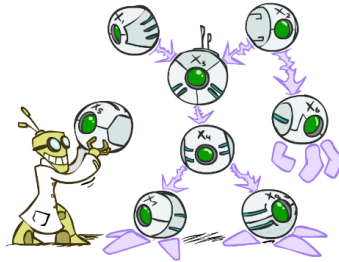


## CS 188: Artificial Intelligence

### Bayes' Nets



Instructors: Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel --- University of California, Berkeley

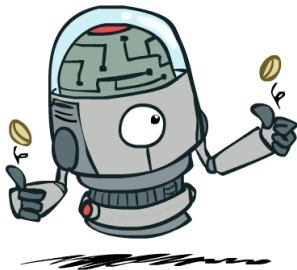
[These slides were created by Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel for CS188 Intro to AI at UC Berkeley. All CS188 materials are available at <http://ai.berkeley.edu>.]

## Probabilistic Models

- 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: explanation (diagnostic reasoning)
  - Example: prediction (causal reasoning)
  - Example: value of information



## Independence



## Independence

- Two variables are *independent* if:

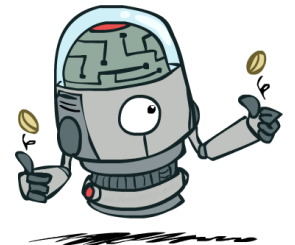
$$\forall x, y : P(x, y) = P(x)P(y)$$

- This says that their joint distribution *factors* into a product two simpler distributions
- Another form:

$$\forall x, y : P(x|y) = P(x)$$

- We write:  $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$

- Independence is a simplifying *modeling assumption*
  - Empirical joint distributions: at best "close" to independent
  - What could we assume for {Weather, Traffic, Cavity, Toothache}?



## Example: Independence?

| $P_1(T, W)$ |      |     |
|-------------|------|-----|
| T           | W    | P   |
| hot         | sun  | 0.4 |
| hot         | rain | 0.1 |
| cold        | sun  | 0.2 |
| cold        | rain | 0.3 |

| $P(T)$ |     |
|--------|-----|
| T      | P   |
| hot    | 0.5 |
| cold   | 0.5 |

| $P(W)$ |     |
|--------|-----|
| W      | P   |
| sun    | 0.6 |
| rain   | 0.4 |

| $P_2(T, W)$ |      |     |
|-------------|------|-----|
| T           | W    | P   |
| hot         | sun  | 0.3 |
| hot         | rain | 0.2 |
| cold        | sun  | 0.3 |
| cold        | rain | 0.2 |

## Example: Independence

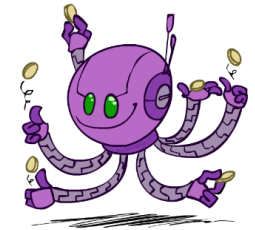
- N fair, independent coin flips:

| $P(X_1)$ |     | $P(X_2)$ |     | $P(X_n)$ |     |
|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| H        | 0.5 | H        | 0.5 | H        | 0.5 |
| T        | 0.5 | T        | 0.5 | T        | 0.5 |

...

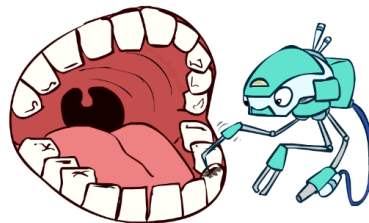
$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$

$2^n$



## Conditional Independence

- $P(\text{Toothache}, \text{Cavity}, \text{Catch})$
- If I have a cavity, the probability that the probe catches in it doesn't depend on whether I have a toothache:
  - $P(+\text{catch} \mid +\text{toothache}, +\text{cavity}) = P(+\text{catch} \mid +\text{cavity})$
- The same independence holds if I don't have a cavity:
  - $P(+\text{catch} \mid +\text{toothache}, -\text{cavity}) = P(+\text{catch} \mid -\text{cavity})$
- Catch is *conditionally independent* of Toothache given Cavity:
  - $P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Toothache}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity})$
- Equivalent statements:
  - $P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Catch}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity})$
  - $P(\text{Toothache}, \text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity}) P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity})$
  - One can be derived from the other easily



## Conditional Independence

- Unconditional (absolute) independence very rare (why?)
- Conditional independence* is our most basic and robust form of knowledge about uncertain environments.
- X is conditionally independent of Y given Z

$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z$$

if and only if:

$$\forall x, y, z : P(x, y \mid z) = P(x \mid z) P(y \mid z)$$

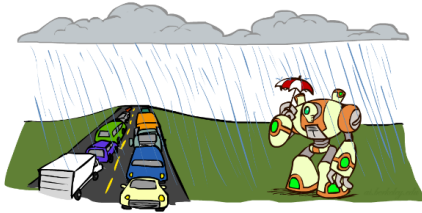
or, equivalently, if and only if

$$\forall x, y, z : P(x \mid z, y) = P(x \mid z)$$

## Conditional Independence

- What about this domain:

- Traffic
- Umbrella
- Raining



## Conditional Independence and the Chain Rule

- Chain rule:  $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = P(X_1)P(X_2|X_1)P(X_3|X_1, X_2) \dots$

- Trivial decomposition:

$$P(\text{Traffic, Rain, Umbrella}) = P(\text{Rain})P(\text{Traffic}|\text{Rain})P(\text{Umbrella}|\text{Rain, Traffic})$$

- With assumption of conditional independence:

$$P(\text{Traffic, Rain, Umbrella}) = P(\text{Rain})P(\text{Traffic}|\text{Rain})P(\text{Umbrella}|\text{Rain})$$

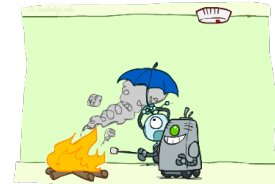
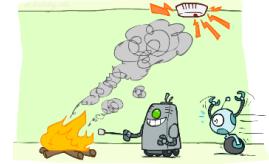
- Bayes' nets / graphical models help us express conditional independence assumptions



## Conditional Independence

- What about this domain:

- Fire
- Smoke
- Alarm

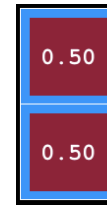


## Ghostbusters Chain Rule

- Each sensor depends only on where the ghost is
- That means, the two sensors are conditionally independent, given the ghost position

- T: Top square is red
- B: Bottom square is red
- G: Ghost is in the top

- Givens:  
 $P(+g) = 0.5$   
 $P(-g) = 0.5$   
 $P(+t | +g) = 0.8$   
 $P(+t | -g) = 0.4$   
 $P(+b | +g) = 0.4$   
 $P(+b | -g) = 0.8$

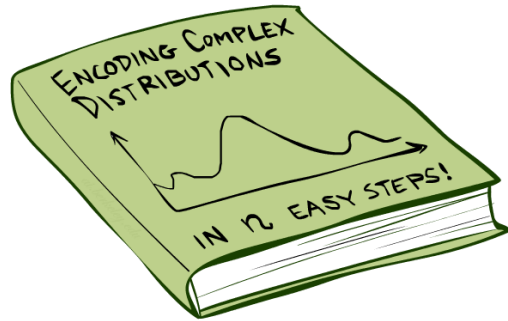


$$P(T, B, G) = P(G) P(T|G) P(B|G)$$

| T  | B  | G  | P(T,B,G) |
|----|----|----|----------|
| +t | +b | +g | 0.16     |
| +t | +b | -g | 0.16     |
| +t | -b | +g | 0.24     |
| +t | -b | -g | 0.04     |
| -t | +b | +g | 0.04     |
| -t | +b | -g | 0.24     |
| -t | -b | +g | 0.06     |
| -t | -b | -g | 0.06     |



## Bayes' Nets: Big Picture

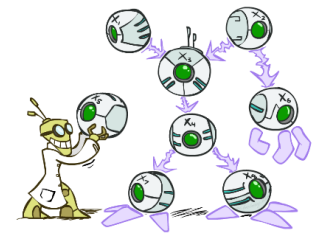


## Bayes' Nets: Big Picture

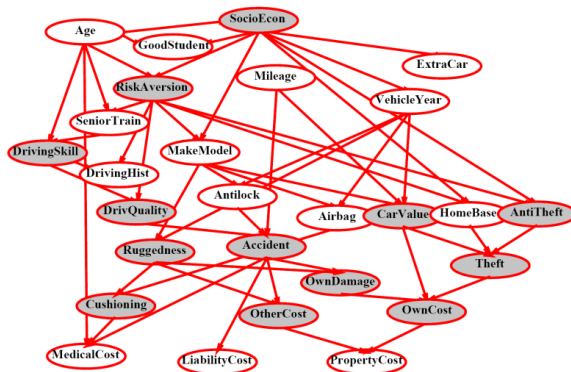
- Two problems with using full joint distribution tables as our probabilistic models:
  - Unless there are only a few variables, the joint is WAY too big to represent explicitly
  - Hard to learn (estimate) anything empirically about more than a few variables at a time



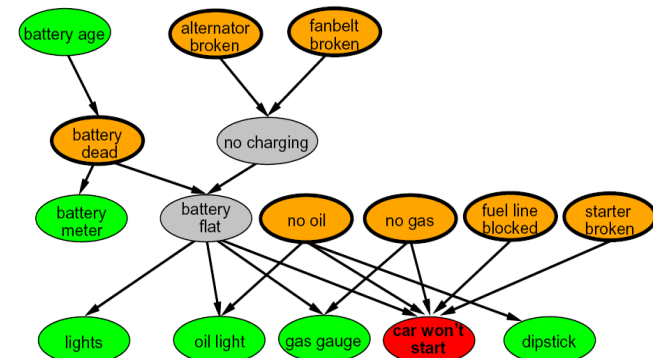
- Bayes' nets: a technique for describing complex joint distributions (models) using simple, local distributions (conditional probabilities)
  - More properly called **graphical models**
  - We describe how variables locally interact
  - Local interactions chain together to give global, indirect interactions
  - For about 10 min, we'll be vague about how these interactions are specified



## Example Bayes' Net: Insurance

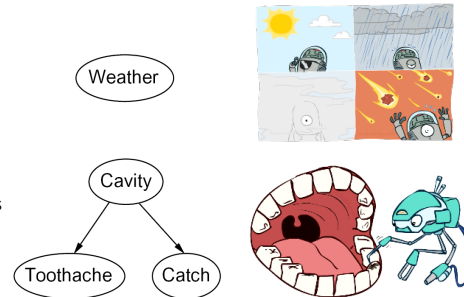


## Example Bayes' Net: Car



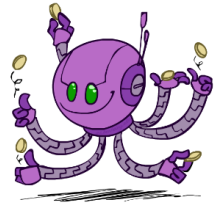
## Graphical Model Notation

- 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 (more later)
- For now: imagine that arrows mean direct causation (in general, they don’t!)



## Example: Coin Flips

- N independent coin flips



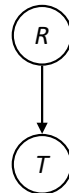
- No interactions between variables: **absolute independence**

## 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

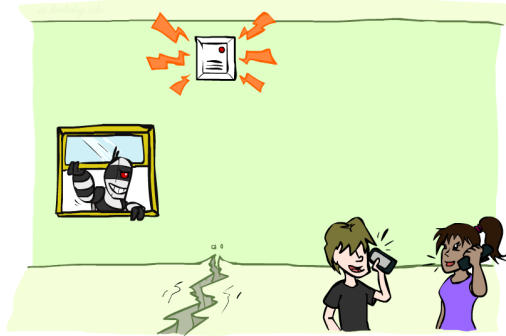
- Let’s build a causal graphical model!
- Variables
  - T: Traffic
  - R: It rains
  - L: Low pressure
  - D: Roof drips
  - B: Ballgame
  - C: Cavity



## Example: Alarm Network

### Variables

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



## Bayes' Net Semantics

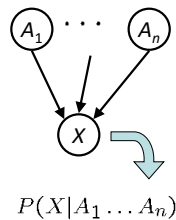


## Bayes' Net Semantics



- 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

$$P(X|a_1 \dots a_n)$$



$$P(X|A_1 \dots A_n)$$

- CPT: conditional probability table

- Description of a noisy "causal" process

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

## Probabilities in BNs

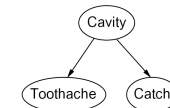
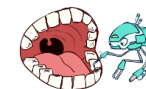


### Bayes' nets implicitly encode joint distributions

- 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:



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

## Probabilities in BNs



- Why are we guaranteed that setting

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

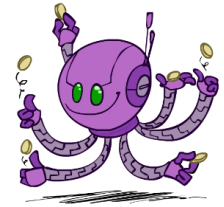
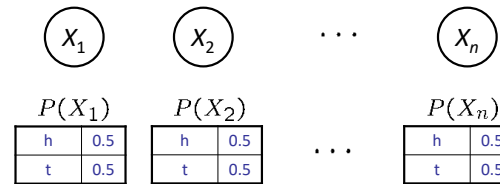
results in a proper joint distribution?

- 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

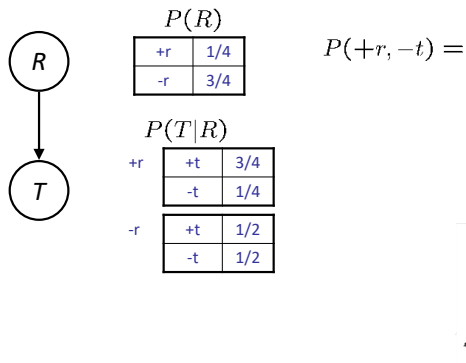
## Example: Coin Flips



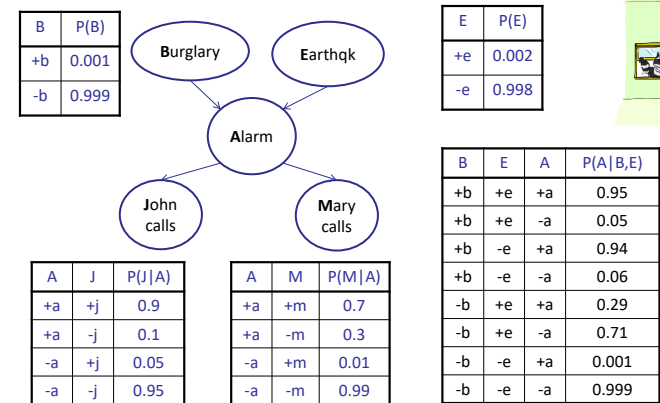
$$P(h, h, t, h) =$$

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

## Example: Traffic

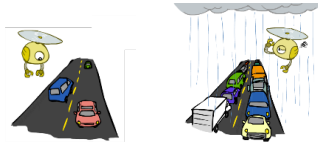
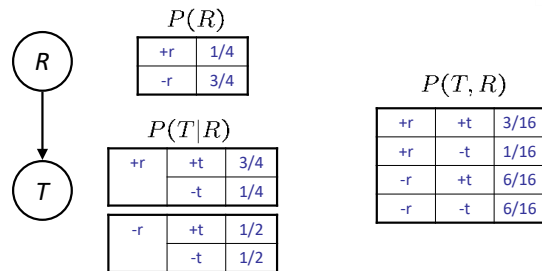


## Example: Alarm Network



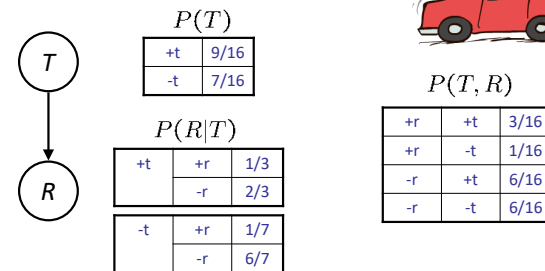
## Example: Traffic

### ■ Causal direction



## Example: Reverse Traffic

### ■ Reverse causality?



## 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

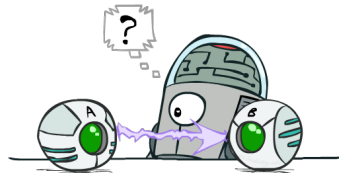
### ■ BNs need not actually be causal

- 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

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



## Bayes' Nets

### ■ So far: how a Bayes' net encodes a joint distribution

### ■ Next: how to answer queries about that distribution

- Today:
  - First assembled BNs using an intuitive notion of conditional independence as causality
  - Then saw that key property is conditional independence
- Main goal: answer queries about conditional independence and influence

### ■ After that: how to answer numerical queries (inference)

