Learning chordal Markov networks by dynamic programming

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Graphical model

- Graph structure  $\mathcal{G}$  on the vertex set  $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$
- ▶ Represents conditional independencies in a joint distribution p(X) = p(X<sub>1</sub>,...,X<sub>n</sub>)

Advantages

- Easy to read
- Compact way to store a distribution
- Efficient inference

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Directed models: Bayesian networks, ...

Undirected models: Markov networks, ...

**Structure learning problem**: Given samples from  $p(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ , find a model that best fits the sampled data.

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**Structure learning in chordal Markov networks**: Find a chordal Markov network that maximizes a given decomposable score.

Prior work:

- Constraint satisfaction, Corander et al.
- Integer linear programming, Bartlett and Cussens

Our result: Dynamic programming in  $O(4^n)$  time and  $O(3^n)$  space for *n* variables.

- First non-trivial bound
- Competitive in practice



- Joint distribution  $p(X) = p(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$
- ► Undirected graph G on V = {1,..., n} with the Global Markov property: For A, B, S ⊆ V it holds that

$$X_A \perp\!\!\!\perp X_B \mid X_S$$

if S separates A and B in  $\mathcal{G}$ .



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If p is strictly positive, it factorizes as

$$p(X_1,\ldots,X_n)=\prod_{C\in\mathcal{C}}\psi_C(X_C)\;,$$

where

- $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of (maximal) cliques of  $\mathcal{G}$
- $\psi_{\mathcal{C}}$  are mappings to positive reals
- $\blacktriangleright X_C = \{X_v : v \in C\}$

(Hammersley-Clifford Theorem)

#### Bayesian networks



- Directed acyclic graph
- Conditional independencies by d-separation
- Factorizes:

$$p(X_1,\ldots,X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(X_i \mid parents(X_i))$$

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### Bayesian and Markov networks



- Bayesian and Markov networks are not equivalent
- Chordal Markov networks are the intersection between the two

## Chordal graphs

- A chord is an edge between two non-consecutive vertices in a cycle.
- An graph is *chordal* or *triangulated* if every cycle of at least 4 vertices has a *chord*.



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**Running intersection property**: For all  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ , every clique on the path between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  contains  $C_1 \cap C_2$ .



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**Separator**: Intersection of adjacent cliques in a clique tree. Every clique tree has the same multiset of separators.



Theorem: A graph is chordal if and only if it has a clique tree.

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#### Chordal Markov networks



$$\flat \ \psi_i(X_{C_i}) = p(C_i)/p(S_i)$$

Factorization becomes

$$p(X_1,\ldots,X_n)=\prod_{C\in\mathcal{C}}\psi_C(X_C)=\frac{\prod_{C\in\mathcal{C}}p(X_C)}{\prod_{S\in\mathcal{S}}p(X_S)},$$

where  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{S}}$  are the sets of cliques and separators.

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Given sampled data *D* from  $p(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ , how well does a graph structure  $\mathcal{G}$  fit the data?

Common scoring criteria decompose as

$$score(\mathcal{G}) = \frac{\prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} score(C)}{\prod_{S \in \mathcal{S}} score(S)}$$

Each score(C) is the probability of the data projected to C, possibly extended with a prior or penalization term.

e.g. maximum likelihood, Bayesian Dirichlet, ...

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#### Structure learning problem in chordal Markov networks:

Given score(C) for each  $C \subseteq V$ , find a chordal graph  $\mathcal{G}$  that maximizes

$$score(\mathfrak{G}) = rac{\prod_{C \in \mathfrak{C}} score(C)}{\prod_{S \in \mathfrak{S}} score(S)} \;.$$

We assume each score(C) can be efficiently computed and focus on the combinatorial problem.

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Bruteforce solution:

- Enumerate undirected graphs
- Determine which are chordal
- ► For each chordal *G*, find a clique tree to evaluate *score*(*G*)
- $O^*(2^{\binom{n}{2}})$

We denote  $score(\mathfrak{T}) = score(\mathfrak{G})$  when  $\mathfrak{T}$  is a clique tree of  $\mathfrak{G}$ .

- ► Every clique tree T uniquely specifies a chordal graph 9.
- We can search the space of clique trees instead.

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#### Recursive characterization



Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be rooted at C with subtrees  $\mathcal{T}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_k$  rooted at  $C_1, \ldots, C_k$ . Then,

$$score(\mathcal{T}) = score(C) \prod_{i=1}^{k} \frac{score(\mathcal{T}_i)}{score(C \cap C_i)}$$

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For  $S \subset V$  and  $\varnothing \subset R \subseteq V \setminus S$ ,

let f(S, R) be the maximum  $score(\mathfrak{G})$  over chordal  $\mathfrak{G}$  on  $S \cup R$  such that S is a proper subset of a clique.

Then, the solution is given by  $f(\emptyset, V)$ .

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$$f(S,R) = \max_{\substack{S \subset C \subseteq S \cup R \\ \{R_1, \dots, R_k\} \subseteq R \setminus C \\ S_1, \dots, S_k \subset C}} score(C) \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{f(S_i, R_i)}{score(S_i)}$$

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$$f(S,R) = \max_{S \subset C \subseteq S \cup R} score(C)g(C, R \setminus C)$$
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We have the split into three simpler recurrences:

$$f(S, R) = \max_{S \subset C \subseteq S \cup R} score(C)g(C, R \setminus C)$$
$$g(C, U) = \max_{\emptyset \subset R \subseteq U} h(C, R)g(C, U \setminus R)$$
$$h(C, R) = \max_{S \subset C} f(S, R)/score(S)$$

Dynamic programming in the increasing order of set size.

Space:  $O(3^n)$ Time:  $O(4^n)$ 

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#### For each pair (A, B) compute the index

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^n 3^{\nu-1} \cdot I_{\nu}(A,B)$$

where

$$I_{v}(A,B) = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } v \in A, \\ 2 \text{ if } v \in B, \\ 0 \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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Dataset	Abbr.	п	т
Tic-tac-toe	Х	10	958
Poker	Р	11	10000
Bridges	В	12	108
Flare	F	13	1066
Zoo	Z	17	101

Abbr.	n	т
V	17	435
Т	18	339
L	19	148
	$\bar{22}$	3772
	22	8124
	Abbr. V T L	Abbr. n   V 17   T 18   - - $\frac{19}{22}$ 22



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Thank you!

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