

Markov networks

CS B553
Spring 2013

Announcements

- Assignment 2 posted!
 - Implement a Part-of-Speech tagger
 - With Bayes nets and variable elimination

Problem 5, from Homework 1

- This question was really about a very interesting probability construct, the *Polya Urn*
 - Start with an urn with R red marbles and B blue marbles
 - In every time step, draw a marble at random
 - Replace the marble, and then also add a second marble of the same color



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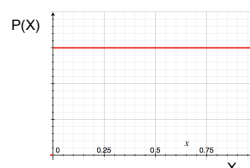
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 - Start with an urn with R red marbles and B blue marbles
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- Polya Urns can model real-world *preferential attachment* phenomena



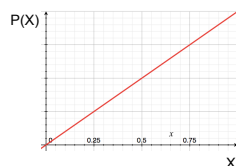
Polya urn distributions at the limit

- Suppose you start with 1 red marble and 1 blue marble
 - Let X denote the fraction of red marbles after running this experiment for a very long time
 - How is X distributed?



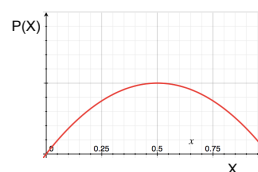
Polya urn distributions at the limit

- Suppose you start with 2 red marbles and 1 blue marble
 - Let X denote the fraction of red marbles after running this experiment for a very long time
 - How is X distributed?



Polya urn distributions at the limit

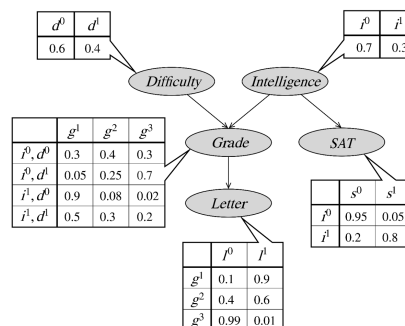
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Special cases: Chains and polytrees

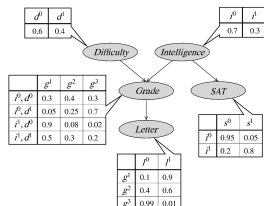
- For chains, we can always find an elimination ordering that takes time linear in the number of nodes
 - Start at the beginning of the chain and eliminate variables in node order
- A *polytree* is a dag such that there is at most one trail between every pair of nodes
 - In a polytree, it is always possible to find an elimination ordering that takes time linear in the size of the conditional probability distributions
 - E.g. start at leaves of tree and work upwards towards root(s)

Conditional probability distributions



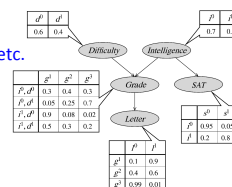
Conditional probability distributions

- There are various options for storing the CPDs in memory, but easiest is just a multi-dimensional array
 - We'll see others later on
- Where do the CPDs come from?
 - Set by hand, by intuition
 - Learned from data



Learning the CPDs

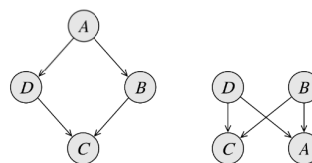
- Easy if we have a large amount of labeled training data
 - Fully-supervised learning:** We have ground truth (correct) labels for all variables for all of our training exemplars
 - To learn, for example, $P(\text{Letter} \mid \text{Grade})$, we need to estimate the 6 entries in the CPD table
 - E.g. Simply look at all students for which $\text{Grade}=\text{A}$, calculate % of students where Letter is strong, etc.
- Harder case:
 - Weakly-supervised learning
 - We have labels for some but not all variables; we'll see this later!



Another example

- We have 4 people, Alice, Bob, Charles, and Dan
 - Alice and Bob, Bob and Charles, Charles and Dan, and Dan and Alice are friends
- Each person belongs to one of 2 political parties, given by random variables A, B, C, D
 - Friends are likely to belong to the same party
- We'd like to answer questions like,
 - E.g. "Supposing A and B are democrats, what's the probability that C is a republican?"
- How to model these variables as a Bayes Net?
 - What independence assumptions would we like?

Some possibilities...



- Independencies implied by left Bayes net:

$$A \perp C \mid D, B \quad B \perp D \mid A \quad B \not\perp D \mid A, C$$
- Independencies implied by right Bayes net:

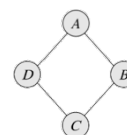
$$A \perp C \mid D, B \quad B \perp D$$

Limitations of Bayes nets

- Bayes nets are useful for many problems, but simply cannot model certain sets of independence relations
- Also, Bayes nets require directionality of influences (e.g. causality)

Markov networks

- Markov networks model dependencies between variables as undirected graphs
 - Nodes represent random variables
 - Edges represent direct correlation between variables
- Since dependencies are not directional, conditional probability distributions no longer make sense
 - Instead, we might want to model them using joint distributions, e.g. $P(A, B)$
 - For generality, we need not require these dependencies to even be probability distributions

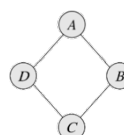


Factors

- Markov networks model dependencies using *factors*
 - A generalization of probability distributions
 - A factor $\phi(\mathbf{X})$ for set of random variables \mathbf{X} is just a function $\phi: \text{Val}(\mathbf{X}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - The *scope* of $\phi(\mathbf{X})$ is the set of variables in \mathbf{X}
- Probability distributions are a special case of factors
 - Factors can encode either joint and marginal probability distributions, or relationships that aren't probabilities at all
 - Factor values need not be in the range [0,1]

Factors as affinities

- Can view factors as “affinity scores,” measuring the degree of compatibility between variable values



$\phi_1(A, B)$			$\phi_2(B, C)$			$\phi_3(C, D)$			$\phi_4(D, A)$		
a^0	b^0	30	b^0	c^0	100	c^0	d^0	1	d^0	a^0	100
a^0	b^1	5	b^0	c^1	1	c^0	d^1	100	d^0	a^1	1
a^1	b^0	1	b^1	c^0	1	c^1	d^0	100	d^1	a^0	1
a^1	b^1	10	b^1	c^1	100	c^1	d^1	1	d^1	a^1	100

- We can write a joint probability distribution as,

$$P(a, b, c, d) = \frac{1}{Z} \phi_1(a, b) \cdot \phi_2(b, c) \cdot \phi_3(c, d) \cdot \phi_4(d, a)$$

- Where Z is a normalizing constant,

$$Z = \sum_A \sum_B \sum_C \sum_D \phi_1(a, b) \cdot \phi_2(b, c) \cdot \phi_3(c, d) \cdot \phi_4(d, a)$$

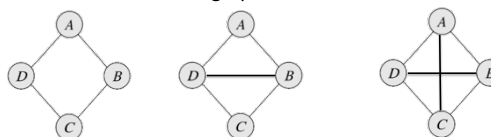
Independence of variables

- In a Markov network, for sets of random variables \mathbf{X} , \mathbf{Y} , and \mathbf{Z} , $\mathbf{X} \perp \mathbf{Y} | \mathbf{Z}$ iff we can factor the joint probability distribution into a form like:

$$P(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) = \phi_1(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \cdot \phi_2(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})$$

Factoring Markov networks

- How might we factor the joint probability distributions of these graph?



- Not simply a product over pairwise factors
- Instead, Markov networks factor over the *cliques* of the graph

Gibbs Distribution

- The joint distribution of a Markov network is given by a *Gibbs Distribution*,

$$P(\mathbf{X}) = P(X_1, \dots, X_N) = \frac{1}{Z} \phi_1(\mathbf{A}_1) \cdot \phi_2(\mathbf{A}_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \phi_N(\mathbf{A}_N)$$

- Where $\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_n \subseteq \mathbf{X}$

- A Gibbs distribution factors over a given Markov network G if each \mathbf{A}_i is a clique of G

Markov network independence assumptions

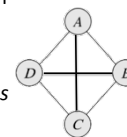
- Two variables that are *directly connected* are (potentially) *directly correlated* with one another
- Two variables X and Y that do not have an edge between them are independent conditioned on all other nodes in the graph, $X \perp Y | G - \{X, Y\}$
- A variable X is independent from all of its non-neighbors in the graph, conditioned on its neighbors

Markov network independence assumptions

- In a Markov network, a path between variables X and Y given observed variables Z is *active* if the path does not traverse any node in Z
- A set of variables Z *separates* sets of variables X and Y iff there are no active paths between any variables in X and any variables in Y
- Then X and Y are independent conditioned on Z , $X \perp Y | Z$, if and (almost) only if Z separates X and Y

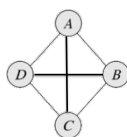
Factorizations

- In general, what is the joint distribution for the graph at right?
- In some cases, e.g. social network, it's possible that the joint distribution *does* factor over e.g. edges of the graph
- We use a *factor graph* to explicitly encode the factorization



Factor graphs

- Two kinds of nodes
 - Random variable nodes (circles)
 - Factor graphs (squares)
 - Edges connect factor nodes and variable nodes



- Draw the factor graph for:

$$P(a, b, c, d) = \frac{1}{Z} \phi_1(a, b) \cdot \phi_2(b, c) \cdot \phi_3(c, d) \cdot \phi_4(d, a) \cdot \phi_5(a, c) \cdot \phi_6(b, d)$$

$$P(a, b, c, d) = \frac{1}{Z} \phi(a, b, c, d)$$

Log-linear models

- From the Gibbs distribution,

$$P(\mathbf{X}) = P(X_1, \dots, X_N) = \frac{1}{Z} \phi_1(\mathbf{A}_1) \cdot \phi_2(\mathbf{A}_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \phi_N(\mathbf{A}_N)$$

- We can take logarithms,

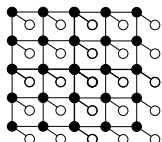
$$P(X_1, \dots, X_N) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(\log \phi_1(\mathbf{A}_1) + \log \phi_2(\mathbf{A}_2) + \dots + \log \phi_N(\mathbf{A}_N))$$

$$= \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(-\sum_i f_i(\mathbf{A}_i)\right)$$

where $f_i(\mathbf{A}_i) = -\log \phi_i(\mathbf{A}_i)$ is called an *energy function*

Pairwise Markov networks

- In a pairwise Markov network (aka pairwise Markov Random Field or MRF), the max clique size is 2
 - Grid graphs are an especially popular special case



Application: Image reconstruction

- Given a noisy image, infer original image
- Express problem naturally in terms of an MRF
 - Image is stored as a sampled function on a grid
 - We can observe noisy pixel values, and we'd like to estimate the original, clean pixel values
 - Important constraint: In images of real-world scenes, one pixel's color is correlated with that of its neighbors
 - The pairwise factors model this constraint
- Problem can be solved by doing inference on the Markov network



