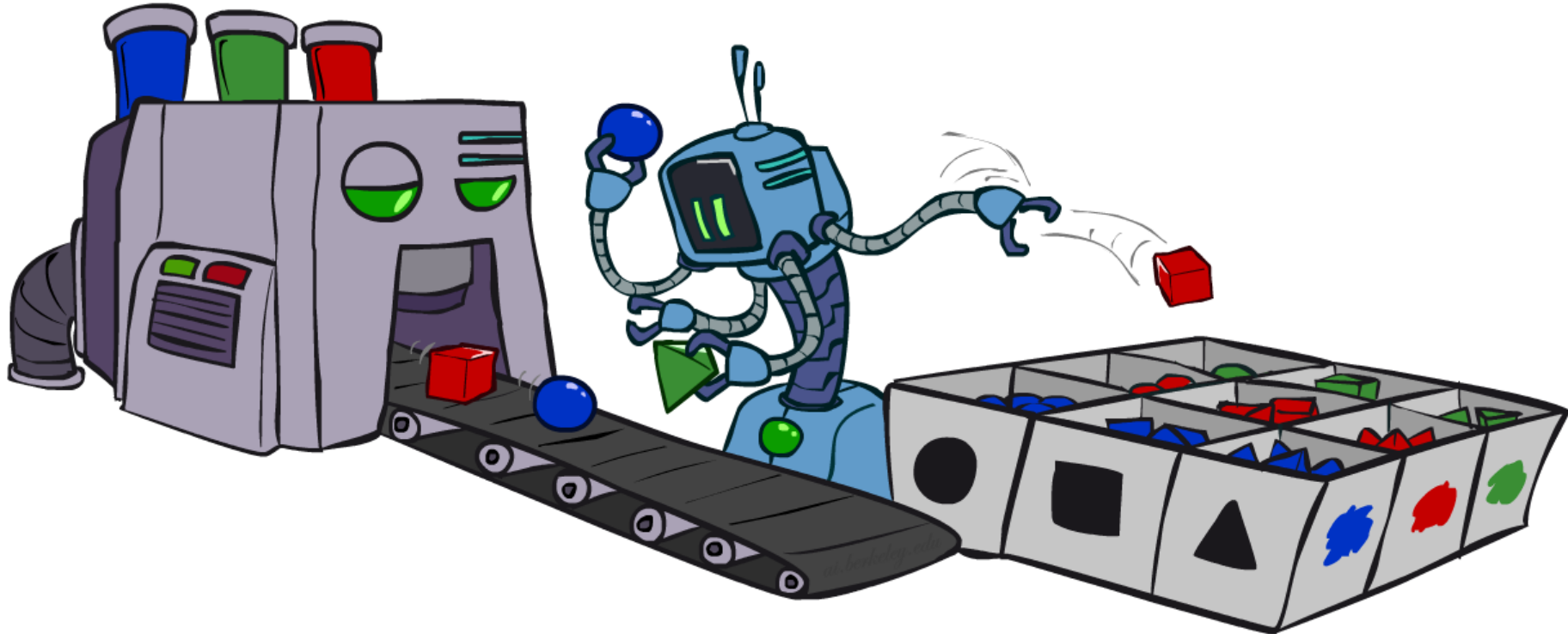


# CS 188: Artificial Intelligence

## Bayes Nets: Approximate Inference



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University of California, Berkeley

(Slides adapted from Stuart Russell and Dawn Song)

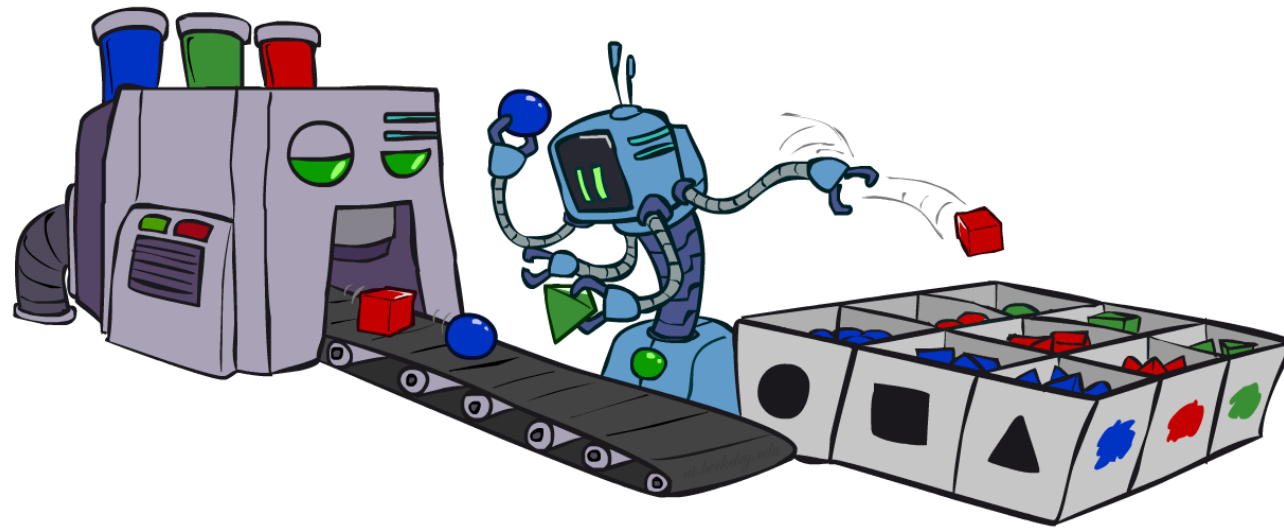
# Sampling

- Basic idea

- Draw  $N$  samples from a *sampling distribution*  $S$
- Compute an approximate posterior probability
- Show this converges to the true probability  $P$

- Why sample?

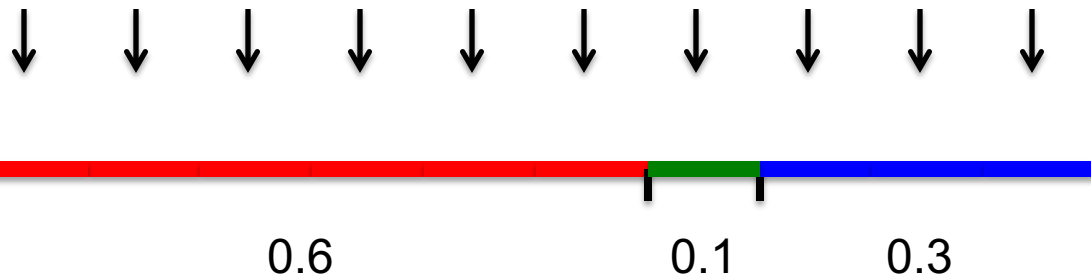
- Often very fast to get a decent approximate answer
- The algorithms are very simple and general (easy to apply to fancy models)
- They require very little memory ( $O(n)$ )
- They can be applied to large models, whereas exact algorithms blow up



# Sampling basics: discrete (*categorical*) distribution

- To simulate a biased d-sided coin:

- Step 1: Get sample  $u$  from uniform distribution over  $[0, 1)$ 
  - E.g. `random()` in python
- Step 2: Convert this sample  $u$  into an outcome for the given distribution by associating each outcome  $x$  with a  $P(x)$ -sized sub-interval of  $[0,1)$



- Example

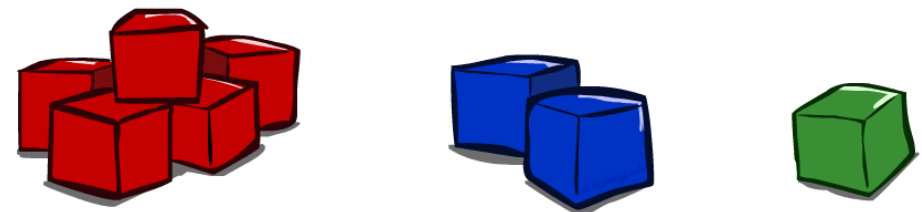
$C$	$P(C)$
red	0.6
green	0.1
blue	0.3

$0.0 \leq u < 0.6, \rightarrow C = \text{red}$

$0.6 \leq u < 0.7, \rightarrow C = \text{green}$

$0.7 \leq u < 1.0, \rightarrow C = \text{blue}$

- If `random()` returns  $u = 0.83$ , then the sample is  $C = \text{blue}$
- E.g, after sampling 8 times:

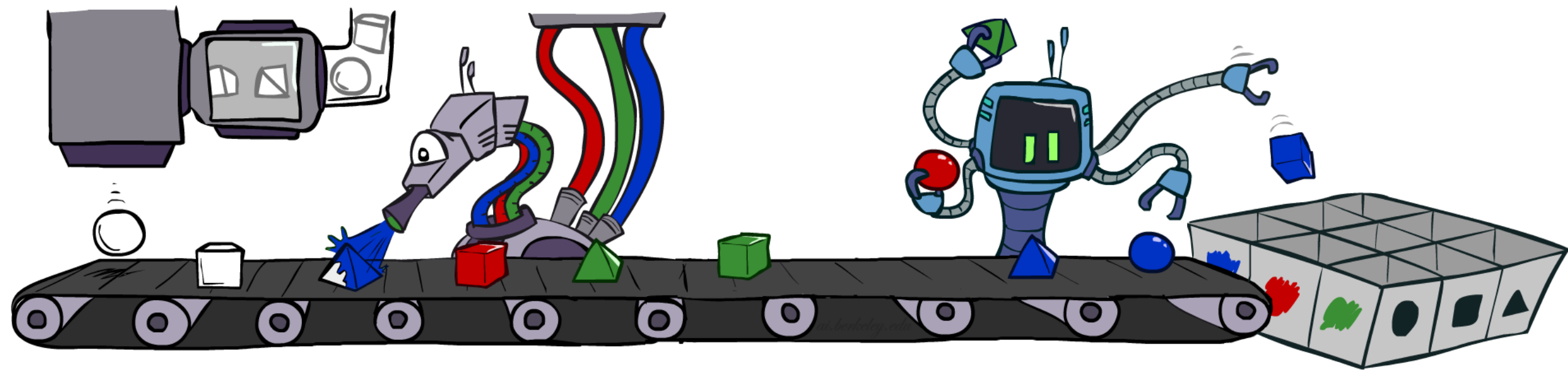


# Sampling in Bayes Nets

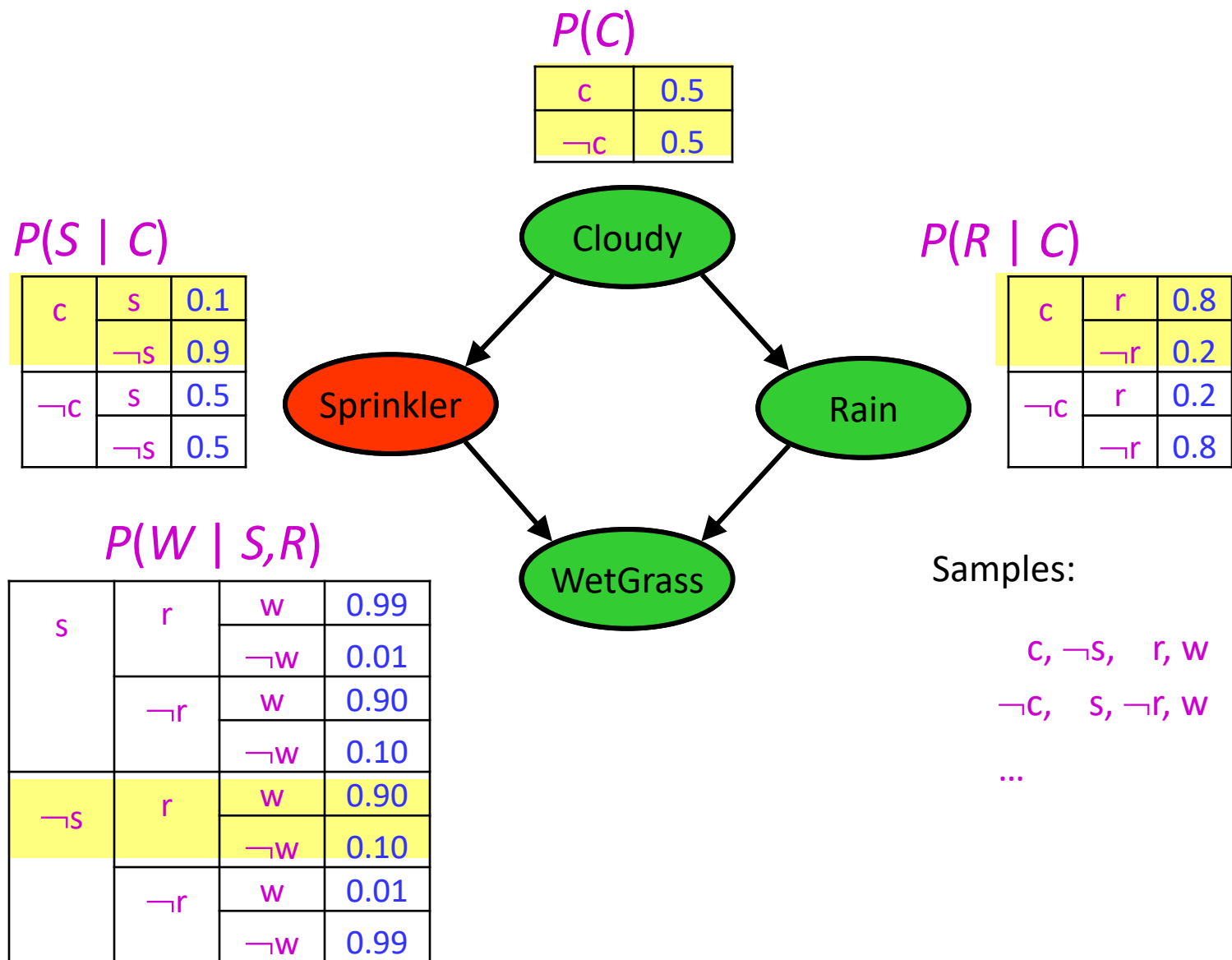
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- Prior Sampling
- Rejection Sampling
- Likelihood Weighting
- Gibbs Sampling

# Prior Sampling

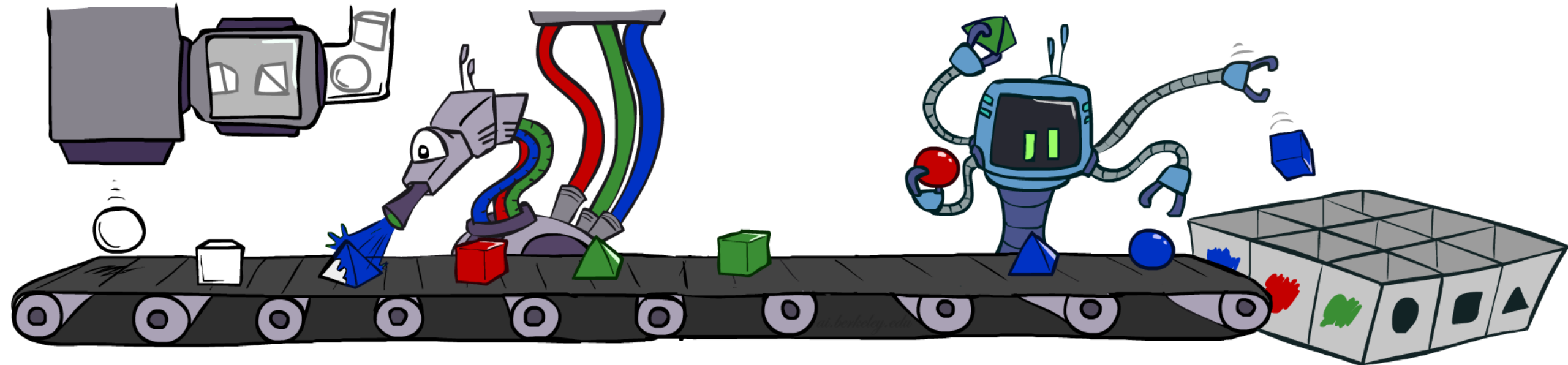


# Prior Sampling



# Prior Sampling

- For  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$  (in topological order)
  - Sample  $X_i$  from  $P(X_i \mid \text{parents}(X_i))$
- Return  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$



# Prior Sampling

- This process generates samples with probability:

$$S_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_i P(x_i \mid \text{parents}(X_i)) = P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

...i.e. the BN's joint probability

- Let the number of samples of an event be  $N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
- Estimate from  $N$  samples is  $Q_N(x_1, \dots, x_n) = N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)/N$
- Then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} Q_N(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} N_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)/N$   
 $= S_{PS}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$   
 $= P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
- I.e., the sampling procedure is **consistent**



# Example

- We'll get a bunch of samples from the BN:

$c, \neg s, r, w$

$c, s, r, w$

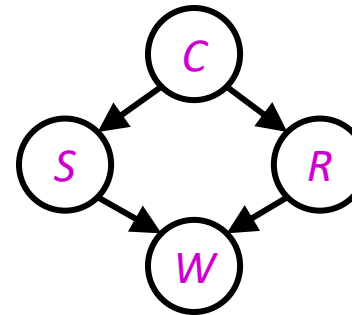
$\neg c, s, r, \neg w$

$c, \neg s, r, w$

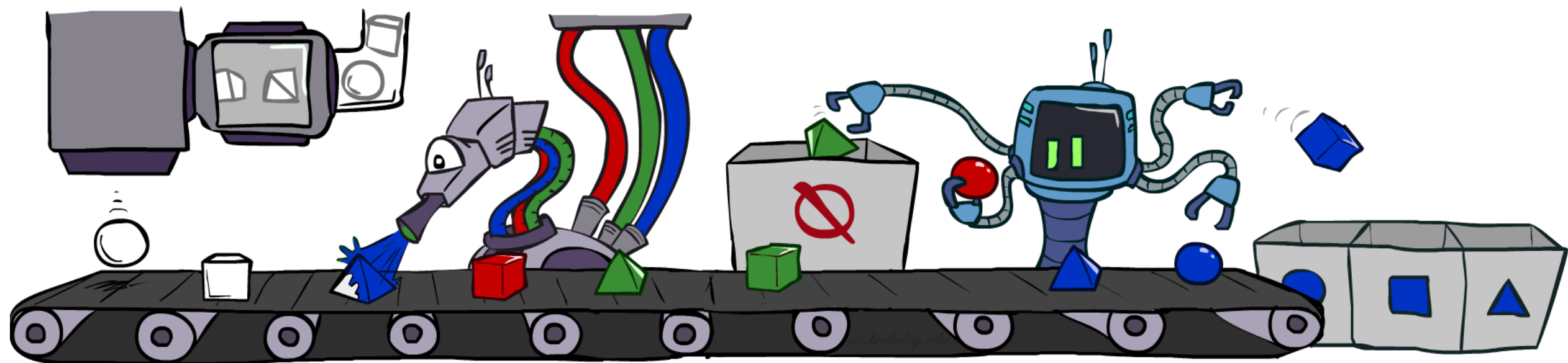
$\neg c, \neg s, \neg r, w$

- If we want to know  $P(W)$

- We have counts  $\langle w:4, \neg w:1 \rangle$
- Normalize to get  $P(W) = \langle w:0.8, \neg w:0.2 \rangle$
- This will get closer to the true distribution with more samples
- Can estimate anything else, too
  - $P(C \mid \neg w)$ ?

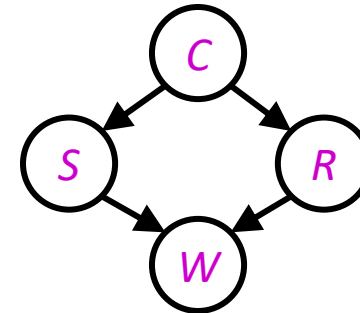


# Rejection Sampling



# Rejection Sampling

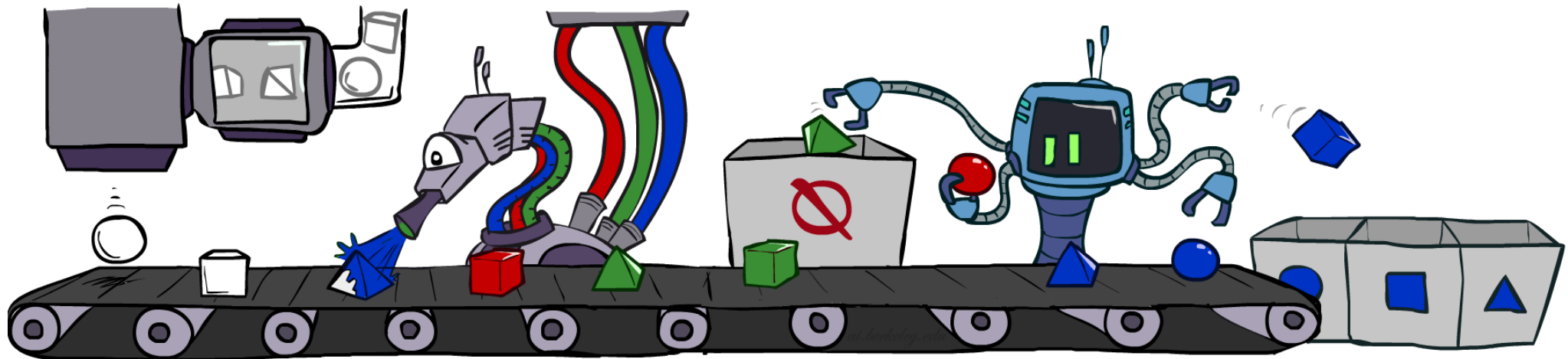
- A simple application of prior sampling for estimating conditional probabilities
  - Let's say we want  $P(C | r, w) = \alpha P(C, r, w)$
  - For these counts, samples with  $\neg r$  or  $\neg w$  **are not relevant**
  - So count the  $C$  outcomes for samples with  $r, w$  and reject all other samples
- This is called **rejection sampling**
  - It is also consistent for conditional probabilities (i.e., correct in the limit)



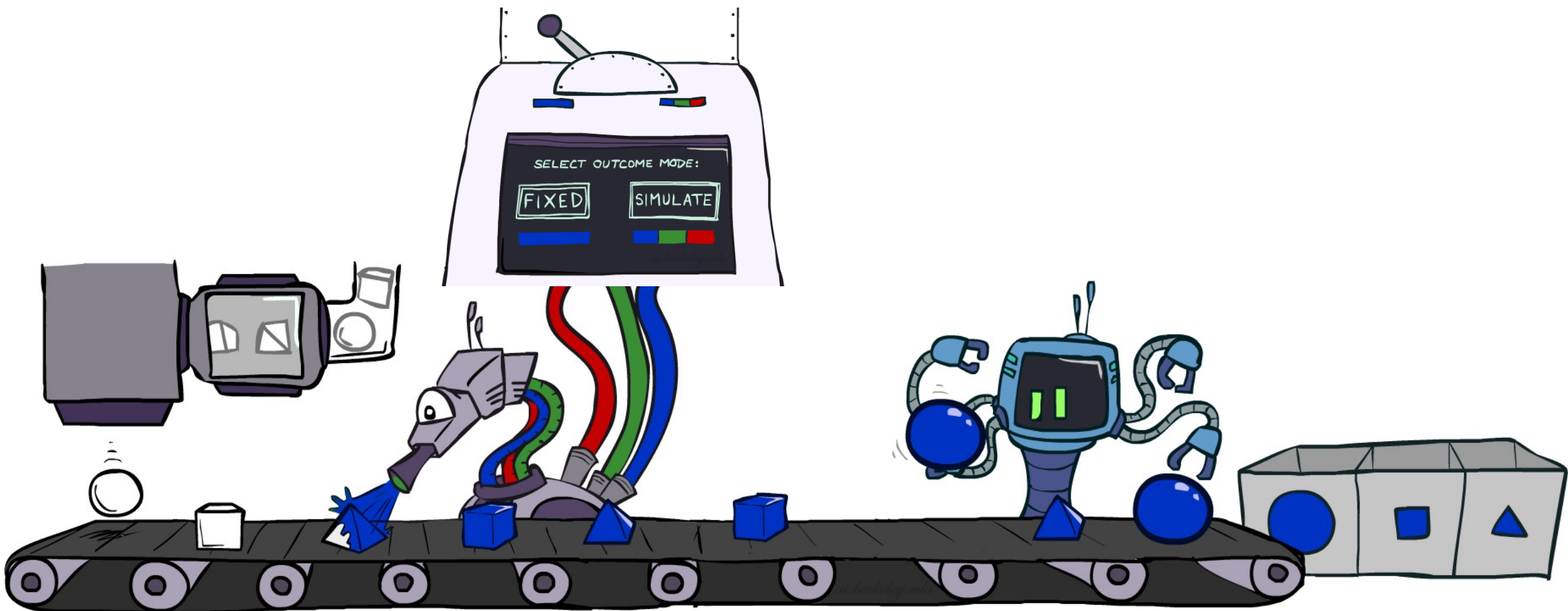
$C, \neg S, r, w$   
 ~~$C, S, \neg r$~~   
 ~~$\neg C, S, r, \neg w$~~   
 ~~$C, \neg S, \neg r$~~   
 $\neg C, \neg S, r, w$

# Rejection Sampling

- Input: evidence  $e_1, \dots, e_k$
- For  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ 
  - Sample  $x_i$  from  $P(x_i \mid \text{parents}(x_i))$
  - If  $x_i$  not consistent with evidence
    - Reject: Return, and no sample is generated in this cycle
- Return  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

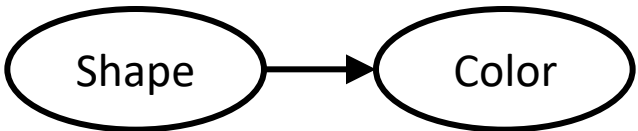


# Likelihood Weighting

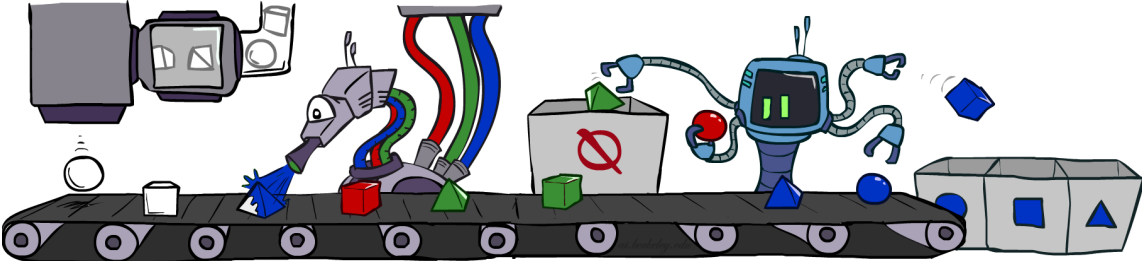


# Likelihood Weighting

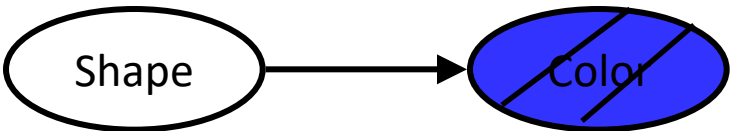
- Problem with rejection sampling:
  - If evidence is unlikely, rejects lots of samples
  - Evidence not exploited as you sample
  - Consider  $P(\text{Shape} | \text{Color}=\text{blue})$



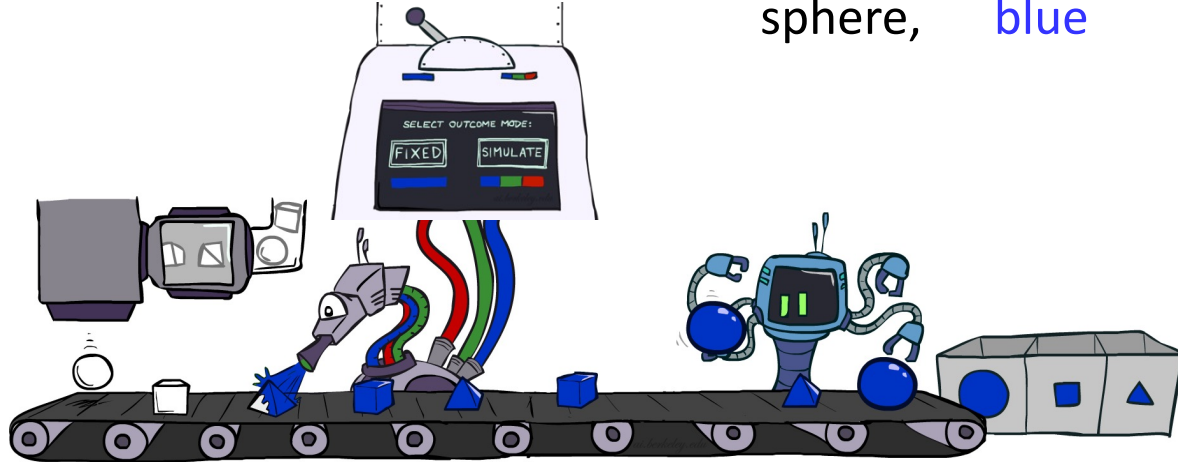
pyramid, ~~green~~  
pyramid, ~~red~~  
sphere, blue  
cube, ~~red~~  
~~sphere~~, ~~green~~



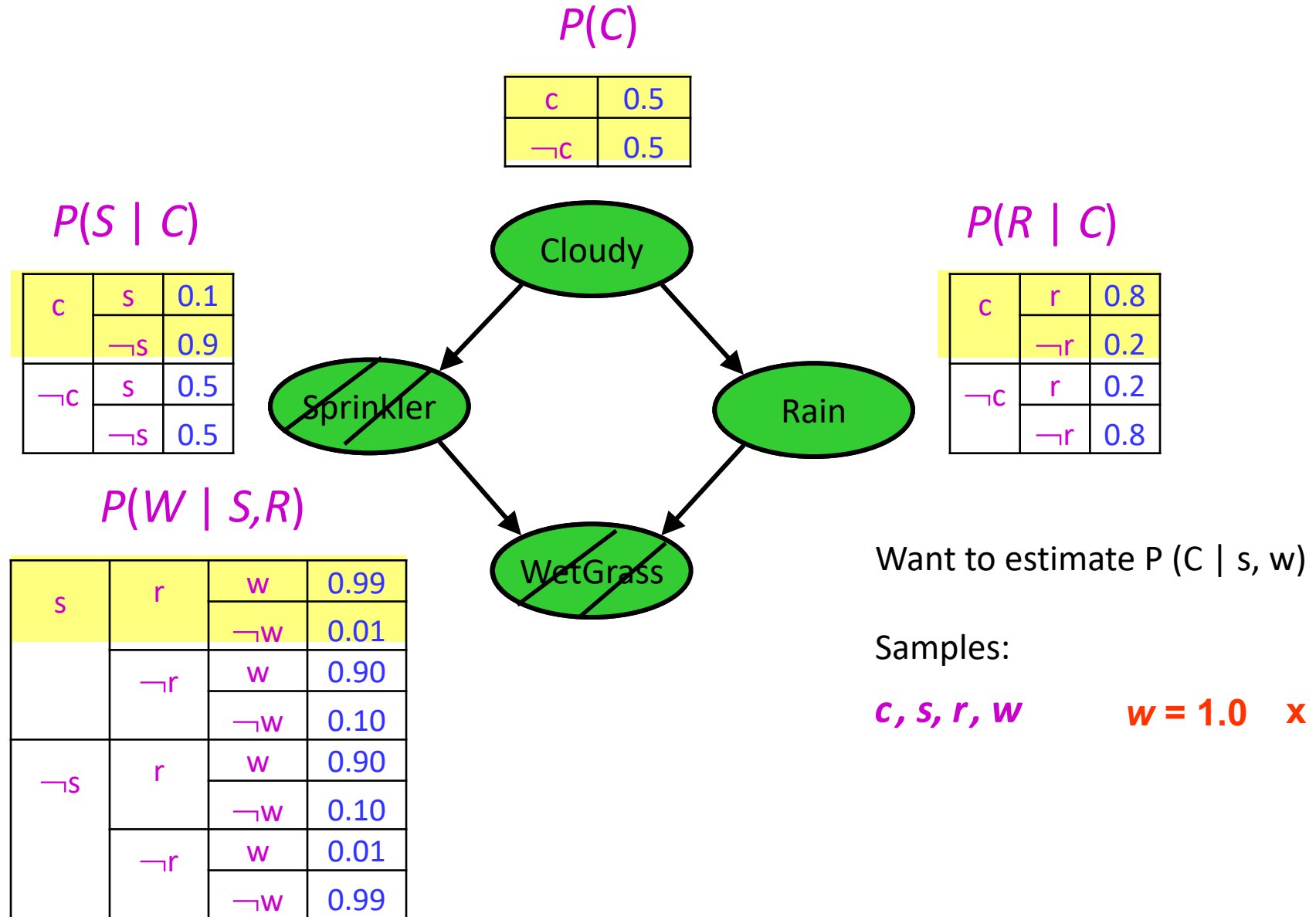
- Idea: fix evidence variables, sample the rest
  - Problem: sample distribution not consistent!
  - Solution: *weight* each sample by probability of evidence variables given parents



pyramid, blue  
pyramid, blue  
sphere, blue  
cube, blue  
sphere, blue

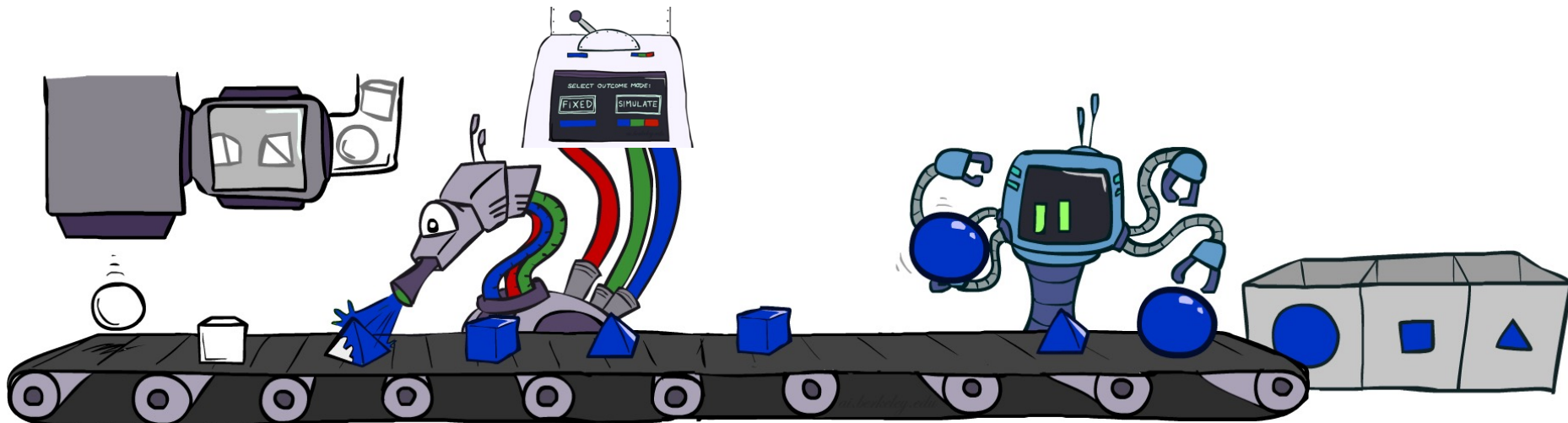


# Likelihood Weighting



# Likelihood Weighting

- Input: evidence  $e_1, \dots, e_k$
- $w = 1.0$
- for  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ 
  - if  $X_i$  is an evidence variable
    - $x_i = \text{observed value}_i$  for  $X_i$
    - Set  $w = w * P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$
  - else
    - Sample  $x_i$  from  $P(X_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$
- return  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), w$





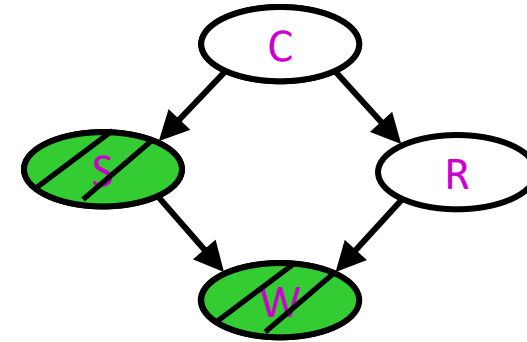
# Likelihood Weighting

- Sampling distribution if  $\mathbf{z}$  sampled and  $\mathbf{e}$  fixed evidence

$$S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_j P(z_j \mid \text{parents}(Z_j))$$

- Now, samples have weights

$$w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) = \prod_k P(e_k \mid \text{parents}(E_k))$$



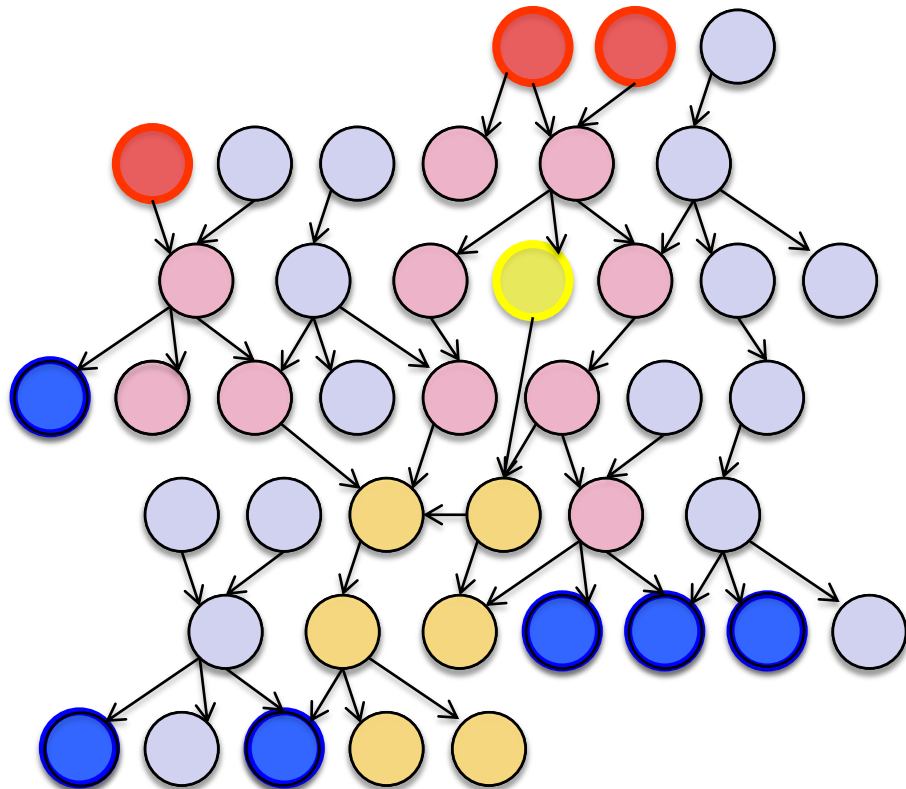
- Together, weighted sampling distribution is consistent

$$\begin{aligned} S_{WS}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) \cdot w(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) &= \prod_j P(z_j \mid \text{parents}(Z_j)) \prod_k P(e_k \mid \text{parents}(E_k)) \\ &= P(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{e}) \end{aligned}$$

- Likelihood weighting is an example of **importance sampling**
  - Would like to estimate some quantity based on samples from  $P$
  - $P$  is hard to sample from, so use  $Q$  instead
  - Weight each sample  $x$  by  $P(x)/Q(x)$

# Likelihood Weighting

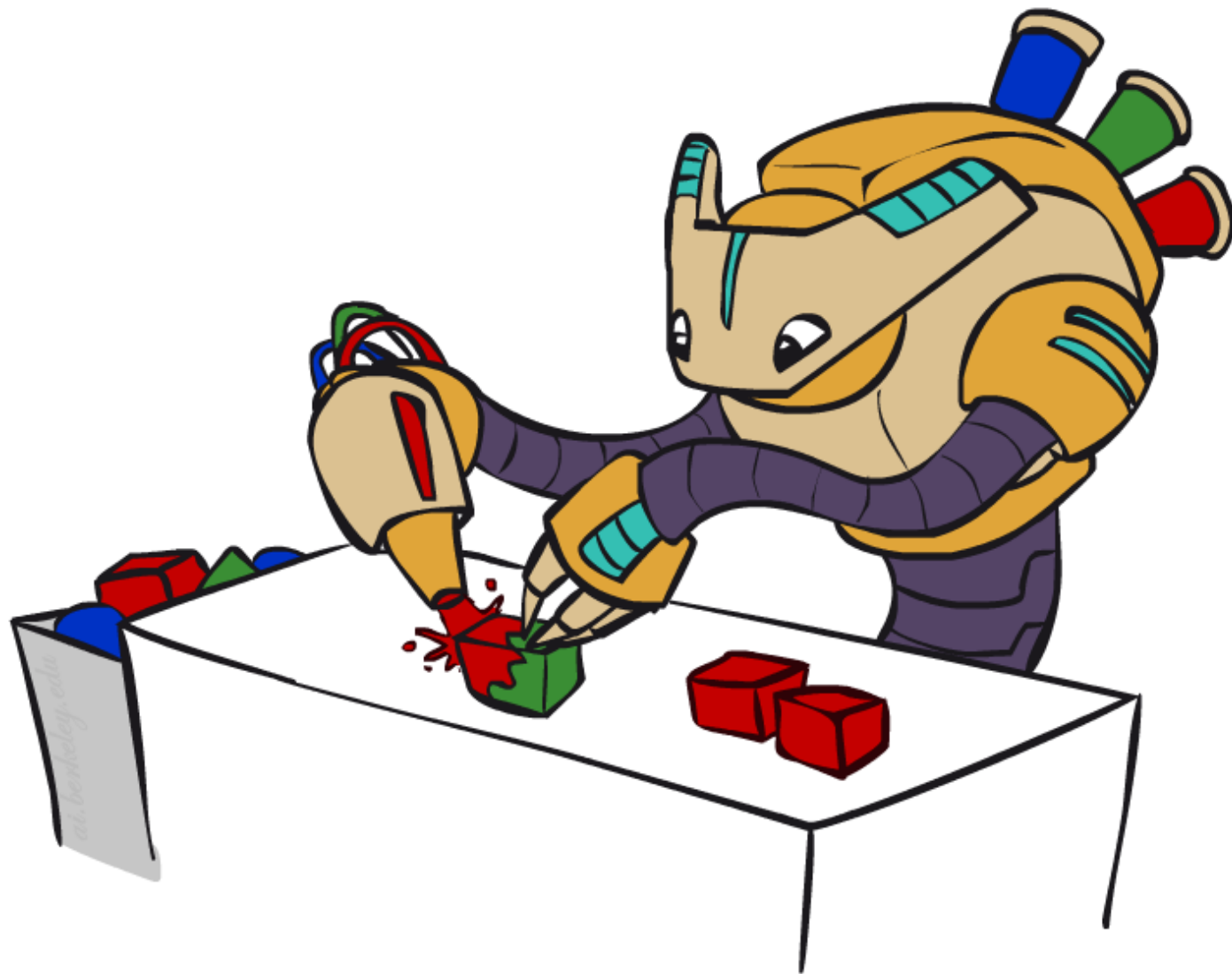
- Likelihood weighting is good
  - All samples are used
  - The values of *downstream* variables are influenced by *upstream* evidence



- Likelihood weighting still has weaknesses
  - The values of *upstream* variables are unaffected by *downstream* evidence
    - E.g., suppose evidence is a video of a traffic accident
  - With evidence in  $k$  leaf nodes, weights will be  $O(2^{-k})$
  - With high probability, one lucky sample will have much larger weight than the others, dominating the result
- We would like each variable to “see” *all* the evidence!

# Gibbs Sampling

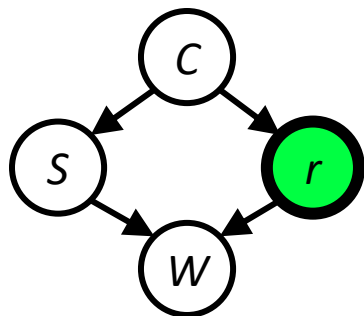
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# Gibbs Sampling Example: $P(S | r)$

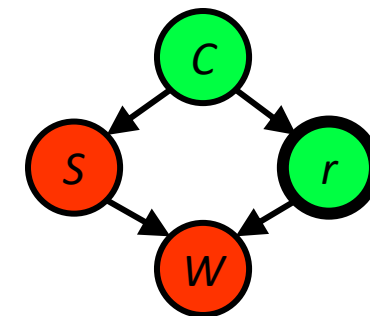
- Step 1: Fix evidence

- $R = \text{true}$



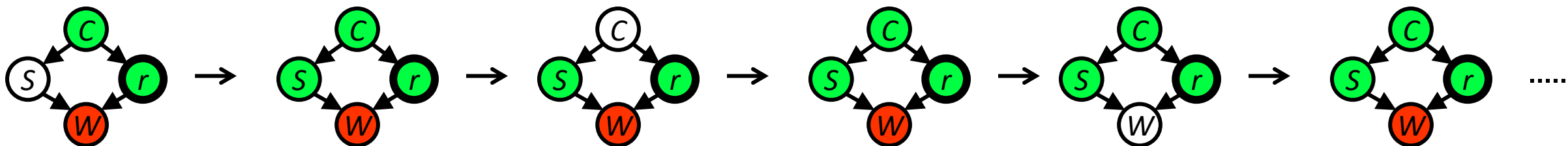
- Step 2: Initialize other variables

- Randomly



- Step 3: Repeat

- Choose a non-evidence variable  $X$
- Resample  $X$  from  $P(X | \text{all other variables})$



Sample from  $P(S | c, r, \neg w)$

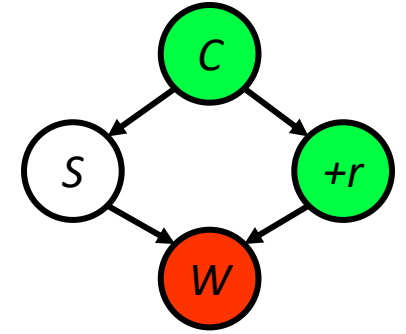
Sample from  $P(C | s, r)$

Sample from  $P(W | s, r)$

# Resampling of One Variable

- Sample from  $P(S \mid +c, +r, -w)$

$$P(S \mid +c, +r, -w)$$



- Many things cancel out – only CPTs with S remain!
- More generally: only CPTs that have resampled variable need to be considered, and joined together

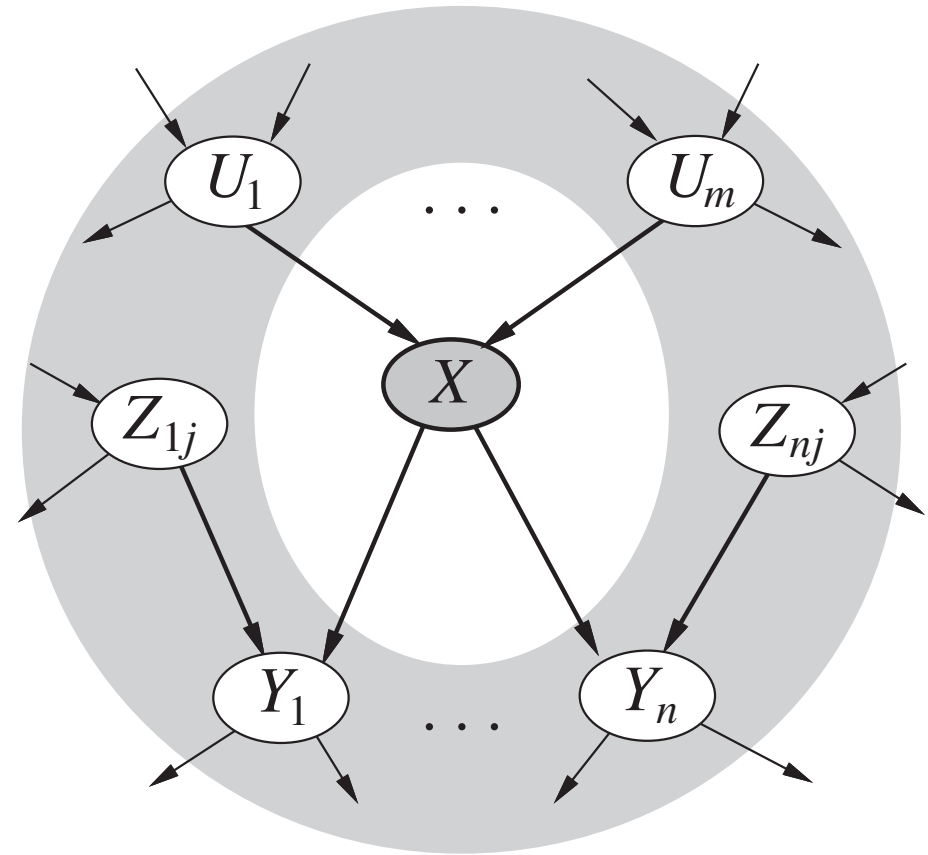
# Resampling of One Variable

- Repeat many times

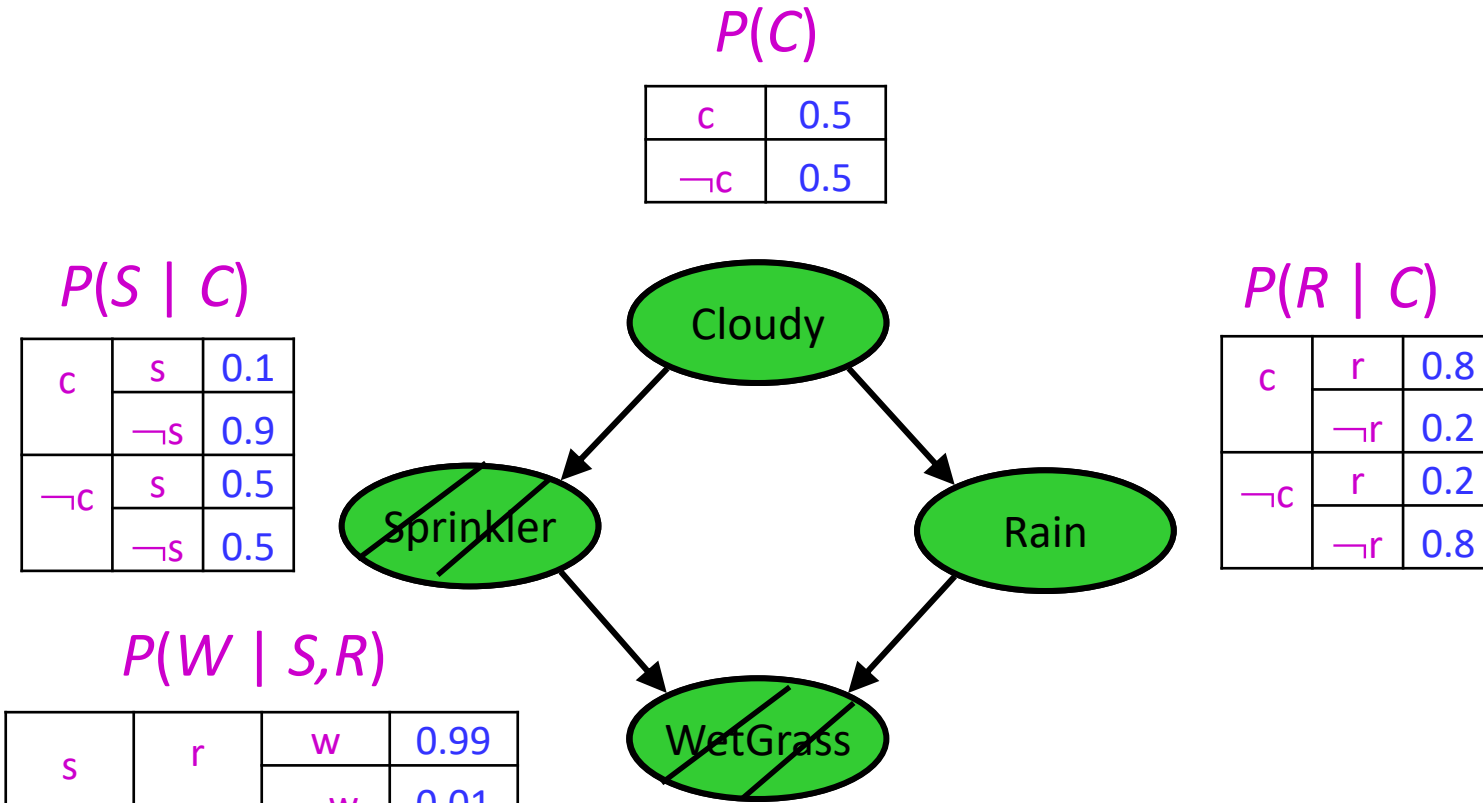
- Sample a non-evidence variable  $X_i$  from

$$P(X_i | x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) = P(X_i | \text{markov\_blanket}(X_i))$$

$$= \alpha P(X_i | \text{parents}(X_i)) \prod_j P(y_j | \text{parents}(Y_j))$$



# Gibbs Sampling



Want to estimate  $P(C | s, w)$

(Arbitrarily) Pick R to resample

$$P(R | c, s, w) = \alpha P(R | c) P(w | s, R)$$

(Arbitrarily) Pick C to resample

$$P(C | r, s, w) = \alpha P(C) P(s | C) P(r | C)$$

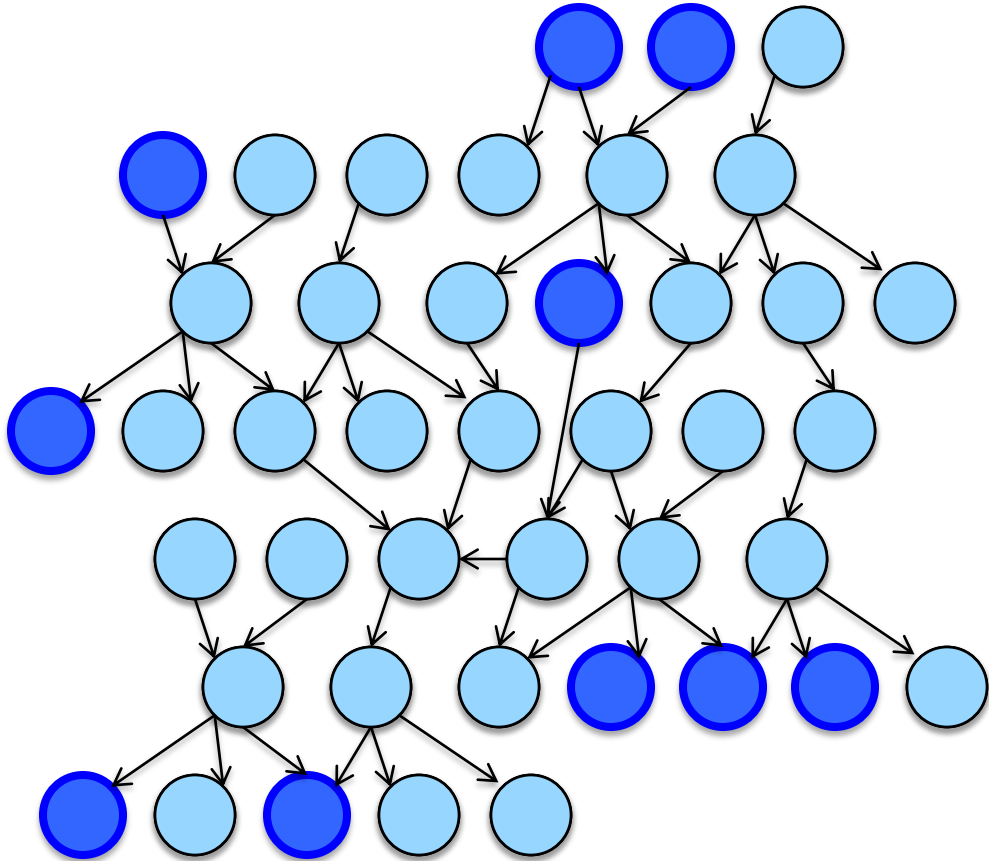
Samples:

**c, s, r, w**

**c, s, r, w**

**$\neg c, s, r, w$**

# Why would anyone do this?



Both upstream and downstream variables condition on evidence!

In contrast: likelihood weighting only conditions on upstream evidence, and hence weights obtained in likelihood weighting can sometimes be very small.



# More details on Gibbs sampling

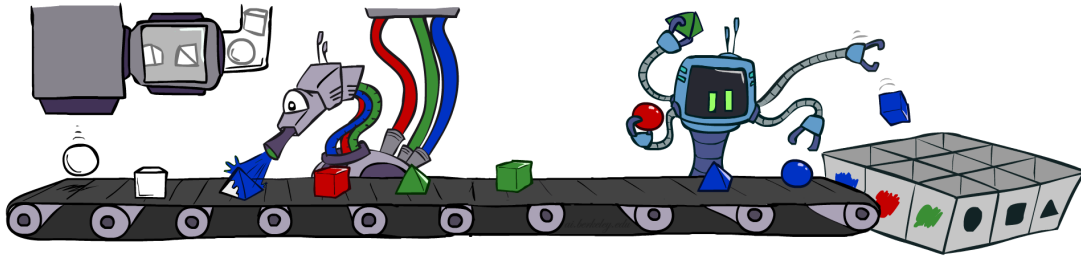
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- Gibbs sampling belongs to a family of sampling methods called Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)
- **Theorem:** In the limit of repeating this infinitely many times, the resulting samples come from the correct distribution.\*

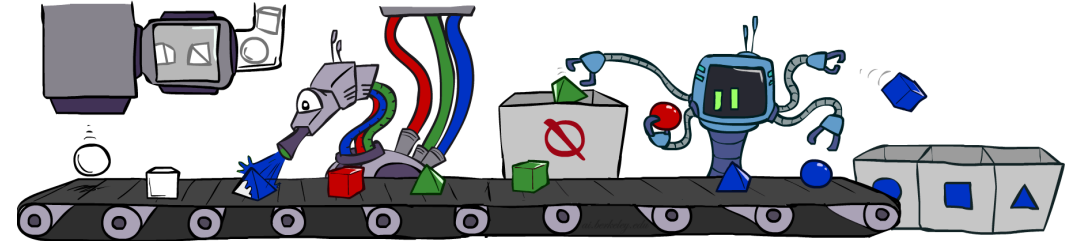
\*: Provided all Gibbs distributions are bounded away from 0 and 1 and variable selection is fair

# Bayes Net Sampling Summary

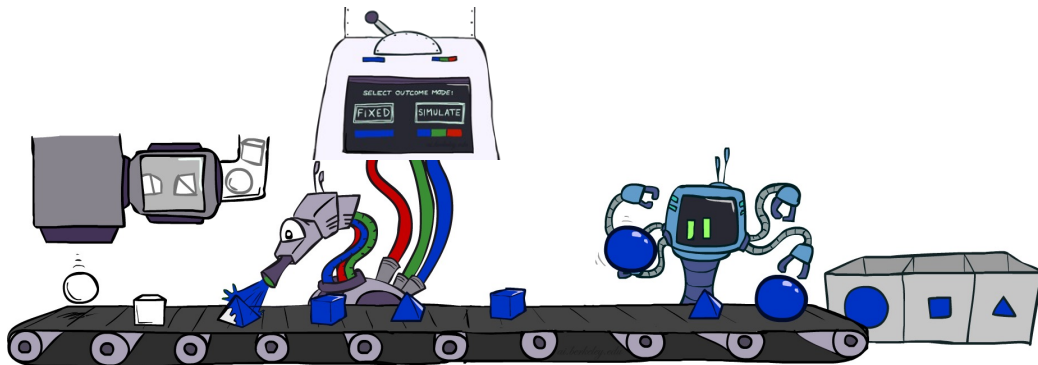
- Prior Sampling



- Rejection Sampling



- Likelihood Weighting



- Gibbs Sampling

