

Visual Recognition: Inference in Graphical Models

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TTI Chicago

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Graphical Models

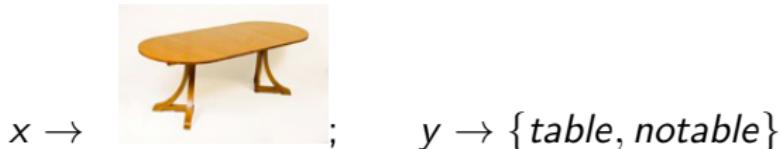
Graphical models

- Applications
- Representation
- Inference
 - message passing (LP relaxations)
 - graph cuts
- Learning

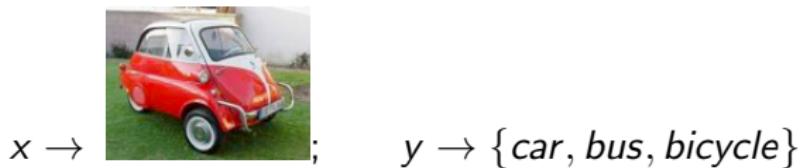
Classification algorithms

We want to classify an object $x \in \mathcal{X}$ into labels $y \in \mathcal{Y}$

- First there was binary $y \in \{-1, 1\}$



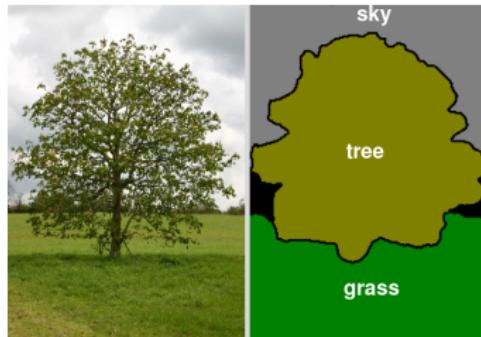
- Then multiclass $y \in \{1, \dots, \mathcal{C}\}$



- The next generation is structured labels

Structure Prediction Problems

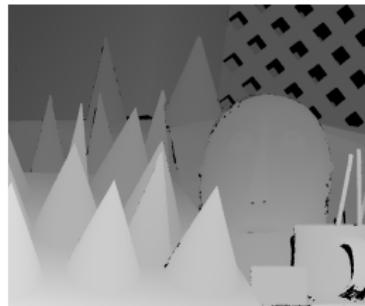
- Segmentation and detection



- Stereo

Structure Prediction Problems

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- 3D scene understanding

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- Multi-labeling of images

Structure Prediction Problems

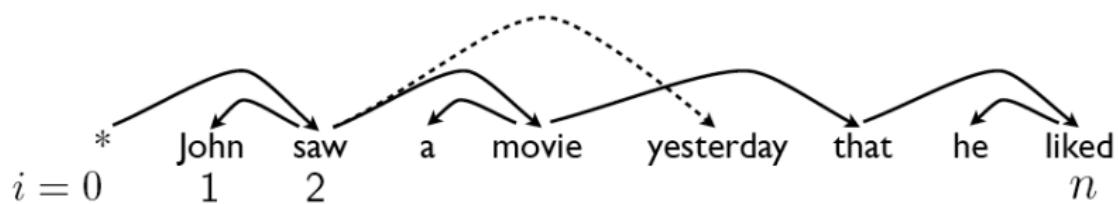
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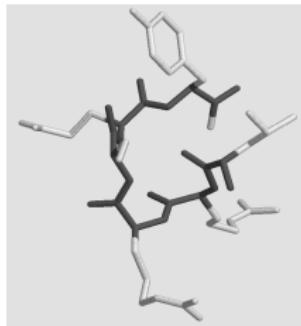
man – made, vehicle, car.

Structure Prediction Problems

- Segmentation and detection
- Stereo
- 3D scene understanding
- Multi-labeling of images
- Other fields, e.g., part of speech tagging, parsing, protein folding.



MRLLILALLGICSLTAYIIVEVGVGSEVSDKR
TCVSLTTQRLPVSRIKTYTITEGSLRAVIF
ITKRGGLKVCADPQATWVRDVVRSMDRKSNT
RNNMIQTKPTGTQQSTNTAVTLTG



Why structured?

- Independent prediction is good but...



- Neighboring pixels should have same labels (if they look similar).

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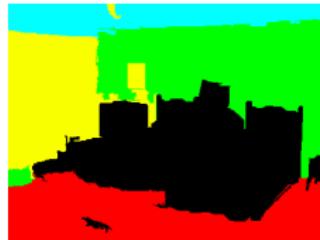
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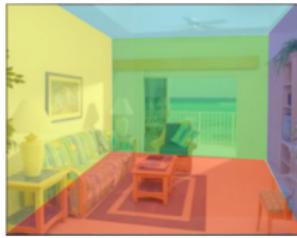
- Learning and inference is tractable for tree-shaped models or binary variables with submodular energies.

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- Learning and inference is tractable for tree-shaped models or binary variables with submodular energies.

Structure Prediction

- Input: $x \in \mathcal{X}$, typically an image.
- Output: label $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.
- Consider a score function $\theta(x, y)$ called **potential** or **feature** such that

$$\theta(x, y) = \begin{cases} \text{high} & \text{if } y \text{ is a good label for } x \\ \text{low} & \text{if } y \text{ is a bad label for } x \end{cases}$$

- We want to predict a label as

$$y^* = \arg \max_y \theta(x, y)$$

Score Decomposition

- We assume that the score decomposes

$$\theta(y|x) = \sum_i \theta_i(y_i) + \sum_{\alpha} \theta_{\alpha}(y_{\alpha})$$

- This represents a (conditional) Markov Random Field (CRF)

$$p(x, y) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_i \psi_i(x, y_i) \prod_{\alpha} \psi_{\alpha}(x, y_{\alpha})$$

with $\log \psi_i(x, y_i) = \theta_i(x, y_i)$, and $\log \psi_{\alpha}(x, y_{\alpha}) = \theta_{\alpha}(x, y_{\alpha})$.

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Markov Networks

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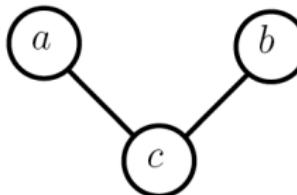
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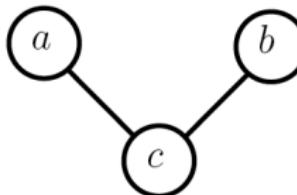


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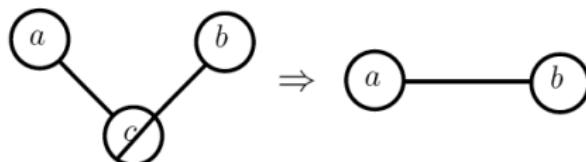
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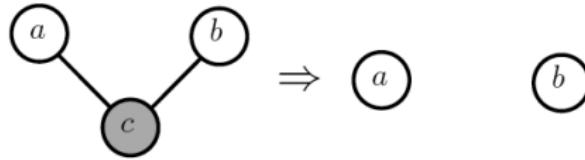


Properties of Markov Network

- Marginalizing over c makes a and b dependent



- Conditioning on c makes a and b independent



[Source: P. Gehler]

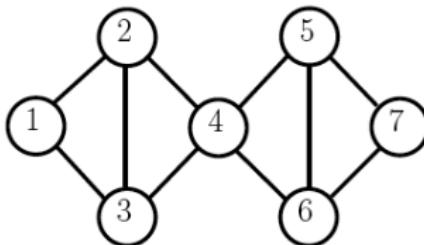
Local and Global Markov properties

- **Local Markov property:** condition on neighbours makes indep. of the rest

$$p(y_i | \mathbf{y} \setminus \{y_i\}) = p(y_i | ne(y_i))$$

Example: $y_4 \perp \{y_1, y_7\} | \{y_2, y_3, y_5, y_6\}$

- **Global Markov Property:** For disjoint sets of variables $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{S})$, where \mathcal{S} separates \mathcal{A} from \mathcal{B} then $\mathcal{A} \perp \mathcal{B} | \mathcal{S}$
- \mathcal{S} is called a separator.
- Example: $y_1 \perp y_7 | \{y_4\}$



[Source: P. Gehler]

Relationship Potentials to Graphs

- Consider

$$p(a, b, c) = \frac{1}{Z} \psi(a, b) \psi(b, c) \psi(c, a)$$

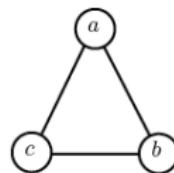
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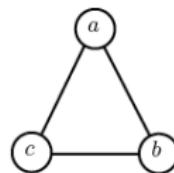
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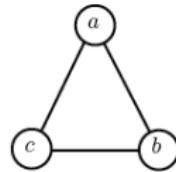
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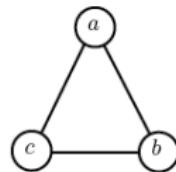
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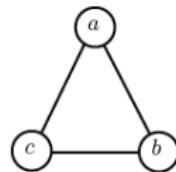
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- Let's look at Factor Graphs

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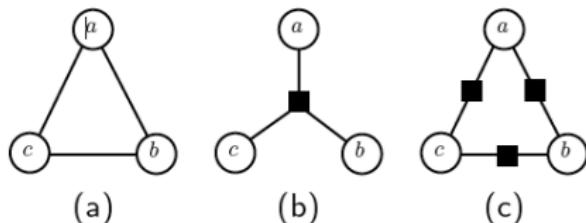
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Factor Graphs

Now consider we introduce an extra node (a square) for each factor



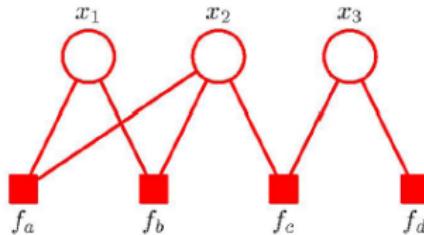
The **factor graph (FG)** has a node (represented by a square) for each factor $\psi(y_\alpha)$ and a variable node (represented by a circle) for each variable x_i .

- Left: Markov Network
- Middle: Factor graph representation of $\psi(a, b, c)$
- Right: Factor graph representation of $\psi(a, b)\psi(b, c)\psi(c, a)$
- Different factor graphs can have the same Markov network

[Source: P. Gehler]

Examples

- Which distribution?



- What factor graph?

$$p(x_1, x_2, x_3) = p(x_1)p(x_2)p(x_3|x_1, x_2)$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

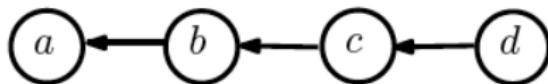
Inference in trees

- Given distribution $p(y_1, \dots, y_n)$
- Inference: computing functions of the distribution
 - mean
 - marginal
 - conditionals
- Marginal inference in singly-connected graph (trees)
- Later: extensions to loopy graphs

[Source: P. Gehler]

Variable Elimination

- ▶ Consider Markov chain ($a, b, c, d \in \{0, 1\}$)



with distribution

$$p(a, b, c, d) = p(a | b)p(b | c)p(c | d)p(d)$$

- ▶ Task: compute the marginal $p(a)$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Variable Elimination



$$\begin{aligned} p(a) &= \sum_{b,c,d} p(a, b, c, d) \\ &= \sum_{b,c,d} p(a | b)p(b | c)p(c | d)p(d) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Naive: $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$ states to sum over
- ▶ Re-order summation:

$$p(a) = \sum_{b,c} p(a | b)p(b | c) \underbrace{\sum_d p(c | d)p(d)}_{\gamma_d(c)}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

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$$p(a) = \sum_{b,c} p(a | b)p(b | c) \underbrace{\sum_d p(c | d)p(d)}_{\gamma_d(c)}$$

$$p(a) = \sum_b p(a | b) \underbrace{\sum_c p(b | c)\gamma_d(c)}_{\gamma_c(b)}$$

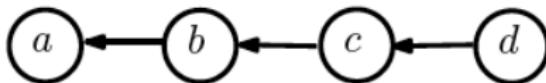
$$p(a) = \sum_b p(a | b)\gamma_c(b)$$

- We need $2 + 2 + 2 = 6$ calculations
- For a chain of length T scale linearly $n * 2$, cf naive approach 2^n

[Source: P. Gehler]

Finding Conditional Marginals

- ▶ Again:



$$p(a, b, c, d) = p(a | b)p(b | c)p(c | d)p(d)$$

- ▶ Now find $p(d | a)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(d | a) &\propto \sum_{b,c} p(a | b)p(b | c)p(c | d)p(d) \\ &= \sum_c \underbrace{\sum_b p(a | b)p(b | c)}_{\gamma_b(c)} p(c | d)p(d) \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \gamma_c(d) \text{ not a distribution} \end{aligned}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Finding Conditional Marginals



- ▶ Found that

$$p(d | a) = k \gamma_c(d)$$

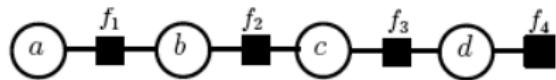
- ▶ and since $\sum_d p(d | a) = 1$

$$k = \frac{1}{\sum_d \gamma_c(d)}$$

- ▶ Again $\gamma_c(d)$ is not a distribution (but a message)

[Source: P. Gehler]

Now with factor graphs



$$p(a, b, c, d) = f_1(a, b)f_2(b, c)f_3(c, d)f_4(d)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(a, b, c) &= \sum_d p(a, b, c, d) \\ &= f_1(a, b)f_2(b, c) \underbrace{\sum_d f_3(c, d)f_4(d)}_{\mu_{d \rightarrow c}(c)} \end{aligned}$$

$$p(a, b) = \sum_c p(a, b, c) = f_1(a, b) \underbrace{\sum_c f_2(b, c)\mu_{d \rightarrow c}(c)}_{\mu_{c \rightarrow b}(b)}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

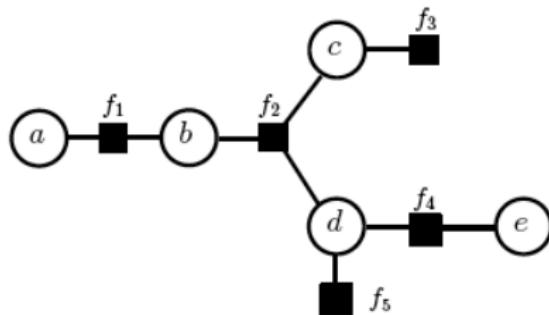
Inference in Chain Structured Factor Graphs

- Simply recurse further
- $\gamma_{m \rightarrow n}(n)$ carries the information beyond m
- We did not need the factors in general (next) we will see that making a distinction is helpful

[Source: P. Gehler]

General singly-connected factor graphs I

- ▶ Now consider a branching graph:



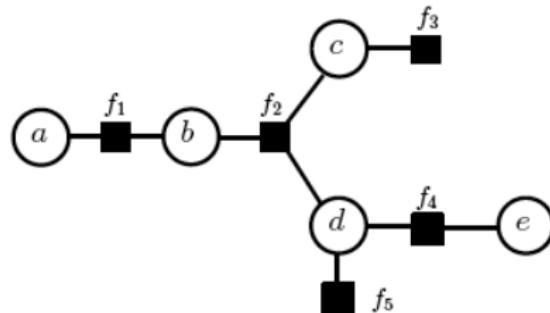
with factors

$$f_1(a, b)f_2(b, c, d)f_3(c)f_4(d, e)f_5(d)$$

- ▶ For example: find marginal $p(a, b)$

[Source: P. Gehler]

General singly-connected factor graphs II

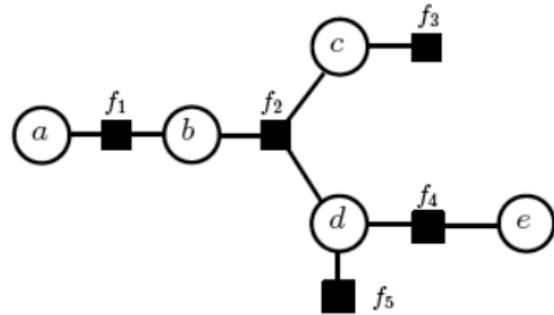


$$p(a, b) = f_1(a, b) \underbrace{\sum_{c,d,e} f_2(b, c, d) f_3(c) f_5(d) f_4(d, e)}_{\mu_{f_2 \rightarrow b}(b)}$$

$$\mu_{f_2 \rightarrow b}(b) = \sum_{c,d} f_2(b, c, d) \underbrace{f_3(c)}_{\mu_{c \rightarrow f_2}(c)} \underbrace{f_5(d) \sum_e f_4(d, e)}_{\mu_{d \rightarrow f_2}(d)}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

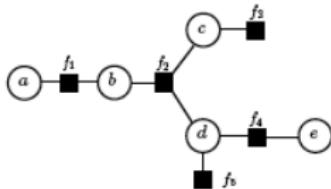
General singly-connected factor graphs III



$$\mu_{d \rightarrow f_2}(d) = \underbrace{f_5(d)}_{\mu_{f_5 \rightarrow d}(d)} \underbrace{\sum_e f_4(d, e)}_{\mu_{f_4 \rightarrow d}(d)}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

General singly-connected factor graphs IV



- If we want to compute the marginal $p(a)$:

$$p(a) = \underbrace{\sum_b f_1(a, b) \mu_{f_2 \rightarrow b}(b)}_{\mu_{f_1 \rightarrow a}(a)}$$

- which we could also view as

$$p(a) = \sum_b f_1(a, b) \underbrace{\mu_{f_2 \rightarrow b}(b)}_{\mu_{b \rightarrow f_1}(b)}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Summary

- Once computed, messages can be re-used
- All marginals $p(c), p(d), p(c, d), \dots$ can be written as a function of messages
- We need an algorithm to compute all messages: Sum-Product algorithm

[Source: P. Gehler]

Sum-product algorithm overview

- Algorithm to compute all messages efficiently, assuming the graph is singly-connected
- It can be used to compute any desired marginals
- Also known as belief propagation (BP)

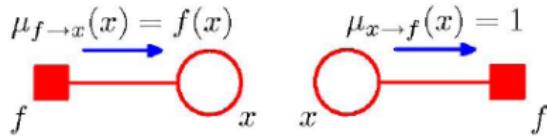
The algorithm is composed of

- 1 Initialization
- 2 Variable to Factor message
- 3 Factor to Variable message

[Source: P. Gehler]

1. Initialization

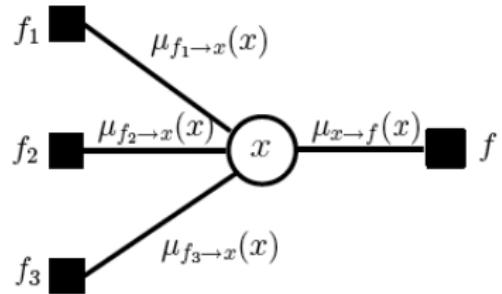
- Messages from extremal (simplicial) node factors are initialized to the factor (left)
- Messages from extremal (simplicial) variable nodes are set to unity (right)



[Source: P. Gehler]

2. Variable to Factor message

$$\mu_{x \rightarrow f}(x) = \prod_{g \in \{\text{ne}(x) \setminus f\}} \mu_{g \rightarrow x}(x)$$

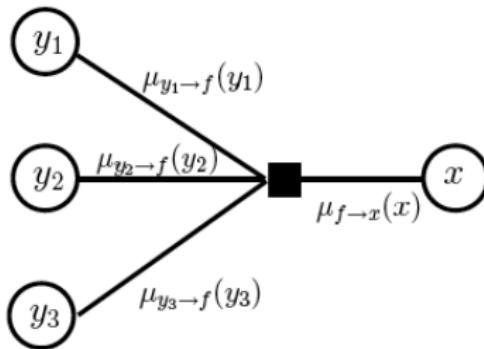


[Source: P. Gehler]

3. Factor to Variable message

- We sum over all states in the set of variables
- This explains the name for the algorithm (sum-product)

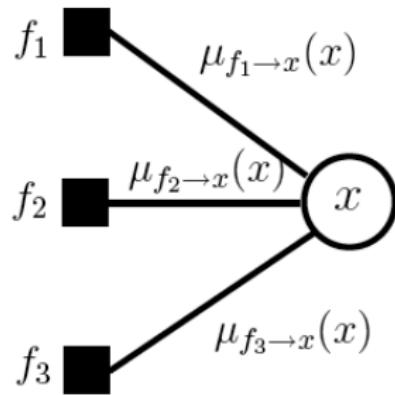
$$\mu_{f \rightarrow x}(x) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}_f \setminus x} \phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \prod_{y \in \{\text{ne}(f) \setminus x\}} \mu_{y \rightarrow f}(y)$$



[Source: P. Gehler]

Marginal computation

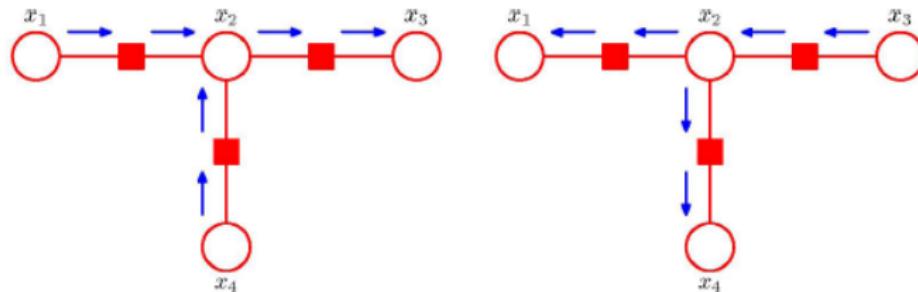
$$p(x) \propto \prod_{f \in \text{ne}(x)} \mu_{f \rightarrow x}(x)$$



[Source: P. Gehler]

Message Ordering

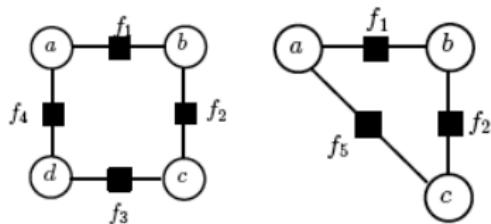
- ▶ Messages depend on previous computed messages
- ▶ Only extremal nodes/factors do not depend on other messages
- ▶ To compute all messages in the graph
 1. leaf-to-root: (pick root node, compute messages pointing towards root)
 2. root-to-leave: (compute messages pointing away from root)



[Source: P. Gehler]

Problems with loops

- Marginalizing over d introduces new link (changes graph structure – in contrast to singly connected graphs)



$$p(a, b, c, d) = f_1(a, b)f_2(b, c)f_3(c, d)f_4(d, a)$$

and marginal

$$p(a, b, c) = f_1(a, b)f_2(b, c) \underbrace{\sum_d f_3(c, d)f_4(d, a)}_{f_5(a, c)}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

What to infer?

- ▶ Mean

$$\mathbb{E}_{p(x)}[x] = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} xp(x)$$

- ▶ Mode

$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x)$$

- ▶ Conditional Distributions

$$p(x_i, x_j \mid x_k, x_l) \text{ or } p(x_i \mid x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$$

- ▶ Max-Marginals

$$x_i^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_i \in \mathcal{X}_i} p(x_i) = \cdots dx_n \operatorname{argmax}_{x_i \in \mathcal{X}_i} \int_{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)} p(x) dx_1$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Computing the Partition Function

- The partition function ($p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_f \phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f)$) (normalization constant) Z can be computed after the leaf-to-root step (no need for the root-to-leaf step) (choose any $x \in \mathcal{X}$)

$$Z = \sum_{\mathcal{X}} \prod_f \phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \quad (10)$$

$$= \sum_x \sum_{\mathcal{X} \setminus \{x\}} \prod_{f \in \text{ne}(x)} \prod_{f \notin \text{ne}(x)} \phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \quad (11)$$

$$= \sum_x \prod_{f \in \text{ne}(x)} \sum_{\mathcal{X} \setminus \{x\}} \prod_{f \notin \text{ne}(x)} \phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \quad (12)$$

$$= \sum_x \prod_{f \in \text{ne}(x)} \mu_{f \rightarrow x}(x) \quad (13)$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Log Messages

- ▶ In large graphs, messages may become very small
- ▶ Work with log-messages instead $\lambda = \log \mu$
- ▶ Variable-to-factor messages

$$\mu_{x \rightarrow f}(x) = \prod_{g \in \{\text{ne}(x) \setminus f\}} \mu_{g \rightarrow x}(x)$$

then becomes

$$\lambda_{x \rightarrow f}(x) = \sum_{g \in \{\text{ne}(x) \setminus f\}} \lambda_{g \rightarrow x}(x)$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Log Messages

- ▶ Work with log-messages instead $\lambda = \log \mu$
- ▶ Factor-to-Variable messages

$$\mu_{f \rightarrow x}(x) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}_f \setminus x} \Phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \prod_{y \in \{\text{ne}(f) \setminus x\}} \mu_{y \rightarrow f}(y) \quad (16)$$

then becomes

$$\lambda_{f \rightarrow x}(x) = \log \left(\sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}_f \setminus x} \Phi(\mathcal{X}_f) \exp \left[\sum_{y \in \{\text{ne}(f) \setminus x\}} \lambda_{y \rightarrow f}(y) \right] \right) \quad (17)$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Trick

- ▶ Log-Factor-to-Variable Message:

$$\lambda_{f \rightarrow x}(x) = \log \sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}_f \setminus x} \Phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \exp \sum_{y \in \{\text{ne}(f) \setminus x\}} \lambda_{y \rightarrow f}(y) \quad (18)$$

- ▶ large numbers lead to numerical instability
- ▶ Use the following equality

$$\log \sum_i \exp(v_i) = \alpha + \log \sum_i \exp(v_i - \alpha) \quad (19)$$

- ▶ With $\alpha = \max \lambda_{y \rightarrow f}(y)$

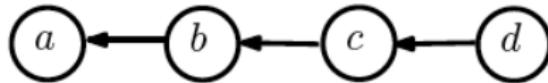
[Source: P. Gehler]

Finding the maximal state: Max-Product

- ▶ For a given distribution $p(x)$ find the most likely state:

$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_1, \dots, x_n} p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

- ▶ Again use factorization structure to distribute the maximisation to local computations
- ▶ Example: chain



$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = \phi(x_1, x_2)\phi(x_2, x_3)\phi(x_3, x_4)$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Be careful: not maximal marginal states!

- ▶ The most likely state

$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_1, \dots, x_n} p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

does not need to be the one for which the marginals are maximized:

- ▶ For all $i = 1, \dots, n$

$$x_i^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_i} p(x_i)$$

▶ Example:

		$x = 0$	$x = 1$
		0.3	0.4
$y = 0$	$x = 0$	0.3	0.4
	$x = 1$	0.3	0.0

[Source: P. Gehler]

Example chain

$$\begin{aligned}\max_x f(x) &= \max_{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4} \phi(x_1, x_2) \phi(x_2, x_3) \phi(x_3, x_4) \\&= \max_{x_1, x_2, x_3} \phi(x_1, x_2) \phi(x_2, x_3) \underbrace{\max_{x_4} \phi(x_3, x_4)}_{\gamma(x_3)} \\&= \max_{x_1, x_2} \phi(x_1, x_2) \underbrace{\max_{x_3} \phi(x_2, x_3) \gamma(x_3)}_{\gamma(x_2)} \\&= \max_{x_1} \underbrace{\max_{x_2} \phi(x_1, x_2) \gamma(x_2)}_{\gamma(x_1)} \\&= \max_{x_1} \gamma(x_1)\end{aligned}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Example chain

- Once computed the messages ($\gamma(\cdot)$) find the optimal values

$$x_1^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_1} \gamma(x_1)$$

$$x_2^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_2} \phi(x_1^*, x_2) \gamma(x_2)$$

$$x_3^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_3} \phi(x_2^*, x_3) \gamma(x_3)$$

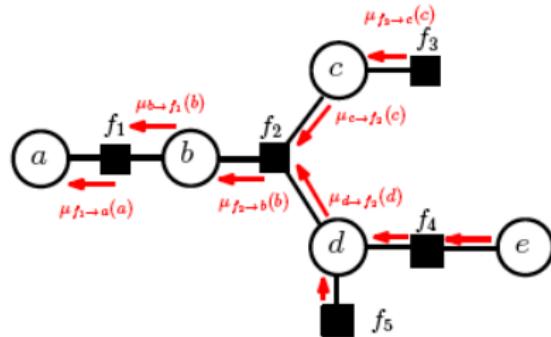
$$x_4^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x_4} \phi(x_3^*, x_4) \gamma(x_4)$$

- this is called **backtracking** (an application of dynamic programming)
- can choose arbitrary start point

[Source: P. Gehler]

Trees

- ▶ Spot the messages:



$$\begin{aligned}\max_x f(x) &= \max_{a,b,c,d,e} f_1(a, b)f_2(b, c, d)f_3(c)f_4(d, e)f_5(d) \\ &= \max_a \mu_{f_2 \rightarrow a}(a)\end{aligned}$$

[Source: P. Gehler]

Max-Product Algorithm

Pick any variable as root and

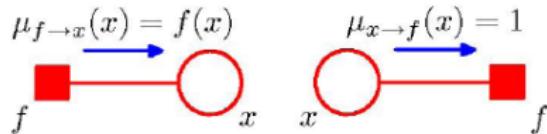
- 1 Initialisation (same as sum-product)
- 2 Variable to Factor message (same as sum-product)
- 3 Factor to Variable message

Then compute the maximal state

[Source: P. Gehler]

1. Initialization

- Messages from extremal node factors are initialized to the factor
- Messages from extremal variable nodes are set to unity



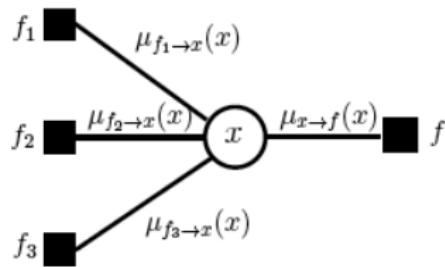
- Same as sum product

[Source: P. Gehler]

2. Variable to Factor message

- Same as for sum-product

$$\mu_{x \rightarrow f}(x) = \prod_{g \in \{\text{ne}(x) \setminus f\}} \mu_{g \rightarrow x}(x)$$

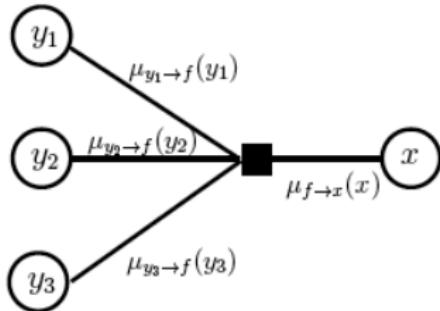


[Source: P. Gehler]

3. Factor to Variable message

- Different message than in sum-product
- This is now a max-product

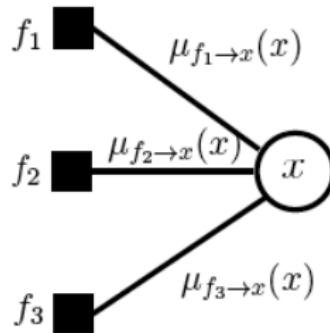
$$\mu_{f \rightarrow x}(x) = \max_{y \in \mathcal{X}_f \setminus x} \phi_f(\mathcal{X}_f) \prod_{y \in \{\text{ne}(f) \setminus x\}} \mu_{y \rightarrow f}(y)$$



[Source: P. Gehler]

Maximal state of Variable

$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_x \prod_{f \in \text{ne}(x)} \mu_{f \rightarrow x}(x)$$



- This does not work with loops
- Same problem as the sum product algorithm

[Source: P. Gehler]

Inference with LP relaxations

Decomposition Solvers

- Solving the problem is hard, as it involves exponential many labels

$$\max_{y_1, \dots, y_n} \sum_i \theta_i(y_i) + \sum_\alpha \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha)$$

- Trivial decomposition upper bound

$$\sum_i \max_{y_i} \theta_i(y_i) + \sum_\alpha \max_{y_\alpha} \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha)$$

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- Fails for example

$$\theta_1(y_1) = \theta_2(y_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{max argument } \rightarrow y_1 = y_2 = 0$$

$$\theta_{1,2}(y_1, y_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{max argument } \rightarrow y_1 = y_2 = 1$$

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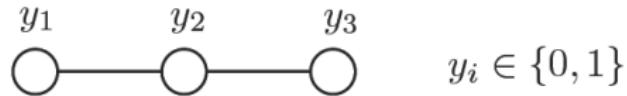
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Alternative Representation



- We want to solve

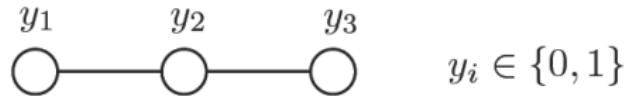
$$\max_{y_1, y_2, y_3} \theta_1(y_1) + \theta_2(y_2) + \theta_3(y_3) + \theta_{12}(y_1, y_2) + \theta_{23}(y_2, y_3)$$

- We can parameterize the problem as

$$\theta_1(y_1) + \theta_2(y_2) + \theta_3(y_3) + \theta_{12}(y_1, y_2) + \theta_{23}(y_2, y_3) = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1(0) \\ \theta_1(1) \\ \theta_2(0) \\ \theta_2(1) \\ \theta_3(0) \\ \theta_3(1) \\ \theta_{12}(0, 0) \\ \theta_{12}(1, 0) \\ \theta_{12}(0, 1) \\ \theta_{12}(1, 1) \\ \theta_{23}(0, 0) \\ \theta_{23}(1, 0) \\ \theta_{23}(0, 1) \\ \theta_{23}(1, 1) \end{bmatrix}^T \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_1(0) \\ b_1(1) \\ b_2(0) \\ b_2(1) \\ b_3(0) \\ b_3(1) \\ b_{12}(0, 0) \\ b_{12}(1, 0) \\ b_{12}(0, 1) \\ b_{12}(1, 1) \\ b_{23}(0, 0) \\ b_{23}(1, 0) \\ b_{23}(0, 1) \\ b_{23}(1, 1) \end{bmatrix}$$

with **b** satisfying certain conditions, i.e., define the marginal polytope.

Alternative Representation



- We want to solve

$$\max_{y_1, y_2, y_3} \theta_1(y_1) + \theta_2(y_2) + \theta_3(y_3) + \theta_{12}(y_1, y_2) + \theta_{23}(y_2, y_3)$$

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with **b** satisfying certain conditions, i.e., define the marginal polytope.

ILP formulation

- Introduce indicator variables $b_i(y_i)$ for each variable and $b_\alpha(y_\alpha)$ for the factors, and define

$$\max \sum_{\alpha, y_\alpha} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha) + \sum_{i, y_i} b_i(y_i) \theta_i(y_i)$$

subject to:

$$b_i(y_i), b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \in \{0, 1\},$$

$$\sum_{y_\alpha} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) = 1, \sum_{y_i} b_i(y_i) = 1$$

$$\forall i, y_i, \alpha \in N(i), \sum_{y_\alpha \setminus y_i} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) = b_i(y_i)$$

- This ILP is NP-Hard

LP Relaxation

- Replace the integrality constraint

$$\max \sum_{\alpha, y_\alpha} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha) + \sum_{i, y_i} b_i(y_i) \theta_i(y_i)$$

subject to:

$$b_i(y_i), b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \in [0, 1], \quad \sum_{y_\alpha} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) = 1, \quad \sum_{y_i} b_i(y_i) = 1$$

$$\forall i, y_i, \alpha \in N(i), \quad \sum_{y_\alpha \setminus y_i} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) = b_i(y_i)$$

- Introduce entropy barrier functions to be smooth and get rid of the simplex constraints

$$\max \sum_{\alpha, y_\alpha} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha) + \sum_{i, y_i} b_i(y_i) \theta_i(y_i) + \epsilon \left(\sum_{\alpha} c_\alpha H(b_\alpha) + \sum_i c_i H(b_i) \right)$$

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Primal Formulation

- The dual problem

$$\max_{\alpha, y_\alpha} \sum_{i, y_i} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha) + \sum_{i, y_i} b_i(y_i) \theta_i(y_i) + \epsilon \left(\sum_{\alpha} c_\alpha H(b_\alpha) + \sum_i c_i H(b_i) \right)$$

subject to: $\forall i, y_i, \alpha \in N(i), \sum_{y_\alpha \setminus y_i} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) = b_i(y_i)$

- Its primal problem has Lagrange multipliers for each constraint

$$\sum_{\alpha} \epsilon c_{\alpha} \ln \sum_{y_{\alpha}} \exp \left(\frac{\theta_{\alpha}(y_{\alpha}) + \sum_{i \in N(\alpha)} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(y_i)}{\epsilon c_{\alpha}} \right) + \sum_i \epsilon c_i \ln \sum_{y_i} \exp \left(\frac{\theta_i(y_i) - \sum_{\alpha \in N(i)} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(y_i)}{\epsilon c_i} \right)$$

Primal Formulation

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- Optimization via coordinate descent (close form updates) gives us a new family of message passing algorithms [Hazan and Sashua 2010].
- Optimum guaranteed when $c_i, c_{\alpha} > 0$.

Primal Formulation

- The dual problem

$$\max_{\alpha, y_\alpha} \sum_{\alpha, y_\alpha} b_\alpha(y_\alpha) \theta_\alpha(y_\alpha) + \sum_{i, y_i} b_i(y_i) \theta_i(y_i) + \epsilon \left(\sum_{\alpha} c_\alpha H(b_\alpha) + \sum_i c_i H(b_i) \right)$$

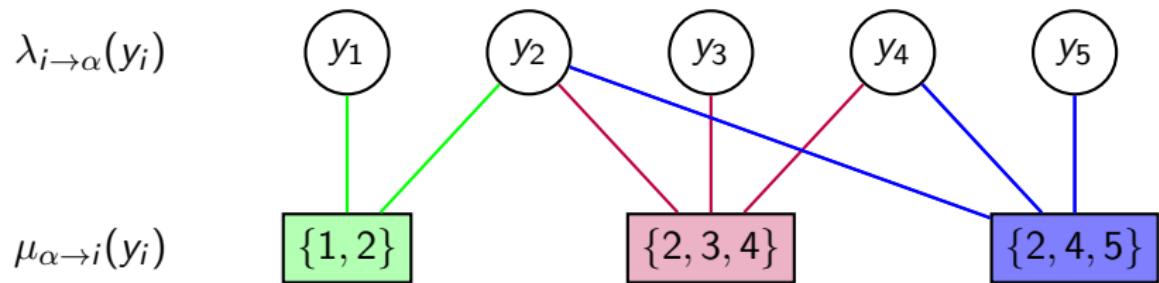
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- Its primal problem has Lagrange multipliers for each constraint

$$\sum_{\alpha} \epsilon c_{\alpha} \ln \sum_{y_{\alpha}} \exp \left(\frac{\theta_{\alpha}(y_{\alpha}) + \sum_{i \in N(\alpha)} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(y_i)}{\epsilon c_{\alpha}} \right) + \sum_i \epsilon c_i \ln \sum_{y_i} \exp \left(\frac{\theta_i(y_i) - \sum_{\alpha \in N(i)} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(y_i)}{\epsilon c_i} \right)$$

- Optimization via coordinate descent (close form updates) gives us a new family of message passing algorithms [Hazan and Sashua 2010].
- Optimum guaranteed when $c_i, c_{\alpha} > 0$.

Message passing: convex max-product when $\epsilon = 0$

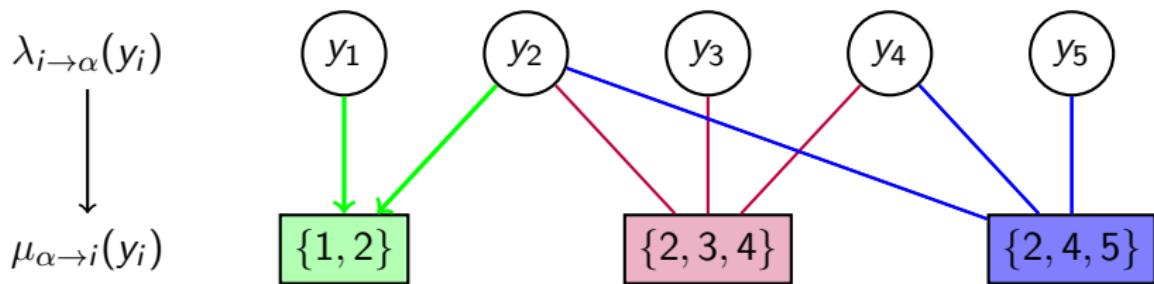


Algorithm 1 Convex Max-Product:

Set $\hat{c}_i = c_i + \sum_{\alpha \in N(i)} c_\alpha$. For every $i = 1, \dots, n$ repeat until convergence: $\forall \alpha \in N(i), x_i$:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{\alpha \rightarrow i}(x_i) &= \inf_{x_\alpha \setminus x_i} \left\{ \theta_\alpha(x_\alpha) + \sum_{j \in N(\alpha) \setminus i} \lambda_{j \rightarrow \alpha}(x_j) \right\} \\ \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(x_i) &= \frac{c_\alpha}{\hat{c}_i} \left(\theta_i(x_i) + \sum_{\beta \in N(i)} \mu_{\beta \rightarrow i}(x_i) \right) - \mu_{\alpha \rightarrow i}(x_i)\end{aligned}$$

Message passing: convex max-product when $\epsilon = 0$

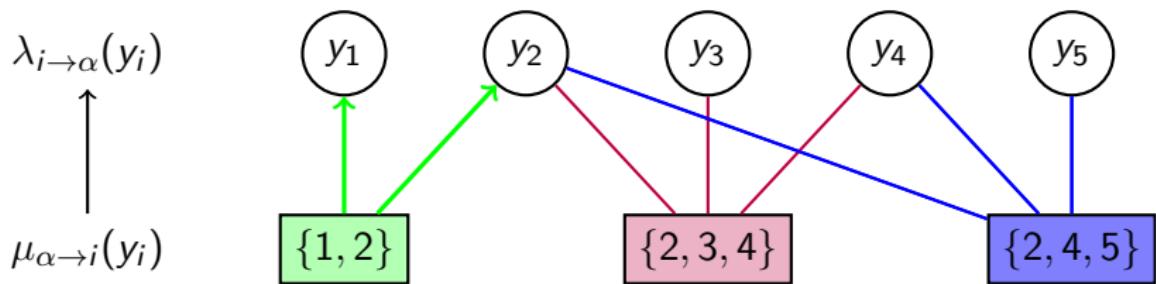


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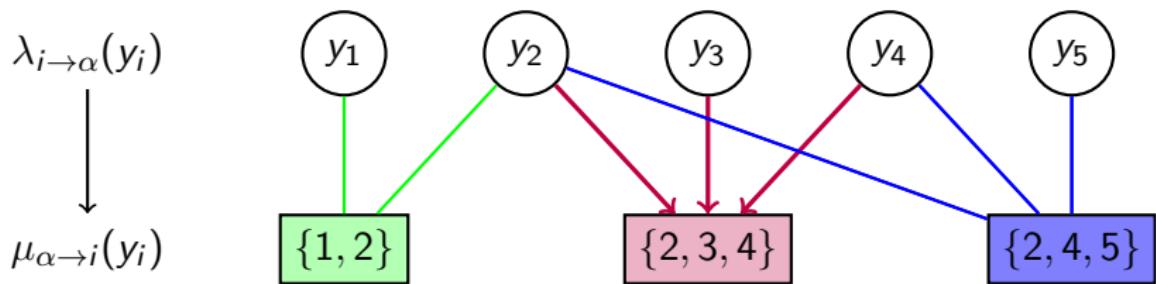


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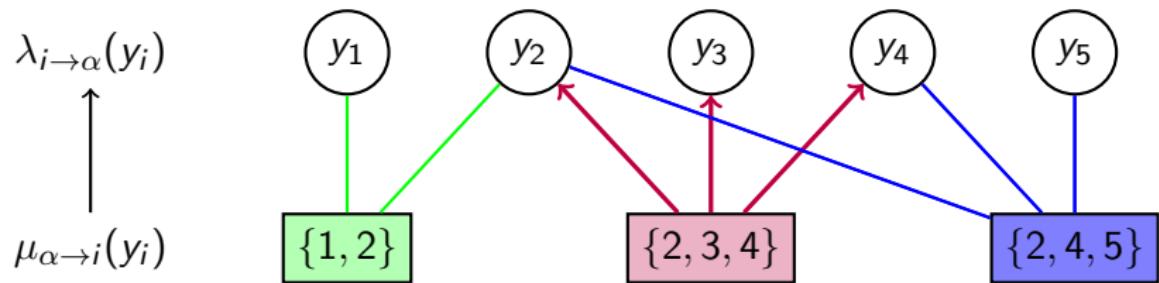


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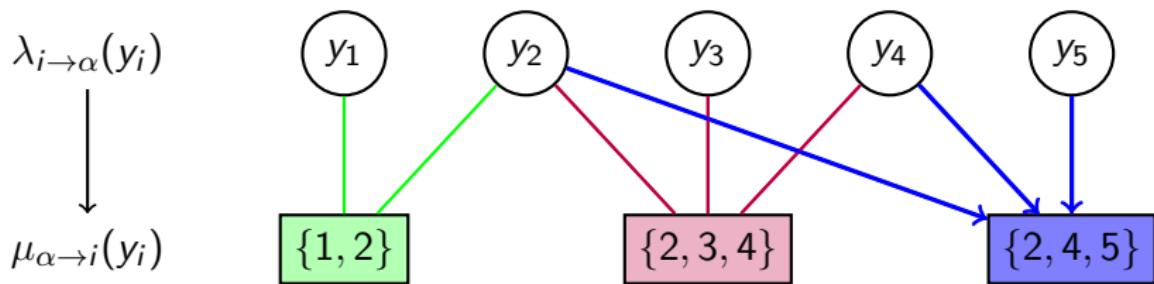


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$$\lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(x_i) = \frac{c_\alpha}{\hat{c}_i} \left(\theta_i(x_i) + \sum_{\beta \in N(i)} \mu_{\beta \rightarrow i}(x_i) \right) - \mu_{\alpha \rightarrow i}(x_i)$$

Message passing: convex max-product when $\epsilon = 0$

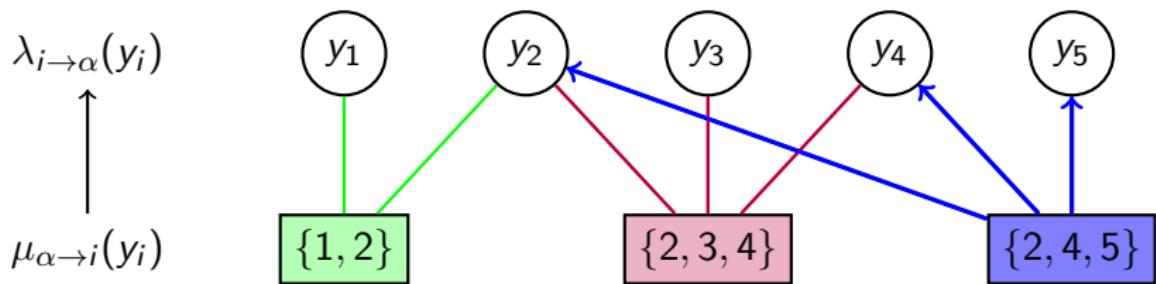


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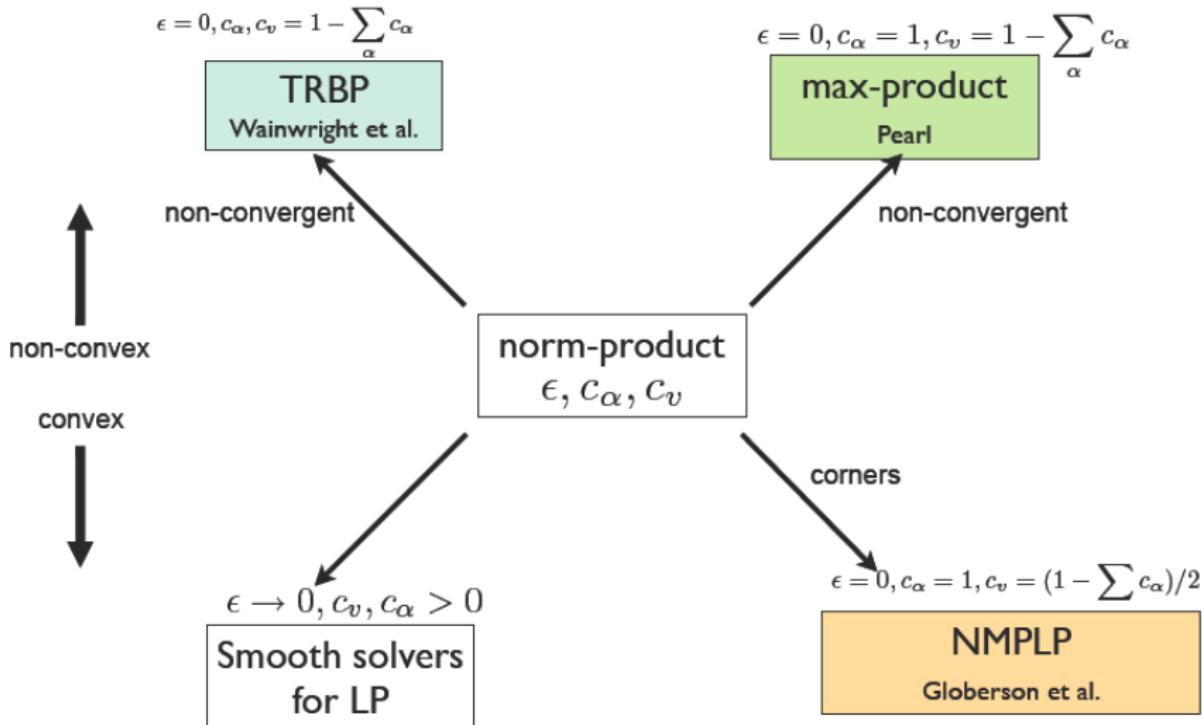


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Equivalence with other models



Cloud computing: Very large problems

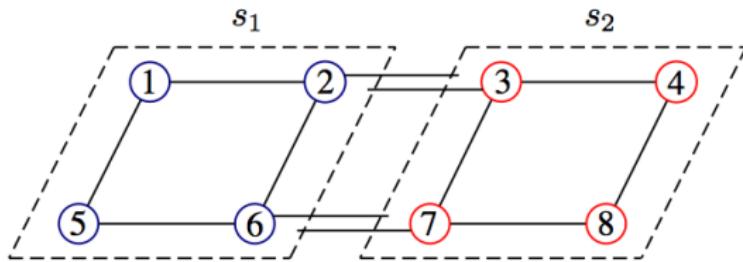
- Dual decomposition: partition the problem and add Lagrange multipliers

$$\max \sum_{s \in G_P} \sum_{\alpha \in G_s, x_\alpha} b_\alpha^s(x_\alpha) \theta_\alpha(x_\alpha) + \sum_{i \in G_S, x_i} b_i^s(x_i) \theta_i(x_i) + \epsilon \sum_{s \in G_P} \left(\sum_{\alpha \in G_s} c_\alpha H(b_\alpha^s) + \sum_{i \in G_s} c_i H(b_i^s) \right)$$

subject to:

$$\forall s, i, x_i, \alpha \in N(i), \quad \sum_{x_\alpha \setminus x_i} b_\alpha^s(x_\alpha) = b_i^s(x_i)$$

$$\forall s, \alpha \in N_P(s), x_\alpha, \quad b_\alpha^s(x_\alpha) = b_\alpha(x_\alpha)$$



- We obtain a dual problem with one additional set of Lagrange multipliers which are messages between machines [Schwing et al. 11].