CS 343: Artificial Intelligence

Bayes Nets: Independence and Inference



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[These slides based on those of Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel for CS188 Intro to AI at UC Berkeley. All CS188 materials are available at http://ai.berkeley.edu.]

Tuesday In-Class Exercises

Independence

Based only on the structure of the Bayes' Net given right, indicate whether the following conditional independence assertions are either 1) *guaranteed to be true*, 2) *guaranteed to be false*, or 3) *cannot be determined* by the structure alone.

Hint: the meaning of A \perp B | C, D is A and B are independent (\perp) of each other other conditioned on (|) C and D

i. $U \perp V$ ii. $U \perp V \mid W$ iii. $U \perp Z \mid W$ iv. $U \perp Z \mid X, W$

v. $V \perp Z \mid X$

guaranteed to be true cannot be determined cannot be determined guaranteed to be true guaranteed to be true



D-separation: Outline



D-separation: Outline

Study independence properties for triples

Analyze complex cases in terms of member triples

 D-separation: a condition / algorithm for answering such queries

Causal Chains

• This configuration is a "causal chain"



X: Low pressure Y: Rain



P(x, y, z) = P(x)P(y|x)P(z|y)

- Guaranteed X independent of Z ? No!
 - One example set of CPTs for which X is not independent of Z is sufficient to show this independence is not guaranteed.
 - Example:
 - Low pressure causes rain causes traffic, high pressure causes no rain causes no traffic
 - In numbers:

Causal Chains

• This configuration is a "causal chain"



- X: Low pressure Y: Rain Z: Traffic
- P(x, y, z) = P(x)P(y|x)P(z|y)

• Guaranteed X independent of Z given Y?

$$P(z|x,y) = \frac{P(x,y,z)}{P(x,y)}$$
$$= \frac{P(x)P(y|x)P(z|y)}{P(x)P(y|x)}$$

$$= P(z|y)$$

Yes!

Evidence along the chain "blocks" the influence

Common Cause



This configuration is a "common cause"

P(x, y, z) = P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)

- Guaranteed X independent of Z ? No!
 - One example set of CPTs for which X is not independent of Z is sufficient to show this independence is not guaranteed.
 - Example:
 - Project due causes both forums busy and lab full
 - In numbers:

$$P(+x | +y) = 1, P(-x | -y) = 1,$$

 $P(+z | +y) = 1, P(-z | -y) = 1$

Common Cause



This configuration is a "common cause"

P(x, y, z) = P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)

Guaranteed X and Z independent given Y?

$$P(z|x,y) = \frac{P(x,y,z)}{P(x,y)}$$

 $=\frac{P(y)P(x|y)P(z|y)}{P(y)P(x|y)}$

= P(z|y)

Yes!

Observing the cause blocks influence between effects.

Common Effect

 Last configuration: two causes of one effect (v-structures)



- Are X and Y independent?
 - Yes: the ballgame and the rain cause traffic, but they are not correlated
 - Still need to prove they must be (try it!)
- Are X and Y independent given Z?
 - *No*: seeing traffic puts the rain and the ballgame in competition as explanation.
- This is backwards from the other cases
 - Observing an effect activates influence between possible causes.

The General Case



The General Case

 General question: in a given BN, are two variables independent (given evidence)?

Solution: analyze the graph

 Any complex example can be broken into repetitions of the three canonical cases



Active / Inactive Paths

- Question: Are X and Y conditionally independent given evidence variables {Z}?
 - Yes, if X and Y "d-separated" by Z
 - Consider all (undirected) paths from X to Y
 - No active paths = conditional independence!
- A path is active if each triple is active:
 - Causal chain $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ where B is unobserved (either direction)
 - Common cause $A \leftarrow B \rightarrow C$ where B is unobserved
 - Common effect (aka v-structure)

 $A \rightarrow B \leftarrow C$ where B or one of its descendants is observed

All it takes to block a path is a single inactive segment



D-Separation

- Query: $X_i \perp X_j | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$?
- Check all (undirected!) paths between X_i and X_j
 - If one or more active, then independence not guaranteed $X_i \bowtie X_i | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$
 - Otherwise (i.e. if all paths are inactive), then independence is guaranteed

$$X_i \perp \perp X_j | \{ X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n} \}$$



Example

 $R \perp\!\!\!\perp B$ Yes $R \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T$ Not guaranteed $R \perp\!\!\!\perp B | T'$ Not guaranteed



Example

- Variables:
 - R: Raining
 - T: Traffic
 - D: Roof drips
 - S: I'm sad
- Questions:



 $T \perp\!\!\!\perp D$ Not guaranteed $T \perp\!\!\!\perp D | R$ Yes $T \perp\!\!\!\perp D | R, S$ Not guaranteed

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guaranteed to be true cannot be determined cannot be determined guaranteed to be true guaranteed to be true



Structure Implications

 Given a Bayes net structure, can run dseparation algorithm to build a complete list of conditional independences that are necessarily true of the form

$$X_i \perp \!\!\!\perp X_j | \{X_{k_1}, ..., X_{k_n}\}$$

This list determines the set of probability distributions that can be represented



Computing All Independences



Topology Limits Distributions

- Given some graph topology
 G, only certain joint
 distributions can be encoded
- The graph structure guarantees certain (conditional) independences
- (There might be more independence)
- Adding arcs increases the set of distributions, but has several costs
- Full conditioning can encode any distribution



Bayes Nets Representation Summary

- Bayes nets compactly encode joint distributions
- Guaranteed independencies of distributions can be deduced from BN graph structure
- D-separation gives precise conditional independence guarantees from graph alone
- A Bayes net's joint distribution may have further (conditional) independence that is not detectable until you inspect its specific distribution

Inference

- Inference: calculating some useful quantity from a joint probability distribution
- Examples:
 - Posterior probability $P(Q|E_1 = e_1, \dots E_k = e_k)$
 - Most likely explanation: $\operatorname{argmax}_q P(Q = q | E_1 = e_1 ...)$



Inference by Enumeration

- General case:
 - Evidence variables:
 - Query* variable:
 - Hidden variables:
 - Step 1: Select the entries consistent with the evidence

0.15



 $P(Q, e_1 \dots e_k) = \sum_{h_1 \dots h_r} P(\underbrace{Q, h_1 \dots h_r, e_1 \dots e_k})$

 Step 2: Sum out H to get joint of Query and evidence

We want:

* Works fine with multiple query variables, too

$$P(Q|e_1\ldots e_k)$$

Step 3: Normalize



 $Z = \sum_{q} P(Q, e_1 \cdots e_k)$ $P(Q|e_1 \cdots e_k) = \frac{1}{Z} P(Q, e_1 \cdots e_k)$





 X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n

Inference by Enumeration

P(W)?

p(W=sun) = 0.3 + 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.15 = 0.65p(W=rain) = 0.05 + 0.05 + 0.05 + 0.2 = 0.35

P(W | winter)?

| p(W=sun , winter) | = | 0.1 + 0.15 = 0.25 |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------|
| p(W=rain , winter) | = | 0.05 + 0.2 = 0.25 |
| p(W=sun winter) | = | 0.25 / (0.25 + 0.25) = 0.5 |
| p(W=rain winter) | = | 0.25 / (0.25 + 0.25) = 0.5 |

P(W | winter, hot)?

| S | Т | W | Р |
|--------|------|------|------|
| summer | hot | sun | 0.30 |
| summer | hot | rain | 0.05 |
| summer | cold | sun | 0.10 |
| summer | cold | rain | 0.05 |
| winter | hot | sun | 0.10 |
| winter | hot | rain | 0.05 |
| winter | cold | sun | 0.15 |
| winter | cold | rain | 0.20 |

Inference by Enumeration

Obvious problems:

- Worst-case time complexity O(dⁿ)
- Space complexity O(dⁿ) to store the joint distribution
- What about continuous distributions?

Inference by Enumeration vs. Variable Elimination

- Why is inference by enumeration so slow?
 - You join up the whole joint distribution before you sum out the hidden variables
- Idea: interleave joining and marginalizing!
 - Called "Variable Elimination"
 - Still NP-hard, but usually much faster than inference by enumeration





First we'll need some new notation: factors

Factor Zoo



Factor Zoo I

- Joint distribution: P(X,Y)
 - Entries P(x,y) for all x, y
 - Sums to 1

- Selected joint: P(x,Y)
 - A slice of the joint distribution
 - Entries P(x,y) for fixed x, all y
 - Sums to P(x)
- Number of capitals = dimensionality of the table

| P(T,W) | | | | |
|------------|------|-----|--|--|
| Т | W | Р | | |
| hot | sun | 0.4 | | |
| hot | rain | 0.1 | | |
| cold | sun | 0.2 | | |
| cold | rain | 0.3 | | |
| P(cold, W) | | | | |
| Т | T W | | | |
| cold | sun | 0.2 | | |
| cold | rain | 0.3 | | |



Factor Zoo II

- Single conditional: P(Y | x)
 - Entries P(y | x) for fixed x, all y
 - Sums to 1



P(W|cold)

| Т | W | Р |
|------|------|-----|
| cold | sun | 0.4 |
| cold | rain | 0.6 |

- Family of conditionals:
 P(Y | X)
 - Multiple conditionals
 - Entries P(y | x) for all x, y
 - Sums to |X|



| P(W T) | | | | |
|--------|------|-----|---|--|
| Т | W | Р | | |
| hot | sun | 0.8 | ļ | |
| hot | rain | 0.2 | | |
| cold | sun | 0.4 | | |
| cold | rain | 0.6 | | |

P(W|hot)

P(W|cold)

Factor Zoo III

- Specified family: P(y | X)
 - Entries P(y | x) for fixed y, but for all x
 - Sums to ... who knows!

P(rain|T)

| Т | W | Р | |
|------|------|-----|-------------------------|
| hot | rain | 0.2 | P(rain hot) |
| cold | rain | 0.6 | ight brace P(rain cold) |



Operation 1: Join Factors

- First basic operation: joining factors
- Combining factors:
 - Get all factors over the joining variable
 - Build a new factor over the union of the variables involved
- Example: Join on R



- Computation for each entry: pointwise products $\forall r,t$: $P(r,t) = P(r) \cdot P(t|r)$



Operation 2: Eliminate

- Second basic operation: marginalization
- Take a factor and sum out a variable
 - Shrinks a factor to a smaller one
 - A projection operation

0.81

• Example:

-r

| P | (R | ,T) | sum R | P(|
|----|----|------|---------|----|
| +r | +t | 0.08 | | +t |
| +r | -t | 0.02 | | -t |
| -r | +t | 0.09 | | |
| | | | | |



Inference by Enumeration: Procedural Outline

- Track objects called factors
- Initial factors are local CPTs (one per node)

| P(R) | | |
|------|-----|--|
| +r | 0.1 | |
| -r | 0.9 | |



| P(L I) | | | | |
|--------|---|-----|--|--|
| +t | + | 0.3 | | |
| +t | - | 0.7 | | |
| -t | + | 0.1 | | |
| -t | - | 0.9 | | |

D(T|T)

Any known values are selected

0.9

• E.g. if we know $L = +\ell$ then the initial factors are:

 $\frac{P(R)}{\frac{+r \quad 0.1}{}}$

-r



-t

| $P(\cdot$ | $+\ell $ | 1) |
|-----------|----------|-----|
| +t | + | 0.3 |
| -t | + | 0.1 |

D(1)



Procedure: Join all factors, then eliminate all hidden variables

0.9

Thus Far: Multiple Join, Multiple Eliminate (= Inference by Enumeration)



Marginalizing Early (= Variable Elimination)



Traffic Domain



Variable Elimination



General Variable Elimination

• Query:
$$P(Q|E_1 = e_1, \dots E_k = e_k)$$

- Start with initial factors:
 - Local CPTs (but instantiated by evidence)
- While there are still hidden variables (not Q or evidence):
 - Pick a hidden variable H
 - Join all factors mentioning H
 - Eliminate (sum out) H
- Join all remaining factors and normalize







Variable Elimination Ordering

For the query P(X_n | y₁,...,y_n) work through the following two different orderings: Z, X₁,
 ..., X_{n-1} and X₁, ..., X_{n-1}, Z. What is the size of the maximum factor generated for each of the orderings?



- Answer: 2ⁿ⁺¹ versus 2² (assuming binary)
- In general: the ordering can greatly affect efficiency.

VE: Computational and Space Complexity

- All we are doing is changing the ordering of the variables that are eliminated...
- ...but it can (sometimes) reduce storage and complexity to linear w.r.t. number of variables!
- The computational and space complexity of variable elimination is determined by the largest factor
- The elimination ordering can greatly affect the size of the largest factor.
 - E.g., previous slide's example 2ⁿ vs. 2
- Does there always exist an ordering that only results in small factors?
 - No!

Worst Case Complexity?

• CSP:

 $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \neg x_3) \land (\neg x_1 \lor x_3 \lor \neg x_4) \land (x_2 \lor \neg x_2 \lor x_4) \land (\neg x_3 \lor \neg x_4 \lor \neg x_5) \land (x_2 \lor x_5 \lor x_7) \land (x_4 \lor x_5 \lor x_6) \land (\neg x_5 \lor x_6 \lor \neg x_7) \land (\neg x_5 \lor \neg x_6 \lor x_7) \land (\neg x_5 \lor \neg x_6 \lor x_7) \land (\neg x_5 \lor \neg x_6 \lor \neg x_7) \land (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_6 \lor x_7) \land (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_6 \lor (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_6 \lor x_7) \land (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_6 \lor (\neg x_6 \lor \neg x_6$



- If we can answer P(z) equal to zero or not, we answered whether the 3-SAT problem has a solution.
- Hence inference in Bayes nets is NP-hard. No known efficient probabilistic inference in general.

Bayes Nets

Representation

Conditional Independences

- Probabilistic Inference
 - Enumeration (exact, exponential complexity)
 - Variable elimination (exact, worst-case exponential complexity, often better)



- Sampling (approximate)
- Learning Bayes Nets from Data