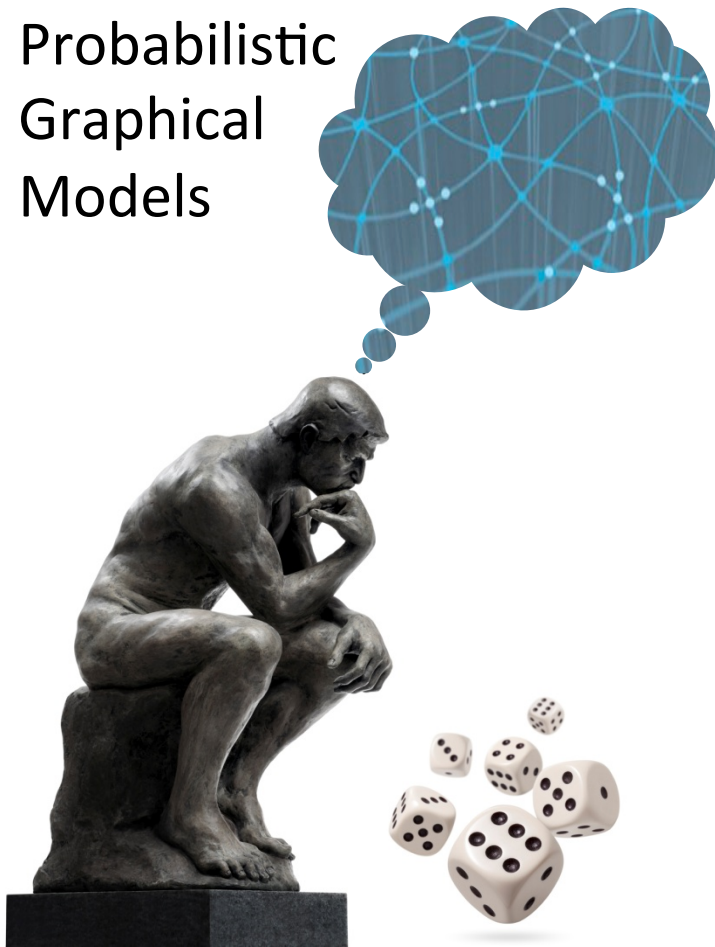


Probabilistic  
Graphical  
Models



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Summary

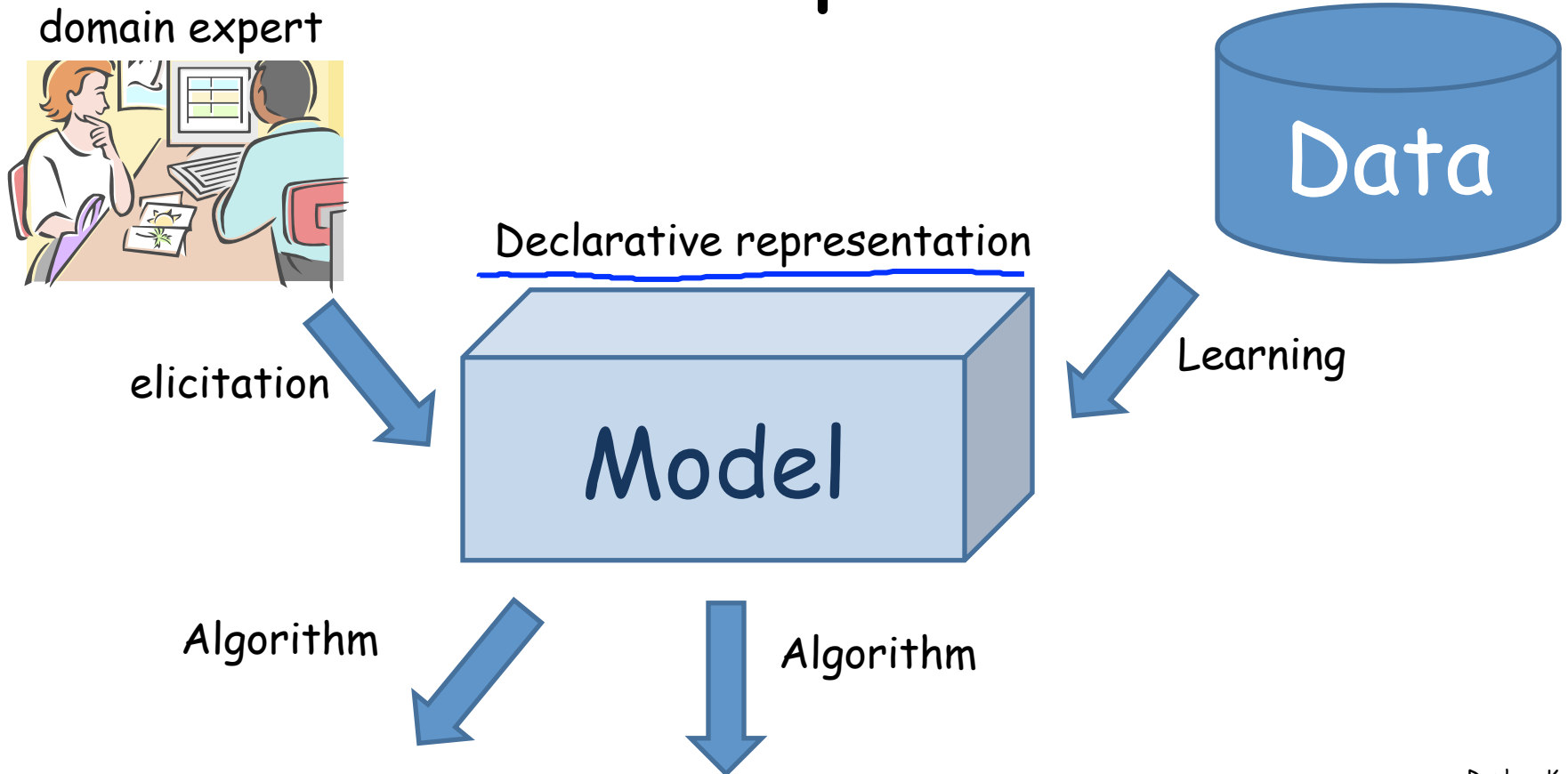
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# Probabilistic Graphical Models

# Why PGMs?

- PGMs are the marriage of statistics and computer science
  - Statistics: Sound probabilistic foundations
  - ( – Computer science: Data structures and algorithms for exploiting them

# Declarative Representation



# When PGMs?

- When we have noisy data and uncertainty
- When we have lots of prior knowledge
- When we wish to reason about multiple variables
- When we want to construct richly structured models from modular building blocks

# Intertwined Design Choices

- Representation
  - affects cost of inference & learning
- Inference algorithm
  - Used as a subroutine in learning
  - Some are only usable in certain types of models
- Learning algorithm
  - Learnability imposes modeling constraints

# Example: Image Segmentation

- BNs vs MRFs vs CRFs

- Naturalness of model

- Using rich features

- Inference costs

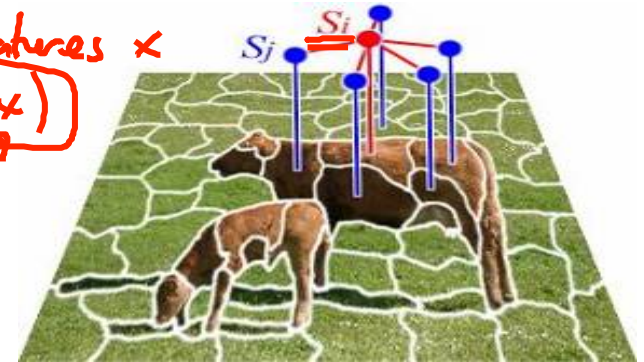
- Training cost

- Learn with missing data

✗ CRF →

Features  $\times$   
 $d(s|x)$

label  
correlated



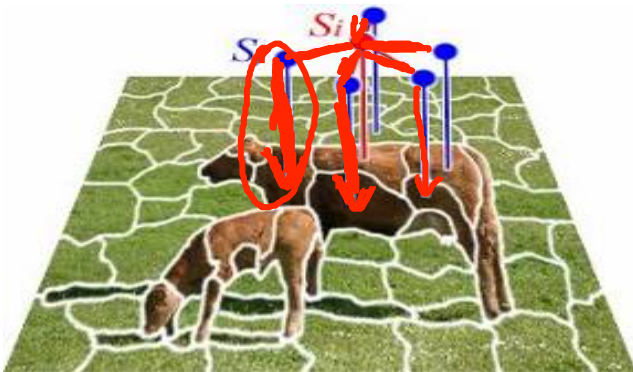
(associative, regular)

adjacent pixels  
have same labels  
cows are on top of  
grass

learn to segment from  
unsupervised data

# Mix & Match: Modeling

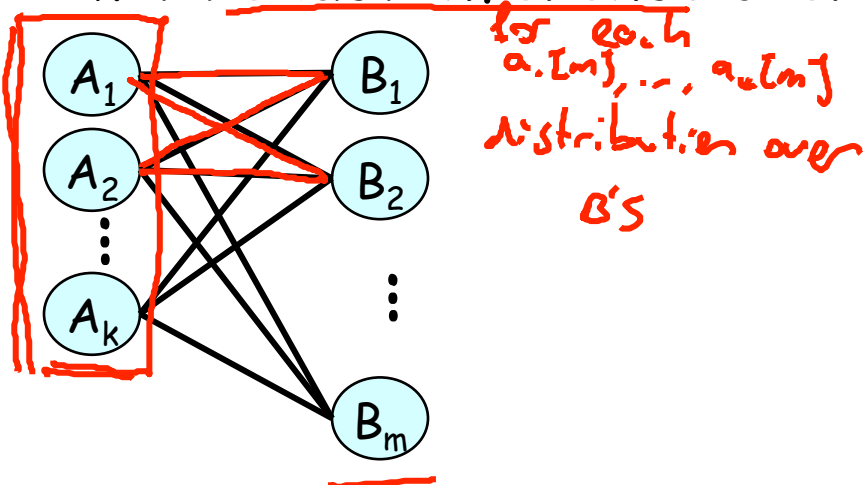
- Mix directed & undirected edges
- E.g., image segmentation from unlabeled images
  - Undirected edges over labels  $S$  - natural <sup>lack of</sup> directionality
  - Directed for  $P(X_i | S_i)$  - easy learning (w/o inference)



explain image  
using segment  
characteristics

# Mix & Match: Inference

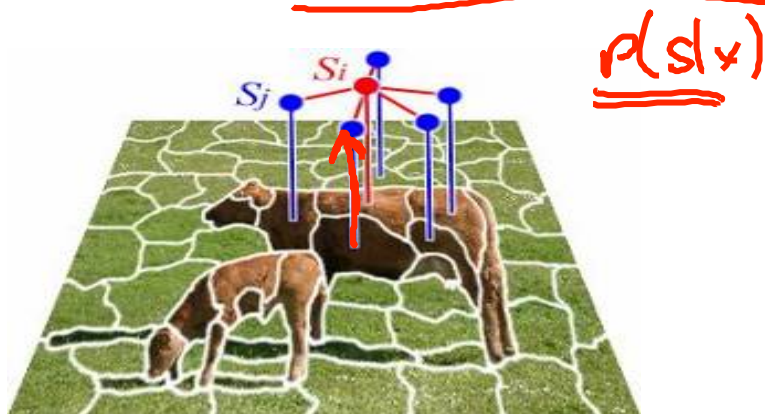
- Apply different inference algorithms to different parts of model
- E.g., combine approximate inference (BP or MCMC) with exact inference over subsets of variables





# Mix & Match: Learning

- Apply different learning algorithms to different parts of model
- E.g., combine high-accuracy, easily-trained model (e.g., SVM) for node potentials  $P(S | X)$  with CRF learning for higher-order potentials



# Summary

- Integrated framework for reasoning and learning in complex, uncertain domains
  - Large bag of tools within single framework
- Used in a huge range of applications
- Much work to be done, both on applications and on foundational methods