

**CS 1675 Introduction to Machine Learning**  
**Lecture 14**

**Bayesian belief networks**

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**Midterm exam**

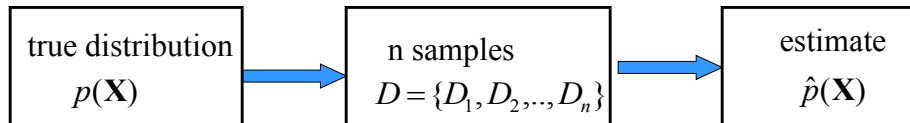
**Midterm Thursday, March 2, 2017**

- **in-class (75 minutes)**
  - **closed book**
  - No programing questions
  - Know/understand well what is in lecture notes and assignments
  - Know key ideas/principle behind different models, learning algorithms
  - Know principles for ML and Error function optimization
  - Know how to differentiate simple functions
  - True/false questions will require justification
-

## Density estimation

**Data:**  $D = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$   
 $D_i = \mathbf{x}_i$  a vector of attribute values

**Objective:** try to estimate the underlying true probability distribution over variables  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $p(\mathbf{X})$ , using examples in  $D$



**Standard (iid) assumptions: Samples**

- are **independent** of each other
- come from the same **(identical) distribution** (fixed  $p(\mathbf{X})$ )

## Modeling complex distributions

**Question:** How to model and learn complex multivariate distributions  $\hat{p}(\mathbf{X})$  with a large number of variables?

**Example: modeling of disease – symptoms relations**

- **Disease:** pneumonia
- **Patient symptoms (findings, lab tests):**
  - Fever, Cough, Paleness, WBC (white blood cells) count, Chest pain, etc.
- **Model of the full joint distribution:**  
 $P(\text{Pneumonia, Fever, Cough, Paleness, WBC, Chest pain})$

One probability per assignment of values to variables:

$P(\text{Pneumonia} = \text{T}, \text{Fever} = \text{T}, \text{Cough} = \text{T}, \text{WBC} = \text{High}, \text{Chest pain} = \text{T})$

- **How many probabilities are there?**

## Full joint distribution

- Any joint probability over a subset of variables can be obtained via marginalization from the full joint

$$P(\text{Pneumonia}, \text{WBCcount}, \text{Fever}) = \sum_{c,p \in \{T,F\}} P(\text{Pneumonia}, \text{WBCcount}, \text{Fever}, \text{Cough} = c, \text{Paleness} = p)$$

- Question:** Is it possible to recover the full joint from the joint probabilities over a subset of variables?

## Joint probabilities

- Is it possible to recover the full joint from the joint probabilities over a subset of variables?

$P(\text{pneumonia}, \text{WBCcount})$   $2 \times 3$  matrix

|           |       | WBCcount |        |       |                                         |
|-----------|-------|----------|--------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
|           |       | high     | normal | low   |                                         |
| Pneumonia | True  | ?        | ?      | ?     | $P(\text{Pneumonia})$<br>0.001<br>0.999 |
|           | False | ?        | ?      | ?     |                                         |
|           |       | 0.005    | 0.993  | 0.002 | $P(\text{WBCcount})$                    |

## Joint probabilities and independence

- Is it possible to recover the full joint from the joint probabilities over a subset of variables?
- Only if the variables are independent !!!

$P(\text{pneumonia}, \text{WBCcount})$   $2 \times 3$  matrix

|                  |              | $\text{WBCcount}$ |               |            | $P(\text{Pneumonia})$ |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------|
|                  |              | <i>high</i>       | <i>normal</i> | <i>low</i> |                       |
| <i>Pneumonia</i> | <i>True</i>  | ?                 | ?             | ?          | 0.001                 |
|                  | <i>False</i> | ?                 | ?             | ?          | 0.999                 |
|                  |              | 0.005             | 0.993         | 0.002      |                       |

$P(\text{WBCcount})$

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## Variable independence

- The two events **A, B** are said to be independent if:

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

- The variables **X, Y** are said to be independent if their joint can be expressed as a product of marginals:

$$P(X, Y) = P(X)P(Y)$$

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## Conditional probability

### Conditional probability :

- Probability of A given B  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A,B)}{P(B)}$
- Conditional probability is defined in terms of joint probabilities
- Joint probabilities can be expressed in terms of conditional probabilities

$$P(A,B) = P(A|B)P(B) \quad \text{(product rule)}$$

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) \quad \text{(chain rule)}$$

- Conditional probability – is useful for **various probabilistic inferences**

$$P(\text{Pneumonia} = \text{True} | \text{Fever} = \text{True}, \text{WBCcount} = \text{high}, \text{Cough} = \text{True})$$

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## Conditional probabilities

### Conditional probability

- Is defined in terms of the joint probability:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A,B)}{P(B)} \quad \text{s.t. } P(B) \neq 0$$

- **Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{pneumonia} = \text{true} | \text{WBCcount} = \text{high}) &= \\ &= \frac{P(\text{pneumonia} = \text{true}, \text{WBCcount} = \text{high})}{P(\text{WBCcount} = \text{high})} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{pneumonia} = \text{false} | \text{WBCcount} = \text{high}) &= \\ &= \frac{P(\text{pneumonia} = \text{false}, \text{WBCcount} = \text{high})}{P(\text{WBCcount} = \text{high})} \end{aligned}$$

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## Conditional probabilities

### Conditional probability distribution

- Defines probabilities for all possible assignments of values to target variables, given a fixed assignment of other variable values

$$P(\text{Pneumonia} = \text{true} | \text{WBCcount} = \text{high})$$

$P(\text{Pneumonia} | \text{WBCcount})$  3 element vector of 2 elements

|                                                                                                                                                                               |               | <i>Pneumonia</i> |              |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|-----|
|                                                                                                                                                                               |               | <i>True</i>      | <i>False</i> |     |
| <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">WBCcount</div><br> | <i>high</i>   | 0.08             | 0.92         | 1.0 |
|                                                                                                                                                                               | <i>normal</i> | 0.0001           | 0.9999       | 1.0 |
|                                                                                                                                                                               | <i>low</i>    | 0.0001           | 0.9999       | 1.0 |

Variable we  
condition on

$$P(\text{Pneumonia} = \text{true} | \text{WBCcount} = \text{high}) \\ + P(\text{Pneumonia} = \text{false} | \text{WBCcount} = \text{high})$$

## Inference

Any query can be computed from the full joint distribution !!!

- Joint over a subset of variables** is obtained through marginalization

$$P(A = a, C = c) = \sum_i \sum_j P(A = a, B = b_i, C = c, D = d_j)$$

- Conditional probability over a set of variables**, given other variables' values is obtained through marginalization and definition of conditionals

$$P(D = d | A = a, C = c) = \frac{P(A = a, C = c, D = d)}{P(A = a, C = c)} \\ = \frac{\sum_i P(A = a, B = b_i, C = c, D = d)}{\sum_i \sum_j P(A = a, B = b_i, C = c, D = d_j)}$$

## Inference

Any joint probability can be expressed as a product of conditionals via the **chain rule**.

$$\begin{aligned}P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) &= P(X_n | X_1, \dots, X_{n-1})P(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}) \\&= P(X_n | X_1, \dots, X_{n-1})P(X_{n-1} | X_1, \dots, X_{n-2})P(X_1, \dots, X_{n-2}) \\&= \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})\end{aligned}$$

### Why this may be important?

- It is often easier to define the distribution in terms of conditional probabilities:

– E.g.  $\mathbf{P}(\text{Fever} | \text{Pneumonia} = T)$

$\mathbf{P}(\text{Fever} | \text{Pneumonia} = F)$

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## Probabilistic inference

Various probabilistic inference tasks:

- **Diagnostic task. (from effect to cause)**

$$\mathbf{P}(\text{Pneumonia} | \text{Fever} = T)$$

- **Prediction task. (from cause to effect)**

$$\mathbf{P}(\text{Fever} | \text{Pneumonia} = T)$$

- **Other probabilistic queries** (queries on joint distributions).

$$\mathbf{P}(\text{Fever})$$

$$\mathbf{P}(\text{Fever}, \text{ChestPain})$$

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## Modeling complex distributions

- Defining the **full joint distribution** makes it possible to represent and reason with the probabilities
- We are able to handle an arbitrary 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.** How to acquire/learn all these probabilities?

## Pneumonia 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

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

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



## Bayesian belief networks (BBNs)

**Bayesian belief networks** (late 80s, beginning of 90s)

- Give solutions to the space, acquisition bottlenecks
- Partial solutions for time complexities

### Key features:

- 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

- **X and Y are independent**  $P(X, Y) = P(X)P(Y)$

- **X and Y are conditionally independent given Z**

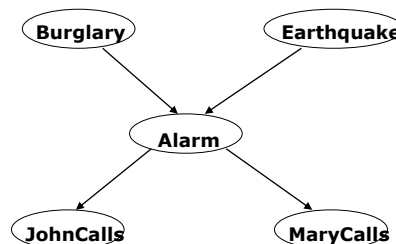
$$P(X, Y | Z) = P(X | Z)P(Y | Z)$$

$$P(X | Y, Z) = P(X | Z)$$

## Alarm system example

- Assume your house has an **alarm system** against **burglary**. You live in the seismically active area and the alarm system can get occasionally set off by an **earthquake**. You have two neighbors, **Mary** and **John**, who do not know each other. If they hear the alarm they call you, but this is not guaranteed.
- We want to represent the probability distribution of events:
  - Burglary, Earthquake, Alarm, Mary calls and John calls

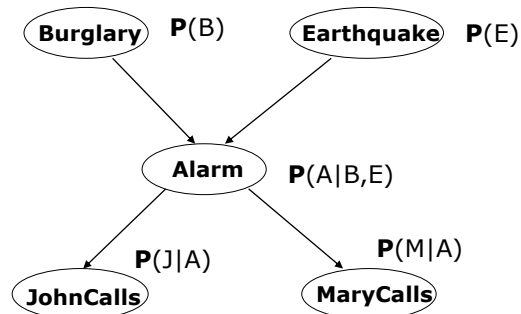
### Causal relations



## Bayesian belief network

### 1. Directed acyclic graph

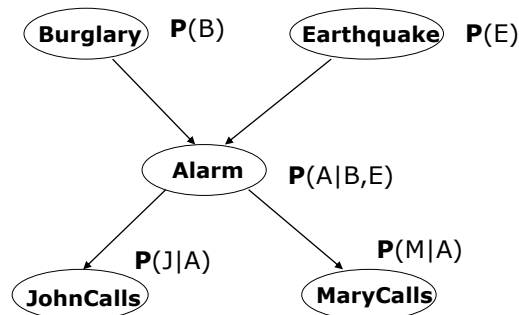
- **Nodes** = random variables  
Burglary, Earthquake, Alarm, Mary calls and John calls
- **Links** = direct (causal) dependencies between variables.  
The chance of Alarm being is influenced by Earthquake,  
The chance of John calling is affected by the Alarm



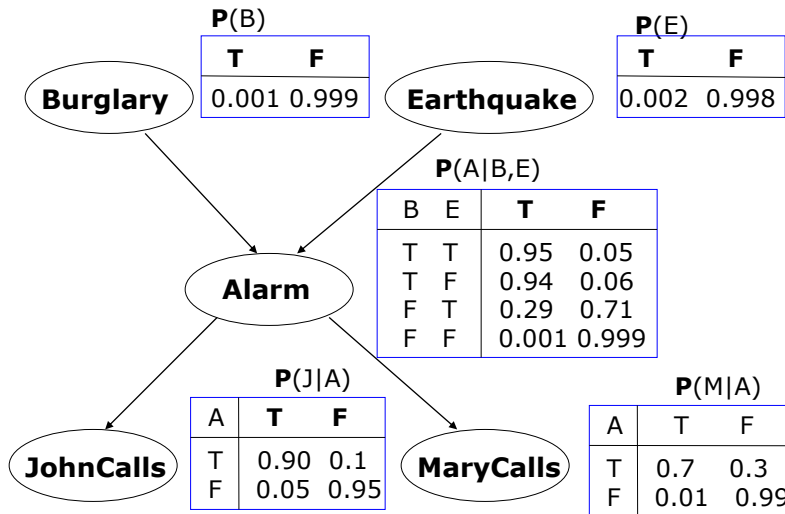
## Bayesian belief network

### 2. Local conditional distributions

- relating variables and their parents



## Bayesian belief network



## Full joint distribution in BBNs

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

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

### Example:

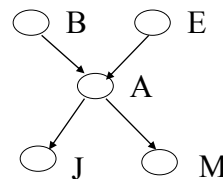
Assume the following assignment of values to random variables

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

Then its probability is:

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

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



## Bayesian belief networks (BBNs)

### Bayesian belief networks

- Represent 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**

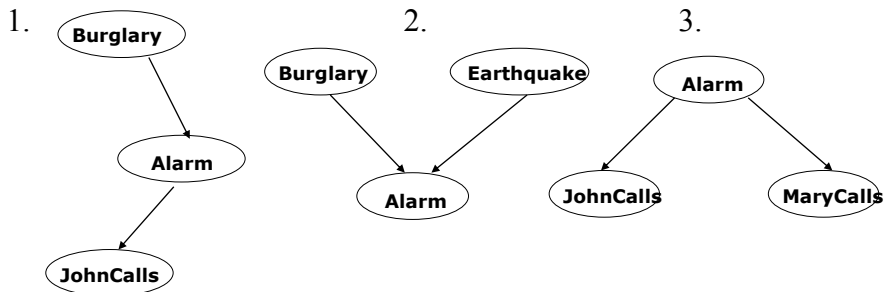
$$P(A | C, B) = P(A | C)$$

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

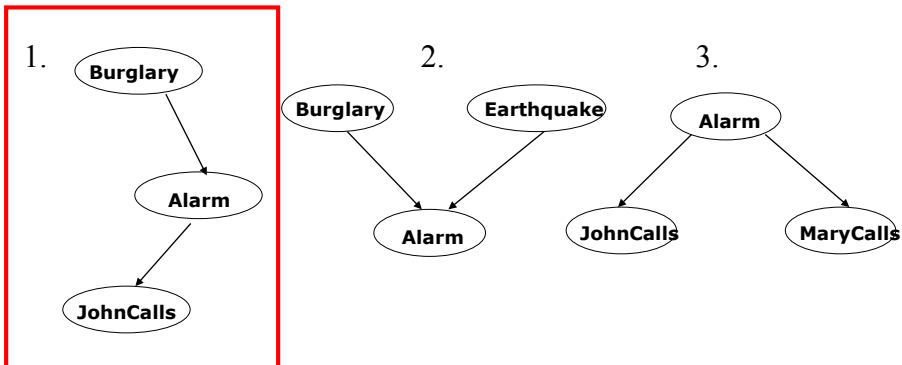
- **The graph structure implies the decomposition !!!**

## Independences in BBNs

### 3 basic independence structures:



## Independences in BBNs

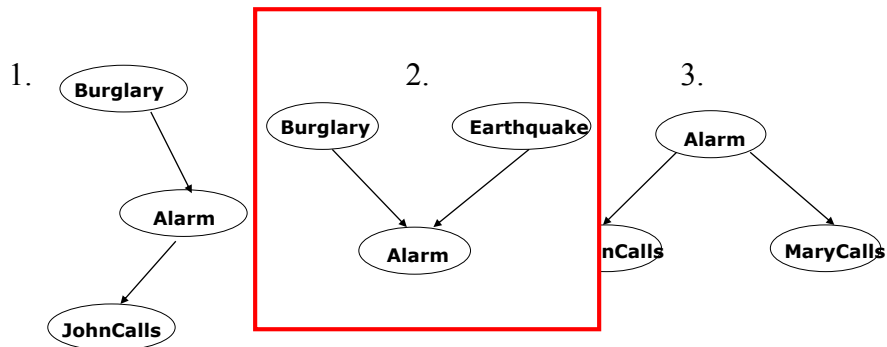


1. JohnCalls is **independent** of Burglary given Alarm

$$P(J \mid A, B) = P(J \mid A)$$

$$P(J, B \mid A) = P(J \mid A)P(B \mid A)$$

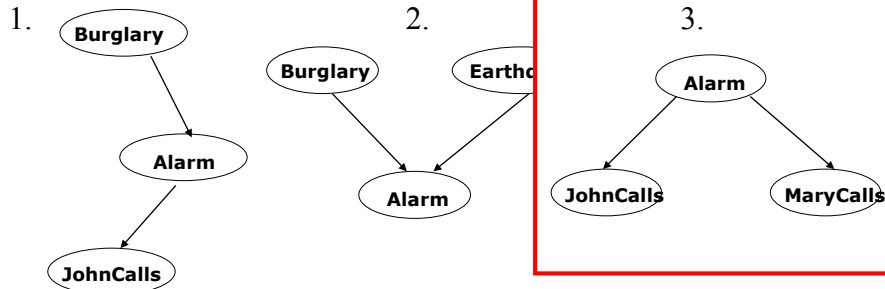
## Independences in BBNs



2. Burglary is **independent** of Earthquake (not knowing Alarm)  
Burglary and Earthquake **become dependent** given Alarm !!

$$P(B, E) = P(B)P(E)$$

## Independences in BBNs



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

$$P(J \mid A, M) = P(J \mid A)$$

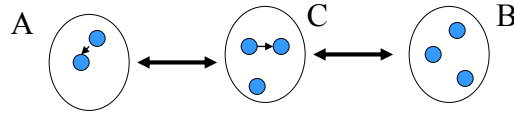
$$P(J, M \mid A) = P(J \mid A)P(M \mid A)$$

## Independence in BBN

- BBN distribution models many conditional independence relations relating distant variables and sets
- These are defined in terms of the graphical criterion called d-separation
- **D-separation in the graph**
  - 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

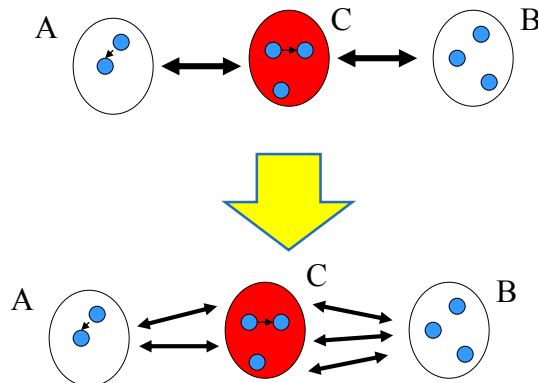
## Undirected path blocking

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



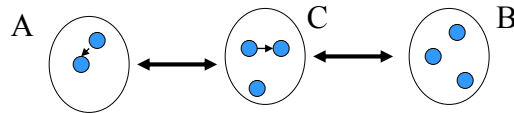
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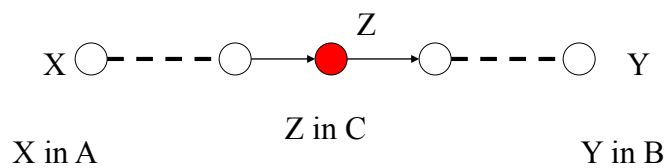


## Undirected path blocking

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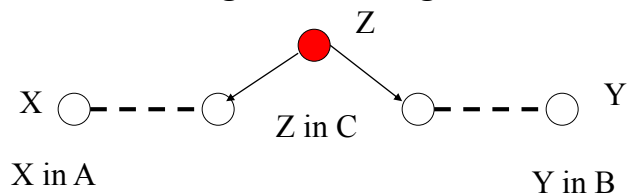
### 1. Path blocking with a linear substructure



## 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

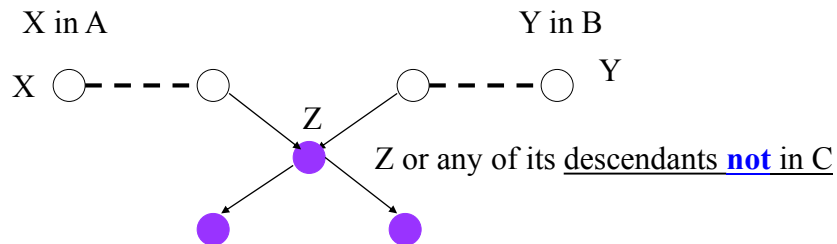




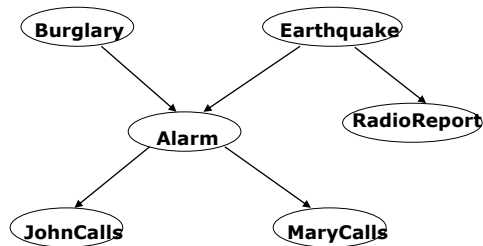
## Undirected path blocking

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

- 3. Path blocking with the vee substructure

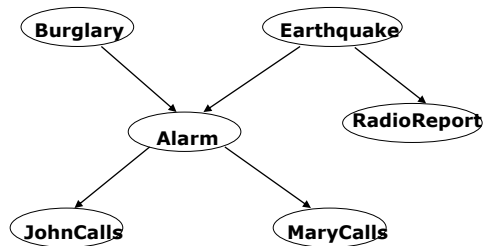


## Independences in BBNs



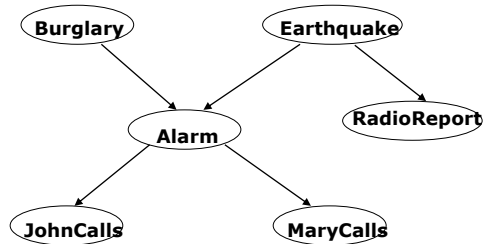
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls    ?

## Independences in BBNs



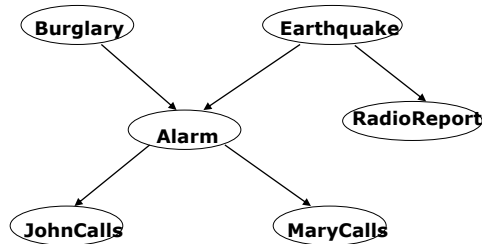
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
  - Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **?**
- 

## Independences in BBNs



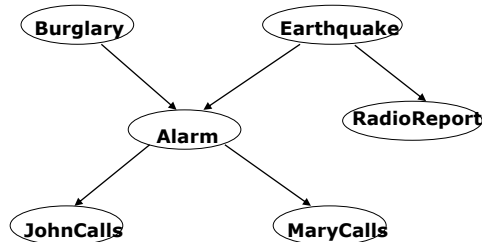
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
  - Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
  - Burglary and RadioReport are independent given Earthquake **?**
-

## 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 **?**
- 

## Independences in BBNs

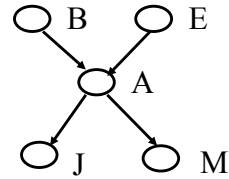


- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
  - Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
  - Burglary and RadioReport are independent given Earthquake **T**
  - Burglary and RadioReport are independent given MaryCalls **F**
-

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:

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



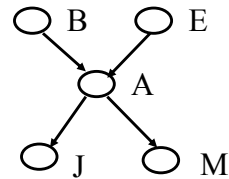
## Full joint distribution in BBNs

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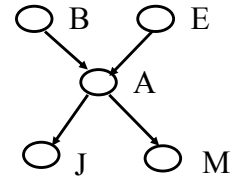
**Product rule**

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



## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



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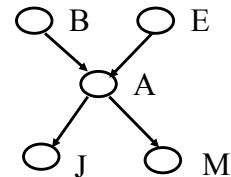
**Product rule**

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

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

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



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

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

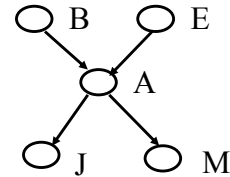
$$= P(J=T \mid A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)$$

**Product rule**

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

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



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

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

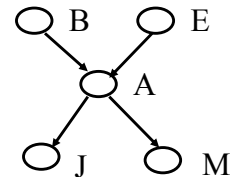
$$= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F)$$

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

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

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



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

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

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

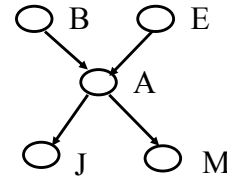
$$P(M=F \mid B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T)$$

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

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

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

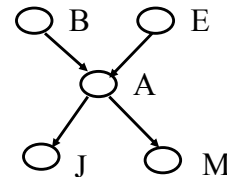
Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



$$\begin{aligned}
 P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) &= \\
 &= P(J=T \mid B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) \\
 &= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) \\
 &\quad P(M=F \mid B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T) \\
 &\quad \underline{P(M=F \mid A=T)} P(B=T, E=T, A=T) \\
 &\quad \underline{P(A=T \mid B=T, E=T)} P(B=T, E=T) \\
 &\quad P(B=T) P(E=T)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Full joint distribution in BBNs

Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:



$$\begin{aligned}
 P(B=T, E=T, A=T, J=T, M=F) &= \\
 &= P(J=T \mid B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) \\
 &= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} P(B=T, E=T, A=T, M=F) \\
 &\quad P(M=F \mid B=T, E=T, A=T) P(B=T, E=T, A=T) \\
 &\quad \underline{P(M=F \mid A=T)} P(B=T, E=T, A=T) \\
 &\quad \underline{P(A=T \mid B=T, E=T)} P(B=T, E=T) \\
 &\quad P(B=T) P(E=T) \\
 &= \underline{P(J=T \mid A=T)} \underline{P(M=F \mid A=T)} \underline{P(A=T \mid B=T, E=T)} \underline{P(B=T)} \underline{P(E=T)}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Parameter complexity problem

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

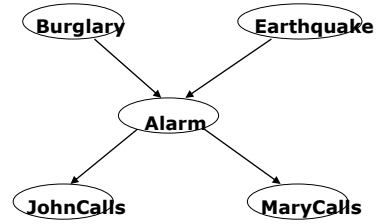
$$\mathbf{P}(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1, \dots, n} \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid pa(X_i))$$

- What did we save?

Alarm example: binary (True, False) variables

# of parameters of the full joint:

?



## Parameter complexity problem

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

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Alarm example: binary (True, False) variables

# of parameters of the full joint:

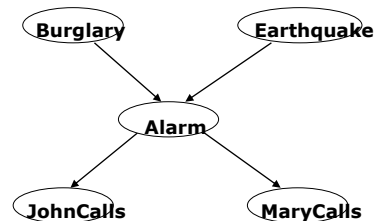
$$2^5 = 32$$

One parameter is for free:

$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$

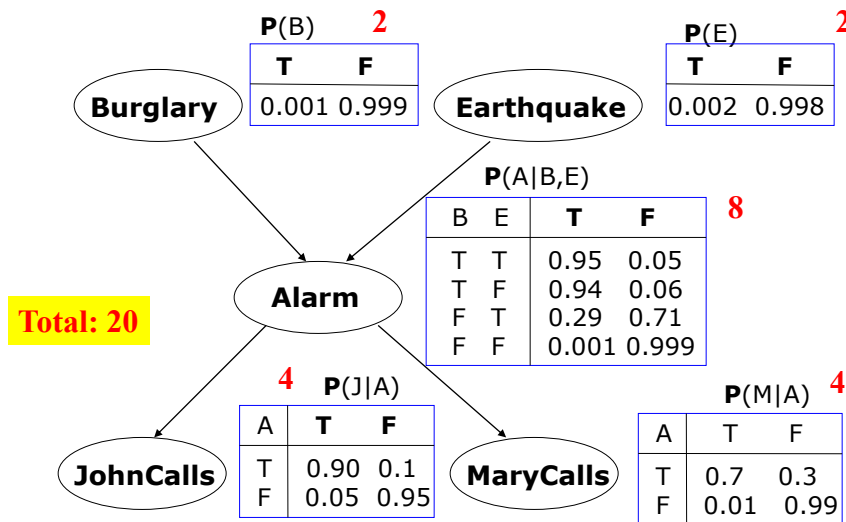
# of parameters of the BBN:

?





## Bayesian belief network: parameters count



## Parameter complexity problem

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

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

- 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:

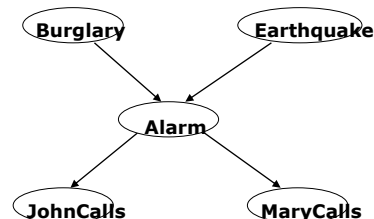
$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$

# of parameters of the BBN:

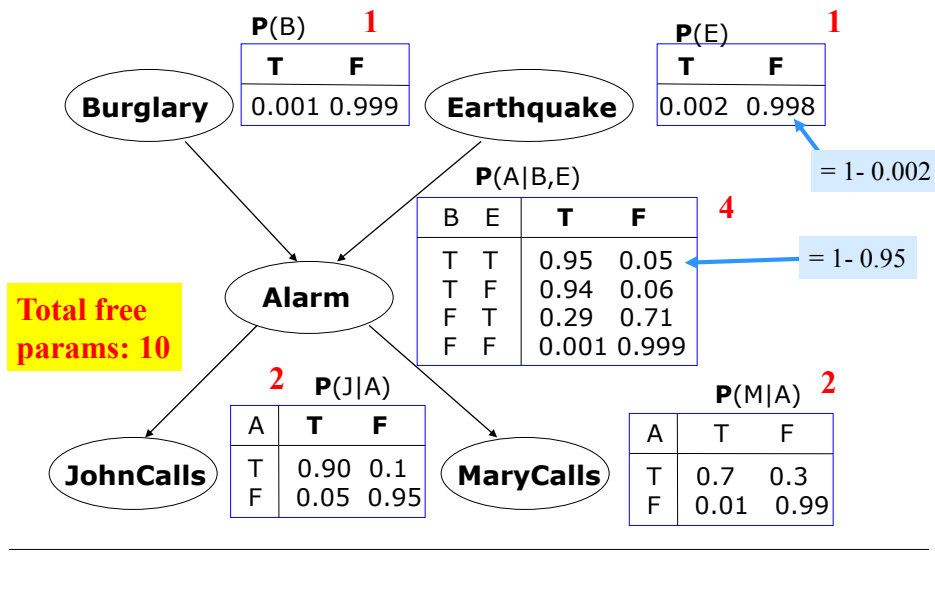
$$2^3 + 2(2^2) + 2(2) = 20$$

One parameter in every conditional is for free:

?



## Bayesian belief network: free parameters



## 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:

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

