Advanced Statistical Topics 2001-02

Module 4:

Probabilistic expert systems

A. Introduction

Module outline

• Information, uncertainty and probability

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- Motivating examples
- · Graphical models
- Probability propagation
- The HUGIN system

Motivating examples

- Simple applications of Bayes' theorem
- Markov chains and random walks
- Bayesian hierarchical models
- Forensic genetics
- Expert systems in medical and engineering diagnosis

The 'Asia' (chest-clinic) example

Shortness-of-breath (dyspnoea) may be due to tuberculosis, lung cancer, bronchitis, more than one of these diseases or none of them.

A recent visit to Asia increases the risk of tuberculosis, while smoking is known to be a risk factor for both lung cancer and bronchitis.

The results of a single chest X-ray do not discriminate between lung cancer and tuberculosis, as neither does the presence or absence of dyspnoea.



The 'Asia' (chest-clinic) example

Now ... a patient presents with shortness-ofbreath (dyspnoea) How can the physician use available tests (X-ray) and enquiries about the patient's history (smoking, visits to Asia) to help to diagnose which, if any, of tuberculosis, lung cancer, or bronchitis is the patient probably suffering from?

An example from forensic genetics

DNA profiling based on STR's (single tandem repeats) are finding many uses in forensics, for identifying suspects, deciding paternity, etc. Can we use Mendelian genetics and Bayes' theorem to make probabilistic inference in such cases?



Surgical rankings

- 12 hospitals carry out different numbers of a certain type of operation:
 47, 148, 119, 810, 211, 196, 148, 215, 207, 97, 256, 360 respectively.
- They are differently successful, and there are: 0, 18, 8, 46, 8, 13, 9, 31, 14, 8, 29, 24 fatalities, respectively.

Surgical rankings, continued

- What inference can we draw about the relative qualities of the hospitals based on these data?
- Does knowing the mortality at one hospital tell us anything at all about the other hospitals that is, can we 'pool' information?

B. Key ideas



+1

Let's motivate this with some simple examples....































Exact probability calculation in complex systems

- 0. Start with a directed acyclic graph
- 1. Find corresponding Conditional Independence Graph
- 2. Ensure decomposability
- 3. Probability propagation: 'messagepassing'









If the distribution p(X) has a decomposable CIG, then it can be written in the following potential representation form:

$$p(X) = \frac{\prod_{cliquesC} \psi(X_c)}{\prod_{senarchores} \psi(X_s)}$$

the individual terms are called potentials; the representation is not unique





























Scheduling messages

There are many valid schedules for passing messages, to ensure convergence to stability in a prescribed finite number of moves.

The easiest to describe uses an arbitrary root-clique, and first collects information from peripheral branches towards the root, and then distributes messages out again to the periphery





Scheduling messages

When 'evidence' is introduced - the value set for a particular node, all that is needed to propagate this information through the graph is to pass messages out from that node.

D. Applications

An example from forensic genetics

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Graphical model for a paternity enquiry - neglecting mutation

Graphical model for a paternity enquiry - neglecting mutation

Having observed the genotype of the child, mother and putative father, is the putative father the true father?

Suppose we are looking at a gene with only 3 alleles -10, 12 and 'x', with population frequencies 28.4%, 25.9%, 45.6% the child is 10-12, the mother 10-10, the putative father 12-12







DNA forensics example (thanks to Julia Mortera)

- A blood stain is found at a crime scene
- A body is found somewhere else!
- There is a suspect
- DNA profiles on all three crime scene sample is a 'mixed trace': is it a mix of the victim and the suspect?

DNA forensics in Hugin

- Disaggregate problem in terms of paternal and maternal genes of both victim and suspect.
- Assume Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium
- We have profiles on 8 STR markers treated as independent (linkage equilibrium)

DNA forensics

he data:			
Marker	Victim	Suspect	Crime scene
D3S1358	18 18	16 16	16 18
VWA	17 17	17 18	17 18
TH01	67	67	67
TPOX	88	8 11	8 11
D5S818	12 13	12 12	12 13
D13S317	88	8 11	8 11
FGA	22 26	24 25	22 24 25 26
D7S820	8 10	8 11	8 10 11
			*

2 of 8 markers show more than 2 alleles at crime scene ⇒mixture of 2 or more people



DNA forensics

Population gene frequencies for D7S820 (used as 'prior' on 'founder' nodes):

8	.185
10	.135
11	.234
х	.233
у	.214

hu



D	DNA forensics									
Res	Results (suspect+victim vs. unknown+victim):									
	Marker	Victim	Suspect	Crime scene	Likelihood ratio (sv/uv)					
	D3S1358	18 18	16 16	16 18	11.35					
	VWA	17 17	17 18	17 18	15.43					
	TH01	67	67	67	5.48					
	TPOX	88	8 11	8 11	3.00					
	D5S818	12 13	12 12	12 13	14.79					
	D13S317	88	8 11	8 11	24.45					
	FGA	22 26	24 25	22 24 25 26	76.92					
	D7S820	8 10	8 11	8 10 11	4.90					
	overall				3.93×10 ⁸					

Surgical rankings

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Surgical rankings, continued

- What inference can we draw about the relative qualities of the hospitals based on these data?
- A natural model is to say the number of deaths y_i in hospital *i* has a Binomial distribution y_i ~ Bin(n_i,p_i) where the n_i are the numbers of operations, and it is the p_i that we want to make inference about.

Surgical rankings, continued

- How to model the *p*_i?
- We do not want to assume they are all the same.
- But they are not necessarily `completely different'.
- In a Bayesian approach, we can say that the *p_i* are random variables, drawn from a common distribution.

Surgical rankings, continued

• Specifically, we could take

$$\log \frac{p_i}{1-p_i} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2)$$

 If θ and σ² are fixed numbers, then inference about p_i only depends on y_i (and n_i, θ and σ²).



Surgical rankings, continued

- But don't you think that knowing that *p*₁=0.08, say, would tell you *something* about *p*₂?
- Putting prior distributions on θ and σ^2 allows `borrowing strength' between data from different hospitals









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E. Proofs

Factorisation of joint distribution, forming potential representation, when graph is decomposable

Decomposability

The following are equivalent

• G is decomposable

E. Proofs

- G is triangulated (or chordal)
- The cliques of *G* may be 'perfectly numbered' to satisfy the running intersection property

$$C_i \cap \bigcup_{i < i} C_j \subseteq C_i \forall i = 2, 3, ..., k$$

where $i^* \in \{1, 2, ..., i - 1\}$

Decomposability

G is decomposable means that either

- G is complete, or
- *G* admits a proper decomposition (*A*,*B*,*C*), that is:
 - B separates A and C
 - B is complete, A and C are non-empty
 - the subgraphs $G_{A\cup B}$ and $G_{B\cup C}$ are decomposable





Decomposability

The running intersection property

$$C_{i} \cap \bigcup_{j < i} C_{j} \subseteq C_{i} \forall i = 2, 3, ..., k$$
$$i^{*} \in \{1, 2, ..., i-1\}$$

is what allows the construction of the junction tree and the possibility of probability propagation

































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