# SOLVING COMPLEX PROBLEMS: GRAPHS, CONSTRAINTS, AND MACHINE LEARNING IN ACTION

ModRef 2023

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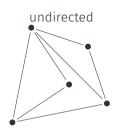












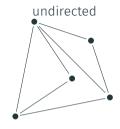








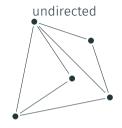




















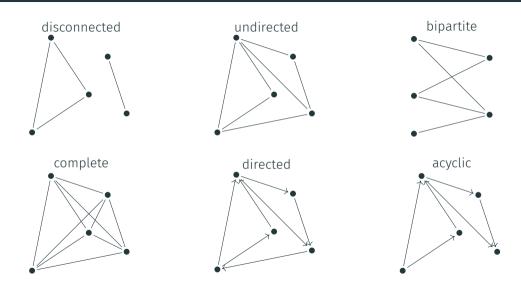




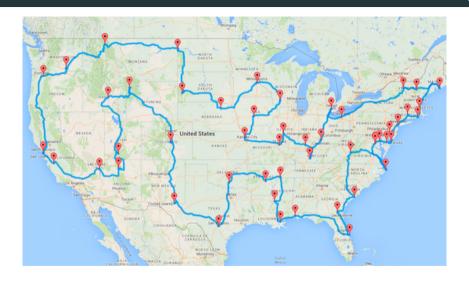
bipartite

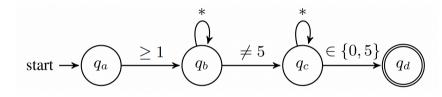






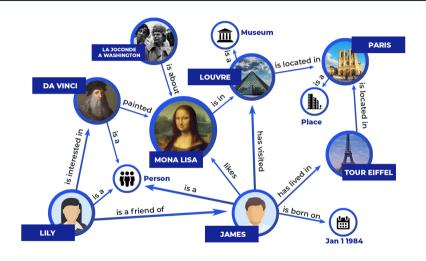
```
undirected
   directed
disconnected
   acyclic
   bipartite
   regular
  complete
homogeneous
     tree
   planar
heterogeneous
   Eulerian
  weighted
```





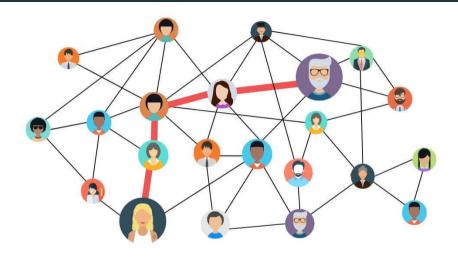
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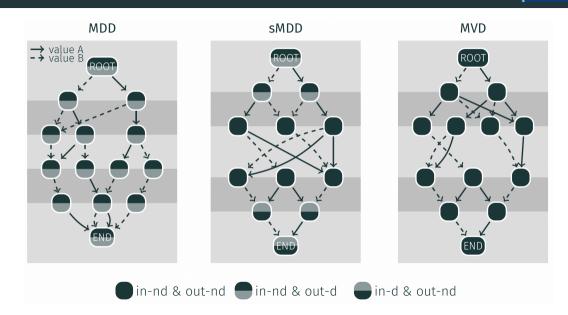


Source: https://yashuseth.wordpress.com/2019/10/08/introduction-question-answering-knowledge-graphs-kgqa/





Source: https://greatpeopleinside.com/networking-particularities-men-women/





## Model + Search



- · <u>Goal</u>: Find (optimal) solution wrt some constraints
- · Pro: Exact method
- · Con: Difficulties in dealing with huge inputs



# (Big) Data + algorithms



- · <u>Goal</u>: Learn from examples
- · Pro: Good with huge quantities of data
- · <u>Con</u>: Difficulties to satisfy (hard) constraints in outputs

.



Can we get the best of both worlds?

Yes, by combining them!

8







- Modeling ML problems (e.g., clustering using CP)
- · Joint inference on NN output (e.g., visual sudoku problem)
- Improving the learning of NN (e.g., PLS experiment)



#### ML for CP

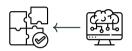
- Algorithm configuration (e.g., Sunny-CP solver)
- Learning to branch (e.g., SeaPearl project)
- Constraint acquisition (e.g., ClassAcq approach)

And many many other examples ...



CP for ML

- · Optimal decision trees
- · CP-BP for learning



ML for CP

· Solving RCPSP using GNNs

WHEN CP HELPS ML: OPTIMAL DECISION TREES

## Database

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$		$f_n$	c
1	0	1		1	+
0	1	0		1	_
1	1	0		0	+
0	0	0		0	+
1	0	0		0	+
0	1	1		1	_
1	1	1		0	_
:	:	:	٠.	:	:
_1	1	1		1	+

· already a binary database

is green	produce gum	has flowers	poisonous?
yes	yes	no	+
no	yes	yes	_

· binarization required

height	age	F	sick?
134	34	1.45	+
178	23	3.66	_

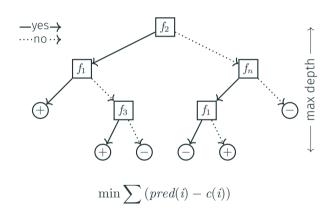
height< 150	height< 180	F< 1	 sick?
yes	yes	no	 +
no	yes	no	 _

### THE PROBLEM: LEARNING OPTIMAL DECISION TREES



Database						
$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$		$f_n$	c	
1	0	1		1	+	
0	1	0		1	_	
1	1	0		0	+	
0	0	0		0	+	
1	0	0		0	+	
0	1	1		1	_	
1	1	1		0	_	
:	:	:	٠.	:	:	
1	1	1		1	+	

Database						
$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$		$f_n$	c	
1	0	1		1	+	
0	1	0		1	_	
1	1	0		0	+	
0	0	0		0	+	
1	0	0		0	+	
0	1	1		1	_	
1	1	1		0	_	
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1	1	1		1	+	
_	_	_		_	· '	



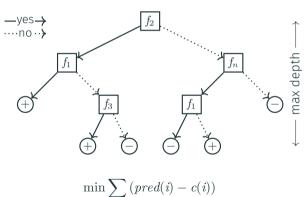
## THE PROBLEM: LEARNING OPTIMAL DECISION TREES

		Data	base		
$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$		$f_n$	c
1	0	1		1	+
0	1	0		1	_
1	1	0		0	+
0	0	0		0	+
1	0	0		0	+
0	1	1		1	_
1	1	1		0	_
:	:	:	٠.,	:	:
1	1	1	•	1	· -
1	1	1		1	

New sample

Databaco

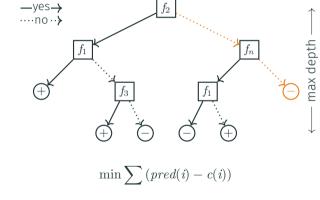




## THE PROBLEM: LEARNING OPTIMAL DECISION TREES

		Data	<u>base</u>		
$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$		$f_n$	c
1	0	1		1	+
0	1	0		1	_
1	1	0		0	+
0	0	0		0	+
1	0	0		0	+
0	1	1		1	_
1	1	1		0	_
:	:	:	٠	:	:
1	1	1		1	+

Databasa

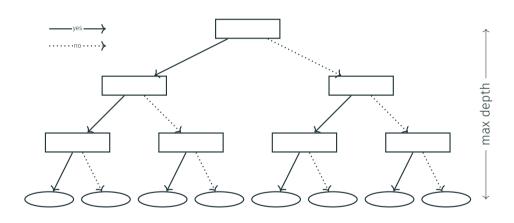


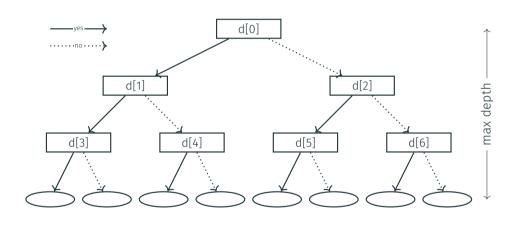


## Greedy methods:

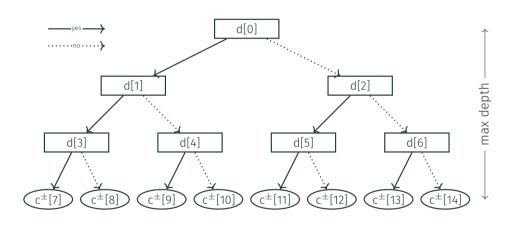
- ✓ easy construction
- **x** hard to impose additional constraints
- ${\it x}$  potentially unnecessarily complex tree

- · Mining optimal decision trees from itemset lattices, Nijssen, S., Fromont, E., 2007
- · Minimising decision tree size as combinatorial optimisation, Bessiere, C., Hebrard, E., O'Sullivan, B., 2009
- · Optimal constraint-based decision tree induction from itemset lattices, Nijssen, S., Fromont, É., 2010
- · Optimal classification trees, Bertsimas, D., Dunn, J., 2017
- · Learning optimal decision trees with sat, Narodytska, N., Ignatiev, A., Pereira, F., Marques-Silva, J., RAS, I., 2018
- · Learning optimal and fair decision trees for non-discriminative decision-making, Aghaei, S., Azizi, M.J., Vayanos, P., 2019
- · Learning optimal classification trees using a binary linear program formulation, Verwer, S., Zhang, Y., 2019



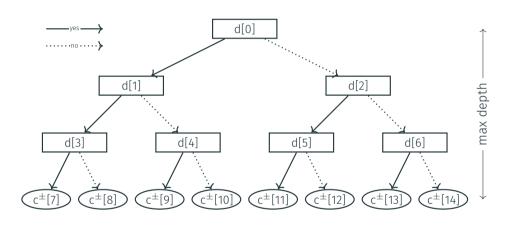


$$dom(d[i]) = \{1, ..., n\}$$



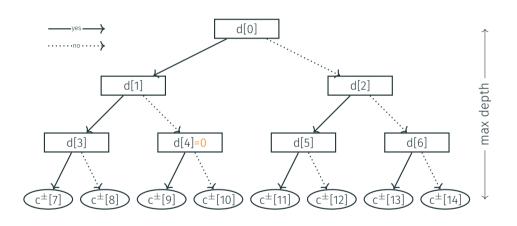
$$dom(d[i]) = \{1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



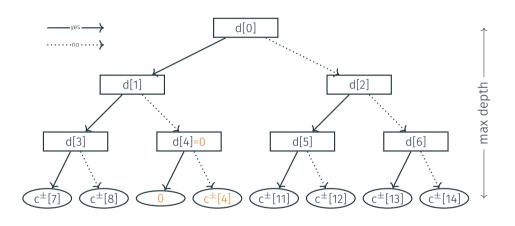
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



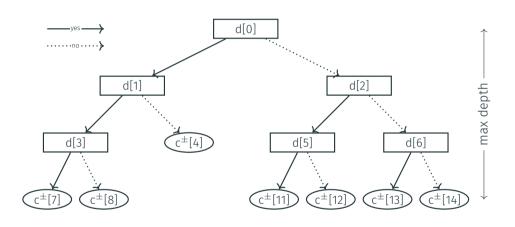
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



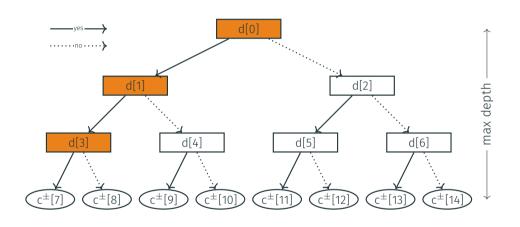
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



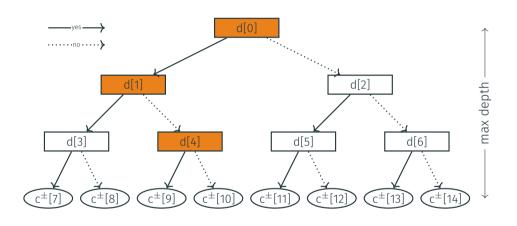
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



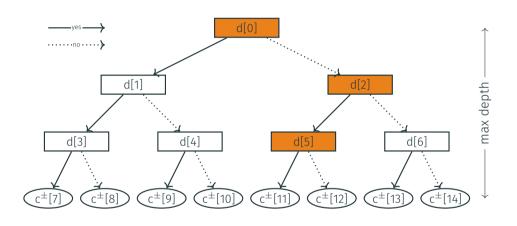
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



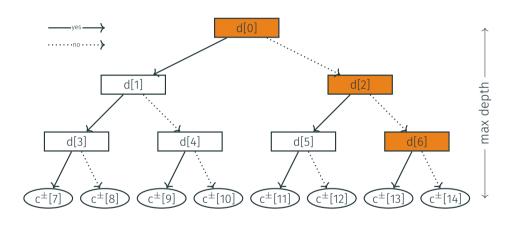
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$
1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1

	Feat	Counter		
(Dense)				
$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	

P. Schaus, J. Aoga, and T. Guns. "Coversize: A global constraint for frequency-based itemset mining". In CP 2017.

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$
1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1

	Feat	Counter		
(Dense)				
$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	
0	1	0	1	

P. Schaus, J. Aoga, and T. Guns. "Coversize: A global constraint for frequency-based itemset mining". In CP 2017.

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$
1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1

	Feat	Counter		
	(Der			
$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	
0	1	0	1	3

P. Schaus, J. Aoga, and T. Guns. "Coversize: A global constraint for frequency-based itemset mining". In CP 2017.

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$
1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1

	Feat	Counter		
	(Dei			
$x_1 \mid x_2 \mid x_3 \mid x_4 \mid$				
0	1	0	1	3

- · Dense representation
- · No feature rejection

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$
1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1

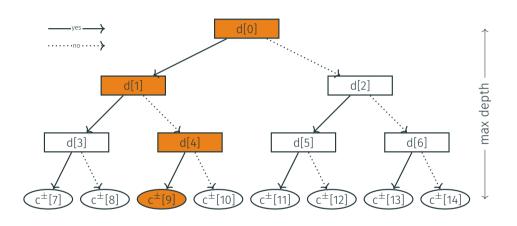
Feat	ures	Counter
(Spa	ırse)	
$y_1 \mid y_2 \mid$		
2	4	3

- · Dense representation
- · No feature rejection

$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$
1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1

<b>✓</b> Fea	atures	<b>X</b> Features	Counter
(Spa	arse)	(Sparse)	
$y_1$	$y_2$	$z_1$	
2	4	3	1

- · Dense representation
- · No feature rejection



$$Coversize(\{d[0], d[4]\}, \{d[1]\}, c^{+}[9])$$

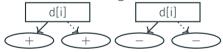
 $Coversize(\{d[0], d[4]\}, \{d[1]\}, c^{-}[9])$ 



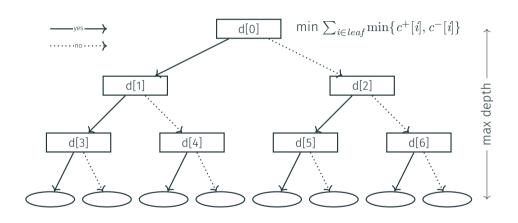
· constraints imposing minimum at leaf

$$c^+[i] + c^-[i] \ge N_{min}$$

· constraints avoiding useless decisions

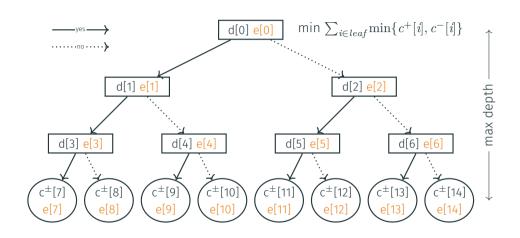


· redundant constraints improving speed



$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

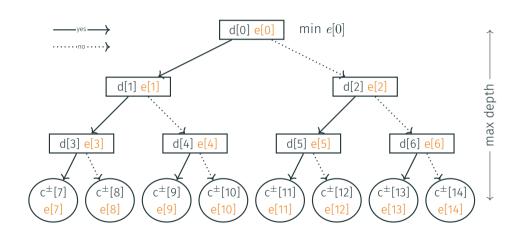
$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$

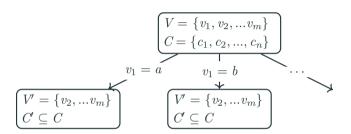
$$dom(e[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



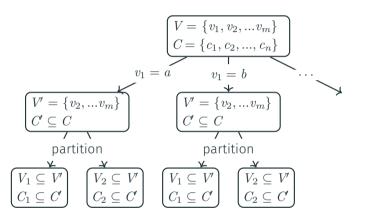
$$dom(d[i]) = \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

$$dom(c[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$

$$dom(e[i]) = \{0, ..., N\}$$



# OR nodes $SOL = SOL_1 \text{ or } SOL_2 \text{ or } \dots$



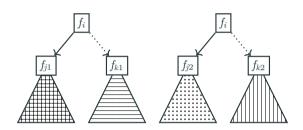
### OR nodes

 $SOL = SOL_1 \text{ or } SOL_2 \text{ or } \dots$ 

## AND nodes

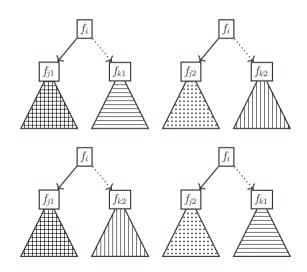
 $SOL = SOL_1$  and  $SOL_2$  and ...

# SEARCH - AND/OR SEARCH TREE

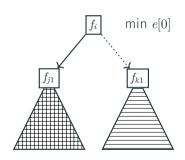


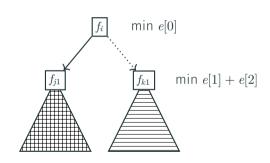
# SEARCH - AND/OR SEARCH TREE

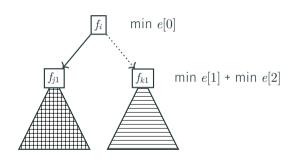




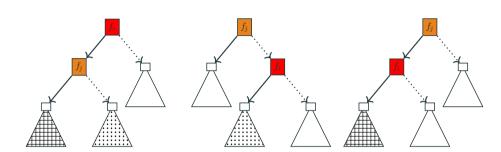
# SEARCH - AND/OR SEARCH TREE



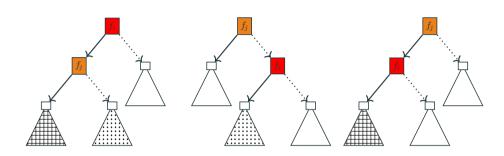












yes	no	hash
$egin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		$f_i, f_j$
$f_i$	$f_j$	$f_i - f_j$



		$N_{\min} = 1$			$N_{ m min}$	$_{1} = 5$	
	DL8	BinOCT	CP	DL8	СР	CP-c	CP-m
Proven optimality	49(64%)	13(17%)	<b>57</b> (75%)	54(71%)	56(74%)	56(74%)	<b>58</b> (76%)
Best solution found	49(64%)	21(28%)	<b>76</b> (100%)	54(71%)	<b>74</b> (97%)	<b>74</b> (97%)	70(92%)
Fastest	23(30%)	11(14%)	<b>49</b> (64%)	28(37%)	<b>40</b> (53%)	33(43%)	22(29%)
Time out	27(36%)	63(83%)	<b>19</b> (25%)	22(29%)	21(28%)	21(28%)	<b>19</b> (25%)

23 instances, depths from 2 to 5, 10 min TO

DL8: Dynamic programming approach using frequent itemsets mining BinOCT: MIP-based approach running on CPLEX



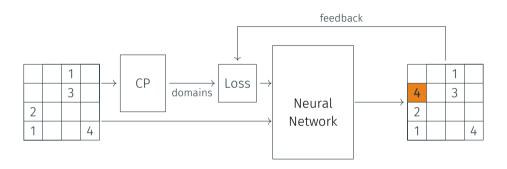




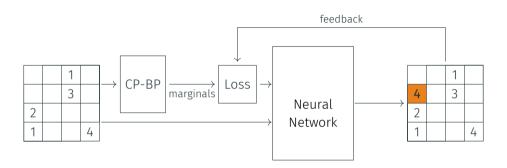
- · Sub-tree independence
- · Path equivalence
- · How this helps:
  - · Reduction of symmetries
  - · Caching possible

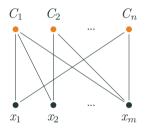


WHEN CP HELPS ML: CP-BP FOR LEARNING

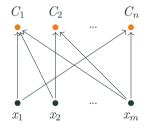


M. Silvestri, M. Lombardi, and M. Milano. "Injecting domain knowledge in neural networks: a controlled experiment on a constrained problem". In CPAIOR 2021.

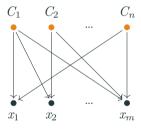




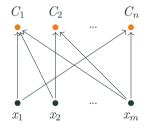




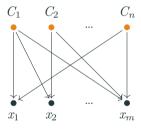








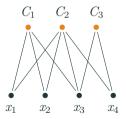




$$D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

#### Constraints:

- $C_1 := AllDifferent(x_a, x_b, x_c)$
- $C_2 := x_a + x_b + x_c + x_d = 7$
- $C_3 := x_c \le x_d$



Two solutions: (2, 3, 1, 1) and (3, 2, 1, 1)

## True marginals (target)

	1	2	3	4
$\theta_{x_a}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_b}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_c}$	1	0	0	0
$ heta_{x_d}$	1	0	0	0



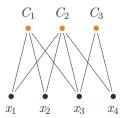
$$D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

#### Constraints:

$$C_1 := AllDifferent(x_a, x_b, x_c)$$

$$C_2 := x_a + x_b + x_c + x_d = 7$$

$$C_3 := x_c \le x_d$$



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## True marginals (target)

	1	2	3	4
$\theta_{x_a}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_b}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_c}$	1	0	0	0
$\theta_{x_d}$	1	0	0	0

## Marginals at iteration 0

	1	2	3	4
$\hat{ heta}_{x_a}$	.25	.25	.25	.25
$\hat{ heta}_{x_b}$	.25	.25	.25	.25
$\hat{ heta}_{x_c}$	.25	.25	.25	.25
$\hat{ heta}_{x_d}$	.25	.25	.25	.25



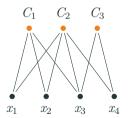
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$$C_3 := x_c \le x_d$$



Two solutions: (2, 3, 1, 1) and (3, 2, 1, 1)

True marginals (target)

	1	2	3	4
$\theta_{x_a}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_b}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_c}$	1	0	0	0
$\theta_{x_d}$	1	0	0	0

Marginals at iteration 1

	1	2	3	4
$\hat{ heta}_{x_a}$	.50	.30	.15	.05
$\hat{ heta}_{x_b}$	.50	.30	.15	.05
$\hat{ heta}_{x_c}$	.62	.28	.09	.01
$\hat{ heta}_{x_d}$	.29	.34	.26	.11



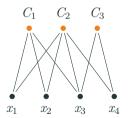
$$\cdot \ D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = D_{x_a} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

#### Constraints:

$$C_1 := AllDifferent(x_a, x_b, x_c)$$

$$C_2 := x_a + x_b + x_c + x_d = 7$$

$$C_3 := x_c \le x_d$$



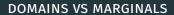
Two solutions: (2, 3, 1, 1) and (3, 2, 1, 1)

True marginals (target)

	1	2	3	4
$\theta_{x_a}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_b}$	0	.5	.5	0
$ heta_{x_c}$	1	0	0	0
$\theta_{x_d}$	1	0	0	0

Marginals at iteration 10

	1	2	3	4
$\hat{ heta}_{x_a}$	.01	.52	.46	.01
$\hat{\theta}_{x_b}$	.01	.52	.46	.01
$\hat{ heta}_{x_c}$	.98	.02	.00	.00
$\hat{ heta}_{x_d}$	.90	.10	.00	.00





### Domains

	1	2	3	4	
$D_{x_a}$	0	1	1	0	
$D_{x_b}$	0	1	1	0	
$D_{x_c}$	1	0	0	0	
$D_{x_d}$	1	0	0	0	

## Marginals

	1	2	3	4
$\hat{\theta}_{x_a}$	.01	.52	.46	.01
$\hat{\theta}_{x_b}$	.01	.52	.46	.01
$\hat{ heta}_{x_c}$	.98	.02	.00	.00
$\hat{ heta}_{x_d}$	.90	.10	.00	.00

$$Loss(x,y) = \underbrace{-\langle y, \log(\frac{1}{Z} \widehat{f(x)} \rangle}_{\text{cross entropy}} + \underbrace{\lambda}_{\text{weight}} \cdot \underbrace{t(x)}_{\text{CP feedback}}$$

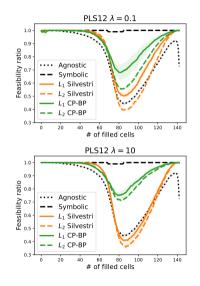
Domains

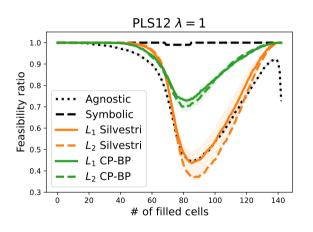
Marginals

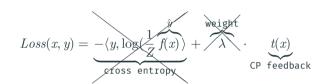
$$t(x) = L_1(x, C) = \sum_{k} |C_k(x) - f_k(x)| \qquad t(x) = L_1(x, \hat{\theta}) = \sum_{k} |\hat{\theta}_k(x) - f_k(x)|$$

$$t(x) = L_2(x, C) = \sum_{k} (C_k(x) - f_k(x))^2 \qquad t(x) = L_2(x, \hat{\theta}) = \sum_{k} (\hat{\theta}_k(x) - f_k(x))^2$$

$$C_k(x) \in \{0, 1\} \qquad \hat{\theta}_k(x) \in [0, 1]$$







Domains

Marginals

$$t(x) = L_1(x, C) = \sum_{k} |C_k(x) - f_k(x)|$$

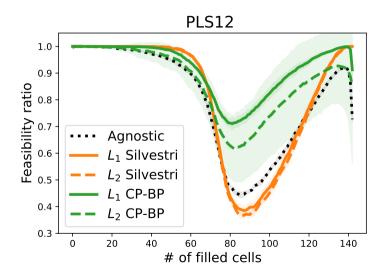
$$t(x) = L_1(x, \hat{\theta}) = \sum_{k} |\hat{\theta}_k(x) - f_k(x)|$$

$$t(x) = L_2(x, C) = \sum_{k} (C_k(x) - f_k(x))^2$$

$$t(x) = L_2(x, \hat{\theta}) = \sum_{k} (\hat{\theta}_k(x) - f_k(x))^2$$

$$C_k(x) \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_k(x) \in [0, 1]$$



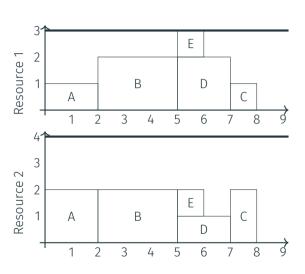




- · Key technology:
  - · Message passing
- · How this helps:
  - · Computation of marginals



2	
	BCD
2	Е
2	
1	С
1	С
	_

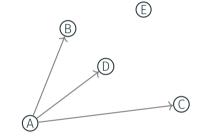


Task	$p_i$	$c_{ir_1}$	$c_{ir_2}$	succ
Α	2	1	2	BCD
В	3	2	2	Е
C	1	1	2	
D	2	2	1	С
Е	1	1	1	С
$C_{r_1} = 3 \text{ and } C_{r_2} = 4$				

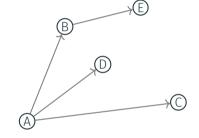
B

39

Task	$p_i$	$c_{ir_1}$	$c_{ir_2}$	succ
Α	2	1	2	BCD
В	3	2	2	Е
C	1	1	2	
D	2	2	1	С
Е	1	1	1	С
$C_{r_1}=3$ and $C_{r_2}=4$				

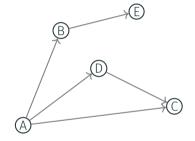


Task	$p_i$	$c_{ir_1}$	$c_{ir_2}$	succ
А	2	1	2	BCD
В	3	2	2	Е
C	1	1	2	
D	2	2	1	С
Е	1	1	1	С
$C_{r_1}=3$ and $C_{r_2}=4$				

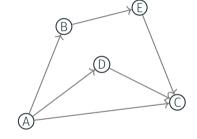


Task	$p_i$	$c_{ir_1}$	$c_{ir_2}$	succ
А	2	1	2	BCD
В	3	2	2	Е
C	1	1	2	
D	2	2	1	С
Е	1	1	1	С

$$C_{r_1}=3$$
 and  $C_{r_2}=4$ 



Task	$p_i$	$c_{ir_1}$	$c_{ir_2}$	succ
А	2	1	2	BCD
В	3	2	2	Е
C	1	1	2	
D	2	2	1	С
Е	1	1	1	С
$C_{r_1}=3$ and $C_{r_2}=4$				





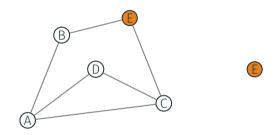
Main principle: for each node, creating an embedding of its neighborhood

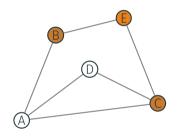
#### Tasks:

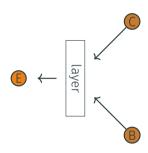
- · Graph classification
- · Node prediction
- · Link prediction

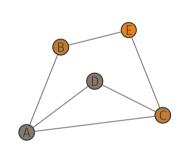
### **GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS**

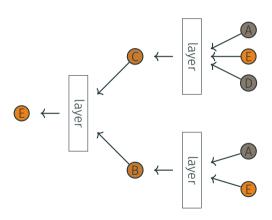






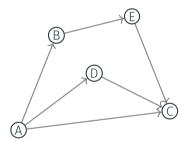


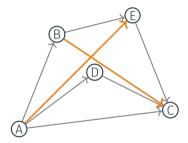


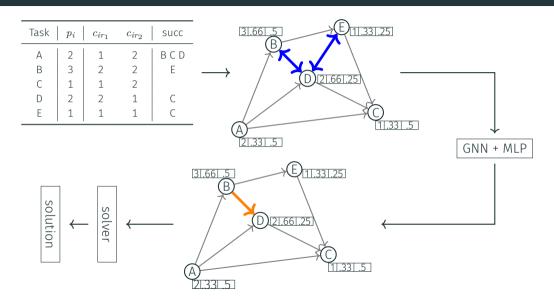


### TRANSITIVE CLOSURE



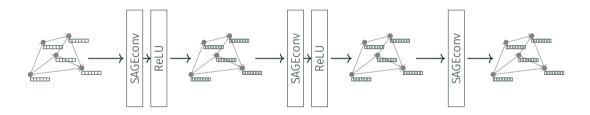




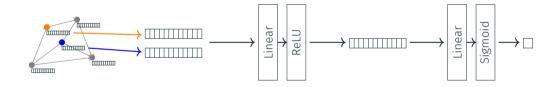




Goal: creates, for each node, embedding of the neighborhood



Goal: evaluate, given a candidate edge, its likeliness to exist





## Two usages of the learned precedences:

- · additional constraints:
  - · reduces search space
  - · restriction of the problem
  - · improve solution for a few instances
- · task ordering:
  - · preserve solutions
  - · best first solution



- · Type of graph used: Homogeneous directed graphs
- · Key technology:
  - · GNNs



- · Key operation:
  - · Transitive closure
- · How this helps:
  - · Reduction of the diameter
  - · Better generalization
  - · Computation of embeddings





## CP helps ML

· Help with satisfying (hard) constraint



## ML helps CP

· Deal with (big) data



# Always look at the graph side of problems



- · Designs benefits from properties of underlying graphs
- · Lots of tools/library/algorithms for graphs ready to use
- · Known operations can create the graph you need





https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcByDTr7vRTYJ2s6DL-3bzjGwtQif33y3

Thank you for listening!

Any questions?

https://hverhaeghe.bitbucket.io/



#### ML for CP

- · Sunny-CP: R. Amadini, M. Gabbrielli, and J. Mauro. "A Multicore Tool for Constraint Solving". In IJCAI 2015.
- · SeaPearl: F. Chalumeau, I. Coulon, Q. Cappart, and L.-M. Rousseau. "SeaPearl: A Constraint Programming Solver Guided by Reinforcement Learning". In CPAIOR 2021. https://corail-research.github.io/seapearl/
- · Constraint acquisition: S. Prestwich, E. Freuder, B. O'Sullivan, and D. Browne. "Classifier-based constraint acquisition". In AMAI 2021.

#### CP for ML

- · Clustering: T. Guns, T.-B.-H. Dao, C. Vrain, and K.-C. Duong. "Repetitive Branch-and-Bound Using Constraint Programming for Constrained Minimum Sum-of-Squares Clustering". In ECAI 2016.
- · Visual Sudoku: M. Mulamba, J. Mandi, R. Canoy, and T. Guns. "Hybrid classification and reasoning for image-based constraint solving"
- · PLS experiment: M. Silvestri, M. Lombardi, and M. Milano. "Injecting domain knowledge in neural networks: a controlled experiment on a constrained problem". In CPAIOR 2021.