## Learning Acyclic Probabilistic Circuits Using Test Paths

Dana Angluin<sup>1</sup>, James Aspnes<sup>1</sup>, Jiang Chen<sup>2</sup>, David Eisenstat, Lev Reyzin<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Yale University <sup>2</sup>Yahoo! Inc.

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## Value Injection Queries (VIQs)

- Introduced by [AACW 'o6]
  Experiments on a hidden Circuit.
  - a gate output may be fixed
  - a gate may be left free
- Query

Т

 given an experiment, we can observe its output

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Example:

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## **Motivation for the Model**

- Model proposed in AACW 'o6 to study gene disruption and overexpression in gene interaction networks – Boolean circuits.
- Genes have more than two states: AACR '07 studied large alphabet circuits, interested in sensitivity on various parameters
- Real life circuits are often probabilistic brings us to this paper AACER '08

## (Acyclic) Probabilistic Circuits



## (Acyclic) Probabilistic Circuits



Exact VIQs

## (Acyclic) Probabilistic Circuits



## The Learning Problems

#### ε-Approximate Learning

- ε-behavioral equivalence: Circuits C and C' are ε-behaviorally equivalent if for any experiment s, d(C(s)-C'(s)) < ε.</li>
  - d(C(s)-C'(s)) is a notion of statistical distance
- The problem: Given query access to a hidden circuit C\*, find a circuit C ε-behaviorally equivalent to C\* by making value-injection queries.

#### Exact Learning

- behavioral equivalence: Two circuits C and C' are behaviorally equivalent if for any experiment s, C(s)=C'(s).
- The problem: Given query access to a hidden circuit C\*, find a circuit C behaviorally equivalent to C\* by making exact value-injection queries.

### **Previous Work**

Circuit	Fan-in	Topology	Gates	VIQ Learnability
Boolean	2	arbitrary	AND/OR	NP-Hard
Boolean	unbounded	constant depth	$AND/OR/\Theta_{_2}$	NP-Hard
Boolean	constant	log depth	arbitrary	Poly-time
Large ∑	constant	log depth	arbitrary	W(1) Hard in shortcut width
Large ∑	constant	bounded shortcut width	arbitrary	Poly-time
Analog	constant	bounded shortcut width	arbitrary	Poly-time approximate

## **Talk Outline / Main Results**

- The Test Path Lemma
- Boolean Probabilistic Circuits
  - Approximately Learnable
- Larger Alphabet Probabilistic Circuits
  - Not Learnable Using Test Paths
  - Learnable with Function Injection Queries

## **Talk Outline / Main Results**

- The Test Path Lemma
- Boolean Probabilistic Circuits
   Approximately Learnable

If nothing else, I want to show you how probabilistic circuits behave differently than you might expect

- Larger Alphabet Probabilistic Circuits
  - Not Learnable Using Test Paths
  - Learnable with Function Injection Queries

### **The Test Path Lemma**

- A test path for a wire w is a value injection experiment in which the free gates form a directed path in the circuit graph from w to the output wire. All the other wires in the circuit are fixed, including the inputs of w.
- The test path lemma: Let C be a deterministic circuit. If for some value injection experiment e, wire w and alphabet symbols σ and τ it is the case that C(p|<sub>w=σ</sub>) = C(p|<sub>w=τ</sub>) Then for every test path p < e, then also C(e|<sub>w=σ</sub>) = C(e|<sub>w=τ</sub>).

















#### **Attenuation of Signal in Test Paths**

Let  $G(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4) = ((1-w_1)+2w_2+2w_3+2w_4)/7$ 



## **Exponential Attenuation**



#### **Exponential Attenuation**



## **Boolean Probabilistic Circuits**

- Positive Result for Boolean Probabilistic Circuits:
  - There is a nonadaptive learning algorithm that with probability at least (1 δ) ε-approximately learns any Boolean probabilistic circuit w/ n wires, constant fan-in and depth c log n using value injection queries in time bounded by a polynomial in n, 1/ ε and log(1/ δ).

## **Boolean Probabilistic Circuits**

- Positive Result for Boolean Probabilistic Circuits:
  - There is a nonadaptive learning algorithm that with probability at least (1 δ) ε-approximately learns any Boolean probabilistic circuit w/ n wires, constant fanin and log n depth using value injection queries in time bounded by a polynomial in n, 1/ ε and log(1/ δ).
- Proof idea:
  - The test paths lemma still holds (with some attenuation)
  - The test paths approximately determine the function of the circuit. Collect all possible test paths (of log depth) and put them into CircuitBuilder (AACW '06)

#### Larger Alphabet Probabilistic Circuits

- Lets consider probabilistic circuits that have gates that operate on more than two alphabet symbols.
- What happens to the test path lemma in the large alphabet, probabilistic case?

#### Test Paths Fail (Completely) for $|\sum|>2$



T(00)=T(11)=	$U(\{00,11\})$	
T(01)=T(10) =	U({01,10})	
L(00)=L(01)=	00	
L(10)=L(11)=	01	
R(00)=R(10)=	00	
R(01)=R(11)=	01	
X(ab,cd)=	o(b⊗d)	

## **Function Injection Queries**

- An alphabet transformation is a function f that maps symbols to distribution over symbols.
- A function injection experiment is a mapping that for each wire either leaves it free, assigns it an alphabet symbol, or assigns a transformation f.
- A function injection query (FIQ) takes a function injection experiment and returns the symbol assigned to the output wire.

## Learning Large Alphabet Circuits

- A 2-partition experiment is a function injection experiment in which every alphabet transformation is a 2-partition.
- By using 2-partition experiments, we can "smash" the large alphabet circuits back to the Boolean case.
  - We get same positive learnability results for probabilistic large alphabet circuits using FIQs as we have for probabilistic Boolean circuits using VIQs.

## **Open Problems**

- Can we learn large alphabet probabilistic circuits without using test paths? This seems very hard to approach...
- Can "NOT injections" help?
- We can study other variants of this model, for example social networks (AAR ' o8)

## **Summary and Discussion**

- Test paths are a useful tool for learning circuits!
- Learnability (once again) surprisingly sensitive to small changes in parameters.
- We have an interesting model in which we made progress in learning probabilistic circuits/ Bayesian Networks

#### **Results Table**

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Analog	constant	bounded shortcut width	arbitrary	Poly-time approximate
Probabilistic Boolean	constant	log depth	arbitrary	Poly-time approximate
Probabilistic Large ∑	constant	log depth	arbitrary	Poly-time w/ FIQs ??? w/ VIQs
Probabilistic cyclic!	Unbounded	arbitrary	independent cascade	Poly-time w/ exact VIQs

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