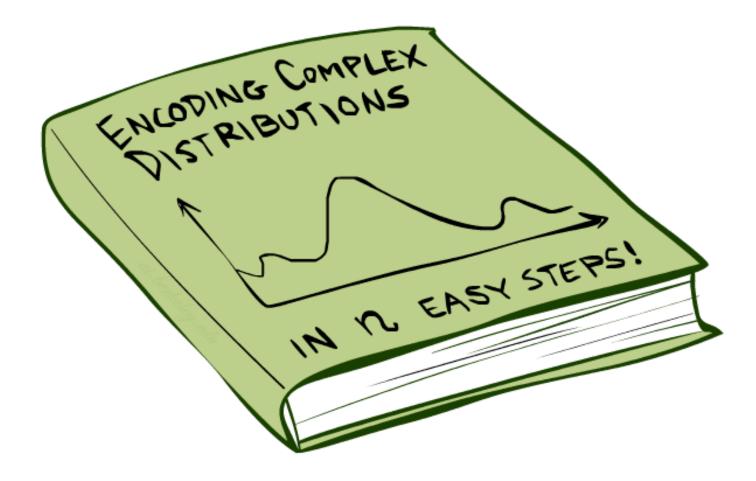


slides adapted from Stuart Russel, Dan Klein, Pieter Abbeel from ai.berkeley.edu And Hanna Hajishirzi, Dan Weld, Luke Zettlemoyer

#### Reminder: elementary probability

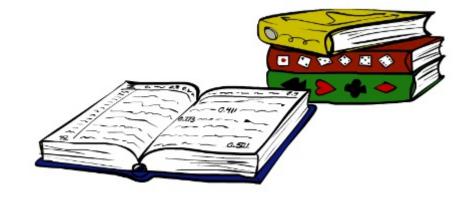
- Basic laws:  $0 \le P(\omega) \le 1$   $\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(\omega) = 1$
- Events: subsets of  $\Omega$ :  $P(A) = \sum_{\omega \in A} P(\omega)$
- Random variable X(\omega) has a value in each \omega
  - Distribution P(X) gives probability for each possible value x
  - Joint distribution P(X, Y) gives total probability for each combination x, y
- Summing out/marginalization:  $P(X=x) = \sum_{y} P(X=x, Y=y)$
- Conditional probability: P(X | Y) = P(X,Y)/P(Y)
- Product rule: P(X|Y)P(Y) = P(X,Y) = P(Y|X)P(X)
  - Generalize to chain rule:  $P(X_1,..,X_n) = \prod_i P(X_i | X_1,..,X_{i-1})$

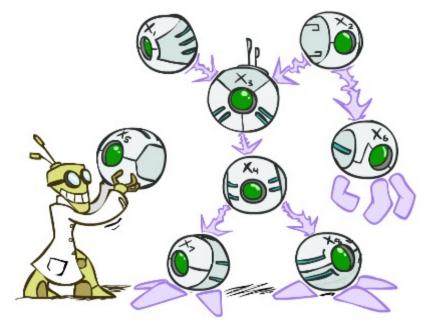
#### Bayes' Nets: Big Picture



# **Bayes Nets: Big Picture**

- Bayes nets: a technique for describing complex joint distributions (models) using simple, conditional distributions
  - A subset of the general class of graphical models
  - Also called belief networks
- Use local causality/conditional independence:
  - the world is composed of many variables,
  - each interacting locally with a few others





#### **Bayes Nets**

Part I: Representation

Part II: Independence

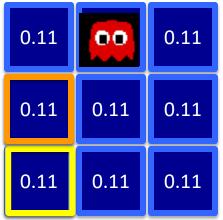
#### Part III: Exact inference

- Enumeration (always exponential complexity)
- Variable elimination (worst-case exponential complexity, often better)
- Inference is NP-hard in general

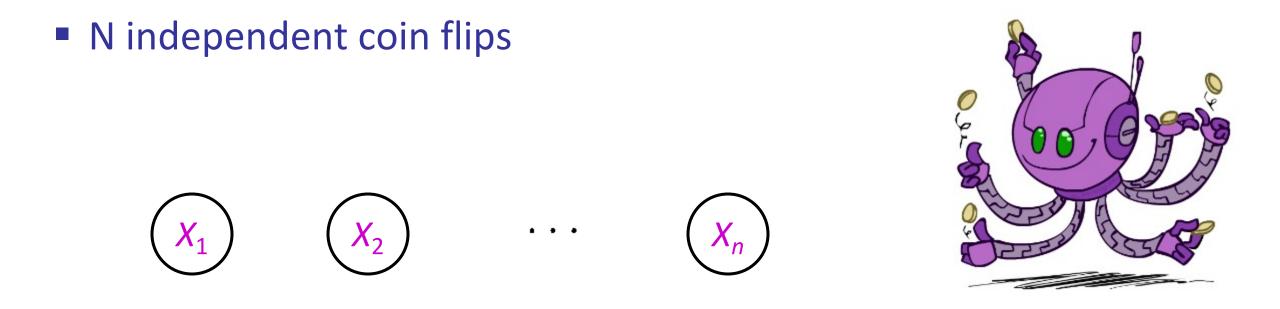
Part IV: Approximate Inference

# **Graphical Model Notation**

Nodes: variables (with domains) Weather Can be assigned (observed) or unassigned (unobserved) (+) Arcs: interactions Indicate "direct influence" between variables G Formally: encode conditional independence 0.11 0.11 00 (more on this later)



## Example Bayes' Net: Coin Flips



#### No interactions between variables: absolute independence

# Conditional Independence: Traffic

- What about this domain:
  - Traffic
  - Umbrella
  - Raining

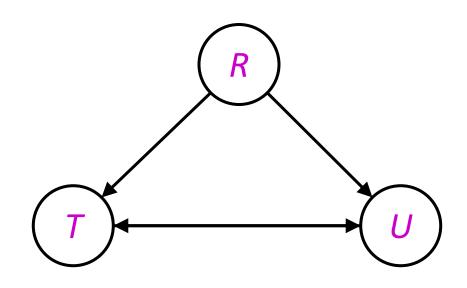


#### Example Bayes' Net: Traffic

- Variables:
  - T: There is traffic
  - U: I'm holding my umbrella
  - R: It rains



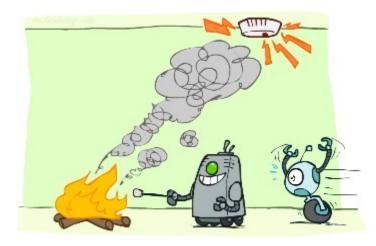


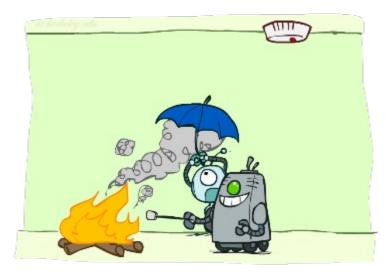




#### **Conditional Independence: Fire**

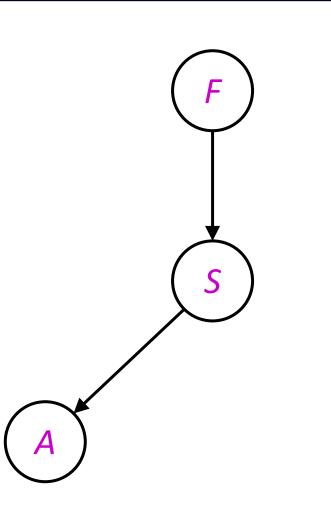
- What about this domain:
  - Fire
  - Smoke
  - Alarm

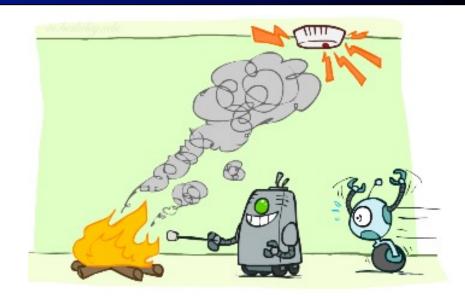




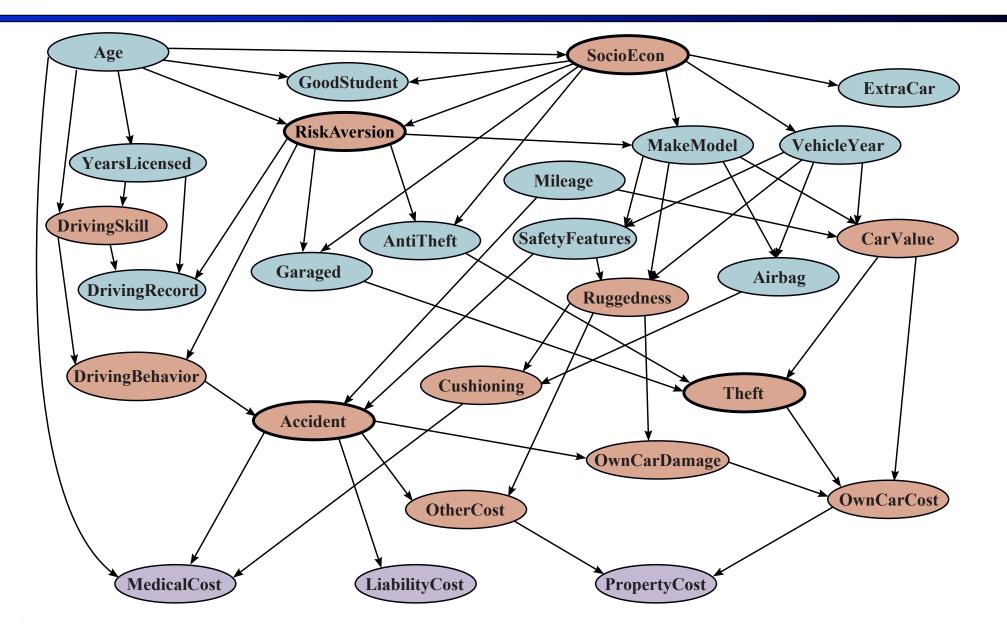
#### Example Bayes' Net: Smoke alarm

- Variables:
  - F: There is fire
  - S: There is smoke
  - A: Alarm sounds



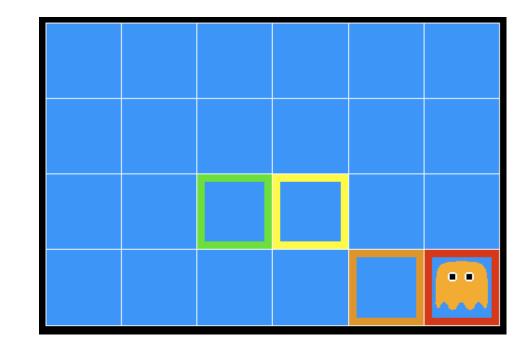


#### Example Bayes' Net: Car Insurance



# Why do conditional independence?-- Ghostbusters

- A ghost is in the grid somewhere
- Sensor readings tell how close a square is to the ghost
  - On the ghost: usually red
  - 1 or 2 away: mostly orange
  - 3 or 4 away: typically yellow
  - 5+ away: often green



 Click on squares until confident of location, then "bust"

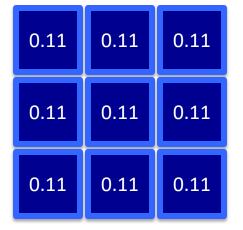
#### Video of Demo Ghostbusters with Probability



P(ghost is in this position given all of the evidence that we have seen so far)

# Ghostbusters model

- Variables and ranges:
  - G (ghost location) in {(1,1),...,(3,3)}
  - C<sub>x,y</sub> (color measured at square x,y) in {red,orange,yellow,green}



- Ghostbuster physics:
  - Uniform prior distribution over ghost location: P(G)
  - Sensor model:  $P(C_{x,y} | G)$  (depends only on distance to G)
    - E.g.  $P(C_{1,1} = \text{yellow} | G = (1,1)) = 0.1$

# Ghostbusters model, contd.

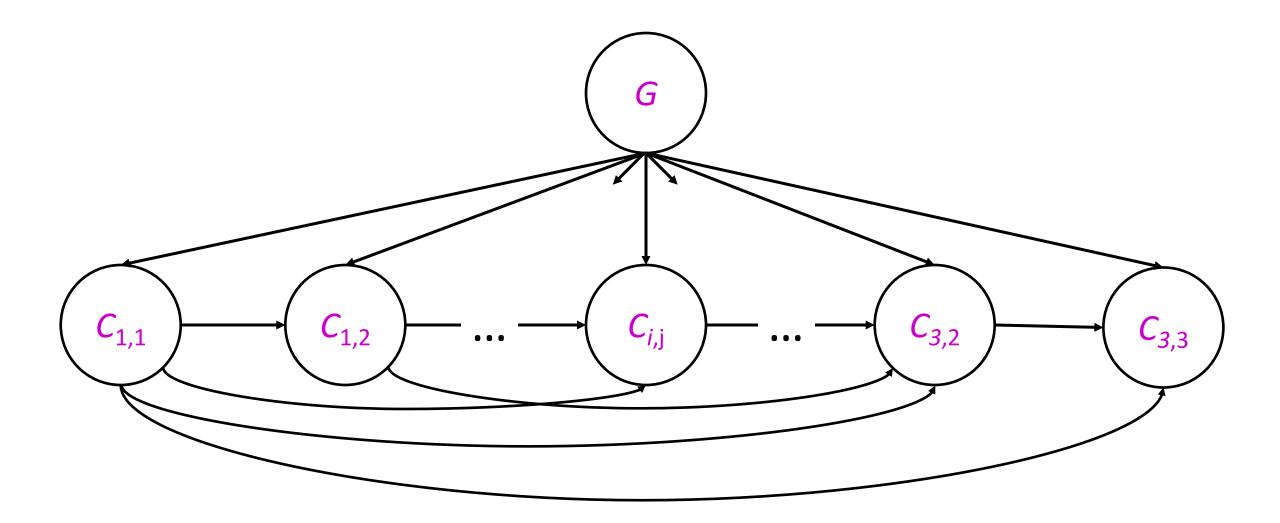
- P(G, C<sub>1,1</sub>, ... C<sub>3,3</sub>) has ...
  - 9 x 4<sup>9</sup> = 2,359,296 entries!
  - G|= 9, |C<sub>i,i</sub>| = 4; Grid squares times size of each
- Ghostbuster independence:
  - Are C<sub>1,1</sub> and C<sub>1,2</sub> independent?
    - E.g., does  $P(C_{1,1} = \text{yellow}) = P(C_{1,1} = \text{yellow} | C_{1,2} = \text{orange})$ ?
- Ghostbuster physics again:
  - $P(C_{x,y} | G)$  depends <u>only</u> on distance to G
    - So  $P(C_{1,1} = \text{yellow} \mid \underline{G} = (2,3)) = P(C_{1,1} = \text{yellow} \mid \underline{G} = (2,3), C_{1,2} = \text{orange})$
    - I.e., C<sub>1,1</sub> is conditionally independent of C<sub>1,2</sub> given G

0.11	00	0.11
0.11	0.11	0.11
0.11	0.11	0.11

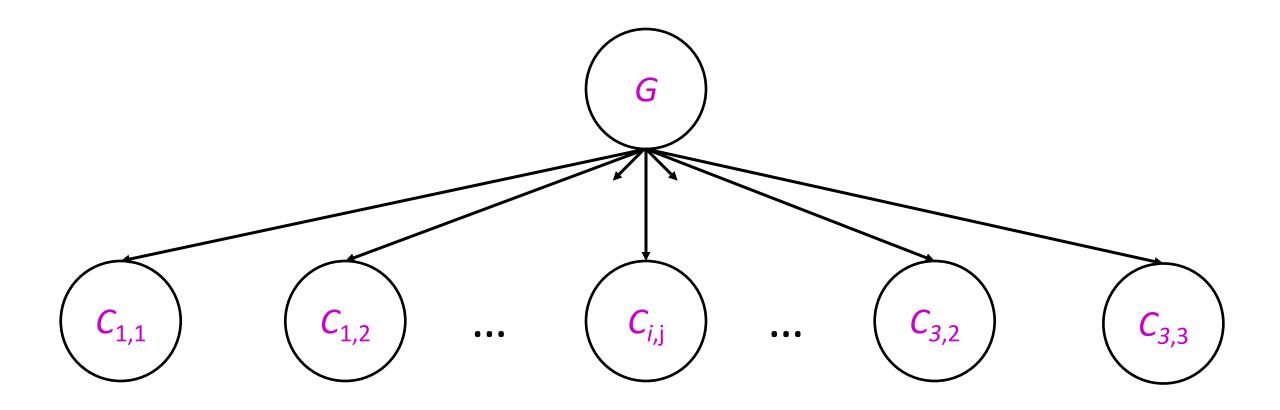
# Ghostbusters model, contd.

- Apply the chain rule to decompose the joint probability model:  $P(G, C_{1,1}, \dots, C_{3,3}) = P(G) P(C_{1,1} | G) P(C_{1,2} | G, C_{1,1}) P(C_{1,3} | G, C_{1,1}, C_{1,2}) \dots P(C_{3,3} | G, C_{1,1}, \dots, C_{3,2})$
- Now simplify using conditional independence:
   P(G, C<sub>1,1</sub>, ... C<sub>3,3</sub>) = P(G) P(C<sub>1,1</sub> | G) P(C<sub>1,2</sub> | G) P(C<sub>1,3</sub> | G) ... P(C<sub>3,3</sub> | G)
- I.e., conditional independence properties of ghostbuster physics simplify the probability model from *exponential* to *quadratic* in the number of squares
  - $|\mathbf{P}(C_{i,i} | G)| = 4 \times 9$  rather than  $|\mathbf{P}(C_{3,3} | G, C_{1,1}, ..., C_{3,2})| = 4 \times 9 \times 4^8$
  - In total: 9 + 9 x (4 x 9) = 333 entries, before was 9 x 4<sup>9</sup> = 2,359,296 entries
- This is called a *Naïve Bayes* model:
  - One discrete query variable (often called the *class* or *category* variable)
  - All other variables are (potentially) evidence variables
  - Evidence variables are all conditionally independent given the query variable

#### **Ghostbusters Full Joint**



#### **Ghostbusters Naïve Bayes**



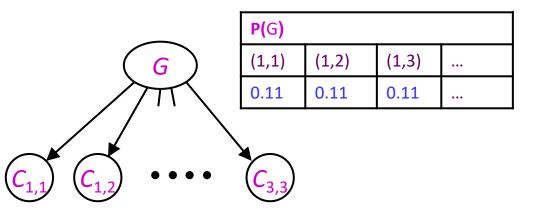
# **Bayes Net Syntax and Semantics**



# Bayes' Net Syntax



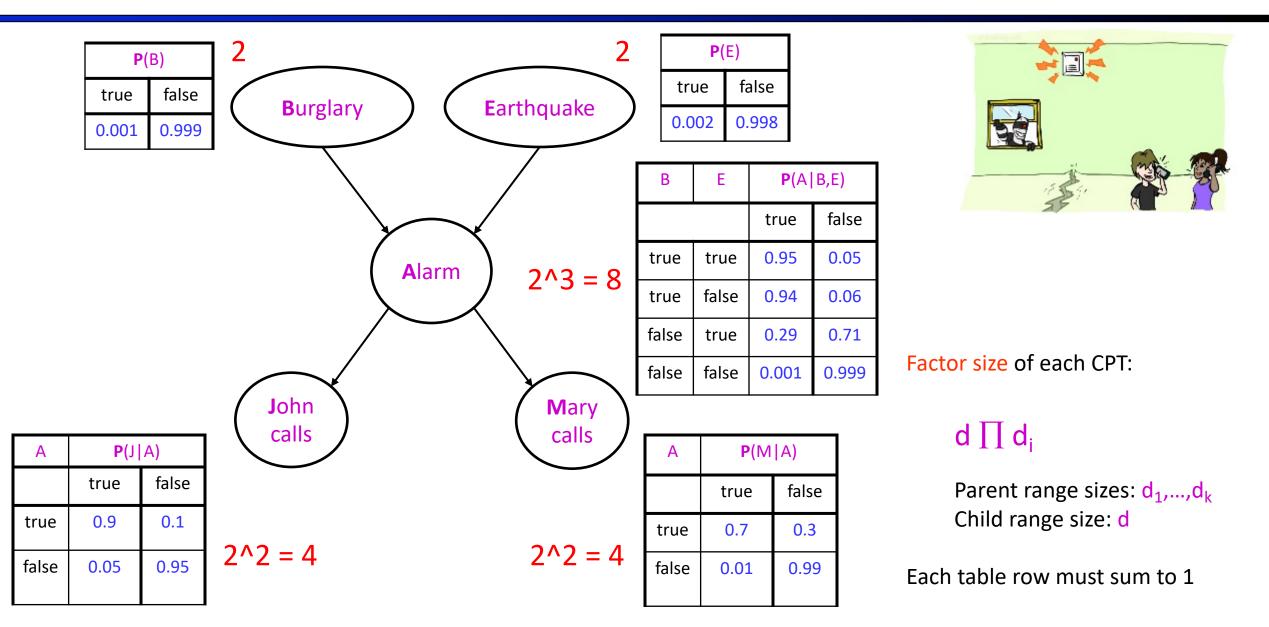
- A set of nodes, one per variable X<sub>i</sub>
- A directed, acyclic graph
- A conditional distribution for each node given its *parent variables* in the graph
  - CPT (conditional probability table) each row is a distribution for child given values of its parents



G	P(C <sub>1,1</sub>   <b>G</b> )			
	g	У	0	r
(1,1)	0.01	0.1	0.3	0.59
(1,2)	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.1
(1,3)	0.3	0.5	0.19	0.01

Bayes net = Topology (graph) + Local Conditional Probabilities

#### Example: Alarm Network



# General formula for sparse BNs

- Suppose
  - n variables
  - Maximum range size is d
  - Maximum number of parents is k
- Full joint distribution has size O(d<sup>n</sup>)
- Bayes net has size O(n · d<sup>k</sup>)
  - Linear scaling with n as long as causal structure is local
- Often  $O(n \cdot d^k) \ll O(d^n)$

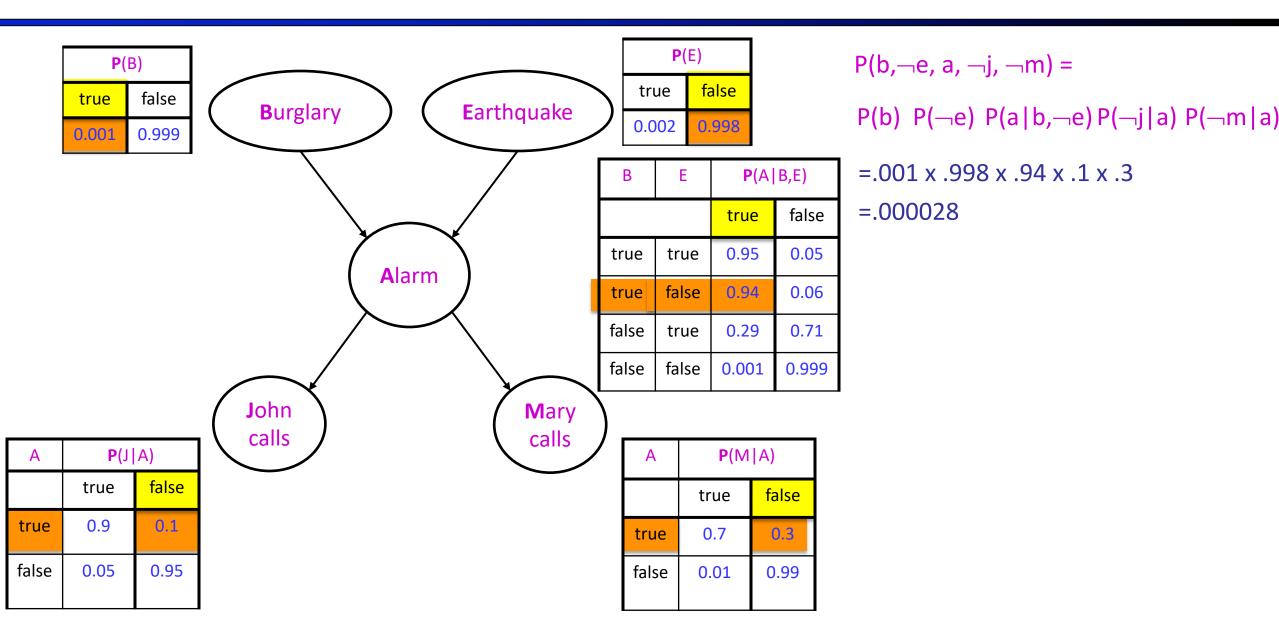
# Bayes net global semantics



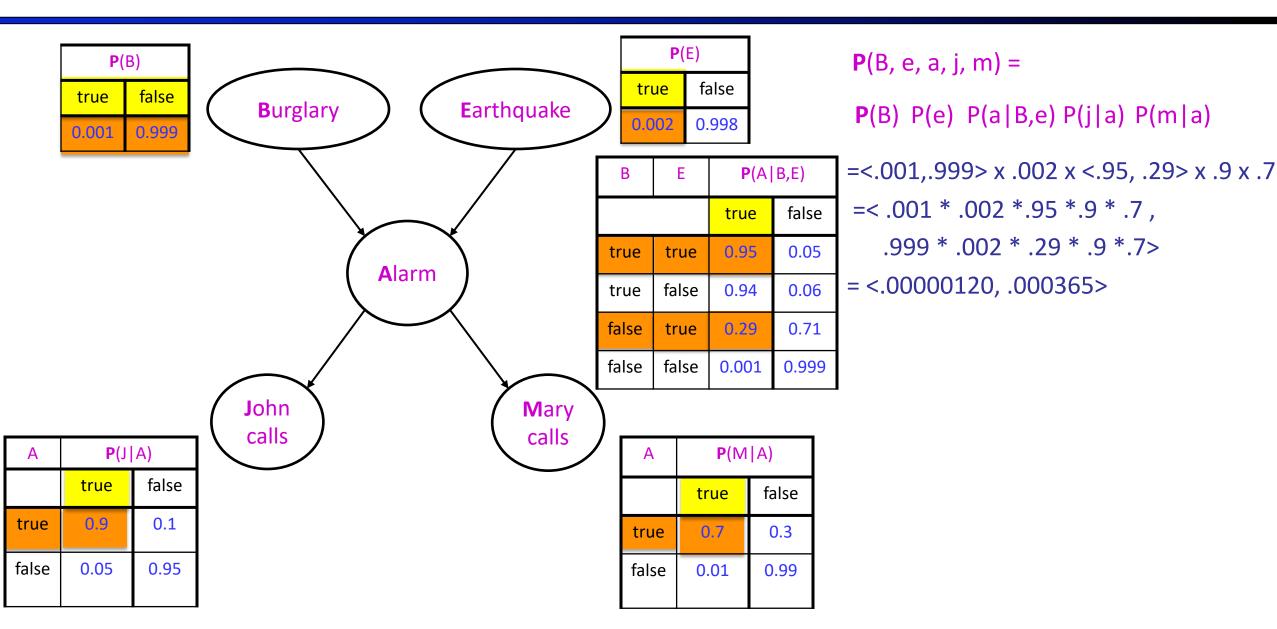
 Bayes nets encode joint distributions as product of conditional distributions on each variable:

$$\mathbf{P}(X_1,..,X_n) = \prod_i \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid Parents(X_i))$$

# Example



## Example: Your turn

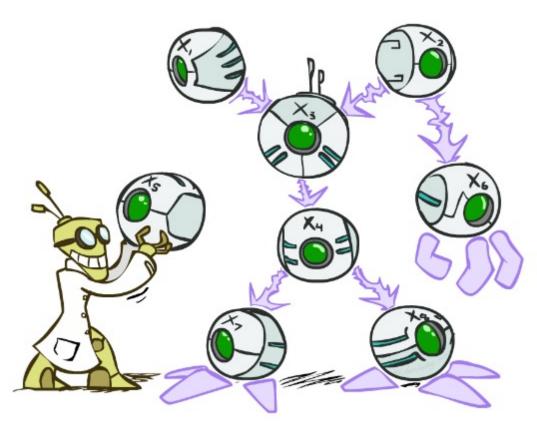


# Question

- Which of the following does a Bayes' net model explicitly?
  - The joint probability distribution?
  - The conditional probability distribution?
- Is one of the following more expressive than the other?
  - The joint probability distribution
  - The conditional probability distribution
- Why do we use Bayes' nets?

# Summary

- Independence and conditional independence are important forms of probabilistic knowledge
- Bayes net encode joint distributions efficiently by taking advantage of conditional independence
  - Global joint probability = product of local conditionals
- Next: more on independence
- Then: how to answer queries, i.e., compute conditional probabilities of queries given evidence



#### **Bayes Nets**



#### Part II: Independence

#### Part III: Exact inference

- Enumeration (always exponential complexity)
- Variable elimination (worst-case exponential complexity, often better)
- Inference is NP-hard in general

Part IV: Approximate Inference

# Conditional independence in BNs



Compare the Bayes net global semantics

 $\mathbf{P}(X_1,..,X_n) = \prod_i \mathbf{P}(X_i \mid Parents(X_i))$ 

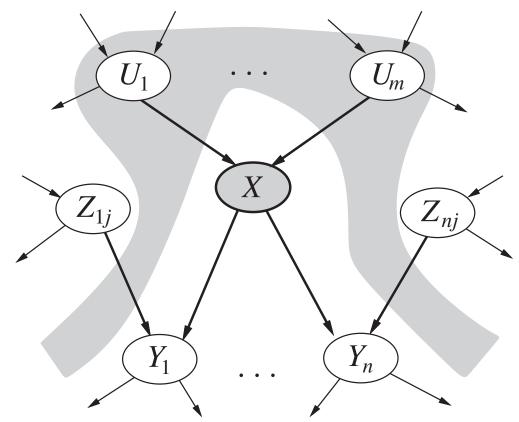
with the chain rule identity

 $P(X_{1},..,X_{n}) = \prod_{i} P(X_{i} | X_{1},...,X_{i-1})$ 

- Assume (without loss of generality) that X<sub>1</sub>,..,X<sub>n</sub> sorted in topological order according to the graph (i.e., parents before children), so Parents(X<sub>i</sub>) ⊆ X<sub>1</sub>,...,X<sub>i-1</sub>
- So the Bayes net asserts conditional independences  $P(X_i | X_1, ..., X_{i-1}) = P(X_i | Parents(X_i))$ 
  - To ensure these are valid, choose parents for node X<sub>i</sub> that "shield" it from other predecessors

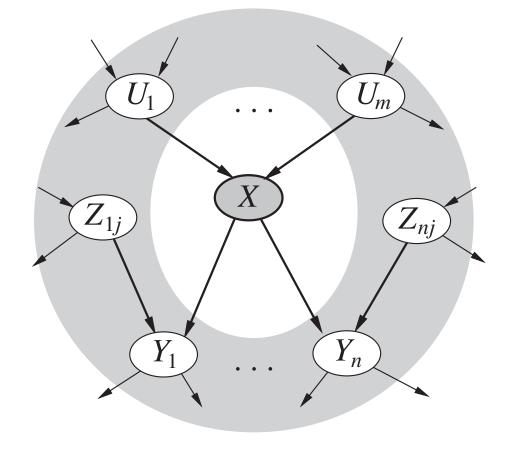
# Conditional independence semantics

- **Every variable is conditionally independent of its non-descendants given its parents**
- Conditional independence semantics <=> global semantics



## Markov blanket

- A variable's Markov blanket consists of parents, children, children's other parents
- **Every variable is conditionally independent of all other variables given its Markov blanket**



# **Reminder: Conditional Independence**

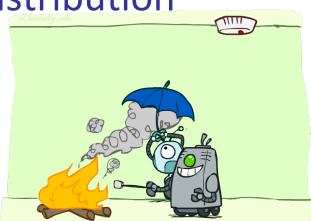
X and Y are independent if

$$\forall x, y \ P(x, y) = P(x)P(y) \ \neg \neg \neg \rightarrow \ X \bot\!\!\!\!\perp Y$$

X and Y are conditionally independent given Z

$$\forall x, y, z \ P(x, y|z) = P(x|z)P(y|z) \dashrightarrow X \perp Y|Z$$

- Conditional) independence is a property of a distribution
- Example:  $Alarm \perp Fire | Smoke$



#### Example

$$(X) \rightarrow (Y) \rightarrow (Z) \rightarrow (W)$$

• Conditional independence assumptions directly from simplifications in chain rule:

$$P(x, y, z, w) = P(x)P(y|x)P(z|x, y)P(w|x, y, z)$$

$$P(x, y, z, w) = P(x)P(y|x)P(z|y)P(w|z)$$

Additional implied conditional independence assumptions?

# Example

$$(x) \rightarrow (y) \rightarrow (z) \rightarrow (w)$$

Conditional independence assumptions directly from simplifications in chain rule:

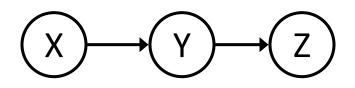
# $X \perp \!\!\!\perp Z | Y$ $W \perp \!\!\!\perp \{X, Y\} | Z$

Additional implied conditional independence assumptions?

 $W \perp \!\!\!\perp X | Y$ 

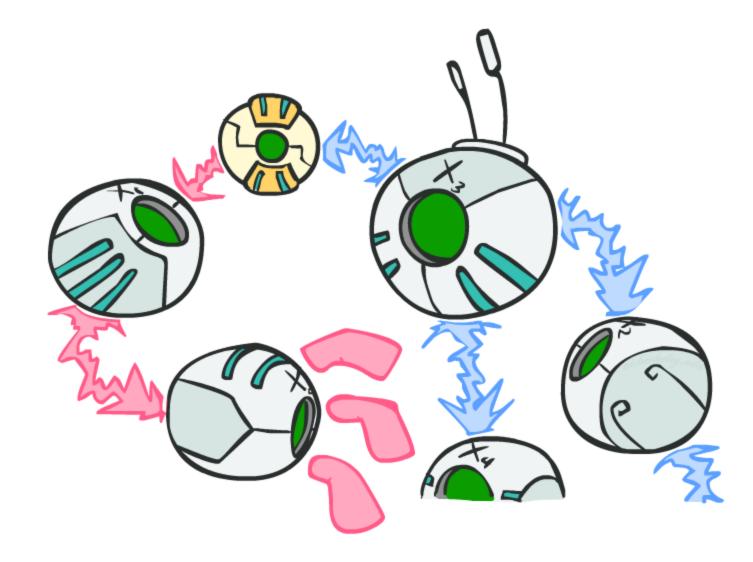
# Independence in a Bayes' Net

- Important question about a Bayes' Net:
  - Are two nodes independent given certain evidence?
  - If yes, can prove using algebra (tedious in general)
  - If no, can prove with a counter-example
  - Example:



- Question: are X and Z necessarily independent?
  - Answer: no. Example: low pressure causes rain, which causes traffic.
  - X can influence Z, Z can influence X (via Y)
  - Addendum: they *could* be independent: how?

## D-separation: Outline



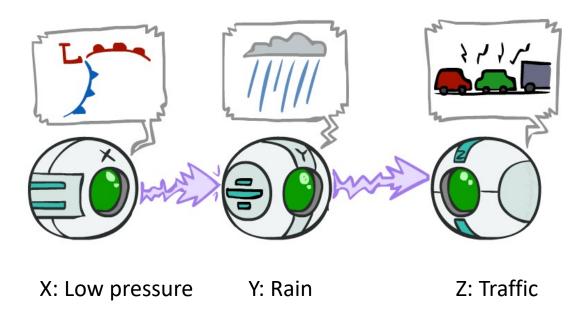
### **D-separation: Outline**

- Study independence properties for triples
  - Why triples?
- Analyze complex cases in terms of member triples

 D-separation: a condition / algorithm for answering such queries

# **Causal Chains**

This configuration is a "causal chain"



P(x, y, z) = P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)

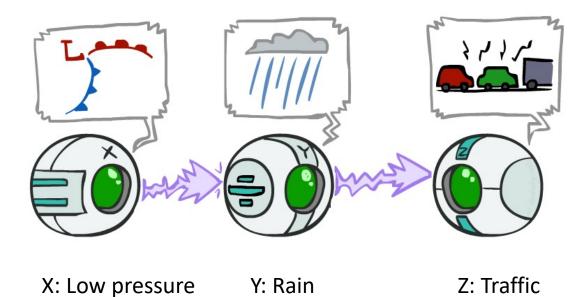
- Guaranteed X independent of Z ?
  No!
  - One example set of CPTs for which X is not independent of Z is sufficient to show this independence is not guaranteed.
  - Example:
    - Low pressure causes rain causes traffic, high pressure causes no rain causes no traffic
    - In numbers:

P(+y | +x) = 1, P(-y | -x) = 1, P(+z | +y) = 1, P(-z | -y) = 1

## **Causal Chains**

P

This configuration is a "causal chain"



Guaranteed X independent of Z given Y?

$$(z|x,y) = \frac{P(x,y,z)}{P(x,y)}$$
$$= \frac{P(x)P(y|x)P(z|y)}{P(x)P(y|x)}$$

= P(z|y)

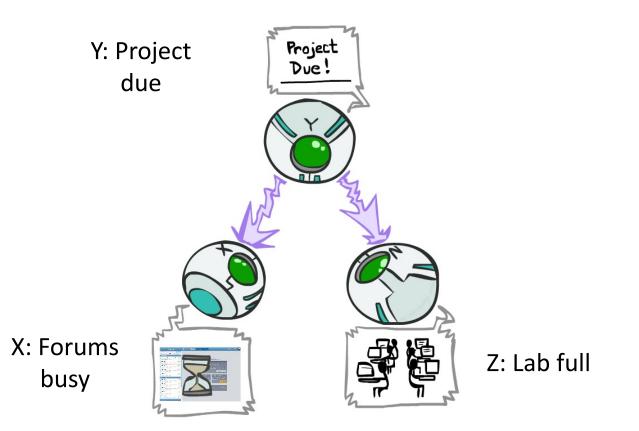
#### Yes!

Evidence along the chain "blocks" the influence

P(x, y, z) = P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)

## **Common Causes**

This configuration is a "common cause"

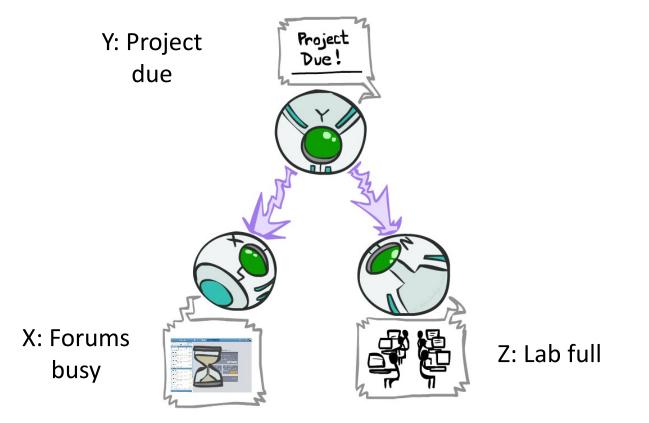


P(x, y, z) = P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)

- Guaranteed X independent of Z ?
- No!
  - One example set of CPTs for which X is not independent of Z is sufficient to show this independence is not guaranteed.
  - Example:
    - Project due causes both forums busy and lab full
    - In numbers:

### Common Cause

This configuration is a "common cause"



P(x, y, z) = P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)

Guaranteed X and Z independent given Y?

$$P(z|x,y) = \frac{P(x,y,z)}{P(x,y)}$$

 $=\frac{P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)}{P(y)P(x|y)}$ 

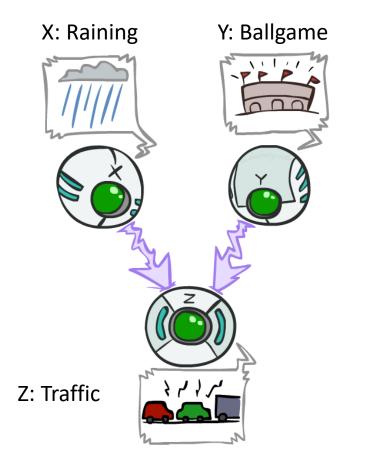
$$= P(z|y)$$

Yes!

 Observing the cause blocks influence between effects.

# **Common Effect**

 Last configuration: two causes of one effect (v-structures)



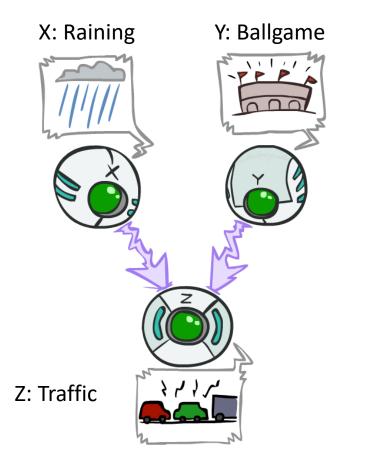
- Are X and Y independent?
  - Yes: the ballgame and the rain cause traffic, but they are not correlated

Proof:

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

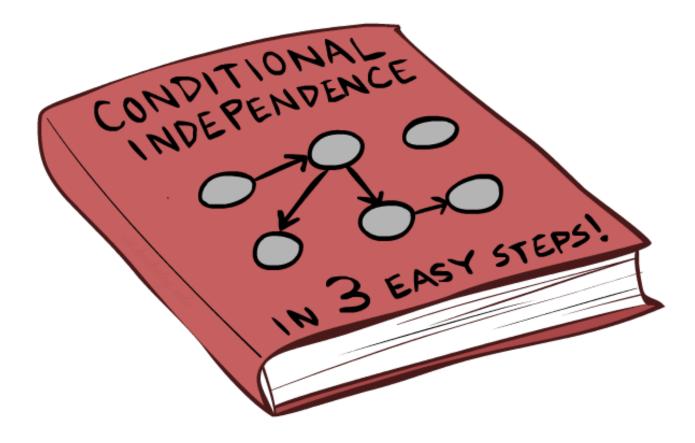
# Common Effect

 Last configuration: two causes of one effect (v-structures)



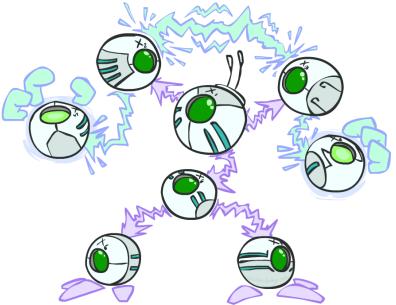
- Are X and Y independent?
  - Yes: the ballgame and the rain cause traffic, but they are not correlated
  - (Proved previously)
- Are X and Y independent given Z?
  - No: seeing traffic puts the rain and the ballgame in competition as explanation.
- This is backwards from the other cases
  - Observing an effect activates influence between possible causes.

### The General Case



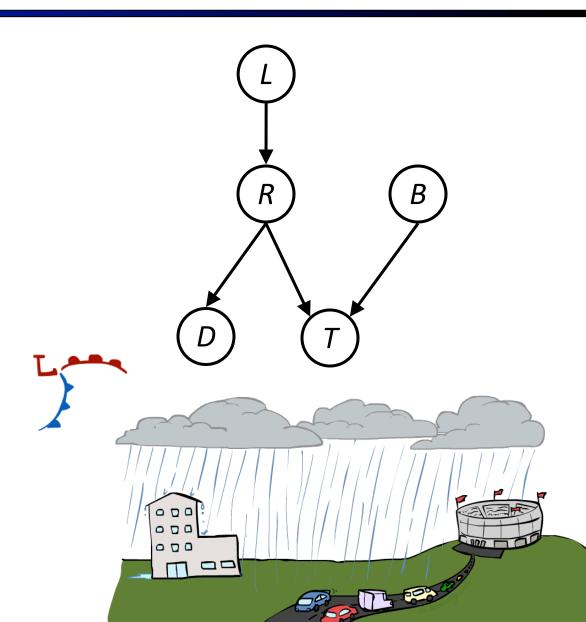
### The General Case

- General question: in a given BN, are two variables independent (given evidence)?
- Solution: analyze the graph
- Any complex example can be broken into repetitions of the three canonical cases

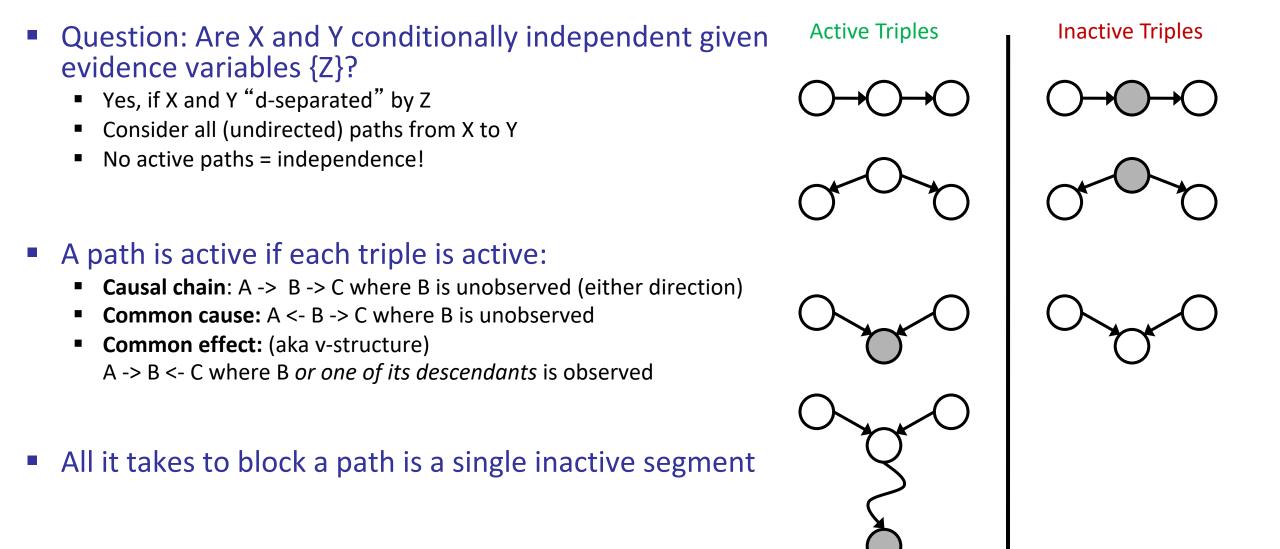


# Reachability

- Recipe: shade evidence nodes, look for paths in the resulting graph
- Attempt 1: if two nodes are **not** connected\* they are conditionally independent
  - \*There does not exist an undirected path between them, excluding those blocked by a shaded node.
- Almost works, but not quite
  - Where does it break?
  - Answer: the v-structure at T doesn't count as a link in a path unless "active"



# Active / Inactive Paths



### **D**-Separation

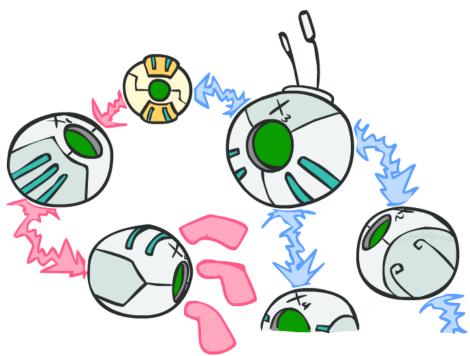
• Query: 
$$X_i \perp X_j | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$$
?

- Check all (undirected!) paths between  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ 
  - If one or more active, then independence not guaranteed

$$X_i \bowtie X_j | \{X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n}\}$$

 Otherwise (i.e. if all paths are inactive), then independence is guaranteed

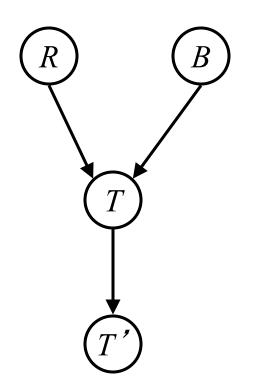
$$X_i \perp \perp X_j | \{ X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n} \}$$



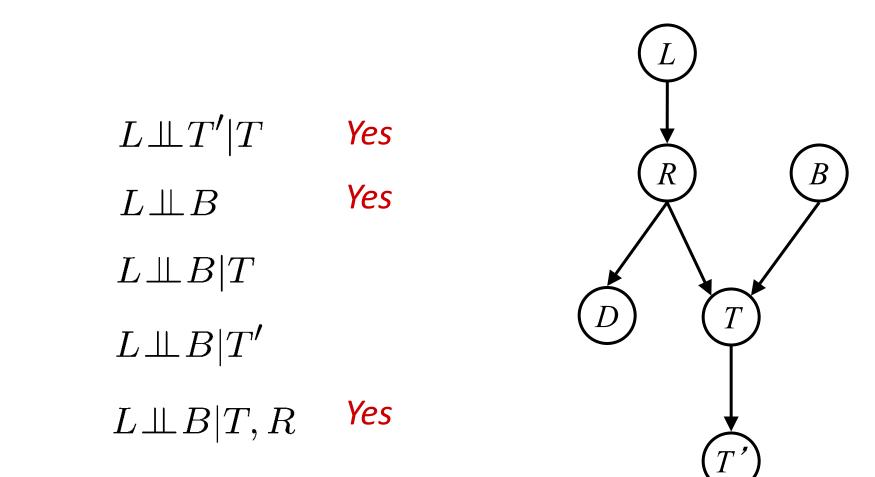
```
def d-separated(first, second):
      for path in paths(first, second):
             path_active = True
             for triple in path:
                   if not active(triple):
                          path_active = False
                          break
             if path_active:
                    return False
      return True
```

### Example: which assumptions apply?

 $R \bot B \qquad Yes$  $R \bot B | T$  $R \bot B | T'$ 



### Example: which assumptions apply?



# Example: which assumptions apply?

- Variables:
  - R: Raining
  - T: Traffic
  - D: Roof drips
  - S: I'm sad
- Questions:
  - $T \! \perp \! D$
  - $T \perp D | R$  Yes  $T \perp D | R, S$

