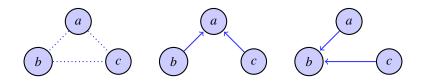
Directed and undirected networks Causality and discovery



Network analysis

Lourens Waldorp
Universiteit van Amsterdam

Objectives

Get to know and have some intuition about

- Causality in philosophy (of science)
- Conditional independence
- Undirected and directed networks
- Causal discovery using R



David Hume (1711-1776)

Topics

Why causality is interesting Explanations Causality and probability

d-separation and conditional independence conditional independenced-separationWhen are models the same?

Discovering causal graphs
Inductive Causation algorithm

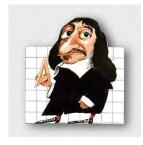


René Descartes (1596 – 1650)



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Naturalism: Explanation of phenomena in terms of physical objects



René Descartes (1596 – 1650) Naturalism: Explanation of phenomena in terms of physical objects

 Example: the dials of a clock rotate by cogwheels and springs

Δ



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- Example: the dials of a clock rotate by cogwheels and springs
- Divide mechanism into parts



René Descartes (1596 – 1650) Naturalism: Explanation of phenomena in terms of physical objects

- Example: the dials of a clock rotate by cogwheels and springs
- Divide mechanism into parts
- Not of mental processes like memory



Carl Hempel (1905 – 1977)

Logical positivists



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Logical positivists

Deductive-nomological model



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Logical positivists

Deductive-nomological model

- C_1, \ldots, C_k (circumstances)
- L_1, \ldots, L_n (laws)
- ⊢ *E* (explanandum)



Logical positivists

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Necessarily true if C and L are true.



Logical positivists

Deductive-nomological model

- C_1, \ldots, C_k (circumstances)
- L_1, \ldots, L_n (laws)
- ⊢ *E* (explanandum)

Carl Hempel (1905 – 1977)

- Necessarily true if C and L are true.
- The basis for all sciences are laws and logical deductions.

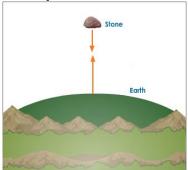


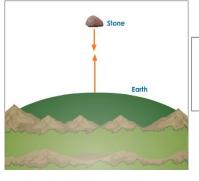
Isaac Newton (1643 - 1727)

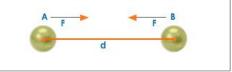


Isaac Newton (1643 - 1727)

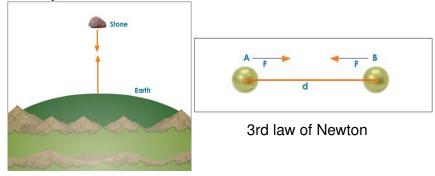
You can fall back on the laws of Newton



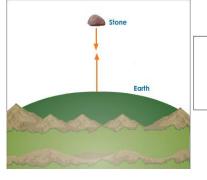


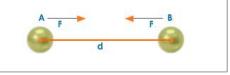


3rd law of Newton



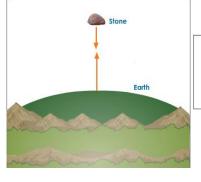
ullet C: we are in the gravitational pull of the earth

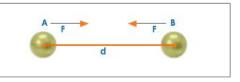




3rd law of Newton

- C: we are in the gravitational pull of the earth
- L: 2nd and 3rd laws of Newton

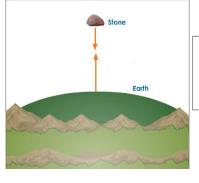


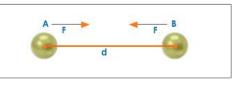


3rd law of Newton

- *C* : we are in the gravitational pull of the earth
- L: 2nd and 3rd laws of Newton

$$F = ma$$
 and $F = \frac{gm_1m_2}{d^2}$





3rd law of Newton

- *C* : we are in the gravitational pull of the earth
- L: 2nd and 3rd laws of Newton

$$F = ma$$
 and $F = \frac{gm_1m_2}{d^2}$

+ the rock falls to the earth

So, what are these laws?

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 Does the effect really always follow the cause?

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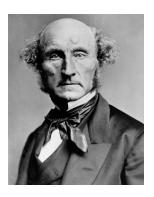
- Does the effect really always follow the cause? No.
- So, it is a regularity? Well, sort of...
- But it is a causal relation? That could be, but what is causality....
- This is what we need to figure out. It is the key to providing an explanation.

Causal relation and laws

John Stuart Mill's conditions

- A always co-occurs with B
- A occurs before B
- There is no alternative explanation for the co-occurrence of A and B

But this was unsatisfactory because A does not always occur with B; no universality.



John Stuart Mill (1806-1973)

ç

Probabilities enter the stage

 Probability is essential to replace 'universal laws'
 Example

 $P(\text{catch fish} \mid \text{fishing rod}) \ge P(\text{catch fish})$

 Conditional independence relations are the key to causal relations Example

 $P(\text{shark bite} \mid \text{ice cream}) \ge P(\text{shark bite})$ $P(\text{shark bite} \mid \text{ice cream, hot weather})$ $= P(\text{shark bite} \mid \text{hot weather})$



Hans Reichenbach (1891-1953)

Probabilities enter the stage

 Conditional independence relations are the key to causal relations Example

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 'Screening off': search for nonredundent and sufficient 'variables' that define the relation (statistically relevant)



Wesley Salmon (1925-2001)

Probabilities enter the stage

- Spirtes and Glymour: Use screening off principle to identify unique relations from data
- Pearl: Semantics for difference between 'do' and 'see' Example



Judea Pearl (1936-)



 $P(\text{catch fish} \mid \text{rod}) \neq P(\text{catch fish} \mid \text{do(rod)})$

Peter Spirtes (1956-)

Causality definition:



Clark Glymour (1942-)

 $E(\text{catch fish}) \neq E(\text{catch fish} \mid \text{do(rod)})$

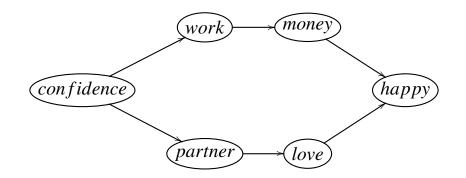
Topics

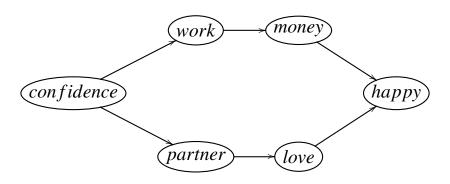
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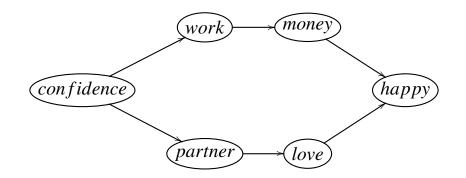
What is a causal graph?

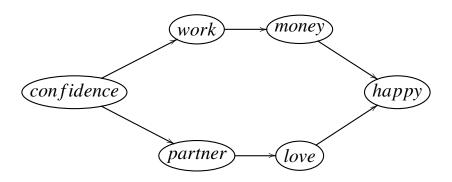




John Stuart Mill

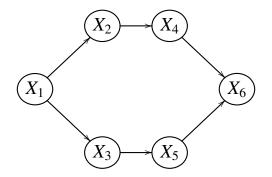
- A (always) co-occurs with B
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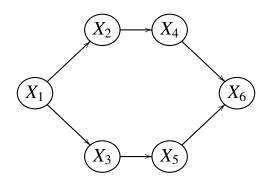




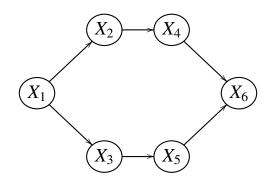
Causality by intervention

- If I wiggle A then B wiggles too (manipulation)
- There is no alternative explanation for the change in B as a result of the change in A



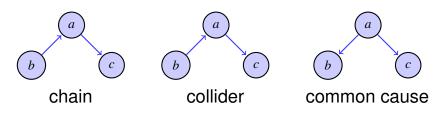


- A directed acyclic graph (DAG)
- A probability distribution over the nodes



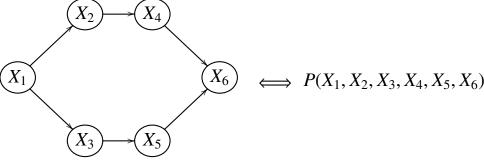
- A directed acyclic graph (DAG)
- A probability distribution over the nodes

This forms the basis to infer causal relations between variables



examples

- chain: healthy life style → exercise → recovery
- collider: healthy life style → recovery ← medication
- com. cause: exercise ← healthy life style → recovery



Theorem 1.2.5 (Pearl, 2000, p. 18) For any three nodes (X, Y, Z) in a DAG G and for all probability functions P, we have

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Theorem 1.2.5 (Pearl, 2000, p. 18) For any three nodes (X, Y, Z) in a DAG G and for all probability functions P, we have

- (i) if in the graph X and Y are d-separated given Z, then X and Y are independent conditional on Z in all distributions that are compatible with G; and
- (ii) if X and Y are independent conditional on Z in all distributions compatible with G, then X and Y are d-separated given Z.

Topics

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	\boldsymbol{A}	$\neg A$	total		A	$\neg A$	total
K	14	56	70	\overline{K}	0.14	0.56	0.67
$\neg K$	6	24	30	$\neg K$	0.06	0.24	0.30
total	20	80	100	total	0.20	0.80	1.00
	frequ	uenci	es		probal	bilities	

$$P(A) = 0.20$$
 $P(A, K) = 0.14$

Affliction vitamin K

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frequencies

conditional probabilities

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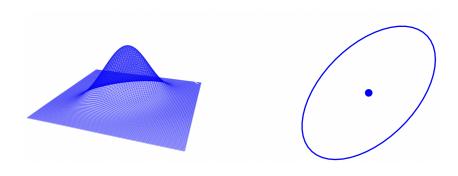
So, A and K are independent or $A \perp K$

Combined	\boldsymbol{A}	$\neg A$		$P(A \mid (\neg)K)$	
Vit (K)	16	74	90	18%	$P(A \mid K) \neq P(A \mid \neg K)$
No vit $(\neg K)$	14	96	110	13%	_
	30	170	200		
Gene C	\boldsymbol{A}	$\neg A$		$P(A \mid C, (\neg)K)$	_
Vit (<i>K</i>)	2	18	20	10%	D(A + C, V) = D(A + C, V)
No vit $(\neg C)$	8	72	80	10%	$P(A \mid C, K) = P(A \mid C, \neg K)$
	10	90	100		-
No gene C	A	$\neg A$		$P(A \mid \neg C, (\neg)K)$	_
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	11	29	40		-

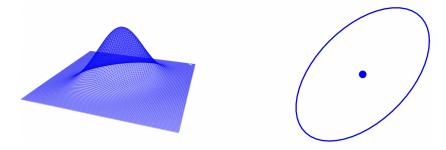
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Gene C	\boldsymbol{A}	$\neg A$		$P(A \mid C, (\neg)K)$	_
Vit (<i>K</i>)	2	18	20	10%	- P(A G E) - P(A G E)
No vit $(\neg C)$	8	72	80	10%	$P(A \mid C, K) = P(A \mid C, \neg K)$
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	11	29	40		

So: A is independent of K conditional on C, or $A \perp \!\!\! \perp K \mid C$



If the data are multivariate normal then we can use partial correlations for conditional independence



for multivariate normal data, the following are equivalent

- (a) X and Y are independent conditional on Z
- (b) the partial correlation between X and Y is 0 given Z ($\omega_{XY|Z} = 0$)

If the data are multivariate normal then we can use partial correlations for conditional independence

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1.5 & 0.5 \\ -1 & 0.5 & 1.5 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \Sigma^{-1} = K = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

covariances

partial covariances

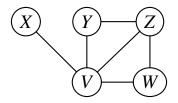
partial correlation:
$$\omega_{XY|Z} = -\frac{\kappa_{XY}}{\sqrt{\kappa_{XX}\kappa_{YY}}}$$
 or $X \perp \!\!\! \perp Y \mid Z$

Topics

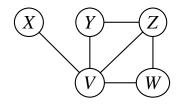
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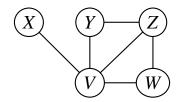
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- d-separation is a graphical (pictorial) tool to determine if variables are or can be separated.
- For undirected graphs we simply check whether we can get from one node to another given a third (set).

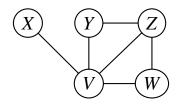


 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$



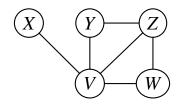
$$(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$$

 We block paths between X and Z with Y and W.



 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$

- We block paths between X and Z with Y and W.
- 2. There is a path X V Z that remains unblocked.



 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$

- We block paths between X and Z with Y and W.
- 2. There is a path X V Z that remains unblocked.
- 3. So: X and Z are not d-separated when blocking on Y and W $(X \perp Z \mid YW)$.

graphs and conditional independence

$$G_{(a,b),(a,c)}$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1.5 & 0.5 \\ -1 & 0.5 & 1.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

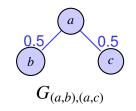
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partial covariances

for multivariate normal data (Gaussian graphical model, ggm)

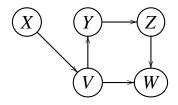
graphs and conditional independence



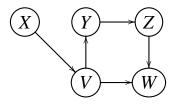
$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

connectivity parameters

for multivariate binary data (Ising model, IsingFit)

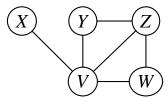


Lauritzen $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$



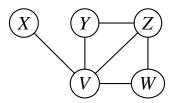
Lauritzen $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$

1. Make the *ancestral graph* (G_{an}): the variables of interest and all variables that have a directed path to those variables {W, X, Y, Z}.



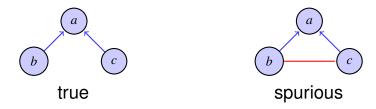
Lauritzen $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$

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- 2. Make the ancestral graph moral (G_{an}^m) : marry all the parents that have a child in common and convert all arrows into undirected edges.



Lauritzen $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$

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- 3. Consider separating all paths in G_{an}^m between X and Z.



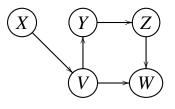
example

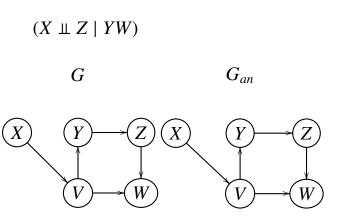
- suppose that recovery (a) is because of healthy life style (b) or homeopathy (c)
- we know you are recovering, and you do not take homeopathy
- then, it must be a healthy life style that causes you to recover

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$

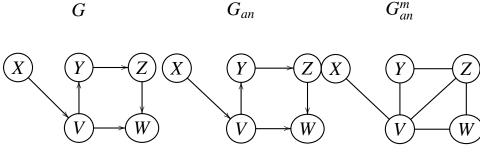
$$(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$$

G

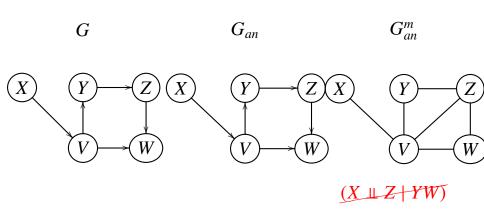




$$(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$$



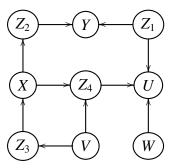
 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Z \mid YW)$



 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z_2, Z_3)$

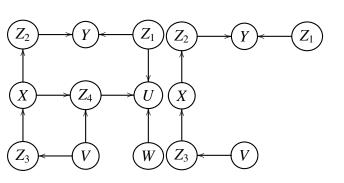
 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z_2, Z_3)$

G

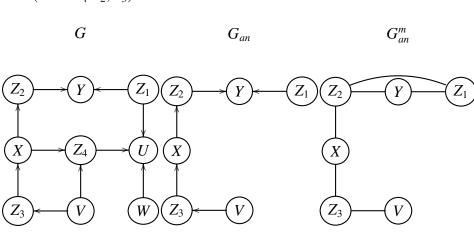


$$(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z_2, Z_3)$$

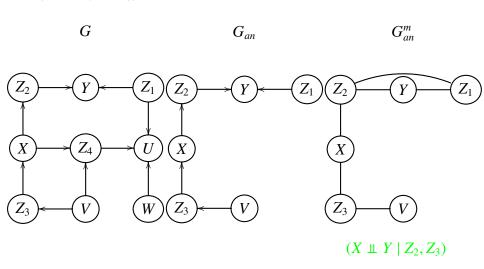
G G_{an}

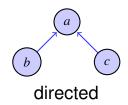


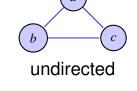
 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z_2, Z_3)$



 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z_2, Z_3)$







edge in directed graph

• causal relation $b \rightarrow a$

edge in undirected graph

- causal relation $a \rightarrow b$
- causal relation $b \rightarrow a$
- o reciprocal *a* − *b*

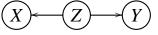
Today

Why causality is interesting Explanations Causality and probability

d-separation and conditional independence conditional independenced-separationWhen are models the same?

Discovering causal graphs
Inductive Causation algorithm





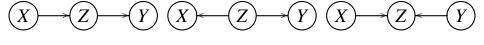


d-separation



d-separation

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$



 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$

$$X \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow Y X \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow Y X \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow Y$$

$$(X) \longrightarrow (Z) \longrightarrow (Y) (X) \longrightarrow (Z) \longrightarrow (Y)$$

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$ $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$

$$(X) \longrightarrow (Z) \longrightarrow (Y) (X) \longrightarrow (Z) \longrightarrow (Y)$$

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$ $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$ $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$

$$(X)$$
 (Z) (Y) (X) (Z) (Y) (X) (Y)

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z) \qquad \qquad (X \perp\!\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z) \qquad \qquad (X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y)$

 $(X \not\perp \!\!\!\perp Y)$

$$(X)$$
 (Z) (Y) (X) (Z) (Y) (X) (Z) (Y)

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$ $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$ $(X \not\perp \!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$

 $(X \not\perp \!\!\!\perp Y)$

 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y)$

 $(X \times Y)$

$$(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z) \qquad (X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z) \qquad (X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z)$$

Models are the same when the d-separations are the same!

 $(X \not\perp \!\!\!\perp Y)$

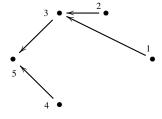
 $(X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y)$

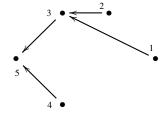
Today

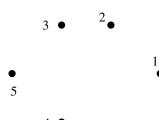
Why causality is interesting Explanations Causality and probability

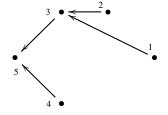
d-separation and conditional independence conditional independenced-separationWhen are models the same?

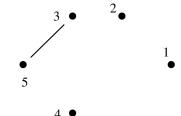
Discovering causal graphs
Inductive Causation algorithm

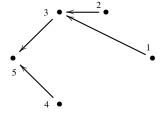


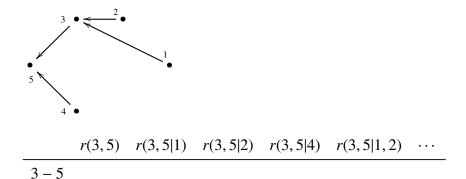


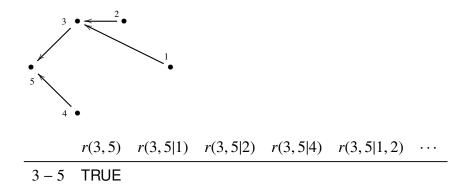


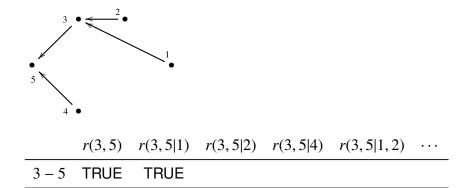


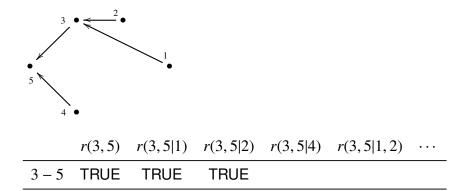


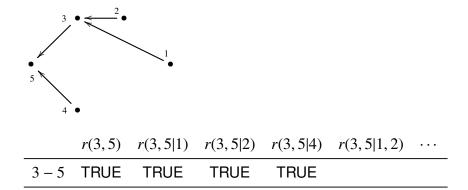


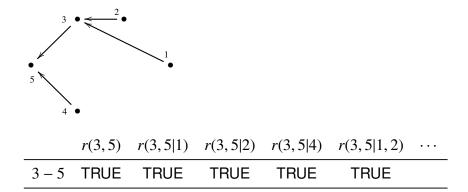


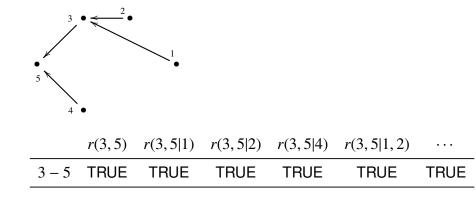


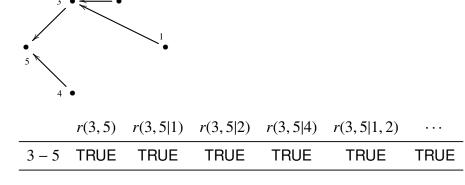




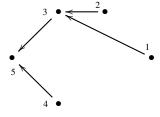


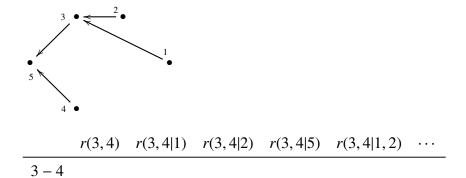


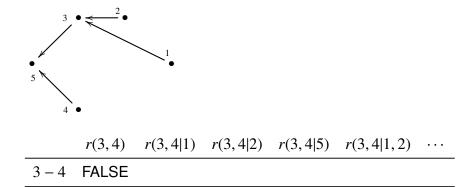


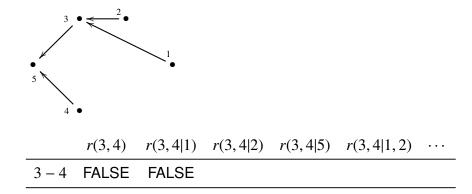


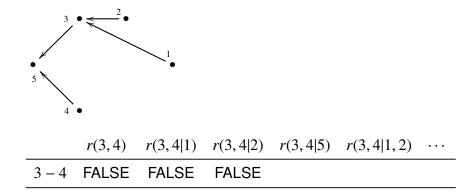
There is no (set of) node(s) x such that $(3 \perp 5 \mid x)$ holds; and so connection 3-5 is TRUE

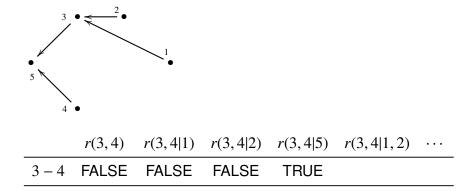


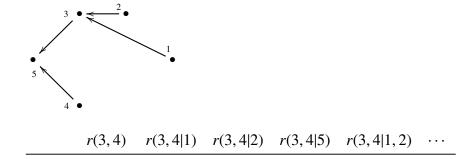










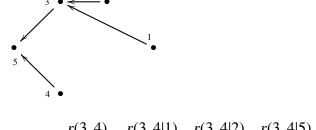


FALSE FALSE TRUE

3 - 4

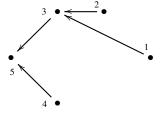
47

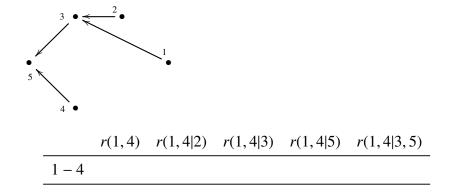
FALSE

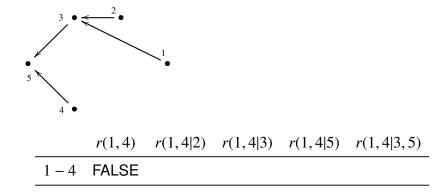


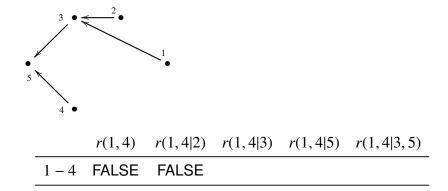
	r(3,4)	r(3,4 1)	r(3,4 2)	r(3,4 5)	r(3,4 1,2)	• • •
3 – 4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	

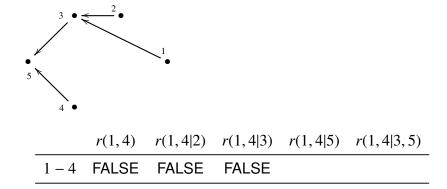
No correlation between 3 and 4 and so no (direct) connection 3-4, but conditioning on 5 gives correlation r(3,4) and so a collider $3 \rightarrow 5 \leftarrow 4$.

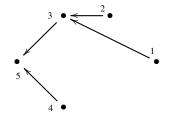




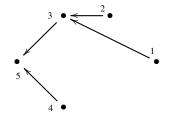




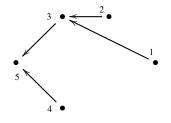




	r(1, 4)	r(1, 4 2)	r(1,4 3)	r(1,4 5)	r(1,4 3,5)
1 – 4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	

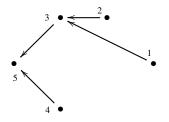


	r(1, 4)	r(1, 4 2)	r(1,4 3)	r(1,4 5)	r(1,4 3,5)
1 – 4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	



	r(1, 4)	r(1,4 2)	r(1,4 3)	r(1,4 5)	r(1,4 3,5)
1 – 4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	

There is no correlation between 1 and 4, and so no (direct) connection 1-4.



	r(1,4)	r(1,4 2)	r(1,4 3)	r(1,4 5)	r(1,4 3,5)
1 – 4	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE

There is no correlation between 1 and 4, and so no (direct) connection 1-4.

No collider since conditioning on 3 and 5 removes the correlation again.

IC-Algorithm Pearl (1988)

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Input \hat{P} a sampled distribution

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Input \hat{P} a sampled distribution Output some acyclic graph for \hat{P}

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1. For each pair a and b, look for $(a \perp b \mid S_{ab})$. If no such S_{ab} exists, then a and b are dependent.

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- 1. For each pair a and b, look for $(a \perp b \mid S_{ab})$. If no such S_{ab} exists, then a and b are dependent.
- 2. For each trio (a, b, c) such that a c b check if c belongs to S_{ab} . If so, then nothing. If c is not in S_{ab} then make a collider at c, i.e. $a \rightarrow c \leftarrow b$.

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- 3. Orient as many of the undirected edges as possible, subject to: (i) no new *v*-structures and (ii) no cycles.

directed and undirected networks, causality and discovery

- undirected networks represent reciprocal or unidirectional relations
- directed networks are often interpreted as causal networks
- d-separation is a pictorial (graphical) tool to determine conditional independencies
- causal statements using the idea of excluding alternative explanations are the same as the interventionist view on causality

Try all this in the practical