Viterbi Decoding for HMM, Parameter Learning

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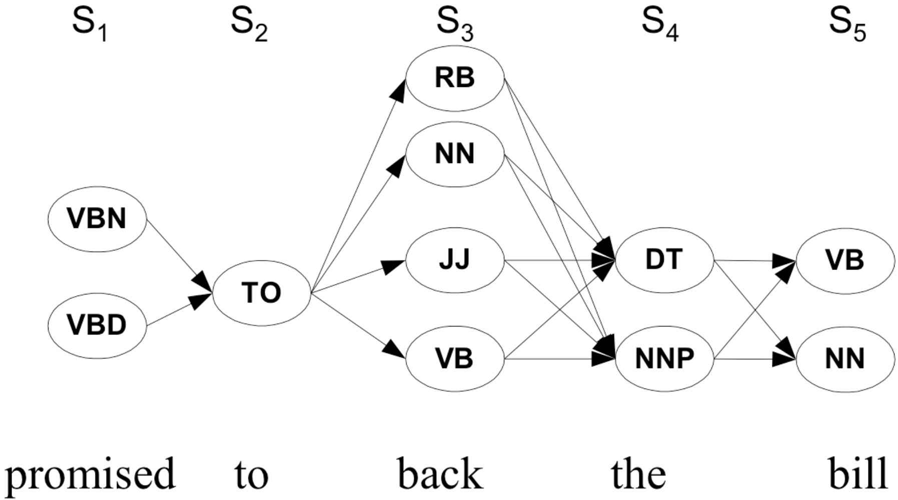
Week 4, Lecture 1

Walking through the states: best path



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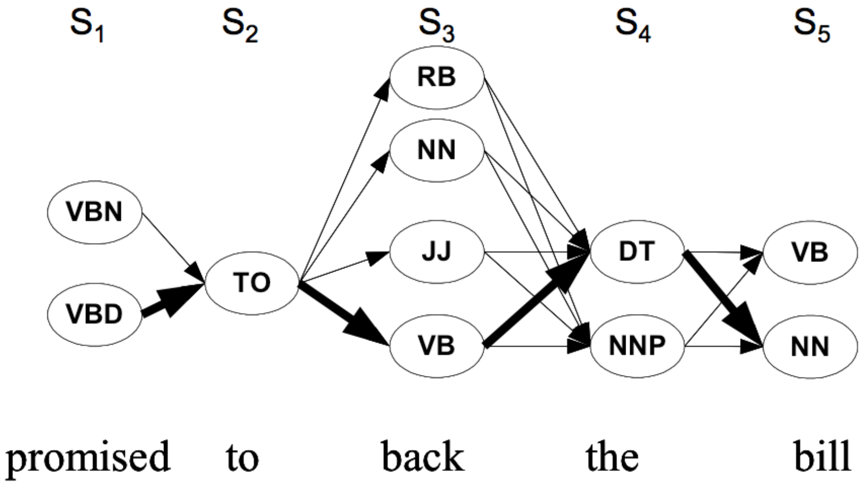

Finding the best path: Viterbi Algorithm

Intuition

Optimal path for each state can be recorded. We need

- Cheapest cost to state j at step s: $\delta_j(s)$
- Backtrace from that state to best predecessor $\psi_j(s)$

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Computing these values

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Best final state is $argmax_{1 \leq i \leq N} \delta_i(|S|)$, we can backtrack from there

Practice Question

- Suppose you want to use a HMM tagger to tag the phrase, "the light book", where we have the following probabilities:
- P(the|Det) = 0.3, P(the|Noun) = 0.1, P(light|Noun) = 0.003, P(light|Adj) = 0.002, P(light|Verb) = 0.06, P(book|Noun) = 0.003, P(book|Verb) = 0.01
- P(Verb|Det) = 0.00001, P(Noun|Det) = 0.5, P(Adj|Det) = 0.3, P(Noun|Noun) =0.2, P(Adj|Noun) = 0.002, P(Noun|Adj) = 0.2, P(Noun|Verb) = 0.3, P(Verb|Noun) = 0.3, P(Verb|Adj) = 0.001, P(Verb|Verb) = 0.1
- Work out in details the steps of the Viterbi algorithm. You can use a Table to show the steps. Assume all other conditional probabilities, not mentioned to be zero. Also, assume that all tags have the same probabilities to appear in the beginning of a sentence.

Learning the Parameters

Two Scenarios

- A labeled dataset is available, with the POS category of individual words in a corpus
- Only the corpus is available, but not labeled with the POS categories

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Methods for these scenarios

- For the first scenario, parameters can be directly estimated using maximum likelihood estimate from the labeled dataset
- For the second scenario, *Baum-Welch Algorithm* is used to estimate the parameters of the hidden markov model.