# Lecture 10: Bayesian Networks – Construction and Inference

(Russell and Norvig Chapter 14)



Probability distribution if area under curve = 1

Percentage of people shorter than 5'8": area under the curve for --inf to 5'8"



Two unbound variables in f(x) for a gaussian curve: sigma and mu

### Gaussian (Normal) Distribution

A lot of stuff is normally distributed!

Central Limit Theorem (loosely): Sum of a large number of IID random variables is approximately Gaussian

This is why a lot of stuff you measure looks like a Gaussian

### Independence

Liked movie	Slept in movie	Raining	Р
1	1	1	0.05
1	0	1	0.1
0	0	1	0.025
0	1	1	0.075
1	1	0	0.15
1	0	0	0.3
0	0	0	0.075
0	1	0	0.225

P(slept) = 0.5

P(slept | rain = 1) = 0.5

In this case, the extra knowledge about rain does not change our prediction. Slept and rain are independent!

The joint distribution table gives you all the information you need to ask these types of questions.

# Independence

Events R and S are independent if: P(S | R) = P(S)

From this we can derive:

$$- P(S,R) = P(S)P(R)$$

- P(R | S) = P(R)





A and B might be dependent on each other, however they are independent given c. Therefore they are conditionally independent



Bayesian networks allow you to specify the joint distribution without needing a huge table.

P(liked) = P(Li AND Lo) + P(Li AND not Lo) = P(Li|Lo)\*P(Lo) + P(Li|not Lo)\*P(not Lo) = 0.4\*0.5 + 0.7\*0.5 = 0.55

#### Constructing a Bayesian Network

- Step 1: Identify the random variables
- Step 2: Determine the conditional dependencies
- Step 3: Populate the CPTs



The scenario: My house is in LA equipped with an alarm, and I live in Pittsburgh. Mary & John are my neighbors in LA. If the alarm sounds, Mary or John might call me. Either a burglary or an earthquake can set off the alarm.



First, this is a naïve way of calculating the joint distribution





We are assuming here that Burglaries and earthquakes are independent (in the real world people might loot after an earthquake.)

#### Constructing a Bayesian Network: Revisited

- Step 1: Identify the random variables
- Step 2: Determine the conditional dependencies
  - Select an ordering of the variables
  - Add them one at a time

- For each new variable X added select the minimal subset of nodes as parents such that X is independent from all other nodes in the current network given its parents

• Step 3: Populate the CPTs





When you draw the bayes net, you are making assumptions about independence (like burglaries and earthquakes are independent). After it is drawn, you can ask any question.







#### **Computing Partial Joints**

 $\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{B} \mid \mathsf{J},\neg\mathsf{M}) = \frac{\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{B},\mathsf{J},\neg\mathsf{M})}{\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{B},\mathsf{J},\neg\mathsf{M}) + \mathsf{P}(\neg\mathsf{B},\mathsf{J},\neg\mathsf{M})}$ 

Sum all instances with these settings (the sum is over the possible assignments to the other two variables, E and A)







However, on average using bayesian networks saves us time



Prove that it must be possible

## **Using Sampling For Inference**

- Lets revisit our problem to compute P(B | J,¬M)
- Looking at the samples we can count:
  - N: total number of samples
  - $N_c$ : total number of samples in which the condition holds (J,¬M)
  - $N_B$ : total number of samples where the joint is true (B,J,¬M)
- For a large enough N:

- 
$$N_c$$
 / N  $\approx$  P(J, $\neg$ M)

- *N<sub>B</sub>* / N ≈ P(B,J,¬M)
- And so, we can set:

$$P(B \mid J, \neg M) = P(B, J, \neg M) / P(J, \neg M) \approx N_B / N_c$$





P(J=1|...) = 0.05, P(M=0|...) = 0.85, so we're going to weigh this sample by 0.05\*0.85

Luis strongly recommends you to read Ch.14 of Russell and Norvig

#### Weighted Sampling Algorithm for Computing P(B | J,¬M)

- Set  $N_B, N_c = 0$
- Repeat:
  - Sample the joint setting the values for *J* and *M*, compute the weight, *w*, of this sample
  - $-N_c = N_c + w$
  - $\text{ If } B = 1, N_B = N_B + w$
- After many iterations, set:  $P(B \mid J, \neg M) = N_B / N_c$



### **Important Points**

- Bayes Rule
- Joint distribution, independence, conditional independence
- Attributes of Bayesian networks
- Constructing a Bayesian network
- Inference in Bayesian networks



Luis's special public announcement