
The Sum-Product Algorithm

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February 13, 2018



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- ❑ [Sum-Product Algorithm for Factor Trees](#), [Equivalence with the Sum-Product algorithm](#)
 - Kevin Murphy, [Machine Learning: A probabilistic Perspective](#), Chapter 19
 - Chris Bishop, [Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning](#), Chapter 8
 - Jordan, M. I. (2007). An introduction to probabilistic graphical models. In preparation (Chapters 4).
 - [Video Lectures on Machine Learning](#), Z. Gahramani, C. Bishop and others.
 - Pearl, J. (1988). [Probabilistic Reasoning in Intelligent Systems](#). Morgan Kaufmann.
 - Lauritzen, S. L. and D. J. Spiegelhalter (1988). [Local computations with probabilities on graphical structures and their application to expert systems](#). *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* **50**, 157–224.



Postorder – Optimal Elimination

postorder(*u*)

if *u* is a leaf

 print *u*;

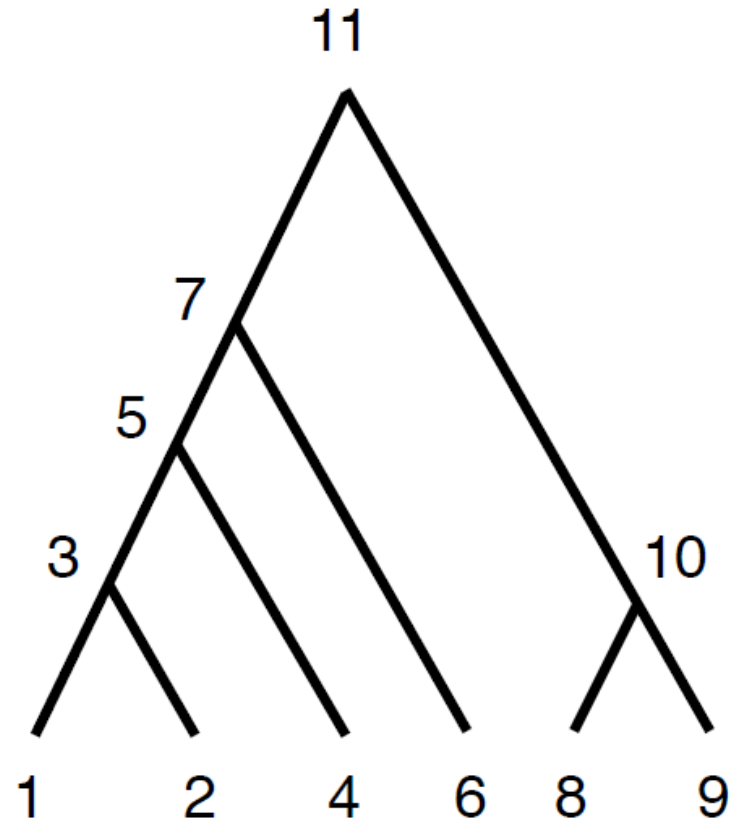
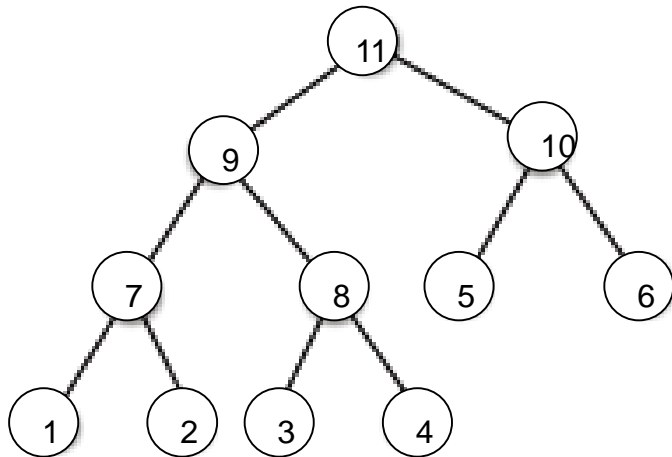
else

 postorder(*u* → leftChild);

 postorder(*u* → rightChild);

 print *u*;

end



Sum Product Algorithm for a Tree

Sum-Product(\mathcal{T}, E)

Evidence(E)

$f = \text{ChooseRoot}(\mathcal{V})$

for $e \in \mathcal{N}(f)$

 Collect(f, e)

for $e \in \mathcal{N}(f)$

 Distribute(f, e)

for $i \in \mathcal{V}$

 ComputeMarginal(i)

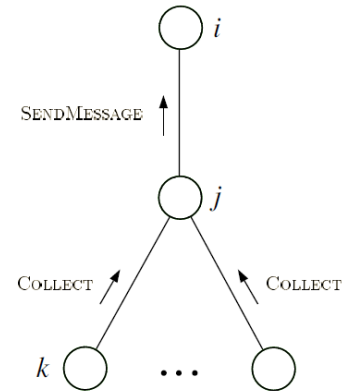
Evidence(E)

for $i \in E$

$$\psi^E(x_i) = \psi(x_i) \delta(x_i, \bar{x}_i)$$

for $i \notin E$

$$\psi^E(x_i) = \psi(x_i)$$



SendMessage(j, i)

$$m_{ji}(x_i) = \sum_{x_j} \left(\psi^E(x_j) \psi(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j) \setminus i} m_{kj}(x_j) \right)$$

Collect(i, j)

for $k \in \mathcal{N}(j) \setminus i$

 Collect(j, k)

 SendMessage(j, i)

ComputeMarginal(i)

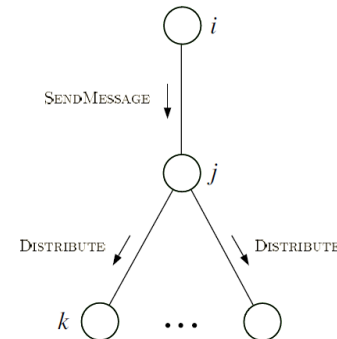
$$p(x_i) \propto \psi^E(x_i) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} m_{ji}(x_i)$$

Distribute(i, j)

 SendMessage(i, j)

for $k \in \mathcal{N}(j) \setminus i$

 Distribute(j, k)



Sum Product Algorithm for a Tree

Sum-Product(\mathcal{T}, E)

Evidence(E)

$f = \text{ChooseRoot}(\mathcal{V})$

for $e \in \mathcal{N}(f)$

$\text{Collect}(f, e)$

for $e \in \mathcal{N}(f)$

$\text{Distribute}(f, e)$

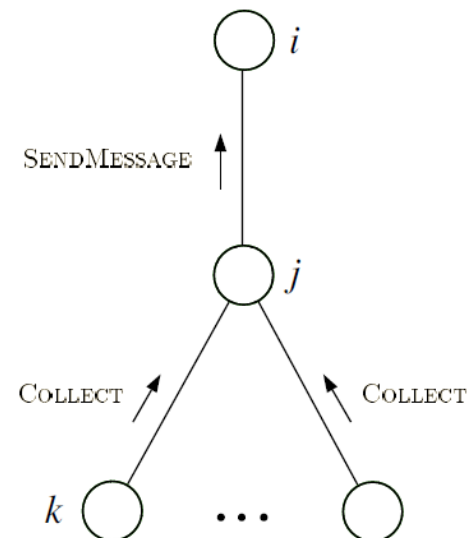
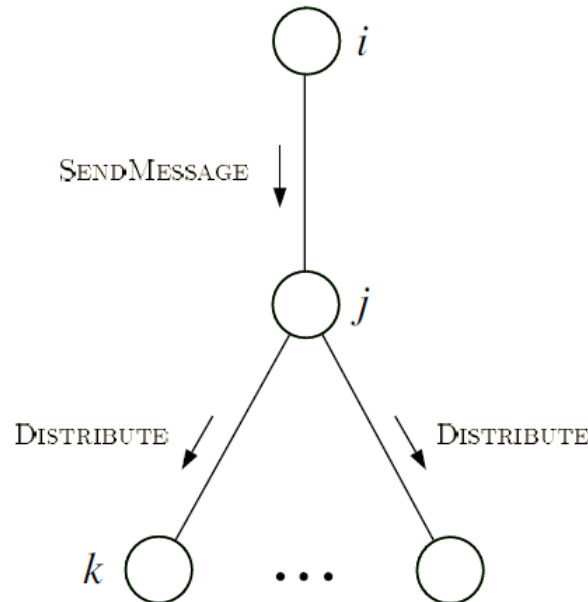
for $i \in \mathcal{V}$

$\text{ComputeMarginal}(i)$

← Choose any root (unspecified here)

← Messages flow from the leaves to the root

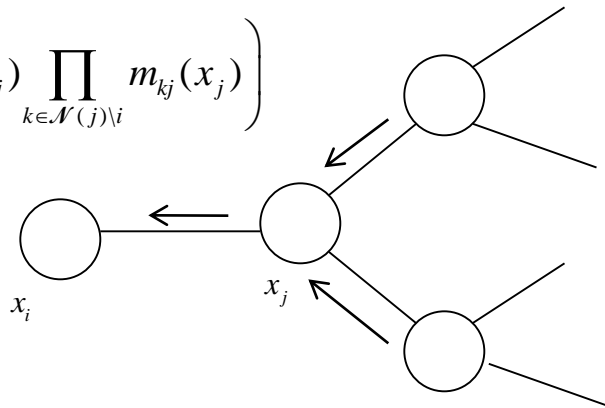
← Messages flow outward from the root to the leaves



Belief Propagation: Sum-Product Algorithm

- ❑ The message passing algorithm is extended to any tree-structured graph (no loops).
- ❑ For each node to compute the outgoing message:
 - Form product of incoming messages and local evidence (if e.g. node j here is connected to an observed node)
 - Marginalize over x_j to give outgoing message at x_i
 - One message in each direction across each link
- ❑ The algorithm fails if there are loops in the graph

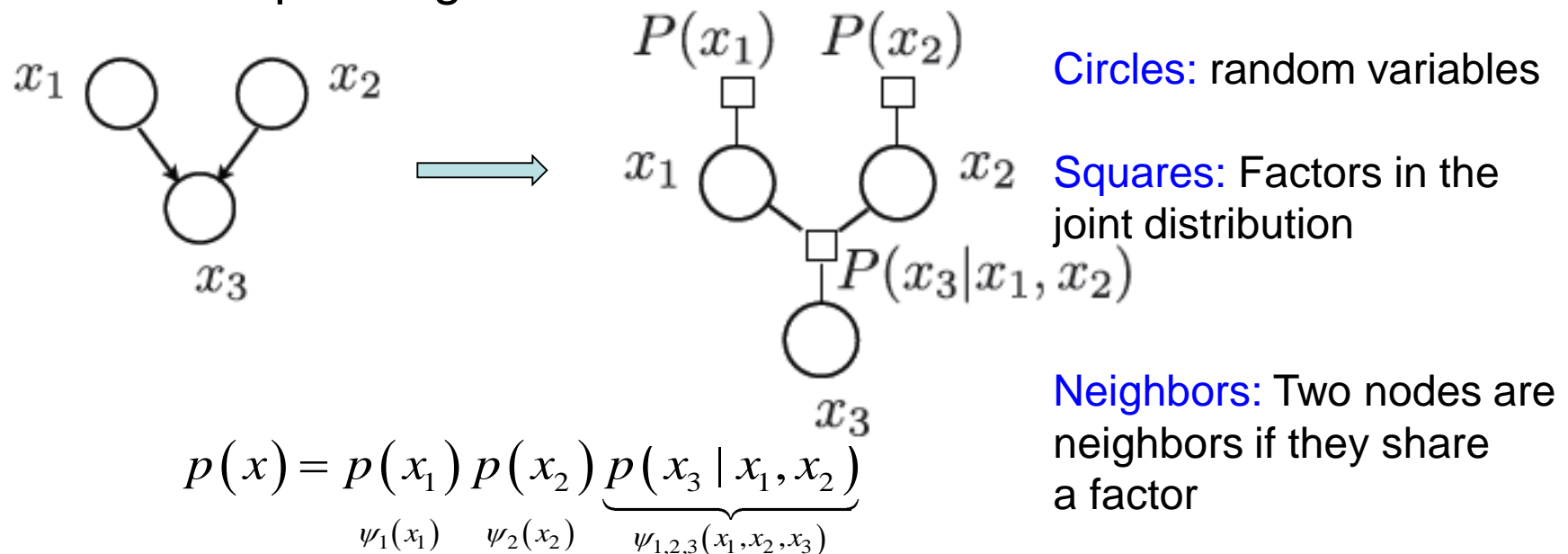
$$m_{ji}(x_i) = \sum_{x_j} \left(\psi^E(x_j) \psi(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j) \setminus i} m_{kj}(x_j) \right)$$



To implement this, propagate messages from the root node to the leaf node and reversely, and save all messages along each and every edge.

Factor Graphs From Directed Graphs

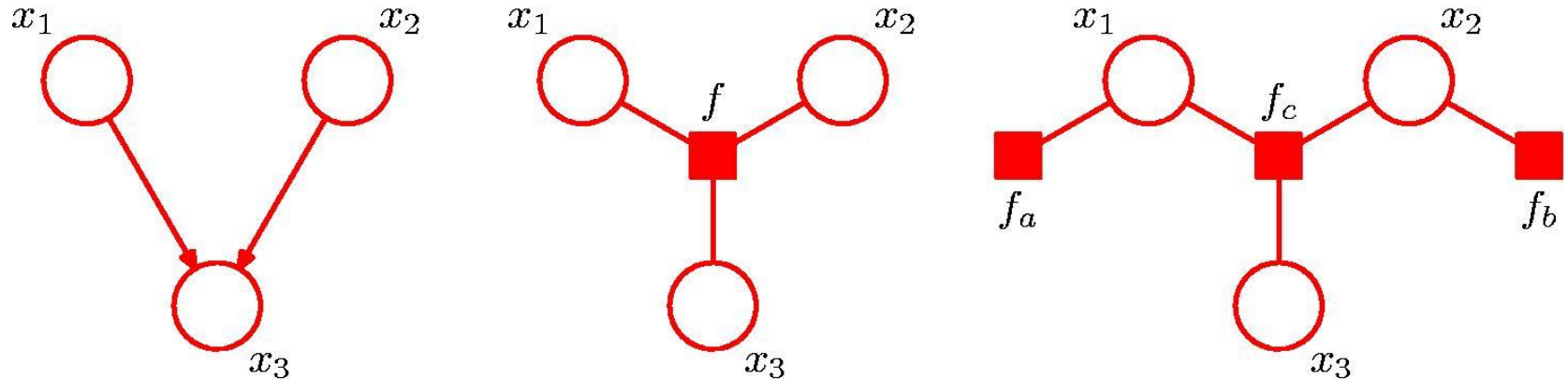
- Factor graphs explicate how the joint distribution factors into smaller components
- Each factor node is connected to all the variable nodes that the corresponding factor depends on.



- Frey, B. J. (1998). [Graphical Models for Machine Learning and Digital Communication](#). MIT Press.
- Kschischang, F. R., B. J. Frey, and H. A. Loeliger (2001). [Factor graphs and the sum-product algorithm](#). *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* **47**(2), 498–519.

Factor Graphs from Directed Graphs

- The conversion of a directed graph to a factor graph is illustrated in the Figure below



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

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

$$f_a(x_1) = p(x_1)$$

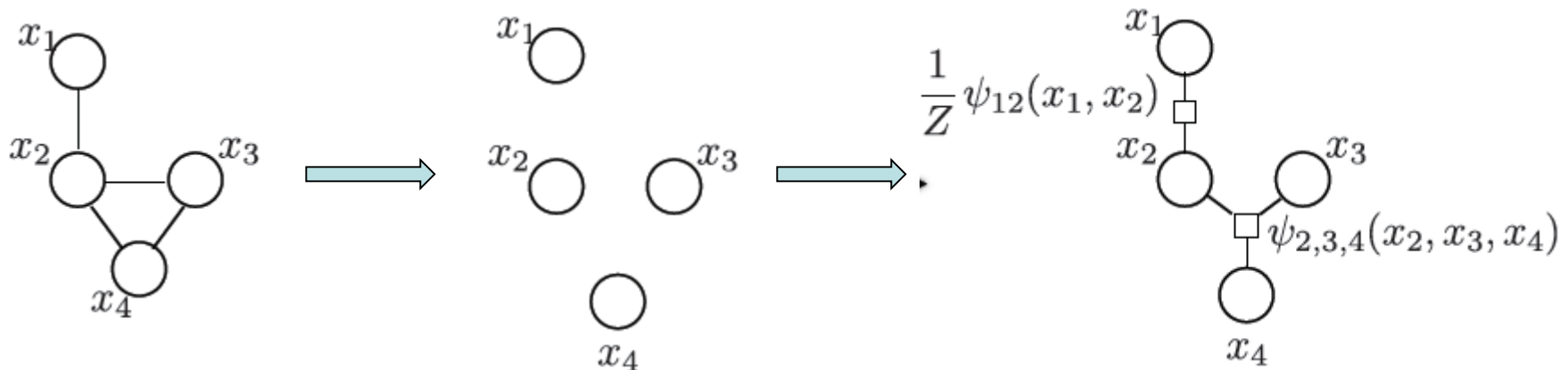
$$f_b(x_2) = p(x_2)$$

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

There can be multiple factor graphs all of which correspond to the same directed graph.

Factor Graphs From Undirected Graphs

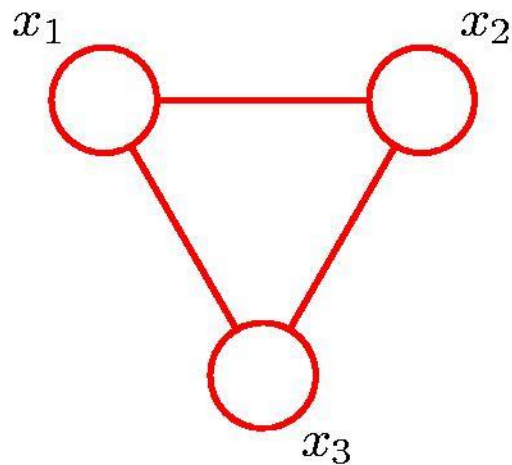
- We can also define a factor graph representation of an undirected graph.
- Each factor node is connected to all the variable nodes that the corresponding factor depends on.



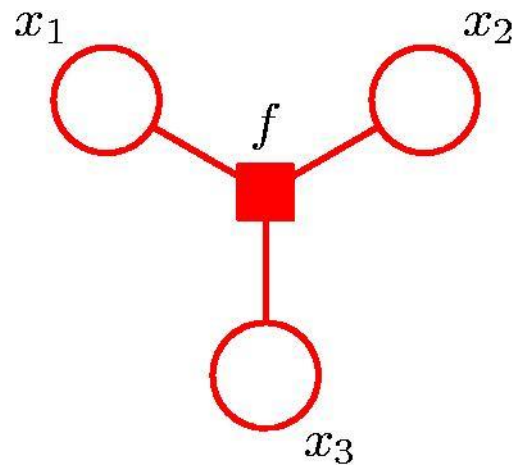
$$p(x) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{Z} \psi_{12}(x_1, x_2)}_{1st \text{ factor}} \underbrace{\psi_{234}(x_2, x_3, x_4)}_{2nd \text{ factor}}$$

Factor Graphs from Undirected Graphs

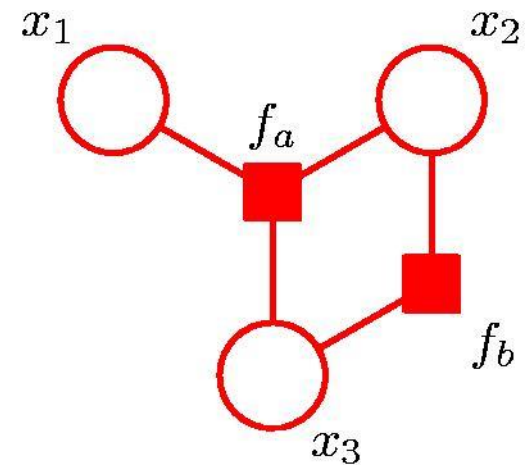
- An undirected graph can be readily converted to a factor graph.



$$\psi(x_1, x_2, x_3)$$



$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ = \psi(x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

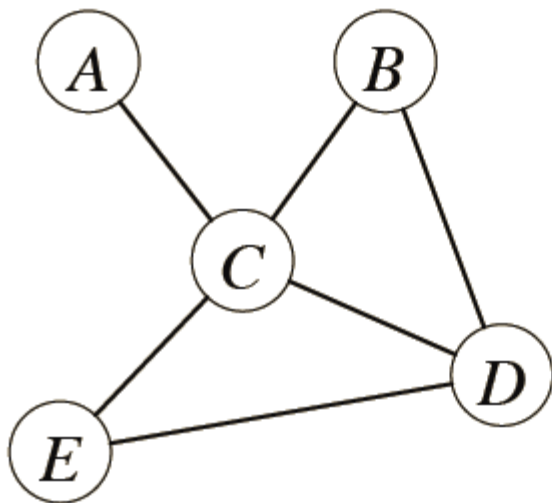


$$f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) f_b(x_2, x_3) \\ = \psi(x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

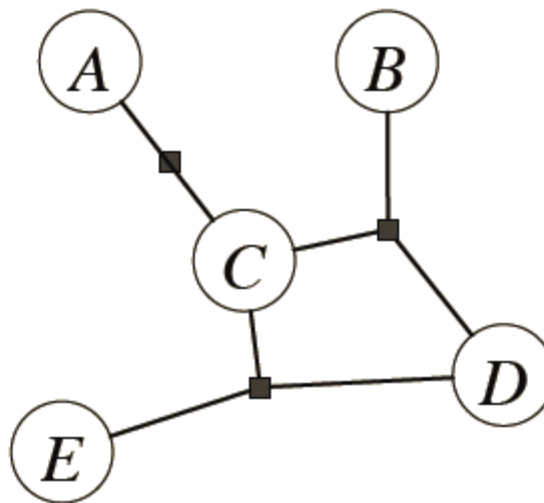
- *There may be several different factor graphs that correspond to the same undirected graph.*

Undirected Graphs and Factor Graphs

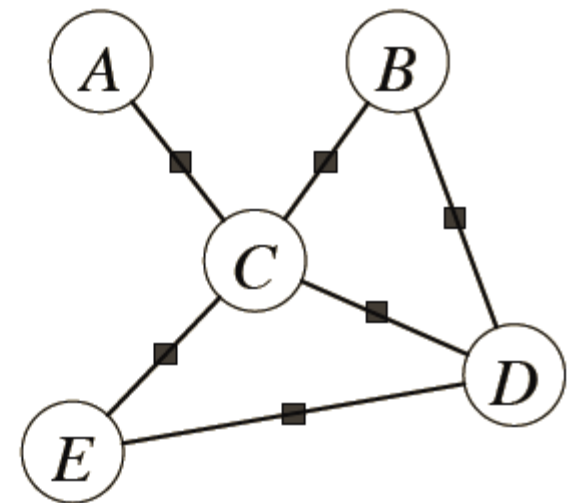
- All nodes in (a), (b), and (c) have exactly the same neighbors and these three graphs represent exactly the same conditional independence relationships.
- In (c) the probability factors into a product of pairwise functions.
- Consider the case where each variable is discrete and can take on K possible values. The functions in (a) and (b) are tables with $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$ cells, whereas in (c) they are $\mathcal{O}(K^2)$.



(a)



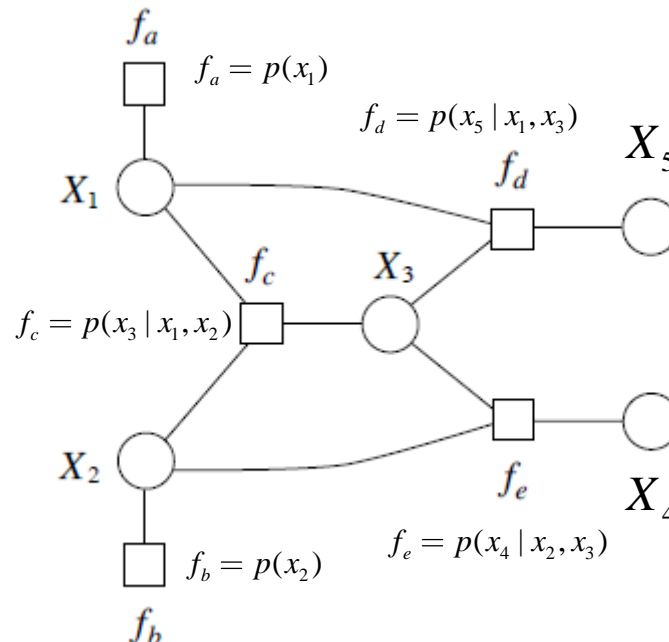
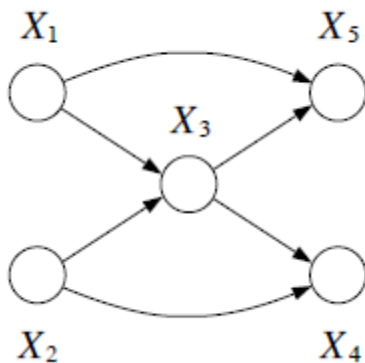
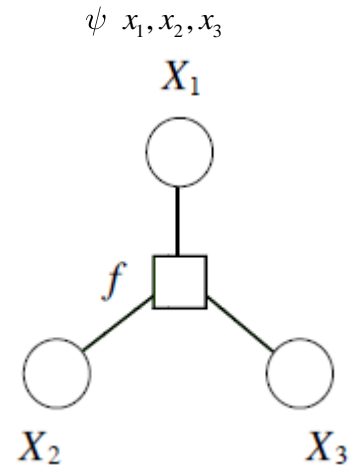
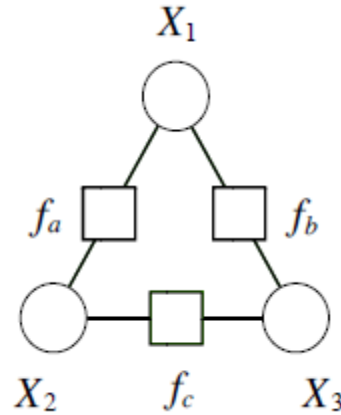
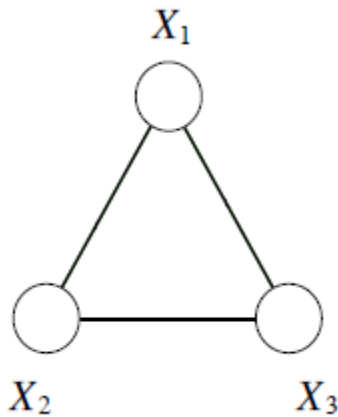
(b)



(c)

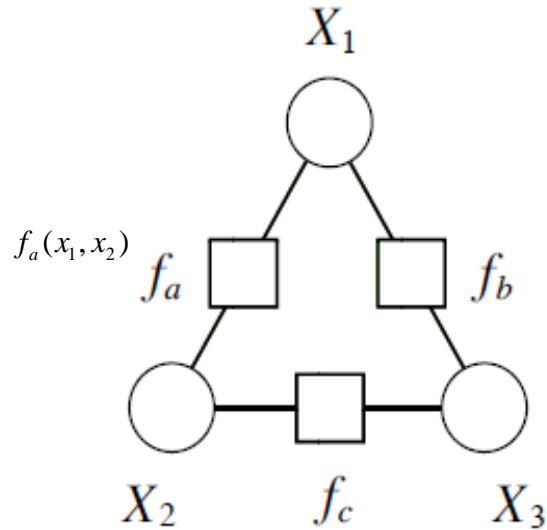
Converting to Factor Graphs

$$\psi_{x_1, x_2, x_3} = f_a(x_1, x_2) f_b(x_1, x_3) f_c(x_2, x_3)$$

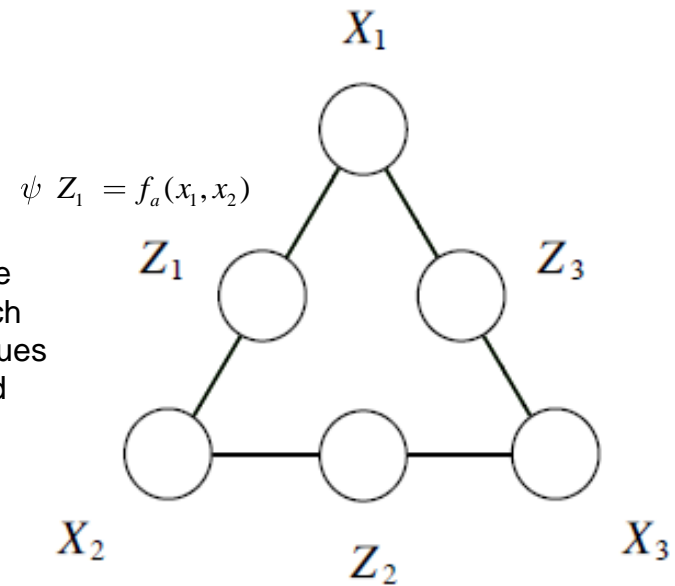


Converting From Factor Graphs

$$\psi_{x_1, x_2, x_3} = f_a(x_1, x_2) f_b(x_1, x_3) f_c(x_2, x_3)$$

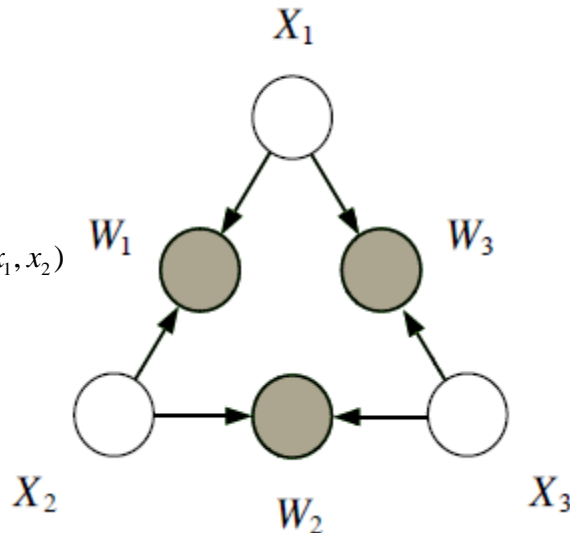


Z_1 an indicator variable taking 4 values for each combination of the values of X_1 and X_2 (assumed binary)



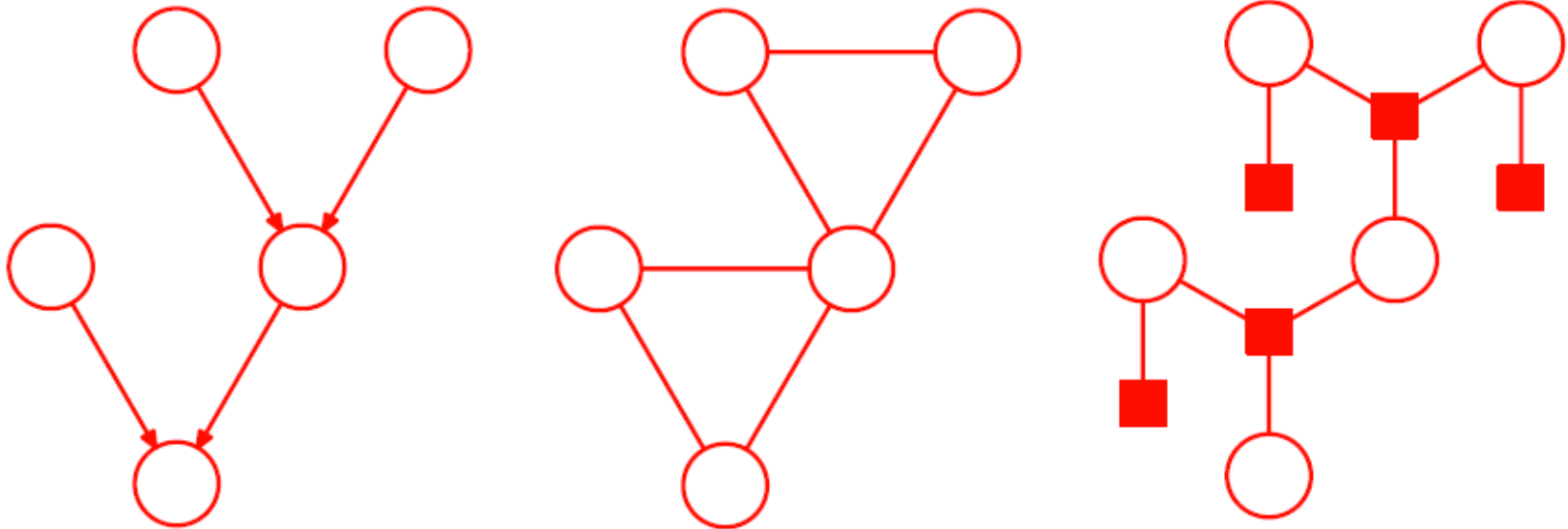
$$p_{W_1=1|x_1, x_2} = f_a(x_1, x_2)$$

W_1 binary variable always set to 1



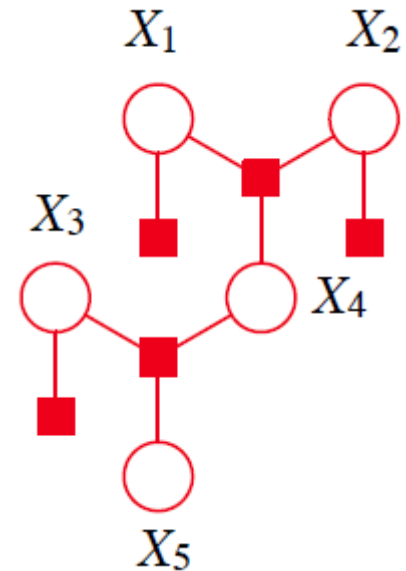
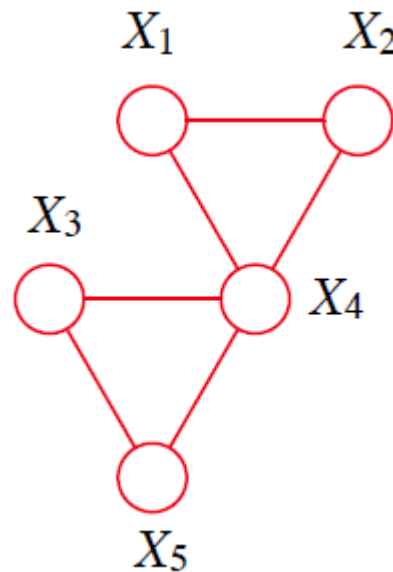
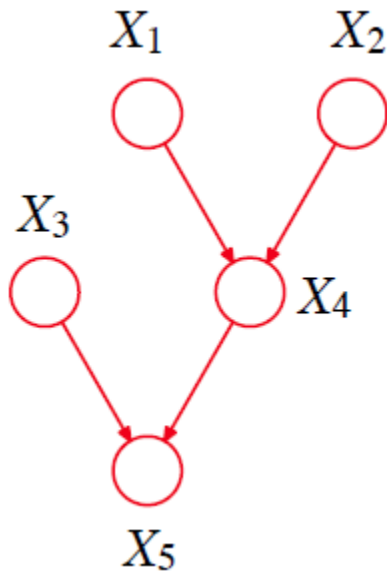
Factor Graphs from Polytrees

- In the case of a directed polytree,
 - *conversion to an undirected graph results in loops due to the moralization step,*
 - *whereas conversion to a factor graph results in a tree.*



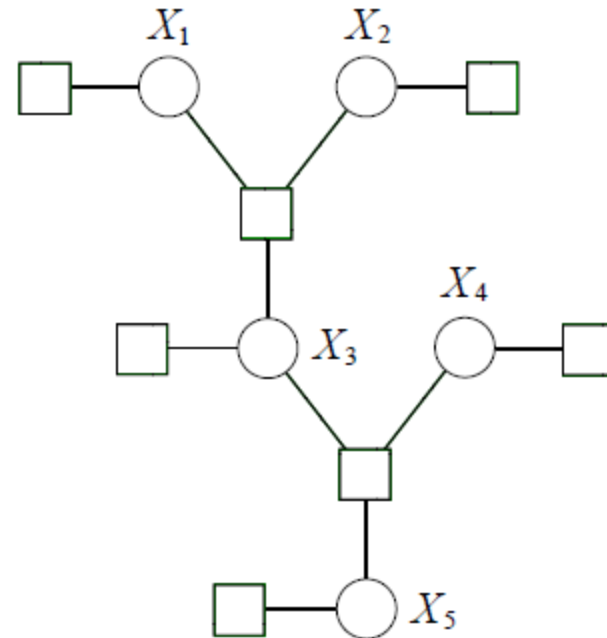
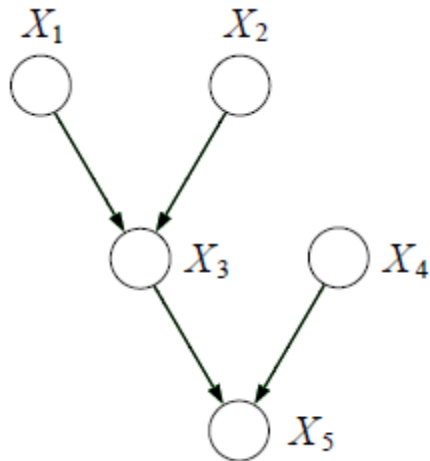
Factor Trees and Polytrees

- Factor trees are factor graphs that are trees, ignoring the distinction between variable nodes and factor nodes
- Directed and undirected trees can trivially be represented as factor trees
- Polytrees can also be represented as factor trees



SUM-PRODUCT Applied to Factortrees

- The SUM-PRODUCT algorithm applies to factor trees.



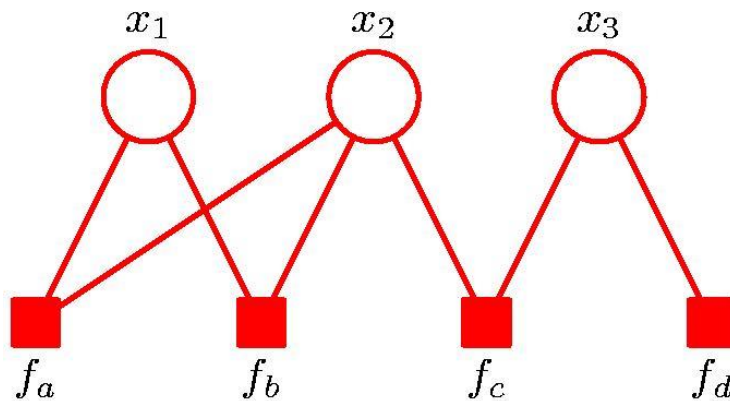
Factor Graphs

- Let us write the joint distribution over a set of variables in the form of a product of factors

$$p(x) = \prod_s f_s(x_s)$$

- For example, a distribution below can be expressed as a factor graph shown in the figure.

$$p(x) = f_a(x_1, x_2) f_b(x_1, x_2) f_c(x_2, x_3) f_d(x_3)$$



Circles: random variables

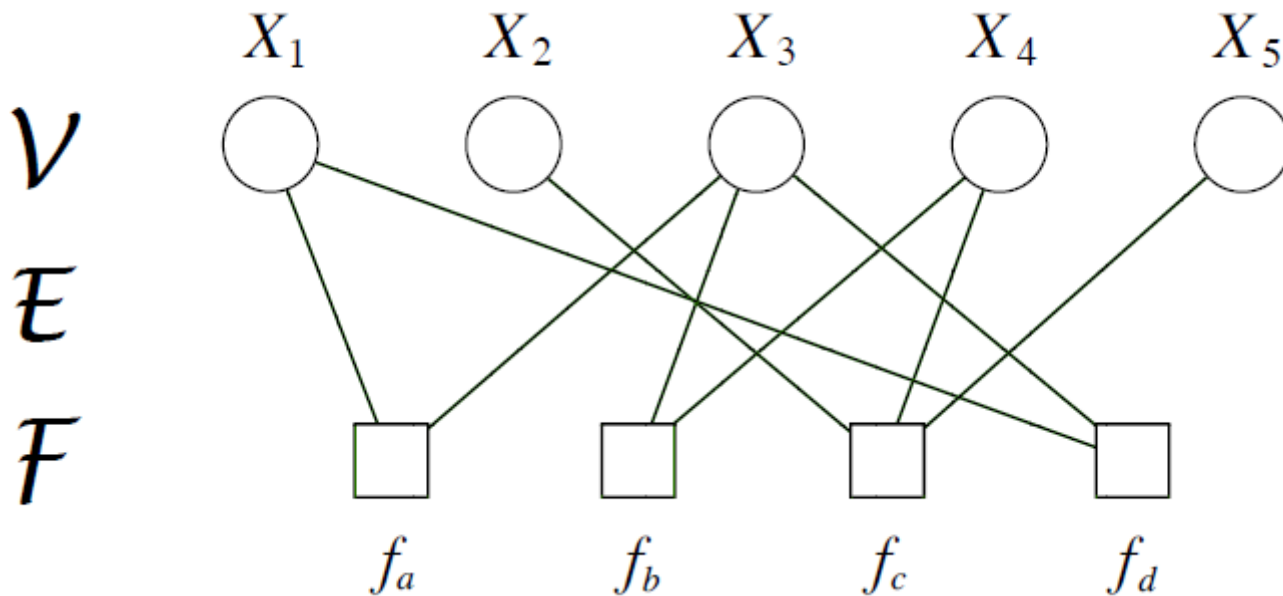
Filled dots: Factors in the joint distribution

Neighbors: Two nodes are neighbors if they share a factor



Bipartite Factor Graphs

- The graph is denoted $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{E})$, with variables \mathcal{V} , factors \mathcal{F} , and edges \mathcal{E} . For example:

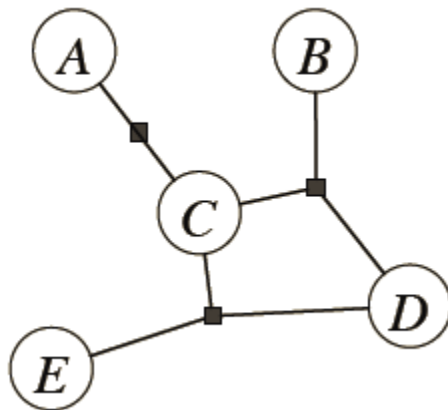


$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = f_a(x_1, x_3) f_b(x_3, x_4) f_c(x_2, x_4, x_5) f_d(x_1, x_3)$$

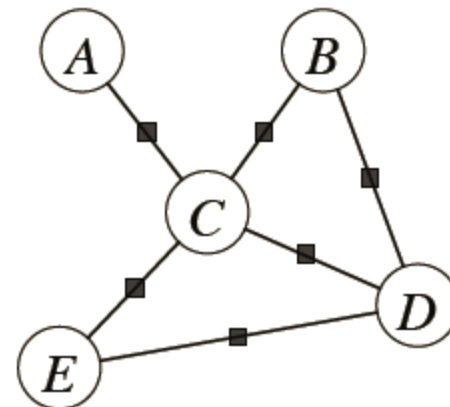
$$\mathcal{C} = \{1, 3\}, \{3, 4\}, \{2, 4, 5\}, \{1, 3\}$$

A bipartite graph is a set of **graph** vertices decomposed into two disjoint sets such that no two **graph** vertices within the same set are adjacent.

Factor Graphs



$$P(A, B, C, D, E) = \frac{1}{Z} g_1(A, C) g_2(B, C, D) g_3(C, D, E)$$

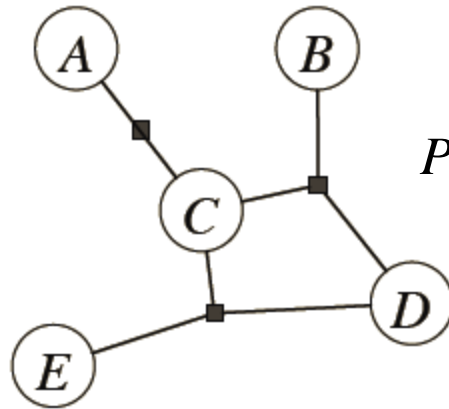


$$P(A, B, C, D, E) = \frac{1}{Z} g_1(A, C) g_2(B, C) g_3(C, D) g_4(B, D) g_5(C, E) g_6(D, E)$$

- The g_i are non-negative functions of their arguments, and Z is a normalization constant e.g. in the fig. on the left, if all variables are discrete and take values in $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{E}$, then

$$Z = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \sum_{b \in \mathcal{B}} \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{d \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} g_1(A=a, C=c) g_2(B=b, C=c, D=d) g_3(C=c, D=d, E=e)$$

Factor Graphs and CI Relations



$$P(A, B, C, D, E) = \frac{1}{Z} g_1(A, C) g_2(B, C, D) g_3(C, D, E)$$

- A path is a sequence of neighboring nodes.
- $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y / V$ if every path between X and Y contains some node $V \in \mathcal{V}$
- Given the neighbors of X , the variable X is conditionally independent of all other variables (same as in undirected graphs):

$$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y / ne(X), \quad \forall Y \notin \{X \cup ne(X)\}$$

Every path from X to Y has to go through its neighbors.

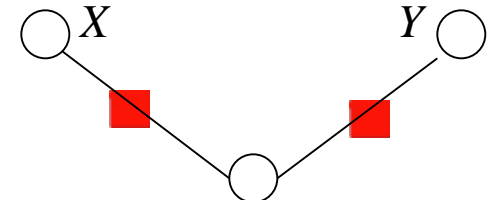
Conditional Independence and Factorization

- Lets consider the following conditional independence:

$$X \perp Y / V \Leftrightarrow p(X / Y, V) = p(X / V)$$

- This independence relation is represented with the factorization:

$$P(X, Y, V) = \frac{1}{Z} g_1(X, V) g_2(Y, V)$$



- Indeed:

and

$$P(Y, V) = \sum_X P(X, Y, V) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_X g_1(X, V) g_2(Y, V)$$

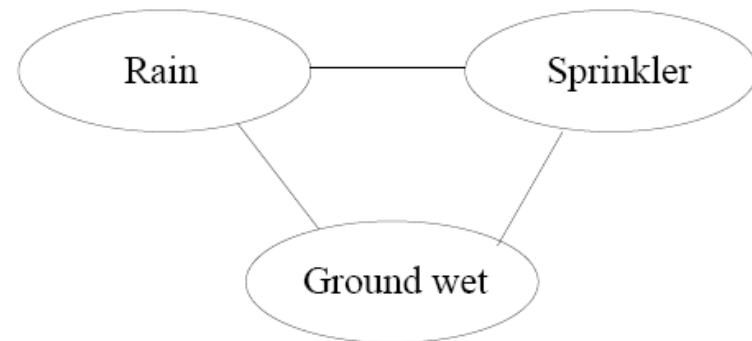
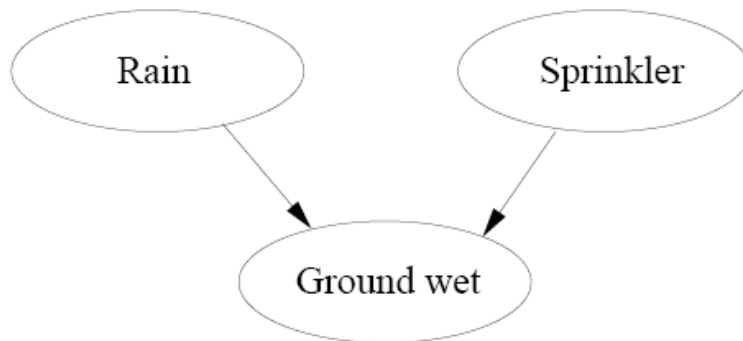
$$P(X / Y, V) = \frac{P(X, Y, V)}{P(Y, V)} = \frac{\frac{1}{Z} g_1(X, V) g_2(Y, V)}{\frac{1}{Z} \sum_X g_1(X, V) g_2(Y, V)} = \frac{g_1(X, V)}{\sum_X g_1(X, V)} \text{ (independent of } Y)$$

- Once more *we go from factorization to independence relations.*



Problems with Undirected Graphs & Factor Graphs

- ❑ In UGs and FGs, many useful independencies are unrepresented—two variables are connected merely because some other variable depends on them.
- ❑ This highlights the difference between marginal independence and conditional independence.



- ❑ R and S are marginally independent (i.e. given nothing), but they are conditionally dependent given G. This relation cannot be represented with UG or FGs.
- ❑ “Explaining Away”: Observing that the sprinkler is on, would explain away the observation that the ground was wet, making it less probable that it rained.

D-Map, I-Map and Perfect Map

- **D map:** A graph is said to be a D map (for ‘dependency map’) of a distribution if every conditional independence statement satisfied by the distribution is reflected in the graph.

A completely disconnected graph (no links) will be a trivial D map for any distribution.

- **I map:** every conditional independence statement implied by a graph is satisfied by a specific distribution, then the graph is said to be an I map (for ‘independence map’) of that distribution.

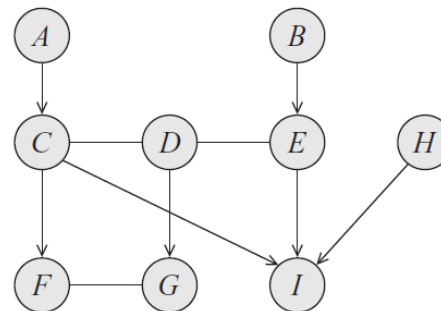
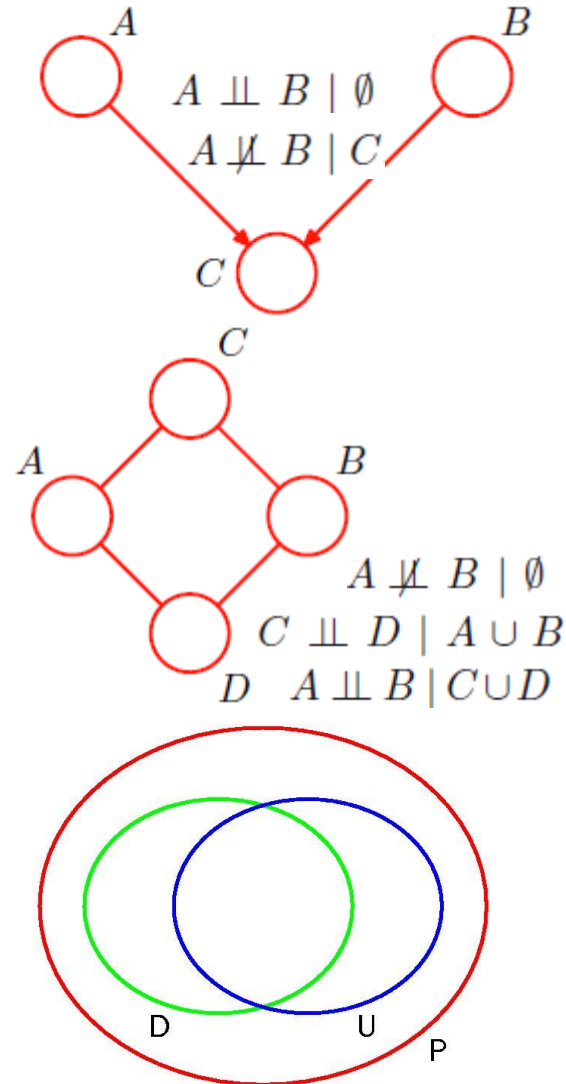
Clearly a fully connected graph will be a trivial I map for any distribution.

- **Perfect map:** every conditional independence property of the distribution is reflected in the graph, and vice versa.



Venn Diagram

- ❑ Let P be the set of all distributions over a set of variables. The Venn diagram consists:
 - the set of distributions such that for each distribution there exists a directed graph that is a perfect map(D).
 - the set of distributions such that for each distribution there exists an undirected graph that is a perfect map(U).
 - Other distributions (chain graphs) for which neither directed nor undirected graphs offer a perfect map.
- ❑ Chain graphs represent perfect maps for distributions broader than those corresponding to either directed or undirected graphs.
- ❑ There are distributions that even chain graphs cannot provide a perfect map.



- Lauritzen, S. and N. Wermuth (1989). Graphical models for association between variables, some of which are qualitative some quantitative. *Annals of Statistics* **17**, 31–57.
- Frydenberg, M. (1990). The chain graph Markov property. *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics* **17**, 333–353

Summary: Factor Graphs

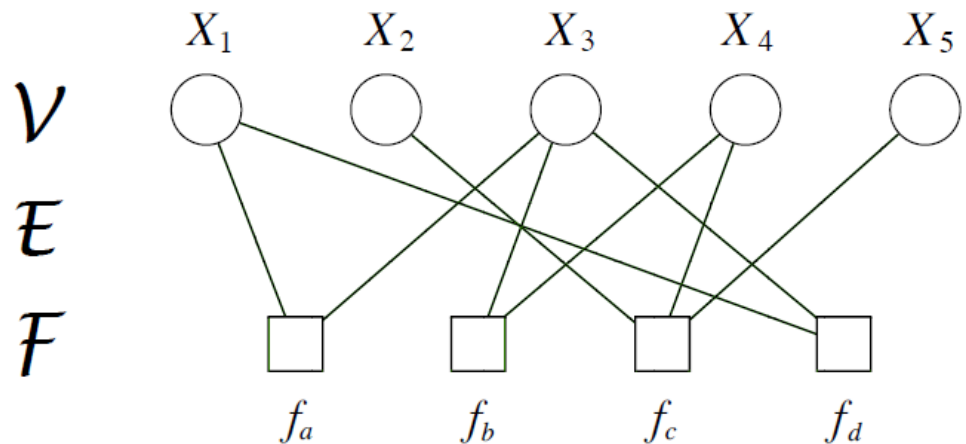
- ❑ *Factor Graphs* are closely related to directed and undirected graphical models, but *start with factorization rather than with CI*
- ❑ They generalize both directed and undirected graphical models
- ❑ A slightly modified sum-product algorithm works for *factor trees*
- ❑ This turns out to be a simple way of *extending sum-product to polytrees. Exact Belief propagation is NP hard but in polytrees takes linear time.*
- ❑ Factor Graphs also provide a gateway to factor analysis, probabilistic PCA, Kalman filters, etc.

- Frey, B. J. and D. J. C. MacKay (1998). [A revolution: Belief propagation in graphs with cycles](#). In M. I. Jordan, M. J. Kearns, and S. A. Solla (Eds.), *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, Volume 10. MIT Press.
- Kschischnang, F. R., B. J. Frey, and H. A. Loeliger (2001). [Factor graphs and the sum-product algorithm](#). *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* **47**(2), 498–519.



Summary: Factor Graphs

- Given variables $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$, let \mathcal{C} be a (multi)set of subsets of the indices $\{1, \dots, n\}$
- For example, $\mathcal{C} = \{\{1,3\}, \{3,4\}, \{2,4,5\}, \{1,3\}\}$ for $\{x_1, \dots, x_5\}$
- Let there be a function $f_s(x_{C_s})$ associated with each $C_s \in \mathcal{C}$. It is called a factor
- Let the multivariate function f be defined:



$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{C_s \in \mathcal{C}} f_{x_{C_s}}$$

- This function need not be a probability distribution.*

The Sum-Product Algorithm and Factor Graphs

- We assume that our graph is an undirected tree or a directed tree or polytree, so that **the corresponding factor graph has a tree structure**. The sum-product algorithm is applied in all of these three cases.
- We convert the original graph into a factor graph so that we can **deal with both directed and undirected models using the same framework**.
- Objective:
 - 1) **obtain an efficient, exact inference algorithm for finding marginals;**
 - 2) **When several marginals are required to allow computations to be shared efficiently.**
- Key idea: *Distributive Law*

$$ab + ac = a(b + c)$$



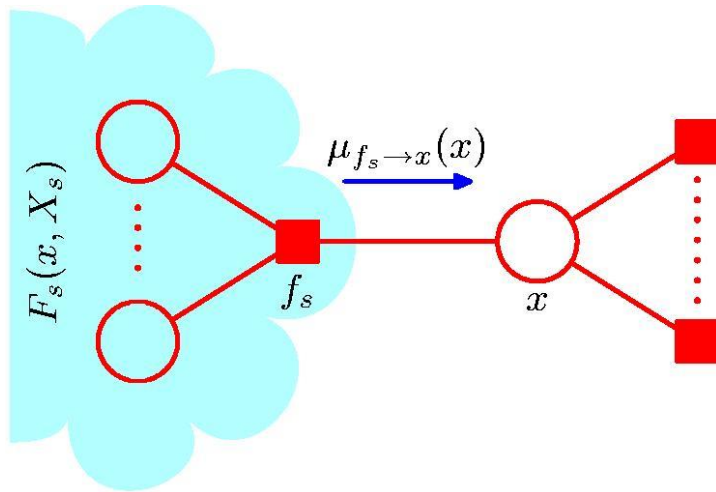
The Sum-Product Algorithm

- We begin by considering the problem of finding the marginal $p(x)$ for particular variable node x . We consider factor-graphs with a tree structure.

- The marginal is

$$p(x) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \setminus x} p(\mathbf{x})$$

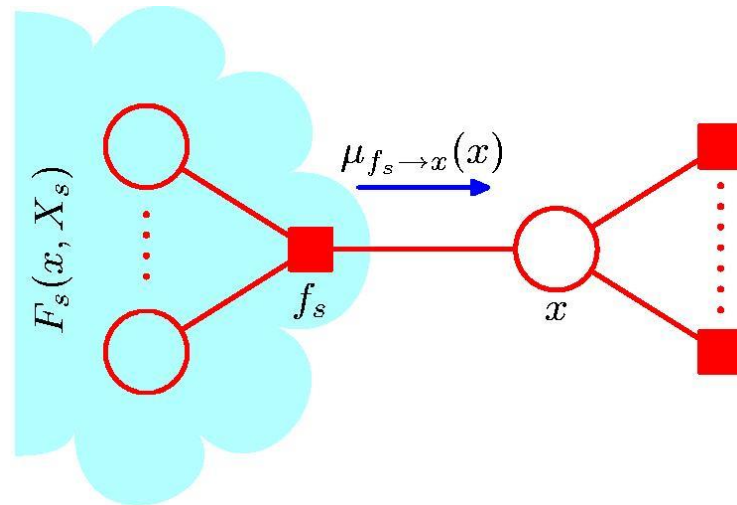
where $\mathbf{x} \setminus x$ denotes the set of variables in \mathbf{x} with variable x omitted.



The joint distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{s \in ne(x)} F_s(x, X_s)$$

The Sum-Product Algorithm

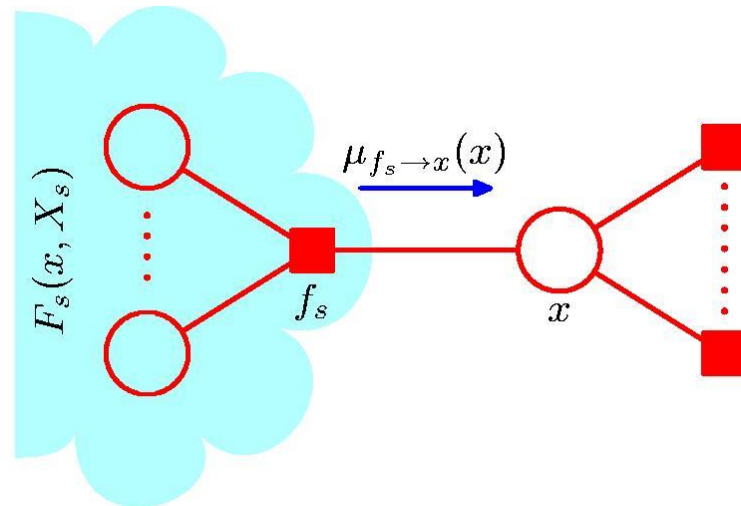


The joint distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{s \in ne(x)} F_s(x, X_s)$$

- Here $ne(x)$ denotes the set of factor nodes that are neighbors of x
- X_s denotes the set of all variables in the subtree connected to the variable node x via the factor node f_s , and
- $F_s(x, X_s)$ represents the product of all the factors in the group associated with factor f_s .

Messages from Factor Nodes to Variable Nodes



Marginal :

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \prod_{s \in ne(x)} \left[\sum_{X_s} F_s(x, X_s) \right] \\ &= \prod_{s \in ne(x)} \mu_{f_s \rightarrow x}(x) \end{aligned}$$

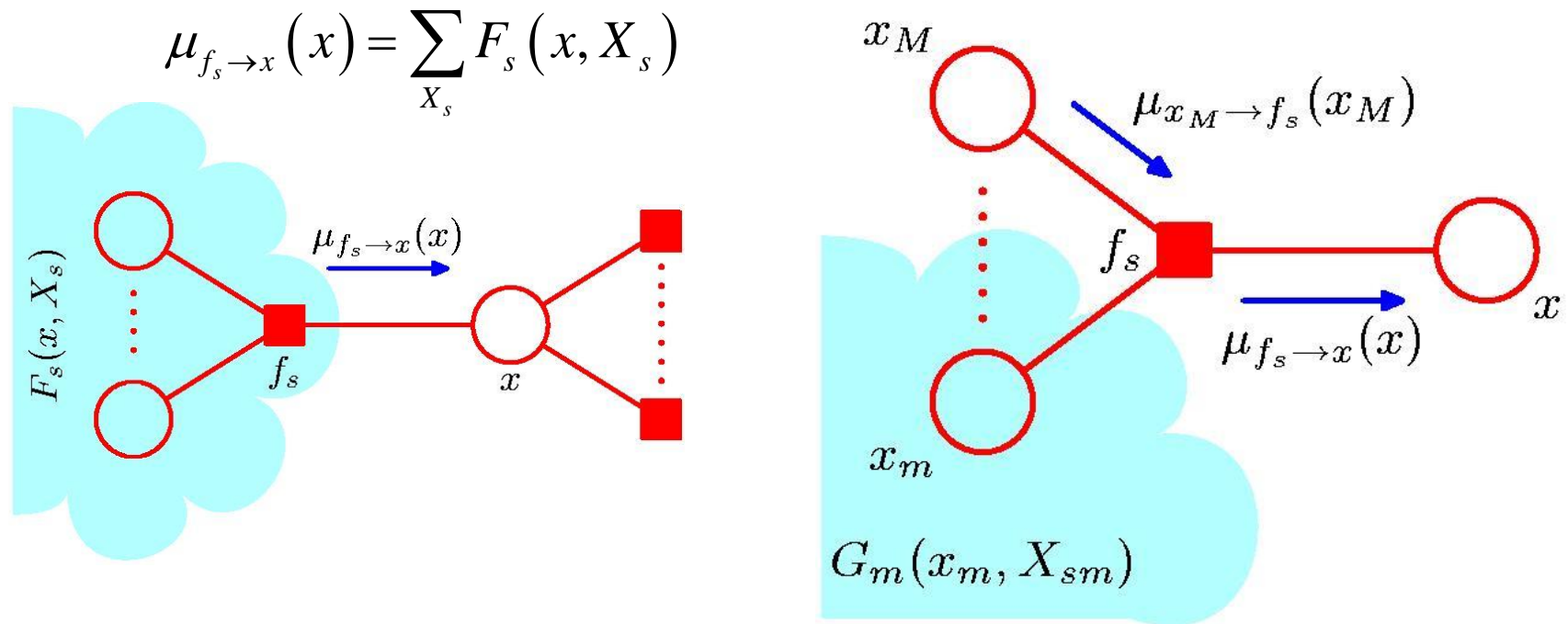
□ Here we define a function

$$\mu_{f_s \rightarrow x}(x) = \sum_{X_s} F_s(x, X_s)$$

which can be viewed as message from the factor node f_s to the variable node x .

□ We see that the required marginal $p(x)$ is given by the product of all the incoming messages arriving at node x .

The Sum-Product Algorithm



Here, we have denoted the variables associated with factor f_s , in addition to x , by x_1, \dots, x_M .

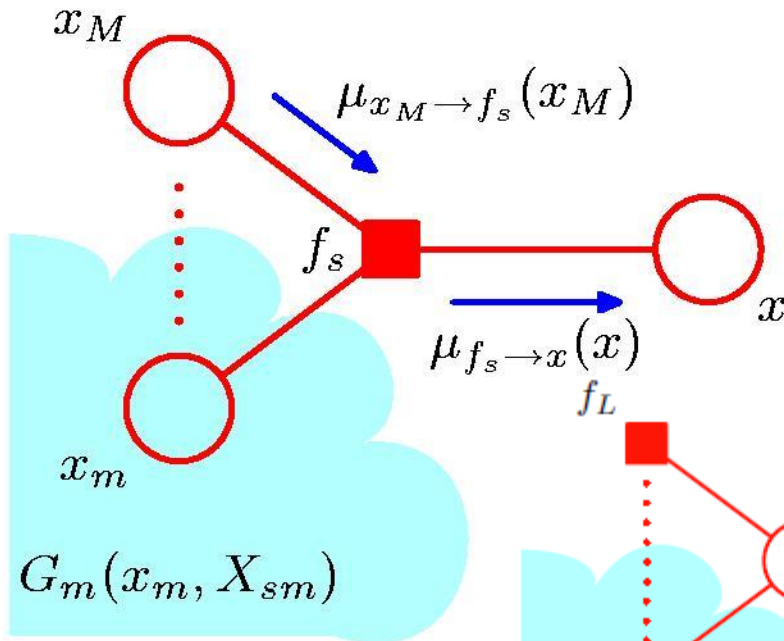
$$F_s(x, X_s) = f_s(x, x_1, \dots, x_M) G_1(x_1, X_{s1}) \cdots G_M(x_M, X_{sM})$$

The Sum-Product Algorithm

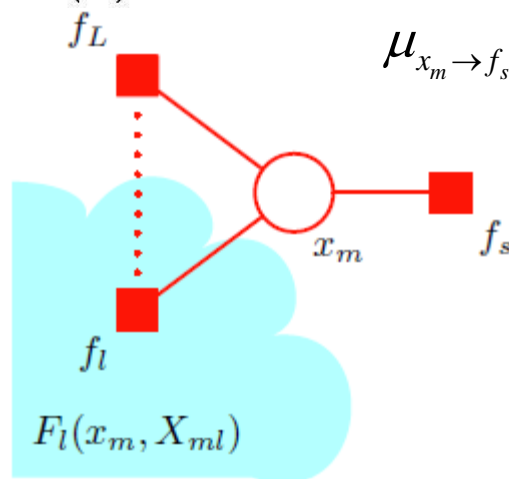
$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{f_s \rightarrow x}(x) &= \sum_{x_1} \cdots \sum_{x_M} f_s(x, x_1, \dots, x_M) \prod_{s \in ne(f_s) \setminus x} \left[\sum_{X_{x_m}} G_m(x_m, X_{sm}) \right] \\ &= \sum_{x_1} \cdots \sum_{x_M} f_s(x, x_1, \dots, x_M) \prod_{s \in ne(f_s) \setminus x} \mu_{x_m \rightarrow f_s}(x_m)\end{aligned}$$

where $ne(f_s)$ denotes the set of variable nodes that are neighbors of the factor node f_s , and $ne(f_s) \setminus x$ denotes the same set but with node x removed.

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{x_m \rightarrow f_s}(x_m) &\equiv \sum_{X_{sm}} G_m(x_m, X_{sm}) \\ &= \sum_{X_{ml}} \prod_{l \in ne(x_m) \setminus f_s} F_l(x_m, X_{ml}) \\ &= \prod_{l \in ne(x_m) \setminus f_s} \mu_{f_l \rightarrow x_m}(x_m)\end{aligned}$$

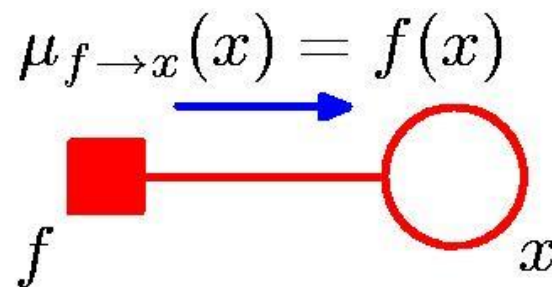
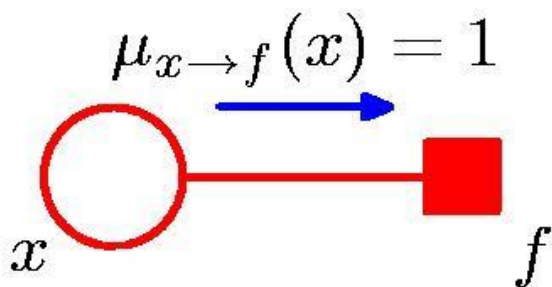


$$\mu_{f_s \rightarrow x}(x) = \sum_{X_s} F_s(x, X_s)$$

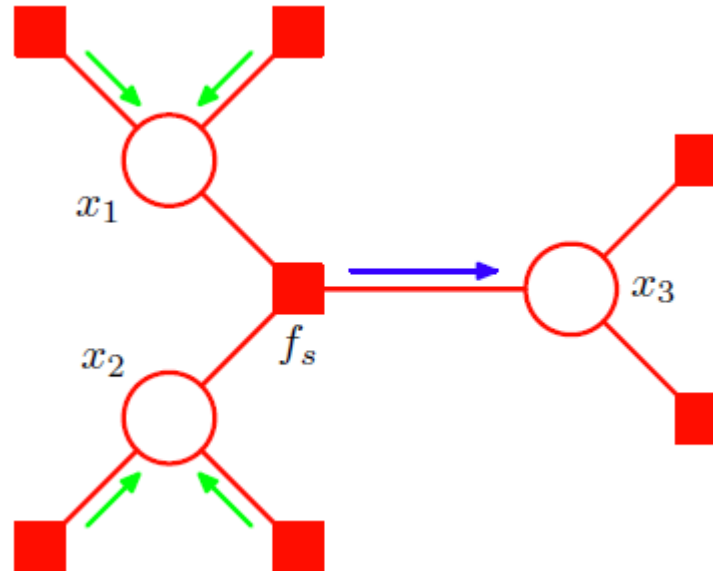


Initialization

- In order to start this recursion, we can view the node x as the root of the tree and begin at the leaf nodes.
- The sum-product algorithm begins with messages sent by the leaf nodes, which depend on whether the leaf node is (left) a variable node, or (right) a factor node.



The Sum-Product Algorithm



- ❑ The sum-product algorithm can be *viewed purely in terms of messages sent out by factor nodes to other factor nodes.*
- ❑ The outgoing message shown by the blue arrow is obtained by
 - taking the product of all the incoming messages shown by green arrows,
 - multiplying by the factor f_s , and
 - marginalizing over the variables x_1 and x_2 .

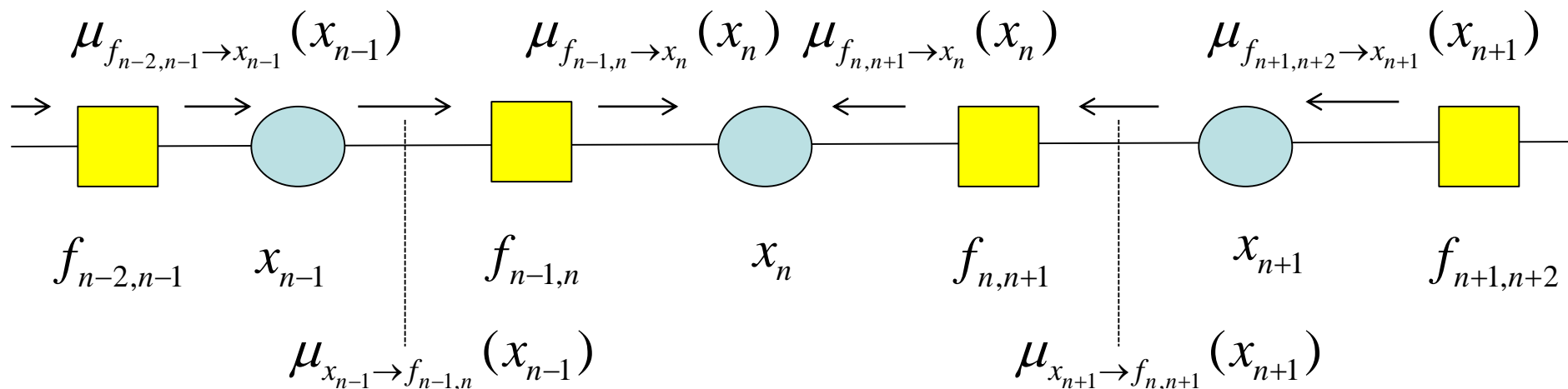
The Sum-Product Algorithm

- To compute local marginals:
 - Pick an arbitrary node as a root
 - Compute and propagate messages from the leaf nodes to the root, storing received messages at every node.
 - Compute and propagate messages from the root to the leaf nodes, storing received messages at every node.
 - Compute the product of received messages at each node for which the marginal is required, and normalize if necessary.



Sum-Product Algorithm for Markov Chains

- Applying the Sum-Product Algorithm to a Markov Chain gives as expected the same results as the elimination algorithm using α - and β -messages.



$$\begin{aligned}
 p(x_n) &= \mu_{f_{n-1,n} \rightarrow x_n}(x_n) \mu_{f_{n,n+1} \rightarrow x_n}(x_n) = \sum_{x_{n-1}} \psi_{n-1,n}(x_{n-1}, x_n) \mu_{x_{n-1} \rightarrow f_{n-1,n}}(x_{n-1}) \sum_{x_{n+1}} \psi_{n,n+1}(x_n, x_{n+1}) \mu_{x_{n+1} \rightarrow f_{n,n+1}}(x_{n+1}) \\
 &= \sum_{x_{n-1}} \psi_{n-1,n}(x_{n-1}, x_n) \underbrace{\mu_{f_{n-2,n-1} \rightarrow x_{n-1}}(x_{n-1})}_{\mu_\alpha(x_{n-1})} \sum_{x_{n+1}} \psi_{n,n+1}(x_n, x_{n+1}) \underbrace{\mu_{f_{n+1,n+2} \rightarrow x_{n+1}}(x_{n+1})}_{\mu_\beta(x_{n+1})}
 \end{aligned}$$

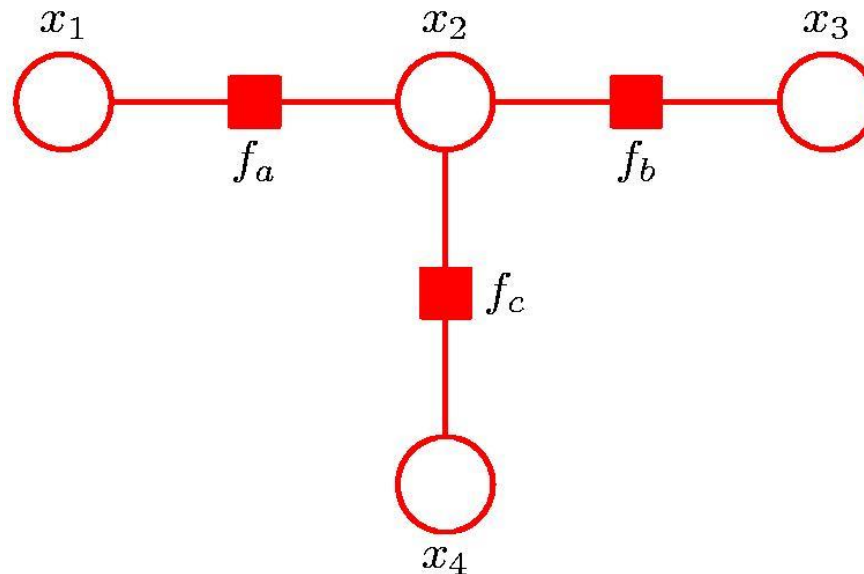
- The end nodes are variable nodes so they send unit messages:

$$\mu_\alpha(x_2) = \sum_{x_1} \psi_{1,2}(x_1, x_2) \underbrace{\mu_{x_1 \rightarrow f_{1,2}}(x_1)}_1 = \sum_{x_1} \psi_{1,2}(x_1, x_2)$$



Sum-Product: Example

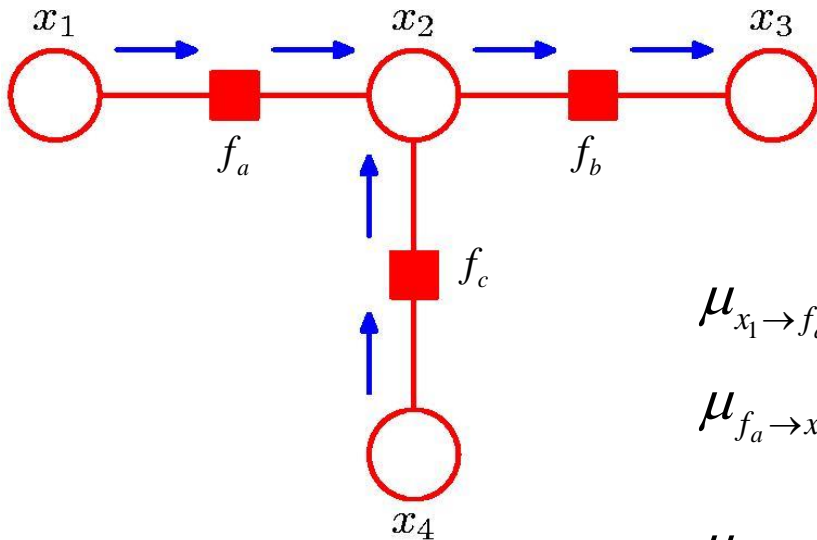
Example: a simple 4-node factor graph



Un-normalized joint distribution:

$$\tilde{p}(x) = f_a(x_1, x_2) f_b(x_2, x_3) f_c(x_2, x_4)$$

Sum-Product: Example



$$\mu_{x_1 \rightarrow f_a}(x_1) = 1$$

$$\mu_{f_a \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) = \sum_{x_1} f_a(x_1, x_2)$$

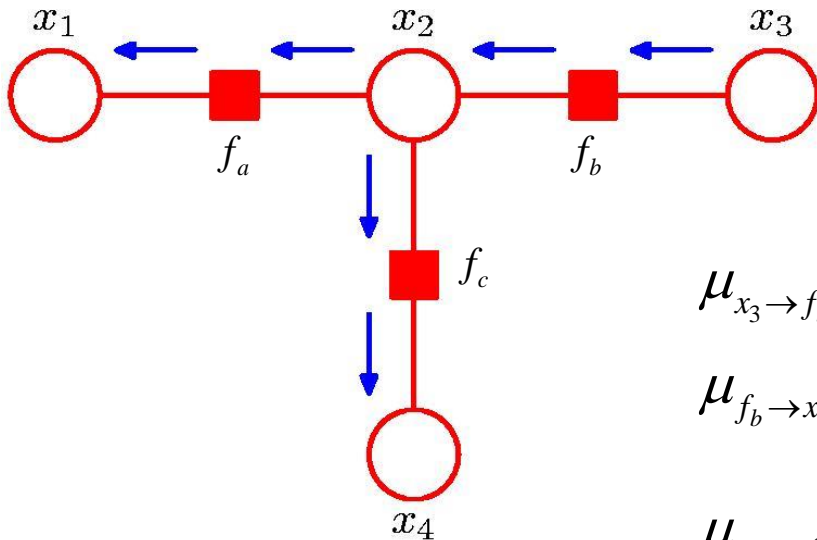
$$\mu_{x_4 \rightarrow f_c}(x_4) = 1$$

$$\mu_{f_c \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) = \sum_{x_4} f_c(x_2, x_4)$$

$$\mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_b}(x_2) = \mu_{f_a \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \mu_{f_c \rightarrow x_2}(x_2)$$

$$\mu_{f_b \rightarrow x_3}(x_3) = \sum_{x_2} f_b(x_2, x_3) \mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_b}(x_2)$$

Sum-Product: Example



$$\mu_{x_3 \rightarrow f_b}(x_3) = 1$$

$$\mu_{f_b \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) = \sum_{x_3} f_b(x_2, x_3)$$

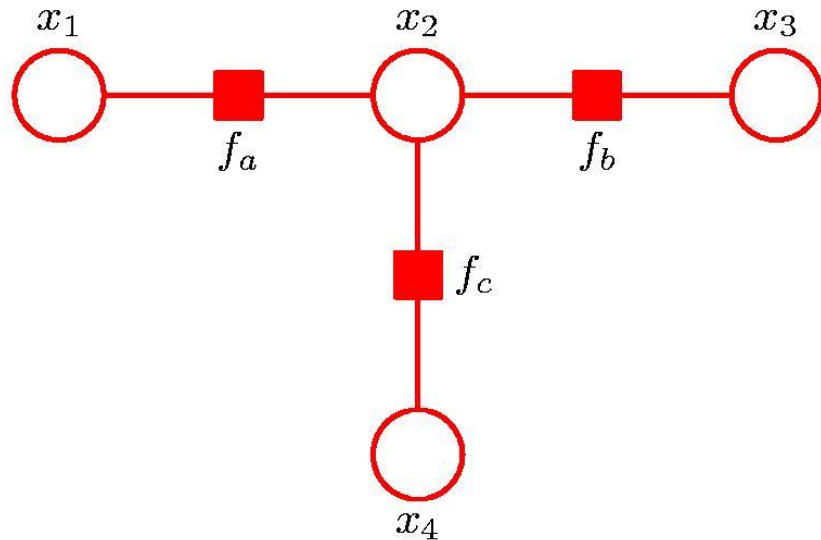
$$\mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_a}(x_2) = \mu_{f_b \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \mu_{f_c \rightarrow x_2}(x_2)$$

$$\mu_{f_a \rightarrow x_1}(x_1) = \sum_{x_2} f_a(x_1, x_2) \mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_a}(x_2)$$

$$\mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_c}(x_2) = \mu_{f_a \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \mu_{f_b \rightarrow x_2}(x_2)$$

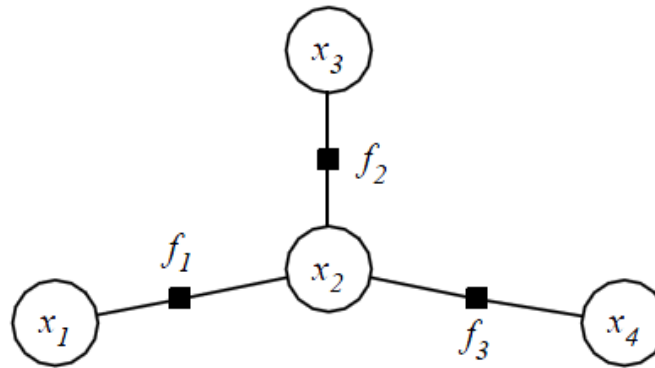
$$\mu_{f_c \rightarrow x_4}(x_4) = \sum_{x_2} f_c(x_2, x_4) \mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_c}(x_2)$$

Sum-Product: Example



$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{p}(x_2) &= \mu_{f_a \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \mu_{f_b \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \mu_{f_c \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \\ &= \left[\sum_{x_1} f_a(x_1, x_2) \right] \left[\sum_{x_3} f_b(x_2, x_3) \right] \left[\sum_{x_4} f_c(x_2, x_4) \right] \\ &= \sum_{x_1} \sum_{x_3} \sum_{x_4} f_a(x_1, x_2) f_b(x_2, x_3) f_c(x_2, x_4) \\ &= \sum_{x_1} \sum_{x_3} \sum_{x_4} \tilde{p}(\mathbf{x})\end{aligned}$$

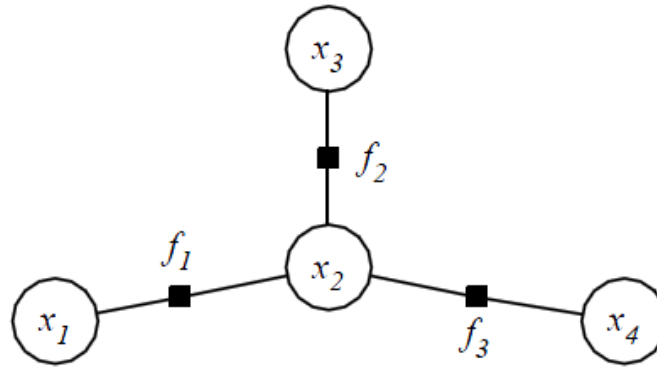
Propagation in Factor Graphs



- Another example schedule of messages resulting in computing $p(x_4)$
- Initialize all messages to be 1

message direction	message value	
$x_1 \rightarrow f_1$	$1(x_1)$	If a variable (here x_1) has only one factor as a neighbor, it can initiate message propagation
$x_3 \rightarrow f_2$	$1(x_3)$	
$f_1 \rightarrow x_2$	$\sum_{x_1} f_1(x_1, x_2) 1(x_1)$	
$f_2 \rightarrow x_2$	$\sum_{x_3} f_2(x_3, x_2) 1(x_3)$	
$x_2 \rightarrow f_3$	$\left(\sum_{x_1} f_1(x_1, x_2) \right) \left(\sum_{x_3} f_2(x_3, x_2) \right)$	
$f_3 \rightarrow x_4$	$\sum_{x_2} f_3(x_2, x_4) \left(\sum_{x_1} f_1(x_1, x_2) \right) \left(\sum_{x_3} f_2(x_3, x_2) \right)$	

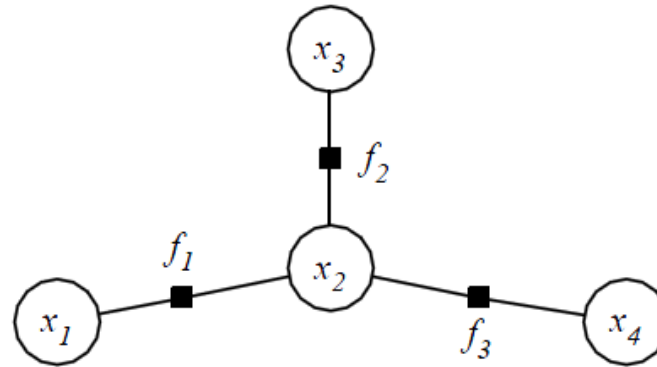
Propagation in Factor Graphs



- Once a variable has received all the messages from its neighboring factors, we can compute the probability of that variable by multiplying all the messages and renormalizing:

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

Incorporating Evidence



- Initialize all messages to be 1
- An example schedule of messages resulting in computing $p(x_4 | x_1 = a)$:

message direction	message value
$x_1 \rightarrow f_1$	$\delta(x_1 = a)$
$x_3 \rightarrow f_2$	$1(x_3)$
$f_1 \rightarrow x_2$	$\sum_{x_1} f_1(x_1, x_2) \delta(x_1 = a) = f_1(x_1 = a, x_2)$
$f_2 \rightarrow x_2$	$\sum_{x_3} f_2(x_3, x_2) 1(x_3)$
$x_2 \rightarrow f_3$	$f_1(x_1 = a, x_2) \left(\sum_{x_3} f_2(x_3, x_2) \right)$
$f_3 \rightarrow x_4$	$\sum_{x_2} f_3(x_2, x_4) f_1(x_1 = a, x_2) \left(\sum_{x_3} f_2(x_3, x_2) \right)$

Marginal Associated with Each Factor

- The marginal distributions $p(x_s)$ over the sets of variables x_s associated with each of the factors $f_s(x_s)$ in a factor graph can be found by first running the sum-product message passing algorithm and then evaluating the required marginals.

The marginal: $p(x_s) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \setminus x_s} p(\mathbf{x})$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_s) &\equiv \sum_{\mathbf{x} \setminus x_s} f_s(x_s) \prod_{i \in ne(f_s)} \prod_{j \in ne(x_i) \setminus f_s} F_j(x_i, X_{ij}) \\ &= f_s(x_s) \prod_{i \in ne(f_s)} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \setminus x_s} \prod_{j \in ne(x_i) \setminus f_s} F_j(x_i, X_{ij}) \\ &= f_s(x_s) \prod_{i \in ne(f_s)} \mu_{x_i \rightarrow f_s}(x_i) \end{aligned}$$

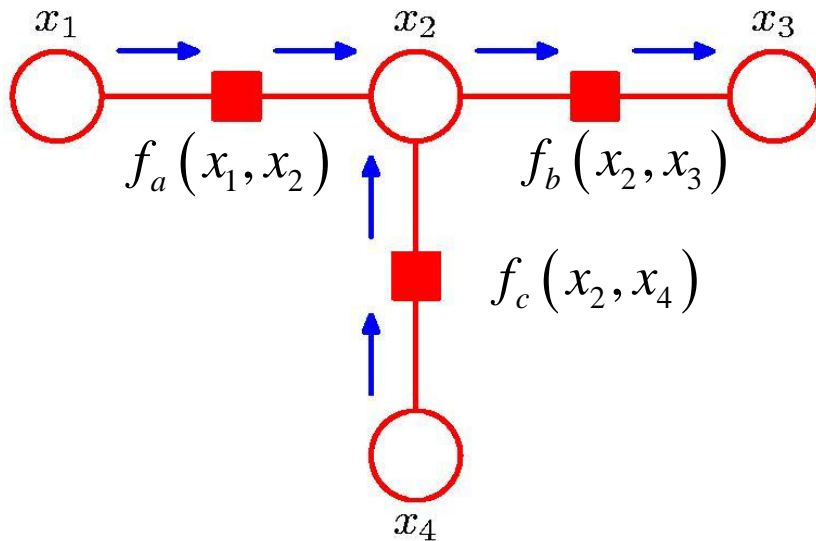
Product of all the factors in the group associated with factor j connected to node i. X_{ij} are all variables on the sub-tree ij.



Marginal Associated with Each Factor

- As an application, let us consider computing $p(x_1, x_2)$ in the factor graph below:

$$p(x_s) = f_s(x_s) \prod_{i \in ne(f_s)} \mu_{x_i \rightarrow f_s}(x_i)$$



$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1, x_2) &= f_a(x_1, x_2) \mu_{x_1 \rightarrow f_a}(x_1) \mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_a}(x_2) \\ &= f_a(x_1, x_2) \mu_{x_2 \rightarrow f_a}(x_2) \\ &= f_a(x_1, x_2) \mu_{f_b \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \mu_{f_c \rightarrow x_2}(x_2) \\ &= f_a(x_1, x_2) \sum_{x_3} f_b(x_2, x_3) \sum_{x_4} f_c(x_2, x_4) \\ &= \sum_{x_3} \sum_{x_4} f_a(x_1, x_2) f_b(x_2, x_3) f_c(x_2, x_4) = \\ &= \sum_{x_3} \sum_{x_4} \tilde{p}(x) \end{aligned}$$

Marginal Not Associated with Factors

- Suppose we want to compute $p(x_a, x_b)$ where the set of variables x_a and x_b do not belong to the same factor.

$$p(x_a, x_b) = p(x_b | x_a) p(x_a)$$

- The marginal $p(x_a)$ can be computed by using the sum-product algorithm over all variables including x_b .
- To compute the conditional $p(x_b | x_a)$, fix the evidence x_a and for each of its allowed values run the sum-product algorithm to compute $p(x_b | x_a)$ by marginalizing over all variables except x_b and x_a (that remains at its fixed value).



Marginal Associated with each Variable Node

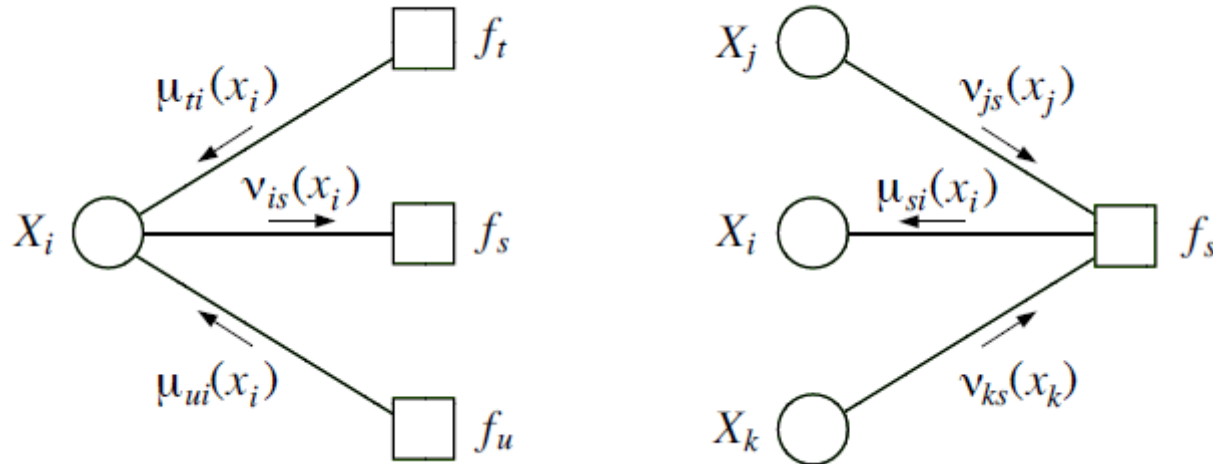
The marginal $p(x_i)$ can also be written as the product of the incoming message along any one of the links with the outgoing message along the same link.

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_i) &\equiv \prod_{s \in ne(x_i)} \mu_{f_s \rightarrow x_i}(x_i) \\ &= \mu_{f_s \rightarrow x_i}(x_i) \prod_{t \in ne(x_i) \setminus f_s} \mu_{f_t \rightarrow x_i}(x_i) \\ &= \mu_{f_s \rightarrow x_i}(x_i) \mu_{x_i \rightarrow f_s}(x_i) \end{aligned}$$



Sum Product for Factor Trees

- We often use different notation for the two type of messages:
 - Variables \rightarrow factors (v)
 - Factors \rightarrow Variables (μ)



- Both products of incoming messages but only variables require summing:

$$v_{is}(x_i) = \prod_{t \in \mathcal{N}(i) \setminus \{s\}} \mu_{ti}(x_i) \quad \mu_{si}(x_i) = \sum_{x_{\mathcal{N}(s) \setminus \{i\}}} \left(f_s(x_{\mathcal{N}(s)}) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(s) \setminus \{i\}} v_{js}(x_j) \right)$$

Sum Product Algorithm for a Factor-Tree

```
Sum-Product( $\mathcal{T}, E$ )  
  Evidence( $E$ )  
   $f = \text{ChooseRoot}(\mathcal{V})$   
  for  $s \in \mathcal{N}(f)$   
     $\mu\text{-Collect}(f, s)$   
  for  $s \in \mathcal{N}(f)$   
     $v\text{-Distribute}(f, s)$   
  for  $i \in \mathcal{V}$   
    ComputeMarginal( $i$ )
```

```
Evidence( $E$ )  
  for  $i \in E$   
     $\psi^E(x_i) = \psi(x_i) \delta(x_i, \bar{x}_i)$   
  for  $i \notin E$   
     $\psi^E(x_i) = \psi(x_i)$ 
```

```
 $\mu\text{-Collect}(i, s)$   
  for  $j \in \mathcal{N}(s) \setminus i$   
     $v\text{-Collect}(s, j)$   
   $\mu\text{-SendMessage}(s, i)$ 
```

```
 $v\text{-Collect}(s, i)$   
  for  $t \in \mathcal{N}(i) \setminus s$   
     $\mu\text{-Collect}(i, t)$   
   $v\text{-SendMessage}(i, s)$ 
```

```
 $\mu\text{-Distribute}(s, i)$   
   $\mu\text{-SendMessage}(s, i)$   
  for  $t \in \mathcal{N}(i) \setminus s$   
     $v\text{-Distribute}(i, t)$ 
```

```
 $v\text{-Distribute}(i, s)$   
   $v\text{-SendMessage}(i, s)$   
  for  $j \in \mathcal{N}(s) \setminus i$   
     $\mu\text{-Distribute}(s, j)$ 
```



Sum Product Algorithm for a Factor-Tree

μ -SendMessage(s,i)

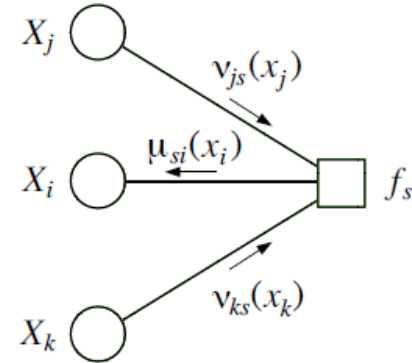
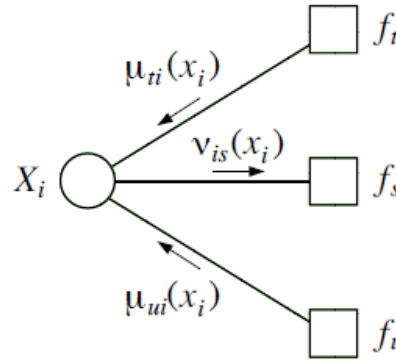
$$\mu_{si}(x_i) = \sum_{x_{\mathcal{N}(s) \setminus \{i\}}} \left(f_s(x_{\mathcal{N}(s)}) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(s) \setminus \{i\}} v_{js}(x_j) \right)$$

v -SendMessage(j,i)

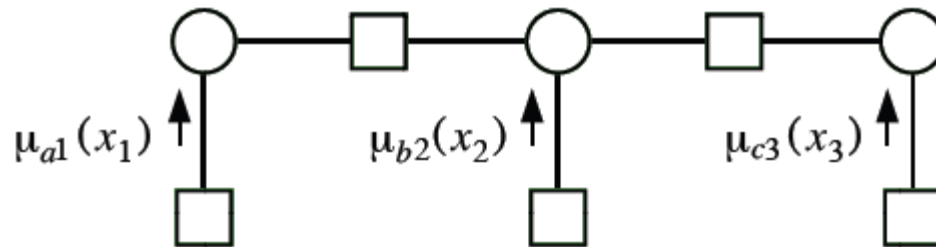
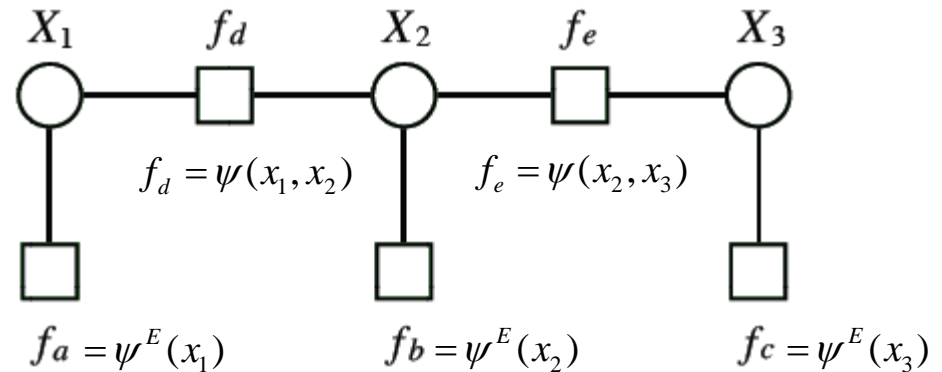
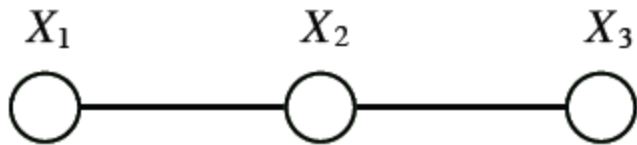
$$v_{is}(x_i) = \prod_{t \in \mathcal{N}(i) \setminus \{s\}} \mu_{ti}(x_i)$$

ComputeMarginal(i)

$$p(x_i) \propto v_{is}(x_i) \mu_{si}(x_i)$$

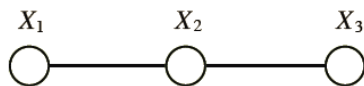


Example

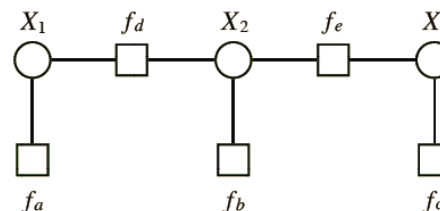


$$\mu_{a1}(x_1) = \sum_{x_{\mathcal{N}(a) \setminus \{1\}}} \left(f_a(x_{\mathcal{N}(a)}) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(a) \setminus \{1\}} v_{ja}(x_j) \right) = f_a(x_1) = \psi^E(x_1), \mu_{b2}(x_2) = \psi^E(x_2), \mu_{c3}(x_3) = \psi^E(x_3)$$

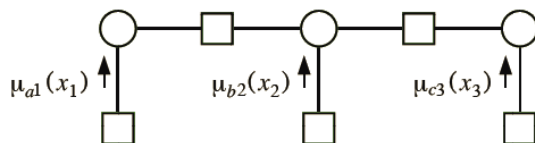
Example



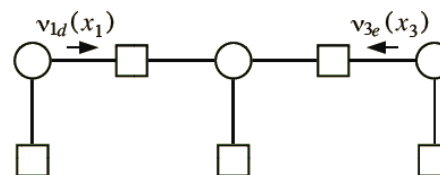
(a)



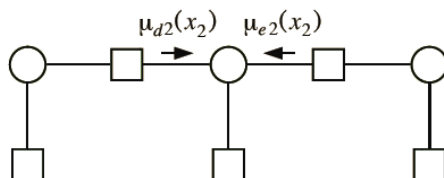
(b)



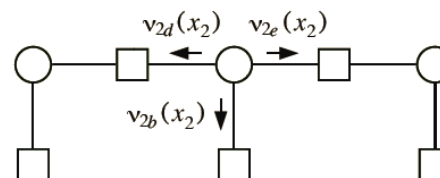
(c)



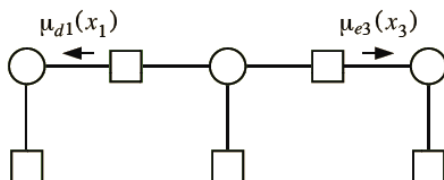
(d)



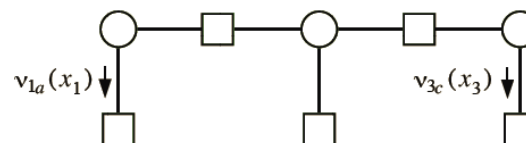
(e)



(f)

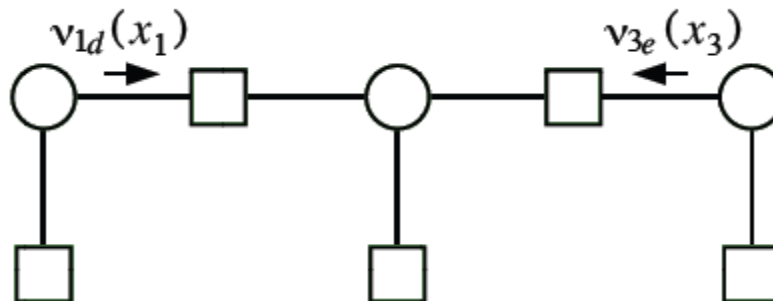


(g)

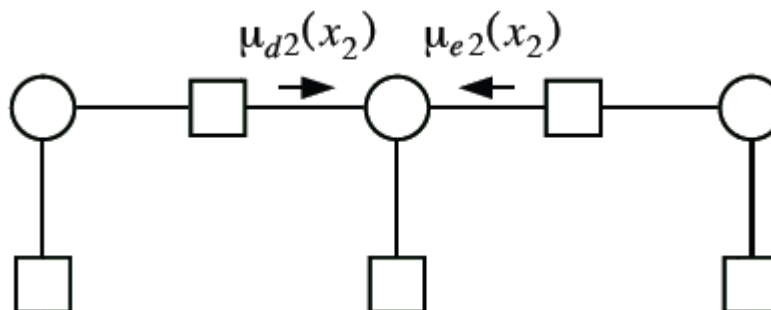


(h)

Example

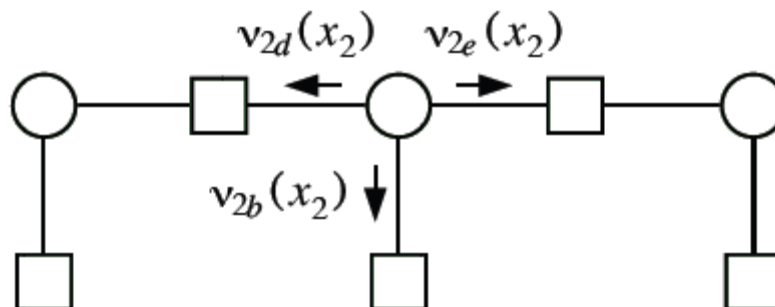


$$v_{1d}(x_1) = \prod_{t \in \mathcal{N}(1) \setminus \{d\}} \mu_{t1}(x_1) = \mu_{a1}(x_1) = \psi^E(x_1), v_{3e}(x_3) = \psi^E(x_3)$$



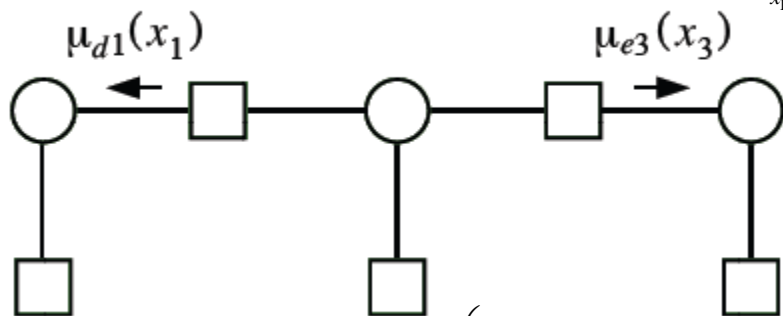
$$\mu_{d2}(x_2) = \sum_{x_{\mathcal{N}(d) \setminus \{2\}}} \left(f_d(x_{\mathcal{N}(d)}) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(d) \setminus \{2\}} v_{jd}(x_j) \right) = \sum_{x_1} \psi(x_1, x_2) \psi^E(x_1), \mu_{e2}(x_2) = \sum_{x_3} \psi(x_2, x_3) \psi^E(x_3)$$

Example



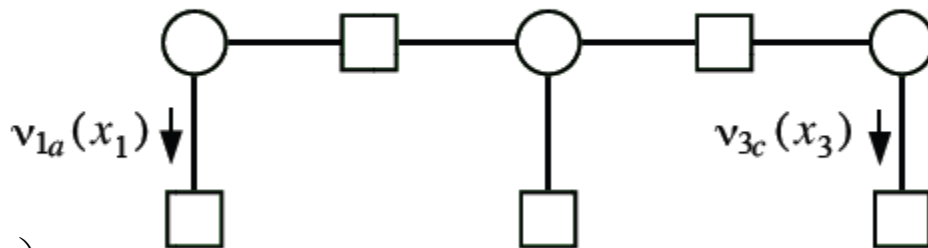
$$v_{2d}(x_2) = \prod_{t \in \mathcal{N}(2) \setminus \{d\}} \mu_{t2}(x_2) = \psi^E(x_2) \sum_{x_3} \psi^E(x_3) \psi(x_2, x_3), v_{2e}(x_2) = \psi^E(x_2) \sum_{x_1} \psi^E(x_1) \psi(x_1, x_2)$$

$$v_{2b}(x_2) = \sum_{x_1} \psi^E(x_1) \psi(x_1, x_2) \sum_{x_3} \psi^E(x_3) \psi(x_2, x_3)$$



$$\mu_{d1}(x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \left(f_d(x_{\mathcal{N}(d)}) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(d) \setminus \{1\}} v_{jd}(x_j) \right) = \sum_{x_2} \psi^E(x_2) \psi(x_1, x_2) \sum_{x_3} \psi^E(x_3) \psi(x_2, x_3) = v_{1a}(x_1)$$

$$\mu_{e3}(x_1) = \sum_{x_2} \psi^E(x_1) \psi(x_1, x_2) \sum_{x_3} \psi^E(x_2) \psi(x_2, x_3) = v_{3c}(x_3)$$

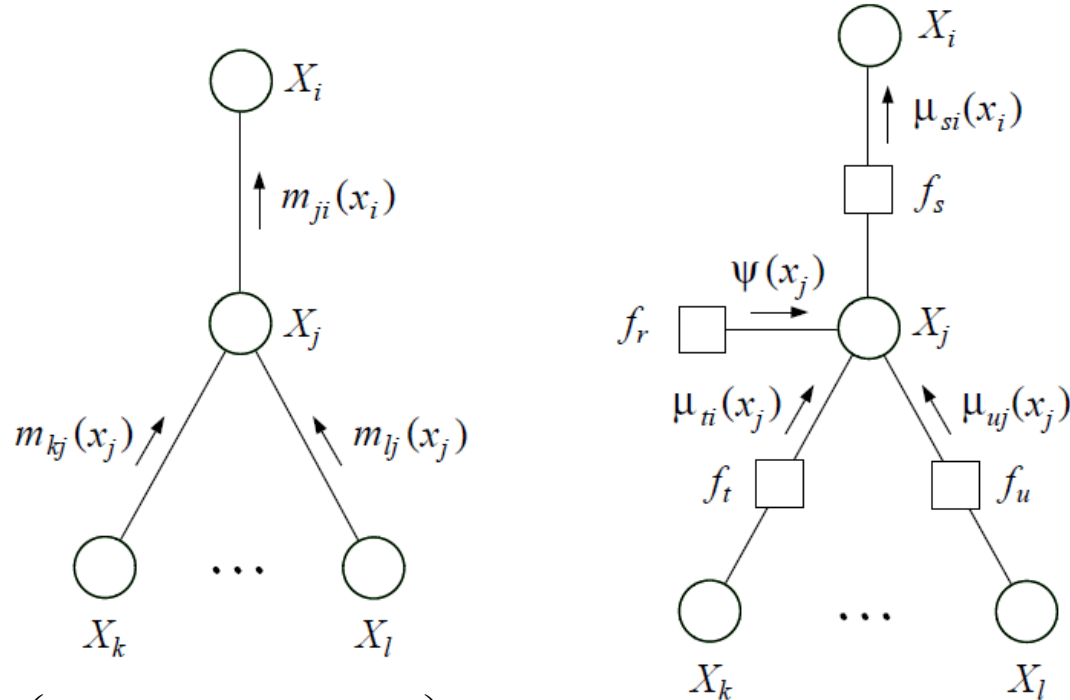


Note that these messages are the same as the corresponding messages that would pass in a run of the SUM-PRODUCT algorithm in the corresponding undirected graph, e.g.

$$\mu_{d1}(x_1) = m_{21}(x_1), \mu_{e3}(x_3) = m_{23}(x_3)$$

Equivalence with the Sum-Product Algorithm

- Converting an undirected graph to a factor graph gives m-messages that are the same as the m messages obtained from the SUM-PRODUCT algorithm.



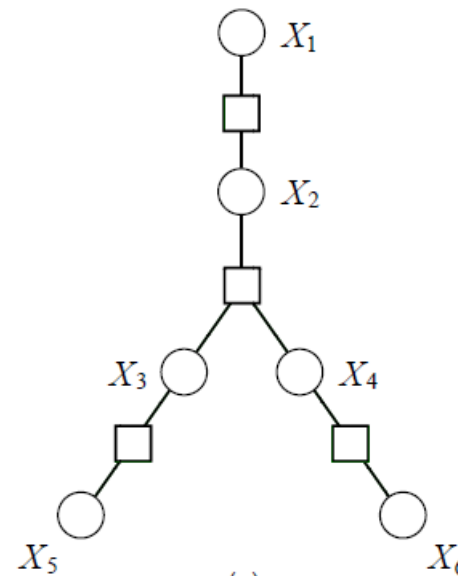
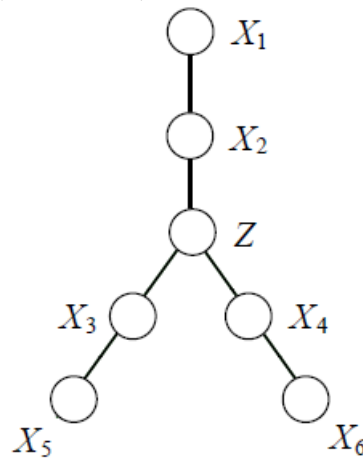
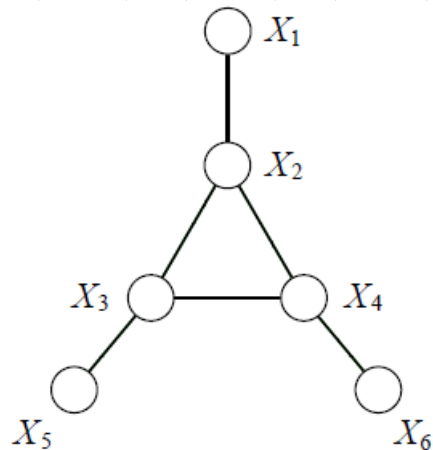
$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{si}(x_i) &= \sum_{x_{\mathcal{N}(s) \setminus \{i\}}} \left(f_s(x_{\mathcal{N}(s)}) \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}(s) \setminus \{i\}} v_{js}(x_j) \right) = \sum_{x_j} \psi(x_i, x_j) v_{js}(x_j) = \sum_{x_j} \psi(x_i, x_j) \prod_{t \in \mathcal{N}(j) \setminus \{s\}} \mu_{tj}(x_j) \\ &= \sum_{x_j} \psi(x_i, x_j) \psi^E(x_j) \prod_{t \in \mathcal{N}'(j) \setminus \{s\}} \mu_{tj}(x_j) \quad \text{In the } \mathcal{N}'(j) \text{ omitting the singleton factor} \end{aligned}$$



SUM-PRODUCT Applied to Factor Trees

- If a graph (directed or undirected) is originally a tree, there is little to gain by transforming it to factor graph.
- However, there is significant merit in transforming to factor graphs *various 'tree-like' graphs*. The SUM-PRODUCT applies directly to factor trees.

$$p(x) \propto \psi(x_1, x_2) \psi(x_3, x_5) \psi(x_4, x_6) \psi(x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

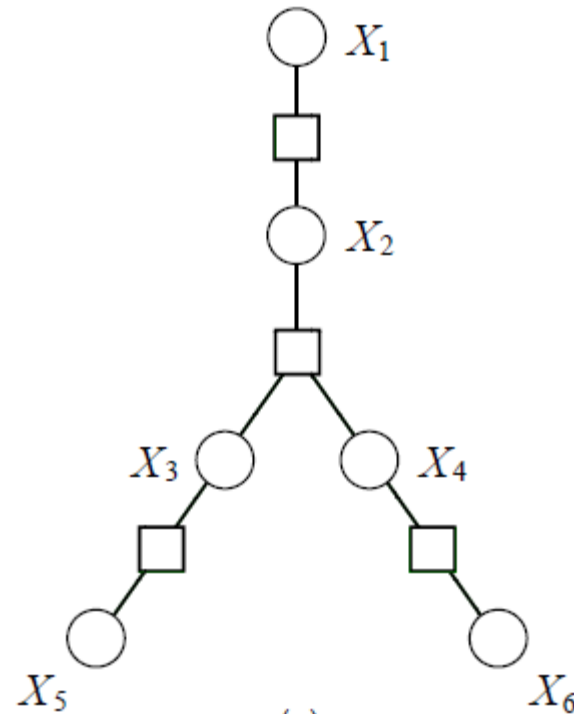
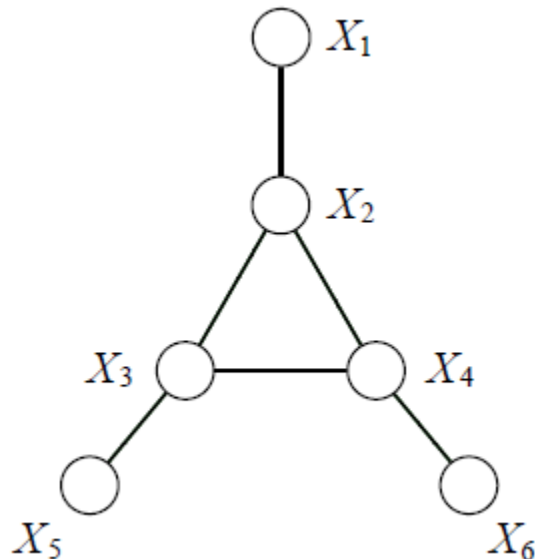


- An undirected graph with an unfactorized potential $\psi(x_2, x_3, x_4)$
- An equivalent undirected model using a super variable Z (range the Cartesian product of the range of X_2, X_3, X_4). Create new potentials $\psi(x_2, Z) \psi(x_3, Z) \psi(x_4, Z) \psi(Z)$
- An equivalent factor graph that is a **factor-tree**. No need for new potentials.

SUM-PRODUCT Applied to Factor Trees

- If the variables in the undirected graph can be clustered in non-overlapping cliques, and the parameterization of each clique is a general non-factorized potential, then the corresponding factor graph is a tree and the SUM-PRODUCT algorithm applies.

$$p(x) \propto \psi(x_1, x_2) \psi(x_3, x_5) \psi(x_4, x_6) \psi(x_2, x_3, x_4)$$



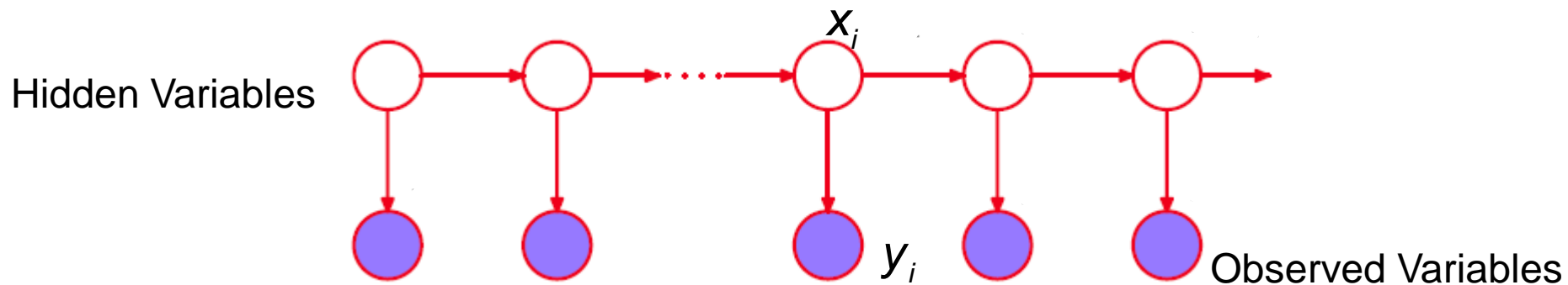
Application in State Space Models

- We will see in another lecture that inference in HMM involves one forward and one backward pass

$$P(Y_1 = y_1, \dots, Y_m = y_m, X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_m = x_m) =$$

$$P(X_1 = x_1) \prod_{j=2}^m P(X_j = x_j | X_{j-1} = x_{j-1}) \prod_{j=1}^m P(Y_j = y_j | X_j = x_j)$$

- The computational cost grows linearly with the length of the chain.
- Similarly for the Kalman Filter



Belief Propagation for DAGS

- ❑ Belief propagation is an algorithm for **exact inference on directed graphs without loops** and is equivalent to a special case of the sum-product algorithm.
- ❑ We will discuss in the following lecture Belief Propagation for general directed graphs.

- Pearl, J. (1988). [*Probabilistic Reasoning in Intelligent Systems*](#). Morgan Kaufmann.
- Lauritzen, S. L. and D. J. Spiegelhalter (1988). [*Local computations with probabilities on graphical structures and their application to expert systems*](#). *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* **50**, 157–224.

