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Fric Xin



Constraining clique potentials to be positive could be inconvenient (e.g., the interactions between a pair of atoms can be either attractive or repulsive). We represent a clique potential ψ_c(x_c) in an unconstrained form using a real-value "energy" function φ_c(x_c):

 $\psi_c(\mathbf{x}_c) = \exp\{-\phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)\}$

For convenience, we will call $\phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$ a potential when no confusion arises from the context.

• This gives the joint a nice additive strcuture

$$\mathbf{(x)} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left\{-\sum_{c \in C} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)\right\} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left\{-H(\mathbf{x})\right\}$$

where the sum in the exponent is called the "free energy":

$$H(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{c} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

- In physics, this is called the "Boltzmann distribution".
- In statistics, this is called a log-linear model.

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