

# CS 2750 Machine Learning

## Lecture 13

# Bayesian belief networks

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# Density estimation

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

## Attributes:

- modeled by random variables  $\mathbf{X} = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d\}$  with:
  - **Continuous values**
  - **Discrete values**

E.g. *blood pressure* with numerical values  
or *chest pain* with discrete values

[no-pain, mild, moderate, strong]

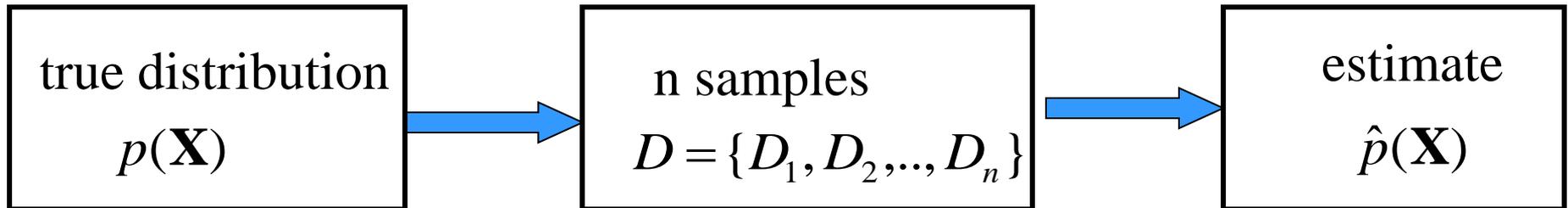
## Underlying true probability distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{X})$$

# 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  $p(\mathbf{X})$ )

# How to learn complex distributions

How to learn complex multivariate distributions  $\hat{p}(\mathbf{X})$  with large number of variables?

**One solution:**

- **Decompose the distribution using conditional independence relations**
- **Decompose the parameter estimation problem to a set of smaller parameter estimation tasks**

Decomposition of distributions under conditional independence assumption is the main idea behind **Bayesian belief networks**

# Example

## Problem description:

- **Disease:** pneumonia
- **Patient symptoms (findings, lab tests):**
  - Fever, Cough, Paleness, WBC (white blood cells) count, Chest pain, etc.

## Representation of a patient case:

- Symptoms and disease are represented as random variables

## Our objectives:

- **Describe a multivariate distribution representing the relations between symptoms and disease**
- **Design of inference and learning procedures for the multivariate model**

# Modeling uncertainty with probabilities

- **Full joint distribution:**

- Assume  $\mathbf{X} = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d\}$  are all random variables that define the domain
- Full joint:  $P(\mathbf{X})$  or  $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d)$

**Full joint it is sufficient** to do any type of probabilistic inference:

- Computation of joint probabilities for sets of variables

$$P(X_1, X_2, X_3) \quad P(X_1, X_{10})$$

- Computation of conditional probabilities

$$P(X_1 \mid X_2 = \text{True}, X_3 = \text{False})$$

# Marginalization

## Joint probability distribution (for a set variables)

- Defines probabilities for all possible assignments to values of variables in the set

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

		<i>WBCcount</i>			$P(\text{Pneumonia})$
		<i>high</i>	<i>normal</i>	<i>low</i>	
<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>True</i>	0.0008	0.0001	0.0001	0.001
	<i>False</i>	0.0042	0.9929	0.0019	0.999
		0.005	0.993	0.002	

$P(\text{WBCcount})$

**Marginalization** (summing of rows, or columns)

- summing out variables

# Variable independence

- The joint distribution over a subset of variables can be always computed from the joint distribution through marginalization
- Not the other way around !!!
  - **Only exception:** when variables are independent

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

$P(\text{pneumonia}, \text{WBCcount})$		$\text{WBCcount}$			$P(\text{Pneumonia})$
		<i>high</i>	<i>normal</i>	<i>low</i>	
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	<i>False</i>	0.0042	0.9929	0.0019	0.999
		0.005	0.993	0.002	

$P(\text{WBCcount})$   $\longrightarrow$

# 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**

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

# Inference: joint distribution

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

$$\begin{aligned} P(D = d \mid A = a, C = c) &= \frac{P(A = a, C = c, D = d)}{P(A = a, C = c)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_i P(A = a, B = b_i, C = c, D = d)}{\sum_i \sum_j P(A = a, B = b_i, C = c, D = d_j)} \end{aligned}$$

# Inference: Chain rule

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

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

- It is often easier to define the distribution in terms of conditional probabilities:
  - E.g.  $\mathbf{P}(\textit{Fever} | \textit{Pneumonia} = T)$   
 $\mathbf{P}(\textit{Fever} | \textit{Pneumonia} = F)$

# Modeling uncertainty with probabilities

- **Full joint distribution:** joint distribution over all random variables defining the domain
  - it is sufficient to represent the complete domain and to do any type of probabilistic inferences

## Problems:

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

# Pneumonia example. Complexities.

- **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 probability of Pneumonia=T from the full joint

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

- 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**

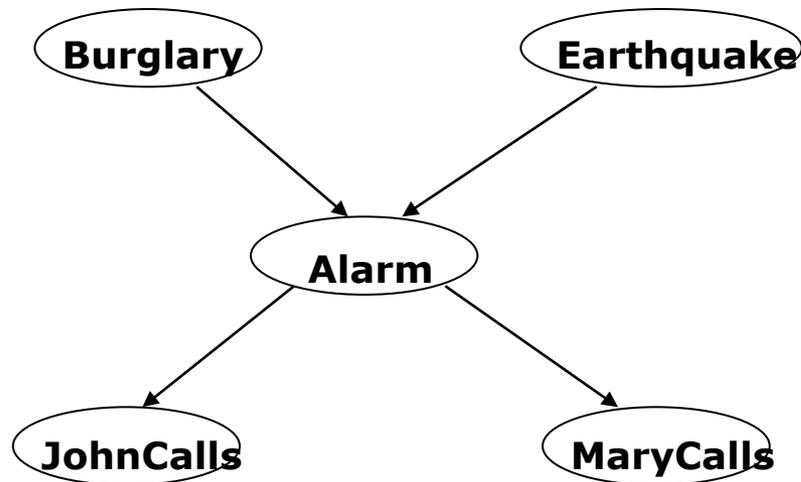
$$P(A, B | C) = P(A | C)P(B | C)$$

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

# 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

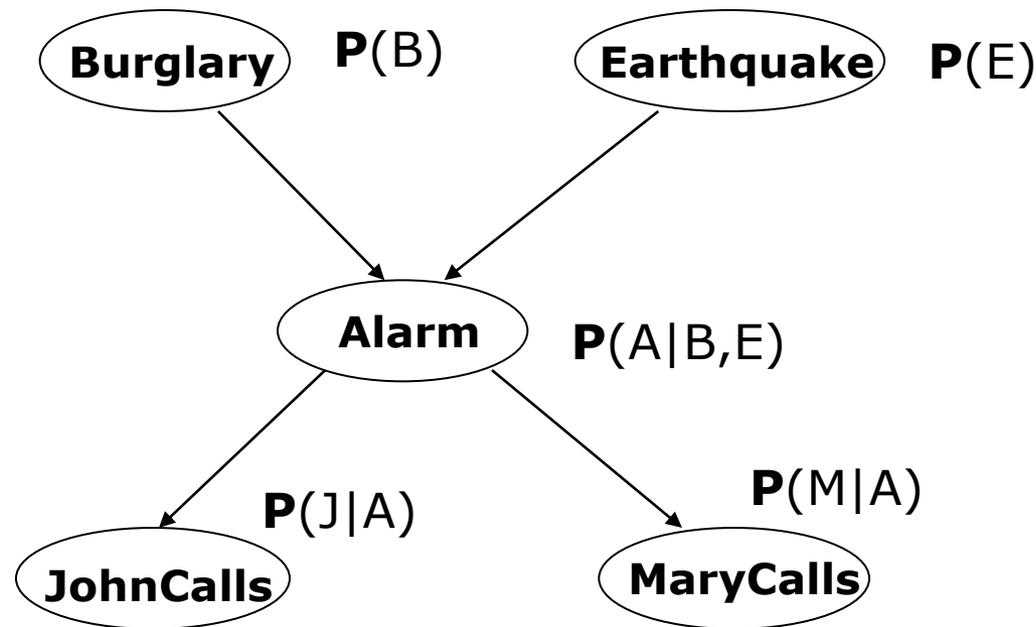
## Causal relations



# Bayesian belief network

## 1. Directed acyclic graph

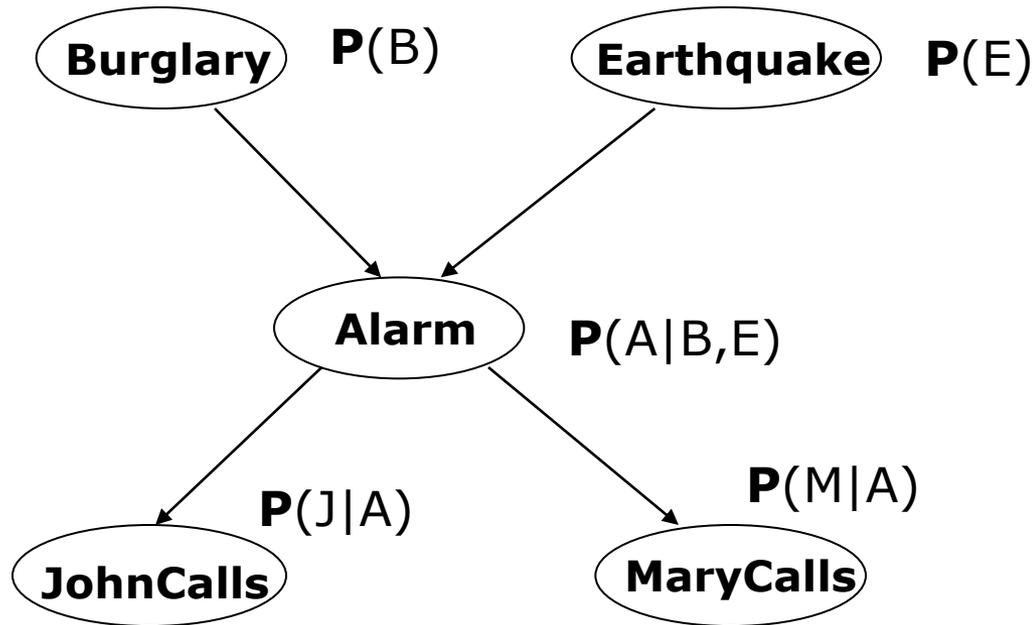
- **Nodes** = random variables  
Burglary, Earthquake, Alarm, Mary calls and John calls
- **Links** = direct (causal) dependencies between variables.  
The chance of Alarm being is influenced by Earthquake,  
The chance of John calling is affected by the Alarm



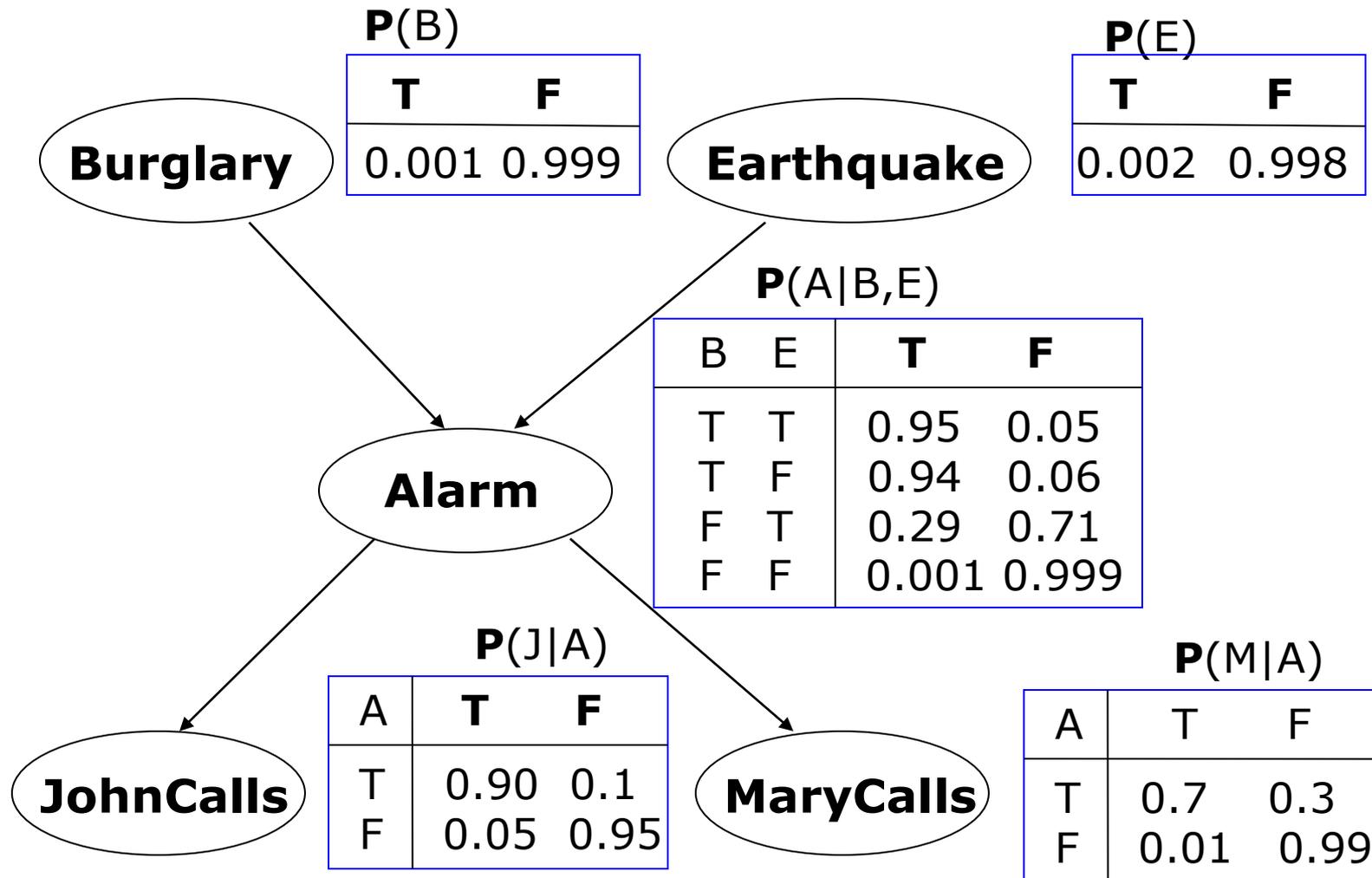
# Bayesian belief network

## 2. Local conditional distributions

- relate 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):

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

## Example:

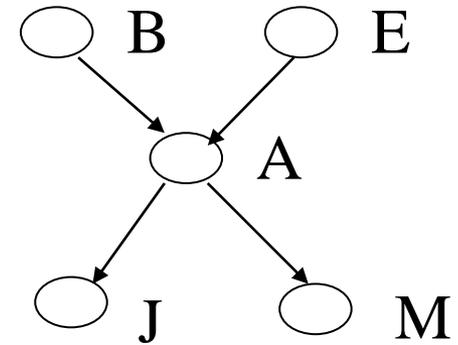
Assume the following assignment of values to random variables

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

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

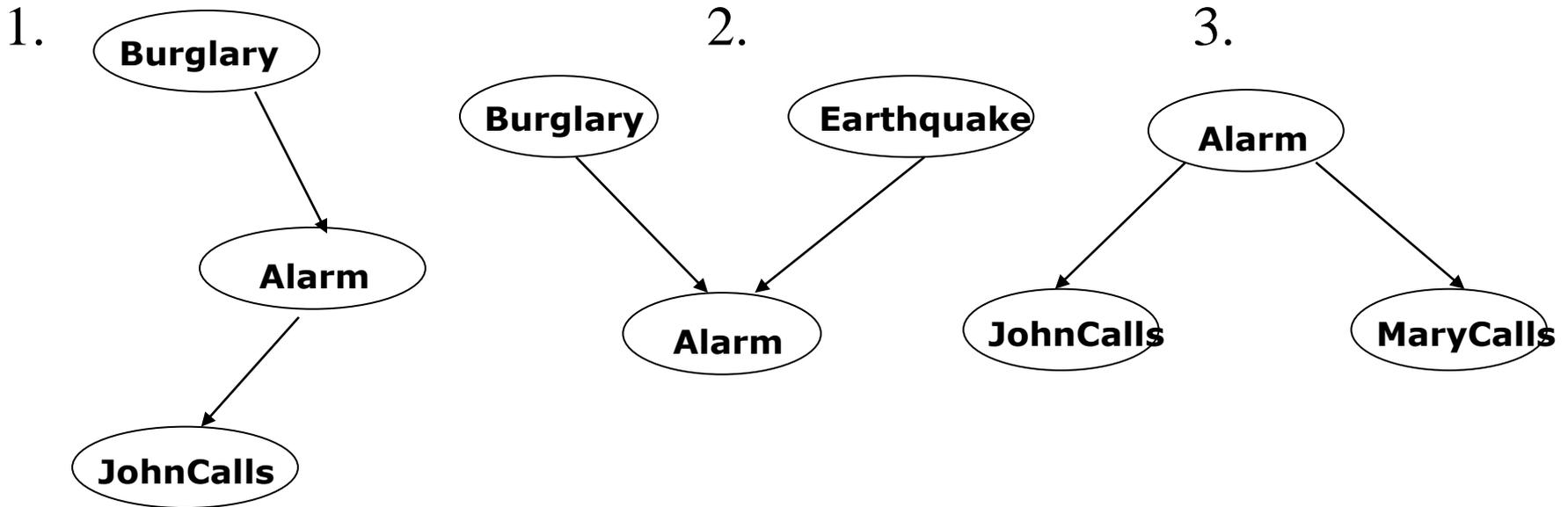
- Represent the full joint distribution over the variables more compactly using the product of local conditionals.
- **But how did we get to local parameterizations?**

## Answer:

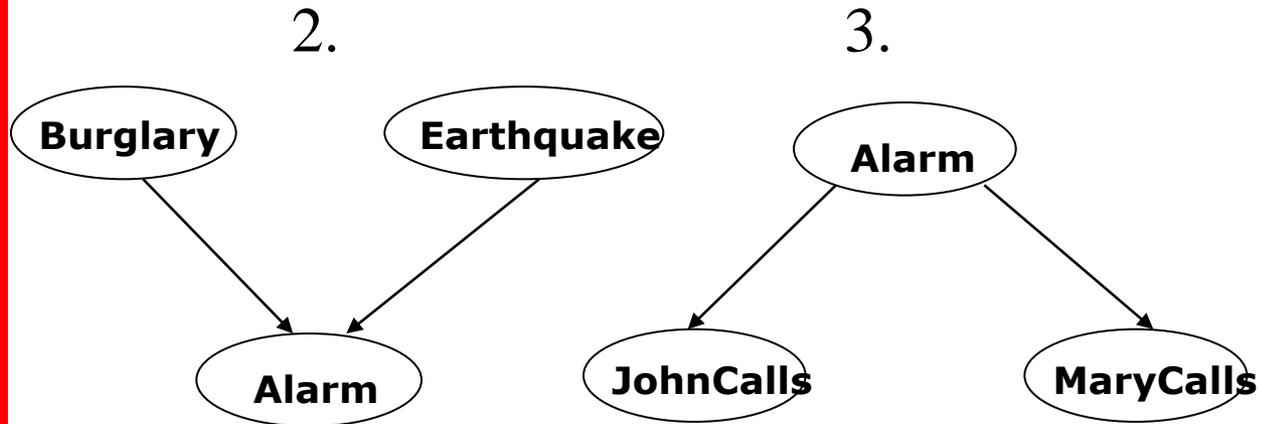
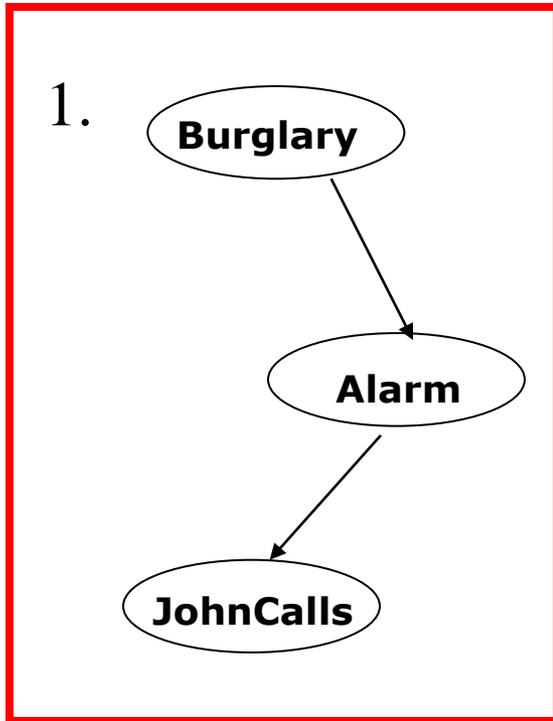
- **Graphical structure encodes conditional and marginal independences** among random variables
- **A and B are independent**  $P(A, B) = P(A)P(B)$
- **A and B are conditionally independent given C**  
$$P(A | C, B) = P(A | C)$$
$$P(A, B | C) = P(A | C)P(B | C)$$
- **The graph structure implies the decomposition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

# Independences in BBNs

## 3 basic independence structures:



# Independences in BBNs

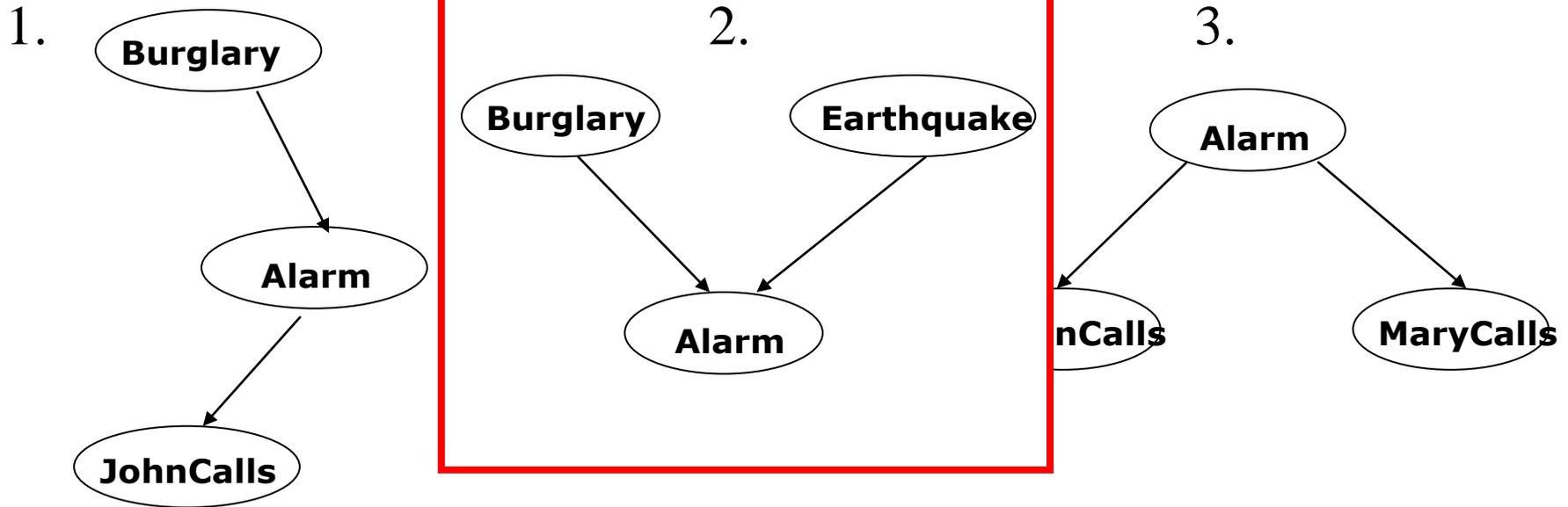


1. JohnCalls **is independent** of Burglary given Alarm

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

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

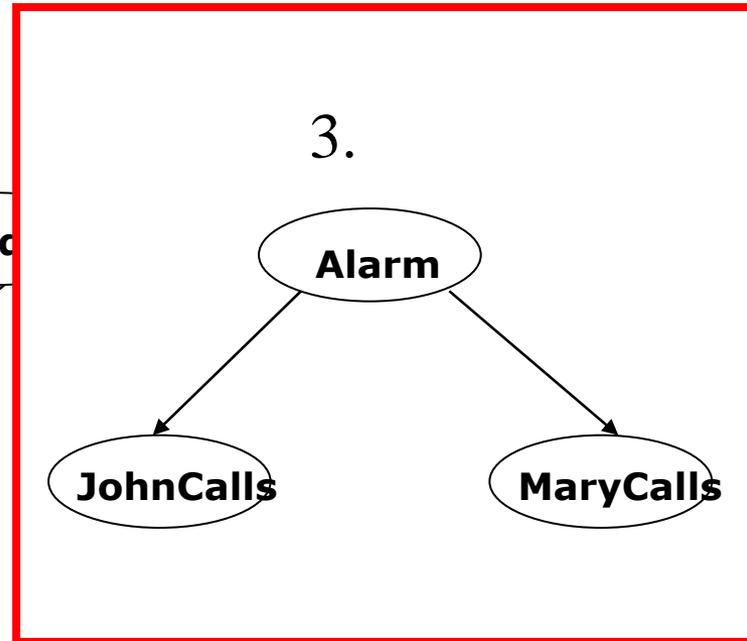
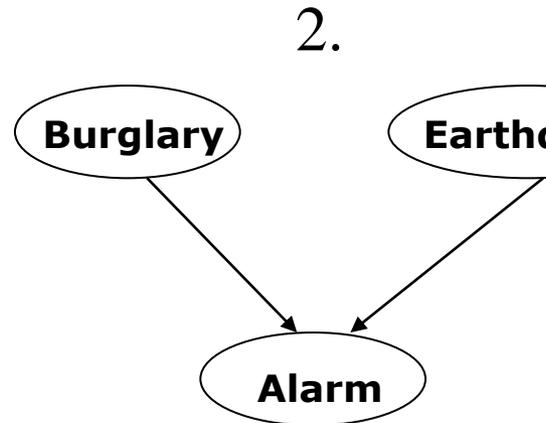
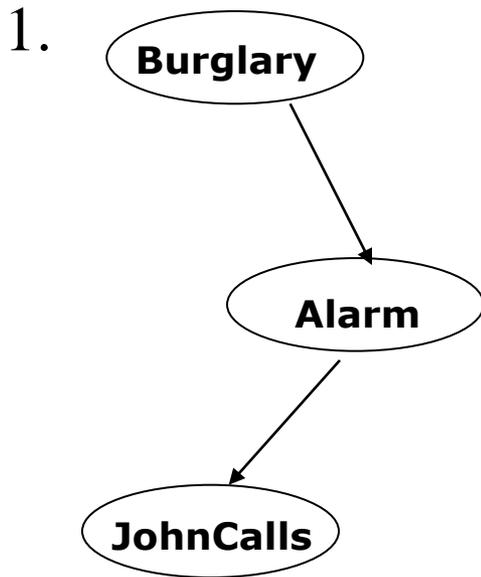
# Independences in BBNs



2. Burglary is **independent** of Earthquake (not knowing 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

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

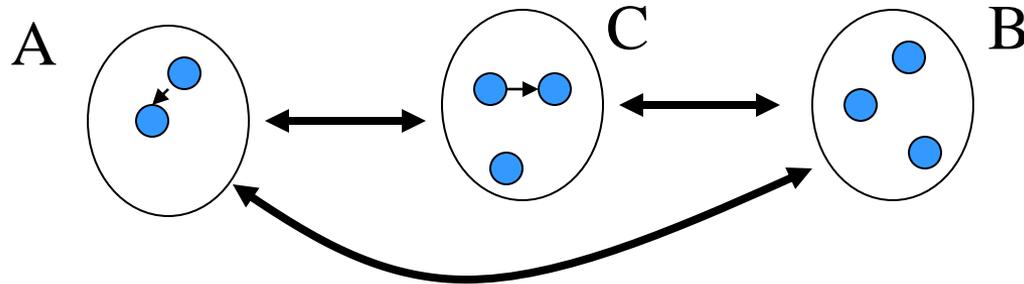
$$P(J, M \mid A) = P(J \mid A)P(M \mid A)$$

# 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**
- **Path blocking**
  - 3 cases that expand on three basic independence structures

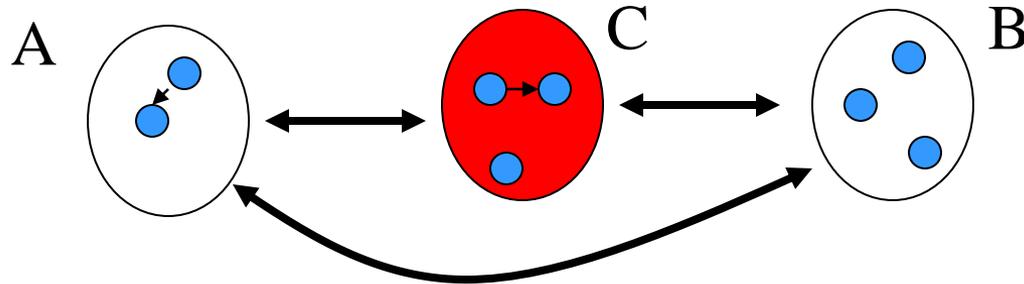
# Undirected path blocking

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



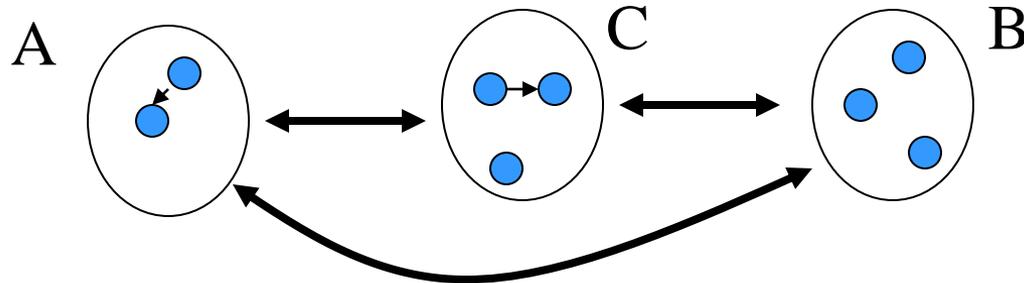
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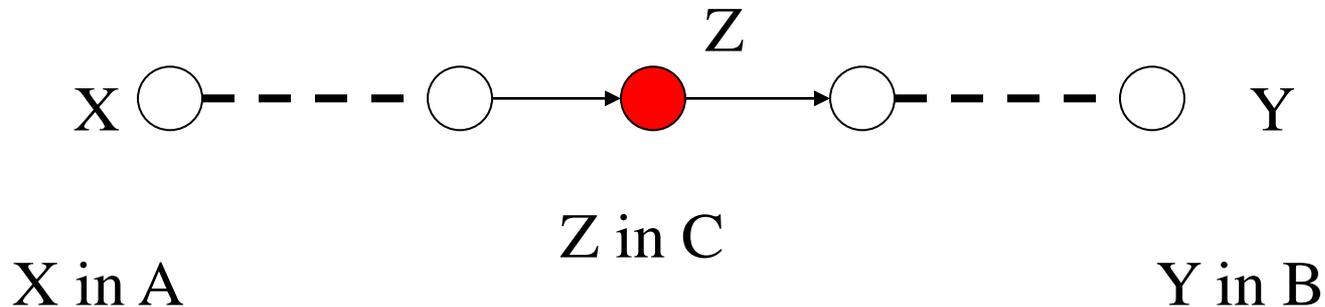


# Undirected path blocking

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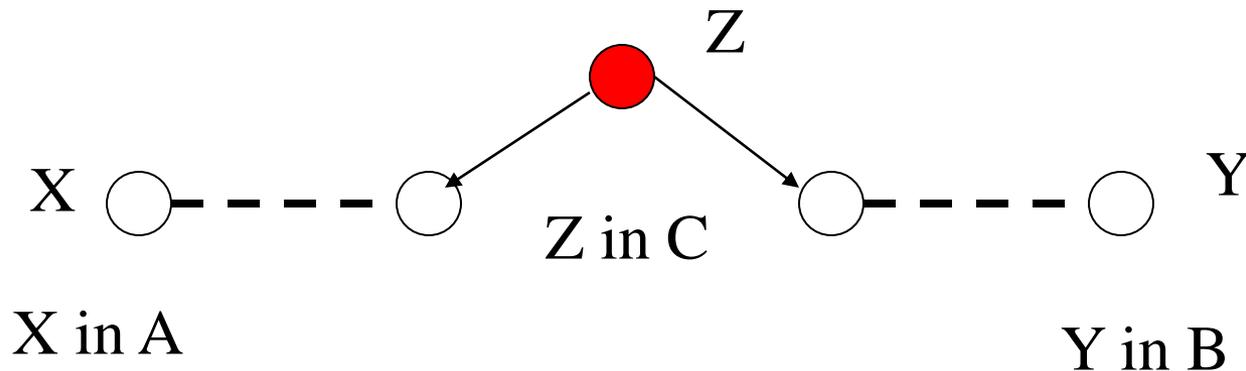
- 1. Path blocking with a linear substructure



# Undirected path blocking

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

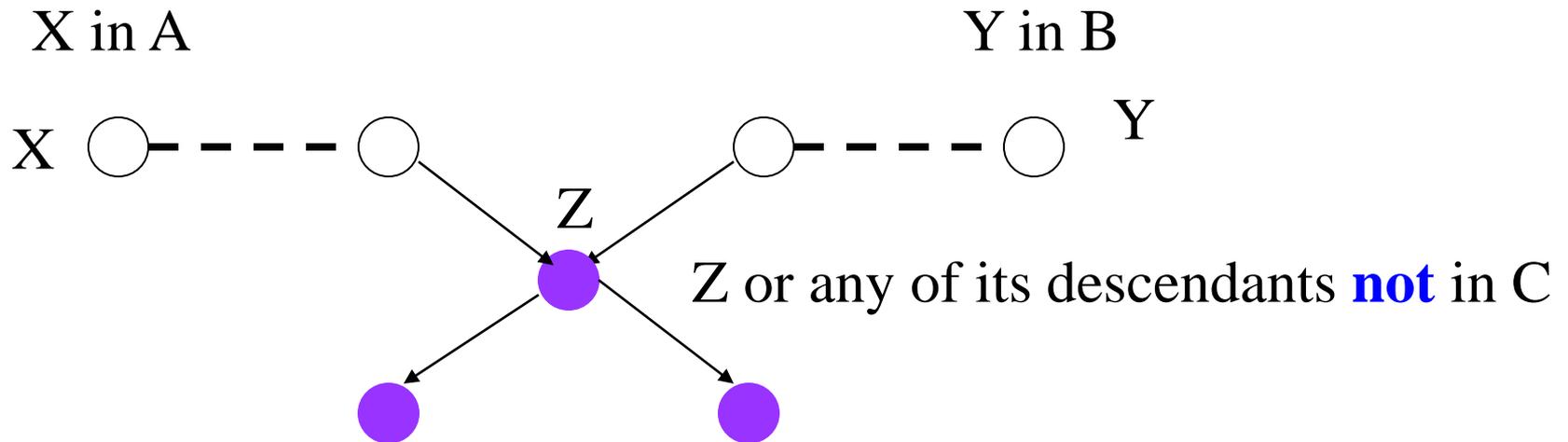
- 2. Path blocking with the wedge substructure



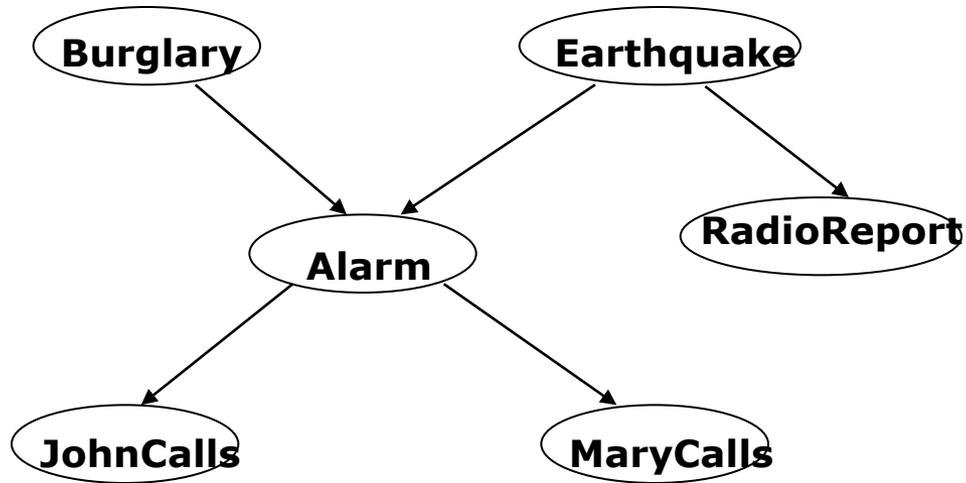
# Undirected path blocking

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

- 3. Path blocking with the vee substructure

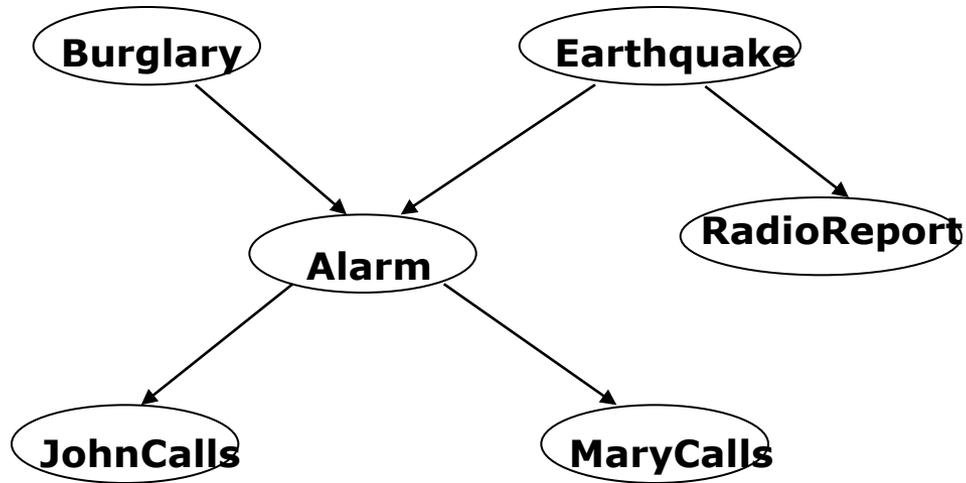


# Independences in BBNs



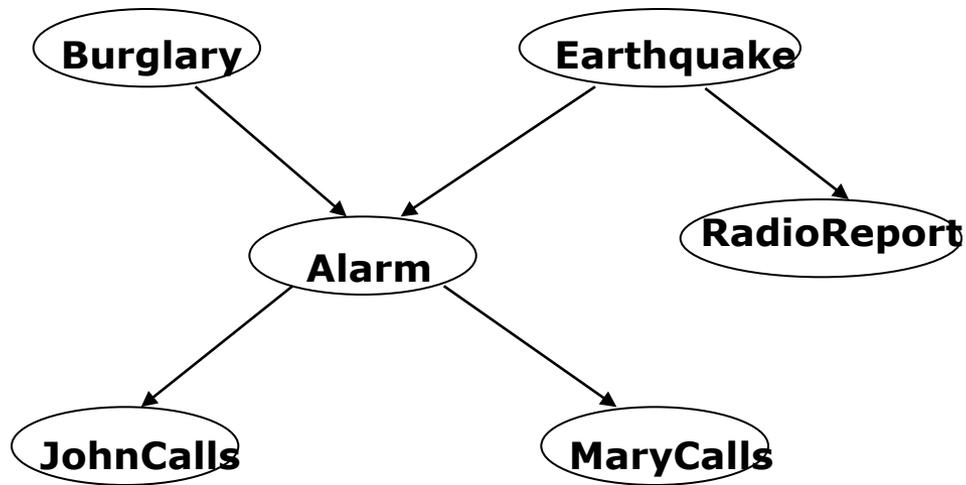
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls ?

# Independences in BBNs



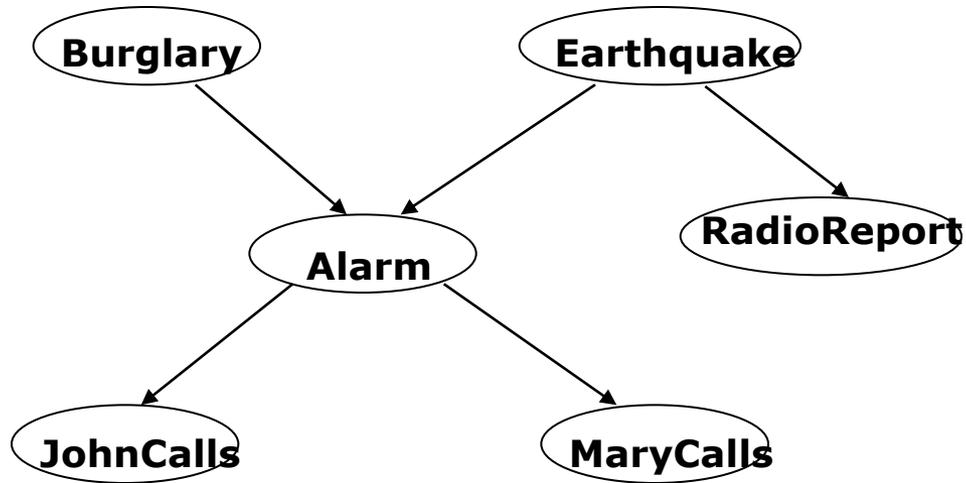
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **?**

# Independences in BBNs



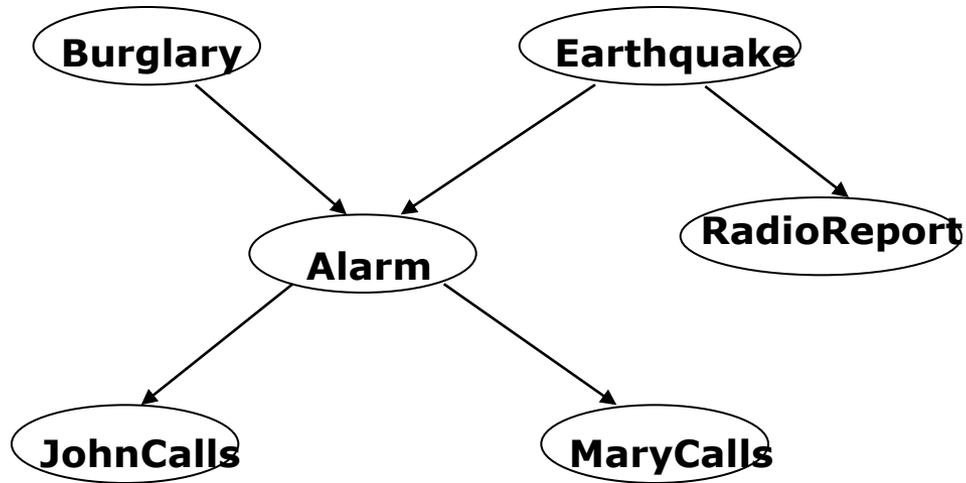
- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given Earthquake **?**

# 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

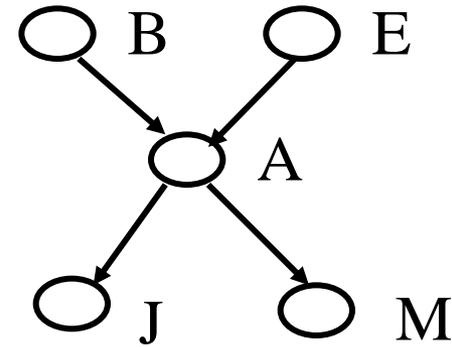


- Earthquake and Burglary are independent given MaryCalls **F**
- Burglary and MaryCalls are independent (not knowing Alarm) **F**
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- Burglary and RadioReport are independent given MaryCalls **F**

# Full joint distribution in BBNs

**Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:**

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



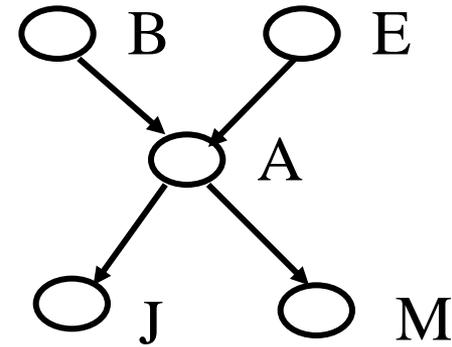
# Full joint distribution in BBNs

**Rewrite the full joint probability using the product rule:**

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

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# Full joint distribution in BBNs

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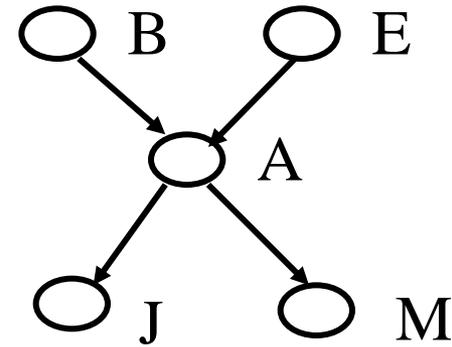
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# Full joint distribution in BBNs

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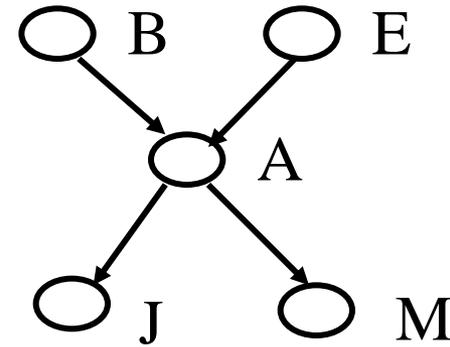
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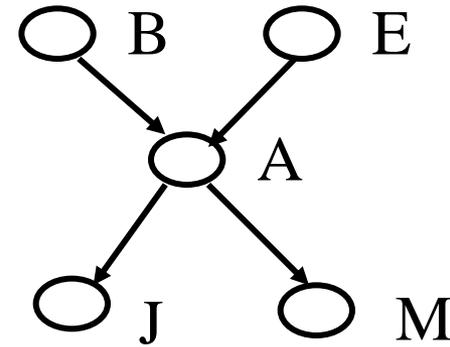
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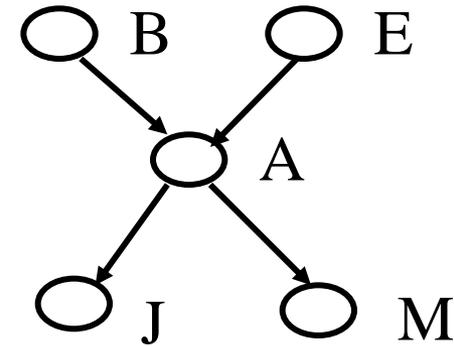
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$$P(B = T)P(E = T)$$



# Full joint distribution in BBNs

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

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

# 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?**

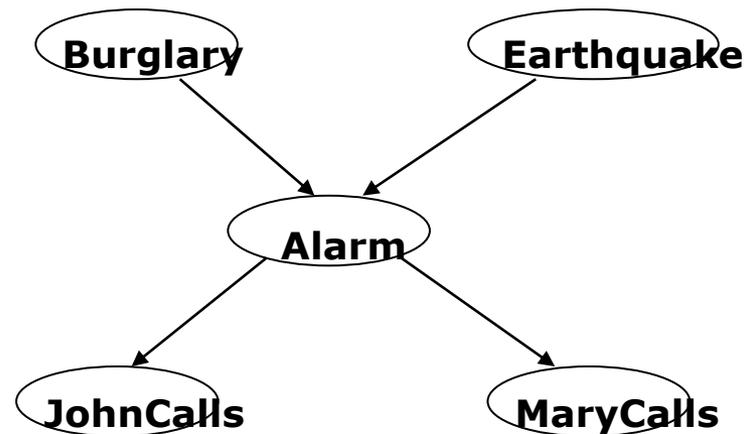
**Alarm example: 5 binary (True, False) variables**

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

$$2^5 = 32$$

**One parameter is for free:**

$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$



# Parameter complexity problem

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- What did we save?**

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

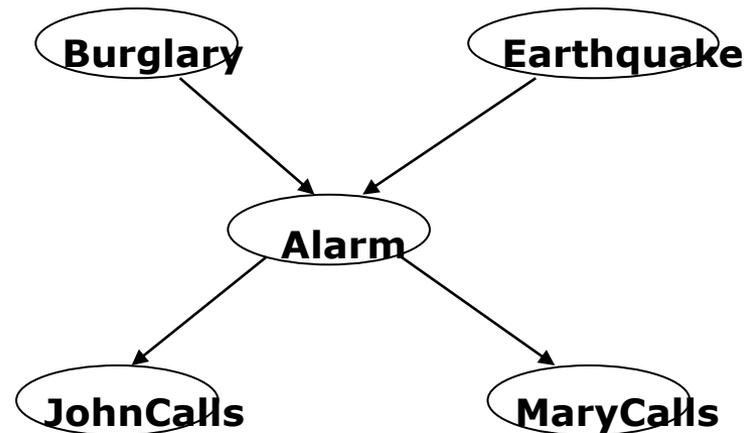
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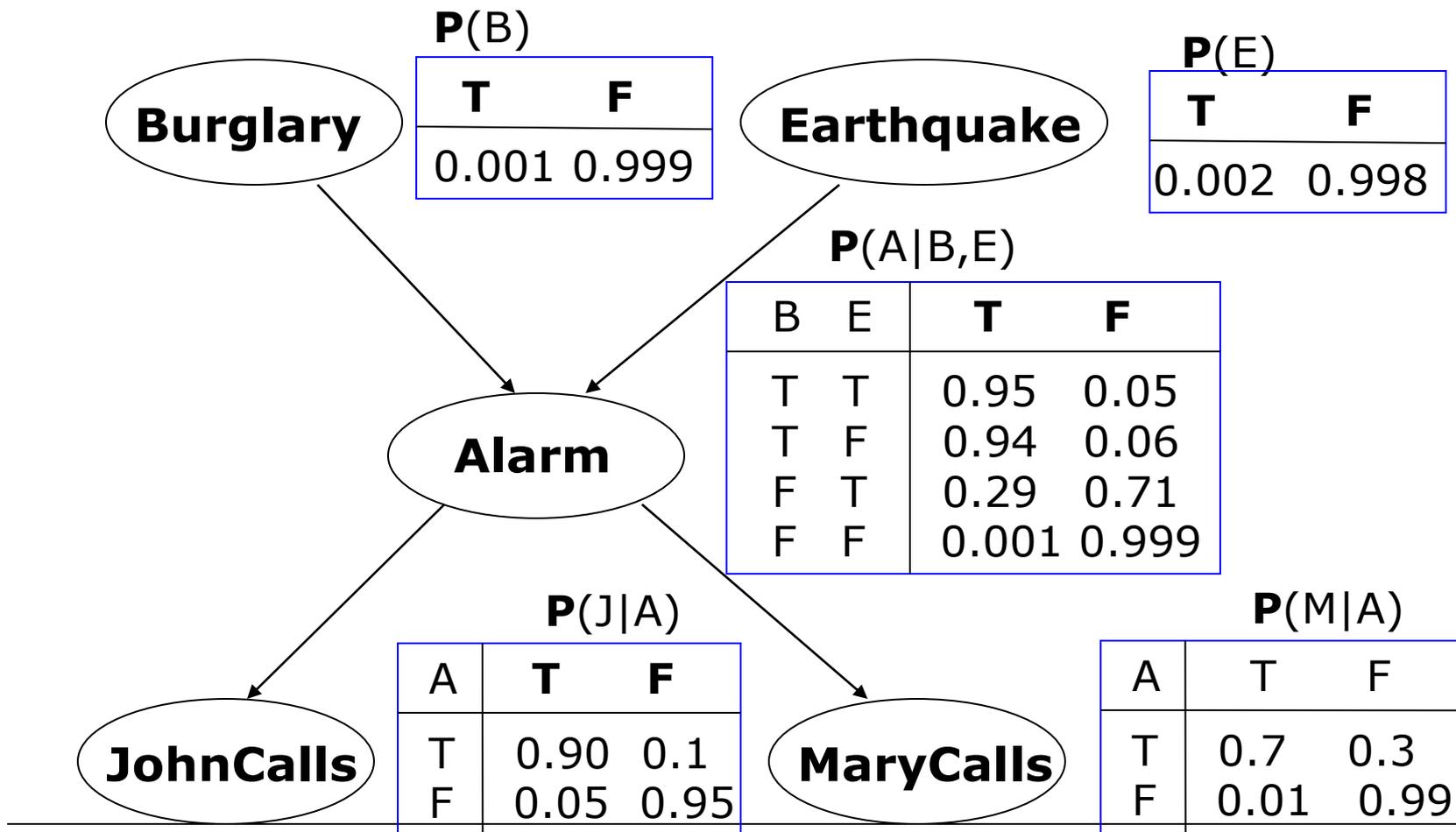
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**# of parameters of the BBN: ?**



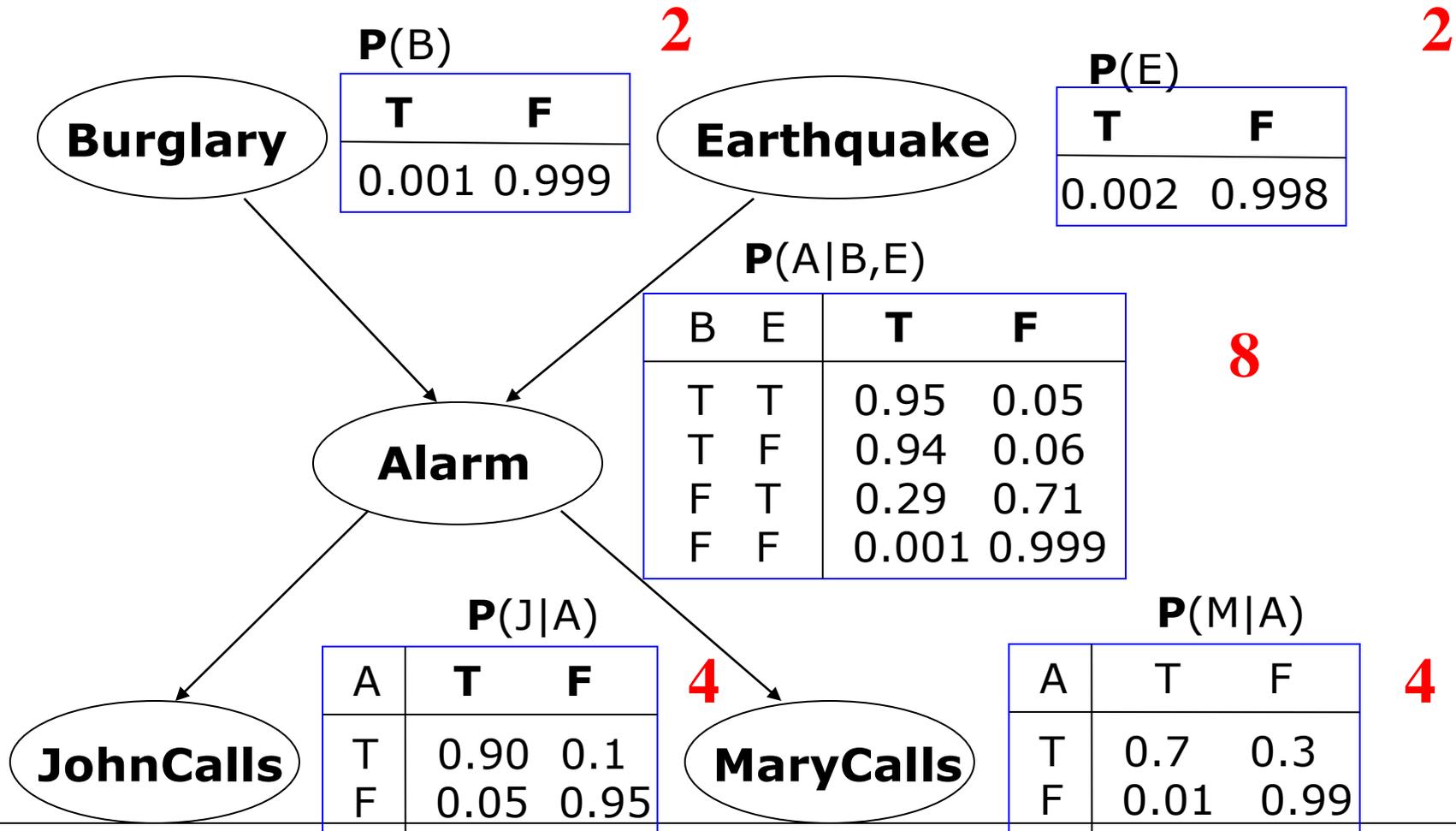
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**Alarm example: 5 binary (True, False) variables**

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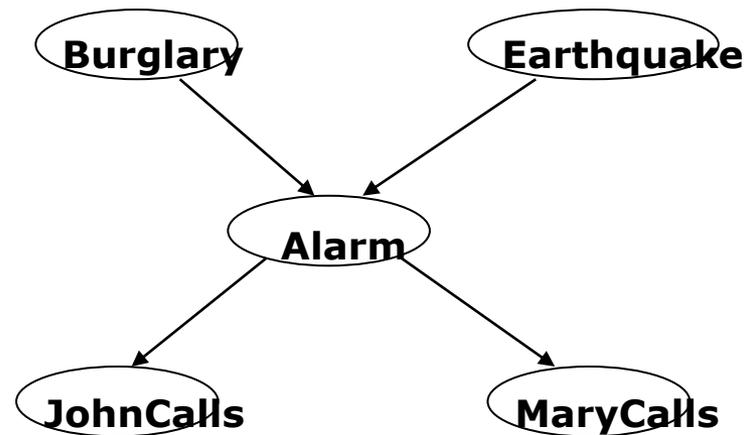
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$$2^2 + 2(2) + 2(1) = 10$$

