#### PROBABILSITIC DEPENDENCY GRAPHS

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## Yet Another Probabilistic Graphical Model

We introduce *probabilistic dependency graphs* (PDGs), a new class of graphical models for representing uncertainty.

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# Why do we need another one?

- To resolve inconsistency, we must first model it.
- In doing so, we get much more ...

### Two aspects of Bayesian Networks (BNs)

#### Qualitative BN, $\mathcal{G}$

an independence relation on variables

•  $X \perp _{\mathcal{G}} Y \mid \mathbf{Pa}(X)$ , for all non-descendents Y of X



O. Richardson, J. Halpern (Cornell)

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#### (Quantitative) BN, $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{p})$

- a qualitative BN ( $\mathcal{G}$ ) and a cpd  $p_X(X | \mathbf{Pa}(X))$  for each variable X.
  - Defines a joint distribution  $\Pr_{\mathcal{B}}$  with the independencies  $\perp\!\!\!\perp_{\mathcal{G}}$ .



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#### MODELING EXAMPLE: FLOOMPS AND GUNS

Grok thinks it likely (.95) that guns are illegal, but that floomps (local slang) are legal (.90).

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• PDGs can incorporate arbitrary new probabilistic information.

Grok learns that Floomps and Guns have the same legal status (92%)

$$p(G|F) = \begin{bmatrix} .92 & .08\\ .92 & .92 \end{bmatrix} \frac{f}{f} = (p'(F|G))^{\mathsf{T}}$$



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Must now give distributions on SH and S, or distinguish them as "observed" (a *conditional* BN).

In a qualitative BN: removing data results in new knowledge:  $A \perp L$ .

$$(A) \rightarrow (B) \rightarrow (C)$$

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$$q(C \mid T) = \begin{bmatrix} .15 & .85 \\ .02 & .98 \end{bmatrix} t$$
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#### Grok wants to be supreme leader (SL).

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$$q(C \mid T) = \begin{bmatrix} c & \overline{c} \\ .15 & .85 \\ .02 & .98 \end{bmatrix} \overline{t}$$
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• Grok worries getting cancer from a tanning bed will make *SL* impossible.



• Arbitrary PDGs may be combined without loss of information

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Arbitrary PDGs may be combined without loss of information
They may have parallel edges (e.g., p,q), which directly conflict.

A PDG is a tuple  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{V}, \mathbf{p}, \alpha, \beta),$ 

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  - $\mathcal{N}$  is a finite set of nodes (variables)
    - $\mathcal{V}$  gives a set  $\mathcal{V}(X)$  of possible values for each X;

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{M}) := \prod_{X \in \mathcal{N}} \mathcal{V}(X)$$
 is the set of possible joint variable settings.

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    - $\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E} \ \text{is a set of labeled edges } \{ X \xrightarrow{L} Y \}, \\ \text{and associated to each } X \xrightarrow{L} Y, \text{ there is:} \end{aligned}$

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 $\mathbf{p}_{t}$  a cpd  $\mathbf{p}_{t}(Y \mid X)$ ;

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  - $\mathbf{p}_L$  a cpd  $\mathbf{p}_L(Y \mid X);$

 $\beta_{\!\scriptscriptstyle L} \in (0,\infty) \quad \text{a confidence in the reliability of } \mathbf{p}_{\!\scriptscriptstyle L}.$
#### Definition (Probabilistic Dependency Graph)

A PDG is a tuple  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{V}, \mathbf{p}, \alpha, \beta)$ , where

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 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{p}_{L} \text{ a cpd } \mathbf{p}_{L}(Y \mid X); \\ \alpha_{L} \in [0,\infty) \quad \text{a confidence in the functional dependence } X \to Y \\ \beta_{L} \in (0,\infty) \quad \text{a confidence in the reliability of } \mathbf{p}_{L}. \end{array}$ 

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 $\{\mathcal{M}\}\$  The set of joint distributions consistent with  $\mathcal{M}$ ;  $[\mathcal{M}]_{\gamma}$  A function, scoring distributions by compatibility with  $\mathcal{M}$ ;  $[\mathcal{M}]^*$  The "best" joint distribution.

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 $\{\mathcal{M}\}\$  The set of joint distributions consistent with  $\mathcal{M}$ ;

$$\left\{\mu \in \Delta[\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{m})]: \text{ for all } X \xrightarrow{L} Y \in \mathcal{E}. \ \mu(Y \,|\, X) = \mathbf{p}_{L}(Y \,|\, X) 
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 $[\![\mathcal{M}]\!]_{\gamma}$  A loss function (parameterized by  $\gamma$ ), scoring a joint distribution's compatibility with  $\mathcal{M}$ ;

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$$\begin{split} \llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_{\gamma} & \text{A loss function (parameterized by } \gamma), \text{ scoring a joint} \\ & \text{distribution's compatibility with } \mathcal{M}; \\ & \text{tradeoff parameter } \gamma \geq 0 \end{split}$$

$$\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu) := \underbrace{Inc_m(\mu)}_{\substack{\text{(quantitative)}\\\text{term}}} + \underbrace{\gamma}_{\substack{IDef_m(\mu)\\\text{(qualitative)}\\\text{term}}}$$

 $[\mathcal{M}]^*$  The "best" joint distribution.

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 $[\mathcal{M}]^*_{\gamma}$  The "best" joint distribution.

$$\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}^* := \arg\min_{\mu} \llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu)$$

$$[\llbracket m]]_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu) + \gamma \ IDef_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu)$$

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**Intuition:** beyond stating whether or not  $\mu$  is consistent with  $\mathcal{M}$ , we score  $\mu$ 's compatibility with  $\mathcal{M}$ .

MOTIVATING EXAMPLES.



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MOTIVATING EXAMPLES.  $\mathcal{M} :=$   $\mathcal{I} \bigoplus_{p}^{q} X$ 

• If  $p = \begin{bmatrix} .4 & .6 \end{bmatrix} \star = q$ , then  $\mathcal{M}$  is consistent, and compatible with the joint distribution  $\mu(X) = p$ .

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• If  $p = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ .4 & .6 \end{bmatrix} \star$  and  $q = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ .5 & .5 \end{bmatrix} \star$ , then  $\mathcal{M}$  is not consistent, but  $\mu = \begin{bmatrix} .45 & .55 \end{bmatrix}$  matches better than  $\mu = \begin{bmatrix} .9 & .1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

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• If  $p = \begin{bmatrix} .4 & .6 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $\mathcal{M}$  is much more inconsistent than before, even though  $\{\!\{\mathcal{M}\}\!\} = \emptyset$  in both cases.

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# The Scoring Function $\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_m(\mu) + \gamma IDef_m(\mu)$

## Definition (Inc)

The *incompatibility* of a joint distribution  $\mu$  with  $\mathcal{M}$  is given by

$$Inc_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu) := \sum_{X \xrightarrow{L} \to Y} D(\mu_{Y|X} \parallel \mathbf{p}_L)$$

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$$D(\mu \parallel \nu) = \sum_{w \in Supp(\mu)} \mu(w) \log \frac{\mu(w)}{\nu(w)} \text{ is the relative entropy} \text{ from } \nu \text{ to } \mu.$$

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The *inconsistency* of  $\mathcal{M}$  is the smallest possible incompatibility,

$$Inc(\mathcal{M}) := \inf_{\mu \in \Delta \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{M})} Inc_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu).$$

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**Intuition:** each edge  $X \xrightarrow{L} Y$  indicates that Y is determined (perhaps noisily) by X alone.

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So a  $\mu$  with uncertainty in Y after X is known (beyond pure noise) is qualitatively worse.

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 $\begin{array}{c} \hline measured \ by \ \mathbf{H}(Y \mid X) \\ \text{So a } \mu \ \text{with uncertainty in } Y \ \text{after } X \ \text{is known} \\ (\text{beyond pure noise}) \ \text{is qualitatively worse.} \\ \hline \mathbf{H}(\mu) \end{array}$ 

$$\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu) + \gamma \ \underline{IDef}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu)$$

#### **Definition** (*IDef*)

The *information deficit* of a distribution  $\mu$  with respect to  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{M}}$  is

$$IDef_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu) := \sum_{X \xrightarrow{L} Y} \alpha_L \operatorname{H}_{\mu}(Y | X) - \operatorname{H}(\mu).$$

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#### **Definition** (*IDef*)

The *information deficit* of a distribution  $\mu$  with respect to  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{M}}$  is

$$IDef_{m}(\mu) := \sum_{X \xrightarrow{L} Y} \alpha_{L} \operatorname{H}_{\mu}(Y \mid X) - \underbrace{\operatorname{H}(\mu)}_{\downarrow}.$$

(a) # bits needed to determine all variables

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$$\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu) + \gamma \ IDef_{\mathcal{M}}(\mu)$$

#### **Definition** (*IDef*)

The *information deficit* of a distribution  $\mu$  with respect to m is

(b) # bits required to separately determine each target, knowing the source

$$IDef_{\mathcal{m}}(\mu) := \overbrace{X \xrightarrow{L} Y}^{X \xrightarrow{L}} H_{\mu}(Y \mid X) - \underbrace{H(\mu)}_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

(a) # bits needed to determine all variables

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# THE SCORING FUNCTION $\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_m(\mu) + \gamma IDef_m(\mu)$

#### EXAMPLES



 $IDef_{m_0}(\mu) = -H_{\mu}(X, Y)$ (optimal  $\mu$  maximizes entropy of X, Y)

#### **Definition** (*IDef*)

The *m*-information deficit of  $\mu$ :

# bits to separately determine each target, knowing the source

$$IDef_{m}(\mu) = \sum_{X \xrightarrow{L} Y} \alpha_{L} H_{\mu}(Y \mid X) - H(\mu)$$

# bits to determine all vars

# THE SCORING FUNCTION $[[m]]_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_m(\mu) + \gamma IDef_m(\mu)$

#### EXAMPLES

• 
$$\mathcal{M}_0 = X$$
 Y

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$$IDef_{m}(\mu) = \overbrace{X \xrightarrow{L} Y}^{X \xrightarrow{L}} \alpha_{L} H_{\mu}(Y \mid X) - H(\mu)$$

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• 
$$\mathcal{M}_1 = [X] \longrightarrow [Y]$$

 $IDef_{\mathcal{M}_1}(\mu) = -\Pi_{\mu}(X)$  (optimal  $\mu$  maximizes entropy of X)

# The Scoring Function $[[m]]_{\gamma}(\mu) := Inc_m(\mu) + \gamma IDef_m(\mu)$

#### EXAMPLES

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 Y

 $\begin{array}{l} IDef_{m_0}(\mu) = -\operatorname{H}_{\mu}(X,Y) \\ (\text{optimal } \mu \text{ maximizes entropy of } X,Y) \end{array}$ 

#### **Definition** (*IDef*)

The *m*-information deficit of  $\mu$ :

# bits to separately determine each target, knowing the source

$$IDef_{m}(\mu) = \sum_{X \xrightarrow{L} Y} \alpha_{L} H_{\mu}(Y | X) - H(\mu)$$

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Information Diagrams

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The *inconsistency* of m is

 $Inc(\mathbf{m}) := \inf_{\mu \in \Delta \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{m})} Inc_{\mathbf{m}}(\mu).$ 

tradeoff parameter  $\gamma \geq 0$ 

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#### $\{\mathcal{M}\}\$ The set of joint distributions consistent with $\mathcal{M}$ ;

 $\left\{ \mu \in \Delta[\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{M})] : \text{ for all } X \xrightarrow{L} Y \in \mathcal{E}. \ \mu(Y \mid X) = \mathbf{p}_{L}(Y \mid X) \right\}$ 

 $[[\mathcal{M}]]_{\gamma}$  A loss function (parameterized by  $\gamma$ ), scoring a joint distribution's compatibility with  $\mathcal{M}$ ;

$$\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu) := \underbrace{Inc_m(\mu)}_{\substack{\text{(quantitative)}\\\text{term}}} + \gamma \underbrace{IDef_m(\mu)}_{\substack{\text{(qualitative)}\\\text{term}}}$$

 $[\mathcal{M}]^*_{\gamma}$  The "best" joint distribution.

$$\llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}^* := \arg\min_{\mu} \llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}(\mu)$$

# $\{m\}$ The set of joint distributions consistent with m;

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#### **Proposition** (uniqueness for small $\gamma$ )

• If 
$$0 < \gamma \leq \min_L \beta_L^{\mathfrak{M}}$$
, then  $\llbracket \mathfrak{M} \rrbracket_{\gamma}^*$  is a singleton.

 $\ \ \, \underset{\gamma \to 0}{\lim} \llbracket m \rrbracket_{\gamma}^* \ exists \ and \ is \ unique.$ 

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 $[\mathcal{M}]^*$  The (unique) "best" joint distribution (in the quantitative limit).

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**Proposition** (the second semantics extends the first)  $\{\!\{m\}\!\} = \{\mu : [\![m]\!]_0(\mu) = 0\}.$ 

**Proposition** (If there there are distributions consistent with  $\mathcal{M}$ , the best distribution is one of them.)

 $\llbracket m \rrbracket^* \in \llbracket m \rrbracket_0^*$ , so if m is consistent, then  $\llbracket m \rrbracket^* \in \{ m \}$ .

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# CAPTURING BAYESIAN NETWORKS

Let  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{B},\beta}$  be the PDG corresponding to the BN  $\mathcal{B}$ , with weights  $\beta$ .

**Theorem** (BNs are PDGs)

If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a BN and  $\Pr_{\mathcal{B}}$  is the distribution it specifies, then for all  $\gamma > 0$ and all vectors  $\beta$ ,

$$[\![\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{B},\beta}]\!]_{\gamma}^{*} = \{\Pr_{\mathcal{B}}\}, \text{ and thus } [\![\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{B},\beta}]\!]^{*} = \Pr_{\mathcal{B}}.$$
space of distributions  
consistent with  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{B}}$   
(which minimize  $Inc$ )
$$\{\![\mathcal{M}]\!\}$$

$$Pr_{\mathcal{B}}$$

$$[\![\mathcal{M}]\!]_{\mathcal{B},\beta}$$

# FACTOR GRAPHS



#### Definition

A factor graph  $\Phi$  is a set of random variables  $\mathcal{X} = \{X_i\}$  and factors  $\{\phi_J \colon \mathcal{V}(X_J) \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}\}_{J \in \mathcal{J}}$ , where  $X_J \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ ; define

$$\Pr_{\Phi}(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{Z_{\Phi}} \prod_{J \in \mathcal{J}} \phi_J(\vec{x}_J),$$

where  $Z_{\Phi}$  is the normalization constant.


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The cpds of a PDG are essentially factors. Are the semantics different?

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#### Theorem

 $\llbracket \boldsymbol{\eta} \rrbracket_1^* = \Pr_{\Phi_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}} \text{ for all unweighted PDGs } \boldsymbol{\eta}.$ 

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#### Theorem

$$\llbracket \boldsymbol{n} \rrbracket_1^* = \Pr_{\Phi_n} \text{ for all unweighted PDGs } \boldsymbol{n}.$$

#### Theorem

For all unweighted PDGs  $\mathcal{N}$  and non-negative vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  over the edges of  $\mathcal{N}$ , and all  $\gamma > 0$ , we have that  $[\![(\mathcal{N}, \mathbf{v}, \gamma \mathbf{v})]\!]_{\gamma} = \gamma GFE_{(\Phi_n, \mathbf{v})};$ consequently,  $[\![(\mathcal{N}, \mathbf{v}, \gamma \mathbf{v})]\!]_{\gamma}^* = \{\Pr_{(\Phi_n, \mathbf{v})}\}.$ 



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- ... but  $\Pr_{\Phi} \propto p^2$
- More generally, (positive) factors individually have no meaning,
- a factor graph can fail to normalize, in which case it has no global semantics either.

# FACTOR GRAPHS AS PDGS



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# FACTOR GRAPHS AS PDGS



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Image: A matrix

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# FACTOR GRAPHS AS PDGS



#### Theorem

 $\Pr_{\Phi} = \llbracket \boldsymbol{n}_{\Phi} \rrbracket_{1}^{*}$  for all factor graphs  $\Phi$ .

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# Factor Graphs as PDGs



#### Theorem

$$\Pr_{\Phi} = \llbracket \mathcal{n}_{\Phi} \rrbracket_{1}^{*} \text{ for all factor graphs } \Phi.$$

#### Theorem

For all weighted factor graphs  $\Psi = (\Phi, \theta)$  and all  $\gamma > 0$ , we have that  $GFE_{\Psi} = 1/\gamma [\![\mathcal{M}_{\Psi,\gamma}]\!]_{\gamma} + C$  for some constant C, so  $\Pr_{\Psi}$  is the unique element of  $[\![\mathcal{M}_{\Psi,\gamma}]\!]_{\gamma}^*$ .

Letting  $x^{\mathbf{w}}$  and  $y^{\mathbf{w}}$  denote the values of X and Y, respectively, in  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{M})$ , we have

$$\llbracket \boldsymbol{\mathcal{M}} \rrbracket(\mu) = \underset{\mathbf{w} \sim \mu}{\mathbb{E}} \left\{ \sum_{\substack{X \xrightarrow{L} \to Y}} \left[ \beta_L \log \frac{1}{\mathbf{p}_L(y^{\mathbf{w}}|x^{\mathbf{w}})} + \frac{(\alpha_L \gamma - \beta_L) \log \frac{1}{\mu(y^{\mathbf{w}}|x^{\mathbf{w}})}}{\log \frac{1}{\mu(y^{\mathbf{w}}|x^{\mathbf{w}})}} \right] - \frac{\gamma \log \frac{1}{\mu(\mathbf{w})}}{\log \frac{1}{\mu(\mathbf{w})}} \right\}.$$

Image: A matrix

#### Conditioning as inconsistency resolution. To condition on Y = y, in $\mathcal{M}$ , simply add the edge $\mathbb{1} \xrightarrow{\delta_y} Y$ to get $\mathcal{M}_{Y=y}$ . Then $[\mathcal{M}_{Y=y}]^* = [\mathcal{M}]^* \mid (Y=y)$ .

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But there is much more to be done!



main definition







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joint distributions  $\Leftrightarrow$  expanded joint distributions satisfying coherence constraints



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(working directly with hypergraphs is also possible)

#### Illustrations of *IDef*



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