

PATTERN GRAPH: A GRAPHICAL APPROACH TO NONMONOTONE MISSING DATA

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- Joint work with Mauricio Sadinle
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A typical missing data

ID	L_1	L_2	L_3
1	15	20	NA
2	12	NA	NA
3	NA	43	35
4	11	25	NA
5	NA	37	NA
6	15	23	32
7	NA	27	35

Probability model under missingness

- The variable of interest (also called a study variable) is a random variable $L = (L_1, \dots, L_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$.
- We represent the missingness of L using a binary response vector $R \in \{0, 1\}^d$.
- $R_j = 1$ if L_j is observed.

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- The joint distribution of (L, R) , $F(\ell, r)$, is called the full-data distribution. The corresponding density $p(\ell, r)$ is called full-data density.
- We are often interested in some characteristic of $F(\ell)$, the distribution of L .

Response indicator

ID	L_1	L_2	L_3	R
1	15	20	NA	110
2	12	NA	NA	100
3	NA	43	35	011
4	11	25	NA	110
5	NA	37	NA	101
6	15	23	32	111
7	NA	27	35	011

Challenge of missing data

- A challenge in missing data is that $F(\ell)$ or $F(\ell, r)$ or $p(\ell, r)$ are often unidentifiable.
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- We denote $\bar{R} = 1_d - R$ as flipping 0 and 1 in R . Then, $L_{\bar{R}}$ is the unobserved variables under pattern R .
- The challenge of missing data comes from the fact that the PDF

$$p(\ell|R = r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}, \ell_r|R = r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)p(\ell_r|R = r)$$

involves unobserved part $p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)$.

Response indicator, again

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- **Selection models (SMs):** attempt to identify the selection probability (missing data mechanism)

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$$\theta_0 = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)) = \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{\theta(L)I(R = 1_d)}{\pi(L)}\right), \pi(L) = P(R = 1_d|L).$$

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- If we can identify $\pi(L) = P(R = 1_d|L)$, we can construct an inverse probability weighting (IPW) estimator

$$\hat{\theta}_0 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\theta(L_i)I(R_i = 1_d)}{\pi(L_i)}.$$

Note that here $(L_1, R_1), \dots, (L_n, R_n)$ denotes the observed study variable and its response pattern of different individuals.

Strategy in missing data: missing at random

- Missing completely at random (MCAR):

$$P(R = r|L) = P(R = r).$$

- Missing at random (MAR; [Little and Rubin 2002](#)):

$$P(R = r|L) = P(R = r|L_r).$$

- Missing not at random (MNAR) is the case where the probability $P(R = r|L)$ may depend on the unobserved $L_{\bar{r}}$.
- In this talk, the identifying restrictions we construct are mostly MNAR.

- **Pattern mixture models (PMMs):** decompose the full-data density via

$$p(\ell, r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)p(\ell_r|R = r)P(R = r).$$

- $p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)$: the extrapolation density (unidentifiable).
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- We attempt to identify $p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)$ by making assumptions.
- Complete-case missing value (CCMV; [Little 1993](#) and [Tchetgen et al. 2016](#)) restriction:

$$p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = 1_d).$$

Pattern graphs and identification

Regular pattern graph

- Let $\mathcal{R} \subset \{0, 1\}^d$ is the response set that $P(R \in \mathcal{R}) = 1$.
- A pattern graph is a directed graph G with vertex set being \mathcal{R} .
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- A node/vertex of a graph is called a *source* if it has no parents.
- For two patterns $s, r \in \{0, 1\}^d$, we write $r > s$ if $r_j \geq s_j$ for all j and there is at least one coordinate j^* such that $r_{j^*} > s_{j^*}$.

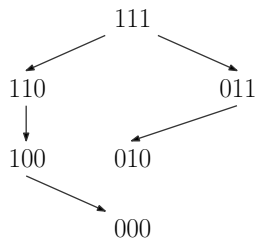
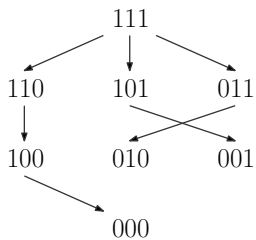
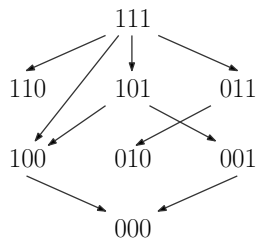
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 - (G1) pattern $1_d = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$ is the only source.
 - (G2) if $s \rightarrow r$, then $s > r$.

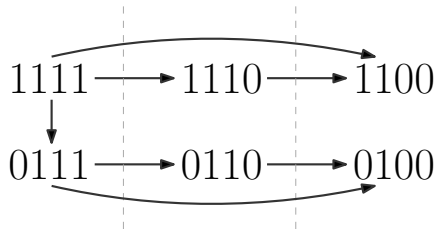
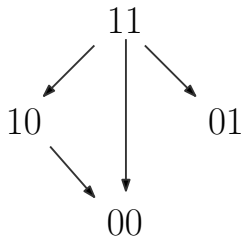
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 - (G2) if $s \rightarrow r$, then $s > r$.
- (G2) implies that the resulting graph is a directed acyclic graph (DAG).

Examples of regular pattern graphs



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Pattern graph and selection odds model

- We say that **the selection odds model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to G** if

$$\frac{P(R = r|L)}{P(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r|L)} = \frac{P(R = r|L_r)}{P(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r|L_r)} \equiv O_r(L_r).$$

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- The selection odds model implies

$$P(R = r|L) = \sum_{s \in \mathbf{PA}_r} P(R = s|L)O_r(L_r).$$

The chance of observing a particular pattern equals the summation of all its parents' probability multiplied by an observed factor $O_r(L_r)$.

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- Note: pattern graphs are not the conventional graphical model!

Theorem

Suppose that the selection odds model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to a regular pattern graph G . Let $Q_r(L) = \frac{P(R=r|L)}{P(R=1_d|L)}$ and $Q_{1_d}(L) = 1$. Then $\pi(L)$ is identifiable and is defined via

$$\pi(L) = \frac{1}{\sum_r Q_r(L)}, \quad Q_r(L) = O_r(L_r) \sum_{s \in \text{PA}_r} Q_s(L).$$

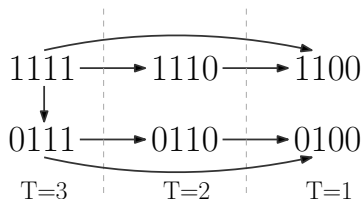
- This provides a recursive approach to identify $\pi(L)$.

Example: Conditional MAR

- Let $L = (Z, Y_1, Y_2, Y_3)$ where Z is a covariate and Y_t is measured at different time points. Also, we define $R_z = R_1$ and $T = R_2 + R_3 + R_4$.
- Both Z and Y_t are subject to missing and the missingness of Y_t is monotone.

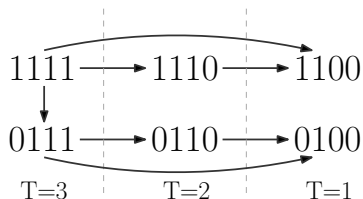
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- Then the above pattern graph implies the following conditional MAR:

$$P(T = t | R_z = 1, L) = P(T = t | R_z = 1, Z, Y_1, \dots, Y_t), \quad t = 1, 2, 3$$

$$P(T = t | R_z = 0, L) = P(T = t | R_z = 0, Y_1, \dots, Y_t), \quad t = 1, 2, 3$$

$$P(R_z = 0 | T = 3, L) = P(R_z = 1 | T = 3, L) \cdot \frac{P(R_z = 0 | T = 3, Y_1, Y_2, Y_3)}{P(R_z = 1 | T = 3, Y_1, Y_2, Y_3)}$$

Path identification interpretation -1

- A (directed) path Ξ in a graph G is a set of vertices $r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots, r_k$ such that the edge $r_t \rightarrow r_{t+1}$ exists in G .

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Theorem

Suppose that the selection odds model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to a regular pattern graph G . Then

$$1 = \sum_{\Xi \in \Pi} \pi(L) \prod_{s \in \Xi} O_s(L_s)$$
$$P(R = r|L) = \sum_{\Xi \in \Pi_r} \pi(L) \prod_{s \in \Xi} O_s(L_s)$$

Path identification interpretation -2

- The two equations

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show an interesting interpretation.

- First, for $\Xi \in \Pi$, we can interpret

$$\pi(L) \prod_{s \in \Xi} O_s(L_s) = \kappa(\Xi|L)$$

as the probability of selecting Ξ from Π .

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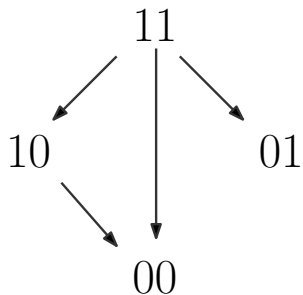
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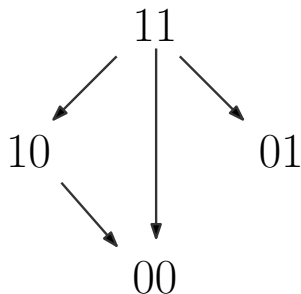
as the probability of selecting Ξ from Π .

- Then the second equation implies $P(R = r|L) = \sum_{\Xi \in \Pi_r} \kappa(\Xi|L)$, i.e., $P(R = r|L)$ is the summation of contributions from all paths ending at r .

Path identification: an example



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- There are 5 paths and each corresponds to probability:

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 11|L) = \pi(L)$$

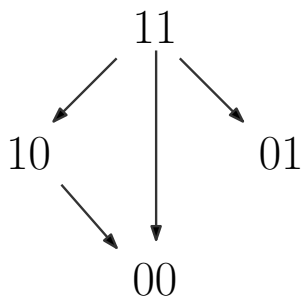
$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 10|L) = \pi(L)O_{10}(L_{10})$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 01|L) = \pi(L)O_{01}(L_{01})$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 00|L) = \pi(L)O_{00}(L_{00})$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 00|L) = \pi(L)O_{10}(L_{10})O_{00}(L_{00})$$

Path identification: an example



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$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 11|L) = \pi(L)$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 10|L) = \pi(L)O_{10}(L_{10})$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 01|L) = \pi(L)O_{01}(L_{01})$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 00|L) = \pi(L)O_{00}(L_{00})$$

$$\kappa(11 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 00|L) = \pi(L)O_{10}(L_{10})O_{00}(L_{00})$$

- So the chance of observing each pattern is

$$P(R = 11|L) = \pi(L), \quad P(R = 10|L) = \pi(L)O_{10}(L_{10}),$$

$$P(R = 01|L) = \pi(L)O_{01}(L_{01})$$

$$P(R = 00|L) = \pi(L)O_{00}(L_{00}) + \pi(L)O_{10}(L_{10})O_{00}(L_{00}).$$

- Recall that PMMs decompose the joint density via

$$p(\ell, r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)p(\ell_r|R = r)P(R = r).$$

- $p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r)$: the extrapolation density (unidentifiable).
- $p(\ell_r|R = r)P(R = r)$: the observed-data density (identifiable).
- Strategy of PMMs: try to identify the extrapolation density.

Pattern graph and pattern mixture model - 2

- We say that **the pattern mixture model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to G** if

$$p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R \in \text{PA}_r).$$

- Namely, the extrapolation density is the same as the same variables' conditional density in the parent patterns.

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Theorem

Suppose that the pattern mixture model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to a regular pattern graph G . Then the full-data density $p(\ell, r)$ is (nonparametrically) identifiable.

- Namely, we can estimate the joint distribution of (L, R) and the resulting distribution will agree with the observed data (nonparametrically identifiable).

Equivalence of the graph factorizations

Theorem

If G is a regular pattern graph and $p(\ell_r, r) > 0$ for all ℓ_r and $r \in \mathcal{R}$, then the following two statements are equivalent:

- the selection odds model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to G .*
- the pattern mixture model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to G .*

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- The condition, $p(\ell_r, r) > 0$ for all ℓ_r and $r \in \mathcal{R}$, can be viewed as a positivity condition.

Equivalence of the graph factorizations

Theorem

If G is a regular pattern graph and $p(\ell_r, r) > 0$ for all ℓ_r and $r \in \mathcal{R}$, then the following two statements are equivalent:

- the selection odds model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to G .
 - the pattern mixture model of (L, R) factorizes with respect to G .
-
- The condition, $p(\ell_r, r) > 0$ for all ℓ_r and $r \in \mathcal{R}$, can be viewed as a positivity condition.
 - Therefore, we can interpret the result using either a selection odds model perspective or a pattern mixture model perspective.
 - Note that [Robins et al. \(2000\)](#) had shown that certain selection odds models and pattern mixture models are equivalent.

Estimation with pattern graphs

IPW estimator and graph factorization - 1

- With a slight abuse of notation, the observations are denoted as

$$(L_{1,R_1}, R_1), \dots, (L_{n,R_n}, R_n).$$

- Recall that the IPW estimator is

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\theta(L_i)I(R_i = 1_d)}{\pi(L_i)}.$$

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- This can be done by applying a generative classifier or a regression model comparing two classes

$$R = r \text{ v.s. } R \in \text{PA}_r$$

using only the variables L_r .

IPW estimator and graph factorization - 2

- Let $\widehat{O}(L_r) = O(L_r; \widehat{\eta}_r)$ be the estimated odds and $\widehat{\eta}_r \in \Theta_r$ is the corresponding parameter.
- Note: logistic regression leads to $O(L_r; \widehat{\eta}_r) = \exp(L_r^T \widehat{\eta}_r)$.

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Theorem

Suppose that parametric models are correctly specified. Then under regularity conditions,

$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\theta}_{\text{IPW}} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} N(0, \sigma_{\text{IPW}}^2).$$

Recursive computation of $\widehat{\pi}(L)$

- Here is a simple approach to compute $\widehat{\pi}(L)$ from estimators $\widehat{O}_r(L_r)$ (not limited to parametric models).
- Recall that

$$\widehat{\pi}(L) = \frac{1}{\sum_r \widehat{Q}_r(L)}, \quad \widehat{Q}_r(L) = \widehat{O}_r(L_r) \sum_{s \in \text{PA}_r} \widehat{Q}_s(L)$$

and $\widehat{Q}_{1_d}(L) = 1$.

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- We first evaluate $\widehat{O}_r(L_r)$ for each r .

Recursive computation of $\widehat{\pi}(L)$

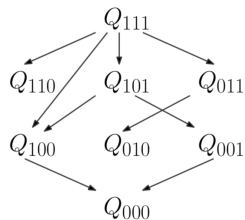
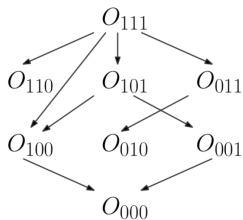
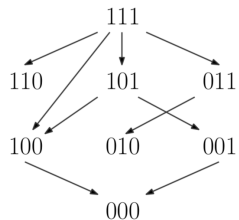
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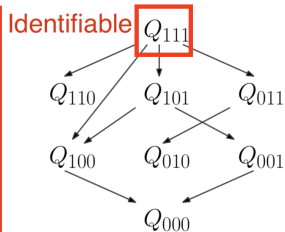
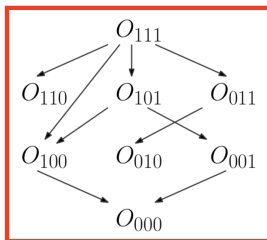
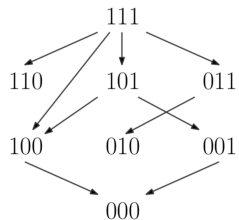
- We first evaluate $\widehat{O}_r(L_r)$ for each r .
- Then we sequentially compute $\widehat{Q}_r(L)$ for $|r| = d - 1, d - 2, \dots, 1$ using the recursive relation where $|r| = \sum_j r_j$ is the number of observed patterns.

Graphical representation of the recursive computation



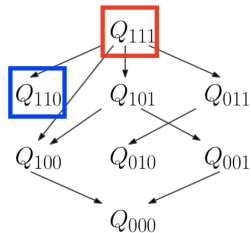
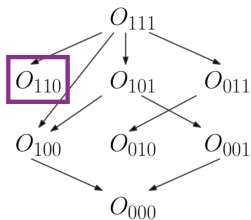
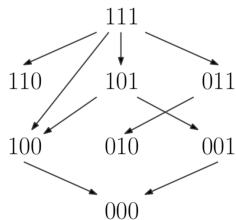
- Consider the above graph and the corresponding O_r, Q_r .

Graphical representation of the recursive computation



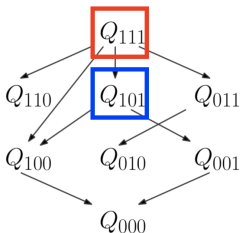
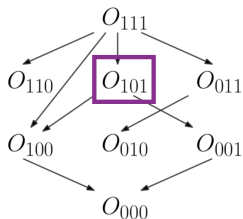
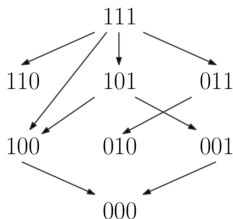
- All these quantities are identifiable/computable ($Q_{111}(L) = 1$).

Graphical representation of the recursive computation



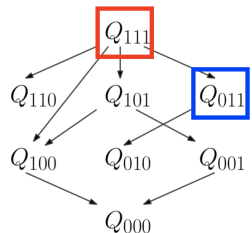
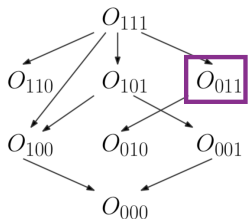
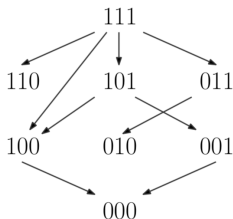
- We compute Q_r using the **parent(s)** and the **selection odds**.

Graphical representation of the recursive computation



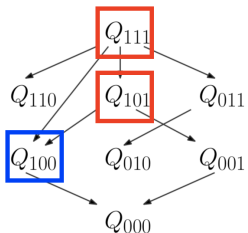
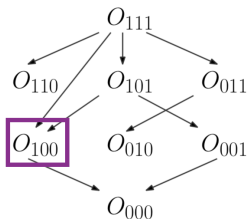
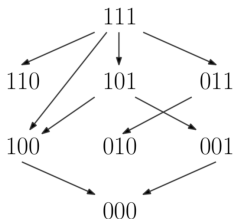
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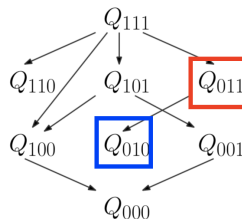
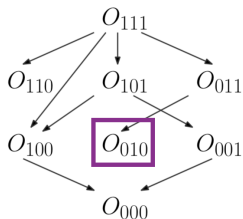
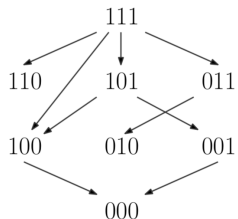
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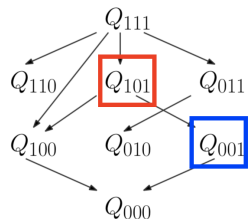
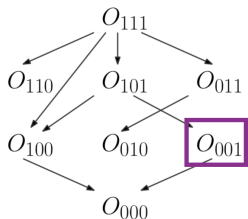
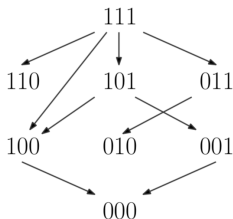
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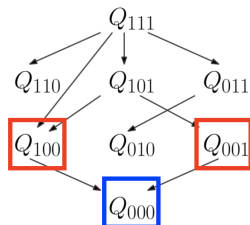
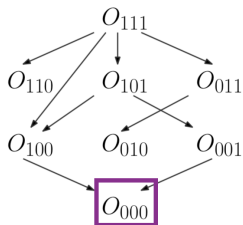
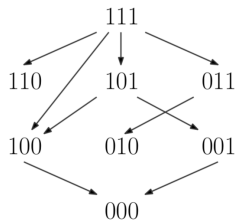
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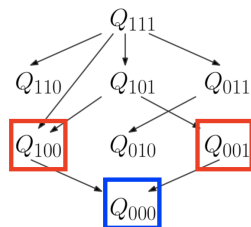
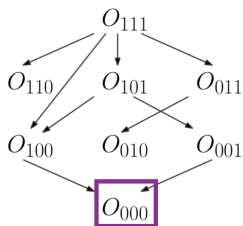
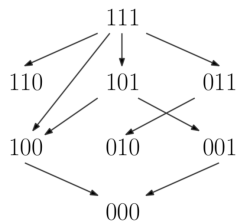
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Graphical representation of the recursive computation



- Having computed all Q_r , we can compute $\pi(L) = \frac{1}{\sum_r Q_r}$.

- It is known that we can improve the efficiency of the IPW via augmentation ([Tsiatis 2007](#)).

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- A general form of augmentation is

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- Because we are modeling the selection odds to be observable, consider another augmentation:

$$\frac{\theta(L)I(R = 1_d)}{\pi(L)} + \sum_{r \neq 1_d} (I(R = r) - O_r(L_r)I(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r))\phi_r(L_r),$$

where $\mathbb{E}(\phi_r^2(L_r)) < \infty$ for each r .

- All possible augmentations:

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ \frac{\theta(L)I(R = 1_d)}{\pi(L)} + \Psi(L_R, R) : \mathbb{E}(\Psi(L_R, R)) = 0, \mathbb{E}(\Psi^2(L_R, R)) < \infty \right\}.$$

- Augmentations using selection odds:

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ \frac{\theta(L)I(R = 1_d)}{\pi(L)} + \sum_{r \neq 1_d} (I(R = r) - O_r(L_r)I(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r))\phi_r(L_r) : \mathbb{E}(\phi_r^2(L_r)) < \infty \right\}.$$

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Theorem

Suppose that (L, R) factorizes with respect to a regular pattern graph and $p(\ell_r, r) > 0$ for all ℓ_r and $r \in \mathcal{R}$. Then $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{F}$.

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- The challenge comes from the product of indicator functions $I(R = r)$ and $I(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r)$.
- To show the augmentation improves the efficiency, we consider the case that we only augment it with one term:

$$\frac{\theta(L)I(R = 1_d)}{\pi(L)} + (I(R = r) - O_r(L_r)I(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r))\phi_r(L_r).$$

- Augmentation with one term:

$$\mathcal{F}_r = \left\{ \frac{\theta(L)I(R = 1_d)}{\pi(L)} + (I(R = r) - O_r(L_r)I(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r))\phi_r(L_r) : \mathbb{E}(\phi_r^2(L_r)) < \infty \right\}.$$

Improving efficiency - 2

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Theorem

Assume (L, R) factorizes with respect to a regular pattern graph G . Let \mathcal{F}_r be defined as the above. Then the choice

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_r^*(L_r) &= -\frac{\mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_r)}{P(R \in \{r\} \cup \mathbf{PA}_r|L_r)} I(1_d \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \\ &= -\frac{\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{\theta(L)}{\pi(L)}|L_r, R = 1_d\right) \pi(L_r)}{P(R \in \{r\} \cup \mathbf{PA}_r|L_r)} I(1_d \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \end{aligned}$$

leads to the most efficient estimator in \mathcal{F}_r .

- An equivalent expression of the optimal ϕ_r^* :

$$\phi_r^*(L_r) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } 1_d \notin \mathbf{PA}_r. \\ -\frac{\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{\theta(L)}{\pi(L)}|L_r, R=1_d\right)}{1+O_r(L_r)}, & \text{if } \mathbf{PA}_r = \{1_d\}. \\ -\frac{\mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_r)}{P(R \in \{r\} \cup \mathbf{PA}_r | L_r)}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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Improving efficiency - 3

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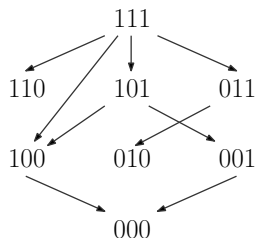
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- Note that for any patterns r that contains only one missing entry (i.e., $|r| = d - 1$), 1_d will always be its only parent.

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- If 1_d is the only parent, the augmentation has a simple and elegant form.
- Note that for any patterns r that contains only one missing entry (i.e., $|r| = d - 1$), 1_d will always be its only parent.
- The CCMV restriction is the case that 1_d is the only parent for any pattern other than 1_d .

Improving efficiency: illustration



$$\phi_r^*(L_r) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } 1_d \notin \mathbf{PA}_r. \\ -\frac{\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{\theta(L)}{\pi(L)}|L_r, R=1_d\right)}{1+O_r(L_r)}, & \text{if } \mathbf{PA}_r = \{1_d\}. \\ -\frac{\mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_r)}{P(R \in \{r\} \cup \mathbf{PA}_r | L_r)}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Augmentation via patterns 110, 101, 011 is recommended.
- Augmentation via patterns 010, 001, 000 does not help.
- Augmentation via 100 is helpful but hard to compute.

- In addition to the IPW, we can rewrite

$$\theta_0 = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)) = \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_R, R)) = \mathbb{E}(m(L_R, R)),$$

where $m(L_R, R) = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_R, R)$ is the regression function under pattern R .

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- You can show that if we use a Monte Carlo approximation to $\widehat{m}(L_{i,R_i}, R_i)$, this is identical to the multiple imputation method.

Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analysis - 1

- Sensitivity analysis attempts to perturb our identifying restrictions a bit and study how the final estimator change with respect to the perturbation.

Sensitivity analysis - 1

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- For PMMs, we can use

$$p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \exp(L_{\bar{r}}^T \delta_{\bar{r}}).$$

- Here is an interesting result—perturbing the selection odds and perturbing the pattern mixture models are equivalent.

Theorem

Let r be a response pattern and $g(\ell_{\bar{r}})$ be any function of the unobserved entries. Then the assumption

$$\frac{P(R = r|\ell)}{P(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r|\ell)} = \frac{P(R = r|\ell_r)}{P(R \in \mathbf{PA}_r|\ell_r)} \cdot g(\ell_{\bar{r}})$$

is equivalent to the assumption

$$p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R = r) = p(\ell_{\bar{r}}|\ell_r, R \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \cdot g(\ell_{\bar{r}}).$$

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Proposition

If all the study variable $L \in \mathbb{R}^d$ are subjected to missing, then there are

$$M = M_d = \prod_{k=0}^{d-1} (2^{2^{d-k}-1} - 1) \binom{d}{k}$$

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distinct graphs satisfying conditions (G1-2) .

- Here are the first few values of $M = M_d$:

$$M_1 = 1, \quad M_2 = 7, \quad M_3 = 43561, \quad M_4 > 10^{18}.$$

Sensitivity analysis: perturbing graph - 2

- Because the regular pattern graphs span a large class of identifying restriction, we can perturb the graph to perform sensitivity analysis.
- Define

$$\Delta_1 G = \{G' : |G' - G| = 1, \text{ condition (G1-2) holds for } G'\},$$

where $|G' - G| = 1$ means that the two graphs only differ by one edge (arrow).

Sensitivity analysis: perturbing graph - 2

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where $|G' - G| = 1$ means that the two graphs only differ by one edge (arrow).

- The class $\Delta_1 G$ can be decomposed into

$$\Delta_1 G = \Delta_{+1} G \cup \Delta_{-1} G,$$

where

$$\Delta_{+1} G = \{G' : |G' - G| = 1, G' \text{ is a regular pattern graph, } G \subset G'\},$$

$$\Delta_{-1} G = \{G' : |G' - G| = 1, G' \text{ is a regular pattern graph, } G' \subset G\}.$$

Proposition

Let s, r be vertices of G and $e_{s \rightarrow r}$ be the edge/arrow from s to r . We define $G \oplus e_{s \rightarrow r}$ to be the graph where edge $e_{s \rightarrow r}$ is added and $G \ominus e_{s \rightarrow r}$ to be the graph where edge $e_{s \rightarrow r}$ is moved. Then

$$\Delta_{+1}G = \{G \oplus e_{s \rightarrow r} : s > r, s \notin \mathbf{PA}_r\},$$

$$\Delta_{-1}G = \{G \ominus e_{s \rightarrow r} : s \in \mathbf{PA}_r, |\mathbf{PA}_r| > 1\}.$$

- This proposition provides a simple way to characterize the two perturbed classes of graphs.

Generalized pattern graphs and equivalence classes

Generalized pattern graphs

- A pattern graph is called a **generalized pattern graph** if
 - (G1) pattern $1_d = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$ is the only source.
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Theorem

For a graph G that satisfies (G1) and (DAG) and $p(\ell_r, r) > 0$ for all ℓ_r and $r \in \mathcal{R}$, then

- 1. selection odds model and pattern mixture model factorizations are equivalent.*
- 2. it leads to an (nonparametrically) identifiable full-data distribution.*

Generalized pattern graphs

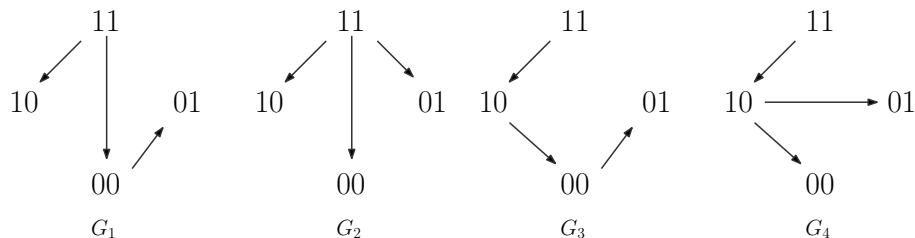
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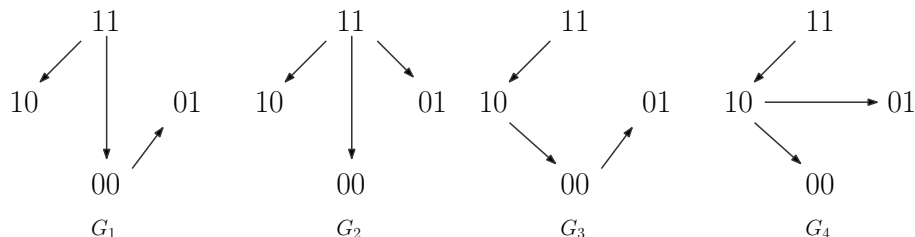
- 1. selection odds model and pattern mixture model factorizations are equivalent.*
 - 2. it leads to an (nonparametrically) identifiable full-data distribution.*
- The above theorem shows a powerful result—as long as the pattern graph has unique source 1_d and is a DAG, it can be used to represent an identifying restriction.

Example: equivalence classes



- These are generalized pattern graphs and each of them represent an identifying restriction.

Example: equivalence classes



- These are generalized pattern graphs and each of them represent an identifying restriction.
- Interestingly, G_1 and G_2 represent the same restriction; G_3 and G_4 represent the same restriction.
- Namely, G_1 and G_2 belong to the same equivalence class and G_3 and G_4 belong to another class.

Theorem

Let G be a generalized pattern graph. For a pattern r and another pattern s such that $s \neq \mathbf{PA}_r$. This graph is equivalent to the graph G' such that

$$G' = G \oplus e_{s \rightarrow r} \ominus \{e_{\tau \rightarrow r} : \tau \in \mathbf{PA}_r\}$$

if the following conditions holds

1. **(blocking)** all paths from 1_d to r intersects s .
2. **(uninformative)** for any pattern q that is on a path from s to r , $q < r$.

A characterization of equivalence classes - 2

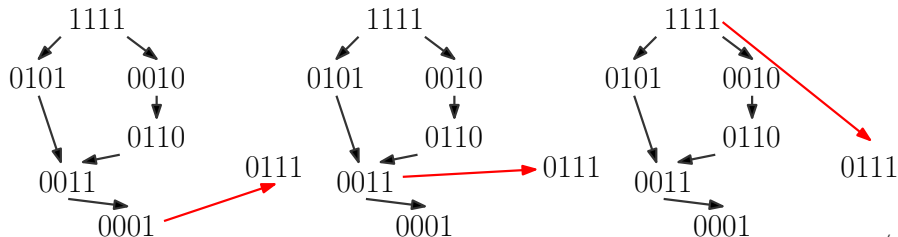
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Choice of pattern graph and PISA data - 1

- The choice of pattern graph reflects our knowledge on how the missingness is generated.
- We use the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) data at year 2009 as an example.
- It is a survey on students' ability on math, science, and literature from different countries.

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- We use the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) data at year 2009 as an example.
- It is a survey on students' ability on math, science, and literature from different countries.
- We focus on Germany and focus on three variables:
 - MATH: the math score (always observed).
 - FA: father's education level (H/L; may be missing).
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- We focus on Germany and focus on three variables:
 - MATH: the math score (always observed).
 - FA: father's education level (H/L; may be missing).
 - MA: mother's education label (H/L; may be missing).
- Here is the table of the response pattern (R_{FA}, R_{MA}):

$(R_{FA}, R_{MA}) =$	11	10	01	00
$n =$	3282	230	340	1126
Proportion =	65.9%	4.6%	6.8%	22.6%

Choice of pattern graph and PISA data - 2

- Variables FA and MA are collected by questionnaire before a student took the exam.
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- Variables FA and MA are collected by questionnaire before a student took the exam.
- Suppose that a participant is asked about father's education first and then mother's education.
- Before asking any questions, every individual is expected to answer all questions so every one start with a response pattern (1, 1). Then when asked a question, the participant will decide answer it or not.
- Then there will be 4 possible scenarios that an individual respond:

Answer FA and then answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 11 \triangleright 11$

Answer FA and then not answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 11 \triangleright 10$

Not answer FA but then answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 01 \triangleright 01$

Not answer FA and then not answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 01 \triangleright 00$

Choice of pattern graph and PISA data - 3

Answer FA and then answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 11 \triangleright 11$

$\Rightarrow \text{path} = 11 \rightarrow 11$

Answer FA and then not answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 11 \triangleright 10$

$\Rightarrow \text{path} = 11 \rightarrow 10$

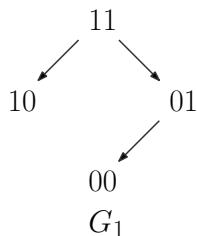
Not answer FA but then answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 01 \triangleright 01$

$\Rightarrow \text{path} = 11 \rightarrow 01$

Not answer FA and then not answer MA $\Rightarrow 11 \triangleright 01 \triangleright 00$

$\Rightarrow \text{path} = 11 \rightarrow 01 \rightarrow 00.$

- The notation \triangleright denotes the decision of answering one question or not.
- $r_1 \triangleright r_2$ will become an arrow in a DAG when $r_1 \neq r_2$.
- The only exception is the scenario that $1_d \triangleright 1_d \triangleright \dots \triangleright 1_d$; in this case we denote it as $1_d \rightarrow 1_d$.



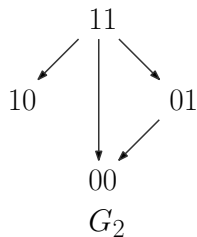
- The above plot is the pattern graph that corresponds to these scenarios:

Report FA and then report MA \Rightarrow path = 11 \rightarrow 11

Report FA and then not report MA \Rightarrow path = 11 \rightarrow 10

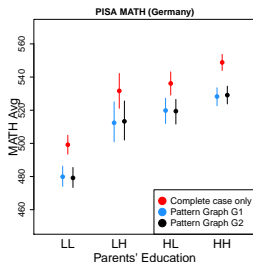
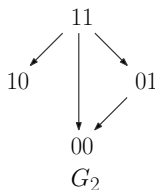
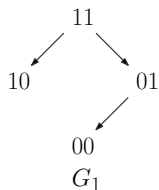
Not report FA but then report MA \Rightarrow path = 11 \rightarrow 01

Not report FA and then not report MA \Rightarrow path = 11 \rightarrow 01 \rightarrow 00.



- Suppose that there are some individuals who would skip any questions relating to parent's education level.
- This can be represented by a path $11 \rightarrow 00$.
- Then the above graph will be a better description.

Choice of pattern graph and PISA data - 6



- The left two panels show the two possible pattern graphs.
- The right panel displays the average score of mathematics, separated by different parents' education level.
- The estimator is obtained by the IPW with logistic regression; uncertainty is obtained by the bootstrap.

Conclusion

- Pattern graph provides a theoretical framework for missing data.
- Identification, interpretation, estimation, efficiency, computation, sensitivity analysis all depend on the underlying pattern graph.
- It is a new graph-based model for data analysis.
- And it opens several new research directions.
- Note again: the pattern graph is not a conventional graphical model.

- **Pattern separation and missing data:** if a set of patterns A separates B and C , what does this mean?
- **Semi-parametric inference:** how to find the underlying efficient estimator with graph-based augmentation?
- **Merging patterns to avoid small sample size:** what should we do when some pattern only has a few observations.
- **Deeper understanding on the equivalence class:** given a pattern graph, how to find other patterns in the same class?
- **Inference with multiple graphs:** what should we do if we have many identifying restrictions?

Thank You!

More details can be found in <https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.00744>.

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Assumptions on the IPW estimator

Let $\eta = (\eta_r : r \in \mathcal{R}) \in \Theta$ be any parameter value, where Θ is the total parameter space. We assume the following conditions:

(L1) there exists \underline{O}, \bar{O} such that

$$0 < \underline{O} \leq O_r(\ell_r; \eta) \leq \bar{O} < \infty$$

for all $\ell_r \in \mathcal{S}_r$ and $r \in \mathcal{R}$ and $\eta \in \Theta$.

(L2) there exists $\eta^* = (\eta_r^* : r \in \mathcal{R})$ in the interior of Θ such that

$$O_r(\ell_r; \eta^*) = \frac{P(R=r|\ell_r)}{P(R \in \text{PA}_r|\ell_r)} \text{ and}$$

$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\eta}_r - \eta_r^*) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma_r^2), \quad \int \theta^2(\ell)(O_r(\ell_r; \widehat{\eta}) - O_r(\ell_r; \eta^*))^2 F(d\ell) = o_P(1),$$

for some $\sigma_r^2 > 0$ for all r .

(L3) for every r , the class $\{f_{\eta_r}(\ell_r) = O_r(\ell_r; \eta_r) : \eta_r \in \Theta_r\}$ is a Donsker class.

(L4) for every r , the differentiation of $O_r(\ell_r; \eta_r)$ with respect to η_r ,

$$O_r'(\ell_r; \eta_r) = \nabla_{\eta_r} O_r(\ell_r; \eta_r), \text{ exists and } \int \|O_r'(\ell_r; \eta_r)\| F(d\ell_r) < \infty \text{ for a ball } B(\eta^*, \tau_0) \text{ for some } \tau_0 > 0.$$

Assumptions on the regression adjustments

The regression adjustment estimator has asymptotic normality under the following conditions:

- (R1) There exists $\lambda_r^* \in \Lambda_r$ such that the true conditional density $p(\ell_r | R = r) = p(\ell_r | R = r; \lambda_r^*)$ for every r .
- (R2) For every r , the class

$$\{f_\lambda(\ell_r) = m(\ell_r, r; \lambda) : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$$

is a Donsker class.

- (R3) For every r , $q_r(\lambda) = \mathbb{E}(m(L_r, r; \lambda)I(R = r))$ is bounded twice-differentiable and

$$\int (m(\ell_r, r; \hat{\lambda}) - m(\ell_r, r; \lambda))^2 F(d\ell_r, r) = o_P(1)$$

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\lambda}_r - \lambda_r^*) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma_r^2).$$

- In addition to the IPW, we can rewrite

$$\theta_0 = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)) = \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_R, R)) = \mathbb{E}(m(L_R, R)),$$

where $m(L_R, R) = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_R, R)$ is the regression function under pattern R .

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where $m(L_R, R) = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_R, R)$ is the regression function under pattern R .

- If we have estimator $\widehat{m}(L_R, R)$, then we can estimate the parameter of interest via

$$\widehat{\theta}_{\text{RA}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{m}(L_{i,R_i}, R_i).$$

- The regression function

$$m(L_R, R) = \mathbb{E}(\theta(L)|L_R, R) = \int \theta(\ell_{\bar{R}}, L_R) p(\ell_{\bar{R}}|L_R, R) d\ell_{\bar{R}}$$

is essentially the integral of $\theta(L)$ with respect to the extrapolation density.

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- This leads to

$$\widehat{m}(L_R, R) = \int \theta(\ell_{\bar{R}}, L_R) \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{R}}|L_R, R) d\ell_{\bar{R}}.$$

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$$\widehat{m}(L_R, R) = \int \theta(\ell_{\bar{R}}, L_R) \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{R}} | L_R, R) d\ell_{\bar{R}}$$

is hard to compute in general.

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- We generate

$$L_{\bar{R},1}^*, \dots, L_{\bar{R},N}^* \sim \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{R}} | L_R, R).$$

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- Then use the average

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \theta(L_{\bar{R},k}^*, L_R) \approx \widehat{m}(L_R, R).$$

Monte Carlo approximation and multiple imputation

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- Then use the average

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \theta(L_{\bar{R},k}^*, L_R) \approx \widehat{m}(L_R, R).$$

- You can show that this is identical to the multiple imputation method!

- The PMM factorization implies

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = r) &= \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \\ &= \sum_{s \in \mathbf{PA}_r} P(R = s | R \in \mathbf{PA}_r, L_r) \cdot \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = s).\end{aligned}$$

- The PMM factorization implies

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- Moreover,

$$\widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = s) = \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{s}}|\ell_{s-r}, L_r, R = s) \widehat{p}(\ell_{s-r}|L_r, R = s).$$

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- It implies that we first choose a parent pattern $s \in \mathbf{PA}_r$ with a probability of $P(R = s | R \in \mathbf{PA}_r, L_r)$.

Sampling from PMMs

- The PMM factorization implies

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = r) &= \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \\ &= \sum_{s \in \mathbf{PA}_r} P(R = s | R \in \mathbf{PA}_r, L_r) \cdot \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = s).\end{aligned}$$

- Moreover,

$$\widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = s) = \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{s}}|\ell_{s-r}, L_r, R = s) \widehat{p}(\ell_{s-r}|L_r, R = s).$$

- It implies that we first choose a parent pattern $s \in \mathbf{PA}_r$ with a probability of $P(R = s | R \in \mathbf{PA}_r, L_r)$.
- Then we fill-in variable ℓ_{s-r} by sampling from $\widehat{p}(\ell_{s-r}|L_r, R = s)$.

Sampling from PMMs

- The PMM factorization implies

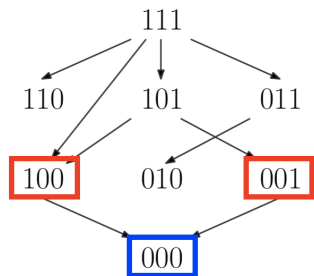
$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = r) &= \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R \in \mathbf{PA}_r) \\ &= \sum_{s \in \mathbf{PA}_r} P(R = s | R \in \mathbf{PA}_r, L_r) \cdot \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = s).\end{aligned}$$

- Moreover,

$$\widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{r}}|L_r, R = s) = \widehat{p}(\ell_{\bar{s}}|\ell_{s-r}, L_r, R = s) \widehat{p}(\ell_{s-r}|L_r, R = s).$$

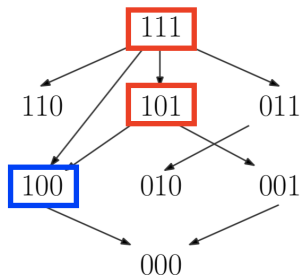
- It implies that we first choose a parent pattern $s \in \mathbf{PA}_r$ with a probability of $P(R = s | R \in \mathbf{PA}_r, L_r)$.
- Then we fill-in variable ℓ_{s-r} by sampling from $\widehat{p}(\ell_{s-r}|L_r, R = s)$.
- And treat this observation as the one with pattern $R = s$.

Illustration: sampling from PMMs



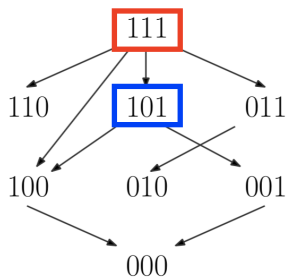
- Suppose we have an individual without any observed variables.
- It has two parents: 100 and 001 (red).
- We will randomly choose one parent as our next pattern.

Illustration: sampling from PMMs



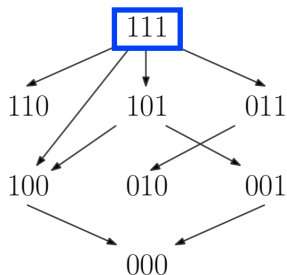
- Suppose that pattern 100 is chosen.
- We will generate variable L_{100} from $\widehat{p}(\ell_{100}|R = 100)$.
- Then we will treat this as an observation with pattern 100.
- Now we continue to randomly choose one pattern from the two parents (red).

Illustration: sampling from PMMs



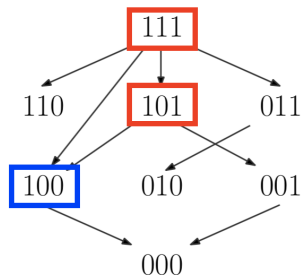
- Suppose that pattern 101 is chosen.
- We will generate variable L_{001} from $\widehat{p}(\ell_{001}|L_{100}, R = 100)$ because it is still missing.
- Then we will treat this as an observation with pattern 101.
- Now we continue to randomly choose one pattern from the parent set.

Illustration: sampling from PMMs



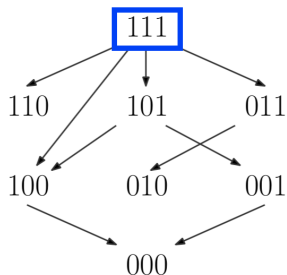
- Because there is only one parent 111, we will always move to this node.
- We generate variable L_{010} from $\widehat{p}(\ell_{010}|L_{101}, R = 111)$.
- Now the pattern is 111 so we have finished the sampling/imputation.

Illustration: sampling from PMMs



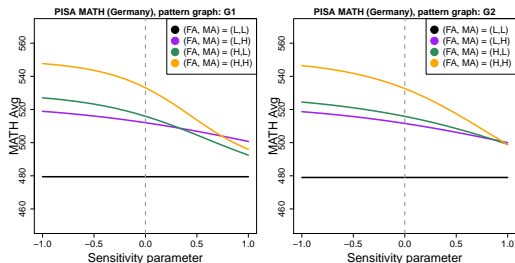
- Note that at the pattern 100, it is possible to directly move to 111.

Illustration: sampling from PMMs



- In this case, we will generate L_{011} from $\widehat{p}(\ell_{011}|L_{100}, R = 111)$.
- And the sampling/imputation process is done.

Exponential tilting on the PISA data



- We use the same sensitivity parameter for all pattern and all values, i.e., every element of $\delta_{\bar{r}}$ is the same.
- Note that because only FA and MA are subject to missing, the sensitivity parameter only applies to these two variables.
- In both panels we see that the group (L, L) is unaffected by the sensitivity parameter. This is because when both FA and MA are L (the binary representation of L is 0 and H is 1).