

CS 6347

Lecture 5

Exact Inference in MRFs



- Announcements
 - First homework updated (to correct a typo)
- Last Time
 - MRFs
- Today
 - Exact inference: variable elimination and belief propagation





$$p(x_A, x_B, x_C) = \frac{1}{Z} \psi_{AB}(x_A, x_B) \psi_{BC}(x_B, x_C) \psi_{CD}(x_C, x_D)$$

$$Z = \sum_{x'_A, x'_B, x'_C, x'_D} \psi_{AB}(x'_A, x'_B) \psi_{BC}(x'_B, x'_C) \psi_{CD}(x'_C, x'_D)$$



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$$= \sum_{x'_A} \sum_{x'_B} \sum_{x'_C} \sum_{x'_D} \psi_{AB}(x'_A, x'_B) \psi_{BC}(x'_B, x'_C) \psi_{CD}(x'_C, x'_D)$$

$$= \sum_{x'_A} \sum_{x'_B} \psi_{AB}(x'_A, x'_B) \sum_{x'_C} \psi_{BC}(x'_B, x'_C) \sum_{x'_D} \psi_{CD}(x'_C, x'_D)$$



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$$= \sum_{x'_{A}} \sum_{x'_{B}} \psi_{AB}(x'_{A}, x'_{B}) \sum_{x'_{C}} \psi_{BC}(x'_{B}, x'_{C}) \phi_{C}(x'_{C})$$



$$Z = \sum_{x'_A, x'_B, x'_C, x'_D} \psi_{AB}(x'_A, x'_B) \psi_{BC}(x'_B, x'_C) \psi_{CD}(x'_C, x'_D)$$





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$$=\sum_{x_A'}\sum_{x_B'}\psi_{AB}(x_A',x_B')\phi_B(x_B')$$



$$Z = \sum_{x'_A, x'_B, x'_C, x'_D} \psi_{AB}(x'_A, x'_B) \psi_{BC}(x'_B, x'_C) \psi_{CD}(x'_C, x'_D)$$





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$$= \sum_{x'_A} \sum_{x'_B} \sum_{x'_C} \sum_{x'_D} \psi_{AB}(x'_A, x'_B) \psi_{BC}(x'_B, x'_C) \psi_{CD}(x'_C, x'_D)$$

$$=\sum_{x_A'}\phi_A(x_A')$$



Variable Elimination

- Choose an ordering of the random variables
- Sum the joint distribution over the variables one at a time in the specified order exploiting the factorization where possible
 - Each time a variable is eliminated, it creates a new potential that is multiplied back in after removing the sum that generated this potential



Variable Elimination

• What is the cost of the <u>optimal</u> variable elimination on the chain?



Variable Elimination

• What is the cost of the <u>optimal</u> variable elimination on the chain?

length of the chain \times (size of state space)²

Elimination order: C, B, D, F, E, A

(worked out on the board)

A

Treewidth

- The treewidth of a graph is equal to the size of the largest clique created in any optimal elimination ordering
 - Tree width of a tree: ?

Treewidth

• The treewidth of a graph is equal to the size of the largest clique created in any optimal elimination ordering

- Tree width of a tree: 1 (as long as it has at least one edge)

• The complexity of variable elimination is upper bounded by

 $n \cdot (size of the state space)^{treewidth+1}$

Elimination order: D, C, F, E, B, A

Largest clique created had size two (this is the best that we can do)

Elimination Orderings

- Finding the optimal elimination ordering is NP-hard!
- Heuristic methods are often used in practice
 - Min-degree: the cost of a vertex is the number of neighbors it has in the current graph
 - Min-fill: the cost of a vertex is the number of new edges that need to be added to the graph due to its elimination

- Efficient method for inference on a tree
- Represent the variable elimination process as a collection of messages passed between nodes in the tree
 - The messages keep track of the potential functions produced throughout the elimination process
- Optimal elimination order on a tree always eliminate leaves of the current tree (i.e., always eliminate degree 1 vertices)

•
$$p(x_1, ..., x_n) = \prod_{i \in V} \phi_i(x_i) \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j)$$

$$m_{i \to j}(x_j) = \sum_{x_i} \phi_i(x_i) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} m_{k \to i}(x_i)$$

where N(i) is the set of neighbors of node i in the graph

• Messages are passed in two phases: from the leaves up to the root and then from the root down to the leaves

- As an added bonus, BP allows you to efficiently compute the marginal probability over each single variable as well as the partition function
 - Multiply the singleton potentials with all of the incoming messages
 - Computing the normalization constant for this function gives the partition function of the model
- A similar strategy can be used whenever the factor graph is a tree
 - Two types of messages: factor-to-variable and variable-to-factor

• What is the complexity of belief propagation on a tree with state space *D*?

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$O(n|D|^2)$

• What if we want to compute the MAP assignment instead of the partition function?

