

Knowledge Tracing

Machine Learning for Behavioral Data

March 28, 2022

Today's Topic

Week	Lecture/Lab
1	Introduction
2	Data Exploration
3	Regression
4	Classification
5	Model Evaluation
6	Knowledge Tracing
7	Knowledge Tracing
8	Time Series Prediction

Supervised learning on time series:

- Probabilistic graphical models
- Neural networks: LSTM, GRU, etc.

Getting ready for today's lecture...

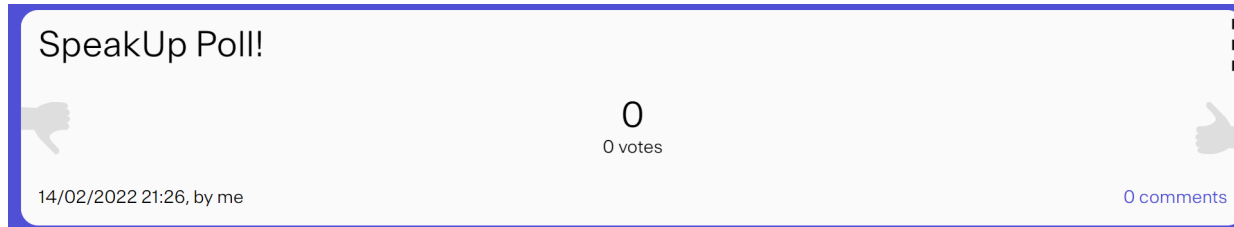
- **If not done yet:** clone the repository containing the Jupyter notebook and data for today's lecture into your Noto workspace
- SpeakUp room for today's lecture:

<https://go.epfl.ch/mlbd-lecture>

Short quiz about the past...

[Model Evaluation] Given a data set $\{1,2,3,4\}$, one possible bootstrap set is $\{1,1,1,1\}$:

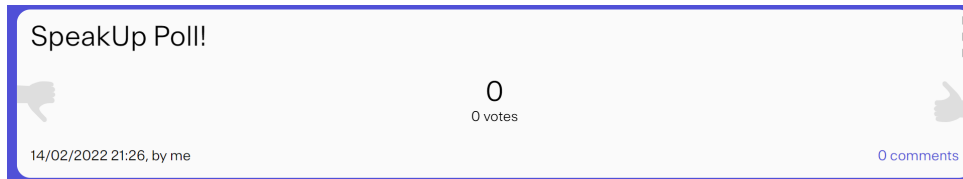
- a) True
- b) False



Short quiz about the past...

[Model Evaluation] Which of the following statements about k -fold cross validation are wrong? N denotes the number of samples in the data set, k the number of folds:

- a) k must always be smaller than N .
- b) The smaller k is, the more expensive it is to compute the error.
- c) Cross validation can be used to tune model hyperparameters.
- d) Cross validation is not a valid method for computing the generalization error of a model.



Today's Topic

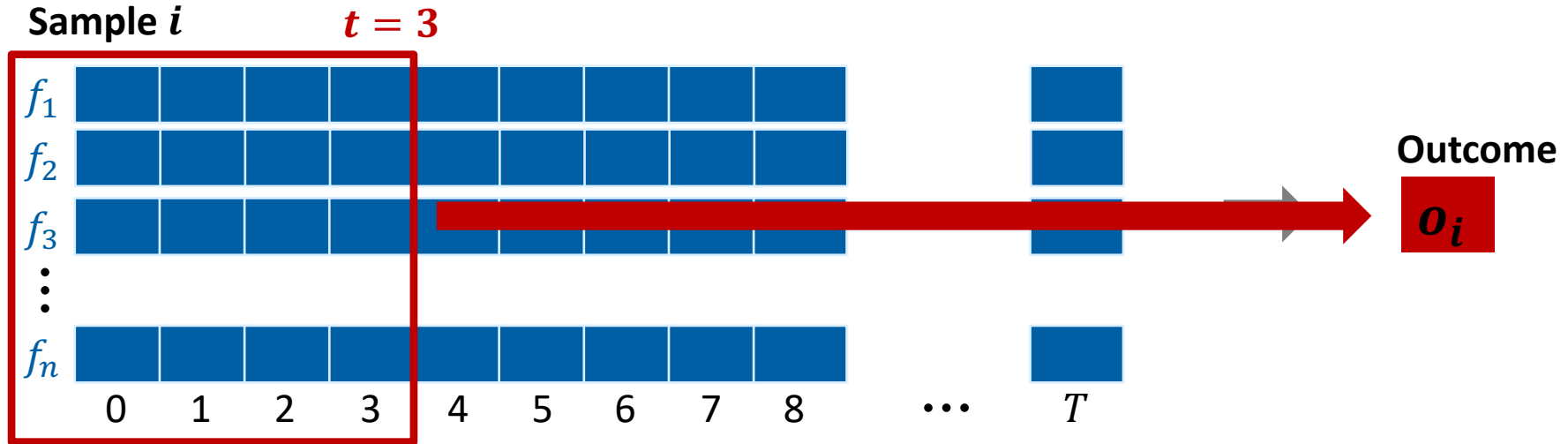
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Supervised learning on time series:

- Probabilistic graphical models
- Neural networks: LSTM, GRU, etc.

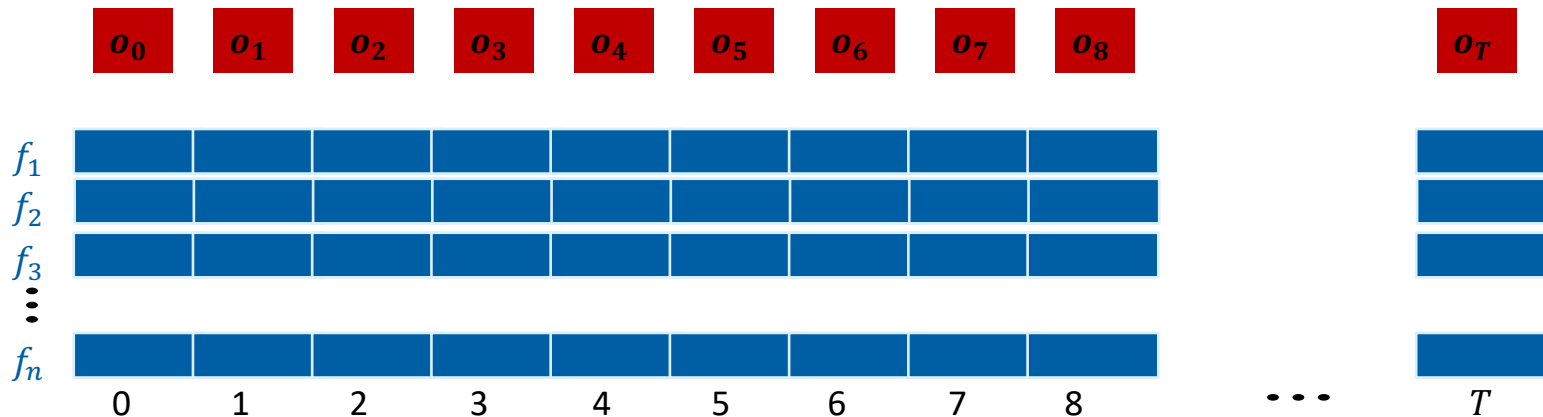
Time Series – Prediction Task

- Prediction of a target variable after $t < T$ time steps, where T is the total number of time steps



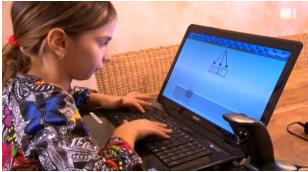
Time Series – Tracing Task

- Prediction of a target variable after $t < T$ time steps, where T is the total number of time steps
- Prediction of a variable in time step $t + 1$, based on time steps $0, \dots, t$



Today: Tracing Student Knowledge

- Is the student learning?
 - Measure what the student *knows* at a specific time t
 - More specifically: knowledge of the student about relevant knowledge components (skills)



Task:	$50 - 23 = ?$	$75 - 12 = ?$	$38 - 14 = ?$
Answer:	27	61	24

Tracing Knowledge – why is it useful?

- Is the student learning?
 - Measure what the student *knows* at a specific time t
 - More specifically: knowledge of the student about relevant knowledge components (skills)
 - ➡ Choose the next appropriate activity
 - ➡ Know which activities support learning
-

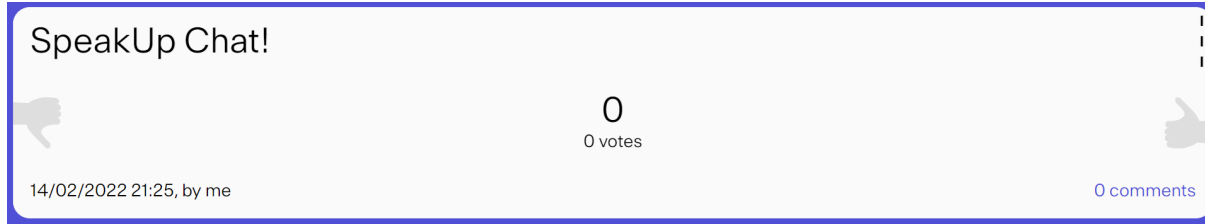
Today's Use Case

- ASSISTments is a free tool for assigning and assessing math problems and homework
 - All math problems (tasks/items) are associated to a specific skill/knowledge component
 - 4,217 middle-school students
 - 525,534 observations
-

Today: Tracing Student Knowledge

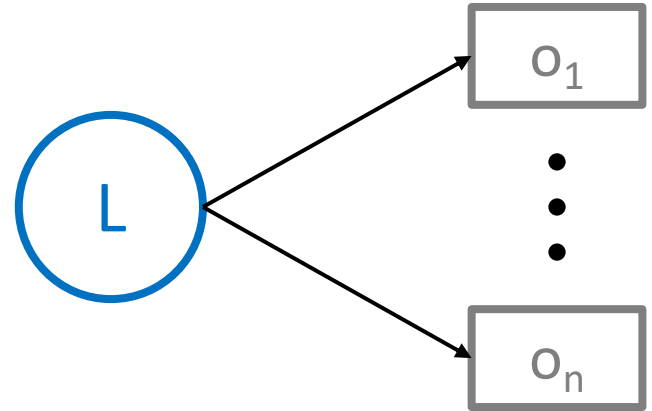
- **Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)**
 - Learning Curves
-

What is a latent variable?



What is a latent variable?

- A **latent** variable L is a variable which is not directly observable/cannot be measured
- It is assumed to affect the outcome of other variables \mathbf{o} , which can be **observed** (directly measured)

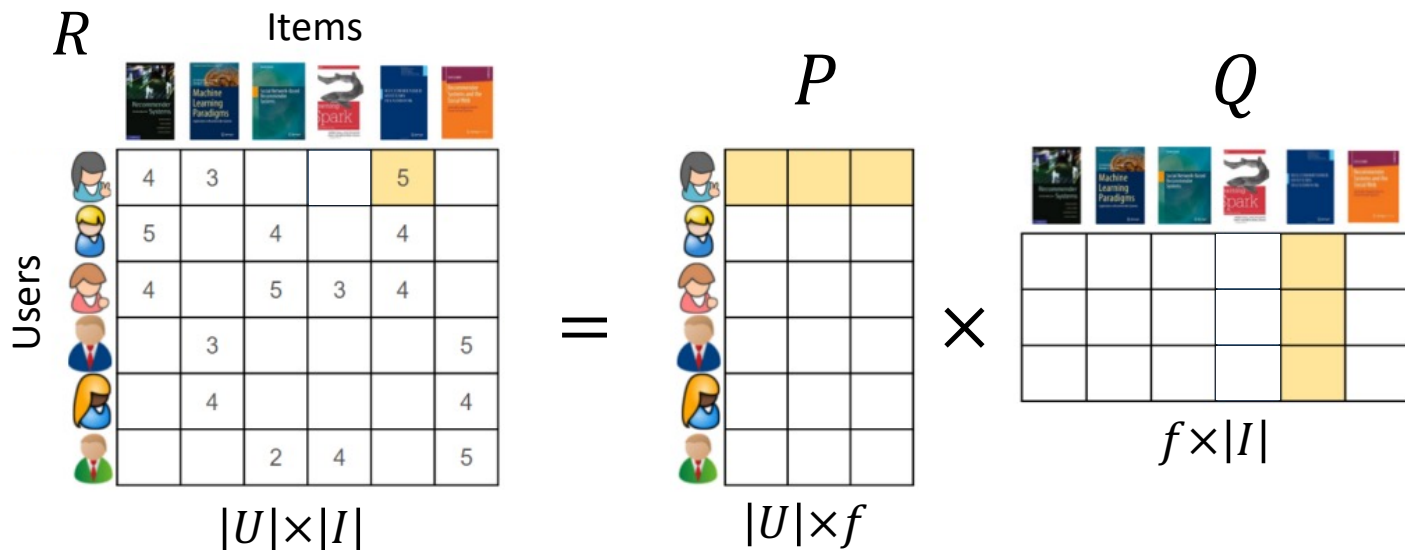


Why should we use latent variables?

- In many scientific fields, we are interested in concepts/factors that cannot directly be measured/observed:
 - Political sciences: leadership, political competence, etc.
 - Psychology: stress, self-worth, personality characteristics, talent, etc.
 - Education: memory, spatial ability, cognitive abilities, etc.
 - We represent underlying concepts/factors by latent variables and infer them from the observed variables
-

Example 1: Recommender Systems

- Given: ratings of users u for items i (e.g., books)



Example 2: Education

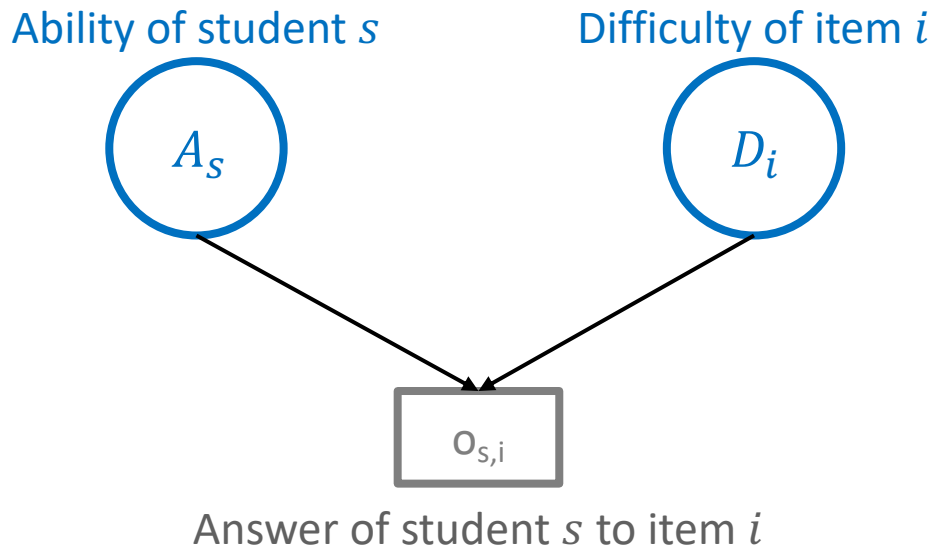
- Observations: binary answers (correct/wrong) of students to items (tasks)

$$O_{s,i}$$

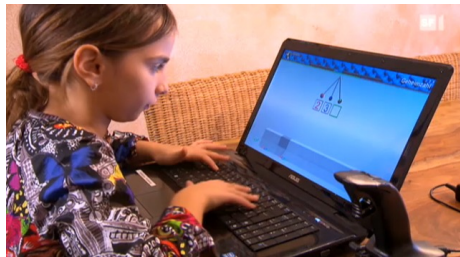
Answer of student s to item i

Example 2: Education

- Observations: binary answers (correct/wrong) of students to items (tasks)



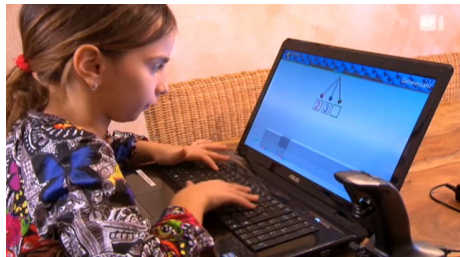
Is the student learning?



Task: $50 - 23 = ?$ $75 - 12 = ?$ $38 - 14 = ?$

Answer: 27 61 24

What are we measuring?



Task: $50 - 23 = ?$ $75 - 12 = ?$ $38 - 14 = ?$

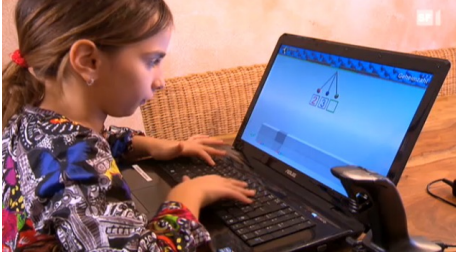
Answer: 27 61 24

1

0

1

Binary observations of student answers



Subtraction 0-100

1

2

...

n

0

0

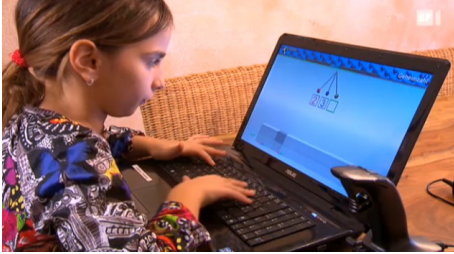
1

0

1

1

Predicting future performance



Subtraction 0-100

1

2

...

n

n+1

0

0

1

0

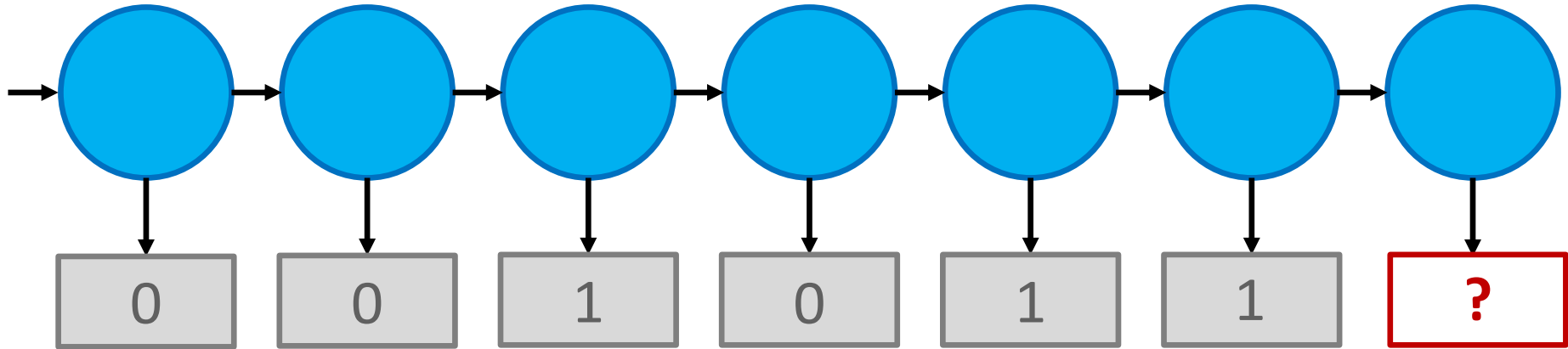
1

1

?

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)

● Latent variable □ Observed variable

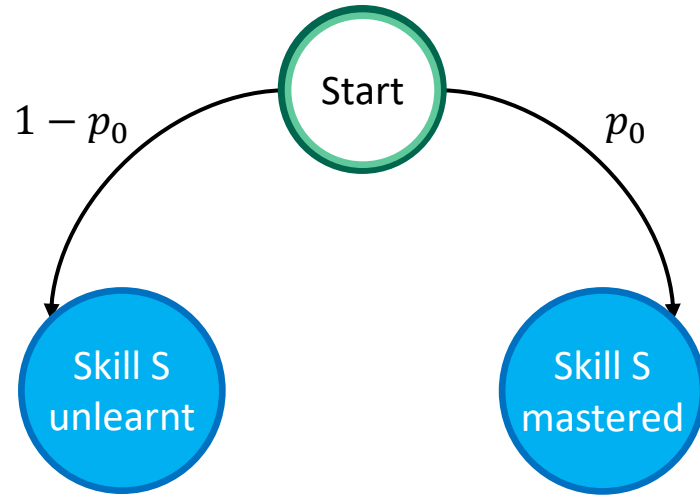


Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



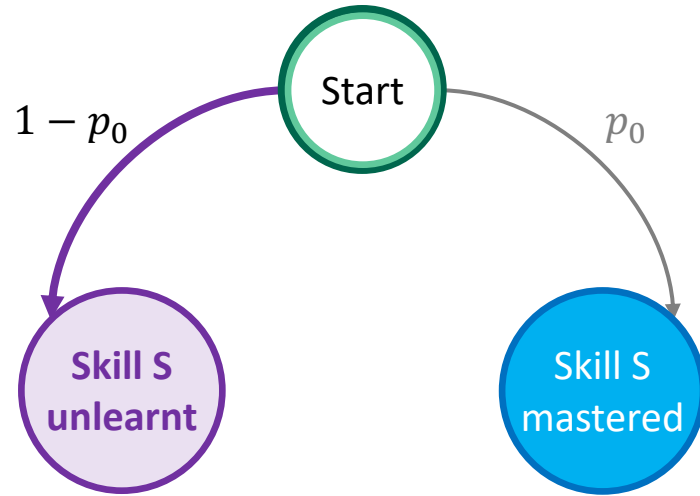
Observations for student s :

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



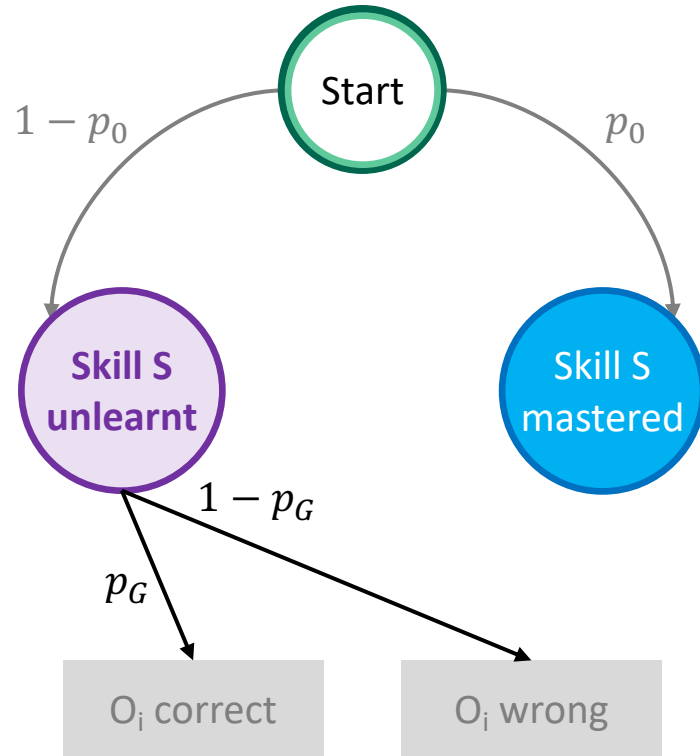
Observations for student s :

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



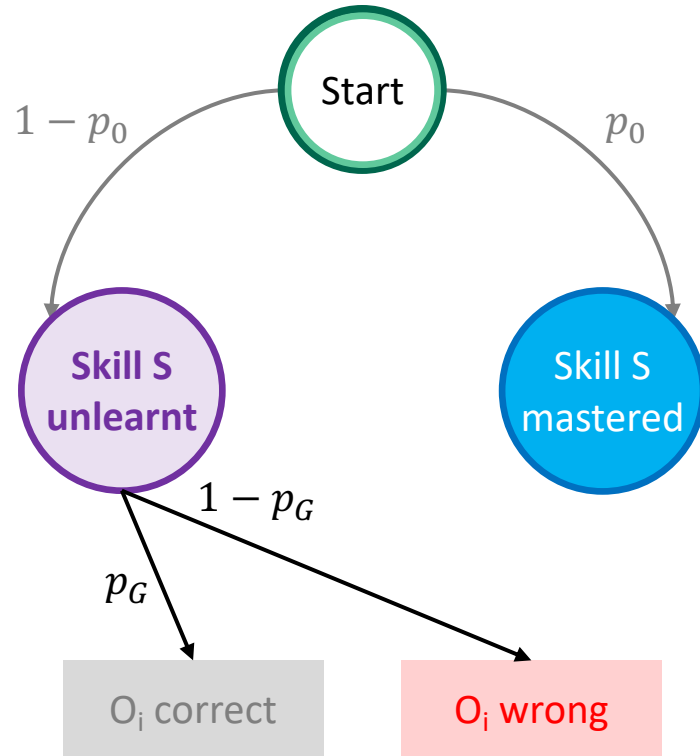
Observations for student s :
 $t = 0$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :
 $t = 0$:

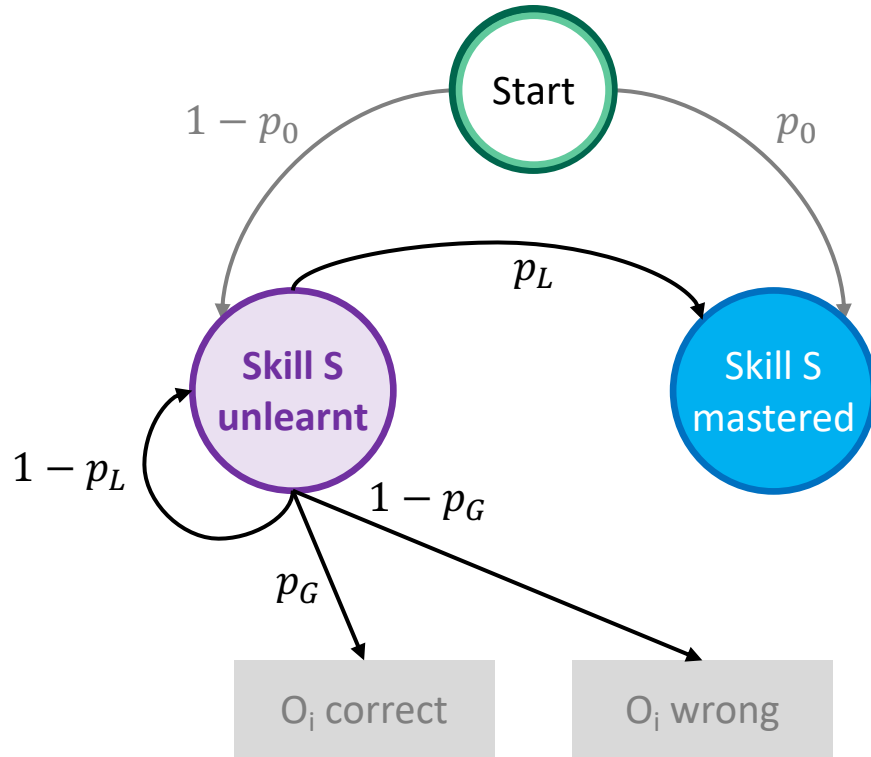
Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: **0**

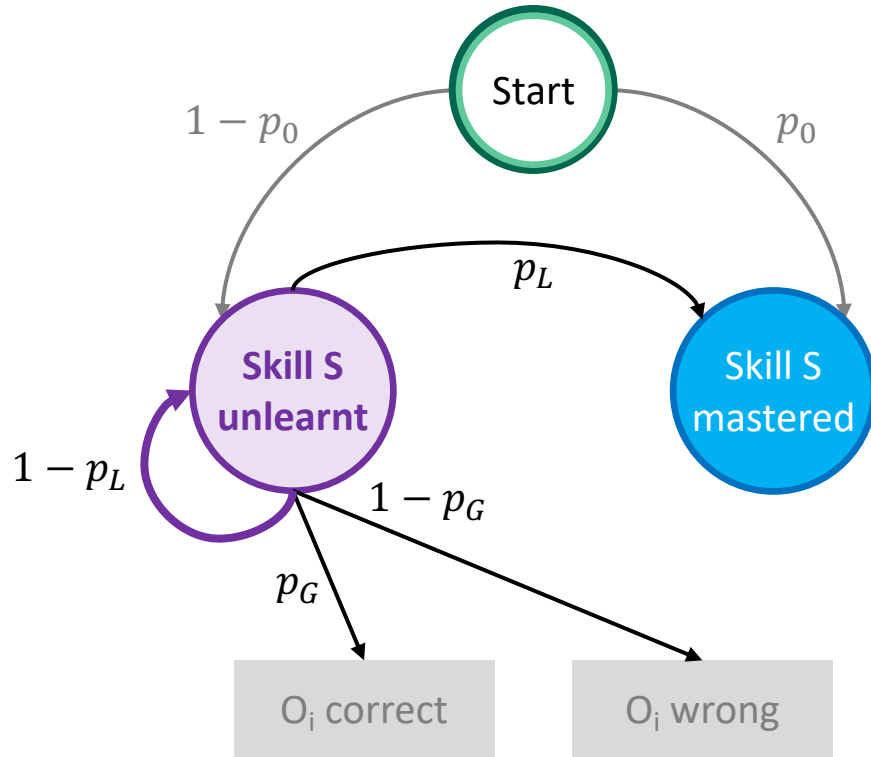
Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: **0**

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)

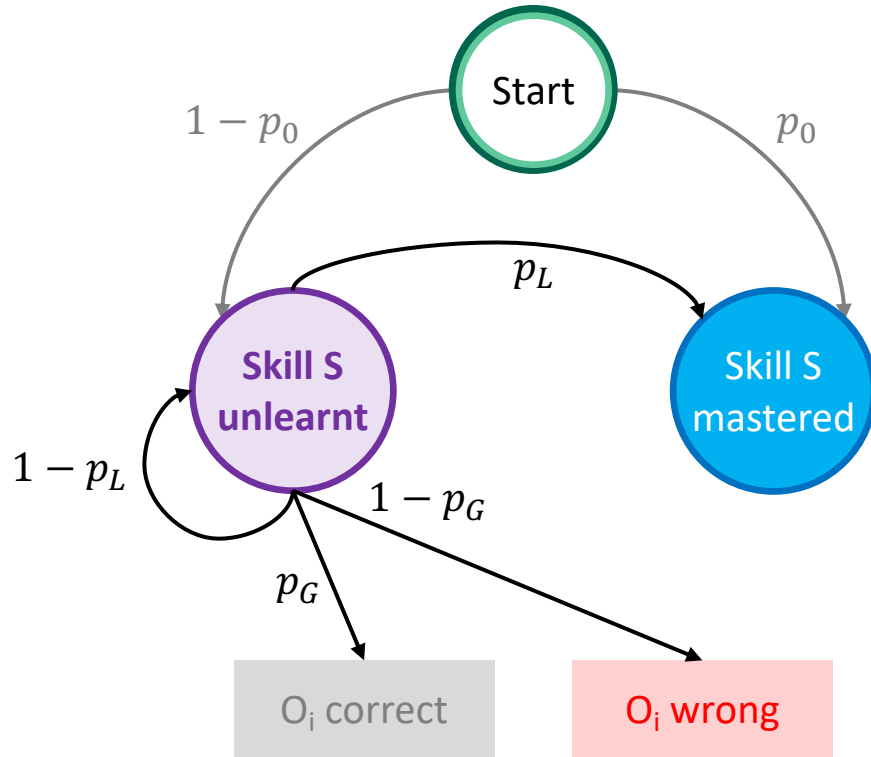


Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)

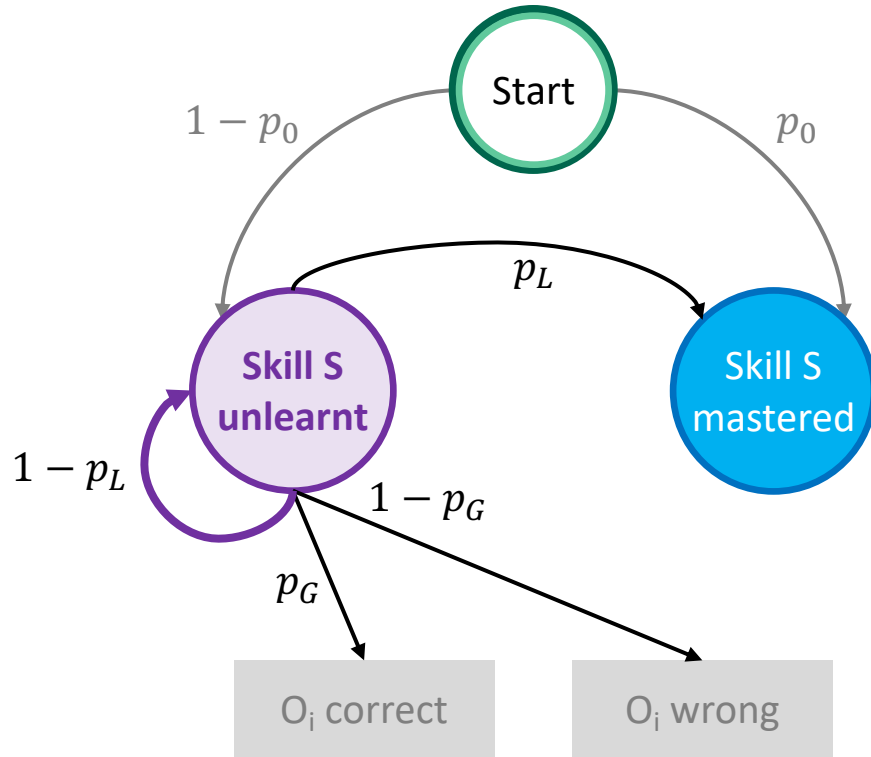


Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



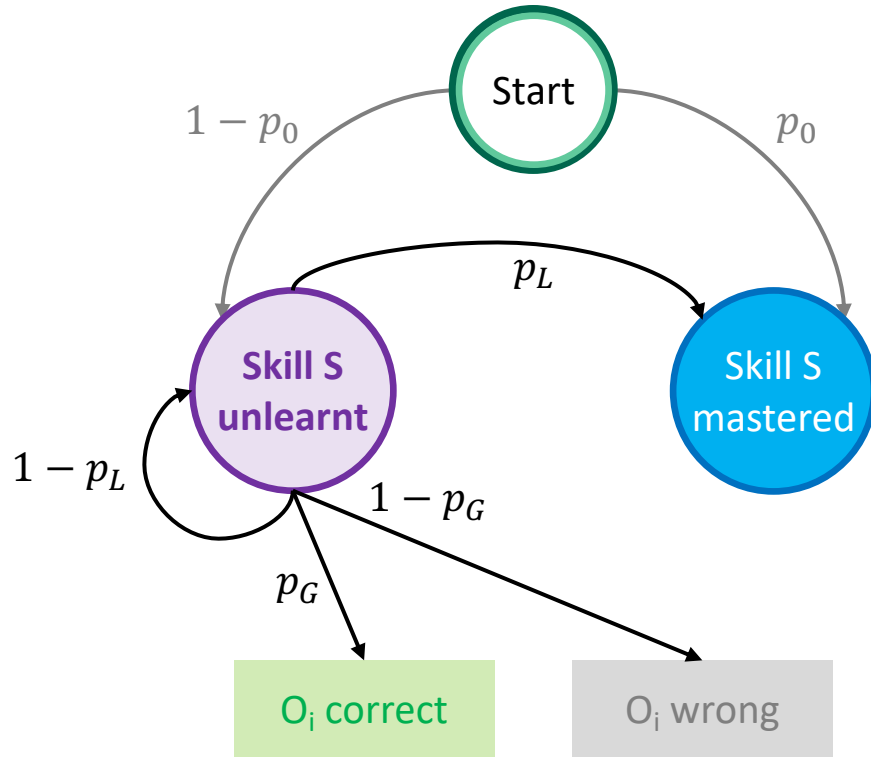
Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



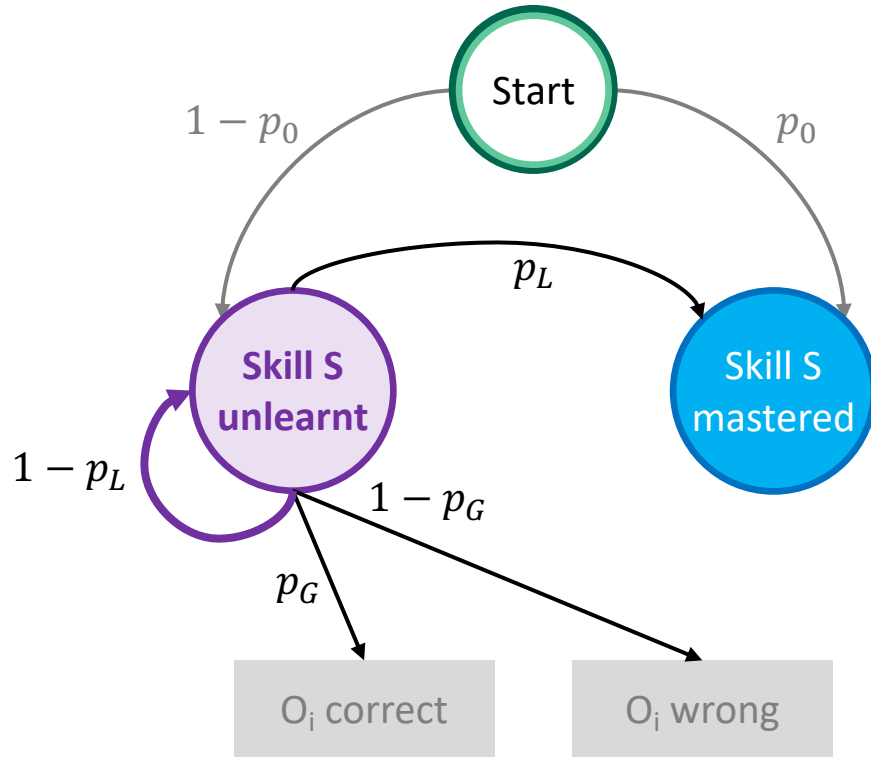
Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

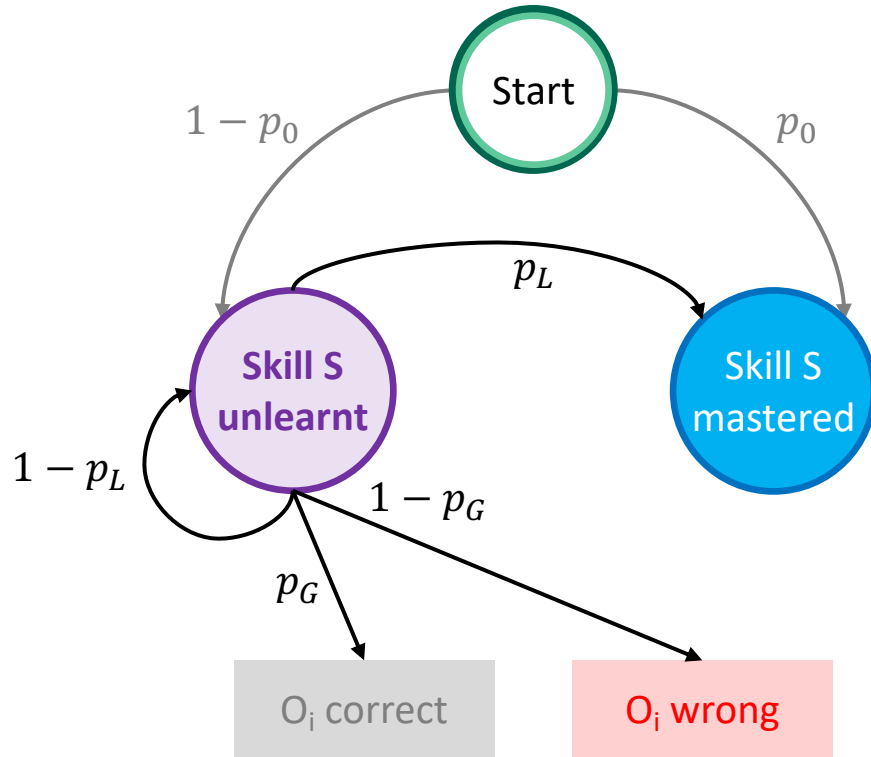
$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

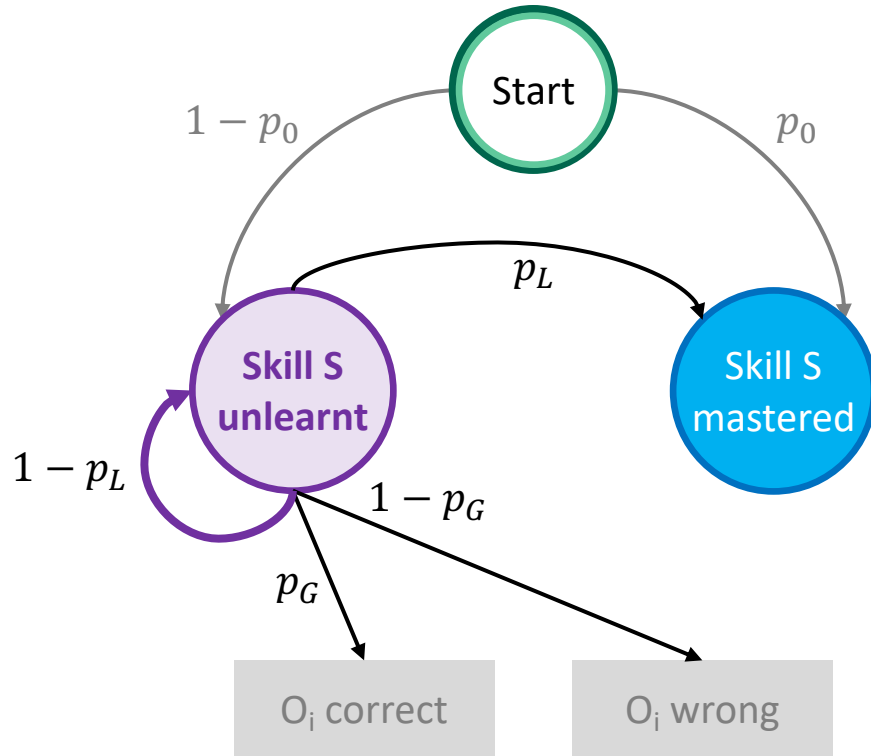
$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

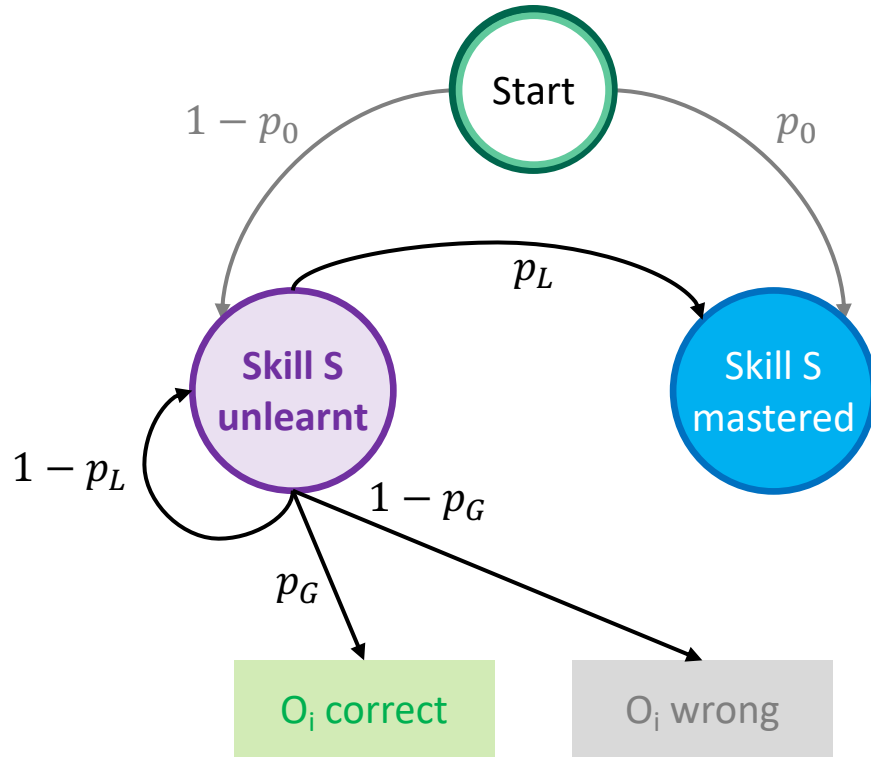
$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

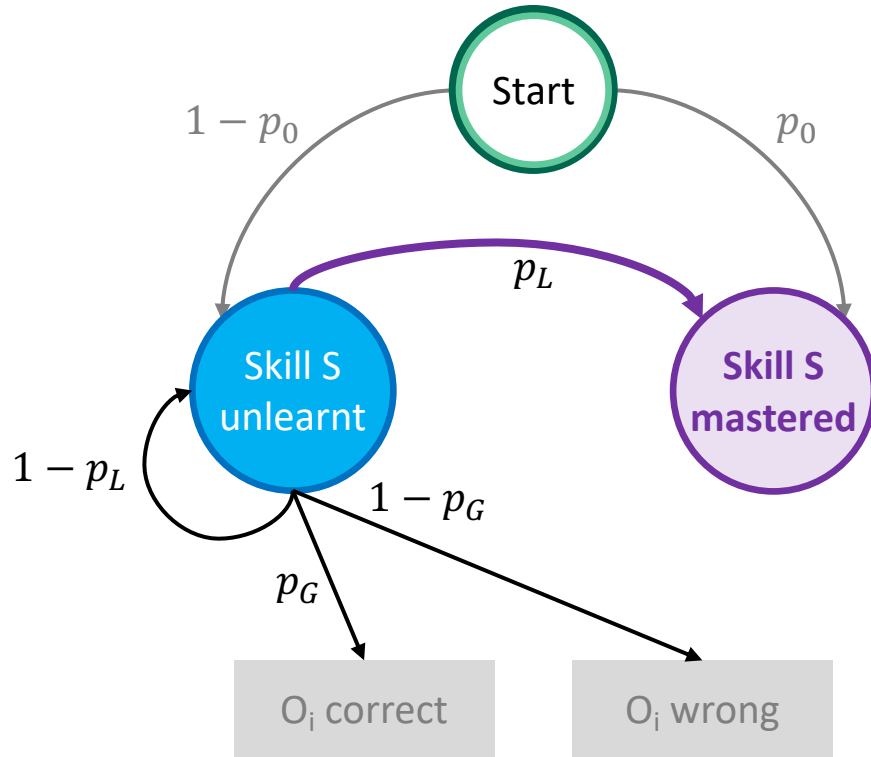
$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

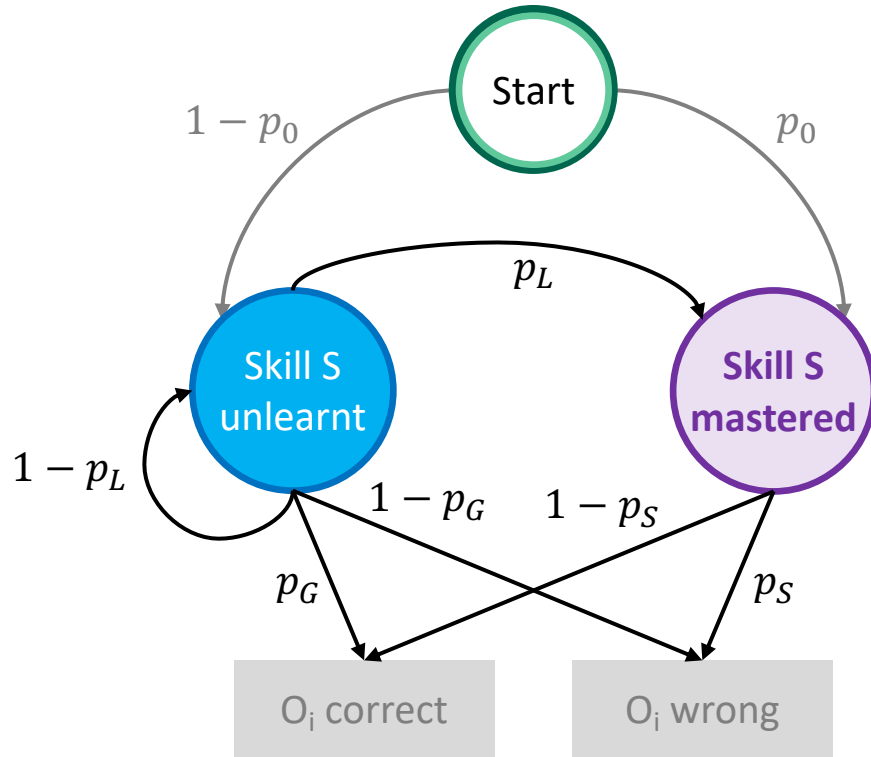
$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

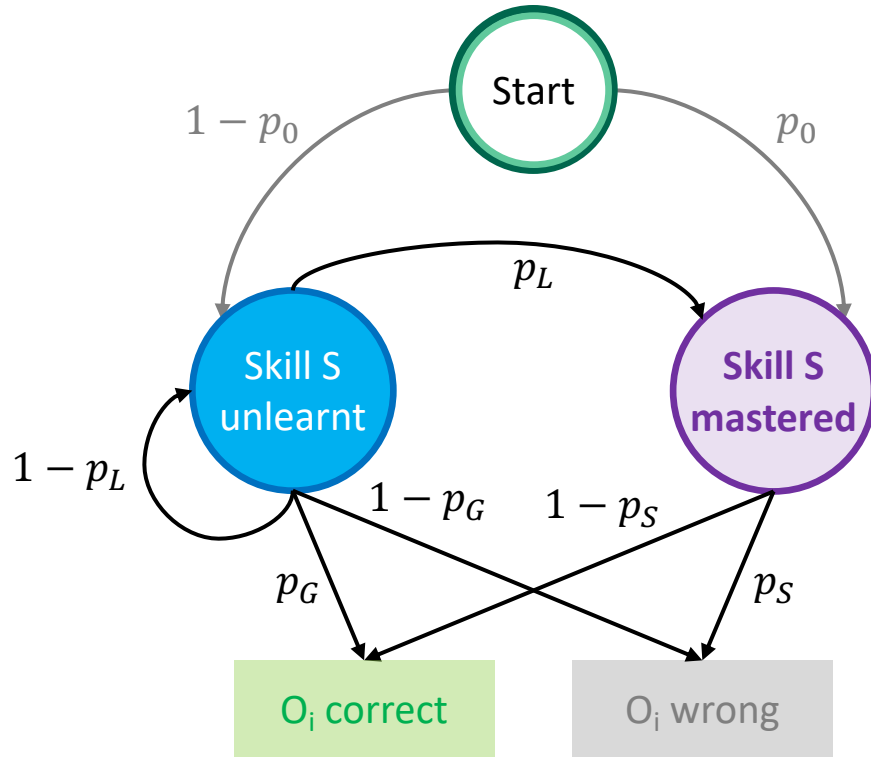
$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

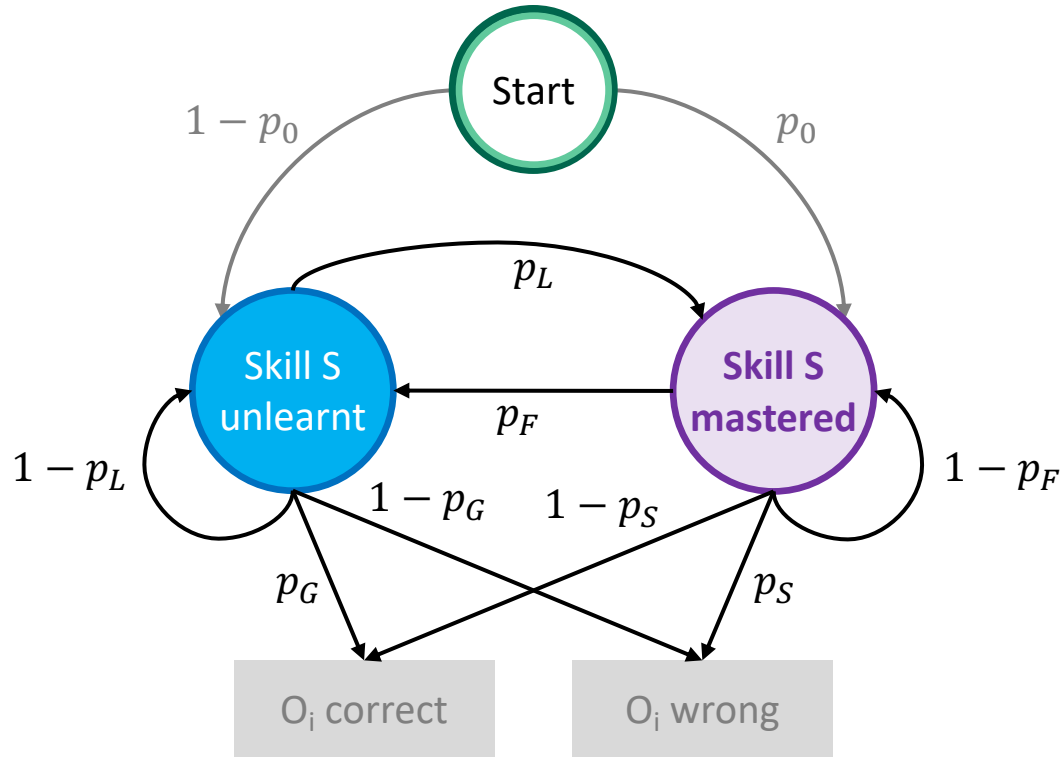
$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$: 1

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

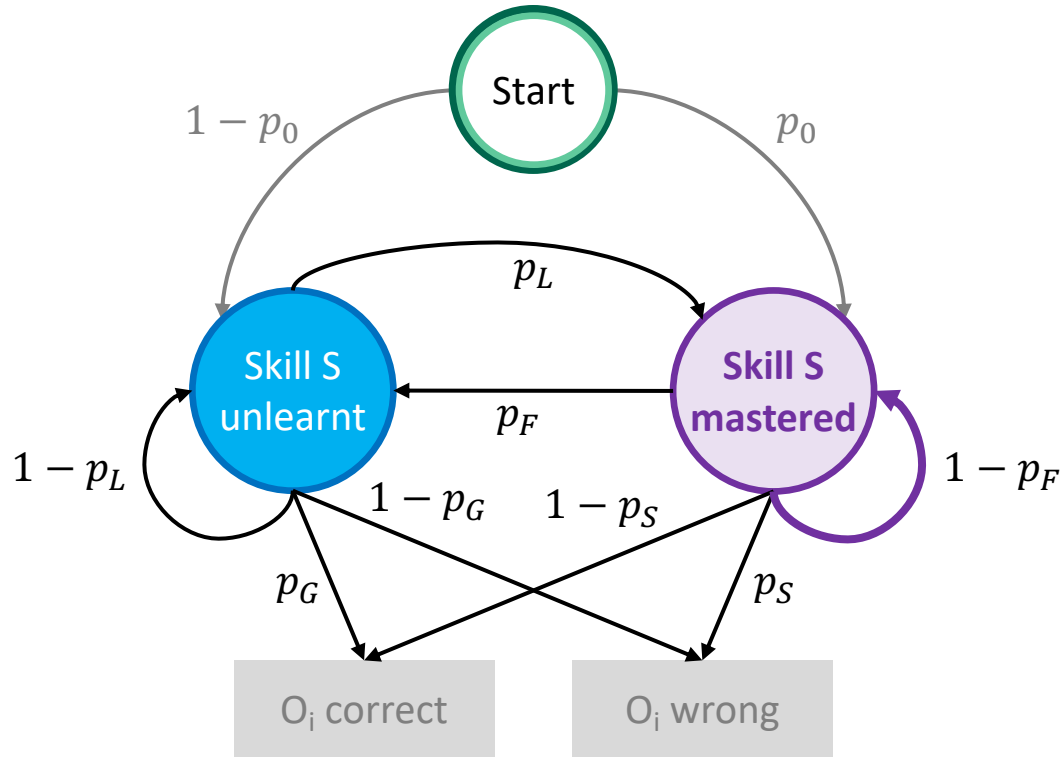
$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$: 1

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

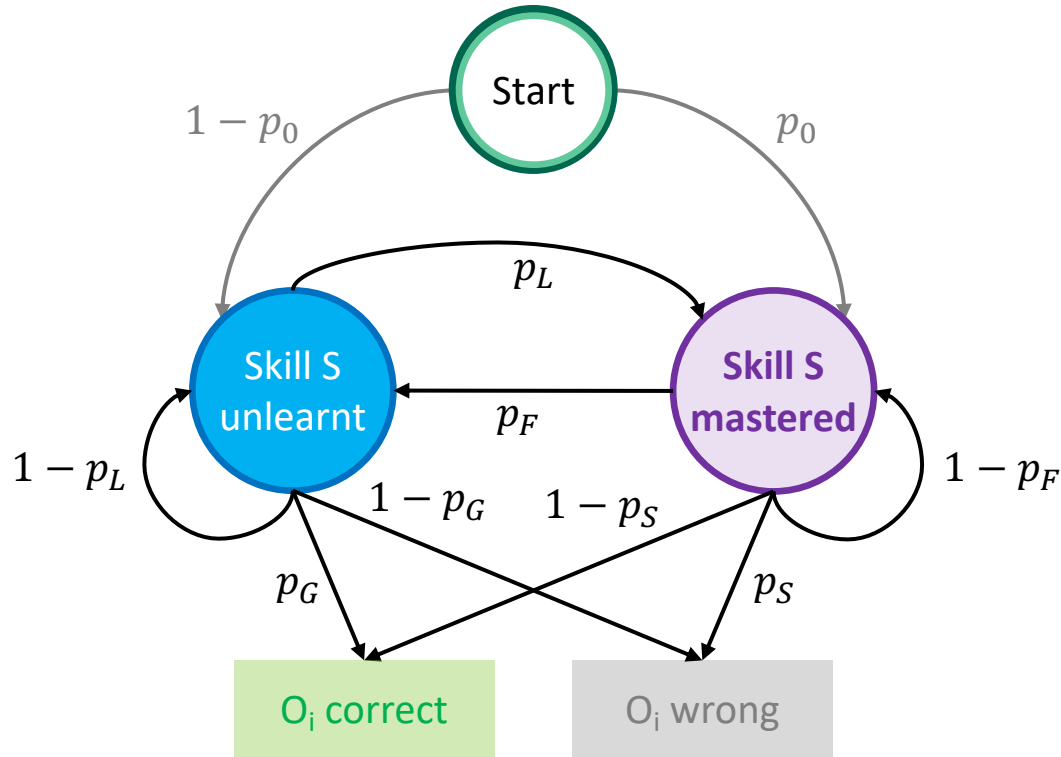
$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$: 1

$t = 6$:

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s:

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

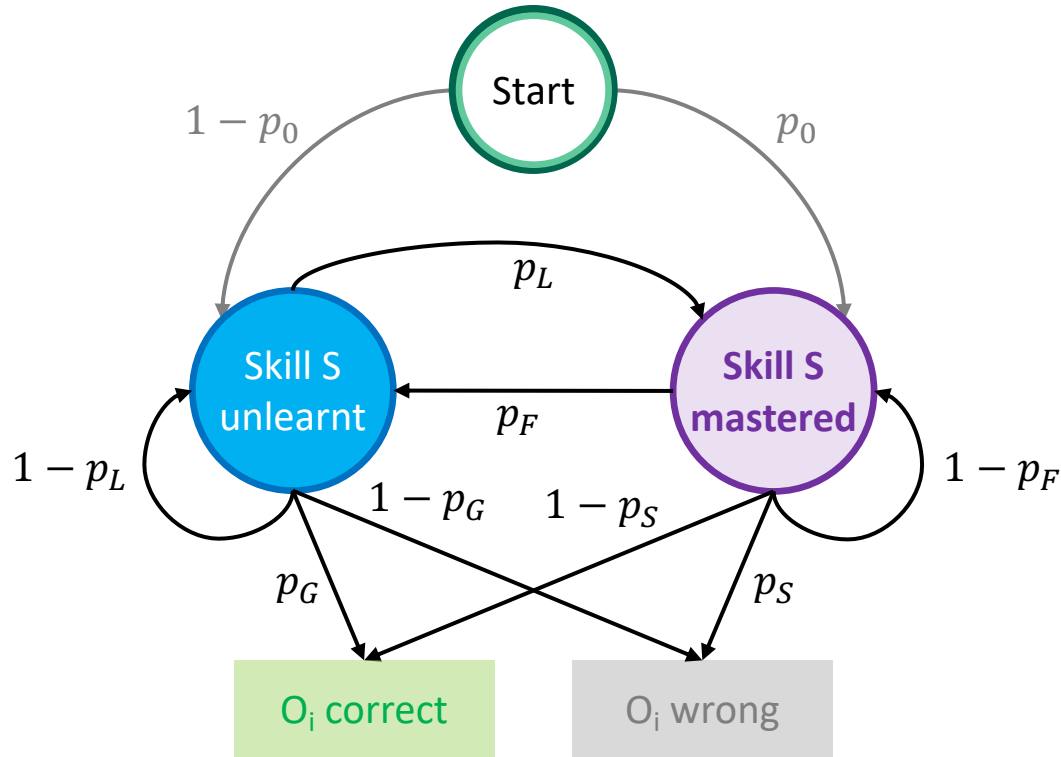
$t = 3$: 0

$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$: 1

$t = 6$: 1

Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)



Observations for student s :

$t = 0$: 0

$t = 1$: 0

$t = 2$: 1

$t = 3$: 0

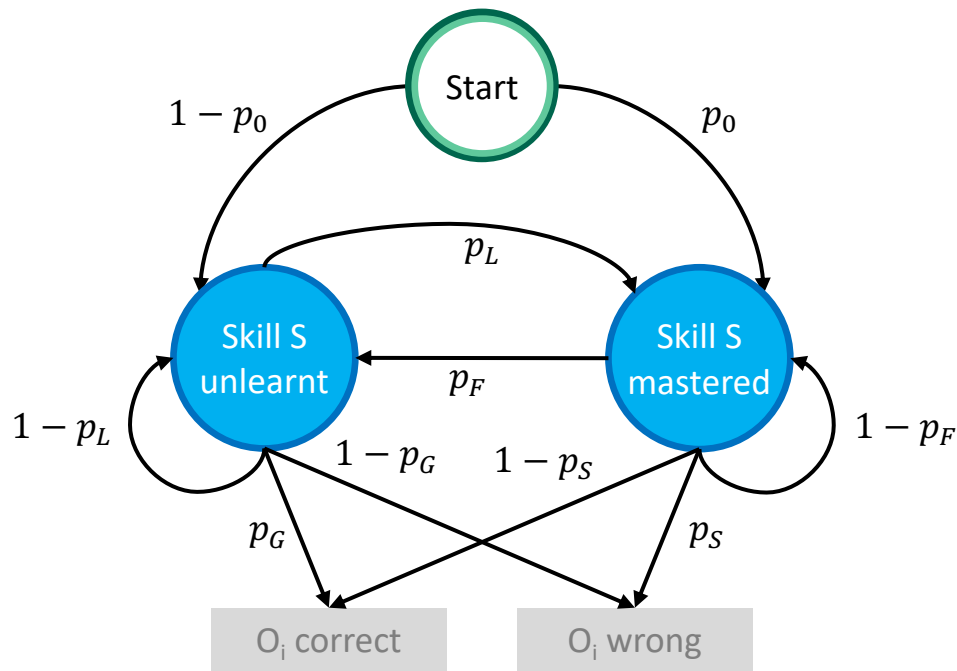
$t = 4$: 1

$t = 5$: 1

$t = 6$: 1

$\mathbf{o}_s = [0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1]$

BKT - Terminology



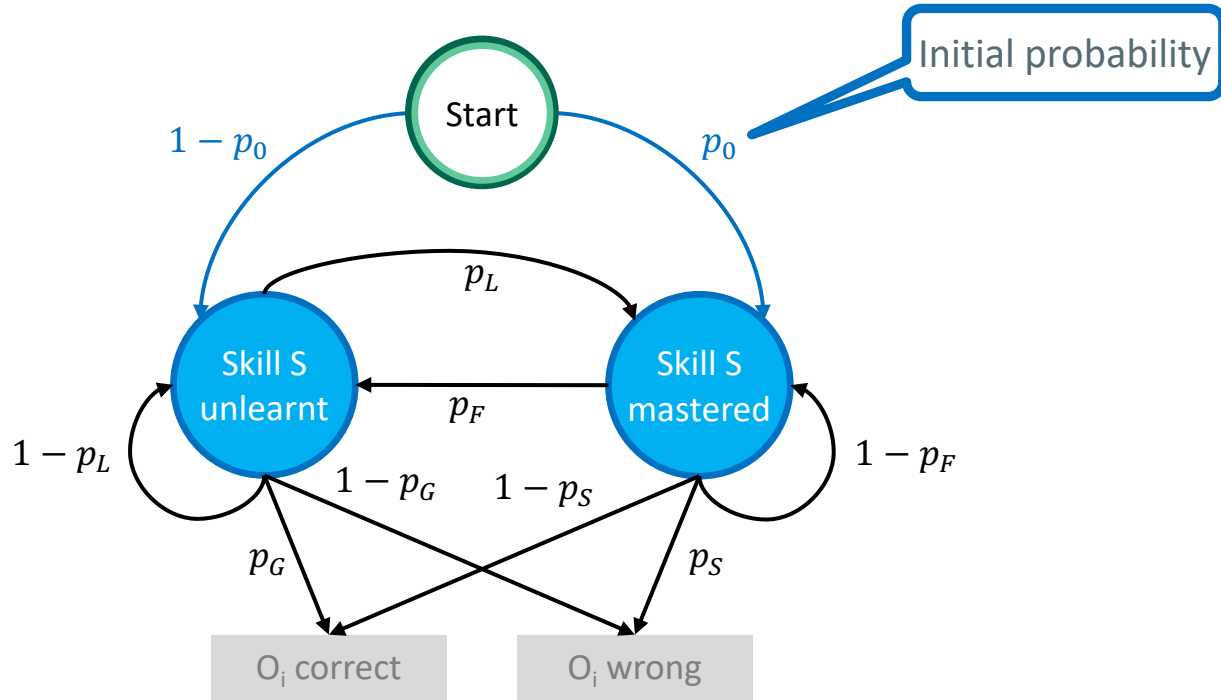
- One **latent** variable (S) with two possible states
- ▢ Observations (also binary)

Five parameters: $\underbrace{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G}_{\text{Emission probabilities}}$

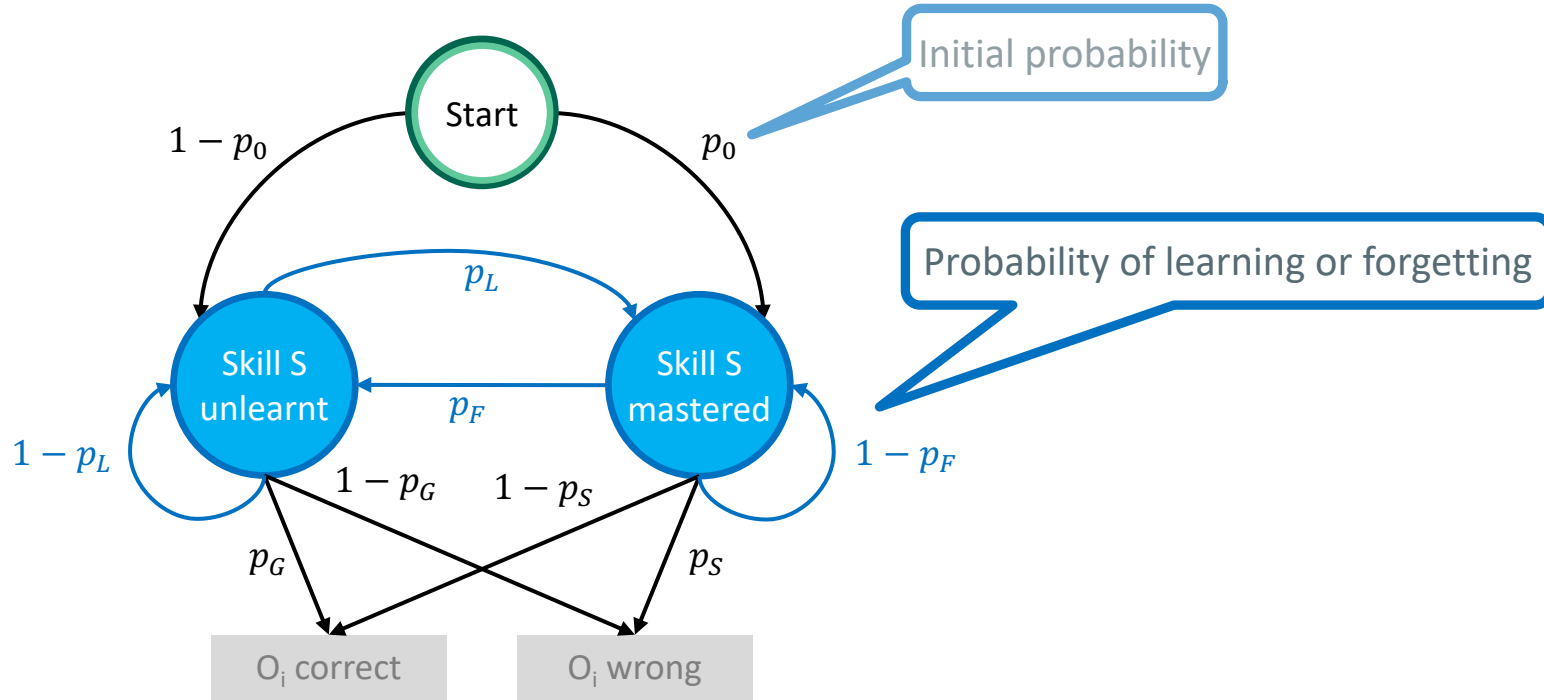
$$\theta = \{p_0, \underbrace{p_L, p_F}_{\text{Transition probabilities}}, p_S, p_G\}$$

Transition
probabilities

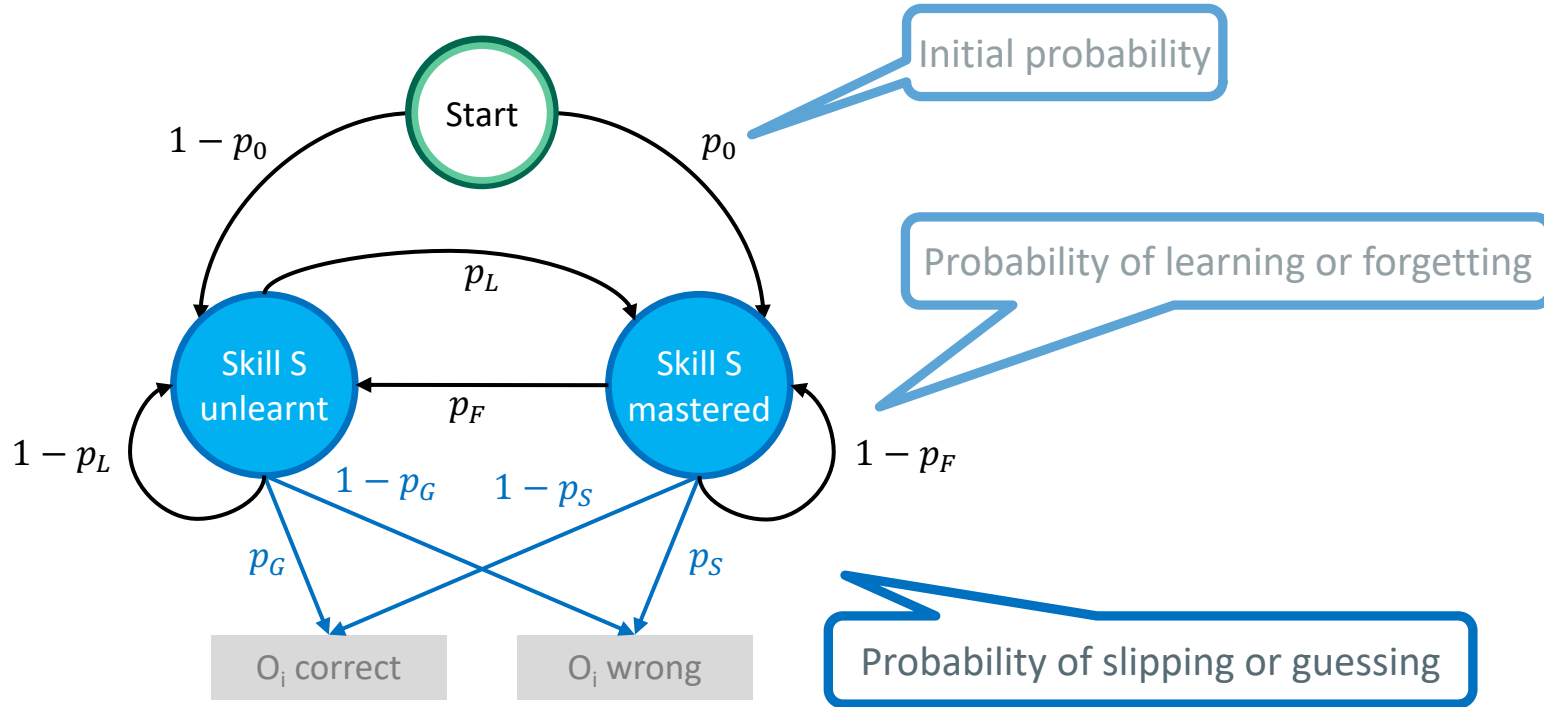
BKT parameters are interpretable



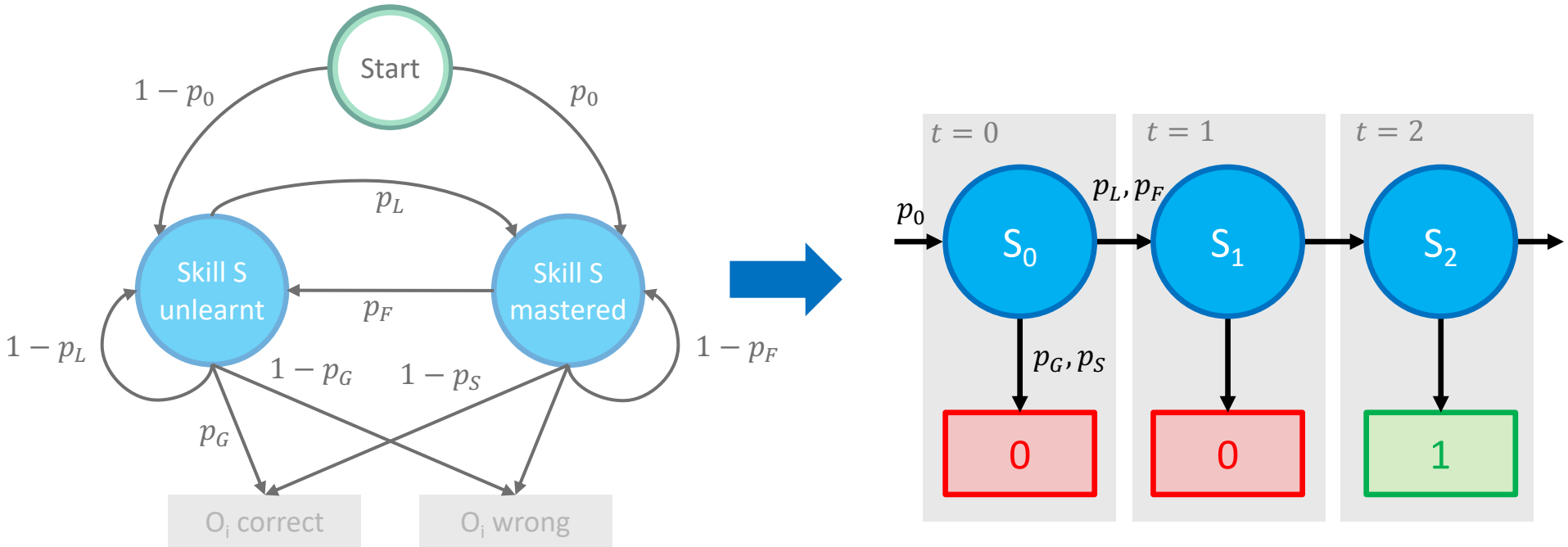
BKT parameters are interpretable



BKT parameters are interpretable

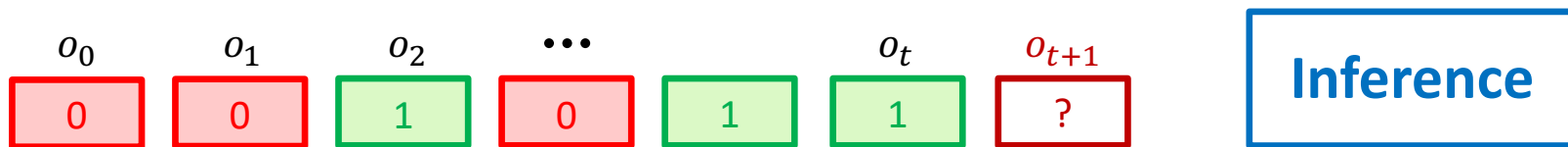


BKT – unrolled over time

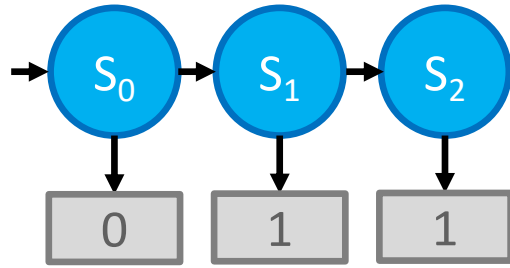


Two tasks need to be solved in practice

- Given a model with parameters $\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$ and a sequence of observations $\mathbf{o} = [o_0, \dots, o_t]$ from a student s , predict o_{t+1}



Inference Example



$$p_0 = 0.5$$

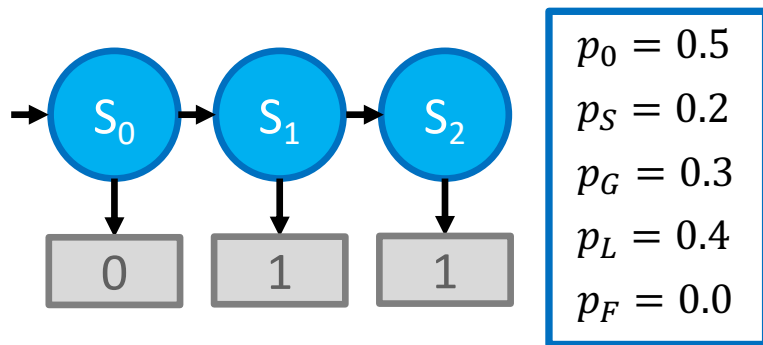
$$p_S = 0.2$$

$$p_G = 0.3$$

$$p_L = 0.4$$

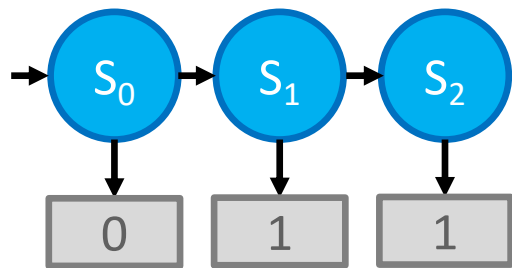
$$p_F = 0.0$$

Inference Example – Your Turn



- $p(s_0 = 1)?$
- $p(o_0 = 1)?$
- $p(s_1 = 1|o_0 = 0)?$
- $p(o_1 = 1|o_0 = 0)?$
- $p(s_2 = 1|o_0 = 0, o_1 = 1)?$

Inference Example – Your Turn



$$\begin{aligned}
 p_0 &= 0.5 \\
 p_S &= 0.2 \\
 p_G &= 0.3 \\
 p_L &= 0.4 \\
 p_F &= 0.0
 \end{aligned}$$

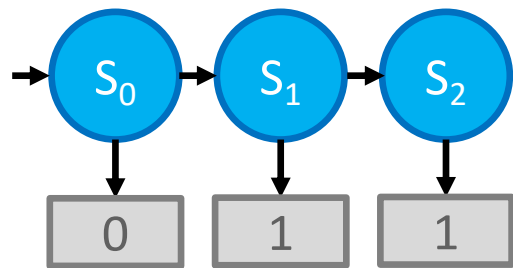
S_0	$p(S_0)$
1	p_0
0	$1-p_0$

S_t	S_{t+1}	$p(S_{t+1} S_t)$
0	0	$1 - p_L$
0	1	p_L
1	0	p_F
1	1	$1 - p_F$

S_t	O_t	$p(O_t S_t)$
0	0	$1 - p_G$
0	1	p_G
1	0	p_S
1	1	$1 - p_S$

- $p(s_0 = 1)?$
- $p(o_0 = 1)?$
- $p(s_1 = 1|o_0 = 0)?$
- $p(o_1 = 1|o_0 = 0)?$
- $p(s_2 = 1|o_0 = 0, o_1 = 1)?$

Inference Example – Your Turn



$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$

S_0	$p(S_0)$
1	p_0
0	$1-p_0$

S_t	S_{t+1}	$p(S_{t+1} S_t)$
0	0	$1 - p_L$
0	1	p_L
1	0	p_F
1	1	$1 - p_F$

S_t	O_t	$p(O_t S_t)$
0	0	$1 - p_G$
0	1	p_G
1	0	p_S
1	1	$1 - p_S$

Some useful rules:

$$p(A, B) = p(A|B) \cdot p(B)$$

$$p(A|B) = \frac{p(B|A) \cdot p(A)}{p(B)}$$

$$p(A = 1) = p(A = 1, B = 1) + p(A = 1, B = 0)$$

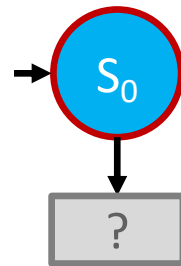
- $p(s_0 = 1)?$
- $p(o_0 = 1)?$
- $p(s_1 = 1|o_0 = 0)?$
- $p(o_1 = 1|o_0 = 0)?$
- $p(s_2 = 1|o_0 = 0, o_1 = 1)?$

Inference in BKT models

Equations for time step 0:

$$p(s_0 = 1) = p_0$$

$$p(s_0 = 0) = 1 - p_0$$



Inference in BKT models

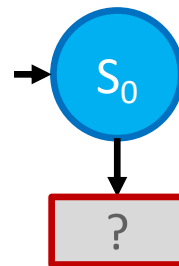
Equations for time step 0:

$$p(s_0 = 1) = p_0$$

$$p(s_0 = 0) = 1 - p_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(o_0 = 1) &= p(o_0 = 1, s_0 = 1) + p(o_0 = 1, s_0 = 0) \\ &= (1 - p_s) \cdot p_0 + p_G \cdot (1 - p_0) \end{aligned}$$

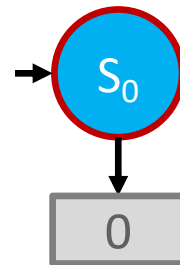
$$p(o_0 = 0) = p_s \cdot p_0 + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_0)$$



Inference in BKT models

$$\underbrace{p(s_0 = 1|o_0 = 0)}_{p_{s_0|0}} = \frac{p(o_0 = 0|s_0 = 1) \cdot p(s_0 = 1)}{p(o_0 = 0)}$$
$$= \frac{p_s \cdot p_0}{p_s \cdot p_0 + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_0)}$$

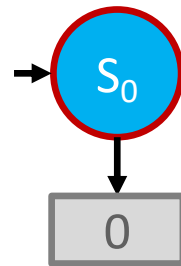
$$p(s_0 = 0|o_0 = 0) = 1 - p_{s_0|0}$$



Inference in BKT models

$$\underbrace{p(s_0 = 1 | o_0 = 1)}_{p_{s_0|1}} = \frac{p(o_0 = 1 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(s_0 = 1)}{p(o_0 = 1)}$$
$$= \frac{(1 - p_s) \cdot p_0}{(1 - p_s) \cdot p_0 + p_G \cdot (1 - p_0)}$$

$$p(s_0 = 0 | o_0 = 1) = 1 - p_{s_0|1}$$

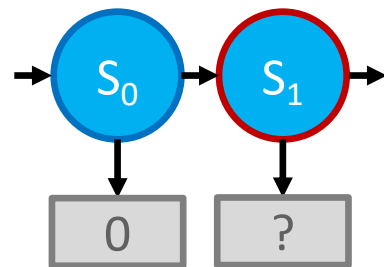


Inference in BKT models

Equations for time step 1:

$$\begin{aligned} p(s_1 = 1 | o_0 = 0) &= \frac{p(s_1 = 1, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \\ &= \frac{p(s_1 = 1, s_0 = 1, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} + \frac{p(s_1 = 1, s_0 = 0, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \\ &= \frac{p(s_1 = 1 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(o_0 = 0 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(s_0 = 1)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \\ &\quad + \frac{p(s_1 = 1 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(o_0 = 0 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(s_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \end{aligned}$$

$$p(s_1 = 1 | o_0 = 0) = (1 - p_F) \cdot p_{s_0|0} + p_L \cdot (1 - p_{s_0|0})$$



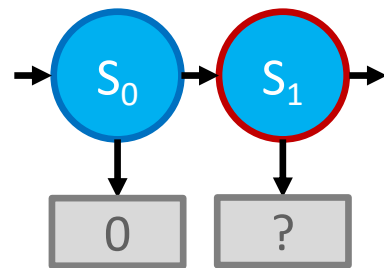
Inference in BKT models

$$p(s_1 = 1|o_0 = 1) = (1 - p_F) \cdot p_{s_0|1} + p_L \cdot (1 - p_{s_0|1})$$

$$p(s_1 = 1|o_0 = 0) = (1 - p_F) \cdot p_{s_0|0} + p_L \cdot (1 - p_{s_0|0})$$

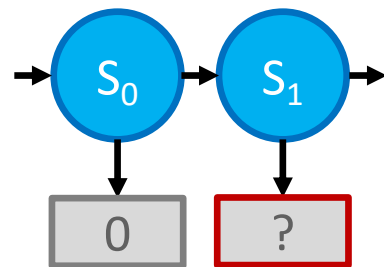


$$p_{s_1|o_0} = (1 - p_F) \cdot p_{s_0|o_0} + p_L \cdot (1 - p_{s_0|o_0})$$



Inference in BKT models

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(o_1 = 1 | o_0 = 0) &= \frac{p(o_1 = 1, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \\
 &+ \frac{p(o_1 = 1, s_1 = 1, s_0 = 1, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \\
 &+ \frac{p(o_1 = 1, s_1 = 1, s_0 = 0, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} \\
 &+ \frac{p(o_1 = 1, s_1 = 0, s_0 = 1, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)} + \frac{p(o_1 = 1, s_1 = 0, s_0 = 0, o_0 = 0)}{p(o_0 = 0)}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= p(o_1 = 1 | s_1 = 1) \cdot (p(s_1 = 1 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(o_0 = 0 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(s_0 = 1) / p(o_0 = 0)) \\
 &+ p(o_1 = 1 | s_1 = 1) \cdot (p(s_1 = 1 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(o_0 = 0 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(s_0 = 0) / p(o_0 = 0)) \\
 &+ p(o_1 = 1 | s_1 = 0) \cdot (p(s_1 = 0 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(o_0 = 0 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(s_0 = 1) / p(o_0 = 0)) \\
 &+ p(o_1 = 1 | s_1 = 0) \cdot (p(s_1 = 0 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(o_0 = 0 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(s_0 = 0) / p(o_0 = 0))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$p(o_1 = 1 | o_0 = 0) = (1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0=0} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0=0})$$

Inference in BKT models

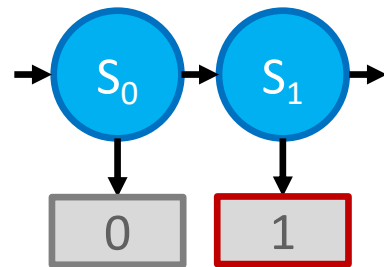
$$p(o_1 = 1|o_0 = 1) = (1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0=1} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0=1})$$

$$p(o_1 = 0|o_0 = 1) = p_S \cdot p_{s_1|o_0=1} + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0=1})$$



$$p(o_1 = 1|o_0) = (1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0})$$

$$p(o_1 = 0|o_0) = p_S \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0})$$



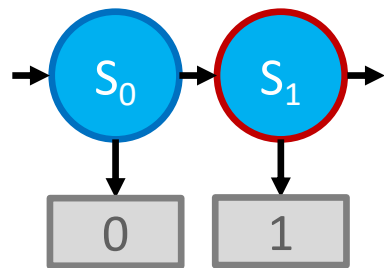
Inference in BKT models

$$p(s_1 = 1 | o_1 = 1, o_0) = \frac{p(s_1 = 1, o_1 = 1, o_0)}{p(o_1 = 1, o_0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(o_1 = 1, o_0) &= p(o_1 = 1 | o_0) \cdot p(o_0) \\ &= ((1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0})) \cdot p(o_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(s_1 = 1, o_1 = 1, o_0) &= p(o_1 = 1 | s_1 = 1) \cdot p(s_1 = 1 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(o_0 | s_0 = 1) \cdot p(s_0 = 1) \\ &\quad + p(o_1 = 1 | s_1 = 1) \cdot p(s_1 = 1 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(o_0 | s_0 = 0) \cdot p(s_0 = 0) \\ &= (1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} \cdot p(o_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$p(s_1 = 1 | o_1 = 1, o_0) = \frac{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0}}{((1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0}))}$$



Inference in BKT models

$$\mathbf{o}_{t-1} = [o_0, \dots, o_{t-1}]$$

Equations for time $t = 0$:

Belief about latent state before observation

$$p(s_0 = 1) = p_0$$

Predicted observation at time t

$$p(o_0 = 1) = (1 - p_S) \cdot p_0 + p_G \cdot (1 - p_0)$$

$$p(o_0 = 0) = p_S \cdot p_0 + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_0)$$

Posterior: belief about latent state after observation

$$p_{s_0|1} = \frac{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_0}{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_0 + p_G \cdot (1 - p_0)}$$

$$p_{s_0|0} = \frac{p_S \cdot p_0}{p_S \cdot p_0 + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_0)}$$

$p_{s_0|o_0}$

Equations for time steps $t = 1, \dots, T$:

$$p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} = (1 - p_F) \cdot p_{s_{t-1}|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} + p_L \cdot (1 - p_{s_{t-1}|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}})$$

$$p(o_t = 1|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}) = (1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}})$$

$$p(o_t = 0|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}) = p_S \cdot p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} + (1 - p_G) \cdot (1 - p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}})$$

$$p_{s_t|1,\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} = \frac{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}}}{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}})}$$

$$p_{s_t|0,\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} = \frac{p_S \cdot p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}}}{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_t|\mathbf{o}_{t-1}})}$$

$p_{s_t|o_t}$

Making predictions using a BKT model

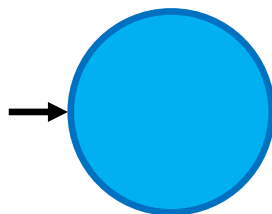
$$p_0 = 0.5$$

$$p_S = 0.2$$

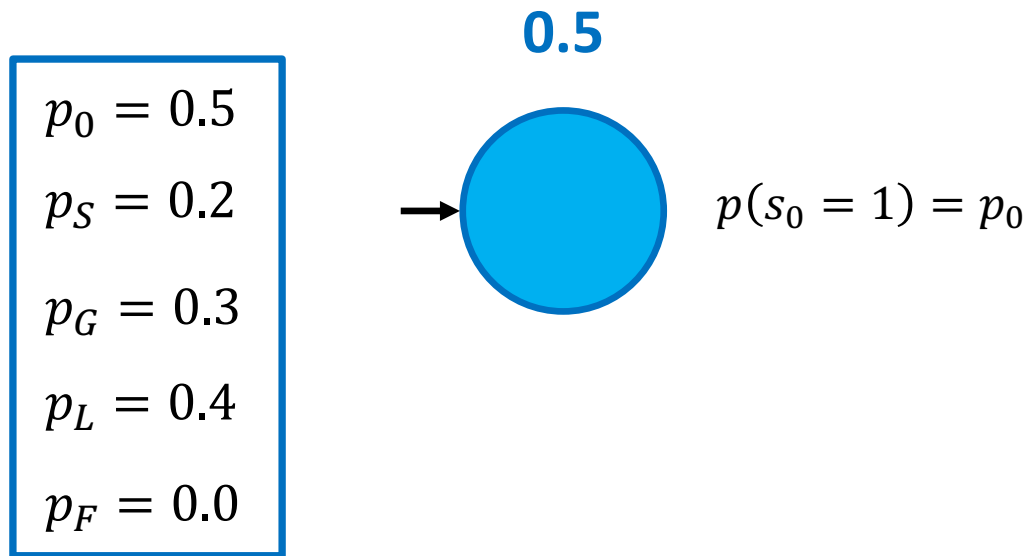
$$p_G = 0.3$$

$$p_L = 0.4$$

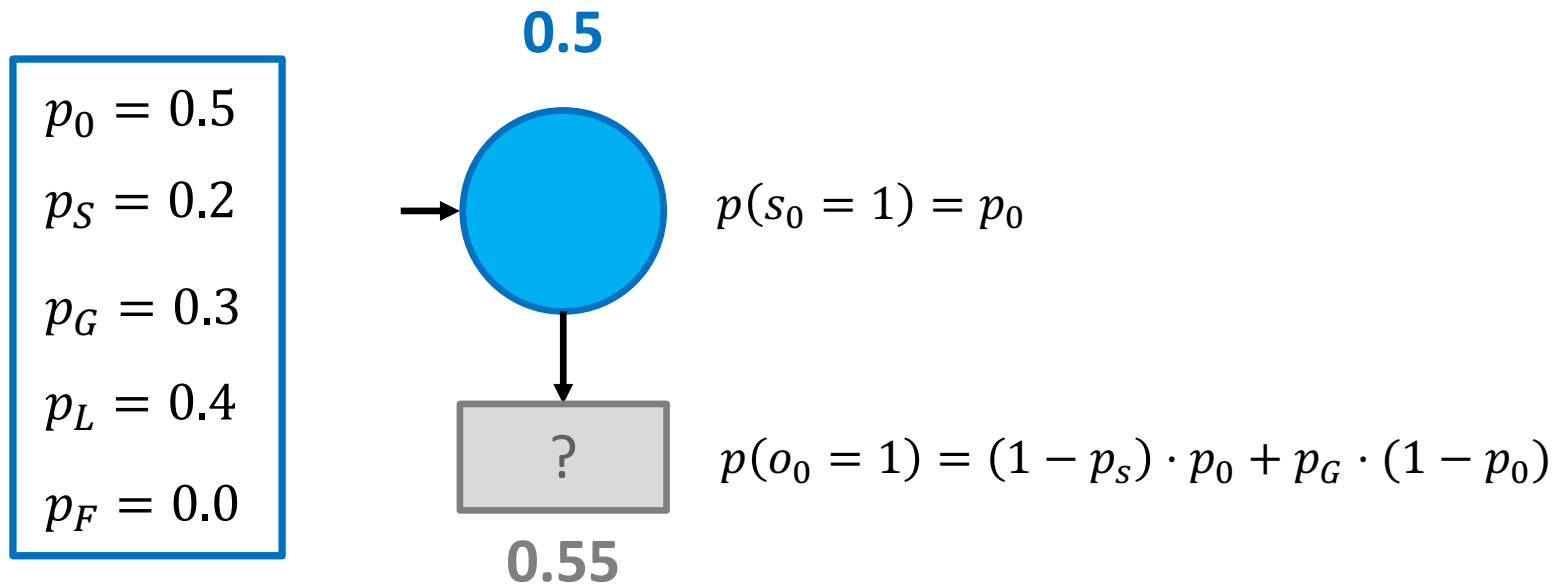
$$p_F = 0.0$$



Making predictions using a BKT model



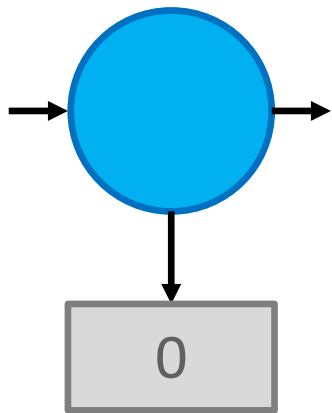
Making predictions using a BKT model



Making predictions using a BKT model

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$

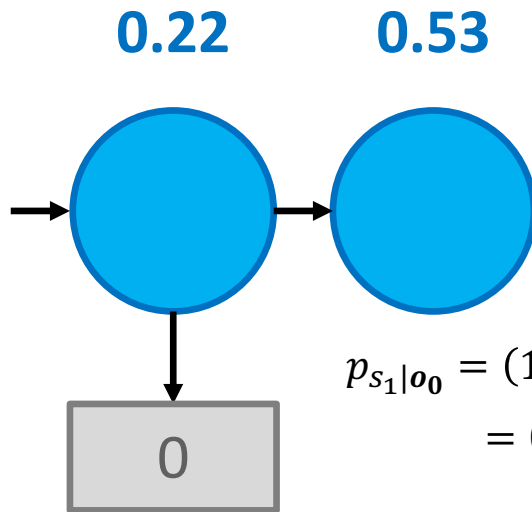
0.22



$$p_{s_0|0} = \frac{p_S \cdot p_0}{1 - p(o_0 = 1)} = \frac{0.2 \cdot 0.5}{0.45}$$

Making predictions using a BKT model

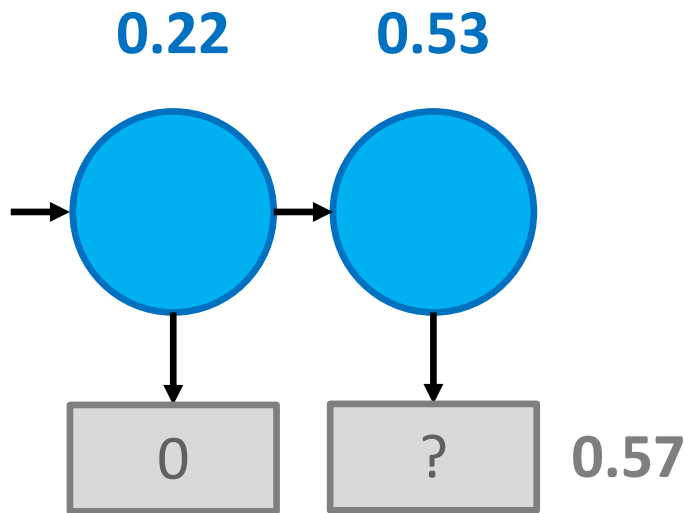
$$\begin{aligned}p_0 &= 0.5 \\p_S &= 0.2 \\p_G &= 0.3 \\p_L &= 0.4 \\p_F &= 0.0\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}p_{s_1|o_0} &= (1 - p_F) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} + p_L \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0}) \\&= 0.22 + 0.4 \cdot 0.78\end{aligned}$$

Making predictions using a BKT model

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} p(o_1 = 1 | \mathbf{o}_0) &= (1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1 | \mathbf{o}_0} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1 | \mathbf{o}_0}) \\ &= 0.8 \cdot 0.53 + 0.3 \cdot 0.47 \end{aligned}$$

Making predictions using a BKT model

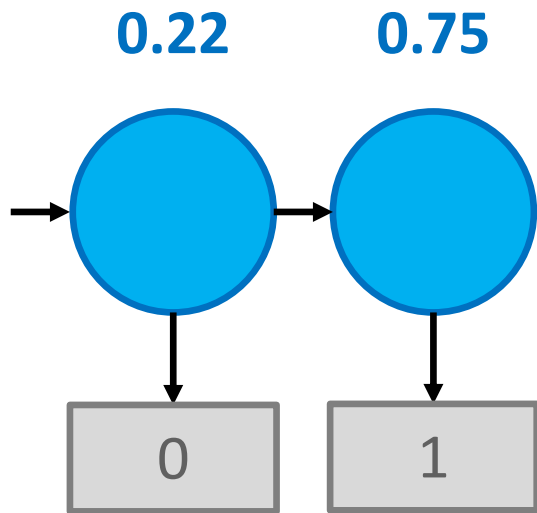
$$p_0 = 0.5$$

$$p_S = 0.2$$

$$p_G = 0.3$$

$$p_L = 0.4$$

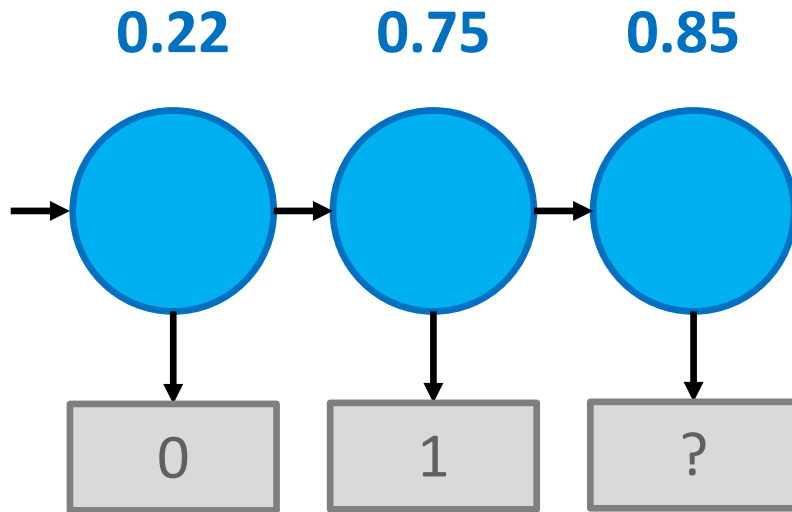
$$p_F = 0.0$$



$$p_{s_1|1,o_0} = \frac{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0}}{(1 - p_S) \cdot p_{s_1|o_0} + p_G \cdot (1 - p_{s_1|o_0})}$$
$$= \frac{0.8 \cdot 53}{0.57}$$

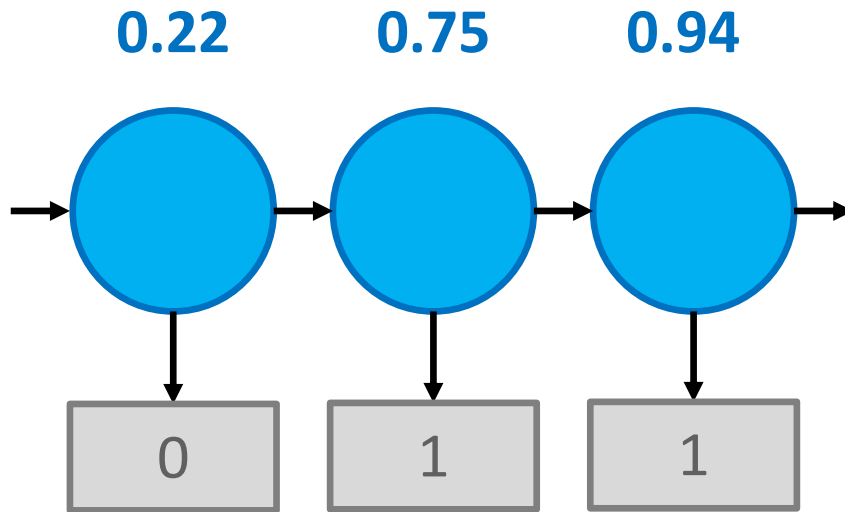
Making predictions using a BKT model

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$



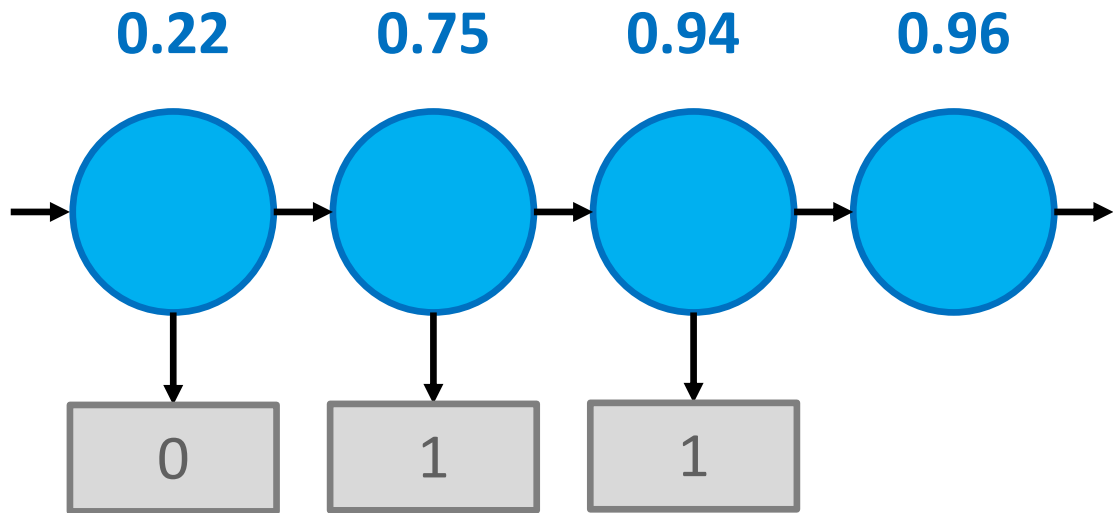
Making predictions using a BKT model

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$



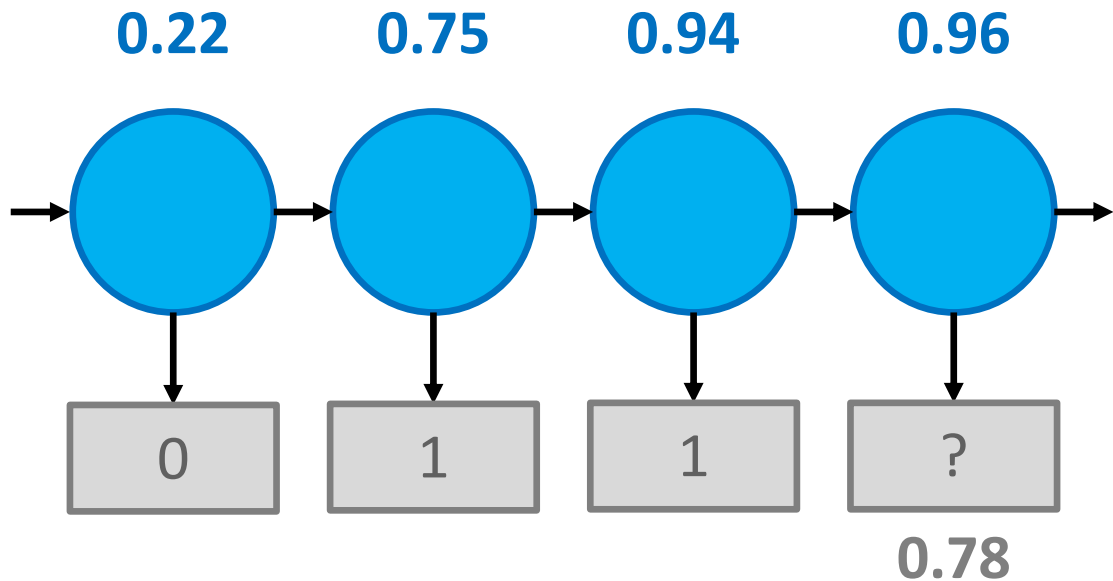
Making predictions using a BKT model

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$



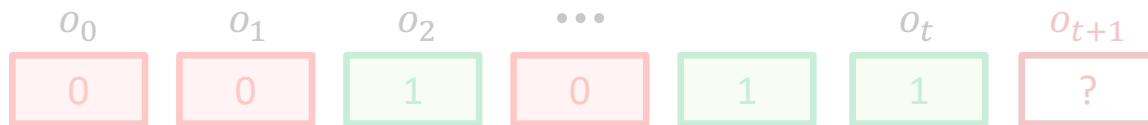
Making predictions using a BKT model

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= 0.5 \\ p_S &= 0.2 \\ p_G &= 0.3 \\ p_L &= 0.4 \\ p_F &= 0.0 \end{aligned}$$



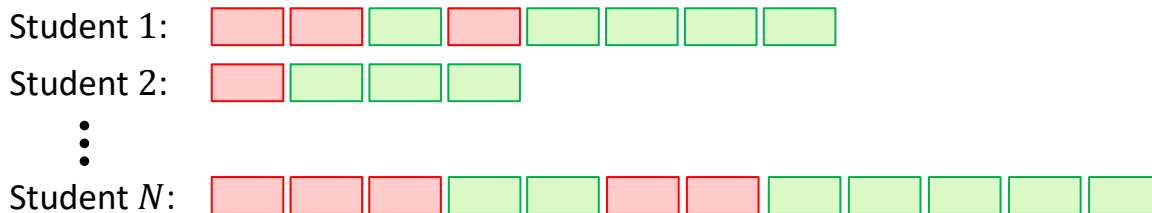
Two tasks need to be solved in practice

- Given a model with parameters $\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$ and a sequence of observations $\mathbf{o} = [o_0, \dots, o_t]$ from a student s , predict o_{t+1}



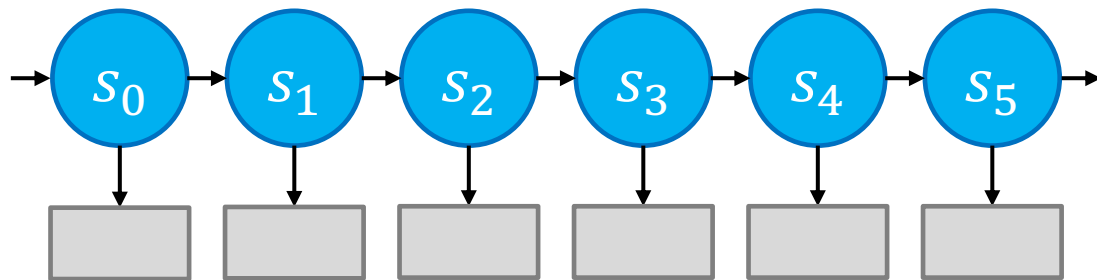
Inference

- Given sequences of observations $\mathbf{o} = [o_0, \dots, o_T]$ of N students, learn the parameters $\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$ that maximize the likelihood of the observed data



Parameter
Learning

Training a BKT model



$$\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$$

Student l_0 : $\mathbf{o}_{l_0} = [0, 1, 1]$

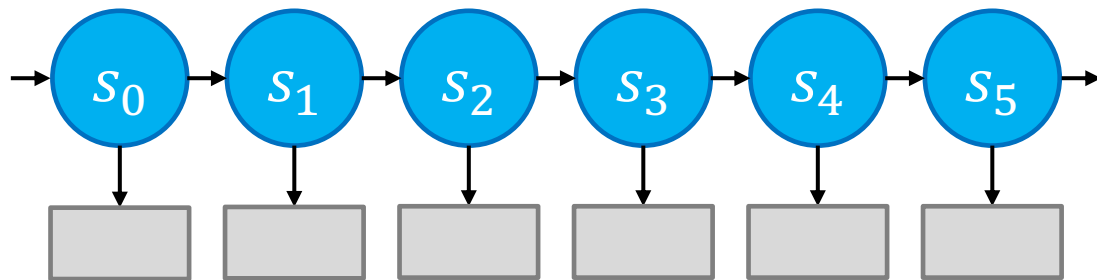
\vdots

Student l_{N-1} : $\mathbf{o}_{l_{N-1}} = [1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1]$

Student l_N : $\mathbf{o}_{l_N} = [0, 1, 0, 1]$

$$\max_{\theta} p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}, \dots, \mathbf{o}_{l_{N-1}}, \mathbf{o}_{l_N})$$

Training a BKT model



$$\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$$

Student l_0 : $\mathbf{o}_{l_0} = [0, 1, 1]$

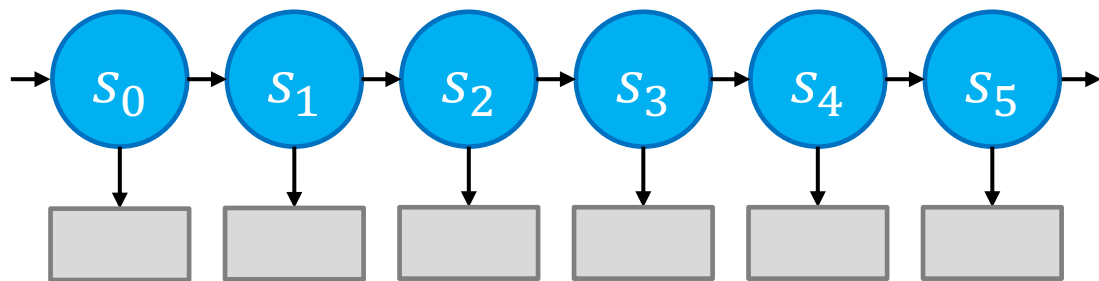
\vdots

Student l_{N-1} : $\mathbf{o}_{l_{N-1}} = [1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1]$

Student l_N : $\mathbf{o}_{l_N} = [0, 1, 0, 1]$

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i=1}^N p(\mathbf{o}_{l_i})$$

Training a BKT model



$$\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$$

$$\text{Student } l_0: \quad p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}) = \sum_s p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}, s)$$

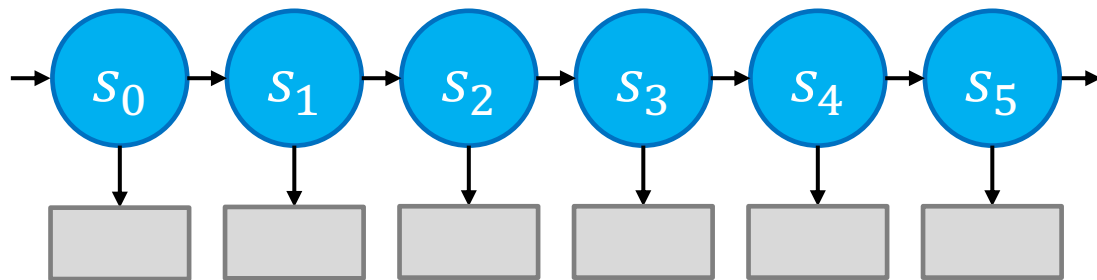
\vdots

$$\text{Student } l_{N-1}: \quad p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}) = \sum_s p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}, s)$$

$$\text{Student } l_N: \quad p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}) = \sum_s p(\mathbf{o}_{l_0}, s)$$

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i=1}^N \sum_{s_{l_i}} p(\mathbf{o}_{l_i}, s_{l_i})$$

Training a BKT model



$$\theta = \{p_0, p_L, p_F, p_S, p_G\}$$

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i=1}^N \sum_{s_{l_i}} p(\mathbf{o}_{l_i}, s_{l_i}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \min_{\theta} - \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left(\sum_{s_{l_i}} p(\mathbf{o}_{l_i}, s_{l_i}) \right)$$

- Brute-Force Grid Search
- Expectation Maximization
- Gradient Descent
- Nelder-Mead Optimization

Your Turn – Evaluating a BKT model

- In the student notebook, you have:
 - A trained BKT model for six selected skills
 - A data frame containing the predictions of the BKT model for each observation in the test set
 - Your task:
 - Compute the RMSE or AUC separately for each skill
 - Provide a visualization of the mean RMSE (or AUC) + standard deviation over all skills as well as the per skill RMSE (or AUC)
-

Assumptions behind BKT

- Knowledge can be divided into different skills
 - Definition of skills is accurate/detailed enough
 - Each task corresponds to a single skill (original)
 - There is **no** connection between the skills
 - Mastery can be achieved through practice
 - There is no forgetting: $p_F = 0$ (original)
-

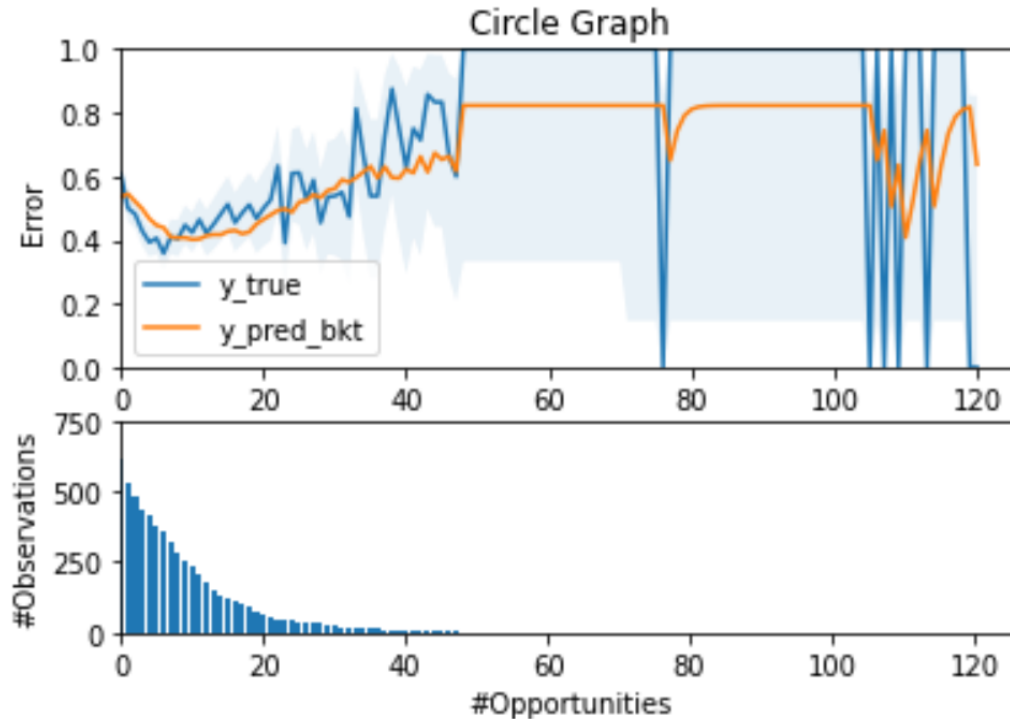
Today: Tracing Student Knowledge

- Bayesian Knowledge Tracing (BKT)
 - **Learning Curves**
-

Tracing Knowledge – why is it useful?

- Is the student learning?
 - Measure what the student *knows* at a specific time t
 - More specifically: knowledge of the student about relevant knowledge components (skills)
 - ➡ Choose the next appropriate activity
 - ➡ Know which activities support learning
-

What could this curve indicate?



Your Turn – Learning Curves

- In the student notebook, you have:
 - BKT model trained on all skills and students
 - List of available skills
 - Function for plotting learning curves and student numbers for a specific skill
 - Your task:
 - Pick 1-2 skills, generate the learning curves for them, and interpret them
 - Send us your plots and interpretations
-

Tracing Knowledge – why is it useful?

- Is the student learning?
 - Measure what the student *knows* at a specific time t
 - More specifically: knowledge of the student about relevant knowledge components (skills)
 - ➡ Choose the next appropriate activity
 - ➡ Know which activities support learning
-

If you want additional practice...

- You can solve tasks from last year's homework
 - independently
 - during the tutorial sessions on Wednesday morning, the TAs will be happy to help and answer questions
- For this lecture: [Knowledge Tracing Exercise](#)
- We are happy to provide feedback on your solution:

Upload your Jupyter Notebook here:

<https://go.epfl.ch/mlbd-activities>
