Bayesian Networks Part 1

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Goals for the lecture

you should understand the following concepts

- the Bayesian network representation
- inference by enumeration
- the parameter learning task for Bayes nets
- the structure learning task for Bayes nets
- maximum likelihood estimation
- Laplace estimates
- *m*-estimates

Bayesian network example

- Consider the following 5 binary random variables:
 - B = a burglary occurs at your house
 - E = an earthquake occurs at your house
 - A = the alarm goes off
 - J = John calls to report the alarm
 - M = Mary calls to report the alarm
- Suppose we want to answer queries like what is
 P(*B* | *M*, *J*) ?

Bayesian network example



- a BN consists of a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG) and a set of conditional probability distributions
- in the DAG
 - each node denotes random a variable
 - each edge from X to Y represents that X directly influences Y
 - formally: each variable X is independent of its nondescendants given its parents
- each node X has a conditional probability distribution (CPD) representing P(X | Parents(X))

 using the chain rule, a joint probability distribution can be expressed as

$$P(X_1,...,X_n) = P(X_1) \prod_{i=2}^n P(X_i \mid X_1,...,X_{i-1})$$

 a BN provides a compact representation of a joint probability distribution

$$P(X_1,...,X_n) = P(X_1) \prod_{i=2}^n P(X_i \mid Parents(X_i))$$



- a standard representation of the joint distribution for the Alarm example has 2⁵ = 32 parameters
- the BN representation of this distribution has 20 parameters

- consider a case with 10 binary random variables
- How many parameters does a BN with the following graph structure have?



= 1024

 How many parameters does the standard table representation of the joint distribution have?

Advantages of the Bayesian network representation

- Captures independence and conditional independence where they exist
- Encodes the relevant portion of the full joint among variables where dependencies exist
- Uses a graphical representation which lends insight into the complexity of inference

The inference task in Bayesian networks

Given: values for some variables in the network (*evidence*), and a set of *query* variables

Do: compute the posterior distribution over the query variables

- variables that are neither evidence variables nor query variables are *hidden* variables
- the BN representation is flexible enough that any set can be the evidence variables and any set can be the query variables

Inference by enumeration

- let *a* denote A=true, and $\neg a$ denote A=false
- suppose we're given the query: P(b | j, m)
 "probability the house is being burglarized given that John and Mary both called"
- from the graph structure we can first compute:

$$P(b, j, m) = \sum_{e, \neg e} \sum_{a, \neg a} P(b)P(E)P(A | b, E)P(j | A)P(m | A)$$

$$Sum over possible values for E and A variables (e, \neg e, a, \neg a)$$

Inference by enumeration



Inference by enumeration

- now do equivalent calculation for $P(\neg b, j, m)$
- and determine P(b | j, m)

$$P(b \mid j,m) = \frac{P(b, j,m)}{P(j,m)} = \frac{P(b, j,m)}{P(b, j,m) + P(\neg b, j,m)}$$

Comments on BN inference

- *inference by enumeration* is an *exact* method (i.e. it computes the exact answer to a given query)
- it requires summing over a joint distribution whose size is exponential in the number of variables
- in many cases we can do exact inference efficiently in large networks
 - key insight: save computation by pushing sums inward
- in general, the Bayes net inference problem is NP-hard
- there are also methods for approximate inference these get an answer which is "close"
- in general, the approximate inference problem is NP-hard also, but approximate methods work well for many real-world problems

The parameter learning task

• Given: a set of training instances, the graph structure of a BN



• Do: infer the parameters of the CPDs

The structure learning task

• Given: a set of training instances



• Do: infer the graph structure (and perhaps the parameters of the CPDs too)

Parameter learning and maximum likelihood estimation

- maximum likelihood estimation (MLE)
 - given a model structure (e.g. a Bayes net graph) G and a set of data D
 - set the model parameters θ to maximize $P(D \mid G, \theta)$

• i.e. make the data D look as likely as possible under the model $P(D \mid G, \theta)$

Maximum likelihood estimation

consider trying to estimate the parameter θ (probability of heads) of a biased coin from a sequence of flips $\boldsymbol{x} = \{1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1\}$

the likelihood function for θ is given by:



MLE in a Bayes net

$$L(\theta: D, G) = P(D | G, \theta) = \prod_{d \in D} P(x_1^{(d)}, x_2^{(d)}, ..., x_n^{(d)})$$

=
$$\prod_{d \in D} \prod_i P(x_i^{(d)} | Parents(x_i^{(d)}))$$

=
$$\prod_i \left(\prod_{d \in D} P(x_i^{(d)} | Parents(x_i^{(d)})) \right)$$

independent parameter learning
problem for each CPD

Maximum likelihood estimation

now consider estimating the CPD parameters for B and J in the alarm network given the following data set



В	E	A	J	М
f	f	f	t	f
f	t	f	f	f
f	f	f	t	t
t	f	f	f	t
f	f	t	t	f
f	f	t	f	t
f	f	t	t	t
f	f	t	t	t

$$P(b) = \frac{1}{8} = 0.125$$
$$P(\neg b) = \frac{7}{8} = 0.875$$

$$P(j \mid a) = \frac{3}{4} = 0.75$$
$$P(\neg j \mid a) = \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$$
$$P(j \mid \neg a) = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$$

 $P(\neg j \mid \neg a) = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$

Maximum likelihood estimation

suppose instead, our data set was this...



В	E	A	J	М
f	f	f	t	f
f	t	f	f	f
f	f	f	t	t
f	f	f	f	t
f	f	t	t	f
f	f	t	f	t
f	f	t	t	t
f	f	t	t	t

$$P(b) = \frac{0}{8} = 0$$
$$P(\neg b) = \frac{8}{8} = 1$$

do we really want to set this to 0?

Maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimation

- instead of estimating parameters strictly from the data, we could start with some prior belief for each
- for example, we could use *Laplace* estimates

$$P(X = x) = \frac{n_x + 1}{\sum_{v \in \text{Values}(X)} (n_v + 1)} \text{pseudocounts}$$



where n_v represents the number of occurrences of value v

Maximum a posteriori estimation





$$P(X = x) = \frac{n_x + p_x m}{\left(\sum_{v \in \text{Values}(X)} n_v\right) + m} \text{ prior probability of value } x$$

M-estimates example

now let's estimate parameters for *B* using m=4 and $p_{b}=0.25$



$$P(b) = \frac{0 + 0.25 \times 4}{8 + 4} = \frac{1}{12} = 0.08 \qquad P(\neg b) = \frac{8 + 0.75 \times 4}{8 + 4} = \frac{11}{12} = 0.92$$