

## 1 Ising Model on Graphs

Consider a directed graph  $G(V \cup \{s, t\}, E)$  ( $V$  is the vertex set with  $|V| = n$  and  $E$  is the edge set). For every vertex  $i \in V$ , associate a spin random variable  $X_i$  taking values in  $\{-1, +1\}$ . The energy of a configuration  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is given by

$$H(x) = - \sum_{(i,j) \in E} x_i x_j - \sum_{(s,i) \in E} x_i + \sum_{(i,t) \in E} x_i.$$

- For  $n = 3$  and the graph being a chain (ie.  $E = \{(1,2), (2,3), (s,1), (3,t)\}$ ), write down the probability of the configuration  $(+1, +1, -1)$  under the Boltzmann's Distribution at temperature  $T = 10$ . (1)
- Let  $y = (-1, +1, -1, +1, \dots, (-1)^n)$ . What is the probability of the configuration  $y$  in the Boltzmann's distribution as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ ? (1)
- Consider the graph with the directed edges given by  $E = \{(i,j) : i < j \text{ where } i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}\} \cup \{(s,1), (n,t)\}$ . Describe the Boltzmann's distribution as  $T \rightarrow 0$ ? (1.5)
- Derive that the ground states (maximum probability states) are given by the Minimum  $s - t$  cut in the graph. (1.5)

## 2 MCMC Sampling

Consider an undirected graph  $G(V, E)$ . Consider random variables  $X_i$  for  $i \in V$  (one each for every vertex) taking values in  $\{1, \dots, n+1\}$  with the potential function (of the Markov Network) being

$$p(x) \propto \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \phi(x_i, x_j) \prod_{i \in V} x_i \quad \text{where} \quad \phi(a, b) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \neq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

- Describe the highest and 0 probability states in the distribution where the graph is a  $3 \times 3$  grid (9 variables). (1)
- Describe a Markov Chain (MC) with states space  $\Omega = \{1, \dots, n+1\}^{|V|}$ , with transitions between states  $x, y \in \Omega$  only possible if they differ in at most 1 coordinate such that there is a path from any  $x$  to any  $y$ . (1.5)

- c.) What should be the transition probabilities such that the stationary distribution of the chain is the distribution described above? (need to give transition probabilities, derive the stationary distribution) (2.5)

### 3 Tail Bounds

Suppose we throw  $m$  balls into  $n$  bins (uniformly and independently). Balls  $\{i, j\}$  is said to *collide* if they fall into the same bin. Let  $X_{m,n}$  be the random variable corresponding to the number of collisions and  $\mu_{m,n}$  be its expected value.

a.) Show that  $\mu_{m,n} = \binom{m}{2} \frac{1}{n}$ . (1)

b.) Using Chebyshev's inequality show that

$$\Pr[|X_{m,n} - \mu_{m,n}| \geq c\sqrt{\mu_{m,n}}] \leq \frac{1}{c^2}. \quad (2)$$

- c.) Let  $m < \sqrt{n}$ . Use Chernoff's bounds plus the union bound to show that the probability that no bin has more than 1 ball is at least  $1 - n \cdot 2 \cdot e^{-m/8}$ . (2)

### 4 Message Passing

Consider the distribution given by

$$p(v_1, \dots, v_T, h_1, \dots, h_T) = p(h_1)p(v_1 | h_1) \prod_{i=2}^T p(v_i | h_i)p(h_i | h_{i-1})$$

where the domains of  $h_i$ 's is  $\{1, \dots, H\}$  and  $v_i$ 's is  $\{1, \dots, V\}$ .

- a.) Draw Belief Network for the above distribution. (1)
- b.) Draw factor graph representation for the above distribution. (1)
- c.) Use the factor graph and message passing to obtain an algorithm with running time  $O(TH)$  for computing  $p(h_1 | v_1, \dots, v_T)$ . (1.5)
- d.) Use the factor graph and message passing to obtain an algorithm with running time  $O(T(H + V))$  for computing  $p(h_1 | v_T)$ . (1.5)