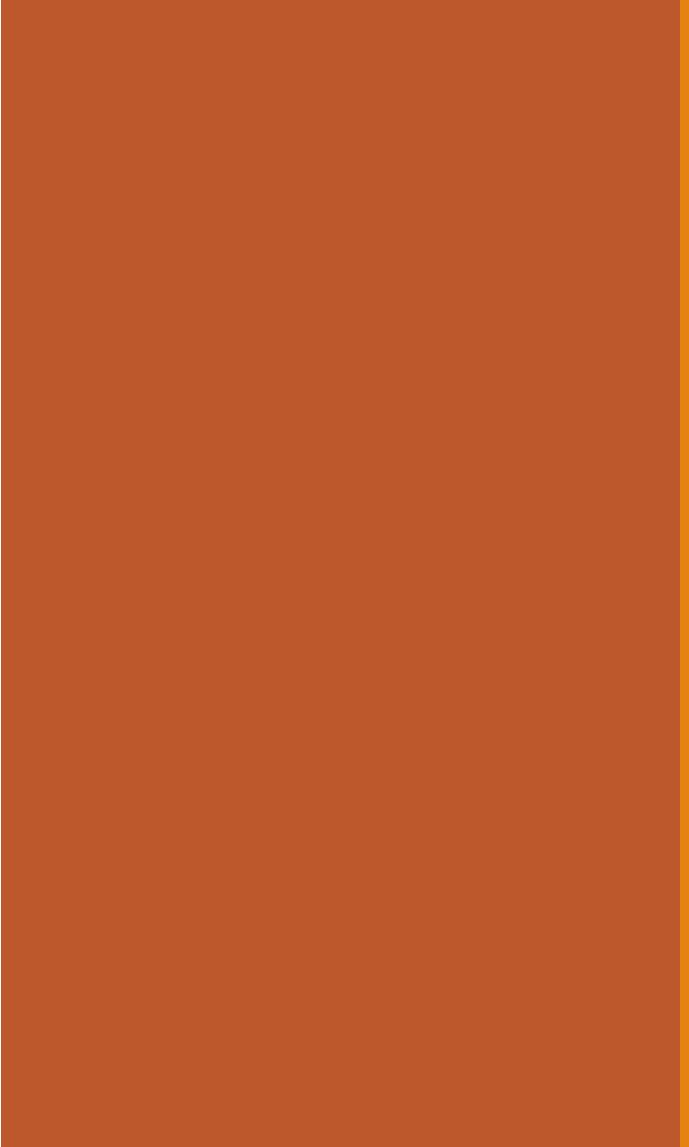


CS109: General Inference and Bayesian Networks

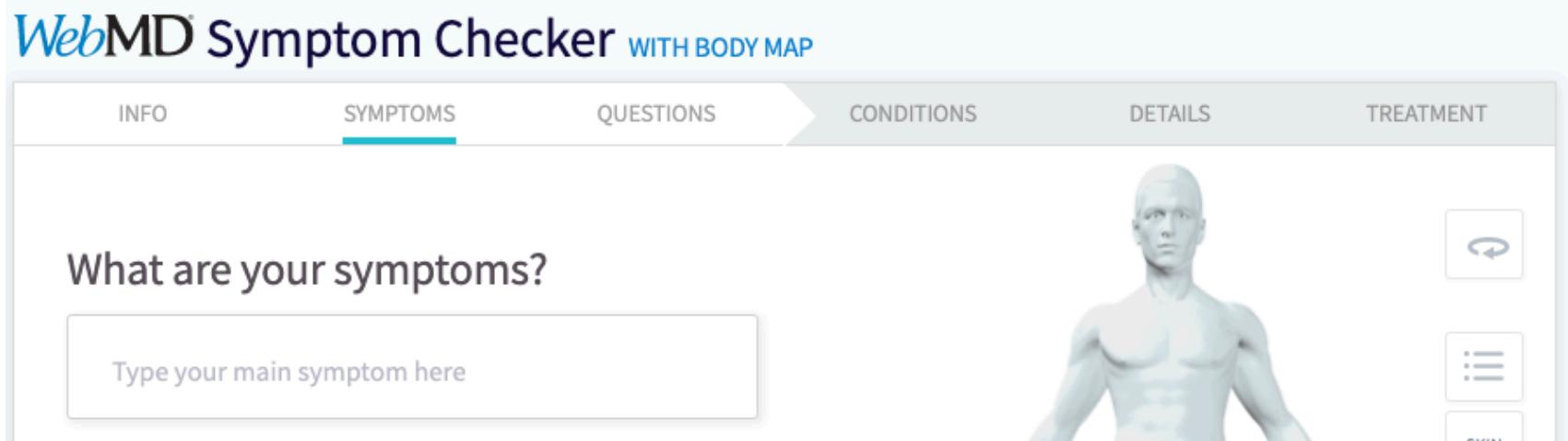


General Inference: Introduction

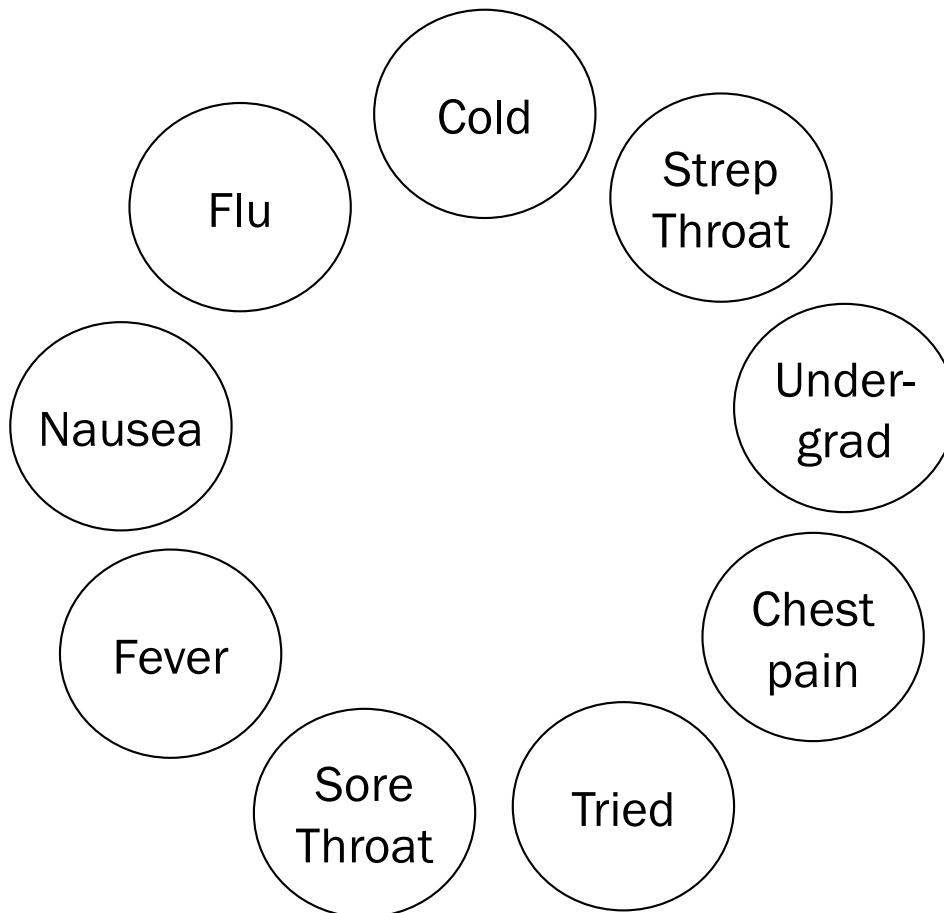
Inference

WebMD[®]

Inference



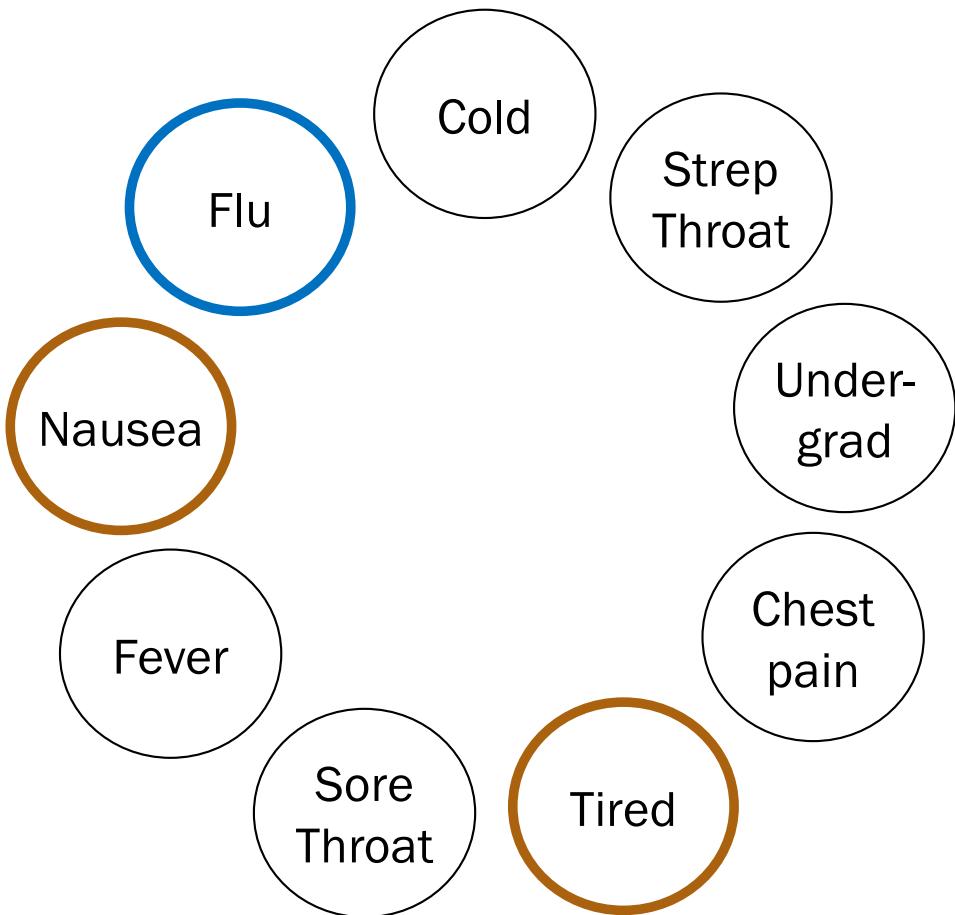
Inference



General inference question:

Given the values of some random variables, what are the conditional distributions of some other random variables?

Inference

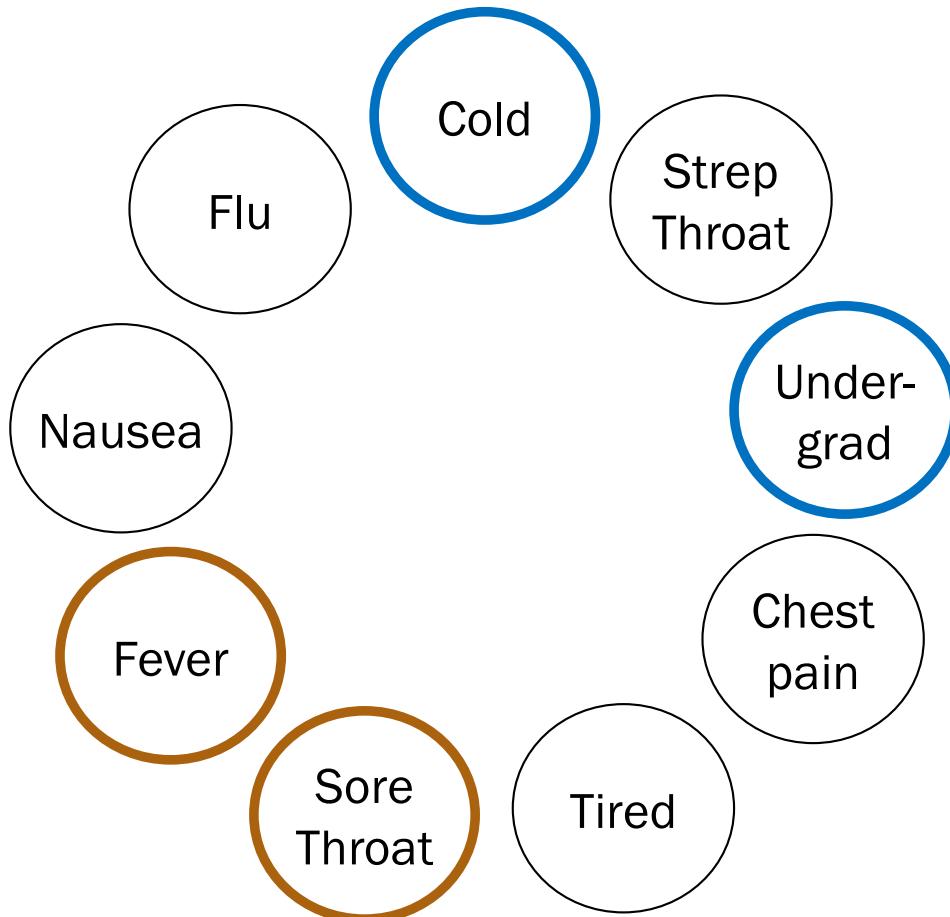


One inference question:

$$P(F = 1 | N = 1, T = 1)$$

$$= \frac{P(F = 1, N = 1, T = 1)}{P(N = 1, T = 1)}$$

Inference

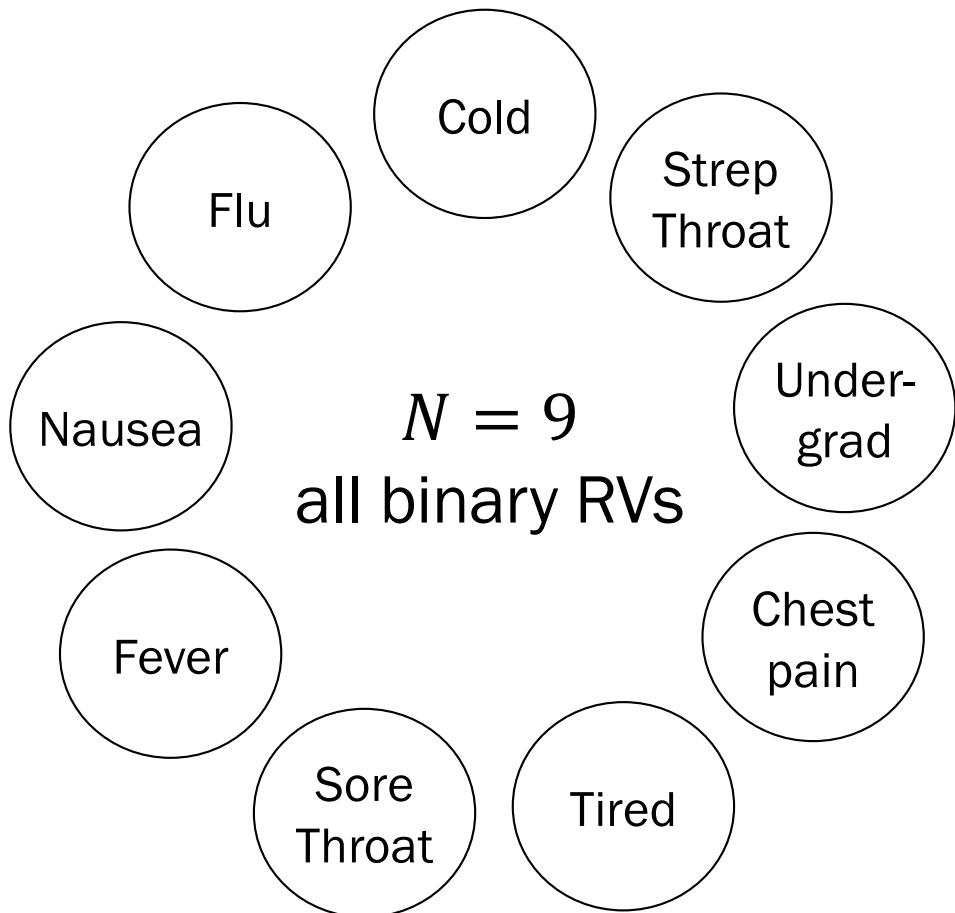


Another inference question:

$$P(C_o = 1, U = 1 | S = 0, F_e = 0)$$

$$= \frac{P(C_o = 1, U = 1, S = 0, F_e = 0)}{P(S = 0, F_e = 0)}$$

Inference



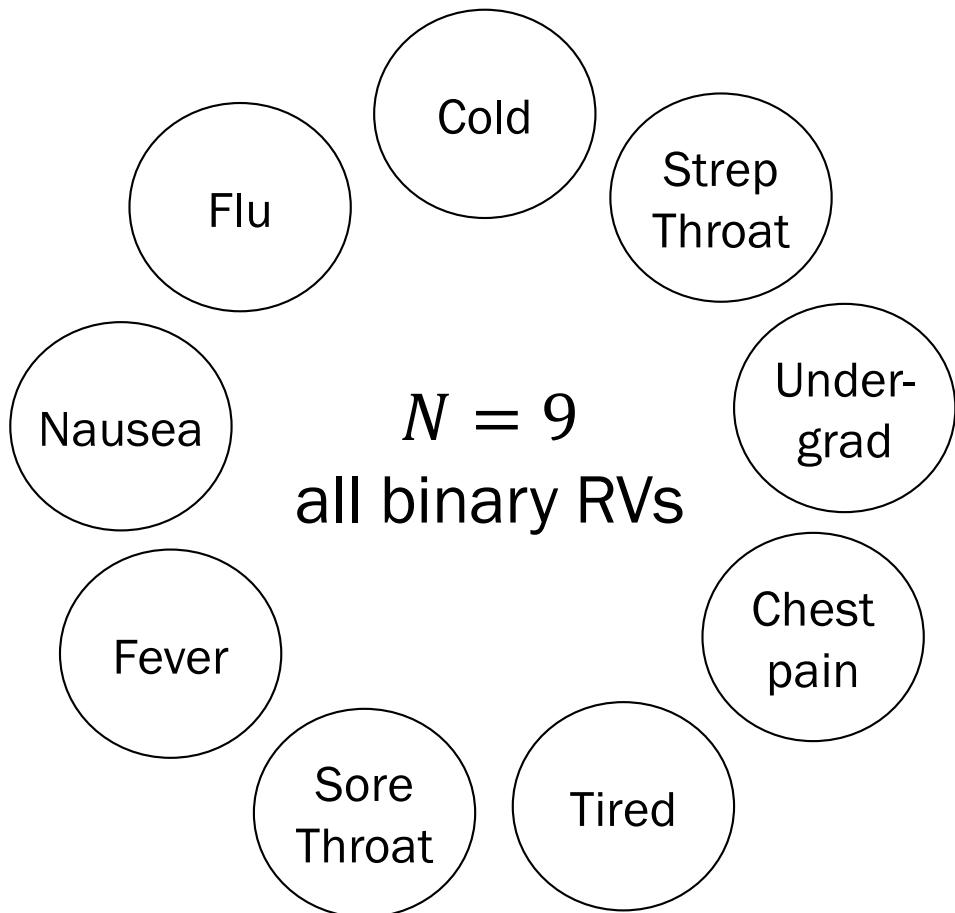
If we knew the **joint distribution**, we can answer all probabilistic inference questions.

What is the size of the joint probability table?

- A. 2^{N-1} entries
- B. N^2 entries
- C. 2^N entries
- D. None/other/don't know



Inference



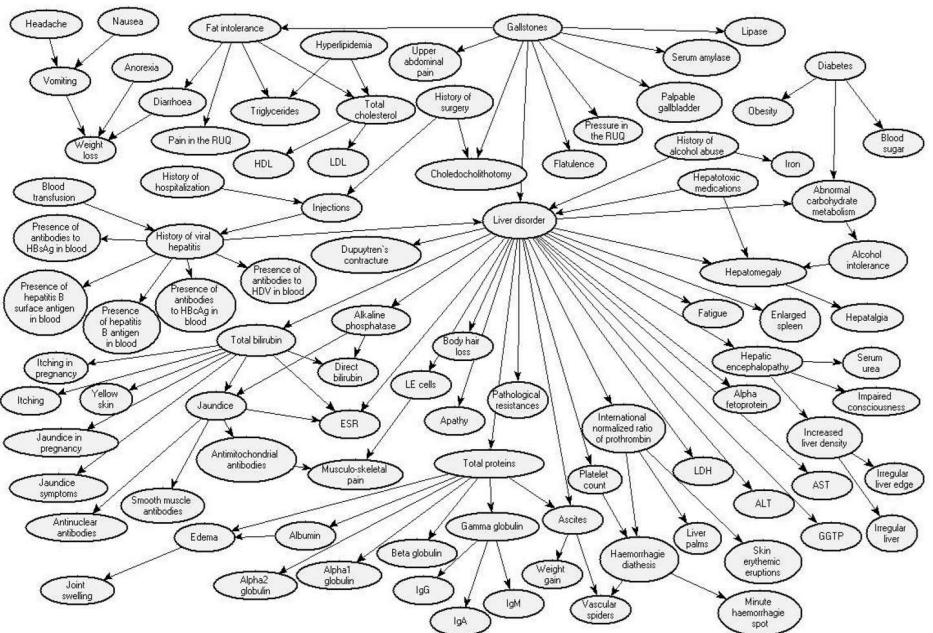
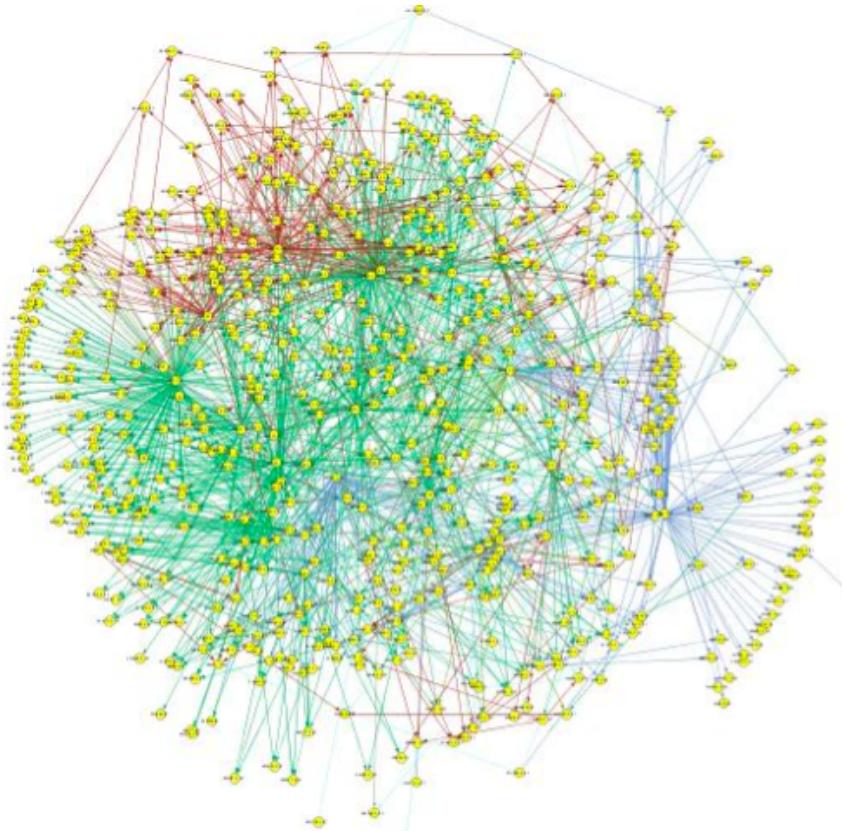
If we knew the **joint distribution**, we can answer all probabilistic inference questions.

What is the size of the joint probability table?

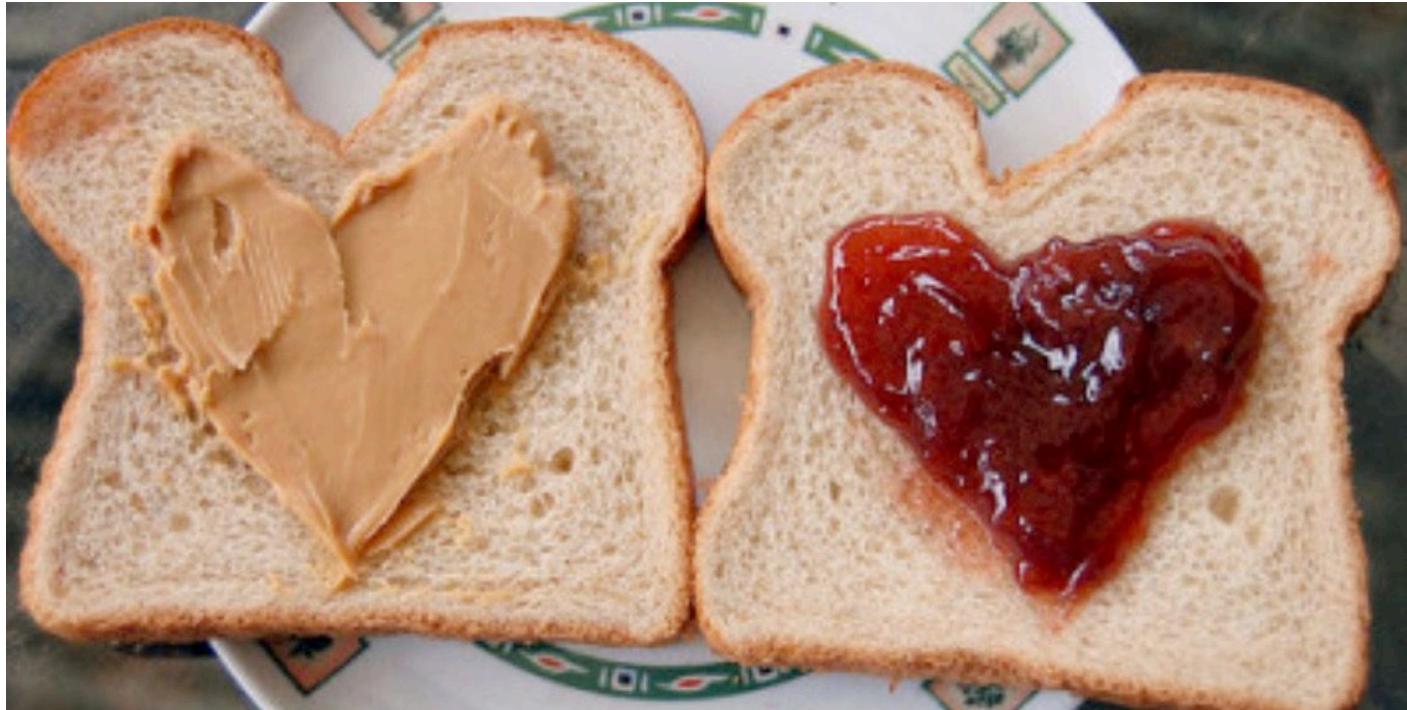
- A. 2^{N-1} entries
- B. N^2 entries
- C. 2^N entries
- D. None/other/don't know

Naively specifying a joint distribution is, in general, intractable.

N can be large...



Conditionally Independent RVs



Conditional Probability
Conditional Distributions

Independence
Independent RVs

Conditionally Independent RVs

Recall that two events A and B are conditionally independent given E if:

$$P(AB|E) = P(A|E)P(B|E)$$

n discrete random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are called **conditionally independent given Y** if:

for all x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y :

$$P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n | Y = y) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i = x_i | Y = y)$$

This implies the following (cool to remember for later):

$$\log P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n | Y = y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(X_i = x_i | Y = y)$$

Review: Independence of multiple random variables

Recall independence of
 n events E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n :

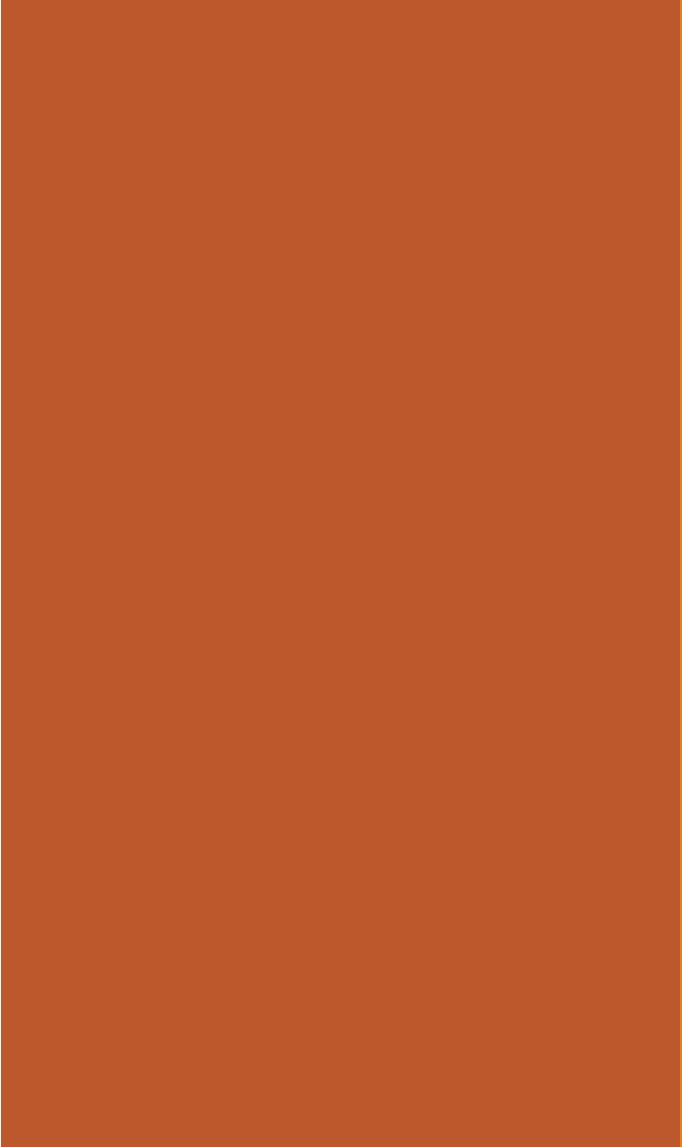
for $r = 1, \dots, n$:

for every subset E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r :

$$P(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r) = P(E_1)P(E_2) \cdots P(E_r)$$

We have independence of n discrete random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n if
for all x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n :

$$P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i = x_i)$$



Bayesian Networks

A simpler WebMD

Flu

Under-
grad

Fever

Tired

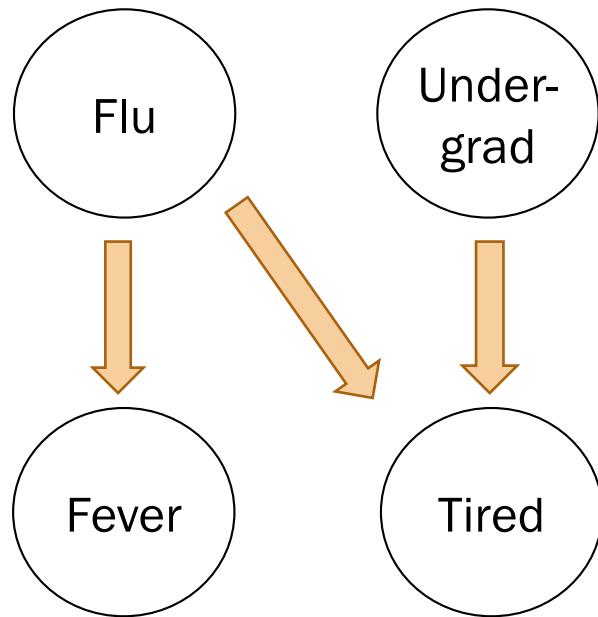
Great! Just specify $2^4 = 16$ joint probabilities...?

$$P(F_{lu} = a, F_{ev} = b, U = c, T = d)$$

What would a Stanford flu expert do?

Describe the joint distribution using causality!

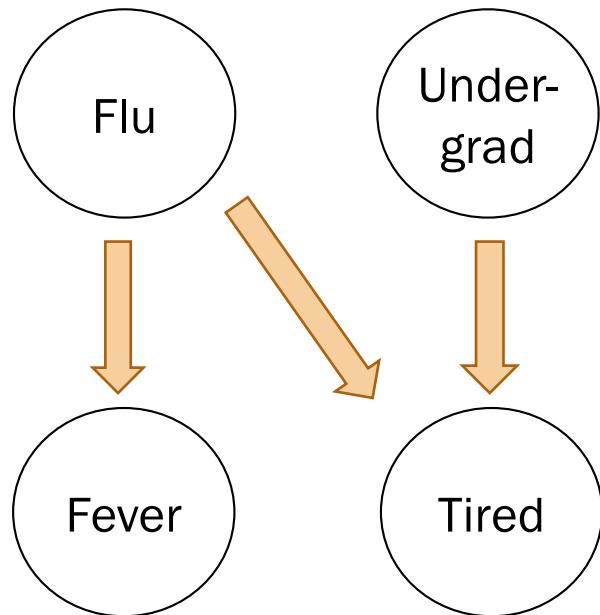
Constructing a Bayesian Network



What would a Stanford flu expert do?

- ✓ 1. Describe the joint distribution using causality.
- 2. Assume conditional independence.
- 3. Provide $P(\text{values}|\text{parents})$ for each random variable

Constructing a Bayesian Network



In a Bayesian Network,
Each random variable is
conditionally independent of its
non-descendants, given its parents.

- Node: random variable
- Directed edge: conditional dependency

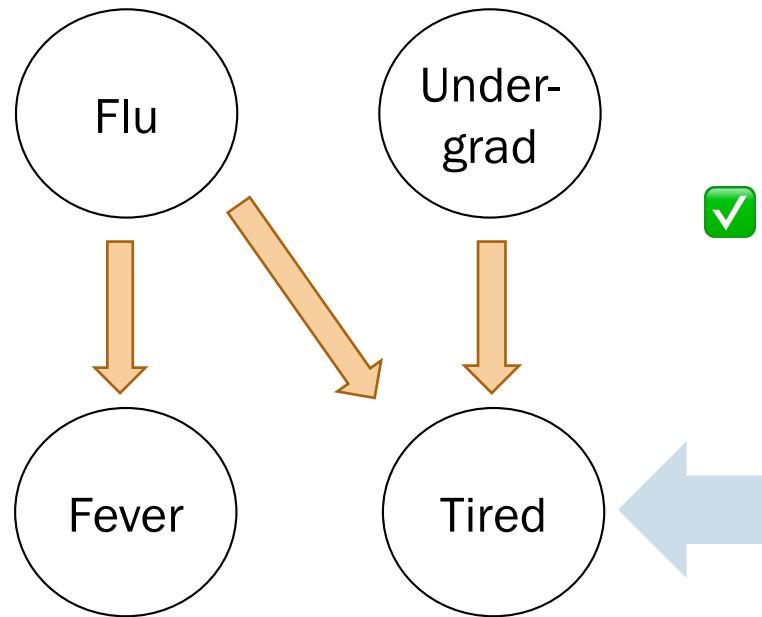
Examples:

- $P(F_{ev} = 1 | T = 0, F_{lu} = 1) = P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1)$
- $P(F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = P(F_{lu} = 1)P(U = 0)$

Constructing a Bayesian Network

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

What would a Stanford flu expert do?

1. Describe the joint distribution using causality.
2. Assume conditional independence.
3. Provide $P(\text{values} | \text{parents})$ for each random variable

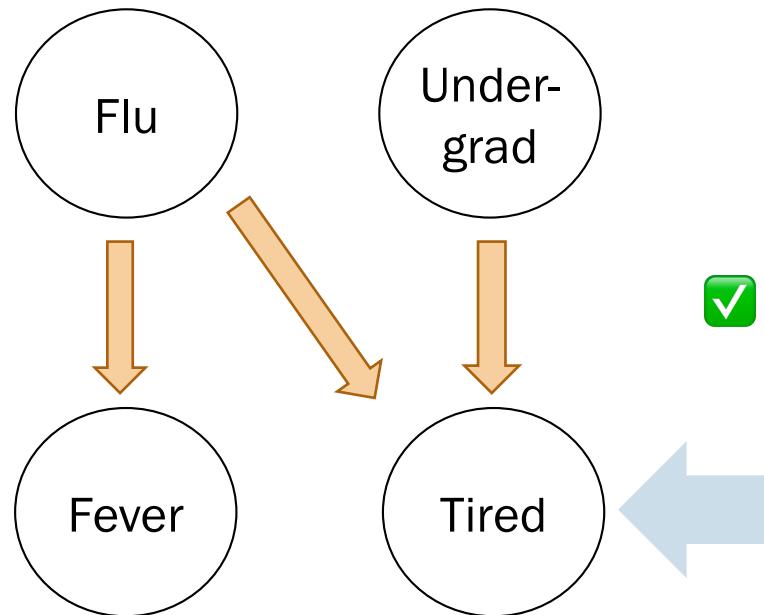
What conditional probabilities should our expert specify?



Constructing a Bayesian Network

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What would a Stanford flu expert do?

1. Describe the joint distribution using causality.
2. Assume conditional independence.
3. Provide $P(\text{values} | \text{parents})$ for each random variable

What conditional probabilities should our expert specify?

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0)$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1)$$

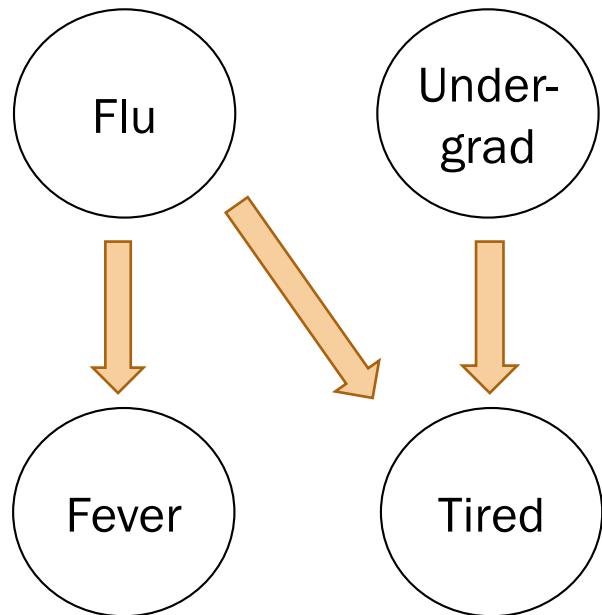
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0)$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1)$$

Using a Bayes Net

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

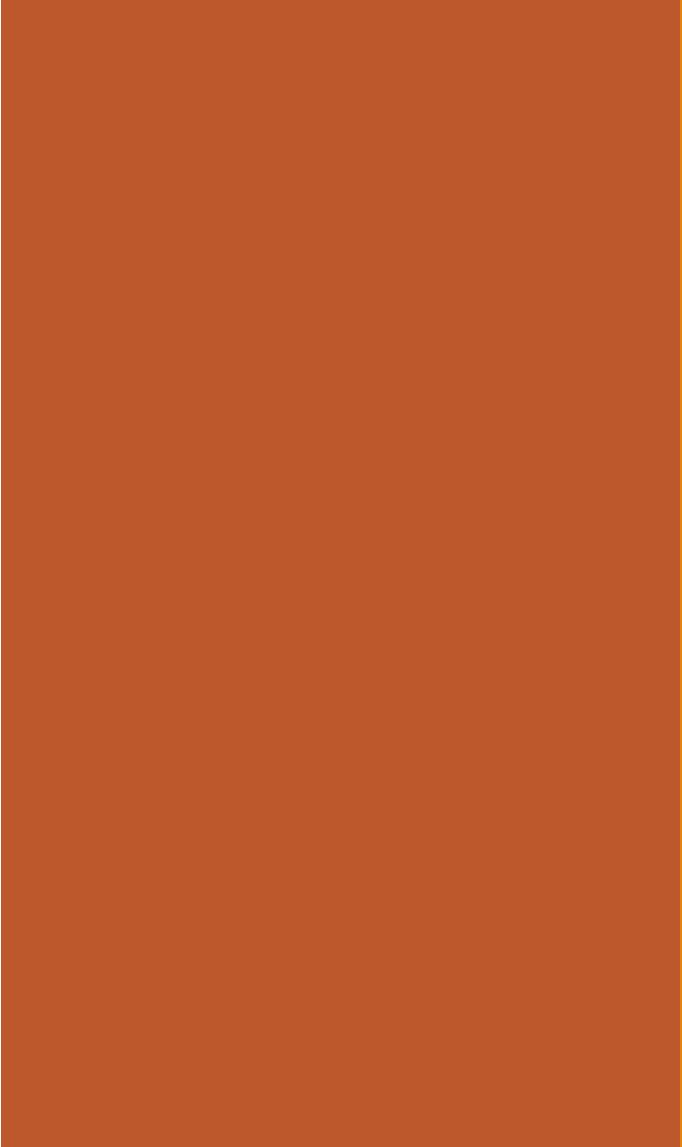
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

What would a CS109 student do?

1. Populate a Bayesian network by asking a Stanford flu expert or by using reasonable assumptions

2. Answer inference questions

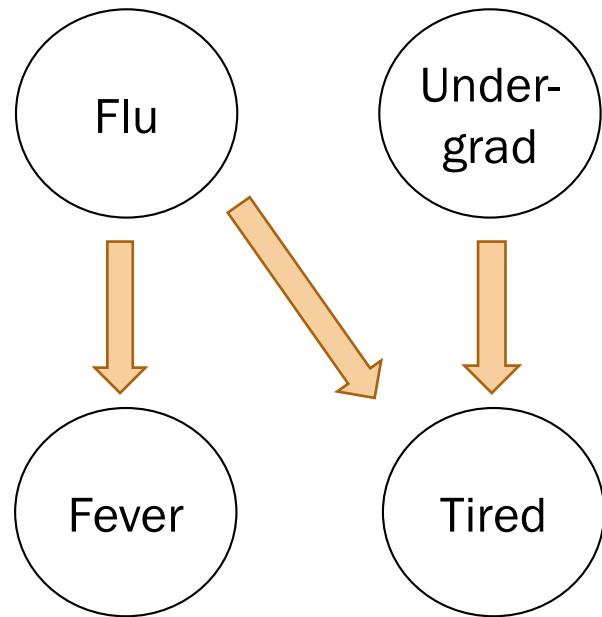
Our focus
today



Inference (I): Math

Bayes Nets: Conditional independence

Review



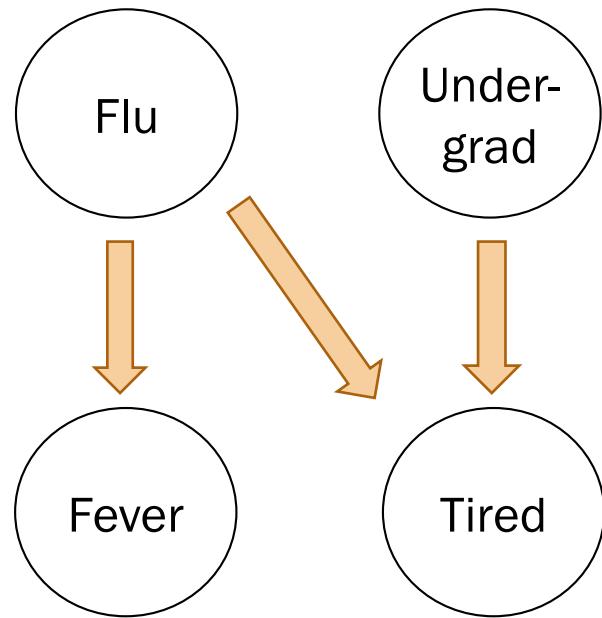
In a Bayesian Network,
Each random variable is
conditionally independent of its
non-descendants, given its parents.

- Node: random variable
- Directed edge: conditional dependency

Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

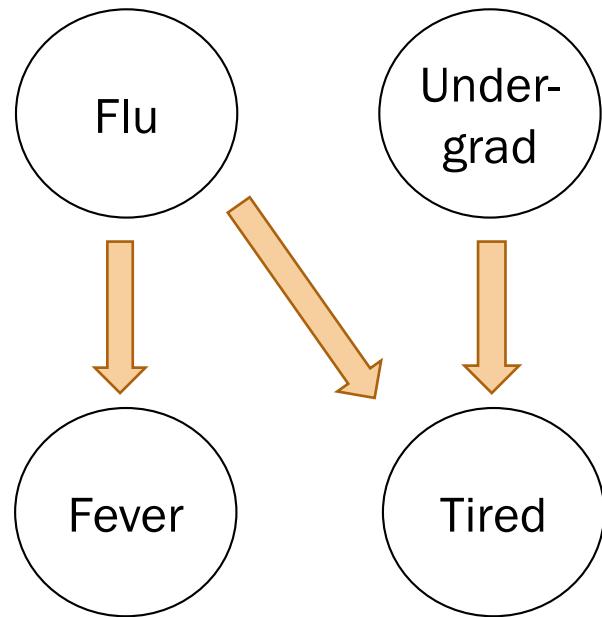
1. $P(F_{lu} = 0, U = 1, F_{ev} = 0, T = 1)?$

Compute joint probabilities using chain rule.

Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

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$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

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2. $P(F_{lu} = 1|F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)?$

1. Compute joint probabilities

$$P(F_{lu} = 1, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)$$

$$P(F_{lu} = 0, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)$$

2. Definition of conditional probability

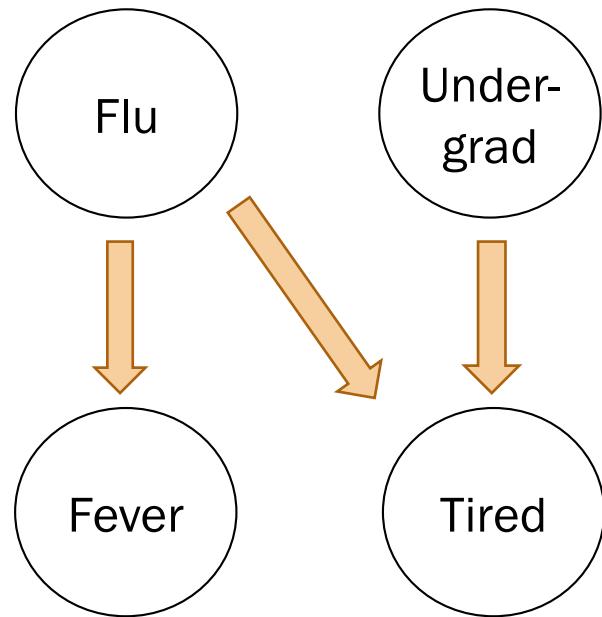
$$\frac{P(F_{lu} = 1, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)}{\sum_x P(F_{lu} = x, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)}$$

$$= 0.095$$

Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



3. $P(F_{lu} = 1|U = 1, T = 1)?$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

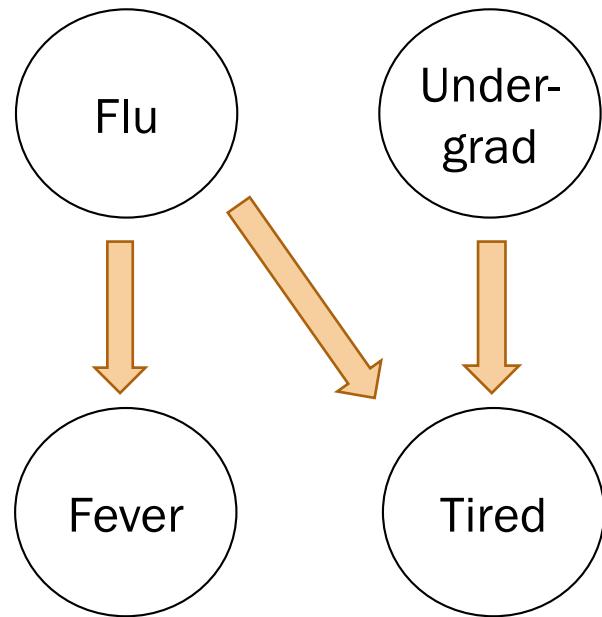
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Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

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3. $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)?$

1. Compute joint probabilities

$$P(F_{lu} = 1, \textcolor{blue}{U} = 1, F_{ev} = 1, \textcolor{blue}{T} = 1)$$

...

$$P(F_{lu} = 0, \textcolor{blue}{U} = 1, F_{ev} = 0, \textcolor{blue}{T} = 1)?$$

2. Definition of conditional probability

$$\frac{\sum_y P(F_{lu} = 1, \textcolor{blue}{U} = 1, F_{ev} = y, \textcolor{blue}{T} = 1)}{\sum_x \sum_y P(F_{lu} = x, \textcolor{blue}{U} = 1, F_{ev} = y, \textcolor{blue}{T} = 1)}$$

$$= 0.122$$

Bayesian Brain Food

Let's take a two-minute break to brush our teeth and gargle with plaque-deterring peppermint mouthwash.

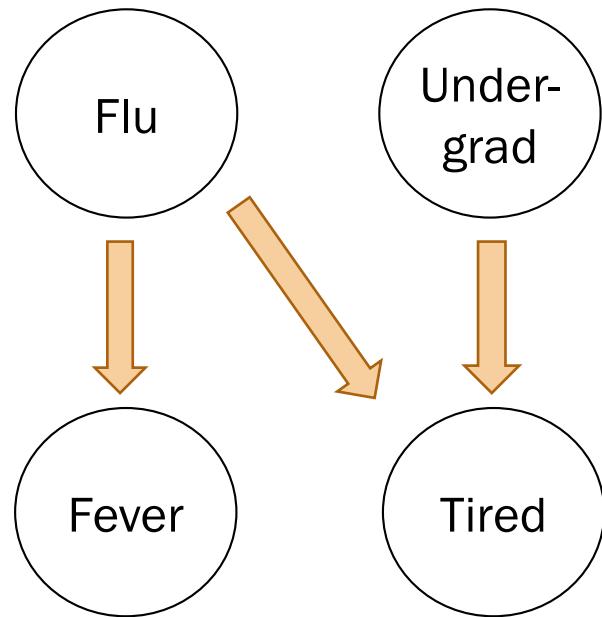
Once our teeth are clean and our breath minty fresh, we'll come back and take on this next problem about Bayesian Inference.



Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)?$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

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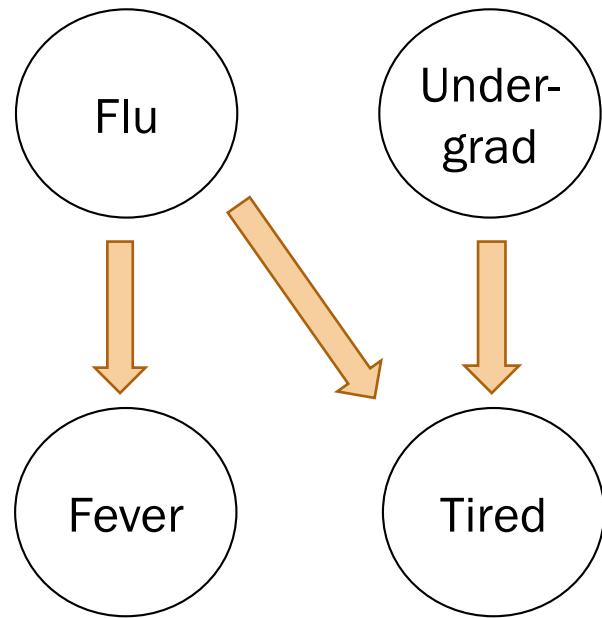
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Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)?$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) &= 0.9 \\ P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) &= 0.05 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) &= 0.1 \\ P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) &= 0.8 \\ P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) &= 0.9 \\ P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) &= 1.0 \end{aligned}$$

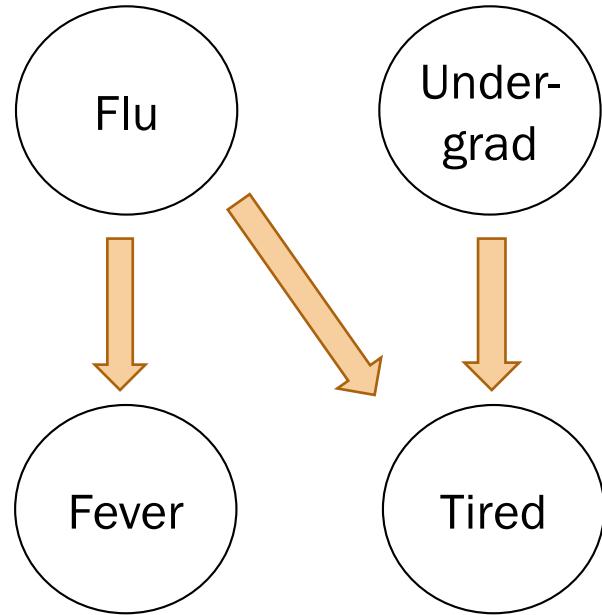
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Inference via math

Review

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

$$= 0.122$$

(from earlier slide)

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

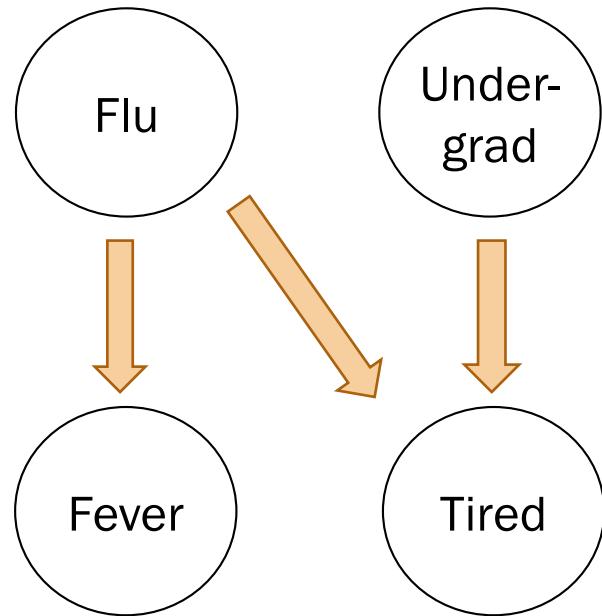
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

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Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

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$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

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Solving inference questions precisely is possible, but sometimes tedious.

Can we use sampling to solve inference questions *approximately*, but with high enough confidence that it deserves to be taught in CS109?

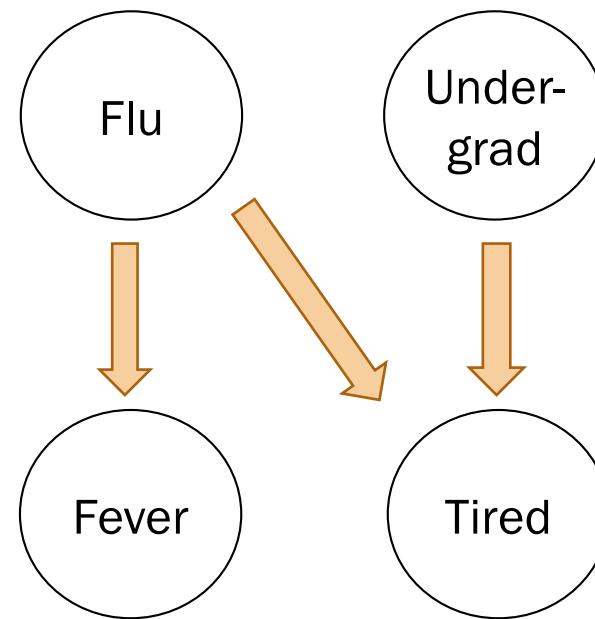
Yes!

Rejection sampling algorithm

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$

Step 0:
Have a fully specified
Bayesian Network



$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation = ...
        # number of samples with ( $U = 1, T = 1$ )
    samples_event =
        # number of samples with ( $F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1$ )
    return len(samples_event)/len(samples_observation)
```

[flu, und, fev, tir]

Sampling...
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
[1, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 0, 1, 1]
...
[0, 1, 0, 1]
Finished sampling

Rejection sampling algorithm

```
N_SAMPLES = 100000
# Method: Sample a ton
# -----
# create N_SAMPLES with likelihood proportional
# to the joint distribution
def sample_a_ton():
    samples = []
    for i in range(N_SAMPLES):
        sample = make_sample() # a particle
        samples.append(sample)
    return samples
```

How do we construct a sample
 $(F_{lu} = a, U = b, F_{ev} = c, T = d)$
that respects all joint
probability distributions?

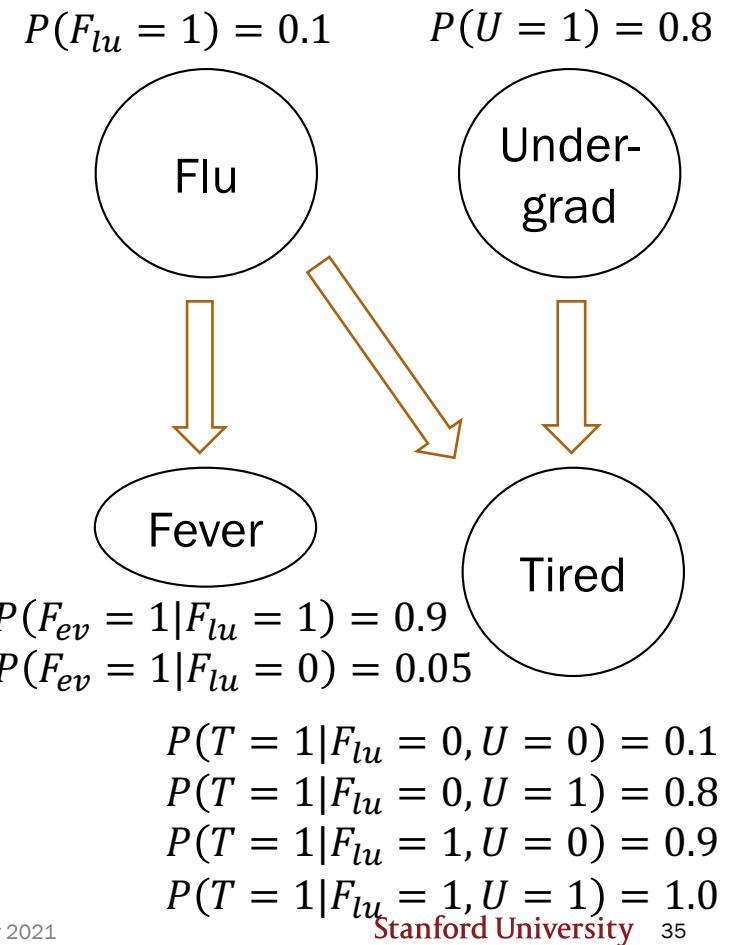
Create a sample using the Bayesian Network!!

Rejection sampling algorithm

```
# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# construct one sample from the joint distribution
# based on the medical "WebMD" Bayesian Network
def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
    flu = bernoulli(0.1)
    und = bernoulli(0.8)

    # choose fever based on flu
    if flu == 1: fev = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: fev = bernoulli(0.05)

    # choose tired based on (undergrad and flu)
    #
    # TODO: fill in
    #
    # a sample from the joint has an
    # assignment to *all* random variables
    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```

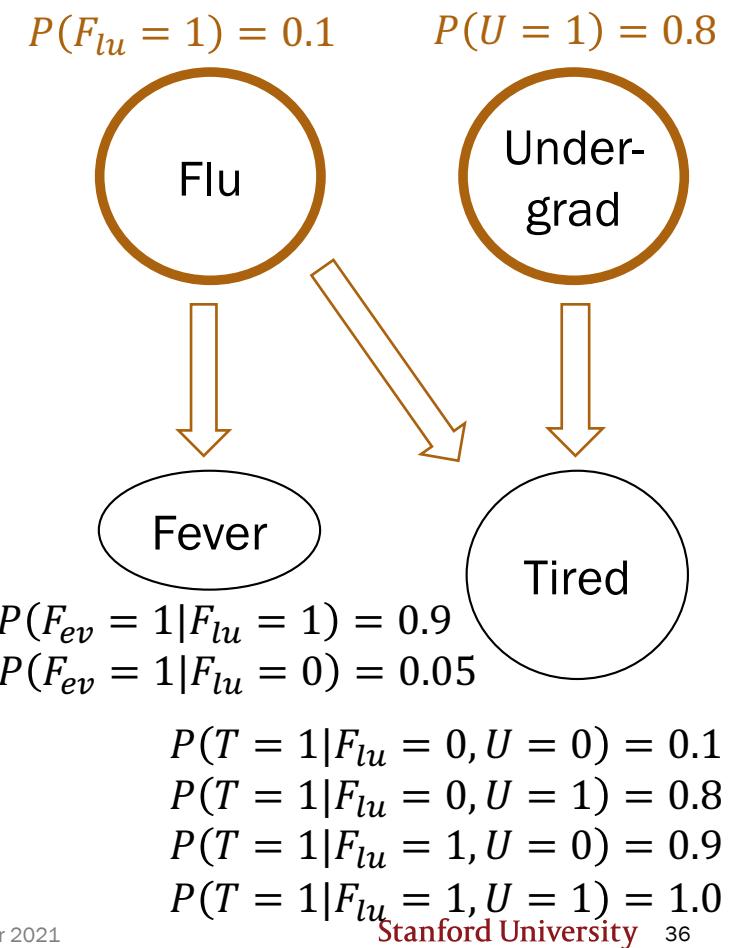


Rejection sampling algorithm

```
# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# create a single sample from the joint distribution
# based on the medical "WebMD" Bayesian Network
def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
    flu = bernoulli(0.1)
    und = bernoulli(0.8)

    # choose fever based on flu
    if flu == 1: fev = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: fev = bernoulli(0.05)

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```

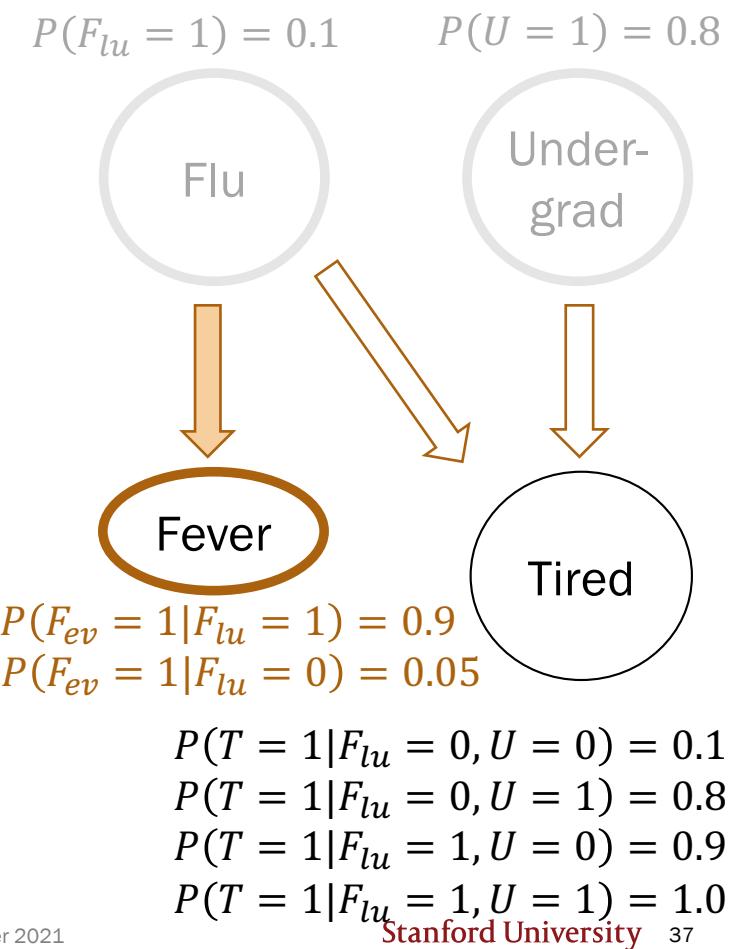


Rejection sampling algorithm

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Rejection sampling algorithm

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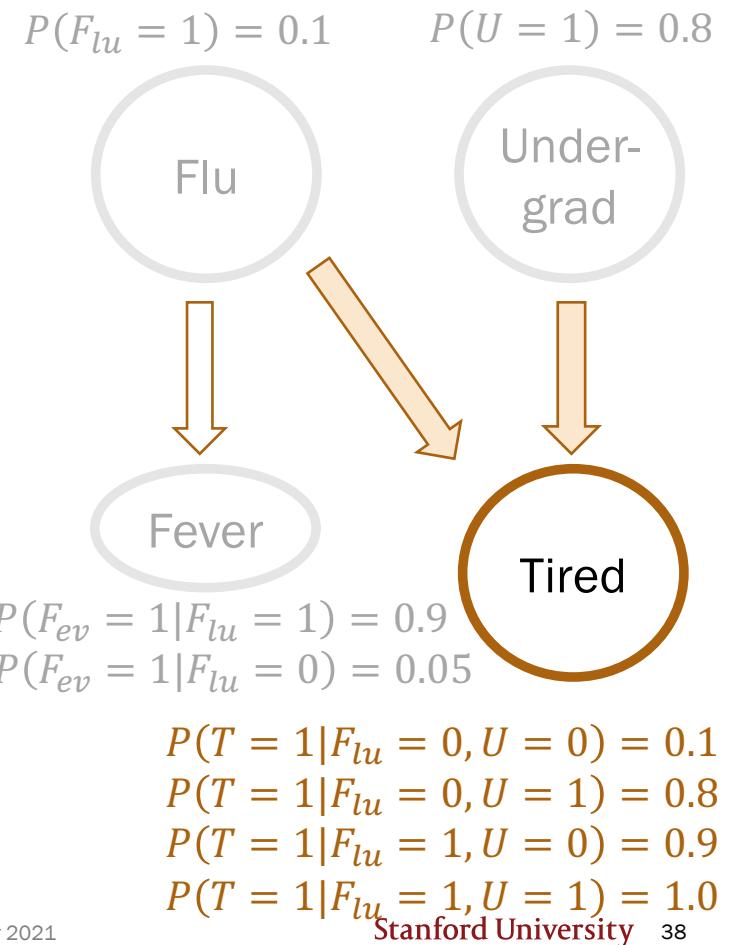
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    # TODO: fill in
    #
    #

    # a sample from the joint has an
    # assignment to *all* random variables
    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```



Lisa Tan, Chris Piech, Mehran Sahami, and Jerry Cain CS109, Winter 2021



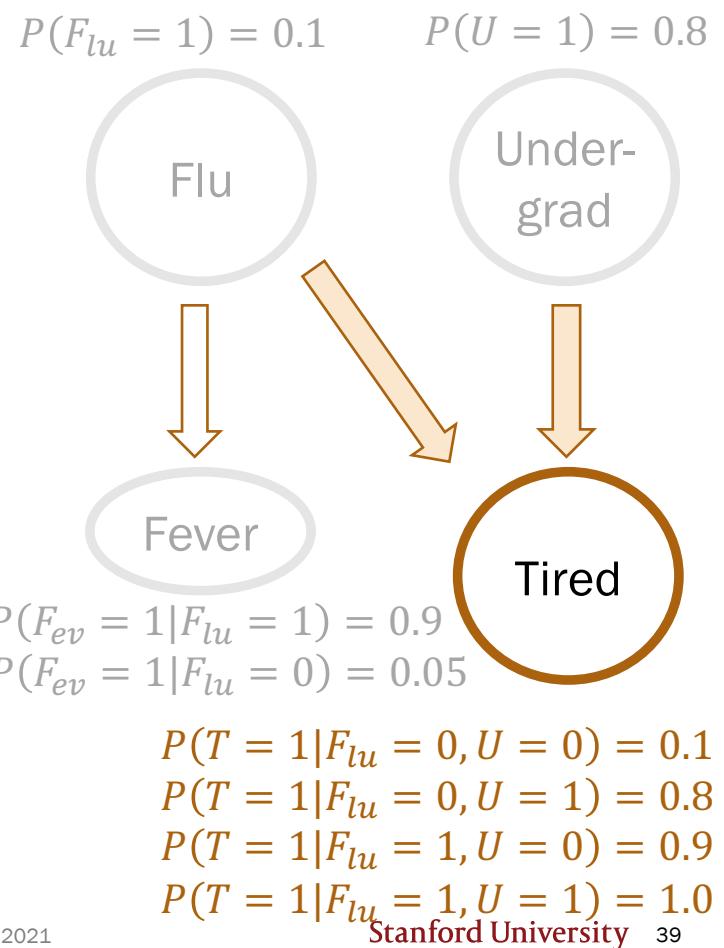
Rejection sampling algorithm

```
# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# create a single sample from the joint distribution
# based on the medical "WebMD" Bayesian Network
def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
    flu = bernoulli(0.1)
    und = bernoulli(0.8)

    # choose fever based on flu
    if flu == 1: fev = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: fev = bernoulli(0.05)

    # choose tired based on (undergrad and flu)
    if flu == 0 and und == 0: tir = bernoulli(0.1)
    elif flu == 0 and und == 1: tir = bernoulli(0.8)
    elif flu == 1 and und == 0: tir = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: tir = bernoulli(1.0)

    # a sample from the joint has an
    # assignment to *all* random variables
    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```



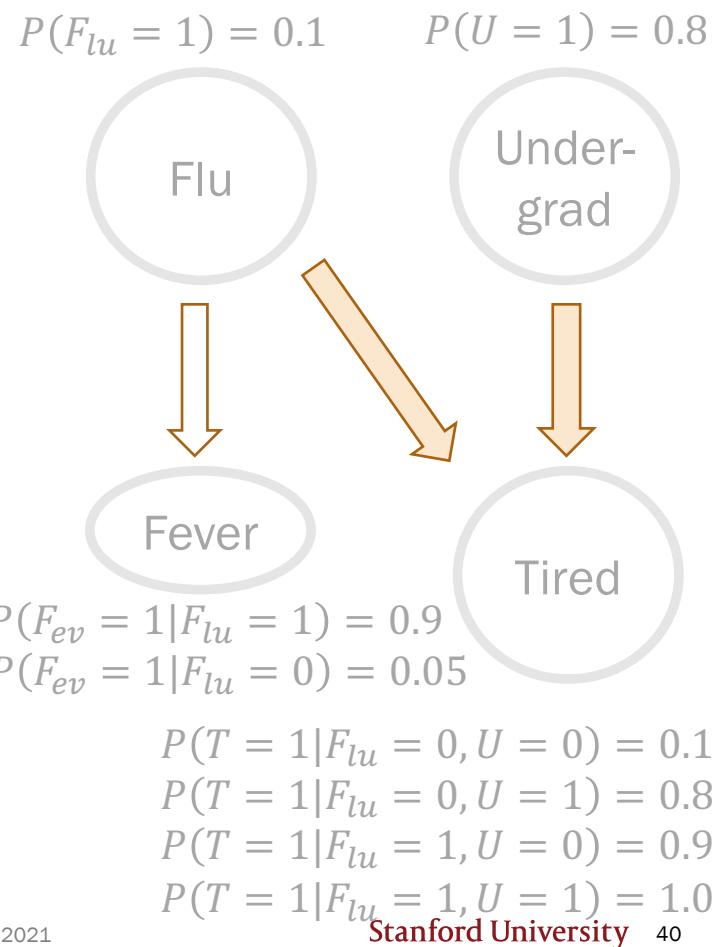
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    # a sample from the joint has an
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    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```



Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation = ...
        # number of samples with ( $U = 1, T = 1$ )
    samples_event =
        # number of samples with ( $F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1$ )
    return len(samples_event)/len(samples_observation)
```

[flu, und, fev, tir]

Sampling...
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
[1, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 0, 1, 1]
...
[0, 1, 0, 1]
Finished sampling

Rejection sampling algorithm

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def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
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Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation =
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)
    samples_event =
        # number of samples with ( $F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1$ )
    return len(samples_event)/len(samples_observation)
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Rejection sampling algorithm

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```

Keep only samples that are consistent
with the observation ($U = 1, T = 1$).

Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation =
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)
    samples_ # Method: Reject Inconsistent
    # -----
    # Rejects all samples that do not align with the outcome.
    # Returns a list of consistent samples.
    return l
    def reject_inconsistent(samples, outcome):
        consistent_samples = []
        for sample in samples:
            if check_consistent(sample, outcome):
                consistent_samples.append(sample)
        return consistent_samples
```

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Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

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def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation =
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)
    samples_event =
        reject_inconsistent(samples_observation, event)
    return len(samples_event)/len(samples_observation)
```

Conditional event = samples with $(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)$.

Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

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def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation =
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)
    samples_event =
        reject_inconsistent(samples_observation, event)
    return len(samples)

def reject_inconsistent(samples, outcome):
    if outcome:
        (F_{lu} = x, U = 1, F_{ev} = y, T = 1)
    else:
        (F_{lu} = 1)
    return consistent_samples
```

Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

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$$\text{probability} \approx \frac{\# \text{ samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\# \text{ samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

Rejection sampling algorithm

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Why would this definition of approximate probability make sense?



Why would this approximate probability make sense?

Inference question: What is $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$?

$$\text{probability} \approx \frac{\# \text{ samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\# \text{ samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

Recall our definition of probability as a frequency:

$$P(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n}$$

n = # of total trials
 $n(E)$ = # trials where E occurs



To the code!



Rejection sampling

If you can sample enough from the joint distribution, you can answer any probability inference question.

With enough samples, you can correctly compute:

- Probability estimates
- Conditional probability estimates
- Expectation estimates

Because your samples are a representation of the joint distribution!

[flu, und, fev, tir]

Sampling...

[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
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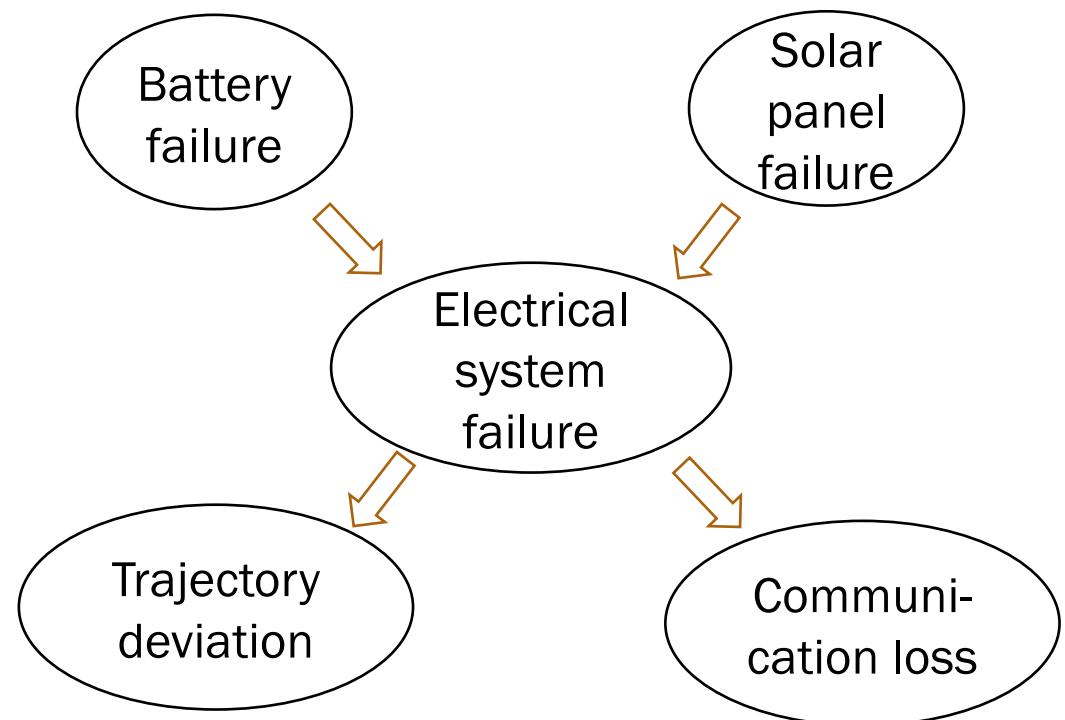
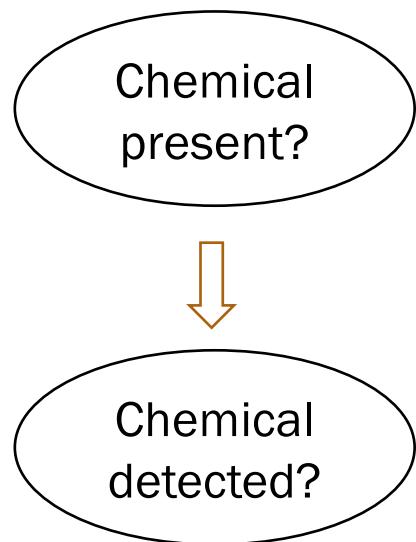
...

[0, 1, 0, 1]

Finished sampling

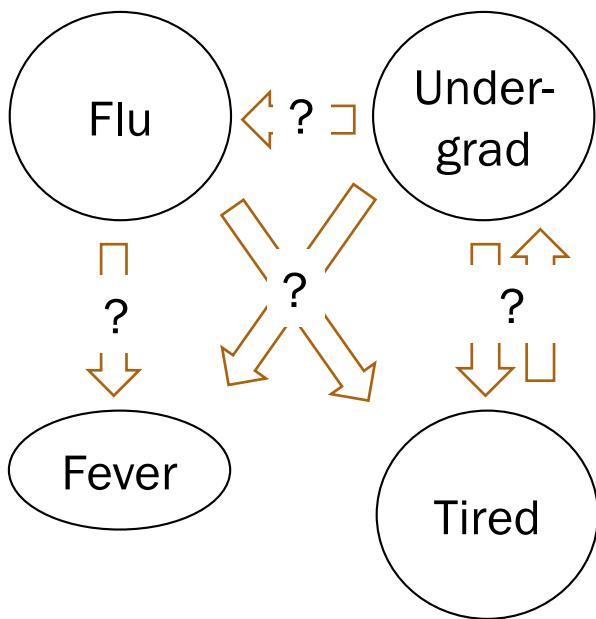
$$P(\text{has flu} \mid \text{undergrad and is tired}) = 0.122$$

Other applications



Take CS238/AA228: Decision Making under Uncertainty!

Challenge with Bayesian Networks



What if we don't know the structure?

Take CS228: Probabilistic Graphical Models!

Disadvantages of rejection sampling

$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 1)$?

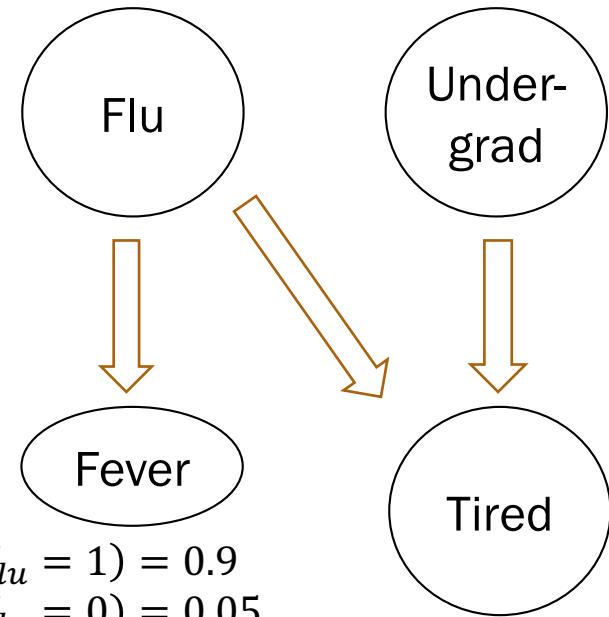
What if we never encounter some samples?

[flu=0, und, fev=1, tir]



$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

Disadvantages of rejection sampling

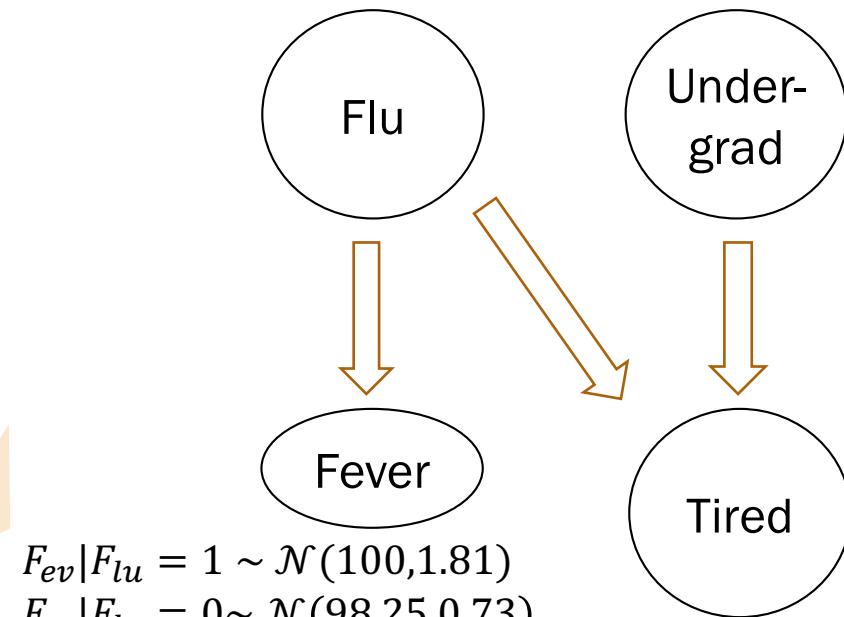
$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 99.4)$?

What if we never encounter some samples?

What if random variables are continuous?



$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$F_{ev} | F_{lu} = 1 \sim \mathcal{N}(100, 1.81)$$

$$F_{ev} | F_{lu} = 0 \sim \mathcal{N}(98.25, 0.73)$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$