

**CS 1571 Introduction to AI  
Lecture 20**

**Bayesian belief networks**

**Milos Hauskrecht**

[milos@cs.pitt.edu](mailto:milos@cs.pitt.edu)

5329 Sennott Square

---

CS 1571 Intro to AI

**Administration**

- **Problem set 7 is due today**
- **Problem set 8 is out:**
  - **Due on November 11**

---

CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Modeling uncertainty with probabilities

- We need to define the full joint probability distribution over random variables defining the domain of interest
- With the known full joint we are able to handle an arbitrary probabilistic inference problem

### Problems:

- **Space complexity.** To store a full joint distribution we need to remember  $O(d^n)$  numbers.  
 $n$  – number of random variables,  $d$  – number of values
- **Inference (time) complexity.** To compute some queries requires  $O(d^n)$  steps.
- **Acquisition problem.** Who is going to define all of the probability entries?

## Medical diagnosis example.

- **Space complexity.**
  - Pneumonia (2 values: T,F), Fever (2: T,F), Cough (2: T,F), WBCcount (3: high, normal, low), paleness (2: T,F)
  - Number of assignments:  $2*2*2*3*2=48$
  - We need to define at least 47 probabilities.
- **Time complexity.**
  - Assume we need to compute the marginal of  $P(\text{Pneumonia}=T)$  from the full joint distribution

$$P(\text{Pneumonia} = T) = \sum_{i \in T, F} \sum_{j \in T, F} \sum_{k=h,n,l} \sum_{u \in T, F} P(\text{Pneumonia}=T, \text{Fever}=i, \text{Cough}=j, \text{WBCcount}=k, \text{Pale}=u)$$

- Sum over:  $2*2*3*2=24$  combinations

## Bayesian belief networks (BBNs)

### Bayesian belief networks.

- Represent the full joint distribution over the variables more compactly with a **smaller number of parameters**.
- Take advantage of **conditional and marginal independences** among random variables

- **A and B are independent**

$$P(A, B) = P(A)P(B)$$

- **A and B are conditionally independent given C**

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

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

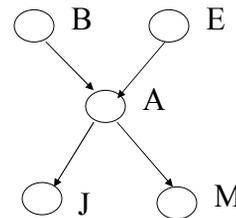
CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Bayesian belief networks (general)

Two components:  $B = (S, \Theta_S)$

- **Directed acyclic graph**

- Nodes correspond to random variables
- (Missing) links encode independences



- **Parameters**

- Local conditional probability distributions for every variable-parent configuration

$$P(X_i | pa(X_i))$$

Where:

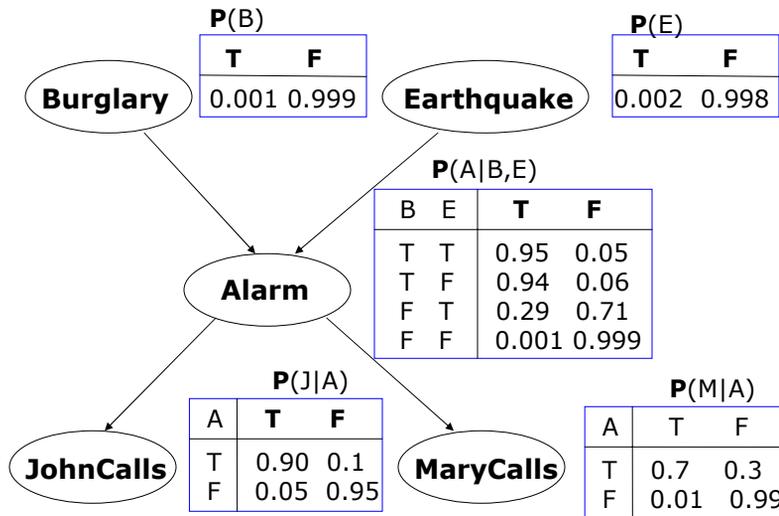
$pa(X_i)$  - stand for parents of  $X_i$

$P(A|B,E)$

B	E	T	F
T	T	0.95	0.05
T	F	0.94	0.06
F	T	0.29	0.71
F	F	0.001	0.999

CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Bayesian belief network.



CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

**Full joint distribution** is defined in terms of local conditional distributions (obtained via the chain rule):

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} P(X_i | pa(X_i))$$

### Example:

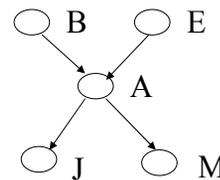
Assume the following assignment of values to random variables

$$B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F$$

Then its probability is:

$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$

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



CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Bayesian belief networks (BBNs)

### Bayesian belief networks

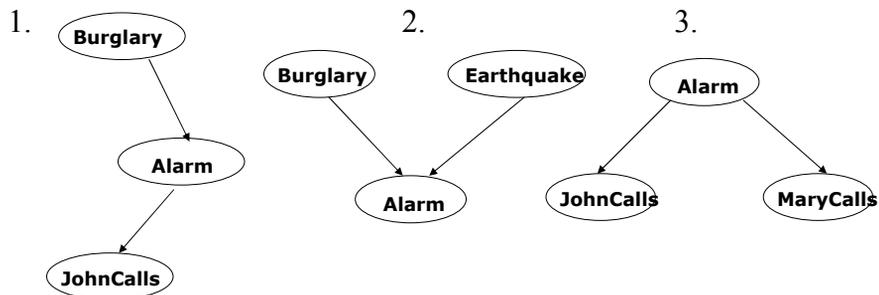
- Represents the full joint distribution over the variables more compactly using the product of local conditionals.
- **But how did we get to local parameterizations?**

### Answer:

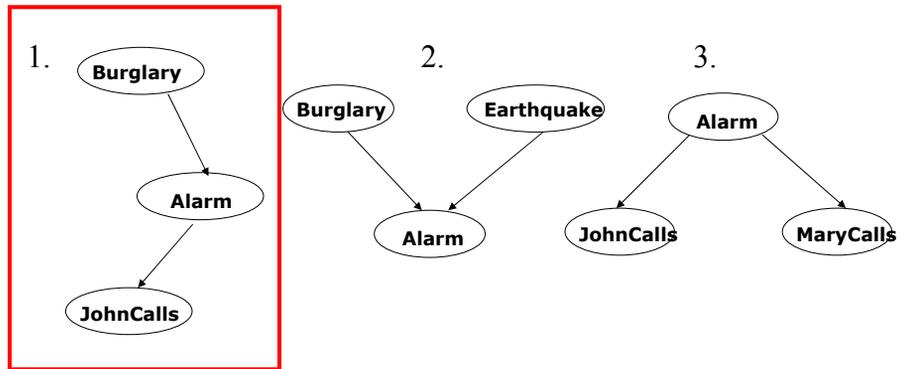
- **Graphical structure** encodes **conditional and marginal independences** among random variables
- **A and B are independent**  $P(A, B) = P(A)P(B)$
- **A and B are conditionally independent given C**  
 $P(A | C, B) = P(A | C)$   
 $P(A, B | C) = P(A | C)P(B | C)$
- **The graph structure implies the decomposition !!!**

## Independences in BBNs

### 3 basic independence structures:



## Independences in BBNs

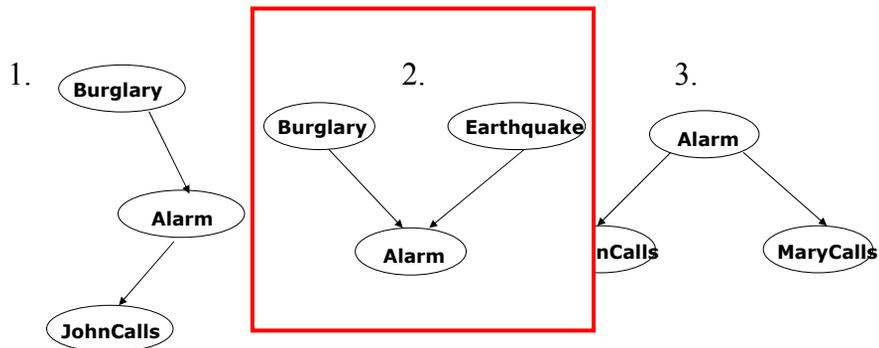


1. JohnCalls is **independent** of Burglary given Alarm

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

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

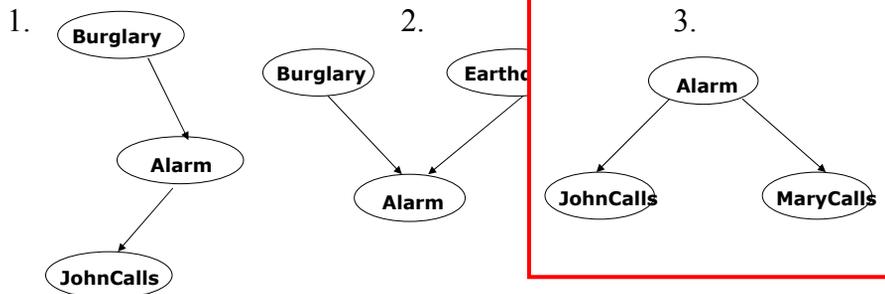
## Independences in BBNs



2. Burglary is **independent** of Earthquake (not knowing about the Alarm)
- $$P(B, E) = P(B)P(E)$$

But Burglary and Earthquake **become dependent** once I know the Alarm !!

## Independences in BBNs



3. MaryCalls **is independent** of JohnCalls given Alarm

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

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

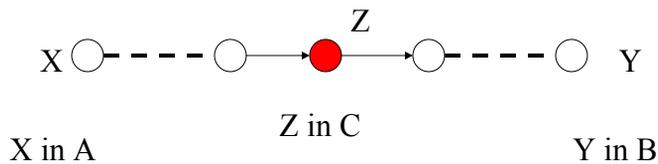
## Independences in BBN

- BBN distribution models many conditional independence relations among distant variables and sets of variables
- These are defined in terms of the graphical criterion called d-separation
- **D-separation and independence**
  - Let X, Y and Z be three sets of nodes
  - If X and Y are d-separated by Z, then X and Y are conditionally independent given Z
- **D-separation :**
  - A is d-separated from B given C if every undirected path between them is **blocked with C**
- **Path blocking**
  - 3 cases that expand on three basic independence structures

## Undirected path blocking

A is d-separated from B given C if every undirected path between them is **blocked**

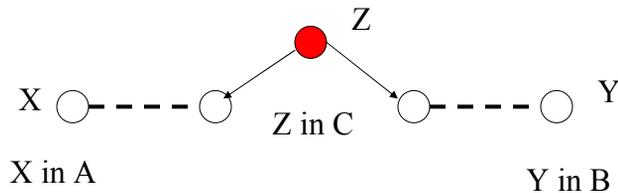
- 1. Path blocking with a linear substructure



## Undirected path blocking

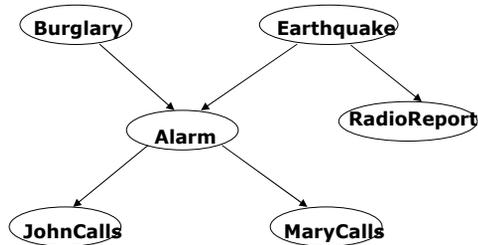
A is d-separated from B given C if every undirected path between them is **blocked**

- 2. Path blocking with the wedge substructure



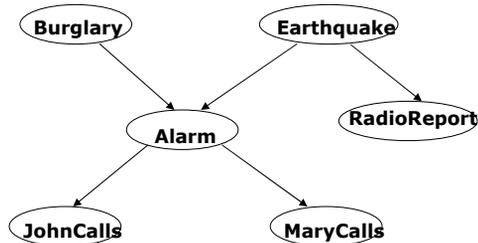


## Independences in BBNs



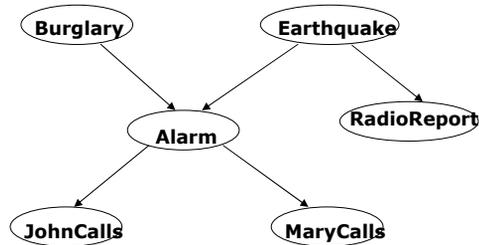
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **?**

## Independences in BBNs



- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given Earthquake **?**

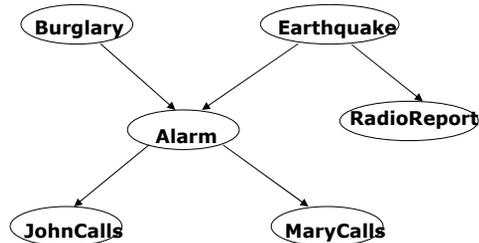
## Independences in BBNs



- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given Earthquake **T**
- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given MaryCalls **?**

CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Independences in BBNs



- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given Earthquake **T**
- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given MaryCalls **F**

CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Bayesian belief networks (BBNs)

### Bayesian belief networks

- Represents the full joint distribution over the variables more compactly using the product of local conditionals.
- **So how did we get to local parameterizations?**

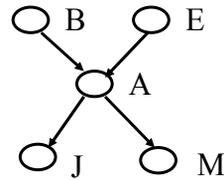
$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} P(X_i \mid pa(X_i))$$

- **The decomposition is implied by the set of independences encoded in the belief network.**

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

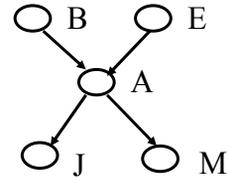
Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:

$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$



## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



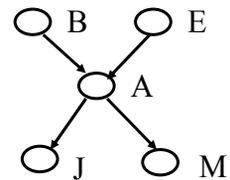
$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$

$$= P(J=T \mid B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)$$

$$= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)}$$

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$

$$= P(J=T \mid B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)$$

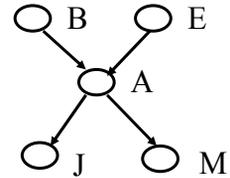
$$= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)}$$

$$P(M=F \mid B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T)$$

$$\underline{P(M=F \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T)}$$

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$

$$= P(J=T \mid B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)$$

$$= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)}$$

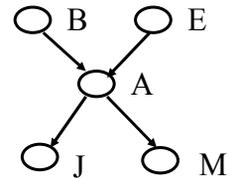
$$P(M=F \mid B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T)$$

$$\underline{P(M=F \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T)}$$

$$\underline{P(A=T \mid B=T, E=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T)}$$

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$

$$= P(J=T \mid B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)$$

$$= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)}$$

$$P(M=F \mid B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T)$$

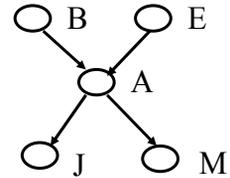
$$\underline{P(M=F \mid A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T)}$$

$$\underline{P(A=T \mid B=T, E=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T)}$$

$$P(B=T) P(E=T)$$

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



$$P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) =$$

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

$$= \underline{P(J=T | A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)}$$

$$P(M=F | B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T)$$

$$\underline{P(M=F | A=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T, A=T)}$$

$$\underline{P(A=T | B=T, E=T)} \underline{P(B=T, E=T)}$$

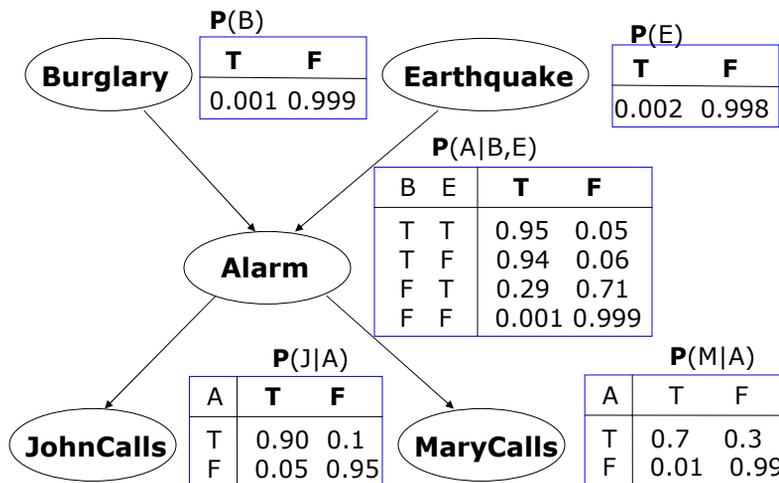
$$\underline{P(B=T)} \underline{P(E=T)}$$

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

CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Bayesian belief network.

- In the BBN the **full joint distribution** is expressed using a set of local conditional distributions



CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Parameter complexity problem

- In the BBN the **full joint distribution** is defined as:

$$\mathbf{P}(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid pa(X_i))$$

- What did we save?**

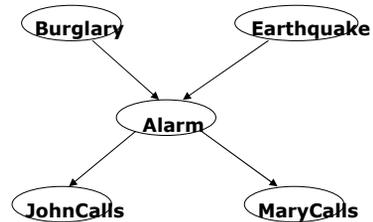
Alarm example: 5 binary (True, False) variables

# of parameters of the full joint:

$$2^5 = 32$$

One parameter is for free:

$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$



## Parameter complexity problem

- In the BBN the **full joint distribution** is defined as:

$$\mathbf{P}(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid pa(X_i))$$

- What did we save?**

Alarm example: 5 binary (True, False) variables

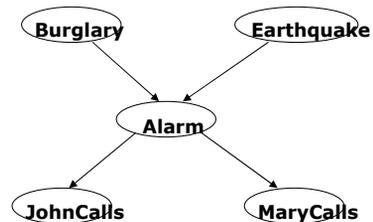
# of parameters of the full joint:

$$2^5 = 32$$

One parameter is for free:

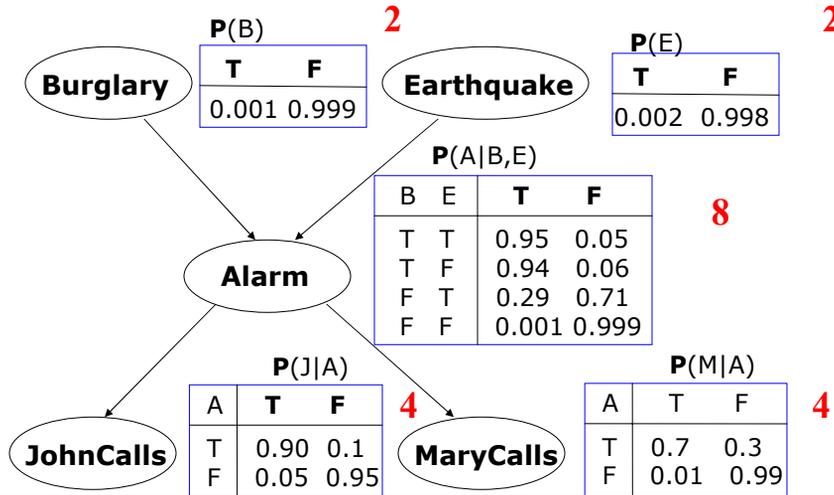
$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$

# of parameters of the BBN: ?



## Bayesian belief network.

- In the BBN the **full joint distribution** is expressed using a set of local conditional distributions



CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Parameter complexity problem

- In the BBN the **full joint distribution** is defined as:

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} P(X_i | pa(X_i))$$

- What did we save?

Alarm example: 5 binary (True, False) variables

# of parameters of the full joint:

$$2^5 = 32$$

One parameter is for free:

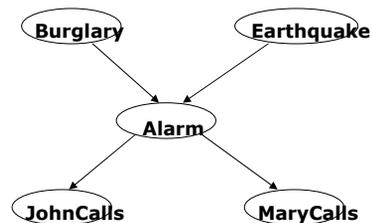
$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$

# of parameters of the BBN:

$$2^3 + 2(2^2) + 2(2) = 20$$

One parameter in every conditional is for free:

?



CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Parameter complexity problem

- In the BBN the **full joint distribution** is defined as:

$$\mathbf{P}(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid pa(X_i))$$

- What did we save?**

**Alarm example: 5 binary (True, False) variables**

**# of parameters of the full joint:**

$$2^5 = 32$$

**One parameter is for free:**

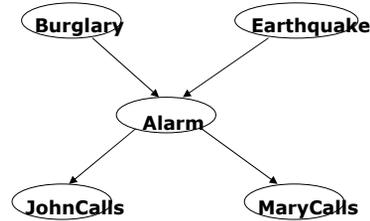
$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$

**# of parameters of the BBN:**

$$2^3 + 2(2^2) + 2(2) = 20$$

**One parameter in every conditional is for free:**

$$2^2 + 2(2) + 2(1) = 10$$



## Model acquisition problem

### The structure of the BBN

- typically reflects causal relations  
(BBNs are also sometime referred to as **causal networks**)
- Causal structure is intuitive in many applications domain and it is relatively easy to define to the domain expert

### Probability parameters of BBN

- are conditional distributions relating random variables and their parents
- Complexity is much smaller than the full joint
- It is much easier to obtain such probabilities from the expert or learn them automatically from data

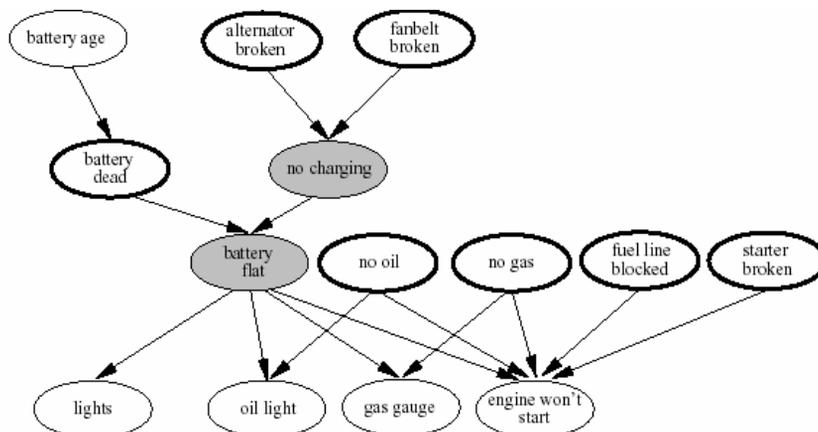
## BBNs built in practice

- **In various areas:**
  - Intelligent user interfaces (Microsoft)
  - Troubleshooting, diagnosis of a technical device
  - Medical diagnosis:
    - Pathfinder (Intellipath)
    - CPSC
    - Munin
    - QMR-DT
  - Collaborative filtering
  - Military applications
  - Business and finance
    - Insurance, credit applications

CS 1571 Intro to AI

## Diagnosis of car engine

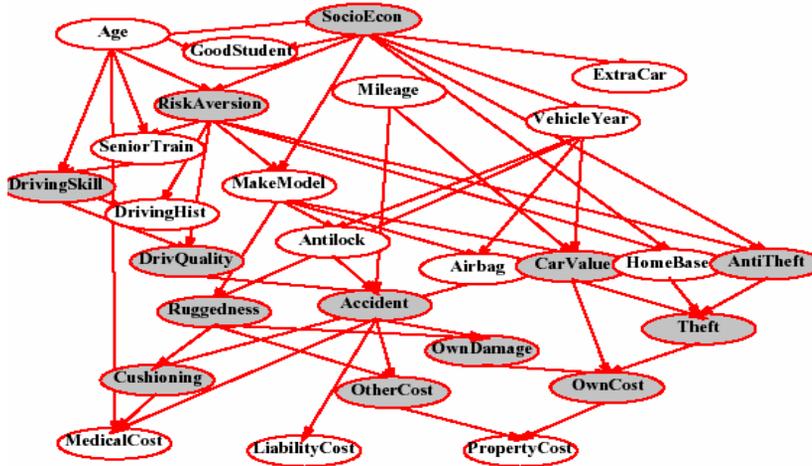
- Diagnose the engine start problem



CS 1571 Intro to AI

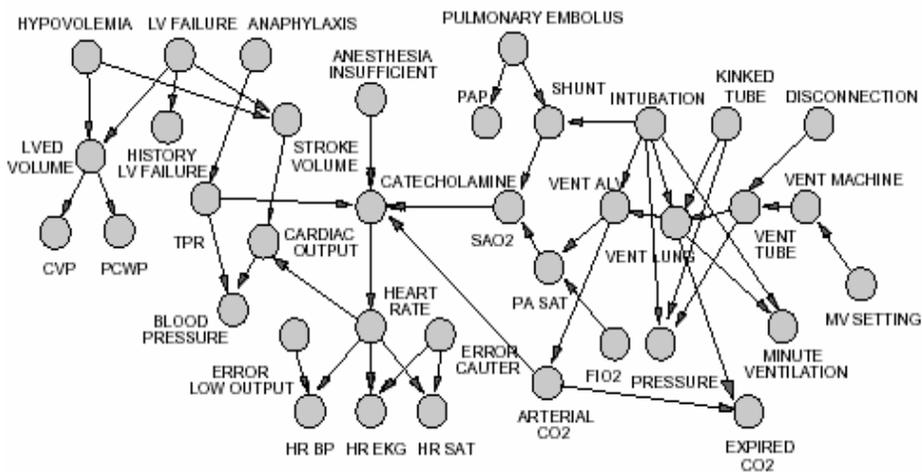
## Car insurance example

- Predict claim costs (medical, liability) based on application data



CS 1571 Intro to AI

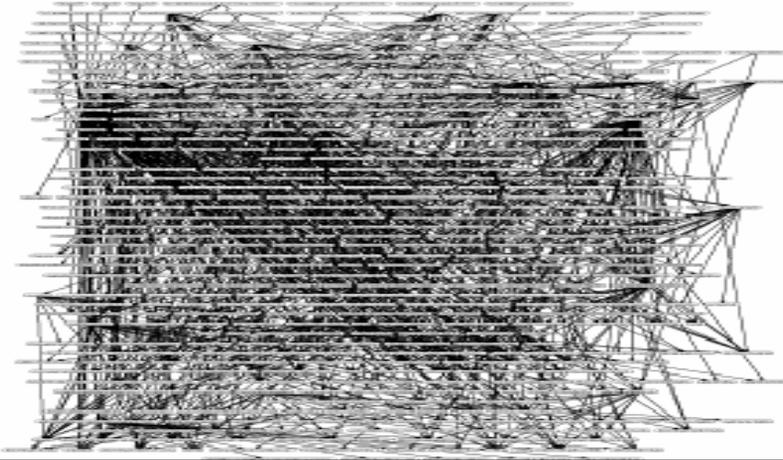
## (ICU) Alarm network



CS 1571 Intro to AI

## CPCS

- Computer-based Patient Case Simulation system (CPCS-PM) developed by Parker and Miller (University of Pittsburgh)
- 422 nodes and 867 arcs

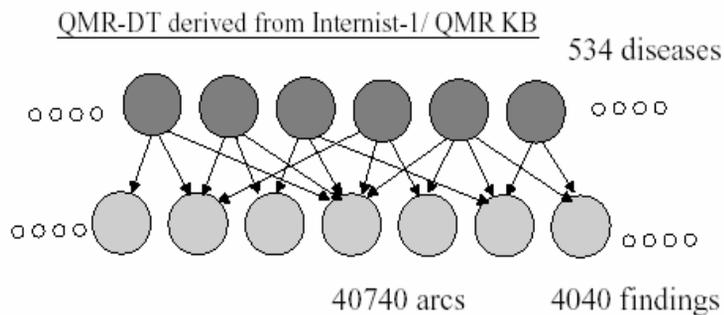


CS 1571 Intro to AI

## QMR-DT

- **Medical diagnosis in internal medicine**

Bipartite network of disease/findings relations



CS 1571 Intro to AI