

# 15: General Inference

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Lisa Yan and Jerry Cain  
October 16, 2020

# Quick slide reference

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3	General Inference: intro	15a_inference
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# General Inference: Introduction

# Inference

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*Web*MD<sup>®</sup>

# Inference

WebMD Symptom Checker BETA

INFO SYMPTOMS QUESTIONS CONDITIONS DETAILS TREATMENT

What is your main symptom?

Type your main symptom here

or Choose common symptoms

bloating cough diarrhea dizziness fatigue

fever headache muscle cramp nausea

throat irritation

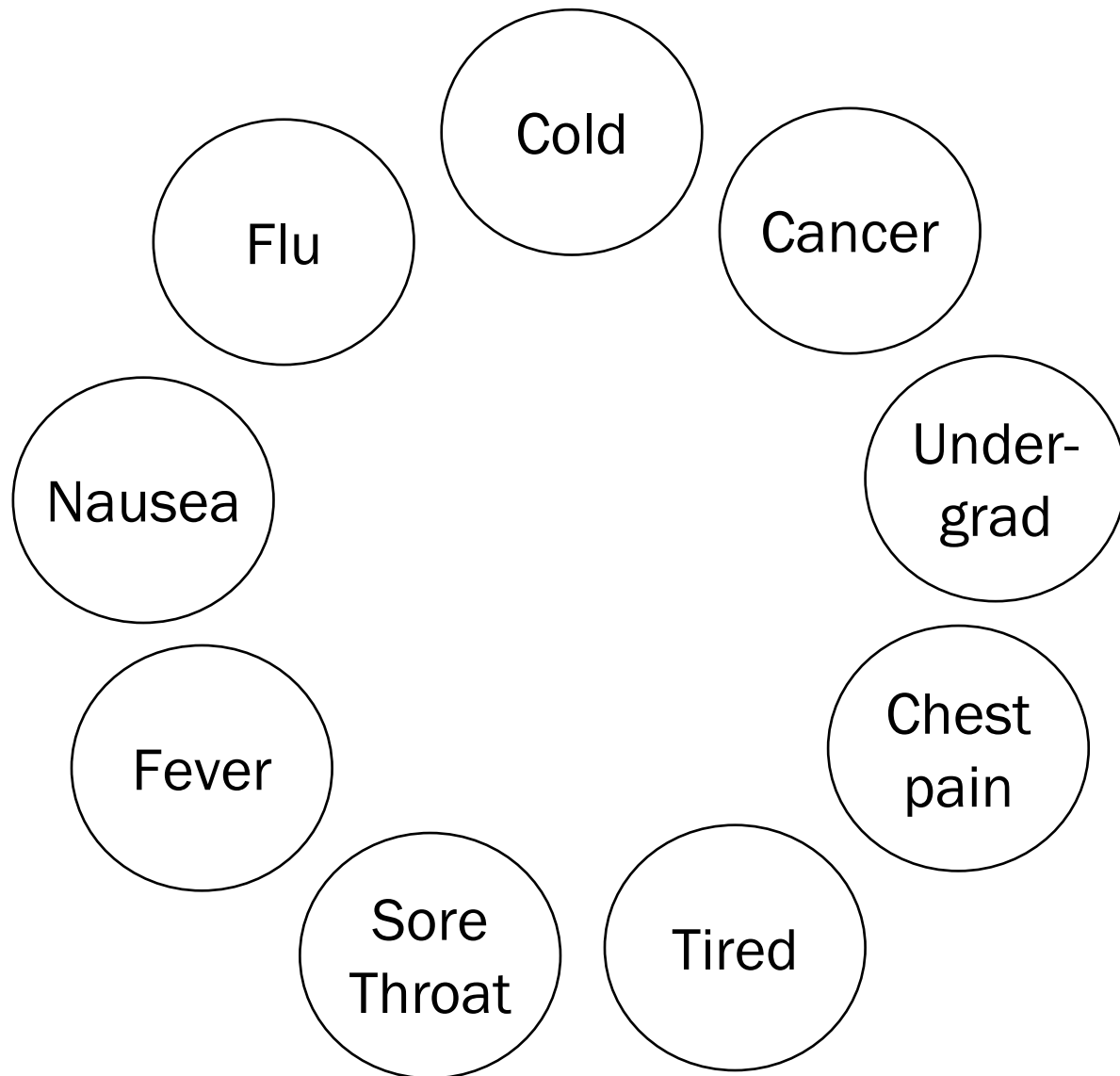
AGE 28 GENDER Female

No symptoms added

< Previous Continue >

# Inference

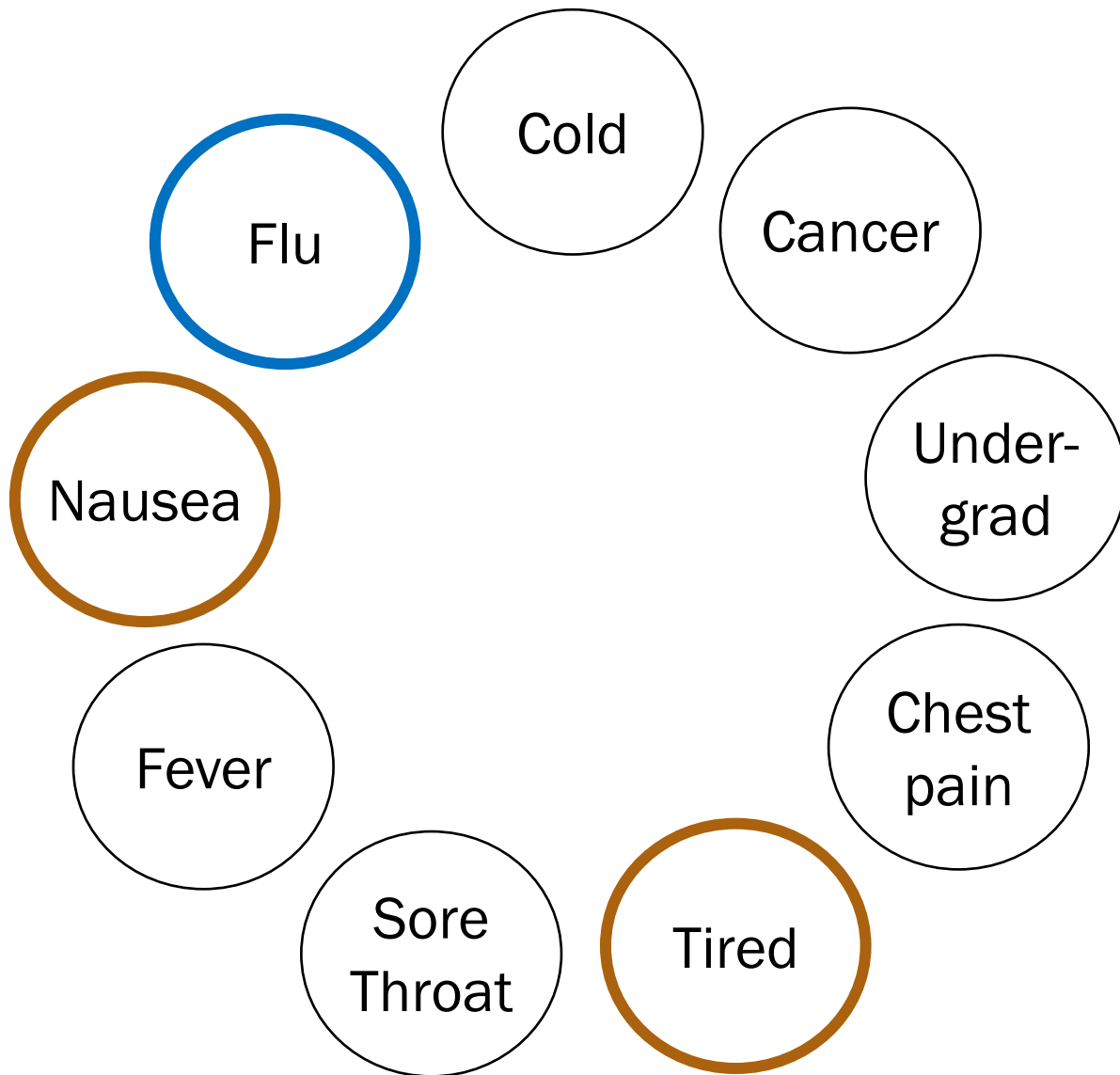
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General **inference** question:

Given the values of some random variables, what is the conditional distribution of some other random variables?

# Inference

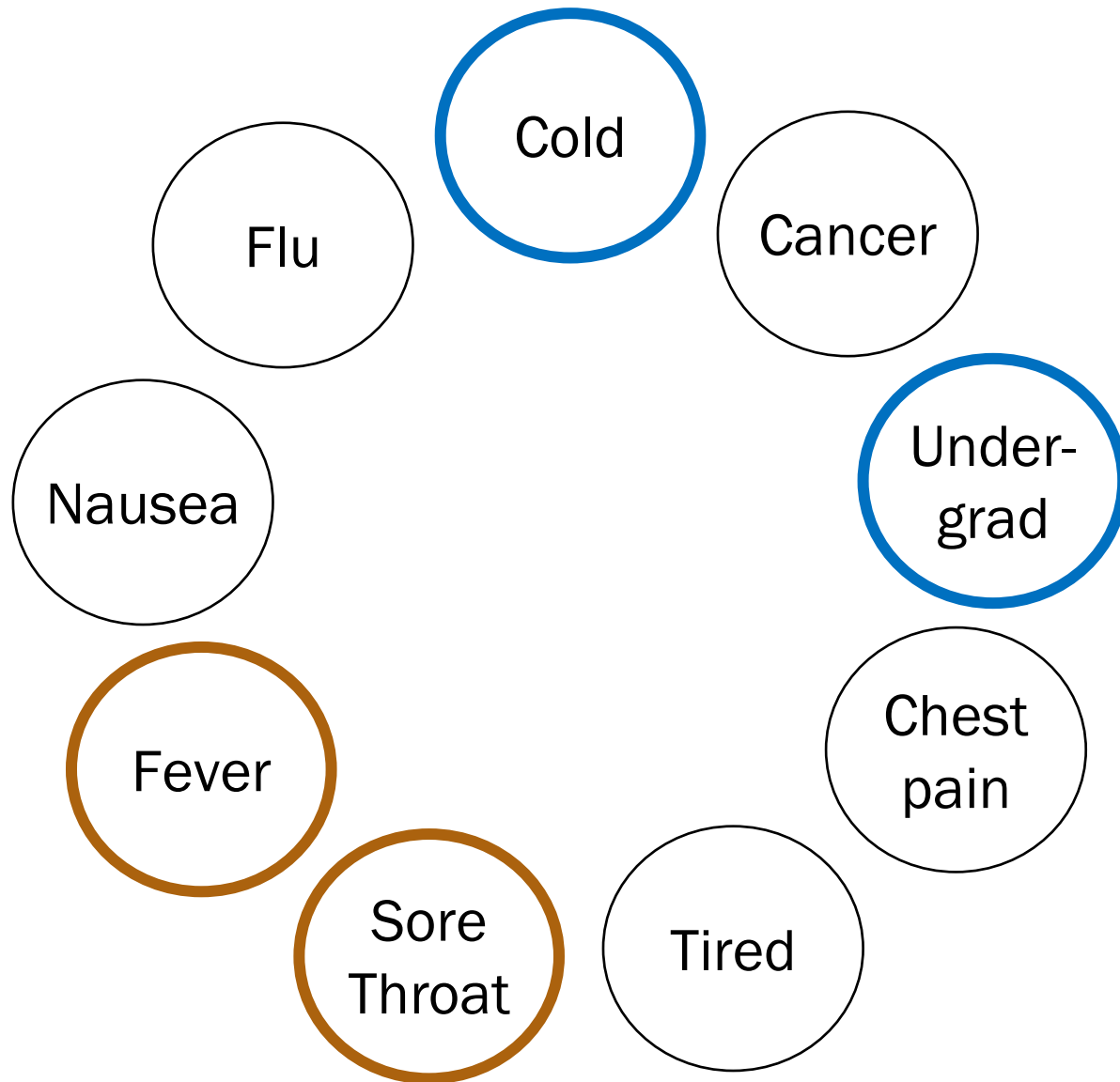


One inference question:

$$P(F = 1 | N = 1, T = 1)$$

$$= \frac{P(F = 1, N = 1, T = 1)}{P(N = 1, T = 1)}$$

# Inference

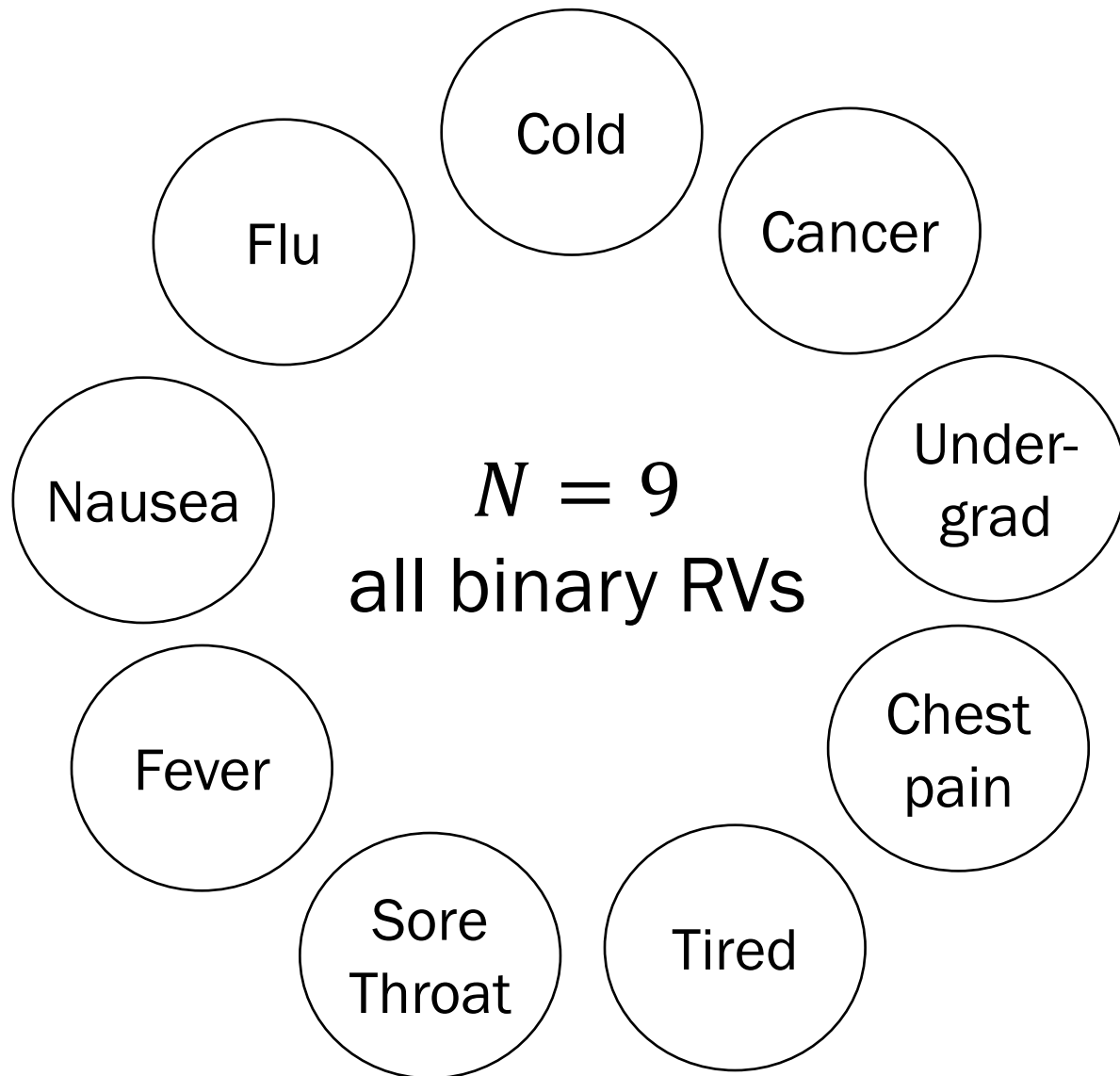


Another inference question:

$$P(C_o = 1, U = 1 | S = 0, F_e = 0) \\ = \frac{P(C_o = 1, U = 1, S = 0, F_e = 0)}{P(S = 0, F_e = 0)}$$



# Inference



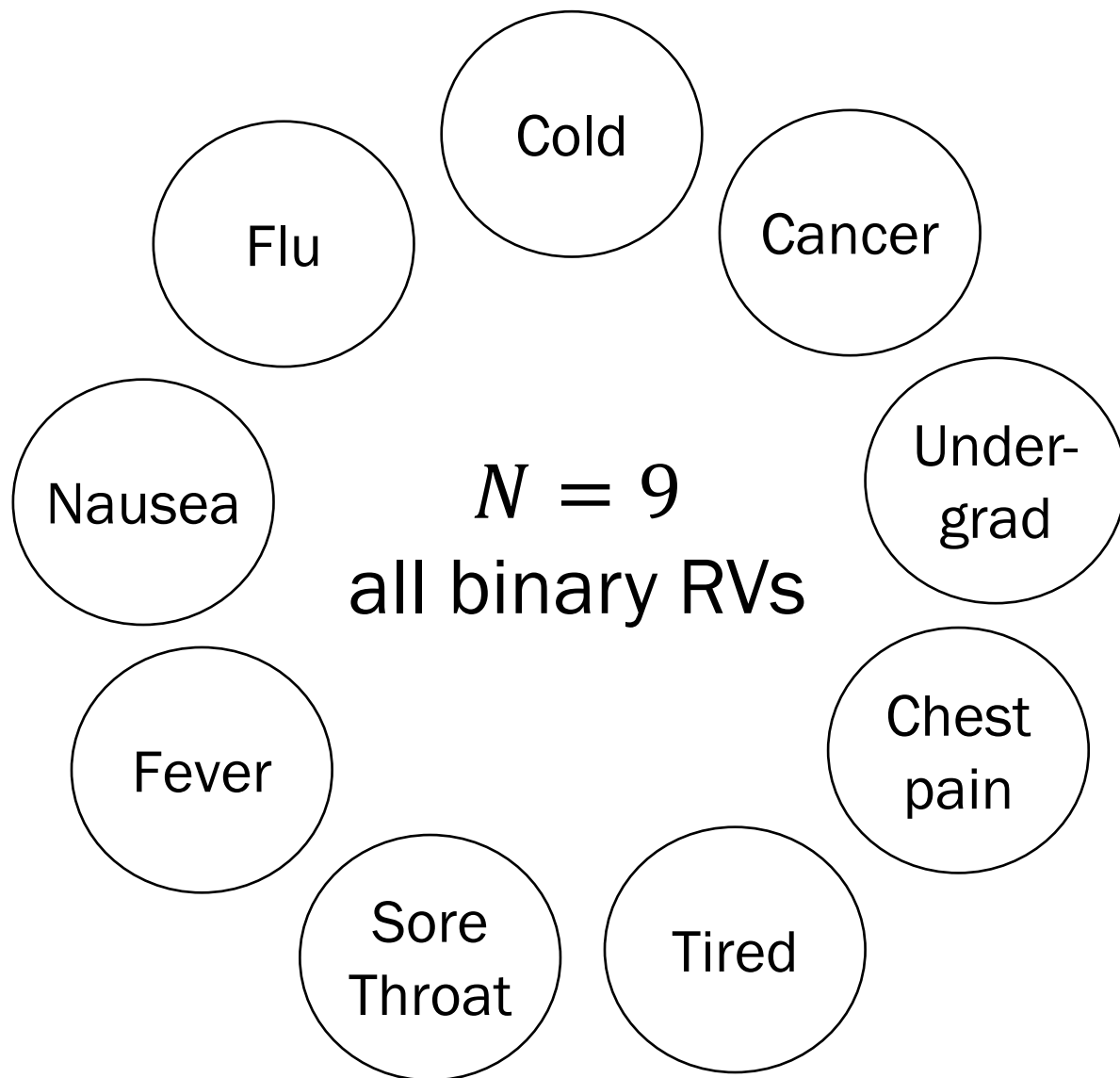
If we knew the **joint distribution**, we can answer all probabilistic inference questions.

What is the size of the joint probability table?

- A.  $2^{N-1}$  entries
- B.  $N^2$  entries
- C.  $2^N$  entries
- D. None/other/don't know



# Inference



If we knew the **joint distribution**, we can answer all probabilistic inference questions.

What is the size of the joint probability table?

- A.  $2^{N-1}$  entries
- B.  $N^2$  entries
- C.  $2^N$  entries
- D. None/other/don't know

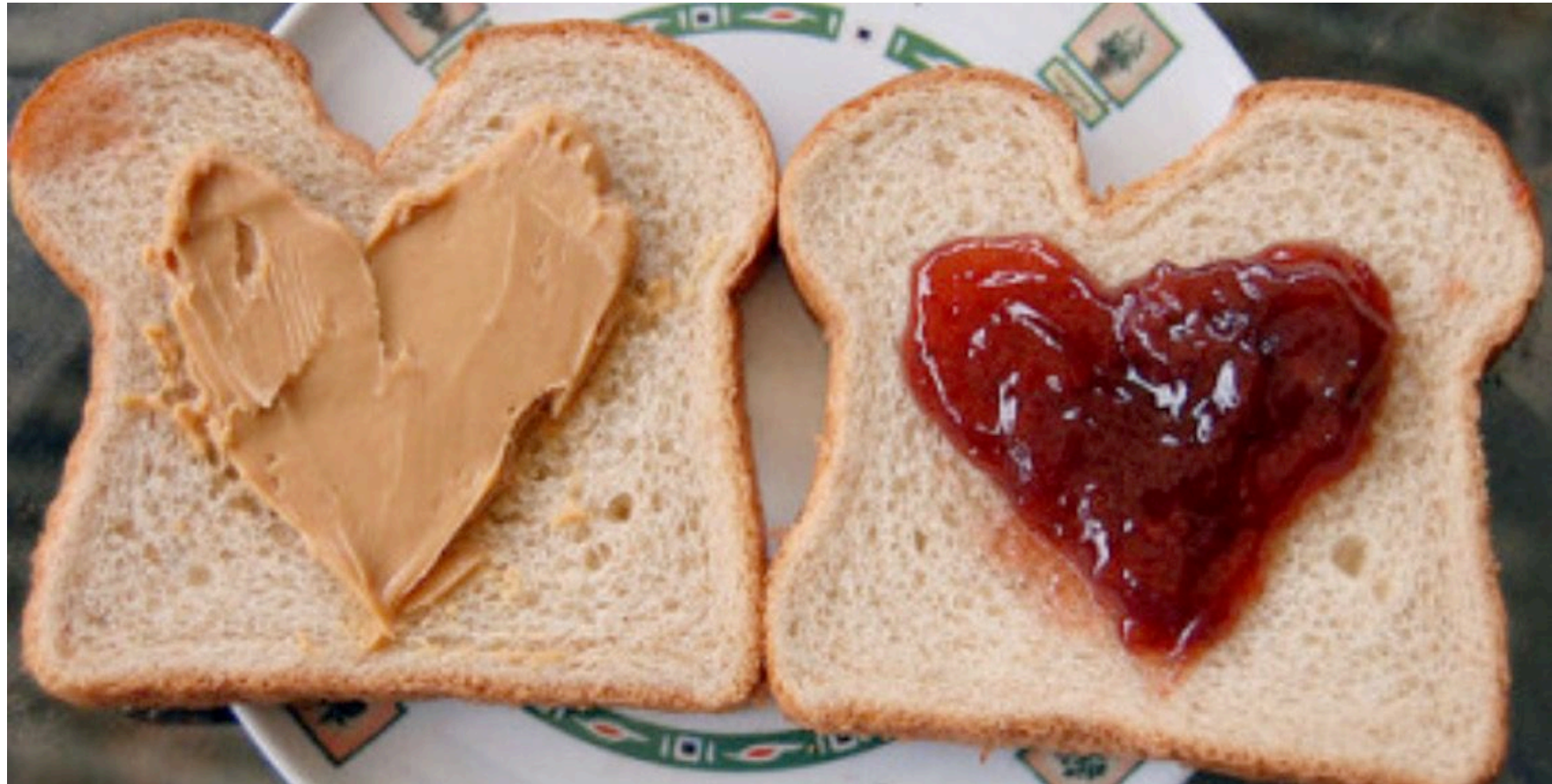
Naively specifying a joint distribution is often intractable.





# Conditionally Independent RVs

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~~Conditional Probability~~  
~~Conditional Distributions~~

~~Independence~~  
~~Independent RVs~~

# Conditionally Independent RVs

Recall that two events  $A$  and  $B$  are conditionally independent given  $E$  if:

$$P(AB|E) = P(A|E)P(B|E)$$

$n$  discrete random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are called **conditionally independent given  $Y$**  if:

for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y$ :

$$P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n | Y = y) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i = x_i | Y = y)$$

This implies the following (cool to remember for later):

$$\log P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n | Y = y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(X_i = x_i | Y = y)$$

Recall independence of  $n$  events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$ :

for  $r = 1, \dots, n$ :

for every subset  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r$ :

$$P(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r) = P(E_1)P(E_2) \cdots P(E_r)$$

We have independence of  $n$  **discrete random variables**  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  if for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ :

$$P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i = x_i)$$

Errata (edited May 3): Removed the independent RV requirement for all subsets of size  $r = 1, \dots, n$ . Do you see why this requirement is unnecessary?

(Hint: independence of RVs implies independence of all events)

# Bayesian Networks

# A simpler WebMD

---

Flu

Under-  
grad

Fever

Tired

Great! Just specify  $2^4 = 16$  joint probabilities...?

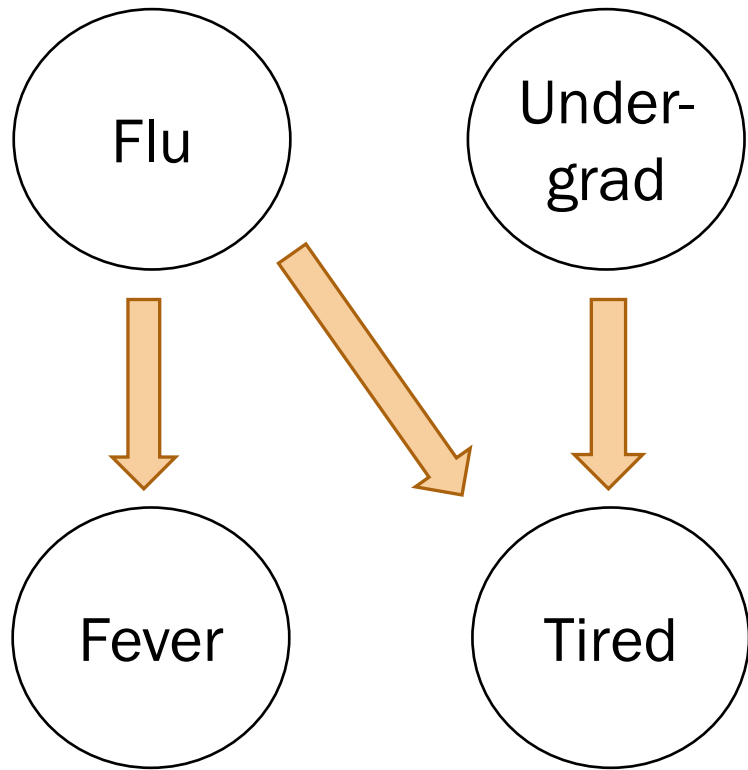
$$P(F_{lu} = a, F_{ev} = b, U = c, T = d)$$

What would a Stanford flu expert do?

Describe the joint distribution using causality!!!



# Constructing a Bayesian Network

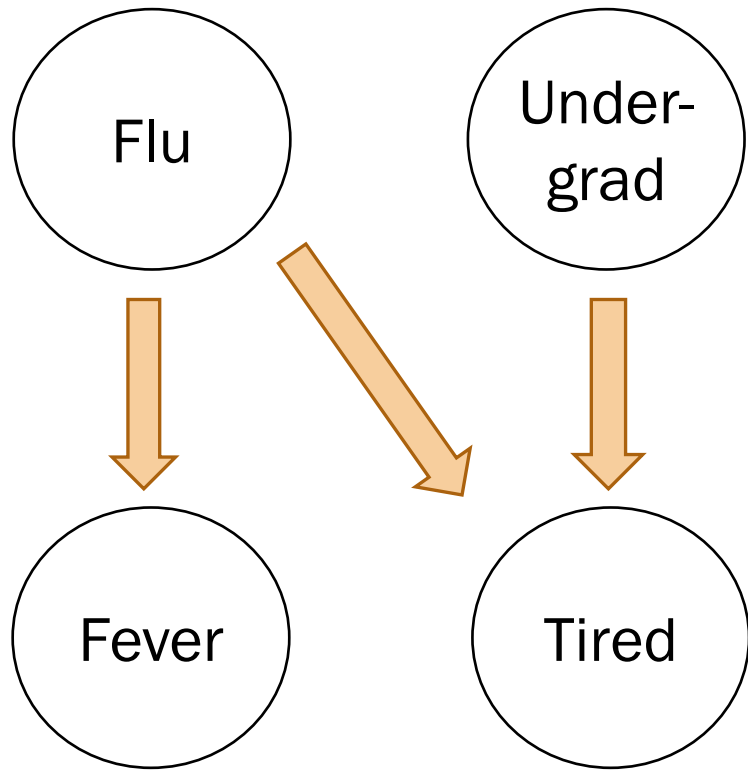


What would a Stanford flu expert do?

1. Describe the joint distribution using causality.

2. **Assume**  
**conditional**  
**independence.**

# Constructing a Bayesian Network



In a Bayesian Network,  
Each random variable is **conditionally independent** of its non-descendants, **given its parents**.

- Node: random variable
- Directed edge: conditional dependency

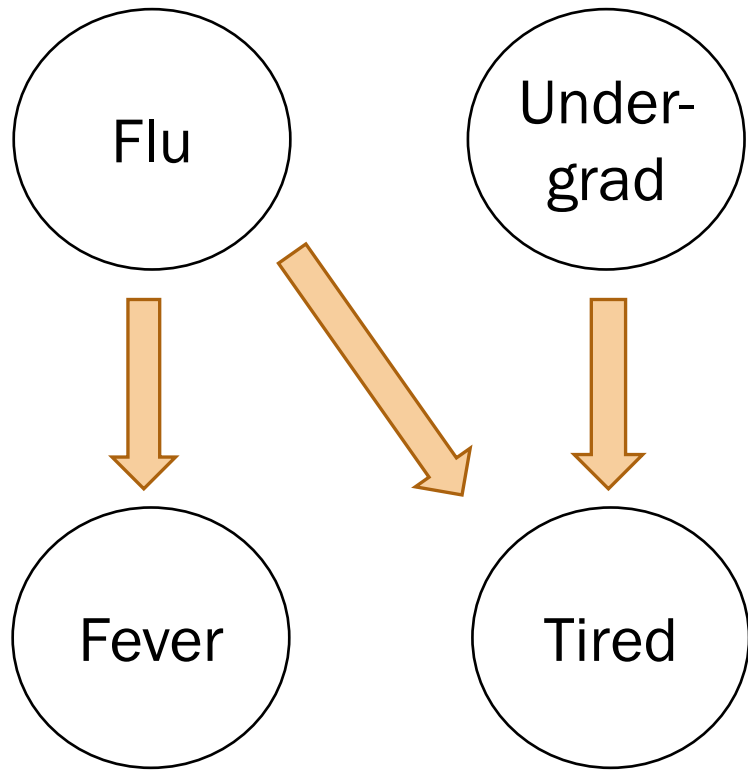
Examples:

- $P(F_{ev} = 1 | T = 0, F_{lu} = 1) = P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1)$
- $P(F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = P(F_{lu} = 1)P(U = 0)$

# Constructing a Bayesian Network

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

What would a Stanford flu expert do?

1. Describe the joint distribution using causality.
- ✓ 2. Assume conditional independence.
3. Provide  $P(\text{values}|\text{parents})$  for each random variable

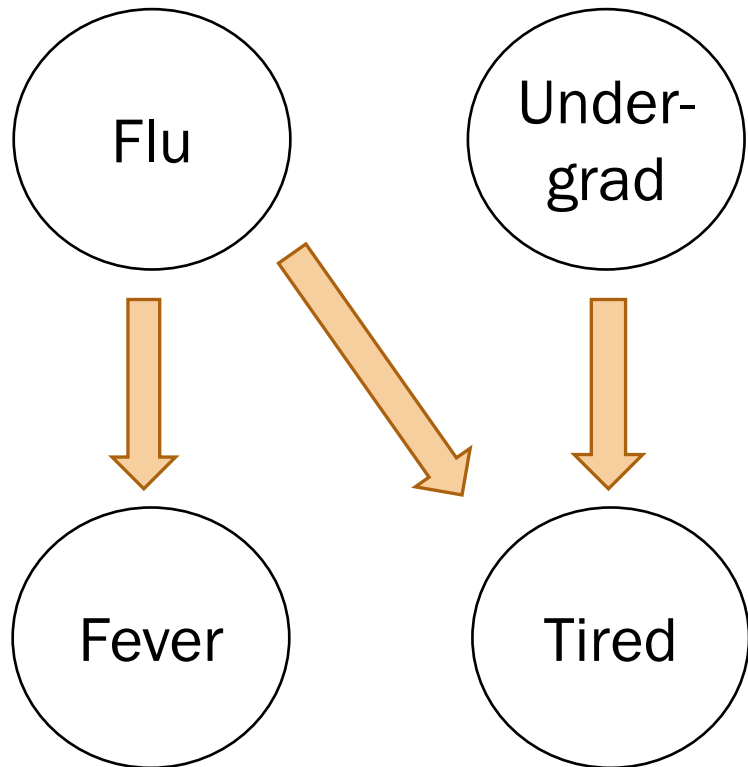
← What conditional probabilities should our expert specify?



# Constructing a Bayesian Network

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

What would a Stanford flu expert do?

1. Describe the joint distribution using causality.
2. Assume conditional independence.
3. Provide  $P(\text{values}|\text{parents})$  for each random variable

What conditional probabilities should our expert specify?

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0)$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1)$$

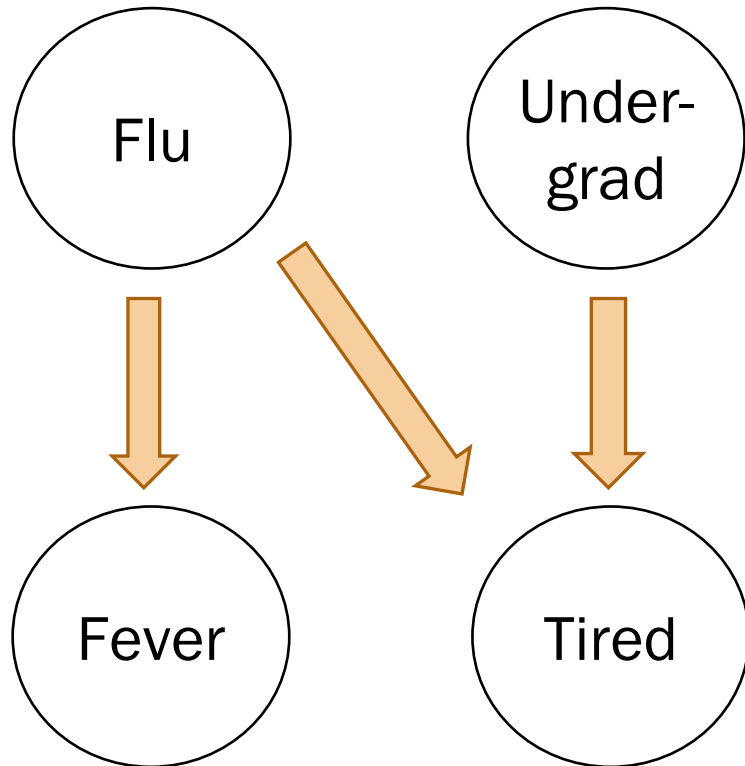
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0)$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1)$$

# Using a Bayes Net

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

What would a CS109 student do?

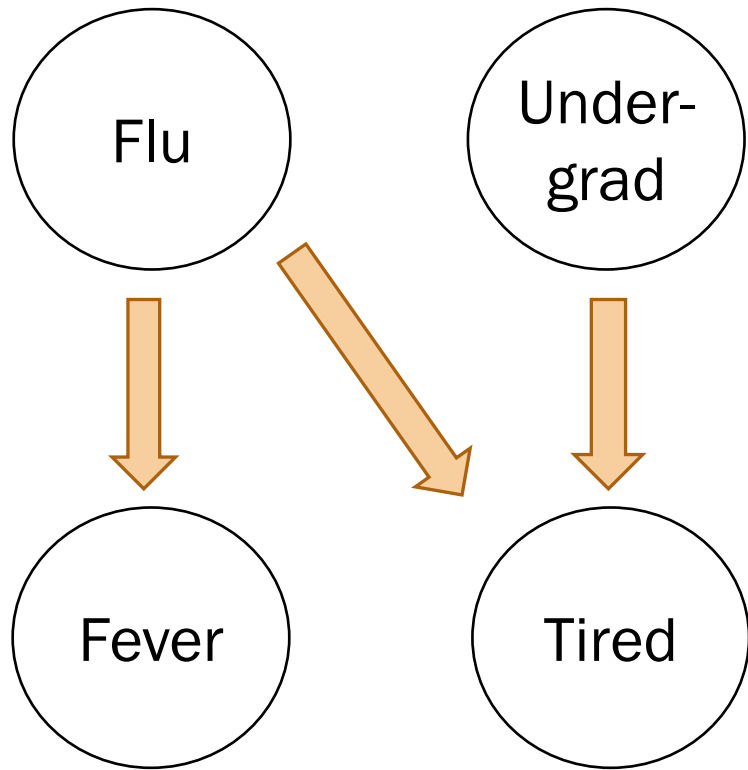
1. Populate a Bayesian network by asking a Stanford flu expert or by using reasonable assumptions

2. Answer inference questions



Our focus today

# Inference (I): Math



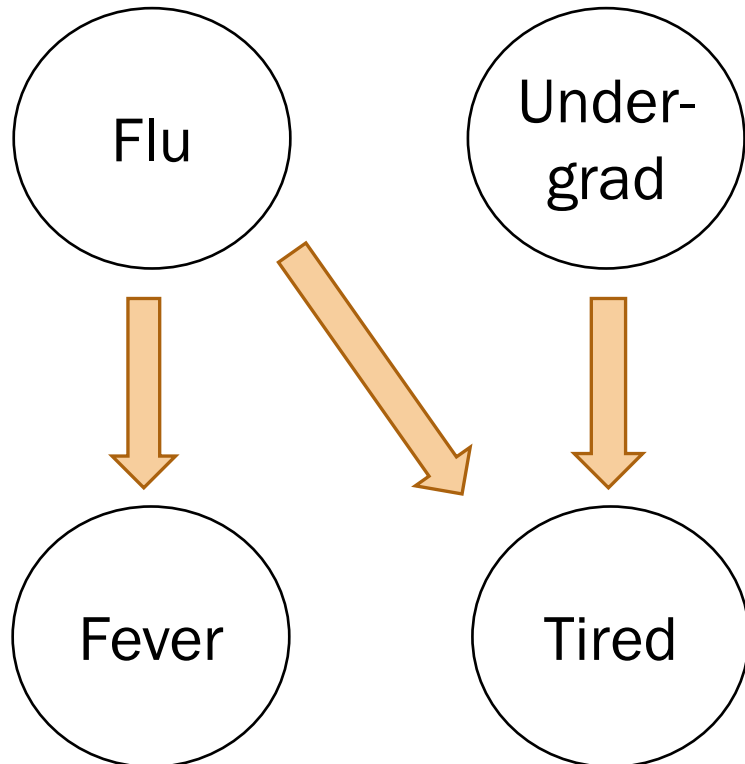
In a Bayesian Network,  
Each random variable is **conditionally independent** of its non-descendants, **given its parents**.

- Node: random variable
- Directed edge: conditional dependency

# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



1.  $P(F_{lu} = 0, U = 1, F_{ev} = 0, T = 1)$ ?

Compute joint probabilities using chain rule.

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

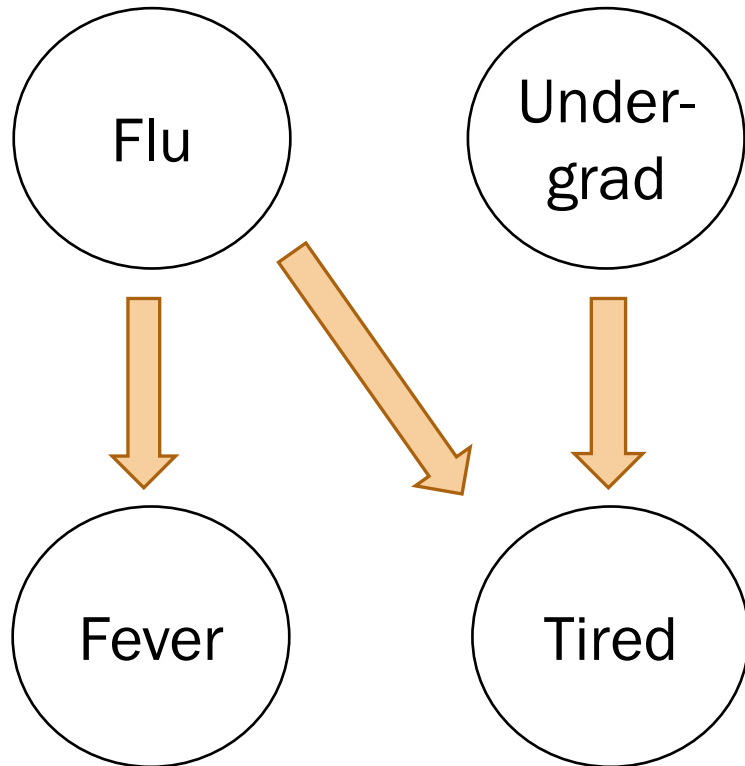
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$



# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

2.  $P(F_{lu} = 1|F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)$ ?

1. Compute joint probabilities

$$P(F_{lu} = 1, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)$$

$$P(F_{lu} = 0, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)$$

2. Definition of conditional probability

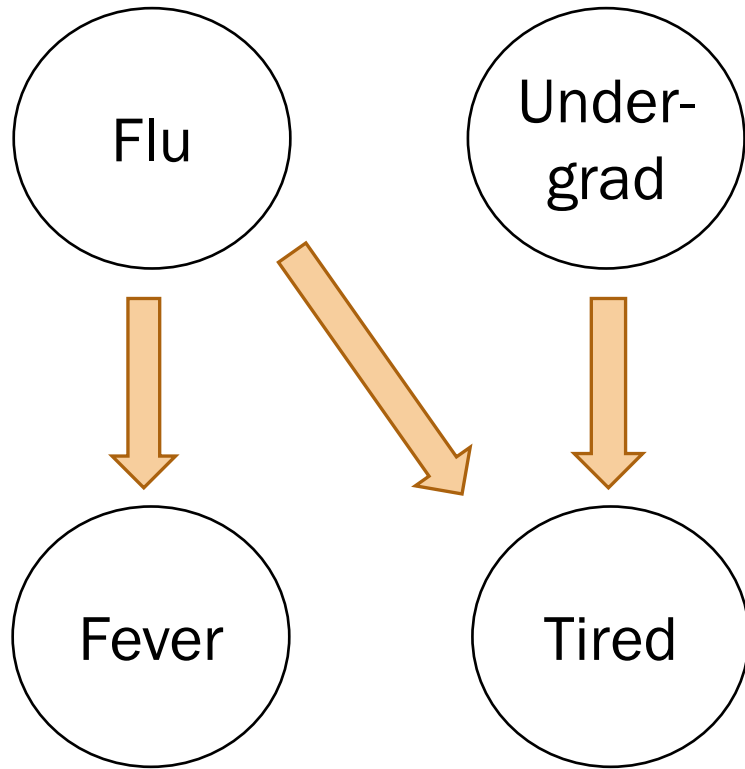
$$\frac{P(F_{lu} = 1, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)}{\sum_x P(F_{lu} = x, F_{ev} = 0, U = 0, T = 1)}$$

$$= 0.095$$

# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



3.  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

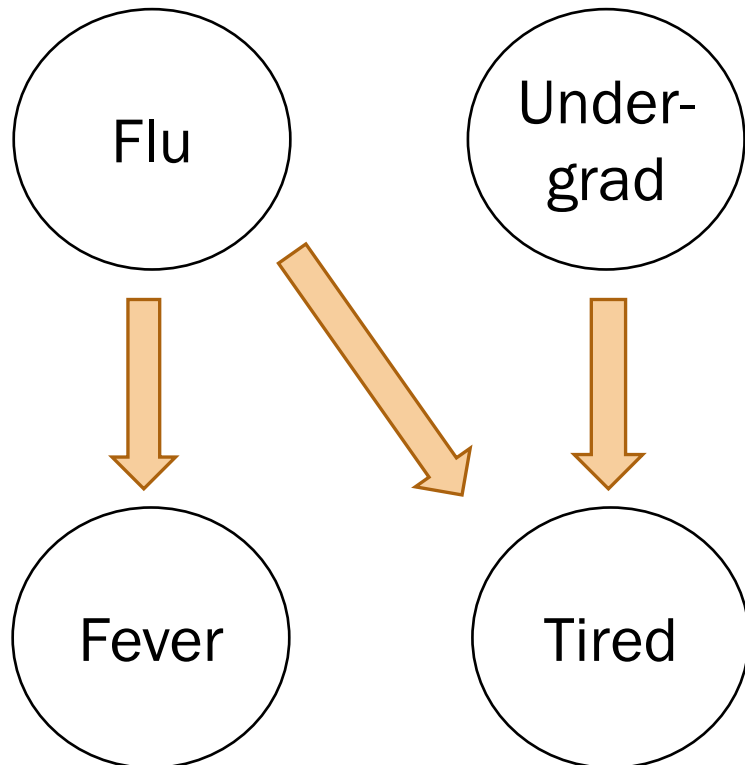
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$



# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1|F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1|F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

3.  $P(F_{lu} = 1|U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

1. Compute joint probabilities

$$P(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, F_{ev} = 1, T = 1)$$

...

$$P(F_{lu} = 0, U = 1, F_{ev} = 0, T = 1)$$

2. Definition of conditional probability

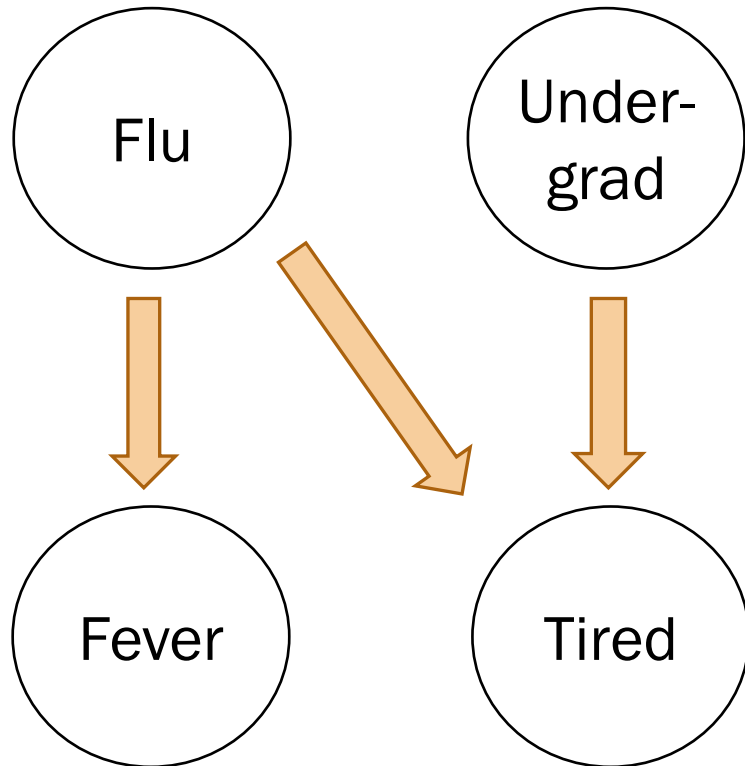
$$\frac{\sum_y P(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, F_{ev} = y, T = 1)}{\sum_x \sum_y P(F_{lu} = x, U = 1, F_{ev} = y, T = 1)}$$

$$= 0.122$$

# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

Solving inference questions precisely is possible, but sometimes tedious.

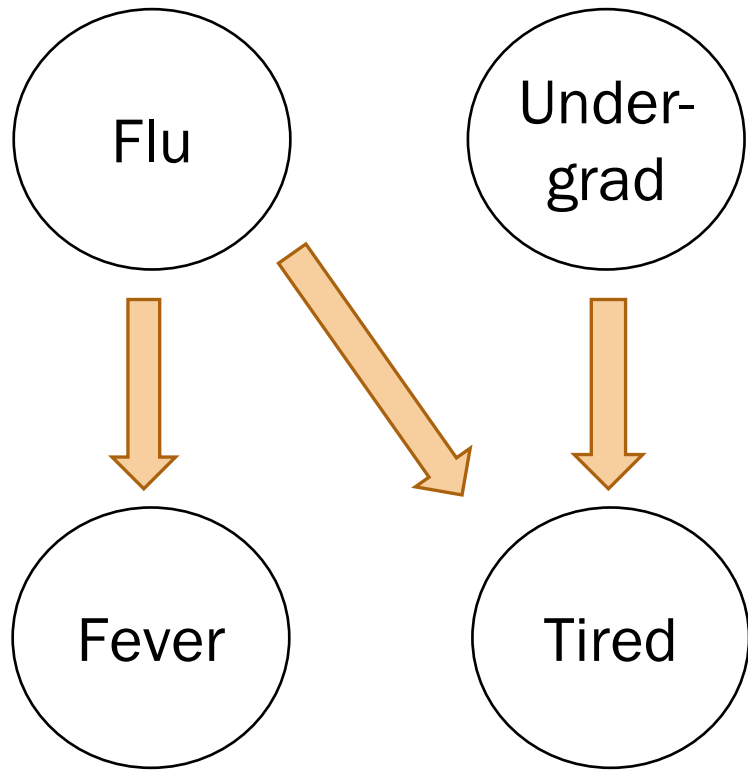
Can we use sampling to do approximate inference?

Yes.

# 15: General Inference (live)

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Lisa Yan and Jerry Cain  
October 16, 2020



In a Bayesian Network,  
Each random variable is **conditionally independent** of its non-descendants, **given its parents**.

- Node: random variable
- Directed edge: conditional dependency

Examples:

- $P(F_{ev} = 1 | T = 0, F_{lu} = 1) = P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1)$
- $P(F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = P(F_{lu} = 1)P(U = 0)$

# Breakout Rooms

Check out the question on the next slide (Slide 32). Post any clarifications here!

<https://us.edstem.org/courses/2678/discussion/146234>

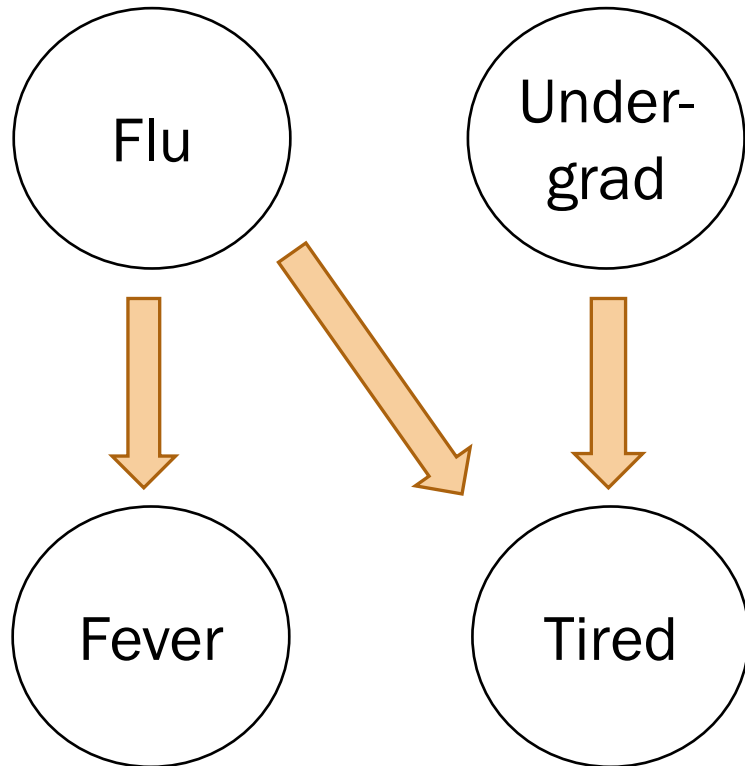
Breakout rooms: 4 min. Introduce yourself!



# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

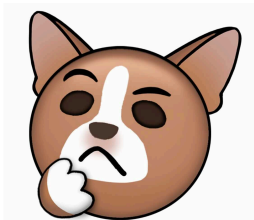
$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)?$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
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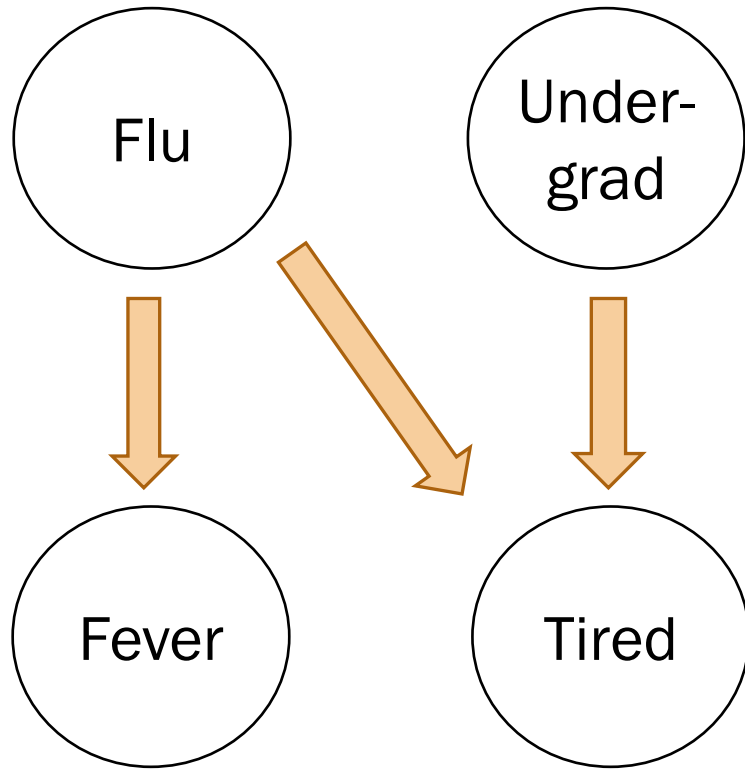




# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)?$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

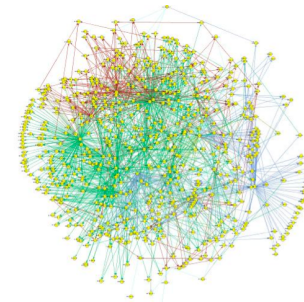
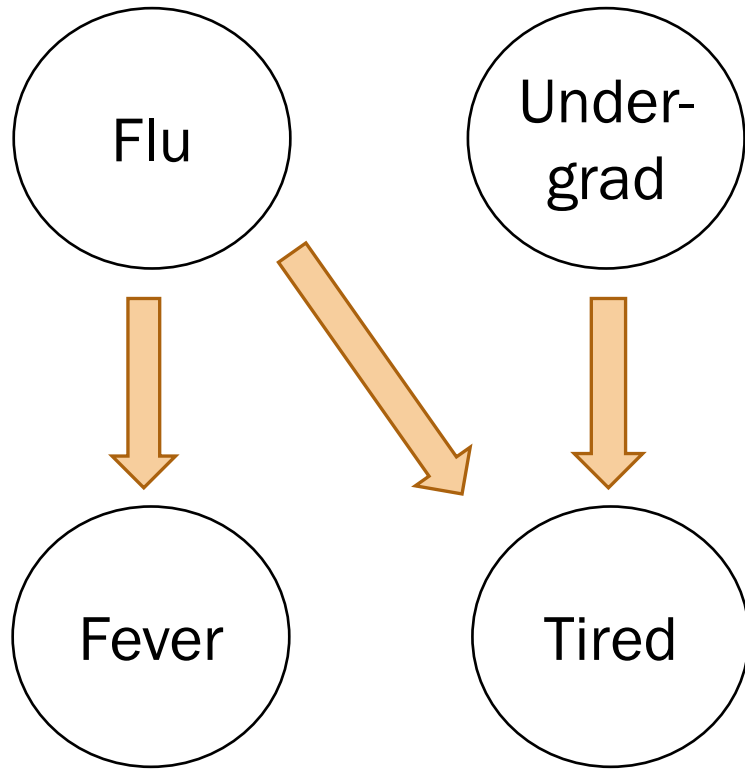
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

# Inference via math

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



Solving inference questions precisely is possible, but sometimes tedious.

Can we use sampling to do approximate inference?

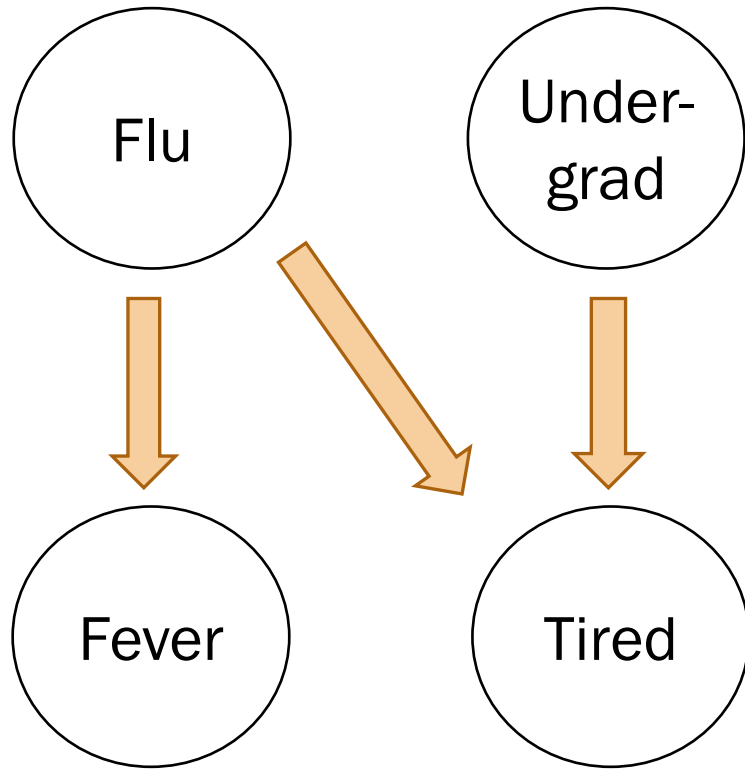
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

Yes.

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

$$= 0.122$$

(from pre-lecture video)

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

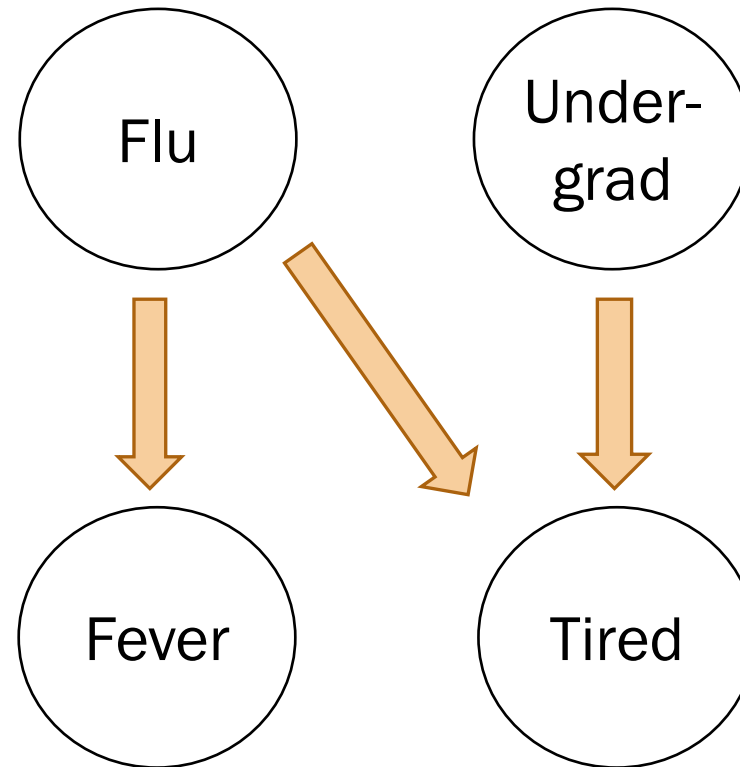
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Step 0:  
Have a fully specified  
Bayesian Network

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation = ...  
        # number of samples with (U = 1, T = 1)  
    samples_event = ...  
        # number of samples with (Flu = 1, U = 1, T = 1)  
    return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```

[flu, und, fev, tir]

```
Sampling...  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 0, 0, 0]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 0]  
[1, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 0, 1, 1]  
...  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
Finished sampling
```

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation = ...  
        # number of samples with  $(U = 1, T = 1)$   
    samples_event =  
        # number of samples with  $(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)$   
return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```

Approximate  
Probability = 
$$\frac{\text{\# samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\text{\# samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

# Rejection sampling algorithm

---

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

$$\text{Approximate Probability} = \frac{\# \text{ samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\# \text{ samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

Why would this definition of approximate probability make sense?



# Think

Slide 41 has a question to go over by yourself.

Post any clarifications here!

<https://us.edstem.org/courses/2678/discussion/146234>

Think by yourself: 2 min

(by yourself)





# Why would this approximate probability make sense?

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

$$\text{Approximate Probability} = \frac{\# \text{ samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\# \text{ samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

Recall our definition of probability as a frequency:  $P(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n}$   $n = \#$  of total trials  
 $n(E) = \#$  trials where  $E$  occurs



# Why would this approximate probability make sense?

---

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

$$\text{Approximate Probability} = \frac{\# \text{ samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\# \text{ samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

Recall our definition of probability as a frequency:  $P(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(E)}{n}$   $n = \#$  of total trials  
 $n(E) = \#$  trials where  $E$  occurs

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation = ...  
        # number of samples with (U = 1, T = 1)  
    samples_event = ...  
        # number of samples with (Flu = 1, U = 1, T = 1)  
    return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```

[flu, und, fev, tir]

```
Sampling...  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 0, 0, 0]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 0]  
[1, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 0, 1, 1]  
...  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
Finished sampling
```

# Rejection sampling algorithm

```
N_SAMPLES = 100000
# Method: Sample a ton
# -----
# create N_SAMPLES with likelihood proportional
# to the joint distribution
def sample_a_ton():
    samples = []
    for i in range(N_SAMPLES):
        sample = make_sample() # a particle
        samples.append(sample)
    return samples
```

How do we make a sample  
( $F_{lu} = a, U = b, F_{ev} = c, T = d$ )  
according to the  
joint probability?

Create a sample using the Bayesian Network!!

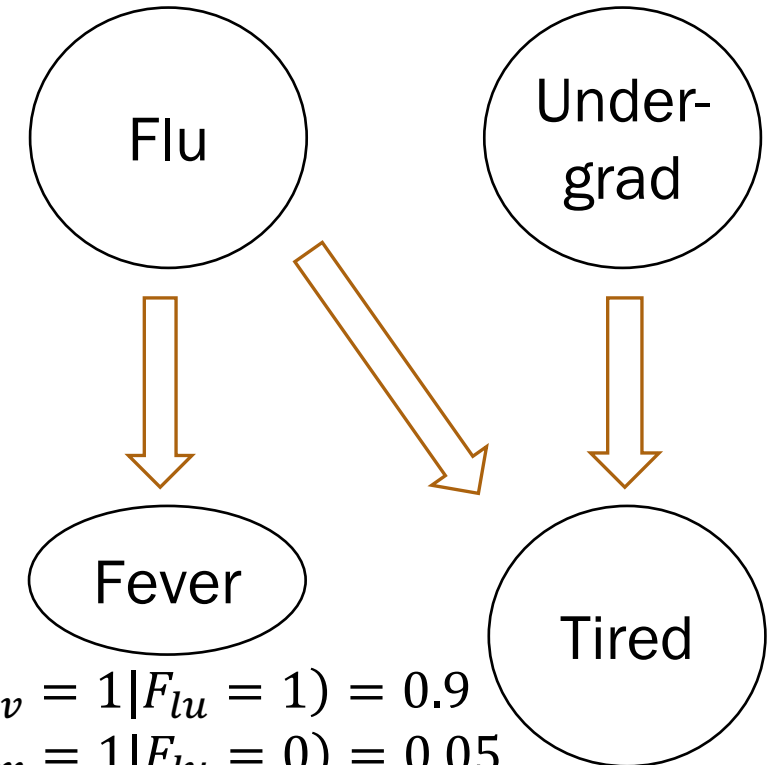
# Rejection sampling algorithm

```
# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# create a single sample from the joint distribution
# based on the medical "WebMD" Bayesian Network
def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
    flu = bernoulli(0.1)
    und = bernoulli(0.8)

    # choose fever based on flu
    if flu == 1: fev = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: fev = bernoulli(0.05)

    # choose tired based on (undergrad and flu)
    #
    # TODO: fill in
    #
    # a sample from the joint has an
    # assignment to *all* random variables
    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

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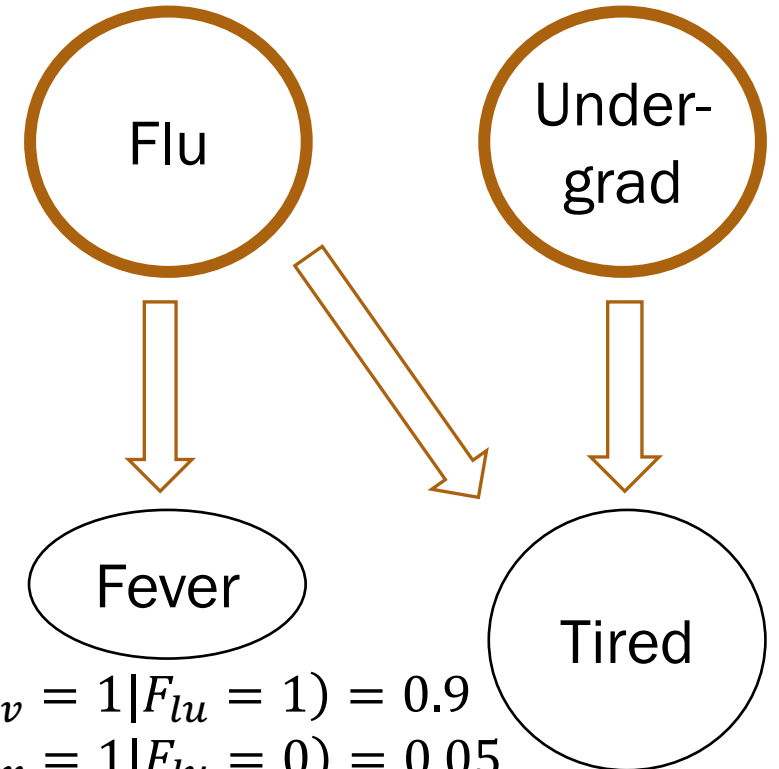
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```

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



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$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

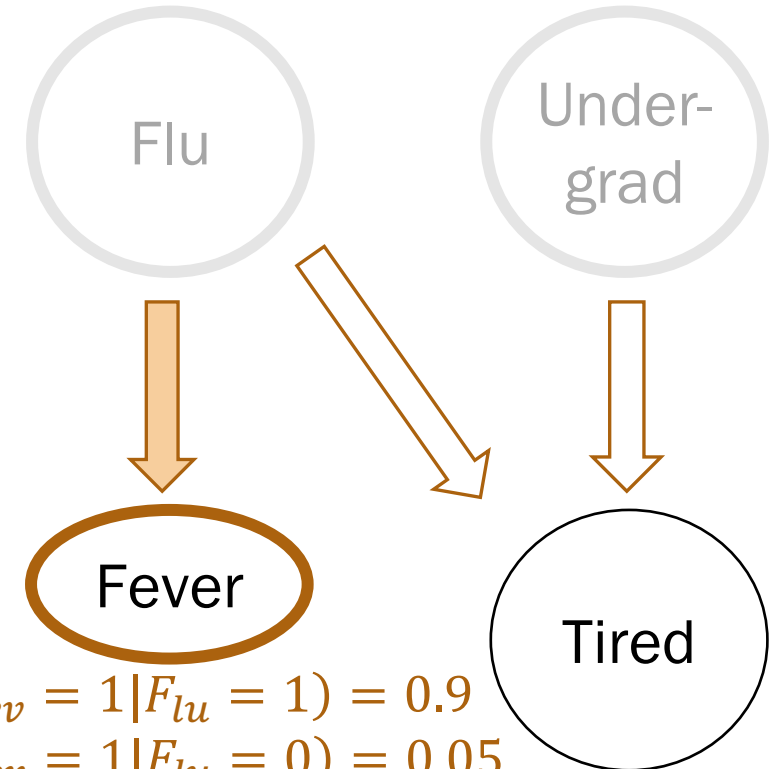
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    #
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    #
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$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



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# Rejection sampling algorithm

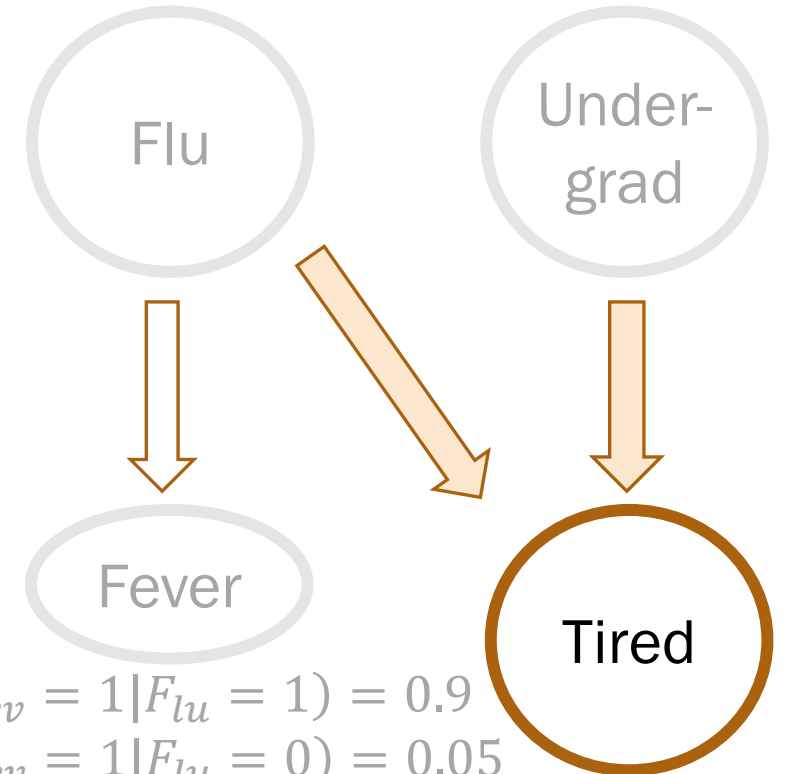
```
# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# create a single sample from the joint distribution
# based on the medical "WebMD" Bayesian Network
def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
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    #
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$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



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# Rejection sampling algorithm

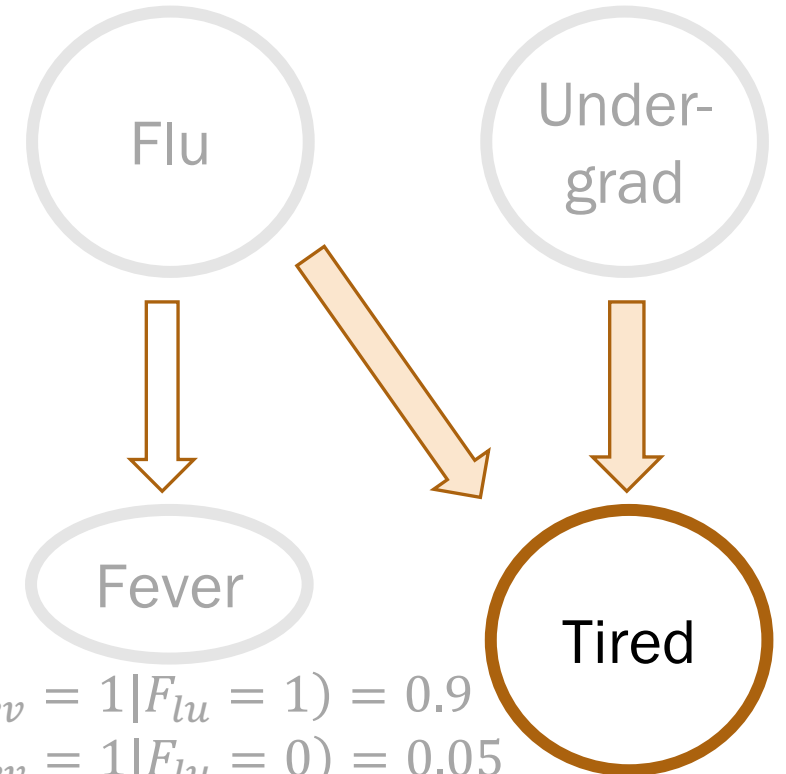
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# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# create a single sample from the joint distribution
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def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
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    und = bernoulli(0.8)

    # choose fever based on flu
    if flu == 1: fev = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: fev = bernoulli(0.05)

    # choose tired based on (undergrad and flu)
    if flu == 0 and und == 0: tir = bernoulli(0.1)
    elif flu == 0 and und == 1: tir = bernoulli(0.8)
    elif flu == 1 and und == 0: tir = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: tir = bernoulli(1.0)

    # a sample from the joint has an
    # assignment to *all* random variables
    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$
$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$
$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

# Rejection sampling algorithm

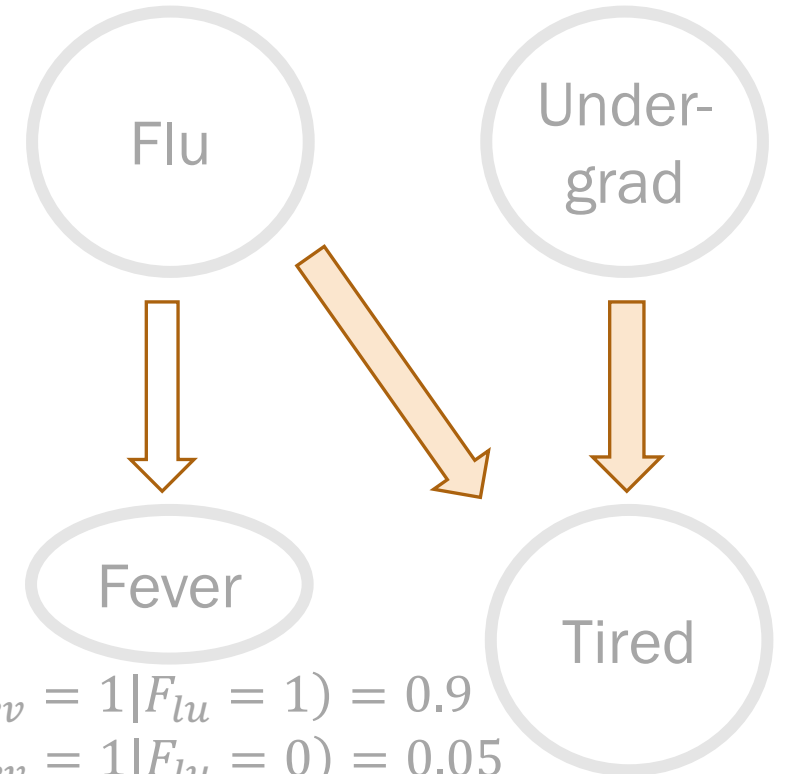
```
# Method: Make Sample
# -----
# create a single sample from the joint distribution
# based on the medical "WebMD" Bayesian Network
def make_sample():
    # prior on causal factors
    flu = bernoulli(0.1)
    und = bernoulli(0.8)

    # choose fever based on flu
    if flu == 1: fev = bernoulli(0.9)
    else: fev = bernoulli(0.05)

    # choose tired based on (undergrad and flu)
    if flu == 0 and und == 0: tir = bernoulli(0.1)
    elif flu == 0 and und == 1: tir = bernoulli(0.8)
    elif flu == 1 and und == 0: tir = bernoulli(0.9)
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    # a sample from the joint has an
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    return [flu, und, fev, tir]
```

$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1 \quad P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



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# Interlude for jokes/announcements

# Announcements

---

## Problem Set 4

Out: Today!  
Due: Monday 10/26 1pm  
Covers: Up to and including today

## Mid-quarter feedback form

Open until: [link](#) next Friday

## Python tutorial #3

When: Mon 10/19 6-7pm PT  
Recorded? Yes  
Covers: PS4-PS6 content  
Notes: to be posted [online](#)

# Announcements: CS109 contest

---



Do something cool and creative  
with probability

**Grand Prize:**

Two lowest quizzes replaced with 100%

**Finalists:**

Lowest quiz replaced with 100%

Optional Proposal: Mon. 11/2, 11:59pm

Due: Sat. 11/14, 11:59pm

[https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs109/psets/cs109\\_contest.pdf](https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs109/psets/cs109_contest.pdf)

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation = ...  
        # number of samples with (U = 1, T = 1)  
    samples_event = ...  
        # number of samples with (Flu = 1, U = 1, T = 1)  
    return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```

[flu, und, fev, tir]

```
Sampling...  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 0, 0, 0]  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
[0, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 1, 0, 0]  
[1, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 0, 1, 1]  
...  
[0, 1, 0, 1]  
Finished sampling
```

# Rejection sampling algorithm

---

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation = ...
        # number of samples with  $(U = 1, T = 1)$ 
    samples_event =
        # number of samples with  $(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)$ 
    return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```

# Rejection sampling algorithm

---

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)  
    samples_event =  
        # number of samples with  $(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)$   
    return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```



# Rejection sampling algorithm

---

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)  
    samples_event =  
        # number of samples with  $(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)$   
    return len(samples_event) / len(samples_observation)
```

Keep only samples that are consistent  
with the observation  $(U = 1, T = 1)$ .

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
```

```
    samples = sample_a_ton()
```

```
    samples_observation =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)
```

```
    samples
```

```
    # Method: Reject Inconsistent  
    # -----  
    # Rejects all samples that do not align with the outcome.  
    # Returns a list of consistent samples.  
    return
```

```
    def reject_inconsistent(samples, outcome):  
        consistent_samples = []  
        for sample in samples:  
            if check_consistent(sample, outcome):  
                consistent_samples.append(sample)  
        return consistent_samples
```

$(U = 1, T = 1)$

# Rejection sampling algorithm

---

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)  
    samples_event =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples_observation, event)  
return len(samples_event)/len(samples_observation)
```

Conditional event = samples with  $(F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)$ .

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):
    samples = sample_a_ton()
    samples_observation =
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)
    samples_event =
        reject_inconsistent(samples_observation, event)
    return samples_event

def reject_inconsistent(samples, outcome):
    # (Flu = x, U = 1, Fev = y, T = 1)
    # (Flu = 1)
    # = 1).
    return consistent_samples
```

Condi

# Rejection sampling algorithm

Inference question: What is  $P(F_{lu} = 1 | U = 1, T = 1)$ ?

```
def rejection_sampling(event, observation):  
    samples = sample_a_ton()  
    samples_observation =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples, observation)  
    samples_event =  
        reject_inconsistent(samples_observation, event)  
return len(samples_event)/len(samples_observation)
```

$$\text{Approximate Probability} = \frac{\# \text{ samples with } (F_{lu} = 1, U = 1, T = 1)}{\# \text{ samples with } (U = 1, T = 1)}$$

To the code!

---



# Rejection sampling

If you can sample enough from the joint distribution, you can answer any probability inference question.

With enough samples, you can correctly compute:

- Probability estimates
- Conditional probability estimates
- Expectation estimates

Because your samples are a representation of the joint distribution!

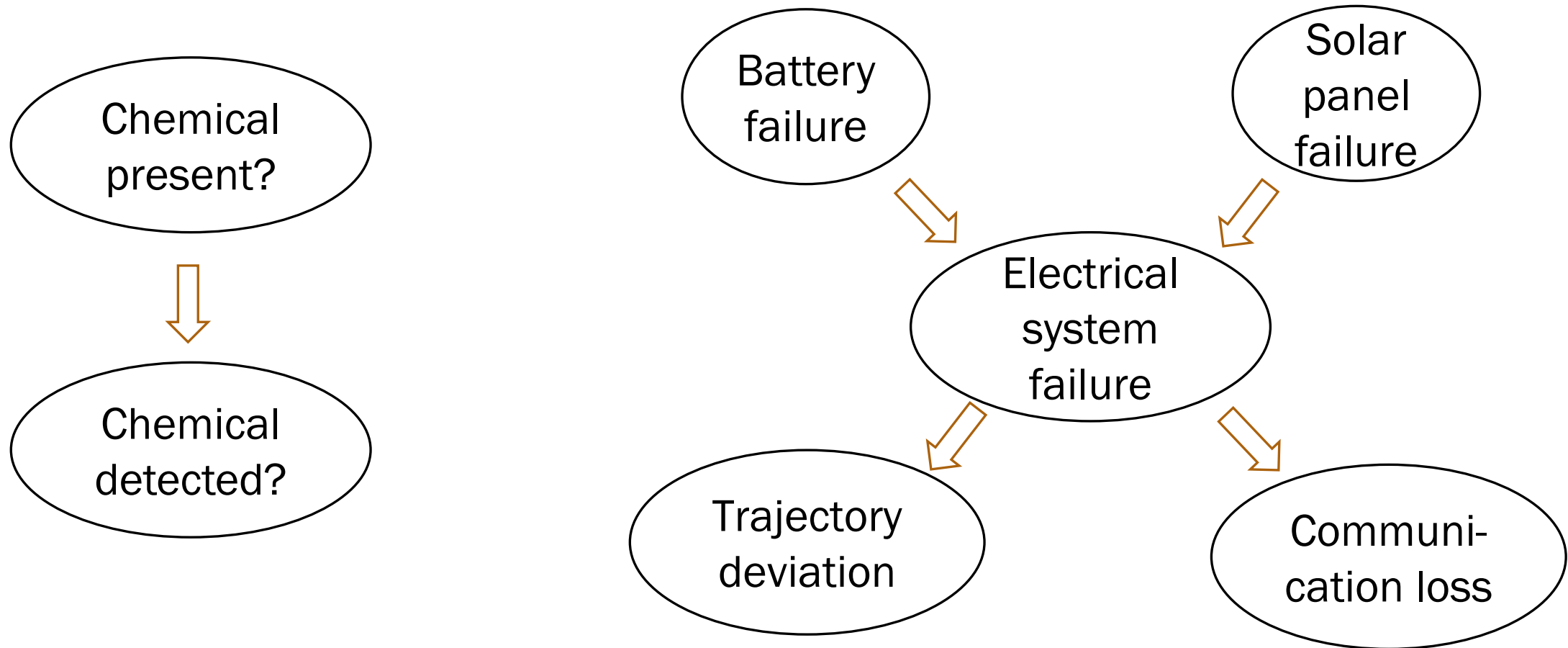
[flu, und, fev, tir]

```
Sampling...
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 0, 0, 0]
[0, 1, 0, 1]
[0, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 1, 0, 0]
[1, 1, 1, 1]
[0, 0, 1, 1]
...
[0, 1, 0, 1]
Finished sampling
```

$$P(\text{has flu} \mid \text{undergrad and is tired}) = 0.122$$

# Other applications

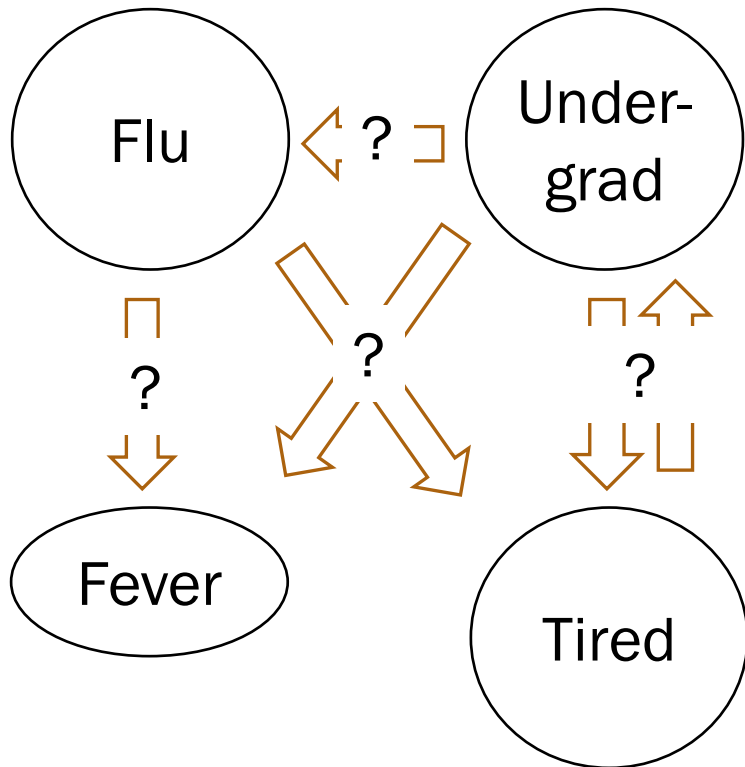
---



Take CS238/AA228: Decision Making under Uncertainty!



# Challenge with Bayesian Networks



What if we don't know the structure?

Take CS228: Probabilistic Graphical Models!

# Disadvantages of rejection sampling

$$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 1)?$$

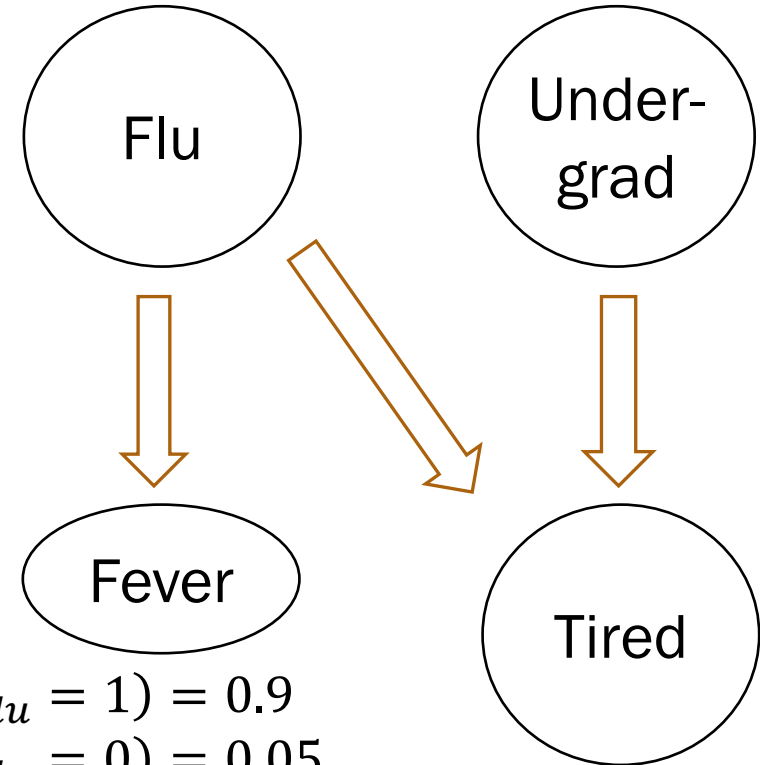
What if we never encounter some samples?

[flu=0, und, fev=1, tir]



$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 1) = 0.9$$

$$P(F_{ev} = 1 | F_{lu} = 0) = 0.05$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

# Disadvantages of rejection sampling

$$P(F_{lu} = 1 | F_{ev} = 99.4)?$$

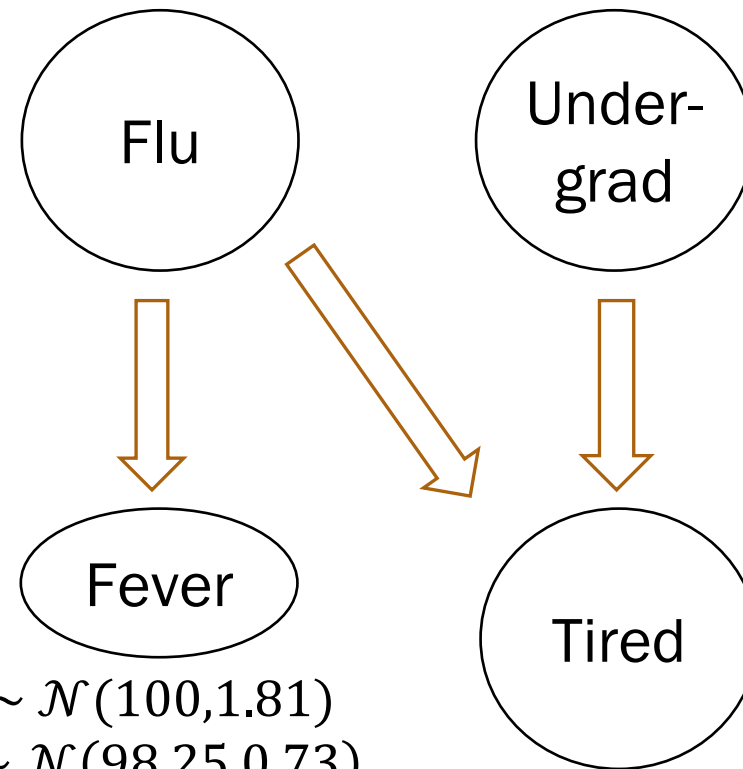
What if we never encounter some samples?

What if random variables are continuous?



$$P(F_{lu} = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(U = 1) = 0.8$$



$$F_{ev} | F_{lu} = 1 \sim \mathcal{N}(100, 1.81)$$

$$F_{ev} | F_{lu} = 0 \sim \mathcal{N}(98.25, 0.73)$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 0) = 0.1$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 0, U = 1) = 0.8$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 0) = 0.9$$

$$P(T = 1 | F_{lu} = 1, U = 1) = 1.0$$

# Gibbs sampling (extra)

# Gibbs Sampling (not covered)

Basic idea:

- Fix all observed events
- Incrementally sample a new value for each random variable
- Difficulty: More coding for computing different posterior probabilities

Learn in extra slides/[extra notebook!](#)

(or by taking CS228/CS238)

