



Inference with
MoTBFs

H. Langseth,
T.D. Nielsen,
R. Rumí,
A. Salmerón

MoTBFs

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Conclusions

Inference in hybrid Bayesian networks with mixtures of truncated basis functions

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Introduction

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- MoTBFs provide a flexible framework for hybrid BNs.
- Accurate approximation of known models.
- Learning from data.
- **Inference?**



Mixtures of truncated basis functions (MoTBFs)

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- In what concerns inference in Bayesian networks, initially we only have **two types** of MoTBFs: **univariate** and **conditional**.
- Any other potential showing up during inference is the result of operating over them, namely applying **marginalisation** and **combination**.



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Definition (Univariate MoTBF density)

An **unconditional MoTBF density** over X is:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_i \psi_i(x) \quad x \in \Omega_X,$$

where

$$\psi = \{\psi_0(x), \dots, \psi_{m-1}(x)\}$$

is the set of basis functions for X .

Particular cases

- **MTEs:** $\Psi = \{1, \exp(-x), \exp(x), \exp(-2x), \exp(2x), \dots\}$.
- **MOPs:** $\Psi = \{x^i, i = 0, 1, \dots\}$.



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Definition (Conditional MoTBF density)

- \mathbf{Y} and \mathbf{Z} : discrete and continuous variables.
- Domain of \mathbf{Z} divided into k hypercubes.
- For each \mathbf{y} , and each hypercube $j = 1, \dots, k$, the conditional MoTBF density of X given \mathbf{Z} and \mathbf{Y} is

$$f(x|\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,j} \psi_i(x)$$



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Potential advantages of MoTBFs for inference

- Univariate MoTBFs **do not require domain splitting** (unlike classical approach to MTEs and MOPs).
- Conditional MoTBFs are **piecewise univariate** over the head variable.
- As a consequence, **each variable** in the BN explicitly **appears in only one potential** initially.
- If a variable appears in a potential not as a head variable, it only determines the hypercubes of the conditional density.
- One can consider a fixed set of possible split points for each variable, regardless of the function where it appears.
- There is no need to explicitly store the basis functions.



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$$f(x_1) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,h}^1 \psi_i(x_1) \quad ; \quad f(x_2) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,t}^2 \psi_i(x_2)$$

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,h}^1 \psi_i(x_1) \right) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,t}^2 \psi_i(x_2) \right)$$



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MoTBF potential



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Factorised MoTBF potential

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,h}^1 \psi_i(x_1) \right) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i,t}^2 \psi_i(x_2) \right)$$

MoTBF potential

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Marginalisation

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Proposition

$$f_{\mathbf{Z} \setminus \{Z_j\}}(z_1, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_{j+1}, \dots, z_c) = \sum_{l=1}^r \left(\prod_{i \neq j} \sum_{s=0}^{m-1} a_{s, \cdot, (h, l)}^i \psi_s(z_i) \right) \left(\sum_{s=0}^{m-1} a_{s, \cdot, (h, l)}^j \int_{\Omega_{Z_j}^l} \psi_s(z_j) dz_j \right).$$

- Bad news: **NOT** a factorised MoTBF potential!
- Good news: the **integrals can be computed off-line**, prior to inference, if the split points are fixed.



Marginalisation

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This kind of potential is called **SP** factorised MoTBF potential



Combination of SP factorised potentials

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$$f_{\mathbf{X}_1}(\mathbf{x}_1) = \sum_{l=1}^{r_1} f_{\mathbf{X}_1}^l(\mathbf{x}_1) ; f_{\mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_2) = \sum_{m=1}^{r_2} f_{\mathbf{X}_2}^m(\mathbf{x}_2)$$

The **combination** of $f_{\mathbf{X}_1}$ and $f_{\mathbf{X}_2}$ is a new potential over variables $\mathbf{X}_{12} = \mathbf{X}_1 \cup \mathbf{X}_2$ defined as

$$f(\mathbf{x}_{12}) = \sum_{l=1}^{r_1} \sum_{m=1}^{r_2} f_{\mathbf{X}_1}^l(\mathbf{x}_{12}^{\downarrow \mathbf{X}_1}) f_{\mathbf{X}_2}^m(\mathbf{x}_{12}^{\downarrow \mathbf{X}_2}),$$

which is an **SP factorised potential**.



Marginalisation of SP factorised potentials

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$$f_{\mathbf{Z} \setminus \{Z_j\}}(z_1, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_{j+1}, \dots, z_c) =$$

$$\sum_{l=1}^r f_{\mathbf{Z} \setminus \{Z_j\}}^l(z_1, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_{j+1}, \dots, z_n)$$

Again, it is an SP factorised potential.



Marginalisation of SP factorised potentials

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Again, it is an SP factorised potential.



Why are SP factorised potentials of interest?

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- They are closed for marginalisation and combination.
- Hence, inference algorithms as Shenoy-Shafer and Variable Elimination can be used.
- Operations over them are **lazy** by nature, i.e., handling them actually consists of handling sets of function (storing, indexing and retrieving them).



Classical MTE calculations vs. MoTBFs

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Two experiments conducted

- 1 MoTBF vs. classical MTE approach:
 - No splits in head variables.
 - Fixed splits in conditionals.
- 2 Lazy operations on SP factorised potentials vs. classical MTE operations.
 - Random split points everywhere.

We use the Variable Elimination algorithm.



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Experimental results

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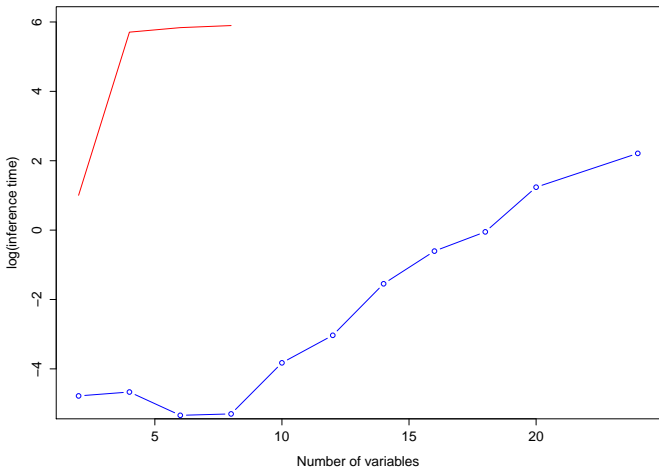
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- Run time order of magnitude lower for the new approach.
- SP factorised potentials (lazy operations) by themselves, provide significant improvements.
- Storage requirements clearly lower.
- See the poster for the detailed numbers.



Experimental results

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Conclusions

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Conclusions

- MoTBF framework provides important advantages for inference (No split points in head variables, fixed set of basis functions, lazy operations).
- **Lazy** operations can be used (**SP factorised potentials**) even under classical MTE calculations.
- Significant advance wrt. previous MTE calculations: savings in space requirements and increase in efficiency.



Future work

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- Explore the impact (benefit) in efficiency of the use of fixed split points and its possible tradeoff with accuracy.
- Experiments including evidences and incorporating discrete variables.
- Re-approximate large potentials.
- Analyse other benefits of using basis functions for inference.