

# Probabilistic Graphical Models

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- Naïve Bayes assumption — complete independence
  - $P(x_i = 1)$  for each  $x_i$
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# Conditional probabilities

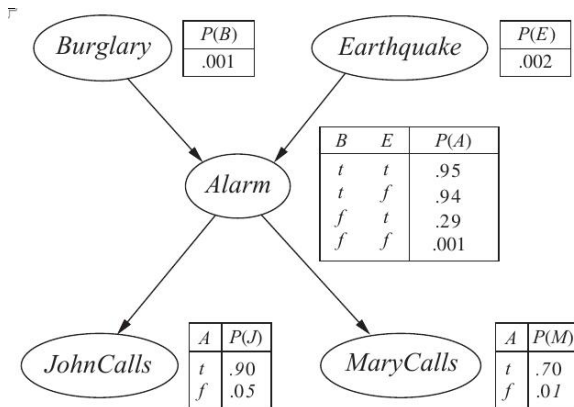
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- Naïve Bayes assumption — complete independence
  - $P(x_i = 1)$  for each  $x_i$
  - $n$  parameters
- Can we strive for something in between?
  - “Local” dependencies between some variables

# Probabilistic graphical models

- Judea Pearl [[Turing Award 2011](#)]
- Represent local dependencies using directed graph

# Probabilistic graphical models

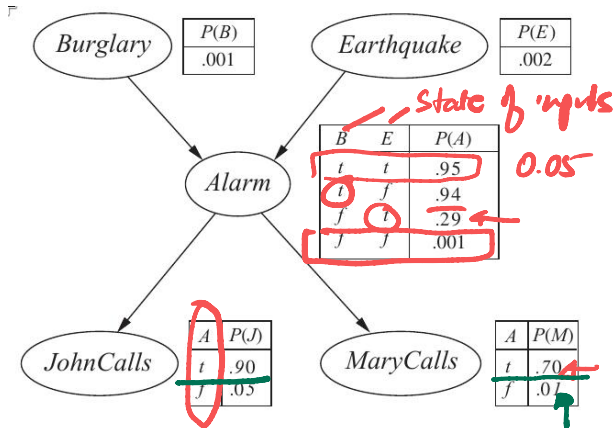
- Judea Pearl [Turing Award 2011]
- Represent local dependencies using directed graph
- Example: Burglar alarm
  - Pearl's house has a burglar alarm
  - Neighbours John and Mary call if they hear the alarm
  - John is prone to mistaking ambulances etc for the alarm
  - Mary listens to loud music and sometimes fails to hear the alarm
  - The alarm may also be triggered by an earthquake (California!)



# Probabilistic graphical models

- Each node has a local (conditional) probability table

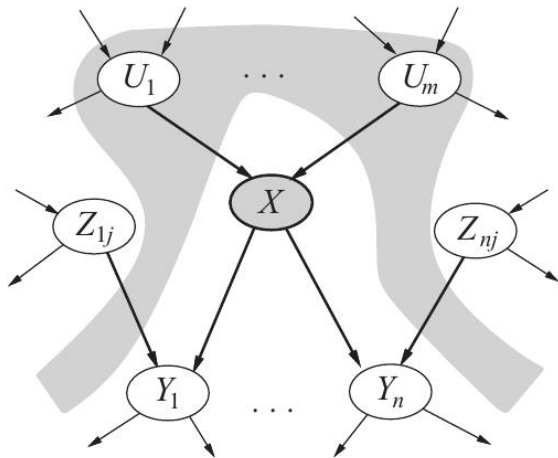
Suppose J & M both call  
What is  $P(\text{Burglary})$ ?





# Probabilistic graphical models

- Each node has a local (conditional) probability table
- Fundamental assumption:  
A node is conditionally independent of non-descendants, given its parents



# Probabilistic graphical models

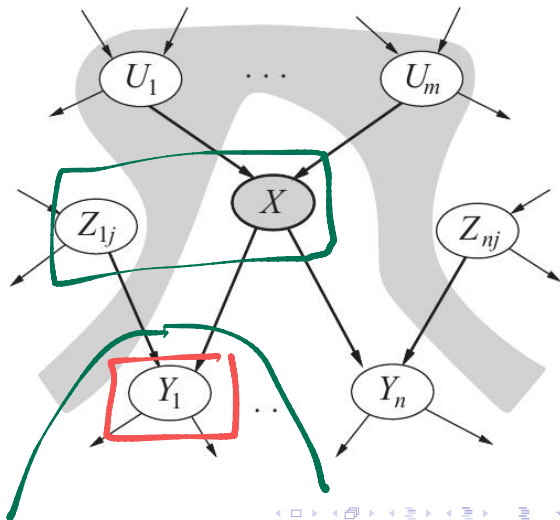
- Each node has a local (conditional) probability table
- Fundamental assumption:  
A node is conditionally independent of non-descendants, given its parents
- Graph is a DAG, no cyclic dependencies

$$X \perp Y$$

$$X \perp Y \mid Z$$

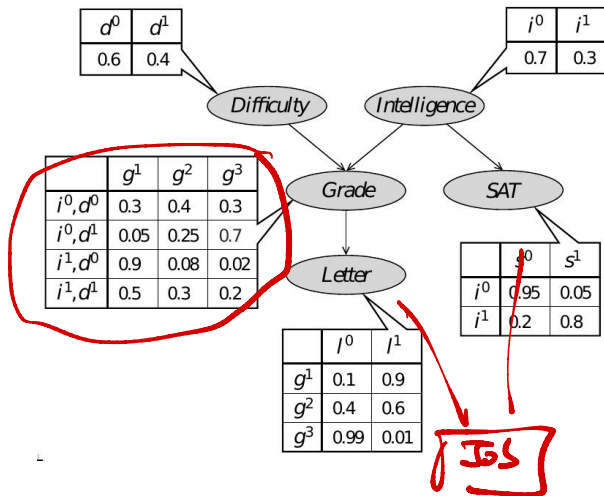
↑ ↑ Parents  
Nondescendant

"Markov Blanket"



# Student example

- Example due to Nir Friedman and Daphne Koller
- Student asks teacher for a reference letter
- Teacher has forgotten the student, so letter is entirely based on student's grade in the course



# Evaluating a network

- John and Mary call Pearl. What is the probability that there has been a burglary?

- $P(b, m, j)$ , where  $b$ : burglary,  $j$ : John calls,  $m$ : Mary calls

- $P(b, m, j) = \sum_{a=0}^1 \sum_{e=0}^1 P(b, j, m, a, e)$ , where  $a$ : alarm rings,  $e$ : earthquake

- Bayes Rule:  $P(A, B) = P(A | B)P(B)$

- $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(x_1 | x_2, \dots, x_n)P(x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$

- Recursively:

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(x_1 | x_2, \dots, x_n)P(x_2 | x_3, \dots, x_n) \cdots P(x_{n-1} | x_n)P(x_n)$$

# Evaluating a network

- $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(x_1 \mid x_2, \dots, x_n)P(x_2 \mid x_3, \dots, x_n) \cdots P(x_{n-1} \mid x_n)P(x_n)$

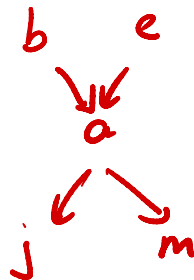
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- Can choose any ordering of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$
- Use topological ordering in a Bayesian network

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c} m, j & a & b, e \\ j, m & a & c, b \end{array}$$



# Evaluating a network

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- Can choose any ordering of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$
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- $P(m, j, a, b, e) = P(m \mid a) P(j \mid a) P(a \mid b, e) P(b) P(e)$

~~$p(m|a, j, e, b)$~~   ~~$p(j|a, e, b)$~~



# Evaluating a network

$$P(m|j,a,b,e) \cdot P(j|a,b,e) \cdot P(a|b,e) \cdot P(b|e) \cdot P(e)$$

$$\blacksquare P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \underbrace{P(x_1 | x_2, \dots, x_n) P(x_2 | x_3, \dots, x_n) \cdots P(x_{n-1} | x_n) P(x_n)}$$

■ Can choose any ordering of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

■ Use topological ordering in a Bayesian network

$$\blacksquare P(m, j, a, b, e) = P(m | a) P(j | a) P(a | b, e) P(b) P(e)$$

$$\blacksquare P(m, j, b) = \sum_{a=0}^1 \sum_{e=0}^1 P(m | a) P(j | a) P(a | b, e) P(b) P(e)$$



$$P(m|j,a,b,e) = P(m) \text{ given } \textcircled{a}, j, b, e$$

*m indep of non-desc. given parent*

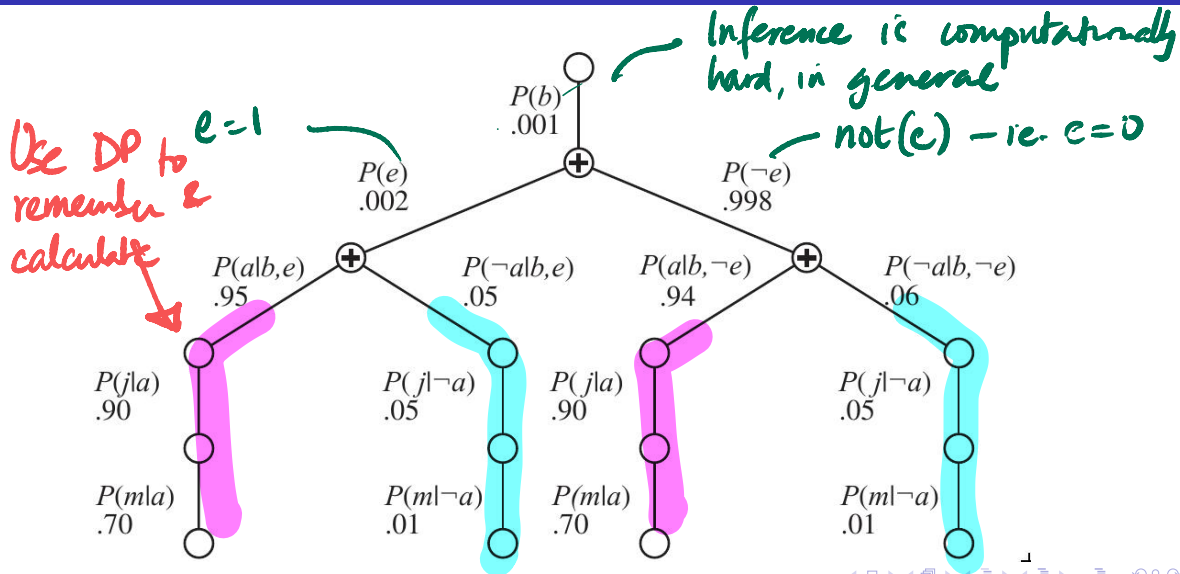
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- $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = P(x_1 \mid x_2, \dots, x_n)P(x_2 \mid x_3, \dots, x_n) \cdots P(x_{n-1} \mid x_n)P(x_n)$
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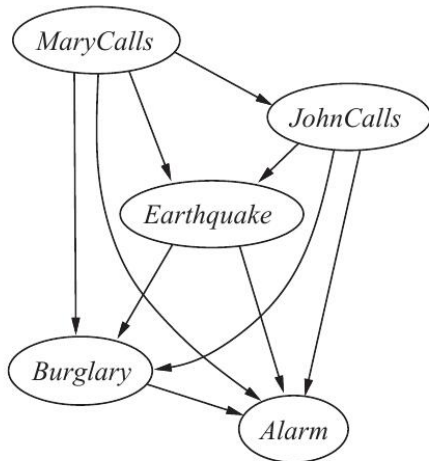
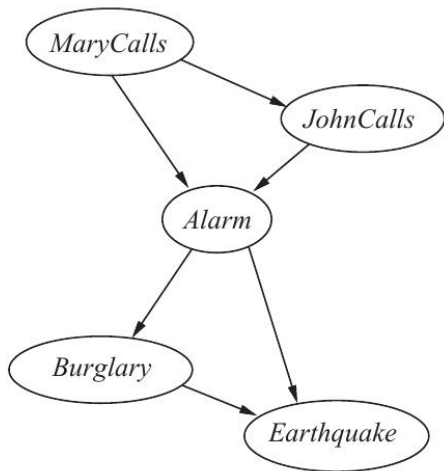
- $$P(m, j, b) = \sum_{a=0}^1 \sum_{e=0}^1 P(m | a) P(j | a) P(a | b, e) P(b) P(e)$$

- $$P(m, j, b) = P(b) \sum_{e=0}^1 P(e) \sum_{a=0}^1 P(m | a) P(j | a) P(a | b, e)$$

# Evaluation tree



# Alternative networks

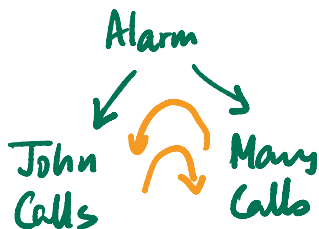


# Conditional independence

- $X \perp Y$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent
  - $P(X \cup Y) = P(X)P(Y)$

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- $X \perp Y$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent
    - $P(X \cup Y) = P(X)P(Y)$  *and*
  - $X \perp Y | Z$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if  $Z$  is known
- Computational defn*



Is  $J \perp M$ ? No

Is  $J \perp M | A$ ? Yes

# Conditional independence

- $X \perp Y$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent
  - $P(X \cup Y) = P(X)P(Y)$
- $X \perp Y \mid Z$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if  $Z$  is known
- How does dependence “flow” through a network?

# Conditional independence

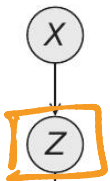
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- How does dependence “flow” through a network?
- Construct **trails** between nodes
  - Path in the underlying undirected graph

Technically  $X$  &  $Y$  are sets of variable  
Every  $x \in X$  independent of every  $y \in Y$



# Basic trails

$X \perp Y | Z$   
 $Y \perp X | Z$



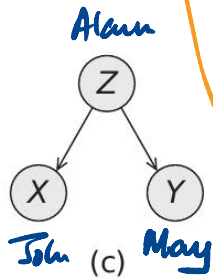
(a)

✓  
Without Z,  
transitive flow



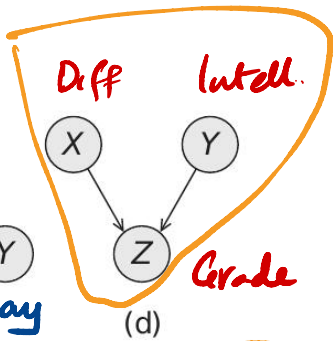
(b)

✓



(c)

Without Z  
there is  
flow



(d)

Knowing  
2  
creates a  
flow



Battery

Car Start

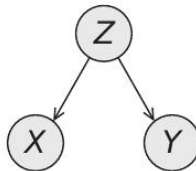
# Basic trails



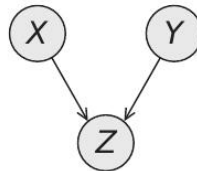
(a)



(b)



(c)



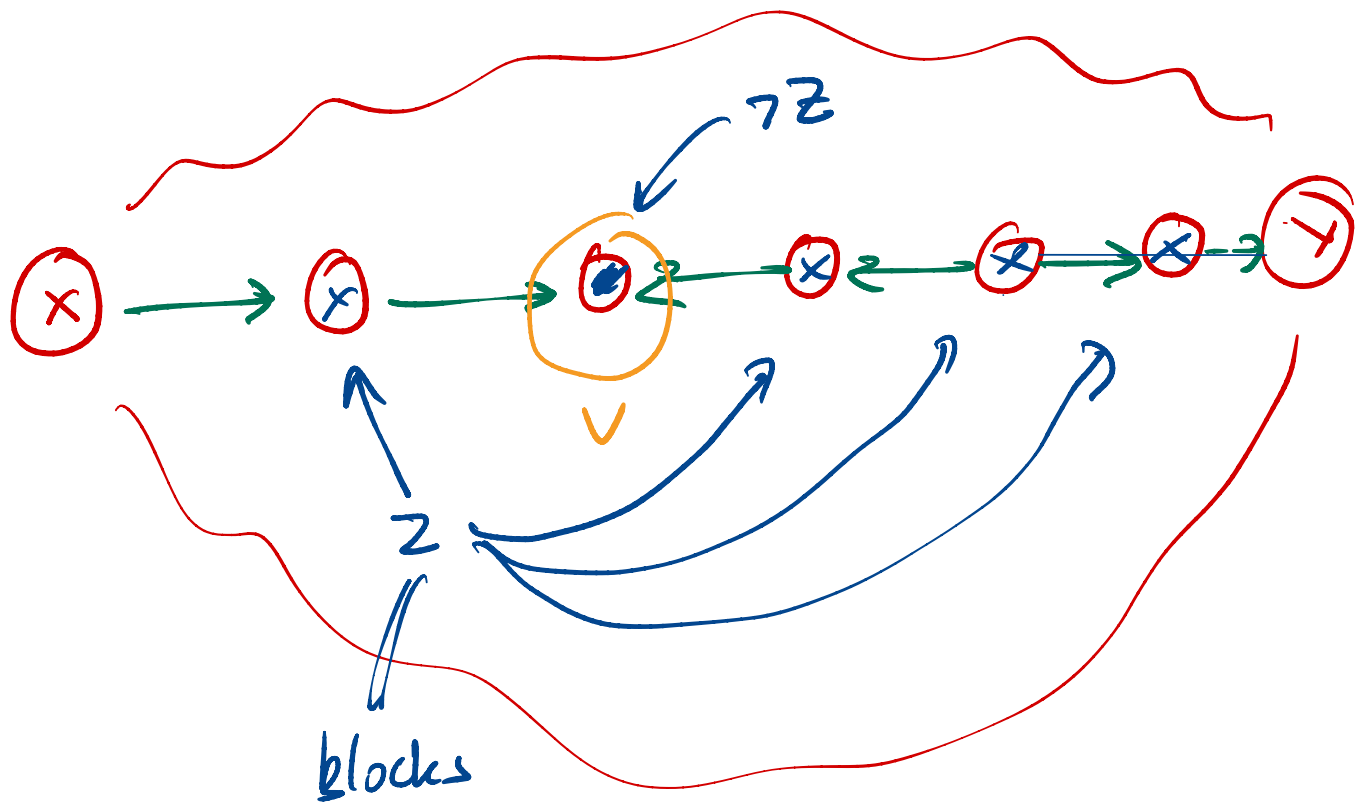
(d)



- V-structure in (d) allows influence to flow
- In all other cases,  $Z$  blocks flow between  $X$  and  $Y$

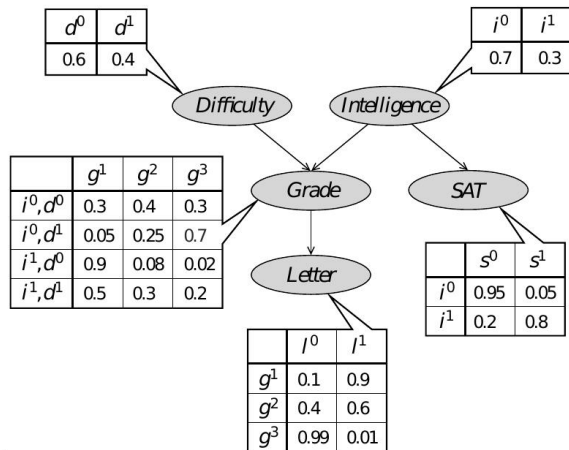
# Conditional independence

- $X \perp Y$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent
  - $P(X \cup Y) = P(X)P(Y)$
- $X \perp Y \mid Z$  —  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent if  $Z$  is known
- How does dependence “flow” through a network?
- Construct **trails** between nodes
  - Path in the underlying undirected graph
- $X$  and  $Y$  are conditionally independent given  $Z$  if  $Z$  blocks every trail between  $X$  and  $Y$ 
  - Adapt breadth-first search to check this



# Conditional independence, example

- Is SAT independent of Difficulty given Intelligence?



# Conditional independence, example

- Is SAT independent of Difficulty given Intelligence?
- Is SAT independent of Difficulty given Grade?

