CS 383: Artificial Intelligence

Bayes Nets: Independence

Prof. Scott Niekum — UMass Amherst

[These slides based on those of Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel for CS188 Intro to AI at UC Berkeley. All CS188 materials are available at http://ai.berkeley.edu.]

Probability Recap

- Conditional probability $$P(x|y) = \frac{P(x,y)}{P(y)}$$
- Product rule $$P(x,y) = P(x|y)P(y)$$
- Chain rule $$\begin{aligned} P(X_1, X_2, \ldots X_n) &= P(X_1)P(X_2|X_1)P(X_3|X_1, X_2)\ldots \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(X_i|X_1, \ldots, X_{i-1}) \end{aligned}$$
- X, Y independent if and only if: $$\forall x, y : P(x,y) = P(x)P(y)$$
- X and Y are conditionally independent given Z if and only if: $$\forall x, y, z : P(x, y|z) = P(x|z)P(y|z) \qquad X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y|Z$$

Bayes Nets

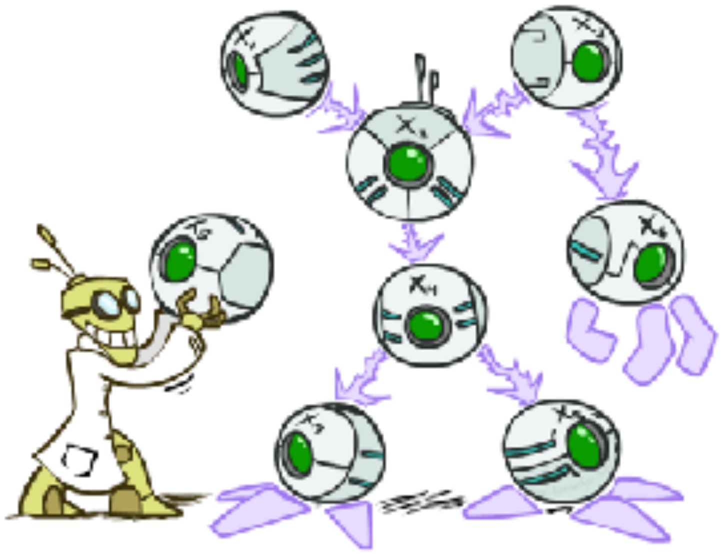
- A Bayes' net is an efficient encoding of a probabilistic model of a domain

- Questions we can ask:
  - Inference: given a fixed BN, what is P(X | e)?
  - Representation: given a BN graph, what kinds of distributions can it encode?
  - Modeling: what BN is most appropriate for a given domain?

Bayes Net Semantics

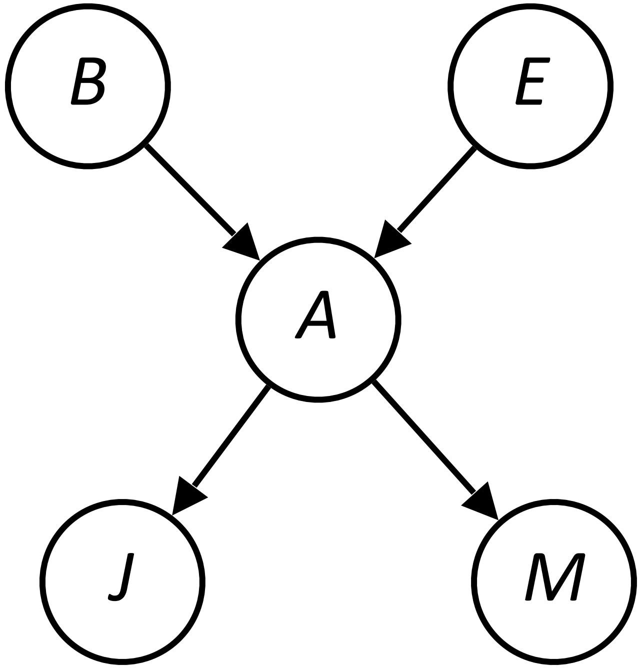
- A directed, acyclic graph, one node per random variable
- A conditional probability table (CPT) for each node
  - A collection of distributions over X, one for each combination of parents' values: $P(X|a_1 \ldots a_n)$
- Bayes' nets implicitly encode joint distributions
  - As a product of local conditional distributions
  - To see what probability a BN gives to a full assignment, multiply all the relevant conditionals together:

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



Example: Alarm Network

B	P(B)
+b	0.001
-b	0.999



E	P(E)
+e	0.002
-e	0.998

A	J	P(J|A)
+a	+j	0.9
+a	-j	0.1
-a	+j	0.05
-a	-j	0.95

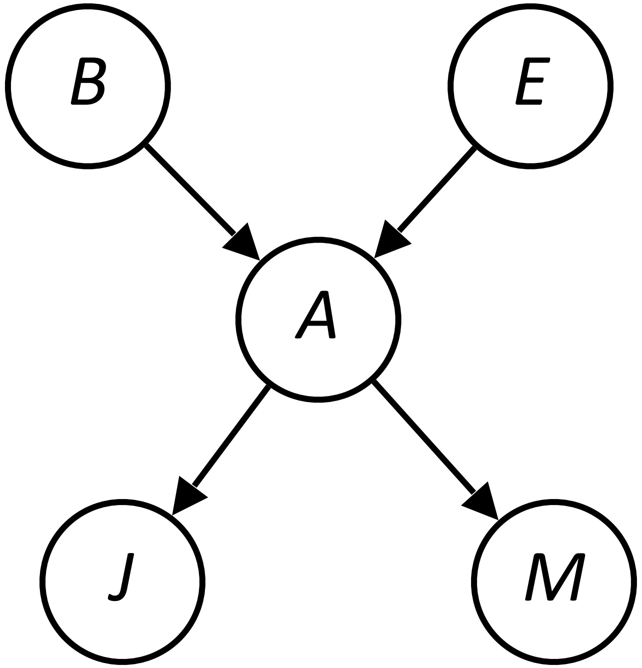
A	M	P(M|A)
+a	+m	0.7
+a	-m	0.3
-a	+m	0.01
-a	-m	0.99

B	E	A	P(A|B,E)
+b	+e	+a	0.95
+b	+e	-a	0.05
+b	-e	+a	0.94
+b	-e	-a	0.06
-b	+e	+a	0.29
-b	+e	-a	0.71
-b	-e	+a	0.001
-b	-e	-a	0.999

$$P(+b, -e, +a, -j, +m) =$$

Example: Alarm Network

B	P(B)
+b	0.001
-b	0.999



E	P(E)
+e	0.002
-e	0.998

A	J	P(J|A)
+a	+j	0.9
+a	-j	0.1
-a	+j	0.05
-a	-j	0.95

A	M	P(M|A)
+a	+m	0.7
+a	-m	0.3
-a	+m	0.01
-a	-m	0.99

B	E	A	P(A|B,E)
+b	+e	+a	0.95
+b	+e	-a	0.05
+b	-e	+a	0.94
+b	-e	-a	0.06
-b	+e	+a	0.29
-b	+e	-a	0.71
-b	-e	+a	0.001
-b	-e	-a	0.999

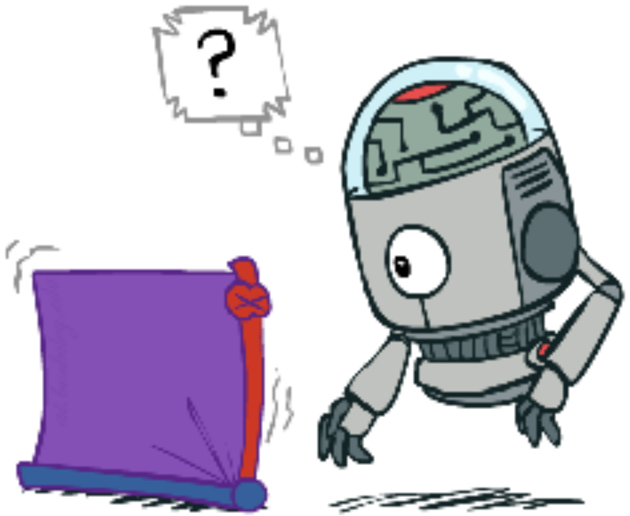
$$P(+b, -e, +a, -j, +m) =$$
$$P(+b)P(-e)P(+a|+b, -e)P(-j|+a)P(+m|+a) =$$
$$0.001 \times 0.998 \times 0.94 \times 0.1 \times 0.7$$

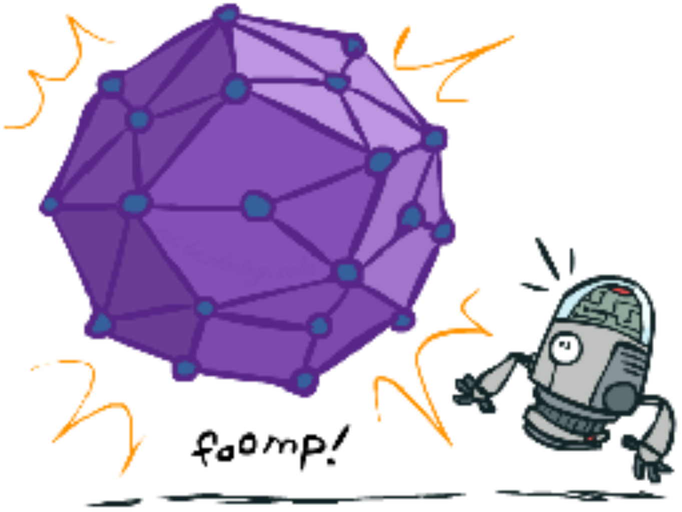
Size of a Bayes Net

- How big is a joint distribution over N Boolean variables?
  - 2^N
- How big is an N-node net if nodes have up to k parents?
  - $O(N * 2^{k+1})$
- Both give you the power to calculate

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

- BNs: Huge space savings!
- Also easier to elicit local CPTs
- Also faster to answer queries (coming)





Bayes Nets

- ✓ Representation
- Conditional Independences
- Probabilistic Inference
- Learning Bayes Nets from Data

Conditional Independence

- X and Y are independent if

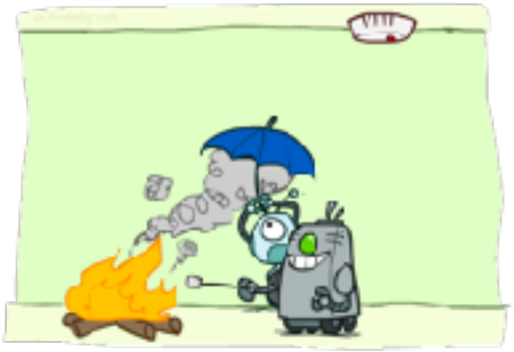
$$\forall x, y \;\; P(x, y) = P(x)P(y) \dashrightarrow X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$$

- X and Y are conditionally independent given Z

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

- (Conditional) independence is a property of a distribution

- Example: $Alarm \perp\!\!\!\perp Fire|Smoke$



Probabilities in BNs

- Why are we guaranteed that setting

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

results in a proper joint distribution?

- Chain rule (valid for all distributions): $P(x_1, x_2, \ldots x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(x_i | x_1 \ldots x_{i-1})$

- Assume conditional independences: $P(x_i | x_1, \ldots x_{i-1}) = P(x_i | parents(X_i))$

→ Consequence: $P(x_1, x_2, \ldots x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(x_i | parents(X_i))$

Conditionally independent of
Non-descendants given parents

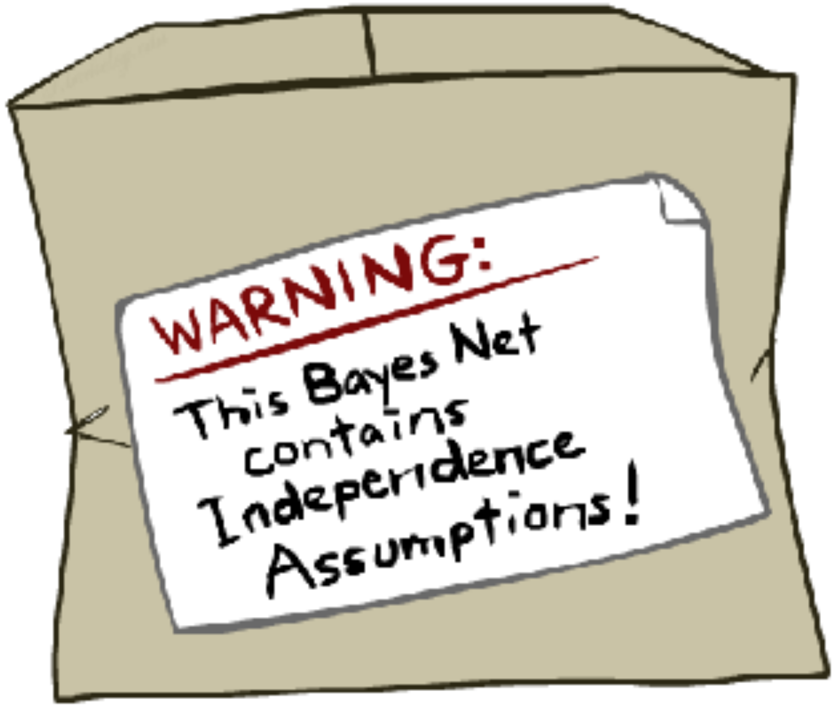
- Not every BN can represent every joint distribution
  - The topology enforces certain conditional independencies

Bayes Nets: Assumptions

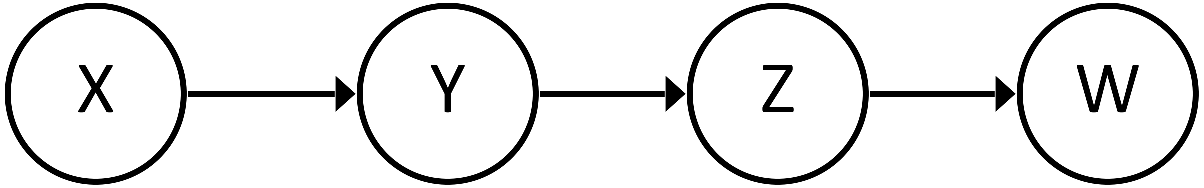
- Assumptions we are required to make to define the Bayes net when given the graph:

$$P(x_i|x_1 \cdots x_{i-1}) = P(x_i|parents(X_i))$$

- Beyond above "chain rule → Bayes net" conditional independence assumptions:
  - Often additional conditional independences
  - They can be inferred from the graph structure
- Important for modeling: understand assumptions made when choosing a Bayes net graph



Example



- Conditional independence assumptions directly from simplifications in chain rule:

Standard chain rule: $p(x, y, z, w) = p(x)p(y|x)p(z|x, y)p(w|x, y, z)$

Bayes net: $p(x, y, z, w) = p(x)p(y|x)p(z|y)p(w|z)$

Since: $z \perp\!\!\!\perp x \mid y$ and $w \perp\!\!\!\perp x, y \mid z$ (cond. indep. given parents)

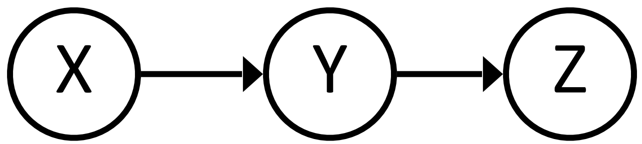
- Additional implied conditional independence assumptions? $w \perp\!\!\!\perp x \mid y$

$$p(w|x, y) = \frac{p(w, x, y)}{p(x, y)} = \frac{\sum_z p(x)p(y|x)p(z|y)p(w|z)}{p(x)p(y|x)} = \sum_z p(z|y)p(w|z) = \sum_z p(z|y)p(w|z, y)$$

$$= \sum_z p(z, w|y) = p(w|y)$$

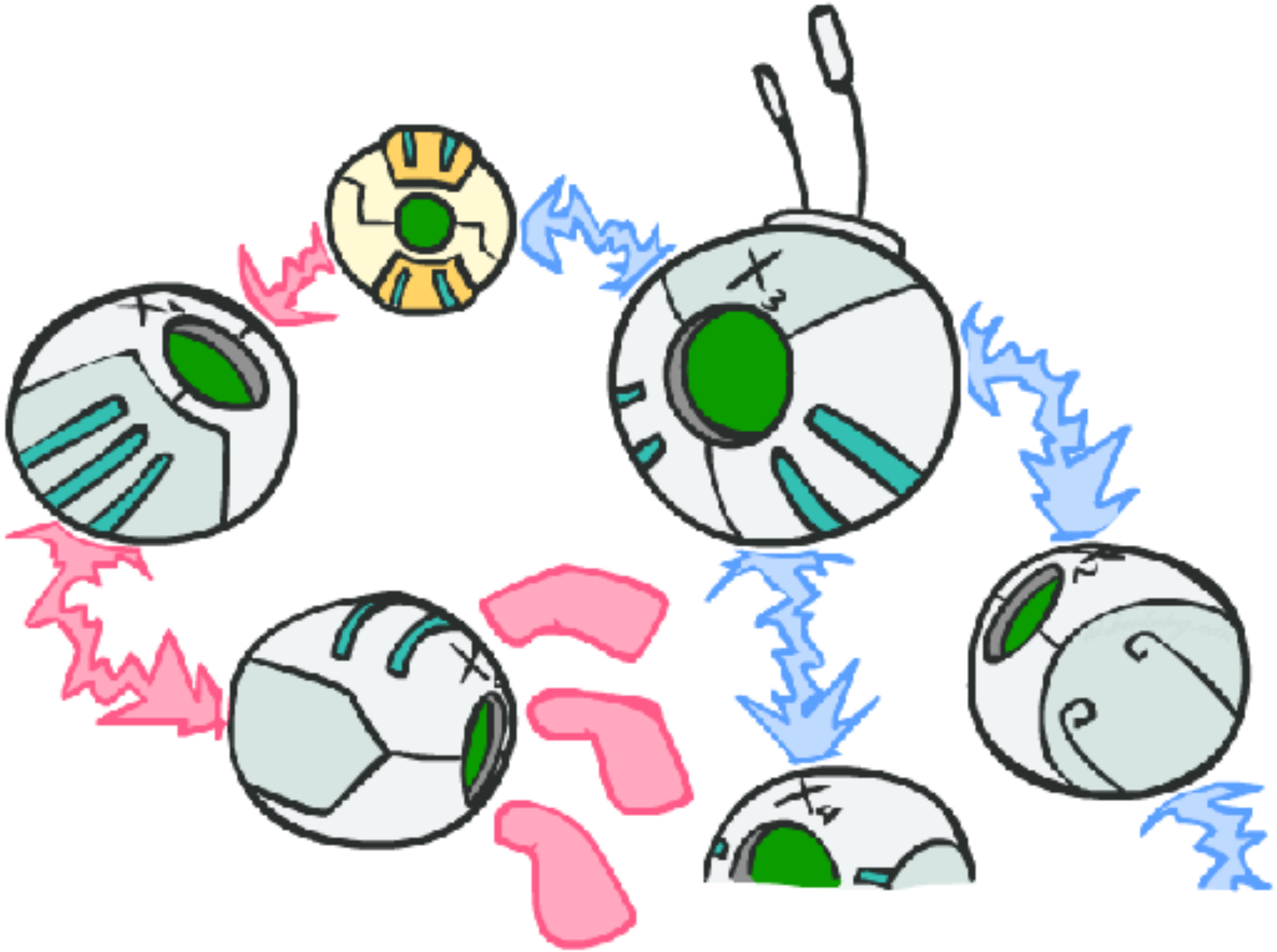
Independence in a BN

- Important question about a BN:
  - 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 guaranteed to be 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

- 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"

X: Low pressure Y: Rain Z: Traffic

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

- 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

- This configuration is a "causal chain"

X: Low pressure　Y: Rain　Z: Traffic

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

- Guaranteed X independent of Z given Y?

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

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

$$= P(z|y)$$

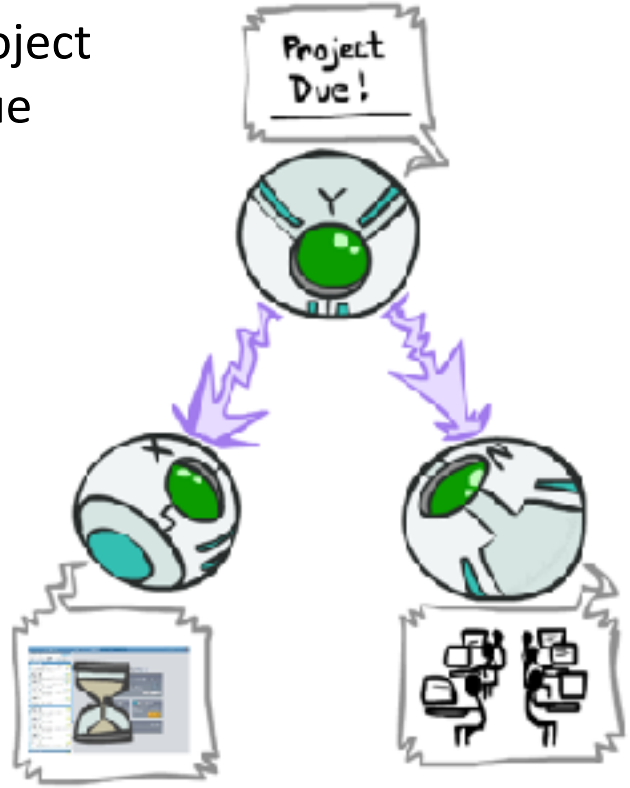
Yes!

- Evidence along the chain "blocks" the influence

Common Cause

- This configuration is a "common cause"

Y: Project due



X: Forums busy

Z: Lab full

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

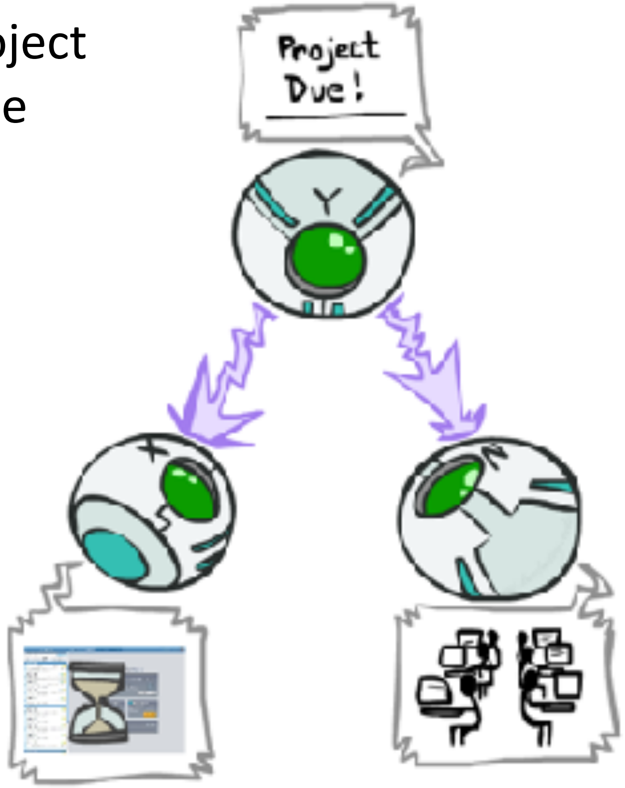
- Guaranteed X independent of Z ? *No!*
  - One example set of CPTs for which X is not independent of Z is sufficient to show this independence is not guaranteed.
  - Example:
    - Project due causes both forums busy and lab full
    - In numbers:

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

Common Cause

- This configuration is a "common cause"

Y: Project due



X: Forums busy

Z: Lab full

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

- Guaranteed X and Z independent given Y?

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

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

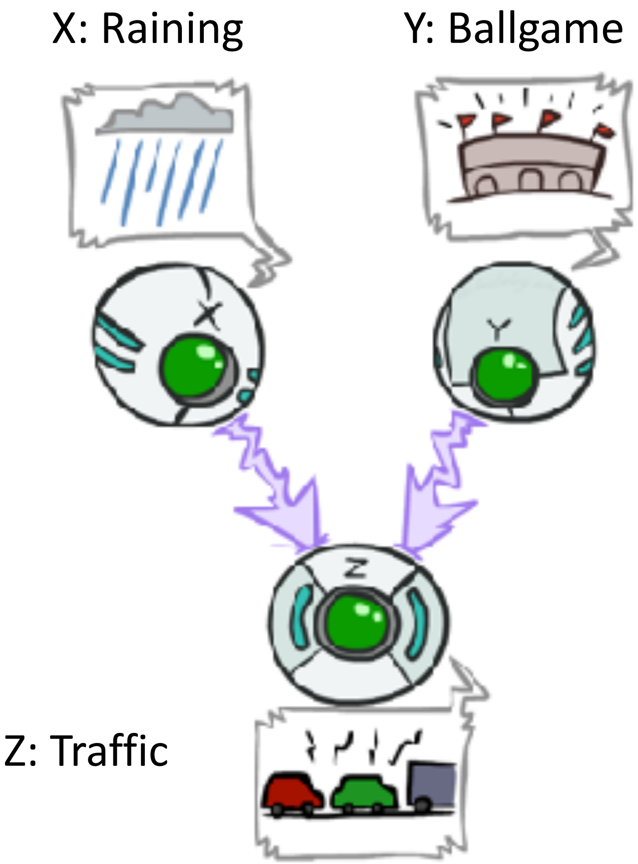
$$= P(z|y)$$

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 (covered stadium!)
  - Still need to prove they must be (try it!)
- 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.

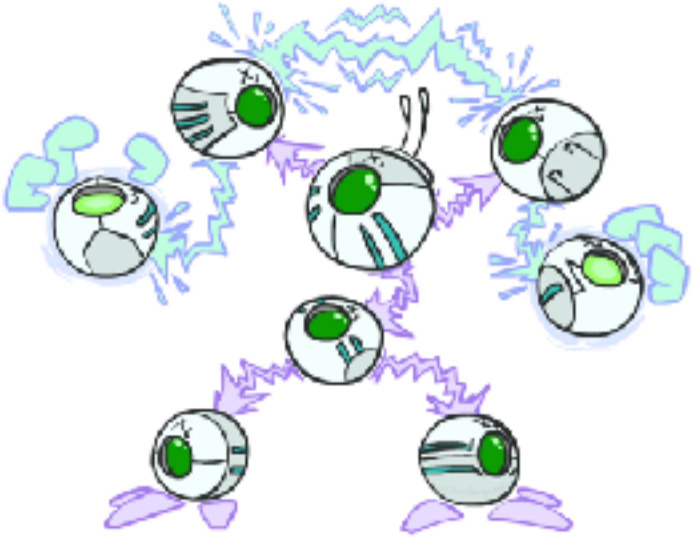
The General Case

The General Case

- General question: in a given BN, are two variables independent (given evidence)?

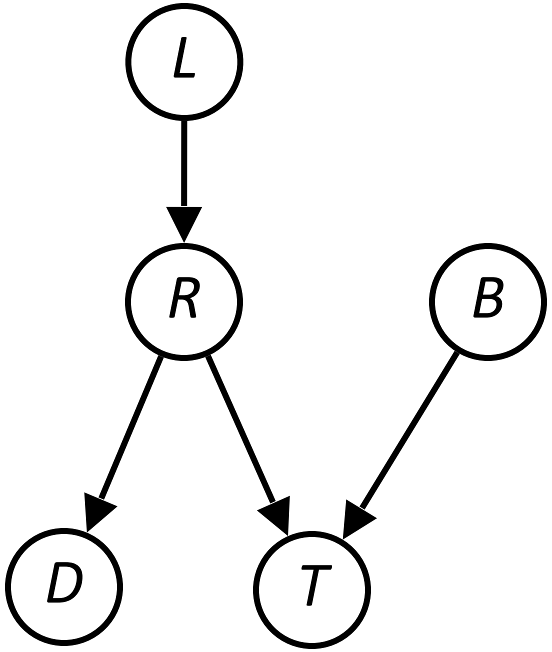
- Solution: analyze the graph

- Any complex example can be broken
  into repetitions of the three canonical cases



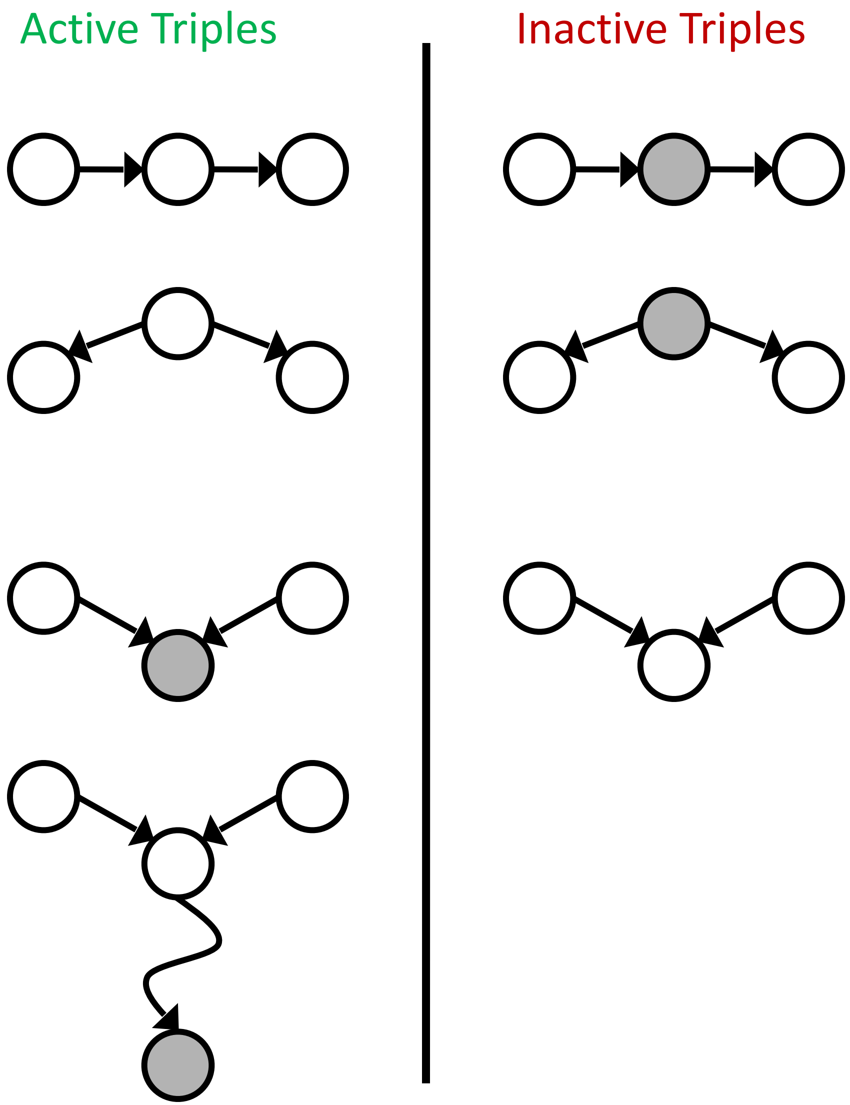
Reachability

- Recipe: shade evidence nodes, look for paths in the resulting graph
- Attempt 1: if two nodes are connected by an undirected path not blocked by a shaded observed node, they are not conditionally independent
  - Influence can "flow" between them, unblocked
- 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" via being observed as evidence



Active / Inactive Paths

- Question: Are X and Y conditionally independent given evidence variables {Z}?
  - Yes, if X and Y "d-separated" by Z
  - Consider all (undirected) paths from X to Y
  - No active paths = conditional independence!
- A path is active if each triple is active:
  - Causal chain A → B → C where B is unobserved (either direction)
  - Common cause A ← B → C where B is unobserved
  - Common effect (aka v-structure)
    A → B ← C where B *or one of its descendants* is observed
- All it takes to block a path is a single inactive segment



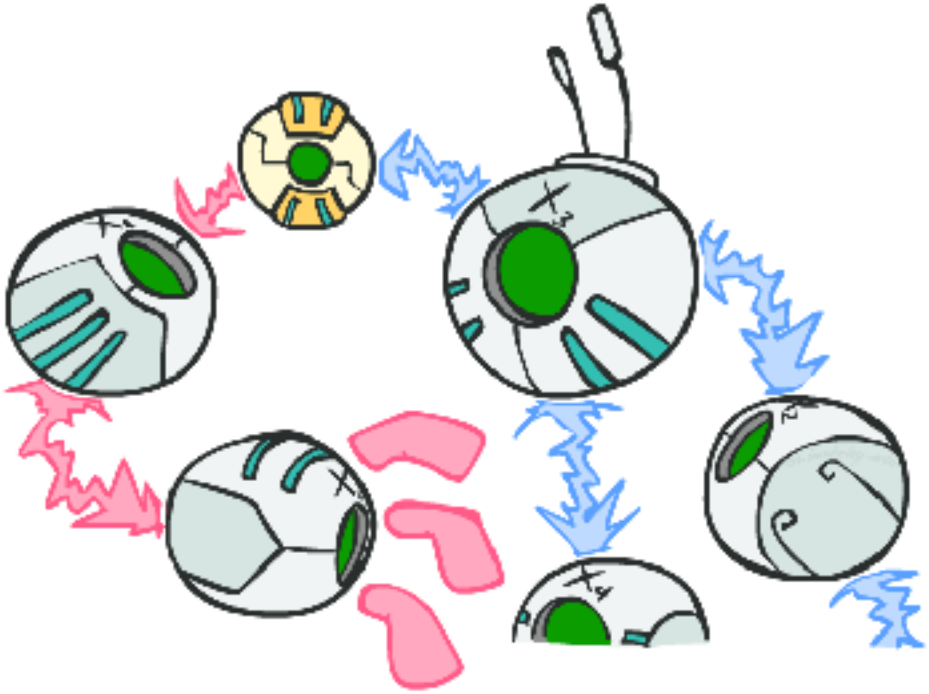
D-Separation

- Query: $X_i \perp\!\!\!\perp X_j | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$?
- Check all (undirected!) paths between X_i and X_j
  - If one or more active, then independence not guaranteed

$$X_i \not\!\perp\!\!\!\perp X_j | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$$

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

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

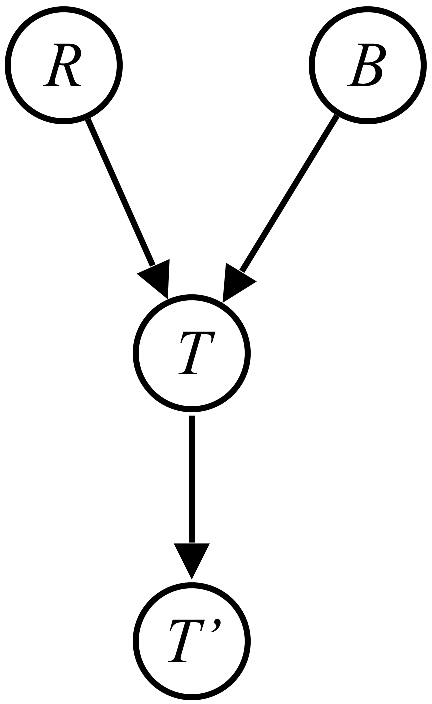


Example

$R \perp\!\!\!\perp B$ *Yes*

$R \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T$ *Not guaranteed*

$R \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T'$ *Not guaranteed*



iClicker:

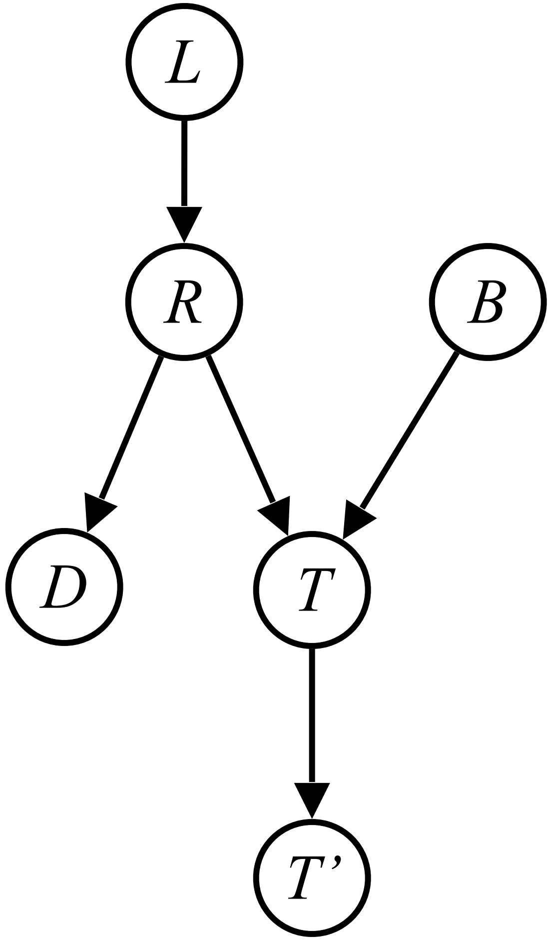
A: Yes

B: No

C: Not Guar.

Example

$L \perp\!\!\!\perp T' \mid T$	*Yes*
$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B$	*Yes*
$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B \mid T$	*Not guaranteed*
$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B \mid T'$	*Not guaranteed*
$L \perp\!\!\!\perp B \mid T, R$	*Yes*



<u>iClicker:</u>

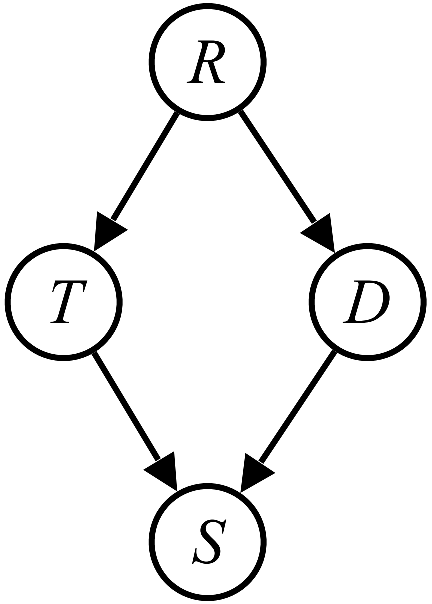
A: Yes

B: No

C: Not Guar.

Example

- Variables:
  - R: Raining
  - T: Traffic
  - D: Roof drips
  - S: I'm sad
- Questions:



<u>iClicker:</u>

A: Yes

B: No

C: Not Guar.

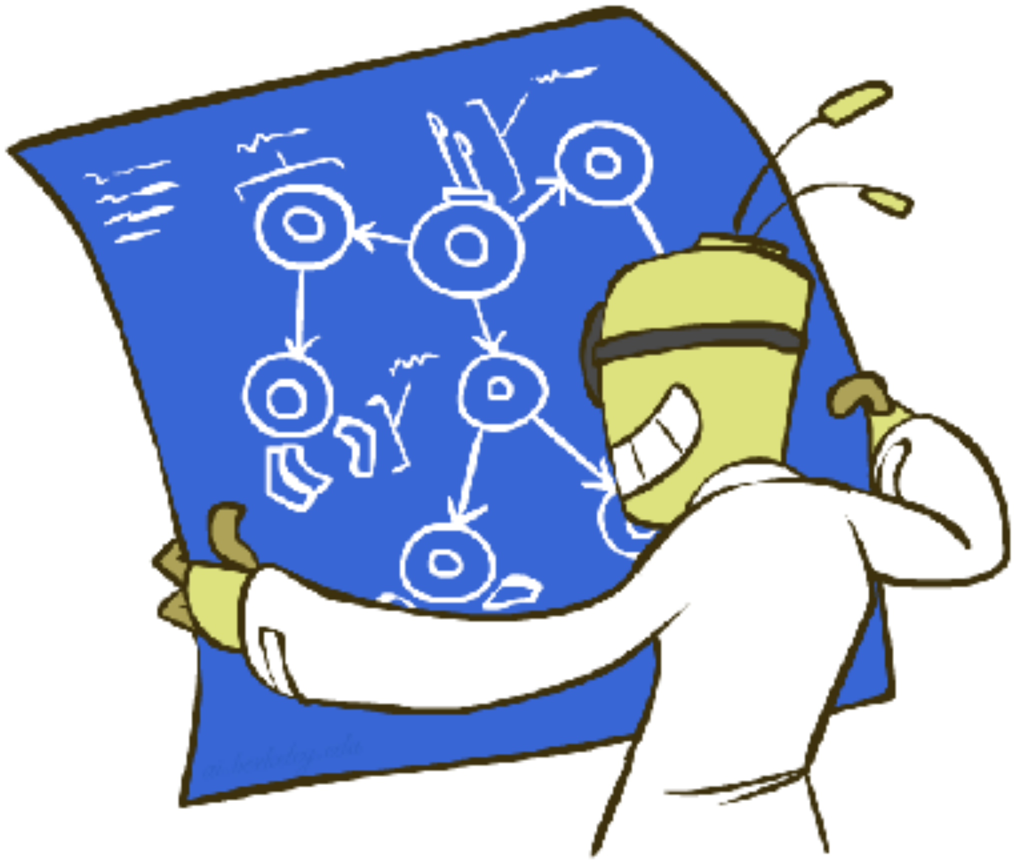
$T \perp\!\!\!\perp D$	*Not guaranteed*
$T \perp\!\!\!\perp D \mid R$	*Yes*
$T \perp\!\!\!\perp D \mid R, S$	*Not guaranteed*

Structure Implications

- Given a Bayes net structure, can run d-separation algorithm to build a complete list of conditional independences that are necessarily true of the form

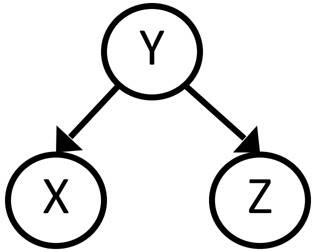
$$X_i \perp\!\!\!\perp X_j | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$$

- This list determines the set of probability distributions that can be represented

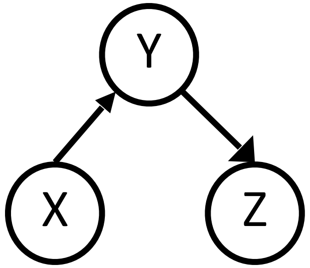


Computing All Independences

Different structure, but same cond. independences!

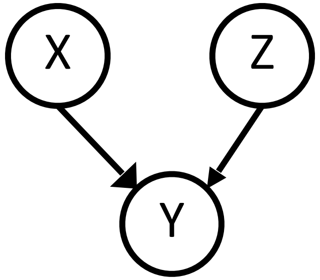


$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid Y$$

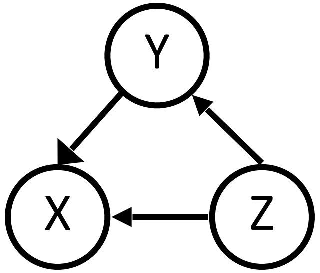


$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid Y$$

We didn't encode this directly!



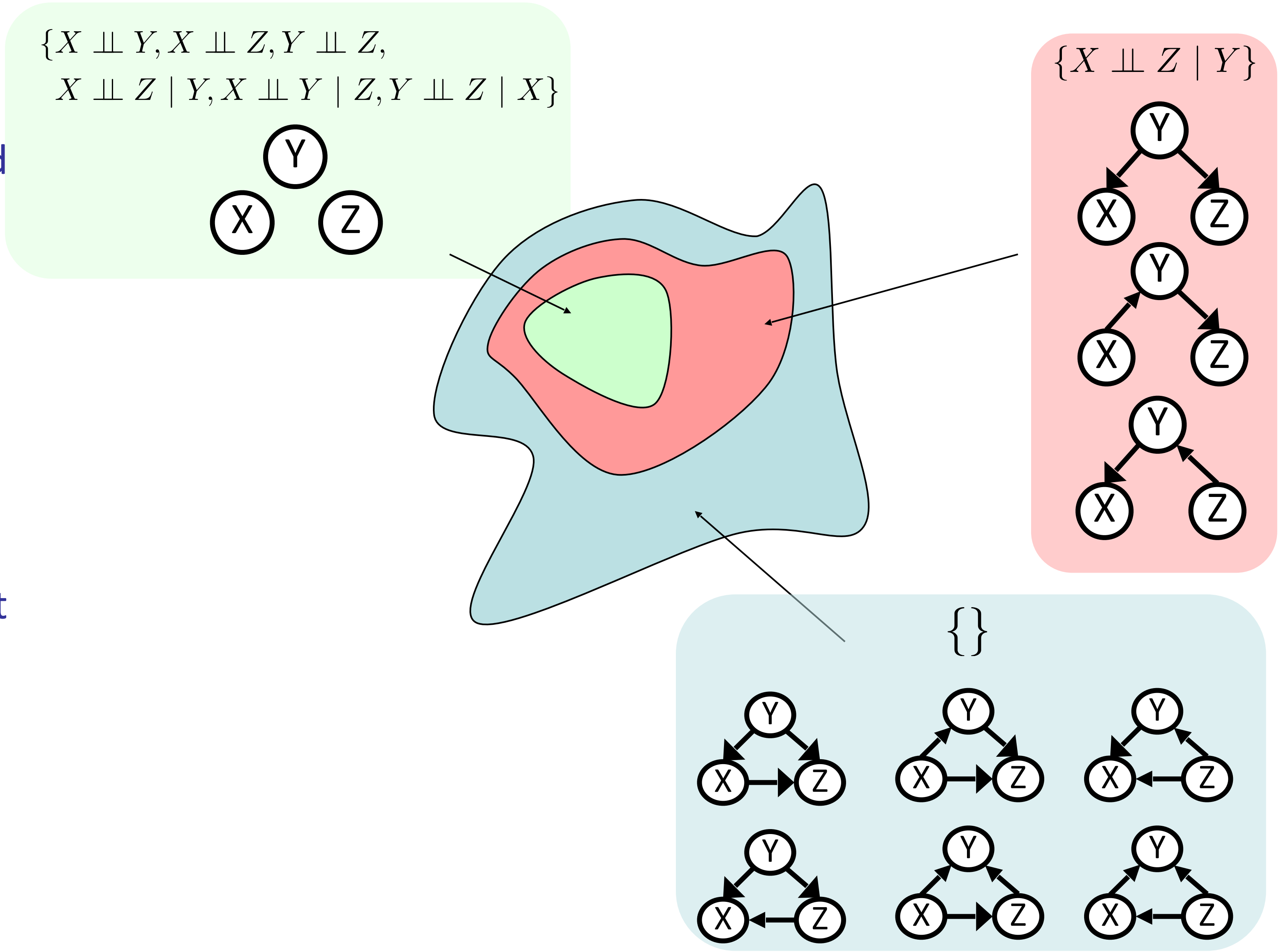
$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z$$



None!

Topology Limits Distributions

- Given some graph topology G, only certain joint distributions can be encoded
- The graph structure guarantees certain (conditional) independences
- (There might be more independence)
- Adding arcs increases the set of distributions, but has several costs
- Full conditioning can encode any distribution



Bayes Nets Representation Summary

- Bayes nets compactly encode joint distributions
- Guaranteed independencies of distributions can be deduced from BN graph structure
- D-separation gives precise conditional independence guarantees from graph alone
- A Bayes net's joint distribution may have further (conditional) independence that is not detectable until you inspect its specific distribution

Bayes Nets

- ✓ Representation
- ✓ Conditional Independences
- Probabilistic Inference
  - Enumeration (exact, exponential complexity)
  - Variable elimination (exact, worst-case exponential complexity, often better)
  - Probabilistic inference is NP-complete
  - Sampling (approximate)
- Learning Bayes' Nets from Data