

# Bayes Nets

Many slides courtesy of  
Dan Klein, Stuart Russell,  
or Andrew Moore

**CS 5300 / CS 6300**  
**Artificial Intelligence**  
**Spring 2010**

Hal Daumé III  
hal@cs.utah.edu

[www.cs.utah.edu/~hal/courses/2010S\\_AI](http://www.cs.utah.edu/~hal/courses/2010S_AI)

# Announcements

- Midterm – we'll have it next Tuesday :(
- P3 due soon!

# Project 2 Contest Winners....

# Inference with Bayes' Rule

- Example: Diagnostic probability from causal probability:

$$P(\text{Cause}|\text{Effect}) = \frac{P(\text{Effect}|\text{Cause})P(\text{Cause})}{P(\text{Effect})}$$

- Example:

- m is meningitis, s is stiff neck

$$P(s|m) = 0.8$$

$$P(m) = 0.0001$$

$$P(s) = 0.1$$

Example givens

$$P(m|s) = \frac{P(s|m)P(m)}{P(s)} = \frac{0.8 \times 0.0001}{0.1} = 0.0008$$

- Note: posterior probability of meningitis still very small
- Note: you should still get stiff necks checked out! Why?

# Example Problems

- Suppose a murder occurs in a town of population 10,000 (10,001 before the murder). A suspect is brought in and DNA tested. The probability that there is a DNA match given that a person is innocent is  $1/100,000$ ; the probability of a match on a guilty person is 1. What is the probability he is guilty given a DNA match?
- Doctors have found that people with Kreuzfeld-Jacob disease (KJ) are almost invariably ate lost of hamburgers, thus  $p(\text{HamburgerEater}|\text{KJ}) = 0.9$ . KJ is a rare disease: about 1 in 100,000 people get it. Eating hamburgers is widespread:  $p(\text{HamburgerEater}) = 0.5$ . What is the probability that a regular hamburger eater will have KJ disease?

# Inference by Enumeration

- $P(\text{sun})?$
- $P(\text{sun} \mid \text{winter})?$
- $P(\text{sun} \mid \text{winter, warm})?$

S	T	W	P
summer	hot	sun	0.30
summer	hot	rain	0.05
summer	cold	sun	0.10
summer	cold	rain	0.05
winter	hot	sun	0.10
winter	hot	rain	0.05
winter	cold	sun	0.15
winter	cold	rain	0.20

# Probabilistic Models

- A probabilistic model is a joint distribution over a set of variables

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$$

- Given a joint distribution, we can reason about unobserved variables given observations (evidence)
- General form of a query:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \textit{Stuff you care} & P(X_q | x_{e_1}, \dots, x_{e_k}) & \textit{Stuff you} \\
 \textit{about} & & \textit{already know} \\
 \leftarrow & & \leftarrow \\
 & \text{---} & \text{---}
 \end{array}$$

- This kind of **posterior distribution** is also called the **belief function** of an agent which uses this model

# Independence

- Two variables are *independent* if:

$$\forall x, y : P(x, y) = P(x)P(y)$$

- This says that their joint distribution *factors* into a product two simpler distributions

- Another form:

$$\forall x, y : P(x|y) = P(x)$$

- We write:  $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$

- Independence is a simplifying *modeling assumption*
  - *Empirical* joint distributions: at best “close” to independent
  - What could we assume for {Weather, Traffic, Cavity, Toothache}?

# Example: Independence

- N fair, independent coin flips:

$P(X_1)$

H	0.5
T	0.5

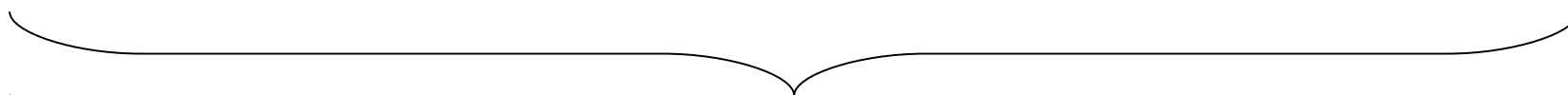
$P(X_2)$

H	0.5
T	0.5

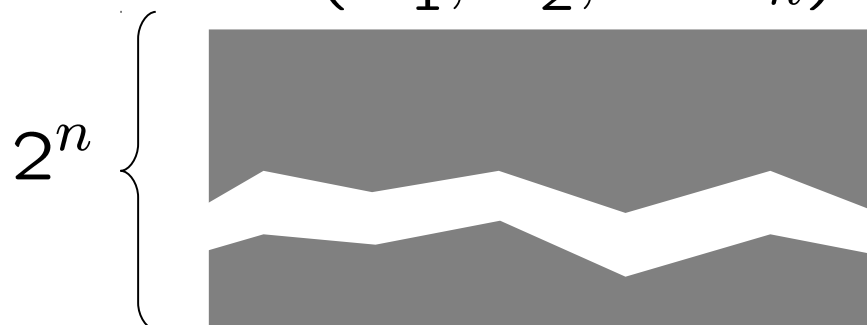
...

$P(X_n)$

H	0.5
T	0.5



$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$



# Example: Independence?

$P_1(T, W)$

T	W	P
warm	sun	0.4
warm	rain	0.1
cold	sun	0.2
cold	rain	0.3

$P(T)$

T	P
warm	0.5
cold	0.5

$P(W)$

W	P
sun	0.6
rain	0.4

$P_2(T, W)$

T	W	P
warm	sun	0.3
warm	rain	0.2
cold	sun	0.3
cold	rain	0.2

# Conditional Independence

- $P(\text{Toothache}, \text{Cavity}, \text{Catch})$
- If I have a cavity, the probability that the probe catches in it doesn't depend on whether I have a toothache:
  - $P(\text{catch} \mid \text{toothache}, \text{cavity}) = P(\text{catch} \mid \text{cavity})$
- The same independence holds if I don't have a cavity:
  - $P(\text{catch} \mid \text{toothache}, \neg \text{cavity}) = P(\text{catch} \mid \neg \text{cavity})$
- Catch is *conditionally independent* of Toothache given Cavity:
  - $P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Toothache}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity})$
- Equivalent statements:
  - $P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Catch}, \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity})$
  - $P(\text{Toothache}, \text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity}) = P(\text{Toothache} \mid \text{Cavity}) P(\text{Catch} \mid \text{Cavity})$

# Conditional Independence

- Unconditional (absolute) independence is very rare (why?)
- Conditional independence is our most basic and robust form of knowledge about uncertain environments:

$$\forall x, y, z : P(x, y|z) = P(x|z)P(y|z)$$

$$\forall x, y, z : P(x|z, y) = P(x|z)$$

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

- What about this domain:
  - Traffic
  - Umbrella
  - Raining
- What about fire, smoke, alarm?

# The Chain Rule I

- Can always factor any joint distribution as an incremental product of conditional distributions

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = P(X_1)P(X_2|X_1)P(X_3|X_1, X_2) \dots$$

$$P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \prod_i P(X_i|X_1 \dots X_{i-1})$$

- Why?
- This actually claims nothing...
- What are the sizes of the tables we supply?

# The Chain Rule II

- Trivial decomposition:

$$P(\text{Traffic, Rain, Umbrella}) =$$

$$P(\text{Rain})P(\text{Traffic}|\text{Rain})P(\text{Umbrella}|\text{Rain, Traffic})$$

- With assumption of conditional independence:

$$P(\text{Traffic, Rain, Umbrella}) =$$

$$P(\text{Rain})P(\text{Traffic}|\text{Rain})P(\text{Umbrella}|\text{Rain})$$

- Conditional independence is our most basic and robust form of knowledge about uncertain environments

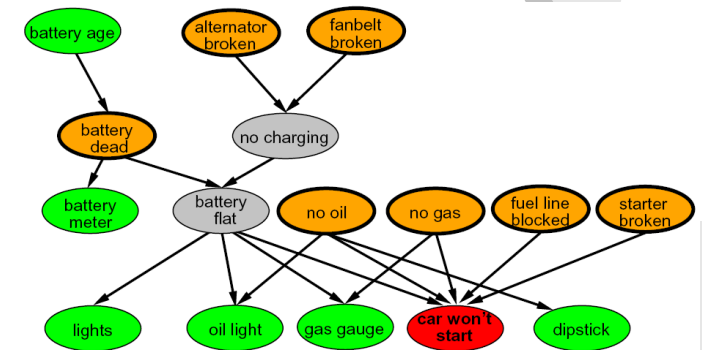
- Bayes' nets / graphical models help manage

# Birthday Paradox

- What's the probability that no two people in this room have the same birthday?

# Probabilistic Models

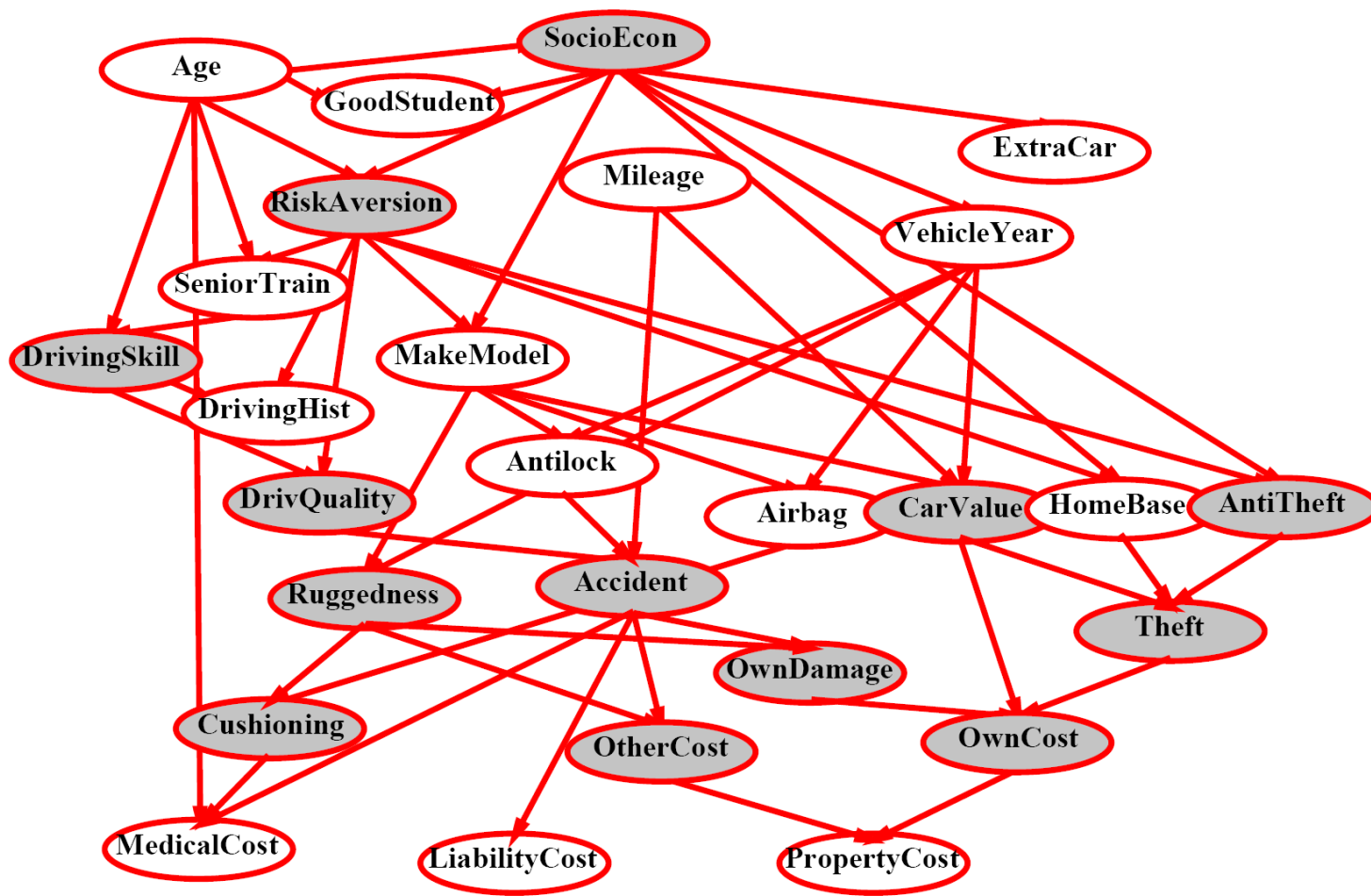
- Models are descriptions of how (a portion of) the world works
- **Models are always simplifications**
  - May not account for every variable
  - May not account for all interactions between variables
- What do we do with probabilistic models?
  - We (or our agents) need to reason about unknown variables, given evidence
  - Example: explanation (diagnostic reasoning)
  - Example: prediction (causal reasoning)
  - Example: value of information



# Bayes' Nets: Big Picture

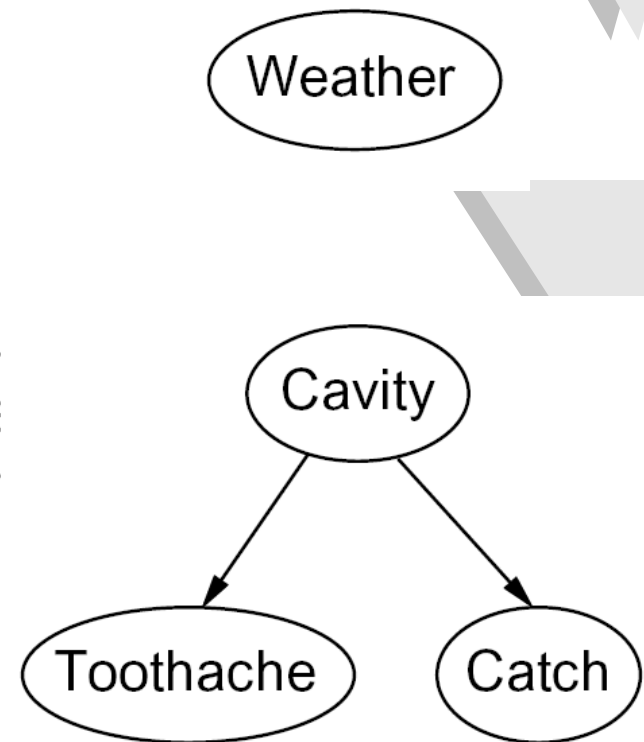
- Two problems with using full joint distribution tables as our probabilistic models:
  - Unless there are only a few variables, the joint is WAY too big to represent explicitly
  - Hard to learn (estimate) anything empirically about more than a few variables at a time
  
- **Bayes' nets**: a technique for describing complex joint distributions (models) using simple, local distributions (conditional probabilities)
  - More properly called **graphical models**
  - We describe how variables locally interact
  - Local interactions chain together to give global, indirect interactions
  - For about 10 min, we'll be vague about how these interactions are specified

# Example Bayes' Net



# Graphical Model Notation

- Nodes: variables (with domains)
  - Can be assigned (observed) or unassigned (unobserved)
  
- Arcs: interactions
  - Similar to CSP constraints
  - Indicate “direct influence” between variables
  
- For now: imagine that arrows mean direct causation



# Example: Coin Flips

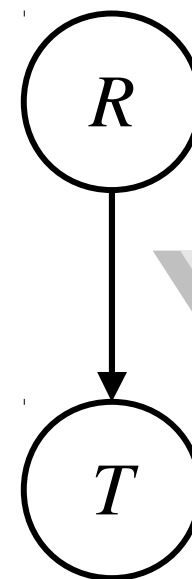
- N independent coin flips



- No interactions between variables: **absolute independence**

# Example: Traffic

- Variables:
  - R: It rains
  - T: There is traffic
- Model 1: independence
- Model 2: rain causes traffic
- Why is an agent using model 2 better?



# Example: Traffic II

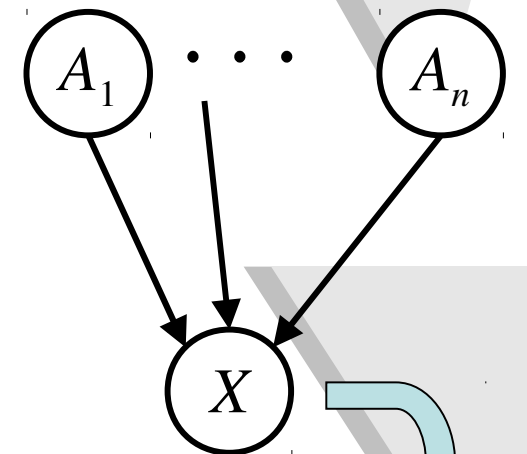
- Let's build a causal graphical model
  
- Variables
  - T: Traffic
  - R: It rains
  - L: Low pressure
  - D: Roof drips
  - B: Ballgame
  - C: Cavity

# Example: Alarm Network

- Variables
  - B: Burglary
  - A: Alarm goes off
  - M: Mary calls
  - J: John calls
  - E: Earthquake!

# Bayes' Net Semantics

- Let's formalize the semantics of a Bayes' net
- A set of nodes, one per variable  $X$
- A directed, acyclic graph
- A conditional distribution for each node
  - A collection of distributions over  $X$ , one for each combination of parents' values



$$P(X|A_1 \dots A_n)$$

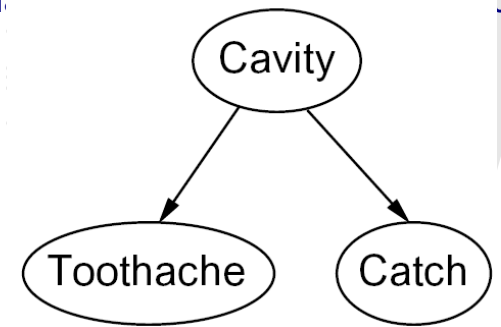
$$P(X|a_1 \dots a_n)$$

- CPT: conditional probability table
- Description of a noisy “causal” process

*A Bayes net = Topology (graph)*

*+ Local Conditional Probabilities*

# Probabilities in BNs

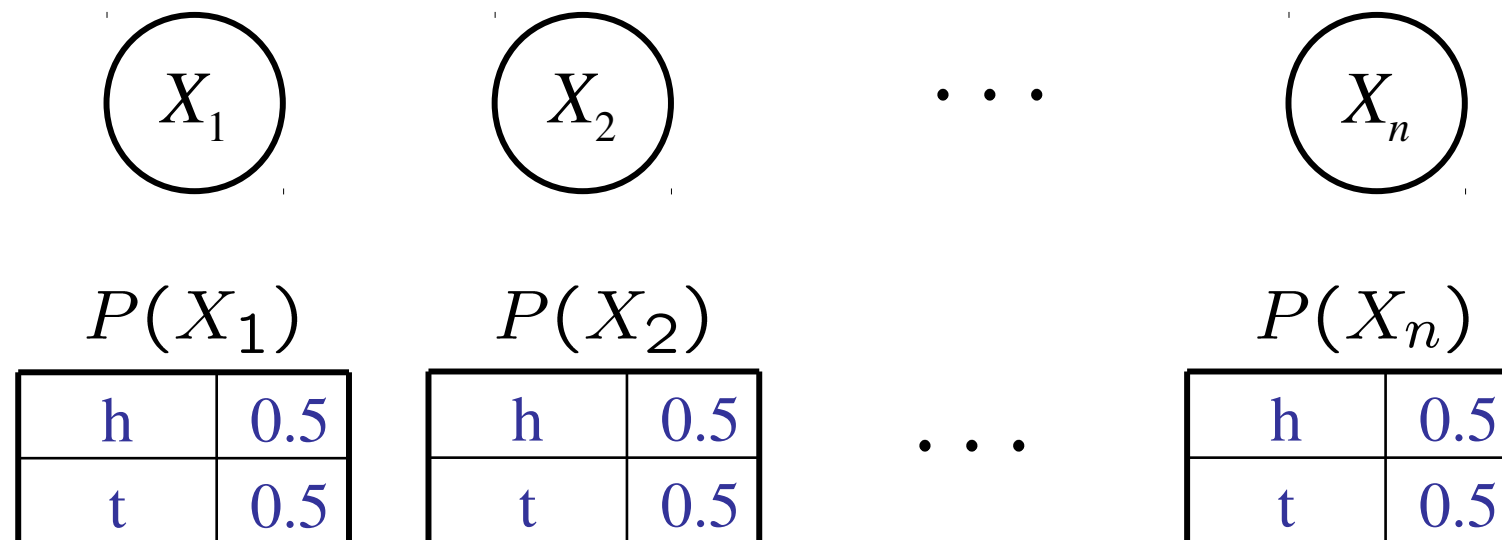


- Bayes' nets **implicitly** encode joint distributions
  - As a product of local conditional distributions
  - To see what probability a BN gives to a full assignment, multiply all the relevant conditionals together:

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

- Example:
  - $P(\text{cavity}, \text{catch}, \neg \text{toothache})$
- This lets us reconstruct any entry of the full joint
- Not every BN can represent every joint distribution
  - The topology enforces certain conditional independencies

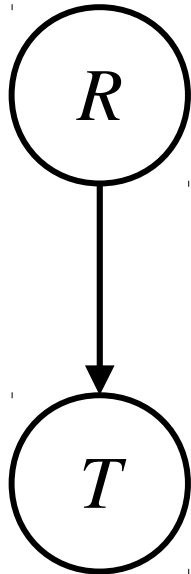
# Example: Coin Flips



$$P(h, h, t, h) =$$

*Only distributions whose variables are absolutely independent can be represented by a Bayes' net with no arcs.*

# Example: Traffic



$P(R)$

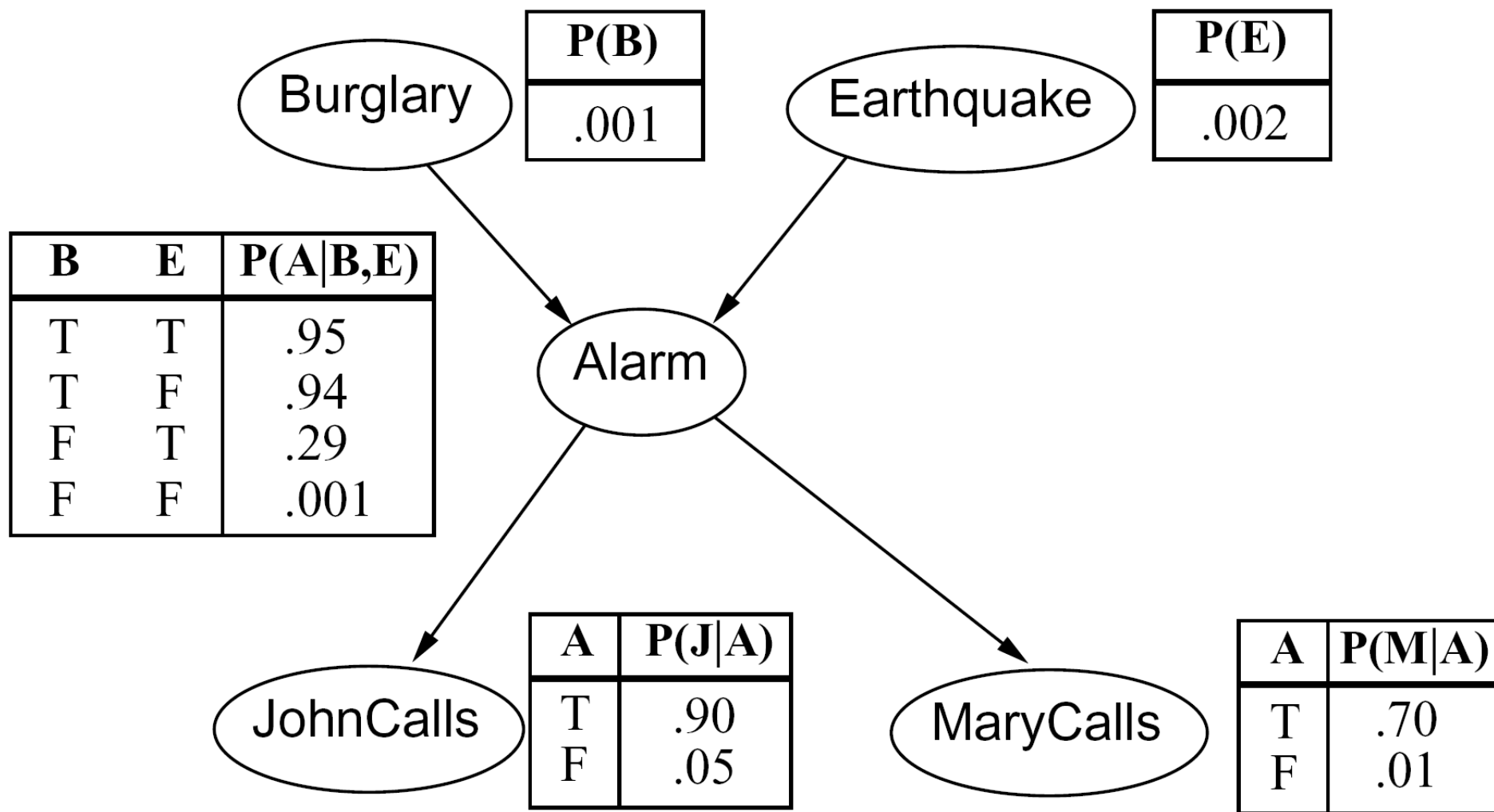
r	1/4
$\neg r$	3/4

$P(T|R)$

r →	t	3/4
	$\neg t$	1/4
$\neg r$ →	t	1/2
	$\neg t$	1/2

$$P(r, \neg t) =$$

# Example: Alarm Network



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

# Example: Naïve Bayes

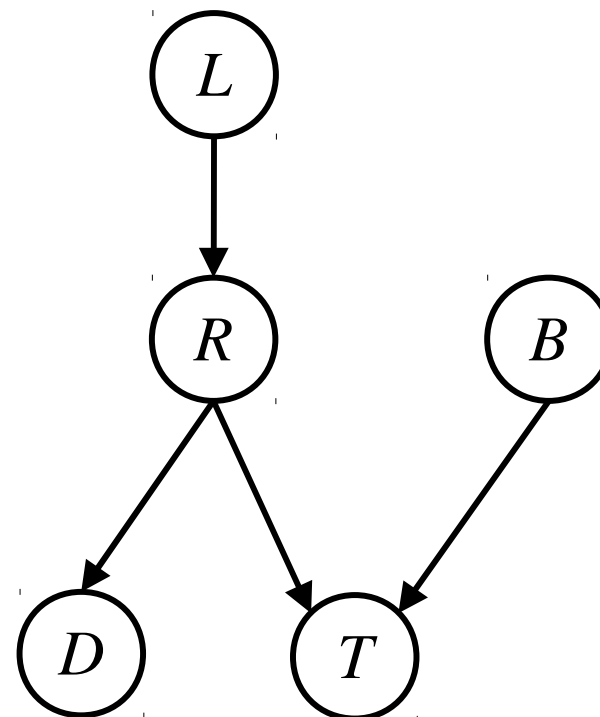
- Imagine we have one cause  $y$  and several effects  $x$ :

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

- This is a naïve Bayes model
- We'll use these for classification later

# Example: Traffic II

- Variables
  - T: Traffic
  - R: It rains
  - L: Low pressure
  - D: Roof drips
  - B: Ballgame



# Size of a Bayes' Net

- How big is a joint distribution over  $N$  Boolean variables?
- How big is an  $N$ -node net if nodes have  $k$  parents?
- Both give you the power to calculate
- BNs: Huge space savings!
- Also easier to elicit local CPTs
- Also turns out to be faster to answer queries (coming)

# Building the (Entire) Joint

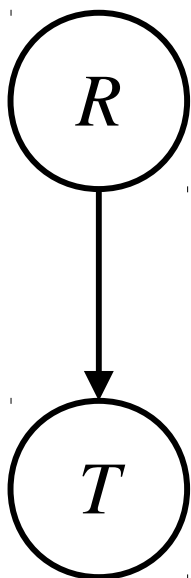
- We can take a Bayes' net and build the full joint distribution it encodes

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | \text{parents}(X_i))$$

- Typically, there's no reason to build ALL of it
- But it's important to know you could!
- To emphasize: every BN over a domain **implicitly represents some joint distribution** over that domain

# Example: Traffic

- Basic traffic net
- Let's multiply out the joint



$P(R)$

r	1/4
$\neg r$	3/4

$P(T|R)$

r	t	3/4
	$\neg t$	1/4

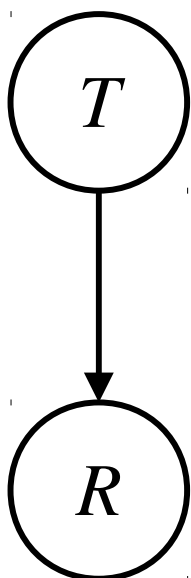
$\neg r$	t	1/2
	$\neg t$	1/2

$P(T, R)$

r	t	3/16
r	$\neg t$	1/16
$\neg r$	t	6/16
$\neg r$	$\neg t$	6/16

# Example: Reverse Traffic

- Reverse causality?



$P(T)$

t	9/16
$\neg t$	7/16

$P(R|T)$

t	r	1/3
	$\neg r$	2/3

$\neg t$	r	1/7
	$\neg r$	6/7

$P(T, R)$

r	t	3/16
r	$\neg t$	1/16
$\neg r$	t	6/16
$\neg r$	$\neg t$	6/16

# Causality?

- When Bayes' nets reflect the true causal patterns:
  - Often simpler (nodes have fewer parents)
  - Often easier to think about
  - Often easier to elicit from experts
  
- BNs need not actually be causal
  - Sometimes no causal net exists over the domain (especially if variables are missing)
  - E.g. consider the variables *Traffic* and *Drips*
  - End up with arrows that reflect correlation, not causation
  
- What do the arrows really mean?
  - Topology may happen to encode causal structure
  - **Topology really encodes conditional independence**

# Bayes' Nets

- So far: how a Bayes' net encodes a joint distribution
- Next: how to answer queries about that distribution
  - Key idea: conditional independence
  - Last class: assembled BNs using an intuitive notion of conditional independence as causality
  - Today: formalize these ideas
  - Main goal: answer queries about conditional independence and influence
- After that: how to answer numerical queries (inference)