Probabilistic Relational Learning and Inductive Logic Programming at a Global Scale

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For when I am presented with a false theorem, I do not need to examine or even to know the demonstration, since I shall discover its falsity a posteriori by means of an easy experiment, that is, by a calculation, costing no more than paper and ink, which will show the error no matter how small it is...

And if someone would doubt my results, I should say to him: "Let us calculate, Sir," and thus by taking to pen and ink, we should soon settle the question.

—Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz [1677]

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- How is (probabilistic) inductive logic programming central to the semantic web?
- What will Al and the web look like in 2025?

History of AI — a perspective from 2025

- Semantic web has evolved into the world-wide mind (WWM) — a distributed repository of all knowledge, backed up by the best science available.
- The world-wide mind doesn't just accept new knowledge but critically evaluates it and generates new knowledge.
- Scientists freed from mundane data analysis, develop new hypotheses, interesting questions, and observational data.
- World-wide mind is the expert on all questions of truth and makes the best predictions. (Using hypotheses provided by a mix of humans and machine learning).
- Public discourse on values (utilities) to determine the best course of actions for individuals, organizations and society.

2010	2025
need to guess keywords;	keywords + context + ontologies
re-guess until exhaustion	ightarrow unambiguous query

2025

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 information justified by presenting the evidence for and against it

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- what information found is based on popularity and/or appeal to authority
- verify information based on other sites (with different wording)
- extract information from text and graphics to make decisions

2025

- keywords + context + ontologies
 → unambiguous query
- information based on best evidence available in world
- information justified by presenting the evidence for and against it
- decisions based on evidence and utilities

Believing information

2025 2010

 skeptics throw doubt on science and scientists say "trust us"

• data is available for all to view: all alternative hypotheses can be evaluated

Believing information

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- politicians campaign on what is true and what they will do

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- politicians campaign on their values

Believing information

2010

- skeptics throw doubt on science and scientists say "trust us"
- politicians campaign on what is true and what they will do
- food shopping is based on price and brands

2025

- data is available for all to view;
 all alternative hypotheses can be evaluated
- politicians campaign on their values

 food shopping based on optimizing health and well-being (users goals and values, and known risks)

Al Research

2010

- separation of uncertainty and KR issues
- ML ignores ontologies
- rich representations ignore uncertainty
- semantic web in its infancy
- relational representations starting to be used in ML
- learning based on one or few homogeneous data sets
- data sets usable only by specialists

2025

 uncertainty and ontologies are integral parts of world-wide mind

- world wide mind being used
- rich representations with uncertainty ubiquitous
- learning from all data in world
- data sets published, available, persistent and interoperable

- Semantic Science Overview
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Notational Minefield

- Variable (probability, logic, programming languages)
- Model (science, probability, logic, fashion)
- Parameter (mathematics, statistics)
- Domain (science, logic, probability, mathematics)
- Object/class (object-oriented programming, ontologies)
- (probability, logic)
- First-order (logic, dynamical systems)

Science is the foundation of belief

- If a KR system makes a prediction, we should ask: what evidence is there? The system should be able to provide such evidence.
- A knowledge-based system should believe based on evidence. Not all beliefs are equally valid.
- The mechanism that has been developed for judging knowledge is called science. We trust scientific conclusions because they are based on evidence.

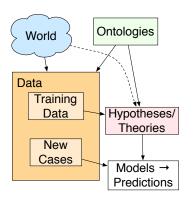
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- The mechanism that has been developed for judging knowledge is called science. We trust scientific conclusions because they are based on evidence.
- The semantic web is an endeavor to make all of the world's knowledge accessible to computers.
- We have used to term semantic science, in an analogous way to the semantic web.
- Claim: semantic science will form the foundation of the world-wide mind.

Science as the foundation of world-wide mind

Science can be about anything:

- where and when landslides occur
- where to find gold
- what errors students make
- disease symptoms, prognosis and treatment
- what companies will be good to invest in
- what apartment Mary would like
- which celebrities are having affairs

Semantic Science



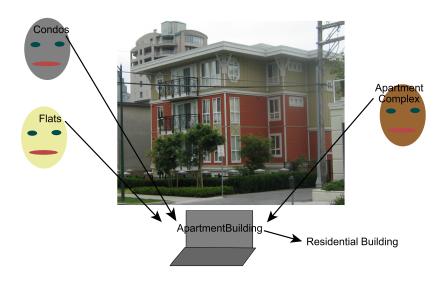
- Ontologies represent the meaning of symbols.
- Data that adheres to ontologies are published.
- Hypotheses that make (probabilistic) predictions on data are published.
- Data used to evaluate hypotheses; the best hypotheses are theories.
- Hypotheses form models for predictions on new cases.
- All evolve in time.

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Ontologies

- In philosophy, ontology the study of existence.
- In CS, an ontology is a (formal) specification of the meaning of the vocabulary used in an information system.
- Ontologies are needed so that information sources can inter-operate at a semantic level.



Main Components of an Ontology

- Individuals: the objects in the world (not usually specified) as part of the ontology)
- Classes: sets of (potential) individuals
- Properties: between individuals and their values

(Individual, Property, Value) triples are universal representations of relations.

Semantic Web Ontology Languages

- URI universal resource identifier; everything is a resource
- RDF language for triples in XML
- RDF Schema define resources in terms of each other: class, type, subClassOf, subPropertyOf, collections...
- OWL defines vocabulary for individuals, properties and classes: equality, restricting domains and ranges of properties, transitivity, cardinality...

Aristotelian definitions

Aristotle [350 B.C.] suggested the definition if a class *C* in terms of:

- Genus: the super-class
- Differentia: the attributes that make members of the class C different from other members of the super-class

"If genera are different and co-ordinate, their differentiae are themselves different in kind. Take as an instance the genus 'animal' and the genus 'knowledge'. 'With feet', 'two-footed', 'winged', 'aquatic', are differentiae of 'animal'; the species of knowledge are not distinguished by the same differentiae. One species of knowledge does not differ from another in being 'two-footed'."

Aristotle, Categories, 350 B.C.

 An apartment building is a residential building with multiple units and units are rented.

```
ApartmentBuilding \equiv ResidentialBuilding \& NumUnits = many \& Ownership = rental
```

NumUnits is a property with domain ResidentialBuilding and range {one, two, many}
Ownership is a property with domain Building and range

{owned, rental, coop}.

• All classes are defined in terms of properties.

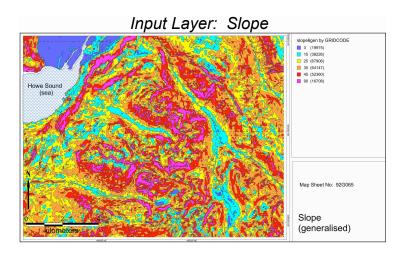
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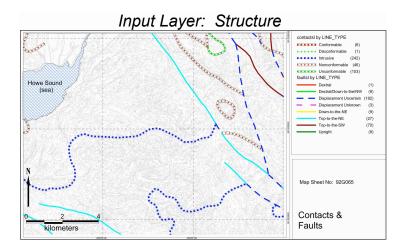
Data

Real data is messy!

- Multiple levels of abstraction
- Multiple levels of detail
- Uses the vocabulary from many ontologies: rocks, minerals, top-level ontology,...
- Rich meta-data:
 - Who collected each datum? (identity and credentials)
 - Who transcribed the information?
 - What was the protocol used to collect the data?
 (Chosen at random or chosen because interesting?)
 - What were the controls what was manipulated, when?
 - What sensors were used? What is their reliability and operating range?



Example Data, Geology



http://www.vsto.org/

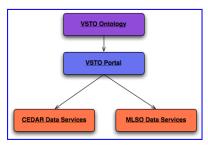
Welcome to the Virtual Solar Terrestrial Observatory

The Virtual Solar Terrestrial Observatory (VSTO) is a unified semantic environment serving data from diverse data archives in the fields of solar, solar-terrestrial, and space physics (SSTSP), currently:

- Upper atmosphere data from the CEDAR (Coupling, Energetics and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions) archive
- . Solar corona data from the MLSO (Mauna Loa Solar Observatory) archive

The VSTO portal uses an underlying ontology (i.e. an organized knowledge base of the SSTSP domain) to present a general interface that allows selection and retrieval of products (ascil and binary data files, images, plots) from heterogenous external data services.

VSTO Data Access



- Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis [Sapir 1929, Whorf 1940]: people's perception and thought are determined by what can be described in their language. (Controversial in linguistics!)
- A stronger version for information systems:

What is stored and communicated by an information system is constrained by the representation and the ontology used by the information system.

- Ontologies come logically prior to the data.
- Data can't make distinctions that can't be expressed in the ontology.
- Different ontologies result in different data.

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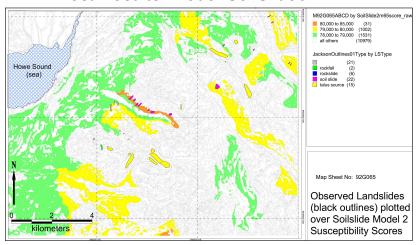
Hypotheses make predictions on data

Hypotheses are procedures that make prediction on data. Theories are hypotheses that best fit the observational data.

- Hypotheses can make various predictions about data:
 - definitive predictions
 - point probabilities
 - probability ranges
 - ranges with confidence intervals
 - qualitative predictions
- For each prediction type, we need ways to judge predictions on data
- Users can use whatever criteria they like to evaluate hypotheses (e.g., taking into account simplicity and elegance)
- Semantic science search engine: extract theories from published hypotheses.

Example Prediction from a Hypothesis

Test Results: Model SoilSlide02



- Hypotheses are often narrow, e.g., prognosis of people with a lung cancer.
- Hypotheses are general in the sense that they can be adapted to different cases.
- A model is a set of hypotheses applied to a particular case.
 - Judge hypotheses by how well they fit into models.
 - Models can be judged by simplicity.
 - Hypothesis designers don't need to game the system by manipulating the generality of hypotheses

Dynamics of Semantic Science

- New data and hypotheses are continually added.
- Anyone can design their own ontologies.
 - People vote with their feet what ontology they use.
 - Need for semantic interoperability leads to ontologies with mappings between them.
- Hypotheses engineered + learned (e.g., using ILP)
- Ontologies evolve with hypotheses:
 - A hypothesis learns useful unobserved features
 - \longrightarrow add these to an ontology
 - → other researchers can refer to them
 - ---- reinterpretation of data
- Ontologies can be judged by the predictions of the hypotheses that use them
 - role of a vocabulary is to describe useful distinctions.

- O. Deterministic semantic science where all of the hypotheses make definitive predictions.
- 1. Feature-based semantic science, with non-deterministic predictions about feature values of data.
- 2. Relational semantic science, with predictions about the properties of objects and relationships among objects.
- 3. First-order semantic science, with predictions about the existence of objects, universally quantified statements and relations

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Feature-Based Semantic Science

- World is described in terms of features and values.
- Random variables / features correspond to properties.
- Random variables / features are not defined in all contexts.
- Aristotelian definitions: each class is defined in terms of
 - genus (superclass) and
 - differentia (property restrictions that distinguish this class).
- Conditioning on a class means observing its differentia are true

Example Ontology

Property	Domain		Range
Age	person		integer
Sex	person		$\{male,female\}$
HasLump	person		boolean
LumpShape	personWit	hLump	{circular, oblong, irregular}
LumpLocn	personWit	hLump	$\{leg, torso, arm, head\}$
CancLump	personWit	hLump	boolean
LumpColour	personWit	hLump	$\{red,pink,brown,\dots\}$
HasCancer	person		boolean
HasLungCancer	personWit	hCancer	boolean
OutcomeAtYear	person		$\{well, sick, dead\}$
Class	Genus	Differen ⁻	tia
person	thing	IsPerson	=true
personWithLump	person	HasLum	p=true
personWithCance	er person	HasCand	cer=true

Partial Ontology in OWL

```
FunctionalDataProperty(HasLump)
DataPropertyDomain(HasLump person)
DataPropertyRange(HasLump xsd:boolean)
EquivalentClasses(personWithLump
           DataHasValue(HasLump true))
FunctionalDataProperty(CancLump)
DataPropertyDomain(CancLump personWithLump)
DataPropertyRange(CancLump xsd:boolean)
ObjectPropertyDomain(LumpShape personWithLump)
ObjectPropertyRange(LumpShape
   ObjectOneOf(circular oblong irregular))
SubClassOf(DataHasValue(CancLump true)
    personWithCancer)
```

Observational Data

A data set refers to a set of imported ontologies and consists of a set of $\langle c, O, t \rangle$ triples, where:

- the context c in which the data was collected
- the features O that were observed
- a table t on O

The symbols used in the data set are defined in the ontologies. [This talk will ignore interventions.]

Example Data

person:

Age	Sex	Coughs	HasLump
23	male	true	true

person With Lump:

LumpLocn	LumpShape	LumpColour	CancLump
leg	oblong	red	false

personWithCancer:

HasLungCancer	TakenHerb	Age	OutcomeAtYear
true	true	77	dead

Hypotheses

A hypothesis makes predictions about some feature values.

A hypothesis h is $\langle c, I, O, P \rangle$ where:

- c, a context, is a proposition that specifies when h can be applied.
- I is a set of input features about which h does not make predictions
- O is a set output features to predict (as a function of the input features).
- P is a program to compute the output from the input (e.g., in ProbLog or Figaro)

Represents:

Example Hypotheses

 H₁ predicts the prognosis of people with lung cancer as a function of treatment:

```
\langle personWithCancer \wedge HasLungCancer, 
\{Treatment\}, \{OutcomeAtYear\}, P_1 \rangle
```

H₂ predicts the prognosis of people with cancer.

$$\langle personWithCancer, \{\}, \{OutcomeAtYear\}, P_2 \rangle$$

• H_3 is a null hypothesis for the prognosis of people:

$$\langle person, \{\}, \{OutcomeAtYear\}, P_3 \rangle$$

 H₄ predicts the prognosis of people with cancer, as a function of their income and age:

```
\langle personWithCancer, \{Income, Age\}, \{OutcomeAtYear\}, P_4 \rangle
```

Example Hypotheses (cont.)

• H_5 predicts whether people with cancer have lung cancer, as a function of coughing.

$$\langle personWithCancer, \{Coughs\}, \{HasLungCancer\}, P_5 \rangle$$

• *H*₆ predicts whether people have cancer.

$$\langle person, \{\}, \{HasCancer\}, P_6 \rangle$$

 H₇ and H₈ predict the shape of lumps as a function of whether they have cancer.

```
\langle person, \{ HasCancer \}, \{ HasLump \}, P_7 \rangle
\langle personWithLump, \{ HasCancer \}, \{ LumpShape \}, P_8 \rangle
```

What should be used to predict the prognosis of a patient with observed coughing?

Models

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To make a prediction given a query for a particular case, multiple hypotheses are used together in a model.

Each hypothesis in the model is used to predict a subset of its output features given its inputs.

A model M needs to satisfy the following properties:

- M is coherent: it does not rely on the value of a feature in a context where the feature is not defined
- M is consistent: it does not make different predictions for any feature in any context.
- *M* is predictive: it predicts the input of each hypothesis and predicts the query in every context that is possible.

Probabilistic Relational Learning

M is minimal.

Prototype Feature-based Model

A hypothesis instance is a tuple of the form $\langle t, c, I, O \rangle$ such that:

- t is a hypothesis,
- c a context in which the hypothesis is used
- I a set of inputs used by the hypothesis
- O a set of outputs the hypothesis is used to predict.

A model is a set of hypothesis instances that is coherent, consistent, predictive and minimal.

Example

- H₁ predicts the prognosis of people with lung cancer as a function of treatment.
- \bullet H_2 predicts the prognosis of people with cancer.
- H_3 , a null hypothesis, predicts the prognosis of people.
- H₅ predicts whether people with cancer have lung cancer, as a function of coughing.
- H_6 predicts whether people have cancer.

A possible model for

```
\begin{array}{l} \textit{P(OutcomeAtYear|person \land coughs \land treatment = none):} \\ \langle \textit{H}_3,\textit{person} \land \neg \textit{hasCancer}, \{\}, \{\textit{OutcomeAtYear}\} \rangle \\ \langle \textit{H}_1,\textit{person} \land \textit{hasLungCancer}, \{\textit{Treatment}\}, \{\textit{OutcomeAtYear}\} \rangle \\ \langle \textit{H}_2,\textit{person} \land \textit{hasCancer} \land \neg \textit{hlc}, \{\}, \{\textit{OutcomeAtYear}\} \rangle \\ \langle \textit{H}_6,\textit{person}, \{\}, \{\textit{HasCancer}\} \rangle \\ \langle \textit{H}_5,\textit{person} \land \textit{hasCancer}, \{\textit{Coughs}\}, \{\textit{HasLungCancer}\} \rangle \end{array}
```

Feature-based predictions

- Multiple competing and complementary hypotheses
- Hypotheses can be judged and learned using all existing data sets
- A semantic science search engine would find best hypotheses (the theories) for any predictions.
- For a specific case, multiple hypotheses are combined to form a model.
- Each prediction relies on multiple hypotheses; each hypothesis is judged by multiple data sets.

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Relational Learning

- Often the values of properties are not meaningful values but names of individuals.
- It is the properties of these individuals and their relationship to other individuals that needs to be learned.
- Relational learning has been studied under the umbrella of "Inductive Logic Programming" as the representations are often logic programs.

Example: trading agent

What does Joe like?

Individual	Property	Value
joe	likes	resort_14
joe	dislikes	resort_35
resort_14	type	resort
resort_14	near	$beach_{-}18$
beach_18	type	beach
beach_18	covered_in	WS
WS	type	sand
WS	color	white

Values of properties may be meaningless names.

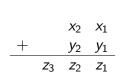
Example: trading agent

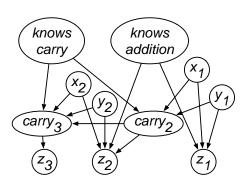
Possible theory that could be learned:

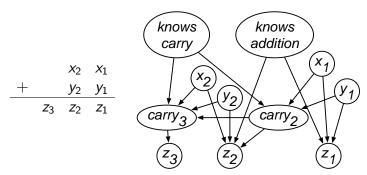
```
prop(joe, likes, R) \leftarrow prop(R, type, resort) \land prop(R, near, B) \land prop(B, type, beach) \land prop(B, covered\_in, S) \land prop(S, type, sand).
```

Joe likes resorts that are near sandy beaches.

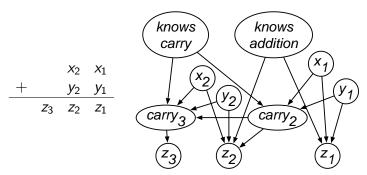
• But we want probabilistic predictions.



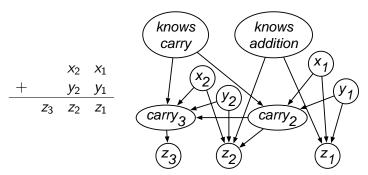




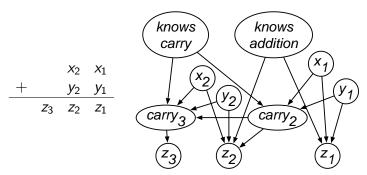
What if there were multiple digits



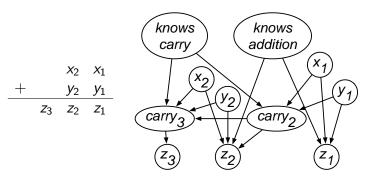
What if there were multiple digits, problems



What if there were multiple digits, problems, students

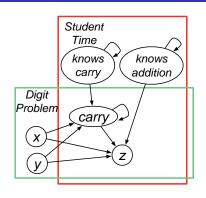


What if there were multiple digits, problems, students, times?



What if there were multiple digits, problems, students, times? How can we build a model before we know the individuals?

Multi-digit addition with parametrized BNs / plates



Random Variables: x(D, P), y(D, P), knowsCarry(S, T), knowsAddition(S, T), carry(D, P, S, T), z(D, P, S, T) for each: digit D, problem P, student S, time T

parametrized random variables

Exchangeability

 Before we know anything about individuals, they are indistinguishable, and so should be treated identically.

Independent Choice Logic (ICL)

- A language for relational probabilistic models.
- Idea: combine logic and probability, where all uncertainty in handled in terms of Bayesian decision theory, and logic specifies consequences of choices.
- An ICL theory consists of a choice space with probabilities over choices and a logic program that gives consequences of choices.

ICL rules for multi-digit addition

$$z(D,P,S,T) = V \leftarrow \qquad z(D,P,S,T)$$

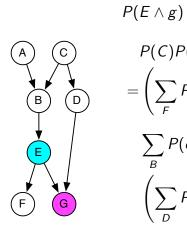
 $x(D,P) = Vx \land \qquad knowsAd$
 $y(D,P) = Vy \land \qquad mistake(D,P,S,T) = Vc \land \qquad selectDig$
 $knowsAddition(S,T) \land \qquad z(D,P,S,T)$
 $\neg mistake(D,P,S,T) \land \qquad \neg knowsAd$
 V is $(Vx + Vy + Vc)$ div 10. $selectDig$

$$z(D, P, S, T) = V \leftarrow knowsAddition(S, T) \land mistake(D, P, S, T) \land selectDig(D, P, S, T) = V.$$
 $z(D, P, S, T) = V \leftarrow \neg knowsAddition(S, T) \land selectDig(D, P, S, T) = V.$

Alternatives:

$$\forall DPST \{ noMistake(D, P, S, T), mistake(D, P, S, T) \}$$
$$\forall DPST \{ selectDig(D, P, S, T) = V \mid V \in \{0..9\} \}$$

Bayesian Network Inference



$$P(E|g) = \frac{P(E \land g)}{p(g)}$$

$$P(E \land g) = \sum_{F} \sum_{B} \sum_{C} \sum_{A} \sum_{D} P(A)P(B|AC)$$

$$P(C)P(D|C)P(E|B)P(F|E)P(g|ED)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{F} P(F|E)\right)$$

$$\sum_{B} P(e|B) \sum_{C} P(C) \left(\sum_{A} P(A)P(B|AC)\right)$$

$$\left(\sum_{D} P(D|C)P(g|ED)\right)$$

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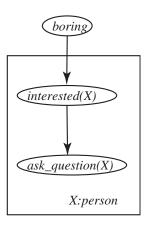
Lifted Inference

- Idea: treat those individuals about which you have the same information as a block; just count them.
- Use the ideas from lifted theorem proving no need to ground.
- Potential to be exponentially faster in the number of non-differentialed individuals.
- Relies on knowing the number of individuals (the population size).

Parametrized belief networks

- Allow random variables to be parametrized. interested(X)
- Parameters correspond to logical variables.
- Each parameter is typed with a population. X: person
- Each population has a size. |person| = 1000000
- Parametrized belief network means its grounding: for each combination of parameters, an instance of each random variable for each member of parameters' population.
 interested(p₁)...interested(p₁₀₀₀₀₀₀)
- Instances are independent (but can have common ancestors and descendants).

Example parametrized belief network

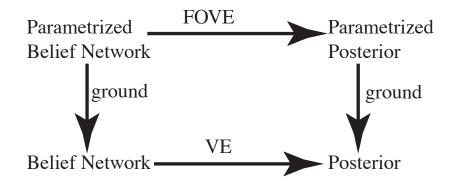


```
P(boring)

\forall X \ P(interested(X)|boring)

\forall X \ P(ask\_question(X)|interested(X))
```

First-order probabilistic inference



Theorem Proving and Unification

In 1965, Robinson showed how unification allows many ground steps with one step:

$$\underbrace{f(X,Z)\vee p(X,a) \qquad \neg p(b,Y)\vee g(Y,W)}_{f(b,Z)\vee g(a,W)}$$

Substitution $\{X/b, Y/a\}$ is the most general unifier of p(X, a) and p(b, Y).

Variable Elimination and Unification

Multiplying parametrized factors:

$$\underbrace{[f(X,Z),p(X,a)] \times [p(b,Y),g(Y,W)]}_{[f(b,Z),p(b,a),g(a,W)]}$$

Doesn't work because the first parametrized factor can't subsequently be used for X = b but can be used for other instances of X.

• We split [f(X, Z), p(X, a)] into

$$[f(b, Z), p(b, a)]$$

 $[f(X, Z), p(X, a)]$ with constraint $X \neq b$,

Parametric Factors

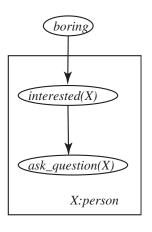
A parametric factor is a triple $\langle C, V, t \rangle$ where

- C is a set of inequality constraints on parameters,
- \bullet V is a set of parametrized random variables
- t is a table representing a factor from the random variables to the non-negative reals.

$$\langle \{X \neq sue\}, \{interested(X), boring\},$$

	interested	boring	Val	
	yes	yes	0.001	
,	yes	no	0.01	/
		• • •		ľ

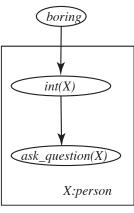
Removing a parameter when summing



n people we observe no questions Eliminate interested: $\langle \{ \}, \{boring, interested(X) \}, t_1 \rangle$ $\langle \{ \}, \{interested(X) \}, t_2 \rangle$ \downarrow $\langle \{ \}, \{boring \}, (t_1 \times t_2)^n \rangle$

 $(t_1 \times t_2)^n$ is computed pointwise; we can compute it in time $O(\log n)$.

Counting Elimination



$$|people| = n$$

Eliminate boring:

VE: factor on $\{int(p_1), \dots, int(p_n)\}$ Size is $O(d^n)$ where d is size of range of interested.

Exchangeable: only the number of interested individuals matters.

Counting Formula:

#interested	Value
0	v_0
1	v_1
n	V _n

Complexity: $O(n^{d-1})$.

[de Salvo Braz et al. 2007] and [Milch et al. 08]

Potential of Lifted Inference

Reduce complexity:

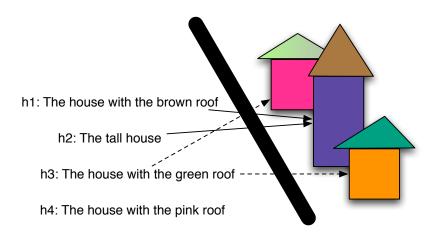
```
polynomial \longrightarrow logarithmic
exponential \longrightarrow polynomial
```

- We need a representation for the intermediate (lifted) factors that is closed under multiplication and summing out (lifted) variables.
- Still an open research problem.

Outline

- Semantic Science Overview
 - Ontologies
 - Data
 - Hypotheses and Theories
 - Models
- Feature-based model construction
- 3 Lifted Inference in Relational Domains
- 4 Existence and Identity Uncertainty

Existence and Identity



Clarity Principle

Clarity principle: probabilities must be over well-defined propositions.

- What if an individual doesn't exist?
 - $house(h4) \land roof_colour(h4, pink) \land \neg exists(h4)$

Clarity Principle

Clarity principle: probabilities must be over well-defined propositions.

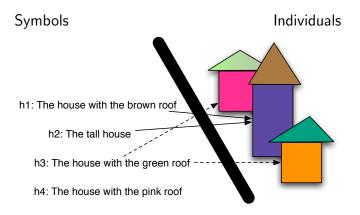
- What if an individual doesn't exist?
 - $house(h4) \land roof_colour(h4, pink) \land \neg exists(h4)$
- What if more than one individual exists? Which one are we referring to?
 - —In a house with three bedrooms, which is the second bedroom?

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- What if more than one individual exists? Which one are we referring to?
 - —In a house with three bedrooms, which is the second bedroom?
- Reified individuals are special:
 - Non-existence means the relation is false.
 - Well defined what doesn't exist when existence is false.
 - Reified individuals with the same description are the same individual.

Correspondence Problem



c symbols and i individuals $\longrightarrow c^{i+1}$ correspondences

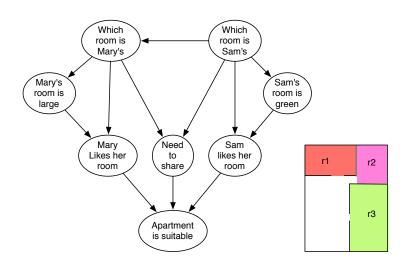
Role assignments

Hypothesis about what apartment Mary would like.

Whether Mary likes an apartment depends on:

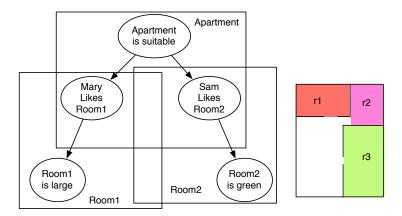
- Whether there is a bedroom for daughter Sam
- Whether Sam's room is green
- Whether there is a bedroom for Mary
- Whether Mary's room is large
- Whether they share

BN Representation



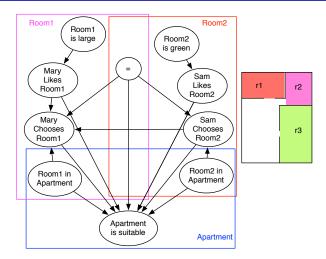
How can we condition on the observation of the apartment?

Naive Bayes representation



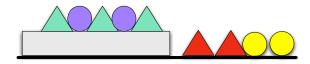
How do we specify that Mary chooses a room? What about the case where they (have to) share?

Causal representation



How do we specify that Sam and Mary choose one room each, but they can like many rooms?

Observation Protocols

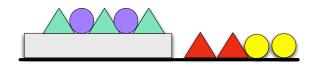


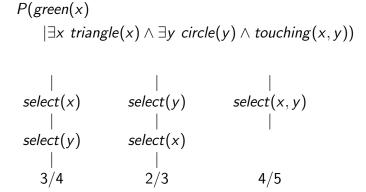
Observe a triangle and a rectangle touching. What is the probability the triangle is green?

$$P(green(x) | \exists x \ triangle(x) \land \exists y \ circle(y) \land touching(x, y))$$

The answer depends on how the x and y were chosen!

Protocol for Observing





Conclusion

- Semantic science is a way to develop and deploy knowledge about how the world works.
- Scientists (and others) develop hypotheses that refer to standardized ontologies and predict for new cases.
- For each prediction: what hypotheses it is based on?
- For each hypothesis: what evidence it is based on?
- Three subproblems:
 - Making predictions in a specific case.
 - Efficient inference in relational domains
 - Existence uncertainty and roles
- (Probabilistic) inductive logic programming is a core technology in constructing hypotheses.

To Do

- Theories of combining hypotheses.
- Representing, reasoning with, and learning complex (probabilistic) hypotheses.
- Build infrastructure to allow publishing and interaction of ontologies, data, hypotheses, theories, models, evaluation criteria, meta-data.
- Build inverse semantic science web:
 - Given a hypothesis, find relevant data to learn from
 - Given data, generate models that make predictions on the data
 - Given a new case, build relevant models with explanations
- More complex models, e.g., for relational reinforcement learning where individuals are created and destroyed