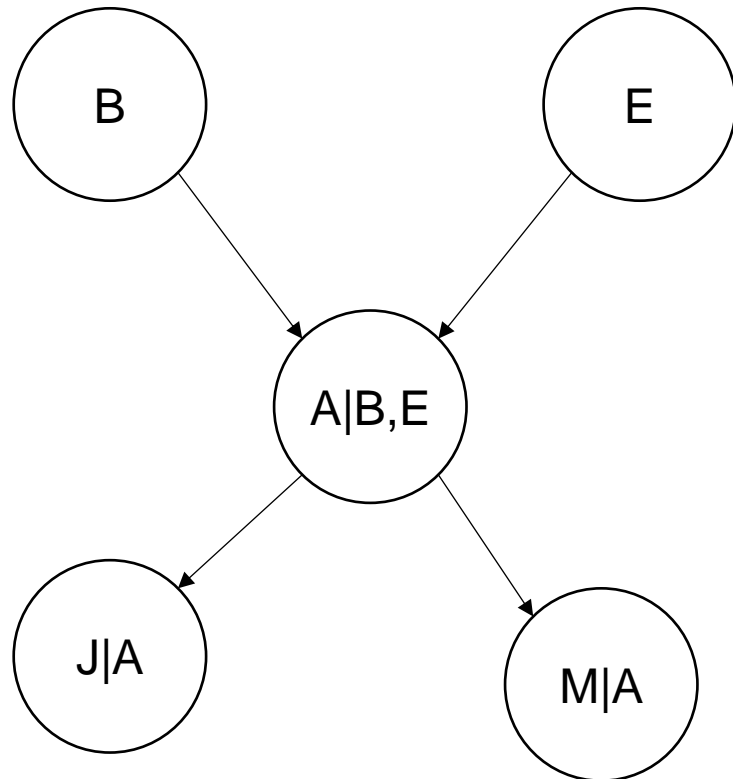
B	P(B)
T	
F	

E	P(E)
T	
F	

B	E	A	P(A B,E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

A	J	P(J A)
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	

A	M	P(M A)
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	



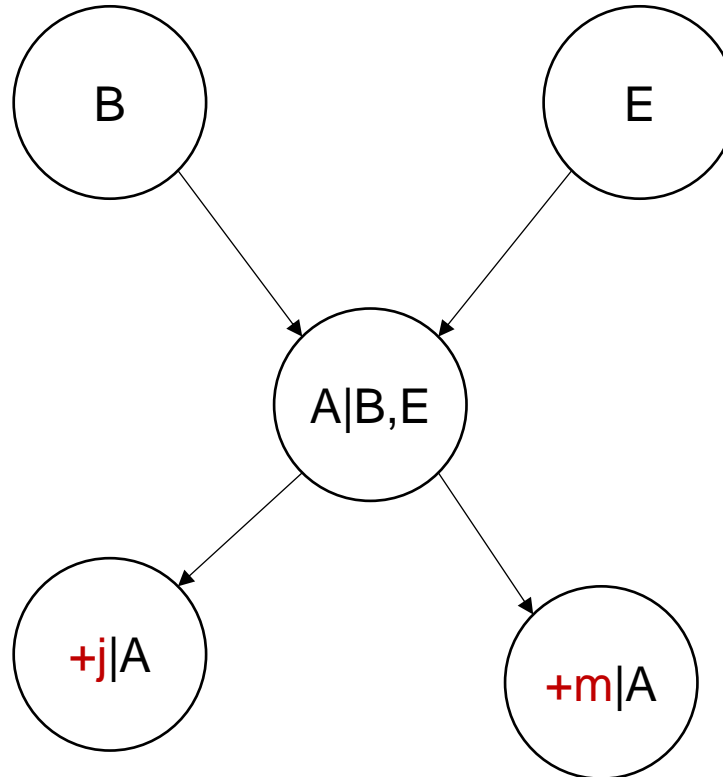
# Variable Elimination

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$

B	P(B)
T	
F	

E	P(E)
T	
F	

B	E	A	P(A B,E)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	



A	J	P(J A)
T	T	
F	T	

A	M	P(M A)
T	T	
F	T	

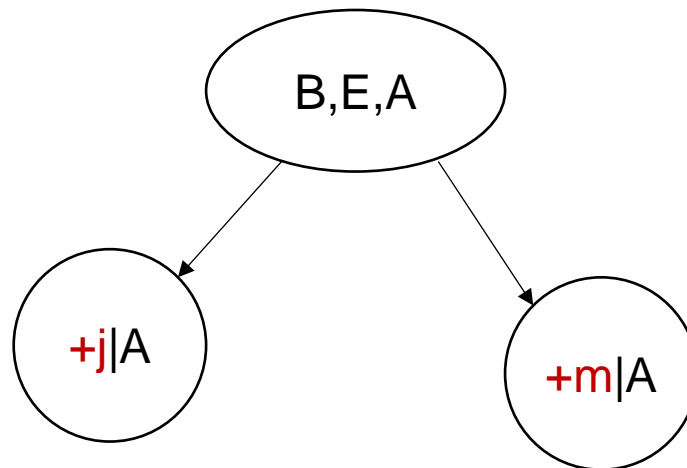
1) Only keep rows consistent with the evidence

# Variable Elimination

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$

Join on B and E

A	J	P(J A)
T	T	
F	T	



B	E	A	P(B,E,A)
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
...	...	...	
F	F	F	

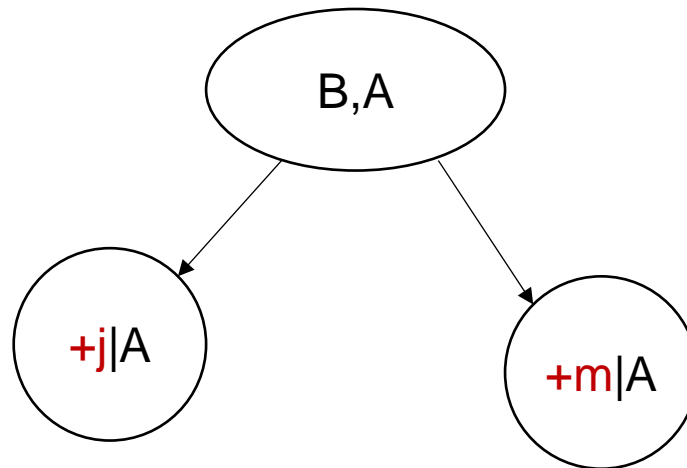
A	M	P(M A)
T	T	
F	T	

# Variable Elimination

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$

2) Marginalize E (earlier than inference by enumeration)

A	J	$P(J A)$
T	T	
F	T	



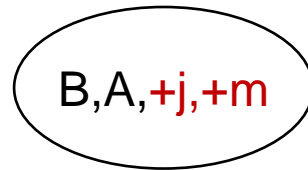
B	A	$P(B,A)$
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	

A	M	$P(M A)$
T	T	
F	T	

# Variable Elimination

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$

Join on A



B	A	J	M	P(B,A,J,M)
T	T	T	T	
T	F	T	T	
F	T	T	T	
F	F	T	T	

# Variable Elimination

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$

Marginalize A



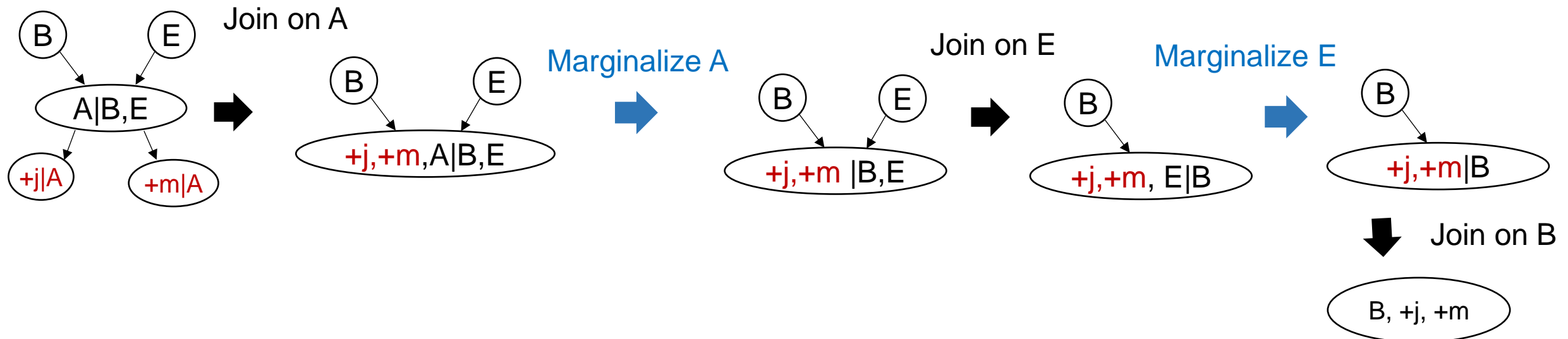
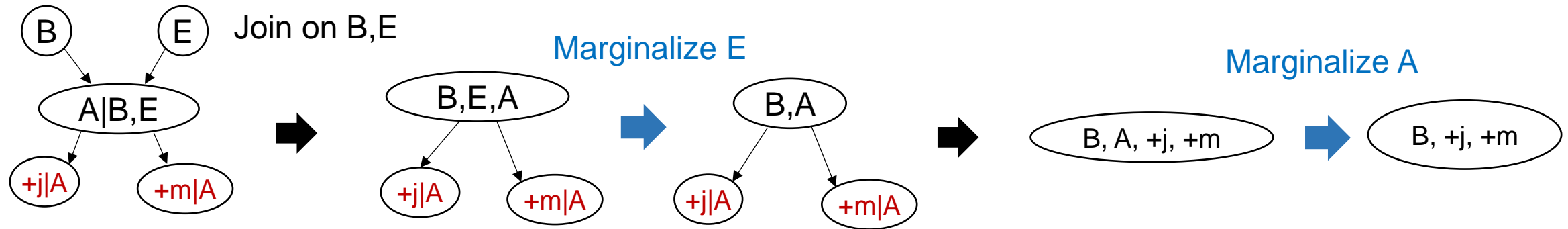
B	J	M	$P(B, J, M)$
T	T	T	
F	T	T	

We can then get  $P(B \mid +j, +m)$  by normalizing this table

# Variable Elimination

Can be done in different orders

Query:  $P(B \mid +j, +m) = ?$





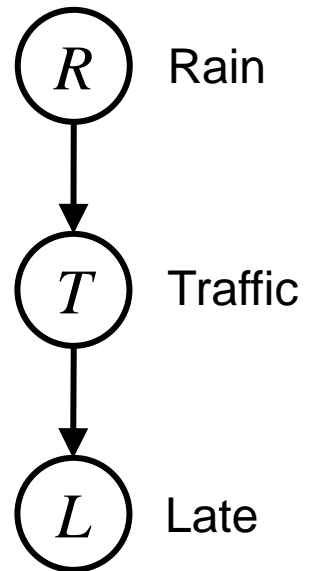
# Variable Elimination

- Start with initial factors but instantiated by evidence
- While there are still hidden variables:
  - Pick a variable  $X$
  - Join all factors mentioning  $X$
  - If  $X$  is a hidden variable, eliminate (sum out)  $X$  (i.e., marginalize  $X$ )
- Normalize

# Ordering of the Join and Marginalize?

- The time and space of variable elimination are dominated by the **size of the largest factor** constructed during the algorithm.
- It's hard to determine the optimal ordering
  - Heuristics: Choose the variable that minimize the size of the next factor to be constructed.

# Exercise



$$P(R)$$

+r	0.1
-r	0.9

$$P(T|R)$$

+r	+t	0.8
+r	-t	0.2
-r	+t	0.1
-r	-t	0.9

$$P(L|T)$$

+t	+l	0.3
+t	-l	0.7
-t	+l	0.1
-t	-l	0.9

Calculate  $P(L)$

(Use the heuristic: minimize the size of the next constructed factor)

$$P(L)$$

+l	
-l	

$$P(R, \bar{t})$$

+r	+t	
+r	-t	
-r	+t	
-r	-t	

$$\phi(T)$$

+t	
-t	

$$\phi(L, T)$$

$$P(L)$$


# **Approximate Inference in Bayesian Networks**

- Still, the inference procedure may still be time consuming if the Bayesian network is dense.

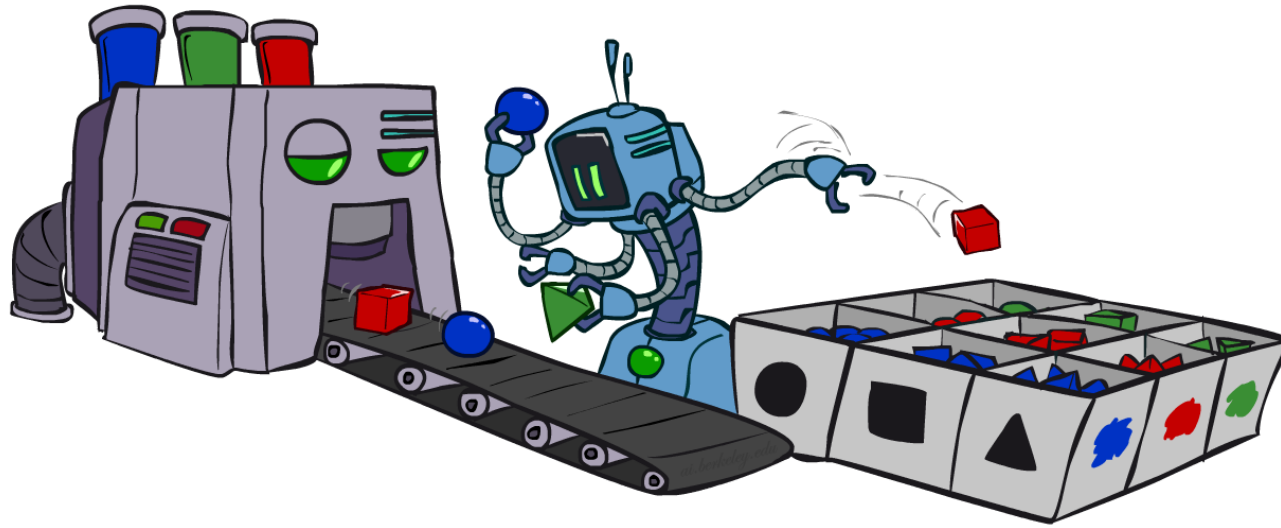
# Sampling

- Basic idea

- Draw  $N$  samples from a **sampling distribution  $S$**
- Compute an approximate posterior probability
- Show this converges to the true probability  $P$

- Why sample?

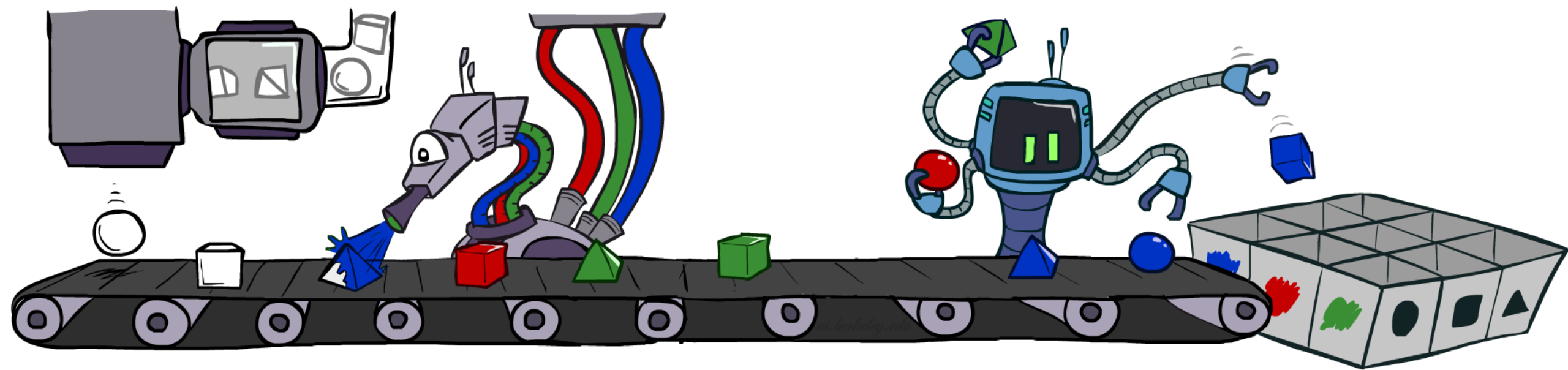
- Often very fast to get a decent approximate answer
- The algorithms are very simple and general (easy to apply to fancy models)
- They require very little memory ( $O(n)$ )
- They can be applied to large models, whereas exact algorithms blow up



# Sampling in Bayes nets

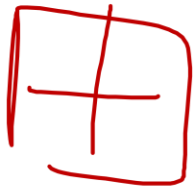
- Prior sampling
- Rejection sampling
- Likelihood weighting
- Gibbs sampling

# Prior Sampling





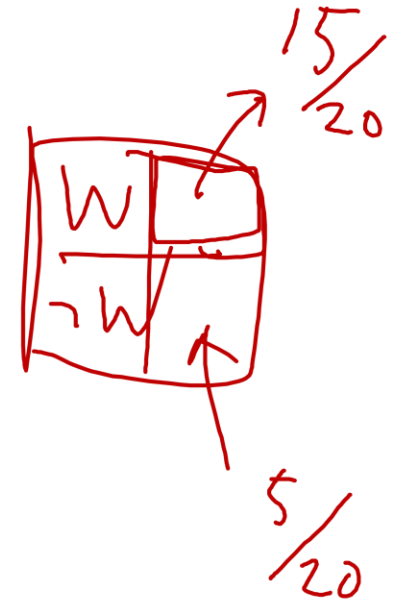
# Prior Sampling



$$P(C)$$

c	0.5
$\neg c$	0.5

$P(W)$

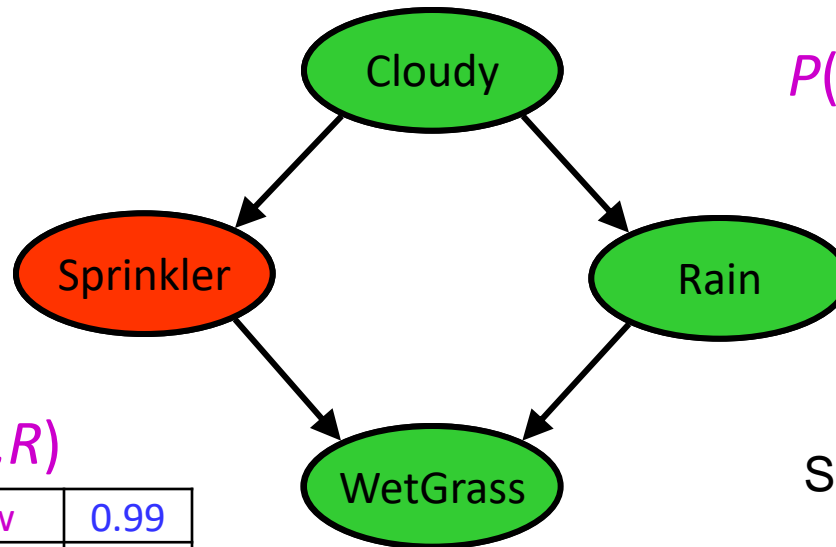


$$P(S | C)$$

c	s	0.1
	$\neg s$	0.9
$\neg c$	s	0.5
	$\neg s$	0.5

$$P(R | C)$$

c	r	0.8
	$\neg r$	0.2
$\neg c$	r	0.2
	$\neg r$	0.8



$$P(W | S, R)$$

s	r	w	0.99
		$\neg w$	0.01
	$\neg r$	w	0.90
		$\neg w$	0.10
$\neg s$	r	w	0.90
		$\neg w$	0.10
	$\neg r$	w	0.01
		$\neg w$	0.99

Samples:

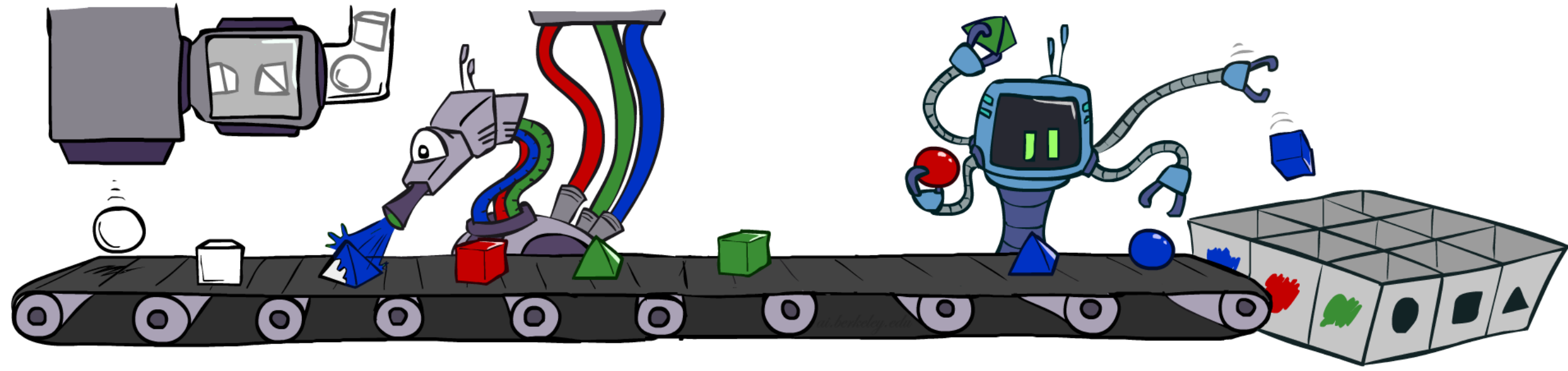
$c, \neg s, r, w$   
 $\neg c, s, \neg r, w$   
 ...

15 w  
 5  $\neg w$

$S_{PS}(c, \neg s, r, w) =$

# Prior Sampling

- For  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$  (in topological order)
  - Sample  $X_i$  from  $P(X_i \mid \text{parents}(X_i))$
- Return  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$



# Prior Sampling

- This process generates samples with probability:

$$S_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_i P(x_i \mid \text{parents}(X_i)) = P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

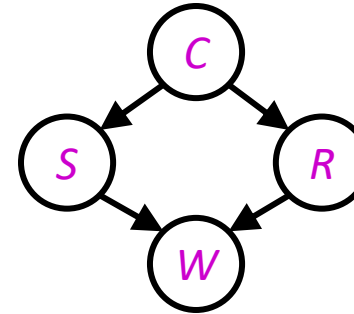
...i.e. the BN's joint probability

- Let the number of samples of an event be  $N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
- Estimate from  $N$  samples is  $Q_N(x_1, \dots, x_n) = N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)/N$
- Then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} Q_N(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)/N$   
 $= S_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$   
 $= P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
- I.e., the sampling procedure is **consistent**

# Example

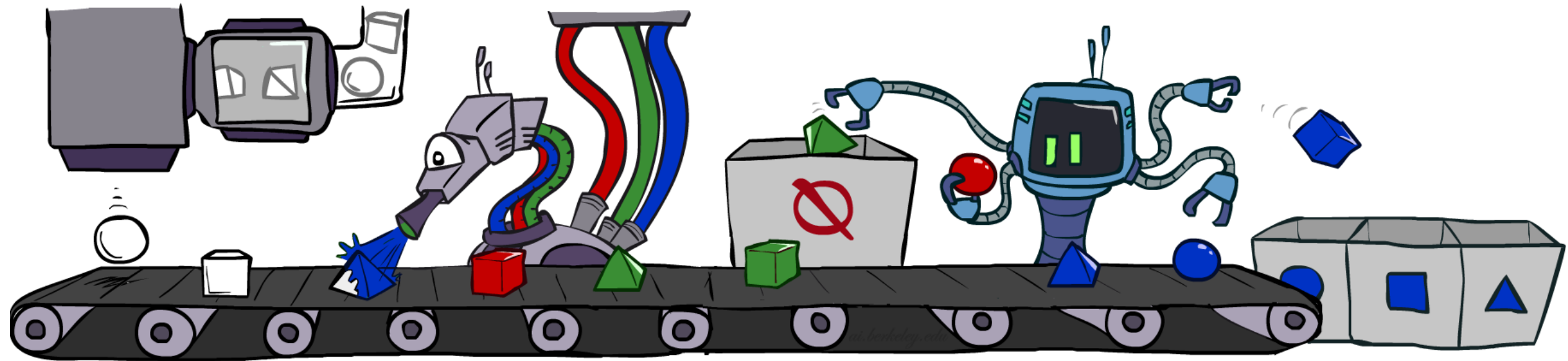
- We'll get a bunch of samples from the BN:

$C, \neg S, r, W$   
 $C, S, r, W$   
 $\neg C, S, r, \neg W$   
 $C, \neg S, r, W$   
 $\neg C, \neg S, \neg r, W$



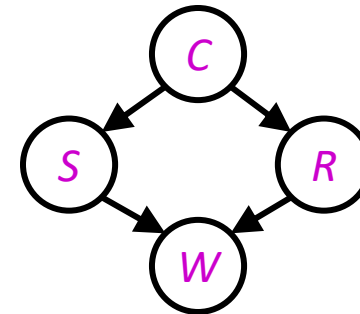
- If we want to know  $P(W)$ 
  - We have counts  $\langle w:4, \neg w:1 \rangle$
  - Normalize to get  $P(W) = \langle w:0.8, \neg w:0.2 \rangle$
  - This will get closer to the true distribution with more samples

# Rejection sampling



# Rejection sampling

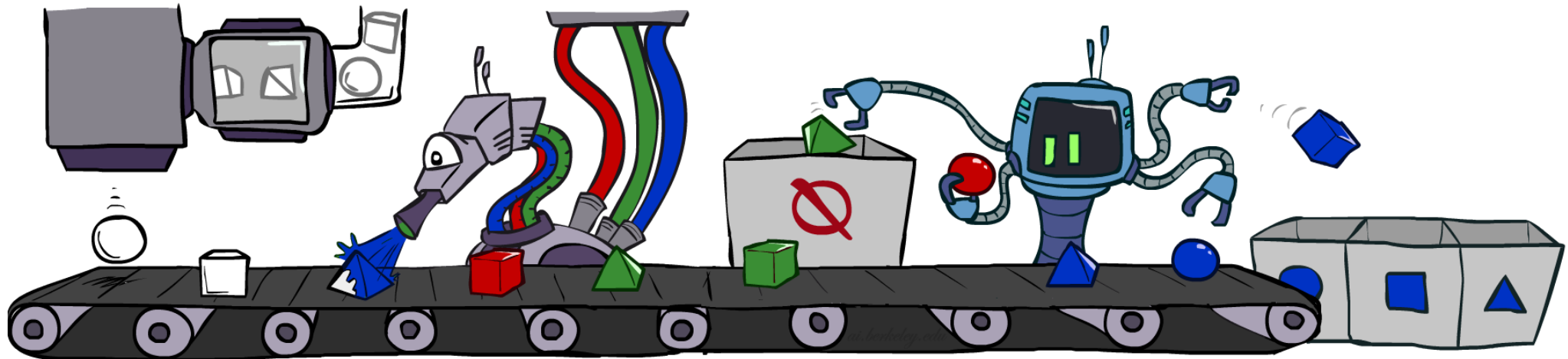
- A simple application of prior sampling for estimating conditional probabilities
  - Let's say we want  $P(C \mid r, w) = \frac{1}{\alpha} P(C, r, w)$
  - For these counts, samples with  $\neg r$  or  $\neg w$  **are not relevant**
  - So count the  $C$  outcomes for samples with  $r, w$  and reject all other samples
- This is called **rejection sampling**
  - It is also consistent for conditional probabilities (i.e., correct in the limit)



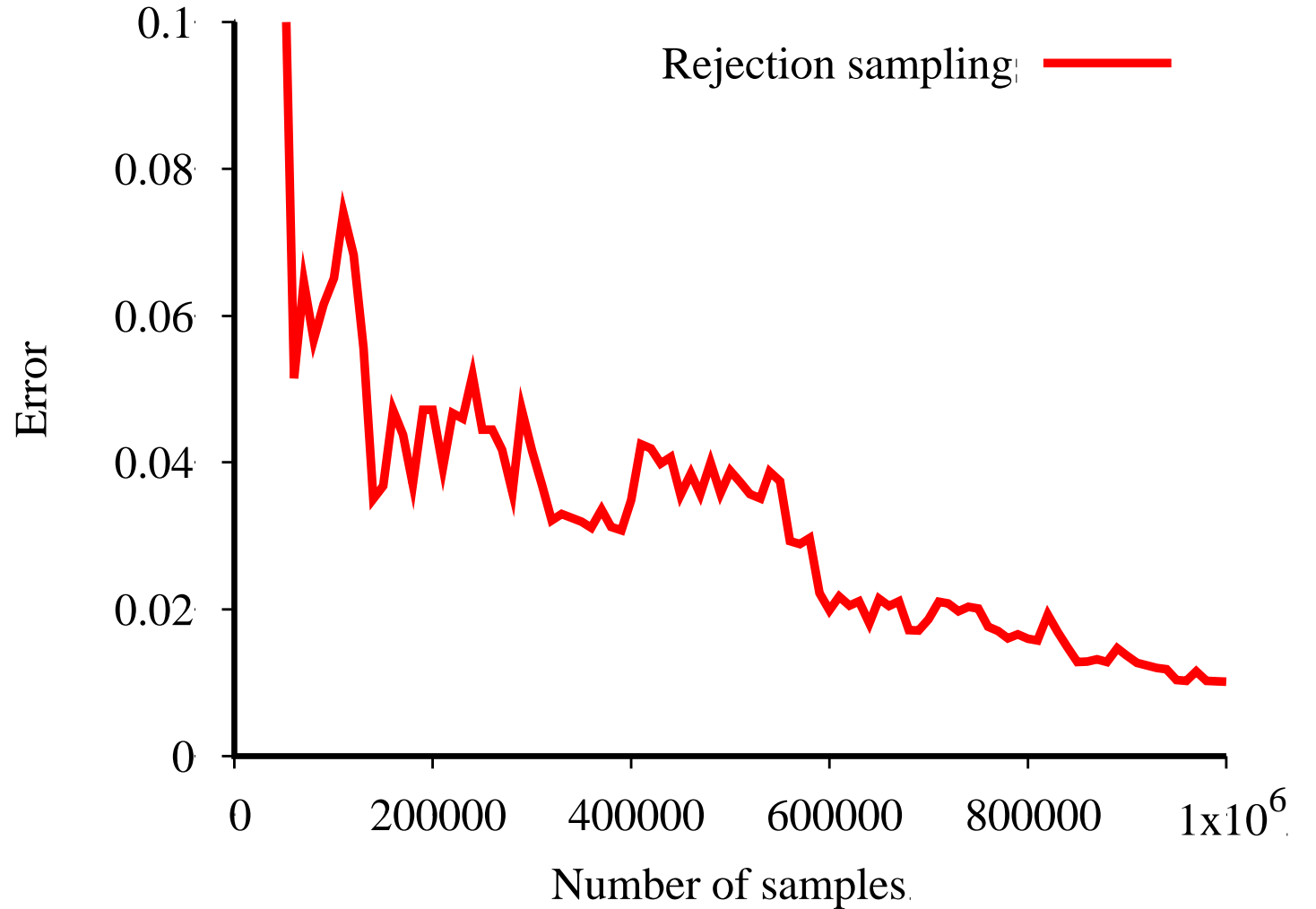
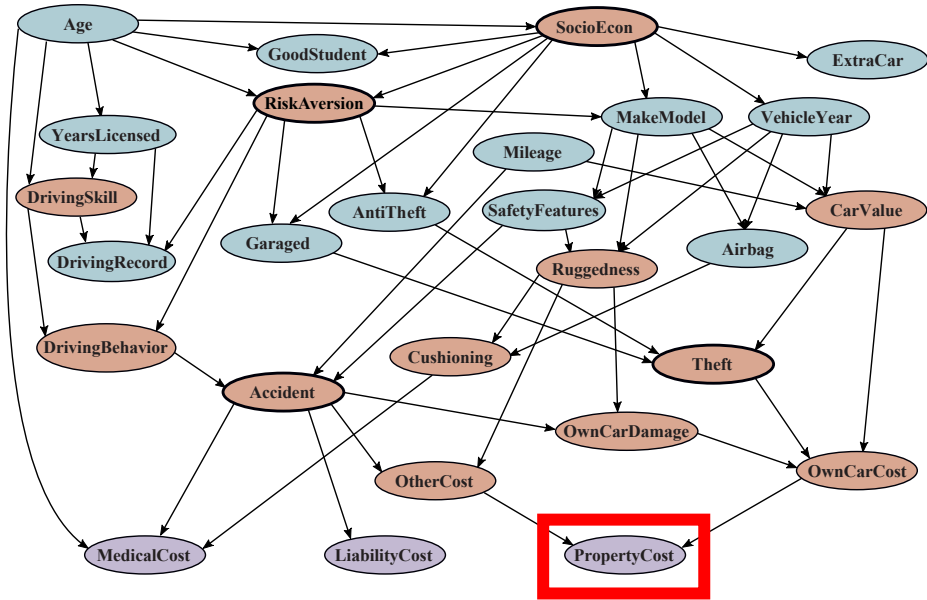
$C, \neg S, r, w$   
 ~~$C, S, \neg r$~~   
 ~~$\neg C, S, r, \neg w$~~   
 ~~$C, \neg S, \neg r$~~   
 $\neg C, \neg S, r, w$

# Rejection sampling

- Input: evidence  $e_1, \dots, e_k$
- For  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ 
  - Sample  $x_i$  from  $P(x_i \mid \text{parents}(x_i))$
  - If  $x_i$  not consistent with evidence
    - Reject: Return, and no sample is generated in this cycle
- Return  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

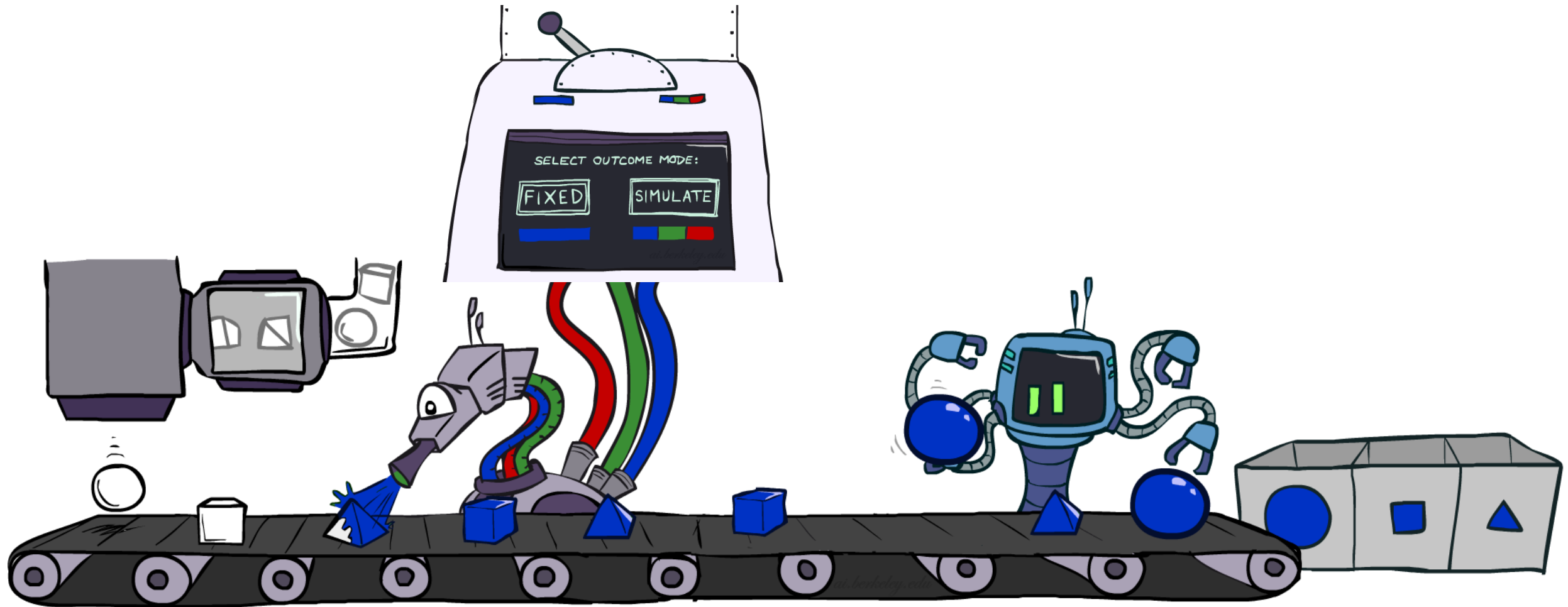


# Car Insurance: $P(\text{PropertyCost} \mid e)$



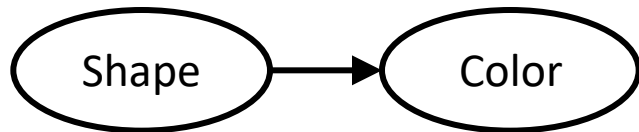


# Likelihood weighting

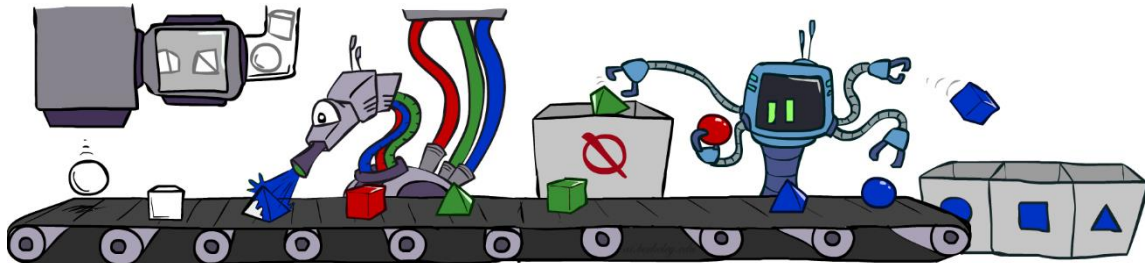


# Likelihood weighting

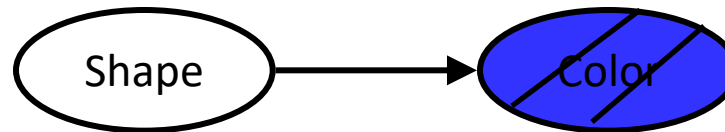
- Problem with rejection sampling:
  - If evidence is unlikely, rejects lots of samples
  - Evidence not exploited as you sample
  - Consider  $P(\text{Shape}|\text{Color}=\text{blue})$



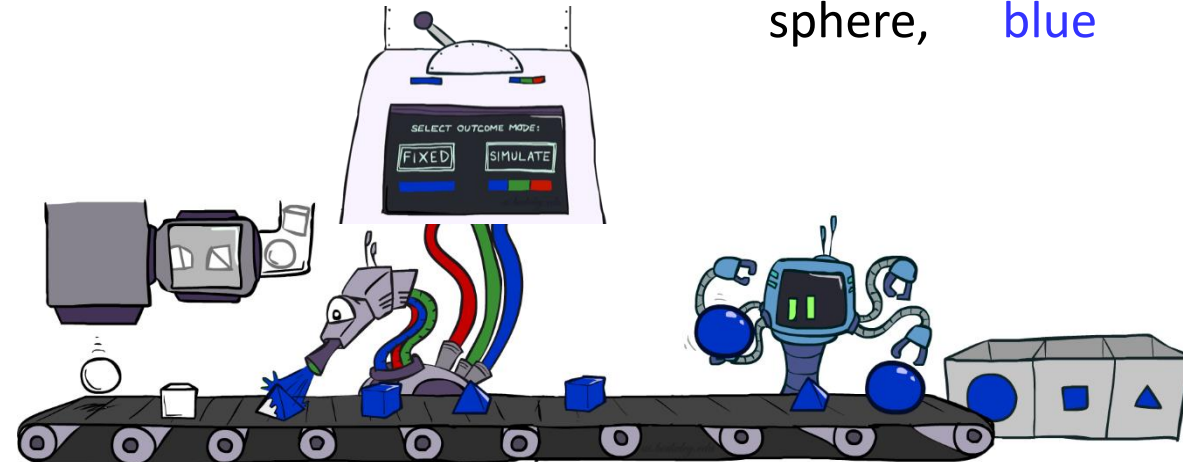
pyramid, ~~green~~  
pyramid, ~~red~~  
sphere, blue  
cube, ~~red~~  
~~sphere, green~~



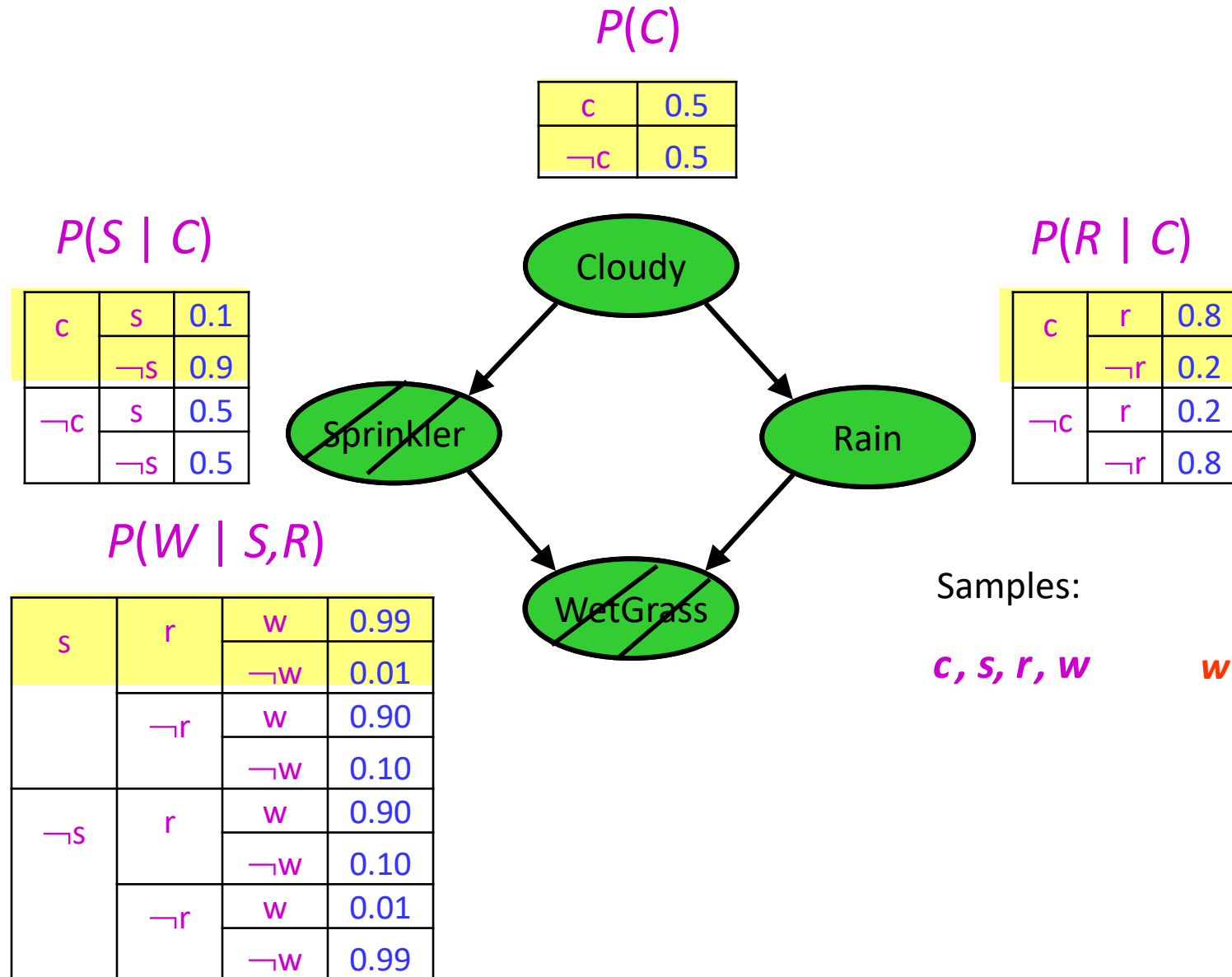
- Idea: fix evidence variables, sample the rest
  - Problem: sample distribution not consistent!
  - Solution: *weight* each sample by probability of evidence variables given parents



pyramid, blue  
pyramid, blue  
sphere, blue  
cube, blue  
sphere, blue



# Likelihood Weighting



Samples:

$c, s, r, w$

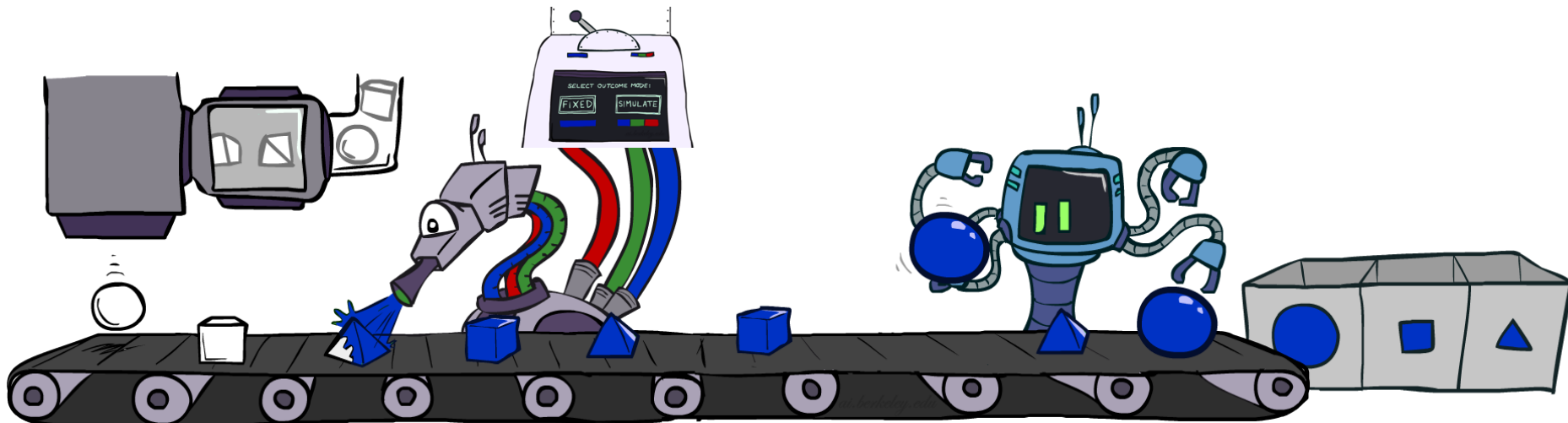
$w = 1.0$

$\times 0.1$

$\times 0.99$

# Likelihood weighting

- Input: evidence  $e_1, \dots, e_k$
- $w = 1.0$
- for  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ 
  - if  $X_i$  is an evidence variable
    - $x_i = \text{observed value}_i$  for  $X_i$
    - Set  $w = w * P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$
  - else
    - Sample  $x_i$  from  $P(X_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$
- return  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), w$



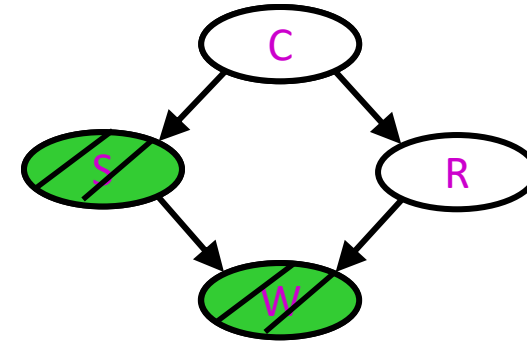
# Likelihood weighting is consistent

- Sampling distribution if  $\mathbf{z}$  sampled and  $\mathbf{e}$  fixed evidence

$$S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_j P(z_j \mid \text{parents}(Z_j))$$

- Now, samples have weights

$$w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_k P(e_k \mid \text{parents}(E_k))$$

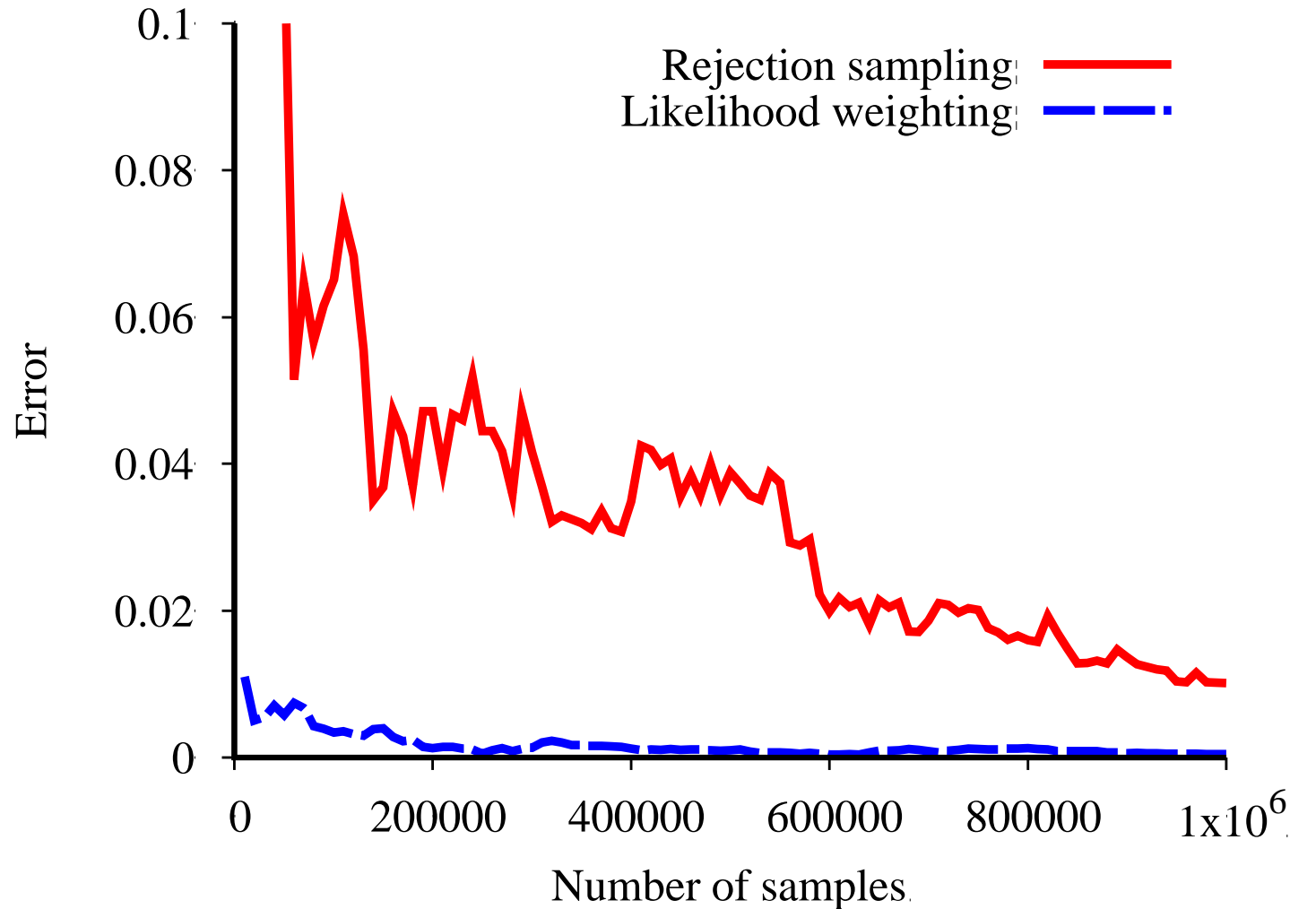
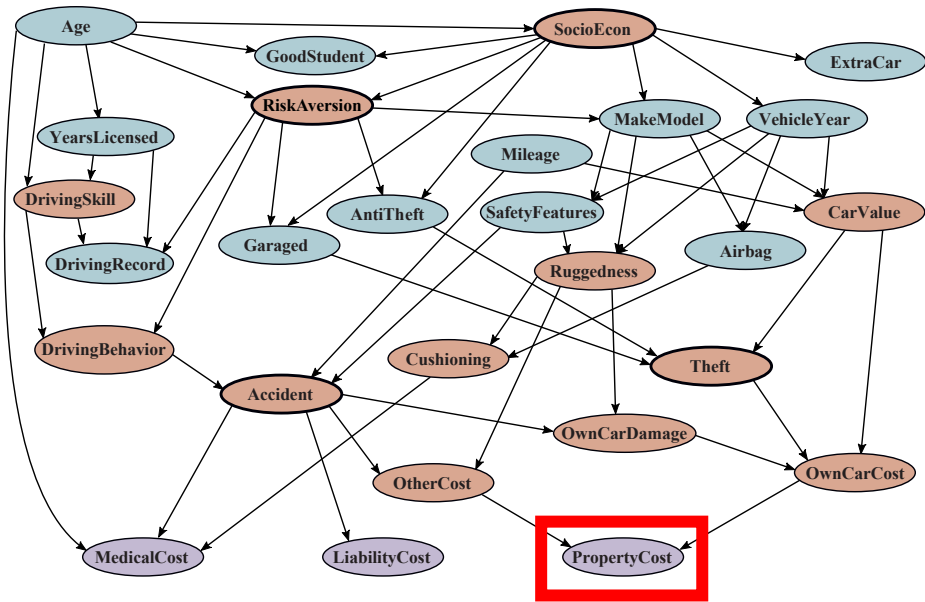


- Together, weighted sampling distribution is consistent

$$\begin{aligned} S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) \cdot w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) &= \prod_j P(z_j \mid \text{parents}(Z_j)) \prod_k P(e_k \mid \text{parents}(E_k)) \\ &= P(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) \end{aligned}$$

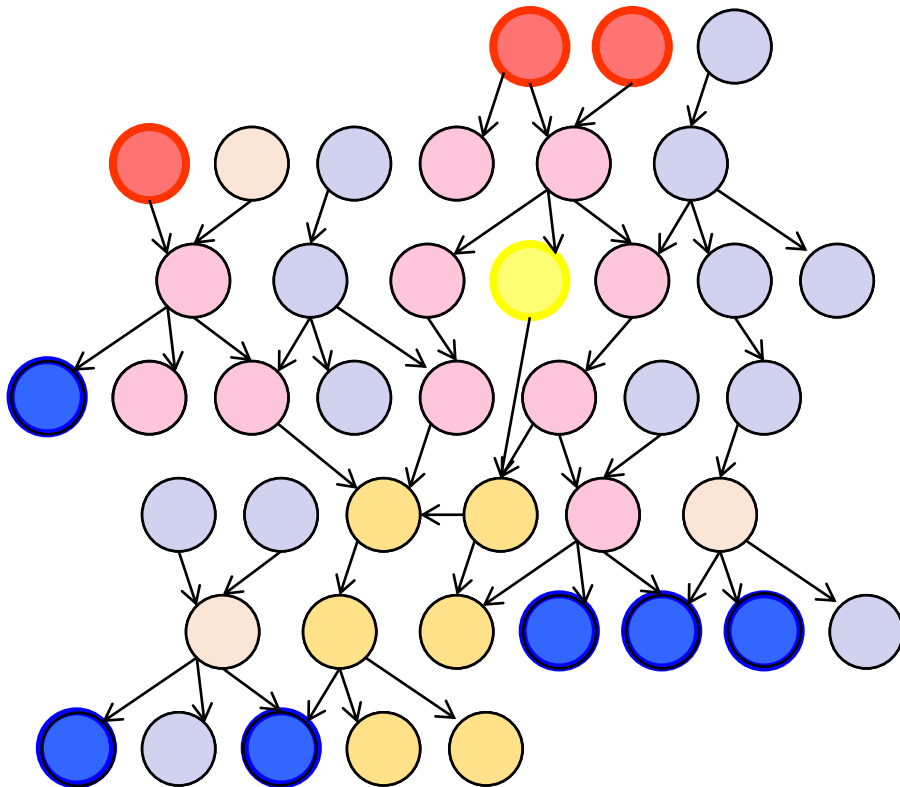
- Likelihood weighting is an example of **importance sampling**
  - Would like to estimate some quantity based on samples from  $P$
  - $P$  is hard to sample from, so use  $Q$  instead
  - Weight each sample  $x$  by  $P(x)/Q(x)$

# Car Insurance: $P(\text{PropertyCost} \mid e)$



# Likelihood weighting

- Likelihood weighting is good
  - All samples are used
  - The values of *downstream* variables are influenced by *upstream* evidence



- Likelihood weighting still has weaknesses
  - The values of *upstream* variables are unaffected by *downstream* evidence
    - E.g., suppose evidence is a video of a traffic accident
  - With evidence in  $k$  leaf nodes, weights will be  $O(2^{-k})$
  - With high probability, one lucky sample will have much larger weight than the others, dominating the result
- We would like each variable to “see” *all* the evidence!