

# Stochastic Constraint Propagation for Mining Probabilistic Networks

Anna Louise Latour, Behrouz Babaki, Siegfried Nijssen.



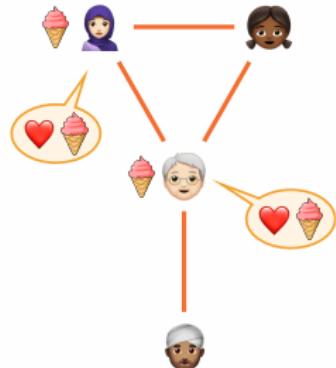
Universiteit  
Leiden  
The Netherlands



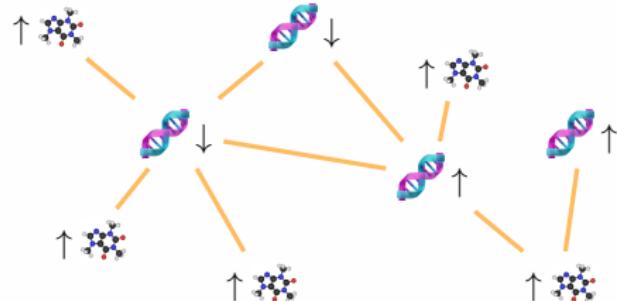
POLYTECHNIQUE  
MONTRÉAL



Viral Marketing



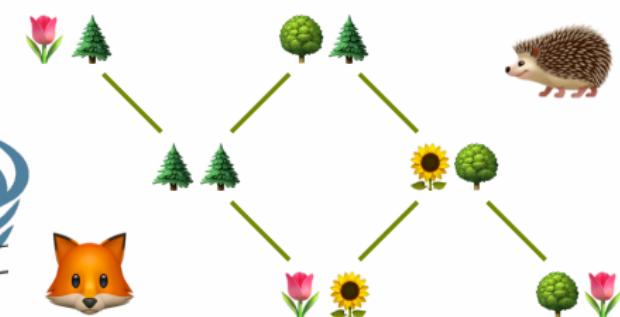
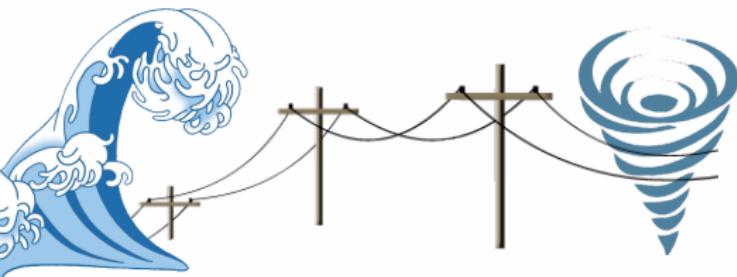
Signalling Regulatory Pathways



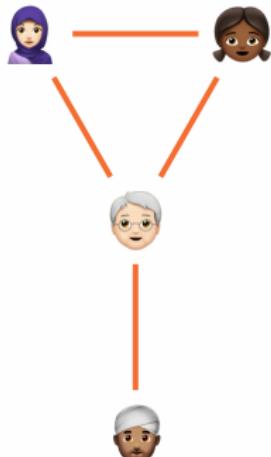
## Stochastic Constraint Optimization Problems

Landscape Connectivity

Powergrid Reliability

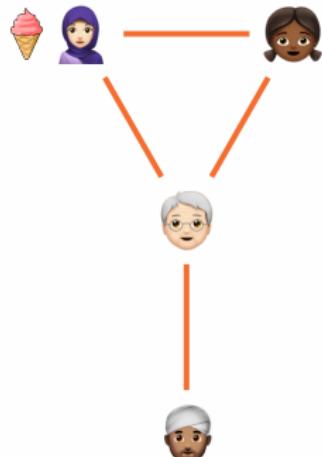


# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



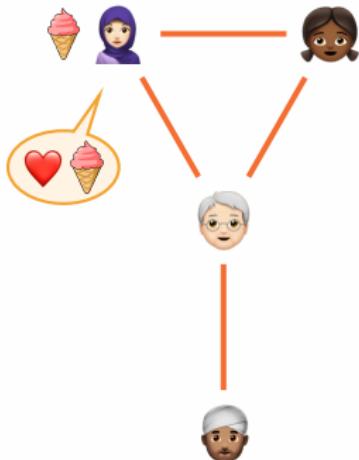
David Kempe, Jon Kleinberg, and Éva Tardos  
*Maximizing the spread of influence through a social network*  
KDD, 2003

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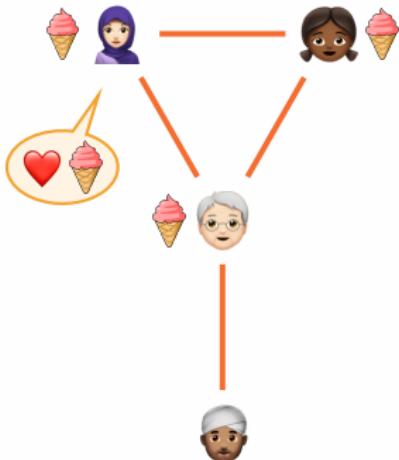
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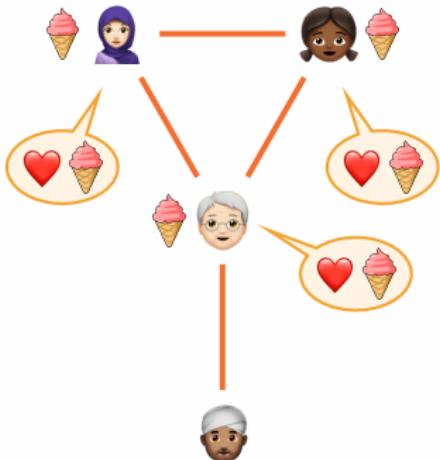
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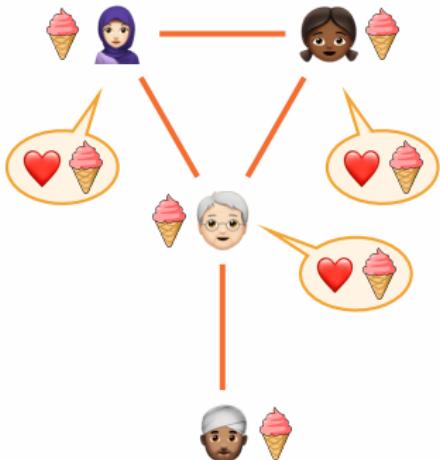
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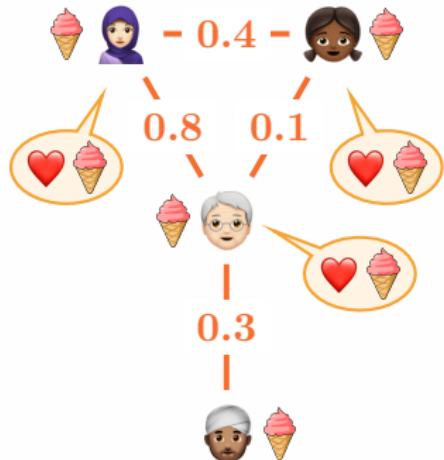
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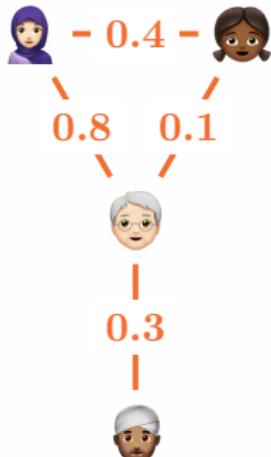
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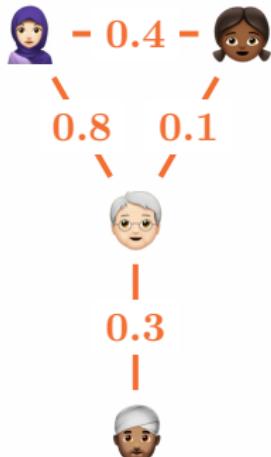
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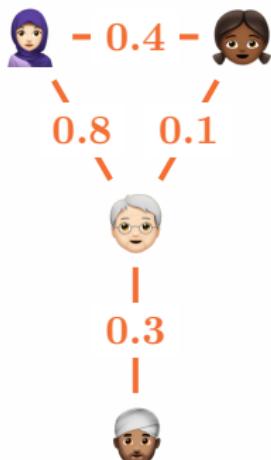
## Properties



- Probabilistic influence;

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# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



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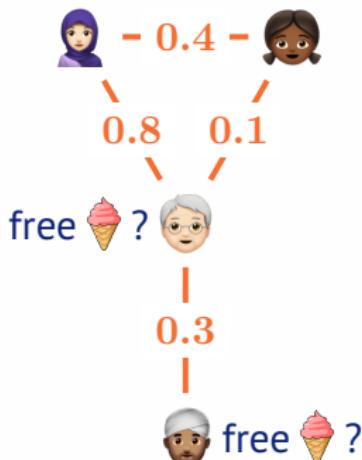
- Probabilistic influence;
- limited budget of free samples  
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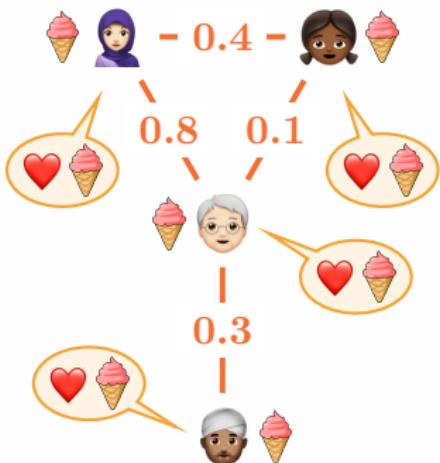
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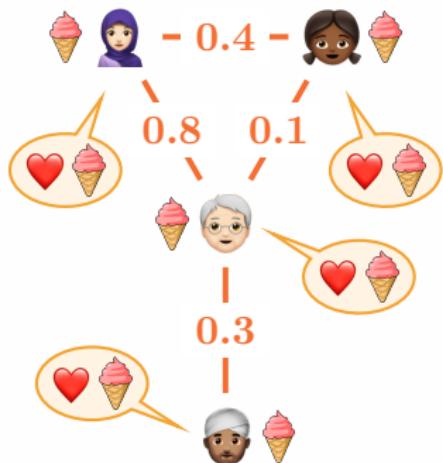


## Properties

- **Probabilistic** influence;
- limited **budget** of free samples
- **maximize** expected # people buying your ice cream.

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# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



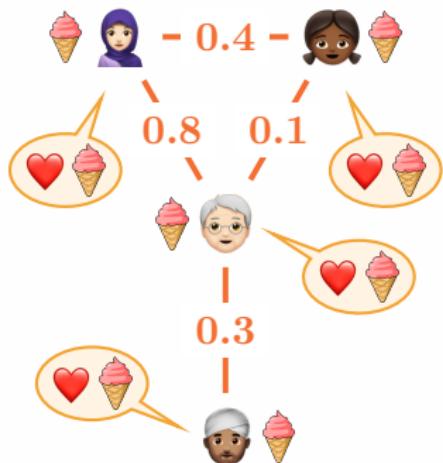
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Exact solving is **NP-hard**

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# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



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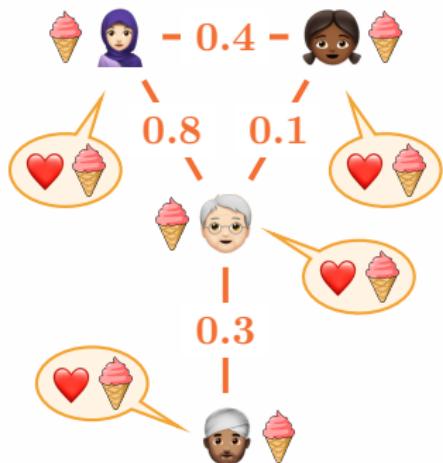
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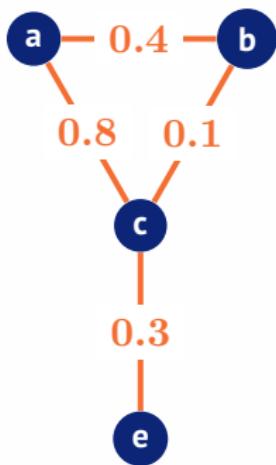
Exact solving is **NP-hard**

- Exponential # of **strategies**;
- **Probabilistic inference** is **#P-complete**.

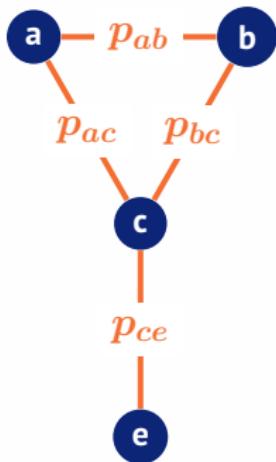
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Dan Roth  
The hardness of approximate reasoning  
Artif. Intell., 1996

## Example: Viral Marketing Problem



## Example: Viral Marketing Problem

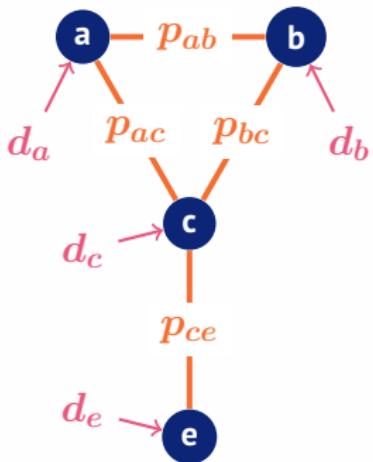


Boolean influence relationships are independent.

$$P(t_{xy} = 1) = p_{xy}$$

$$P(t_{xy} = 0) = (1 - p_{xy})$$

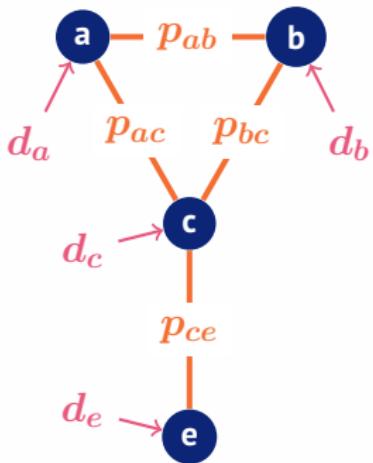
## Example: Viral Marketing Problem



Boolean influence relationships are independent.

$$\begin{aligned} P(t_{xy} = 1) &= p_{xy} \\ P(t_{xy} = 0) &= (1 - p_{xy}) \\ d_i &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



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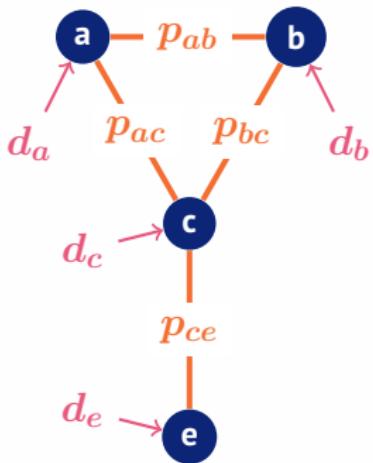
Simplifying assumptions

$$P(t_{xy} = 1) = p_{xy}$$

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

# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



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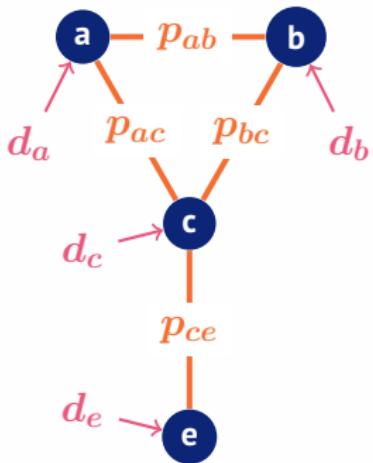
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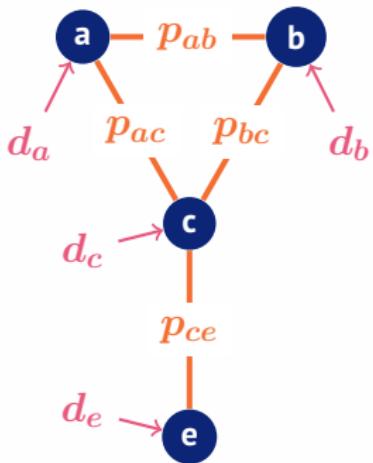
- influence relationships are symmetric;
- if person  $i$  gets a free sample ( $d_i = 1$ ), they will buy it in the future;

$$P(t_{xy} = 1) = p_{xy}$$

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# Example: Viral Marketing Problem



$$\begin{aligned} P(t_{xy} = 1) &= p_{xy} \\ P(t_{xy} = 0) &= (1 - p_{xy}) \\ d_i &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

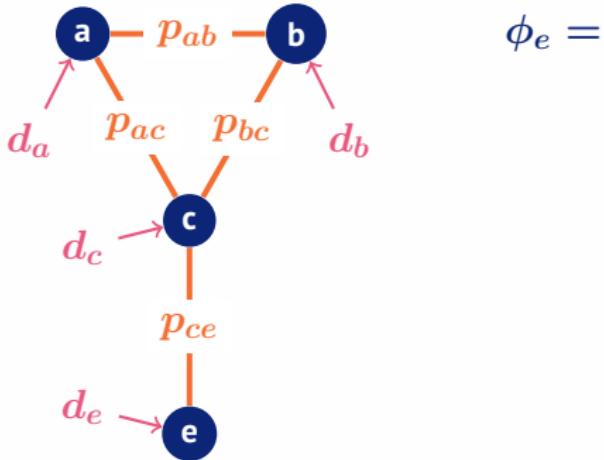
**Boolean** influence relationships are independent.

## Simplifying assumptions

- influence relationships are symmetric;
- if person  $i$  gets a free sample ( $d_i = 1$ ), they will buy it in the future;
- if person  $i$  buys ice cream and they have influence over  $j$  ( $t_{ij} = 1$ ), then  $j$  will buy ice cream.

## Example: Viral Marketing Problem

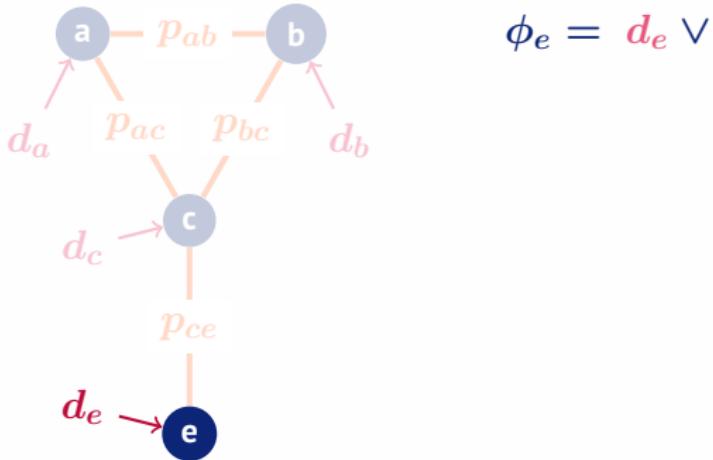
Person  $e$  buys ice cream:



$$\begin{aligned} P(t_{xy} = 1) &= p_{xy} \\ P(t_{xy} = 0) &= (1 - p_{xy}) \\ d_i &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

## Example: Viral Marketing Problem

Person  $e$  buys ice cream:



$$P(t_{xy} = 1) = p_{xy}$$

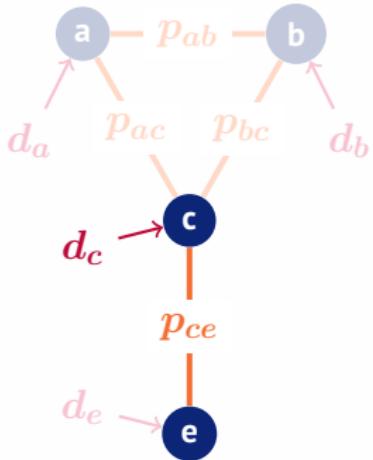
$$P(t_{xy} = 0) = (1 - p_{xy})$$

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

## Example: Viral Marketing Problem

Person  $e$  buys ice cream:

$$\phi_e = d_e \vee (d_c \wedge t_{ce}) \vee$$



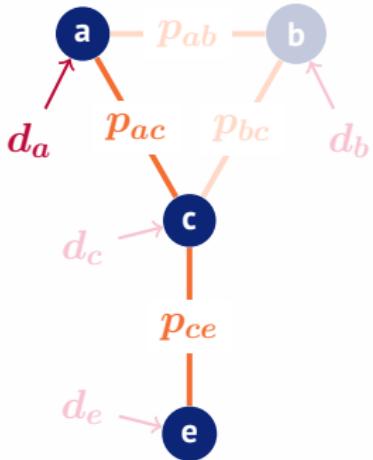
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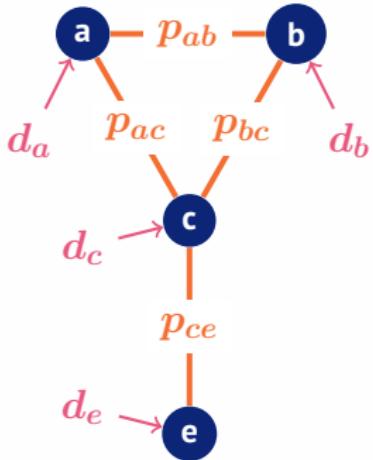


$$\phi_e = \mathbf{d}_e \vee (\mathbf{d}_c \wedge \mathbf{t}_{ce}) \vee \\ (\mathbf{d}_a \wedge \mathbf{t}_{ac} \wedge \mathbf{t}_{ce}) \vee$$

$$P(\mathbf{t}_{xy} = 1) = p_{xy}$$
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## Example: Viral Marketing Problem

Person  $e$  buys ice cream:



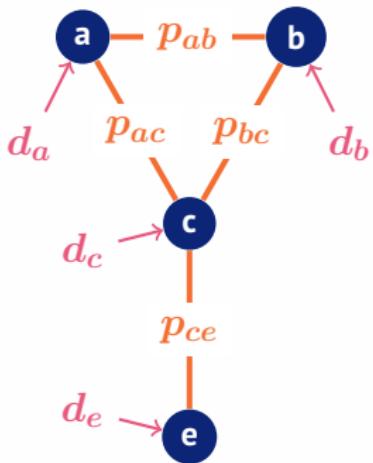
$$\begin{aligned}\phi_e = & \textcolor{red}{d}_e \vee (\textcolor{blue}{d}_c \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ac} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{bc} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ab} \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{bc} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ab} \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ac} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce})\end{aligned}$$

$$P(\textcolor{brown}{t}_{xy} = 1) = \textcolor{brown}{p}_{xy}$$

$$P(\textcolor{brown}{t}_{xy} = 0) = (1 - \textcolor{brown}{p}_{xy})$$

$$\textcolor{red}{d}_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

## Example: Viral Marketing Problem



$$\begin{aligned} P(t_{xy} = 1) &= p_{xy} \\ P(t_{xy} = 0) &= (1 - p_{xy}) \\ d_i &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

Person  $e$  buys ice cream:

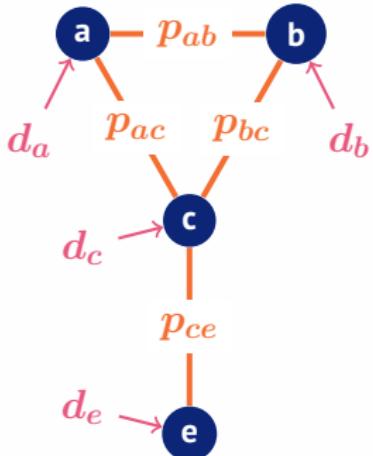
$$\begin{aligned} \phi_e = & \textcolor{red}{d}_e \vee (\textcolor{blue}{d}_c \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge t_{ac} \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge t_{bc} \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge t_{ab} \wedge t_{bc} \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\ & (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge t_{ab} \wedge t_{ac} \wedge t_{ce}) \end{aligned}$$

find **strategy  $\sigma$** :

$$\arg \max_{\sigma} \sum_{i \in \{a, b, c, e\}} P(\phi_i \mid \sigma)$$

# Example: Viral Marketing Problem

Person  $e$  buys ice cream:



$$\begin{aligned}\phi_e = & \textcolor{red}{d}_e \vee (\textcolor{blue}{d}_c \wedge \textcolor{orange}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ac} \wedge \textcolor{orange}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{bc} \wedge \textcolor{orange}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ab} \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{bc} \wedge \textcolor{orange}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ab} \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ac} \wedge \textcolor{orange}{t}_{ce})\end{aligned}$$

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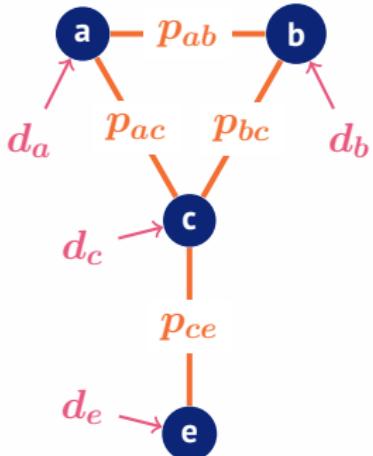
$$\begin{aligned}P(\textcolor{orange}{t}_{xy} = 1) &= \textcolor{red}{p}_{xy} \\P(\textcolor{orange}{t}_{xy} = 0) &= (1 - \textcolor{red}{p}_{xy})\end{aligned}$$

$$\textcolor{red}{d}_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\text{subject to: } \sum_{i \in \{a,b,c,e\}} \textcolor{red}{d}_i \leq k$$

# Example: Viral Marketing Problem

Person  $e$  buys ice cream:



$$\begin{aligned}\phi_e = & \textcolor{red}{d}_e \vee (\textcolor{blue}{d}_c \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ac} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{bc} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_a \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ab} \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{bc} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce}) \vee \\& (\textcolor{red}{d}_b \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ab} \wedge \textcolor{blue}{t}_{ac} \wedge \textcolor{brown}{t}_{ce})\end{aligned}$$

repeatedly solve:

$$\sum_{i \in \{a,b,c,e\}} P(\phi_i \mid \sigma) > \theta$$

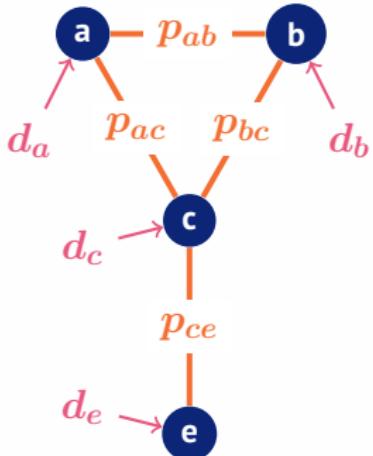
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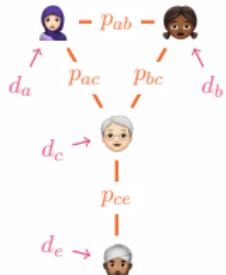
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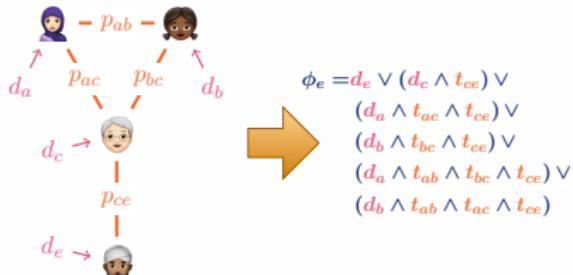
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# Existing (generic) method



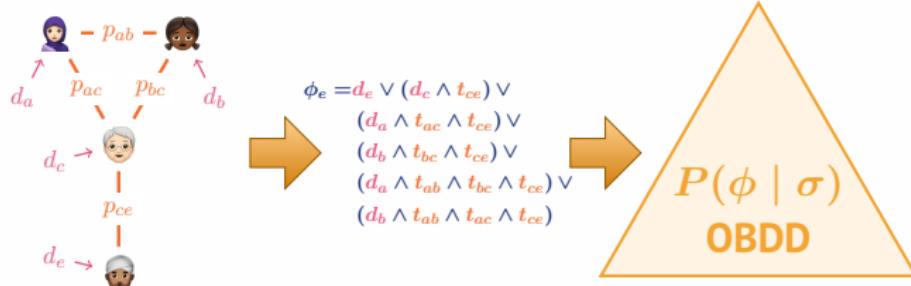
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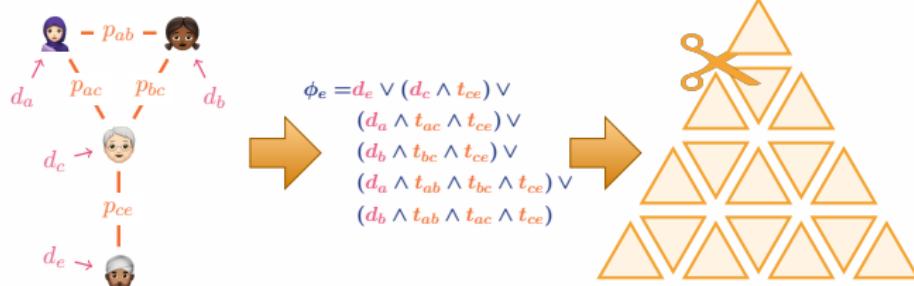
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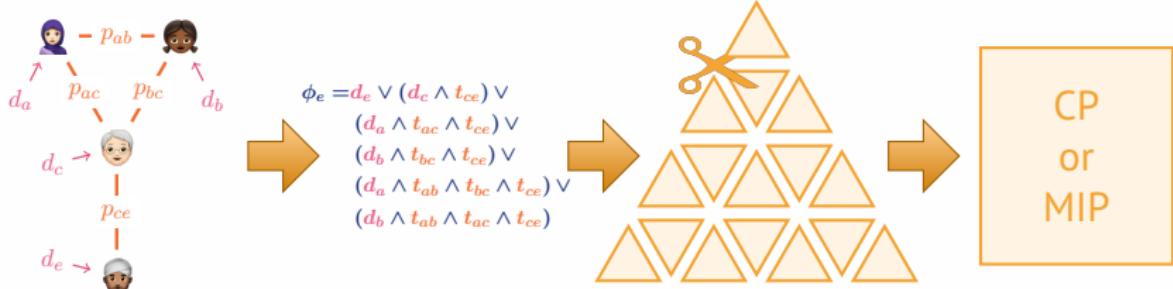
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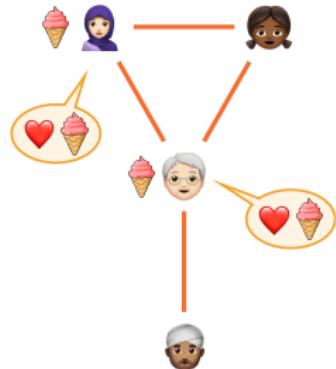
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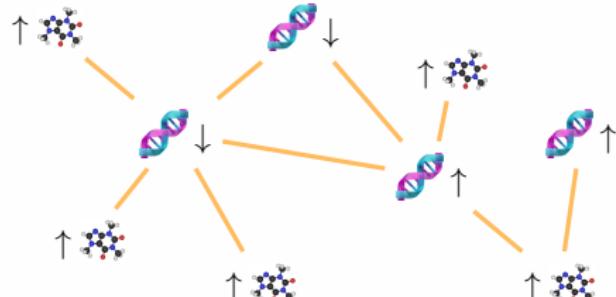
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**Observation 1:** existing method does **not guarantee** Generalized Arc Consistency (**GAC**) → **inefficient**;

## Viral Marketing

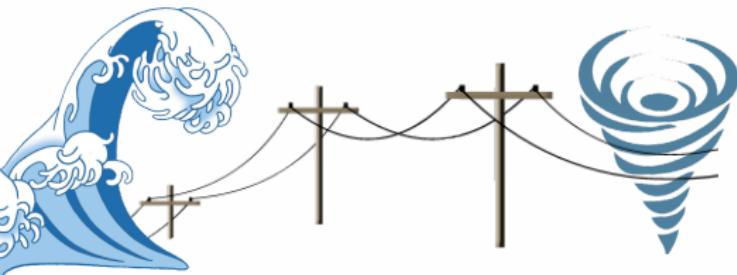


## Signalling Regulatory Pathways

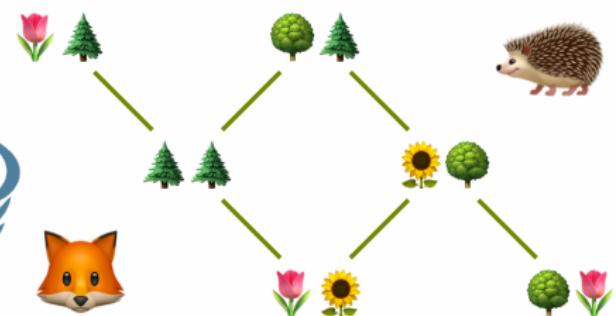


monotonic  
distributions

## Powergrid Reliability



## Landscape Connectivity



**Observation 1:** existing method does **not guarantee** Generalized Arc Consistency (**GAC**) → **inefficient**;

**Observation 2:** probability distribution is **monotonic**;

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**Observation 2:** probability distribution is **monotonic**;

**Recall:** optimization is repeated **constraint solving**:

solve  $\sum_{\phi \in \Phi} P(\phi | \sigma) > \theta$  for increasing  $\theta$ ;

**Observation 1:** existing method does **not guarantee** Generalized Arc Consistency (**GAC**) → **inefficient**;

**Observation 2:** probability distribution is **monotonic**;

**Recall:** optimization is repeated **constraint solving**:

$$\text{solve } \sum_{\phi \in \Phi} P(\phi \mid \sigma) > \theta \text{ for increasing } \theta;$$

**GOAL:** create constraint propagation algorithm for Stochastic Constraints on Monotonic Distributions (SCMDs), which guarantees GAC.

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- Stochastic Constraint Optimization Problems (SCOPs) are **NP-hard**

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leverage  
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leverage  
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## Recall:

- Stochastic Constraint Optimization Problems (SCOPs) are **NP-hard**
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leverage  
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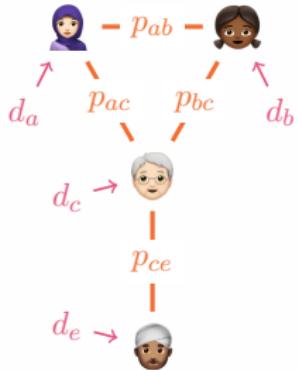
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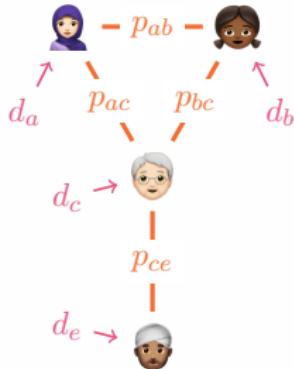
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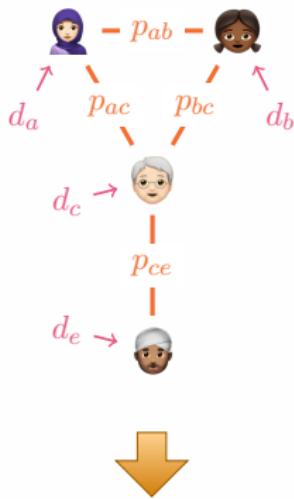
leverage  
PP technology  
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leverage  
structure  
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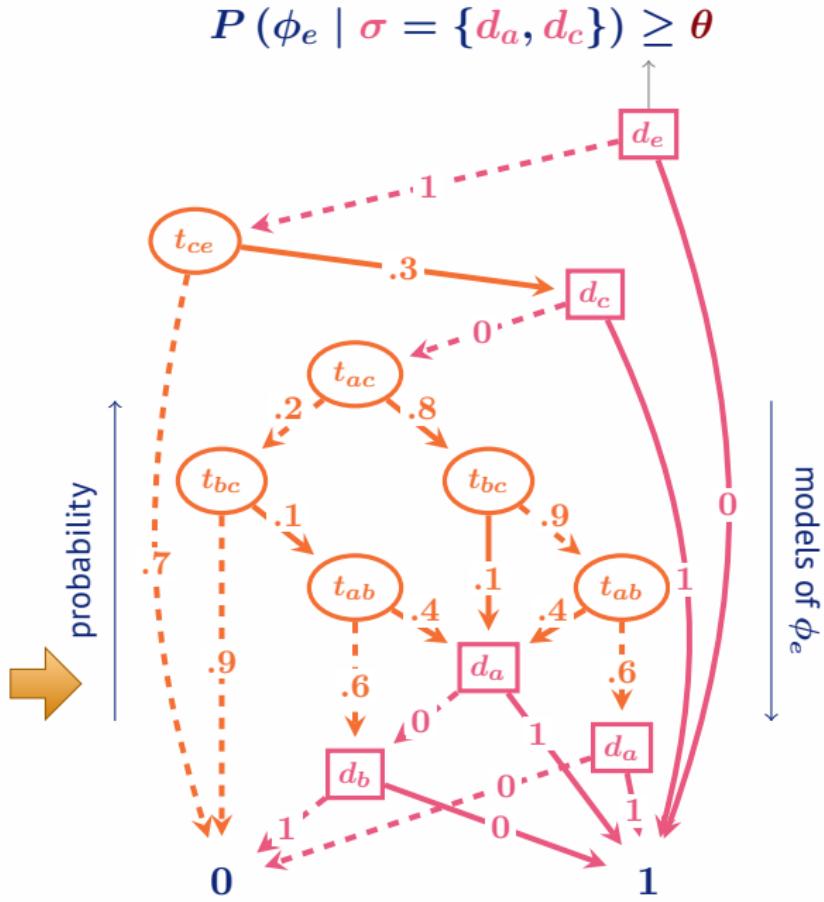




$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi_e = & d_e \vee (d_c \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\
 & (d_a \wedge t_{ac} \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\
 & (d_b \wedge t_{bc} \wedge t_{ce}) \vee \\
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 & (d_b \wedge t_{ab} \wedge t_{ac} \wedge t_{ce})
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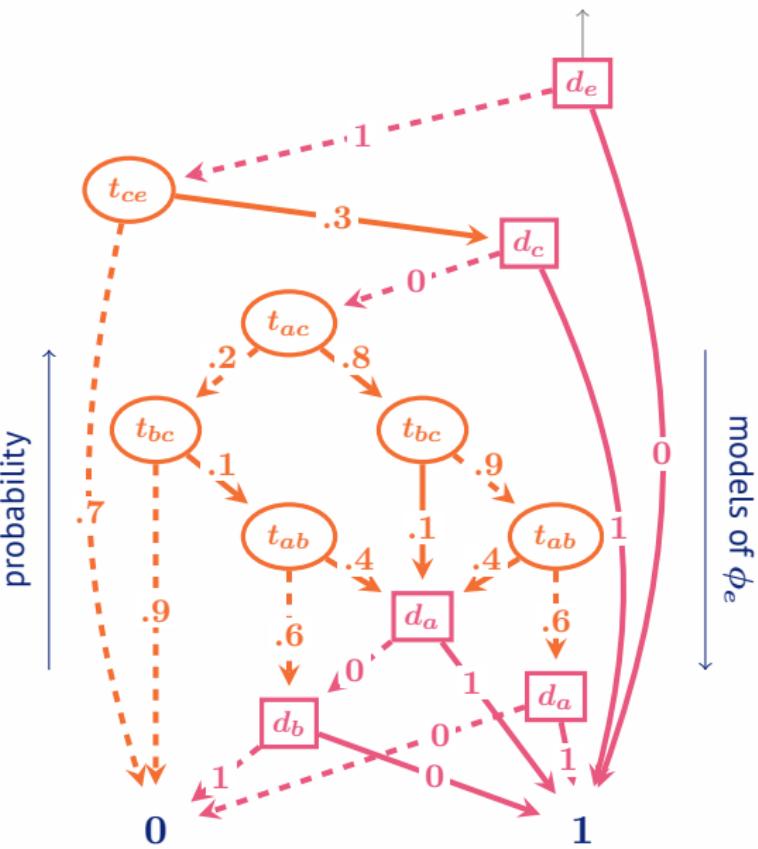


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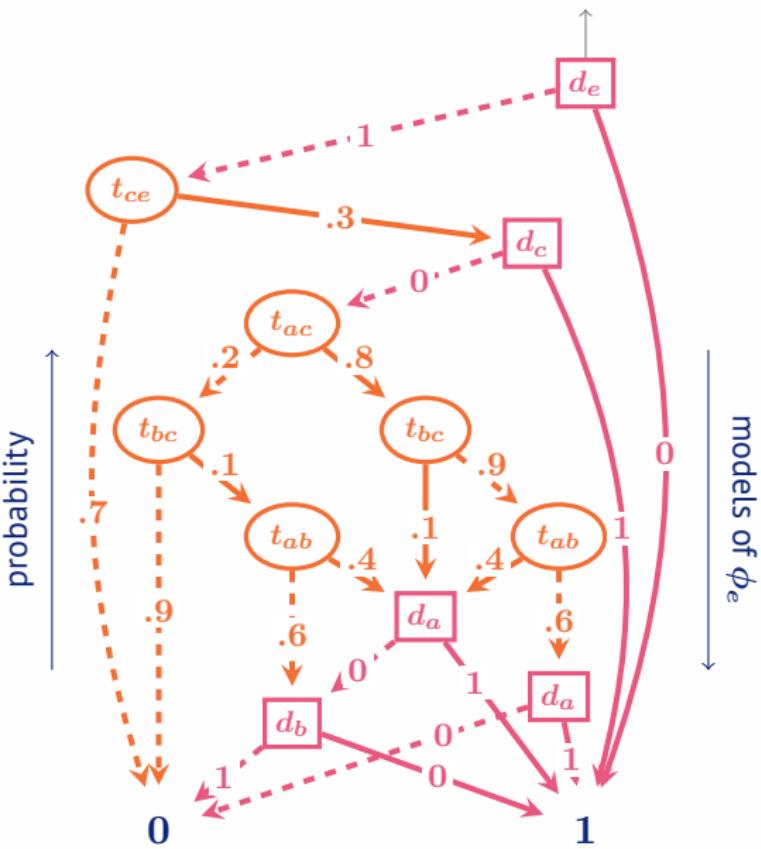
Ordered Binary Decision Diagram (OBDD) encodes probability distribution

$$P(\phi_e \mid \sigma = \{d_a, d_c\}) \geq \theta$$



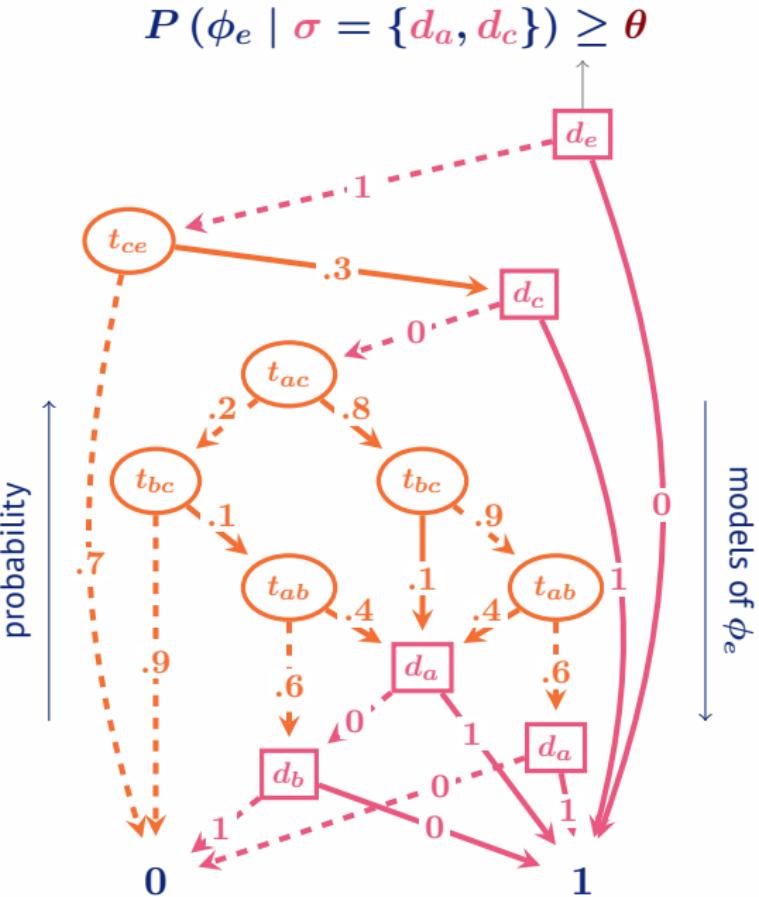
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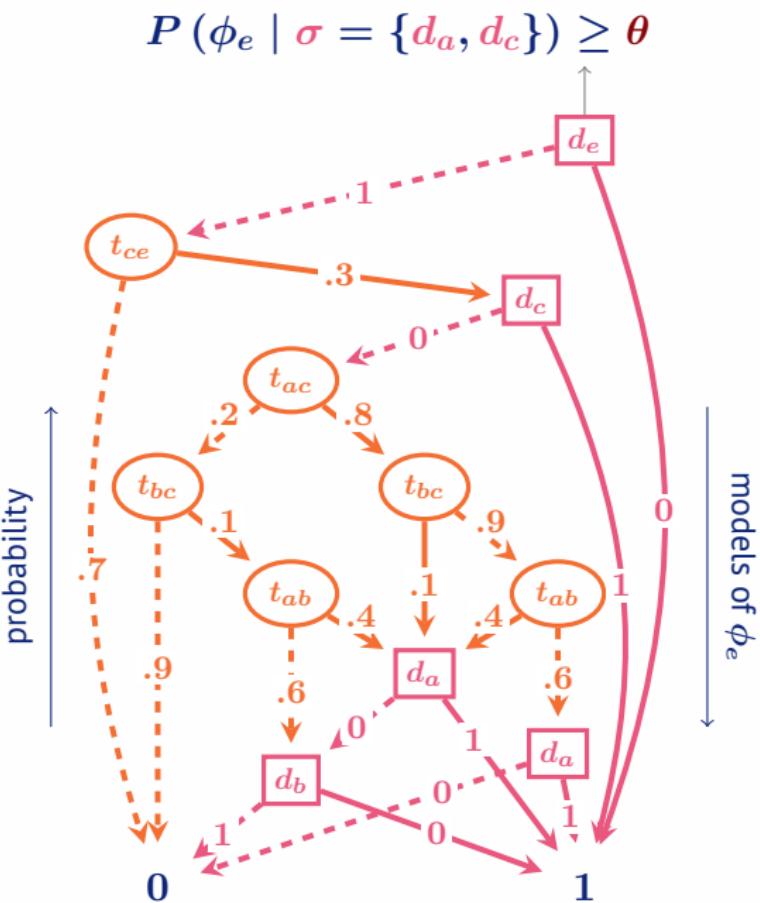
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Use OBDD to evaluate **strategy  $\sigma$** . **Complexity** of one sweep:  $O(m)$ , with  $m = |\text{OBDD}|$ .



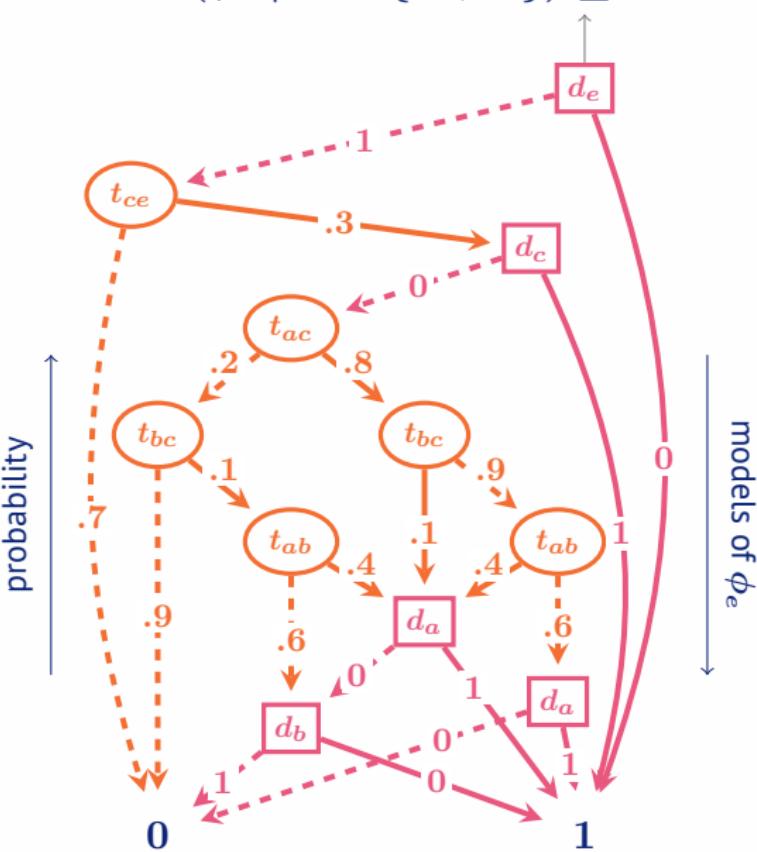
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**Naïve method** has complexity  $O(m \cdot n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of unbound variables

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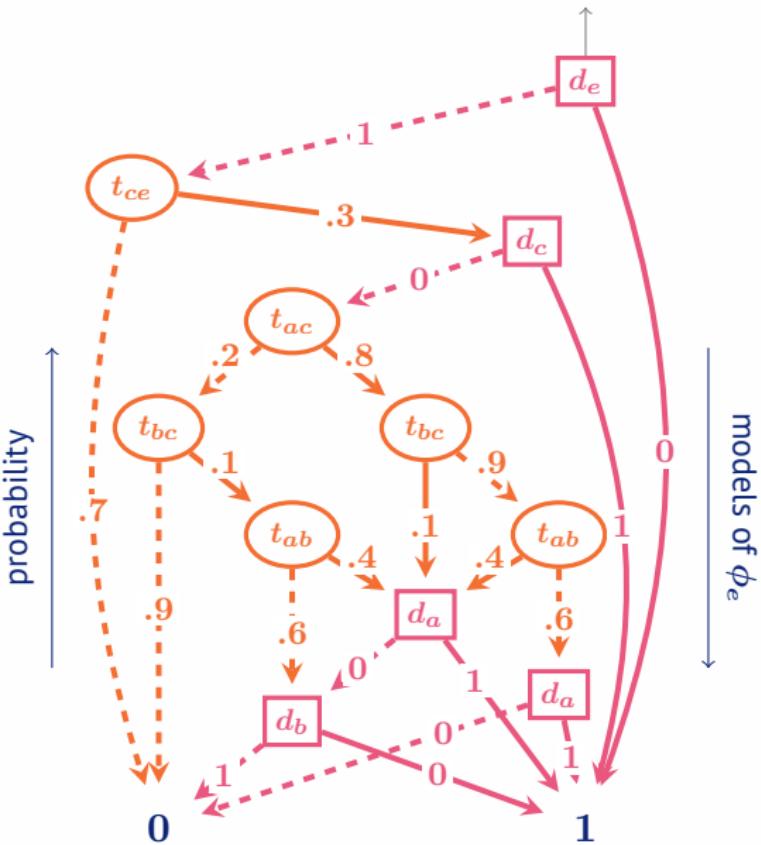
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Adnan Darwiche.

*On the tractable counting of theory models and its application to belief revision and truth maintenance.* JACM, 2001

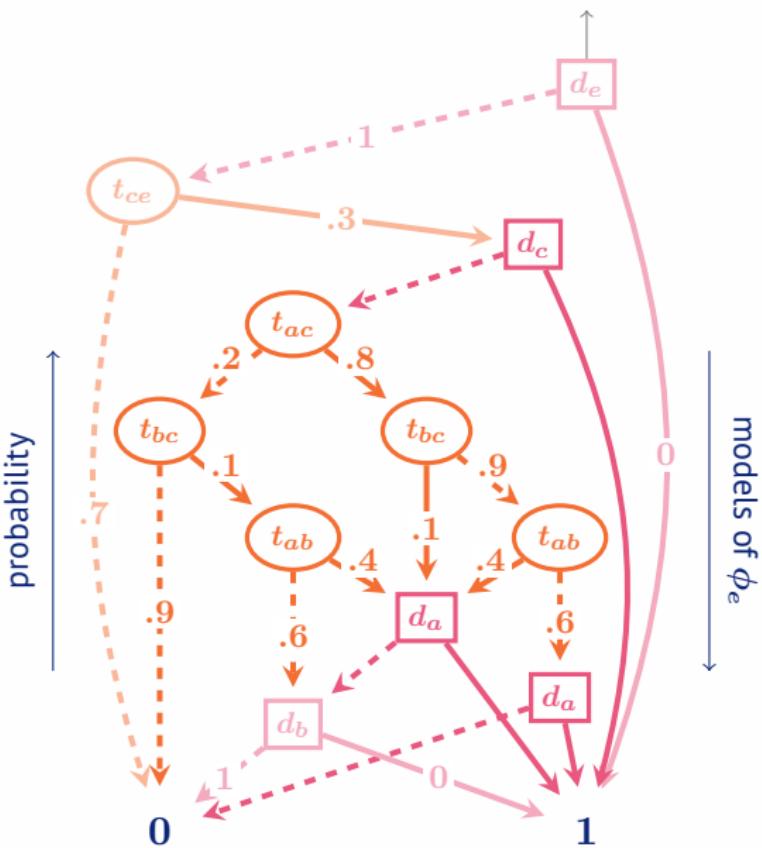
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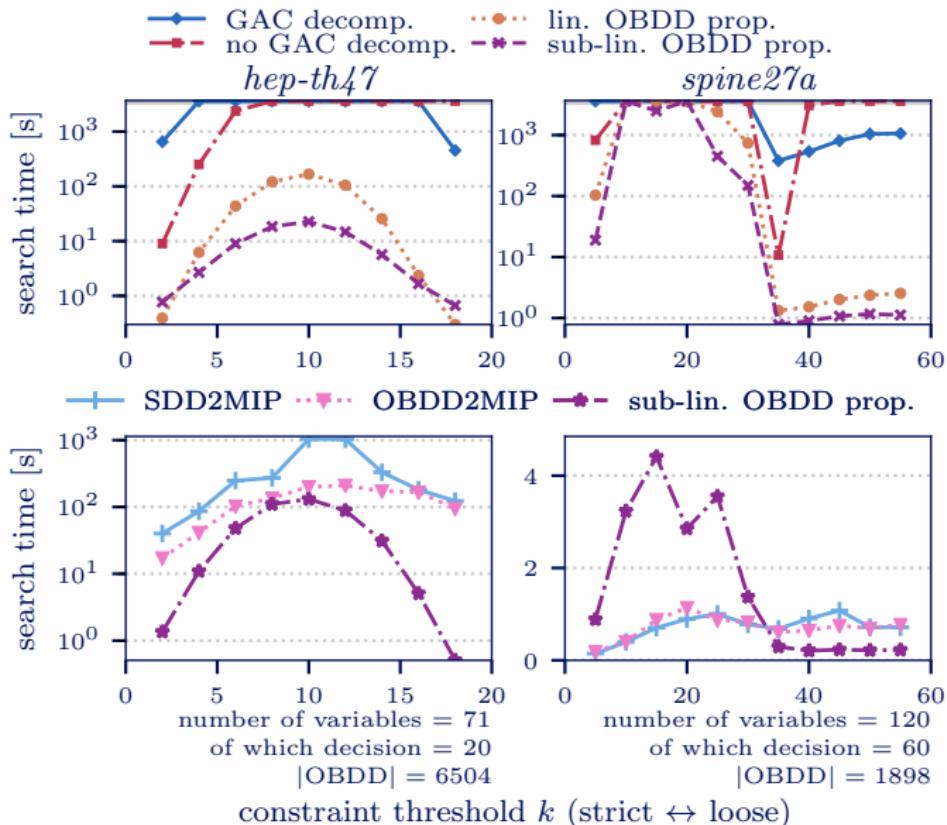
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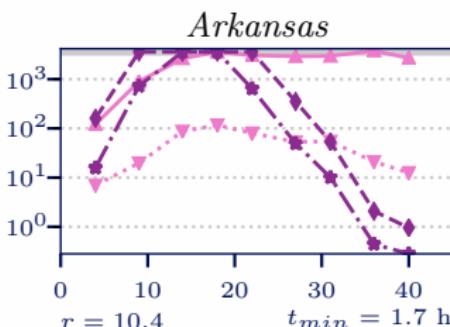
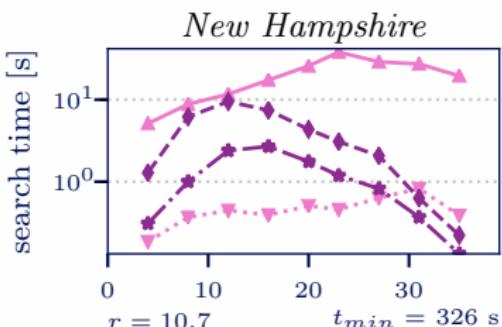
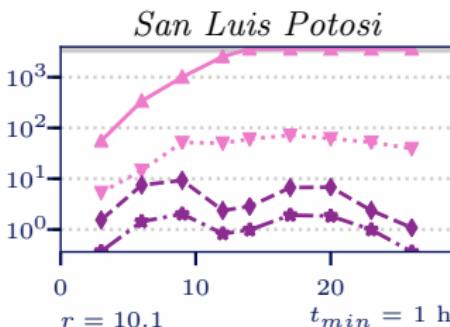
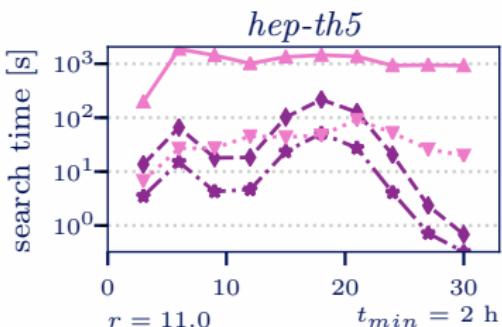
*On the tractable counting of theory models and its application to belief revision and truth maintenance.* JACM, 2001

# SCMD propagator vs existing methods



# Scalability of SCMD propagator vs MIP

OBDD2MIP (non-minimized)      sub-lin. prop. (non-minimized)  
OBDD2MIP (minimized)      sub-lin. prop. (minimized)



constraint threshold  $k$  (strict  $\leftrightarrow$  loose)

# Main contribution

A new global constraint propagator for Stochastic Constraints on Monotonic Distributions (SCMDs) which:

- guarantees GAC;
- has linear complexity;
- outperforms existing CP-based methods and complements MIP-based methods;
- scales better with OBDD size than existing MIP-based methods.

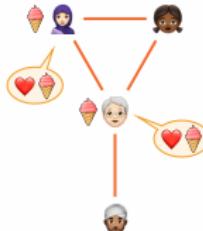
**contact:** [a.l.d.latour@liacs.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:a.l.d.latour@liacs.leidenuniv.nl)

**code & more results:** [github.com/latower/SCMD](https://github.com/latower/SCMD)

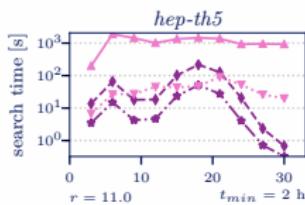
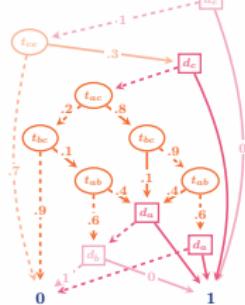
**new work:** D. Fokkinga, A.L.D. Latour, M. Anastacio, S. Nijssen, H. Hoos.

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$$P(\phi_e \mid \sigma = \{d_a, d_c\}) \geq \theta$$



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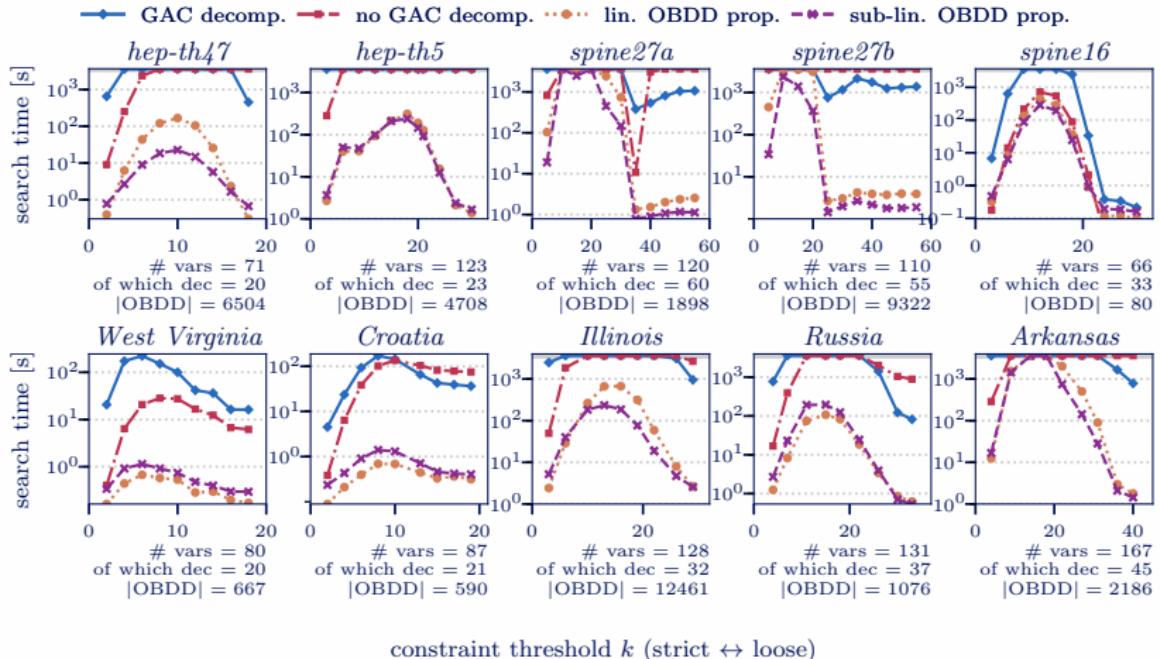
ECAI 2002

Theme by Joost Schalken. Updated by Pepijn van Heiningen & Anna Latour.

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We thank Hélène Verhaeghe for her input and suggestions. This work was supported by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). Behrouz Babaki is supported by a postdoctoral scholarship from IVADO through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) grant.

# SCMD propagator vs existing CP methods



# SCMD propagator vs existing MIP methods

