

## Lecture 19: Uncertainty 4

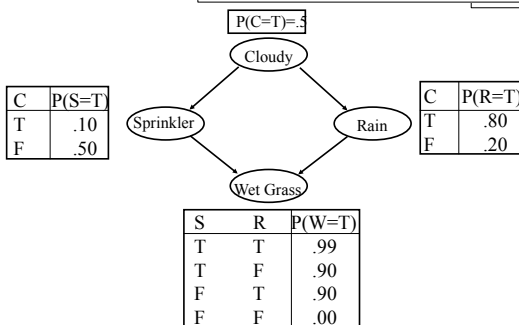
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Fall 2010

## Today's Lecture

- ◆ Inference in Multiply Connected BNs
  - **Clustering** methods transform the network into a probabilistically equivalent polytree.
    - Also called Join tree algorithms
  - **Conditioning** methods instantiate certain variables and evaluate a polytree for each possible instantiation.
  - **Stochastic simulation** approximate the beliefs by generating a large number of concrete models that are consistent with the evidence and CPTs.

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## Example of Multiply Connected BN



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## Clustering Methods

- ◆ *Creating meganodes until the network becomes a polytree.*
- ◆ Most effective approach for exact evaluation of multiply connected BNs.
- ◆ The tricky part is choosing the right meganodes.
- ◆ Q. What happens to the NP-hardness of the inference problem?

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## Clustering Example\*



S+R	P(W)
T T	.99
T F	.90
F T	.90
F F	.00

$P(C)=.5$

Cloudy

Spr+Rain

Wet Grass

C	P(S+R)			
	TT	TF	FT	FF
T	.08	.02	.72	.18
F	.10	.40	.10	.40

How do you still answer  
 $P(\text{Rain}=\text{True} \mid \text{Wet Grass}=\text{False})$  ?  
 How do you create meganode?  
 What are the disadvantages?

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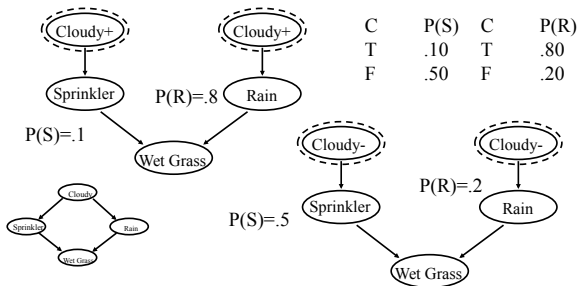
## Cutset Conditioning Methods

- Once a variable is instantiated it can be duplicated and thus “break” a cycle.
- A cutset is a set of variables whose instantiation makes the graph a polytree.
- Each polytree’s likelihood is used as a weight when combining the results.

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## Networks Created by Instantiation

- Eliminate Cloudy from BN; Sum(%Cloudy+, %Cloudy-)



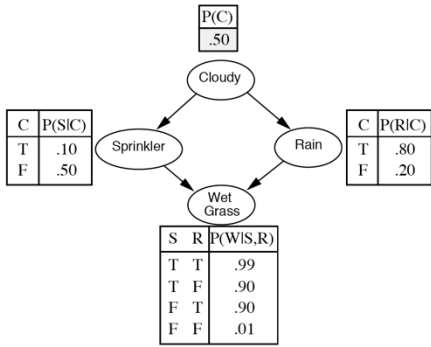
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## Stochastic Simulation -- Direct Sampling

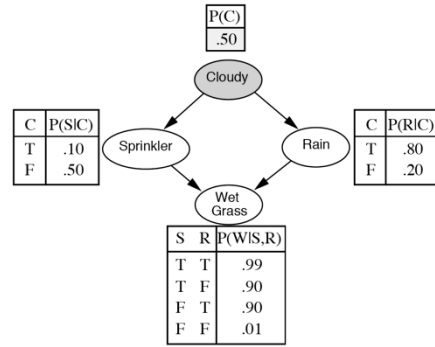
- Assign each root node (without parents) a value based on prior probability.
- Assign all other nodes a NULL “value”.
- Pick a node X with no value, but whose parents have values, and randomly assign a value to X
  - using  $P(X|\text{Parents}(X))$  as the distribution. Repeat until there is no such X.
- After N trials,  $P(X|E)$  can be estimated by occurrences (X and E) / occurrences (E).
  - Approximate  $P(X,E)/P(E)$
  - Does not focus on generating occurrences of E

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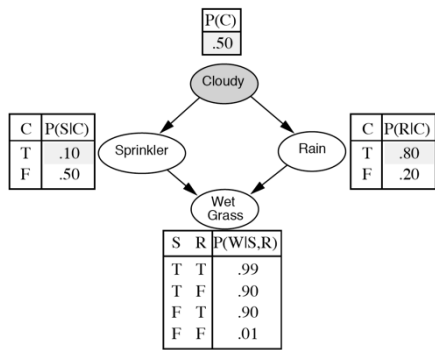
### Example P(WetGrass|Cloudy)



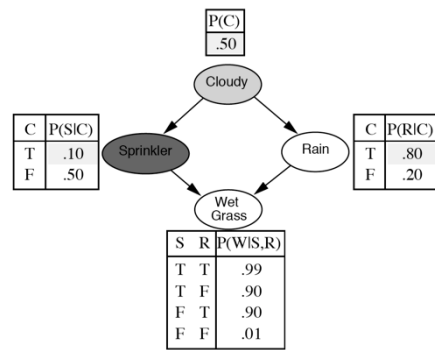
### Example cont.

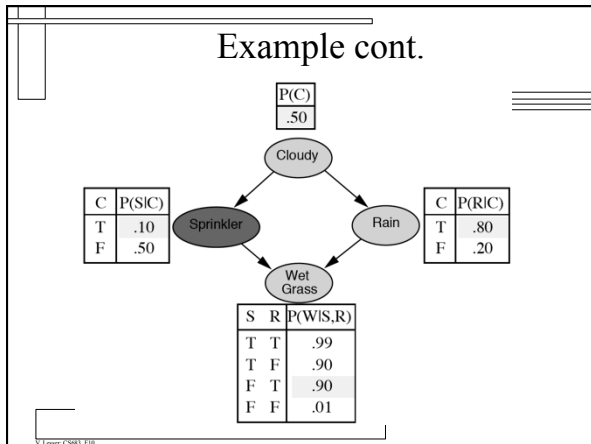
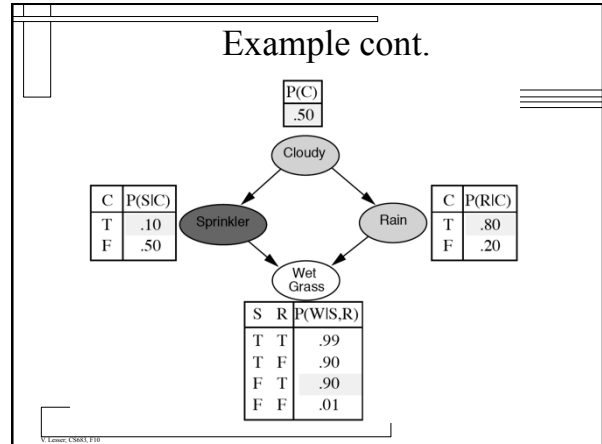
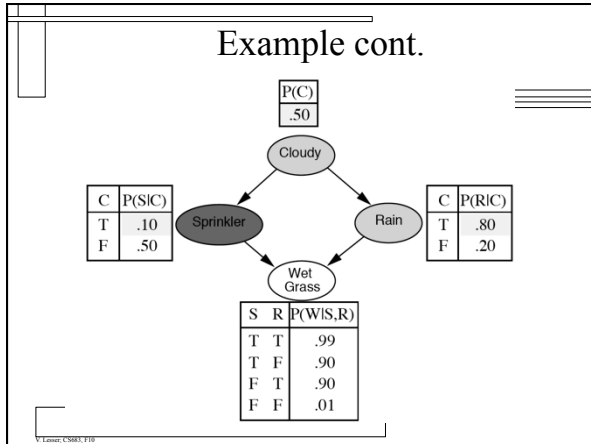


### Example cont.



### Example cont.





- Stochastic Simulation cont.
- ◆ Problem with very unlikely events.
  - ◆ Likelihood weighting can be used to fix problem.
  - ◆ Likelihood weighting converges much faster than logic sampling and works well for very large networks.

## Example of Likelihood Weighting

$P(\text{WetGrass} \mid \text{Rain})$



- Choose a value for *Cloudy* with prior  $P(\text{Cloudy}) = 0.5$ . Assume we choose *cloudy* = *false*.
- Choose a value for *Sprinkler*. We see that  $P(\text{Sprinkler} \mid \neg \text{Cloudy}) = 0.5$ , so we randomly choose a value given that distribution. Assume we choose *Sprinkler* = *True*.
- Look at *Rain*. This is an evidence variable that has been set to *True*, so we look at the table to see that  $P(\text{Rain} \mid \neg \text{Cloudy}) = 0.2$ . This run therefore counts as 0.2 of a complete run.

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## Example of Likelihood Weighty cont'd

- Look at *WetGrass*. Choose randomly with  $P$  ( $\text{WetGrass} \mid \text{Sprinkler} = T \wedge \text{Rain} = T$ ) = 0.99; assume we choose *WetGrass* = *True*.
- We now have completed a run with likelihood 0.2 that says *WetGrass* = *True* given *Rain* = *True*. The next run will result in a different likelihood, and (possibly) a different value for *WetGrass*. We continue until we have accumulated enough runs, and then add up the evidence for each value, **weighted by the likelihood score**.

Likelihood weighting usually converges much faster than logic sampling

Still takes a long time to reach accurate probabilities for unlikely events

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## Stochastic Simulation – Likelihood Weighting

Idea: fix evidence variables, sample only nonevidence variables, and weight each sample by the likelihood it accords the evidence

function LIKELIHOOD-WEIGHTING( $X, e, bn, N$ ) returns an estimate of  $P(X|e)$

local variables:  $W$ , a vector of weighted counts over  $X$ , initially zero

for  $j = 1$  to  $N$  do

$x, w \leftarrow \text{WEIGHTED-SAMPLE}(bn)$

$W[x] \leftarrow W[x] + w$  where  $x$  is the value of  $X$  in  $x$

return NORMALIZE( $W[X]$ )

function WEIGHTED-SAMPLE( $bn, e$ ) returns an event and a weight

$x \leftarrow$  an event with  $n$  elements;  $w \leftarrow 1$

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do ; for all nodes in the network ordered by parents

    if  $X_i$  has a value  $x_i$  in  $e$  ; if you are at the node that you have evidence for

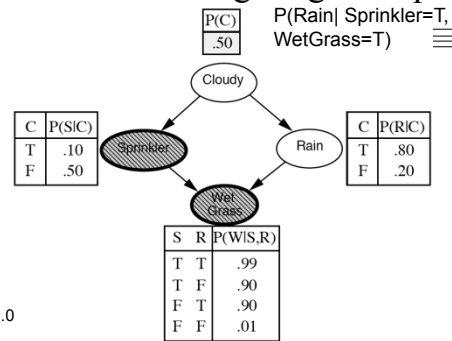
        then  $w \leftarrow w \times P(X_i = x_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i))$  ; adjust likelihood of this run based on the likelihood of evidence given parents

        else  $x_i \leftarrow$  a random sample from  $P(X_i \mid \text{Parents}(X_i))$  ; otherwise randomly choose based on value of parents chosen in previous steps

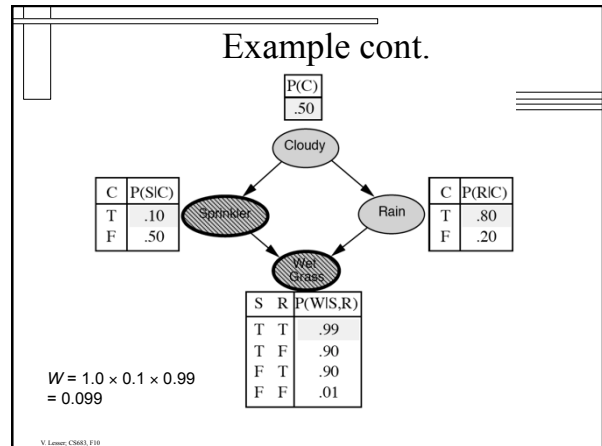
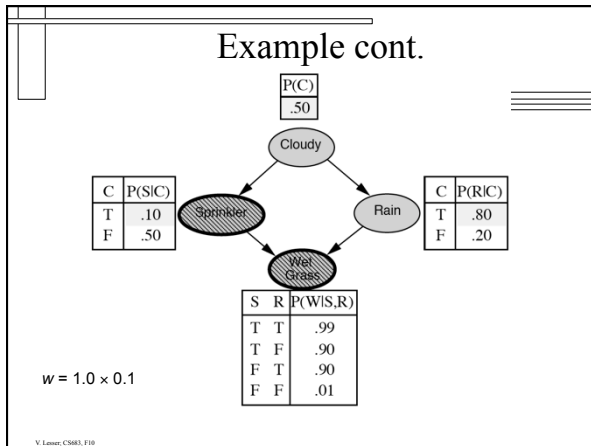
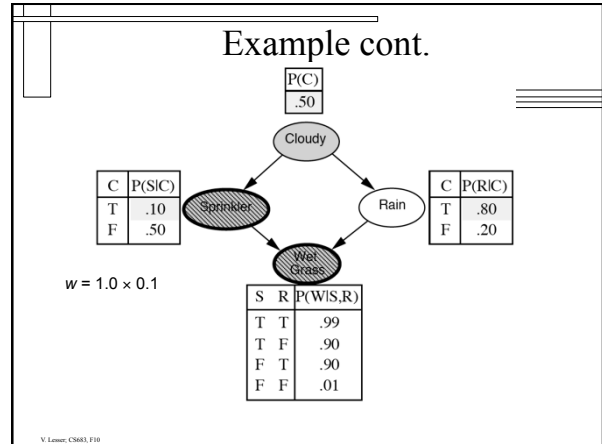
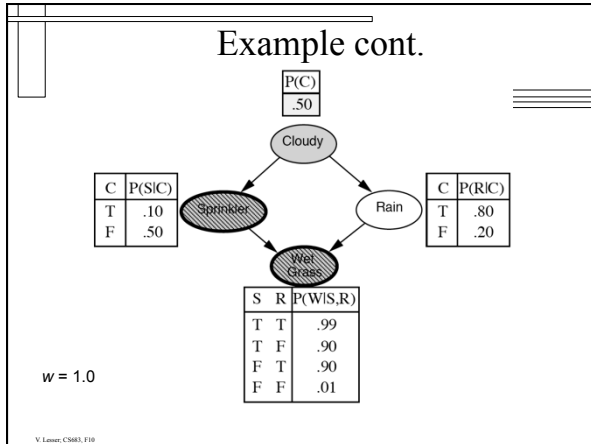
return  $x, w$

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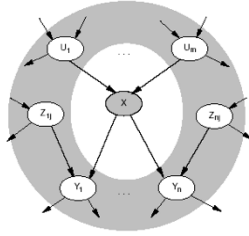
## Likelihood weighting example



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## Stochastic Simulation – Markov Chain Monte Carlo



A node is conditionally independent of all other nodes in the network given its parents, children, and children's parents—that is, given its **Markov blanket**.

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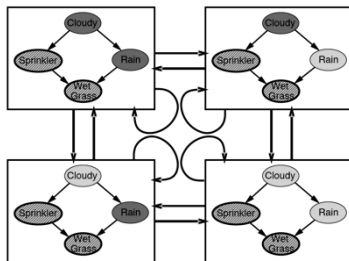
## The MCMC algorithm

- ♦ MCMC generates each event by making a random change to the preceding event.
  - It is therefore helpful to think of the network being in a particular *current state* specifying a value for every variable.
- ♦ The next state is generated by randomly sampling a value for one of the non-evidence variables  $X_i$ , *conditioned on the current values of the variables in the Markov blanket of  $X_i$* .
  - Don't need to look at any other variables
- ♦ MCMC therefore wanders randomly around the state space—the space of possible complete assignments—flipping one variable at a time but keeping the evidence variables fixed.

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## The Markov chain

With *Sprinkler = true, WetGrass = true*, there are four states:



Wander about for a while, average what you see

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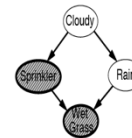
## Markov blanket sampling

Markov blanket of *Cloudy* is

*Sprinkler and Rain*

Markov blanket of *Rain* is

*Cloudy, Sprinkler, and WetGrass*



Probability given the Markov blanket is calculated as follows:

$$P(x_i | MB(X_i)) = P(x_i | Parents(X_i)) \prod_{Z_j \in Children(X_i)} P(z_j | Parents(Z_j))$$

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## MCMC example cont.

Estimate  $P(\text{Rain}|\text{Sprinkler} = \text{true}, \text{WetGrass} = \text{true})$

Sample *Cloudy* or *Rain* given its Markov blanket, repeat.  
Count number of times *Rain* is true and false in the samples.

E.g., visit 100 states

31 have *Rain* = true, 69 have *Rain* = false

$\hat{P}(\text{Rain}|\text{Sprinkler} = \text{true}, \text{WetGrass} = \text{true})$   
= NORMALIZE( $\langle 31, 69 \rangle$ ) =  $\langle 0.31, 0.69 \rangle$

Theorem: chain approaches stationary distribution:  
long-run fraction of time spent in each state is exactly  
proportional to its posterior probability

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## Summary of a Belief Networks

- ♦ **Conditional independence** information is a vital and robust way to structure information about an uncertain domain.
- ♦ **Belief networks** are a natural way to represent conditional independence information.
  - The links between nodes represent the qualitative aspects of the domain, and the conditional probability tables represent the quantitative aspects.
- ♦ A belief network is a complete representation for the joint probability distribution for the domain, but is often exponentially smaller in size.

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## Summary of a Belief Networks, cont'd

- ♦ Inference in belief networks means computing the probability distribution of a set of query variables, given a set of evidence variables.
- ♦ Belief networks can reason causally, diagnostically, in mixed mode, or intercausally. No other uncertain reasoning mechanism can handle all these modes.
- ♦ The complexity of belief network inference depends on the network structure. In **polytrees** (singly connected networks), the computation time is linear in the size of the network.

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## Summary of a Belief Networks, cont'd

- ♦ There are various inference techniques for general belief networks, all of which have exponential complexity in the worst case.
  - In real domains, the local structure tends to make things more feasible, but care is needed to construct a tractable network with more than a hundred nodes.
- ♦ It is also possible to use approximation techniques, including **stochastic simulation**, to get an estimate of the true probabilities with less computation.

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## Next Lecture

- ◆ Introduction to Decision Theory
  - Making Single-Shot Decisions
  - Utility Theory