

# Probabilistic Graphical Models

Directed Graphical Models

D-Separation

# Probabilistic Graphical Models

## Directed graphical models

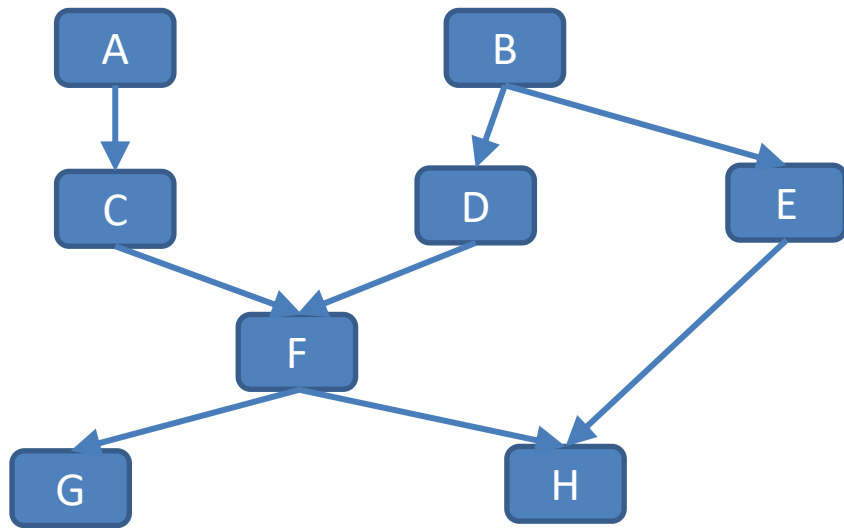
- Bayes Nets
- Conditional dependence

## Undirected graphical models

- Markov random fields (MRFs)
- Factor graphs

# Directed Graphical Models

A Directed Acyclic Graph



A joint Probability Distribution

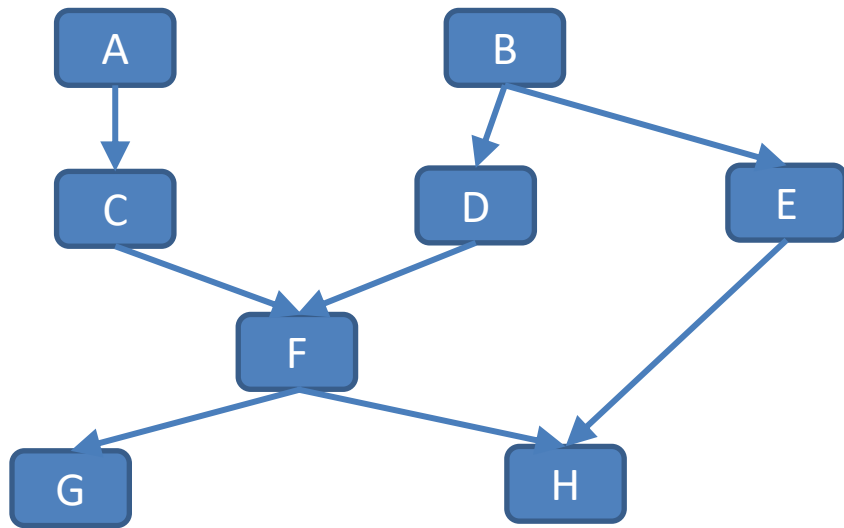
$$P(A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)$$

Markov Condition:

Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

# From Markov Condition to Factorization

A Directed Acyclic Graph



A joint Probability Distribution

$$P(A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)$$

$$P(A, \dots, H)$$

$$= \prod_{V \in \{A, \dots, H\}} P(V | Pa_G(V))$$

Markov Condition:

Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

# Factorization Theorem

- Let  $I(G)$  be the set of independencies entailed by the Markov Condition

- The Equivalence Theorem

For a graph  $G$ ,

Let  $D_1$  denote the family of all distributions that satisfy  $I(G)$ ,

Let  $D_2$  denote the family of all distributions that factor according to  $G$  (that are Markov to  $G$ ),

Then  $D_1 \equiv D_2$ .

$$P(X) = \prod_{i=1:d} P(X_i | Pa_G(X_i))$$

- For the graph to be useful, any conditional independence properties we can derive from the graph should hold for the probability distribution that the graph represents

# Summary

Bayesian networks: Graph (DAG)+JPD

JPD factorizes according to the Markov Condition.

Markov Condition implies a factorization (proof) above

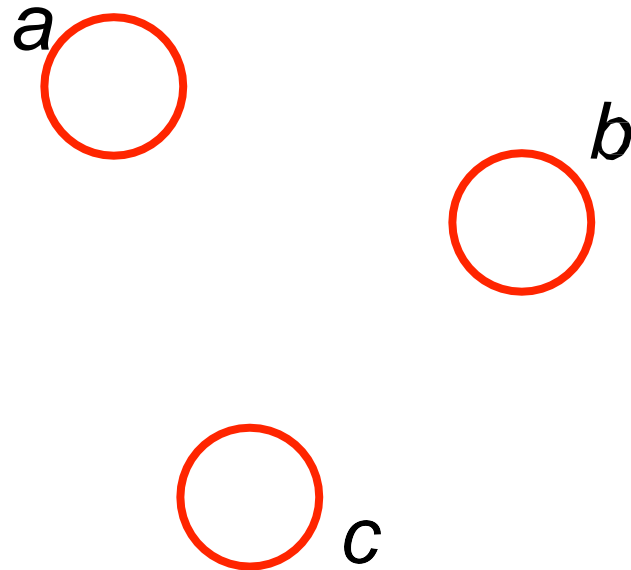
Factorization also implies the Markov condition

# Qualitative Specification

- Where does the qualitative specification come from?
  - Prior knowledge of causal relationships
  - Prior knowledge of modular relationships
  - Assessment from experts
  - Learning from data
  - We simply like a certain architecture (e.g. a layered graph)
  - ...
- Graphs imply some conditional independencies. (wherever you got them)
  - What does this mean?
  - For every distribution that factorizes according to the graph

# Independencies.

*Are  $a$  and  $b$  independent (  $a \perp b$  )?*

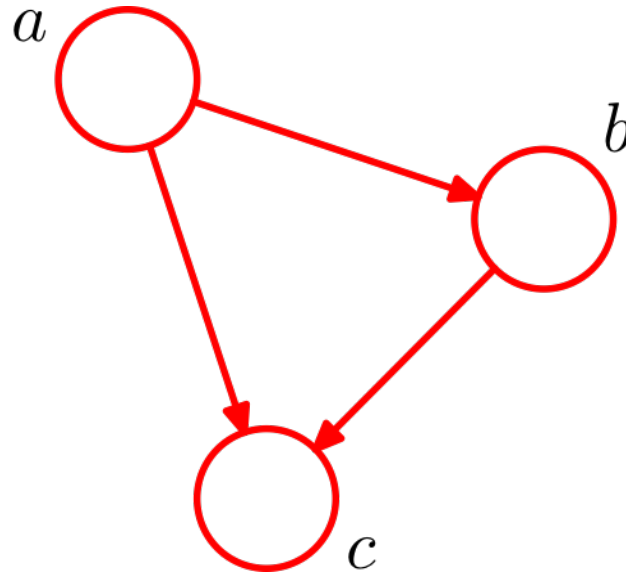


$$\mathbf{p(a,b,c) = p(a)p(b)p(c)}$$



# Independencies

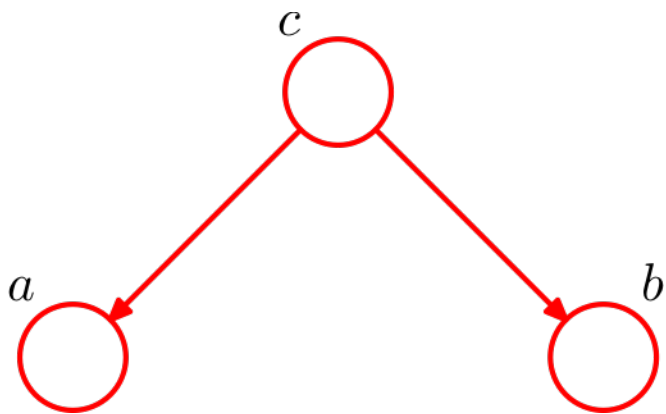
$$p(a,b,c) = p(a)p(b|a)p(c|a,b)$$



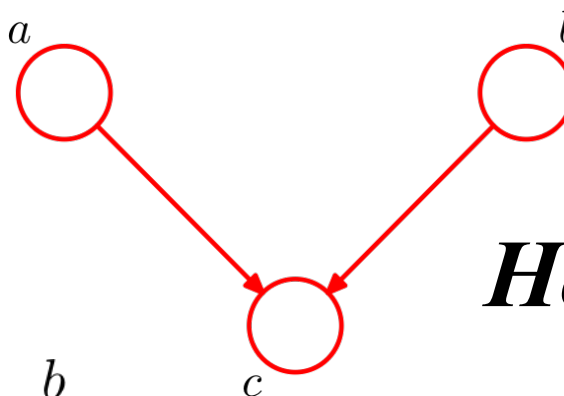
Note there are **no conditional independencies** (fully connected graph)

# Three interesting cases

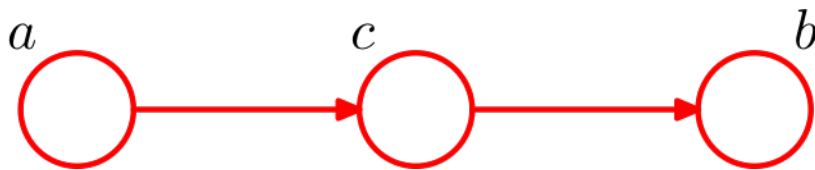
*Tail-to-tail*



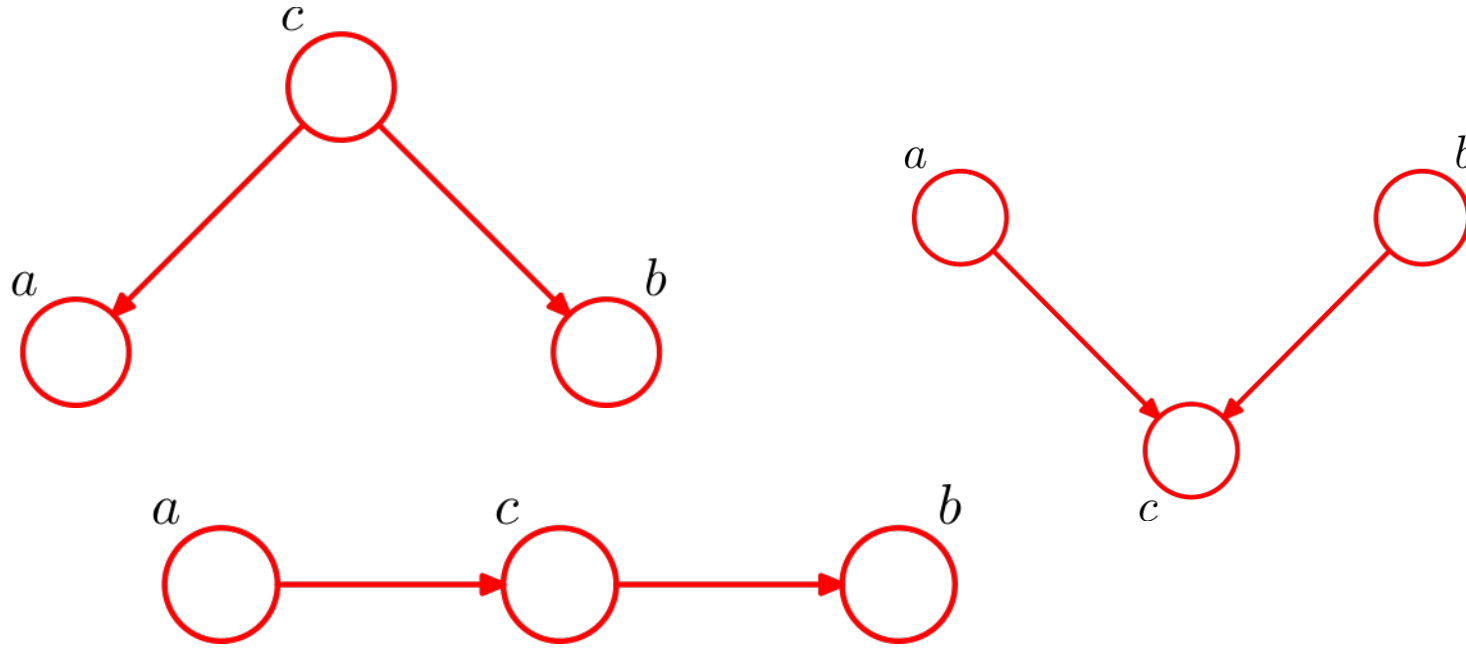
*Head-to-head*



*Head-to-tail*



# Three interesting cases



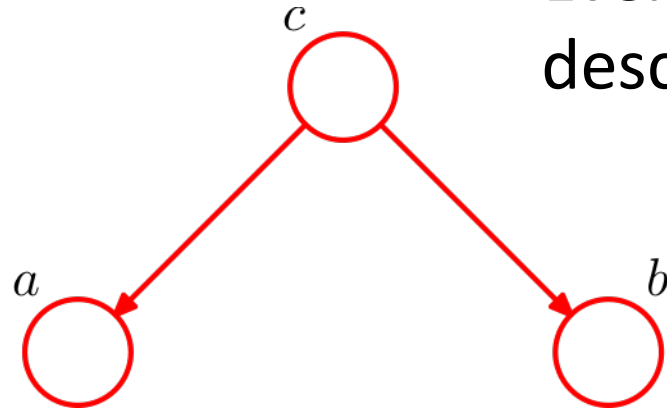
For each case, consider two questions:

- 1) Is  $a \perp b$  ?
- 2) Is  $a \perp b \mid c$  ? (i.e.  $c$  is observed)

# Case one (tail-to-tail / fork)

Markov Condition:

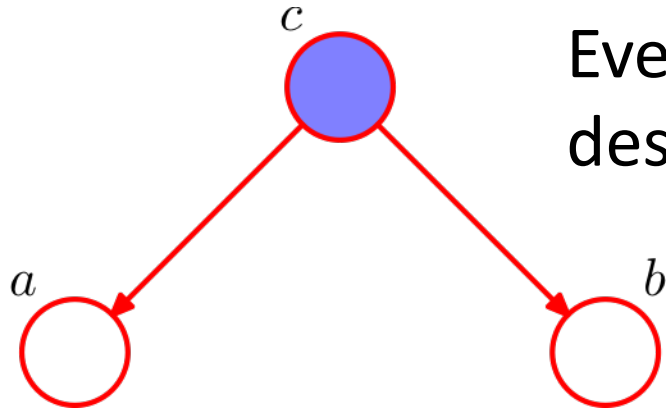
Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)



$$a \perp\!\!\!\perp b$$

This graph represents  $P(a, b, c) = P(c)P(a|c)P(b|c)$

# Case one (tail-to-tail)



Markov Condition:

Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

$$a \perp b \mid c$$

$$p(a, b, c) = p(c)p(a|c)p(b|c) \quad (\text{what the graph represents in general})$$

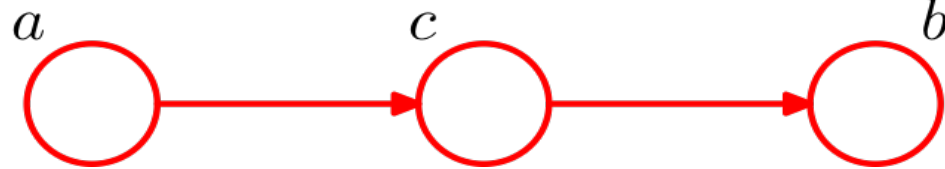
$$p(a, b|c) = p(a|c)p(b|c) \quad (\text{with } c \text{ observed})$$

This is the definition of  $a \perp b \mid c$

## Case two (head-to-tail, cascade)

Markov Condition:

Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)



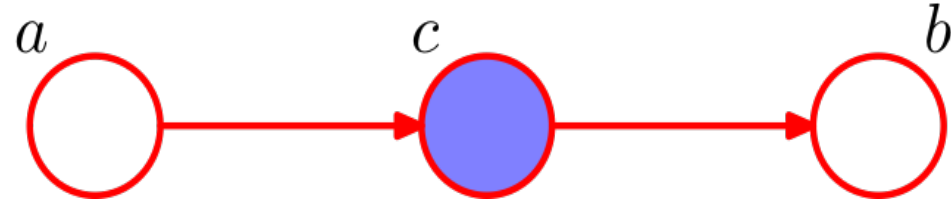
$a \perp\!\!\!\perp b$

This graph represents  $P(a, b, c) = P(a)P(c|a)P(b|c)$

# Case two (head-to-tail)

Markov Condition:

Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

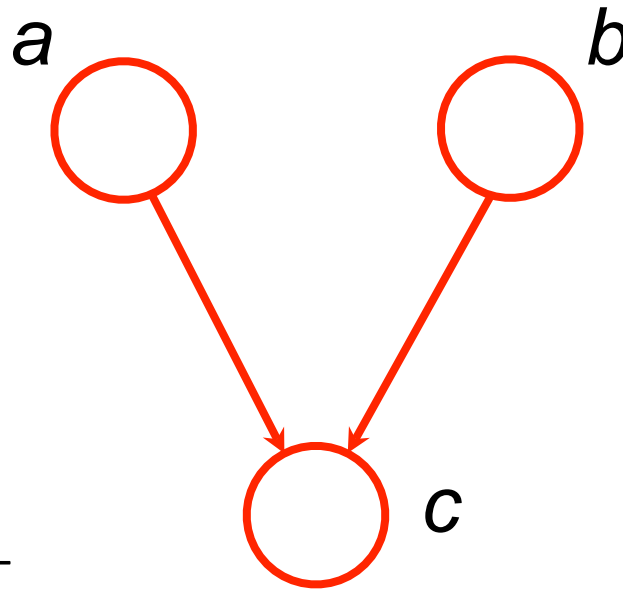


$$a \perp b \mid c$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b \mid c) &= \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)} && \text{(definition)} \\ &= \frac{p(a)p(c|a)p(b|c)}{p(c)} && \text{(from graph)} \\ &= \frac{p(a)p(a|c)p(c)p(b|c)}{p(a)p(c)} && \text{(Bayes on } p(c|a)) \\ &= p(a|c)p(b|c) \end{aligned}$$

# Case three (head-to-head)

*Are  $a$  and  $b$  independent ( $a \perp b$ )?*



Markov Condition:

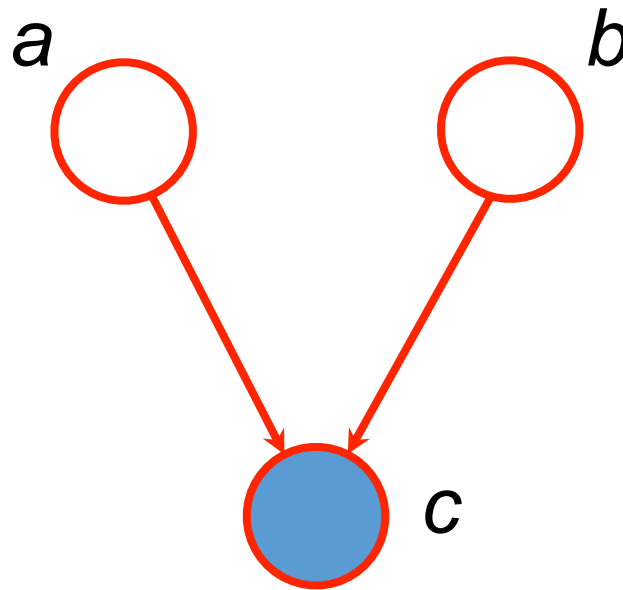
Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

$$p(a, b) = \sum_c p(a)p(b)p(c | a, b) = p(a)p(b)$$



## Case three (head-to-head)

*Are  $a$  and  $b$  conditionally independent ( $a \perp b \mid c$ )?*



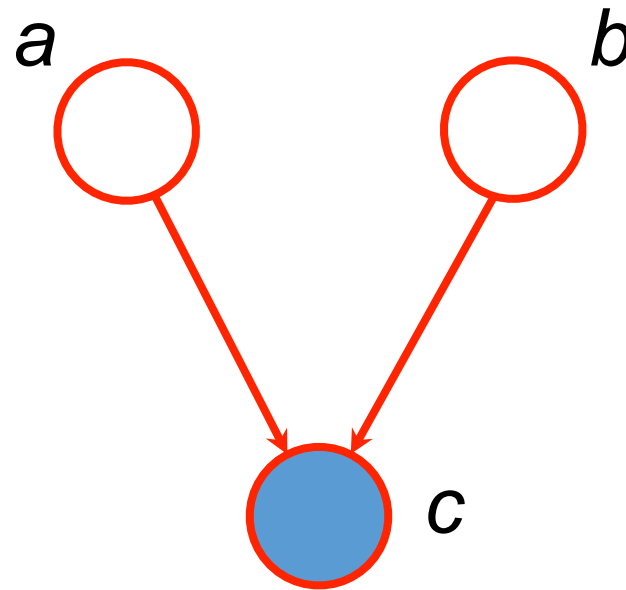
Markov Condition:

Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

$$\mathbf{p(a,b,c) = p(a)p(b)p(c|a,b)}$$

# Case three (head-to-head)

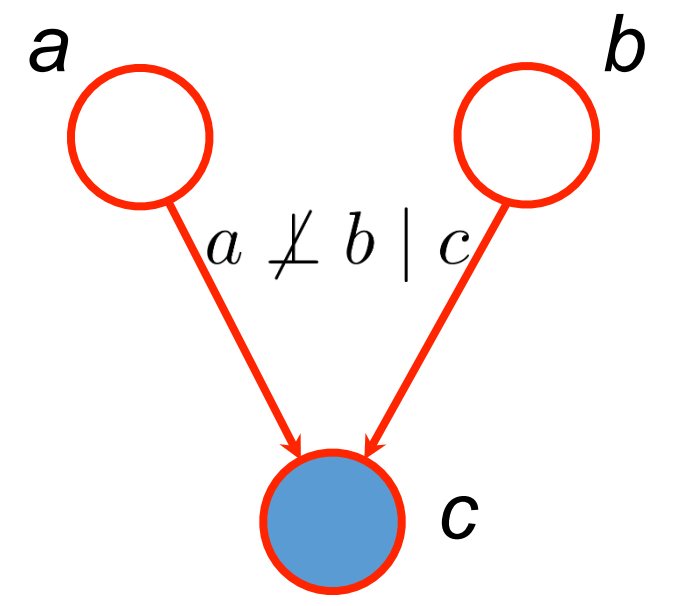
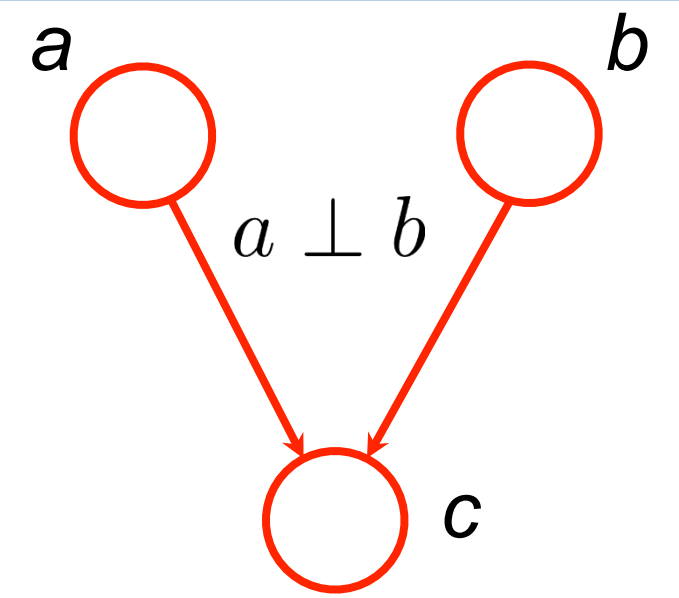
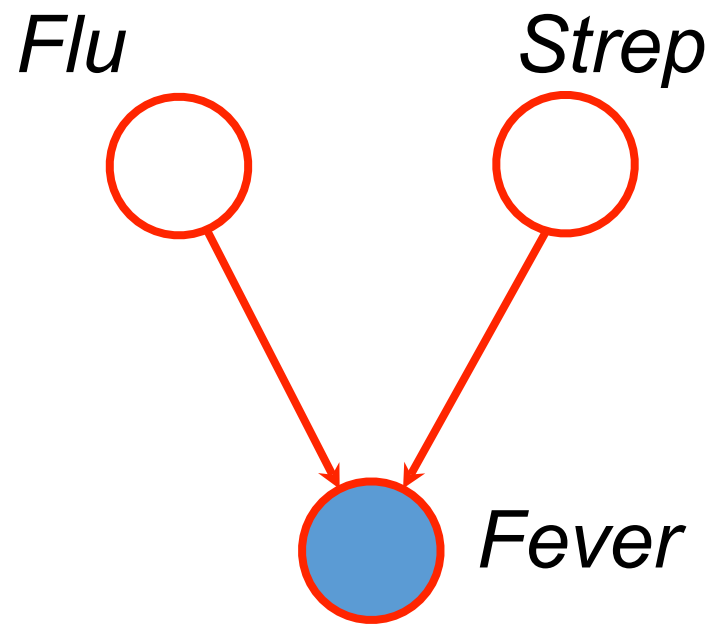
*Are  $a$  and  $b$  conditionally independent ( $a \perp b \mid c$ )?*



$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b \mid c) &= \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)} \\ &= \frac{p(a)p(b)p(c \mid a, b)}{p(c)} \\ &\neq p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c) \quad (\text{in general}) \end{aligned}$$

Markov Condition:  
Every variable is independent of its non-descendants given its parents (in the graph)

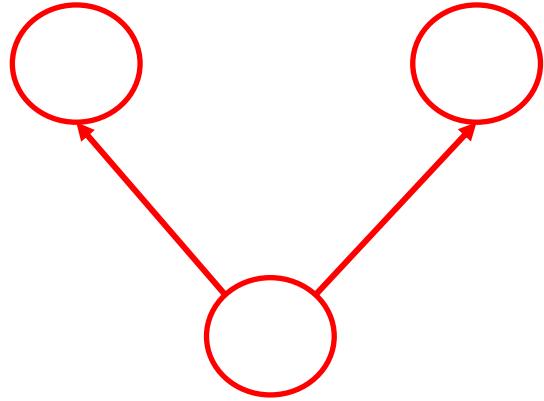
# Case three (head-to-head)



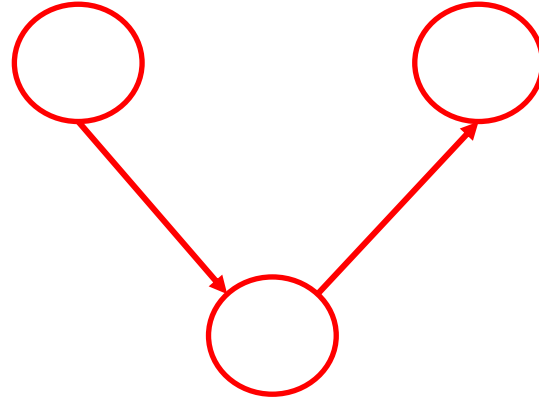
Phenomenon in Bayes networks known as **explaining away**

# Three interesting cases

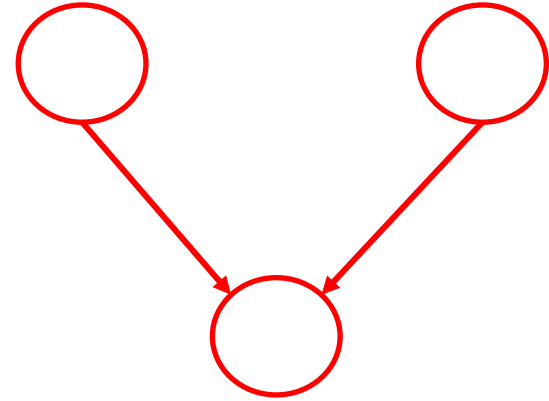
$$a \perp b \mid c$$



$$a \perp b \mid c$$



$$a \perp b$$



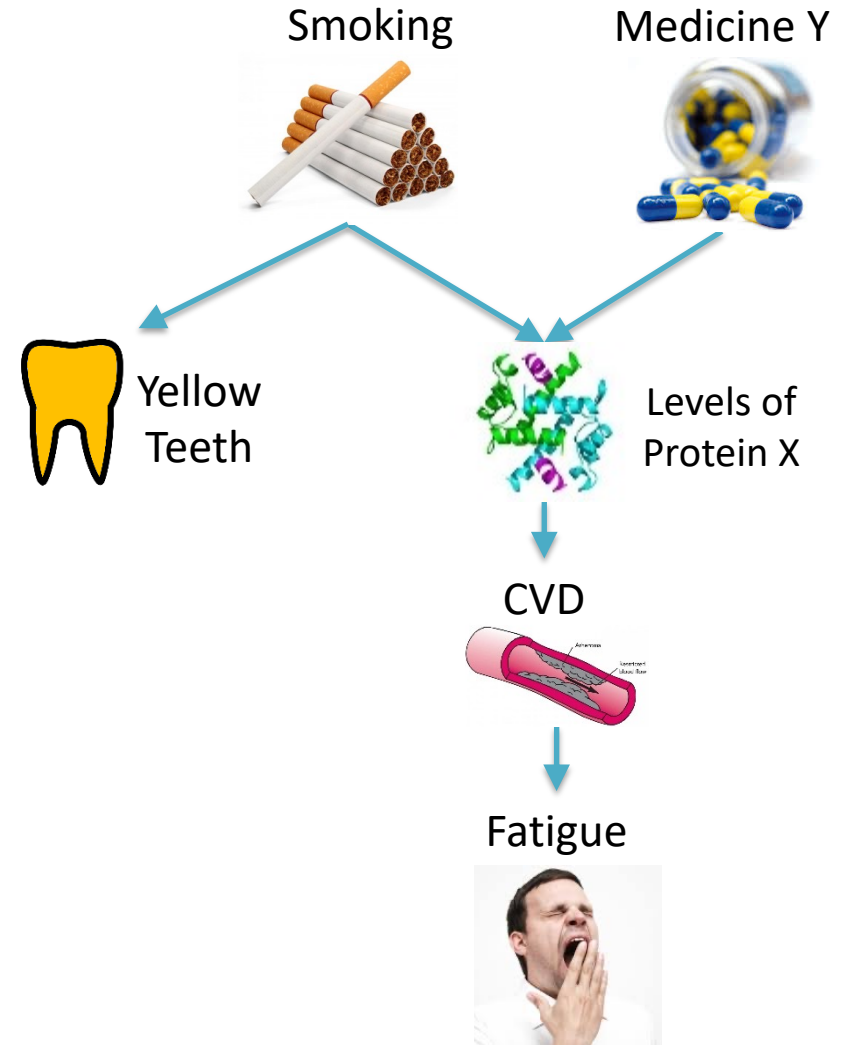
1) Is  $a \perp b$  ?

2) Is  $a \perp b \mid c$  ? (i.e. c is observed)

# Querying the Markov Condition

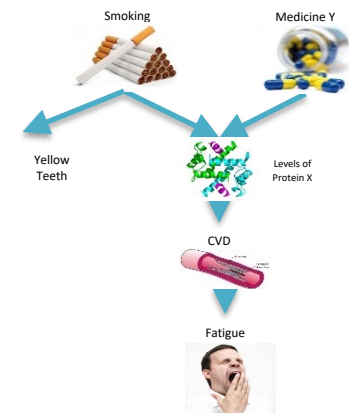
Is Fatigue independent  
of Smoking given Levels  
of Protein X?

$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking}, \text{Levels of Protein X}) \stackrel{?}{=} P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Levels of Protein X})$



# Do the Math

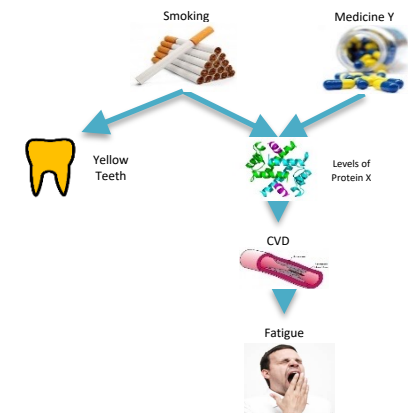
$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels of Protein X}) =$$



# Querying the Markov Condition

$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels of Protein X}) =$

$$\sum_{cvd} P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels X, CVD}) P(\text{CVD} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels X})$$

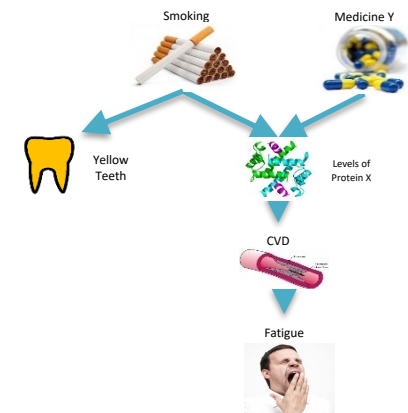


Law of total probability.

# Querying the Markov Condition

$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels of Protein X}) =$$

$$\sum_{cvd} P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels X, CVD}) P(\text{CVD} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels X})$$



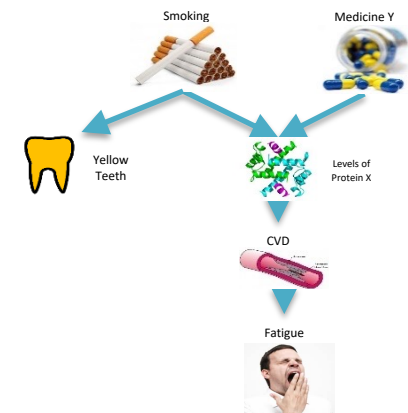
Markov Condition:  $P(F \mid S, X, CVD) = P(F \mid X, CVD)$ .



# Do the math

$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels of Protein X}) =$$

$$\sum_{cvd} P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels X, CVD}) P(\text{CVD} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels X})$$



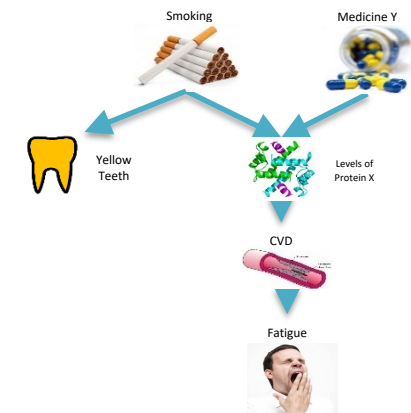
Markov condition:  $P(\text{CVD} \mid S, X) = P(\text{CVD} \mid X)$ .

# Do the math

$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels of Protein X}) =$$

$$\sum_{cvd} P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Levels X, CVD}) P(\text{CVD} \mid \text{Levels X}) =$$

$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Levels of Protein X})$$

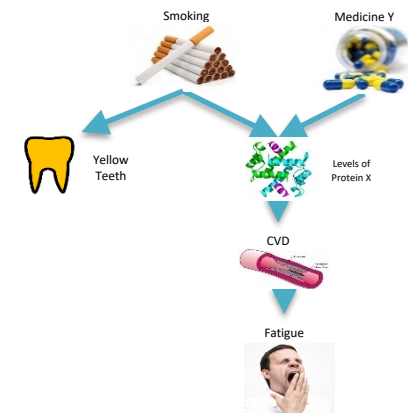


Law of total Probability

# Do the math

$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Smoking, Levels of Protein X}) =$$

$$P(\text{Fatigue} \mid \text{Levels of Protein X})$$



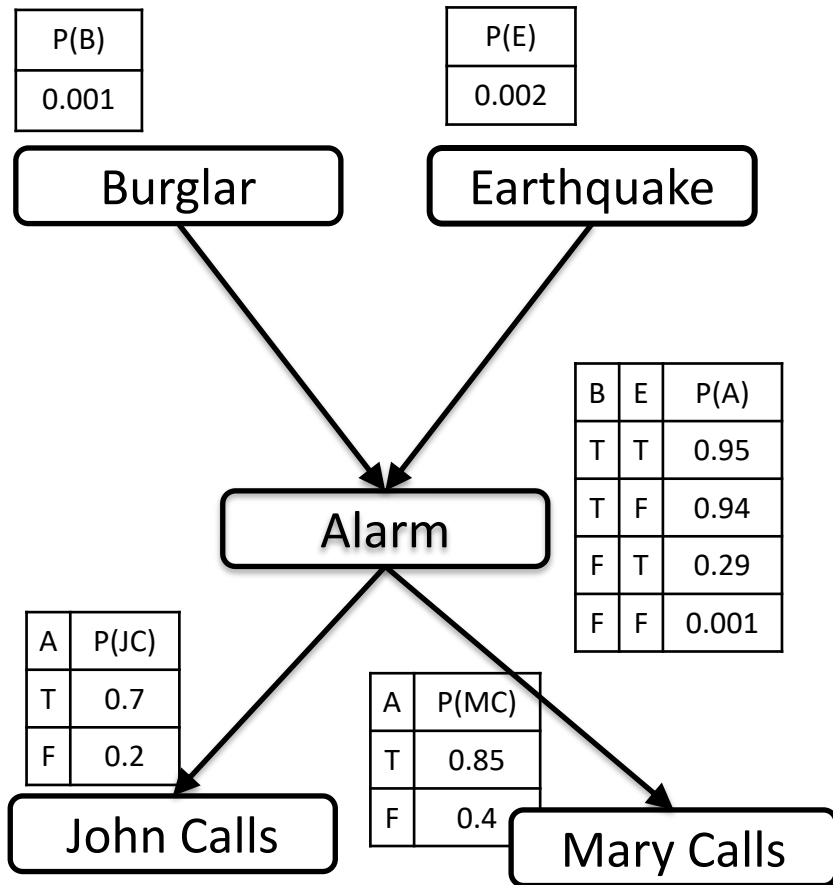
Markov condition dictates some independencies,  
entails some more.

# The d-separation criterion

Algorithm to determine **all** independencies entailed by the Markov Condition.

Paths in the graph represent information flow (or lack thereof)

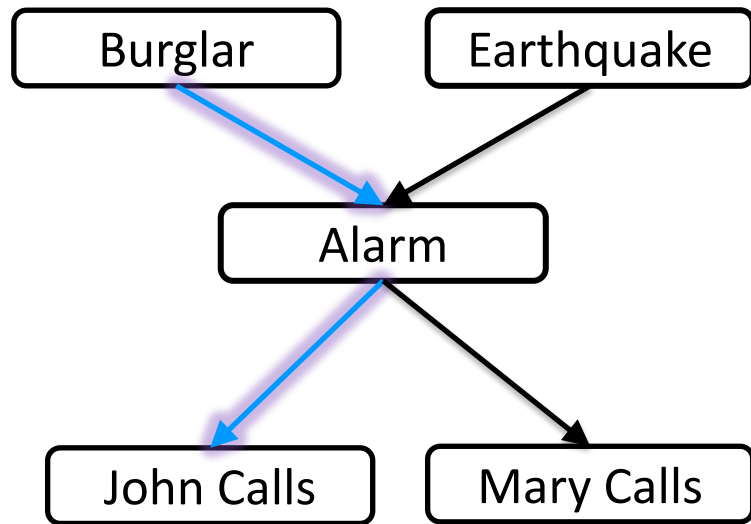
# Example



You have an installed alarm. Burglars set off the alarm. Earthquakes set off the alarm. When the alarm goes off, one of your neighbors (John or Mary) may call you.

Example by J. Pearl

# Chains, head-to-tail

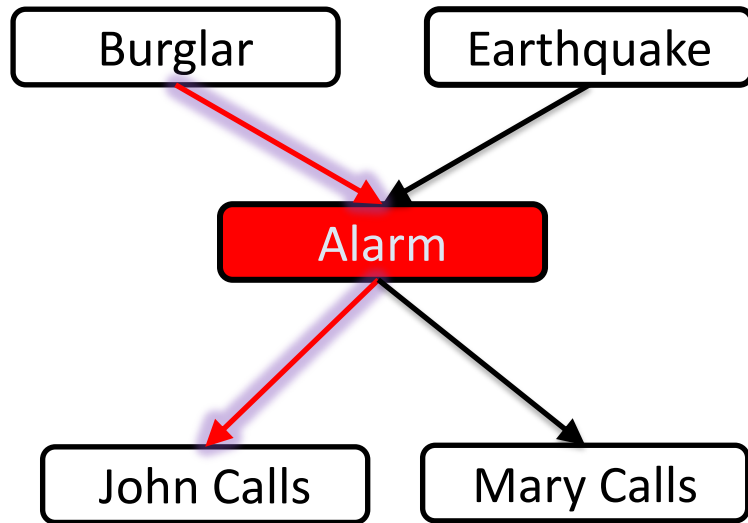


Burglar → John Calls |  $\emptyset$

A **directed path** is an **open path** (it allows information to flow).

When your house is being robbed, the probability of getting a phone call from John is higher than usual (due to the alarm going off).

# Chains, head-to-tail

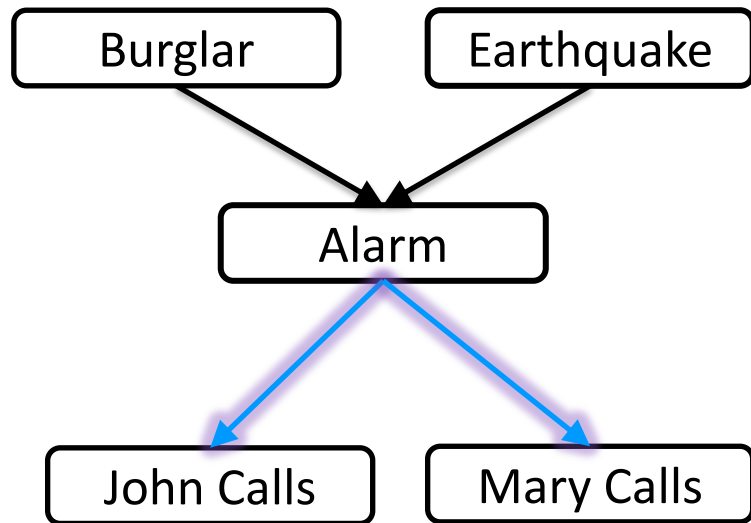


Burglar  $\perp$  John Calls | Alarm

Conditioning on **intermediate** nodes **blocks** the path.

If you know the alarm has gone off, whether this was due or not to a burglary does not change your belief about the probability of getting a phone call from John.

# Forks, tail-to-tail



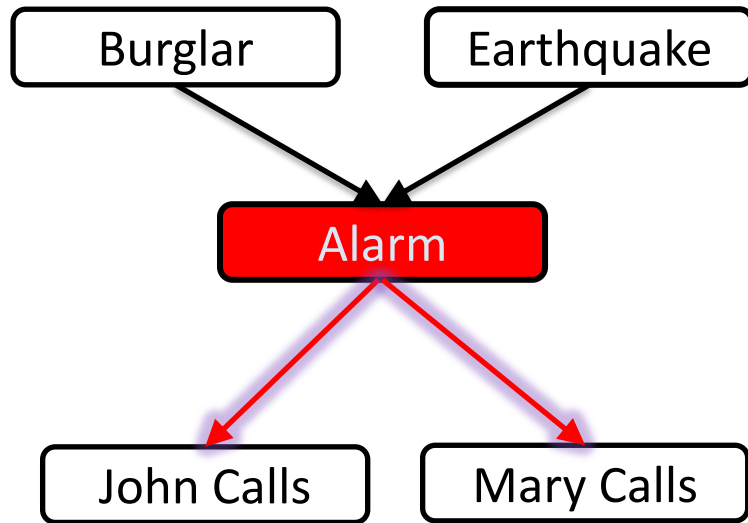
John Calls  $\perp$  Mary Calls  $|\emptyset$

A path that goes through a **common parent** is an **open path** (it allows information to flow).

When John calls you, the probability that Mary will also call you is higher than usual (because John usually calls when the alarm has gone off).



# Forks, tail-to-tail

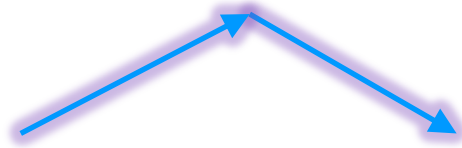


Conditioning on **common** parents **blocks** the path.

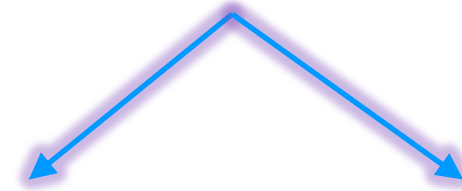
John Calls  $\perp\!\!\!\perp$  Mary Calls | Alarm

If you know the alarm has gone off, whether John has called does not change your belief that Mary will call.

# Chains and forks



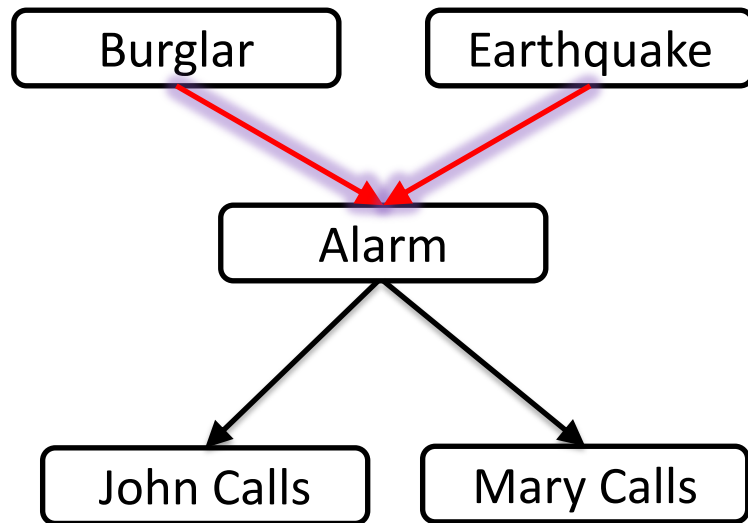
Chains



Forks

Chains and forks are open  
Conditioning on the middle node blocks them

# Colliders, head-to-head

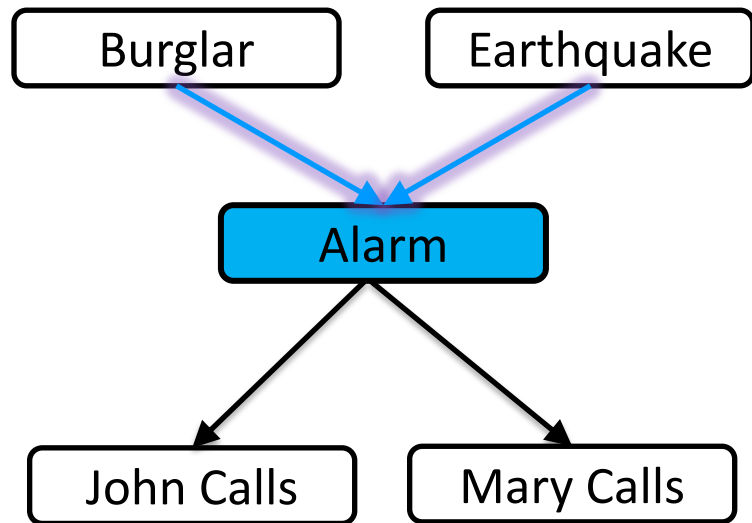


Burglar  $\perp\!\!\!\perp$  Earthquake  $\mid \emptyset$

A path that goes through a **common child** is a **blocked** path (no information flows).

Burglaries and earthquakes are not correlated.

# Colliders, head-to-head

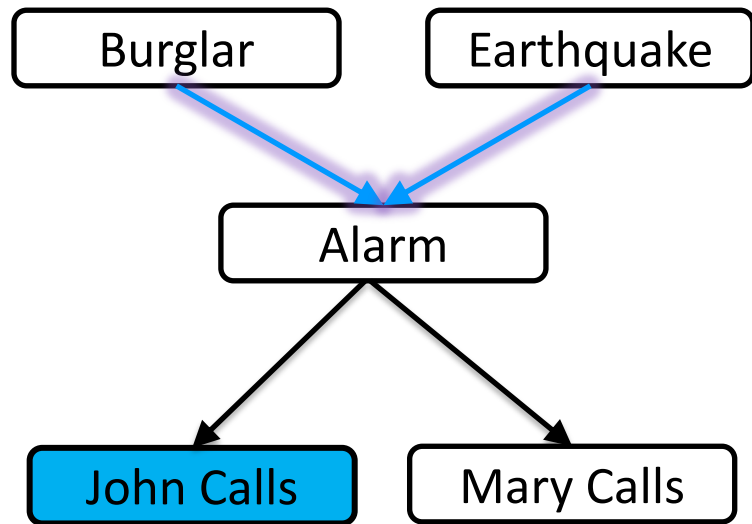


Burglar  $\perp$  Earthquake | Alarm

However, conditioning on **common children opens** the path (information flows through the path.)

Your alarm has gone off. If there is also an earthquake, you think there is probably no burglary.

# Colliders, head-to-head

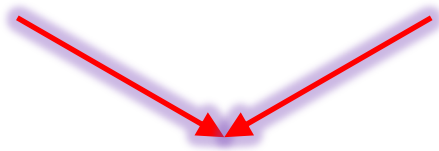


Burglar  $\perp$  Earthquake | Call

However, conditioning on common child OR descendant **opens** the path (information flows through the path).

John is calling. If there is also an earthquake, you think there is probably no burglary.

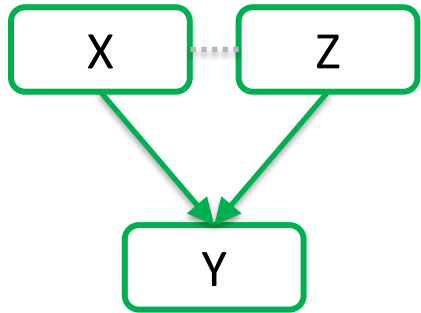
# Colliders, head-to-head



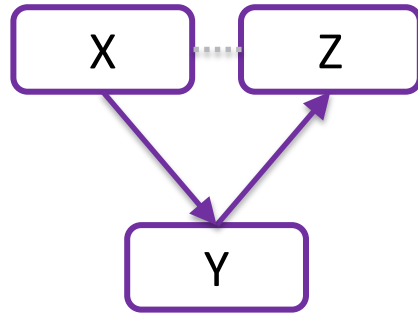
Colliders are blocked

Conditioning on (a descendant of ) the middle node opens them

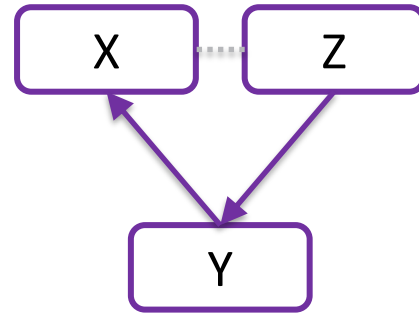
# (non) colliders



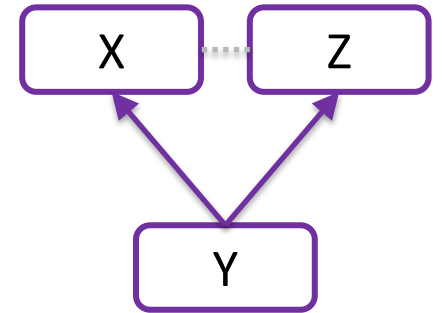
collider



non-collider



non-collider



non-collider

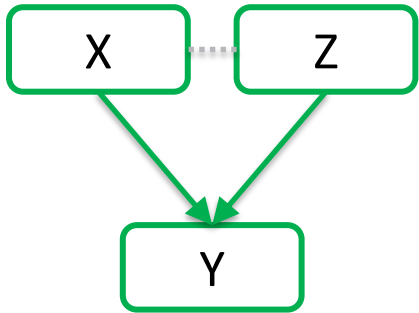
For a triple X-Y-Z:

If both edges are into Y, the triplet (and Y) is a **collider**.

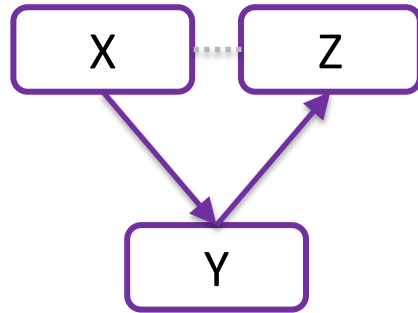
Otherwise the triplet (and Y) is a **non-collider**.

**The term is used to denote both the triplet and the middle node!**

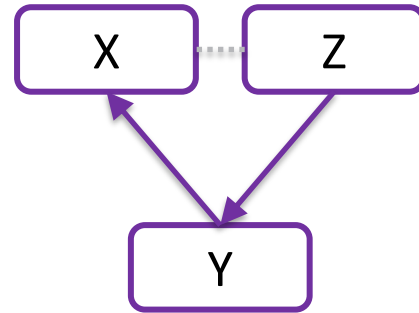
# (non) colliders



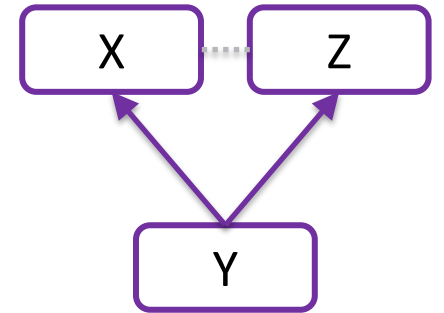
collider



non-collider



non-collider



non-collider

A collider triplet is a **blocked** path

=> conditioning on Y (or a descendant of Y) **opens** the path.

A non-collider triplet is an **open** path

=> conditioning on Y **blocks** the path.



# The d-separation criterion

Open (**d-connecting**) paths :

A path is d-connecting given  $\mathbf{Z}$  iff every collider on the path is in  $\mathbf{Z}$  or has a descendant in  $\mathbf{Z}$

**AND**

every non-collider on the path is not in  $\mathbf{Z}$ .

Otherwise, the path is blocked (**d-separating**).



The same path can be d-connecting given  $\mathbf{Z}_1$ , d-separating given  $\mathbf{Z}_2$

# The d-separation criterion

Algorithm to determine **all** independencies that are entailed by the MC.

Conditional independencies in the joint distribution can be decided based on the absence of open paths in the graph:

Open paths are called **d-connecting** paths (given a set of variables).

If no open path exists, the endpoints are **d-separated** (given the set of variables).

Otherwise, the endpoints are **d-connected** (given the set of variables)

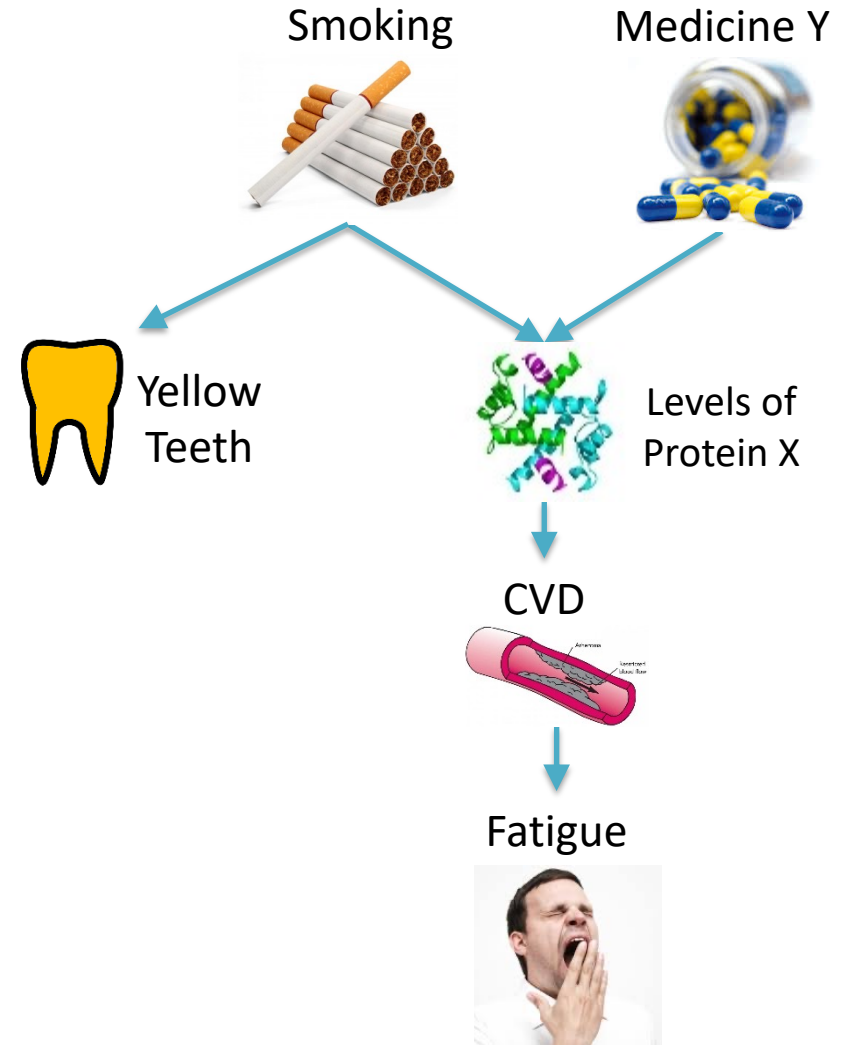
Notation:  $dsep(A, B | Z)$ :  $A$  and  $B$  are **d-separated** given  $Z$ .

$dcon(A, B | Z)$ :  $A$  and  $B$  are **d-connected** given  $Z$ .

# The d-separation criterion

To find if  $dsep(X, Y|\mathbf{Z})$  in the graph:

1. Find the paths from X to Y (ignoring orientations).
2. If there exists no open path given  $\mathbf{Z}$ , then  $dsep(X, Y|\mathbf{Z})$ .

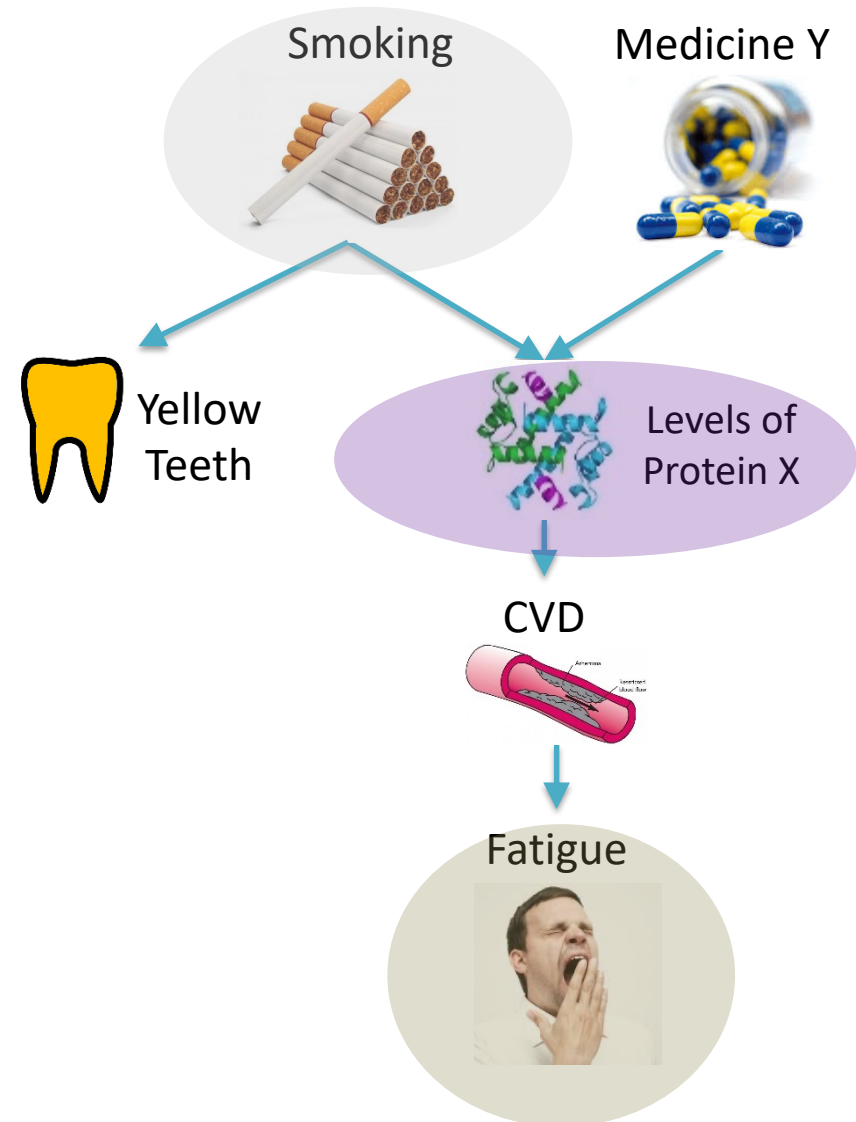


In BNs:

$$dsep(X, Y|\mathbf{Z}) \text{ in } G \Rightarrow X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y|\mathbf{Z} \text{ in } P$$

# The d-separation criterion

Is Fatigue independent of Smoking given Levels of Protein X?

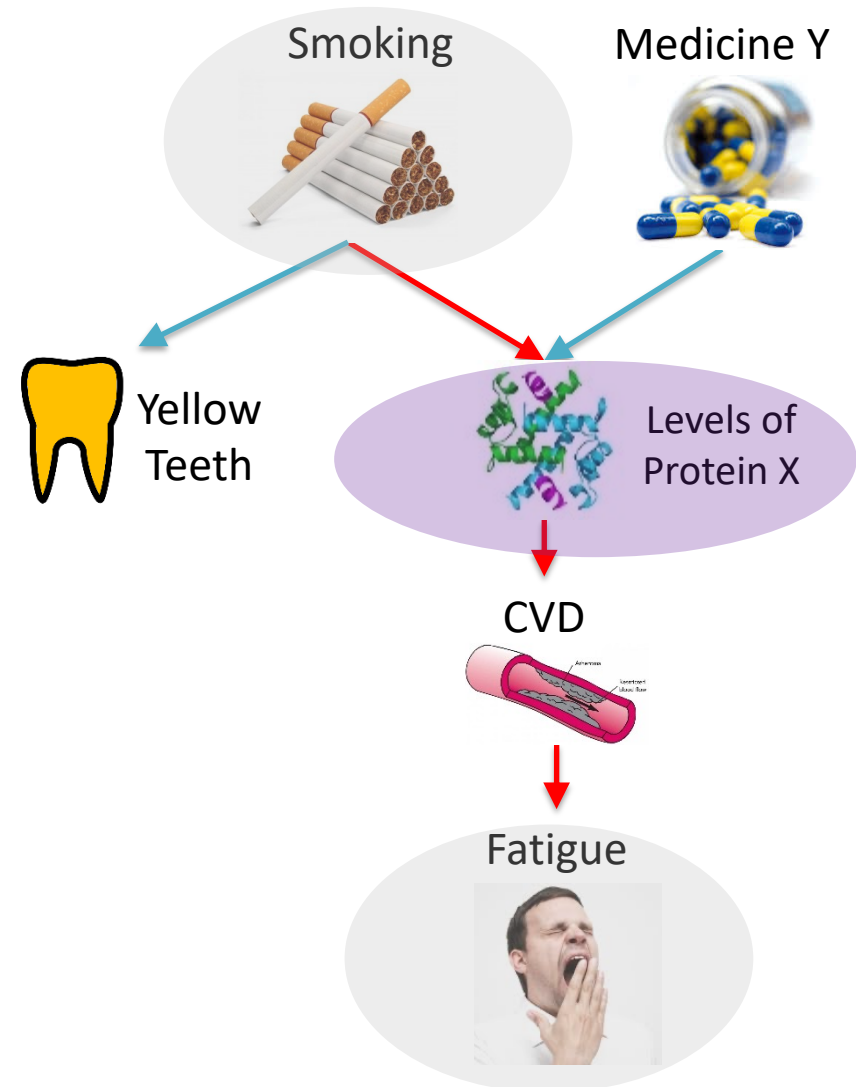


# The d-separation criterion

Is Fatigue independent of Smoking given Levels of Protein X?

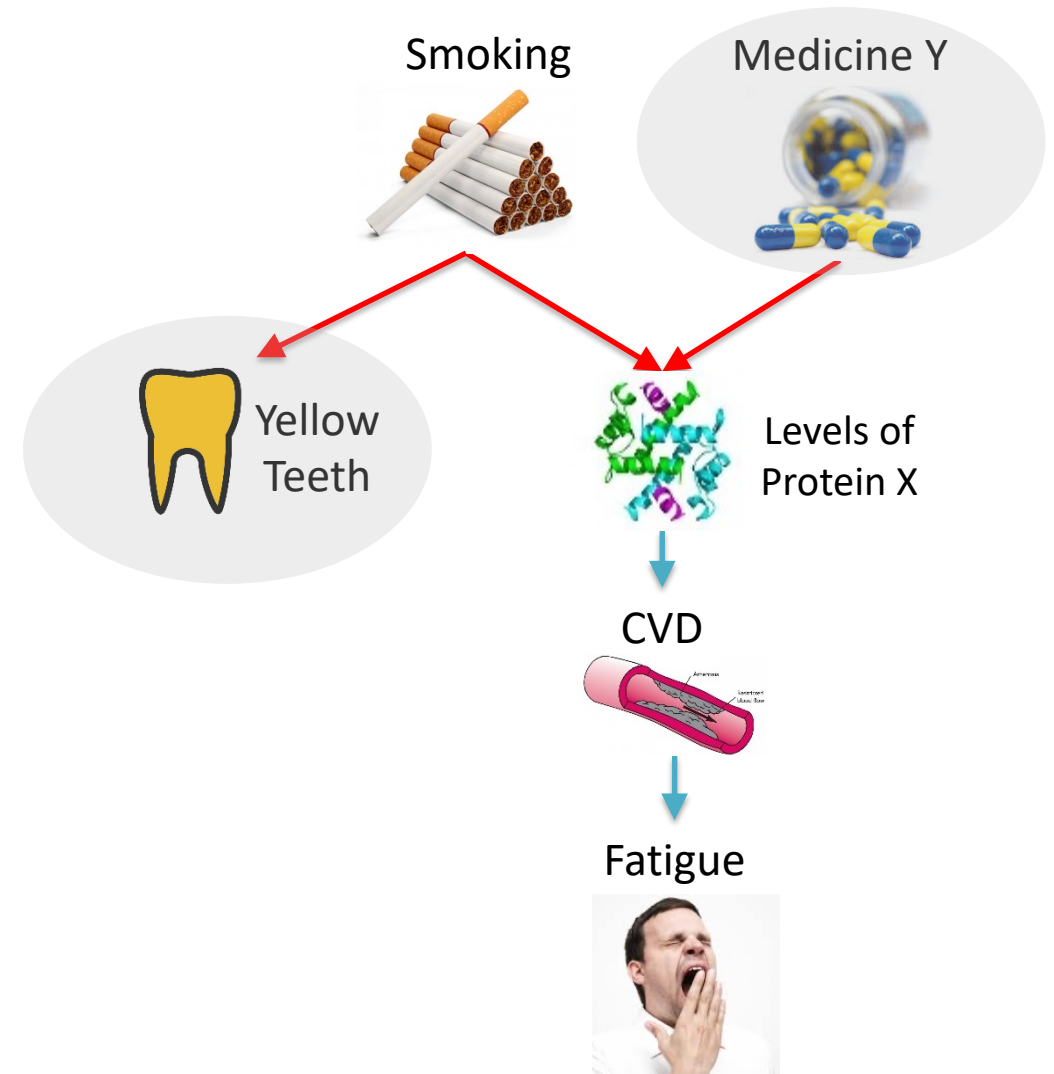
One possible path:  
Smoking → Levels of Protein X → CVD → Fatigue

Path is blocked given Levels of Protein X



# The d-separation criterion

Are Yellow Teeth independent of Medicine Y?



Path is blocked given the empty set (goes through a collider)

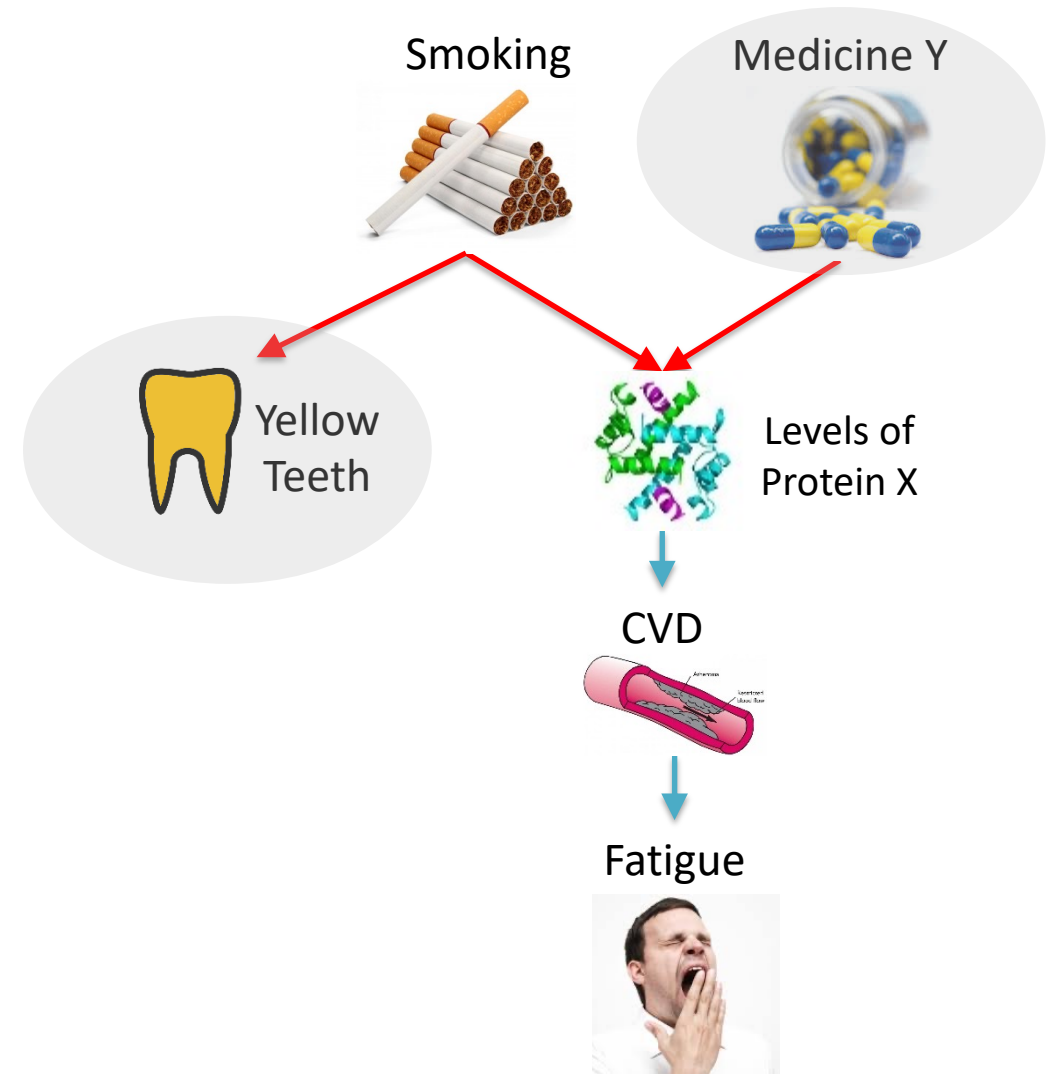
# The d-separation criterion

Are Yellow Teeth independent of Medicine Y?

One possible path:

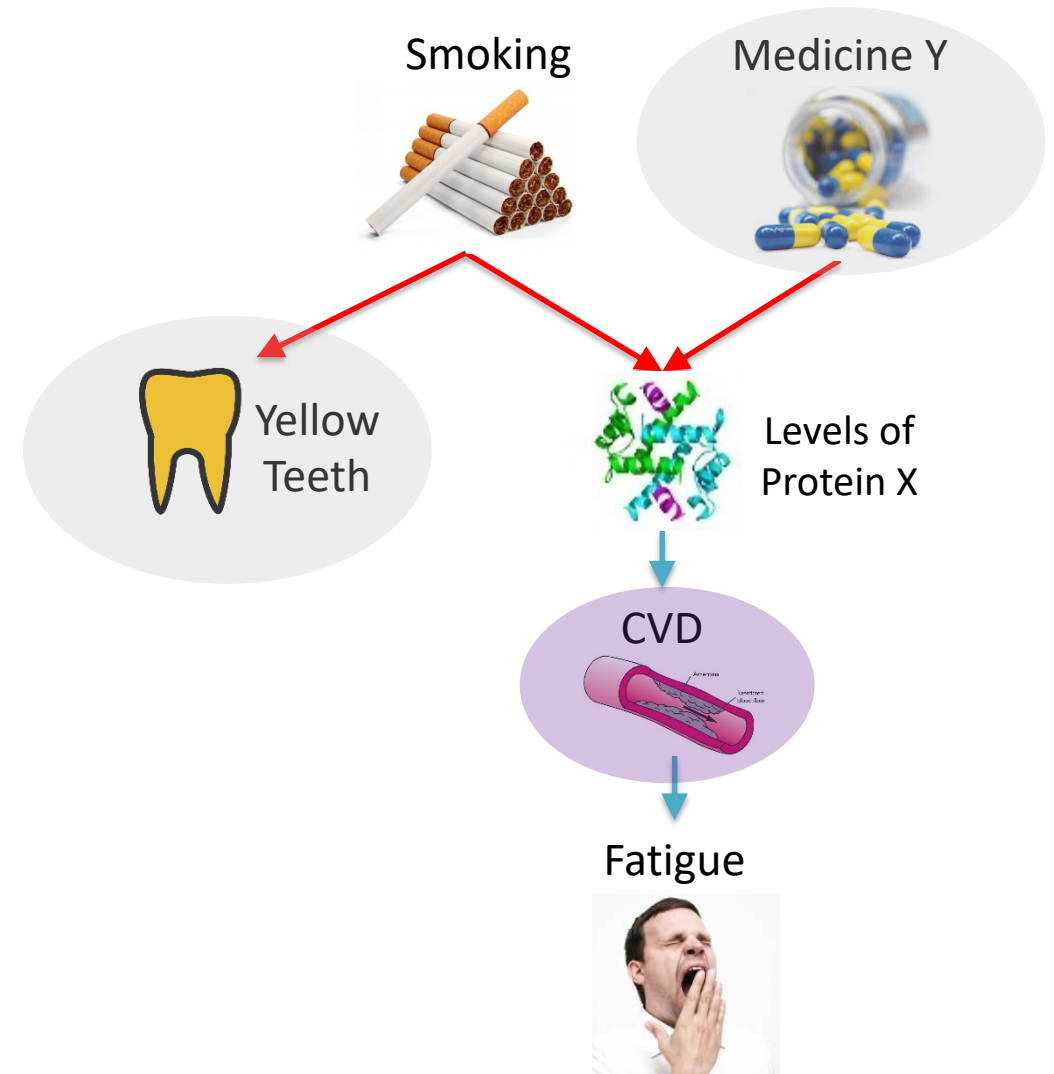
Yellow Teeth  $\rightarrow$  Smoking  $\rightarrow$  Levels of Protein X  $\leftarrow$  Medicine Y

Path is blocked given the empty set  
(goes through a collider)



# The d-separation criterion

Are Yellow Teeth independent of Medicine Y given CVD?



Path is open given the CVD (conditioning on the descendant of a collider)



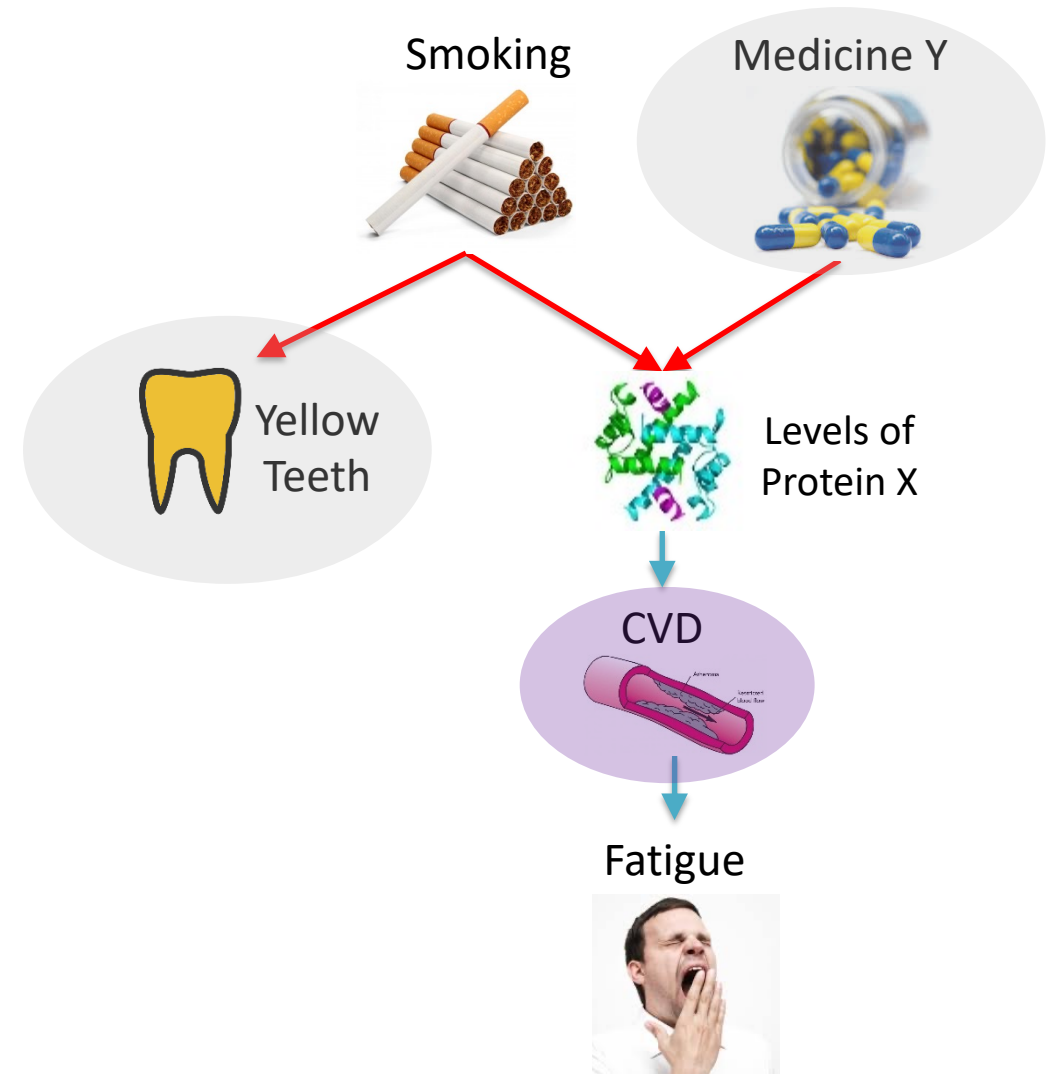
# The d-separation criterion

Are Yellow Teeth independent of Medicine Y given CVD?

One possible path:

Yellow Teeth  $\rightarrow$  Smoking  $\rightarrow$  Levels of Protein X  $\leftarrow$  Medicine Y

Path is open given the CVD (conditioning on the descendant of a collider)



# D-separation: overview

If you know the graph, you can use d-separation to answer any query for conditional independencies:

-Is  $X$  and  $Y$  independent given  $Z$ ?

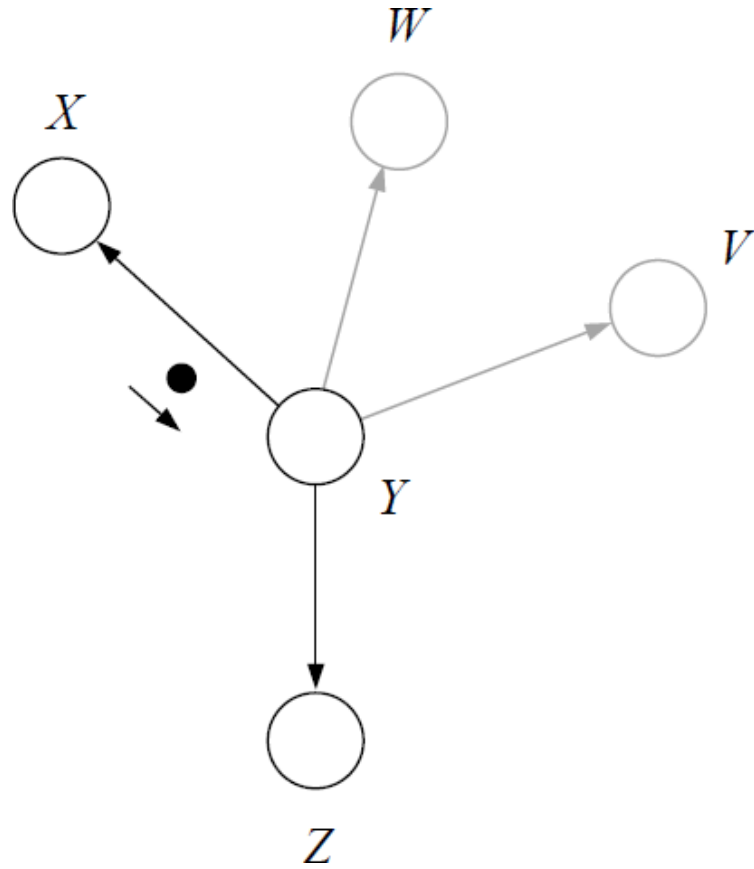
-Look at the graph

if you cannot find an open path, they are independent

# Bayes Ball Algorithm

[Source: Michael I Jordan]

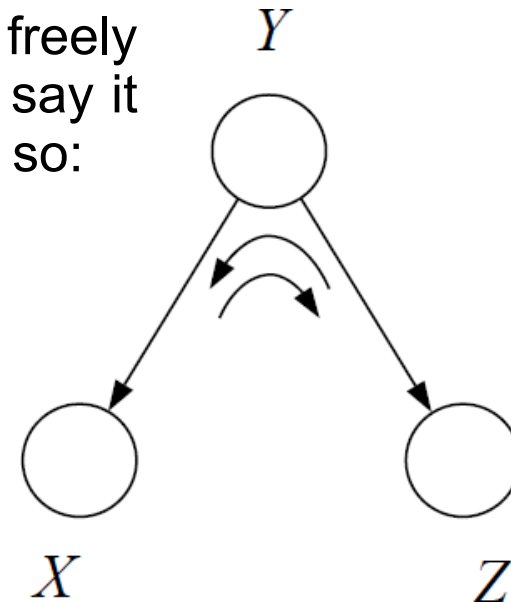
To test if  $X \perp Z \mid Y$  imagine rolling a “ball” from  $X$  towards  $Z$



The ball follows rules defined by the canonical 3-node subgraphs we've discussed

The ball passes freely from  $X$ -to- $Z$ , we say it **does not block** so:

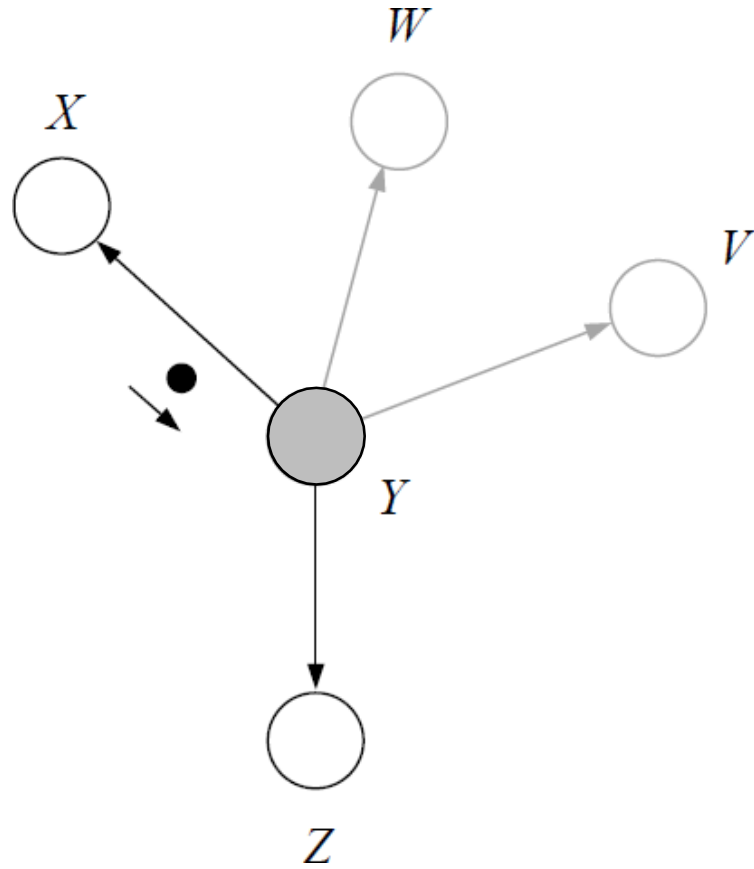
$$X \not\perp Z$$



# Bayes Ball Algorithm

[Source: Michael I Jordan]

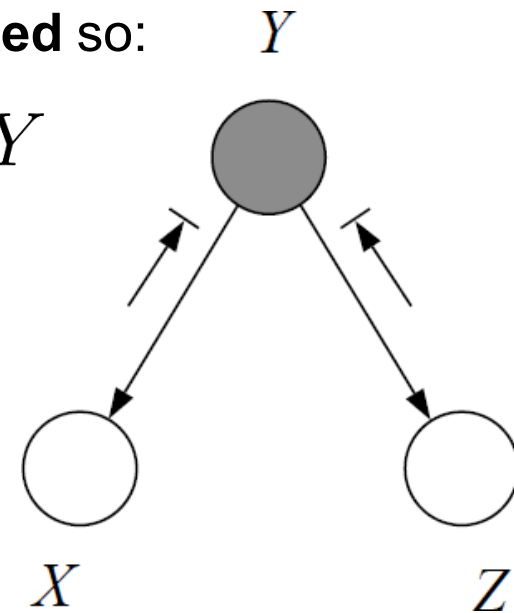
To test if  $X \perp Z \mid Y$  imagine rolling a “ball” from  $X$  towards  $Z$



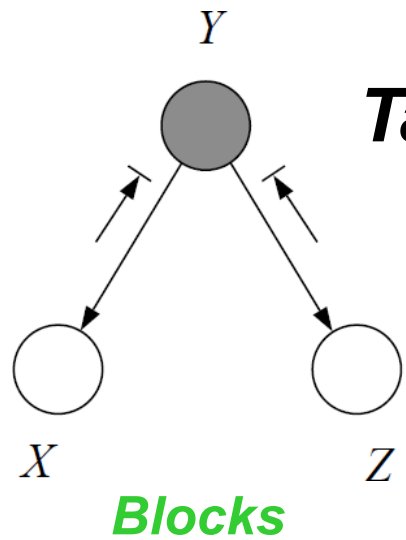
The ball follows rules defined by the canonical 3-node subgraphs we've discussed

The ball is **blocked** so:

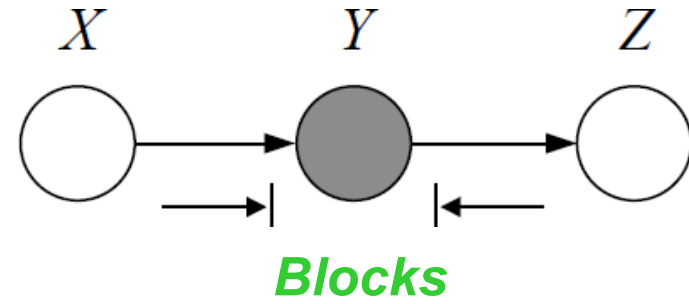
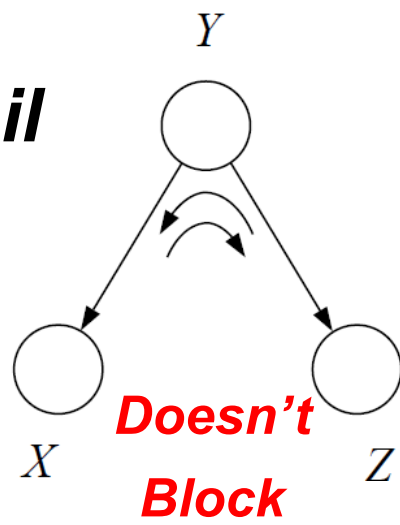
$$X \perp Z \mid Y$$



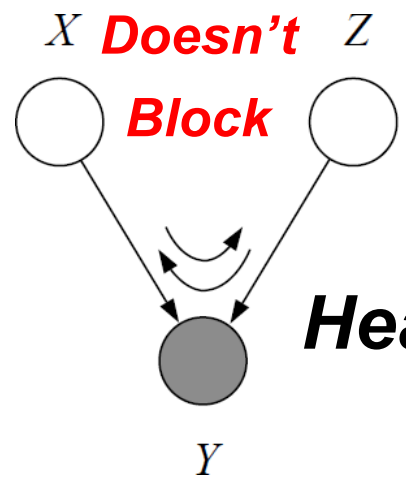
# Bayes Ball Algorithm



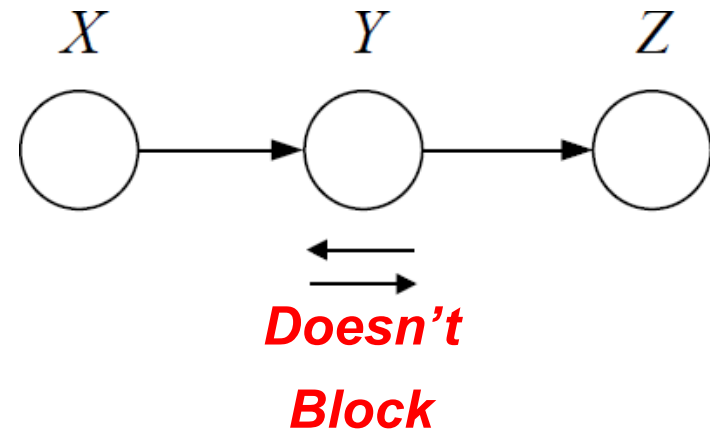
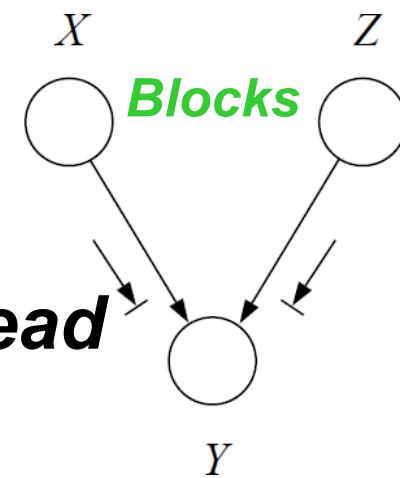
**Tail-to-Tail**



**Head-to-Tail**

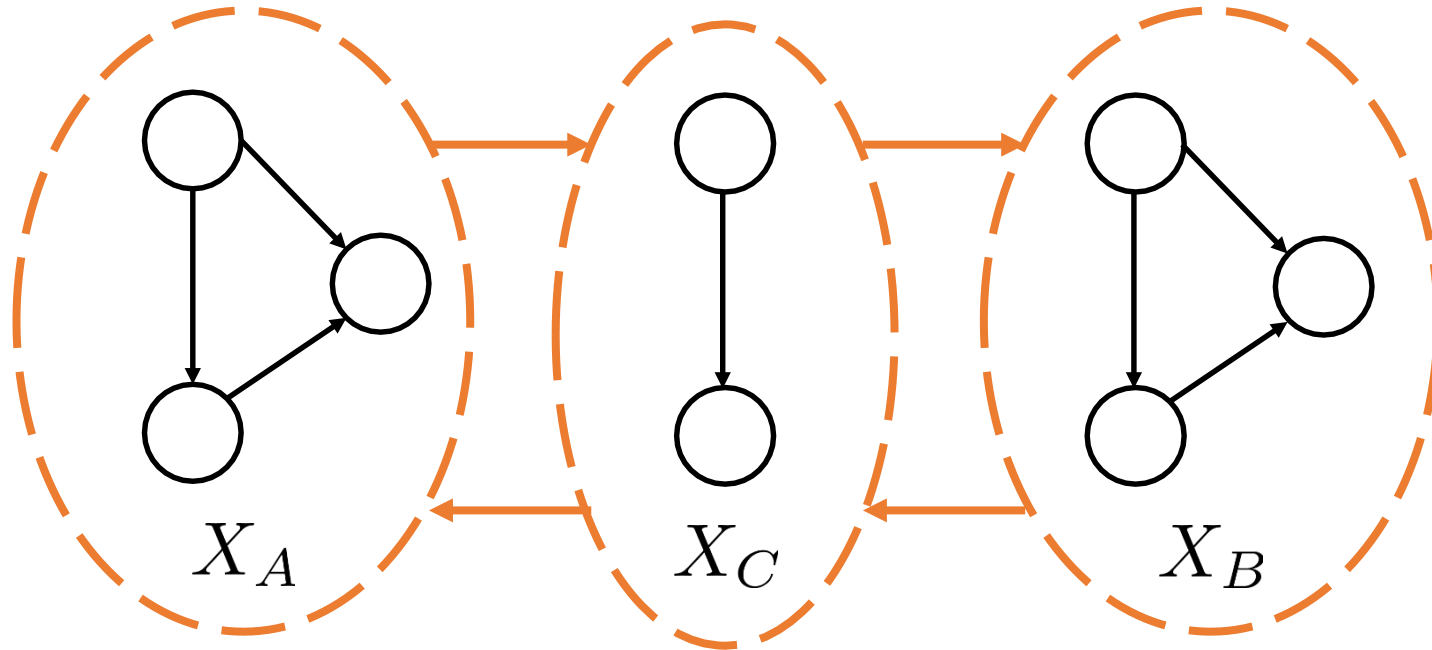


**Head-to-Head**



# Bayes Ball Algorithm

To test if  $X_A \perp X_B \mid X_C$  roll ball from *every node in*  $X_A \dots$



If *any* ball reaches *any* node in  $X_B$  then

$$X_A \not\perp X_B \mid X_C$$

Otherwise:

$$X_A \perp X_B \mid X_C$$

Tests for property of *directed separation* (d-separation): if  $X_C$  separates / blocks  $X_A$  from  $X_B$  then  $X_A \perp X_B \mid X_C$

# Summary

BN: DAG + Distribution

The distribution factorizes according to the graph based on the Markov condition: Every variable is independent from its non-descendants (in the graph) based on its parents (in the graph)

$$P(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \prod P(X_i | Pa(X_i))$$

Markov Condition entails some independencies, not all of them are straightforward.

D-separation allows us to read the independencies from the graph.

# I-map

- Defn : Let  $P$  be a distribution over  $X$ . We define  $I(P)$  to be the set of independence assertions of the form  $(X \perp Y \mid Z)$  that hold in  $P$  (however how we set the parameter-values).
- Defn : Let  $K$  be *any graph object* associated with a set of independencies  $I(K)$ . We say that  $K$  is an *I-map* for a set of independencies  $I$ , if  $I(K) \subseteq I$
- We now say that  $G$  is an I-map for  $P$  if  $G$  is an I-map for  $I(P)$ :

$$I(G) \subseteq I(P)$$

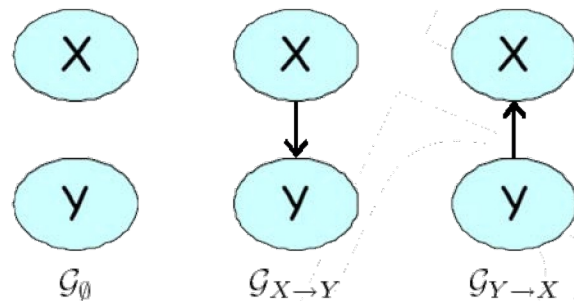


# Facts about I-map

- For  $G$  to be an I-map of  $P$ , it is necessary that  $G$  does not mislead us regarding independencies in  $P$ :

any independence that  $G$  asserts must also hold in  $P$ . Conversely,  $P$  may have additional independencies that are not reflected in  $G$

- Example:



$P_1$

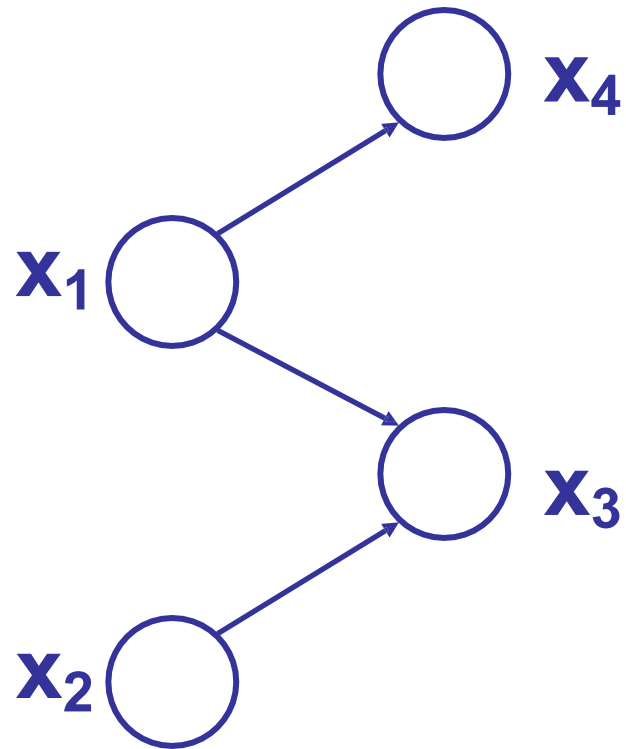
$X$	$Y$	$P(X, Y)$
$x^0$	$y^0$	0.08
$x^0$	$y^1$	0.32
$x^1$	$y^0$	0.12
$x^1$	$y^1$	0.48

$P_2$

$X$	$Y$	$P(X, Y)$
$x^0$	$y^0$	0.4
$x^0$	$y^1$	0.3
$x^1$	$y^0$	0.2
$x^1$	$y^1$	0.1

# Example:

- Complete the  $I(G)$  of this graph:



# Perfect map

- Defn : Let  $P$  be a distribution over  $X$ . We define  $I(P)$  to be the set of independence assertions of the form  $(X \perp Y \mid Z)$  that hold in  $P$  (however how we set the parameter-values).
- Defn : Let  $K$  be *any graph object* associated with a set of independencies  $I(K)$ . We say that  $K$  is an *I-map* for a set of independencies  $I$ , if  $I(K) \subseteq I$
- We now say that  $G$  is an I-map for  $P$  if  $G$  is a perfect map for  $I(P)$ :

$$I(G) = I(P)$$