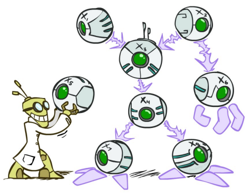
CSE 473: Artificial Intelligence

Bayes' Nets



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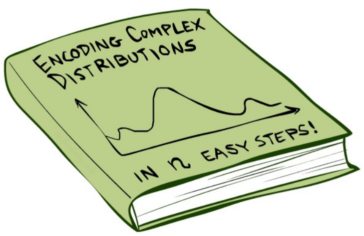
[These slides were created by Dan Klein and Pieter Abbeel for CS188 Intro to AI at UC Berkeley. All CS188 materials are available at http://ai.berkeley.edu.]

Probabilistic Models

- Models describe how (a portion of) the world works
- Models are always simplifications
  - May not account for every variable
  - May not account for all interactions between variables
  - "All models are wrong; but some are useful."
    – George E. P. Box

- What do we do with probabilistic models?
  - We (or our agents) need to reason about unknown variables, given evidence
  - Example: explanation (diagnostic reasoning)
  - Example: prediction (causal reasoning)
  - Example: value of information

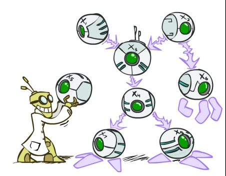
Bayes'Nets: Big Picture



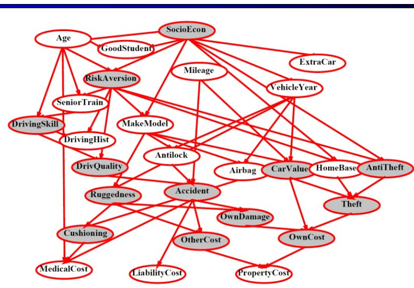
Bayes' Nets: Big Picture

- Two problems with using full joint distribution tables as our probabilistic models:
  - Unless there are only a few variables, the joint is WAY too big to represent explicitly
  - Hard to learn (estimate) anything empirically about more than a few variables at a time

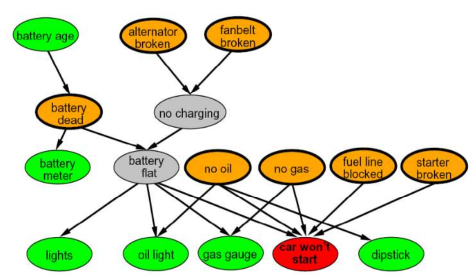
- Bayes' nets: a technique for describing complex joint distributions (models) using simple, local distributions (conditional probabilities)
  - More properly called graphical models
  - We describe how variables locally interact
  - Local interactions chain together to give global, indirect interactions
  - For about 10 min, we'll be vague about how these interactions are specified



Example Bayes' Net: Insurance

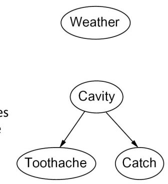


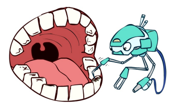
Example Bayes' Net: Car



Graphical Model Notation

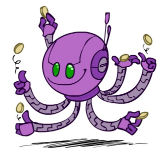
- Nodes: variables (with domains)
  - Can be assigned (observed) or unassigned (unobserved)
- Arcs: interactions
  - Similar to CSP constraints
  - Indicate "direct influence" between variables
  - Formally: encode conditional independence (more later)
- For now: imagine that arrows mean direct causation (in general, they don't!)





Example: Coin Flips

- N independent coin flips

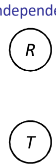


- No interactions between variables: absolute independence

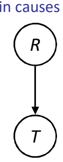
Example: Traffic

- Variables:
  - R: It rains
  - T: There is traffic

- Model 1: independence



- Model 2: rain causes traffic



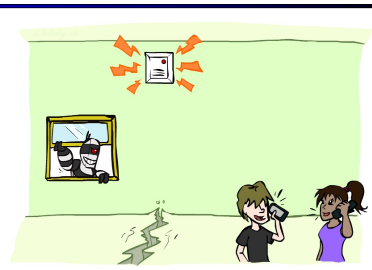
- Why is an agent using model 2 better?

Example: Traffic II

- Let's build a causal graphical model!
- Variables
  - T: Traffic
  - R: It rains
  - L: Low pressure
  - D: Roof drips
  - B: Ballgame
  - C: Cavity

Example: Alarm Network

- Variables
  - B: Burglary
  - A: Alarm goes off
  - M: Mary calls
  - J: John calls
  - E: Earthquake!

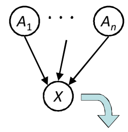


Bayes' Net Semantics

Bayes' Net Semantics

- A set of nodes, one per variable X
- A directed, acyclic graph
- A conditional distribution for each node
  - A collection of distributions over X, one for each combination of parents' values

    $P(X|a_1 \dots a_n)$
  - CPT: conditional probability table
  - Description of a noisy "causal" process



$P(X|A_1 \dots A_n)$

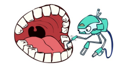
A Bayes net = Topology (graph) + Local Conditional Probabilities

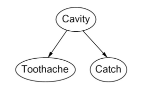
Probabilities in BNs

- 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:

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

  - Example:





$P(+cavity, +catch, -toothache)$

Probabilities in BNs

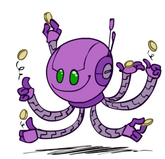
- Why are we guaranteed that setting

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

  results in a proper joint distribution?
- Chain rule (valid for all distributions): $P(x_1, x_2, \dots x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(x_i|x_1 \dots x_{i-1})$
- Assume conditional independences: $P(x_i|x_1, \dots x_{i-1}) = P(x_i|parents(X_i))$

  → Consequence: $P(x_1, x_2, \dots x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(x_i|parents(X_i))$
- Not every BN can represent every joint distribution
  - The topology enforces certain conditional independencies

Example: Coin Flips



$P(X_1)$

h	0.5
t	0.5

$P(X_2)$

h	0.5
t	0.5

. . .

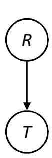
$P(X_n)$

h	0.5
t	0.5

$P(h, h, t, h) =$

Only distributions whose variables are absolutely independent can be represented by a Bayes' net with no arcs.

Example: Traffic



$P(R)$

+r	1/4
-r	3/4

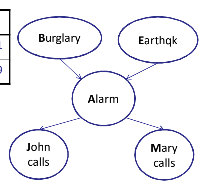
$P(T|R)$

+r	+t	3/4
	-t	1/4
-r	+t	1/2
	-t	1/2

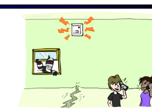
$P(+r, -t) =$

Example: Alarm Network

B	P(B)
+b	0.001
-b	0.999



E	P(E)
+e	0.002
-e	0.998



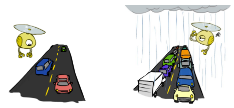
A	J	P(J|A)
+a	+j	0.9
+a	-j	0.1
-a	+j	0.05
-a	-j	0.95

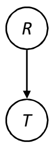
A	M	P(M|A)
+a	+m	0.7
+a	-m	0.3
-a	+m	0.01
-a	-m	0.99

B	E	A	P(A|B,E)
+b	+e	+a	0.95
+b	+e	-a	0.05
+b	-e	+a	0.94
+b	-e	-a	0.06
-b	+e	+a	0.29
-b	+e	-a	0.71
-b	-e	+a	0.001
-b	-e	-a	0.999

Example: Traffic

- Causal direction





$P(R)$

+r	1/4
-r	3/4

$P(T|R)$

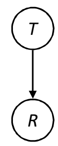
+r	+t	3/4
	-t	1/4
-r	+t	1/2
	-t	1/2

$P(T,R)$

+r	+t	3/16
+r	-t	1/16
-r	+t	6/16
-r	-t	6/16

Example: Reverse Traffic

- Reverse causality?



$P(T)$

+t	9/16
-t	7/16

$P(R|T)$

+t	+r	1/3
	-r	2/3
-t	+r	1/7
	-r	6/7

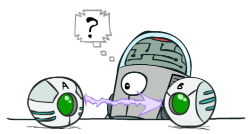
$P(T,R)$

+r	+t	3/16
+r	-t	1/16
-r	+t	6/16
-r	-t	6/16

Causality?

- When Bayes' nets reflect the true causal patterns:
  - Often simpler (nodes have fewer parents)
  - Often easier to think about
  - Often easier to elicit from experts
- BNs need not actually be causal
  - Sometimes no causal net exists over the domain (especially if variables are missing)
  - E.g. consider the variables *Traffic* and *Drips*
  - End up with arrows that reflect correlation, not causation
- What do the arrows really mean?
  - Topology may happen to encode causal structure
  - Topology really encodes conditional independence

$$P(x_i|x_1,\ldots x_{i-1}) = P(x_i|\mathit{parents}(X_i))$$



Bayes' Nets

- So far: how a Bayes' net encodes a joint distribution
- Next: how to answer queries about that distribution
  - Today:
    - First assembled BNs using an intuitive notion of conditional independence as causality
    - Then saw that key property is conditional independence
  - Main goal: answer queries about conditional independence and influence
- After that: how to answer numerical queries (inference)