

# Inference and Representation

DS-GA-1005, CSCI-GA.2569

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# Announcements

- Project Proposal is available, due 10/23
- PS3 released. Due 10/9 (two weeks from now).

# Undirected Graphical Models

- Factors only contain nodes that are fully-connected — this is called a *clique*.
- Since a clique of size  $m$  contains all cliques of smaller sizes, we can reduce ourselves to *maximal cliques* (cliques that cannot be extended while being fully connected).
  - If  $X_C$  form a maximal clique, arbitrary functions  $\psi(x_C)$  capture all possible dependencies within the clique.

- So, by considering

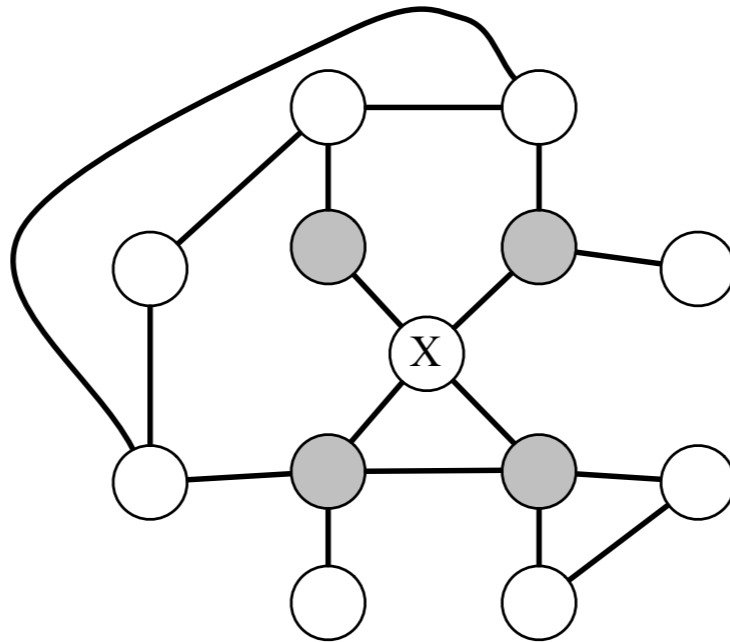
$\mathcal{C}$  = set of maximal cliques of  $G$

$\psi_C(x_C)$  : non-negative potential function (not necessarily normalized)

- We have  $p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C)$  ,  $Z = \int dx \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C)$  .  
partition function

# Markov Blanket

- A set  $A \subseteq \mathcal{X}$  is a Markov Blanket of  $X$  if  $X \notin A$  and if  $A$  is a minimal set of nodes such that  $X \perp (\mathcal{X} \setminus (A \cup X)) \mid A$ .
- In undirected graphical models, the Markov Blanket of a variable is precisely its neighbors in the graph:



- $X$  is independent of the rest of nodes conditioned on its neighbors.

# Ising Model

$$p(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left( - \sum_{i < j} w_{i,j} X_i X_j - \sum_i u_i X_i \right) .$$

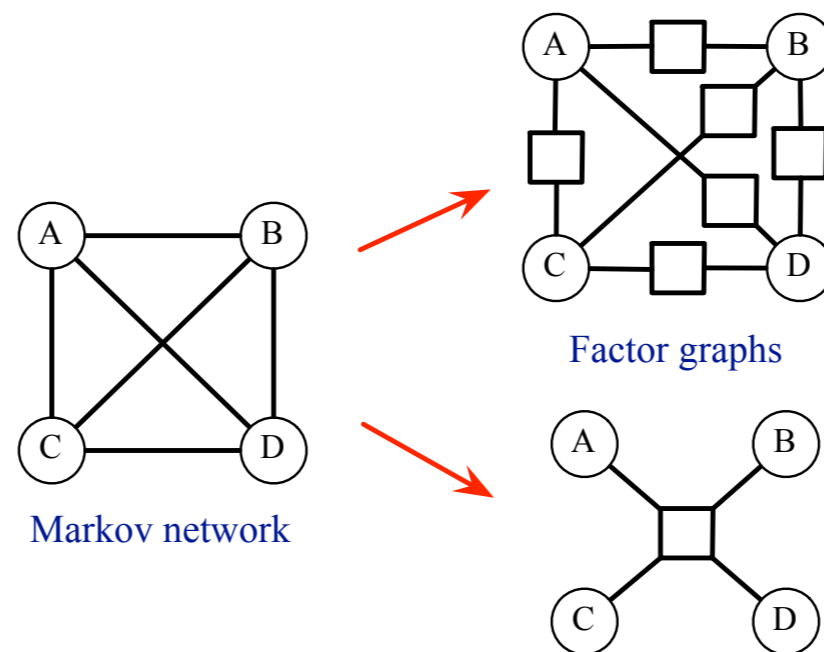
- Undirected graphical model with graph given by (1 d/2d) lattice.
  - $w_{i,j} > 0$ : ferromagnetic interactions (why?)
  - $w_{i,j} < 0$ : anti-ferromagnetic interactions (why?)
  - $u_i$ : external magnetic field
  - only neighbors in the lattice contribute to the interaction terms.
- From statistical mechanics, we can interpret the exponent

$$H(X) = - \sum_{i < j} w_{i,j} X_i X_j - \sum_i u_i X_i$$

as an energy quantity (in fact, it is the Hamiltonian of the system).

# Factor Graphs

- A *factor graph* is a bipartite graph where
  - nodes correspond to **both** random variables  $\{X_i\}_{i \leq n}$  and potential factors  $\{\psi_C\}_{C \in \mathcal{C}}$ .
  - edges can only be drawn between variable and factor nodes (if variable  $X_i$  appears in factor  $\psi_C$ ).



- Factor graphs do not have the clique vs maximal clique ambiguity (why?).
- Same probabilistic model, different graphical representation.

# Lecture 4 Objectives

- The Hammersley-Clifford Theorem
- From Inference to Approximate Inference
- Belief Propagation

# Moralization

- Algorithm to map a Bayesian Network to a Markov Network.
- Given  $G = (V, E)$  DAG, we define  $M(G)$  an undirected graph over  $V$ , with edge between  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  whenever
  - $X_j \rightarrow X_i$  or  $X_i \rightarrow X_j$  in  $G$ .
  - $X_i$  and  $X_j$  are parents of the same node.





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- In  $M(G)$ , we can no longer tell that  $A \perp B$ .
  - V-structures disappear, but we can still model “explaining away” with e.g. sparsity priors.

# Moralization

- Equivalently, this rule is obtained by mapping factorization of joint distribution.

Bayesian Net

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_i p(x_i \mid x_{Pa(i)})$$



MRF

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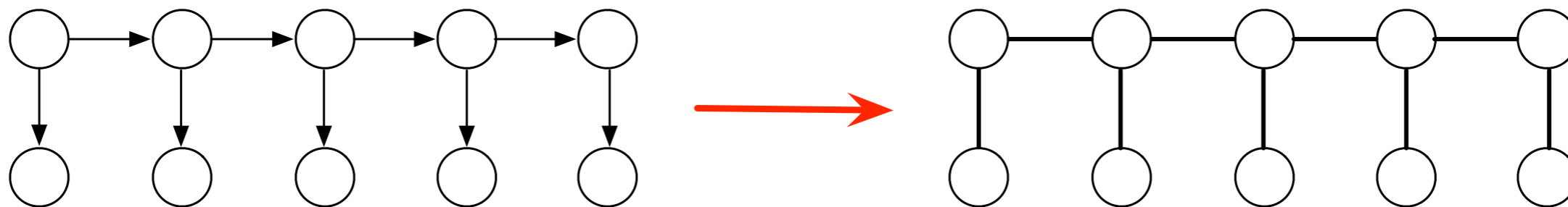
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$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_i p(x_i \mid x_{Pa(i)}) \qquad p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C)$$

- Each node generates a factor in the resulting factor graph:

$$\psi_{C_i}(x_{C_i}) := p(x_i \mid x_{Pa(i)}) , \quad C_i = \{i\} \cup Pa(i) .$$

- Ex: Hidden Markov Model:



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- We saw earlier that some distributions cannot be modeled as Bayesian Networks.
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- Converse true?
  - Not in general.



# Hammersley-Clifford Theorem

- However, if we assume that  $p$  is positive, i.e.  $p(x) > 0$  for all  $x$ ,
- Then we have

**Theorem [H-C]:** An undirected graph  $G$  is an I-map for a positive distribution  $p(x)$  iff  $p$  is a Gibbs distribution that factorizes over  $G$ .

- It provides a parametrization for any distribution that complies with a series of conditional independence assumptions (Markov Property).
- Positivity condition is needed!

# Global Markov but not Factorizing

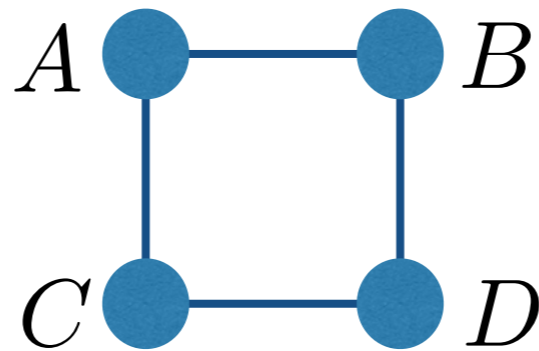
- Consider 4 binary random variables  $A, B, C, D$ , and the following distribution:

$$p(A = 1, B = 1, C = 1, D = 1) = \frac{1}{8}, \quad p(A = 1, B = 1, C = 0, D = 1) = \frac{1}{8}$$

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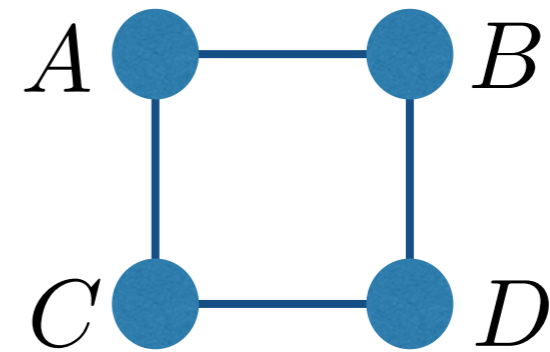
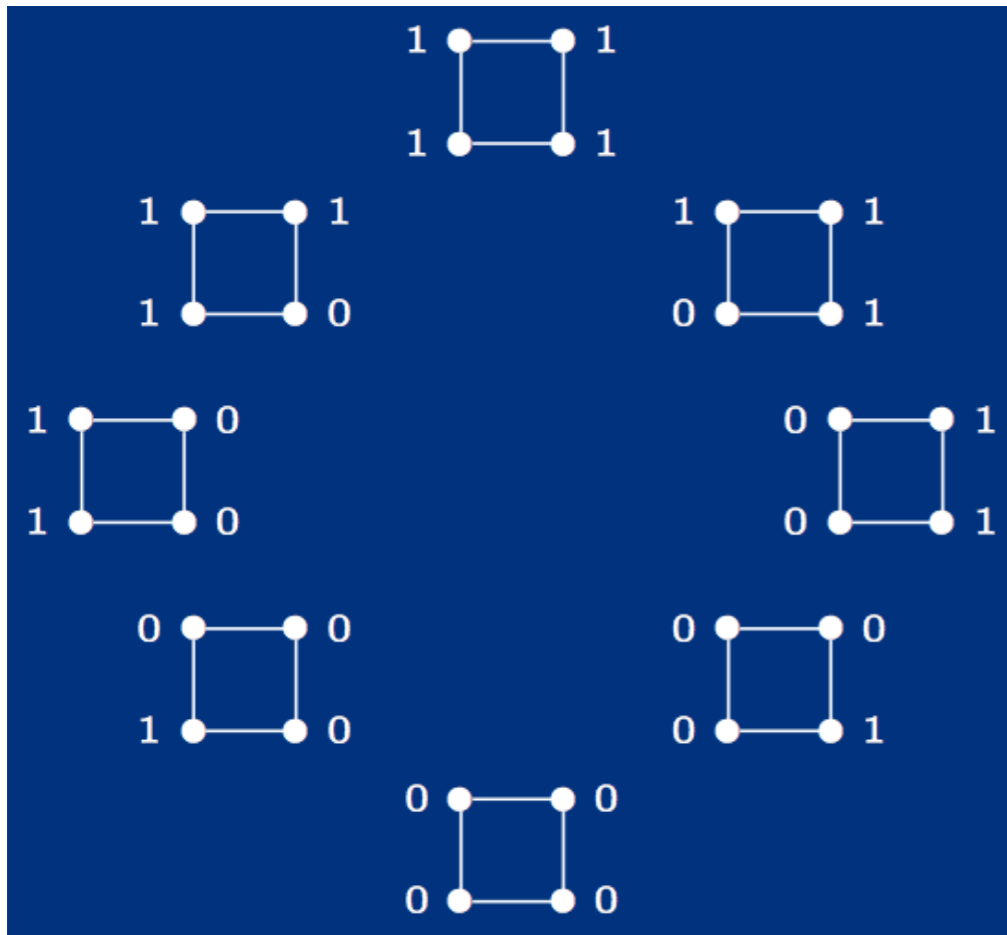
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- Do we have  $I(G) \subseteq I(p)$ ?

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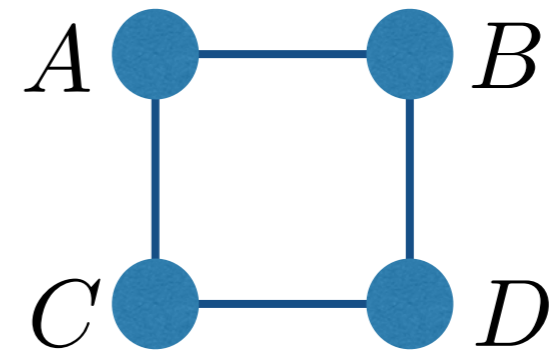
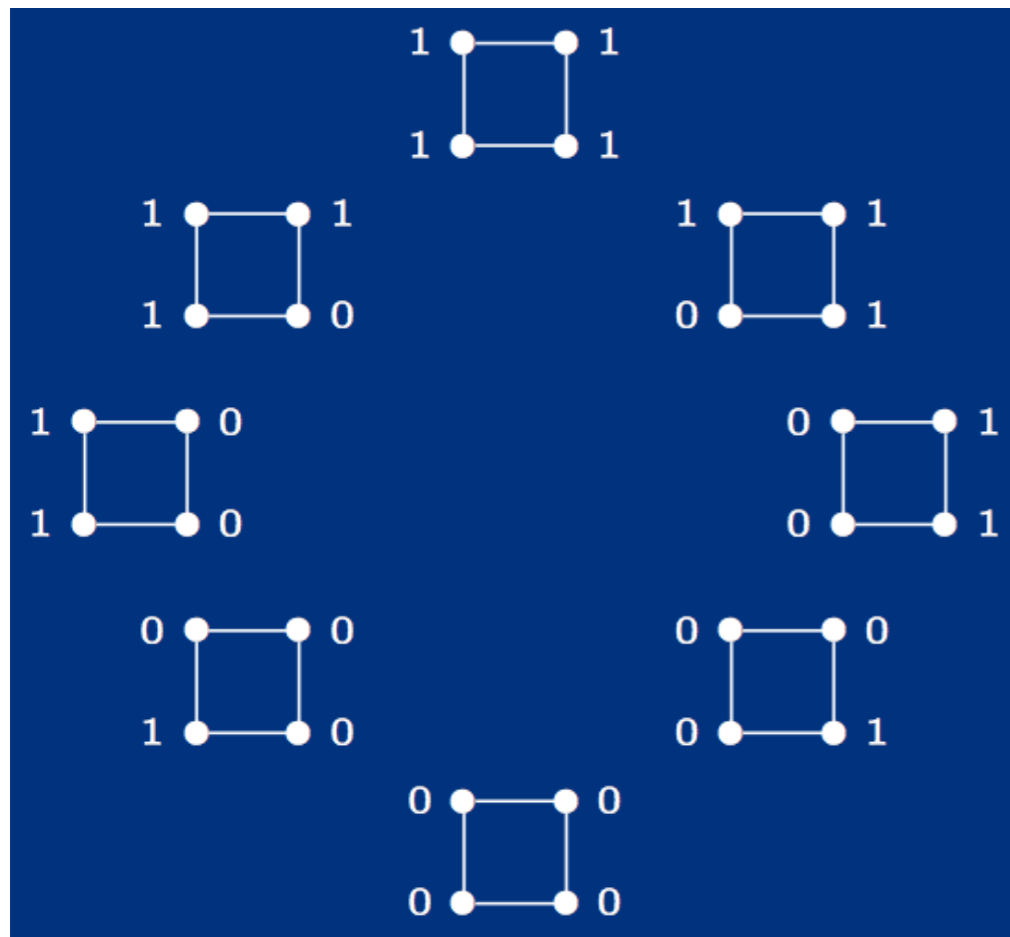
- Do we have  $I(G) \subseteq I(p)$ ?

$$A \perp D \mid \{B, C\} \quad B \perp C \mid \{A, D\}$$

- Observe that conditioning on opposite corners always yields one corner deterministic, and  $X \perp Y$  whenever  $X$  or  $Y$  are deterministic.

# Global Markov but not Factorizing

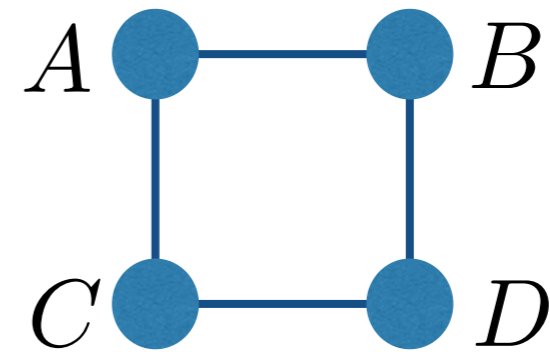
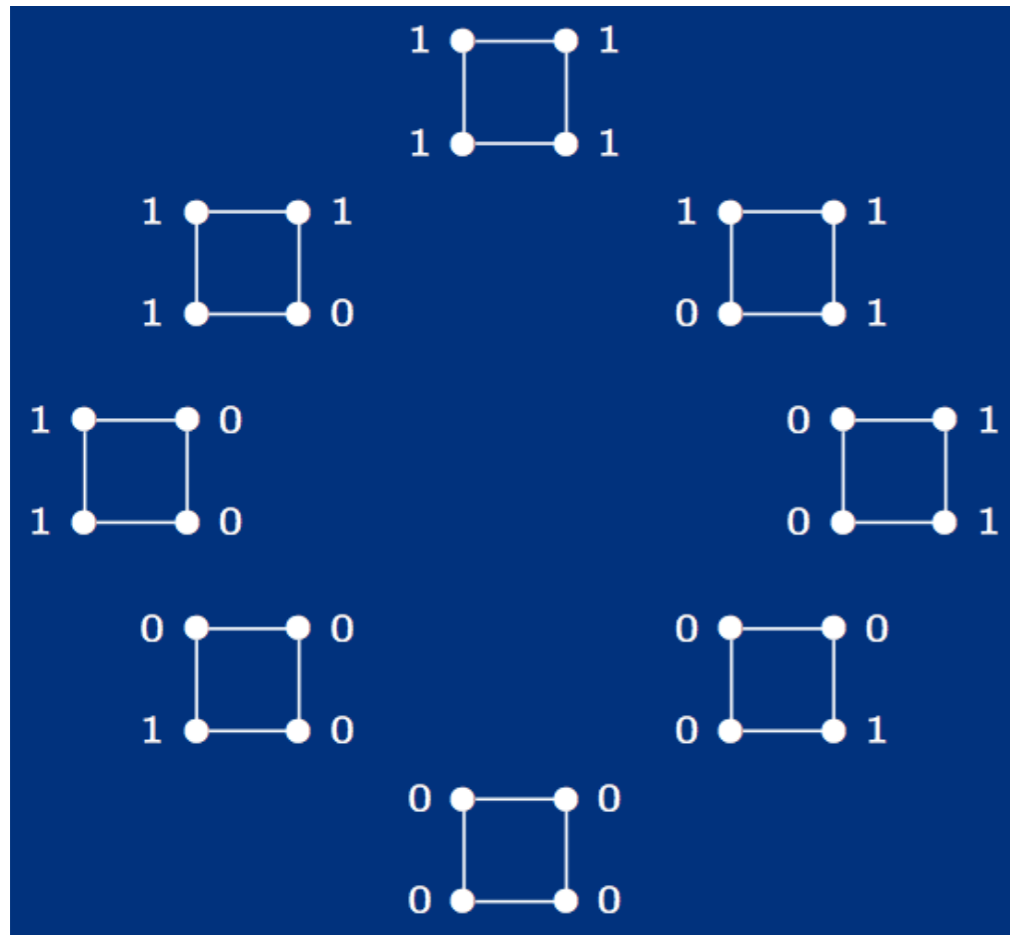
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- Is  $p$  a Gibbs distribution?

– Assume  $p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C)$

so all these factors are strictly positive

$$0 < Z \cdot p(0, 0, 0, 0) = \psi_{AB}(0, 0)\psi_{BD}(0, 0)\psi_{DC}(0, 0)\psi_{CA}(0, 0)$$

- Trying all 8 positive events implies all factors are strictly positive!

# Parameter Estimation

- So far, we have described two families of graphical models, with pros and cons.
- In practice, given some dataset, how to choose which one? Which parameters?
- We assume data is sampled from an underlying (unknown) distribution  $p^*$ , associated to some network model  $\mathcal{M}^* = (G^*, \theta^*)$

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- In practice, given some dataset, how to choose which one? Which parameters?
- We assume data is sampled from an underlying (unknown) distribution  $p^*$ , associated to some network model  $\mathcal{M}^* = (G^*, \theta^*)$
- Samples  $\{\mathbf{X}^1, \dots, \mathbf{X}^L\} \sim p^*$  iid.
- In order to “search” for  $\mathcal{M}^*$ , we parametrize the search within a family of graphical models
  - We can learn both model parameters for a fixed graph structure,
  - or both structure and parameters.

# Task-driven inference

- Depending on the task, we might want to perform different kinds of estimation.
  1. Density Estimation: we are interested in the joint distribution, which can be subsequently used to perform any inference query.
  2. Prediction: we are only interested in a specific set of conditional distribution, e.g classification, or output prediction.
  3. Structural discovery: We are interested in the graph itself (not so much the parameters), e.g. determining dependencies between genes.
- (1) is typically harder than (2). (3) is typically harder than (2) and (1).



# Parameter Estimation

- Let us focus on (1) first.  $\{\mathbf{X}^1, \dots, \mathbf{X}^L\} \sim p^*$  iid.
- Suppose  $p^* = p_{\theta^*}$  for some  $\theta^*$ .
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- Two main approaches for parameter estimation:
  - Maximum Likelihood Estimation:

$$E(\theta) = \log p(\{\mathbf{X}^1, \dots, \mathbf{X}^L\} | \theta) = \sum_{l \leq L} \log p(\mathbf{X}^l | \theta)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{MLE} = \arg \max_{\theta} E(\theta)$$

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- Under appropriate assumptions,  $\hat{\theta}_{MLE}$  is
- ❖ consistent (as sample size grows,  $\hat{\theta}_{MLE} \rightarrow \theta^*$  (in probability))
  - ❖ asymptotically efficient (no other consistent estimator has lower asymptotic mean-squared error).
- However, in general this estimation is computationally intractable.

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- Two main approaches for parameter estimation:

– Method of Moments:

Consider measurable functions  $g_1, \dots, g_S$ .

(e.g.  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) = x_{i_1} x_{i_2}$ )

For each  $\theta$ , we have  $\mu_s(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{X \sim p_\theta}(g_s(\mathbf{X})) \quad s = 1 \dots S$

For appropriate choice of moments/functions, system is invertible:

$$\theta = F(\mu)$$

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We estimate  $\mu$  by replacing expectations with empirical averages:

$$\hat{\mu}_s = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l \leq L} g_s(X^l) \quad s = 1 \dots S$$

And we plug-in the estimator for  $\theta$ :  $\hat{\theta}_{MM} = F(\hat{\mu})$

# MLE in Bayesian Networks

- Let us illustrate ML estimation on BN, assuming we know the Bayesian structure  $G$ .

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i \mid x_{Pa(i)}; \theta)$$

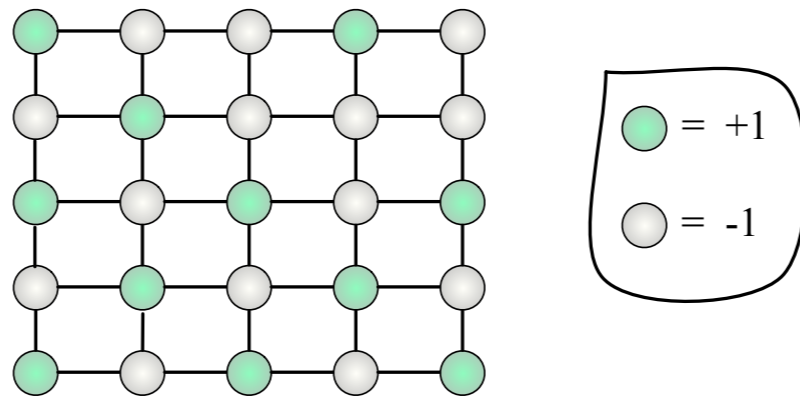
- Given iid samples  $\{X^1, \dots, X^L\}$ , its log-likelihood is

$$\begin{aligned} E(\theta) &= \sum_{l \leq L} \sum_{i \leq n} \log p(X_i^l \mid X_{Pa(i)}^l; \theta) \\ &= \sum_{i \leq n} \sum_{l \leq L} \log p(X_i^l \mid X_{Pa(i)}^l; \theta_i) . \end{aligned}$$

– so the estimation is separable across different factors, breaking the curse of dimensionality.

- Q: How about Markov Random Fields?

# Parameter Estimation in MRFs



$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left( \sum_{i < j} w_{i,j} x_i x_j - \sum_i u_i x_i \right)$$

- In a MRF, we also have a factorization into local potentials...

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n; \theta) = \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C; \theta) .$$

- ... but the partition function entangles the estimation!

$$\sum_{l \leq L} \log p(X^l; \theta) = \sum_{l \leq L} \left( \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \log \psi(X_C^l; \theta) - \log Z(\theta) \right) .$$

# Inference in a Graphical Model

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- What does *inference* mean?



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- What does *inference* mean?
- In general, the ability to compute marginal (or equivalently conditional) probabilities:

$$p(x_S) = \sum_{i \notin S} \sum_{x_i} p(x_1, \dots, x_N) .$$

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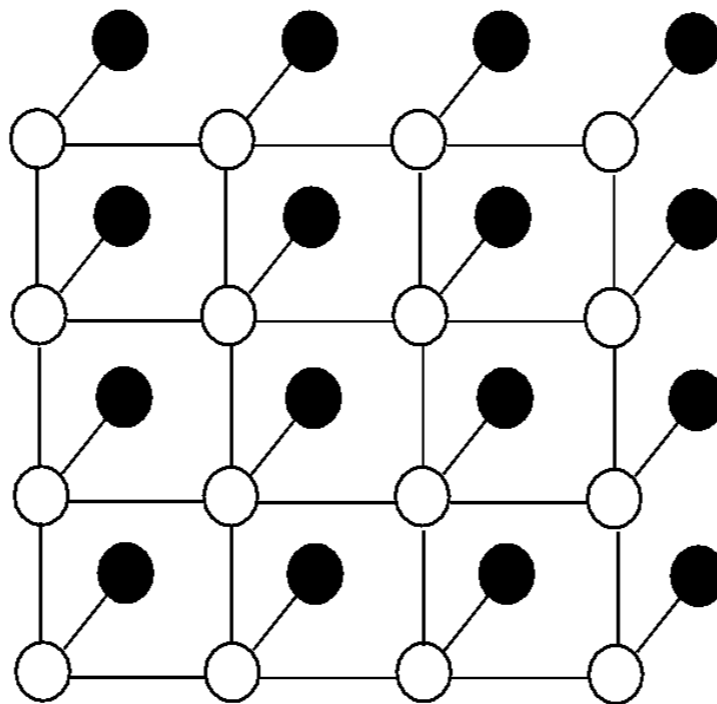
$$p(x_S) = \sum_{i \notin S} \sum_{x_i} p(x_1, \dots, x_N) .$$

- This is an intractable problem for general graphs.
  - Technically, it is “#P-complete” (if a poly-time algorithm existed, then P=NP).
- Approximate inference?

# Belief Propagation

- For simplicity (without loss of generality), we consider a pair-wise MRF setting:

$$p(x, y) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{(i,j)} \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_i \phi_i(x_i, y_i) .$$

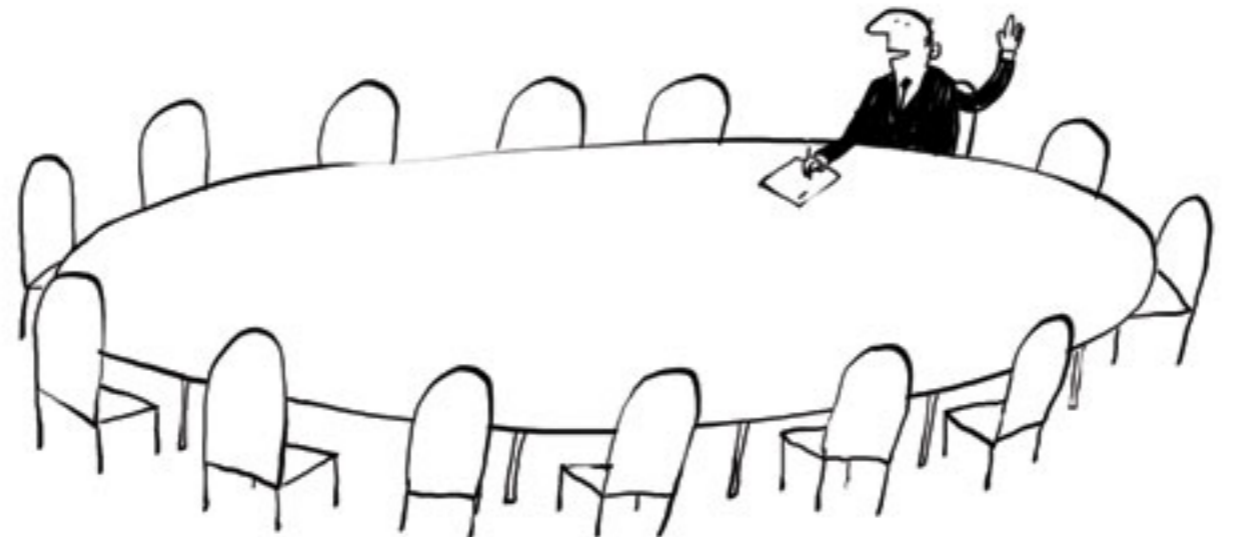


y=observed (black)  
x=hidden (white)

- Goal: compute  $p(x \mid y)$

# Belief Propagation

- We need to find a “consensus” amongst the hidden variables to commonly explain observations.
- Intuition of BP algorithm: consensus is reached after repeated “conversation” between local variables, until they agree.



awon

“It looks like we have a consensus.”

# Belief Propagation

- We need to find a “consensus” amongst the hidden variables to commonly explain observations.
- Intuition of BP algorithm: consensus is reached after repeated “conversation” between local variables, until they agree.
- How to mathematically specify such “conversation” and consensus?

# BP for pairwise MRF

- The marginal distribution wrt  $\mathbf{x}$  becomes

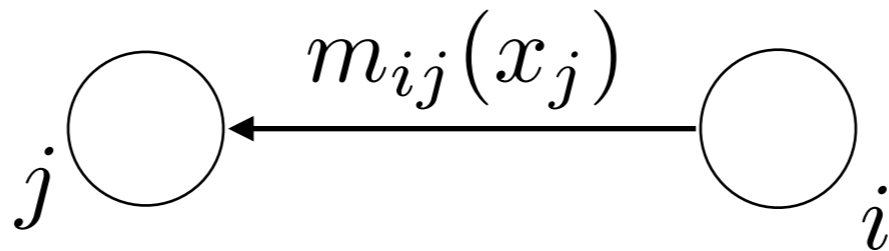
$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{(i,j)} \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_i \tilde{\phi}_i(x_i; \mathbf{y}) .$$

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- We introduce the *messages*  $m_{ij}(x_j)$ :



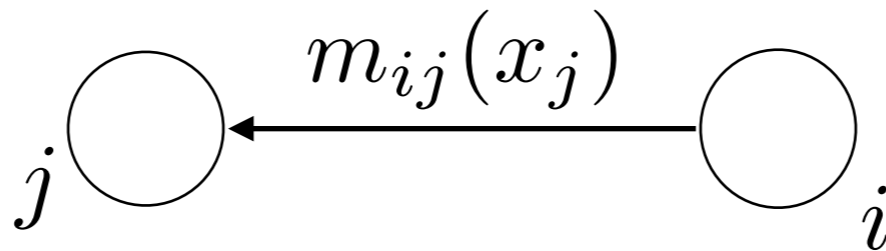
$m_{ij}(x_j) \propto$  how likely node  $i$  thinks node  $j$  is in state  $x_j$ .

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$m_{ij}(x_j) \propto$  how likely node  $i$  thinks node  $j$  is in state  $x_j$ .

- *Belief* at node  $j$  aggregates incoming messages and unary potential:

$$b_j(x_j) = \frac{1}{Z_j} \tilde{\phi}_j(x_j; \mathbf{y}) \prod_{i \in N(j)} m_{ij}(x_j) .$$

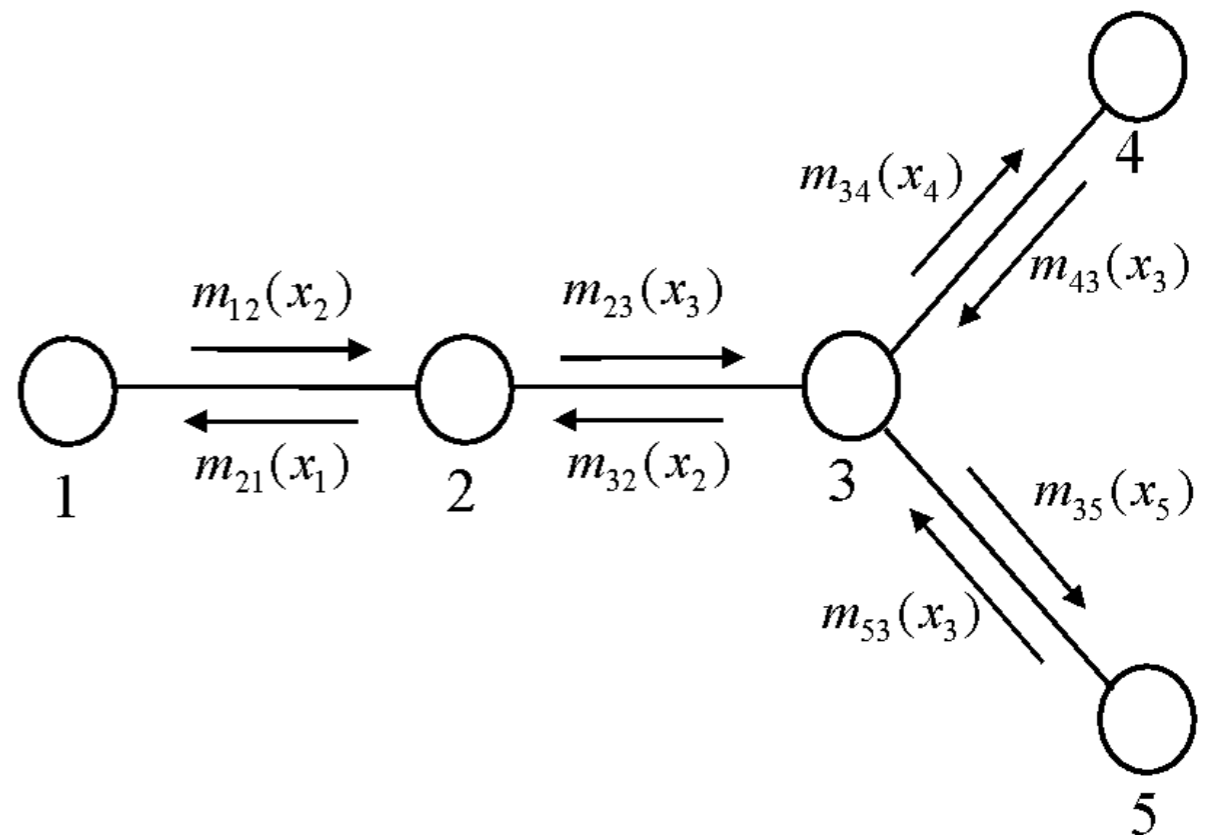
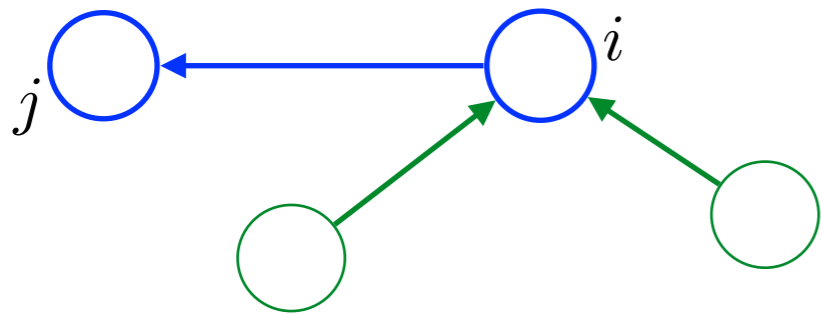
$N(j)$ : Neighbors of node  $j$ .



# BP for pair-wise MRF

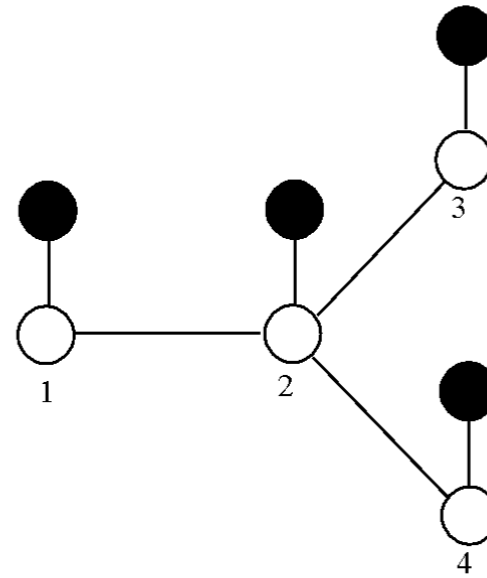
- How are messages computed/updated?

$$m_{ij}(x_j) \leftarrow \sum_{x_i} \left( \tilde{\phi}_i(x_i; y) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} m_{ki}(x_i) \right) .$$



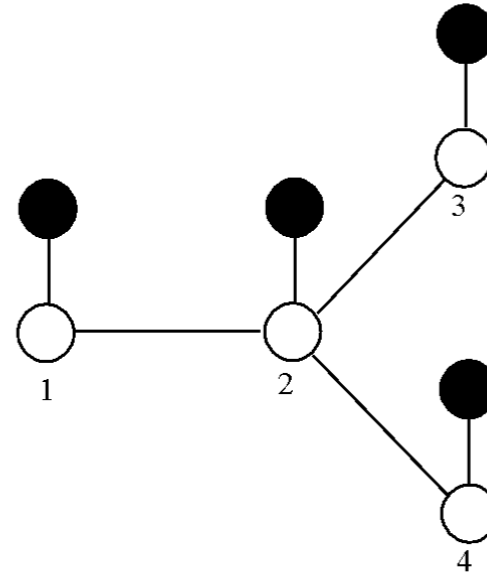
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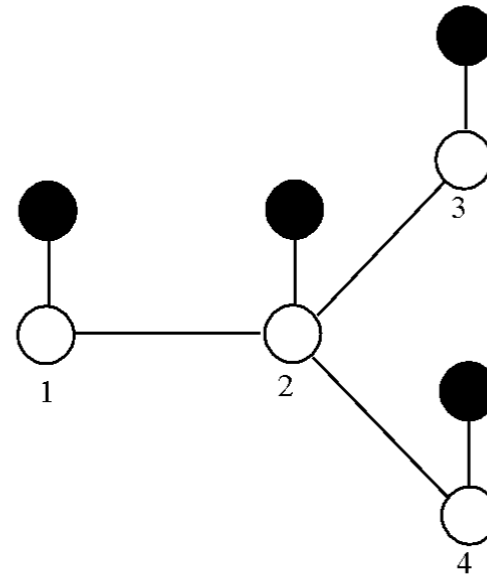


- Belief at node 1:

$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \tilde{\phi}_1(x_1; y) m_{21}(x_1) ,$$

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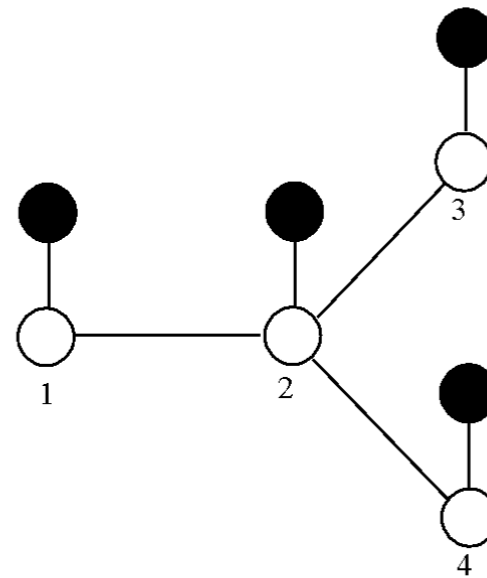
$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \tilde{\phi}_1(x_1; y) m_{21}(x_1) ,$$

- Message-update rule for  $m_{21}(x_1)$  :

$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \tilde{\phi}_1(x_1; y) \sum_{x_2} \psi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \tilde{\phi}_2(x_2; y) m_{32}(x_2) m_{42}(x_2) .$$

# Example: BP with no cycles

- Consider this pair-wise MRF:



- Belief at node 1:

$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \tilde{\phi}_1(x_1; y) m_{21}(x_1) ,$$

- Message-update rule for  $m_{21}(x_1)$  :

$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \tilde{\phi}_1(x_1; y) \sum_{x_2} \psi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \tilde{\phi}_2(x_2; y) m_{32}(x_2) m_{42}(x_2) .$$

- Substituting  $m_{32}$ ,  $m_{42}$  yields

$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \tilde{\phi}_1(x_1; y) \sum_{x_2} \tilde{\phi}_2(x_2; y) \psi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \sum_{x_3} \tilde{\phi}_3(x_3; y) \psi_{23}(x_2, x_3) \sum_{x_4} \tilde{\phi}_4(x_4; y) \psi_{24}(x_2, x_4) .$$

# Example: BP with no cycles

- Q: What is

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- It is the marginal probability of node 1:

$$b_1(x_1) = \frac{1}{Z_1} \sum_{x_2, x_3, x_4} p(x|y)$$

# BP on simply-connected graphs

- This example illustrates the power of BP: expressing a global computation (marginalization) as a chain of local computations (messages).
- In this example, BP is exact. Only one message computation per node is sufficient.



# BP on simply-connected graphs

- This example illustrates the power of BP: expressing a global computation (marginalization) as a chain of local computations (messages).
- In this example, BP is exact. Only one message computation per node is sufficient.
- What happens in presence of loops?

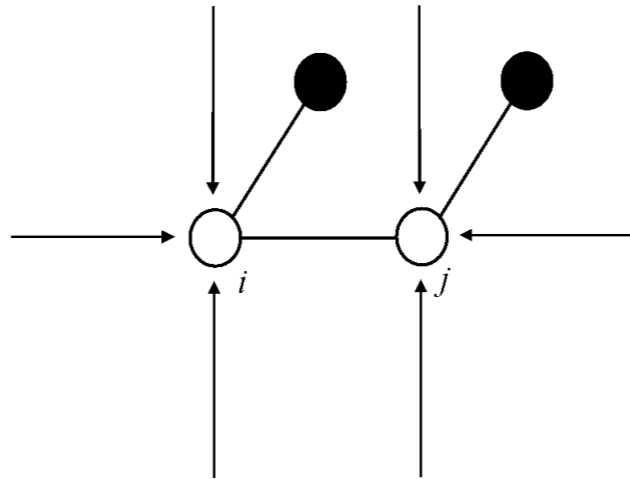
- Let 
$$p_{ij}(x_i, x_j) := \sum_{z: z_i = x_i, z_j = x_j} p(z)$$

denote the pairwise joint distribution of two neighboring sites.

- We can derive a similar message-passing algorithm for the pairwise distribution.

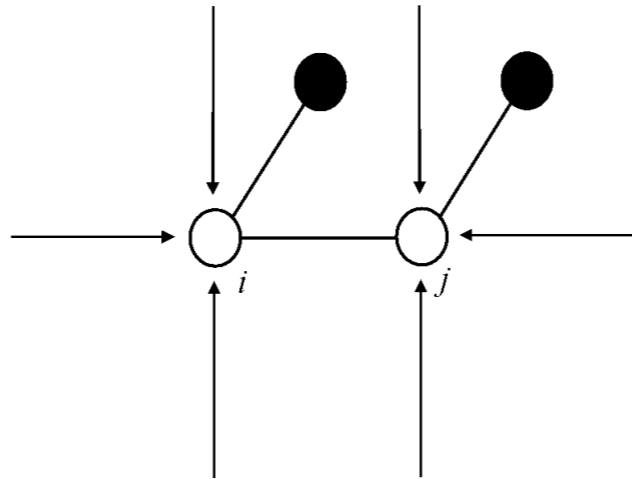
# BP on simply-connected graphs

$$b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = \frac{1}{Z_{ij}} \phi_i(x_i) \phi_j(x_j) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} m_{ki}(x_i) \prod_{l \in N(j) \setminus i} m_{lj}(x_j) .$$



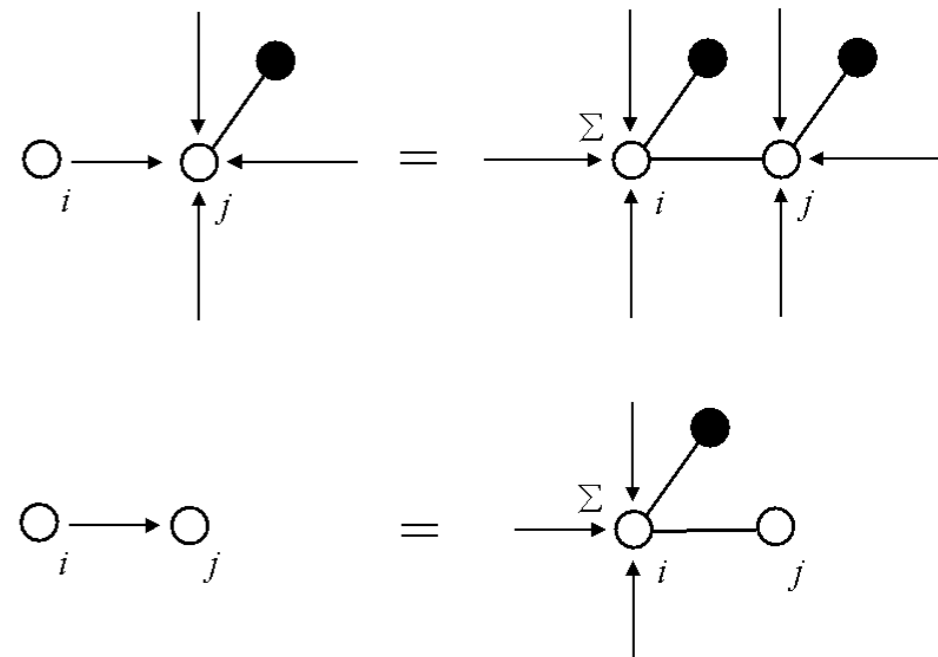
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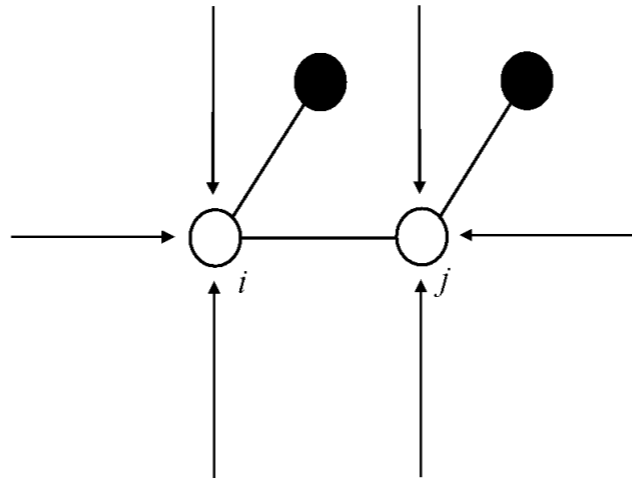
- We verify that

$$b_i(x_i) = \sum_{x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) .$$



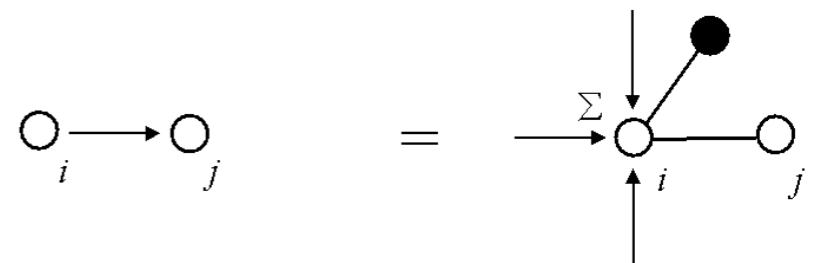
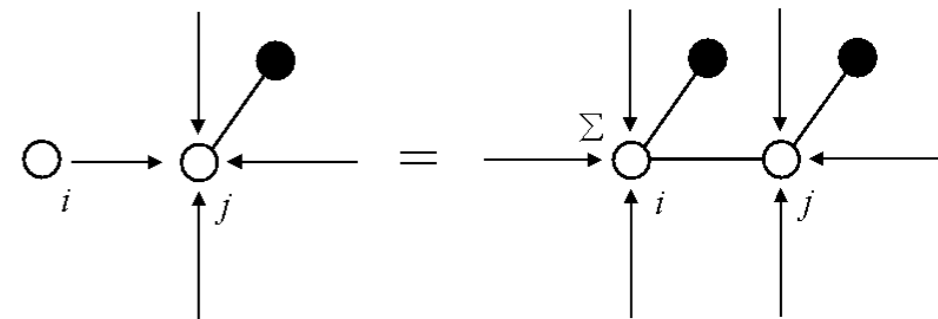
# BP on simply-connected graphs

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- We verify that

$$b_i(x_i) = \sum_{x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) .$$



- Thus

$$\forall i, j , \quad \sum_{x_i, x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{x_i} b_i(x_i) = 1 .$$

# BP on general graphs

- The rules of computing messages do not rely on any topology of the graph.
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- For that, we initialize messages with prior distributions  $m_{ij} \sim p_j^0$ , and update them using

$$m_{ij}^{(n+1)}(x_j) \leftarrow \sum_{x_i} \left( \tilde{\phi}_i(x_i; y) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} m_{ki}^{(n)}(x_i) \right) .$$

- Does it work?

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- Does it work?
  - In theory, no. One can build counter-examples where BP does not converge to the correct solution [Pearl, '88].
  - In practice, often it does work well: *Loopy BP*. Why?

# BP and Free Energy

- Let  $p(\mathbf{x})$  be the joint distribution defined by our pairwise MRF. Consider another joint distribution  $q(\mathbf{x})$  defined over the same domain.



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– but non-negative:

$$\begin{aligned} D_{KL}(q \parallel p) &= \mathbb{E}_{x \sim q} \log \frac{q}{p}(x) \\ &= -\mathbb{E}_{x \sim q} \log \frac{p}{q}(x) \\ &\geq -\log \mathbb{E}_{x \sim q} \frac{p}{q}(x) \\ &= 0 . \end{aligned}$$

# BP and Free Energy

- If we write  $p(x)$  as a Gibbs distribution with energy  $E(x)$

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-E(x)}$$

the Kullback-Liebler divergence becomes

$$D_{KL}(q||p) = \sum_x q(x) E(x) + \sum_x q(x) \log q(x) + \log Z \quad ( \geq 0 ) .$$

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- Zero divergence when

$$\sum_x q(x) E(x) + \sum_x q(x) \log q(x) := U(q) - S(q)$$

avg.energy      entropy

reaches *free energy value*  $F = -\log Z$  .

$$G(q) = U(q) - S(q): \text{ Gibbs free energy}$$

# Mean-Field Free Energy

- Consider an approximation  $q(\mathbf{x})$  with separable form:

$$q(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_i q_i(x_i)$$

- It is called *mean-field*, it does not explicitly model pairwise interactions.

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- Mean-field average Energy:

$$U(q) = - \sum_{(ij)} \sum_{x_i, x_j} q_i(x_i) q_j(x_j) \log \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) - \sum_i \sum_{x_i} q_i(x_i) \log \phi_i(x_i) .$$

$$S(q) = - \sum_i \sum_{x_i} q_i(x_i) \log q_i(x_i) .$$

# Mean Field Free Energy

- Mean-field approximation: Minimize Gibbs Free Energy  $q(\mathbf{x})$ .
- *Variational Inference* (later in course) exploits such mean-field approximations over specific parametric families.
- The mean field model corresponds to one-node beliefs

$$q_i(x_i) \leftrightarrow b_i(x_i)$$



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$$q_i(x_i) \leftrightarrow b_i(x_i)$$

- What about a two-node belief model?

# Bethe Free Energy

- Let us construct a mean-field approximation that contains unary and pair-wise beliefs:  $b_i, b_{ij}$

$$\forall i, j, \quad \sum_{x_i} b_i(x_i) = \sum_{x_i, x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = 1 .$$

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- Under this approximation, the average energy is

$$U = - \sum_{ij} \sum_{x_i, x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \log \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) - \sum_i \sum_{x_i} b_i(x_i) \log \phi_i(x_i) .$$

- Important observation: since  $p(\mathbf{x})$  is a pair-wise MRF, its average energy has the previous form, and is exact (reaches global minima of free energy).

# Bethe Free Energy

- The Entropy of a pairwise MRF does not have closed-form expression for general graphs, but for simply connected graphs we have

$$b(x) = \frac{\prod_{(ij)} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j)}{\prod_i b_i(x_i)^{d_i-1}} \cdot \quad d_i: \text{ degree of node } i$$

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- It follows that

$$H_{\text{Bethe}} = - \sum_{(ij)} \sum_{x_i, x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \log b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) + \sum_i (d_i - 1) \sum_{x_i} b_i(x_i) \log b_i(x_i) .$$

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- Thus minimizer of Bethe free energy  $G_{\text{Bethe}} = U - H_{\text{Bethe}}$  contains the true Gibbs distribution  $p(x)$  (recall

$$D_{KL}(q||p) = 0 \Leftrightarrow q = p .$$

# Bethe Free Energy

- Bethe free energy:  $G_{\text{Bethe}} = U - H_{\text{Bethe}}$

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# Bethe Free Energy

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$$H_{\text{Bethe}} = - \sum_{(ij)} \sum_{x_i, x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \log b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) + \sum_i (d_i - 1) \sum_{x_i} b_i(x_i) \log b_i(x_i) .$$
- On simply connected graphs, BP beliefs are global minima of the Bethe free energy.
- On general graphs, the Bethe Free Energy does not satisfy  $G_{\text{Bethe}} \geq -\log Z$
- However, they provide a powerful characterization of BP solutions:  
A set of beliefs gives BP a fixed point in any graph  $G$  if and only if they are stationary points of the Bethe free energy.

# Bethe Free Energy

- We construct a Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}(b)$  corresponding to the constraints

$$\forall i, j, x_i, \quad b_i(x_i) = \sum_{x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \rightarrow \lambda_{ij}(x_i)$$

$$\forall i, j, \quad \sum_{x_i} \sum_{x_j} b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = 1 \rightarrow \gamma_{ij}$$

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- From satisfy  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(b)}{\partial b_{ij}(x_i, x_j)} = 0$   $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(b)}{\partial b_i(x_i)} = 0$ , stationary points of BFE

$$\log b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = \log \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) + \log \phi_i(x_i) + \log \phi_j(x_j) + \lambda_{ij}(x_j) + \lambda_{ji}(x_i) + \gamma_{ij} - 1$$
$$(d_i - 1)(\log b_i(x_i) + 1) = -(1 - d_i) \log \phi_i(x_i) + \sum_{j \in N(i)} \lambda_{ji}(x_i) + \gamma_i$$

# Bethe Free Energy and BP

$$\log b_{ij}(x_i, x_j) = \log \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) + \log \phi_i(x_i) + \log \phi_j(x_j) + \lambda_{ij}(x_j) + \lambda_{ji}(x_i) + \gamma_{ij} - 1$$

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- Now, if we suppose messages/beliefs that are fixed point of BP, we define 
$$\lambda_{ij}(x_j) = \log \prod_{k \in N(j) \setminus i} m_{kj}(x_j)$$

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- Now, if we suppose messages/beliefs that are fixed point of BP, we define

$$\lambda_{ij}(x_j) = \log \prod_{k \in N(j) \setminus i} m_{kj}(x_j)$$

- These multipliers satisfy the optimality KKT conditions of Lagrange multipliers, so

Lagrange multipliers  $\lambda_{ij}(x_j)$  of Bethe Free energy



Messages  $m_{ij}(x_j)$  of BP algorithm

- This is a first hint of a major tool: characterize inference as solutions of optimization problems: **variational inference.**

# Max-Product

- We have described an algorithm to estimate marginal (and conditional) distributions.
- How about inference tasks of the form  $\mathbf{arg\,max}_x p(x \mid y)$  ?
  - I.e. Maximum-a-posteriori inference.

# Max-Product

- We have described an algorithm to estimate marginal (and conditional) distributions.
- How about inference tasks of the form  $\arg \max_x p(x \mid y)$  ?
  - I.e. Maximum-a-posteriori inference.
- A simple variant is the *max-product algorithm*, used to estimate the state configuration with maximum probability.

- Marginalization:

$$m_{ij}^{(n+1)}(x_j) \leftarrow \sum_{x_i} \left( \tilde{\phi}_i(x_i; y) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} m_{ki}^{(n)}(x_i) \right) \cdot$$

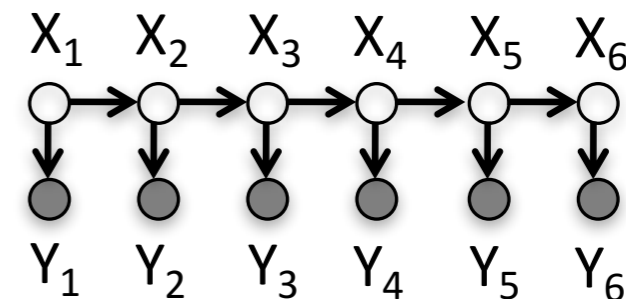
- Maximization:

$$m_{ij}^{(n+1)}(x_j) \leftarrow \max_{x_i} \left( \tilde{\phi}_i(x_i; y) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} m_{ki}^{(n)}(x_i) \right) \cdot$$

## Marginal inference in HMMs

- “Filtering” problem is to do marginal inference to find:

$$\Pr(x_n \mid y_1, \dots, y_n)$$



- How does one **compute** this?
- Applying rule of conditional probability, we have:

$$\Pr(x_n \mid y_1, \dots, y_n) = \frac{\Pr(x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n)}{\Pr(y_1, \dots, y_n)}$$

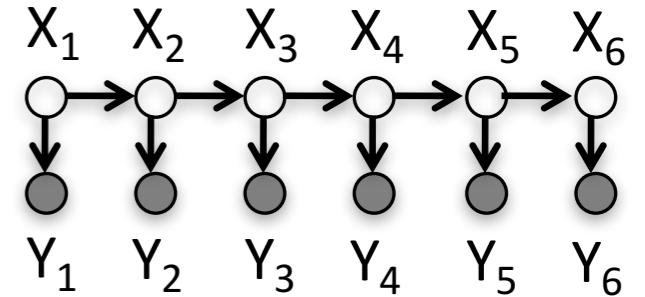
- Naively, would seem to require  $k^{n-1}$  summations,

$$\Pr(x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n) = \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}} \Pr(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

Is there a more efficient algorithm?



# Marginal inference in HMMs:



- Use **dynamic programming**

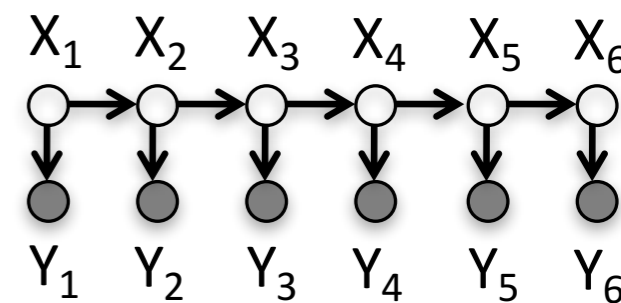
$$\begin{aligned}
 \Pr(x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n) &= \sum_{x_{n-1}} \Pr(x_{n-1}, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n) \\
 &= \sum_{x_{n-1}} \Pr(x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \Pr(x_n, y_n \mid x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \\
 &= \sum_{x_{n-1}} \Pr(x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \Pr(x_n, y_n \mid x_{n-1}) \\
 &= \sum_{x_{n-1}} \Pr(x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \Pr(x_n \mid x_{n-1}) \Pr(y_n \mid x_n, x_{n-1}) \\
 &= \sum_{x_{n-1}} \Pr(x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) \Pr(x_n \mid x_{n-1}) \Pr(y_n \mid x_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Pr(A = a) = \sum_b \Pr(B = b, A = a)$   
 $\Pr(\vec{A} = \vec{a}, \vec{B} = \vec{b}) = \Pr(\vec{A} = \vec{a}) \Pr(\vec{B} = \vec{b} \mid \vec{A} = \vec{a})$   
**Conditional independence in HMMs**  
 $\Pr(A = a, B = b) = \Pr(A = a) \Pr(B = b \mid A = a)$   
**Conditional independence in HMMs**

- For  $n=1$ , initialize  $\Pr(x_1, y_1) = \Pr(x_1) \Pr(y_1 \mid x_1)$
- Total running time is  $O(nk^2)$  – linear time! **Easy to do filtering**

# Marginal Inference in MRF

- This is a simply connected graph:



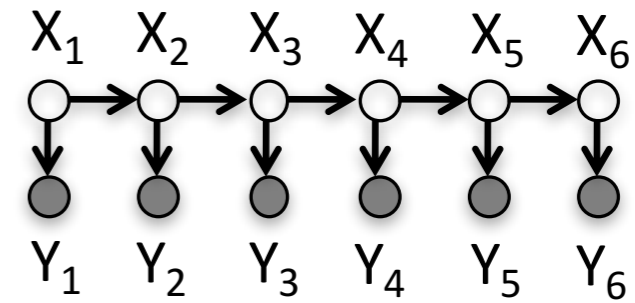
- Thus we can apply the BP algorithm:

$$\Pr(x_n, y) = b_n(x_n)$$

$$b_n(x_n) = \frac{1}{Z_n} \Pr(y_n | x_n) m_{n-1,n}(x_n) .$$

$$m_{n-1,n}(x_n) = \sum_{x_{n-1}} \underbrace{\Pr(y_{n-1} | x_{n-1})}_{\phi_{n-1}(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})} \underbrace{\Pr(x_n | x_{n-1})}_{\psi_{n,n-1}(x_n, x_{n-1})} m_{n-2,n-1}(x_{n-1}) .$$

# MAP inference in HMMs:



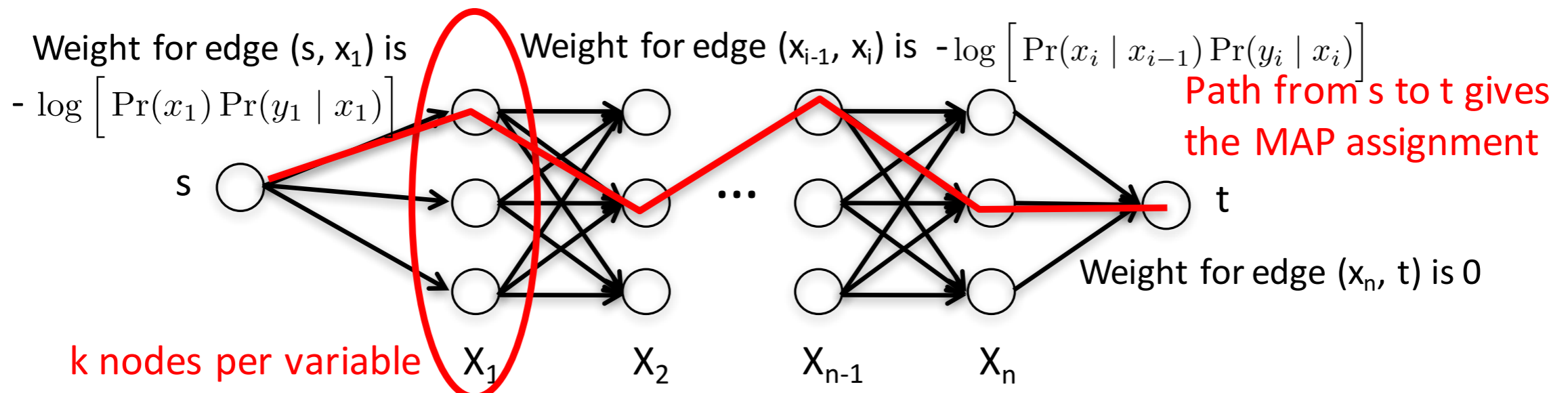
- MAP inference in HMMs can be solved in linear time!

$$\arg \max_{\mathbf{x}} \Pr(x_1, \dots, x_n \mid y_1, \dots, y_n) = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}} \Pr(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$= \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}} \log \Pr(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

$$= \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left[ \Pr(x_1) \Pr(y_1 \mid x_1) \right] + \sum_{i=2}^n \log \left[ \Pr(x_i \mid x_{i-1}) \Pr(y_i \mid x_i) \right]$$

- Formulate as a shortest paths problem



**Called the Viterbi algorithm**

# Monte-Carlo Estimation

- BP is an instance of optimization-based inference.
- Let's focus on marginal inference:

$$p(x_i) = \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{x_j} p(x_1, \dots, x_n) .$$

- This object can be written as an expectation:

$$p(x_i) = \mathbb{E}_{X \sim p} f_{i,x_i}(X) , \quad f_{i,x_i}(X) = \mathbf{1}(X_i = x_i) .$$

- Thus, another route to approximate inference is by replacing this expectation with iid samples:

$$x^1, \dots, x^M \sim p(X) \text{ iid}$$

$$\hat{p}(x_i) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M f_{i,x_i}(x^m) .$$

# Monte-Carlo Estimation

- Thus, provided we can (efficiently) sample from the model, we can estimate any quantity that depends smoothly on the density.
- What is the quality of such estimate?

- Bias?

$$\mathbb{E}_{x^1 \dots x^M \sim p} [\hat{p}(x_i)] = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbb{E}_{x^m \sim p} f_{i,x_i}(x^m) = \mathbb{E} f_i(x) = p(x_i)$$

- Variance?

- Law of large numbers:  $\hat{p}(x_i) \xrightarrow{a.s.} p(x_i)$ ,  $(m \rightarrow \infty)$ .
- CLT: Under mild assumptions,  $\sqrt{m}(\hat{p}(x_i) - p(x_i)) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

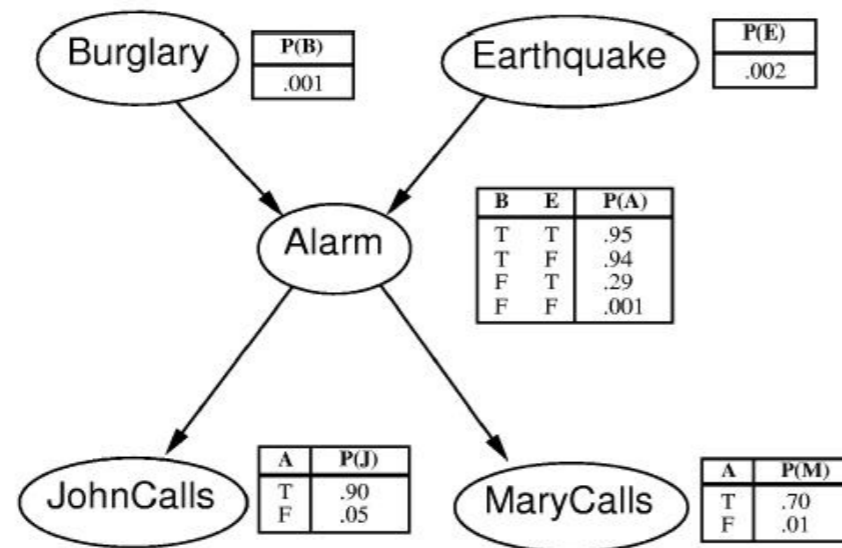
# Monte-Carlo Estimation

- But, how do we sample from a graphical model?
  - If it is a BN, we saw in the first lecture that it lends itself to sampling by following topological order.
  - But how about undirected graphical models?

# Gibbs Sampling

- Gibbs Sampling is an iterative algorithm that produces samples from undirected models.
- Suppose the model contains variables  $x_1 \dots x_n$
- Initialize starting values (e.g from uniform distribution)
- Do until (convergence):
  - Pick an ordering of the variables
  - For each  $x_i$ ,
    - ❖ Sample  $p(x_i \mid X_j = x_j), j \neq i$ .
    - ❖ update  $x_i$
- Recall that we only need to condition on the Markov Blanket.

## Gibbs Sampling: An Example

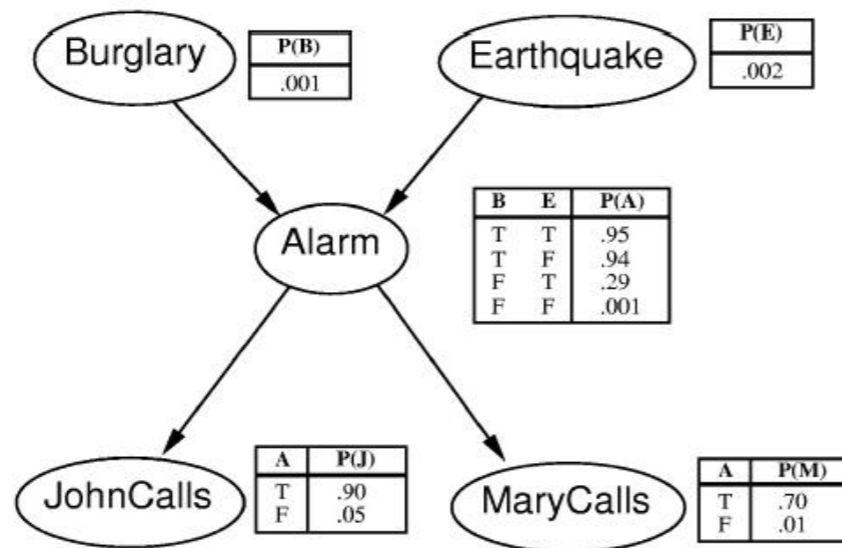


t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1					
2					
3					
4					

- Consider the alarm network
  - Assume we sample variables in the order B,E,A,J,M
  - Initialize all variables at  $t = 0$  to False



## Gibbs Sampling: An Example



t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F				
2					
3					
4					

- Sampling  $P(B|A,E)$  at  $t = 1$ : Using Bayes Rule,

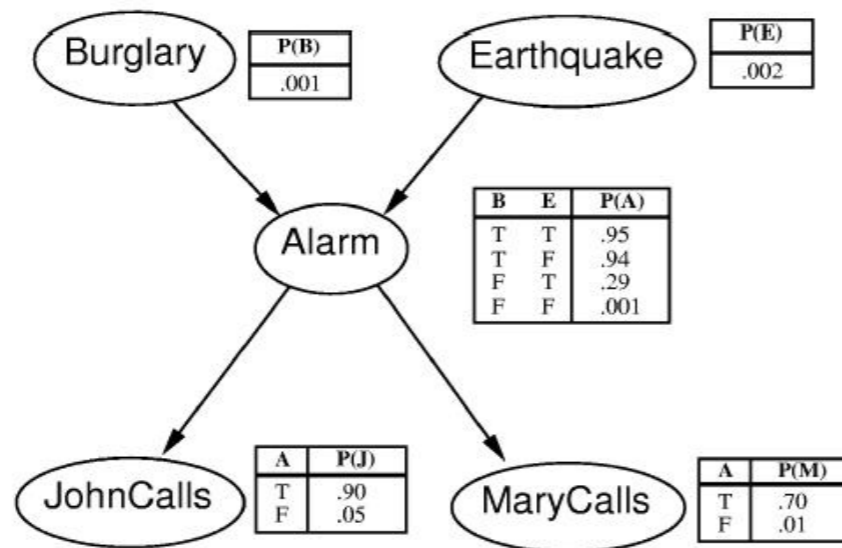
$$P(B | A, E) \propto P(A | B, E)P(B)$$

- $A=false, E=false$ , so we compute:

$$P(B = T | A = F, E = F) \propto (0.06)(0.01) = 0.0006$$

$$P(B = F | A = F, E = F) \propto (0.999)(0.999) = 0.9980$$

# Gibbs Sampling: An Example



t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F	T			
2					
3					
4					

- Sampling  $P(E|A,B)$ : Using Bayes Rule,

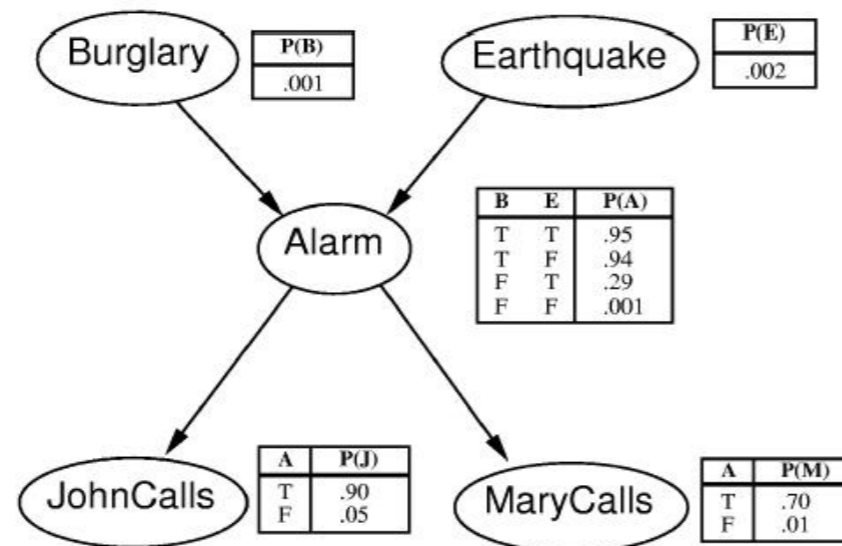
$$P(E | A, B) \propto P(A | B, E)P(E)$$

- $(A,B) = (F,F)$ , so we compute the following,

$$P(E = T | A = F, B = F) \propto (0.71)(0.02) = 0.0142$$

$$P(E = F | A = F, B = F) \propto (0.999)(0.998) = 0.9970$$

## Gibbs Sampling: An Example



t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F	T	F		
2					
3					
4					

- Sampling  $P(A|B,E,J,M)$ : Using Bayes Rule,

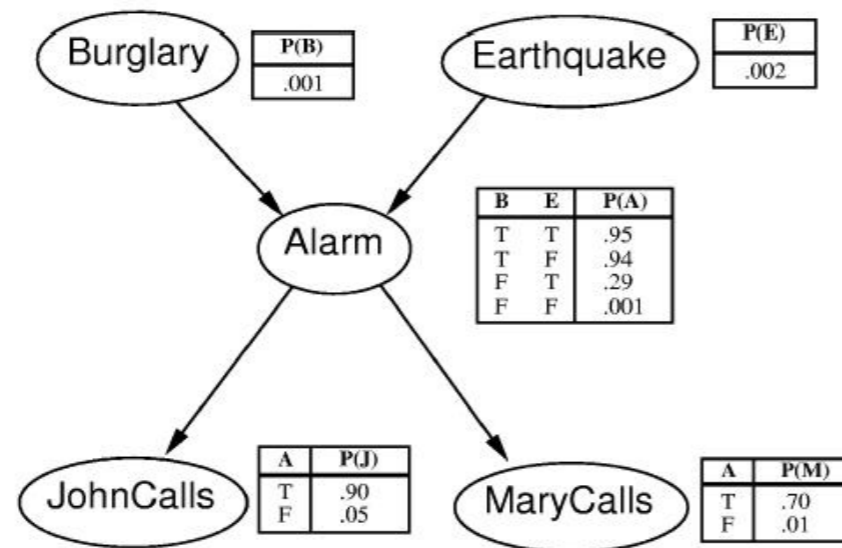
$$P(A | B, E, J, M) \propto P(J | A)P(M | A)P(A | B, E)$$

- $(B,E,J,M) = (F,T,F,F)$ , so we compute:

$$P(A = T | B = F, E = T, J = F, M = F) \propto (0.1)(0.3)(0.29) = 0.0087$$

$$P(A = F | B = F, E = T, J = F, M = F) \propto (0.95)(0.99)(0.71) = 0.6678$$

# Gibbs Sampling: An Example



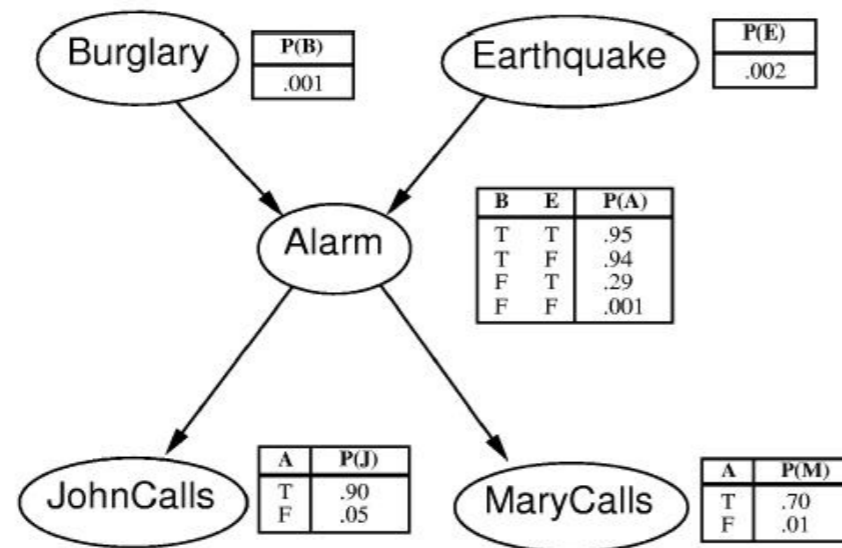
t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F	T	F	T	
2					
3					
4					

- Sampling  $P(J|A)$ : No need to apply Bayes Rule
- $A = F$ , so we compute the following, and sample

$$P(J = T \mid A = F) \propto 0.05$$

$$P(J = F \mid A = F) \propto 0.95$$

# Gibbs Sampling: An Example



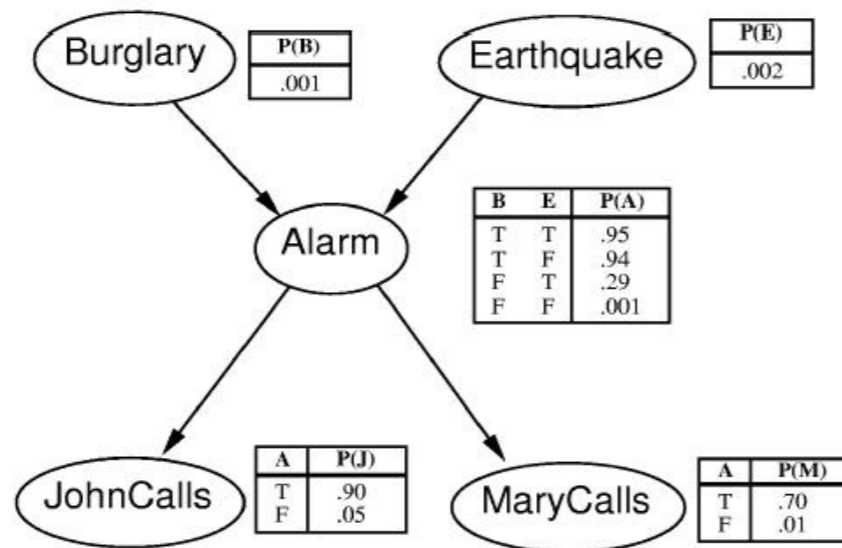
t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F	T	F	T	F
2					
3					
4					

- Sampling  $P(M|A)$ : No need to apply Bayes Rule
- $A = F$ , so we compute the following, and sample

$$P(M = T \mid A = F) \propto 0.01$$

$$P(M = F \mid A = F) \propto 0.99$$

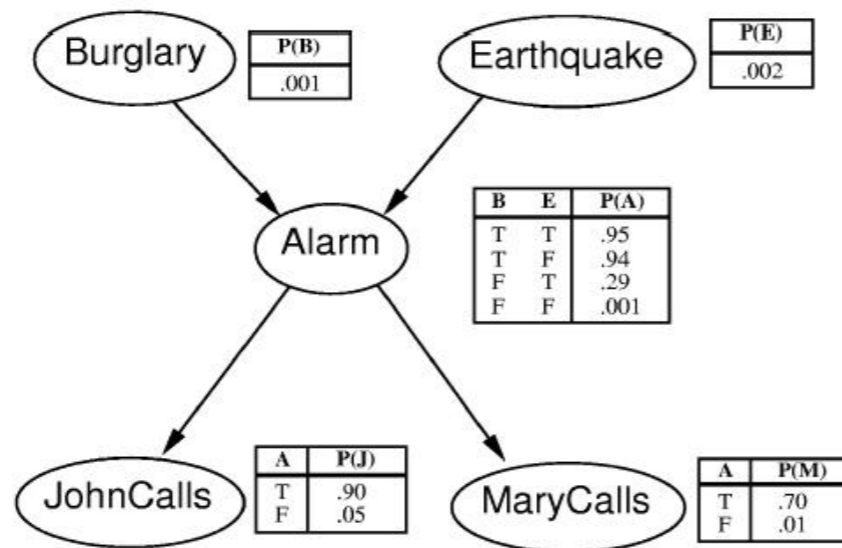
# Gibbs Sampling: An Example



t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F	T	F	T	F
2	F	T	T	T	T
3					
4					

- Now  $t = 2$ , and we repeat the procedure to sample new values of B,E,A,J,M ...

# Gibbs Sampling: An Example



t	B	E	A	J	M
0	F	F	F	F	F
1	F	T	F	T	F
2	F	T	T	T	T
3	T	F	T	F	T
4	T	F	T	F	F

- Now  $t = 2$ , and we repeat the procedure to sample new values of B,E,A,J,M ...
- And similarly for  $t = 3, 4$ , etc.

# Gibbs Sampling and Markov Chains

- This algorithm is an instance of a broad family of tools: MCMC
- We will study in future lecture the main properties and uses of general MCMC methods.