

10 Appendix

10.1 Missingness Process in Figure 1

Figure 1 Missingness Graph depicting the missingness process in a hypothetical (job-specific) gender wage gap study that measured the variables: sex (S), work experience(X), qualification(Q) and income(I). Fully observed and partially observed variables are represented by filled and hollow nodes respectively. While sex and work experience were found to be fully observed in all records i.e. $V_o = \{S, X\}$, qualification and income were found to be missing in some of the records i.e. $V_m = \{Q, I\}$. R_Q and R_I denote the causes of missingness of Q and I respectively and are assumed to be independent of S,Q,I and X. The assumptions in the model are: (1) women are likely to be less qualified and experienced than men, (2) income is determined by qualification and job experience of the candidate, and (3) missingness in Q and I are correlated, caused by unobserved common factors such as laziness or resistance to respond.

10.2 Testing compatibility between underlying and manifest distributions

Example 4. Let the incomplete dataset contain two partially observed variables, Z and W . The tests for compatibility between manifest distribution: $P_m(Z^*, W^*, R_z, R_w)$ and the underlying distribution: $P_u(Z, W, R_z, R_w)$ are:

Case-1: Let $X = \{Z, W\}$, then $Y = V_m \setminus X = \{\}$
 $P_m(Z^* = z, W^* = w, R_z = 0, R_w = 0) = P_u(Z = z, W = w, R_z = 0, R_w = 0) \forall z, w$

Case-2: Let $X = \{Z\}$, then $Y = \{W\}$
 $P_m(Z^* = z, W^* = m, R_z = 0, R_w = 1) = \sum_w P_u(Z = z, w, R_z = 0, R_w = 1) \forall z$

Case-3: Let $X = \{W\}$, then $Y = \{Z\}$
 $P_m(Z^* = m, W^* = w, R_z = 1, R_w = 0) = \sum_z P_u(z, W = w, R_z = 1, R_w = 0) \forall w$

Case-4: Let $X = \{\}$, then $Y = \{Z, W\}$
 $P_m(Z^* = m, W^* = m, R_z = 1, R_w = 1) = \sum_{z,w} P_u(z, w, R_z = 1, R_w = 1)$

10.3 Proof of theorem 1

Proof. follows from Theorem-1 in Mohan et al. [2013] (restated below as theorem 7) noting that ordered factorization is one specific form of decomposition. \square

Theorem 7 (Mohan et al. [2013]). A query Q defined over variables in $V_o \cup V_m$ is recoverable if it is decomposable into terms of the form $Q_j = P(S_j|T_j)$ such that T_j contains the missingness mechanism $R_v = 0$ of every partially observed variable V that appears in Q_j .

10.4 Recovering $P(V)$ when parents of R belong to $V_o \cup V_m$

Theorem 8 (Recoverability of the Joint $P(V)$ (Mohan et al. [2013])). Given a m -graph G with no edges between the R variables and no latent variables as parents of R variables, a necessary and sufficient condition for recovering the joint distribution $P(V)$ is that no variable X be a parent of its missingness mechanism R_X . Moreover, when recoverable, $P(V)$ is given by

$$P(v) = \frac{P(R = 0, v)}{\prod_i P(R_i = 0 | pa_{r_i}^o, pa_{r_i}^m, R_{pa_{r_i}^m} = 0)} \quad (6)$$

where $Pa_{r_i}^o \subseteq V_o$ and $Pa_{r_i}^m \subseteq V_m$ are the parents of R_i .

Example 5. We wish to recover $P(X, Y, Z)$ from the m -graph in Figure 1 (a). An enumeration of various orderings will reveal that none of the orders are admissible. Nevertheless, using theorem 8, we can recover the joint probability as given below:

$$P(X, Y, Z) = \frac{P(R'_x, R'_y, R'_z, X, Y, Z)}{P(R'_z|X, R'_x)P(R'_x|Y, R'_y)P(R'_y|Z, R'_z)}$$

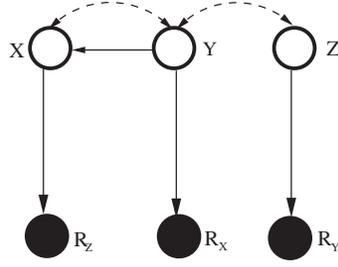


Figure 5: m-graph in which joint distribution is recoverable.

10.5 Proof of Theorem 2

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} P(V) &= \frac{P(R = 0, V)}{P(R = 0|V)} \\ &= \frac{P(R = 0, V)}{P(R^{(1)} = 0, R^{(2)} = 0, \dots, R^N = 0|V)} \end{aligned}$$

$Mb(R^{(i)})$ d-separates $R^{(i)}$ from all variables that are not in $R^{(i)} \cup Mb(R^{(i)})$ i.e. $R^{(i)} \perp\!\!\!\perp (\{R, V\} - \{R^{(i)}, Mb(R^{(i)})\}) | Mb(R^{(i)})$. Hence,

$$P(V) = \frac{P(R = 0, V)}{\prod_i P(R^{(i)} = 0 | Mb(R^{(i)}))}$$

Using $R^{(i)} \cap R_{Mb(R^{(i)})} = \emptyset$ and $R^{(i)} \perp\!\!\!\perp (\{R, V\} - \{R^{(i)}, Mb(R^{(i)})\}) | Mb(R^{(i)})$ we get,

$$P(V) = \frac{P(R = 0, V)}{\prod_i P(R^{(i)} = 0 | Mb(R^{(i)}), R_{Mb(R^{(i)})} = 0)}$$

Now we can directly apply equation 1 and express $P(V)$ in terms of quantities estimable from the available dataset. Therefore, $P(V)$ is recoverable. \square

10.6 Example: Recoverability by Theorem 2

Example 6. $P(X, Y, Z, W)$ is the query of interest and Figure 2 (b) depicts the missingness process and identifies the sets R^{part} and $Mb(R^{(i)})$. A quick inspection reveals that no admissible sequence exists. However, notice that $CI_1 : R^{(1)} \perp\!\!\!\perp (R^{(2)}, Mb(R^{(2)})) | Mb(R^{(1)})$ and $CI_2 : R^{(2)} \perp\!\!\!\perp (R^{(1)}, Mb(R^{(1)})) | Mb(R^{(2)})$ hold in the m-graph. We exploit these independencies to recover the joint distribution as detailed below:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X, Y, Z, W) &= \frac{P(R=0, X, Y, Z, W)}{P(R=0|X, Y, Z, W)} = \frac{P(R=0, X, Y, Z, W)}{P(R^{(1)}=0, R^{(2)}=0|X, Y, Z, W)} \\ &= \frac{P(R=0, X, Y, Z, W)}{P(R^{(1)}=0|X, Y, R^{(2)}=0)P(R^{(2)}=0|Z, W, R^{(1)}=0)} \quad (\text{Using } CI_1 \text{ and } CI_2) \\ P(V) &= \frac{P(R=0, X^*, Y^*, Z^*, W^*)}{P(R_w=0, R_z=0|X^*, Y^*, R_x=0, R_y=0)P(R_x=0, R_y=0|Z^*, W^*, R_z=0, R_w=0)} \quad (\text{By equation 1}) \end{aligned}$$

10.7 Proof of Corollary 1

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} P(V) &= \frac{P(R = 0, V)}{P(R = 0|V)} \\ &= \frac{P(R = 0, V)}{P(R^{(1)}, R^{(2)}, \dots, R^N|V)} \end{aligned}$$

Since $Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)}) \subseteq V$ d-separates R_i from all the other variables in $(V \cup R) \setminus (R^{(i)} \cup Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)}))$, we get

$$P(V) = \frac{P(R=0, V)}{\prod_i P(R^{(i)}=0 | Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)}))}$$

Using $R^{(i)} \cap R_{Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)})} = \emptyset$ and $R^{(i)} \perp\!\!\!\perp (\{R, V\} - \{R^{(i)}, Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)})\}) | Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)})$ we get,

$$P(V) = \frac{P(R=0, V)}{\prod_i P(R^{(i)}=0 | Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)}), R_{Pa^{sub}(R^{(i)})} = 0)}$$

□

10.8 Proof of Theorem 3

We will be using the following lemma (stated and proved in Mohan et al. [2013] (Supplementary materials)) in our proof.

Lemma 1. *If a target relation Q is not recoverable in m-graph G , then Q is not recoverable in the graph G' resulting from adding a single edge to G .*

Proof. Non-recoverability of $P(V)$ when X is a parent of R_x has been proved in Mohan et al. [2013]. If $P(V)$ is non-recoverable when G contains subgraph $G_1 : X \rightarrow R_x$, then $P(V)$ is non-recoverable when G contains subgraph $G_2 : X \leftarrow \dots U \dots \rightarrow R_x$ since, (a) G_1 and G_2 are equivalent models and (b) we are dealing with recoverability of a probabilistic query. Nevertheless, a detailed proof by construction follows.

M_1 and M_2 are two models in which variables U, X and R_x are binary and U is a fair coin. In M_1 , $X = 0$ and $R_x = u$ and in M_2 , $X = u$ and $R_x = u$. Notice that although the two models agree on the manifest distribution, they disagree on the query $P(X)$. Hence $P(X)$ is non-recoverable in $X \leftarrow \dots U \dots \rightarrow R_x$. Using Lemma-1 (Refer appendix), we can conclude that $P(V)$ is non-recoverable in any m-graph in which X and R_x are connected by a bi-directed edge.

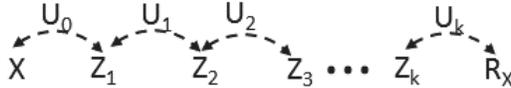


Figure 6: An m-graph in which $P(X, Z)$ is not-recoverable where $Z = \{Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_k\}$. X is partially observed, all Z variables are fully observed, parents of Z_i are U_{i-1} and U_i , parent of X is U_o and parent of R_x is U_k .

Given the m-graph in Figure 6 we will now prove that $P(X, Z_1, Z_2 \dots Z_k)$ is non-recoverable. Let M_3 and M_4 be two models such that all the variables are binary, all the U variables are fair coins, $X = U_0$, $R_x = U_k$ and $Z_i = U_{i-1} \oplus U_i$, $1 \leq i < k$. In M_3 , $Z_k = U_{k-1}$ and in M_4 , $Z_k = U_{k-1} \oplus U_k$. Both models yield the same manifest distribution. However, they disagree on the query $P(X, Z_1, Z_2 \dots Z_k)$. For instance, in M_3 , $P(X=0, Z=0, R_x=1) > 0$ where as in M_4 , $P(X=0, Z=0, R_x=1) = 0$. Therefore in M_4 , $P(X=0, Z=0) = P(X=0, Z=0, R_x=0)$ and in M_3 , $P(X=0, Z=0) = P(X=0, Z=0, R_x=0) + P(X=0, Z=0, R_x=1)$. Hence in the m-graph in figure 6, the joint distribution $P(X, Z)$ is non-recoverable. Using lemma 1, we can conclude that joint distribution is non-recoverable in any m-graph which has a bi-directed path from any partially observed variable X to its missingness mechanism R_x . □

10.9 Proof of Corollary 2

Proof. Let $|V_m| = 1$ and $Y_1 \in Y$ be the only partially observed variable. Let G' be the subgraph containing all variables in $X \cup Y \cup \{R_{y_1}, Y_1^*\}$. We know that if (1) or (2) are true,

then, (i) $P(X, Y)$ is not recoverable in G' and (ii) $P(X)$ is recoverable in G' . Therefore, $P(Y|X) = \frac{P(Y, X)}{P(X)}$ is not recoverable in G' and hence by lemma 1, not recoverable in G . \square

10.10 Proof of Theorem 4

Proof. $P(Y|do(X)) = \sum_{z, w'} P(Y|Z, W', do(X))P(Z, W'|do(X))$

If condition 1 holds, then by Rule-2 of do-calculus (Pearl [2009]) we have:

$$P(Y|Z, W', do(X)) = P(Y|Z, do(X), do(W'))$$

Since $Y \perp_w R_y|Z$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y|Z, do(X), do(W')) &= P(Y|Z, do(X), do(W'), R'_y) \\ &= P(Y^*|Z, do(X), do(W'), R'_y) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $P(y|do(x))$ is recoverable. \square

10.11 Proof of Theorem 5

Proof. (sufficiency) Whenever (1) and (2) are satisfied, $Y \perp\!\!\!\perp R_y|V_o$ holds. Hence, $P(V)$ which may be written as $P(Y|V_o)P(V_o)$ can be recovered as $P(Y^*|V_o, R_y = 0)P(V_o)$.

(necessity) follows from theorem 2. \square

10.12 Proof of Theorem 6

Proof. (sufficiency) Under simple attrition, all paths to R_y from Y containing X are blocked by X . Therefore, when both conditions specified in the theorem are satisfied, it implies that Y and R_y are separable. Given that Z is any separator between Y and R_y , $P(Y|X)$ may be recovered as $\sum_z P(Y^*|X, Z, R'_y)P(Z|X)$.

(necessity) follows from theorem 2 \square