

# Higher-order Graph Cuts

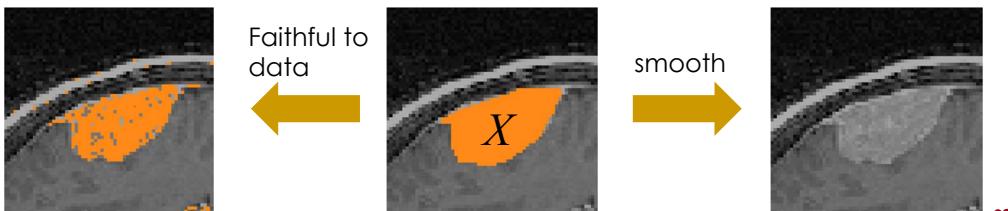


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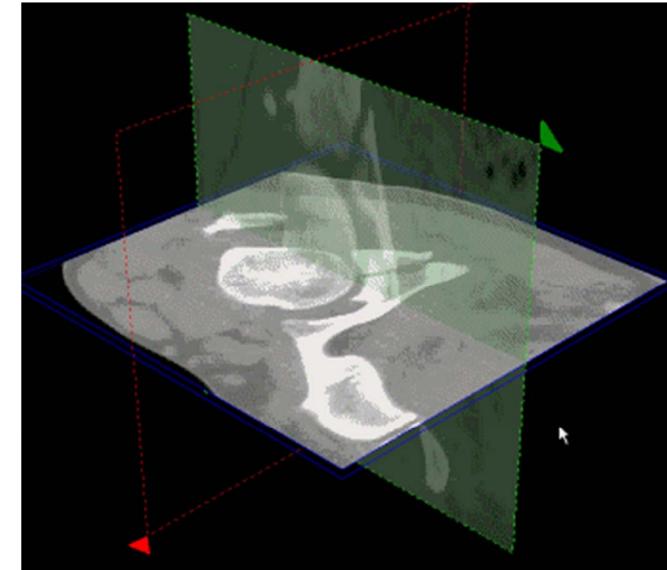
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## Example: Segmentation

- Local model
  - ex.: Models of pixel values for each kind of tissue
- Prior model / regularization
  - Assume smoothness
- Express the **tradeoff** by an energy  $E(X)$ 
  - Faithful to the data and model and smooth



## Example: Segmentation



Boykov&Jolly  
ICCV2001

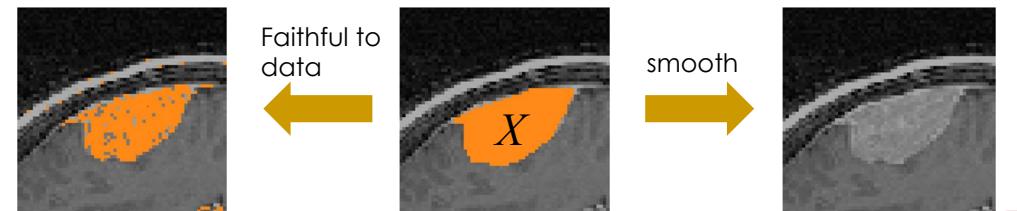
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## Example: Segmentation

- Find the  $X$  that **minimizes** the energy

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \kappa |X_u - X_v|$$

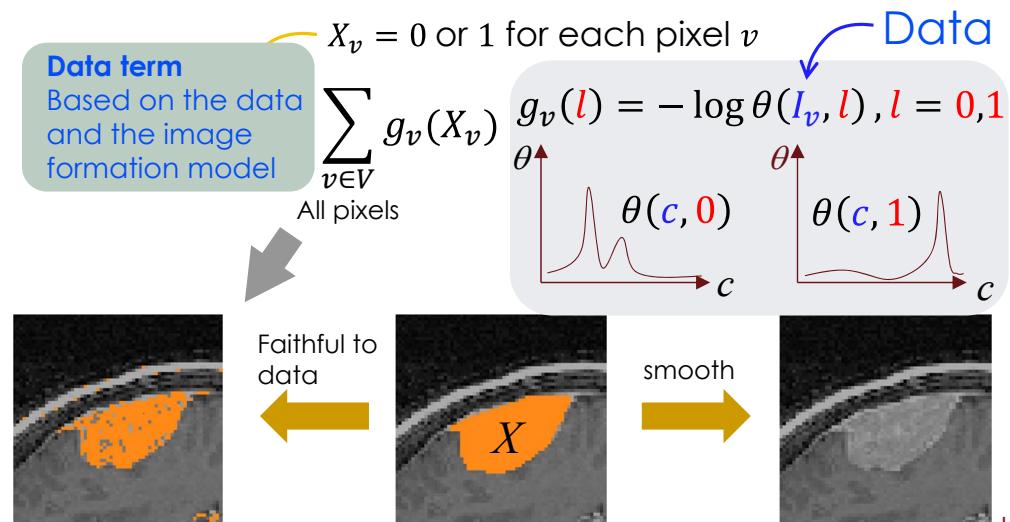
All pixels                                    Neighboring pairs of pixels



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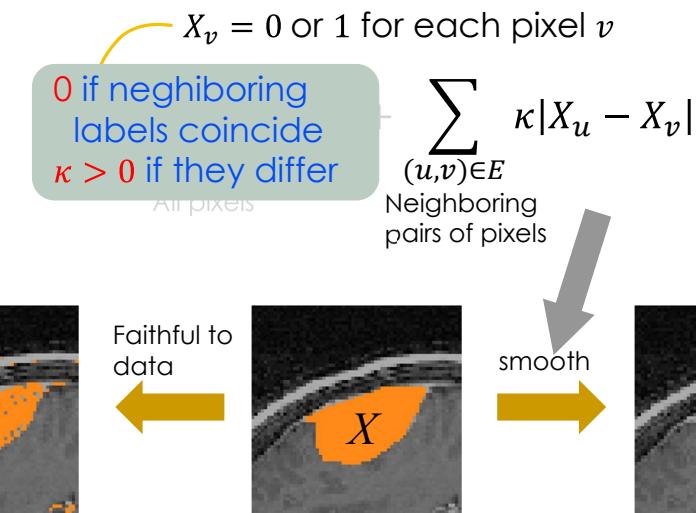
## Example: Segmentation

- Find the  $X$  that minimizes the energy



## Example: Segmentation

- Find the  $X$  that minimizes the energy



## Energy Minimization

- Consider the energy of the form

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

Data term      Smoothing term

where  $V$  is the set of locations (sites)  
 $E$  is the set of neighboring pairs of sites  
 $X$  assigns a **label** to each site in  $V$

- 1<sup>st</sup> order Markov Random Field (MRF)
- Problem:** Find the  $X$  that minimizes  $E(X)$

## Energy Minimization

- Problem:** Find the  $X$  that minimizes  $E(X)$
- Possible  $X$ 
  - Combinations of labeling the sites
  - If  $V$  is  $64 \times 64$  and labels 0,1,  $2^{4096} > 10^{1233}$
- NP-Hard in general
- Old method: Monte Carlo
- For some form of energy, Graph cut algorithms can **globally minimize**

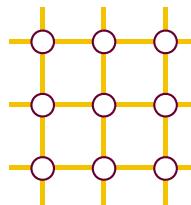
# Markov Random Field

- Graph  $G = (V, E)$ 
  - $V$ : each  $v \in V$  has an  $L$ -valued random variable  $X_v$
  - $E$ : represents dependence
- $\mathcal{C}$ : set of cliques in  $V$
- Probability distribution of MRF

$$P(X) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} q_C(X_C) = \frac{p(X)}{Z}$$

$$Z = \sum_{X \in \mathcal{X}} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} q_C(X_C) = \sum_{X \in \mathcal{X}} p(X)$$

$$X_C = (X_v)_{v \in C}$$



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## First order MRF

- The simplest (interesting) MRF

Geman & Geman 1984; Besag 1986

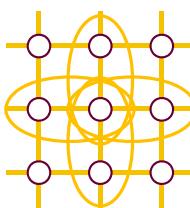
- Model neighborhood relation

$$\mathcal{C} \approx V \cup E$$

$$p(X) = \prod_{v \in V} \psi_v(X_v) \prod_{(u,v) \in E} \phi_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

- Energy

$$E(X) = \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} f_C(X_C) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$



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# Markov Random Field

- Rewrite the MRF probability distribution

$$P(X) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} q_C(X_C) = \frac{p(X)}{Z}$$

$p(X)$

as

$$p(X) = e^{-E(X)}$$

$$E(X) = \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} f_C(X_C)$$

Energy

Potential

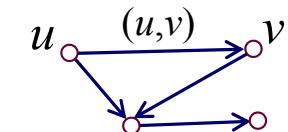
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## Graphs and cuts

- Directed graph

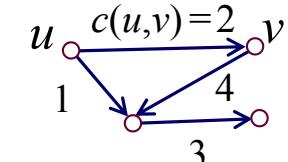
$$G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$$

$\mathcal{V}$  : Finite set  
(vertices)       $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}$   
edges



- Edges are weighted

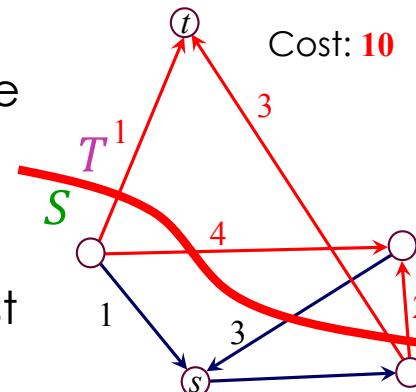
$$c : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$



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## Graphs and cuts

- Choose  $s, t \in \mathcal{V}$
- **Cut:** partition  $\mathcal{V} = S \cup T$   
 $S \cap T = \emptyset, s \in S, t \in T$
- **Cost** of cut: sum of the weights of the edges going from  $S$  to  $T$
- **Minimum cut:** the cut with the minimum cost
- When all weights  $\geq 0$ , the minimum cut can be found efficiently



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## Labeling problem

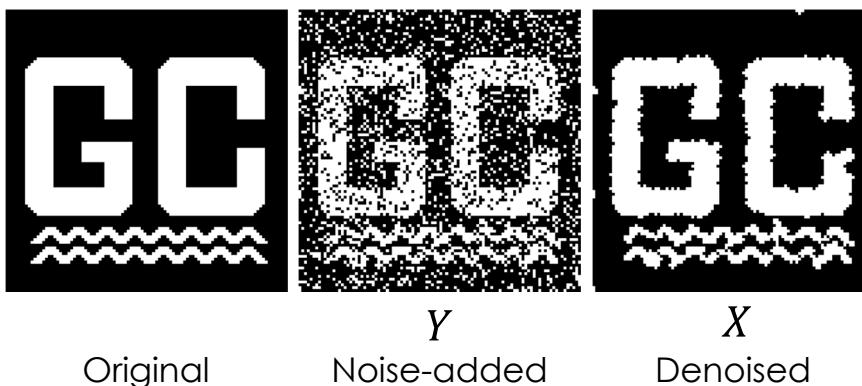


Y  
Original  
Noise-added  
X  
Denoised

- Assign a label to each pixel
  - Pixel  $v \in V \rightarrow$  Label  $X_v \in L$
- Set of possible labelings:  $\mathcal{X} = L^V$

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## Simplest example



Original

Noise-added

Denoised

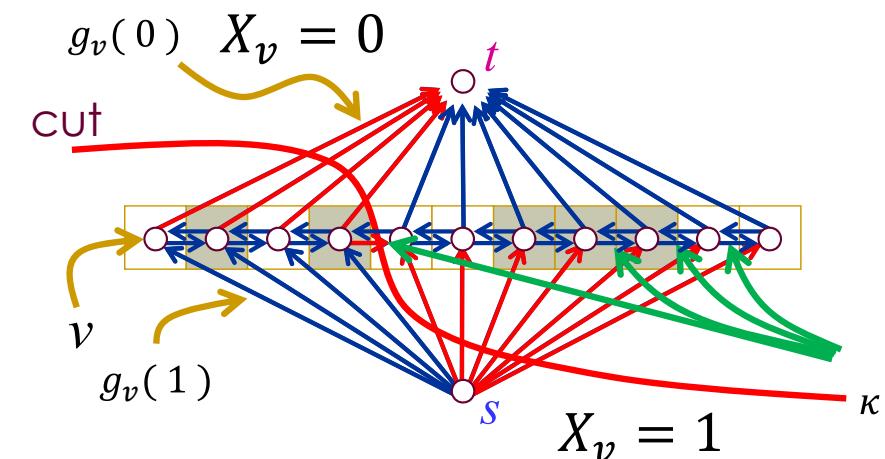
$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} \lambda |Y_v - X_v| + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} |X_u - X_v|$$

- Globally optimizable using graph cuts  
 Greig, Porteous and Seheult '89

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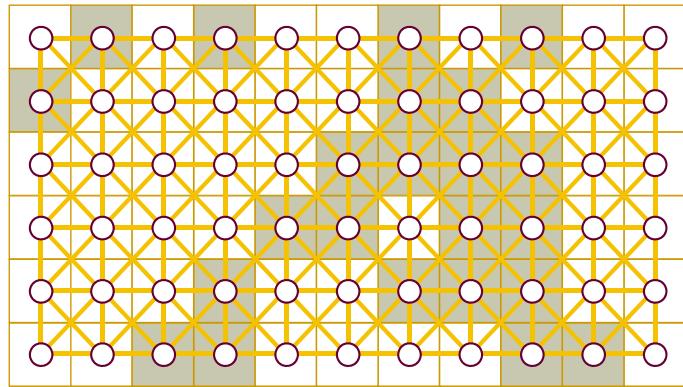
## Energy minimization by minimum cuts (binary case)

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \kappa |X_u - X_v|$$



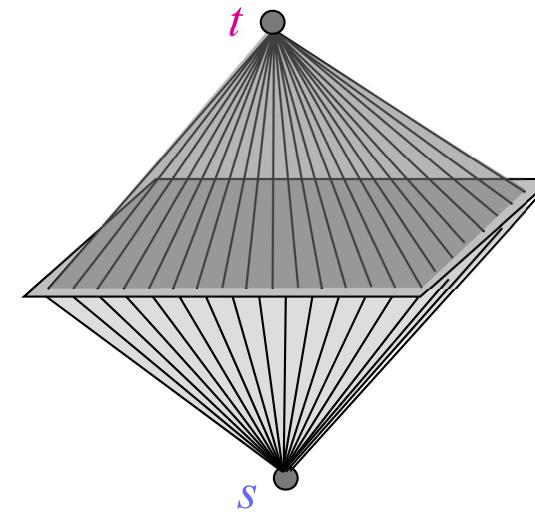
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## Image plane graph



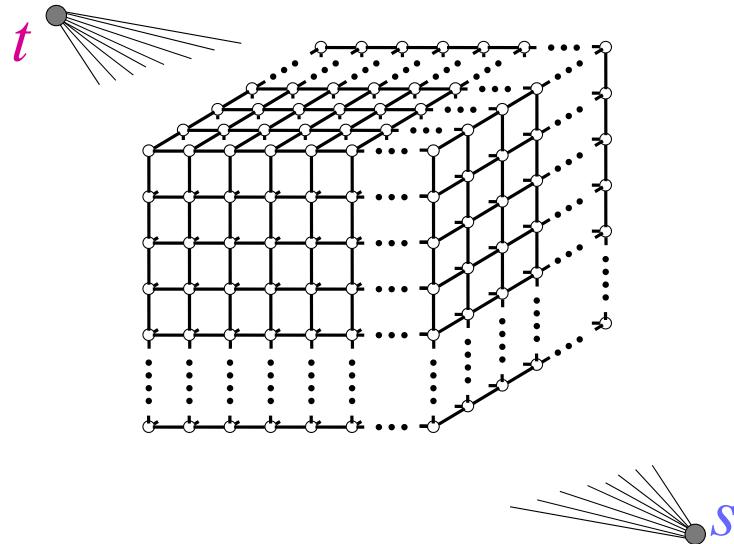
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## Image plane graph



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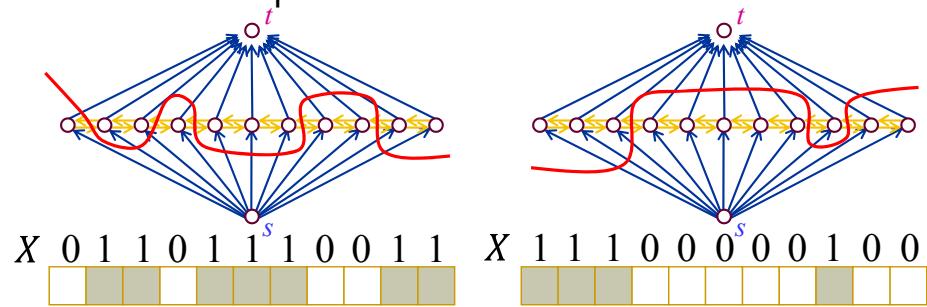
## The 3D case



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## Energy minimization by minimum cuts (binary case)

- 1:1 correspondence between  $X$  and cuts



- Energy = Cut cost
- Minimum cut  $\rightarrow$  Energy minimization
- The weight must be  $\geq 0$

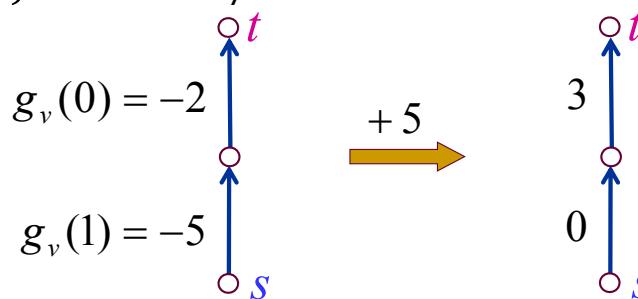
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## Energy minimization by minimum cuts (binary case)

- The edge weight must be  $\geq 0$ 
  - What energy can be minimized?

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

- $g_v(x)$  is arbitrary



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## Energy minimization by minimum cuts ( $\geq 3$ labels)

Ishikawa IEEE TPAMI 2003

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

- If the  $L$  has linear order  $L = \{l_0, l_1, \dots, l_k\}$ 
  - Globally minimizeable  $\Leftrightarrow h_{uv}(l_i, l_j)$  is a convex function of  $i - j$

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## Energy minimization by minimum cuts (binary case)

- The edge weight must be  $\geq 0$ 
  - What energy can be minimized?

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

- $g_v(x)$  is arbitrary
- What about  $h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$ ?

Submodularity condition

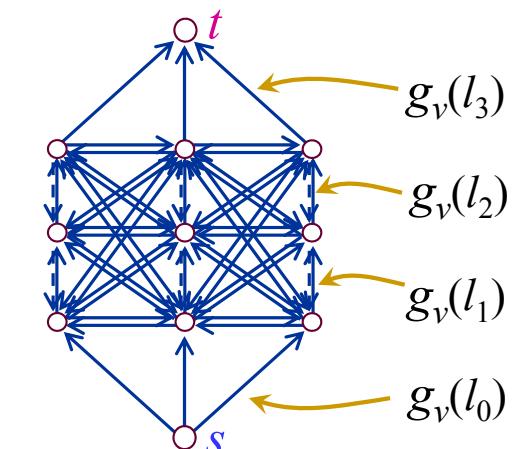
$$h_{uv}(0,0) + h_{uv}(1,1) \leq h_{uv}(0,1) + h_{uv}(1,0)$$

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## Energy minimization by minimum cuts ( $\geq 3$ labels)

Ishikawa IEEE TPAMI 2003

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$



In general:  $h_{uv}(l_i, l_j) = \tilde{h}_{uv}(i - j)$ ,  $\tilde{h}_{uv}$ :convex

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# Energy minimization by minimum cuts ( $\geq 3$ labels)

$$E(X) = \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

- If the  $L$  has linear order  $L = \{l_0, l_1, \dots, l_k\}$ 
    - Globally minimizeable  $\Leftrightarrow h_{uv}(l_i, l_j)$  is a convex function of  $i - j$
  - Approximation algorithms [Boykov et al. IEEE TPAMI 2001](#)
    - $\alpha\beta$  swap,  $\alpha$ -expansion
    - Minimizes within factor  $c = \max_{u,v \in V} \left( \frac{\max_{X_u \neq X_v} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)}{\min_{X_u \neq X_v} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)} \right)$   
2c of the global minimum
    - $c = 1$  with the Potts model
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## $\alpha$ -expansion

In each iteration, the  $\alpha$  area expands



- Initial
- expansion
  - expansion
  - expansion
  - expansion
  - expansion
  - expansion
  - expansion

Choose the move that minimizes best :  
**binary optimization**

Courtesy Yuri Boykov

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# $\geq 3$ labels, approximation

## Move-making algorithms

- Iterative approximation algorithms
- In each iteration, finds the **globally optimal move** using **binary graph cuts**

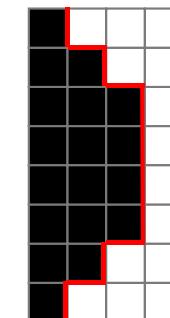
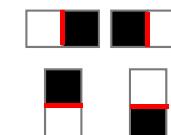
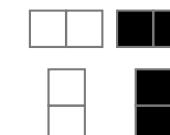
## Move

- $\alpha\beta$  swap
  - Allows label changes  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta, \beta \rightarrow \alpha$  only
- $\alpha$ -expansion
  - Allows changing to  $\alpha$  only

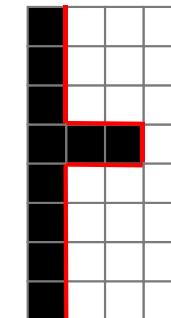
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## First-order energy

Good (Low Energy)      Bad (High Energy)



12 Bad  
40 Good

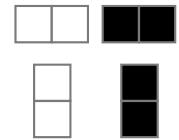


12 Bad  
40 Good

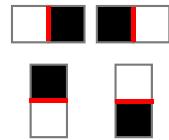
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## Higher-order energy

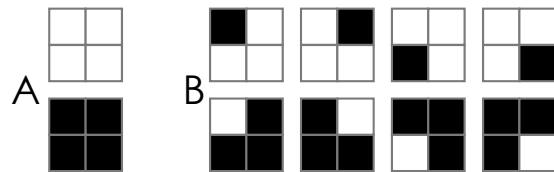
Good (Low Energy)



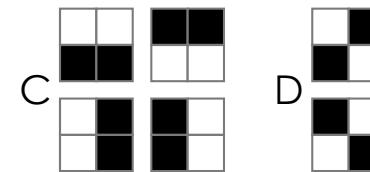
Bad (High Energy)



Better (Lower Energy)  $\longleftrightarrow$



Worse (Higher Energy)



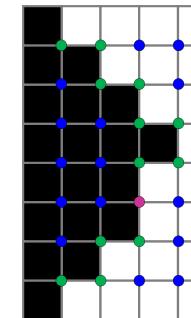
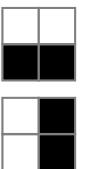
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## Higher-order energy

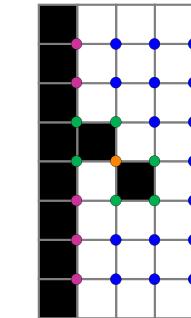
Better (Lower Energy)



Worse (Higher Energy)



A: 15  
B: 12  
C: 1  
D: 0



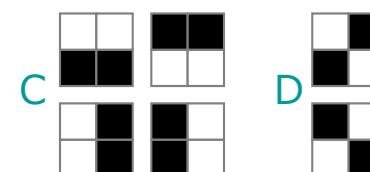
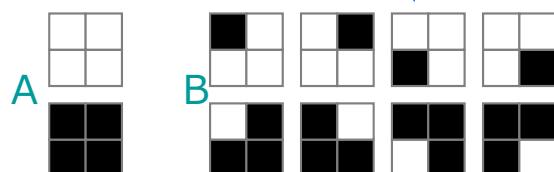
A: 16  
B: 6  
C: 5  
D: 1

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## Higher-order energy

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} f_C(X_C) \\ &= \sum_{v \in V} g_v(X_v) + \sum_{(u,v)} h_{uv}(X_u, X_v) \\ &\quad + \sum_{(u,v,s,t)} k_{uvst}(X_u, X_v, X_s, X_t) \end{aligned}$$

Better (Lower Energy)  $\longleftrightarrow$  Worse (Higher Energy)



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## Higher-order energy

- Transform arbitrary **higher-order** binary energy

Ishikawa CVPR 2009, PAMI 2011

$$E(X) = E(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} f_C(X_C)$$

into an equivalent **first-order** energy

$$\tilde{E}(\tilde{X}) = \tilde{E}(X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots, X_m) = \sum g_v(X_v) + \sum h_{uv}(X_u, X_v)$$

- Adds variables
- More than 2 labels  $\rightarrow$  Fusion moves

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## Functions of binary variables

- Pseudo-Boolean function (PBF)
  - Function of binary (**0** or **1**) variables
  - Can **always** write it **uniquely** as a **polynomial**
- One variable  $x$ :  $E_0(1-x) + E_1x$
- Two variables  $x, y$ :  
 $E_{00}(1-x)(1-y) + E_{01}(1-x)y + E_{10}x(1-y) + E_{11}xy$
- Three variables  $x, y, z$ :  
 $E_{000}(1-x)(1-y)(1-z) + E_{001}(1-x)(1-y)z + \dots + E_{111}xyz$
- $n^{\text{th}}$  order binary MRF =  $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$  degree PBF

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## 2<sup>nd</sup>-Order (Cubic) Case

Kolmogorov & Zabih. PAMI2004  
 Freedman & Drineas. CVPR2005

Reduce **cubic** PBF into **quadratic** one using

$$xyz = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(x + y + z - 2)$$

$x$	$y$	$z$	
0	0	0	$0 = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w \cdot (-2) = \max\{0, -2\} = 0$
0	0	1	$0 = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w \cdot (-1) = \max\{0, -1\} = 0$
0	1	1	$0 = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w \cdot 0 = 0$
1	1	1	$1 = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w \cdot 1 = \max\{0, 1\} = 1$

## 2<sup>nd</sup>-Order (Cubic) Case

$$xyz = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(x + y + z - 2)$$

If  $a < 0$      $a xyz = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} a w(x + y + z - 2)$

Thus  $\min_{x, y, z \in \mathbb{B}} a xyz = \min_{x, y, z, w \in \mathbb{B}} a w(x + y + z - 2)$

So, in a minimization problem, we can **substitute**  
 $a xyz$  by  $a w(x + y + z - 2)$

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## Higher-Order Case

$$xyz = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(x + y + z - 2)$$

$$xyzt = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(x + y + z + t - 3)$$

$$xyztu = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(x + y + z + t + u - 4)$$

$$x_1 \cdots x_d = \max_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(x_1 + \cdots + x_d - (d - 1))$$

$$\min a x_1 \cdots x_d = \min a w(x_1 + \cdots + x_d - (d - 1))$$

*if  $a < 0$*

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## Higher-Order Case

- How about the case  $a > 0$  and  $d > 3$  ?
- Imagine such a formula:

$$xyzt = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(1^{\text{st}} \text{ degree}) + (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ degree})$$

- Notice LHS is symmetric
  - i.e., if we swap the value of two variables,
  - LHS is unchanged
- So RHS might be symmetric, too.

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## Quartic (degree 4) case

$$xyzt = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(1^{\text{st}} \text{ degree}) + (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ degree})$$

$$xyzt = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w P(s_1) + Q(s_1, s_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(s_1) &= as_1 + b \\ Q(s_1, s_2) &= \alpha s_1^2 + \beta s_1 + \gamma s_2 + \delta \end{aligned} \quad \begin{cases} s_1 = x+y+z+t \\ s_2 = xy+yz+zx+xt+yt+zt \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} s_1^2 &= (x+y+z+t)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + 2s_2 \\ &= s_1 + 2s_2 \quad (\text{since } x^2 = x, y^2 = y, \text{etc.}) \end{aligned}$$

$$Q(s_1, s_2) = cs_1 + ds_2 + e$$

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## Symmetric polynomials

### Fact

Any symmetric polynomial can be written as a polynomial in terms of **elementary symmetric polynomials**.

If  $f(x, y, z, t)$  is quadratic and symmetric, it can be written with a polynomial  $P(u, v)$ :

$$f(x, y, z, t) = P(s_1, s_2)$$

$$\text{ESPs} \begin{cases} s_1 = x + y + z + t \\ s_2 = xy + yz + zx + xt + yt + zt \end{cases}$$

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## Quartic (degree 4) case

$$xyzt = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(1^{\text{st}} \text{ degree}) + (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ degree})$$

$$xyzt = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(as_1 + b) + cs_1 + ds_2 + e$$

An exhaustive search for  $a, b, c, d, e$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} xyzt &= \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(-2s_1 + 3) + s_2 \\ &= \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(-2(x+y+z+t) + 3) \\ &\quad + xy + yz + zx + xt + yt + zt \end{aligned}$$

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## Quintic (degree 5) case

Similarly,

$$xyztu = \min_{(v,w) \in \mathbb{B}^2} \{v(-2r_1 + 3) + w(-r_1 + 3)\} + r_2$$

$$\begin{cases} r_1 = x + y + z + t + u \\ r_2 = xy + yz + zx + xt + yt + zt + xu + yu + zu + tu \end{cases}$$

and so on, until one can guess...

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## General case

$$x_1 \cdots x_d = \min_{w_1, \dots, w_{n_d}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n_d} w_i \left( k_i^d (-S_1 + 2i) - 1 \right) \right\} + S_2$$

where

$$n_d = \left\lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \right\rfloor \quad k_i^d = \begin{cases} 1 & d \text{ is odd and } i = n_d \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$S_1 = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i, \quad S_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^d x_i x_j$$

## Transformation

$$x_1 \cdots x_d = \max_w w(S_1 - (d-1))$$

$$x_1 \cdots x_d = \min_{w_1, \dots, w_{n_d}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n_d} w_i \left( k_i^d (-S_1 + 2i) - 1 \right) \right\} + S_2$$

$$S_1 = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i, \quad S_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^d x_i x_j$$

$$n_d = \left\lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \right\rfloor \quad k_i^d = \begin{cases} 1 & d \text{ is odd and } i = n_d \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Depending on the coefficient, take the one that has **min** and makes it into a part of overall minimization

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## Example

$$xyz = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} w(-(x+y+z)+1) + xy + yz + zx$$

$$\begin{aligned} xyzt = \min_{w \in \mathbb{B}} & w(-2(x+y+z+t)+3) \\ & + xy + yz + zx + xt + yt + zt \end{aligned}$$

$$\min_{x,y,z,t \in \mathbb{B}} (xy + yz + 2xyz + 3xyzt) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x,y,z,t,v,w \in \mathbb{B}} & \{xy + yz + 2v(-(x+y+z)+1) + 2(xy + yz + zx) \\ & + 3w(-2(x+y+z+t)+3) + 3(xy + yz + zx + xt + yt + zt)\} \end{aligned}$$

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## Multiple labels: Fusion Move

Assume labels  $L = \{l_1, \dots, l_N\}$

Labeling  $Y$  assigns a label  $Y_v$  to each  $v$

### Fusion Move

Lempitsky et al. ICCV2007

Iteratively update  $Y$ :

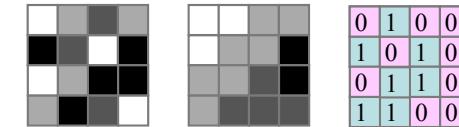
1. Generate a **proposed** labeling  $P$
2. **Merge**  $Y$  and  $P$

The merge defines a **binary** problem:

"For each  $v$ , **change**  $Y_v$  to  $P_v$  or not"

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## Multiple labels: Fusion Move



### Fusion Move

Iteratively update  $Y$ :

1. Generate a **proposed** labeling  $P$
2. **Merge**  $Y$  and  $P$

The merge defines a **binary** problem:

"For each  $v$ , **change**  $Y_v$  to  $P_v$  or not"

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## Fusion Move with QPBO

### QPBO (Roof duality)

Hammer et al. 1984, Boros et al. 1991, 2006

Kolmogorov & Rother PAMI2007, Rother et al. CVPR2007

Minimizes submodular  $E$  globally.

For non-submodular  $E$ , assigns each pixel

0, 1, or **unlabeled**

With fusion move, by not changing

**unlabeled** pixels to  $P$ ,  $E$  doesn't increase

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## Example: Denoising by FoE

### FoE (Fields of Experts) Roth & Black CVPR2005

A higher-order prior for natural images

$$E(Y) = \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} f_C(Y_C) \quad \mathcal{C}: \text{a set of cliques}$$
$$Y_C = (Y_v)_{v \in C}$$


$$f_C(Y_C) = \sum_{i=1}^K \alpha_i \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}(J_i \cdot Y_C)^2\right)$$


$$f_{\{v\}}(Y_{\{v\}}) = \frac{(N_v - Y_v)^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

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## Example: Denoising by FoE



Original

Noise-added

3<sup>rd</sup> order

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## Summary: Graph cuts

- **First order:**  $h_{uv}$  determines the applicability
  - Binary labels
    - Submodular: global minimization
    - Nonsubmodular: QPBO gives partial solution
  - More labels
    - Convex wrt linear order: global minimization
    - Approximation algorithms
      - $\alpha$ - $\beta$  swap
      - $\alpha$  expansion
      - fusion move
- **Higher order**
  - Binary labels: Transform to first order
  - More labels
    - Fusion move + transform binary energy to first order

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Thank you very much

非常感謝您

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