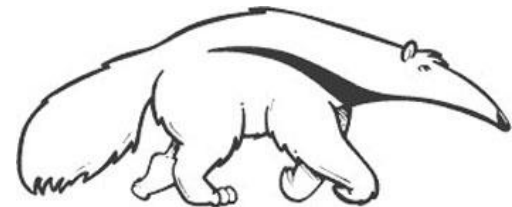
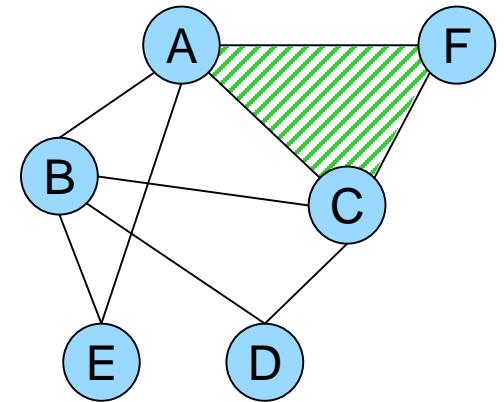


# Probabilistic Reasoning Meets Heuristic Search

Rina Dechter

Dept. of Computer Science, UC Irvine



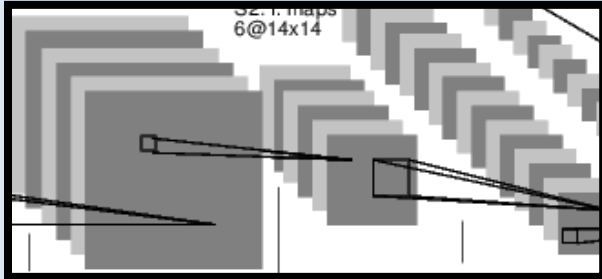
# AI Renaissance

THINKING,  
FAST AND SLOW



DANIEL  
KAHNEMAN

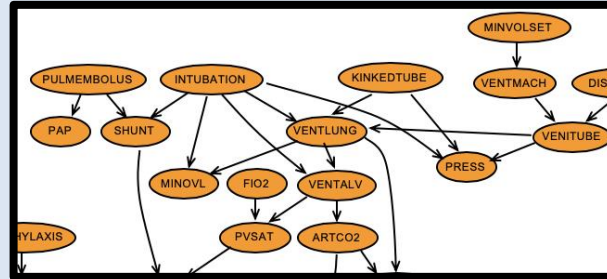
WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS



- Deep learning
  - Fast predictions
  - “Instinctive”
  - Model-free

Tools:

Tensorflow, PyTorch, ...



- Probabilistic models
  - Slow reasoning
  - “Logical / deliberative”
  - Model-based

Tools:

Probabilistic programming,  
Markov Logic, ...

# AI Renaissance

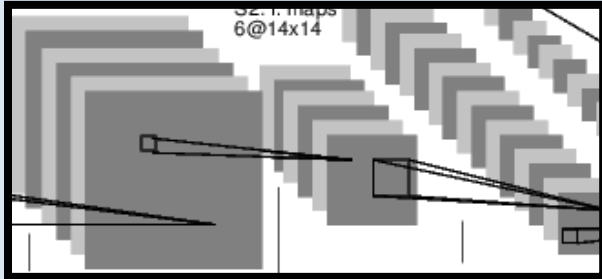
“If a machine does not have a model of reality, you cannot expect the machine to behave intelligently in that reality”. (Pearl 2018)

THINKING,  
FAST AND SLOW



DANIEL  
KAHNEMAN

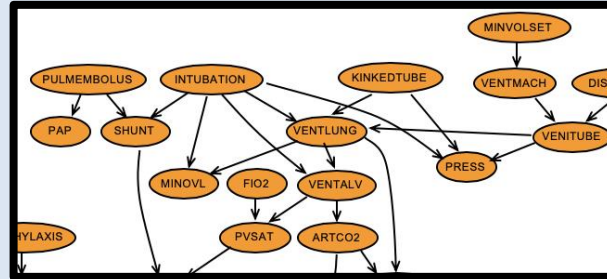
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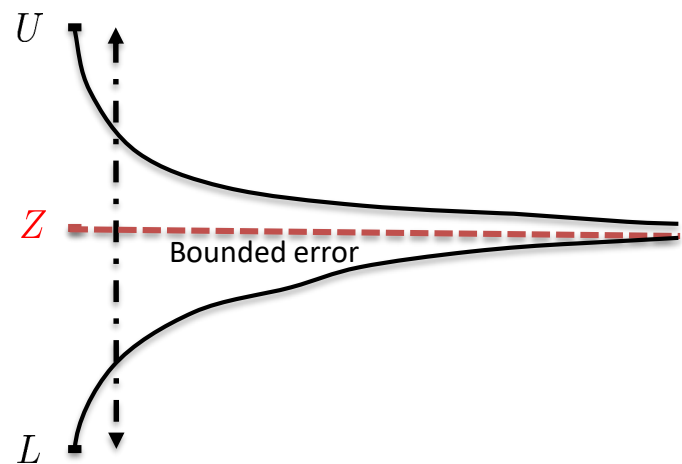
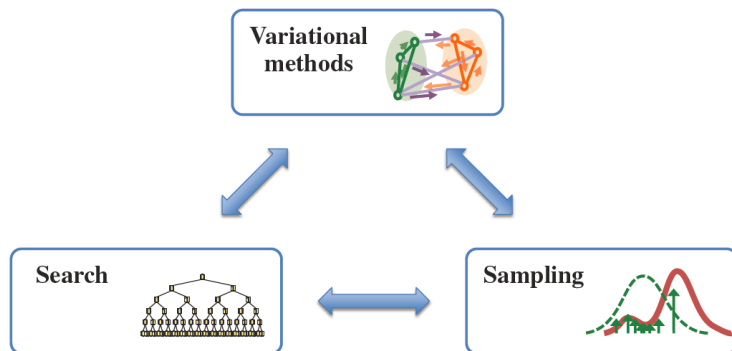
- Probabilistic models
  - Slow reasoning
  - “Logical / deliberative”
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# Outline

- Graphical models: definition, examples, methodology
- Inference and variational bounds
- AND/OR search spaces
- Variational bounds as search heuristics
- Combining methods: Heuristic Search for Marginal Map
- Conclusion



# Graphical Models

- Describe structure in large problems
  - Large complex system  $f(X)$
  - Made of “smaller”, “local” interactions  $f_\alpha(X_\alpha)$
  - Complexity emerges through interdependence

- More formally:

A graphical model consists of:

$X = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  -- variables (we'll assume discrete)

$D = \{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$  -- domains

$F = \{f_{\alpha_1}, \dots, f_{\alpha_m}\}$  -- (non-negative) functions or “factors”

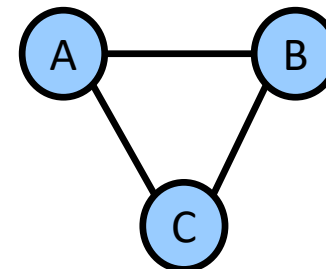
- Example:

$$f(A, B, C) = f(A, B)f(A, C)f(B, C)$$

A	B	f(A,B)
0	0	0.24
0	1	0.56
1	0	1.1
1	1	1.2

...

B	C	f(B,C)
0	0	0.12
0	1	0.36
1	0	0.3
1	1	1.8



Example:

$$A \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$B \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$C \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$f_{AB}(A, B), \quad f_{BC}(B, C)$$

# Graph Visualiization: Primal Graph

A *graphical model* consists of:

$$X = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$$

-- variables

$$D = \{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$$

-- domains

$$F = \{f_{\alpha_1}, \dots, f_{\alpha_m}\}$$

-- functions or “factors”

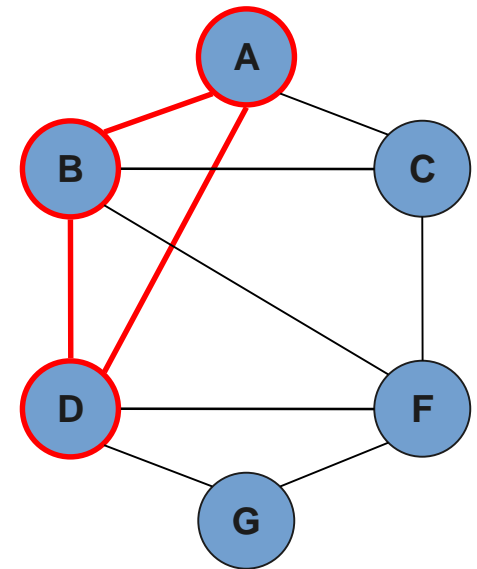
and a *combination operator* (product, sum...)

Primal graph:

variables  $\rightarrow$  nodes

factors  $\rightarrow$  cliques

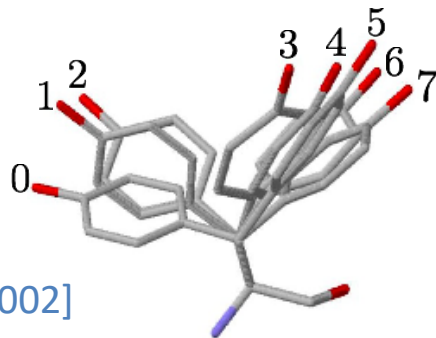
$$F(A, B, C, D, F, G) = f_1(A, B, D) + f_2(D, F, G) \\ + f_3(B, C, F) + f_4(A, C)$$



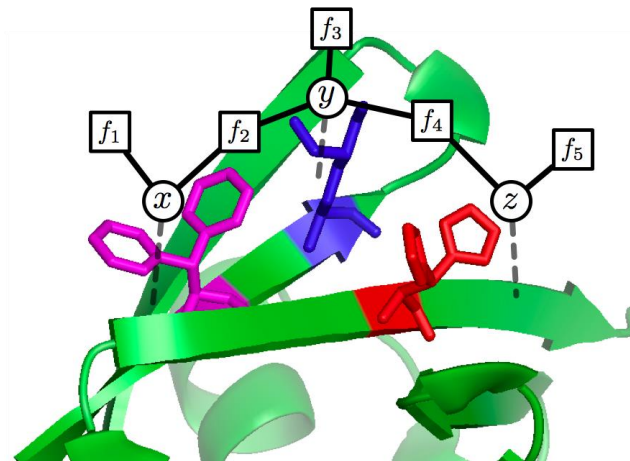
# Graphical Models

- Describe structure in large problems
  - Large complex system  $f(X)$
  - Made of “smaller”, “local” interactions  $f_\alpha(X_\alpha)$
  - Complexity emerges through interdependence
- Examples & Tasks
  - Maximization (**MAP**): compute the most probable configuration

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha}) \quad f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \max_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$$



Phenylalanine



[Yanover & Weiss 2002]

# Graphical Models

- Describe structure in large problems
  - Large complex system  $f(X)$
  - Made of “smaller”, “local” interactions  $f_\alpha(X_\alpha)$
  - Complexity emerges through interdependence
- Examples & Tasks
  - Summation & marginalization

$$p(x_i) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \setminus x_i} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha}) \quad \text{and}$$

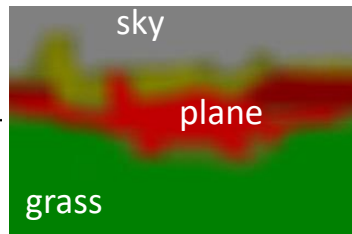
“partition function”

$$Z = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$$

Observation  $\mathbf{y}$



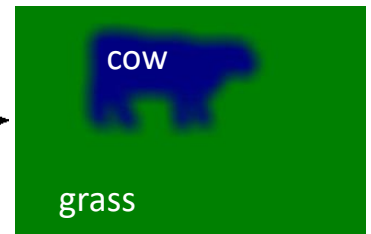
Marginals  $p(x_i | \mathbf{y})$



Observation  $\mathbf{y}$



Marginals  $p(x_i | \mathbf{y})$



e.g., [Plath et al. 2009]



# Graphical Models

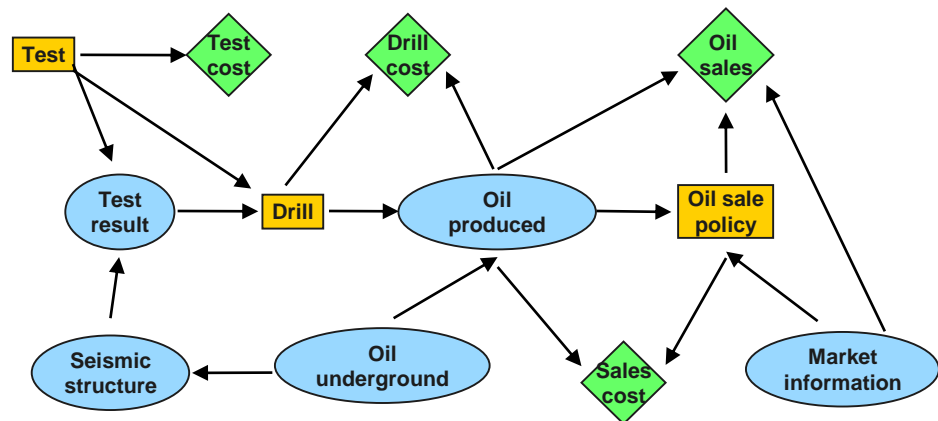
- Describe structure in large problems
  - Large complex system  $f(X)$
  - Made of “smaller”, “local” interactions  $f_\alpha(X_\alpha)$
  - Complexity emerges through interdependence
- Examples & Tasks
  - Mixed inference (**marginal MAP**, MEU, ...)

$$f(\mathbf{x}_M^*) = \max_{\mathbf{x}_M} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_S} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$$

Influence diagrams &  
optimal decision-making

(the “oil wildcatter” problem)

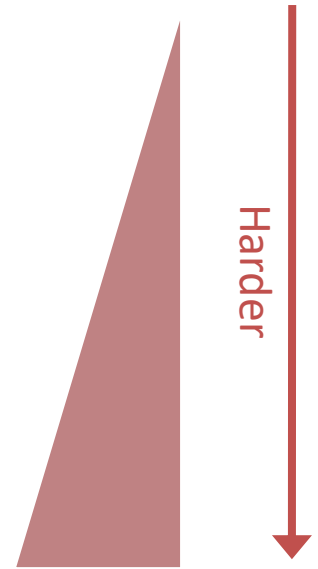
e.g., [Raiffa 1968; Shachter 1986]



# Probabilistic Reasoning Problems

- Tasks:

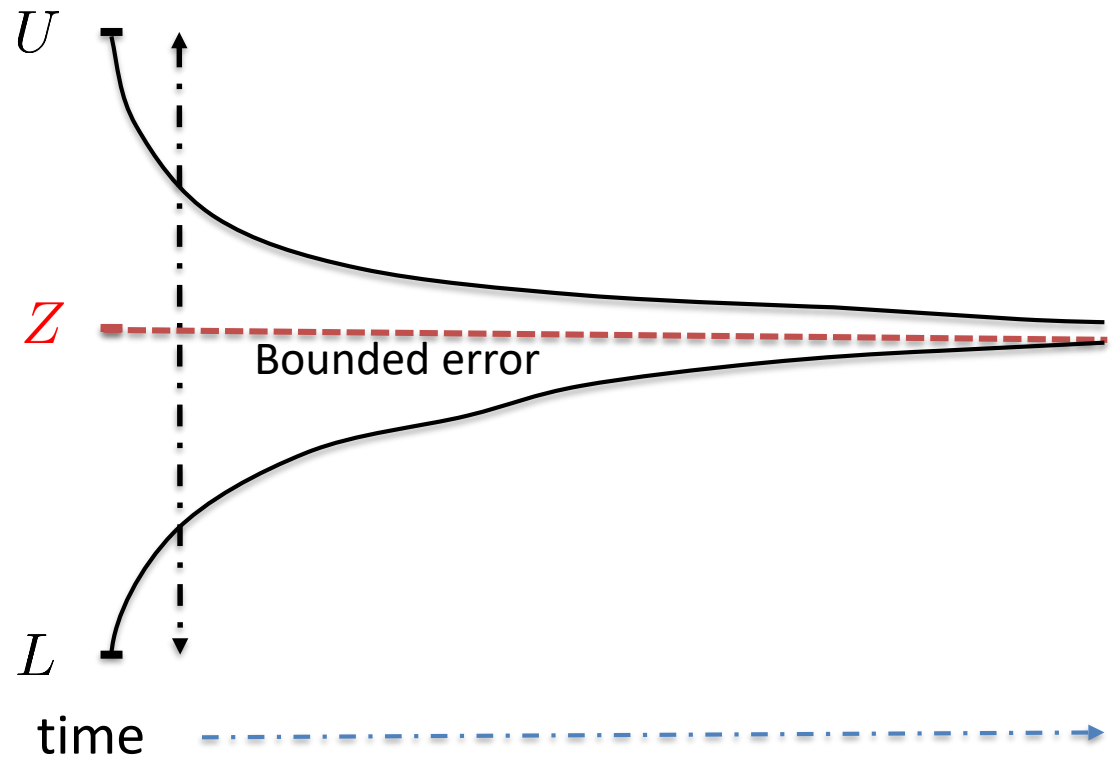
▶ <b>Max-Inference</b> (most likely config.)	$f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \max_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$
▶ <b>Sum-Inference</b> (data likelihood)	$Z = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$
▶ <b>Mixed-Inference</b> (optimal prediction)	$f(\mathbf{x}_M^*) = \max_{\mathbf{x}_M} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_S} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$



- Combinatorial search / counting queries
- Exact reasoning NP-complete (or worse)

# Anytime Bounds

- Desiderata
  - Meaningful confidence interval
  - Responsive
  - Complete

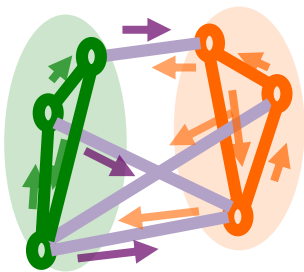


# Approximate Reasoning

- Three major paradigms
  - Effective at different types of problems
  - Each can exploit the graph... but more

## Variational methods

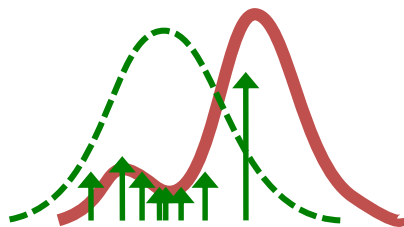
Reason over small subsets of variables at a time



- Bounds
- Responsive
- Complete

## (Monte Carlo) Sampling

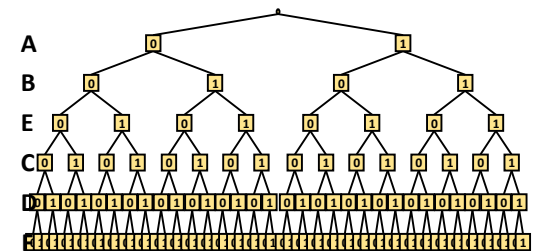
Use randomization to estimate averages over the state space



- Bounds
- Responsive
- Complete

## (Heuristic) Search

Structured enumeration over all possible states

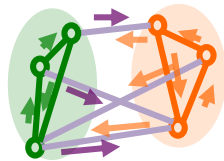


- Bounds
- Responsive
- Complete

# Combining Approaches

A powerful tool:  
The graphs

**Inference,  
Variational  
methods**



Bucket-elimination  
weighted mini-bucket (WMB)

[Dechter 1999, Dechter and Rish, 2003  
Liu and Ihler, ICML 2011]

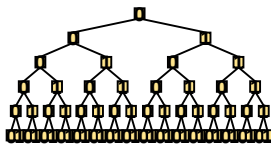
provide  
heuristic



provide WMB-IS  
proposal [Liu et al., NIPS 2015]



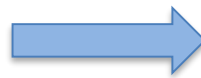
**Search**



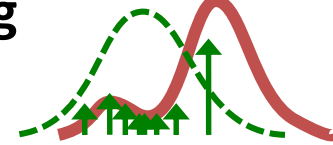
AND/OR search (AODFS)

[Marinescu et al 2009, Lou et al., AAAI 2017]

refine proposal



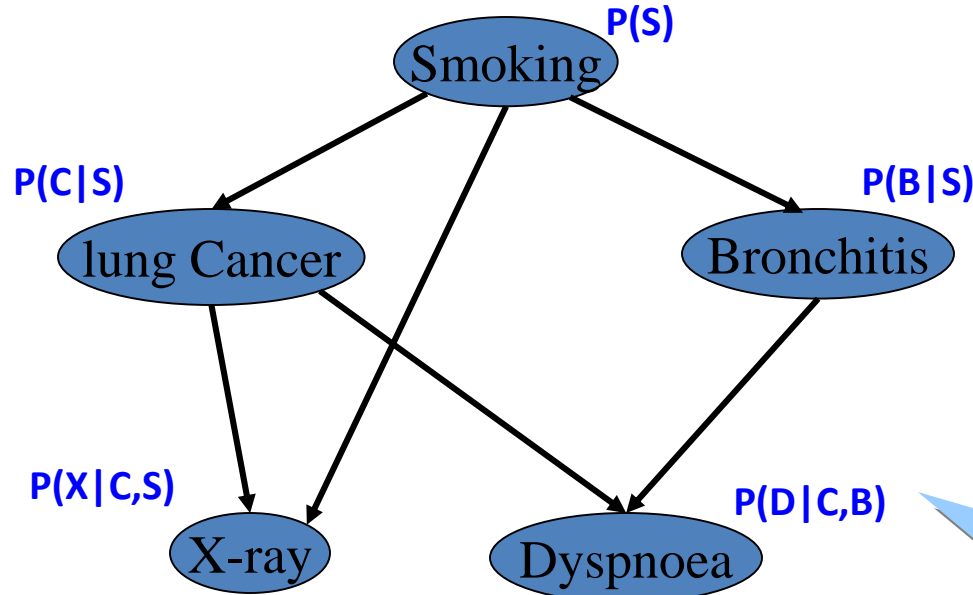
**Sampling**



dynamic importance sampling (DIS)

[Lou et al., NIPS 2017]

# Bayesian Networks (Pearl 1988)



$$\mathbf{BN} = (\mathbf{G}, \Theta)$$

CPD:

C	B	P(D C,B)	
0	0	0.1	0.9
0	1	0.7	0.3
1	0	0.8	0.2
1	1	0.9	0.1

$$P(S, C, B, X, D) = P(S) P(C|S) P(B|S) P(X|C,S) P(D|C,B)$$

Combination: Product  
Marginalization: sum/max

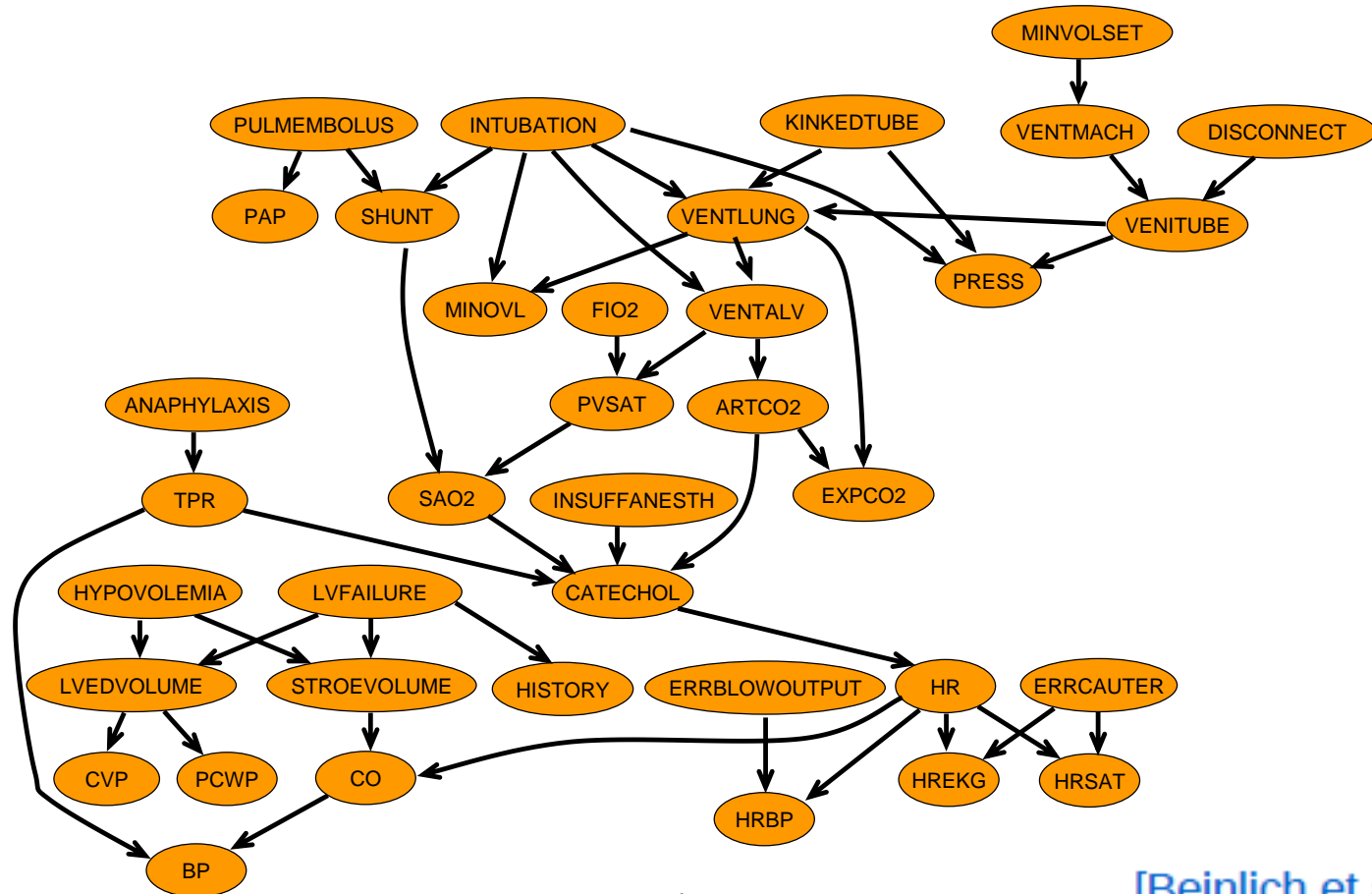
- Posterior marginals, probability of evidence, MPE

- $P(D=0) = \sum_{S,L,B,X} P(S) \cdot P(C|S) \cdot P(B|S) \cdot P(X|C,S) \cdot P(D|C,B)$

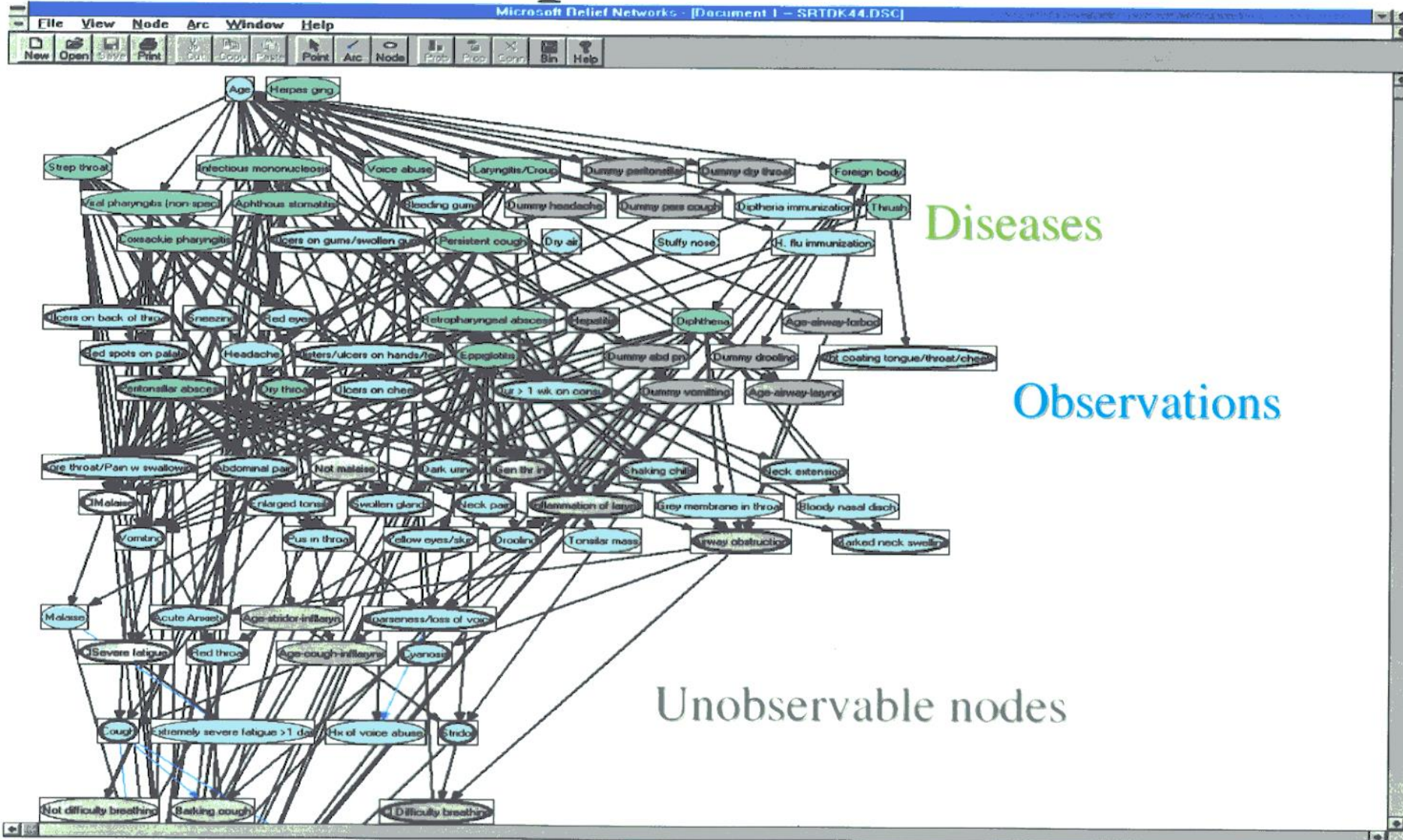
$$\text{MAP}(P) = \max_{S,L,B,X} P(S) \cdot P(C|S) \cdot P(B|S) \cdot P(X|C,S) \cdot P(D|C,B)$$

# Monitoring Intensive-Care Patients

The “alarm” network - 37 variables, 509 parameters (instead of  $2^{37}$ )

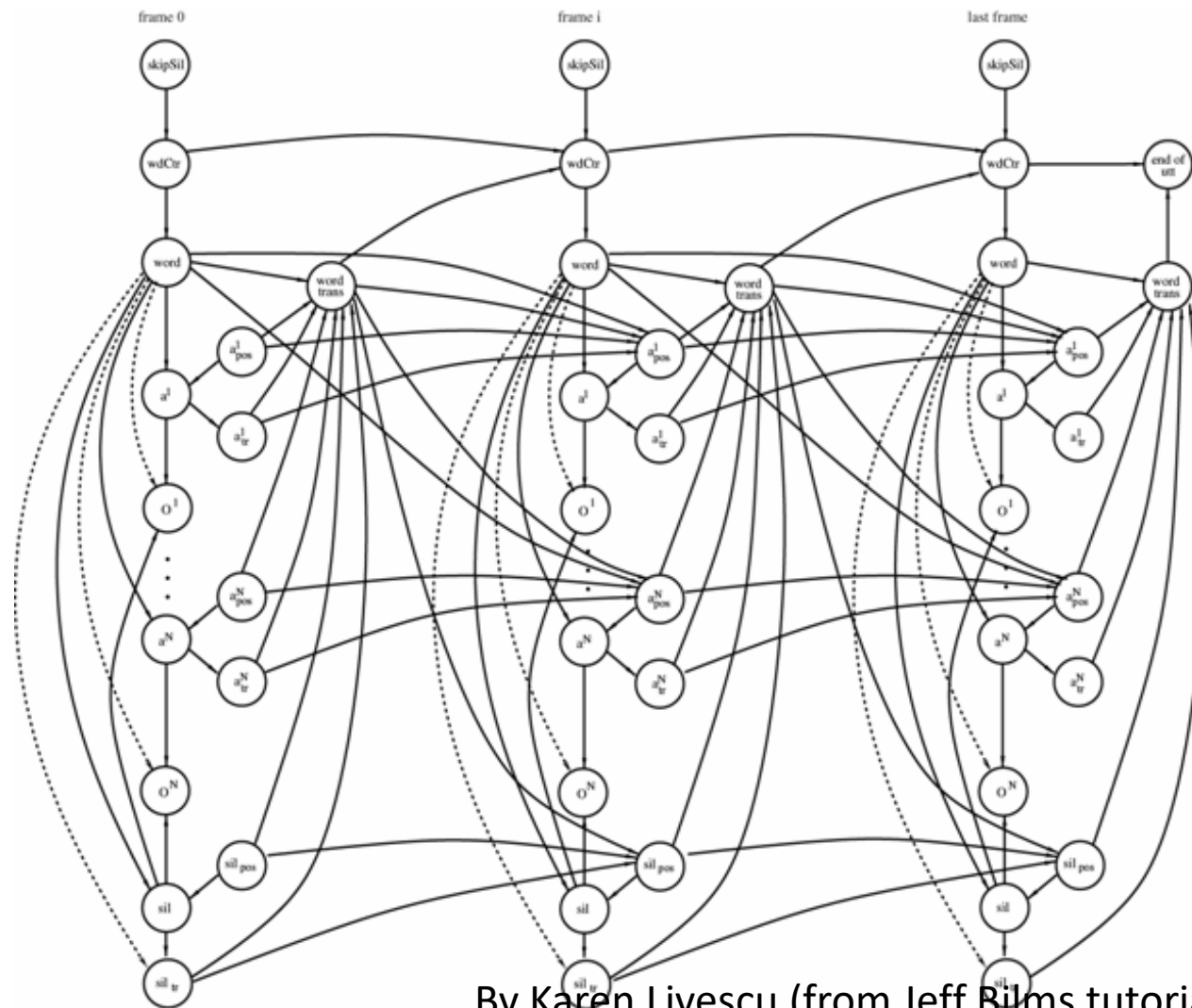


# Chief Complaint: Sore Throat





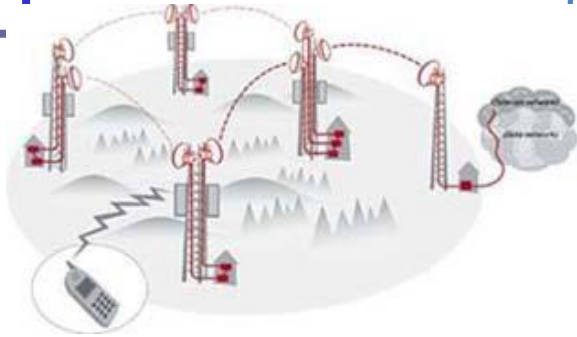
# Phone-free Articulatory Graph



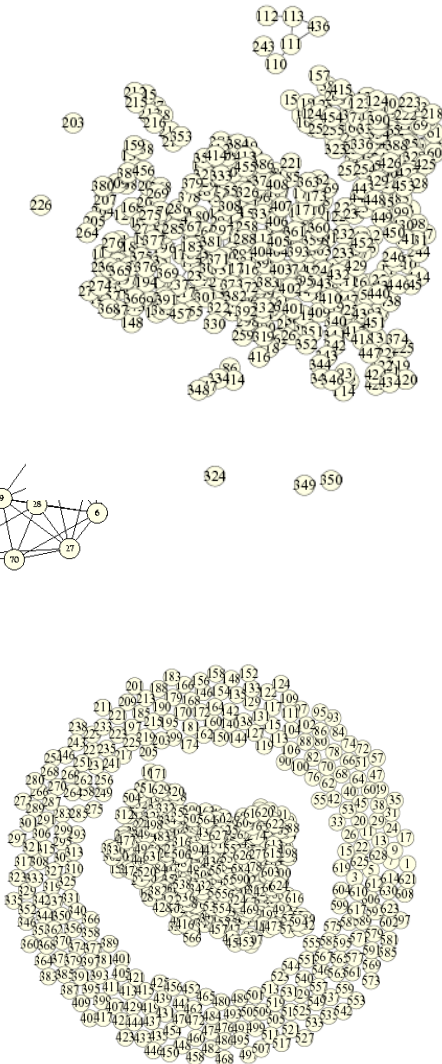
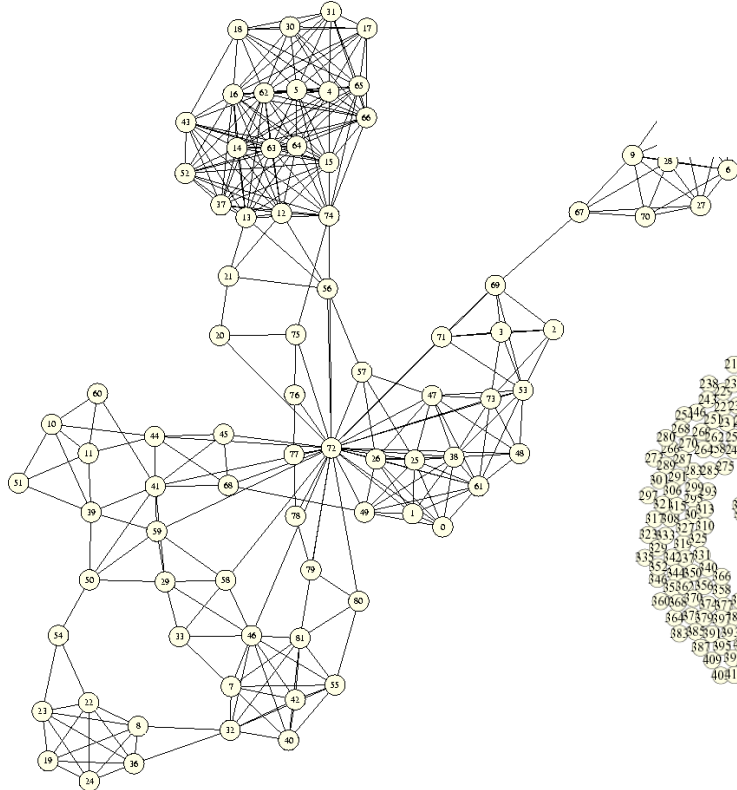
By Karen Livescu (from Jeff Bilmes tutorial)

# Radio Link Frequency Assignment Problem

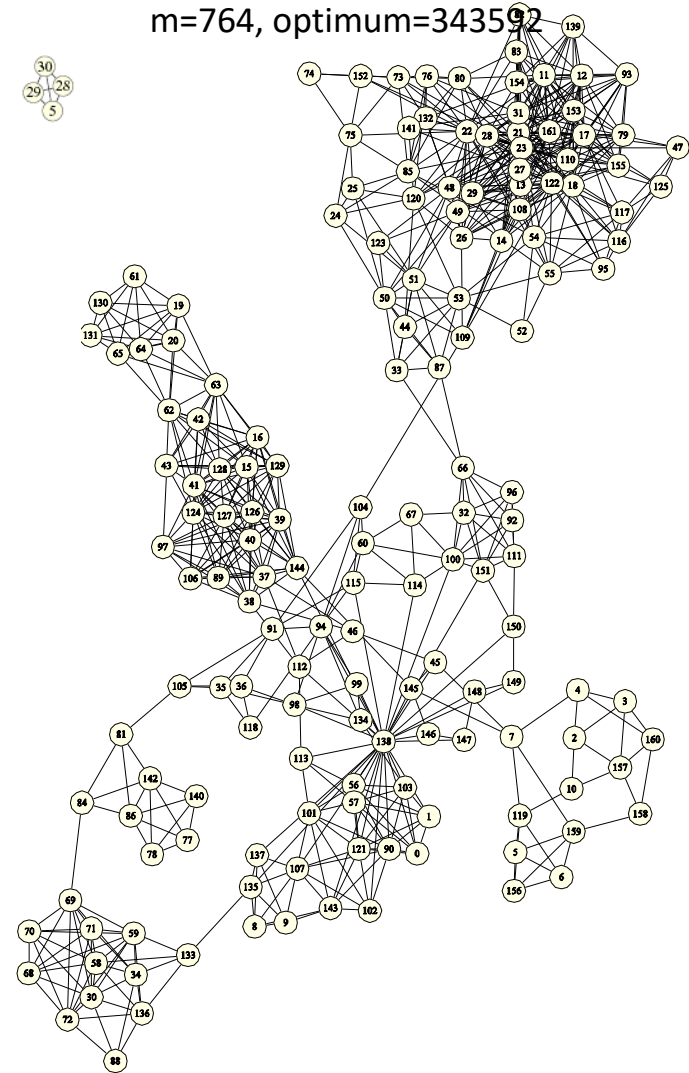
'Cabon et al., *Constraints* 1999) (Koster et al., *4OR* 2003)



CELAR SCEN-06  
 $n=100$ ,  $d=44$ ,  
 $m=350$ , optimum=3389

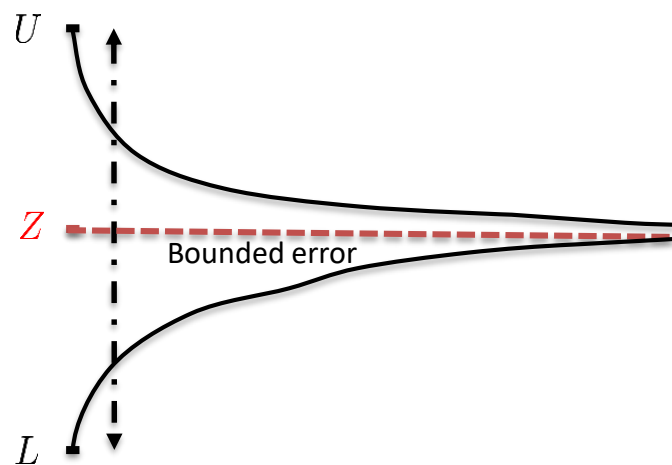
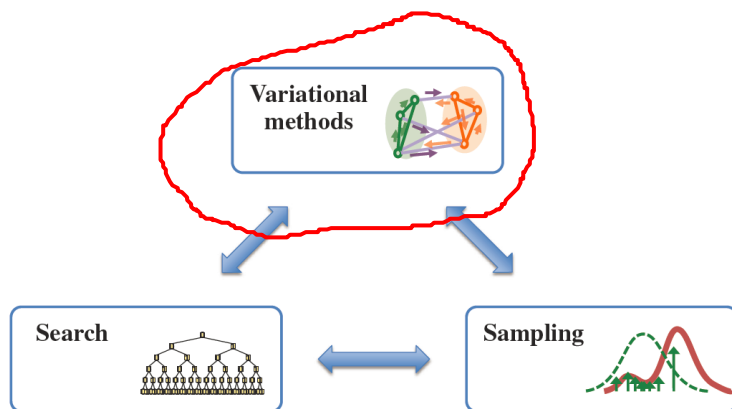


- CELAR SCEN-07r  
 $n=162$ ,  $d=44$ ,  
 $m=764$ , optimum=343572



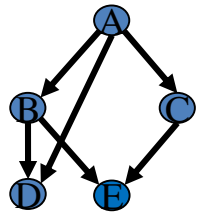
# Outline

- Graphical models: definition, examples, methodology
- Inference and variational bounds
- AND/OR search spaces
- Variational bounds as search heuristics
- Combining methods: Heuristic Search for Marginal Map
- Conclusion



# Marginals by Bucket Elimination

(Dechter 1999)



$$P(A | E = 0) = \alpha \sum_{E=0, D, C, B} P(A) \cdot P(B | A) \cdot P(C | A) \cdot P(D | A, B) \cdot P(E | B, C)$$

$\sum_b \Pi$

Elimination operator

bucket B:

$$P(b|a) \quad P(d|b,a) \quad P(e|b,c)$$

bucket C:

$$P(c|a) \quad \lambda_{B \rightarrow C}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{e})$$

bucket D:

$$\lambda_{C \rightarrow D}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e})$$

bucket E:

$$e=0 \quad \lambda_{D \rightarrow A}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{e})$$

bucket A:

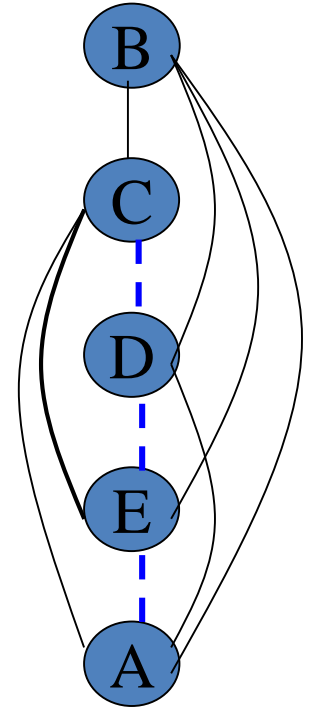
$$P(\mathbf{a}) \quad \lambda_{E \rightarrow A}(\mathbf{a})$$

$$P(e=0)$$

$$P(a/e=0)$$

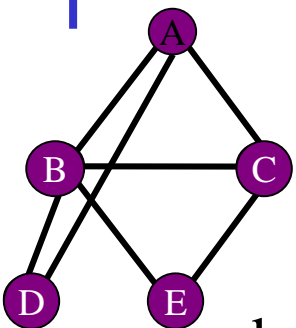
$W^*=4$

"induced width"  
(max clique size)



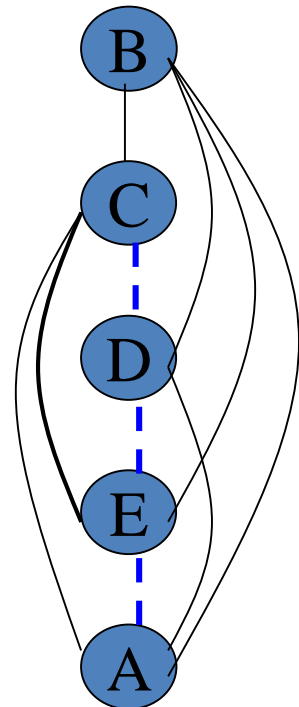
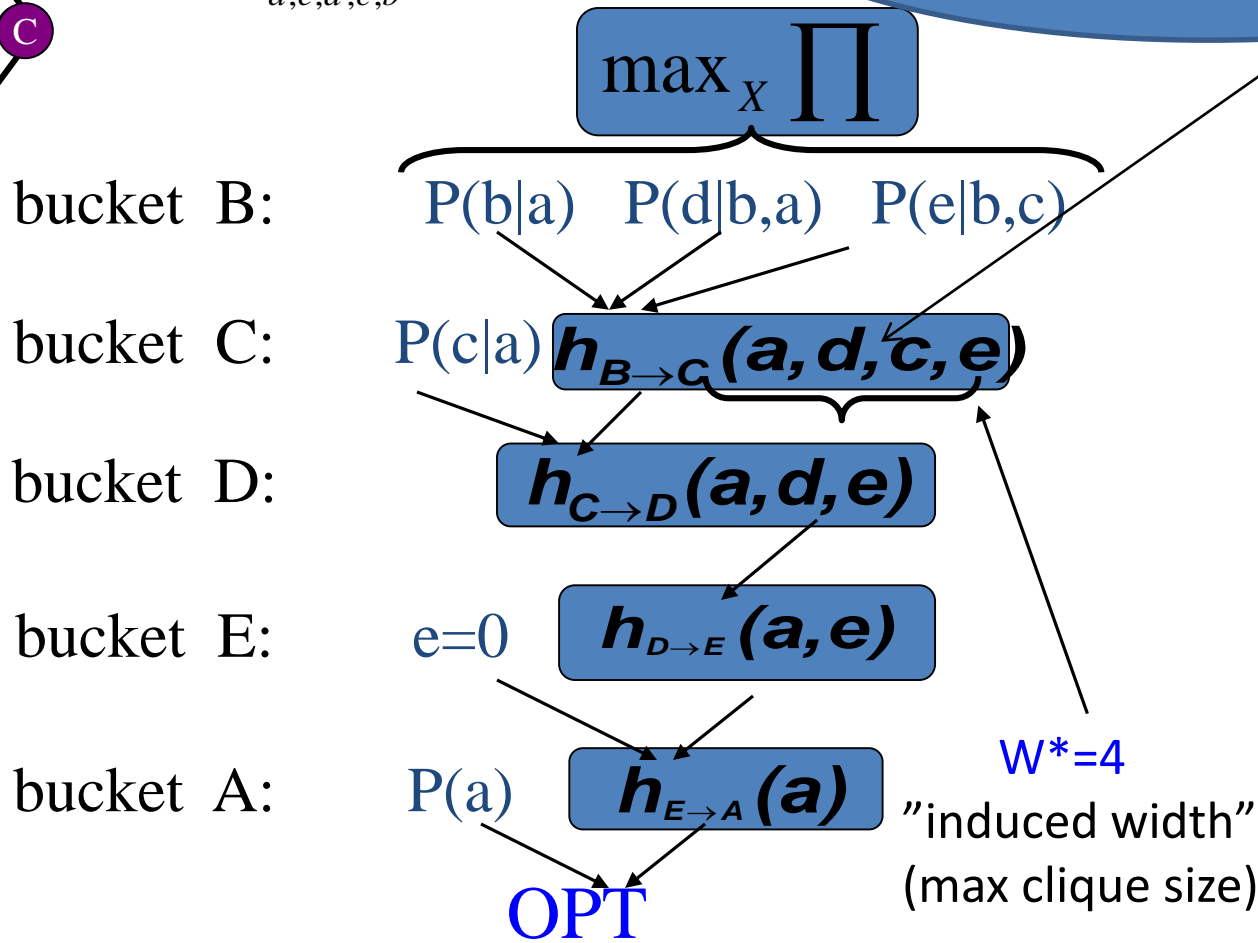
Complexity time and space  $O(nk^{W^*+1})$

# MAP by Bucket Elimination



$$MPE = \max_{a,e,d,c,b} P(a)P(c|a)P(b|a)P(d|b,a)P(e|b,c)$$

$$= \max_b P(b|a) \cdot P(d|b,a) \cdot P(e|b,c)$$



# Decoding the Optimal-Tuple

5.  $b' = \arg \max P(b | a') \times P(d' | b, a') \times P(e' | b, c')$

4.  $c' = \arg \max P(c | a') \times h^B(a', d', c, e')$

3.  $d' = \arg \max_d h^C(a', d, e')$

2.  $e' = 0$

1.  $a' = \arg \max_a P(a) \cdot h^E(a)$

B:  $P(b|a) \quad P(d|b,a) \quad P(e|b,c)$

C:  $P(c|a) \quad h^B(a,d,c,e)$

D:  $h^C(a,d,e)$

E:  $e=0 \quad h^D(a,e)$

A:  $P(a) \quad h^E(a)$

**Return  $(a', b', c', d', e')$**

# Complexity of Bucket Elimination;

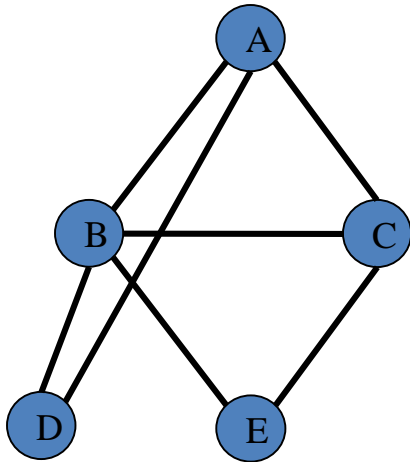
Bucket Elimination is **time** and **space**

$$O(r \exp(w^*(d)))$$

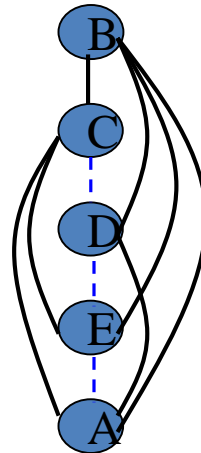
$w^*(d)$  – the induced width of graph along ordering  $d$

$r$  = number of functions

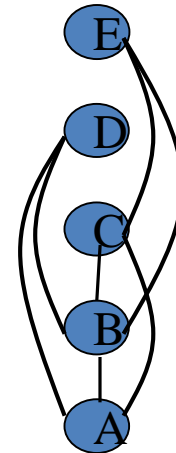
The effect of the ordering:



"Moral" graph



$$w^*(d_1) = 4$$



$$w^*(d_2) = 2$$

Finding the smallest induced width is hard!

# Bucket and Mini-Bucket Elimination

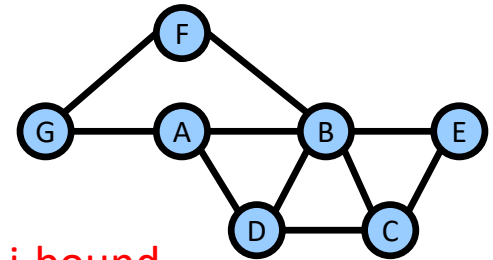
[Dechter 1999; Dechter & Rish, 2003, Liu & Ihler 2011]

$$\sum_{\mathbf{X}} F(\mathbf{X})$$

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = f(A)f(A, B)f(A, D)f(A, G)f(B, C)f(B, D) \\ f(B, E)f(B, F)f(C, D)f(C, E)f(E, G)$$

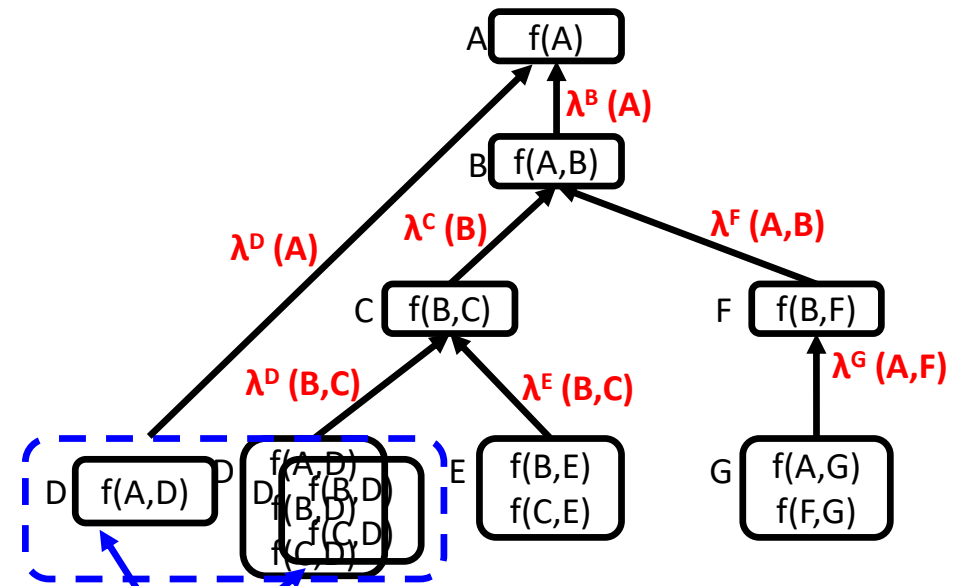
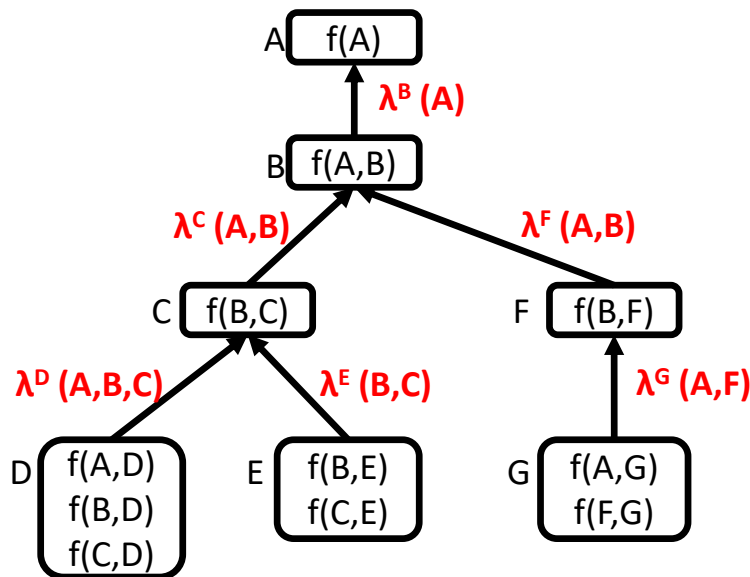
$$\lambda^D(A) = \max_D f(A, D)$$

$$\lambda^D(B, C) = \max_D [f(B, D) * f(C, D)]$$



Time and space exponential  
in the **induced-width/tree-width**

Exponential in **i-bound**



$$\lambda^D(A, B, C) = \max_D [f(A, D) * f(B, D) * f(C, D)]$$

mini-buckets

ibound = 2



# Mini-Bucket Approximation

For optimization

Split a bucket into mini-buckets  $\rightarrow$  bound complexity

bucket (X) =

$$\left\{ f_1, f_2, \dots, f_r, f_{r+1}, \dots, f_n \right\}$$

$$\lambda_X(\cdot) = \max_x \prod_{i=1}^n f_i(x, \dots)$$

$$\left\{ f_1, \dots, f_r \right\}$$

$$\left\{ f_{r+1}, \dots, f_n \right\}$$

$$\lambda_{X,1}(\cdot) = \max_x \prod_{i=1}^r f_i(x, \dots)$$

$$\lambda_{X,2}(\cdot) = \max_x \prod_{i=r+1}^n f_i(x, \dots)$$

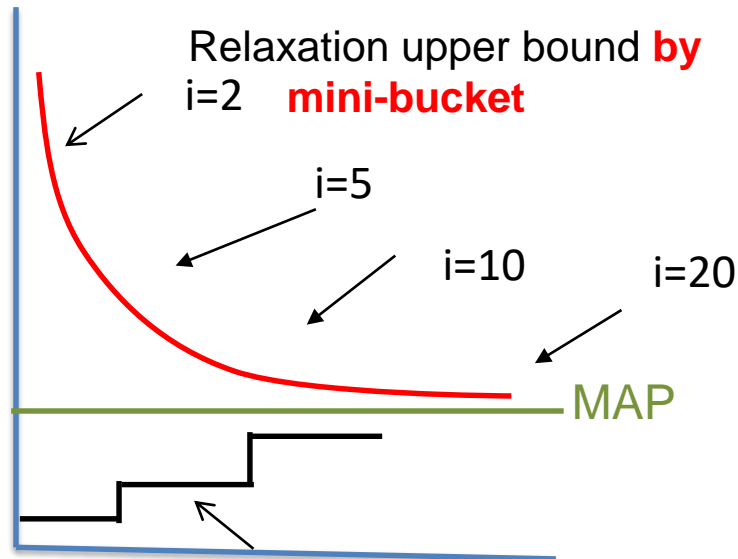
$$\lambda_X(\cdot) \leq \lambda_{X,1}(\cdot) \lambda_{X,2}(\cdot)$$

Exponential complexity decrease:  $O(e^n) \rightarrow O(e^r) + O(e^{n-r})$

# Properties of Mini-Bucket Elimination

(For optimization)

- Bounding from above and below

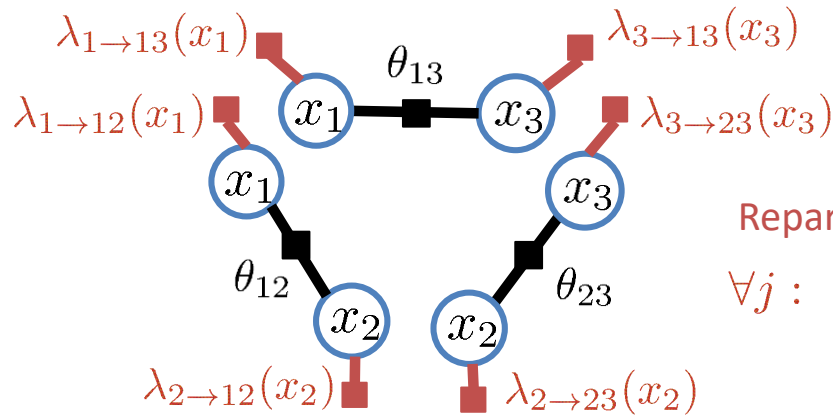
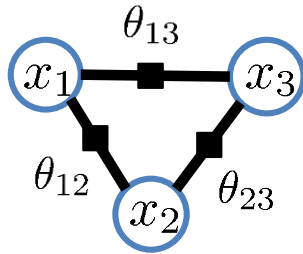


Consistent solutions ( **greedy search** )

- Complexity:  $O(r \exp(i))$  time and  $O(\exp(i))$  space.
- Accuracy: determined by Upper/Lower bound.
- As  $i$ -bound increases, both accuracy and complexity increase.
- Possible use of mini-bucket approximations:
  - As anytime algorithms
  - As heuristics in search

# Tightening the Bound

Add factors that “adjust” each local term, but cancel out in total



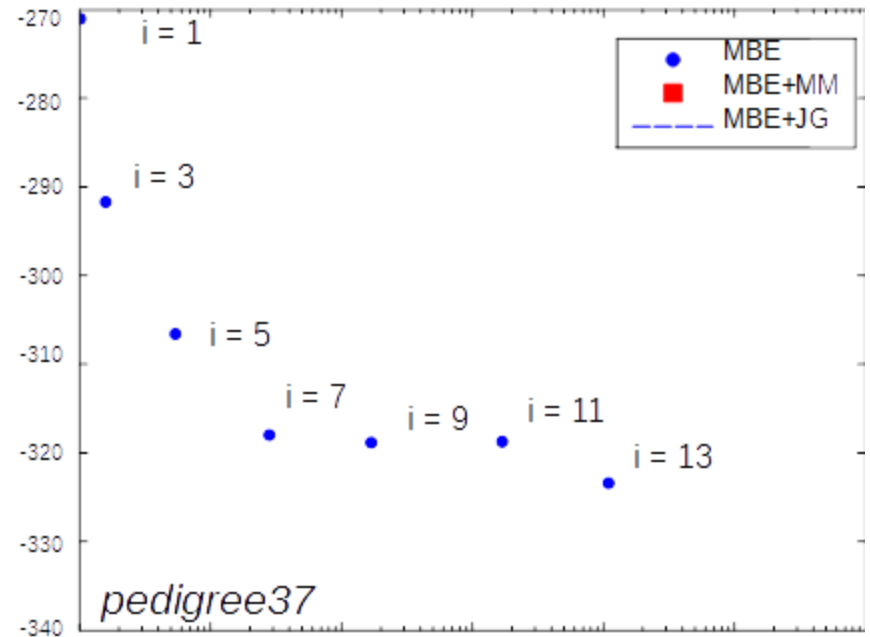
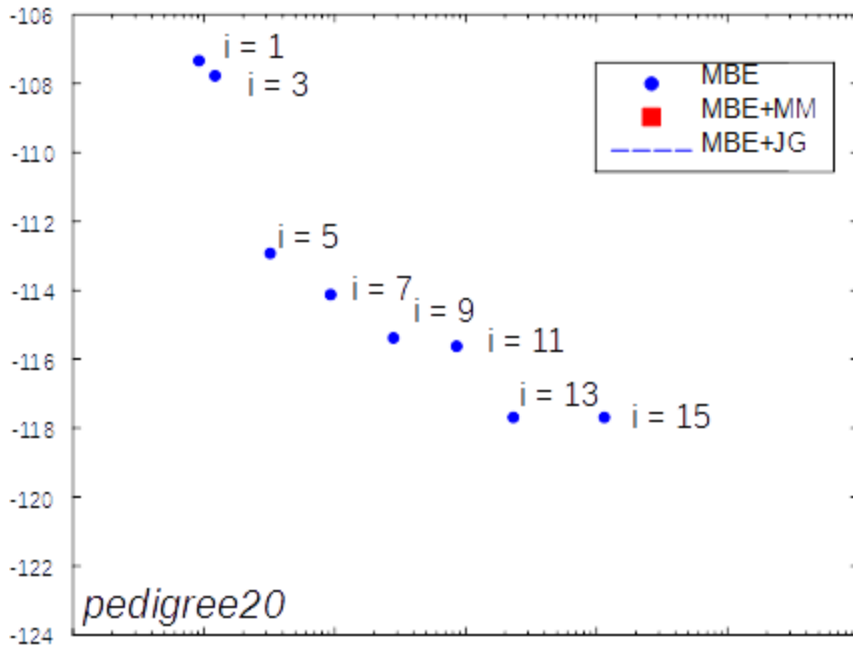
Reparameterization:

$$\forall j : \sum_{\alpha \ni j} \lambda_{j \rightarrow \alpha}(x_j) = 0$$

$$\log f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \max_{\mathbf{x}} \sum_{\alpha} \theta_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha}) \leq \min_{\{\lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}\}} \sum_{\alpha} \max_{\mathbf{x}_{\alpha}} \left[ \theta_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha}) + \sum_{i \in \alpha} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(x_i) \right]$$

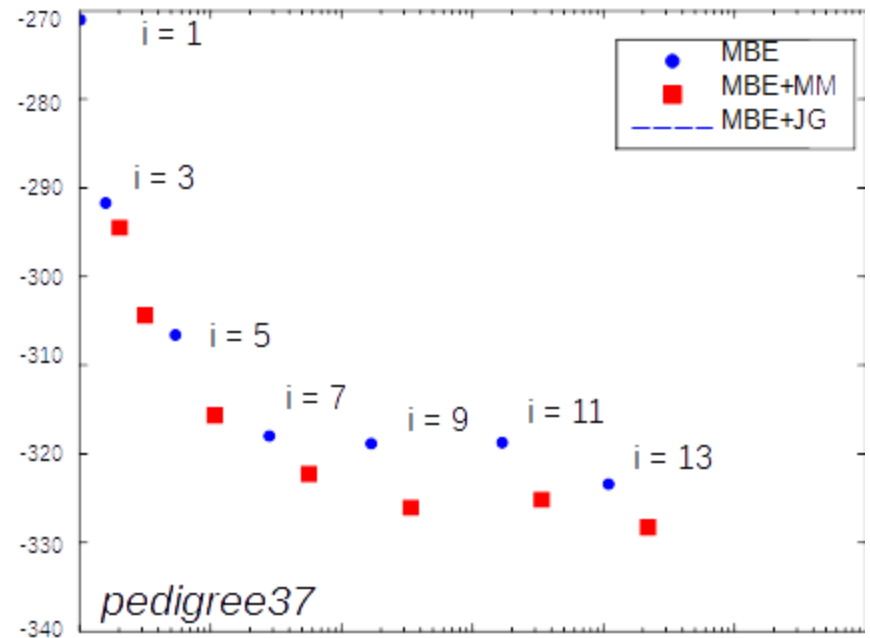
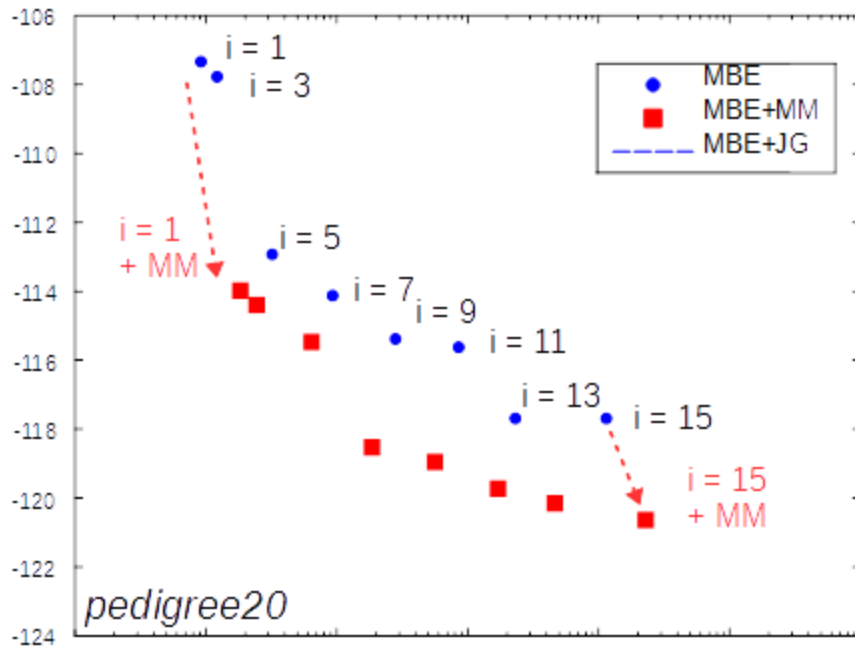
- Bound solution using decomposed optimization
- Solve independently: optimistic bound
- Tighten the bound by re-parameterization
  - Enforces lost equality constraints using Lagrange multipliers

# Anytime Approximation



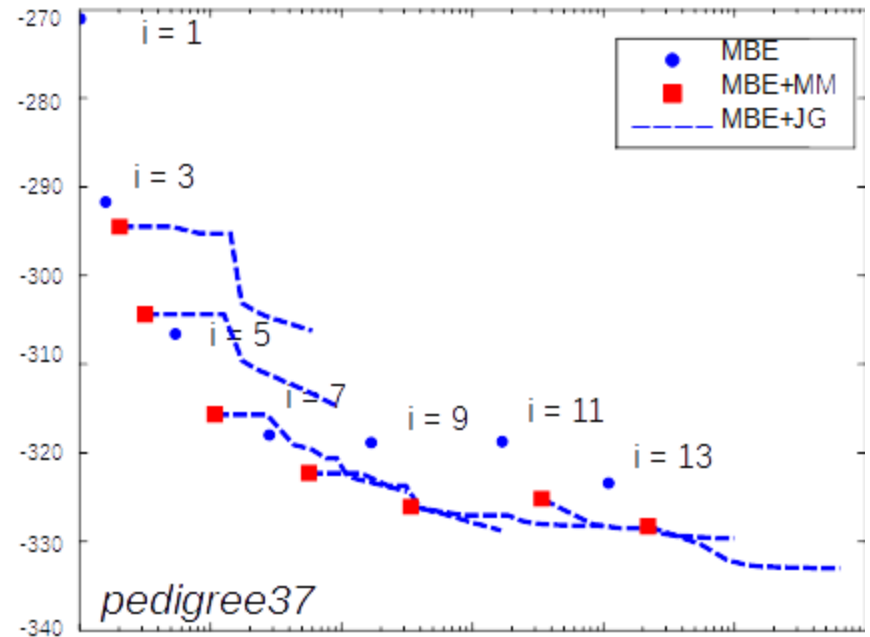
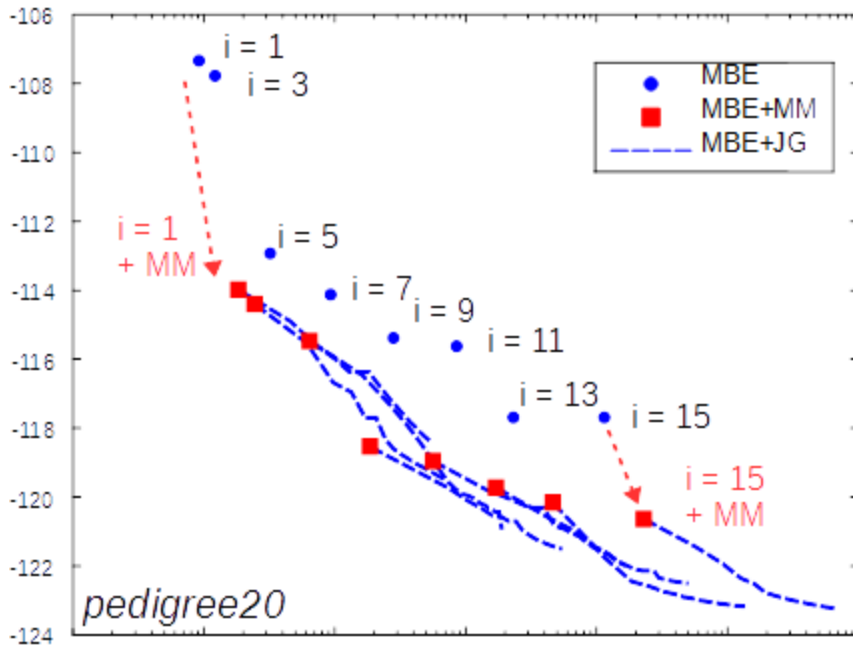
- Can tighten the bound in various ways
  - Cost-shifting (improve consistency between cliques)
  - Increase  $i$ -bound (higher order consistency)
- Simple moment-matching step improves bound significantly

# Anytime Approximation



- Can tighten the bound in various ways
  - Cost-shifting (improve consistency between cliques)
  - Increase  $i$ -bound (higher order consistency)
- Simple moment-matching step improves bound significantly

# Anytime Approximation



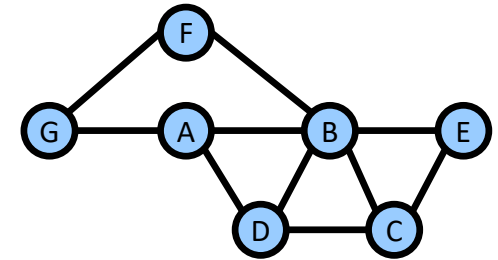
- Can tighten the bound in various ways
  - Cost-shifting (improve consistency between cliques)
  - Increase  $i$ -bound (higher order consistency)
- Simple moment-matching step improves bound significantly

# Bucket Elimination (BE) and WMB

Holder inequality facilitated weighted MB for summation

[Dechter 1999, Ihler et. Al. 2013]

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = f(A)f(A, B)f(A, D)f(A, G)f(B, C)f(B, D) \\ f(B, E)f(B, F)f(C, D)f(C, E)f(E, G)$$

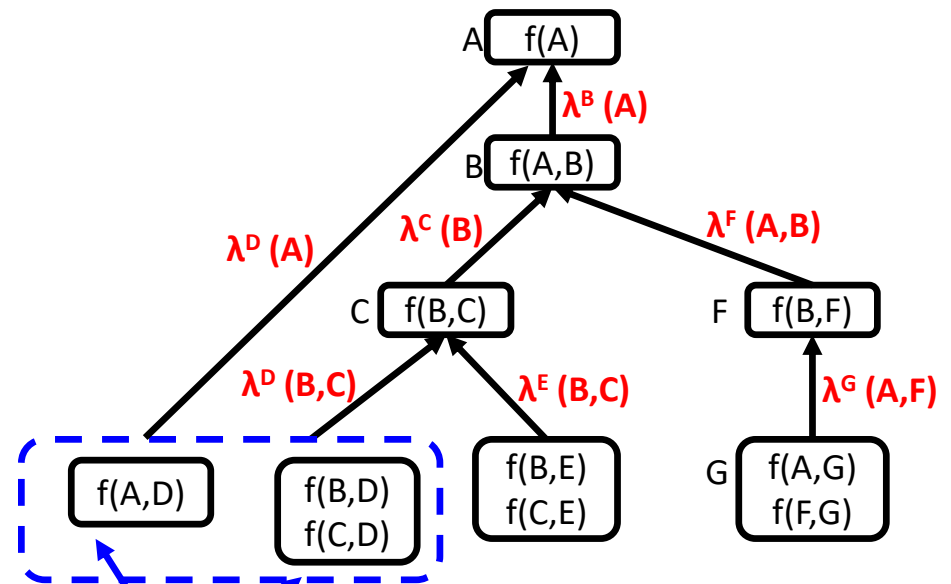


Pros:

- Computationally bounded
- Gives upper or lower bound
- Cost-shifting Message passing
- improves bound

Cons:

- Not anytime!
- not asymp. tight w/o more memory

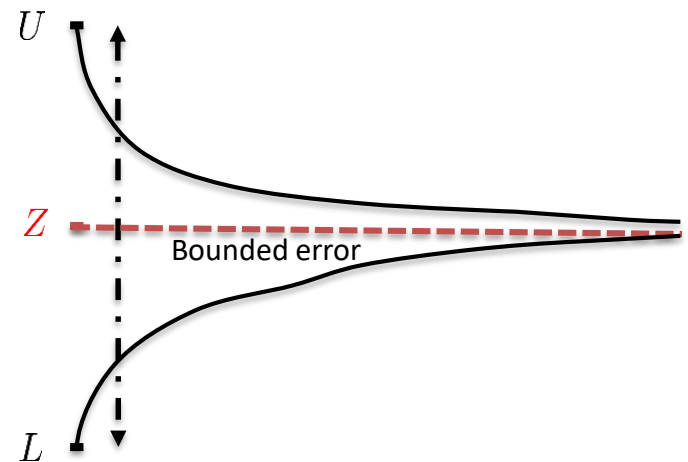
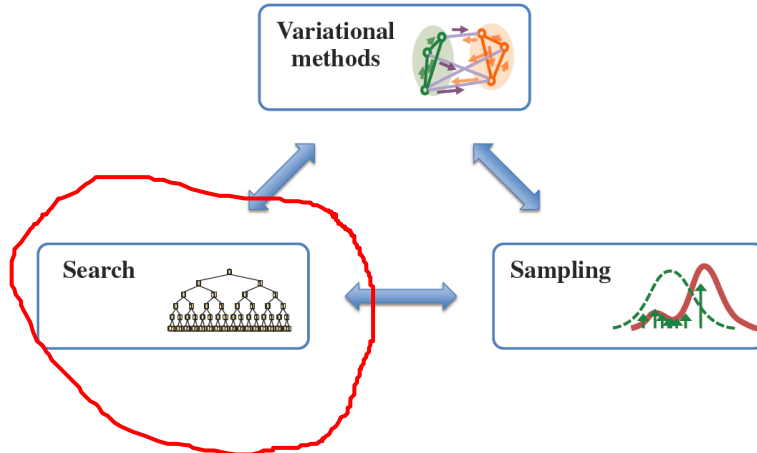


mini-buckets  
GMU, 2/2019

ibound = 2

# Outline

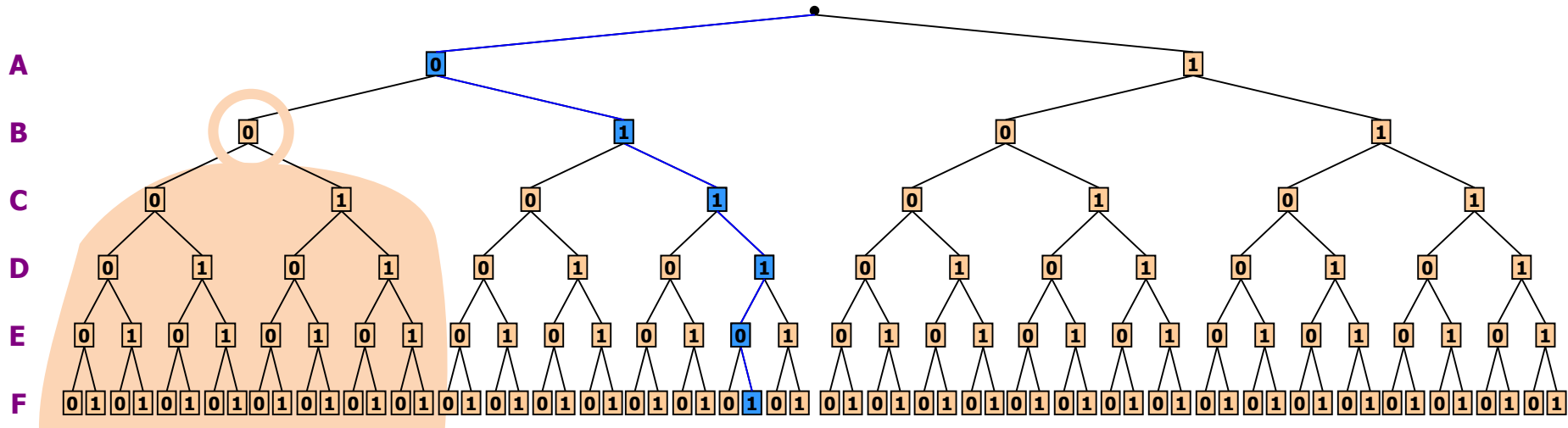
- Graphical models: definition, examples, methodology
- Inference and variational bounds
- **AND/OR search spaces**
- Variational bounds as search heuristics
- Combining methods: Heuristic Search for Marginal Map
- Conclusion





# Search Trees and Tasks

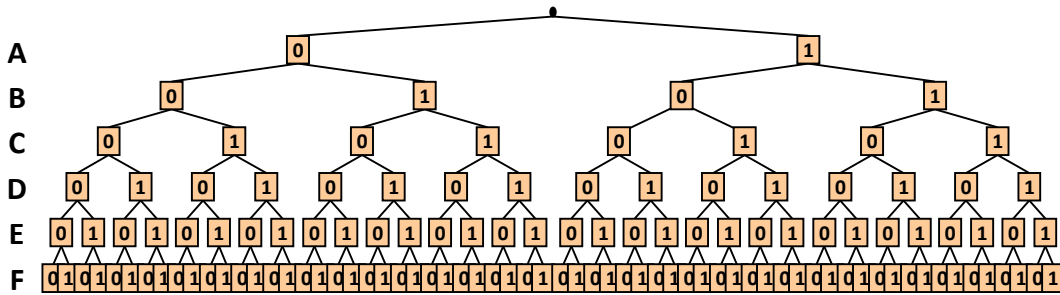
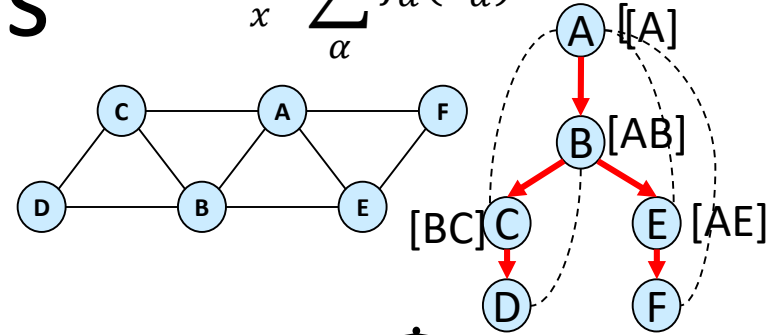
- Organize / structure the state space
  - Leaf nodes = model configurations
  - “Value” of a node = optimal of sumr of configurations below



# Potential search spaces

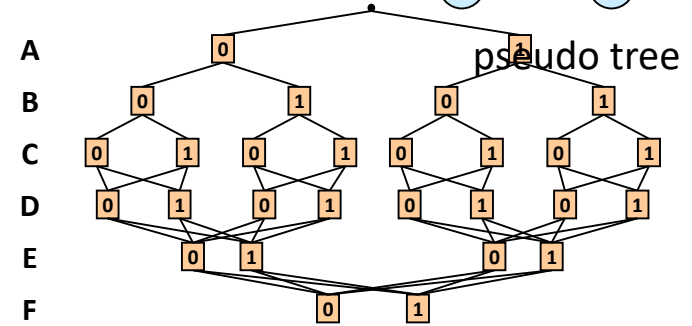
$$F^* = \min_x \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(x_{\alpha})$$

A	B	$f_1$	A	C	$f_2$	A	E	$f_3$	A	F	$f_4$	B	C	$f_5$	B	D	$f_6$	B	E	$f_7$	C	D	$f_8$	E	F	$f_9$
0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	4	0	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2



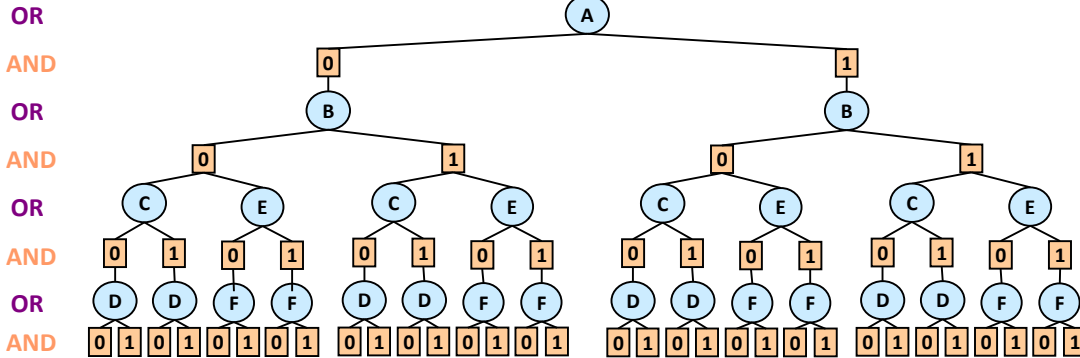
Full OR search tree

126 nodes



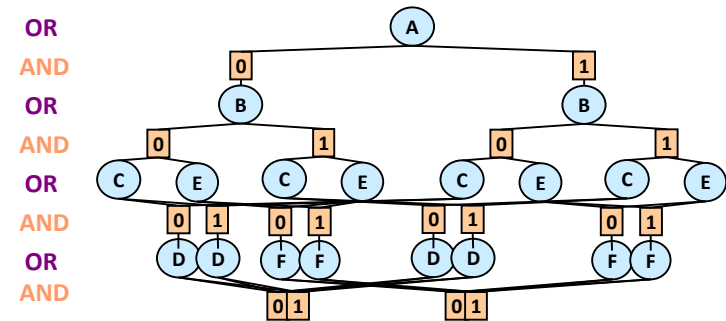
Context minimal OR search graph

28 nodes



Full AND/OR search tree

54 AND nodes



Context minimal AND/OR search graph

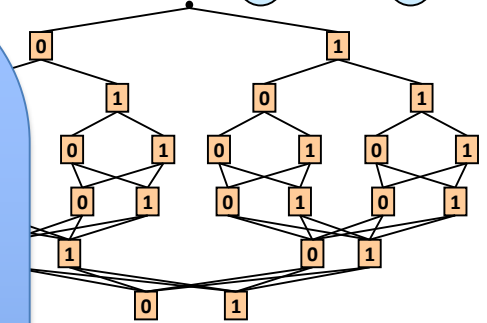
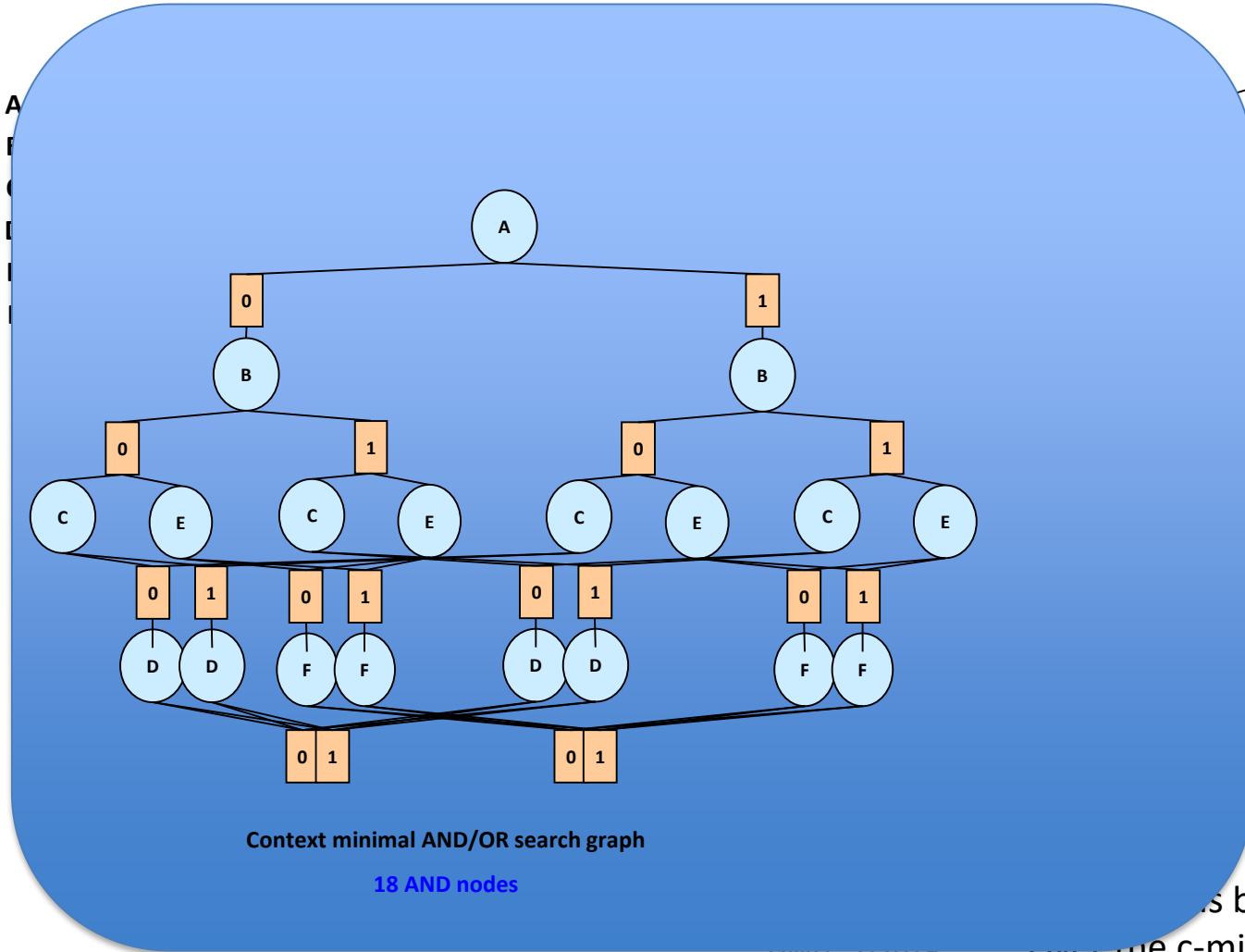
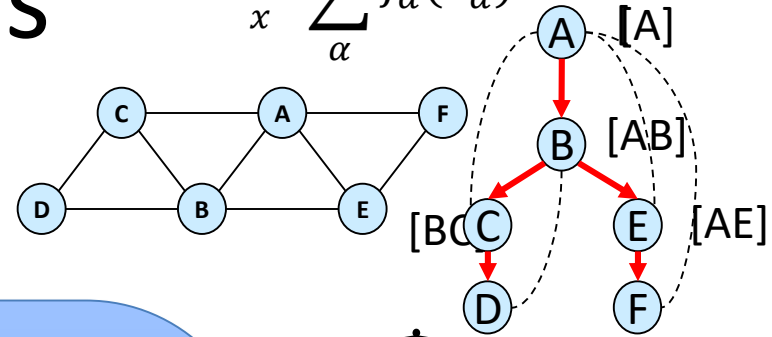
18 AND nodes

Any query is best computed  
Over the c-minimal AO search space

# Potential search spaces

$$F^* = \min_x \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(x_{\alpha})$$

A	B	$f_1$	A	C	$f_2$	A	E	$f_3$	A	F	$f_4$	B	C	$f_5$	B	D	$f_6$	B	E	$f_7$	C	D	$f_8$	E	F	$f_9$
0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	4	0	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2



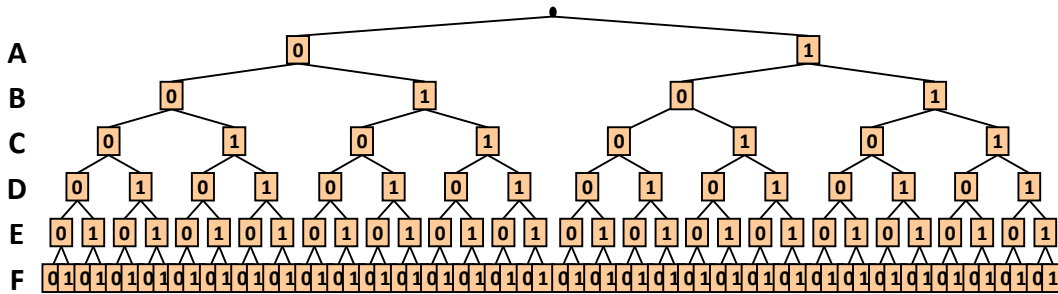
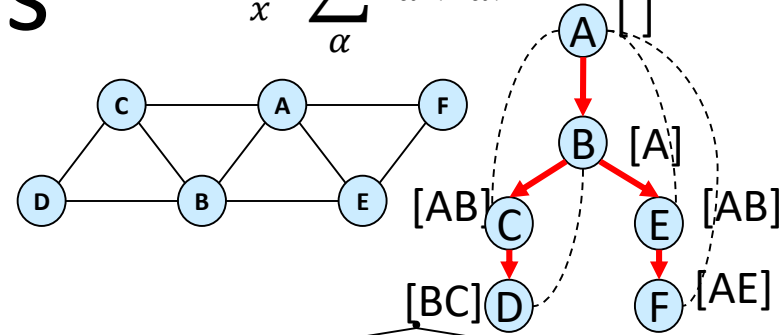
is best computed

Over the c-minimal AO search space

# Potential search spaces

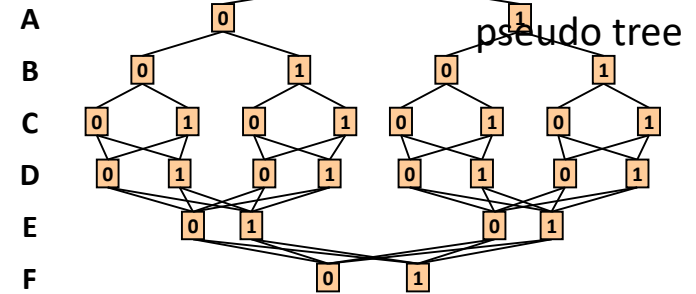
$$F^* = \min_x \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(x_{\alpha})$$

A	B	$f_1$	A	C	$f_2$	A	E	$f_3$	A	F	$f_4$	B	C	$f_5$	B	D	$f_6$	B	E	$f_7$	C	D	$f_8$	E	F	$f_9$
0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	4	0	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2



Full OR search tree

126 nodes



Context minimal OR search graph

28 nodes

OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND

Computes any query:

- Constraint satisfaction
- Optimization (MAP)
- Marginal (P(e))
- **Marginal map**

34 AND nodes

OR tree

AND/OR

OR graph

AND/OR graph

$O(n k^{pw*})$

$O(n k^{w*})$

$O(n k^{pw*})$

$O(n k^{w*})$

18 AND nodes

Any query is best computed  
Over the c-minimal AO search space

# Cost of a Solution Tree

$P(E | A, B)$

A	B	E=0	E=1
0	0	.4	.6
0	1	.5	.5
1	0	.7	.3
1	1	.2	.8

Evidence: E=0

$P(B | A)$

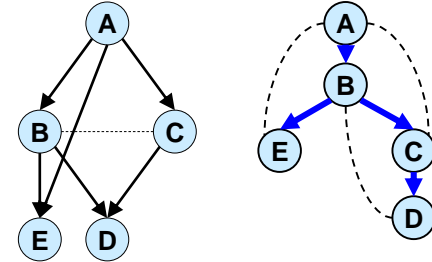
A	B=0	B=1
0	.4	.6
1	.1	.9

$P(C | A)$

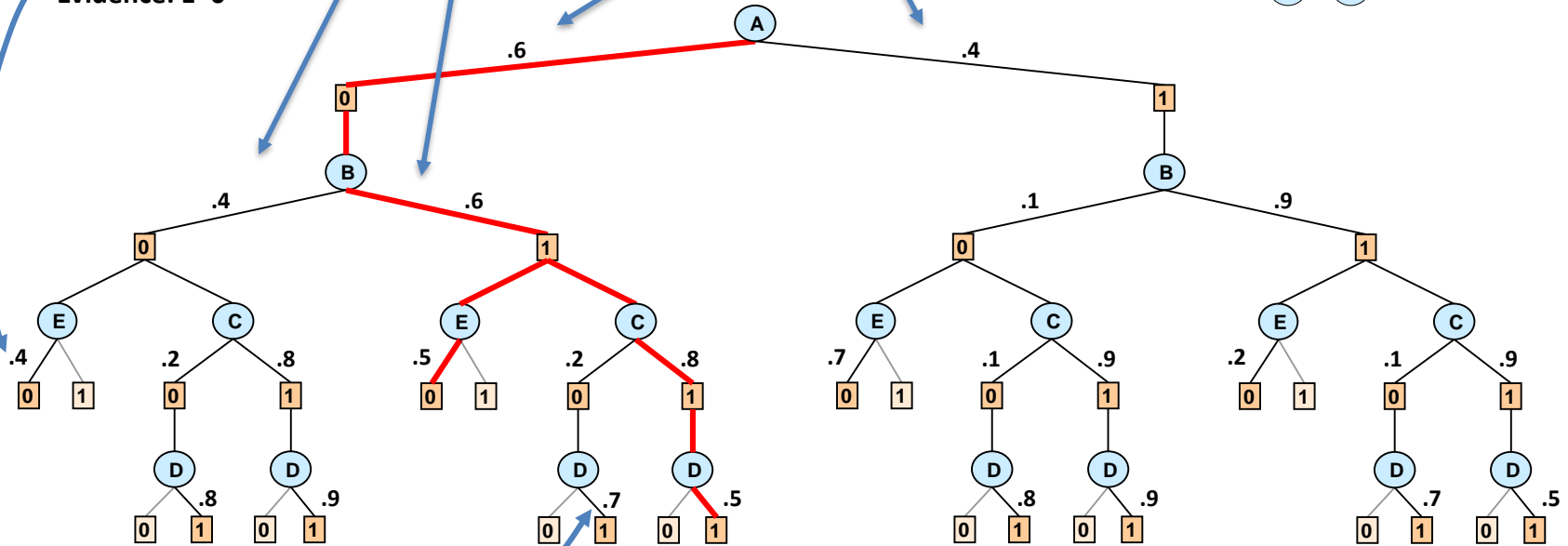
A	C=0	C=1
0	.2	.8
1	.7	.3

$P(A)$

A	P(A)
0	.6
1	.4



OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND



$P(D | B, C)$

B	C	D=0	D=1
0	0	.2	.8
0	1	.1	.9
1	0	.3	.7
1	1	.5	.5

Evidence: D=1

Cost of the solution tree: the product of weights on its arcs

Cost of (A=0, B=1, C=1, D=1, E=0) =  $0.6 \cdot 0.6 \cdot 0.5 \cdot 0.8 \cdot 0.5 = 0.0720$

# Value of a Node (e.g., Probability of Evidence)

$P(E | A, B)$

A	B	E=0	E=1
0	0	.4	.6
0	1	.5	.5
1	0	.7	.3
1	1	.2	.8

Evidence: E=0

$P(B | A)$

A	B=0	B=1
0	.4	.6
1	.1	.9

$P(C | A)$

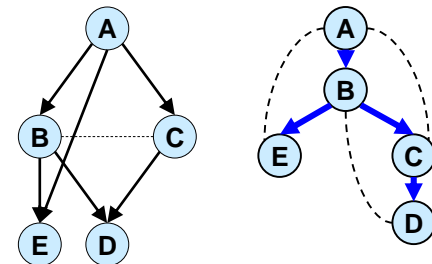
A	C=0	C=1
0	.2	.8
1	.7	.3

$P(A)$

A	P(A)
0	.6
1	.4

$P(D=1, E=0) = ?$

.24408



OR

AND

OR

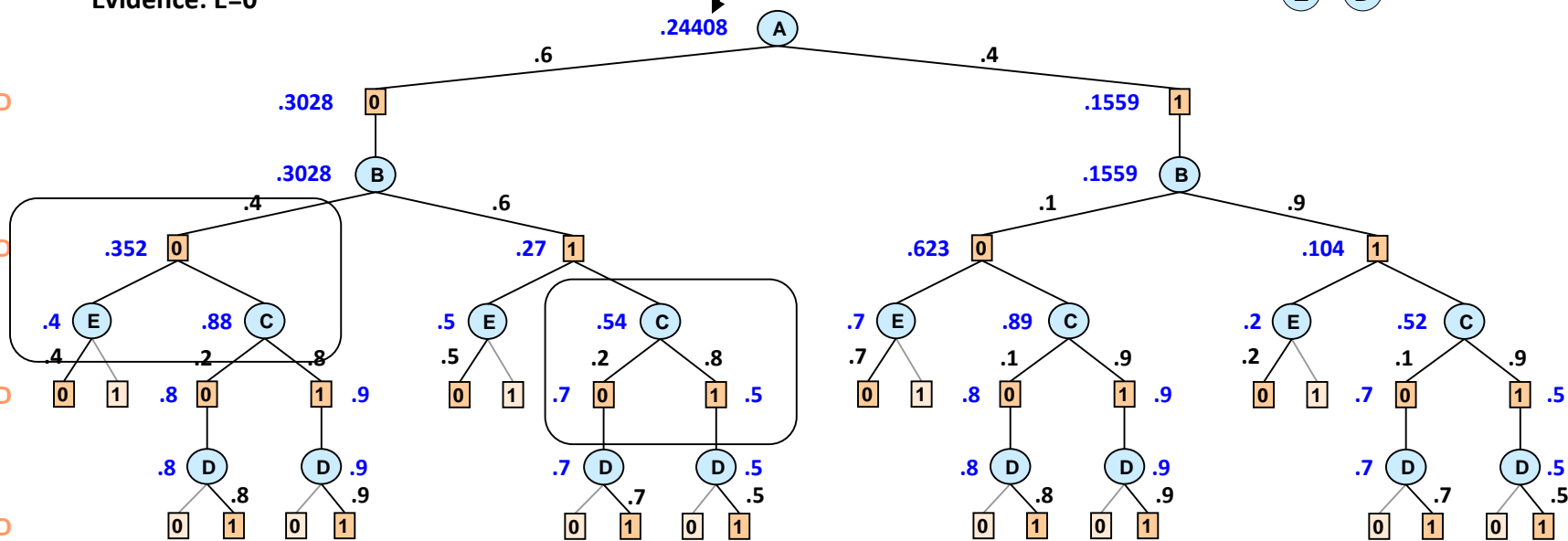
AND

OR

AND

OR

AND



$P(D | B, C)$

B	C	D=0	D=1
0	0	.2	.8
0	1	.1	.9
1	0	.3	.7
1	1	.5	.5

Evidence: D=1

Value of node = updated belief for sub-problem below

AND node: product

$$\prod_{n' \in \text{children}(n)} v(n')$$

OR node: Marginalization by summation

$$\sum_{n' \in \text{children}(n)} w(n, n') v(n')$$

# Answering Queries: Sum-Product (Belief Updating)

$P(E | A, B)$

A	B	E=0	E=1
0	0	.4	.6
0	1	.5	.5
1	0	.7	.3
1	1	.2	.8

Evidence: E=0

$P(B | A)$

A	B=0	B=1
0	.4	.6
1	.1	.9

$P(C | A)$

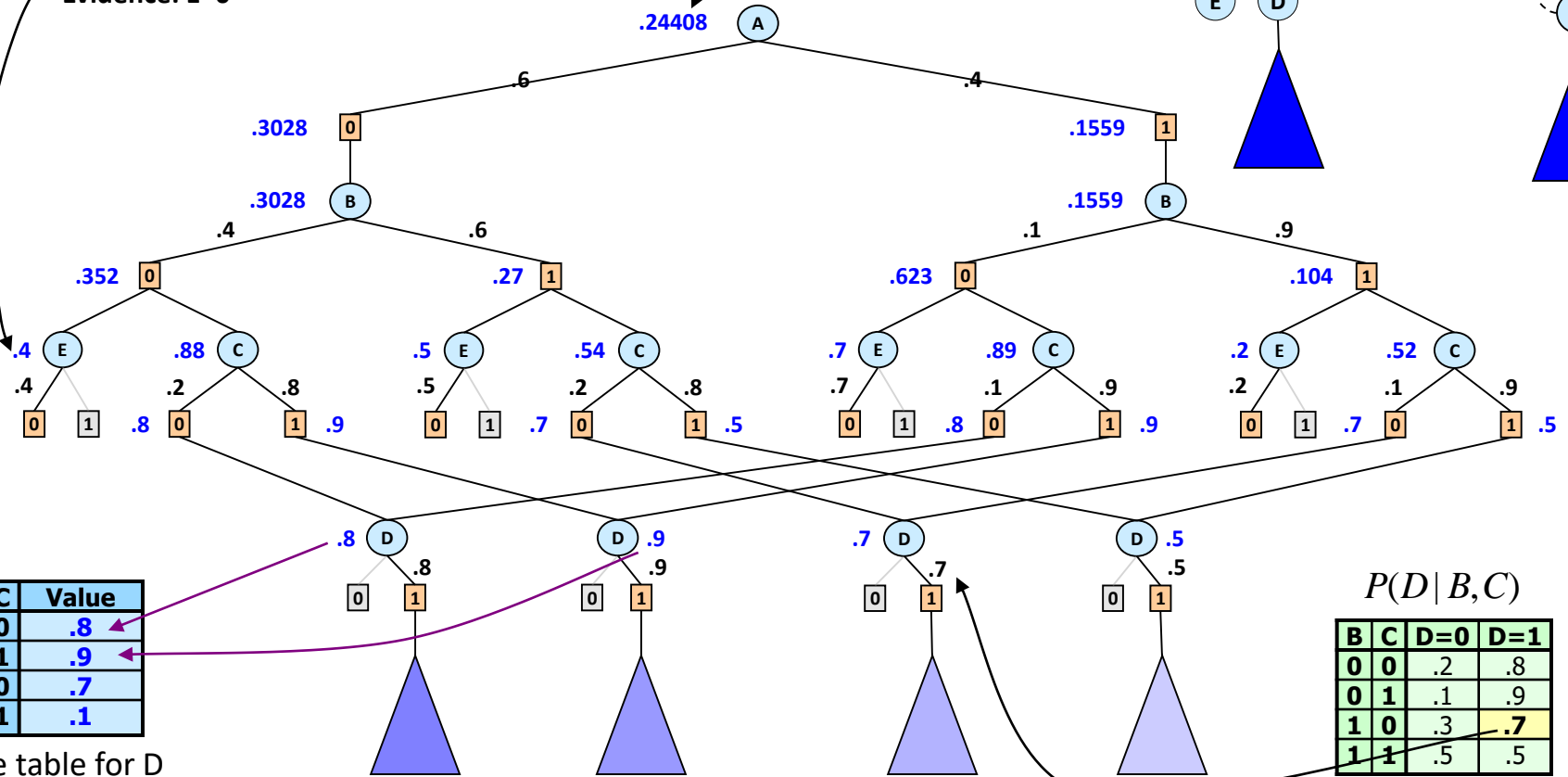
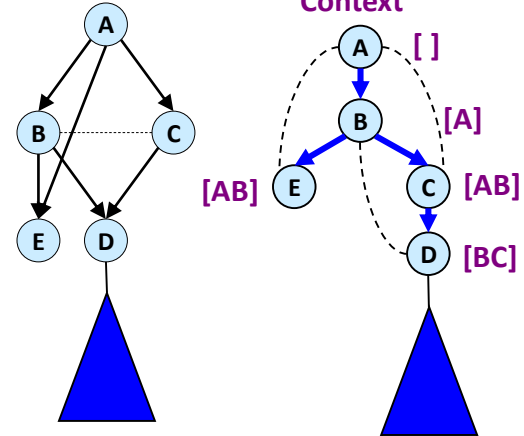
A	C=0	C=1
0	.2	.8
1	.7	.3

$P(A)$

A	P(A)
0	.6
1	.4

Result:  $P(D=1, E=0)$

.24408



Cache table for D

B	C	Value
0	0	.8
0	1	.9
1	0	.7
1	1	.1

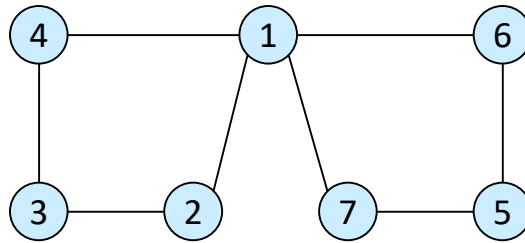
$P(D | B, C)$

B	C	D=0	D=1
0	0	.2	.8
0	1	.1	.9
1	0	.3	.7
1	1	.5	.5

Evidence: D=1

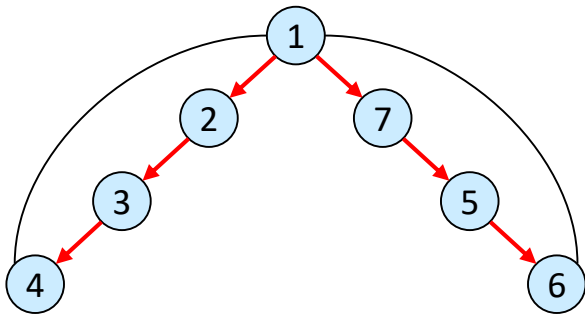
# Pseudo-Trees

(Freuder 85, Bayardo 95, Bodlaender and Gilbert, 91)

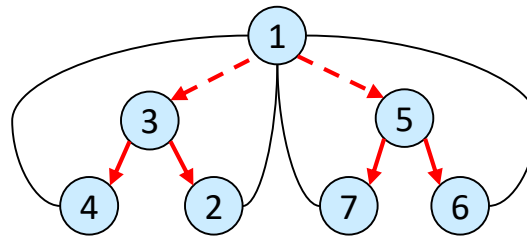


(a) Graph

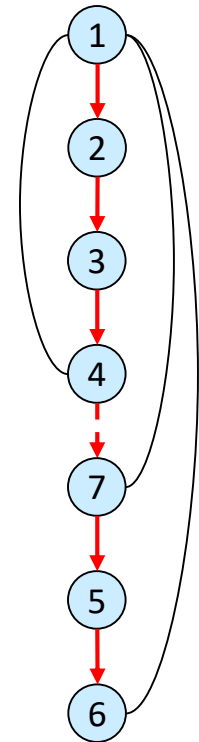
$$h \leq w * \log n$$



(b) DFS tree  
height=3



(c) pseudo- tree  
height=2

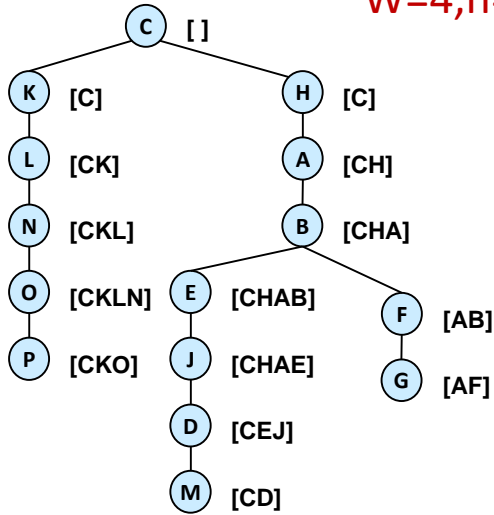


(d) Chain  
height=6

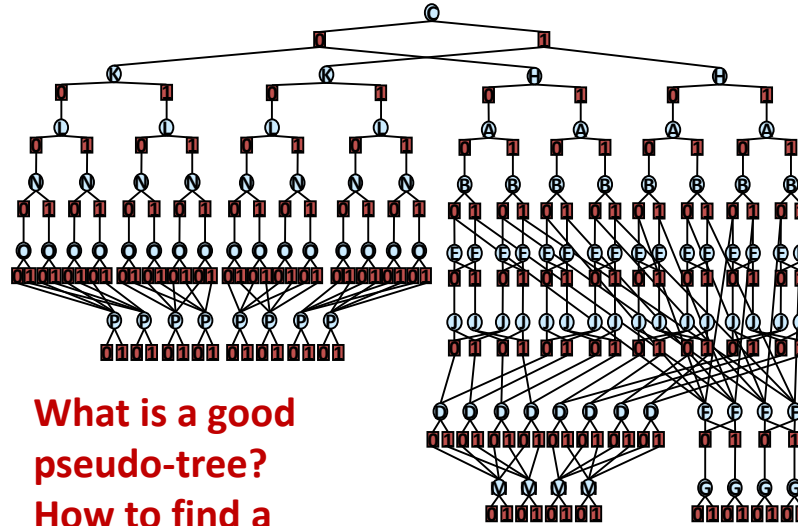


# The Impact of the Pseudo-Tree

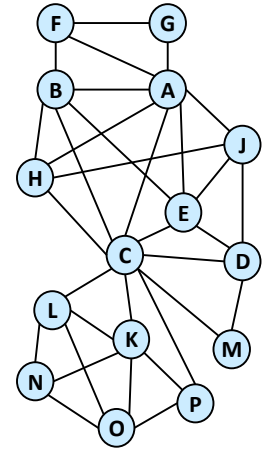
$W=4, h=8$



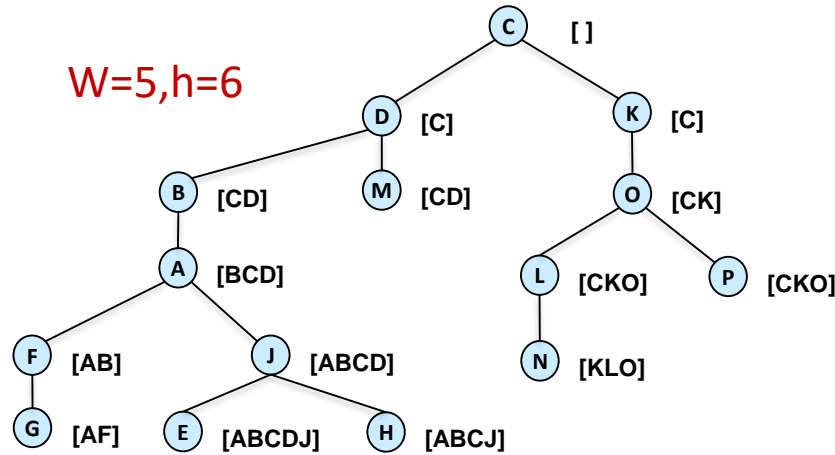
(CKHABEJLNODPMFG)



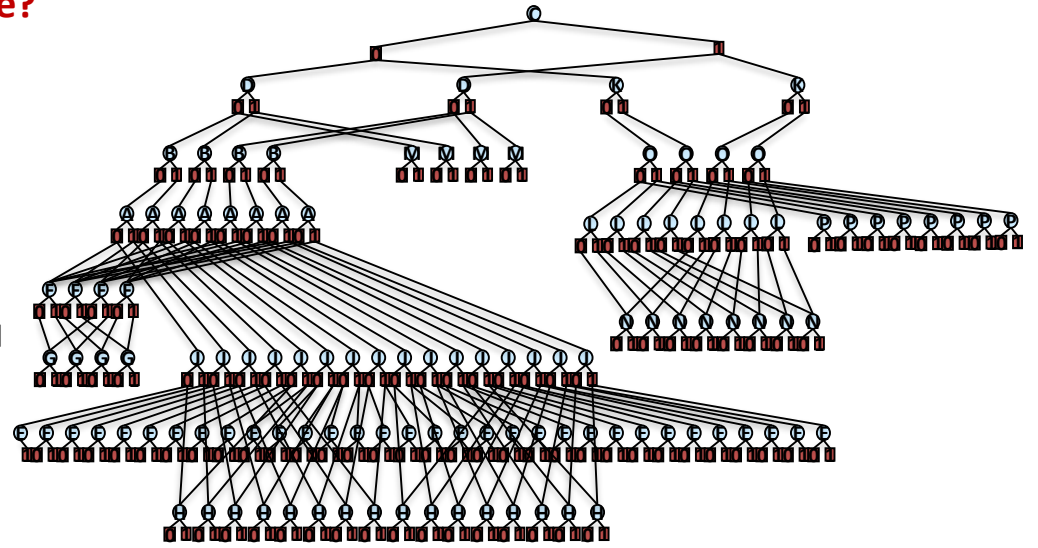
What is a good pseudo-tree?  
How to find a good one?



$W=5, h=6$

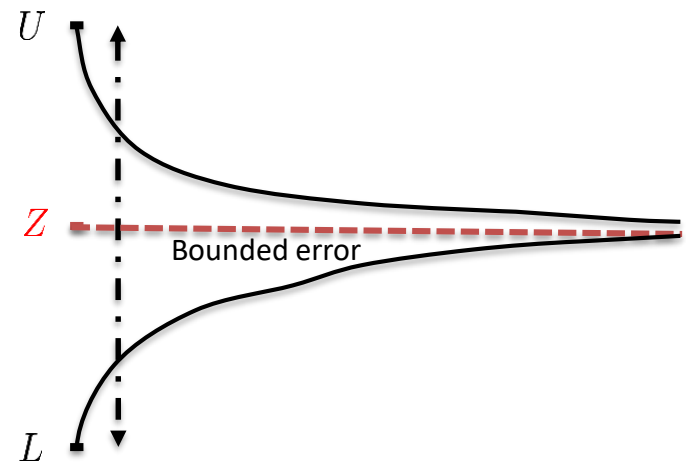
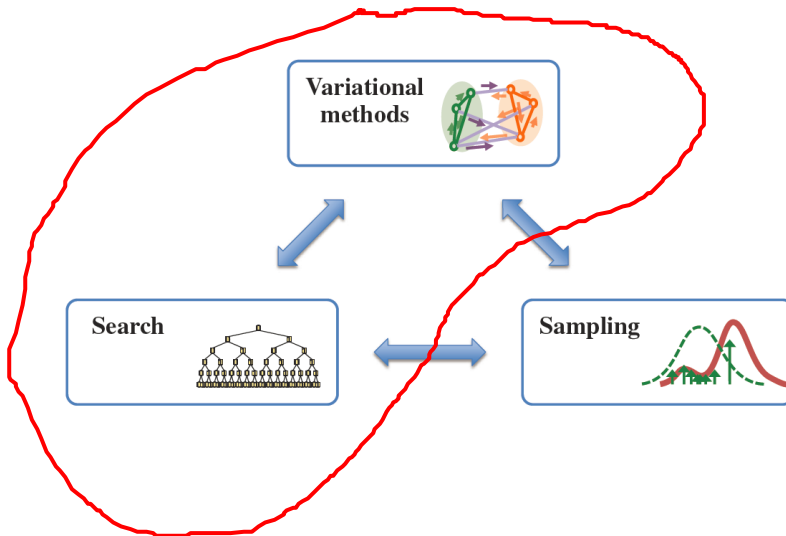


(CDKBAOMLNPJHEFG)



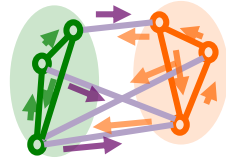
# Outline

- Graphical models: definition, examples, methodology
- Inference and variational bounds
- AND/OR search spaces
- Variational bounds as heuristics for search
- Combining methods: Heuristic Search for Marginal Map
- Conclusion



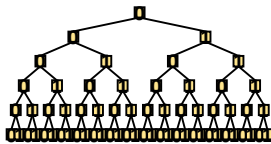
# Search Aided by Variational Heuristics

**Variational  
methods**



provide pre-compiled heuristics

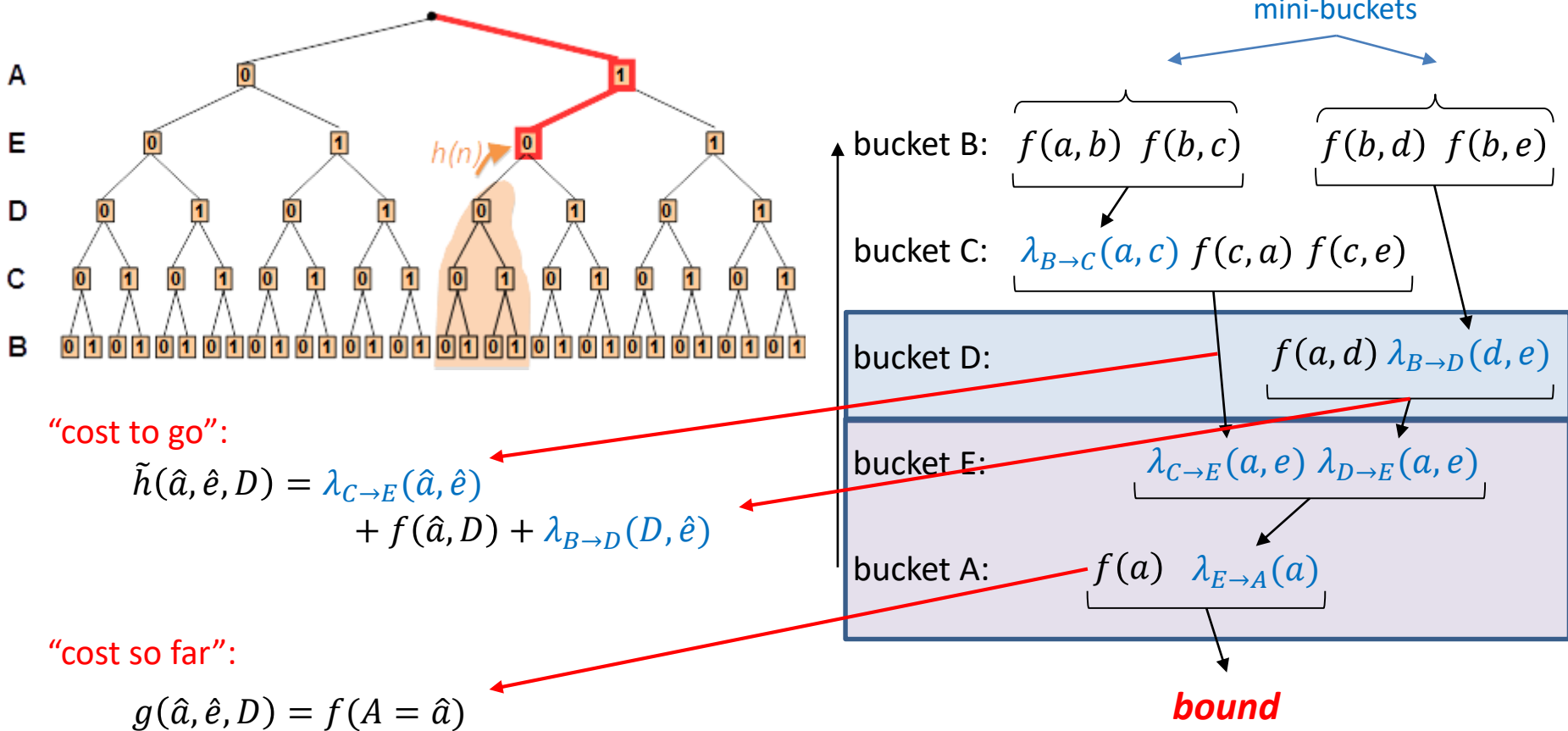
**Search**



For MAP, marginal map and partition function

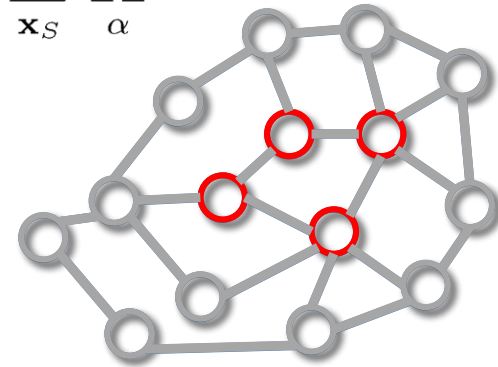
# Static Mini-Bucket Heuristics

Given a partial assignment,  $[\hat{a} = 1, \hat{e} = 0]$   
 (weighted) mini-bucket gives an admissible heuristic:



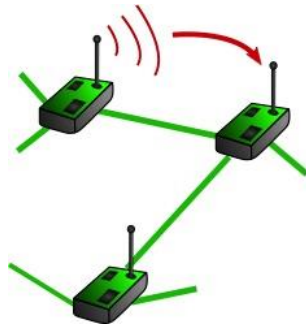
# Why Marginal MAP?

$$f(\mathbf{x}_M^*) = \max_{\mathbf{x}_M} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_S} \prod_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$$

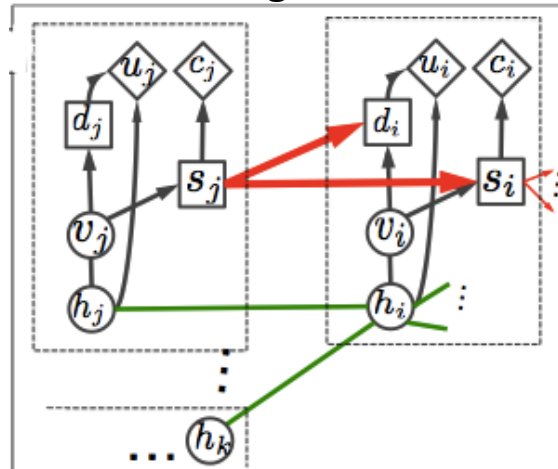


- Often, Marginal MAP is the “right” task:
    - We have a model describing a large system
    - We care about predicting the state of some part
  - Example: decision making
    - Sum over random variables ( )
    - Max over decision variables (specify action policies)
- Complexity: NP<sup>PP</sup> complete
  - Not necessarily easy on trees

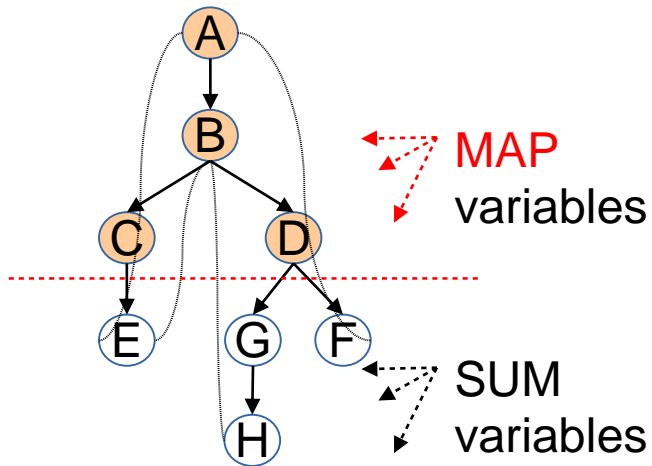
Sensor network



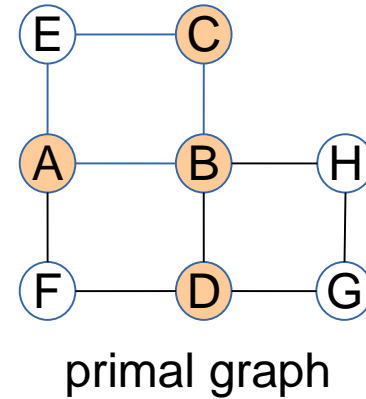
Influence diagram:



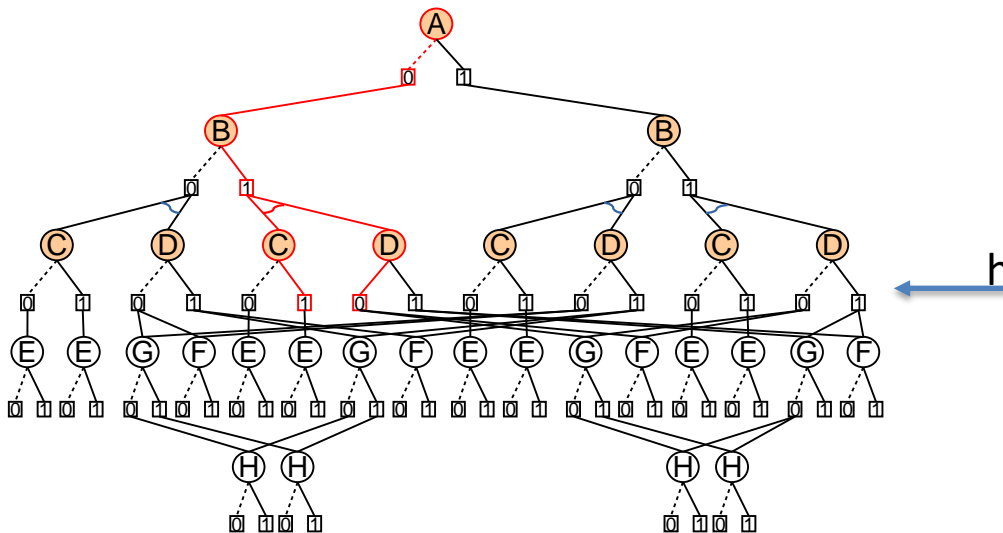
# AND/OR Search for Marginal MAP



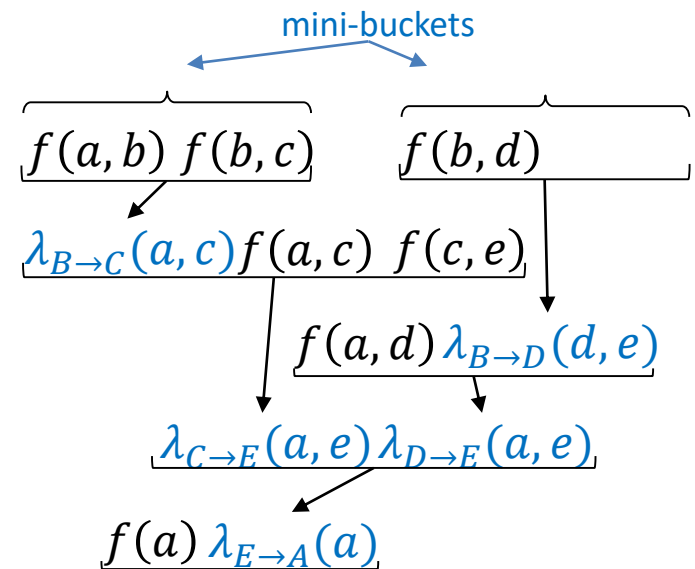
constrained pseudo tree



primal graph



[Marinescu, Dechter and Ihler, 2014] GMU, 2/2019



# AO search for MAP winning UAI Probabilistic Inference Competitions

- **2006**  (aolib)
  - **2008**  (aolib)
  - **2011**  (daoopt)
  - **2014**  (daoopt)
-  (daoopt)  (merlin)

MPE/MAP

MMAP

# Anytime AND/OR solvers for MMAP

- **Weighted Heuristic:** [Lee et. al. AAAI-2016]
  - Weighted Restarting AOBF (WAOBF)
  - Weighted Restarting RBFAOO (WRBFAOO)
  - Weighted Repairing AOBF (WRAOBF)

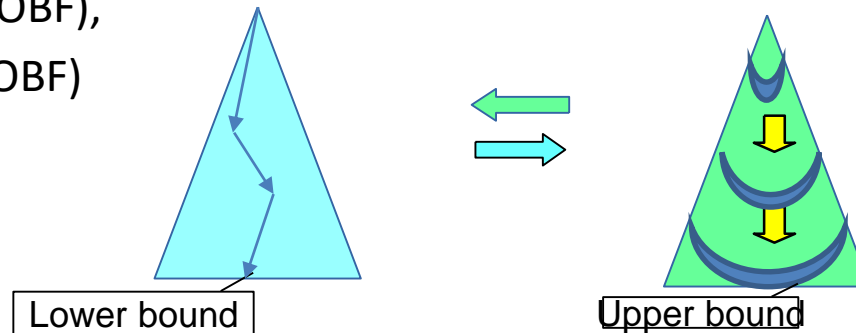
## Weighted A\* search [Pohl 1970]

- non-admissible heuristic
- Evaluation function:

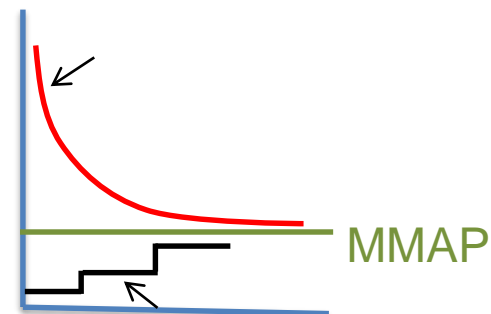
$$f(n) = g(n) + w \cdot h(n)$$

- **Guaranteed w-optimal solution, cost  $C \leq w \cdot C^*$**

- **Interleaving Best and depth-first search:** (Marinescu et. al AAAI-2017)
  - Look-ahead (LAOBF),
  - alternating (AAOBF)



Goal: anytime bounds  
And anytime solution

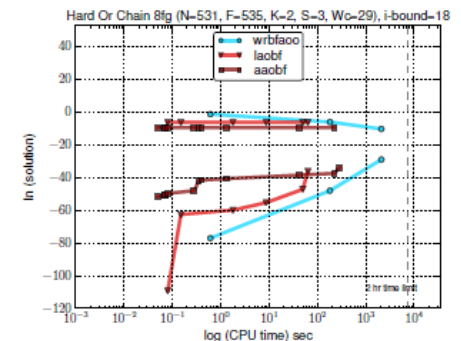
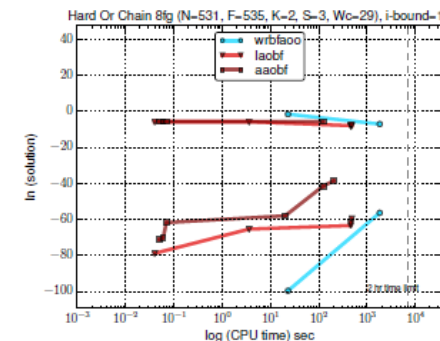
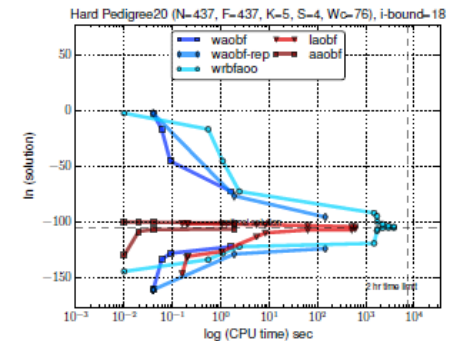
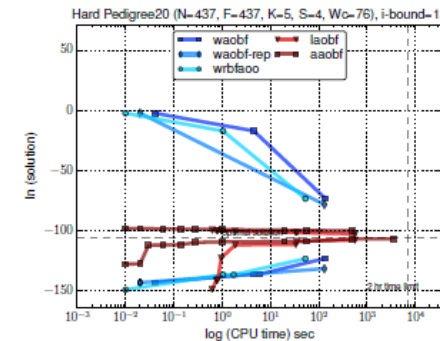
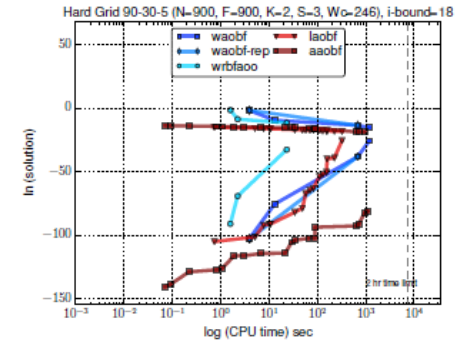
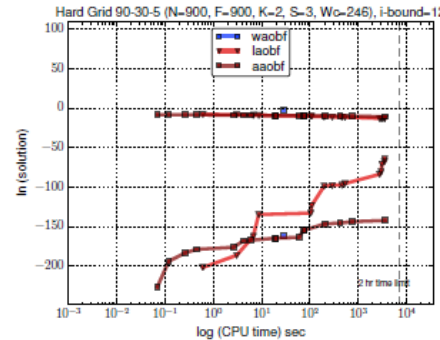




# Anytime Bounding of Marginal MAP

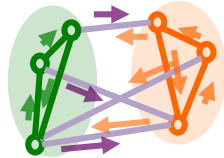
(UAI'14, IJCAI'15, AAAI'16, AAAI'17, (Marinescu, Lee, Ihler, Dechter)

- Search: LAOBF, AAOBF, BRAOBB, WAOBF, WAOBF-rep
- heuristic: WMB-MM (20)
- memory: 24 GB
- Anytime lower and upper bounds from hard problem instances with i-bound 12 (left) and 18 (right).
- The horizontal axis is the CPU time in log scale and the vertical axis is the value of marginal MAP in log scale.



# Combining Approaches

**Variational  
methods**



weighted mini-bucket (WMB)

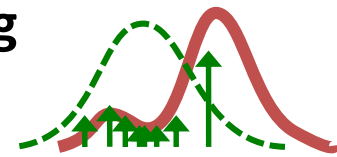
[Liu and Ihler, ICML 2011]



provide WMB-IS

proposal [Liu et al., NIPS 2015]

**Sampling**



dynamic importance sampling (DIS)

[Lou et al., NIPS 2017]

# Choosing a proposal

[Liu, Fisher, Ihler 2015]

- Can use WMB upper bound to define a proposal  $q_{\text{wmb}}(x)$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{b}} \sim w_1 q_1(b|\tilde{a}, \tilde{c}) + w_2 q_2(b|\tilde{d}, \tilde{e})$$

## Weighted mixture:

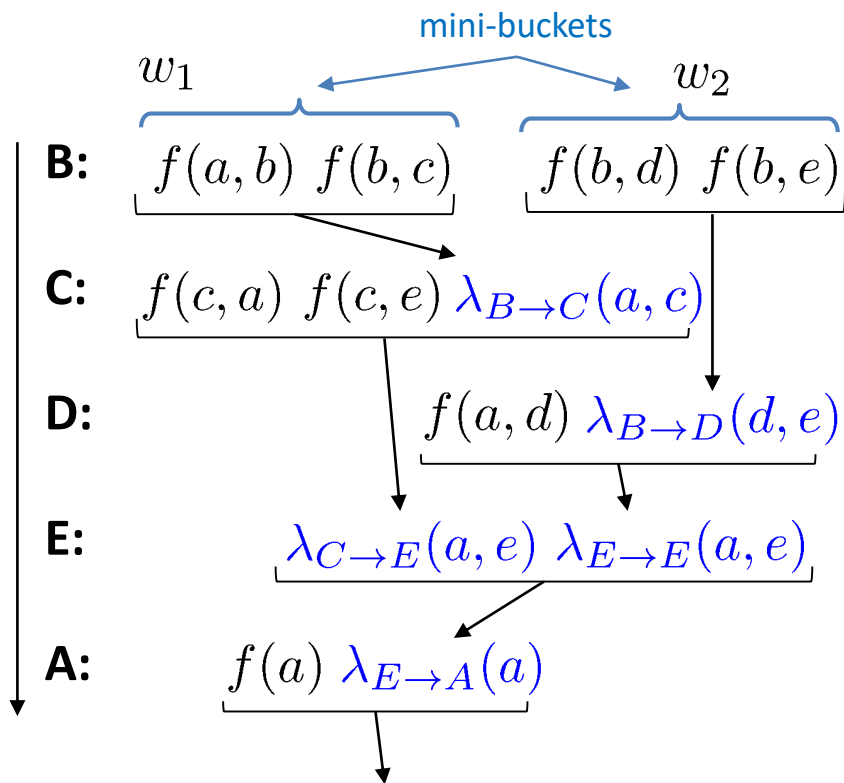
use minibucket 1 with probability  $w_1$   
or, minibucket 2 with probability  $w_2 = 1 - w_1$

where

$$q_1(b|a, c) = \left[ \frac{f(a, b) \cdot f(b, c)}{\lambda_{B \rightarrow C}(a, c)} \right]^{\frac{1}{w_1}}$$

⋮

$$\tilde{a} \sim q(A) = f(a) \cdot \lambda_{E \rightarrow A}(a) / U$$



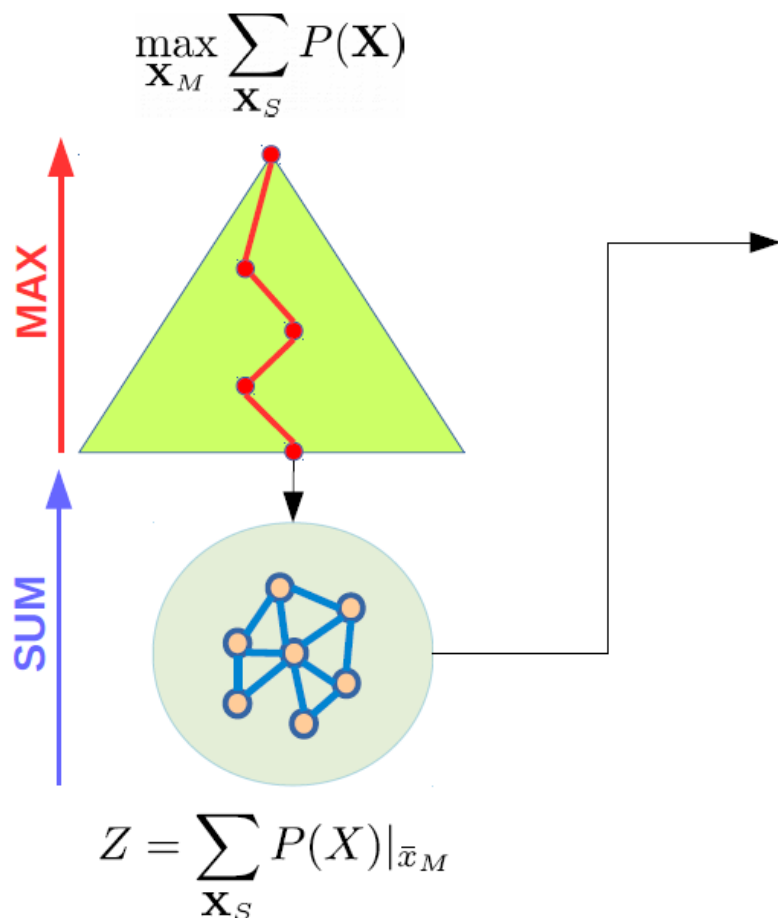
**Key insight: provides bounded importance weights!**

**$U = \text{upper bound}$**

$$0 \leq f(x) / q_{\text{wmb}}(x) \leq U \quad \forall x$$

# Probabilistic Lower Bounds

[Liu et al. 2015]



Compute a (probabilistic) lower bound on the conditioned sum subproblem

$$Pr(\hat{Z} - \Delta(n, \delta) \leq Z) \geq (1 - \delta)$$

**WMB based importance sampling scheme:**

$n$  - number of samples

$\delta$  - confidence value

$Z_{wmb}$  - result of WMB

$\hat{Z}$  - Importance Sampling estimate

$$\Delta(n, \delta) = \sqrt{\frac{2\hat{v}ar(w(x)) \log(2/\delta)}{n}} + \frac{7Z_{wmb} \log(2/\delta)}{3(n-1)}$$

**Solving the conditioned SUM subproblem is hard!**

$\#P$  - complete

# Combining Methods: +Sampling

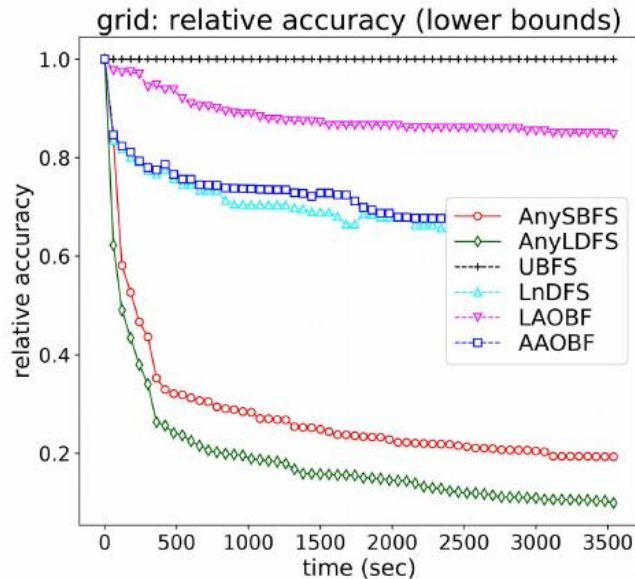
[Lou, Dechter, Ihler, AAAI-2018: “Anytime Anyspace AND/OR Best-first Search for Bounding Marginal MAP”]

[Lou, Dechter, Ihler, UAI-2018: “Finite Sample Bounds for Marginal MAP”, UAI 2018]

[Marinescu, Ihler, Dechter: IJCAI-2018 “Stochastic Anytime Search for Bounding Marginal MAP”]

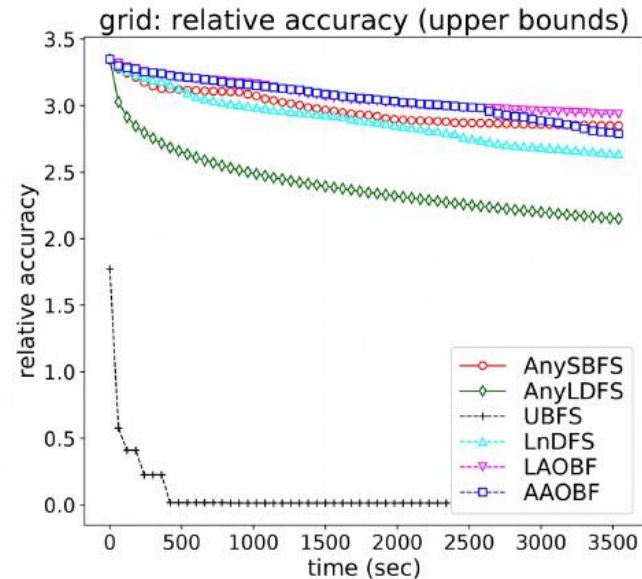
$$acc_{lb} = \frac{|l_t - l^*|}{l^*}$$

$$acc_{ub} = \frac{|u_t - u^*|}{u^*}$$



$l_t$  – lower bound at time  $t$   
 $l^*$  – tightest lower bound found

Average over 150 instances

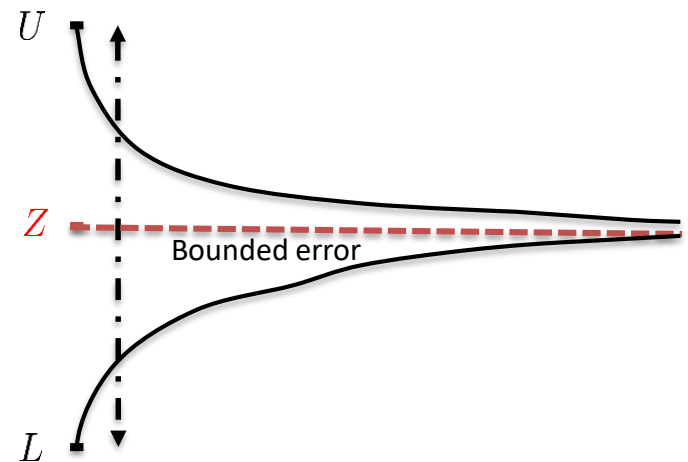
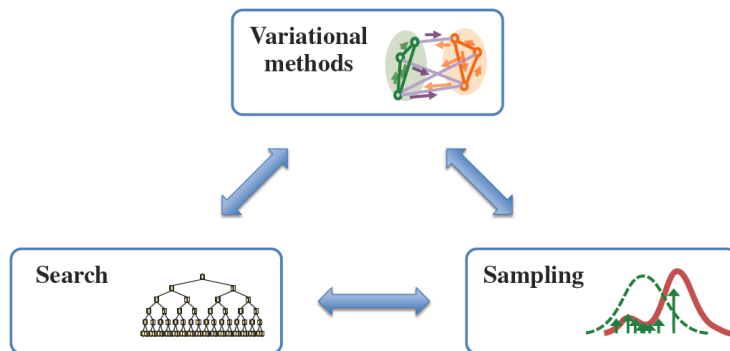


$u_t$  – upper bound at time  $t$   
 $u^*$  – tightest upper bound found

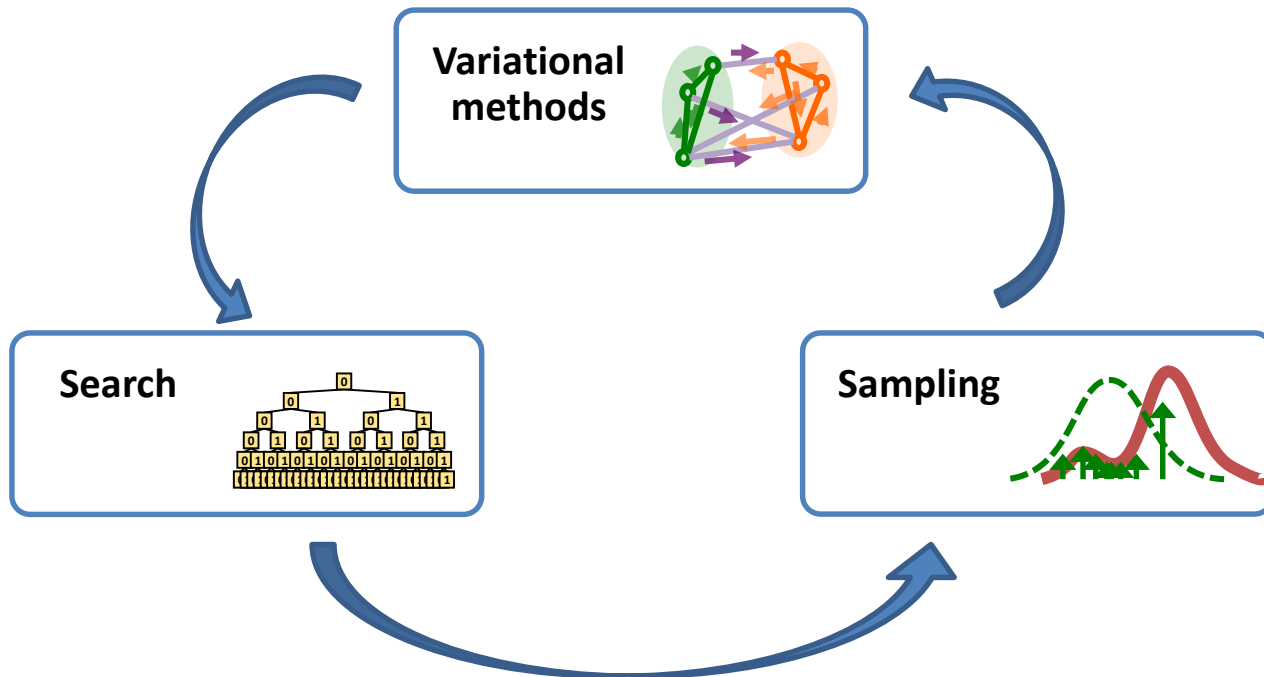
Average over 150 instances

# Outline

- Graphical models: definition, examples, methodology
- Inference and variational bounds
- AND/OR search spaces
- Variational bounds as search heuristics
- Combining methods: Heuristic Search for Marginal Map
- Conclusion



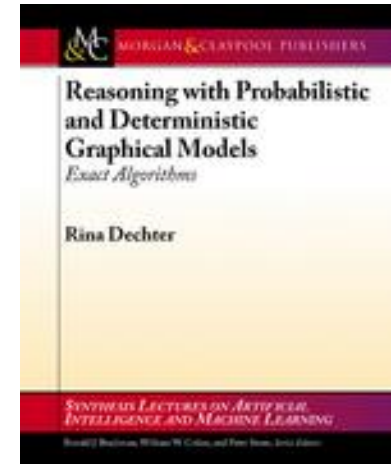
# Continuing work



# Thank You !

For publication see:

<http://www.ics.uci.edu/~dechter/publications.html>



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