# Factor Graph Grammars for Probabilistic Modeling 

Darcey Riley<br>2021-04-22<br>Mila Computational Calculus Reading Group

## Table of Contents

1. Factor graphs and their limitations

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2. Hyperedge replacement grammars

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2. Hyperedge replacement grammars
3. Factor graph grammars

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1. Factor graphs and their limitations
2. Hyperedge replacement grammars
3. Factor graph grammars
4. Inference: an extension of variable elimination

## Table of Contents

1. Factor graphs and their limitations
2. Hyperedge replacement grammars
3. Factor graph grammars
4. Inference: an extension of variable elimination
5. Querying a factor graph grammar

## Table of Contents

1. Factor graphs and their limitations
2. Hyperedge replacement grammars
3. Factor graph grammars
4. Inference: an extension of variable elimination
5. Querying a factor graph grammar
6. Related work

## Table of Contents

1. Factor graphs and their limitations
2. Hyperedge replacement grammars
3. Factor graph grammars
4. Inference: an extension of variable elimination
5. Querying a factor graph grammar
6. Related work
7. Ongoing and future work

## Factor Graph Grammars (NeurIPS 2020)



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Chiang, David, and Darcey Riley. "Factor Graph Grammars." Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 33 (2020).

## Factor Graphs and Their Limitations

## Factor Graphs



## Factor Graphs


variables

## Factor Graphs


factors

## Factor Graphs


factors

## Factor Graphs


factors
(hyperedges)

## Factor Graphs


factors
(hyperedges)

## Computing Probabilities



## Computing Probabilities



To compute weight of assignment: multiply factors together

## Computing Probabilities




To convert weight to probability: divide by normalizing constant $Z$

## Computing Probabilities



To compute normalizing constant: sum over the weights of all assignments

## Limitations

Factor graphs are powerful...
...but they are limited by their fixed structure.


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## Limitations

Can't represent many models from NLP.
Want a probability model over all possible sentences:

The dog was eating spaghetti.
I hate getting a flat tire.
Nobody wears orange pajamas while playing the accordion.

These sentences have unbounded length.

## Limitations

## Can't represent HMMs:

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## Limitations

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Limitations

## Can't represent PCFGs:

## Limitations

## Can't represent PCFGs:



## Solution

Use hyperedge replacement grammars
(Bauderon and Courcelle, 1987; Habel and Kreowski, 1987)
to generate sets of factor graphs

Hyperedge Replacement Grammars

## Review: Context-Free (String) Grammars

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{S} \rightarrow \mathrm{TC} \\
& \mathrm{~T} \rightarrow \mathrm{aTb} \\
& \mathrm{~T} \rightarrow \epsilon \\
& \mathrm{C} \rightarrow \mathrm{cC} \\
& \mathrm{C} \rightarrow \epsilon
\end{aligned}
$$

generates the language
$\left\{\mathrm{a}^{n} \mathrm{~b}^{n} \mathrm{c}^{m} \mid n, m \geq 0\right\}$
S
TCaTbCaaTbbCaaaTbbbCaaabbbCaaabbbcCaaabbbccCaaabbbcc

## Hyperedge Replacement Grammars: Example


generates the language of ring graphs

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## Factor Graph Grammars

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A factor graph grammar
is a hyperedge replacement grammar
that generates factor graphs

## A Factor Graph Grammar for HMMs

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## A Factor Graph Grammar for HMMs



## A Factor Graph Grammar for HMMs

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow \square-\quad T_{1} \\
& \mathrm{~T}_{1}-\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{~T}_{1}-\mathrm{T}_{2}-\mathrm{X} \\
& \mathrm{~T}_{1}-\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{~T}_{1}-\square-\mathrm{T}_{2}-\square
\end{aligned}
$$

## A Factor Graph Grammar for HMMs



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## A Factor Graph Grammar for PCFGs

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## More FGG Ideas

What else can you use FGGs for?

- Linear chains of nodes
- Anything tree-shaped (phylogeny trees, abstract syntax trees)
- More grammatical formalisms (TAG, LCFRS)
- Various types of DAGs (AMRs, control flow graphs, git commit histories?)
- RNA secondary structures


## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph



## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph

H:



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H:



## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph



To compute sum-product of factor graph: sum over the weights of all assignments

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar



## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar



To compute weight of assignment: multiply factors together

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar



$$
\left.\frac{1}{Z} \times{ }^{\mathrm{T}_{0}} \times{ }^{\mathrm{T}_{0}-\mathrm{T}_{1}} \times{ }^{\mathrm{T}_{1}} \times{ }^{\mathrm{T}_{2}} \times-\mathrm{T}_{3}\right)
$$

To convert weight to probability: divide by sum-product $Z$

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar



## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar

$Z($-(6)- - (1)-a) $)$


$Z($ ar

## Sum-Product in a Factor Graph Grammar

$$
\begin{aligned}
& Z=Z(\text { a- } \\
& Z(0)+ \\
& Z(a-10)+ \\
& Z(\text { ar }
\end{aligned}
$$

To compute sum-product of factor graph grammar: sum over the sum-products of all derivations

Inference

## Inference

3 cases:

- Infinite graph language, finite variable domains: use extension of variable elimination
- Finite graph language, infinite variable domains: convert to one big factor graph
- Infinite graph language, infinite variable domains: undecideable


## Inference: Extending Variable Elimination

Can have infinite graphs, must have finite variable domains

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## Computational Complexity



Number of equations: $O\left(|G| m^{k}\right)$

- $|G|$ : number of rules
- m: max size of any variable domain
- k: max \# of nodes in RHS

Cases:

- Non-recursive: compute one at a time, $O\left(|G| m^{k}\right)$
- Linear: solve system of linear equations, $O\left(|G|^{3} m^{3(k+1)}\right)$
- Otherwise: solve iteratively


## Querying a Factor Graph Grammar

## Queries



## Queries



## Queries



## Queries



## Queries

How to observe a value for the second-to-last tag?




## Queries

How to observe a value for the second-to-last tag?




## Queries

Instead of identifying variables in the derived graph, identify variables in the grammar


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## Conjunction

Conjunction lets you modularize grammar into two halves: the original grammar and the query grammar

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## Related Work

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Lots of previous work generalizing PGMs.

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Tractable formalisms:


## Related Work

Lots of previous work generalizing PGMs.
Expressive formalisms:


## Related Work

Lots of previous work generalizing PGMs.
Factor graph grammars:

- General enough to subsume the tractable formalisms
- Simple enough to have tractable inference in many important cases


## Ongoing and Future Work

## Translating Recursive Probabilistic Programs to Factor Graph Grammars (PROBPROG 2020)



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Chiang, David, and Chung-chieh Shan. "Translating Recursive Probabilistic Programs to Factor Graph Grammars." arXiv preprint arXiv:2010.12071 (2020).

## Translating Recursive Probabilistic Programs to Factor Graph Grammars (PROBPROG 2020)

```
# sample a tree from a PCFG
fun d(x) =
    case sample p[x] of
        inl a =>
        unit
    | inr yz =>
        let u = d(fst(yz)) in
        d(snd(yz));
d(S)
```



## Future Work

- Implementation
- Approximate inference
- Better ways to query FGGs
- Automatic structure learning for FGG rules

Thank you!

## References

Michel Bauderon and Bruno Courcelle. 1987. Graph expressions and graph rewriting. Mathematical Systems Theory, 20:83-127.

Annegret Habel and Hans-Jörg Kreowski. 1987. May we introduce to you: Hyperedge replacement. In Proc. Third International Workshop on Graph Grammars and Their Application to Computer Science, pages 15-26.

