

1 Ising Model on Graphs

Consider a directed graph $G(V \cup \{s, t\}, E)$ (V is the vertex set with $|V| = n$ and E is the edge set). For every vertex $i \in V$, associate a spin random variable X_i taking values in $\{-1, +1\}$. The energy of a configuration $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is given by

$$H(x) = - \sum_{(i,j) \in E} x_i x_j - \sum_{(s,i) \in E} x_i + \sum_{(i,t) \in E} x_i.$$

- a.) For $n = 3$ and the graph being a chain (ie. $E = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (s, 1), (3, t)\}$), write down the probability of the configuration $(+1, +1, -1)$ under the Boltzmann's Distribution at temperature $T = 10$. (1)
- b.) Let $y = (-1, +1, -1, +1, \dots, (-1)^n)$. What is the probability of the configuration y in the Boltzmann's distribution as $T \rightarrow \infty$? (1)
- c.) Consider the graph with the directed edges given by $E = \{(i, j) : i < j \text{ where } i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}\} \cup \{(s, 1), (n, t)\}$. Describe the Boltzmann's distribution as $T \rightarrow 0$? (1.5)
- d.) Derive that the ground states (maximum probability states) are given by the Minimum $s - t$ cut in the graph. (1.5)

2 MCMC Sampling

Consider an undirected graph $G(V, E)$. Consider random variables X_i for $i \in V$ (one each for every vertex) taking values in $\{1, \dots, n + 1\}$ with the potential function (of the Markov Network) being

$$p(x) \propto \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \phi(x_i, x_j) \prod_{i \in V} x_i \quad \text{where} \quad \phi(a, b) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \neq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

- a.) Describe the highest and 0 probability states in the distribution where the graph is a 3×3 grid (9 variables). (1)
- b.) Describe a Markov Chain (MC) with states space $\Omega = \{1, \dots, n + 1\}^{|V|}$, with transitions between states $x, y \in \Omega$ only possible if they differ in at most 1 coordinate such that there is a path from any x to any y . (1.5)

- c.) What should be the transition probabilities such that the stationary distribution of the chain is the distribution described above? (need to give transition probabilities, derive the stationary distribution) (2.5)

3 Tail Bounds

Suppose we throw m balls into n bins (uniformly and independently). Balls $\{i, j\}$ is said to *collide* if they fall into the same bin. Let $X_{m,n}$ be the random variable corresponding to the number of collisions and $\mu_{m,n}$ be its expected value.

a.) Show that $\mu_{m,n} = \binom{m}{2} \frac{1}{n}$. (1)

- b.) Using Chebyshev's inequality show that

$$\Pr[|X_{m,n} - \mu_{m,n}| \geq c\sqrt{\mu_{m,n}}] \leq \frac{1}{c^2}. \quad (2)$$

- c.) Let $m < \sqrt{n}$. Use Chernoff's bounds plus the union bound to show that the probability that no bin has more than 1 ball is at least $1 - n \cdot 2 \cdot e^{-m/8}$. (2)

4 Message Passing

Consider the distribution given by

$$p(v_1, \dots, v_T, h_1, \dots, h_T) = p(h_1)p(v_1 | h_1) \prod_{i=2}^T p(v_i | h_i)p(h_i | h_{i-1})$$

where the domains of h_i 's is $\{1, \dots, H\}$ and v_i 's is $\{1, \dots, V\}$.

- a.) Draw Belief Network for the above distribution. (1)
- b.) Draw factor graph representation for the above distribution. (1)
- c.) Use the factor graph and message passing to obtain an algorithm with running time $O(TH)$ for computing $p(h_1 | v_1, \dots, v_T)$. (1.5)
- d.) Use the factor graph and message passing to obtain an algorithm with running time $O(T(H + V))$ for computing $p(h_1 | v_T)$. (1.5)
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