

# Sleeping experts and Expert Engineering

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# Outline

Sleeping Experts

Log Loss

General Loss

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## applications of specialists

- Variable Length Markov Models

- Switching Experts

- Text Classification

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## Tracking

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- ▶ The basic idea: specialists can associate a *confidence* with their predictions.
- ▶ Master's prediction depends more on the confident predictions.
- ▶ The weight of confident experts is changed more than that of unconfident ones.



## The specialists protocol

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4. The adversary chooses an outcome  $y_t$ .
5. The algorithm suffers loss  $\ell_A^t = L(\hat{y}_t, y_t)$  and each of the awake specialists suffers loss  $\ell_i^t = L(x_{t,i}, y_t)$ . Specialists that are asleep suffer no loss.

# Log Loss

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$$L(\hat{y}, y) = \begin{cases} -\ln \hat{y} & \text{if } y = 1 \\ -\ln(1 - \hat{y}) & \text{if } y = 0. \end{cases}$$

## The standard Bayes algorithm (normalized weights)

**Do for**  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$

1. Predict with the weighted average of the experts predictions:

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$$p_{t+1,i} = \begin{cases} \frac{p_{t,i} x_{t,i}}{\hat{y}_t} & \text{if } y_t = 1 \\ \frac{p_{t,i} (1 - x_{t,i})}{1 - \hat{y}_t} & \text{if } y_t = 0. \end{cases}$$

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If  $i \in E_t$  then

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Otherwise:  $p_{t+1,i} = p_{t,i}$

## Bound on Bayes for Specialists

### Theorem

*For any sequence of awake specialists, specialist predictions and outcomes and for any distribution  $\mathbf{u}$  over  $\{1, \dots, N\}$ , the loss of **SBayes** satisfies*

$$\sum_{t=1}^T u(E_t) L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) \leq \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i \in E_t} u_i L(x_{t,i}, y_t) + \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) .$$

Where

$$u(E_t) \doteq \sum_{i \in E_t} u_i$$

## Proof of Theorem

► for each step:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_t) - \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1}) \\ &= u(E_t)L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) - \sum_{i \in E_t} u_i L(x_{t,i}, y_t). \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

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- ▶ Summing over  $t = 1, \dots, T$  and using that relative entropy is always positive:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) &\geq \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) - \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_{T+1}) \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T u(E_t)L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i \in E_t} u_i L(x_{t,i}, y_t). \end{aligned}$$



## Using general loss functions

We focus on algorithms which, like **Bayes**, maintain a distribution vector  $\mathbf{p}_t \in \Delta_N$ . Such algorithms are defined by two functions:

1.

$$\text{pred} : \Delta_N \times [0, 1]^N \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

which maps the current weight vector  $\mathbf{p}_t$  and instance  $\mathbf{x}_t$  to a prediction  $\hat{y}_t$ ; and

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2.

$$\text{update} : \Delta_N \times [0, 1]^N \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \Delta_N$$

which maps the current weight vector  $\mathbf{p}_t$ , instance  $\mathbf{x}_t$  and outcome  $y_t$  to a new weight vector  $\mathbf{p}_{t+1}$

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  - 4.4 or Equivalently:  $\sum_{i \in E_t} p_{t+1,i} = \sum_{i \in E_t} p_{t,i}$

## Comparison cumulative losses for specialists

- Comparison to average loss.

$$\min_{\mathbf{u} \in \Delta_N} \sum_{t=1}^T L_{\mathbf{u}}^l(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \quad \text{where} \quad L_{\mathbf{u}}^l(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \doteq \frac{\sum_{i \in E_t} u_i L(x_{t,i}, y_t)}{\sum_{i \in E_t} u_i} .$$

## Comparison cumulative losses for specialists

- Comparison to average loss.

$$\min_{\mathbf{u} \in \Delta_N} \sum_{t=1}^T L_{\mathbf{u}}^I(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \quad \text{where} \quad L_{\mathbf{u}}^I(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \doteq \frac{\sum_{i \in E_t} u_i L(x_{t,i}, y_t)}{\sum_{i \in E_t} u_i} .$$

- Comparison to average prediction.

$$\min_{\mathbf{u} \in \Delta_N} \sum_{t=1}^T L_{\mathbf{u}}^{II}(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \quad \text{where} \quad L_{\mathbf{u}}^{II}(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \doteq L \left( \frac{\sum_{i \in E_t} u_i x_{t,i}}{\sum_{i \in E_t} u_i}, y_t \right)$$



# Analysis using relative entropy

## ► Log-Loss / Bayes

$$\text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_t) - \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1}) = L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) - \sum_{i=1}^N u_i L(x_{t,i}, y_t).$$

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- General Vovk-style algorithm:

$$c(\text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_t) - \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1})) \geq L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) - aL_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t).$$

Where  $L$  is  $(a, c)$ -achievable (Using Vovk with  $\eta = a/c$ )

## Bound for general loss sleeping experts

For any achievable  $(a, c)$

$$\sum_{t=1}^T u(E_t) L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) \leq a \sum_{t=1}^T u(E_t) L_{\mathbf{u}^{E_t}}(\mathbf{x}_t^{E_t}, y_t) + c \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) .$$

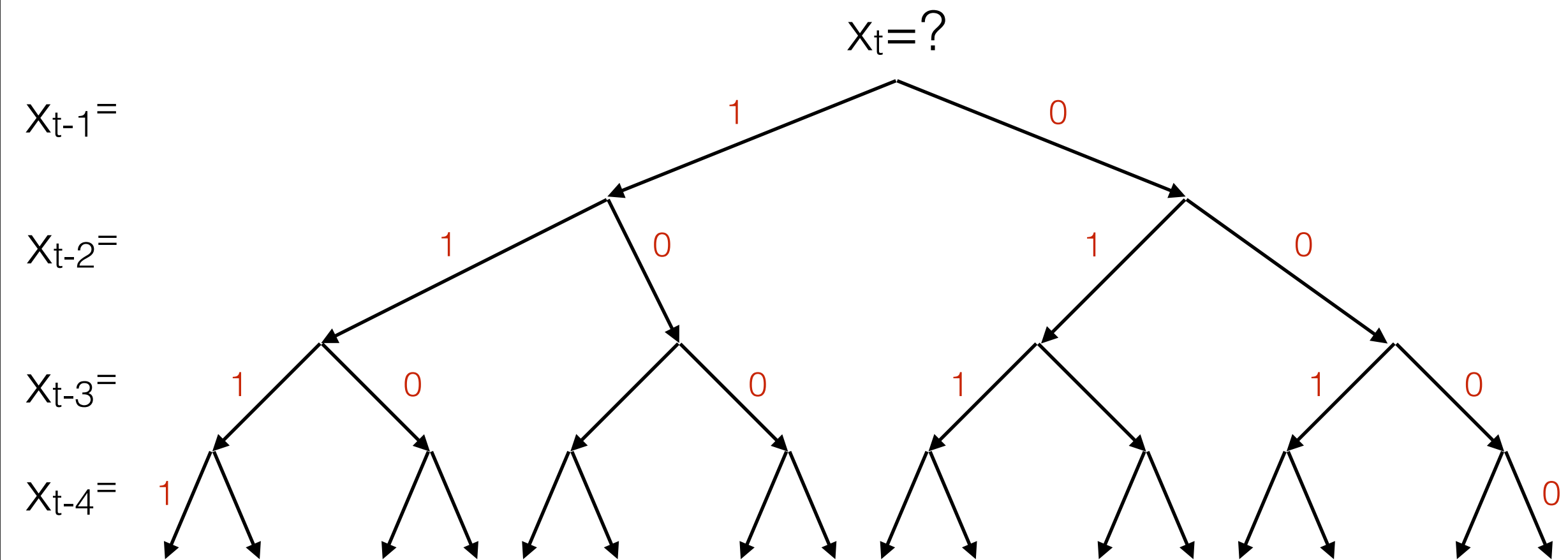
Where

$$u(E_t) \doteq \sum_{i \in E_t} u_i$$

**S**Bayes satisfies

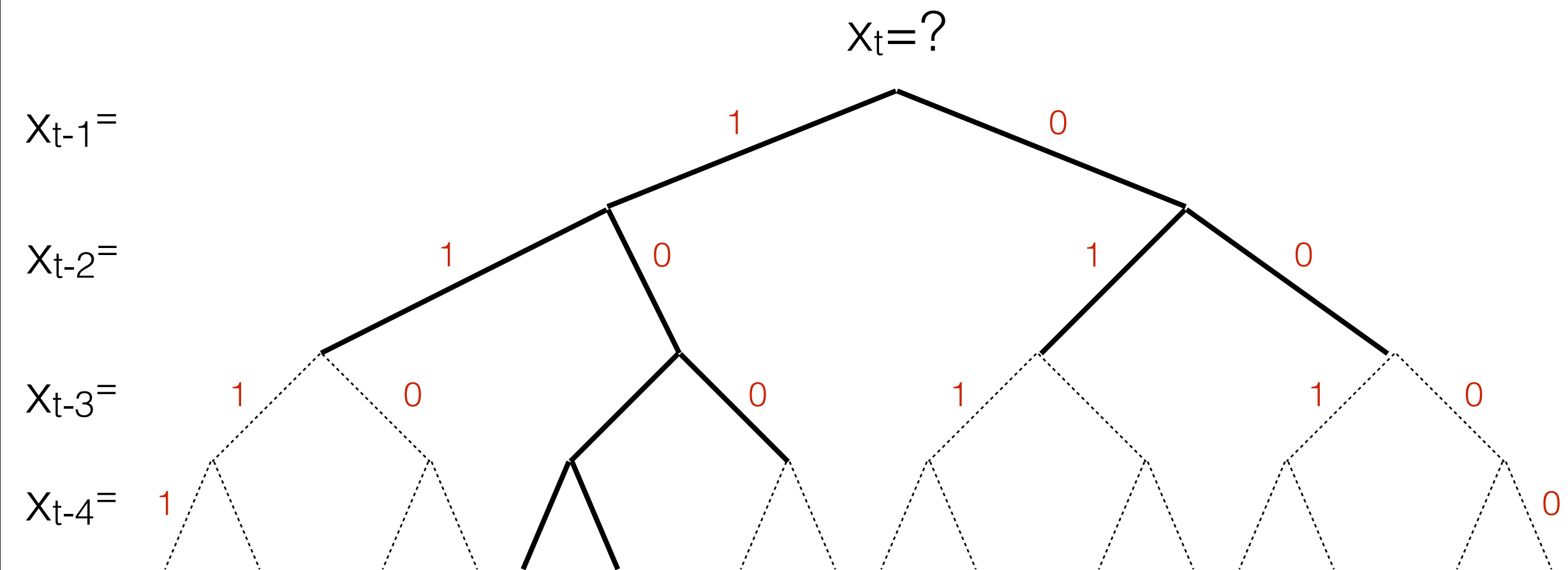
$$\sum_{t=1}^T u(E_t) L(\hat{y}_t, y_t) \leq \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i \in E_t} u_i L(\mathbf{x}_{t,i}, y_t) + \text{RE}(\mathbf{u} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) .$$

# Markov Model of order 4



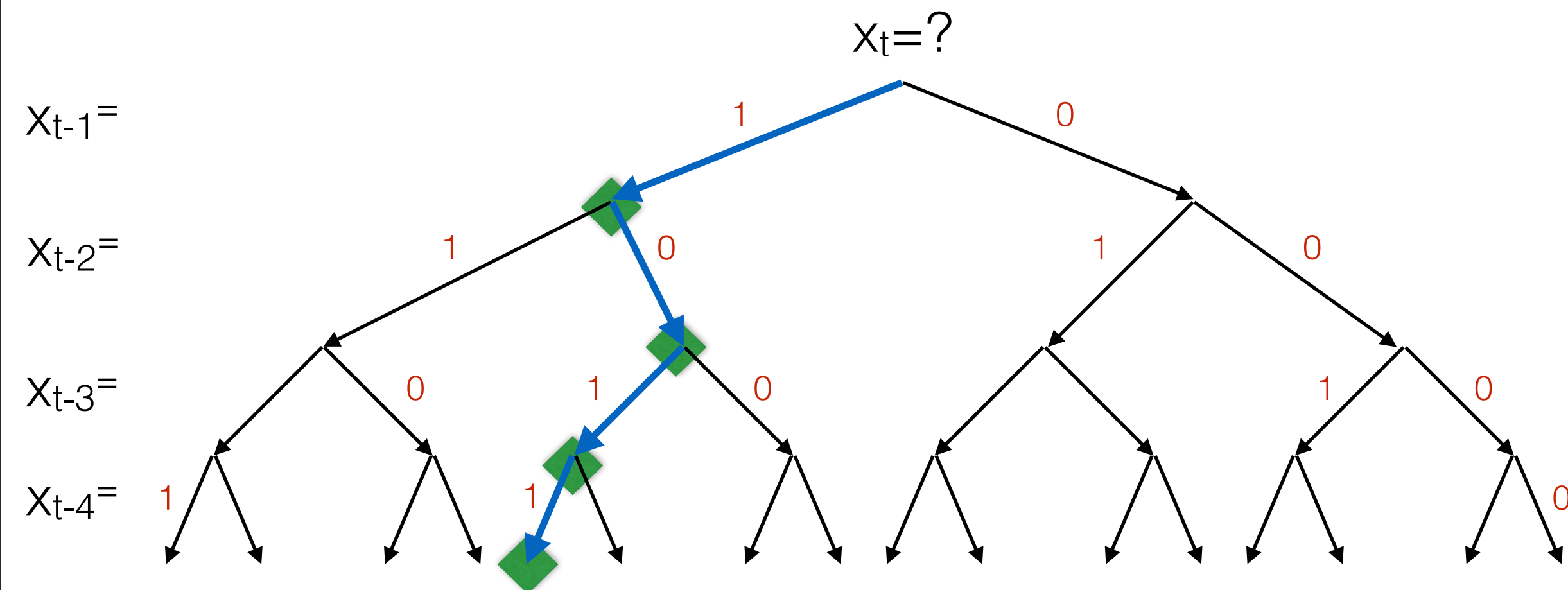
**In each leaf node we estimate  $P(x_t \mid x_{t-1}, x_{t-2}, x_{t-3}, x_{t-4})$**

# Variable Length Markov Model



- In each leaf node we estimate  $P(x_t \mid x_{t-1}, x_{t-2}, \dots)$
- A VMM for each prefix-free subtree
- An expert for each subtree  
= An exponential number of experts

# VMM using specialists



- **Each node corresponds to a specialist**
- **Each specialist estimates  $P(x_t \mid x_{t-1}, x_{t-2}, x_{t-3}, x_{t-4})$**
- **Number of specialists = number of nodes**
- **At each time  $t$ , 4 specialists are awake.**
- **Example: 1,1,0,1,?**

# Switching experts

time



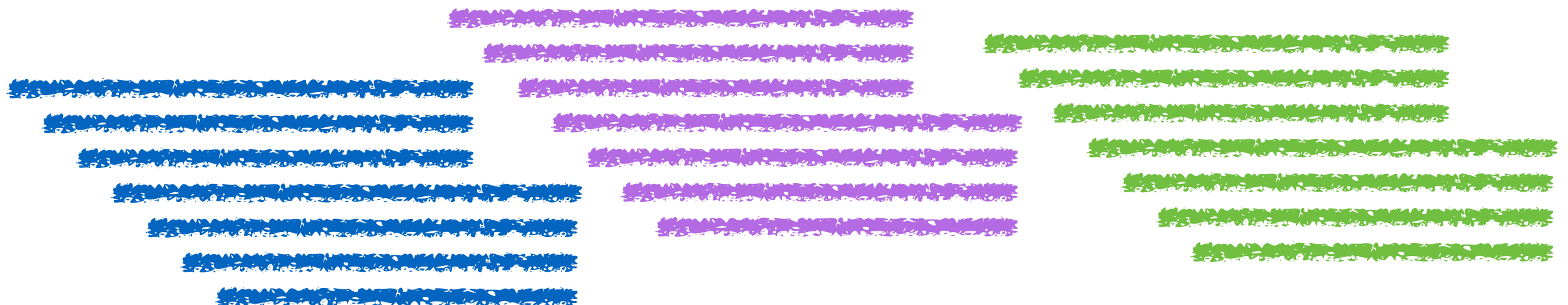
Base Experts



Combined Expert:



Low-Level specialists: ( $t_1 < t_2$ ) for each base expert



Actual algorithm maintains one weight per base expert (color),  
Same as summing over all low-level specialists

# Switching within a small set of experts

time 

Base Experts



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Low-Level specialists:  $(t_1 < t_2 < t_3 < \dots < t_n)$  for each base expert



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# The Text Classification Problem

## Context-Sensitive Learning Methods for Text Categorization / Cohen and Singer 1999

To classify a new document  $d$  using this pool, one first finds all sparse  $n$ -grams appearing in the document, and then computes the weights of the corresponding miniexperts. For instance, in classifying the documents “prayers said for soldiers killed in ira bombing” and “taxi driver killed by ira” the relevant set of phrases would include “killed ? ira” and “bombing”. The documents above are classified correctly; among the miniexperts associated with these phrases, the total weight of the miniexperts predicting  $d \in \text{ireland}$  is larger than the total weight of the miniexperts predicting  $d \notin \text{ireland}$ .

# Using Specialists for text classification

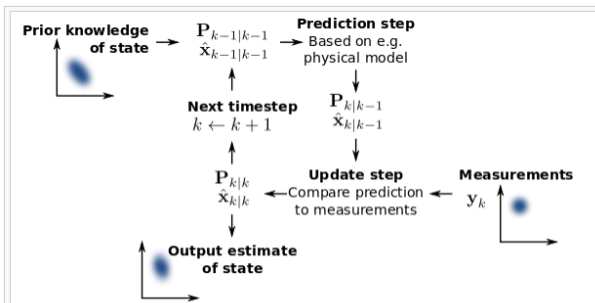
150 • W. W. Cohen and Y. Singer

Table I. Experts with Large Weights for the Category ireland

Phrase	Log-Weight		Number of Occurrences	
	∉ ireland	∈ ireland	∉ ireland	∈ ireland
belfast	-7.19	12.05	8	31
haughey	-6.35	11.10	2	10
ira says	-1.07	10.44	2	7
northern ireland	-7.20	10.17	18	38
catholic man	-0.87	6.03	0	3
ulster	-3.98	5.20	4	8
killed ? ira	-0.09	4.68	1	4
protestant extremists claim	-0.12	4.59	0	2
moderate catholic	-0.02	4.58	0	2
ira supporters	-3.20	3.68	0	3
sinn fein	-3.52	3.38	2	5
west belfast	-5.90	3.05	3	16

# Dynamics using Kalman Filters

Too many resources to list.



The Kalman filter keeps track of the estimated state of the system and the variance or uncertainty of the estimate. The estimate is updated using a state transition model and measurements.  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k|k-1}$  denotes the estimate of the system's state at time step  $k$  before the  $k$ -th measurement  $y_k$  has been taken into account;  $\mathbf{P}_{k|k-1}$  is the corresponding uncertainty.

# Dynamics using Particle Filters

**The unscented particle filter** / R. Van Der Merwe, A. Doucet,  
N. De Freitas, E. Wan

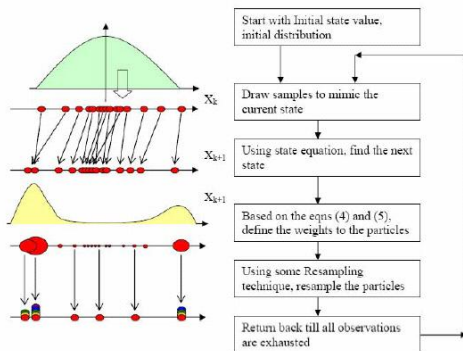


Figure 2. The flow of particles from initial distribution to the predict stage into update stage and resample stage, back to the predict stage till all the samples are exhausted.

# Specialists for dynamics

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- ▶ Handwriting recognition (Sunsern)

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- ▶ Specialists: tracking the best appearance model.
- ▶ Within a small set: assuming that old appearances will recur.

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- ▶ In Kalman filters: covariance of the posterior distribution.

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- ▶ When appearance is confident: use it to train dynamics.
- ▶ Specialists can correspond to using different features, different image resolutions etc.