

Inference in factor trees

Carlos Cotrini November 3, 2017

Probabilistic foundations of artificial intelligence







How do we compute $P(X_5 = \hat{x_5})$?

Naive method

$$P(X_5 = \hat{x}_5) = \sum_{\hat{x}_1, \hat{x}_2, \hat{x}_3, \hat{x}_4, \hat{x}_6} P(X_1 = \hat{x}_1, X_2 = \hat{x}_2, X_3 = \hat{x}_3, X_4 = \hat{x}_4, X_6 = \hat{x}_6).$$



Belief propagation, a better method.

$$\mu_{X \to f}^{(t)}(\hat{x}) = \prod_{f' \in \mathcal{N}(X) \setminus \{f\}} \mu_{f' \to X}^{(t-1)}(\hat{x})$$
$$\mu_{f \to X}^{(t)}(\hat{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} f(\hat{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}, \hat{x}) \prod_{X' \in \mathcal{N}(f) \setminus \{X\}} \mu_{X' \to f}^{(t-1)}(\hat{x'})$$

- X: a node (i.e., a random variable).
- f: a factor.
- \hat{x} : a value in the range of X.
- N(X): X's neighbors.
- N(f): f's neighbors.
- x

 x
 x
 a sequence of values in f's domain.

Initially,
$$\begin{split} \mu_{X \to f}^{(0)}(\hat{x}) &= 1 \text{ and } \\ \mu_{f \to X}^{(0)}(\hat{x}) &= 1. \end{split}$$

Before we compute $P(X_5 = x_5)$, let's observe three useful insights about belief propagation in trees.

First insight

The messages needed to compute another message form a tree*

* This only holds for factor trees!











First insight

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* This only holds for trees!

Second insight



Let h be the height of the tree rooted at one message.

• At iteration h of BP, the message reaches its final value.











Second insight



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• At iteration h, the message reaches its final value.



Let t_0 be the time at which all messages have reached their true value. For any $t \ge t_0$, $P(X = \hat{x}) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{f \in N(X)} \mu_{f \to X}^{(t)}(\hat{x})$.

$$P(X_5 = X_5)$$



$$P(X_4 = X_4)$$



$$\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{X}_4 = \mathsf{X}_4)$$





Rejection sampling and MCMC

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ETH zürich

Computing expected loss from a burglary





What is the expected total value of items stolen?

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Computing expected loss from a burglary



Given...

- Col, a collection of objects.
- Cap, the capacity of the bag.

• Let
$$FIT := \{A \subseteq Col \mid \sum_{b \in A} weight(b) \leq Cap\}$$

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• Let B ~ Unif(FIT). That is,

$$P(B = A) = 1/|F|T|$$

Estimate

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{b\in B} value(b)\right]$$

How about rejection sampling?

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EHzürich











Let's implement it

Generating samples from Q using MCMC

- Ingredients:
 - A prob. algo. T that transforms one sample into another.
 - A proof that T is "good" for Q.
- Recipe:
 - Take any sample x (not necessarily random).
 - For N sufficiently large, let $x' = T^{N}(x) = T(...(T(x))...)$.
 - Return x'











What makes T "good" for Q? • Let $\Omega = \{0, ..., 9999\}$ and $Q = Unif(\Omega)$.



- Let M be the Markov chain induced by T and let R be M's transition probability.
- T is "good" for Q if
 - M is ergodic.
 - Q(x)R(x'|x) = Q(x')R(x'|x), for all x, x'.

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Warning, these are sufficiency conditions! There may be other algorithms that are "good" for Q, but do not satisfy these conditions.

ETH zürich

Computing expected loss from a burglary



Generating samples from a complex distribution Q using MCMC

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 - A prob. algo. T that transforms one sample into another.
 - A proof that T is "good" for Q.
- Recipe:
 - Take any sample x (not necessarily random).
 - For N sufficiently large, let $x' = T^{N}(x) = T(...(T(x))...)$.
 - Return x'

A "good" T for the uniform distr. on 2^{Col}

- Let B in FIT.
 - Flip a coin. If heads, then return B.
 - Pick an object b in Col uniformly at random.
 - If b in B:
 - return B \ {b}
 - If b not in B:
 - If the total weight of B U {b} <= Cap:
 - return B U {b}
 - Else:
 - return B

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 - Insight 2: If L >> |2^{Col}|, then T can reach any B' from any B in at most L steps.
 - Insight 3: There is a self-loop for every B' in the Markov graph.
 - If you happen to arrive to B' before t steps, just use the extra steps on the self-loop to arrive in exactly t steps.

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 - Hint 2: R(x' | x) = R(x' | x).