### L03 – Introduction to Graphical Models

#### AIMA4e, 13.1-2

## What you should know after this lecture

- Framing of probabilistic inference problem
- How to model a distribution of variables as a factored distribution
- How to represent a factored distribution as a graphical model
- How (and why) to multiply and marginalise out random variables

# Probabilistic belief representation

- Belief is a probability distribution : B ∈ 𝒫(𝔅) (an element of the set of all distributions over 𝔅)
- Important questions:
  - What is  $p_B(event)$ ?
  - What is the most likely state argmax<sub>s</sub> p<sub>B</sub>(s)?
  - How should we update B given an observation?



# Belief, query, conditioning



#### Probabilistic inference

Given B and Q and possible E, compute  $\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{B}|\mathsf{E}}(Q)$ 

Stupidest possible algorithm:

- Enumerate  $s \in S$
- $\bullet \ \ \text{accumulate} \ p_{B|E}(s) \ \text{if} \ s \in Q$

Our goal: do this without enumerating S

Idea: use factored representation of B, Q, and E to make this efficient!

### Factored representation of B

- Random variables  $V_1, \ldots, V_n$
- Each  $V_i$  has discrete domain of possible values  $\Omega_{V_i}$
- Sample space is product  $\boldsymbol{\vartheta} = \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{V_1} \times \ldots \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{V_n}$
- Sample  $s \in S$  is  $(v_1, \ldots, v_n)$  where  $v_i \in \Omega_{v_i}$
- B is the joint distribution on  $V_1, \ldots, V_n$
- Can use a table  $\alpha$  to represent B
- Use Boolean expressions over atoms  $V=\nu$  to represent Q and  $\mathsf{E}$

#### Factored representation: example

- Random variables A, B, C
- Domains  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}$

	a	b	с	p((a, b, c))
	0	0	0	0.10
	0	0	1	0.20
	0	1	0	0.05
$\alpha =$	0	1	1	0.05
	1	0	0	0.30
	1	0	1	0.05
	1	1	0	0.15
	1	1	1	0.10

What is 
$$P_{\alpha}(A = 1 | B = 0 \text{ or } C = 0)$$

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## Bayes Nets: Compact factored representation of p

Define a Bayesian network  $\alpha$  :

- Random variables  $V_1, \ldots, V_n$
- Each  $V_i$  has discrete domain of possible values  $\Omega_{V_i}$
- Directed acyclic graph G defined on nodes V<sub>i</sub>
- Parents  $\text{pa}_G(V_i)$  : set of nodes  $V_j$  with edges  $(V_j,V_i)\in G$
- For each  $V_i$ , a conditional probability table (CPT), specifying  $P(V_i | parents_G(V_i))$ 
  - For every assignment  $\bar{v}$  to variables in  $pa_G(V_i)$
  - and every value  $v \in \Omega_{V_i}$
  - specify  $P(V_i = v | pa_G(V_i) = \bar{v})$

Then for an assignment  $s = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ 

$$p_{\alpha}(s) = \prod_{i} P(V_i = v_i \mid pa_G(V_i) = s[pa_G(V_i)])$$

# Classic example



Figure 13.2 A typical Bayesian network, showing both the topology and the conditional probability tables (CPTs). In the CPTs, the letters *B*, *E*, *A*, *J*, and *M* stand for *Burglary*, *Earthquake*, *Alarm*, *JohnCalls*, and *MaryCalls*, respectively.

#### • Non-monotonicity of probability

- What's  $P_{\alpha}(B = 1)$ ?
- What's  $P_{\alpha}(B = 1 | M = 1)$ ?
- What's  $P_{\alpha}(B = 1 | M = 1, E = 1)$ ?

• How many params to specify the whole joint as a table? 6.4110 Spring 2025

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Explaining away

Consider the network

Battery -> Gauge <- FuelTank

Here are some CPTs:

$$Pr(B = 1) = 0.9$$

$$Pr(F = 1) = 0.9$$

$$Pr(G = 1 | B = 1, F = 1) = 0.8$$

$$Pr(G = 1 | B = 1, F = 0) = 0.2$$

$$Pr(G = 1 | B = 0, F = 1) = 0.2$$

- What is the prior that the tank is empty? Pr(F = 0) = 0.1
- What if we observe the fuel gauge and find that it reads empty?  $Pr(F=0 \mid G=0) \approx 0.257$
- Now, what if we find the battery is dead?  $Pr(F = 0 | G = 0, B = 0) \approx 0.111$  The probability that the tank is empty has <u>decreased</u>! Finding that the battery is flat explains away the empty fuel tank reading.

### Independence relations

Are we getting something for nothing?

- Independence of random variables: If P(A = a, B = b) = P(A = a)P(B = b) for all  $a \in \Omega_a, b \in \Omega_b$ , we say that A and B are <u>independent</u>:  $A \perp B$ .
- Conditional independence: If P(A = a, B = b | C = c, D = d) = P(A = a | C = c, D = d)P(B = b | C = c, D = d) for all  $a \in \Omega_A, b \in \Omega_B, c \in \Omega_C, d \in \Omega_d$ , we say that A and B are conditionally independent given C and D, A  $\perp B | C, D$ .
- Bayes nets get their compactness from independence assumptions encoded in the graph.

## Graph structure encodes independence relations



- Case 1: P(B|A), P(C|A) "outgoing" connection
  - $B \not\perp C$ , but  $B \perp C \mid A$
- Case 2: P(B|A), P(C|B) "flow" connection
  - C *⊥*A, but C *⊥* A | B
- Case 3: P(C|A, B) "incoming" connection
  - A ⊥ B, but A ↓B | C

In general  $V_i \perp V_j \mid E_1, \ldots, E_K$  if there are no paths from  $V_i$  to  $V_j$  through outgoing or flow connections that are not blocked by E or through an incoming connection that is enabled by E. More about this when we get to factor graphs and Markov blankets. 6.4110 Spring 2025

# Simple inference algorithm

Given a BN, we have a conceptually (but not computationally) simple way to compute the joint

$$p_{\alpha}(s) = \prod_{i} P(V_{i} = v_{i} \mid pa_{G}(V_{i}) = s[pa_{G}(V_{i})])$$

We can think of this as multiplying the CPTS in the Bayes net. Informally:

 $Multiply(D_1, D_2)$ 

- 1  $\pi$  = table indexed by  $\Omega_{vars(D_1) \cup vars(D_2)}$
- 2 for  $\bar{\nu}$  in  $\pi$

3 
$$\pi(\bar{\nu}) = \text{lookup}(\bar{\nu}, D_1) \cdot \text{lookup}(\bar{\nu}, D_2)$$

4 return  $\pi$ 

#### Multiplication example

Given CPTs,  $D_1 = P(X_2|X_1)$  and  $D_2 = P(X_3|X_1)$ , defined over different variable sets:

	$X_1$	X2	Р		$X_1$	$X_3$	Р
-	Т	Т	0.1		Т	Т	0.9
$D_1 =$	Т	F	0.9	$D_2 =$	Т	F	0.1
	F	Т	0.9		F	Т	0.1
	F	F	0.1		F	F	0.9

What is the meaning of this multiplication?  $P(X_2|X_1) \times P(X_3|X_1) = P(X_2, X_3|X_1).$ Practice on explaining-away example <sup>6.4110 Spring 2025</sup>

## Undirected models

- Directed models (Bayes nets) are good for many problems, particularly when there is a causal interpretation of the arrows. (Though causality is not necessary)
- Relationship between pixels in an image or adjacent plots of property is not independent but there's no sensible way to assign a direction.
- Can make graphical models with nodes and undirected arcs: Markov random fields
- We will skip that step and go straight to a formalism called <u>factor graphs</u> that can represent both directed and undirected models.
- A generalization of factor graphs for CSPs!!

## Factor graphs



Undirected bipartite graph: factors only connect to variables

- Round nodes are random variables V
- Square nodes are <u>factors</u> φ: tables specifying, for each tuple of value of the connected variables, a non-negative number
- Represent a probability distribution (e.g. left graph above)

$$\mathsf{P}((\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{b},\mathfrak{c},\mathfrak{d},\mathfrak{e},\mathfrak{f})) = \frac{1}{\mathsf{Z}} \phi_1(\mathfrak{a})\phi_2(\mathfrak{b})\phi_3(\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{b},\mathfrak{d})\phi_4(\mathfrak{a},\mathfrak{c})\phi_5(\mathfrak{d},\mathfrak{g})\phi_6(\mathfrak{c},\mathfrak{e})\phi_7(\mathfrak{c},\mathfrak{f})$$

where Z is a normalizer

$$Z = \sum_{a,b,c,d,e,f} \phi_1(a)\phi_2(b)\phi_3(a,b,d)\phi_4(a,c)\phi_5(d,g)\phi_6(c,e)\phi_7(c,f)$$

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## Bayes nets to factor graphs

- Variable nodes are the same
- Add one factor for each CPT
- Connect it to the "output" node and all parents
- Note that, for this construction Z = 1 (no need to normalize!)
   Prove this to yourself by recalling the probability distribution represented by a Bayes net.

## Independence relations in factor graphs

- The <u>Markov blanket</u> of a node V consists of all nodes that are connected to any factor connected to V.
- The Markov blanket of A in our example is {B, D, C}
- A node V is <u>not</u>, in general, independent of any node in its MB
- A node V is conditionally independent of the rest of the graph, conditioned on mb(V)
- There are some sets of independence relations that are describable by a Bayes net but not describable by a factor graph (and vice versa)

Inference in factor graphs

Some inference problems:

• <u>Joint distribution</u>: In a factor graph, use table multiplication to compute a big table

$$\frac{1}{Z}\prod_k \phi_k$$

where Z is the sum of all table entries

- <u>Marginal distribution</u>: P(Y) where  $Y \subset \mathcal{V}$
- <u>Conditional probability</u>: P(Y | E = e), where  $Y \subset V$ ,  $E \subset V$ , and  $Y \cap E = \emptyset$ ; and *e* is the observed values of the variables in E. Note that it is not necessary that  $Y \cup E = V$ .
- Most probable assignment (MAP):

$$\operatorname{argmax} y P(Y = y | E = e)$$
.

Note that the MAP of a set of variables is not necessarily 6.4110 sthe 2set of MAPs of the individual variables.

## PGMs and CSPs

- In both PGMs and CSPs, the nodes represent variables, with finite domains.
- The factors are tables of values, one for each assignment of the variables they are connected to.
- In CSPs, the values have to be 0 and 1.
- In PGMs, the values can be any non-negative number.
- The factor graph of a CSP defines a **set** of assignments.
- The factor graph of a PGM defines a **distribution** over assignments.

#### Next time

- We would like to avoid computing the whole joint distribution!!
- Algorithms whose complexity depends on the complexity of the network (rather than the product of the domains of all the variables)