CSE 473: Artificial Intelligence Spring 2012

Bayesian Networks - Learning

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Slides adapted from Jack Breese, Dan Klein, Daphne Koller, Stuart Russell, Andrew Moore & Luke Zettlemoyer



Probabilities in BNs

- Bayes' nets implicitly encode joint distributions
 - As a product of local conditional distributions
 - To see what probability a BN gives to a full assignment, multiply all the relevant conditionals together:

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | parents(X_i))$$

- This lets us reconstruct any entry of the full joint
- Not every BN can represent every joint distribution
 - The topology enforces certain independence assumptions
 - Compare to the exact decomposition according to the chain rule!











MCMC with Gibbs Sampling

- Fix the values of observed variables
- Set the values of all non-observed variables randomly
- Perform a random walk through the space of complete variable assignments. On each move:
 - 1. Pick a variable X
 - 2. Calculate Pr(X=true | Markov blanket)
 - 3. Set X to true with that probability
- Repeat many times. Frequency with which any variable X is true is it's posterior probability.

9

- Converges to true posterior when frequencies stop changing significantly
 - stable distribution, mixing









































































incrementing b for every tails outcome











