

# **Graph concepts**

## **Artificial intelligence (CK0031/CK0248)**

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# Graph concepts

Usually we have good reason to believe that one event affects another

- Or, conversely, that some events are independent

Incorporating such knowledge can yield models that are better specified

- (And, computationally more efficient)

Graphs describe how objects are linked

They provide a convenient picture for describing related objects

## Graph concepts (cont.)

We introduce a graph structure among the variables of a probabilistic model

The objective is to produce a ‘probabilistic graphical model’

- ↪ We want to capture relations among variables
- ↪ Together with their uncertainties

# Generalities

## Graph concepts

# Generalities

## Definition

### *Graphs*

A *graph*  $\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E})$  is a data structure consisting of

↪ A set of *nodes*

$$\mathcal{A} = \{A_1, \dots, A_N\}$$

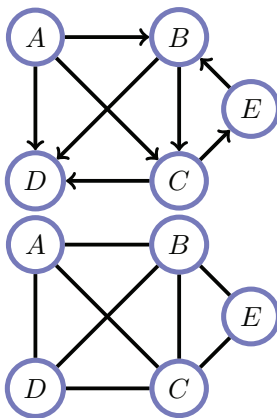
↪ A set of *edges* between pairs of nodes in  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\mathcal{E}$$



## Generalities (cont.)

- Edges may be directed ( $A_i \rightarrow A_j$ ) or undirected ( $A_i - A_j$ )
- Edges can have associated weights



## Generalities (cont.)

Our use of graphs is to endow them with a probabilistic interpretation

We develop a connection between directed graphs and probability

Undirected graphs are central in modelling/reasoning with uncertainty

↪ Variables are independent if not linked by a path on the graph

## Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

***Walks***

*A **walk**  $A \mapsto B$  from node  $A$  to node  $B$  is an alternating sequence of nodes and edges that connects  $A$  and  $B$*



A walk is of a form

$$A_0, e_1, A_1, e_2, \dots, A_{M-1}, e_M, A_M$$

$$A_0 = A \text{ and } A_M = B$$

Each edge  $(A_{m-1}, A_m)$  with  $m = 1, \dots, M$  is in the graph

- $M$  is said to be the **length** of the walk

A directed graph is a sequence of nodes

- When we follow the direction of the arrows, it leads us from  $A$  to  $B$

# Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

*Trails and paths*

*Refinements of a walk*

↪ *Trails*, walks without repeated edges

↪ *Paths*, trails without repeated nodes



## Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

*Ancestors and descendants, parents and children*

*In directed graphs*

- Nodes  $A$ , such that  $A \mapsto B$  and  $B \not\mapsto A$  are the **ancestors** of  $B$
- Nodes  $B$ , such that  $A \mapsto B$  and  $B \not\mapsto A$  are the **descendants** of  $A$

Wherever we have that  $A_i \rightarrow A_j \in \mathcal{E}$

- $A_j$  is the **child** of  $A_i$  in  $\mathcal{K}$

$\text{ch}(A_j)$  denotes the children of  $A_j$

- $A_i$  is the **parent** of  $A_j$  in  $\mathcal{K}$

$\text{pa}(A_i)$  denotes the parents of  $A_i$

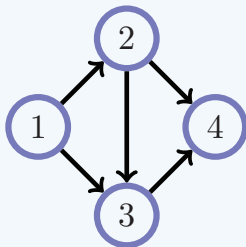
# Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

### *Cycles and loops*

A *cycle* is a directed path that starts and returns to the same node

$$a \rightarrow b \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow z \rightarrow a$$



A *loop* is a path containing more than two nodes, irrespective of edge direction, that starts and returns to the same node

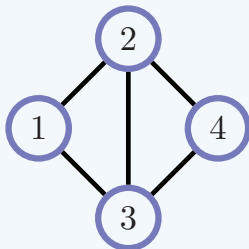
- 1 – 2 – 4 – 3 – 1 forms a loop

The graph is *acyclic*

## Generalities (cont.)

### Definition

#### *Chords*



*Adjacency* is a notion of connectivity

- Two nodes  $A_i$  and  $A_j$  are said to be **adjacent** if joined by an edge in  $\mathcal{E}$

A **chord** is an edge that connects two non-adjacent nodes in a loop

- Edge  $2 - 3$  is a chord in the  $1 - 2 - 4 - 3 - 1$  loop



# Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

### *Directed Acyclic Graph, DAG*

A **DAG** is a particular graph  $\mathcal{G}$  with directed edges between the nodes

- By following a path of nodes from one node to another along the direction of each edge no path will revisit a node

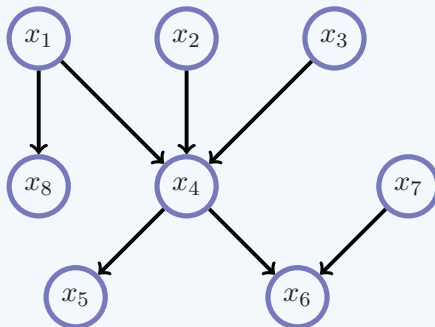
In a DAG

- ↪ Ancestors of  $B$  are nodes who have a directed path ending at  $B$
- ↪ Descendants of  $A$  are nodes who have a directed path starting at  $A$

# Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

### *Relations in a DAG*



The **parents** of  $x_4$

- $pa(x_4) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$

The **children** of  $x_4$

- $ch(x_4) = \{x_5, x_6\}$

The **Markov blanket** of a node is its parents, its children and the parents of its children (excluding itself)

- The Markov blanket of  $x_4$  is  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5, x_6, x_7\}$

## Generalities (cont.)

### Remark

One can view directed links on a graph as ‘direct dependencies’

- between parent and child

Acyclicity prevents circular reasoning

# Graph concepts (cont.)

## Definition

### *Neighbours and boundary*

*For an undirected graph  $\mathcal{G}$ , the **neighbours** of  $x$ ,  $ne(x)$ , are those nodes directly connected to  $x$*

*We define the **boundary** of  $x$ ,  $boundary(x)$ , to be  $pa(x) \cup ne(x)$*



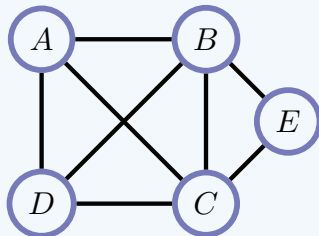
# Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

### *Clique*

Given a graph, a **clique** is a fully connected (complete) subset of nodes

- All the member of the clique are neighbours
- For the **maximal clique**, no larger clique containing the clique



Two maximal cliques

- $C_1 = \{A, B, C, D\}$
- $C_2 = \{B, C, E\}$

Whilst  $A, B, C$  are fully connected, this is a non-maximal clique

- It is a **cliquo**

$\{A, B, C, D\}$  is a larger fully connected set that contains this

## Generalities (cont.)

Cliques play a central role in both modelling and inference

In modelling

- They describe variables that are all dependent on each other

In inference

- They describe sets of variables with no simpler structure describing the relationship between them
- (for which no simpler efficient inference procedure is likely to exist)

# Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

### *Connected graph*

*An undirected graph is said to be **connected** if there is a path between every pair of nodes*

- There are no isolated islands (uh?!)*

*For a non-connected graph, the **connected components** are those subgraphs which are connected*

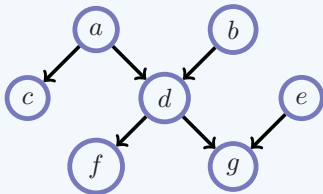


## Generalities (cont.)

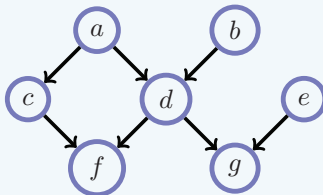
## Definition

*Singly- and multiply-connected graphs*

A graph is *singly connected* if there is only one path from any node  $A$  to any other node  $B$ , otherwise the graph is *multiply connected*

*Singly-connected graph*

- Also called a *tree*

*Multiply-connected graph*

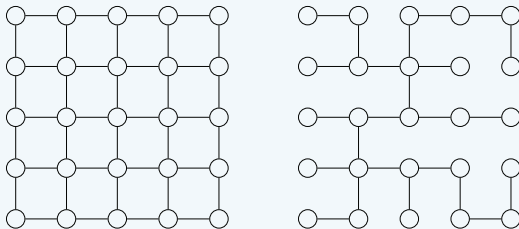
- Also called *loopy*

## Generalities (cont.)

## Definition

*Spanning tree*

A **spanning tree** of an undirected graph  $\mathcal{G}$  is a singly-connected subset of edges such that the resulting singly-connected graph covers all nodes of  $\mathcal{G}$



A **maximum weight spanning tree** is a spanning tree such that the sum of all weights on the edges of the tree is at least as large as any spanning tree

# Generalities (cont.)

## Pseudo-code

### *Finding a maximal weight spanning tree*

*An algorithm to find a spanning tree with maximal weight is as follows*

- ① *Pick the edge with the largest weight and add it to the edge set*
- ② *Pick the next candidate edge and add it to the edge set*
- ③ *If this results in an edge set with cycles, reject the candidate edge and propose the next largest edge weight*

*Note that there may be more than one maximal weight spanning tree*

# Numerical encoding

## Graph concepts

# Numerical encoding

Our prime goal is to make computational implementations of inference

- ↪ We need to express graphs in a way that a computer can manipulate
- ↪ We want to incorporate graph structure into probabilistic models

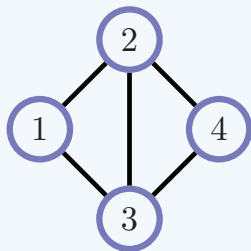
There are several equivalent possibilities

# Edge list

## Definition

An **edge list** is a list containing which node-node pairs are in the graph

$$L = \{(1, 2), (2, 1), (1, 3), (3, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2), (2, 4), (4, 2), (3, 4), (4, 3)\}$$



*Undirected edges are listed twice*

- *once for each direction*

# Adjacency matrix

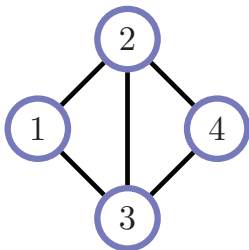
## Definition

An alternative: The  $|\mathcal{A}| \times |\mathcal{A}|$  binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  called *adjacency matrix*

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$A_{ij} = 1$  if there is an edge from node  $i$  to node  $j$ , and  $A_{ij} = 0$  otherwise

- some include self-connections 1s on the diagonal ( $A_{ij} = 1$ , for  $i = j$ )



An undirected graph

- It has a symmetric adjacency matrix

## Adjacency matrix (cont.)

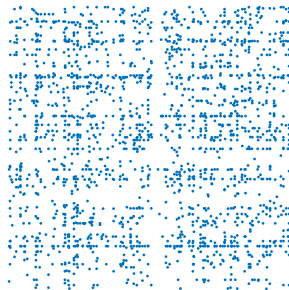
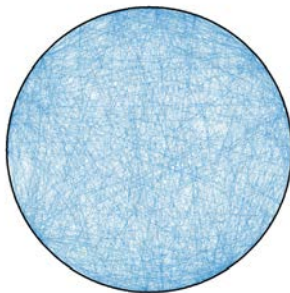
Adjacency matrices are useful not only for storing connectivity info

- Certain operations on  $\mathbf{A}$  yield additional info concerning  $\mathcal{G}$

The row-sum  $\mathbf{A}_{i+} = \sum_j A_{ij}$  is equal to the **degree**  $d_i$  of node  $i$

- The **degree** of a node  $x$  is the number of edges incident on the node
- A node  $x$  is **incident** on an edge  $e$ , if  $x$  is an endpoint of  $e$

By symmetry,  $\mathbf{A}_{i+} = \mathbf{A}_{+i}$

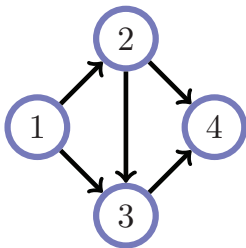


## Adjacency matrix (cont.)

Let nodes be labelled in **ancestral order** (parents always before children)

A directed graph can be represented as a triangular adjacency matrix

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$



A directed graph with nodes labelled in ancestral order corresponds to a triangular adjacency matrix

## Adjacency matrix (cont.)

Adjacency matrices may seem wasteful (many entries are zero)

- However, they have a useful property

### Definition

*Consider a  $N \times N$  adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{A}$*

*Consider the  $k$ -th powers of the adjacency matrix  $[\mathbf{A}^k]_{ij}$*

*They specify the number of paths from node  $i$  to node  $j$ , in  $k$  edge hops*

Let the diagonal of  $\mathbf{A}$  include 1s

Then,  $[\mathbf{A}^{N-1}]_{ij}$  is non-zero when there is a path between  $i$  to  $j$

- If  $\mathbf{A}$  corresponds to a DAG, then the non-zero entries of the  $j$ -th row of  $[\mathbf{A}^{N-1}]$  correspond to a descendant of node  $j$

## Adjacency matrix (cont.)

## Exercise

Consider an adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{A}$

- $[\mathbf{A}]_{ij} = 1$  if one can reach state  $i$  from state  $j$  in one time step
- $[\mathbf{A}]_{ij} = 0$  otherwise

Show that the matrix  $[\mathbf{A}^k]_{ij}$  represents the number of paths that lead from state  $j$  to state  $i$  in  $k$  steps

- Derive an algorithm that will find the minimum number for steps to get from state  $j$  to state  $i$



# Incidence matrix and graph Laplacian

## Definition

### *Incidence matrix*

$\mathbf{B}$ ,  $|\mathcal{A}| \times |\mathcal{E}|$  *binary matrix capturing structure in  $\mathcal{G}$*

$$B_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if vertex } i \text{ is incident to edge } j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



## Incidence matrix and graph Laplacian (cont.)

We extend the incidence matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  to a signed incidence matrix  $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$

The entries 1 of  $\mathbf{B}$  are given a  $+$  or a  $-$  sign

- The sign indicates an arbitrarily assigned *orientation* of the corresponding edge

It can be shown that  $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}\tilde{\mathbf{B}}^T = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}$

$\mathbf{D} = \text{diag}[(d_i)_{i \in \mathcal{V}}]$  is a diagonal matrix with the degree sequence

$\mathbf{L}$  is the  $|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{V}|$  **graph Laplacian** of  $\mathcal{G}$

# Incidence matrix and graph Laplacian (cont.)

For a  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}|}$ , we have  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} = \sum_{\{i,j\} \in \mathcal{E}} (x_i - x_j)^2$

It gets closer to 0 as elements of  $\mathbf{x}$  at adjacent nodes in  $\mathcal{V}$  get more similar

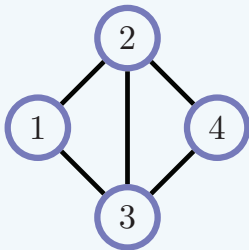
- It can be understood as a measure of *smoothness* of functions on  $\mathcal{G}$
- (with respect to its connectivity)

# Clique matrix

## Definition

Consider an undirected graph with  $N$  nodes and maximal cliques  $C_1, \dots, C_k$

- A **clique matrix** is a  $N \times K$  matrix in which each column  $c_k$  has zeros except for ones on entries describing the clique



0 if the node not on the clique

1 if the node is in the clique

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

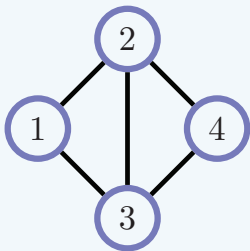
- Cliques along the columns
- Nodes along the rows

A **cliquo matrix** relaxes the constraint that cliques need be maximal

## Clique matrix (cont.)

## Definition

A cliquo matrix containing only two-node cliques is an *incidence matrix*



$$\mathbf{C}_{inc} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$



## Clique matrix (cont.)

$\mathbf{C}_{\text{inc}} \mathbf{C}_{\text{inc}}^T$  is nearly equal to the adjacency matrix

The diagonals contain the **degree** of each node (number of nodes it touches)

- For any cliquo matrix, the diagonal entry of  $[\mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^T]_{ii}$  expresses the number of cliquos (columns) that node  $i$  occurs in
- Off-diagonal elements  $[\mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^T]_{ij}$  contain the number of cliquos that node  $i$  and  $j$  jointly inhabit