

Exercise sheet 1: Hidden Markov models

Exercise 1 - Two kinds of dice



A casino uses two kinds of dice: 98% of dice are fair and 2% are loaded. The loaded die has a probability of 0.5 to show number six and 0.1 for the number one to five.

Question A When we pick up a die from a table at random, what is the probability of rolling a six?

Hint 1 : Formulae

$$L = \text{Loaded} \quad F = \text{Fair} \quad O = \text{Observation} \quad P(O) = P(F) \times P(O|F) + P(L) \times P(O|L)$$

Hint 2 : Calculation Method

$$P(6) = 0.98 \times \frac{1}{6} + 0.02 \times \frac{1}{2}$$

Solution

$$P(6) = 0.173\bar{3}$$

Question B We pick up a die from a table at random and roll [6 6 6]. What is the probability, that the die is loaded.

Hint 1 : Formulae

$$P(L|O) = \frac{P(L, O)}{P(O)} = P(O|L) \times P(L)$$

Hint 2 : Calculation Method

$$\begin{aligned} P(L|O) &= \frac{P(O|L) \times P(L)}{P(O|L) \times P(L) + P(O|F) \times P(F)} \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 \times 0.02}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 \times 0.02 + \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^3 \times 0.98} \end{aligned}$$

Solution

$$P(L|O) = 35.53\%$$

Question C How many sixes in a row would we need to roll to be at least 90% sure that the die is loaded?

Hint 1 : Formulae

$$P(L|O) = \frac{P(O|L) \times P(L)}{P(O|L) \times P(L) + P(O|F) \times P(F)}$$

Hint 2 : Calculation Method

$$P(L|O) = \frac{\frac{2}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n}{\frac{2}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n + \frac{98}{100} \times (\frac{1}{6})^n} \geq 0.9 \quad | \text{ split } (\frac{1}{6})^n \quad (1)$$

$$\iff \frac{\frac{2}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n}{\frac{2}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n + \frac{98}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n \times (\frac{1}{3})^n} \geq \frac{9}{10} \quad | \text{ factorize} \quad (2)$$

$$\iff \frac{\frac{2}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n}{\frac{2}{100} \times (\frac{1}{2})^n \times (1 + 49 \times (\frac{1}{3})^n)} \geq \frac{9}{10} \quad | \text{ simplify, given } n > 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\iff \frac{1}{1 + 49 \times (\frac{1}{3})^n} \geq \frac{9}{10} \quad | \text{ cross-multiply, given } n > 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\iff \frac{9}{10} (1 + 49 \times (\frac{1}{3})^n) \leq 1 \quad | \text{ rewrite} \quad (5)$$

$$\iff (\frac{1}{3})^n \leq \frac{1}{441} \quad | \ln() \quad (6)$$

$$\iff n \times \ln(\frac{1}{3}) \leq \ln(\frac{1}{441}) \quad | \times \frac{1}{\ln(\frac{1}{3})} \quad (7)$$

$$\iff n \geq \frac{\ln(\frac{1}{441})}{\ln(\frac{1}{3})} \quad (8)$$

$$\iff n \geq 5.542487... \quad (9)$$

Solution

$n = 6$ as only Integers make sense here (just trying would also work)

Exercise 2 - The occasionally cheating casino



In a casino they use a fair die most of the time, but occasionally they switch to a loaded die. The loaded die has a probability 0.5 to show number six and probability 0.1 for the numbers one to five. Assume that the

casino switches from a fair to a loaded die with probability 0.05 before each roll, and that the probability of switching back is 0.1. The probability to start a game with the fair die is 0.9.

Question C Draw a graphical representation of the described Hidden Markov model.

Solution a