Lecture 23: 11 April, 2023

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Data Mining and Machine Learning January–April 2023

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D-Separation

• Check if $X \perp Y \mid Z$

- Dependence should be blocked on every trail from X to Y
 - Each undirected path from X to Y is a sequence of basic trails
 - For (a), (b), (c), need Z present
 - For (d), need Z absent
 - In general, V-structure includes descendants of the bottom node
- x and y are D-separated given z if all trails are blocked
- Variation of breadth first search (BFS) to check if y is reachable from x through some trail
- Extends to sets each $x \in X$ is D-separated from each $y \in Y$



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■ *MB*(*X*) — Markov blanket of *X*



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MB(X) — Markov blanket of X
 Parents(X)



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- *MB*(*X*) Markov blanket of *X*
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- $\blacksquare X \perp \neg MB(X) \mid MB(X)$



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- Want $P(b \mid m, j)$
- $\blacksquare \frac{P(b,m,j)}{P(m,j)}$
- Use chain rule to evaluate joint probabilities
- Reorder variables appropriately, topological order of graph



$$P(m, j, b) = P(b) \sum_{e=0}^{1} P(e) \sum_{a=0}^{1} P(a \mid b, e) P(m \mid a) P(j \mid a)$$

$$M_{j}, b, eq$$

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$$M_{j}, cq$$

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- Use dynamic programming to avoid duplicated computations



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- Use dynamic programming to avoid duplicated computations
- However, exact inference is NP-complete, in general
- Instead, approximate inference through sampling



Generate random samples
 (b, e, a, m, j), count to estimate probabilities



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- Generate random samples (b, e, a, m, j), count to estimate probabilities
- Random samples should respect conditional probabilities
- Fix parents of x before generating x
- Generate in topological order
 - Generate b. e with probabilities P(b) and P(e)
 - Generate a with probability $P(a \mid b, e)$
 - Generate *j*, *m* with probabilities $P(i \mid a), P(m \mid a)$



• We are interested in $P(b \mid j, m)$



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- Samples with $\neg j$ or $\neg m$ are useless



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- We are interested in $P(b \mid j, m)$
- Samples with $\neg j$ or $\neg m$ are useless
- Can we sample more efficiently?



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- *P*(*Rain* | *Cloudy*, *Wet Grass*)
- Topological order
 - Generate *Cloudy*
 - Generate Sprinkler, Rain
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- Immediately stop and reject this sample — rejection sampling



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- Immediately stop and reject this sample rejection sampling
- General problem with low probability situation — many samples are rejected



■ *P*(*Rain* | *Cloudy*, *Wet Grass*)



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$$P(r \mid c, w) = \frac{\sum_{s_i \text{ has rain } w_i}}{\sum_{1 \le j \le N} w_j}$$



Finite set of states, with transition probabilities between states

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- For us, a state will be an assignment of values to variables

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- For us, a state will be an assignment of values to variables
- A three state Markov Chain



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Represent using a transition matrix — stochastic

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
each row
Sume to 1

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P[*j*] is probability of being in state *j*

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Markov chains ...

After one step:

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Markov chains . . .

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After second step: $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$



Markov chains . . .

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 After k steps, P[j] is probability of being in state j



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 After k steps, P[j] is probability of being in state j

 $\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{3}{8} & \frac{3}{8} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{16} \end{bmatrix}$

Continuing our example,

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 - There is a stationary distribution π^* , $(\pi^*)^\top A = \pi^*$
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 - There is a stationary distribution π^* , $(\pi^*)^\top A = \pi^*$
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 - For any starting distribution P, $\lim_{t\to\infty} P^\top A^t = \pi^*$



Ergodicity

• How can ergodicity fail?



Ergodicity ...

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Ergodicity . . .

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- We have a cycle i → j → k → i → j → k ···, so we can only visit some states periodically

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- Sufficient conditions for ergodicity



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 - We have a cycle i → j → k → i → j → k ···, so we can only visit some states periodically
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 - Irreducibility: When viewed as a directed graph, A is strongly connected
 - For all states i, j, there is a path from i to j and a path from j to i



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 - We have a cycle i → j → k → i → j → k ···, so we can only visit some states periodically
- Sufficient conditions for ergodicity
 - Irreducibility: When viewed as a directed graph, A is strongly connected
 - For all states i, j, there is a path from i to j and a path from j to i
 - Aperiodicity: For any pair of vertices *i*, *j*, the gcd of the lengths of all paths from *i* to *j* is 1
 - In particular, paths (loops) from *i* to *i* do not all have lengths that are multiples of some *k* ≥ 2 prevents bad cycles



- Can efficiently approximate $\lim_{t\to\infty} P^{\top}A^t$ by repeated squaring: $P^{\top}A^2$, $P^{\top}A^4$, $P^{\top}A^8$, ..., $P^{\top}A^{2^k}$, ...
 - Mixing time how fast this converges to π*



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 - Mixing time how fast this converges to π*
- Stationary distribution represents fraction of visits to each state in a long enough execution
- Can we create a Markov chain from a Bayesian network so that the stationary distribution is meaningful?



Bayesian network has variables
 v₁, v₂, ..., v_n



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- Each assignment of values to the variables is a state
- Set up a Markov chain based on these states
- Stationary distribution should assign to state s the probability P(s) in the Bayesian network
- How to reverse engineer the transition probabilities to achieve this?

