

What is this?



- Classical AI and ML research ignored this phenomena
- The Problem (an example):
 - you want to catch a flight at 10:00am from Beijing to Pittsburgh, can I make it if I leave at 7am and take a Taxi at the east gate of Tsinghua?
 - partial observability (road state, other drivers' plans, etc.)
 - noisy sensors (radio traffic reports)
 - uncertainty in action outcomes (flat tire, etc.)
 - immense complexity of modeling and predicting traffic
- Reasoning under uncertainty!

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A universal task ... Speech recognition Computer vision Robotic control Pedigree Eric Xing Planning 4

The Fundamental Questions



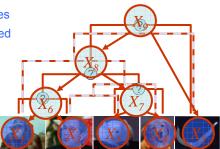
- Representation
 - How to capture/model uncertainties in possible worlds?
 - How to encode our domain knowledge/assumptions/constraints?
- Inference
 - How do I answers questions/queries according to my model and/or based given data?

e.g.:
$$P(X_i | \mathbf{D})$$

- Learning
 - What model is "right" for my data?

e.g.:
$$\mathcal{M} = \arg \max_{\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{M}} F(\mathcal{D}; \mathcal{M})$$





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Graphical Models



- Graphical models are a marriage between graph theory and probability theory
- One of the most exciting developments in machine learning (knowledge representation, AI, EE, Stats,...) in the last two decades...
- Some advantages of the graphical model point of view
 - Inference and learning are treated together
 - Supervised and unsupervised learning are merged seamlessly
 - Missing data handled nicely
 - A focus on conditional independence and computational issues
 - Interpretability (if desired)
- Are having significant impact in science, engineering and beyond!

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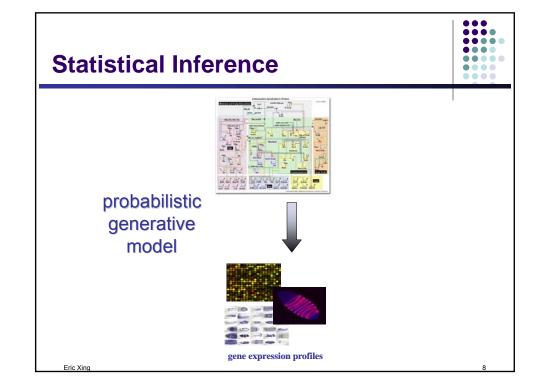


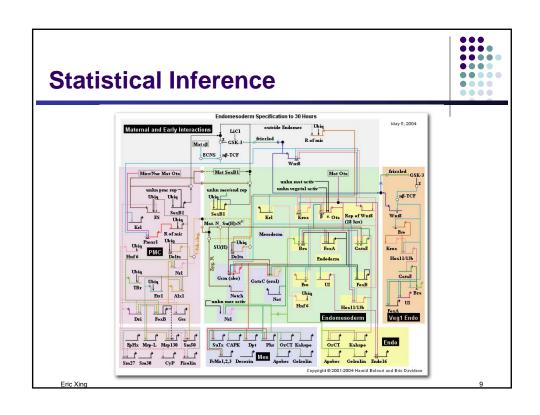
- The informal blurb:
 - It is a smart way to write/specify/compose/design exponentially-large probability distributions without paying an exponential cost, and at the same time endow the distributions with structured semantics

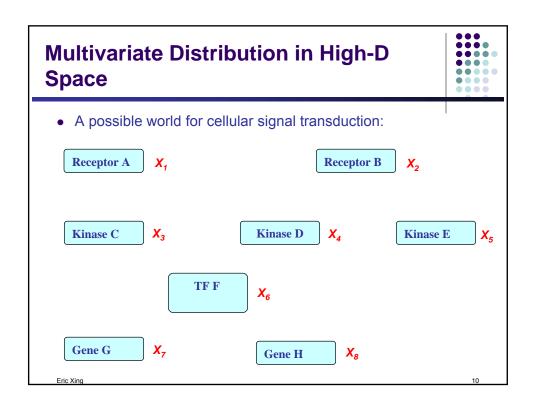


- $P(X_{1},\!X_{2},\!X_{3},\!X_{4},\!X_{5},\!X_{6},\!X_{7},\!X_{8})$
- $$\begin{split} P(X_{18}) = P(X_1)P(X_2)P(X_3 \mid X_1X_2)P(X_4 \mid X_2)P(X_5 \mid X_2) \\ P(X_6 \mid X_3, X_4)P(X_7 \mid X_6)P(X_8 \mid X_5, X_6) \end{split}$$
- A more formal description:
 - It refers to a family of distributions on a set of random variables that are compatible with all the probabilistic independence propositions encoded by a graph that connects these variables

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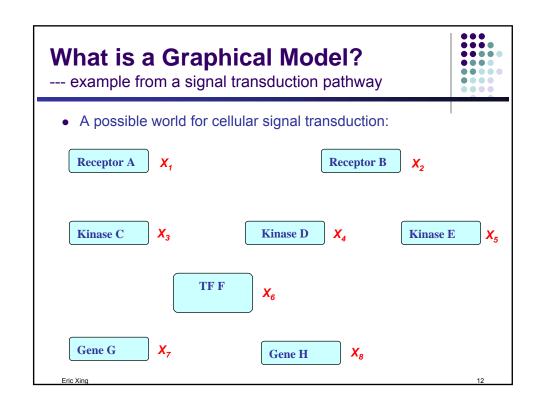


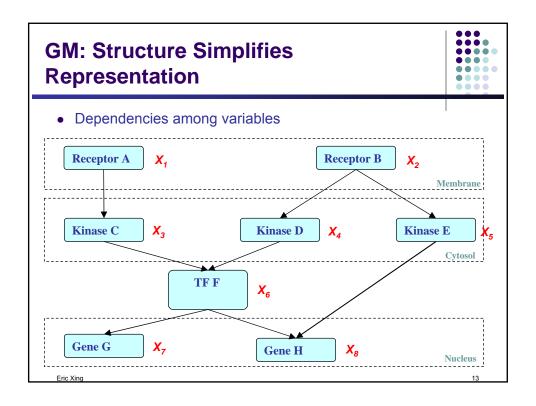
Recap of Basic Prob. Concepts • Representation: what is the joint probability dist. on multiple variables? • P(X₁, X₂, X₃, X₄, X₅, X₆, X₇, X₈,) • How many state configurations in total? --- 2⁸ • Are they all needed to be represented? • Do we get any scientific/medical insight? • Learning: where do we get all this probabilities? • Maximal-likelihood estimation? but how many data do we need? • Where do we put domain knowledge in terms of plausible relationships between variables, and plausible values of the probabilities?

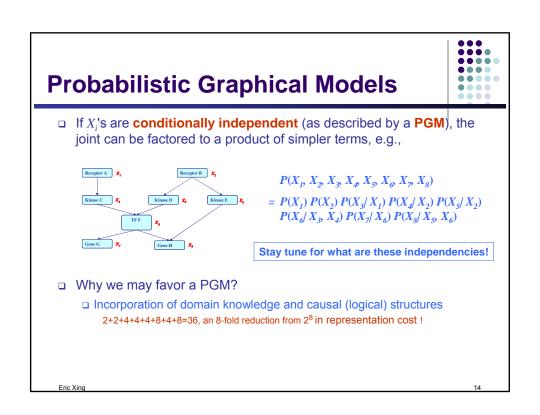
Inference: If not all variables are observable, how to compute the conditional distribution of latent variables given evidence?

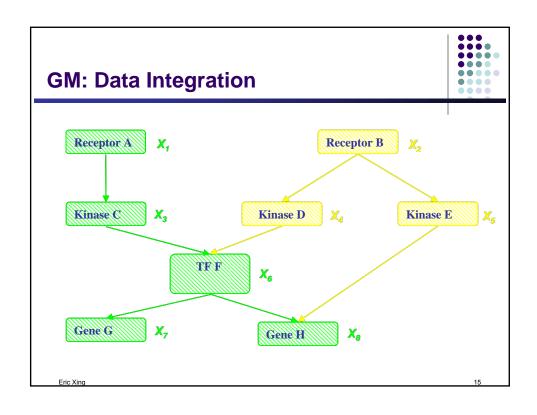
Computing p(H|A) would require summing over all 2^6 configurations of the

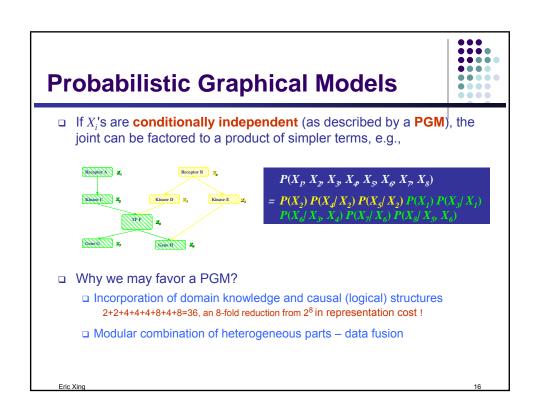
unobserved variables





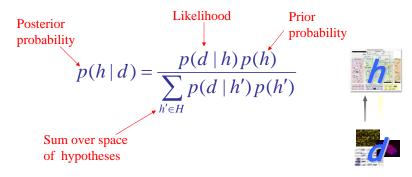






Rational Statistical Inference

The Bayes Theorem:



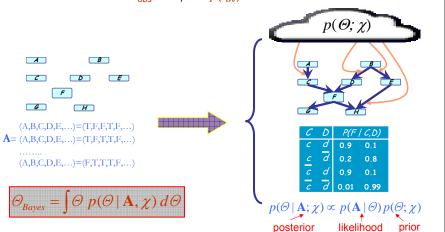
- This allows us to capture uncertainty about the model in a principled way
- But how can we specify and represent a complicated model?
 - Typically the number of genes need to be modeled are in the order of thousands!

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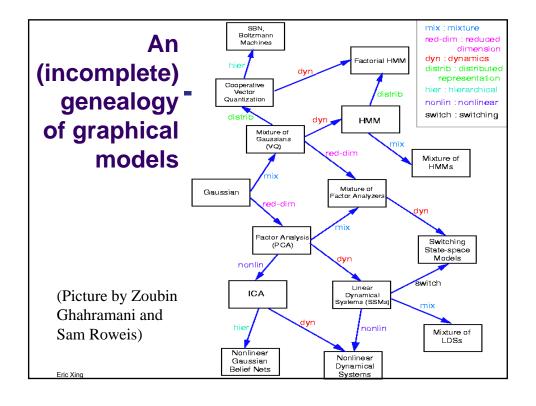
GM: MLE and Bayesian Learning



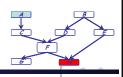
Probabilistic statements of *⊙* is conditioned on the values of the observed variables A_{obs} and prior p(|χ)



Probabilistic Graphical Models If X_i's are conditionally independent (as described by a PGM), the joint can be factored to a product of simpler terms, e.g., P(X_p X₂ X₃ X₄ X₅ X₆ X₇ X₈) = P(X₁) P(X₂) P(X₃/X₁) P(X₄/X₂) P(X₅/X₂) P(X₆/X₃ X₄) P(X₇/X₆) P(X₈/X₅ X₆) Why we may favor a PGM? Incorporation of domain knowledge and causal (logical) structures 2+2+4+4+8+4+8=36, an 8-fold reduction from 2⁸ in representation cost! Modular combination of heterogeneous parts – data fusion Bayesian Philosophy Knowledge meets data



Probabilistic Inference



- Computing statistical queries regarding the network, e.g.:
 - Is node X independent on node Y given nodes Z,W?
 - What is the probability of X=true if (Y=false and Z=true)?
 - What is the joint distribution of (X,Y) if Z=false?
 - What is the likelihood of some full assignment?
 - What is the most likely assignment of values to all or a subset the nodes of the network?
- General purpose algorithms exist to fully automate such computation
 - Computational cost depends on the topology of the network
 - Exact inference:
 - The junction tree algorithm
 - Approximate inference;
 - Loopy belief propagation, variational inference, Monte Carlo sampling

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A few myths about graphical models



- They require a localist semantics for the nodes
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- They require a causal semantics for the edges
- They are necessarily Bayesian
- They are intractable

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Two types of GMs



 Directed edges give causality relationships (Bayesian Network or Directed Graphical Model):

$$\begin{split} &P(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, X_{4}, X_{5}, X_{6}, X_{7}, X_{8}) \\ &= P(X_{1}) P(X_{2}) P(X_{3} | X_{1}) P(X_{4} | X_{2}) P(X_{5} | X_{2}) \\ &P(X_{6} | X_{3}, X_{4}) P(X_{7} | X_{6}) P(X_{8} | X_{5}, X_{6}) \end{split}$$



 Undirected edges simply give correlations between variables (Markov Random Field or Undirected Graphical model):

```
\begin{split} &P(X_{D}, X_{2}, X_{3}, X_{4}, X_{5}, X_{6}, X_{7}, X_{8}) \\ &= \frac{1/Z}{E} \exp\{E(X_{1}) + E(X_{2}) + E(X_{3}, X_{1}) + E(X_{4}, X_{2}) + E(X_{5}, X_{2}) \\ &+ E(X_{6}, X_{3}, X_{4}) + E(X_{7}, X_{6}) + E(X_{8}, X_{5}, X_{6})\} \end{split}
```



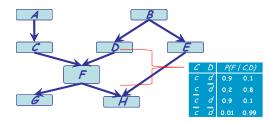
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Specification of a directed GM



- There are two components to any GM:
 - the qualitative specification
 - the quantitative specification



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Bayesian Network: Factorization Theorem

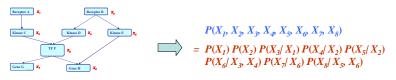


• Theorem:

Given a DAG, The most general form of the probability distribution that is consistent with the graph factors according to "node given its parents":

$$P(\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{i=1:d} P(X_i \mid \mathbf{X}_{\pi_i})$$

where X_{π_i} is the set of parents of X_i , d is the number of nodes (variables) in the graph.



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Qualitative Specification



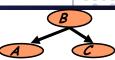
- Where does the qualitative specification come from?
- Prior knowledge of causal relationships
 - Prior knowledge of modular relationships
 - Assessment from experts
 - Learning from data
 - We simply link a certain architecture (e.g. a layered graph)
 - ..

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Local Structures & Independencies



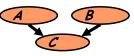
- Common parent
 - Fixing B decouples A and C
 "given the level of gene B, the levels of A and C are independent"



- Cascade
 - Knowing B decouples A and C
 "given the level of gene B, the level gene A provides no extra prediction value for the level of gene C"







• The language is compact, the concepts are rich!

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A simple justification



$$P(A,B,C) = P(B) P(A|B) P(C|B)$$

$$P(A,C|B) = \frac{P(A,C,B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B)P(A|B)P(C|B)}{P(B)}$$

$$= P(A|B) P(C|B)$$

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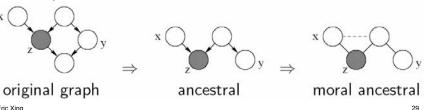
Graph separation criterion



 D-separation criterion for Bayesian networks (D for Directed edges):

Definition: variables x and y are *D-separated* (conditionally independent) given z if they are separated in the *moralized* ancestral graph

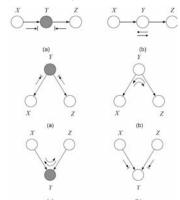
• Example:



Global Markov properties of DAGs



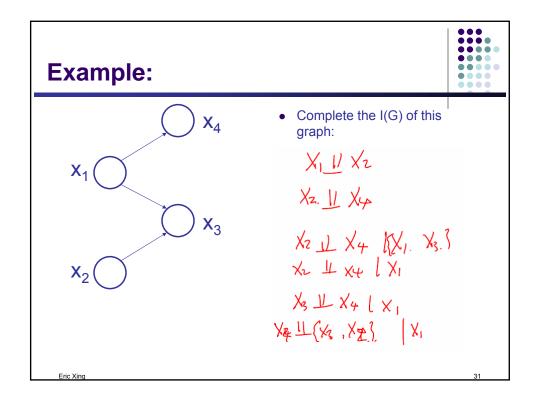
X is d-separated (directed-separated) from Z given Y if we can't send a ball from any node in X to any node in Z using the "Bayes-ball" algorithm illustrated bellow (and plus some boundary conditions):

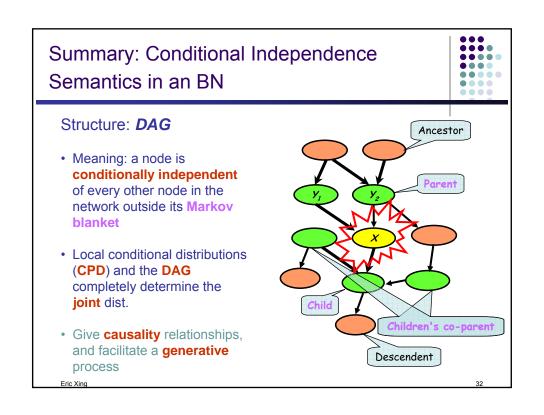


 Defn: I(G)=all independence properties that correspond to dseparation:

$$I(G) = \left\{ X \perp Z \middle| Y : dsep_G(X; Z \middle| Y) \right\}$$

• D-separation is sound and complete





Toward quantitative specification of probability distribution



- Separation properties in the graph imply independence properties about the associated variables
- The Equivalence Theorem

For a graph G,

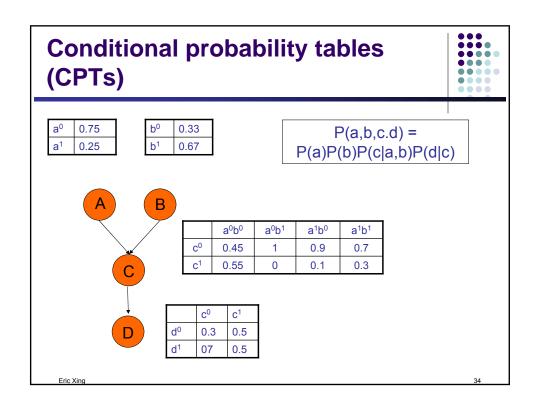
Let \mathcal{D}_1 denote the family of all distributions that satisfy I(G), Let \mathcal{D}_2 denote the family of all distributions that factor according to G,

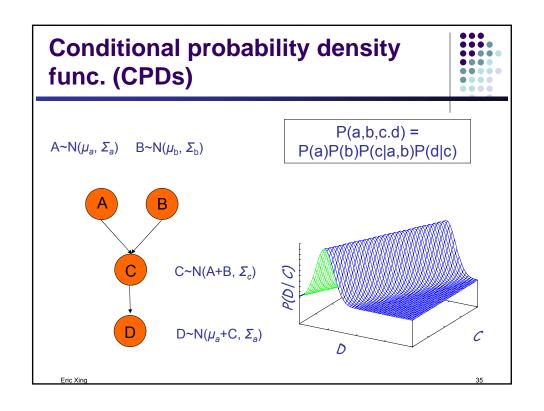
$$P(\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{i=1, i} P(X_i \mid \mathbf{X}_{\pi_i})$$

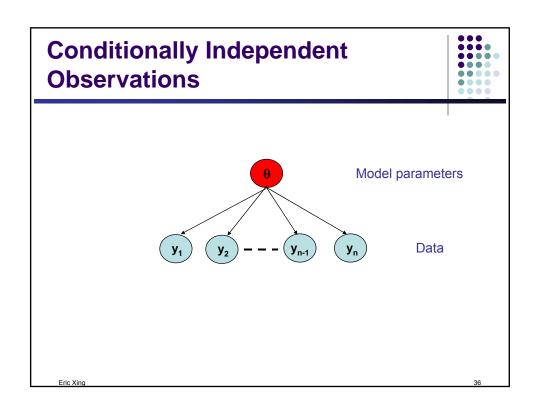
Then $\mathfrak{D}_1 \equiv \mathfrak{D}_2$.

 For the graph to be useful, any conditional independence properties we can derive from the graph should hold for the probability distribution that the graph represents

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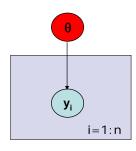






"Plate" Notation





Model parameters

Data =
$$\{y_1, ..., y_n\}$$

Plate = rectangle in graphical model

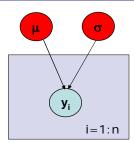
variables within a plate are replicated in a conditionally independent manner

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Example: Gaussian Model



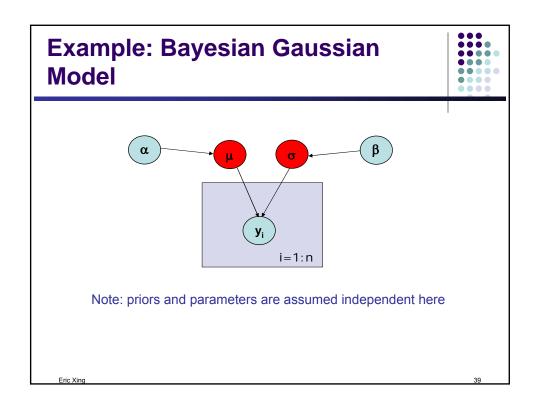


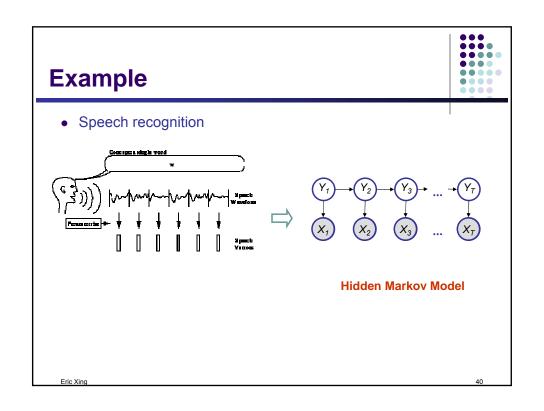
Generative model:

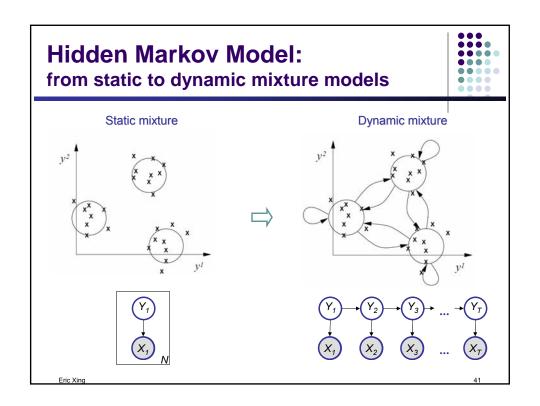
$$\begin{split} p(y_1, \dots y_n \mid \mu, \, \sigma) &= \prod_i p(y_i \mid \mu, \, \sigma) \\ &= p(\text{data} \mid \text{parameters}) \\ &= p(D \mid \theta) \\ \text{where } \theta = \{\mu, \, \sigma\} \end{split}$$

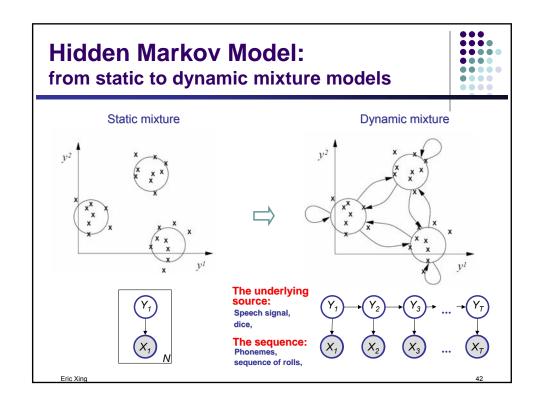
- Likelihood = p(data | parameters)= p(D | θ)= L (θ)
- Likelihood tells us how likely the observed data are conditioned on a particular setting of the parameters
 - Often easier to work with log L (θ)

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The Dishonest Casino



A casino has two dice:

- Fair die P(1) = P(2) = P(3) = P(5) = P(6) = 1/6
- Loaded die
 P(1) = P(2) = P(3) = P(5) = 1/10
 P(6) = 1/2

Casino player switches back-&-forth between fair and loaded die once every 20 turns

Game:

- 1. You bet \$1
- 2. You roll (always with a fair die)
- 3. Casino player rolls (maybe with fair die, maybe with loaded die)
- 4. Highest number wins \$2





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A stochastic generative model



• Observed sequence:



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Hidden sequence (a parse or segmentation):



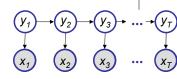
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Definition (of HMM)



Observation space

Alphabetic set: $C = \{c_1, c_2, \cdots, c_k\}$ Euclidean space: R^d



Index set of hidden states

$$I = \{1, 2, \cdots, M\}$$

Transition probabilities between any two states

$$\begin{split} & p(y_t^{\,j} = 1 \,|\, y_{t-1}^{\,j} = 1) = a_{i,j}, \\ \text{or} & p(y_t \,|\, y_{t-1}^{\,j} = 1) \sim \text{Multinomial}(a_{i,1}, a_{i,1}, \dots, a_{i,M}), \forall \, i \in I. \end{split}$$

Start probabilities

$$p(y_1) \sim \text{Multinomial}(\pi_1, \pi_2, ..., \pi_M)$$
.

Emission probabilities associated with each state

$$p(x_t \mid y_t^i = 1) \sim \text{Multinomial}(b_{i,1}, b_{i,1}, \dots, b_{i,K}), \forall i \in I.$$

or in general:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_t^i = 1) \sim f(\cdot | \theta_i), \forall i \in \mathbb{I}.$$

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Puzzles regarding the dishonest casino



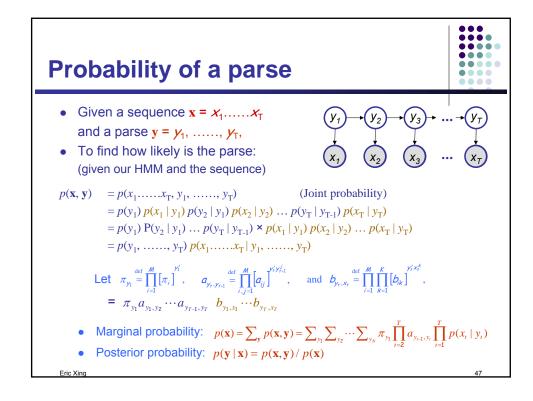
GIVEN: A sequence of rolls by the casino player

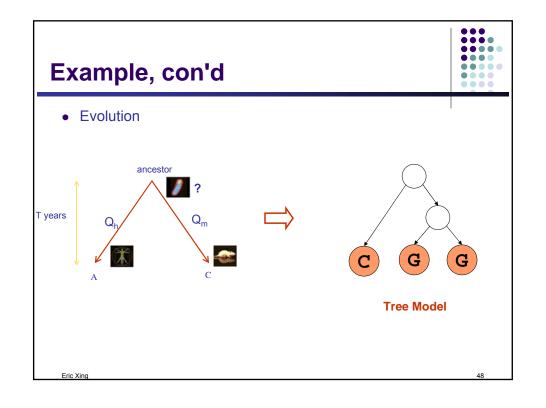
1245526462146146136136661664661636616366163616515615115146123562344

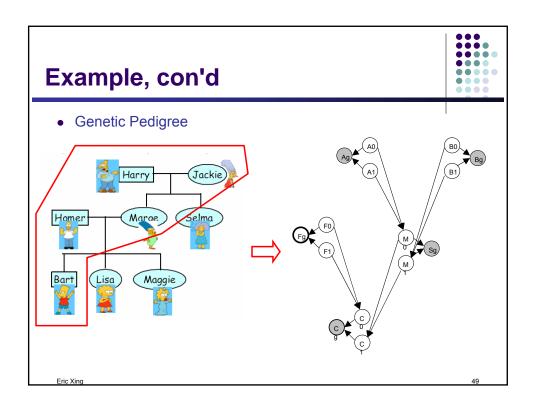
QUESTION

- How likely is this sequence, given our model of how the casino works?
 - This is the **EVALUATION** problem in HMMs
- What portion of the sequence was generated with the fair die, and what portion with the loaded die?
 - This is the **DECODING** question in HMMs
- How "loaded" is the loaded die? How "fair" is the fair die? How often does the casino player change from fair to loaded, and back?
 - This is the **LEARNING** question in HMMs

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Two types of GMs



 Directed edges give causality relationships (Bayesian Network or Directed Graphical Model):

$$P(X_{1}, X_{2}, X_{3}, X_{4}, X_{5}, X_{6}, X_{7}, X_{8})$$

$$= P(X_{1}) P(X_{2}) P(X_{3}|X_{1}) P(X_{4}|X_{2}) P(X_{5}|X_{2})$$

$$P(X_{6}|X_{3}, X_{4}) P(X_{7}|X_{6}) P(X_{8}|X_{5}, X_{6})$$



 Undirected edges simply give correlations between variables (Markov Random Field or Undirected Graphical model):

 $P(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7, X_8)$

 $= \frac{1/\mathbf{Z}}{E} \exp\{E(X_1) + E(X_2) + E(X_3, X_1) + E(X_4, X_2) + E(X_5, X_2) + E(X_6, X_3, X_4) + E(X_7, X_6) + E(X_8, X_5, X_6)\}$

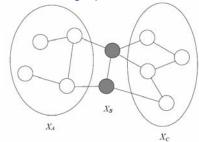


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Semantics of Undirected Graphs



• Let *H* be an undirected graph:



- B separates A and C if every path from a node in A to a node in C passes through a node in B: sep_H(A; C|B)
- A probability distribution satisfies the *global Markov property* if for any disjoint A, B, C, such that B separates A and C, A is independent of C given B: $I(H) = \{(A \perp C|B) : sep_H(A; C|B)\}$

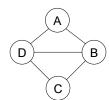
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Cliques



- For G={V,E}, a complete subgraph (clique) is a subgraph
 G'={V'⊆V,E'⊆E} such that nodes in V' are fully interconnected
- A (maximal) clique is a complete subgraph s.t. any superset V"⊃V' is not complete.
- A sub-clique is a not-necessarily-maximal clique.



- Example:
 - max-cliques = {*A*,*B*,*D*}, {*B*,*C*,*D*},
 - sub-cliques = $\{A,B\}$, $\{C,D\}$, ... \rightarrow all edges and singletons

Eric Xin

Quantitative Specification



Defn: an undirected graphical model represents a distribution P(X₁,...,X_n) defined by an undirected graph H, and a set of positive potential functions y_c associated with cliques of H, s.t.

$$P(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{c \in C} \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

where Z is known as the partition function:

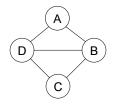
$$Z = \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_n} \prod_{c \in C} \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

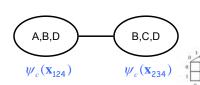
- Also known as Markov Random Fields, Markov networks ...
- The potential function can be understood as an contingency function of its arguments assigning "pre-probabilistic" score of their joint configuration.

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Example UGM – using max cliques







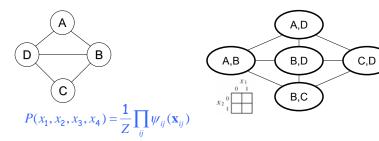
$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = \frac{1}{Z} \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_{124}) \times \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_{234})$$
$$Z = \sum_{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4} \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_{124}) \times \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_{234})$$

 For discrete nodes, we can represent P(X_{1:4}) as two 3D tables instead of one 4D table

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Example UGM – using subcliques





$$= \frac{1}{Z} \psi_{12}(\mathbf{x}_{12}) \psi_{14}(\mathbf{x}_{14}) \psi_{23}(\mathbf{x}_{23}) \psi_{24}(\mathbf{x}_{24}) \psi_{34}(\mathbf{x}_{34})$$

$$Z = \sum_{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4} \prod_{ij} \psi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}_{ij})$$

 For discrete nodes, we can represent P(X_{1:4}) as 5 2D tables instead of one 4D table

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Hammersley-Clifford Theorem



• If arbitrary potentials are utilized in the following product formula for probabilities,

$$P(x_1,...,x_n) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{c \in C} \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

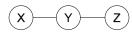
$$Z = \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_n} \prod_{c \in C} \psi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

then the family of probability distributions obtained is exactly that set which respects the qualitative specification (the conditional independence relations) described earlier

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Interpretation of Clique Potentials





• The model implies $X \perp Z \mid Y$. This independence statement implies (by definition) that the joint must factorize as:

$$p(x, y, z) = p(y)p(x | y)p(z | y)$$

- We can write this as: $p(x,y,z) = p(x,y)p(z|y) \\ p(x,y,z) = p(x|y)p(z,y)$, but
 - cannot have all potentials be marginals
 - cannot have all potentials be conditionals
- The positive clique potentials can only be thought of as general "compatibility", "goodness" or "happiness" functions over their variables, but not as probability distributions.

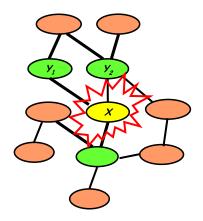
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Summary: Conditional Independence Semantics in an MRF



Structure: an *undirected graph*

- Meaning: a node is conditionally independent of every other node in the network given its Directed neighbors
- Local contingency functions (potentials) and the cliques in the graph completely determine the joint dist.
- Give correlations between variables, but no explicit way to generate samples



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Exponential Form



• 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 $\psi_{c}(\mathbf{x}_{c})$ in an unconstrained form using a real-value "energy" function $\phi_{c}(\mathbf{x}_{c})$:

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

For convenience, we will call $\phi_{\rm c}({\bf x}_{\rm c})$ a potential when no confusion arises from the context.

• This gives the joint a nice additive strcuture

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

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

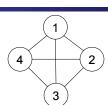
$$H(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{c \in C} \phi_c(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

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

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Example: Boltzmann machines





• A fully connected graph with pairwise (edge) potentials on binary-valued nodes (for $x_i \in \{-1,+1\}$ or $x_i \in \{0,1\}$) is called a Boltzmann machine

$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ \sum_{ij} \phi_{ij}(x_{i,} x_j) \right\}$$
$$= \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ \sum_{ij} \theta_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_{i} \alpha_i x_i + C \right\}$$

· Hence the overall energy function has the form:

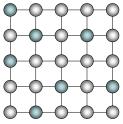
$$H(x) = \sum\nolimits_{ij} (x_i - \mu) \Theta_{ij}(x_j - \mu) = (x - \mu)^T \Theta(x - \mu)$$

Eric Xin

Example: Ising models



 Nodes are arranged in a regular topology (often a regular packing grid) and connected only to their geometric neighbors.



$$p(X) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ \sum_{i,j \in N_i} \theta_{ij} X_i X_j + \sum_i \theta_{i0} X_i \right\}$$

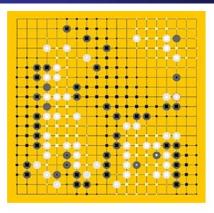
- Same as sparse Boltzmann machine, where $\theta_{ij} \neq 0$ iff i,j are neighbors.
 - e.g., nodes are pixels, potential function encourages nearby pixels to have similar intensities.
- Potts model: multi-state Ising model.

Eric Ying

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Application: Modeling Go





This is the middle position of a Go game.

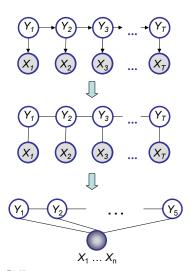
Overlaid is the estimate for the probability of becoming black or white for every intersection.

Large squares mean the probability is higher.

Eric Xir

Example: Conditional Random Fields





Discriminative

$$p_{\theta}(y \mid x) = \frac{1}{Z(\theta, x)} \exp \left\{ \sum_{c} \theta_{c} f_{c}(x, y_{c}) \right\}$$

- Doesn't assume that features are independent
- When labeling X_i future observations are taken into account

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Conditional Models



- Conditional probability P(label sequence y | observation sequence x)
 rather than joint probability P(y, x)
 - Specify the probability of possible label sequences given an observation sequence
- Allow arbitrary, non-independent features on the observation sequence X
- The probability of a transition between labels may depend on past and future observations
- Relax strong independence assumptions in generative models

Eric Xing

Conditional Distribution



• If the graph G = (V, E) of **Y** is a tree, the conditional distribution over the label sequence $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}$, given $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$, by fundamental theorem of random fields is:

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}) \propto \exp \left(\sum_{e \in E, k} \lambda_{k} f_{k}(e, \mathbf{y} \mid_{e}, \mathbf{x}) + \sum_{v \in V, k} \mu_{k} g_{k}(v, \mathbf{y} \mid_{v}, \mathbf{x}) \right)$$

- x is a data sequence
- y is a label sequence
- v is a vertex from vertex set V = set of label random variables
- e is an edge from edge set E over V
- f_k and g_k are given and fixed. g_k is a Boolean vertex feature; f_k is a Boolean edge feature
- k is the number of features
- $\theta = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n; \mu_1, \mu_2, \cdots, \mu_n); \lambda_k$ and μ_k are parameters to be estimated
- $-y|_e$ is the set of components of y defined by edge e
- $-y|_{v}$ is the set of components of y defined by vertex v

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Conditional Distribution (cont'd)



• CRFs use the observation-dependent normalization $Z(\mathbf{x})$ for the conditional distributions:

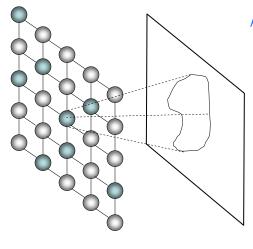
$$p_{\theta}(y | x) = \frac{1}{Z(x)} \exp \left(\sum_{e \in E, k} \lambda_{k} f_{k}(e, y|_{e}, x) + \sum_{v \in V, k} \mu_{k} g_{k}(v, y|_{v}, x) \right)$$

• $Z(\mathbf{x})$ is a normalization over the data sequence \mathbf{x}

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Conditional Random Fields





$$p_{\theta}(y \mid x) = \frac{1}{Z(\theta, x)} \exp \left\{ \sum_{c} \theta_{c} f_{c}(x, y_{c}) \right\}$$

- Allow arbitrary dependencies on input
- Clique dependencies on labels
- Use approximate inference for general graphs

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Why graphical models



- A language for communication
- A language for computation
- A language for development
- Origins:
 - Wright 1920's
 - Independently developed by Spiegelhalter and Lauritzen in statistics and Pearl in computer science in the late 1980's

Eric Xing





- Probability theory provides the glue whereby the parts are combined, ensuring that the system as a whole is consistent, and providing ways to interface models to data.
- The graph theoretic side of graphical models provides both an intuitively
 appealing interface by which humans can model highly-interacting sets of
 variables as well as a data structure that lends itself naturally to the design of
 efficient general-purpose algorithms.
- Many of the classical multivariate probabilistic systems studied in fields such as statistics, systems engineering, information theory, pattern recognition and statistical mechanics are special cases of the general graphical model formalism
- The graphical model framework provides a way to view all of these systems as instances of a common underlying formalism.

--- M. Jordan

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