

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
oooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

-Quiz 5 due Fri, inference (marginals + conditionals)
-HW2 due next Wed

COMPSCI 688: Probabilistic Graphical Models

Lecture 10: Learning in MRFs

Dan Sheldon

Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Partially based on materials by Benjamin M. Marlin (marlin@cs.umass.edu) and Justin Domke (domke@cs.umass.edu)

1 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
oooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in MRFs

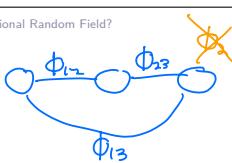
2 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
oooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in Pairwise MRFs



Let's consider the problem of learning in a pairwise MRF with only edge potentials:

$$p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \phi_{ij}(x_i, x_j; \theta), \quad Z(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \phi_{ij}(x_i, x_j; \theta)$$

Parameterized as

x_i	x_j	ϕ_{ij}
0	0	$\exp(\theta_{ij}^{00})$
0	1	$\exp(\theta_{ij}^{01})$
1	0	$\exp(\theta_{ij}^{10})$
1	1	$\exp(\theta_{ij}^{11})$

$\phi_{ij}(a, b; \theta) = \exp(\theta_{ij}^{ab})$

$1 \rightarrow 2$
 $2 \rightarrow 4$
 $3 \rightarrow 6$
 $4 \rightarrow 8$

3 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
oooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

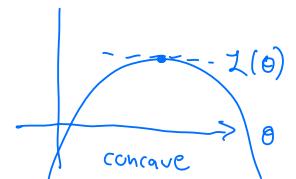
Learning in Pairwise MRFs

$(\mathbf{x}_1^{(n)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d^{(n)})$

The learning problem is: given a data set $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}$, find θ to maximize

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}^{(n)})$$

To solve this, we need to compute derivatives of $\mathcal{L}(\theta)$.



4 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooo●oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Log-Likelihood of Single Datum

Let's start by reformulating the log-likelihood of a single datum \mathbf{x} . Write

energy = $-\log \text{prob}$

$$p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \exp(-E_\theta(\mathbf{x}))$$

where $-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})$ is the *negative energy*:

$$-E_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \log \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \phi_{ij}(x_i, x_j; \theta) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \theta_{ij}^{x_i x_j}$$

$$\geq \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \log \phi_{ij}(x_i, x_j; \theta) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \log \exp(\theta_{ij}^{x_i x_j})$$

The log-likelihood of datum \mathbf{x} is:

$$\log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = -E_\theta(\mathbf{x}) - \log Z(\theta)$$

5 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooo●oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

The derivative with respect to a generic parameter θ_{uv}^{ab} is

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} (-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) - \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \log Z(\theta)$$

We'll treat each term separately.

α — β

6 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooo●oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Negative Energy Derivative

$$x_1 - x_2 - x_3$$

$$-E_\theta(0,0,1) = \theta_{12}^{00} + \theta_{23}^{01}$$

Recall the negative energy definition:

$$-E_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \theta_{ij}^{x_i x_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{12}^{01}} (\theta_{12}^{00} + \theta_{23}^{01}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{12}^{00}} (\theta_{12}^{00} + \theta_{23}^{01}) = 1$$

Its derivative is easy, because it is linear in the parameters

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} (-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \theta_{ij}^{x_i x_j} = \mathbb{I}[x_u = a, x_v = b]$$

uv

7 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooo●oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Log-Partition Function Derivative

$$Z(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \exp(-E_\theta(\mathbf{x}))$$

The derivative of the log-partition function has a special form.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \log Z(\theta) &= \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} Z(\theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \exp(-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \cdot \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \exp(-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \cdot \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \exp(-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} (-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \cdot \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \exp(-E_\theta(\mathbf{x})) \cdot \mathbb{I}[x_u' = a, x_v' = b] \end{aligned}$$

8 / 25

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}'} \frac{\exp(-E_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}'))}{Z(\theta)} \cdot \mathbb{I}[x'_u=a, x'_v=b] \\
 &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}'} p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}') \cdot \mathbb{I}[x'_u=a, x'_v=b] \quad \mathbb{I}[x_3=a, x_4=b] \\
 &= p_{\theta}(X_u=a, X_v=b)
 \end{aligned}$$

Takeaways:

- derivative of log-partition function is a marginal probability. Cool!
- later: more general version w/ exponential families

Put Together

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 \\
 \hline
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & 0
 \end{array}$$

Put together, the derivative of the log-likelihood of a single datum is

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{I}[x_u = a, x_v = b] - P_{\theta}(X_u = a, X_v = b)$$

Log-Likelihood of N Data PointsWith N data points, the derivative of the log-likelihood is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \mathcal{L}(\theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\mathbb{I}[x_u^{(n)} = a, x_v^{(n)} = b] - P_{\theta}(X_u = a, X_v = b) \right) \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{I}[x_u^{(n)} = a, x_v^{(n)} = b] \right) - P_{\theta}(X_u = a, X_v = b) \\
 &= \frac{\#(X_u = a, X_v = b)}{N} - P_{\theta}(X_u = a, X_v = b)
 \end{aligned}$$

"data marginal" "model marginal"

The derivative is data marginal minus a model marginal.

Computing the Derivatives

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{uv}^{ab}} \mathcal{L}(\theta) = \frac{\#(X_u = a, X_v = b)}{N} - P_{\theta}(X_u = a, X_v = b) = 0$$

How do we compute the derivative?

- first term: counting, iterate through data
- second term: compute a marginal in MRF with params θ
inference! message passing / variable elimination


Moment-Matching

Each partial derivative must be zero at a maximum. This gives the *moment-matching* condition, which asserts the data marginal should match the model marginal:

$$\frac{\#(X_u = a, X_v = b)}{N} = P_\theta(X_u = a, X_v = b)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \forall (u, v) \in E \\ \forall a \in \text{Val}(X_u) \\ \forall b \in \text{Val}(X_v) \end{aligned}$$

This is similar to counting in Bayes net learning, but the **marginal** $P_\theta(X_u = a, X_v = b)$ depends on **all parameters**, not just the “local parameters” θ_{uv} , because of the global normalization constant $Z(\theta)$.

The moment matching conditions for all parameters form a system of equations. It has a “unique” solution (the distribution is unique, not the parameters), but it’s not easy to solve directly.

Learning via Optimization

Instead, we can numerically maximize the log-likelihood, for example by gradient ascent:

- ▶ Initialize θ (e.g. $\theta \leftarrow 0$)
- ▶ Repeat
 - ▶ $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha \nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}(\theta)$ *vector of all partials*
 - ▶ $\theta_{uv} \leftarrow \theta_{uv} + \alpha \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_{uv}} \mathcal{L}(\theta)$ *learning rate, 0.01, 0.01*

We saw above how to compute the entries of the gradient $\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}(\theta)$.

The key subroutine is inference in the MRF.

HW3

What is a Conditional Random Field?

What is a Conditional Random Field?

Before we describe a CRF informally as an MRF where the x variables are always observed.



Here’s a better definition. A CRF defines an MRF over y for every fixed value of x :

$$p(y|x) = \frac{1}{Z(x)} \prod_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \phi_c(x, y_c), \quad Z(x) = \sum_y \prod_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \phi_c(x, y_c)$$

un norm prob over y

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooo•ooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Notes:

- ▶ No distribution over x
- ▶ Normalized separately for each x
- ▶ Each potential ϕ_c can depend arbitrarily on x (often designed with "local" connections to selected entries of x , but not necessary)
- ▶ Cliques c are subsets of the y indices



17 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooooooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooo•ooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in CRFs

$(x^{(1)}, y^{(1)}), \dots, (x^{(N)}, y^{(N)})$

verbal

$p_\theta(y^{(n)}|x^{(n)})$

In CRFs, we maximize the *conditional log-likelihood*:

MRF: $\log p_\theta(x^{(n)}, y^{(n)})$

$\max_\theta \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log p_\theta(y^{(n)}|x^{(n)})$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log Z(\theta)$
"inference"

Some aspects are similar to learning in MRFs. A key difference is that the "model marginals" are different for each data case, because the normalization constant $Z(x^{(n)})$ is different.

(see HW2, HW3)

$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log Z(x^{(n)}, \theta)$

18 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
oooo•ooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooo•ooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Discussion

$p(x, y) = p(x)p(y|x)$

Why CRFs?

- ▶ It's often better not to learn a model for $p(x)$ if it is not needed, e.g., if you only want to predict $p(y|x)$. This is especially true if we have lots of data.
- ▶ But it may be better to use an MRF and learn a full model $p(x, y)$ for the joint distribution, especially if the model is "correct" and with smaller data sets. (Intuition: the x data can help you learn the correct model faster.)

19 / 25

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooo•ooo

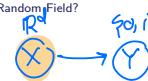
Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Learning in MRFs
oooooooooooo

What is a Conditional Random Field?
ooo•ooo

Message-Passing Implementation
oooo

Example: Logistic Regression



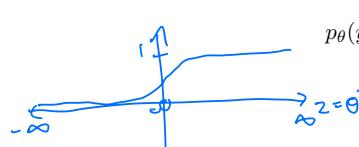
Logistic regression is a simple CRF with $y \in \{0, 1\}$.

$\log p_\theta(y|x) = \frac{1}{Z(x)} \exp(\theta^\top x \cdot \mathbb{I}[y=1]) = \begin{cases} 1 & y=0 \\ \exp(\theta^\top x) & y=1 \end{cases}$

$Z(x) = \exp(\theta^\top x) + 1$

$p_\theta(y=1|x) = \frac{\exp(\theta^\top x)}{1 + \exp \theta^\top x} = \text{sigmoid}(\theta^\top x)$

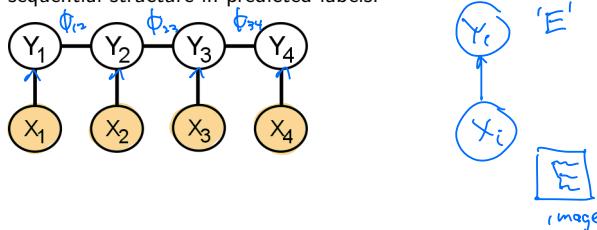
$\text{sigmoid}(z) = \frac{z}{1 + e^z}$



20 / 25

Example: Chain CRF

One way to view a chain-structured CRF is as a sequence of logistic regression models, with pairwise connections between adjacent y variables to encourage a particular sequential structure in predicted labels:



21 / 25

Overflow/Underflow and Log-Sum-Exp

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_c \phi_c(x)$$

- When factor values are small or large, or with many factors, messages can underflow or overflow since they are products of many terms. A common solution is to manipulate all factors and messages in log space.
- Example:** consider the common factor manipulation

$$A(x) = \sum_y B(x, y) C(y)$$

exp($\gamma(x, y)$)

Let's compute $\alpha(x) = \log A(x)$ from $\beta(x, y) = \log B(x, y)$ and $\gamma(y) = \log C(y)$

- Step 1:** multiplication of factors is addition of log-factors

$$\lambda(x, y) := \log(B(x, y)C(y)) = \beta(x, y) + \gamma(y)$$

23 / 25

Message-Passing Implementation

22 / 25

- Step 2:** marginalization requires exponentiation ("log-sum-exp")

$$\alpha(x) = \log \left(\sum_y \exp \lambda(x, y) \right)$$

24 / 25

Numerically Stable log-sum-exp

Before exponentiating, we need to be careful to shift values to avoid overflow/underflow

$$\text{logsumexp}(a_1, \dots, a_k): \log \sum_{i=1}^k \exp(a_i) = c + \log \sum_{i=1}^k \exp(a_i - c)$$

- ▶ $c \leftarrow \max_i a_i$
- ▶ return $c + \log \sum_i \exp(a_i - c)$

See `scipy.special.logsumexp`

(Comment: log-space implementation probably not needed in HW2, probably needed in HW3.)