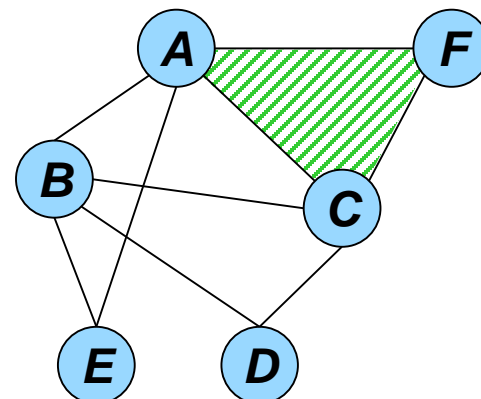


# Probabilistic Reasoning Meets Heuristic Search

**Rina Dechter**

Bren School of Information and Computer  
Sciences, University of California, Irvine

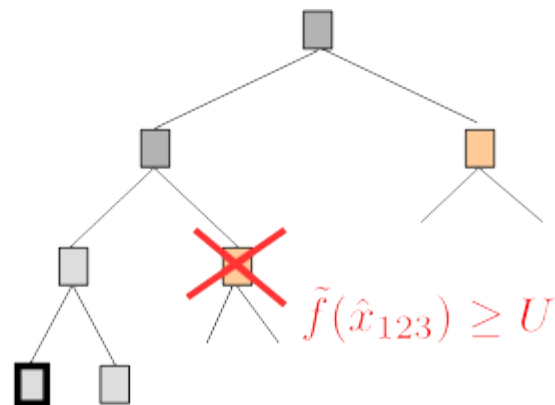
***Main collaborator:***  
***Radu Marinescu***  
***Lars Otten***  
***Alex Ihler***  
***Kalev Kask***  
***Robert Mateescu***  
***Irina Rish***



# Search Swallows Inference

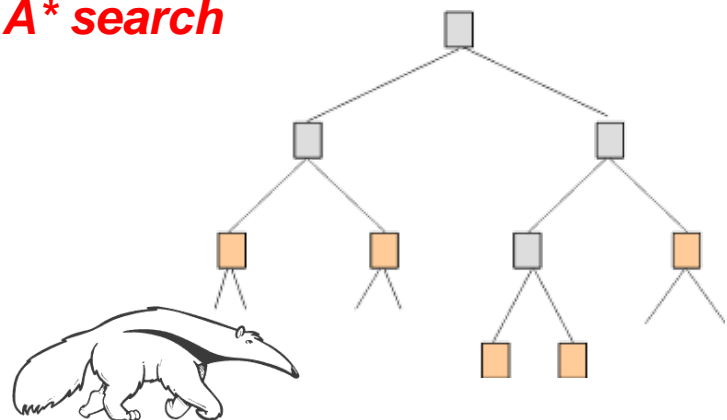
## ■ Heuristic Search

### *Branch-and-Bound*

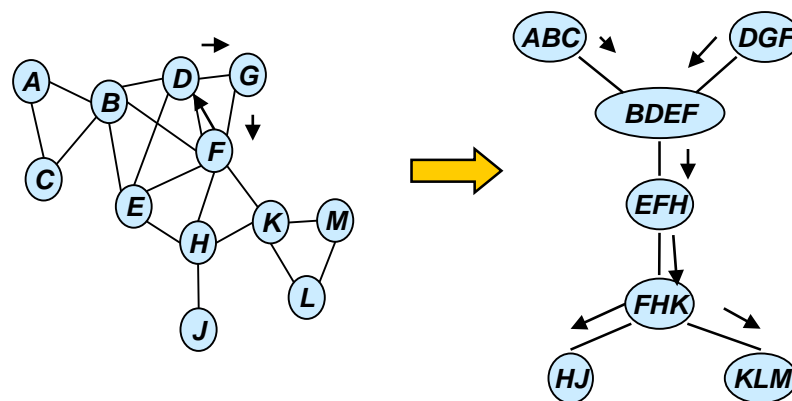


$$f(\hat{x}) = U$$

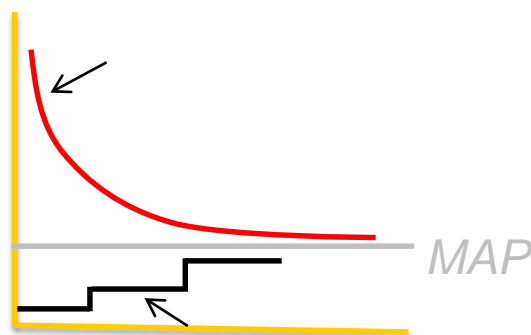
### *A\* search*



## ■ Probabilistic reasoning, graphical models

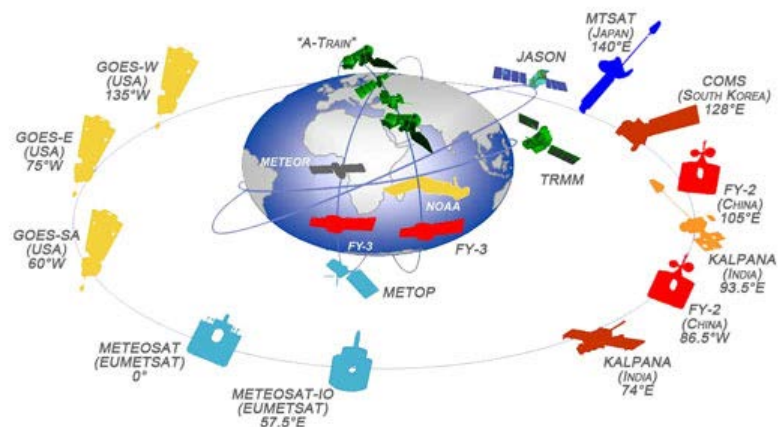


### *Anytime algorithms.*



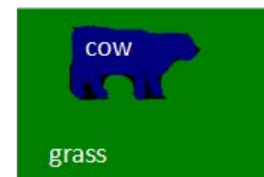
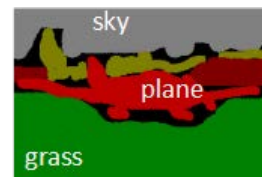
# Combinatorial Optimization

## Planning & Scheduling



**Find an optimal schedule for the satellite that maximizes the number of photographs taken, subject to on-board recording capacity**

## Computer Vision



**Image classification: label pixels in an image by their associated object class**

*[He et al. 2004; Winn et al. 2005]*



# Sample Applications for Graphical Models

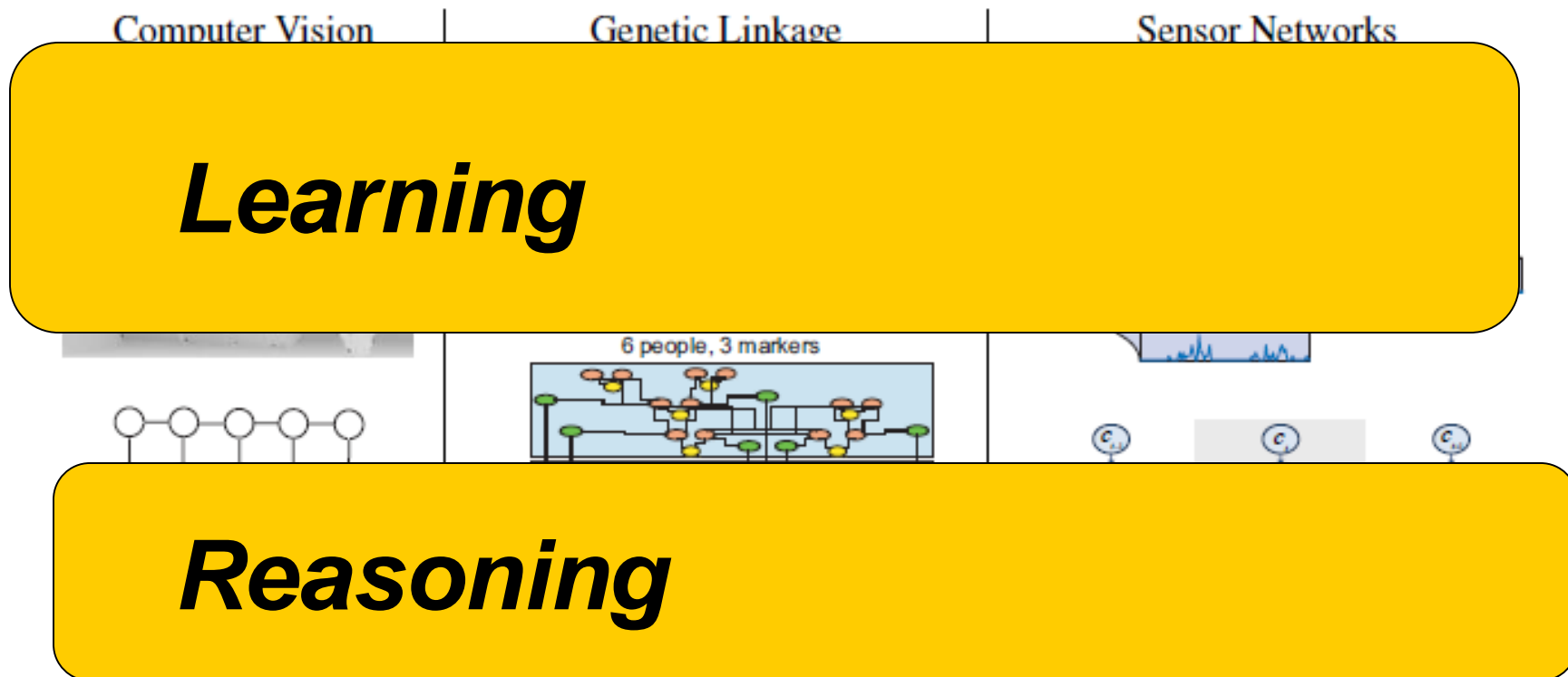
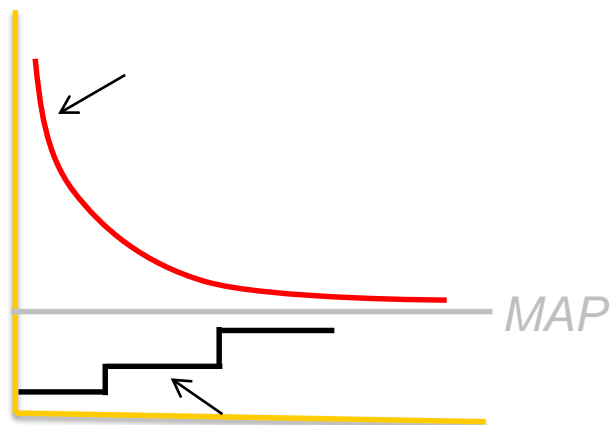


Figure 1: Application areas and graphical models used to represent their respective systems: (a) Finding correspondences between images, including depth estimation from stereo; (b) Genetic linkage analysis and pedigree data; (c) Understanding patterns of behavior in sensor measurements using spatio-temporal models.



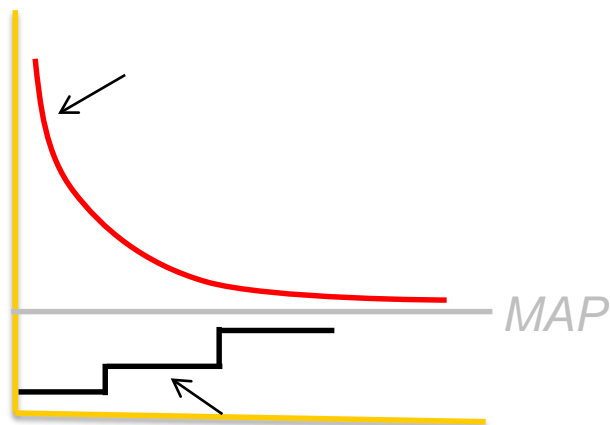
# Outline

- Graphical models, Queries, Inference vs search
- Inference Algorithms: bucket-elimination
- AND/OR search spaces
- Bounded Inference: a) mini-bucket, b) cost-shifting
- Generating heuristics using mini-bucket elimination
- AND/OR Heuristic Search for Map and Marginal Map
- Conclusion



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# ***Graphical Models, Queries, Algorithms***

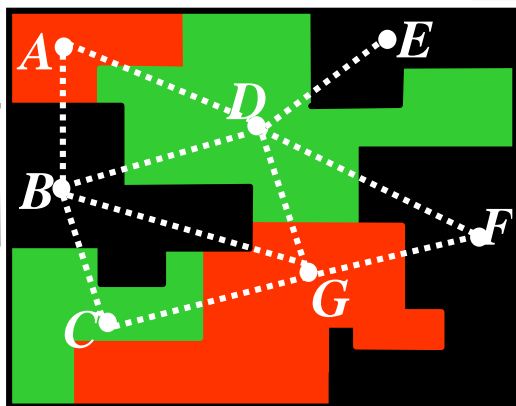
***Any collection of local functions over a subset of variable  
Is a graphical model***



# Constraint Satisfaction/Satisfiability

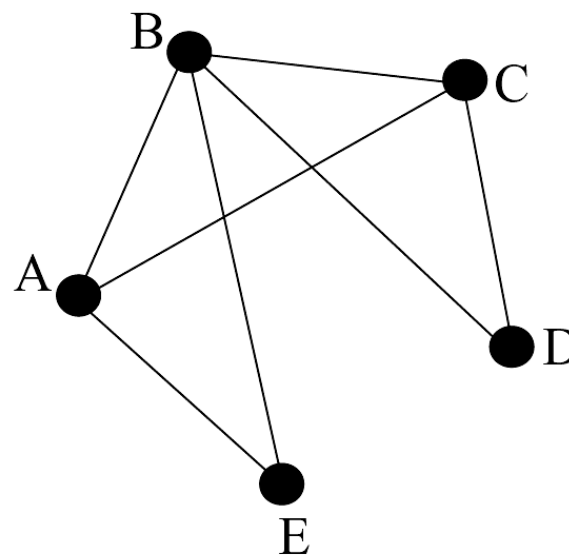
## Constraint Networks

- Variables - countries (A,B,C,etc.)
- Values - colors (red, green, blue)
- Constraints:  $A \neq B, A \neq D, D \neq E, \text{ etc.}$



## Propositional Satisfiability

- $\varphi = \{(-C), (A \vee B \vee C), (-A \vee B \vee E), (-B \vee C \vee D)\}.$

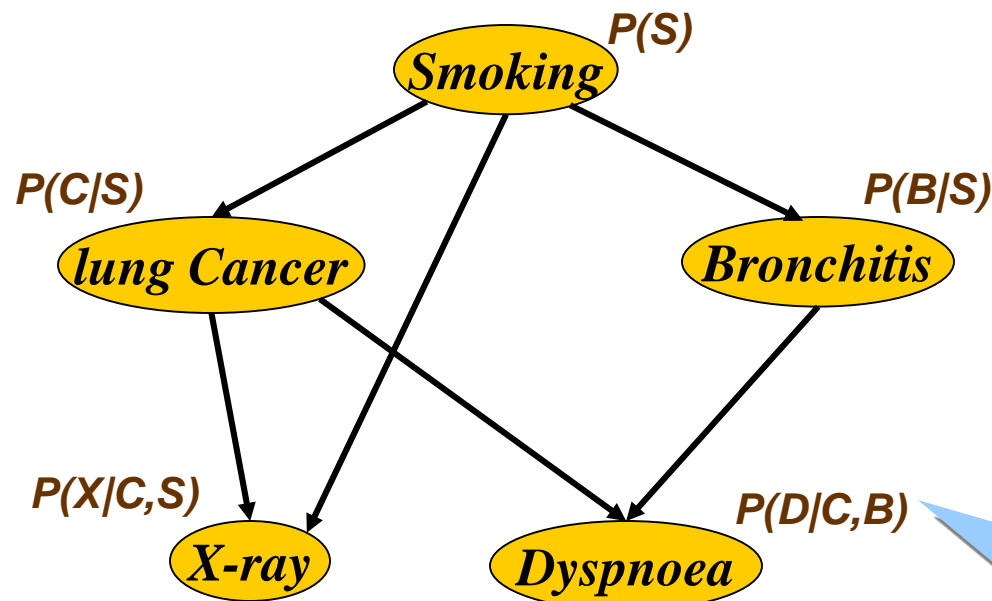


**Semantics:** set of all solutions  
**Primary task:** find a solution





# Bayesian Networks (Pearl, 1988)



**BN = (G, Θ)**

**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

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

**Belief Updating:**

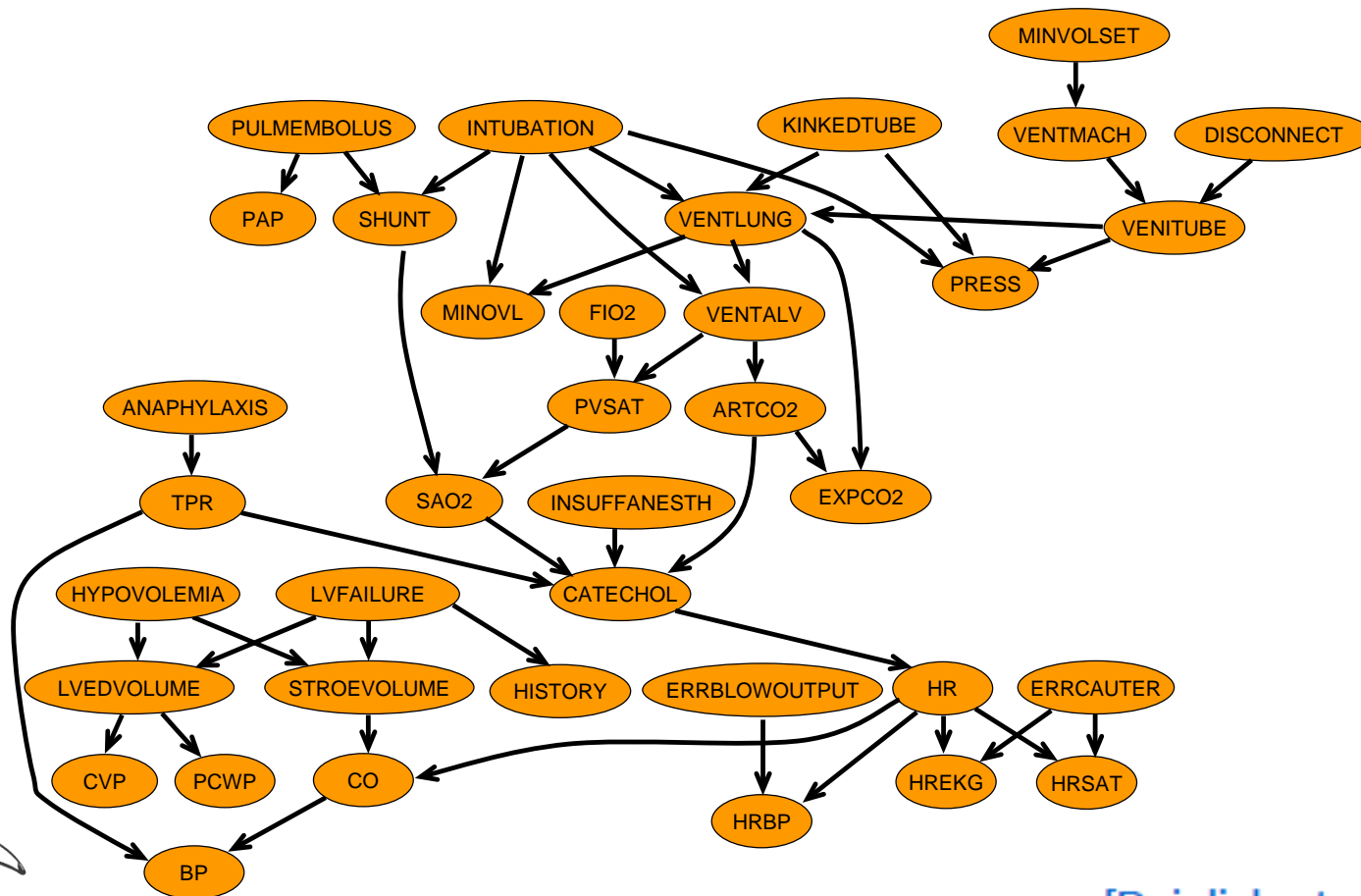
$P(\text{lung cancer}=\text{yes} \mid \text{smoking}=\text{no}, \text{dyspnoea}=\text{yes}) = ?$



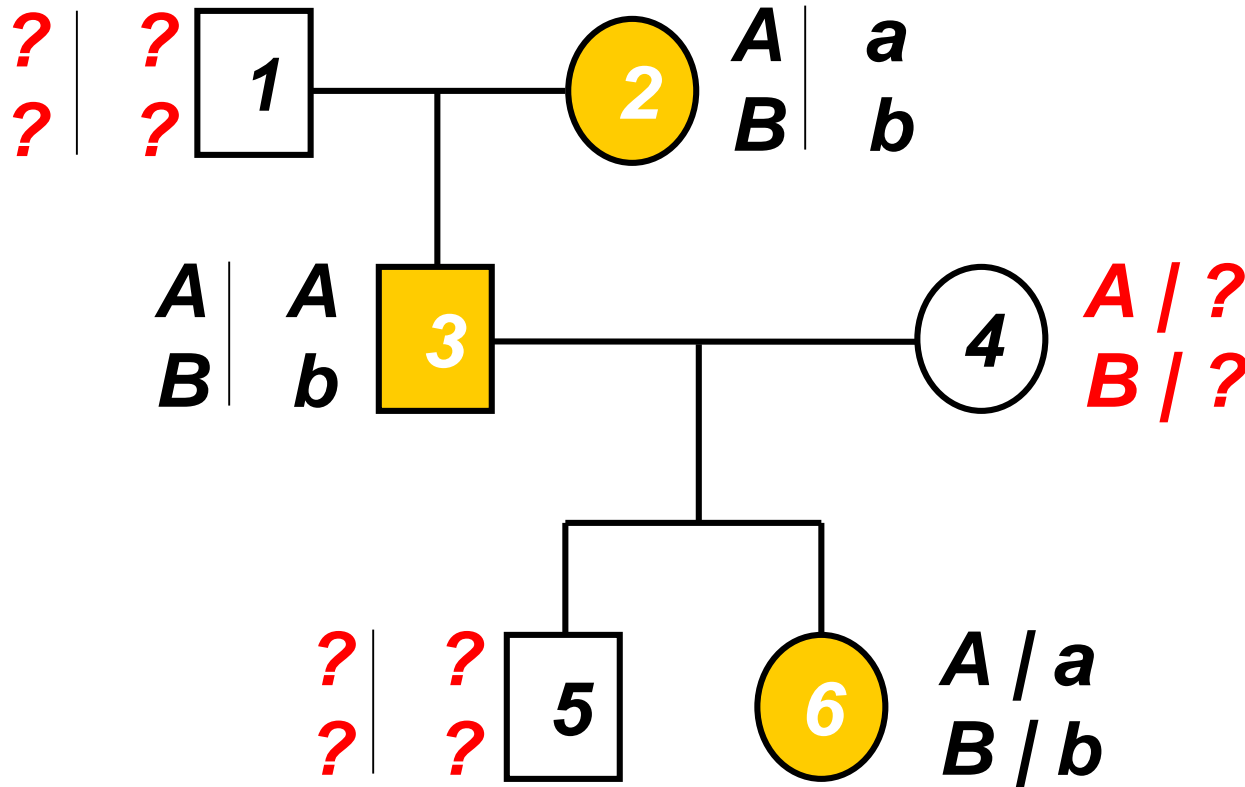
**MAP** =  $\text{argmax} P(S) \cdot P(C/S) \cdot P(B/S) \cdot P(X/C,S) \cdot P(D/C,B)$

# Monitoring Intensive-Care Patients

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



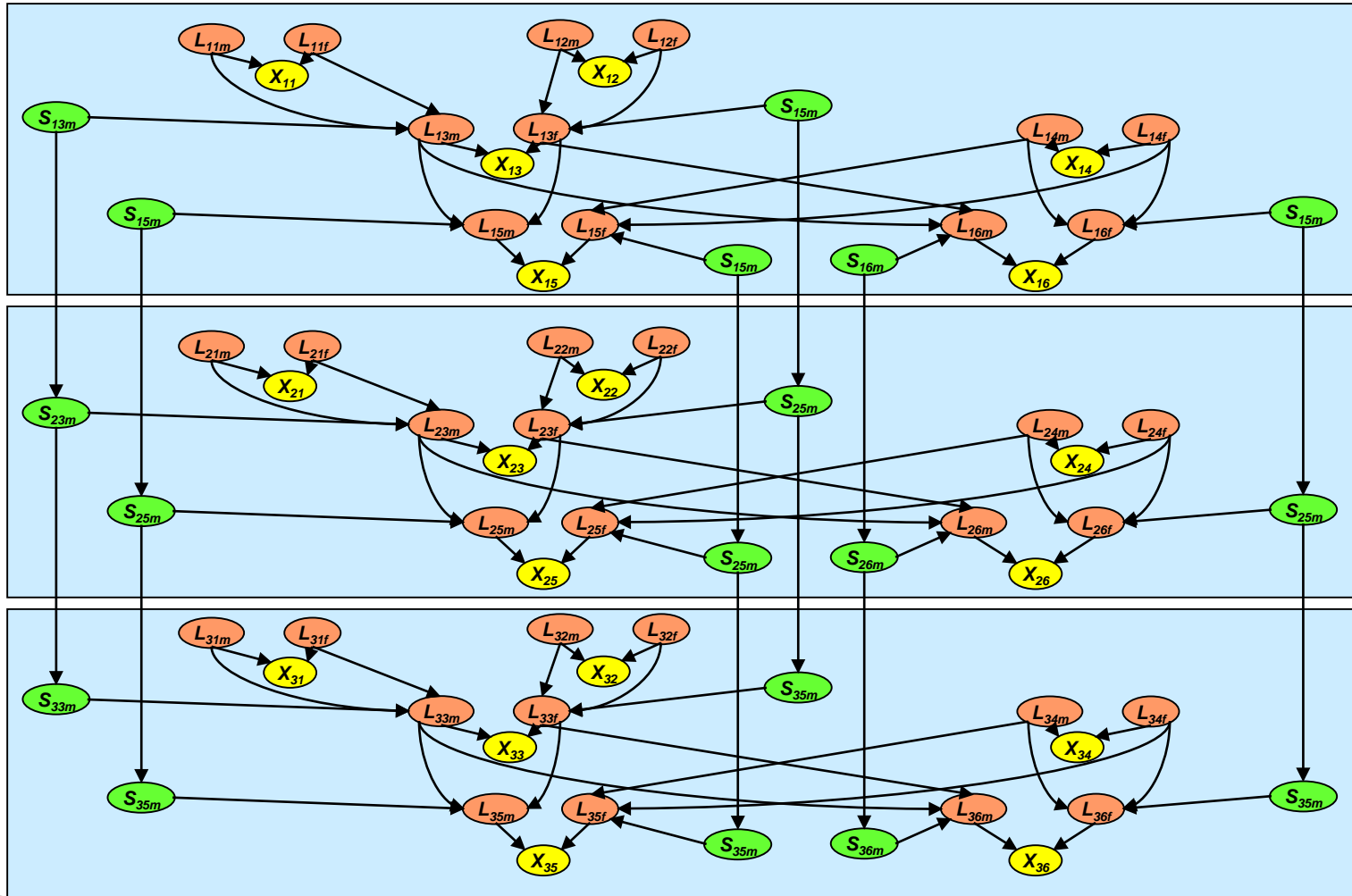
# Genetic Linkage Analysis



- **6 individuals**
- **Haplotype: {2, 3}**
- **Genotype: {6}**
- **Unknown**

( e.g., [Lauritzen & Sheehan, 2003]

# Pedigree: 6 people, 3 markers



# Graphical Models

■ A graphical model  $(X, D, F)$ :

- $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  variables
- $D = \{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$  domains
- $F = \{f_1, \dots, f_r\}$  functions  
(constraints, CPTS, CNFs ...)

■ Operators:

- combination : Sum, product, join
- Elimination: projection, sum, max/min

■ Tasks:

- **Belief updating:**  $\sum_{X \setminus Y} \prod_j P_j$
- **MPE \ MAP:**  $\max_X \prod_j P_j$
- **Marginal MAP:**  $\max_Y \sum_{X \setminus Y} \prod_j P_j$
- **CSP:**  $\prod_{X \times_j} C_j$
- **Max-CSP:**  $\min_X \sum_j F_j$

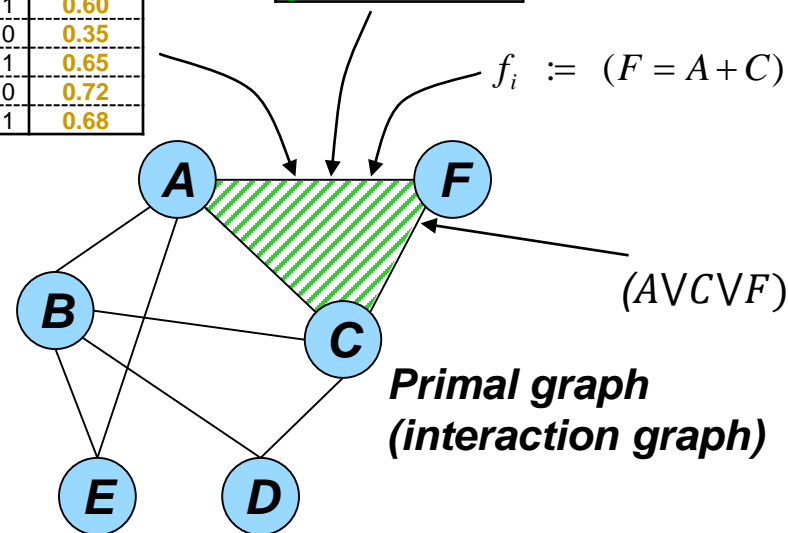


**Conditional Probability Table (CPT)**

A	C	F	$P(F A,C)$
0	0	0	0.14
0	0	1	0.96
0	1	0	0.40
0	1	1	0.60
1	0	0	0.35
1	0	1	0.65
1	1	0	0.72
1	1	1	0.68

**Relation**

A	C	F
red	green	blue
blue	red	red
blue	blue	green
green	red	blue



- **All these tasks are NP-hard**
  - exploit problem structure
  - identify special cases
  - approximate

# Queries

- Optimization Queries MAP/MPE queries:

$$x_{AB}^* = \arg \max_{x_A, x_B} \prod_{x_\alpha} \varphi_\alpha$$

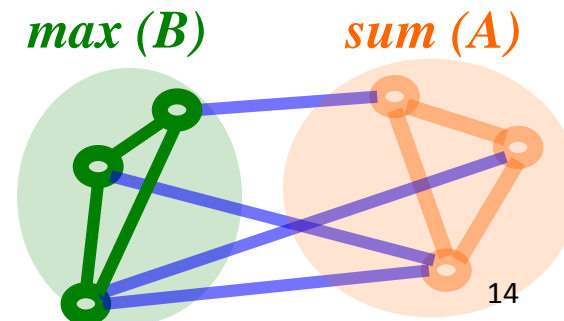
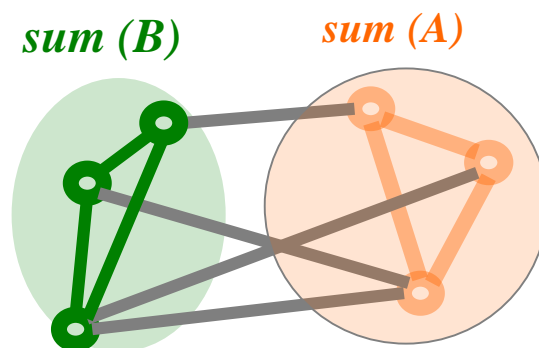
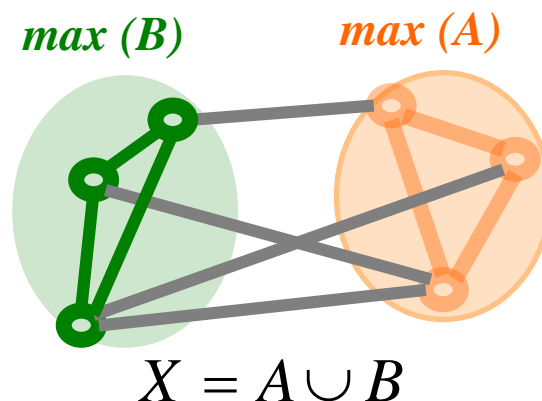
- Likelihood queries: Partition function

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{x_\alpha} \varphi_\alpha(x) \quad Z = \sum_{x_A, x_B} \prod_{x_\alpha} \varphi_\alpha$$

- Marginal MAP

$$x_B^* = \arg \max_{x_B} \sum_{x_A} \prod_{\alpha} \psi(x_\alpha)$$

Also **Satisfiability** and **Expected utility**



# Example Domains for Graphical Models

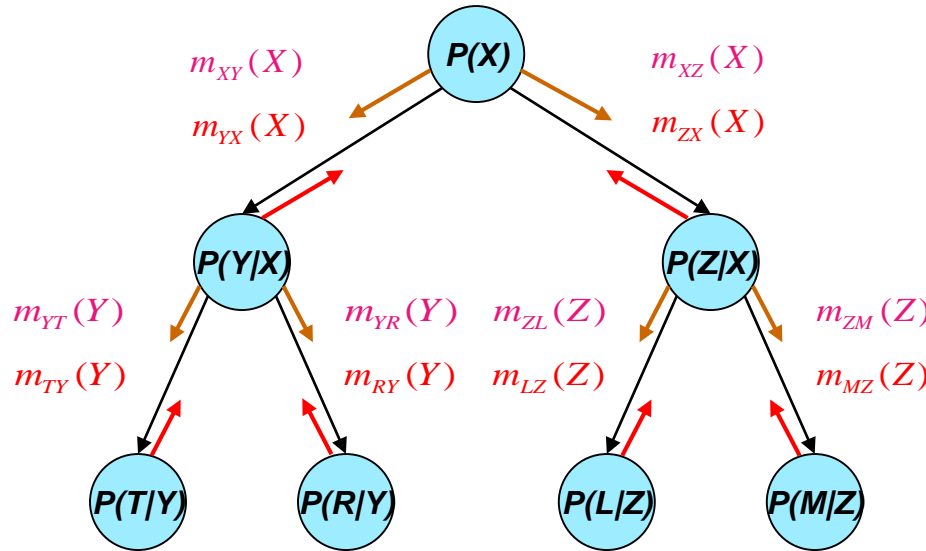
- Natural Language Processing
  - Information extraction, semantic parsing, translation, topic models, ...
- Computer Vision
  - Object recognition, scene analysis, segmentation, tracking, ...
- Computational Biology
  - Pedigree analysis, protein folding / binding / design, sequence matching, ...
- Networks
  - Webpage link analysis, social networks, communications, citations, ...
- Robotics
  - Planning and decision making, ...
- ...



# Tree-solving is Easy

*Belief updating  
(sum-prod)*

*CSP – consistency  
(projection-join)*



**Dynamic Programming,  
Inference**

*MPE (max-prod)*

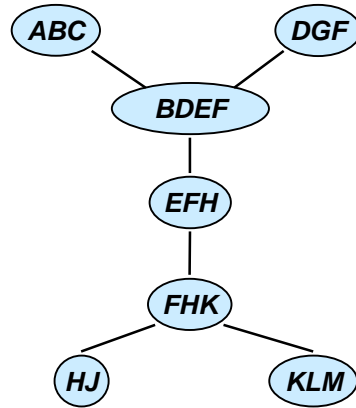
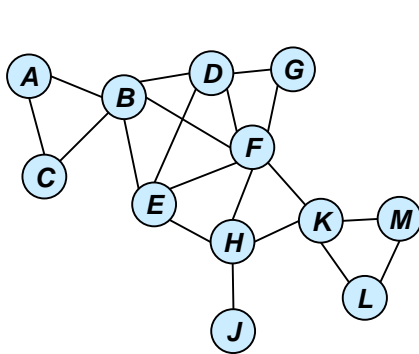
*#CSP (sum-prod)*

**Trees are processed in linear time and memory  
Message-passing**



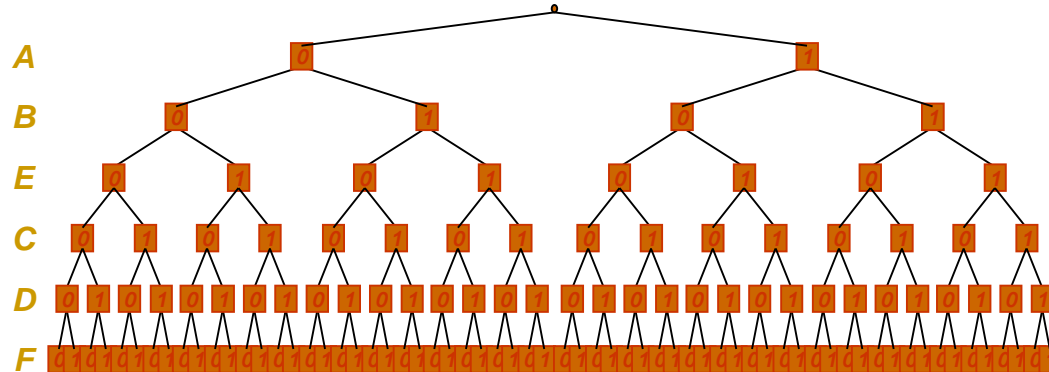
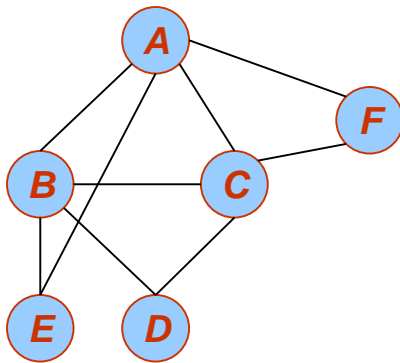


# Inference vs Conditioning-Search



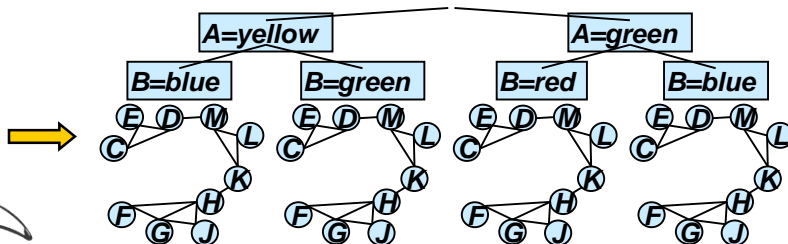
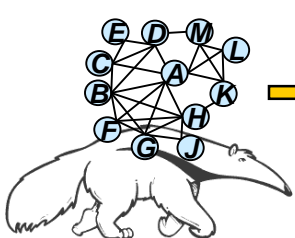
**Inference**

*exp(w\*) time/space*



**Search**

*Exp(n) time  
O(n) space*



**Search+inference:**

**Space:  $exp(w)$**

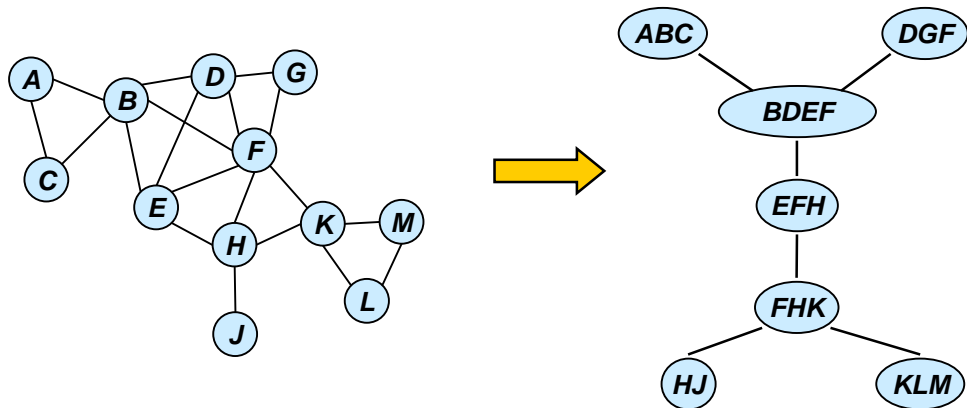
**Time:  $exp(w+c(w))$**

*w: user*

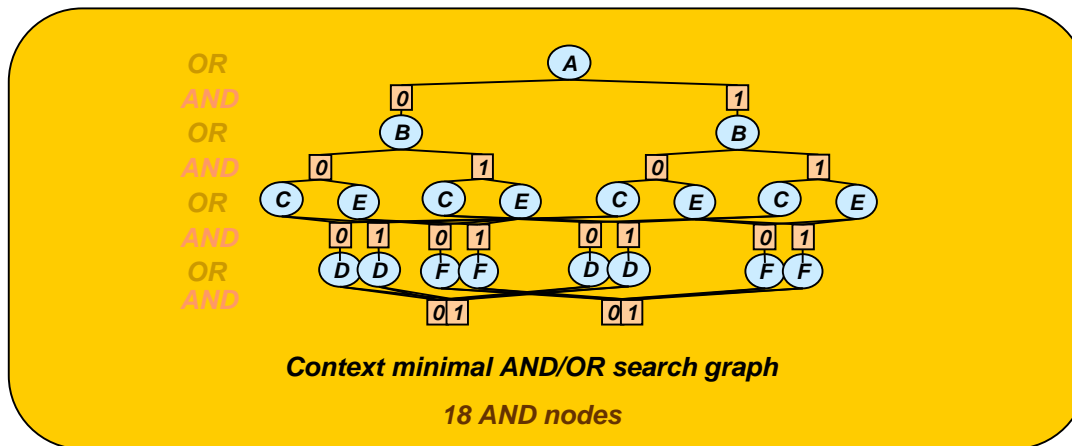
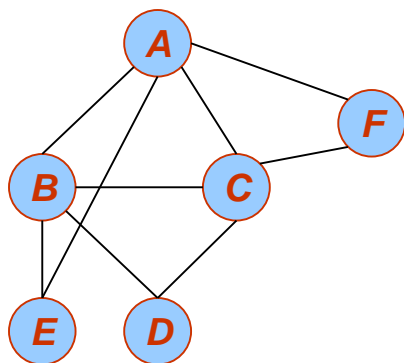
**controlled**

# Inference vs conditioning-search

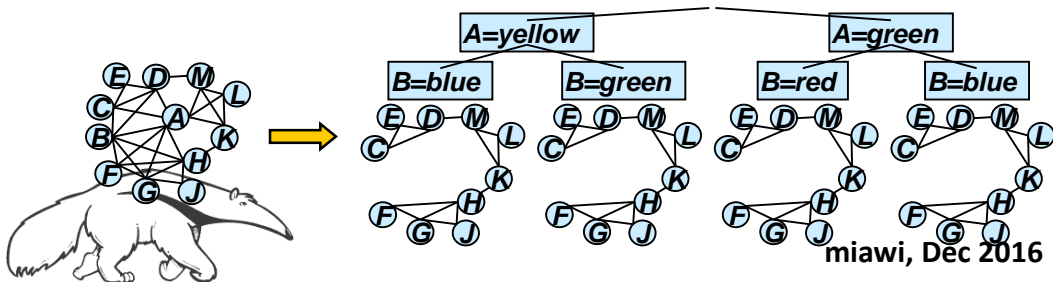
## *Inference*



*exp(w\*) time/space*



**Search**  
*Exp(w\*) time*  
*O(w\*) space*

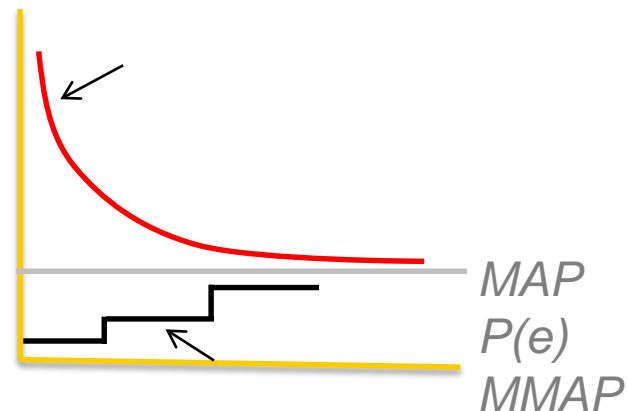


**Search+inference:**  
**Space:**  $exp(q)$   
**Time:**  $exp(q+c(q))$

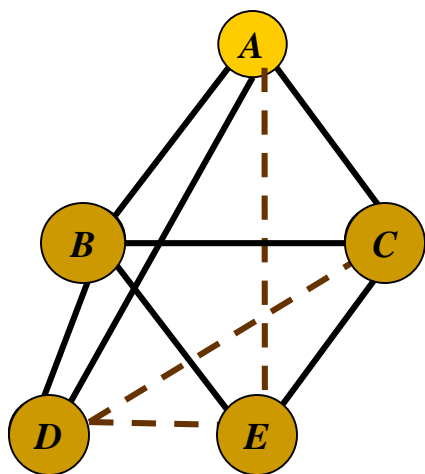
*q: user controlled*

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# Query 1: Belief updating: $P(X|evidence)=?$



“primal” graph

$$P(a/e=0) \propto P(a, e=0) =$$

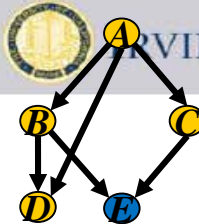
$$\sum_{e=0, d, c, b} P(a) \underbrace{P(b/a)} P(c/a) \underbrace{P(d/b, a) P(e/b, c)}$$

$$P(a) \sum_{e=0} \sum_d \sum_c P(c/a) \sum_b P(b/a) P(d/b, a) P(e/b, c)$$

**Variable Elimination**

$$h^B(a, d, c, e)$$





# Finding Marginals by Bucket elimination

Algorithm *BE-bel* (Dechter 1996)

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

$\sum_b \Pi$  ← Elimination operator

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

$$O(nk^{w^*+1})$$

bucket A:  $P(a)$   $\lambda_{E \rightarrow A}(a)$

induced width (max clique size)



$$P(e=0)$$

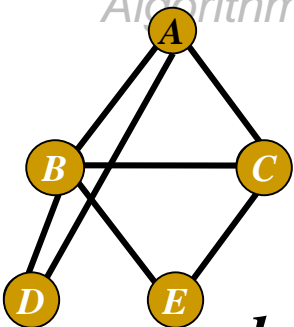
  $P(a/e=0)$

# Query 2: Finding MAP by

Algorithm BE-mpe (Dechter 1996, Bert...

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

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



bucket B:

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

bucket C:

$$P(c/a) \quad h_{B \rightarrow C}(a, d, c, e)$$

bucket D:

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

bucket E:

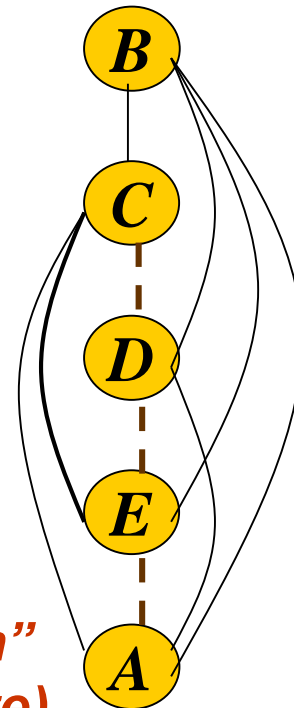
$$e=0 \quad h_{D \rightarrow E}(a, e)$$

bucket A:

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

**OPT**

$W^*=4$   
"induced width"  
(max clique size)



# Generating the MAP-tuple

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

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

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

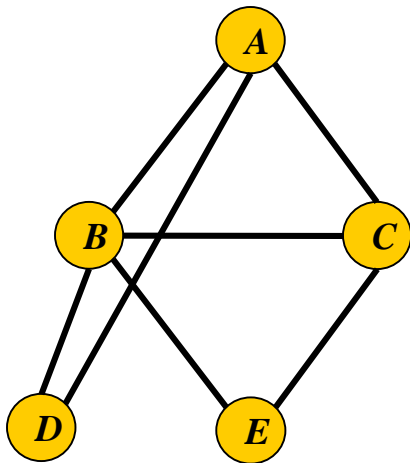
**Bucket Elimination is time and space**

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

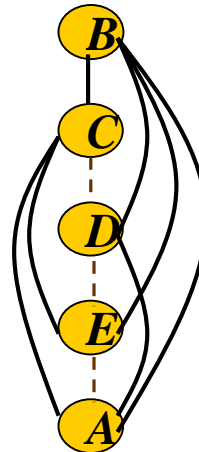
$w^*(d)$  – the induced width of graph along ordering  $d$

$r$  = number of functions

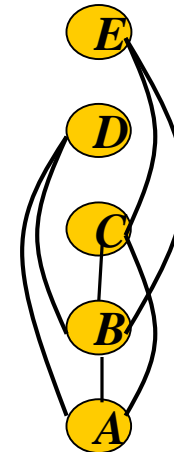
*The effect of the ordering:*



“Moral” graph



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



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



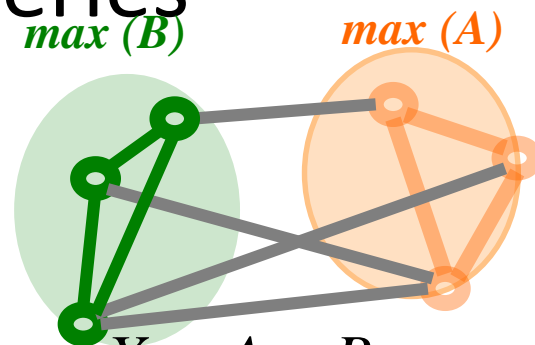
**Finding the smallest induced width is hard!**



# Inference (by BE) Solves all Queries

- MAP/MPE queries:

$$x_{AB}^* = \arg \max_{x_A, x_B} \prod \varphi_\alpha$$

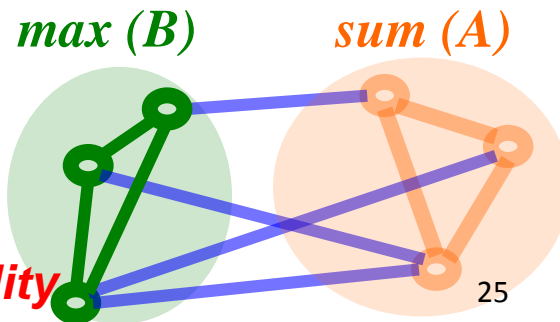


***Inference requires memory!!!***

***Solve the problem quickly only if treewidth smaller than 20***

***Or, not at all.***

$$x_B = \arg \max_{x_B} \sum_{x_A} \prod \psi(x_\alpha)$$



Also ***Satisfiability*** and ***Max- Expected utility***



# Outline

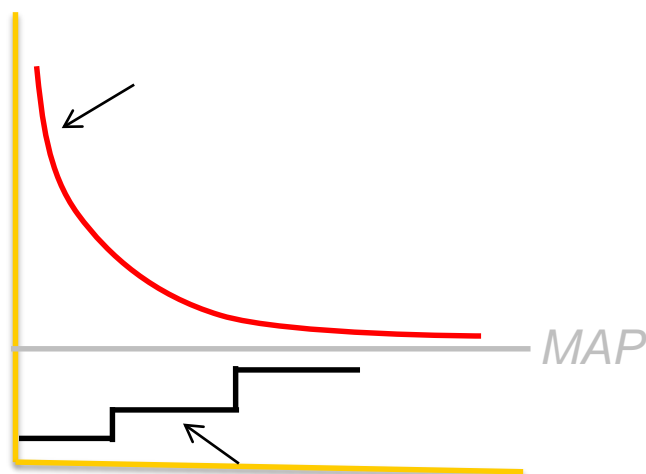
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***The AND/OR Search graph  
Facilitates heuristic search***



# How to design a good Optimization solver (MAP)

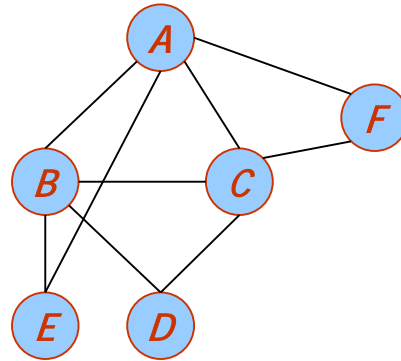
- Heuristic Search
- The core of a good search algorithm
  - A compact search space
  - A good heuristic evaluation function
  - A good traversal strategy
- Anytime search yields a good approximation.



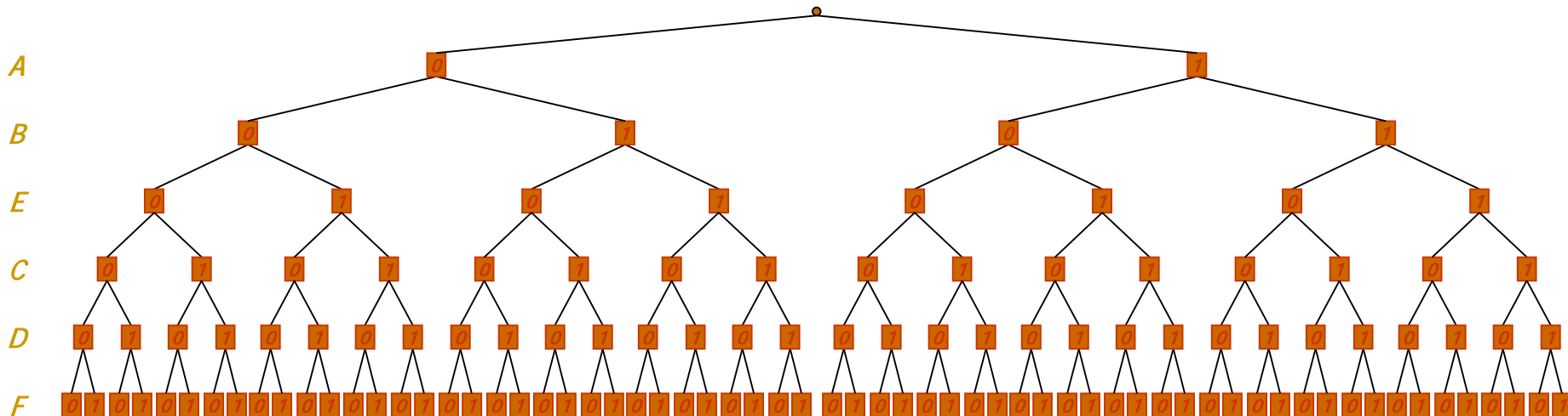
miawi, Dec 2016



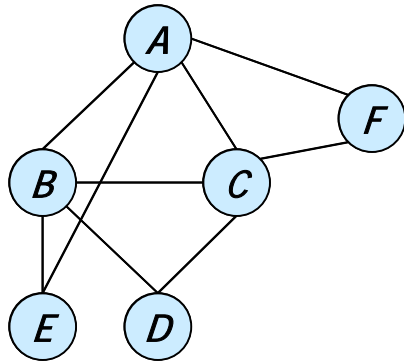
# Classic OR Search Space



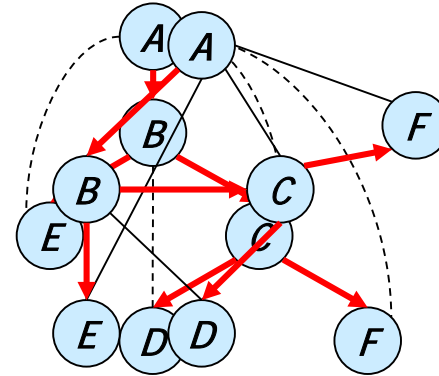
*Ordering: A B E C D F*



# AND/OR Search Space



*Primal graph*



*DFS tree*

OR

AND

OR

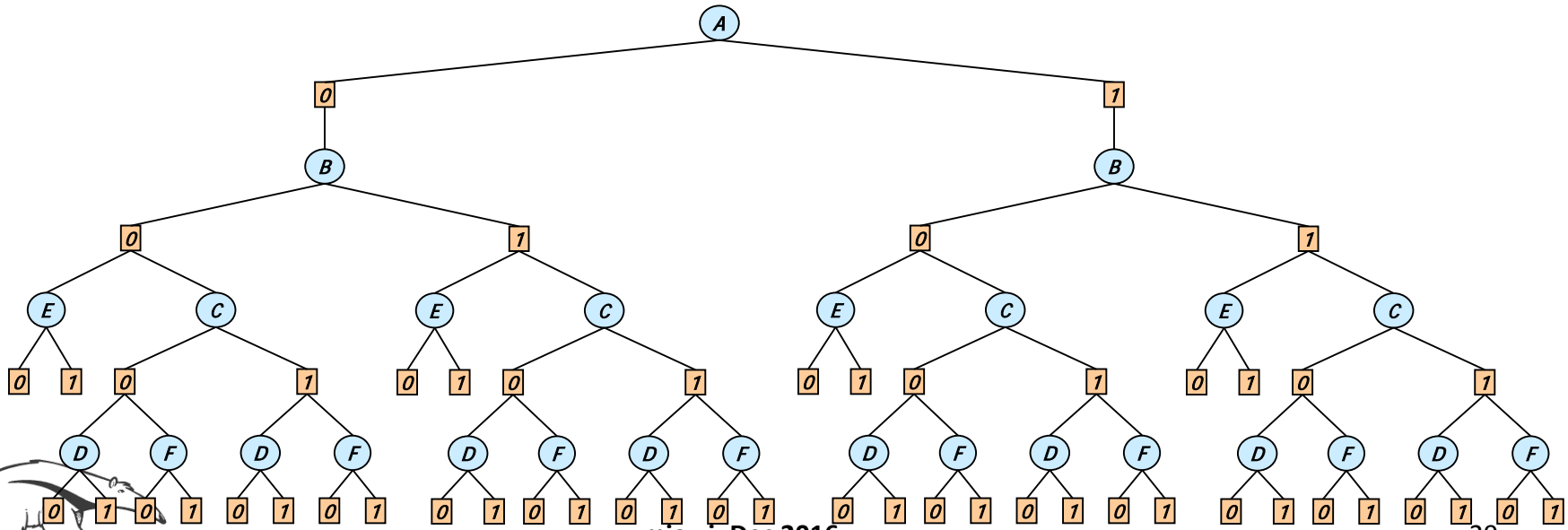
AND

OR

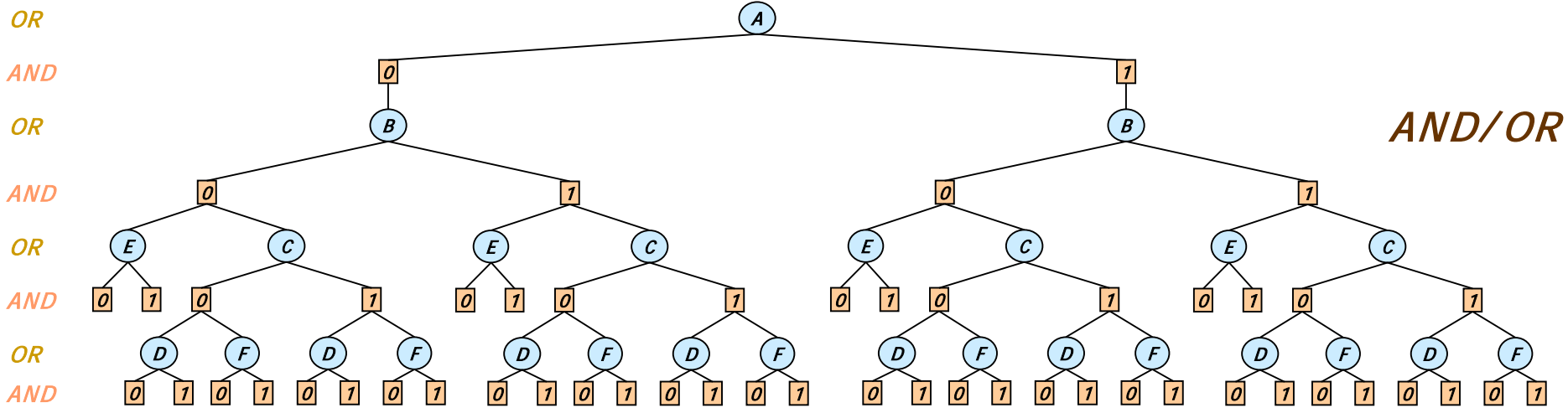
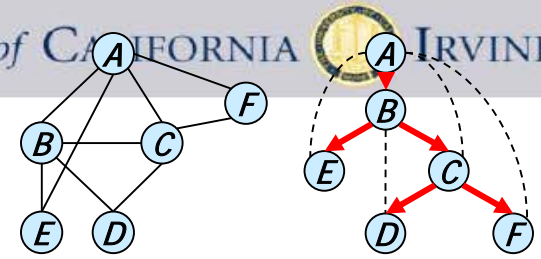
AND

OR

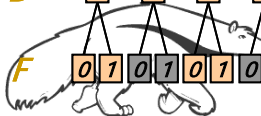
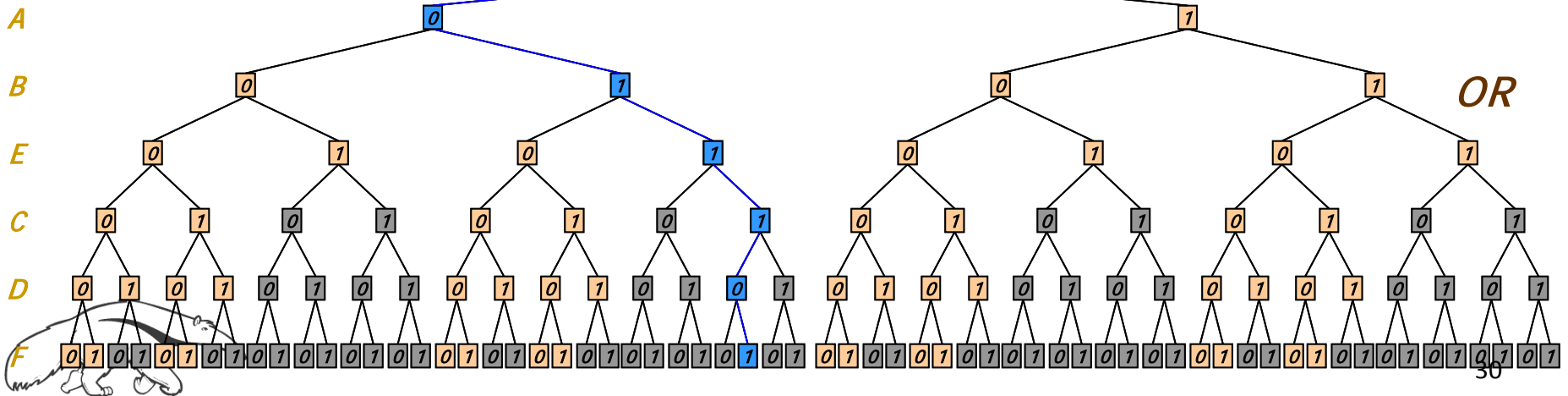
AND



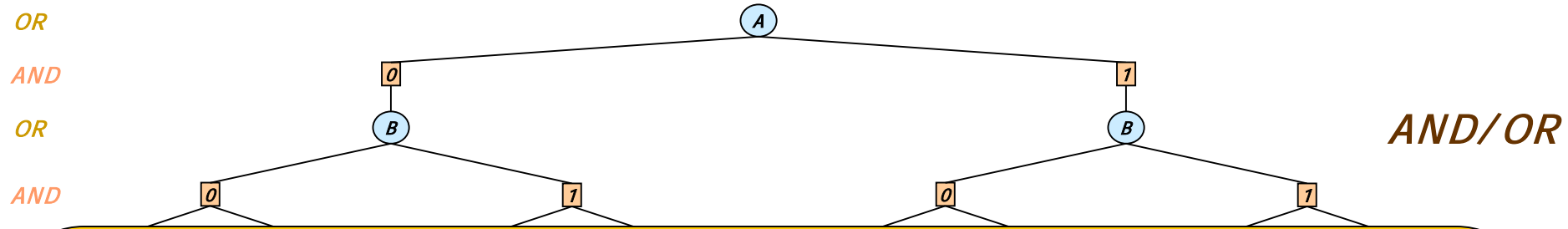
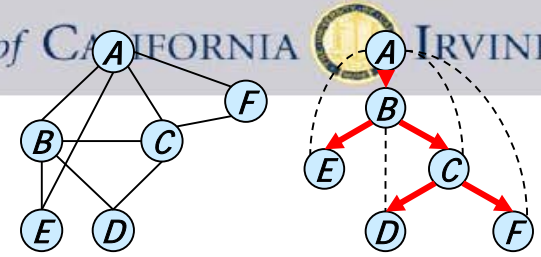
# AND/OR vs. OR



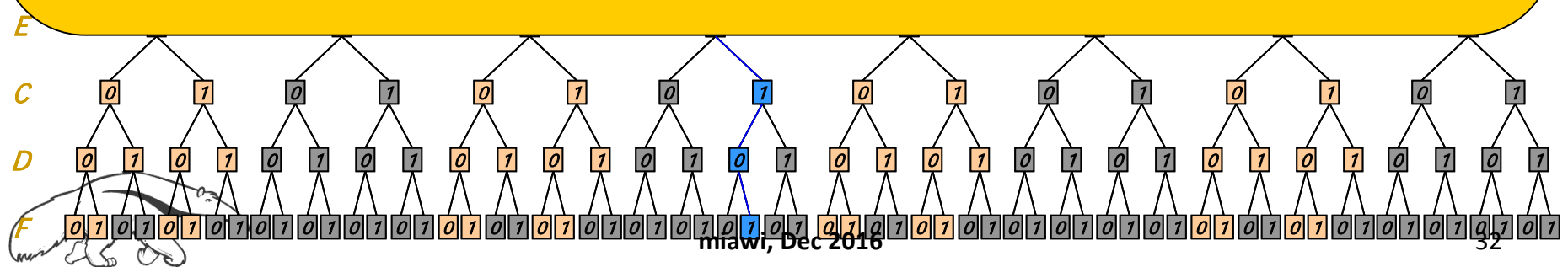
*AND/OR size:  $\exp(4)$ ,  
OR size  $\exp(6)$*



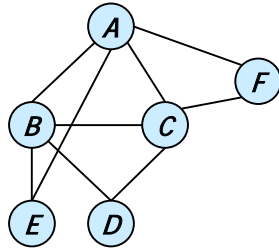
# AND/OR vs. OR



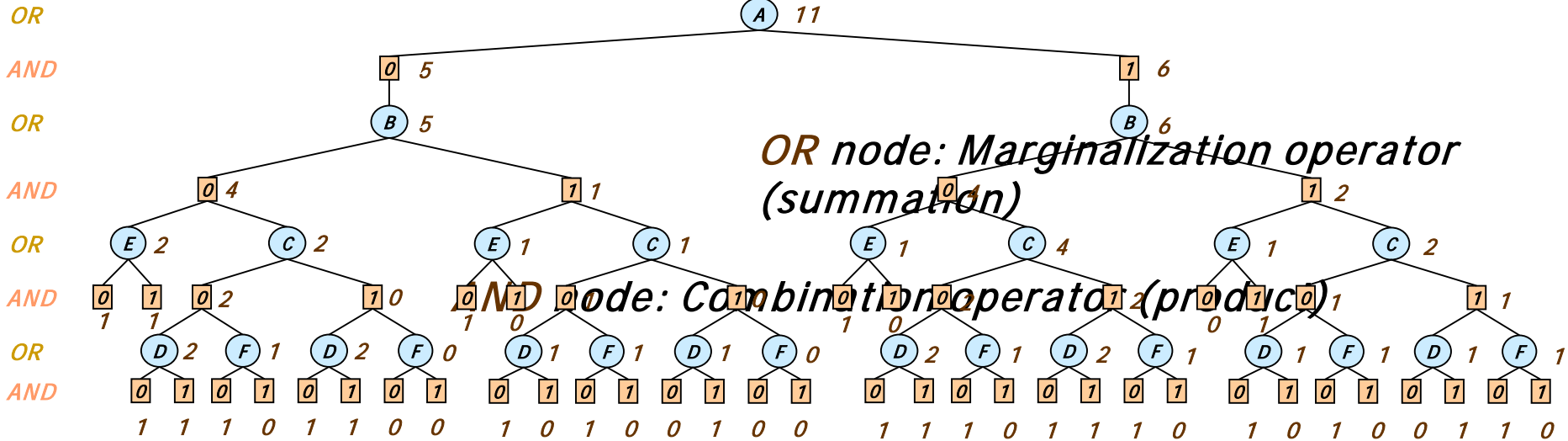
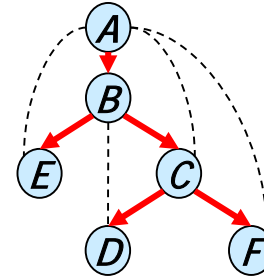
**Time  $O(nk^h)$**   
**Space  $O(n)$**   
**height is bounded by  $(\log n) w^*$**



# DFS algorithm (#CSP example)



*solution*



*Value of node = number of solutions below it*





# AND/OR Tree DFS Algorithm (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

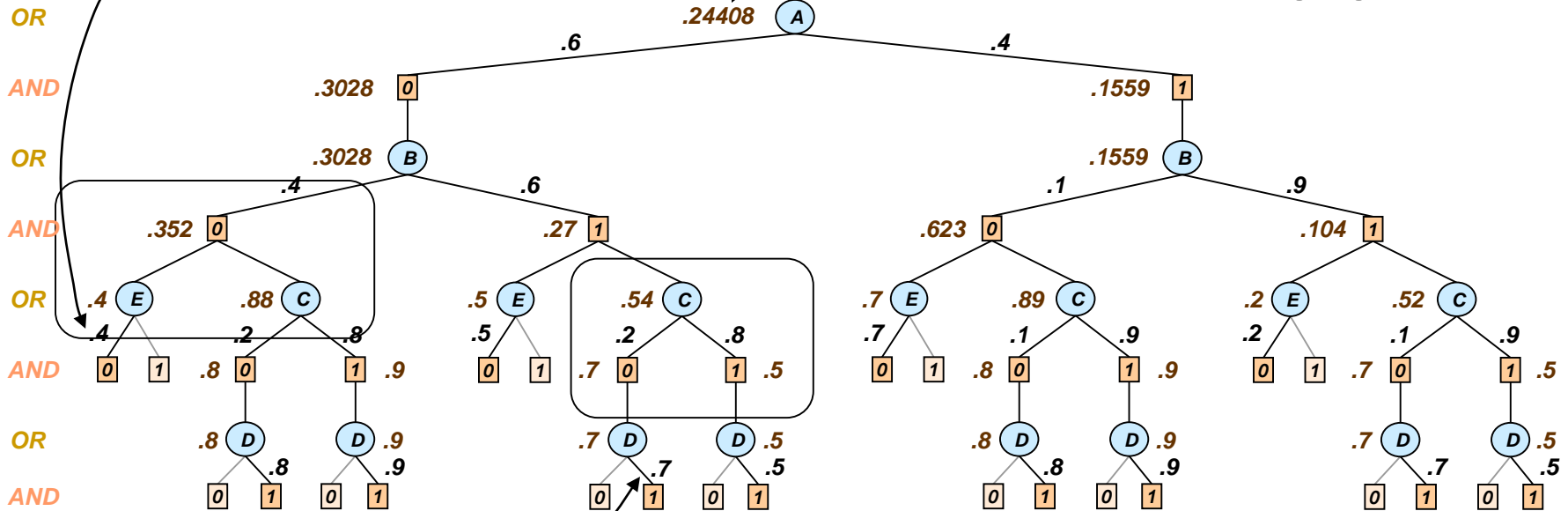
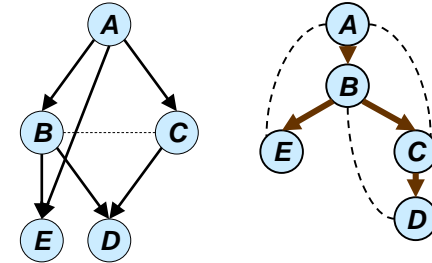
$P(C | A)$

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

$P(A)$

A	P(A)
0	.6
1	.4

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



$P(D | B, C)$

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

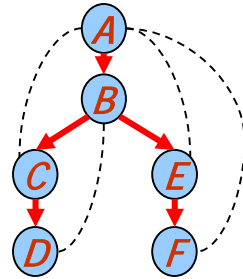
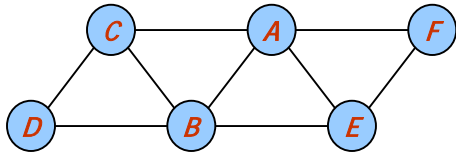
Evidence: D=1

OR node: Marginalization by summation

AND node: product

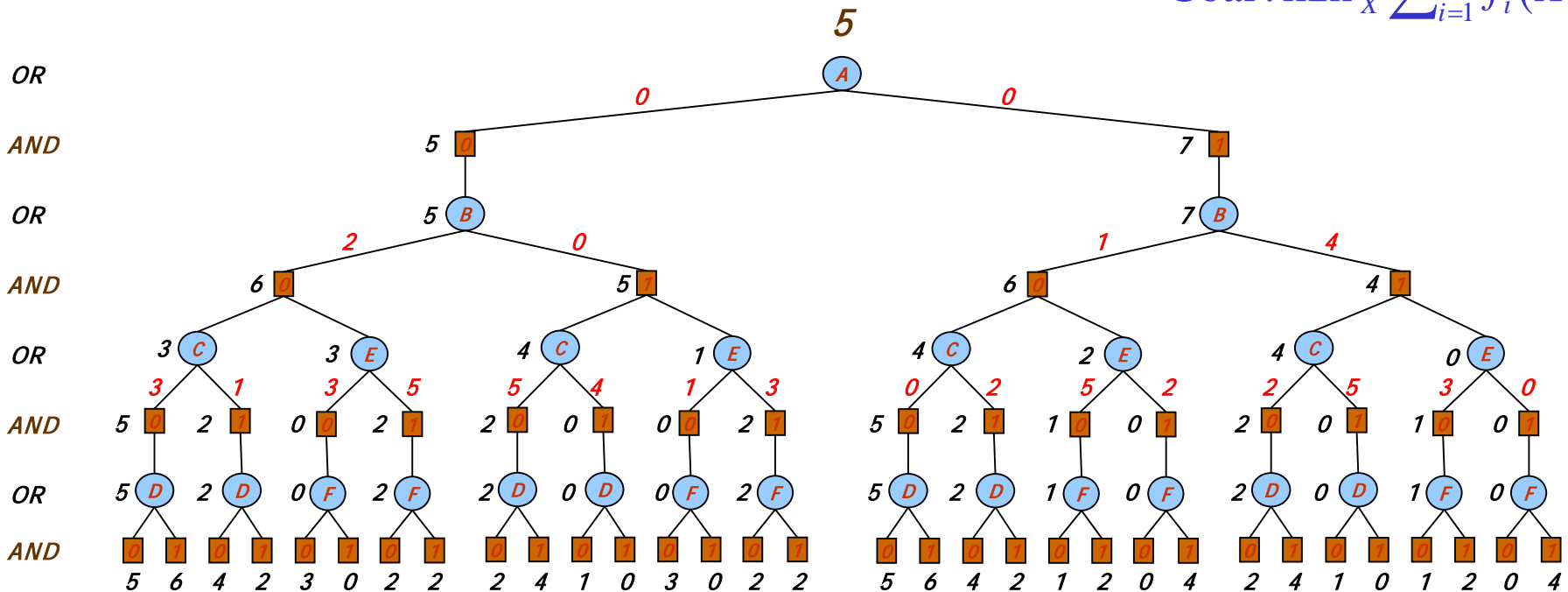
Value of node = updated belief for sub-problem below

# AND/OR Tree Search for Optimization



A B f <sub>1</sub>	A C f <sub>2</sub>	A E f <sub>3</sub>	A F f <sub>4</sub>	B C f <sub>5</sub>	B D f <sub>6</sub>	B E f <sub>7</sub>	C D f <sub>8</sub>	E F f <sub>9</sub>
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

Goal :  $\min_x \sum_{i=1}^9 f_i(X)$



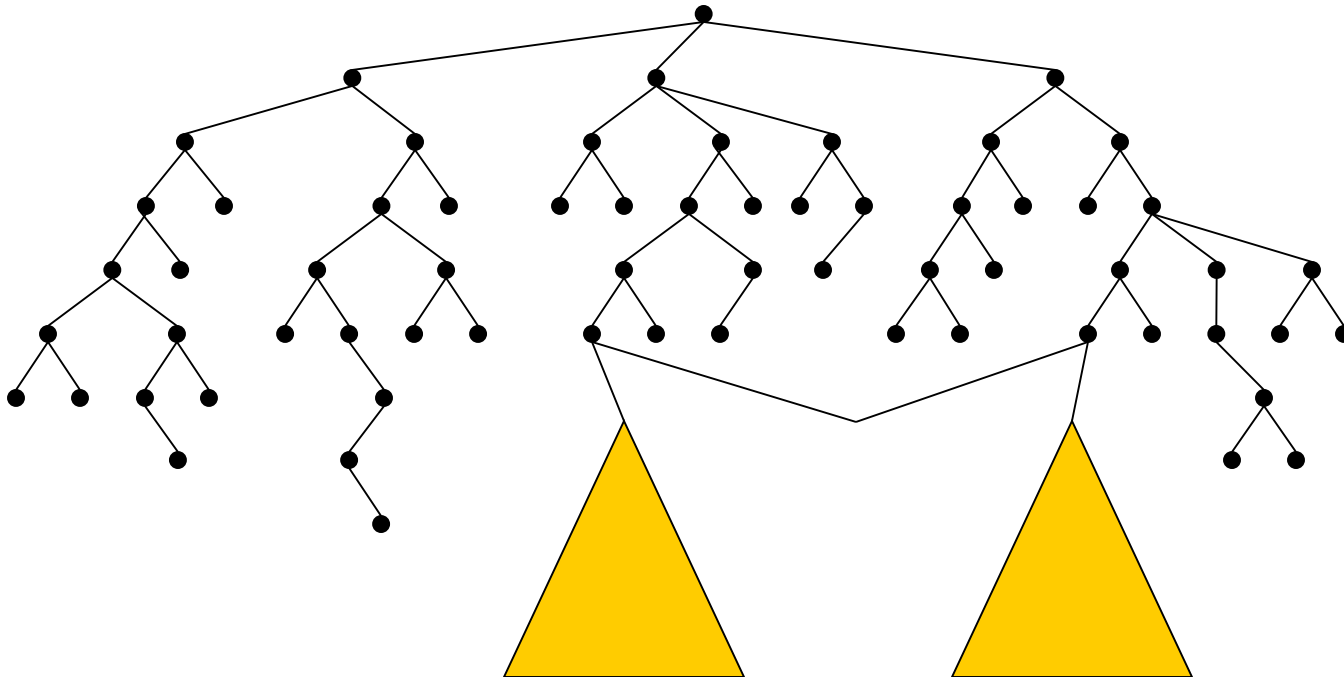
**AND node = Combination operator (summation)**

**OR node = Marginalization operator (minimization)**

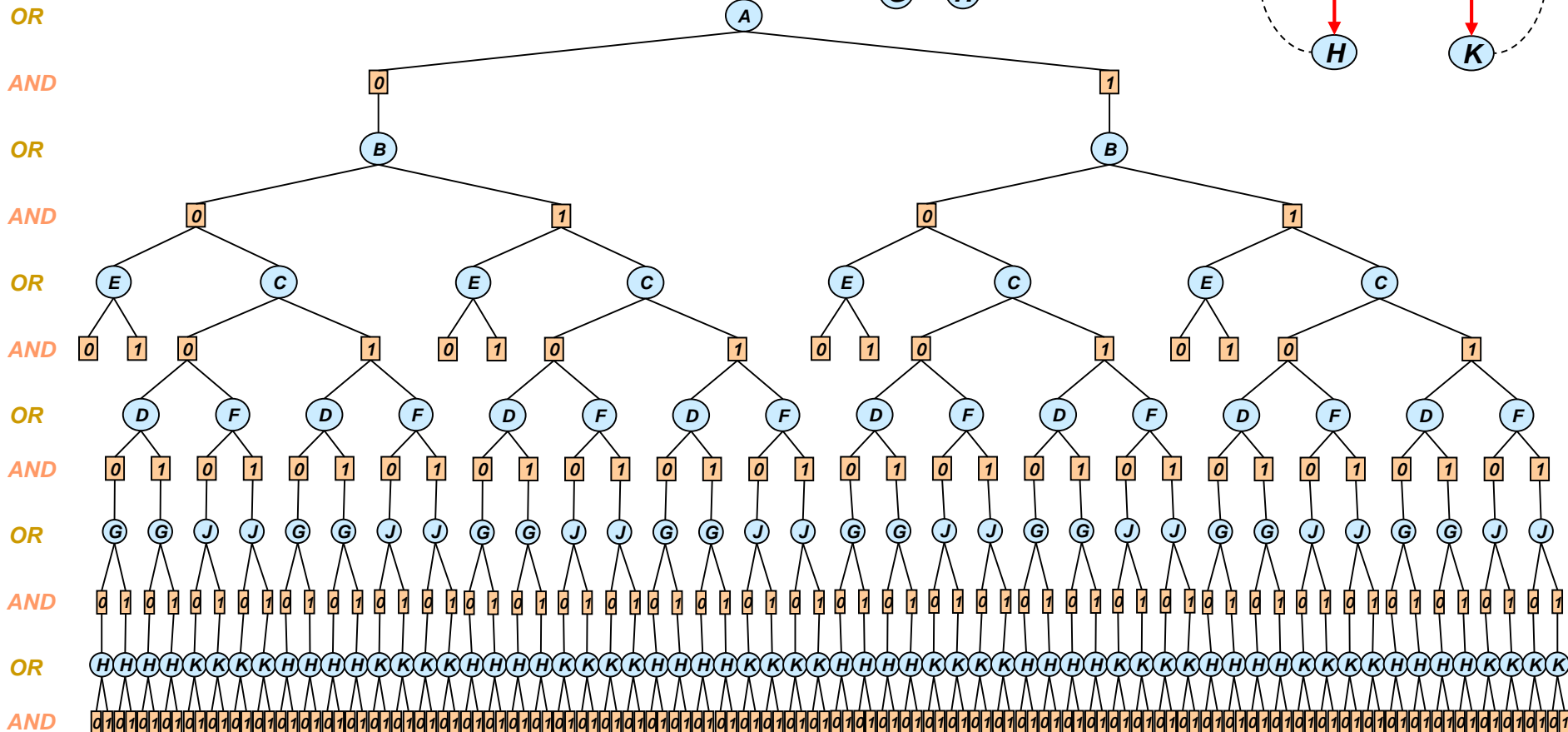
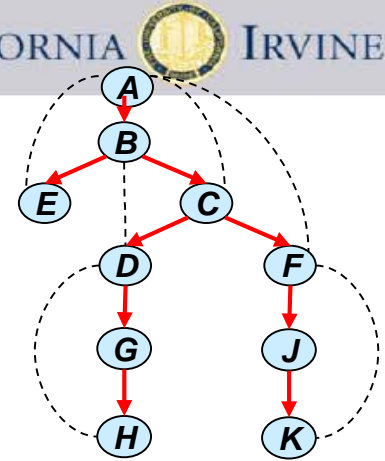
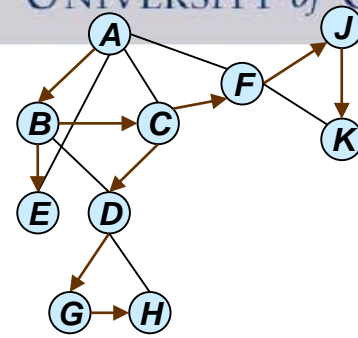


# From Search Trees to Search Graphs

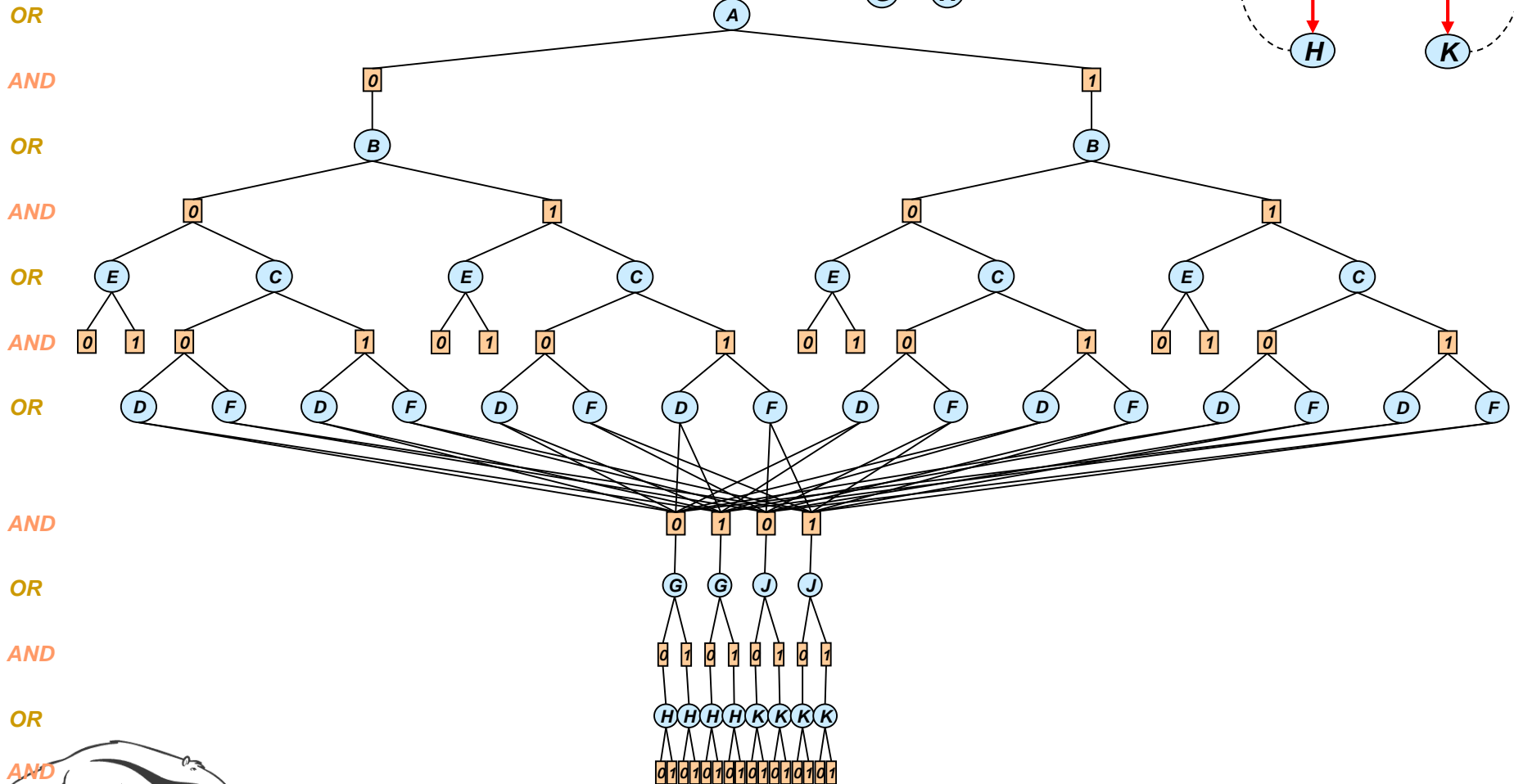
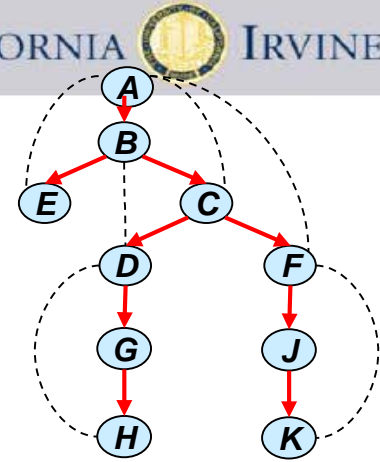
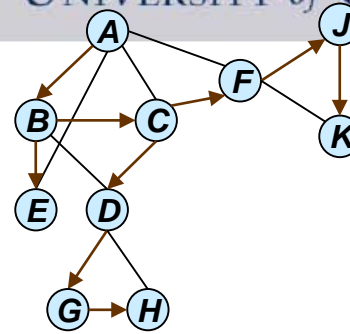
- Any two nodes that root **identical** sub-trees or sub-graphs can be **merged**



# From AND/OR Tree



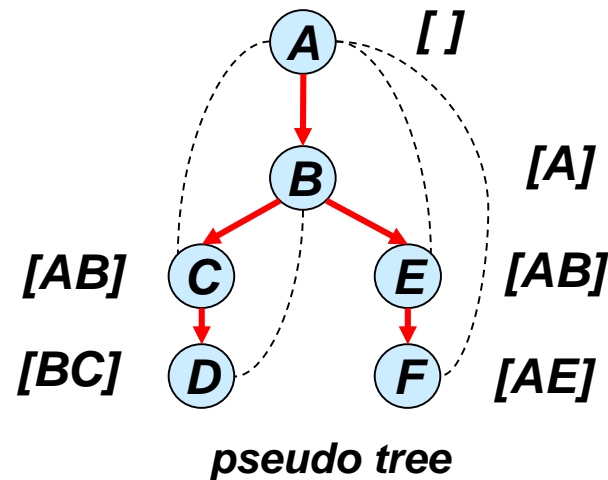
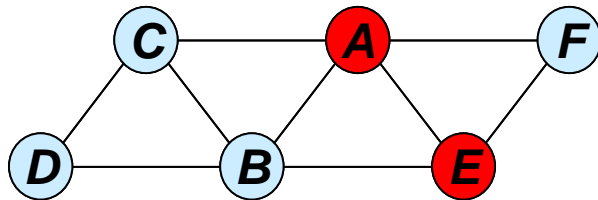
# An AND/OR Graph



# Merging Based on Context

- One way of recognizing nodes that can be merged (based on graph structure)

**context(X)** = ancestors of X in the pseudo tree that are connected to X, or to descendants of X



# 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

$P(C | A)$

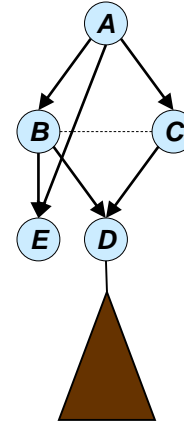
A	C=0	C=1
0	.2	.8
1	.7	.3

$P(A)$

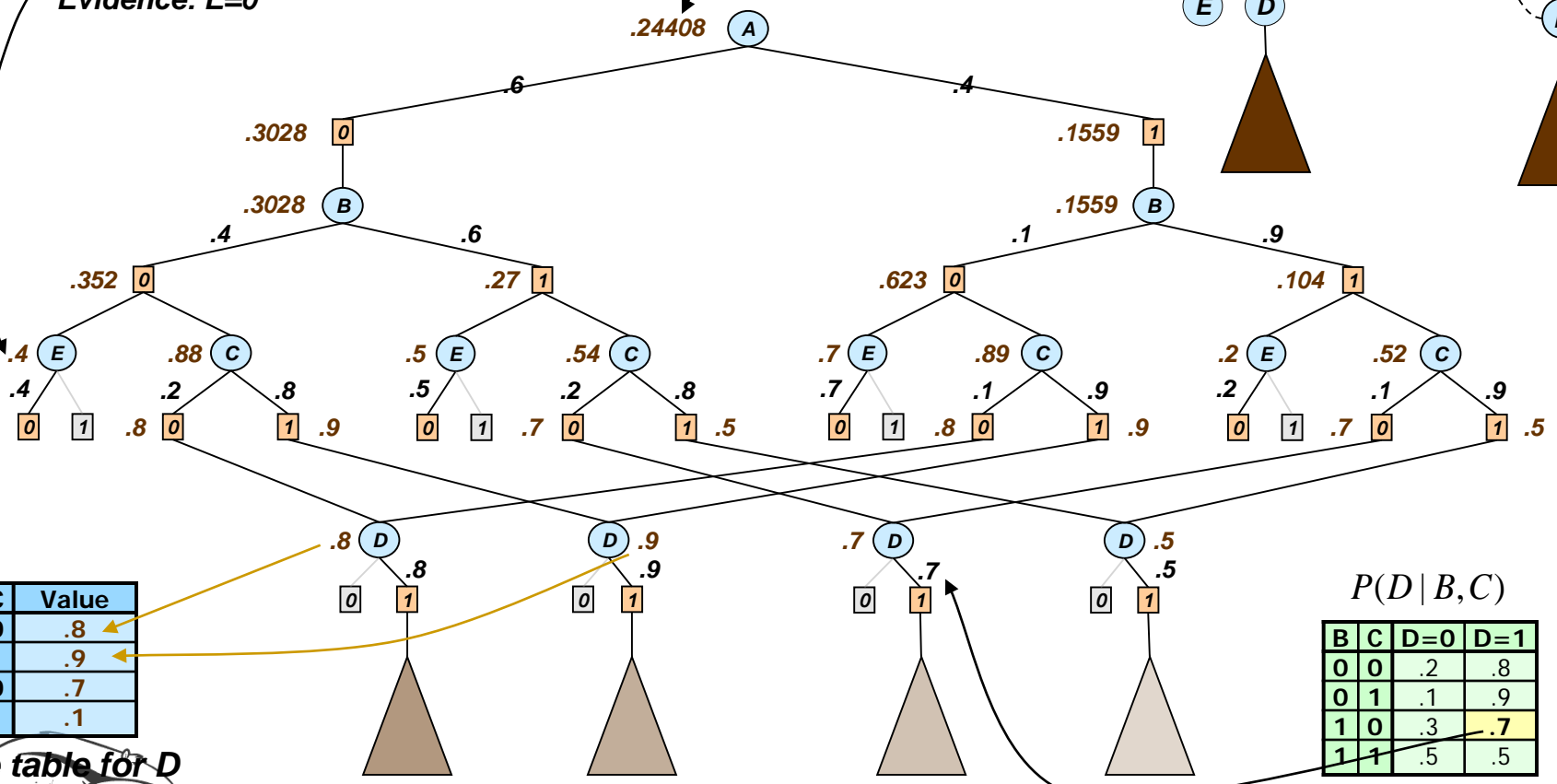
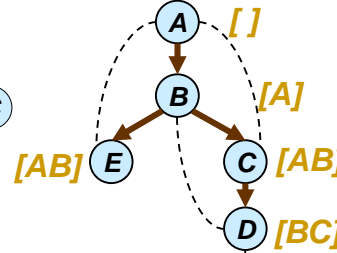
A	P(A)
0	.6
1	.4

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

.24408



Context



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

Cache table for D 

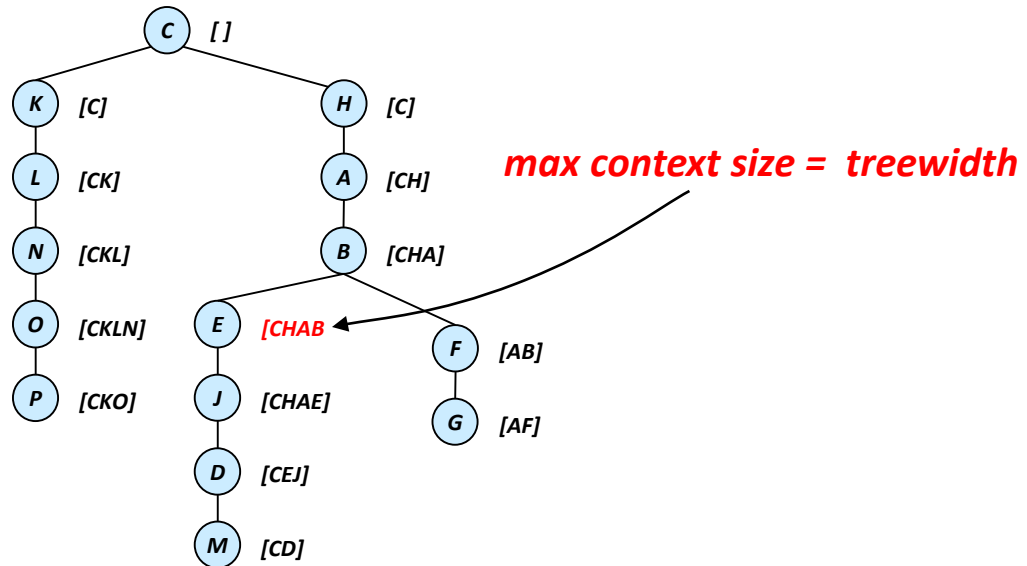
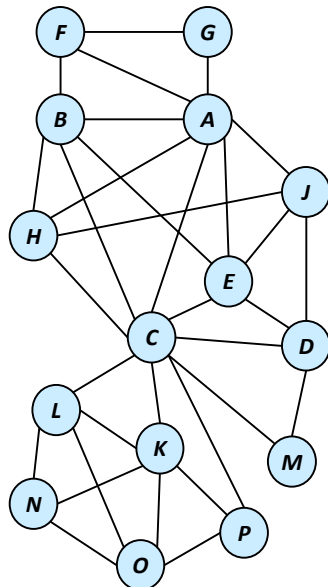
$P(D | B, C)$

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

# How Big Is The Context?

**Theorem:** The maximum **context** size for a pseudo tree is equal to the **treewidth** of the graph along the pseudo tree.



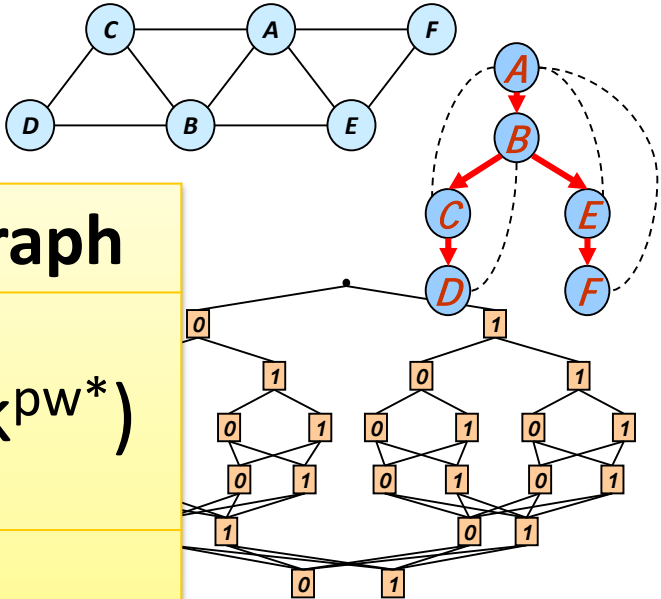
(CKHABEJLNODP MFG)





# All Four Search Spaces

	AND/OR graph	OR graph
Space	$O(n k^{w^*})$	$O(n k^{pw^*})$
Time	$O(n k^{w^*})$	$O(n k^{pw^*})$



next minimal OR search graph  
28 nodes

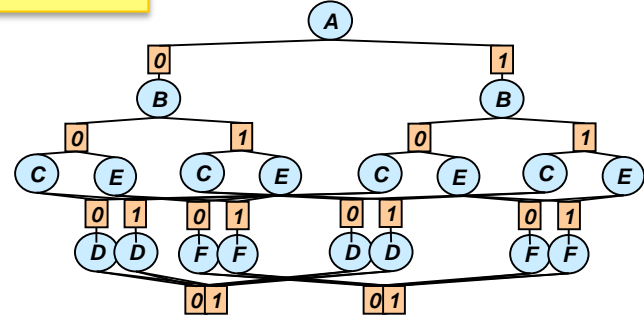
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND

Computes any query:

- Constraint satisfaction
- Optimization (MAP)
- Weighted counting ( $P(e)$ )
- Marginal map

34 AND nodes

OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND  
OR  
AND



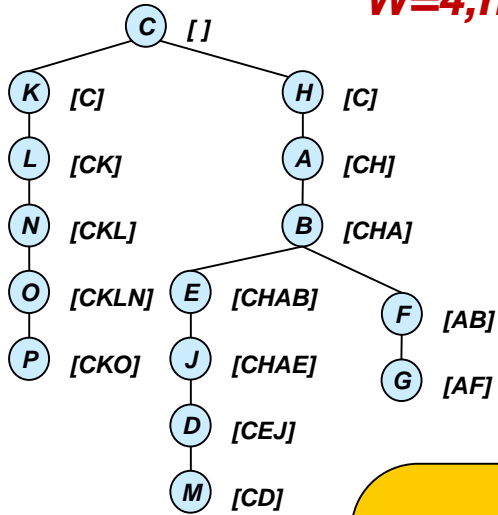
Context minimal AND/OR search graph  
18 AND nodes

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

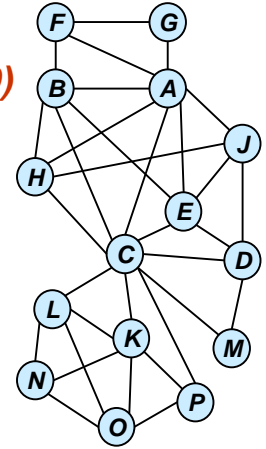
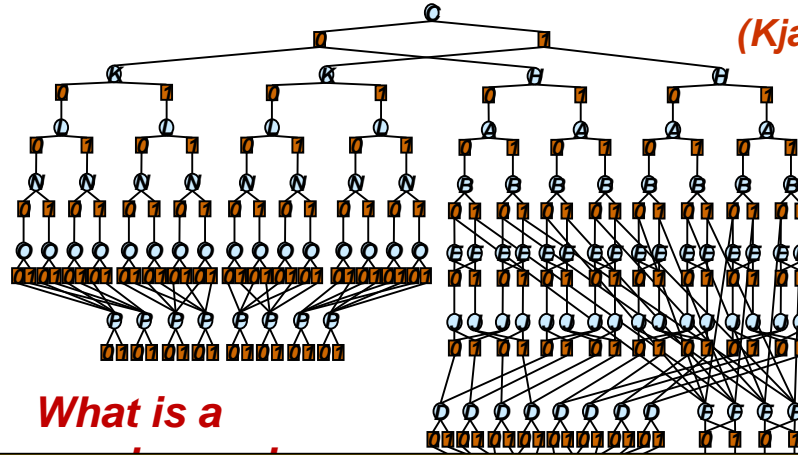


# The impact of the pseudo-tree

$W=4, h=8$



Min-Fill  
(Kjaerulff90)

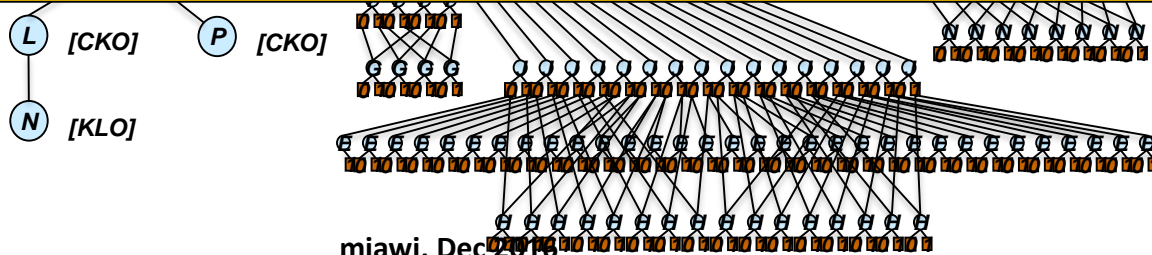
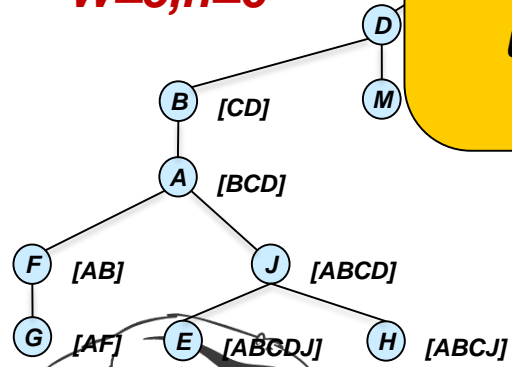


What is a

(C K H A B E J L N C)

- Choose pseudo-tree with a minimal search graph
- But determinism is unpredictable
- For optimization, pruning by BnB is even more unpredictable

$W=5, h=6$



miawi, Dec 2016

graph  
mining

(C D K B A O M L N P J H E F G)

# Basic Heuristic Search Schemes

**Heuristic function  $\tilde{f}(\hat{x}_p)$  computes a lower bound on the best extension of partial configuration  $\hat{x}_p$  and can be used to guide heuristic search.**

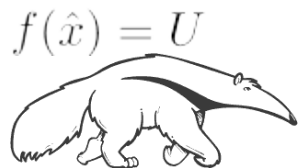
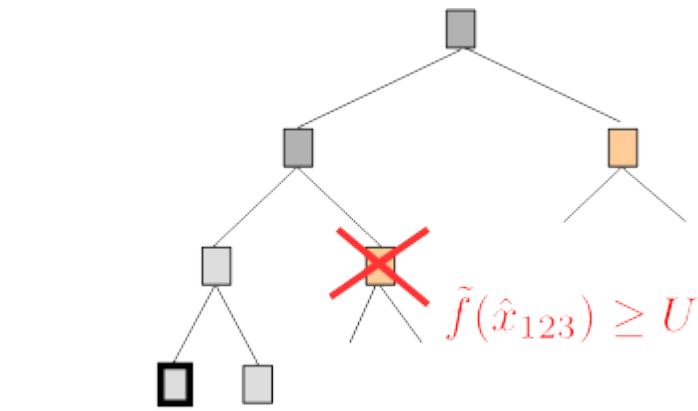
**We focus on:**

## 1. Branch-and-Bound

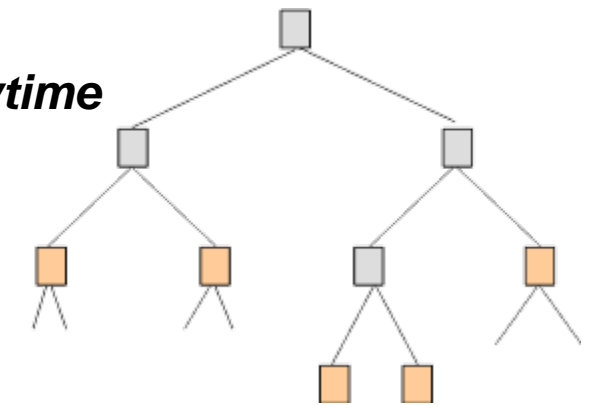
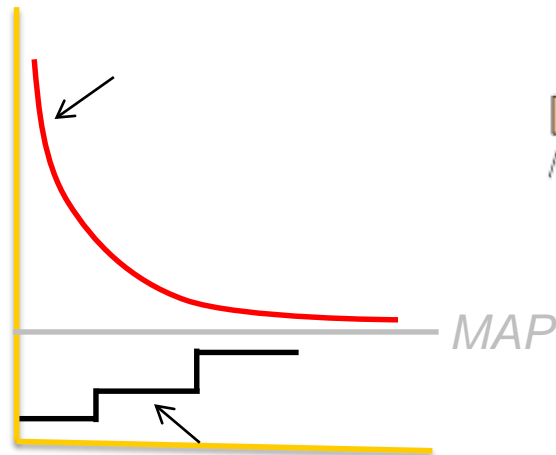
Use heuristic function  $\tilde{f}(\hat{x}_p)$  to prune the depth-first search tree  
*Linear space*

## 2. Best-First Search

Always expand the node with the lowest heuristic value  $\tilde{f}(\hat{x}_p)$   
*Needs lots of memory*



**BnB is upper-bound anytime**



# Outline

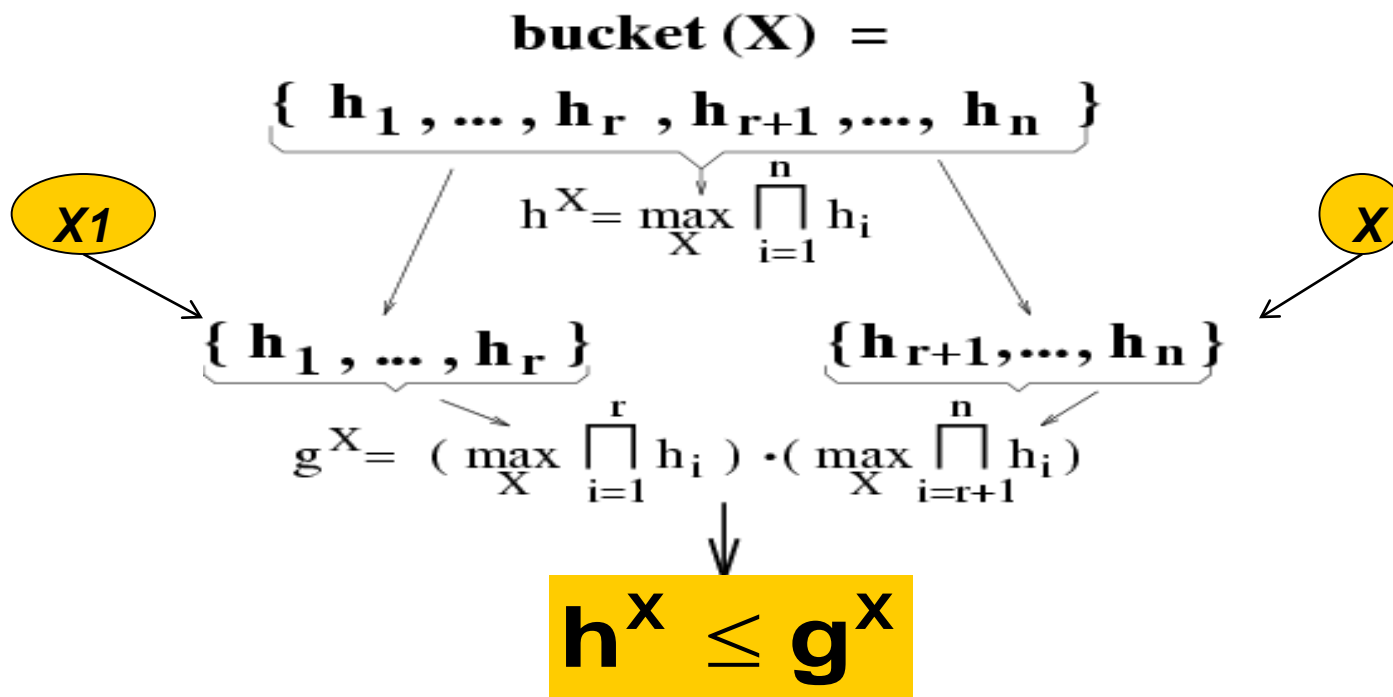
- Graphical models, Queries, Inference vs search
- Inference Algorithms: bucket-elimination
- AND/OR search spaces and AND/OR BnB
- **Bounded Inference: a) mini-bucket, b) cost-shifting**
- Evaluation, Software, Map and Marginal Map
- Conclusion



# Mini-bucket Approximation

(Dechter and Rish, 1997, 2003)

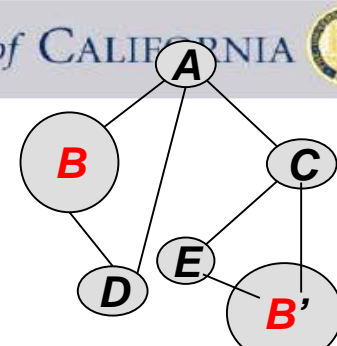
*Split a bucket into mini-buckets => bound complexity*



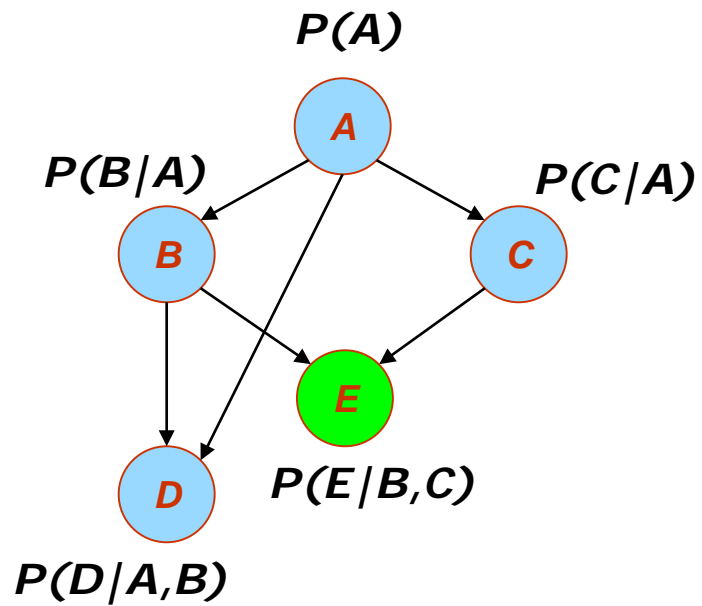
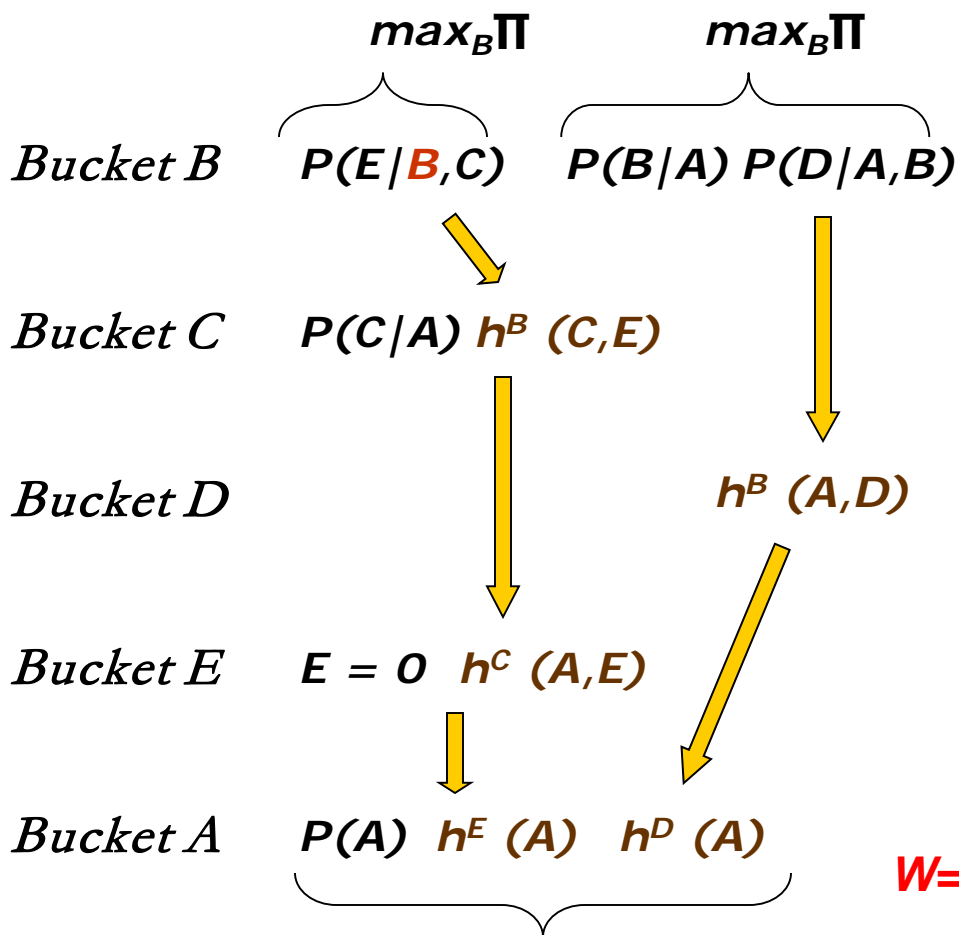
Exponential complexity decrease :  $O(e^n) \rightarrow O(e^r) + O(e^{n-r})$



# Mini-Bucket Elimination



Node duplication, renaming

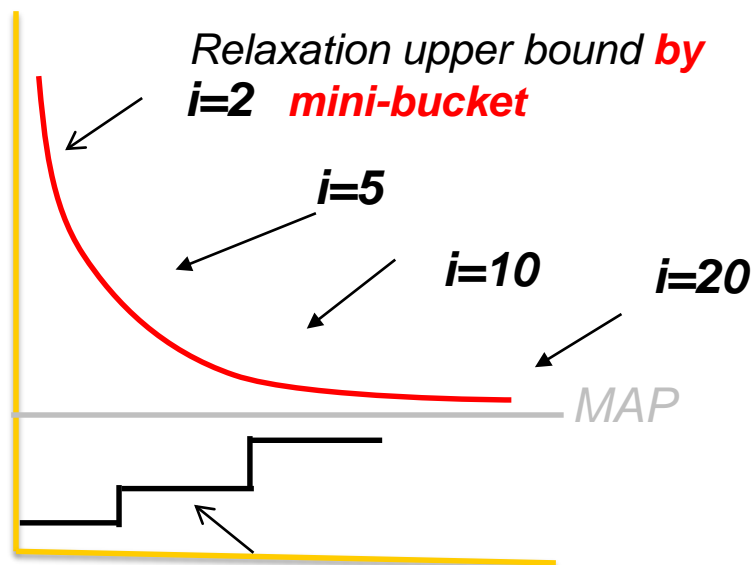


**MAP\* is an upper bound on MAP --U**  
**Generating a solution yields a lower bound--L**



# Properties of Mini-Bucket Elimination

- 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  $i$  increases, both accuracy and complexity increase.
- Possible use of mini-bucket approximations:
  - As anytime algorithms
  - As heuristics in search



# Outline

- Graphical models, Queries, Algorithms
- Inference Algorithms: bucket-elimination
- **Bounded Inference: a) mini-bucket, b) cost-shifting**
- AND/OR search spaces and AND/OR BnB
- Evaluation, Software
- Conclusions





# Cost-Shifting

*(Reparameterization)*

$+\lambda(B)$

A	B	f(A,B)
b	b	6 + 3
b	g	0 - 1
g	b	0 + 3
g	g	6 - 1

$-\lambda(B)$

B	C	f(B,C)
b	b	6 - 3
b	g	0 - 3
g	b	0 + 1
g	g	6 + 1

+

B	$\lambda(B)$
b	3
g	-1

A	B	C	f(A,B,C)
b	b	b	12
b	b	g	6
b	g	b	0
b	g	g	6
g	b	b	6
g	b	g	0
g	g	b	6
g	g	g	12

= 0 + 6

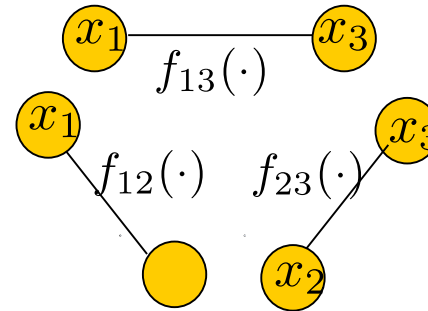
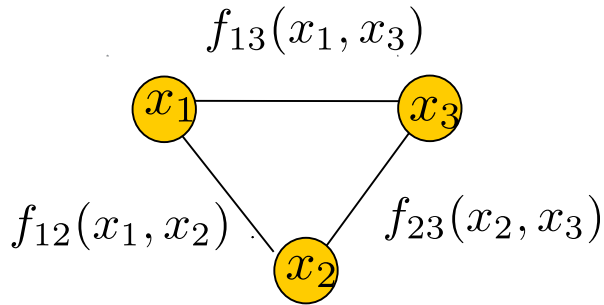
*Modify the individual functions*

*- but -*

*keep the sum or product of functions unchanged*



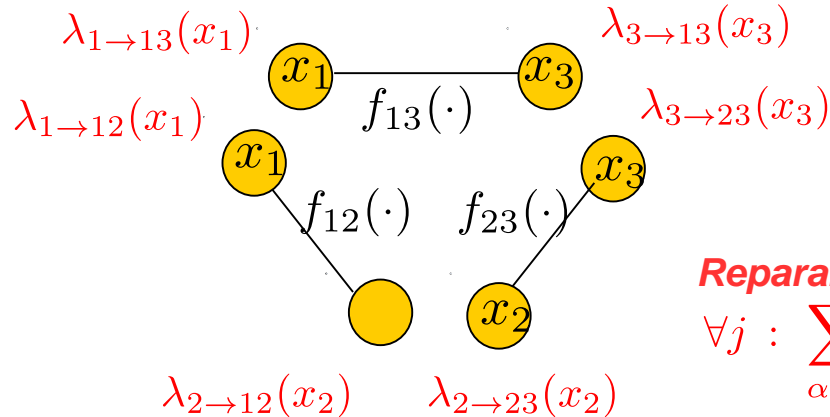
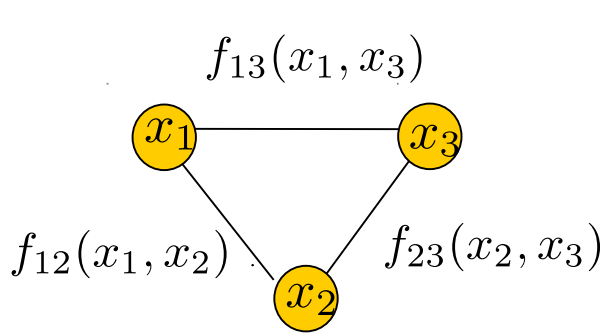
# Dual Decomposition



$$F^* = \min_x \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(x) \quad \geq \quad \sum_{\alpha} \min_x f_{\alpha}(x)$$



# Dual Decomposition



**Reparameterization:**

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

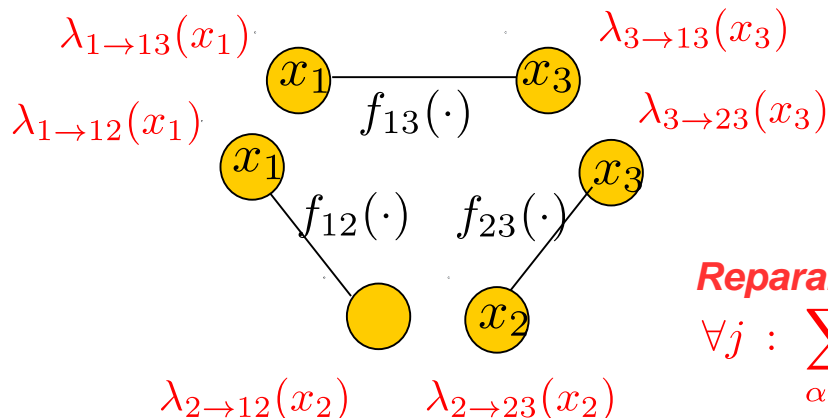
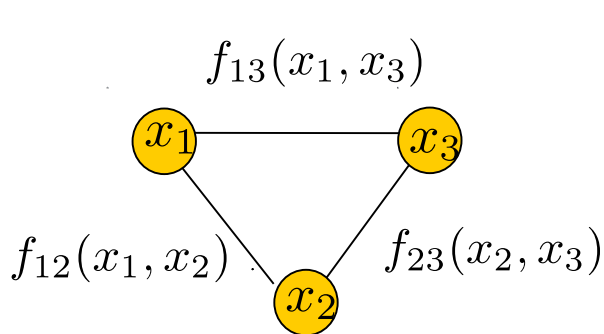
$$F^* = \min_x \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(x) \geq \max_{\lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}} \sum_{\alpha} \min_x \left[ f_{\alpha}(x) + \sum_{i \in \alpha} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(x_i) \right]$$

- Bound solution using decomposed optimization
- Solve independently: optimistic bound
- Tighten the bound by reparameterization
  - Enforce lost equality constraints via Lagrange multipliers



(Convex dual: linear programming relaxation)

# Dual Decomposition



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

$$F^* = \min_x \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha}(x) \geq \max_{\lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}} \sum_{\alpha} \min_x \left[ f_{\alpha}(x) + \sum_{i \in \alpha} \lambda_{i \rightarrow \alpha}(x_i) \right]$$

Many names for the same class of bounds:

- Dual decomposition [Komodakis et al. 2007]
- TRW, MPLP [Wainwright et al. 2005, Globerson & Jaakkola 2007]
- Soft arc consistency [Cooper & Schiex 2004]
- Max-sum diffusion [Warner 2007]



(Convex dual: linear programming relaxation)

# Various Update Schemes

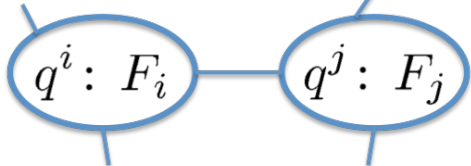
- Can use any decomposition updates
  - (message passing, subgradient, augmented, etc.)

- **FGLP**: Update the original factors

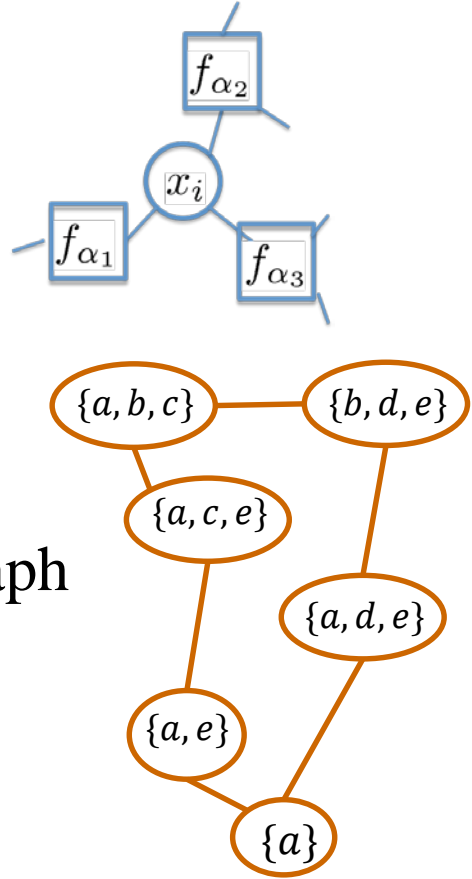
$$\forall \alpha, \gamma_\alpha(x_i) = \max_{x_\alpha \setminus x_i} f_\alpha$$

$$\forall \alpha, f_\alpha(x_\alpha) \leftarrow f_\alpha(x_\alpha) - \gamma_\alpha(x_i) + \frac{1}{|F_i|} \sum_{\beta} \gamma_\beta(x_i)$$

- **JGLP**: Update clique function of the join graph

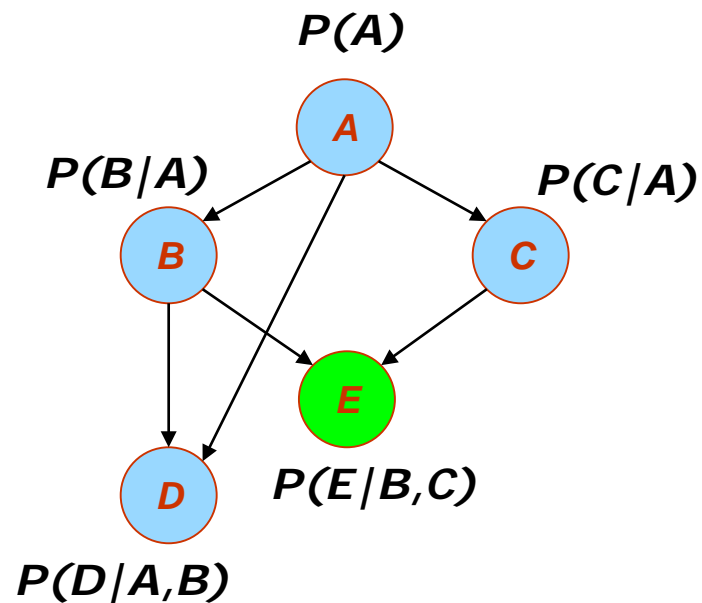
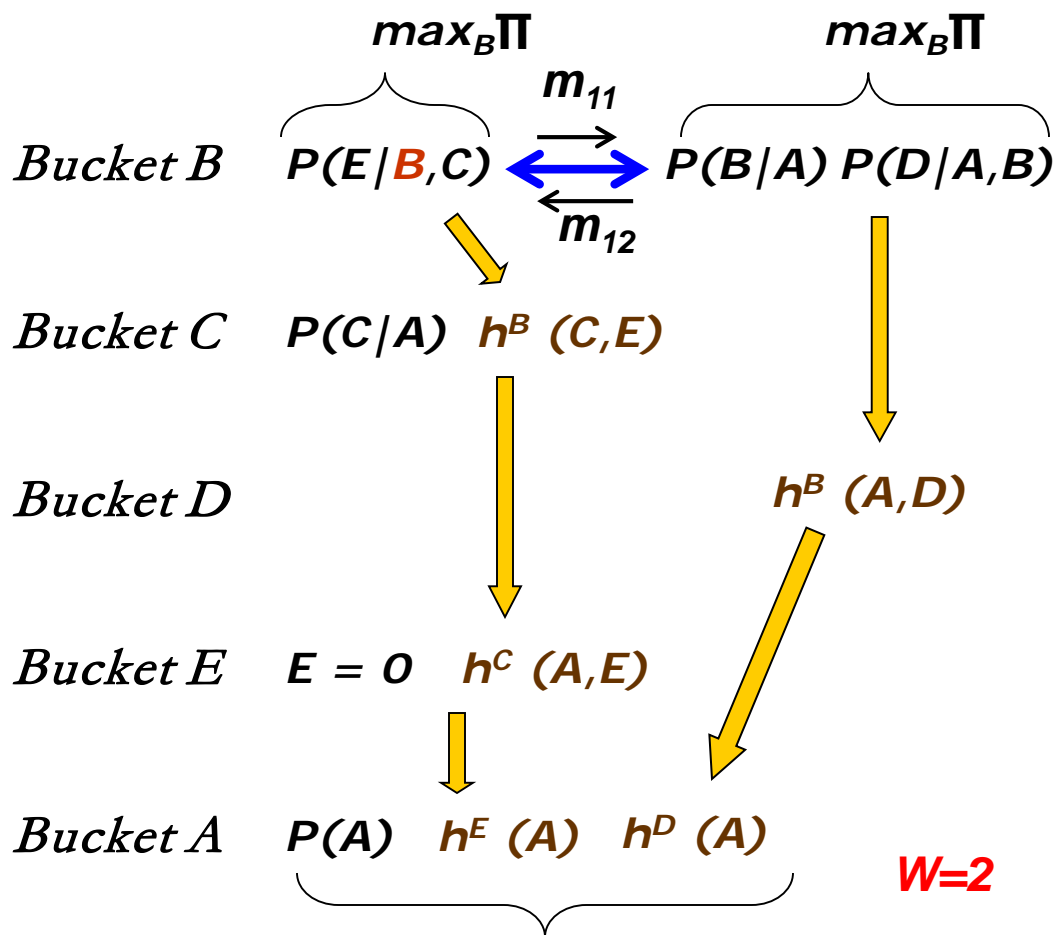


- **MBE-MM** Update within each bucket only



# MBE-MM: MBE with moment matching

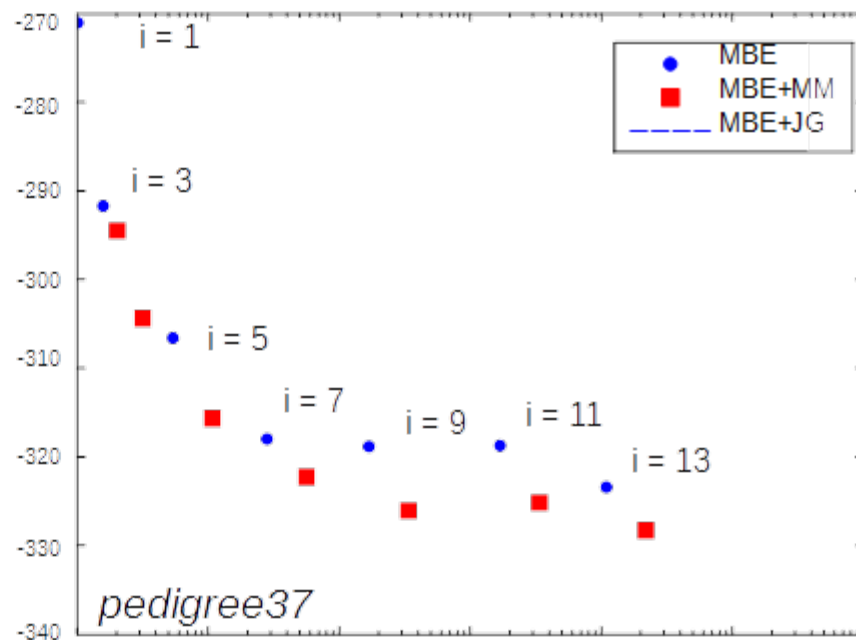
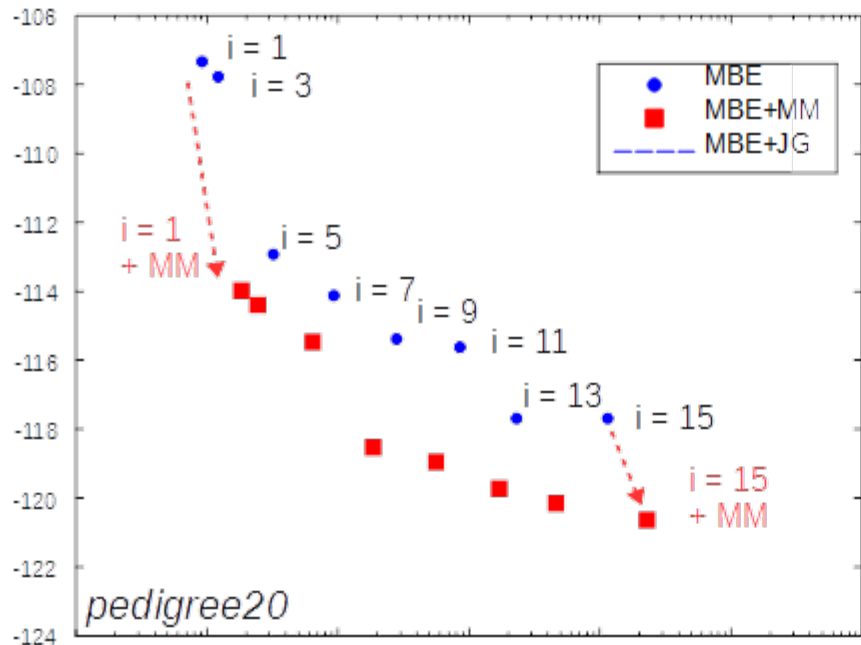
*$m_{11}, m_{12}$  - moment-matching messages*



*$MPE^*$  is an upper bound on MPE --U  
 Generating a solution yields a lower bound--L*



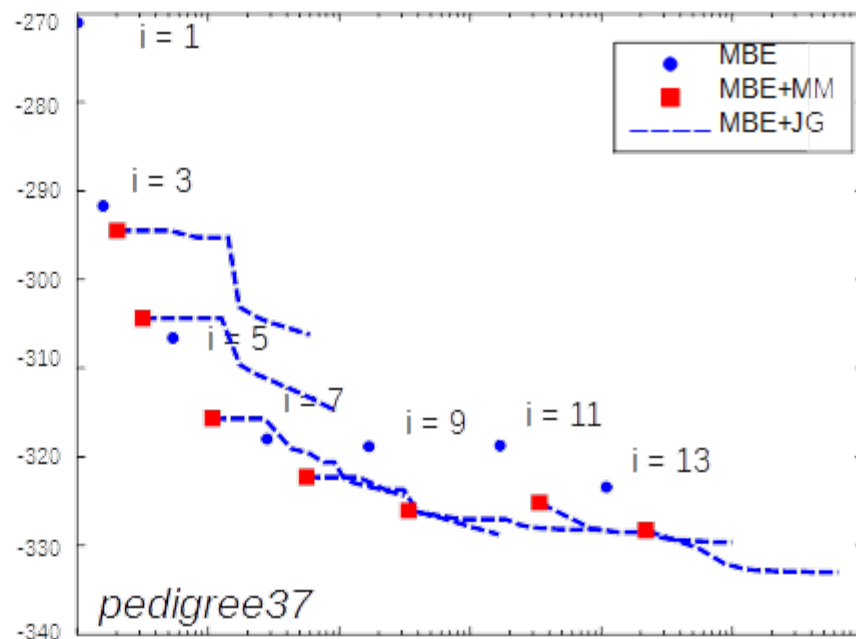
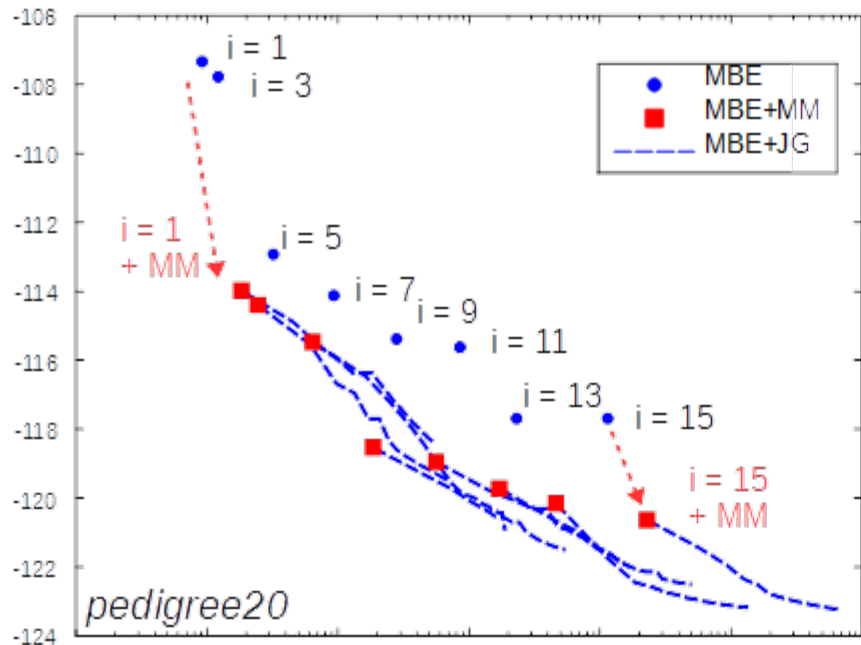
# Anytime Approximation



- 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





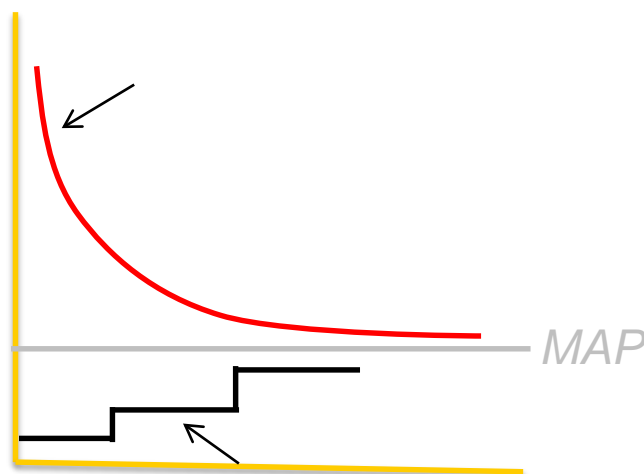
# Outline

- Graphical models, Queries, Inference vs search
- Inference Algorithms: bucket-elimination
- AND/OR search spaces and AND/OR BnB
- Bounded Inference: a) mini-bucket, b) cost-shifting
- **Generating heuristics using mini-bucket elimination**
- AND/OR Heuristic Search: Map and Marginal Map
- Conclusion



# How to design a good Optimization solver (MAP)

- Heuristic Search
- The core of a good search algorithm
  - A compact search space
  - A good heuristic evaluation function
  - A good traversal strategy
- Anytime search yields a good approximation.

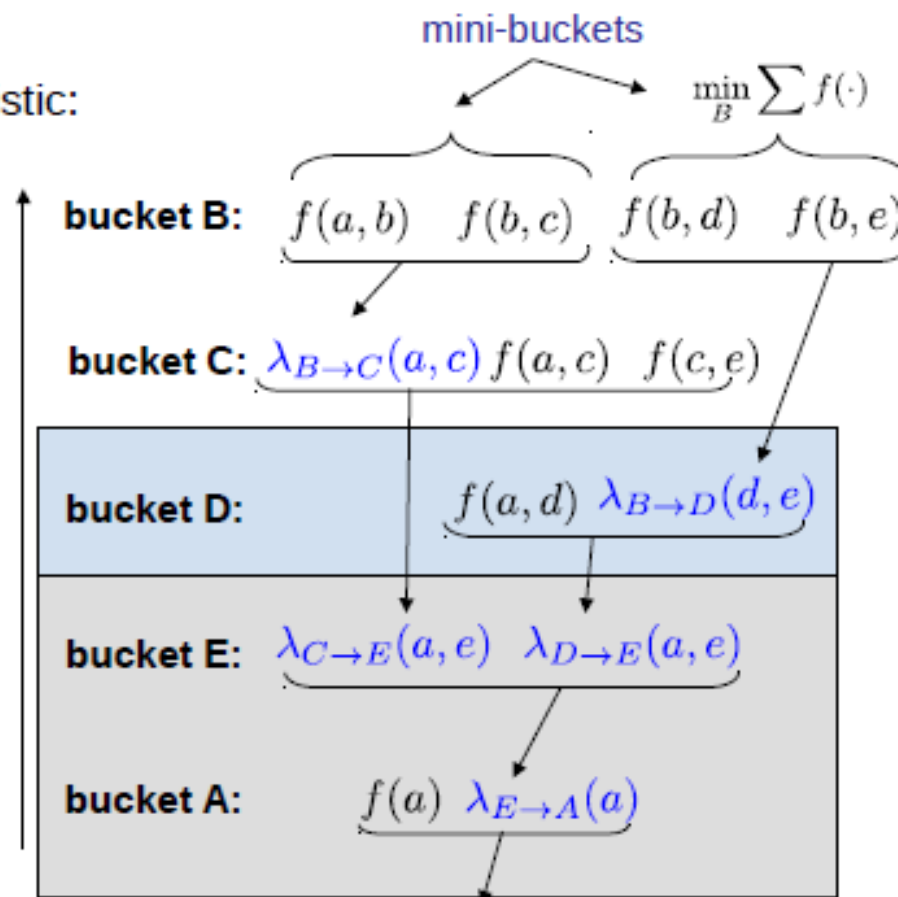
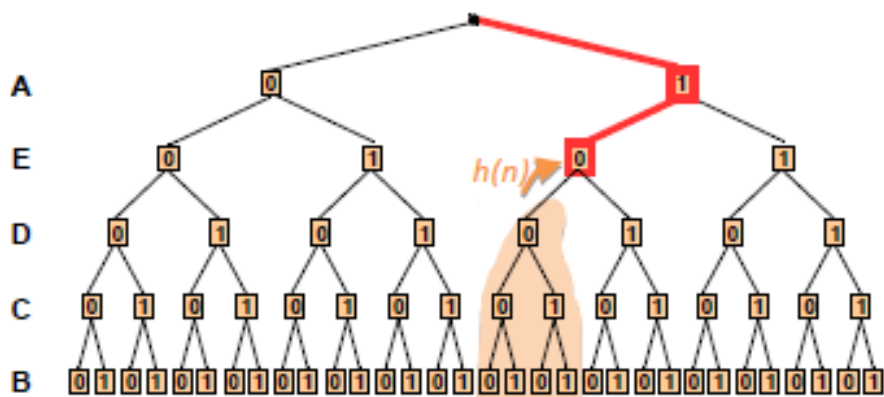


miawi, Dec 2016



# Static Mini-Bucket Heuristics

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

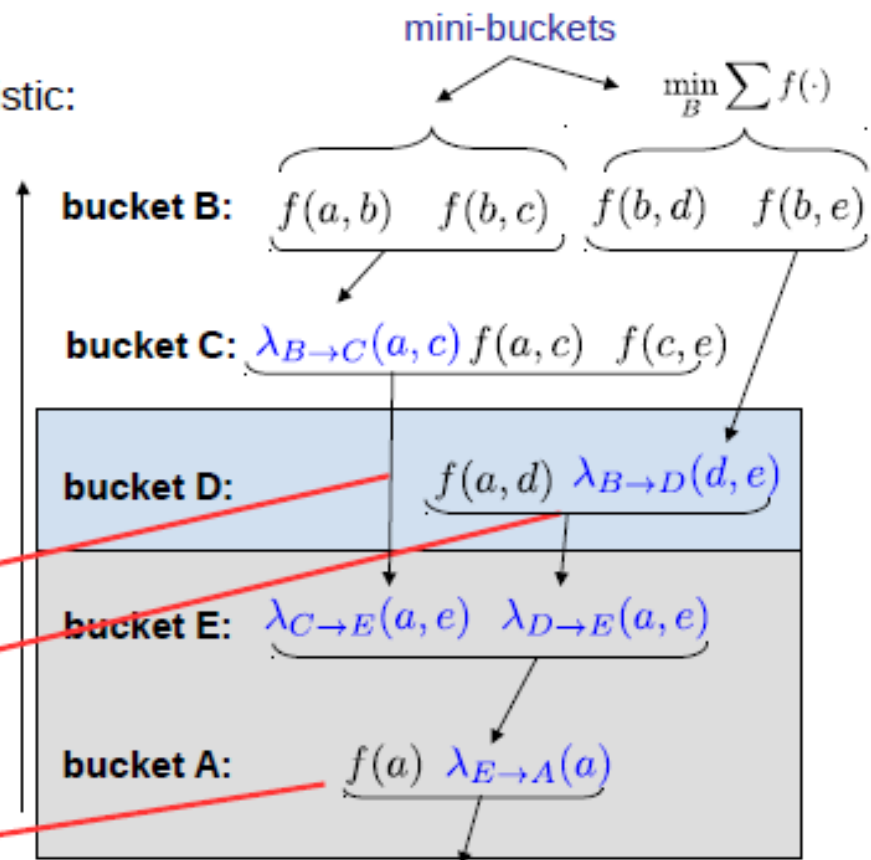
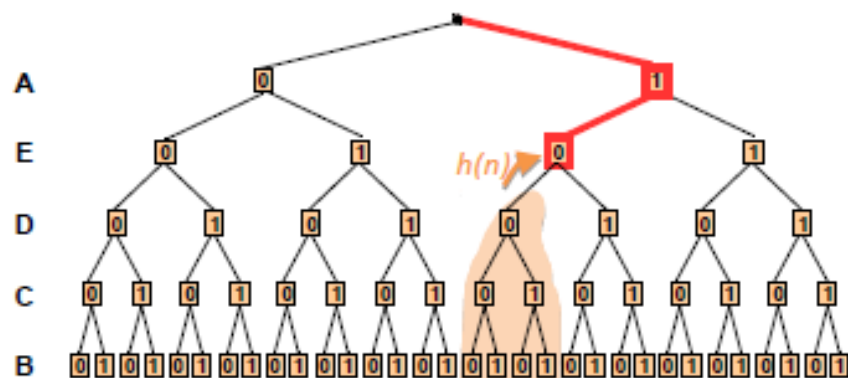


***L = lower bound***



# Static Mini-Bucket Heuristics

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



cost to go:

$$\tilde{h}(\hat{a}, \hat{e}, D) = \lambda_{C \rightarrow E}(\hat{a}, \hat{e}) + f(\hat{a}, D) + \lambda_{B \rightarrow D}(D, \hat{e})$$

(admissible:  $\tilde{h}(\hat{a}, \hat{e}, D) \leq h^*(\hat{a}, \hat{e}, D)$ )

cost so far:

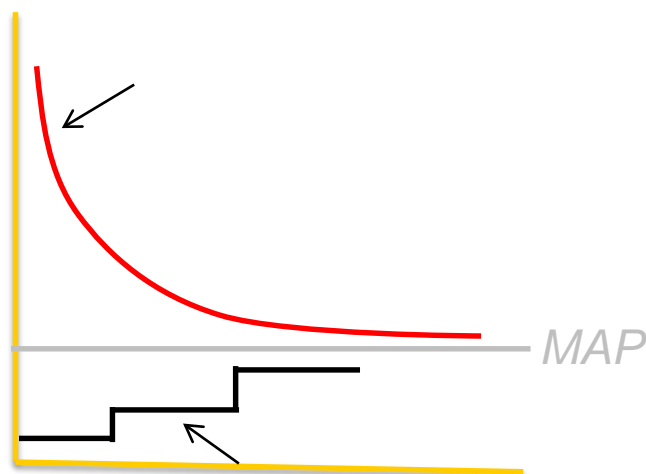
$$g(\hat{a}, \hat{e}) = f(A = \hat{a})$$

**L = lower bound**



# How to design a good Optimization solver (MAP)

- Heuristic Search
- The core of a good search algorithm
  - A compact search space
  - A good heuristic evaluation function
  - A good traversal strategy
- Anytime search yields a good approximation.



miawi, Dec 2016



# Outline

- Graphical models, Queries, Inference vs search
- Inference Algorithms: bucket-elimination
- AND/OR search spaces and AND/OR BnB
- Bounded Inference: a) mini-bucket, b) cost-shifting
- Generating heuristics using mini-bucket elimination
- **AND/OR Heuristic Search: Map and Marginal Map**
- Conclusion



# Searching AND/OR Space Solves all Queries

## ***MAP: AND/OR search***

$$\mathbf{x}_{AB}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}_A, \mathbf{x}_B} \prod_{\mathbf{x}_\alpha} \varphi_\alpha$$

## **MMAP: AND/OR search**

$$\mathbf{x}_B^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}_B} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_A} \prod_{\alpha} \psi(\mathbf{x}_\alpha)$$



# Basic Heuristic Search Schemes

**Heuristic function**  $\tilde{f}(\hat{x}_p)$  **computes a lower bound on the best extension of partial configuration**  $\hat{x}_p$  **and can be used to guide heuristic search.**

**We focus on:**

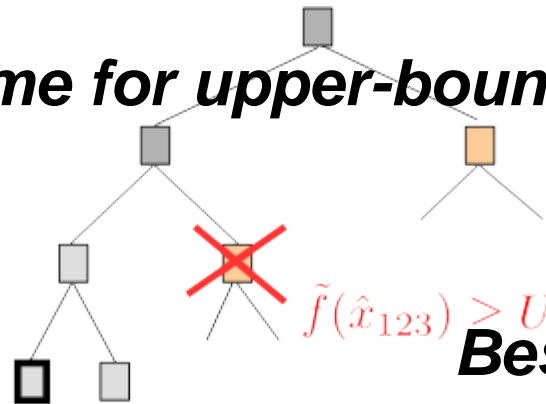
## 1. Branch-and-Bound

Use heuristic function  $\tilde{f}(\hat{x}_p)$  to **prune the depth-first search tree**  
*Linear space*

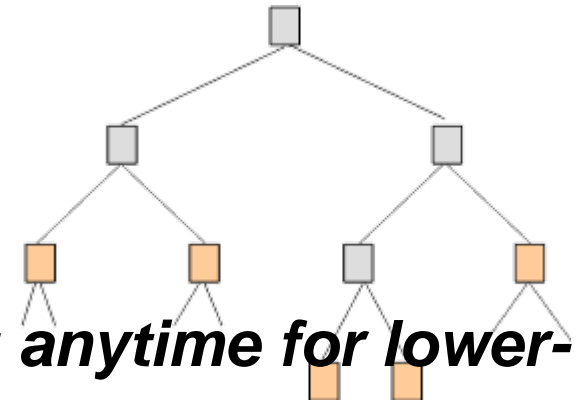
## 2. Best-First Search

Always expand the node with the **lowest heuristic value**  $\tilde{f}(\hat{x}_p)$   
*Needs lots of memory*

**BnB is Anytime for upper-bound**

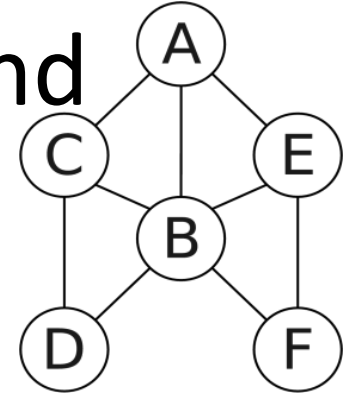


**Best-first: anytime for lower-bounds**



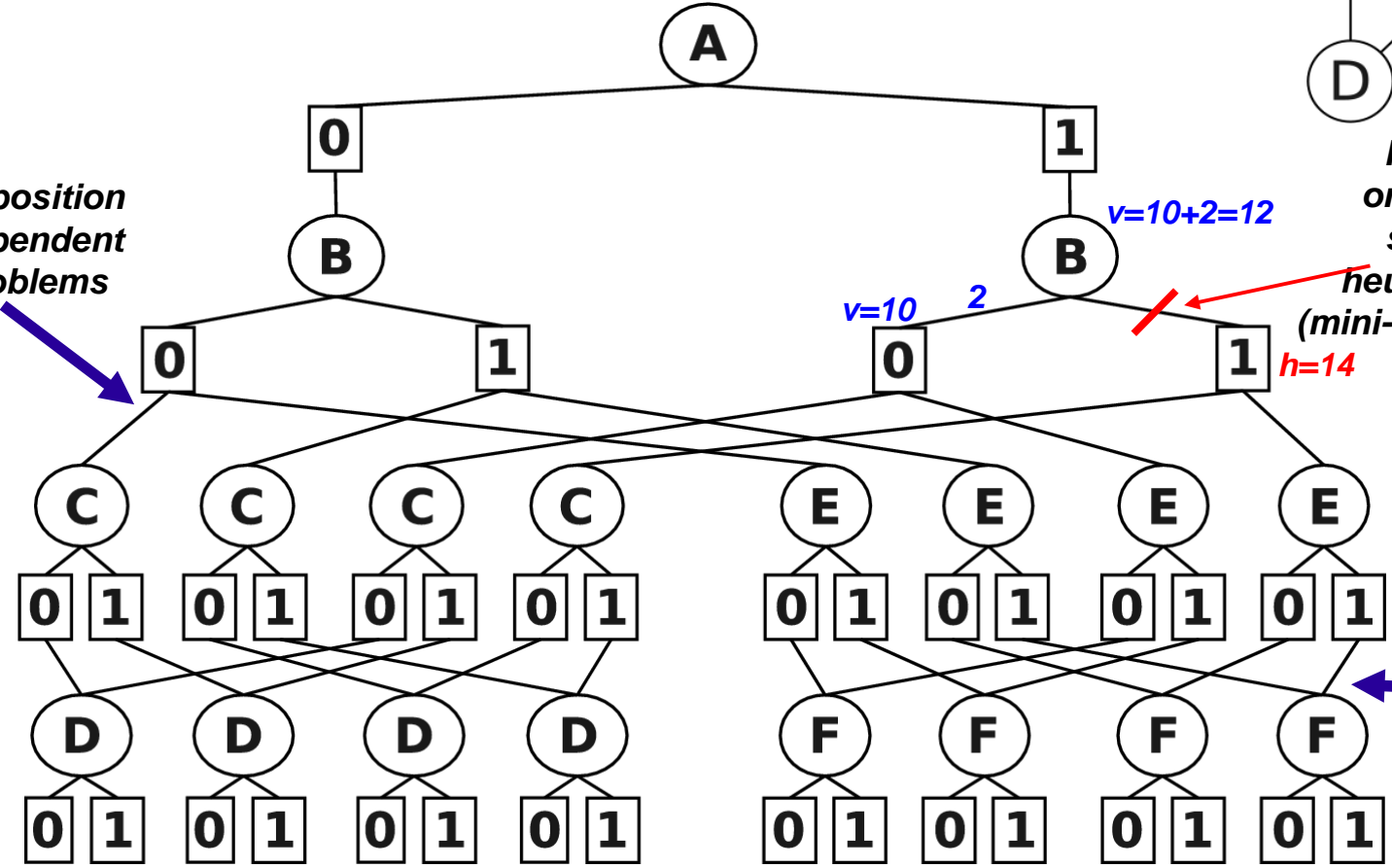


# MAP by AND/OR Branch-and-Bound



Prune based on current best solution and heuristic estimate (mini-bucket heuristic).

Decomposition of independent subproblems



Cache table for F (independent of A)

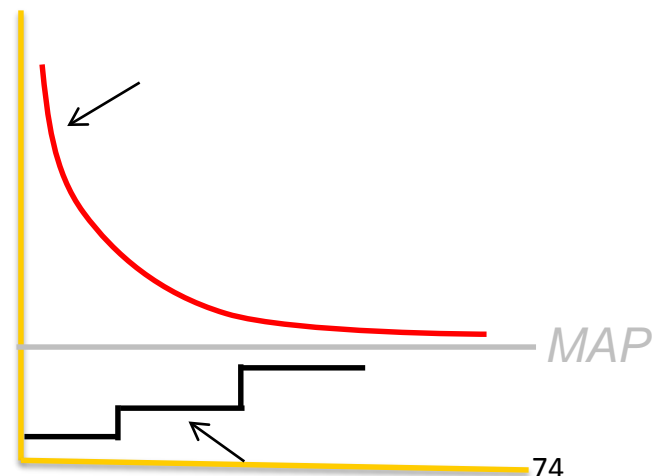
B	E	cost
0	0	10
0	1	6
1	0	...
1	1	...



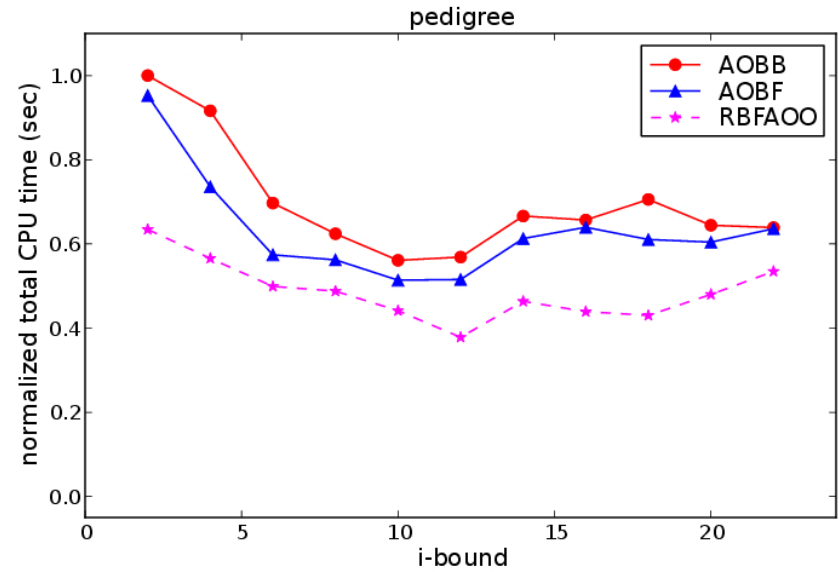
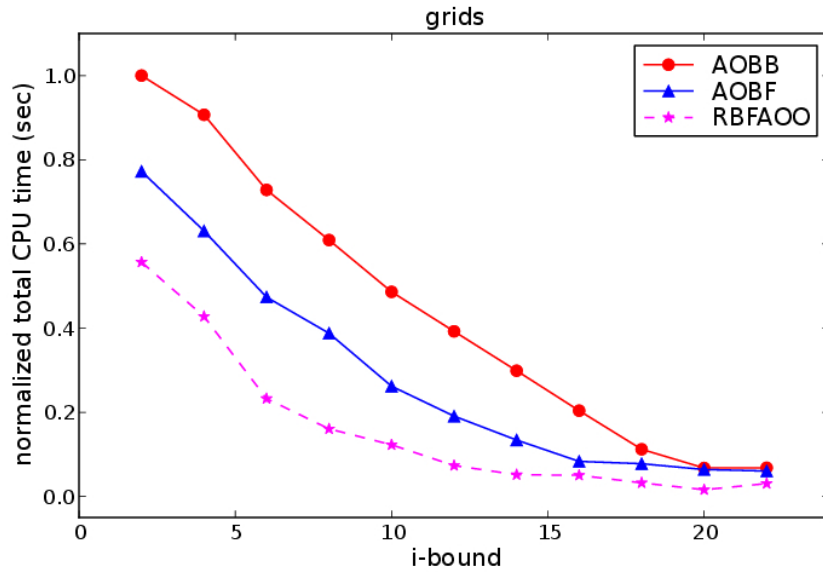
# MAP: Anytime

- AOBF, AOBB (Best-First, BnB, Recursive)
- Breadth-Rotate AND/OR BnB (Otten & Dechter, 2011)
- Weighted heuristic AND/OR search (Flerova, et. Al, 2014)
- Parallel AOBB (Otten et. Al., 2012)
- Look-ahead AOBB and AOBF (Lam, at. Al, 2016)
- Finding m-best solutions (Flerova et. Al, 2015)

- *Memory, Time, Accuracy*
- *Extensive empirical evaluation of upper-bound*
- *Won 2 UAI competitions*



# Empirical Evaluation; Exact

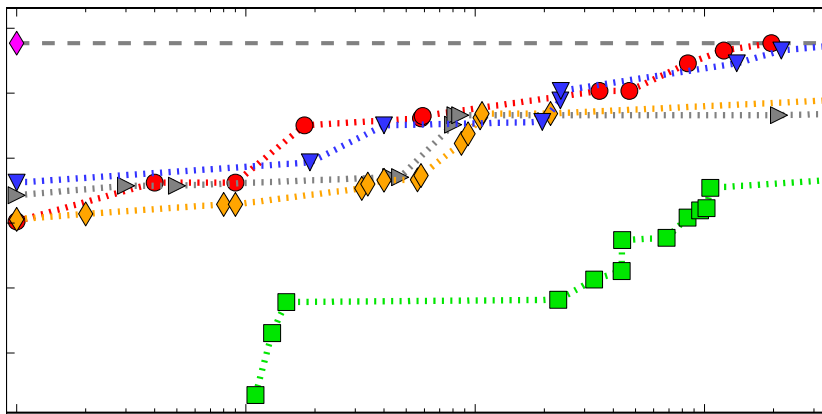


***Exact MAP inference. Grid and Pedigree benchmarks. Time limit 1 hour.***



# Empirical Evaluation; Anytime: Haplotype problems

edigree31 (n=1183 k=5 w=30 h=85) i-bound=10

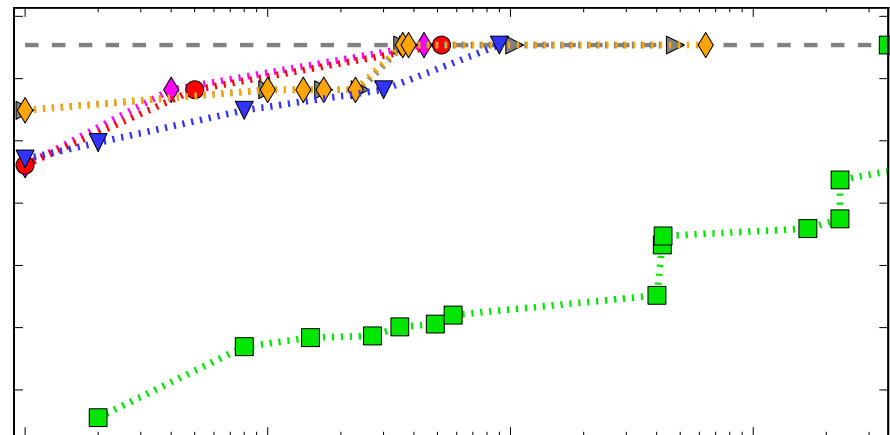


**Time bound – 24 h**  
**3 GB memory**  
**i-bound(5,10,20)**

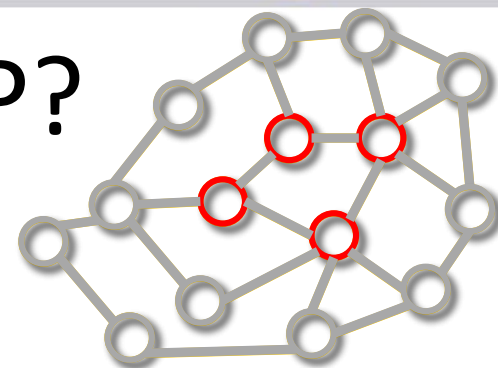


**AOBB-MBE:**  
**AOBB-MBE+MM**  
**AOBB-FGLP+MBE**  
**AOBB-JGLP**

3 k=5 w=30 h=85) i-bound=15



# MMAP: Why Marginal MAP?



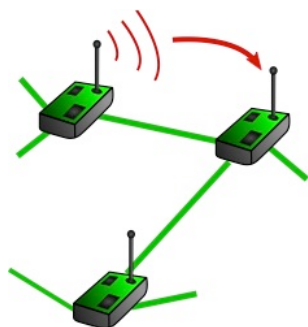
- Often, Marginal MAP is the “right” task:
  - We have a model describing a large system
  - We care about predicting the state of some part

- Example: decision making

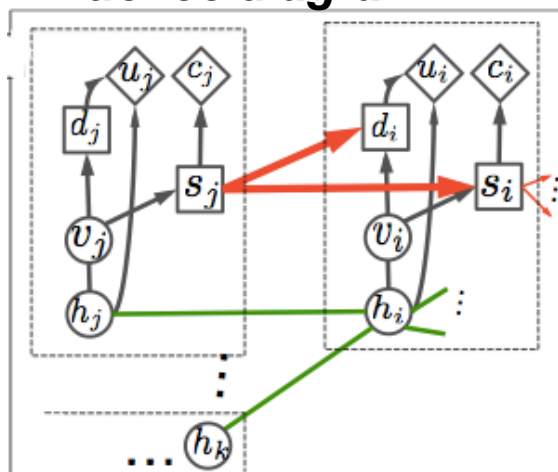
- Sum over random variables (random effects, etc.)
- Max over decision variables (specify action policies)

$$\mathbf{x}_B^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}_B} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_A} \prod_{\alpha} \psi(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha})$$

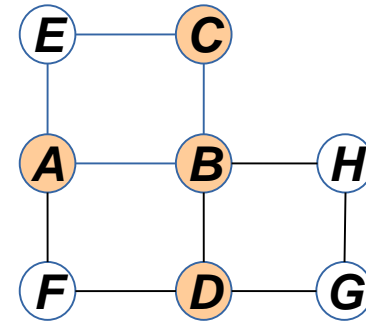
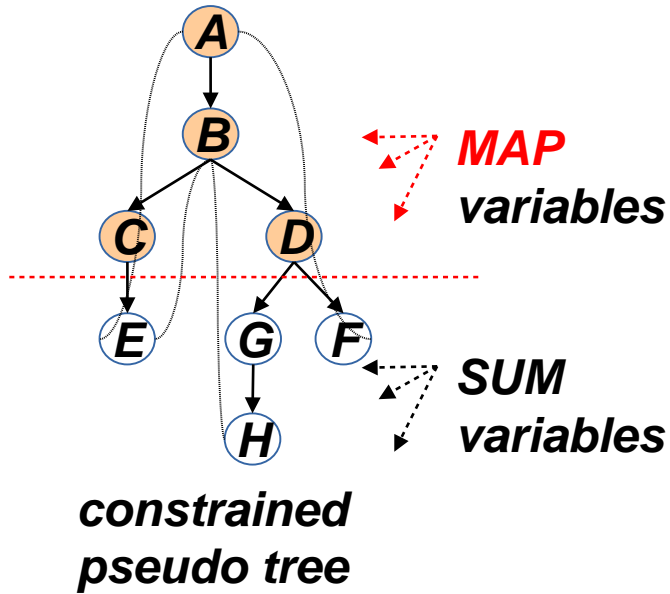
**Sensor network**



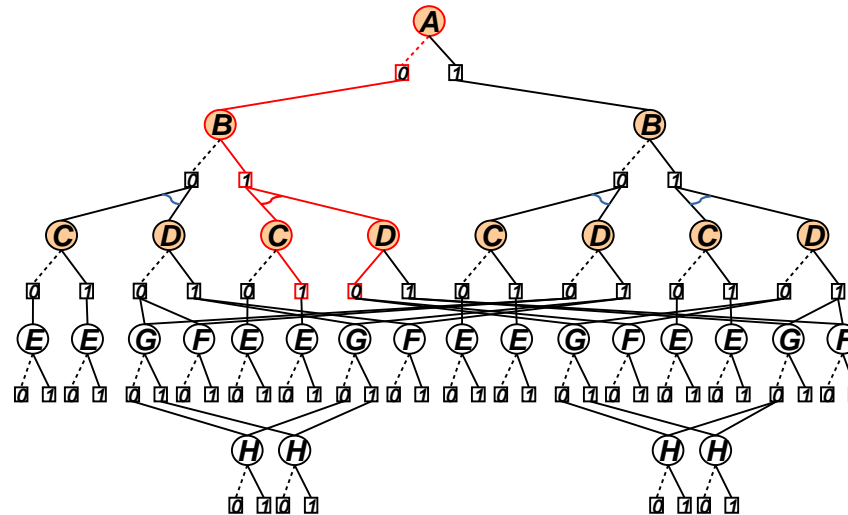
**Influence diagram:**



# MMAP: AND/OR Search Spaces for MMAP



**primal**  
 $X_M = \{A, B, C, D\}$   
 $X_S = \{E, F, G, H\}$



# Marginal Map results

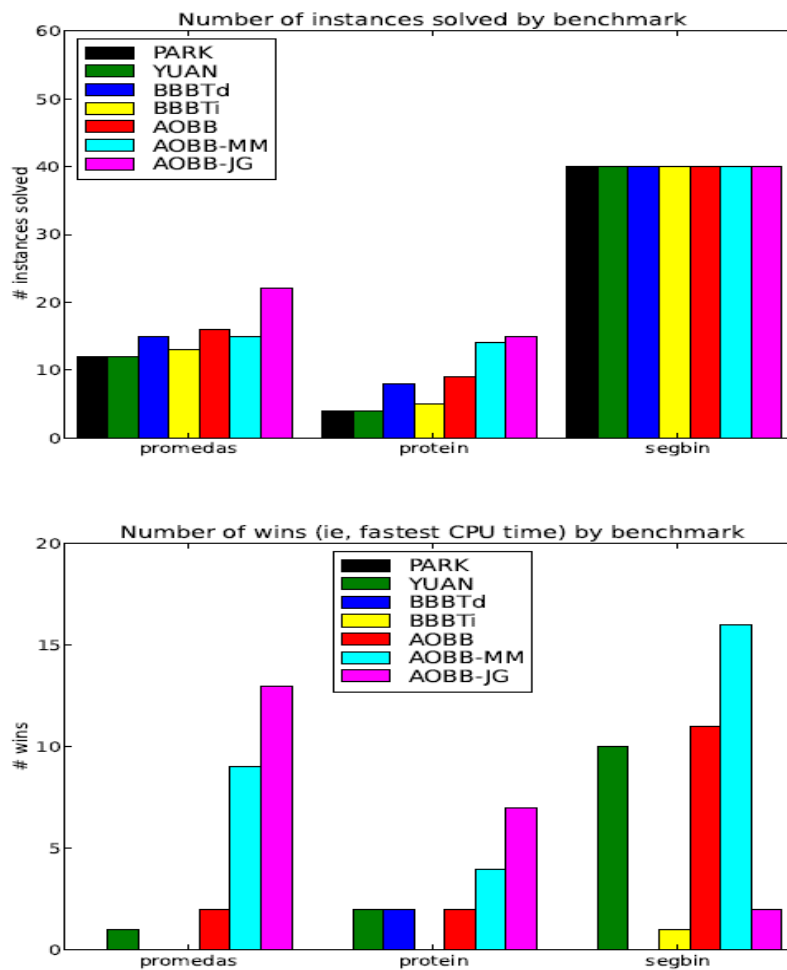


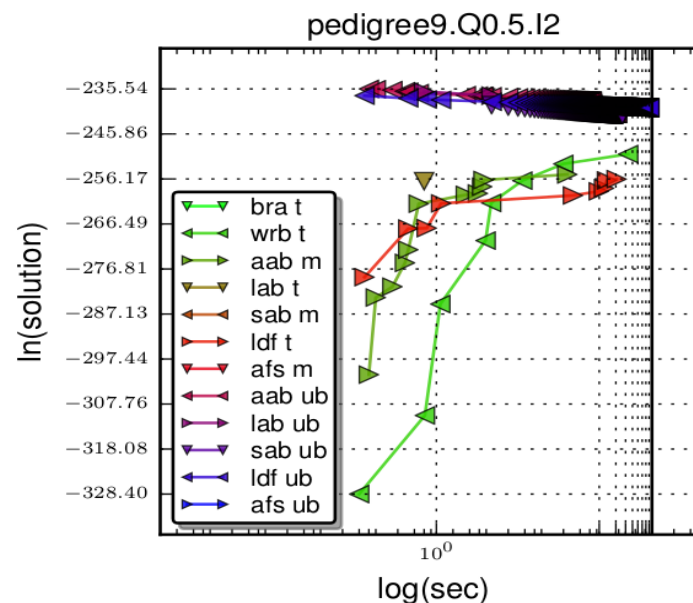
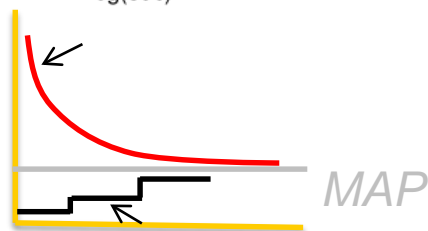
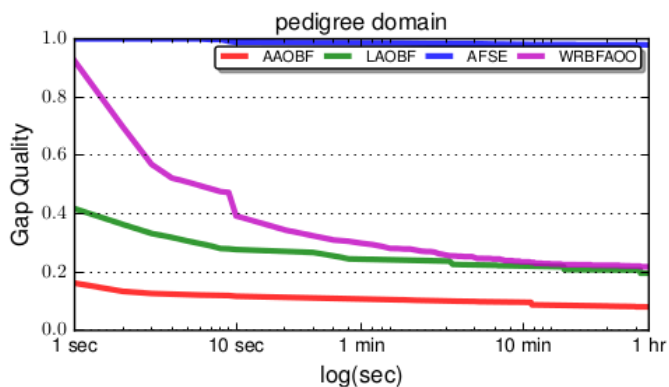
Figure 5: Number of instances solved (top) and number of wins (bottom) by benchmark.

# Marginal MAP

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

Algorithms: AO best or depth with WMB+MM heuristic

- Balance best-first behavior, Quickly tighten upper & lower bounds
- vs depth-first behavior, Quickly find a (suboptimal) solution Series of improvements in performance





# UAI Probabilistic Inference Competitions

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

**MPE/MAP**

-  (*daoopt*)  (*merlin*)

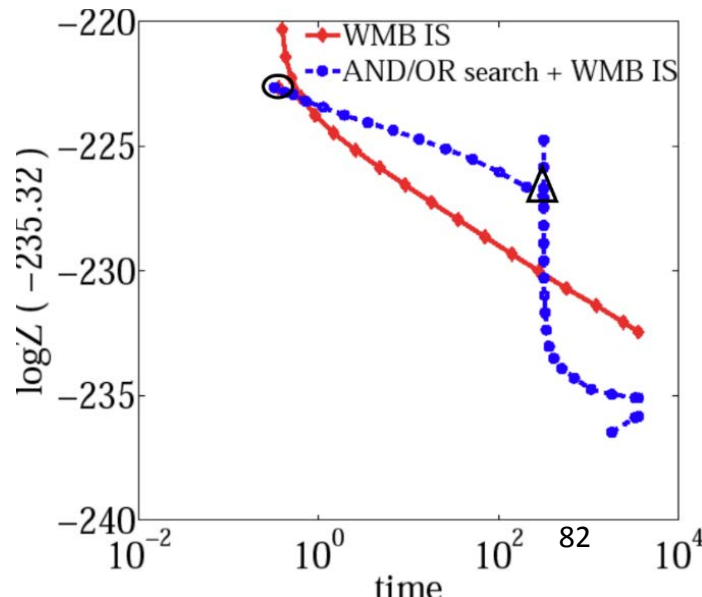
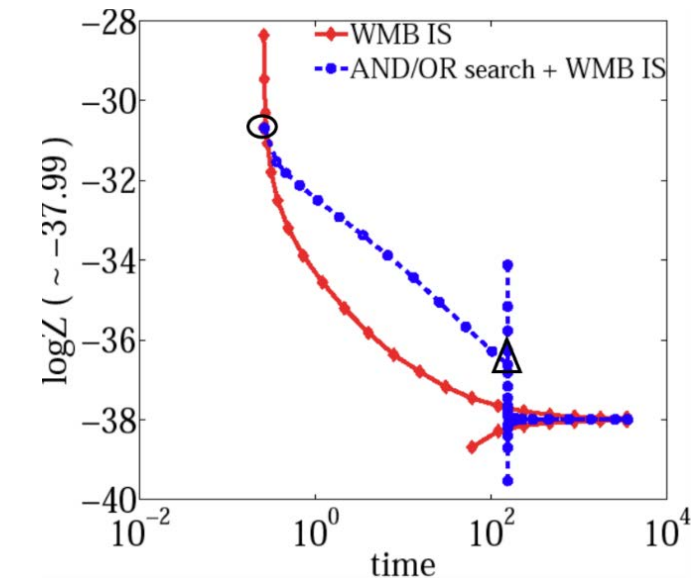
**MMA**



# Partition function

(AAAI-2017, Liu, Dechter and Ihler)

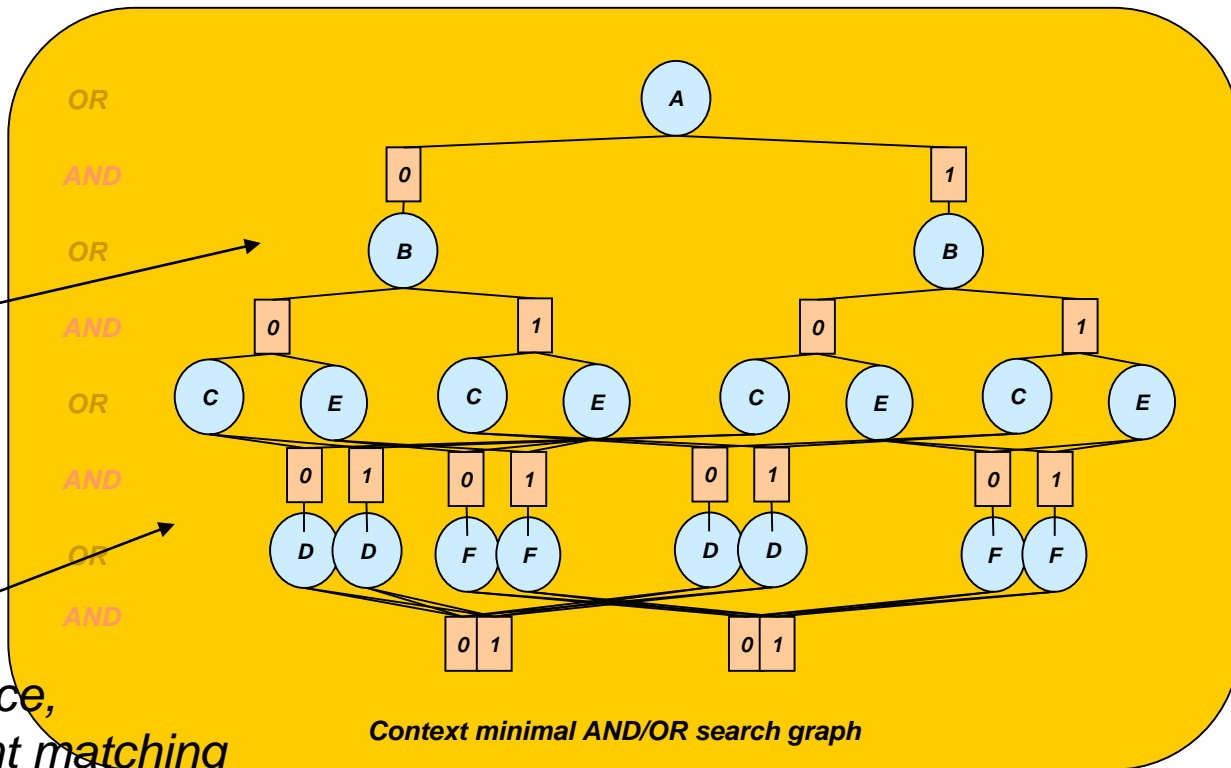
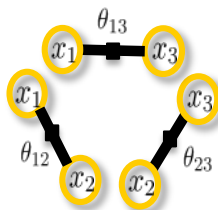
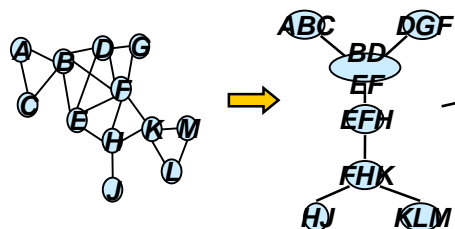
- Anytime performance
- Message-passing bounds  
Incremental construction (UAI'15a)  
Optimization algorithm (NIPS'15b)  
Use as heuristic for true anytime algorithms  
Search methods  
Memory-limited best-first (AAAI'17)  
Sampling methods  
Probabilistic bounds via IS (NIPS'15a)  
Also: discriminance sampling (UAI'15b)



# Conclusion: Search Swallows Inference

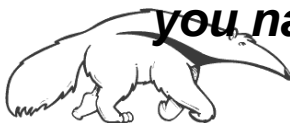
## Inference

$\exp(w^*)$  time/space



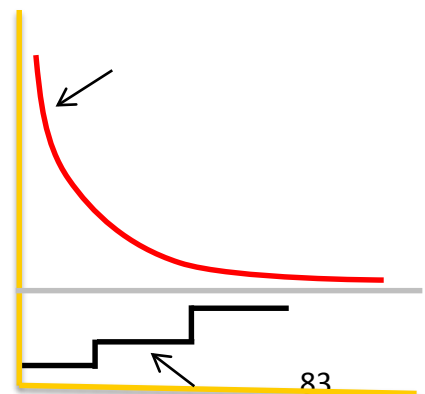
$h(n)$ : bounded inference,  
mini-buckets+ moment matching  
(exp, i-bound)

**For:**  
**MAP, MMAP, Marginals**  
**Max-expected utility,**  
**you name it**



## Anytime behavior

Best-first  $\rightarrow$  upper-bounds  
Depth-first  $\rightarrow$  lower-bounds  
Interaction prunes the space



# Software

- **aolib**

- <http://graphmod.ics.uci.edu/group/Software>

(standalone AOBB, AOBF solvers)

- **daoopt**

- <https://github.com/lotten/daoopt>

(distributed and standalone AOBB solver)

*Our solvers are being used at:*

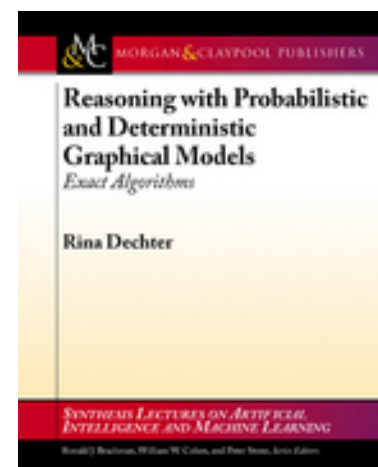
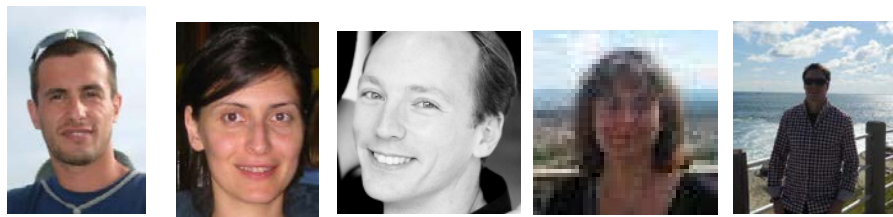
- *Super link online, software for linkage analysis (Geiger et. Al)*
- *Figaro, probabilistic language (Avi Pfeffer)*



# Thank You !

For publication see:

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



***Kalev Kask  
Irina Rish  
Bozhena Bidyuk  
Robert Mateescu  
Radu Marinescu  
Vibhav Gogate  
Emma Rollon  
Lars Otten  
Natalia Flerova  
Andrew Gelfand  
William Lam  
Junkyu Lee***