

# Confident Bayesian Learning of Graphical Models

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Machine Learning Coffee Seminar  
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# AGENDA

I Graphical Models

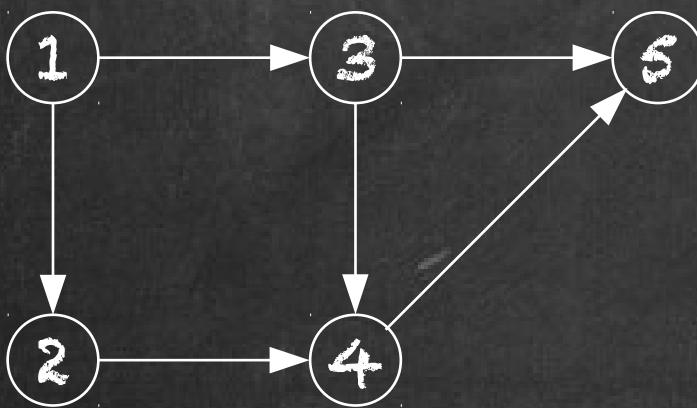
II Confident Bayesian Structure Learning

III State of the Art - Summary

IV Computational Techniques & Sample Results

Part I  
Graphical Models

# BAYESIAN NETWORK (BN)



Structure

$G$  : a DAG

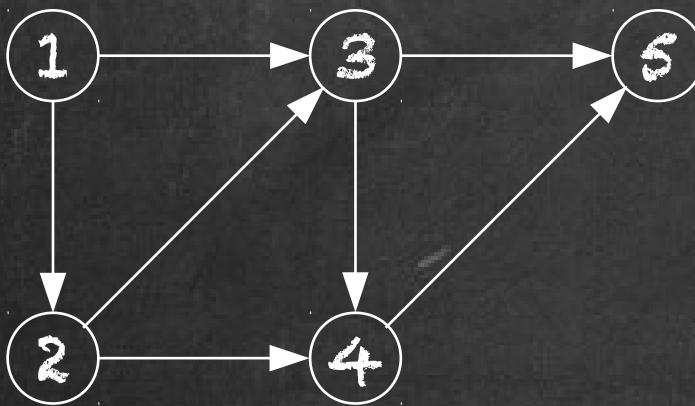
$G_v$  : parents of  $v$

$$G_4 = \{2, 3\}$$

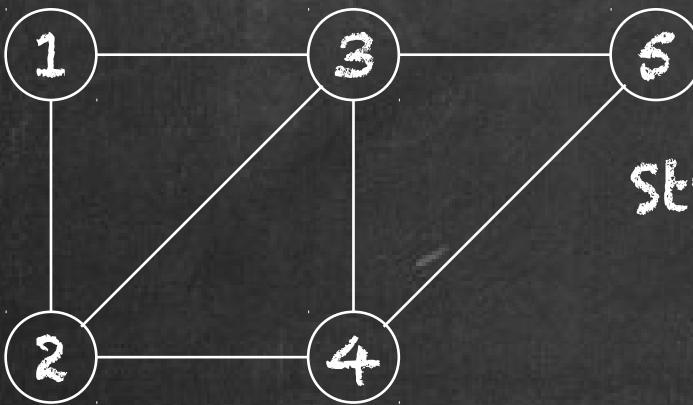
Local conditional distributions

$$p(x) = \prod_{v=1}^d p(x_v | x_{G_v})$$

# CHORDAL MARKOV NETWORK (CMN)



# CHORDAL MARKOV NETWORK (CMN)



Structure

$G$ : a chordal graph

$C$ : a clique in  $G$

Cliques:  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  
 $\{2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $\{3, 4, 5\}$

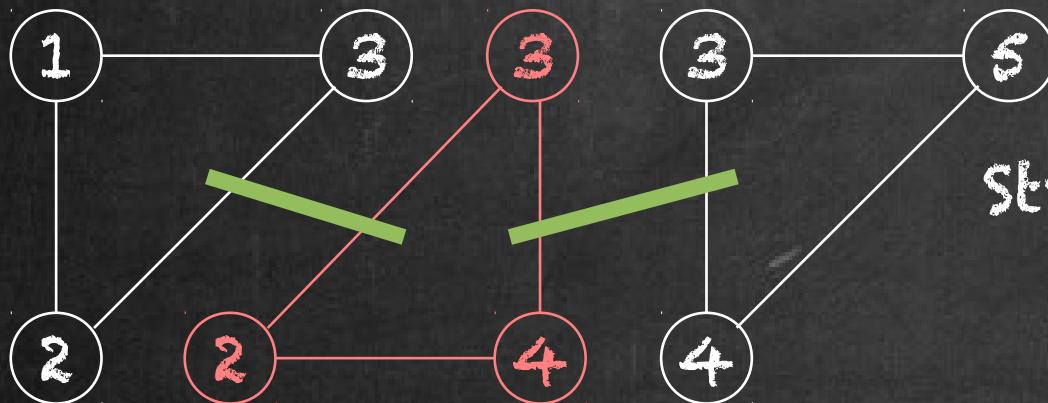
Local marginal distributions

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\prod_{\text{clique } C} p(\mathbf{x}_C)}{\prod_{\text{separators}} p(\mathbf{x}_S)}$$

Separators:  $\{2, 3\}$ ,  
 $\{3, 4\}$

# CHORDAL MARKOV NETWORK (CMN)

Clique tree



Structure

$G$ : a chordal graph  
 $C$ : a clique in  $G$

Local marginal distributions

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\prod_{\text{clique } C} p(\mathbf{x}_C)}{\prod_{\text{separators}} p(\mathbf{x}_S)}$$

Cliques:  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  
 $\{2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $\{3, 4, 5\}$

Separators:  $\{2, 3\}$ ,  
 $\{3, 4\}$

Part II

Confident Bayesian Structure Learning

## BAYESIAN STRUCTURE LEARNING

Given a data set  $X = (x^1, \dots, x^N) = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$ ,  
summarize the posterior of  $G$ .

Mode

$$\operatorname{argmax}_G P(G) P(X | G)$$

Expectations

$$E[f(G) | X]$$

Example:  $f(G) = 1\{u \text{ is a parent of } v\}$

Normalizing constant

$$\sum_G P(G) P(X | G) = P(X)$$

# CONFIDENT BAYESIAN LEARNING

Attach the estimate of the target quantity  $Q$  with a characterization of accuracy.

Example (confidence interval):

Output an interval  $I$  and a number  $p$  such that  
 $Q$  belongs to  $I$  with probability at least  $p$

Example (exact deterministic):

$I = \{Q\}$  and  $p = 1$

Characterization  
required only  
a posteriori!

Part III

State of the Art - Summary

# BAYESIAN NETWORKS

NP-hard [Chickering 1996, Chickering et al. 2004]

Exact algorithms, time  $2^d \text{ poly}(d)$  or  $3^d \text{ poly}(d)$

[Ott et al. 2004, K. & Sood 2004, Singh & Moore 2005, Silander & Myllymäki 2006, Tian & He 2009]

Complete solvers based on B&B, A\*, ILP, constraint  
programming [de Campos & Ji 2011, Yuan & Malone 2013,  
Bartlett & Cussens 2015, van Beek & Hoffmann]

Tractable subclasses

[Gaspers et al. 2014, Korhonen & Parviainen 2015]

Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

[Madigan & York 1995, Friedman & Koller 2003, Niinimäki et al. 2011, 2015, 2016]

Mostly  
unconfident

# CHORDAL MARKOV NETWORKS

NP-hard [Srebro 2003]

Exact algorithms, time  $4^d \text{ poly}(d)$

[Kangas et al. 2014, 2015]

Complete solvers based on constraint  
programming, ILP, B&B [Corander et al. 2013, Bartlett &  
Cussens 2015, Rantanen et al. 2017]

For bounded-treewidth networks [Korhonen &  
Parviainen 2013, Berg et al. 2014, Parviainen et al. 2014]

Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

[Giudici & Green 1999, Green & Thomas 2013]

Mode only!

Mode only!

Unconfident!

## Part IV

# Computational Techniques & Sample Results

# THE COVERING TECHNIQUE

Cover the structure space by “nice-behaving” sets.

Example (MCMC for BNs):

$$\{\text{DAGs}\} = \bigcup_{\text{constraint } \mathcal{D}} \{\text{DAGs compatible with } \mathcal{D}\}$$

Constraint families

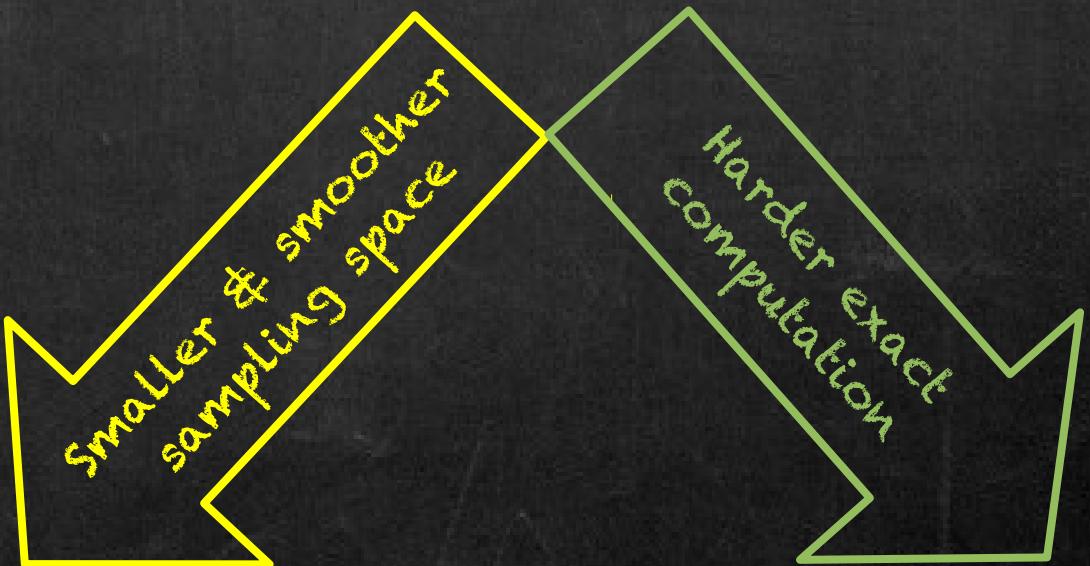
DAGs  
[Madigan & York 1995]

Linear orders  
[Friedman & Koller 2003]

Partial orders  
[Nünnimäki et al. 2011-16]

No constraints  
[K. & Sood 2004]

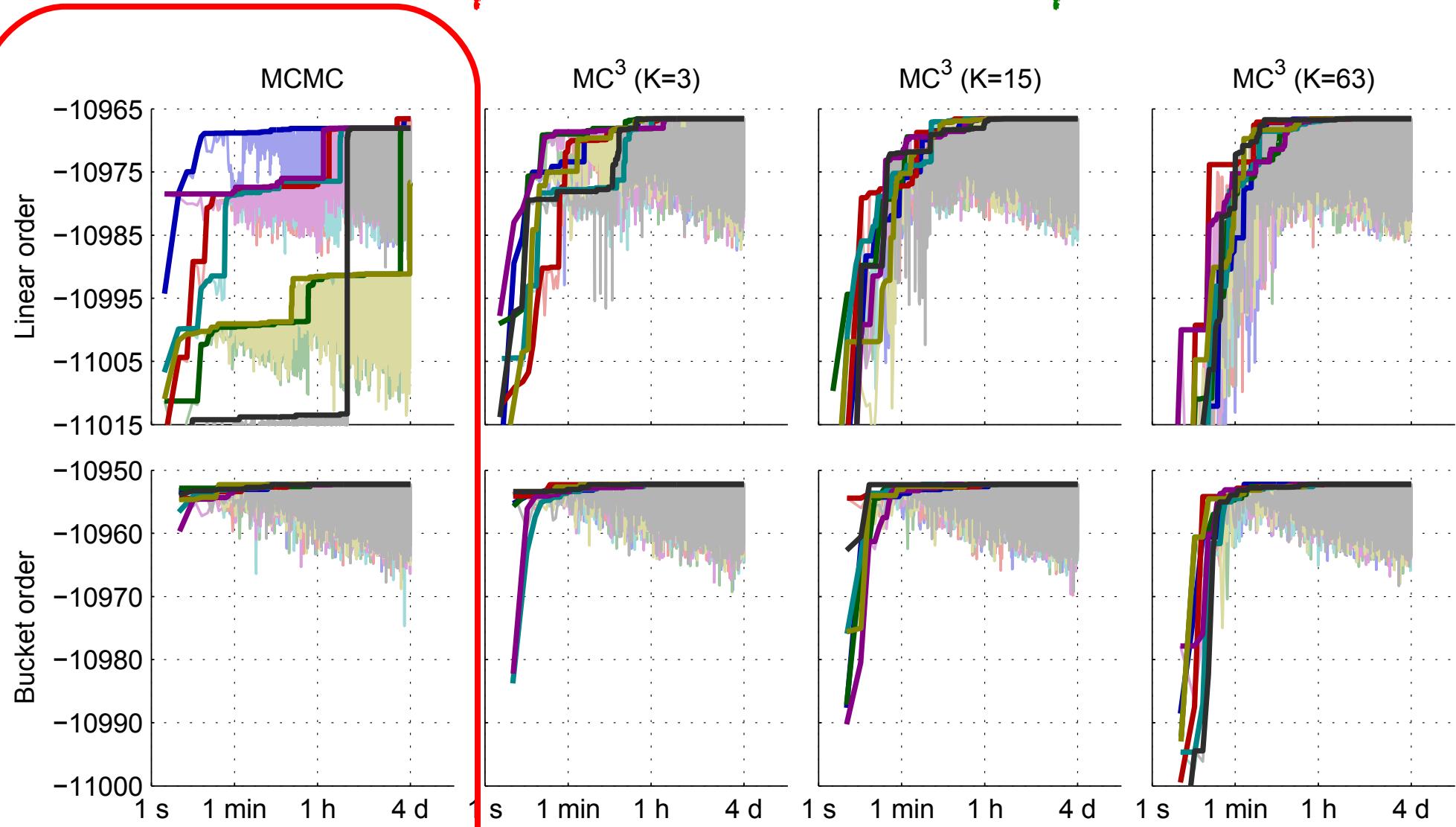
Tradeoffs



# MCMC CONVERGENCE [Niinimäki et al. 2016]

Dataset: Mushroom, 1000 points,  $d = 22$  variables

Bucket orders superior, even with tempered MCMC



# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

Exploit a factorization to memorize repeated subproblems.

Chordal Markov networks:

- Call a function  $f$  decomposable if

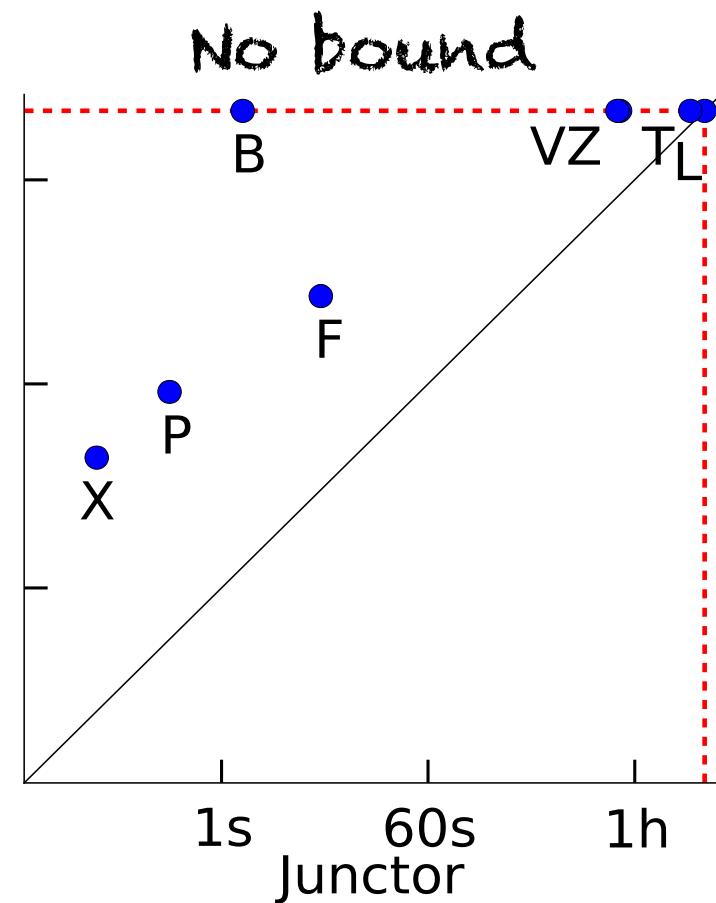
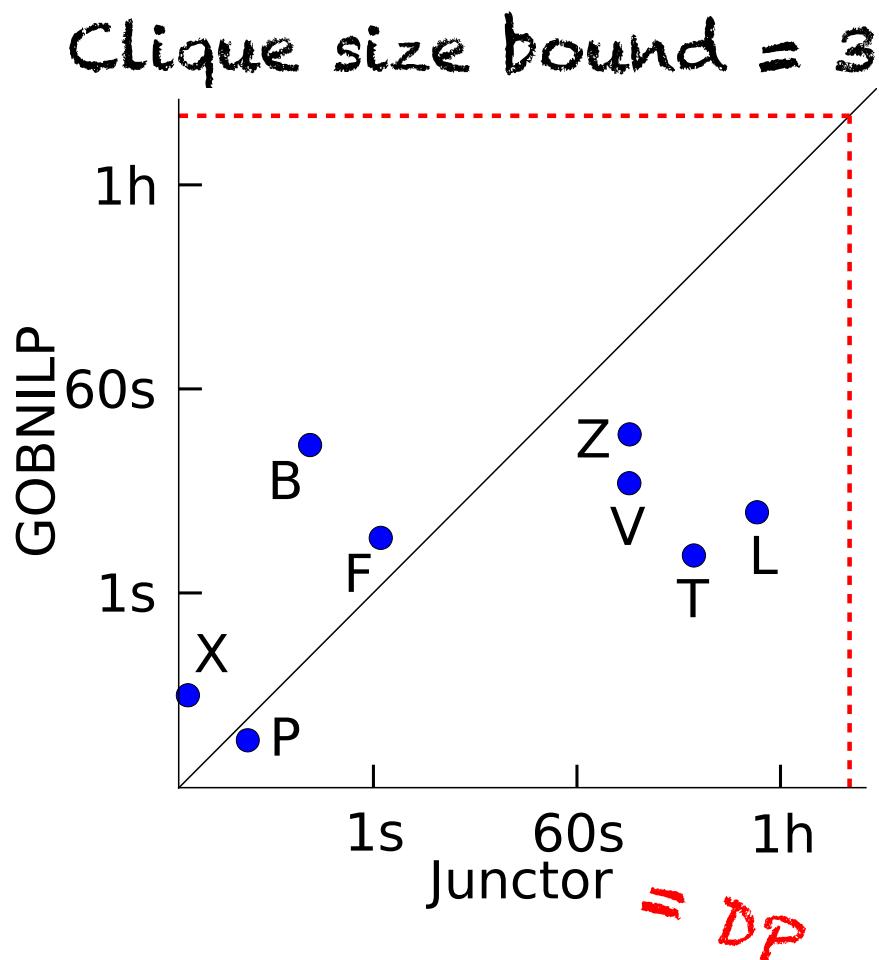
$$f(G) = \frac{\prod_{\text{clique } C} f'(C)}{\prod_{\text{separators}} f''(S)}$$

- Require a decomposable structure prior  $P(G)$ .
- Require a "nice" parameter prior of  $p(x_C)$  for each clique  $C$  to get a decomposable  $P(X|G)$ .
- (Only expectations of decomposable functions.)

## FINDING A MODE [Kangas et al. 2014]

Eight benchmark datasets,  $d = 10$  to 19 variables

DP superior, especially if allowing large cliques



# IMPORTANCE SAMPLING & BIAS CORRECTION

Sample from a "nice" proxy distribution  $q$ .  
Correct bias by importance weighting.

Draw  $G^1, \dots, G^T$  independently from

$$q(G) = P(G|X) b(G) \cdot \text{Constant}$$

Put  $\omega^t = 1/b(G^t)$  and estimate

$$E[f(G)|X] \approx \sum_t f(G^t) \omega^t / \sum_t \omega^t$$

Examples:

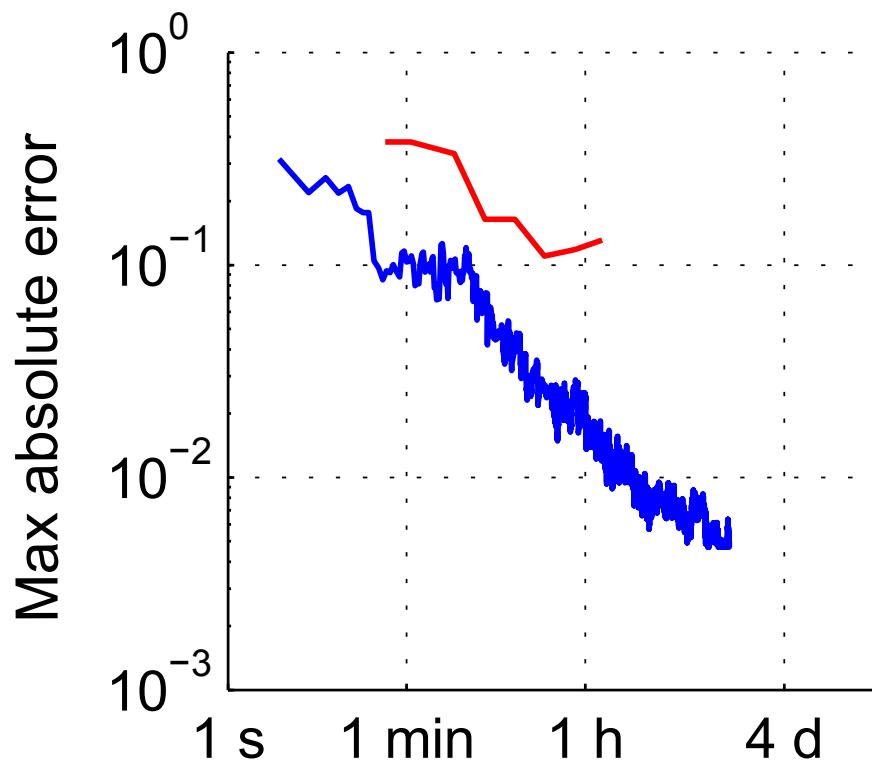
BNs:  $b(G) = \# \text{ topological sorts of } G$

CMNs:  $b(G) = \# \text{ rooted clique trees of } G$

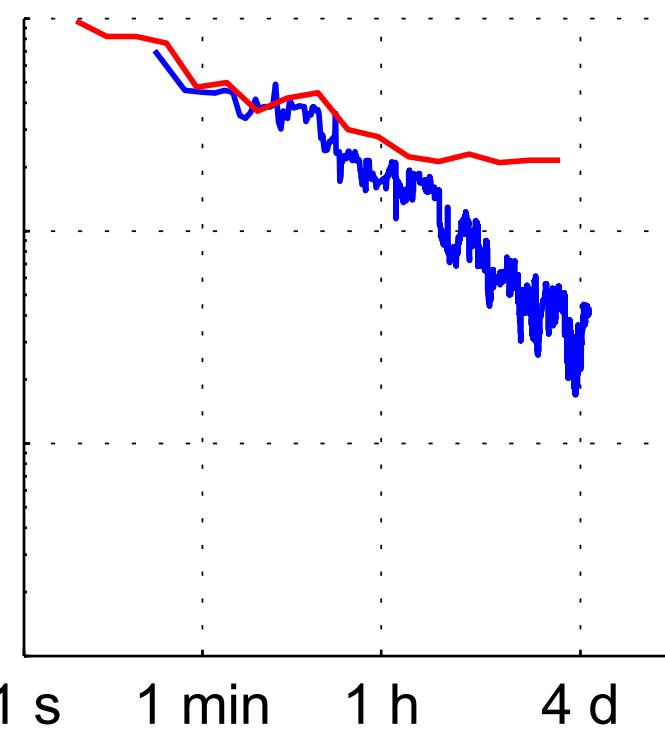
ARC POSTERIOR [Niinimäki et al. 2016]

Importance weighting is superior to  
a heuristic by Ellis & Wong [JASA 2008]

Datasets: Flare,  $d = 13$



German,  $d = 20$



## ANNEALING & MARKOV'S INEQUALITY

Construct a sampling distribution  $q$  close to the target. Independent samples yield lower bounds.

Annealed importance sampling [Neal 2001]

Generate  $\sigma_k$  along a Markov chain:

$$q(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_K) = q_1(\sigma_1) q_2(\sigma_2 | \sigma_1) \dots q_K(\sigma_K | \sigma_{K-1})$$

Theorem (Markov Lower bound) [Gomes et al. 2007]

Let  $Z_1, \dots, Z_T$  be independent and nonnegative with mean  $\mu$ . Then with probability at least  $p$ :

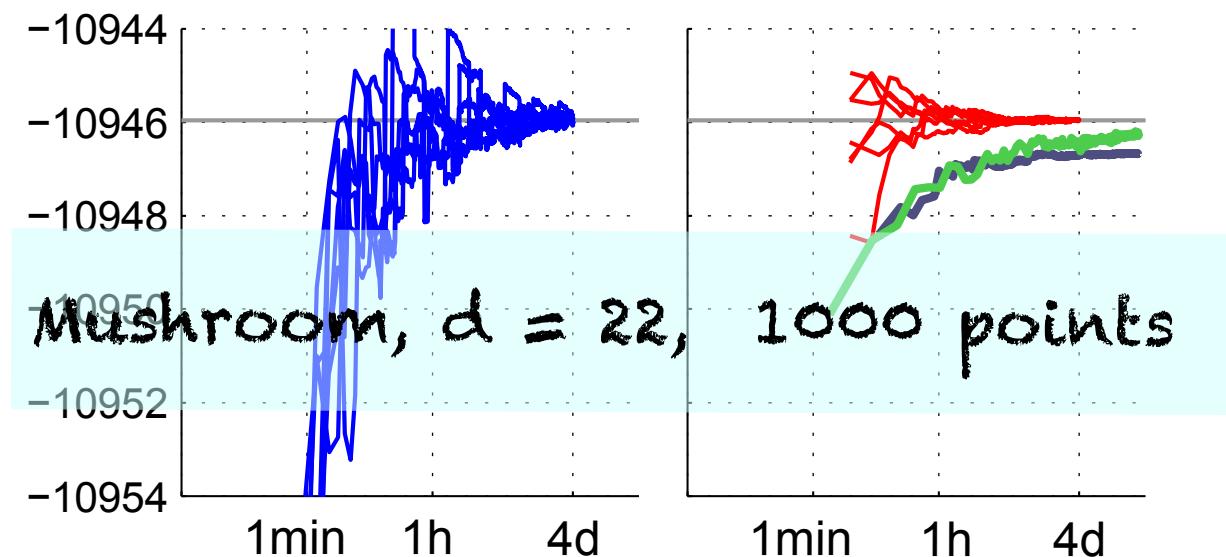
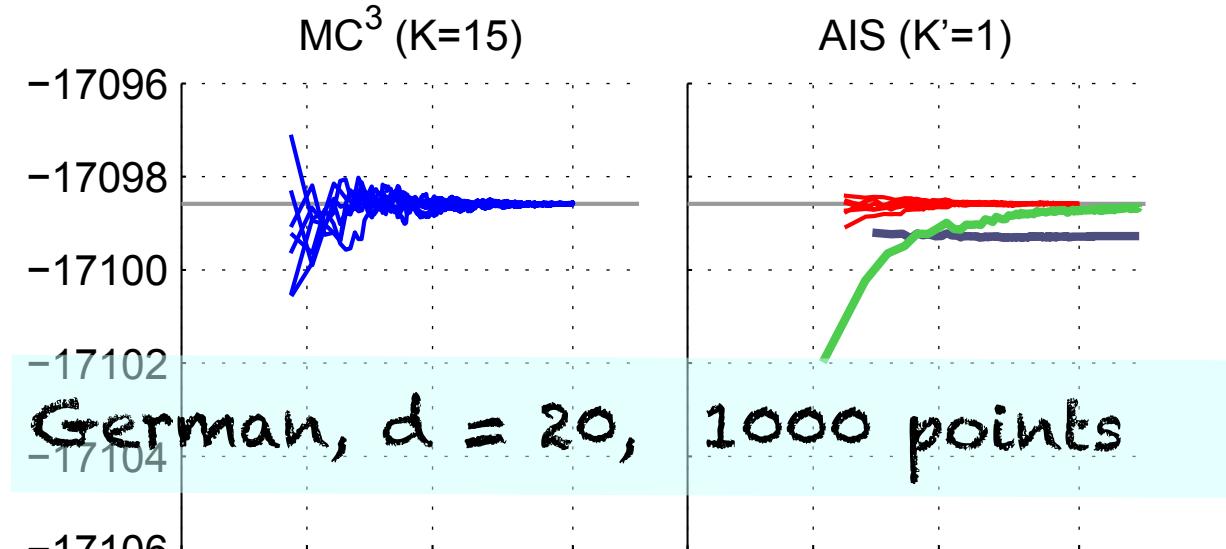
$$(1-p)^{1/T} \min\{Z_1, \dots, Z_T\} \leq \mu$$

# NORMALIZING CONSTANT [Niihimäki et al. 2016] AIS is accurate and yields good lower bounds

Use  $B$  averages, each over  $T/B$  samples:

$$B = 5$$

$$B = \sqrt{T}$$



## SUMMARY

Confident Bayesian Learning is hard but desirable

Some recent progress in structure learning

Bidirectional approach: enhance unconfident schemes – expand exact algorithms

For details, see the PhD theses of Pekka P. [2012], Juhne K. [2014], Teppo N. [2015], and Kustaa K. [2016]