Inference in Bayesian Networks

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Exact Inference by Enumeration

Simple query on the burglary network:

$$\mathbf{P}(B|j, m)$$

$$= \mathbf{P}(B, j, m) / P(j, m)$$

$$= \alpha \mathbf{P}(B, j, m)$$

$$= \alpha \sum_{e} \sum_{a} \mathbf{P}(B, e, a, j, m)$$

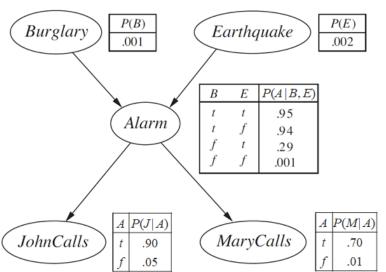
 Rewrite full joint entries using product of CPT entries

$$P(b|j, m)$$

$$= \alpha \sum_{e} \sum_{a} P(b) P(e) P(a|b, e) P(j|a) P(m|a)$$

$$= \alpha P(b) \sum_{e} P(e) \sum_{a} P(a|b, e) P(j|a) P(m|a)$$

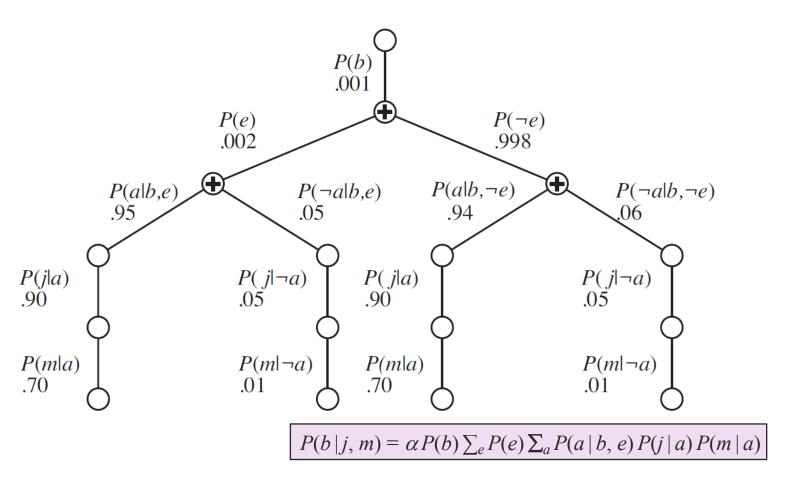
 \diamond Recursive depth-first enumeration: O(n) space, $O(d^n)$ time



Exact Inference by Enumeration

```
function ENUMERATION-ASK(X, e, bn) returns a distribution over X
   inputs: X, the query variable
             e, observed values for variables E
             bn, a Bayesian network specifying joint distribution P(X_1, \ldots, X_n)
   \mathbf{Q}(X) \leftarrow a distribution over X, initially empty
   for each value x of X do
                                                                     \mathbf{P}(B|j,m) = \alpha \sum_{e} \sum_{a} \mathbf{P}(B,e,a,j,m)
      \mathbf{Q}(x) \leftarrow \text{ENUMERATE-ALL}(bn.\text{VARS}, \mathbf{e}_x)
           where \mathbf{e}_x is \mathbf{e} extended with X = x
   return Normalize(\mathbf{Q}(X))
function ENUMERATE-ALL(vars, e) returns a real number
   if EMPTY?(vars) then return 1.0
   Y \leftarrow FIRST(vars)
                                                P(b|j,m) = \alpha P(b) \sum_{e} P(e) \sum_{a} P(a|b,e) P(j|a) P(m|a)
   if Y has value y in e
      then return P(y \mid parents(Y)) \times \text{ENUMERATE-ALL}(\text{REST}(vars), \mathbf{e})
      else return \sum_{y} P(y \mid parents(Y)) \times \text{Enumerate-All}(\text{Rest}(vars), \mathbf{e}_{v})
           where \mathbf{e}_{v} is \mathbf{e} extended with Y = y
```

Exact Inference by Enumeration



- Enumeration is inefficient: repeated computation
 - e.g., computes P(j | a) P(m | a) for each value of e

 Variable elimination: carry out summations right-to-left, storing intermediate results (factors) to avoid recomputation

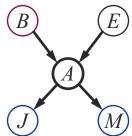
$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \underbrace{\mathbf{P}(B)}_{e} \underbrace{\sum_{e} P(e)}_{f_{2}(E)} \underbrace{\sum_{a} \mathbf{P}(a \mid B, e)}_{f_{3}(A, B, E)} \underbrace{P(j \mid a)}_{\mathbf{f}_{4}(A)} \underbrace{P(m \mid a)}_{\mathbf{f}_{5}(A)}$$

• $\mathbf{f}_5(A)$ and $\mathbf{f}_4(A)$ are 2-element vectors that just depend on A because J and M are fixed by the query:

$$\mathbf{f}_{5}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} f_{5}(a) \\ f_{5}(\neg a) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P(m \mid a) \\ P(m \mid \neg a) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.70 \\ 0.01 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{4}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} P(j \mid a) \\ P(j \mid \neg a) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.90 \\ 0.05 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{4}(A) \times \mathbf{f}_{4}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.90 \times 0.70 \\ 0.05 \times 0.01 \end{pmatrix}$$



 \bullet **f**₃(A, B, E) is an 8-element vector:

$$\mathbf{f}_{3}(a, B, E) = P(a | b, e) \\ P(a | b, \neg e) \\ P(a | \neg b, e) \\ P(a | \neg b, e) \\ P(a | \neg b, \neg e) \\ P(\neg a | b, e) \\ P(\neg a | b, \neg e) \\ P(\neg a | \neg b, \neg e) \\ P(\neg a | \neg$$

In terms of factors, the query expression is written as

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_3(A, B, E) \times \mathbf{f}_4(A) \times \mathbf{f}_5(A)$$

- The x operator is not ordinary matrix multiplication but instead the pointwise product operation (See <u>page 12</u>)
- The process of evaluating a query expression is the process of summing out variables (right to left) from pointwise products of factors to produce new factors, eventually yielding the posterior distribution over the query variable

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_3(A, B, E) \times \mathbf{f}_4(A) \times \mathbf{f}_5(A)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \,\mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \mathbf{f}_6(B, E)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \mathbf{f}_7(B)$$

First, we sum out A:

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \,\mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_3(A, B, E) \times \mathbf{f}_4(A) \times \mathbf{f}_5(A)$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{6}(B,E) = \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_{3}(A,B,E) \times \mathbf{f}_{4}(A) \times \mathbf{f}_{5}(A)$$

$$= \mathbf{f}_{3}(a,B,E) \times f_{4}(a) \times f_{5}(a) + \mathbf{f}_{3}(\neg a,B,E) \times f_{4}(\neg a) \times f_{5}(\neg a)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.95 \\ 0.94 \\ 0.29 \\ 0.001 \end{pmatrix} \times 0.9 \times 0.7 + \begin{pmatrix} 0.05 \\ 0.06 \\ 0.71 \\ 0.999 \end{pmatrix} \times 0.05 \times 0.01 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5985250 \\ 0.5922300 \\ 0.1830550 \\ 0.0011255 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now, we are left with the expression

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \mathbf{f}_6(B, E)$$

Next, we sum out E:

$$\mathbf{f}_{7}(B) = \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_{2}(E) \times \mathbf{f}_{6}(B, E)$$
$$= f_{2}(e) \times \mathbf{f}_{6}(B, e) + f_{2}(\neg e) \times \mathbf{f}_{6}(B, \neg e)$$

where
$$\mathbf{f}_2(E) = \begin{pmatrix} f_2(e) \\ f_2(\neg e) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P(e) \\ P(\neg e) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.002 \\ 0.998 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$0.002 \times \begin{pmatrix} 0.5985250 \\ 0.1830550 \end{pmatrix} + 0.998 \times \begin{pmatrix} 0.5922300 \\ 0.0011255 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.592242590 \\ 0.001489359 \end{pmatrix}$$

This leaves the expression

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \mathbf{f}_7(B), \text{ where } \mathbf{f}_1(B) = \begin{pmatrix} P(b) \\ P(\neg b) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.001 \\ 0.999 \end{pmatrix}$$

 \bullet Finally, $\mathbf{P}(B | j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \mathbf{f}_7(B)$ can be evaluated by taking the pointwise product and normalizing the result

$$\alpha \times \begin{pmatrix} 0.001 \\ 0.999 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0.592242590 \\ 0.001489359 \end{pmatrix} = \alpha \times \begin{pmatrix} 0.000592242590 \\ 0.001487869641 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2847 \\ 0.7153 \end{pmatrix}$$
pointwise product resulting factor

Operations on Factors

 \diamond The pointwise product $\mathbf{f}_1(A, B) \times \mathbf{f}_2(B, C) = \mathbf{f}_3(A, B, C)$

Variables of $\mathbf{f}_3 \cdots$ union of the variables in \mathbf{f}_1 and \mathbf{f}_2

Elements of \mathbf{f}_3 ... product of the corresponding elements in \mathbf{f}_1 and \mathbf{f}_2

A	В	$\mathbf{f}_1(A,B)$	В	C	$\mathbf{f}_2(B, C)$	A	В	C	$\mathbf{f}_3(A, B, C)$
T	Т	.3	T	T	.2	T	Т	Т	.3×.2
T	F	.7	T	F	.8	T	T	F	.3 ×.8
F	T	.9	F	Т	.6	T	F	T	.7 ×.6
F	F	.1	F	F	.4	Т	F	F	.7 ×.4
						F	Т	T	.9 ×.2
						F	T	F	.9 ×.8
						F	F	T	.1 ×.6
						F	F	F	.1 ×.4

Operations on Factors

To sum out A from $f_3(A, B, C)$ we calculate

$$\mathbf{f}(B,C) = \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_{3}(A,B,C) = \mathbf{f}_{3}(a,B,C) + \mathbf{f}_{3}(\neg a,B,C)$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} .06 & .24 \\ .42 & .28 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} .18 & .72 \\ .06 & .04 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} .24 & .96 \\ .48 & .32 \end{pmatrix}$$

Any factor that does not depend on the variable to be summed out can be moved outside the summation

$$\sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_{2}(E) \times \mathbf{f}_{3}(A, B, E) \times \mathbf{f}_{4}(A) \times \mathbf{f}_{5}(A)$$

$$\sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_{2}(E) \times \mathbf{f}_{3}(A, B, E) \times \mathbf{f}_{4}(A) \times \mathbf{f}_{5}(A)$$

$$= \mathbf{f}_{4}(A) \times \mathbf{f}_{5}(A) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_{2}(E) \times \mathbf{f}_{3}(A, B, E)$$

A	В	$\mathbf{f}_1(A,B)$	В	C	$\mathbf{f}_2(B, C)$	A	В	C	$\mathbf{f}_3(A, B, C)$
T	T	.3	T	T	.2	T	T	T	.06
Т	F	.7	T	F	.8	T	T	F	.24
F	T	.9	F	T	.6	T	F	T	.42
F	F	.1	F	F	.4	T	F	F	.28
						F	T	T	.18
						F	T	F	.72
						F	F	T	.06
						F	F	F	.04

Variable Ordering and Variable Relevance

- The variable elimination algorithm (<u>next page</u>) includes an <u>ORDER</u> function
 - ◆ Different orderings → different intermediate factors
 → different time and space complexities
 - ◆ E.g., if we eliminate *E* before *A* the calculation becomes

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \,\mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_4(A) \times \mathbf{f}_5(A) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \mathbf{f}_3(A, B, E)$$
$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \,\mathbf{f}_1(B) \times \sum_{e} \mathbf{f}_2(E) \times \sum_{a} \mathbf{f}_3(A, B, E) \times \mathbf{f}_4(A) \times \mathbf{f}_5(A)$$

$$P(b|j, m) = \alpha \sum_{a} \sum_{e} P(b) P(e) P(a|b, e) P(j|a) P(m|a)$$

= \alpha P(b) \sum_{a} \sum_{e} P(e) P(a|b, e) P(j|a) P(m|a)
= \alpha P(b) \sum_{a} P(j|a) P(m|a) \sum_{e} P(e) P(a|b, e)

Intractable to determine the optimal ordering

Variable Ordering and Variable Relevance

```
function ELIMINATION-ASK(X, \mathbf{e}, bn) returns a distribution over X

inputs: X, the query variable

\mathbf{e}, observed values for variables \mathbf{E}

bn, a Bayesian network specifying joint distribution \mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_n)

* Notice that factors are not multiplied until a variable is summed out from the accumulated product

factors \leftarrow [Make-Factor(var, \mathbf{e}) | factors]

if var is a hidden variable then factors \leftarrow Sum-Out(var, factors)

return Normalize(Pointwise-Product(factors))
```

The variable elimination algorithm for inference in Bayesian networks

$$\mathbf{P}(B \mid j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{P}(B) \sum_{e} P(e) \sum_{a} \mathbf{P}(a \mid B, e) P(j \mid a) P(m \mid a)$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{1}(B) \quad \mathbf{f}_{2}(E) \quad \mathbf{f}_{3}(A, B, E) \quad \mathbf{f}_{4}(A) \quad \mathbf{f}_{5}(A)$$
ORDER (best?)

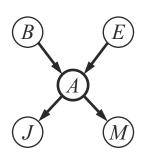
Variable Ordering and Variable Relevance

Irrelevant variables:

• Consider the query $\mathbf{P}(JohnCalls \mid Burglary = true)$ $\mathbf{P}(J \mid b) = \alpha P(b) \sum_{e} P(e) \sum_{a} P(a \mid b, e) \mathbf{P}(J \mid a) \sum_{m} P(m \mid a)$ Sum over m is identically 1; M is irrelevant to the query

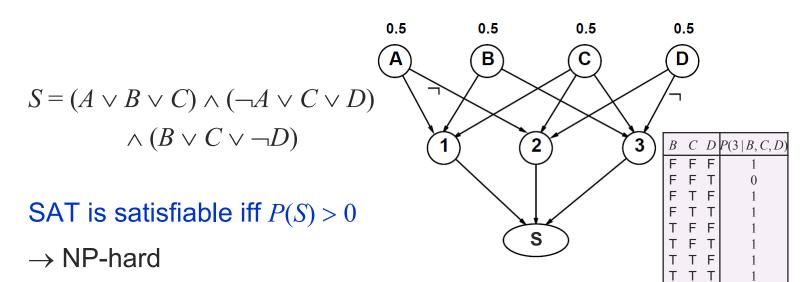
Theorem 1: *Y* is irrelevant unless $Y \in Ancestors(\{X\} \cup \mathbf{E})$

Here, X = JohnCalls, $\mathbf{E} = \{Burglary\}$, and $Ancestors(\{X\} \cup \mathbf{E}) = \{Alarm, Earthquake\}$ so MaryCalls is irrelevant



Complexity of Exact Inference

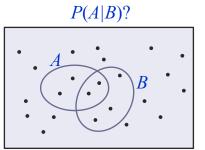
- Singly connected networks (or polytrees):
 - Any two nodes are connected by at most one (undirected) path
 - Time and space complexities of variable elimination are linear in the number of CPT entries
- Multiply connected networks:
 - CNF-SAT is reducible to exact inference



Approximate Inference by Stochastic Simulation

- Basic idea:
 - 1) Draw N samples from a sampling distribution S
 - 2) Compute an approximate posterior probability P
 - 3) Show this converges to the true probability P
- Outline:
 - Direct sampling methods:
 - Sampling from an empty network
 - Rejection sampling: reject samples disagreeing with evidence
 - Likelihood weighting: use evidence to weight samples
 - Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC): sample from a stochastic process whose stationary distribution is the true posterior

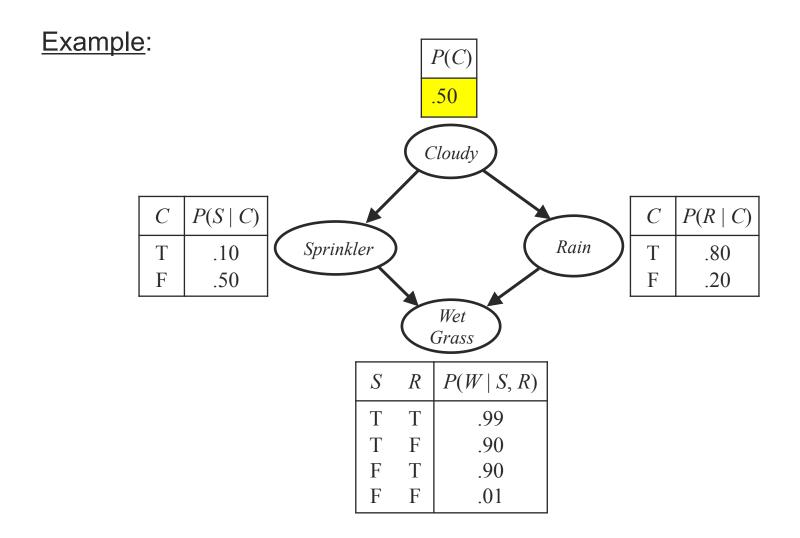
* Markov chain: a stochastic process in which future states are independent of past states given the present state

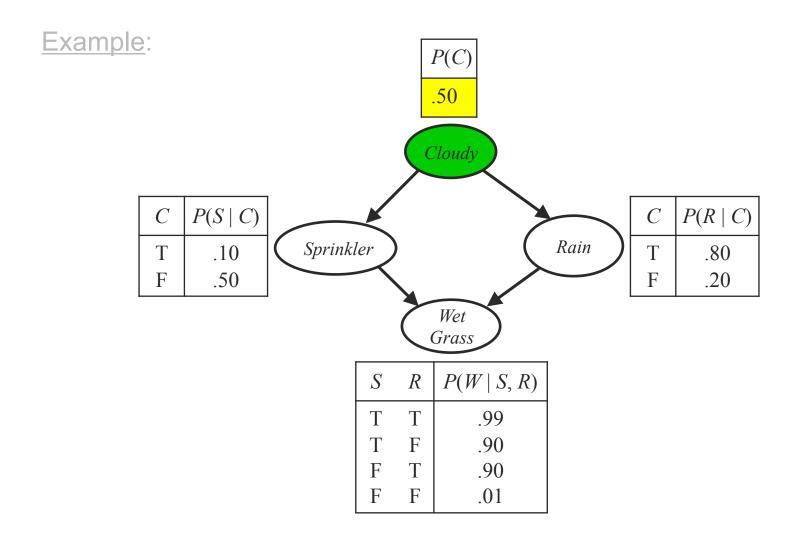


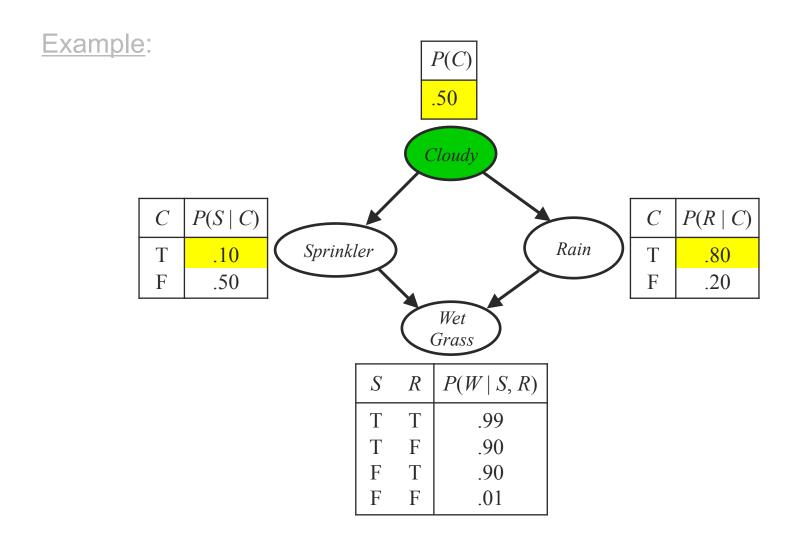
Direct Sampling Methods

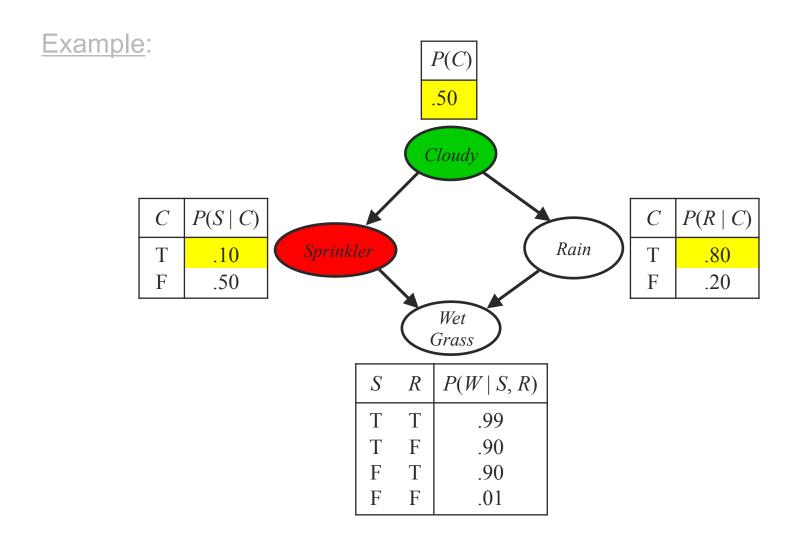
```
function PRIOR-SAMPLE(bn) returns an event sampled from the prior specified by bn inputs: bn, a Bayesian network specifying joint distribution \mathbf{P}(X_1, \ldots, X_n)
\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \text{ an (empty) event with } n \text{ elements}
\mathbf{foreach} \text{ variable } X_i \text{ in } X_1, \ldots, X_n \text{ do } /* \text{ sample variables in topological order */}
\mathbf{x}[i] \leftarrow \text{ a random sample from } \mathbf{P}(X_i | parents(X_i))
\text{ given the values of } Parents(X_i) \text{ in } \mathbf{x}
\mathbf{return } \mathbf{x}
```

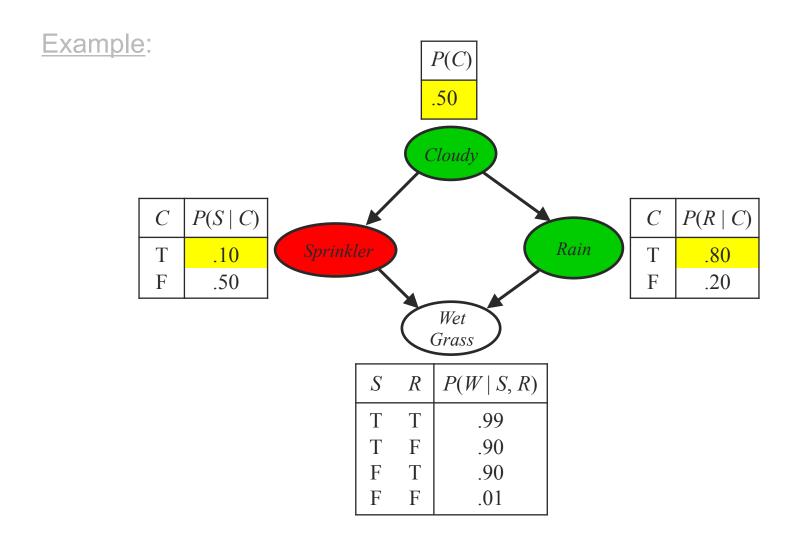


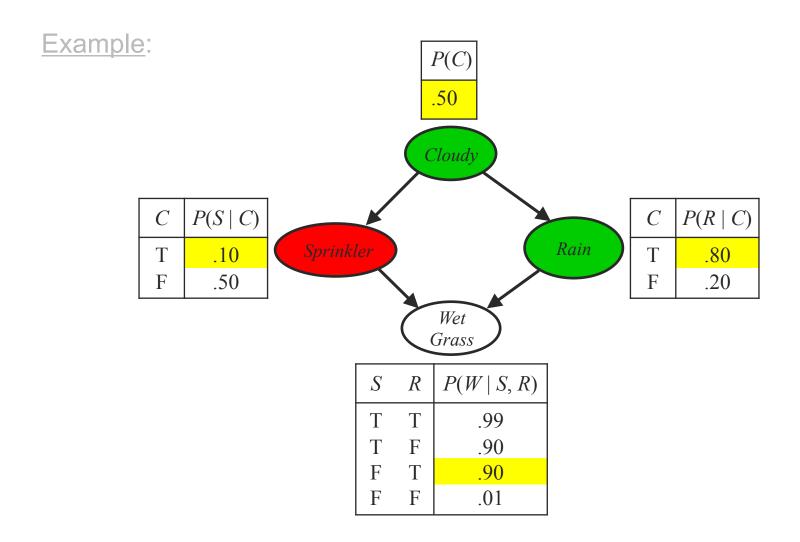


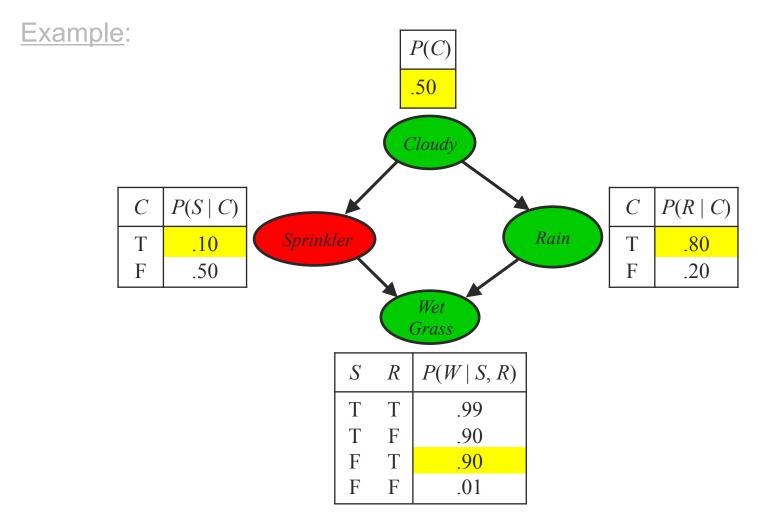












Prior-Sample returns the event [true, false, true, true]

Probability that PRIOR-SAMPLE generates a particular event

$$S_{PS}(x_1,...,x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i \mid parents(X_i)) = P(x_1,...,x_n)$$

i.e., the true prior probability

• E.g.,
$$S_{PS}(t, f, t, t) = 0.5 \times 0.9 \times 0.8 \times 0.9 = 0.324 = P(t, f, t, t)$$

 \diamond Let $N_{PS}(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ be the number of samples generated for event x_1, \ldots, x_n out of a total of N samples. Then we have

$$\lim_{N\to\infty} \hat{P}(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = \lim_{N\to\infty} N_{PS}(x_1,\ldots,x_n)/N$$

Since this is the probability that PRIOR-SAMPLE generates the event x_1, \ldots, x_n ,

$$= S_{PS}(x_1,...,x_n) = P(x_1,...,x_n)$$

i.e., estimates derived from Prior-Sample are consistent

 \Leftrightarrow Shorthand: $\hat{P}(x_1,...,x_n) \approx P(x_1,...,x_n)$

Rejection Sampling

 $\hat{\mathbf{P}}(X | \mathbf{e})$ estimated from samples agreeing with \mathbf{e}

function REJECTION-SAMPLING(X, \mathbf{e} , bn, N) returns an estimate of $\mathbf{P}(X|\mathbf{e})$ local variables: \mathbf{N} , a vector of counts for each value of X, initially zero for j=1 to N do $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \text{PRIOR-SAMPLE}(bn)$ if \mathbf{x} is consistent with \mathbf{e} then $\mathbf{N}[x] \leftarrow \mathbf{N}[x] + 1$ where x is the value of X in \mathbf{x} return NORMALIZE($\mathbf{N}[X]$)

E.g., estimate $\mathbf{P}(Rain | Sprinkler = true)$ using 100 samples 27 samples have Sprinkler = true Of these, 8 have Rain = true and 19 have Rain = false $\hat{\mathbf{P}}(Rain | Sprinkler = true) = NORMALIZE(\langle 8, 19 \rangle) = \langle 0.296, 0.704 \rangle$

Similar to a basic real-world empirical estimation procedure

Rejection Sampling

Analysis of rejection sampling:

```
\hat{\mathbf{P}}(X|\mathbf{e}) = \alpha \mathbf{N}_{PS}(X,\mathbf{e}) (algorithm definition)

= \mathbf{N}_{PS}(X,\mathbf{e})/N_{PS}(\mathbf{e}) (normalized by N_{PS}(\mathbf{e}))

= (\mathbf{N}_{PS}(X,\mathbf{e})/N)/(N_{PS}(\mathbf{e})/N)

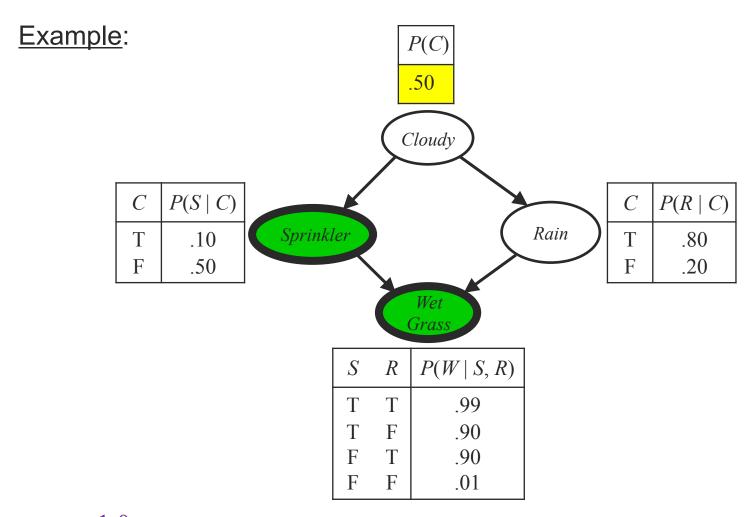
= \mathbf{P}(X,\mathbf{e})/P(\mathbf{e}) (property of PRIOR-SAMPLE)

= \mathbf{P}(X|\mathbf{e}) (definition of conditional probability)
```

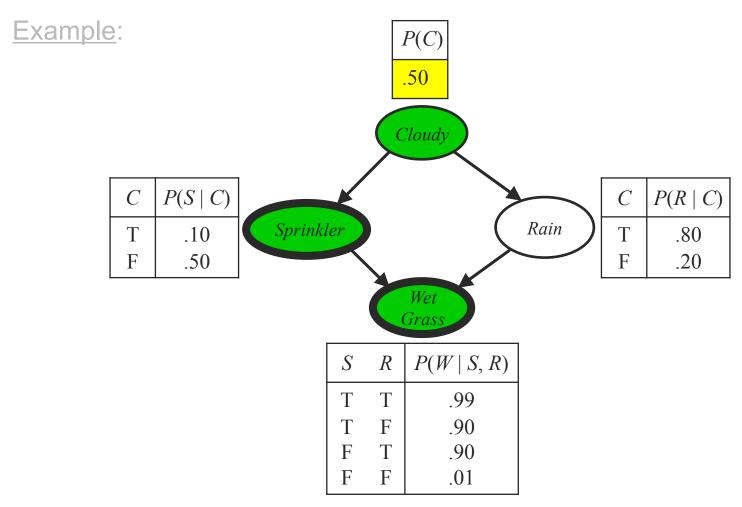
- Hence rejection sampling returns consistent posterior estimates
- \diamond Problem: hopelessly expensive if $P(\mathbf{e})$ is small
 - \bullet P(e) drops off exponentially with number of evidence variables!

 Idea: fix evidence variables, sample only nonevidence variables, and weight each sample by the likelihood it accords the evidence

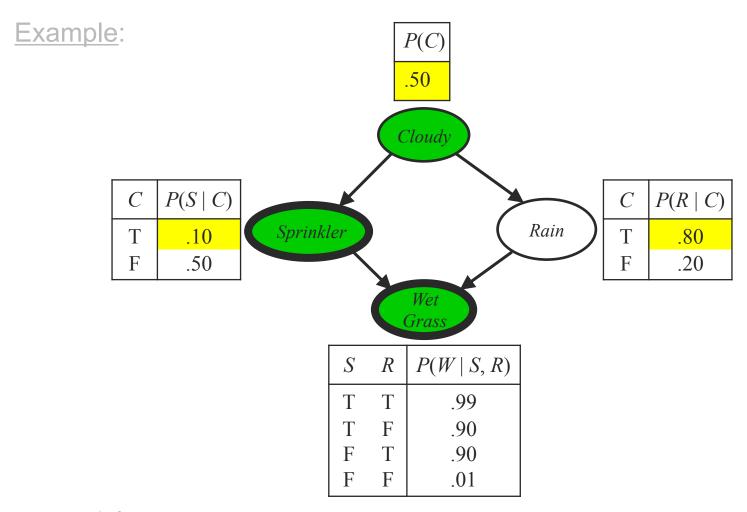
```
function LIKELIHOOD-WEIGHTING(X, e, bn, N) returns an estimate of P(X|e)
  local variables: W, a vector of weighted counts for each value of X, initially zero
  for j = 1 to N do
     \mathbf{x}, w \leftarrow \text{Weighted-Sample}(bn, \mathbf{e})
     \mathbf{W}[x] \leftarrow \mathbf{W}[x] + w where x is the value of X in x
  return NORMALIZE(W[X])
function WEIGHTED-SAMPLE(bn, e) returns an event and a weight
  w \leftarrow 1; \mathbf{x} \leftarrow an event with n elements initialized from \mathbf{e}
  foreach variable X_i in X_1, \ldots, X_n do
      if X_i is an evidence variable with value x_i in e
        then w \leftarrow w \times P(X_i = x_i | parents(X_i))
        else x[i] \leftarrow a random sample from P(X_i | parents(X_i))
  return x, w
```



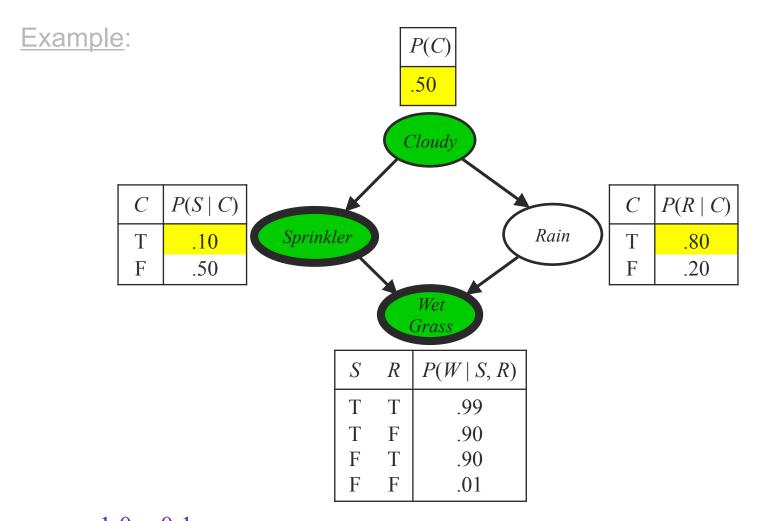
w = 1.0



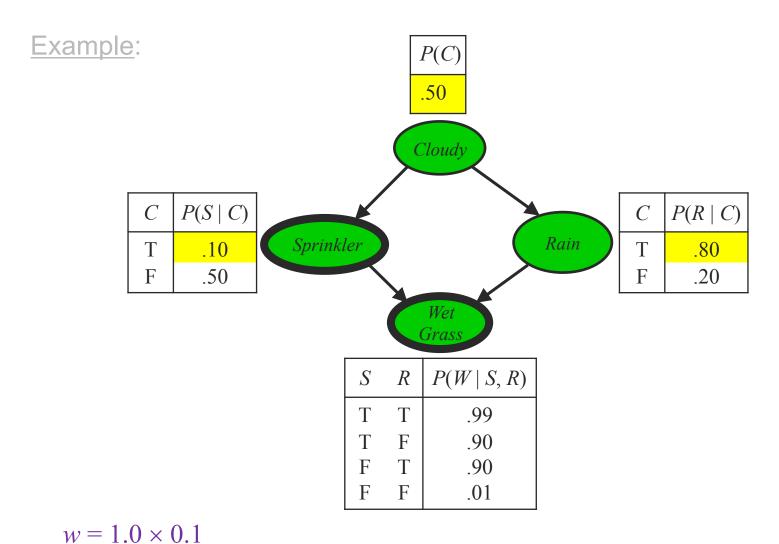
w = 1.0



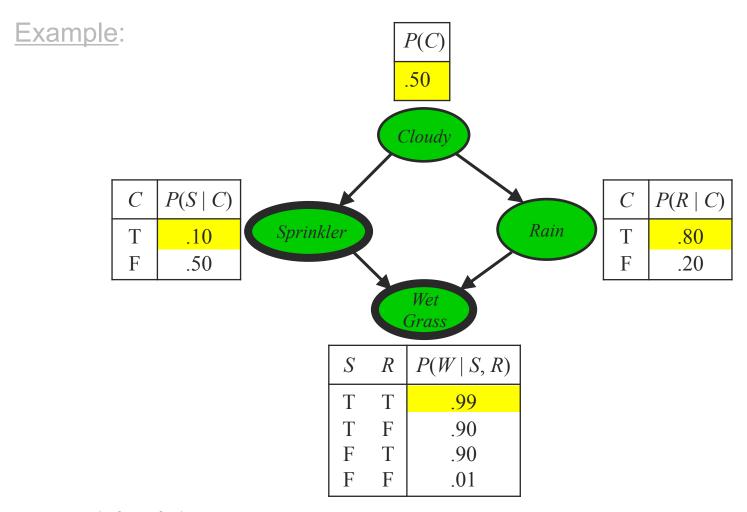
w = 1.0



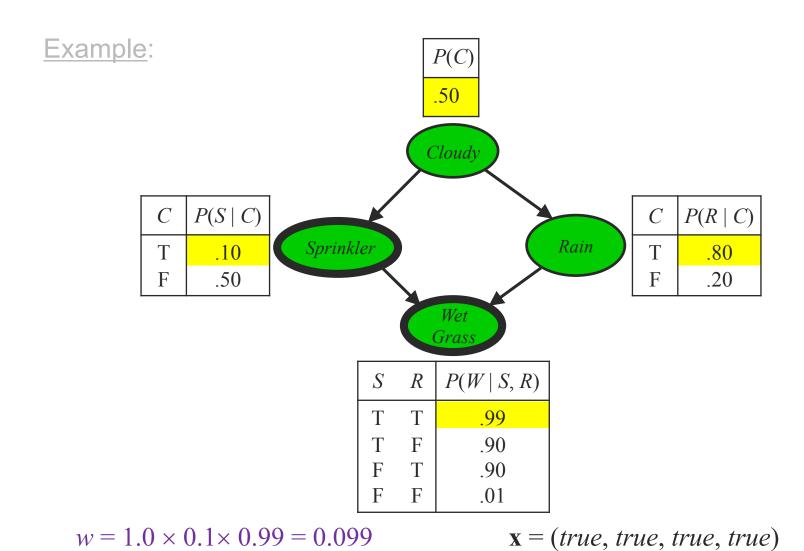
$$w = 1.0 \times 0.1$$



W 1.0 × 0.1



$$w = 1.0 \times 0.1$$



Sampling probability for Weighted-Sample is

$$S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_{i=1}^{l} P(z_i \mid parents(Z_i))$$
 (l: # of non-evidence variables)

Note: pays attention to evidence in ancestors only

⇒ somewhere "in between" prior and posterior distribution

♦ Weight for a given sample z, e is

$$w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_{i=1}^{m} P(e_i \mid parents(E_i))$$
 (m: # of evidence variables)

Weighted sampling probability is

$$S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_{i=1}^{l} P(z_i \mid parents(Z_i)) \prod_{i=1}^{m} P(e_i \mid parents(E_i))$$
$$= P(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e})$$

by standard global semantics of network

For a query variable X,

$$\hat{\mathbf{P}}(X \mid \mathbf{e}) = \alpha \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{N}_{WS}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e}) \mathbf{w}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{(from Likelihood-Weighting)}$$

$$= \alpha' \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \frac{\mathbf{N}_{WS}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e})}{N} \mathbf{w}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e})$$

$$\approx \alpha' \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{S}_{WS}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e}) \mathbf{w}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{(for large } N)$$

$$= \alpha' \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{P}(X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{e})$$

$$= \alpha' \mathbf{P}(X, \mathbf{e}) = \mathbf{P}(X \mid \mathbf{e})$$

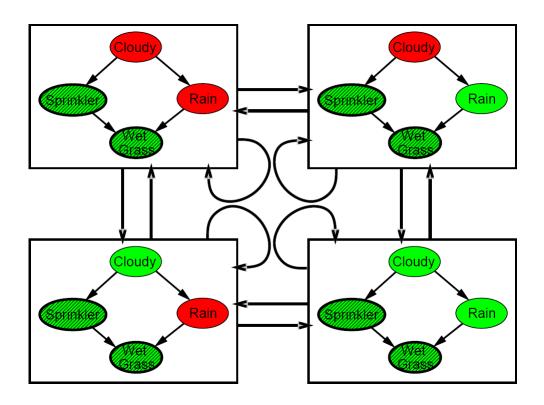
- Hence likelihood weighting returns consistent estimates
- Performance still degrades with many evidence variables because a few samples have nearly all the total weight (especially when the evidence variables appear late in the ordering)

- MCMC (Markov Chain Monte Carlo) generates each sample by making a random change to the preceding sample
 - Can be thought as being in a particular current state specifying a value for every variable and generating a next state by making random changes to the current state (state = sample)
- Gibbs sampling is a form of MCMC especially well suited for Bayesian networks
 - State of network = current assignment to all variables
 - Generates next state by sampling one variable given all other variables (or equivalently given Markov blanket)
 - Samples each variable in turn, or at random, with evidence variables fixed

```
function GIBBS-SAMPLING(X, \mathbf{e}, bn, N) returns an estimate of \mathbf{P}(X \mid \mathbf{e})
local variables: \mathbf{N}, a vector of counts for each value of X, initially zero
\mathbf{Z}, the nonevidence variable in bn
\mathbf{x}, the current state of the network, initially copied from \mathbf{e}
initialize \mathbf{x} with random values for the variables in \mathbf{Z}
for j = 1 to N do
foreach Z_i in \mathbf{Z} do
set the value of Z_i in \mathbf{x} by sampling from \mathbf{P}(Z_i \mid mb(Z_i))
\mathbf{N}[x] \leftarrow \mathbf{N}[x] + 1 where x is the value of X in \mathbf{x}
return NORMALIZE(\mathbf{N}[X])
```

Example:

With Sprinkler = true, WetGrass = true, there are four states:



Wander about for a while, average what you see

Example:

Estimate $P(Rain \mid Sprinkler = true, WetGrass = true)$

- Sample Cloudy or Rain given its Markov blanket, repeat
- Count number of times Rain is true and false in the samples
- E.g., visit 100 states

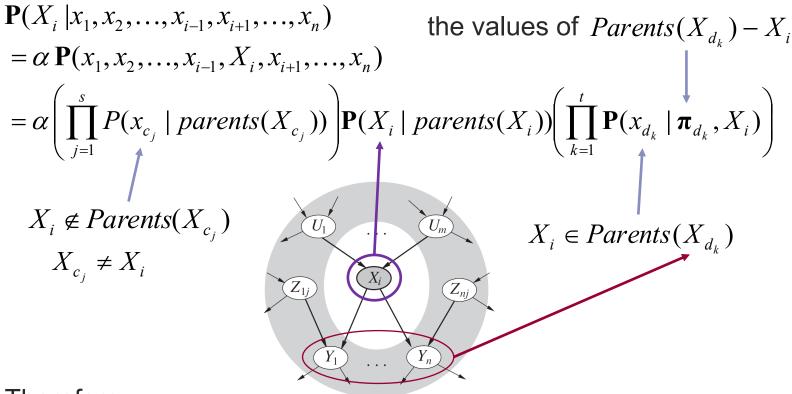
```
31 have Rain = true, 69 have Rain = false
```

$$\hat{\mathbf{P}}$$
 (Rain | Sprinkler = true, WetGrass = true)
= NORMALIZE($\langle 31, 69 \rangle$) = $\langle 0.31, 0.69 \rangle$

Theorem: Chain approaches stationary distribution

Long-run fraction of time spent in each state is exactly proportional to its posterior probability

Markov blanket sampling



Therefore,

$$P(x_i \mid mb(X_i)) = \alpha P(x_i \mid parents(X_i)) \times \prod_{Y_j \in Children(X_i)} P(y_j \mid parents(Y_j))$$

Summary

- Exact inference by variable elimination:
 - polytime on polytrees, NP-hard on general graphs
 - space = time, very sensitive to topology
- Approximate inference by LW, MCMC:
 - LW does poorly when there is lots of (downstream) evidence
 - Difficult to tell if convergence has been achieved with MCMC
 - LW, MCMC generally insensitive to topology
 - Convergence can be very slow with probabilities close to 1 or 0
 - Can handle arbitrary combinations of discrete and continuous variables