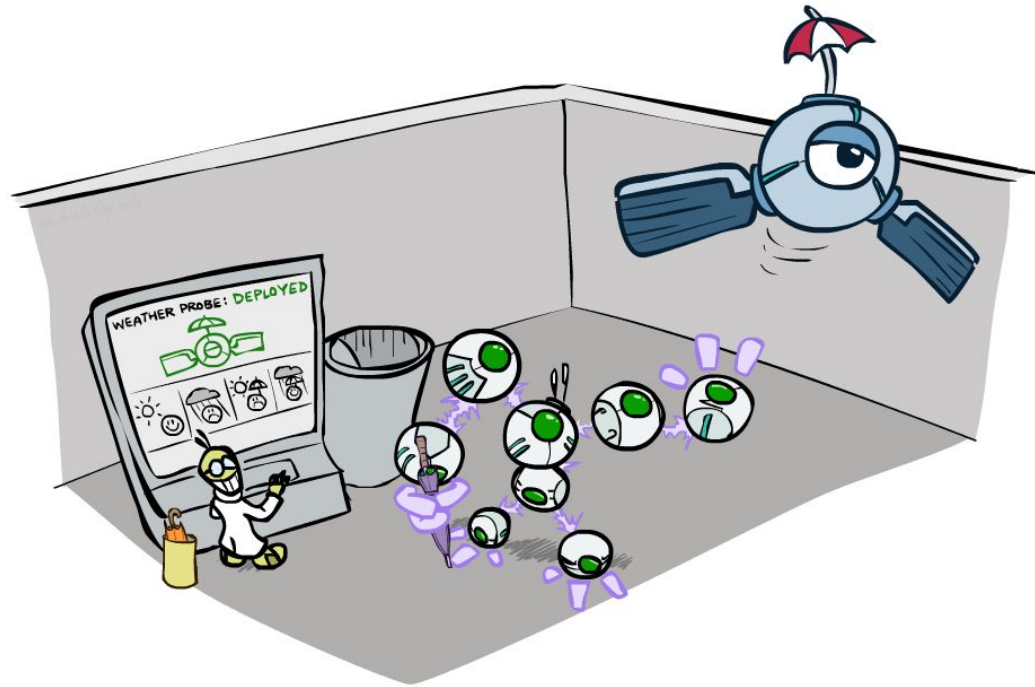


# CS 188: Artificial Intelligence

## Decision Networks and VPI



Instructor: Saagar Sanghavi—University of California, Berkeley

[Slides Credit: Dan Klein, Pieter Abbeel, Anca Dragan, and many others.]

# Recap: Utilities and Rationality

- Utilities and Rationality
- Rational Preferences

Orderability:  $(A > B) \vee (B > A) \vee (A \sim B)$

Transitivity:  $(A > B) \wedge (B > C) \Rightarrow (A > C)$

Continuity:  $(A > B > C) \Rightarrow \exists p [p, A; 1-p, C] \sim B$

Substitutability:  $(A \sim B) \Rightarrow [p, A; 1-p, C] \sim [p, B; 1-p, C]$

Monotonicity:  $(A > B) \Rightarrow$

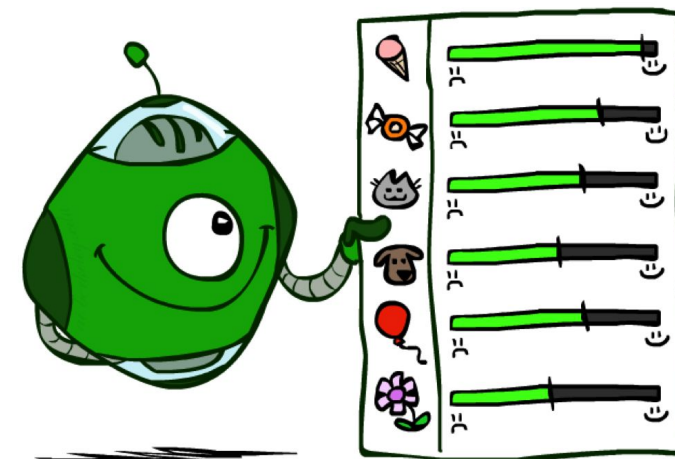
$$(p \geq q) \Leftrightarrow [p, A; 1-p, B] \geq [q, A; 1-q, B]$$

## MEU Principle:

Given Rational Preferences, Exists  $U(X)$  s.t.

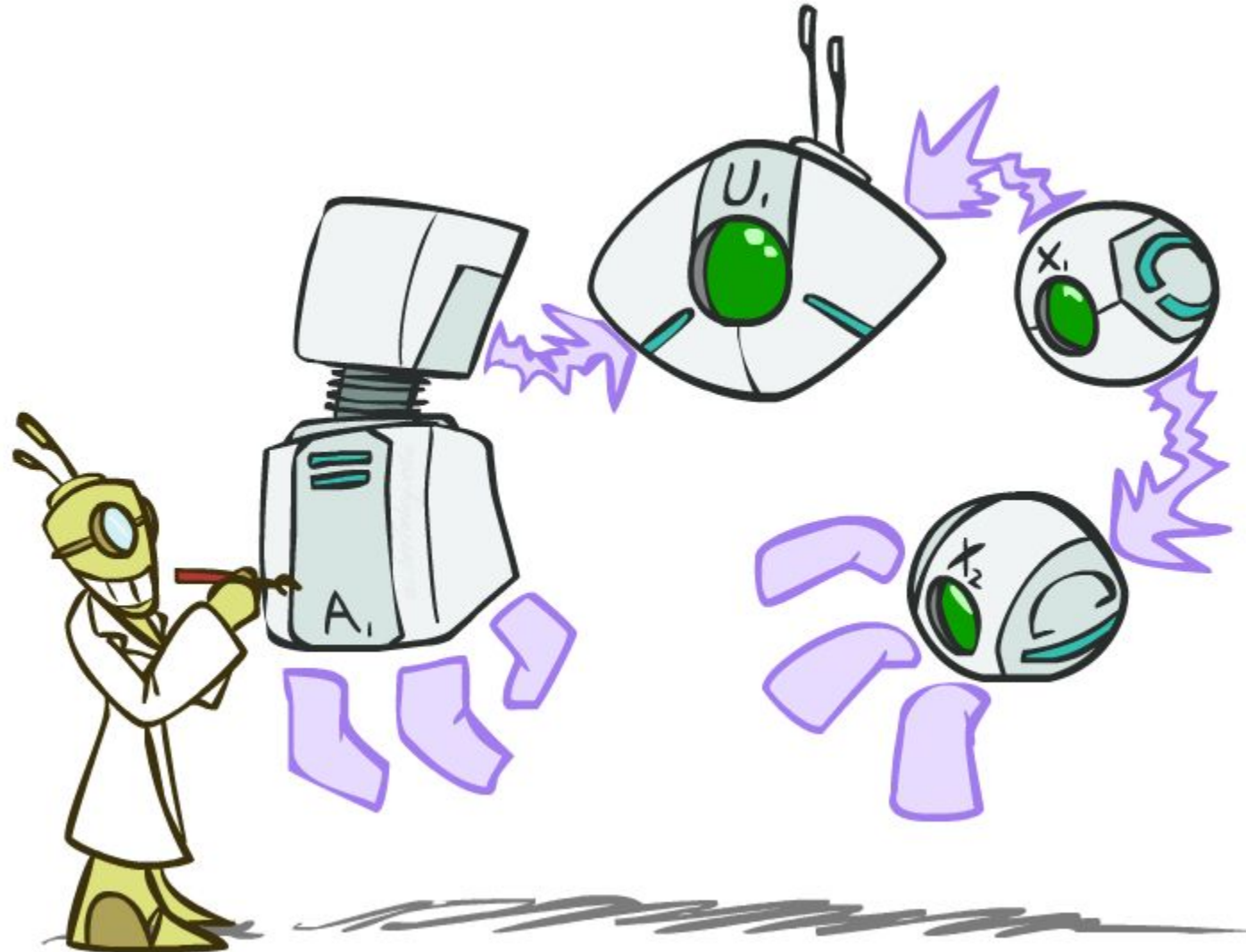
$$U(A) \geq U(B) \Leftrightarrow A \geq B$$

$$U([p_1, S_1; \dots; p_n, S_n]) = p_1 U(S_1) + \dots + p_n U(S_n)$$

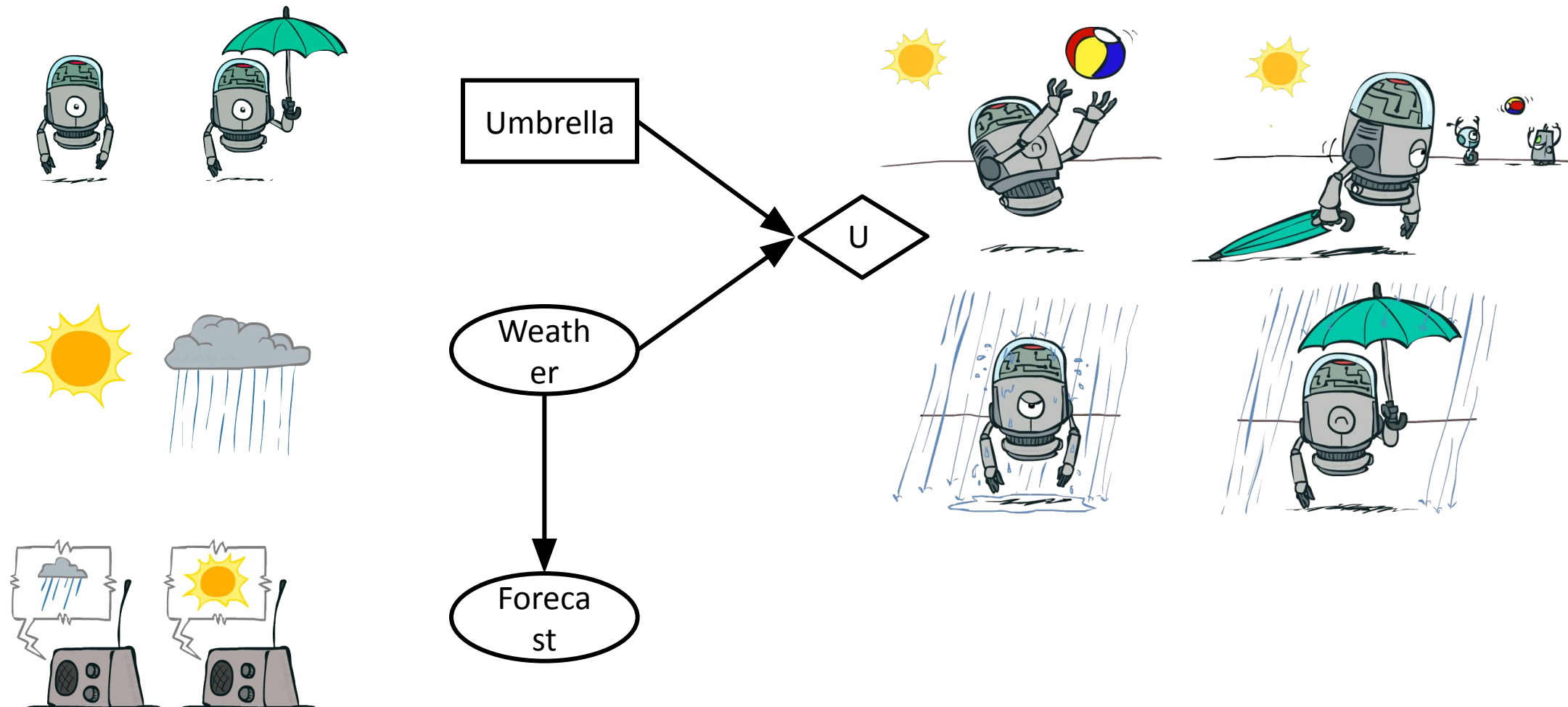


# Decision Networks

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# Decision Networks



# Decision Networks

- **MEU: choose the action which maximizes the expected utility given the evidence**

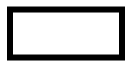
- Can directly operationalize this with decision networks

- Bayes nets, with new node types for utilities and actions
- Lets us calculate the expected utility for each action

- New node types:



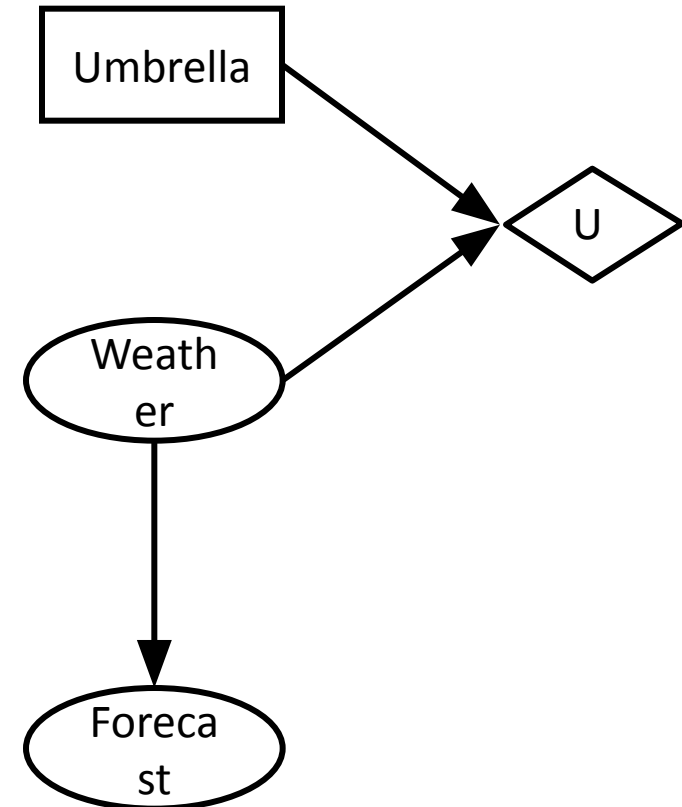
- Chance nodes (just like Bayes Nets)



- Actions (rectangles, cannot have parents, act as observed evidence)



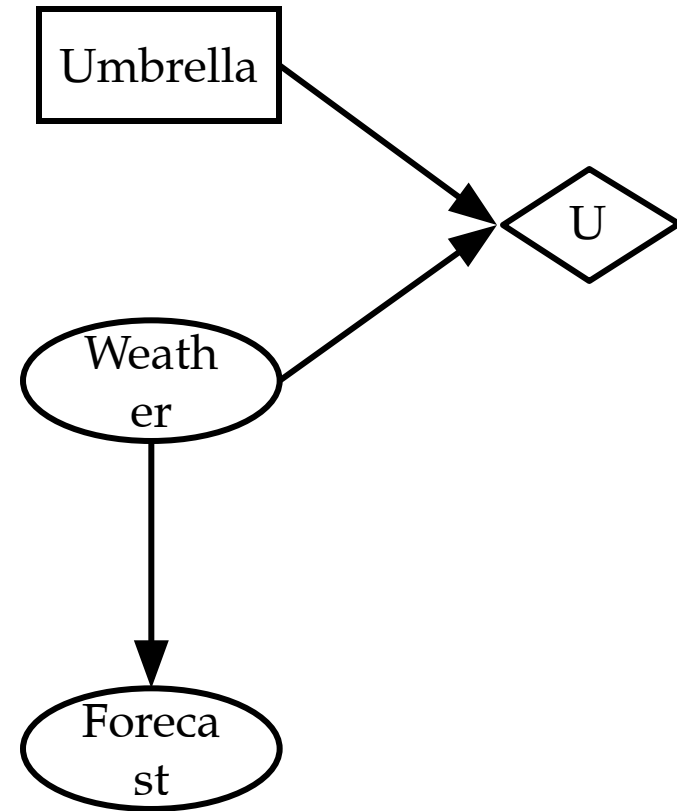
- Utility node (diamond, depends on action and chance nodes)



# Decision Networks

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- Action selection
  - Instantiate all evidence
  - Set action node(s) each possible way
  - Calculate posterior for all parents of utility node, given the evidence
  - Calculate expected utility for each action
  - Choose maximizing action



# Maximum Expected Utility

Umbrella = leave

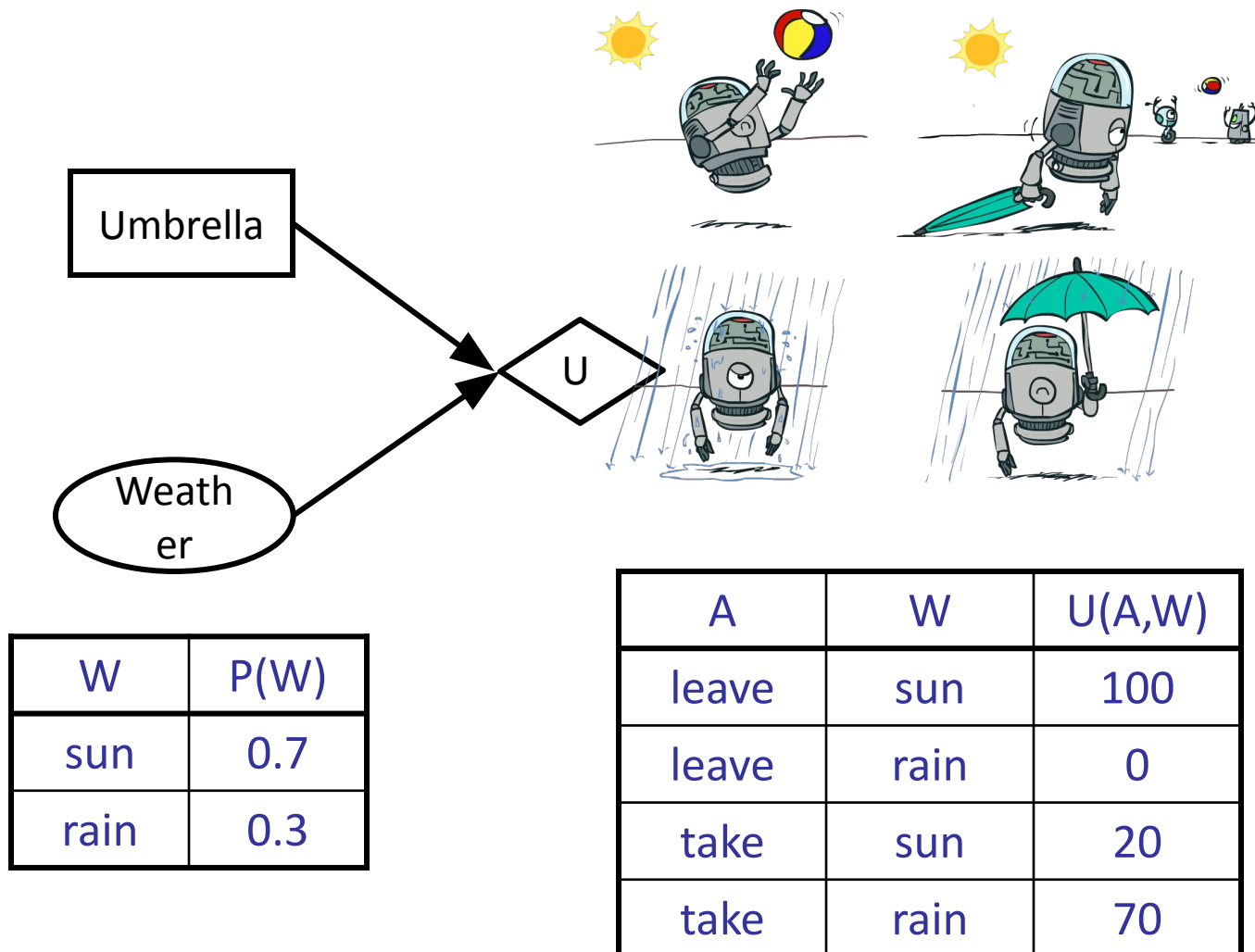
$$\begin{aligned} EU(\text{leave}) &= \sum_w P(w)U(\text{leave}, w) \\ &= 0.7 \cdot 100 + 0.3 \cdot 0 = 70 \end{aligned}$$

Umbrella = take

$$\begin{aligned} EU(\text{take}) &= \sum_w P(w)U(\text{take}, w) \\ &= 0.7 \cdot 20 + 0.3 \cdot 70 = 35 \end{aligned}$$

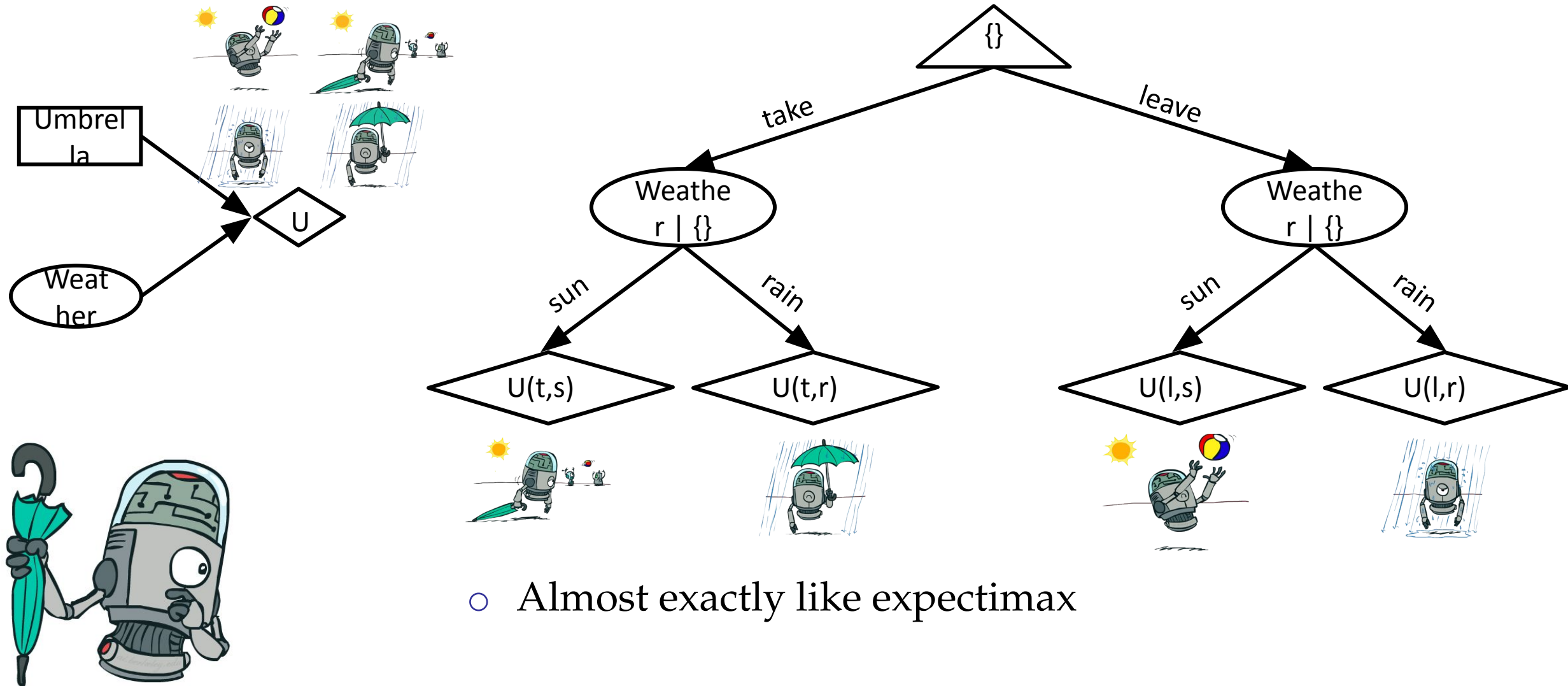
Optimal decision = leave

$$MEU(\emptyset) = \max_a EU(a) = 70$$





# Decisions as Outcome Trees





# Maximum Expected Utility Given Evidence

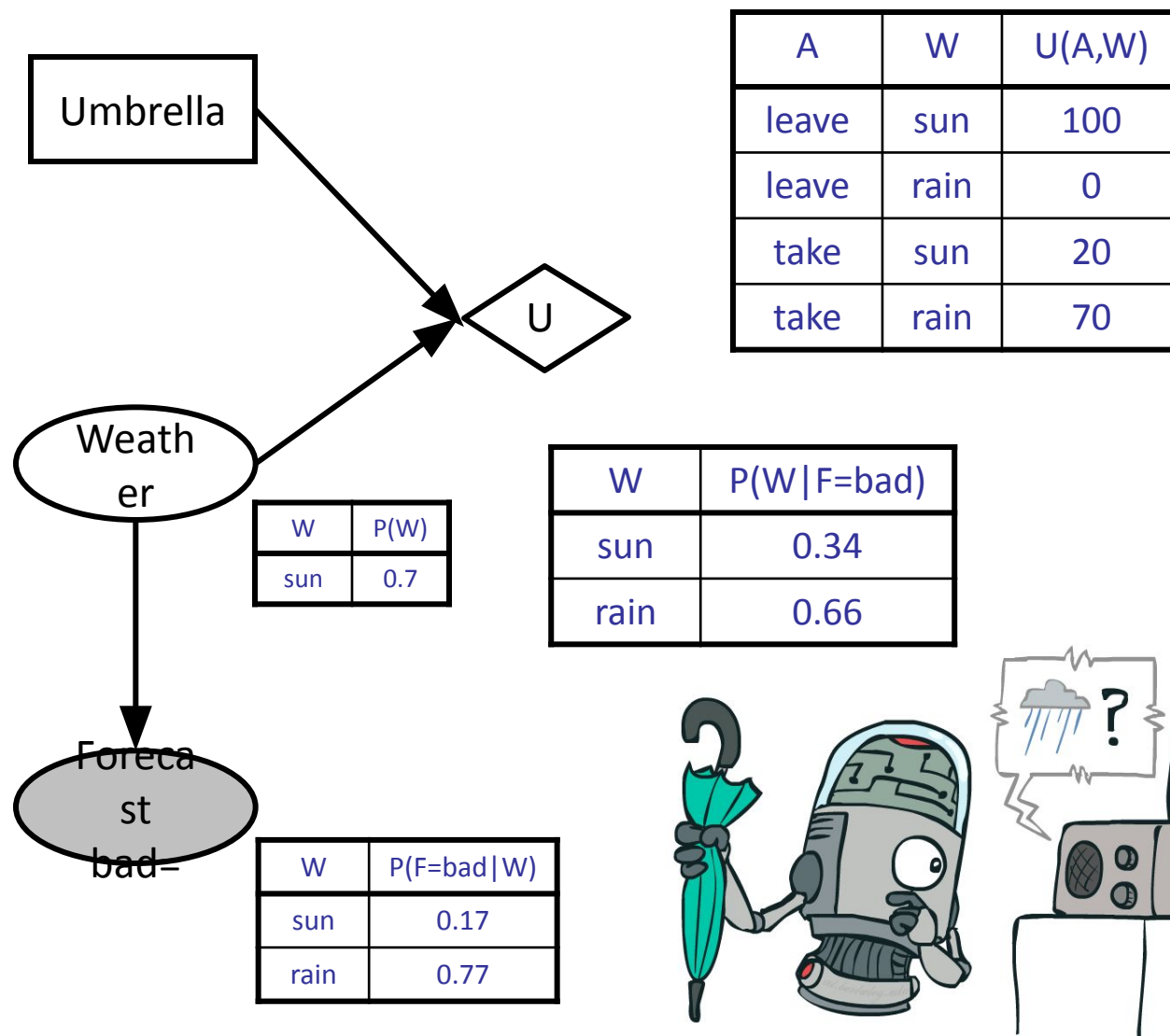
Umbrella = leave

$$EU(\text{leave}|\text{bad}) = \sum_w P(w|\text{bad})U(\text{leave}, w)$$

$$P(W) \quad P(F|W)$$

$$P(W|F) = \frac{P(W, F)}{\sum_w P(w, F)}$$

$$= \frac{P(F|W)P(W)}{\sum_w P(F|w)P(w)}$$



# Maximum Expected Utility Given Evidence

Umbrella = leave

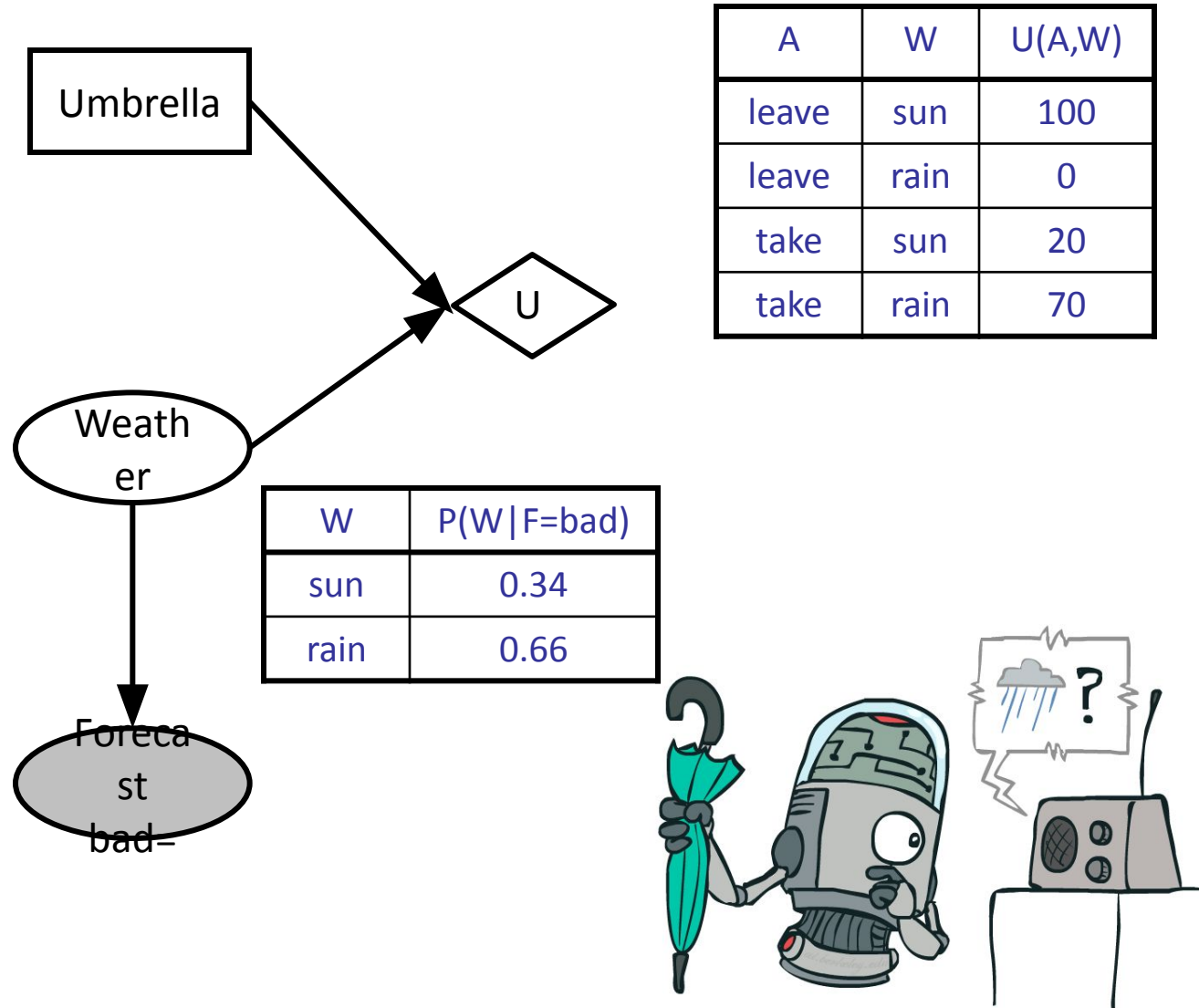
$$\begin{aligned} EU(\text{leave}|\text{bad}) &= \sum_w P(w|\text{bad})U(\text{leave}, w) \\ &= 0.34 \cdot 100 + 0.66 \cdot 0 = 34 \end{aligned}$$

Umbrella = take

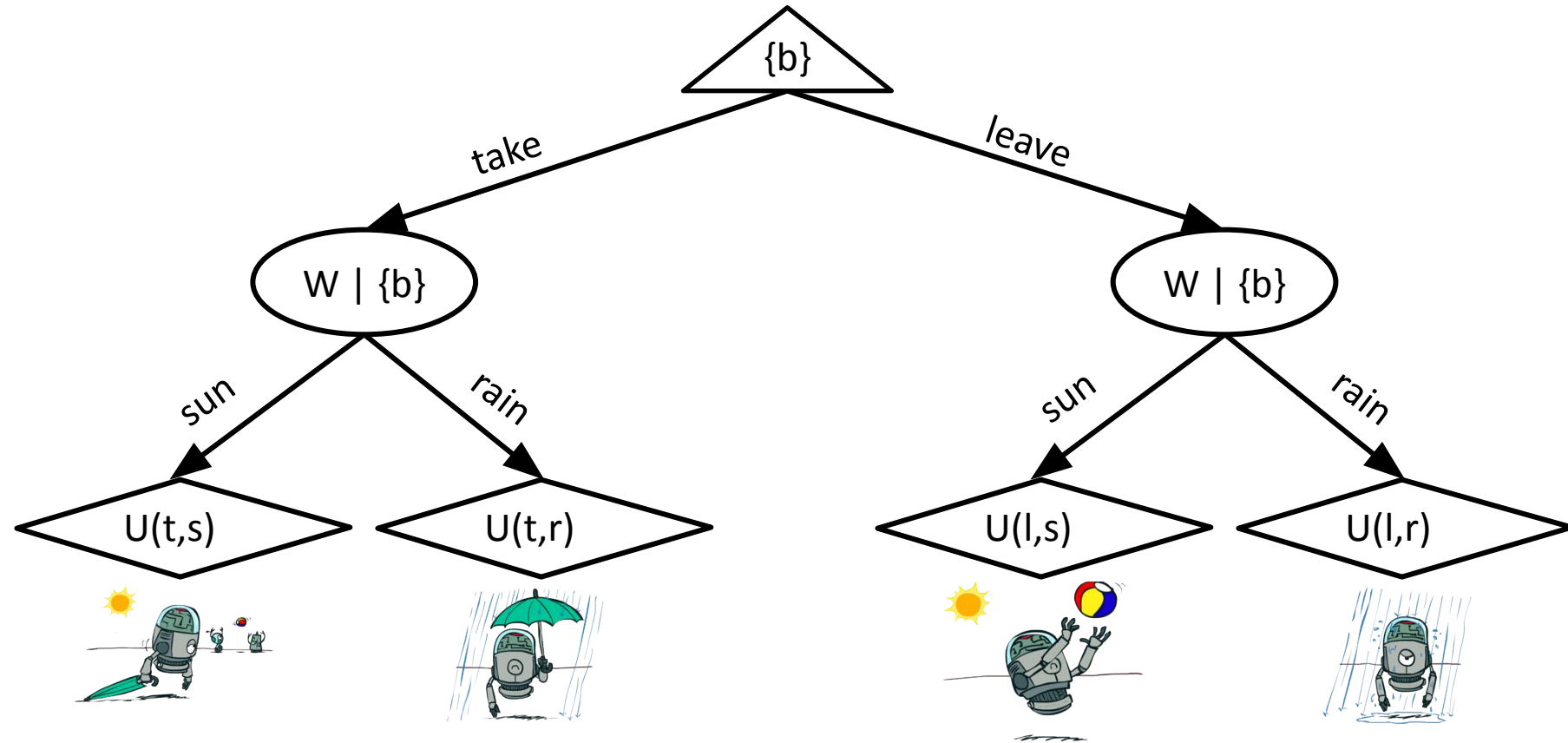
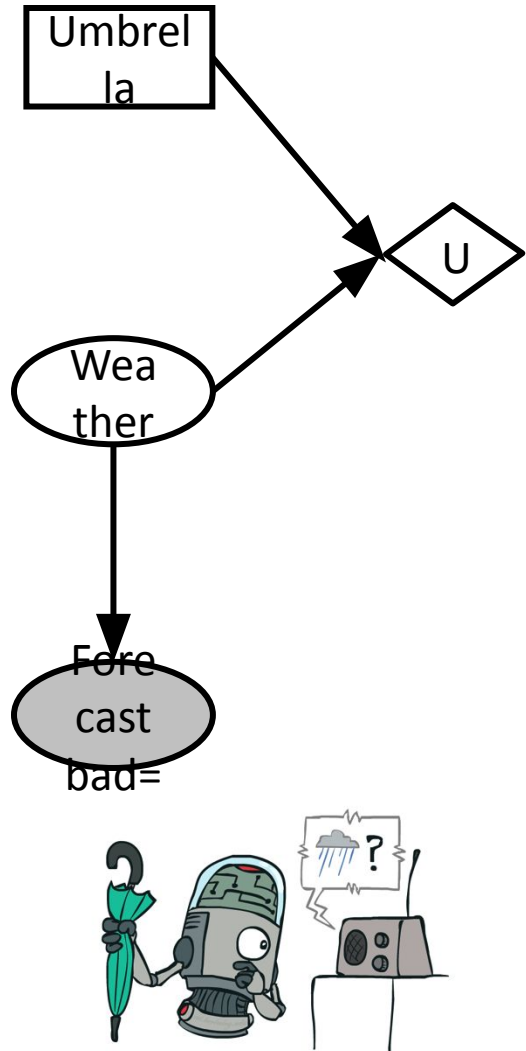
$$\begin{aligned} EU(\text{take}|\text{bad}) &= \sum_w P(w|\text{bad})U(\text{take}, w) \\ &= 0.34 \cdot 20 + 0.66 \cdot 70 = 53 \end{aligned}$$

Optimal decision = take

$$MEU(F = \text{bad}) = \max_a EU(a|\text{bad}) = 53$$

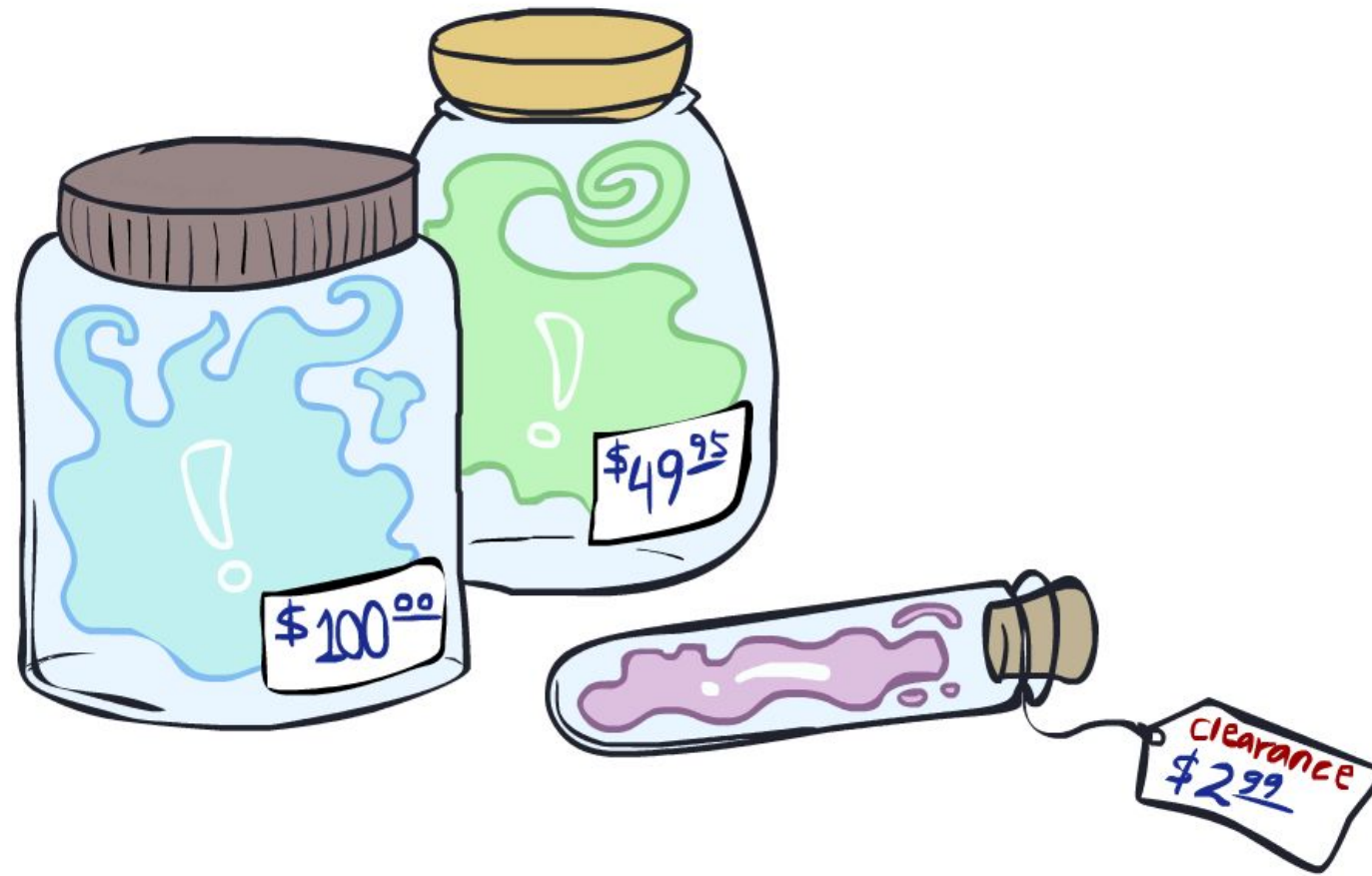


# Decisions as Outcome Trees



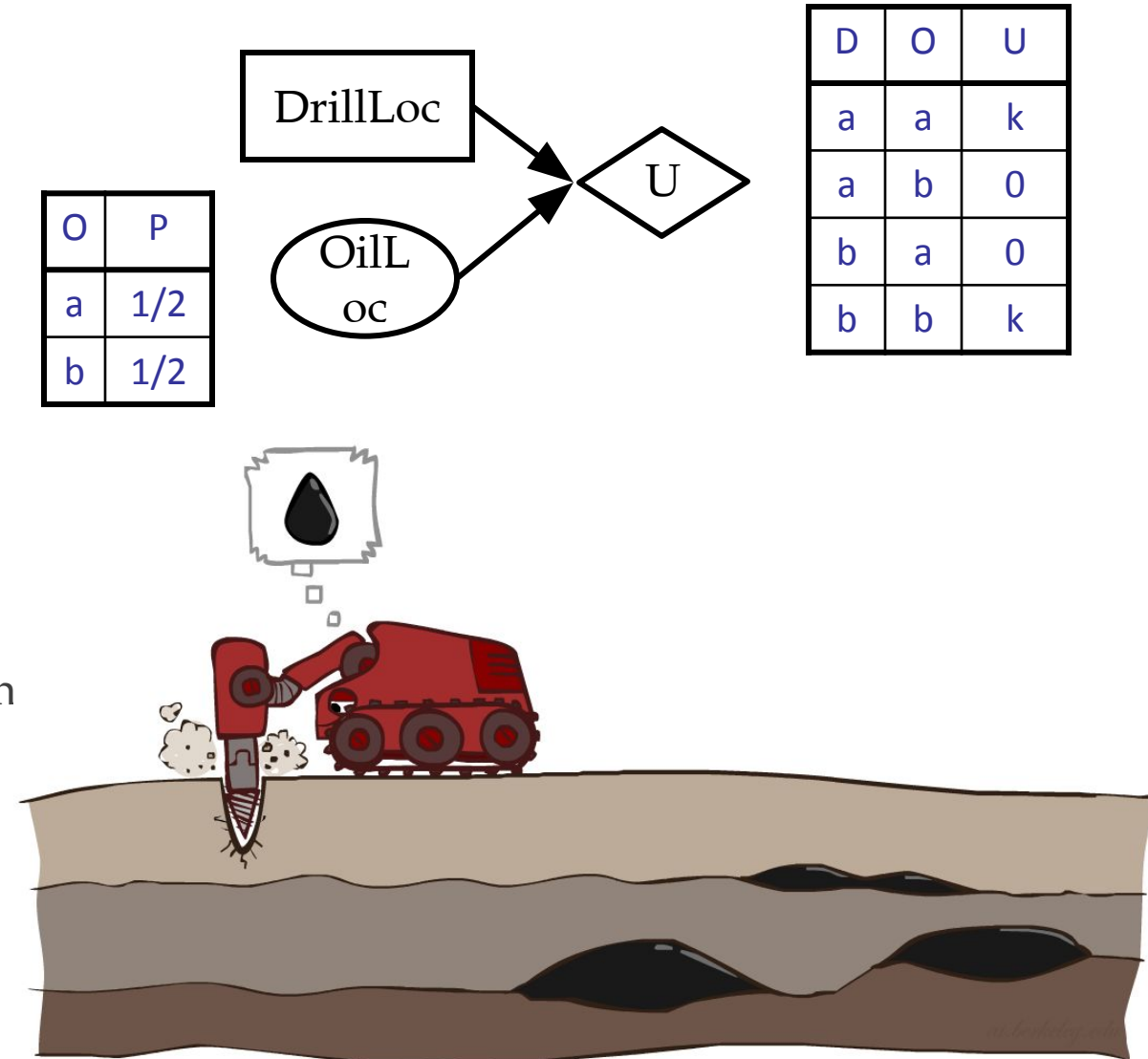
# Value of Information

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# Value of Information

- Idea: compute value of acquiring evidence
  - Can be done directly from decision network
- Example: buying oil drilling rights
  - Two blocks A and B, exactly one has oil, worth k
  - You can drill in one location
  - Prior probabilities 0.5 each, & mutually exclusive
  - Drilling in either A or B has  $EU = k/2$ ,  $MEU = k/2$
- Question: what's the **value of information** of O?
  - Value of knowing which of A or B has oil
  - Value is expected gain in MEU from new info
  - Survey may say "oil in a" or "oil in b," prob 0.5 each
  - If we know OilLoc, MEU is k (either way)
  - Gain in MEU from knowing OilLoc?
  - $VPI(OilLoc) = k/2$
  - Fair price of information:  $k/2$



# Value of Perfect Information

MEU with no evidence

$$\text{MEU}(\emptyset) = \max_a \text{EU}(a) = 70$$

MEU if forecast is bad

$$\text{MEU}(F = \text{bad}) = \max_a \text{EU}(a|\text{bad}) = 53$$

MEU if forecast is good

$$\text{MEU}(F = \text{good}) = \max_a \text{EU}(a|\text{good}) = 89.4$$

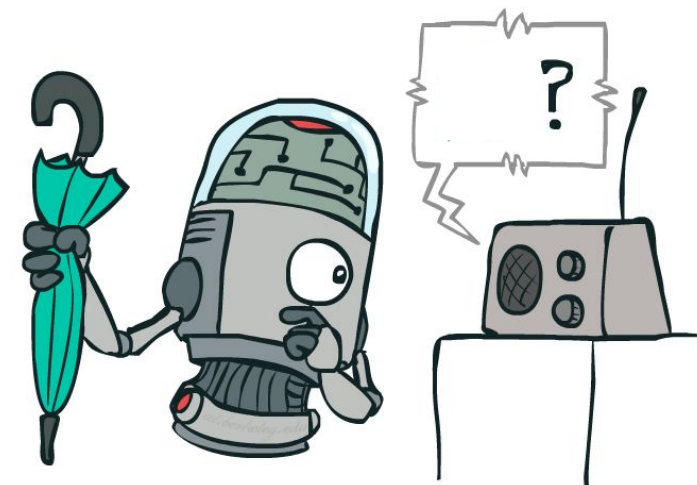
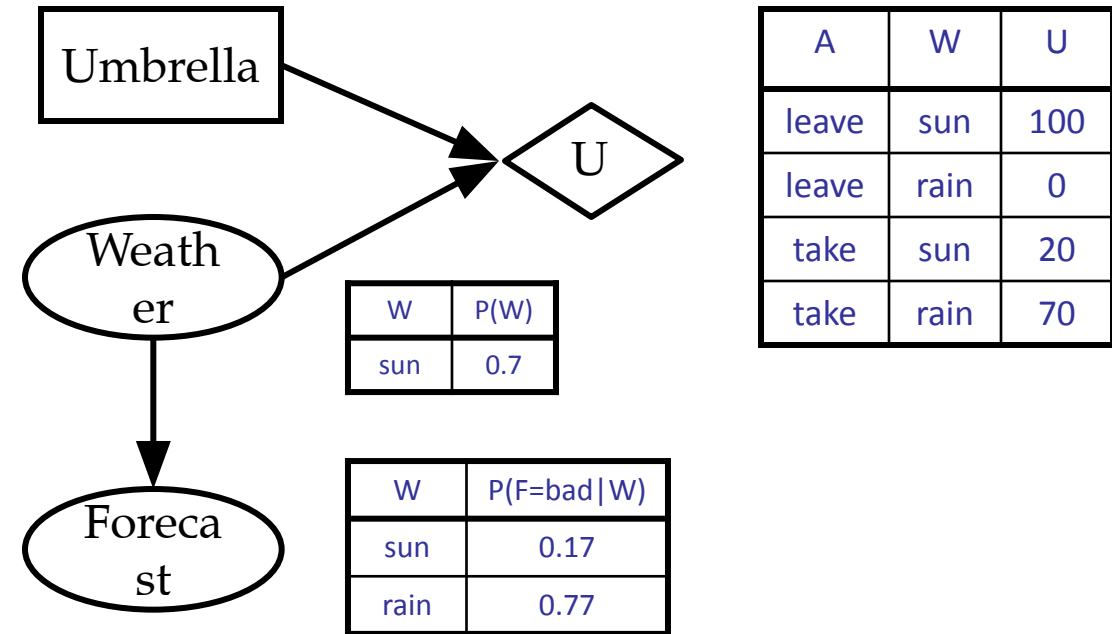
Forecast distribution

F	P(F)
bad	0.35
good	0.65



$$\begin{aligned} \text{VPI} &= 0.35 (53) + 0.65 (89.4) - 70 \\ \text{VPI} &= 6.66 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{VPI}(E'|e) = \left( \sum_{e'} P(e'|e) \text{MEU}(e, e') \right) - \text{MEU}(e)$$



# Value of Information

- Assume we have evidence  $E=e$ . Value if we act now:

$$MEU(e) = \max_a \sum_s P(s|e) U(s, a)$$

- We see new evidence  $E' = e'$ . Value if we act then:

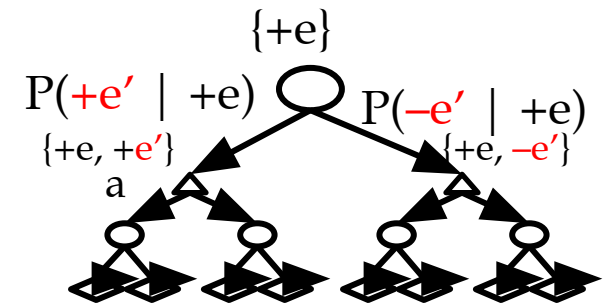
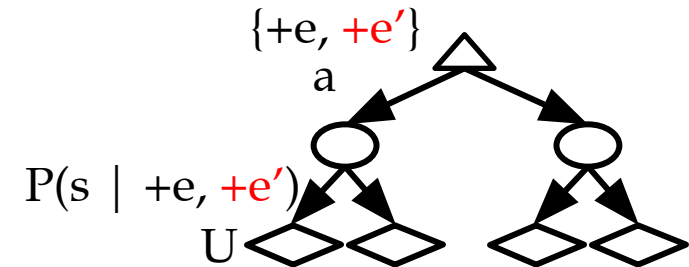
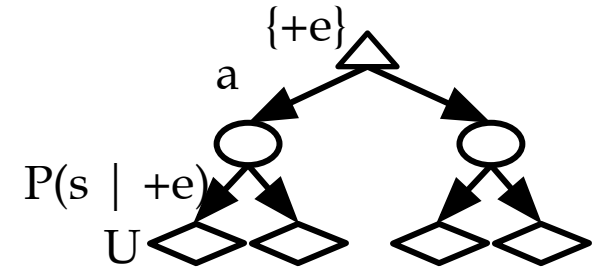
$$MEU(e, e') = \max_a \sum_s P(s|e, e') U(s, a)$$

- BUT  $E'$  is a random variable whose value is **unknown**, so we don't know what  $e'$  will be.
- Expected value if  $E'$  is revealed and then we act:

$$MEU(e, E') = \sum_{e'} P(e'|e) MEU(e, e')$$

- Value of information: how much MEU goes up by revealing  $E'$  first then acting, as opposed to acting now:

$$VPI(E'|e) = MEU(e, E') - MEU(e)$$

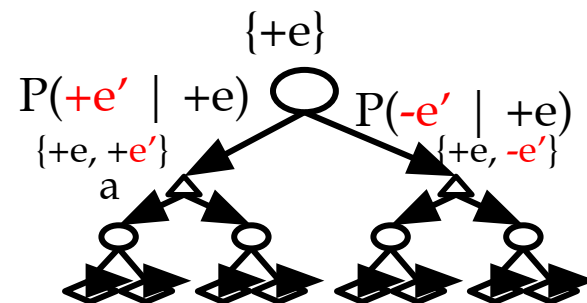
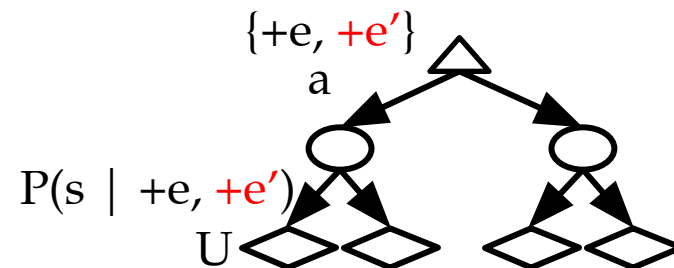
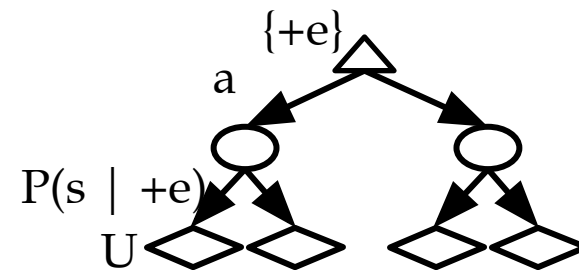




# Value of Information

$$\begin{aligned}\text{MEU}(e, E') &= \sum_{e'} P(e'|e) \text{MEU}(e, e') \\ &= \sum_{e'} P(e'|e) \max_a \sum_s P(s|e, e') U(s, a)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{MEU}(e) &= \max_a \sum_s P(s|e) U(s, a) \\ &= \max_a \sum_{e'} P(e'|e) \sum_s P(s|e, e') U(s, a)\end{aligned}$$



# VPI Properties

- Nonnegative

$$\forall E', e : \text{VPI}(E'|e) \geq 0$$



- Nonadditive

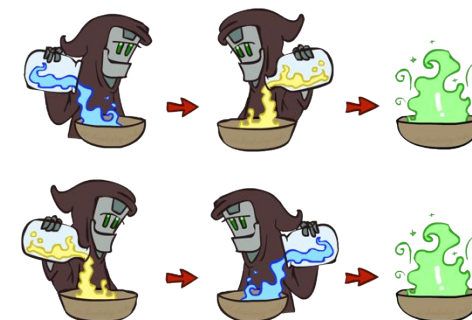
(think of observing  $E_j$  twice)

$$\text{VPI}(E_j, E_k|e) \neq \text{VPI}(E_j|e) + \text{VPI}(E_k|e)$$



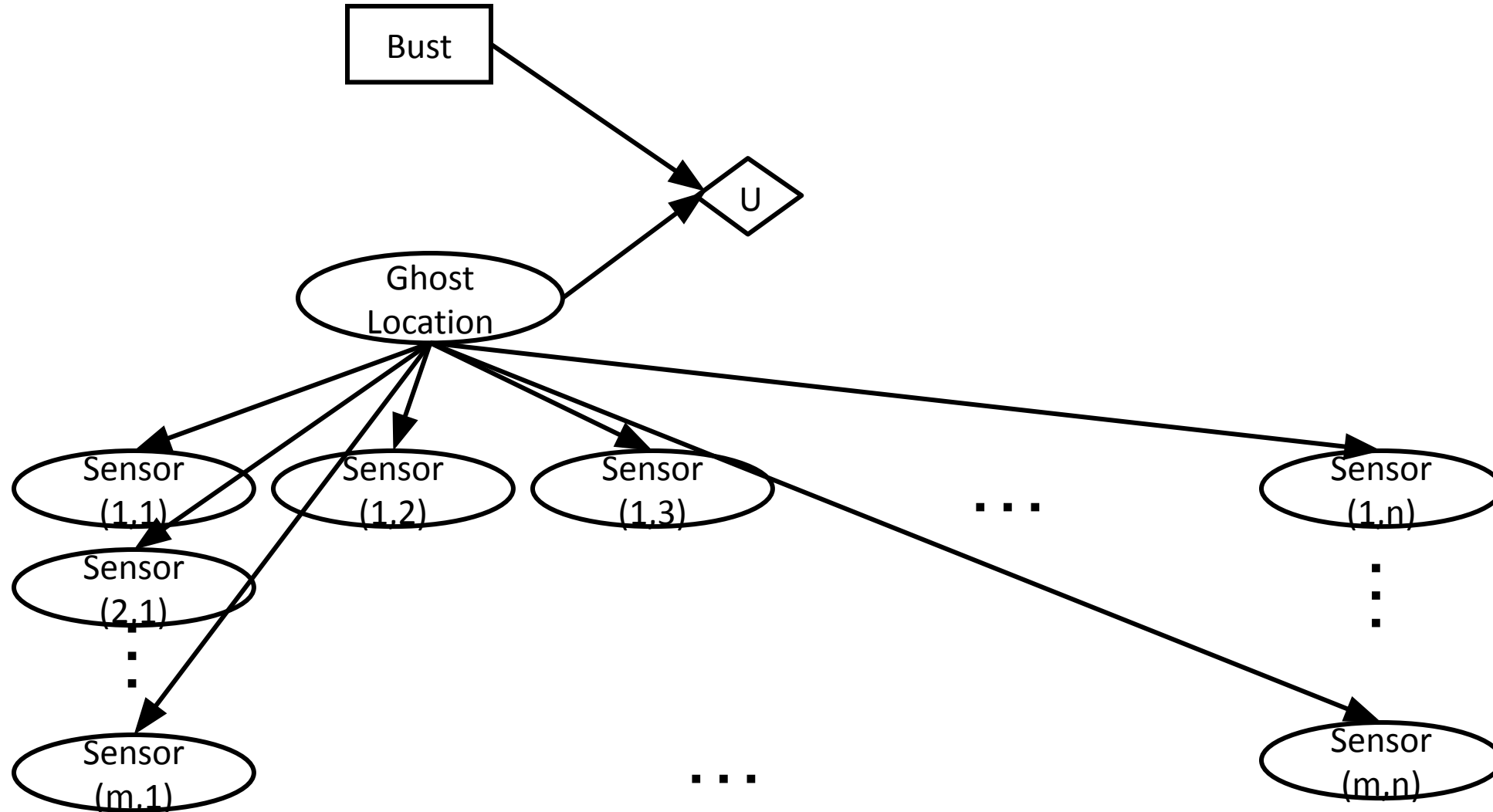
- Order-independent

$$\begin{aligned} \text{VPI}(E_j, E_k|e) &= \text{VPI}(E_j|e) + \text{VPI}(E_k|e, E_j) \\ &= \text{VPI}(E_k|e) + \text{VPI}(E_j|e, E_k) \end{aligned}$$



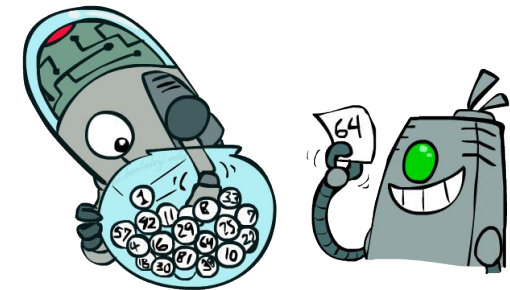
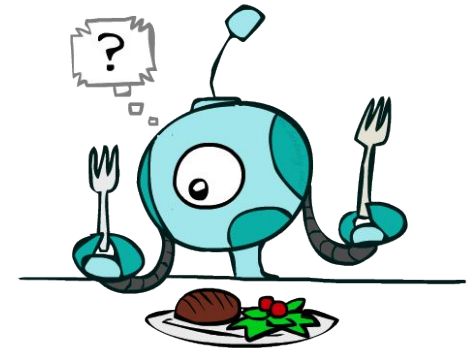
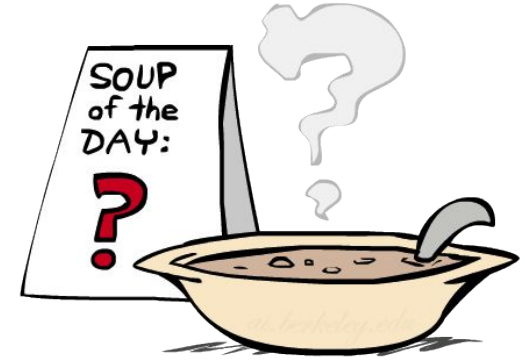
# Ghostbusters Decision Network

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# Quick VPI Questions

- The soup of the day is either clam chowder or split pea, but you wouldn't order either one. What's the value of knowing which it is?
- There are two kinds of plastic forks at a picnic. One kind is slightly sturdier. What's the value of knowing which?
- You're playing the lottery. The prize will be \$0 or \$100. You can play any number between 1 and 100 (chance of winning is 1%). What is the value of knowing the winning number?



# Value of Imperfect Information?

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- No such thing
- Information corresponds to the observation of a node in the decision network
- If data is “noisy” that just means we don’t observe the original variable, but another variable which is a noisy version of the original one

# VPI Question

- VPI(OilLoc) ?
- VPI(ScoutingReport) ?
- VPI(Scout) ?
- VPI(Scout | ScoutingReport) ?
- Generally:  
If  $\text{Parents}(U) \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid \text{CurrentEvidence}$   
Then  $\text{VPI}(Z \mid \text{CurrentEvidence}) = 0$

