



Hidden Markov Models

C SC 645
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Hidden Markov Models

Outline

HMM

Elements

Examples

The three basic problems (and its solutions)

Problem 1 – Forward-backward algorithm

Problem 2 – Viterbi algorithm

Problem 3 - Sum product / Baum-Welch

More Examples

corbis.

What's next?



Hidden Markov Models

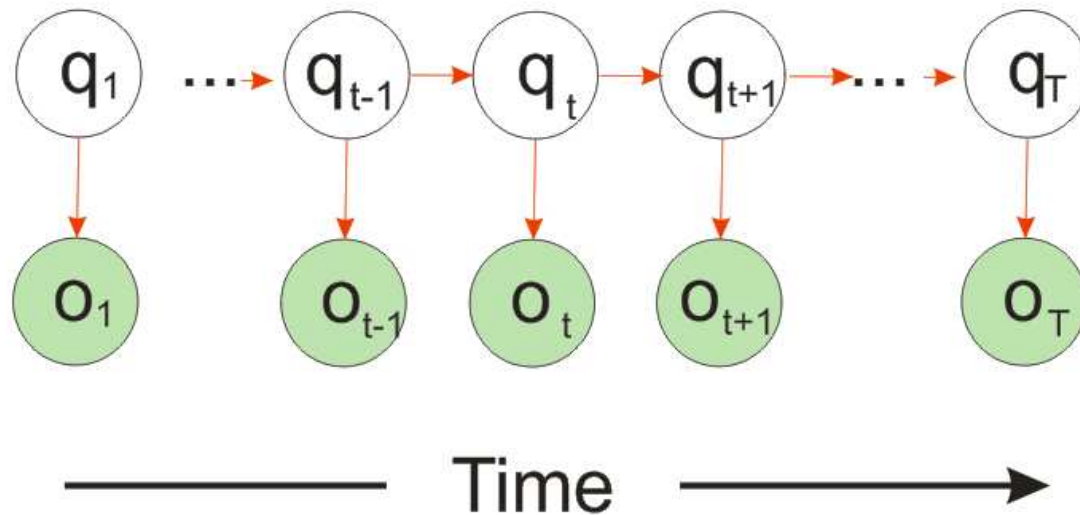
HMM

A hidden Markov model (HMM) is a discrete-state model in which the system being modeled is assumed to be a Markov process with unknown parameters.

$S = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_N\}$ Individual states

q_t is the state at time t

$O = o_1, o_2, \dots, o_T$ Observation sequence



Hidden Markov Models

HMM

Examples of HMM:

- Text written by Shakespeare in some parts has been edited by a monkey
- A casino has two dice, one loaded and the other not. Toggles between them.

Case	Observations	Hidden state
Text	Alphabet	Shakespeare/monkey
Dice	1-6	Fair (F) / loaded (L)

Hidden Markov Models

Elements of a HMM

An HMM is completely defined by:

- 1) N , the number of states in the model $S=\{S_1, S_2 \dots S_N\}$
- 2) M , the number of distinct observation symbols per state (An alphabet of symbols $V=\{v_1, v_2 \dots v_M\}$)
- 3) The state transition probability distribution $A=(a_{ij})$ where

$$a_{ij} = P[q_{t+1} = S_j | q_t = S_i], \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq N.$$

- 4) Emission probability. The observation symbol probability distribution in state j , $B=\{b_j(k)\}$, where:

$$b_j(k) = P[v_k \text{ at } t | q_t = S_j], \quad 1 \leq j \leq N \quad 1 \leq k \leq M.$$

- 5) The initial state distribution $\pi = \{\pi_i\}$ where:

$$\pi_i = P[q_1 = S_i], \quad 1 \leq i \leq N.$$

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Elements of a HMM

We will use the next notation to make reference to

The model:

Where

A= transition matrix.

B= Emission matrix.

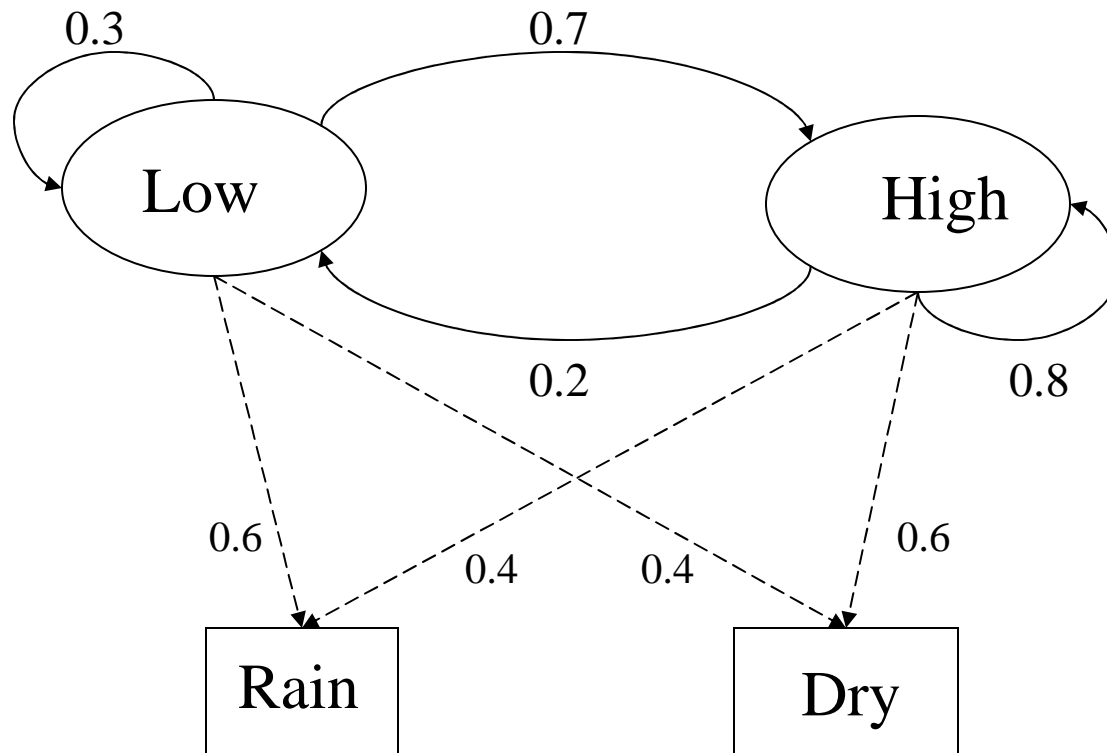
$$\lambda = (A, B, \pi)$$

The probability of an observation sequence given a model.

$$P(O | \lambda)$$

Hidden Markov Models

Example 1



Transition probability matrix:

	Low	High
Low	0.3	0.7
High	0.2	0.8

Emission probability matrix:

	Rain	Dry
Low	0.6	0.4
High	0.4	0.3

Two states : 'Low' and 'High' atmospheric pressure.
Two observations : 'Rain' and 'Dry'.
Initial probabilities: $P(\text{'Low'})=0.4$, $P(\text{'High'})=0.6$.

Hidden Markov Models

Example 1

Suppose we want to calculate a probability of a sequence of observations in our example, {'Dry','Rain'}.

Consider all possible hidden state sequences:

$$P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\}) = P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\}, \{\text{'Low'}, \text{'Low'}\}) + P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\}, \{\text{'Low'}, \text{'High'}\}) + P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\}, \{\text{'High'}, \text{'Low'}\}) + P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\}, \{\text{'High'}, \text{'High'}\})$$

where first term is :

$$\begin{aligned} P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\}, \{\text{'Low'}, \text{'Low'}\}) &= \\ P(\{\text{'Dry'}, \text{'Rain'}\} | \{\text{'Low'}, \text{'Low'}\}) P(\{\text{'Low'}, \text{'Low'}\}) &= \\ P(\text{'Dry'} | \text{'Low'}) P(\text{'Rain'} | \text{'Low'}) P(\text{'Low'}) P(\text{'Low'} | \text{'Low'}) &= \\ = 0.4 * 0.4 * 0.6 * 0.4 * 0.3 & \end{aligned}$$

Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM





Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

The casino

A casino has two dice:

Fair die:

$$P(1) = P(2) = P(3) = P(5) = P(6) = 1/6$$

Loaded die:

$$P(1) = P(2) = P(3) = P(5) = 1/10$$

$$P(6) = 1/2$$

The casino alternates between the dice once every 20 turns

Game:

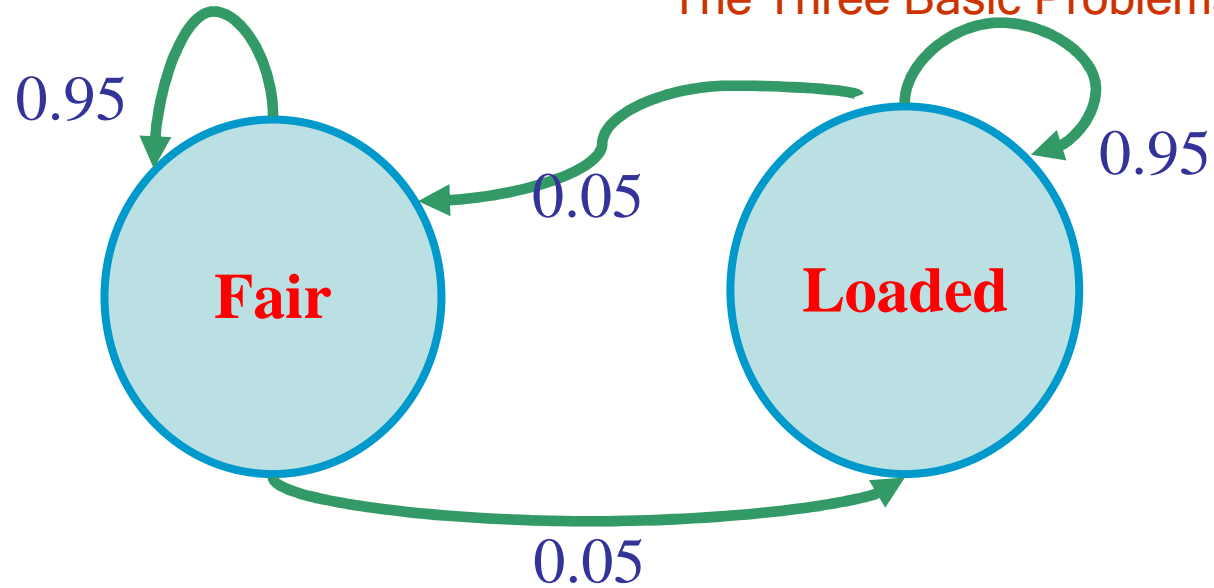
The player throws (a die always fair)

The casino throws (perhaps with the fair die, perhaps with a loaded)

The highest number wins

Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM



Emission probability

$$P(1|F) = 1/6$$

$$P(2|F) = 1/6$$

$$P(3|F) = 1/6$$

$$P(4|F) = 1/6$$

$$P(5|F) = 1/6$$

$$P(6|F) = 1/6$$

$$P(1|L) = 1/10$$

$$P(2|L) = 1/10$$

$$P(3|L) = 1/10$$

$$P(4|L) = 1/10$$

$$P(5|L) = 1/10$$

$$P(6|L) = 1/2$$



Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

Given the next sequence:

124552646214614613613666166466163
6616366163616515615115146123562344

How likely is this sequence, given our model of how the casino works?



Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

- Problem 1 (Evaluation): Given the observation sequence $O=o_1, \dots, o_T$ and an HMM model $\lambda=(A, B, \pi)$, **how do we compute the probability of O given the model?**

What is $P(O | \lambda)$?

The probability of an observation sequence O is the sum of the probabilities of all possible state sequences in the model.

Naïve computation is very expensive. Given T observations and N states, there are N^T possible state sequences.



Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

Again, given the next sequence:

124552646214614613613666166466163
6616366163616515615115146123562344

What portions of the sequence were generated by the loaded die and which by the fair die?



Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

- Problem 2 (Decoding): Given the observation sequence $O=o_1, \dots, o_T$ and an HMM model $\lambda = (A, B, \pi)$, how do we find the state sequence that best explains the observations?

Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

Again, given the next sequence:

124552646214614613613666166466163
6616366163616515615115146123562344

How the dice are loaded? How often the casino alternates between the dice?



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The Three Basic Problems of HMM

- Problem 3 (Learning): How do we **adjust** the model parameters $\lambda = (A, B, \pi)$, to **maximize** $P(O | \lambda)$?



Hidden Markov Models

The forward-backward algorithm

Problem 1: Evaluation Problem

Given a model and a sequence of observations, how do we compute the probability that the observed sequence was produced by the model?

The forward-backward algorithm

The algorithm comprises three steps:

1. computing forward probabilities
2. computing backward probabilities
3. computing smoothed values

Hidden Markov Models

The forward-backward algorithm

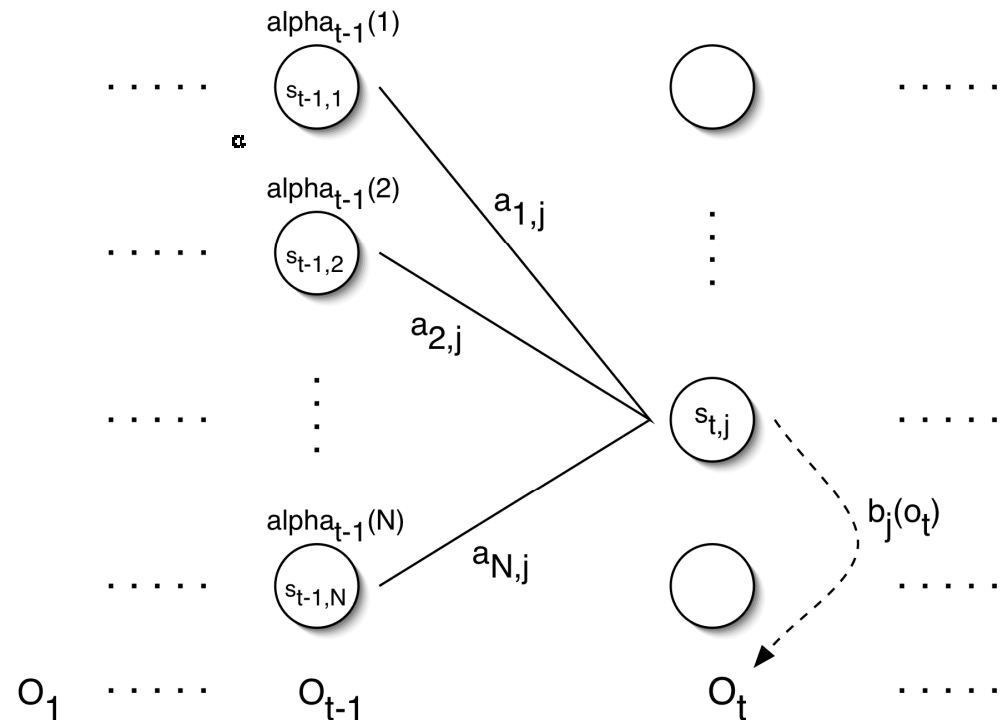
The forward probability

What is the probability that, given a model λ , at time t the state is i and the partial observation $o_1 \dots o_t$ has been generated?

$$\alpha_t(i) = P(o_1 \dots o_t, q_t = s_i \mid \lambda)$$

We reduce the complexity of calculating this probability by first calculating partial probabilities.

These represent the probability of getting to a particular state, s , at time t .





Hidden Markov Models

The forward-backward algorithm

- Initialization

$$\alpha_1(i) = \pi_i b_i(o_1) \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

- Induction

$$\alpha_t(j) = \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_{t-1}(i) a_{ij} \right] b_j(o_t) \quad 2 \leq t \leq T, 1 \leq j \leq N$$

- Termination

$$P(O | \lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_T(i)$$

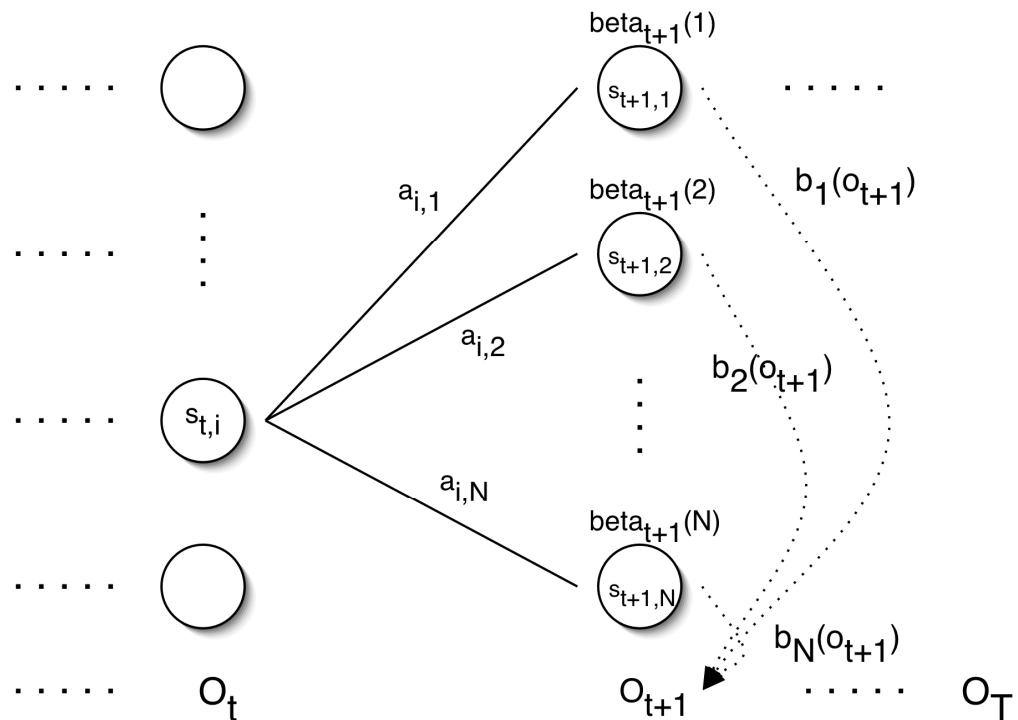
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The backward probability

The probability of the partial observation sequence from $t+1$ to the end, given state S_i at time t and the model λ .

$$\beta_t(i) = P(o_{t+1} \dots o_T \mid q_t = s_i, \lambda)$$

The forward-backward algorithm



Hidden Markov Models

The forward-backward algorithm

- Initialization

$$\beta_T(i) = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

- Induction

$$\beta_t(i) = \left[\sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} b_j(o_{t+1}) \beta_{t+1}(j) \right] \quad t = T-1 \dots 1, 1 \leq i \leq N$$

- Termination

$$P(O | \lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i \beta_1(i)$$

Hidden Markov Models

The Viterbi algorithm

- **Problem 2 (Decoding):** Finding the “optimal” state sequence associated with given observation sequence.

The Viterbi algorithm

- Similar to computing the forward probabilities, but instead of summing over transitions from incoming states, compute the maximum.

Forward:

$$\alpha_t(j) = \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_{t-1}(i) a_{ij} \right] b_j(o_t)$$

Viterbi Recursion:

$$\delta_t(j) = \left[\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} \delta_{t-1}(i) a_{ij} \right] b_j(o_t)$$

Hidden Markov Models

The Viterbi algorithm

To implement the solution to problem 2, we define:

$$\gamma_t(i) = P(q_t = S_i | O, \lambda)$$

$$\gamma_t(i) = \frac{\alpha_t(i) \beta_t(i)}{P(O|\lambda)} = \frac{\alpha_t(i) \beta_t(i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_t(i) \beta_t(i)}$$

We want to find the state sequence $Q=q_1 \dots q_T$, such that

$$q_t = \underset{1 \leq i \leq N}{\operatorname{argmax}} [\gamma_t(i)],$$

Hidden Markov Models

The Viterbi algorithm

- Initialization:

$$\delta_1(i) = \pi_i b_j(o_1) \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

- Induction:

$$\delta_t(j) = \left[\max_{1 \leq i \leq N} \delta_{t-1}(i) a_{ij} \right] b_j(o_t)$$

$$\psi_t(j) = \left[\arg \max_{1 \leq i \leq N} \delta_{t-1}(i) a_{ij} \right] \quad 2 \leq t \leq T, 1 \leq j \leq N$$

- Termination:

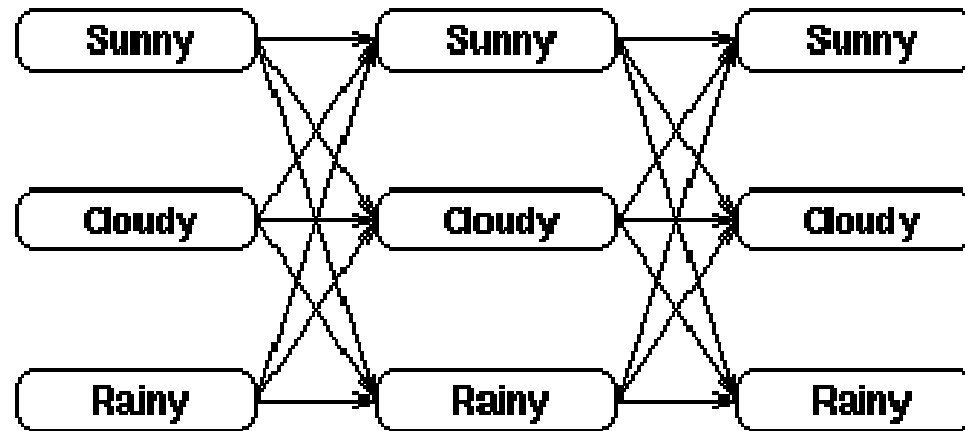
$$p^* = \max_{1 \leq i \leq N} \delta_T(i) \quad q_T^* = \arg \max_{1 \leq i \leq N} \delta_T(i)$$

- Path (state sequence) backtracking:

$$q_t^* = \psi_{t+1}(q_{t+1}^*) \quad t = T-1, \dots, 1$$

Hidden Markov Models

The Viterbi algorithm

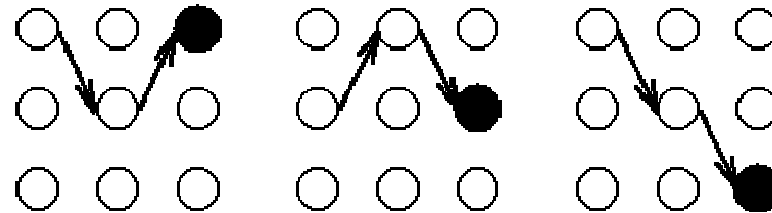


Observations : **dry** **damp** **soggy**

We will first define the partial probability $\alpha_t(i)$, which is the probability of reaching a particular intermediate state in the trellis. We then show how these partial probabilities are calculated at $t=1$ and at $t=n$ (> 1).

Hidden Markov Models

The Viterbi algorithm



These partial probabilities differ from those calculated in the forward algorithm since they represent the probability of the **most probable path** to a state at time t , and not a total.

In particular, each state at time $t = T$ will have a partial probability and a partial best path. We find the overall best path by choosing the **state with the maximum partial probability** and choosing its partial best path

Example:

http://www.comp.leeds.ac.uk/roger/HiddenMarkovModels/html_dev/viterbi_algorithm/s3_pg1.html



Hidden Markov Models

The Three Basic Problems of HMM

- Problem 3 (Learning): How do we **adjust** the model parameters $\lambda = (A, B, \pi)$, to **maximize** $P(O | \lambda)$?

Given an initial model λ , we can always find a model λ' , such that

$$P(O | \lambda') \geq P(O | \lambda)$$



Hidden Markov Models

The sum-product / Baum-Welch algorithm

Use the forward-backward (or Baum-Welch) algorithm, which is a hill-climbing algorithm.

Using an initial parameter instantiation, the forward-backward algorithm iteratively re-estimates the parameters and improves the probability that given observations are generated by the new parameters.



Hidden Markov Models

The sum-product / Baum-Welch algorithm

Three parameters need to be re-estimated:

- Initial state distribution: π_i
 - Transition probabilities: $a_{i,j}$
 - Emission probabilities: $b_i(o_t)$

Hidden Markov Models

Example:
Word recognition (your turn)

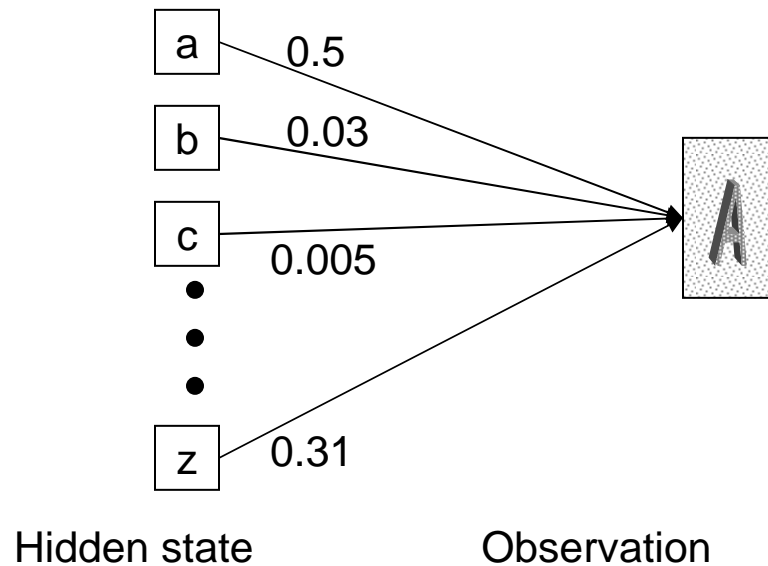
Hidden Markov Models

Example: Word recognition

Typed word recognition, assume all characters are separated.



Character recognizer outputs probability of the image being particular character, $P(\text{image}|\text{character})$.



Hidden Markov Models

Example: Word recognition

- Hidden states of HMM = characters.
- Observations = typed images of characters segmented from the image .
Note that there is an infinite number of observations

$$v_{\alpha}$$

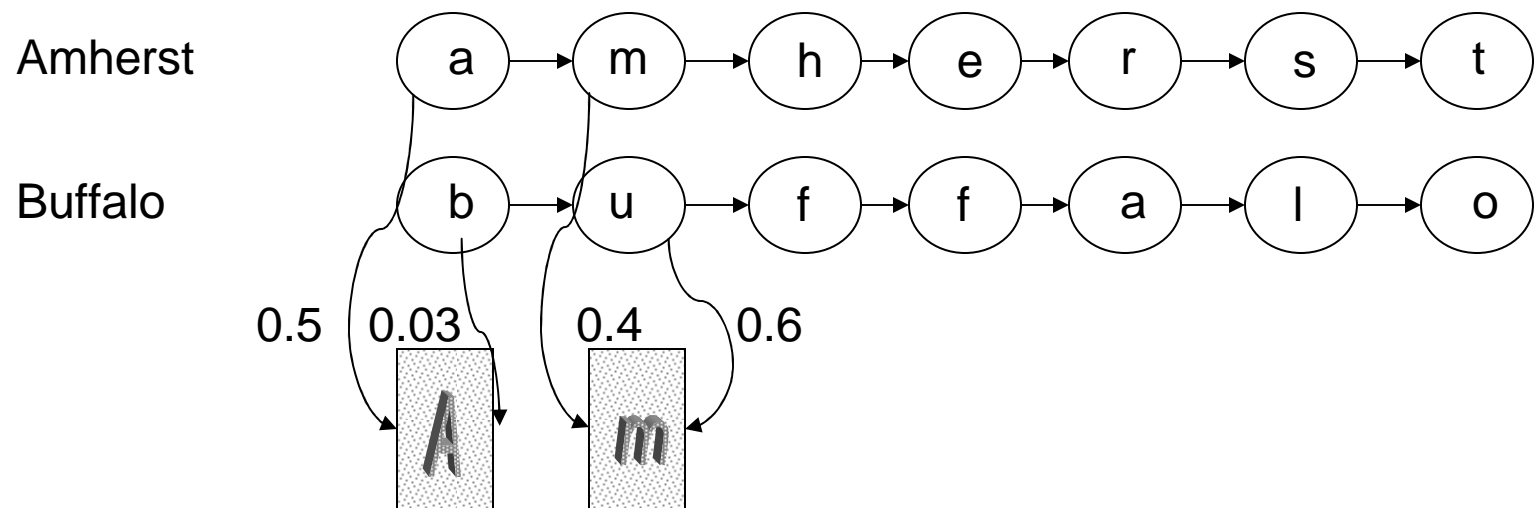
- Emission probabilities = character recognizer scores.

$$B = (b_i(v_{\alpha})) = (P(v_{\alpha} | s_i))$$

Hidden Markov Models

Example: Word recognition

- If lexicon is given, we can construct separate HMM models for each lexicon word.

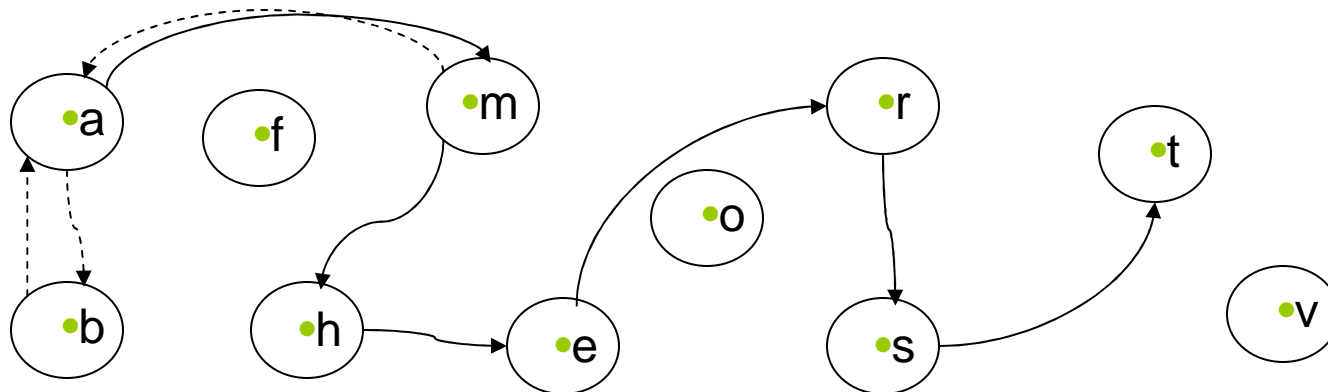


- Here recognition of word image is equivalent to the problem of evaluating few HMM models.
- This is an application of **Evaluation problem**.

Hidden Markov Models

Example: Word recognition

- We can construct a single HMM for all words.
- Hidden states = all characters in the alphabet.
- Transition probabilities and initial probabilities are calculated from language model.
- Observations and observation probabilities are as before.



- Here we have to determine the best sequence of hidden states, the one that most likely produced word image.
- This is an application of **Decoding problem**.

Hidden Markov Models



Discussion