Causal Structure Learning from Observational Data

Date: 24 October 2018 (Wednesday)
Time: 4:00pm to 5:00pm
Venue: P7510, 7/F, Yeung Kin Man Academic Building (YEUNG), City University of Hong Kong

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Guest Speaker's profile

Jiji Zhang is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Lingnan University, Hong Kong. He got his PhD in Logic, Computation, and Methodology from Carnegie Mellon University in 2006, and subsequently taught at the California Institute of Technology before moving to Hong Kong in 2008. His research is interdisciplinary, centering on methodological, epistemological, and logical issues in causal and statistical inference.

Abstract

Although correlation does not imply causation, more complex patterns revealed by data may nonetheless carry useful causal information that is needed for control and decision making. The problem of learning causal structure from observational data has received rigorous treatments in the last few decades, and attracted attention from a number of fields, including artificial intelligence, philosophy, psychology, and statistics. In this talk I will describe the main approaches to causal structure learning and highlight some recent advances.