

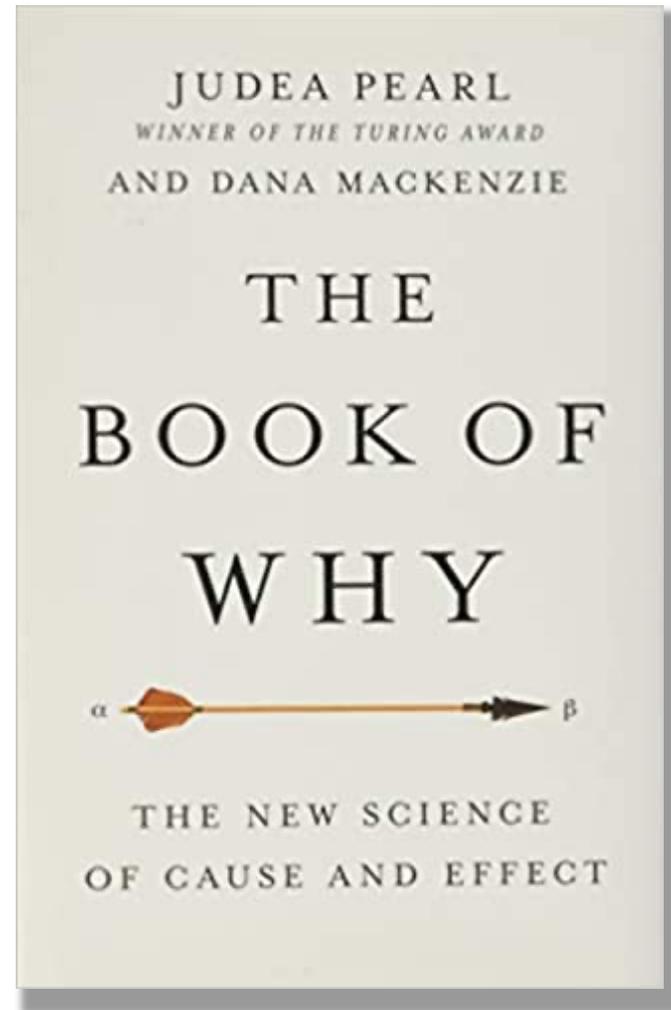
# Reasoning with Bayesian Belief Networks

# Overview

- Bayesian Belief Networks (BBNs) can reason with networks of propositions and associated probabilities
- BBNs encode causal associations between facts and events the propositions represent
- Useful for many AI problems
  - Diagnosis
  - Expert systems
  - Planning
  - Learning

# Judea Pearl

- UCLA CS professor
- Introduced [Bayesian networks](#) in the 1980
- Pioneer of probabilistic approach to AI reasoning
- First to mathematize causal modeling in empirical sciences
- Written many books on the topics, including the popular 2018 [Book of Why](#)

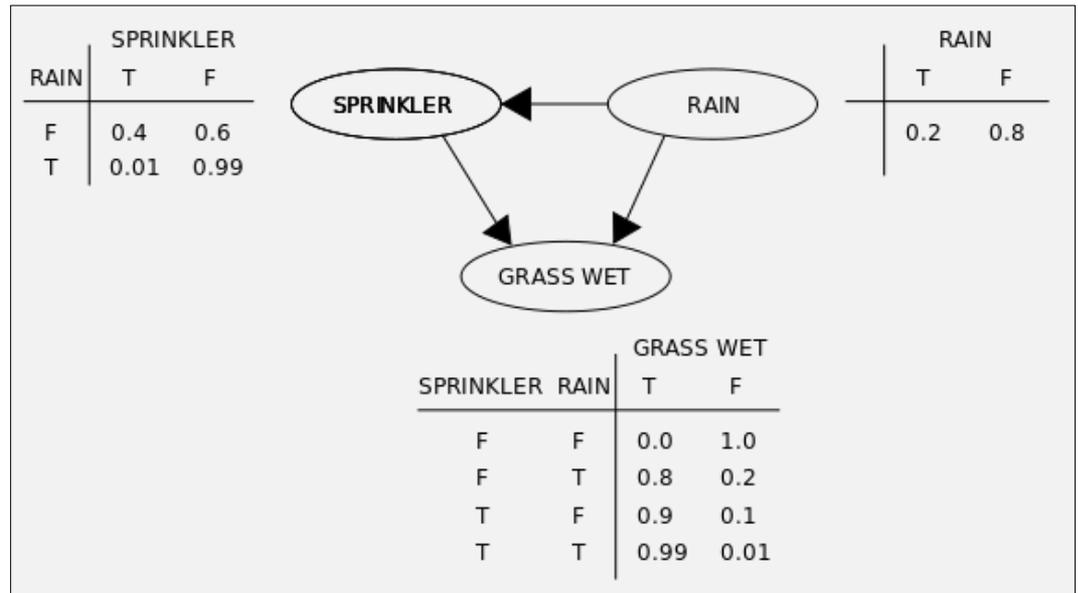


# BBN Definition

- AKA Bayesian Network, Bayes Net
- A graphical model (as a DAG) of probabilistic relationships among a set of random variables
- Nodes are variables, links represent direct influence of one variable on another

[source](#)

- Nodes have prior probabilities or Conditional Probability Tables (CPTs)



# Recall Bayes Rule

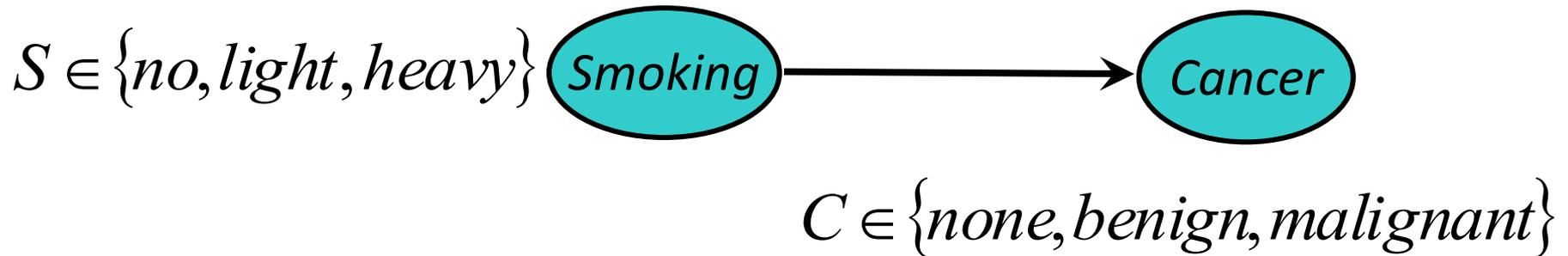
$$P(H, E) = P(H | E)P(E) = P(E | H)P(H)$$

$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(E | H)P(H)}{P(E)}$$

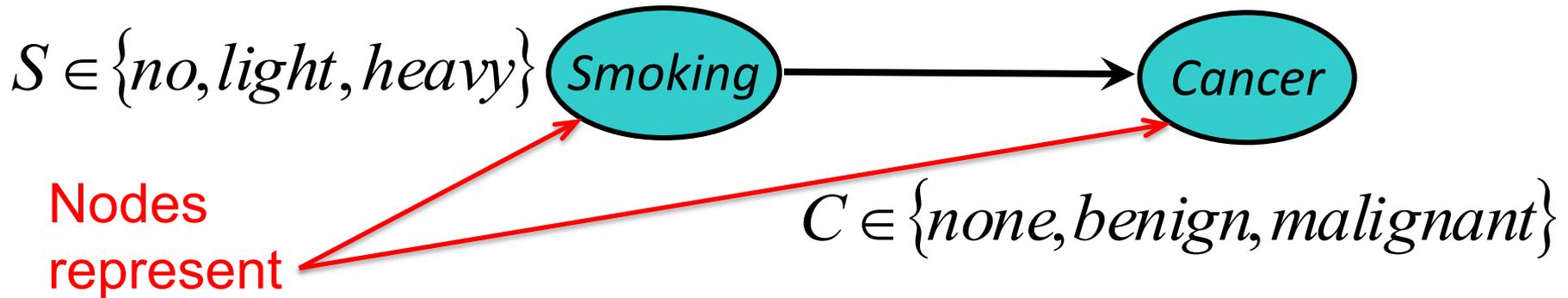
$$P(H | E) = \frac{P(E | H)P(H)}{P(E)}$$

Note symmetry: can compute probability of a ***hypothesis given its evidence*** as well as probability of ***evidence given hypothesis***

# Simple Bayesian Network

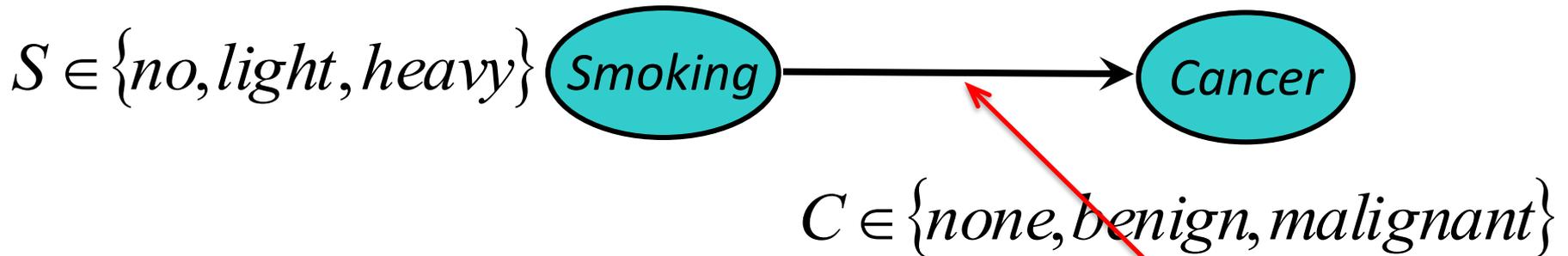


# Simple Bayesian Network



- **Smoking** variable represents person's degree of smoking and has three possible values (no, light, heavy)
- **Cancer** variable represents person's cancer diagnosis and has three possible values (none, benign, malignant)

# Simple Bayesian Network



- **tl;dr:** smoking effects cancer
- **Smoking** behavior effects the probability of **cancer** outcome
- **Smoking** behavior considered evidence for whether a person is likely to have cancer or not

Directed links  
represent  
“causal”  
relations

# Simple Bayesian Network



Prior probability of S

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| $P(S=no)$    | 0.80 |
| $P(S=light)$ | 0.15 |
| $P(S=heavy)$ | 0.05 |

$C \in \{none, benign, malignant\}$

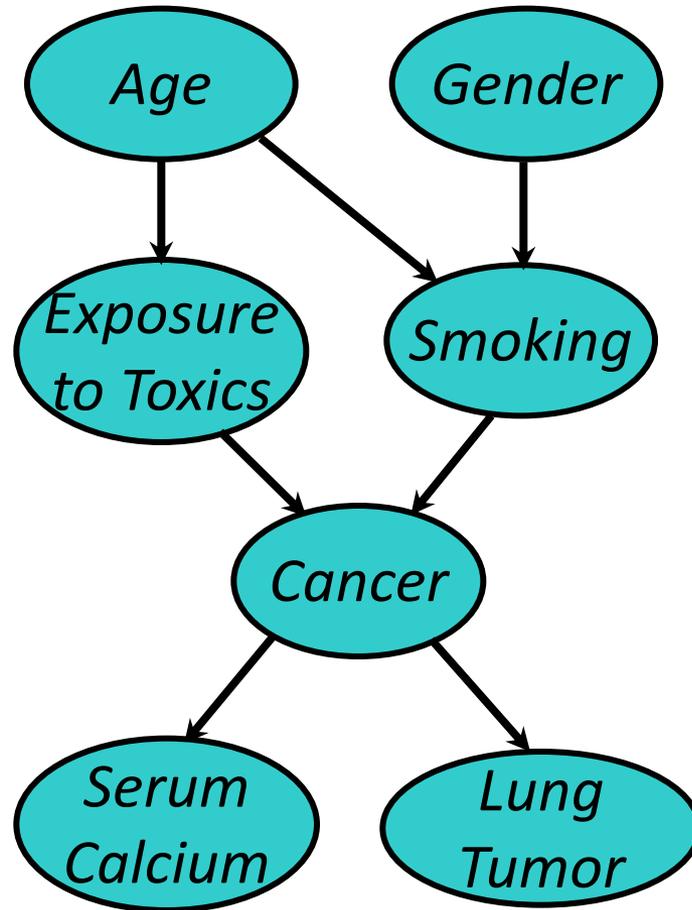
Nodes without in-links have  
**prior probabilities**

Joint distribution of S and C

Nodes with in-links  
have **joint probability  
distributions**

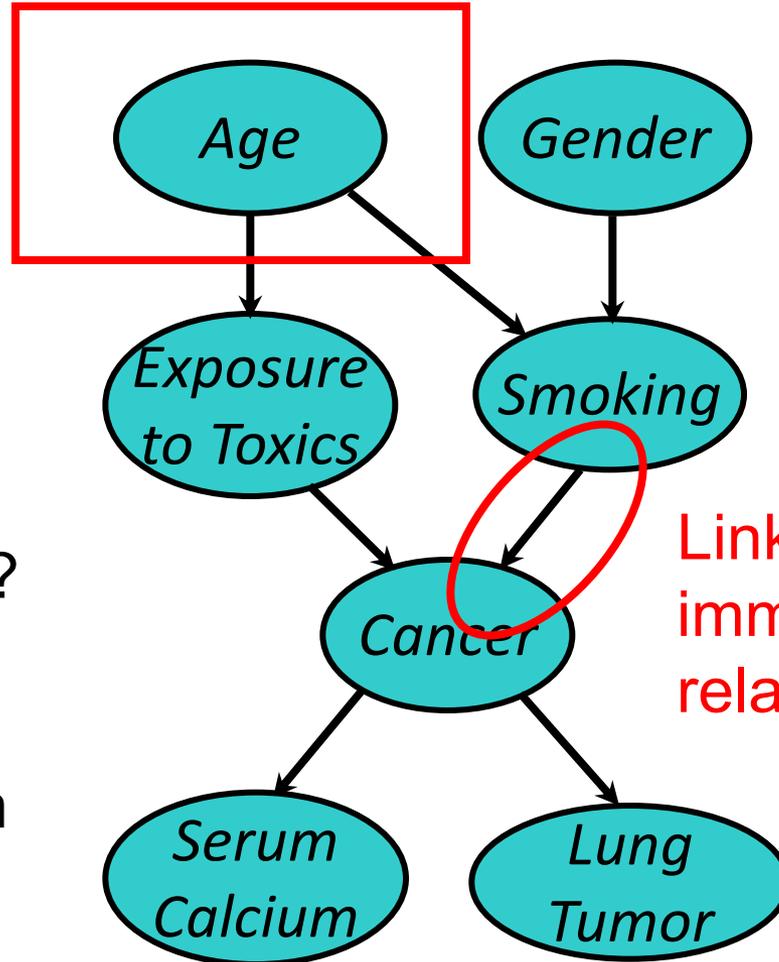
| <i>Smoking=</i>    | <i>no</i> | <i>light</i> | <i>heavy</i> |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>C=none</i>      | 0.96      | 0.88         | 0.60         |
| <i>C=benign</i>    | 0.03      | 0.08         | 0.25         |
| <i>C=malignant</i> | 0.01      | 0.04         | 0.15         |

# More Complex Bayesian Network



# More Complex Bayesian Network

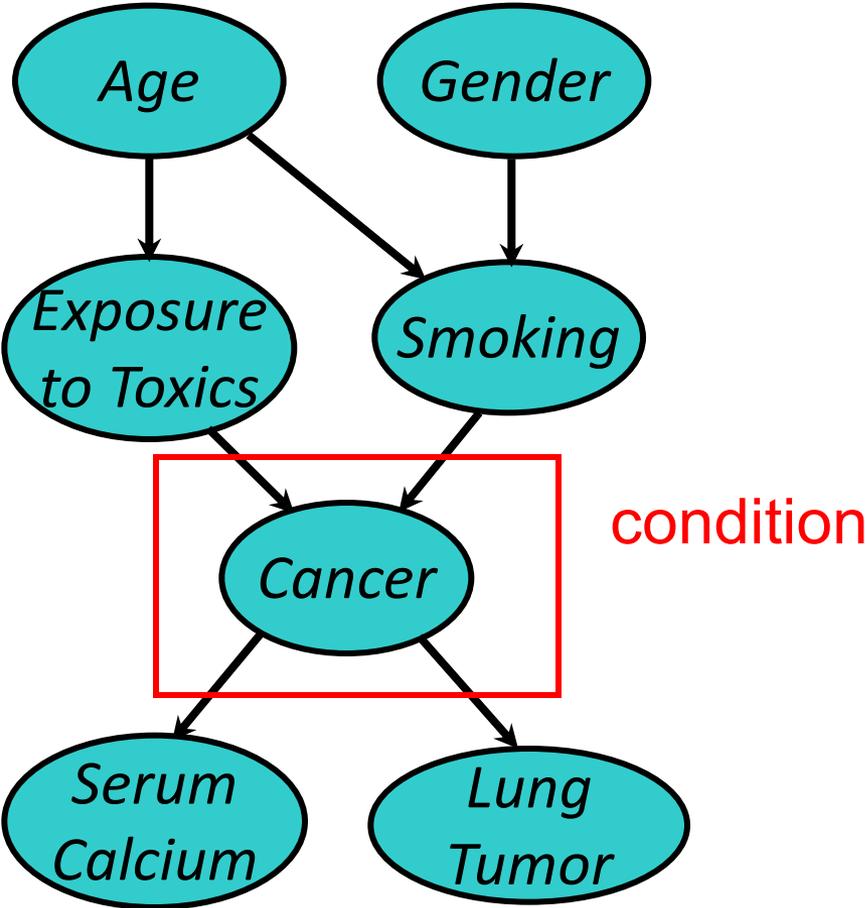
Nodes represent variables



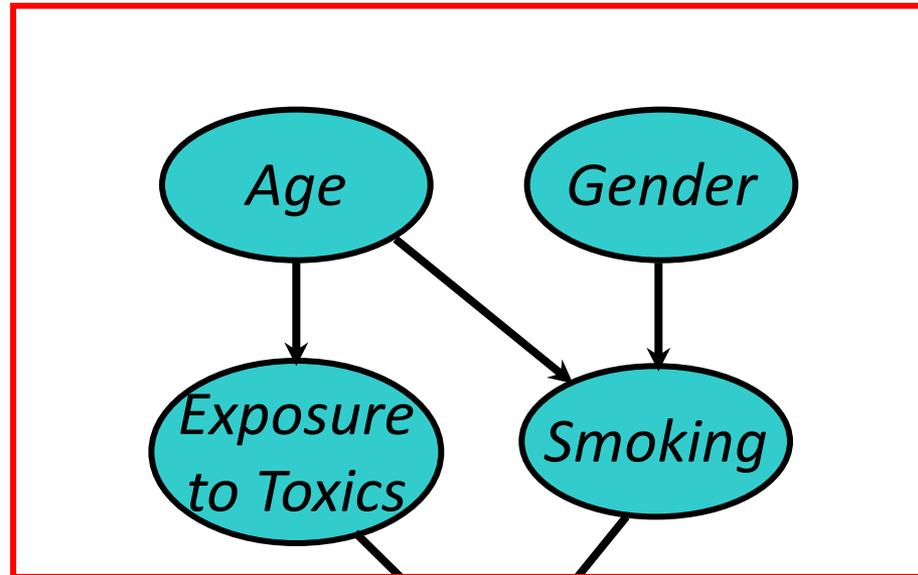
Links represent immediate "causal" relations

- Does gender cause smoking?
- Influence might be a better term

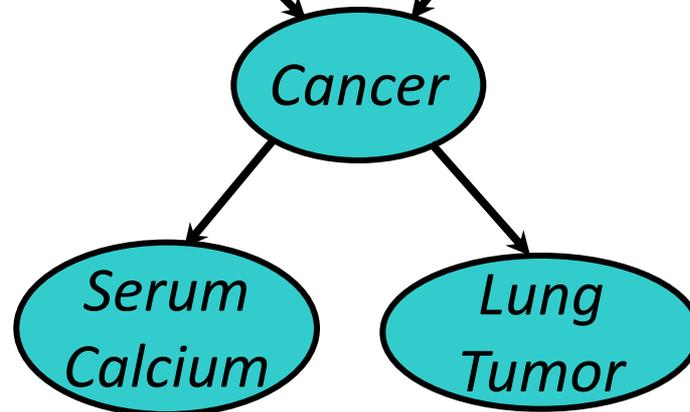
# More Complex Bayesian Network



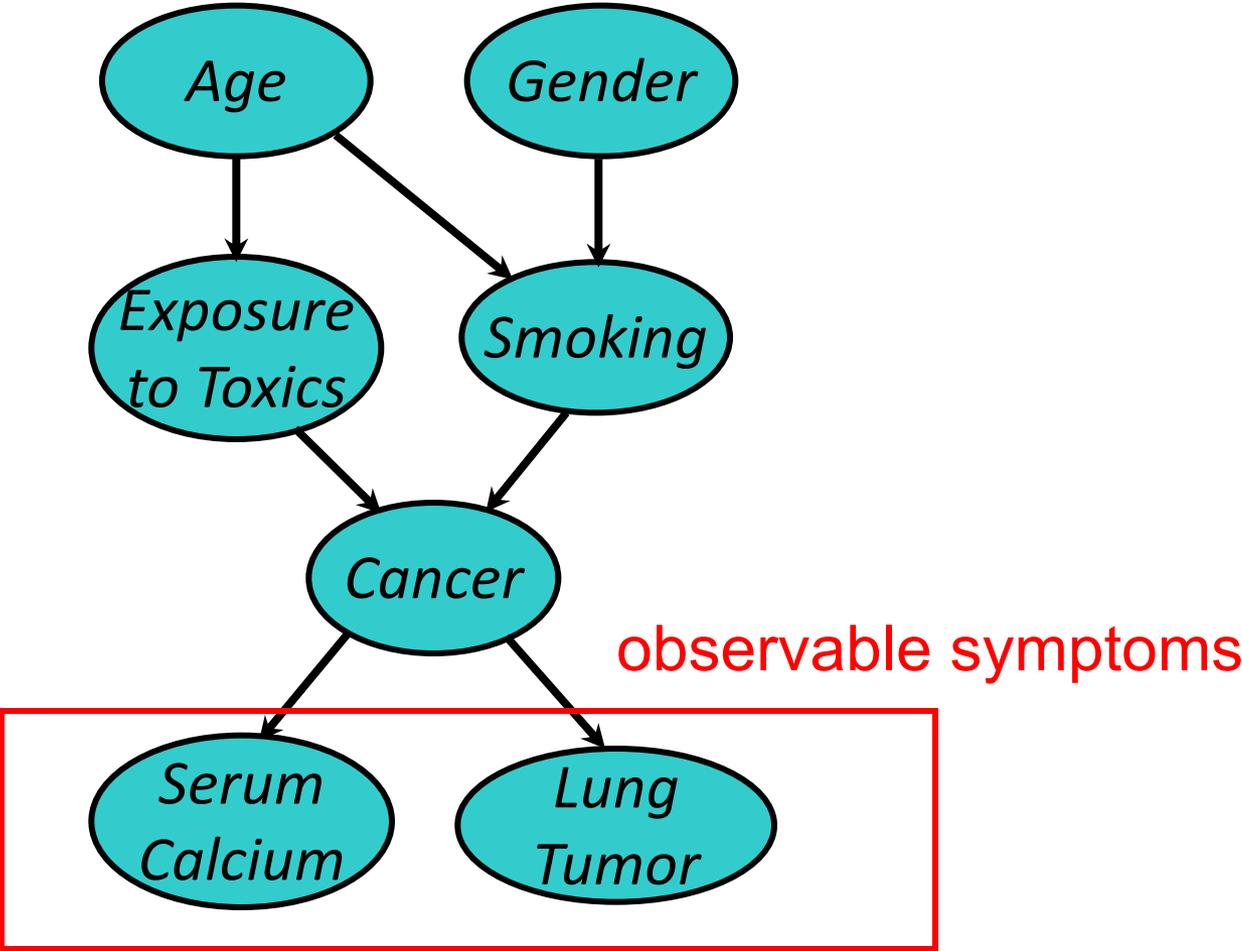
# More Complex Bayesian Network



predispositions

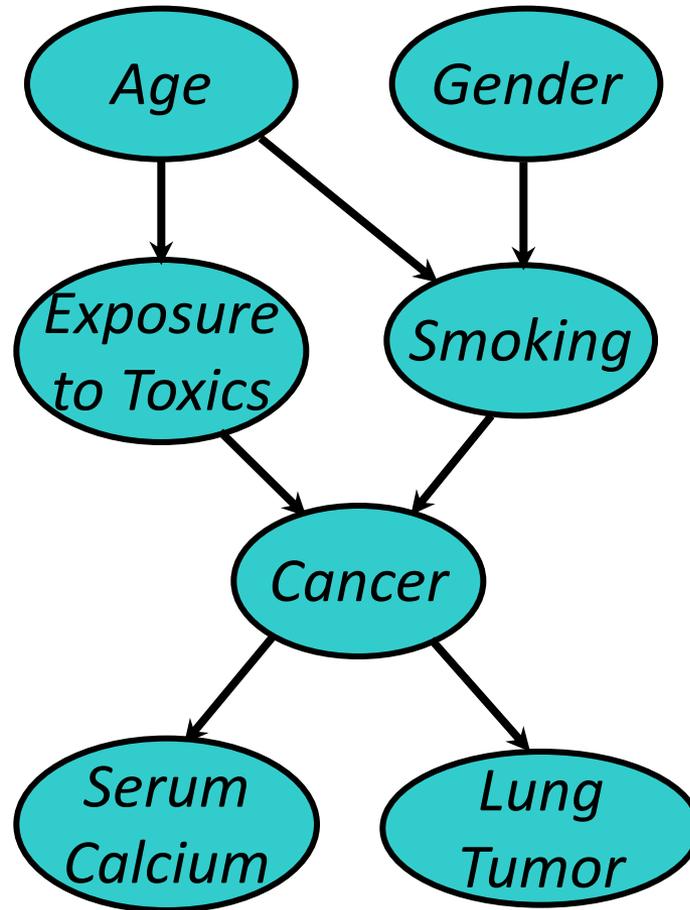


# More Complex Bayesian Network



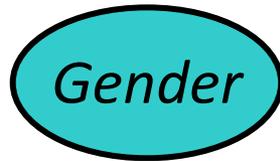
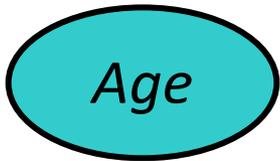
# More Complex Bayesian Network

Can we predict likelihood of **lung tumor** given values of other 6 variables?



- Model has 7 variables
- Complete joint probability distribution will have 7 dimensions!
- Too much data required 😞
- BBN simplifies: a node has a CPT with data on itself & parents in graph

# Independence



*Age* and *Gender* are independent.

$$P(A, G) = P(G) * P(A)$$

There is no path between them in the graph

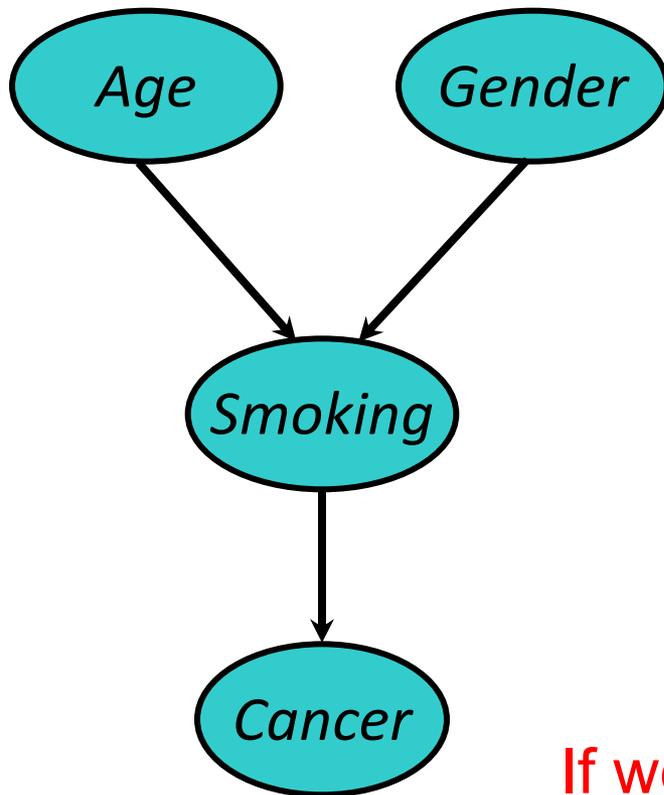
$$P(A | G) = P(A)$$

$$P(G | A) = P(G)$$

$$P(A, G) = P(G | A) P(A) = P(G)P(A)$$

$$P(A, G) = P(A | G) P(G) = P(A)P(G)$$

# Conditional Independence

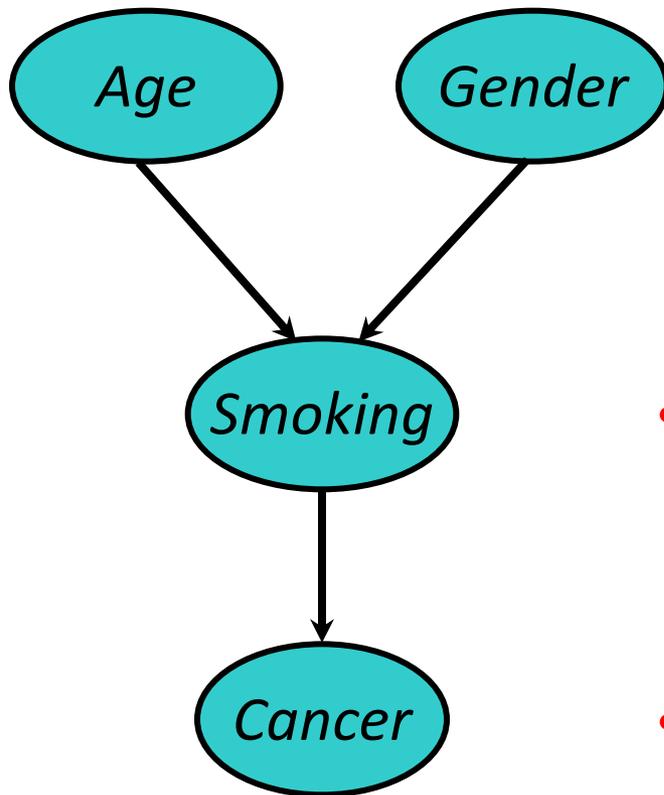


*Cancer* is independent of *Age* and *Gender* given *Smoking*

$$P(C | A, G, S) = P(C | S)$$

If we know value of smoking, no need to know values of age or gender

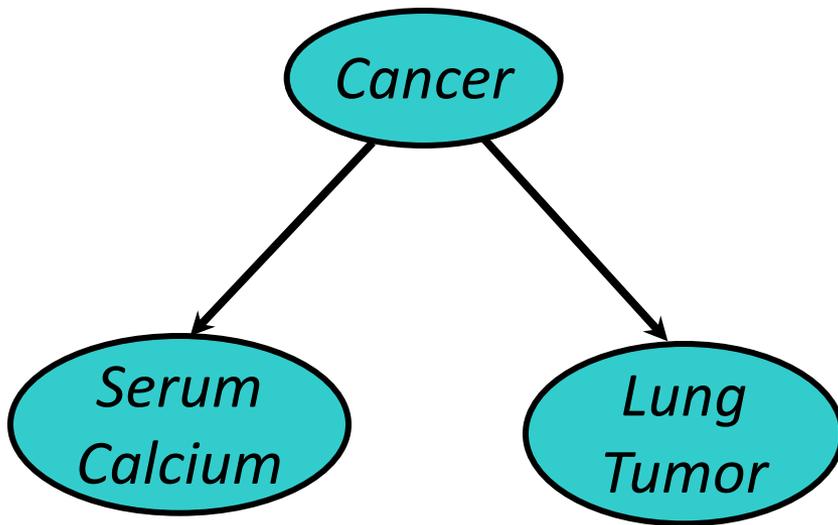
# Conditional Independence



*Cancer* is independent of *Age* and *Gender* given *Smoking*

- Instead of one big CPT with 4 variables, we have two smaller CPTs with 3 and 2 variables
- If all variables binary: 12 models ( $2^3 + 2^2$ ) rather than 16 ( $2^4$ )

# Conditional Independence: Naïve Bayes



*Serum Calcium and Lung Tumor are dependent*

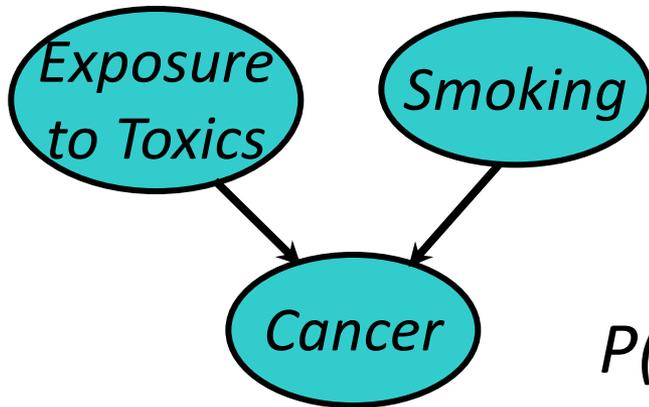
*Serum Calcium is independent of Lung Tumor, given Cancer*

$$P(L \mid SC, C) = P(L \mid C)$$

$$P(SC \mid L, C) = P(SC \mid C)$$

Naïve Bayes assumption: evidence (e.g., symptoms) independent given disease; easy to combine evidence

# Explaining Away



*Exposure to Toxics and Smoking are independent*

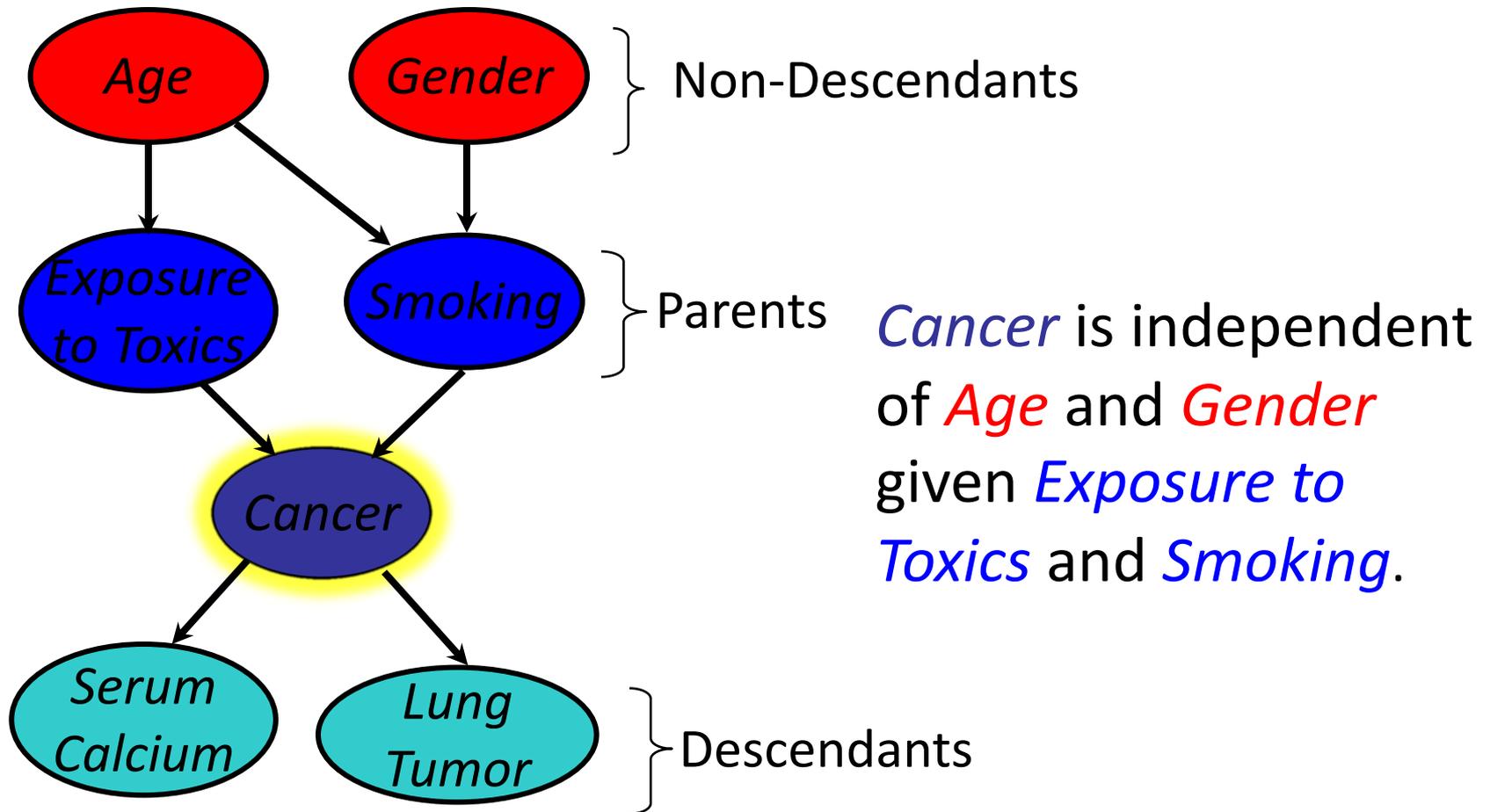
*Exposure to Toxics is **dependent** on Smoking, given Cancer*

$$P(E=heavy \mid C=malignant) > P(E=heavy \mid C=malignant, S=heavy)$$

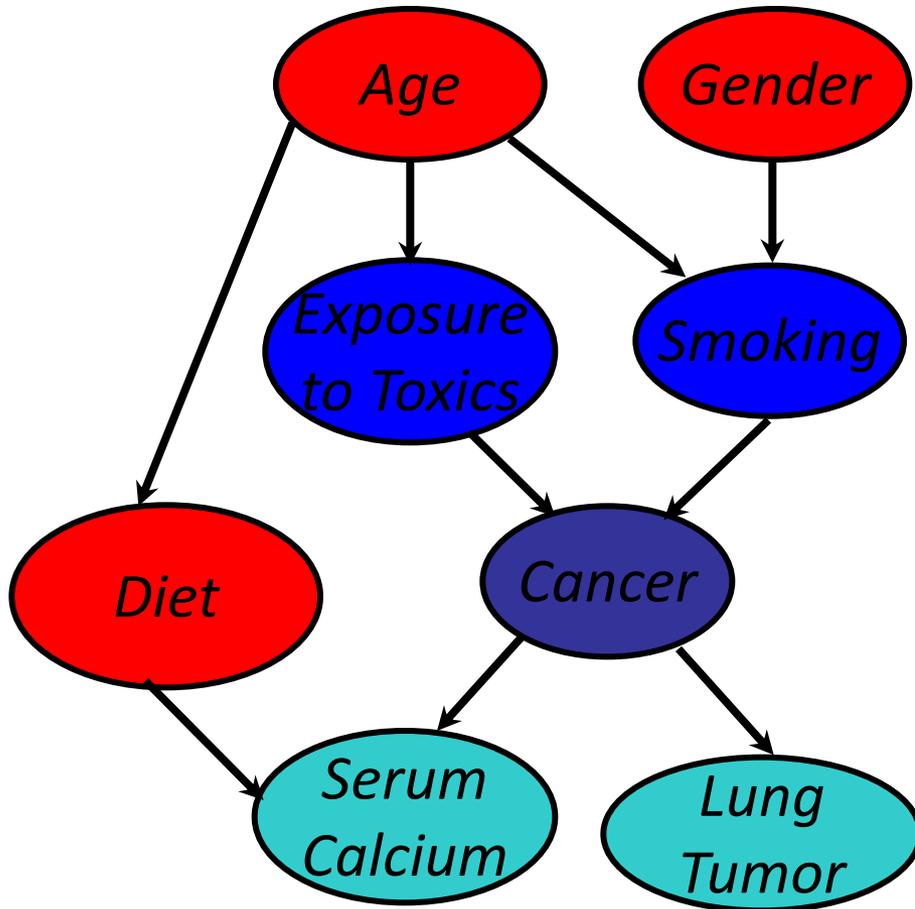
- *Explaining away*: reasoning pattern where confirmation of one cause reduces need to invoke alternatives
- Essence of [Occam's Razor](#) (prefer hypothesis with fewest assumptions)
- Relies on independence of causes

# Conditional Independence

A variable (node) is conditionally independent of its non-descendants given its parents



# Another non-descendant



A variable is conditionally independent of its non-descendants given its parents

*Cancer* is independent of *Diet* given *Exposure to Toxics* and *Smoking*

# BBN Construction

The knowledge acquisition process for a BBN involves three steps

**KA1:** Choosing appropriate variables

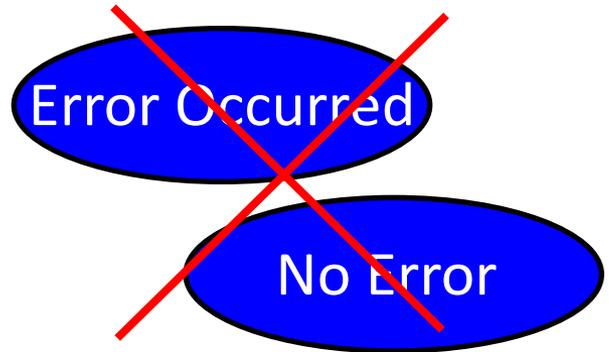
**KA2:** Deciding on the network structure

**KA3:** Obtaining data for the conditional probability tables

# KA1: Choosing variables

- Variable values: integers, reals or enumerations
- Variable should have collectively *exhaustive*, *mutually exclusive* values

$$x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4$$
$$\neg(x_i \wedge x_j) \quad i \neq j$$



- They should be values, not probabilities

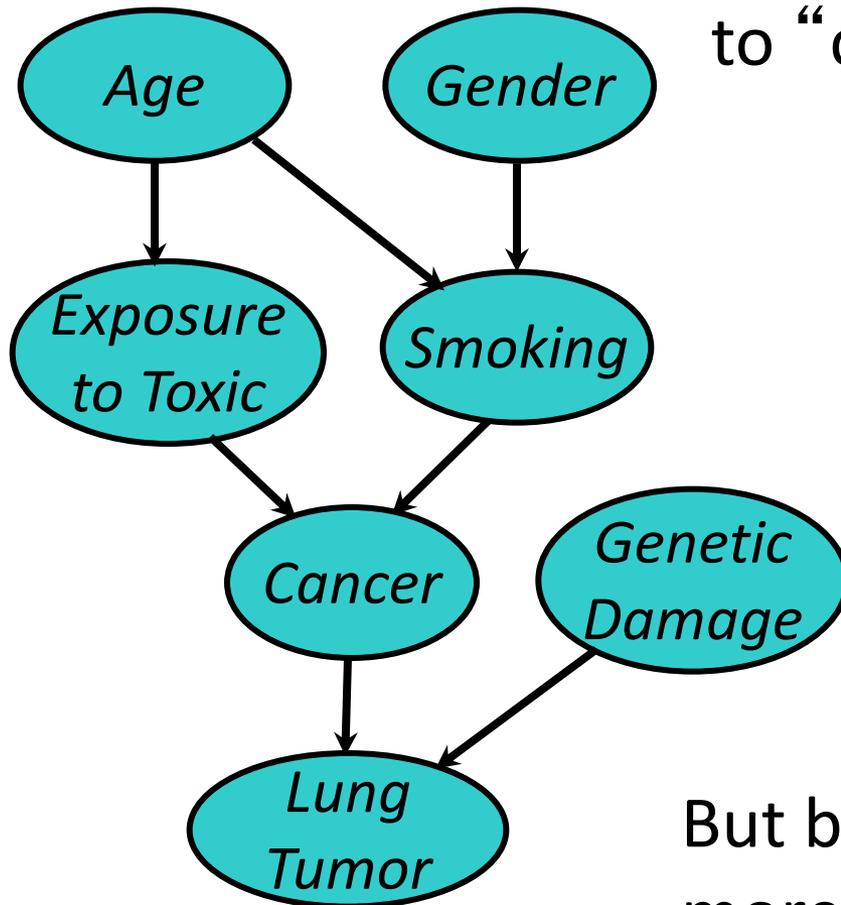


# Heuristic: Knowable in Principle

## Example of good variables

- Weather: {Sunny, Cloudy, Rain, Snow}
- Gasoline: \$ per gallon {<1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, >4}
- Temperature: { $\geq 100^\circ$  F,  $< 100^\circ$  F}
- User needs help on Excel Charts: {Yes, No}
- User's personality: {dominant, submissive}

# KA2: Structuring



Network structure corresponding to “causality” is usually good.

Initially this uses designer’s knowledge and intuitions but can be checked with data

May be better to add suspected links than to leave out

But bigger CPT tables mean more data collection

# KA3: The Numbers

- For each variable we have a table of probability of its value for values of its **parents**
- For variables w/o parents, we have **prior probabilities**

$S \in \{no, light, heavy\}$

$C \in \{none, benign, malignant\}$

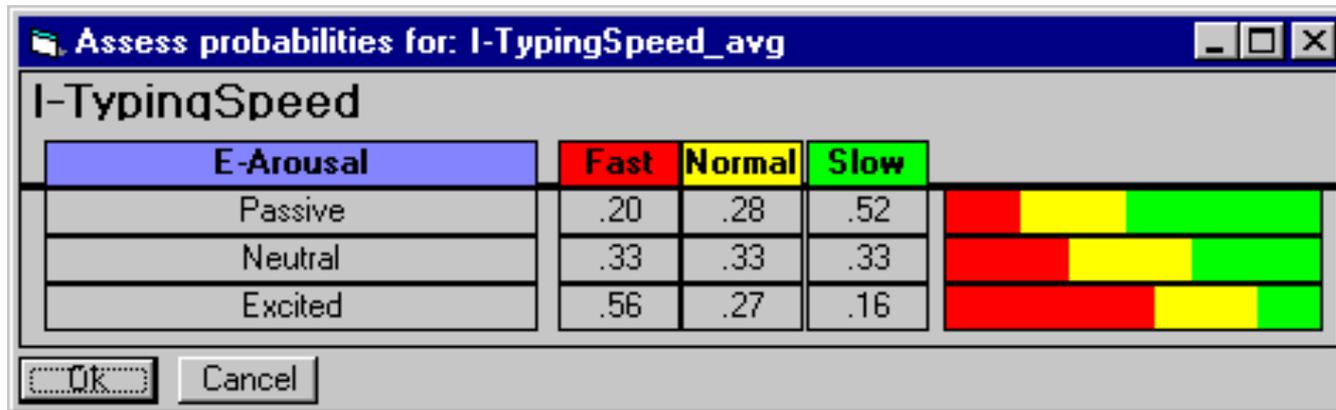


| smoking priors |      |
|----------------|------|
| no             | 0.80 |
| light          | 0.15 |
| heavy          | 0.05 |

|           | smoking |       |       |
|-----------|---------|-------|-------|
| cancer    | no      | light | heavy |
| none      | 0.96    | 0.88  | 0.60  |
| benign    | 0.03    | 0.08  | 0.25  |
| malignant | 0.01    | 0.04  | 0.15  |

# KA3: The numbers

- Second decimal usually doesn't matter
- Relative probabilities are important



- Zeros and ones are often enough
- Order of magnitude is typical:  $10^{-9}$  vs  $10^{-6}$
- Sensitivity analysis can be used to decide accuracy needed

# Three kinds of reasoning

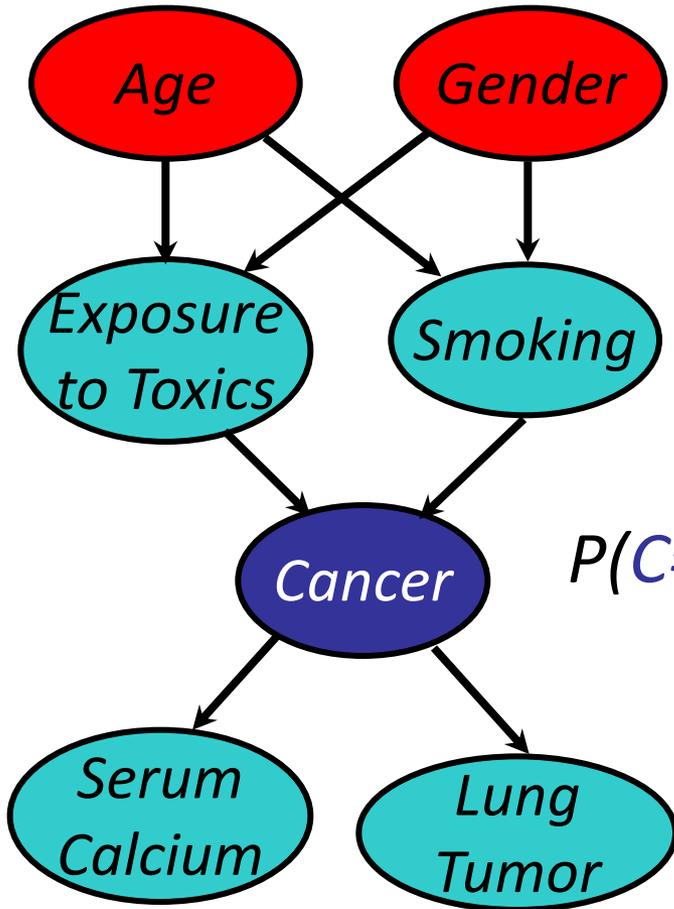
BBNs support three main kinds of reasoning:

- **Predicting** conditions given predispositions
- **Diagnosing** conditions given symptoms (and predisposing)
- **Explaining** a condition by one or more predispositions

To which we can add a fourth:

- **Deciding** on an action based on probabilities of the conditions

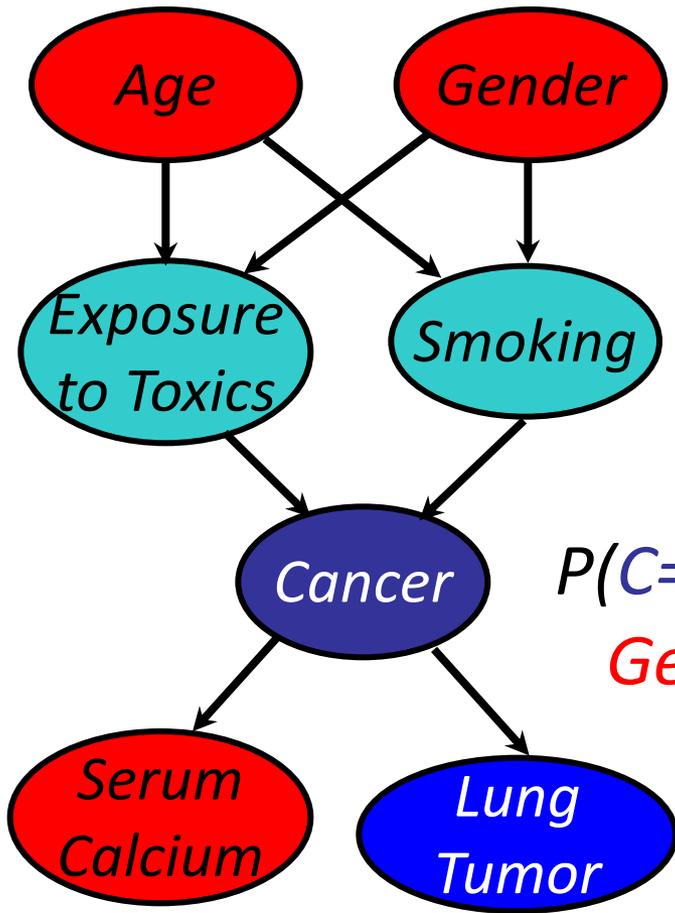
# Predictive Inference



How likely are **elderly males** to get **malignant cancer**?

$$P(C=\text{malignant} \mid \text{Age}>60, \text{Gender}=\text{male})$$

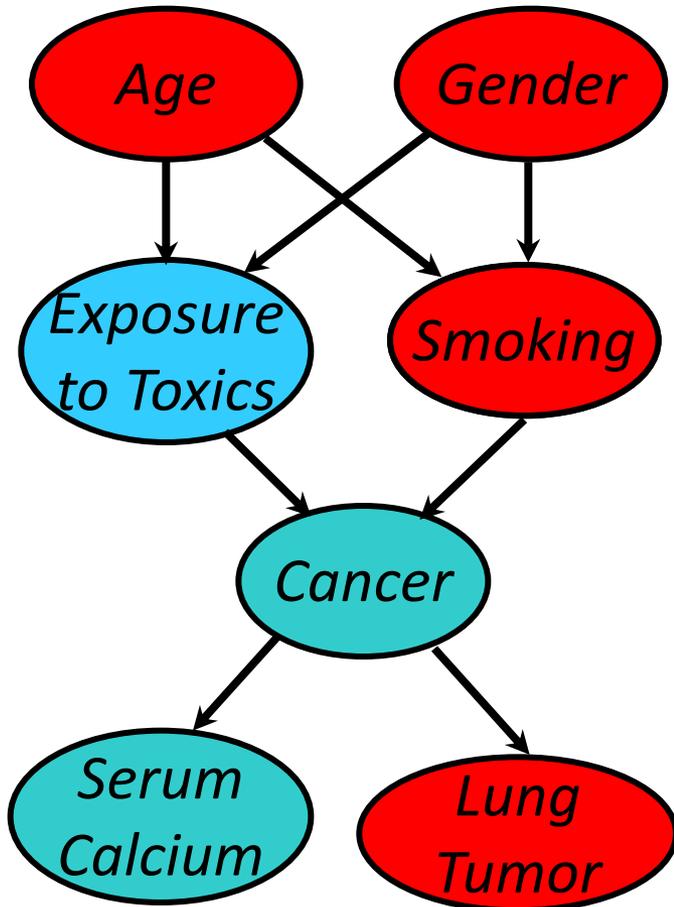
# Predictive and diagnostic combined



How likely is an **elderly male** patient with high **Serum Calcium** to have malignant cancer?

$$P(C=\text{malignant} \mid \text{Age} > 60, \text{Gender} = \text{male}, \text{Serum Calcium} = \text{high})$$

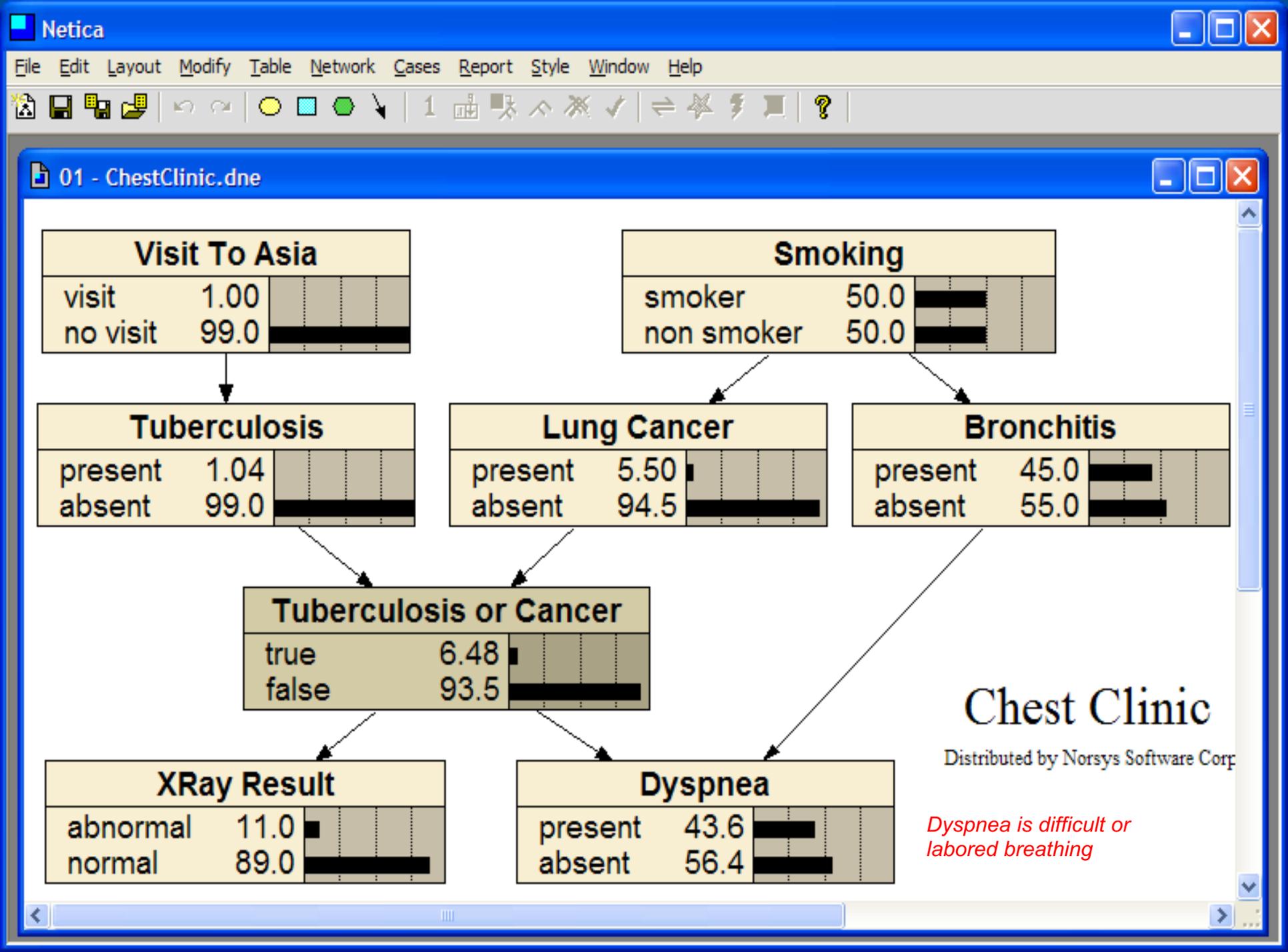
# Explaining away



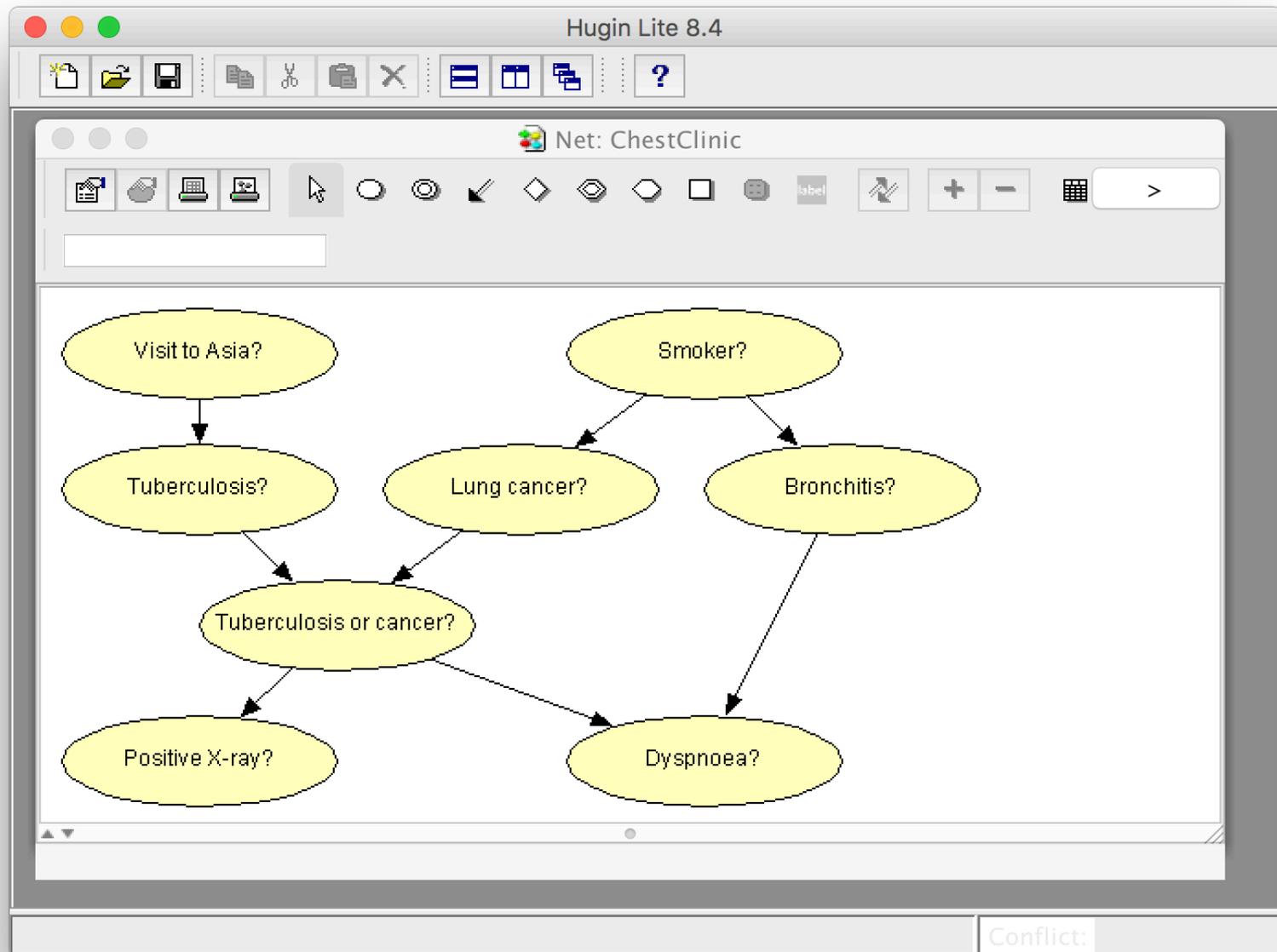
- If we see a **lung tumor**, the probability of **heavy smoking** and of **exposure to toxics** both go up
- If we then observe **heavy smoking**, the probability of **exposure to toxics** goes back down

# Some software tools

- [Netica](#): Windows app for working with Bayesian belief networks and influence diagrams
  - A commercial product, free for small networks
  - Includes graphical editor, compiler, inference engine, etc.
  - To run in OS X or Linux you need Crossover
- [Hugin](#): free demo versions for Linux, Mac, and Windows are available
- Various Python packages, e.g., ...
- Aima-python code in `probability4e.py`



# Same BBN model in Hugin app

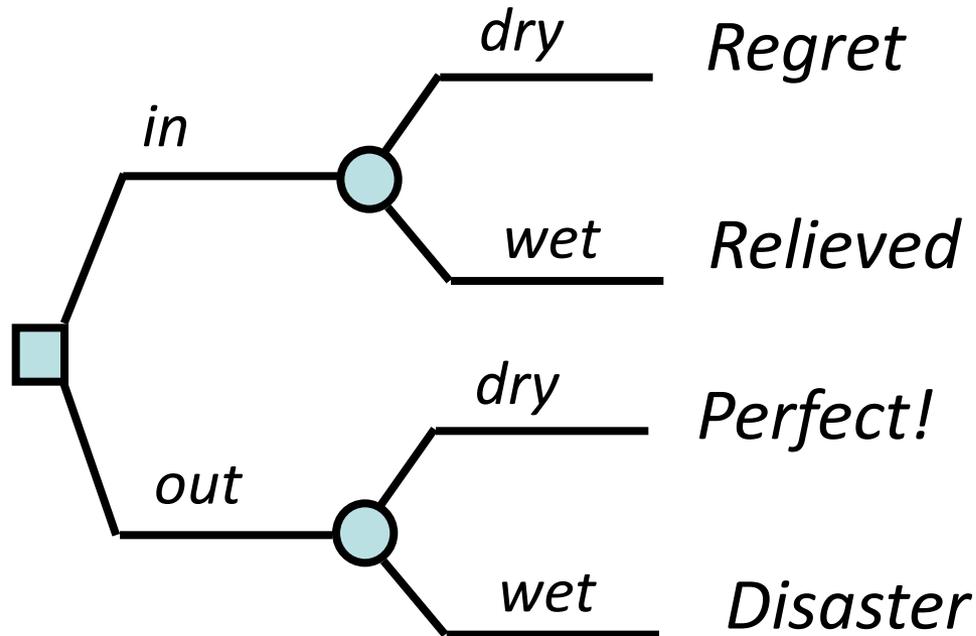


# Decision making

- A decision in a medical domain might be a choice of treatment (e.g., radiation or chemotherapy)
- Decisions should be made to maximize expected utility
- View decision making in terms of
  - Beliefs/Uncertainties
  - Alternatives/Decisions
  - Objectives/Utilities

# Decision Problem

Should I have my party inside or outside?



# Value Function

A numerical score over all possible states allows a BBN to be used to make decisions

| Location? | Weather? | Value |
|-----------|----------|-------|
| in        | dry      | \$50  |
| in        | wet      | \$60  |
| out       | dry      | \$100 |
| out       | wet      | \$0   |

Using \$ for the value helps our intuition

# Decision Making with BBNs

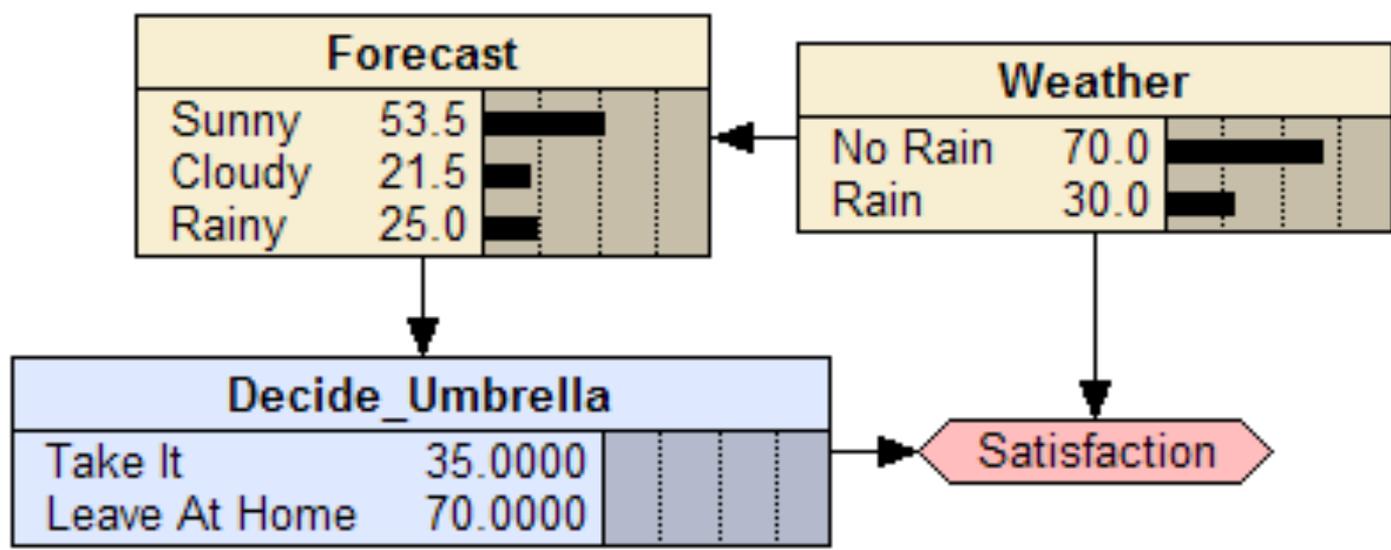
- Today's weather forecast might be either sunny, cloudy or rainy
- Should you take an umbrella when you leave?
- Your decision depends only on the forecast
  - The forecast “depends on” the actual weather
- Your satisfaction depends on your decision and the weather
  - Assign a utility to each of four situations: (rain | no rain) x (umbrella, no umbrella)

# Decision Making with BBNs

- Extend BBN framework to include two new kinds of nodes: **decision** and **utility**
- **Decision** node computes the expected utility of a decision given its parent(s) (e.g., forecast) and a valuation
- **Utility** node computes utility value given its parents, e.g. a decision and weather
  - Assign utility to each situations: (rain | no rain) x (umbrella, no umbrella)
  - Utility value assigned to each is probably subjective



03 - Umbrella.dne





**Satisfaction Table (in net N3\_\_Umbrella)**

Node:

| Weather | Decide_Umbrella | Satisfaction |
|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| No Rain | Take It         | 20           |
| No Rain | Leave At Home   | 100          |
| Rain    | Take It         | 70           |
| Rain    | Leave At Home   | 0            |

Take  
Leave



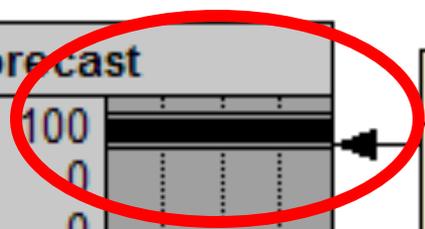
03 - Umbrella.dne

| Forecast |     |
|----------|-----|
| Sunny    | 100 |
| Cloudy   | 0   |
| Rainy    | 0   |

| Weather |      |
|---------|------|
| No Rain | 91.6 |
| Rain    | 8.41 |

| Decide_Umbrella |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Take It         | 24.2056 |
| Leave At Home   | 91.5887 |

Satisfaction





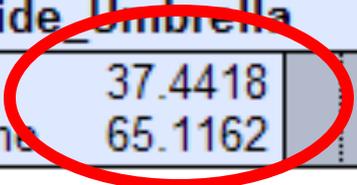
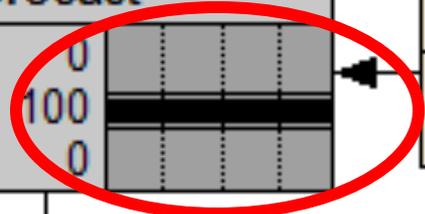
03 - Umbrella.dne

| Forecast |     |  |  |
|----------|-----|--|--|
| Sunny    | 0   |  |  |
| Cloudy   | 100 |  |  |
| Rainy    | 0   |  |  |

| Weather |      |  |  |
|---------|------|--|--|
| No Rain | 65.1 |  |  |
| Rain    | 34.9 |  |  |

| Decide_Umbrella |         |  |  |
|-----------------|---------|--|--|
| Take It         | 37.4418 |  |  |
| Leave At Home   | 65.1162 |  |  |

Satisfaction





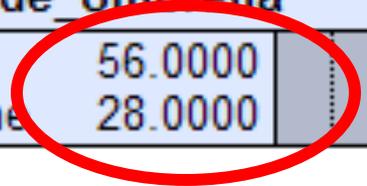
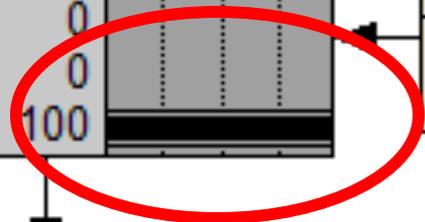
03 - Umbrella.dne

| Forecast |     |  |
|----------|-----|--|
| Sunny    | 0   |  |
| Cloudy   | 0   |  |
| Rainy    | 100 |  |

| Weather |      |  |
|---------|------|--|
| No Rain | 28.0 |  |
| Rain    | 72.0 |  |

| Decide_Umbrella |         |  |
|-----------------|---------|--|
| Take It         | 56.0000 |  |
| Leave At Home   | 28.0000 |  |

Satisfaction



# Predispositions or causes

| Visit To Asia |      |
|---------------|------|
| visit         | 1.00 |
| no visit      | 99.0 |

| Smoking    |      |
|------------|------|
| smoker     | 50.0 |
| non smoker | 50.0 |

| Tuberculosis |      |
|--------------|------|
| present      | 1.04 |
| absent       | 99.0 |

| Lung Cancer |      |
|-------------|------|
| present     | 5.50 |
| absent      | 94.5 |

| Bronchitis |      |
|------------|------|
| present    | 45.0 |
| absent     | 55.0 |

| Tuberculosis or Cancer |      |
|------------------------|------|
| true                   | 6.48 |
| false                  | 93.5 |

| XRay Result |      |
|-------------|------|
| abnormal    | 11.0 |
| normal      | 89.0 |

| Dyspnea |      |
|---------|------|
| present | 43.6 |
| absent  | 56.4 |

Chest Clinic

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