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## D-Separation

- Check if $X \perp Y \mid Z$
- Dependence should be blocked on every trail from $X$ to $Y$
- Each undirected path from $X$ to $Y$ is a sequence of basic trails
- For (a), (b), (c), need $Z$ present
- For (d), need $Z$ absent
- In general, V-structure includes

(d) descendants of the bottom node

■ $x$ and $y$ are D-separated given $z$ if all trails are blocked

- Variation of breadth first search (BFS) to check if $y$ is reachable from $x$ through some trail

■ Extends to sets - each $x \in X$ is D-separated from each $y \in Y$

## Markov blanket

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- Parents $(X)$
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- Parents of Children $(X)$
- $X \perp \neg M B(X) \mid M B(X)$



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■ Reorder variables appropriately, topological order of graph


## Computing with probabilistic graphical models

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


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- Construct the computation tree
- Use dynamic programming to avoid duplicated computations
- However, exact inference is NP-complete, in general
- Instead, approximate inference through sampling



## Approximate inference

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- Random samples should respect conditional probabilities
- Fix $M B(x)$ before generating $x$
- Generate in topological order
- Generate $b$, e with probabilities $P(b)$ and $P(e)$
- Generate $a$ with probability
 $P(a \mid b, e)$

■ Generate $j, m$ with probabilities $P(j \mid a), P(m \mid a)$

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- Can we sample more efficiently?



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- Immediately stop and reject this sample - rejection sampling
- General problem with low probability situation - lots of samples

| $S$ | $R$ | $P(W)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $t$ | $t$ | .99 |
| $t$ | $f$ | .90 |
| $f$ | $t$ | .90 |
| $f$ | $f$ | .00 |

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■ Samples $s_{1}, s_{2}, \ldots, s_{N}$ with weights $W_{1}, W_{2}, \ldots W_{N}$


- $P(r \mid c, w)=\frac{\sum_{s_{i} \text { has rain }} w_{i}}{\sum_{1 \leq j \leq N} w_{j}}$


## Markov chains

