

Machine Learning for Graphs and Sequential Data

Sequential Data – Markov Chains

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Data Analytics and
Machine Learning 

Roadmap

- Chapter: Temporal Data / Sequential Data
 1. Autoregressive Models
 - 2. Markov Chains**
 3. Hidden Markov Models
 4. Neural Network Approaches
 5. Temporal Point Processes

A B A A C

Markov Chains - Definition

- Definition: A **Markov Chain** is a sequence of r.v. X_1, X_2, \dots, X_T which fulfills the **Markov property** :

$$P(X_t | X_1, \dots, X_{t-1}) = P(X_t | X_{t-1})$$

- The values taken by the time index t are discrete i.e. $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, T\}$
- We assume that the r.v. X_t are discrete i.e. $X_t \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$
- The joint distribution of a Markov Chain is:

$$P(X_1 = i_1, \dots, X_T = i_T) = P(X_1 = i_1) \prod_{t=1}^{T-1} P(X_{t+1} = i_{t+1} | X_t = i_t)$$

Markov Chain – General case

$$\pi: [c.9 \quad c.01 \quad c.01]$$

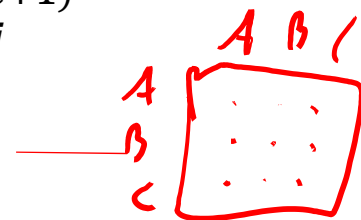
 A, B, C

$$K=3$$

- In the general case, the distribution of each r.v. can be different:

$$P(X_1 = i) = \pi_i \text{ and } P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i) = A_{ij}^{(t+1)}$$

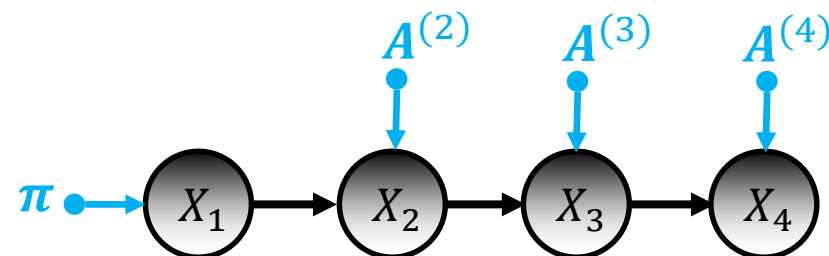
where $\pi \in \mathbb{R}^K$ is a **prior probability** on the initial state, and $A^{(t)} \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ are the **transition matrices**.



- Consequently the joint probability and the graphical model are:

$$P(X_1 = i_1, \dots, X_T = i_T) = \pi_{i_1} \times A_{i_1, i_2}^{(2)} \times \dots \times A_{i_{T-1}, i_T}^{(T)}$$

$\#Parameters = K + (T - 1) K^2$



Markov Chain – Stationary case

$\tilde{A} \quad B \quad \tilde{A} \quad C \quad C$

- To simplify, we assume a **time-homogeneous** or **stationary** Markov Chain:

$$P(X_1 = i) = \pi_i \text{ and } P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i) = A_{ij}$$

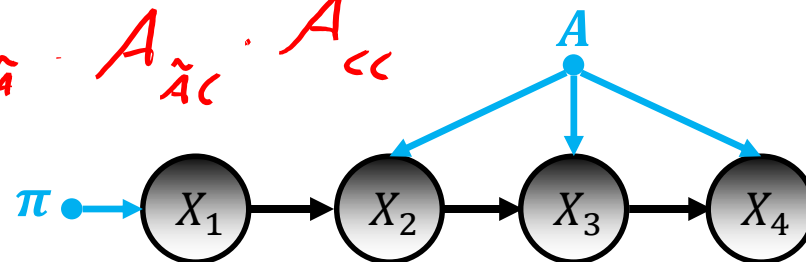
- The transition matrix $A^{(t)} = A$ does not depend on t .
All r.v. X_2, \dots, X_T follow the same conditional distribution.

- The joint probability and the graphical model become:

$$P(X_1 = i_1, \dots, X_T = i_T) = \pi_{i_1} \times A_{i_1, i_2} \times \dots \times A_{i_{T-1}, i_T}$$

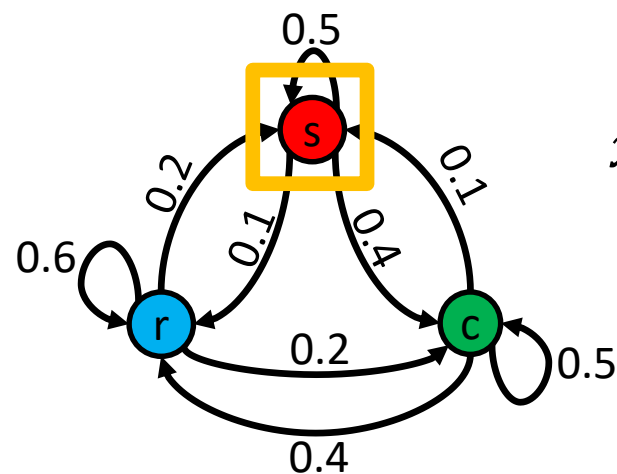
$\pi_{\tilde{A}} \cdot A_{\tilde{A}B} \cdot A_{B\tilde{A}} \cdot A_{\tilde{A}C} \cdot A_{CC}$

$\#Parameters = K + K^2$



Markov Chain – As a Random Walk

- Time-homogeneous discrete MCs can be interpreted as state machines
- Example: a model for weather condition
 - $X_t \in \{\text{rainy}, \text{sunny}, \text{cloudy}\}$ weather condition on t -th day
 - We can think of a sequence (i.e. a sample from the MC) as a random walk.



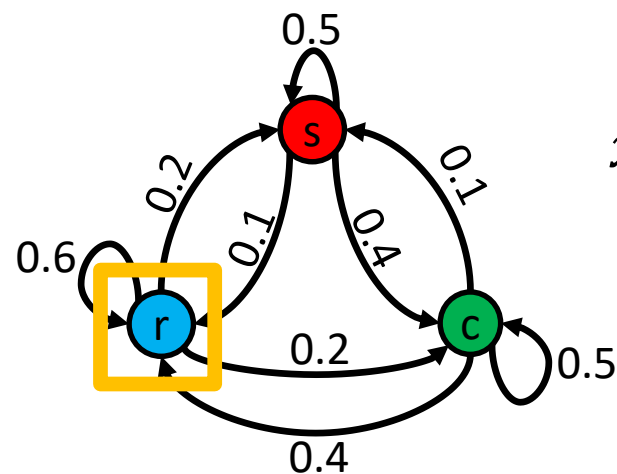
$$x_{1:T} = \boxed{s} \ r \ c \ r \ r \ c \ s$$

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{rainy} & \text{sunny} & \text{cloudy} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{rainy} \\ \text{sunny} \\ \text{cloudy} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.1 & 0.5 & 0.4 \\ 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$P(X_{1:T} = x_{1:T}) = P(X_1 = s) \times 0.1 \times 0.2 \times 0.4 \times 0.6 \times 0.2 \times 0.1$$

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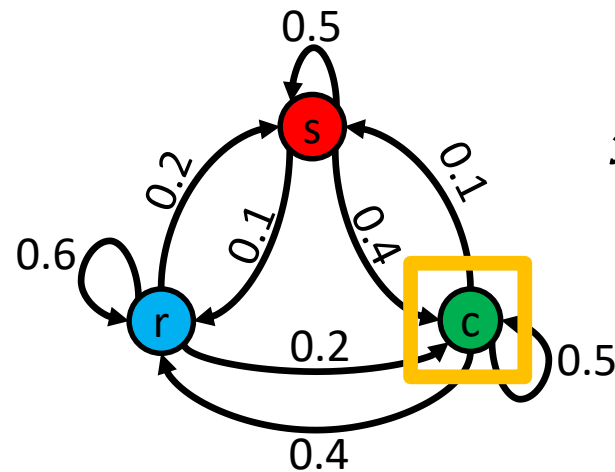
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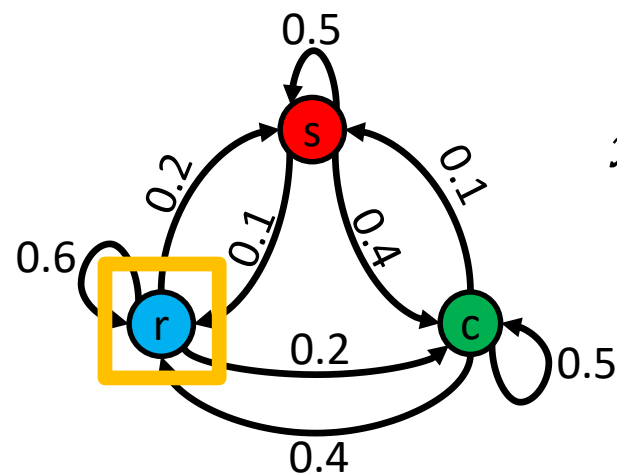
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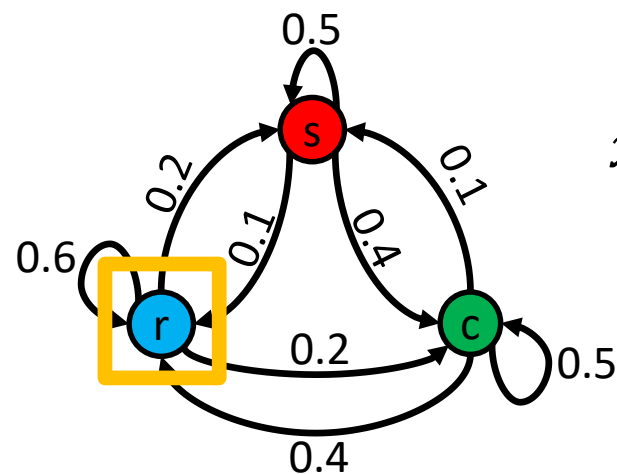


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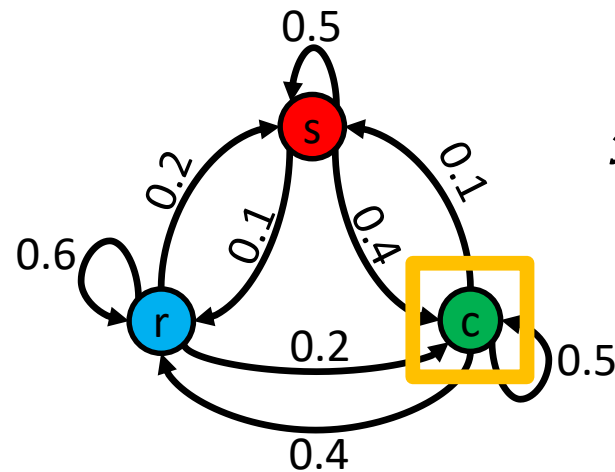
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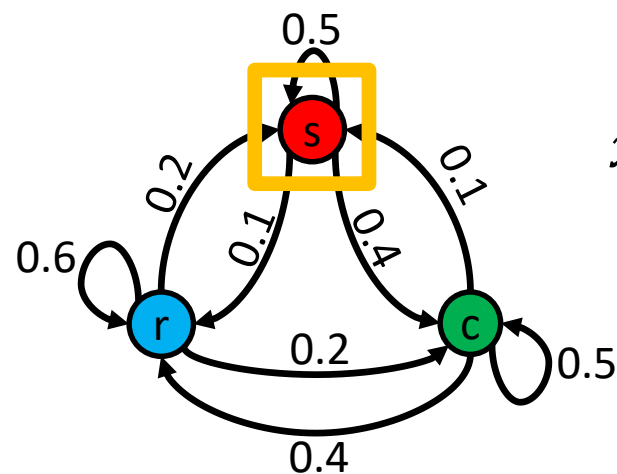
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$$\sim(A, B) = 1$$

$$A B B A <$$

Markov Chain – Learning of Model Parameters

$$B B A A < < < A$$

- Given a set $\{X_{1:T_n}^{(n)}\}$ of N observed sequences, we can learn π and A using maximum-likelihood.

$$L(k) = \#(X_1 = k)$$

$$N(i, j) = \#(X_t = i, X_{t+1} = j)$$

$$\sim(B, A) = 2$$

$$P(all) = \prod_{n=1}^N P(X_1^{(n)}) \prod_{t=1}^{T_n-1} \Pr(X_{t+1}^{(n)} | X_t^{(n)}) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{L(k)} \right) \left(\prod_{i=1}^K \prod_{j=1}^K A_{ij}^{N(i,j)} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log P(all) = \sum_{k=1}^K L(k) \log(\pi_k) + \sum_{i=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^K N(i, j) \log(A_{ij})$$

- Minimizing $\log P(all)$ subject to $\sum_k \pi_k = 1$ and $\sum_j A_{ij} = 1$, we get:

$$A_{ij} = \frac{N(i, j)}{\sum_{j'} N(i, j')}$$

$$\pi_k = \frac{L(k)}{\sum_{k'} L(k')} = \frac{L(k)}{\sim}$$

Markov Chain – More Insights

$$(1) P(A) = \sum_b P(A, B=b)$$

$$(2) P(A, B|C) = P(A|B, C) \cdot P(B|C)$$

- Task 1: Determine $A_{ij}(n) = P(X_{t+n} = j | X_t = i)$
 - In words, $A_{ij}(n)$ = probability of getting from state i to state j in n steps
- How to compute $A_{ij}(n)$?

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_{t+n} = j | X_t = i) &= \sum_{k=1}^K P(X_{t+n} = j, X_{t+n-1} = k | X_t = i) \\
 &\stackrel{(1)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^K P(X_{t+n} = j | X_{t+n-1} = k, X_t = i) P(X_{t+n-1} = k | X_t = i) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^K P(X_{t+n} = j | X_{t+n-1} = k) P(X_{t+n-1} = k | X_t = i) = \sum_{k=1}^K A_{kj} A_{ik}(n-1) \\
 &\Rightarrow A(n) = A(n-1)A \xrightarrow{A(1)=A} A(n) = A^n \\
 &\quad \quad \quad = A(n-2)A A
 \end{aligned}$$

- Chapman-Kolmogorov equations:

$$A_{ij}(m+n) = \sum_{k=1}^K A_{ik}(m) A_{kj}(n) \Rightarrow A(m+n) = A(m)A(n)$$

Markov Chain – More Insights

- Task 2: Determine $\pi_j(t) = \Pr(X_t = j)$
 - In words, $\pi_j(t)$ = probability of reaching state j in step t .
- How to compute $\pi_j(t)$?

$$\Pr(X_t = j) = \sum_{i=1}^K \Pr(X_t = j | X_{t-1} = i) \Pr(X_{t-1} = i) = \sum_{i=1}^K A_{ij} \pi_i(t-1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\pi}(t) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(t-1) \mathbf{A}$$

$\boldsymbol{\pi}(t)$ and $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ are row vectors

$$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\pi}(t) = \boldsymbol{\pi} \mathbf{A}^{(t-1)}$$

Questions – MC

1. We assume that $X_t \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. We consider $\boldsymbol{\pi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 \\ 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.1 & 0.5 & 0.4 \\ 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$.
- a) What is the probability to observe the sequence $\mathbf{X}^{(1)} = [1, 2, 3]$?
 - b) What is the probability to observe the sequence $\mathbf{X}^{(2)} = [2, 2, 3]$?

2. We assume that $X_t \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ and we observed three sequences:

- $\mathbf{X}^{(1)} = [1, 3, 2]$
- $\mathbf{X}^{(2)} = [3]$
- $\mathbf{X}^{(3)} = [1, 1, 3, 2]$

What is the MLE of the transition matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$?

Reading Material

- [1] Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning, section 13.1:
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/uploads/prod/2006/01/Bishop-Pattern-Recognition-and-Machine-Learning-2006.pdf>