

10417-617
Deep Learning: Fall 2019

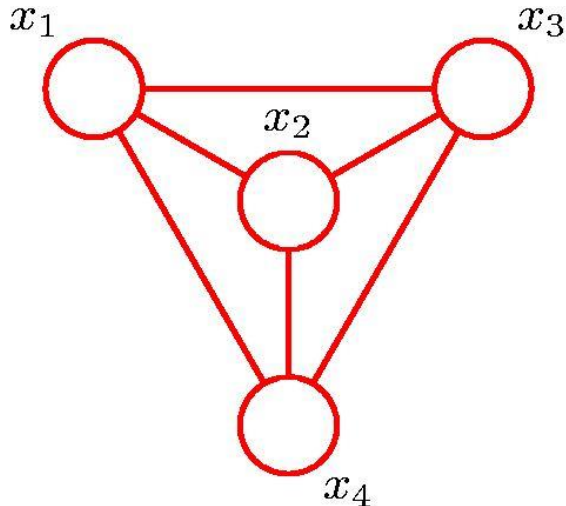
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Lecture 12:
Markov Chains, applications to
learning undirected
models and RBMs

Graphical Models

Recall: **graph** contains a set of nodes connected by edges.



In a **probabilistic graphical model**, each node represents a random variable, links represent “probabilistic dependencies” between random variables.



Graph specifies how joint distribution over all random variables **decomposes** into a **product** of factors, each factor depending on a subset of the variables.

Two types of graphical models:



- **Bayesian networks**, also known as **Directed Graphical Models** (the links have a particular directionality indicated by the arrows)
- **Markov Random Fields**, also known as **Undirected Graphical Models** (the links do not carry arrows and have no directional significance).

Algorithmic pros/cons of latent-variable models (so far)

RBM's

- ⌘ Hard to draw samples 
(In fact, #P-hard provably, even in Ising models)
- ⌘ Easy to sample posterior distribution over latents 

Directed models

- ⌘ Easy to draw samples 
- ⌘ Hard to sample posterior distribution over latents 
(In fact, #P-hard even in mixtures)

Canonical tasks with graphical models

Inference

Given values for the parameters θ of the model, *sample/calculate* marginals (e.g. sample $p_\theta(x_1)$, $p_\theta(x_4, x_5)$, $p_\theta(z|x)$, etc.)

Learning

Find values for the parameters θ of the model, that give a *high likelihood* for the observed data. (e.g. canonical way is solving maximum likelihood optimization

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(x_i)$$

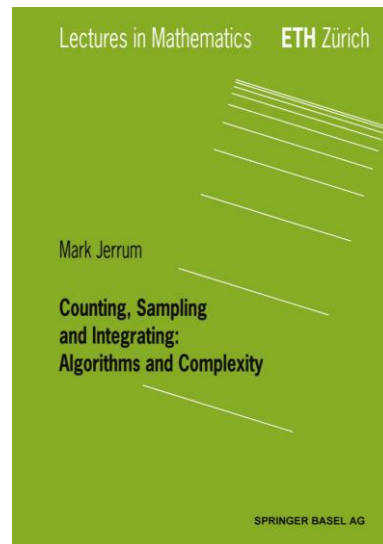
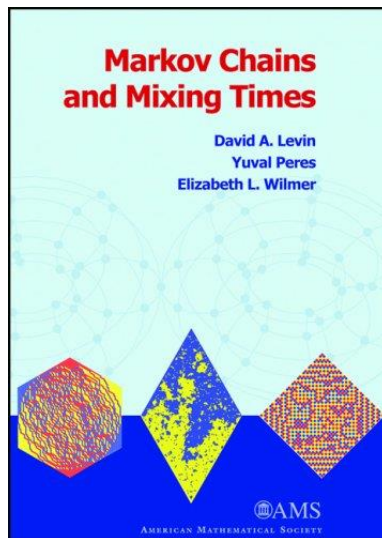
Other methods exist, e.g. method of moments (matching moments of model), but less used in deep learning practice.

Algorithmic approaches

When faced with a difficult to calculate probabilistic quantity (partition function, difficult posterior), there are two families of approaches:

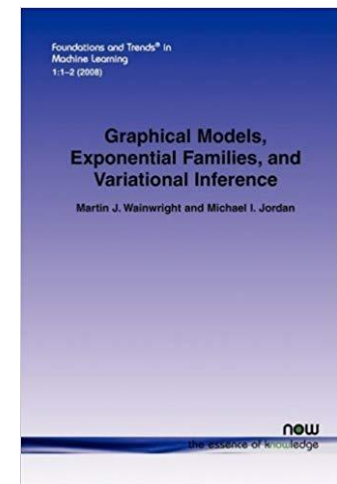
MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO

❖ **Random walk** w/ equilibrium distribution the one we are trying to sample from.



VARIATIONAL METHODS

❖ Based on solving an **optimization** problem.

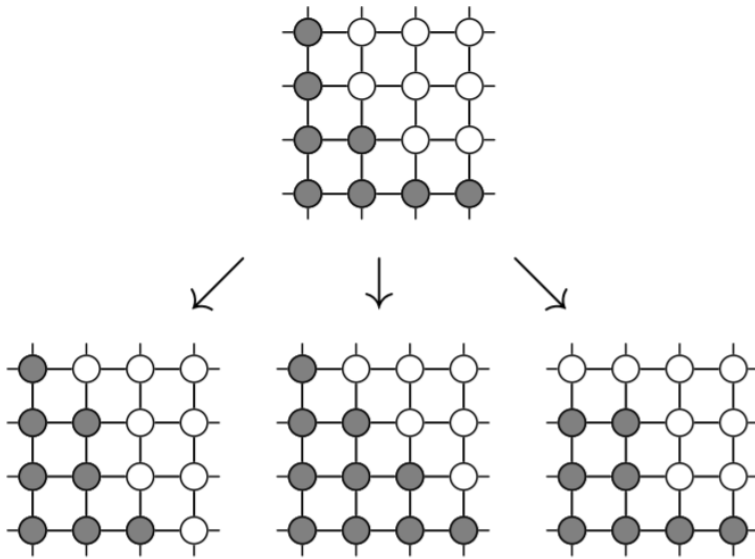


Part I: Intro to Markov Chains

Sampling via random walks

Goal: Sample from distribution given up to constant of proportionality.

Idea: explore domain via *random, local* moves



Hope: enough moves \Rightarrow the random process “forgets” starting point, follows the distr. we are trying to sample.

Sampling via random walks

Goal: Sample from distribution given up to constant of proportionality.

A set of random variables (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_T) is **Markov** if

$$\forall t: P(X_t | X_{<t}) = P(X_t | X_{t-1})$$

It is homogeneous if $P(X_t | X_{t-1})$ doesn't depend on t .

We can describe a homogeneous Markov process on a discrete domain

\mathcal{X} by a **transition matrix** $T \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{X}|}: T_{ij} = P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i)$

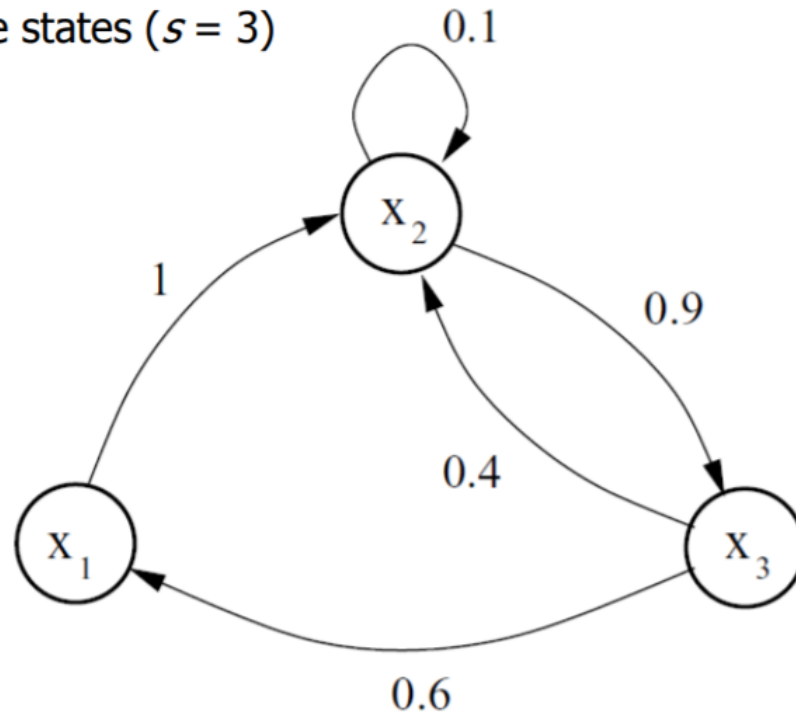
Clearly, $\forall i, \sum_j T_{ij} = 1$. We will also call such process a Markov Chain/
Markov random walk.

Example

Markov chain with three states ($s = 3$)

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0.9 \\ 0.6 & 0.4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Transition matrix



Transition graph

Stationary distribution

Stationary distribution: a distribution $\pi = (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_{|X|})$ is stationary for a Markov walk if $\pi T = \pi$.

In other words: if we start with a sample of π and transition according to T , we end with a sample following π as well.

$$(0.22, 0.41, 0.37) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0.9 \\ 0.6 & 0.4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = (0.22, 0.41, 0.37)$$

Stationary distribution need not be unique: e.g. T is the identity matrix.

Many Markov Chains have unique stationary distributions: after taking many steps, starting with any distribution, we get to the same distribution

$\forall p_0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_0 T^t = \pi$ In other words, eventually, the chain “forgets” the starting point.

Stationary distribution

Stationary distribution: a distribution $\pi = (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_{|\mathcal{X}|})$ is stationary for a Markov walk if $\pi T = \pi$.

Many Markov Chains have unique stationary distributions: after taking many steps, starting with any distribution, we get to the same distribution

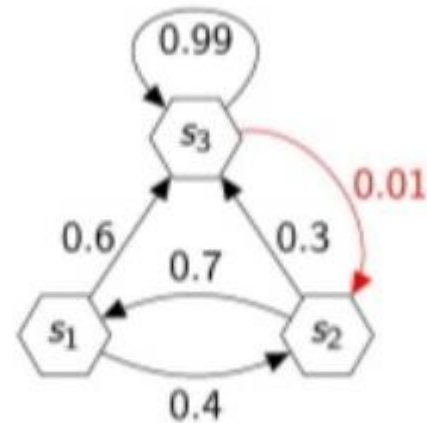
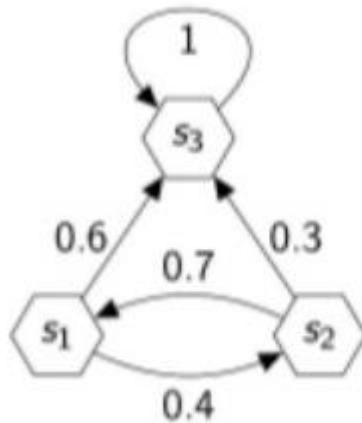
$$\forall p_0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_0 T^t = \pi$$

Name of the game: if we wish to sample from some π , design a Markov Chain which has π as stationary distribution.

If we run chain long enough (??), we can draw samples from something close to π

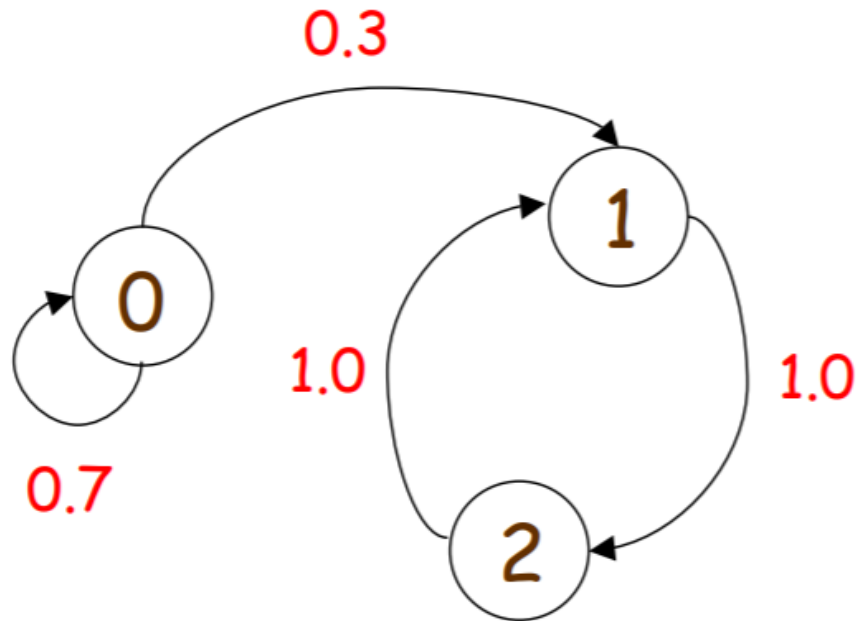
Conditions for having a unique stationary distribution

Potential problem: transition graph is not connected.



Conditions for having a unique stationary distribution

Potential problem: there are cycles in graph



Conditions for having a unique stationary distribution

These are all the possible problems!

Irreducibility: there is a path that transitions from any state to any other.

For each pairs of states (i,j) , there is a positive probability, starting in state i , that the process will ever enter state j .

= Transition graph is connected;

Aperiodicity: random walk doesn't get trapped in cycles.

A state i is aperiodic if there exists n s.t., $\forall n' \geq n, P(X_{n'} = i | X_0 = i) > 0$.

If all states are aperiodic, chain is called aperiodic.

Thm: for any *irreducible+aperiodic* Markov chain there is a unique π , s.t.

$$\forall p_0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_0 T^t = \pi$$

Detailed balance

Useful sufficient condition for π to be a stationary distribution:
detailed balance.

$$\pi_i T_{ij} = \pi_j T_{ji}, \forall (i, j)$$

Why?

$$\begin{aligned} (\pi T)_i &= \sum_j \pi_j T_{ji} = \sum_j \pi_i T_{ij} \\ &= \pi_i \sum_j T_{ij} \\ &= \pi_i \end{aligned}$$

Metropolis-Hastings

Suppose we are trying to sample from π defined over a domain of size m (think m is very large, like in Ising models), up to a constant of proportionality:

$$\pi_i = \frac{b(i)}{Z}, Z = \sum_{i=1}^m b(i)$$

Metropolis-Hastings: random walk assuming an “easy-to-sample from” transition kernel $q(i,j)$, along with “corrections”.

Metropolis-Hastings

Suppose we have an easy to sample from “transition kernel” $q(i,j)$.

Consider the following random walk, for some $\alpha(i,j)$ we will pick:

$$\Pr(X_n = j | X_{n-1} = i) =$$

- 1., from state i go to state j with prob. $q(i,j)$
- 2., $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{with prob } 1 - \alpha(i,j) \text{ go back to state } i, \\ \text{with prob } \alpha(i,j) \text{ stay in state } j. \end{array} \right.$

Then, we have:

$$P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i) = q(i,j)\alpha(i,j) \quad \forall j \neq i$$

$$P(X_{n+1} = i | X_n = i) = q(i,i) + \sum_{k \neq i} q(i,k)(1 - \alpha(i,k))$$

Metropolis-Hastings

Observation

$$\pi_i P_{ij} = \pi_j P_{ji} \quad \forall j \neq i \Leftrightarrow \pi_i q(i, j) \alpha(i, j) = \pi_j q(j, i) \alpha(j, i) \quad \forall j \neq i \quad (*)$$

$$P_{ij} = P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i) = q(i, j) \alpha(i, j) \quad \forall j \neq i$$

Claim:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } \alpha(i, j) &= \min \left(\frac{\pi_j q(j, i)}{\pi_i q(i, j)}, 1 \right) = \min \left(\frac{b(j) q(j, i)}{b(i) q(i, j)}, 1 \right) \\ &\Rightarrow (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m) \text{ stationary distribution} \end{aligned}$$

*Note, this only depends on
unnormalized distribution
($b(i)$ values)*

$$\text{If } \alpha(i, j) = \frac{\pi_j q(j, i)}{\pi_i q(i, j)} \Leftrightarrow \alpha(j, i) = 1$$

=> Detailed balance (*) holds

Gibbs sampling

Consider sampling a distribution over n variables $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, s.t. each of the conditional distributions $P(x_i | \mathbf{x}_{-i})$ is easy to sample. :

e.g. recall Ising models: $P_{\theta}(x_i = 1 | \mathbf{x}_{-i}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\theta_i - \sum_{ij \in E} x_j \theta_{ij})}$,

A common way to do this is using **Gibbs sampling**:

Repeat:

Let current state be $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

Pick $i \in [n]$ uniformly at random.

Sample $x \sim P(X_i = x | \mathbf{x}_{-i})$

Update state to $\mathbf{y} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, x, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$

Gibbs sampling

Repeat:

Let current state be $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

Pick $i \in [n]$ uniformly at random.

Sample $x \sim P(X_i = x | \mathbf{x}_{-i})$

Update state to $\mathbf{y} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, x, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$

Why does it work? Metropolis-Hastings with appropriate kernel!

Let

$$\begin{aligned} q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= q(\overbrace{(x_1, \dots, x_n)}^{\mathbf{x}}, \overbrace{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x, x_{i+1}, x_n)}^{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &\doteq \frac{1}{n} P(X_i = x | X_j = x_j, \forall j \neq i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{P(\mathbf{y})}{P(X_j = x_j, \forall j \neq i)} \end{aligned}$$

Gibbs sampling

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 \end{aligned}$$

Shouldn't we reject occasionally? **No:**

Claim:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{If } \alpha(i, j) &= \min\left(\frac{\pi_j q(j, i)}{\pi_i q(i, j)}, 1\right) = \min\left(\frac{b(j) q(j, i)}{b(i) q(i, j)}, 1\right) \\
 &\Rightarrow (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m) \text{ stationary distribution}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{p(\mathbf{y}) q(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x}) q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}) \frac{1}{n} \frac{P(\mathbf{x})}{P(Y_j = y_j, j \neq i)}}{p(\mathbf{x}) \frac{1}{n} \frac{P(\mathbf{y})}{P(X_j = x_j, j \neq i)}}$$

Gibbs sampling

Why does it work? Metropolis-Hastings with appropriate kernel!

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
 q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= q(\overbrace{(x_1, \dots, x_n)}^{\mathbf{x}}, \overbrace{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x, x_{i+1}, x_n)}^{\mathbf{y}}) \\
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Shouldn't we reject occasionally? **No:**

$$\frac{p(\mathbf{y})q(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x})q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}) \frac{1}{n} \frac{P(\mathbf{x})}{P(Y_j = y_j, j \neq i)}}{p(\mathbf{x}) \frac{1}{n} \frac{P(\mathbf{y})}{P(X_j = x_j, j \neq i)}} = \frac{p(\mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{y})} = 1$$

since $P(X_j = x_j, j \neq i) = P(Y_j = y_j, j \neq i)$

What governs “mixing time”

So far, we’ve only worried about designing chains s.t. $\forall p_0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_0 T^t = \pi$

But, we’re running this in practice, so want for sensible t , $\forall p_0, p_0 T^t \approx \pi$

(Appropriately formalized, this is called *mixing time*.)

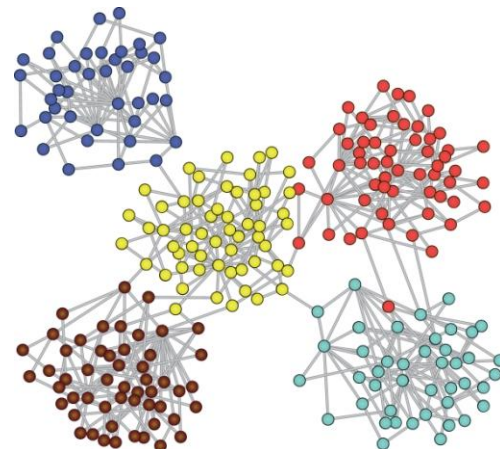
There is no silver bullet for analyzing general transition T , but one common tool is *conductance*: which essentially says the transition graph doesn’t have “bottlenecks”.

The conductance of a subset S is defined as:

$$\phi(S) = \frac{\sum_{i \in S, j \notin S} T_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in S} \pi_i}$$

(e.g. how easy it is to leave S , given that we started in S)

(e.g. the colored sets have poor conductance)



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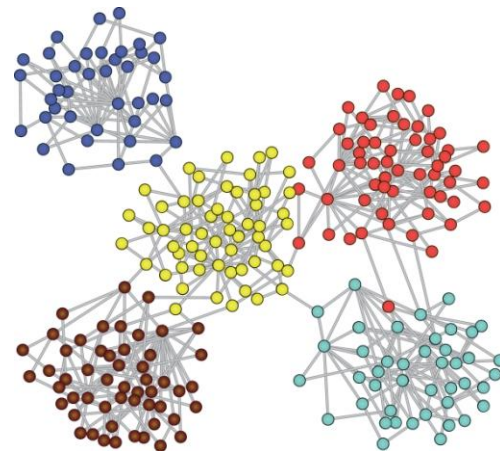
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It’s clear that sets of poor $\phi(S)$ impede mixing time:

If we start at S , even with the correct π , it’ll take us long to leave S .



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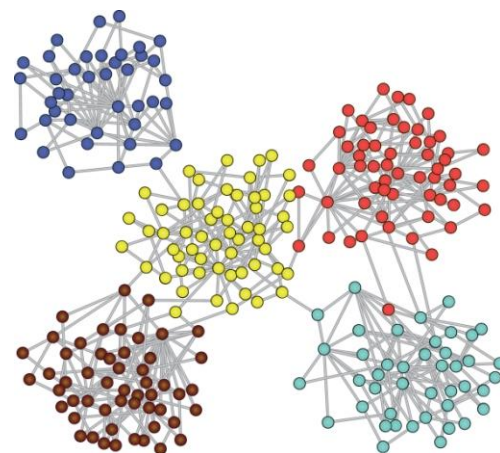
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It’s clear that sets of poor $\phi(S)$ impede mixing time:

The distribution is “**multimodal**”: has S’s that have large probability, but are difficult to transition between.



What governs “mixing time”

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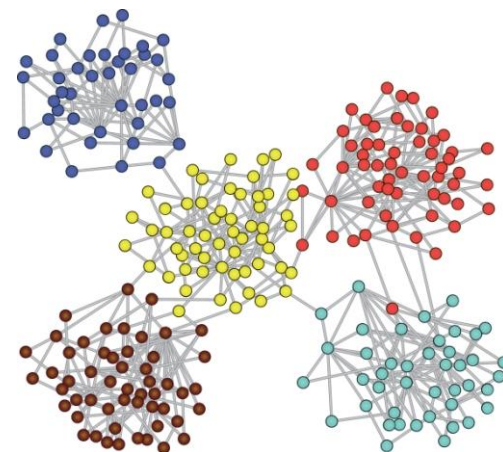
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The conductance of a subset S is defined as:

$$\phi(S) = \frac{\sum_{i \in S, j \notin S} T_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in S} \pi_i}$$



Conversely, if $\phi(S)$ is large for all $S \Rightarrow$ mixing time is good!

What governs “mixing time”

So far, we’ve only worried about designing chains s.t. $\forall p_0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p_0 T^t = \pi$

But, we’re running this in practice, so want for sensible t , $\forall p_0, p_0 T^t \approx \pi$

(Appropriately formalized, this is called *mixing time*.)

Note common misconception: random walk must visit each state in domain to mix.

This is of course not true! (There does however need to be a reasonable **probability** that some set of moves gets us anywhere in the domain.)

(Otherwise, what would be the point of running a Markov Chain as opposed to brute force calculation of the partition function...)

Part II: Learning Undirected Models and Restricted Boltzmann Machines (RBMs)

Warmup: learning fully observed undirected models

Goal: Learn distribution given up to constant of proportionality

$$p_{\theta}(x) \propto \exp(-E_{\theta}(x))$$

Recall our basic approach: maximum likelihood

Given data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , solve the optimization problem

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i)$$

Expanding likelihoods: $\log p_{\theta}(x) = -E_{\theta}(x) - \log Z_{\theta}$

Our basic algorithm: gradient descent. Can we take gradients?

$\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}$ is typically easy (e.g. E_{θ} is an Ising model, neural network, etc.)

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Given data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , solve the optimization problem

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\theta} \log Z_{\theta} &= \frac{1}{Z_{\theta}} \nabla_{\theta} Z_{\theta} = \frac{1}{Z_{\theta}} \nabla_{\theta} \left(\int_x \exp(-E_{\theta}(x)) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z_{\theta}} \int_x \exp(-E_{\theta}(x)) \nabla_{\theta} (-E_{\theta}(x)) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)] \end{aligned}$$

Warmup: learning fully observed undirected models

Goal: Learn distribution given up to constant of proportionality

$$p_{\theta}(x) \propto \exp(-E_{\theta}(x))$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i) \right) = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_i -\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x_i) \right) - \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)]$$

$$\approx \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{p_{data}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)] - \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)]}_{\text{Goal of the algorithm}}$$

***Goal of the algorithm:** Try to make the expectation of the energy match*

Warmup: learning fully observed undirected models

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$$p_{\theta}(x) \propto \exp(-E_{\theta}(x))$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i) \right) = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_i -\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x_i) \right) - \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)]$$

$$\approx \mathbb{E}_{p_{data}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)] - \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)]$$

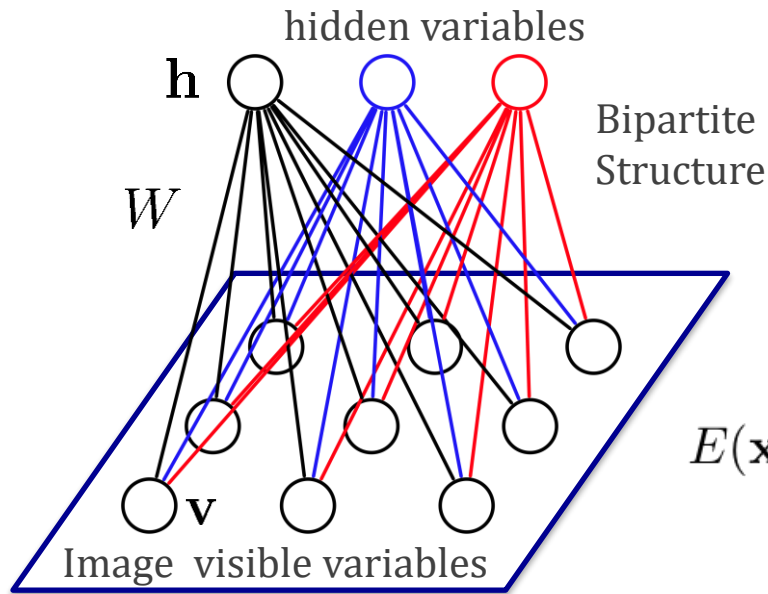
How does sampling come in: if we can sample from p_{θ} , and we draw samples x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m from p_{θ} , then:

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)] \approx \frac{1}{m} [-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x_i)]$$

Restricted Boltzmann Machines

An **undirected** latent-variable model

We denote visible and hidden variables with vectors \mathbf{v} , \mathbf{h} respectively:



Visible variables $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^D$
are connected to hidden variables $\mathbf{h} \in \{0, 1\}^F$

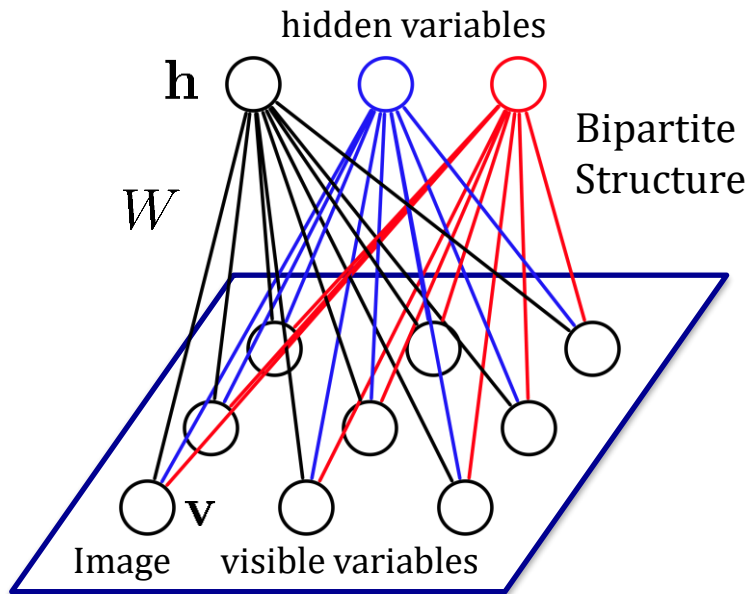
The energy of the joint configuration:

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}) &= -\mathbf{h}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{h} \\ &= -\sum_j \sum_k W_{j,k} h_j x_k - \sum_k c_k x_k - \sum_j b_j h_j \end{aligned}$$

Probability of the joint configuration:

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}) = \exp(-E(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}))/Z$$

Restricted Boltzmann Machines



The **posterior** over the hidden variables is easy to sample from!
(Conditional independence!)

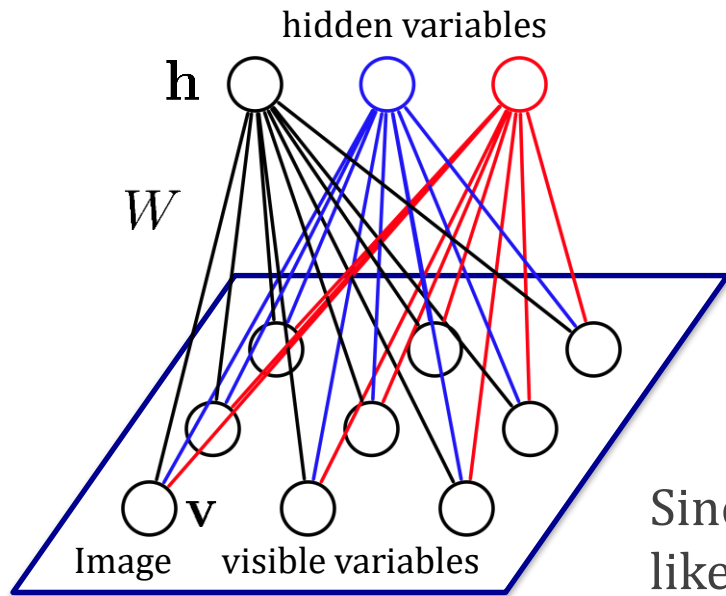
$$p(\mathbf{h}|\mathbf{x}) = \prod_j p(h_j|\mathbf{x}) \quad p(h_j = 1|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(b_j + \mathbf{W}_{j \cdot} \cdot \mathbf{x}))}$$

Factorizes

Similarly:

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{h}) = \prod_k p(x_k|\mathbf{h}) \quad p(x_k = 1|\mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(c_k + \mathbf{h}^\top \mathbf{W}_{\cdot k}))}$$

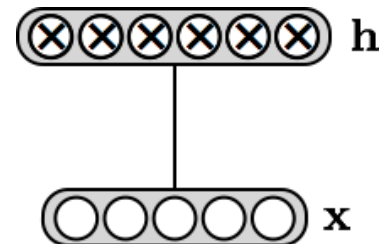
How to learn RBM's



Given data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , solve

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i)$$

Since we have latent variables, we need to express the likelihood when we marginalize out the latents:



How to learn RBM's

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{h} \in \{0,1\}^H} \exp(\mathbf{h}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{h}) / Z$$

How to learn RBM's

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{h} \in \{0,1\}^H} \exp(\mathbf{h}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{h}) / Z \\ &= \exp(\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}) \sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h_H \in \{0,1\}} \exp \left(\sum_j h_j \mathbf{W}_{j \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_j h_j \right) / Z \end{aligned}$$

How to learn RBM's

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{h} \in \{0,1\}^H} \exp(\mathbf{h}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{h}) / Z \\ &= \exp(\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}) \sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h_H \in \{0,1\}} \exp \left(\sum_j h_j \mathbf{W}_{j \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_j h_j \right) / Z \\ &= \exp(\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}) \left(\sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h_1 \mathbf{W}_{1 \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_1 h_1) \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{h_H \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h_H \mathbf{W}_{H \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_H h_H) \right) / Z \end{aligned}$$

How to learn RBM's

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{h} \in \{0,1\}^H} \exp(\mathbf{h}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{h}) / Z \\ &= \exp(\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}) \sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h_H \in \{0,1\}} \exp \left(\sum_j h_j \mathbf{W}_{j \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_j h_j \right) / Z \\ &= \exp(\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}) \left(\sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h_1 \mathbf{W}_{1 \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_1 h_1) \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{h_H \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h_H \mathbf{W}_{H \cdot} \mathbf{x} + b_H h_H) \right) / Z \\ &= \exp(\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}) (1 + \exp(b_1 + \mathbf{W}_{1 \cdot} \mathbf{x})) \cdots (1 + \exp(b_H + \mathbf{W}_{H \cdot} \mathbf{x})) / Z \end{aligned}$$

How to learn RBM's

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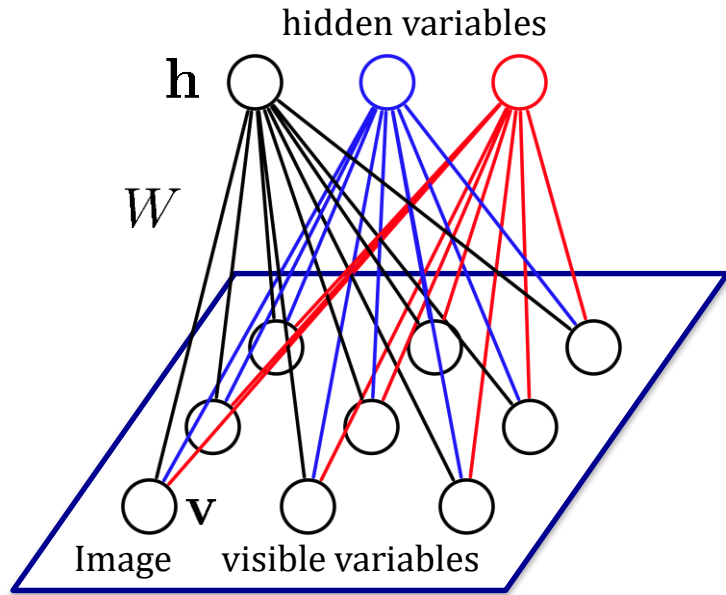
How to learn RBM's

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How to learn RBM's

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How to learn RBM's



Given data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , solve

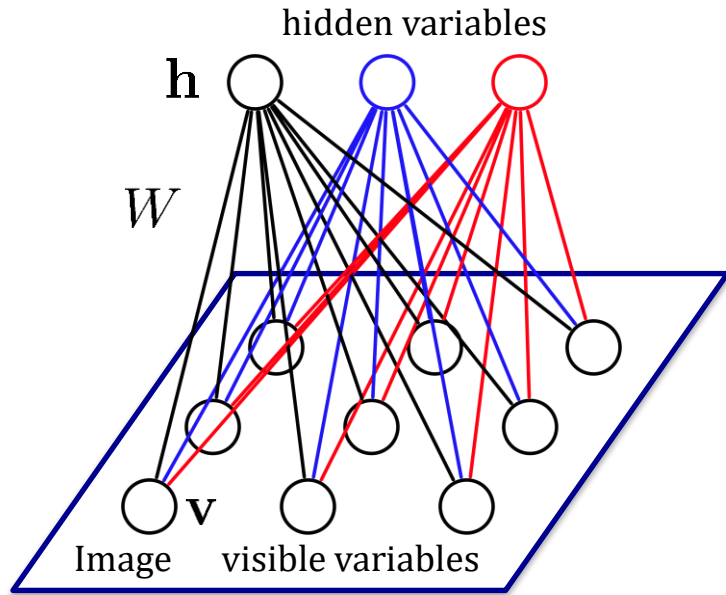
$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i)$$

With this reduction, the undirected model calculations imply:

$$\nabla_{\theta} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i) \right) = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_i -\nabla_{\theta} F_{\theta}(x_i) \right) - \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} F_{\theta}(x)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\mathbf{W}_{ij}} F_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) &= \nabla_{\mathbf{W}_{ij}} (\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + \sum_{j=1}^H \log(1 + \exp(\mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{W}_j \cdot \mathbf{x}))) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{W}_j \cdot \mathbf{x})}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{W}_j \cdot \mathbf{x})} \mathbf{x}_i \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(b_j + \mathbf{W}_j \cdot \mathbf{x}))} \mathbf{x}_i = P(\mathbf{h}_j = 1 | \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{x}_i \end{aligned}$$

How to learn RBM's



Given data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , solve

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i)$$

With this reduction, the undirected model calculations imply:

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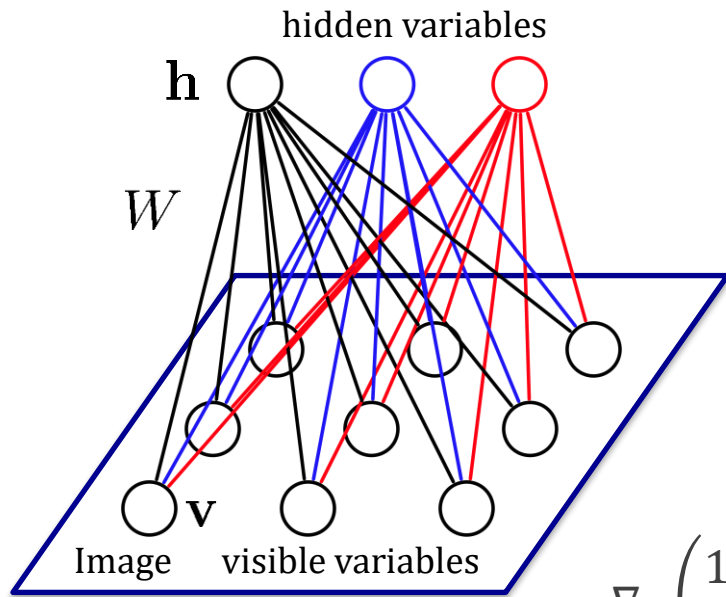
$$\nabla_{W_{ij}} F_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = P(\mathbf{h}_j = 1 | \mathbf{x}) x_i \Rightarrow \nabla_{\mathbf{W}} F_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{x}^T$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{b}} F_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{c}} F_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} p(h_1=1|\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ p(h_H=1|\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \text{sigm}(\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

How to learn RBM's



Given data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , solve

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i)$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i) \right) = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_i -\nabla_{\theta} F_{\theta}(x_i) \right) - \mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} F_{\theta}(x)]$$

The hard term is again: $\mathbb{E}_{p_{\theta}}[-\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(x)]$ --- we need to draw samples from p_{θ}

We will draw samples using a Markov random walk: **Gibbs sampler!**

Gibbs sampling

Consider sampling a distribution over n variables $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, s.t. each of the conditional distributions $P(x_i | \mathbf{x}_{-i})$ is easy to sample. :

A common way to do this is using **Gibbs sampling**:

Repeat:

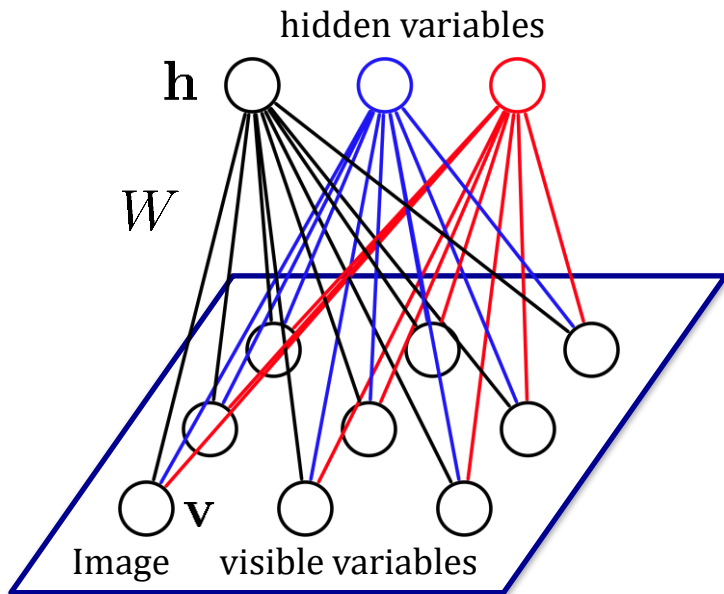
Let current state be $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

Pick $i \in [n]$ uniformly at random.

Sample $x \sim P(X_i = x | \mathbf{x}_{-i})$

Update state to $\mathbf{y} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, x, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$

Gibbs sampling for RBM's

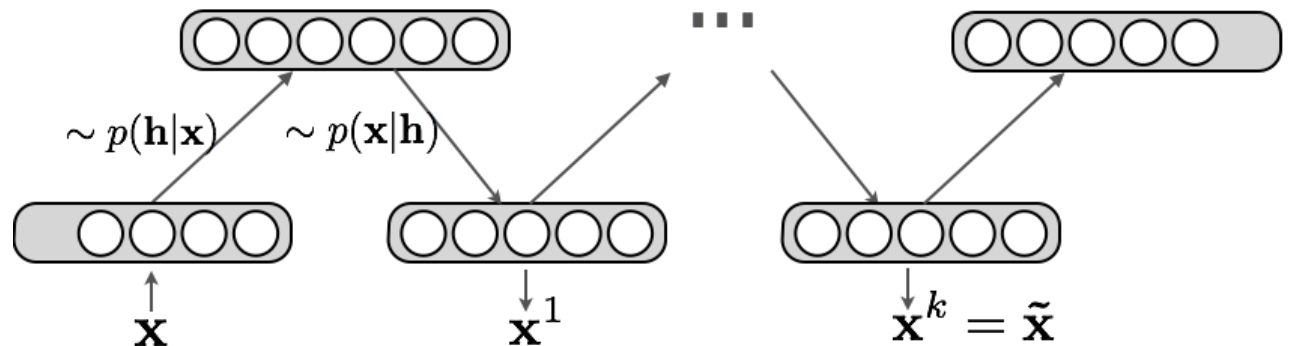


Repeat:

Sample $\mathbf{h} \sim P(\mathbf{h}|\mathbf{v})$

Sample $\mathbf{v} \sim P(\mathbf{v}|\mathbf{h})$

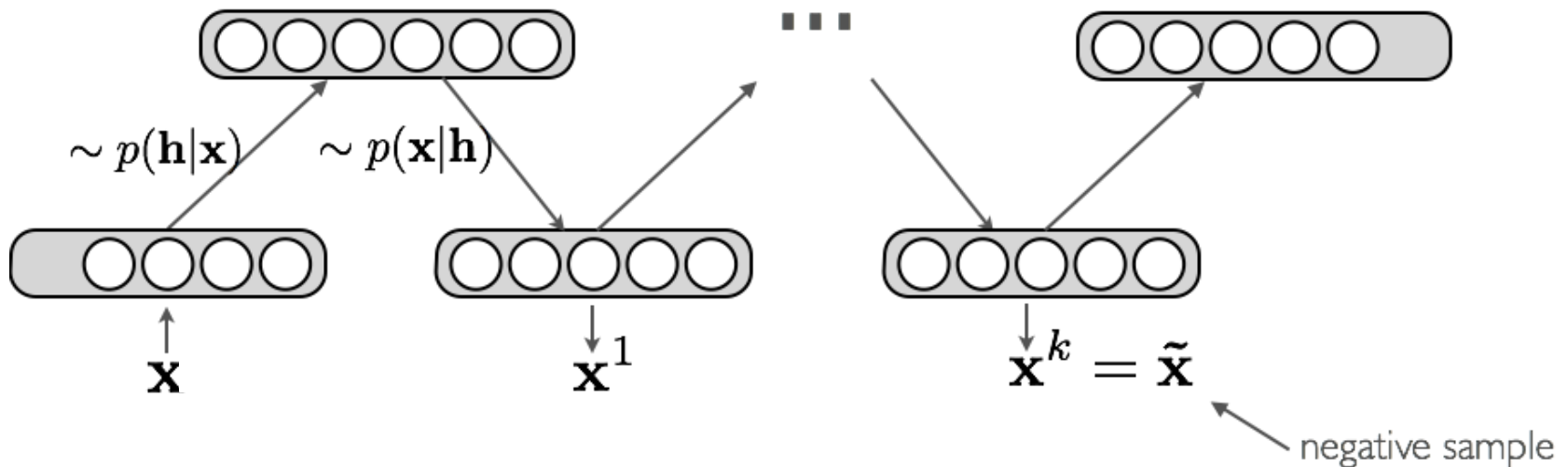
Pictorially:



Contrastive Divergence

Key idea behind Contrastive Divergence:

- Replace the expectation by a point estimate at $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$
- Obtain the point $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ by Gibbs sampling
- Start sampling chain at \mathbf{x}



k is often taken to be just 1.

CD-k Algorithm

For each training example \mathbf{x}

- Generate a negative sample $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ using k steps of Gibbs sampling, starting at the data point \mathbf{x}
- Update model parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{W} &\Leftarrow \mathbf{W} + \alpha \left(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{x}^\top - \mathbf{h}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^\top \right) \\ \mathbf{b} &\Leftarrow \mathbf{b} + \alpha \left(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{h}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \right) \\ \mathbf{c} &\Leftarrow \mathbf{c} + \alpha \left(\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Gradients we derived before

- Go back to 1 until stopping criteria

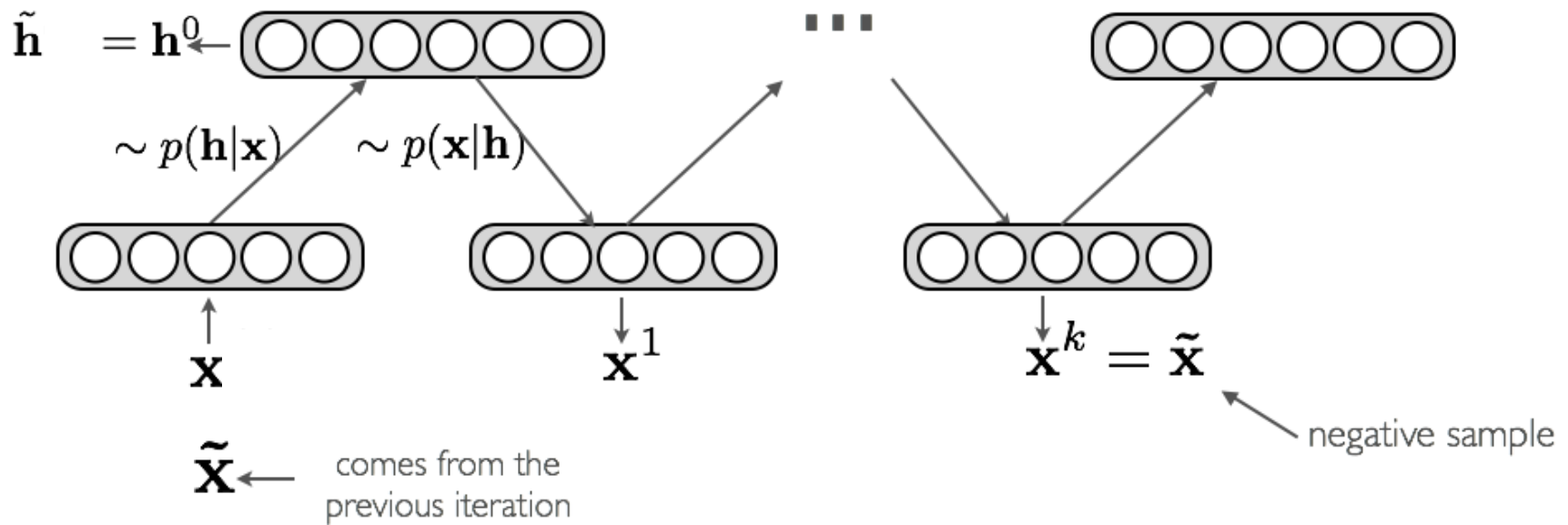
Step size

CD-k Algorithm

- CD-k: contrastive divergence with k iterations of Gibbs sampling
- In general, the bigger k is, the less biased the estimate of the gradient will be
- In practice, $k=1$ works well for learning good features and for pre-training

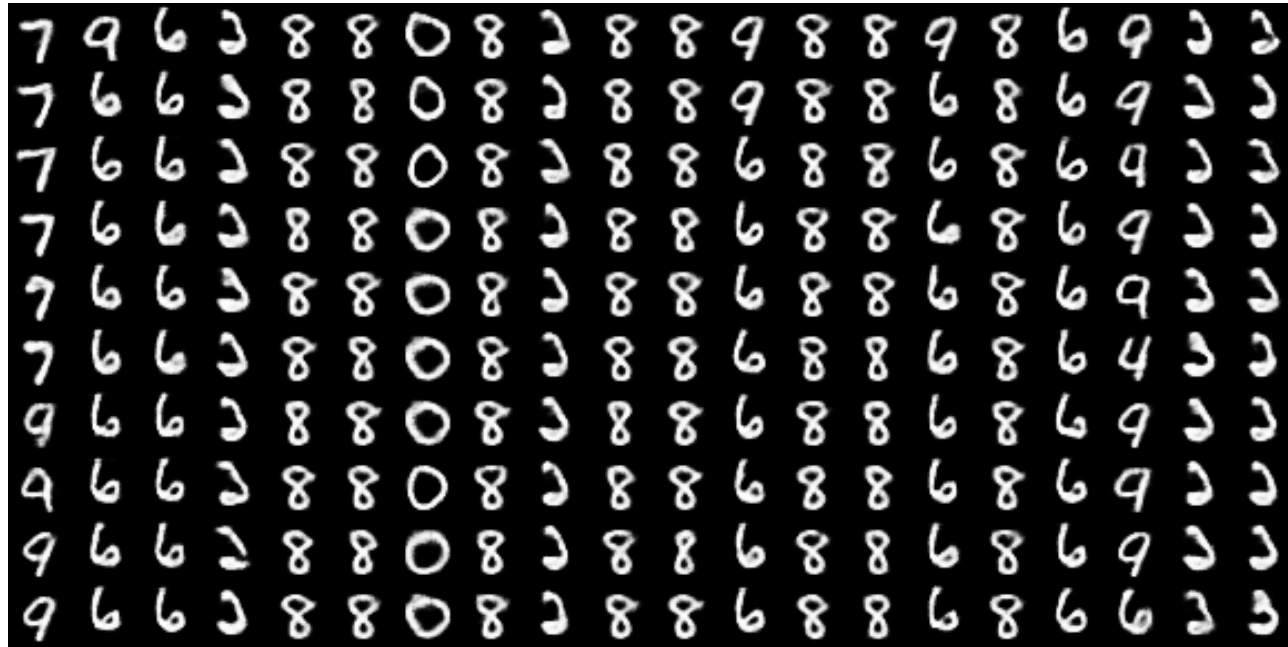
Persistent CD

Idea: instead of initializing the chain to \mathbf{x} , initialize the chain to the negative sample of the last iteration



Example: MNIST

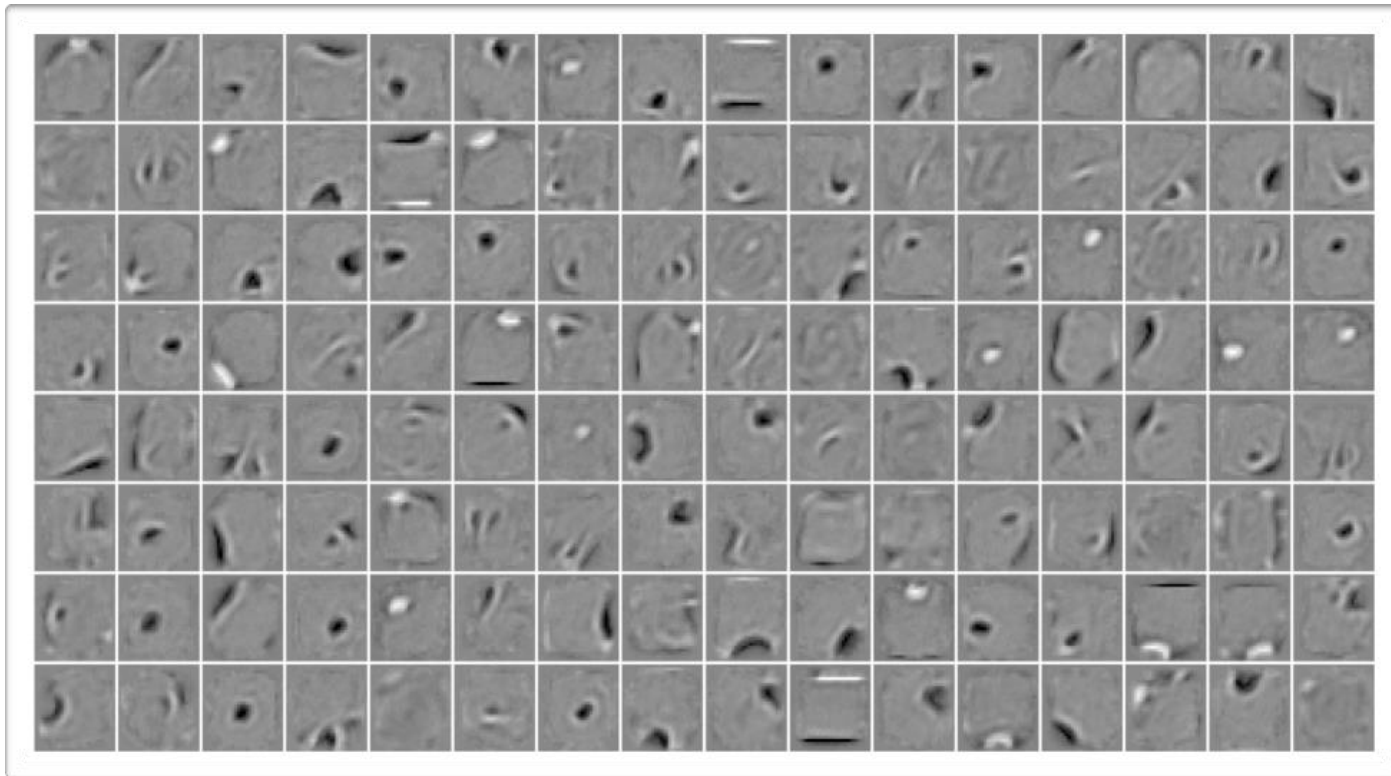
MNIST dataset:



Each row is small set of “initial points”, after which next row is gotten by running 1000 Gibbs steps.

Learned Features

MNIST dataset:



Tricks and Debugging

Unfortunately, it is not easy to debug training RBMs (e.g. using gradient checks)

We instead rely on approximate “tricks”

- we plot the average stochastic reconstruction $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|^2$ and see if it tends to decrease
- for inputs that correspond to image, we visualize the connection coming into each hidden unit as if it was an image
- gives an idea of the type of visual feature each hidden unit detects
- we can also try to approximate the partition function Z and see whether the (approximated) NLL decreases

(Salakhutdinov, Murray, ICML 2008)