Uniqueness of Belief Propagation on Signed Graphs

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Main result: new condition for the uniqueness of the fixed point of BP algorithm

What is BP

- BP is for approximate inference on graphical models.
- BP is a message passing algorithm on graphs.

Problem of BP

BP may have multiple fixed points.

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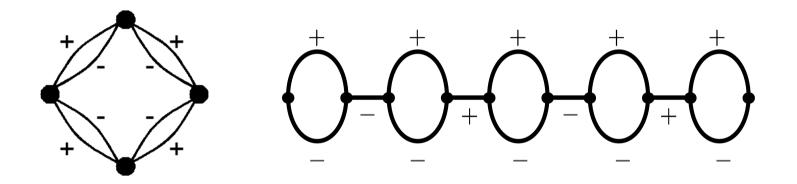
Problem of BP

- BP may have multiple fixed points.
 - Matters for uniqueness
 - 1. Graph topology: cycles
 - 2. Interaction of variables: strength, sign

In previous researches, information of sign is never used!

Main result

- We explicitly give the class of signed graphs where the uniqueness of BP is *always* guaranteed.
- Examples:



Technical novelty

Extend graph zeta function techniques.

Y. Watanabe and K. Fukumizu, "Graph zeta function in the Bethe free energy and loopy belief propagation", NIPS 2009.