

# Uncertain Domain

- Agent may need to handle uncertainty
- Environment is partially observable
  - Fully observable: An agent knows where it is.
  - The drone never knows its exact position, only an estimated one.
  - The true user intent is not directly observable, only noisy speech data.
  - It cannot see the whole environment or detect humans perfectly.
  - The true health state (disease present or not) is hidden.
- Environment is non-deterministic
  - AI Trading Agent
    - even if the agent takes the same action, the outcome can vary dramatically.
    - from market prices changes unpredictably due to external events (news, other traders, economic data).
    - network latency, competing traders' behavior are stochastic and independent, random fluctuations can affect the outcome.
    - buy action could lead to profit, loss, or no change depending on uncontrollable external factors.
  - AI Helpdesk Chatbot
    - even when the chatbot executes the same action, it sends queries to multiple backend systems, the result may differ each time.
    - network latency or failures, backend load, concurrent requests, and external dependencies can lead to different response times or outcomes.
    - same command doesn't guarantee the same outcome.
- Autonomous Driving
  - Partial Observability
    - Sensors cannot detect everything, blind spots, weather effects, occluded vehicles.
  - Non-Determinism
    - Even if the car signals a turn and starts moving, other drivers might brake suddenly, pedestrians might cross unexpectedly, or traffic lights might malfunction.
    - depending on random external events.
- Medical Diagnosis & Treatment Assistant
  - Partial Observability
    - The patient's internal health state is not directly visible.
    - tests can be inaccurate or incomplete: false positives/negatives, missing data
  - Non-Determinism
    - The same treatment can have different effects on different patients due to genetics, lifestyle, or random biological responses.

- A drug may succeed, fail, or cause side effects.

## Bayes' Theorem

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A) \cdot P(A)}{P(B)}$$

- $P(A|B)$ : Posterior probability, the probability of event A given that B has occurred.
- $P(B|A)$ : Likelihood, the probability of event B occurring given that A is true.
- $P(A)$ : Prior probability, the initial probability of A being true before considering B.
- $P(B)$ : Evidence, the total probability of B occurring.
- examples
  - 1% of people have a certain disease (prior probability).  $P(\text{Disease}) = 0.01$
  - the test for the disease is 99% accurate (likelihood).
    - $P(\text{PositiveTest}|\text{Disease}) = 0.99$
    - $P(\text{NegativeTest}|\text{NoDisease}) = 0.99$
    - so  $P(\text{PositiveTest}|\text{NoDisease}) = 0.01$
  - $P(\text{PositiveTest}) = P(\text{PositiveTest}|\text{Disease}) \cdot P(\text{Disease}) + P(\text{PositiveTest}|\text{NoDisease}) \cdot P(\text{NoDisease})$ 
    - $= 0.99 \cdot 0.01 + 0.01 \cdot 0.99 = 0.0198$
  - $P(\text{Disease}|\text{PositiveTest}) = \frac{P(\text{PositiveTest}|\text{Disease}) \cdot P(\text{Disease})}{P(\text{PositiveTest})}$ 
    - $= \frac{0.99 \cdot 0.01}{0.0198} \approx 0.5$
- the conditional probability  $P(\text{effect}|\text{cause})$  quantifies the relationship in **the causal direction** from cause to effect.
- but  $P(\text{cause}|\text{effect})$  is often what we really want to know, describing the relationship in **the diagnostic direction** from effect to cause.
  - In medical diagnosis, the doctor knows  $P(\text{symptoms}|\text{disease})$  from medical studies, and want to derive a  $P(\text{disease}|\text{symptoms})$  for a particular patient.
  - $$P(\text{disease}|\text{symptoms}) = \frac{P(\text{symptoms}|\text{disease}) \cdot P(\text{disease})}{P(\text{symptoms})}$$

## General Form of Bayes' Rule

$$P(Y|X) = \alpha \cdot P(X|Y) \cdot P(Y)$$

- $\alpha$  is the normalization constant needed to make the entries in  $P(Y|X)$  sum to 1 for each value of X.
- conditional independency

- two variables X and Y are conditionally independent given a third variable Z if the value of X provides no information about Y once Z is known.
- $P(X, Y|Z) = P(X|Z) \cdot P(Y|Z)$

## Constructing Bayesian Network

- constructing a Bayesian network in which resulting joint probability distributions are a good representation of the agent's knowledge.
- i.  $P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i|\text{parents}(x_i))$
- ii. rewrite the entries in the joint probability distribution in terms of conditional probabilities using the product rule.
  - $P(x_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_n) = P(x_n|x_{n-1} \wedge \dots \wedge x_1) \cdot P(x_{n-1} \wedge \dots \wedge x_1)$
- iii. repeat step 2 until all variables are included.
  - $P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = P(x_n|x_{n-1} \wedge \dots \wedge x_1) \cdot P(x_{n-1}|x_{n-2} \wedge \dots \wedge x_1) \cdots P(x_2|x_1) \cdot P(x_1)$

## Knowledge Representation

- The agent's knowledge can at best provide only a degree of belief in the relevant logical sentences.
- A probabilistic agent may have a numerical degree of belief between 0 and 1.

## Bayesian Network

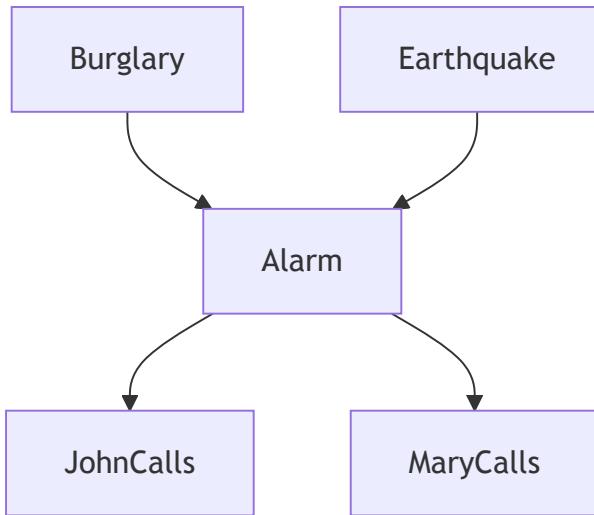
- a directed graph
- each node represents a random variable and edge with an arrow from X to Y represents that X is a parent of Y.
- each node is associated with a probability distribution
- if a node Y has parents X, the Y node has a conditional probability distribution with respect to its parents X, i.e.  $P(Y|\text{parents}(Y))$
- if a node has no any parents, it has an unconditional probability distribution.

## Burglary Example

- a new burglar **alarm** installed at home.
- it is reliable at detecting a **burglary**, but also responds on occasion to minor **earthquakes**
- you have two neighbors, **John** and **Mary** who promised to call you at work when they hear the alarm.
- given the evidence of who has or has not called, estimate the probability of a burglary.
- Knowledge representation as the probability of each event that can occur in this case.

$$P(\text{event}_j) = \frac{\text{number of occurrences of event } j}{\text{total number of experiments}}$$

- calculate the full joint probability distribution for all relevant variables.
  - specifying probabilities for all possible events one by one is unnatural and tedious.



$$P(B, E, A, J, M) = \prod_i^5 P(X_i | \text{parents}(X_i)) = P(B) \cdot P(E) \cdot P(A|B, E) \cdot P(J|A) \cdot P(M|A)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(M, J, A, E, B) &= P(M|J, A, E, B) \cdot P(J, A, E, B) \\
 &\quad P(J|A, E, B) \cdot P(A, E, B) \\
 &\quad P(A|E, B) \cdot P(E, B) \\
 &\quad P(E|B) \cdot P(B) \\
 &= P(M|J, A, E, B) \cdot P(J|A, E, B) \cdot P(A|E, B) \cdot P(E|B) \cdot P(B) \\
 &= P(M|J, A, E, B) \cdot P(J|A, E, B) \cdot P(A|E, B) \cdot P(E) \cdot P(B) \\
 &\quad i.e. P(E|B) = P(E) \text{ (Earthquake is independent of Burglary)} \\
 &= P(M|A) \cdot P(J|A) \cdot P(A|E, B) \cdot P(E) \cdot P(B) \\
 &\quad i.e. P(J|A, E, B) = P(J|A) \text{ (JohnCalls depends only on Alarm)} \\
 &\quad i.e. P(M|J, A, E, B) = P(M|A) \text{ (MaryCalls depends only on Alarm)}
 \end{aligned}$$

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

## Probabilistic reasoning

- to explain how to use network models to reason under uncertainty.
- Exact inference:** calculate the exact posterior probabilities.

- **Approximate inference:** Stochastic approximation techniques such as likelihood weighting and Markov Chain Monte Carlo
  - can give reasonable estimates of the true posterior probabilities in a network
  - can cope with much larger networks than exact inference algorithms.
- **Static worlds:** Each random variable has a single fixed value.
- **Dynamic worlds:** view the world as a series of snapshots, or time slices.
  - Each of snapshots contains a set of random variables, some observed and some hidden.
  - The values of these variables can change over time.
  - With the assumption of state sequences are Markov, the future is independent of the past given the present.

## Inference in Bayesian Networks

- Computing the posterior probability distribution of a set of query variables, given some observed events, called some assignment of values to a set of evidence variables.
- $X$ : query variable(s)
  - is it raining?
- $E$ : the set of evidence variables with observed values  $E_1, \dots, E_m$ 
  - weather report says it is cloudy.
  - weather report says there is high humidity.
- $e$ : a particular observed event.
  - $E_1 = \text{cloudy}$
  - $E_2 = \text{high humidity}$
- $Y$ : the non-evidence, non-query variables.
  - the other variables in the network.
- $X = \{X\} \cup E \cup Y$ 
  - the complete set of variables in the network.
- $P(X|e)$ : the posterior probability distribution of the query variable(s) given the evidence.
- $P(X|e) = \alpha \sum_y P(X, e, y)$

## Exact inference in Bayesian Networks

- One exact inference method is called by inference by **enumeration**.
- Observed some event  $A = \text{true}$  and  $B = \text{true}$ , want to compute the posterior probability distribution  $P(C|A, B)$ .
  - Use the full conditional probability table
  - Use the Bayesian Network
- It calculates all the required probability components in each branch in the evaluation tree, and this results in repetitive calculations.
- To avoid this, we can use **variable elimination algorithm** and **clustering algorithms**.

- Calculation of probability distribution for a query variable is complexity exponential.
- Enumeration method can become intractable in large, multiple connected networks.  $\rightarrow$  use approximate inference methods.

For any Bayesian network with given nodes,  $X = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ , the joint probability distribution is given by:

$$P(X) = P(X_1 \wedge X_2 \wedge \dots \wedge X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

**Using the Bayesian network, we can compute the conditional probability.**

$$P(B|event) = \alpha \sum_e \sum_a P(B, E, A, j, m)$$

- $i = 1, P(X_1 | \text{parents}(X_1)) = P(B)$
- $i = 2, P(X_2 | \text{parents}(X_2)) = P(E)$
- $i = 3, P(X_3 | \text{parents}(X_3)) = P(A|B, E)$
- $i = 4, P(X_4 | \text{parents}(X_4)) = P(j|A)$
- $i = 5, P(X_5 | \text{parents}(X_5)) = P(m|A)$
- $P(B, E, A, j, m) = P(B) \cdot P(E) \cdot P(A|B, E) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(B|event) &= \alpha \sum_e \sum_a P(B, E, A, j, m) \\ &= \alpha \sum_e \sum_a P(B) \cdot P(E) \cdot P(A|B, E) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) \\ &= \alpha \cdot P(B) \sum_e P(E) \sum_a P(A|B, E) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) \end{aligned}$$

**Burglary example calculation:**

$$\begin{aligned}
P(b|event) &= \alpha P(b) \sum_e P(E) \sum_a P(A|b, E) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) \\
&= \alpha P(b) \left[ P(e) \sum_a P(A|b, e) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) + P(\neg e) \sum_a P(A|b, \neg e) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) \right] \\
&\quad \sum_a P(A, b, e) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) \\
&= P(a, b, e) \cdot P(j|a) \cdot P(m|a) + P(\neg a, b, e) \cdot P(j|\neg a) \cdot P(m|\neg a) \\
&\quad \sum_a P(A|b, \neg e) \cdot P(j|A) \cdot P(m|A) \\
&= P(a, b, \neg e) \cdot P(j|a) \cdot P(m|a) + P(\neg a, b, \neg e) \cdot P(j|\neg a) \cdot P(m|\neg a) \\
&= \alpha P(b) \left[ P(e) (P(a|b, e) \cdot P(j|a) \cdot P(m|a) + P(\neg a|b, e) \cdot P(j|\neg a) \cdot P(m|\neg a)) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + P(\neg e) (P(a|b, \neg e) \cdot P(j|a) \cdot P(m|a) + P(\neg a|b, \neg e) \cdot P(j|\neg a) \cdot P(m|\neg a)) \right]
\end{aligned}$$