# Minimal Background on Hidden Markov Models

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## Hidden Markov Models (HMM)

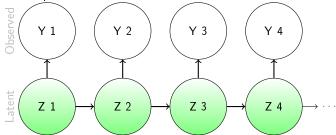
- provides a unified approach to capture-mark-recapture models
- essential for JAGS CMR models
- widely used framework outside CMR

#### HMM

- ▶ Hidden: the process model is *latent*, i.e., unobservable
- ▶ Markov: the dependence between states  $Z_t$  at t and  $Z_{t+1}$  at t+1 has order 1.

### Latent States

separate the observed error (Y) from the process model a.k.a, separate the observed event from the latent state



 decomposes the complex product-multinomial distribution of capture histories into a series of simple distributions.

e.g.,

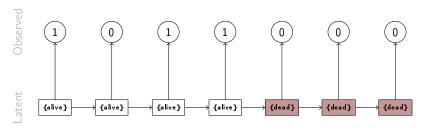
$$p(y_t = \mathsf{capture}|z_t) = \begin{cases} p_t, & \text{if } z_t = \{\mathsf{alive}\}, \\ 0, & \text{if } z_t = \{\mathsf{dead}\} \end{cases}$$
 (1)

ightharpoonup calculate biological (derived) parameters ( $N_t$ , births<sub>t</sub>, super-population) as simple summaries of latent states

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{N}_t = \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{I}[z_t = \{\mathsf{alive}\}] \\ & \mathcal{B}_t = \sum_{i=1}^M \left( \mathbb{I}[z_t = \{\mathsf{alive}\}] \cdot [z_{t-1} = \{\mathsf{unrecruited}\}] \right) \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

# Latent States: Example (CJS)

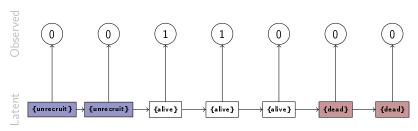
 $\blacktriangleright$  example capture history (y = {1011000}) and plausible latent state sequence (Z)



(This is the Cormack-Jolly-Seber model)

## Latent States: Example (POPAN)

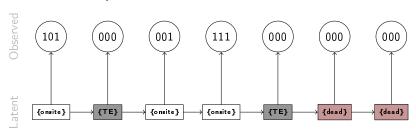
• example capture history ( $y = \{0011000\}$ ) and plausible latent state sequence (Z)



(This could be the POPAN model)

# Latent States: Example (PCRD)

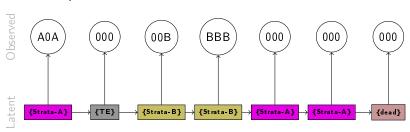
 $\blacktriangleright$  example capture history (y = {10100000111100000000}) and plausible latent state sequence



(This is the Pollock's Closed Robust Design model with 3 secondary periods)

## Latent States: Example (MSCRD)

• example capture history ( $y = \{A0A00000BBBB000000000\}$ ) and latent state sequence



(This is a Multistate Robust Design Model with 2 strata (A,B) and Temporary Emigration (TE) and 3 secondary periods per primary period

# HMM: A Unifying Framework

Many capture-mark-recapture models can be formulated as a type of HMM, e.g.,

- ► Cormack-Jolly-Seber
- ► POPAN
- ▶ Pollock's Closed Robust Design
- Multistate models

Mastering the HMM framework opens-up a lot of possibilities for standard and customized models

### Quick Note:

- Latent states are stochastic.
- ▶ They are random variables, like  $\phi, p, \gamma, \psi$ , etc.

Each capture history has a *distribution* of plausible latent states sequences For example:

$$y = \{1011000\}$$
 could have latent state sequences... 
$$\left\{ \begin{cases} \{1111111\} \\ \{111112\} \\ \{1111122\} \end{cases} \right.$$
 (3) 
$$\left\{ \begin{cases} \{111122\} \\ \{1111222\} \\ \dots \\ \{1112222\} \\ \{2211111\} \end{cases} \right.$$

... where  $1 \equiv \mathsf{alive}, 2 \equiv \mathsf{dead}$ 

# Gibbs Sampling Latent States

- ▶ if we knew the latent states, we could easily estimate survival, births, etc.
- ▶ instead we marginalize over the latent states via Gibbs Sampling

i.e., sample  ${\bf Z}$ , impute their values and to update  ${m heta}$  a.k.a Monte-Carlo integration

# Gibbs Sampling HMM

within each j MCMC iteration, we ...

▶ 1) Sample parameters conditional on latent states **Z** and data **Y** 

$$oldsymbol{ heta}^{(j+1)} \sim \pi(oldsymbol{ heta}|\mathsf{Z}^{(j)},\mathsf{Y})$$

 $\triangleright$  2) Sample latent states conditional on parameters  $oldsymbol{ heta}$  and data  $oldsymbol{ ext{Y}}$ 

$$\mathbf{Z}^{(j+1)} \sim \pi(\mathbf{Z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(j+1)}, \mathbf{Y})$$
 (5)

▶ 3) repeat for all MCMC iterations

(4)

## Gibbs Sampling Latent States in JAGS

for JAGS scripts, we must:

specify Priors (like before)

```
# priors
p ~ dbeta(a,b)
```

 specify the Conditional Data Likelihood (like before, but conditional on the latent states)

```
# likelihood
y[t] ~ dbern(p * equals(z[t],1))
```

AND specify the Markov latent state process (new)

```
# latent state process
z[t] ~ dcat(transition.matrix[,z[t-1]])
```

To understand HMM models, you must master the matrix

### Transition Matrix

ightharpoonup governs the probabilistic transition:  $z_t 
ightharpoonup z_{t+1}$ 

|          |        | Unborn |    | Α | Alive Dea |   | ac | d |  |
|----------|--------|--------|----|---|-----------|---|----|---|--|
|          | Unborn | 1      | .7 | ( | 0         | ( | )  | 1 |  |
| $\Phi =$ | Alive  |        | .3 |   | 9         | ( | )  |   |  |
|          | Dead   |        | 0  |   | 1         |   | 1  |   |  |

- read: from columns (t) to rows (t+1)
- columns sum to 1

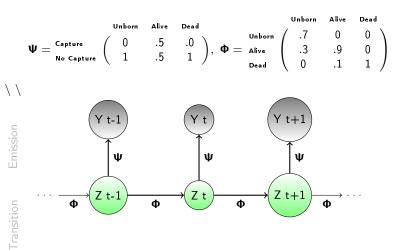
## Emission Matrix

• governs capture process  $p(y_t|z_t)$ (i.e., probability of a capture, given each latent state)

$$\Psi = egin{pmatrix} extstyle{ Capture} & extstyle{ Unborn} & extstyle{ Alive} & extstyle{ Dead} \ & 0 & .5 & .0 \ & 1 & .5 & 1 \ \end{pmatrix}$$

- read: from columns (z at t) to row (y at t)
- columns sum to 1

### HMM is a Bunch of Matrices



### How to Read Transition and Emission Matrices

- Read: FROM columns TO rows
- example: Let's say  $z_{t-1} = \{Unborn\}$  at t-1

What is 
$$p(z_t = \{Alive\} | z_{t-1} = \{Unborn\}, \Phi)$$
?
$$\Phi = \begin{array}{c} Unborn & Alive & Dead \\ Unborn & .7 & 0 & 0 \\ Alive & .3 & .9 & 0 \\ Dead & 0 & .1 & 1 \end{array}$$

What is 
$$p(y_t = \{\text{Capture}\} | z_t = \{\text{Alive}\}, \boldsymbol{\Psi})$$
? 
$$\boldsymbol{\Psi} = \begin{array}{c|c} & \textit{Unborn} & \textit{Alive} \\ & \text{Oo Capt} & 0 & .5 \\ & & \text{No Capt} & 1 & .5 \\ & & & 1 \end{array}$$

The matrices merely codify the conditional probabilities of the HMM processes

# Understanding Transition and Emission Matrices (2)

▶ Likewise, let's say  $z_t = \{A | ive\}$  at t

|                | Unborn | Alive | Dead |
|----------------|--------|-------|------|
| Unbor          | n / .7 | 0     | 0    |
| $\Phi = Alive$ | .3     | .9    | 0    |
| Dead           | \ 0    | .1    | 1    |
|                |        |       |      |

0 chance of returning to {Unborn},
0.9 chance of staying {Alive},
0.1 chance of going to {Dead}

time t, then there is:

$$\Psi = \begin{array}{c|cccc} & \textit{Unborn} & \textit{Alive} & \textit{Dead} \\ \hline W = \begin{array}{c|cccc} \textit{Capture} & 0 & .5 & .0 \\ \textit{No Capt} & 1 & .5 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

**Translation**: IF  $z_t$  is in state {Alive} at

**Translation**: IF  $z_t$  is in state {Alive} at

#### Let's do a worked example!

A demonstration of the data-generating process for a POPAN-like recruitment model  $\,$ 

3 latent states:

- ▶  $1 \equiv \text{unborn (or pre-immigrant)},$
- $ightharpoonup 2 \equiv a | ive (and marked),$
- 3 ≡ dead (or permanent-emigrant)

1 capture history to generate

7 primary periods

time-invariant recruitment<sup>1</sup>, survival and capture-probabilities

¹In practise, the recruitment parameters are ALWAYS time-varying ⊕ → ← 章 → ← 章 → □ ● → ○ ○

# Generative Model for POPAN (2)

```
Initialize: z_0=1 at t=0 ({unborn}). No captures in t=0 done!
```



to dummy state

# Generative Model for POPAN (3)

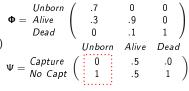
|   |        | CIIDCIII | , ,,,,,, | Dead |  |
|---|--------|----------|----------|------|--|
| Sample: $z_1 z_0$ at $t=1$ .                            | Unborn | .7       | 0        | 0    |  |
| Use column 1 from $\Phi[,1]$ (because $z_0=1$ ) $\Phi=$ | Alive  | .3       | .9       | 0    |  |
| Use the Multinomial distribution (a.k.a categorical)    | Dead   | 0        | .1       | 1    |  |

Unborn Alive Dead

# Generative Model for POPAN (4)

We got 
$$z_1 = 1!$$
 (unborn)!

**Next**: Sample a capture  $y_1 | z_1$ Use column 1 from  $\Psi[, 1]$  (because  $z_1 = 1$ ) Use the Multinomial Distribution



Unborn Alive Dead

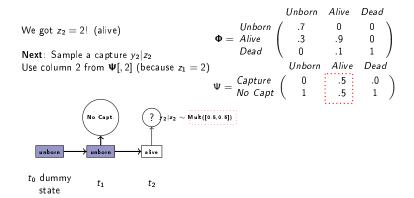
$$\begin{array}{c} ? \\ y_1 | z_1 \sim \mathsf{Mult}([0,1]) \\ \\ \\ \mathsf{unborn} \end{array}$$

to dummy state

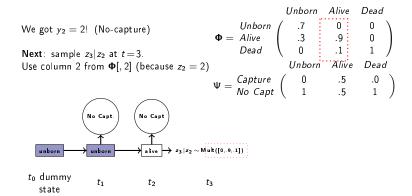
 $t_1$ 

# Generative Model for POPAN (5)

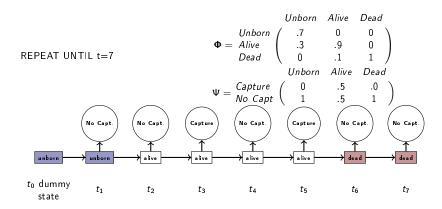
# Generative Model for POPAN (6)



# Generative Model for POPAN (7)



# Generative Model for POPAN (n)



• Generated capture history:  $\{0,0,1,0,1,0,0\}$ 

# Generative Model for POPAN (in R)

```
conceptually simple generative HMM
in R, it would look like:
z<-numeric(7)
y<-numeric(7)
z[1]<-rmultinom(n=1,size=1,prob=PHI[,1]) # first primary
y[1]<-rmultinom(n=1,size=1,prob=PSI[,z[1]]) # first capture
for(t in 2:7){
    z[t]<-rmultinom(n=1,size=1,prob=PHI[,z[t-1]])
    y[t]<-rmultinom(n=1,size=1,prob=PSI[,z[t]])
}</pre>
```

### Generate Model for POPAN

### conceptually simple generative HMM

ightharpoonup generate:  $m y^*$  given  $m \Phi$  (transition matrix) and  $m \Psi$  (emission matrix) (via z)

BUT What about inference about  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  for a given (y)?

- ► Real Answer: Forwards-Backwards algorithm<sup>2</sup>
- Quick Answer JAGS will take care of it for us...

so long as we specify:

- priors
- conditional data likelihood
- ▶ |atent state process



How to specify the emission and transition matrices for a CMR model? Each cell in the matrices are parameterized by products of CMR parameters Example in Cormack Jolly Seber:

### Transition Matrix

from t-1 to t

$$oldsymbol{\Phi}_t = egin{array}{ccc} ext{Alive} & ext{Dead} \ oldsymbol{\Phi}_{t-1} & 0 \ 1-\phi_{t-1} & 1 \ \end{array}$$

#### where:

 $\phi_{t-1}$  is the apparent survival between t-1 and t

### **Emission Matrix**

capture at t

$$oldsymbol{\Psi}_t = rac{ extsf{Capture}}{ extsf{No Capture}} \left( egin{array}{cc} p_t & 0 \ 1-p_t & 1 \end{array} 
ight)$$

where

 $ightharpoonup p_t$  is the capture-probability at t

## HMM Matrices: Connection with CMR (POPAN)

How to specify the emission and transition matrices for a CMR model?

Each cell in the matrices are parameterized by products of CMR parameters Example in POPAN:

#### Transition Matrix

from t-1 to t

|            |        | Unborn            | Alive            | Dead |
|------------|--------|-------------------|------------------|------|
|            | Unborn | $\int 1 - \psi_t$ | 0                | 0 \  |
| $\Phi_t =$ | Alive  | $\psi_t$          | $\phi_{t-1}$     | 0    |
|            | Dead   | 0                 | $1 - \phi_{t-1}$ | 1 /  |

#### where:

- $ightharpoonup \phi_t$  is the apparent survival at t
- $\blacktriangleright \psi_t$  are *related* to the POPAN pent

### **Emission Matrix**

capture at t

$$oldsymbol{\Psi}_t = rac{ extsf{Capture}}{ extsf{No Capture}} \left( egin{array}{ccc} 0 & p_t & 0 \ 1 & 1-p_t & 1 \end{array} 
ight)$$

 $\triangleright$   $p_t$  is the capture-probability at t

## HMM Matrices: Connection with CMR (PCRD)

Example in the Pollock's Closed Robust Design (conditioning on first capture):

#### Transition Matrix

from t-1 to t

$$\mathbf{\Phi}_t = \begin{array}{ccc} & \text{Onsite} & \text{TE} & \text{Dead} \\ & \text{Onsite} & \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{t-1}(1-\gamma_t'') & \phi_{t-1}(1-\gamma_t') & 0 \\ \phi_{t-1}\gamma_t'' & \phi_{t-1}\gamma_t' & 0 \\ & 1-\phi_{t-1} & 1-\phi_{t-1} & 1 \\ \end{pmatrix}$$

- lacktriangledown  $\phi_{t-1}$  is the apparent survival between primary periods t-1 and t
- $ightharpoonup \gamma''_{\star}$  is the probability of becoming a temporary emigrant between t-1 and t
- $ightharpoonup \gamma_t'$  is the probability of staying as a temporary emigrant between t-1 and t

#### **Emission Matrix**

capture at st

$$oldsymbol{\Psi}_{s,t} = rac{oldsymbol{\mathsf{Capture}}}{oldsymbol{\mathsf{No Capture}}} \left(egin{array}{ccc} p_{s,t} & 0 & 0 \ 1-p_{s,t} & 1 & 1 \end{array}
ight)$$

p<sub>s,t</sub> is the capture-probability at secondary period s<sub>t</sub>

U / 10 / 1 = / 1 = / 2 €

## HMM Matrices: Connection with CMR (PCRD)

Example in the Pollock's Closed Robust Design (full capture model):

#### Transition Matrix

from t-1 to t

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}_t = \begin{bmatrix} \textbf{Unborn} & \textbf{Onsite} & \textbf{TE} & \textbf{Dead} \\ \textbf{Unborn} & \begin{pmatrix} 1-\psi_t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \psi_t & \phi_{t-1}(1-\gamma_t'') & \phi_{t-1}(1-\gamma_t') & 0 \\ 0 & \phi_{t-1}\gamma_t'' & \phi_{t-1}\gamma_t' & 0 \\ \textbf{Dead} & 0 & 1-\phi_{t-1} & 1-\phi_{t-1} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- lacktriangledown  $\phi_{t-1}$  is the apparent survival between primary periods t-1 and t
- $ightharpoonup \gamma_t''$  is the probability of becoming a temporary emigrant between t-1 and t
- $ightharpoonup \gamma_t'$  is the probability of staying as a temporary emigrant between t-1 and t
- lacksquare  $\psi_{m{t}}$  are "recruitment" parameters between t-1 and t

#### **Emission Matrix**

$$oldsymbol{\Psi}_{s,\,t} = rac{oldsymbol{\mathsf{Capture}}}{oldsymbol{\mathsf{No Capture}}} \left( egin{array}{cccc} 0 & p_{s,\,t} & 0 & 0 \ 1 & 1-p_{s,\,t} & 1 & 1 \end{array} 
ight)$$

## HMM Matrices: Connection with CMR (MSCRD)

Example in the Multi-State Closed Robust Design with 3 strata and TE (first-capture conditioning):

#### Transition Matrix

from t-1 to t

|            |          | Strata A                        | Strata B                      | Strata C                      | TE                            | Dead                                   |
|------------|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|            | Strata A | $\int \phi_{t-1} \gamma_t^{aa}$ | $\phi_{t\!-\!1}\gamma_t^{ba}$ | $\phi_{t\!-\!1}\gamma_t^{ca}$ | $\phi_{t\!-\!1}\gamma_t^{ta}$ | 0 \                                    |
|            | Strata B | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{ab}$       | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{bb}$     | $\phi_{t\!-\!1}\gamma_t^{cb}$ | $\phi_{t\!-\!1}\gamma_t^{tb}$ | $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ |
| $\Phi_t =$ | Strata C | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{ac}$       | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{bc}$     | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{cc}$     | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{tc}$     | 0                                      |
|            | TE       | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{at}$       | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{bt}$     | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{ct}$     | $\phi_{t-1}\gamma_t^{tt}$     | 0                                      |
|            | Dead     | $\int 1 - \phi_{t-1}$           | $1 - \phi_{t-1}$              | $1-\phi_{t-1}$                | $1 - \phi_{t-1}$              | 1 /                                    |

- $lackbox{} \phi_{t-1}$  is the apparent survival between primary periods t-1 and t
- $\gamma_t^{xy}$  are the probability of moving from strata X to Y between t-1 and t, and  $\gamma_t^{xa} + \gamma_t^{xb} + \gamma_t^{xc} + \gamma_t^{xt} = 1$

## HMM Matrices: Connection with CMR (MSCRD, Emission)

Example in the Multi-State Closed Robust Design with 3 strata and TE (first-capture conditioning):

#### MSCRD Emission Matrix

$$\Psi_{s,t} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Capture A} & \text{Strata B} & \text{Strata C} & \text{TE} & \text{Dead} \\ \text{Capture B} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \text{Capture C} & 0 & p_{s,t}^b & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p_{s,t}^c & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 - p_{s,t}^a & 1 - p_{s,t}^b & 1 - p_{s,t}^c & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

 $ightharpoonup p_{s,t}^{x}$  is the capture probability per secondary period <u>conditional</u> on being in strata X at t

```
A POPAN (unrealistic<sup>3</sup>) Example: making a matrix in JAGS
```

```
# FROM unborn (col1) to...
tr[1,1] <- 1-psi # unborn to unborn</pre>
tr[2,1] <- psi # unborn to alive
tr[3,1] <- 0 # (illegal)
# FROM alive (col2) to...
tr[1,2] <- 0 # (illegal)
tr[2,2] <- phi # alive to alive
tr[3,2] <- 1-phi # alive to dead
# FROM dead (col3) to...
tr[1,3] <- 0 # (illegal)
tr[2,3] <- 0 # (illegal)
tr[3,3] <- 1 # dead to dead
Note: matrix[r. c]:
```

- - ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> integer is the row.
  - $\triangleright$  2<sup>nd</sup> is the column (like R)

³in practise, the recruitment parameters are always time-varying> ← 🗗 > ← 📱 > ← 📱 → 💂 💮 🔾 🧇

### Let's do a simple HMM in JAGS

#### Parameters:

- $\blacktriangleright \phi$  time-constant survival (phi)
- $ightharpoonup \psi$  time-constant "recruitment" (psi)
- p time-constant capture probability (p)

#### Goal:

- ▶ inferencce about phi, psi
- ▶ demonstrate the latent states posterior distribution z

### Inputs

- One capture history: y<-c(0,0,0,0,1,0,1,1,0,0,0)</p>
- ► T=11 capture periods
- prior parameters: pr.phi, pr.psi, pr.p

► In JAGS:

```
# specify the priors
p ~ dbeta(pr.p[1], pr.p[2]) # prior on capture history
phi ~ dbeta(pr.phi[1], pr.phi[2]) # prior on survival
psi ~ dbeta(pr.psi[1], pr.psi[2]) # prior on recruitment
```

► On the R side:

```
jags.data<-list(
   pr.p=c(1,1), # flat prior on capture probability
   pr.phi=c(1,1),# flat prior on survival
   pr.psi=c(1,1) # flat prior on recruitment
)</pre>
```

► Qu: why beta?<sup>4</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>reasonable distribution for probability parameters

### JAGS HMM Demo: STEP 2: Conditional Data Likelihood

```
# specify the conditional data likelihod
for(t in 1:length(y)){ # loop through capture periods
   y[t] ~ dcat(em[,z[t]])
}
```

- ... where em is the emission matrix
  - Qu: Why dcat and not dbern? 5
  - QU: Why is it called the "conditional" likelihood? 6



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>We could use dbern . The Multinoulli distribution ( dcat ) generalizes the Bernoulli for more than 2 outcomes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Conditional on the value of z[t]

```
# specify the latent state process (for t=1)
z[1] ~ dcat(tr[,1])
# specify the latent state process (for t>1)
for(t in 2:length(y)){
   z[t] ~ dcat(tr[,z[t]])
}
```

... where tr is the transition matrix

 $ightharpoonup ext{Qu: why is } t\!=\!1 ext{ handled differently from } t>1$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>The latent state process is Markovian, depends on values one-step-back. For t=1, there is no one-step-back with observation information.

### Transition Matrix

```
# Build the Transition Mat
# state 1
tr[1,1]<-1-psi
tr[2,1]<-psi
tr[3,1]<-0
# state 2
tr[1,2]<-0
tr[2,2]<-phi
tr[3,2]<-1-phi
# state 3
tr[1,3]<-0
tr[2,3]<-0
tr[3,3]<-1
```

#### **Emission Matrix**

```
# Build the Emission Mat
# state 1: unborn (100% no capture)
em[1,1]<-1
em[2,1]<-0
# state 2: alive
em[1,2]<-1-p
em[2,2]<-p
# state 3: dead (100% no capture)
em[1,3]<-1
em[2,3]<-0
```

where  $y=1 \equiv no$ -capture and  $y=2 \equiv capture$ 

## JAGS HMM Demo

Time to open up JAGS!

open the file PART4\_introHMM/R\_hmm\_intro.R and see exercise 1