

Given HMM parameters $p(S_1), p(S_t|S_{t-1}), p(O_t|S_t)$ & observation sequence $\{O_t\}_{t=1}^T$

find probability that hidden state at time t was k $p(S_t = k|\{O_t\}_{t=1}^T)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(S_t = k, \{O_t\}_{t=1}^T) &= p(O_1, \dots, O_t, S_t = k, O_{t+1}, \dots, O_T) \\ &= \underbrace{p(O_1, \dots, O_t, S_t = k)}_{\alpha_t^k} \underbrace{p(O_{t+1}, \dots, O_T | S_t = k)}_{\beta_t^k} \end{aligned}$$

Compute recursively

