

## Exact Inference: Variable Elimination I

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## Variable Elimination

Recall:

- Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be a set of random variables
- A factor  $\phi$  is a function from  $\text{Val}(\mathbf{X}) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$
- The set of variables  $\mathbf{X}$  is called the scope of the factor and denoted  $\text{Scope}[\phi]$

We will be manipulating **factors**

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## Variable Elimination

Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be a set of variables, and  $Y \notin \mathbf{X}$  a variable. Let  $\phi(\mathbf{X}, Y)$  be a factor. We define the **factor marginalization** of  $Y$  in  $\phi$ , denoted  $\Sigma_Y \phi$  to be a factor  $\psi$  over  $\mathbf{X}$  such that:

$$\psi(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_Y \phi(\mathbf{X}, Y)$$

This operation is also called **summing out** of  $Y$  in  $\psi$

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## Variable Elimination

A	B	C	P(A,B,C)
1	1	1	0.25
1	1	2	0.35
1	2	1	0.08
1	2	2	0.16
2	1	1	0.05
2	1	2	0.07
2	2	1	0
2	2	2	0
3	1	1	0.15
3	1	2	0.21
3	2	1	0.09
3	2	2	0.18

Summing out B

A	C	P(A,C)
1	1	0.25+0.08=0.33
1	2	0.35+0.16=0.51
2	1	0.05+0=0.05
2	2	0.07+0=0.07
3	1	0.15+0.09=0.24
3	2	0.21+0.18=0.39

Note: we only sum up entries in the table where the values of  $\mathbf{X}$  match up.

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## Variable Elimination

In a Bayesian network:

- Summing out all variables results in a factor with value 1

In a Markov network:

- Summing out all variables in the unnormalized distribution  $\tilde{P}_\phi$  defined by the product of factors in the Markov network results in the partition function

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## Variable Elimination

Recall: Let  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}$  be three disjoint sets of variables, and let  $\phi_1(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  and  $\phi_2(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})$  be two factors. We define the **factor product**  $\phi_1 \times \phi_2$  to be a factor  $\psi$ .  $Val(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  as follows:

$$\psi(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) = \phi_1(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) \phi_2(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})$$

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## Variable Elimination

Example of a factor product:

A	B	$\phi_1(A,B)$		B	C	$\phi_2(B,C)$		A	B	C	$\psi(A,B,C)$
0	0	0.5		0	0	0.5		0	0	0	(0.5)(0.5)=0.25
0	1	0.8		0	0	1	(0.5)(0.7)=0.35				
1	0	0.1		0	1	0	(0.8)(0.1)=0.08				
1	1	0		0	1	1	(0.8)(0.2)=0.16				
2	0	0.3		1	0	0	(0.1)(0.5)=0.05				
1	0	1		1	0	1	(0.1)(0.7)=0.07				
1	1	0		1	1	0	(0)(0.1)=0				
1	1	1	1	1	1	(0)(0.2)=0					
2	0	0	2	0	0	(0.3)(0.5)=0.15					
2	0	1	2	0	1	(0.3)(0.7)=0.21					
2	1	0	2	1	0	(0.9)(0.1)=0.09					
2	1	1	2	1	1	(0.9)(0.2)=0.18					

## Variable Elimination

Operations over factors:

- Addition is commutative:  $\sum_X \sum_Y \phi = \sum_Y \sum_X \phi$
- Multiplication is commutative:  $\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2 = \phi_2 \cdot \phi_1$
- Products are associative:  $(\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2) \cdot \phi_3 = \phi_1 \cdot (\phi_2 \cdot \phi_3)$
- Exchanging summations and products:

$$\text{If } X \neq \text{Scope}[\phi_1], \quad \sum_X (\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2) = \phi_1 \cdot \sum_X \phi_2$$

(X is not in the terms of  $\phi_1$ )

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## Variable Elimination

Example: 
$$P(D) = \sum_C \sum_B \sum_A P(A, B, C, D)$$

$$= \sum_C \sum_B \sum_A \varphi_A \cdot \varphi_B \cdot \varphi_C \cdot \varphi_D$$

$$= \sum_C \sum_B \varphi_C \cdot \varphi_D \cdot \varphi_B \left( \sum_A \varphi_A \right)$$

$$= \varphi_D \sum_C \varphi_C \cdot \left( \sum_B \varphi_B \cdot \left( \sum_A \varphi_A \right) \right)$$

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## Variable Elimination

The general problem involves a **sum-product** inference task:

$$\sum_Z \prod_{\phi \in \Phi} \phi$$

Trick: Push in the summations as far as you can

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## Variable Elimination

**Procedure** Sum-Product-VE(  
 $\Phi$ , // A set of factors  
 $Z$ , // Set of variables to be eliminated  
 $<$  // Ordering on  $Z$   
 )

1. Let  $Z_1, \dots, Z_k$  be an ordering of  $Z$  such that
2.  $Z_i < Z_j$  if and only if  $i < j$
3. **for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$
4.  $\Phi \leftarrow \text{Sum-Product-Eliminate-Var}(\Phi, Z_i)$
5.  $\phi^* \leftarrow \prod_{\phi \in \Phi} \phi$
6. **Return**  $\phi^*$

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## Variable Elimination

**Procedure** Sum-Product-Eliminate-Var(  
 $\Phi$ , // A set of factors  
 $Z$ , // Variable to be eliminated  
 )

1.  $\Phi' \leftarrow \{\phi \in \Phi : Z \in \text{Scope}[\phi]\}$
2.  $\Phi'' \leftarrow \Phi - \Phi'$
3.  $\psi \leftarrow \prod_{\phi \in \Phi'} \phi$
4.  $\tau \leftarrow \sum_Z \psi$
5. **Return**  $\Phi'' \cup \{\tau\}$

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## Variable Elimination

Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be some set of variables, and let  $\Phi$  be a set of factors such that for each  $\phi \in \Phi$ ,  $\text{Scope}[\phi] \subseteq \mathbf{X}$ . Let  $\mathbf{Y} \subset \mathbf{X}$  be a set of query variables, and let  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}$ . Then for any ordering  $\prec$  over  $\mathbf{Z}$ , *Sum-Product-VE*( $\Phi, \mathbf{Z}, \prec$ ) returns a factor  $\phi^*(\mathbf{Y})$  such that

$$\phi^*(\mathbf{Y}) = \sum_{\mathbf{Z}} \prod_{\phi \in \Phi} \phi$$

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## Variable Elimination

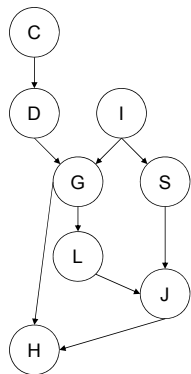
Example: compute  $P_{\mathcal{B}}(\mathbf{Y})$  for Bayesian network  $\mathcal{B}$ . Let:

- $\Phi = \{\phi_{X_i}\}_{i=1}^n$  where  $\phi_{X_i} = P(X_i | \text{Parents}(X_i))$
- $\mathbf{Z} = \{Z_1, \dots, Z_m\} = \mathcal{X} - \mathbf{Y}$  (eliminate all non-query variables)

Note: We can do the exact same thing on a Markov network except the final factor  $\phi^*(\mathbf{Y})$  is **unnormalized**.

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## Variable Elimination



We will compute  $P(J)$  using the elimination ordering  $C, D, I, H, G, S, L$ .

Note that:

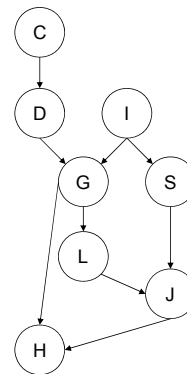
$$P(C, D, I, G, S, L, J, H)$$

$$= P(C) P(D|C) P(I) P(G|I, D) P(S|I) P(L|G) P(J|L, S) P(H|G, J)$$

$$= \phi_C(C) \phi_D(D, C) \phi_I(I) \phi_G(G, I, D) \phi_S(S, I) \phi_L(L, G) \phi_J(J, L, S) \phi_H(H, G, J)$$

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## Variable Elimination



Elimination ordering:  $C, D, I, H, G, S, L$

1. Eliminating C:

$$\Psi_1(C, D) = \phi_C(C) \cdot \phi_D(D, C)$$

$$\tau_1(D) = \sum_C \Psi_1(C, D)$$

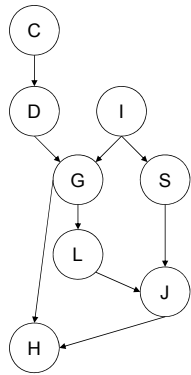
2. Eliminating D:

$$\Psi_2(G, I, D) = \phi_G(G, I, D) \cdot \tau_1(D)$$

$$\tau_2(G, I) = \sum_D \Psi_2(G, I, D)$$

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## Variable Elimination



Elimination ordering: C, D, I, H, G, S, L

3. Eliminating I:

$$\Psi_3(G, I, S) = \phi_I(I) \cdot \phi_S(S, I) \cdot \tau_2(G, I)$$

$$\tau_3(G, S) = \sum_I \Psi_3(G, I, S)$$

4. Eliminating H:

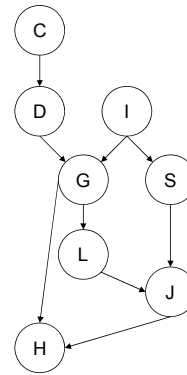
$$\Psi_4(G, J, H) = \phi_H(H, G, J)$$

$$\tau_4(G, J) = \sum_H \Psi_4(G, J, H)$$

Note:  $\tau_4 \equiv 1$  since  $\sum_H P(H|G, J)$ . However, in this elimination ordering, you do need to generate this factor for the next step.

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## Variable Elimination



Elimination ordering: C, D, I, H, G, S, L

5. Eliminating G:

$$\Psi_5(G, J, L, S) = \tau_4(G, J) \cdot \tau_3(G, S) \cdot \phi_L(L, G)$$

$$\tau_5(J, L, S) = \sum_G \Psi_5(G, J, L, S)$$

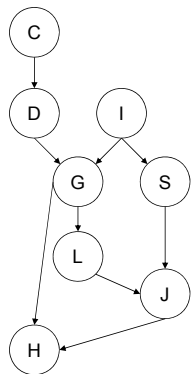
6. Eliminating S:

$$\Psi_6(J, L, S) = \tau_5(J, L, S) \cdot \phi_J(J, L, S)$$

$$\tau_6(J, L) = \sum_S \Psi_6(J, L, S)$$

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## Variable Elimination



Elimination ordering: C, D, I, H, G, S, L

7. Eliminating L:

$$\Psi_7(J, L) = \tau_6(J, L)$$

$$\tau_7(J) = \sum_L \Psi_7(J, L)$$

Note: You can use any elimination ordering eg. G, I, S, L, H, C, D. This is a bad ordering because it produces factors with very large scope (see Table 9.2 pg 302)

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## Variable Elimination

How do we deal with evidence?  
eg.  $P(J = \text{true} \mid I = \text{high}, H = \text{false})$

Note that:

$$P(J \mid I = \text{high}, H = \text{false}) = \frac{P(J, I = \text{high}, H = \text{false})}{P(I = \text{high}, H = \text{false})}$$

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## Variable Elimination

Proposition 4.7:

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a Bayesian network over  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{e}$  an observation. Let  $\mathbf{W} = \mathcal{X} - \mathbf{E}$ . Then  $P_{\mathcal{B}}(\mathbf{W} | \mathbf{e})$  is a Gibbs distribution defined by the factors where

$$\phi_{X_i} = P_{\mathcal{B}}(X_i | \text{Parents}(X_i))[\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{e}]$$

This is a reduced factor, meaning it is the factor with entries inconsistent with  $\mathbf{E}=\mathbf{e}$  removed.

The partition function for this Gibbs distribution is  $P(\mathbf{e})$

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## Variable Elimination

- Replace each factor  $\phi$  with  $\phi[\mathbf{E}=\mathbf{e}]$
- Then do variable elimination like normal
- Remember to normalize with  $P(E = e)$

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## Variable Elimination

Procedure Cond-Prob-VE(  
 $\mathcal{K}$ , // A network over  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\mathbf{Y}$ , // Set of query variables  
 $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{e}$  // Evidence  
 )

1.  $\phi \leftarrow$  Factors parameterizing  $\mathcal{K}$
2. Replace each  $\phi \in \Phi$  by  $\phi[\mathbf{E}=\mathbf{e}]$
3. Select an elimination ordering  $\prec$
4.  $\mathbf{Z} \leftarrow \mathcal{X} - \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{E}$
5.  $\phi^* \leftarrow$  Sum-Product-VE( $\phi, \prec, \mathbf{Z}$ )
6.  $\alpha \leftarrow \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \text{Val}(\mathbf{Y})} \phi^*(\mathbf{y})$
7. return  $\alpha, \phi^*$

Note:  $\phi^*$  represents  $P(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{e})$  so divide  $\phi^*$  by  $\alpha$  to get  $P(\mathbf{Y} | \mathbf{e})$

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## Variable Elimination

Computing:  $P(J, I=\text{high}, H=\text{false})$

Step	Variable Eliminated	Factors Used	Variables Involved	New Factor
1'	C	$\phi_C(C), \phi_D(D, C)$	C, D	$\tau_1'(D)$
2'	D	$\phi_G[I=\text{high}](G, D), \phi_I[I=\text{high}](), \tau_1'(D)$	G, D	$\tau_2'(G)$
5'	G	$\tau_2'(G), \phi_L(L, G), \phi_H[H=\text{false}](G, J)$	G, L, J	$\tau_5'(J, L)$
6'	S	$\phi_S[I=\text{high}](S), \phi_J(J, L, S)$	J, L, S	$\tau_6'(J, L)$
7'	L	$\tau_6'(J, L), \tau_5'(J, L)$	J, L	$\tau_7'(J)$

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