

Markov Random Fields with Applications to M-reps Models

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Markov Random Fields with Applications to M-reps Models

Outline:

- Background;
- Definition and properties of MRF;
- Computation;
- MRF m-reps models.

Markov Random Fields

Model a large collection of random variables with complex dependency relationships among them.

Markov Random Fields

- A model based approach;
- Has been applied to a variety of problems:
 - Speech recognition
 - Natural language processing
 - Coding
 - Image analysis
 - Neural networks
 - Artificial intelligence
- Usually used within the Bayesian framework.

The Bayesian Paradigm

X = space of the unknown variables,
e.g. labels;

Y = space of data (observations),
e.g. intensity values;

Given an observation $y \in Y$, want to make
inference about $x \in X$.

The Bayesian Paradigm

Prior P_X : probability distribution on X ;

Likelihood $P_{Y|X}$: conditional distribution of Y
given X ;

Statistical inference is based on the *posterior*
distribution $P_{X|Y} \propto P_X \cdot P_{Y|X}$.

The Prior Distribution

- Describes our assumption or knowledge about the model;
- X is usually a high dimensional space. P_X describes the joint distribution of a large number of random variables;
- How do we define P_X ?

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Assumptions

- $X = \{X_s\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}}$, where each X_s is a random variable; \mathcal{S} is an index set and is finite;
- There is a common state space \mathcal{R} : $X_s \in \mathcal{R}$ for all $s \in \mathcal{S}$; $|\mathcal{R}|$ is finite;
- Let $\Omega = \{\omega = (x_{s_1}, \dots, x_{s_N}) : x_{s_i} \in \mathcal{R}, 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ be the set of all possible *configurations*.

Dependency Graph

A simple undirected graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{N})$:

- \mathcal{S} is the set of **sites** (vertices);
- $\mathcal{N} = \{\mathcal{N}_s\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}}$ is the **neighborhood structure** (the set of edges). The **neighbors** of s are those sites that are connected to s by an edge;
- Let \mathcal{C} denote the set of cliques - completely connected subgraphs of \mathcal{G} , including singletons.

Markov Random Field: Definition

P is an Markov random field on Ω with respect to $\mathcal{G} = (S, \mathcal{N})$ if

(1) $P(X=\omega) > 0$ for all $\omega \in \Omega$;

(2) $P(X_s=x_s \mid X_r=x_r, r \neq s)$
 $= P(X_s=x_s \mid X_r=x_r, r \in \mathcal{N}_s)$
(local characteristics)

The local characteristics uniquely determines a joint distribution.

Examples of MRF: Nearest Neighbor Systems

- 1st order Markov chain $\{X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots\}$:
$$P(X_{n+1}=x_{n+1} \mid X_n=x_n, X_{n-1}=x_{n-1}, \dots, X_0=x_0)$$
$$= P(X_{n+1}=x_{n+1} \mid X_n=x_n)$$
- 4-neighbor lattice system:
$$P(X_{i,j} \mid \text{all other random variables}) =$$
$$P(X_{i,j} \mid X_{i-1,j}, X_{i+1,j}, X_{i,j-1}, X_{i,j+1})$$

Gibbs Field

P is Gibbs on Ω with respect to $\mathcal{G} = (S, \mathcal{N})$ if

$$P(\omega) = 1/Z \cdot \exp\{-H(\omega) / T\},$$

where

- Z is a normalizing constant (*partition function*);
- H is the *energy*. $H(\omega) = \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} U_C(\omega)$. \mathcal{C} is the set of cliques for \mathcal{G} . $\{U_C \geq 0\}$ are called the *potentials*;
- $U_C(\omega)$ depends only on those x_s of ω for which $s \in C$;
- T is a parameter (*temperature*).

The Hammersley-Clifford Theorem

P is an MRF with respect to \mathcal{G} if and only if P is a Gibbs distribution with respect to \mathcal{G} .

Advantage of Using the Gibbs Form

- The Gibbs form explicitly specifies the joint distribution;
- Local characteristics (conditional probabilities) can be easily formulated from the Gibbs form;
- The potentials can be learned from training data (see later slides) .

Examples: Nearest Neighbor Systems (cont.)

- 1-D :

$$H(\{\mathbf{x}_i\}) = \sum U_i(\mathbf{x}_i) + \sum U_{(i,i+1)}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1})$$

- 2-D :

The most general form of the energy is

$$\begin{aligned} H(\{\mathbf{x}_{i,j}\}) = & \sum U_{\{(i,j)\}}(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}) \\ & + \sum U_{\{(i,j), (i+1,j)\}}(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}, \mathbf{x}_{i+1,j}) \\ & + \sum U_{\{(i,j), (i,j+1)\}}(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}, \mathbf{x}_{i,j+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Important Properties of MRF

- Markov property:

Let $A, B, C \subset S$. If every path from $a \in A$ to $c \in C$ meets some $b \in B$, then X_A and X_C are conditionally independent given X_B .

Can still model complicated dependencies!

- Maximum entropy property:

The family $P_\lambda(\omega) = 1/Z_\lambda \exp\{-\sum_c \lambda_c U_c(\omega)\}$ are the maximum entropy models with fixed values for $E(U_c(\omega)) = U_c^*$ (average energy).

Learning by the ME Principle

- Choose a set of (local) features;
- Obtain empirical distribution of the features from training set;
- Learn the potentials by the ME principle.
- Example: ME distribution with specified mean and variance yields a Gaussian distribution.

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Computation Methods

- Dynamic programming
 - the basic idea behind a lot of different algorithms, e.g. forward-backward, parsing, Viterbi, sum-product, belief propagation, etc.;
 - relatively fast;
 - does not work for all MRF's.
- Stochastic relaxation

General Computation Problems

- a) Sample from a Gibbs distribution;
- b) Find minimum energy;
- c) Compute expected values;
- d) Test model and estimate parameters.

Among them, a) is the most basic problem.

Direct sampling from a Gibbs field $P(\mathbf{x}) = Z^{-1} \exp(-H(\mathbf{x}))$, $\mathbf{x} \in X$, is usually not feasible because

- the underlying space X is huge;
- the partition function Z is intractable.

Stochastic Sampling Algorithms

Design a Markov chain with state space Ω whose equilibrium distribution is the desired Gibbs distribution.

Examples:

- Metropolis -Hastings algorithms: based on having “elementary” Markov chains;
- Gibbs sampler: based on using local characteristics.

Temperature in Gibbs Distribution

Any Gibbs field P can be put in a family $\{P_T\}$ with parameter $T = \text{temperature}$:

$$\begin{aligned} P_T(\mathbf{x}) &= 1/Z_T P(\mathbf{x})^{1/T} \\ &= 1/Z_T \cdot \exp\{-E(\mathbf{x})/T\}, \end{aligned}$$

- as $T \rightarrow \infty$, $P_T \rightarrow$ uniform distribution;
- as $T \rightarrow 0$, $P_T \rightarrow \delta_{\text{mode}(P)}$.

Simulated Annealing

- Goal: find the **global** minimum energy (*ground state*), e.g. MAP estimates.
- Algorithm:
 - choose a cooling scheme $T_1 > T_2 > \dots \rightarrow 0$;
 - generate a Markov chain $\{X^{(n)}\}$ on Ω where $X^{(n)} \rightarrow X^{(n+1)}$ is a transition by P^{T_n} ; the transition probabilities are specified by the Metropolis/Gibbs sampler;
 - If one cools at a *very slow* pace, then $X^{(n)}$ converges in probability to the mode of P .

Simulated Annealing (cont.)

- Advantages:
 - guaranteed to find global minima (in principle), as opposed to greedy algorithms;
 - works for any Gibbs fields;
- Disadvantages:
 - convergence is very slow;
 - stopping rule is not clear;
 - hard to analyze;

Markov Chain Monte Carlo

- Goal: compute $E_p(f)$ for a function f on Ω .
- Traditional Monte Carlo: sample uniformly from Ω and average w.r.t. P

$$E_p(f(\mathbf{X})) \approx \frac{\sum_k f(\mathbf{X}_k)P(\mathbf{X}_k)}{\sum_k P(\mathbf{X}_k)}$$

- MCMC: sample from P and average uniformly

$$E_p(f(\mathbf{X})) \approx \frac{\sum_{k=1}^K f(\mathbf{X}_k)}{K}$$

Summary of the Theory

- MRF provides a general framework for studying complex random systems;
- Computation is usually complicated;
- How can we do better?
 - data driven methods in computation;
 - better design of MRF, e.g. hierarchical MRF modes (HMF, HMRF, etc.);
 - other approximations, e.g. mean field, continuous stochastic processes.

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M-reps Models

- Multiscale shape models. Each scale k is described by a set of primitives $\{\mathbf{z}_i^k\}$;
- Object intrinsic coordinates provide correspondences among object population;
- Can easily describe both *global* and *local* variations, as well as inter-object relations.

MRF M-reps Models

- The probability distribution on the shape space is given by $P(\{\mathbf{z}_i^k\})$;
- Markov assumption:

$$P(\mathbf{z}_i^k \mid \text{all other primitives at all scales } \leq k) \\ = P(\mathbf{z}_i^k \mid \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}_i^k), \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{z}_i^k))$$

- If \mathbf{z}^k denotes scale k , then a multiscale MRF m-reps model can be written as a Markov chain

$$P(\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^n) = P(\mathbf{z}^1) \cdot P(\mathbf{z}^2 \mid \mathbf{z}^1) \cdots P(\mathbf{z}^n \mid \mathbf{z}^{n-1})$$

MRF M-reps Models

- By the H-C theorem, the model has “two-sided” Markov property, i.e. $P(\mathbf{z}^k | \text{all other scales}) = P(\mathbf{z}^k | \mathbf{z}^{k-1}, \mathbf{z}^{k+1})$,
or equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} &P(\mathbf{z}_i^k | \text{all other primitives at all scales}) \\ &= P(\mathbf{z}_i^k | \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}_i^k), \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{z}_i^k), \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{z}_i^k)) \end{aligned}$$

- Use residues (differences) as features;
- The basic problem is how to specify the conditional probabilities $P_k = P(\mathbf{z}^k | \mathbf{z}^{k-1})$

The Boundary Level: MRF Model

- Primitives: $z_i = \tau_i$, the (normalized) displacement along the normal direction at point i ;
- Neighborhood structure: nearest 4-neighbors;
- The Gibbs distribution thus involves potentials of the form $A_i(\tau_i)$ and $B_{ij}(\tau_i, \tau_j)$, where i and j are 4-neighbors.

The Boundary Level: MRF Model

- Further assumptions:
 - Potentials have the same function form;
 - Gaussian (quadratic potentials);
- The joint distribution of $\{\tau_i\}$ has density

$$P(\{\tau_i\}) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_1^2} \sum_i s_i \tau_i^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_2^2} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} w_{ij} (\tau_i - \tau_j)^2 \right\}$$

- σ_1, σ_2 are parameters; $\{s_i\}$ and $\{w_{ij}\}$ are fixed from the previous stage.

The Boundary Level: Conditional Distribution

$$P(\{\tau_i\}) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_1^2} \sum_i s_i \tau_i^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_2^2} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} w_{ij} (\tau_i - \tau_j)^2 \right\}$$

The log of the conditional probability density of τ_i is essentially

$$-\frac{s_i \tau_i^2}{2\sigma_1^2} - \frac{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} w_{ij}}{2\sigma_2^2} \left(\tau_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \frac{w_{ij}}{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} w_{ij}} \tau_j \right)^2$$

Interpretation: penalizes large τ_i and large deviation from “predicted τ ” by neighbors.

The Boundary Level: Prior Model Learning

- The parameters σ_1 , σ_2 can be learned from training data, using maximum likelihood estimates or other criteria;
- Other choices of model:
 - position-dependent parameters;
 - non-Gaussian models, maximum entropy learning.

The Atom Level

- Primitive: $z_i = \mathbf{A}_i = (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{R}_i, r_i)$, describing position \mathbf{x} , local frame \mathcal{F} , and radius r of atom i . $z_i \in \mathbf{R}^3 \times \text{SO}(3) \times \mathbf{R}^+$;
- With 4-neighbor structure, the Gibbs distribution contains potentials of the form $f_i(\mathbf{A}_i)$ and $g_{ij}(\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{A}_j)$ for neighboring atoms;
- Need a metric to describe difference between atoms ...

Atom Distance

Define a metric on atoms (or $\mathbf{R}^3 \times \text{SO}(3) \times \mathbf{R}^+$) by

$$d(\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{A}_j) = \sqrt{\alpha_E d_E^2(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) + \alpha_R d_R^2(\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{R}_j) + \alpha_r d_r^2(r_i, r_j)}$$

where

- d_E is Euclidean distance in \mathbf{R}^3 ;
- d_R is the Riemannian distance in $\text{SO}(3)$;
- d_r is the log-distance in \mathbf{R}^+ : $d(r_1, r_2) = |\log(r_1/r_2)|$;
- $\alpha_E, \alpha_R, \alpha_r$ are appropriate weights.

The Atom Level: MRF Model

- Let $\Delta\mathbf{A}_i$ denote the “difference” between \mathbf{A}_i and \mathbf{A}'_i , where \mathbf{A}'_i is the corresponding atom at the previous scale. In other words,

$$\Delta\mathbf{A}_i = (\Delta\mathbf{x}_i, \Delta\mathbf{R}_i, \Delta r_i) = ((\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}'_i) / r'_i, (\mathbf{R}'_i)^{-1}\mathbf{R}_i, r_i / r'_i).$$

- Prior model (quadratic potentials):

$$\begin{aligned} P(\{\mathbf{A}_i\} | \{\mathbf{A}'_i\}) = & \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left\{ - \sum_i \frac{s_i}{2\sigma_i^2} d^2(\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{A}'_i) \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \frac{w_{ij}}{2\sigma_{ij}^2} d^2(\Delta\mathbf{A}_i, \Delta\mathbf{A}_j) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

The Atom Level: Conditional Distribution

$$P(\mathbf{A}_i) \propto \exp\left\{-\frac{s_i}{2\sigma_i^2} [\alpha_E d_E^2(\Delta\mathbf{x}_i, 0) + \alpha_R d_R^2(\Delta\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{I}) + \alpha_r d_r^2(\Delta\mathbf{r}_i, 1)]\right. \\ \left. - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \frac{w_{ij}}{2\sigma_{ij}^2} [\alpha_E d_E^2(\Delta\mathbf{x}_i, \Delta\mathbf{x}_j) + \alpha_R d_R^2(\Delta\mathbf{R}_i, \Delta\mathbf{R}_j) + \alpha_r d_r^2(\Delta\mathbf{r}_i, \Delta\mathbf{r}_j)]\right\}$$

- σ_i , σ_{ij} are trainable parameters of the model;
- The density is with respect to the Haar measure on the product space $\mathbf{R}^3 \times \text{SO}(3) \times \mathbf{R}^+$;
- Interpretation: penalties on being away from “parent atom” and “neighbor mean”;

MRF M-reps Models

- Similar MRF models can be designed for all other scale levels, using appropriate parent and neighbor terms;
- The full joint distribution is a probability measure on the shape space, with a relatively small number of parameters;
- The model is trainable (parametric vs. non-parametric).

References

- For Markov random fields:
 - Geman, Geman, “Stochastic relaxation, Gibbs distributions, and the Bayesian restoration of images”, IEEE PAMI 6, No. 6, 1984;
- For deformable m-reps models:
 - Joshi, Pizer, et al, TMI 2002;
 - Pizer, Joshi, et al, IJCV 2002.