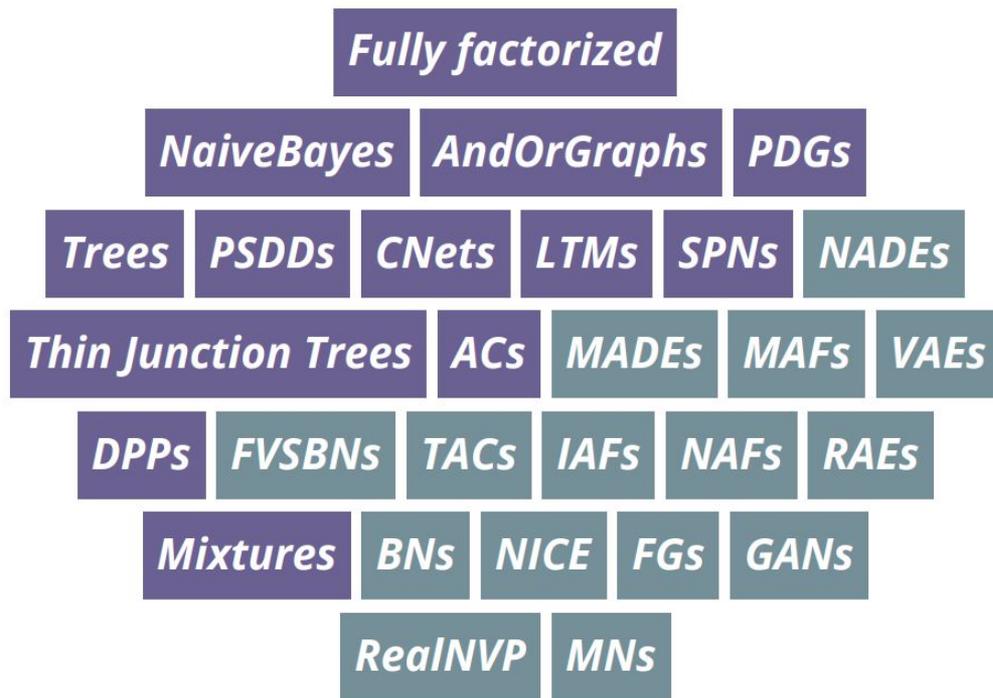


# Tractable Probabilistic Circuits

Guy Van den Broeck

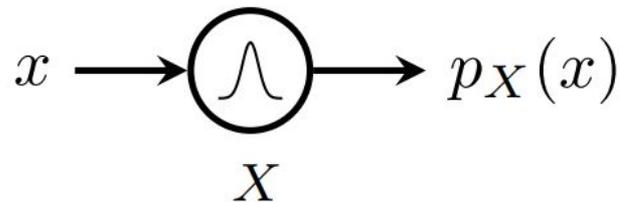
Beyond Bayes: Paths Towards Universal Reasoning Systems - Jul 21, 2022



***a unifying framework* for tractable models**

# Probabilistic circuits

*computational graphs* that recursively define distributions



Simple distributions are tractable “black boxes” for:

- EVI: output  $p(\mathbf{x})$  (density or mass)
- MAR: output 1 (normalized) or  $Z$  (unnormalized)
- MAP: output the mode

# Probabilistic circuits

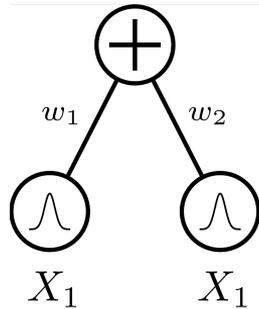
*computational graphs* that recursively define distributions



$\neg X$



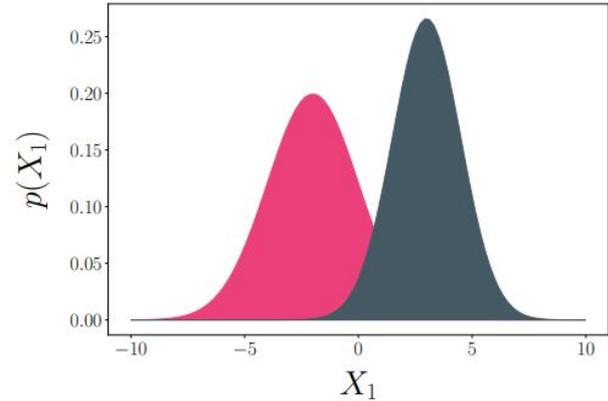
$X_1$



$$p(X_1) = w_1 p_1(X_1) + w_2 p_2(X_1)$$

$\Rightarrow$

*mixtures*



$$p(X) = p(Z = \mathbf{1}) \cdot p_1(X|Z = \mathbf{1}) \\ + p(Z = \mathbf{2}) \cdot p_2(X|Z = \mathbf{2})$$

# Probabilistic circuits

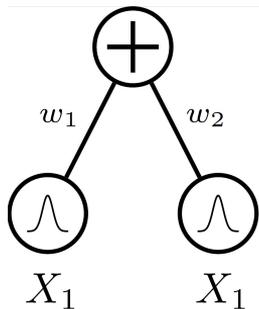
*computational graphs* that recursively define distributions



$\neg X$

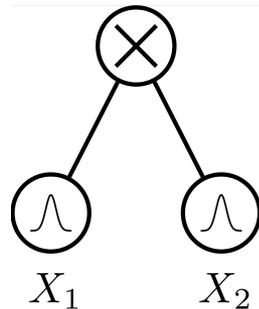


$X_1$



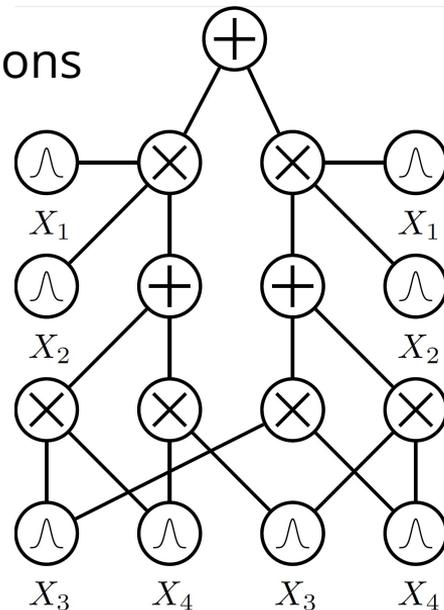
$$p(X_1) = w_1 p_1(X_1) + w_2 p_2(X_1)$$

$\Rightarrow$   
*mixtures*



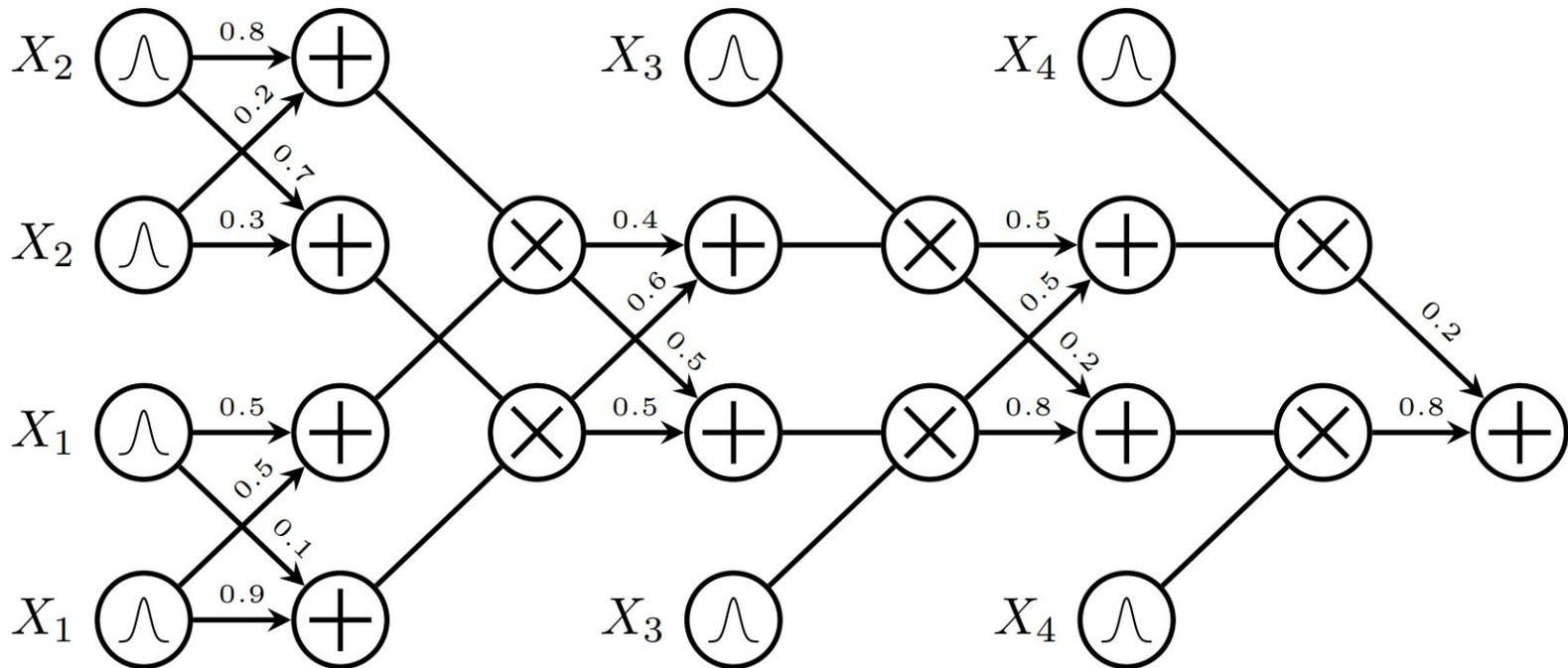
$$p(X_1, X_2) = p(X_1) \cdot p(X_2)$$

$\Rightarrow$   
*factorizations*



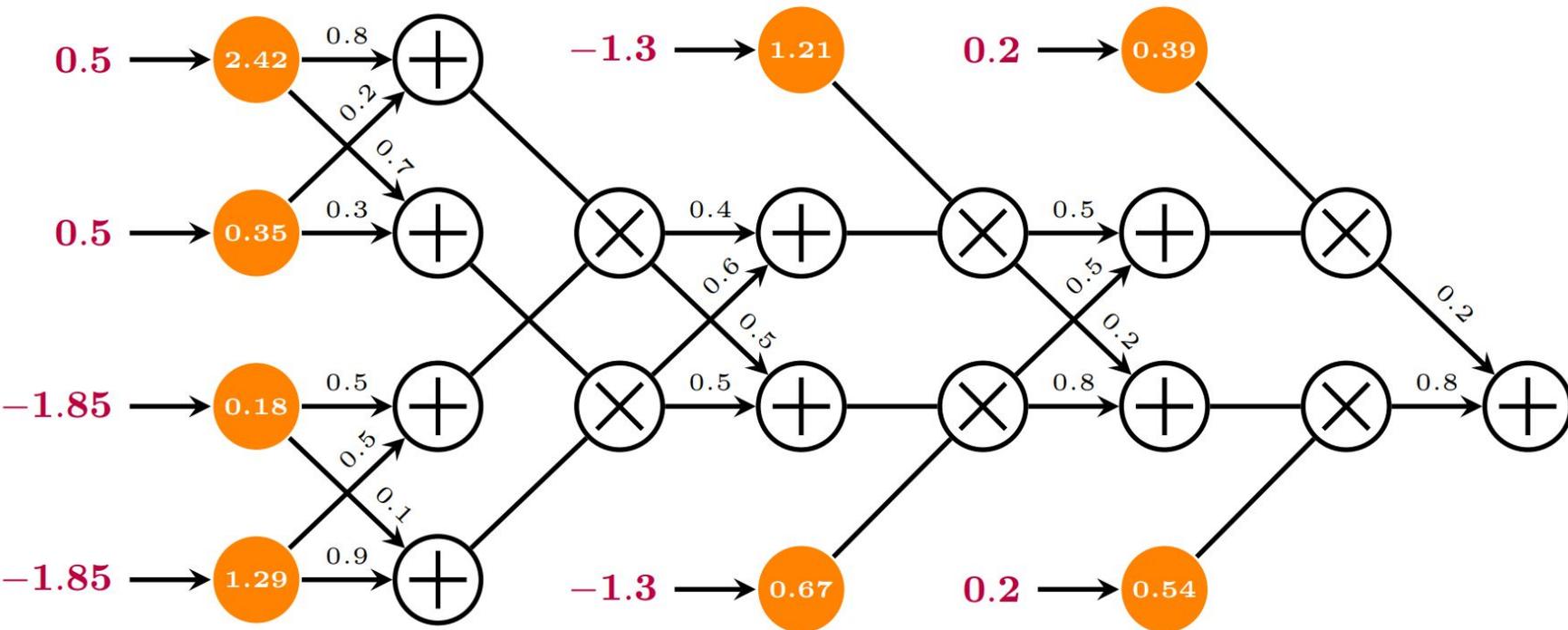
# Likelihood

$$p(X_1 = -1.85, X_2 = 0.5, X_3 = -1.3, X_4 = 0.2)$$



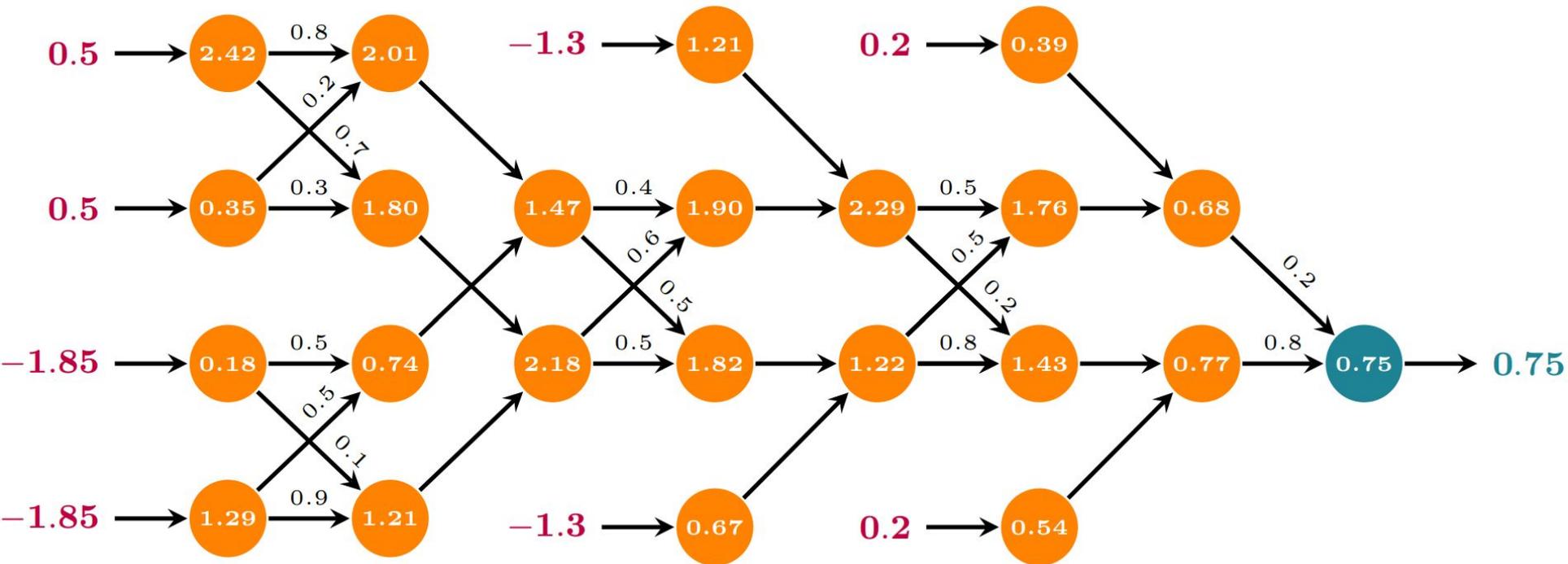
# Likelihood

$$p(X_1 = -1.85, X_2 = 0.5, X_3 = -1.3, X_4 = 0.2)$$



# Likelihood

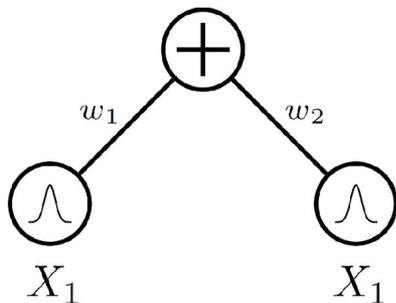
$$p(X_1 = -1.85, X_2 = 0.5, X_3 = -1.3, X_4 = 0.2)$$



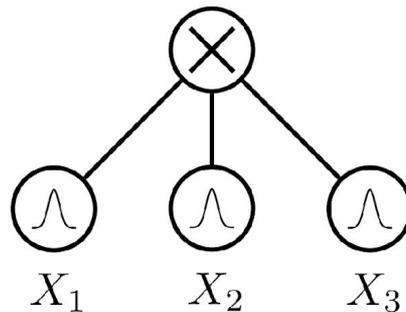
# Tractable marginals

A sum node is *smooth* if its children depend on the same set of variables.

A product node is *decomposable* if its children depend on disjoint sets of variables.



***smooth circuit***



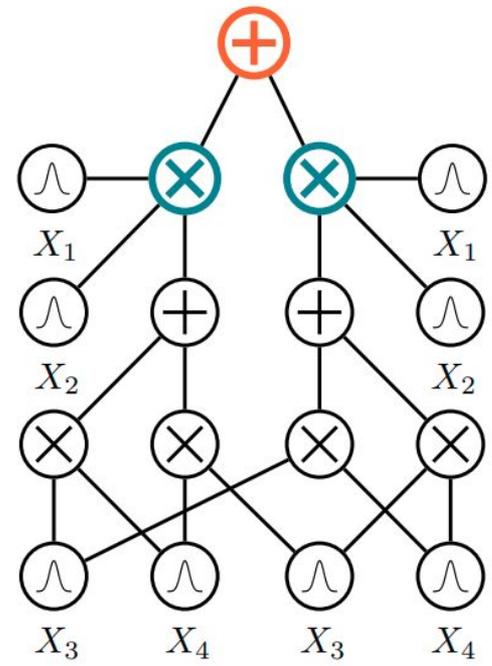
***decomposable circuit***

# Smoothness + decomposability = tractable MAR

If  $p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i w_i p_i(\mathbf{x})$ , (**smoothness**):

$$\int p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int \sum_i w_i p_i(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \sum_i w_i \int p_i(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$\Rightarrow$  integrals are "pushed down" to children

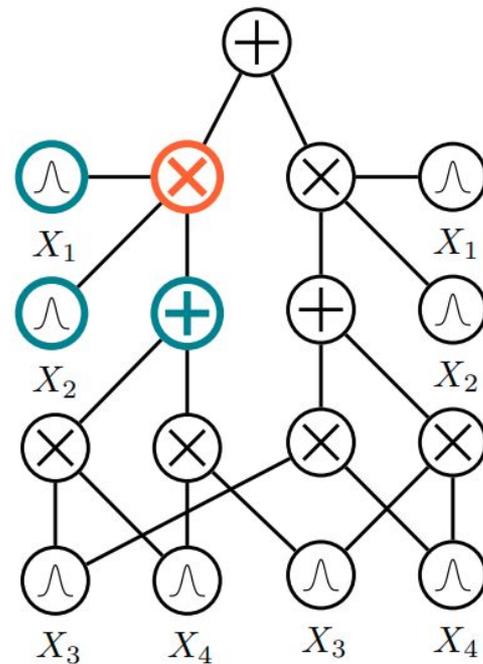


# Smoothness + decomposability = tractable MAR

If  $p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{z})$ , (**decomposability**):

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \int \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) dx dy dz = \\ &= \int \int \int p(\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{z}) dx dy dz = \\ &= \int p(\mathbf{x}) dx \int p(\mathbf{y}) dy \int p(\mathbf{z}) dz \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  integrals decompose into easier ones



**Smoothness** + **decomposability** = **tractable MAR**

Forward pass evaluation for MAR

$\Rightarrow$  linear in circuit size!

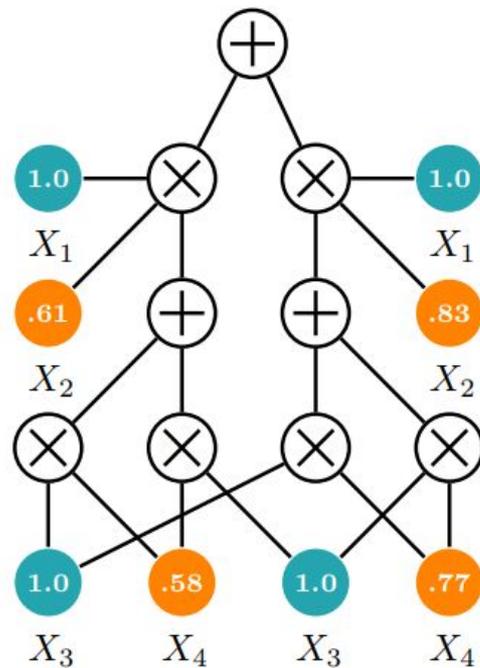
E.g. to compute  $p(x_2, x_4)$ :

leaves over  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  output  $Z_i = \int p(x_i) dx_i$

$\Rightarrow$  for normalized leaf distributions: **1.0**

leaves over  $X_2$  and  $X_4$  output **EVI**

feedforward evaluation (bottom-up)



# Smoothness + decomposability = tractable MAR

Forward pass evaluation for MAR

$\Rightarrow$  linear in circuit size!

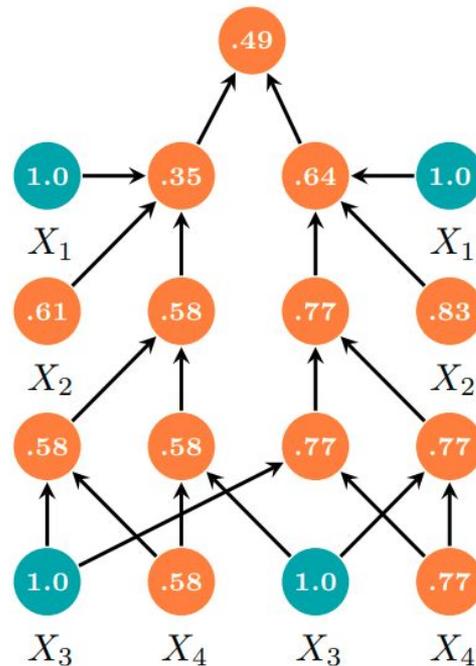
E.g. to compute  $p(x_2, x_4)$ :

■ leafs over  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  output  $Z_i = \int p(x_i) dx_i$

$\Rightarrow$  for normalized leaf distributions: **1.0**

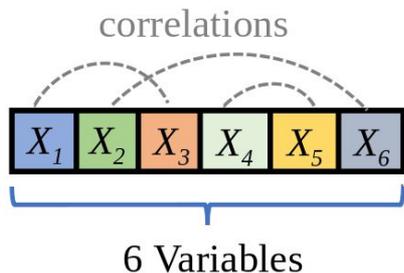
■ leafs over  $X_2$  and  $X_4$  output **EVI**

■ feedforward evaluation (bottom-up)

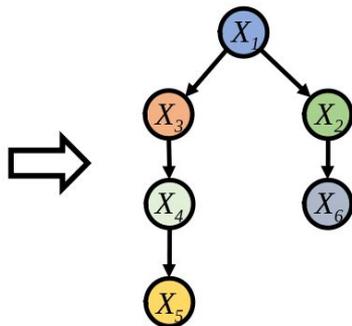


# Learning Expressive Probabilistic Circuits

## Hidden Chow-Liu Trees

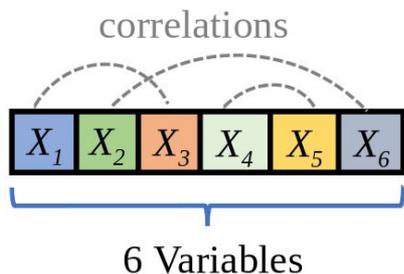


Learned **CLT structure**  
captures strong pairwise  
dependencies

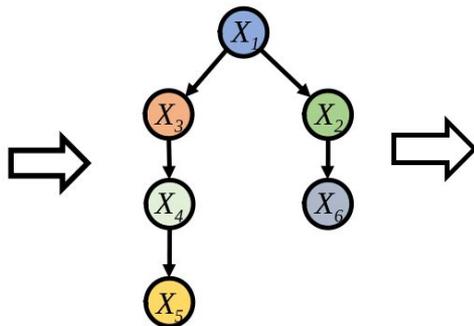


# Learning Expressive Probabilistic Circuits

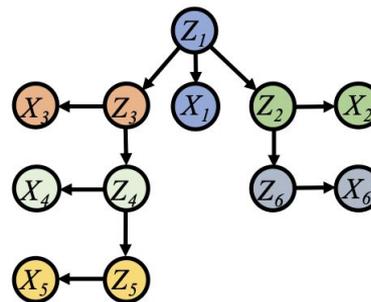
## Hidden Chow-Liu Trees



Learned **CLT structure**  
captures strong pairwise  
dependencies



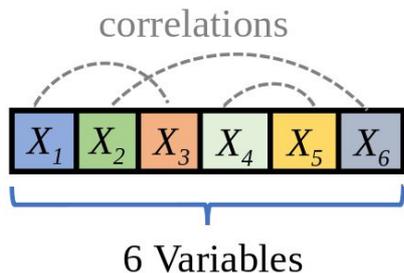
Learned **HCLT structure**



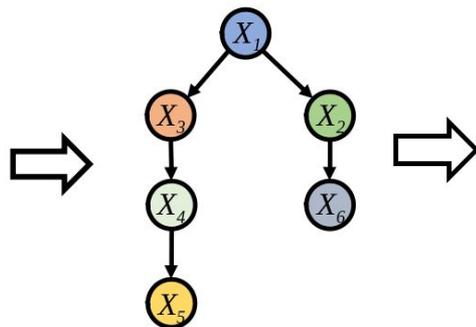
⇒ **Compile into an  
equivalent PC**

# Learning Expressive Probabilistic Circuits

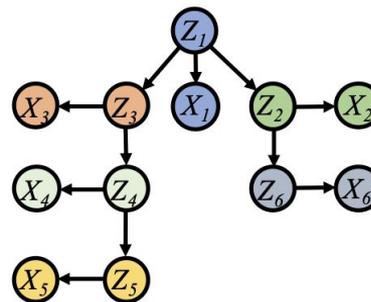
## Hidden Chow-Liu Trees



Learned **CLT structure**  
captures strong pairwise  
dependencies



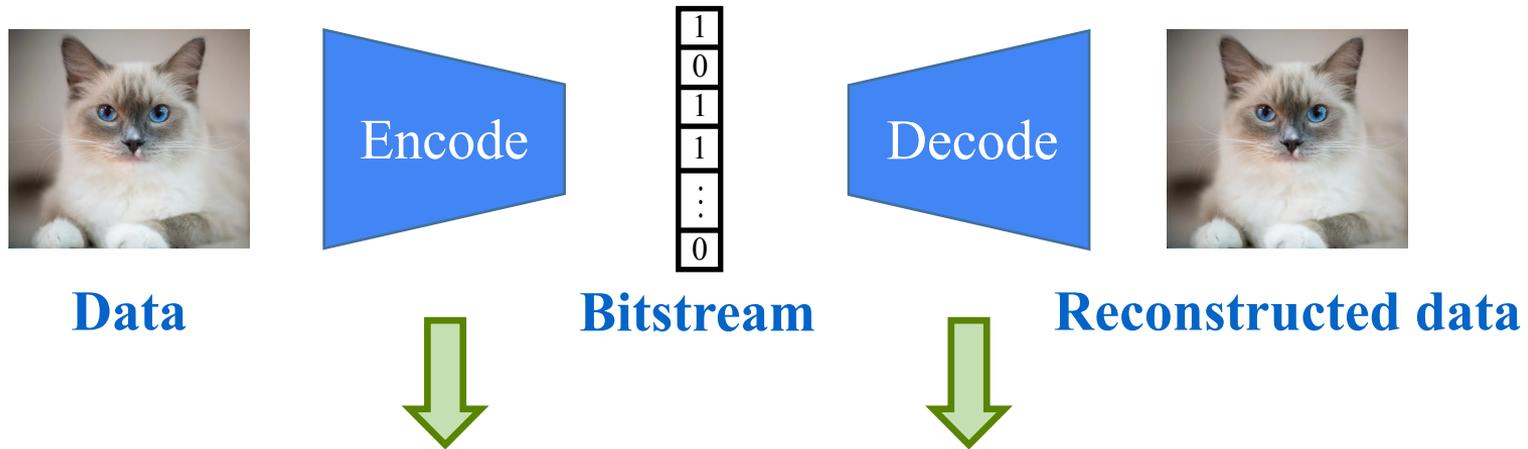
Learned **HCLT structure**



⇒ **Compile** into an  
equivalent PC

⇒ Mini-batch Stochastic  
**Expectation Maximization**

# Lossless Data Compression



Expressive probabilistic model  $p(\mathbf{x})$

+

Efficient coding algorithm

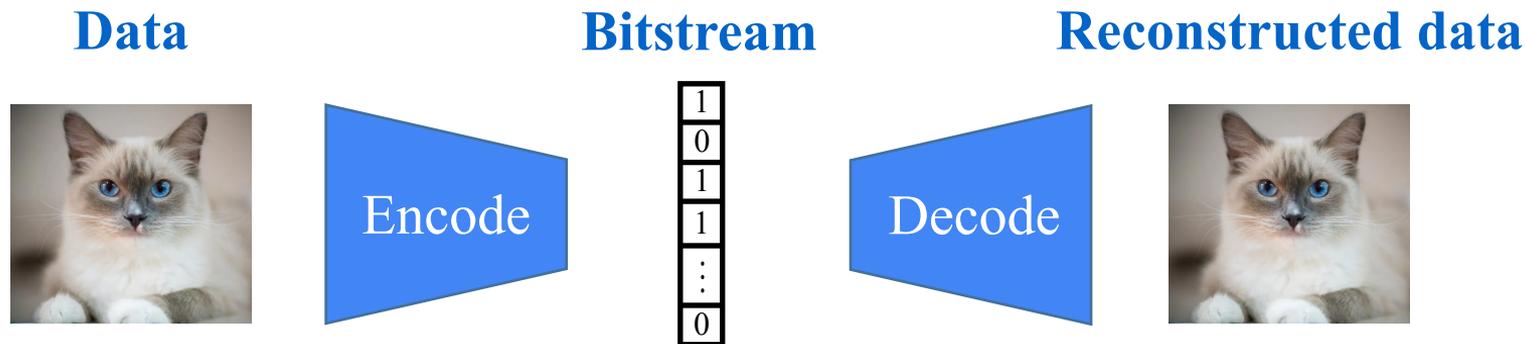


Determines the theoretical limit of compression rate



How close we can approach the theoretical limit

# Lossless Neural Compression with Probabilistic Circuits



## Probabilistic Circuits

- **Expressive** → SoTA likelihood on MNIST.
- **Fast** → Time complexity of en/decoding is  $\mathbf{O}(|p| \log(\mathbf{D}))$ , where  $\mathbf{D}$  is the # variables and  $|p|$  is the size of the PC.

## Arithmetic Coding:

$$\begin{aligned} & p(X_1 < x_1) \\ & p(X_1 \leq x_1) \\ & p(X_2 < x_2 | x_1) \\ & p(X_2 \leq x_2 | x_1) \\ & p(X_3 < x_3 | x_1, x_2) \\ & p(X_3 \leq x_3 | x_1, x_2) \\ & \vdots \end{aligned}$$

# Lossless Neural Compression with Probabilistic Circuits

## SoTA compression rates

Dataset	HCLT (ours)	IDF	BitSwap	BB-ANS	JPEG2000	WebP	McBits
MNIST	<b>1.24</b> (1.20)	1.96 (1.90)	1.31 (1.27)	1.42 (1.39)	3.37	2.09	(1.98)
FashionMNIST	3.37 (3.34)	3.50 (3.47)	<b>3.35</b> (3.28)	3.69 (3.66)	3.93	4.62	(3.72)
EMNIST (Letter)	<b>1.84</b> (1.80)	2.02 (1.95)	1.90 (1.84)	2.29 (2.26)	3.62	3.31	(3.12)
EMNIST (ByClass)	<b>1.89</b> (1.85)	2.04 (1.98)	1.91 (1.87)	2.24 (2.23)	3.61	3.34	(3.14)

Compress and decompress 5-40x faster than NN methods with similar bitrates

Method	# parameters	Theoretical bpd	Codeword bpd	Comp. time (s)	Decomp. time (s)
PC (HCLT, $M=16$ )	3.3M	1.26	1.30	9	44
PC (HCLT, $M=24$ )	5.1M	1.22	1.26	15	86
PC (HCLT, $M=32$ )	7.0M	1.20	1.24	26	142
IDF	24.1M	1.90	1.96	288	592
BitSwap	2.8M	1.27	1.31	578	326

# Lossless Neural Compression with Probabilistic Circuits

Can be effectively combined with Flow models to achieve better generative performance

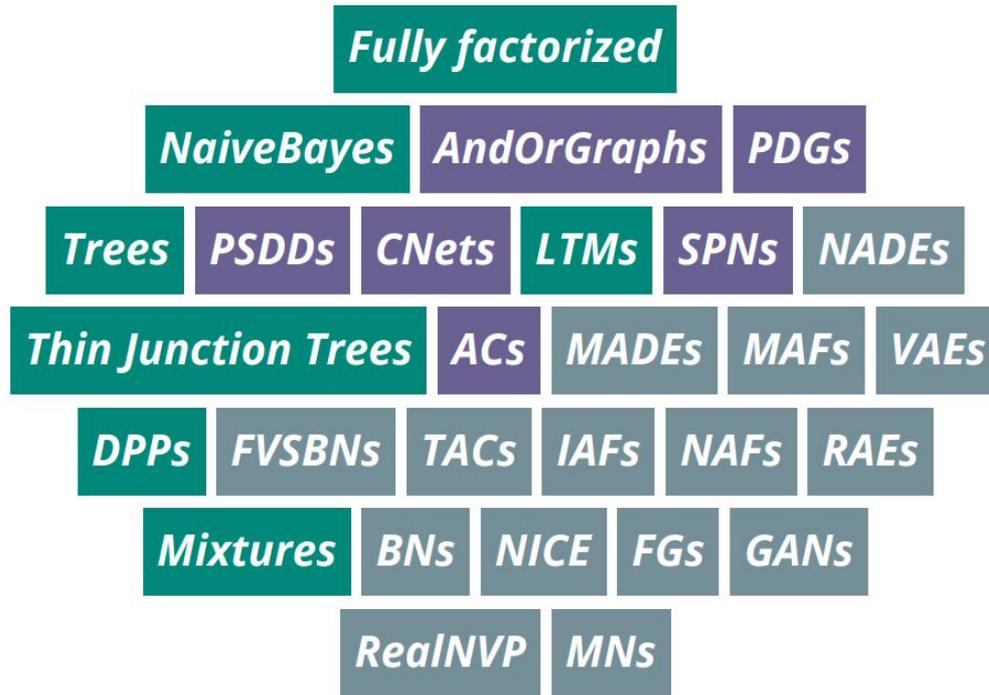
Model	CIFAR10	ImageNet32	ImageNet64
RealNVP	3.49	4.28	3.98
Glow	3.35	4.09	3.81
IDF	3.32	4.15	3.90
IDF++	<b>3.24</b>	4.10	3.81
PC+IDF	3.28	<b>3.99</b>	<b>3.71</b>

# *PC Learners keep getting better! ... stay tuned ...*

Table 1: Density estimation performance on MNIST-family datasets in test set bpd.

Dataset	Sparse PC (ours)	HCLT	RatSPN	IDF	BitSwap	BB-ANS	McBits
MNIST	<b>1.14</b>	1.20	1.67	1.90	1.27	1.39	1.98
EMNIST(MNIST)	<b>1.52</b>	1.77	2.56	2.07	1.88	2.04	2.19
EMNIST(Letters)	<b>1.58</b>	1.80	2.73	1.95	1.84	2.26	3.12
EMNIST(Balanced)	<b>1.60</b>	1.82	2.78	2.15	1.96	2.23	2.88
EMNIST(ByClass)	<b>1.54</b>	1.85	2.72	1.98	1.87	2.23	3.14
FashionMNIST	<b>3.27</b>	3.34	4.29	3.47	3.28	3.66	3.72

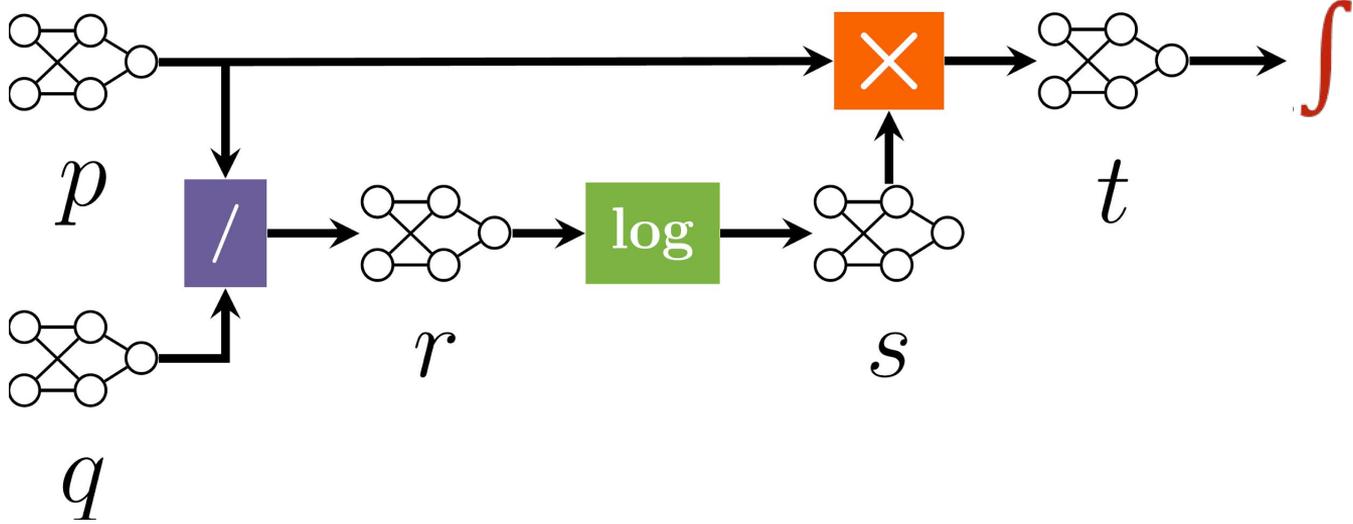
Dataset	PC	Bipartite flow	AF/SCF	IAF/SCF
Penn Treebank	<b>1.23</b>	1.38	1.46	1.63



***Expressive* models without *compromises***

# Queries as pipelines: KLD

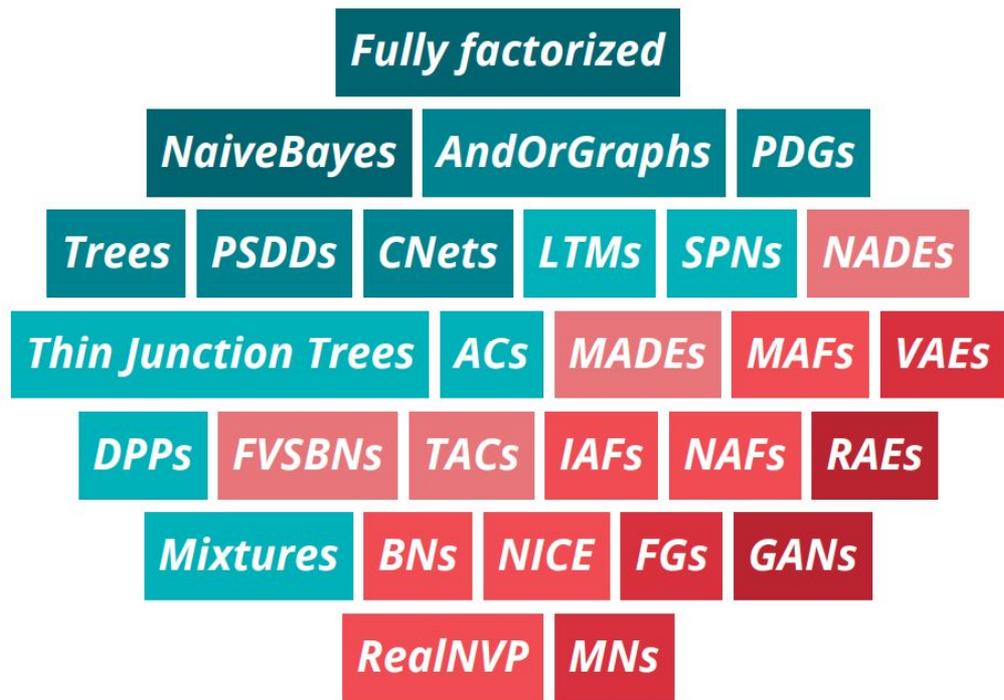
$$\text{KLD}(p \parallel q) = \int p(\mathbf{x}) \times \log((p(\mathbf{x})/q(\mathbf{x})))d\mathbf{X}$$



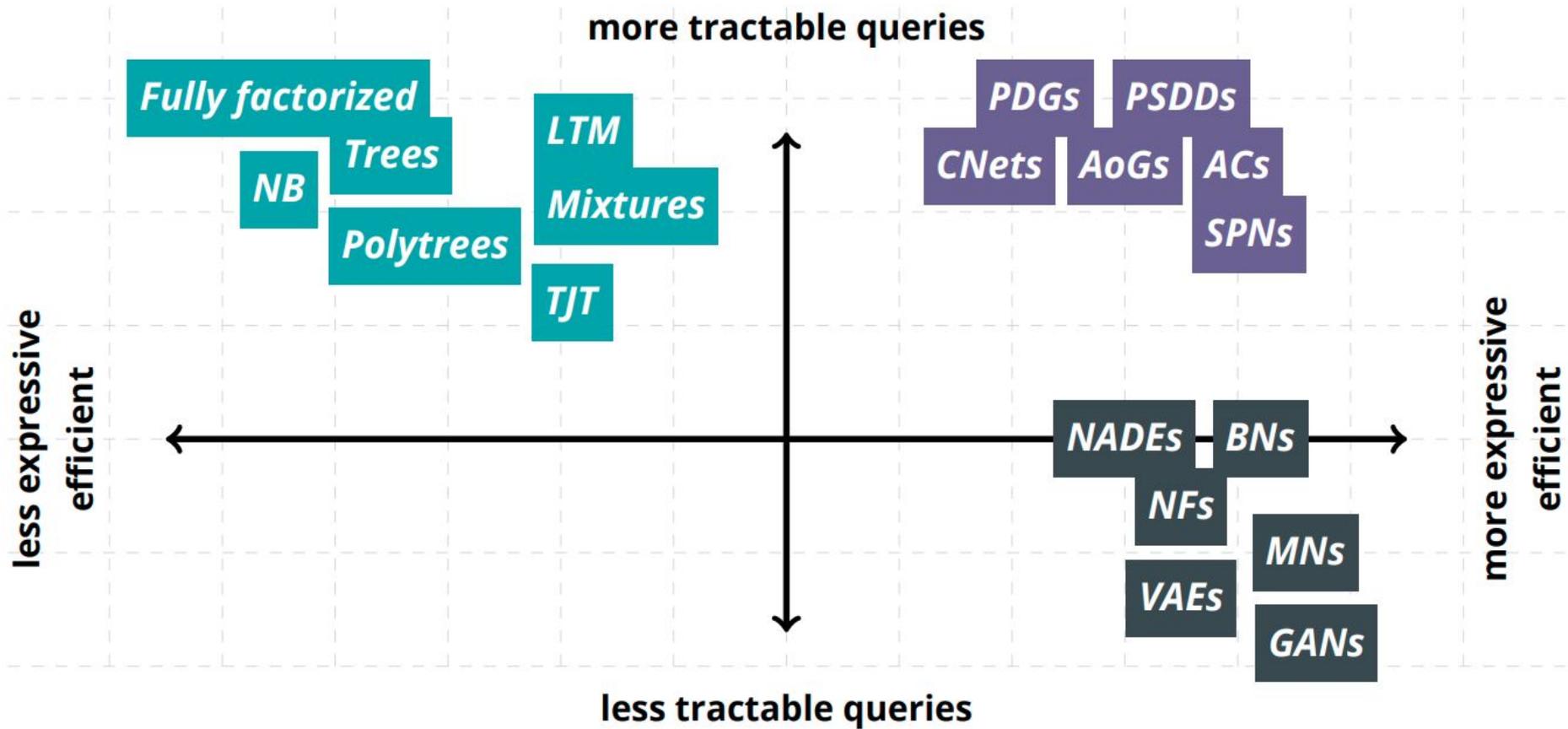
# Inference by tractable operations

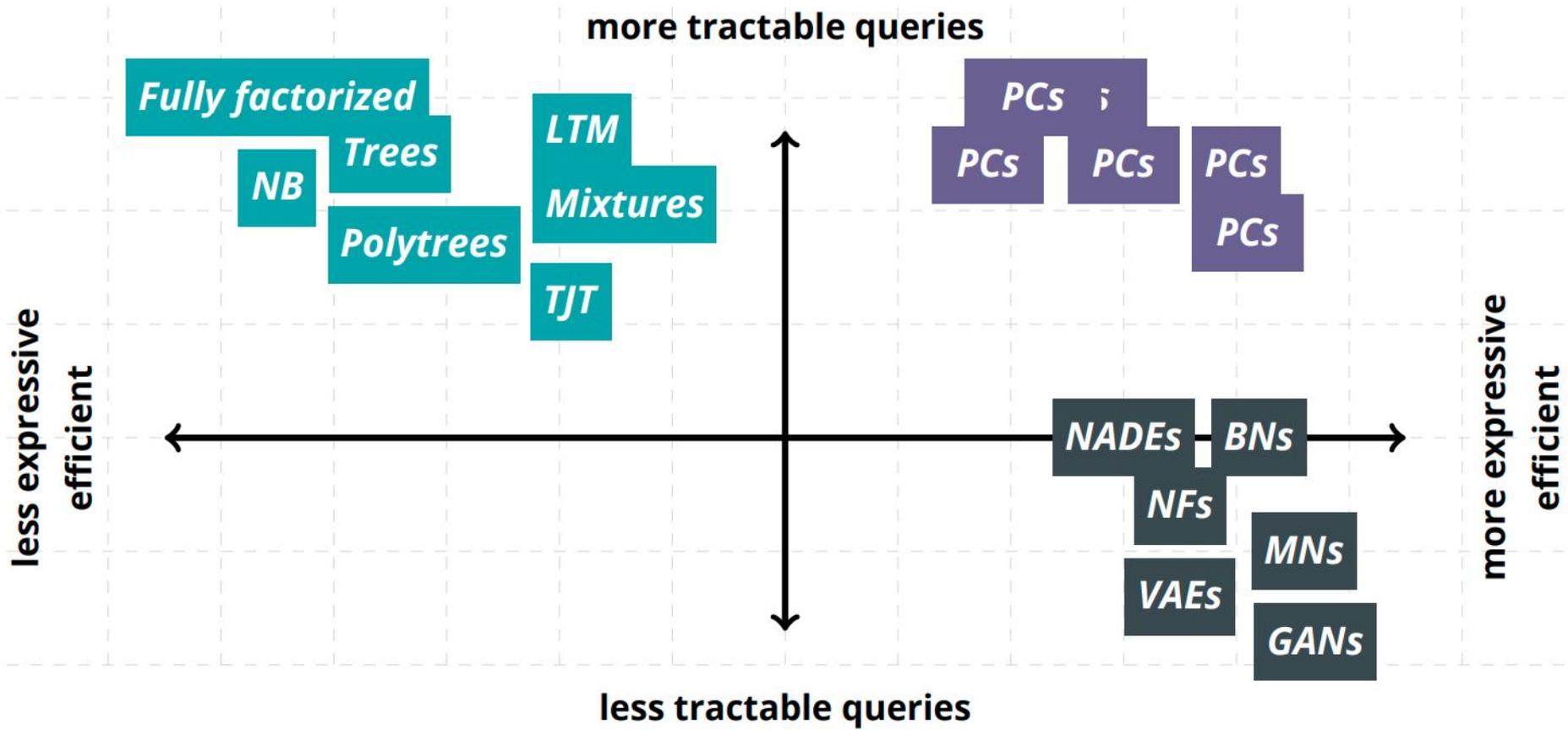
*systematically derive* tractable inference algorithm of complex queries

	Query	Tract. Conditions	Hardness
CROSS ENTROPY	$-\int p(\mathbf{x}) \log q(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}$	Cmp, $q$ Det	#P-hard w/o Det
SHANNON ENTROPY	$-\sum p(\mathbf{x}) \log p(\mathbf{x})$	Sm, Dec, Det	coNP-hard w/o Det
RÉNYI ENTROPY	$(1 - \alpha)^{-1} \log \int p^\alpha(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{N}$	SD	#P-hard w/o SD
MUTUAL INFORMATION	$(1 - \alpha)^{-1} \log \int p^\alpha(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$	Sm, Dec, Det	#P-hard w/o Det
KULLBACK-LEIBLER DIV.	$\int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \log(p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) / (p(\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{y})))$	Sm, SD, Det*	coNP-hard w/o SD
RÉNYI'S ALPHA DIV.	$\int p(\mathbf{x}) \log(p(\mathbf{x}) / q(\mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{X}$	Cmp, Det	#P-hard w/o Det
ITAKURA-SAITO DIV.	$(1 - \alpha)^{-1} \log \int p^\alpha(\mathbf{x}) q^{1-\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{N}$	Cmp, $q$ Det	#P-hard w/o Det
CAUCHY-SCHWARZ DIV.	$(1 - \alpha)^{-1} \log \int p^\alpha(\mathbf{x}) q^{1-\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$	Cmp, Det	#P-hard w/o Det
SQUARED LOSS	$\int [p(\mathbf{x}) / q(\mathbf{x}) - \log(p(\mathbf{x}) / q(\mathbf{x})) - 1] d\mathbf{X}$	Cmp, Det	#P-hard w/o Det
	$-\log \frac{\int p(\mathbf{x}) q(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}}{\sqrt{\int p^2(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X} \int q^2(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{X}}}$	Cmp	#P-hard w/o Cmp
	$\int (p(\mathbf{x}) - q(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mathbf{X}$	Cmp	#P-hard w/o Cmp



**tractability is a spectrum**





# Learn more about probabilistic circuits?



## Tutorial (3h)

**Probabilistic Circuits**

*Inference  
Representations  
Learning  
Theory*

**Antonio Vergari**  
University of California, Los Angeles

**YooJung Choi**  
University of California, Los Angeles

**Robert Peharz**  
TU Eindhoven

**Guy Van den Broeck**  
University of California, Los Angeles

September 14th, 2020 - Ghent, Belgium - ECML-PKDD 2020

<https://youtu.be/2RAG5-L9R70>

## Overview Paper (80p)

**Probabilistic Circuits:  
A Unifying Framework for Tractable Probabilistic Models\***

**YooJung Choi**  
**Antonio Vergari**  
**Guy Van den Broeck**  
*Computer Science Department  
University of California  
Los Angeles, CA, USA*

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2.2	Probabilistic Queries . . . . .	6
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2.4	Properties of Tractable Probabilistic Models . . . . .	9

<http://starai.cs.ucla.edu/papers/ProbCirc20.pdf>

# Thanks

*This was the work of many wonderful  
students/postdocs/collaborators!*

References: <http://starai.cs.ucla.edu/publications/>