

COMPSCI 688: Probabilistic Graphical Models

Lecture 7: Undirected Graphical Models: Examples and Inference

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Review

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Markov Random Fields

A Markov random is a distribution that factors over a set of “cliques” \mathcal{C} :

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c), \quad Z = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

The *dependence graph* $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$ is the graph where nodes i and j are connected by an edge if they appear together in some factor.

We say that $p(\mathbf{x})$ *factors* over \mathcal{G} , and denote this property as (F).

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Markov Properties

The *global Markov property* (G) connects conditional independence to graph separation.

Distribution $p(\mathbf{x})$ satisfies the global Markov property with respect to \mathcal{G} if

$$\text{sep}_{\mathcal{G}}(A, B | S) \implies \mathbf{X}_A \perp \mathbf{X}_B \mid \mathbf{X}_S \quad (\text{G})$$

There are two other Markov properties (*local* and *pairwise*) implied by the global Markov property.

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Factorization and Markov Properties

It's easy to show that factorization implies Markov: $(F) \Rightarrow (G)$.

There is a famous partial converse. For a *positive* distribution: $(G) \Rightarrow (F)$

Theorem (Hammersley-Clifford). If $p(\mathbf{x}) > 0$ for all \mathbf{x} , then $(F) \iff (G)$

Examples

Example: Ising Model

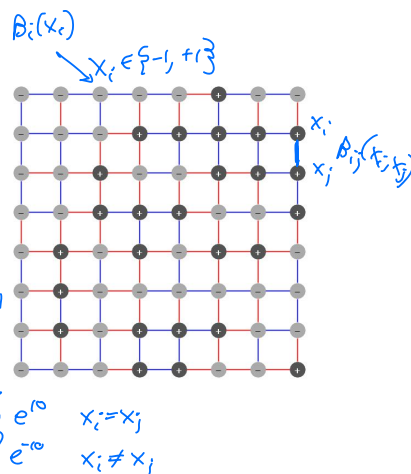
- \mathcal{G} is a lattice and $X_i \in \{-1, 1\}$
- Have unary potential β_i for each node i and pairwise potential β_{ij} for each edge (i, j)

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_i \beta_i(x_i) \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \beta_{ij}(x_i, x_j)$$

$$\beta_i(x_i) = \exp(b_i x_i) \quad \begin{cases} e^{b_i} & x_i = 1 \\ e^{-b_i} & x_i = -1 \end{cases}$$

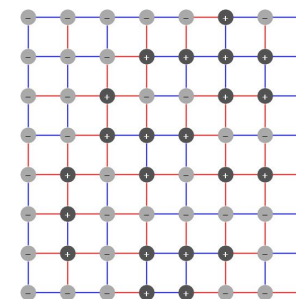
$$\beta_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = \exp(b_{ij} x_i x_j)$$

- $b_i > 0 \implies X_i$ likes to be positive
- $b_{ij} > 0 \implies X_i$ and X_j like to be the same

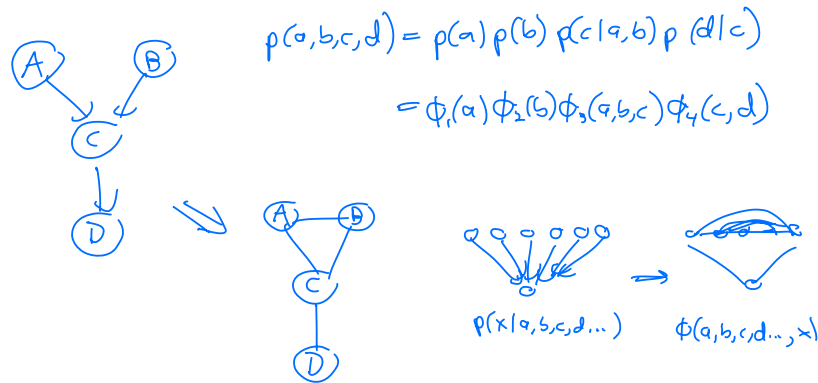


Example: Ising Model

- In general, Markov networks can be seen as expressing preferences for certain local configurations of the variables.
- Joint configurations with high probability balance the preferences of all factors.



Example: Bayes Nets as MRFs



Example: Bayes Nets as MRFs

Some structure is lost in this transformation. When we replace $p(a|b, c)$ by $\phi(a, b, c)$, we “forget” that a Bayes net is **locally normalized**

$$\sum_a \phi(a, b, c) = 1 \quad \forall b, c.$$

This is a special property of Bayes nets and is central to V-structures, explaining away, and D-separation. It occurs “internally” to the factor $\phi(a, b, c)$ and is not represented in the MRF graph structure.

Similarly, when we replace $\prod_i p(x_i | \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(i)})$ by $\frac{1}{Z} \prod_{c \in C} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$, we “forget” that a Bayes net is **globally normalized**:

$$\sum_x \prod_{c \in C} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c) = 1 \implies Z = 1.$$

This is another special property of Bayes nets that makes learning easy.