

# Bayesian Network: Tabu search algorithm

STATS 9864 - Fall 2023

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December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## Motivation

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# Tabu Algorithm: Example in Binary Sequences (Stack)

- Analyzed problem of a binary sequence (stack):

1100101...

in which each bit corresponds to the order assigned to the **courier**.

- The value of "1" means that the courier undertakes the contract, the value of "0" that he **rejects** it.
- For example, the implementation of the 5 orders starts from the obtaining of the set of orders, described as a specified bit sequence, eg: **1 0 1 0 1**.
  - Check the **neighboring** solution: the algorithm checks all neighboring solutions (differing in one bit):

10100      10111      10111      10001      11101      01101

- Check Tabu List:** algorithm checks whether the transition between data solutions, already been made.
- If so, such a solution is skipped and then the best solution, according to the specified criterion, is chosen:

11101

- Add to Tabu List:** And adds it to a list of prohibited movements (TL).

5	3		7				
6			1	9	5		
	9	8				6	
8			6				3
4		8		3			1
7			2			6	
	6			2	8		
		4	1	9		5	
			8		7	9	

# Motivation

- **Tabu Algorithm:** is a search heuristic designed for optimization problems (proposed by Glover, 1986), aiming to find the best possible solution by iteratively moving through potential solutions.
- **Forbidden Paths Concept:** It incorporates a "*tabu list*" to keep track of previously visited solutions, by restricting the possible local choices to subset. This list prevents the algorithm from revisiting the same solutions, helping to avoid getting stuck in local optima.
- **Adaptive Decision-Making:** Tabu Algorithm utilizes a flexible approach, accepting sub-optimal solutions when necessary.
- **Avoidance of Stagnation:** It addresses challenges faced by traditional optimization methods in complex, non-convex spaces.

# Tabu Algorithm: Flow Chart

- Initialize with candidate solutions (greedy approach).
- **Tabu list:** set of rules and banned solutions used to filter which solutions will be admitted to the neighborhood.
- **Neighborhood structure:** Specify how to generate neighboring solutions. This involves defining the set of allowable moves
- Selected attributes in solutions recently visited are labelled "**tabu-active**". Solutions that contain tabu-active elements are banned.
- **Tabu tenure:** the number of iterations that a move is declared being in tabu.
- **First in First out (FIFO):** first-in and first-out in queue stack.

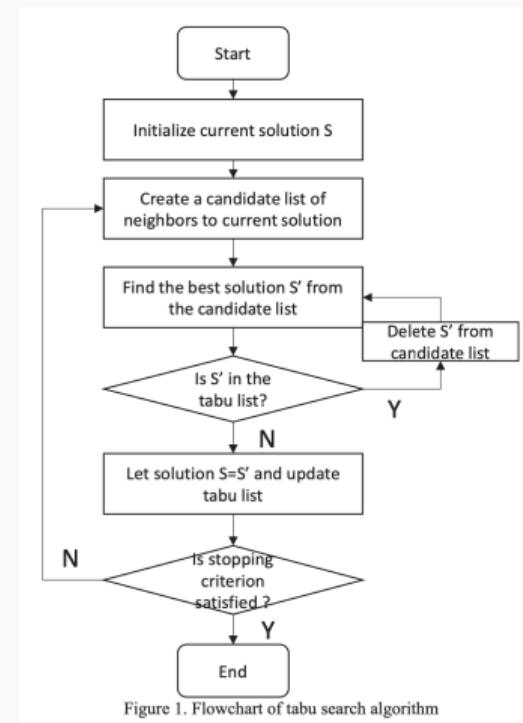


Figure 1. Flowchart of tabu search algorithm

# Introduction

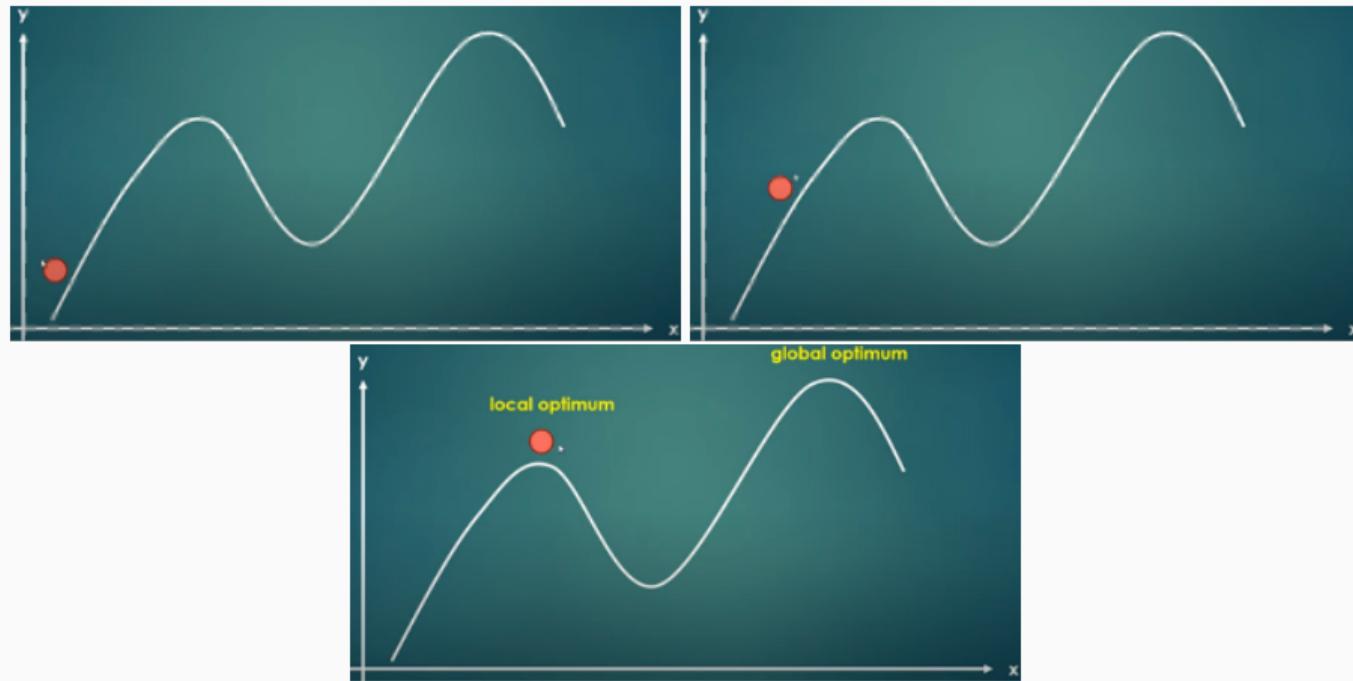
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## Tabu Search

- Local search methods have a tendency to become stuck in suboptimal regions!!! Hill Climbing Algorithm
- Worsening moves can be accepted if no improving move is available (Stuck at a local minimum/maximum)
- Prohibitions ("Tabu") are introduced to discourage the search from coming back to previously visited solutions.
- Have to use a data structure to store prohibited points. We have to check according to this data structure whether a move is allowed or not

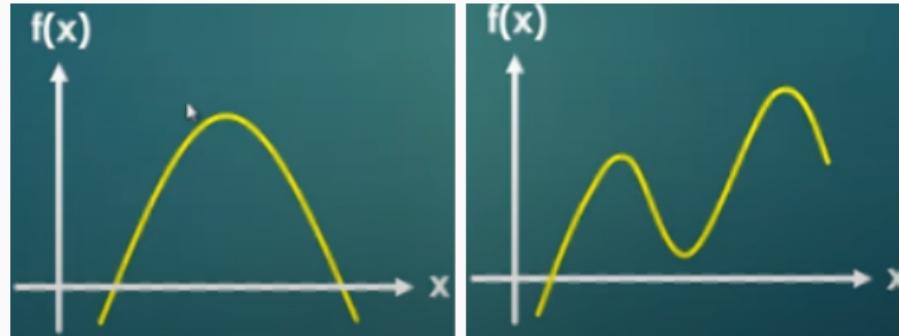
# Limitations of Hill Climbing in Problem Solving

What's the problem with hill climbing?



# Convex and Non-Convex Search Spaces

- Effectiveness in Convex Search Spaces
  1. In convex search spaces, hill climbing excels by following the gradient direction.
  2. Successfully converges to the global maximum in scenarios like convex functions.
- Challenges in Non-Convex Search Spaces
  1. In non-convex search spaces, hill climbing faces limitations.
  2. Tends to converge to local maxima, necessitating heuristic or metaheuristic approaches for global optimization.



# Tabu Search

- **Objective: Finding the Global Optimum**

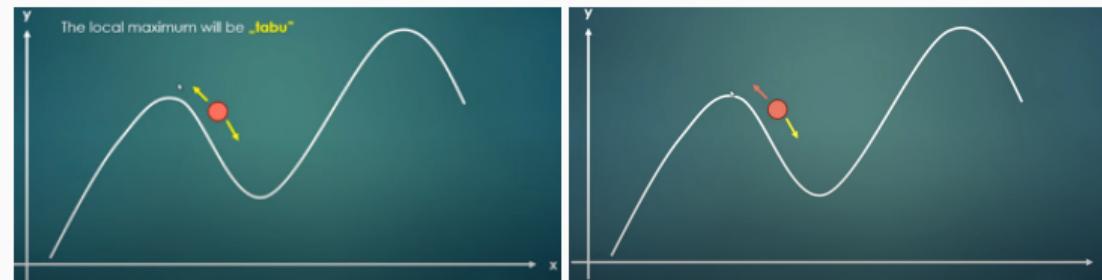
1. Focus on seeking the global optimum rather than settling for a local optimum.
2. Recognize the challenge when the gradient directs towards local maxima.

- **Challenge of Gradient-Driven Local Maximum**

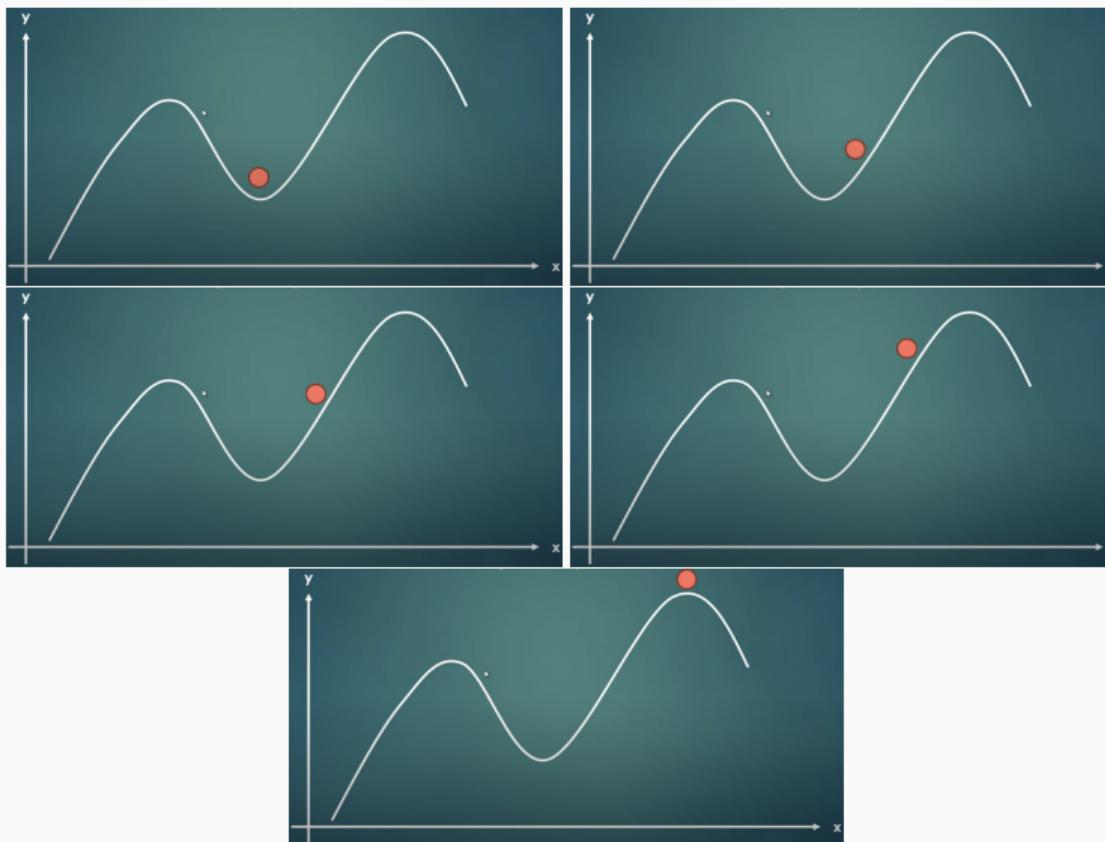
1. Illustrate the tendency of the gradient to lead back to local maxima.
2. Acknowledge the issue of being stuck due to diminishing function values in each step.

- **Solution: Tabooing Local Maxima Moves**

1. Propose a strategy of tracking moves to prevent revisiting local optima.
2. Introduce the concept of tabooing, where certain moves are prohibited to explore alternative paths towards global maxima.

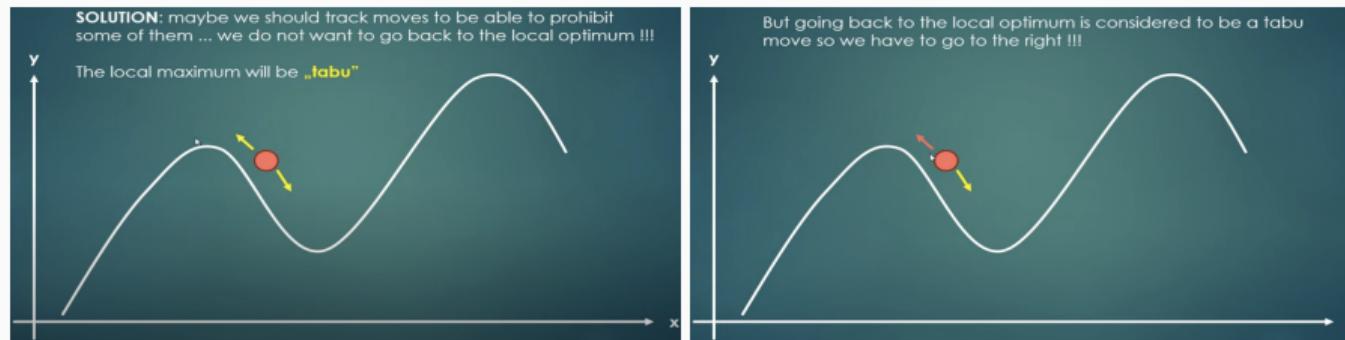


# Tabu Search



# Tabu Tenure

- Tabu Tenure
  1. When a move is made tabu it is added to the so called tabu list with a certain value: this value is the "Tabu Tenure"
  2. With each iteration the tabu tenure is decremented by one.
  3. When the tabu tenure of a certain move is 0 → the certain move can be accepted.



- Exception: *Sometime we allow tabu moves.*
- Aspiration criteria allows a tabu move to be selected based on certain **constraints**.
  - For example, the given move allows a new global best solution AND all allowed moves are worse than actual one.
  - In these situations the move is accepted/its tabu tenure is renewed of course.
- Allowing a move even if it is tabu and if it results in a solution with an objective value better than that of the current best-known solution.

# Objective and Goal: Tabu implementation in AI

- Navigating Uncertainties with Bayesian Networks
  - **Motivation:** Explorer guided by Tabu Algorithm faces new challenges-imagine not just paths but a dynamic landscape of uncertainties.
  - **Goal:** Encountering unpredictable probabilities and causal inference, Bayesian Networks act as a compass, offering real-time predictions and adaptive strategies.
- Visual Representation
  - **Objective:** Explorer wields Tabu Algorithm for physical navigation and a Bayesian Network compass for uncertainties.
- Problem solution
  - In this optimization, the collaboration between Tabu Algorithm and Bayesian Networks transforms exploration-unlocking paths in categorical data analysis, adapting to uncertainties.

## Implementation: Bayesian Network

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# Bayesian Network: probabilistic graphical model

- BNs, proposed by Pearl Judea, reflecting potential relationships among influencing factors, and conditional probability distribution tables (CPT), which demonstrate correlations between variables.
  - The **purpose** is to use Tabu algorithm in search for the best causal relationships.
  - The network structure of the graph reflects the relationships, and the relationship is built to represent how the occurrence of one variable influences the probability distribution of another.
  - Used for tasks in bio-statistical and epidemiological dataset for inference, reasoning, causal modeling, decision making under uncertainty and automated insight and prediction.



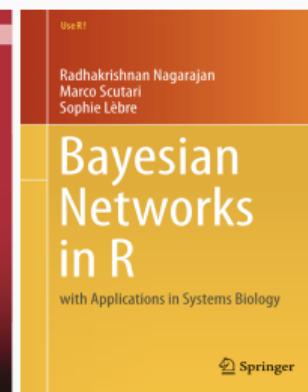
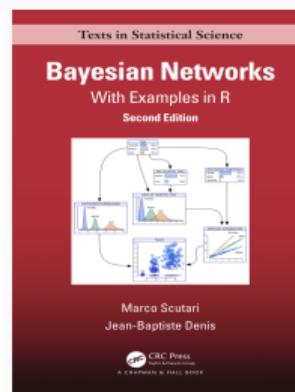
## CAUSAL INFERENCE IN STATISTICS

A Primer

Judea Pearl  
Madelyn Glymour  
Nicholas P. Jewell

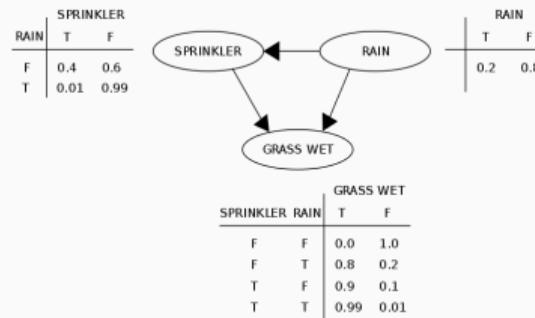


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# Bayesian Network- Example

- A simple example of chain-type Bayesian network is the **first order Markov chain**.
- Variables:  $R$  (Rain),  $G$  (Grass wet),  $S$  (Sprinkler)  $\rightarrow T/F$  (XOR)
- Ex.  $G \rightarrow T|R \rightarrow T$  or  $G \rightarrow T$ , the event of the grass being wet depends on both rain and artificial irrigation.



$$\text{Factorization: } P(R, S, G) = P(R)P(S|R)P(G|R, S)$$

- Causal Markov Condition: Ignoring effects, all relevant probabilistic information about a variable is contained in direct causes.

## Tabu algorithm- Bayesian network

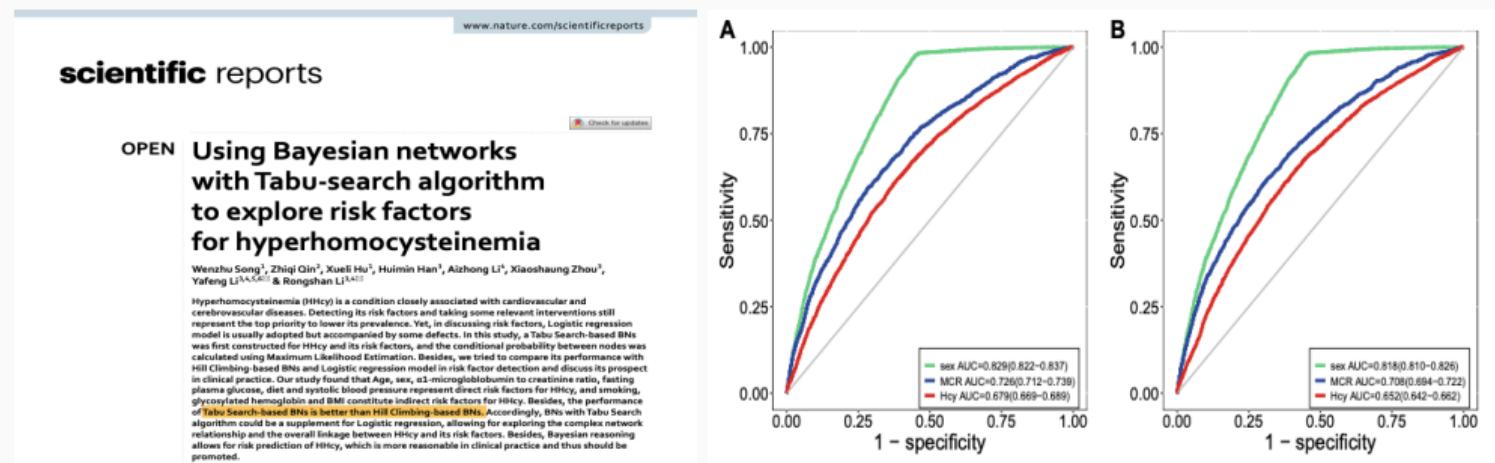
- **bnlearn**: is designed to provide a flexible simulation suite for methodological research and effective and scalable data analysis tools
- tabu in scoring method:

```
tabu(x, start = NULL, whitelist = NULL, blacklist = NULL,  
      score = NULL, debug = FALSE, tabu = 10, max.tabu = tabu,  
      max.iter = Inf, maxp = Inf, optimized = TRUE)
```

- tabu: a positive integer number, the length of the tabu list used in the tabu function (default:10).
- max.tabu: a positive integer number, the iterations tabu search can perform without improving the best network score (default:10).
- score: a character string, the label of the network score to be used in the algorithm. If none is specified, the default score is the Bayesian Information Criterion for both discrete and continuous data sets.

# Tabu algorithm- Bayesian network Example

- By the paper below, the Tabu Search-based BNs is better than Hill Climbing-based BNs.
- The structure learning of BNs is carried out by using the "tabu" function in the package "bnlearn" in R.
  - The ROC (receiver-operating characteristic) curve with AUC (area under the curve) for accuracy values have demonstrated that the Tabu is much better performed.



## Data analysis

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# Dataset Exploration

- Retrieved from

<https://www.kaggle.com/code/marcotucci/asthma-proj-bayesian-network>,  
9 categorical variables (sex, age, urbanization, education, geographic area, allergy, smoke, sedentary), and 2755 samples in total.

- The **aim** of this project is to study the impact of some **factors** on bronchial asthma, using Tabu search algorithm in Bayesian network.

```
> head(dat)
```

	sex	age	urbanization	education	geographic_area	allergy	smoke	sedentary	asthma
1	male	adult	low	low	south/islands	yes	yes	yes	yes
2	female	old	low	low	south/islands	yes	no	yes	yes
3	female	adult	high	high	centre	no	no	yes	yes
4	male	adult	medium	low	south/islands	yes	no	no	no
5	female	adult	low	high	north	no	no	no	no
6	female	adult	medium	high	north	no	yes	no	yes

# Dataset Exploration: BN (1)

- A comparison of HC(Hill Climbing) and Tabu search algorithm:

```
## hill-climbing search  
bn.learn.hc = hc(dat)  
  
# plot  
viewer(bn.learn.hc,  
       bayesianNetwork.width = "100%",  
       bayesianNetwork.height = "80vh",  
       #bayesianNetwork.layout = "layout_with_sugiyama",  
       bayesianNetwork.title="Discrete Bayesian Network",  
       bayesianNetwork.subtitle = "Hill-Climbing (HC): Score-based algorithm"  
       #bayesianNetwork.footer = "Fig. 1 - Layout with Sugiyama"  
)  
  
## tabu algorithm  
bn.learn.hc = tabu(dat)  
  
viewer(bn.learn.hc,  
       bayesianNetwork.width = "100%",  
       bayesianNetwork.height = "80vh",  
       #bayesianNetwork.layout = "layout_with_sugiyama",  
       bayesianNetwork.title="Discrete Bayesian Network",  
       bayesianNetwork.subtitle = "Tabu search (TABU) greedy search"  
       #bayesianNetwork.footer = "Fig. 1 - Layout with Sugiyama"  
)  
  
bn.fit(bn.learn.hc, data =dat)
```

> bn.learn.hc

Bayesian network learned via Score-based methods

model:

```
[urbanization][smoke][education|urbanization]  
[age|education:smoke][sedentary|age:education]  
[asthma|age:education][sex|sedentary]  
[geographic_area|sedentary][allergy|age:asthma]
```

nodes:

9

arcs:

11

undirected arcs:

0

directed arcs:

11

average markov blanket size:

2.67

average neighbourhood size:

2.44

average branching factor:

1.22

learning algorithm:

Tabu Search

score:

BIC (disc.)

penalization coefficient:

3.960586

tests used in the learning procedure:

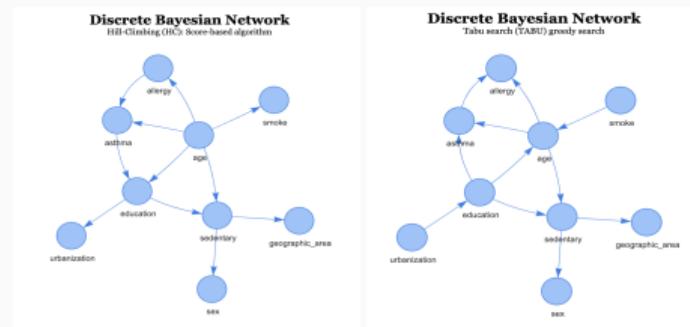
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optimized:

TRUE

# Dataset Exploration: BN (2)

- A comparison of HC(Hill Climbing) and Tabu search algorithm:



- Causal discovery: based on the network graph, the probabilities can be inferred ('cpquery').

Conditional probability table:

, , asthma = no  
age  
allergy adult old young  
no 0.8789290 0.8925144 0.8393782  
yes 0.1210710 0.1074856 0.1606218  
, , asthma = yes  
age  
allergy adult old young  
no 0.4814733 0.6621622 0.4214876  
yes 0.5985267 0.3378378 0.5785124

Conditional probability table:

, , asthma = no  
age  
allergy adult old young  
no 0.8789290 0.8925144 0.8393782  
yes 0.1210710 0.1074856 0.1606218  
, , asthma = yes  
age  
allergy adult old young  
no 0.4814733 0.6621622 0.4214876  
yes 0.5985267 0.3378378 0.5785124

Conditional probability table:

, , education = high  
age  
asthma adult old young  
no 0.6130884 0.6489796 0.6418919  
yes 0.3869116 0.3510204 0.3581081  
, , education = low

Parameters of node smoke (multinomial distribution)

Conditional probability table:  
no yes  
0.8424682 0.1575318

Parameters of node smoke (multinomial distribution)

Conditional probability table:  
no yes  
0.8424682 0.1575318

Parameters of node smoke (multinomial distribution)

Conditional probability table:  
no yes  
0.6120527 0.4559194 0.5903614  
yes 0.3879473 0.5440806 0.4096386

## Conclusion: Causal Discovery (1)

- From **Tabu** algorithm potential causes of the form variable  $X$  causally influences variable  $Y$ :
- The causal relationship of asthma with respect to smoking and age:
  - Result of asthma, when age is young and smokers:
    - The probability of **having asthma** among individuals who are both young and smokers, is 0.36.
    - The probability of **not having asthma** among individuals who are both young and smokers, is 0.586.
  - Result of asthma, when age is old and smokers:
    - The probability of **having asthma** among individuals who are both old and smokers, is 0.47.
    - The probability of **not having asthma** among individuals who are both old and smokers, is 0.496.
  - Result of asthma, when age is adult and smokers:
    - The probability of **having asthma** among individuals who are both adult and smokers, is 0.385.
    - The probability of **not having asthma** among individuals who are both adult and smokers, is **0.645**.

# Discussion

- **Advantage:**
  - **Efficient Heuristic Approach:** Tabu Search is often more computationally efficient than exact algorithms, making it suitable for large-scale problems such as the Bayesian Network.
  - **Ease of Implementation:** The basic principles of Tabu Search are relatively simple, making it accessible and easy to implement compared to some other optimization algorithms. This simplicity contributes to its popularity and applicability.
  - **Memory Mechanism:** The use of a Tabu List helps prevent revisiting the same solutions in the short term, promoting diversification to escape from local minima.
  - **Adaptability to Problem Dynamics:** Tabu Search can adapt to changes in the problem. By adjusting parameters or modifying the search strategy dynamically, the algorithm remains effective in dynamic environments.
- **Disadvantage:**
  - **Problem-Specific Tuning:** While Tabu Search is versatile, its effectiveness often relies on problem-specific tuning.
  - **Computational Intensity for Large Problems:** Computationally demanding with a large number of random variables as exponential growth of computational effort.
  - **No Guarantee** of Global Optimality: Like many heuristic optimization algorithms, Tabu Search does not guarantee finding the global optimum. It is possible for the algorithm to converge to a local minimum or plateau.

## Bibliography

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## References

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Thank you for the participation and understandings !