



Gauges, Loops, and Polynomials: for Partition Functions of Graphical Models

Misha Chertkov ^(a,b),
Vladimir Chernyak ^(c) and Yury Maximov ^(b)

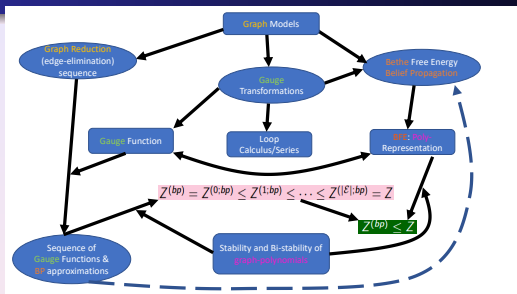
^(a) Program in Applied Mathematics @ University of Arizona

^(b) Theory Division @ Los Alamos National Laboratory

^(c) Chemistry @ Wayne State University

03/21/19, Simons Institute, Berkeley

Outline

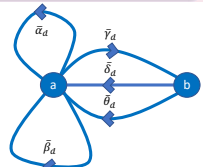
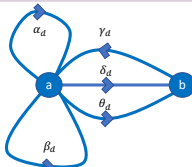
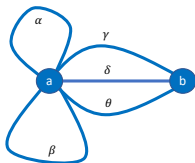


- 1 **Intro - I: Graphical Models**
 - Graphical Models: What?
 - Graphical Models: Why?
- 2 **Intro-II: Bethe Free Energy**
 - Variations: Exact \Rightarrow Approximate
 - Poly- Representation for BFE & BP
 - Belief Polytope. Forcing BP into Interior.
- 3 **Gauge T-, Graph R- & BP**
 - Gauge Transformation, Gauge Function & Loop Series
 - Gauge Function \Rightarrow Partition Function via Graph/Algebraic R-
 - Algebraic/Graph Reduction with BP- ... Exact & Approximate
- 4 **Bi-Stability via BP & Gauges**
 - BP vs Exact
 - Sequence of BP Low Bounds

What: Multi-Factor Graphical Model

- Multi-variate Probability Distribution: $p(\sigma) \doteq \frac{f(\sigma)}{Z}$
 - State vector: $\sigma = \{0, 1\}^{|\mathcal{E}|}$
- Factorized according to the undirected graph, $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{E})$
 - components of σ reside on edges: $\forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E} : \sigma_\alpha = \{0, 1\}$
 - factors reside on nodes: $f(\sigma) \doteq \prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} f_a(\sigma_a)$
 - $\forall a \in \mathcal{V} : \sigma_a \in \{0, 1\}^{e_d(a)}$, e.g. $e_d(b) = (\gamma_d, \bar{\delta}_d, \bar{\theta}_d)$.
 - $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{E})$ includes self-loops & multi-edges

Focus on computing Partition Function: $Z \doteq \sum_{\sigma} f(\sigma)$



Why: GM for Optimization, Inference & Learning

Efficient Optimization & Inference

- Optimization = Maximal Likelihood
- Inference
 - **Partition Function**
 - Marginal Probabilities
 - Sampling

Efficient Learning = reconstruct GM from samples

- Vuffray, Misra, Likhov, MC (2016-) – not in this talk

Structure-specific OIL Applications

- Engineered Systems
 - Energy (Power, Natural Gas, Heating) Networks
- Physical Media
 - Fluid Mechanics

Exact Variational Principle for Partition Function

Gibbs (≤ 1902)-Kullback-Leibler (1951)

- $\mathbf{b} = (0 \leq \mathbf{b}(\sigma) \leq 1 | \forall \sigma)$ - "belief" for each state
- $Z = \max_{\mathbf{b}} \prod_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\prod_a f_a(\sigma_a)}{\mathbf{b}(\sigma)} \right)^{\mathbf{b}(\sigma)} \left| \begin{array}{l} \forall \sigma : \mathbf{b}(\sigma) \geq 0 \\ \sum_{\sigma} \mathbf{b}(\sigma) = 1 \end{array} \right.$
 - Convex optimization over exponentially large space
 - Discrete \rightarrow continuous

Bethe- (BP-) Variational Principle for Partition Function

Yedidia-Freeman-Weiss (2005)

- Exact over tree-graphs

$$\mathbf{b}(\sigma) \approx \frac{\prod_a b_a(\sigma_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} b_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha)} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{V}, \forall \sigma_a \in \mathcal{S}_a : b_a(\sigma_a) \doteq \sum_{\sigma \setminus \sigma_a} \mathbf{b}(\sigma)$$

$$\forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E}, \forall \sigma_\alpha = \{0, 1\} : b_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha) = \sum_{\sigma \setminus \sigma_\alpha} \mathbf{b}(\sigma)$$

- Dynamic Programming \Rightarrow Belief Propagation
Bethe (1935), Peierls (1935), Gallager (1961), Pearl (1988)
- Ansatz in general. Substitute into Gibbs-Kubblack-Leibler \Rightarrow

Bethe- (BP-) Variational Principle for Partition Function

Yedidia-Freeman-Weiss (2005)

$$\min_b (-\log \mathcal{Z}(b)) \text{ s.t. } \begin{cases} \forall a \in \mathcal{V} & \forall \alpha \in e_d(a), \forall \tau \in \{0,1\} : & b_\alpha(\tau) = \sum_{s \in S_a}^{s_\alpha = \tau} b_a(s) \\ & \forall s \in S_a : & b_a(s) \geq 0 \\ & & \sum_{s \in S_a} b_a(s) = 1 \end{cases}$$

where $\mathcal{Z}(b)$ is the Belief Propagation Partition Function (BP-PF)

$$\mathcal{Z}(b) \doteq \left(\prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} \prod_{\sigma_a \in S_a} \left(\frac{f_a(\sigma_a)}{b_a(\sigma_a)} \right)^{b_a(\sigma_a)} \right) \left(\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} \prod_{\sigma_\alpha \in \{0,1\}} (b_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha))^{b_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha)} \right),$$

of the vector b of marginal beliefs associated with edges and nodes

$$b = (b_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha) | \alpha \in \mathcal{E}, \sigma_\alpha \in \{0,1\}) \oplus (b_a(\sigma_a) | a \in \mathcal{V}, \sigma_a \in S_a).$$

Poly- (Dual-) Representation (for Bethe Appr. of Z)

Anari & Oveis Gharan 2017, Straczak & Vishnoi 2017

$$\sup_{\beta \in [0;1]^{\mathcal{E}}} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{\mathcal{E}_d}} \mathcal{L}(\beta, x)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\beta, x) \doteq \left(\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} \beta_{\alpha}^{\beta_{\alpha}} (1 - \beta_{\alpha})^{1 - \beta_{\alpha}} \right) \prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} \frac{h_a(x_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}_d(a)} x_{\alpha}^{\beta_{\alpha}}}$$

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{V}: \quad h_a(x_a) \doteq \sum_{s \in S_a} f_a(s) \prod_{\alpha \in e_d(a)} x_{\alpha}^{s_{\alpha}}$$

- Generalizes Gurvits (2011 – permanent)

Graphical Model Examples: Hard- & Soft-

Hard Example ($\forall a : \exists \sigma_a$ s.t. $f_a(\sigma_a) = 0$): Perfect Matching

- $\forall a : f_a(\sigma_a) = \begin{cases} \prod_{\alpha \in e_d(a)} (\mu_\alpha)^{\sigma_\alpha}, & \sum_{\alpha \in e_d(a)} \sigma_\alpha = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- Bethe (Free Energy) optimization is convex (Vontobel 2010)
- BP solution may be on the BP-polytope boundary (at low “temperature”) (Watanabe, MC 2009)
- In the case of bi-partite graph Bethe appr. gives low bound for Z (Gurvits 2011)

Graphical Model Examples: Hard- & Soft-

Soft Example ($= \forall a : f_a(\sigma_a) > 0$): “soft” Perfect Matching

$$\bullet \forall a : f_a(\sigma_a) = \begin{cases} \prod_{\alpha \in e_d(a)} (\mu_\alpha)^{\sigma_\alpha}, & \sum_{\alpha \in e_d(a)} \sigma_\alpha = 1 \\ \epsilon > 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For any Soft GM

- **Theorem:** Solution of Bethe optimization is always in the interior of BP polytope (MC, VC, YM 2019)

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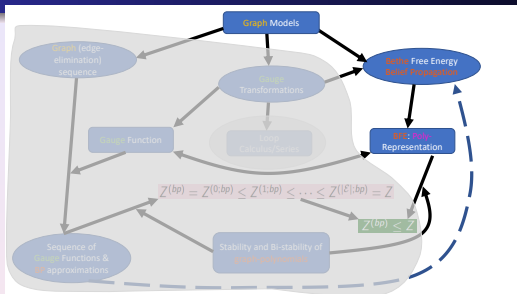
For any Soft GM

- **Theorem:** Solution of Bethe optimization is always in the interior of BP polytope (MC, VC, YM 2019)

will assume small- ϵ regularization for the remainder of the talk

- BP (= solution of Bethe optimization) is in the interior

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Gauge Transformation

[MC, Chernyak 2006]

Gauge-T = multi-linear transformation of factors:

- $\forall a, \forall \sigma_a : f_a(\sigma_a) \rightarrow \sum_{\varsigma_a} f_a(\varsigma_a) \prod_{\alpha_d \in e_d(a)} G_{\alpha_d}(\sigma_\alpha, \varsigma_{\alpha_d})$
- which **keeps Z invariant**
 - $\forall G : Z = \sum_{\sigma} \prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} f_a(\sigma_a) = \sum_{\sigma} z(\sigma | G)$
 - $z(\sigma | G) \doteq \prod_a f_a(\varsigma_a) \prod_{\alpha_d \in e_d(a)} G_{\alpha_d}(\sigma_\alpha, \varsigma_{\alpha_d})$
 - $\varsigma_a \doteq (\varsigma_{\alpha_d} = 0, 1 | \alpha_d \in e_d(a))$

related approaches

- Reparametrization (Wainwright, Jaakola, Willsky 2003)
- Hollographic transformation/algorithm (Valliant 2004)

Gauge Transformation

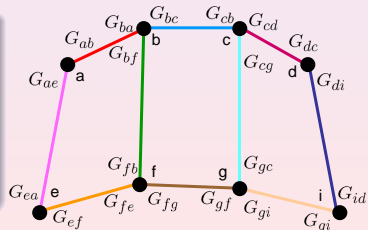
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Orthogonality of GT

- G are (2×2) matrices two per age
- $\forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E}, G_{\alpha_d}^T * G_{\bar{\alpha}_d} = 1$ guarantees invariance of Z



Gauge Transformation

[MC, Chernyak 2006]

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Polynomial Representation of Gauges

- $\forall \alpha_d \in \mathcal{E}_d : G_{\alpha_d} =$

$$\frac{1}{(x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})^{1/4} \sqrt{1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} & x_{\alpha_d} \sqrt{x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} \\ -x_{\bar{\alpha}_d} \sqrt{x_{\alpha_d}} & \sqrt{x_{\alpha_d}} \end{pmatrix}$$
- $x \doteq (x_{\alpha_d} > 0 | \alpha_d \in \mathcal{E}_d)$ is positive component-wise

Gauge Transformation

[MC, Chernyak 2006]

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 - $\varsigma_a \doteq (\varsigma_{\alpha_d} = 0, 1 | \alpha_d \in e_d(a))$

Theorem: Any **extremum of BFE** (a BP solution) is a stationary point of $z(x)$. Minimum of BFE is achieved at the extremum maximizing $z(x)$.

Extremum of BFE:

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{V}, \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E}_d(a) : \partial_{x_\alpha} z(x) |_{x=x^{(bp)}} = 0$$

Gauge Function:

$$z(x) \doteq \frac{\prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} h_a(x_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})} = \frac{h(x)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})}$$

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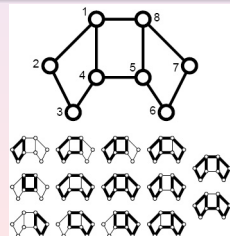
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Loop Series/Calculus

$$Z = \sum_{\sigma} z(\sigma | x^{(bp)}), \quad \forall \sigma : z(\sigma | x^{(bp)}) = Z^{(bp)} \frac{\prod_a \mu_a^{(bp)}}{\prod_{\alpha} \beta_{\alpha}^{(bp)} (1 - \beta_{\alpha}^{(bp)})}$$

$$\forall a : \mu_a \doteq \frac{\sum_{\varsigma_a} f_a(\varsigma_a) \prod_{\alpha} ((x_{\alpha}^{(bp)})^{\varsigma_{\alpha}} (\varsigma_{\alpha} - \mu_{\alpha})^{\sigma_{\alpha}})}{\sum_{\varsigma_a} f_a(\varsigma_a) \prod_{\alpha \in e(\sigma)(a)} (x_{\alpha}^{(bp)})^{\varsigma_{\alpha}}}$$



Gauge Transformation

[MC, Chernyak 2006]

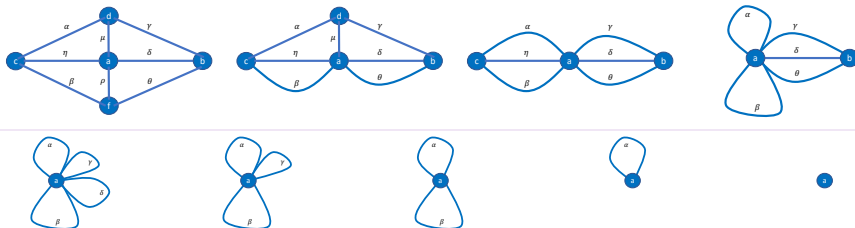
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Further (finite graph) uses of “Beyond BP” = Loop Series & Gauge T-

- Minimum Weight Perfect Matching (optimization) – Blossom BP [Sungsoo Ahn, Sejun Park, Jinwoo Shin & MC NIPS 2015]
- LS maps GM to another GM (possibly with negative weights). The new GM can be sampled with MCMC. [Sungsoo Ahn, Jinwoo Shin, MC NIPS 2016]
- BP can be mixed with Mean Field – Gauging Variational Inference [Sungsoo Ahn, Jinwoo Shin & MC NIPS 2017]

Partition Function via Graph-R = Elimination of Edges



- Fix edge-elimination order
- Sum over edge variables sequentially
- Get a sequence of GMs
 - node-degree & complexity grows (exponentially)

Proposition:

Partition Functions in Graph-R sequence are identical/invariant

From Gauge-F to Partition Function

Gauge Function

$$z(x) \doteq \frac{\prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} h_a(x_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})}$$

Theorem: The Algebraic (Differentiate & Marginalize) -T applied to the Gauge-F results in Z

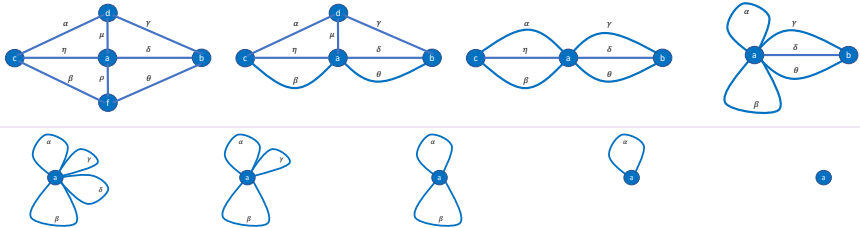
$$m = 0: \quad x^{(0)} \doteq x, \quad \mathcal{Z}^{(0)}(x) \doteq z(x)$$

$$m = 1, \dots, |\mathcal{E}|: \quad x^{(m)} \doteq x^{(m-1)} \setminus \{x_{\alpha_d^{(m)}}, x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(m)}}\}$$

$$\mathcal{Z}^{(m)}(x^{(m)}) \doteq \left(1 + \partial_{x_{\alpha_d^{(m)}}} \partial_{x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(m)}}}\right) \left(\left(1 + x_{\alpha_d^{(m)}} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(m)}}\right) \mathcal{Z}^{(m-1)} \right) \Big|_{x_{\alpha_d^{(m)}} = x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(m)}} = 0}$$

$$m = |\mathcal{E}|: \quad x^{(|\mathcal{E}|)} = \emptyset, \quad \mathcal{Z}^{(|\mathcal{E}|)} = Z$$

Graph-R is equivalent to Algebraic-R



Theorem: Algebraic (diff.+marg.) -R = Graph (edge elimination)-T

$$Z^{(m)}(x^{(m)}) = \frac{h^{(m)}(x^{(m)})}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}^{(m)}} (1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})}$$

$$h^{(m)}(x^{(m)}) \doteq \prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}^{(m)}} \left(\sum_{\varsigma_a} f_a^{(m)}(\varsigma_a) \prod_{\alpha_d \in e_d(a)} x_{\alpha_d}^{\varsigma_{\alpha_d}} \right)$$

Edge Elimination with Belief Propagation

Theorem: Any **extremum of BFE** (a BP solution) is a stationary point of $z(x)$. Minimum of BFE is achieved at the extremum maximizing $z(x)$.

Extremum of BFE:

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{V}, \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E}_d(a) : \partial_{x_\alpha} z(x)|_{x=x^{(\text{bp})}} = 0$$

Gauge Function:

$$z(x) \doteq \frac{\prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} h_a(x_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})} = \frac{h(x)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})}$$

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Let us “eliminate” a single edge

$$h(x) \doteq h^{(0,0)} + h^{(1,0)} x_{\alpha_d} + h^{(0,1)} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d} + h^{(1,1)} x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}$$

$$\partial_{x_{\alpha_d}} \partial_{x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} \frac{h(x)}{1+x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} = 0 \Big|_{x^{(\alpha-bp)}} \Rightarrow$$

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$$\partial_{x_{\alpha_d}} \partial_{x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} \frac{h(x)}{1 + x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} = 0 \Big|_{x^{(\alpha-bp)}} \Rightarrow$$

$$2x_{\alpha_d}^{(\alpha-bp)} h^{(1,0)} = 2x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}^{(\alpha-bp)} h^{(0,1)} = h^{(1,1)} - h^{(0,0)} + \sqrt{(h^{(1,1)} - h^{(0,0)})^2 + 4h^{(0,1)}h^{(1,0)}}$$

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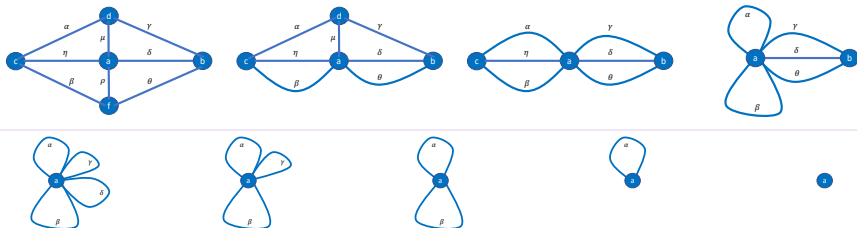
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If α is a normal edge **BP Graph Reduction (edge contraction) is exact**

$$x_{\alpha_d}^{(\alpha-bp)} = \frac{h^{(1,1)}}{h^{(1,0)}}, \quad x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}^{(\alpha-bp)} = \frac{h^{(1,1)}}{h^{(0,1)}}, \quad h^{(\alpha-bp)} = h^{(1,1)} + h^{(0,0)}$$

Graph Reduction with BP to Bouquet (exact)



Introduce **BP** at each step in a Graph-R **sequence**

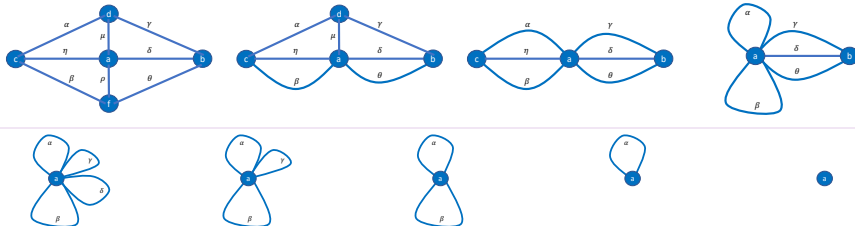
- Theorem:** BP Graph-R of a **normal edge** is exact

Definition: **Bouquet-graph:** contract all normal edges

- Corollary:** sequence of BP Graph-R leading to bouquet-graph is exact

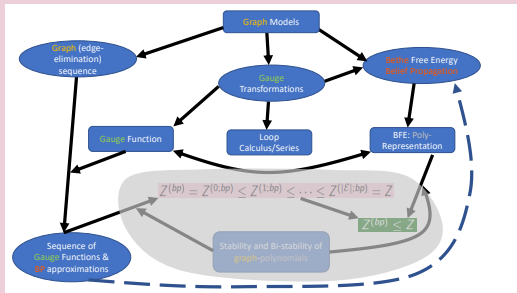


Graph Reduction with BP

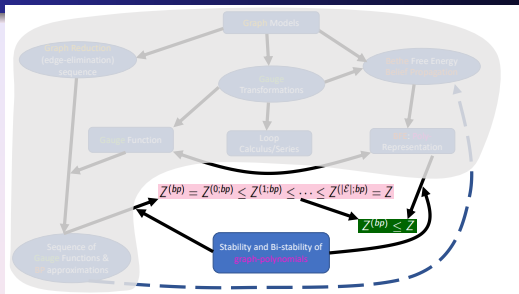


- BP-sequence (in general) is not monotonic.
- Complexity increases with contraction.
- Can be stopped/truncated at any step
 \Rightarrow an approximate elimination

No assumptions about GM so far – fully general



Outline



- 1 Intro - I: Graphical Models
 - Graphical Models: What?
 - Graphical Models: Why?
- 2 Intro-II: Bethe Free Energy
 - Variations: Exact \Rightarrow Approximate
 - Poly- Representation for BFE & BP
 - Belief Polytope. Forcing BP into Interior.
- 3 Gauge T-, Graph R- & BP
 - Gauge Transformation, Gauge Function & Loop Series
 - Gauge Function \Rightarrow Partition Function via Graph/Algebraic R-
 - Algebraic/Graph Reduction with BP- ... Exact & Approximate
- 4 Bi-Stability via BP & Gauges
 - BP vs Exact
 - Sequence of BP Low Bounds

BP vs Exact for an Edge-elimination step

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a \in \mathcal{V}, \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E}_d(a) : \partial_{x_\alpha} z(x)|_{x=x(\text{bp})} &= 0 \\ z(x) &\doteq \frac{\prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} h_a(x_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1+x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})} = \frac{h(x)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1+x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})} \\ h(x) &\doteq h^{(0,0)} + h^{(1,0)} x_{\alpha_d} + h^{(0,1)} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d} + h^{(1,1)} x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d} \end{aligned}$$

BP vs Exact for an Edge-elimination step

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{V}, \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{E}_d(a) : \partial_{x_\alpha} z(x)|_{x=x^{(bp)}} = 0$$

$$z(x) \doteq \frac{\prod_{a \in \mathcal{V}} h_a(x_a)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1+x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})} = \frac{h(x)}{\prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{E}} (1+x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})}$$

$$h(x) \doteq h^{(0,0)} + h^{(1,0)} x_{\alpha_d} + h^{(0,1)} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d} + h^{(1,1)} x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}$$

Lemma: BP Reduction vs Exact Reduction (Differential Version)

$$\forall x^{(1)} = x \setminus \{x_{\alpha_d}, x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}\} : \frac{h(x)}{1+x_{\alpha_d} x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} \Big|_{\substack{x_{\alpha_d} = x_{\alpha_d}^{(\alpha-bp)} \\ x_{\bar{\alpha}_d} = x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}^{(\alpha-bp)}}} \leq h^{(1,1)}(x^{(1)}) + h^{(0,0)}(x^{(1)})$$

holds if $h^{(0,1)}(x^{(1)})h^{(1,0)}(x^{(1)}) \leq h^{(0,0)}(x^{(1)})h^{(1,1)}(x^{(1)})$

BP vs Exact for an Edge-elimination step

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Lemma: BP Reduction vs Exact Reduction (Variational Version) [Anari & Oveis Gharan 2017] & [Straczak & Vishnoi 2017]

$\forall x^{(1)} : h^{(0,1)}(x^{(1)})h^{(1,0)}(x^{(1)}) \leq h^{(0,0)}(x^{(1)})h^{(1,1)}(x^{(1)})$ guarantees that

$$\forall \beta_{\alpha} \in [0; 1], \quad (\beta_{\alpha})^{\beta_{\alpha}} (1 - \beta_{\alpha})^{1-\beta_{\alpha}} \inf_{x_{\alpha_d}, x_{\bar{\alpha}_d}} \frac{h(x)}{(x_{\alpha_d}x_{\bar{\alpha}_d})^{\beta_{\alpha}}} \leq h^{(1,1)}(x^{(1)}) + h^{(0,0)}(x^{(1)})$$

When $Z^{(bp)}$ is a low bound?

Definition: [Real-Stability (RS) and Bi-Stability (BS)]

- A nonzero polynomial, $g(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_N]$, with real coefficients is RS if none of its roots $z = (z_1, \dots, z_N) \in \mathbb{C}^N$ satisfies: $\text{Im}(z_i) > 0$ for every $i = 1, \dots, N$.
- A polynomial $h(x_{\alpha_d^{(1)}}, x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(1)}}; x_{\alpha_d^{(2)}}, x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(2)}} \dots)$ is BS if $h(x_{\alpha_d^{(1)}}, -x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(1)}}; x_{\alpha_d^{(2)}}, -x_{\bar{\alpha}_d^{(2)}} \dots)$ is Real Stable.

Theorem: Monotonicity of BP-estimations (for contraction sequence)

If $\forall a \in \mathcal{V}$, $h_a(x_a)$ is bi-stable then

- each polynomial in the contraction (=differentiate+marginalize) sequence, $h^{(m)}(x^{(m)})$, is stable
- Value of BP estimation for Z does not decrease with elimination:
 $Z^{(bp)} = Z^{(0;bp)} \leq Z^{(1;bp)} \leq \dots \leq Z^{(|\mathcal{E}|;bp)} = Z$.

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$$Z^{(bp)} \leq Z$$

- via poly-methods
- Gurvits (2011) - permanents
- Straczak & Vishnoi 2017 - bi-partite stable
- Anari & Oveis Gharan 2017 - bi-stable

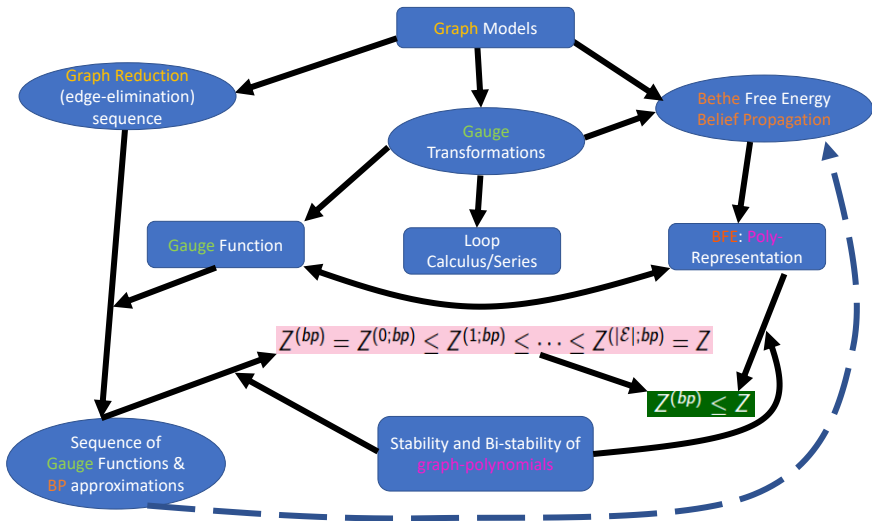
When $Z^{(bp)}$ is a low bound?

$$Z^{(bp)} \leq Z$$

- Attractive (ferro) Ising model
 - via Loop Series, with restrictions (all loop terms are positive) Sudderth, Wainwright, Willsky 2007
 - via Graph Covers (Vontobel) with no restrictions Ruozi 2012

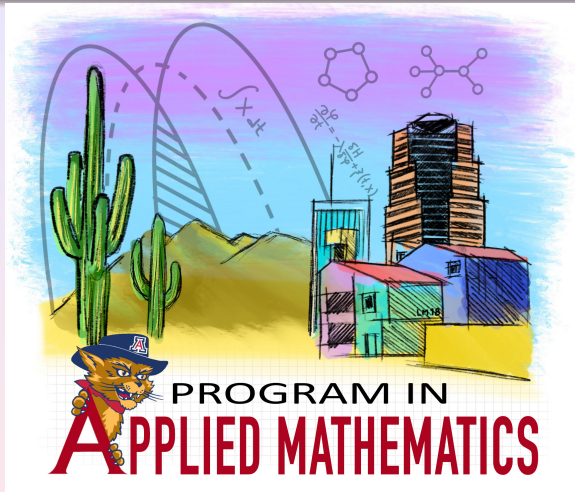
another approach – not related to the poly- considerations

Summary



Path Forward

- Mixing the "differentiate and marginalize" approach with the **Loop Calculus**/Series
- Generalization to **higher alphabets** (homogeneous polynomials)
- **Tighter** Approximations (mix of gauge/BP- and graph-transformations)
 - theory & heuristics
- From **global to local** stability – broader class of "tractable" polynomials
- Sequential **Elimination**, e.g. extending
 - Gauged Mini-Bucket Elimination for Approximate Inference [Sungsoo Ahn, Jinwoo Shin, Adrian Weller & MC 2018]
 - Bucket renormalization for approximate inference [Sungsoo Ahn, Jinwoo Shin, Adrian Weller & MC 2018]



Thank You !