

# Robust Message-Passing for Statistical Inference in Sensor Networks

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## Outline

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  - Graphical Modeling
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  - Experiments

## Part I: Introduction

- Sensor Networks
- Graphical Modeling
- Motivation

## 1.1 Sensor Networks

- Networks of typically small, battery-powered, wireless devices.
  - On-board processing,
  - Communication, and
  - Sensing capabilities

## 1.1 Sensor Networks

- Low-power processor.
  - Limited processing.
- Memory.
  - Limited storage.
- Radio.
  - Low-power.
  - Low data rate.
  - Limited range.
- Sensors.
  - Scalar sensors:
    - temperature, light, etc.
  - Cameras, microphones.

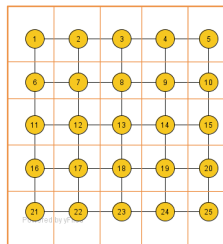
## 1.1 Sensor Networks: Examples

- Berkeley Mote
  - Commercially available
  - TinyOS: embedded OS running on motes.

## 1.2 Graphical Modeling

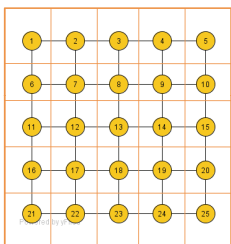
- Markov Random Fields
  - One common class of graphical models
  - Undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$
  - Nodes represent random variables
  - Edges represent correlations between variables
  - Associated with potential functions
    - $\Psi_i \sim$  prior probabilities
    - $\Psi_{i,j} \sim$  strength of correlations  $\sim$  joint probabilities

## 1.2 Graphical Modeling



- Each node represents temperature at a particular point in the room
- The edge potential represents the correlation between temperature of adjacent areas
- Node potentials represents prior temperature distributions at each location

## 1.2 Graphical Modeling



- Once we have
  - Node potentials
  - Edge potentials
  - Graphical model
- We can:
  - Calculate posterior probability distribution for each random variable
  - i.e. infer about the real temperature distributions at each location

## 1.3 Motivation

- Why not transmit all the data to a central based station?
- Why Graphical Models?
- Why RBP?

## 1.3 Motivation

- Why not transmit all the data to a central based station?
  - Heavy communication for continuous report
  - Especially bad for motes near base station
    - All the other sensor readings must be routed through
  - (if) motes need extra computations after inference
    - Redundant if retransmitting results back to motes

## 1.3 Motivation

- Why Graphical Models?
  - Deal with incomplete, unreliable information
  - Run in a fully distributed context

## 1.3 Motivation

- Why RBP?
  - Junction-Tree:
    - Exact inference...but depends on the graph structure
    - Very slow (exponential)
  - BP:
    - No guarantees on correctness, convergence
    - Works well in practice
  - RBP:
    - Modification of BP by adding suitable weights
    - Guarantees on stability and fixed point solutions

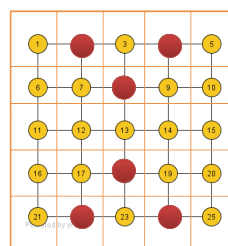
## Part II: Problem Statement

- Inputs
- Outputs
- Assumptions

## 2.1 Inputs

- The inputs to the system
  - Global graphical model
    - Two types of nodes
    - Edge ~ correlations between nodes
  - Potentials for each node
  - Potentials for each edge
  - A mapping from nodes to motes

## 2.1 Inputs



- Two types of nodes
  - – Evidence/Observable nodes
  - – Latent/Unobservable nodes
- Observable node ~ sensor mote
- Latent nodes ~ physical location where inferred information is desired

## 2.2 Outputs

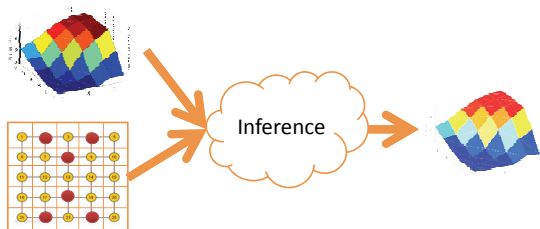
- Result of inference over the graphical model
  - Each mote contains the inferred data it owns
  - Each node yields a marginal probability for temperature at the corresponding location
  - Results are stored in a distributed fashion

## 2.3 Assumptions

- Assume:
  - Graphical Model is given
    - Latent vs. Observable
  - Random Variables are discrete
  - Potential functions are given
  - Mapping of nodes to motes is given

## 2.3 Summary

- Input: Sensor measurements + graphical model
- Output: Good “virtual measurements”



## Part III: BP and RBP

### 3.1 Belief Propagation

- BP is used to compute:
  - Marginal Probability
  - Maximum A posterior Probability (MAP)
- For full description, please refer:
  - <http://www.merl.com/reports/docs/TR2001-22.pdf>

### 3.1 Belief Propagation

- The update equation:

$$m_{i \rightarrow j}(x_j) = \sum_{x_i} (\psi_i(x_i) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus \{j\}} (m_{k \rightarrow i}(x_i)))$$

- It will be more helpful if we rewrite as:

### 3.1 Belief Propagation

$$m_{i \rightarrow j}(x_j) = \sum_{x_i} (\psi_i(x_i) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus \{j\}} (m_{k \rightarrow i}(x_i)))$$

Incoming Message

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M(x_i) = \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus \{j\}} m_{k \rightarrow i}(x_i) \\ m_{i \rightarrow j}(x_j) = \sum_{x_i} \psi_i(x_i) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) M(x_i) \end{array} \right.$$

Outgoing Message

### 3.1 Belief Propagation

$$M(x_i) = \prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus \{j\}} m_{k \rightarrow i}(x_i),$$

$$m_{i \rightarrow j}(x_j) = \sum_{x_i} \psi_i(x_i) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) M(x_i)$$

- A recursive equation!
- Outgoing messages at each node depend on the incoming messages at that node
- These messages summarize the information from a portion of the graphical model
- May be computed sequentially in any order, or even partially or fully simultaneously

### 3.1 Belief Propagation

- To compute marginal probabilities:

$$p(x_i) \propto \psi_i(x_i) \prod_{k \in N(i)} m_{k \rightarrow i}(x_i)$$

- Compare to:

$$posterior \propto prior \times likelihood$$

### 3.2 Reweighted Belief Propagation

$$M_\mu(x_i) = \frac{\prod_{k \in N(i) \setminus \{j\}} m_{k \rightarrow i}(x_i)^{\mu_{kj}}}{m_{j \rightarrow i}(x_i)^{1-\mu_{ij}}}$$

$$m_{i \rightarrow j}(x_j) = \sum_{x_i} \psi_i(x_i) \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j)^{\frac{1}{\mu_{ij}}} M_\mu(x_i)$$

RBP  $\rightarrow$  BP when  $\mu = 1$

### 3.2 Reweighted Belief Propagation

- How to choose  $\mu$  ?
  - Ref: [M. Wainwright, AISTats 03]
  - E.g. For grid like structures

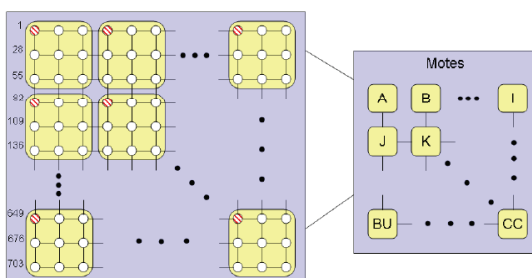
$$\mu_{ij} = \frac{|V| - 1}{|E|}$$

- Guarantee convergence for proper  $\mu_{ij}$

## Part IV: Architecture

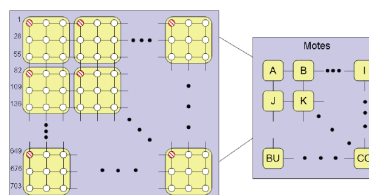
StatSense

### Architecture



### Architecture

- No Routing Property
- Proposition 1 [Ref to the original paper]
  - Proof (Omitted)

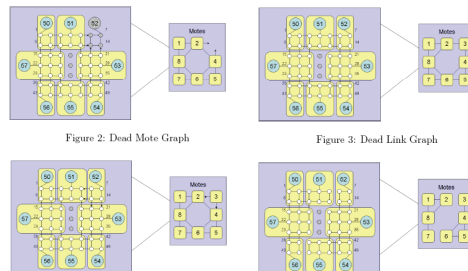


## Architecture

- Message updating
  - SyncAllTalk
    - Limit messaging across motes when possible
    - “bursty” communication patterns
    - “Informativeness” vary greatly
  - SyncConstProb
    - Exchanges inter-mote message with probability  $p$
  - AsyncConstProb
    - Relax the global time constraint
  - AsyncPropProb
    - $p$  is proportional to the “informativeness” of the message

## Architecture

- Handling communication failure



## Part V: Implementation

## Implementation

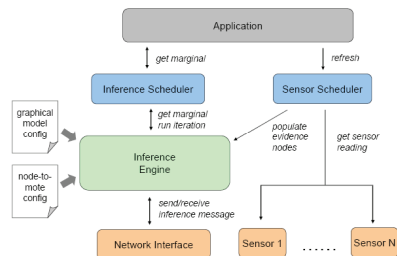
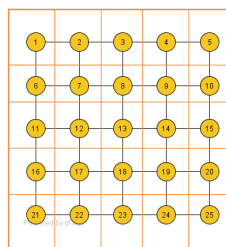


Figure 3: The StatSense architecture as implemented in nesC.

## Part VI: Evaluation

### 6.1 Analysis of Communication Costs

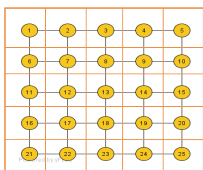


- Consider a grid of  $n^2$  nodes
- Assume:
  - # of base stations = constant
  - # of neighbors = 4
  - # of BP iterations =  $t$
  - size of single data reading =  $q$

## 6.1 Analysis of Communication Costs

- Central based
  - $O(n^2 \cdot q)$  total
  - $O(nq)$  for each node
- Message passing
  - $O(tq)$  for each node
- Save costs only when  $t \ll O(n)$ .
- This is possible!

- Consider a grid of  $n^2$  nodes
- Assume:
  - # of base stations = constant
  - # of neighbors = 4
  - # of BP iterations =  $t$
  - size of single data reading =  $q$



## 6.2 Experiments

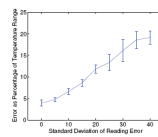


Figure 4: Average error as the gaussian error applied to the sensor observations increases.

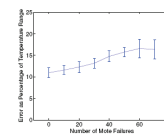


Figure 5: Average error as the number of dead nodes increases.

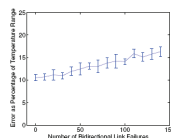


Figure 6: Average error as the number of dead symmetric links increases.

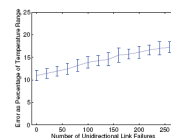


Figure 7: Average error as the number of dead asymmetric links increases.

## 6.2 Experiments (Cont')

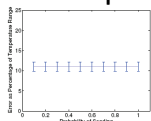


Figure 8: Average error as the probability of sensing in a single iteration for SyncContProb increases.

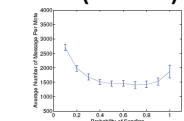


Figure 9: Number of messages sent as the probability of sensing in a single iteration increases for SyncContProb.

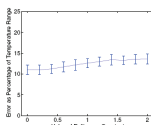


Figure 10: Average error as the exponent of the total variation difference between old and new messages increases for AsyncPropProb.

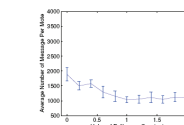
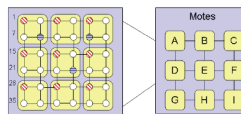


Figure 11: Number of messages sent as the exponent of the total variation difference between old and new messages increases for AsyncPropProb.

## Experiments (Cont')



Node	actual temp	mean of marginal
7	36.8°C	34.7°C
10	66.0°C	55.5°C
21	53.7°C	45.1°C

Table 1: Comparison between actual and inferred temperatures for three nodes in the graphical model

Figure 12: This figure illustrates the two layers of the Graphical Model (left) and Notes (right) which we used for our in-lab experiment. The red angle-sloshed dots denote observation nodes, in locations where we have sensor readings, and the blue-horizontial nodes denote locations where we logged unobserved temperature readings to determine error.

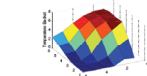


Figure 16: Temperature field for the experiment run on the deployment.

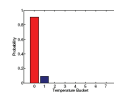


Figure 13: This is the histogram of the inferred distribution on Node 7 of our graphical model. The red bar is the bucket for the actual sensor reading.

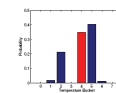


Figure 14: This is the histogram of the inferred distribution on Node 10 of our graphical model. The red bar is the bucket for the actual sensor reading.

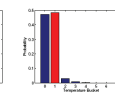


Figure 15: This is the histogram of the inferred distribution on Node 21 of our graphical model. The red bar is the bucket for the actual sensor reading.

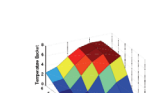
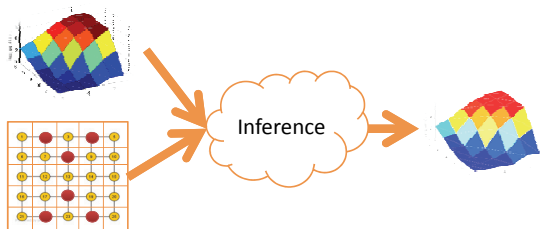


Figure 17: Temperature field for the experiment run in simulation.

## Summary

- Input: Sensor measurements + graphical model
- Output: Good "virtual measurements"



## Discussion

Data dependence  $\neq$  Physical Distance

