# Logical Properties of Stable Conditional Independence

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#### **Representing and Reasoning about Cl**



# Why Alternatives?

- Naive representation of CI possibly exponential in number of variables, but also
- Faithfulness problem with graphical models
- Try to find a representation which is
  - Broader (i.e, captures more probability measures) than graphical models but
  - Possibly without the exponential blow-up

# What is Stable CI?

- Same as "general" CI, except that strong union is *sound*
- $I(A,B|C) \rightarrow I(A,B|CD)$  [strong union]
- Early work (Matus 92) called it ascending CI
- Every set of CI statements can be paritioned into stable and unstable part
- Used to reduce size of representation (de Waal & van der Gaag 04)

Conditional Independence Structures

Set of CI statements  $C = \{ I(a,b|\emptyset), I(c,d|a), I(c,d|b) \}$   $\models$ + Implied CI statements  $I(c,d|\emptyset)$ 

= CI structure  $C^* = \{ I(a,b|\emptyset), I(c,d|a), I(c,d|b), I(c,d|b), I(c,d|b) \}$ 

Conditional Independence Structures

 $C = \{ I(a,b|\phi), I(c,d|a), I(c,d|b) \}$ Set of CI statements

+ Implied CI statements

 $C^* = \{ I(a,b|\emptyset), I(c,d|a), I(c,d|b), \}$ = CI structure  $I(c,d|\emptyset)$ 

Axiomatization of stable CI exists (Niepert et al. 08)

 $I(A,B|C) \rightarrow I(B,A|C)$  [symmetry]  $I(A,BD|C) \rightarrow I(A,B|C)$  [decomposition]

 $I(A,B|CD) I(A,D|C) \rightarrow I(A,BD|C)$ 

[contraction]

 $I(A,B|C) \rightarrow I(A,B|CD)$  [strong union]

 $I(A,B|C), I(D,E|AC), I(D,E|BC) \rightarrow I(D,E|C)$ [strong contraction]

- For every set of stable CI statements C, there exists a discrete probability measure that satisfies the statements in C\* and none other
- Not true for binary probability measures

→ Same situation as for "arbitrary" conditional independence

- Generalization of undirected graphical models (follows from axiomatization)
- Number of stable CI structures grows at least double exponentially with the number of variables
- For 4 variables there are **64** UG, 18478 general, and at least **4221** stable CI structures

- Problem: How can we achieve "lossless compression" of representation of stable CI?
- Solution in the computational complexity of the implication problem
- Implication problem for stable CI:
  - Given a set of stable CI statements C and a CI statement c. Decide if C ⊨ c?
  - If so, c is a stable CI statement!

### Redundancy and Irredundancy

- Given a set of stable CI statements C
- Irredundant equivalent subset C' (Liberatore)
  - Subset of C
  - For all  $c \in C$ :  $C' \models c$
  - For all  $c \in C'$ : (C'-{c})  $\nvDash c$
- If we can decide ⊨ efficiently, we could compute more compact and lossless representation

## **Computational Complexity**

- Propositional formula  $\varphi$  in variant of 3-CNF over T
- Mapped into set C of CI statements over T U {r,s}
- $\phi$  is contradiction if and only if  $C \models I(r,s | \emptyset)$
- → Implication problem coNP-complete

 $(a \lor c) \land (\neg a \lor \neg b \lor c) \rightarrow \{I(a,c | \emptyset), I(c,r | ab), I(c,s | ab)\}$ 

{  $I(a,c|\emptyset), I(c,r|ab), I(c,s|ab) \} \models I(r,s|\emptyset)$  ?

Property	Stable CI	
Complete finite axiomatization	Yes	
Implication Problem	coNP-complete	
Perfect models	Yes (but not for binary measures)	



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- Mapping g from set of CI statements to propositional formula exists (linear time)
- SAT solvers can be used to decide the implication problem

irredundant-subset (C : set) C' : set

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\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{C}' := \mathcal{C} \\ \textbf{for each } c \in \mathcal{C}' \\ \textbf{begin} \\ \textbf{if } g(\mathcal{C}' - \{c\}) \land \neg g(c) \ not \ \text{satisfiable} \\ \textbf{then } \mathcal{C}' := \mathcal{C}' - \{c\} \\ \textbf{end} \\ \textbf{return } \mathcal{C}' \end{array}
```

#### Irredundant Representation

- Experiments
  - Initially 500 randomly generated CI statements



#### Irredundant Representation

- Experiments (cont.)
  - 100,000 antecedents
  - Randomly generated
  - Time (in ms) to decide the implication problem

Variables	50	100	200	300	400
Time [ms]	740	1523	3362	5627	7076

#### **Representing and Reasoning about Cl**

P(A,B,C,D,E,...)



#### **Representing and Reasoning about Cl**





### Stable Conditional Independence

- Alternative for representing and reasoning about conditional independence
- Complete, finite axiomatization exists
- Perfect models for discrete prob. measures
- Generalization of UG models
- Correspondence to propositional logic
- SAT solver can decide the implication problem

Thank you!