

# (Exact) Lifted inference

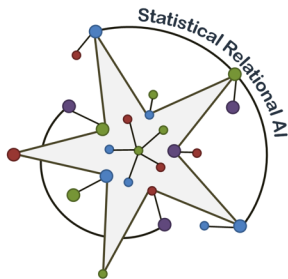
David Poole

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University of British Columbia

Work with: <http://minervaintelligence.com>, <https://treatment.com/>

February 25, 2020

1. Representations: Problog & MLNs
2. Representation Issues
- 3. (Exact) Lifted Inference**
4. Lifted Approximate Inference and Optimization
5. Learning
6. Applications



## (Exact) Lifted Inference

De Raedt, Kersting, Natarajan, Poole: Statistical Relational AI

# Outline

- 1 (Exact) Lifted Inference
  - Recursive Conditioning
  - Lifted Recursive Conditioning

# Why Exact Inference?

Why do we care about exact inference?

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Why do we care about exact inference?

- Gold standard
- Size of problems amenable to exact inference is growing
- Learning for inference
- Basis for efficient approximate inference:
  - Rao-Blackwellization
  - Variational Methods

# A simple example



Guy van den Broeck  
UCLA

What is the probability that the first card of a randomly shuffled deck with 52 cards is an Ace?

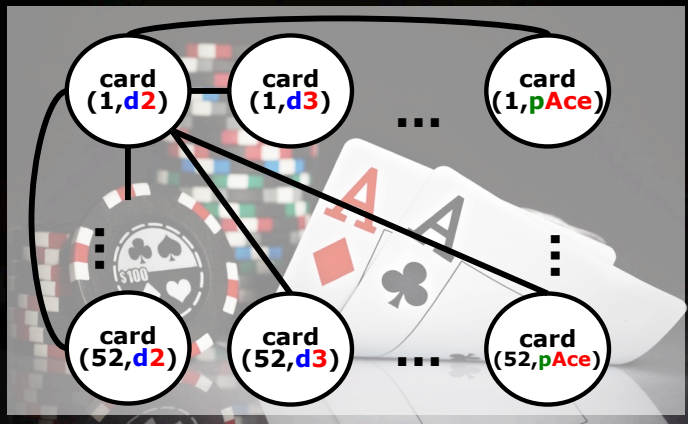




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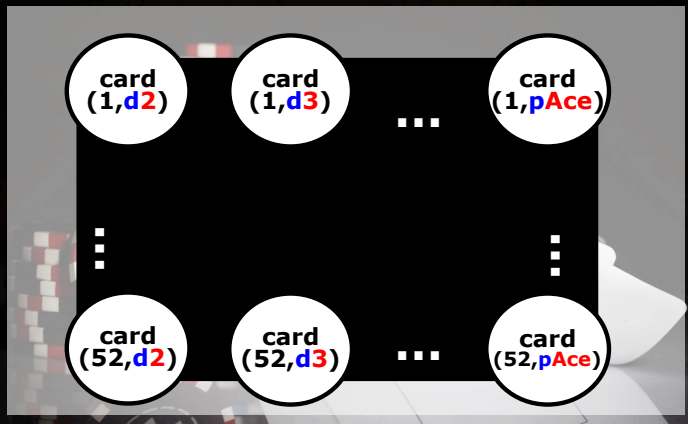
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# A simple example



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card  
(1,d2)

card  
(1,d3)

...

card  
(1,pAce)

No independencies.

Fully connected.

2<sup>2704</sup> states

card  
(52,d2)

card  
(52,d3)

...

card  
(52,pAce)

# A simple example



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card  
(1,d2)

card  
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...

card  
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**A machine will not solve  
the problem**

card  
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card  
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# A simple example



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**A machine will not solve  
the problem**

card  
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card  
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...

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... unless it can represent and exploit symmetry.

## Example: lifted inference

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- Suppose the probability of someone at random matching the description is one in a million.

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- We don't need to reason about all of the other individuals separately, but can count over them.

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- A reasonable model about the eloquence of the speaker might depend on the questions asked
- each of the people who didn't ask a question, their silence might depend on the questions asked, but not on the questions not asked.
- Rather than reasoning separately about each person who was observed to not ask a question, it is reasonable to just count over them.

## Example: lifted inference

- The spread of a malaria (or other diseases) may depend on the number of people and the number of mosquitoes.
- Individual mosquitoes are important in such a model, but we don't want to model each mosquito separately.

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# Lifted Inference

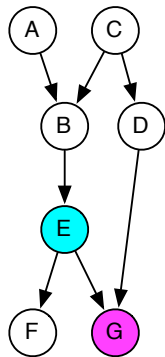
- Idea: treat those individuals about which you have the same information as a block; just count them.
- Use the ideas from lifted theorem proving - no need to ground.
- Potential to be exponentially faster in the number of non-differentiated individuals.
- Relies on knowing the number of individuals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

# Outline

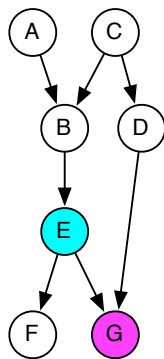
- 1 (Exact) Lifted Inference
  - Recursive Conditioning
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## Inference via factorization in graphical models

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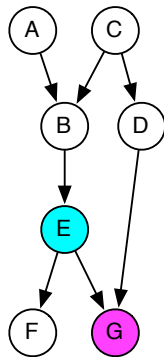
$$P(E \wedge g)$$

$$= \sum_F \sum_B \sum_C \sum_A \sum_D P(A)P(B | AC)$$

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

$$=$$

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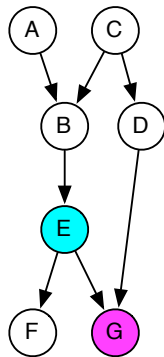
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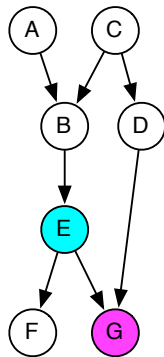
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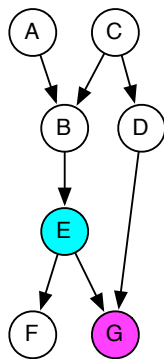
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$$=$$

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## Inference via factorization in graphical models



$$P(E | g) = \frac{P(E \wedge g)}{\sum_E P(E \wedge g)}$$

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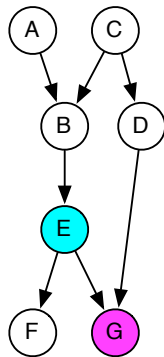
$$P(C)P(D | C)P(E | B)P(F | E)P(g | ED)$$

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# Inference via factorization in graphical models



$$P(E | g) = \frac{P(E \wedge g)}{\sum_E P(E \wedge g)}$$

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

$$= \left( \sum_F P(F | E) \right)$$

$$\sum_B P(E | B) \sum_C \left( P(C) \left( \sum_A P(A)P(B | AC) \right) \right. \\ \left. \left( \sum_D P(D | C)P(g | ED) \right) \right)$$

# Recursive Conditioning

- Computes sum (partition function) from outside in

## Input:

- Context - assignment of values to variables
- Set of factors

## Output: value of summing out other variables (partition function)

- Evaluate a factor as soon as all its variables are assigned
- Cache values already computed
- Recognize disconnected components
- Recursively branch on a variable

# Recursive Conditioning

```

procedure  $rc(Con : \text{context}, Fs : \text{set of factors})$ :
  if  $\exists v$  such that  $\langle\langle Con, Fs \rangle, v \rangle \in \text{cache}$ 
    return  $v$ 
  else if  $\text{vars}(Con) \not\subseteq \text{vars}(Fs)$ 
    return  $rc(\{X = v \in Con : X \in \text{vars}(Fs)\}, Fs)$ 
  else if  $\exists F \in Fs$  such that  $\text{vars}(F) \subseteq \text{vars}(Con)$ 
    return  $eval(F, Con) \times rc(Con, Fs \setminus \{F\})$ 
  else if  $Fs = Fs_1 \uplus Fs_2$  where  $\text{vars}(Fs_1) \cap \text{vars}(Fs_2) \subseteq \text{vars}(Con)$ 
    return  $rc(Con, Fs_1) \times rc(Con, Fs_2)$ 
  else select variable  $X \in \text{vars}(Fs)$ 
     $sum \leftarrow 0$ 
    for each  $v \in \text{domain}(X)$ 
       $sum \leftarrow sum + rc(Con \cup \{X = v\}, Fs)$ 
     $cache \leftarrow cache \cup \{\langle\langle Con, Fs \rangle, sum \rangle\}$ 
  return  $sum$ 

```

# Recursive Conditioning

```

procedure rc(Con : context, Fs : set of factors):
  if  $\exists v$  such that  $\langle\langle \text{Con}, Fs \rangle, v \rangle \in \text{cache}$ 
    return v
  else if  $\text{vars}(\text{Con}) \not\subseteq \text{vars}(Fs)$ 
    return rc( $\{X = v \in \text{Con} : X \in \text{vars}(Fs)\}, Fs)$ 
  else if  $\exists F \in Fs$  such that  $\text{vars}(F) \subseteq \text{vars}(\text{Con})$ 
    return eval(F, Con)  $\times$  rc(Con, Fs  $\setminus$  {F})
  else if  $Fs = Fs_1 \uplus Fs_2$  where  $\text{vars}(Fs_1) \cap \text{vars}(Fs_2) \subseteq \text{vars}(\text{Con})$ 
    return rc(Con, Fs1)  $\times$  rc(Con, Fs2)
  else select variable X  $\in$  vars(Fs)
    sum  $\leftarrow$  0
    for each v  $\in$  domain(X)
      sum  $\leftarrow$  sum + rc(Con  $\cup$  {X = v}, Fs)
    cache  $\leftarrow$  cache  $\cup$  { $\langle\langle \text{Con}, Fs \rangle, \text{sum} \rangle$ }
  return sum

```

Evaluate

Branch

## Recursive Conditioning

```

procedure  $rc(Con : \text{context}, Fs : \text{set of factors})$ :
  if  $\exists v$  such that  $\langle\langle Con, Fs \rangle, v \rangle \in \text{cache}$  Recall
    return  $v$ 
  else if  $\text{vars}(Con) \not\subseteq \text{vars}(Fs)$  Forget
    return  $rc(\{X = v \in Con : X \in \text{vars}(Fs)\}, Fs)$ 
  else if  $\exists F \in Fs$  such that  $\text{vars}(F) \subseteq \text{vars}(Con)$ 
    return  $eval(F, Con) \times rc(Con, Fs \setminus \{F\})$ 
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     $cache \leftarrow cache \cup \{\langle\langle Con, Fs \rangle, sum \rangle\}$  Remember
  return  $sum$ 

```

# Recursive Conditioning

```

procedure rc(Con : context, Fs : set of factors):
  if  $\exists v$  such that  $\langle\langle Con, Fs \rangle, v\rangle \in cache$ 
    return v
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  else if  $Fs = Fs_1 \uplus Fs_2$  where  $vars(Fs_1) \cap vars(Fs_2) \subseteq vars(Con)$ 
    return  $rc(Con, Fs_1) \times rc(Con, Fs_2)$  Disconnected
  else select variable  $X \in vars(Fs)$ 
    sum  $\leftarrow 0$ 
    for each  $v \in domain(X)$ 
      sum  $\leftarrow sum + rc(Con \cup \{X = v\}, Fs)$ 
    cache  $\leftarrow cache \cup \{\langle\langle Con, Fs \rangle, sum\rangle\}$ 
  return sum
  
```

# Variable Elimination and Recursive Conditioning

- Variable elimination is the dynamic programming variant of recursive conditioning.
- Recursive Conditioning is the search variant of variable elimination
- They do the same additions and multiplications.
- Complexity  $O(nr^t)$ , for  $n$  variables, range size  $r$ , and treewidth  $t$ .

# Outline

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  - Recursive Conditioning
  - Lifted Recursive Conditioning



# Weighted Formula

A **Weighted formula** is a pair  $\langle F, v \rangle$  where

- $F$  a formula on parametrized random variables
- $v$  number

**Example:**

$\langle X \neq Y \wedge \text{likes}(X, Y) \wedge \text{rich}(Y), 0.001 \rangle$

$\langle \text{likes}(X, X) \wedge \text{rich}(X), 0.7 \rangle$

...

# Lifted Recursive Conditioning

## *LiftedRC(Context, WeightedFormulas)*

- *Context* is a set of assignments to random variables and counts to assignments of instances of relations. e.g.:

$$\{ \neg a, \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) = 7, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 5, \\ \#_X \neg f(X) \wedge g(X) = 18, \\ \#_X \neg f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 0 \}$$

- *WeightedFormulas* is a set of weighted formulae, e.g.,

$$\{ \langle \neg a \wedge \neg f(X) \wedge g(X), 0.1 \rangle, \\ \langle a \wedge \neg f(X) \wedge g(X), 0.2 \rangle, \\ \langle f(X) \wedge g(Y), 0.3 \rangle, \\ \langle f(X) \wedge h(X), 0.4 \rangle \}$$

# Evaluating Weighted Formulae

*Context:*

$$\{ \neg a, \quad \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) = 7, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 5, \\ \#_X \neg f(X) \wedge g(X) = 18, \\ \#_X \neg f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 0 \}$$

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*LiftedRC(Context, WeightedFormulas)* returns:

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*LiftedRC*(*Context*, *WeightedFormulas*) returns:

$$0.1^{18} *$$

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*LiftedRC*(*Context*, *WeightedFormulas*) returns:

$$0.1^{18} * 1 *$$

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*LiftedRC*(*Context*, *WeightedFormulas*) returns:

$$0.1^{18} * 1 * 0.3^{12*}$$

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*LiftedRC*(*Context*, *WeightedFormulas*) returns:

$$0.1^{18} * 1 * 0.3^{12*25} *$$

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$$0.1^{18} * 1 * 0.3^{12*25} * \text{LiftedRC}(\text{Context}, \{ \langle f(X) \wedge h(X), 0.4 \rangle \})$$



# Branching

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*WeightedFormulas:*  $\{ \langle f(X) \wedge h(X), 0.4 \rangle, \dots \}$

Branching on  $H$  for the 7 “ $X$ ” individuals s.th.  $f(X) \wedge g(X)$ :

$LiftedRC(Context, WeightedFormulas) =$

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Branching on  $H$  for the 7 “ $X$ ” individuals s.th.  $f(X) \wedge g(X)$ :

$LiftedRC(Context, WeightedFormulas) =$

$$\sum_{i=0}^7 \binom{7}{i} LiftedRC(\{ \neg a, \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) \wedge h(X) = i, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) \wedge \neg h(X) = 7 - i, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 5, \dots \},$$

*WeightedFormulas*)

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$$\sum_{i=0}^7 \binom{7}{i} LiftedRC(\{ \neg a, \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) \wedge h(X) = i, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) \wedge \neg h(X) = 7 - i, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 5, \dots \},$$

*WeightedFormulas*)

# Branching

Context:

$$\{ \neg a, \#_X f(X) \wedge g(X) = 7, \\ \#_X f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 5, \\ \#_X \neg f(X) \wedge g(X) = 18, \\ \#_X \neg f(X) \wedge \neg g(X) = 0 \}$$

WeightedFormulas:  $\{ \langle f(X) \wedge h(X), 0.4 \rangle, \dots \}$

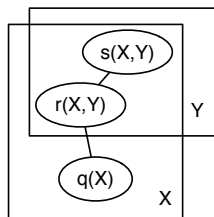
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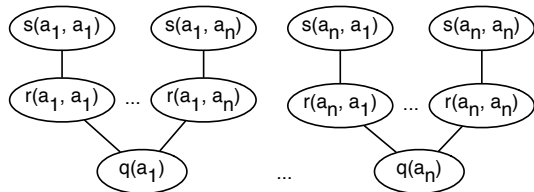
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# Recognizing Disconnectedness



Relational Model

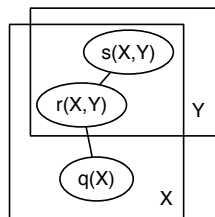


Grounding

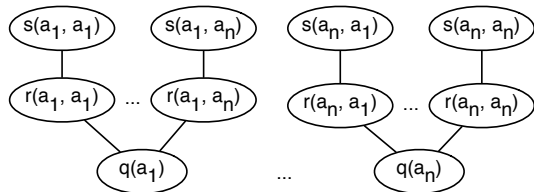
Weighted formulae *WeightedFormulas*:

$$\{ \langle \{ \{ s(X, Y) \wedge r(X, Y) \}, t_1 \rangle, \langle \{ \{ q(X) \wedge r(X, Y) \}, t_2 \rangle \}$$

# Recognizing Disconnectedness



Relational Model



Grounding

Weighted formulae *WeightedFormulas*:

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \langle \{s(X, Y) \wedge r(X, Y)\}, t_1 \rangle \\ & \langle \langle \{q(X) \wedge r(X, Y)\}, t_2 \rangle \rangle \end{aligned}$$

*LiftedRC*(Context, *WeightedFormulas*)

$$= \text{LiftedRC}(\text{Context}, \text{WeightedFormulas}\{X/c\})^n$$

...now we only have unary predicates

# Observations and Queries

- Observations become the initial context.  
Observations can be ground or lifted.
- 

$$P(q|obs) = \frac{LiftedRC(q \wedge obs, WFs)}{LiftedRC(q \wedge obs, WFs) + LiftedRC(\neg q \wedge obs, WFs)}$$

calls can share the cache

- “How many?” queries are also allowed



# Complexity

As the population size  $n$  of **undifferentiated individuals** increases:

- If grounding is polynomial — instances must be disconnected — lifted inference is constant in  $n$  (taking  $r^n$  for real  $r$ )

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Always exponentially faster than grounding everything.

# What we can and cannot lift

We can lift a model that consists just of

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# Compilation

- The computation reduces to products and sums
- The structure can be determined at compile time
- Orders of magnitude faster than lifted recursive conditioning
- Often abstracted as weighted model counting (WMC)

# Take Home

- Lifted inference exploits symmetries (“for all”)
- Instead of considering which individuals a predicate is true for, count how many individuals it is true for, and determine appropriate probabilities.
- Always exponentially better in the number of undifferentiated individuals than grounding everything.
- Open problem: finding a dichotomy of those problems we know we can lift and those we know it is impossible to lift.

*What is now required is to give the greatest possible development to mathematical logic, to allow to the full the importance of relations, and then to found upon this secure basis a new philosophical logic, which may hope to borrow some of the exactitude and certainty of its mathematical foundation. If this can be successfully accomplished, there is every reason to hope that the near future will be as great an epoch in pure philosophy as the immediate past has been in the principles of mathematics. Great triumphs inspire great hopes; and pure thought may achieve, within our generation, such results as will place our time, in this respect, on a level with the greatest age of Greece.*

– Bertrand Russell 1917