

# Lecture 22: 15 April, 2025

Madhavan Mukund

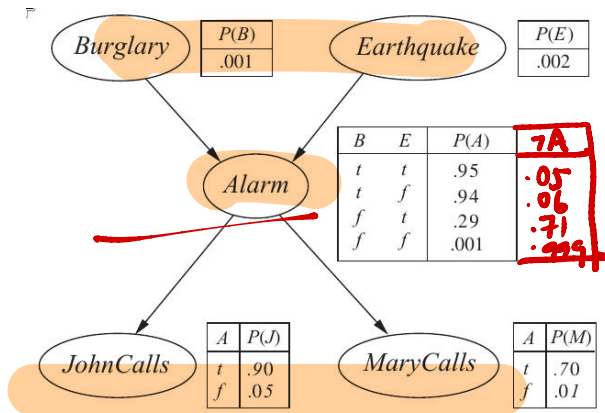
<https://www.cmi.ac.in/~madhavan>

Data Mining and Machine Learning  
January–April 2025

# Probabilistic graphical models

- Underlying DAG, no cyclic dependencies
- Each node has a local (conditional) probability table

$$P(A|B, E)$$



# Evaluating a network

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- Why is computing  $P(b, m, j)$  enough? Should we not compute  $P(b \mid m, j)$ ?

$$\textcircled{1} \quad P(b|m_{i,j}) = \frac{P(b, m_{i,j})}{P(m_{i,j})} \quad \checkmark$$

$$P(A \wedge B) =$$

$$P(A|B) \cdot P(B)$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad P(\neg b|m_{i,j}) = \frac{P(\neg b, m_{i,j})}{P(m_{i,j})}$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \wedge B)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(b|m_{i,j}) = \alpha \cdot P(b, m_{i,j}) \quad \checkmark$$

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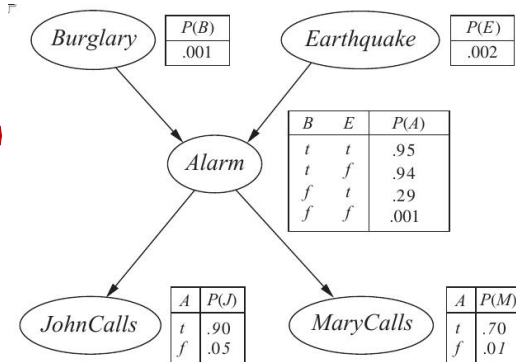


# Conditional independence

- $x \perp y$  —  $x$  and  $y$  are independent
  - $P(x \wedge y) = P(x) \cdot P(y)$

$$P(x=b | y=a) = P(x=b)$$

For any  $b, a$

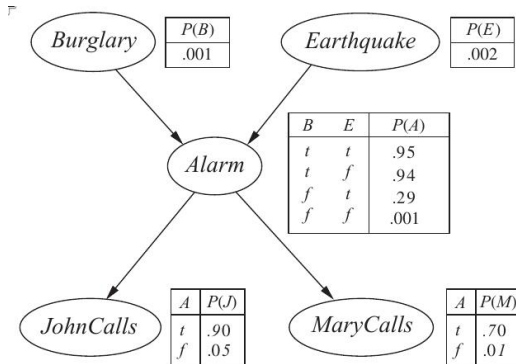


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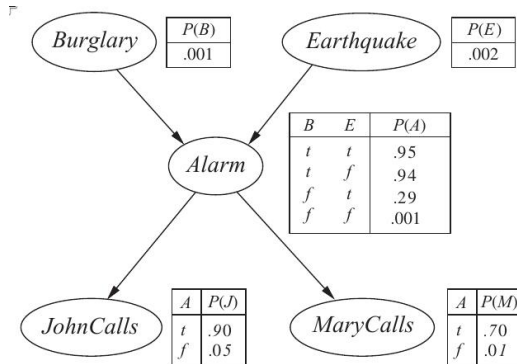
$$P(x \mid y, z) = P(x \mid z)$$

Is  $M \perp B \mid A$  ?



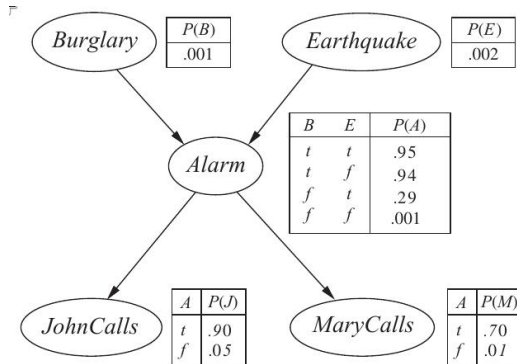
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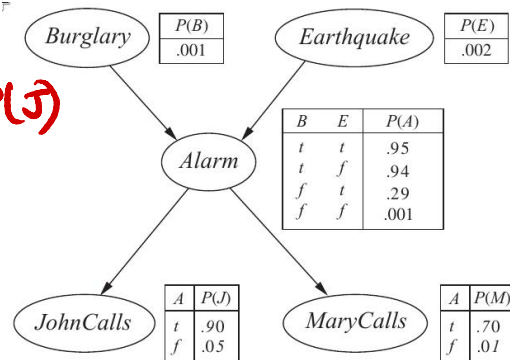
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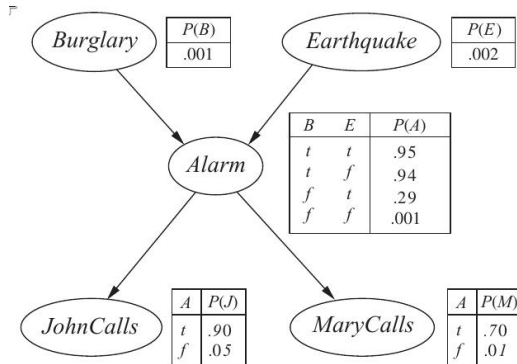
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# Conditional independence

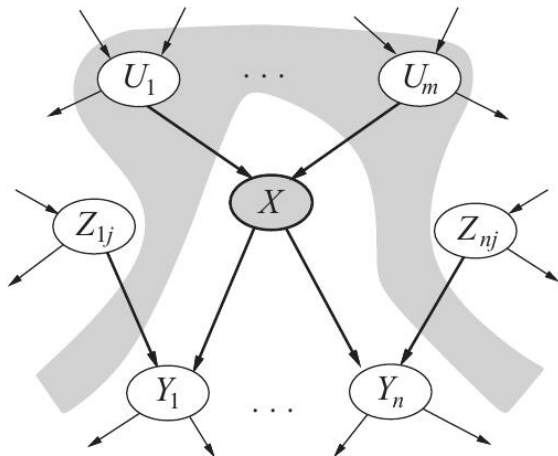
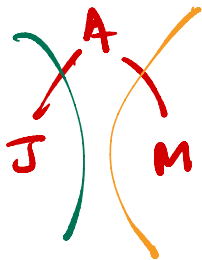
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- Is *JohnCalls* independent of *MaryCalls* given *Alarm* ( $j \perp m \mid a$ )?
  - Yes — by semantics of network, local independence



# Probabilistic graphical models

## ■ Fundamental assumption

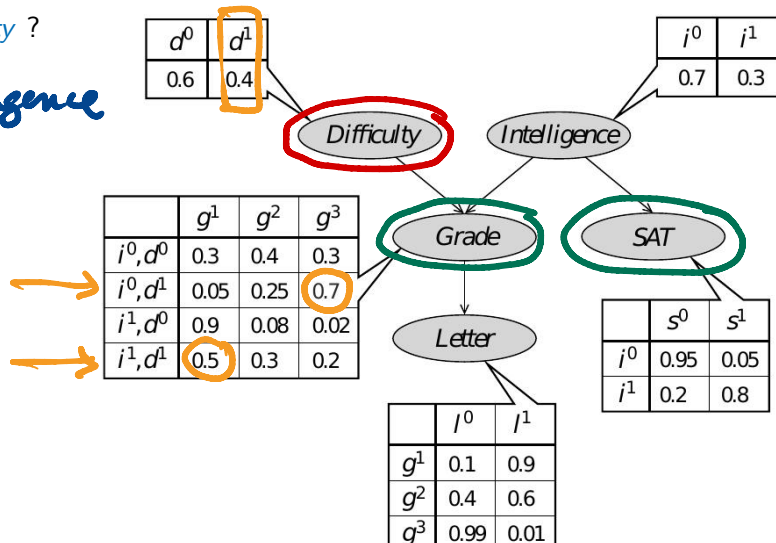
A node is conditionally independent of non-descendants, given its parents



# Student example

- $SAT \perp Grade \mid Difficulty$  ?

Intelligence

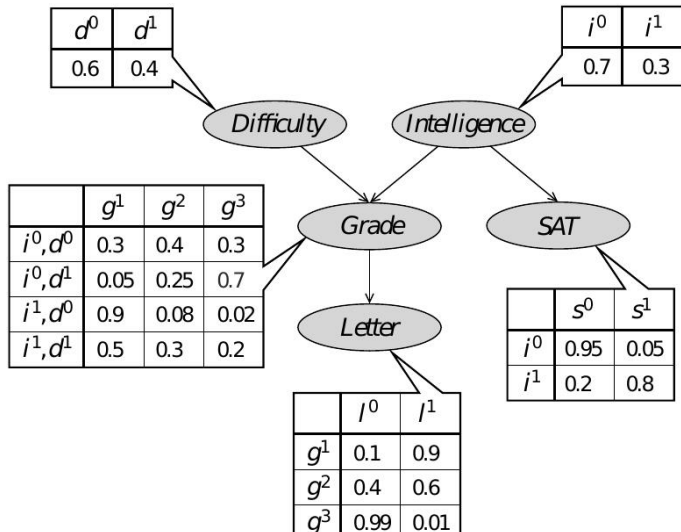




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■  $SAT \perp Grade \mid Difficulty$  ?

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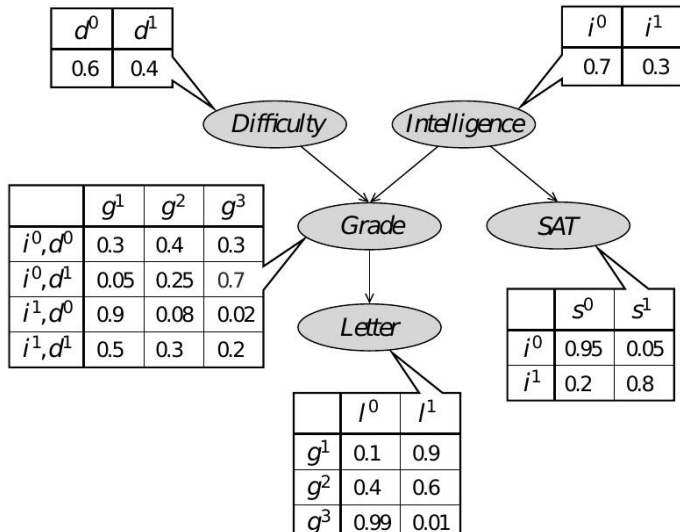


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- Can we calculate conditional independence from the graph?



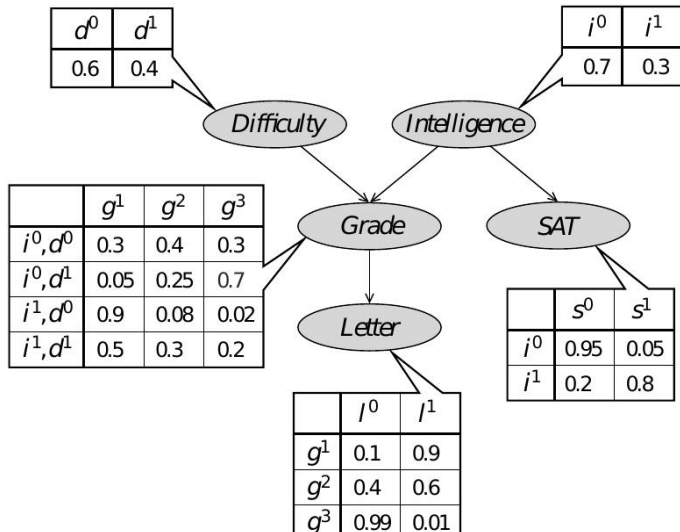
# Student example

■  $(SAT \perp Grade) | Difficulty$  ?

■ No

■ Can we calculate conditional independence from the graph?

■ In general, check if  $(X \perp Y) | Z$  for sets of variables  $X, Y, Z$

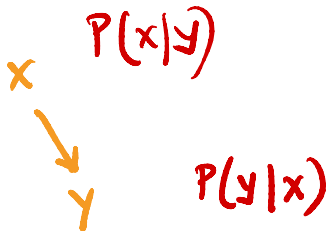


# Conditional independence

- How does dependence “flow” through a network?

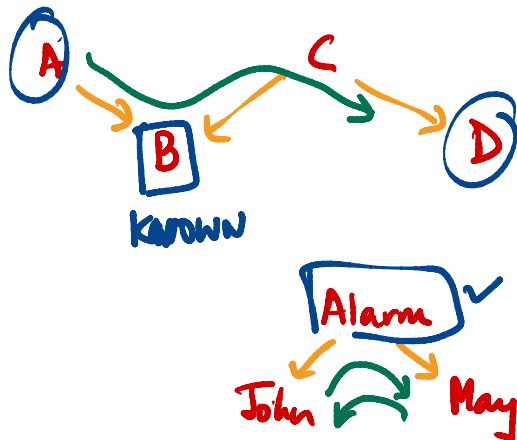
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- For neighbouring nodes, dependence flows both ways
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  - Paths in the underlying undirected graph

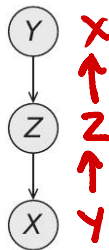


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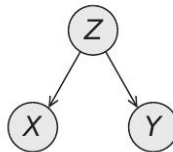
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  - Paths in the underlying undirected graph
- **Basic trails** — (undirected) paths of length 2
  - Four basic trails



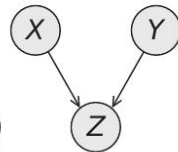
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

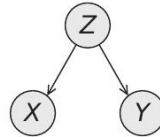
# Basic trails



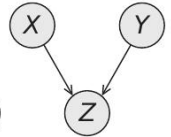
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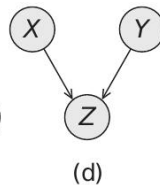
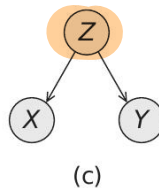
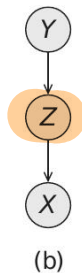
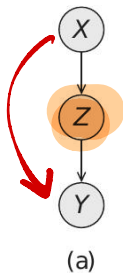
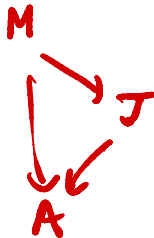
$X \perp Y \mid Z$





# Basic trails

- (a), (b) and (c):  $Z$  blocks flow between  $X$  and  $Y$ , by semantics of Bayesian networks



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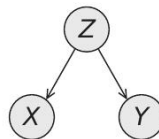
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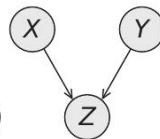
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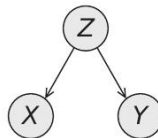
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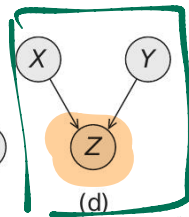
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

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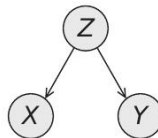
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  - $Z$ : Grass is wet  
 $X$ : Overnight rain,  $Y$ : Sprinkler ran



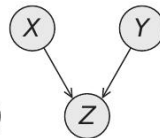
(a)



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(c)

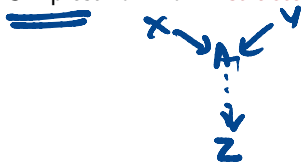


(d)

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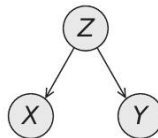
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- Simplest form of **V-structure**



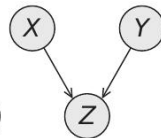
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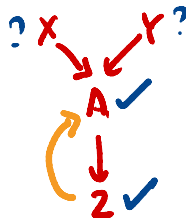
(b)



(c)



(d)



$$x \perp y \mid z$$

# D-Separation

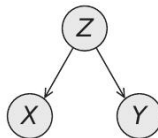
- Check if  $X \perp Y \mid Z$



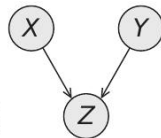
(a)



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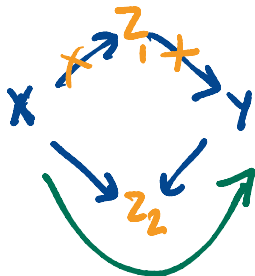
(c)



(d)

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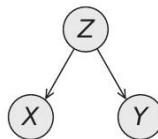
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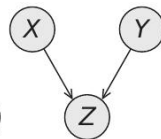
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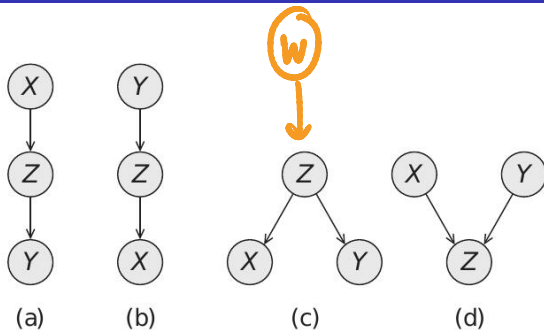
(c)



(d)

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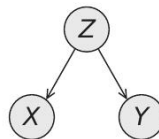
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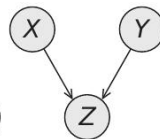
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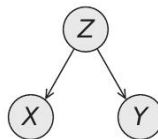
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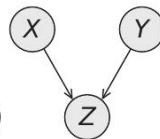
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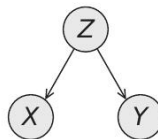
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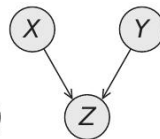
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(c)



(d)

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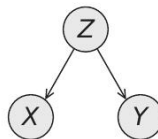
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- $x$  and  $y$  are D-separated given  $z$  if all trails are blocked



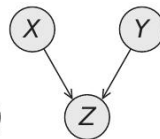
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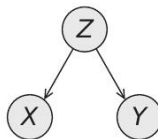
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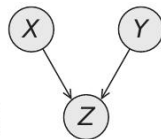
(a)



(b)



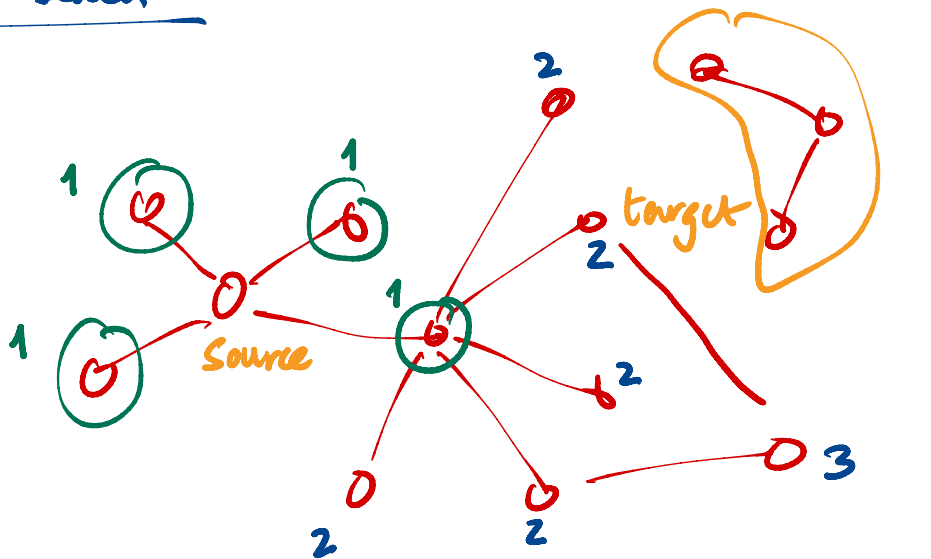
(c)



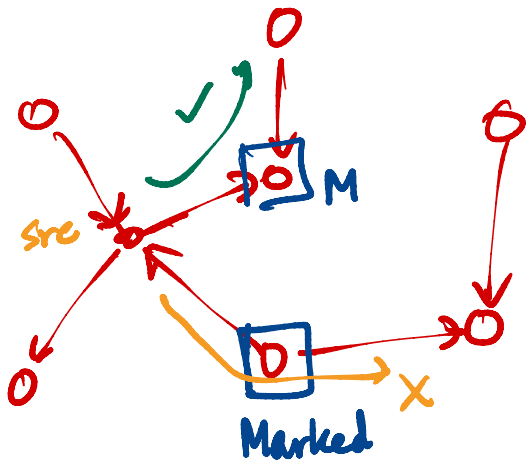
(d)

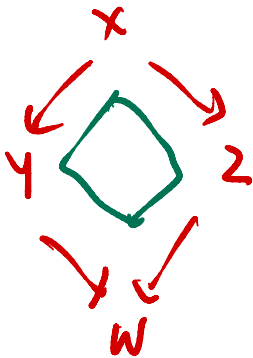
- $x$  and  $y$  are **D-separated** given  $z$  if all trails are blocked
- Variation of **breadth first search (BFS)** to check if  $y$  is reachable from  $x$  through some trail

# Breadth first search



BFS





Undirected  
cycles  
are  
possible



# D-Separation

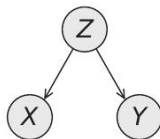
- Check if  $X \perp Y \mid Z$
- Dependence should be blocked on every trail from  $X$  to  $Y$ 
  - Each undirected path from  $X$  to  $Y$  is a sequence of basic trails
  - For (a), (b), (c), need  $Z$  present
  - For (d), need  $Z$  absent
  - In general, V-structure includes descendants of the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



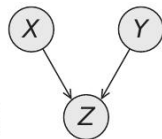
(a)



(b)



(c)



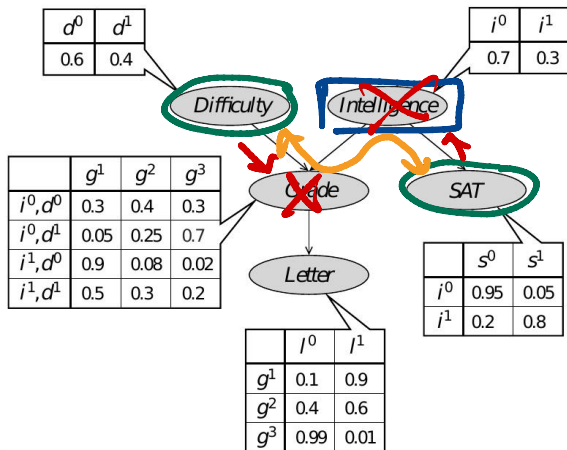
(d)

- $x$  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  $y \in Y$

$$x \perp y \mid z$$

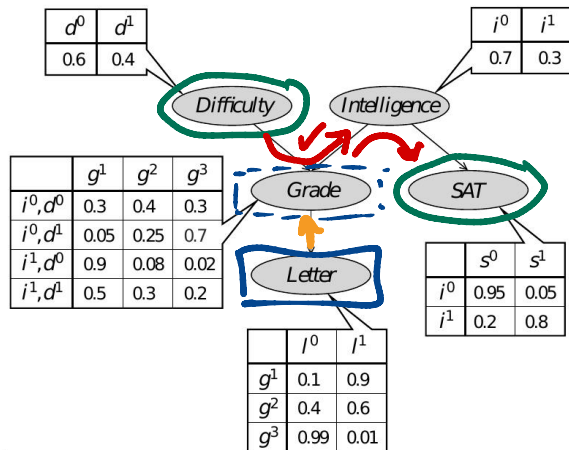
# Conditional independence, example

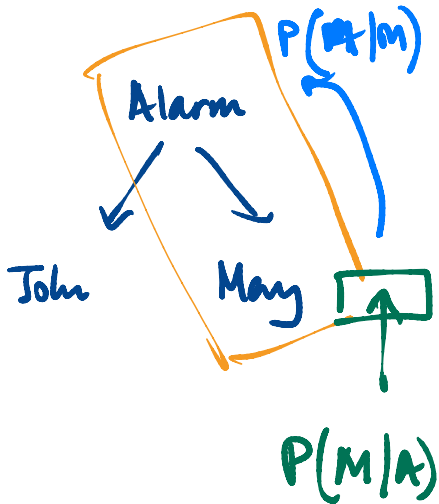
- Is SAT independent of Difficulty given Intelligence?
- Yes, Difficulty – Grade – Intelligence – SAT trail is blocked at Grade (V-structure) and Intelligence



# Conditional independence, example

- Is **SAT** independent of **Difficulty** given **Intelligence**?
  - Yes, **Difficulty** – **Grade** – **Intelligence** – **SAT** trail is blocked at **Grade** (V-structure) and **Intelligence**
- Is **SAT** independent of **Difficulty** given **Letter**?
  - No, **Difficulty** – **Grade** – **Intelligence** – **SAT** trail is open
  - **Letter** is known, hence something about **Grade** is known (V-structure)
  - **Intelligence** is not known





$$P(A|M)$$

$$P(J|A=1) \cdot P(A=1|M)$$

$$P(J=A=0) \quad P(A=0|M)$$