

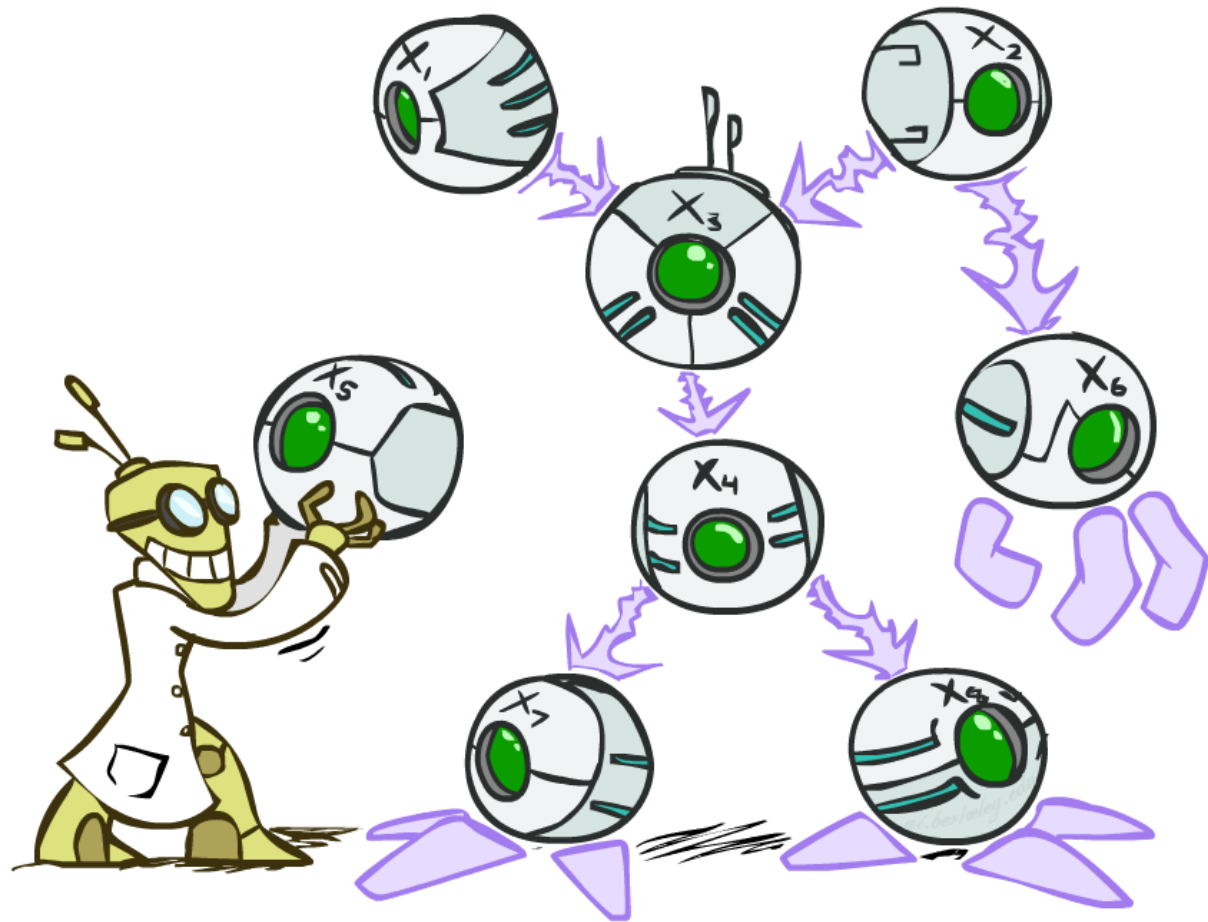
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Bayes' Nets: Representation

May 23rd, 2018

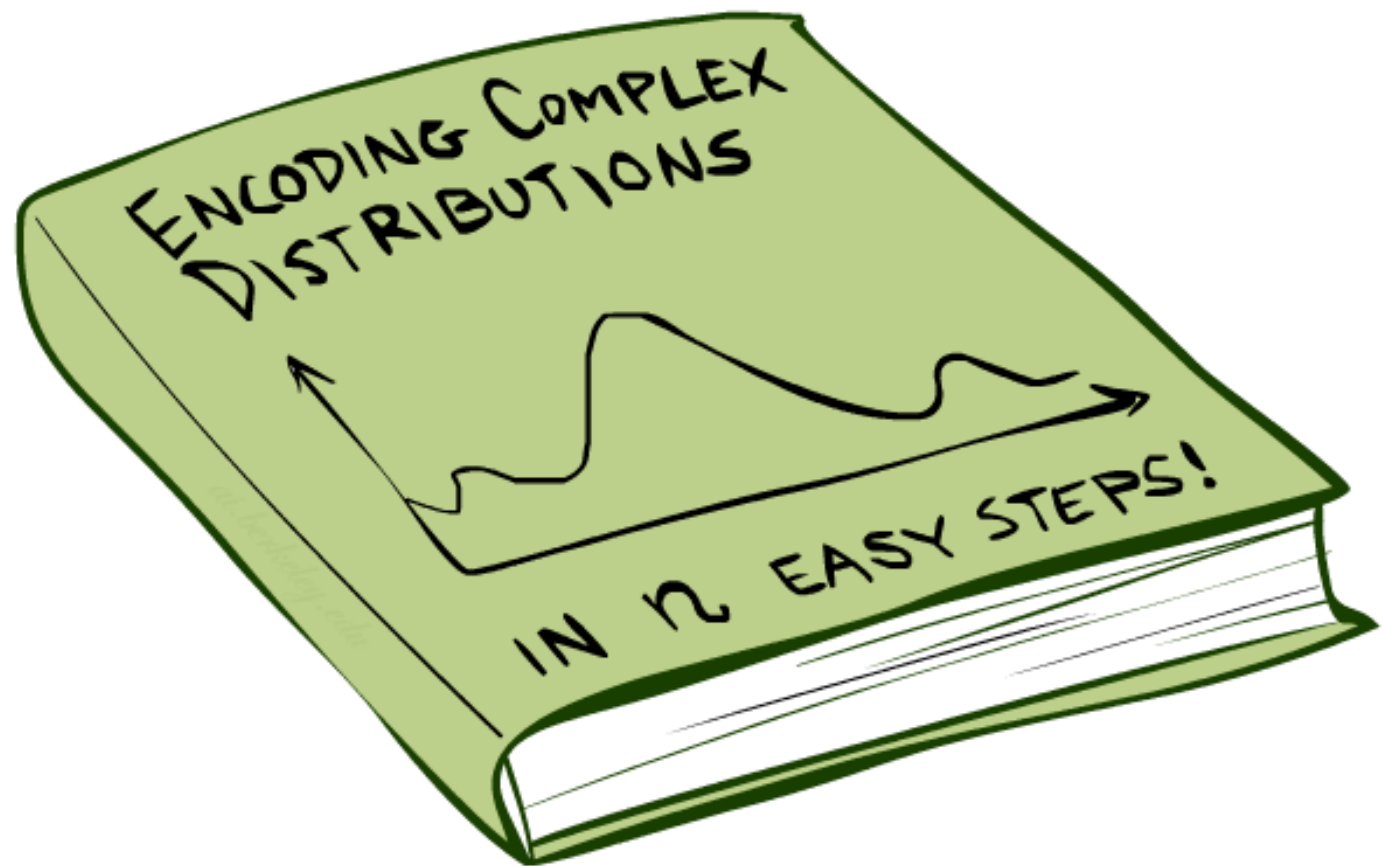
Bayes Nets



Bayes' Net

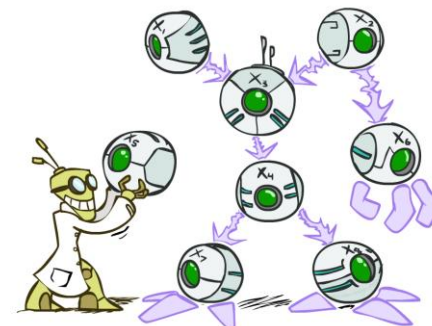
- Models describe how (a portion of) the world works
- **Models are always simplifications**
 - May not account for every variable
 - May not account for all interactions between variables
 - “All models are wrong; but some are useful.”
 - George E. P. Box
- What do we do with probabilistic models?
 - We (or our agents) need to reason about unknown variables, given evidence
 - Example: prediction (causal reasoning)
 - Example: value of information

Bayes' Nets: Big Picture

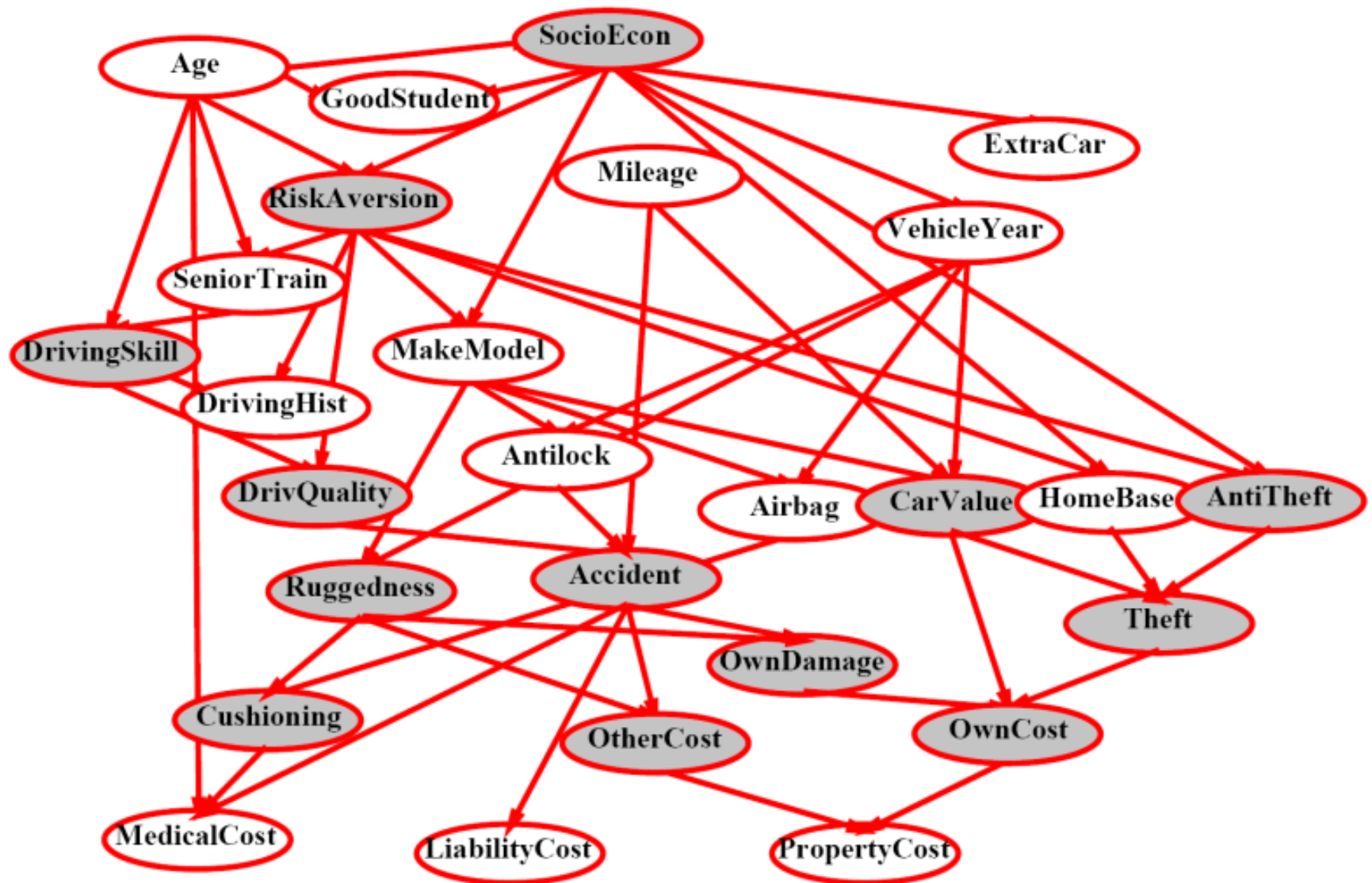


Bayes' Nets: Big Picture

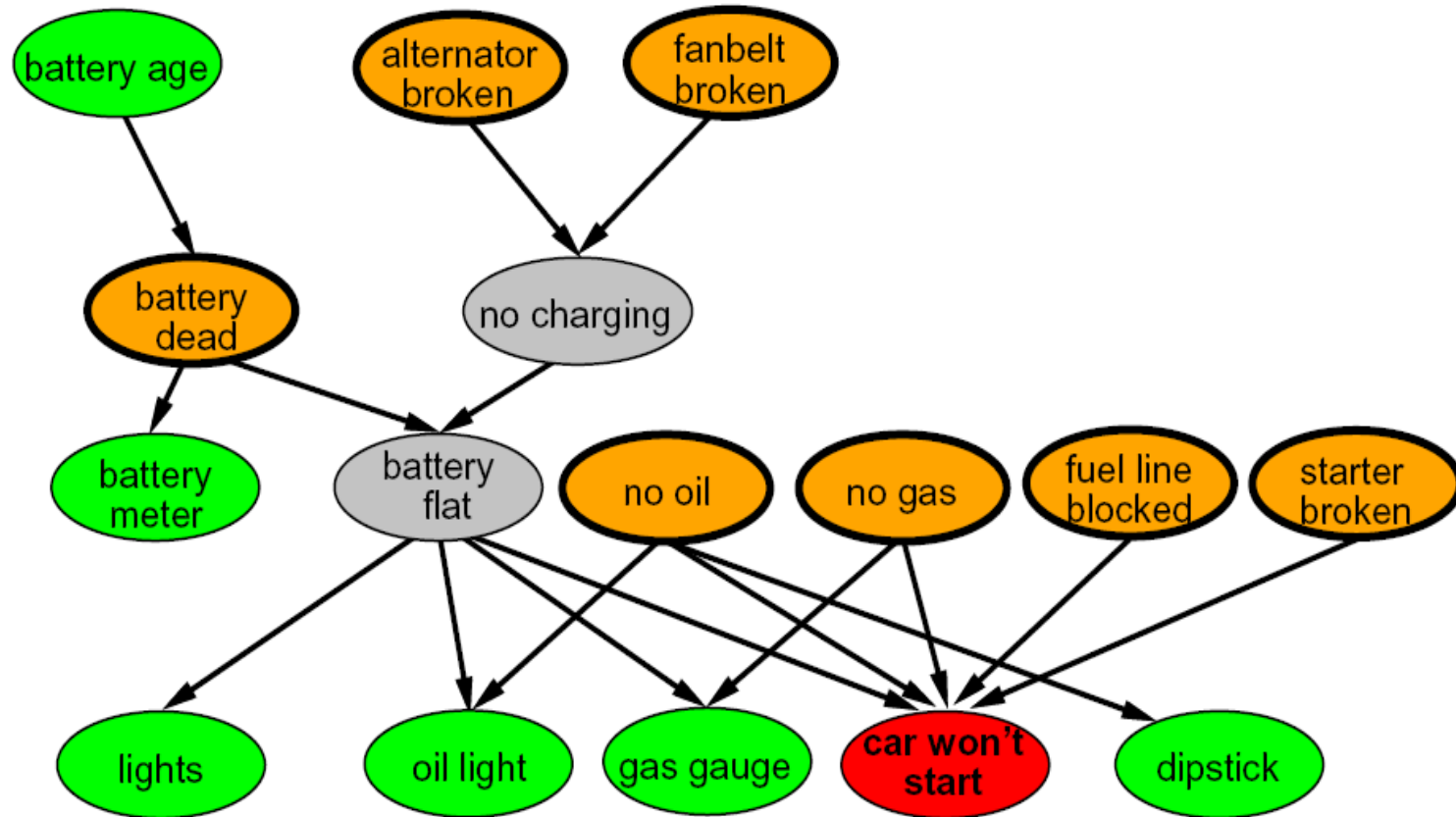
- Two problems with using full joint distribution tables as our probabilistic models:
 - Unless there are only a few variables, the joint is WAY too big to represent explicitly
 - Hard to learn (estimate) anything empirically about more than a few variables at a time
- **Bayes' nets**: a technique for describing complex joint distributions (models) using simple, local distributions (conditional probabilities)
 - More properly called **graphical models**
 - Bayes' nets describe how variables locally interact
 - Local interactions chain together to give global, indirect interactions



Example Bayes' Net: Insurance

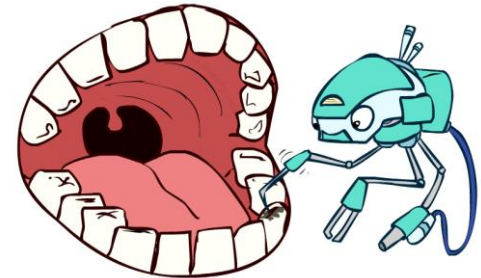
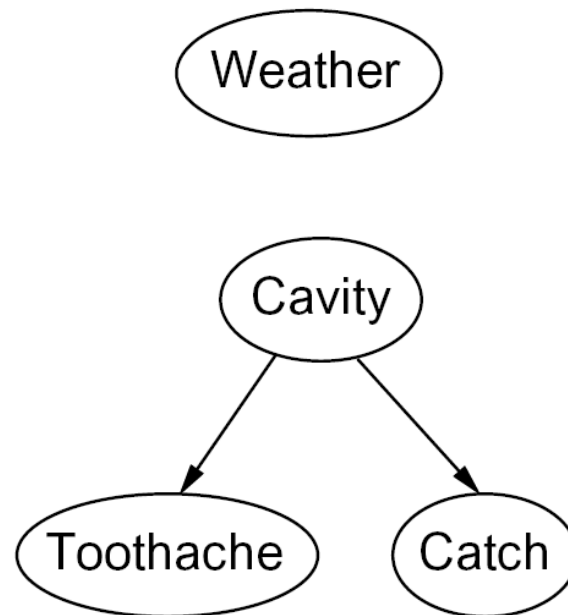
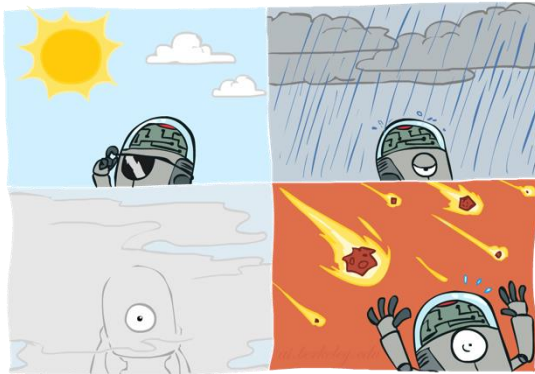


Example Bayes' Net: Car



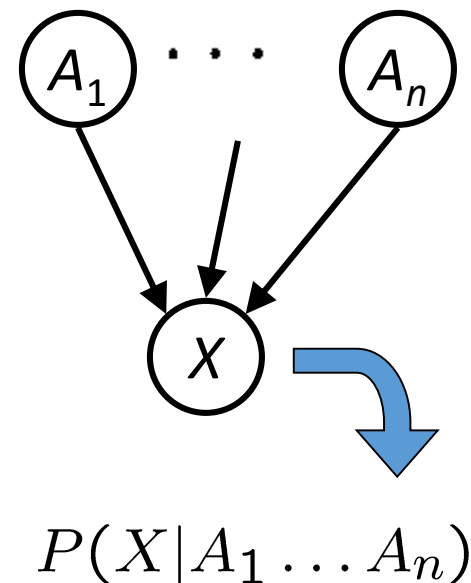
Graphical Model Notation

- Nodes: variables (with domains)
 - Can be assigned (observed) or unassigned (unobserved)
- Arcs: interactions
 - Similar to CSP constraints
 - Indicate “direct influence” between variables
 - Formally: encode conditional independence



Bayes' Net Semantics

- A set of nodes, one per variable X
- A directed, acyclic graph
- A conditional distribution for each node
 - A collection of distributions over X , one for each combination of parents' values
 - CPT: conditional probability table
 - Description of a noisy “causal” process



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

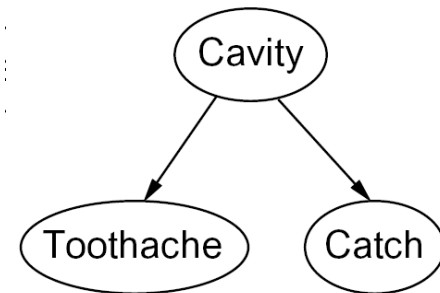
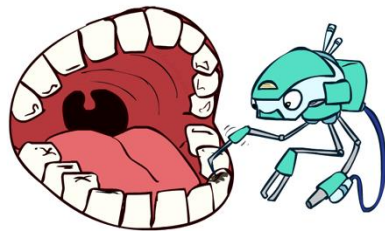
A Bayes net = Topology (graph) + Local Conditional Probabilities

Probabilities in BNs

- Bayes' nets **implicitly** encode joint distributions
 - As a product of local conditional distributions
 - To see what probability a BN gives to a full assignment, multiply all the relevant conditionals together:

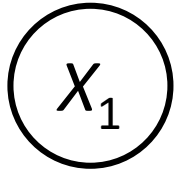
$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

- Example:



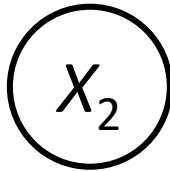
$$P(+cavity, +catch, -toothache)$$

Example: Coin Flips



$P(X_1)$

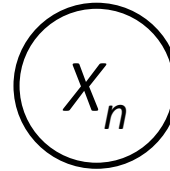
h	0.5
t	0.5



$P(X_2)$

h	0.5
t	0.5

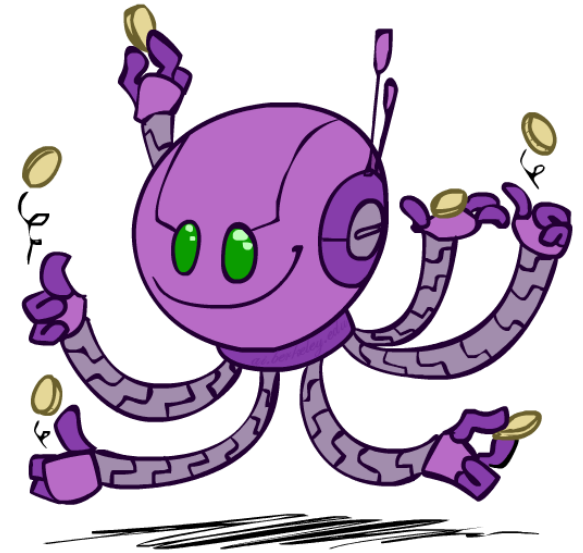
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$P(X_n)$

h	0.5
t	0.5

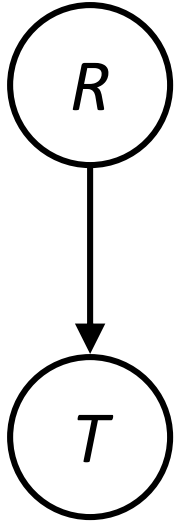
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$$P(h, h, t, h) =$$

Only distributions whose variables are absolutely independent can be represented by a Bayes' net with no arcs.

Example: Traffic

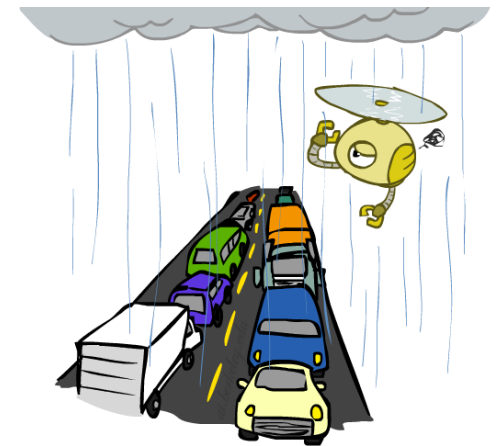

$$P(R)$$

$+r$	$1/4$
$-r$	$3/4$

$$P(T|R)$$

$+r$	<table><tr><td>$+t$</td><td>$3/4$</td></tr><tr><td>$-t$</td><td>$1/4$</td></tr></table>	$+t$	$3/4$	$-t$	$1/4$
$+t$	$3/4$				
$-t$	$1/4$				
$-r$	<table><tr><td>$+t$</td><td>$1/2$</td></tr><tr><td>$-t$</td><td>$1/2$</td></tr></table>	$+t$	$1/2$	$-t$	$1/2$
$+t$	$1/2$				
$-t$	$1/2$				

$$P(+r, -t) =$$



Probabilities in BNs

- Why are we guaranteed that setting? results in a proper joint distribution?

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

- Chain rule (valid for all distributions):

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

- Assume conditional independences:

$$P(x_i | x_1, \dots x_{i-1}) = P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

→ Consequence:

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

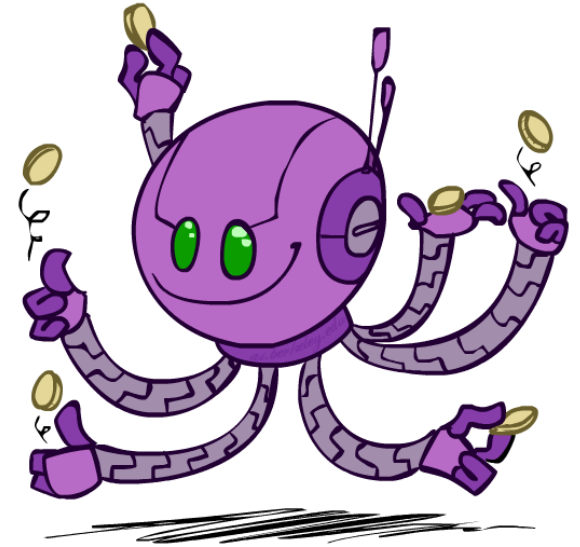
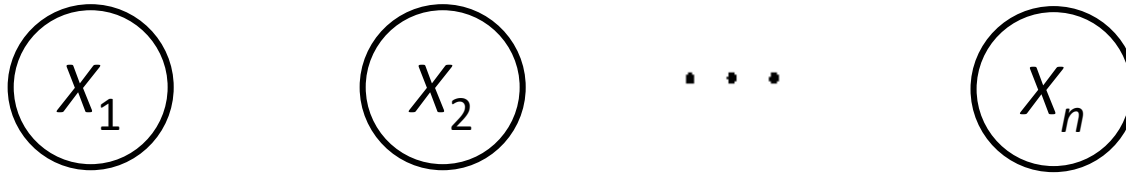
- Not every BN can represent every joint distribution
 - The topology enforces certain conditional independencies

Construct Bayes' Net



Example: Coin Flips

- N independent coin flips



- No interactions between variables: **absolute independence**

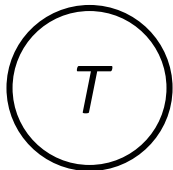
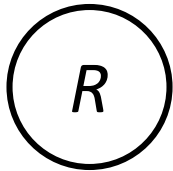
Example: Traffic

- Variables:

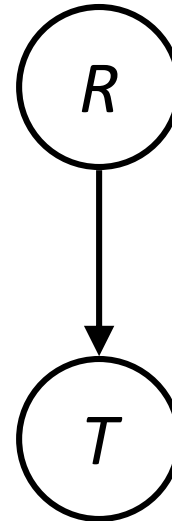
- R: It rains
- T: There is traffic



- Model 1: independence



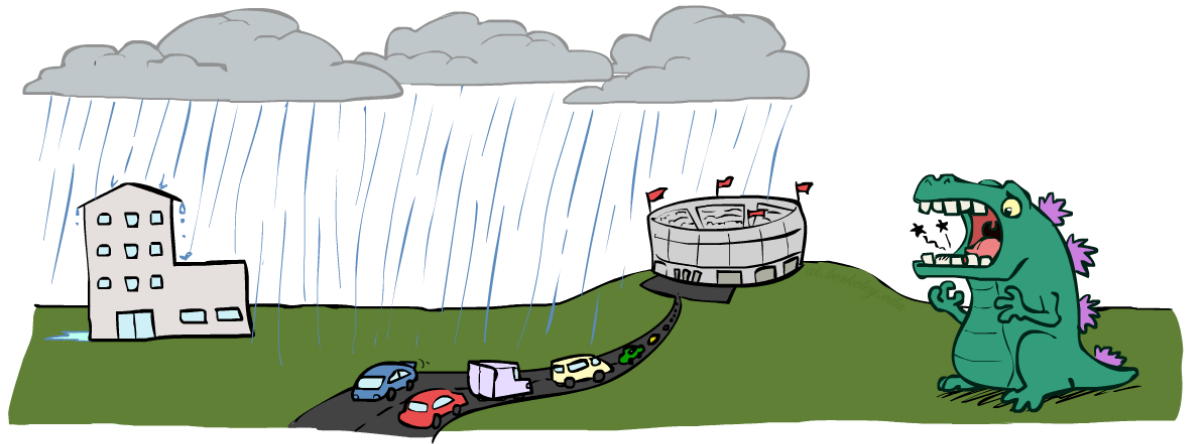
- Model 2: rain causes traffic



- Why is an agent using model 2 better?

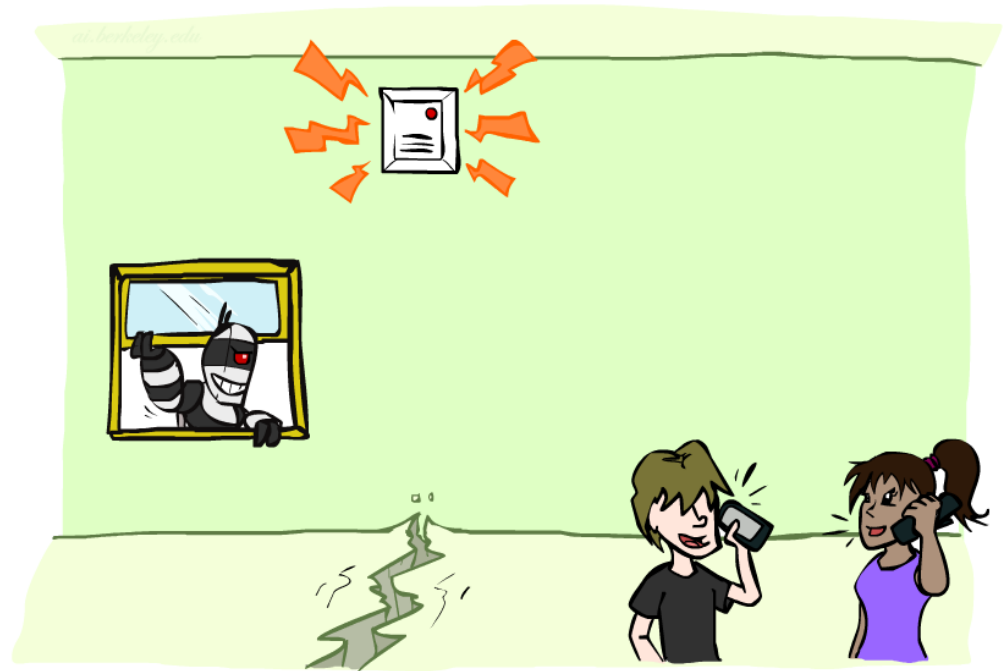
Example: Traffic II

- Let us build a causal graphical model!
- Variables
 - T: Traffic
 - R: It rains
 - L: Low pressure
 - D: Roof drips
 - B: Ballgame
 - C: Cavity



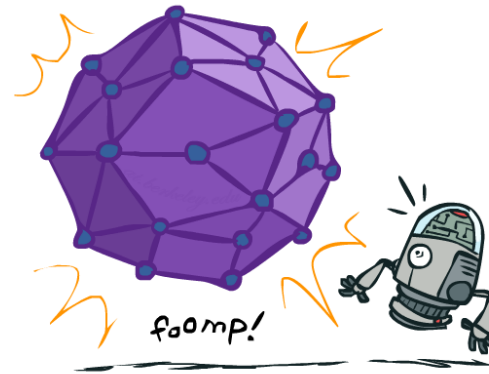
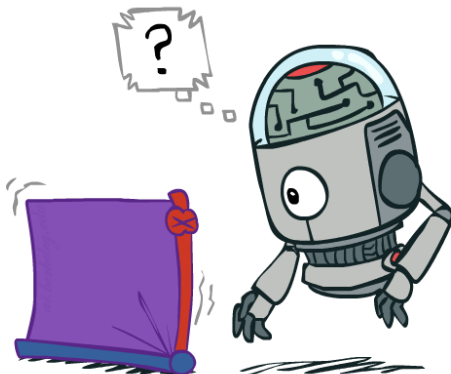
Example: Alarm Network

- Variables
 - B: Burglary
 - A: Alarm
 - M: Mary calls
 - J: John calls
 - E: Earthquake!



Size of a Bayes' Net

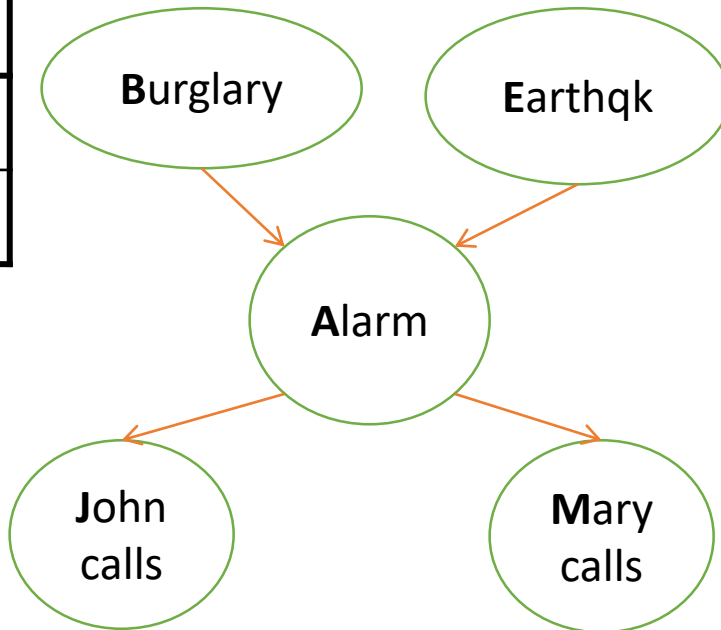
- How big is a joint distribution over N Boolean variables?
 - 2^N
- How big is an N -node net if nodes have up to k parents?
 - $O(N * 2^{k+1})$
- Both give you the power to calculate joint distribution
- BNs: Huge space savings!
- Also easier to elicit local CPTs
- Also faster to answer queries (next lectures)



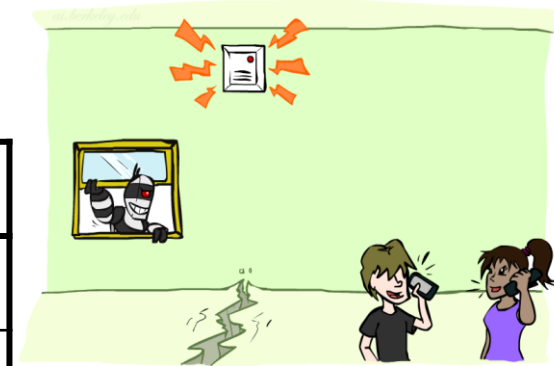
Quiz: Alarm Network

$$P(+b, -e, +a, +j, +m) = ?$$

B	P(B)
+b	0.001
-b	0.999



E	P(E)
+e	0.002
-e	0.998



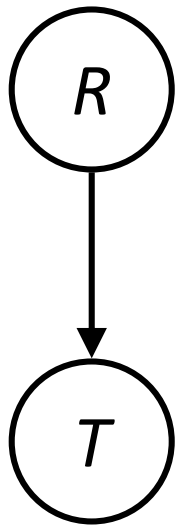
A	J	P(J A)
+a	+j	0.9
+a	-j	0.1
-a	+j	0.05
-a	-j	0.95

A	M	P(M A)
+a	+m	0.7
+a	-m	0.3
-a	+m	0.01
-a	-m	0.99

B	E	A	P(A B,E)
+b	+e	+a	0.95
+b	+e	-a	0.05
+b	-e	+a	0.94
+b	-e	-a	0.06
-b	+e	+a	0.29
-b	+e	-a	0.71
-b	-e	+a	0.001
-b	-e	-a	0.999

Example: Traffic

■ Causal direction

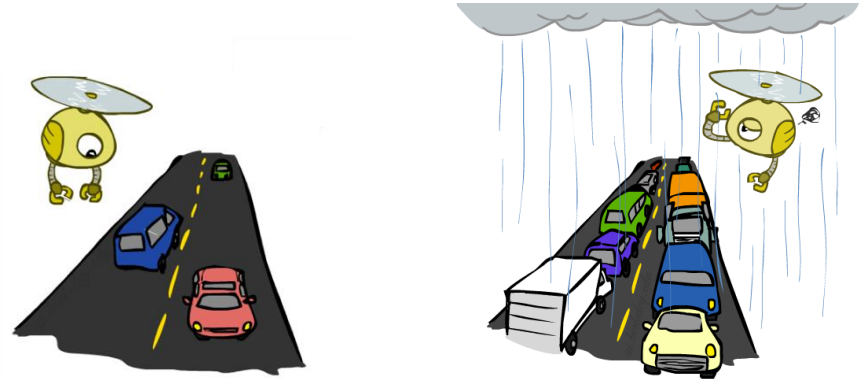


$P(R)$

+r	1/4
-r	3/4

$P(T|R)$

+r	+t	3/4
	-t	1/4
-r	+t	1/2
	-t	1/2

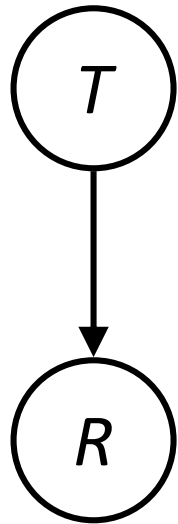


$P(T, R)$

+r	+t	3/16
+r	-t	1/16
-r	+t	6/16
-r	-t	6/16

Example: Reverse Traffic

- Reverse causality?



$P(T)$

+t	9/16
-t	7/16

$P(R|T)$

+t	+r	1/3
	-r	2/3
-t	+r	1/7
	-r	6/7

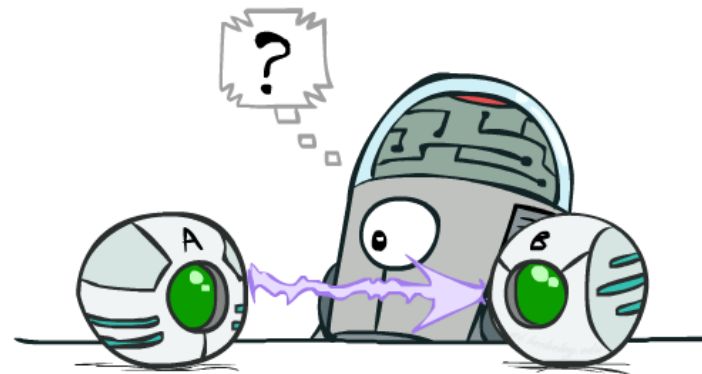


$P(T, R)$

+r	+t	3/16
+r	-t	1/16
-r	+t	6/16
-r	-t	6/16

Causality?

- When Bayes' nets reflect the true causal patterns:
 - Often simpler (nodes have fewer parents)
 - Often easier to think about
 - Often easier to elicit from experts
- BNs need not actually be causal
 - Sometimes no causal net exists over the domain (especially if variables are missing)
 - E.g. consider the variables *Traffic* and *Drips*
 - End up with arrows that reflect correlation, not causation
- What do the arrows really mean?
 - Topology may happen to encode causal structure
 - **Topology really encodes conditional independence**



$$P(x_i | x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}) = P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$