



# Bayesian Networks and Belief Propagation: From Rumelhart to Pearl to Today

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In The ELSC-ICNC Retreat 2012, Ein Gedi



# The David E. Rumelhart Prize

For Contributions to the Theoretical Foundations of Human Cognition

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Rumelhart Prize for Pearl, 2011

<http://thesciencenetwork.org/programs/cogsci-2011/rumelhart-lecture-judea-pearl>

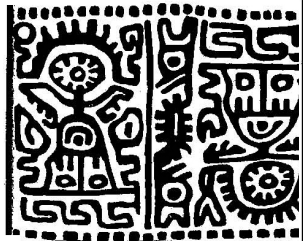
Dr. Judea Pearl has been a key researcher in the application of probabilistic methods to the understanding of intelligent systems, whether natural or artificial. He has pioneered the development of graphical models, and especially a class of graphical models known as Bayesian networks, which can be used to represent and to draw inferences from probabilistic knowledge in a highly transparent and computationally natural fashion. Graphical models have had a transformative impact across many disciplines, from statistics and machine learning to artificial intelligence; and they are the foundation of the recent emergence of Bayesian cognitive science. Dr. Pearl's work can be seen as providing a rigorous foundation for a theory of epistemology which is not merely philosophically defensible, but which can be mathematically specified and computationally implemented. It also provides one of the most influential sources of hypotheses about the function of the human mind and brain in current cognitive science.

# Rumelhart 1976:

## Towards an interactive model of Reading

TOWARD AN INTERACTIVE MODEL OF READING

David E. Rumelhart



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Pearl: so we have a combination of a top down and a bottom up modes of reasoning which somehow coordinate their actions resulting in a friendly handshaking."

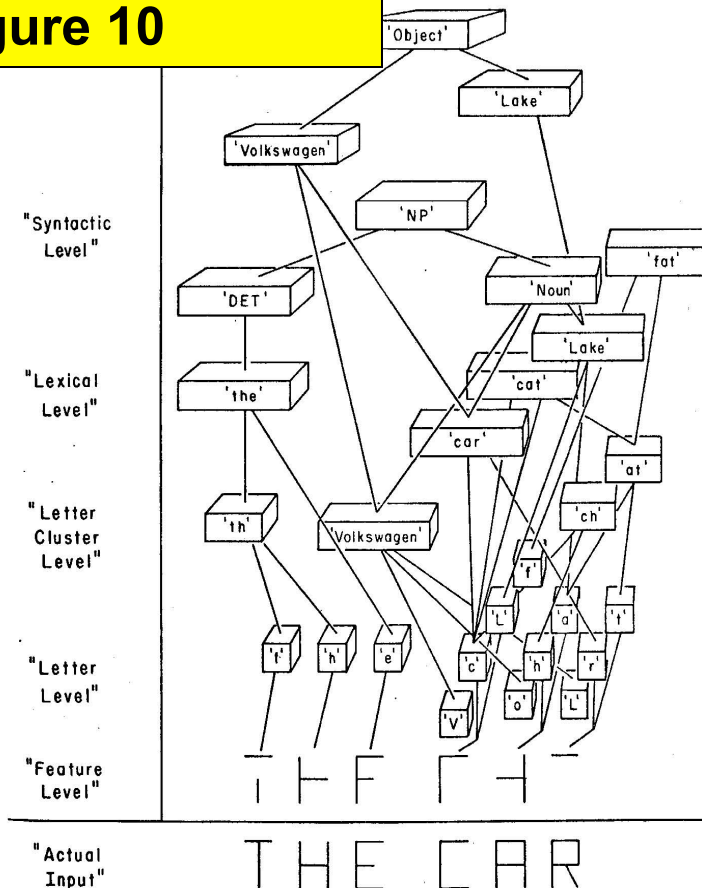
Jack and Jill **event** up the hill.

The pole vault was the last **event**.

Figure 3 The dependence of letter perception of context. (After Nash-Weber, 1975.)

# Rumelhart's Proposed Solution

**Rumelhart (1976)  
Figure 10**



and sisters of  $h_i$ . Equation (2) gives the value of the contextual strength

of  $h_i$ :

$$(2) \beta_i = \begin{cases} \Pr(h_i) & P_i = L_i = \phi \\ \frac{\sum s_k \cdot \Pr(h_i | h_k)}{v_i} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where the sum is over all  $h_k \in P_i \text{ or } L_i$ . Thus, when  $h_i$  has no parents or left sisters, its contextual strength is given by its a priori probability.

Otherwise, its contextual strength is given by the sum, over all of its left sisters and parents of the strength of the left sister or parent,  $h_k$ , times the conditional probability of the hypothesis given  $h_k$ . This sum is then

Figure 10 The message center well into the processing sequence.



Pearl 1982:

# Reverend Bayes on Inference Engines

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## REVEREND BAYES ON INFERENCE ENGINES: A DISTRIBUTED HIERARCHICAL APPROACH(\*)(\*\*)

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University of California, Los Angeles  
90024

### ABSTRACT

This paper presents generalizations of Bayes likelihood-ratio updating rule which facilitate an asynchronous propagation of the impacts of new beliefs and/or new evidence in hierarchically organized inference structures with multi-hypotheses variables. The computational scheme proposed specifies a set of belief parameters, communication

feature of hierarchical inference systems is that the relation  $P(D|H)$  is computable as a cascade of local, more elementary probability relations involving intervening variables. Intervening variables, (e.g., organisms causing a disease) may not be directly observable. Their computational role, however, is to provide a conceptual summarization for loosely coupled subsets of observational data so that the computation of  $P(H|D)$



**BAYESIAN NETWORKS: A MODEL OF SELF-ACTIVATED  
MEMORY FOR EVIDENTIAL REASONING\***

**Bayes Net (1985)**

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(213) 825-3243**

**Topics:   Memory Models  
          Belief Systems  
          Inference Mechanisms  
          Knowledge Representation**

**To be presented at  
the 7th Conference of  
the Cognitive Science Society  
University of California, Irvine  
August 15-17, 1985**

Technical Report  
CSD-850020  
R-44  
Revision II  
October 1985

**A CONSTRAINT - PROPAGATION APPROACH  
TO PROBABILISTIC REASONING\***

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# Outline

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- Bayesian networks from historical perspective
- Bayesian networks, a short tutorial
- The belief propagation on trees
- From trees to graphs
- From Bayesian networks to graphical models
- Some observations on loopy belief propagation





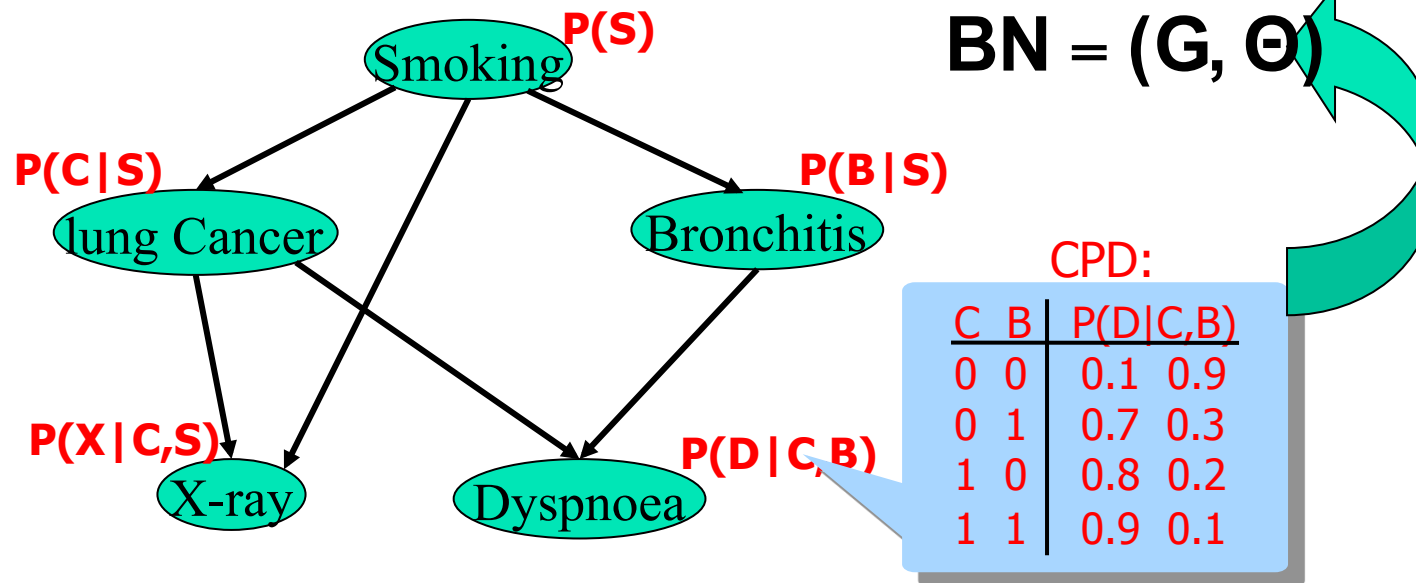
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# Bayesian Networks (Pearl 1985)

## A Medical Diagnosis Example (Lauritsen and Spiegelhalter, 1988)



$$P(S, C, B, X, D) = P(S) P(C|S) P(B|S) P(X|C,S) P(D|C,B)$$

The product of all these assessments constitute a joint-probability model which support the assessed quantities

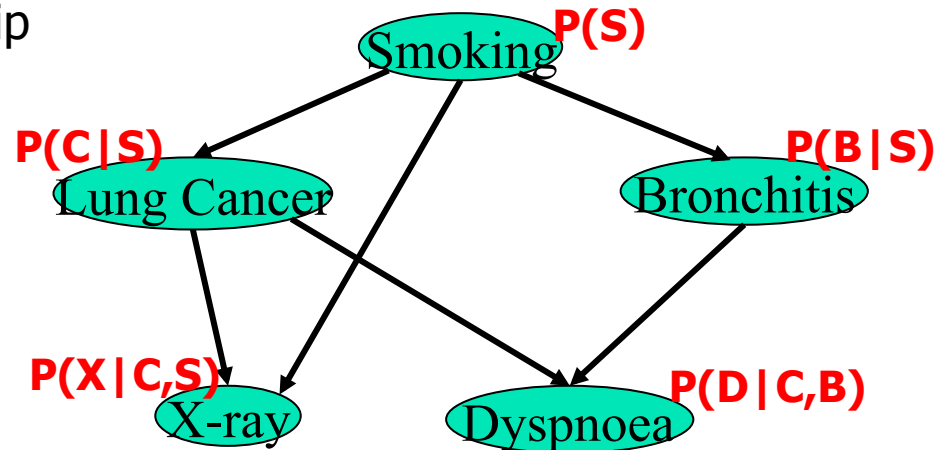
Belief Updating:

$$P(\text{lung cancer}=\text{yes} \mid \text{smoking}=\text{no}, \text{dyspnoea}=\text{yes}) = ?$$

$$\text{MPE} = \text{find argmax } P(S) \cdot P(C|S) \cdot P(B|S) \cdot P(X|C,S) \cdot P(D|C,B)$$

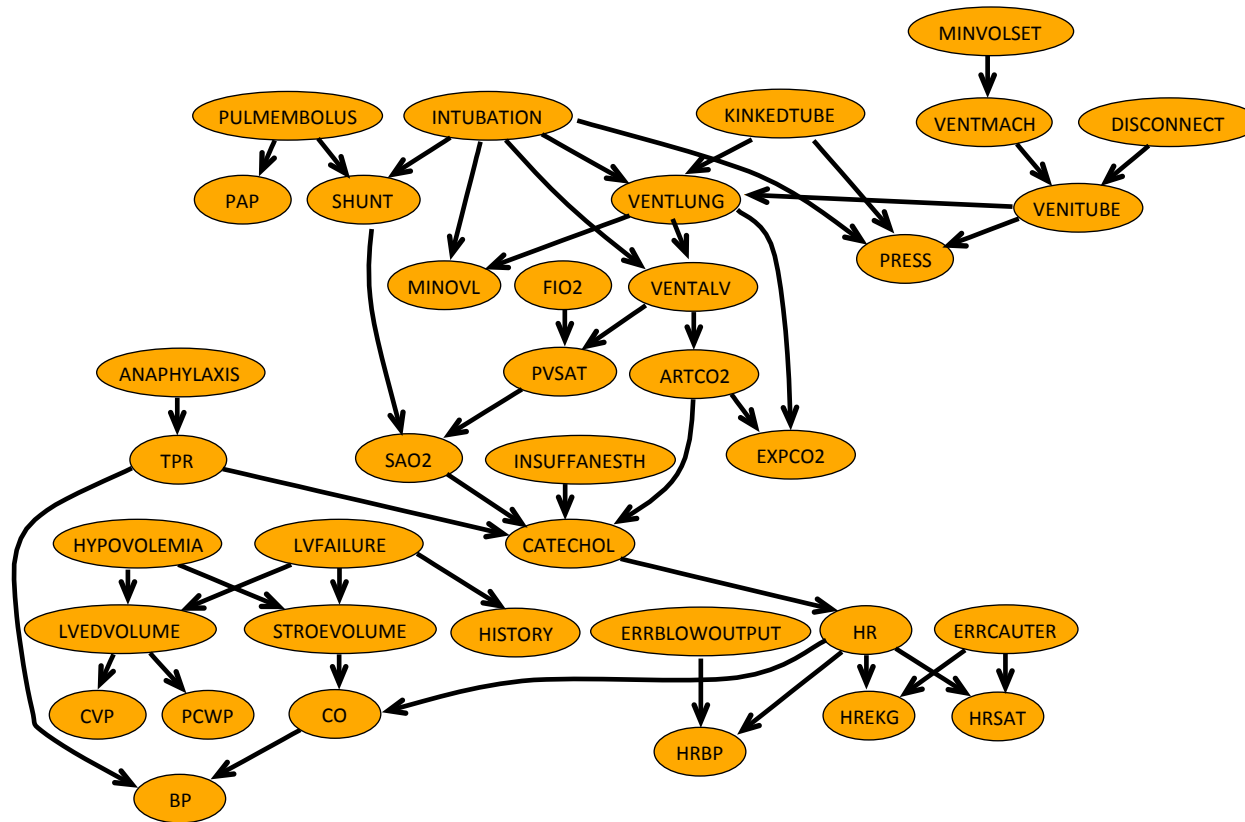
# Bayesian Networks Encode Independencies

Causal relationship



An important feature of a Bayesian network is that it provides a clear visual representation for many independence relationships embedded in the underlying probabilistic model. The criterion for detecting these independencies is based on graph separation: namely, if all paths between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  are "blocked" by a subset  $S$  of variables, then  $x_i$  is independent of  $x_j$  given the values of the variables in  $S$ . Thus, each variable  $x_i$  is independent of both its siblings and its grandparents, given the values of the variables in its parent set  $S_i$ . For this "blocking" criterion to hold in general, we must provide a special interpretation of separation for nodes that share common children. We say that the pathway along arrows meeting head-to-head at node  $x_k$  is "blocked", unless  $x_k$  or any of its descendants is in  $S$ . In Figure 1, for example,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  are independent given  $S_1 = \{x_1\}$  or  $S_2 = \{x_1, x_4\}$ , because the two paths between  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  will be blocked by either  $S_1$  or  $S_2$ . However,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  may not be independent given  $S_3 = \{x_1, x_6\}$ , because  $x_6$ , as a descendant of  $x_5$ , "unblocks" the head-to-head connection at  $x_5$ , thus opening a pathway between  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ .

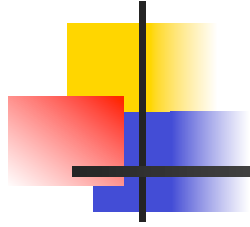
# Monitoring Intensive Care Patients



Alarm network

37 variables  
509 parameters

<<  $2^{37}$



# Outline

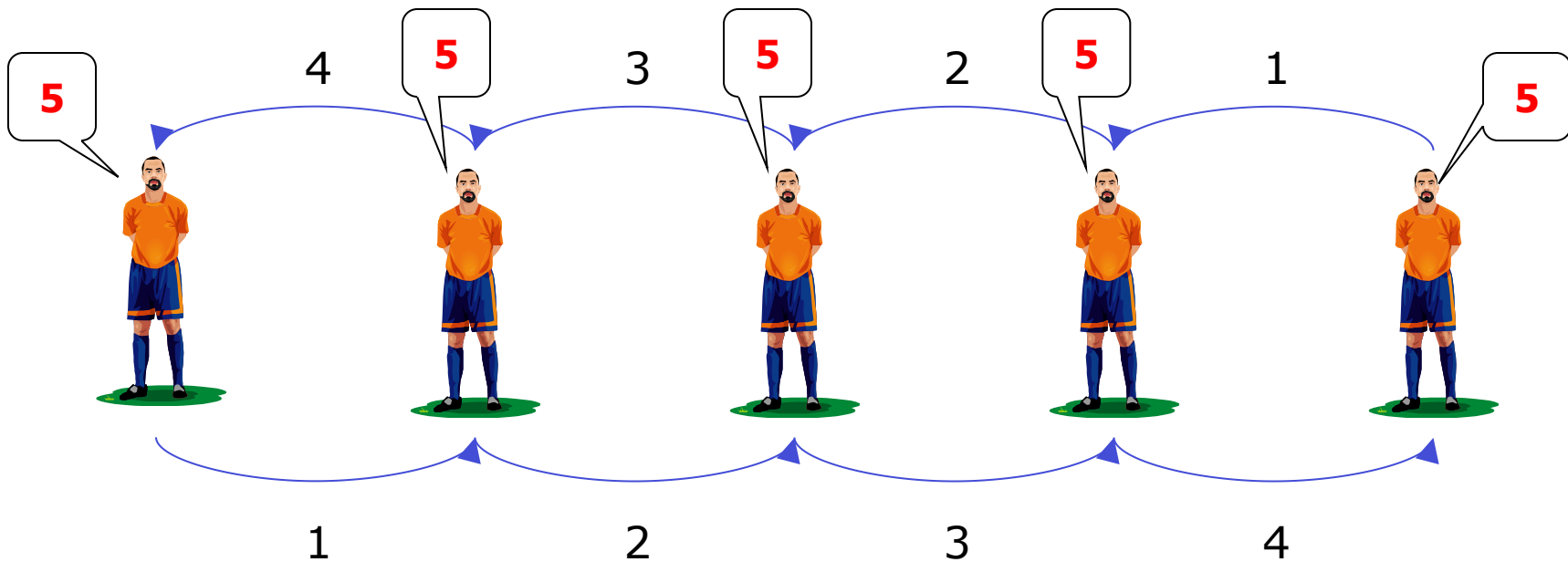
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- Bayesian networks from historical perspective
- Bayesian Networks
- **Belief propagation on trees**
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- Some observations on loopy belief propagation

# Distributed Belief Propagation

The essence of belief propagation is to make global information be shared locally by every entity

**How many people?**



# Belief Prop

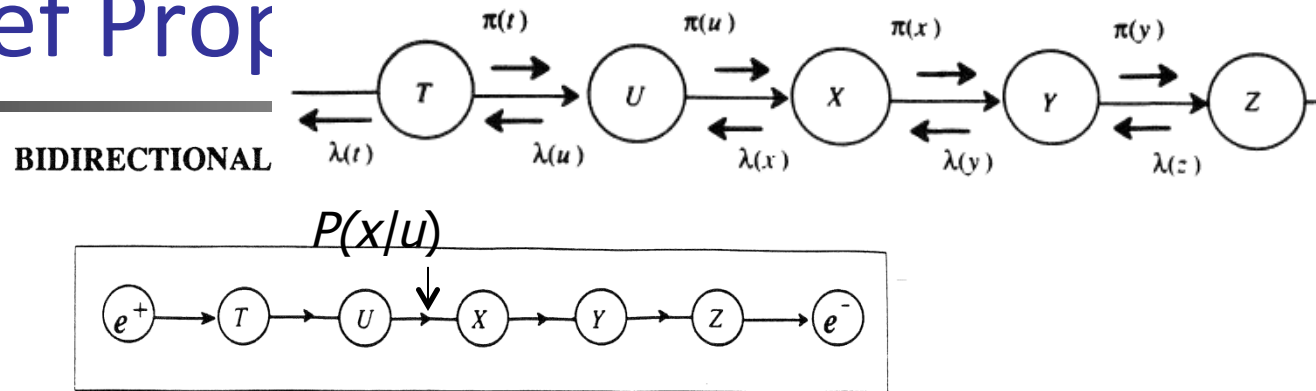


Figure 4.7. A causal chain with evidential data at its head ( $e^+$ ) and tail ( $e^-$ ).

$$\begin{aligned}
 BEL(x) &\triangleq P(x | e^-, e^+) = \alpha P(e^- | x, e^+) P(x | e^+) = \alpha P(e^- | x) P(x | e^+) \\
 &= \alpha \pi(x) \lambda(x),
 \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\lambda(x) = P(e^- | x) \quad \leftarrow \text{Diagnostic support} \quad (4.6a)$$

$$\text{Causal support} \longrightarrow \pi(x) = P(x | e^+). \quad (4.6b)$$

Information about  $\pi(x)$  propagates from  $e^+$  down the chain

$$\pi(x) = P(x | e^+) = \sum_u P(x | u, e^+) P(u | e^+).$$

Since  $U$  separates  $X$  from  $e^+$ , we obtain

$$\pi(x) = \sum_y P(x | u) \pi(u) = \pi(u) \cdot M_{x|u}. \quad (4.7)$$

# Belief Propagation in Trees

## DATA FUSION

$$\begin{aligned}
 BEL(x) &= P(x | e_X^+, e_X^-) = \alpha P(e_X^- | e_X^+, x) P(x | e^+) \\
 &= \alpha P(e_X^- | x) P(x | e_X^+), \quad (4.13)
 \end{aligned}$$

The probability distribution of every variable in the tree can be computed if the node corresponding to that variable contains the vectors

$$\lambda(x) = P(e_X^- | x) \quad (4.15)$$

and

$$\pi(x) = P(x | e_X^+). \quad (4.16)$$

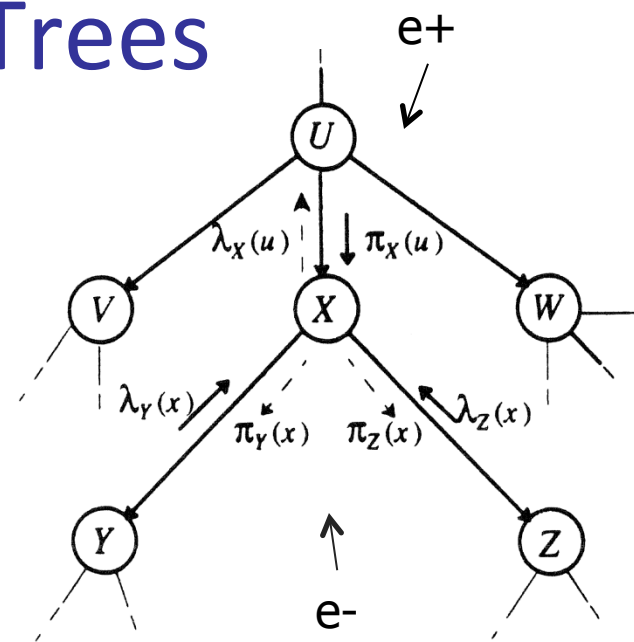
$\pi(x)$  = causal or predictive support attributed

to the assertion " $X = x$ " by all non-descendants of  $X$ .

$\lambda(x)$  = diagnostic or retrospective support that

" $X = x$ " receives from  $X$ 's descendants.

$$BEL(x) = \alpha \lambda(x) \pi(x). \quad (4.17)$$



How information from several descendants fuses at node  $X$ .

Write  $e_X^- = e_Y^- \cup e_Z^-$ , and since  $X$  separates its children, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda(x) &= P(e_X^- | x) \\
 &= P(e_Y^-, e_Z^- | x) \\
 &= P(e_Y^- | x) P(e_Z^- | x). \quad (4.18)
 \end{aligned}$$

So  $\lambda(x)$  can be formed as a product of terms such as  $P(e_Y^- | x)$ , if these terms are delivered to  $X$  as messages from its children.

Denoting these messages by subscripted  $\lambda$ 's,

$$\lambda_Y(x) = P(e_Y^- | x) \quad (4.19a)$$

$$\lambda_Z(x) = P(e_Z^- | x), \quad (4.19b)$$

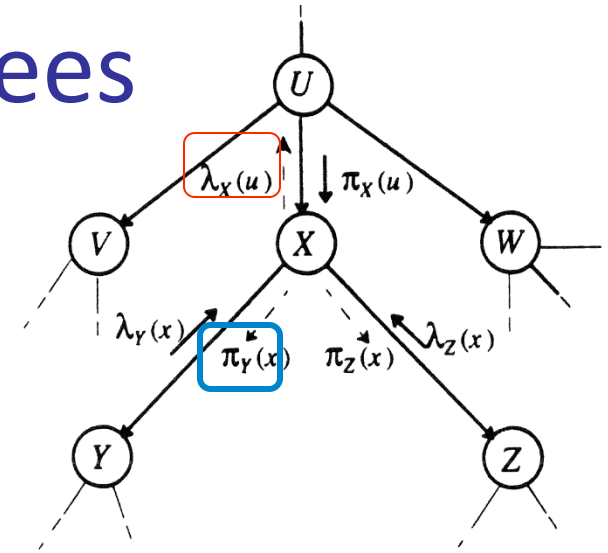
we have the product rule:

$$\lambda(x) = \lambda_Y(x) \lambda_Z(x). \quad (4.20)$$



# Belief Propagation in Trees

**Step 2 - Bottom-up propagation:**  $X$  computes  $\lambda_X(u)$ , which is sent to its parent  $U$ :

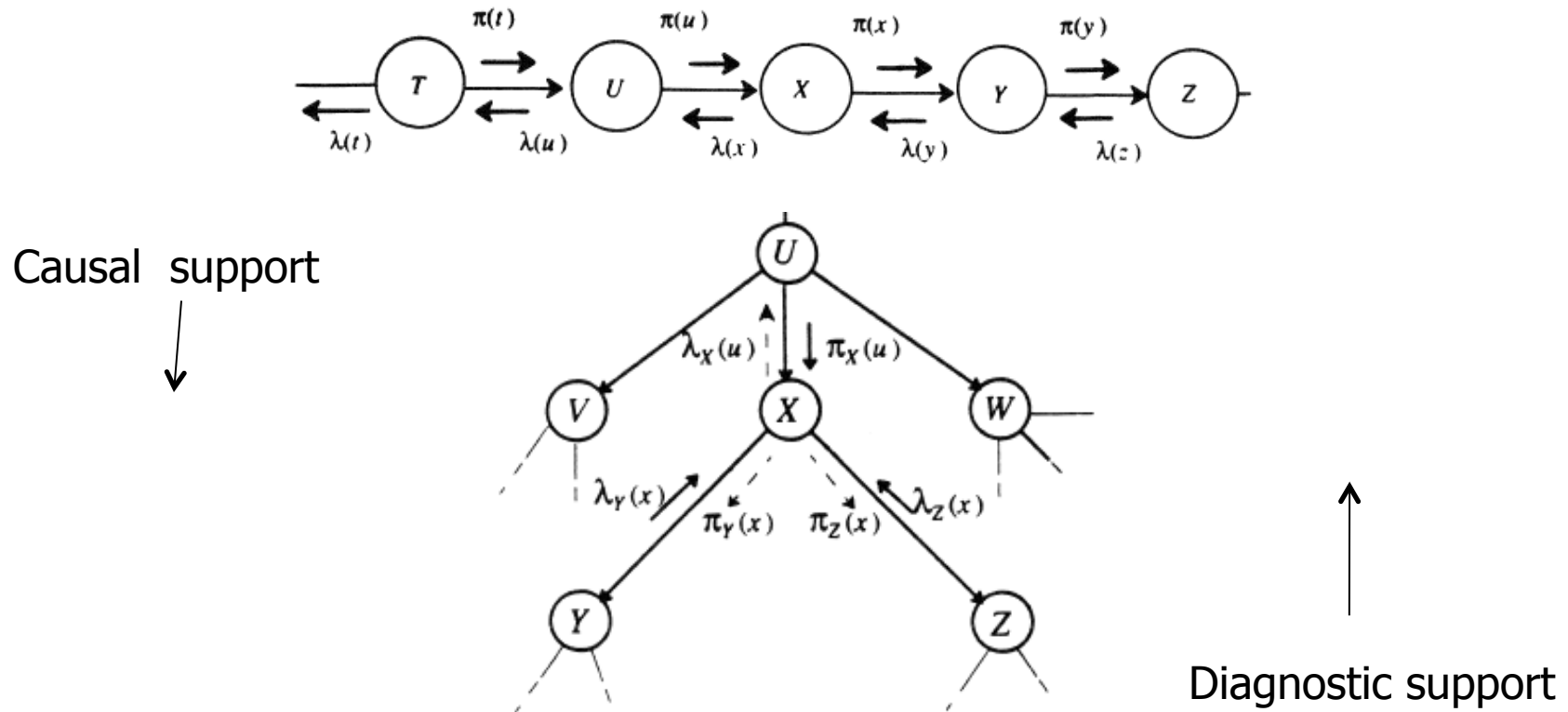


$$\lambda_X(u) = \sum_x \prod_k \lambda_{Y_k}(x) \cdot P(x|u)$$

**Step 3 - Top-down propagation:**  $X$  the new  $\pi_{Y_j}(x)$  message that  $X$  sends to its  $j$ -th child  $Y_j$  is computed by

$$\pi_{Y_j}(x) = \alpha \pi(x) \prod_{k \neq j} \lambda_{Y_k}(x). \quad (4.29)$$

# Distributed Belief Propagation

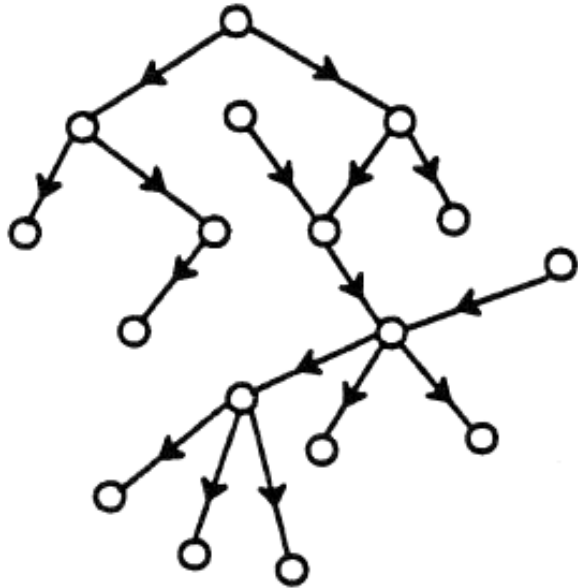


**Figure 4.14.** Fragment of causal tree, showing incoming (solid arrows) and outgoing (broken arrows) messages at node  $X$ .

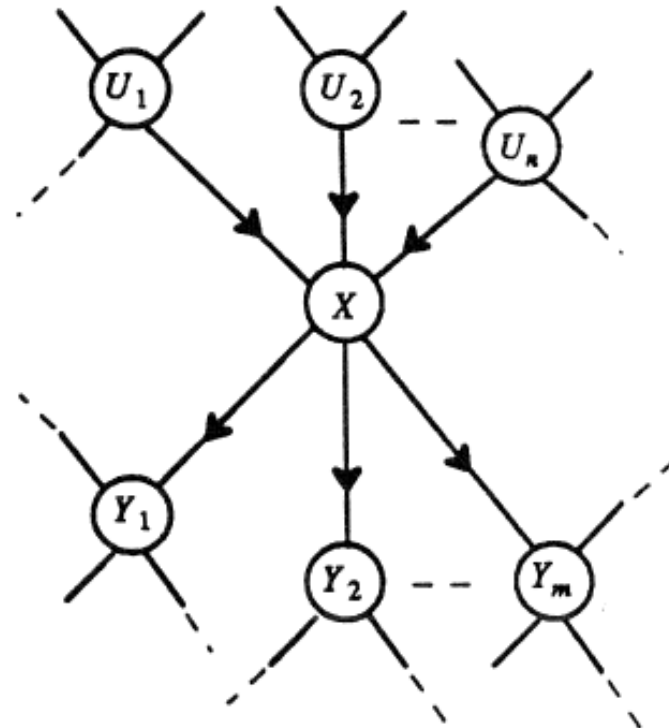
$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{e}_X^- \cup \mathbf{e}_X^+$$

$\mathbf{e}_X^-$  stands for the evidence contained in the tree rooted at  $X$ .  $\mathbf{e}_X^+$  stands for the evidence contained in the rest of the network.

# Belief Propagation on Polytrees



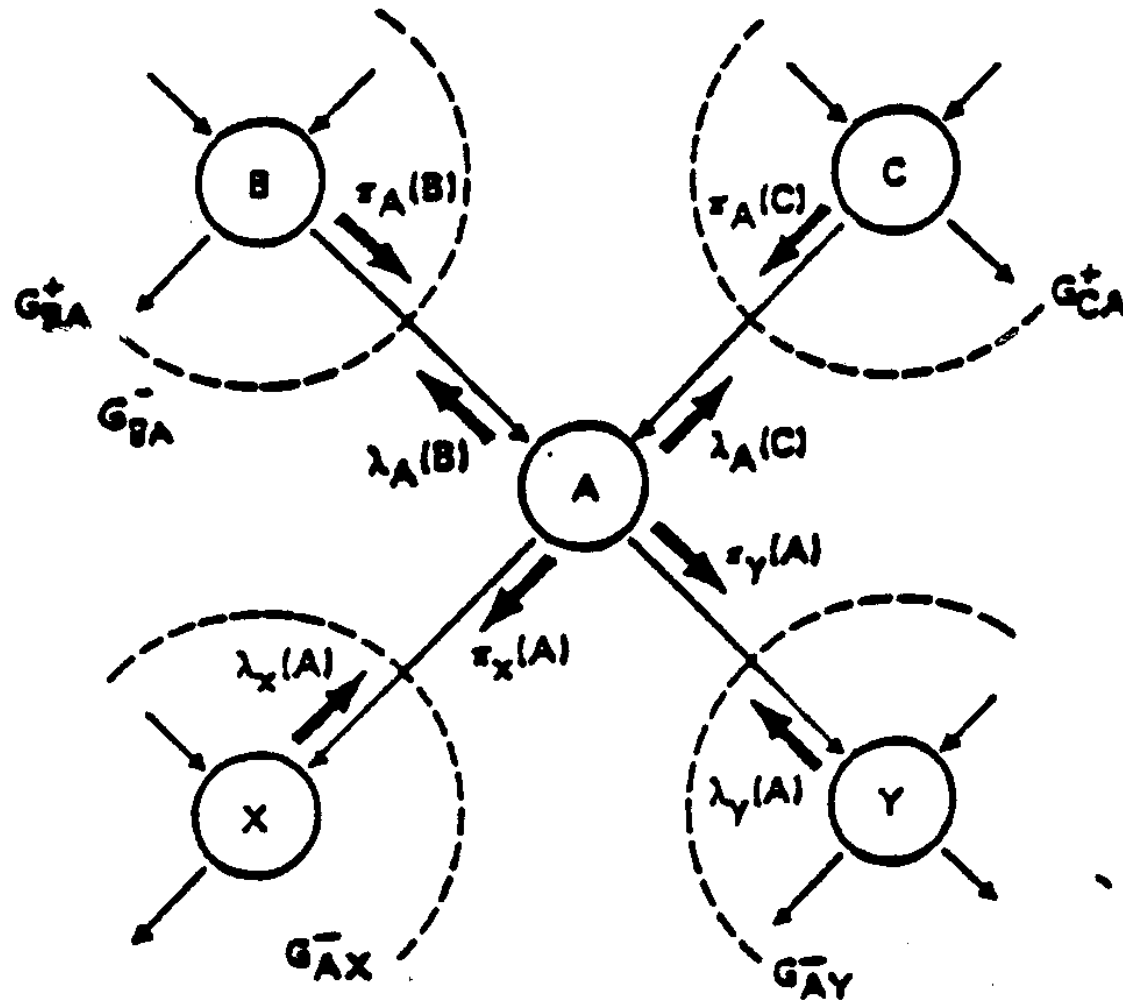
(a)

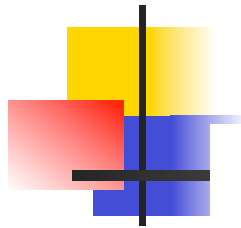


(b)

(a) Fragment of a polytree, (b) the parents and children of a typical r

# Belief Propagation on Polytrees





## Pearl (1982), (Belief Propagation)

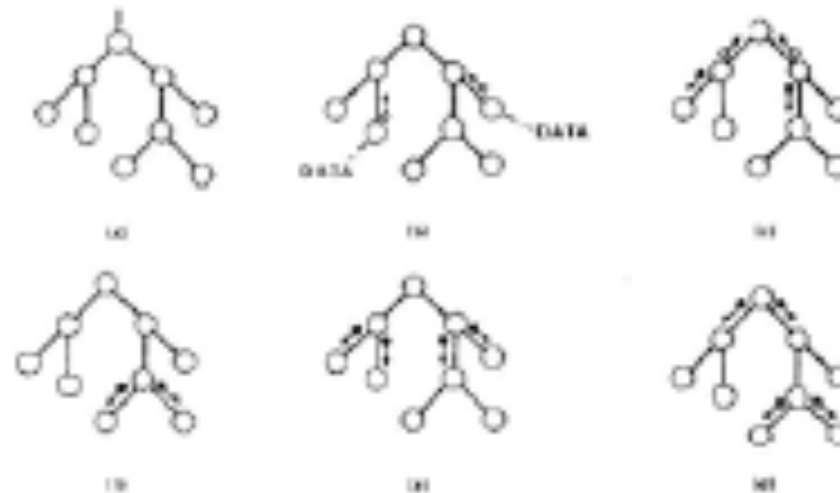
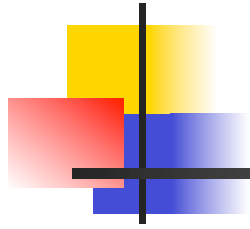


Figure 2

### Properties of the Updating Scheme

1. The local computations required by the proposed scheme are efficient in both storage and time. For an  $m$ -ary tree with  $n$  states per node, each processor should store  $n^2 + mn + 2n$  real numbers, and perform  $2n^2 + mn + 2n$  multiplications per update. These expressions are on the order of the number of rules which each variable invokes.



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- Bayesian networks from historical perspective
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- Belief propagation on trees
- **From trees to graphs**
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- Some observation on loopy belief propagation

# A Loopy Bayesian network

$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) = P(x_6|x_5) P(x_5|x_2, x_3) P(x_4|x_1, x_2) P(x_3|x_1) P(x_2|x_1) P(x_1).$$

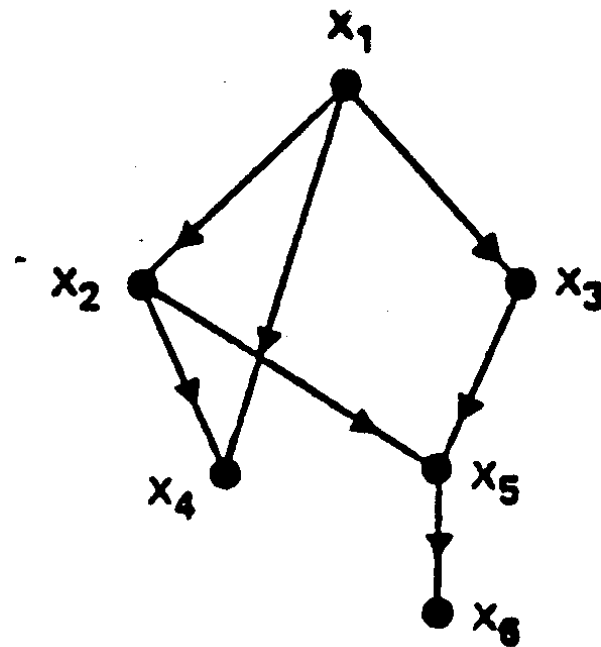


Figure 1



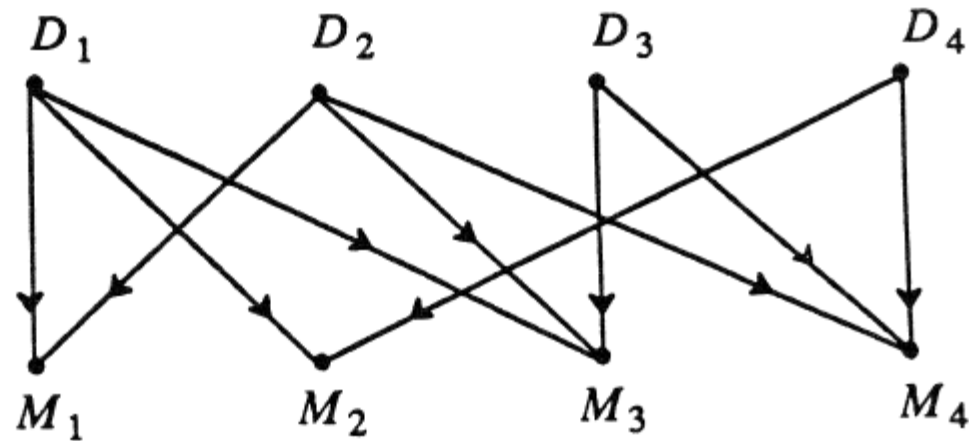
# Coping with Loops (Pearl 1988)

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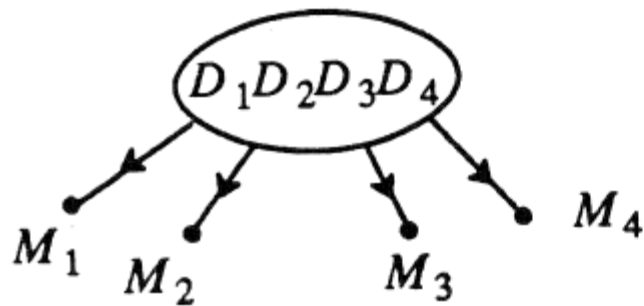
- Clustering methods (4.4.1)
  - Spigelhalter and Lauritsen: Junction-tree propagation (1988), Join-tree propagation (Pearl 1988)
- Conditioning schemes (4.4.2)
  - Loop-cutset scheme
- Stochastic simulation (Gibbs sampling) 4.4.3
- Loopy belief propagation (exercise)



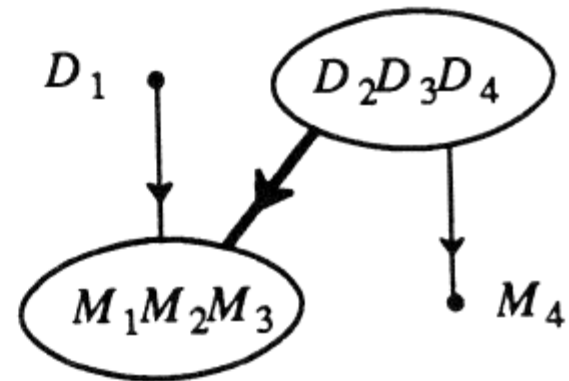
# (Poly)-Tree Clustering



(a)



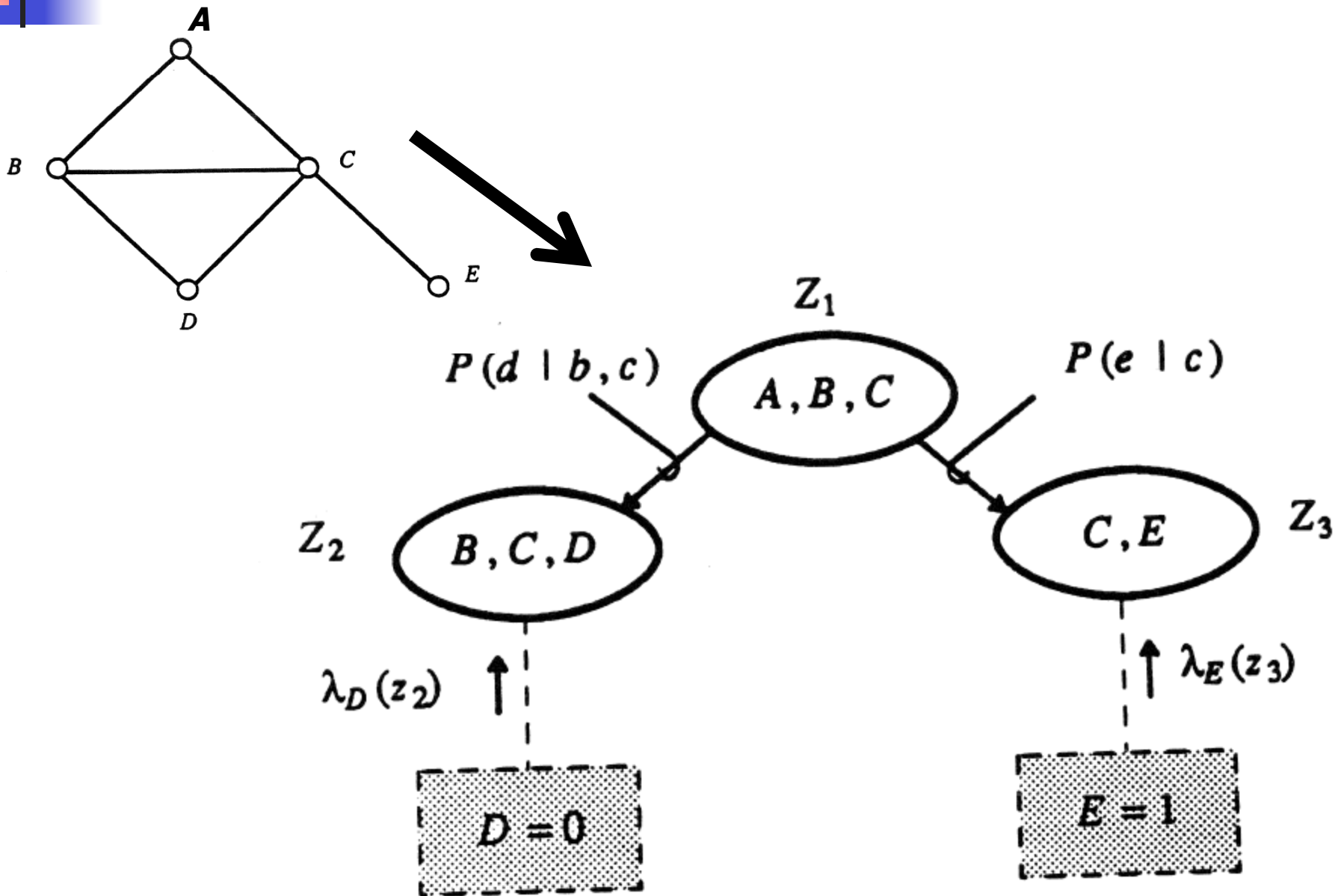
(b)



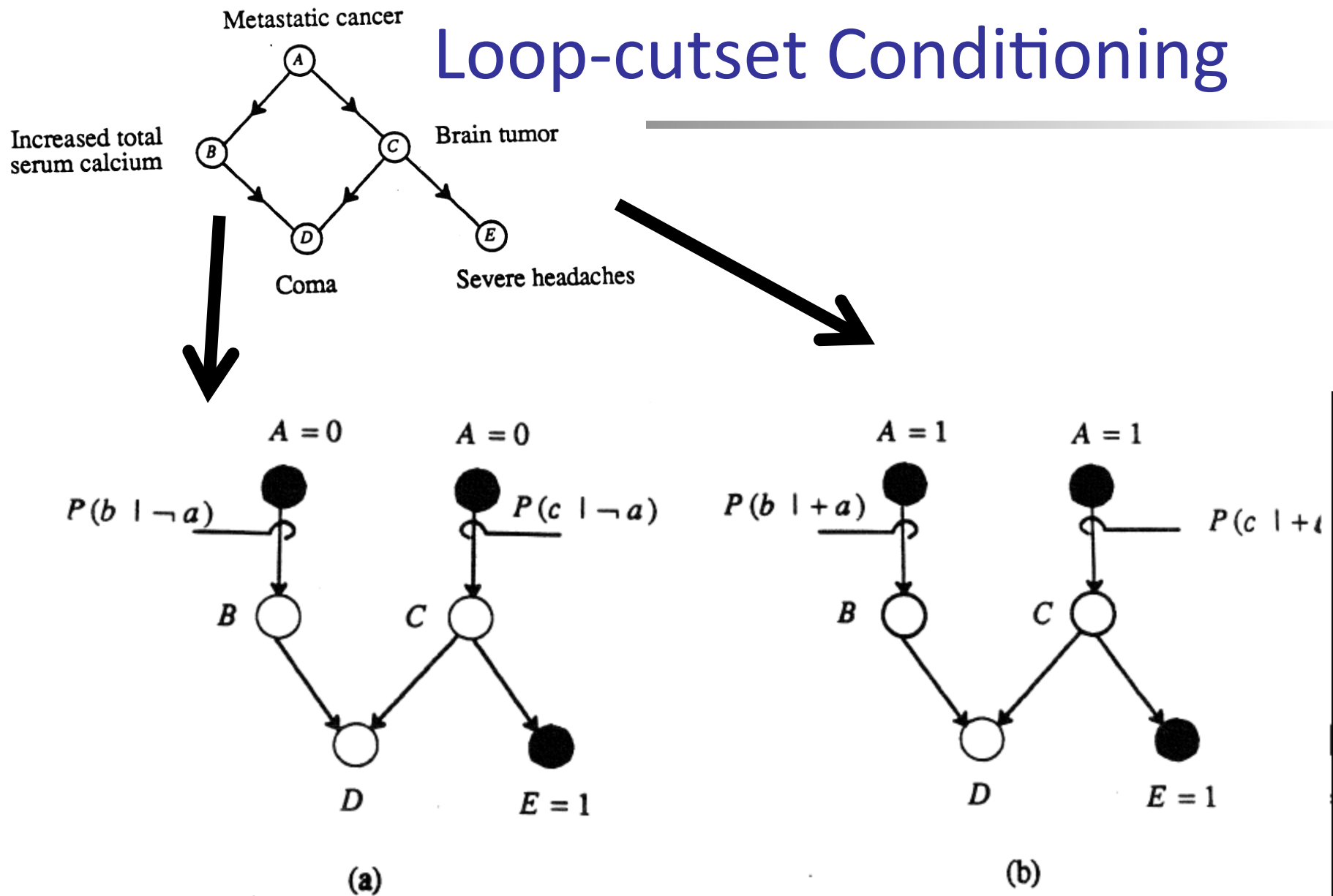
(c)

Clustering network (a) into a (b) tree or (c) polytree

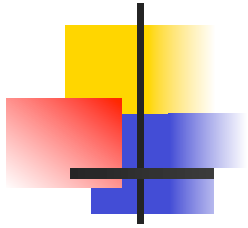
# Join-tree Clustering



# Loop-cutset Conditioning



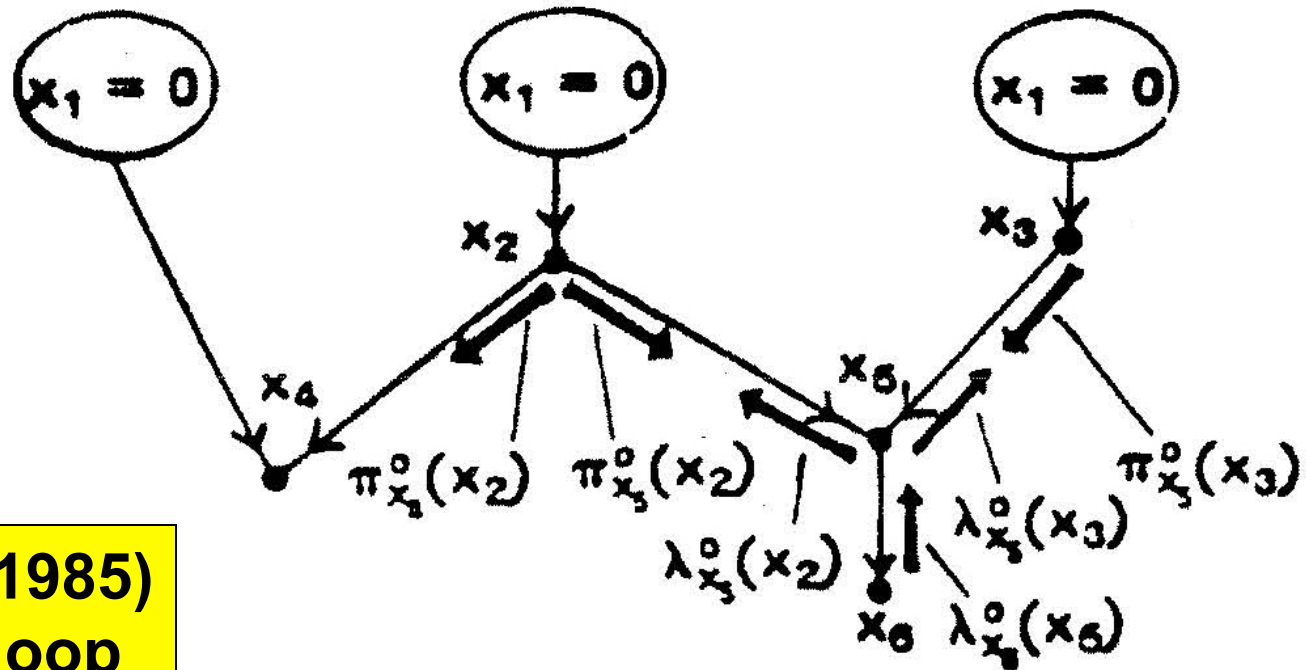
**Figure 4.28.** The multiply connected network of Figure 4.23 is decomposed into two polytrees corresponding to the two instantiations of  $A$ .



# The Cutset Conditioning

$$\pi_{x_6}^0(x_5) = \sum_{x_2, x_3=0,1} P(x_5 | x_2, x_3) \pi_{x_2}^0(x_2) \pi_{x_3}^0(x_3)$$

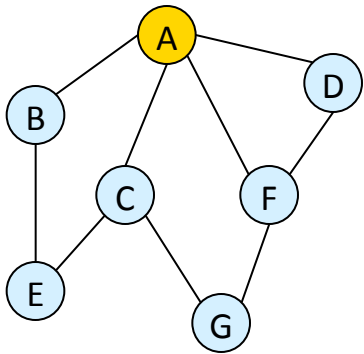
$$\pi_{x_6}^1(x_5) = \sum_{x_2, x_3=0,1} P(x_5 | x_2, x_3) \pi_{x_2}^1(x_2) \pi_{x_3}^1(x_3)$$



**Bayes Net (1985)  
Breaking a loop**

# Search vs. clustering

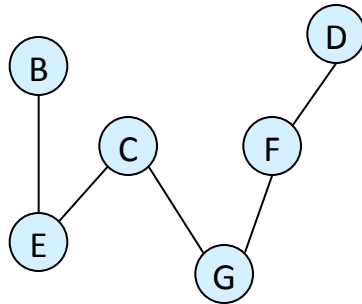
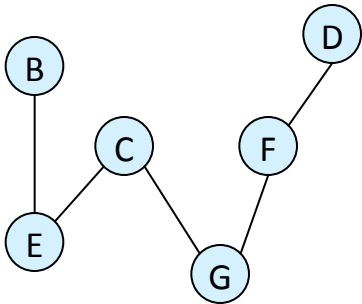
Search (conditioning) **Exponential in cutset**



A=1

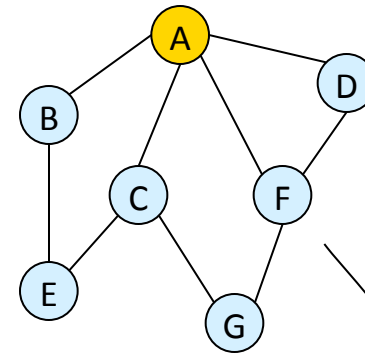
...

A=k

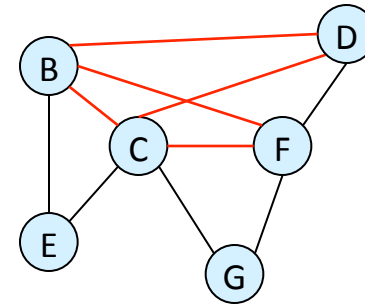


k "sparser" problems

Inference (elimination) **Exponential in w**

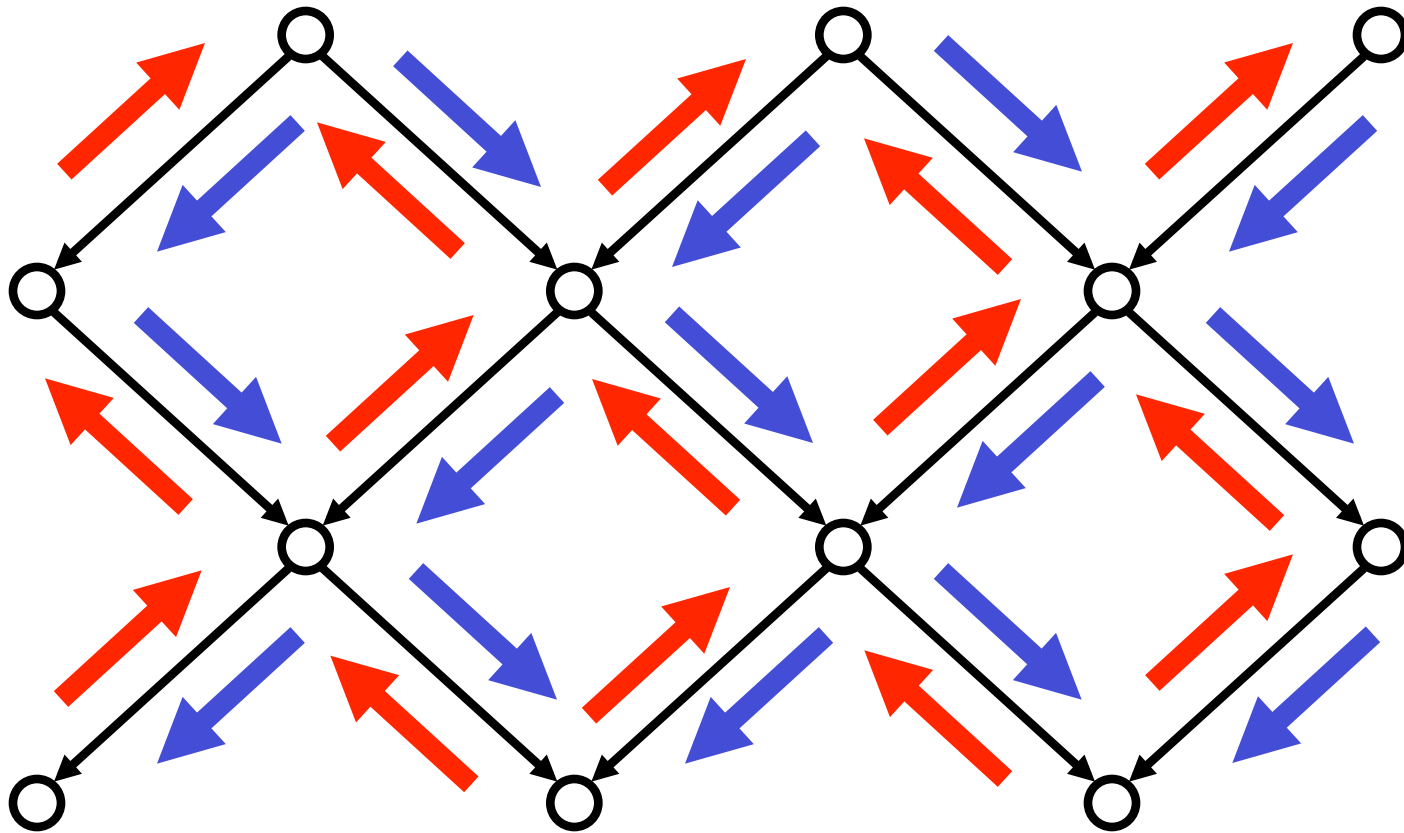


**But: The graph may  
Have too large clusters  
And need too many conditioning  
variables**



1 "denser" problem

# Belief Propagation when there are Loops



# Some Applications

Human thought processes

Enable learning of BN  
From data

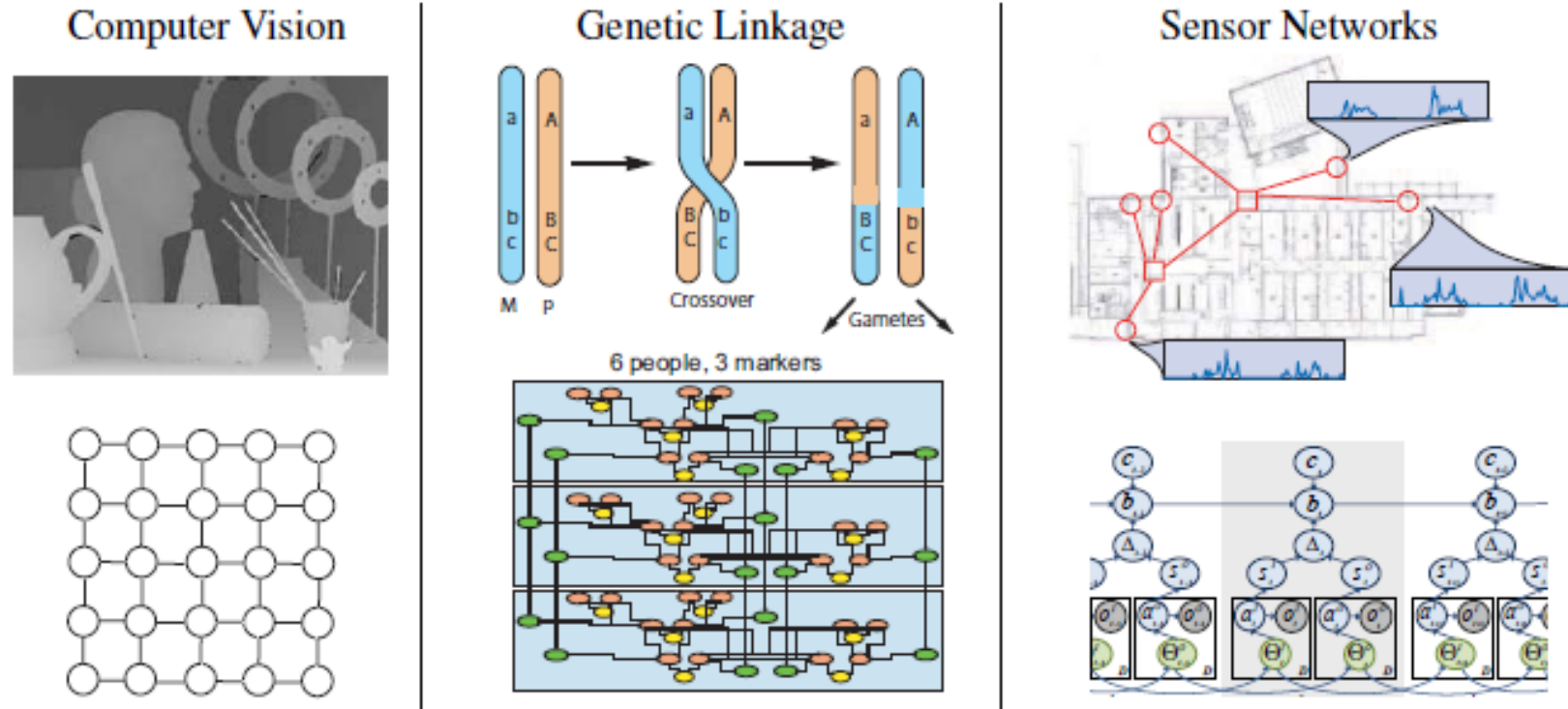
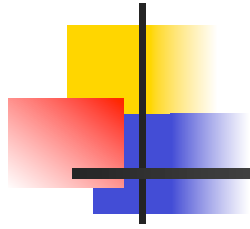


Figure 1: Application areas and graphical models used to represent their respective systems: (a) Finding correspondences between images, including depth estimation from stereo; (b) Genetic linkage analysis and pedigree data; (c) Understanding patterns of behavior in sensor measurements using spatio-temporal models.

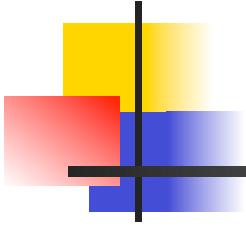


# Outline

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- Bayesian networks from historical perspective
- Bayesian Networks
- Belief propagation on trees
- From trees to graphs
- From Bayesian network to graphical models;  
general exact and approximate algorithms
- Some observation on loopy belief propagation





# Constraint Networks

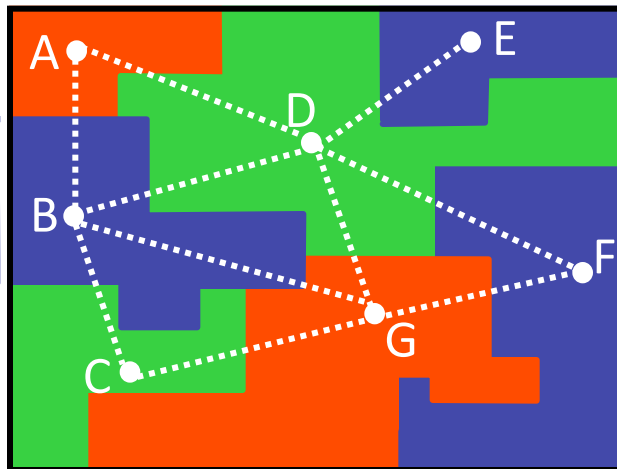
## Map coloring

Variables: countries (A B C etc.)

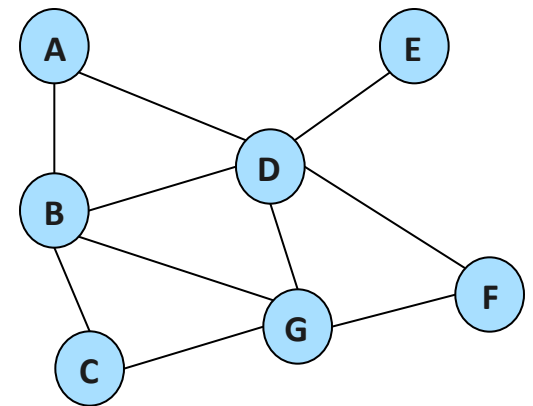
Values: colors (red green blue)

Constraints: **A ≠ B, A ≠ D, D ≠ E, ...**

A	B
red	green
red	yellow
green	red
green	yellow
yellow	green
yellow	red



## Constraint graph



# Constraint Satisfaction Tasks

## Example: map coloring

Variables - countries (A,B,C,etc.)

Values - colors (e.g., red, green, yellow)

Constraints:

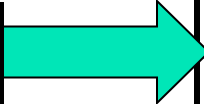
$A \neq B$ ,  $A \neq D$ ,  $D \neq E$ , *etc.*

**Are the constraints consistent?**

**Find a solution, find all solutions**

**Count all solutions**

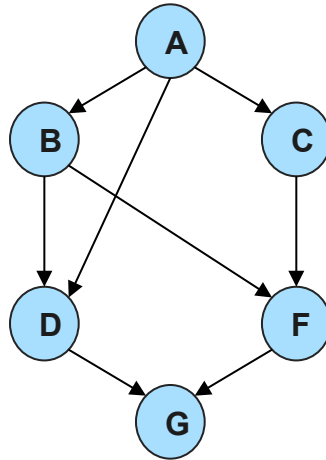
**Find a good solution**



A	B	C	D	E...
red	green	red	green	blue
red	blue	green	green	blue
...	...	...	...	green
...	...	...	...	red
red	blue	red	green	red

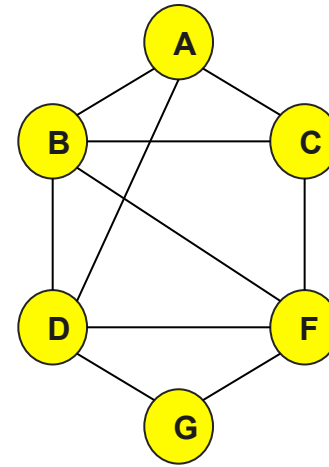
# Graphical Models

$P(A)$   
 $P(B|A)$   
 $P(C|A)$   
 $P(D|A,B)$   
 $P(F|B,C)$   
 $P(G|D,F)$

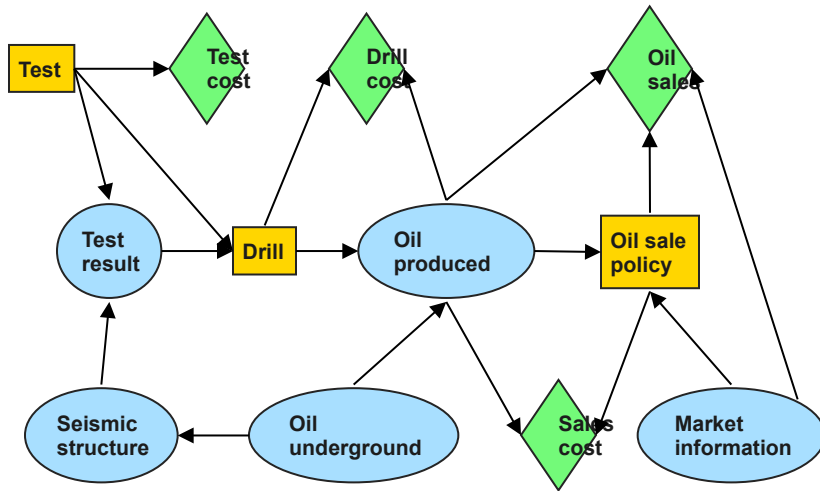


a) Belief network

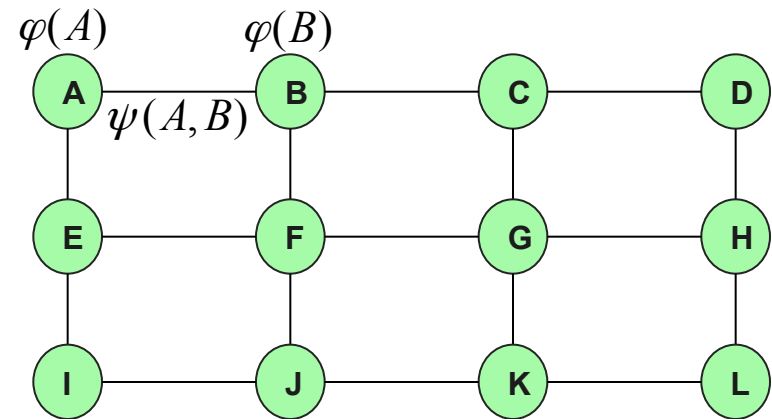
$R(A)$   
 $R(A,B)$   
 $R(A,C)$   
 $R(A,B,D)$   
 $R(B,C,F)$   
 $R(D,F,G)$



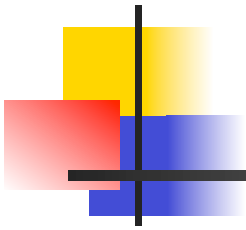
b) Constraint network



c) Influence diagram



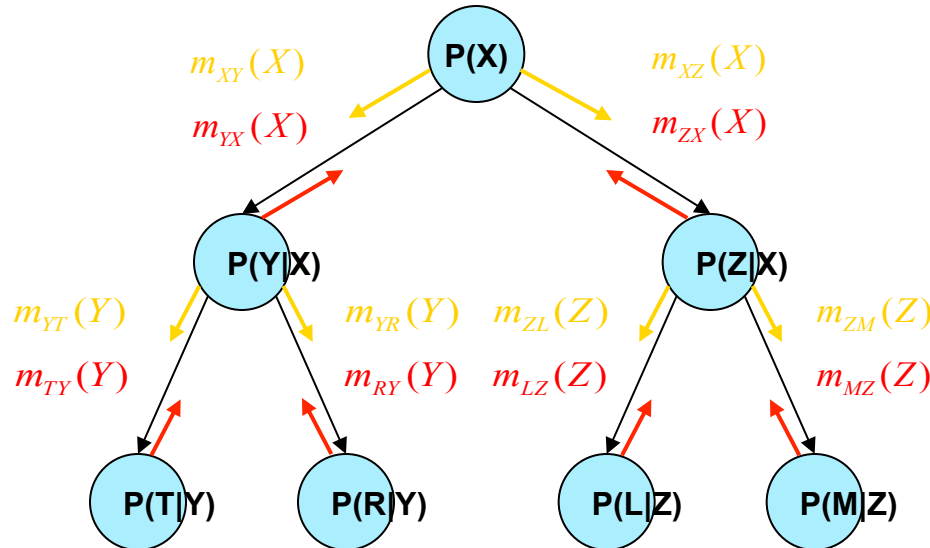
d) Markov network



# Tree Solving is Easy

**Belief updating  
(sum-prod)**

**CSP – consistency  
(projection-join)**



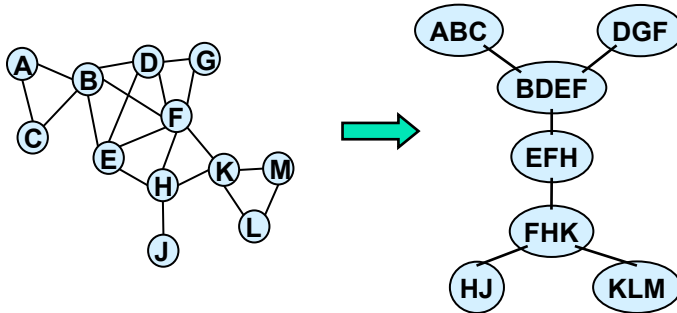
**MPE (max-prod)**

**#CSP (sum-prod)**

**Trees are processed in linear time and memory**

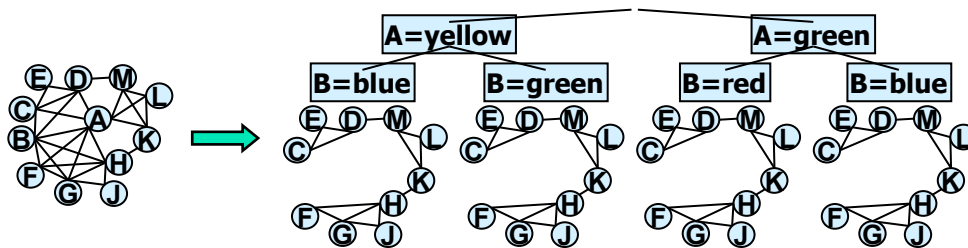
# Inference vs. Conditioning

- **By Inference (thinking)**

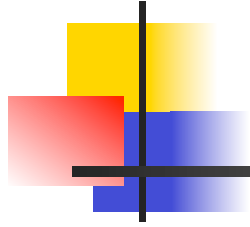


Exponential in **treewidth**  
Time and memory

- **By Conditioning (guessing)**



Exponential in **cycle-cutset**  
Time-wise, linear memory

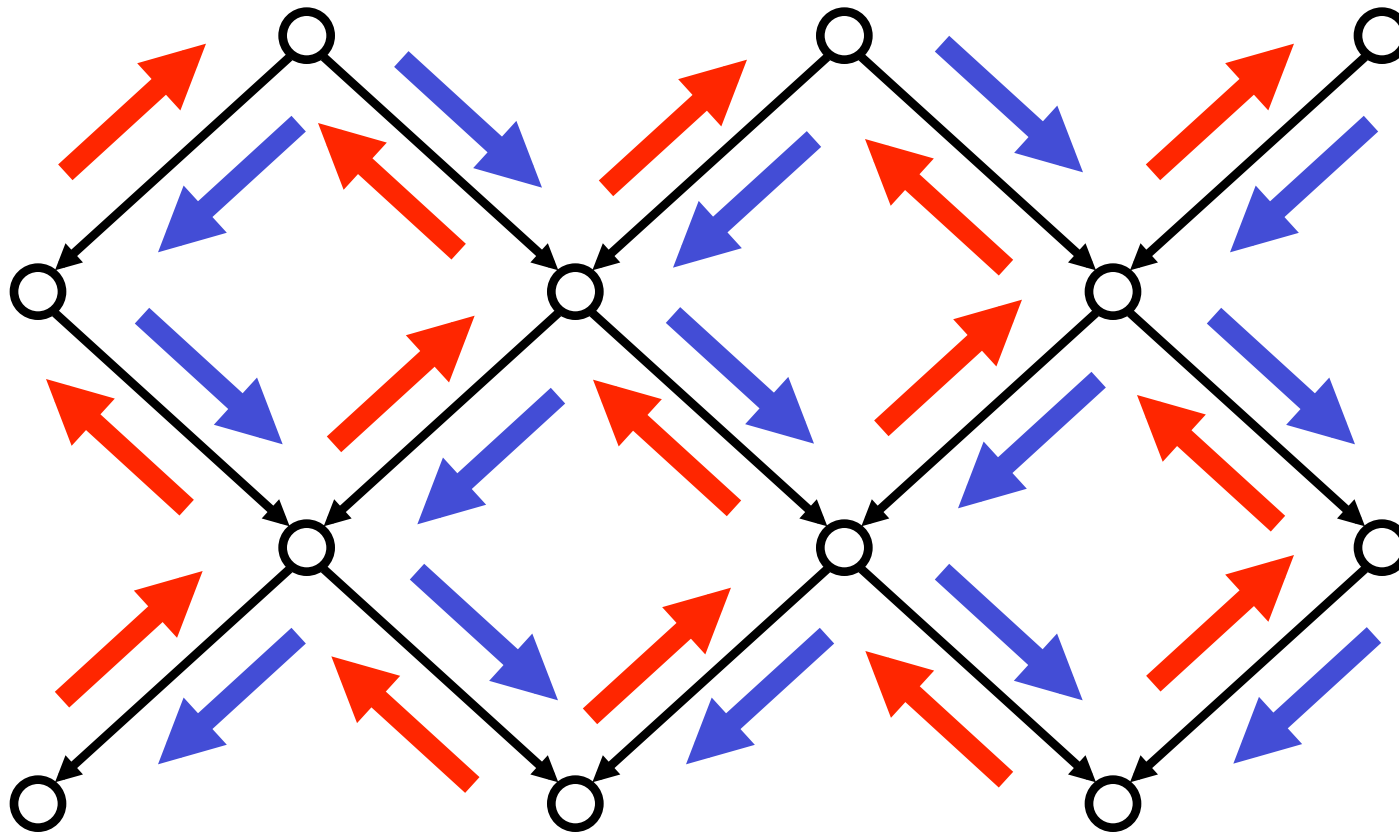


# Outline

---

- Bayesian networks from historical perspective
- Bayesian Networks
- Belief propagation on trees
- From trees to graphs
- From Bayesian network to graphical models
- **Some observations on loopy belief propagation**

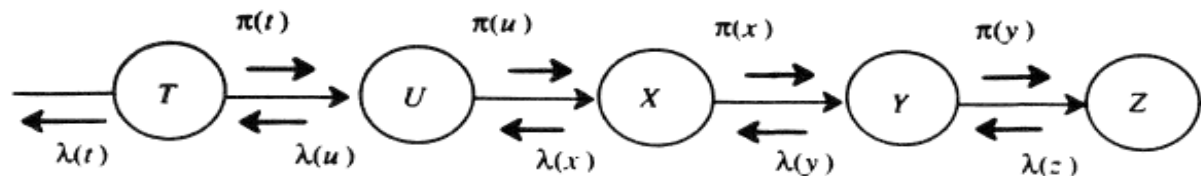
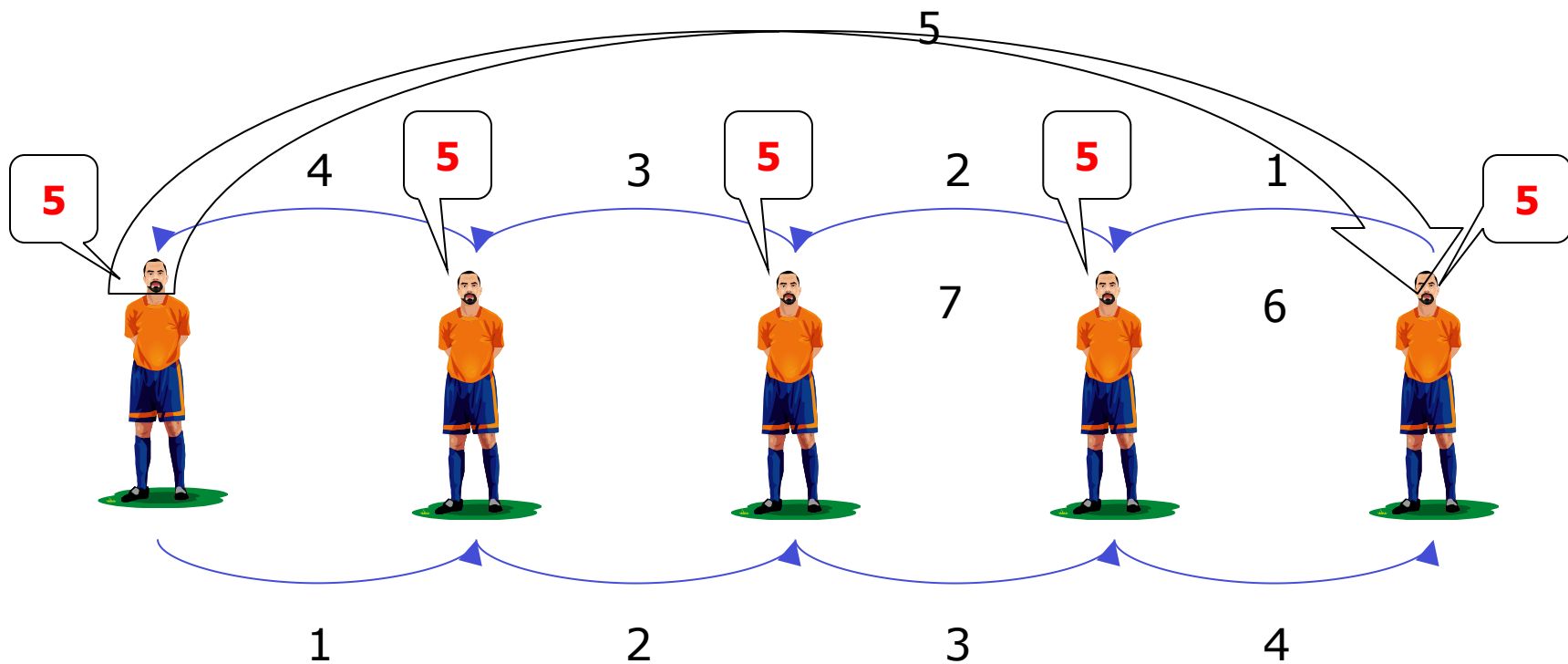
# Belief Propagation when there are Loops



# Distributed Belief Propagation

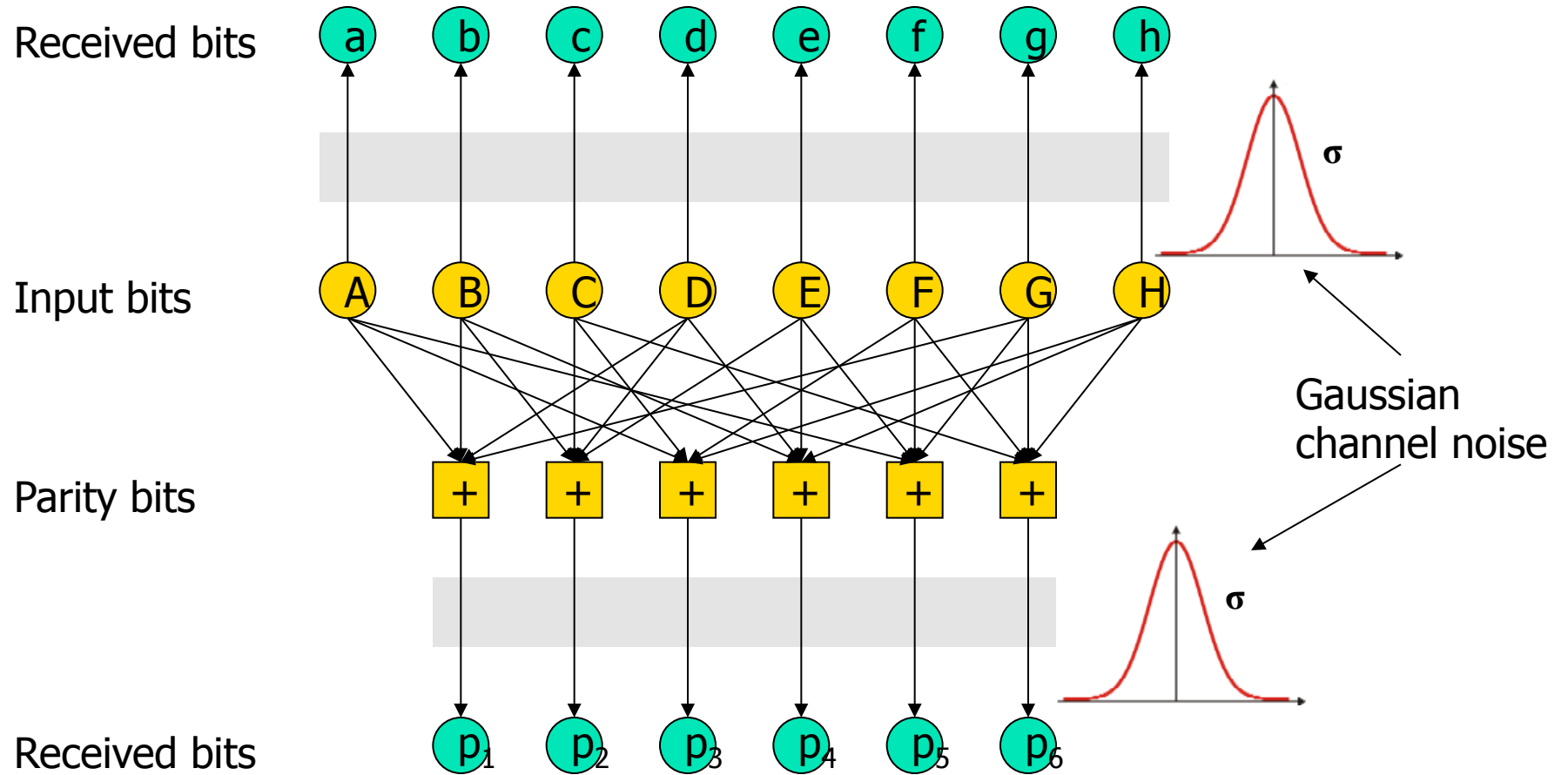
The essence of belief propagation is to make global information be shared locally by every entity

**How many people?**

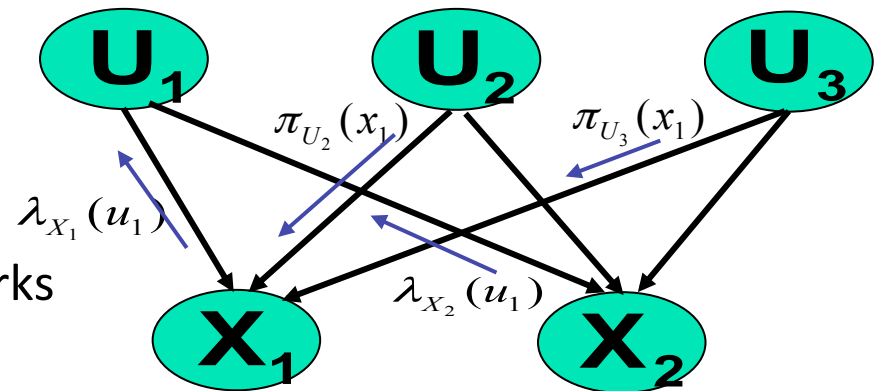




# Linear Block Codes



# Belief Propagation on Loopy Graphs



- Pearl (1988): use of BP to loopy networks
- McEliece, et. al 1988: BP's success on coding networks
- Lots of research into convergence ... and accuracy if convergence, still:
  - Why BP works well for coding networks
  - When does BP converge?
  - How accurate is it when converged?
  - Can we characterize other good problem classes?
  - Can we have any guarantees on accuracy (if we have converges)

# Constraint Propagation

Arcs-consistency

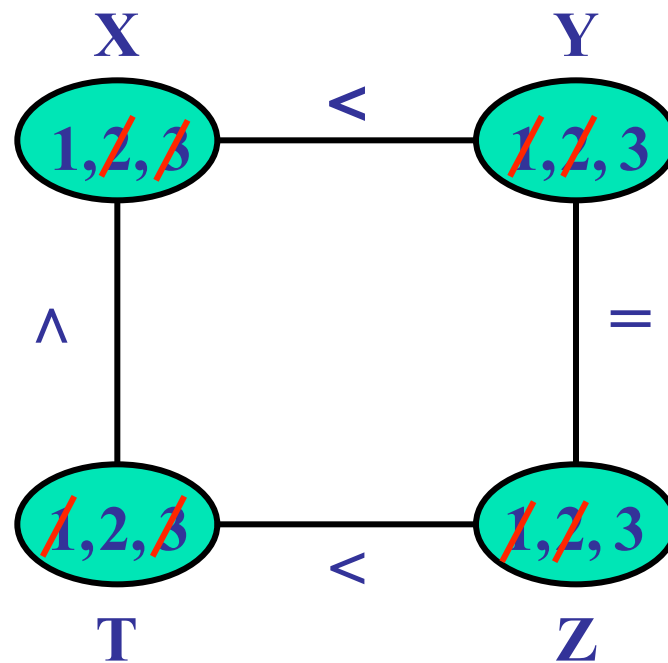
$$1 \leq X, Y, Z, T \leq 3$$

$$X < Y$$

$$Y = Z$$

$$T < Z$$

$$X \leq T$$



# Arc-consistency

$$R_X \leftarrow \prod_X R_{XY} \bowtie D_Y$$

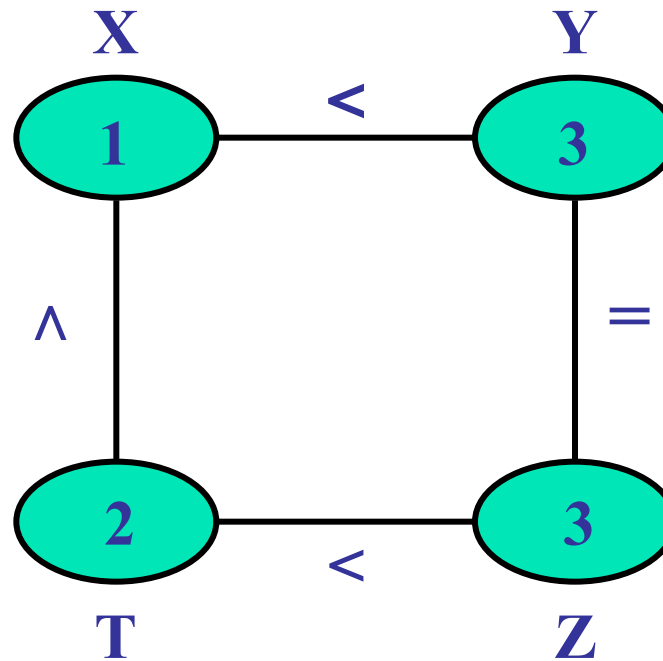
$$1 \leq X, Y, Z, T \leq 3$$

$$X < Y$$

$$Y = Z$$

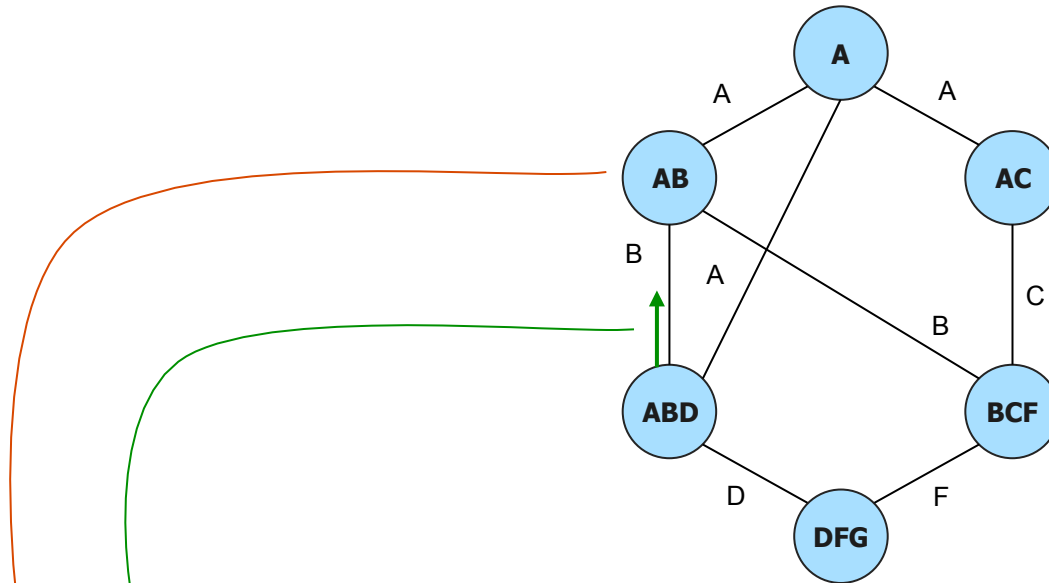
$$T < Z$$

$$X \leq T$$



# Distributed Relational Arc-consistency

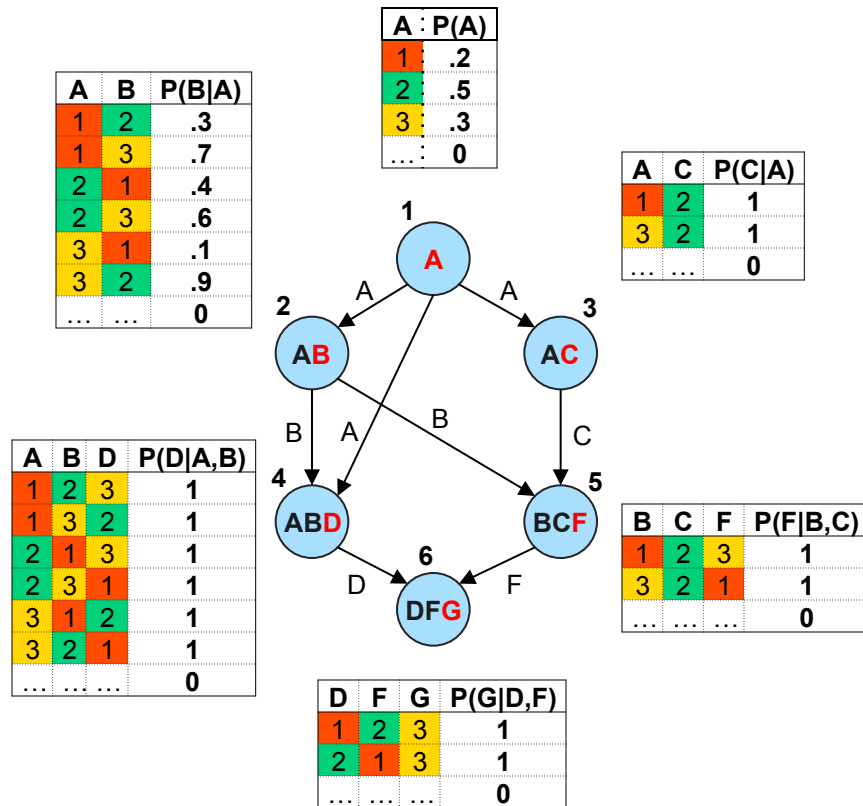
- Can be applied to nodes being the constraints (dual network):



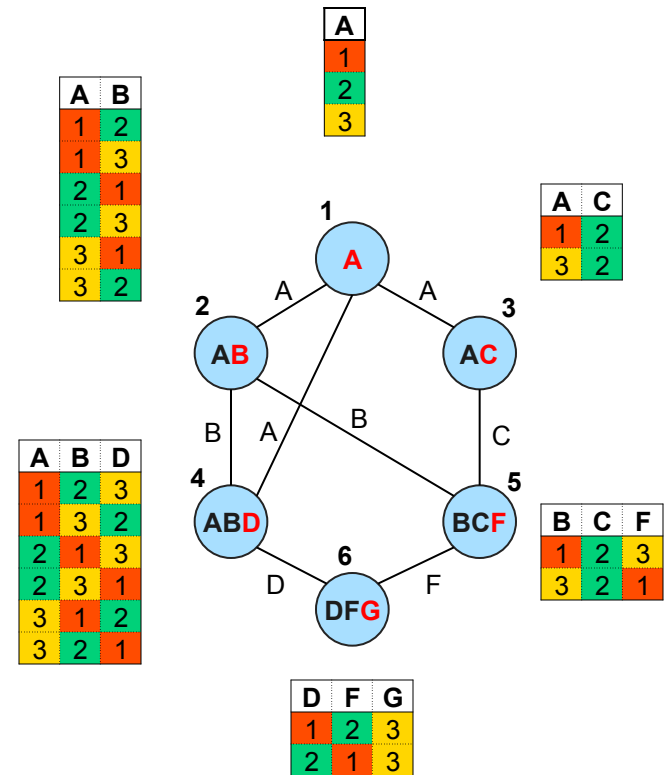
$$h_i^j \leftarrow \pi_{l_{ij}}(R_i \bowtie (\bigwedge_{k \in ne(i)} h_k^i)) \quad (1)$$

$$R_i \leftarrow R_i \cap (\bigwedge_{k \in ne(i)} h_k^i) \quad (2)$$

# Flattening the Bayesian Network



Belief network



Flat constraint network

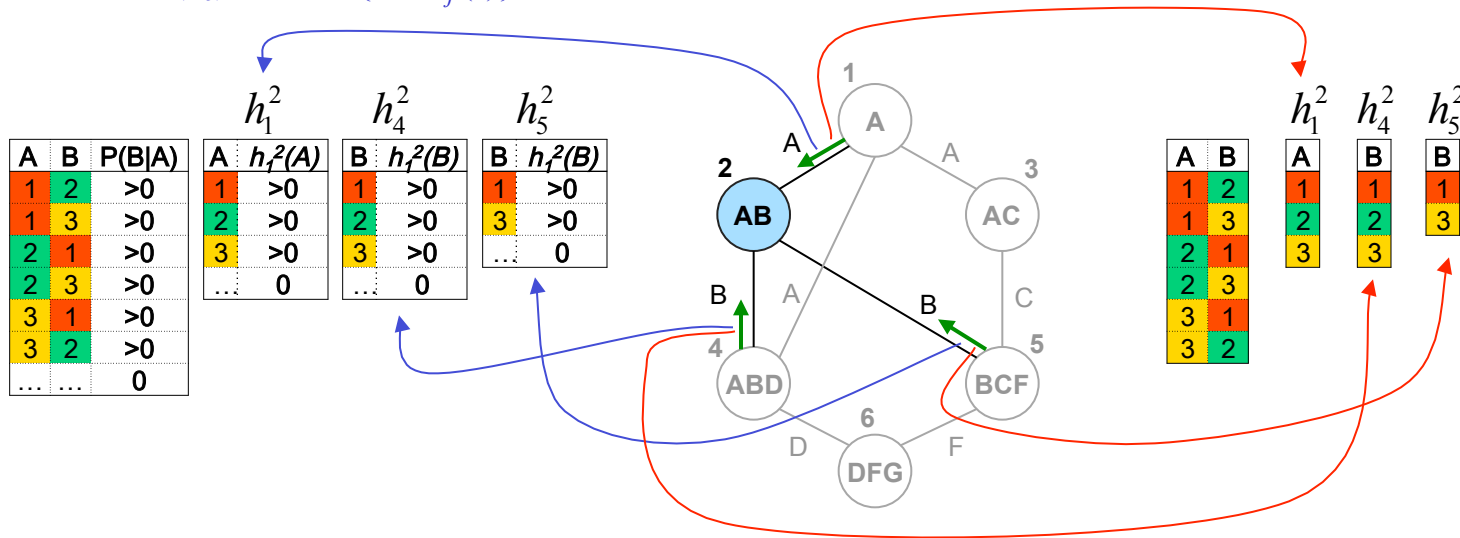
**THEOREM 11.** Given a belief network  $\mathcal{B} = \langle X, D, G, P \rangle$ , where  $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$ , for any tuple  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ :  $P_{\mathcal{B}}(x) > 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in \text{sol}(\text{flat}(\mathcal{B}))$ , where  $\text{sol}(\text{flat}(\mathcal{B}))$  is the set of solutions of  $\text{flat}(\mathcal{B})$ .

# Belief Zero Propagation = Arc-consistency

IBP over belief propagation applies relational arc-consistency on the flat network

$$h_i^j = \sum_{elim(i,j)} (p_i \cdot (\prod_{k \in ne_j(i)} h_k^i))$$

$$h_i^j = \pi_{l_{ij}} (R_i \bowtie (\bowtie_{k \in ne(i)} h_k^i))$$



Updated belief:

Updated relation:

$$Bel(A, B) = P(B | A) \cdot h_1^2 \cdot h_4^2 \cdot h_5^2 =$$

$$R(A, B) = R(A, B) \bowtie h_1^2 \bowtie h_4^2 \bowtie h_5^2 =$$

A	B	Bel (A,B)
1	3	>0
2	1	>0
2	3	>0
3	1	>0
...	...	0

A	B
1	3
2	1
2	3
3	1

# An Example

$$R_1$$

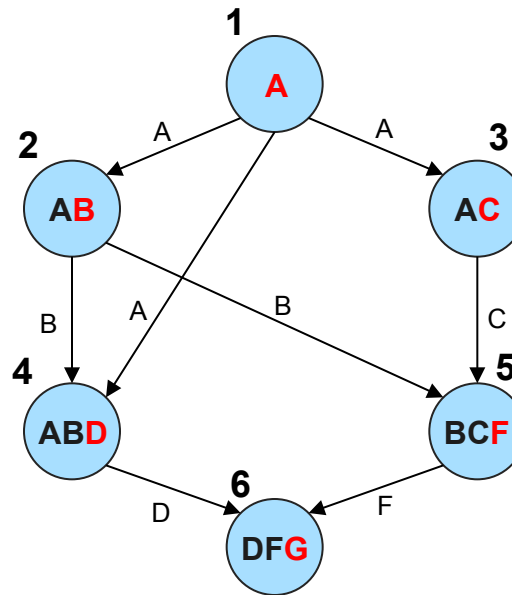
A	P(A)
1	.2
2	.5
3	.3
...	0

$$R_2$$

A	B	P(B A)
1	2	.3
1	3	.7
2	1	.4
2	3	.6
3	1	.1
3	2	.9
...	...	0

$$R_3$$

A	C	P(C A)
1	2	1
3	2	1
...	...	0



$$R_4$$

A	B	D	P(D A,B)
1	2	3	1
1	3	2	1
2	1	3	1
2	3	1	1
3	1	2	1
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

$$R_5$$

B	C	F	P(F B,C)
1	2	3	1
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

$$R_6$$

D	F	G	P(G D,F)
1	2	3	1
2	1	3	1
...	...	...	0



# Belief Propagation Example: Iteration 1

$$R_1$$

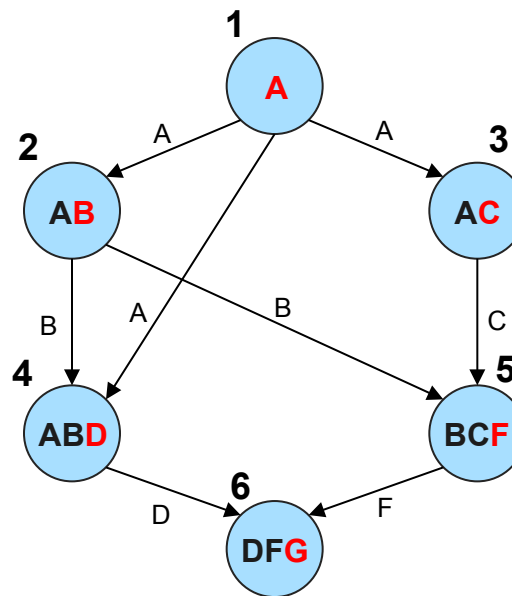
A	P(A)
1	>0
3	>0
...	0

$$R_2$$

A	B	P(B A)
1	3	1
2	1	>0
2	3	>0
3	1	1
...	...	0

$$R_3$$

A	C	P(C A)
1	2	1
3	2	1
...	...	0



$$R_4$$

A	B	D	P(D A,B)
1	3	2	1
2	3	1	1
3	1	2	1
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

$$R_5$$

B	C	F	P(F B,C)
1	2	3	1
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

$$R_6$$

D	F	G	P(G D,F)
2	1	3	1
...	...	...	0

# Belief Propagation Example: Iteration 2

 $R_1$ 

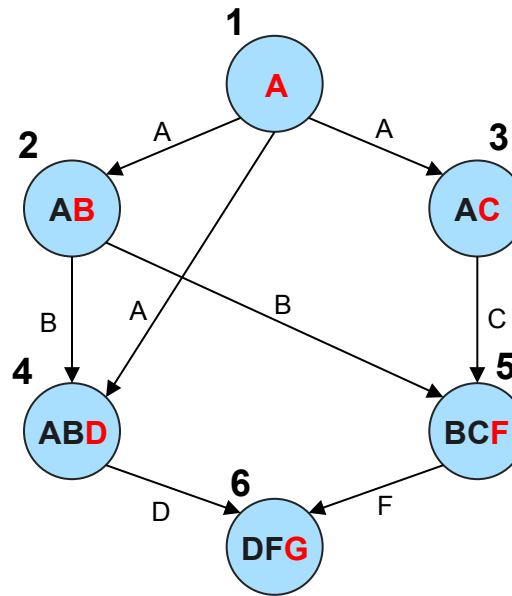
A	P(A)
1	>0
3	>0
...	0

 $R_2$ 

A	B	P(B A)
1	3	1
3	1	1
...	...	0

 $R_3$ 

A	C	P(C A)
1	2	1
3	2	1
...	...	0


 $R_4$ 

A	B	D	P(D A,B)
1	3	2	1
3	1	2	1
...	...	...	0

 $R_5$ 

B	C	F	P(F B,C)
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

 $R_6$ 

D	F	G	P(G D,F)
2	1	3	1
...	...	...	0

# Belief Propagation Example: Iteration 3

 $R_1$ 

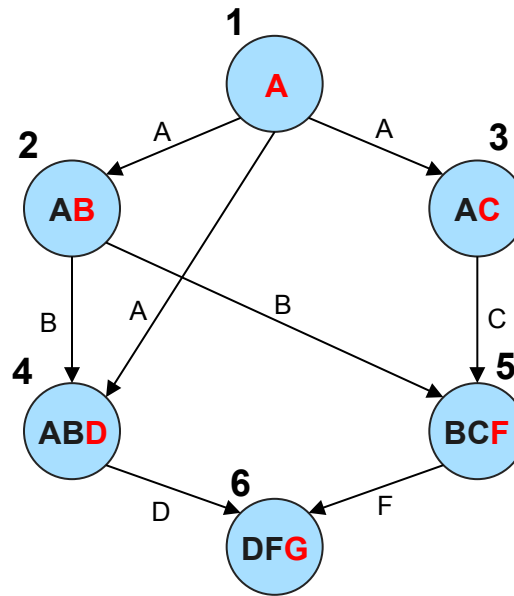
A	P(A)
1	>0
3	>0
...	0

 $R_2$ 

A	B	P(B A)
1	3	1
...	...	0

 $R_3$ 

A	C	P(C A)
1	2	1
3	2	1
...	...	0


 $R_4$ 

A	B	D	P(D A,B)
1	3	2	1
3	1	2	1
...	...	...	0

 $R_5$ 

B	C	F	P(F B,C)
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

 $R_6$ 

D	F	G	P(G D,F)
2	1	3	1
...	...	...	0

# Belief Propagation Example: Iteration 4

$$R_1$$

A	P(A)
1	1
...	0

$$R_2$$

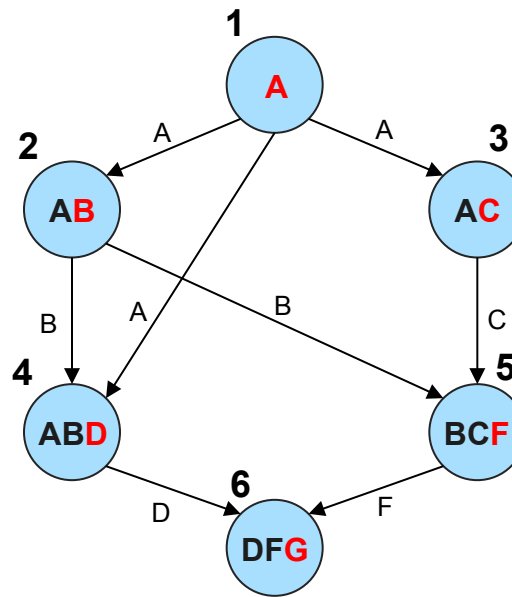
A	B	P(B A)
1	3	1
...	...	0

$$R_3$$

A	C	P(C A)
1	2	1
3	2	1
...	...	0

$$R_4$$

A	B	D	P(D A,B)
1	3	2	1
...	...	...	0



$$R_5$$

B	C	F	P(F B,C)
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

$$R_6$$

D	F	G	P(G D,F)
2	1	3	1
...	...	...	0

# Belief Propagation Example: Iteration 5

 $R_1$ 

A	P(A)
1	1
...	0

A	B	C	D	F	G	Belief
1	3	2	2	1	3	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	0

 $R_2$ 

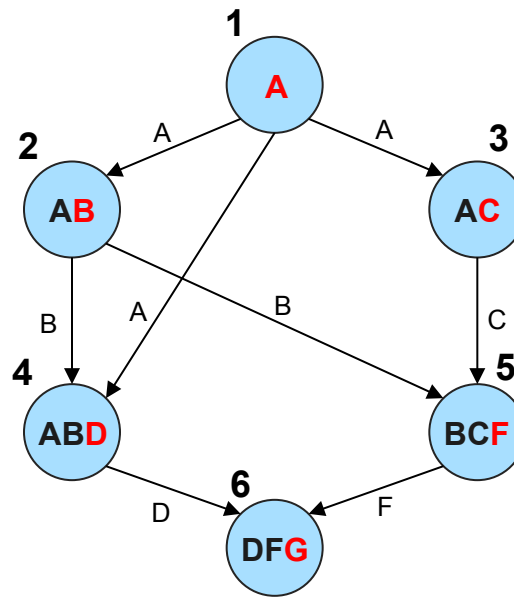
A	B	P(B A)
1	3	1
...	...	0

 $R_3$ 

A	C	P(C A)
1	2	1
...	...	0

 $R_4$ 

A	B	D	P(D A,B)
1	3	2	1
...	...	...	0


 $R_5$ 

B	C	F	P(F B,C)
3	2	1	1
...	...	...	0

 $R_6$ 

D	F	G	P(G D,F)
2	1	3	1
...	...	...	0



# The Inference Power of BP for Zero Beliefs

---

- **Theorem:**

Iterative BP performs arc-consistency on the flat network.

**(no more, no less)**

- **Soundness:**

- Inference of zero beliefs by IBP converges (in  $nk$  iterations,  $n$  variables,  $k = |\text{domain}|$ )
- All the inferred zero beliefs are correct

- **Incompleteness:**

- BP is as weak and as strong as arc-consistency (weak for graph coloring, strong for implicational constraints.)

- **Continuity Hypothesis:** IBP is sound for zero  $\rightarrow$  IBP is accurate for extreme beliefs? Tested empirically



# Experimental Results

---

We investigated empirically if the results for zero beliefs extend to  $\varepsilon$ -small beliefs ( $\varepsilon > 0$ )

Have determinism?

**YES**

- Network types:

- Coding
- Linkage analysis\*
- Grids\*

**NO**

- Two-layer noisy-OR\*
- CPCS54, CPCS360

- Measures:

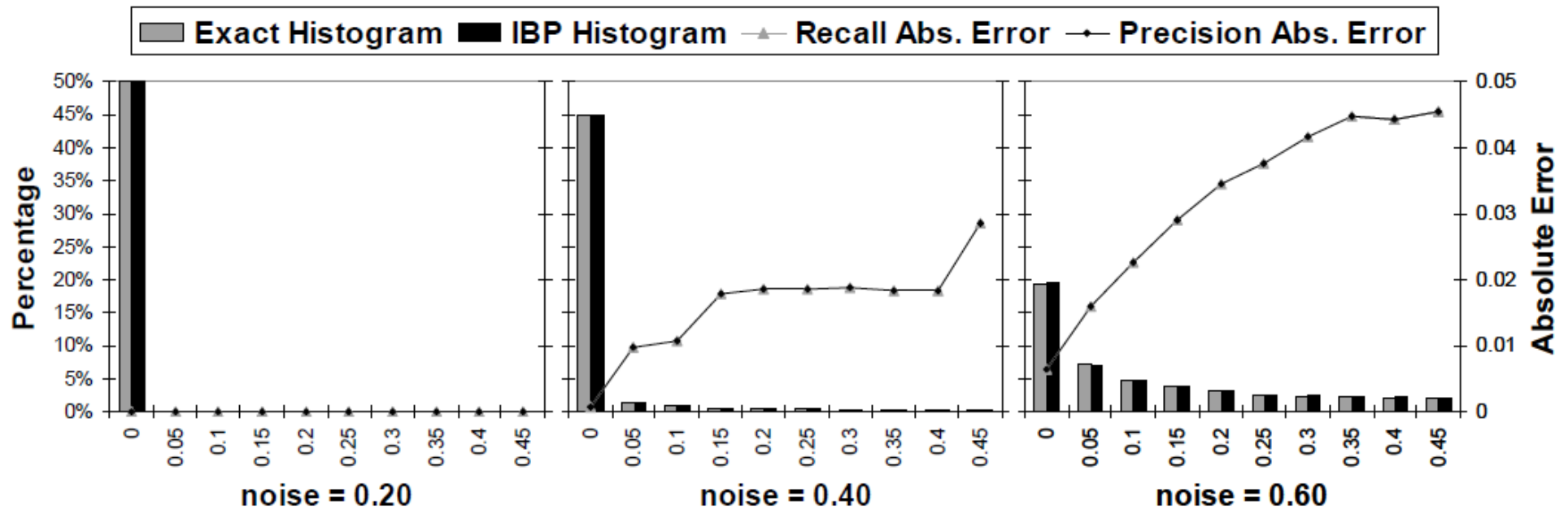
- Exact/IJGP histogram
- Recall absolute error
- Precision absolute error

- Algorithms:

- IBP
- IJGP

\* Instances from the UAI08 competition

# Networks with Determinism: Coding

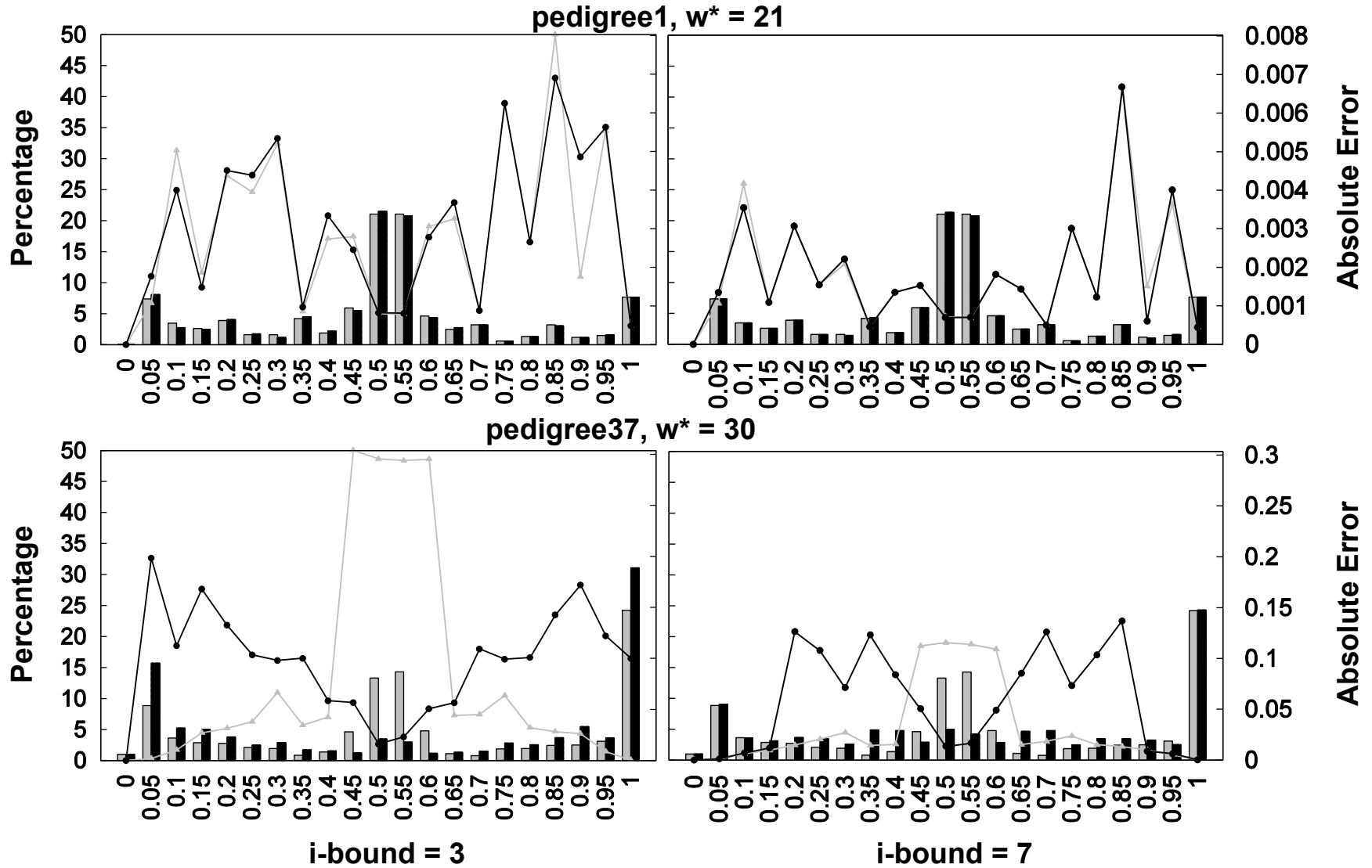


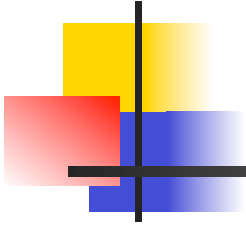
$N=200$ , 1000 instances,  $w^*=15$



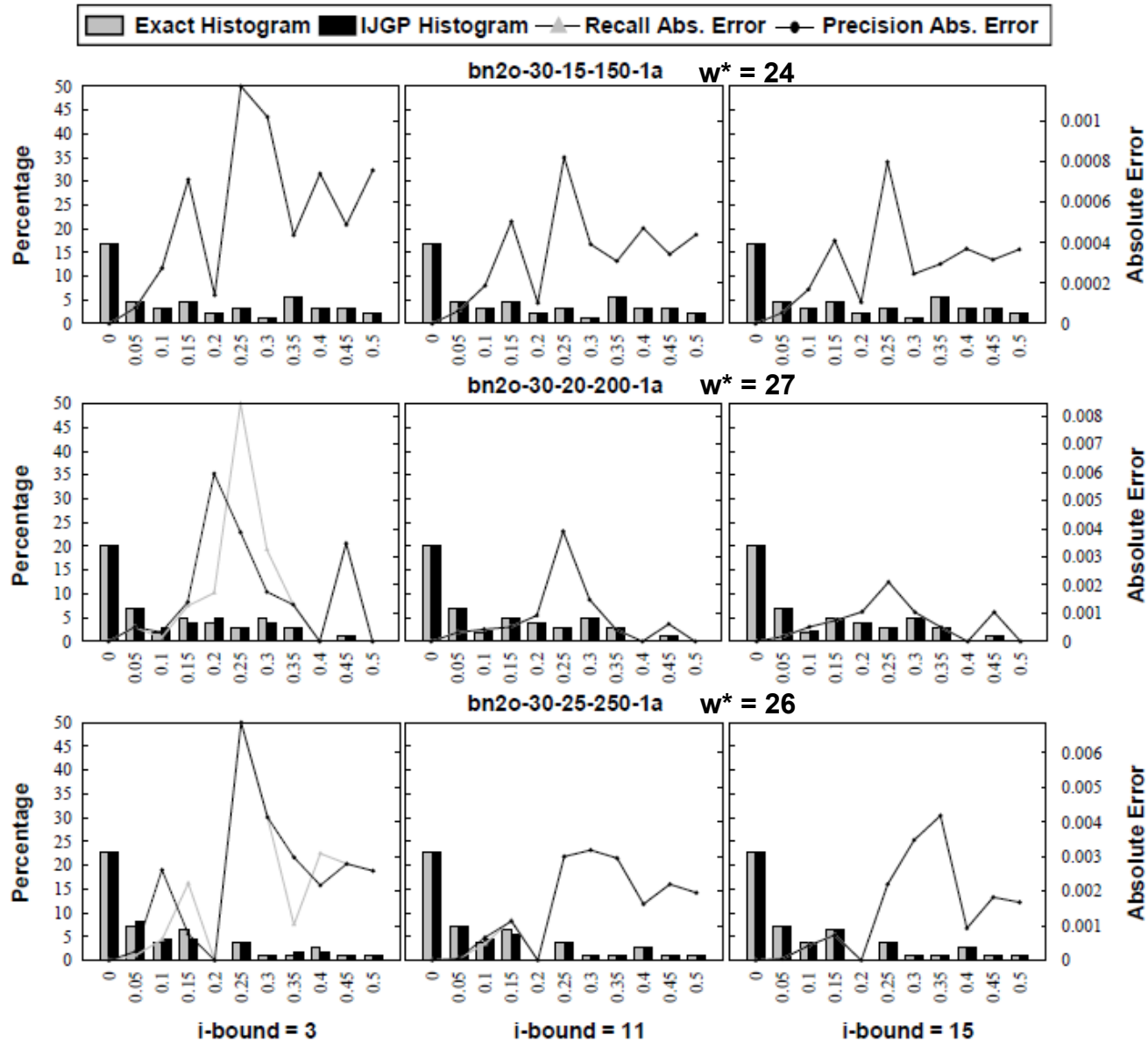
# Nets with Determinism: Linkage

Exact Histogram
  IJGP Histogram
  Recall Abs. Error
  Precision Abs. Error

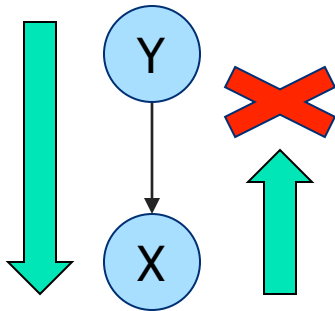
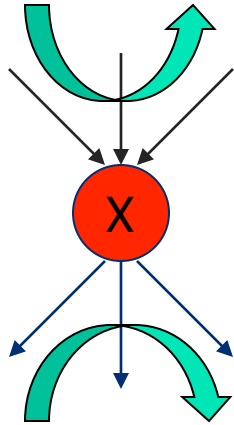




# Nets w/o Determinism: bn2o



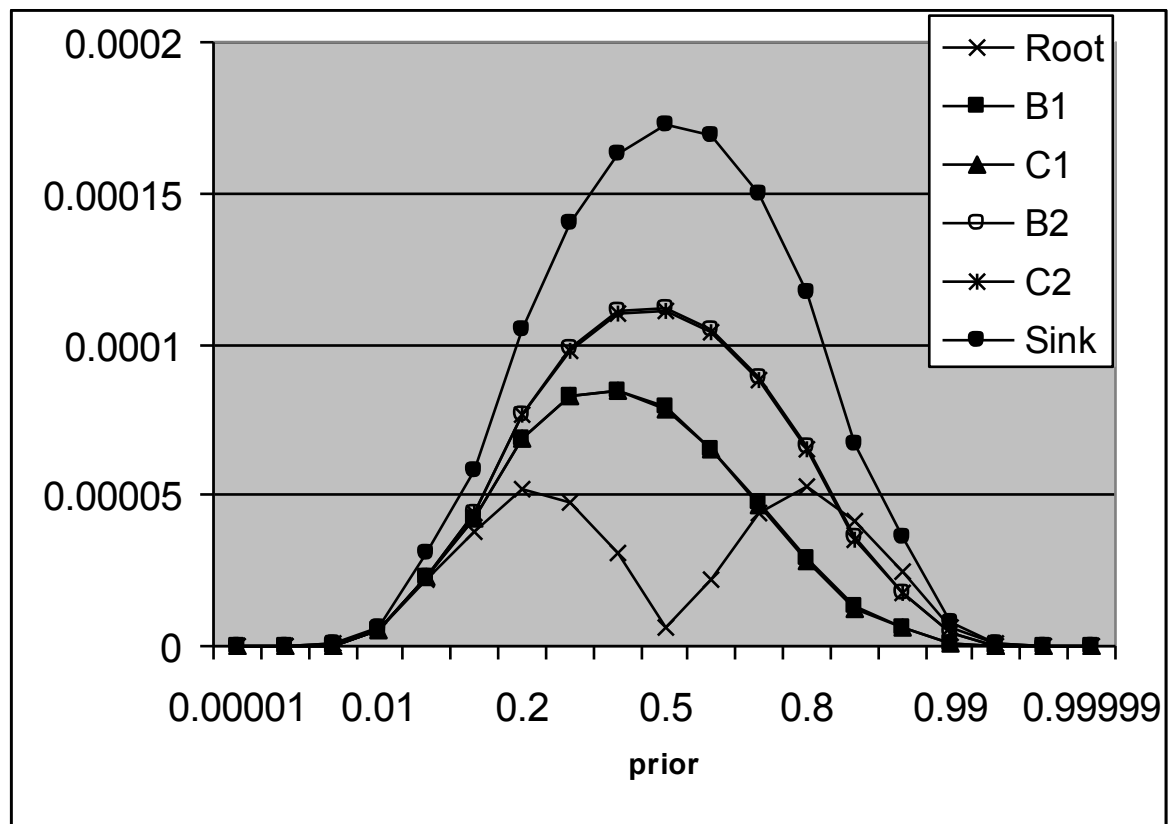
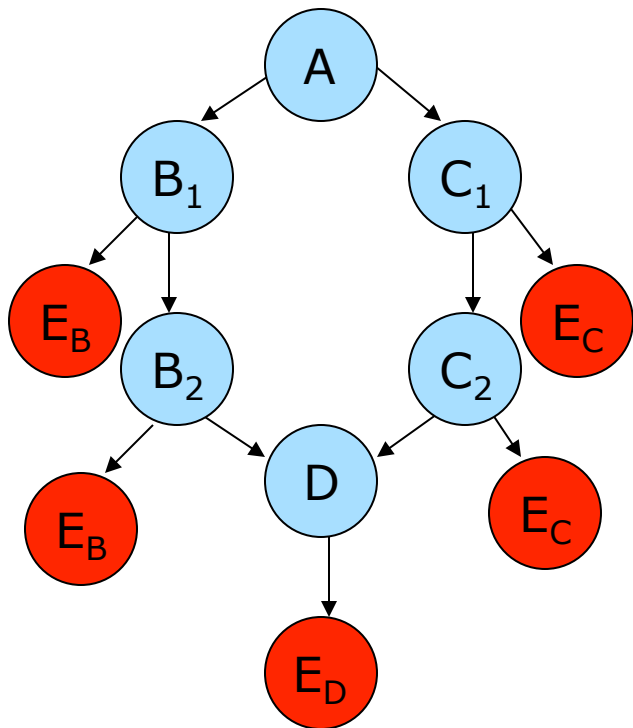
# Cutset Phenomena & Irrelevant Nodes



- **Observed variables** break the flow of inference
  - **BP is exact when evidence variables form a loop-cutset**
- **Unobserved variables** without observed descendants send zero-information to the parent variables – it is irrelevant
  - **In a network without evidence, BP converges in one iteration top-down**

# Nodes with Extreme Support

Observed variables with xtreme priors or xtreme support can nearly-cut information flow:



Average Error vs. Priors



# Conclusion: Networks with Determinism

---

BP converges & sound for zero beliefs

- IBP's power to infer zeros is as weak or as strong as arc-consistency
- However: inference of extreme beliefs can be wrong.
- Cutset property (Bidyuk and Dechter, 2000):
  - Evidence and inferred singleton act like cutset
  - If zeros are cycle-cutset, all beliefs are exact
  - Extensions to epsilon-cutset were supported empirically.
- IJGP is an anytime good tradeoff propagation scheme



---

# Thank You

**Rina Dechter, Bozhena Bidyuk, Robert Mateescu and Emma Rollon.**

"On the Power of Belief Propagation: A Constraint Propagation Perspective" in  
*Festschrift book in honor of Judea Pearl, 2010*

**Heuristics, Probability and Causality, A Tribute to Judea Pearl**

Editors Rina Dechter, Hector Geffner and Joseph Y. Halpern

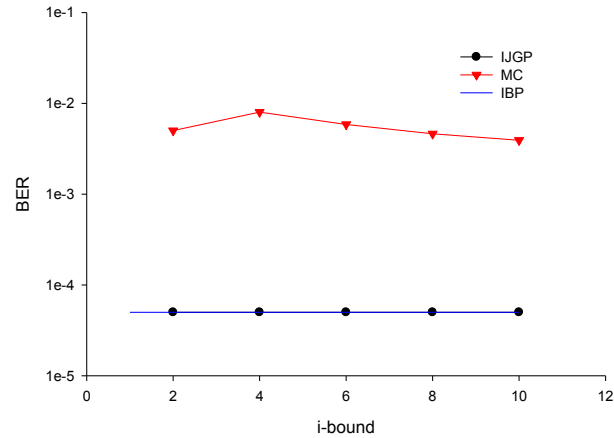
<http://bayes.cs.ucla.edu/TRIBUTE/pearl-tribute2010.htm>

<http://www.ics.uci.edu/~dechter/publications.html>

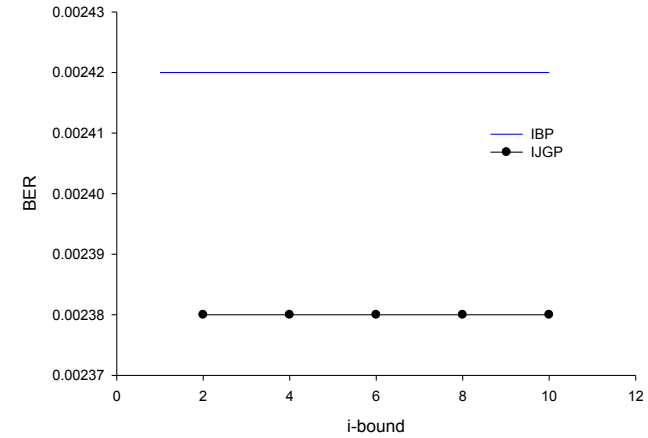


# Coding Networks – Bit Error Rate

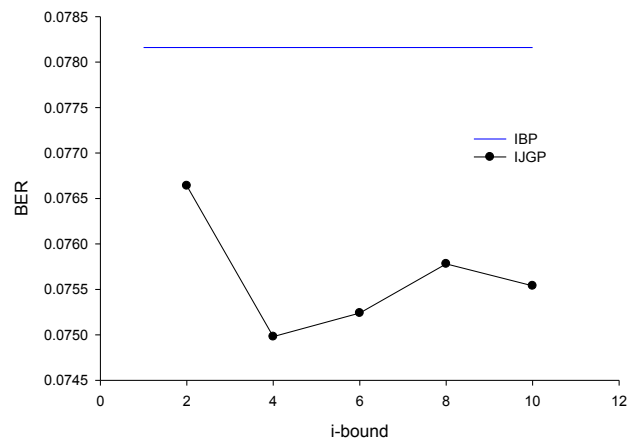
N=400, 1000 instances, 30 it, w\*=43,  $\sigma = .22$



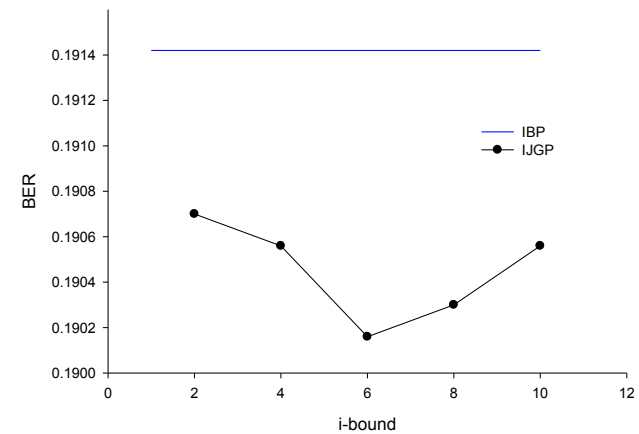
N=400, 500 instances, 30 it, w\*=43,  $\sigma = .32$



N=400, 500 instances, 30 it, w\*=43,  $\sigma = .51$



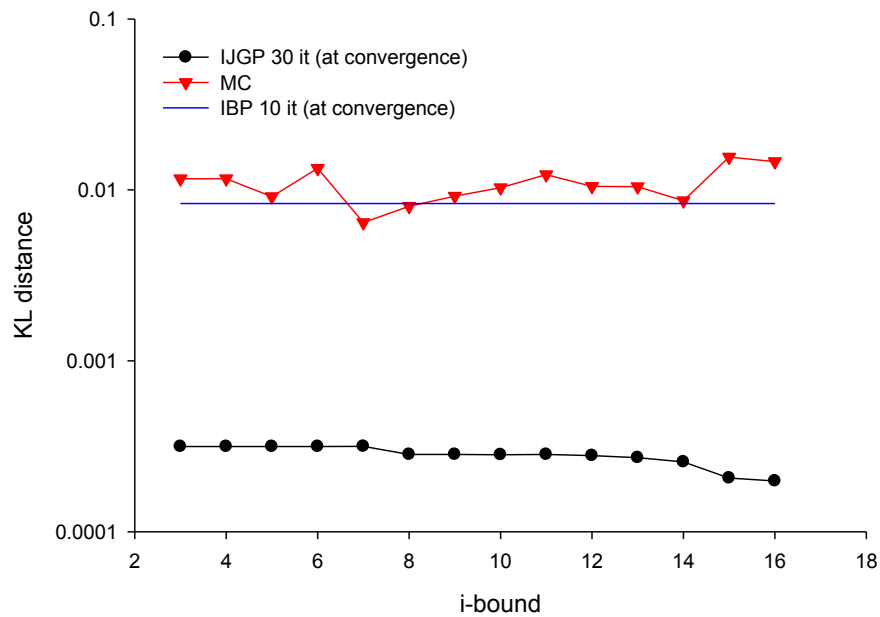
N=400, 500 instances, 30 it, w\*=43,  $\sigma = .65$





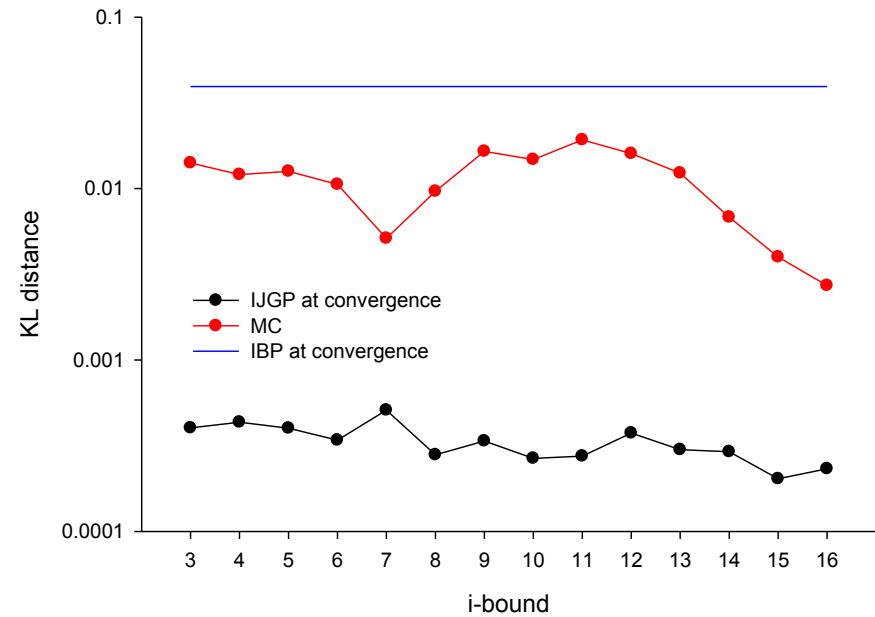
# CPCS 422 – KL Distance

CPCS 422, evid=0, w\*=23, 1instance



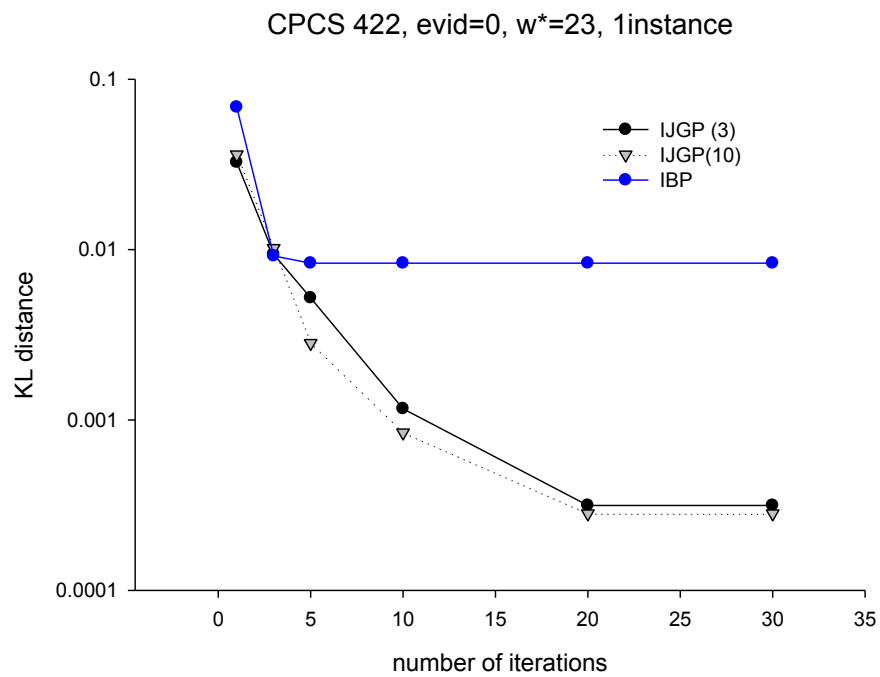
evidence=0

CPCS 422, evid=30, w\*=23, 1instance

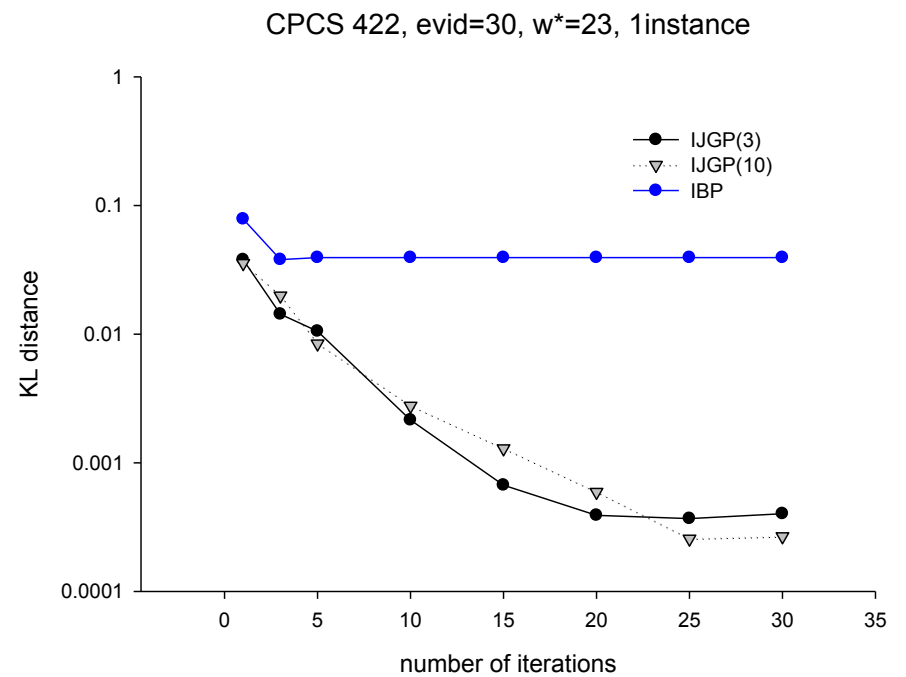


evidence=30

# CPCS 422 – KL vs. Iterations



evidence=0

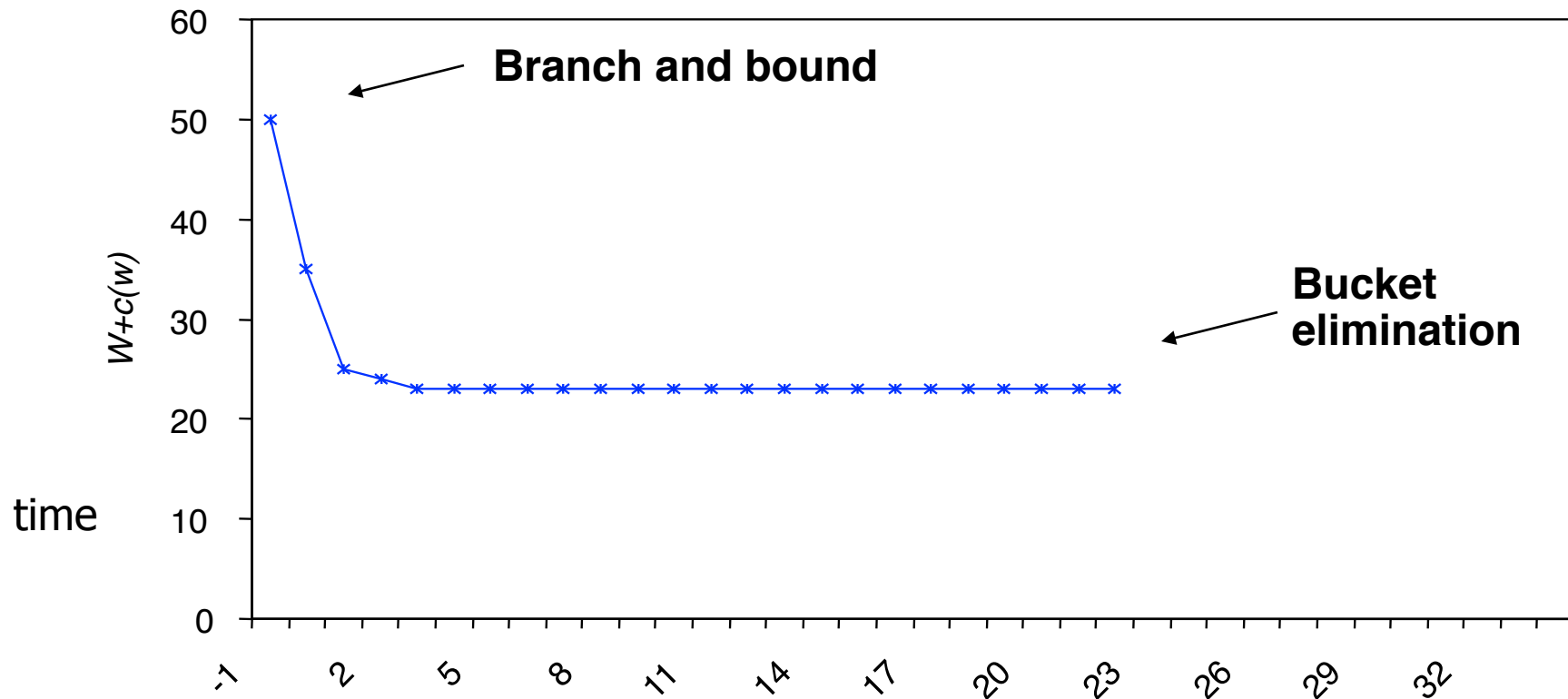


evidence=30

# Time vs Space for w-cutset

(Dechter and El-Fatah, 2000)  
(Larrosa and Dechter, 2001)  
(Rish and Dechter 2000)

- **Random Graphs (50 nodes, 200 edges, average degree 8,  $w^* \approx 23$ )**



W-cutset time  $O(\exp(w + \text{cutset-size}))$

Space  $O(\exp(w))$

w

space