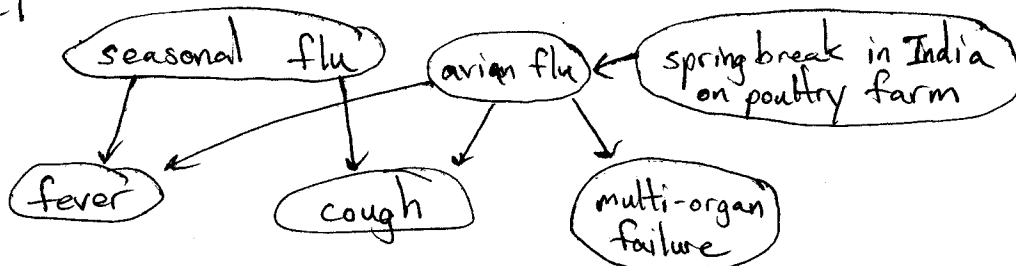


Course segments:

Probabilistic Reasoning

- Ex: medical diagnosis
 - Knowledge representation: diseases cause symptoms
 - Modeling uncertainty: some diseases, some symptoms more likely than others
 - Reasoning: infer diseases from symptoms
- Probability: quantitative, self-consistent framework that captures commonsense patterns of reasoning

Graphical Model



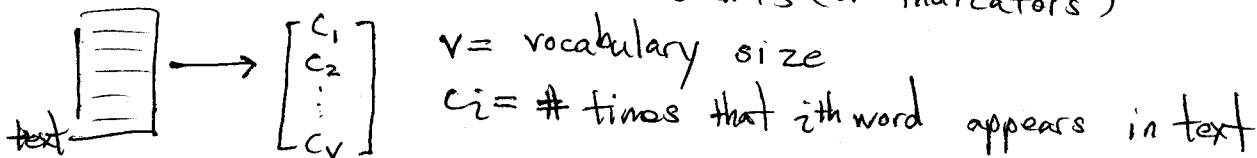
How do graphs represent correlation, causation, statistical independence?
Marriage of probability and graph theory.

Classification

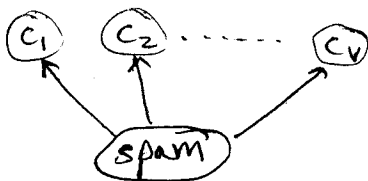
- Ex: spam filtering
 - inputs: email messages
 - output: {spam, non-spam}

• How to represent input?

Convert text to vector of word counts (or indicators)



• Graphical Model



Certain words more likely in spam.
How to quantify? estimate? classify?

Sequential Modeling

• How to model systems whose "state" changes over time (or has a similarly extended representation)?

• Ex: text (written language)
"states" = words

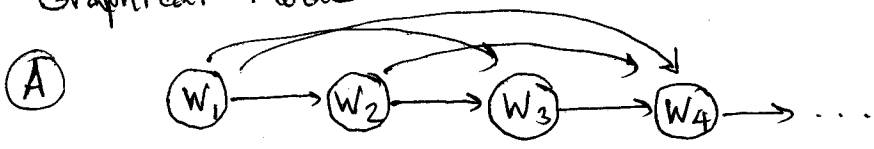
Which sentence is more likely?

- ① Mary had a little lamb.
- ② Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.

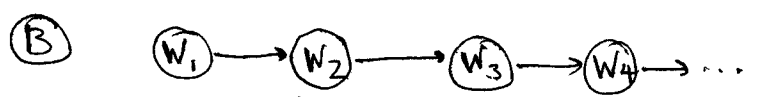
⇒ Markov models for statistical language processing.

w_L = word at the L^{th} position in sentence (with V possible values)

• Graphical Model



"The green..." banana?
"Some green..." bananas?



This model rules out improbable sentence, even though it is simpler...

Model Ⓐ is richer but harder to estimate.

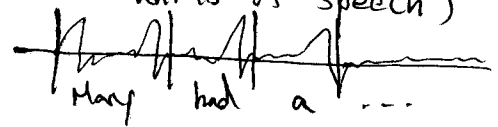
Model Ⓑ is wrong but easier to estimate.

Tradeoff: power vs tractability, learnability

• Ex: speech (spoken language)

states = words (or syllables or smaller units of speech)

observations = sounds, waveforms

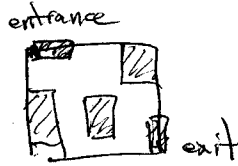


How to infer words from waveforms?

⇒ hidden Markov models for speech recognition

Planning and Decision-making

• Ex: robot navigation



• 2D grid world

• "states" = cells on 2D grid

• actions = north, south, east, west

• noisy dynamics in world

• rewards = feedback from environment

– delayed vs. immediate

– evaluative vs. instructive

• More generally: How can autonomous agents learn from experience?

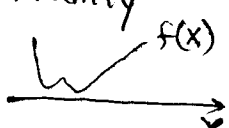
⇒ Markov decision process
Reinforcement learning

• other "embodied" agents: helicopter, elevators

• other "embedded" agents: game-playing (e.g. backgammon),
spoken dialog system

Core Ideas of Modern AI

① Probabilistic modeling of uncertainty

② Learning as optimization  compute $x^* = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} f(x)$

• modern AI ...

objective function f measure agent's performance

variables x describe/parameterize agent's behavior

③ Knowledge as predictions (dynamic)
not facts (static)

• old, classical AI

fact 1: a canary is a bird

fact 2: a book is on the table

• modern, agent-centric AI

prediction: if action a , then observe consequence with probability p

Themes of class

- power vs tractability: how to develop compact representations of complex worlds
- principles vs. heuristics
{ optimization } vs. rules-of-thumb
{ calculation }
- synergies of AI
inference and learning,
perception and action,
theory and practice