

Bayesian Networks



CHAPTER 14
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- **Definition of Bayesian networks**
 - Representing a joint distribution by a graph
 - Can yield an efficient factored representation for a joint distribution
- **Inference in Bayesian networks**
 - Inference = answering queries such as $P(Q \mid e)$
 - Intractable in general (scales exponentially with num variables)
 - But can be tractable for certain classes of Bayesian networks
 - Efficient algorithms leverage the structure of the graph

Computing with Probabilities: Law of Total Probability



Law of Total Probability (aka “summing out” or marginalization)

$$\begin{aligned} P(a) &= \sum_b P(a, b) \\ &= \sum_b P(a \mid b) P(b) \end{aligned} \quad \text{where } B \text{ is any random variable}$$

Why is this useful?

given a joint distribution (e.g., $P(a,b,c,d)$) we can obtain any “marginal” probability (e.g., $P(b)$) by summing out the other variables, e.g.,

$$P(b) = \sum_a \sum_c \sum_d P(a, b, c, d)$$



Less obvious: we can also compute any conditional probability of interest given a joint distribution, e.g.,

$$\begin{aligned} P(c \mid b) &= \sum_a \sum_d P(a, c, d \mid b) \\ &= 1 / P(b) \sum_a \sum_d P(a, c, d, b) \end{aligned}$$

where $1 / P(b)$ is just a normalization constant

Thus, the joint distribution contains the information we need to compute any probability of interest.

Computing with Probabilities: The Chain Rule or Factoring



We can always write

$$P(a, b, c, \dots z) = P(a \mid b, c, \dots z) P(b, c, \dots z)$$

(by definition of joint probability)

Repeatedly applying this idea, we can write

$$P(a, b, c, \dots z) = P(a \mid b, c, \dots z) P(b \mid c, \dots z) P(c \mid \dots z) \dots P(z)$$

This factorization holds for any ordering of the variables

This is the chain rule for probabilities

Conditional Independence



- 2 random variables A and B are conditionally independent given C iff

$$P(a, b \mid c) = P(a \mid c) P(b \mid c) \quad \text{for all values } a, b, c$$

- More intuitive (equivalent) conditional formulation

- A and B are conditionally independent given C iff

$$P(a \mid b, c) = P(a \mid c) \quad \text{OR} \quad P(b \mid a, c) = P(b \mid c), \quad \text{for all values } a, b, c$$

Are A, B, and C independent?

$$P(A=1, B=1, C=1) = 2/10 \quad P(A=1) P(B=1) P(C=1) = 1/2 * 6/10 * 1/2 = 3/20$$

Are A and B given C conditionally independent of each other?

$$P(A=1, B=1 \mid C=1) = 2/5 \quad P(A=1 \mid C=1) P(B=1 \mid C=1) = 2/5 * 3/5 = 6/25$$

A	B	C
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	1	1
1	1	0
0	1	1
0	1	0
0	0	1
1	0	0
1	1	1
1	0	0



- Intuitive interpretation:

$P(a \mid b, c) = P(a \mid c)$ tells us that learning about b , given that we already know c , provides no change in our probability for a , i.e., b contains no information about a beyond what c provides

- Can generalize to more than 2 random variables

- E.g., K different symptom variables $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_K$, and $C = \text{disease}$
- $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_K \mid C) = \prod P(X_i \mid C)$
- Also known as the naïve Bayes assumption



“...probability theory is more fundamentally concerned with the structure of reasoning and causation than with numbers.”

Glenn Shafer and Judea Pearl
Introduction to Readings in Uncertain Reasoning,
Morgan Kaufmann, 1990

Bayesian Networks



- Full joint probability distribution can answer questions about domain
 - Intractable as number of variables grow
 - Unnatural to have probability of all events unless large amount of data is available
- Independence and conditional independence between variables can greatly reduce number of parameters.
- We introduce a data structure called Bayesian Networks to represent dependencies among variables.

Example



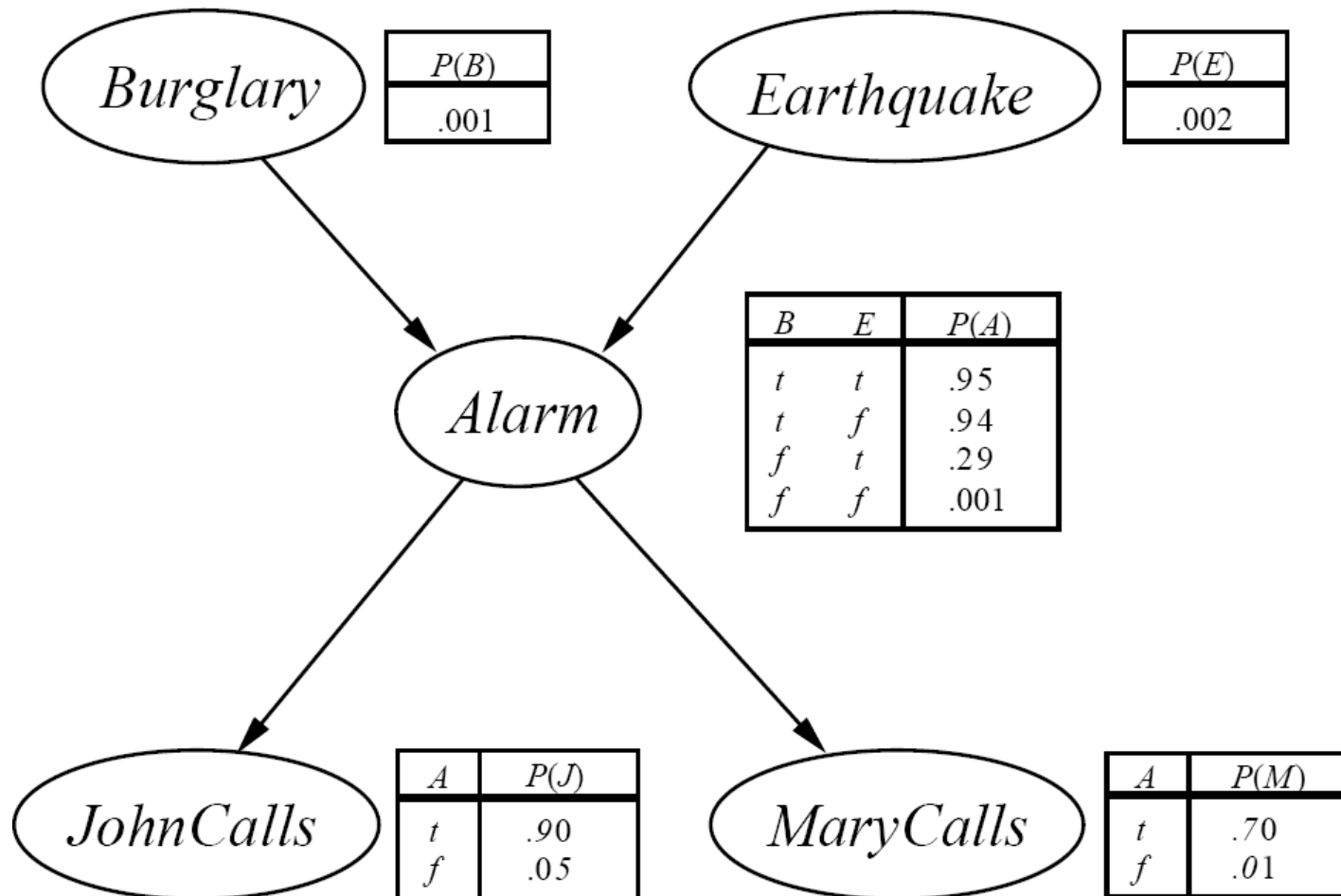
- You have a new burglar alarm installed at home
- Its reliable at detecting burglary but also responds to earthquakes
- You have two neighbors that promise to call you at work when they hear the alarm
- John always calls when he hears the alarm, but sometimes confuses alarm with telephone ringing
- Marry listens to loud music and sometimes misses the alarm

Example



- Consider the following 5 binary variables:
 - B = a burglary occurs at your house
 - E = an earthquake occurs at your house
 - A = the alarm goes off
 - J = John calls to report the alarm
 - M = Mary calls to report the alarm
- What is $P(B \mid M, J)$? (for example)
- We can use the full joint distribution to answer this question
 - ✦ Requires $2^5 = 32$ probabilities
 - ✦ Can we use prior domain knowledge to come up with a Bayesian network that requires fewer probabilities?

The Resulting Bayesian Network



Bayesian Network



- A Bayesian Network is a graph in which each node is annotated with probability information. The full specification is as follows
 - A set of random variables makes up the nodes of the network
 - A set of directed links or arrows connects pair of nodes. $X \rightarrow Y$ reads X is the parent of Y
 - Each node X has a conditional probability distribution $P(X|\text{parents}(X))$
 - The graph has no directed cycles (directed acyclic graph)



- $$\begin{aligned} P(M, J, A, E, B) &= P(M | J, A, E, B) p(J, A, E, B) = P(M | A) p(J, A, E, B) \\ &= P(M | A) p(J | A, E, B) p(A, E, B) = P(M | A) p(J | A) p(A, E, B) \\ &= P(M | A) p(J | A) p(A | E, B) P(E, B) \\ &= P(M | A) p(J | A) p(A | E, B) P(E) P(B) \end{aligned}$$

In general,

$$p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N) = \prod p(X_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

The full joint distribution

The graph-structured approximation

Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks

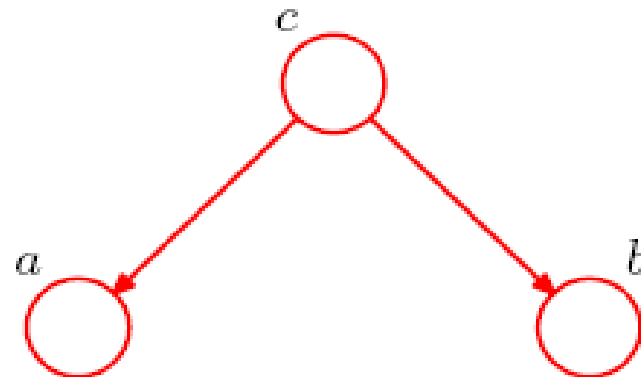
A

B

C

Marginal Independence:
 $p(A,B,C) = p(A) p(B) p(C)$

A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 1

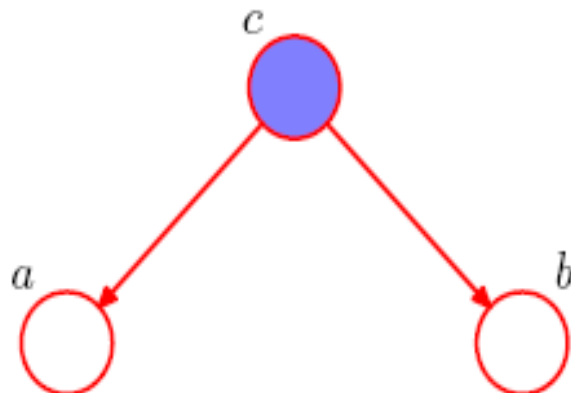


- The graph above means

$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b, c) &= p(a|c)p(b|c)p(c) \\ p(a, b) &= \sum_c p(a|c)p(b|c)p(c) \\ &\neq p(a)p(b) \text{ in general} \end{aligned}$$

- So a and b not independent

A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 1

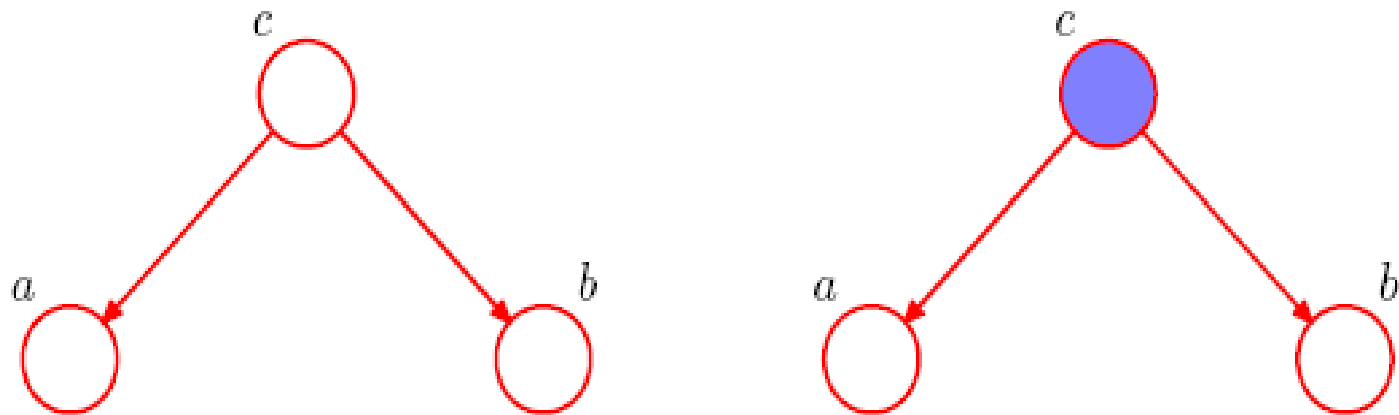


- However, conditioned on c

$$p(a, b|c) = \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)} = \frac{p(a|c)p(b|c)p(c)}{p(c)} = p(a|c)p(b|c)$$

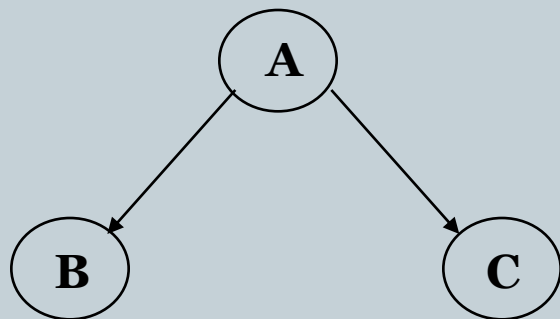
- So $a \perp\!\!\!\perp b|c$

A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 1



- Note the **path** from a to b in the graph
 - When c is not observed, path is open, a and b not independent
 - When c is observed, path is blocked, a and b independent
- In this case c is **tail-to-tail** with respect to this path

Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks



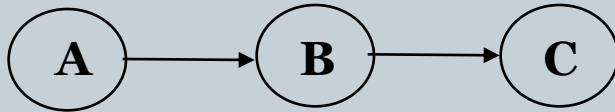
Conditionally independent effects:

$$p(A,B,C) = p(B|A)p(C|A)p(A)$$

**B and C are conditionally independent
Given A**

**e.g., A is a disease, and we model
B and C as conditionally independent
symptoms given A**

Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks



Markov dependence:
 $p(A,B,C) = p(C|B) p(B|A)p(A)$

A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 2

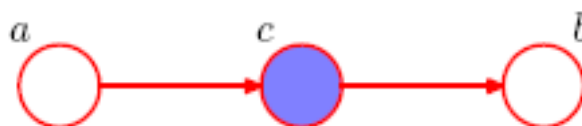


- The graph above means

$$p(a, b, c) = p(a)p(b|c)p(c|a)$$

- Again a and b not independent

A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 2

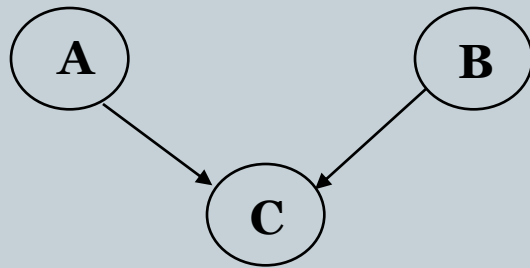


- However, conditioned on c

$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b|c) &= \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)} = \frac{p(a)p(b|c)}{p(c)} p(c|a) \\ &= \frac{p(a)p(b|c)}{p(c)} \underbrace{\frac{p(a|c)p(c)}{p(a)}}_{\text{Bayes' Theorem}} \\ &= p(a|c)p(b|c) \end{aligned}$$

- So $a \perp\!\!\!\perp b|c$

Examples of 3-way Bayesian Networks



Independent Causes:

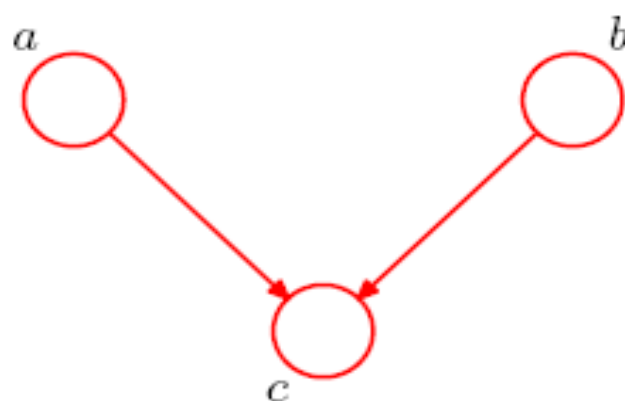
$$p(A,B,C) = p(C|A,B)p(A)p(B)$$

“Explaining away” effect:

**Given C, observing A makes B less likely
e.g., earthquake/burglary/alarm
example**

**A and B are (marginally) independent
but become dependent once C is known**

A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 3



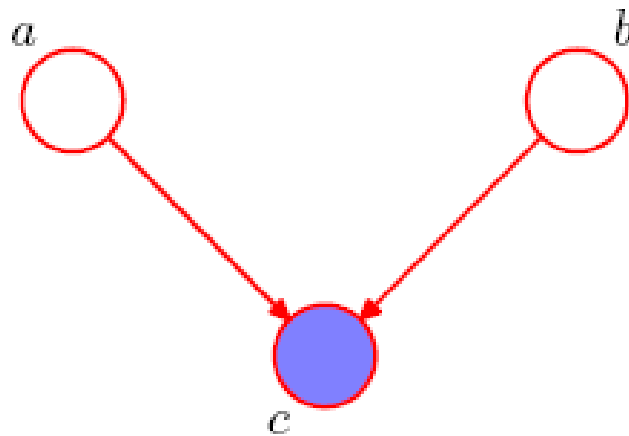
- The graph above means

$$p(a, b, c) = p(a)p(b)p(c|a, b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b) &= \sum_c p(a)p(b)p(c|a, b) \\ &= p(a)p(b) \end{aligned}$$

- This time a and b are independent

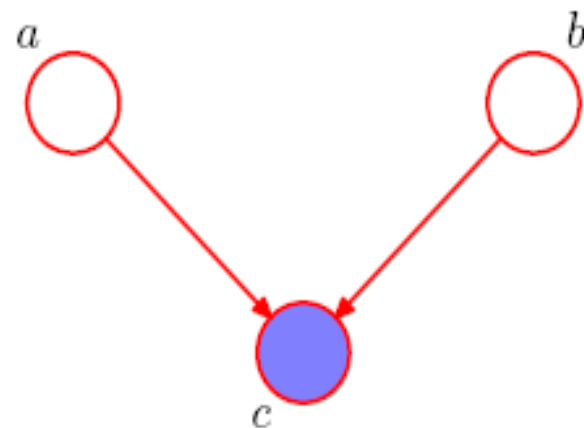
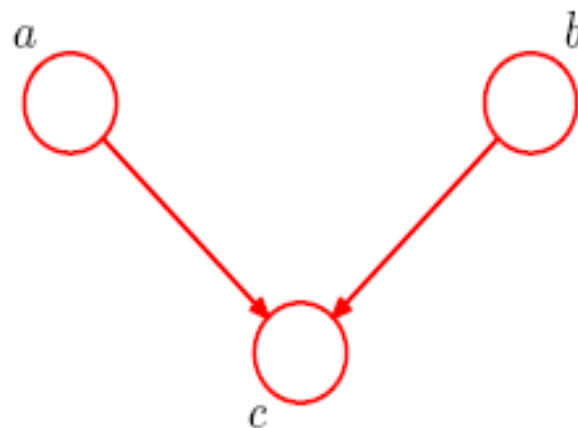
A Tale of Three Graphs - Part 3



- However, conditioned on c

$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b|c) &= \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)} = \frac{p(a)p(b)p(c|a, b)}{p(c)} \\ &\neq p(a|c)p(b|c) \text{ in general} \end{aligned}$$

- So $a \nperp b|c$



- Frustratingly, the behaviour here is different
 - When c is not observed, path is blocked, a and b independent
 - When c is observed, path is unblocked, a and b not independent
- In this case c is **head-to-head** with respect to this path
- Situation is in fact more complex, path is unblocked if any **descendent** of c is observed

Constructing a Bayesian Network: Step 1



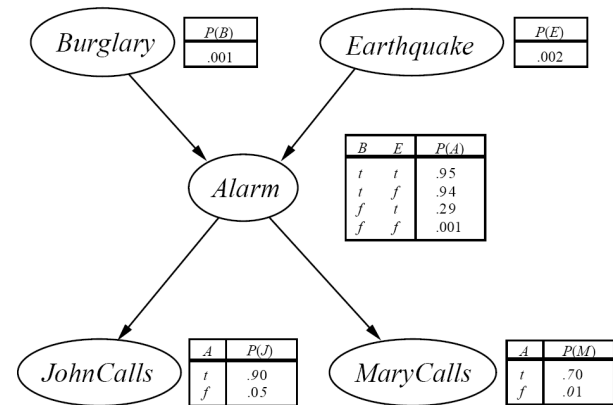
- Order the variables in terms of causality (may be a partial order)

e.g., $\{E, B\} \rightarrow \{A\} \rightarrow \{J, M\}$

Constructing this Bayesian Network: Step 2

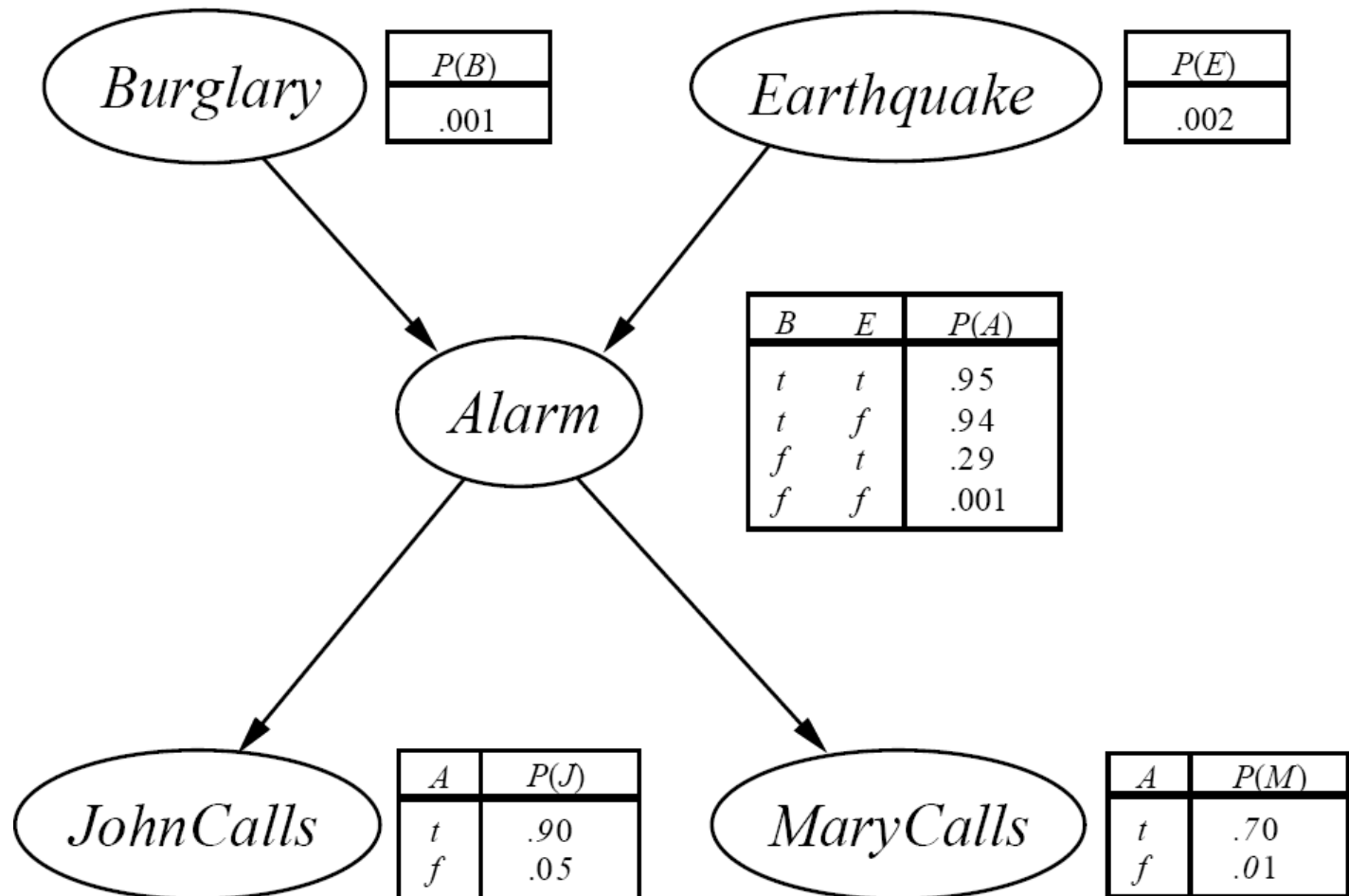


- $P(J, M, A, E, B) =$
 $P(J | A) P(M | A) P(A | E, B) P(E) P(B)$



- There are 3 conditional probability tables (CPDs) to be determined:
 $P(J | A)$, $P(M | A)$, $P(A | E, B)$
 - Requiring $2 + 2 + 4 = 8$ probabilities
- And 2 marginal probabilities $P(E)$, $P(B)$ -> 2 more probabilities
- Where do these probabilities come from?
 - Expert knowledge
 - From data (relative frequency estimates)
 - Or a combination of both - see discussion in Section 20.1 and 20.2 (optional)

The Bayesian network



Number of Probabilities in Bayesian Networks



- Consider n binary variables
- Unconstrained joint distribution requires $O(2^n)$ probabilities
- If we have a Bayesian network, with a maximum of k parents for any node, then we need $O(n 2^k)$ probabilities
- Example
 - Full unconstrained joint distribution
 - ✦ $n = 30$: need 10^9 probabilities for full joint distribution
 - Bayesian network
 - ✦ $n = 30, k = 4$: need 480 probabilities



Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E

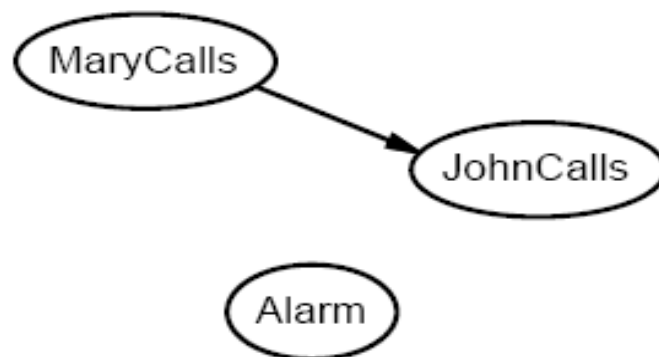
MaryCalls

JohnCalls

$$P(J|M) = P(J)?$$



Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E

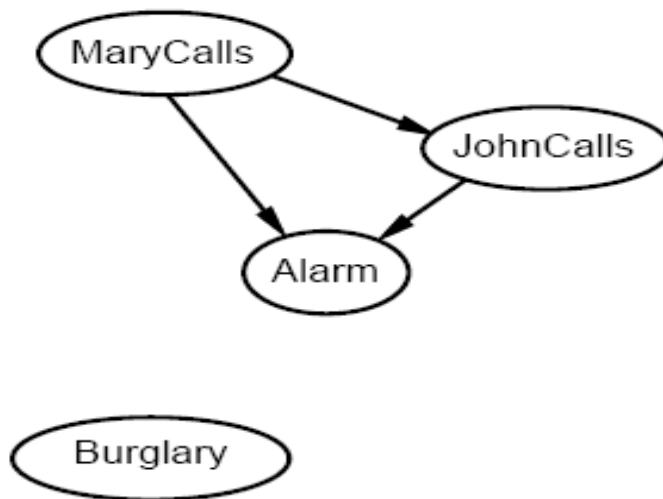


$P(J|M) = P(J)$? No

$P(A|J, M) = P(A|J)$? $P(A|J, M) = P(A)$?



Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E



$P(J|M) = P(J)$? No

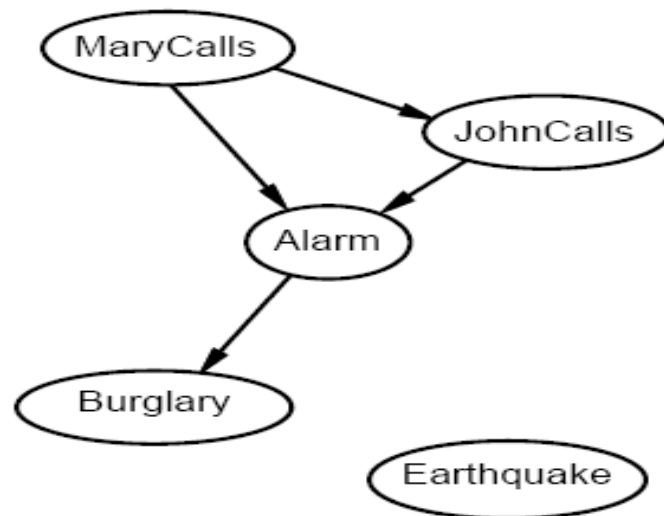
$P(A|J, M) = P(A|J)$? $P(A|J, M) = P(A)$? No

$P(B|A, J, M) = P(B|A)$?

$P(B|A, J, M) = P(B)$?



Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E



$P(J|M) = P(J)$? No

$P(A|J, M) = P(A|J)$? $P(A|J, M) = P(A)$? No

$P(B|A, J, M) = P(B|A)$? Yes

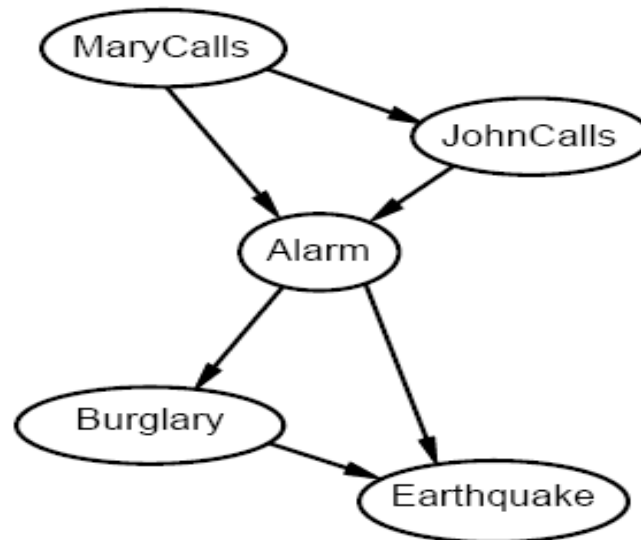
$P(B|A, J, M) = P(B)$? No

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

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



Suppose we choose the ordering M, J, A, B, E



$P(J|M) = P(J)$? No

$P(A|J, M) = P(A|J)$? $P(A|J, M) = P(A)$? No

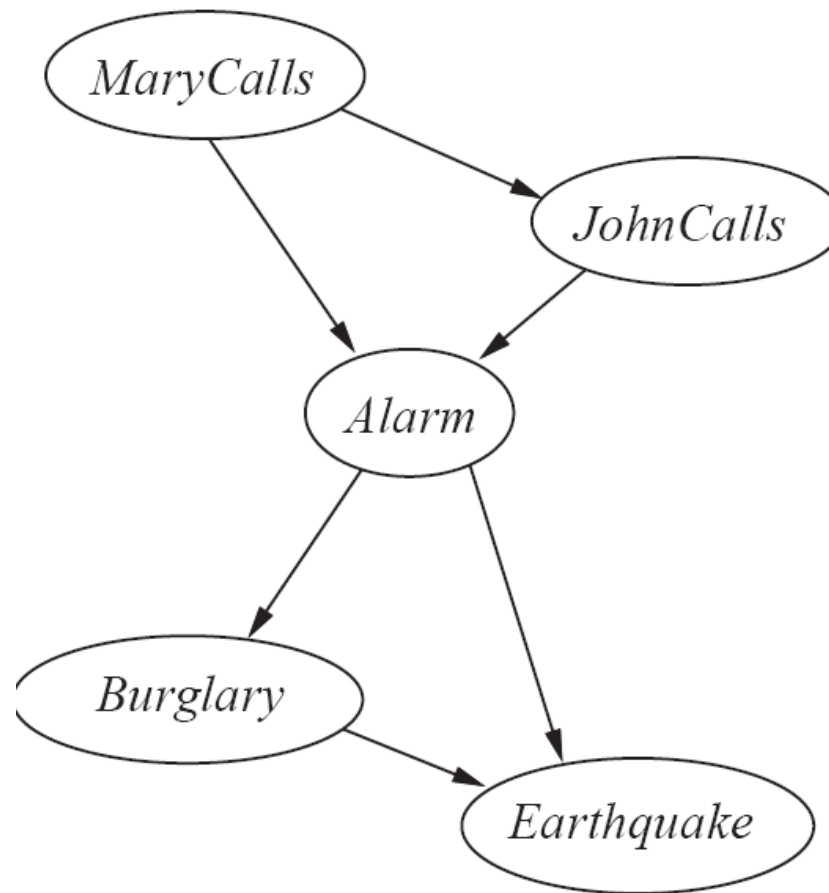
$P(B|A, J, M) = P(B|A)$? Yes

$P(B|A, J, M) = P(B)$? No

$P(E|B, A, J, M) = P(E|A)$? No

$P(E|B, A, J, M) = P(E|A, B)$? Yes

The Bayesian Network from a different Variable Ordering

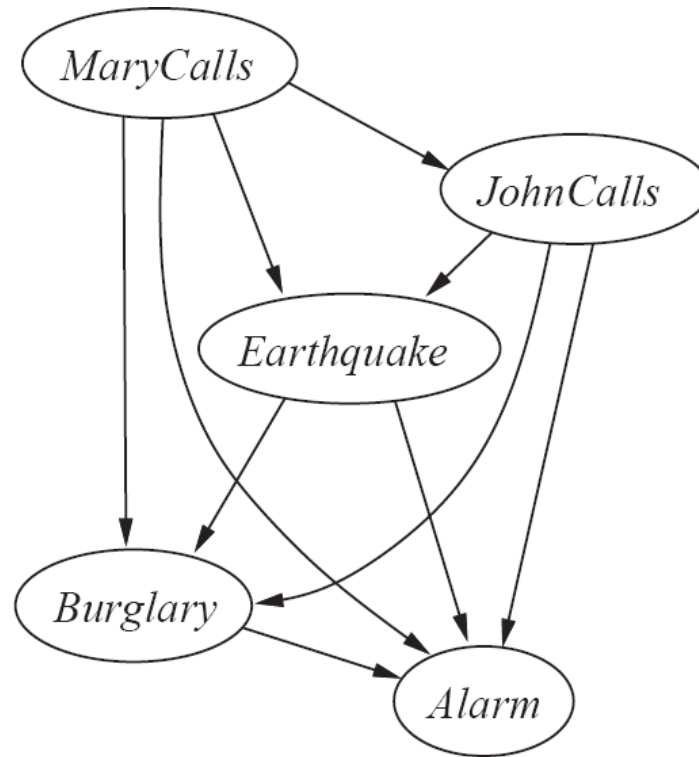


(a)

The Bayesian Network from a different Variable Ordering



Order of {M, J, E, B, A}



(b)

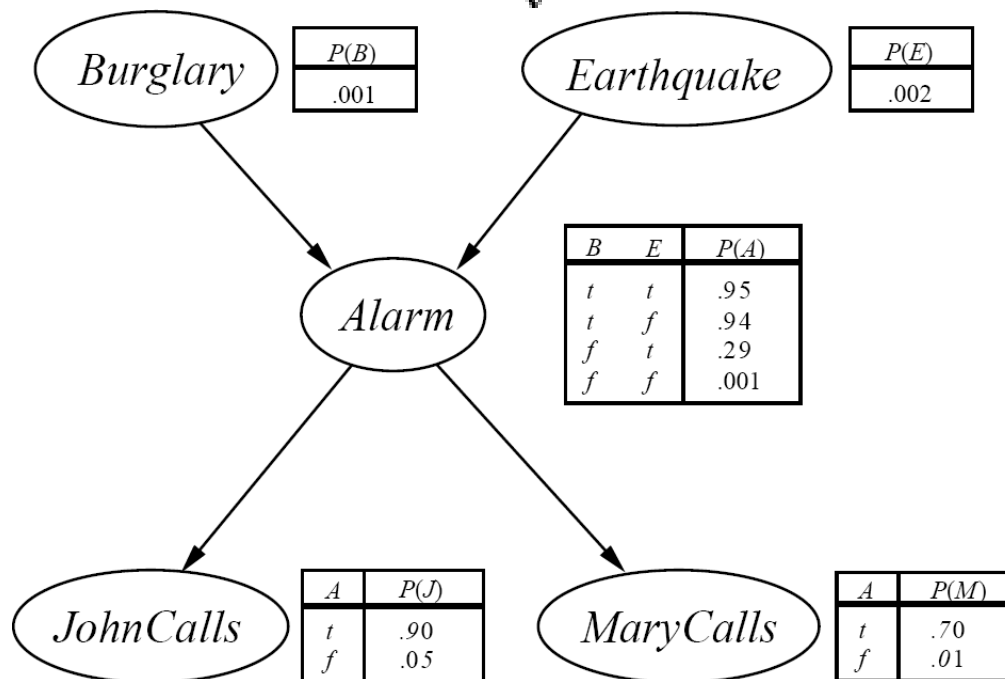
Inference in Bayesian Networks



Exact inference in BNs

- A query $P(X|e)$ can be answered using marginalization.

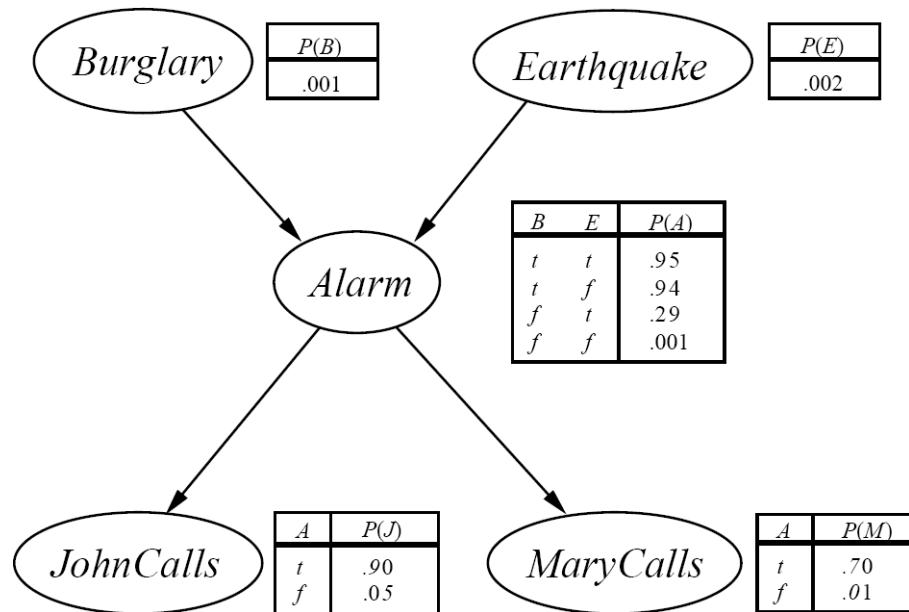
$$P(X|e) = a P(X, e) = a \sum_v P(X, e, y) .$$



Inference by enumeration



$$\mathbf{P}(B|j, m) = \alpha \mathbf{P}(B, j, m) = \alpha \sum_e \sum_a \mathbf{P}(B, e, a, j, m) .$$



$$P(b|j, m) = \alpha \sum_e \sum_a P(b)P(e)P(a|b, e)P(j|a)P(m|a)$$



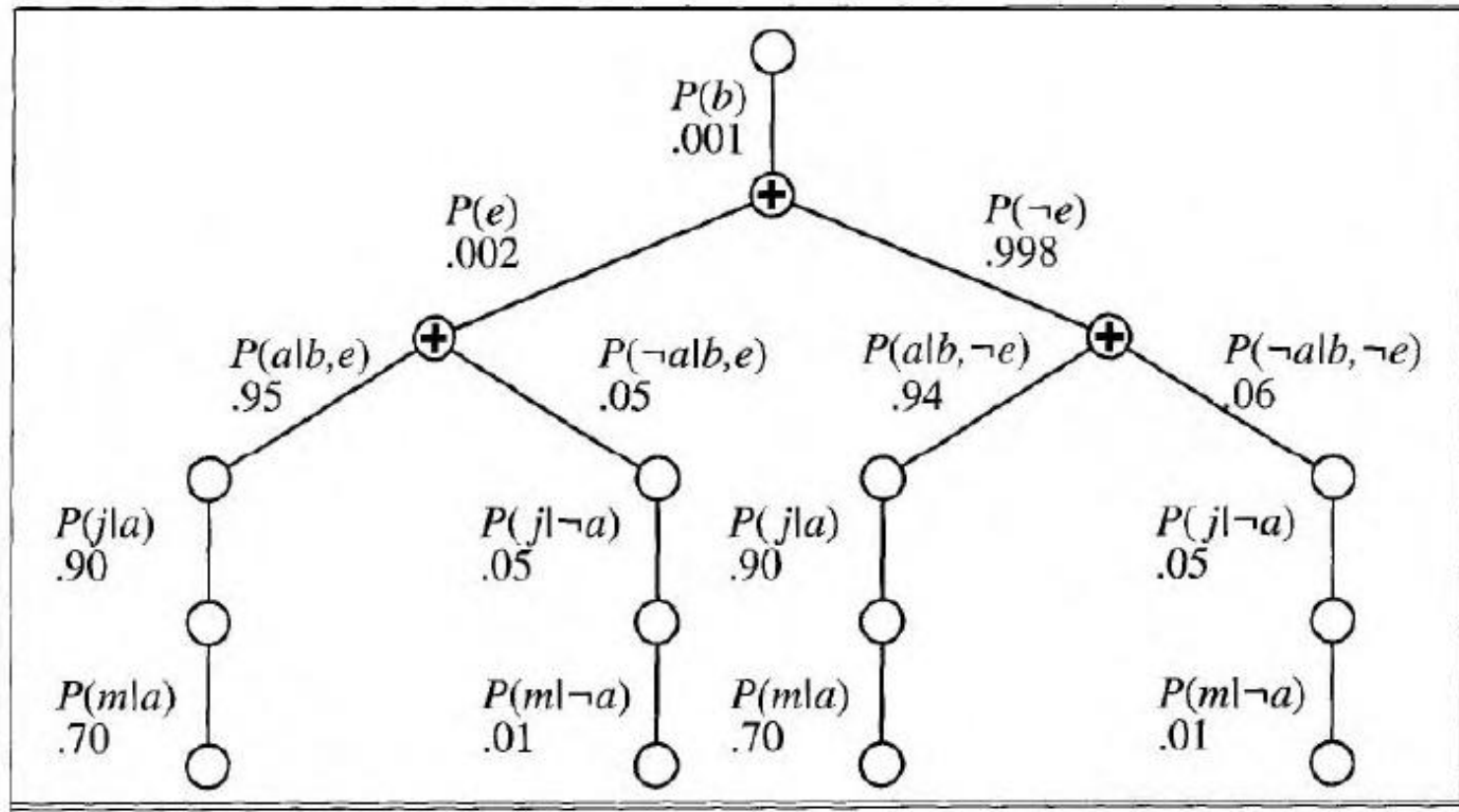
$$P(b|j, m) = \alpha \sum_e \sum_a P(b)P(e)P(a|b, e)P(j|a)P(m|a)$$

- We have to add 4 terms each have 5 multiplications.
- With n Booleans complexity is $O(n2^n)$
- Improvement can be obtained

$$P(b|j, m) = \alpha P(b) \sum_e P(e) \sum_a P(a|b, e)P(j|a)P(m|a) .$$

$$\mathbf{P}(B|j, m) = \alpha \langle 0.00059224, 0.0014919 \rangle \approx \langle 0.284, 0.716 \rangle .$$

Inference by enumeration



- What is the problem? Why is this inefficient?

Variable elimination



$$\mathbf{P}(B|j, m) = \alpha \underbrace{\mathbf{P}(B)}_B \sum_e \underbrace{P(e)}_E \sum_a \underbrace{\mathbf{P}(a|B, e)}_A \underbrace{P(j|a)}_J \underbrace{P(m|a)}_M ,$$

- Store values in vectors and reuse them.

$$\mathbf{f}_M(A) = \begin{pmatrix} P(m|a) \\ P(m|\neg a) \end{pmatrix}$$

Complexity of exact inference

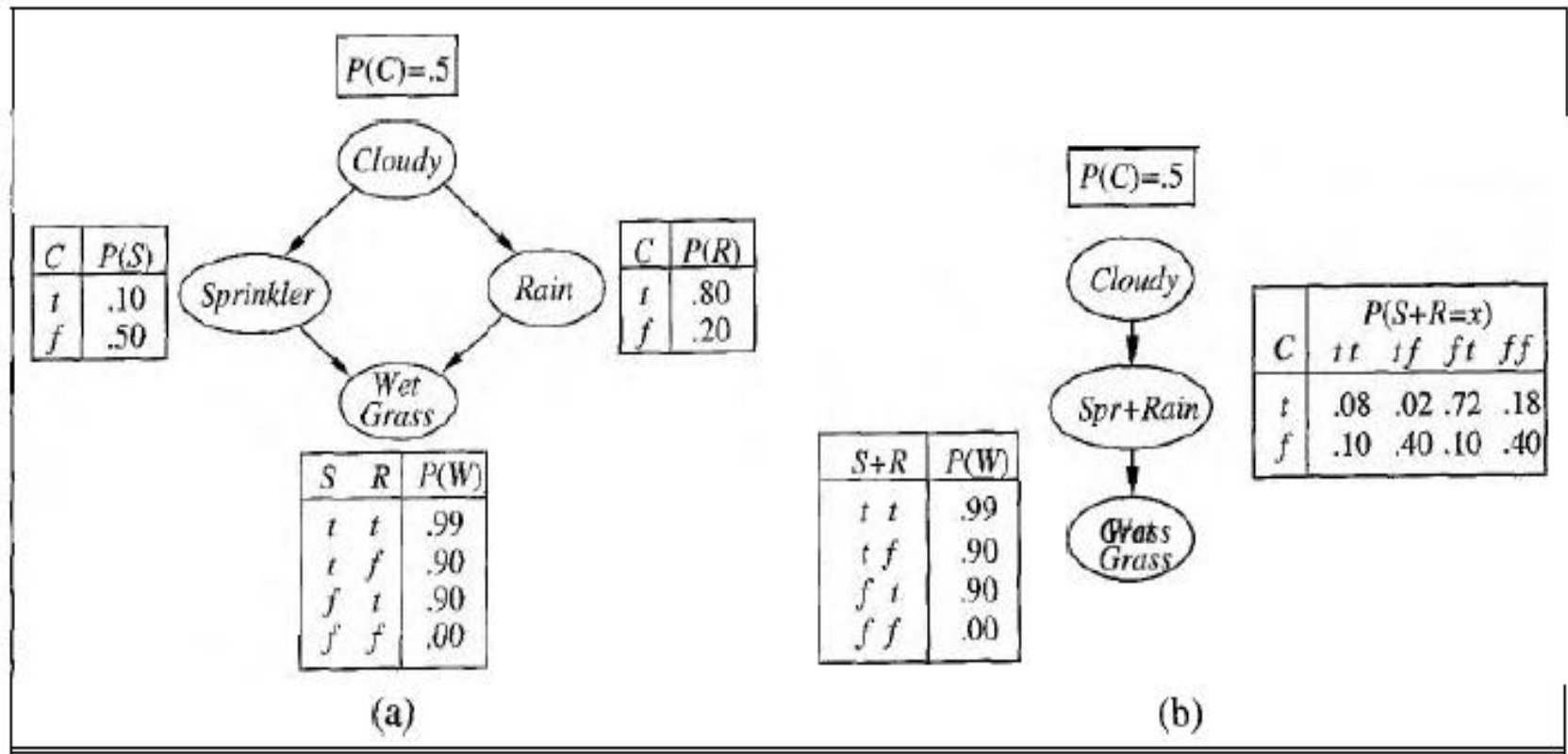


- Polytree: there is at most one undirected path between any two nodes. Like Alarm.
- Time and space complexity in such graphs is linear in n
- However for multi-connected graphs (still dags) its exponential in n .

Clustering Algorithm



- If we want to find posterior probabilities for many queries.



Approximate inference in BNs



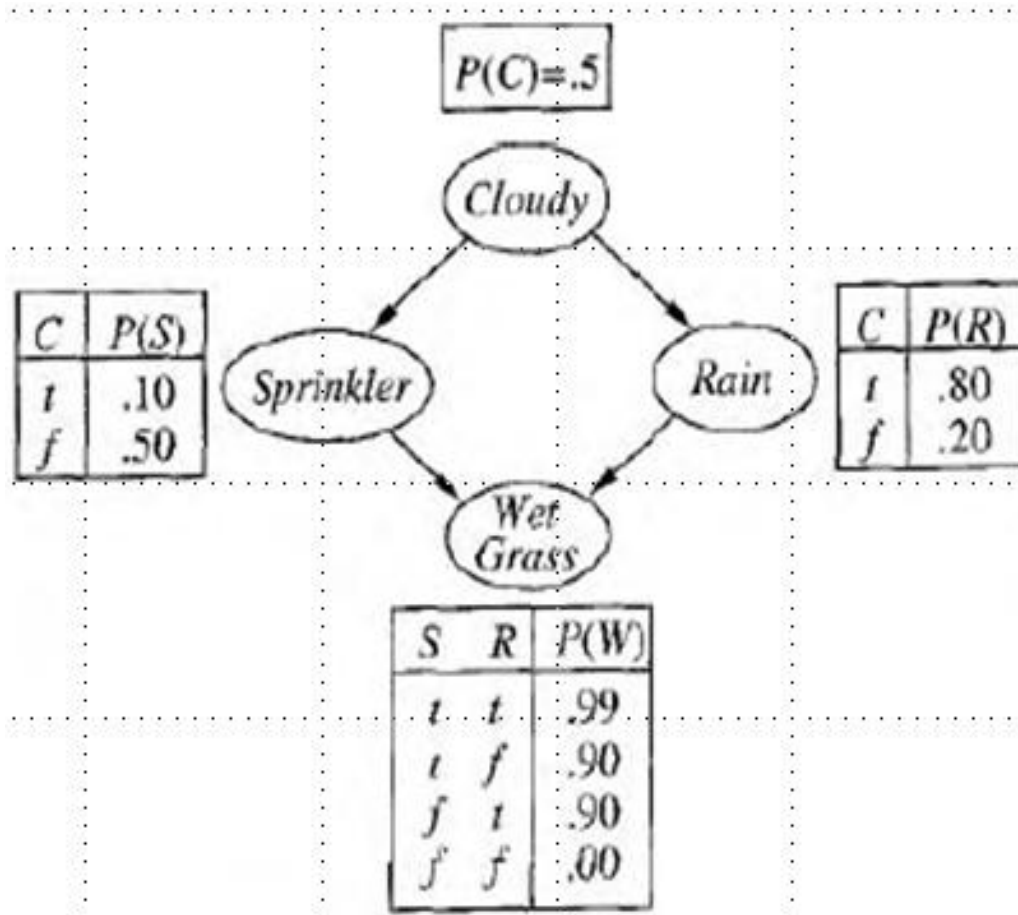
- Give that exact inference is intractable in large networks. It is essential to consider approximate inference models
 - Discrete sampling method
 - Rejection sampling method
 - Likelihood weighting
 - MCMC algorithms

Discrete sampling method



- Example : unbiased coin
- Sampling this distribution
 - Flipping the coin.. Flip the coin 1000 times
 - Number of heads / 1000 is an approximation of $p(\text{head})$

Discrete sampling method

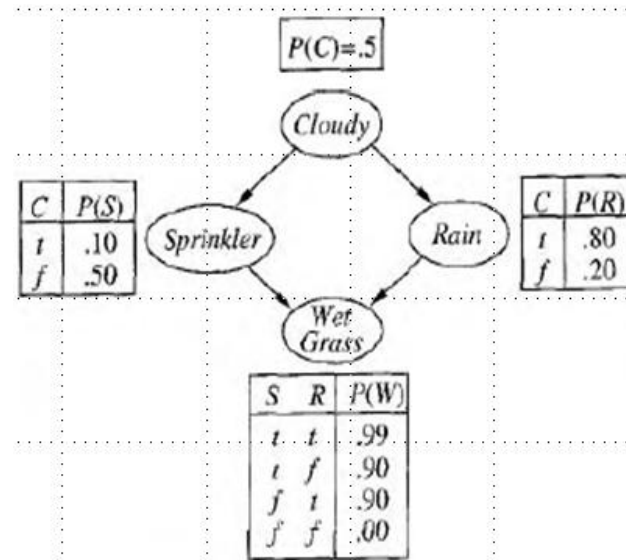


Discrete sampling method



- $P(\text{cloudy}) = \langle 0.5, 0.5 \rangle$ suppose T
- $P(\text{sprinkler} | \text{cloudy} = \text{T}) = \langle 0.1, 0.9 \rangle$ suppose F
- $P(\text{rain} | \text{cloudy} = \text{T}) = \langle 0.8, 0.2 \rangle$ suppose T
- $P(W | \text{Sprinkler} = \text{F}, \text{Rain} = \text{T}) = \langle 0.9, 0.1 \rangle$ suppose T

- [True, False, True, True]



Discrete sampling method



```
function PRIOR-SAMPLE(bn) returns an event sampled from the prior specified by bn  
  inputs: bn, a Bayesian network specifying joint distribution  $\mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$   
  
   $x \leftarrow$  an event with n elements  
  for i = 1 to n do  
     $x_i \leftarrow$  a random sample from  $\mathbf{P}(X_i \mid \text{parents}(X_i))$   
  return x
```

Figure 14.12 A sampling algorithm that generates events from a Bayesian network.

Discrete sampling method



- Consider $p(T, F, T, T) = 0.5 * 0.9 * 0.8 * 0.9 = 0.324$.
- Suppose we generate 1000 samples
 - $p(T, F, T, T) = 350/1000$
 - $P(T) = 550/1000$

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{N} = S_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = P(x_1, \dots, x_n) .$$

- Problem?

Rejection sampling in BNs



- Is a general method for producing samples from a hard to sample distribution.
 - Suppose $p(X|e)$. Generate samples from prior distribution then reject the ones that do not match evidence.

Rejection sampling in BNs



function REJECTION-SAMPLING($X, \mathbf{e}, \text{bn}, N$) **returns** an estimate of $P(X|\mathbf{e})$
 inputs: X , the query variable
 $\mathbf{e}$, evidence specified as an event
 bn , a Bayesian network
 N , the total number of samples to be generated
 local variables: $\mathbf{N}$, a vector of counts over X , initially zero

 for $j = 1$ to N **do**
 $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \text{PRIOR-SAMPLE}(\text{bn})$
 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($\mathbf{N}[X]$)

Figure 14.13 The rejection sampling algorithm for answering queries given evidence in a Bayesian network.

Rejection sampling in BNs



- $P(\text{rain} \mid \text{sprinkler} = \text{T})$ using 1000 samples
 - Suppose 730 of them sprinkler = false of the 270
 - 80 rain = true and 190 rain = false
 - $P(\text{rain} \mid \text{sprinkler} = \text{true}) \text{ Normalize}(8, 19) = \langle 0.296, 0.704 \rangle$
 - Problem?
 - ✦ Rejects so many samples
 - ✦ Hard to sample rare events
 - ✦ $P(\text{rain} \mid \text{redskyatnight} = \text{T})$

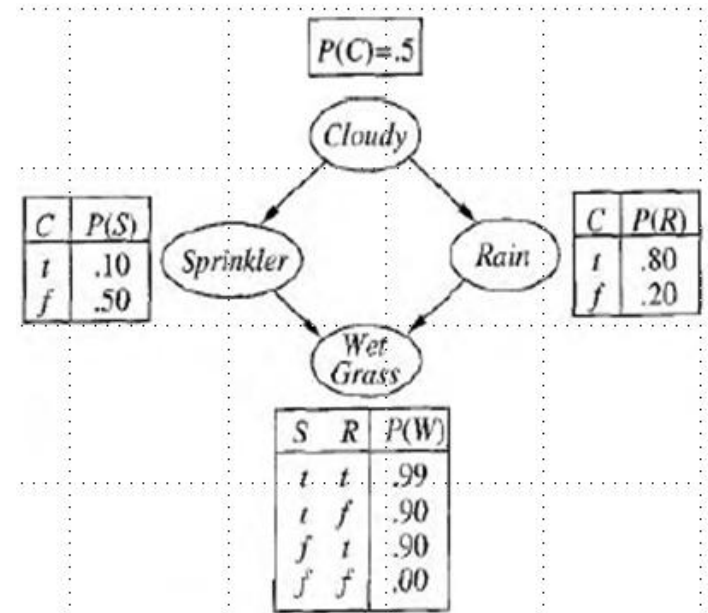
Likelihood weighting



$$P(C,S,W,R) = P(C) * P(S|C) * P(R|C) * P(W|S,R)$$

Now suppose we want samples that S and W are true

$$Z = \{C, W\} \quad e = \{S, W\}$$



$$P(C,S,W,R) = \prod p(z_i | \text{parents}(z_i)) \prod p(e_j | \text{parents}(e_j))$$

Likelihood weighting



$$P(C, S, W, R) = \prod p(\mathbf{z}_i | \text{parents}(\mathbf{z}_i)) \prod p(\mathbf{e}_j | \text{parents}(\mathbf{e}_j))$$

Sample this part

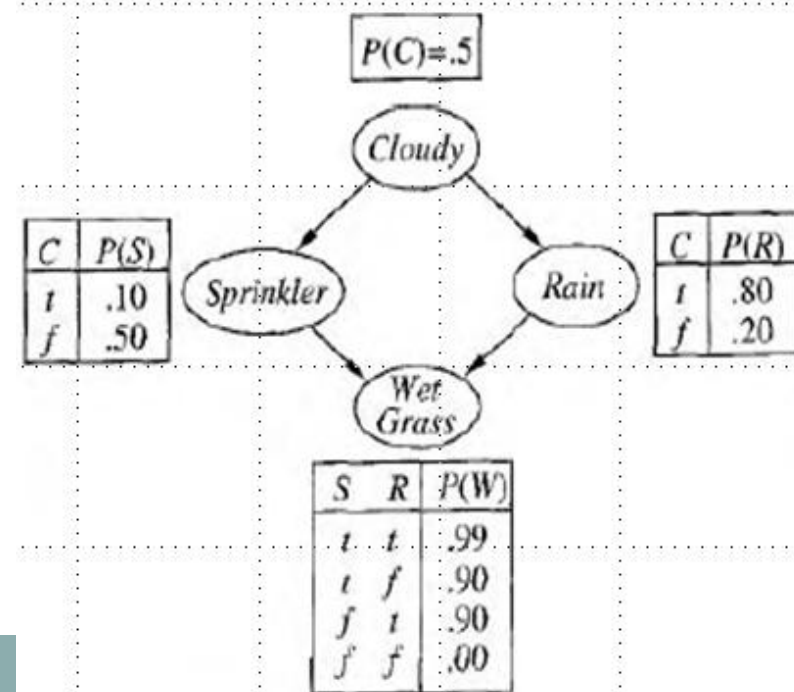
$$S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_{i=1}^l P(z_i | \text{parents}(Z_i))$$

Calculate this part from model

$$w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_{i=1}^m P(e_i | \text{parents}(E_i)) .$$

Likelihood weighting

- Generate only events that are consistent with evidence
 - Fix values for Evidence and only sample query variables.
 - Weight the samples based on the likelihood of the event according to the evidence.
 - $P(\text{rain} | \text{sp}=\text{T}, \text{WG}=\text{T})$
 - ✦ Sample $p(\text{cl}) \rightarrow \langle 0.5, 0.5 \rangle$
 - ✦ $w \leftarrow w * p(\text{sp}=\text{T} | \text{cl}=\text{T}) = 0.1$
 - ✦ $p(\text{rain} | \text{cloudy}=\text{T}) \langle 0.8, 0.2 \rangle$
 - ✦ $w \leftarrow w * p(\text{WG} | \text{SP}=\text{T}, \text{R}=\text{T}) = 0.099$



Likelihood weighting



- Examining sampling distribution over variables that are not part of evidence

$\mathbf{P}(\textit{Rain} | \textit{Sprinkler} = \textit{true}, \textit{WetGrass} = \textit{true})$.

w is set to 1.0. Then an event is generated:

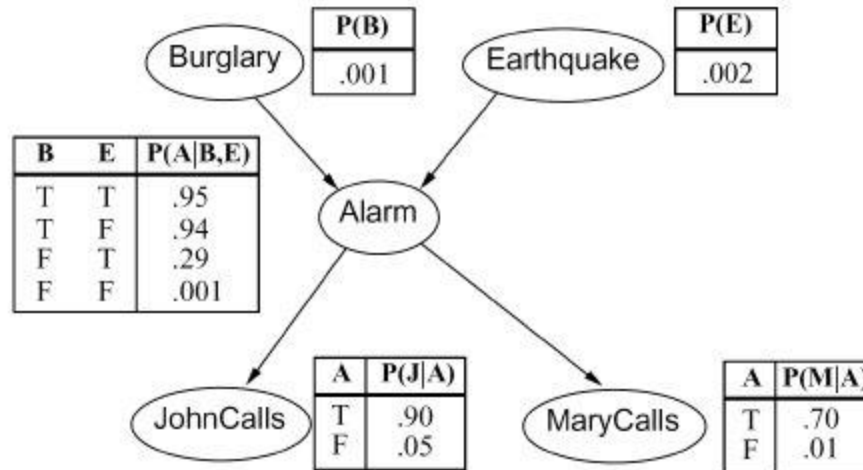
1. Sample from $\mathbf{P}(\textit{Cloudy}) = \langle 0.5, 0.5 \rangle$; suppose this returns *true*.
2. *Sprinkler* is an evidence variable with value *true*. Therefore, we set

$$w \leftarrow w \times P(\textit{Sprinkler} = \textit{true} | \textit{Cloudy} = \textit{true}) = 0.1 .$$

3. Sample from $\mathbf{P}(\textit{Rain} | \textit{Cloudy} = \textit{true}) = \langle 0.8, 0.2 \rangle$; suppose this returns *true*.
4. *WetGrass* is an evidence variable with value *true*. Therefore, we set

$$w \leftarrow w \times P(\textit{WetGrass} = \textit{true} | \textit{Sprinkler} = \textit{true}, \textit{Rain} = \textit{true}) = 0.099$$

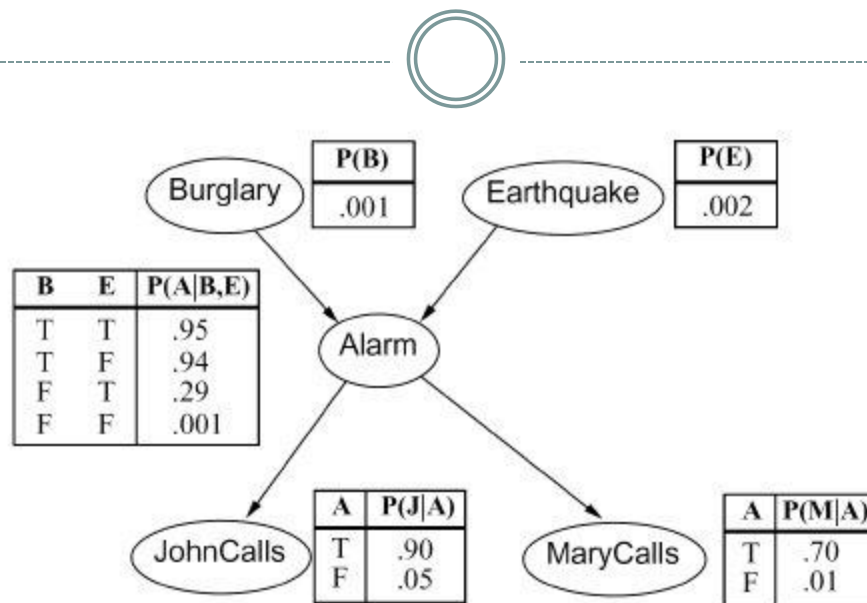
example



We keep the following table

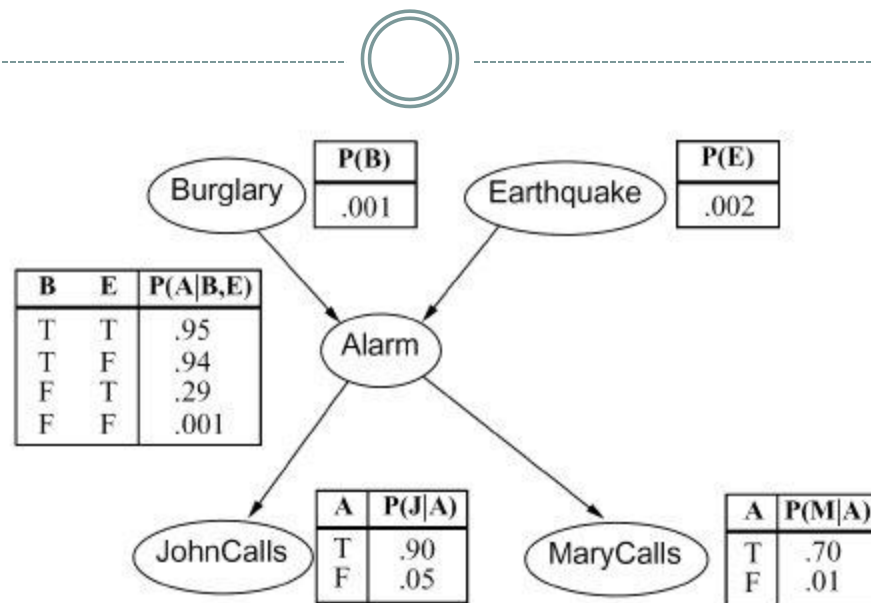
W						
Sample	Key					Weight
1	$\sim b$	$\sim e$	$\sim a$	$\sim j$	$\sim m$	0.997

If the same key happens more than once, we add weights



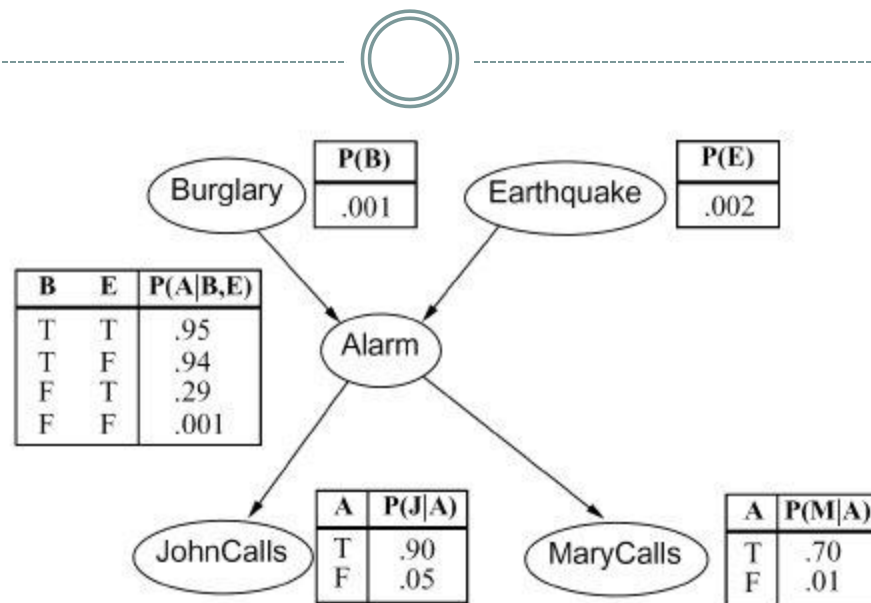
Evidence is *Burglary=false* and *Earthquake=false*

W						
Sample	Key					Weight
1	~b	~e	~a	~j	~m	0.997



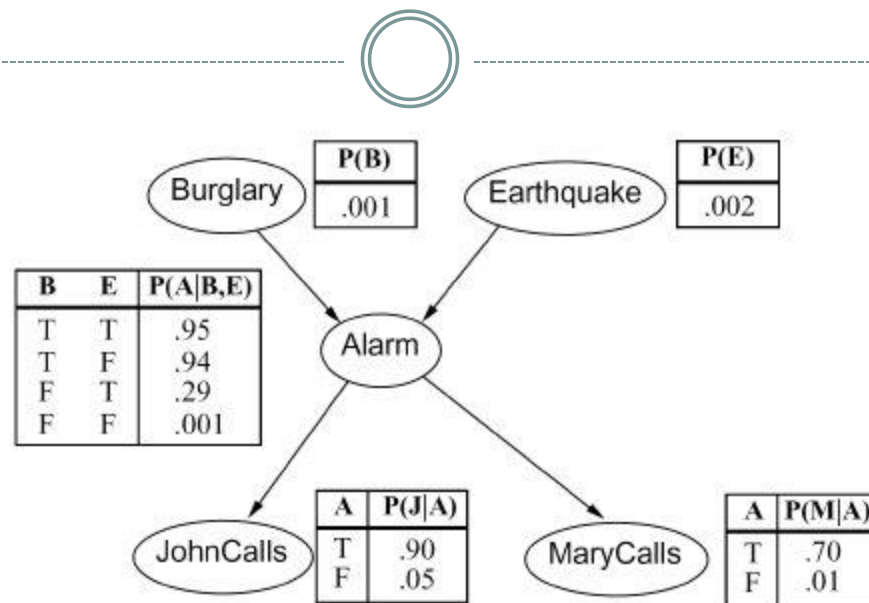
Evidence is $Alarm=false$ and $JohnCalls=true$.

W						
Sample	Key					Weight
1	$\sim b$	$\sim e$	$\sim a$	$\sim j$	$\sim m$	0.997
2	$\sim b$	$\sim e$	$\sim a$	j	$\sim m$	0.05



Evidence is *JohnCalls=true* and *MaryCalls=true*.

W						
Sample	Key					Weight
1	~b	~e	~a	~j	~m	0.997
2	~b	~e	~a	j	~m	0.05
3	~b	~e	a	j	m	0.63



Evidence is *Burglary=true* and *Earthquake=false*.

W						
Sample	Key					Weight
1	~b	~e	~a	~j	~m	0.997
2	~b	~e	~a	j	~m	0.10
3	~b	~e	a	j	m	0.63
4	b	~e	~a	~j	~m	0.001

Using Likelihood Weights



W						
Sample	Key					Weight
1	~b	~e	~a	~j	~m	0.997
2	~b	~e	~a	j	~m	0.10
3	~b	~e	a	j	m	0.63
4	b	~e	~a	~j	~m	0.001

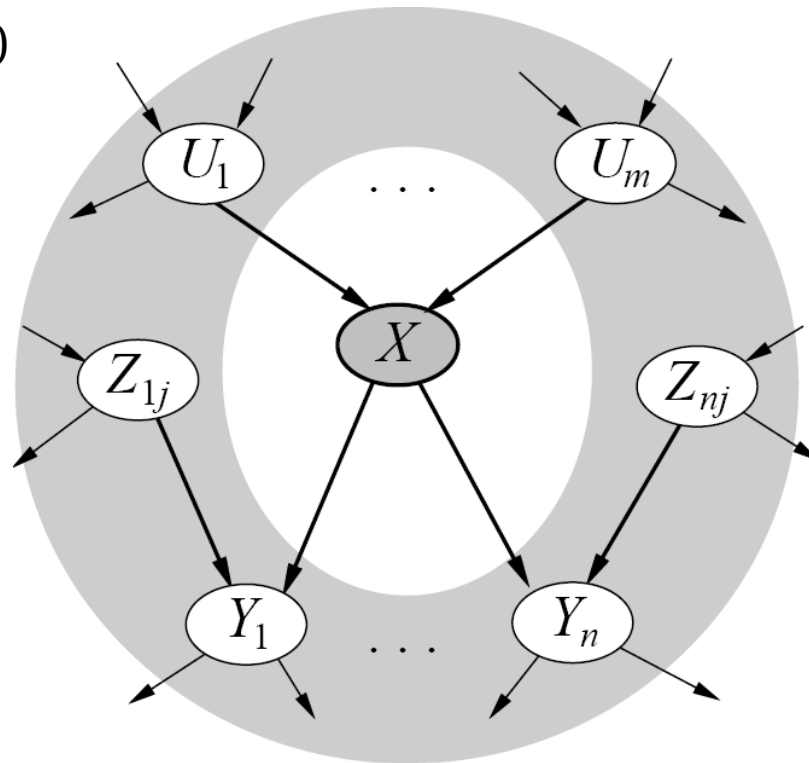
$$P(\text{Burglary}=\text{true}) = (0.001) / (0.997 + 0.10 + 0.63 + 0.001) = 0.00058$$

$$p(\text{Alarm}=\text{true} \mid \text{johncall}=\text{true}) = 0.63 / (0.10 + 0.63) = 0.63 / 0.73 = 0.863$$

Given a graph, can we “read off” conditional independencies?



A node is conditionally independent of all other nodes in the network given its Markov blanket (in gray)



The MCMC algorithm



- **Markov Chain Monte Carlo**
 - Assume that calculating $p(x|\text{markovblanket}(x))$ is easy
 - Unlike other samplings which generate events from scratch, MCMC makes a random change to the preceding event.
 - At each step a value is generated for one of the non evidence variables condition on its markov blanket.

The MCMC algorithm



- Example estimate $P(R|SP = T, WG=T)$ using MCMC
- Initialize the other variables randomly consistent with query $[T, T, F, T]$
- Sample non evidence variables.
 - $P(C|S = T, R=F) \rightarrow [40,60]$ assume $cl = F$
 - $[F, T, F, T]$
 - $P(R|CL = F, SP = T, WG=T) \rightarrow$ assume $rain = T$
 - $[F, T, T, T]$
 - Sample CL again..