

# CS 561: Artificial Intelligence

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Lectures: MW 5:00-6:20pm, OHE 122 / DEN

Office hours: By appointment

Class page: <http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~macskass/CS561-Spring2010/>

This class will use <http://www.uscden.net/> and class webpage

- Up to date information
- Lecture notes
- Relevant dates, links, etc.

Course material:

[AIMA] Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach,  
by Stuart Russell and Peter Norvig. (2nd ed)

# Outline [AIMA Ch 13]

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- Uncertainty
- Probability
- Syntax and Semantics
- Inference
- Independence and Bayes' Rule

# Uncertainty

- Let action  $A_t$  = leave for airport  $t$  minutes before flight
- Will  $A_t$  get me there on time?
- Problems:
  - 1) partial observability (road state, other drivers' plans, etc.)
  - 2) noisy sensors (KCBS traffic reports)
  - 3) uncertainty in action outcomes (at tire, etc.)
  - 4) immense complexity of modeling and predicting traffic
- Hence a purely logical approach either
  - 1) risks falsehood: " $A_{25}$  will get me there on time"
  - or 2) leads to conclusions that are too weak for decision making:  
" $A_{25}$  will get me there on time if there's no accident on the bridge and it doesn't rain and my tires remain intact etc., etc."
- ( $A_{1440}$  might reasonably be said to get me there on time but I'd have to stay overnight in the airport ...)

# Methods for handling uncertainty

- Default or nonmonotonic logic:
  - Assume my car does not have a flat tire
  - Assume  $A_{25}$  works unless contradicted by evidence
- Issues: What assumptions are reasonable? How to handle contradiction?
- Rules with fudge factors:
  - $A_{25} \rightarrow_{0.3} \textit{AtAirportOnTime}$
  - $\textit{Sprinkler} \rightarrow_{0.99} \textit{WetGrass}$
  - $\textit{WetGrass} \rightarrow_{0.7} \textit{Rain}$
- Issues: Problems with combination, e.g., *Sprinkler* causes *Rain*??
- Probability
  - Given the available evidence,
    - $A_{25}$  will get me there on time with probability 0.04
- Mahaviracarya (9th C.), Cardano (1565) theory of gambling
- (Fuzzy logic handles degree of truth NOT uncertainty e.g., *WetGrass* is true to degree 0.2)

# Probability

Probabilistic assertions **summarize** effects of  
**laziness**: failure to enumerate exceptions, qualifications, etc.  
**ignorance**: lack of relevant facts, initial conditions, etc.

**Subjective or Bayesian** probability:

Probabilities relate propositions to one's own state of knowledge

e.g.,  $P(A_{25} | \text{no reported accidents}) = 0.06$

- These are not claims of a “probabilistic tendency” in the current situation (but might be learned from past experience of similar situations)
- Probabilities of propositions change with new evidence:  
e.g.,  $P(A_{25} | \text{no reported accidents, 5 a.m.}) = 0.15$
- (Analogous to logical entailment status  $KB \models \alpha$ , not truth.)

# Making decisions under uncertainty

- Suppose I believe the following:

$$P(A_{25} \text{ gets me there on time} \mid \dots) = 0.04$$

$$P(A_{90} \text{ gets me there on time} \mid \dots) = 0.70$$

$$P(A_{120} \text{ gets me there on time} \mid \dots) = 0.95$$

$$P(A_{1440} \text{ gets me there on time} \mid \dots) = 0.9999$$

- Which action to choose?
- Depends on my **preferences** for missing flight vs. airport cuisine, etc.
- **Utility theory** is used to represent and infer preferences
- **Decision theory** = utility theory + probability theory

# Probability basics

Begin with a set  $\Omega$ —the sample space

e.g., 6 possible rolls of a die.

$\omega \in \Omega$  is a sample point/possible world/atomic event

A probability space or probability model is a sample space with an assignment  $P(\omega)$  for every  $\omega \in \Omega$  s.t.

$$0 \leq P(\omega) \leq 1$$

$$\sum_{\omega} P(\omega) = 1$$

e.g.,  $P(1) = P(2) = P(3) = P(4) = P(5) = P(6) = 1/6$ .

An event  $A$  is any subset of  $\Omega$

$$P(A) = \sum_{\{\omega \in A\}} P(\omega)$$

E.g.,  $P(\text{die roll} < 4) = P(1) + P(2) + P(3) = 1/6 + 1/6 + 1/6 = 1/2$

# Random variables

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A **random variable** is a function from sample points to some range, e.g., the reals or Booleans

e.g.,  $Odd(1) = true$ .

$P$  induces a probability distribution for any r.v.  $X$ :

$$P(X = x_i) = \sum_{\{\omega: X(\omega) = x_i\}} P(\omega)$$

e.g.,  $P(Odd = true) = P(1) + P(3) + P(5) = 1/6 + 1/6 + 1/6 = 1/2$

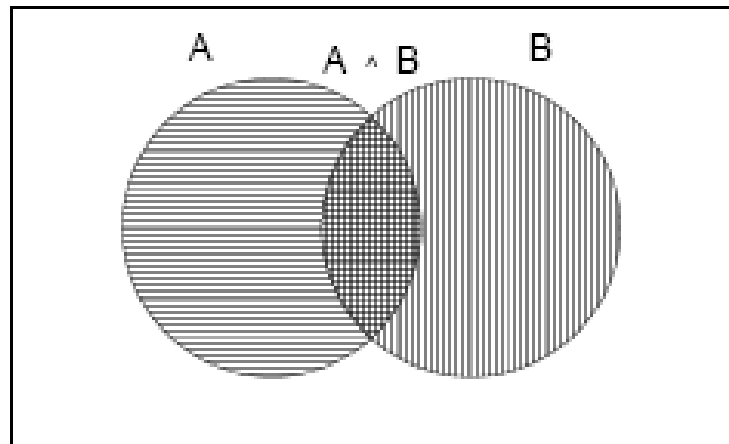
# Propositions

- Think of a proposition as the event (set of sample points) where the proposition is true
- Given Boolean random variables  $A$  and  $B$ :
  - event  $a$  = set of sample points where  $A(\omega) = \text{true}$
  - event  $\neg a$  = set of sample points where  $A(\omega) = \text{false}$
  - event  $a \wedge b$  = points where  $A(\omega) = \text{true}$  and  $B(\omega) = \text{true}$
- Often in AI applications, the sample points are defined by the values of a set of random variables, i.e., the sample space is the Cartesian product of the ranges of the variables
- With Boolean variables, sample point = propositional logic model
  - e.g.,  $A = \text{true}$ ,  $B = \text{false}$ , or  $a \wedge \neg b$ .
- Proposition = disjunction of atomic events in which it is true
  - e.g.,  $(a \vee b) \equiv (\neg a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge \neg b) \vee (a \wedge b)$
  - $\Rightarrow P(a \vee b) = P(\neg a \wedge b) + P(a \wedge \neg b) + P(a \wedge b)$

# Why use probability?

- The definitions imply that certain logically related events must have related probabilities
- E.g.,  $P(a \vee b) = P(a) + P(b) + P(a \wedge b)$

True



- de Finetti (1931): an agent who bets according to probabilities that violate these axioms can be forced to bet so as to lose money regardless of outcome.

# Syntax for propositions

- Propositional or Boolean random variables  
e.g., *Cavity* (do I have a cavity?)  
*Cavity = true* is a proposition, also written *cavity*
- Discrete random variables (finite or infinite)  
e.g., *Weather* is one of  $\langle \textit{sunny}, \textit{rain}, \textit{cloudy}, \textit{snow} \rangle$   
*Weather = rain* is a proposition  
Values must be exhaustive and mutually exclusive
- Continuous random variables (bounded or unbounded)  
e.g., *Temp = 21.6*; also allow, e.g., *Temp < 22.0*.
- Arbitrary Boolean combinations of basic propositions

# Prior probability

- Prior or unconditional probabilities of propositions  
e.g.,  $P(\text{Cavity} = \text{true}) = 0.1$  and  $P(\text{Weather} = \text{sunny}) = 0.72$   
correspond to belief prior to arrival of any (new) evidence
- Probability distribution gives values for all possible assignments:  
 $P(\text{Weather}) = \langle 0.72, 0.1, 0.08, 0.1 \rangle$  (normalized, i.e., sums to 1)
- Joint probability distribution for a set of r.v.s gives the probability of every atomic event on those r.v.s (i.e., every sample point)  
 $P(\text{Weather}, \text{Cavity}) =$  a  $4 \times 2$  matrix of values:

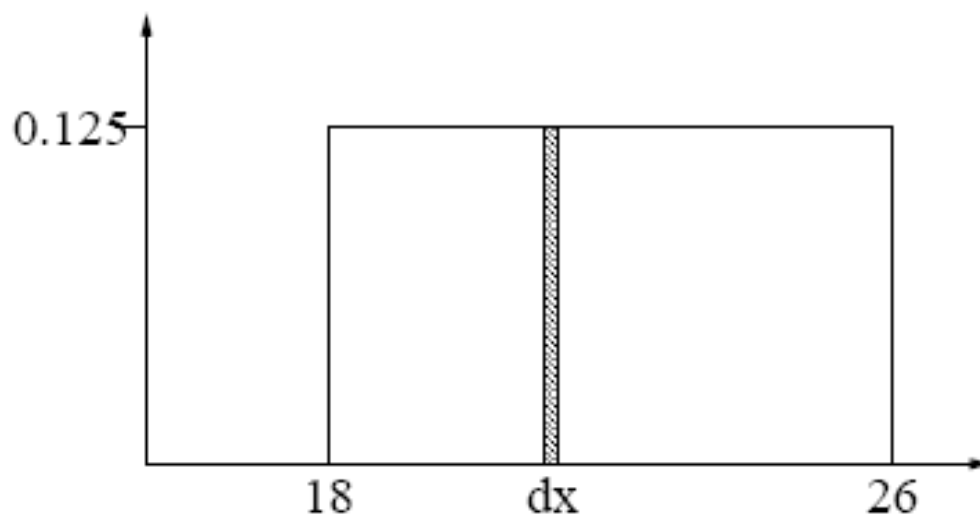
<i>Weather =</i>	<i>sunny</i>	<i>rain</i>	<i>cloudy</i>	<i>snow</i>
<i>Cavity = true</i>	0.144	0.02	0.016	0.02
<i>Cavity = false</i>	0.576	0.08	0.064	0.08

- Every question about a domain can be answered by the joint distribution because every event is a sum of sample points

# Probability for continuous variables

- Express distribution as a parameterized function of value:

$$P(X = x) = U[18; 26](x) = \text{uniform density between 18 and 26}$$



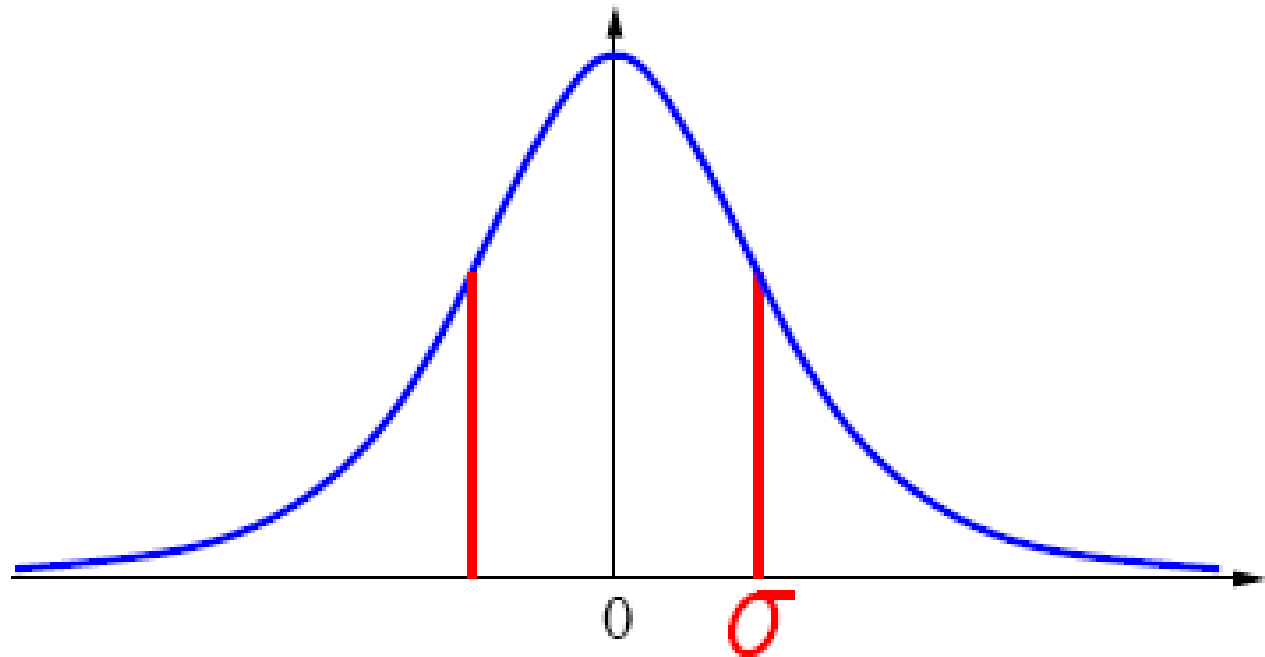
- Here  $P$  is a density; integrates to 1.

- $P(X = 20.5) = 0.125$  really means

$$\lim_{dx \rightarrow 0} P(20.5 \leq X \leq 20.5 + dx)/dx = 0.125$$

# Gaussian density

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}$$



# Conditional probability

- Conditional or posterior probabilities  
e.g.,  $P(\text{cavity}|\text{toothache}) = 0.8$   
i.e., given that *toothache* is all I know  
NOT “if *toothache* then 80% chance of *cavity*”
- (Notation for conditional distributions:  
 $P(\text{Cavity}|\text{Toothache}) =$  2-element vector of 2-element vectors)
- If we know more, e.g., *cavity* is also given, then we have  
 $P(\text{cavity}|\text{toothache}, \text{cavity}) = 1$
- Note: the less specific belief remains valid after more evidence arrives, but is not always useful
- New evidence may be irrelevant, allowing simplification, e.g.,  
 $P(\text{cavity}|\text{toothache}, \text{49ersWin}) = P(\text{cavity}|\text{toothache}) = 0.8$
- This kind of inference, sanctioned by domain knowledge, is crucial

# Conditional Probability

Definition of conditional probability:

$$P(a|b) = \frac{P(a \wedge b)}{P(b)} \text{ if } P(b) \neq 0$$

Product rule gives an alternative formulation:

$$P(a \wedge b) = P(a|b)P(b) = P(b|a)P(a)$$

A general version holds for whole distributions, e.g.,

$$\mathbf{P}(\textit{Weather}, \textit{Cavity}) = \mathbf{P}(\textit{Weather} | \textit{Cavity})\mathbf{P}(\textit{Cavity})$$

(View as a  $4 \times 2$  set of equations, **not** matrix mult.)

Chain rule is derived by successive application of product rule:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_n) &= \mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}) \mathbf{P}(X_n | X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}) \\ &= \mathbf{P}(X_1, \dots, X_{n-2}) \mathbf{P}(X_{n-1} | X_1, \dots, X_{n-2}) \mathbf{P}(X_n | X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}) \\ &= \dots \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{P}(X_i | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) \end{aligned}$$

# Inference by enumeration

Start with the joint distribution:

	<i>toothache</i>		$\neg$ <i>toothache</i>	
	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>
<i>cavity</i>	<b>.108</b>	<b>.012</b>	<b>.072</b>	<b>.008</b>
$\neg$ <i>cavity</i>	<b>.016</b>	<b>.064</b>	<b>.144</b>	<b>.576</b>

For any proposition  $\phi$ , sum the atomic events where it is true:

$$P(\phi) = \sum_{\omega:\omega\models\phi} P(\omega)$$

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For any proposition  $\phi$ , sum the atomic events where it is true:

$$P(\phi) = \sum_{\omega:\omega\models\phi} P(\omega)$$

$$P(\text{toothache}) = 0.108 + 0.012 + 0.016 + 0.064 = 0.2$$

# Inference by enumeration

Start with the joint distribution:

	<i>toothache</i>		$\neg$ <i>toothache</i>	
	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>
<i>cavity</i>	.108	.012	.072	.008
$\neg$ <i>cavity</i>	.016	.064	.144	.576

For any proposition  $\phi$ , sum the atomic events where it is true:

$$P(\phi) = \sum_{\omega:\omega\models\phi} P(\omega)$$

$$P(\text{cavity} \vee \text{toothache}) = 0.108 + 0.012 + 0.072 + 0.008 + 0.016 + 0.064 = 0.28$$

# Inference by enumeration

Start with the joint distribution:

	<i>toothache</i>		$\neg$ <i>toothache</i>	
	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>
<i>cavity</i>	<b>.108</b>	<b>.012</b>	.072	.008
$\neg$ <i>cavity</i>	<b>.016</b>	<b>.064</b>	.144	.576

Can also compute conditional probabilities:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\neg \text{cavity} | \text{toothache}) &= \frac{P(\neg \text{cavity} \wedge \text{toothache})}{P(\text{toothache})} \\ &= \frac{0.016 + 0.064}{0.108 + 0.012 + 0.016 + 0.064} = 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

# Normalization

Start with the joint distribution:

	<i>toothache</i>		$\neg$ <i>toothache</i>	
	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>	<i>catch</i>	$\neg$ <i>catch</i>
<i>cavity</i>	<b>.108</b>	<b>.012</b>	.072	.008
$\neg$ <i>cavity</i>	<b>.016</b>	<b>.064</b>	.144	.576

Denominator can be viewed as a normalization constant  $\alpha$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P}(Cavity|toothache) &= \alpha \mathbf{P}(Cavity, toothache) \\ &= \alpha [\mathbf{P}(Cavity, toothache, catch) + \mathbf{P}(Cavity, toothache, \neg catch)] \\ &= \alpha [\langle 0.108, 0.016 \rangle + \langle 0.012, 0.064 \rangle] \\ &= \alpha \langle 0.12, 0.08 \rangle = \langle 0.6, 0.4 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

General idea: compute distribution on query variable  
by fixing **evidence variables** and summing over **hidden variables**

# Inference by enumeration, contd.

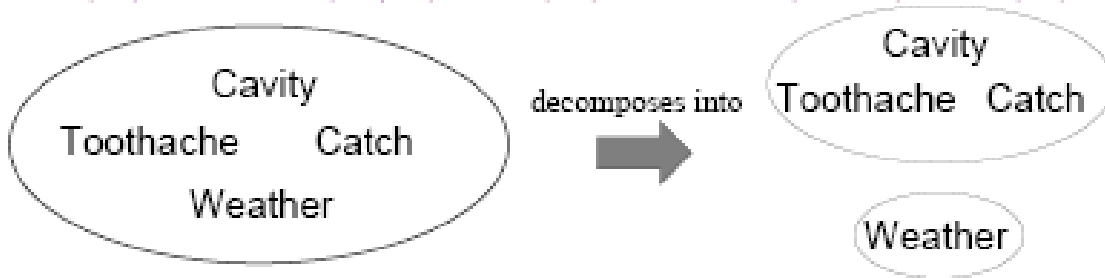
- Let  $X$  be all the variables. Typically, we want the posterior joint distribution of the query variables  $Y$  given specific values  $e$  for the evidence variables  $E$
- Let the hidden variables be  $H = X - Y - E$
- Then the required summation of joint entries is done by summing out the hidden variables:

$$P(Y | E = e) = \alpha \sum_h P(Y, E = e, H = h)$$

- The terms in the summation are joint entries because  $Y$ ,  $E$ , and  $H$  together exhaust the set of random variables
- Obvious problems:
  - 1) Worst-case time complexity  $O(d^n)$  where  $d$  is the largest arity
  - 2) Space complexity  $O(d^n)$  to store the joint distribution
  - 3) How to find the numbers for  $O(d^n)$  entries???

# Independence

- $A$  and  $B$  are independent iff
- $P(A|B)=P(A)$  or  $P(B|A)=P(B)$  or  $P(A,B)=P(A)P(B)$



- $P(\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity}, \textit{Weather}) = P(\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity}) * P(\textit{Weather})$
- 32 entries reduced to 12; for  $n$  independent biased counts,  $2^n \rightarrow n$
- Absolute independence powerful but rare
- Dentistry is a large field with hundreds of variables, none of which are independent. What to do?

# Conditional Independence

- $P(\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Cavity}, \textit{Catch})$  has  $2^3 - 1 = 7$  independent entries
- If I have a cavity, the probability that the probe catches in it doesn't depend on whether I have a toothache:

$$(1) P(\textit{catch}|\textit{toothache}, \textit{cavity}) = P(\textit{catch}|\textit{cavity})$$

- The same independence holds if I haven't got a cavity:

$$(2) P(\textit{catch}|\textit{toothache}, \textit{.cavity}) = P(\textit{catch}|\textit{cavity})$$

- *Catch* is **conditionally independent** of *Toothache* given *Cavity*:

$$P(\textit{Catch}|\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Cavity}) = P(\textit{Catch}|\textit{Cavity})$$

- Equivalent statements:

$$P(\textit{Toothache}|\textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity}) = P(\textit{Toothache}|\textit{Cavity})$$

$$P(\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Catch}|\textit{Cavity}) = P(\textit{Toothache}|\textit{Cavity})P(\textit{Catch}|\textit{Cavity})$$

# Conditional independence contd.

- Write out full joint distribution using chain rule:

$$P(\textit{Toothache}, \textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity})$$

$$= P(\textit{Toothache}|\textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity})P(\textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity})$$

$$= P(\textit{Toothache}|\textit{Catch}, \textit{Cavity})P(\textit{Catch}|\textit{Cavity})P(\textit{Cavity})$$

$$= P(\textit{Toothache}|\textit{Cavity})P(\textit{Catch}|\textit{Cavity})P(\textit{Cavity})$$

- I.e.,  $2 + 2 + 1 = 5$  independent numbers (equations 1 and 2 remove 2)
- In most cases, the use of conditional independence reduces the size of the representation of the joint distribution from exponential in  $n$  to linear in  $n$ .
- Conditional independence is our most basic and robust form of knowledge about uncertain environments.

# Bayes' Rule

Product rule  $P(a \wedge b) = P(a|b)P(b) = P(b|a)P(a)$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Bayes' rule } P(a|b) = \frac{P(b|a)P(a)}{P(b)}$$

or in distribution form

$$P(Y|X) = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{P(X)} = \alpha P(X|Y)P(Y)$$

Useful for assessing diagnostic probability from causal probability:

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

E.g., let  $M$  be meningitis,  $S$  be stiff neck:

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

Note: posterior probability of meningitis still very small!

# Bayes' Rule and conditional independence

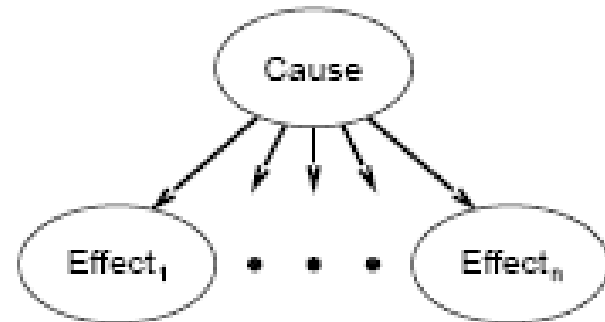
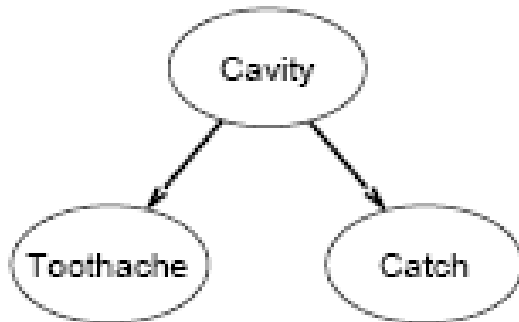
$$P(\text{Cavity}|\text{toothache} \wedge \text{catch})$$

$$= P(\text{toothache} \wedge \text{catch}|\text{Cavity})P(\text{Cavity})$$

$$= P(\text{toothache}|\text{Cavity})P(\text{catch}|\text{Cavity})P(\text{Cavity})$$

- This is an example of a naive Bayes model:

$$P(\text{Cause}, \text{Effect}_1, \dots, \text{Effect}_n) = P(\text{Cause}) \prod_i P(\text{Effect}_i|\text{Cause})$$



Total number of parameters **linear** in  $n$

# Wumpus World

1,4	2,4	3,4	4,4
1,3	2,3	3,3	4,3
1,2 B OK	2,2	3,2	4,2
1,1 OK	2,1 B OK	3,1	4,1

- $P_{ij} = true$  iff  $[i, j]$  contains a pit
- $B_{ij} = true$  iff  $[i, j]$  is breezy
- Include only  $B_{1,1}, B_{1,2}, B_{2,1}$  in the probability model

# Specifying the probability model

- The full joint distribution is  $P(P_{1,1}, \dots, P_{4,4}, B_{1,1}, B_{1,2}, B_{2,1})$
- Apply product rule:  $P(B_{1,1}, B_{1,2}, B_{2,1} | P_{1,1}, \dots, P_{4,4}) P(P_{1,1}, \dots, P_{4,4})$
- (Do it this way to get  $P(\textit{Effect} | \textit{Cause})$ .)
- First term: 1 if pits are adjacent to breezes, 0 otherwise
- Second term: pits are placed randomly, probability 0.2 per square:  
$$P(P_{1,1}, \dots, P_{4,4}) = \prod_{i,j=1,1}^{4,4} P(P_{i,j}) = 0.2^n \times 0.8^{16-n}$$
- for  $n$  pits.

# Observations and query

- We know the following facts:

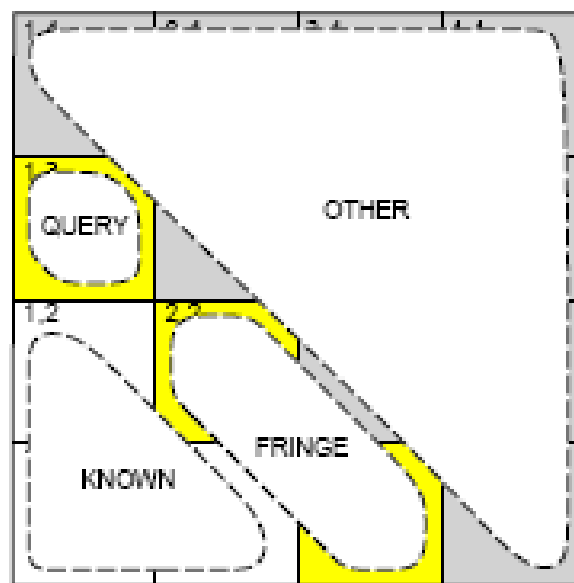
$$b = \neg b_{1,1} \wedge b_{1,2} \wedge b_{2,1}$$

$$known = \neg p_{1,1} \wedge \neg p_{1,2} \wedge \neg p_{2,1}$$

- Query is  $P(P_{1,3} | known, b)$
- Define  $Unknown = P_{ij}$ s other than  $P_{1,3}$  and  $Known$
- For inference by enumeration, we have
$$P(P_{1,3} | known, b) = \alpha \sum_{unknown} P(P_{1,3}, unknown, known, b)$$
- Grows exponentially with number of squares!

# Using conditional independence

- Basic insight: observations are conditionally independent of other hidden squares given neighboring hidden squares

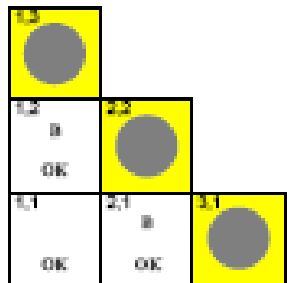


- Define  $Unknown = Fringe \cup Other$
- $P(b|P_{1,3}, Known, Unknown) = P(b|P_{1,3}, Known, Fringe)$
- Manipulate query into a form where we can use this!

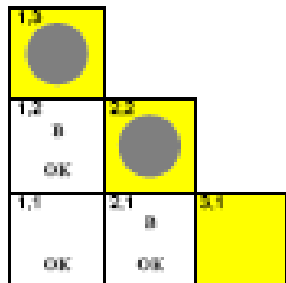
# Using conditional independence contd.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3} | \textit{known}, b) &= \alpha \sum_{\textit{unknown}} \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}, \textit{unknown}, \textit{known}, b) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{\textit{unknown}} \mathbf{P}(b | P_{1,3}, \textit{known}, \textit{unknown}) \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}, \textit{known}, \textit{unknown}) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{\textit{fringe}} \sum_{\textit{other}} \mathbf{P}(b | \textit{known}, P_{1,3}, \textit{fringe}, \textit{other}) \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}, \textit{known}, \textit{fringe}, \textit{other}) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{\textit{fringe}} \sum_{\textit{other}} \mathbf{P}(b | \textit{known}, P_{1,3}, \textit{fringe}) \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}, \textit{known}, \textit{fringe}, \textit{other}) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{\textit{fringe}} \mathbf{P}(b | \textit{known}, P_{1,3}, \textit{fringe}) \sum_{\textit{other}} \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}, \textit{known}, \textit{fringe}, \textit{other}) \\ &= \alpha \sum_{\textit{fringe}} \mathbf{P}(b | \textit{known}, P_{1,3}, \textit{fringe}) \sum_{\textit{other}} \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}) P(\textit{known}) P(\textit{fringe}) P(\textit{other}) \\ &= \alpha P(\textit{known}) \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}) \sum_{\textit{fringe}} \mathbf{P}(b | \textit{known}, P_{1,3}, \textit{fringe}) P(\textit{fringe}) \sum_{\textit{other}} P(\textit{other}) \\ &= \alpha' \mathbf{P}(P_{1,3}) \sum_{\textit{fringe}} \mathbf{P}(b | \textit{known}, P_{1,3}, \textit{fringe}) P(\textit{fringe}) \end{aligned}$$

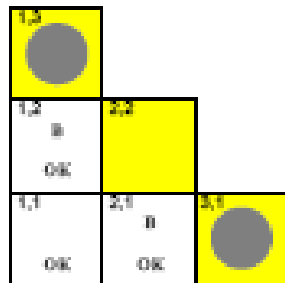
# Using conditional independence contd.



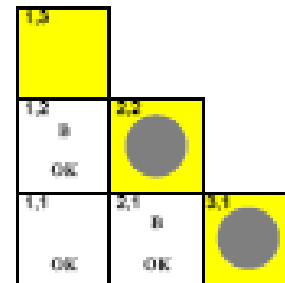
$$0.2 \times 0.2 = 0.04$$



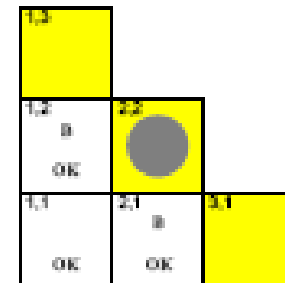
$$0.2 \times 0.8 = 0.16$$



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$$0.2 \times 0.8 = 0.16$$

- $P(P_{1,3} | \text{known}, b) = \alpha' \langle 0.2(0.04 + 0.16 + 0.16), 0.8(0.04 + 0.16) \rangle$   
 $\approx \langle 0.31, 0.69 \rangle$
- $P(P_{2,2} | \text{known}, b) \approx \langle 0.86, 0.14 \rangle$

# Summary

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- Probability is a rigorous formalism for uncertain knowledge
- **Joint probability distribution** specifies probability of every atomic event
- Queries can be answered by summing over atomic events
- For nontrivial domains, we must find a way to reduce the joint size
- **Independence** and **conditional independence** provide the tools