

Medical Diagnosis

IASD2020/21 Assignment #2

(Version 1.1, December 25, 2020)

Introduction

Medical diagnosis is the process of identifying the underlying cause of a set of symptoms. It is a critical step for determining the right treatment for the patients. It involves not only the patient's symptoms but also tests/exams obtained for identifying specific diseases. This mini-project aims at providing the medical doctors a tool for helping in the patients' diagnosis. It will take into account the symptoms, the possible diseases, and the uncertainty associated with the evidence (tests and exams).

The problem is formulated as follows. The nodes are the possible diseases ($\mathcal{D} = \{d_1, \dots, d_N\}$) and edges are used to represent symptoms. Symptoms can be shared by two or more diseases. The set of edges in the graph is denoted by $\mathcal{C} = \{(d_i, d_j), \dots\}$ where $d_i, d_j \in \mathcal{D}$. Each edge (d_i, d_j) represent a symptom shared between two different diseases.

Tests/exams are used to assess if a patient has a disease. The set is denoted by $\mathcal{E} = \{e_1, \dots, e_M\}$, where $M \leq N$, and the map $l : \mathcal{E} \mapsto \mathcal{D}$ specifies the diseases covered by the tests. However, there is uncertainty in the results provided by the tests. Each of these tests/exams is then characterized by two parameters:

True Positive Rate: The probability of testing positive given the patient has the disease;

False Positive Rate: The probability of testing positive given the patient doesn't have the disease.

Consider a set of discrete-time steps, $\mathcal{T} = \{1, \dots, T\}$, where for each time step the results of one or more tests/exams are given, and take into account the following propagation law:

1. If a patient does not have d_i at time step t , it will not have the same disease at the time step $t + 1$;
2. The probability of having d_i at $t + 1$, when i) having d_i at time step t and ii) having at least one other disease with sharing symptoms at t , is defined by the propagation probability;
3. If a patient has a disease d_i and does not have any other one sharing symptoms with d_i at time step t (i.e. conditions of item 2), it will continue to have that disease at the instant of time $t + 1$.

To conclude, we assume that at the first time instant, $t = 1$, we have absolutely no information (in a probabilistic sense) about which disease the patient has.

The goal of this project is to determine the most probable disease that the patient has, as well as its probability value, at time step T . The decision must consider measurements in the form $\{t, e, z\}$ where $t \in \mathcal{T}$ is the time step, $e \in \mathcal{E}$ is the test result, and $z \in \{True, False\}$ is a boolean representing whether the test came true or positive.

1 Objective

This mini-project aims at solving the previous section's problem, which should be modeled by a Bayesian network, and solved using the variable elimination algorithm for probabilistic inference. The implementation should be done in Python version 3.x. No extra modules, besides the Python Standard Library, are allowed. The search algorithm implementations are the ones from the GitHub repository of the course textbook, namely the module `probability.py` available from <https://github.com/aimacode/aima-python>. A class should be implemented with the name `MDProblem`, and defines (at least) the following methods (code template):

```

1 import probability
2
3 class MDProblem:
4     def __init__(self, fh):
5         # Place here your code to load problem from opened file object fh
6         # and use probability.BayesNet() to create the Bayesian network.
7
8     def solve(self):
9         # Place here your code to determine the maximum likelihood
10        # solution returning the solution disease name and likelihood.
11        # Use probability.elimination_ask() to perform probabilistic
12        # inference.
13        return (disease, likelihood)

```

The code will be called using `MDProblem(<input_file>).solve()` taking as input an opened file object and returning a tuple `(disease, likelihood)`, where the disease is the most likely one, with probability likelihood.

2 Input and Output formats

2.1 Input file

The problem is specified in a text file format where each line contains a list of space-separated fields, where the first field indicates the properties in the line:

D <d1> <d2> ...

where d1, d2, ..., specify the diseases.

S <code1> <d1> <d2> ...

is used to specify the symptoms and related diseases. A symptom `code1` have d1, d2 ... diseases associated. Note: We will have one line per symptom in the input file.

E <code1> <d> <TPR> <FPR>

is used to specify the tests/exams. `code` denotes the test name and `d` the respective disease. TPR and FPR are the true and false positive rates. Note: A test can only be used to check is a patient has one disease.

M <e1> <value1> <e2> <value2> ...

is used to specify the results of tests/exams, with code `e` (which is the test/exam involved) and `value` with values T or F (corresponding to True or False, respectively), identifying whether the test came positive or negative, respectively.

P <p>

is used to specify the propagation probability (namely `p`).

Multiple measurement lines may be provided, each one corresponding to a time step, starting at 1 and incrementing for each subsequent line. Therefore, T is given by the total amount of measurement lines.

3 Evaluation

The deliverable for this mini-project has two components:

- A single Python file, called `solution.py`, implementing the above mentioned `MDProblem` class, and
- A report in the form of a short questionnaire.

Both components are submitted to the Moodle platform. Instructions are available at the course webpage. The grade is computed as follows:

- 30% from the public tests;

- 30% from the private tests;
- 30% from the questionnaire; and
- 10% from the code structure.

Deadline: Friday, **8-Jan-2021**. No extensions will be possible due to the day of the exam. Projects submitted after the deadline will not be evaluated.

4 Example file

Bellow follows an example of a file you can use for evaluation (non-realistic).

```
D covid common_cold flu asthma
S fever covid flu
S nose_clogged common_cold flu
S shortness_of_breath covid asthma
S fatigue covid common_cold asthma
E pcr covid 0.6893 0.3426
E chest_xray common_cold 0.9893 0.0526
E feno asthma 0.8932 0.1213
E ridt flu 0.8321 0.2423
M pcr F
M chest_xray T feno F
M ridt F chest_xray F
P 0.25
```

Results: