# Reasoning with Bayesian Belief Networks



# Overview

- Bayesian Belief Networks (BBNs) can reason with networks of propositions and associated probabilities
- Useful for many AI problems
  - Diagnosis
  - Expert systems
  - Planning
  - Learning

# **BBN Definition**

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



### **Recall Bayes Rule**

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

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

Note the symmetry: we can compute the probability of a hypothesis given its evidence and vice versa

## **Simple Bayesian Network**



| Smoking=    | no   | light | heavy |
|-------------|------|-------|-------|
| P(C=none)   | 0.96 | 0.88  | 0.60  |
| P(C=benign) | 0.03 | 0.08  | 0.25  |
| P(C=malig)  | 0.01 | 0.04  | 0.15  |











### Independence



Age and Gender are independent.

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

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

 $P(C \mid A,G,S) = P(C \mid S)$ 

#### **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) is independent given the disease. This make it easy to combine evidence

# **Explaining Away**

Exposure to Toxics and Smoking are independent



P(E=heavy | C=malignant) > P(E=heavy
| C=malignant, S=heavy)

- *Explaining away:* reasoning pattern where confirmation of one causereduces need to invoke alternatives
- Essence of <u>Occam's Razor</u> (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 nondescendants given its parents *Cancer* is independent of *Diet* given *Exposure* to Toxics and Smoking

# **BBN Construction**

- The <u>knowledge acquisition</u> 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 can be integers, reals or enumerations
- Variable should have collectively exhaustive, mutually exclusive values

$$x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4$$

 $\neg (x_i \land x_i) \quad i \neq j$ 



• They should be values, not probabilities



# Heuristic: Knowable in Principle

Example of good variables

- Weather: {Sunny, Cloudy, Rain, Snow}
- Gasoline: Cents per gallon {0,1,2...}
- Temperature:  $\{ \ge 100^{\circ}F, < 100^{\circ}F \}$
- User needs help on Excel Charting: {Yes, No}
- User's personality: {dominant, submissive}

### **KA2: Structuring**



# **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

| 🖏 Assess probabilities for: I-TypingSpeed_avg |      |        |      | _ 🗆 × |
|---|------|--------|------|-------|
| I-TypingSpeed                                 |      |        |      |       |
| E-Arousal                                     | Fast | Normal | Slow |       |
| Passive                                       | .20  | .28    | .52  |       |
| Neutral                                       | .33  | .33    | .33  |       |
| Excited                                       | .56  | .27    | .16  |       |
| Cancel  |      |        |      |       |

- Zeros and ones are often enough
- Order of magnitude is typical: 10<sup>-9</sup> vs 10<sup>-6</sup>
- 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**



# Predictive and diagnostic combined



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

P(C=malignant | Age>60, Gender= male, Serum Calcium = 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

# **Decision making**

- A decision is 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





# **Value Function**

A numerical score over all possible states of the world allows BBN to be used to make decisions

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

# Two software tools

- <u>Netica</u>: Windows app for working with Bayesian belief networks and influence diagrams
  - A commercial product but free for small networks
  - Includes a graphical editor, compiler, inference engine, etc.
- <u>Samiam</u>: Java system for modeling and reasoning with Bayesian networks
  - Includes a GUI and reasoning engine











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



| Netica   |                         |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| <u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit <u>T</u> able <u>W</u> indow <u>H</u> elp  |                         |  |  |
| 🖹 🖬 🍡 🛃 🗠 🗠 🔵 🖌   1  | 🚠 🔜 ∧ 💥 🗸   ⇒ 🖊 🦻 🌉 💡 📗 |  |  |
| O3 - Satisfaction Table (in net N3_Umbrella)   Node: Satisfaction   Vode: Satisfaction   Percentages → Reset   Close |                         |  |  |
| Weather Decide_Umbrella  | Satisfaction            |  |  |
| No Rain Take It  | 20                      |  |  |
| Take No Rain Leave At Home   | 100                     |  |  |
| Leave Rain Take It   | 70                      |  |  |
| Rain Leave At Home   | 0                       |  |  |
|  | < ►                     |  |  |
|  | >                       |  |  |





