# Pattern Recognition And Machine Learning 8.2 Conditional Independence

Bohyeon Park

University of Seoul, Statistics

2019.01.31

## Outline

- Conditional Independence
- Three example graphs
  - Diverging Connections.
  - Serial Connections.
  - Converging Connections.
- D-separation

## Conditional Independence

## Conditional Independence

- Definition
  - ▶ a, b, c: variables.
  - ▶ a and b are conditionally independent given c.

$$p(a, b \mid c) = p(a \mid b, c)p(b \mid c).$$

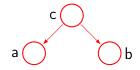
$$= p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c).$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p(a \mid b, c) = p(a \mid c).$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a \perp b \mid c.$$

# Three Example Graphs

## **Diverging Connections**

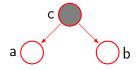


- a, b, c: variables.
- c: tail-to-tail.
- Three variables aren't observed.
  - ▶ Ø: empty set.
  - $ightharpoonup a \not\perp\!\!\!\!\perp b \mid \emptyset$ : a and b are dependent.

$$p(a,b) = \sum_{c} p(a,b,c) = \sum_{c} p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c)p(c).$$

$$\neq p(a)p(b).$$

## **Diverging Connections**



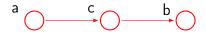
- The variable c is observed.
  - ▶  $a \perp b \mid c$ : a and b are conditionally independent given c.

$$p(a, b \mid c) = \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)}.$$

$$= \frac{p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c)p(c)}{p(c)}.$$

$$= p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c).$$

#### **Serial Connections**

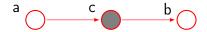


- a, b, c: variables.
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- Three variables aren't observed.
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$$p(a,b) = \sum_{c} p(a)p(c \mid a)p(b \mid c) = p(a)p(b \mid a).$$

$$\neq p(a)p(b).$$

#### **Serial Connections**



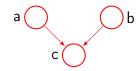
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  - ▶  $a \perp b \mid c$ : a and b are conditionally independent given c.

$$p(a, b \mid c) = \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)}.$$

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$$= p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c).$$

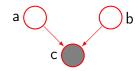
## **Converging Connections**



- a, b, c: variables.
- c: head-to-head.
- Three variables aren't observed.
  - ▶ Ø: empty set.
  - ▶  $a \perp \!\!\! \perp b \mid \emptyset$ : a and b are independent.

$$p(a,b) = \sum_{c} p(a)p(b)p(c \mid a,b) = p(a)p(b).$$

## **Converging Connections**



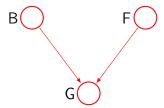
- The variable c is observed.
  - a, b, c: Variables.
  - $ightharpoonup a \not\!\!\perp b \mid c$ : a and b are conditionally dependent given c.

$$p(a, b \mid c) = \frac{p(a, b, c)}{p(c)}.$$

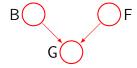
$$= \frac{p(a)p(b)p(c \mid a, b)}{p(c)}.$$

$$\neq p(a \mid c)p(b \mid c).$$

- B, F, G: three binary random variables.
- B: the state of a battery (charged: B=1 or flat: B=0).
- F: the state of the fuel tank (full: F=1 or empty: F=0).
- G: the state of an electric fuel gauge (full: G=1 or empty: G=0).

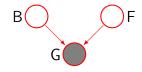


- The prior probabilities.
  - ightharpoonup p(B=1)=0.9.
  - ightharpoonup p(F=1)=0.9.
- Given the state of B and F, the fuel gauge(G) reads full with probabilities given by.
  - $ightharpoonup p(G = 1 \mid B = 1, F = 1) = 0.8.$
  - $ightharpoonup p(G=1 \mid B=1, F=0) = 0.2.$
  - $ightharpoonup p(G=1 \mid B=0, F=1) = 0.2.$
  - $ightharpoonup p(G = 1 \mid B = 0, F = 0) = 0.1.$
- Compare p(F = 0),  $p(F = 0 \mid G = 0)$ ,  $p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0)$ .



Before we observe any data,

$$p(F=0)=0.1.$$



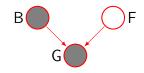
Suppose that we observed G=0,

$$p(F = 0 \mid G = 0) \simeq 0.257.$$

$$\Rightarrow p(G=0) = \sum_{B \in \{0,1\}} \sum_{F \in \{0,1\}} p(G=0 \mid B, F) p(B) p(F) = 0.315.$$

$$p(G=0 \mid F=0) = \sum_{B \in \{0,1\}} p(G=0 \mid B, F=0) p(B) = 0.81.$$

$$p(F=0 \mid G=0) = \frac{p(G=0 \mid F=0) p(F=0)}{p(G=0)} \simeq 0.257.$$



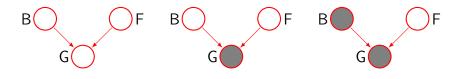
**③** Suppose that we observed G=0 and B=0,

$$p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0) \simeq 0.111.$$

$$\Rightarrow p(G = 0 \mid B = 0) = \sum_{F \in \{0,1\}} p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F) p(F) = 0.81.$$

$$p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0) = \frac{p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 0) p(F = 0)}{p(G = 0 \mid B = 0)}.$$

$$\approx 0.111.$$



#### Results

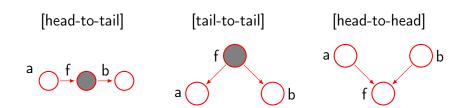
- $p(F = 0) = 0.1, p(F = 0 \mid G = 0) \simeq 0.257,$  $p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0) \simeq 0.111.$
- $ightharpoonup p(F = 0 \mid G = 0) > p(F = 0).$
- ▶  $p(F = 0 \mid G = 0) > p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0).$  $\rightarrow B \not\perp F \mid G.$
- ▶  $p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0) > p(F = 0).$

# **D-Separation**

## **D-separation**

- A, B, C: arbitrary nonintersecting sets of nodes.
- We wish to ascertain whether a particular  $A \perp \!\!\! \perp B \mid C$  is implied by a given DAG.
- We consider all possible paths from any node in A to any node in B.

## **D-separation**



#### blocked

- Any such path is said to be blocked if it includes a node such that either
  - ▶ the arrows on the path meet either head-to-tail or tail-to-tail at the node, and the node is in the set C. e.g.  $f \in C$ .
  - ▶ the arrows on the path meet head-to-head at the node, and neither the node, nor any of its descendants, is in the set C. e.g.  $f \notin C$ .

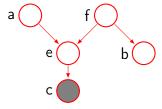
## **D**-separation

## D-separation

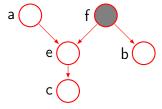
If all paths are blocked,

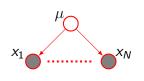
then A is said to be d-separated from B by C.

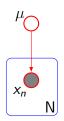
- The path from a to b is not blocked by f.
  - ► f: tail-to-tail, not observed.
- The path from a to b is not blocked by e.
  - e: head-to-head, not observed.
  - c: observed.



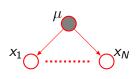
- The path from a to b is blocked by f.
  - ► f: tail-to-tail, observed.
- The path from a to b is blocked by e.
  - e: head-to-head, not observed.
  - c: not observed.

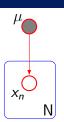






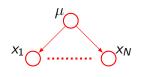
- Consider the problem of finding the posterior distribution for the mean of a univariate Gaussian distribution.
  - ▶  $D = \{x_1, \ldots, x_N\}.$
  - ightharpoonup p( $\mu$ ): prior distribution.
  - ▶  $p(x_n | \mu)$ : conditional distributions, n = 1, ..., N.
  - ▶  $p(\mu \mid D)$ : posterior distribution.
  - ► Our goal:  $p(\mu \mid D) = \frac{p(D|\mu)p(\mu)}{\int p(D|\mu)p(\mu)d\mu}$ ?.

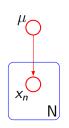




- Consider  $p(D \mid \mu)$ .
  - ▶  $D = \{x_1, \ldots, x_N\}.$
  - $\blacktriangleright$  this path is tail-to-tail with respect to the observed node  $\mu$ .
  - ▶ this path is blocked.
  - the observations D are independent given μ.

$$p(D \mid \mu) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(x_n \mid \mu).$$

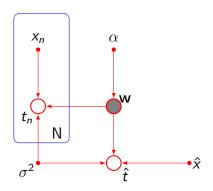




• Consider p(D).

$$p(D) = \int_0^\infty p(D \mid \mu)p(\mu)d\mu \neq \prod_{n=1}^N p(x_n).$$

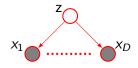
## Example 4: Bayesian polynomial regression



- $t_n$ , **w**,  $\hat{t}$ : stochastic nodes.
- w: tail-to-tail.

$$t_n \perp \hat{t} \mid \mathbf{w}.$$

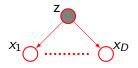
## Example 5: Naive Bayes model



- We use conditional independence assumptions to simplify the model structure.
  - ▶ We wish to assign observed values of x to one of K classes.
  - ightharpoonup x: observed vector,  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1 \dots, x_D)^t$ .
  - z: K-dimensional binary vector (One-hot encoding).
  - $\blacktriangleright$   $\mu_k$ : the prior probability of class  $C_k$ .

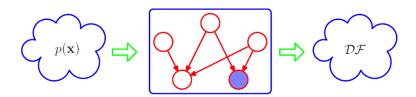
$$p(\mathbf{z} \mid \mu) \rightarrow p(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{z}).$$

## Example 5: Naive Bayes model



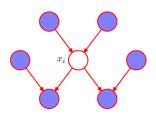
• The key assumption: The distributions of the input variables  $x_1, \ldots, x_D$  are independent, given z.

## Directed factorization, DF



- Directed factorization, DF
  - ▶ If we present to the filter the set of all possible distributions p(x) over the set of variables x, then the subset of distributions that are passed by the filter will be denoted DF, for directed factorization.

## Markov blanket(Markov boundary)



#### Markov blanket

► The set of nodes comprising the parents, the children and the co-parents is called the Markov blanket.

\*co-parents: variables corresponding to parents of node  $x_k$  other than node  $x_i$ .

## Summary

- Conditional Independence
- Three example graphs
  - ▶ Diverging Connections:  $a \not\perp b \mid \emptyset$ ,  $a \perp b \mid c$ .
  - ► Serial Connections:  $a \not\perp b \mid \emptyset$ ,  $a \perp b \mid c$ .
  - ► Converging Connections:  $a \perp b \mid \emptyset$ ,  $a \not\perp b \mid c$ .
- D-separation
  - ▶ blocked.
- Directed factorization, DF.
- Markov blanket(Markov boundary).

#### Reference

 Christopher M.Bishop, Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning.



## Bayes' theorem

$$p(A \mid B) = \frac{p(B \mid A)p(A)}{p(B)}.$$

- Converging Connections example: The fuel system on a car.
- $p(F = 0 \mid G = 0)$ :
  - ightharpoonup p(B=1)=0.9.
  - ightharpoonup p(B=0)=0.1.
  - ightharpoonup p(F=1)=0.9.
  - ightharpoonup p(F=0)=0.1.
  - $ightharpoonup p(G = 0 \mid B = 1, F = 1) = 0.2.$
  - $ightharpoonup p(G=0 \mid B=1, F=0) = 0.8.$
  - $ightharpoonup p(G=0 \mid B=0, F=1) = 0.8.$
  - $ightharpoonup p(G=0 \mid B=0, F=0) = 0.9.$

▶ 
$$p(G = 0) = \sum_{B \in \{0,1\}} \sum_{F \in \{0,1\}} p(G = 0 \mid B, F) p(B) p(F).$$
  
=  $p(G = 0 \mid B = 1, F = 1) p(B = 1) p(F = 1).$   
+  $p(G = 0 \mid B = 1, F = 0) p(B = 1) p(F = 0).$   
+  $p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 1) p(B = 0) p(F = 1).$   
+  $p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 0) p(B = 0) p(F = 0).$   
=  $0.2 * 0.9 * 0.9 + 0.8 * 0.9 * 0.1.$   
+  $0.8 * 0.1 * 0.9 + 0.9 * 0.1 * 0.1.$   
=  $0.315.$ 

• 
$$p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0)$$
:

$$p(G = 0 \mid B = 0) = \sum_{F \in \{0,1\}} p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F) p(F).$$

$$= p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 0) p(F = 0).$$

$$+ p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 1) p(F = 1).$$

$$+ p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 1)p(F = 1)$$
  
= 0.9 \* 0.1 + 0.8 \* 0.9.

$$= 0.81.$$

$$p(F = 0 \mid G = 0, B = 0) = \frac{p(G = 0 \mid B = 0, F = 0)p(F = 0)}{p(G = 0 \mid B = 0)}.$$

$$= \frac{0.9 * 0.1}{0.81}.$$

$$\approx 0.111.$$