Tutorial on

Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice

ICCV 2015, Santiago de Chile

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December 12th, 2015 (full day)

About Us



Schedule



- (08:30-08:40) Opening
- (08:40-09:30) Discrete Graphical Models (50 min)
 - Applications in Computer Vision (20 min)
 - Definitions and Notation (20 min)
 - Overview of Existing Software-packages (10 min)
- (09:30-10:00) Inference in Discrete Graphical Models I (150 min)
 - Exact Inference Methods (50 min)
- (10:00-10:30) Coffee Break
- (10:30-12:30) Inference in Discrete Graphical Models II
 - Exact Inference Methods
 - Inference Methods based on Relaxations (40 min)
 - Partial Optimality (10 min)
 - Approximative and Move Making Methods (40 min)
 - Meta-Methods : Combining Methods to get a better overall performance (10 min)
- (12:15-14:00) Lunch
- (14:00-15:00) From Benchmarks to the Current Limits
 - Insights from Benchmark Studies (20 min)
 - How to deal with Huge Models and Higher-order Potentials? (20 min)
 - Models with Discrete and Continuous Variables (20 min)
- (15:00-15:30) Coffee Break
- (15:30-16:20) Learning in Discrete Graphical Models (50 min)
 - Problem Setting
 - Maximum Likelihood based Methods
 - Prediction-based Parameter Learning Methods
- (16:20-16:30) Closing

Slides will be online.

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- ▶ point You to references with further informations.

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- If You have questions please ask.
- It is more important to get the concepts than the details!

Applications for Graphical Models in Computer Vision

Learning and Inference in Graphical Models



My personal, Computer Vision-Based View

Applications of Graphical Models – outside CV



Label Chemical Structures



VLSI integrated-circuit design







Flywing partitioning and tracking



Semantic segmentation of the worm

II Discrete Graphical Models

Applications of Graphical Models - inside CV



Semantic segmentation



Pose Estimation





Depth Estimation



Motion Estimation and Tracking





Image In-paiting



GC-PR 2015

Debluring and Denoising



- Video Segmentation
- Dense Discrete-Continuous Optimization

Video Enhancement [Rav-Acha et al. Siggraph 2008]



- Sparse Graph matching
- 6D Dense Continuous Motion

Scene Flow Estimation [Abu Alhaija et. al. GCPR 2015]



Input

Output

- Learning Gaussian Markov Random Fields
- State-of-the art deconvolution

Image Deconvolution [Schmidt et al. CVPR 2013]

Current Leader of Semantic Segmentation Challenge VOC2012



[Efficient Piecewise Training of Deep Structured Models for Semantic Segmentation, Lin, Shen Reid, Hegel, Arxiv 2015]

- 1. Inference in Large and Complex Models
- 2. Exact inference
- 3. Fast Inference
- 4. Continuous Variables and Mixed Models
- 5. Deep Learning and Graphical Models

Open Challenges

- 1. Inference in Large and Complex Models
- 2. Exact inference
- 3. Fast Inference
- 4. Continuous Variables and Mixed Models
- 5. Deep Learning and Graphical Models



Track each individual cell perfectly (99.9% accuracy needed!)

1. Large Scale Models



Fly Wing, Eaton Lab, MPI-CBG, Dresden

Track each individual cell perfectly (99.9 % accuracy needed!)

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

II Discrete Graphical Models

1. Complex Models

Curvature-based Segmentation [Shekhovtsov et al. GCPR 2010]



Higher-order Potentials penalizing high Curvature







Curvature Model

Pairwise Curvature Model MRF

Pairwise MRF

- Right model ... but inference too hard! ٠
 - 1 TRW-S
 - TRW-S (hard constraints) 2.
 - 3. Block-ICM



LB = 1.169



LB=1.25 E = 2.06

- 1. Inference in Large and Complex Models
- 2. Exact inference
- 3. Fast Inference
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2. Exact Inference

Input: Image sequence





[Data courtesy from Oliver Woodford]

Output: New view



Model: Minimize a binary 4-connected pair-wise graph

(choose a colour-mode at each pixel)

[Fitzgibbon et al. ICCV '03]

2. Exact Inference



Ground Truth









Graph Cut with truncation [Rother et al. '05]

Belief Propagation ICM, S Annea (approximate solution)

ICM, Simulated Annealing

QPBOP [Boros et al. '06; Rother et al. '07]

(approximate solution)

(approximate solution) (exact solution)

Why is the result not perfect? Model or Optimization

- 1. Inference in Large and Complex Models
- 2. Exact inference
- 3. Fast Inference
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2. Fast Inference



1D cell tracking

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

3. Fast Inference



- Human in-the Loop
- Deep Learning

Joint Segmentation and Tracking [Jug et al. BAMBI (MICCAI) 2014]

- 1. Inference in Large and Complex Models
- 2. Exact inference
- 3. Fast Inference
- 4. Continuous Variables and Mixed Models
- 5. Deep Learning and Graphical Models

4. Continuous Variables Models



Stereo Matching



Discrete Variables



Continuous Variables

[Bleyer, Rhemann, Rother. BMVC '2011]

- 1. Inference in Large and Complex Models
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5. Deep Learning and Structured Models





- CRF gives CNN additional regularization
- What is the optimal combination of CRFs and CNNs?

ML Learning of a generic CNN-CRF model [Kirrilov et al. arxiv 2015]

- 1. Graphical Models are everywhere in Vision
- 2. Many interesting open challenges
- 3. Enjoy the Tutorial!

Definitions and Notation

Graphical Models

Definition: Graphical Model

A **graphical model** is a model for which a *graph* denotes some *structure* between variables (represented by its nodes).



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Bayesian Network



- $G \Rightarrow$ Markov Properties (MP)
- $G \Rightarrow$ Factorization

, e.g. $X_{\nu} \perp X_{V \setminus de(\nu)} | X_{pa(\nu)}$, $P(X) = \prod_{\nu \in V} P(X_{\nu} | X_{pa(\nu)})$

G has to be a directed acyclic graph (DAG)

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G has to be a directed acyclic graph (DAG)

Markov Random Field (MRF)



- $\begin{array}{ll} G \Rightarrow \text{Markov Properties (MP)} & , \text{ e.g.}^1 \; X_u \perp X_v | X_{V \setminus \{u,v\}} \Leftrightarrow (uv) \notin E \\ \text{MP} \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} \text{Factorization} & , \; P(X = x) \propto \prod_{C \in \text{cliques}(G)} \varphi_C(x_C) \end{array}$
- ¹ Pairwise Markov property
- * P has to be a positive density or G has to be chordal

Graphical Models: MRF vs. CRF

Markov Random Field (MRF)



$$\begin{split} G &\Rightarrow \text{Markov Properties (MP)} \quad \text{, e.g. } X_u \perp X_v | X_{V \setminus \{u,v\}} \Leftrightarrow (uv) \not\in E \\ \text{MP} \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} \text{Factorization} \quad \text{, } P(X = x) \propto \prod_{C \in \text{cliques}(G)} \varphi_C(x_C) \end{split}$$

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Conditional Random Field (CRF)



 $\begin{array}{ll} G \Rightarrow \text{Markov Properties (MP)} & , \text{e.g.}^1 \; X_u \perp X_v | X_{V \setminus \{u,v\}} \Leftrightarrow (uv) \not\in E \\ \text{MP} \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} \text{Factorization} & , \; P(X = x | D = d) \underset{C \in \text{cliques}(G)}{\propto} \prod \varphi_C(x_{H(C)}, d_{O(C)}) \end{array}$

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Definition: Factor Graph (Graphical) Model

A factor graph model is a model for which a factor graph

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$$G = (V, F, E)$$

$$G \Rightarrow \text{Factorization:} \quad func(x) = \bigotimes_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x_{\text{ne}(f)})$$

e.g.
$$P(X = x) = \prod_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x_{\text{ne}(f)})$$
$$J(x) = \sum_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x_{\text{ne}(f)})$$

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$$\mathit{func}(x) = \varphi_{\mathit{f}_1}(\mathit{x_{ne(f_1)}}) \otimes \varphi_{\mathit{f}_2}(\mathit{x_{ne(f_2)}}) \otimes \varphi_{\mathit{f}_3}(\mathit{x_{ne(f_3)}}) \otimes \varphi_{\mathit{f}_4}(\mathit{x_{ne(f_4)}}) \otimes \varphi_{\mathit{f}_5}(\mathit{x_{ne(f_5)}}) \\ \otimes \varphi_{\mathit{f}_6}(\mathit{x_{ne(f_6)}})$$

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$$J(x) = \sum_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x_{ne(f)})$$

Definition: Order

The order of a factor is its degree, i.e.

$$o(f) = |\{v \in V | (v, f) \in E\}|$$

The order of a factor graph is the maximal order of its factors, i.e.

$$o(G) = \max_{f \in F} o(f)$$

Conditional Factor Graph Model





Conditional Factor Graph Model





Discrete Factor Graph Model



Conditional Factor Graph Model



Discrete Factor Graph Model



Extended Factor Graph Model



Conditional Factor Graph Model



Extended Factor Graph Model



 $G = (V, F, E, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{E})$

Discrete Factor Graph Model



Weighted Factor Graph Model



Conditional Factor Graph Model



Extended Factor Graph Model



 $G = (V, F, E, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{E})$

Discrete Factor Graph Model



Weighted Factor Graph Model



 $G = (V, F, E, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{E}, W, E_W)$

Conditional Factor Graph Model



Extended Factor Graph Model



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Discrete Factor Graph Model



Weighted Factor Graph Model



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Graphical Models: Shorthands for Factor Graphs

Factor Graph Models

$$G = (V, F, E)$$

$$J(x) = \sum_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x_{ne(f)})$$

Common used Shorthand for 2nd order Factor Graph Models $G = (V, E \subset V \times V)$ $J(x) = \sum_{v \in V} \varphi_v(x_v) + \sum_{e \in E} \varphi_e(x_e)$

Important: This is not a MRF, because G decodes directly the factorization!

Graphical Models: Shorthands for Factor Graphs



$$G = (V, F, E)$$
$$J(x) = \sum_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x_{\operatorname{ne}(f)})$$

Common used Shorthand for general Factor Graph Models



Important: This is not a MRF, because G decodes directly the factorization!

Graphical Models: Factor-Graph Model vs. Markov Random Fields



Factor graph models are more powerful than MRFs/CRFs and Bayesian networks in expressing factorization.

Bayesian networks are more powerful than Factor graph models and MRFs/CRFs in expressing conditional independences.

The terms MRFs/CRFs are often loosely used in computer vision!

Further information: [Lauritzen, 1996, Koller and Friedman, 2009]

• Given an energy function

$$J(x) = \sum_{C \in C \subset 2^V} \varphi_C(x_C)$$

• Given an energy function

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we can define the *Gibbs distribution* for a given *free parameter* β by

$$P(X = x) = p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-\beta \cdot J(x)) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in C \subset 2^{V}} \exp(-\beta \cdot \varphi_{C}(x_{C}))$$

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where the partition function is given by

$$Z = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \exp(-\beta \cdot J(x)).$$

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And what is the statistical meaning of p(x)?

Given a distribution

p(x) with Markov properties given by G = (V, E)

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• If $p(\cdot)$ is strict positive (p(x) > 0) or G is chordal it factorize into

$$p(x) = \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C} \subset 2^V} \phi_C(x_C)$$

where C the maximal cliques in G.

 \rightarrow Hammersley-Clifford theorem [Hammersley and Clifford, 1971].

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where C the maximal cliques in G.

- \rightarrow Hammersley-Clifford theorem [Hammersley and Clifford, 1971].
- We can define a energy function which has p(x) as Gibbs distribution

$$J(x) = -\frac{1}{\beta}\log(p(x)) = \sum_{C \in C \subset 2^V} -\frac{1}{\beta}\log(\phi_C(x_C)).$$

Probabilistic Inference

$$p(x_i) = \sum_{\substack{x' \in \mathcal{X}, x'_i = x_i \\ x' \in \mathcal{X}, x'_i = x_i}} p(x')$$
Marginals
$$p_{\max}(x_i) = \max_{\substack{x' \in \mathcal{X}, x'_i = x_i \\ x' \in \mathcal{X}}} p(x')$$
Max-Marginals
$$\tilde{x} \sim p(x)$$
Sampling
$$Z = \sum_{\substack{x' \in \mathcal{X} \\ x' \in \mathcal{X}}} \exp(-J(x'))$$
Partition Function

$$x^* \in \underset{x \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} p(x)$$
Most Likely Explanation $x^* \in \underset{x \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} J(x)$ Configuration with the Lowest Energy

Using MAP-inference to approximate marginals

- Perturb and MAP
 - Expected MAP solution of perturbed model \Rightarrow marginals
 - P @ [Papandreou and Yuille, 2011, Hazan et al., 2013]
- Frank-Wolf Algorithm
 - Perturbed MAP-problems show up in Frank-Wolf algorithm for calculating marginals
 - [R. Krishnan, 2015]

$$x^* \in \underset{x \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} p(x|d)$$
Most Likely Explanation $x^* \in \underset{x \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} J(x|d)$ Configuration with the Lowest Energy



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$$x^* \in \underset{x \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} p(x|d) \qquad \text{Most Likely Explanation}$$
$$x^* \in \underset{x \in \mathcal{X}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} J(x|d) \qquad \text{Configuration with the Lowest Energy}$$



Graphical Models: Learning
1. Select (Learn) the (number of) variables and labels and their meaning



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- 2. Select (Learn) the structure of the model



- 1. Select (Learn) the (number of) variables and labels and their meaning
- 2. Select (Learn) the structure of the model
- 3. Learn independently local potentials/feature-functions
 - physical priors
 - handcrafted features
 - output of random forest or any local model from pattern recognition textbook
 - output of CNNs



$$J(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{3} \varphi_{f_i}(x_i) + \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_{23}^1}(x_2, x_3) + \varphi_{f_{23}^2}(x_2, x_3)$$

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- 4. Learn global parameters that adjust local terms (optional)



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$$J(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{3} \mathbf{w}_{f_{i}} \bar{\varphi}_{f_{i}}(x_{i}) + \mathbf{w}_{f_{12}} \bar{\varphi}_{f_{12}}(x_{1}, x_{2}) + \mathbf{w}_{f_{12}^{1}} \bar{\varphi}_{f_{23}^{1}}(x_{2}, x_{3}) + \mathbf{w}_{f_{12}^{2}} \bar{\varphi}_{f_{23}^{2}}(x_{2}, x_{3})$$

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Problem Setting

Given some training-data (d^1, \ldots, d^N) and ground truth configuration $(x^{GT;1}, \ldots, x^{GT;N})$ we would like to learn the optimal model parameters.

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Maximum Likelihood Learning

$$w^* \in \arg \max_{w} \prod_{i} p(x^{GT;i}|w, d^i))$$

Maximum Margin Learning

$$w^* \in \arg\min_{w} \sum_{i} \Delta(x^{GT;i}, \arg\max_{x \in X} p(x|w, d^i)) + \lambda \|w\|_2^2$$

Library	Authors	Language	Last Updated	License	Model	Inference	Learning
OpenGM2	Andres, Beier, Kappes	C++, MatLab, Python	2015	MIT	DFGM	(P), E	(ML, MM)
BNT	Murphy	MatLab	2007	GPL 2	BN	P	ML
PMTK	Dunham,Murphy	MatLab, (Python)	2011	MIT	DFGM,MRF	P, (E)	ML
UGM	Schmidt	MatLab	2015 (2011)	BSD-2	DFGM	P, E	ML
Darwin	Gould	C++	2015	BSD-2	DFGM	P, E	-
FastInf	Jaimovich, Meshi, et al.	C++	2011	GPL 3	DFGM	P, (E)	ML
Infer.NET	Bronskill, Guiver, et al.	C++,C#	2014	MSR-LA	BN	P, (E)	ML
libDAI	Mooij	C++, Python, Matlab	2015 (2010)	BSD 2	DFGM	P,(E)	-
JGMT	Domke	Matlab	2014	MIT	DFGM ^P	Р	ML
grante	Nowozin	C++,Matlab wrappers		MSR-LA	DFGM	P, (E)	ML, MM
Factorie	UMass	Scala (Java)		Apache	FGM	Р	ML
pystruct	Müller	Python	2015	BSD	DFGM	(E)	MM
mrf-lib	Szeliski et al.	C++	2012	-	DFGM ^{PS}	E	-
gco-lib	Veksler, Delong	C++, MatLab, Python	2014	research only	DFGM ^P	E	-
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SRMP (TRWS)	Kolmogorov	C++	2014	GPL	DFGM	E	-
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Models: discrete factor graph models (DFG), Bayesian Nets (BN), ^P only pairwise, ^S restiction on the graph structure Models: probabilistic inference (P), energy minimization (E) Learning: maximum likelihood based (ML), max margin based (MM)

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PMTK	Dunham,Murphy	MatLab, (Python)	2011	MIT	DFGM,MRF	P, (E)	ML
UGM	Schmidt	MatLab	2015 (2011)	BSD-2	DFGM	P, E	ML
Darwin	Gould	C++	2015	BSD-2	DFGM	P, E	-
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Which Library is the Best? Depends on Your Goal!

functionality

generality / flexibility

efficiency (time and memory)

usability

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Which Library is the Best? Depends on Your Goal!



How to use OpenGM



How to use OpenGM



How to use OpenGM



Inference Methods for Energy Minimization with Discrete Graphical Models

Energy Minimization Methods available in OpenGM



Exact Inference Methods for Energy Minimization with Discrete Graphical Models

Exact Inference Methods



Exact Inference Methods for Energy Minimization with Discrete Graphical Models

$$\arg\min_{x\in\mathcal{X}}\sum_{f\in F}\varphi_f(x_{ne(f)})$$

Exact Inference Methods for Energy Minimization with Discrete Graphical Models

$$\arg\min_{x\in\mathcal{X}}\sum_{f\in\mathcal{F}}\varphi_f(x_{ne(f)})$$



Stop! This problem is **NP-hard**, so exact inference is **in general** not tractable!

Exact Inference Methods for Energy Minimization with Discrete Graphical Models

 $\arg\min_{x\in\mathcal{X}}\sum_{f\in F}\varphi_f(x_{ne(f)})$



Stop! This problem is **NP-hard**, so exact inference is **in general** not tractable!

	Problem Restriction	Runtime Complexity
Dynamic Programming		
→ Viterbi Algorithm	acyclic structure	polynomial
→ Junction Tree Algorithm	limited tree-width	polynomial in the tree-width
\sim Loopy Belief Propagation*	no, but not exact	polynomial in the model order per iteration
Reduction to		
\rightarrow Max Flow	pairwise submodular	polynomial
→ Submodular Minimization	submodular	polynomial
→ Perfect Matching	(outer) planar binary	polynomial
→ Multicut / Multiway Cut Problem	Potts-(like) functions	exponential in the worst case
Reduction to a Search Problem		
→ Brute Force Search	no	exponential
→ Best First Search	no	exponential in the worst case
Integer Linear Program	no	exponential in the worst case

* Loopy Belief Propagation is not exact method, but explained here due to its relation to dynamic programming!

Exact Inference by Dynamic Programming (aka Viterbi algorithm)





 $\arg\min_{x_1, x_2, x_3} \varphi_{f_1}(x_1) + \varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \varphi_{f_3}(x_3) + \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_{23}}(x_2, x_3)$



$$\min_{x_1} \varphi_{f_1}(x_1) + \min_{x_2} \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \min_{x_3} \varphi_{f_{23}}(x_2, x_3) + \varphi_{f_3}(x_3)$$

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$$\min_{x_1} \varphi_{f_1}(x_1) + \min_{x_2} \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \varphi_{\bar{f}_2}(x_2)$$

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Optimization by Dynamic Programming

 $\min_{x_1}\varphi_{f_1}(x_1)+\varphi_{\overline{f_1}}(x_1)$

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 $\arg\min_{x_1, x_2, x_3} \varphi_{f_1}(x_1) + \varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \varphi_{f_3}(x_3) + \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_{23}}(x_2, x_3)$

Optimization Problem



 $\arg\min_{x_1, x_2, x_3} \varphi_{f_1}(x_1) + \varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \varphi_{f_3}(x_3) + \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_{23}}(x_2, x_3)$

Optimization Problem



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Optimization Problem



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Factor Graph Model



Factor Graph Model



Factor Graph Model





Factor Graph Model





Factor Graph Model





Factor Graph Model





Factor Graph Model





Exact Inference Methods: Dynamic Programming on a Higher-Order Tree



 f_4

4







Why did't You merge node 2 and 3

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. . .





Why did't You merge node 2 and 3

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

. . .





Why did't You merge node 2 and 3 ... and node 4 and 5 ...

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Why did't You merge node 2 and 3 ... and node 4 and 5 ... now it looks like a tree!

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Background

- ▶ Idea: Reduce inference to dynamic programming on the Junction Tree
- ► The junction tree is a cluster tree that fulfills the *Running Intersection Property*. It exists if and only if the node-adjacency graph is chordal.
- Finding the triangulation that generates a graph with the lowest clique-size is NP-hard.



[Lauritzen, 1996, Koller and Friedman, 2009]

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(Loopy) Belief Propagation (Not always exact, but most often useful)





Messages

$$m_{v \to f}(x_v) = \sum_{\substack{f' \in \mathsf{ne}(v) \setminus \{f\} \\ m_{f \to v}(x_v)}} m_{f' \to v}(x_v)$$
$$m_{f \to v}(x_v) = \min_{\substack{x_{\mathsf{ne}(f) \setminus \{v\}} \in X_{\mathsf{ne}(f) \setminus \{v\}}} \varphi_f(x_{\mathsf{ne}(f)}) + \sum_{u \in \mathsf{ne}(f) \setminus \{v\}} m_{u \to f}(x_v)$$



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Damping

$$m^{\text{new}}(x_v) = (1-\alpha) \cdot m(x_v) + \alpha \cdot m^{\text{old}}(x_v)$$





Messages

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Damping

Normalization

$$m^{\text{new}}(x_v) = (1-\alpha) \cdot m(x_v) + \alpha \cdot m^{\text{old}}(x_v)$$

$$m^{\text{new}}(x_{\nu}) = m(x_{\nu}) - \min_{x_{\nu}' \in X_{\nu}} m(x_{\nu}')$$

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Works surprisingly good for cyclic models...

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Message Schedule

- Parallel → Loopy Belief Propagation (LBP) [Pearl, 1988]
- Sequential → Sequential Belief Propagation (BPS) [Felzenszwalb and Huttenlocher, 2006]
- Informed → Residual Belief Propagation (RBP) [Elidan et al., 2006]

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Message Update Rules (from a theoretical point of view)

- \blacktriangleright Original Updates: Optimize a non-convex objective function \rightarrow lack of convergence
- ► Modified Updates: Optimize a convex objective function → we will come back to this point later

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Reduction to Min-st-Cut/Max-Flow Problem (aka GraphCut)

Minimal st-Cut Problem

Definition: Min-st-Cut Problem

Given a weighted directed graph G = (V, E, w) with a source-node $s \in V$ and a sink-node $t \in V$. Find the subset of edges $E' \subset E$ with the minimal edge-weight $\sum_{e \in E'} w(e)$ such that no path from *s* to *t* exists in $G' = (V, E \setminus E')$.



Remark

If the edge-weights are non-negative the Min-st-Cut problem is efficiently solvable.

Max Flow Problem

Definition: Max-Flow Problem

Given a weighted directed graph G = (V, E, w) with a source-node $s \in V$ and a sink-node $t \in V$. Find the maximal flow passing from *s* to *t*, where a positive flow smaller than w(e) flow can be passed over the edge *e* and conservation holds.



Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorem

The maximum value of an st flow with capacity w(e) is equal to the minimum st cuts with edge weights w(e).

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Requirements:

- Binary label-space
- Regular/submodular pairwise terms



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Reformulation: $x_{123} = (1, 1, 1), J(x) = 9$ $x_{123} = (1, 1, 1), J(x) = 9$ $x_{123} = (0, 1, 0), J(x) = 5$

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Reformulation:




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- ▶ Regular/submodular pairwise terms ($\beta + \gamma \alpha \delta \ge 0$)



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💇 ^{binary} [Greig et al., 1989, Boykov and Kolmogorov, 2004] 💿 ^{multilabel} [Ishikawa, 2003]

Reduction to Submodular Minimization

 $\arg\min_{S\in 2^V} f(S)$

Submodular Function

If *V* is a finite set, a submodular function is a set function $f : 2^{V} \to \mathbb{R}$, where 2^{V} denotes the power set of *V*, for which for every $S, T \subseteq V$ the inequality $f(S) + f(T) \ge f(S \cup T) + f(S \cap T)$ holds.

Minimizing Submodular Function

Finding the subset $S \subset V$ that minimize a submodular function is computable in polynomial time [Schrijver, 2000, lyer et al., 2013]

Relation to Binary Graphical Models

Let S be the set of variables taking label 0 and $V \setminus S$ the set of labels taking label 1.

ICML-2013 Tutorial by Stefanie Jegelka and Andreas Krause (http://submodularity.org/)

Reduction to Perfect Matching via Max-Cut on Planar Graphs

Max Cut Problem

Definition:

Given a weighted undirected graph G = (V, E, w) the Max-Cut problem is to find a cut $E' \subset E$, that divide V into two sets, that the sum of the weights of cut edges is maximized.



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Remark:

For planar graphs the Max Cut problem can be efficiently

solved [Kasteleyn, 1961, Fisher, 1961] [Globerson and Jaakkola, 2006, Schraudolph and Kamenetsky, 2008] by a reduction to a Perfect Matching problem, e.g. Blossom V [Kolmogorov, 2009], on some expanded dual graph.

Reduction to a Max Cut Problem

$$x_i \in \{0,1\} \qquad \varphi_{t_{ij}}(x_i, x_j) = -\lambda_{ij}\mathbb{I}(x_i \neq x_j) \qquad \varphi_{u_i}(x_i) = -\alpha_i\mathbb{I}(x_i = 0)$$

Planar Potts Model without Unaries



 x_i = cluster number of node *i*

Outer-Planar Potts Model with Unaries



[Schraudolph and Kamenetsky, 2008]

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

Reduction to Minimal Multicut Problem

Minimal Multicut Problem

Definition:

Given a weighted undirected graph G = (V, E, w) the Minimal Multicut problem is to find a cut $E' \subset E$, that divide V into a unknown number of sets, that the sum of the weights of cut edges is minimized.



Example for a (not minimal) multicut

Minimal Multicut Problem

Definition:

Given a weighted undirected graph G = (V, E, w) the Minimal Multicut problem is to find a cut $E' \subset E$, that divide V into a unknown number of sets, that the sum of the weights of cut edges is minimized.



Example for a (not minimal) multicut

Remark:

The above multicut is not a cut, since the clustering is not 2-colorable!

Reduction to a Minimal Multicut Problem

$$\mathbf{x}_i \in \{\mathbf{0}, \dots, L\} \qquad \varphi_{f_{ij}}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \lambda_{ij} \mathbb{I}(\mathbf{x}_i \neq \mathbf{x}_j) \qquad \varphi_{u_i}(\mathbf{x}_i) = \alpha_{i;x_i}$$

Potts Model with L = |V| and without Unaries \rightarrow Multicut







$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 1 \\ 1 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{w}_{l_1 i} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_{l_l i} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{l;1} - \alpha_{l;0} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{l;L} - \alpha_{l;0} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{w}_{l_l} = \begin{pmatrix} I & \text{if the edge}(t_l i) \text{ is not cut} \end{pmatrix}$$

otherwise

Reduction to Max Flow

Label-space: Unary terms: Pairwise terms: Problem structure: Runtime complexity:

 $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$ arbitrary $\varphi_{f_{ij}}(x_i, x_j) = \lambda_{ij} \mathbb{I}(x_i \neq x_j) \qquad \lambda_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad (\text{submodular})$ arbitrary polynomial

Reduction to Max Flow

Label-space: Unary terms: Pairwise terms: Problem structure: Runtime complexity:

 $\begin{array}{l} x_i \in \{0, 1\} \\ \text{arbitrary} \\ \varphi_{f_{ij}}(x_i, x_j) = \lambda_{ij} \mathbb{I}(x_i \neq x_j) \\ \text{are:} \quad \text{arbitrary} \\ \text{exity:} \quad \text{polynomial} \end{array}$

Reduction to Max Cut

Label-space: Unary terms: Pairwise terms:

Problem structure: Runtime complexity: $\begin{array}{l} x_i \in \{0, 1\} \\ \text{none}^1 \text{ or arbitrary}^2 \\ \varphi_{t_{ij}}(x_i, x_j) = \lambda_{ij} \mathbb{I}(x_i \neq x_j) \qquad \lambda_{ij} \in \mathbb{R} \\ \text{planar}^1 \text{ or outer planar}^2 \\ \text{polynomial} \end{array}$

Reduction to Max Flow

Label-space: Unary terms: Pairwise terms: Problem structure: Runtime complexity:

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Reduction to Max Cut

Reduction to Multicut / Multiway Cut

Label-space: Unary terms: Pairwise terms: Problem structure: Runtime complexity: $\begin{array}{l} x_i \in \{0, \ldots, L\} \\ \text{none or arbitrary} \\ \varphi_{f_{ij}}(x_i, x_j) = \lambda_{ij} \mathbb{I}(x_i \neq x_j) \qquad \lambda_{ij} \in \mathbb{R} \\ \text{arbitrary} \\ \text{exponential in the worst case} \end{array}$

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exponential in the worst case, but often tractable in practice

LP Formulation

$$\min_{\substack{y \in [0,1]^E}} \sum_{e \in E} w_e \cdot y_e$$
s.t. $Ay \leq b$

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This is no valid multicut! $\Rightarrow Ay \leq b$

LP Formulation





This is no valid multicut! $\Rightarrow Ay \leq b$

LP Formulation





LP Formulation





LP Formulation





LP Formulation





LP Formulation





LP Formulation



Idea of Cutting-Plane Methods



Separation Procedure: Find violated constraints

The separation procedure is as hard as the original problem or the original problem is as hard as the separation procedure

Ellipsoid method for combinatorial optimization [Grötschel et al., 1981]

LP Formulation



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$$\min_{y\in[0,1]^E}\sum_{e\in E}w_e\cdot y_e$$

ILP Formulation

s.t.
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 $y \in \{0, 1\}^{E}$

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Ellipsoid method for combinatorial optimization [Grötschel et al., 1981]

[Chopra and Rao, 1993, Kappes et al., 2011, Kappes et al., 2015b]



 $\min_{x \in X} \sum_{f \in F} \varphi_f(x) \Leftrightarrow$ Finding shortest path from *s* to *t*



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edge weights

 $\varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2)$

$$\varphi_{f_3}(x_3) + \varphi_{f_{13}}(x_1, x_3) + \varphi_{f_{23}}(x_2, x_3)$$

Useful Ideas


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Use an implicit representation of the graph.



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- Use Best First Search Methods, e.g. A*
 - \rightarrow underestimate minimal future cost on the path to the node *t* by:



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\end{aligned}$













MAP inference as Integer Linear Program Reasons why ILPs had been ignored

- Worst case complexity is exponential
- ILPs are often very memory consuming
- Good ILP-solvers are expensive

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- Worst case complexity does not always matter!
- Highly optimized commercial solvers (e.g. CPLEX, Gurobi) are freely available for academic use.
- ILPs can compute the global optimal solution.
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How ILP-solvers works

- Branch and Bound
- Searching for generic constraints
- ▶ The *black magic* is to combine all of this

Finally some Simple Tricks ...

Ring



Ring



- Solve the acyclic problem for each possible labeling of x₈.
- Select the best solution from all these problems.

Partially Acyclic Graph



Partially Acyclic Graph



- Presolve acyclic substructures by dynamic programming.
- Solve core problem, with acyclic part replaced by unary factor
- Calculate labeling for acyclic part as for dynamic programming given the solution of the core problem.

Permuted Submodular



Permuted Submodular



not regular $\stackrel{?}{\rightarrow}$ not submodular

Permuted Submodular



not regular $\stackrel{?}{\rightarrow}$ not submodular



 $\text{regular} \rightarrow \text{submodular}$

- ► The reformulation is variant to label permutation → the order of labels matters!
- Reorder labels
- Solve max-flow or submodular-minimization problem
- Undo reorder for solution



Inference Methods based on Relaxations








J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"







$$\min_{\mu} \langle \theta, \mu \rangle$$
s.t. $\mu = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \alpha_x \delta(x)$

$$\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \alpha_x = 1$$
 $\alpha_x \ge 0, \ x \in \mathcal{X}$

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"



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Exponentially many constraints!





Exponentially many constraints!

 \Rightarrow



Exponentially many constraints!





 $\alpha_{\mathbf{x}} \geq \mathbf{0}, \ \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$

Exponentially many constraints!

$$\mu$$
 - non-relaxed solution

 $\delta(x_1)$ $\delta(x_2)$ $\delta(x_3)$ $\delta(x_4)$ $\delta(x_5)$ $\delta(x_4)$

s.t. $A\mu > b$, A is small!

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \boldsymbol{v} \in \boldsymbol{V} : \quad \sum_{x_{\boldsymbol{v}} \in X_{\boldsymbol{v}}} \mu_{\boldsymbol{v};x_{\boldsymbol{c}}} &= 1 \\ \forall \boldsymbol{f} \in \boldsymbol{F}, \, \boldsymbol{v} \in \boldsymbol{ne}(\boldsymbol{f}) : \\ \sum_{x_{ne(f) \setminus \boldsymbol{v}} \in X_{ne(f) \setminus \boldsymbol{v}}} \mu_{\boldsymbol{f};x_{ne(f)}} &= \mu_{\boldsymbol{v};x_{\boldsymbol{v}}} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu} \in \{0,1\}^{N} \ \boldsymbol{\mu} \in [0,1]^{N} \end{aligned}$$

 μ - relaxed solution

⇐

Relaxation ⇒



Local Polytope Complexity



L	X	vertices in $\mathbb{L}(M)$
2	8	12
3	27	207
4	64	8.992
5	125	853.725

Why dedicated solvers needed for the relaxed inference?



 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{Pascal VOC 2012} \\ \mbox{semantic segmentation} \\ \mbox{model} \approx 500 \times 300 \times 21 \mbox{ labels} \end{array}$





 $> 10^9$ variables

Why dedicated solvers needed for the relaxed inference?



 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{Pascal VOC 2012} \\ \mbox{semantic segmentation} \\ \mbox{model} \approx 500 \times 300 \times 21 \mbox{ labels} \end{array}$







Standard LP solvers (simplex, interior point) do not scale well!

Certain problems are easily solvable (e.g. acyclic with dynamic programming):

Optimization by Dynamic Programming

 $\min_{x_1} \varphi_{f_1}(x_1) + \min_{x_2} \varphi_{f_{12}}(x_1, x_2) + \varphi_{f_2}(x_2) + \varphi_{\bar{f}_2}(x_2)$

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What about decomposing the problem into solvable subproblems?

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"









$$\theta^{c} = \frac{\theta_{v}}{2} + \lambda_{v}; \quad \theta^{r} = \frac{\theta_{v}}{2} - \lambda_{v}$$
$$\max_{\lambda} \left[\min_{x^{c} \in \mathcal{X}} E(\theta^{c}(\lambda), x^{c}) + \min_{x^{r} \in \mathcal{X}} E(\theta^{r}(\lambda), x^{r}) \right]$$

$$\theta^{c} = \frac{\theta_{v}}{2} + \lambda_{v}; \quad \theta^{r} = \frac{\theta_{v}}{2} - \lambda_{v}$$
$$\max_{\lambda} \left[\min_{x^{c} \in \mathcal{X}} \underbrace{E(\theta^{c}(\lambda), x^{c})}_{\text{linear in } \lambda} + \min_{x^{r} \in \mathcal{X}} \underbrace{E(\theta^{r}(\lambda), x^{r})}_{\text{linear in } \lambda} \right]$$











First-Order Convex Optimization

update rule	subproblem	rate	note
sub-gradient	MAP-inference	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$	step-size selection
mirror-descent	MAP-inference	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$	
bundle	MAP-inference	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$	additional QP
coord. ascent	min-marginals	unknown	no optimum guarantee
smooth coord. ascent	probabmarginals	unknown	exp. operation
smooth acc. ascent	marginalization	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$	exp. operation
proximal (e.g. ADMM)	proximal inference	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$	



gradient ∇D Gradient ascent: $\lambda^{t+1} = \lambda^t + \tau \nabla D$ subgradient ∂D Subgradient method: $\lambda^{t+1} = \lambda^t + \tau^t \partial D$

gradient ∇D Gradient ascent: $\lambda^{t+1} = \lambda^t + \tau \nabla D$ $L \ge \tau > 0$ $\begin{array}{l} \text{subgradient } \partial D \\ \textbf{Subgradient method:} \\ \lambda^{t+1} = \lambda^t + \tau^t \partial D \\ \tau^t > \mathbf{0}, \tau^t \to \mathbf{0}, \ \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \tau^t = \infty \end{array}$

gradient ∇D Gradient ascent: $\lambda^{t+1} = \lambda^t + \tau \nabla D$ $L \ge \tau > 0$



$$D(\lambda) = \min_{x^c} \left\langle \frac{\theta}{2} + \lambda, \delta(x^c) \right\rangle + \min_{x^r} \left\langle \frac{\theta}{2} - \lambda, \delta(x^r) \right\rangle$$
$$\Rightarrow \partial D(\lambda) = \delta(x^{*c}) - \delta(x^{*r})$$



gradient ∇D Gradient ascent: $\lambda^{t+1} = \lambda^t + \tau \nabla D$ $L \ge \tau > 0$



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+ based on MAP inference



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$$\Rightarrow \partial D(\lambda) = \delta(x^{*c}) - \delta(x^{*r})$$



- + based on MAP inference
- sensible to au^t
- slow: converges as $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$ $\epsilon = 0.1 \Rightarrow t = 100$
- $\epsilon = 0.01 \Rightarrow t = 10000$

First-Order Convex Optimization: Bundle Method



First-Order Convex Optimization: Bundle Method



First-Order Convex Optimization: Bundle Method





- + based on MAP inference
- + less sensible to γ^t
- + much faster convergence in practice
- can be slow: worst-case complexity $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$

First-Order Convex Optimization: Coordinate Ascent

$$\lambda_i^{t+1} = \arg\min_{\lambda_i} D(\lambda_1^t, \dots, \lambda_i, \dots, \lambda_N^t)$$

 $i = 1, \dots, N$
First-Order Convex Optimization: Coordinate Ascent



First-Order Convex Optimization: Coordinate Ascent

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$$i = 1, \dots, N$$

- + requires MAP inference (min-marginals)
- + can be very efficiently implemented
- can get stuck
- convergence rate is unknown



Inference algorithms: TRW-S: [Kolmogorov, 2006] SRMP: [Kolmogorov, 2015] Max-Sum-Diffusion (MSD): [Schlesinger and Antoniuk, 2011, Werner, 2007] MPLP: [Globerson and Jaakkola, 2007] Norm-Product BP (NPBP): [Hazan and Shashua, 2010]





$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \to \text{"soft"} \min \\ \min_{x^c} E^c(x^c) \to -T \log \sum_{x^c} \exp(-E^c(x^c)/T) \\ \text{MAP-inf.} & \to \text{Probabilistic inf.} \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \to \text{"soft" min} \\ \min_{x^c} E^c(x^c) \to -T \log \sum_{x^c} \exp(-E^c(x^c)/T) \\ \text{MAP-inf.} & \to \text{Probabilistic inf.} \end{array}$$

- + accelerated gradient ascent converges as $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$
 - $\epsilon = 0.1 \Rightarrow t = 10$
 - $\epsilon = 0.01 \Rightarrow t = 100$



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Used to approximate probabilistic inference on the master graph.

Smoothing theory: [Interesting [Nesterov, 2005] Inference algorithms: Nesterov: [Interesting [Savchynskyy et al., 2011] ADSal: [Interesting [Savchynskyy et al., 2012] See also: [Interesting [Johnson et al., 2007, Werner, 2009, Meshi et al., 2012]





Column- or row-wise labeling as a solution



Column- or row-wise labeling as a solution



Column- or row-wise labeling as a solution



Rounding: Alternatives



How to round?

Best of integer solutions, collected over iterations

	$_{\overset{\overset{\overset{}}}}{\overset{}}}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{\phantom}}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}} _{\overset{}}}} _{\overset{}}}} _{\overset{}}}$
--	--

- ▶ Local rounding: deterministic/probabilistic: $\mu \ge 0.5$? ⓐ [Ravikumar et al., 2010, Kleinberg and Tardos, 2002]
- Sequential conditional rounding (TRW-S)
 [Kolmogorov, 2006]

Rounding: Alternatives



How to round?

Best of integer solutions, collected over iterations

$\stackrel{\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ}{\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ}\rightarrow$	+	
--	---	--

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 ② [Ravikumar et al., 2010, Kleinberg and Tardos, 2002]
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 [Kolmogorov, 2006]

. . .

There is no single best method. Most of methods - heuristics.

Tree Agreement



Tree Agreement



Strong tree agreement in each node = solution of the non-relaxed problem



Tree Agreement



In general: only weak tree agreement holds in the limit



Acyclic Subgraphs \Rightarrow Local Polytope Relaxation

	subgraph	problematic solvers
—	1-edge graph	no
00000	chain	proximal inference
000 00000 00000		
•	tree	proximal inference

Acyclic subgraphs for decomposition:

Acyclic Subgraphs \Rightarrow Local Polytope Relaxation

	subgraph	problematic solvers
—	1-edge graph	no
00000	chain	proximal inference
000 00000 00000	tree	proximal inference

Acyclic subgraphs for decomposition:

Theorem ([Komodakis et al., 2011])

Arbitrary covering acyclic subgraphs \Rightarrow the same local polytope relaxation.







energy





Bigger subproblems \Rightarrow less iterations!

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

Which update rule is better? Stereo, Columns+Rows decomposition



Which update rule is better? Stereo, Columns+Rows decomposition



Local Polytope: Algorithm's Overview



Local Polytope: Algorithm's Overview















J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"





Hint: Subgraphs, where LP relaxation is loose, are preferable as subproblems.

Partial Optimality

Partial Optimality: Definition



Partial Optimality: Definition



Can we eliminate labels with zero weight?

In general - no, but sometimes - yes.

2-Label Local Polytope, QPBO

Recall:





J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"
2-Label Local Polytope, QPBO





J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

2-Label Local Polytope, QPBO



2-Label Local Polytope, QPBO



Can we eliminate labels with zero weight? - YES

What about \geq 3 labels? a) MQPBO

MQPBO-method (submodular relaxation) 🖉 [Kohli et al., 2008] :

- Convert *n*-label to 2-label problem. ("Battleship" encoding,
 - [Schlesinger and Flach, 2006])
- Apply QPBO.



What about \geq 3 labels? a) MQPBO

MQPBO-method (submodular relaxation) 🖉 [Kohli et al., 2008] :

- Convert *n*-label to 2-label problem. ("Battleship" encoding,
 [Schlesinger and Flach, 2006])
- Apply QPBO.



Polytope of the **submodular relaxation** \supseteq local polytope Depends on the selected order of variables O [Swoboda et al., 2013] In practice works up to 3 - 4 variables only

What about \geq 3 labels? b) Arbitrary relaxation



What about \geq 3 labels? b) Arbitrary relaxation





integer x and fractional y labelings

Criterion:

Check whether for all y the labeling x remains optimal: $\forall y : x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$

What about ≥ 3 labels? b) Arbitrary relaxation





Criterion:

Check whether for **all** *y* the labeling *x* remains optimal: $\forall y : x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$

integer x and fractional y labelings

• relaxed inference $\arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$ is sufficient;

What about ≥ 3 labels? b) Arbitrary relaxation



- Is the integer part of the relaxed solution optimal?
- Can we eliminate labels with zero weight?



Criterion:

Check whether for **all** *y* the labeling *x* remains optimal: $\forall y : x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$

integer x and fractional y labelings

- relaxed inference $\arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$ is sufficient;
- efficient procedure exists, for local polytope and a more general question.

Partial Optimality:Potts Models



Figure : [Shekhovtsov et al., 2015], Color segmentation, Potts model (> 20 instances)

Progress in Partial Optimality





Criterion: Check whether for all

Check whether for **all** *y* the labeling *x* remains optimal: $\forall y : x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$

integer x and fractional y labelings



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CombiLP: Cavchynskyy et al., 2013]

Criterion: Check whether for **optimal** y^* the labeling *x* remains optimal: $x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y^*)$

integer x and fractional y labelings



Criterion: Check whether for all y the labeling x remains optimal: $\forall y : x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$

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+ Weaker requirement \Rightarrow stronger result.



Criterion: Check whether for all y the labeling x remains optimal: $\forall y : x = \arg \min_{x'} E(x', y)$

integer x and fractional y labelings



integer x and fractional y labelings

- + Weaker requirement \Rightarrow stronger result.
- CombiLP has exponential complexity (Partial optimality polynomial).

CombiLP vs. Partial Optimality

Partial optimality: [Shekhovtsov et al., 2015]





CombiLP: [Savchynskyy et al., 2013]



Approximative and Move Making Methods

Move Making Methods



Move Making Methods:

- Start from any solution X
- Maintain *current best* feasible solution \hat{X}
- Try to improve \hat{X} with a set of *Moves*
- Stop when no more improvement is possible with the set of Moves
- Work in the primal domain

Advantages:

- trivial warm start
- can improve solutions from arbitrary solvers
- fast and scalable

Downsides:

- (often) no lower bound / guarantees
- can get stuck in local minim
- "hope" for a good local minimum

Subgraph Methods



 Start from arbitrary starting point (e.g. X = 0)



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- Change only a single variable at once



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- Start from arbitrary starting point (e.g. X = 0)
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- Change label to local optimal label
- Repeat this for all variables
- ... until no more improvement is possible














- ICM moves a single variable at once conditioned on the rest
- Obvious extension: Move / optimize multiple variables simultaneously



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- Optimize ⁽⁴⁾ and ⁽⁶⁾ simultaneously
- Optimize (4) and (9) simultaneously



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- Optimize ⁽⁴⁾ and ⁽⁶⁾ simultaneously
- Optimize (4) and (9) simultaneously
- Optimize (9), (9) and (6) simultaneously



Subgraph Construction



Subgraph Construction



Subgraph Construction



- systematically optimize all connected subgraphs of size k
- for k = |V| global optimal
- for k = 1 equal to ICM [Besag, 1986]



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Connected Subgraph Tree: Maximum Subgraph size k = 2



- systematically optimize all connected subgraphs of size k
- for k = |V| global optimal
- for k = 1 equal to ICM [Besag, 1986]



Connected Subgraph Tree: Maximum Subgraph size k = 1

3 5 4 6

Local Rules for Global MAP: When Do They Work ? [Jung et al., 2009]



Image Credit: [Jung et al., 2009]

- Optimize "ball"-shaped subgraphs around random nodes
- radius of "ball" drawn from truncated geometric distribution Q

Local Rules for Global MAP: When Do They Work ? [Jung et al., 2009]



Image Credit: [Jung et al., 2009] Provable ϵ – approximation:

- ▶ for certain geometric distribution Q
- on graphs with polynomial growth rate
- with nlog² n iterations
- pairwise MRFS

- Optimize "ball"-shaped subgraphs around random nodes
- radius of "ball" drawn from truncated geometric distribution Q

Fusion Move Methods

 Energy function J(X) with large label space |X|

$$J(X) = \sum \phi_f(x_{ne(f)})$$

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Minimize aux. problems :

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Proposal Generator

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- Fusion Move:
 - Binary Label Space:

$$\hat{X} = \{x \in X | \forall i : x_i \in \{x^1, x^2\}\}$$

Allowed Moves:

$$X^{Move} = \left\{ x \in X | J(x) \le \min\left(J(x^1), J(x^2)\right) \right\}$$



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Multi-Label Energy Function:



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Multi-Label Energy Function:



Binary Energy Function:



Multi-Label Energy Function:

Binary Energy Function:



Binary subproblems are "ordinary" binary graphical models

Multi-Label Energy Function:

2

Binary Energy Function:

- Binary subproblems are "ordinary" binary graphical models
- Any solver can be used to optimize them

Proposal Generator













 α-Expansion: [Kolmogorov and Zabih, 2002]

$$x_i^{\text{proposal}} = \alpha$$



[Kolmogorov and Zabih, 2002]

 $\triangleright \alpha$ -Expansion:



α-Expansion:

[Kolmogorov and Zabih, 2002]

$$x_i^{\text{proposal}} = \alpha$$

 αβ-Swap:[Kolmogorov and Zabih, 2002]

 $x_{i}^{\text{proposal}} = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x_{i}^{\text{current}} = \beta \text{ and } \alpha \in X_{i} \\ \beta & \text{if } x_{i}^{\text{current}} = \alpha \text{ and } \beta \in X_{i} \\ x_{i}^{\text{current}} & \text{else} \end{cases}$

► Jump-Move: [Lempitsky et al., 2010]

$$x_{i}^{\text{proposal}} = \begin{cases} x_{i}^{\text{current}} + k & \text{if } x_{i}^{\text{current}} + k \in X_{i} \\ x_{i}^{\text{current}} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



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 Randomized Proposals [Kappes et al., 2014]



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- Randomized Proposals [Kappes et al., 2014]
- Inference Based Proposals [Lempitsky et al., 2010, Kappes et al., 2014]



Fusion Moves for Correlation Clustering [Beier et al., 2015]

$$J(X) = \sum_{uv \in E} \quad \omega_{uv} \cdot x_u \neq x_v \qquad |X_i| = |V|$$



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Non Submodular Energy J(X):

$$J(X) = \sum \varphi_i(x_i) + \sum \varphi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \quad x_i \in \{0, 1\}$$
$$\tilde{J}^{x^0}(x) \approx J(X); \qquad \tilde{J}^{x^0}(x) \ge J(x); \quad \tilde{J}^{x^0}(x_0) = J(x_0)$$
$$\bullet \quad \text{Compute submodular} \\ \text{approximation } \tilde{J}^{x^0}(x) \quad \text{arround} \\ \text{current labeling } \textcircled{0}$$

▶ LSA-TR and LSA-AUX [Gorelick et al., 2014a]

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- Compute submodular approximation $\tilde{J}^{x^0}(x)$ arround current labeling $\textcircled{0}{0}$
- Approximation J^{x⁰}(x) is only valid close to current labeling

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- Compute submodular approximation $\tilde{J}^{x^0}(x)$ arround current labeling $\textcircled{\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}}^0$
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- By optimizing *J* the next solution is generated

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- Compute submodular approximation $\tilde{J}^{x^1}(x)$ arround current labeling
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- Compute submodular approximation $\tilde{J}^{x^2}(x)$ arround current labeling
- Approximation J^{x²}(x) is only valid close to current labeling
- By optimizing *J* the next solution is generated

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Meta-Methods: Combining Methods to get better overall Performance



 Some algorithms do not decrease the energy monotonously



- Some algorithms do not decrease the energy monotonously
- Make monotone by remembering current best solution



- Some algorithms do not decrease the energy monotonously
- Make monotone by remembering current best solution
- Used generated labels more efficient



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- Compute Fusion move between and
- Proposed by Lempitsky [Lempitsky et al., 2010] with Loopy BP
- Investigated in detail by Kappes and Beier[Kappes et al., 2014] with TRWS Dual Decomposition.



- Some algorithms do not decrease the energy monotonously
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- Used generated labels more efficient
- Compute Fusion move between and
- Proposed by Lempitsky [Lempitsky et al., 2010] with Loopy BP
- Investigated in detail by Kappes and Beier[Kappes et al., 2014] with TRWS Dual Decomposition.
- OpenGM allows this trick for all inference algorithms









Run many different algorithms / proposal generators in parallel



- Run many different algorithms / proposal generators in parallel
- Hierarchically fuse them



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- ▶ 💇 [Lempitsky et al., 2010]



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Multi Scale Methods [Bagon and Galun, 2012]



Image Credit: [Bagon and Galun, 2012]

build energy pyramid





build energy pyramid





build energy pyramid













- build energy pyramid
- Optimize top down





- build energy pyramid
- Optimize top down
- Warm start with solution from layer above





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- build energy pyramid
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- Warm start with solution from layer above
- ICM Single Scale:



ICM Multi Scale:





Image Credit: [Bagon and Galun, 2012]





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Insights from Benchmark Studies

Benchmarks for Graphical Models

- Middlebury MRF [Szeliski et al., 2008]
- Probabilistic Inference Challenge 2011 http://www.cs.huji.ac.il/project/PASCAL/
- ▶ OpenGM Benchmark 💿 [Kappes et al., 2015]

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Evaluations from other communities:

MAX-CSP 2008 Competition

http://www.cril.univ-artois.fr/CPAI08/results/results.php?idev=16

Max-SAT Evaluation(s)

http://maxsat.ia.udl.cat/introduction/

OpenGM Datasets: Overview



(a) Pixel-based Models



(b) Superpixel-based Models



(c) Unsupervised Partitioning



(d) Higher-order Models





... 32 datasets, over 2000 problem instances




Typical Result Table

algorithm	runtime	value	bound	mem	best	opt	accuracy
α-Exp-QPBO	0.01 sec	-866.85	-∞	0.01	587	0	0.7694
ogm-LBP-LF2	0.06 sec	-866.76	$-\infty$	0.01	576	0	0.7699
ogm-LF-3	0.45 sec	-866.27	-∞	0.01	420	0	0.7699
ogm-TRWS-LF2	0.01 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	714	712	0.7693
BPS-TAB	0.10 sec	-866.73	-∞	0.01	566	0	0.7701
ogm-BPS	0.02 sec	-866.77	-∞	0.01	585	0	0.7694
ogm-LBP-0.95	0.02 sec	-866.76	$-\infty$	0.01	580	0	0.7696
ogm-TRBP-0.95	0.11 sec	-866.84	-∞	0.01	644	0	0.7708
ogm-TRBPS	0.13 sec	-866.79	-∞	0.01	644	0	0.7705
ADDD	0.06 sec	-866.92	-866.93	0.01	701	697	0.7693
MPLP	0.04 sec	-866.91	-866.93	0.01	700	561	0.7693
MPLP-C	0.04 sec	-866.92	-866.93	0.01	710	567	0.7693
ogm-ADSAL	0.04 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	714	712	0.7693
ogm-BUNDLE-H	0.26 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	715	673	0.7693
ogm-BUNDLE-A+	0.07 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	715	712	0.7693
ogm-LP-LP	0.23 sec	-866.92	-866.93	0.05	712	712	0.7693
TRWS-TAB	0.01 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	714	712	0.7693
BRAOBB-1	17.61 sec	-866.90	_∞	0.27	670	0	0.7688
ADDD-BB	0.11 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	715	715	0.7693
ogm-CombiLP	0.02 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.03	715	715	0.7693
ogm-ILP	0.17 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.09	715	715	0.7693

Typical Result Table

algorithm	runtime	value	bound	mem	best	opt	accuracy	
α-Exp-QPBO	0.01 sec	-866.85	-∞	0.01	587	0	0.7694	
ogm-LBP-LF2	0.06 sec	-866.76	$-\infty$	0.01	576	0	0.7699	
ogm-LF-3	0.45 sec	-866.27	-∞	0.01	420	0	0.7699	
ogm-TRWS-LF2	0.01 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	714	712	0.7693	
BPS-TAB	0.10 sec	-866.73	-∞	0.01	566	0	0.7701	
ogm-BPS	0.02 sec	-866.77	-∞	0.01	585	0	0.7694	
ogm-LBP-0.95	0.02 sec	-866.76	$-\infty$	0.01	580	0	0.7696	
ogm-TRBP-0.95	0.11 sec	-866.84	-∞	0.01	644	0	0.7708	
ogm-TRBPS	0.13 sec	-866.79	-∞	0.01	644	0	0.7705	
ADDD	0.06 sec	-866.92	-866.93	0.01	701	697	0.7693	
MPLP	0.04 sec	-866.91	-866.93	0.01	700	561	0.7693	
MPLP-C	0.04 sec	-866.92	-866.93	0.01	710	567	0.7693	
ogm-ADSAL	0.04 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	714	712	0.7693	
ogm-BUNDLE-H	0.26 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	715	673	0.7693	
ogm-BUNDLE-A+	0.07 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	715	712	0.7693	
ogm-LP-LP	0.23 sec	-866.92	-866.93	0.05	712	712	0.7693	
TRWS-TAB	0.01 sec	-866.93	-866.93	0.01	714	712	0.7693	
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How to select the best method for my problem (without checking all methods)?

Inference Requirements



Model Characterization

Model Characterization:

Size:

- # variables
- # factors
- # labels
- model order





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Reduction possibility (partial optimality):

- pairwise Potts
- binary pairwise QPBO
- binary higher order
- pairwise with tight LP relaxation
- low tree-width sub-graphs (junction-tree algorithm)



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Reduction possibility (partial optimality):

- pairwise Potts
- binary pairwise QPBO
- binary higher order
- pairwise with tight LP relaxation
- low tree-width sub-graphs (junction-tree algorithm)
- ► Tightness of LP relaxation.



Inference Method Selection



LP-Relaxation Based Methods: tight?



LP relax.





Move Making Methods:





Inference Method Selection



We are looking for your data and code!

Huge Models and Higher-Order Potentials?

- 1. Inherent Combinatorial Complexity
 - LP-relaxations are not tight
 - Local optimal decisions do not lead to global optimal decisions.

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 - A factor of order N has L^N entries, which all have to be explored when no additional information is given.
- 3. Huge Number of Variables
 - Memory requirements can quickly become very huge
- 4. Huge Label-Spaces
 - A second-order factor with 10.000 states per variable has 10⁸ entries, which all has to be explored when no additional information is given.

When does (real) combinatorial problem show up?

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- When factors/functions encode constraints
- \blacktriangleright When we learn a model with many parameters \rightarrow over-fitting
- \rightarrow When a set of factors/functions conflicting (frustrated cycles)

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- \rightarrow When a set of factors/functions conflicting (frustrated cycles)

Examples

- Clustering (consistency constraint) [Andres et al., 2011]
- Graph Matching with weak local assignments (1-to-1 constraint) [Torresani et al., 2008, Komodakis and Paragios, 2008]
- Decision Tree Fields [Nowozin et al., 2011]
- Vector Compression [Babenko and Lempitsky, 2014]

Problem

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- 2. Move-making methods will walk into wrong directions

Ways Out

- 1. Problem specific Constraints/Separation [Nowozin and Lampert, 2009, Kappes et al., 2015b]
- 2. Make moves over "meaningful" subsets [Gorelick et al., 2014b, Kappes et al., 2014]
- 3. Stronger local terms can make the problems easier
- 4. Try to separate the hard combinatorial parts of the problem [Kappes et al., 2013, Kappes et al., 2015b]

Complexity of Inference in a Factor Graph Model

$$\Theta\left(\max_{f\in \mathcal{F}}\prod_{u\in \mathsf{ne}(f)}|X_u|\right)\approx \Theta(L^{o(G)})$$

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$$\sum_{l\in L}\sum_{l'\in L}\theta_{l\,l'}\cdot\mathbb{I}(x_1=l\wedge x_2=l')$$

$$O(L^2)$$

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

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IV From Benchmarks to the Current Limits

Reformulation of Higher order Factors

General Way to Reformation in LPs

- $\prod_{v \in ne(f)} |X_v|$ slack variables (~ L^o)
- $\sum_{v \in ne(f)} |X_v|$ constraints of size $|X_{ne(f)\setminus v}|$ (~ $L \cdot o \times L^{o-1}$)

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Example: Sparse Function [Rother et al., 2009, Kappes et al., 2015a]

$$\varphi(x_{1,2,3,4}) = \begin{cases} \gamma & \text{if } x_{1,2,3,4} = (2,6,2,4) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$
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$$\begin{split} \varphi(x_{1,2,3,4}) &= \begin{cases} \gamma & \text{if } x_{1,2,3,4} = (2,6,2,4) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} \\ &= \min_{s} \gamma \cdot s \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \substack{s \leq \mathbb{I}(x_1 = 2) \\ s \leq \mathbb{I}(x_2 = 6) \\ s \leq \mathbb{I}(x_3 = 2) \\ s \leq \mathbb{I}(x_4 = 4) \\ s \geq \mathbb{I}(x_1 = 2) + \mathbb{I}(x_2 = 6) + \mathbb{I}(x_3 = 2) + \mathbb{I}(x_4 = 4) - 3 \end{cases} \end{split}$$

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Examples: Label Cost [Delong et al., 2012]

$$\varphi'(x_V) = \begin{cases} \gamma_l & \text{if } \exists v \in V : x_v = l \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$\varphi(x_V) = \sum_{l \in L} \varphi'(x_V)$$

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For |L| = 2 the label costs c_l can be also negative

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Reducing Negative-Coefficient Monomials [Freedman and Drineas, 2005]

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = -\mathbf{x}_1 \cdots \mathbf{x}_N = \min_{\mathbf{y} \in \{0,1\}} \mathbf{y} \left((N-1) - \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{x}_i \right)$$

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Reducing Positive-Coefficient Monomials [Ishikawa, 2009]

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 \cdots x_N$$

$$= \begin{cases} \min_{y \in \{0,1\}^N} \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor N-1/2 \rfloor} y_i \left(1(-\sum_{j=1}^N x_j + 2i) \right) + \sum_{i < j} x_i x_j & \text{if } mod(N,2) = 1 \\ \min_{y \in \{0,1\}^N} \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor N-1/2 \rfloor} y_i \left(2(-\sum_{j=1}^N x_j + 2i) \right) + \sum_{i < j} x_i x_j & \text{if } mod(N,2) = 0 \end{cases}$$

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[Ishikawa, 2009, Fix et al., 2011, Gallagher et al., 2011]

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Huge Number of Variables

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Problems

- Model does not fit in the memory
- Existing solvers does not scale to this problem-size

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Possible Ways Out

 Superpixels/Supervariables [Kim et al., 2011]

Domain-Decomposition (Dual Decomposition)



How to deal with huge label-spaces?

Buy new hardware

- Buy new hardware
- Prune the label-space

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- ▶ Efficient updates [Felzenszwalb and Huttenlocher, 2006]

$$m(x_1) = \min_{x_2} |x_1 - x_2| + g(x_2)$$

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$$x_i \in \{1, \dots, 10\}^3$$
 $f_{12}(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{i=1}^3 f_{12}^i(x_{1^i}, x_{2^i})$

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Mixed Models with Continuous Variables

- Block ICM (most popular)
- Particle-based Methods
- Others: Discrete-Continuous Fusion Move; Gradient Descent with relaxed discrete Variables; Variable elimination ...

Examples in Computer Vision

Many Discrete, Few Continuous Variables



Segmentation and Human Pose fitting [Kohli, Rihan, Bray, Torr, IJCV 2008]





Input



Segmentation

Segmentation and Color Model fitting GrabCut [Rother, Kolmogorov, Blake 2004]

Illustration Block-ICM





Example Variable elimination [Vicente; Kolmogorov, Rother; ICCV 2009]

(example image segmentation) Block-ICM: iteratively update the 2 variable-sets
Examples in Computer Vision

Many Discrete, Many Continuous Variables



Dual Decomposition

Joint Models [Vineet, Rother, Torr, NIPS 2013]

Examples in Computer Vision

Many Continuous Variables



time = 1



time = 2



Motion

Stereo Matching



Local stereo matching: check photo-consistency

Stereo Matching



Local stereo matching: check photo-consistency

None Front-to-Parallel Surface



None Front-to-Parallel Surface



F.

3 continuous parameters (depth + normal) for each pixel

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IV From Benchmarks to the Current Limits

We now show a comparison of our slanted window algorithm with the competitors described in the paper.

- 1. Random initialization
- 2. Go through pixels in sequential order:
 - 3. Consider solution from left/top neighbour
 - 4. Sample around current solution





Left image

Left and right disparity maps (intermediate step of iteration 1)

PatchMatch Stereo

The Reindeer Pair



Why does it work?

• Random Initialization is in your favour



Left image



Ground truth disparities



Image consists of 3 planes - ~80.000 guesses for yellow plane

What's Missing





PatchMatch Stereo result

Add pairwise terms:



Pairwise term

$$\psi_{st}(\boldsymbol{u}_{s},\boldsymbol{u}_{t}) = \omega \left[\boldsymbol{u}_{s} \neq \boldsymbol{u}_{t}\right]$$
$$\beta w_{st}\left(\left|\boldsymbol{n}_{s} \cdot (\boldsymbol{x}_{t} - \boldsymbol{x}_{s})\right| + \left|\boldsymbol{n}_{t} \cdot (\boldsymbol{x}_{s} - \boldsymbol{x}_{t})\right|\right)$$







Cost = 0 both planes are aligned in 3D

Cost ≠ 0: local curvature or discontinuity

- w/o Pairwise Terms: PatchMatch
- w/ Pairwise Terms (super high-dimensional u):
 - Gradient descent + Fusion move
 - Simulated Annealing
 - Continuous Belief Propagation, e.g. Particle BP

Discrete State BP [Pearl '88]



Sequential schedule

Algorithm

- 1. Initialize Messages
- 2. Go over all Messages
 - 3. Update Message $M_{t \rightarrow s}(\boldsymbol{u}_s)$
- 4. Compute final Output
 - $\boldsymbol{u}_s^* = \operatorname{argmin} B_s(\boldsymbol{u}_s)$

Step 3: Update Message

$$\begin{array}{c} & & \\ & &$$

Step 4: Compute neg-log Belief

$$B_{s}(\mathbf{u}_{s}) := \psi_{s}(\mathbf{u}_{s}) + \sum_{t \in N(s)} M_{t \to s}(\mathbf{u}_{s})$$



Target



Source (shifted 4.0 + noise)









Ground Truth



12x12 discrete labels

Error: 0.251



Target



Source (shifted 4.2 + noise)



J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"



Error: 1.9; unary only



Ground Truth



12x12 discrete labels

Error: 0.66

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"



Error: 3.46; unary only





Ground Truth

12x12 discrete labels

J. H. Kappes, B. Savchynskyy, T. Beier, S. Nowozin, and C. Rother "Inference and Learning in Discrete Graphical Models: Theory and Practice"

Max-Product Particle BP



Sequential schedule











discrete Error: 5.68

PatchMatch BP





Each pixel has different set of particles:



50 particles Error: 0.4159 Energy: 21959 Random init





Ground Truth



Animation



50 particles Energy: 21959 Error: 0.4159



1 particle Energy: 22593 Error: 0.3864

Number of Particles



Results



Extension: 6D Scene Flow

[M. Hornacek, A. Fitzgibbon, C. Rother, CVPR 2014]

[Herbst, Ren, Fox, ICRA 2013]

Extension: Reflections on Stereo

[R. Nair, A. Fitzgibbon, D. Kondermann, C. Rother, ICCV 2015]

Related Work

- Different Variant of [Kothapa et al.]. Run full BP and then re-sample particles (no augmentation) [Peng et al. ICML '11]
- Maintain diverse particle set [Pacheco, Zuffi, Black, Sudderth, ICML '14]
- None Particle-based Methods (rarely applied to Computer Vision due to runtime limitations):
 - Nonparametric belief propagation [Sudderth et al. IEEE Intl. Conf. Acoustics, Speech, Signal 2010]
 - Sparse forward-backward [Pal et al. ICASSP 2006]
 - Kernel BP [Song et al. AIStats 2011]
 - Stochastic belief propagate [N. Noorshams and M. J. Wainwright arxiv 2011]

See separate slides in learning.pdf

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